



THE AMERICAN LEGION
JONATHAN D. ROZIER, POST No. 164
KATY, TEXAS

November, 2024 NEWSLETTER

Commander's Chatter

By Sandy Krum (Commander Post 164)

We are now well into our busy time of the year. This is the time we need everyone to consider giving a little time to help with our post activities. The post can only be successful with your help!

This upcoming holiday season may be hard for some of our fellow veterans, especially those without family nearby. As members of the American Legion Family, it is incumbent upon us to be aware of what's going on with our fellow veterans. If you know of a veteran who may be struggling, practice the principles of the "Be The One" program. "ASK" a veteran in your life how they are doing. "LISTEN" when a veteran needs to talk. "REACH OUT" when a veteran is struggling. There are too many resources available for help for us to let a veteran fall by the wayside. This is something we can all do!

If you come across veterans when you are out and about see if you can encourage them to consider joining the American Legion. Work up a quick reason to belong pitch. I always ask if they are a member, if they say no I ask why not. This usually opens the door to make your pitch. Let them know that there is a place for children and spouses of veterans as well. Boys can be members of the Son's, girls and spouses can be a part of the Auxiliary. If you have a spouse who is not a member of the Auxiliary, encourage them to consider joining. If you are a member of the Legion and married to a veteran, you too can be a member of the Auxiliary. If you are a son of a veteran consider joining the Son's organization, I did.

I look forward to working alongside each one of you as we move forward to making our post the "Best Post in the District".

Now for some serious stuff. It came to my attention that at one of our recent public events there was some discussion about recent political events. (Continued on Page 2)



"They fought together as brothers in arms; they died together and now they sleep side by side ... To them, we have a solemn obligation -- the obligation to ensure that their sacrifice will help make this a better and safer world in which to live"

Admiral Chester Nimitz

(Commander's Chatter Continued)

I feel it necessary to remind all post members that this type of discussion in public is not appropriate. We could lose a potential member, cause a current member to leave us or scare off some donations if this is heard by someone who may not believe as you do.

The Charter that created the American Legion 36USC, Chapter 217, Section 21706 Entitled Political Action states that "The Corporation (The American Legion) shall not be political and may not promote the candidacy of an individual seeking public office". So, with that in mind please refrain for publicly voicing your politics or political opinions while in American Legion attire or at an American Legion sponsored event. Just because we Legion members are all veterans does not mean we all have the same political beliefs.

Auxiliary by Linda Malsbary (President)

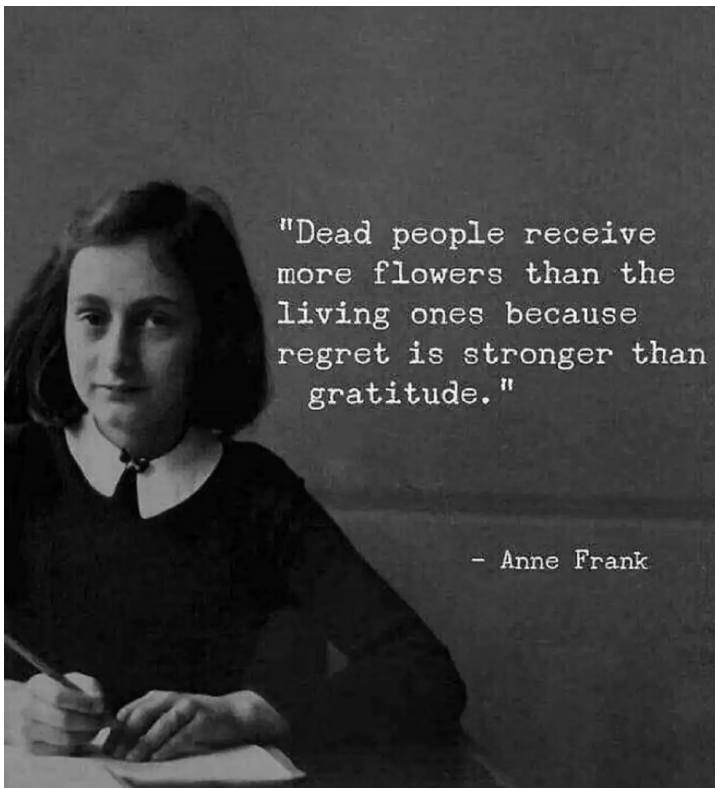
Pies for Hope was completed with the gathering of sponsorships for Camp Hope , a program for Veterans with PTSD. We asked for a donation of \$17 which covers the cost of a pie, apple, pumpkin or pecan, that we purchase and deliver to them for Thanksgiving Day dinner. Additionally we make a cash donation so that they can purchase turkeys and all the fixings for the meal at Camp Hope with their families. We took 100 pies and \$500 to Camp Hope on November 8th.

