



American Legion Post POST 316

South Cherokee County Georgia
P.O. Box 496 Woodstock, GA 30188

Member Handbook 2016 – 2017





The American Legion

Just after World War I, while still serving on duty in Paris, France, a group of war-weary American soldiers met to discuss the problems of those men returning from the war. Many had both physical and mental problems. There were also widows and orphan children of those who had lost their lives. Even though other meetings were held before the organization received a name, the result was The American Legion.

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919. The Legion has its headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana and has a membership of more than 3.1 million members, men and women. Nearly 16,000 local groups or Post, as they are called, are located in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, plus Canada, France, Italy, Mexico, Panama Canal, and the Philippines. The major areas of involvement of the organization include National Security, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Legislative matters, Economics, and Americanism and Children and Youth.

Membership in The American Legion is open to those people who served honorably in any branch of the military during a wartime or conflict period. Since the organization is chartered by Congress, the eligibility periods are also determined by Congress. The newest group of eligible veterans is those who are on duty during Operation Iraqi Freedom as well as those on active duty, now during this wartime period.



A Message from the Post Commander

Welcome to American Legion Post 316 - South Cherokee County

“The Biggest Little Post in Georgia”

Est. January 15, 2001

First let me say, Thank you for your service to your country!

As a Legionnaire in Post 316 you will continue to serve your country; but in a slightly different way.

I encourage you to attend our monthly meetings which are held at the William G. Long Senior Center located at 223 Arnold Mill Rd. in Woodstock.

General Membership Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month starting at 7:00 pm.

Be sure to come early so that you may enjoy the fellowship of veterans like yourself prior to the meeting. Coffee and donuts are always on hand.

Check out our post website at www.alpost316ga.org as well as The Department of Georgia's website at www.galegion.org. Both websites contain valuable links for additional information about The American Legion.

If you have any questions, concerns, or special interests that you would like to pursue, please contact me or any Post Officer. A complete list of all Post Officers is located in your **New Member's Handbook**.

Remember, we are here to help you become an active member in American Legion Post 316.

For God and Country,

O. W. (Rusty) Rust
Commander

Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion

For God and Country;

We associate ourselves together for the following purposes;

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;

To maintain Law and Order;

To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;

To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars;

To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State, and Nation;

To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;

To make right the master of might;

To promote peace and good will on earth;

To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;

(Auxiliary Only) –

To participate in and contribute to the accomplishments of the aims and purposes of the American Legion.

To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness;



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South Cherokee County Georgia
P.O. Box 496 Woodstock, GA 30188

2016 – 2017 POST OFFICERS



O.W. Rust
Commander



Mike Satterly
Sr. Vice Commander

OPEN
Adjutant



Louis Monserrate, Jr.
Chaplain



Linda Ersery
Finance Officer



Jack Wilroy
Judge Advocate



Carl Welch
Service Officer



George Gantz
Historian



Herb Wyatt
Sgt-At-Arms



Tim Blanchard
Asst. Sgt-At-Arms



John Fuller
Jr. Vice Commander



Stan Brown
Jr. Vice Commander



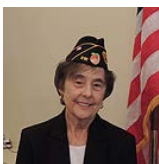
Julian Windham
Jr. Vice Commander



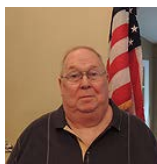
Clarence Autry
Asst. Historian



Wendy Rutledge
Committeeman



Millie Bush
Committeeman



Bob Poller
Committeeman



John Frankle
Committeeman



Robert Clements
Committeeman



Carl Welch
Web-Site Manager

AMERICAN LEGION

Post 316 South Cherokee County GA

Post 316 History

American Legion Post 316 South Cherokee County, Department of Georgia was chartered by the National Headquarters of the American Legion in Indianapolis, Indiana. Members who joined this Post prior to May 17, 2002 shall be known as charter members.

A temporary charter was duly issued to South Cherokee County Post 316, The American Legion, Department of Georgia, Woodstock, Georgia bearing the signatures of National and Department Commanders and Adjutants of said organizations; said charter becoming effective and dated the 20th day of June, 2001.

