



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

October, 2024 NEWSLETTER

Commander's Chatter

By Morrow (Sandy) Krum (Commander)

Katy Safety Fest was a great event for the Post. We signed up 3 new members and got another one to transfer. Great big thanks to all who attended.

The American Legion Family is getting ready to enter a part of our yearly calendar that is very busy. I encourage each one of you to help if you can. The success of our events depends on participation from all our family members. Whether you are a member of Legion, Auxiliary or Son's, your participation is what gets us recognized by our veterans, their families and our community. I know sometimes it can seem as though there is just too much going on. I challenge each one of you to help with at least one event. Just a few hours can return a big benefit to the Post.

Our Auxiliary is starting up their "Pies for Hope" campaign. I challenge each member to give \$17 for a pie. Proceeds go to helping Camp Hope with their PTSD programs.

We will be involved in other things like Wreaths Across America, Poppy handout on Veteran's Day, KCM Thanksgiving Turkey and meal handout. Chief Gary Tillman Honorary First Responders Recognition Awards Dinner. There are lots of places to help.

Community awareness of our post and our programs. Do you notice other veterans when you are out and about in our community? This is a great way to acquaint them with our post. Tell them about our monthly breakfast and invite them to attend. We have gained many new members from breakfast. It is an unfortunate fact that we are not as well known in our community as we should be. It only takes a few minutes to say hi to a fellow veteran and let them know we are here for them. Take flyers of up coming events with you and ask your favorite retailer if you can put one up.

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"I promise that my son will grow up appreciating the sacrifices of men he never knew"

Staff Sergeant Ryan Pitts



Wallace Klekar

(Commanders Chatter continued)

Our Post only succeeds because of the involvement of our members. It is a team thing. We have a membership numbering in the high 300's and yet we struggle to get volunteers to help. You only need to help where you can. Consider signing up for one event.

One of our members, James Harris, has written a book about his grandfather and his involvement with the 8th Air Force during WW 2. Jim has graciously pledged to donate 10% of the proceeds to the post. Jim as says it is fiction mixed with fact. The title is "Fuses and Firepower", and it can be found on Kindle at <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0DH2XWHYS> for \$4.99 or on the Barnes and Noble website for \$9.99. Remember this benefits the post as well as one of our members.



Junior Shooting Sport Program (JSSP)

By Mike Roper

I attended the Friends Of the NRA Banquet/ Fundraiser in Katy at Midway BBQ on the evening of Sept 26, 2024 . There I was presented with Grants for our JSSP Program. The first grant was used for New air rifles , backstops, other shooting equipment. The second grant was used for lighting.

We are currently conducting a JSSP class. In the spring we will start a new class most likely on Sunday Afternoons.

“To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace”

George Washington

Ben joins the military.

Recruitment sergeant: What would you like to achieve?

Ben: I want to be a general after 2 years.

Recruitment sergeant: Are you insane?

Ben: Is that required?



New Scout Flag

Auxiliary by Linda Malsbary (Unit 164 President)

October is the kick-off of many events that both the Auxiliary and Post participate in. The Rice Festival Parade on Saturday October 5th saw a new addition to the family with Auxiliary member Rosie Stokley driving her model T Ford with the Post Commander as her co-pilot! We had 7 volunteers from Jordan HS National Honor Society that passed out over 1500 flags to kids along the parade route. We will be doing tattoos at the Rice Festival and our Veterans Raffle Baskets for each branch of the service.

Pies for Hope has begun with the gathering of sponsorships for Camp Hope, a program for Veterans with PTSD. We ask 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. Want to help? You can support us on line at <https://alaunit164katytx.org/programs-pies-for-hope.html> We will also have a table at Ace Hardware on October 19th from 9-3 if you want to come help.

Fall Festival with the Friends of West Memorial will be held October 26th from 11am-1pm at the West Memorial Gazebo and Park. Lots of games, candy and give aways. We will have a Fire Truck from ESD48 there for the kids to see, and it's all free! We are looking for some help that day, so please come and help the kids have a fun time.

We had a retirement from the working world when Tina Miller, ended her career with Cornerstone Capital Bank on September 6, 2024 after over 26 years with them. Tina originally started with them when they were Cornerstone Mortgage in May 1998. As the company grew and evolved she worked as a member of the Mortgage Division in the Treasury Department. She plans to stay busy with her doTerra essential oil business as well as with the Auxiliary. Congratulations Tina!

