The Clarion

St. Charles American Legion Post 312

www.alpost312mo.org

November 2017

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Mike Mudd, Commander
(636) 293-4750

I would like to ***"Thank"*** all of the members that attended the September 11th Post meeting, and to our Legion Family for taking care of the events we had at our Post and at other locations for the month of October.

Air Conditioner

A new 20 ton replacement air conditioner was installed on Monday, October 9th by Pallardy Heating and AC for the large hall.

Friday Night Bingo

We held a bingo worker's meeting on Tuesday, October 10th with 15 members attending. Teams were setup to work the Friday night bingo but we need more volunteers. If you would like to help, contact a bingo worker or ask one of the bartenders in the Fox Hole for the application form.

Veteran's Day

All members are invited to attend the Veteran's Day Ceremony at the St. Charles County courthouse (3rd & Jefferson), Saturday, November 11th at 1:00 PM. Proudly be a Legion member and wear your cover.

Family Dinners

The Family Dinners are on the last Tuesday of the month. October 31st was the last one for 2017. There are no Family Dinners in November and December. A big ***"Thank You"*** to all of the volunteers who have made the Family Dinner a success in 2017. We call always use volunteers and any help would be appreciated.

Vote – November 8th

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, November 8th.

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1ST VICE COMMANDER

Larry Carron, 1st Vice Commander
(636) 345-6106

With the confidence and help of the membership, I have been able to assemble the tools needed to continue with my plan for the year.

In my first installment of this article, the vision was put forth to order the banners and table covers and I have set that up in two events so far, the car show and an event at the Harley dealership.

We continue to update the website photos from recent events and will continue to improve it.

The next step is to start hosting an orientation at the Post for all members. I will be developing and scheduling an orientation that will benefit new members but will be open to all members who want a better understanding of the history of the American Legion and its four pillars, and how the Post works to support of the mission. We will cover the duties of the various positions and how what we do fits into the larger mission of the National American Legion.

Stay tuned for updates on the website, *www.alpost312mo.org*, and through flyers at the post.

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SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

Don Lauer, Service Officer
(636) 896-6013

As of this writing, there has been no Veteran Assistance requested.

If we at this Post cannot supply you with medical equipment from our selection, there is a facility called, St. Louis Help, Health Equipment Lending Program, (wheel chairs, hospital beds, etc.) located at 9709 Dielman Rock Island Dr., Olivette, MO 63132. Call them at: 314-567-4700

If you describe what you need, they will try to meet your needs.

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CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Rich Middendorf, Chaplain
(636) 328-6996

Since the last Clarion issue, Post 312 has had no members called to The High Command. ***"Thank You"*** to all who attend our Legion Services.

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Funeral Call List

Please consider signing up for the Funeral Call List. This way, you will be notified when a member passes, so you can pay your Final Respects to deceased members.

Post Everlasting Ceremony

The Post Everlasting, a solemn ceremony to remember all Post, Auxiliary, S.A.L., and Rider members who passed during the past 12 months, will be held at the Post on Sunday, November 12th, at 2 PM.

Buddy Supper

The Buddy Supper is on Saturday, November 18th. A Social Hour will be held at 4 PM and dinner served at 5 PM. We will be honoring local police officers, firefighters, and paramedics.

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AMERICANISM/ CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Larry Dufour, Chairman
Americanism/Children & Youth,
Public Relations,
Law & Order and Public Safety
(636) 441-7102

Oratorical Scholarship Program "A Constitutional Speech" Contest

I'm still working with the high schools promoting our "Oratorical Scholarship Program" in which high school students can win scholarships by speaking on the U.S. Constitution, live before an audience.

All high school students, at any grade level, wishing to enter the St. Charles County contest must be certified by their respective high school and county chairman on or before November 30, 2017.

The St. Charles County contest will be held at 1:30 PM on Sunday, December 10th, 2017, here at Post 312.

Stay tuned for more news on this outstanding Americanism program.

5th Grade Americanism Essay Contest

The title of this year's essay contest with the 5th graders is "Why I Should Be A Good Neighbor and A Good Citizen".

The three top winners will be invited, along with their parents to our "Buddy Supper" on Saturday, November 18th, 2017 at 5:00 PM, to be recognized for being a "Good Citizen" and to receive their awards of $100, $75, and $50, respectively.

