The Clarion

St. Charles American Legion Post 312

November 2023

POST 312 COMMANDER

Finally, I sent in the signed contract and deposit to begin the manufacture of our new sign and the additional electrical bid was received and approved as well. After several years of planning, we will be getting a new Digital sign to replace the aging channel letter sign at the street. Thanks to **Kerry Humphrey** for starting the search for sign some years ago. We expect to enjoy increased visibility for the Post and allow us to display much more information to the public as well as recognizing events that our rental customers hold at the hall. We will be able to change the message via a computer instead of manually installing the letters.

On the subject of the hall, the membership has voted to offer the hall rental at a 50% discount for members who volunteer once a month for a year at Bingo or the Family Dinner. To receive the discount, you must complete 5 of the months prior to the event and complete the remainder of the year as well. We anticipate this will increase volunteerism and you may find you enjoy it. If you have a big event coming up, please consider taking advantage of this. We track all volunteer hours for the year end Post Consolidated report so we will have a record.

I want to say thank you to everyone who helped plan and put on the Family Picnic, it was a great day, and it was well received. I also want to apologize to those in attendance for breaking down too early. When we post a time, we should carry the event through that time. There was miscommunication that caused that, it won't happen again.

We still need a Business Manager and Facilities Manager, and I will revisit the Kitchen manager position as we move forward.

We received further confirmation that the National Commander will visit our Post on October 22nd and now the dinner will be 5 PM. He will stay the night in the area and fly out the next morning. We will advise at the next meeting, let's show up in force, we don't often get a chance to host a National Commander, it has been 5 years for this post. The Department of Missouri Fall Conference will be held from October 27-29th at Jefferson City. We will not have Bingo on the 27th due to that event as many of the Bingo workers will attending the Conference.

November 11th is Veterans Day, and the city has a renewed desire to shed light on the day with a ceremony and parade this year and years to come. The County has its events as well so attend as you are able. Our own Color Guard will be very busy during that day, say hello, it's great to see the support of the Post as they represent us.

Our 2023-2024 planning calendar is now entered Events Calendar on our webpage. Stay updated on the website, www.alpost312mo.org, at our meetings and through flyers at the post.

God Bless America
Larry Carron Post Commander
636-345-6106 ljcarron1@charter.net

POST CHAPLAIN

Since the last report, **Ralph Stross** has passed. Legion Service was conducted for him, with 11 members attending.
If you want to be notified of future Legion Services, contact me to get on the call list.

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

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Wow! November already! This has been a fast year!

Initiation was great! I love welcoming new member into Unit 312! Welcome to ALL the new members! We have so many things coming up in November! Don't forget to "Fall back" on November 5 th .Post Everlasting will be on November 12. We will talk about that at our next meeting.

Buddy Supper will be held November 18.

Of course, the most important November date is the 11 th , **Veterans Day.** This is the day that we honor all who have served in our Military. It was first observed as Armistice Day on November 11, 1919, one year after the end of World War I which ended on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. In1954 the name was changed to Veterans Day, as we know it by today. So, on November 11 , thank a Veteran; make a Veteran a meal; ask a Veteran about

their service. Give them the respect and honor they so deserve for the sacrifices they have made. **THANK YOU VETERANS!!**

See you November 13 at Meeting

Jan Irwin, Auxiliary President 636-699-9577

AUXILARY CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Auxiliary Christmas Party will be on December 11th at 5pm. The cost is $15.00 a person. Your 2024 dues must be paid to attend. Please R.S.V.P. with payment by November 30 in the Foxhole or contact Mary Bandini at 314-707-2680. Come join us for a fun evening with a full meal, games, and giveaways.

POST FIRST VICE

I am so excited to see all of you and our POST doing so well. Did you ever wonder how that happens? It doesn't happen by mistake. It doesn't happen by happenstance. It doesn't happen by coincidence. It happens by tedious planning, coordination, ordering and leadership. There are some folks in the POST that are involved in not just 1 task, not just 2 tasks, not just 3 tasks, but several more I cannot even understand how they do it all. We have 2 things we can control, our time/talents and our money. You can look at someone's calendar and their bank accounts and see what they value.