Wreaths Across America has kicked off with a great day at Snappy's with over 55 wreaths donated. Upcoming dates are November 16th at Midway BBQ 11am-2pm & 5-8pm, and November 23rd at Ace Hardware 9am-3pm. December 14th at 10am is our Ceremony at **Katy Magnolia Cemetery**. Prior to the ceremony we need help unloading the wreaths, marking the graves on December 8th at 2pm, and setting up tents, tables and chairs. This will be followed by a second ceremony at **Soldiers Rest at 3pm** at Forest Park Lawndale cemetery located at 6900 Lawndale St. 77023. Everyone is welcome to honor these WWI veterans that are buried there.

KCM Turkey/Thanksgiving dinner for Veterans is in the final stages. We have received \$500 from the VFW Auxiliary , VFW Post, our own American Legion Post and Auxiliary towards the purchase of the food. We will assemble the boxes at KCM on November 18th at 1 pm so that they have time to distribute to the families on their list of eligible Veterans. We are also working with them on the **Veteran Adopt a Family for Christmas**, and have 5 families with 16 children total to buy for.

First Responder's Dinner will be held on December 7th at the Elks beginning with appetizers and open bar at 6:30 pm followed by dinner at 7pm catered by Salt Grass Steak House. We will set the room and decorate immediately following breakfast. Please everyone stay and help so that it doesn't fall on a few to set up! Awards will be given to our first responders from our 3 local fire departments and 2 police departments. Appetizer's courtesy of your Auxiliary and please RSVP to Phil Malsbary at phil.malsbary@yahoo.com if you are planning to attend this 10th Annual dinner. All of the Legion Family is welcome.

Happy Thanksgiving ... Gobble till you Wobble!!



Military Humor

The company commander and the sergeant were in the field. As they go to bed for the night, the first sergeant said: "Sir, look up into the sky and tell me what you see?"

The commander said: "I see millions of stars."

Sgt: "And what does that tell you, sir?"

"Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Theologically, it tells me that God is great and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it tells me that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you, Top?"

Sgt: "Well sir, it tells me that somebody stole our tent."

American Legion Service Officers

American Legion service officers accounted for more than \$21 billion in claims assistance for veterans, setting a new record for fiscal year 2024.

The final tally was \$21,000,396,471.46, improving on the previous record of around \$19 billion established in the preceding fiscal year.

"I could not be more proud of our accredited service officers," Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission Chairman Jay Bowen said. "While this number is impressive, what is more deeply meaningful are the life-changing stories of the veterans we've assisted. Some have waited years or even decades to receive the benefits they earned through their sacrifice to our nation. And our service officers will continue to serve their fellow veterans." American Legion accredited service officers assist veterans with their claims assistance at no cost. All veterans are eligible. To find a service officer near you, visit this search page. For assistance, you may also call The American Legion at 202-263-5759 or send an email to va&r@legion.org.

American Legion Dues by Bill Kennison (Adjutant)

Recently several questions are being asked about Post Membership Dues?

The Membership Year is January 1 to December 31 of each year. If your dues for the upcoming year have not been paid before January 1st then you are delinquent. To avoid this, the Legion starts mailing out renewal notices in July for the upcoming year. This allows Members July 1st through December 31st (6 months) to pay their dues without being suspended.

If you have paid your dues and do not have a 2025 Membership Card just contact the Post Adjutant and Maybe there is a good reason why?



