



**CLINTON POST 259**  
**JANUARY 2026 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**





**From the Desk of your Post Commander:**

Dear American Legion Family,

Happy New Year!

I hope you and your families enjoyed a joyful holiday season spent with loved ones — and that you also took a moment to reach out to those who, for various reasons, may not have been able to celebrate.

As we begin this New Year, let us take time to remember, with gratitude, the men and women who have worn our nation's uniform, those who continue to serve, and the families and community members who steadfastly support them.

May the year ahead bring peace, strength, and hope to us all. May we remain firmly committed to the Four Pillars of The American Legion: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. Let us carry forward the spirit of service and resiliency that define our organization and honor the sacrifices that have shaped it.

Let's also continue our Buddy Check calls—reaching out to fellow Veterans and reminding them they are never alone.

We are now about halfway through the 2026 Membership Year and have reached just over 82% of our goal of retaining and recruiting 1,254 members. Let's keep up the excellent work and push toward 100%!

Wishing you all a healthy, peaceful, and happy New Year.

Remember to visit and explore our Post website:

<https://americanlegionpost259.org>

For God and Country!

Respectfully,

**Sylvester E. Jones Sr.**

Commander

Clinton Post 259

**One Team Together (OTT)**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS (2025 – 2026)**

Commander	Sylvester E. Jones Sr.
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Cynthia Carlisle
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Darryl Pegram
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander	Vacant
Adjutant	Glenda Sturdivant
Assistant Adjutant	Linda Foreman
Judge Advocate	Karen Arikpo
Service Officer	Vacant
Finance Officer	Orlando Nesbit
Assistant Finance Officer	Keena Carter
Historian	Linda Poulson
Chaplain	Otis Wilson
Sergeant-At-Arms	Kenneth Weathers
Members-At-Large	Marie VanNess, Dornita Brown Mark Collins, Shantay Ammons

		
<b>Auxiliary Officers</b>	<b>Legion Rider Officers</b>	<b>S.A.L. Officers</b>
President: Parnice Green	Director: Darryl Fielder	Commander: David L. Hutchinson
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President: LaTia Jones	Asst. Director: Gary Head	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice: Darryl Pegram
2nd Vice President: Loretta Nixon	Secretary: Phyllis Jordan-Headd	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice: Kenny Hendrix
Treasurer: Athena Hemphill	Treasurer: Murray Hall	Finance Officer: Lou Montgomery
Secretary: Tyshena Martin-Mogal	Chaplain: Gwen Murphy	Sgt At Arms: Darrell Bridges
Sgt At Arm: Kathy Davis	Sgt. At Arms: Trevor Benjamin	Adjutant: Dave Desmaris.
Chaplain: Venesee Chapman	Quartermaster: Arthur A.R. Bradley	Historian: David Hutchinson
Historian: Mary Mongal	Road Captain: Kenneth Trass	Chaplain: Gary "GJ" Shafer
Members At Large Rosemarie Roberts Donna Queen Angie "Shay" Klusmann	Safety Officer: Phyllis Jordan-Headd	

## Message from 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Darryl Pegram

### Bingo



**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month. Doors open at 6:00pm**

**Kitchen opens for food sale {Volunteers needed}**

### Karaoke



**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of the month 7pm – 11pm; Kitchen opens for sale**

### Shrimp Night



**Every Wednesday (Boiled Shrimp, Fried Shrimp baskets, Fried Fish Baskets Coleslaw, Hush-puppies and Fries) {Volunteers needed} 6:00-7:30pm**

### Thursday Night Theme Meals

**SAL Pizza night, 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month**

**Legion Riders Fried Chicken Wings and Sausages,**

**Auxiliary: Pork Chops with sides 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month**

## Message from Chaplain Dr. Otis Wilson



American Legion  
Clinton Post 259

Happy New Year, Post 259 Family!

