



MASON DIXON POST 194



338 East Main Street

Rising Sun, Maryland

410-658-9078

December 2023

This is our Newsletter for December 2023. It contains a list of the upcoming events that will be occurring at the Legion during the month of December. Our next Newsletter will be sent out at the end of December 2023.

For additional information concerning our upcoming events, you can visit the American Legion Mason Dixon Post 194 web site that offers information about "What's Happening at Post 194" - (Web Site: www.alpost194.com).

Please note that Post 194 will be closed on Thursday, November 23, 2023 for Thanksgiving and Monday, December 25, 2023 for Christmas.

Below are the current Officers for the American Legion Mason Dixon Post, Auxiliary Unit 194, SAL Squadron 194, American Legion Riders that were elected to serve during the Legion Year of 2023-2024:

American Legion Post 194 Officers:
American Legion Mason Dixon Post 194

Post Commander – Neil Eller
1st Vice Commander – Roger Ball
2nd Vice Commander – John Jay Evans
3rd Vice Commander – Bobby Burlin
Finance Officer – Jeff Hughes
Adjutant – Grant Eller
Service Officer – Danny McLaughlin
Chaplain – Russ Gulick
Sgt-at-Arms- Frank Morgan
Judge Advocate - James Parker
Historian – Joe Bradford
Senior Color Bearer – Tom Hawk

The three members who were elected to serve on the Executive Committee are Larry Weaver, Martin Weaver and Mike Saponaro. Commander Eller also appointed David Bradford to serve on the Executive Committee.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 194 Officers:
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 194

President – Dana Fritts
1st Vice President – Lisa Ewing
2nd Vice President – Vacant
Secretary – Shirl Cameron
Treasurer – Joann Ross
Sgt. at Arms - Pat Wood
Color Bearer - Julie Guethler
Chaplain - Barb Flynn
Historian – Sharon Burlin

SAL Squadron 194 Officers:
Mason Dixon SAL Squadron 194

Commander – Walt Ragan, Jr.
1st Vice Commander - Steven Webb
2nd Vice Commander – Rusty Ewing
Adjutant – Rodger Gilbert
Finance Officer - Charlie Richardson
Sgt-At-Arms – Mick McDaniel
Chaplain – Mike Gilbert
Historian - Roy Stoltzfus

American Legion Riders Officers:
Mason Dixon American American Legion Riders

Director – Johanna White
Assistant Director – George Remhof
Road Captain – Chuck White
Sgt-at-Arms: Steve Waggy
Treasurer – Amy Cavanaugh
Secretary – Johanna White
Safety Officer – Kevin Moore
Membership Officer - Fran To
Chaplain – Catharina Huyser-Remhof

Legion News/Information

Daily Lunches - We offer daily lunches during the weekdays from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. A limited "Lunch Menu" is offered at a reasonable price.

VETERANS CORNER



In this part of our Newsletter we would like to acknowledge individuals for their service and their endless contributions to the American Legion Mason Dixon Post 194. This month the Mason Dixon Post 194 proudly salute Neil Eller.

Neil was drafted in April of 1967. He was inducted at Fort Holabird, MD. He was sent to Fort Bragg, NC for his eight week basic training. While at Fort Bragg he was given a chance to audition for the 82nd Airborne Division Band. Neil passed his audition and was selected to become a member of the 434th U.S. Army Band, stationed at FT. Gordon, GA. The 434th Army Band was kept very busy providing music to various Military Schools stationed at FT. Gordon and throughout the states of GA., SC., and NC. In November 1967 Neil was selected to play in the NATO band in Brussels, Belgium. However, before he could go to Brussels the orders were cancelled so Neil stayed at FT. Gordon until April 1969 when he was released from the service. Neil has been a member of the American Legion Mason Dixon Post 194 for 54 years. Neil has held numerous officer positions at the Mason Dixon Post 194, including Commander for 10 years, 1st Vice Commander for numerous years, and 3rd Vice Commander. Neil is the chairperson of the Executive committee and the Slot Machine committee. Neil has been in charge of several different programs that are essential to keeping Post 194 running. Neil has been and still is a central part of the Mason Dixon Post 194.