We would like to invite the wives of all Post 164 members to join the American Legion Auxiliary!! It is a great way for them to support the Legion member they live with, and supports the many programs of the Auxiliary with their membership dues.

“Arguing with idiots is like playing chess with a pigeon. No matter how good you are, the bird is going to shit on the board and strut around like it won anyway.” — Shannon L. Alder

Want to learn more about the American Legion? By Butch Sparks (Judge Advocate)

Checkout the following websites which contain a lot of valuable information:

National Website: **legion.org**

Department of Texas Website: **txlegion.org**

District 22 Website: **legiondist22.com**

Post 164 Website: **legionpost164katytx.org**

“Greeting” by Dennis Wells (First Vice Commander)

My introduction to the military was a letter from President Richard M. Nixon. It was sent to me with “greetings” from my friends and neighbors requesting my presence in the Army of the United States. I’m sure others in the Post also received a similar communication. We were all called to duty one way or another. Duty. Honor, Country. Those are powerful words. Words that represent what, we as veterans, hold dear. As a member of Post 164 and a proud Legionnaire, I too, take them with great sincerity. With that, I would like to direct all of us to spread the benefits of Legion membership. The larger we grow the more we can do,
For God and Country,

**American Legion History by Harry Woodstrom
(Webmaster)**

What is considered the greatest single legislative achievement of the American Legion?

Rights.

← The enactment of the Serviceman's Readjustment Act of 1944, more popularly known as the GI Bill of

World War II Pow Albert "Bud" Fuqua By Will Miller and Ernie Cormier (Both Past Commanders)

September 20th, the third Friday of the month, was recognized as POW/MIA Day. A past member of our post, Albert "Bud" Fuqua was captured when his plane was shot down over Germany in Late 1944. He parachuted out and when he hit the ground, he broke his leg. Bud was a member of the then U.S. Army Air Corps and served as a gunner on a bomber that was shot down on a bombing mission.

With his leg broken, Bud could not move. After about an hour a German Wehrmacht Officer found him. The officer drew his pistol and said "BIST DER ENGLANDER ODER AMERICANER?" (Are you English or American?) Bud replied American and the German officer holstered his pistol and proceeded to tend to Bud's leg. HE would spend the rest of the War in a Concentration Camp. Six months later Bud would be liberated by a Russian troop He was treated with great respect and never allow anyone to speak ill of the Russian people.

Bud was a member of VFW Post 9182, American Legion Post 164, The Order Of The Purple Heart Chapter 723 all of Katy, Texas.

When attending any public ceremony, he would always wear his Purple Heart Hat.

← **Just A Thought**

"There are some that have told, How they struggled and fought, But when reality starts to unfold, We find out they really have not."

Poem by Hubert E. Cormier II

**Operation Comfort Warriors by James Harris
(Flag Committee)**

On this topic ... a reminder for everyone to save their leftover Halloween candy and put it in the collection bin for operation comfort warrior.

Thanks for all your tireless efforts to help vets!



**Monday Group by Cary Snyder
(Executive Committee)**

I wanted to take some time and inform the post about the PTSD group. So, our group is not just PTSD. The group started as a Pier Support group in the Katy VA clinic. During Covid the VA stopped groups. Our members would not let that stand. After meeting in the park, we found a home here. This is the day I got involved in the American Legion.

The group covers any topic that a Veteran needs to understand. Some of the topics covered are Avoidance, Communications, Mindfulness. Programs we have covered Defense Enroll Eligibility Registration system, DD214, ID cards, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, among mini others.

Now on to how we do this. The one most important is the post. I challenge all members to set up a monthly donation. This can be any amount. I give \$25 a month; this has been on going for over a year. For those who do this it is how we continue to strive and improve.

Meet Our Members: Peter Batura

By Robert A. Crutchfield (Hubmaster)

Many of you have undoubtedly ran into Peter Batura around Post 164. So the time has come to help you know him a little bit better. Peter was Post Commander, immediately before our current commander, Sandy Krum. This among other things means he serves on our executive committee as Past Commander.

