



American Legion Post 164 Newsletter April 2026

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Dear Post Family,

March has passed, and we joyfully welcome Spring and the month of April. With Easter upon us, we are grateful for the grace we receive from God. This year has brought many positive changes. Our Post is thriving, and we are witnessing increased engagement and participation in activities and within the community. We are moving forward in support of the Four Pillars of the American Legion: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

Specifically, our Service Officer and I have assisted several veterans and their families this year with monetary and benefit issues. Brad Beatty, representing our Post at the department level, serves on the National Security committee. Our commitment to Americanism is evident as we support both Boys and Girls State at levels unseen in recent years, expecting to sponsor three boys and assist the Auxiliary with four girls. We are also supporting the JROTC programs at Grove City and Central Crossing High Schools, and have ongoing collaboration with the Boy Scouts. Thank you all for your continued dedication.

Our kitchen has been a tremendous asset to the Post, attracting members and guests with its outstanding food. The addition of Kristin as Kitchen Manager has been highly beneficial—not only in enhancing our reputation but also in increasing revenue. The hard work of volunteers from the Legionnaires, S.A.L., and Auxiliary has been invaluable. Their commitment and teamwork have made this success possible, and I am proud of everyone involved. The quality of food produced in our kitchen is exceptional, as confirmed through many conversations and firsthand experience during evening visits.

The outlook for the future is very positive. Although we anticipate a slight decrease in kitchen activity during the summer months, we do not expect this to be significant. We are planning events such as the upcoming Car Show, outdoor functions, and increased Hall Rentals to help offset any drop in kitchen operations. All these efforts will positively impact our revenue stream.

Certain items are impacting our operations. We have recently replaced the fryers in the kitchen and now must address the aging and failing HVAC system on the Canteen side of the Post. While we managed to keep it running last year with temporary fixes, it is no longer reliable. Donations are needed to cover the cost of replacement, which will exceed \$26,000. This is a significant investment, but we do have a maintenance program in place to ensure longevity of our equipment.

Enjoy the spring weather—though we know April brings its share of ups and downs. Be sure to check out the Events Calendar for this month, as there are many activities planned. Additionally, for those interested in the 37th DVA Annual Luncheon, attendance is open. Please visit 37thDVA.org and complete the form under the Spring Luncheon section as soon as possible.

Membership Meeting

God bless and good health. Commander Joseph (Woody) Woodrum

MEMBERSHIP

Hello fellow Post 164 members.

As of April 1st, Dept. of Ohio indicates the following for Paschall Post 164:
19 New Member; 51 PUFL; 231 renewals; 10 Transfers from 888.
Total of 311. Our quota is 327. Currently we are 95.11% of quota.

Statistics: Within the 12th District we are 2nd in the number of New Members, 2nd in the number of Paid Up For Life Members, 5th in Quota Percentage and we are the 3rd Largest Post in the District. Fun fact, our Post has approximately 95 Post Vietnam War Veterans. That is almost a third of our base. Something to think about.

Keep up the good work let us meet our Quota. See you at the membership meeting.

Jeffery L. Shupe
1st Vice Commander
Paschall Post 164

EVENTS

Greetings from the Events Chair.

Sunday, April 5th; Easter

Monday, April 6th; 109th Anniversary of the US Entry into WW1

Thursday, April 9th; General Membership Meeting at 6 PM

Saturday, April 11th; BAND "The Alexander Brothers" from 7 until 11 PM

Tuesday, April 21st; Grove City Vets Luncheon from 11 AM till 2 PM

Wednesday, April 22nd; Blood Drive in hall from 11 AM till 7 PM

Saturday, April 25th; 37th DAV Spring Luncheon in hall from 10 AM till 3 PM

Saturday, April 25th; BAND "Phantom Z" from 7 until 11 PM

Sunday, April 26th; Car Show from 9 AM till 9 PM

Wednesday, May 6th; 81st Anniversary of VE Day

Sunday, May 10th; Mother's Day

Thursday, May 14th; General Membership Meeting at 6 PM

May 15th through 17th; S.A.L Convention here in Grove City

Saturday, May 16th; Military Appreciation Day --- BAND "Lake Effect from 7 PM till 11 PM Outside (weather permitting)

Saturday, May 23rd; BAND "Bob Browning and Double Barrel"

Monday, May 25th; Memorial Day – Parade downtown and Open House at Post

Saturday, May 30th; Executive Board Meeting at 10 AM

Hi; there are a larger number of events listed, and there are even more that occur. Please keep visit our Website calendar and our Facebook page to keep up with all the things happening at our Post. We are trying to keep you entertained as well as making it enjoyable to spend time at our Post. We need YOUR input to really make things better. If you have an idea for an event or a Band that you believe we should hear, let me know of leave your suggestions in the 2nd Vice Cmdr. box in the foyer near the Hall entrance.

