



THE AMERICAN LEGION

JONATHAN D. ROZIER, POST No. 164

KATY, TEXAS

May 2025 NEWSLETTER (Harry Woodstrom, Editor)

Commander's Chatter

By Morrow Krum

AL Post 164 Commander

Our post is getting noticed. Many of the other Post Commanders and members of District 22 were very impressed with our facility. Our post members did a great job getting our Post ready for the District Convention. Big thank you to all who helped!

May is another busy month for us. Coming up is Memorial Day weekend, we have lots of opportunities for us to be out in the community. May 24th is the Soldiers Rest Ceremony at Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery. Saturday June 14th is the first annual Community Heroes Parade. We have been invited to participate. We will bring our trailer, there will be room for many of us to turn out. It is scheduled to run from 11-1. The route will be along Peek Rd., from Highland Knolls to Westheimer Parkway. Let's see if we can get a big showing for this. May 27th the Auxiliary and Post will have 4 Poppy Tables at the following locations: Ace Hardware Mason Rd 9-3, Snapy's in Old Katy 8-1, Brookshire Bros in Old Katy 9-3, and Bass Pro Shops Katy Mills Mall 10-4. A Signup Genius has gone out and will be sent out again. The goal is to have at least one legion member at each table in each time slot. It is important to be where our fellow veterans might be. The time slots are generally no more than 3 hours each.

At our May meeting we will be electing our Post leadership for next year. Make sure you attend so your voice is heard.

We have open slots, 2nd Vice Commander and Post Historian. Nominations from the floor will be accepted.

We are rapidly approaching our fireworks sales period. This is a big source of funds for the Post. Success depends on all members of the Post Family participating. As always, the success of our Post depends on you! We are only successful with everyone's help.



"I wish to have no connection with any ship that does not sail fast; for I intend to go in harm's way"

John Paul Jones



Holiday Duty by Dennis Wells

AL Post 164 1st Vice-Commander

Gibbs Kaserne in Germany had 2 duty rosters for guard duty. One was the regular guard duty. The second was for holidays. I was selected for Memorial Day weekend, and Saturday was the day. Duty was 24 hours. 2 on and 4 off. The guard detail consisted of 16 junior enlisted, an NCO and an officer of the guard. The Front gate was the busiest. Cars and pedestrians coming and going.

The back gate was the hardest. All sorts of things went on. The back gate was an adventure in clandestine operations. Also, it was the loneliest late at night except for some inebriated soldier sneaking back from a wild evening. Rainy nights or cold snowy nights were also not pleasant.

The guard room quarters were above the tiny movie theater. In the evening, if the movie was loud, it made it tough to sleep. I enjoyed raising the colors in the morning and also the retiring of the colors in the evening. It was very formal marching to the flag pole and returning to the guard station. The music for raising and lowering of the colors was loud and clear, even for a small post, we made it right.

The best part of the duty was in the morning, helping the pastry chef get into the mess hall. We knew that a short time later, there would be coffee and donuts. Mmmmm. He was good at his job. It also meant that duty was almost over, soon it would be 8 AM and back to the barracks for some real sleep.



“How much do unemployed veterans usually tip?”

Post 164 Supports Houston Honor Flight

On April 26th Post 164 members and the Honor Guard attended the return of Houston Honor Flight #33.

We welcomed them home from their visit to Washington D.C. There were veterans from Korea and Vietnam on the trip. While in the nation’s capital the veterans toured all the monuments and witnessed the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

The honor guard formed a corridor for the veterans with all of the service flags. We also had two young men join us who were there to welcome home their grandfather.



AMERICANISM by Gillian Woodstrom

ALA Unit 164 1st Vice President

Americanism is one of the American Legion Auxiliary's key programs and in our Preamble we promise "to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism". Here are some of the ways ALA Unit 164 Katy supports Americanism.



Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in Grades 3-12. New this year, we also requested Americanism Essays from our Girls State Candidates and received 22 submissions. One winner from each age group was submitted to Department.

Festivals, parades, Expos and sponsorship tables give us an opportunity to pass out our American flags to kids of all ages. This year we passed out 1000 more flags than last year for a grand total of 5000 flags. On any given weekend you can see us set up one of our branded Unit 164 tables in front of a local business gathering sponsorships, passing out poppies or sharing information about our Legion Family.

Our Post 164 Family ceremony for Wreaths Across America has grown in the past 6 years into a tradition in the Katy community. To gather sponsorships we set up our branded Unit 164 tables outside local businesses on 5 different weekends.