But before we get into his legion service, lets look closer at his time in the military. Peter joined the Air Force in 1983. After basic training and AIT he was stationed at Bergstrom Air Force Base then located in Austin. He was assigned to the 924th Tactical Fighter Group there, as a Laser Targeting Systems Technician. Through this he was involved in the avionics aspect of our most advanced fighters and other aircraft.

Although he never saw combat, he deployed several times. Of particular note was his participation in Operation Team Spirit 87'. He speaks about one incident, where an allied aircraft experienced systems issues. He and his team received permission to sub American spares into this aircraft and got it back in the air and on mission. He remained in the Air Force for a single six year enlistment rising to the rank of E-7.

Batura's family has a lot to be proud of when it comes to military service, and it doesn't begin or end with him. His grandfather on his father's side emigrated from Germany, and later fought for the United States in WWI. In fact Peter still has that grandfather's bayonet !Generations later his nephew, was a "mustang" going from enlisted to officer via OCS. That nephew is now a high ranking officer.

Some of the aspects of his military service that Batura remembers being the most beneficial are the analytical skills his duties built for him, and the leadership possibilities his duties provided.

Turning his attention to the Air Force, and military in general he shared some insights from his time in service. He mentioned that in his experience so called "swiss army aircraft." tended to not fulfill any of their missions as well as originally intended.

Turning his attention to the future of our military, he told me that he feels that our current generation has the heart for service that would make them excellent members of our military. He felt the issue is more the lack of the military being modeled to them by family members as an option for service. The idea being that the decreasing percentage of the population serving in the military may be a bigger part of our recruiting challenge than it is given credit for.

Batura continues to serve through the American Legion ! Not

only is he our past commander at Post 164, other examples include chartered organization representative to our two boy scout troops, and serving as a member of our honor guard among other roles.

From "The Veterans Newsletter" submitted by James McGuire (Trustee Chair)

182 Military Veterans Win 2024 Primaries for Congressional Seats

According to an analysis by Military Times, in 2024, 182 candidates with military backgrounds won their primaries for House and Senate seats. This decreased from 196 in 2022 and continues a long-term trend of fewer veterans in national office since the late 1970s.

The 2024 group includes 71 incumbents, 16 women, and 55 candidates who began military service after January 2000. Of these candidates, 53 are Democrats and 124 are Republicans. The Military Times will track these candidates throughout the election and monitor the winners as they take seats in the 119th Congress next year.



Mayor Thiele, Linda Malsbary, Sandy Krum

Meet our members: Morrow S. Krum

By Ernie Cormier (Trustee)

Morrow Sandrom "Sandy" Krum was born August 30, 1953 in Gainesville, Florida. His Father was attending college at the time. After Morrow Krum, Sr. graduated college he would enter the Air Force as a Commissioned Officer.

Sandy enlisted in the Air Force in on April 2, 1975 but would not go in until a later date in Dallas, Texas. He served ten years active duty.

He would join the Texas Air National Guard in 2000. HE would serve for just over 12 years. He worked as an aircraft mechanic.

Sandy joined the American Legion in 2015 as a member of Post 345 in Austin, Texas. In 2020, he transferred to Post 164. In the 4 short years since transferring, he has quickly raised through the ranks to Commander. His goals for his term is to keep increasing the membership and encourage more participation from the membership. He has been married to his wife Janna for over 20 years.

Sons of The American Legion by Gene Britton (Commander)

Come and participate at the 22nd District Executive Committee on Sunday, November 17th, 2024. It will be held at our Legion Post#164 right here in Katy. Our Sons of the American Legion Meeting starts at 1 p.m. before the Legion meeting begins at 2 p.m. There are many ways for you to participate - listen, talk to others, and find out about the various subcommittees that you may be interested in.

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 first one, "Patriotism," correlates with November. Patriotism, as defined by Merriam-Webster, is "love for or devotion to one's country." *Squadrons* are highly encouraged to support and participate in the various ceremonies and events planned by the local post and within the Katy community.



We will be doing another Post Night Out on October 24th. We will be gathering at Bubba's 33, located at 2704 W. Grand Parkway N., Katy, 77449. We will start at 6:30 and run until 9pm or whenever you get done. We will have a 50/50 raffle with the proceeds going to help our Scout Troop. If you attend Thursday night game night at the post come by and watch Thursday Night Football. Hope to see you there.

