

# The Beacon

Newsletter of American Legion Post 202  
and Auxiliary Unit 202

SAL  
Squadron 202  
Legion Riders

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 McMillan

2nd Vice Commander:  
Mike Hancock

Adjutant:  
Brett Hendren  
(573) 228-5800

Finance Officer:  
Lisa Hendren  
(573) 864-8286

Chaplain: Ed Hall  
(573) 544-6748

Service Officer:  
John Witte  
(573) 248-3059

Historian:  
Reid Coffield  
(573) 875-8636

Judge Advocate:  
Ryan Asbridge  
(573) 446-9055

Sergeant-at-Arms:  
Darrel Goetz

To rent the Legion Post Hall, call (573) 999-4642, or email to [rental@americanlegionpost202.org](mailto:rental@americanlegionpost202.org)

Board of Directors:  
Chairman Alan Wolfe  
Vice Chairman Dennis Gayer  
Secretary-Paul Hobbs  
Terry McDonald

Join Today!

OCTOBER  
2015  
Issue

*Herbert Williams-U.S. Army, WWI, Boone County Missouri*

## Calendar of Events

Every Thursday through Saturday  
Bar Opens at 6:00p

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| October 12 | Columbus Day!<br>-V.A. is closed; urgent care is open.  |
| October 14 | Sons of the American Legion Squadron 202 Meeting<br>-7:00pm at the Post Home  |
| October 19 | American Legion Riders Unit 202 Meeting   |
| October 21 | Board of Directors Meeting - All members welcome.<br><br>Post 202 Monthly Meeting-All members welcome.<br>There will be an All Legion Family Announcement Session just before the meeting where the SAL, the Riders, and the Auxiliary will be encouraged to announce upcoming events they are sponsoring.<br>Auxiliary Unit 202 Monthly Meeting. |

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](mailto:Post202Beacon@gmail.com)

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# Commander Comments

## My fellow Legionnaires,

I want to wish my fellow Shipmates a very happy 240th Birthday. Tuesday, October 13, the Navy turned 240 years old.

### Navy's Gun Salutes

Often confused with the three-volley salute seen performed at military funerals, the 21-gun salute is a different ceremony entirely. Performed with cannons, the gun salute originates in the days of wooden ships and broadside cannons, when if a ship fired a volley in salute, it was powerless to defend itself for as long as 20 minutes while it reloaded the battery. When approaching ships fired a volley, shore batteries and forts would know the ship represented no threat. In time, this grew to become a gesture of respect, with both land and sea batteries firing odd-numbered volleys back and forth.

Today, the Secretary of the Navy has the final say on which ships and stations may fire gun salutes. A national salute of 21 guns is fired on Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day and to honor the President or heads of foreign states. Additionally, ships may — with approval from the office of the Secretary of the Navy — provide gun salutes for senior officers using the following protocol:

Admiral: 17 guns

Vice Admiral: 15 guns

Rear Admiral (upper half): 13 guns

Rear Admiral (lower half): 11 guns

All gun salutes are fired at five-second intervals and total an odd number.

We Need You!



Help meet our  
enhanced  
membership goals.  
Renew by

**October 29**

Post Home Hours: Thursday-Saturday, Open at 6pm.

# Commander Comments

On November 9, 2015 Columbia is going to become a Purple Heart City. The city is going to be presented with a flag and banner that will be put on the Welcome to Columbia signs. This is the city's way of promising to take care of the veterans in the community. The ceremony will be held at city hall at 5:30 pm. Everyone is invited to come out.

## Purple Heart

The Purple Heart is specifically a combat decoration and it is our nation's oldest military medal. It was first created by General George Washington in 1782 and was known as the Badge of Military Merit. It was first awarded to three soldiers in Newburgh, N.Y. The Badge of Military Merit was made of cloth and it is the predecessor of the Purple Heart medal.

The Sons of the American Legion are looking at fixing the metal sign out front. They want to sand blast it and put a new Emblem on it. They are also going to figure out a way to put solar lights on the top of it, so that at night it is lit up.

At Wednesday's meeting we are going to discuss a possible dues increase ahead of National's dues increase. Please come out to put your two-cents worth in.

See you there!

Victoria (Tori) Duncan  
Post 202 Commander

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# LEGION NOTES

Our website <http://americanlegionpost202.org/>, is online and operational.

Please visit and learn all about how the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Sons of the American Legion, and the American Legion Riders is managed by its dues paying members to support the community, state and nation when they *Continue to Serve*.

Please contact the Commander via email at any time, for any reason:

Commander: commander@americanlegionpost202.org

School Awards: commander@americanlegionpost202.org

Website/Newsletter: commander@americanlegionpost202.org

Dues are \$30.00 before January 20th, 2016 at which time a National Organization increase of \$5.00 will take affect: Post may raise it another \$5.00. Be sure to vote at the next meeting.

Our Past Post 202 Commander, Paul Hobbs, presented an unveiling of this Herbert Clarence Williams memorial prior to the District 8 Meeting on September 20, 2015.



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# Closing Notes



The September 20, District 8 Meeting featured announcements of recent events which took place throughout the district at the many Posts.

The approximate dozen County Commanders gave reports to the District Commander that included major events and membership strength.

The District 8 Meeting was graced with a brief statement by the Missouri Department Commander, George Scarborough, regarding the upcoming National dues increase.

Renewal Schedules for dues can be found in the current Posts Adjutant Manual.

There are manuals for nearly every elected officer position of the Executive Committee so no one has to make stuff up.

## 2016 RENEWAL NOTICE SCHEDULE

CUTOFF DATES	RENEWAL DATES
MAY 15, 2015	JULY 3, 2015
SEPTEMBER 11, 2015	OCTOBER 2, 2015
OCTOBER 16, 2015	NOVEMBER 16, 2015
DECEMBER 11, 2015	JANUARY 8, 2016
FEBRUARY 12, 2016	FEBRUARY 26, 2016
APRIL 15, 2016	APRIL 27, 2016

Visit the Missouri American Legion Website to view calendars and much more!

<http://www.missourilegion.org/>

[CALENDAR](#)

[Much More](#)

We have a very active Ladies Auxiliary! The last issue featured the Auxiliary Beacon for September and October. Please contact Cheryl Wolfe, (573-268-8353) for information.

We have a Sons of the American Legion Squadron! The next meeting is October, 14th. To Join, please contact Larry Dietzel by calling (573) 442-2950.

Our American Legion Riders plan and go on rides all the time. If you are interested in being a Rider, or a Rider Supporter, contact our Post Commander and she will get you in touch with our Riders President!

## The new membership year has started. Renew today!

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