

American Legion Post 1

1530 Ninth St. Lake Charles, La

337-436-3300

<https://www.americanlegionpost1lakecharles.org>



July 2026 Newsletter

Commander's Comments:

Greetings fellow legionnaires and welcome to the summer! Our Post elections were completed at our May meeting with all candidates unopposed for their positions. We welcome a few new faces with Roger Pete taking over as the new Commander; David Sellers is the new Chaplin. The complete line up is as follows:

Roger Pete, Commander
Keith McKinley, 1st Vice Commander
Jean Dimas, 2nd Vice Commander
Jim Jackson, 3rd Vice Commander
David Phillips, Adjutant
David Sellars, Master at Arms/Chaplin
Ron Williams, Color Bearer
Rhonda Sullivan, Service Officer
Kelly Miseles, E-Board Member
Danny LeBlanc E-Board Member
Dennis Lantz, E-Board Member/Finance Officer
Russel Godwin, E-Board Member
Gabe Soileau, E-Board Member
Niluha Fort-Hargrow – Secretary

Check out our newly designed
Commanders wall display.



What is the Post doing?

Here at W.B. Williamson American Legion Post 1, service isn't just something we talk about — it's something we live each day. This year has been filled with moments that remind us why our work matters and how deeply connected we are to the community we proudly serve.

- On May 13, 2026, we gathered for our annual Memorial Service Ceremony, honoring the brave men and women who gave everything for our freedom.
- Memorial Day brought us to Orange Grove–Graceland Cemetery for the Forty-Third Annual Avenue of Flags, a powerful display of remembrance and unity.
- On June 14, we joined the Flag Retirement Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park, ensuring our nation's symbol is retired with dignity.
- When the Juneteenth Festival arrived on June 19, Post 1 volunteers were out in the Louisiana heat handing out free water and connecting with neighbors downtown.
- We were proud to sponsor two outstanding young men for Boys State at Southeastern Louisiana University, helping shape future leaders from June 27 to July 3.
- That same evening, June 27, we celebrated at the Patriot's Ball in the L'Auberge Casino Grand Ballroom — a night filled with pride and fellowship.
- And on June 30, our partnership with Texas Roadhouse brought in much-needed funds through their generous 10% donation of all food orders, helping us continue our mission of supporting veterans and their families.
- The American Legion Post 1 has been a cornerstone in education, we take pride in the history and the future of education. As a part of what we do here at the American Legion Post 1 we presented scholarships to our future generation. We have had the pleasure this year presenting several scholarships and awards to help high school graduates further their education. At Lake Charles College Prep we presented a scholarship to Velgene Stutes, at St. Louis Catholic we presented The American Legion Award to Ava Dennis and Keelon McCall, we presented JROTC scholarship awards at LaGrange High School, and JROTC scholarship awards at Washington Marion High School.
- We continue to host dollar BINGO and donuts sessions at the SWLA Veterans Home the second Thursdays of each month. Not sure if they like the donut or dollars best.
- We have grown our social media and online presence which is showing great reward in the work and efforts of loyalty, dedication, time, and persistence. In doing so we have gained not just the donations but we have touched the hearts of those who donate to The American Legion Post 1 our home away from home.
- Post 1 is not only earning donors but we continue to educate the community on proper etiquette of handling, retiring, and the overall meaning of why we embody so much respect for our American Flag, as our Adjutant here at Post 1, Mr. David Phillips, did an interview with our local News Station KPLC.

Save the date:

- **July 24, 2026 Once Was Inc. meals of remembrance Purple Heart Day 11:00 AM**
Moss Bluff VFW Post 7321 2268 Hwy 171 Moss Bluff, La, 70611
- **July 30, 2026 Veterans Home Jennings Pin-Ups for Vets 1:00 PM 1610 Evangeline Rd.**
Jennings La, 70546
- **August 8, 2026 SWLA Veterans Association First Annual Back to School Event 1:00 PM**
Moss Bluff VFW Post 7321 2268 Hwy 171 Moss Bluff, La, 70611



Cameron LNG donation



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Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser



KPLC T.V. Interview



Pipeline Construction Workers of Louisiana donation



Juneteenth Award



Avenue of Flags



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