

The Beacon

Newsletter of American Legion Post 202
and Auxiliary Unit 202

SEPTEMBER
2015
Issue

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SAL
Squadron 202 Legion
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 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

Chris Duncan
Newsletter Editor
post202web@americanlegionpost202.org

Renew Now!

Join Today!

Call the Adjutant!

Calendar of Events

- September 9 Riders Meeting-6:30pm.
- September 14 Sons of the American Legion Meeting-7:00pm
- September 16 Post 202 Monthly Meeting-*All* members welcome.
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.
Auxiliary Unit 202 Monthly Meeting.
- September 20 **District 8 Conference starts at 1pm-3pm.**
Come out and greet Commanders and Adjutants from the many counties surrounding ours and learn what activities they do in support of Legion goals.

Every Monday through Thursday
Bar Open 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Every Friday and Saturday:
Bar Open 6:00pm to 11:00pm

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

Commander Comments

I want to greet you and welcome you to the next chapter of American Legion Post 202. I know that there have been issues in the post for the past few years. I know that many of you still don't know me. I believe in God, Country, and Family. I believe that working as a family makes us stronger. I believe there is no "I" in team. We as a family are going to disagree and that is okay as long as it does not become personal and debilitating. We can agree to disagree from time to time. I do not do politically correct, which means I may not tell you what you want to hear, but I will never lie to you or deceive you. I will not do anything without prior approval of the membership beforehand. Large amounts of money will not be spent. Changes will not be made without the general memberships' approval to do so. My goal in becoming your Commander was, and still is to reunite this post.

There is room for great diversity in the Post for the many things that people do and want to do. We can keep charity games, clean the carpet, and pay for the energy spent by both the bartender and the bill collectors by working together to make everyone successful. We have hosted conceal to carry. We have loaned our post to community organizations, both local and national in origin. Together we have demonstrated a balance between volunteers preparing for and cleaning up after the rentals, and worked in conjunction with the bar managers, the servers, and the post officer and non-post-officer volunteers. This will continue as it always has, and I hope will help us ensure our future in the community.

We always need couples, or singles, willing to step in to take on some events in the post. Fresh faces bring fresh attitudes and keep new ideas rolling in. You do not need grand dreams or ideals to continue to serve veterans and the community through this post. You will not find glory without humble sacrifice. There is no secret handshake, no speak-easy-like password required, and no shadow organization left in the Post to undermine open communication and the democratic process that was laid before us at the American Legion Charter in 1919.

Commander Comments

The next general membership meeting is Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00pm. We will perform our first regular meeting under new leadership. The greatest single turning point in the history at the post will not be me being the first female commander of the post, it will be because of your open participation at this month's and the next two months' meetings. My executive committee, some non-post-officer Legionnaires, and other past post officers have all contributed in a first draft of new constitution and by-laws for Post 202 since 1968. I have direct experience with both 1) Post re-vitalization and 2) submitting valid and acceptable Post Constitution and By-Laws to American Legion Departments. Your inputs, and our open discussions will lead us to a re-vitalized process of integrating the vast ideas and capabilities of every member of the Post.

You are invited to come to the September 16 meeting and be heard by all members of the post, to utilize the Parliamentary process, and to keep us on our toes for perpetual openness in post business from now until the end of time. Welcome to the American Legion.

Victoria (Tori) Duncan
Post 202 Commander

Past Finance Officer, Past 2nd Vice Commander, Past District Commander (Acting), Past County Commander, Legionnaire, Navy Veteran, Air Force Mom, Navy Spouse, Marine Niece, Army Daughter

We Need You!



Help meet our
enhanced
membership goals.
Renew by
October 2

Post Home Hours: M-T 6pm-9pm; Fri & Sat 6pm-11pm.

From the Chaplain

September is a time for endings and beginnings. Traditionally it is the official end of summer which meant, when I was growing up, the start of the school year. September is also when America, in a sense, lost its innocence.

I vividly remember, as well as most of us, September 11, 2001. I was teaching High School Math at a local school. When second hour started, I noticed the students were unnaturally quiet. As I was trying to figure out what they were up to, a student raised his hand and said, “Mr. Hall, did you know the twin towers in New York had been attacked?” Well, to be honest, knowing this group of students and what they were capable of, I didn’t believe him. When others insisted it happened I turned on the TV in my classroom. I never used the thing, so it took a while to find the remote control; but, after I turned it on I saw the devastation for myself.



At that moment my teacher mind left and my military mind took over. I knew there was going to be a war. I looked around the room and wondered how many of these kids would be involved, and to be frank, how many would die. For a moment I almost choked up, but quickly realized that was not what those around me – students and staff – needed. They needed the infallible, stoic, man known for barking orders in the classroom. But not many orders were barked that day and for many days that followed.

Thanks for letting me tell my story of that day. All of us have one and each is unique. The reason I did was to acknowledge those who answered the Country’s call after this event. In the last 14 years we have been involved in an ill-defined (in my opinion) War on Terror. Throughout this time an unknown number of people have stepped up to take the fight to the enemy. You have my total respect. You answered the Country’s call. May God bless all of you.

I’ll close with a passage from Ecclesiastes which many should find familiar:

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:

a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,

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From the Chaplain

a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate.

Take care and keep safe,
Ed

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 use the following email addresses for the purposes they are named after:

Commander: commander@americanlegionpost202.org
Adjutant: adjutant@americanlegionpost202.org,
Building Rental: rental@americanlegionpost202.org
Services: services@americanlegionpost202.org
School Awards Post202Awards@gmail.com
Legion Beacon Post202beacon@gmail.com
post202web@americanlegionpost202.org

Dues are \$30.00 before January 20th, 2016 at which time a National Organization increase of \$5.00 may take affect: Final determination is yet to be made.
No obligation for future service required.

