

A Member's Guide to North Carolina American Legion Post 6 (2025)



Welcome to American Legion Post 6

We are delighted to have you join what we believe is the most distinguished American Legion Post in the country. Below, you will find key information about the American Legion, Post 6, and our protocols to make your experience fulfilling and enjoyable.

Contents:

1. Background of the American Legion--Key Accomplishments and Mission
2. About Post 6--Our Mission, Facilities, Building and Property Access, Major Post-Hosted Events
3. Membership Guidelines--Eligibility Application Process, American Legion Clothing
4. Using the Post
5. Communication and Updates
6. Post 6 Committees and Involvement—Committees, Meetings
7. Auxiliary Units and Support Groups
8. Key Contacts for 2024-2025
9. Membership Etiquette and Culture
10. Property Use Guidelines
11. Feedback and Suggestions

1. Background of the American Legion

The American Legion, founded in 1919, is the oldest veterans organization recognized by Congress and the largest, with over 2.1 million members across more than 12,000 Posts worldwide, including in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and France. North Carolina is divided into five Divisions, organized geographically. Each Division is composed of five Districts, and about 279 Posts are within these five Districts. Each year new Posts form and others are deactivated.

Key Accomplishments:

- Post-WWI: Joined with other veterans organizations to lobby congress to consolidate veteran medical care, resulting in the creation of the Veterans Administration.
- Post-WWII: Spearheaded support among veteran organizations for the GI Bill, providing education benefits for veterans.
- 2010s: Successfully lobbied Congress to upgrade the GI Bill into the GI Bill for Life, extending benefits to family members.
- Recent Years: Partnered with other veteran organizations to pass the PACT Act, acknowledging health impacts from toxic exposure during service.

Mission (American Legion's Four Pillars):

1. Serving veterans and their families.
2. Supporting veteran children and youth programs.
3. Assisting national defense and lobbying Congress.
4. Promoting Americanism through community service.

The Legion provides resources such as assistance with the Veterans Administration, job placement, mental health support, and educational benefits.

2. About Post 6

Our Mission:

Beyond the four "Pillars" of the American Legion, Post 6 aims to foster camaraderie, support fellow veterans, and provide networking opportunities.

Facilities:

- Completed in 2019, the new 15,000 s.f. facility includes:
 - Club Room/Bar

- Ballroom/Meeting Room
 - Fully-equipment professional Kitchen
 - Game Room
 - Fully-equipped Fitness Room with locker facilities
 - Museum. Museum items have been donated by members and friends of the Post. If you have an item for consideration to be displayed in the museum, then contact the Museum Committee Chair, Greg Smith, greg@chartcourse.com.
 - Conference Room
 - Auxiliary/Multipurpose Room
 - Huge outdoor patio
 - Pond
 - Lighted Picnic Pavilion
- Address: 3700 NC 54 West, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
- Post phone number: 919-537-8703

Building and Property Access:

- Members can purchase a key FOB for \$10, allowing access during operational hours (7:00 AM to 11:00 PM). See the 3rd Vice Commander or Information Technology officer to purchase a key FOB. Key FOBs must not be loaned to anyone. See the Post 6 Key FOB Policy. Note: Building alarm is activated outside of these operational hours.
- The property is available for use when not rented, and members should consult the online calendar for potential conflicts.

Major Post-Hosted Events:

- April, Whole Hog Cookoff competition
- May, Memorial Day
- October, Fall Festival
- December, Christmas Party, Army-Navy Game

3. Membership Guidelines

Eligibility:

Anyone who has served at least one day on active duty with an honorable or general discharge is eligible for membership. The annual fee is \$60.

Application Process:

- Submit your application and fee.
- Your name will be presented at the next monthly meeting.
- A vote on your membership will take place the following month.

Contact: 1st Vice Commander for membership details.

American Legion Clothing: Order AL clothing via MyLegion.org or contact the Post Quartermaster for ordering assistance, Ed Gill, gilledward21@gmail.com.

4. Using the Post

- Hours: The Highway 54 street gate and building are open from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM, 7 days a week.

- Facility Use:

- The Post building is available when no rentals are occurring. Always check the Post 6 website calendar.

- Property Use:

- Members can walk, bike, and use the pond for fishing.

- The brick paver memorial located at the entrance to the parking lot is available for members to purchase bricks for themselves, family, or friends. To order bricks use the order form located on the Post website; for assistance ordering contact the Brick Paver committee Chair, Mike Hatcher, IT@alpost6.org. The refurbished Navy field cannon centered on the brick memorial was donated to the Post by UNC Navy ROTC during the 1920s.

- Post 6 owns 126 acres. Members are welcome to enjoy all of the land and bring family and friends. See Property Use, Paragraph 10 below.

- The Post building is open to all members during operating hours. On Wednesday, the Post has a member social with the bar open and food available for purchase, 5:00 PM-8:00 PM. Member volunteers perform bartender and kitchen duties. Until membership

grows to support daily food and bar operations, the Post serves primarily as an event center with informal member attendance encouraged at all times outside of rentals.

