



American Legion Post 164 Newsletter December 2025

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Where does the time go? It is December, the weather is colder, and we've had our first Snow Fall for this season. Time flies when you are having fun, so they say. We have a lot going on here, the Post Giving Blood Drive is coming up; more about that from the 2nd Vice. We have to say goodbye to one of our Bartenders, Aricka Harvey. She is going to a job that gives her more hours and more money. She has two children that depend on her and a must for her financial well being. We wish her much success and are very sorry to see her go; She will still be missed. She stated she will visit the Post from time to time, as her schedule will allow.

As we come to the end of another year at Paschall Post 164, we must remember the progress we have made this year. We have improved our communications between the Legionnaires, S.A.L. and Auxiliary. The S.A.L. Squadron Commander (Curt Long) and Auxiliary President (Robin Shockley) are now Non-Voting Officers on the Legionnaire Executive Board. Their placement on the Board provides improved communication between the three elements of the Post. They may ask another officer to attend a meeting, in their stead, should they not be able to attend. Their presence on the Board will help stop rumors and we hope this will promote family harmony.

Something we all hope for during this time of year. We start off with Thanksgiving, which we just celebrated, and we end with resolutions to do things better in the new year. In between these two events we celebrate our Faith, whether it be Christmas or Hanukkah. So Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah.

We, the Executive Board, decided to cancel the Legionnaire Membership and Executive Board Meetings scheduled for Dec. This decision came about because the Holidays are here. People are traveling and other such tasks have them busy this time of year. We determined that these meetings were not going to be well attended. To restate "There will be no meetings for the Legionnaires in Dec."; however, we will still get information out to you on our Facebook Page and our Website about events and other such topics. Safe travels, may God watch over you this season of Thanksgiving celebration of Faith.

Our next scheduled meetings: Membership 8 Jan. at 6:00 PM. Exec. Board 31 Jan. at 10:00 AM.

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

MEMBERSHIP

Hello fellow Post 164 members.

I would like to wish everyone and their families a Very Merry Christmas. This is the time of year we spend more than we should, eat more than we should, and sometimes we drink more than we should. I will start a New Years Resolution to reduce all three! I am sure I will need help!

One thing we will never have enough of is the fellowship with our family and friends. I hope everyone truly enjoys the blessings we have received this year. I will be thinking of my loved ones that are no longer with me; and enjoy the memories of this festive time of year we shared. I hope you can do the same. Please enjoy making new memories with your friends and family and enjoy every day of life we have been given. Please be safe in everything you do. We cannot do this without you.

I would also like to thank everyone for helping the post grow in so many ways this year. You should be proud of the things we have done together to make our post more inviting, from the outside appearance to the new floors and bar stools. Also take pride in the monthly activities we plan to bring in more fellowship. I, myself, am very proud of the way I see everyone interact with the Strangers that visit for a day or two. You do make them feel Welcomed! We still have a lot to do and I hope when you see something that comes up that you can help with, you roll up your sleeves and get to work. It does take all of us!

I will not be harping on membership this month since we have taken the month off from our meetings. If something comes up you need to address, you can drop off a note in the mailboxes in the hallway and we will get on it. One more thing of importance, if you know of a Veteran that needs help, please think of what you can do to help them out. It just might be the ride you give them that brings them back into the post.

Christmas love to you all.....and to all a Good Night! Thank you.

Jeffery L. Shupe
1st Vice Commander
Paschall Post 164

EVENTS

December is a slow month, yet we do have things going on. I urge you to support our Post Blood Drive and to sign up for the Steak Fry. Here are the Events and notable dates for December.

- Tuesday, December 2nd – Blood Drive (at Post Hall) from 10:00 AM till 4:00 PM
- Saturday, December 6th – Employee Appreciation Day
- Saturday, December 6th – Deadline for Steak Fry sign ups at 8:00 PM
- Sunday, December 7th – 12th District Christmas Party to be held at our hall starting at 3:00 PM
- Tuesday, December 9th – Ornament Exchange and Pot Luck at 6:00 PM
- Thursday, December 11th – next General Membership Meeting.
- Saturday, December 13th – National Guard 389th Birthday
- Saturday, December 13th – Post Christmas Party / S.A.L Steak Fry from 5:00 PM till 7:00PM / Auxiliary Bake Sale 5:00 PM / Entertainment TBD
- Saturday, December 20th – Space Force 6th Birthday
- Wednesday, December 25th – POST CLOSED – MERRY CHRISTMAS
- Tuesday, December 31st – NEW YEARS EVE PARTY Pork and Sauerkraut and rolls (This will also be a Potluck)

Ken Flaute
2nd Vice Commander
Paschall Post 164



Chaplain's Corner: Treat Your Barkeeps Well

In the late 1970s, I was working as a bar tender at a little red neck bar outside of Athens, Ohio. The establishment was owned by a woman in her 60s, who was about 4 feet 6 inches tall, not fat but a little chunky. Her name was Mom Cavatt, at least that's what everyone called her, and she had a reputation for being mean as a snake. Much of that was an act to help her keep control of what, on any given Friday or Saturday night, could become a scene of chaos and destruction. Having been on the receiving end of her tirades more than once, I can testify that she had a mouth that would make a sailor blush. Down deep, she had a good heart but it was hard to find way down there. One thing she did very well was take care of her people. If you worked for Mom, no one messed with you; at least, no one that was smart.

