The Clarion

St. Charles American Legion Post 312

October 2021

COMMANDER DAN

Welcome to October at the Post. It is trick or treat time again.

The Family Picnic was a huge success. About 100 or so participated and hopefully next year even more.

I want to thank everyone who helped: the setup and tear down crews, the grill and kitchen crews who cooked and served, the bar staff who kept refreshments flowing, the youth activities crew that kept the kids entertained all day, S and G for music at the event and the bingo crew. Yes, we even had an hour of bingo! Please feel free to make suggestions or help with next year's picnic.

On a more solemn note, two legion services were held this month. We implemented a new policy to include all Legion Family in our final tribute to departed members of the Post. The service was well-attended by Auxiliary, Sons and Legion Riders. We thank everyone for their participation.

The next **Legion and Auxiliary meetings** will be **Oct 11** with Executive Boards at 6 & 6:30 PM and members at 7:30 PM.

Other activities for October include a return of the **Meatloaf Dinner** on **Oct 26** and the **Foxhole Halloween Party** on **Oct 30 at 7 PM**.

November activities include **Post Everlasting** on **Nov 7** at 2 PM and the **Buddy Supper** on **Nov 13** starting at 4 PM.

December activities include the **Army-Navy Game** in the Foxhole on **Dec 11**, the **Children's Christmas Party** on **Dec 12**, the **Auxiliary Christmas Party** on **Dec 13** and the **New Year's Eve Party** on **Dec 31.**

I will be attending the American Legion Dept of MO Fall Conference Oct 15-17 in Jefferson City.

Our lawn crew is still working hard to improve the appearance of our grounds. Thank **Al Schultz** and **Gary Ball** when you see them.

We are still looking for a **Christmas Dinner** Chairperson or persons. If we find someone, we will get in touch with Loretta and see if our Christmas Dinner will be held this year.

Continue your Buddy Checks. A call can mean so much. Remember we are our brothers' keepers.

Should you be aware of an event of interest, please write a brief note with the particulars and pass it on to the Clarion staff.

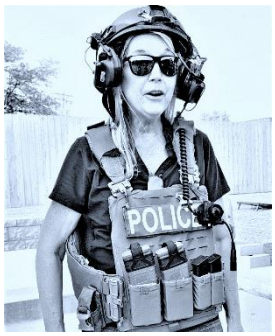
Until next month, remember our military, first responders and members of our Legion Family. Keep them all in your thoughts and prayers.

God Bless America.

Commander Dan

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

IMAGES OF POST PICNIC WHO HAD THE MOST FUN?



POST CHAPLAIN

Since my last report, we have lost 3 Post members.

Charlie Heitmann

Don Lauer

Carey Surratt

Legion Services were conducted for Charlie Heitmann and Don Lauer at the request of their families.

Please keep these comrades and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Let me know if you want to be added to the funeral call list to be notified when a Legion Service is scheduled.

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

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AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

"The key to change…is to let go of fear" Rosanne Cash

I sincerely hope this issue of the Clarion finds all our Legion Family well. We had a fabulous turnout at our September meeting, and it is my sincere wish that we can continue to welcome more and more members back to Monday meetings.

I wish I would have had the opportunity to join the fun and frolic at our Family Picnic, I've heard nothing but wonderful reviews. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to host such an awesome event.

This is an exciting time for our Auxiliary Unit. We unveiled our newly created website www.alaunit312stcharlesmo.org**.**

Hopefully you are already following us on Facebook at "American Legion Auxiliary Unit Post 312 St. Charles, Missouri."

I ask members to be sure and send to me any photos you take so they may be included in our History Book as well as our social media pages.

At our District 9 Meeting on Sep 12 newly elected President **Kris Marsden** was sworn in as well as Secretary **Mary Bandini**, Parliamentarian **Lori Millam** and Sgt-At-Arms **Georgia Davis**. Our very own **Jan Irwin** has accepted the position of District 9 Historian. CONGRATULATIONS LADIES!

Our Unit received three awards from the Dept of MO. "Armed Forces Day" Award for reaching 95% of 2021 membership goal by May 15, "ALA Celebration Award" for reaching 100% of membership goal by July 4, and Public Relations Best Unit Report 2019-2021.

Our Unit's Junior Activities Chairperson, **Mary Stephenson**, submitted a report to District 9 on the activities of our Juniors. For those of you unaware, Mary mailed a letter to our Junior Members requesting they prepare a recipe and send photos displaying their efforts.

During these challenging "social distancing" times I thought this was a fabulous idea and the results have been great.

