The Clarion

St. Charles American Legion Post 312

May 2022

COMMANDER DAN

Hard to believe we are into the month of May; my hope is everyone is doing well.

Legion and Auxiliary meetings are May 9. We would like to see as many as possible in attendance.

Upcoming events for the month include several **Memorial Day Ceremonies**:

May 29 at 2 PM at Saint Charles Memorial Gardens.

May 30 at 10 AM at Bishops Landing

May 30 at 1 PM at Veterans Tribute Park on Kisker Road.

I will update information via the Post recorded message on 636-946-7666 in the event of changes in time or location of these ceremonies.

The dress for these events is Legion casual. Wear something that will identify you as a Legion member.

Other upcoming events:

May 19 Boys State Meeting for local students and their parents from 6 to 9 PM at Post 312.

June 5 District 9 Meeting at Post 312. Registration is at 9 AM, lunch following the meeting. Dress is Legion casual. We would like to see many members in attendance as possible.

June 13 Legion and Auxiliary **meetings and elections**.

June 14 Flag Day

June 21 First Responder Lunch at the Post 11:30 - 1:30 PM. Attend if you can, it is our way to say thank you for all they do.

I am hoping that soon we will start back up with the Family Dinners. A Kitchen Manager has been Please welcome Brian Middendorf as our new Kitchen Manager. Brian is a member of our Sons of the American Legion and a Manager at Schlafly's (used to be Trailhead).

The Foxhole has added new entertainment which has been well-attended. Please come by and check out both Mike Feldman and Jamie Mack. We are sure you will enjoy them.

I ask if you have not yet renewed your membership to please do so as soon as you can.

Please continue with your buddy checks it is way to let a member know you care and improve on membership and programs here at the Post.

Until next month, please keep all our Legion Family members and our military in your thought and prayers. Keep safe all our First Responders who deserve a big thank for all they do.

Always remember that we live in the greatest country in the world USA. God bless America.

Commander Dan

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

POST 312 BASEBALL NEWS

You may have noticed some recent changes to baseball diamond #2 at Blanchette Park in St. Charles.

The St. Charles Parks and Recreation Department has been working with Post 312 and St Charles High to make improvements.

A new scoreboard was installed and privacy screens have been added to the fences surrounding the dugouts. These improvements are part of a wider ongoing effort to bring this field back to its glory.

Workers Installing New Scoreboard

Installation Complete

Baseball players are currently playing for their high schools. Weather has been challenging but there have been several good games as the high school teams prepare for their playoffs.

Our new baseball website has launched. The website will have Twitter and Instagram to connect us to our community. It will also have player profiles and coach's bios among other neat features.

We are starting early planning for our season opener that will hopefully include our Post Color Guard and a special guest to throw out the first pitch.

We hope to continue these two activities throughout the season. Our baseball program needs to highlight the many things that our Post and our members do and represent.

Baseball is an American tradition and baseball in St. Charles has been an important part of our community for many years.

In the 1960's the Minnesota Twins used Blanchette Park for part of their pre-season program. American Legion players signed professional contracts at the park. Approximately half of MLB Hall Of Famers played American Legion baseball which continues to thrive throughout the US and into Canada. Locally, both the St. Charles American Legion and St Charles High (founded in 1899) have their own rich baseball histories - both sending many players from our area to college levels and beyond.

Over the years there have been multiple changes to the Park including lighting, bleacher upgrades, batting cages, etc. Large crowds often gathered at the park to watch baseball.

For 60 plus years, St. Charles American Legion and St. Charles High have used this field for their home games. There are several other organizations as well that currently use this field and these improvements help keep the tradition alive.

Coach Russ

Russ Klicker
Baseball Committee Chairman/Coach
314-795-9147 ogemah123@gmail.com

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POST CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Since the last report, six members have passed:

Earl Renken
Bobby Avery
Rubelle Shields
James McCormick
George Fitts
Ronald Askeland

No Legion Services were requested. Please keep them in your prayers.

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

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SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION

Contact me to volunteer for the **Harley Hotdog Hut** on **Jun 4**. Our n**ext meeting** is Mon **May 2** at 7 PM.

John Leonard, Squadron Commander
314-303-6665

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Positive anything is better than negative nothing" Elbert Hubbard

May is such a happy month! It is when the flowers and gardens are starting to bloom, and it is the month when school children are counting the days, hours, and minutes until school lets out. As parents and grandparents, we may have more of an opportunity to spend time with those very same children. The weather is starting to change (HOPEFULLY) to longer daylight hours and hopefully that equates to more sunshine hours.

I want to thank all the members of the Spring Luncheon Committee starting with our Chairperson Tricia Casper. As a new member she has been quick to accept the challenge of chairing one of the most important events and with the help of an experienced committee I am sure they will have another successful luncheon. Thank you to Lucille Armbruster, Mary Bandini, Georgia Davis, Mary Diel, Bam Kelly, Kris Marsden, Mary Middendorf, Judi Sovanski, and Jeanne Steinhoff and all the other Auxiliary members who will be working this year's luncheon. It is important that we give new members the opportunity to serve in a way they are enthusiastic, and it will benefit us all. We have several members who have taken on new and different capacities

this year and I continue to be grateful for all the volunteers in our Post 312 American Legion Family and all the successes we achieve together.

Our Post will be hosting the District 9 meetings on June 5th. The Auxiliary will be accepting items for attendance prizes, and we will have a signup sheet at May's meeting for homemade desserts. Volunteers are needed to help serve luncheon, setup attendance prizes, and if you are unable to volunteer, we would be delighted to see you face in attendance at the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact me or anyone of the Officers for additional information.

