

AMERICAN LEGION

JOHN E. JACOBS LEGION POST 68 LELAND
MEDIA RELEASE

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9-11 ROUNDTABLE –KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE

Veterans, community members, local law enforcement officers, and First Responders recently participated in a 9/11 Roundtable moderated by Gerald Decker, Commander of Leland's Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Chapter 12196. The 2-hour event, held on September 11, 2026, honored the nearly three thousand victims who lost their lives 25 years ago at the Twin Towers in New York City, the Pentagon, and in Shanksville, PA. Participants discussed the events of that day and the inevitable repercussions of the largest terrorist attack on American soil.

Photo Below: L-R Gerald Decker and John Hacker



In the Blossoms Restaurant meeting room at Magnolia Greens, Decker led an open discussion on the events and aftermath of 9/11 and the security implications that forever changed American society. Roundtable member John Hacker, 2nd Vice Commander of Leland's John E. Jacobs American Legion Post 68, described the greatest maritime evacuation in history, in which an estimated 150 private boats, fireboats, tugs, ferries, and commercial vessels evacuated nearly 500,000 people from Lower Manhattan to New Jersey in less than nine hours. Among the roughly 30 attendees, others reflected on their own experiences and memories of that fateful

day. The overall theme of “Never Forget” reminded meeting participants of the resilience of the American people and the unity on display on September 11, 2001, and in its immediate aftermath.

To learn more about the John E. Jacobs American Legion Post 68, visit <https://www.ncpost68.org>. Membership meetings are held in the banquet room at Blossoms Restaurant (1800 Tommie Jacobs Drive, Leland) on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Dinner is an informal gathering for members, starting between 4:30 pm and 5:00 pm; the official meeting begins at 6:00 pm. After the meeting, members socialize over drinks at the Blossoms bar area. Everyone is welcome: members, visitors, guests, and spouses. Visit the website (link above) for meeting dates.