If you are a junior member, please be sure to send your results to lauraldiel@gmail.com before our next District report on Dec 5.

Our **membership initiation** ceremony will take place at our **Oct 11** meeting. We look forward to formally welcoming our newest members. Which leads right into……. if you have not had the opportunity to renew your membership, I would like to challenge you to not only renew but to find one other person who shares your vision of "service not self".

While we are doing quite well obtaining committee chairpersons, there are still a few positions available including **Americanism/ Star Spangle Kids; Leadership and Legislative**.

All of these are important committees and would benefit from having a dedicated chairperson. Please let me know if you have any questions about the responsibilities of a committee and if you have any interest.

To our men and women in uniform, past present and future, **God bless you and thank you**. To those in uniform serving today and to those who have served in the past, we honor you today and every day.

Home of the free because of the brave.

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

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Halloween Party

Sat Oct 30, 7 PM

Boston Dave & Karaoke

POST FIRST VICE

The new membership year has begun! We are at 63.10% of our 2021-22 goal. As of 9/20/21 we have 383 paid members out of a goal of 607.

We reached 93.84% of our 2020-21 membership goal.

Please pay your dues either online or at the Post. We really need to keep our numbers up, so we have a voice on Capitol Hill.

The American Legion is still the largest wartime Veterans organization, and we would like to stay on top.

VA Secretary Dennis McDonough told the American Legion members at the 102nd National Convention in Phoenix on August 31 that the most important thing to combat the pandemic is to get vaccinated.

All Veterans are currently eligible to receive their COVID-19 vaccine through the VA. McDonough said getting the shot is a way to not only protect yourself but also your fellow Americans.

We have already lost thousands of Veterans to this deadly disease and Secretary McDonough went on to say that now the Delta Variant is causing an exponential increase in infections, hospitalization and deaths.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently expanded its COVID-19 vaccine mandate to apply to most VA employees, volunteers and contractors working in VA facilities.

As we get closer to the holiday season, keep your fellow Legionnaires in mind. With COVID among us, some of our members are still uncomfortable leaving their homes.

If you know someone who is housebound, pick up the phone and see how they are doing. We are an organization based on Veterans helping Veterans.

If you or someone you know needs help, call me or any one of our officers. That is why we are here.

For God and Country.

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

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POST HISTORY
DID YOU KNOW?

In 1941 at the beginning of World War II members of American Legion Post 312 volunteered

to guard the railroad bridge crossing the Missouri river in St Charles. It is unknown if they ever did guard the bridge.

This information was provided by one of the guest speakers at the 100th celebration of Post 312 on April 10th, 2021.

Joe Diel, Post Historian
Forbes1941@charter.net

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MOOLAH SHRINE CIRCUS

OCT 7-10

The Family Arena

St. Charles, MO

www.stlshrinecircus.com

AUXILIARY FIRST VICE

Welcome to October.

We have 110 paid members for the 2021-22 year. Our goal this year is 276.

National has sent out renewal notices. If you have already paid, thank you and disregard the notice.

Three ways to pay, you can send it to me at the address below, pay online, or leave it at the Foxhole.

As I have said before, membership is everyone's job. Please keep trying to sign up new members and to renew your dues. Remember to sign up your Juniors as they are our future.

Do not forget to send me any changes of name or address.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 636-441-6419 or 314-238-6330. You can also email me at lucillera@charter.net.

Lucille Armbruster, Auxiliary
1st Vice & Membership Chairman
8 Alma Dr, St. Charles, MO 63304
636-441-6419 or 314-238-6330 cell
lucillera@charter.net
Forbes1941@charter.net

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COOTIES 3rd Annual

MOUSE RACES

SAT OCT 16, 7 PM

VFW Post 2866

$20 per person includes can beer, wine, soft drinks & snacks

Paul Schmidt 314-249-5368
Paul351245@gmail.com
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AMERICANISM/ CHILDREN & YOUTH

This year's 5th Grade Americanism Essay Contest is titled "Why I like Police Officers, Firefighters, Paramedics, EMTs, Doctors and Nurses." The Contest is part of American Education Week Nov 15-19.

The top 3 winners will be invited to our **Buddy Supper** on **Nov 13** along with their parents and siblings for awards and recognition.

Stay tuned for updates on American Education in our schools.

I'm back in the local high schools promoting our Oratorical Scholarship program in which students receive scholarships by speaking on the US Constitution.

The American Legion Dept of MO is the leader in the nation in paying the highest dollar amounts to high school students speaking on the US Constitution for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Always remember, today's youth are tomorrow's leaders.