We are looking to expand. But we need help. However, I know you have done it in the past but until they push dirt over your coffin we are asking for your specific skills. Can you walk, can you think, can you count, can you sit? That is the stressful jobs at BINGO that need your help. Right now, BINGO is the $$$$$ driver we have generated for the POST. If Bingo ends, we will be in great trouble. We have countless others, and we probably should have countless other ideas. Perhaps someone else has a better idea for generating $$$$$. However, I cannot think of everything that the POST needs. I know most of the POST has been here a long time. Whom better to ask to lead with new ideas. Ideas are very personal, who better to drive the task that the idea person. No one else can see the vision of the idea, but the person themselves. If BINGO ends so will all of our support to the community, we provide. In other words, get in the game.

We are right now trying to expand our fundraising job by selling American Legion items. Once they are in-hand we will make them available. We plan on expanding and could use your opinion. I know others have better/greater ideas. Bring them to the POST. I am begging you to join us in the POST endeavors and make them better. Just your presence is vital.

We have lots of events between now and the end of the year. I would personally like to get to meet all of you. You are what this post is about. Your history, your stories, you, and your family are crucial to our mutual success.

I would be amiss if I did not say, we need help recruiting. My Momma used to say, "Many hands make light work." (Wow, that may apply to this entire column.)

Please check out our calendar as we have too many events for me to mention. Pick 1, 2, 3, all and enjoy each of them. Veteran discounts are still available via the website, please use these supporters.

May God Bless this Post and may God Bless the United States of America.

Brian Bush 1st Vice Commander POST 312 Bbush2005@gmail.com 636.698.5495
http://www.alpost312mo.org/ our Post 312 web site now includes the Clarion and our current calendar.
mylegion.org place to pay your dues (reminder as of January 2023 are $50)

"It doesn't take a hero to order men into battle. It takes a hero to be one of those men who goes into battle."
— Norman Schwartzkopf

We are all unique people put on this earth for a reason. Find your reason.

AUXILIARY FIRST VICE

Happy Veterans Day to all our veterans. Thank you for your service.
Without you veterans we would not be in this auxiliary.
At the present time we have 152 paid members. Keep sending in your renewals so we can reach our goal.
We would like to be at 65% by Veterans Day. If we can do this, we will be placed in a drawing at Department.

As you know the Christmas Party is fast approaching and your dues need to be paid to attend.
If you have any questions, please contact me.
Happy Thanksgiving!
Lucille Armbruster, Auxiliary 1st Vice & Membership Chairman lucillera@charter.net
8 Alma Dr, St. Charles, MO 63304 636-441-6419 or 314-238-6330 cell

AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN

Oh Lord, we thank you for each and every Veteran who served our country through the years. Comfort those who struggle in life afterwar. Help us to honor and care for those who have given so much for us. We pray also for those servicemen and women worldwide still
fighting for our freedom. In Your name we pray. Amen
Please use this month to thank a **Veteran.**

Bam Kelly Chaplain 314-795-0283

Children's Christmas Party

The Children's Christmas Party is right around the corner. The date is December 3, 2023. Time is 12:00PM-2:00PM. at The American Legion Hall 2500 Raymond Drive. The Children's Party is for Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren of members of the American Legion Post 312, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 312,
SAL and the Riders. The ages are 0-11yrs old. We will have a sign-up booklet in the Foxhole where we ask that you sign up including Members Name, Child's First and Last Name, Boy/Girl, Age of Child, and Idea for Gift. Ex. Tractors, Games, Crafts or Legos. The deadline to sign up is Nov. 10,2023. We will have food for the children, games, crafts, and of course Santa and Mrs. Claus. If you can't make it up to the Foxhole you can call Brenda or Jennifer after 5 PM. We both work during the day.
Respectfully
Children & Youth Co Chairmen
Brenda Richarz (636) 288-1250
Jennifer Slater (636) 734-5503

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHAB

SEPTEMBER FOOD DRIVE
Thanks to all the Unit 312 members, their families, bingo players, and Marcum Financial. We delivered 43 boxes (approximately 800 items) of food, cleaning supplies, TP, and paper towels to the Veterans Food Pantry at Jefferson Barracks, as well as a $400 check from the Legion.

Mary Diel, VA&R Chair 314-910-2992
mdiel1943@gmail.com

VETERANS HOME BINGO

Thursday, September 21, 7 volunteers conducted bingo for 21 Veterans Home residents, fed them snacks, and gave out lots of goodies. Thanks to our volunteers: **Mary and Joe Diel, Mary Bandini, Rhonda Ford, Herb Echele, Don Newman, and Rich Middendorf.**

The next Veterans Home Bingo will be in Jan 2024. Watch for further information.

