The Clarion
St. Charles American Legion Post 312
October 2018

COMMANDER'S CORNER

As I write this column, we just finished yet another successful American Legion *Family Picnic with all entities pitching in.*

The Auxiliary provided activities for the kids and prepped the meals for serving. The Sons set up and tore down the event tents, tables and chairs and spent an afternoon over a hot grill to provide the meal.

Larry DuFour secured a fire engine, a mounted policeman and an ambulance for display. Danny Russo, a new member, arranged for two medevac helicopters to land on our parking lot, a big hit for all.

The Foxhole provided drinks and overall, it was a great event. Thank you everyone for your help.

As you know, we have no official **Kitchen Manager** at this time and are working to ensure those duties are fulfilled. This will involve having other members with a Manager's Food Handler certificate. We need additional **Bingo Captains** and callers as well.

To that end I am scheduling the small hall for Monday, **October 15**, 6:00 PM for another **Bingo Training** night. Please let me know who is coming, the more the better, we will go through all aspects of the game so you know what to expect and how to conduct Bingo.

Let's fill these positions for the events that keep this Post operating.

Thank you all for your support of activities of this Post and mostly for your support of our Veterans.

Larry Carron, Commander
636-345-6106

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St. Charles ambulance at Post Picnic

Judge, the police horse &
St. Charles fire engine in background

medevac helicopter at Post Picnic

Come help us celebrate an
American Legion
Centennial Event
November 3
Come see what it's all about!

POW/MIA REMEMBRANCE and WATCH FIRE LIGHTING

Post 312 was well-represented at the ceremony September 21 at dusk on Bishop's Landing.

Paul Rogers was in the motorcycle procession, our Color Guard presented the colors, Larry Reighard was Master of Ceremonies, Don Newman led the Pledge of Allegiance and lit the watch fire and Rich Middendorf gave the benediction.

A watch fire is a military tradition used to help lost soldiers find their way back to friendly lines.

Pledge of Allegiance at Ceremony

Benediction at POW/MIA Remembrance

The watch fire at Bishop's Landing
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SERVICE OFFICER

There have been no Veteran financial requests in the past month.

There have been indicators of creativity in requests from individuals contacting several posts seeking the same help on different occasions, ranging from Arnold and Manchester to Veterans' Posts in St. Charles County.

Using our limited networking, we feel requestors may be receiving more assistance than is required or honestly needed.

To make a request, the Veteran must produce, in person, his/her DD-214, a current driver's license & VA card, including a photo ID.

This Post will only pay utility bills or rent and provide food cards or gas by either check or Post credit card at Schnucks, QT, etc.

Not all Posts take this position. We are prudent in our approach to helping and share the expense with other Posts, allowing our limited funds to go further.

Don Lauer, Post Service Officer
636-947-1050

CHAPLAIN

Post members Karen Reeves and George H. Chakides were called to the High Command in September. No Legion services were requested.

Watch the board in the Foxhole for sympathy and get well cards to be signed as well as notices of funeral services and illnesses.

Rich Middendorf, Post Chaplain
636-328-6996

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AMERICANISM CHILDREN AND YOUTH

"Why I Like Police Officers and Firefighters; They are My Friends" is the title of our 5th Grade A**mericanism Essay Contest** this year.

The essays must be 400 words or less, to be completed by October. The top 3 essays selected by the teachers of each class will be reviewed by the Post 312 committee. The 3 winners will be announced in the November Clarion and recognized at the Post Buddy Supper.

This contest is one of the events leading up to American Education Week November 12-16, which is co-sponsored nationally by the American Legion and Auxiliary.

High school students at any grade level can win scholarships by speaking on the US Constitution, without notes, before a live audience in the American Legion **High School Oratorical** Scholarship Program.

Students from the 17 high schools in St. Charles County who wish to participate in the December contest must be certified by their school and the County Oratorical Chairman by November 30.

Books and puzzles continue to be distributed on a limited basis to area nursing homes, VA homes and senior centers. Albert St. Clair and St. Clair's Hearts Foundation are also distributing to area homeless veterans.

Demand for magazines is low, so let us know if you are aware of a need elsewhere.

Larry DuFour, Americanism,
Children & Youth, Public Relations,
Law & Order, Public Safety
636-441-7102

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AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

What a fabulous day was had by all at the Post Picnic. I just want to thank everyone who worked so hard, out in the heat, putting together such a wonderful day.

Especially the SAL guys, who stood by the burning coals all afternoon to make sure our food was done to perfection. You guys are awesome!

And I want to say thank you to the Legion for putting together a great picnic spread! Where else can you go to get a whole meal - AND DRINKS - for just the cost of a donation??

And I haven't even mentioned the helicopter, the ambulance, the police car, the fire truck, and my personal favorite - Judge, the patrol horse!