COLOR/HONOR GUARD

Your Color/Honor Guard team performs at funerals, parades and other civic and community events.

We have lost some team members and are looking for replacements. If you would like to join us, give me a call. All Legion Family members are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry DuFour, 636-441-7102
Americanism/Children & Youth/
Public Relations/Law & Order/
Honor Guard Captain

Halloween on my mind, time for some spooky, scary & witchy ideas, or some fun friendly foolishness.

However, you dress up or take part, I hope it is at the Foxhole for our annual **Halloween Party** on **Oct 30** starting at 7 PM. **Boston Dave** and his Karaoke magic will get us in the mood for some of that orneriness that I'm sure will be present. WAAAAHAAAHAHA!

Make sure you check out our Facebook page and the Foxhole for more details as it gets closer. The dress code for the night will be …. suit and tie … Just kidding, but we do have a contest judged by all in various categories.

Don't forget to join in with bowling and shuffleboard, dates are on the calendar. We are always looking for more participation.

Music is back on the calendar for Fall and Winter months. Again, your support is appreciated.

The draft beer lineup at this time is **Sam Adams Octoberfest, Michelob Golden Light, Amberbock** and **Bud Light**. Weekly drink specials continue to be posted on the board in the Foxhole.

Go Cardinals! I hope they can keep up their momentum for the wildcard. If so, look for playoff specials.

Kris Marsden, Bar Manager
636-219-5282

FOXHOLE SPORTS

Bowling Wed Oct 6 & 20

Shuffleboard Thu Oct 14 & 28

8/26 Shuffleboard results:

1st place Mary M & Mark W
2nd Place Sean & Rich
3rd Place Jill & Dan
4th Place Don & Tim
5th Place Kim & Gilda

9/01 Bowling results:

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

9/09 Shuffleboard results:

1st place Mary M & Don
2nd Place Jill & Mark W
3rd Place Gilda & Rich

9/15 Bowling results:

1st place Kevin & Jay
2nd Place Norm & Stan
3rd Place Jeanne & Betty
4th Place Mary B & Rich

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Congratulations to **Donna Rae Keaton,** winner of the August 50/50 Raffle.

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

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VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHAB CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

We will be collecting Christmas wrapping paper, bows, gift boxes, bags and tags for the Christmas Gift Shops at Jefferson Barracks and John Cochran VA Hospitals.

The Christmas Gift Shops are provided at no cost to Veterans in these hospitals to select Christmas gifts for their families.

There will be a **drop box in the Foxhole in October for your DONATIONS.** Thank you for sharing**.**

Mary Diel, VA&R Chair
314-910-2992 mary1943@charter.net

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We will have a **Bingo meeting** on Wed **Oct 27** at **6 PM** and the last Wednesday of each month.

The Post has approved an upgrade of our Bingo equipment to all digital and equipment acquisition is in process.

All Bingo captains and workers are invited to attend along with anyone interested in perhaps joining our ranks.

Spread the word that Bingo is back and come have some fun. Bring your friends and join us for an evening of Bingo.

Ben Stockamp, Bingo Chairman
636-219-5438

MEATLOAF DINNER

Tue Oct 28 4:30 – 6 PM
Curbside or Dine-In

Text or Call 636-328-6996
by Thu Oct 21 to order

$10 for meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, dinner roll and dessert.

Desserts will be apple crisp, brownies and lemon bars.

The Foxhole will be open 3-8 PM.

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VETERANS RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

FOR DESERT STORM & IRAQI FREEDOM

(still accepting applications for WWII, Korea & Vietnam)

For more information, eligibility requirements or an application, please visit our website:

www.moguard.ngb.mil/resources/Veteran-awards

or call toll free **866-834-3431**

Missouri Veterans Recognition is a Missouri State program honoring Veterans who served on Active Duty during WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm or Iraqi Freedom.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS IMAGES OF 2021 LEGACY RUN

The Legacy Run left Rogers AR on Aug 22 and arrived in Phoenix AZ on Aug 26 for the American Legion National Convention.

It was planned and led by Missouri's own Mark Clark and raised $1,154,206 for scholarships and aid to children of Veterans who died in service or were disabled.

Our Post 312 Legion Riders were on the Missouri Legacy Ride IN June which raised more than $80,000 for the Legacy Fund.

Hope to see you at our **next meeting** on Mon **Oct 4** at 6 PM.

Tony Rumbo, ALR Director
tone_nav@yahoo.com 314-707-4683