Mary Diel and Rich Middendorf Veterans Home Bingo Co-Chairs
Mary 314-910-2992 or Rich 636-329-6996

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Next meeting on Mon Nov 6 at 6 PM.

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

SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION

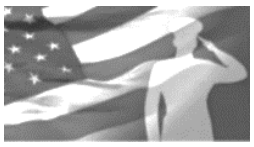
Next meeting on Mon Nov 6 at 7 PM.

John Leonard, Squadron Commander 314-303-6665

POST SERVICE OFFICER

The Missouri Veterans Suicide Prevention Team is looking for Suicide Prevention Trainers, for more information please call 573-751-2368 or email DMH.Veteran@dmh.mo.gov

Don Newman Jr, Service Officer 636-949-0440



AMERICANISM/ CHILDREN & YOUTH/ COLOR GUARD

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK.

The top three winners of the fifth graders Americanism essay contest titled ‘’WHY I AM PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN’’ will be recognized and honored at 7 P.M. on Tuesday November 7, at the St. Charles City Council meeting by Mayor Dan Borgmeyer and city council members for being good students and good citizens.

All essays submitted will be posted in the rotunda of St. Charles City Hall November 13 thru November 17 on the St. Charles School District’s display boards during ‘’AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK’’ for public viewing.
The three top fifth graders, parents and siblings will also be recognized and receive their awards at our Buddy Supper on Saturday November 18, 2023.

Come on out to our Buddy Supper and have a nice meal and hear some great essays from these talented fifth graders.

AMERICAN LEGION HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ‘’A CONSTITUTIONAL SPEECH CONTEST’’

I still am working with the high schools in Saint Charles County promoting our AMERICAN Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program where high school students earn scholarships by speaking on the U. S. Constitution live before an audience without notes.

All high school students wanting to enter the St. Charles County contest must be certified to enter on or before November 30 by their respective high schools and oratorical chairman.

Stay tuned for updates as these outstanding youth of today move forward and upward on their path to leadership.

COLOR GUARD/HONOR GUARD NEWS.

Your Post 312’s Honor Guard team will lead the Veterans Day Parade at 10:00 A.M. Saturday November 11, from the Lewis & Clark boat house and back. After the parade there will be a Veterans Day ceremony held at Bishops Landing.
Your Honor Guard team will also participate in a Veterans Day ceremony at 1:00 P.m. at the Historic Old Courthouse 3rd and Jefferson Street.

On Sunday November 12, your Honor Guard team will participate in our Post Everlasting ceremony at 2:00P.M. at our Post 312 home.

Respectfully submitted by
Larry DuFour, 636-441-7102
Americanism/Children & Youth/Law and Order/Color Guard Captain

We have now completed the third month of the non-smoking trial in the Foxhole. The sales have been about the same as last month with a slight increase in total sales. If you haven’t taken advantage of visiting The Foxhole, come on in, buy 50/50 tickets, watch a game, have a drink, we would love to see you.

In the Regular Membership meeting in November, I will present the financial and other tangible results of the final month of the non-smoking trial. We will then vote on whether to continue as a non-smoking Foxhole or to reinstate. I encourage all members who want to weigh in to attend.

On September 24th, we had our first Bourbon Tasting and by all accounts it was a huge success. It was a great turn out and the event was quite impressive, thanks to **Kris**, our bar manager, for

producing the event and to all our staff who were there serving. We have added a few crowd-chosen Bourbons to our list of Spirits available at The Foxhole.

The Foxhole will have our Halloween party on Saturday 10/21/2023, regular hours with Boston Dave providing Scaryoke and then Karaoke on the 28th.

For entertainment in November, we have Michael Feldman on the 4th, Jackie D on the 11th and Boston Dave, (Karaoke) closing out the month as we recognize November Birthdays on the 25th.

Save the date for the Army-Navy game being aired at The Foxhole on December 9th. It promises to be even bigger than last year thanks to the Legion Riders planning and promoting the game.

Thank you all for your support of The Foxhole, don't forget to sign your guests in, let's close out the summer in great fashion.

Kris Marsden, Bar Manager
636-219-5282
Larry Carron Bar Chairman
636-345-6106

SPAGHETTI DINNER

The next Spaghetti Dinner will be in Jan. 2024. Watch for information in the Clarion.

FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO AT POST 312

Bingo will not be held Nov 24, Dec 22, or Dec 29 due to the holidays.