Our Legion family is amazing! How we can all work so hard at the Post for our different projects and still be willing to donate to a worthy cause. Thank you to all the members who shared this day with each other. Post, Unit, Squadron or Chapter, if it's St Charles 312, it is amazing!

Don't forget to sign in at every meeting for a chance to get your dues paid by the Unit for 2019! Next meeting is October 8.

Jan Irwin, Auxiliary President
636-699-9577

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AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN

Nancy Sauer passed away on September 6 and Auxiliary services were held at Paul Funeral Home on September 11. Nancy was the wife of Post 312 1st Vice Commander, Dan Sauer.

If you would like to be on our Call List to be notified of these events, please contact me at the number below.

Jeanne Steinhoff
636-219-4311

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SAL
SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION

We just had a Post Picnic! Thank you all American Legion Family, Post, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders, for making it a success from set up to cooking to tear down and clean up.

I hope a good time was had by all. Even the 'big kids' enjoyed checking out the fire truck, police horse, rescue helicopter and ambulance in attendance.

A big thank you to Justin Marsden for the first aid demonstration with the ambulance personnel…above and beyond the call of duty!

Just a friendly reminder, **2019 dues are payable now**. You can leave them with the Foxhole bartender, mail them in or bring them to our **next meeting on Monday, October** 1 at 7 PM. (Our meeting schedule is the first Monday of the month.)

The Family Spaghetti Dinner is October 30 and Friday Bingo is looking for volunteers, so step up and get involved!

Jeff Kull, Squadron Commander
636-675-9247

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ALR
AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

The Riders would like to express our sincere appreciation to Director Kerry Humphrey and Secretary Tim Marr for their leadership, dedication and friendship.

Assistant Director Paul J. Rodgers has stepped in as the new Director. Past Commanders Frank Hotmer and Mike Mudd have stepped in as Assistant Director and Secretary.

The cooler fall weather is perfect for riding and exploring the back roads and rich history of Missouri.

Weather permitting, we plan to organize a ride the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month for 2-3 hours, including a stop for lunch.

Typically, we look for a scenic route where we can enjoy the ride with minimal traffic, away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

Let us know if you have suggestions for any great out-of-the-way restaurants we can visit for lunch.

You don't have to be a member of the Riders to join in on the fun and camaraderie. If you have a motorcycle, know someone that does or just want to meet up with us for lunch in your cage* - All are Welcome. Information on upcoming rides will be posted in the Foxhole.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding an upcoming ride or want to join the Riders, please speak to any of the Riders, call me at 314-800-8318, or join us at our **next meeting on Thursday, October 4** at 7 PM.

***Rider Definition:** A **Cage** is an automobile. On a motorcycle you are exposed to the environment and nature; you're free. In a car you are isolated, enclosed, and separated from nature; as if you are locked in a cage.

Regards.

Paul Rodgers, Director
314-800-8318

STEAK DINNER BENEFIT

Thursday, October 11
Filet mignon or chicken
$20 a person
Ticket sales end October 8
Benefitting Needy & Homeless Vets
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October Music
Irv & Harry on 10/6
Boston Dave on 10/27
Jukebox Night on 10/13 & 10/20

October Bowling
Wednesday at 6:30 PM
10/3 & 10/17

October Shuffleboard
Sunday at 3:30 PM
10/14 & 10/28

Halloween Party
November 3

Here we go, into Fall already!! It remains to be seen if our Cards make it into the post season or not!! Hopefully so, at least they have a shot at it this year.

I mentioned last month that I would give an update on the sporting competitions this month. Well, here it is!!

Shuffleboard winners on 7/29:

1st place Mary M & Gilda
2nd place – Royce & Diane
3rd place – John & Rosanna

Shuffleboard winners on 8/12:

1st place – Rich & Mary M
2nd place – Diane & Gilda
3rd place – John & Betty

Shuffleboard winners on 8/26:

1st place – Royce & Diane
2nd place – Mike & Mary M
3rd place – Rich & Gilda

Bowling winners on 7/17:

1st place – Sean & Dean
2nd place – Rich & Kevin
3rd place – Mary B & Stan

Bowling winners on 8/7:

1st place – Jay & Sean
2nd place – Dean & Kevin
3rd place – Mary B & Rich

Bowling winners on 8/21:

1st place – Stan & Kevin
2nd place – Rich & Jeanne
3rd place – Sean & Mary B

Bowling winners on 9/5:

1st place -Stan & Dean
2nd place – Jay & Mary B
3rd place – Kevin & Rich

In this match, Stan/Dean vs Jay/Mary ended in a tie, so there was an extra game to determine the winner!!

Congratulations to all of winners and "Thank You!" to all the players. Great fun, lots of joking around plus supporting the Foxhole!!

As I have mentioned many times, we are always looking for more players in both competitions. Come out and join in on the fun!! After all, that's why the Foxhole was built!! It wasn't built to make money, it was meant to be a place where the membership could get together, have a few libations, swap stories and laugh with each other as we did when we were in the service!! Period!!