Ken Flaute

2nd Vice Commander

Paschall Post 164



Chaplain's Corner 1 April 2026

Out of Tragedy

It is said that out of tragedy comes progress. The passing of Dee Capretta was, indeed, a tragedy. She was too young, too full of life to be taken so soon. Yet, out of her Celebration of Life came something I have been seeking for some time. What I saw was Post 164 come together as a family. All day long there were

Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL and staff all working together for a common cause: to honor our dear sister. It was beautiful and it was amazing.

I have seen signs that this was coming. We have been coming together more and more, breaking down the divisions that had been previously put in place. Now I know we can do it. We can come together as a family and make our Post an exceptional haven from the cares of the world. This is as it should be. All of us can

find places to go where there is tension and chaos, where people are antagonistic toward each other. Our Post must be a place to get away from that, a place to relax and be among people who welcome you and enjoy your company, a place "where everybody knows your name."

As your chaplain, this has been my goal for the last year. To be sure, this is not something I thought I could accomplish myself. Such a transition requires the effort of everyone and last week everyone came through. As I mourn for Dee, I am gratified that, by her passing, she helped to bring us all together. I think she would have liked that. Today, Dee rests in the arms of Jesus but our Post is so much stronger because she was here.

God bless.

Len Stayton
Paschall Post Chaplain



Greetings Auxiliary members,

We are selling raffle tickets for a Mother's Day gift basket. The cost is \$3.00/ticket and proceeds will be used for desserts at the S.A.L. Annual Convention dinner on Saturday, May 16, 2026, at our Post. Tickets can be purchased at the Post. Don't miss your chance to win a wonderful Mother's Day gift basket!

As of March 18, our membership is at 144 paid and 22 unpaid which is 15% of our membership that has not renewed this year yet. Please send in your 2026 membership dues to the Post or leave them for me at the canteen. Dues remain at \$35 this year. Help us reach 100% paid membership – send in your dues today!

Officer nominations will take place at our April meeting. We need dedicated leaders – please consider stepping forward or nominating someone you believe would make a strong impact as Auxiliary President, Vice President, or 2nd Vice Chair. The Auxiliary President leads meetings and represents our Unit, the Vice President assists the President and serves as Membership Chairman, and the 2nd Vice Chair supports event planning and member engagement. Your leadership can help us grow our membership and expand our community outreach – join us in making a difference. To nominate yourself or someone else, please contact me before the meeting or submit names during the nomination period at the April meeting.

Lastly, I would like to give a huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped make Dee Capretta's, Auxiliary Vice President, Celebration of Life on March 25 such a meaningful and honorable event. Your efforts ensured that Dee was celebrated with warmth and dignity, creating a lasting tribute that touched all who attended.

Our next regular business meeting is Wednesday, April 15, at 6:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

Robin

Robin Shockley

Unit 164 Auxiliary President



Sons of the American Legion

Fellow SONS,

Well, it seems that the cold weather is finally behind us now and onto Spring. I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Easter and am hopeful that this time will be spent with family and friends. A friendly reminder to continue to check in on our fellow SONS, Legionnaires and Auxiliary members who may need assistance even with decent weather upon us.

I am proud to say that the SAL has exceeded its 2026 membership quota of 154 and currently stands @ 103% to quota. We have 160 paid members. Of the 160 members, we have 14 new members vs. 2025. If you have not paid your dues, please stop by the post and let one of the bartenders know you would like to pay your dues. We keep an SAL communications box up front by the ATM machine and you can just drop your renewal into the box. Dues are \$35 for 2026.

Plans continue for the SAL 12th District Detachment Convention. For those that aren't aware, Paschall 164 will be hosting the convention this year. Dates of the Convention are May 15th thru the 17th. All meetings will take place at the post-hall side. Lastly, a huge shoutout to all the kitchen staff, bartenders and volunteers that came together to make Dee Capretta's celebration of life a huge success. This is one of the smoothest events that I have ever witnessed. I know John appreciated all the support during a very tough time.

Next S.A.L. Meeting is 5:30 PM, April 7th.

Curt Long
164 Squadron Commander