

## American Legion Post 164 Newsletter April 2024

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<u>American Legion</u> Greetings, Commander Joseph (Woody) Woodrum

Spring has sprung and the time has changed. WOW we're moving right along. We, the Executive Committee, have been discussing events for this year and we have a few things we want to do. One being a Post Picnic. We want all our members to be a part of this and we want input from you as to games we can have for the kids and adults as well. We have Horseshoes, we would like to Corn Hole but the Post does not own any Cornhole boards nor Bags. We'd like to have potluck on the side dishes and of course the Post will cover the cost of Hamburgers and Hot Dogs. Attend the April Meeting and Chime in on this so that we may know your ideas.

The Membership numbers are looking good. Legionnaires are at 94.96% of quota, we need 17 Renewals or New members. S.A.L is at 95.24 they need only 7 Renewals or New members. We are so close. The Auxiliary is at 100% YEA!!!! It is a team effort. If you know someone has not yet renewed, get them moving. Always ask those you meet that are Veterans "Do you belong to a Veterans organization?", if they do not, ask them why not? Remind them that Veterans organizations, such as ours, advocate for the benefits that all Veterans are eligible to receive. It's what we do, we are the Voice that goes to the Government, and we are the squeaky wheel trying to get the grease. We aren't just a place to have a drink; we are much more. Help us to help others.

We need some young guys to volunteer to clean out the gutters; you see us older guys are no longer physically able to do this. The cost of doing this is upwards of \$800; so if you're young and able to get on our roof, safely, to remove dead leaves and dirt from our gutters we'd greatly appreciate the help. The pay sucks but our gratitude would be over the top. We believe four individuals would make quick work of this project. Our roof doesn't have a steep pitch so that should not present any issues; but care is always best when walking on story above the ground.

Things requiring repair. Our WalkIn Cooler has developed a leak in the Roof. We've had a professional come out and give us an estimate. The executive Committee met 30 Mar 2024 and approved the bid of \$1750.00 to have it repaired. The other bid was \$3,800.00. Additionally we will be discussing a project for our Patio at the next Membership Meeting. So we, the Executive Committee, encourage you all to attend this meeting in April so we can discuss this project and methods to get it done if approved.

April showers may bring May flowers but they are also possibly severe, so watch your selves as we enter the early part of Tornado Season. Have a plan and use it to stay safe.



## Chaplain's Corner: Chaplain Len Stayton

## The Banner on the Wall (Epilogue) 27 February 2024

America is a land of lists. Everyone, who gets anything done at all, uses lists to keep track of what they are doing: housewives use grocery lists to remember what to buy, contractors use lists to remember what materials they need to purchase to complete projects and of what tasks still need to be completed in what order, homeowners use lists to keep track of things they need to do around the house, employees have task lists to keep them focused on their work, there are lists that we use to show us how to complete a complicated task (like resetting our digital watch for Daylight Savings Time), many people have a list of goals they wish to achieve in a certain period of time (often called bucket lists), some people even have a list to remind them to check their lists. There are a myriad of reasons to keep lists. But what is the main reason, the reason that drives practically everyone to keep lists? Why do people keep lists?

People keep lists to help them remember things that are important to them, things they don't want to forget. That's why the most important list we can have is a list of our personal values, those ideals that we believe are important to live by. These are the values that govern our behavior, that tell us how we should treat others, how to maintain our integrity. The problem some people have is remembering those values and beliefs. You may say you believe in something, but over time, unless you have something to remind you, the importance of that belief fades away and our behavior changes with it, until we are no longer living the values we say we have. That is why a list of our values should be the most important list each of us has. Earl Nightengale once wrote that it isn't truly something you believe in until you write it down. So, do you have such a list? If not, it's time to make one.

