



HISTORY OF PIKE COUNTY

AMERICAN LEGION

POST 197

Zebulon, Georgia

From 1 May 2022 to 30 April 2023

By Bryan D. Richardson

Post Historian

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Historian

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Abbreviations used:

ADJ	Adjutant	AL	American Legion
ALA	American Legion Auxiliary	Cdr	Commander
Chap	Chaplain	Cont	Continued
EC	Executive Committee	FO	Finance Officer
Jr	Junior_Post 197	LNO	Liaison
POW/MIA	Prisoner of War/Missing in Action		
SAL	Sons of the American Legion	Sgt	Sergeant
Sqdn	Squadron	Sr	Senior

Chapter 1

Introduction

On 2 May 1946, The American Legion Post 197 of Pike County was officially chartered. For nearly fifty years, Pike County Post 197 remained active in the community and state; and then in 1994, it had its charter revoked. In 2008, a group of Pike County Veterans met at the Pike County Court House Square to discuss the restoration of the Veteran's Monument. Three months later, Pike County American Legion Post 197 was reestablished. On 12 June 2013, the Post became incorporated to protect individual members from liability in the event of litigation against the Post.

It is very important for Post 197 to provide information to Veterans that reside in Pike County and neighboring counties about the importance of joining a Veteran's organization that truly cares for and understands the concerns of Veterans and their families. Pike County Post 197 is proud to assist "All Veterans and their families", regardless of American Legion affiliation. It is Post 197's mission to make sure all Veterans know about the assistance it and the American Legion can provide. Post 197 also commits itself to honoring, and conducting events and activities that help to "never forget" our Veterans.



14 June Sunset in front of Post 197
Photo provided by Becky Watts

Key Post 197 Information

Commander: Paul R. Chatterton

C: 762-207-8327; Email address: paul.chatterton69@yahoo.com

Adjutant: Stephen A. Golias

C: 404-790-6609; Email address: sagaocc@yahoo.com

Finance Officer: Bryan D. Richardson

C: 678-764-2611; Email address: rich5060@bellouth.net

Acting Service Officer: Paul R. Chatterton

Post Mailing Address: P.O. Box 781, Zebulon, Ga 30295

Post Location: 645 Meansville Street, Zebulon, Georgia

Chapter 2

Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion



**FOR GOD AND COUNTRY WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES
TOGETHER**

FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- To uphold and defend the Constitution
of the United States of America;
- To maintain law and order;
- To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
- To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all
wars;
- To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community,
state and nation;
- To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
- To make right the master of might;
- To promote peace and goodwill on earth;
- To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice,
freedom and democracy;
- To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to
mutual helpfulness.

Chapter 3

2022-2023 Post Officers

Commander	Paul R. Chatterton
Adjutant	Stephen A. Golias
Finance Officer	Bryan D. Richardson
Senior Vice Commander	Damian L. Bryan
Junior Vice Commander	George M. Richardson
Junior Vice Commander	Ronnie Griffin
Judge Advocate	Benjamin R. Maxedon
Chaplain	Theodore A. Gustin
Service Officer	Paul R. Chatterton
Historian	Bryan D. Richardson
Sargent-at-Arms	Stefan R. Huckaby
Executive Committee Members	Timothy H. Dukes Stefan R. Huckaby Benjamin R. Maxedon

Chapter 4

2022-2023 Post Committees and Chairpersons

Americanism	Paul R. Chatterton
Children & Youth	Vacant
National Security	Stefan R. Huckaby
Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation	Paul R. Chatterton
Finance	Bryan D. Richardson
Membership	Damian L. Bryan
House & Entertainment	
Sons of American Legion (SAL)	Paul R. Chatterton
Public Relations	Paul R. Chatterton
Religious Emphasis	Theodore A. Gustin
Honor Guard Team Lead Members	Stephen A. Golias Timothy H. Dukes Wayne L. Germain Ronnie Griffin Stefan R. Huckaby Bryan D. Richardson

Chapter 5

One Year Post Chronicle: 1 May 2022 – 30 April 2023

May 2022

1 May: Beginning of report period.

3 May, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Steve Golias, Ron Griffin, Stefan Huckaby, Ben Maxedon, Bryan Richardson, Chaplain Ted Gustin, Dennis Tea and Bill Weekley for a total of 8. Chaplain Gustin offered scripture readings and a prayer.

3 May, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Sr. Vice Commander	Sam Rhodes	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Jeff Sheriff	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Vacant	
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Tim Dukes	Excused
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member	Ben Maxedon	Present
Chaplain	Ted Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	
Judge Advocate	Dennis Tea	Excused

Total meeting attendees present were 6 Officers, 6 members, and 2 guests for a total of 14. A quorum was obtained. Nikki Ellard was voted in as a new member. Finance Report provided. General fund currently at \$3453.08.

6 May, 12:00 p.m., AL Ben Maxedon, Chaplain Ted Gusting and Honor Guard Team member Bryan Richardson participated in the Pike County National Day of Prayer. B. Maxedon helped plan and set up the event, Chaplain Gustin provided a military prayer, and B. Richardson lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance at the Another Post 197 Legionnaire in attendance was Bill Weekley.

9 May, 9:00 – 2:30 p.m., Post 197 conducted a work detail session to prepare the Post facility for hosting the 4th District conference and officer elections. Volunteers helping out were Paul Chatterton, Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson.

9 May, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its annual election of officers held at the Post 197 facility. Elected officers were:

Commander	Paul Chatterton
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson
Adjutant	Stephen Golias
Finance Officer	Bryan Richardson
EC Member	Tim Dukes
EC Member	Stefan Huckaby
EC Member	Ben Maxedon

- 14 May, 1000 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Post 197 hosted the Spring 4th District Convention and Officer Elections at the Post facility. Post 197 provided the facility, two meeting areas, and lunch for the attendees.
- 21 May, 9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m., Legionnaires Steve Golias and Bryan Richardson repaired the front door and installed a screen door for the Veteran Patten family.
- 26 May, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting.
- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|---------|
| Commander | Paul Chatterton | Present |
| Sr. Vice Commander | Sam Rhodes | Excused |
| Jr. Vice Commander | Vacant | |
| Jr. Vice Commander | Jeff Sheriff | Present |
| Adjutant | Stephen Golias | Present |
| Finance Officer/Historian | Bryan Richardson | Present |
| Sr. EC Member | Tim Dukes | Excused |
| Sr. EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms | Stefan Huckaby | Present |
| Sr. EC Member | Ben Maxedon | Present |
| Chaplain | Ted Gustin | Excused |
| Service Officer | Vacant | |
| Judge Advocate | Dennis Tea | Absent |
| Scouts | Darryll Kipp | Present |
- 7 Officers present and one guest. A quorum was obtained. General Fund currently at \$2,209.20.
- 27 May, 3 – 6:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its annual Memorial Day Weekend Fundraiser on the Square. Volunteer fundraising team consisted of Stefan Huckaby, Ron Griffin, Bryan Richardson, Jeff Sheriff, and Bill Weekley. Joining the group to count donations were Nikki Ellard, Stephen Golias, and Dennis Tea. Total donations collected \$1,055.06 for the general fund.
- 30 May, 10:00 a.m., Post 197 hosted the Pike County Memorial Day Observance Parade and Program at the Pike County Courthouse Square.

June 2022

- 4 Jun, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted a bounce house inflatables fundraiser at the Peach State Aerodrome Festival located in Williamson, GA. AL members Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bill Weekly collected \$1,036 in donations. The team also manned a Veteran/Legionnaire Info Booth.
- 5 Jun, 10:30 a.m., Members of the Post 197 Honor Guard (Steve Golias and Stefan Huckaby) posted the colors during the opening of the Sunday service at the Christian Fellowship Baptist Church in Zebulon, GA.
- 5 Jun, 6:00 p.m., Post 197 hosted the annual Legion Family Memorial Service and Post Everlasting Ceremony at the Post facility. Post 197 honored and conducted Post Everlasting Ceremony for deceased Post members Gerald Richardson, Arthur French, Robert Clark, Thomas Morton, and Patrick Patten
- 7 Jun, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Chaplain Gustin, Tim Dukes, Bill Weekley, Ben Maxedon, and Nikki Ellard. Chaplain Gustin provided a scripture reading and a prayer.

7 Jun, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Sr. Vice Commander	Sam Rhodes	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Jeff Sheriff	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Vacant	
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Tim Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member	Ben Maxedon	Present
Chaplain	Ted Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	
Judge Advocate	Dennis Tea	Present

Total meeting attendees present were 8 Officers, 4 members, and 2 guests for a total of 14. A quorum was obtained. The second reading a vote changed the By-Laws General Membership Meeting date from the first Tuesday to the first Thursday of the month. Start of 7:00 p.m. remains the same. General fund currently at \$4,412.51.

14 Jun, 6:30 p.m., Post 197 hosted its annual Flag Day Observance and Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Post pavilion area. Scout Troops 25, 37, and 465, and Pack 17 participated. Ultimately, the ceremony honored and retired U.S. Flags as well as State of Georgia, POW/MIA, and other miscellaneous flags. The total number flags retired was 358.

19 Jun, 12:00-4:00 p.m., Post 197 as part of the Legion Family set up a Veteran/Legion Family information booth at the 1st Annual Pike County Juneteenth Celebration. Honor Guard Team members Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson represented Post 197, SAL Jason Patten represented Squadron 197, and ALA members Melissa Patten and Brenda Runyon represented Unit 197. Post 197 provided a special Pike County Memorial Exhibit of the shadow contents of the four inducted Pike County Memorial Annex African American service members who died in the line of duty.

25 Jun, FO Richardson represents Post 197 at the American Legion Department of Georgia Convention held in Duluth, GA.

30 Jun, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Late arrival
Sr. Vice Commander	Sam Rhodes	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Vacant	
Jr. Vice Commander	Jeff Sheriff	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. EC Member	Tim Dukes	Present
Sr. EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
Sr. EC Member	Ben Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Ted Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	
Judge Advocate	Dennis Tea	Absent

Scout LNO Darryll Kipp Present

- 2 Jul, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m., set a Veteran/Legion Information booth and provided an hour-long patriotic program during the 2022 Molena Festival in Molena, GA. Cdr and Honor Guard provided the Posting of the Colors, POW/MIA Full Tribute, Purple Heart Remarks, Flag Folding Ceremony, reading of the Ragged Old Flag, Flag Remarks, and Flag Retirement Ceremony. See Chapter 6 for more details.
- 3 Jul, The Post 197 Honor Guard provided a Veteran escort with United States flag with two rifle bearers for three different Sunday services at the Christ Chapple Community Church in Zebulon, GA. Stefan Huckaby carried the US flag and Steve Golias and Bryan Richardson carried M1 rifles with bayonets. A total of approximately 90 Veterans were escorted up to the stage for church recognition. The second service was shown to 37 states and 14 countries. During the three services approximately 3,000 people attended.
- 5 Jul, 1200 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members, Tim Dukes, Nikki Ellard, Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff. Bryan Richardson offered the prayer.
- 7 Jul, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 started with its monthly General Membership Meeting. Current 2021-2022 officers present were:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Sam Rhodes	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Jeff Sheriff	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Vacant	
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Tim Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member	Ben Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Ted Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	
Judge Advocate	Dennis Tea	Present

Total meeting attendees present were 8 Officers, 4 members, and 2 guests for a total of 14. A quorum was obtained. General fund: \$4,244.01. After voting in two new members Alford Davis and Scott Brooks, the meeting recessed and the Post conducted its annual Award Ceremony. Those in attendance receiving awards were:

15-Year Continuous Membership: Stefan Huckaby and Bryan Richardson,
and Ralph Williams

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members Stephen Golias, Matt Germain, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson.

Post 197 Legion Family of the Year: Patten Family (AL Patrick, ALA Melissa, and SAL Jason)

Post 197 Honorable Mentioned Volunteer of the Year: AL members Timothy Dukes, Matt Germain, Ronald Griffin, Theodore Gustin, Darryll Kipp, Dennis Tea, and William Weekly, ALA members, Melissa Patten and Brenda Runyon, and SAL Jason Patten

Post 197 Co-Runner-up Volunteer of the Year: Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Jeff Sheriff.

Post 197 Volunteer of the Year: Bryan Richardson

Post 197 Legionnaire of the Year: Bryan Richardson

Not in attendance receiving awards:

- 10-Year Continuous Membership: Roy Hughley, Peggi J. Payton, Kenneth E. Ray, and James A. Watts
- 15-Year Continuous Membership: Ralph Williams Pike County Times (Becky Watts) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Special Certificates of Appreciation: Cindy's Florist, Rachel McDaniel, Sherri Moody, and Becky Watts
- Post 197 Honorable Mentioned Volunteer of the Year: Benjamin Maxedon, and Talena Smith

See Chapter 6 for photos of the event.

Installation Ceremony – Past Post Commander Bryan Richardson installed Paul Chatterton as Commander. Then Commander Chatterton installed the remaining 2022-2023 Post 197 elected and appointed officers. New officers and members of the Post 197 Executive committee installed are:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	

See Chapter 6 for photos of the event.

The General Membership reconvened briefly with the new Post 2022-2023 administration and closed out the General Membership Meeting.

21 Jul, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting.

Post Officers present:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present

Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Excused
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Present
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Excused
Service Officer	Vacant	

A quorum was obtained. AL Darryll Kipp, Scout LNO was present.

23 Jul, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Post 197 provided two bounce houses for veteran and Legionnaire Ben Maxedon's family.

August 2022

2 Aug, 12:00 a.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members, Steve Golias, Ron Griffin, Chaplain Ted Gustin, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekley. Chaplain Gustin provide a scripture and offered the prayer.

4 Aug, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	

Total meeting attendees present were 8 Officers, 2 members, and 2 guests for a total of 12. A quorum was obtained. General fund for 7 July was \$4,294.10 and 4 August was \$5,044.85. New member Jakub Holmes was voted into the Post.

18 Aug, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting.

Post Officers present:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Excused
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	

6 Officers present. A quorum was obtained. General Fund Status: \$4,672.85.

20 Aug, 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Post 197 members and the Honor Guard participated in

the opening ceremony of the County Fair around the Courthouse Square. Post 197 also set up a Veteran/Legion information and voter registration booth, and conducted a fundraiser with its two bounce houses. See Chapter 6 for more details and photos.

26 Aug, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Post 197 members Ron Griffin and Bryan Richardson volunteered to help work a shift supporting the 4th District sponsored Project Layla. See Chapter 6 for more details and photos.

September 2022

1 Sep, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	

Total meeting attendees present were 9 Officers, 4 members, and 2 guests for a total of 15. A quorum was obtained. General fund was \$5,129.49. New members Marcus Weldon and Alecia Brooks were voted into the Post.

5 Sep, 12:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Tim Dukes, Nikki Ellard, Steve Golias, Post Chaplain Ted Gustin, Bryan Richardson, Ben Maxedon, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekley; and SAL member Jason Patten. Chaplain Gustin provide a scripture and offered the Prayer.

11 Sep, 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., the Christ Chapel Community Church observed and hosted Patriots Day during their three morning services. As part of the observance, the Pike County American Legion Post 197 set up an elaborate 9-11 Memorial Display for the congregation to observe as they arrived and departed the services. See Chapter 6 for more details and photos.

