



Fall 2023



Mail Call ~ American Legion Post 116

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Fall Planning

It was a busy and enjoyable summer for members of the Legionnaires and their families. Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Family Members showed their support for our main fundraising event, Poppy Day, by hosting five booths. We received significant exposure and donations from all locations. Members also showed their support for the Memorial Day Celebration hosted by the VFW, attended events such as Virginia Boys/Girls State, the 4th of July Color Guard, and the Louisa County Fair, all with members of Post 116. We would like to thank all those who supported us.

During our recent meetings, our Commander has outlined some planning requirements to ensure that 2024 is another successful year for the Legion. We still need to meet increased membership requirements from Headquarters, but our Commander predicts that locally, we need to increase our fundraising efforts in order to support more students attending the Virginia Boys/Girls State and the Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program. This will be achieved through better management of our capital funds and by seeking donations from the community and our membership.

To support the Commander's goals, the Post met with a local financial advisor and formed a finance committee to establish fiscal goals and objectives for the upcoming October meeting. Please refer to the following article for more details.

All members can donate electronically as well by going to our GoFundMe 2024 page: Web address is: www.LouisaAmericanLegion.org/contributehere

District Meeting will be at Beaver Dam Post on October 14th.
The Post will be hosting the Veterans Day recognition on November 11th at the Louisa County Courthouse lawn .

CHANGE: NOVEMBER MEETING DATE: Wednesday Nov 15th @ 1900 hrs.

2024 FUNDRAISING GOAL IS \$10,000.

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Legion Fundraising is in full gear!

By S. Burrill

Post 116 is committed to serving our local community, with one of our main focuses being the empowerment and leadership development of our youth.

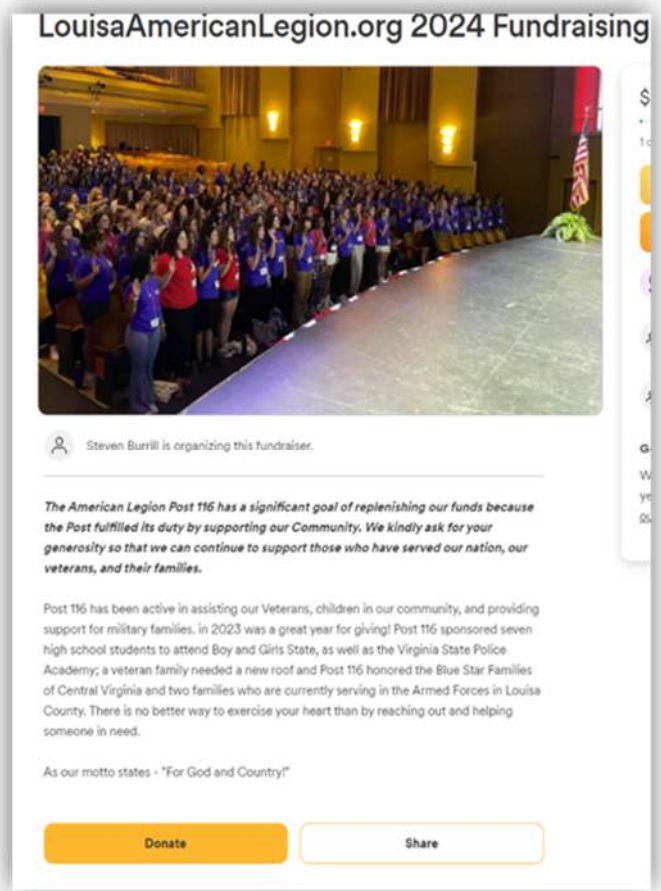
We kindly seek support and partnership throughout Louisa to help deserving young individuals from Louisa County attend the Virginia's Boys State and Girls State programs this coming summer. These highly regarded leadership and citizenship programs are for all high school students in the United States. These programs aim to educate young individuals about the principles of democracy and provide them with hands-on experience in government operations and civic engagement.

This is a week-long program where young men and women participate in a mock government exercise, creating their own state and local governments, campaigning for elected positions, and ultimately electing a governor and other officials. It especially offers a unique chance for participants to develop leadership skills, learn about public service, and gain a better understanding of the political process. We feel this is very important in our country today.

With great enthusiasm, our post aims to sponsor four boys and four girls to attend Virginia's Boys State at Radford University and Virginia's Girls State at Longwood University respectively. Every year, members of Post 116 carefully screen candidates, recommended by the Academic Staff, each student is interviewed by the committee, resulting in full sponsorship awards and application approvals are forward to the American Legion Department.

The upcoming summer sessions will be held from June 16 to 22, 2024. Your generous tax-deductible donation will assist us in covering the costs associated with transportation, registration fees, accommodation, and other logistical aspects of these programs.

These contribution enables these young minds to participate and contributes to be the future leaders of our community, ensuring they receive the necessary tools and experiences to make a positive impact in society.



Screen Picture of our GoFundMe Page.

Any amount helps our efforts for our Youth!