Centering Scripture: Isaiah 43:18-19 KJV

*<sup>18</sup>Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old.*

*<sup>19</sup>Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.*

God is the fix in 2026.



It is an honor to greet you in the Year of our Lord, 2026. If you are here, I am thankful to an All-Loving and Compassionate God for keeping you. As anyone can attest, this thing called life is anything but easy. We are often tried by its superfluities, complexities and complications. Not to forget, the vicissitudes, constant changes and even deaths yet God is still in complete control. The centering scripture extracted from Isaiah 43, encourages us to keep going forward with faith and hope. Be the One.

### American Legion Preamble Explained – To Combat the Autocracy of Classes and the Masses

This clause places the Legionnaire on the side of right in opposing autocracy by either class or mass when this threatens. In a democracy such as ours, composed as it is of all nationalities, races, creeds and economic groups, there are bound to both classes and masses. Indeed, the masses are composed of classes-but all groups within the mass must feel assured that in this nation, reason and fairness will prevail in all human activities and relations. There must be no hyphenated Americans-just Americans all.

The complete American Legion Preamble and its interpretation is located at [Preamble to the Constitution | The American Legion](#).

### Something to Ponder -

Wherever you are, I pray that God's love be with you. Wherever you go, I pray that God will protect you. Whatever you do, I pray that joy will fill your heart; Because you deserve every good gift a wonderful life can hold. May God bless you always – Author Unk  
If you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out.

### One Team Together - B.E.T.T.E.R. T.O.G.E.T.H.E.R.

By Exemplifying Timeless Truths Exercising Responsibility  
The Opportunity Granted Everyone To Help Each Reach

Please keep all Legionnaires lifted in your daily prayers to the Deity.

Make a GREAT day!

For God and Country.

Rev. Dr. Otis D. Wilson, Sr.  
Department Chaplain

## **Message from Adjutant Glenda Sturdivant**

From the Adjutant's Desk

Happy New Year! I hope your year is off to a positive and successful start.

I am reaching out to my Legionnaire family to solicit your assistance. As you may or may not know, the Adjutant is responsible for completing the Post Consolidated Report which is due to the Department at the end of May 2026.

The American Legion Post Consolidated Report is an official summary document that provides an overview of our Post's operations, activities, and overall impact during the reporting period. In short, it is a snapshot of how our Post is functioning and how we are serving our veterans, members, and the community.

Your support and input are essential to ensuring this report accurately reflects the great work being done. Volunteer with one of the committees, and if you have ideas for a specific committee, please share them. We have 4 ½ months to get involved. I appreciate your time and assistance and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

We are only as strong as our participation.

Respectfully,

Glenda Sturdivant  
Post 259 Adjutant

## **Message from Sergeant-At-Arms Kenneth Weathers**

I have received another shipment of Legion Covers, male and female, Individuals in need of a cover, can contact me by phone, email, or text.

Legion covers, with protective cover are \$85.00

Legion Baseball caps are \$30.00 (Black/Blue)

v/r,  
Kenny Weathers  
SGT at Arms, Clinton Post 259  
C - 240-271-3789  
[kennyweathers@hotmail.com](mailto:kennyweathers@hotmail.com)

## Message from Auxiliary President Parnice Green

JANUARY 2026

# ALA 259 NEWSLETTER

### "NEW YEAR, RENEWED COMMITMENT TO SERVICE"

January is our opportunity to recommit to service, fellowship, and purpose. As we step into a new year, we do so with gratitude for all that we have accomplished together through our dedication to veterans, their families, and our community. The past year reflects the power of teamwork, compassion and commitment, and it is because of each member's time, talents and heart for service that our 259 Legion and Auxiliary Family continues to make a meaningful impact. As we look ahead, we embrace the opportunities before us with renewed energy and excitement, ready to strengthen our bonds, welcome new members, and continue our mission of service with pride and purpose.



