

The Beacon

Newsletter of American Legion Post 202
and Auxiliary Unit 202

May
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
Ron McMillian

1st Vice Commander
Darrel Goetz

2nd Vice Commander:
Debra Gayer

Adjutant
Bret Hendren
(573) 228-5800

Finance Officer
Lisa Hendren
(573) 864-8286

Chaplain
Dr. Edwin Hall
(573) 544-6748

Sergeant At Arms
John Hendrickson

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
Harold Brake

Calendar of Events

Every Thursday though Saturday
The Bar Opens at 6:00 pm

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
May 8	Mother's Day	
May 9	SAL meeting	7:00—8:00 PM
May 11	Legion Riders meeting	6:00—8:00PM
May 16	Board Meeting	6:30-7:00 PM
May 18	American Legion Family Meeting	5:30-9:00 PM
June 13	SAL meeting	7:00—8:00 PM
June 15	Legion Riders meeting	6:00—8:00PM
June 20	Board Meeting	6:30-7:00 PM
June 22	American Legion Family Meeting	5:30-9:00 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

Commander Notes May 2016

May is one of the two most important months for Veterans. First we have the birthday of Missouri's own Harry Truman on May 8th. This is ironically the day Germany signed the formal surrender of World War II in Europe. But of course President Truman is best known for ending WW II in the Pacific in August of 1945 by dropping two Atomic Bombs on Japan. Countless American Servicemen's lives and the lives of so many Japanese were saved by his actions. I frequently think about the decision President Truman was forced to make. While he knew how many men we were losing in the Pacific Theater, giving the order to drop the "Bomb" on a civilian population is one of the hardest decisions ever made. I am so thankful we had Missouri's finest, Harry Truman in the Oval Office.

The end of May brings us the holiday now known as Memorial Day. Originally known as Decoration Day from the practice of laying flowers on the fields where Union Soldiers were buried in unmarked graves after the Civil War. Today families traditionally take flowers to the graves of family and friends both Military and Civilian to honor those who have gone before.

We also celebrate this Holiday with Parades and Air Shows. This year the Memorial Day Parade in Columbia has a new "Boss". Brett Hendren, our Post 202 Adjutant has assumed the position. Brett is a veteran in this position as he has been "Co-Boss" for the past several years. I know Brett has been looking for folks to volunteer the use of their convertible. Contact Brett if you have questions. We will finalize our participation plans at the Post 202 meeting this Wednesday evening. Come out for the 7:00 meeting and give us your ideas. We will also celebrate Memorial Day with a Cook-out on the Patio at the Post Home. The Post is joining forces with the Riders for this event. The full menu will come out later, but bring friends and family and come join us at around noon after the parade and events downtown. If you would like to bring a side dish or desert to share, it would be much appreciated.



Now the Post 202 meeting for May. The big issue will be the Annual election. The Ballot is posted elsewhere in this newsletter. At our last election, just over 20 people voted. Come out Wednesday night the 18th. Social Hour starts at 6:00 with our meeting at 7:00.

We are just hitting our stride on the School Awards. The next two weeks will require a huge effort. This is one of the most rewarding assignments you can have from the Post. You go to the school's award ceremony and present two very deserving students with our award. Great time. Let me know if you would like to be on the list of presenters. We have days with multiple awards at the same time.

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Building Manager Comments

Building Managers Corner May 2016

Fellow Legionnaires. Things are looking good at the Post Home. The landscaping is doing well; the grass is green and so far pretty well weed free. The Moles...whether it was the "candy" Liz gave them or the ill thoughts that came from me, they seem to be mostly absent this spring. The Lake is looking great and the Conservation Commission stocked about 100 full hand sized Hybrid Sunfish last week. These were put in for a fishing derby but will help increase the stock in the Lake. There are a lot of people who fish at the Post. I would sure love to see some improvements made to make it more handicapped accessible

Rentals continue to be steady and revenue is fair. We still need volunteers to help set up and clean up after the events that happen at the Post. Please let me know if you can lend a hand here. Our weekly renter, Grace Reformed Church has invited up to join them in Worship. They meet at the Post each Sunday Morning at 9:00. They also have services on Sunday evening. These seem like some great people, consider joining them if you need a Church home or would just like to visit. The Ladies of the Church have also volunteered to clean the restrooms and kitchen once a month. Their effort will be greatly appreciated.

A few shout outs to some guys who are really helping out around the Post. Charles "Chuck" White is our do everything guy. He is keeping the grass mowed and does much of the cleaning around the inside. Darrel Goetz; Of late Darrel has been the go to guy for Awards. Darrel is around when I call and say this needs to get done. John Hendrickson: Another do anything guy who is around for whatever the project. John and Chuck are mostly responsible for getting the past commanders pictures hung in the Memorial room. When we needed someone to jump in and help out by assuming the role of Sgt. at Arms until the election, John stepped in without hesitation. The help that Terry McDonald has been providing in the bar is invaluable in the Club Room. While sometimes Terry may be operating in "Bank Examiner" speed, he gets 'er done every Friday night. He also donates all of his tips to the Building Fund each week. While I am handing out kudos, and of course I will leave some out, which is the biggest danger of even trying to do this, I cannot ignore Paul Hobbs. Whenever the call goes out I need this or that done right now can someone help out, Paul always is there. Checking the water heater, opening the Post for Poker players or anything else Paul is always there. Thanks to each of you and those I just simply forgot while writing this!