All submitted essays will be posted for viewing in the rotunda of the St. Charles City Hall during "American Education Week", November 13th – 17th.

The three winners and their parents and sibling will also be invited to the St. Charles City Council meeting on Tuesday, November 21st at 7:00 PM. They will be recognized by Mayor Sally Faith and the City Council for being "Good Neighbors and Good Citizens".

Law & Order and Public Safety

This year we will have five recipients of our "Law & Order and Public Safety" award at our "Buddy Supper" on Saturday, November 18th, 2017 at 5:00 PM. The Police and Fire departments represented will be:

St. Charles City Police

St. Charles County Police

St. Charles County Sheriff

St. Charles City Fire Department

The recipients will be coming with their family members, ranking police and fire department officers, and their respective police and fire chiefs.

Magazines, Books, and Puzzles

Magazines, books, and puzzles continue to be distributed to the area nursing homes. All the residents look forward to your generosity. Also, the Albert St. Clair Foundation distributes some of these materials to the areas homeless veterans.

"Thank You Very Much"

Material donations can be left in the Fox Hole or by contacting Larry Dufour at (636) 441-7102.

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AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Jan Irwin, President
(636) 699-9577

The busy season is upon us – here we are in November already! I know everyone's schedule gets so very hectic this time of year, but please don't forget the reason you are a member of the American Legion Auxiliary - our Veterans, our Active Duty and all their families.

To refresh our memory, The American Legion was formed after WWI as a support group for those returning from war; to help them reintegrate back into life at home after what they had been through. When a number of women's groups wanted to associate with TAL, it was decided to build a new group made up of the women most closely associated with the men of the Legion; the women who had already served and sacrificed during the war. Together, these groups-these families – would evolve into one of the greatest forces in this country, serving and watching out for, our Veterans, Active Duty and their families.

I am asking everyone – please don't get so busy in your life that you forget those who have fought for you, those who have sacrificed for you, and those who have given the ultimate sacrifice so that the rest of us can live in freedom. Please don't forget the reason you joined the Auxiliary in the first place. We need you now the same as we need you any other time of the year.

Post Everlasting will be held Sunday, November 12 at 2pm. Please don't be late. We will be honoring

those members we have lost over this past year.

Buddy Supper will be held Saturday, November 18. Social hour begins at 4:00, dinner at 5:00 and the program will follow dinner. On this evening, we will be recognizing outstanding First Responders throughout our community, as well as learning about citizenship from our Fifth Graders. It's always a lovely evening. Please be there.

Next meeting will be November 13 at 7:30. See you then!

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AUXILIARY 1ST VICE

Lucille Armbruster, 1st Vice President
Membership Chairman
(636) 441-6419

In the spirit of "Service Not Self", the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor our youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

This is why your membership is so important. Please forward your dues as soon as possible. Thanks to all who have already paid their 2018 dues.

Remember Veterans Day, November 11th, the signing of WWI Armistice (1918).

If you have any questions regarding your dues, please contact me at 636-441-6419.

'Happy Thanksgiving to All"

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Children's Christmas Party

Elizabeth Carron, Women's Auxiliary
Committee Chair
Children's Christmas Party

Time flies when you have fun. The time of year for the 2nd Annual Children's Christmas Party is quickly approaching and we can't wait to have more fun. We have arranged for Santa to take time from his very busy schedule. Please save the date of December 10, 2017, 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM. Food will be provided, games will be played and Santa will have gifts so it is important to sign up quickly so we obtain an accurate head count.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Fox Hole on November 1st. The deadline for sign up is November 20th. This is for children and grandchildren ages 0-10 years of members of The American Legion Family Post 312.

Last year was a huge success for our family members, let's make this one even better.

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VA&R REPORT

Rich Middendorf
(636) 328-6996

Veteran's Home Bingo will be held on Thursday, November 16th, one week early due to Thanksgiving. We could always use some more volunteers. If interested, please call me at (636) 328-6996.

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S.A.L.

Justin Marsden, Commander
(636) 219-6475

SAL Membership

Jay Marsden
Squadron Adjutant

It is that time of year again to renew your 2018 membership. As you know, membership is the life blood of any organization and your membership in the Sons of the American Legion is important to us. Cards are available and you can drop your dues off at the Fox Hole or mail to them to me directly. Please verify current address, email address, date of birth, and phone number. Dues are $20, $10 if a dual member or under 21 years of age.

