COMMANDER’S MESSAGE

Fellow Comrades,

Alley-White Post 52 will have a Christmas Party this year on December 7th, our regular meeting night. Social hour will be from 5-6 pm, with dinner being served at 6:00. Watch your e-mail for more details as they solidify.

All across the state of Arkansas and many of the other states that our Legionnaires live in, the polls are open for early voting. With such an important event, it falls on the Citizens of the United States to vote to have their voices heard. Please try to get out there and make a difference to be heard.

Here at the Post, the Legion has many positions and programs within the community. Too often our programs are not strong within the community because the members that do volunteer are already doing so with multiple duties. To simply state it, we need your help. An American Legion is only as strong as its members and it is more rewarding than just being a number and paying dues once a year. There are many opportunities where you can make a difference. Call me if you’d like to see where you fit in!

November is a busy month with many activities:

Nov 6th - Red Kettle Kick Off with the Salvation Army
Nov 7th - free annual luncheon for Veterans at Elks Lodge
Nov 11th - rededication at Mountain Home Cemetery for Post 52’s namesake, Comrade Hosea P. Alley
Nov 11th - Veterans Day celebration on the Square
Nov 13th-14th - rummage sale at the Post, 8 am - 2 pm.

Lastly, be on the lookout in the next Bugle as a Chili Fundraiser is being put together.

Regards,
Lisa Gunter, Commander / 910-467-7278

As of October 22, a number of details about the Christmas party are still being worked out. But what we do know already is this:

★ Monday, December 7th from 5-9 pm at Post 52
★ Dinner will be catered (provider, price and menu are yet to be determined)
★ BYOB as usual (including corkscrews if needed)
★ White Elephant gift exchange after dinner ($10-$15)
★ Masks will be required except when eating.

If you have e-mail and don’t already get notified about events at the post, please send a note to Suzan Kaye at fkaye53@yahoo.com to get on the distribution list. This is the only way other than word of mouth you’ll be able to receive more details about the Christmas party!
Hi, everyone! I hope everyone has voted by now! If not, I would like to encourage everyone to get out and vote. If you don’t want to go to the polls, consider requesting an absentee ballot (depending on postal date). Each state’s rules are different, so check with the county clerk wherever you live.

We had the opportunity to deliver some beautiful infant-sized hats to the hospital on October 22nd that members of the Auxiliary have been making (see photo). There is still time to get in on the fun before the schools get their share in January. Suzan is an excellent teacher, she even managed to teach me - which is often difficult for crafts because I am left-handed! So far we have amassed almost 300 handmade hats to share with the kindergarten, elementary school, daycare center next door, the National Guard kids and possibly the CALL (local foster-kid advocacy center).

Our Rada cutlery fundraiser has been going well — hope you will keep this in mind for your Christmas gift list! There is still time — you can even order online. Please be sure to use our link — go to radafundraising.com and search for Unit 52 — so we will get credit for the order. We still have cookbooks ($10) and t-shirts ($15-$17) to sell also. They make nice gifts and your purchase supports the Auxiliary, too!

The drive-through food drive for the Mountain Home Food Basket will have happened by the time you get this, and from the looks of early drop-offs – success!

I recently received news that our national president, Nicole Clapp, is planning to attend the midwinter conference in Little Rock on January 10th! Department also has hardbound cookbooks for sale for $15. I’ll have other news to share at our November meeting, Monday the 2nd. Hope to see you there. If you need help getting to the meeting because of night driving, etc., please contact me and see how we can help.

Nancy Stang, President / (870)-404-1259

Well, still no Bingo kitchen, but don’t lose hope.

We will have the kitchen open November 13th and 14th for the American Legion Rummage Sale from 8 am until 1 pm. Menu planned is sweets and coffee in the morning and Chili or Chicken Noodle Soup mid-morning till closing. Any contributions will be appreciated as will help in serving. Thanks!