15 Sep, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting.

Post Officers present:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Present
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present

Service Officer

Vacant

Darryll Kipp

Scout Troop Rep

Present

9 Officers present. A quorum was obtained. After EC business, EC initiated review and update of Post Constitution. Completed up to Article IV Membership, Section 3. General Fund Status: \$5,789.37

16 Sep, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Post 197 provided a POW/MIA Memorial Display during the National POW/MIA Recognition Day in front of the Courthouse on the Courthouse Square in Zebulon, GA. The POW/MIA Table and Chair set up script describing the significance of each piece was read by Commander Paul Chatterton and Vice Commander Ron Griffin. The ceremony was conducted on the hour starting at 10:45 a.m. with the last at 2:45 p.m. The Post 197 Honor Guard consisting of Matt Germain, Ron Griffin, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson augmented with the Legion Family Honor Guard members ALA Melissa Patten and SAL Jason set up the table setting and chair item by item. Post 197 also provided a voter registration and an America Legion / Veteran information table. Additional Post 197 Volunteers consisted of Tim Dukes, Nikki Ellard, and Bill Weekley. Also, as a retired Pastor, Ron Griffin offered a special POW/MIA Prayer.

24 Sep, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Post 197 participated in the 2021 Meansville Music Festival with a Legion/Veteran information-voter registration booth and a Bounce House fundraiser. Legion Volunteers involved in the event were AL members Commander Paul Chatterton, Nikki Ellard, Steve Golias, Ted Gustin, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekly; ALA members Melissa Patten and Brenda Runyon, and SAL member Jason Patten. See Chapter 6 for more details and photos.

October 2022

4 Oct, 12:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Tim Dukes, Nikki Ellard, Ron Griffin, Post Chaplain Ted Gustin, Ben Maxedon, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekley; and guests Carol Griffin, John and Carol Schwidli, and Rebekah Betsil. Chaplain Gustin provide a scripture and offered the Prayer.

6 Oct, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Absent
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	

Total meeting attendees present were 6 Officers, 4 members, and 2 guests for a total of 15. A quorum was obtained. General fund was \$6,266.03. New

members Frank Valencia, Mike Willis, and John Taylor were voted into the Post.
 15-16 Oct, Post 197 provided a Veteran/American Legion information booth at the Concord Jubilee as well as conducted a membership drive and bounce house activity for donations. Post 197 also manned the Pike County Bicentennial booth and sold Bicentennial T-shirts and mugs. See Chapter 6 for details and photos.

20 Oct, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting.
 Post Officers present:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Excused
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Excused
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Absent
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Excused
Service Officer	Vacant	
Darryll Kipp	Scout Troop Rep	Absent

4 Officers present. A quorum was not obtained. General Fund Status: \$7,099.86. After EC business, EC continued to review and update of Post Constitution. Completed up to Article IV Membership, Section 6

22 Oct, 8:00 – 11:00 a.m., Post 197 hosted the Molena 5K/10K Fun Run/Walk Fundraiser. See Chapter 6 for details and photos.

November 2022

1 Nov, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Paul Chatterton, Tim Dukes, Nikki Ellard, Chaplain Ted Gustin, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekly. Chaplain Gustin provided scripture readings and offered a prayer.

3 Nov, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Excused
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	

Total meeting attendees present were 6 Officers, 3 members, and 5 guests for a total of 14. A quorum was obtained. General fund was \$6,486.54. New members Ray Cox, Brian Clark, and Frank Boze were voted into the Post.

- 11 Nov, 11:00 a.m., Post 197 hosted the 2022 Pike County Veteran's Day Observance Program. Due to Hurricane Nicole, the Program was held at the Mount Gilead Baptist on Highway US19 north of Zebulon, Georgia. See Chapter 6 for details and photos.
- 11 Nov, 3 – 5:30 p.m., Post 197 conducted its annual Veterans Day Fundraiser on the Square. Volunteer fundraising team consisted of Post members Ted Gustin, Stefan, and Bryan Richardson; and SAL member Jason Patten. Coincidentally, Fundraising Team saw many of the students from the middle school band in cars as they stopped at the traffic light and had earlier played at the Post 197 hosted Veterans Day Program. The team collected just over \$1,197.60 for the general fund. AL members Nikki Ellard, Darryll Kipp, and Bill Weekley helped count the donations.
- 12 Nov, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Post 197 participated in the Molena Bigfoot Festival. See Chapter 6 for details and photo.
- 13 Nov, 9:00 a.m., AL members Ben Maxedon and Bryan Richardson represented Post 197 at Scout Will Lane's Eagle Scout Flag Pole Installation Dedication Ceremony at the First Baptist Church of Zebulon Cemetery.
- 17 Nov, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting.

Post Officers present:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Present
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Absent
Service Officer	Vacant	
Darryll Kipp	Scout Troop Rep	Excused

7 Officers present. A quorum was obtained. General Fund Status: \$7,442.52.
After EC business, EC continued to review and update of Post Constitution.
Completed up to Article VI Finance, Section 3.

December 2022

- 1 Dec, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Present

Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	

Total meeting attendees present were 6 Officers, 3 members, and 2 guests for a total of 11. A quorum was obtained. General fund was \$7,320.34.

3 Dec, 4:00 p.m., Post 197 hosted the Pike County Memorial Annex Induction Ceremony at the Pike County Board of Education Meeting Room at the Memorial Annex. See Chapter 6 for details and photos.

6 Dec, 12:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Paul Chatterton, Stephen Golias, Chaplain Ted Gustin, Ben Maxedon, Bryan Richardson, Tim Dukes, and Bill Weekley. Chaplain Gustin offered a scripture reading and prayer.

9 Dec, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 participated in the Pike County Christmas Parade. See Chapter 6 for details and photos.

10 Dec, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Post 197 participated in the Pike County Christmas Fair with a Veteran/Legion Information Booth and conducted a Kids bounce house fundraiser. See Chapter 6 for details and photos.

15 Dec, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting. Post Officers present:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Present
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Excused
Service Officer	Vacant	
Darryll Kipp	Scout Troop Rep	Excused

6 Officers present. A quorum was obtained. General Fund Status: \$5,524.08.

After EC business, EC continued to review and update of Post Constitution.

Completed up to Article VII Amendments, Section 2.

21 Dec, 2:00-7:00 p.m., Post 197 supported the Angel Ministries' Angel Tree Benefit for needy children/families at the Post facilities. See Chapter 6 for details and photos.

January 2023

3 Jan, 12:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Paul Chatterton, Stephen Golias, Ron Griffin, Chaplain Ted Gustin, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekley, and guest Carol Griffin. Chaplain Gustin offered a scripture reading and prayer.

5 Jan, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent

Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	

Total meeting attendees present were 7 Officers, 3 members, and 2 guests for a total of 12. A quorum was obtained. General fund was \$5,123.50.

8 Jan, 1:00 p.m., Post 197 hosted along with the staff and residents of Pike Manor, a birthday party for Robert Walther, a 98-year-old WWII Veteran and member of Post 197. On 23 January, Post 197 funded as a birthday present an eye exam and eyeglasses for Robert. See Chapter 6 for more details and photos of the event.

19 Jan, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting. Post Officers present:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	
Darryll Kipp	Scout Troop Rep	Present

6 Officers present. A quorum was obtained. General Fund Status: \$,4587.09. During the meeting, Resolution 197-3 was presented and discussed. Resolution approved the departure and follow-on support of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 197 as a member of the Post 197 family. Resolution was accepted and approved. After EC business, EC continued to review and update of Post Constitution. The EC review and update of the Post Constitution was completed.

21 Jan, 2:00-5:00 p.m., Legionnaire Bryan Richardson represents Post 197 at the Celebration of Life of Rachel McClelland, wife of Legionnaire Charles McClelland.

29 Jan, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Legionnaires Steve Golias and Bryan Richardson finished the repairs to Veteran family's front door.

February 2022

2 Feb, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent

Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	

Total meeting attendees present were 6 Officers, 4 members, and 1 guest for a total of 11. A quorum was obtained. General fund was \$3,548.80. Resolution 197-3 – American Legion Auxiliary Unit 197 was read and the first reading of the revised Post 197 Constitution was conducted. Legionnaire Ron Griffin provided Chile and cornbread as a pre-meeting dinner.

- 4 Feb, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Legionnaires Steve Golias, Ron Griffin, Ted Gustin, Bryan Richardson, Jeff Sheriff, and Bill Weekley along with SAL Jason Patten represented Post 197 at the Family Visitation and Memorial Service for Sandra Germain, wife of Legionnaire Matt Germain and daughter of Legionnaire Dan Bond. Post 197 gave a flower spray to the Germain and Bond families.
- 5 Feb, 2:00 p.m., Post 197 hosted the American Legion Four Chaplains Program at the Mount Gilead Baptist Church in Griffin in Pike County. See Chapter 6 for more details and photos.
- 7 Feb, 12:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Nikki Ellard, Stephen Golias, Ron Griffin, and Bill Weekley. Carol Griffin attended as a guest. The Reverend Ron Griffin provided the Prayer.
- 16 Feb, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting. Post Officers present:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Excused
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Present
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	
Darryll Kipp	Scout Troop Rep	Present

6 Officers present and one guest. A quorum was obtained. General Fund Status: \$3,136.81.

- 18 Feb, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Post 197 assists the Elementary School in a work detail to construct a nature trail for school education opportunities. Post 197 is also interested in using the Nature Trail at the 10 June 2023 Zebulon 5K/10K Run Run/Walk.

March 2022

2 Mar, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Excused
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Excused
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Present
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Excused
Service Officer	Vacant	

Total meeting attendees present were 5 Officers, 3 members, and 1 guest for a total of 9. A quorum was obtained. General fund was \$2,878.47. The reading of the revised Post 197 Constitution was initiated and the General Membership present voted to accept the document as written. B. Richardson read a resolution to add WWI and confirmed Pike County citizen Lee Roy Todd to the Pike County Veterans Memorial. Resolution was accepted. Legionnaire Ron Griffin provided a BBQ pork pre-meeting dinner for those in attendance.

7 Mar, 12:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Nikki Ellard, Stephen Golias, Ron Griffin, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekley. Carol Griffin attended as a guest. The Reverend Ron Griffin provided the Prayer.

9 Mar, 6:30 p.m., Post 197 co-hosted with the Pike County Chamber of Commerce a Wine Tasting Jubilee. AL Bryan Richardson donated 29 bottles of wine at an estimated cost of \$290 from his winery. The Chamber provided the event decorations and food and non-alcoholic beverages. Richardson provided information on wine making and 9 difference wines which were then sampled. An auction of the wines followed which resulted in \$635 donations for Post 197 Veteran and Community programs.

16 Mar, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting.

Post Officers present:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Present
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Excused
Service Officer	Vacant	
Darryll Kipp	Scout Troop Rep	Present

6 Officers present. A quorum was obtained. General Fund Status: \$3,387.48.

- After EC business, EC initiated the review and update of the Post By-Laws.
- 23 Mar, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m., Post 197 Honor Guard of Tim Dukes, Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson provided US Flag Etiquette Instruction to the American Heritage Girls Troop 3080 at the Church of Joy in Williamson, GA. See Chapter 6 for details and photos.
- 31 Mar – 1 Apr, Post 197 conducted a Veteran/Legion information and voter registration booth, and inflatables fundraiser at the Williamson Wisteria Festival. Volunteers over the course of the two days were AL members Cdr Chatterton, Tim Dukes, Nikki Ellard, Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekley, and SAL member Jason Patton and ALA Melissa Patten. Rain was a factor in fest attendance. Total net gain from the fundraiser was \$29. See Chapter 6 for details and photos.

April 2022

- 4 Apr, 12:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Nikki Ellard, Stephen Golias, Chaplain Ted Gustin, Bryan Richardson, Bill Weekley, and Marcus Weldon. Mike Powell attended as a guest. Chaplain Gustin provided a scripture reading and the Prayer.

- 6 Apr, 7:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its monthly General Membership Meeting.

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Excused
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Excused
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Present
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Excused
Service Officer	Vacant	

Total meeting attendees present were 6 Officers, 3 members, and 1 guest for a total of 10. A quorum was obtained. General fund was \$1,547.19.

Post officer nominations for 2023-2024 were conducted. Nominations:

Commander: Paul Chatterton
 Senior Vice Commander: Ron Griffin
 Junior Vice Commander: Marcus Weldon
 Junior Vice Commander: Nikki Ellard
 Adjutant: Stephen Golias
 Finance Officer: Bryan Richardson
 Three Executive Committee Members: Tim Dukes, Ben Maxedon, and Bill Weekley

8 Apr, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Post 197 Honor Guard Team consisting of Tim Dukes, Steve Golias, Ron Griffin, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Cdr Chatterton conducted a practice for the upcoming 13 April Veterans Affairs Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) Grand Opening Ceremony.

13 Apr, 10:00 a.m., Post 197 Honor Guard Team consisting of Tim Dukes, Steve Golias, Ron Griffin, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Cdr Chatterton participated in the flag raising ceremony of the Zebulon VA CBOC Grand Opening Program. See Chapter 6 for more details and photos.

16 Apr, 3:00 p.m., Post 197 Honor Guard Team consisting of Tim Dukes, Steve Golias, Ron Griffin, Stefan Huckaby, and Cdr Chatterton provide funeral honors for the family of British WWII Veteran Leonard Wheat at the Zebulon United Methodist Church. See Chapter 6 for more details and photos.

20 Apr, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting. Post Officers present:

Commander	Paul Chatterton	Late/Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Damian Bryan	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	George Richardson	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Griffin	Present
Adjutant	Stephen Golias	Present
Finance Officer/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
EC Member	Timothy Dukes	Present
EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present
EC Member/JA	Benjamin Maxedon	Excused
Chaplain	Theodore Gustin	Present
Service Officer	Vacant	
Darryll Kipp	Scout Troop Rep	Excused

7 Officers present. A quorum was obtained. General Fund Status: \$2,467.61.

After EC business, EC continued the review and update of the Post By-Laws.

30 Apr: End of report period

Chapter 6

Post Activities: May 2021-April 2022

Monthly Prayer on the Square: Each month on the first Tuesday at 12 noon, Post 197 hosts a community-wide public Prayer on the Square. The objective is to identify who in the Post, community, state, nation, Veteran and military and their families, and national, state, and local leadership need Prayer. The program is led by the Post 197 Chaplain Ted Gustin. During Prayer on the Square sessions, Chaplain Gustin generally offers relative scripture readings and a prayer.

Pike County National Day of Prayer: On 6 May at 12:00 p.m., Post 197 participated in the Pike County's National Day of Prayer hosted by the Christ Chapel Community Church at the south side of the Courthouse Square. AL Ben Maxedon, Chaplain Ted Gusting and Honor Guard Team member Bryan Richardson participated in the event. B. Maxedon helped plan and set up the event, Chaplain Gustin provided a military prayer, and B. Richardson lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Legionnaire Bill Weekley attended and helped represent Post 197 at the event.



**Top left photo
Provided by Ben
Maxedon:** Event
Volunteer and
Legionnaire
Chaplain Ben
Maxedon

**Right photo
provided by Ted
Gustin:** Bryan
Richardson
provided the event
Pledge of
Allegiance.



Bottom Photo provided by Bryan Richardson: Post 197
Chaplain Ted Gustin offering the event's Military Prayer.

4th District Spring Convention and Officer Elections: On 14 May from 1000 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Post 197 hosted the Spring 4th District Convention and Officer Elections at the Post facility. Post 197 Volunteers included Legionnaires Damian Bryan, Steve Golias, Darryll Kipp, and Bryan Richardson who prepared and served lunch to the 4th District attendees. Post 197 Sgt-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby provided meeting security and attended the meeting, and Post 197 Commander Chatterton hosted and attended the meeting. SAL Sqdn member Jason Patton and Unit 197 Legion Auxiliary member Melissa Patten represented the Legion Family 197. Auxiliary Troop 465 provided three scouts who help serve food. Scout Alaina Simpson played the music trumpet during the 4th District's Post Everlasting Ceremony honoring those Legionnaires who recently passed away within the District. All photos on this page taken by Steve Golias.