But how does one make such a list? Truly, it isn't difficult to do. Here is a list 😊 of steps to help you do so:

- 1. Make some time to sit in a quiet place where you won't be bothered for about an hour.
- 2. Turn off your phone.
- 3. Have a pad of paper and a pen handy to write down your thoughts.
- 4. Clear your mind of the everyday stuff and begin to think about what you truly believe regarding:
  - a. Your family,
  - b. Your work,
  - c. Your friends,
  - d. Your community and country,
  - e. Your faith,
  - f. Your personal behavior and how you treat others,
  - g. the things you do to take care of yourself (diet, exercise, medical issues, etc.),
  - h. What preparations you need to make in order to live theses values (education, research, etc.),
  - i. Whatever else you can think of that you think is important.
- 5. Write all of it down, even stuff that seems trivial at the time.
- 6. Take a break to let all of that gel. I suggest at least twenty-four hours, but not more than a few days.
- 7. Now find that same spot and same conditions and begin to edit your list.
  - a. Combine things that are similar or repetitive.
  - b. Scratch out the ones that you decide are not important enough to keep.
  - c. Narrow your list down to a manageable number. Most people find that 8 to 12 items are about right.

- d. Once your list is about right, type it up and put it someplace where you will see it periodically (tape it to a mirror, frame it and hang it on the wall in a conspicuous place, put it in your computer and have it be your opening screen, etc.).
- 8. Don't worry about it being perfect at first. They are your values and you are free to add to or take away from or refine them as you continue to live by them.

Finally, make sure you look at them regularly. That is how we solidify our beliefs into our daily lives, how we live what we say we believe. It is how we consistently live our lives the way we say we want to live them. That is how we develop integrity.

Over the past few months, my articles have been about the values listed on The Banner on the Wall. As a reminder, this banner hangs on the east wall of the canteen at Post 164 and I pray it will be there for many years to come. Why? Because that banner is a list of the values, we are all expected to live up to as Legionnaires, SAL and Auxiliary. All represent the American Legion, and all must uphold its values. It is important that we read that banner often, memorize, if not the exact words, then certainly the ideals they represent. I suggest reading them each time you enter the canteen (it takes less than a minute to do). As we create and learn to live our personal values and continue to live up to those of the American Legion, we will all become better people in the eyes of our friends, our families, our co-workers and all others with whom we come into contact, and most importantly in the eyes of God.



Greetings Auxiliary members, I hope everyone had a happy Easter!

We have two new Auxiliary members who joined in March – Teresa DeReno and Carol O'Bryan. Please give them a warm welcome when you meet them!

I would like to thank everyone who attended our March meeting. Our monthly meetings will now be on the Hall side since we've had such a great attendance! I am pleased to announce that we have met our membership goal of 129. Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 17, at 6:00 pm. If you have any agenda items, please send to me at robinshockley@att.net.

The "Bartender's Appreciation Night" on Saturday, March 9, was a great time and our bar staff were so appreciative of the love and support they received. I want to thank the Auxiliary Committee who put this night together, they did a wonderful job! Thanks to the members who donated raffle baskets, they were awesome. I would also like to thank our SAL for their donations and serving dinner.

We had our first "Grove City Adopt a Street" clean up on McDowell Road and around the Post on Saturday, March 16. It was a cold and very windy day, so I want to give a BIG shout out to the 11 volunteers who helped! Check out their picture on the Legion's Facebook page.

Our 2 nd Vice Chair, Kim Dotson, has collected Crown Royal bags to fill with necessities to send to our troops. There is a tote at the Legion for donations. A few suggestions include sunblock, socks, underwear, lip balm, powder, chips, salsa, nuts, cookies, beef jerky, non-melting candy, trail mix, drink mixes in single-serving packets.

May April bring you joy, growth, and sunny days!

Auxiliary President Robin Shockley



## Sons of the American Legion

Greeting fellow SON's,

Hard to believe that Spring is here. Hope everyone had a blessed Easter. With Spring upon us, it means that we are coming to the end of our membership year. Currently our squadron is sitting at 95.24% of quota. There is still time to get your membership renewed, so get it now. In May the SON's will have their state convention, where we will end our 2024 membership year. So, there is still time.

Our next squadron meeting will be on April 2 nd at 6 pm. At this meeting we will take nominations for squadron officers for the 2025 membership year. Would like to see some new faces at the meetings as well as some new officers. We could use all the help!!

I would like to say thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary for allowing the SAL to join in and hosting a bartenders appreciation day. A great time was had by all!! Hope to see you at the Post!!

Dan Finnell 164 SAL Commander