"How about if I just follow you on Twitter instead?"



**Our new
entrance door
(I Like it)**



Raffle winner for the AR-15—Jon Longerbone.

Jon donated the weapon back to Post 164 to be raffled again... So if you wanted it, you will get another chance.

American Legion Programs by Butch Sparks (Judge Advocate)

There are several new American Legion programs that you may want to investigate.

One is how you can sign up for 3 years. You can go to:

<https://www.legion.org/information-center/news/membership/2024/february/lock-in-a-three-year-membership>.

Another new program is Legion+ app. You can sign up for this app at the appropriate app store on your phone. This app can be used to recruit your fellow

veterans and contains other American Legion items that may interest you.

You can also access The American Legion's Grass-roots Action Center at <https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home> This site lists issues that The American Legion is supporting and you can support these items as well. Just follow the directions to the site above.

"They needed a sergeant; and they jes' took me"

Sgt Alvin York

Message by Dennis Wells (1st Vice Commander)

As a member of the Honor Guard, we had the opportunity and privilege to participate in 6 events to honor other veterans on November 11th. We traveled from Katy to the Galleria, to West Houston. It was a long day but ended with a feeling of accomplishment. A day well spent.

I received a text from a fellow veteran whom I served with in Germany. It was written by an unnamed author. I found it fitting for Veterans Day.

To understand a Military Veteran, you must know: We left home as teenagers or in our early twenties for an unknown adventure. We love our country enough to defend it and protect it with our own lives. We said goodbye to our friends and family and everything we knew. We learned the basics and then we scattered in the wind to the far corners of the earth. We found new friends and new family. We became brothers and sisters regardless of color, race or creed. We had plenty of good times, and plenty of bad times. We didn't get enough sleep. We smoked and drank too much. We picked up both good and bad habits. We worked hard and played harder. We didn't earn a great wage.

We experienced the happiness of mail call and the sadness of missing important events. We didn't know when, or even if we were ever going to see home again. We grew up fast and yet somehow, we never grew up at all. We fought for our freedom, as well as the freedom of others.

Some of us saw actual combat and some of us didn't. Some of us dealt with the physical warfare. Most of us dealt with the psychological warfare. We have seen and dealt with things that we can't fully describe or explain, as not all of our sacrifices were physical.

We participated in time honored ceremonies and rituals with each other, strengthening our bonds and camaraderie. We counted on each other to get our job done and sometimes to survive it at all. We have dealt

with victory and tragedy. We have celebrated and mourned. We lost a few along the way. When our adventure was over, some of us went back home, some of us started somewhere new and some of us never came home at all.

We have told amazing and hilarious stories of our exploits and adventures. We share an unspoken bond with each other, that most people don't experience, and few will understand. We speak highly of our service, and poke fun at the other branches. We know however, that, if needed, we will be there for our brothers and sisters and stand together as one, in a heartbeat.

Being a veteran is something that had to be earned and can never be taken away. It has no monetary value, but at the same time it is a priceless gift. People see a veteran and they thank them for their service. When we see each other, we that little upwards head nod, or a slight smile, knowing that we have shared and experienced things that most people have not. So, from myself to other veterans out there, I commend and thank you for all that you have done and sacrificed for your country. Try to remember the good times and make peace with the bad times. Share your stories. But most importantly, stand tall and proud, for you have earned the right to be called a Veteran. I'm a VETERAN. I WOULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN AND AGAIN.

I read this and was deeply moved. Proud to be a Veteran, too.

For God and Country,



Boys State by Mike Callahan (Boys State Chair)

Boys State needs your help!

The 2025 Boys State program is starting the interview phase of the process. We are looking for legionnaires and sons of legionnaires who want to help interview boys at Katy ISD and area private high schools. The teams will consist of two to three individuals. Each team will be assigned two or three schools (depending on the number of teams). Each interview will last about 30 minutes.

All new team members will be on a team with at least one veteran interviewer. We have interview questions to ask the boys, note forms, and interview scoring sheets ready for you. All you need to do is show up and meet our future.

Send me an email at BoysState@LegionPost164KatyTx.org with your interest in the program. We'll have a meeting at the post on Monday, January 6, for team assignments and info sharing. Please email, we need your help.