Top left photo: Post 197 Cdr Paul Chatterton welcoming the 4th District Officers.

Top center photo: 4th District meeting with the Department of Georgia Cdr Mark Shreve providing remarks.

Top right photo: Attendees with Post 197 Sgt-at-Arms acting as meeting Sgt-at-Arms.

Bottom left photo: Cdr Danny Powell on the left and Adj Leigh Blood on the right.

Bottom center photo: DOG Cdr Mark Shreve providing remarks.

4th District Meeting (Cont)



Top left photo (Provided by Steve Golias): Alena Simpson playing Taps of the musical trumpet.



Top left photo (Provided by John Ellis): From left to right: Post 197 Cdr Paul Chatterton, 4th District Cdr Danny Powell, DOG Jim Faulk, DOG Cdr Mark Shreve, and 4th District Adj Leigh Blood.

Left center photo (Provided by Steve Golias): Meeting attendees including SAL Squadron 197 Jason Patten in the forefront.



Right center photo (Provided by Steve Golias): 4th District

Legion Auxiliary conducting their meeting; from left to right: Marie Eason – Treasurer, Karen Mitchell – Current President, Sarah Zingarelli – Past 4th District President

Bottom left photo (Provided by Steve Golias): (From left to right) AL members Liz Gieger, unknown, and Unit member and past 4th District President Melissa Patten.

Bottom right photo (Provided by John Ellis): Lunch line which included back side of ALA Melissa Patten and AL

Stefan Huckaby to her right in black T-shirt.

4th District Meeting (Cont)



All photos provided by John Ellis



Top left photo (from left to right): AL Damian Bryan at the counter, Laney Ray, Scout Sophia Raynie, AL Bryan Richardson, and Scout Alaina Simpson

Top right photo: AL Damian Bryan on the left and Sophia Raynie on the right.
Center left photo: Lunch main entree choices.

Bottom right photo: (From left to right) Laney Ray, Scout Alaina Simpson, AL Steve Golias, and Scout Adora Chatterton.

Bottom left photo: 4th District officers eating lunch in the Post 197 meeting room.

Memorial Day: On Monday, 30 May 2022, the Pike County American Legion Post 197 hosted the Pike County Memorial Day Observance Program. The public was invited to attend this community program. The program commenced at 10:00 a.m. on the south side of the Courthouse Square in Zebulon, Georgia. Five years ago, the guest speaker was Theresa Pinner, a Gold Star Mother of Jeffrey Walker, a Marine killed in action in Fallujah, Iraq on 14 May 2007. She was asked to describe what it was like to be a Gold Star Mother. She and her daughter Kelly Murray, a Gold Star Sister provided emotional remarks that gave the program attendees another perspective and the true meaning of Memorial Day. Also present was Corporal Walker's son, Conner who is now 15 which is also the 15th anniversary of his father's death. Roughly 66 people attended the program. Historian Bryan Richardson was the master of ceremonies, Cdr Chatterton provided the opening remarks, and introduced the Walker Gold Star (GS) family and State Representative Beth Camp. The program included the posting of the colors by the Legion Family 197 Color Guard Team (AL Steve Golias, ALA Melissa Patten, ALA Brenda Runyon, SAL Jason Patten, and AL Stefan Huckaby); National Anthem and Amazing Grace sung by Millie Smith; Pledge of Allegiance by SAL Jason Patten; POW/MIA Tribute by Cdr Chatterton; Tribute to Lance Corporal Jeffrey Walker; definition of Blue, Silver, and Gold Star Family and introduction of the Guest Speakers Teresa Pinner and Kelly Murray by AL Richardson; Cdr presentation of Legion Appreciation Coins to Teresa Pinner, Kelly Murray, and Conner Walker son of Jeffrey Walker; opening, special Memorial Day prayer, and closing prayer by AL Ron Griffin; tribute to the fallen Pike County Veterans since the previous Memorial Day 2021 by AL Talena Smith and ALA Melissa Patten, unveiling of three new names on the Monument (WWI Army Private Ernest Ross, WWII Army Sergeant Cebran Willis, and Korean War



Army Private First Class Martin Eppinger); posting of a wreath at the Veterans Memorial by Teresa Pinner, Kelly Murry, Conner Walker, Representative Beth Camp, and Cdr Chatterton along with Honor Guards Steve Golias and Stefan Huckaby; Taps played by Will Busby; and closing remarks by Cdr Chatterton. Cindy's florist donated the wreath.

Photo provided by John Ellis

From left to right: Post 197 Paul Chatterton, GS Aunt Susan Clark and husband Gene, GS Grandmother Francis Durham, Husband Scott Pinner and GS Mother Teresa Pinner, GS son Conner Walker, GS sister Kelley Murray, GS niece Grace Murray, GS Cousin Jordan Johnson, State Representative Beth Camp, Program Master of Ceremonies AL Bryan Richardson, and Post 197 Sgt-at-Arms and Honor Guard member, Stefan Huckaby.

Memorial Day Observance Program (Cont)



Top left and right photos: (Provided by Jeff Sheriff) Program attendees.



Center left photo: (Provided by John Ellis) Legion Family 197 Color Guard posting the colors (from left to right) Honor Guard Team lead AL Steve Golias, ALA Melissa Patten, ALA Brenda Runyon, SAL Jason Patten, and AL Stefan Huckaby.



Center right photo: (Provided by John Ellis) Millie Smith singing the National Anthem. Also shown from left to right are: Cdr Paul Chatterton, MC AL Bryan Richardson, AL Steve Golias, and ALA Melissa Patten.

Bottom left photo: (Provided by John Ellis): Guest speakers Gold Star sister Kelley Murray and mother Teresa Pinner.

Bottom right photo: (Provided by John Ellis) Cdr Chatterton awarding American Legion coins to Gold Star mother Teresa Pinner, son Conner Walker, and sister Kelley Murray.

Memorial Day Observance Program (Cont)



Top left photo:

(Provided by John Ellis) ALA Melissa Patten ringing the bell and AL Talena Smith reading the names of all the Veterans who passed away since last Memorial Day 2021.

Top right photo:

(Photo by John Ellis) Will Busby, the trumpet player of Taps.

Center left photo:

(Photo provided by John Ellis) AL and Pastor retired Ron Griffin offering the



Program opening prayer.

Bottom right photo: (Provided by Jeff Sheriff) MC Richardson on the right introducing the three new names inscribed to be unveiled on the Veterans Monument (benight the purple veil. Post Honor Guard members Steve Golias and Stefan Huckaby ready to unveil names.

Bottom left photo: (Provided by Jeff Sheriff) State Representative Beth Camp, Cdr Chatterton, Stefan Huckaby, and Steve Golias providing honors during the playing of Taps.



Peachtree State Aerodrome Festival Post 197 Fundraiser: On 4 June from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted a bounce house inflatables fundraiser at the Peach State Aerodrome Festival located in Williamson, GA. AL members Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bill Weekly collected \$1,036 in donations. The team also manned a Veteran/Legionnaire Info Booth.



Photo provided by Steve Golias: From left to right AL members Stefan Huckaby, Bill Weekly and Steve Golias.

Legion Family Memorial Service and Post Everlasting: On 5 June 2022, at 6:00 p.m., Post 197 hosted the annual Legion Family Memorial Service and Post Everlasting Ceremony at the Post facility. Post 197 honored and conducted Post Everlasting Ceremony for deceased Post 197 members Gerald Richardson, Arthur Neal, Robert Clark, Thomas Morton, and Patrick Patten. Roughly 25 people attended.

All photos provided by Becky Watts.

Top left photo: Honored deceased member photos from left to right Gerald Richardson, Arthur French, Robert Clark, Thomas Morton, and Patrick Patten



Top right photo: Post 197 Chaplain and MC Ted Gustin provide the Welcome remarks.

Center left photo: Chaplain Gustin lighting by candle the pieces of paper with the names representing the Legion records of the deceased.

Bottom right photo: Honor guard members Steve Golias and Stefan Huckaby standing by to post the wreath. ALA Brenda Runyon providing honors.

Bottom left photo: The playing of Taps. Providing honors from left to right are AL Steve Golias, AL Bryan Richardson, AL Stefan Huckaby, and Chaplain Ted Gustin.



Flag Day Observance and Flag Retirement Ceremony: On 14 June at 6:30 p.m., Post 197 hosted its annual Flag Day Observance and Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Post pavilion area. Scout Troops 25, 37 and 465 participated along with Pack 17. The program included a Multi-organizational Color Guard posting the colors, National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance, reading of the poem “My Name is Old Glory”, Taps, and a Flag Retirement Ceremony. Ultimately, the ceremony honored and retired U.S. Flags as well as State of Georgia, POW/MIA, and other miscellaneous flags. The total number flags retire was 358. Program Volunteers consisted of Post 197 Darryll Kipp, Nikki Ellard, Steve Golias, Chaplain Ted Gustin, Ben Maxedon, and Bryan Richardson; AL Melissa Patten, and SAL Jason Patten. In attendance from Post 197 was Bill Weekley. About 30 people were present which included Legion Family, Scouts, and Scout parents. All photos provided by AL Bryan Richardson.



Top left photo: AL Ben Maxedon providing the POW/MIA Tribute.



Top right photo: Color Guard ready to post the colors.



Bottom left photo: ALA Melissa Patten providing honor to a flag. SAL



Jason Patten securing the next flag. On the right, AL Nikki Ellard keeping track of all the flags retired.

Bottom right photo: Attendees with Flag Retirement Ceremony in progress.

Flag Day Observance and Flag Retirement Ceremony (Cont)



Top left photo: All flags posted.

All remaining photos: Flag Retirement Ceremony with Legion family, scouts and scout leadership as participants.

1st Annual Pike County Juneteenth Celebration: On 19 June from 12:00 to 4:00, Post 197 as part of the Legion Family set up a Veteran/Legion Family information booth at the 1st Annual Pike County Juneteenth Celebration. Post 197 provided a special Pike County Memorial Exhibit of the shadow box contents of the four inducted Pike County Memorial Annex African American service members who died in the line of duty. These four are U.S. Army Privates Green Blackman, John G. McLendon, and Ben L. Scott from WWI; and U.S. Chief Petty Officer Willie L. King from the Vietnam War. Honor Guard Team members Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson represented Post 197, SAL Jason Patten represented Squadron 197, and ALA members Melissa Patten and Brenda Runyon represented Unit 197. Brenda Runyon decorated an American Legion float and participated in the event's parade through downtown Zebulon. During the program, AL Richardson as the Post Historian addressed the event participants on the American Legion and the Memorial Annex special exhibit.



Top photos provided by Bryan Richardson: ALA Brenda Runyon providing a Legion Family 197 float for the program parade.
Bottom photo provided by Becky Watts: Legion Family 197 Veterans/Legion Information Booth from left to right AL James Watts, SAL Jason Patten, AL Stefan Huckaby, AL Steve Golias, and AL Bryan Richardson

Molena Festival, Patriotic Program, and Ice Cream Social: On 2 July starting at 3:00, Post 197 set up a Veteran/Legion information booth and provided an hour-long patriotic program during the 2022 Molena Festival in Molena, GA. Post 197 Commander Chatterton, AL Ewell Bell, Nikki Ellard, AL Steve Golias, AL Stefan Huckaby and AL Bryan Richardson manned the information booth until the start of the Patriotic Program at 6:00. Commander Paul Chatterton welcomed everyone and the Color Guard consisting of Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson assisted by AL Ewell Bell posted the Colors. Paul Chatterton read the POW/MIA Full Tribute as the Post Honor Guard consisting of Golias, Huckaby, and Richardson set up the missing POW/MIA table setting and chair. Richardson provided the history of the Purple Heart Medal. The Honor Guard conducted a flag folding ceremony consisting of Richardson reading and Golias and Huckaby folding the flag. Taps was play by 9th grader Will Busby. Huckaby read the Poem written by Johnny Cash titled Old Ragged Flag, followed by Golias providing remarks relating the Flag to our freedoms. The Honor Guard closed out the program and festival with a flag retirement ceremony. Commander Chatterton led the ceremony while Golias, Huckaby and Richardson assisted as well as AL Ewell Bell and Veteran Willie McDowell. All photos provided by



AL Nickki Ellard.

Left photo: Members of the Honor Guard Team: from left to right: AL Stefan Huckaby, AL Steve Golias, Honorary member for the program Will Busby, AL Bryan Richardson, and Cdr Paul Chatterton.

Center photo: Honor Guard from left to right during the playing of the National Anthem: Steve Golias, hidden Bryan Richardson, Stefan Huckaby, AL Ewell Bell assisting and observing Veteran Willie McDowell

Right photo: Cdr Chatterton reading the POW/MIA Full Tribute script and Honor Guard member Steve Golias setting the plates and silverware on the POW/MIA table.

Molena Festival, Patriotic Program, and Ice Cream Social: (Cont)



Left photo: AL Ewell Bell retiring a flag as Cdr Chatterton observes.

Right photo: Honor Guard member Steve Golias presents flag to be retired to Veteran Willie McDowell as AL Ewell Bell observes.

Post 197 Annual Awards Ceremony

All photo provided by AL John Ellis unless otherwise noted



Left photo: Cdr Paul Chatterton having presented AL Stefan Huckaby and Bryan Richardson with their 15-year continuous Membership Certificate. Adj Golias far right reads the citation.

Right photo: AL John Ellis and Brenda Turner receiving Certificates of Appreciation for outstanding service to Post 197. Cdr Chatterton in the center and Adj Golias in the background.

Post 197 Annual Awards Ceremony (Cont)



Top left Photo: Pullin Family from left to right: Ken Pullin father of Luke and Kay Pullin grandmother of Luke, and Luke Pullin. Nancy and Scott Walraven (mother and father of Isaac), Faith Ingram (friend of Isaac), and Isaac Walraven.

Top right photo from left to right: Isaac Walraven with his American Legion Boy's State Certificate, Post 197 Boy's State Chairman, Cdr Chatterton, and Luke Pullin with his Certificate.

Bottom left photo: Isaac and Luke receiving American Legion coins from Cdr Chatterton.

Bottom right photo: Post Chaplain receiving Certificate of Appreciation for volunteering to be the Event Director for the annual Post 197 Four Chaplains Program and the annual Post 197 Memorial Service and Post Everlasting Ceremony.

Post 197 Annual Awards Ceremony (Cont)



Top left photo: AL Steve Golias receiving Certificate of Appreciation for leading a Post 197 Inflatables Fundraiser from Cdr Chatterton. Not only did Golias lead the effort, but over \$,1000 was collected in donations.

Top right photo: All members of the Post 197 Honor Guard Team receiving Certificates of Appreciation for at least 26 Honor Guard functions within the last 18 months. Receiving awards from left to right are Bryan Richardson, Matt Germain, Steve Golias (Just previously awarded certificate as the Team Lead), Stephan Huckaby, and Cdr Chatterton.

Bottom left photo provided by Jeff Sheriff: SAL Jason and ALA Melissa Patten receiving the Post 197 Family of the Year Award from Cdr Chatterton on the left. AL Patrick Patten was posthumously included as a member of family having passed away on 9 April 2022. Adj Golias in the background is reading the citation.

Bottom right photo: Bryan Richardson receiving the Post 197 Legionnaire of the Year Award from Cdr Chatterton.

Officer Installation Ceremony



All photos provided by AL John Ellis.

Top photo: Past Commander Bryan Richardson installing Paul Chatterton as Post 197 Commander for his second term.



