The Clarion

St. Charles American Legion Post 312

February 2024

POST COMMANDER

Happy New Year everyone! If you can read this, you made it to 2024. Cold weather is setting in and the manufacturer has started construction on our new sign, permitting is just being finalized. It will be nice to program the sign from a warm office instead of walking out in the cold. Remember on January 27, we are co-hosting the **Superhumans Project with the Orchard Farm VFW** post. The $30 ticket includes draft beer and soda and Music by The Yard Darts. Finally, please think about our elections of new officers in June 2024. The best way to know about a position here at the Post is to ask someone who is or has been in that spot. There is much more to accomplish, and we need your talents. Our Facility Manager and Business Manager positions are still open for the rest of this year as well. I will not be running for Commander this coming election as I need to focus on the advancement of my career and on my home.

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 Commander Post 312
636-345-6106 ljcarron1@charter.net

POST CHAPLAIN

Since the last report, we have learned that Jesse Borders passed November 8, 2023.
Please keep his family in your prayers

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

POST FIRST VICE

WOW, again. We are now at the start of a new gracious year 2024. Sorry for missing December had some illnesses I would like to forget. However, we are well on our way into this year whether we like it or not. We can make it our best year ever. Here's how. Now that we have some promotional items, (poker chips, money clips, etc.) we can start sharing our post with others. Just letting them know how great we are. Not bragging but simply, we think we are the best.
We work very hard to make this a great place and we can use your help. Everyone's needs to commit again to support the American Legion, or we may not be able to keep this going. Seems like we have some very committed folks here and thank GOD for them, but they cannot carry the load for the entire post. We do our best to support every other Veteran in this area. We need help. So, here's my SOS.
Please work with us to make as many improvements as we can. I look forward to just a few new faces lightning the load. Many hands make light work. As a matter of fact, bring a buddy. What better way to show you are engaged.

Well, I guess it's time for this article to come to a close. Just remember every task requires a well-meaning person to get it accomplished. (i.e. baseball, bingo, veteran bingo, dinners, the Clarion, and a lot more).

May God Bless this Post and may God Bless the Veterans that support it.

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 a place to pay your dues (reminder as of January 2023 are $50)

If you work hard, you have a better chance of producing something that you're proud of. If you don't, you won't. It's really simple.
--Bryan Cranston

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Wow, its 2024. Happy New Year to everyone! Unfortunately, we started off the new year by cancelling our January meeting because of the weather. The decision made by the Executive Committee was based not only on the weather conditions, but also driving distances and the comfort levels of those driving under those conditions. I am proud to be part of an organization that cares so much about our members! That means we will have A LOT of business to discuss at our February meeting!
February is Americanism month. To quote National, "The purpose of the Americanism program is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship." We teach proper flag etiquette, history, and proper disposal of the flag. We have information and activities available to educate our youth on the U.S. Constitution and to understand what patriotism means. We also sponsor an Americanism Essay Contest. Let's get our youth involved in this great country!
Going forward we will be looking at fundraisers, starting to plan for the Spring Luncheon, and doing things to continue to support our Military and Veterans and their Families.
I look forward to seeing YOU at the February 12 meeting!

Jan Irwin, Auxiliary President 636-699-9577

AUXILIARY FIRST VICE

We have 225 paid members; we need 56 more to reach our goal of 281.
The next target date is March 15, 2024 "American Legion Birthday" of 85%.
National will be sending out final renewal notices on February 1.
Keep signing up new members.
If you have any questions, please let me know.

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

Thank you, God, for giving us those that love us unconditionally.
Teach us to express love well and to remember to love ourselves. Send us strength to love when times are tough standing on your promise that love endures all things.
Amen
I challenge you to please send out at least one card this month to let someone (a family member, friend, neighbor) know you care about them.
BE THE ONE!!!

Happy Valentine's Day!!!!
Bam Kelly, Chaplain 314-795-0283

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHAB

During the last part of November and the first part of December the Auxiliary had a "Sock Drive for Veterans". The drive was a large success with 5 boxes containing 400 plus pairs of white socks for both women and veterans were delivered to Jefferson

Barracks Veterans Hospital. Thanks goes out to all of the Post 312 family members for their support.

