

Lance Kress - 3<sup>rd</sup> vice

I joined the Naval Air Reserve when I turned 18 in the fall of 1963. I was deferred from active duty while attending college at Penn State University. I was a weekend warrior for the first 1 ½ years. I went on active duty after graduation with a BS in Forestry in April of 1968. I was assigned to squadron VP-10, stationed in Brunswick, Maine. Overseas tours were 6 months in Bermuda in 1968 and 6 months in Rota, Spain in 1969. My rating was AK3, Aviation Storekeeper, 3<sup>rd</sup> class petty officer. I was discharged in January, 1970.

I immediately went back to Penn State to pursue an MS in Plant Pathology, studying air pollution effects on trees. Earned MS in 1972 in Plant Pathology. Worked as a research assistant at Penn State 1972-1973. Began Ph D program at Virginia Tech in 1973, again studying air pollution effects on trees. Earned Ph D in 1978 in Plant Pathology. Worked as a Post Doc at Virginia Tech 1978-1980. Took a position at Argonne National Laboratory (in Illinois) in 1980 studying the effects of air pollution on important field crops as part of the National Crop Loss Assessment Network. Came to North Carolina in 1986 to work for the US Forest Service in RTP. Studied the effects of ozone and acid rain on loblolly pine. Eventually switched over to climate change and carbon sequestration. Retired from the Forest Service in 2008. I have worked for the Forest Service several times up until last year on short term contracts,

I've been a Legion member for about 22 years and a member of Post 6 for 8 years. I served as a SAA for 5-6 years under 4 different Commanders. I also serve as captain of our Honor/Color Guard. Last year I offered to help the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander with his duties, and took over as 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice when he decided he was unable to continue. I am still learning about this building and the duties of the position with the most capable guidance of Jim Parise. I am willing to continue in this position if the membership so desires.