Prepared by Historian Joe Bradford

PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING DECEMBER 2023 EVENTS

Toys for Tots Donations – Post 194 is a local collection site for the Marine Corp Reserve Toys for Tots Program. The basic mission of the Marine Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys and distribute those toys to less fortunate children at Christmas. Through the gift of a new toy, help bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate. Please drop off your donation at Post 194 at any time through December 9, 2023.

Membership Early Bird Dinner - Sunday December 3 - Our 2023 Membership Cards are now here at the Post. Any member who has paid their 2024 membership dues can attend our Early Bird Christmas Party held on Sunday, December 3, 2023 (for free). Dinner will be from 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM and music (featuring Kruisin Karaoke) will be from 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Please help the Legion, the Auxiliary, and the SAL reach their 2024 membership goals by paying your dues early. Also, keep in mind that we are always looking to sign up new Legion members. If you know of any eligible person who wants to join any of our three Legion Organizations, please give this person a membership application form. Non-members who want to attend this event can purchase a ticket at the door for \$10.00 per person.



SAL Shrimp Dinners - There will only be one Shrimp dinner in December due to the holiday. Come out on December 10, 2023 for shrimp from 1:00 PM - 5:00PM. Olivia Reynolds Band will be playing in our hall from 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM. The menu consists of steamed or breaded shrimp, crab cake sandwiches, fish sandwiches, homemade crab soup, hush puppies, and french fries. These Shrimp Dinners have proved to be a very successful event for the SAL. All proceeds from these dinners help provide funds to support the many programs offered by the SAL Squadron 194.

Membership Meetings - The general membership meetings will be held on the 3rd Thursday of December due to the holiday.



Children's Christmas Party - This year our Annual Children's Christmas Party will be held December 16, 2023 from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. This event is sponsored by SAL Squadron 194 and Auxiliary Unit 194. There will be a visit from Santa Claus and many decorated areas available to take your own photos. There is no age limit for the children to attend. There will be refreshments, snacks, drinks, and a Santa's workshop. Since we are expecting a large crowd, we are asking that anyone who plans to attend this event to please pre-register with the number of children and adults who will be attending. This will help us plan how many people will be joining us this year. Pre-registration will begin November 1, 2023. To pre-register please contact Shirl Cameron at 443-504-2201, or Dana Fritts at 410-688-0280. Please do not call the Legion to pre-register. We will be holding a Silent Auction for 6 fully decorated trees this year. If you would like to sponsor a tree or donate to this event please contact Shirl Cameron at 443-504-2201, or Donna Thomas at 443-466-7506. Sponsorship/donation forms will be available at the Legion starting in November. The trees will be on display in our Lounge area beginning in November.



Decorating our Hall for Christmas – The SAL will be leading the effort to decorate our Hall area for Christmas. This is a big undertaking with several members participating in order to get the Hall ready for the many events that will take place during the month of December. We want to thank our hard working SAL, Auxiliary, and non-member volunteers who will be putting a great deal of time and effort into getting our Hall ready for the Christmas season.

Upper Chesapeake Community Band Christmas Concert

- The Upper Chesapeake Community Band will be providing a one hour concert of your favorite Christmas music from 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM on Sunday, December 17, 2023. This event is free and is open to the public.

Christmas Eve Luncheon - The legion will host our annual Christmas Eve luncheon on Sunday, December 24th from 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM. If you are out doing some last minute shopping please stop by and enjoy a free lunch, compliments of the Post. Please note that the Legion will be closing at 8:00 PM on Sunday, December 24th and will not be open on Monday, December 25th.

Other Upcoming Events to be held at the Legion:

Week Night Dinners:

Monday Nights - Chicken Wings from 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM. We offer plain wings, breaded wings, and chicken fingers with a variety of sauces and French fries. Haven Bare (Kruisin Karaoke) is here every Monday night from 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM providing great music.

Tuesday Nights - Burgers from 5:00pm - 7:30pm. We offer plain burgers and cheeseburgers with a variety of toppings on the fixing bar and french fries.

Wednesday Nights - Flatbread Pizzas from 5:00pm - 7:30pm. We offer a wide variety of pizza toppings for your Flatbread. Ricky Holbrook is here every Wednesday night playing music from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM.

Thursday Nights - Tacos from 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM. We offer ground beef hard tacos, soft tacos, and nachos. We have a fixing bar available to add all of your toppings.

Friday - Cheesesteaks from 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM. We offer plain steaks and cheesesteaks with toppings and french fries.

