

# American Legion Post 13 August 2017 Newsletter

---

**2017-2018**

## **Officers**

Commander:	Richard Brown	Sr Vice:	Rod Pedersen	Adjutant:	Phil Youngblood
Jr Vice:	Stephen Blanton	Jr Vice:	Don Van Pelt	Fin. Off.:	Russ Morgan
Judge Adv:	Phil Youngblood	Serv. Off:	Ed Kent	Historian:	Clayton Roberts
Sgt @ Arms:	Tommy Hightower	Members @ Large:	Jimmy Traynor;		Raymond Meeks &

---

## **COMMANDER'S CORNER:**

First off I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to be your Commander for the 2017-2018 year. I hope I can live up to your expectations. We have a lot of things coming up in the next few months and I am hoping everyone will participate.

To begin with, on August 8, 2017 there will be an event sponsored by Wiregrass Technical School and Music Funeral Services concerning veteran's burial benefits. This event begins at 5:30 p.m. And runs until 8:00 p.m. Then on August 17 we are continuing our support for the Lowndes High School JROTC. We are having an ice cream social at Lowndes High beginning at 3:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. This event is a greet and meet for all the JROTC cadets which we have been doing for the past 4 or 5 years

We are also bringing back the steak dinners. The first of which will be on Saturday September 23, 2017. Anyone who has ever been to one of these steak dinners knows how much fun it was .

We, as the Executive Board, hope we can make this post work for the membership. If anyone has an idea, don't hesitate to contact one of us.

Remember, this organization is only as strong as its weakest member

RICHARD BROWN

COMMANDER

[conductorbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:conductorbrown@hotmail.com)

---

## **Senior Vice**

It's a new Fiscal Year and we folks on the Executive Committee would like to invite your input to us as well as encourage the Family to assist us in our endeavors.

When I'm out and about and I encounter a Veteran of our Country's Military or someone on Active Duty, I go out of my way to shake that person's hand and thank him or her for volunteering their Service. I know many of y'all do the same. I also invite that Veteran or Service Member to our Post. We members of the American Legion, Sons of the American

Legion, American Legion Riders and American Legion Auxiliary are ALL recruiters of the Post 13 Membership Committee and should encourage these Veterans and Service Members to check us out.

As of the July 24th PEC meeting, Post 13 has 138 members. I encourage everyone to get your AL, SAL, ALR and ALA dues in and bring folks to the Family. Thank you to all of you who served and thank you to ya'll who supported those who did.

Rod (the Highwayman) Pedersen      rod.pedersen.1956@gmail.com  
Sr. Vice Commander  
GO ARMY !

---

### **Jr. Vice**

Stephen Blanton      sabusn6976@gmail.com

---

### **Jr. Vice**

Don Van Pelt      [vanpeltdon@yahoo.com](mailto:vanpeltdon@yahoo.com)

---

### **Historian**

Clayton Roberts      [croberts22@hotmail.com](mailto:croberts22@hotmail.com)

With the upcoming 100 year birthday of the American Legion I am soliciting any history and knowledge from our members that they would like to share of their experiences that will assist me in preparing a Post 13 History and website.

---

### **Service Officer**

Ed Kent      kentj2@bellsouth.net

### **Plan to overhaul GI Bill moves through House, on to Senate:**

The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2017 — colloquially known as the “Forever GI Bill” — would make significant changes to the Post-9/11 GI Bill. These include eliminating a requirement that veterans use their benefits within 15 years of active-duty service and expanding benefits for reservists, Purple Heart recipients and surviving dependents. The bill would also retroactively restore benefits to veterans affected by recent school closures and provide additional funds to GI Bill users pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and math. There has been a lot of momentum for the bill since it was unveiled by the House Veterans’ Affairs Committee a week and a half ago, receiving bipartisan support and the backing of several prominent veteran service organizations. “This bill and how it got to this point today is a shining example of how well Congress can and should work together,” Committee Chairman Rep. Phil Roe, R-Tenn., said

before the vote. Committee Ranking Member Rep. Tim Walz, D-Minn., called the GI Bill legislation “a real historic piece of work” and “just smart legislation.”

“The Senate is going to pick this up, and I think and look forward to that day when President Trump — hopefully towards the end of summer, early fall — picks that pen up and signs this and makes a difference in veterans’ lives today,” Walz said.

On Wednesday, the Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs will hold a hearing for its own identical plan for GI Bill reform, which has also garnered support from Republican and Democratic lawmakers and more than 40 veteran, military and higher education groups, according to a spokeswoman for Committee Chairman Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga. The committee is also aiming to move this legislation along quickly, she said.

Both the House and Senate versions call for slight reductions in the monthly housing allowances for new GI Bill enrollees to pay for the estimated \$3 billion cost of the benefits expansion. Provided by the Military Times 7/24/17.

---

### From the Bar

Lounge Hours of Operation: Thu, Fri & Sat, 4 pm until 8 pm, or later if the natives are thirsty. Stay tuned for an upcoming cook-off that is in the planning stages.

Football season is just around the corner so check the schedule, parking is free for legionnaires, with a current membership card but it is first come first served and on game nights parking is at a premium!

# August-September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		August 1	2	3 SAL Meeting 1800	4	5
6	6	8 General Meeting 1900 Wiregrass; Veteran Benefits 5:30 pm	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 ALR 1700  Ice Cream @ Lowndes High JROTC 3pm	18	18
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 PEC 1730	29	30	31	Sept. 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 General Meeting	13	14	15	16