The Clarion

St. Charles American Legion Post 312

August 2026

COMMANDER JOHN

It's hard to believe that a year has passed since I became Commander of Post 312! We have grown in members, launched successful community projects and fostered lasting friendships. As I step down, I am filled with gratitude for your trust and support.

Thank you all for this incredible journey.

To our incoming Commander and Executive Committee, I hand over the reins with confidence. The future of our post is bright, and I look forward to continuing as a dedicated member.

The 86th American Legion Boys and Girls State of Missouri was adjourned on June 27th. The volunteer staff hosted the state's best and brightest young men and women. This is an eight-day hands-on experience in the operation and fundamentals of government. The 86th session had many guest speakers. Damon Dunn, former college and NFL player and currently the CEO of Sagan Sign Talent, State Treasurer Vivek Malek, Attorney General Catherine Hanaway, Lt Gov David Wasinger and Senator Joe Mancin(D) West Virginia, and Martin Luther King III and many more speakers were in attendance for the 86th session. I had the privilege to tour the campus on June 25th during Legion Day. It was awe inspiring to see these young men and women conducting themselves more professionally than our elected officials. Let us all congratulate the 850 boys and 830 girls that were selected to attend this awesome program.

The National Convention is coming up at the end of August. If you never had the opportunity to attend one, you should consider this one. It's in Louisville Ky, August 28 through the 3rd of

September. It's a nice drive and you can take advantage of travelling the Bourbon Trail, which is an education in itself! Next year will be in Kansas City so try to make time to attend that one.

Again, I want to thank everyone for their support and hard work to keep Post 312 as the gold standard among the other posts.

For God and Country
Semper Fidelis
John Gonzales Post Commander
314-707-3758

POST CHAPLAIN

GOOD NEWS!

No one has been reported sick or had their final roll call for last month.

We pray for our entire Post 312 to stay well and be happy. Say something nice to someone. It will make you feel good.

Respectfully,
Larry DuFour, Chaplain 636-441-7102

POST SECOND VICE/ COMMANDER ELECT

As I begin my term as Commander of American Legion Post 312, I would first like to express my sincere

appreciation to our outgoing Commander, John Gonzales, for his dedication and leadership over the past year. Serving as Commander is both an honor and a responsibility, and John devoted countless hours to ensuring our Post continued to serve our veterans, our community, and our fellow Legionnaires. On behalf of the membership, thank you, John, for your service and commitment to Post 312.

It is both a privilege and a humbling experience to serve as your incoming Commander. I look forward to working alongside each of you as we continue to strengthen our Post and build upon the accomplishments of those who have served before us. No Commander succeeds alone. The strength of our Post has always come from the members who are willing to step forward, lend a hand, and support our mission.

I encourage every member to become involved in whatever way you can. Whether it's attending meetings, volunteering at an event, mentoring a fellow veteran, supporting one of our programs, or simply offering new ideas, every contribution makes a difference. Many hands make light work, and together we can continue to make Post 312 a place we are all proud to call home.

As Legionnaires, let us never lose sight of the Four Pillars of The American Legion: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. These pillars are the foundation of everything we do. They remind us that our membership is about far more than meetings or ceremonies. It is about continuing our commitment to those who have served, strengthening our nation, mentoring the next generation, and giving back to our communities.

Membership in The American Legion is not just a card we carry—it is a commitment to service. Each of us has something valuable to offer, and together we can make a lasting impact. I ask each of you to renew your commitment to our mission, support one another, and help ensure that Post 312 remains active, welcoming, and dedicated to serving veterans, their families, and our community.

I am honored by the trust you have placed in me, and I look forward to serving as your Commander. Together, let's make this a year of teamwork, fellowship, and continued service. I look forward to seeing each of you at our meetings and events as we continue to carry forward the proud traditions of The American Legion.

For God and Country.

Tony Rumbo, Post 2nd Vice Commander
tone_nav@yahoo.com 314-707-4683

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

HAPPY 250th BIRTHDAY AMERICA!

God's Blessing

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

AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN

Today I learned about a term called “glimmer”. Which is the opposite of a trigger. Glimmers are those moments that God sends us in our daily lives that makes us feel joy, happiness, peace and gratitude. Once we train our brains to be on the lookout for gimmers, these tiny moments will appear more and more.
Be happy and share your Glimmers!!!!