The following names are recorded as Charter Members of said Post and same are hereby recognized as Charter Members of this Post:

Gerald M. Abernathy	Roy Davis	Richard J. Malone	Charles F. Scheid III
Robert G. Abraham	Billy F. Dodd	James Manning	Fred N. Schaefer
Orman C. Allen	John G. Douglas	Steven J. Matthes	William E. Schley
Jack Banister	Wallace Eidson	Leonard A. McClure, Jr.	A. B. Schwartz
Fred W. Barrows	Jim J. Easterling	Leonard A. McClure, Sr.	George E. Shelton, Sr.
Aaron M. Barton	William R. Fisher	Enoch M. McConnell, Jr.	Tommy L. Sheton
Les L. Barton	Elmer P. Fowser, Jr.	Robert C. McFarland, Sr.	Gordon L. Simonson II
James R. Bauman	Woodrow W. Fry	Jack. S. McKinney	Henry F. Skaggs
Anthony E. Bentley	David C. Frye	Terry McMichael	Carl L. Smith III
Donald M. Boyee	Steven N. Gallman	Robert M. Mienscow	Laurin G. Smith III
Rita Brock-Perini	Grady B. Gee	Dale Milligan	Charles G. Slater
Herbert H. Brown	Theadore I. Gentry	Arthur A. Molitor, Jr.	Gerald T. Stanton
Arthur Bryan	Derek Good	Stephen P. Moore	Leon T. Staton
George H. Buchanan	Norman W. Grossman	Kenneth E. Moss	Charles H. Stephens
David E. Bullock	James R. Hamby	Robert A. Moss	Miles L. Stephenson
James Busi	Bruce P. Hatfield	Roy D. Morris	Frank Struzzieri
J. Michael Byrd	Jerry S. Hornsby	Douglas Motley	David M. Tate
Robert L. Campbell	Charles Hulsey	George A. Nelson	Wayne Tatum
Robert W. Campbell	Eugene L. Johnson	Donald P. Newby	Fred A. Thoma
Robert W. Campbell	Jay T. Johnson	David W. Nickerson	Robert H. Thomas
Jimmy G. Carpenter	Warren R. Johnson	Kieran V. Pavlick	James U. Thomason
Danny T. Carson	Jack R. Johnston	William C. Porter	Peter A. Timmins
Joseph E. Clare	James E. Kane	James K. Price, Jr.	Ronald C. Treadaway, Sr.
John P. Clement	Robert W. Laney	John L. Price	Charles T. Tucker
Leonard Clement	Robert R. Larchevesque	Grady E. Priest	Johnathon Q. Tucker
Donald L. Coker	Jack E. Leonard	Sarah G. Raines	William R. Webster
Alvin K. Collins	Jerry W. Lewis	Herman L. Richison	Michael N. Williams
Robert E. Conway	Lawrence Little	Robert D. Riley	John D. Wilroy
Greg Crittenden	Harold A. Lowe	C. Todd Roark	Robert J. Wolfenberger
Joseph G. Czachor	Thomas S. Lutz	John Sandberg	Adam G. Woodruff
Richard T. Dean	Wayne Mackey	Michael Sarris	Carlton N. Yancey

The First Officers of Post 316 were:

Commander – Charles Tucker, Sr. Vice Commander – Leon Staton,

Jr. Vice Commander – John Tucker, Adjutant – Robert Mienscow,

Chaplain – Les Barton, Committeemen – Orman C. Allen and Theadore I. Gentry



Post 316 Officer Contact Information

Post Commander

O. W. "Rusty" Rust
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rustyfence@bellsouth.net

Sr. Vice Commander

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Jr. Vice Commander

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Jr. Vice Commander

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Jr. Vice Commander

Stan Brown
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Adjutant

OPEN

Chaplain

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Sgt-At-Arms

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Asst-Sgt-At-Arms

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Historian

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Asst. Historian

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Committeeman

Wendy Rutledge
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Committeeman

Millie Bush
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Committeeman

Bob Poller
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Committeeman

John Frankle
770-924-7683
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Committeeman

Robert Clements
254-258-8252
fate199204@yahoo.com

Post Quartermaster

Post 316 does not have a Quartermaster or Supply Department. The Post Adjutant will occasionally make a bulk purchase of certain items for resale to the members, however this is very rare. It is up to the individual Legionnaires to purchase their uniform items direct from American Legion Emblem Sales.

American Legion Emblem Sales is the “Official” source for all American Legion items. They are located in Indianapolis, Indiana. You can order by phone or on-line (www.emblem.legion.org).

Instructions on How to Order a Post 316 American Legion Uniform Cap

Call **Emblem Sales** at **1-888-453-4466**. Have your **Legion ID #** available. Tell them you would like to order an **American Legion Uniform Cap**. You want the **“POST”** style Cap with a **“REGULAR CROWN”** in **“SIZE”** ().
(*Make sure you correctly measure for your head/size.*)

<u>Cap Size</u>	<u>Head Size</u>	<u>Cap Size</u>	<u>Head Size</u>
6 5/8	20 7/8”	7 3/8	23 1/8”
6 3/4	21 1/4”	7 1/2	23 1/2”
6 7/8	21 5/8”	7 5/8	23 7/8”
7	22”	7 3/4	24 1/4”
7 1/8	22 3/8”	7 7/8	24 5/8”
7 1/4	22 3/4”	8	25”

Tell them you would like your cap **“LINED”**
Tell them you are in **Post 316** Department of **Georgia**
(*They should automatically put the state **“PEACH”** on your Cap*)
Tell them you want the following lettering on the **left side of your cap ...**
SOUTH CHEROKEE CO., GA.
Tell them you want **316** on the **right side of your cap**

To Order a Women's Cap replace “REGULAR CROWN” with **“WOMEN'S CROWN”**

If you have any questions call **Rusty 770-652-7088**.