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

VETERANS HOME BINGO

The next Veterans Home Bingo will be in March please check next month's Clarion for the date. We will leave the Post at 6 PM. Please call us ahead of time if you want a ride. Join us for a fun time!

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

Giving Trees

With the generosity of our legion families we were able to provide the families with all the gifts they wanted. All the families were so "appreciative and overwhelmed by the outpouring of love for them." Each family wants us to know how much it means to them.

Mary Bandini

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Childrens' Christmas Party was held on December 3, 2023, from 12:00-2:00. It was a huge success. Thank you to all the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, SAL members and Riders who had children or grandchildren who enjoyed the party. The kids enjoyed games such as the beloved Toy Walk, they also spent time decorating Christmas cookies, making ornaments, coloring and creating holidays ticker scenes. The children were able to savor a variety of Christmas goodies. Holiday carols were sung as they crowd awaited St. Nick's arrival. Finally, Santa and Mrs. Claus made their annual visit with much excitement from the kids. Each child received a present and was able to sit upon Santa's knee. Many photo opportunities were given for the families throughout this event.

Children & Youth Committee

Brenda Richarz
Jennifer Slater

MEATLOAF DINNER IS BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

T**ues Feb 27**, serving from 4:30 to 6 PM, Dine-In or Curbside Pickup.

Please order in advance by **Thurs Feb 22**, call or text to 636-328-6996.

$15 a plate for meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, dinner roll and your choice of homemade dessert including **Pineapple upside-down cake Cherry dump cake and bread pudding.** Extra desserts are only $1 if you order them in advance.

AMERICANISM/ CHILDREN & YOUTH/ COLOR GUARD

AMERICAN LEGION HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ''A CONSTITUTIONAL SPEECH CONTEST''

At this writing the January 14th Ninth District high school oratorical constitutional speech contest and the Zone One oratorical contest on January 21, 2024, have not yet been held. Drury University in Springfield, Missouri awards a $13,000 scholarship per year for all four years to attend Drury University to all first and second place zone winners for a total of eight high school students in our four zones. The four zone winners will be the four contestants in our state

contest to be held on Sunday February 25, at Ashland High School in Ashland, Missouri which is halfway between Columbia and Jefferson City, Missouri. Those four high school oratorical contestants will receive $5,000, $2,500. $2,250. and $2,000 respectively from The American Legion Department of Missouri. Besides the $5,000. scholarship the state winner also receives another $2,000.00 scholarship from our National Organization and all expenses paid for him or her and a parent to travel to Hillsdale, Michigan May 17 through May 19 for the National finals. The three top winners at the National contest are awarded a $25,000, $22,500, and a $20,000 scholarship to attend a college or University of their choice.
Stay tuned for updates as these progressive youth of today move forward and upward on their path to be tomorrow's leaders.

AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE OF MISSOURI, INC.

From January to June each year is a busy time with Boys State applications and sponsorships. Our Boys State Program will be held June 22 through June 29, on the campus of Lindenwood University in ''A WEEK TO SHAPE A LIFETIME'. High School juniors from across Missouri will recreate City, County and State government in just one week and earn two or three college credit hours for doing so.
Stay tuned as these youth of today take the path to becoming tomorrow's leaders!!!

COLOR GUARD/HONOR GUARD NEWS

At this time, we welcome Austin Sams as a new member to our elite Color Guard/Honor Guard team and Austin is also a new member to our SAL squadron.
Welcome aboard Austin Sams!!!

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

foxhole

Happy New Year to everyone. We made it through 2023 and now we are looking forward to Superbowl 2024 on February 11 hosted by The Sons of The American Legion. This is always a good time, plan to attend.
Entertainment in February has not been decided. Attendance has been down, and we need to watch the bottom line due to some unforeseen expenses at the Post level. That can all be cured by coming out more often and supporting The Foxhole. We also realize that events have provided a boost in revenue, whether it was the Bourbon tasting or birthdays celebrated in the Foxhole. We will be working on having more of these events this year.
Speaking of events, save the date of Feb 25 for our annual Chili Cook off, look for the sign-up sheet and more details in the Foxhole.