I want to "Thank!" everyone that comes out to enjoy the live music put on by Larry & Jake, Erv & Harry, Jack DeWeese and Boston Dave!! It means a great deal to each of these musicians to see a good-sized crowd to hear the old and new songs!!

Jukebox Nights give our members a chance to meet with old and new friends for a night of conversation to catch up on how everyone is doing, etc. Like I already mentioned, this is "WHY!" the Foxhole was built in 1973-74 and was updated in 2008. The Foxhole is NOT a money-making enterprise, it is for "US!", period!! I'm back off my high horse, LOL! Thank you for your indulgence!!

As you may have noticed, bowling has been moved from Tuesday to Wednesday. In order to economize a little. It was decided by the membership to close the Foxhole one night a week and the choice was Tuesday. Thank you for your understanding!!

The **Halloween Party** will be on Saturday, **November 3**, since Halloween (10/31) is on a Wednesday. Start shopping for your costumes!!

We are also looking for a date in October to have a **"Wing-Ding"**, so keep a lookout on our Facebook page and flyers in the Foxhole!!

I want to "Thank!" the Bar Committee members for their input in the management of the bar, the great job by each of the bartenders and most of all to the membership for your support!! As always, we look forward to seeing you soon and often in YOUR Foxhole!! Cheers!!

Dean Irwin
Foxhole Manager &
Bar Committee Chair
636-288-1888

FOXHOLE 50/50 RAFFLE
OCT 1 TO OCT 31
Tickets $1 OR 6 for $5
Payout $100+ past 4 months
You do not have to be present to win!

FAMILY SPAGHETTI DINNER

The **last dinner this year** will be Tuesday, **October 30**. No dinner in November or December, so the next dinner will be January 29.

Come join us for the best $6 dinner in town with salad, spaghetti & meatballs, bread stick and your choice of dessert.

If you would like to join our team of volunteers, all you need to do is show up on October 30, anytime after 9:30 AM and we'll put you to work.

Spaghetti Dinner Committee
John Foster, Don Sauer,
Rich Middendorf

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VETERANS HOME BINGO

24 veterans who reside at the Missouri Veterans Home in Bellefontaine Neighbors played Bingo with us on September 20, winning lap robes and cash prizes, followed by a snack of cookies, pudding and pink lemonade served by 10 volunteers from Post 312.

Although this event is funded by the Ladies Auxiliary, the volunteers include both Legion and Auxiliary members. **We invite SAL and ALR members to join us on next visit Thursday, November 15.**

Rich Middendorf, VA&R Chair
(636) 328-6996

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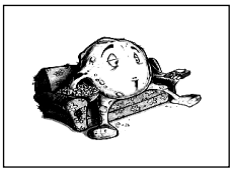
November Clarion articles due Monday, October 15

email to Mary Middendorf middendorf422@gmail.com



RETIREE'S CLUB

When: 1st & 3rd Wednesday
Where: Legion Hall
Starting @: 10:00 AM
Lunch Served: 12:00 Noon
Fare: $5.00

October 3
KP
Archie Counts
Charlie Dinnella
Gene Fair

October 17
KP
John Foster
Ells Goetges
Ollie Goetges

October menus will be Cook's Choice, but menus will be published again next month.

Bill Reilly, President
636-328-2340

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CHARTER MEMBERS OF POST 312 CORRECTION

The list of WWI veterans who were Charter Members of Post 312, published in last month's Clarion, was incomplete.

Our apologies for the error and our thanks to Dian Whys for bringing it to our attention.

Here is the complete list of Post 312 Charter Members, as they appear on the Charter:

Richard D. Collins
Edward G. Kuechler
George Hermann
Edward W. Hunn
Julius E. Weiler
William M. Rohlfing
Gustave F. Rohlfing
Elmer A. Parker
Edward G. Parker
Will L. Freeman
Chester Salter
Frank Whys
Joe Withoelter
August H. Kolkmeier
Theo W. Kneemiller
Walter H. Horst
A. A. Gossow
Edgar M. Brown
Chas. W. Meyer
Oswald I. Rauch
Ernest Abeling
William H. Barklage
J. Carl Binkert
Edwin P. Buse
Edward Dauve
Joe S. Erkolein
Paul Hoelscher
Noah M. Howell
Walter Heuffmeier
M. H. Kleusner
Peter A. Messner
Emil Ochs
Walter G. Poser
John Pund
Henry Schibi
Melvin Schutten
Edward Hembrock
Irwin W. Heye
Francis Boschert
Theo Blase
Henry C. Miller
Otto Nienhueser
Alf Oetting
Arthur C. Pund
Chas. Sullentrop
Elmer Schutten
Chas. McElheney
Alvin L. Boehmer
William R. Waterston
B. K. Stumberg
C. A. Cappel
John Sauer
William Wiemken
Fred O. Gardner

Mary Middendorf, Clarion Editor
636-328-2222
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