Center photo: Past Commander Richardson swearing in Commander Chatterton.



Bottom photo: Commander Paul Chatterton installing and swearing in elected and appointed Post 197 officers and members of the Post 197 Executive Committee. Officers from left to right are: Damian Bryan – Senior Vice Cdr, Ted Gustin – Chaplain, Tim Dukes – EC Member, Stefan Huckaby – EC Member/Sgt-at-Arms, Ron Griffin – Junior Vice Cdr, George Richardson – Junior Vice Cdr, Bryan Richardson – Finance Officer/Historian, and Steve Golias – Adjutant.

County Fair around the Courthouse Square: On 20 August 2022, Post 197 participated in the County Fair around the Courthouse Square. Commander Chatterton provided welcoming remarks. Chaplain Ted Gustin offered the opening prayer. The Honor Guard consisting of Steve Golias, Matt Germain, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson who along with the Pike County Sheriff's Office consisting of Deputies Deangelo Smith and Casey Hammond posted the Colors. The Pike County High School Marching Band played the National Anthem. AL Bryan Richardson read a condensed version of Zebulon Pike's biography and along with Chairman Briar Johnson unveiled Zebulon Pike's shadow box. Then, Post 197 conducted a full POW/MIA Tribute defining and setting up each item of the POW/MIA table setting and chair of. Cdr Chatterton narrated and the Post 197 Honor Guard consisting of Matt Germain, Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson set up the POW/MIA Table setting and chair. Then, Post 197 conducted a Flag Folding Ceremony. Honor Guard members Bryan Richardson narrated and Steve Golias and Stefan Huckaby folded the flag. The Honor Guard team of Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby and Matt Germain posted a memorial wreath at the Pike County Veterans Memorial and Will Busby played Taps on his trumpet. Post 197 also set up a Veterans and Legion information and voter registration booth and two bounce houses. Total Volunteers were AL members Paul Chatterton, Matt Germain, Steve Golias, Ted Gustin, Darryll Kipp, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekley; and ALA Melissa Patten, SAL Jason Patten, and Troop 465 Scout Thomas.



Left photo provided by John Ellis: Cdr Paul Chatterton and Chaplain Ted Gustin about to offer the event opening prayer.

Right Photo provided by Becky Watts: Event Honor Guard ready to Post the Colors from left to right: AL Steve Golias and Stefan Huckaby, Sheriff Office Casey Hammond and Deangelo Smith, and AL Matt Germain and Bryan Richardson

County Fair around the Courthouse Square (Cont)



Top left photo provided by John Ellis: Color Guard posting the Colors.

Top right photo provided by J. Ellis: Pike County High School Marching Band playing the National Anthem.

Center left photo provided by Becky Watts: Zebulon Pike Shadow Box.

Center right photo provided by B. Watts: AL Bryan Richardson explaining items within the Shadow Box.

Bottom photos provided by J. Ellis: Views of the event opening ceremony audience.

County Fair around the Courthouse Square (Cont)



Top left photo provided by Chad Moore:

Waiting to begin the POW/MIA Full Tribute at the ready table from left to right: Matt Germain, Stefan Huckaby, AL Darryll Kipp, Bryan Richardson, and Steve Golias.

Top right photo provided by John Ellis:

Steve Golias placing bible on the POW/Mia Table and

Cdr Paul Chatterton reading the narrative.

Center left photo provided by Becky Watts: Honor Guard upon completion of the Flag Folding Ceremony, posting of the wreath, and Taps. From left to right: Steve Golias, Taps trumpet player Will Busby, Matt Germain, and Stefan Huckaby.

Center right photo provided by John Ellis: Legion/Veteran Information Booth (from left to right) AL members Bill Weekley, Stefan Huckaby, and Ted Gustin.

Bottom left photo provided by John Ellis: Post 197 bounce houses in operation.

Bottom right photo provided by Becky Watts: Bounce house Volunteers from left to right: SAL Jason Patten, ALA Melissa Patten, and Troop 465 Scout Sophia Thomas.

Project Layla: On 26 August from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Post 197 members Bryan Richardson and Ron Griffin (from left to right in photo) volunteered to help work a shift supporting the 4th District sponsored project. This was a project to provide an elevator for a paralyzed daughter of an active-duty Major in the Georgia National. The work on 26 August was the first day of the preparation phase to eventually install the elevator.



Photo provided by Bryan Richardson.

Pike County National Patriot Day (9-11) Observance: On 11 September from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Christ Chapel Community Church in Zebulon, GA, Post 197 set up an elaborate 9-11 Memorial Display for the three morning services for the congregation to observe as they arrived and departed the services. Commander Paul Chatterton and members of the Legion Family 197 Honor Guard (AL members Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson; and SAL member Jason Patten) set-up and manned the 9-11 Memorial Display.



Top left and right photos (Provided by Steve Golias and Bryan Richardson): Views of memorial display.



Bottom left photo (Provided by Steve Golias): From left to right Volunteers SAL Jason Patten, and AL Stefan Huckaby, Commander Paul Chatterton, AL Stephen Golias, and AL Bryan Richardson

Bottom right photo (Provided by Bryan Richardson): View of congregation observing Memorial display.

Meansville Music Festival: On 24 September from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Post 197 participated in the event with a Legion/Veteran information-voter registration booth and a Bounce House fundraiser. Legion Volunteers involved in the event were AL members Commander Paul Catterton, Nikki Ellard, Steve Golias, Ted Gustin, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekly; ALA members Melissa Patten and Brenda Runyon, and SAL member Jason Patten. All photos provided by Bryan Richardson.



Top left photo: View of Post 197 set-up which included the bounce houses and tent on the left and the information booth tent on the right.



Top right photo: Manning of the bounce houses from left to right: AL Ted Gustin, AL Steve Golias, SAL Jason Patten, and AL Bill Weekley.



Bottom left photo: ALA Melissa Patten and AL Stefan Huckaby manning the Veteran/Legion Information Booth.



Bottom right photo: Information Booth's information bulletin board.

Meansville Music Festival (Cont):



Top left photo: View of festival vender booths. ALA members Melissa Patten and Brenda Runyon taking a break at the picnic table area.

Top right photo: AL Steve Golias and ALA Brenda Runyon manning the bounce houses.

Bottom left photo: AL members Bill Weekley, Stefan Huckaby, and Nikki Ellard manning the Veteran/Legion Information Booth.

Bottom right photo: AL members Bill Weekley, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson manning the Veteran/Legion Information Booth.

Concord Jubilee: On 15 and 16 October, Post 197 set up a Veteran/Legion information booth and conducted bounce houses fundraiser. Volunteers and Post visitors throughout the weekend included: V-AL Nikki Ellard, V-AL Steve and G-Dawn Golias, AL Ron and G-Carol Griffin, V-AL Stefan Huckaby, AL Ben Maxedon, V-SAL Jason Patten, V-ALA Melissa Patten, V-AL Bryan Richardson, and V-AL Bill Weekley. Dennis Tea (Tractor Club) and Ted Gustin (Silversmith booth) were at the event working their areas. From the information booth, Post 197 had three members pay their dues for a total of \$105. These members were Parrish Carlyle, Dave Porter, and James Watson. Post 197 obtained a new transfer from GA Post 77 (Frank Boze). Two people signed up for the Post 197 hosted 22 October 2022 Molena 5K/10K Fun Run/Walk Fundraiser. Post 197 set and manned the Pike County Bicentennial booth and made \$300 for the County selling Pike County Bicentennial T-shirts and mugs. Meanwhile at the bounce houses grossed \$624 in the two days. The expenses totaled \$135 vender fee and \$42.40 gas and related expenses for a net income of \$446.60.



All photos provided by Bryan Richardson.

Top left photo: View of (shared) Pike County Bicentennial Booth and Post 197 Veteran/Legion Information Booth with AL Stefan Huckaby manning the Vet/Legion side.

Top right photo: View of Vet/Legion info booth with AL Stefan Huckaby.

Bottom left photo: Bicentennial both with Bicentennial Committee Member Chris Curry manning the booth.

Bottom right photo: AL members Stefan Huckaby and Bryan Richardson manning the Veteran/Legion info booth.

Molena 5K/10K Fun Run/Walk Fundraiser: On Saturday, 22 October 2022, the Pike County American Legion Post 197 hosted a 5K/10K Fun Run/Walk fundraiser to be held in Molena, GA. This was also a Pike County Bicentennial Event. The start window was between 8:00 and 11:00 am, and there was a choice between a 5K (3.1 miles) and a 10K (6.2 miles) course. The start will be at the Molena City Pavilion. The event was Post 197's third Run/Walk in Molena and its 15th overall in Pike County. The Run/Walk is a fundraising event to benefit the American Legion Veteran and Community programs while at the same time providing a healthy event for the community. The events rotate among the five cities of Pike County. By participating in each of the city events, one can conduct the Tour de Pike through traveling to and participating in the scenic courses. Event Volunteers consisted of AL Bryan Richardson, Event Director; AL Paul Chatterton, Registration Area Coordinator; AL Steve Golias and SAL Bart Brock Course Rovers and Medical Assistants; AL Tim Dukes, Elder Samuel Hepler, and Elder Samuel Truman 5/10K Rest Area Attendants; and AL Stefan Huckaby 10K Rest Area Attendant. All photos this page provided by Bryan Richardson.



Top left photo: Setting up the course from left to right – AL Steve Golias and Stefan Huckaby, and Elders Hepler and Truman.

Top right photo: Post Cdr Paul Chatterton and Event Director Bryan Richardson.



Bottom Photo: Event Sponsor Board

Molena 5K/10K Fun Run/Walk Fundraiser (Cont):

First four photos provided by Bryan Richardson. Last photo provided by Angela Erickson.



Top left photo: Cdr Chatterton and course rover SAL Bart Brock.



Top right photo: Course rover Steve Golias taking a break.



Center left photo: 5K/10K Rest Area from left to right – Elder Sameul Truman, AL Tim Dukes, Elder Sameul Hepler, and SAL course rover Bart Brock.



Center right Photo: AL Stefan Huckaby



Bottom photo: Run/Walk participants from left to right – Angela Erickson taking the photo, Jenna Jones, Bonnie Dials, and Elaine Mangham.

Pike County First Responder of the Year Award Ceremony: The Pike County American Legion Post 197 sponsored the annual Pike County First Responder of the Year Award Ceremony at the 25 October 2022 Pike County Board of Commissioner's Meeting. Nominations were requested for Law Enforcement, Firefighter, and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)/Paramedic of the Year candidates. To be eligible for the award, a person must be currently serving in a law enforcement organization (Sheriff's Office, City Police Department, GA Dept of Public Safety, GA Bureau of Investigations, or GA Dept of Corrections), firefighting organization (County or City Fire Department or Volunteer Fire Department), or Emergency Medical Service or Fire Dept Paramedic organization/team. Candidates must either reside or serve in Pike County. This year's awardees were: 2022 Pike Country Law Enforcement of the Year – Sheriff Jimmy Thomas of the Pike County Sheriff's Office, 2022 Pike County Firefighter of the Year – Captain Jeffrey Oliver from the Pike County Fire Department, and 2022 Pike County Emergency Medical Technician of the Year – EMT-I Chasen L. Wright from the Pike County xxx. Historian Bryan Richardson read each awardee's award narrative and assisted Chairman Briar Johnson is presenting the award. Legionnaire Nikki Ellard was also at the ceremony representing Post 197.



Top left photo provided by Nikki Ellard: Chairman Johnson presenting Sheriff Thomas with the Law Enforcement Award assisted by AL Bryan Richardson.

Top right photo provided by Becky Watts: Chairman Johnson presenting award to Sheriff Thomas.

Bottom left photo taken by Becky Watts: Chief Wilkerson and Chairman Johnson presenting award to Captain Oliver.

Bottom right photo provided by Becky Watts: Chief Wilkerson and Chairman Johnson presenting Award to Chasen Wright.

Pike County Veterans Day Observance Program: On Friday, 11 November 2022, at 11:00 a.m., the Pike County American Legion Post 197 hosted the annual Pike County Veterans Day Observance Program. The location was originally planned for the south side of the Pike County Courthouse Square in Zebulon, Georgia; however due to the rain effects of Hurricane Nicole, the Program was moved to the Mount Gilead Baptist Church. The Veterans Day Program recognized and honored America's military Veterans, extended our Nation's appreciation, and paid tribute to all deceased Veterans. The theme for the Program was "Why have a Veterans Day?". Highlights of the Program was the Pike County 8th/9th Grade Band playing the National Anthem, Armed Forces Medley, and Stars and Stripes Forever; Legion Family Color Guard and the posting of the colors, guest speaker, Luke Pullin; the posting of a memorial wreath and honoring Pike County deceased Veterans with the playing of "Taps". All photo this page provided by Becky

Watts.



Top left photo: Color Guard waiting for start of the program. From left to right:

AL Stefan Huckaby, AL Ron Griffin, ALA Brenda Runyon, AL Tim Dukes, ALA Melissa Patten, and SAL Jason Patten.



Top right photo: Color Guard posting the colors. From left to right: AL Stefan Huckaby, AL Ron Griffin, ALA Brenda Runyon, AL Tim Dukes, AL Paul Chatterton, ALA Melissa Patten, and SAL Jason Patten.

Bottom left photo: Program attendees.

Bottom right photo: ALA Brenda Runyon and Teri Totten member of the Stars for Our Troops preparing to pass out stars to the Veterans in attendance.

Pike County Veterans Day Observance Program (Cont):



Top left photo provided by John Ellis: Legionnaire and Master of Ceremonies Bryan Richardson.

Top right photo provided by Becky Watts: State Representative Beth Camp with Program WWII Veterans Russell Renfroe, Robert Walther, and Estelle Collins.

Center left photo provided by John Ellis: Teri Totten presenting Stars to the WWII Veterans.

Chairman Johnson and Representative Camp observing.

Bottom right photo provided by Becky Watts: Program guest speaker Luke Pullin addressing the audience.

Bottom left photo provided by John Ellis: Cdr Chatterton presenting a \$200 Check to Luke Pullin for providing his remarks as the Program guest speaker.

Pike County Veterans Day Observance Program (Cont):



Top left photo provided by John Ellis: Pike County 8th and 9th Grade Band playing Stars and Stripes forever.



Top right photo provided by John Ellis: SAL Jason Patten leading the Pledge of Allegiance.



Center left photo provided by Becky Watts: From left to right – Luke Pullin,

Chairman Johnson, Representative Camp and Post 107 Honor Guard Team member Tim Dukes having just posted the memorial wreath.

Center right photo provided by Becky Watts: Thorton Haulk ready to play “Taps”.
Bottom left photo provided by John Ellis: Chaplain Ted Gustin providing the closing Prayer.

Bottom right photo provided by Becky Watts: Program distinguished guests Chairman Briar Johnson, State Senator Beth Camp, and Guest Speaker Luke Pullin.

Molena Bigfoot Festival: On 12 November 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Post 197 supported the event 5K Road Race by manning the finish line and providing the times and place of the participating runners. Following the race, Post 197 conducted a bounce house fundraiser. During the fundraiser, Post 197 netted \$295.95 in donations.



