

JOHN E JACOBS AMERICAN LEGION POST 68

2022 CALENDAR-YEAR EVENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

VETERAN SUPPORT:

- Helped an out of state veteran and his family get by while their RV was being fixed and helped them get home – worked with other Posts for monetary support
- Arranged for a hover chair for a veteran needing mobility
- Presented Post member John Cook with a certificate and framed ball team shirt for his support of Legion Baseball over the past years while he was Post Commander
- Helping veteran whose home was damaged during last hurricane
- Helping another veteran whose home burned down.
- Celebrated Legion Birthday with a cake during our March membership meeting
- Supporting several veterans and/or spouses in the Leland area helping to arrange wheelchair ramps, rebuilding after last hurricane, getting folks hooked up with the VA
- Supported Leland VFW during their event to honor Vietnam Vets
- Supported local veteran and spouse with excessive utility bills
- Attended funeral for John Jacobs Sr. father of John E Jacobs whom the Post is named after
- Helping local vet rebuild house with assistance from Purple Heart Housing with a ceremony to celebrate success in January
- Supported Anchor initiatives & Brunswick Family Assistance
- Been promoting PACT ACT awareness within the Post, informing membership of legal issues related to this topic

MEMBERSHIP:

- *2022 Membership*
 - o Beginning of year: 236
 - o End of year: 254
 - o Net gain of: 18
- At end of December, Post 68 is at 92% of our Department membership goal with 75% of Post members renewing their dues for 2023
- Ran a successful buddy check at end of year
- Election committee established in January who obtained a FULL SLATE of officers for upcoming elections
- Post 68 has agreed to NOT raise dues until at least 1 Jan 2024
- Passing of Post member John Carter attended by Post members and Patriot Honor Guard
- John E Jacobs would have been 75 years old this coming December. We will be publishing a write-up in local media regarding the history.

- In September we honored 7 members with 20+ years (5 year) service pins including a 50 year pin

YOUTH

- Attended NBHS JROTC annual ball
- Presented annual John E Jacobs Scholarship along with Military and Scholastic Excellence awards to NBHS JROTC
- Provided support for NBHS JROTC Rifle Team
- Held successful Oratorical contest in January with winner going onto both the District and Division competitions. Candidate won the District contest and came in 2nd at the Division contest
- Supported 1 candidate for Girls State
- We have tried and failed to have a veteran scholarship with BCC. They have not been responsive. Funds will be reallocated for 2023 budget
- Recruited several students from NBHS to participate in January 2023 Oratorical contest
- Starting to work an agreement with local scout troop 747
- Requirement for background checks from our National organization for anyone working with youth
- Presented check for \$200 to Lincoln Elementary School for classroom supplies
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COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Presented Deputy Adam Locklair of the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office a plaque as deputy of the year
- Post has been supporting Elderhaus in Wilmington. Received a thank you from them for participating in their new building opening ceremony and dedicating & raising a new flag that had been flown over the USS NC Battleship
- Commander Hacker's suicide awareness program continues to be seen by multiple organizations and is gaining momentum and has received recognition by other Posts along with our Division and District commanders
- We have had Blue Star Mothers out of Southport give a presentation at our membership meeting. We did a Suicide Awareness presentation to their group and participated in a concert fundraiser they held
- Performed flag raising ceremonies for a couple of local communities and a school
- We have done our first submission of the Colon Furr nursing scholarship to Dept HQ
- Commander Hacker making multiple contacts with other area support organizations.

EVENTS:

- Two Fish Fry fundraisers this year
- Legion Riders fundraisers were held at Wilmington Harley Davidson
- Post 68 supported VEAC again this year with 17 volunteers on site
- Participated in Leland community Trunk or Treat for local children
- Sold 700+ wreaths with Wreaths across America
- Lead the Southeast North Carolina Veterans Day Parade in Wilmington with our newly reformed Color Guard
- Performed flag raisings at several communities and organizations in the area
- Had our presence at Boiling Spring Lakes market on several Saturdays this year
- Four Successful blood drives this year with close to 200 pints collected
- Had a Public info table at NB Chamber business expo
- Had a Public info table at NC Rice Fest
- Participated in the annual Poppy Day fundraiser event
- Placed Flags on veteran graves on Memorial Day
- Hosted a members-only pancake breakfast on May 29th
- Held Unserviceable flag collection June 4th
- Setup booth at Leland under the lights car show. Gave out waters. Got donations and members
- We hosted District Commander Fagen in September for his official visit
- Held public pasta dinner fundraiser in November
- Had an Info booth at Mag Greens craft fair
- Participated in WAA wreath laying at Wilmington National Cemetery Dec 17th
- Prepping for Oratorical in January with several candidates identified
- Held a buddy call in December
- Event planning for 2023 has already star

Deceased Members 2022:

- John Fracalossi
- John Carter ted

OTHER / POST:

- Lots of PR thru local TV media, several print publications, The Dispatch, and our website
- Implemented new feature on website that allows members to sign up to volunteer at events
- Started a BLOG or news posting area on website
- Using PayPal readers at events to sell tickets
- We have rebuilt our color guard. They debuted at the annual Veterans Day parade in Wilmington
- We have begun selling new Post 68 challenge coins. \$5
- Several Basket sales this year have netted a lot of income for the Post
- Year wrapped up with a buddy call setup by Dan Fortini and Eddie Jenkins

AWARDS:

- The Post received an All-Time High award from the National Commander for continuous membership increases over the past 6 years along with a Certificate of Meritorious Service for our all-time high membership
- Best website in Department, 2nd place for 2022
- The Post received the Department Cardinal Award for achieving minimum membership renewal goals for 2022