Once you have purchased from **Emblem Sales** you will be sent a catalog for future items.



The American Legion Auxiliary



The American Legion Auxiliary was founded in 1920, and the ladies of the Auxiliary are still the largest ladies' service organization in the world.

We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the William G. Long Senior Center located at 223 Arnold Mill Road, Woodstock GA at 7:00 pm with the American Legion.

During the Legion meeting we break away into our own meeting. We function as a separate organization within the American Legion Family.

We are involved with helping veterans and their families in any way that we can. Fundraisers are enjoyed to support our veterans, and our Poppy drives are well known for that. If you would like to know more about our adult and junior programs, please contact Irma Martin, Acting President, at immpjrm@gmail.com or 678-662-2366.

Sons of The American Legion



The Sons of The American Legion was created in 1932 as an organization within The American Legion. The S.A.L. is made up of boys and men of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the United States military and became eligible for membership in The American Legion.

You should be able to get an official S.A.L. Membership Application from just about any American Legion Post in the country.

Not everyone is eligible to become a member of the Sons of The American Legion. There are specific membership requirements: you must be a male descendant (includes stepsons and adopted sons) of a member of The American Legion – or a deceased veteran who would have been eligible to join The American Legion before he died.

For more information about Squadron 316 please contact Julian Windham at 706-726-2754 or email at windfarm@comcast.net.

The American Legion Riders



Membership in the American Legion Riders is a very diverse group, so are the programs that they are involved in. In order to become a member of the American Legion Riders a person must be a member of a legion post, auxiliary unit or SAL squadron. The types of things that the Legion Riders do are far too many to mention here but here are a few examples of what they are involved in:

1. Participation in the annual POW/MIA Rally held each Memorial weekend in Washington D.C. known as "Rolling Thunder".
2. Sponsoring or participating in local Charity events.
3. Raising money for such organizations as local VA Hospitals, Battered Women and Children's Center, Varied Children and Youth programs, a School for Blind Children, Veterans Relief, Needy families and many, many others.
4. Sponsoring or participating in motorcycle "Runs" to benefit numerous charities, including charities for underprivileged children and medical research, just to name a few.
5. Participation in memorial ceremonies and community parades.

If you are interested in finding out more about the American Legion Riders Post 316 South Cherokee please contact Annetta Tucker by email at nanna20001@yahoo.com or by phone at 770-310-7772.

Auxilairy Unit 316 Officer Contact Information

Acting President

Irma Martin
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Secretary / Treasurer

Ruthi Rust
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Sons of the American Legion Squadron 316

Commander

Luke Andrascho

Adjutant

Julian Windham
706-726-2754

Chaplain

Michael Stepat
404-587-9527

Legion Riders Post 316

Co-Director

Tim Tucker
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Sgt-At-Arms

Troy Tucker (deployed)
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The American Legion Riders



In the fall of 1993 Chuck (Tramp) Dare shared a dream with then Post Commander (Polka) Bill Kaledas at the American Legion Post 396 in Garden City, Michigan. The idea came about to start a motorcycle association that would operate within the American Legion. The idea was to provide an atmosphere whereas Post, Auxiliary and S.A.L. members, who shared an enthusiasm for motorcycles, could come together. It was meant to be a family oriented group.

Not knowing how to start this group up, and stay within the scope of the American Legion, a letter was written to then Department Adjutant Hubert Hess. In his November 19th, 1993 reply he stated that it "Sounds like a great idea". In this letter, and follow-up phone conversations, he gave us instructions on how to manage this program at our Post. He also provided us information on how to get approval for the use of the American Legion Emblem. We then sought to get this program recognized through our Post Membership. The idea was brought up at our Post meeting to have our Post sponsor the group to be known as the "American Legion Riders". It was passed by our members and thus became the birth of the first American Legion Riders group.

We started with just a small group. Within a few months we grew to nineteen members. We worked on developing a set of by-laws to help us to provide structure to our group. We designed an emblem for the American Legion Riders. This emblem, contained within its design, the emblem of the American Legion. Working closely with our Department Adjutant we were able to gain approval, by the national headquarters of the American Legion, to have our emblem manufactured for our group. This emblem is worn today by Legion Rider groups throughout the country and is available to it's members through and State chapters.