POST 312 LEGION BASEBALL NEWS

Post 312 Activities: Please welcome Trey Herweck, Greg Mettlach, and Brandon Baker to our coaching staff. Brandon Baker, a Navy veteran just joined our post membership.

Our Fresh (A), Jr (AA), and Sr (AAA) teams have all started weekly practices and we are playing in fall tournaments.
Russ Klicker (Post Baseball Chairman/coach) and **Tom Rhoads** (State Baseball Chairman) met with the St Charles Chamber of Commerce (COC) to promote the American Legion. Since that meeting, we have started working with the COC and Blanchette Park to expand our annual Memorial Weekend Freshman tournament at Blanchette to create a bigger community venue. To do this we are pulling in groups for tennis, pickleball, and horseshoe tournaments, and we are in discussions to pull in Lindenwood University, sporting goods retailers, and military recruiters. The goal is to flood the park with activities and increase the community's exposure to the American Legion. Please contact Russ if you have an idea or would like to organize a group. We are also building a solid donor base that will be given access to these events. Contact **Tom Rhoads** or **Russ** to become a donor.

State Level Activities: work has begun with Washington Post 218 to host the Regional AAA tournament in August of next year.

We are Improving communications such as bulk email protocols to more effectively reach out to alumni, members, coaches, and players with news and opportunities.

We are implementing a promotional/ marketing approach which can be replicated by all posts to leverage Chambers of Commerce and other existing organizations across Missouri.

In addition to our MO Vs IL Sr all-star game at

Busch Stadium, we will be showcasing our Jr level players who want to play at the college level. Discussions are underway with Prep Baseball Report (PBR) to evaluate and rank our players then play a MO vs IL showcase game(s) in front of college recruiters.

Our initiatives are gaining traction. We are expanding teams across the state. Several Legion posts have approached us about starting new teams. Two are from the inner-city of St. Louis including Post 77 (University City) which is the first Black American Legion post in the country. We are working with Post 77 and the Cardinals to find synergies. The MLB has been implementing an 'RBI' (reviving baseball inner city) initiative. St Louis has had setbacks, and we hope to help them out.

Small high schools are being approached again this year to broaden the Missouri D2 league.

A 'prospects' league is under discussion for younger pre-HS ballplayers.

State fundraiser: Starting this week, the Spooktacular 50/50 Cash Raffle will start. We hope all of you will get involved in this on-line raffle.

Missouri Hall of Fame: Inductees were announced and will be inducted at the Fall State Conference on Saturday October 28th in Jefferson City. This year's inductees are John "DOC" Yallaly and Alex Shelton.
Thanks, Coach Russ
(314) 705-9147
ogemah123@gmail.com

Russell Klicker, Post 312 Baseball Manager 314-705-9147

SAVE YOUR TAB TOPS

Children & Youth
Please remember to save your tabs. We are collecting them for the Ronald McDonald House. You can bring your tabs up to the Foxhole and we will collect them.
Thank You
Brenda Richarz
Jennifer Slater

UPCOMING EVENTS

11 Nov VETERAN'S DAY
10 am Parade
11 am Ceremony at Bishops Landing
1 pm Ceremony at the County Courthouse

12 Nov Post Everlasting
2 pm at the Hall

18 Nov Buddy Supper
5 pm at the Hall

9 Dec Navy- Army Football Game
12 noon at the Foxhole

11 Dec Auxiliary Christmas Party

3 Feb Post 312 Baseball Trivia Night
Call Russ Klicker for more information
314-705-9147

Everyone have a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving Holiday!

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Foxhole Open Noon-6pm Bloody Mary Day	**2** **Legion Riders Mtg 6pm** **SAL Meeting 7 pm** Foxhole Open 5pm	**3** Foxhole Closed	**4** Foxhole Open 3 pm	5 Foxhole Open 3pm	6 Bingo 6:30 pm in the Hall Foxhole Open 3pm	7 Foxhole Open 3pm Music by Mike Feldman 7 PM in the Foxhole
8 Foxhole Open Noon-6pm	9 **Legion Meeting** **Auxiliary Meeting** **7:30** Executive Board6:00 Foxhole open 5:00	10 Foxhole Closed	11 Foxhole Open 3 pm Xbox Bowling 6:30pm in the Foxhole	12 Foxhole Open 3pm	13 Bingo 6:30 pm in the Hall Foxhole Open 3pm	14 Foxhole Open 3pm **Jackie D** Music 7 PM in the Foxhole
15 Foxhole Open Noon-6pm	16 Foxhole Closed	17 Foxhole Closed	18 Foxhole Open 3 pm	19 Foxhole Open 3 pm	20 Bingo 6:30 pm in the Hall Foxhole Open 3pm	21 Foxhole Open 3pm
22 Foxhole Open Noon-6pm	23 Foxhole Closed	24 Foxhole Closed	25 Foxhole Open 3 pm Xbox Bowling 6:30pm in the Foxhole	26 Foxhole Open 3 pm	27 Bingo 6:30 pm in the Hall Foxhole Open 3pm	28 Foxhole Open 3pm **Boston Dave Karaoke** 7 PM in the Foxhole
29 Foxhole Open Noon-6pm	30 Foxhole Closed	31 Foxhole Closed				