Photo provided by Bryan Richardson: From left to right AL members Stefan Huckaby, Bill Weekly, and Bryan Richardson

Pike County Memorial Annex Induction Ceremony: On Saturday, 3 December 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the Pike County Board of Education Meeting Room within the Pike County Memorial Annex on U.S. Route 19, Zebulon, the Pike County American Legion Post 197 hosted the 2022 Pike County Memorial Annex Induction Ceremony. The 2022 inductees are Law Enforcement Officer Chase Maddox; and Army Air Corps Second Lieutenant James E. "Buck" Corley, Army Private Eddie R. Parks, and Army Private Thomas J. Sandefur all from WWII. Highlights of the Program included the Posting of the Colors by the Multi-organizational Color Guard consisting of Sergeant Eddie Huffman and Deputy Deangelo Smith from the Pike County Sheriff's Office and Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Ron Griffin from Post 197; the singing of the National Anthem by Carol Griffin; POW/MIA tribute by Post 197 Commander Paul Chatterton; brief history of the Memorial Annex by Historian Bryan Richardson; and biography readings of the four inductees and the unveiling of each inductee's shadow box by Lieutenant Matthew Long from the Locust Grove Police Department and Legionnaires Stefan Huckaby, Cdr Paul Chatterton, and Ben Maxedon. The guest speaker was Alex Maddox, widow of Patrolman Maddox who was killed in the line of duty. She addressed the approximate 50 attendees on "What it is like to be an Officer Down Widow. Master of Ceremonies, Bryan Richardson addressed the attendees on the magnitude of WWII as highlighted by the significant effects on the Army Air Corps. A Memorial Wreath was posted at the four shadow boxes by Alex and Brodie Maddox, Sheriff Jimmy Thomas, and Commander Paul Chatterton assisted by the Multi-organizational Honor Guard in honor of the four inductees which also included the playing of "Amazing Grace" and the playing of "Taps" by Will Busby. The Memorial Annex Class of 2022 joined 33 other previous inductees for a total of 37 which include 3



law enforcement and 34 military. All photos provided by Steve Golias.

Left photo: From left to right, Honor Guard member and bio reader Stefan Huckaby, Master of Ceremonies Bryan Richardson, and National Anthem Singer Carol Griffin going over program requirements

Right photo: View of the event attendees.

Pike County Memorial Annex Induction Ceremony (Cont):



Top left photo: Upon AL Ben Maxedon reading the bio of Eddie Parks, Bryan Richardson explains the contents of the shadow box.



Top right photo: Upon Cdr Chatterton reading the bio of Thomas Sandefur, Bryan Richardson explains the contents of the shadow box.



Center left photo: Members of the Honor Guard from left to right AL Stefan Huckaby, Sheriff's Officer Deangelo Smith, and AL Ron Griffin stand by for the Posting of the Memorial Wreath.



Center right photo: Honor Guard Deputy Smith and AL Stefan Huckaby waiting for the cue to Post the Memorial Wreath.



Bottom left photo: From left to right Bryan Richardson narrating, and Sheriff Thomas, Brodie Maddox (hidden), Alex Maddox, Cdr Chatterton, Deputy Smith and Stefan Huckaby posting the wreath.



Bottom right photo: From left to right, Cdr Chatterton, Alex Maddox, Brodie Maddox, and Sheriff Thomas waiting for the playing of Amazing Grace.

Pike County Christmas Parade: On 9 December at 7:00 p.m., Post 197 participated in the Pike County Christmas Parade. Stefan Huckaby provided his 1968 two and a half-ton cargo truck nicknamed the “Deuce”. On 8 December at 1:00 p.m., the Deuce was decorated with Christmas and patriotic lights. Decorating Volunteers consisted of Brenda Runyon (Team lead), Cdr Paul Chatterton, AL Tim Dukes, AL Steve Golias, AL Stefan Huckaby, AL Bryan Richardson, and AL Bill Weekley. In the front of the bed, the Honor Guard provided the National, POW/MIA, Georgia, and Armed Forces and represented the parade colors. The float decorating was led by ALA Brenda Runyon. Driving and riding shotgun in the cab were AL Stefan Huckaby and ALA Brenda Runyon. The Color Guard consisted of Steve Golias with the US Flag, AL Tim Dukes with the POW/MIA flag, SAL Jason Patten with the Georgia flag, and AL Bryan Richardson with the Armed Forces flag. Also in the bed were Cdr Chatterton, AL Bill Weekly, ALA Melissa Patten, Myrna Dukes, and Adora Chatterton.



All photos on this page provided by Tim Dukes.

Left photo: AL Stefan Huckaby working on the American Flag lights on the truck grill.

Center photo: AL Bryan Richardson working on the Christmas tree.

Right photo: ALA Brenda Runyon and AL Bill Weekley working on the truck decorations.

Pike County Christmas Parade (Cont):



Top photo provided by Becky Watts:
Decorated Post 197 float with Color Guard. Visible from left to right are Adora Chatterton, Cdr Paul Chatterton, AL Steve Golias, Tim Dukes hidden by US Flag, and ALA Brenda Runyon waving from cab.

Bottom photo from Facebook: Post 197 float from left to right: in cab ALA Brenda Runyon and AL Stefan Huckaby. On truck bed AL Steve Golias (holding US flag, Tim Dukes holding POW/MIA flag, SAL Jason Patten holding Georgia flag, AL Bryan Richardson holding Armed Forces flag, AL Bill Weekley, an Cdr Paul Chatterton.

Pike County Christmas Fair: On 10 December 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Post 197 participated in the 2022 Pike County Christmas Fair with a Veteran/Legion Information Booth and conducted a kids bounce house fundraiser. Legion Family Volunteers were Cdr Paul Chatterton, AL Steve Golias, AL Stefan Huckaby, SAL Jason Patten, AL Bryan Richardson, and AL Bill Weekley.



Top photo provided by Steve Golias: Info booth with AL Volunteers from left to right Stefan Huckaby, Cdr Paul Chatterton, Bryan Richardson, Bill Weekley, and Steve Golias.



Bottom photo provided by Bryan Richardson: SAL Jason Patten manning the bounce houses fundraiser.

Angel Ministries' Angel Tree Benefit: On 20 and 21 December 2022 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. and 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. respectively, Post 197 helped support Angel Ministries in their Angel Tree Christmas Benefit for needy children and their families at the Post facility. The Post offered their facility on 20 December for toy drop-off, off-load, and set-up. 72 bags of toys and 9 bikes were collected for 72 children. On 21 December, the families arrived to the Post. While the parents pick up their child's designated bag of toys, Post 197 along with Santa and Mrs. Claus entertained the children. Post 197 provided an indoor bounce house (first time with Post bounce houses) and Santa and Mrs. Claus provided photo opportunities. Post 197 also provided refreshments for parents and children. The Post outside was decorated by the Commander. Volunteers from Post 197 for the two days were Cdr Paul Chatterton, Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson.



Left photo provided by Steve Golias: Angel Ministries Felecia Lupton co-leader and AL Stefan Huckaby conducting final bike preparations and inventory.

Right photo provided by Bryan Richardson: AL members Stefan Huckaby and Steve Golias positioning children toy bags for rapid identification and parent receipt.

Angel Ministries' Angel Tree Benefit (Cont):



Top left photo provided by Bryan Richardson: Key Volunteers on 21 December from left to right Amy White (Co-lead for Angel Ministries), AL Bryan Richardson, Santa (Felicia's father), Felicia Lupton (Co-lead for Angel Ministries), Mrs.

Claus (Felicia's mother), AL Stefan Huckaby, and AL Steve Golias.

Top right photo provided by Bryan Richardson: Children from a recipient family getting a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Bottom left photo provided by Bryan Richardson: Bounce house entertaining children.

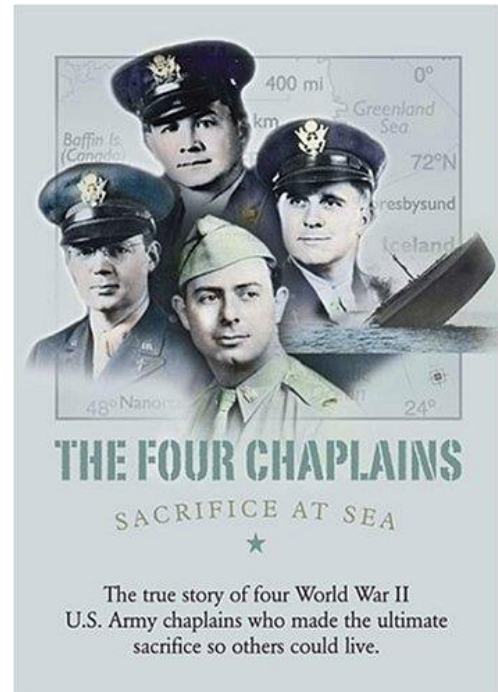
Bottom right photo provided by Steve Golias: Bounce house being monitored by AL Bryan Richardson.

WWII Veteran Celebrates 98th Birthday: On 8 January 2023 at 1:00 p.m., the Pike County American Legion Post 197 along with staff and residents of Pike Manor helped celebrate Robert Walther's 98th birthday. "Mr. Robert" as he is called, is a member of the Greatest Generation, WWII veteran, and honorary Post 197 Legionnaire residing at Pike Manor who does not have a family. As the residents were just finishing lunch, Legion family members from Post 197 made a visit to the Pike Manor dining room where they honored Mr. Robert's birthday with a personalized patriotic cupcake cake, read and presented him with a special Post 197 birthday card, and sang Happy Birthday. The residents were able to partake in the singing and the enjoyment of the birthday cake. During the celebration Post 197 Historian Bryan Richardson read Mr. Robert's military biography which enabled the residence and staff along with the Legion Family a better understanding of his military background. During the coordination for this event, Post 197 discovered that Mr. Robert's eyeglasses were unrepairable. As a birthday gift, Post 197 is working with Pike Manor to get him an eye exam and new eyeglasses. Shannan Kraatz stated, "Mr. Robert uses his glasses especially during our Bingo programs. Also present at Mr. Robert's birthday party, were four younger Veterans from Pike Manor: WWII Air Force James Cook, WWII Army Robert Kolb, Korean War Air Force James Pope, and WWII Air Force Billy Smith. Following the birthday celebration, Post 197 made these Veterans honorary members of the American Legion.



Photo taken by Post Legionnaire Jeff Sheriff: Legion Family members with Mr. Roberts (From left to right) Bill Weekley, Commander Paul Chatterton, Stefan Huckaby, Mr. Roberts, Bryan Richardson, Steve Golias, Melissa Patten, Jason Patten, and Tim Dukes

Four Chaplain's Program: On 5 February at 2:00 p.m. at the Mount Gilead Baptist Church, the Pike County American Legion Post 197 conducted its annual program that recognizes a spiritually significant event in American history, and honored the four U.S. Army Chaplains who gave the ultimate sacrifice while committing acts of kindness and comfort during the torpedoed sinking of the USAT Dorchester 80 years ago on 3 February 1943 during WWII. The local community was invited to enjoy the program. The four Chaplains honored were Rabbi Alexander Good of the Jewish faith, Father John Washington of the Catholic faith, and the Reverends Clark Poling and George Fox of the Protestant faiths. The Program described the tragic event that included a description of the United States Army transport ship named USAT Dorchester and much of the actions of the 904 men on board prior and during the ship's sinking, the German U-Boat submarine whose torpedo hit the Dorchester, and the actions of the four Chaplains as they physically and spiritually comforted the men on board as the ship slowly sunk into the Atlantic Ocean. Program participants included Post 197 Chaplain Ted Gustin providing the welcome, Invocation, and closing remarks. The Color Guard consisting of Post 197 Tim Dukes, Stephen Golias, Ron Griffin, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson, and Sons of the American Legion Jason Patten posted the Colors. Millie Smith sang the National Anthem and Jason Patten led the Pledge of Allegiance. Bryan Richardson provided the POW/MIA Recognition which included the four Chaplains and described the Chaplain's Medal of Honor. Reading the Introduction was Stephen Golias, the USAT Dorchester by Stefan Huckaby, The Attack by American Legion Auxiliary 4th District Melissa Patten, and The Actions Taken by Ron Griffin. Reading the Chaplain's stories were Rabbi Goode by Tim Dukes, Father Washington by Talena Smith, Reverend Poling by Bryan Richardson, and Reverend Fox by Ron Griffin. The Post 197 Honor Guard Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Ron Griffin posted a wreath in honor of the Four Chaplains and Will Busby played Taps. Post 197 Chaplain Gustin delivered the Program Summation that provided the spiritual significance of the Four Chaplains self-sacrifices throughout one of our nation's worst war sinking events in its history. Senior Pastor Fred Thompson of the Mount Gilead Baptist Church provided the Benediction. Special guests who attended besides Pastor Fred, were Chairman Briar Johnson of the Pike County Board of Commissioners.



Four Chaplain's Program (Cont):



All photos on this page provided by Steve Golias.

Top left photo: AL Bryan Richardson providing the POW/MIA Recognition.

Top right photo: AL Stefan Huckaby providing The USAT Dorchester reading.

Bottom left photo: ALA Melissa Patten providing The Attack reading.

Bottom right photo: AL Tim Dukes after reading the Story of Rabbi Goode lights memorial candle.

Four Chaplain's Program (Cont):



All photos on this page provided by Steve Golias.

Top left photo: AL Talena Smith reading the Story of Father John Washington.

Top center photo: AL Ron Griffin reading the Story of Reverend George Fox.

Top right photo: Millie Smith singing Amazing Grace.



Bottom left photo: Chaplain Ted Gustin providing the Program Summation.

Bottom right photo: Having provided the Program Benediction, Senor Pastor Fred Thompson (on the right) receive special award by Chaplain Guston.

Four Chaplain's Program (Cont):



All photos provided by Bryan Richardson.

Top photo: Honor Guard Team members Stefan Huckaby (left) and Steve Golias posting the memorial wreath in honor of the Four Chaplains.



Center photo: Honor Guard Team from left to right Ron Griffin, Stephan Huckaby, and Steve Golias posting the memorial wreath. Post 197 Chaplain Ted Gustin as the Program MC.



Bottom photo: Photo of all the Program participants (From left to right: Jason Patten, Will Busby, Ron Griffin, Millie Smith, Melissa Patten, Stefan Huckaby, Talena Smith, Ted Gustin, Steve Golias, Tim Dukes, Bryan Richardson)

Estelle Collins 101st Birthday Celebration: On 28 February, starting at 1:00 p.m., Post 197 hosted the 101st birthday celebration for Estelle Collins, a WWII Veteran and member of Post 197. Post 197 invited the Veterans Administration and the Griffin Marine Corps League Griffin Detachment to the celebration. Present from Post 197 was Post Commander Paul Chatterton, members of the Post 197 Honor Guard Team (Tim Dukes, Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson), Alfred Davis, and Bill Weekley; American Legion Fourth District Adjutant Leigh Blood; and Squadron 197 Jason Patten. Post 197 presented Estelle Collins with a birthday cake, a birthday card, and a Legion coin. Bryan Richardson read her military biography. The Veterans Affairs David Kendrick, Voluntary Service Specialist, Center for Development & Civic Engagement (CDCE) out of the Atlanta VA Medical Center and Rhonda Brown Program Support Assistant, CDCE out of the Zebulon Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) presenter her with a certificate and decorative cane. The Marine Corps League presented a certificate and a coin. John Ellis, a Post 1987 member and reporter for the Pike County Journal Reporter reported on the event and provided the photos below.



Top left Photo (From left to right): AL Paul Chatterton, AL Alfred Davis, AL Steve Golias, SAL Jason Patton, AL Bill Weekley, AL Tim Dukes, AL Leigh Blood, AL Bryan Richardson, VA Rhonda Brown, AL Steve Golias, AL Estelle Collins, VA David Kendrick, Marcia Collins, Marine Corps League Griffin Detachment members.

Top right photo: Estelle Collins birthday cake.