The new Auxiliary bingo fridge is here and installed and we continue to seek volunteers to cook and serve on Friday nights. If your summer schedule will allow you to help, please contact me.

In closing I would like to share a personal professional moment. Like so many other industries right now the Health Care systems are stretched thin, and the leadership of my department takes great strides to do what they can for their employees. Last week a care package was sent to me which included positive motivation quotes and one of the cards included in my package resonated with me and I believe it is something everyone in our Post Family can relate to during times of challenge, so I share this quote and ask you to take a moment and think about how it relates to you and the work we do here at American Legion Post 312. "*Strive for progress, not perfection."* God's blessing to you all.

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

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AUXILIARY FIRST VICE

We are getting closer to our goal. Please keep signing up new members and to those who have not renewed yet, please think about why you joined. Was it because of your special Veteran?

As you know the numbers count in Washington when they are trying to get more benefits for our Veterans.

Do not forget your mothers on **Mother's Day, May 8**. Also, remember the Veterans who paid the ultimate price on **Memorial Day May 30** and remember to thank a Veteran for his or her service to our country.

2022 AUX SCHOLARSHIPS

The following are the recipients of this year's $500 scholarships.

Jacqueline Gurley,
St Charles West

Ashur Wilkes, Orchard Farm

Corinne Armbruster, Duchesne

Stanford Lindquist,
Francis Howell North

Kelsey Nash, St. Charles High

All are related to a Veteran and Jacqueline and Corinne are Junior members of our Auxiliary.

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

POST FIRST VICE

The American Legion National Judge Advocate Mark Seavey recently spoke about the use of the American Legion emblem. The use of the emblem or brand mark by an individual Legionnaire is limited to wearing of the official insignia and to the possession of authorized jewelry on merchandise bearing the insignia.

Posts are confined to using the emblem, brand mark, reproduction of the emblem on stationery, Post publication, notices, posters, or place cards or matters of similar character used in the ordinary routine and conduct of legitimatePost business. Any other use of the name "The American Legion" or the emblem/brand mark shall be subject to the approval of the National adjutant.

"What this says is that it's illegal to manufacture the emblem of a veteran service organization without the written consent of that organization." For example, if you have T-shirts made by a local company for your Post to sell (without National consent) "that manufacturer is not going to know that they are violating criminal law.

Manufacturing something with a trademark of the American Legion on it is a serious infraction of the law. If you want to use the emblem on shirts for the Post, you can easily obtain permission from your Department Adjutant or get the form online.
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The Judge Advocate also wanted to remind members that National, Department and Post are separate and autonomous. For example, according to Mr. Seavey, if a department held an event where members went skydiving and someone was injured, that is not the fault of National and no legal action can be taken against them. He also suggested that all Posts should review their bylaws annually.

I appreciate all the work you do to keep Post 312 a viable and active asset to The American Legion. The May 11 deadline to reach 100% is fast approaching. As of April 11, we were at 89.95% of our goal. We stand with 546 paid members today and our goal is 607. We are 47 members short of our 2021 ending membership total. If anyone has any ideas on how we can retain those who have not yet paid their dues or recruit new members, I am willing to put your plan into action

For God and Country.

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

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Congratulations to **Charlie F,** winner of the Mar 50/50 Raffle. Thanks Charlie for donating your winnings back to the Foxhole!

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

FOXHOLE MUSIC IN MAY

May 14 Jackie D

May 21 Jamie Mack

May 28 Boston Dave

Another busy moth is ahead of us, but first I will take a moment to thank those of you that helped with removing the old carpet and replacing it with the Luxury Vinyl Plank flooring. Thank you Mark Landsbury for donating your time and talent to install the flooring in an efficient, professional manner. It looks fantastic. With the flooring and cleaning day at The Foxhole we also thank Dan Sauer, Jackie D, Kris Marsden, Jaxen Marsden, Rich Middendorf, Liz Carron, Debbie Melton, Cindy Wahl, Joanie, Dean Irwin, Jim Rau, Mary Bandini, Stan Steinhoff.

Thank you all who made a special Cards Home Opener as they batted in a winner. What a great, Feel-good day! Everything from hotdogs, peanuts, and Cracker Jacks, to root, root, root for the home team was fabulous!

Next up, Cinco De Mayo (hint) May 5 with Burritos and Margaritas and who knows what else we will concoct. Look for Flyers.

Derby Days May 7 put on your Derby hat or bonnet and enjoy a Mint Julep or Mojito.

Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful women in our lives. Each women deserves this day if you embrace the importance of family.

Memorial Day is around the corner. Foxhole will be open Mon May 30 from 3 to 8 PM, providing a free drink to members attending a Memorial Day Ceremony, 2 drinks for participating Color Guard members.

Kris Marsden, Bar Manager
636-219-5282

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AMERICANISM/ CHILDREN & YOUTH

Our Post 312 will hold a Missouri Boys State orientation meeting on Thursday May 19, 2022, from 7 PM to 9 PM for the high school juniors and parents that will be attending our program on the campus of Lindenwood University June 11 thru June 18, 2022. This is "A WEEK TO SHAPE A LIFETIME" These students will earn two or three college credit hours for completing the educational program. Stay tuned for further updates.

COLOR/HONOR GUARD

Your Post 312 Color/Honor Guard will participate in Memorial Day ceremonies at 2 PM Sunday May 29 at St. Charles Memorial Gardens and at 10 AM Monday May 30 at Bishops Landing in St Charles City and at 1 PM at St Charles County Veterans Tribute Park on Monday May 30.

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