



## American Legion Post 164 Newsletter February 2025

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Greetings;

It is February and we have gotten off to a bit of a stumbling start. The Attorney General and our Post had a bit of an issue with our Renewal for our EBingo License. So much so that they withdrew our application, and I had to re-enter it from scratch. I had all the information and of course Jason Norris, our Finance Officer, had already provided the financials, which were not in question, and I spent about two hours resubmitting the application. The next morning at about 10:00 AM we received our new license. I then sent a copy to Arrow International, and we had our Machines turned back on and functioning a few hours later. That said, we lost revenue because of this, approximately \$2,500.00. If you want to blame anyone, I don't know where to point you too. If you have to have a scapegoat, I am the Post Commander and I will not through anyone under the a bus or in front of a fast moving, loaded Dump Truck.

Membership. We have not yet reached our Membership Quota, we are approximately 79% of Quota and we need 77 of you to get off your sofa's, get into the Post and PAY YOUR DUES. A question I have, I wonder why some of you wait so long to pay? You know you need to do it. You know that it doesn't give you a reduction in the cost if you pay late. What is the benefit waiting until after the first of the year and into the month of February to pay? Be the One, Pay your dues early. Be the One, the person that wants to be a solid member and a voice for the Veterans. Be the One that others can say "they always pay their dues by Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>." BE THE ONE.

When the weather gets warmer we will be getting to the Restrooms and making some changes and repairs. We will also be cleaning out the Garage and fixing it for storage. We need Storage and right now that Garage has become a dumping ground. We need men that can work a couple of hours and lift about 25 to 40 pounds without having a heart attack or getting their back out of whack. Keep watch on our Facebook Page, Website and Newsletter for project dates and times.

We are beginning to start our Americanism work and will be working closely with Grove City and Central Crossing High Schools for Boys State and of course the Auxiliary will be working with them for Girls State. We are well positioned to support our Community this year and will do as much as we can for our community. Visits to our Senior Centers and Homes reaching out to those Veterans and such.

Congrats to Vickie and Mike Flannigan on their recent celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We wish them many more.

Next Membership meeting is scheduled for February 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM and the next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 AM.

Commander Joseph (Woody) Woodrum



## Chaplain's Corner:

Why am I still here? How shall I view the 73<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the day I was born? Shall I cry and whine about being so old and one year closer to death? Shall I grouse and complain that God has stranded me on this forsaken rock for yet another year? Or, perhaps, I will just praise Him and thank Him that He has apparently decided that I am still to be useful to Him in the near future. God has blessed me far beyond anything I could ever do to earn it. Any time I have left on this Earth is by His blessing and my eventual move to my true home in His Kingdom is solely by His mercy. None of this is my doing, it is only the result of HIS love for me.

None of us know when we will be called to account. It could happen in the blink of an eye. I have been close at least twice. I had a heart attack and a near heart attack within the past four years and a serious bout of Covid-19 which could count as a third. Many of you have had events in your lives that could have ended in your meeting with your Maker. It is not coincidence or dumb luck that controlled the outcome of those events. They are God's way of getting our attention. SO, PAY ATTENTION!!! God is trying to tell you something. When God works in the lives of His people, their situation often becomes worse before it gets better. Perhaps it is better that way.

Perhaps we need to understand how bad it can get so that we appreciate how much He has done for us. I have lived long enough to see a little of this in my own life. I have felt the sting of God's corrective action and know the peace of obedience to His directives. I am not yet perfect; nor do I expect to be in this life. In Philippians 1:6, Paul writes, "Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." He is saying that we will not be perfect until Jesus returns. I am by no means perfect, but the rashness of my youth has mellowed into a calmness that only comes with experience and the Holy Spirit's work in our lives. I am less likely to get upset these days as I see the world becoming a more dangerous and chaotic place. I thank the Lord, for this kind of peace as it comes only from Him, from knowing His love and embracing it fully.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16). So, we know what God does for us. What are we doing for Him? Are we watching over those who need a little extra help? Are we praising Him for the blessings He has so generously given us? Have we even acknowledged His existence and His importance in our lives this week, or this year? Think about these things as you go through your day today, and every day. We should spend some part of each day in the presence of God. He longs for us to have a meaningful relationship with Him. It is the very least we can do. Talk to Him; listen to Him. He will talk to you if He knows you want to hear what He has to say. Because only God can tell you why you're still here.

God Bless.  
Chaplain Len Stayton



Hello fellow Auxiliary members,

I hope your new year is off to a great start! I don't have much to report this month since our January meeting was cancelled due to the extremely cold weather we had.

I would like to give a warm welcome to our new Auxiliary member, Claire Phares!

As of January 21, we have 121 paid members out of 138, which is 87.68% of our membership. There's

still time to send in your 2025 membership dues or leave it in an envelope for Dee Capretta at the canteen. Membership dues are still \$35 for 2025.

Just a reminder, the Auxiliary will be having a Valentine's bake sale at the SAL steak fry on Saturday,

February 8. Please bring your baked goods to the Legion by 5:00 pm. Proceeds from the bake sale goes

toward helping the needs of our military and veterans.

Our next regular business meeting is Wednesday, February 19, at 6:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

This Valentine's Day, I hope you find joy in everything you do!

*Robin*

Robin Shockley

Unit 164 Auxiliary President



## Sons of the American Legion

Greeting fellow Son's,

Hard to believe we are two months into the new year. The squadron is sitting at 78% of our quota for membership. We need 34 cards to make quota, so if you haven't renewed yet, now is the time!! I would like to say thank you to the Post for opening up for the Mid-Winter Conference attendees on Friday January 17<sup>th</sup>. It was a good time! The SAL will be having our Valentines Day steak fry on Saturday February 8<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 7pm. Sign up at the Post canteen. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Hope to see you all there!!

For God and Country

Dan Finnell  
164 Squadron Commander