



## AMERICAN LEGION POST #1

“THE OLDEST POST IN THE U.S.”

45 Sycamore Avenue, PO Box 747, Wheeling, WV 26003

Post 304-830-5987

Commander John A. Powell

Adjutant Charles “Chuck” Clark III

E-MAIL: [oldestpostintheus@comcast.net](mailto:oldestpostintheus@comcast.net)

Post Legion meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month @ 7:00 PM

Except July and August (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday only)

### MEETING CALENDAR

<u>Legion @ 7 PM</u>	<u>Auxiliary @ 7 PM</u>	<u>Home Corp @ 7 PM</u>	<u>Riders @ 12 PM</u>
January 2 & 16	January 2	January 8	January 6
February 6 & 20	February 6	February 12	February 3
March 5 & 19	March 5	March 11	March 2
April 2 & 16	April 2	April 8	April 6
May 7 & 21	May 7	May 13	May 4
June 4 & 18	June 4	June 10	June 1
July 2	July 2	July 8	July 6



### COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year Post 1 Members,

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays with their family.

I want to take the opportunity to talk about one of our members. He is not only our oldest member, but also our longest living member. He will turn 100 years old in January. He is a past Post Commander. His father, also a past Post

Commander, was also one of the founding members of our post back in 1919. It was my pleasure to present this member with a paid up for life membership in December 2023.

He is Joe Gompers. I sat with him and learned a lot when talking to Joe. He spoke of the history of our organization and told stories about when he was a child going to the Post with his dad. Joe recalled when he was a young child the Department Convention was in Wheeling. Everyone stayed at the McClure hotel. In another hotel, they set up the hospitality room in the basement. It was dark, dimly lit with barrels set up for a bar and the walls were constructed of sandstone.

I had seen a picture of this and never knew what it was until Joe told me the story of how his dad would take him there and sit him up on one of the barrels. The men had a good time drinking, singing, and sharing stories as we Veterans still do today. It was the significance of the location that surprised

me. You see this location was chosen as it represented the places that soldiers during WW I would often drink at overseas.

I tell you this story to inspire you to take a moment and write down a few of your stories. Share them when you get the chance because if we don't then when we pass that history will pass with us. Happy Birthday Joe!



### ADJUTANT'S BUSINESS

Our biannual newsletter has been a success and the Legion family wants to continue to provide up-to-date information on Post activities.

If the Legion has your email on file, then you should receive the newsletter via email. Those without an email on file, should receive it via U.S. mail. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter via email, please provide me ([chaclark1@yahoo.com](mailto:chaclark1@yahoo.com)) with a current email address and your request will be accommodated. The Legion does have a financial responsibility when printing and mailing the newsletter. The Legion would rather email a copy and use the money saved to assist Veterans in need.

Chuck Clark  
Adjutant

### **PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Legion	\$37.00
Auxiliary	\$30.00 Regular, \$15.00 Jr Member
Sons	\$27.00
ALR Dues	\$20.00 per year
Or 3 Years	\$50, 5 years \$80, 10 years \$150



### MEMBERSHIP

If you have not renewed your membership for 2024, there is still time!! Please consider renewing for 2024 so we can keep you current with your years of service. Stay a member of the largest Veterans Organization in the US. The American Legion now has over 3 ½ million Veterans!!

If you know a Veteran, spouse of a veteran, child or grandchild of a veteran who might be interested carrying on their family's legacy by joining the American Legion, please have them reach out to Adjutant Chuck Clark and he will assist you with the process.

As of 1/1/2024, Legionnaires are at 87% of their goal, Auxiliary is at 78.26% of their goal and Sons of the American Legion are at 35% of their goal. Our American Legion is only as strong as its membership. American Legion membership is important in making effective policies such as the PACT Act recently passed by congress that provide benefits to those who serve. So, if you haven't paid your dues for the 2023-2024 year, please get them in as soon as possible.



Consider leaving your legacy by helping our Veterans. Many people are choosing to leave all or a portion of their estate to a charity or non-profit. Please consider listing the American Legion Post 1, Wheeling, WV in your will and/or revocable trust.



## **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

Hello members,

I hope everyone's New Year has started out with excitement. Please go to the Post 1's Facebook page like and share it to get others excited about the American Legion.

