The Clarion

St. Charles American Legion Post 312

August 2021

COMMANDER DAN

Welcome to the month of August. We are still having warm weather in the now dog days of summer. The next **Legion and Auxiliary meetings** are **Aug 9** at 7:30 PM.

I wish to thank everyone who participated in the recent Dept of MO American Legion Convention in Cape Girardeau. We received lots of positive feedback on our Crisis Awareness booth.

We also made lots of noise when **Larry DuFour** was awarded the 2021 Distinguished Legionnaire Award. On July 12, he also received a proclamation from St Charles County Executive Steve Ehlmann acknowledging the award.

Please help me express our thanks to **Dean Irwin** who has retired as Bar Chairman after many years of service. We are grateful for his service to the Post and our Legion Family. **Larry Carron** has resumed the position, so we remain in capable hands.

Our next **Spaghetti Dinner** will be **Aug 17**. We will be serving from 4:30 to 6 PM. The cost is $8 per person. **Call or text your orders to 636-328-6996 by Aug 12**. Advance orders allow us to minimize leftovers and maximize profits, so we appreciate your compliance and support.

We will host a **Summer Breeze Dance** from 7 to 10 PM on **Aug 28**. Music will be provided by the **Charlie Mann Band** at a cost of $10 per person.

The **Post Family Picnic** will be **Sept 11** on the back parking lot. Further info will be coming as plans are finalized.

We are working to keep everyone informed on upcoming events. The Post bulletin board in the Foxhole, the Clarion, recorded messages on 636-947-7666, the Post website alpost312mo.org and our Facebook page.

Legion Riders Director **Tony Rumbo** has volunteered to aid in keeping the website up to date. I ask you to keep him informed of upcoming events 2 months in advance. His email is **tone_nav@yahoo.com.**

It has been suggested that each Legion Family group periodically hold or sponsor an event in the Foxhole as a way to support and recruit members. Please let me know your thoughts on this idea.

Please continue to call fellow members to see how they are doing. Again, when you see a fellow Veteran, thank them and welcome them home.

Please continue to volunteer when you can and suggest our Post when a function is being planned.

Thank you for your service and welcome home. God Bless America.

Commander Dan

Daniel Sauer, Post Commander
314-808-8438 dsauer@aol.com

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POST CHAPLAIN

Legionnaire **William Xander** passed on July 22. No Legion service was requested.

Charlie Heitmann and **Carey Surratt** are in hospice care at home.

Tom Bieser has moved to Sunset Nursing Home, 400 W Park Ave, Union MO 63084.

Dave Tucker has moved to assisted living at 411B Windsor Estates, 2150 W Randolph St, St Charles MO 63301. You may know him as WWII Dave singing karaoke in the Foxhole.

Please keep these comrades and their families in your thoughts and prayers. Let me know of any members in need of our support and I will reach out to them.

Rich Middendorf, Post Chaplain
middendorf802@gmail.com
636-328-6996

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SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION

Thanks to all of the SAL officers for the coming year:

Jeff Kull , 1st Vice
Jeff Gilbo, 2nd Vice
Jay Marsden, Adjutant
Justin Marsden, Finance
Gary Ball, Chaplain
Jaxen Marsden, Historian
Jason Hoeft, Judge Advocate
Joshua Marsden, Sgt-At-Arms

Our next meeting is **Aug 2** at 7 PM.

Our next volunteer opportunity is **Aug 28** at the Harley dealership.

John Leonard, Squadron Commander
314-303-6665

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

RETRACTION – I GOOFED! I mistakenly mistakened the Marsdens! (doesn't that sound like a Dr. Seuss title!?) In the July issue I showed Ashley Marsden as nominee for Executive Committee and Kris Marsden as nominee for Sgt-at-Arms and we have voted and now sworn in Kris Marsden as Executive Committee Member and Ashley Marsden as Sgt-at-Arms. MY SINCERE APOLOGIES TO BOTH LADIES!

In July I attended my first Dept Convention along with many other members of our American Legion Family here at Post 312. It was an excellent opportunity to meet with other Auxiliary members to share ideas and I've learned a few things along the way.

For those of you who attended our July meeting and heard all of the reports from our delegates you know that one addition to this year's meeting was the "**2021 Convention Book of Reports**." If you didn't attend the conference but would like to check out the book of reports you may do so at https://58f15e39-1ff2-4b4f-a570-33ab11096558.filesusr.com/ugd/10f101_a7c59eb9a8a44b3ea72e2022de552b81.pdf

It was also announced that the "**Legionette**" will begin publishing four issues a year, and it is always available online at https://dptmoala2.wixsite.com/deptmoala/missouri-legionette

Congratulations to our own **Lucille Armbruster** who served as Co-Convention Director on a job well done!!!