Bottom left photo: Post Honor Guard Team member Steve Golias presenting the birthday cake to Estelle Collins. To the right of Estelle is daughter Marcia Collins

Bottom Right (from left to right): VA David Kendrick, Estelle Collins, Rhonda Brown, and Marcia Collins

Estelle Collins 101st Birthday Celebration:



Top left Photo: Marine Corps League Members presenting Estelle Collins with a certificate.

Top right photo: Post 197 Commander reading and presenting Estelle a Post 197 Birthday Card. Daughter Marcia to the right.

Bottom left photo: AL Bryan Richardson reading Estelle Collins military biography.

Bottom right photo (from left to right): AL Bryan Richardson, AL Leigh Blood, AL Stefan Huckaby, SAL Jason Patten, AL Steve Golias, AL Alfred Davis, AL Paul Chatterton, AL Estelle Collins, AL Tim Dukes, AL Tim Weekly, and Marcia Collins.

American Heritage Girls US Flag Etiquette Instruction: At the 23 March, 5:00 p.m. American Heritage Girls Troop 3080 meeting held at the Church of Joy in Williamson, GA, Post 197 Honor Guard Team provided flag protocol/etiquette training. Post 197 Honor Guard Team members consisting of Tim Dukes, Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson provided the Instruction. All photos provided by Tim Dukes



Top left photo: Part of the training was the posting of the colors. From left to right are Steve Golias, Tim Dukes, and AHG Troop member Marissa Fry.

Top right photo: During the instruction, Tim Dukes presents Ashley Smitt, Troop 3080 adult leader a copy of the US Flag Code.

Bottom left photo: As part of the instruction, Steve Golias and Stefan Huckaby, show the proper method of folding the flag. Meanwhile Bryan Richardson reads the flag Folding Ceremony Script which includes defining each of the 13 folds.

Bottom right photo: Stefan Huckaby and Steve Golias provide flag folding instruction to Marissa and Sasha Fry.

American Heritage Girls US Flag Etiquette Instruction (Cont):



All photos provided by Tim Dukes.

Top left photo: Bryan Richardson entertaining questions from the younger AHG girls.

Top right photo: AHG kinder- garden girls

Center left photo: Stefan Huckaby providing flag folding expertise.

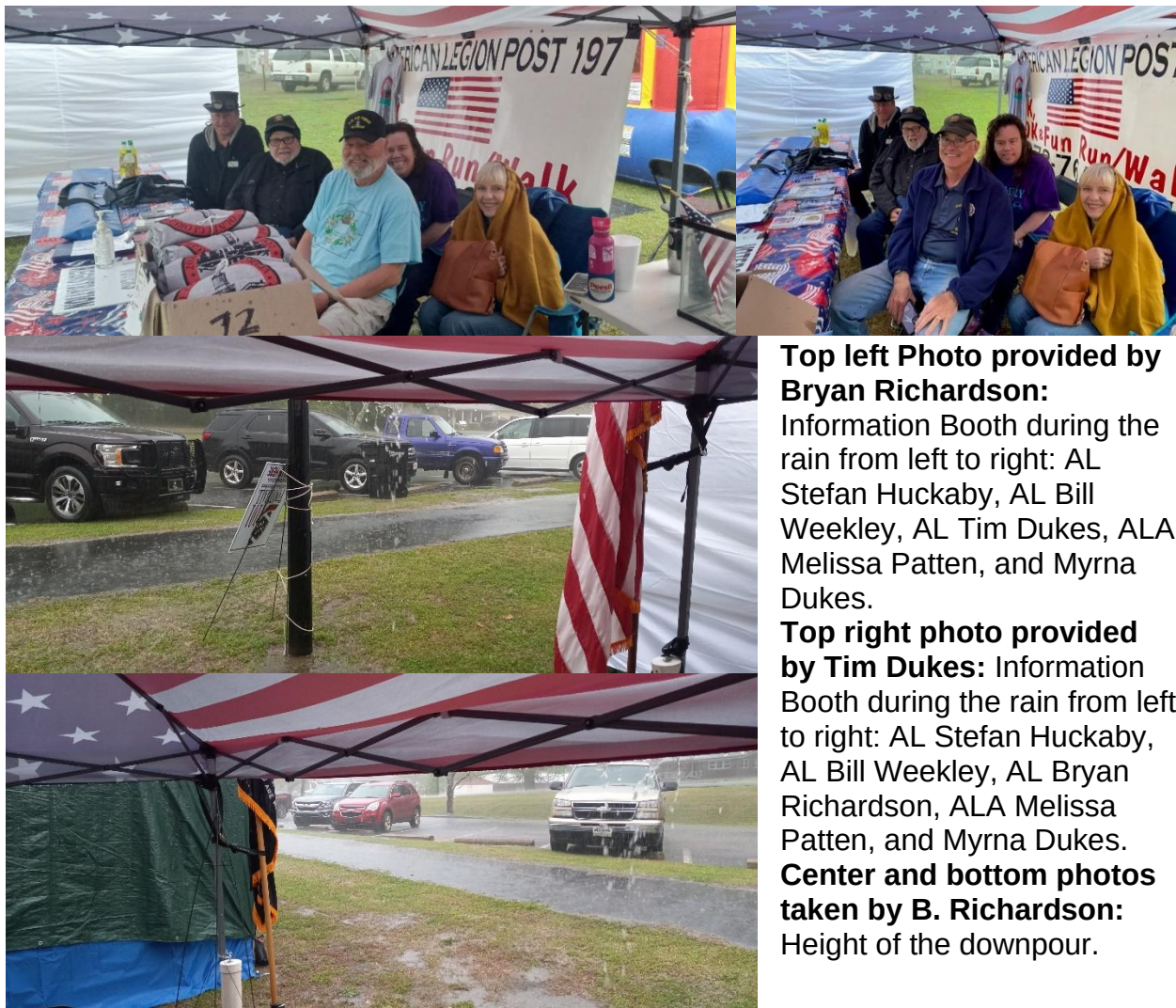
Center right photo: Stefan Huckaby and Steve Golias training AHG members.

Bottom left photo: Bryan Richardson and Stefan Huckaby observing younger members folding a casket size flag.



Bottom right photo: Bryan Richardson coordinating with the AHG Troop Leader Ashley Smith.

Williamson Wisteria Festival: On 31 March, Post 197 set up a Veteran/Legion information and voter registration booth, and inflatables for fundraising at the Williamson Wisteria Festival. From around 3:00 to 7:00, manned the booth and bounce house until 7:00 p.m. On 1 April, the second day, Post 197 continued manning the booth and conducted a Volunteers from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. At around 1000, it began to rain flooding the booth. At around 12 noon, the rain stopped and the sun came out. The rain did not cause much damage; however, it did ward off fest participants. At around 2:00 p.m., the fest was finally looking like a fest with normal participation. The fest hours were extended from 4 to 5:00 p.m. Over the course of the two days were AL members Cdr Chatterton, Tim Dukes, Nikki Ellard, Steve Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Weekley, and SAL member Jason Patton and ALA Melissa Patten. Rain was a factor in fest attendance. No new members were obtained and there were no voter registrations obtained throughout the two days. Total net gain from the fundraiser was \$29 once the \$74 for the vender registration fee and gas for the generator was deducted from the \$103 raised.



Top left Photo provided by Bryan Richardson:

Information Booth during the rain from left to right: AL Stefan Huckaby, AL Bill Weekley, AL Tim Dukes, ALA Melissa Patten, and Myrna Dukes.

Top right photo provided by Tim Dukes: Information Booth during the rain from left to right: AL Stefan Huckaby, AL Bill Weekley, AL Bryan Richardson, ALA Melissa Patten, and Myrna Dukes.

Center and bottom photos taken by B. Richardson: Height of the downpour.

Williamson Wisteria Festival (Cont):



Photo provided by John Ellis: Kids playing on one of the bounce houses.

Veterans Affairs Zebulon Community Based Outpatient Clinic Grand Opening Ceremony:



On 13 April starting at 10:00 a.m. and as part of the opening ceremony, the Post 197 Honor Guard Team consisting of Tim Dukes, Steve Golias, Ron Griffin, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Cdr Paul Chatterton raised the US, POW/MIA, and State flags. The team lead by Cdr Chatterton marched forward

with provided the participated in the flag raising ceremony of the Zebulon VA CBOC Grand Opening Program. Golias carried and raised the US Flag and Huckaby assisted, Dukes carried and raised the POW/MIA Flag, Griffin carried the GA State Flag, Richardson carried the Post 197 Flag, and Chatterton led and provided the commands. The team marched to the drum beat of the Pike County High School Marching Band. The HG Team posted the colors. The band then played the National Anthem. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the HG Team was dismissed to the beat of the drum.

Photo provide by Tim Dukes. Honor Guard team photo (From left to right): Commander Paul Chatterton, Tim Dukes, Ron Griffin, Steve Golias – Team Leader, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson.

Veterans Affairs Zebulon Community Based Outpatient Clinic Grand Opening Ceremony: Photos provided by Tim Dukes (TD), Jeff Sheriff (JS) and Becky Watts (BW).



Top left photo (JS): HG Team at the ready position of Parade Rest prior to execution. SAL Jason Patten on the right observing.

Top right photo (BW): HG Team marching to the flag poles.

Bottom left photo (BW): Post 197 flag bearer Richardson and Cdr Chatterson waiting as members of the HG prepare the flags for raising.

Bottom right photo (JS): HG Team Preparing flags for raising.

Veterans Affairs Zebulon Community Based Outpatient Clinic Grand Opening Ceremony (Cont):



Top left photo (JS): HG Team raising the flags during the National Anthem.

Top right photo (JS): HG Team returning.

Bottom left photo (TD) from left to right: Cdr Chatterton, Dukes, Ronda Brown: CBOC representative, Huckaby, Golias, AL Nikki Ellard, Griffin, and Richardson.

Bottom right photo (JS): Grand opening ceremony. Georgia Congressman Drew Ferguson center cutting opening ribbon.

British WWII Veteran Honors: On 16 April, the Post 197 Honor Guard Team



consisting of Tim Dukes, Steve Golias, Ron Griffin, Stefan Huckaby, and Cdr Paul Chatterton provided graveside service military honors for the family of British WWII Veteran Leonard Wheat at the Zebulon United Methodist Church. The memorial service started at 3:00 p. m. followed by the graveside service. Post 197 provided a cordon and salute as the casket was transported from the hearse to the gravesite. Cdr Chatterton began with the reading of Leonard Wheat's military biography written by Post 197 Historian Bryan Richardson. The playing of the bugle the "Rouse" was played followed by the reading by Cdr Chatterton of "The Ode". Three M-1 rounds were fired by Griffin followed by the playing of "The Last Post" followed by the folding of the British and US flags, followed by flag presentations to the son and daughter. A special citation was presented to the family. Chaplain Ted Gustin as part of the Post 197 Funeral Team offered the final prayer. All photos are provided by Tim Dukes.

Top left and right photos from left to right: Golias and Huckaby folding the British Union Jack flag. Cdr Chatterton to the far left. Center left photo:

Chapter 7

Awards and Citations Post Received

Certificate of Appreciation presented to American Legion Post 197 Color Guard by the Atlanta VA Health Care System, dated April 13, 2023

2022-2023 Department of Georgia 100% Membership Award Streamer

2022-2023 National Post Excellence Award

Chapter 8

Post Awards and Citations Presented

7 Jul 2022, 6:00 p.m. Post 197 conducted its annual Awards Ceremony at the Post Facility. Receiving awards were:

Continuous Membership Certificates

10 years: Roy Hughley, Peggi J. Payton, Kenneth E. Ray, and James A. Watts

15 years: Stefan R. Huckaby, Bryan D. Richardson, and Ralph C. Williams

Special Awards – Commander Certificates of Appreciation: Cindy's Florist, John Ellis, Rachel McDaniel, Sherri Moody, Brenda Turner, Becky Watts, AL Theodore A. Gustin, AL Darryll Kipp, Stephen A. Golias, Honor Guard Team Members Stephen A. Golias – Leader, Matt Germain, Stefan R. Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson

2022 Boy State Attendees (Certificate of Appreciation and Commander's Coin):

Luke Pullin and Isaac Walraven

Legion Family of the Year Award: The Patten Family

Volunteer of the Year Awards, Runner up, and Honorable Mention:

Honorable Mention: Timothy H. Dukes, Matt Germain, Ronald Griffin, Theodore A. Gustin, Darryll Kipp, Benjamin R. Maxedon, Jason Patten, Melissa Patten, Brenda Runyon, Talena Smith, Dennis D. Tea, William Weekley,

Volunteer of the Year – Runner-ups: Stefan Huckaby, Stephen Golias, Jeffrey Sheriff

Volunteer of the Year: Bryan D. Richardson

Legionnaire of the Year: Bryan D. Richardson

\$200 to Luke Pullen – Veterans Day Observance Program Guest Speaker

Pike County Law Enforcement Officer of the Year – Sheriff Jimmy Thomas

Pike County Firefighter of the year – Captain Jeffrey Oliver

Pike County Emergency Medical Technician of the Year

In addition to the above, throughout the year 1 May 2022 to 30 April 2023, the Commander and Event Directors awarded 5 American Legion Coins, 3 Post 197 Certificates and 129 Letters of Appreciation for community service, volunteerism, donations, and sponsorship.

Major Post Awardees since 2009

Year	Legionnaire of the Year	Legion Family of the Year
2009-10	Billy J. Payton	
2010-11	Benjamin R Maxedon	
2011-12	Daniel A. Kiser	
2012-13	Stefan R. Huckaby	
2013-14	Peggi J. Payton	
2014-15	Bryan D. Richardson	Payton Family (First awarded)
2015-16	Robert L. Huckaby	Dials Family
2016-17	Paul Harris	Jeffreys Family
2017-18	Steven T. Yerkes	Dayhuff Family
2018-19	Steven T. Yerkes	Payton Family
2019-20	Dennis D. Tea	Harmon Family
2020-21	Paul R. Chatterton	Patten Family
	Jeffery A. Sheriff	
2021-22	Bryan D. Richardson	Patten Family

Year	Volunteer of the Year	Runner-up	Honorable Mention
2019-2021	Stefan Huckaby	Jeff Sheriff	Dennis D. Tea Melissa Payton Peggi Payton Willa Payton
2020-2021	Stefan Huckaby	Stephen Golias Jeffrey Sheriff	Paul Chatterton Matt Germain Melissa Patten Jason Patten
2021-2022	Bryan Richardson	Stefan Huckaby Stephen Golias Jeffrey Sheriff	Timothy H. Dukes Matt Germain Ronald Griffin Theodore A. Gustin Darryll Kipp Benjamin R. Maxedon Jason Patten Melissa Patten Brenda Runyon Talena Smith Dennis D. Tea William Weekley

Chapter 9

Post Roster of Members: May 2022-April 2023

At the start of the history year, 1 May 2022, the Post membership was 100 members. Between 1 May 2022 and 30 April 2023, the post lost 12 members of which 1 passed away and 11 dropped off the rolls. During this time period, the Post gained 17 members which included new members and transfers. By the end of the history year, 30 April 2023, the Post membership was at 105.

