



American Legion Post 164 Newsletter August 2024

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American Legion

Greetings,

Well it's August, we have the Post Picnic coming up 17 August, see Website for information. The Exec. Cmte. is working on possible events for the Fall and Holidays. Purple Heart Day is 7 August, we gather at Henceroth Park on Mallow Ln. starts at 10:00 AM.

New Barstools are in place and they look great. These stools were paid for by generous members of our Post; most noteworthy is Bob Wheeler who donated \$1000.00 for stools. These stools are two inches wider and are very comfortable, more so than the old ones. We really needed new ones, the old stools were torn, worn and not functioning well.

Website has been updated with Pictures of New Post Officers of the Auxiliary. I am awaiting Photos for our New Finance Office and our 3 Year Trustee. They should be posted very soon and I will get a new Poster of these Officers put up in the Hall. Meetings for the Legionnaires is always the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. This does not change unless it is a Holiday. If that occurs notice will be made one month in advance to notify you, the members, of such change.

We are a family. Each entity has its direction, and responsibilities. Each entity uses this Post Home for meetings and functions. We MUST work together to Maintain the Post Home. It is imperative that we keep up repairs and when necessary replace failing equipment. It is responsibility of ALL of the members, Legionnaire, S.A.L. and Auxiliary to foot the cost of such maintenance. Hall Rentals, Canteen Sales and money made from the EBingo is not enough. We must all contribute to the process. We've been lucky so far in that we have had over \$50,000.00 in money and/or services donated since 2023. Money this Post did not have in its coffers. That took a lot of talking and persuasion. Money spent to take care of the Parking lot and clean up the areas around the Light Poles. New Lighting in the Post home, Canteen and Hall. New Freezer and Refrigerator, scratch and dent but brand new and working. New HVAC for the Hall side. There was evidence of a Roof Leak and upon inspection it was determined we had storm damage. We filed a claim, we got a new Roof on the Post Home and the Storage Garage. That totaled \$41,000.00 plus. A grant from Grove City gave us money to purchase new front doors and to cover for some of the afore to mentioned items. The Entry Doors to the Post were in a sad state of disrepair and the inner workings were held together with wire; they were not closing properly and we were paying out money to keep the entry way heated and cooled with the door standing open a full inch and a half. That cost money. That is why we have new doors. We had issues with our Adjutant's Computer, IT WAS OLD and on Window 7 operating system. In dog years that is 105 years old. A brand-new Computer was donated to the Post, (\$1,300). I mention all this to give you a picture of what it takes to keep our Post Home open and running. The HVAC on the Canteen side is getting to a point where we need to start considering its replacement. We spent \$23,700.00, I think, and to purchase a one identical to it for the Canteen side will be just as expensive if not more. Next Legion Meeting 8 Aug. 6:00 PM. See you then. For God and Country.

Commander Joseph (Woody) Woodrum



Chaplain's Corner:

Hope To Hold On To

Recently, I questioned why I write these articles for the newsletter. I wonder how many actually read them. After all, who wants to read a lot of religious tripe. I certainly don't. My goal and my prayer is that the message will inspire the reader, or comfort them or give them hope to face a difficult situation. A situation such as the one I am personally facing even as I write this. You see, I too need to be inspired or comforted or encouraged sometimes. Being a chaplain does not lift one out of the muck and mire. Sometimes it can bury one even deeper in the shit storm of life. So what do I do when that happens? Two things:

1. I seek comfort in God's word. Today, I chanced upon a passage I know well, but often forget as I face the fallen world every day. It comes from Matthew 6:25-27, part of what we know as the "Sermon on the Mount."

"THEREFORE I TELL YOU DO NOT WORRY ABOUT YOUR LIFE, WHAT YOU WILL EAT OR DRINK; OR ABOUT YOUR BODY, WHAT YOU WILL WEAR. IS NOT [ETERANL] LIFE MORE IMPORTANT THAN FOOD, AND THE BODY MORE IMPORTANT THAN CLOTHES? LOOK AT THE BIRDS OF THE AIR; THEY DO NOT SOW OR REAP OR STOW AWAY IN BARNs, AND YET YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER FEEDS THEM. ARE YOU NOT MUCH MORE VALUABLE THEN THEY? WHO OF YOU BY WORRYING CAN ADD A SINGLE HOUR TO HIS LIFE?"

2. I also seek the counsel of others, often from those who, like myself, write articles in an attempt to inspire others. Today, I came across this article written by Bear Grylls. You may remember him as the guy in the TV show "Man vs Wild," a show where he did all sorts of crazy things in the wilds of nature. But in addition to being crazy, Bear is also a practical Christian. I will share his thoughts on hope.