Post Home Hours: M-T 6pm-9pm; Fri & Sat 6pm-11pm.



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Closing Notes

Let's Walk for Those Who Marched for Us!

October 3, 2015 from 8:00am to 3:00pm there will be a "Walk for Veterans" to raise public awareness on the important issues facing veterans and their families. Proceeds raised will go to the American Legion National Emergency Fund (NEF), which has provided more than \$8 Million of assistance to Legion Family members and veterans who fell victim to natural disasters. As a Legion program you know that there is no overhead when you donate.

This event takes place in Kansas City. The walk begins at the World War I Museum and Memorial. Missouri and all costs are covered by a \$20 Registration Fee. You may download the Registration Form from <http://www.missourilegion.org>. Pay by paypal or check/money order.

Contact Department Headquarters at (573) 893-2353 for more information.

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 current Auxiliary Beacon will be 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 September, 14th. To Join, please contact Larry Dietzel by calling (573) 442-2950.

The new membership year has started. Renew today!

Post Home Hours: M-T 6pm-9pm; Fri & Sat 6pm-11pm.

Please provide comments about the newsletter or website to post202web@americanlegionpost202.org.



The Beacon • Auxiliary

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

Missing In America Project escort stops at Post 202

On Thursday, August 27, Post 202 was honored to host a BBQ dinner for participants of the Missing in America Project "Sea to Shining Sea" escort that was on it's way to Virginia from California. Their mission: to deliver the unclaimed remains of six American veterans for interment at Arlington National Cemetery II. The six veterans—one from each branch of service plus one Buffalo Soldier from WWI— will be laid to rest with a full military honors service on September 1.



For more information about the MIA Project, go to their website at <http://www.miap.us/>

Thank you to our Auxiliary ladies for assisting with serving the meal, and to all the various other Legion Family members who pitched in. Your help was greatly appreciated!

Unit 202 Calendar

September 16

- * Girls State presentations & Monthly Meeting (7pm)

September 20

- * District 8 Meeting at Post 202

October 21

- * Monthly Meeting (7pm)

December 12

- * Mark your calendar! Post 202 Christmas Dinner at Noon

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

New Officers Installed at August meeting

We were honored to have our new District 8 President, Cindy Newton, serve as our installation officer. Cindy is a member of Boonville Unit 52. Congratulations to our new officers for 2015-2016 :

Pat Kirkpatrick, President and Treasurer; Thelma Koester, 2nd Vice-President; Georgina Coder, Secretary and Historian; Barbara Wyatt, Chaplain; and Leanna Guillory, Sergeant at Arms.

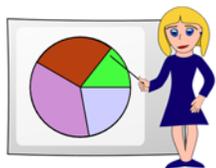
Bring baby items for *Operation Warrior Mom* to Sept 16 meeting



- baby shampoo, wipes, lotion, diaper rash cream
- Pacifiers, spoons
- Onesies (snap crotch, long or short sleeve t-shirts) 0-3 or 3-6 month sizes
- Footed sleepers 0-3 or 3-6 month sizes
- Receiving blankets, swaddle blankets
- Burp cloths, bibs

Tip: yellow, green or multi-colors work best for the clothing and blanket items. But, whatever color you donate is greatly appreciated and will be used!

Girls State delegate presentations September 16



Be sure to attend our regular meeting on Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00 pm when our Girls State and Boys State delegates will present their reports about their experiences at this year's program. With the assistance of seven sponsors, Unit 202 was able to send eight young ladies to Girls State again this year. Please thank these local businesses, organizations, and individuals for their generous donations :

Central Bank of Boone County — Professional Women — Elks Lodge — Boonslick Kiwanis
Dr. Randy Trecha — Columbia Pachyderm Club — 40/8 Voiture 292

Eligibility Requirements for American Legion Auxiliary Membership

A woman who is eligible for membership in The American Legion is also eligible to join the American Legion Auxiliary. The mother, wife, daughter, sister, grand-daughter, great-grand-daughter, or grandmother of members of The American Legion, and deceased veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during the listed war eras.

Gulf War/War on Terrorism
08/02/1990 to date of cessation

Panama
12/20/1989—01/31/1990

Lebanon & Grenada
08/24/1982—07/31/1984

Vietnam War
02/28/1961—05/07/1975

Korean War
06/25/1950—01/31/1955

World War II
12/07/1941—12/31/1946

World War I
04/06/1917—11/11/1918

Track your "Service to Veterans" volunteer hours and donations

Don't forget to fill in your Tracking Forms each month for the period of 04/01/15 to 03/31/16. The form is available on the National ALA website. Print off a copy or download a version you can fill in automatically.

Go to <https://www.alaforveterans.org/> and search for "member tracking form".

"Service to Veterans" volunteers are Auxiliary members who provide service to veterans outside a VA Medical Center, such as Truman VAMC in Columbia. Member volunteers are at the heart of the Auxiliary's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Program structure. Find ideas for volunteering by checking out the Service to Veterans section of the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation: A Guide for Volunteers on the national website. A cumulative report is made of our service in April each year.

District 8 September meeting at Post 202

Due to a conflict in activities at Post 202, the District 8 quarterly meeting has been rescheduled to Sunday, Sept 20. The Auxiliary ladies of Unit 202 will serve a meal following the meetings. We need several homemade cakes to serve for dessert. **Please contact President Pat Kirkpatrick if you can furnish a cake for this event.** (see Unit officer contact info on previous page)

Change in Unit 202 newsletter publication

Starting with this issue, *The Beacon: Auxiliary* will be published as a two-month issue. The next issue will be our November/December publication. **The deadline for articles, news, and dates for the November/December issue will be Wednesday, October 28.** Please send these items to Cheryl Wolfe at alaunit202@gmail.com

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