

**THE AMERICAN LEGION®**  
**ALEXANDRIA, VA. - POST NO. 24, INC.**  
**VOLUME NO. 78, ISSUE NO. 1**  
**July 2010**



**COMMANDER'S CORNER**

**My Fellow Comrades:**

Another year has begun. For those who could not attend, the installation of the officer's ceremony was very meaningful and I am glad to see all three units of our American Legion family get off to a fresh start and I hope everyone has a safe and productive year.

In mid-June, I had the opportunity to attend a 17<sup>th</sup> District reception for incoming National Commander Jimmy Foster who hails from Alaska. His brief comments were very inspiring. Basically he covered four points that I found inspirational. They were: Membership, Diversity, support for the founding four pillars of the American Legion and the need for up-to-date electronics at the Post level.

The Post Website software has arrived and we have begun the development of a new Web page. This new Website will benefit the American Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons of the American Legion. I hope everyone will visit our new Website soon and give us your feedback on the Web page. We expect the construction of the new Web page to be completed in the near future. We look forward to keeping the information current with up-to-date news and events.

As everyone knows, all three units of Post 24 ended the year with more than 100% renewal of our membership. That was very impressive and I hope everyone will strive to do the same as this new Legion year that starts in just a few weeks. I am sorry we had some that did not renew their membership. We will have to work harder this year to overcome the number of members we lost this past year.

I trust everyone is enjoying their summer thus far. Please be sure to keep your eye on the newsletter calendar for upcoming events at Post 24. During the June Executive Committee meeting we hope to finalize plans for a 2010 picnic and will announce the final plans soon.

Please remember and enjoy the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, our date of Independence. Once again, let us not forget those who have made personal and professional sacrifices so that we enjoy our many freedoms on this date. I recall a phrase I used during our Memorial Day services at the Alexandria National Cemetery. "All gave some; some gave all".

Until we meet again, I remain,

*"For God and Country"*

Michael A. Conner, Sr., Commander

**"This nation will remain the land of the free only  
so long as it is the home of the brave".**

~Elmer Davis



**Adjutant's Notes**

**Post 24 Membership numbers for 2009-10:**

Prior Year Mbrs	Curr Year Mbrs	Curr Year Goal	New Mbrs	Renew Mbrs	Paid Up For Life	% of Goal
644	662	645	83	495	84	102

To start off, I want to thank you for putting your trust in me and electing me as your new Adjutant. I also want to thank Mike Fennie for the fine job he did in the past year. Following in his footsteps will be a big task, but one that I am going to do to the best of my abilities. Thanks everyone who helped out this year in making a very successful membership campaign. As you can see above, we surpassed 100%. During the first week of July the 2011 membership dues notices will be going out from National. When you get the 1st notice please try to pay it right away so we are not fighting the last 2 months of the year in achieving our goal. I know we can do it.

Remember, YOU are the best advertisement for membership in the Legion. Take every opportunity to recruit eligible veterans to join up. Keep an application in your wallet!

I look forward to meeting new Post 24 members and eagerly anticipate the camaraderie shared between old Legionnaire friends as well.

Be an ACTIVE Post member!  
Jim Glassman, Adjutant



**From the 1st Vice Commander**

Legionnaires,

Help Us Raise Money for a Wounded Warrior Meal.

On Wednesday, 7 July, from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, we will hold our monthly grill and smoker in Gadsby's Court Yard. This event is open to the public – please bring your friends. You are your own chef! Bring whatever meat you would like to grill. Post 24 will provide side dishes.

Your \$10 donation will help us fund a wounded warrior's meal, as later in the summer, Post 24 will host a group of wounded warriors to an afternoon of privacy, relaxation, entertainment, and hopefully an outstanding meal.

Our past smokers have been successful in helping us raise money to fund a Little League team. We look forward to a big turnout in July for this worthy cause.

Don't forget that Post 24 has a baseball team in the American

ADVANCE REMINDERS OF EVENTS. WE NEED YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS. Please send your E-Mail address, name and telephone number at [clubroom24@gmail.com](mailto:clubroom24@gmail.com) or leave it in the clubroom. We do a lot. We need you. If we can e-mail you we also can give you advance reminders of events.

Thank you for all that you do.