For the ceremony itself we work with the Post, the Sons and the Riders and showcase our local community organizations and the youth of Katy.

Americanism—Continued

Girls State is one of the Auxiliary's prime programs developed to teach our high school girls the basics of American government and leadership. Unit 164's participation has grown over the past 7 years from sending 12 citizens in 2017 to sending 28 citizens in 2024; and from the original 5 KISD high schools to 10. ALA Unit 164 raises funds for scholarships through our annual Wreaths Across America \$5 back program.

With the Post, this is our fourth year holding the Four Chaplains Ceremony. We partner with the Four Chaplains Foundation to honor those that exemplify the service and sacrifice shown that day on the USAT Dorchester as the chaplains gave their life jackets so others could live.

For the first time during Education Week we took part in the Honor Guard's lesson on raising the flag at West Memorial Junior High School.

We folded and sent 200 pocket flags to our active duty service men and women.

We support the annual American Legion Oratorical Contest's efforts to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. 10 Auxiliary Unit 164 members played an active role this year as moderator, judges, tabulators and time keepers to support our Post at the Post/District/Division levels.

On Patriot Day in honor of the victims of 911, we held our first drive-thru event passing out flags and treats to all those who came by.

Estimated donation for Americanism activities = \$3,250

Estimated volunteer hours = 1026

Katy JROTC by Sandy Krum

Post 164 was invited to present several awards and scholarships to the NJROTC of the Katy Independent School District on April 24, 2025, on the campus of Mayde Creek High School. Representing Post 164 was Commander Sandy Krum and Past 22nd District Commander and Chair of the Post 164 JROTC Committee Jim McGuire.



Cadet/CPO Diaz received the American Legion Award for Military Excellence 2024/2025. Presented by Post 164 Commander Krum and Cadet/LCDR White.



Cadet/PO1 received the American Legion Award for Outstanding Scholar 2024/25. Presented by Post 164 Commander Krum and Cadet/LCDR White.



Cadet/PO3 La Mar received a scholarship from American Legion Post 164. Presented by Past Dist. 22 Commander and Chair of the Post 164 JROTC Committee Jim McGuire.



Cadet/LT Ortiz received a scholarship from American Legion Post 164. Presented by Past Dist. 22 Commander and Chair of the Post 164 JROTC Committee Jim McGuire.

Dinner at the Post

Come by the post on May 30 for a delicious and generous serving of King Ranch Chicken. Between the King Ranch chicken, salad, bread you can only blame yourself for going home hungry. We may even have some dessert too (any volunteers?)

This is a great way to see the post, connect with old friends, and meet new friends. Come and enjoy a meal with fellow veterans. There will be a 50/50 raffle too. You could come away with a few extra dollars in your pocket too.

Boys State by Mike Callahan

It seemed like it would never get here, but here it is! Sunday, May 18, at 2:00 pm is Post 164 Boys State orientation. Come meet the 43 boys who will represent our post at Boys State. A lot of news organizations focus on how the next generation may be a lost generation. I can tell you that it is not true after spending some time with these boys. Come out to the post and meet our future.



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The American Legion magazine,
national meeting Digests,
newsletters, press releases,
and other publications published by the
national organization. Additionally, the
Digital Archive contains the ruling doc-
uments of The American Legion
including current **resolutions.**



Auxiliary News by Linda Malsbary

ALA Unit 164 President

I am very excited to announce that Auxiliary Unit member and Texas A&M freshman Tiffany Lowry has been awarded the National Member Loyalty Scholarship for 2025. She is one of the eight recipients for this award that recognizes that our ALA Junior Members as the future of our organization. It is given to reward those who retain their membership into adulthood and is a current college student. Congratulations!!

The poppies for **Memorial Day** distribution and our goal of making 2500 have been met! We have already secured all of our 4 locations for distribution, Snappy's, Ace Hardware, Brookshire Brothers, and Bass Pro. Please be ready to help staff the tables on Monday May 26th (we are asking for 2 Auxiliary and 2 Post, Sons or Riders for the 3 hour shifts): 9- 12 or 12-3 pm at Brookshire Brothers or Ace Hardware on Mason Road; 10am-1 pm or 1-4pm at Bass Pro; and shorter shifts at Snappy's 8-10:30 am or 10:30am to 1pm. Please sign up on the Sign-up Genius

Soldiers Rest Ceremony is Saturday May 24th at 11 am. It is a special day to honor those WWI Veterans buried at Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery in a special section called Soldiers Rest. Over eighty years ago, \$585 was raised by Auxiliary Unit 52 to purchase a lot containing 42 grave spaces from the Forest Park Cemetery Association. The deed stated that the lot could be used only for burying the bodies of deceased men and women who were members of the military or naval forces of the United States of America during World War I. It also stipulated that no one could be buried in the lot if the relatives of that person were financially able to provide a suitable burial plot. There was a further provision that World War I patients who were dying at Camp Logan Hospital could be buried in the lot. Each year we meet to commemorate and decorate the graves of these fallen heroes.