Veteran Scams

Veterans are often targeted by scammers due to their service and benefits. Here are some of the most common scams and tips on how to avoid them:

1. Romance Scams

Scammers create fake online relationships to exploit veterans' emotions and financial stability. They often pose as attractive individuals on dating apps or support forums¹. Once trust is established, they ask for money under false pretenses, such as medical emergencies or travel expenses.

Tip: Be cautious of online relationships that move quickly and request money. Verify the identity of the person you're communicating with.

Scams Continued

2. Veterans' Benefit Scams

Scammers claim to help veterans increase their benefits or expedite claims but are really after personal information or fees. They may contact veterans by phone, email, or text, promising new or additional benefits¹.

Tip: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Always verify the legitimacy of such offers with official sources.

3. Phishing Scams

These scams involve emails or messages that appear to be from official sources, such as government agencies or banks. The goal is to steal banking or credit card information¹.

Tip: Do not click on suspicious links or provide personal information through email or text. Verify the sender's identity through official channels.

4. Impersonation Scams

Scammers pose as veterans, VA officials, or representatives of military charities to gain trust and access to personal information. They may ask for Social Security numbers or other sensitive data¹.

Tip: Verify the identity of anyone claiming to be from a government agency or charity by contacting the organization directly.

5. Investment Scams

Veterans are often targeted with promises of high returns on investments, which can lead to significant financial loss. Scammers may offer cash upfront in exchange for future disability or pension payments².

Tip: Be wary of investment opportunities that promise guaranteed returns or require upfront fees. Research the investment and consult with a financial advisor.

NOVEMBER SCHEDULE:

16 NOV, SAT

8AM—12AM Junior Shooting Sport Program (JSSP)

1—5pm Oratorical Competition (Post)

17 Nov, Sun

2-3pm SAL 22nd District DEC

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post 164, 22125 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77450, USA

3 – 5pm 22nd District DEC

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post 164, 22125 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77450, USA

19 Nov, Tue

1 – 2pm PTSD Group

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post, 22125 Kingsland Blvd #164, Katy, TX 77450, USA

6 – 6:30pm Post Social Hour

Downstairs room

6:30 – 7pm Post Training

Downstairs room

7 – 9pm Post 164 Membership Meeting

Downstairs room

Saturday, November 23

9am – 3pm Operation Homefront Turkeys

Home Run Dugout, 1220 Grand W Blvd, Katy, TX 77449, USA

Saturday, November 23

10am – 12pm Pie Pickup

Post Parking Lot

28 Nov, Thu

7 – 11:30pm Post Game Night

American Legion Post 164, Upstairs

Thursday, November 28

7 – 9pm

Civil Air Patrol Post 164 - downstairs meeting room

American Legion Coins by Harry Woodstrom (Finance Officer)

In 2019, the U.S. Mint released a series of commemorative coins to honor the Legion's centennial. These coins include a **\$5 gold coin**, a **silver dollar**, and a **clad half-dollar**. Each coin features unique designs that celebrate the Legion's mission and history.

The **\$5 gold coin** depicts the Legion's inception and its mission to serve America and its war veterans. The **silver dollar** showcases the Legion emblem and the founding of the organization in Paris in 1919. The **clad half-dollar** features children reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, symbolizing the Legion's commitment to patriotic youth programs.

These coins not only raise public awareness about the Legion but also generate funds for its programs. Collectors and patriots alike appreciate these coins for their historical significance and artistic value.

Do You Remember your Military General Orders?

1. To take charge of this post and all government property in view.
2. To walk my post in a military manner, keeping always on the alert and observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing.
3. To report all violations of orders I am instructed to enforce.
4. To repeat all calls from posts more distant from the guard house than my own.
5. To quit my post only when properly relieved.
6. To receive, obey and pass on to the sentry who relieves me all orders from the commanding officer, field officer of the day, officer of the day and officers and non-commissioned officers of the watch.
7. To talk to no one except in the line of duty.
8. To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.
9. To call the non-commissioned officer of the watch in any case not covered by instructions.
10. To salute all officers and all colors and standards not cased.
11. To be especially watchful at night, and during the time for challenging, to challenge all persons on or near my post, and to allow no one to pass without proper authority.

