

The Beacon

Newsletter of American Legion Post 202
and Auxiliary Unit 202

February
2016
Edition



SAL

Squadron Legion
202 Riders

Herbert Williams — U.S. Army, WWI, Boone County Missouri

American Legion
Herbert Williams Post 202
P.O. Box 202
Columbia, MO 65202

Post 202 Officers

Commander
Tori Duncan
(573) 397-2306

Vice Commander
Ron McMillian

2nd Vice Commander:
Vacant

Adjutant
Bret Hendren
(573) 228-5800

Finance Officer
Lisa Hendren
(573) 864-8286

Chaplain
Dr. Edwin Hall
(573) 544-6748

Sergeant At Arms
Darrel Goetz

Service Officer
John Witte
(573) 248-3059

Historian
Reid Coffield
(573) 875-8636

Judge Advocate
Ryan Asbridge
(573) 446-9055

Board of Directors

Chairman Alan Wolfe
Vice Chairman Dennis Gayer
Secretary Paul Hobbs
Terry McDonald
Mike Hoferlin

Calendar of Events

Every Thursday though Saturday

The Bar Opens at 6:00 pm

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
February 7	Super Bowl Party	TBD
February 8	SAL meeting	7:00—8:00 PM
February 10	Legion Riders meeting	6:00—8:00 PM
February 15	Board Meeting	6:30-7:00 PM
February 17	American Legion Family Meeting	5:30-9:00 PM
March 9	SAL meeting	7:00—8:00 PM
March 14	Legion Riders meeting	6:00—8:00 PM
March 16	American Legion Family Meeting	5:30-9:00 PM
March 21	Board Meeting	6:30-7:00 PM

Don't forget to renew your membership

Newsletter by Email

To sign up for the email Legion Beacon or to update your email address, send your name and email address to
Post202Beacon@gmail.com

Commander's Comments

February is getting us closer to spring. I don't know about you, but with love in the air, I can't wait for flowers and new buds on the trees. Is there something special that you look forward to in February?

On Saturday Feb. 13th Gary Roberts will be hosting another CCW class, if you would like to be a part of it email him at robertsgary85@yahoo.com

On Sunday Feb. 28th John and Jamie Precht are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary and John will also be celebrating his 80th Birthday. The event will be at:

The First Christian Church
229 S. Rollins St.
Centralia, MO 65240

From 1 PM to 3 PM, no RSVP needed and please no gifts.

Happy Anniversary John and Jamie.

On Sat. Feb. 27th Scottish Rite of Columbia and the Post are going to host a Patriot Trivia night from 3pm to 11pm. Everyone is invited to come out and have fun. I am putting together a team to compete. If you would like to join my team it is \$20 person, either email me at tori@amrlegends.com or call me at 573-397-2306.

Rentals are up and more are coming in every day. I want to thank Darrel Goetz and Terry McDonald for all of your help around the post.

Someone moved the podium that Paul Hobbs made and broke it. If you know anything about this, please let Paul or I know. It makes me sick that it has been broken and no one said anything. We are not looking to punish anyone, would just like to know what happened.

We will be having soup and cake at our Feb. meeting please let us know if you will be attending.

Have a great February.

Tori Duncan
Commander



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Post 202 History

POST 202 HISTORY - ARTICLE 2 - The Birth of Post 202 by Paul Hobbs, Past Commander

The American Legion had its beginning in Paris, France March 16, 1919. The national organization was formulated at a meeting that convened in St. Louis May 8, 1919. Delegates from nearly every state in the nation answered the roll call. The preamble, as we know it today, was put into final form at that gathering.