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	*2*	*3*	*4*
5	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*	*10*	*11*
12	*13*	*14*	*15*	*16*	*17*	*18*
19	*20*	*21*	*22*	*23*	*24*	*25*
26	*27*	*28*	*29*	*30*	*31*	

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
9	*10*	*11*	*12*	*13*	*14*	*15*
16	*17*	*18*	*19*	*20*	*21*	*22*
23	*24*	*25*	*26*	*27*	*28*	*29*
30						

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	*2*	*3*
4	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*	*10*
11	*12*	*13*	*14*	*15*	*16*	*17*
18	*19*	*20*	*21*	*22*	*23*	*24*
25	*26*	*27*	*28*	*29*	*30*	

July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
9	*10*	*11*	*12*	*13*	*14*	*15*
16	*17*	*18*	*19*	*20*	*21*	*22*
23	*24*	*25*	*26*	*27*	*28*	*29*
30	*31*					

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
6	*7*	*8*	*9*	*10*	*11*	*12*
13	*14*	*15*	*16*	*17*	*18*	*19*
20	*21*	*22*	*23*	*24*	*25*	*26*
27	*28*	*29*	*30*	*31*		

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	*2*
3	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
10	*11*	*12*	*13*	*14*	*15*	*16*
17	*18*	*19*	*20*	*21*	*22*	*23*
24	*25*	*26*	*27*	*28*	*29*	*30*

October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*
8	*9*	*10*	*11*	*12*	*13*	*14*
15	*16*	*17*	*18*	*19*	*20*	*21*
22	*23*	*24*	*25*	*26*	*27*	*28*
29	*30*	*31*				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

American Legion Post 312 St. Charles MO

November 2023

Post 636-947-7666 Hall Rental 314-952-8833 Foxhole 636-724-9712

www.alpost312mo.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **Xbox Bowling 6:30 in the Foxhole** *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*2* *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*3* ***Bingo 6:30 pm in the Hall*** *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*4* **Mike Feldman In the Foxhole 7 pm**
5 *Foxhole Open Noon-6pm*	*6* **Riders Mtg 6pm** **SAL Meeting 7pm** *Foxhole Open 5pm*	*7* *Foxhole Closed*	*8* *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*9* *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*10* ***Bingo 6:30 pm in the Hall*** *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*11* **VETERANS DAY** **Jackie D In the Foxhole 7 pm**
12 **Post Everlasting 2 PM in the Hall** *Foxhole Open Noon-6pm*	*13* **Legion Meeting Auxiliary Meeting 7:30** Foxhole open 5:00	*14* *Foxhole Closed*	*15* **Xbox Bowling 6:30 in the Foxhole** *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*16* *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*17* **Bingo 6:30 pm in the Hall** *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*18* **BUDDY SUPPER 5pm In the Hall** *Foxhole Open 3pm*
19 *Foxhole Open Noon-6pm*	*20* *Foxhole Closed*	*21* *Foxhole Closed*	*22* *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*23* *Foxhole Closed* **Thanksgiving**	*24* **NO BINGO** *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*25* **Boston Dave In the Foxhole 7 pm**
26 *Foxhole Open Noon-6pm*	*27* *Foxhole Closed*	*28* *Foxhole Closed*	*29* *Foxhole Open 3pm*	*30* *Foxhole Open 3pm*		

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	*2*
3	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
10	*11* *Aux Christmas Party*	*12*	*13*	*14*	*15*	*16*
17	*18*	*19*	*20*	*21*	*22* *NO BINGO*	*23*
24	*25*	*26*	*27*	*28*	*29* *NO BINGO*	*30*
31						