Sheila Smith-Pemberton (aka “Kitchen Mama”)

Children & Youth Report

I am very excited to announce a total of 120 infant hats were donated to the Baxter Regional Hospital on Thursday, October 22nd (see photo at right). I would like to thank all the Auxiliary members that donated their time and effort to make this a very successful event.

All of these Auxiliary members and President Nancy Stang, as well as Nancy Miller (wife of Post 52 member, Fred Miller) have also made hats for school-age children, which we hope to distribute in the next few months to schools, childcare centers, and the Family Readiness Group for the 224th Maintenance Company of the AR Army National Guard. A big thank you to Suzan for helping me count all the hats that have been donated so far. As of October 15th we had collected approximately 290 hats! We will be checking on other areas where there may be a need for hats for children to help keep them warm this winter.

Karen Mikulewicz / Children & Youth Chairman

A gift basket containing 120 hand-made baby hats was delivered to the OB ward at Baxter Regional Medical Center in Mountain Home. Auxiliary members who made baby hats include MaryAnn Sladek (at left, who is also a long-time volunteer at the hospital); Karen Mikulewicz (center); Jamie and Debbye Barreda (back row just right of center); and Suzan Kaye (back right). Not available for the photo was Nancy Miller, wife of Post 52 member Fred Miller, who crocheted hats for us 2 years in a row!
VETERANS DAY CEREMONY ON THE PLAZA IN MOUNTAIN HOME

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, AT 11:00 AM

Hosted by the North Central Arkansas Veterans Council / Emcee Bob Knight (KTLO Radio) / Guest Speaker George Wolford

A limited number of chairs will be provided

In case of rain, the ceremony will be moved to the pavilion at St. Peter the Fisherman Catholic Church

The annual Veterans Day program hosted by Mountain Home High School has been postponed until February 2021, because of ongoing COVID-19 concerns. The new date for the program will be announced as soon as possible.

Call (870) 425-7323 today to see how we can help you learn to use My HealthE Vet and Telemed.

Learn to navigate your health portal and access digital appointments

Call (870) 425-7323 today to see how we can help you learn to use My HealthE Vet.

(Sessions last 45 minutes to an hour)
Veterans Service Officer’s Report

The VA puts out press releases almost every day and it is hard to summarize their content in the space available to me in this spot. If you have a question concerning the VA, contact me and I will do my best to answer that question or find someone who can. If you have Internet access, you can go to https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/user-login to sign up for those press releases, check on your appointments, renew your medications, get medical advice, etc. From that website there are links to many other VA and government-related websites. The VA is continuously working to improve our access to quality care.

I'd like to wish everyone a HAPPY BIRTHDAY in the month November: DORCE BARNES, GORDON BARTON, EUGENE BILL, DALE BOYD, DONNIE CARTER, WILLIAM MACKEY, SAMUEL MCMASTERS, FREDERICA MILLER, EZRA ROBERTS, DAVID ROTTMAYER, RICHARD SARTO, MICHAEL WASHAM, & DANA WATTERSON. And in December: WILLIAM BROSCO, MARTIN CAREY, RICHARD HOMAN, OSCAR LARSON, ROBERT LUMPKINS, EDITH MITCHELL, JAY NOTTINGHAM, WILLIAM O’DOWYER, DON OWENS, GREG ROGERS, WILBERT SMITH, DEBBIE THELEN, THOMAS WHEELER, LARRY ZACK & JOHN ZIMMERMAN.

Chaplain’s Corner

When does my life begin? On the day I am conceived, I already have 200 genetically-determined characteristics that will determine my hair color, my eye color, or if I am a boy or a girl, and many other things I am to become. All of this: I get half from my dad and half from my mom. At 5 days after I am conceived, I attach to my mother to begin my journey. At 6 weeks, my heart is beating. At 8 weeks, I have a heartbeat and brainwaves. At 4 months, my mother can usually begin to feel me move around. At 20 weeks, I might survive without my mother, though it would be a very tough journey and I would need many months of help in a NICU. At 29 weeks, I can breathe on my own, but it still could be a tough journey. At 38 to 40 weeks, I am ready to be born and begin my journey to a long life.