All funds received will be used exclusively for the purpose of sponsoring the boys and girls in attendance. Any donation, regardless of its size, will have a significant influence on the lives of these young individuals and the future of our community.

We encourage you to share this opportunity with your colleagues, friends, and any individuals or organizations who may be interested in supporting this cause.

References:

<https://www.vaboysstate.org/>

<https://www.vagirlsstate.org/>

www.louisaamericanlegion.org/contributehere

FOLLOW RULES OF NONPARTISANSHIP

Referenced *The American Legion | VOTE AMERICA; Guide to Promoting the 'Get out the Vote' Program*, pamphlet www.legion.org/publications

The American Legion shall be absolutely nonpartisan and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

Failure to do so could endanger an American Legion post's nonprofit status. This does not mean that individuals are forbidden to show partisanship. The point to remember is that when partisanship is shown, it must be independent of association with an American Legion post, its voter registration, and its Get Out the Vote efforts.

Federal election laws require that any registration drive conducted or sponsored by a corporation, labor union or trade association be nonpartisan. The Internal Revenue Code mandates the strict nonpartisanship of all such activities by organizations eligible to receive nonprofit, tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code (IRC).

A nonpartisan organization does not support, oppose, or provide aid to any candidate for public office or to any political party. Nonpartisan registration and Get Out the Vote drives may be directed at either the public or at a defined population group, such as young adults or minority citizens. In a nonpartisan drive, registration and voting assistance and information or materials must be offered and made available to all, regardless of political candidate or party.

Volunteers working on an American Legion-sponsored registration and voting drive should not wear campaign buttons or make their personal views about

<https://www.legion.org/publications/230202/vote-america>

candidates, parties and issues known in any way while they are engaged in nonpartisan activities for their post. Any campaign materials or literature should be removed from areas where nonpartisan activities are taking place.



Election Day... and You are Prepared!

Wear your Legion cap to the polls to vote, but in doing so remember not to wear any political campaign materials.

Next page are some online resources...

ONLINE RESOURCES

- **The American Legion Action Center** <http://capwiz.com/legion/home/>

Find information on your state's voter registration and key primary and election dates.

- **RealClearPolitics**

www.realclearpolitics.com

A nonpartisan curator of daily election and campaign related news, information, trends, opinions and polls.

- **National Association of State Election Directors (NASED)**

www.nased.org

Links to election website of each state. NASED includes detailed information on voter and candidate registrations, voter turnout data, and ballot and referendum information.

- **National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS)**

www.nass.org

Find out if you are registered, if your voting record is up-to-date, and download registration forms. NASS contains numerous links to voting-related websites.

- **The Election Center**

www.electioncenter.org

Website of the National Association of Election Officials, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of voter registration and elections administration professionals.

- **Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)**

www.fvap.gov/

Operated by the Department of Defense, FVAP provides a broad range of nonpartisan information and assistance to facilitate the participation of more than six million U.S. citizens covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.

Finance Committee Formed and Framed our Investment Goals.

By S. Burrill

On invitation of our Commander, three Legionnaires formed a committee to explore fiscal options and set goals to help guide our Post future fiscal decisions.

Committee has drafted a primary goal and five (5) supporting objectives to be discussed in October's Meeting.

Sample objectives include: the recruitment process for the training and replacement of a Financial Officer, establish 'Grant and Sponsorship Identification', form a Welcome Committee that is well-equipped and experienced in assisting onboarding of new members, and lastly establish a fun and action packed schedule of year-round events in Louisa, ensuring that Legion members are informed and engaged, while also promoting fundraising efforts in the community.

In summary the membership thrives on our camaraderie and in turn membership and our ability to increase our support for Louisa County.



VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

**IS THE 11 MONTH OF THE 11TH DAY AT THE 11TH
LOUISA COURTHOUSE LAWN**

Add These 5 Vintage Books to Your Fall Military Reading List



Catherine McQueen/Getty Images
By Col. William D. Bushnell, USMC (Ret)

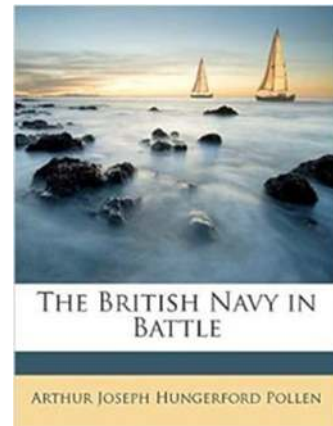
The latest additions to MOAA's [Military Professional Reading List](#) include an often-overlooked part of naval history, an examination of guerrilla warfare throughout the centuries, and even a taste of historical fiction. You can order the books through the links in the titles below.

[THE BRITISH NAVY IN BATTLE](#)

By Arthur H. Pollen. Doubleday, Page & Company, 1919 (Create Space, 2017). ISBN 978-154511-365-1.

Originally published in 1919, Pollen's book is a period study of British naval actions during World War II, as well as a revealing history of Royal Navy doctrine, tactics, training, technology, and leadership.