**CLOTHING  
TOILETRIES  
Donation  
Drive**

**American Legion Clinton Post 259**  
**American Legion Auxiliary Clinton Unit 259**  
**Sons of American Legion Clinton 259**  
**American Legion Riders 259**  
**Silver Hill Lions Club**

**American Legion  
Southern Maryland  
Region Women's  
Veteran Committee**

**Donation Guidelines:**

- All clothing must be clean
- Clothing must be on a hanger and placed in a dry cleaners bag
- Clean Children's clothes accepted
- New socks accepted
- New hats and gloves accepted
- Travel Size Toiletries
- New Towels & New Washcloths

**Point of Contact for Donations**  
**(202) 207-8229**  
**LaTia Jones**

### American Legion Auxiliary Clinton Unit 259 Activities

- January 19th, 2026, Community Room Grand Opening
- January 31st, 2026, Cheltenham Cemetery Wreath Clean Up
- April 11th, 2026, ALA 259 Hand Dance Social Fundraiser
- April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Post 259 Family Community Day
- April 26th, 2026, District Meeting at Harry White Wilmer Post 82
- May 3rd, 2026, Cancer Awareness Banquet II with Edna's Love, Inc.
- May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Military Appreciation Day at Post 259
- June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, District Meeting/Caucus at Ridge Post 255
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays of the month Auxiliary Membership Meeting**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays of the month Auxiliary Pork Chop Dinner Sales**

### American Legion Auxiliary Clinton 2025-2026 Officers

<b>President:</b>	<b>Parnice Green</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:</b>	<b>LaTia Jones</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:</b>	<b>Loretta Nixon</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Athena Hemphill</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Tyshena Martin-Mongal</b>
<b>Sgt. At Arms:</b>	<b>Kathy Davis</b>
<b>Chaplin:</b>	<b>Venesee Chapman</b>
<b>Historian:</b>	<b>Mary Mongal</b>
<b>Members At Large:</b>	<b>Rosemarie Roberts, Donna Queen, Antje Klusmann</b>

## **Message from Member-At-Large Dornita Brown**

### **American Legion Clinton Post 259 – 2026 Scholarship Program**

**The American Legion Clinton Post 259 is proud to announce the upcoming opening of its 2026 Scholarship Program**, an initiative dedicated to honoring service while investing in the academic futures of graduating high school seniors.

This scholarship program recognizes academic achievement, leadership, and community service, supporting students as they pursue higher education. **Eligible applicants include graduating seniors from Surrattsville, Crossland, Gwynn Park, Friendly High School, Grace Brethren Christian School, or graduating seniors who are descendants of an active or deceased member of Clinton Post 259.**

 **Applications will open February 16, 2026.**

 **Additional application submission details will be released prior to the opening date.**

Through this program, Clinton Post 259 continues its commitment to empowering future leaders and strengthening our community through education.

**For additional information, please contact:**

**Niecey Brown, Scholarship Chair**

 **619-942-9405 |  [retirednavygirl@yahoo.com](mailto:retirednavygirl@yahoo.com)**

**Valerie Jenkins, Scholarship Co-Chair**

 **(240) 472-1387 |  [polkchief@aol.com](mailto:polkchief@aol.com)**

**Rosalind Wright, Scholarship Co-Chair**

 **240-305-0575 |  [rwrightppa@aol.com](mailto:rwrightppa@aol.com)**

**Honoring Service. Investing in Education. Building Future Leaders.**

Please let me know if you have any questions or need further guidance.

Have a blessed Day!