Blessings,

Bam Kelly Auxiliary Chaplain
terikkelly@aol.com 314-795-0283

VETERANS HOME BINGO

The next Veterans Home Bingo will be on Thursday Aug 20th. We must leave the Post promptly at 6 PM. Please call us ahead of time if you want a ride. Join us for a fun time!

Mary Bandini, VA&R Chair 314-707-2680
mpbandini1@yahoo.com

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Pulled Pork fundraiser is coming! Look for a flyer with the details will be in the next newsletter.

Next meeting is Monday August 3rd at 7pm.

John Leonard Squadron Commander
314-303-6665

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

This Month in Motorcycle History – August

Honoring the legacy of riders, veterans, and the open road

August holds a special place in the history of the American Legion Riders. In August 1993, a small group of Legionnaires at Garden City Post 396 in Michigan combined their passion for motorcycling with their commitment to serving veterans, military families, and their communities. From those humble beginnings, the American Legion Riders have grown into one of the most recognized and respected programs within The American Legion.

Today, Riders across the nation continue that mission by honoring our nation's heroes, supporting veterans in need, participating in memorial escorts, promoting patriotism, and raising funds for programs that make a real difference in the lives of veterans and their families.

Our own Missouri American Legion Riders demonstrated that commitment during the 2026 Department Legacy Ride held June 19–21 at the Lake of the Ozarks. The event brought together 44 motorcycles, more than 80 Legion Family members and supporters, representing 14 American Legion Rider Chapters from across Missouri. More importantly, as of June 30, the ride had raised more than $37,000 for The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation.

That achievement is about far more than dollars raised. It represents hope for military and veteran families facing unexpected hardships, and it reflects what can be accomplished when Legionnaires unite behind a common purpose.

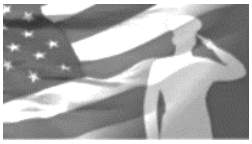
As we look back on the founding of the American Legion Riders, we can also look with pride at what our Missouri Riders continue to accomplish. Every mile we ride, every event we support, and every dollar we raise carries forward the legacy of service that began more than 30 years ago.

Thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered, donated, and supported this year's Legacy Ride. Because of your dedication, the mission of "Veterans Serving Veterans" continues to thrive.

Ride safe, ride with purpose, and thank you for making a difference.

Chapter Director

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



AMERICANISM CHILDREN & YOUTH

School is still out for the summer. I will be back in the schools the day after Labor Day with our American Legion Americanism/Children and Youth programs.

COLOR GUARD

As of now, July 6, 2026, there are no duty assignments for your Post 312 Color/Honor Guard team for August.

Respectfully submitted,

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

foxhole

We are deep in summer which means it may be a bit slow in the Foxhole, but don't let that stop you from coming out if you are in town.

Jukebox Nights are on Saturday's and Boston Dave, Karaoke on August 29th.

Thursday nights are karaoke night in the Foxhole and Boston Dave will be there every week.
Please stop by, lend your voice, enjoy the night and support The Foxhole.

Join us for bowling, (on a gaming console) is on the first and third Wednesday in The Foxhole. It
is low impact on the body while being competitive as you face your opponents. We draw names
to pair up with a teammate or play head-to-head if we have only 4 people participating.

Please, come in often, drink responsibly and don't drive while intoxicated. We want everyone
to be safe while still enjoying what we have to offer in The Foxhole.

Larry Carron Bar Chairman
LarryCarronRealtor@outlook.com 636-345-6106

SAVE YOUR TAB TOPS

Don't forget to save your tab tops for the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary uses them to support the Ronald McDonald House. Drop them off anytime at the Foxhole.

FAMILY DINNER

SAUSAGE DINNER

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

4:30pm-6:00pm

Cost: $15.00

Dine In or Carry Out

Come join us for sausage, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, dinner roll and dessert!

Text or call Bam Kelly, 314-795-0283, to reserve your dinner no later than August 20th. Invite a friend along or order a carry out meal for a neighbor!