Boys' State by Mike Callahan (Boys State Chair)

Many thanks to everyone who made the Boys' and Girls' State luncheon a success. Special thanks to Olive Garden for donation spaghetti, salad, and bread sticks and Sam's Club and HEB for donating lasagna. If you get a chance, patronize these establishments.

Boys State information has gone out to high school counselors. Interviews will be scheduled for February and March of next year. Last year we interviewed boys from 13 Katy area high schools. Nine Katy ISD and four private high schools. I'm hoping we can get two more area high schools this year.

We need additional interviewers to accomplish this. Last year we had three teams of two Legionnaires. We need at least four more Legionnaires/Sons to help with these interviews. Watch the post's calendar for training (about an hour) dates. You can never go wrong by meeting the future of our country.

**Constitution and By-Laws by Harry Woodstrom
(Finance Officer)**

ARTICLE III – NATURE

Section 3. Rank does not exist in The American Legion; no member shall be addressed by their military or naval title in any meeting of this Post.

October 2024 Calendar

Saturday, October 12

- 8:00am Junior Shooting Sport Program (JSSP)
- 9:00am Katy Rice Festival
- 12:00pm Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Alumni

Sunday, October 13

- Navy's Birthday
- 11:00am Katy Rice Festival

Monday, October 14

- 1:00pm PTSD Group

Tuesday, October 15

- 6:00pm Post Social Hour
- 6:30pm Post Training
- 7:00pm Post 164 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, October 16

- 7:00pm ALA Unit 164 Membership Meeting

Thursday, October 17

- 7:00pm Post Game Night

Saturday, October 19

- 8:00am Junior Shooting Sport Program (JSSP)
- 9:00am AL Division 2 Service Officer Training

Sunday, October 20

- 2:00pm Auxiliary New Members Orientation

Monday, October 21

- 1:00pm PTSD Group



Thursday, October 24

- 6:30pm Post Night Out
- 7:00pm Post Game Night
- 7:00pm Civil Air Patrol

Friday, October 25

- 7:00pm American Legion Riders Chapter 164 Katy - Meeting

Saturday, October 26

- National Day of the Deployed
- 8:00am Junior Shooting Sport Program (JSSP)

Monday, October 28

- 1:00pm PTSD Group
- 6:00pm Post 164 Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, October 31

- 7:00pm Post Game Night

November 2024 Calendar

Friday, November 1

First Day of Military Family Month

Saturday, November 2

7:00am Breakfast with a Veteran

7:00am Legion Riders Skill Practice

8:00am Junior Shooting Sport Program (JSSP)

11:15am Honor Guard Practice

Sunday, November 3

Daylight Savings Time Ends

1:00pm ALA District 22 DEC (Auxiliary)

Monday, November 4

8:30am Westside Maids Clean Post

1:00pm PTSD Group

Tuesday, November 5

Election Day

7:00pm Post 164 Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 6

6:00pm Veterans Day Sponsored by HEB

Thursday, November 7

1:00pm VA Stakeholder Meeting

7:00pm Post Game Night

7:00pm Sons of the American Legion Squadron 164 Meeting

Saturday, November 9

8:00am Junior Shooting Sport Program (JSSP)

12:00pm Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Alumni

Monday, November 11

Veteran's Day

1:00pm PTSD Group

Tuesday, November 12

6:00pm AL Post 164 News Letter Deadline

7:00pm JSSP Meeting

Thursday, November 14

7:00pm Post Game Night

7:00pm Civil Air Patrol Meeting

Saturday, November 16

8:00am Junior Shooting Sport Program (JSSP)

1:00pm Oratorical Competition (Post)

Sunday, November 17

1:00pm SAL 22nd District DEC

2:00pm 22nd District DEC

Monday, November 18

1:00pm PTSD Group

Tuesday, November 19

6:00pm Post Social Hour

6:30pm Post Training

7:00pm Post 164 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, November 20

7:00pm ALA Unit 164 Membership Meeting

Thursday, November 21

7:00pm Post Game Night

Friday, November 22

7:00pm American Legion Riders Chapter 164 Katy - Meeting

Saturday, November 23

8:00am Operation Homefront Turkeys: Time TBA

8:00am Junior Shooting Sport Program (JSSP)

Monday, November 25

1:00pm PTSD Group

6:00pm Post 164 Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, November 28

7:00pm Post Game Night

7:00pm Civil Air Patrol