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

SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION

I hope everyone had a great holiday season

We are sponsoring a Super Bowl party on Sunday February 11th. We will have squares, raffles and food. Feel free to bring one of your favorite snacks to share too. Come join us for some fun.
Next meeting on Mon Feb 5 at 7 PM.

John Leonard, Squadron Commander 314-303-6665

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Next meeting on Mon Feb 5 at 6 PM.

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

FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO AT POST 312

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. There are many types of jobs, and we will find one that you can perform.

POST 312 LEGION BASEBALL NEWS

Legion Baseball Trivia Night Sat Feb.10 at the Legion Hall. Doors open at 6 pm trivia starts at 7 pm. $250 for a table of 8 or $25 per person. Includes beer and soda, NO OUTSIDE Alcohol Raffle baskets, 50-50 drawings, silent auction. Call Russ Klicker 314-708-9147 or Tom Rhoads 314-304-6702 to make reservations or for more Information.

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

A NIGHT AT THE RACES

40 & 8 Voiture #1541 will again be hosting a "Night at the Races" fundraiser in the small hall at the St. Charles American Legion on Saturday March 2. Doors open at 6PM with the races starting at 7PM. Admission is $15 which covers your horse racing form, draft beer, and sodas. There will be a cash bar for those that prefer wine or mixed drinks. You may bring outside food for your group. There is NO SMOKING at the Post and no outside alcohol is permitted. All proceeds go towards out Nurses Training and Child Welfare Programs. Thank you in advance for your support. For any questions, please contact event coordinator **Leon Hill at (314)406-2260** or ask any Voyageurs **(Al Schultz, Rich Middendorf, Jerry Hoeft).** Flyers will be available in the Foxhole by February 1st.

Forrest Johnson Chef de Gare

HEARING AID SERVICE

Hearing aid repair is now available at the St. Charles VA Clinic.
Services are only on Friday by appointment.
Call the clinic at 314-894-6696 or 314-289-6341.

The VA Clinic is located at 2845 Veterans Memorial Parkway St. Charles, Mo 63303

LEGION SERVICE OFFICER

The post Service Officer is Don Newman 314-949-0440. If you have any questions about VA benefits, call Don, he will help you!

Happy Valentines Day

American Legion Post 312 St. Charles MO
February 2024
Post 636-947-7666 Hall Rental 314-952-8833 Foxhole 636-724-9712

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
There is no Sat. Entertainment Scheduled for Feb. at this	**Time. Check Foxhole for any Changes.**			*1* Foxhole Open 3pm	*2* **Foxhole Open 3pm** **Bingo 6:30** **in the Hall**	*3* Foxhole Open 3pm
4 Foxhole Open Noon-6pm	*5* **Riders Mtg 6pm** **SAL Meeting 7pm** Foxhole Open 5pm	*6* Foxhole Closed	*7* **Xbox Bowling** **6:30 in the Foxhole** **Foxhole Open 3pm**	*8* Foxhole Open 3pm	*9* **Foxhole Open 3pm** **Bingo 6:30** **in the Hall**	*10* Foxhole Open 3pm **Baseball Trivia** **In the hall** **7 pm**
11 **Superbowl Party Presented by SAL** **Foxhole open 3 pm**	*12* **Post-Auxiliary Mtg 7:30pm** **Foxhole Open** **5 pm**	*13* Foxhole Closed **Clarion Articles Due Today**	*14* Foxhole Open 3pm	*15* Foxhole Open 3pm	*16* **Foxhole Open 3pm** **Bingo 6:30** **in the Hall**	*17* Foxhole Open 3pm
18 Foxhole Open Noon-6pm	*19* Foxhole Closed	*20* Foxhole Closed	*21* **Xbox Bowling** **6:30 in the Foxhole** **Foxhole Open 3pm**	*22* Foxhole Open 3pm **Meatloaf Dinner Orders Due** **636-328-6996**	*23* **Foxhole Open 3pm** **Bingo 6:30** **in the Hall**	*24* Foxhole Open 3pm
25 Foxhole Open Noon-6pm **Chili Cookoff**	*26* Foxhole Closed	*27* **MEATLOAF DINNER** **430-600** **FOXHOLE OPEN**	*28* Foxhole Open 3pm	*29* Foxhole Open 3pm		