



The Bulletin

COURTESY OF:
FLORENCE EXCHANGE CLUB
THE LONGEST SERVING CIVIC CLUB IN THE SHOALS

**2017 - 2018
 BOARD OF
 DIRECTORS**

- Brian Maples, President**
Bert Bretherick,
Im. Past President
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Fran Nunnally, Secretary
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Treasurer
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One Year
Olin Mefford, III
B. W. Gibbons
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Two Years
James Barnett
Jenny Mitchell
Joe Patterson



“The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness,” according to Bill Phillips, Commander of Post 11 of the local American Legion. “It is the nation’s largest war-time veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans.”

Hundreds of local American Legion programs and activities strengthen the nation one community at a time. American Legion Baseball is one of the nation’s most successful amateur athletic programs, educating young people about the importance of sportsmanship, citizenship and fitness. The Operation Comfort Warriors program supports recovering wounded warriors and their families, providing them with "comfort items" and the kind of support that makes a hospital feel a little bit more like home. The Legion also raises millions of dollars in donations at the local, state and national levels to help veterans and their families during times of need and to provide college scholarship opportunities.

The American Legion is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization with great political influence perpetuated by its grass-roots involvement in the legislation process from local districts to Capitol Hill. Legionnaires’ sense of obligation to community, state and nation drives an honest advocacy for veterans in Washington. The Legion stands behind the issues most important to the nation's veterans community, backed by resolutions passed by volunteer leadership.



**UPCOMING
 PROGRAMS :**

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Brian Maples | Aug
29 |
| Ralph Jones | Sept
5 |
| Board Meeting | Sept
11 |
| Andrea Holt | Sept
12 |

Do you have an idea for a speaker?
 Call Fran

- MORE INFORMATION INSIDE -

Focusing on service to veterans, service members and communities, the Legion evolved from a group of war-weary veterans of World War I into one of the most influential nonprofit groups in the United States. Membership swiftly grew to over 1 million, and local posts sprang up across the country. Today, membership stands at over 2.4 million in 14,000 posts worldwide. The posts are organized into 55 departments: one each for the 50 states, along with the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico and the Philippines.

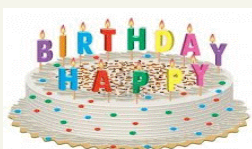
Today, the Legion is the chartering agency for more than 1,700 Scouting units made up of approximately 64,000 youths.

The Legion's efforts result in the creation of the U.S. Veterans Bureau, forerunner of the Veterans Administration. Today, the Legion continues to lobby for adequate funding to cover medical, disability, education and other benefits for veterans.

The first "Flag Code" is drafted during a Legion conference in Washington. Congress adopts the code in 1942. Today, the Legion is at the forefront of efforts to pass a constitutional amendment to protect the U.S. flag from physical desecration.

“The Post 11 has been in the building on Court Street since 1936,” he said. “It still has the original flooring, but one part was recently renovated after the Red Cross moved. All the work was by volunteers, keeping the cost to a minimum. In 2019, we hope to celebrate the 100th year with a state convention in Florence.”

Celebrating this month: Bill Sutherland 8/10



Laura Williams 8/12
 Jennifer Cornelius 8/26
 Howard Tinsley 8/31

COMMITTEE WORK...



Norm Ross says the benches are well received by the school faculty and students.

There are 13 benches in place with one going to Lexington Elementary Aug 24 and one at the Lauderdale County School Aug. 30

“We hope to have one ready to present to the Alabama District Exchange, thus creating a state-wide Buddy Bench Program,” he said. Plans are to build at least six more.

President Brian announced for the members to mark their calendars:

September is Baby Safety month. Also the State Fair Soft Drink sales will begin Sept. 19th. A sign up list was available by Chairman Parrish. He is asking volunteers to **sign up for Friday and Saturday nights.**

October 10 will be the Crime and Fireman of the year. October 28th is National Day of Service day.

President Brian said the Board has approved the nomination of Brian Sheri as a new member.