Another important decision we made, with concurrence of our Department Adjutant, was to not require members that wanted to become legion Riders to transfer to our Post. Our Post sponsored the American Legion Rider group, but not all of our members belong to our Post. We felt that if we required members to transfer to our Post that this would cause a lot of hard feelings in other Post near our own community. What we soon found out was that our membership grew, not from current legion members, but many joined the American Legion to become members of the American Legion Riders. A very conservative estimate would say that over half of our current membership joined the American Legion to enable them to join the Riders.

Right after starting we proceeded to get down to "business". Our objective was to support the aims and purposes of the American Legion, through service to our Community, State and Nation. We did such things as putting on a "Bingo" at the VA Hospital, putting on fundraisers for local charities, participating in motorcycle "runs" to raise money for

charity and participation in ceremonies and parades. We did have some Post members who thought, in the beginning, that we would be just a bunch of "Bikers". After seeing the kinds of things we did, we gained a lot of respect in both the American Legion community as well as our own community.

In 1996 we had an article published about the American Legion Riders in the American Legion National publication of the "Dispatch". An article in the American Legion Magazine soon followed up this article. In about 1996 "Tramp" moved to Texas, where he did a great job of promoting the Legion Rider program there. Today, there are groups of American Legion Riders throughout the country.

Where we are today

As the membership of the American Legion Riders is a very diverse group, so are the programs that they are involved in. By allowing each American Legion Rider Chapter to give their members the ability to manage their program at the Post level, the program has been allowed to grow. Today there exist Legion Rider programs in several states, and many more starting. The types of things that these groups are doing are far too many to mention in this article, but here are a few examples:

1. Participation in the annual POW/MIA Rally held each Memorial weekend in Washington D.C. known as "Rolling Thunder".
2. Sponsoring or participating in local Charity events.
3. Raising money for such organizations as local VA Hospitals, Battered Women and Children's Center, Varied Children and Youth programs, a School for Blind Children, Veterans Relief, Needy families and many, many others.
4. Sponsoring or participating in motorcycle "Runs" to benefit numerous charities, including charities for underprivileged children and medical research, just to name a few.
5. Participation in memorial ceremonies and community parades.
6. One group is spearheading an effort to erect a "Veterans Memorial Park" in the center of their Downtown area.

The recognition by local communities has marked the program as a true success. The American Legion Riders Group in Michigan was even honored by the Local City Council, when they drafted a resolution Declaring the American Legion Riders as a valuable asset to the community. Motorcyclist can be a very dedicated group of people. When you combine this with the fact that they are legionnaires, you create a win/win situation.

Who benefits from forming an American Legion Riders Group?

We all do!!!! Many of the groups, in existence today, have all had stories where some of their Post members were a little reluctant to let a group of "Bikers" in to their Post. After seeing what these groups were doing for the American Legion their opinion soon changed.

Not only did the Post welcome them, but in most cases did what they could to help support their efforts, by participating in some of the groups fundraising events. There are also many stories where the American Legion Riders group worked in conjunction with the Post to sponsor a program. The Post was glad to have their help and the Riders were honored to be asked. We were able to break down some barriers. Just because one person wears a leather motorcycle jacket and another wears a golf shirt and slacks, we now know that we can work together to promote the aims and purposes of the American Legion. We have done it, and everyone involved was able to see the benefit. The American Legion Riders was never intended to be a "Motorcycle Club". As stated, it is to be able to work with the Local Post to assist in promoting the American Legion.

Membership, Membership, Membership!! Literally every Post program of the American Legion Riders has brought in members that may not have joined the American Legion were it not for the Riders program. The Riders program has been able to spark a new interest to join the American Legion. Some of these members, who joined for the Legion Rider program, have gone on to serve as Officers within their Post. Conversely, we have also had Post members go out and purchase motorcycles just to join the Riders. There was one story from a Post that recently started an American Legion Riders group. It advertised for the first meeting of the group. They originally intended for only about six or seven members to show up to the first meeting. When the meeting started they had seventeen people wanting to join, nine of these people were joining the American Legion that night so that they could become members of the Legion Riders. Have you had a program that has brought in that many new members in one night lately?

Pure enjoyment!! The program was designed to have people work together and enjoy themselves. It may be a group of Riders working on a fundraiser for a local charity, it may be just a warm summer evening ride together or maybe just sitting at the Post sharing stories. It's all about members working together and playing together - it is there for them to enjoy.

For more information, please contact Annetta Tucker at 770-310-7772.