Name	Member	New Member	Deceased Member	Dropped Member
Ammon, Lawrence	1			
Ammon, Laurie	1			
Andrews, George H.	1			
Artinger, Steven				1
Bell, Ewell T.	1			
Bond, Daniel S.	1			
Boronkas, Edward A.	1			
Brannon, John				1
Brooks, Alecia		1		
Brooks, Micheal S.		1	1	
Brown, Richard A..	1			
Bruce, Samuel	1			
Brue, Daniel	1			
Brunson, Jordan	1			
Bryan, Damian	1			
Callaway, Brian T.	1			
Caraway, Fred O.	1			
Carlyle, Parish	1			
Carter, Pete	1			
Chancey, Hulon	1			
Chatterton, Paul R.	1			
Childree, John	1			
Clark, Brian		1		
Collins, Estelle	1			
Cook, James		1		
Cox, Ray		1		
Dart, Charlie	1			
Davis Alfred		1		
Davis, Kenneth		1		
Duke, Rex				
Dukes, Timothy H.	1			
Dykes, James	1			
	22	7	1	2

Name	Member	New Member	Deceased Member	Dropped Member
Ellard, Nikki	1			
Ellis, John R.	1			
Fallin, Hausley	1			
Farr, Harry E.	1			
Faulds, Paul				1
Gaulding, James R.	1			
Germain, Wayne L.	1			
Golias, Stephen A.	1			
Griffin, Ronald	1			
Guevara-Rios, Cynthia	1			
Gustin, Theodore	1			
Hammock, Merrill G.	1			
Hammond, Doug	1			
Hansen, Jonathan	1			
Harris, Paul	1			
Hicks, Michael S.	1			
Huckaby, Stefan R.	1			
Huckaby, William L. Jr	1			
Hughley, Roy	1			
Ivey, Anthony		1		
King, April				1
King, Timothy				1
Kipp, Darryll	1			
Kolb, Robert		1		
Kulwici, Steven	1			
Kuprian, Michael	1			
Lee, Jacob	1			
Loving, Eric	1			
Lowery, Julian	1			
Manley, Jeremiah	1			
Marshburn, Donald K.	1			
Martin, Albert R.	1			
	27	2	0	3

Name	Member	New Member	Deceased Member	Dropped Member
Maxedon, Benjamin	1			
Maxwell, Walter, J.	1			
McClanahan, Billy L.	1			
McClelland, Charles W.	1			
Noble, Kenneth C.	1			
Payton, Billy J. Sr.				1
Payton, Peggi J.	1			
Pearson, Larry D.	1			
Pietrefesa, Pasquale L.	1			
Pitts, Jimmy	1			
Pope, James		1		
Porter, John D.	1			
Pourron, Garrett	1			
Rarrick, A. Woody	1			
Ray, Kenneth E.	1			
Rhodes, Laurah	1			
Rhodes, Samuel	1			
Richard, Michael	1			
Richardson, Bryan D.	1			
Richardson, George	1			
Riley, Kenneth E. II	1			
Rogers, Grady T.				1
Sawyer, Harold	1			
Scott George L.	1			
Segraves, Darryl	1			
Sheriff, Jeffrey A.	1			
Sherliza, Robert	1			
Singletary, Paul W.	1			
Smith, Billy		1		
Smith, Talena	1			
Spradley, Jimmy		1		
Story, Charles M Sr	1			
	27	3	0	2

Name	Member	New Member	Deceased Member	Dropped Member
Tallant, Lewis W. Sr	1			
Taylor, John				
Tea, Christopher	1			
Tea, Dennis D.	1			
Totten, James M.				1
Valencia, Frank		1		
Walker, William B	1			
Walker, William H	1			
Walther, Robert	1			
Watson, James		1		
Watts, James A.	1			
Weekley, William	1			
Weldon, David E.	1			
Weldon Marcus		1		
Westbrook, Matthew	1			
Wheeler, Chris				1
Williams, Harold C. III	1			
Williams, Ralph C.	1			
Willis, Micheal, Jr		1		
Wilson, Brian		1		
Wilson, James E.				1
Yerkes, Steven T.				1
	12	5	0	4
Totals	88	17	1	11
Total Members	105		Dropped	12

Chapter 10

Roster of Delegates, Officers, Appointees to Outside Post American Legion Activities: May 2022-April 2023

Roster of Post 197 Delegates:

Paul R. Chatterton, Commander
Stephen A. Golias, Adjutant
Bryan D. Richardson, Finance Officer/Historian
Damian Bryan, Sr. Vice Cdr
George M. Richardson, Jr. Vice Cdr
Timothy H. Dukes, Executive Committee Member
Stefan R. Huckaby, Executive Committee Member/Sgt-at-Arms
Benjamin R. Maxedon, Executive Committee Member
Theodore A. Gustin, Chaplain

Officers/Appointees to Outside Post American Legion Activities:

Paul R. Chatterton appointed as Department of Georgia, 4th District Judge Advocate.

Chapter 11

Past Post Officers: 2008-2023

Below is a roster of past Post officers by year since the Post's established charter.

	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Commander	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.
Adjutant	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.
Finance Officer	Bill J. Payton, Sr.	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson
Senior Vice	Paul Faulds	Paul Faulds	Billy J. Payton, Sr.
Junior Vice	Robert E. Adams, Jr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Benjamin R. Maxedon
Junior Vice			
Judge Advocate	Thomas H. Morton	Thomas H. Morton	Thomas H. Morton
Chaplain	Paul Faulds	Paul Faulds	Benjamin R. Maxedon
Service Officer	Robert E. Adams, Jr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.
Historian	Douglas T. Rounds	Douglas T. Rounds	Glenn R. Abbott
Sargent at Arms	Bobbie Colquitt	Robert L. Huckaby	Robert L. Huckaby
Executive Council Members	Howard Rawlins Gerald Spinks Bryan D. Richardson	Howard Rawlins Gerald Spinks	Howard Rawlins Gerald Spinks
	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Commander	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.
Adjutant	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	James M. Totten	William B. Walker
Finance Officer	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	William B. Walker	James M. Totten/ William B. Walker
Senior Vice	Benjamin R. Maxedon	Daniel A. Kiser	Stefan Huckaby
Junior Vice	Les Bragg	Paul Harris	William C. Dials, II
Junior Vice		Stefan Huckaby	Wayne L. Germain
Judge Advocate	Thomas H. Morton	Robert E. Adams, Jr.	Daniel A. Kiser
Chaplain	Benjamin R. Maxedon	Benjamin R. Maxedon	Benjamin R. Maxedon
Service Officer	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Lawrence E. Brock	Paul Faulds/ Lawrence E. Brock
Historian	Glenn R. Abbott	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	Glenn R. Abbott/ Bryan D. Richardson
Sargent at Arms	Robert L. Huckaby	Robert L. Huckaby	Robert L. Huckaby
Executive Committee Members	None	None	None

	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Commander	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson
Adjutant	Stefan R. Huckaby	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.
Finance Officer	William B. Walker	Stefan R. Huckaby	William B. Walker
Senior Vice	Wayne L. Germain	Wayne L. Germain	Wayne L. Germain
Junior Vice	William C. Dials, II	William B. Walker	Stefan Huckaby
Junior Vice	Russel Wilson	Curtis Booth	Steven T. Yerkes
Judge Advocate	Robert E. Adams, Jr. Bryan D. Richardson	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Paul Faulds
Chaplain	Paul Harris	Paul Harris	Paul Harris
Service Officer	James M. Totten	James M. Totten	James M. Totten
Historian	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson/ Peggi Payton	Peggi Payton
Sargent at Arms	Robert L. Huckaby	Robert L. Huckaby	Robert L. Huckaby
Executive Committee Members	None	None	Benjamin R. Maxedon
	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Commander	Bryan D. Richardson	Joseph R. Harmon	Bryan D. Richardson
Adjutant	Steven T. Yerkes	Steven T. Yerkes	Dennis D. Tea
Finance Officer	Peggi J. Payton	Peggi J. Payton	Peggi J. Payton
Senior Vice	William B. Walker	William B. Walker	William B. Walker
Junior Vice	Stefan R. Huckaby	Stefan R. Huckaby	Paul R. Chatterton
Junior Vice	Matthew Westbrook	Howard D. Jeffreys	Stephen A. Golias
Judge Advocate	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Vacant
Chaplain	Paul Harris	Paul Faulds	Darryl B. Segraves/Billy J. Payton, Sr.
Service Officer	James M. Totten	Dennis D. Tea	Dennis D. Tea
Historian	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson
Sargent at Arms	Robert L. Huckaby	Stefan R. Huckaby	Stefan R. Huckaby
Executive Committee Members	Billy J. Payton, Sr. Wayne L. Germain Paul Faulds	Billy J. Payton, Sr. Wayne L. Germain Paul Faulds	Billy J. Payton, Sr. Wayne L. Germain Steven T. Yerkes

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Commander	Bryan D. Richardson	Paul R. Chatterton	Paul R. Chatterton
Adjutant	Dennis D. Tea	Steven A. Golias	Stephen A. Golias
Finance Officer	Peggi J. Payton	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson
Senior Vice	William B. Walker/Vacant	Samuel M. Rhodes / Laurah A. Rhodes / Samuel M. Rhodes	Damian Bryan
Junior Vice	Paul R. Chatterton	Jeffery A. Sheriff	George M. Richardson
Junior Vice	Stephen A. Golias	Howard J. Jeffreys / Vacant	Ronnie Griffin
Judge Advocate	Vacant	Vacant / Dennis D. Tea	Benjamin R. Maxedon
Chaplain	Darryl B. Segraves & Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Vacant / Theodore A. Gustin	Theodore A. Gustin
Service Officer	Dennis D. Tea	Paul R. Chatterton	Paul R. Chatterton
Historian	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson
Sargent at Arms	Stefan R. Huckaby	Stefan R. Huckaby	Stefan R. Huckaby
Executive Committee Members	Billy J. Payton, Sr. Wayne L. Germain Steven T. Yerkes	Wayne L. Germain / Timothy H. Dukes Stefan R. Huckaby Laurah Rhodes / Benjamin R. Maxedon	Timothy H. Dukes Stefan R. Huckaby Benjamin R. Maxedon

Chapter 12

Newspaper Articles: 1 May 2022 – 30 April 2023

PCJR - Pike County Journal Reporter GDN - Griffin Daily News			
News paper	Post 197 Activity	Publication Date	Article Title
PCJR	Memorial Day	25-May-22	Memorial Day program set for May 30
PCJR	Molena Flag Day	1-Jun-22	Molena to host July 2 independence celebration, flag retirement
PCJR	Post 197	1-Jun-22	Post 197 hosts 4th District elections
PCJR	Memorial Day	8-Jun-22	Gold Star family part of Post 197's Memorial Day event
PCJR	Vintage Day	15-Jun-22	Vintage Day: Fun in Williamson
PCJR	Pike County Bicentennial	29-Jun-22	Celebrating Pike County's birth
PCJR	Flag Day Observance and Flag Retirement Ceremony	6-Jul-22	Flag Day program and Flag Retirement Ceremony hosted by Post 197, Troops
PCJR	Boys / Girls State	13-Jul-22	American Legion Post sponsors 2022 Boys State participants
PCJR	Boys / Girls State	13-Jul-22	Locals attend Boys State; Pullin going to Boys Nation
PCJR	Post 197	3-Aug-22	American Legion Post 197 officers
PCJR	Pike County Bicentennial	10-Aug-22	Fair Around Square celebrates 200 years
PCJR	Pike County Bicentennial	24-Aug-22	Celebrating 200 years of Pike County history
GDN	Pike County Bicentennial	24-Aug-22	Happy Bicentennial: Pike observes 200 years
PCJR	National POW/MIA	7-Sep-22	Honor Pike, U.S. POWs and MIAs
PCJR	Pike County Law Enforcement, Firefighter, and EMT/Paramedic of the Year	14-Sep-22	Nominate top local law enforcement officer firefighter, EMT
PCJR	National POW/MIA	14-Sep-22	POWs, MIAs: To be honored Sept 16
PCJR	Patriot Day	21-Sep-22	Patriot Day memorial display honors those lost on 9/11
PCJR	Veterans Day	9-Nov-22	Veterans Day events planned at airport, courthouse square
PCJR	Pike County Law Enforcement, Firefighter, and EMT/Paramedic of the Year	9-Nov-22	Outstanding Pike County public servants honored
PCJR	Veterans Day	16-Nov-22	Veterans honored by community
PCJR	Molena Bigfoot Festival	23-Nov-22	Bigfoot Festival leaves big footprint
PCJR	Molena Bigfoot Festival	30-Nov-22	Thanks to all who made Bigfoot Fest a success
PCJR	Veterans Day	3-Nov-22	Post 197 plans program at 11a.m. Nov. 11
PCJR	Pike County Christmas	21-Dec-22	American Legion Post 197 float
PCJR	Pike County Bicentennial	28-Dec-22	Historic year for Pike
PCJR	Post 197	15-Jan-23	WWII veteran celebrates on 98th birthday with Post 197 family
PCJR	Boys / Girls State	15-Feb-23	Apply for Boys State / Girls State scholarship
PCJR	Four Chaplains Program	1-Mar-23	American Legion Post 197 presents annual Four Chaplains
GDN	Post 197	4-5 Mar 23	Post 197 honors 101-year-old veteran
PCJR	Post 197	8-Mar-23	WWII wartime veteran Estelle Collins honored on her 101st
PCJR	Williamson Wisteria Festival	5-Apr-23	Wisteria Festival fun!
PCJR	Zebulon VA Outpatient Clinic	19-Apr-23	VA celebrates local heroes at event
PCJR	Zebulon5K/10K Fun Run/Walk Fundraiser	26-Apr-23	Post 197 will host 5K, 10k fun Run/Walk on Saturday, June 10 to benefit local veterans
	Articles Total	32	

Chapter 13

Post 197 History

A group of twenty officers who served in the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in France during World War I is credited with founding The American Legion. AEF Headquarters asked the officers to suggest ideas on how to improve troop morale. One officer, Lt Col Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. proposed an organization of veterans. In February 1919, the group formed a temporary committee and selected several hundred officers who had the confidence and respect of the whole army.

About 1,000 officers and enlisted men attended the Paris Caucus in March 1919. They adopted a temporary constitution and the name, "The American Legion". The group also elected an executive committee to complete the organization's work. It considered each soldier of the AEF a member of the Legion. The executive committee named a subcommittee to organize veterans at home in the United States.

Two months later, in May 1919, the Legion held a second organizing caucus in St. Louis. It completed the constitution and made plans for a permanent organization, setting up a temporary headquarters in New York City and beginning its relief, employment and Americanism programs.

Congress granted The American Legion a national charter in September 1919. The first national convention convened in Minneapolis, adopting a permanent constitution and electing officers to head the organization.

Twenty-seven years after the founding of The American Legion, the first meeting of the American Legion Post 197 of Pike County was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Girtman on May 2, 1946. It was attended by a large number of veterans of both World Wars. Mr. Girtman was the primary force behind the organization of The American Legion Post. The following officers were elected:

Commander, S.G. Holmes
Senior Vice-Commander, W.E. Girtman
Junior Vice-Commander, Jack Sharpe
Sgt-at-Arms, Gordon Young
Adjutant, Albert Presley.

The Building Committee was composed of W.E. Girtman, C. Richter Smith Jr., Pete Lee, Lanier Johnson, and Pete Bankston. Those named on the Publicity Committee were Roger Strickland Jr., Nathan Harrison, Hugh White, and Hope White.