News article from unknown Columbia paper:

“COLUMBIA MEN WANT LEGION – Fifteen members of the County’s Only Volunteer Organization Ask For Charter – The following fifteen men who served during the World War and at some time belonged to Co. F. 139th, the only unit that was originally made up entirely of volunteers from Boone County, have put in an application for a charter for a Post of the American Legion. The Post is to be named after Herbert Williams, a member of Co. F who was killed in action while rushing a machine gun nest at Exermont. Giltner R. Ingles, Beverley R. Bell, John F. Calvert, Virgil Cole, F. Lewis Douglas, Conley Fay, John Hickam, Harold Hulen, Asbury Roberts, George Klinkerfuss, W. W. Payne, Stewart Reeder, Floyd Roberts, J. Sidney Rollins and John J. Waters.”

The application was submitted in November of 1919 and the Post 202 Charter that hangs in the Memorial Room was issued **96 years ago** on August 20, 1920. Initially, J. Sidney Rollins was the Provisional Chairman and when the Charter was received Giltner Ingles was elected as Post 202’s first Commander.

In *History of American Legion, Herbert Williams Post No 202* by Historian Buell B. Cramer the following is written: “Giltner Ingles, a most energetic man, had worked hard with provisional chairman, J. Sidney Rollins and others whose names have been previously mentioned, was elected in 1920 to serve as the first Post Commander. The war to end all wars was over. Unlimited years of peace were anticipated. The phrase “returning to normalcy” was popular during Senator Harding’s campaign for the Presidency of the United States.

In Herbert Williams’ Post, as in many other Posts throughout the country, there was much ill feeling towards persons, who in some manner or other had avoided military service. This matter was brought up from time to time at almost every meeting of the Post. The terms “slacker”, and “draft dodger” were stinging words.

Herbert Williams’ Post No. 202 during the early years of its life did not have a permanent home. Most of its meetings were held in a large vacant room above the old Central Bank Building. Post Commander Ingles often spoke about an American Legion Memorial Building. This idea did not materialize until many years later. Commander Ingles and his staff were most concerned about disabled veterans. Our country was unprepared for the job of rehabilitating disabled servicemen.”

Regarding that last statement..... It’s been 96 years. Has that situation changed sufficiently?

Election of Officers for Next Year

It is February and time for our Post to start planning for the Officers and Board members for next year. This Post has been going for 96 years. Won't you step up and help keep it going for another 96? The Post needs good leaders to do the things that need to be done to make it a place where veterans want to belong and participate. If you are interested let Paul Hobbs or Dennis Gayer know. They are on the nominating Committee. Per the By-Laws nominations are done in April and the elections are at the May meeting.

Current slate for officers. Regular type is current officers. Bold Italics are those interested for 2016.

Commander – Tori Duncan	<i>Ron McMillan</i>
1st Vice Commander – Ron McMillan	<i>Darrel Goetz</i>
2nd Vice Commander – Vacant	<i>Debra Gayer</i>
Adjutant – Brett Hendren	<i>Will continue</i>
Sgt. At Arms – Darrel Goetz	<i>Dave Bentley</i>
Finance Officer – Lisa Hendren	<i>Will continue</i>
Chaplain – Edwin Hall –	<i>Will continue</i>
Judge Advocate – Ryan Asbridge	
Service Officer – John Witte – Desires to step down	
Historian – Reid Coffield – Desires to step down –	<i>Paul Hobbs if acceptable while serving as</i>
	<i>Board member</i>

Current slate for Board members. Regular type is current members. Bold italics are those interested or nominated.

Chairman -Alan Wolfe - desires to step down
Vice Chairman -Dennis Gayer
Secretary- Paul Hobbs – ***Will continue***
Member-Terry McDonald
Member-Mike Hoeflerlin – May be moving out of state

Executive Board Secretary Paul Hobbs

Do You Know?

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR DD 214 IS?

IMPORTANT: I participated in an Honor Guard for my 14th funeral for 2016 on February 5th. I had to also fold the flag. The family could not find the Veteran's DD214 so the Marine Corps could not provide anyone to fold the flag and participate in the military honors. **If you have a veteran in your family please locate or obtain his or her discharge papers. This is important for funeral military honors and for VA health care.**

Paul Hobbs



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Chaplin's Comments

February is an interesting month. It starts with asking a rodent for an extended weather forecast and has the birthdays of two Presidents -- George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. In between is Valentine's Day -- a day to celebrate love and relationships.