First Trimester
- Week 4 – Positive pregnancy test
- Week 5 – Brain, spinal cord, and heart begin to develop
- Week 6 – Neural tube that will become the spine closes and the heart is pumping blood
- Week 7 – Nostrils and eye lenses start to form
- Week 8 – Brainwave activity begins and the baby's arms and legs have grown longer
- Week 9 – Elbows and toes can be seen and all the internal organs are forming
- Week 10 – Breathing movements begin but the baby still gets oxygen through the umbilical cord
- Week 11 – Facial features develop
- Weeks 12-14 – Baby makes its own blood cells, can form a fist and is developing tooth buds. The nose and lips are completely developed.

Second Trimester
- Weeks 15-18 – Baby will suck its thumb and kick and now has fine hair. The intestinal tract is functioning.
- Weeks 19-21 – Baby can hear you singing and talking and can feel pain. Fingernails are almost fully grown. You can feel your baby move
- Weeks 22-25 – Baby has eyelashes and fingerprints and is very active. The bone marrow is making blood cells, and the lungs are developing but do not make surfactant which is necessary for the baby to breathe outside of the womb.
- Weeks 26-28 – Baby's hearing and sight are completely developed now. Your baby can now create tears. If born at this time, your baby would have an 85% survival rate.

Third Trimester
- Weeks 29-31 – Rhythmic breathing and body temperature are now controlled by the brain. The lungs are capable of breathing air, although medical help may be needed.
- Week 32-34 – Baby has eyes that are open during alert times and closed during sleep. Almost all babies born at this stage of growth will survive.
- Week 35-37 – Baby weighs about 5.5 pounds at this stage. Muscle and bones are fully developed.
- Week 38-40 – Your baby could be born any day now. At the time of birth, a baby has more than 70 reflex behaviors, which are automatic behaviors necessary for survival.

At 8 weeks, legally I should be considered a life, because I have a brainwave and heartbeat — but because I don't have a birth certificate, I can be killed at any time during my 40-week journey, because I am not considered alive. Think about me as I am developing.

Veterans Service Officer’s Report

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Frank Kaye, Post 52 VSO / 870-404-5462 / fkaye53@live.com
**Honor Guard Report**

The Honor Guard resumed Military Honors on June 27th; however, we are barely able to form a detail because of a shortage of volunteers. There are currently 17 members on the roster, but due to work schedules, health issues or other restrictions, it is difficult to muster even a 3-rifle, chaplain and bugle player detail. We have plenty of uniforms available, if you would like to join us in this very worthwhile endeavor.

Frank Kaye, Acting Honor Guard Captain
870-404-5462 / fkaye53@live.com

**FROM THE ADJUTANT’S DESK:**

Hats off to the two-thirds of our members who have renewed for 2021! Our post reaching our 2021 membership goal by the end of 2020 is just one of MY CHRISTMAS WISHES! So for those members who have not paid their 2021 dues (and there are also a few who haven’t paid for 2020), make your adjutant happy to ring in the New Year with the membership goal of 340 met or surpassed! I will contact members if a payment for 2021 dues is received but 2020 has not been paid.

OPTIONS FOR PAYING YOUR MEMBERSHIP during COVID-19:

- mail it to 717 Market Street, Mountain Home, AR 72653
- deposit your payment envelope in the white drop box by front door
- come by the Saturday Coffee Social from 9-10:30 a.m. If I am not there, give your payment to Finance Officer Curtis Dawson or VSO Frank Kaye.