SAL National Vice Commander

"Thank You" to the Department of Missouri, the Detachment Missouri, District 9, and all the squadrons of Missouri and to my home LEGION family at Post 312 in St Charles, MO.

At our national convention in Reno Nevada, I was installed as National Vice Commander for the 2017-2018 year.

Many have asked what can I do to help, well here it is folks. I'll start with membership, as we all know membership is the lifeblood of any organization. One of my main objectives this year is membership, of course there is always renewals and renewing early, but retention is an important part of the equation. We were at 87% nationally. Sons of the American Legion National Commander Danny Smith's membership goal is 95% retention. So recruit new members, retain the current, and get your dues paid early. Simply said and easily done, right? Always know we are Family First, if not by blood by our common goals. Do you have the Pioneering Spirit of Courage, Faith Teamwork and Perseverance?

We are the Sons of the American Legion. We are following their footsteps making history. National Commander of The American Legion, Denise Rohan is making history as the first Woman Commander of the Legion. She has individual recruitment awards for any Legion family member who recruits 3 or more new members.

Respectfully submitted

Jay Marsden
National Vice Commander

RETIREE'S CLUB

Bill Reilly, President
(636) 328-2340

When: 1st & 3rd Wednesday

Where: Legion Hall

Starting @: 10:00 am

Lunch Served: 12:00 Noon

Fare: $5.00

K.P.

Nov 1st – Dave Barteau
Lynn Barteau
John Foster

Nov 15th – Ken Borgmeyer
Norb Bornhop
Mick Boschert

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FOX HOLE NEWS

Dean Irwin, Chairman
(636) 288-1888

At least we do have a winning team in the "Blues" and, hopefully, they can keep it rolling along this season! It remains to be seen what, if any, trades, etc. the Cards do in the off-season.

As I consider November, we will have our regular Saturday night music except no karaoke on November 25th since it being on a long holiday weekend.

November Music

Nov. 4th - Erv & Harry

Nov. 11th - Frank Phillips & the Allens

Nov. 18th - Jack DeWeese

Come on out and enjoy the music and cold drinks served by our great bartenders!

Shuffleboard

In the shuffleboard tourney on Sept. 24th, the winners were:

1st Place – John & Royce

2nd Place – Mike & Rich

3rd Place – Marie & Roseann

On Oct. 8th, the winners were:

1st Place – Mike & Marie

2nd Place – Roseann & Betty

3rd Place – Royce & John

4th Place – Sean & Diane

In November, shuffleboard will be on the 12th & 26th.

Bowling

In the bowling tournaments, the winners on Sept. 19th were:

1st Place - Rich & Dean

2nd Place – Stan & Sean

3rd Place – Mary & John

On Oct. 3rd the bowling winners were:

1st Place – Jay & Sean

2nd Place – Mary & Dean

3rd Place – Rich & Kerrey

In November, bowling will be on the 7th & 21st.

There are drink and pizza specials for the players in both sporting events!

Lots of kidding, teasing, and FUN! Come out and join in!

Fox Hole Price Increase - 2018

The Post Bar Committee met on October 12th to discuss the cost increases facing the Fox Hole.

The two most significant increases are the Fox Hole insurance and liquor costs.

So to meet these increased expenses, it was decided to increase the cost of all drinks by $.25, effective 1 January 2018. It has been almost 3 years since the last price increase.

"Thank You"
for your patronage! Cheers!

EXTRA EXTRA…….READ ALL ABOUT IT…..

The Fox Hole will be holding a monthly 50/50 drawing starting in November.

Ticket sales will start on the first day of the month and conclude on the last day, with the winner being drawn at 7 PM.

Tickets for the first drawing will start being sold on Wednesday November 1st and the winner will be drawn on Thursday November 30th. Play as often as you like and you need not be present to win.

This is a new venture for us and for members only. Stop by often and watch the pot grow.

We will continue this drawing every month so long as there is interest.

"Thank You" from Dean and the bartenders of your Fox Hole lounge.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Mike Ramirez, Clarion Editor
(636) 294-9459

Email Clarion articles to:
mikeramirez91@gmail.com

Please include a phone number.

"Thank You"