I like Groundhog Day. It allows us to be silly -- a thing lacking in today's hectic world. Washington's Birthday gives us an opportunity to contemplate on the type of individuals who had the vision to begin a country ruled by the people and not by a monarchy, theocracy, or dictator -- something unheard of in the Eighteenth Century. And, as we all know, loving relationships are extremely important.

I would like to focus on George Washington's character this month. I think this topic is especially relevant in this an election year. The following description of Washington was written by Dr. Garry Scott Smith. I hope you enjoy it.

What made George Washington the most remarkable man of an extraordinary generation? He was not an intellectual giant like Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, or James Madison. Compared with most other founders, he was not well educated (he attended school for only about five years), and, unlike many of them, he disliked abstract philosophical discussions. Washington was intelligent, well informed, and astute, but he was neither a polished writer nor a spellbinding speaker. Moreover, he was not particularly affectionate, said little in public meetings, and lacked the charisma of many of his successors. Defeating the British with his ragtag army was an impressive feat, but he was not a traditional military hero. He won no spectacular victories during the Revolutionary War. Although he is widely admired as an outstanding president, few of his policies were stupendous successes.

While praising his military and political record, many scholars contend that Washington's genius lies primarily in his character. The only other American president who has been so highly extolled for his character is Abraham Lincoln. Since Washington, all presidents have been ultimately measured, not by the size of their electoral victories or the success of their legislative programs, but by their moral character. His character helped sustain his troops throughout the travails of the Revolutionary War, convince delegates to the Constitutional Convention to assign significant powers to the presidency, secured the ratification of the Constitution, and enabled the new republic to survive in a hostile world.

Washington's moral character, especially his refusal to yield to temptation, set him apart from most others in the late 18th century. He took the standards of his age very seriously and diligently strove to be virtuous. To many, the crowning achievement of Washington's character was his simultaneous resignation in 1783 as the commander in chief of the American army and his retirement from the world of politics. Throughout the Western world, his unprecedented relinquishing of power (which he did a second time when he declined a third term as president) was widely heralded. Washington's character, Jefferson argued, probably prevented the American Revolution from subverting the liberty it sought to establish. Washington had a sterling reputation for integrity and honor, dedication to duty and his country, and remaining above the political fray.

Many admirers considered Washington's self-control the key facet of his character. He could master events because he had mastered himself. Despite being surrounded by fear, despair, indecisiveness, treason, and the threat of mutiny, he remained confident and steadfast.

The topic of self-control is found throughout the Bible. The one scripture that most people remember, or at least are familiar with, is found in the letter to the Galatians chapter 2 versus 22 and 23, which reads, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."

I believe that Washington displayed these characteristics and so should we. Life can be difficult; we need to be strong. Being strong includes having a firm foundation. The fruits of the Spirit can give us such a foundation.

Stay safe.

Ed

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PATRIOT TRIVIA NIGHT II

Saturday, February 27, 2016

Doors open at 6:00 contest starts 7:00 PM

AMERICAN LEGION POST 202

3669 Legion Lane, COLUMBIA, MO

10 rounds of 8 questions plus dollar games

PATRIOTIC - FUN - EDUCATIONAL

\$160 per table/team of 8

Proceeds benefit Scottish Rite Valley of Columbia and

American Legion Post 202

Cash Bar. Bring your food snacks but no BYOB please,

1st, 2nd, 3rd place cash prizes to winning tables based on total number of tables (10%, 5%, 3%)

For info OR TO PRE REGISTER call 573-999-4642 or 573-442-2950

Registration Form

Team Name _____, **Date fee paid** _____

Team contact name and phone number _____