The Auxiliary Scholarship Chair Dollie O Day and I presented Katy High School Senior Laney Fullick with a \$500 **Higher Education Scholarship** at their Awards Program April 30th.

ALA Unit 164 participated in the KCM Veterans Picnic May 3rd and Jennifer Lowry and I attended the AVDA conference for battered and abused women held by the Fort Bend United Way.

We will also be delivering thank you gifts for **Teacher Appreciation Week** to our High School Counselors that have supported our efforts with Girls State 2025.

Do you have a spouse who is not a member of the Auxiliary? They are too busy or not interested? Please consider that a single membership not only helps us fund our programs with their dues, but helps our representation in Congress too! We would love for them to join in our activities but if they choose not to, that's fine. Just let them know that however they choose to participate, each membership makes a big difference.

SAL News by Gene Britton Squadron 164 Commander

The young members of SAL can participate in "The Ten Ideals" program, which helps them learn about the foundations on which the Sons of the American Legion is built. The seventh ideal is Helpfulness. Members are encouraged to volunteer for tasks that benefit the Squadron and contribute to the community, fostering a spirit of teamwork and service.

Thanks to all that collected supplies for the V.A. hygiene bags.

These hygiene bags were successfully delivered to the VA Medical Center in Houston, ensuring that the collected items reached those who need them most. This effort exemplifies the commitment of the Sons of the American Legion to supporting veterans and their well-being.

Our Sons of the American Legion are gearing up for our fifth Dinner night on May 30th at 6pm at the post. Please come out and have some fun.

Quiz

- What is the total of all numbers from 1 to 10 inclusively?
- What is 2 x 4 x 6?
- What is 60% of 60?
- How many minutes are there between 2 pm and 8 am the following day?



American Legion Riders 164: The Open Road Awaits!

Fellow Legionnaires, As the sun shines and the open road calls, it's time to gear up and embrace the freedom that only a motorcycle can provide. In ALR #164, we've also captured the spirit of camaraderie and the pure joy of riding. We see the powerful machines, the open Texas landscapes, and the fellowship shared amongst riders.

Safety First, Always: Before we hit the road, let's remember that safety is paramount. Always ensure your bike is in top condition, wear appropriate safety gear, and be aware of your surroundings. Let's make sure every ride is a safe ride.

Quiz Answers

- 55
- 45
- 36
- 1,080

Post 164 attends the 2nd Division Convention- at Post 817 in Beaumont



On May 10th. Post 164 attended the 2nd Division Convention hosted by Post 817 in Beaumont. We heard from committee chairs, discussed the new Constitution and Bylaws for the Division, and elected our new Department Vice Commander for the 2nd Division. Congratulations to Steve Kim!

Post members in attendance were Butch Sparks Post Judge Advocate, Dennis Wells Post 1st Vice Commander, Harry Woodstrom Post Finance Officer, Jim McGuire Chairman of the Post Board of Trustees, Ernie Cormier Post member, Gene Britton Commander of the Son's Squadron 164, Ted Whiteman Son's Squadron Adjutant, and Post Commander Sandy Krum

Auxiliary Unit 164 was well represented by Unit President Linda Malsbary, Gillian Woodstrom Unit 1st Vice President and Maria Wells Unit 2nd Vice President .

Post 164 Supports Scouting.

On Tuesday April 29th, 2025, Post 164 Commander Sandy Krum attended the Court Honor Ceremony for Scout Troop 567. In addition to watching numerous scouts receive merit badges and symbols of rank advancement, the Commander gave a short talk on how leadership skills developed in scouting can translate into future endeavors.



Post 164 is the Charter Organization for Troop 567.



Sons of the American Legion – Post Dinner



May 30th Dinner **King Ranch Chicken**

With the fixin's

Salad

Drinks

Bring a friend to the Post on May 30th at 6:00 pm for a fantastic dinner brought to you by the Sons of the American Legion.

**Only
\$10**

**50/50
Drawing**

**Friday
May 30**