It is my optimistic attitude that tells me, yes, one person can make an impact but as a team we can make a greater impact. Dornita

**2 Attachments**





THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND PRESENTS  
**NATIONAL COMMANDER'S BANQUET**

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026 • 5:00-10:00PM  
COCKTAILS 5:00-6:00PM with Cash Bar  
DINNER 6:30-8:00PM with Cash Bar

PROGRAM BEGINS 8:00PM

Hosted by American Legion Cummings-Behlke Post 226  
830 E Central Ave • Edgewater, MD 21037

**MENU**

**APPETIZERS**

Crab Dip  
Pulled Pork in Mini Corn Muffin  
Cocktail Meatballs  
Cheese and Charcuterie Platters

**MAIN COURSE**

Garden Salad  
Choice of  
• Honey Rosemary Chicken  
• Flank Steak  
Roasted Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Dinner Rolls & Butter

**DESSERT**

Cake  
Coffee & Tea



DAN K. WILEY  
NATIONAL COMMANDER  
2025-2026

**TICKETS \$45 PER PERSON**  
**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**  
Email [cdrvvisitpost226@gmail.com](mailto:cdrvvisitpost226@gmail.com)



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND PRESENTS  
**NATIONAL COMMANDER'S VISIT**

**MARCH 14 -15, 2026**

Hosted by American Legion Cummings-Behlke Post 226  
830 E Central Ave • Edgewater, MD 21037

---

## Banquet Reservation Information

Tickets **must** be purchased or reserved by February 28, 2026.

Tickets cannot be purchased day of Banquet.

Make payable to "AL Post 226." If you are attending the Banquet and Breakfast, please include the total amount of \$60 on your check. Event tickets will be mailed within seven (7) days of receipt of payment. Please include your post name or number on reservation email and check. Also indicate dinner or breakfast on your reservation. A reserved table for the banquet requires purchasing eight (8) tickets.

*For any dietary requests please email cdrvisitpost226@gmail.com.*

---

## Hotel Accommodations

Registration QR Code



HILTON GARDEN INN ANNAPOLIS  
305 Harry S. Truman Pkwy, Annapolis, MD 21401

ROOM RATE \$134 + Taxes -- Check-in 3pm, Check-out by 12pm

Room Rate Guaranteed UNTIL February 20, 2026

Book by calling the hotel at 410-266-9006 and mention "American Legion National Commander"

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/bwiangi-903-052492d5-0cdc-4206-a598-20d23883a240>

---

## Breakfast Buffet

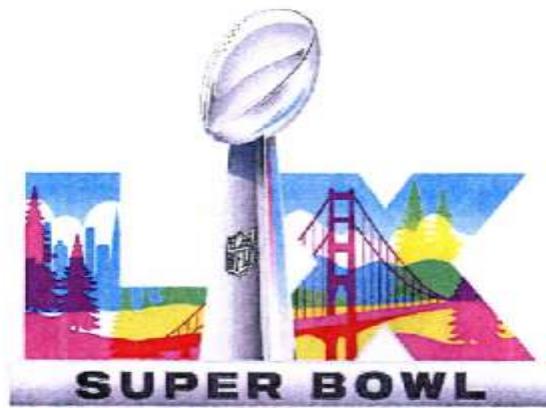
Sunday, March 15, 2026

9:00 - 10:30 AM

SCRAMBLED EGGS, BACON, SAUSAGE, SCRAPPLE, SAUSAGE GRAVY & BISCUITS,  
CHEESY POTATOES, FRESH FRUIT, TOAST, JUICE, AND COFFEE

**\$15 Per Person**

American Legion Post 259  
Clinton Maryland



**The Super Bowl LX  
Drawing of Numbers  
will be on Sunday  
February 1st , 2026 from  
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

## *Message from Oratorical Chair Valerie Barnes*

American Legion Post 259

9122 Piscataway Road

301-868-2550

Clinton MD 20735

The American Legion Oratorical Contest provides students the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution while developing public speaking skills. We appreciate your support and look forward to your attendance.

You are cordially invited to attend the American Legion Post 259 Oratorical Contest.

**Contest Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026**

**Contest Time: 9 am**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Respectfully,

American Legion Post 259

Oratorical Contest Committee

## Message from Sons of the American Legion (SAL)

From the November 2025 Legion Magazine

### SAL making plans for program's centennial

In anticipation of Sons of the American Legion's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2032, the SAL 100<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Committee invites all members and supporters to join us in commemorating the milestone. The centennial celebration will not just be a reflection of our rich history, but a testament to the Sons dedication and commitment to our nation's veterans and their communities over the past century.