5. Communication and Updates

- Email: Ensure the Adjutant has your email for updates, meeting reminders, and newsletters. Contact the Adjutant if you don't receive an email within a month.
- Social Media: Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/chapelhillpost6> for updates.
- Post 6 Website: <https://chapelhillpost6.com> – Includes calendars and event information.
- Members are welcome to view Post Executive Committee and Member meeting minutes maintained by the Adjutant.
- Members are welcome to view Post Financial statements maintained by the Finance Officer.
- Additional Resources:
 - NCLegion.org: <https://www.nclegion.org>, for the North Carolina Department.
 - MyLegion.org: <https://www.mylegion.org>, for the national site.
 - Watch the welcome video at Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/910849192>.

6. Post 6 Committees and Involvement

Committees:

Post 6 has 21 committees that provide opportunities for members to engage and take leadership roles. Some committees are inactive and waiting for enthusiastic members to revive them. Contact the Post Commander for information on these committees.

Meetings:

- Monthly meetings occur on the second Tuesday of each month.
 - Social Hour: 5:30 PM
 - Dinner: 6:30 PM
 - Meeting: 7:30 PM
- Executive Committee Meetings occur on the first Thursday of the month, 6:00 PM.

7. Auxiliary Units and Support Groups

- Auxiliary: Open to spouses and direct family members of veterans. Assists with fundraising and Post and community events.

-- Contact: Barbara Baker, President (brbrbaker032@gmail.com)

- Sons of the American Legion (SAL): Available for male descendants of veterans.

-- Contact: Kenny Grabsrczk (dixiepridetowing15@gmail.com), SAL Squadron Commander.

- Legion Riders motorcycle program: Includes veteran members, SAL members, and Auxiliary members.

-- Contact: Kenny Grabsrczk, President (dixiepridetowing15@gmail.com)

8. Key Contacts for 2024-2025

- Commander: Robert Medred, USAF (commander@alpost6.org)

- 1st Vice Commander (Membership): Clifton Baldwin, USAF (1stvicecommander@alpost6.org)

- 2nd Vice Commander (Operations, Events and Ceremonies): Martha Avery, USA (2ndvicecommander@alpost6.org)

- 3rd Vice Commander (Facilities): Lance Kress, USN (3rdvicecommander@alpost6.org)

- Adjutant: Keith Kirkland, USAF (adjutant@alpost6.org)

- Finance Officer: Chuck Pope, USAF (financeofficer@alpost6.org)

- Parliamentarian: Charles Weinberg, USA (parliamentarian@alpost6.org)

- Chaplain: Ken Williams, USA (chaplain@alpost6.org)

- Veteran Services Officer: Bill Munsee, USN (vso@alpost6.org)

- Historian: Matt Attaway, USN (historian@alpost6.org)

- Sergeants at Arms: Wally Washburn, USMC (Sergeantatarms@alpost6.org); Donnie Barbour, USN; Ed Gerhardt, USCG; Raymond Reed, USA; Wade Gutreuter, USA, John Montross, USAF

- Bar Manager: Mike Hatcher, USN and IT Manager (ITmanager@alpost6.org)

9. Membership Etiquette and Culture-

- Conduct: Members are expected to act with integrity and respect. There's no rank in

the American Legion. All roles are volunteer-based. Only the Post's part-time professional Venue Manager receives an income.

- Meetings:

-- Alcohol is not allowed during meetings; drinks should be consumed beforehand.

-- Meetings follow Robert's Rules of Order.

Uniform: The American Legion cap is the uniform, worn with any military awards and American Legion badges on the right side. Caps are not worn when eating at a table.

10. Property Use Guidelines

- Recreational Access: Members and guests may walk, bike, and fish on the property.

- Guests: Non-member guests must be accompanied by a member at all times and must be signed in to the guest log. If the sponsoring member can't accompany the guest, then the sponsoring member must arrange for another member to agree to assume accompanying the guest. Guests can tour all areas of the building with the sponsoring member, but the guest can't enter the kitchen when kitchen operations are being performed.

- Vehicles: Members may drive their vehicle on the property but should drive along the perimeter, with exceptions for access to the cemeteries located in the grove of trees in the field. Vehicles must be parked on paved surfaces, unless for special circumstances such as maintenance, and loading/unloading, events.

- Events: Coordinate private gatherings with the 2nd and 3rd Vice Commanders. See the Post facility use policy for coordinating member gatherings to ensure one abides by required security and alcohol use.

See the Post 6 website and contact the Adjutant, and 2nd and 3rd Vice Commanders for the current Post policies such as Animal Policy, Facility and Grounds Use Policy, and Alcohol Policy.

11. Feedback and Suggestions

Your feedback is valuable. If you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to 1stvicecommander@alpost6.org. Your input helps improve our Post and its programs.

Thank you for joining American Legion Post 6! We're proud to have you among our 330+ members and look forward to serving veterans and our community together.

POC for this document is the Post Commander