On the downside, our hot water heater has quit. It has a bad gas control valve. It was installed in 1999. We have decided after 18 years it would be more economically sound to replace rather than repair the unit. This will be accomplished on Monday May 16th . Feel free to come out and assist. We will be discussing the week's activities over Coffee and Donuts at 9:00 am also on the 16th . All welcome!

Ron McMillan

Building Manager and Rental Agent
Legion Post 202, Columbia, Mo.
573 819-5915
ronmcmillan47@gmail.com



POST 202 ELECTION NOTICE

2016 Officers Slate. -

Current slate of officer candidates for May election. Those who have said they want to run for office or will continue.

Commander – Ron McMillan
1st Vice Commander –Darrel Goetz
2nd Vice Commander –Debra Gayer
Adjutant – Brett Hendren – Will continue
Sgt. At Arms – Dave Bentley, John Hendrickson
Finance Officer – Lisa Hendren – Will continue
Chaplain – Edwin Hall – Will continue
Judge Advocate – Ryan Asbridge – Will continue
Service Officer – Ron Brown
Historian – Melvin Bradley

Current slate for Board members. (Per By Laws Article IV Section 2, New Commander will call a Board meeting for vote on Chair and Vice Chair 10 days after Officer installation in August.)

Chairman -Alan Wolfe
Vice Chairman -Dennis Gayer
Secretary- Paul Hobbs
Member-Terry McDonald
Member – Harold Brake

The annual nomination of Officers and Board of Directors shall be held in April and the election shall be held at the regular meeting in May.

Nominations of Post Officers and members of the board of Directors shall be announced at the regular Post meeting one month prior to the election meeting.

Nominations may be made from the floor at the Election meeting. The Commander shall first call for any nominations from the floor two (2) times before voting on the Officers.

Don't forget to renew your
membership

Chaplin's Comments

May is National Military Appreciation Month. This important month honors, remembers, and recognizes all military personnel and their families. The month includes VE Day (8th), Military Spouse Appreciation Day (11th), Armed Forces Day (19th), and Memorial Day (30th).

During this month the country is given the opportunity to stop and reflect on those who have served throughout our history, those who currently serve, and their families. We, as veterans, know all too well the sacrifices that have been made to preserve and protect this country of ours. Some of us were in battle; others served to protect the peace. The commonality is that we served, in a sense putting our lives on hold for the greater good. For this we should be proud.

The thought of service reminds me of the Apostle Paul. He was called to duty late in life and once called he never looked back and never had regrets. In the first chapter of I Timothy he speaks of this to the young man Timothy where he proclaimed "I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service." In the fourth chapter of II Timothy, as his life was nearing completion, Paul also said, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." A true measure of a person is the ability to keep faithful to the end. Faithful to God, Faithful to Family, and Faithful to Country.

I hope during this month we take the time to reflect upon our service and remember the good times and try to make sense of the bad times. The reality is that when the nation needed us we responded and did our duty to the best of our ability. We were and are faithful. That's all that can be expected of anyone.

On a personal note, I will be having bilateral knee replacement surgery on May 31st. This means I will be out of commission for at least a few weeks.

In closing, take care and God bless.

Ed



Don't forget to renew your membership

May/June 2016



The Beacon • Auxiliary

American Legion Auxiliary • Unit 202
3669 S Legion Lane, Columbia, Missouri 65201 • alaunit202@gmail.com

Unit 202 Calendar

May 12

- * QOV Patriot Piecers (10am—4pm) at Post

May 18

- * Monthly Meeting (7pm) Nomination of Officers

May 21

- * Poppy Distribution

June 15

- * Monthly Meeting (7pm) Election of Officers

June 28

- * National President at Warrensburg, MO

Unit 202 Officers

President/Treas.

Pat Kirkpatrick

•

2nd Vice-President

Thelma Koester

•

Secretary/Historian

Georgina Coder

•

Chaplain

Barbara Wyatt

•

Sergeant-At-Arms

Leanna Guillory

Volunteers Needed for May 21 Poppy Distribution



From the battlefields of World War I, weary soldiers brought home the memory of a barren landscape transformed by wild poppies, red as the blood that had soaked the soil. By that miracle of nature, the spirit of their lost comrades lived on.

This poppy, as a memorial flower to the war dead, can be traced to a single individual, Miss Moina Michael. She was so moved by Lt. Col. McCrae's poem, "In Flanders Fields," that she wrote a response: . . . the blood of heroes never dies, but lends a luster to the red of the flower that blooms above the dead In Flanders' Fields.

On impulse, Miss Michael bought a bouquet of poppies – all that New York City's Wanamaker's Department Store had – and handed them to businessmen meeting at the New York YMCA where she worked. She asked them to wear the poppy as a tribute to the fallen.