Our unit was well-represented at the American Legion Auxiliary 100th Anniversary celebration on Friday night of Convention weekend:

And our own **Kris Marsden** was sworn in as **District 9 President**:

The 2021-2022 **District Meeting** schedule is Sep 12 @ St. Clair, Dec 5 @ Union, March 13 @ New Haven and **June 5 at St Charles** so please be sure to save the dates.

On July 17 we installed our 2021-22 Officers at an awesome ceremony. You missed some great food if you were unable to attend, so be sure to plan to join us next year. A special shout out to **Elizabeth Carron** for taking care of all our culinary needs and to the gentlemen of the SAL for serving dinner.

It makes my heart happy that we are able to resume some of these long-honored traditions.

We still need **kitchen volunteers** for BINGO. Even if you cannot help every week or even every month, please contact Elizabeth Carron if you are able to work any Friday. I like to think of the bingo kitchen as happy work……after all you are in the kitchen among friends raising money to implement our goals and obligations … isn't that a win/win?!

Our junior membership recently received a letter from **Junior Activities Chairperson, Mary Stephenson**. In her letter, she requested they prepare and share a meal each quarter. They can send reports and pictures to my email at lauraldiel@gmail.com. This is a great way to engage our youth and keep them involved. Please let us know if you have any questions and I can't wait so see those photographs!

At our July meeting, we heard from four of our **Girls State attendees** who shared their memories of this year's Girl State. It is always a great experience to have these ladies join us and share their personal stories of their time at Girl State. We thank them for sharing their experience with all of us.

If you are not already following us on “Facebook” you may do so at **Americanlegionauxiliaryunitpost312**. We currently have 53 followers and I would love to see that number grow.

As we begin this new membership year, I would like to ask each Auxiliary Member to consider joining us at meetings, encouraging eligible friends and family to join the American Legion family, participating in committees, and lending a helping hand to further our mission.

I realize and understand that not everyone can do everything. Just by renewing your membership and by helping us increase our membership, we succeed and you are the key to our success.

Laura Diel, Auxiliary President
lauraldiel@gmail.com 636-219-7091

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AUXILIARY FIRST VICE

As we start our 2021-2022 fiscal year, it is time to think about paying your membership dues.

The dues have not changed this year, $28 for Senior members and $5 for Junior members.

There are several different ways to pay:

• Sending it to the membership chairman, Lucille Armbruster, 8 Alma Dr., St. Charles, MO 63304.

• Leaving it at the Foxhole. Be sure your name is on the envelope.

• Go to the National website and pay online.

• Pay at a Unit meeting.

If you have **changed your address or name** recently, please inform me of your new one.

Remember, if you sign up a new member, make sure you collect the dues. We cannot process the application until the money is received.

We were 100% membership this last year and we thank you for that. It would be great to be 100% again this year.

Membership is everyone’s job. Keep searching for new members. Don’t forget to renew. If you have any questions, please contact me at the numbers or email below.

The national membership theme is: “Together We Serve”.

The Missouri Dept theme is:” God Bless Our Women Veterans”.

Thank you for all you do for our Veterans.

Lucille Armbruster, Auxiliary
1st Vice & Membership Chairman
636-441-6419 or 314-238-6330 cell
lucillera@charter.net

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Spaghetti Dinner
Tue Aug 19, 4:30 - 6 PM
Dine-In or Curbside

$8 for spaghetti & meatballs, salad, garlic bread, tea & coffee and homemade dessert

All Orders in Advance
No later than Thu Aug 12

Text or Call 636-328-6996

POST FIRST VICE

If you have a ”Mylegion.org” account, there is nothing more you need to do upon accepting your elected position. If you have not registered for a “Mylegion.org” account, please follow these steps:

1) Go to mylegion.org and select Registration.

2) Enter your email in the register window and click next. Register with the email address on your membership record.

3) Enter your last name, first name and click next.

4) Create your password in the welcome window.

5) Your email must be verified one of two ways:

• enter the one time password (OTP) sent to your email and click Finish Registration or

• Do not enter the OTP and click Finish Registration. An email will be sent with a link to confirm and return you to the login page.

6) Click “My Account” from your mylegion.org home page to view your membership information. Officers registering for post and squadron access will find that information on my account window.

In addition to the post information, the Legion has a variety of free publications to keep Veterans, military personnel and their families updated. Subscribe to the emails and publications by going to legion.org/newsletters and click

the subscribe tab at the top. You will be redirected to mylegion.org to opt in/out of the e-newsletter. To manage your e-newsletter subscriptions, click the edit button.

As the Legion moves forward, we have recognized the need for embracing the use of electronics. This move is not only cost-effective, but also more attractive to our younger Veterans. The Dept of MO is saving $45,000 an issue by publishing the newsletter online.

We still do not have access to the membership numbers, so I have nothing to report where we stand.

I want to thank all of those members that came to the convention in support of Larry DuFour, our Distinguished Legionnaire 2021. It was great to see Post 312 and the 9th District well-represented.