Now let’s talk about the Consolidated Post Report (CPR). This report is required by National every year and it covers the following subjects: Post Information, Veterans Affairs, National Security, Public Relations, Ceremonial Honors for Veterans, Veterans Employment & Education, Internal Affairs & Membership, Americanism, and Children & Youth. Under National Security, these are 2 of the 10 questions to answer: (1) # of blood donors? and (2) how many pints donated? So my questions to you are: HAVE YOU GIVEN BLOOD? HOW MUCH? DOES YOUR ADJUTANT KNOW? If anyone is curious about what other info the CPR wants to know – Come see me!

If you have ANY membership questions, PLEASE call me at (870) 405-0047 anytime (leave a message, if no answer), email bair.vicky77@yahoo.com Any non-membership questions I will do my best to answer or direct you to the right person!

**Memo from the 1st Vice Commander**

Membership renewals for 2021 have slowed down. The Department Commander has established our goal to be 340 members. Eighty-five (85) members have not renewed. Our post needs these members to renew and also 16 additional new members to meet our membership goal. Remember, any veteran who has an honorable discharge is eligible to be a member of the American Legion!

Post 52 also has 18 members who did not renew their 2020 dues. There is still time for them to pay their 2020 dues to insure continuous American Legion membership. Contact Post Adjutant for more information.

Activities at the post at the moment due to current COVID-19 guidelines are:

- ★ Saturday Morning Coffee & Doughnuts from 9-10:30 a.m. for any veteran & their family members to attend.
- ★ Post & Auxiliary monthly meetings (no potluck before).

These activities are an opportunity for forming new friendships, welcoming new members and recruiting potential members!

Jim Whitesell, 1st Vice Commander / 870-425-2240

Our Bingo fundraising program will be discussed at December E-Board meeting. For the Bingo program to open again, the following factors need to be considered:

- Status of pandemic
- Governor’s current social distancing guidelines and room layout.
- Volunteers to work the program from our post/auxiliary.
- Auxiliary kitchen and how food orders will be done.
- Can we attract enough Bingo players to make the effort worthwhile.

Jim Whitesell, Bingo Chairman / 870-425-2240

Next year we are planning to do the landscape maintenance in-house instead of paying an outside contractor. We are looking for the donation of a riding mower to do this. I can repair it if repairs are minor.

David Darrow, Trustee / 630-514-2263
COMING UP IN NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2020

GENERAL MEETING (NO POTLUCK): NOVEMBER 2, 6:30 PM
NO GENERAL MEETING IN DECEMBER! (PARTY INSTEAD!)
COFFEE SOCIALS ON SATURDAY MORNINGS FROM 9-10:30 AM
*** SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES WILL BE ENFORCED ***
TUESDAY BINGO IS STILL ON HOLD

LEGION

Commander    Lisa Gunter    910-467-7278
1st Vice Cmdr  Jim Whitesell    870-425-2240
2nd Vice Cmdr  Jami Scott    920-980-8054
Adjutant    Vicky Bair    870-405-0047
Finance Officer    Curtis Dawson    870-656-9781
Service Officer    Frank Kaye    870-404-5462
Chaplain    Frank Pemberton    870-431-0123
Judge Advocate    Jerry Montgomery    870-492-6333
Sgt-at-Arms    Jerry Hausmann    870-481-6901
Historian    Brenda Tamashiro    870-656-0366
Trustees    David Darrow    630-514-2263
            Robert Lunsford    318-230-6725
            Peter Stabile    870-424-3710
Honor Guard  (acting)    Frank Kaye    870-404-5462
Post telephone    870-424-6277

AUXILIARY

President    Nancy Stang    870-404-1259
1st Vice President    Suzan Kaye    870-321-0520
2nd Vice President    Sheila S.-Pemberton    870-431-0123
Treasurer    Freda Evans
Historian    Karen Mikulewicz    870-707-0111
Chaplain    Kay Owens    870-481-5610
Sgt-at-Arms    Jamie Barreda
Secretary    Karen Mikulewicz (appointed)    870-707-0111
Parliamentarian (appointed)    Debbye Barreda    870-701-3736