"THERE'S A LOT OF INJUSTICE IN THE WORLD. BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE, EVIL OFTEN SEEMS TO THRIVE UNCHECKED, AND MANY CHILDREN ENDURE UNIMAGINABLE HORRORS. BUT THIS IS NOT THE WHOLE STORY. OUR HOPE PROCLAIMS THAT LOVE WILL ULTIMATELY WIN. HOPE IS POWERFUL, BUT IT'S MORE THAN A FEELING OR AN EMOTION. TRUE HOPE DOES NOT RISE OR FALL DEPENDING ON OUR CIRCUMSTANCES. IN IT'S MOST POWERFUL FORM, HOPE FILLS US WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT, NO MATTER WHAT WE'RE FACING, WE ARE NOT ALONE AND OUR FUTURE IS SECURE. "HOPE HAS THICK SKIN AND WILL ENDURE MANY A BLOW," WROTE JOHN BUNYAN.

"IT WILL ENDURE ALL THINGS IF IT BE OF THE RIGHT KIND." SO WHAT IS THE "RIGHT KIND?" BISHOP LESSLIE NEWBIGIN EXPLAINED, "THE HORIZON FOR THE CHRISTIAN IS, 'CHRIST SHALL COME AGAIN.' AND 'WE LOOK FOR THE COMING OF THE LORD.' IT MAY BE TOMORROW OR ANY TIME, BUT THAT IS OUR HORIZON. THAT HORIZON IS FUNDAMENTAL, AND THAT IS WHAT MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO BE HOPEFUL AND TO FIND LIFE MEANINGFUL." OUR HOPE IS BUILT ON THE ENDURING TRUTHS THAT CHRIST LIVED BY; THE PRESENCE, POWER, AND PEACE THAT HE BRINGS; AND THE ASSURANCE OF A HOPE AND ETERNAL HOME THAT IS BEYOND THIS MORTAL LIFE. HOPE HAS THE POWER TO CHANGE EVERYTHING. SO "LET US HOLD UNSWERVINGLY TO THE HOPE WE PROFESS, FOR HE WHO PROMISED IS FAITHFUL" (Hebrews 10:23).

Bear's words inspired me a bit this morning. I hope and pray that the words of others, myself included, can somehow inspire you from time to time. After all, we all need a little boost now and then, if only to get our eyes above the muck that we seem mired in for a little while. I pray for all of you, that you will have a good day and that God will grant you His peace, peace that we can neither understand nor bring about ourselves, but is found only in acceptance of God's mercy through Jesus Christ.

Chaplain Len Stayton



Greetings Auxiliary members,

I hope everyone is having a great summer!

Kim Mann, 12th District Auxiliary President, installed our Officers for 2024-2025 on Wednesday, July 24. I will continue as President, Deanna Capretta is Vice President, Kim Dotson is 2nd Vice President, Harriet Blagg is Treasurer, Lisa Coakley is Secretary, and Dede Colley is Chaplain. Tonya Owens has decided to step down as Sergeant at Arms.

Don't forget our Post Family Picnic is Saturday, August 17, 2:00-10:00 pm, outside by the shelter house (weather permitting.) There will be pulled pork sandwiches, hamburgers, hot dogs and brats. Side dishes will also be provided, but additional sides/desserts are welcomed. If you're interested in entering the cornhole tournament, please sign up by 1:45 pm on Saturday. The Phantomz band will play 6:00-10:00 pm. Bring your lawn chairs/blankets to sit on and enjoy a good time!

Our Auxiliary Unit will be a Sponsor at this year's Central Ohio Veterans Stand Down at the Columbus Convention Center on October 22, 2024. We will be accepting monetary donations to purchase items to hand out to our veterans at the event, as well as donate to the "Men & Women Sweats (tops & bottoms) Drive". If you're interested in supporting our Veteran Men and Women, please give your donation to one of the Auxiliary Officers or leave it with the bartender.

Our next regular business meeting is Wednesday, September 18, at 6:00 pm. As the summer winds down, let August be a month of gratitude and renewal. Have a great month and stay safe!

Robin Shockley
Unit 164 Auxiliary President



Sons of the American Legion

Greeting fellow Son's,

Not too much to report on from the Sons. We do have our 2025 membership cards, so start getting your membership renewed. We will be doing another early bird drawing for a chance to have your 2026 membership paid for by the squadron. We still have tickets available for our "Cooler of Cheer", make sure to get your tickets. Our next Squadron meeting will be on Tuesday Aug 6th at 6pm. Our Post picnic is set for August 17th, should be a great time. Our Squadron Adjutant and National Alt Executive Committeemen Jon Coakley will be a National Delegate to the Sons of the American Legion National Convention which will be held in New Orleans at the end of August. I know Jon will do a great job representing not only the Squadron but also the Detachment of Ohio. Remember to "BE THE ONE".

For God and Country

Dan Finnell
164 Squadron Commander