I want everyone to support the Post, Auxiliary, Son's & Riders. Members and spouses can sign up your friends, spouses, children, and neighbors. The American Legion has significant influence on Capitol Hill and that is why it is critical for our membership to remain strong for our Veterans.

We are a TEAM! We are members of a wonderful organization. WE nor TEAM have an I. WE do, WE Vote, WE decide, WE give, WE are members who want to assist and support Veterans, those who gave us our Freedom. We should NOT be here to benefit oneself. One does not vote, decide, or do alone. We are an organization with a wide variety of members; old, young, seasoned, new and eager members. IF we all remember that, IF we all work together, IF we all share ideas and experiences, IF we all learn, we WOULD DO SO MUCH MORE AND WILL BE MUCH BETTER AS A TEAM!

Midwinter Conference is February 9-10, 2024, at Oglebay Park Resort. I hope to see many of you that weekend. Our Unit has collected comfort items for the WV Veterans Home and VAMC's which we will be taking to the Midwinter Conference so they can distribute to our Veterans.

Until next time, thank your Veterans and be kind to each other.

Michelle Powell  
Unit 1 President  
cell: 304-639-5379

## **SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

As we continue to build our Legion family, the Sons of the American Legion are looking for sons, grandsons, or great-grandsons who want to support the American Legion Family and the community. If you know anyone who would be interested in becoming a member of the Sons, please have them reach out to Post 1 Legion Adjutant Chuck Clark. cell: 740-298-1265 or email: [chaclark1@yahoo.com](mailto:chaclark1@yahoo.com)



## **AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS (ALR)**

Hello Post 1 American Legion Family,

My name is Jeffery Spry and I am the Director of the Upper Ohio Valley Legion Riders (UOVLR). We are a motorcycle rider group sponsored by American Legion Post 1, Wheeling. Our membership consists of Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons of the American Legion in District 1. UOVLR opened membership to any post member in District 1 to build a strong group of riders. ALR has 36 members for 2023-2024. Meetings are rotated between Posts therefore the UOVLR meet from Moundsville to Chester, and all Posts in between.

During the next few months, we will be in the planning stages of multiple events. More information regarding events will be shared. Spring Poker Run: Chairman is Alan Craft. The run is scheduled for June 2, 2024, starting at the American Legion Post 10, Weirton, WV. Fall Poker Run: Details will be released after our spring run plans are finalized.



The UOVLRL will be doing group rides April-September after monthly meetings. That month's hosting Post will be responsible for planning the group ride after the meeting. The UOVLRL have discussed destinations and will schedule a couple of longer/overnight rides for the 2024 riding season.

I am looking forward to riding many miles and making a lot of memories in 2024. If you are a motorcycle enthusiast and want a different type of comradery from the American Legion, you can contact me text (304) 312-6145 or email [jefferyspry@comcast.net](mailto:jefferyspry@comcast.net)

Keep the Shiny Side Up,  
Jeffery



### POST 1 HOME CORPORATION

Since August 2023, the Home Corp Board of Trustees have been in discussions with someone who wants to provide financial assistance to remodel the building. Donations have been received from the Ohio County Commission, City of Wheeling, and Dave Weaver.

On 08/08/2023 a Facebook page for the Home Corporation Building Rental was established.

Until remodel plans are finalized, the Home Corp rents the building for meetings, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, fundraising events, etc. If interested in renting, please contact the Home Corp President, Courtney Clark, at cell: 740-310-3958 or email: [cwalker652@comcast.net](mailto:cwalker652@comcast.net)

### 2024 Rental Rates

\$375 per day Monday-Thursday

\$700 per day Friday-Saturday

\$425 Sunday

\$1000 for Wedding (Friday & Saturday)



- Sept 16- Victory Championship Wrestling
- Sept 28- Creative Canvas Paint/Craft Night
- Oct 28- Trunk or Treat and Car Show
- Nov 4- Hermie & Harry's Dueling Pianos
- Nov 11- Veteran's Day at Wesbanco Arena
- Nov 12- Auxiliary Poppy Day at Cabela's
- Nov 17- Wheeling Christmas Parade
- Dec 1- Legion Family Christmas Party
- Dec 14- Creative Canvas Paint/Craft Night



April 20- District 1 Auxiliary Spring Meeting