Please note: The first Friday of each month beginning in September through May we will be serving the Auxiliary dinner versus Cheesesteaks.

Friday Night Music – We continue to offer various types of music in our lounge area every Friday night from 6:30 PM – 10:30 PM. Here is a listing of the entertainment schedule for Friday Nights during the next several weeks:

December 1 – The Amigos
December 8 – Across the Tracks
December 15 – Kruisin Karaoke
December 22 – Lost Train
December 29 – Bad Alibi
January 5 – The Amigos



Saturday Night Bingo - We have Bingo here at the Post home every Saturday night from 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM. There are a series of regular bingo games that are played, as well as a variety of other special games, including 2 jackpot games. Our bingo kitchen is open from 4:30 PM - 8:45 PM every Saturday night. A variety of food items are offered on our kitchen menu.



American Legion Riders (ALR) Local Chapter Meeting Info

- The monthly meetings of the ALR local chapter are held here at Post 194 on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM. All members are urged to attend these meetings to keep informed of the many planned upcoming activities of the local chapter.

American Legion Riders Sunday Morning Breakfast

- The American Legion Riders of Post 194 are scheduled to resume their "buffet-style breakfast" in October this Fall. The breakfasts will be held here at our Post Banquet Hall on the 3rd Sunday of each month from 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM from October - April. The menu will include scrambled eggs, bacon, scrapple, sausage, sausage gravy, fried potatoes, toast, biscuits, and will be served with coffee and juices.



2024 Membership Dues - The 2024 membership cards for the Regular Members, the Auxiliary Members, and the SAL Members are now available here at the Legion. The Regular American Legion Member membership dues are \$35.00 and the Auxiliary and SAL dues are \$30.00. We ask that all members please try to pay this year's membership dues as soon as you can - You will be helping the membership chair persons for our three organizations reach our membership goals for the upcoming year.



Don't Throw Away your Slot Machine Tickets – Instead, drop them in our Veteran's Donation Box located in the game room. Every little bit helps as we accumulate funds to donate to our local area veteran organizations.

Chaplain's Message (From Russ Gulick, Post 194 Chaplain) - As we head into the holiday season remember all of our veterans who are not able to spend this season with their families, also remember the homeless, the sick, and those that we have lost. Keep them all in your thoughts and prayers. I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a safe holiday. You all are in my prayers. Keep Christ in Christmas. God bless you all. God bless America. Peace, love, health and happiness to you all. Feel free to call me at 443-206-2632 and leave a message if you know of someone that is sick or has passed. I will respond as soon as possible.

New Year's Eve Party - The legion will host our annual New Year's Eve Party on Sunday, December 31, 2023 from 7:00 PM - 12:00 PM. Dinner will be served from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Live music will be provided from 8:00 PM - 12:00 PM. This event is free for those who bring a pot luck dish to share. For those who don't want to bring a food dish, cash donations will be accepted to help offset the food provided by Post 194.

American Legion Post 194 Cookbook - We will be gathering recipes for a published cookbook sponsored by the Auxiliary. The cookbook will be published sometime early 2024. If you would like to submit your favorite recipe, please send it to our Auxiliary email at Post194ladies@gmail.com or drop it off at the Post at your earliest convenience. Please include your name and any other information about the origin of the recipe that you would like to see published in the cookbook.

Friday Night Dinners - The American Legion Unit 194 Auxiliary will restart their monthly Friday night dinners on the 1st Friday Night of each month, beginning on September 1st from 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. The dinners are \$12.00 per person and will be held during the months of September through May of next year. These dinners are a "Buffet Style" dinner consisting of a choice of two meats with a variety of other food items such as mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, dessert, etc. Come out and enjoy a great meal for \$12.00 and support our Legion's Auxiliary Unit. If you are interested in helping the Auxiliary at these events, please contact Dana Fritts or any Auxiliary Member at the Legion and let them know you are interested.

Other items of interest - Don't forget to support the Post 194 Honor Guard, the Unit 194 Auxiliary, and the SAL Squadron 194 by purchasing one of their weekly 50/50 tickets. The proceeds from these weekly drawings are used to provide the many services they provide to this community.

Neil Eller, Commander
American Legion Post 194

Dana Fritts, President
Unit 194 Auxiliary

Walt Ragan Jr., SAL Commander
Son of the American Legion



American Legion Family

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The American Legion
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