

The Beacon

Newsletter of American Legion Post 202
and Auxiliary Unit 202

November
2015
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

Edwin Hall

(573) 544-6748

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

Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time
Tuesday, November 3	Election Day	
Saturday, November 7	Sons of Union Veterans	0900—1100
Monday, November 9	Sons of the American Legion	1900-2000
Tuesday, November 10	Marine Corps Birthday	1600-2355
Wednesday, November 11	Veterans Day	
Thursday, November 12	Quilts of Valor	1000-1700
Monday, November 16	Legion Board Meeting-Open to All	1830-1900
Wednesday, November 18	American Legion Family Meeting	1700-2100
Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving	

Open Every Thursday and Friday at 6pm

It is the new membership year. Renew Now!

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

Join Today!

Commander's Comments

November is a month full of thankfulness. We start with Veterans Day. It was first known as Armistice Day. World War I was the war to end all wars, or otherwise known as "The Great War" Fighting ceased between the Allied nations and Germany on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. In November 1919 President Wilson proclaimed November 11th, as Armistice Day. There have been a lot of changes to Veterans Day and how and when it should be celebrated, but the point remains that Veterans Day is a "celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good" (va.gov).

We also have Thanksgiving later in the month. We celebrate the harvest of both our crops, livestock, and our families. We should always be grateful for the blessings we have in family, home, and friends. So during this time of year we remember those who have sacrificed for this chance to share our thanks. We always thank our military families who are left behind while their sons and daughters keep us safe every day.

Why is Post 202 Thankful this year?

Volunteerism: Thanks to the hundreds of hours of your time our old post home looks new again (at least on the inside).

Generosity: Thanks to the thousands of dollars from donations from our members and throughout the community the job of remodeling was made possible.

Dedication: Thanks to our leadership we have a great spirit of sticking with it through thick and thin.

So, this Thanksgiving Season, many blessings to my new Legion family!

Tori Duncan

Commander



Vice Commander's Corner

On Veterans Day I was honored to accept Computers for Veterans. These came from a program called Fix it Forward. Senator Blunt donated the machines and students from the local Career Center have cleaned and refurbished them. Here are two of the young men and women of the Career Center who played a part in this.



Vice Commander's Corner

What now is needed is a home for a couple of them. Do you know of a Veteran who could benefit from this program? Let me know and we will see what we can do.

Next, I think we can use two of these at the American Legion Post 202. They are good desktop machines, but they do need something. They need Office Software. They have windows 7 and Microsoft Office 7 would be a great fit and very usable for us. We have many uses and could really benefit. We could also use programs such as Photoshop. You know what I am leading up to. If you might have access to these programs of course along with product keys it would be entirely beneficial.

Please let me know if you can help out with this endeavor, either finding the good needy homes, or software!

I hope everyone had a great Veterans Day and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the next meeting which is next Wednesday November 18th. If you need transportation to the meeting or to any Post event please call the Post phone listed below or send me an email. We will find you a ride.

Ron McMillan
Vice Commander, American Legion Post 202
ronmillan47@gmail.com
573 442-2950



Rental Agent Corner

Fellow Legionnaires,

Here are some notes from the Building Manager's corner of Post 202.

If you have not been to the Post in the last month or so, come out and see how the progress is continuing in the Memorial Room. Many items for display are on tables right now. Just looking at items deciding on where they should be displayed. Do you have an opinion on where to place them? Let me know, remember, it is your Post also.

Some updates from my pleas at the last meeting.

The Post Moles: Liz is taking point on killing the "little @\$%^'s". Any other assistance would be appreciated. We have more than enough of these pests to go around.

BBQ area out back: I think Melvin is getting the Gravel that we will need when the weeds are killed. I am good at killing grass and weeds so we are covered there. The big Smoker does need tuck pointing, painting and a damper in the chimney. Any experts on that out there? Or even someone willing to learn (OJT) let me know and we will get-r-done!

Materials: Do you have any treated lumber lying around that you might want to donate? We could use 4x4's, 4x6's, or 6x6's. We could also use treated 2x4's, 2x6's, 2x8's or even wider 2x material. We do have trucks and some reasonably able bodied help to come get them. Again just let us know.

FUN STUFF:

Don't forget the Christmas dinner this year. It will be a noon meal on Saturday December 5th. Hopefully the change to a noon event will allow more of our members to be able to attend.

2016 is coming up quickly. I just booked a great local band for New Year's Eve. Faded Glory will be playing from 9pm to a little after midnight. This band plays a multiple of genres, so there should be music and dancing for everyone. You will be hearing much more from us about the events of that night so plan on coming out to the first big New Year's Party at Post 202 in a long time.

Rental Agent Corner

Another big event that is in the planning stage is our first Wedding Show. We hope to draw a wide variety of Wedding Vendors to allow us to draw many soon to be married couples. Our main goal of this endeavor is to gain us good rentals. Let us know if you have ideas or would like to help put this on. It will take a lot of work, but with your help I feel this can be a very successful event.

Post social activities are open to the public. It is so much better to have our own activities that to rent out the building. Bullet holes are expensive to fix, and bad publicity is impossible to get back. But our activities only work if you participate!

Pool Table: Thanks to Fred and Jason at Schmidt Billiards the pool table is back in the Memorial Room. They did some needed minor repairs, re-leveled and smoothed out the seams. Now let's get some good use out of this great space at our Post.