That was November 1918. World War I was over, but America's sons would rest forever "in Flanders' Fields." Later she

would spearhead a campaign that would result in the adoption of the poppy as the national symbol of sacrificed lives in war and represented the hope that none had died in vain.

The American Legion Auxiliary Poppy has continued to bloom for the casualties of war, its petals of paper bound together for veterans by veterans, reminding America each year that the men and women who have served and died for their country deserve to be remembered.

Poppy Day has become a familiar tradition in almost every American community. This distribution of the bright red memorial flower to the public is one of the oldest and most widely recognized programs of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Unit 202 poppy distribution

is Saturday, May 21.

We are in need of volunteers!

All members of the Post 202 Family — Legion, Auxiliary, AL Riders, and Sons of American Legion—are welcome to participate. One-hour or two-hour time slots between 9 am and 3 pm are available at the Broadway HyVee and Schnucks on Forum.

If you can help, please contact Cheryl Wolfe by calling 573-268-8353 or emailing at alaunit202@gmail.com



Donate Supplies for Operation Warrior Mom

There is a need for six (6) Operation Warrior Mom gift bags for the upcoming months of May, June and July. In coordination with the Women Veteran Program at Truman VA Medical Center, we have provided baby products to fill the gift bags given to “new mom” veterans. Please bring your donated items to our May 18 meeting. Here is our updated list of items needed (no baby powder please):

- ▶ Baby shampoo
- ▶ Baby wipes
- ▶ Baby lotion
- ▶ Burp clothes
- ▶ Pacifiers
- ▶ Onesies t-shirts (size 3-6 months)
- ▶ Receiving or swaddle blankets
- ▶ Footed sleepers (size 3-6 months)
- ▶ Diaper Doo (or other diaper rash cream)

Note: Gender neutral colors and patterns are preferred as we will not know baby’s sex in advance.

World War II Veteran Receives Quilt of Valor



From L to R: Margaret Fines, Katherine Oglesbay, Jan Hobbs, Dabney Doty, Sally Stucker and Connie Love.

"Bravery is the capacity to perform properly even when scared half to death." - Omar Bradley (1893 - 1981) U.S. Army General during World War II

WWII Navy Lt. JG. **Dabney Doty** was guest speaker at our April Post 202 Legion Family joint session. Lt. Doty served on the High Speed Transport USS Ringness, APD 100 in 1944 and 1945. Members were riveted as Mr. Doty shared his amazingly detailed presentation of his experiences in the Pacific during WWII and then answered questions from the audience. He was stationed in Okinawa. Although Mr. Doty had been contributing to the war effort as a civilian, his strong sense of patriotism for his country compelled him to do more — so he joined the Navy.

To honor Mr. Doty for his service to our country, our local Patriot Piecers Quilts of Valor group presented him one of their handmade quilts following his presentation. The quilt was titled "An American Hero", designed and pieced by Elaine Walker and quilted by Terri Crane, also members of Patriot Piecers. Each Quilt of Valor is titled according to the veteran's service history. Mr. Doty was truly a WWII hero, hence the title of his quilt "An American Hero".

As of April 27, 2016 there have been 136,295 Quilts of Valor awarded to active duty and veterans touched by war to provide them with comfort, honor, and appreciation for their service and sacrifice.

Kindness
is a
language
which
the deaf
can hear,
and
the blind
can read.

Officer Nominations & Elections Approaching

Are you interested in serving our Auxiliary Unit 202 as an officer for the 2016-2017 year? Nominations will be made formally at our May 18 meeting. Any member interested in an officer position, or wanting to nominate someone for an office, are asked to **please contact one of the current officers prior to our May 18 meeting with the nomination.** Current officer contact information can be found on page 1 of this Auxiliary newsletter.

As per our Unit 202 By-Laws, a nominee for an office shall be declared elected by acclamation if only one name is placed in nomination for that office (and that member agrees to be nominated). If more than one name is placed in nomination for an office, a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to elect. **Our election of officers will be held at the June 15 meeting.**

March and April Meeting Business Items

- Voted to increase Unit 202 annual dues to \$25 starting with 2016-17 year.
- Voted to purchase engraved paver for \$150 in support of Patriot Place—a new housing complex for homeless veterans created by the Columbia Housing Authority, Truman Veterans' Hospital and Welcome Home Inc. and located on the Business Loop. The paver with the Auxiliary's name, will be placed in the flagpole and gazebo garden area .
- Reported that dinner served by Unit 202 to Missouri Sport Shooting Assoc. in April raised \$335 for Auxiliary. Thank you to **Thelma Koester, Dixie Cunningham, Lora Shay and Georgina Coder** for serving the dinner. Your hard work is greatly appreciated by the Auxiliary.

Make a Difference: Join Auxiliary Unit 202

Welcome to our new member!

Unit 202 would like to welcome our newest member, **Michele White**. She is the daughter of **Sherin and Charles (Chuck) White**, both active members of the Post 202 Family.

How to join our Auxiliary Unit

Please contact our Membership Chairman, Pat Kirkpatrick at 573-268-2988 or email her at pak012@centurylink.net Notice: Membership for 2017 has been increased to \$25.

*Your
membership
is important
to us.*

*Let us know
if we may
assist you
in any way.*