POST 312 LEGION BASEBALL NEWS

Hello everyone,

On behalf of the three baseball teams that Post 312 supports, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for the incredible support we have received this season.

Having Post members come out to our games has truly meant the world to us. The players feel like they actually have fans in the stands, which is a unique and wonderful experience that this program provides for them. As coaches and players, we are extremely grateful for everything the Post does for us, and we look forward to supporting the Post whenever and however we can.

I would like to take a moment to recognize several individuals and sponsors who made this season possible:

- **Team Leaders:** A huge thank you to **Ryan Brown**, **Greg Mettlach**, and **Steve Kerr** for their outstanding leadership and mentorship of their respective teams.
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- **Program Champions:** Post 312 members **Russ Klicker** and **Tom Rhoads** have provided the Legion Baseball program as a whole with outstanding leadership, championing our efforts in every way possible.

- **Matt Lambeck (19U First Baseman):** I want to acknowledge Matt for his years of service to our team. He has been an incredible leader both in the dugout and on the field, he is exactly the kind of player everyone wants on their team.
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- **Our Departing Players:** It has been an absolute privilege to coach several of our departing players for a number of years. A massive thank you to **Chase Duncan**, **Adam Lorenz**, **Cody Cox**, **Alex Hopf**, **Rudy Weber**, and my favorite player, **Dean Baker**. Thank you all not only for your efforts on the field, but for the recruiting, the trivia nights, and all the extra things you've done to improve our program.

We could not operate without outside help and I would like to thank our generous business sponsors:

- **American Iron**
- **Droste Construction**
- **Dairy Queen**

Our teams will be competing in the **Zone and State Playoffs starting on July 16th and running through July 26th**.

We deeply appreciate all of your well wishes and prayers as we head into the postseason and try to put together some successful championship runs! Thank you all very much for your unwavering support.

For God and Country,

Brandon Baker, Post 312 Baseball Manager
Brandonbaker236@gmail.com 636-288-3533

FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO

Bring your friends and join us for an evening of Bingo.

Doors open at 4 pm, Bingo starts at 6.30
Bingo is the big money maker for the Post. Your
help will be greatly appreciated. Come by one
Friday evening and discover how you can help.
You don't have to spend the whole evening, if you can only help for a few hours that's ok. Come out anyway, it's entertaining! There are many types of jobs, and we will find one that you
can perform.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILLARY SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarship Committee this year is excited to report that we were able to have an increase in the amount we awarded to $1000.

The Scholarship committee sends out a google doc form to the counselors at the 5 high schools
in our district. The counselors then sends it out to the students in the form that each school provides. We receive the recipients form filled out and we go over each applicant from each
school. The committee picks 1 recipient from each school and they receive a certificate stating that they have won the $1,000 scholarship from the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 312. They
will receive their certificate at the school's senior night program. The scholarship money will be
sent in August to the recipient's school of choice they will attend in the fall.

The winners this year were:
Duchesne----------None (we received no applications)
Francis Howell North------Aaron Wolberg
Orchard Farm HS---------- Emily Weber
St. Charles West HS------Alison Loftus
St. Charles HS---------- Lana Usery
Jacob Lawrence

Scholarship Chairpersons
Brenda Richarz
Jenn Slater

St. Charles American Legion Post 312

August 2026

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						Jukebox Night @ Foxhole
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Riders Meeting 6pm SALS Meeting 7 PM Foxhole Opened 5-10 Clarion articles due	Foxhole Closed	Bowling @ Foxhole	Karaoke @ Foxhole	Bingo 6:30pm	Jukebox Night @ Foxhole
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Auxiliary Meeting 7;30pm Legion Meeting 7:30pm Foxhole open 5-10	Foxhole Closed		Karaoke @ Foxhole	Bingo 6:30pm	Jukebox Night @ Foxhole
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Foxhole Closed	Foxhole Closed	Bowling @ Foxhole	Karaoke @ Foxhole	Bingo 6:30pm	Jukebox Night @ Foxhole
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Foxhole Closed	Family Dinner, 4:30-6pm		Karaoke @ Foxhole	Bingo 6:30pm	Boston Dave Karaoke @ Foxhole
30	31					
	Foxhole Closed					