One night as I was tending the main bar, one of the customers began to complain that I had neglected to put any whiskey in his Jack and Coke. Mom would not tolerate us shorting the customers any more than she tolerated us overpouring, so I was always careful to measure my pours. However, since the gentleman was obviously drunk and definitely belligerent, I attempted to placate him by pouring a little more into his glass. Without even tasting it, he decided it was still too weak. At this point he was standing on the bar rail and leaning forward so far that I thought he was about to come across the bar after me. What he didn't see, to his detriment, was that the customers on either side of him disappeared, to be replaced by two well-built young men who looked as if they had spent their entire lives working on a farm (not an unlikely scenario). Just as he lunged toward me, a hand grabbed him on either shoulder and pulled him back so hard that he landed on his back on the floor, stunned. The same two men drug him out of the bar. Hours later, as I was leaving for the night, I saw the man laying in a heap at the edge of the parking lot, looking very bloody and unconscious. Mom Cavatt took care of her people.

Here at Post 164, we don't resort to such drastic measures. However, the principle that Mom Cavatt operated under is the same: we take care of our people. The people who operate our canteen work hard and do their best to serve our members. Many of them are members as well. They deserve to be treated with respect and courtesy. When they are super busy, please be patient. Everyone will get served as soon as possible. Please don't make inappropriate comments about the bar tenders. Treat them as you would want to be treated if you were in their shoes. Jesus said: "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you..." (Matthew 7:12). We, at Post 164, are a family and our staff is a part of that family. They deserve to be honored and respected for the work they do. Their service is what makes our canteen a welcoming and fun place to gather. Let's keep it that way.

If you observe someone being rude to our staff, or to anyone else for that matter, please point out their error to them. If they resist your gentle suggestion, report their activity to a member of the Executive Board. We will make certain that the issue is resolved, according to our Constitution and by-laws.

Thank you for your assistance, for your comradery and for your service to our Post. May each of you have a very Merry Christmas, remembering that Jesus is the reason for the season.

God bless you and yours during this holiday season.
Chaplain Len Stayton



Greetings Auxiliary members,

Remember to send your 2026 membership dues to the Post by 12/31/25 or leave them in an envelope for Dee Capretta at the canteen. Please write on the envelope whether you would like Dee to leave your new membership card at the canteen or mail it to your home. Membership dues are still \$35 for 2026. As of November 19th, we have 83 paid members out of 144 total members, which is only 57.6% paid members. Let's work together to reach our goal of 100% membership renewal by the end of this month! Your prompt payment helps keep our Unit strong and active.

As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, the Chillicothe VA Medical Center requested help with Christmas gifts for the veterans they serve. They are asking for \$50 Walmart gift cards to be given as presents to the 150 veterans they support through the Community Living Centers (CLC). Our Unit raised enough money through donations from members of the Post and our Auxiliary to purchase eight gift cards. Thank you for your generosity and support for our veterans during the holiday season.

The Auxiliary has adopted a veteran's family of five through the MASH Pantry again this year; mom & dad, a 12-year-old girl, and 2 boys ages 11 & 5. If you are interested in helping shop for the family, please contact me directly at robinshockley@att.net for their wish list.

We will be having our annual bake sale at the SAL Steak dinner/Post Christmas party on Saturday, December 13th, 5:00 pm. We would greatly appreciate any dessert donations - your homemade treats make this event special! Please bring your contribution to the canteen by 5:00 pm on December 13th. All proceeds will help us provide Christmas gifts for a local Veteran's family that our group has chosen to support this season.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, December 19th, at 6:00 pm. If you're new to our group, our meetings are a great way to learn more about our activities. I encourage everyone to join and share ideas.

Let the spirit of December ignite your heart, warm your soul and fill your life with joy & laughter!

Happy Holidays,

Robin

Robin Shockley
Unit 164 Auxiliary President



Sons of the American Legion

Fellow SONS,

Well November has left us and on to December. The end of November came with what I hope was a great Thanksgiving celebration and plenty of football. In addition, our faithful Buckeyes got a big win in Ann Arbor this year and our Auxiliary did not disappoint with a delicious breakfast. Not a ton to report this month, but we do have a couple of things happening.

The raffle continues for the 4-burner, flat top grill. Tickets are still available at \$5/EA. We will draw a name after all the chances have been purchased. Planning and prep continue for our Dec. 13th steak fry at the Legion. The sign-up list for the steak fry is behind the bar at the Post, just let the bartender know you want to sign up. The cut off for sign-up is Dec. 6th.

I wanted to send a shout out to the guys (David F., Jon C., Michael F. and Craig) for their work on the covered patio. This was truly a joint effort. This will provide a nice warm area for folks to be out in these temperatures. Well Done!

The SONS next stated meeting will be Tues., Dec. 2nd @ 6pm at the Post. Please come join us if you are able.

Curt Long
164 Squadron Commander