Bill Aramony, First Vice Commander



## **AUXILIARY NEWS 'N NOTES**

I hope everyone has a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Starting my new term in office, I wish to take this time to pass out a few "Thank You's". The first one goes out to Margaret Dillinger, Martha Hatter and Janet Renner for doing the installations of new offices. A second special one is to all my new officers for stepping up to the plate, I look forward to working with you all. Third, I like to thank Mr. Warden Foley and Mr. Charlie Euripides for making sure we had a great dinner after the installation meeting.

As we start this term, I will be trying some different things in hopes of getting more of you involved in our meetings and events.

Please welcome your new officers for 2010-2011:

President	Mary Esther Alvarado
Vice President	Elizabeth Hampton
Treasure	Jacqueline Hansen
Chaplin	Vivian Kronstedt
Secretary	Conni Burns
Sgt. of Arms	Open
Historian	Open

### **Auxiliary Events**

The Department Convention starts July 8-11 in Richmond, VA.

### **Note**

Please join us for our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting Tuesday, July 6, 2010 at 7 pm.

Please remember, all American Legion Auxiliary correspondences including membership needs should be sent to the following:

### **American Legion Auxiliary Unit 24**

**P.O. Box 402 – Main Station  
Alexandria, VA 22313 - 0402**

Senior dues are \$25 and junior dues are \$5. All checks must be made payable to "ALA Unit 24." If you have any concerns or problems with membership please let us know.

I close with these words of motivation.

"I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; I will not refuse to do the something I can do"~ Helen Keller

*For God and Country*



## **SAL Commander's Corner:**

Greetings to all American Legion Alexandria Post 24 SAL! We have a new SAL leadership. Travis Alvarado, SAL Vice Commander; Joseph Shumard, Second Vice Commander; Justin K. Kraemer, Third Vice Commander; and Eric J. Fitzgerald, Fourth Vice Commander. Congratulations to all and congratulations to the American Legion's new leadership and our Post 24 Auxiliary. Your participation in the July and August membership drive at our Post is greatly appreciated! Join us at the American Legion table at the Alexandria Farmers' Market every Saturday from 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., Additionally, we are interested in knowing how to connect with you electronically. Please bring your e-mail to the table, it will be confidentially added to our database. [www.valegionpost24.org](http://www.valegionpost24.org) See you at the Market!

*For God and Country,*

Jay Palermino, SAL CMDR, Post 24

### **SAL Adjutant Notes**

Good July to you. We are eagerly acquiring new members. This is the time for the July/August membership drive. Please support your fellow SAL in volunteering your time at the SAL table at the Farmers' Market on Saturday mornings. We are staged on the curb at King Street near Royal Streets. The clubroom is as popular as ever, has COMCAST-installed WI-FI capability and remember to bring your prospective member referrals with you and when they sign-in. There's a new member beverage of choice from Club Manager Neale!

John (Mitch) Mitchell, SAL Adjutant & Finance Officer  
American Legion Post 24

### **SAL Community Notes:**

Recently installed into the Post 24 SAL family, it humbles me as I have had the opportunity to talk to senior leaders in the Post 24 to completely understand how to best market the Post 24 to SAL potential members. I look forward to helping the Legion to grow SAL membership.

Eric J. Fitzgerald, Fourth Vice Commander,

### **SAL Vice Commander Notes:**

It's that time of year for a Summer Cool-Down! Meet us at the Post 24 Clubroom August 14<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Great food and great people. If you want to provide a dish, please bring your favorite. Have a happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!!!!

*For God and Country,*

Travis Alvarado, SAL Vice Commander

**"Where liberty dwells,  
there is my country".  
~ Benjamin Franklin**

**POST 24 UPCOMING EVENTS**

July 6 – Unit 24 Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

July 7 – Post 24 “Smoker” – 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

July 14 – Squadron 24 Meeting – 7:30 p.m.  
Post 24 General Membership Meeting –  
8 p.m.

July 28 – Post 24 Executive Committee Meeting –  
7:30 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

There are three vacancies on the Executive Committee to be filled at the August, 2010 General Membership Meeting.

1 - Third Vice Commander

2 - Executive Committee Members

If you are interested in running for one of these positions, please see Dick Evans, Scott Allen or Doug Gurka. You must have a 2010 valid Dues card and a copy of your DD-214 or military ID to be considered eligible.