We will have an 8 Ball Tournament to see if anyone is a better pool shot than I am. You had better start practicing now if you think you have a shot to cool my ego! The tournament will start on Monday December 14th. All rounds will be the best 3 out of 5 games until the semi and final rounds when we will do the best of 7. Once the brackets are drawn you and your opponent will have 4 days to get the games played. The post will be open evenings for this tournament and everyone is welcome to come out and cheer on your favorite or boo that villain!

Best regards,

Your Building Manager.

Ron McMillan

573 89-5915

rentalagentpost 202@gmail.com

Chaplin's Corner

I've always thought November was interesting; in the beginning of the month a day is set aside to honor those who have served in the military and at the end of the month a day is set aside to honor our families and to give thanks for the blessings of life. In my mind, one cannot exist without the other. Out of the family come those that serve; from those that serve; come the family. And I know not everyone served as we did; but our service provided the stability in which all families depend.

In my various notes, I found the following poem, attributed to John Stuart, which I think does honor to Veteran's Day:

Veterans Day Poem

If Liberty means anything to me,
I will remember what my freedom cost,
By those who gave their all to keep me free,
Whose lives were sacrificed, but never lost.
I will remind myself of what they did,
And keep them dearly cherished in my heart;
Their honor never from me shall be hid
And I will know they always did their part
To save our nation and its people here,
To pledge their lives in defense of our ways,
To show that freedom always outlives fear,
And sacrifice is hallowed all our days.
If Liberty means anything to me,
I will remember those who kept me free.

(c) John Stuart 2008

As the month progresses and Thanksgiving approaches we traditionally set aside time to be with our families and give thanks for the blessings of life. I know, at times, it is hard to feel thankful. Life happens and sometimes it's not pleasant; but, I believe there is always something to be thankful for. Scripture tells us, "Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Give thanks no matter what happens." (1 Thess. 5:16-18). In my opinion, we are to give thanks in all things, not some things, not just the great and wonderful events which occur in your life, but in everything.





The Beacon • Auxiliary

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

Quilts of Valor Awards Ceremony December 6

The Patriot Piecers will hold a Quilts of Valor Awards Ceremony at the Boone Electric Cooperative Community Room on Sunday, December 6 at 2 pm.

The Patriot Piecers is a very devoted group of almost 20 members whose mission is to cover our combat veterans with comforting and healing handmade Quilts of Valor. Unit 202 helps support the Patriot Piecers who meet the second Thursday of the month at our Legion Post. Please contact Auxiliary member **Jan Hobbs** (jehobbs@centurytel.net) for more detailed information about this group and how you can contribute to their cause either financially or by donating quilting fabrics. Check out the following website for an interesting article about them: <http://www.voxmagazine.com/2015/05/american-legion-group-quilts-for-charity/>

Unit 202 Calendar

November 12

- * QOV Patriot Piecers (10am –4pm)

November 18

- * Monthly Meeting (7pm)

December 5

- * *Note date change!* Post 202 Christmas Dinner at Noon

December 10

- * QOV Patriot Piecers (10am-4pm)

2014-2015 National President Visited Missouri



Cheryl Wolfe, National President Janet Jefford, Brenda Rainey, and Georgina Coder at ALA Dept of Missouri sponsored luncheon.

This past June, while serving as the 2014-2015 National President, Janet Jefford was honored at a luncheon held at Post/Unit 131 in Warrensburg, Missouri. Unit 202 members **Cheryl Wolfe, Brenda Rainey, and Georgina Coder** attended the luncheon. How inspiring it was to hear highlights of the travels both nationally and abroad that President Jefford made as a dedicated advocate of our American Legion Auxiliary organization and its mission.

Unit 202 Officers

•
President/Treasurer

Pat Kirkpatrick (573-268-2988)

•
Vice-President

Thelma Koester (573-449-2849)

•
Secretary/Historian

Georgina Coder (573 443-0840)

•
Chaplain

Barbara Wyatt (573-442-8758)

•
Sergeant at Arms

Leanna Guillory



Thank you for your generous donations to our **Operation Warrior Mom** campaign. We recently delivered baby items valued at \$217 to the Women Veterans Program at Truman VA Medical Center. Our next collection of baby items for our women veteran “new moms” will be in January.



Please note the date change — the Christmas dinner was previously scheduled for December 12

You are invited!

Christmas Dinner

Post 202 American Legion Family

Saturday, December 5 at 12 noon

Meat will be furnished by Legion.

Members to bring covered-dishes and desserts to share.



Save

“Best Choice”

UPC labels

Bring them to our Auxiliary meetings or mail them to

Pat Kirkpatrick
700 N Denninghoff Rd
Columbia, MO 65203

For every 1000 labels we submit, our Auxiliary Unit receives \$30, with a bonus of \$30 with the first 1000 labels submitted each year.

Auxiliary Unit 202 food drive to benefit The Food Bank

Please bring a non-perishable food item with you to the Legion Family Christmas Dinner on Saturday, December 5. Below is a list of their most needed food items.



- Boxed meals (Hamburger Helper®)
- Canned meats (chicken, tuna)
- Peanut butter & jelly
- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Hot & cold cereals
- Canned soup
- Pasta, rice

“I’d rather be a could-be if I cannot be an are; because a could-be is a maybe who is reaching for a star, I’d rather be a has-been than a might-have-been, by far; for a might have-been has never been, but a has was once an are.” ~ Milton Berle, American Comedian and Actor

**Reminder: Renew your \$20 Auxiliary Membership now for 2016!
Invite an eligible friend, neighbor or family member to join, too!**