Iconic naval battles are well covered – the Falklands, Dogger Bank, Jutland, Ostend, and Zeebrugge. Best, however, are Pollen's detailed descriptions of gunnery, weapons, armor, fire controls, and torpedoes, with special sections on the moral effects and naval ethics in battle with a defeated enemy. This would be a collector's item for serious students of World War I naval warfare.

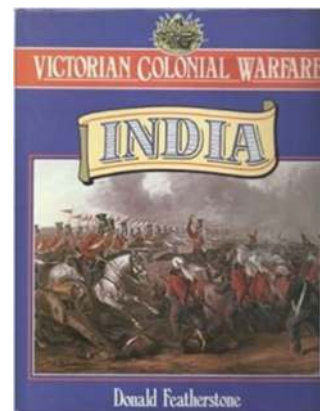


[VICTORIAN COLONIAL WARFARE: INDIA](#)

By Donald Featherstone. Cassell, 1992. ISBN 979-0-304-34172-6.

British Army veteran and military historian Featherstone offers this second volume in the Victorian Colonial Warfare series, following [Africa](#). This volume covers the major wars fought by the British in India, beginning with the conquest of the Sind in 1843 and ending the Sepoy Mutiny in 1858. Intervening wars included the Gwalior War and the two Sikh wars, with all five events critical to British dominance of the Indian subcontinent.

He tells of the political and diplomatic background, as well as the brutal battles fought in forbidding terrain in harsh climates, European-style warfare in its most bitter form. Well-illustrated with period engravings and maps.



in
at

[HER PRIVATES WE](#)

By Frederic Manning, Profile Books, 1999 (1930). ISBN 978-1-8524-2717-7.

Among all the novels about World War I this stands out as one of the best, if least known. Originally published in 1929 as [The Middle Parts of Fortune](#), then as *Her Privates We* in 1930, Manning's novel tells the story of Private Bourne, a light infantryman who fought at the Battle of the Somme in 1916 (the British suffered 60,000 casualties in just one day).

Bourne is 30 years old, educated, speaks French, and is trying desperately to be just a private soldier and survive the war. He and his squadmates endure bloody trench warfare, bombardment, and patrols, as well as hunger, fatigue, fear, filth, and the indifference of their officers. Manning (1882-1935) fought as a private soldier in the [Shropshire Light Infantry](#) at the Somme.

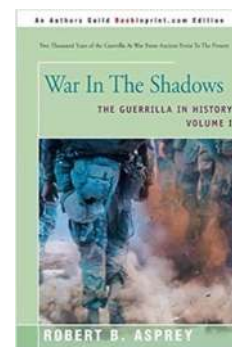


[WAR IN THE SHADOWS: THE GUERRILLA IN HISTORY, VOLUME I](#)

By Robert B. Asprey, Doubleday, 1975. No ISBN.

This is the first volume in Asprey's history of guerrilla warfare (or "irregular warfare," as some would call it), covering the subject from Persian chariot-ers to Mao and the Chinese Civil War. Meticulously researched and brilliantly narrated, this is a classic of military history, describing guerrilla leaders like T.E. Lawrence, Francis Marion, Kenyatta, Slim, Castro, and Zapata, as well as guerrilla strategic goals, politics, tactics, insurrections, uprisings, and counterinsurgency doctrine and tactics.

Most revealing, for each period and example, he also clearly describes the conditions for victory or defeat. [Volume II covers Indochina and Vietnam.](#)

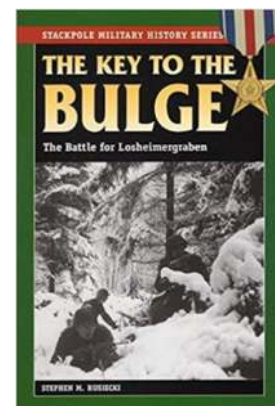


[THE KEY TO THE BULGE: THE BATTLE FOR LOSHEIMERGRABEN](#)

By Stephen M. Ruscicki, Praeger Publishers, 1996. ISBN 978-0-8117-3591-9.

December 1944, the Battle of the Bulge, and American infantry defend the crossroads at Losheimergraben in the Ardennes with orders to hold at all costs, and a small intelligence and reconnaissance platoon dug in at Lanzerath fights until overwhelmed by German panzer grenadiers, with all the Americans killed or wounded and captured. But they held until the end.

This is the dramatic story of that small but important piece of the overall battle in frigid, miserable conditions. A wonderful tribute to small-unit leadership and cohesion.



Bushnell, Col. William D. USMC (Ret). "From the Shelves: Add These 5 Vintage Books to Your Fall Military Reading List" Military Officers Association of America website. <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2023-news-articles/recommended-reads/from-the-shelves-add-these-5-vintage-books-to-your-fall-military-reading-list/?ite=4073&ito=2538&itq=6a35dd9d-226a-458d-a8e1-07d31ee79119&itx%5Bidio%5D=6596316> . Accessed 29 September 2023