For God and Country

John Gonzales, 1st Vice Commander
314-707-3758

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AMERICANISM/
CHILDREN & YOUTH

School's out for the Summer. Watch for the Sep issue of the Clarion for Americanism/Children & Youth programs for the 2021-2022 school year.

Today's youth are tomorrow's leaders.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry DuFour, 636-441-7102
Americanism/Children & Youth

We will have a **Bingo workers meeting** on Wed **Aug 25** at 6 PM. All current workers are invited to attend along with anyone interested in exploring opportunities.

If you haven't heard whether your application was approved, please contact me.

Bingo crowds continue to increase, so think about volunteering. Spread the word and come have some fun. Bring your friends and join us for an evening of Bingo.

Ben Stockamp, Bingo Chairman
636-219-5438

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COLOR/HONOR GUARD

Your Color/Honor Guard needs some additional members for our team for parades, funerals and Americanism functions and activities.

If you would like to be a team member, give me a call.

Respectfully submitted,
Honor Guard Captain
636-441-7102

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Congratulations to **Steve Sanders,** winner of the June 50/50 Raffle.

Another **50/50 Raffle** is on sale now, drawing the last day of every month.

This is the start of our fiscal year. Much of what we do will continue and many of the same officers will carry on.

With this new year I have excitement for **Dean's retirement as Bar Chairman**. He has gone above and beyond and has without a doubt earned the right to move on after 13 years, though there is sadness in his departure because he is a great friend, mentor, and all-around great man.

When you see him around congratulate him on his freedom and thank him for his dedication to the American Legion throughout all his actions as Bar Chairman.

With that being said, I announce that **Larry Carron has been appointed Bar Chairman**. He has big shoes to fill but Larry will, I am sure, make his own footprints.

As always, our special drink board lists delicious concoctions. New mixes and drinks are added to the board every week, so if you are looking for something new, you should give it a try. And the real special part is that these new drinks can come from your recommendations, so if you want to share the recipe to a drink you really like let me know and I will be happy to add it to the list of ideas.
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Finally, mark your calendars for the the special-themed drinks on **Aug 6** for **National Root Beer Float Day** and **Sep 11** for the **Post Family Picnic**, where we will mourn the dearly departed and celebrate new beginnings and our hopes for the future.

Kris Marsden, Bar Manager
636-219-5282

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FOXHOLE SPORTS

Bowling Wed Aug 4 & 18

Shuffleboard Thu Aug 12 & 26

7/7 Bowling results:

1st place Dean & Stan
2nd Place Sean & Rich
3rd Place Betty & Norm

7/8 Shuffleboard results:

1st place Don
2nd Place Gilda
3rd Place Rich
4th Place Sean
5th Place Mary M

7/21 Bowling results:

1st place Jay & Kevin
2nd Place Stan & Rich
3rd Place Dean & Norm
4th Place Don & Betty

7/22 Shuffleboard results:

1st place Don & Sean
2nd Place Rich & Mark W
3rd Place Julie & Nancy
4th Place Jill & Gilda
5th Place Mary M & Mark E

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Aug 12 Last Day Order Spaghetti

Aug 17 Spaghetti Dinner

Aug 25 Bingo Workers Mtg 6 PM

Aug 28 Summer Breeze Dance
Charlie Mann Band

Sep 11 Post Family Picnic

LEGION RIDERS LEGACY RIDE 2021

The ALR Dept of MO 2021 Legacy Ride June 24-26 has raised **$79,546** as of July 12 for scholarships and aid to children of Veterans who died in service or were disabled.

Kerry raised over $350 for the scholarship fund by wearing the tutu, which is a Legacy tradition shared by many along the Ride, including the Mayor of Carl Junction MO on their stop there.

The 2021 National American Legion Legacy Run begins on August 22 in Rogers AR and ends on Aug 26 at the American Legion National Convention in Pheonix AZ.

BOYS NATION

This year's crop of Boys Nation senators represents the finest of nearly 17,000 incoming seniors who attended Boys State programs. During their eight days at American Legion Boys Nation, 100 "senators" will learn from a hands-on approach how the US Senate and the federal government function.

Included among them is **Jake Kielty** of Oklahoma City OK, the grandson of Auxiliary Unit 312 member **Maggie Kielty**.

Jake has served as finance chair, varsity speech and debate captain and varsity soccer captain at Moore High School. His activities include National Honor Society, Key Club, club soccer, MHS leadership, and yearbook.

Famous Boys Nation alumni include former President Bill Clinton, actor Donal Logue, Govs. Chris Christie and Scott Walker, and Sens. Mike Lee and Tom Cotton.

Notable Boys State alumni include Tom Brokaw, Michael Jordan, Rush Limbaugh, Jon Bon Jovi, Garth Brooks, Neil Armstrong, Roger Ebert and Justice Samuel Alito.