Topics of relevance include Call for creativity, Preserving history in squadrons and detachments, Honoring our longest continuous squadrons and members.

- SAL Post National Commander David Faust

More information on Page 10. All above has been copied.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### What makes Vet Centers unique?

Non-traditional hours (including evenings and weekends), services without time limitation and at no charge. Individuals do not need to be enrolled in VA Healthcare Services, do not need a disability rating or service connection, and can access Vet Center services regardless of discharge character.

#### What makes Vet Centers different than VA's Mental Health?

While Vet Centers are not a part of Mental Health in the VAMC, they are connected through coordination and bi-directional referral. Vet Center staff are licensed professionals who offer a non-medical approach to counseling and do not provide medication management.

**Vet Center Call Center**  
1-877-WAR-VETS is an around the clock, confidential call center, where combat Veterans and their families, can call to talk about their military experience or any other issue they are facing in their readjustment to civilian life. The staff is comprised of combat Veterans from several areas, as well as family members of combat Veterans. This benefit is provided through the Veteran's military service.

#### Regional Vet Centers

Silver Spring Vet Center  
2900 Lindell Lane Suite 100  
Silver Spring, MD 20918  
(301) 589-1073

Annapolis Vet Center  
100 Annapolis Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
(410) 605-7325

Edison Vet Center  
183 Chesapeake Blvd, Suite A  
Upper Chesapeake Corporate Center  
Edison, MD 21021  
(410) 393-4485

Prince George's County Vet Center  
7905 McRae Road, Suite 101  
Clinton, MD 20735  
(301) 834-3943

Baltimore Vet Center  
1777 Belairtown Rd, Suite #100  
Baltimore, MD 21238  
(410) 764-6400

Dundalk Vet Center  
1543 Moretti Blvd.  
Dundalk, MD 21222  
(410) 262-6144

DG Vet Center  
1201 Upshur Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20011  
(202) 728-8212

Alexandria Vet Center  
6940 S Kings Hwy, Suite 204  
Alexandria, VA 22316  
(703) 360-8633



[www.vetcenter.va.gov](http://www.vetcenter.va.gov)



Counseling Services  
for Veterans,  
Active Duty, and  
National  
Guard/Reserves





# Clinton Post 259 PRESENTS

Just for FUN Band



Door Prize  
40" TV

## CONCERT

Saturday, March 28, 2026 8pm - 11 pm TICKETS \$20.00

For Tickets Contact: Darryl Pegram 301-758-5590

9122 PISCATAWAY RD CLINTON, MD



CLINTON POST 259

# MILITARY TABLETOPS RAFFLE



## RAFFLE BASKET INCLUDES:

Assorted Alcohol ( White Hennessy, Casmigos, 1800 Silver, Royal Crown, just to name a few)  
American Legion Shirt, Nuts and Popcorn



**DRAWING DATE: MARCH 28, 2026**

**DONATION AMOUNT:**  
**ONE TICKET FOR \$5.00**  
**FIVE TICKETS FOR \$20.00**

**The Winner Need Not To Be Present To WIN!**  
**For Tickets See Bartender Or**  
**Entertainment Committee**



## POST HIGHLIGHTS

### Senior Celebration at Martin's West (December 22, 2025)





Anything negative from 2025,  
leave it there. Any goals that fell  
short, let them go. Any lessons  
that stayed hidden, move on.  
Step into 2026 with confidence,  
conviction, and possibility.  
Focus on what's ahead; your  
mindset, your dreams, and  
*what comes next.*

Power of Wordz   
powerofwordz/fb



# Make A Difference



*The January 2026 Monthly Newsletter (Vol 4)*

*Editor – Linda P. Poulsom*

*Questions, Comments, Ideas please forward to –*

*poulsom515@gmail.com*