DECEMBER SCHEDULE:

3 Dec, Tue

1 – 2pm PTSD Group

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post, 22125 Kingsland Blvd #164, Katy, TX 77450, USA

Tuesday, December 3

7 – 9pm Post 164 Executive Committee Meeting

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post, 22125 Kingsland Blvd #164, Katy, TX 77450, USA

4 Dec, Wed

6 – 7pm Legion - VFW Social Hour

No Label Brewing Co., 5351 1st St, Katy, TX 77493, USA

Wednesday, December 4

7 – 9pm Legion - VFW Bingo

No Label Brewing Co., 5351 1st St, Katy, TX 77493, USA

5 Dec, Thu

1 – 3pm

VA Stakeholder Meeting

Katy VA Clinic, 750 Westgreen Blvd, Katy, TX 77450, USA

Thursday, December 5

7 – 11:30pm Post Game Night

American Legion Post 164, Upstairs

7 Dec, Sat

7 – 10am Breakfast with a Veteran

Katy Elks Lodge, 1050 Katy Fort Bend Rd, Katy, TX 77493

Saturday, December 7

7 – 8am Legion Riders Skill Practice

Leonard E. Merrell Center, 6301 S Stadium Ln, Katy, TX 77494, USA

Saturday, December 7

11:15am – 12:15pm Honor Guard Practice

VFW Post #9182

Saturday, December 7

6 – 10pm Gary Tilton Memorial Awards

Katy Elks Lodge #2628, 1050 Katy Fort Bend Rd, Katy, TX 77493, USA

Tuesday, December 10

1 – 2pm PTSD Group

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post, 22125 Kingsland Blvd #164, Katy, TX 77450, USA

Tuesday, December 10

7 – 8pm JSSP Meeting

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post, 22125 Kingsland Blvd #164, Katy, TX 77450, USA

12 Dec, Thu

10am – 12pm Wrapping Party for Christmas Families

Downstairs meeting room

Thursday, December 12

7 – 11:30pm Post Game Night

American Legion Post 164, Upstairs

Thursday, December 12

7 – 8:30pm Civil Air Patrol Meeting

Downstairs room

14 Dec, Sat

7:30 – 10:30am Firefighters Pancake Breakfast

Katy Fire Station #2, 25420 Bell Patna Dr, Katy, TX 77494, USA

Saturday, December 14

10 – 11am Wreaths Across America

Magnolia Cemetery, 6801 Franz Rd, Katy, TX 77493, USA

Saturday, December 14

3 – 4pm Soldiers Rest Wreaths Across America

Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery, 6900 Lawndale St, Houston, TX 77023, USA

Saturday, December 14

6pm – 9am Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Alumni (Day 1/2)

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post 164, 22125 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77450, USA

17 Dec, Tue

1 – 2pm PTSD Group

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post, 22125 Kingsland Blvd #164, Katy, TX 77450, USA

DECEMBER SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, December 17

6 – 6:30pm Post Social Hour

Downstairs room

Tuesday, December 17

6:30 – 7pm Post Training

Downstairs room

Tuesday, December 17

7 – 9pm Post 164 Membership Meeting

Downstairs room

26 Dec, Thu

7 – 11:30pm Post Game Night

American Legion Post 164, Upstairs

Thursday, December 26

7 – 9pm Civil Air Patrol

Post 164 - downstairs meeting room

27 DEC, FRI

7-8:30PM AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

31 DEC, TUE

1-2PM PTSD GROUP



SLINGSHOT

Because sometimes a loaded gun doesn't work

VERY DEMOTIVATIONAL .com





This lady's name is Nona Fried. She is 93 years old and lives in Florida, Nona came to see the Post so she could tell us about a fraudulent check drawn on our Post bank account. It's unclear how she came to be in possession of the check, but she is doing what she can to have the fraudulent party captured.

The members of Post 164 thank Nona for her alert attention and sense of community service to take the right action.