On October 7, 1948, it was reported in the Pike County Journal Reporter that the Veteran Training Class, led by the instructor, Sam Lifsey started the campaign for funds to erect a memorial on the courthouse square in Zebulon for the veterans who lost their lives in World Wars I and II. The following resolution had been submitted to the people of Pike County: "Resolved that a memorial for the veterans of both World Wars I and II, who lost their lives in the service of their country, Be subscribed to and erected on the court house square in Zebulon. It will take the concentrated efforts of all religious and civic organizations, as well as each individual. This resolution is submitted this 23rd day of September, 1948 by the 3rd Veterans Agriculture Class of Pike County. W.S Lifsey Jr., Instructor"

As recorded in the Pike County Journal Reporter, the Pike County Veteran's Monument commemorating the men who lost their lives in both World Wars I and II was dedicated at an impressive exercise on Sunday afternoon, April 24, 1949. The public was invited, and approximately 300 persons including families of the departed heroes, friends and Legionnaires from Griffin and surrounding communities attended. The program began at 2:30 p.m. with a concert by the 326th Army Band. American Legion Post Commander, Warren E. Girtman introduced Hon. John Goddard of Griffin, who in turn introduced the guest speaker, Rev. Marshall Ellis, Rector of St George's Church, Griffin and a former Navy Chaplain. Rev. Ellis, in his dedicatory address, paid worthy tribute to those who gave their lives in World Wars I and II. He said, "They laid down their lives and were ushered into Eternal life. They now live with God." Following the address, the Army Band played Onward Christian Soldiers. Rev. S.A. Dailey pronounced the benediction, after which Taps was sounded. The monument bears the inscription "Dedicated to The Everlasting memory of those from Pike County who gave their lives in the service of their country in World Wars I and II. Names on the monument include:

World War I: A.R. Ballard, H.K. Davis, L.R. Davis, L.M. Hooten, J.G. McLendon, H.A. O'Neal, S.S. Self, L.G. Sullivan, and P.M. Sullivan.

World War II: C.L. Adams, M.R. Adkerson, R.E. Bishop, G.H. Blankenship, M.R. Carter, J.E. Corley, F.T. Davis, T.C. Gooden, J.C. Hackney, W.F. Harrison Jr., C. Johnson, C.M. Lane, D.E. Ledford, L.T. Marshall, A.L. Marshall, J.M. Matthews, P.L. McLendon, V.L. Middlebrooks, R.E. Oxford, E.E. Presley, W.T. Presley, H.L. Pike, T.J. Sandefur, M.B. Smoot, P.R. Storey, C.H. Tidwell. Colored: E.R. Parks.

Since WWII, E. Coggin and J.C. Alexander were added Killed in Action from the Korean War; and J.T. Harris, G.R. McQuaig (correct spelling is McCuaig), and L.L. Silver were added Killed in Action from the Vietnam War. The line Korea and Vietnam Wars were added to the Monument Dedication.

Charter members of the Post as of June 21, 1950, were: Emory F. Alexander, Pope Banks, James Hartford Bankston, Abram S. Burton, P.W. Carter, R.C. Crawford, Thomas E. Crawford, Owen Caldwell, Roger Dunn, Lamar Dunn, Byron Dunn, Marvin E. Eppinger, Sam D. English, W.E. Girtman, Dr. M.M. Head, J.N. Howard, Clarence Hawkins, Charles F. Harden, Robert Holmes, Shi Holmes, R.C. Johnson, Walt Joyner, Spencer Lifsey, J.M. Means, Hulon A. McKinley, James E. Manoe, Charles J. Minter, Hubert Marshall, John A. Osbolt, John R. Oden, Albert D. Presley, A.W. Quattlebaum, W.S. Rogers, Leland B. Reaves, C.R. Smith, Sr., Paul Scoggins, Cecil Thornton, Aaron Terrell, Robert A. Trawick, Earl Williams, High White, Aurelius F. Woolsey, Gordon Young, Harry A. Hammock, and Marvin E. Gibson.

The Post was one of the most active in the State for a community of Pike County's size, having 159 members. Commanders and Adjutants have been: C.F. Harden and J.N. Howard, 1950-51; Clarence Hawkins and J.N. Howard, 1951-52; A.P. Dunn and Lamar Dunn, 1952-53; Emory Alexander and W.T. Baxter, 1953-54; Frank Yeager and Howard Rawlins, 1954-55; James Murphy and Howard Rawlins, 1955-56; Roger Dunn, 1956-57; W.T. Baxter, 1957-58; W.T. Baxter and Harry Rawlins, 1958-59; --- Harry Rawlins and Johnny Knight, 1964-65; Harry Rawlins and Marvin Littleton, 1965-66; Harry Rawlins and Milton Ross, 1966-67; Johnny Knight and Milton Ross, 1967-68; Harry Rawlins and Milton Ross, 1968-69; W.T. Baxter and Milton Ross (Lamar Dunn –

Senior Vice Cdr), 1969-70; Terrell Williams and Marvin Littleton, 1970-71; and William TI Baxter and K.N. Lupo, 1971-72.

On 3 March 1966 the American Legion, Post 197 hosted the annual 6th District Oratorical Contest at the Pike County High School. All essays were prepared from the Articles of the Constitution.

On 26 March 1969, the Pike County American Legion Post 197 met in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the organization. Special guests included the 6th District Commander and Vice Commander as well as members from other local posts.

The 1972 members of Post 197 were:

Harold Adkerson	Emory F. Alexander	Glenn H. Allen
John B. Armstead	James L. Ballard	M.D. Ballard
Cadesman P. Banks	Harry L. Banks	J.H. Bankston
William G. Barker	Marcus G. Barnett	William T. Baxter
Johnnie V. Barnett	Larry C. Berry	Charles E. Booker
Wayne O. Brasiel	Russell Brazier	Vernon H. Birchman
Horance Bond	Lawrence E. Brock	Virgil L. Brown
James M. Burden	Wilson W. Bush	Charles Calewell
Jack C. Clark	Clayton A. Coker	Robert R. Collins
Dennis H. Connell	Gloyd C. Cooper	R.D. Crawford
James G. Crayton	Douglas F. Culbreth	Elwood L. Culbreth
Clinton B. Davis	Marion W. Dumas	A.P. Dunn
Lamar E. Dunn	Joseph E. Edwards	William J. Edwards
James R. Elliott	Wilbur C. Elliott	John E. English
Samuel D. English	Glenn A. Eppinger	Olin Garner
Roosevelt T. Gayton	Jack M. Goldman	William R. Goldman
Marion Gooden	David K. Greene	Harry A. Hammond
Merrill G. Hammock	Adron Harden	Charles F. Harden
Wintor H. Harden	R.C. Hawkins	Robert Holmes, Jr.
Shi G. Holmes	P.G. Horne	Dexter T. Huckaby
Bobby L. Hudgen	Hollis J. Hutchinson	Howard M. Jennings
W.D. Jimerson	James F. Johnson	Lanier F. Johnson
Jack F. Jones	William K. Jones	Frank M. King
George E. King	Charlie J. Knight	Charles R. Lamb
Paul W. Landers	Jim B. Lawrence	James M. Littleton
Marvin Littleton	John D. Lowe	Kendall H. Lupo
Howard H. Maddox	Douglas Mangham	Walton E. Mangham
Byron W. Marshall	William D. Martin	Donald McCollough
Ralph C. McDonald	Elijah F. McKinley	Robert F. McKinley
Eddie G. Messer	Roger M. Middlebrooks	Alvin L. Milby
Grant B. Montrose	William A. Morris	James C. Murphy
Michael Nahrebeck	Dewey Nicholson	Willie C. Nixon
Virgil M. Oliver	John A. Osbolt	John M. Parks
James A. Parks	Pete Peterman	D.L. Pitts
Merril G. Pitts	Ronald C. Presley	Randall J. Pryor
Ralph Purvis	Warren W. Quigley	D.B. Rawlins
Howard M. Rawlins	Harry B. Rawlins	James P. Rawlins

Robert H. Rawlins, Jr.	Robert H. Rawlins	Grady Reeves
J.M. Reeves	Joe C. Reid	Robert M. Reid
J. Astor Riggins	William M. Riggins	W.S. Rodgers
Jerry O. Rogers	Milton E. Ross	J.B. Sandifur
Albert L. Sanvidge	Victor C. Sanvidge	Paul Scroggins
David M. Smith	J.B. Smith	T.R. Smith
W.L. Smith	Gerald D. Spinks	Wilburn R. Statham
Alvin F. Stratham	J.M. Sullivan	Wilbur O. Tapley
William Taunton	James M. Towery	William H. Trawick
B.F. Turner	Wendell F. Turner	A.J. Vickers
Jack L. Walker	Garris Wall	Kenneth Q. Ward
Lawrence R. Webb, Sr.	Donald C. Wells	Charles C. Whatley
Charles D. Whatley	Hoyt H. Williams	James F. Williams
James T. Williams	Ralph C. Williams	T.H. Williams
Terrell J. Williams	Robert H. Wright	Frank Al Yeager

In 1974, there was a fire that burnt down the Post facility. In 1975, a new structure was built by the Rawlin's family for Post 197 use. The Post 197 Charter was revoked in 1994, and the facility was granted back to the Rawlin's family.

On 10 May 2008, a group of veterans met on the Court House Square led by Don Bailey and Howard Rawlins with the objective of refurbishing the Veteran's Monument that was structurally cracking due to the heavy traffic moving south on Highway US19/GA3. On 19 July 2008, a second meeting of a group of veterans met on the Courthouse Square led again by Don Bailey with the objective of continued discussion on the refurbishment of the Veteran's Monument and the reestablishment of the old American Legion Post 197. On 13 September 2008, the Veterans met as The American Legion at the Joel Edwards Library in Zebulon. The objectives of the meeting were selecting officers (see Appendix C), reestablishing the charter, discussing the refurbishment of the Veterans Monument, and increasing membership. The Post was allowed to regain its former number of 197. The Post received its Dispensation/Temporary Charter on 9 March 2009 and its Permanent Charter on 28 July 2009.

The official temporary charter members; those that were national at large American Legion members or from some other post members were:

Emory F. Alexander	Donald Bailey, Jr.	George E Bottoms, Jr.
Russell Brazier	John B. Halcomb, Jr.	Robert L. Huckaby
Billy L. McClanahan	Oscar Purvis	Howard M. Rawlins, Sr.
W. Shelor Rodgers	Gerald L. Spinks	William W. Thomas
Steven T. Yerkes		

On 11 March 2009, American Legion Post 197 Senior Executive Committee Member, Bryan Richardson appeared before the Pike County Board of Commissioners to address the plan to refurbish the Monument and to obtain the Board's approval. In addition to the structural refurbishment of the monument, permanent lighting was to be added for night illumination of the National, State, and POW/MIA flags, lamp post for illumination of the memorial at night, and landscaping around the monument. The Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the restoration. The restoration project was under the direction of Post 197 Veterans Howard Rawlins and Gerald Spinks. The

monument restoration sponsors were Clark Memorials, Country Corbin's, Moody's Funeral Home, Southern Rivers Energy, and the Zebulon Public Works Department. Work to refurbish the Veteran's Memorial began early November 2010 and was completed in January 2011. As part of the restoration, the name J.D. Walker who was killed-in-action in Iraq was added to the monument. The Pike County Veteran's Memorial was rededicated as part of the Pike County Memorial Day Observance Program on 28 May 2011. During this program, J.D. Walker was honored as the newest addition.

After three years of hard work by many people in the Post and community, The American Legion Post 197 officially returned on 5 October 2011 as renter of the Rawlin's family to the facility it had occupied back in 1994 at 645 Meansville Street, Zebulon, Georgia. The Post members had been meeting at the Joel Edwards Library in Zebulon since September 2008. The grand opening was sponsored by the Pike County Chamber of Commerce with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Post Commander Billy Payton, Sr. welcomed visitors and members to the facility for the first time. 4th District Commander, Jim O'Brien was the guest speaker. The facility belonged to Howard M. Rawlins, Sr. a long standing American Legion Post 197 member. During a 12 November 2012 ceremony that included the Rawlins family, the facility was named the Howard M. Rawlins Sr. Memorial Hall in honor of Mr. Rawlins's passing on 14 August 2012.



On 12 June 2013, The American Legion Post 197 received approval to become incorporated for the purpose of protecting individual members from liability in the event of litigation against the Post and received its Supplemental Charter. The decree was signed by the National Commander, James E. Koutz and the Georgia Department Commander, William H. Lienhop, Jr.

On 28 September 2013, the Pike County School Board officially dedicated the Memorial Annex Building of the old middle school to be used as the Pike County Memorial Annex Building to be used as a general memorial for all those in Pike County who gave the ultimate sacrifice while serving the community. This includes military, first responders, and sheriff/police departments. The intent is for the building to house memorials for all of the community's fallen heroes. Since this date, the Pike County American Legion has inducted:

- LCPL Jeffery D. Walker - Iraq Killed in Action (28 Sep 2013)
- 1LT Robert E. Oxford - WWII Missing in Action (6 Dec 2014)
- Charles H. Tidwell - WWII Killed in Action, James T. Harris - Vietnam Killed in Action, Glenn R. McCuaig - Vietnam Killed in Action, and Lonnie L. Silver - Vietnam Killed in Action (7 Nov 2015)
- Ralph E. Bishop - WWII Killed in Action, Tilton C. Gooden - WWII Killed in Action, and Joel M. Matthews - WWII Missing in Action (3 Dec 2016)
- Malcom R. Carter - WWII Killed in Action, Virgil L. Middlebrooks - Killed in Action, Willie L. King - Missing in Action / Lost at Sea (2 Dec 2017)

- Arthur R. Ballard - Killed in Action, Herman K. Davis - Killed in Action Leon R. Davis - Died of Decease, Roswell D. Hooten - Died of Decease, Henry A. O'Neal - Killed in Action, Solon S. Self - Killed in Action, Vernon E. Slade - Died of Decease, Pierre M. Sullivan - Died of Decease, Lawrence G. Sullivan - Died of Decease (1 Dec 2018) – All from WWI as part of the 100th Anniversary of the end of WWI.
- Johnnie C. Alexander and Earl Coggin – Both Killed in Action in the Korean War, and William O. Gwyn and Thomas J. Slade – Both Pike County Sheriffs killed in the line of duty (7 Dec 2019)
- William Bankston – Killed in Action, and Green Blackman, John G. McLendon, and Ben L. Scott Died of Disease. All died during WWI. (4 Dec 2020)

On 21 November 2015, Post 197 Commander Bryan Richardson submitted a letter to Ms. Brenda Turner, daughter of the late Howard Rawlins requesting the use of the larger section still in use for family storage within the building including the Post 197 portion of the building. At a follow-on meeting at the Post between Ms. Brenda Turner and Commander Richardson, Ms. Turner unofficially approved use of the remaining portion of the building.

On 16 April 2016, Ms. Brenda Turner allowed American Legion Auxiliary President Peggi Payton to dispose of the family contents during a yard sale. By the end of the day, the American Legion obtained complete possession of all contents (minus a few major items) within the main building to further dispose. By 30 July 2016, most items have been removed, and the Post conducted its first major function within the entire facility which was the 4th District Installation Ceremony. At a 30 August 2016 meeting between Ms. Brenda Turner and Commander Richardson, a ten-year lease was signed for the use of the building.

As part of the Memorial Day program, on 30 May 2016, Post 197 officially unveiled the name of Chief Petty Officer Willie Lee King (King, W.L.) who died in the sinking of the USS Frank E. Evans during the Vietnam War to the Pike County Veterans Memorial. At the 11 November 2018 Veterans Day Program, Post 197 officially unveil the name of Wagoner Vernon E. Slade (Slade, V.E.) who died from decease in France in WWI. At the 11 November 2019 Veterans Day Program, Post 197 officially unveiled the names of Private William E. Bankson (Bankston, W.E.), Private Green Blackman (Blackman, G.), and Private Ben L. Scott (Scott, B.L.) all died while on orders during WWI. At the 30 May 2022 Memorial Day Observance Program, Post 197 officially unveiled the names of Private Ernest C. Ross from WWI, Sergeant Cebtran E. Willis, and Private Martin Eppinger from Korea.