

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings,

Hope everyone had safe and enjoyable Holidays.

5<sup>th</sup> Division meeting recap: It was discussed that the yearly dues will be going up. The National will increase the dues \$5.00 and the State will add another \$5.00 to the yearly dues making it \$45.00 for dues next year. If you pay yearly and you want to add 4 more years at \$35.00 per year you can be grandfathered in at that rate. You will need to add \$140.00 to get a 5 year card. But this must be done ASAP. Contact Bob Ottensmeier at the post or call the Illinois Department and speak to Dee Dalton at phone number 1-309-663-0361. Please take advantage of this to save yourself some money.

I would like to thank the Auxiliary and the SAL for their donations made toward the solar panel project. Thank You Very Much.

BY Laws were handed out at the meeting for everyone to look over. We will be discussing them at the next meeting; possibly approving them or make any changes and/or corrections.

Paperwork for rebates for the solar panel installation are being worked on. Hopefully we can get a rebate back soon.

The Pork Sausage Dinner is coming up March 17<sup>th</sup>. Paul Hustedde and Bob Ottensmeier will chair this project again. Worker list will be worked on soon with some changes being made. Keep your eyes open on where your shift will be.

February 14<sup>th</sup> Lent starts; we will need everyone's help for the Fish Fry. Also, Auxiliary Rummage Sale will start on February 16<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>. We will need to set up stands on the Monday before.

Anyone interested in going to Lee Greenwood Concert at Lincoln Theatre in Belleville can sign up at Heroes Pub or contact Dale Peek. Tickets are \$80.00 each.

Just a reminder the 550 raffle is going on every Wednesday.

**Commander Dale Rakers**

## AUXILIARY NEWS

The Mondt-Lampe Auxiliary meeting was called to order by Pres Mary Peek on Tues, Jan 23. This was postponed a week because of weather.

It's RUMMAGE SALE time!! Time to get those closets cleaned out. Dates to bring donations are:

Fri, Feb 16 - 4pm to 7pm

Sat, Feb 17 – 9am till noon

Sun, Feb 18 – Noon till 4pm

Mon, Feb 19 – Noon till 6pm

No mattresses or televisions please.

The sale will run from:

Thurs, Feb 22 – 9am till 7pm, with bake sale.

Fri, Feb 23 – 9am till 7pm with ½ price and bake sale.

Sat, Feb 24 – 9am till noon with \$4 brown bag.

Anyone who can help sort and organize will be greatly appreciated. We will be working all the hours when donations are being accepted. AND, of course, all of our great cooks are asked to bring baked goods for the bake sale. This is our biggest event of the year and it is "all hands on deck". Thanks in advance for all you do....especially our energizer committee!!

Mary Madson, 23r District Pres was our guest speaker and thanked us for our 100% membership and to promote and donate to the Marion VA Pantry.

Marcy M briefed us on what was happening in our Aux in 1963. 1000 tin strips from Old Judge coffee were turned in to receive a coffee urn. Cooks were Sylvia Ratermann, Margaret Strubhart, and Catherine Huelsmann. The treasury balance was \$1,004.09.

Membership approved the purchase of 50 scarves to complete our Aux uniform.

Cmdr Dale and Karen spoke to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher about the Americanism Award for this Spring. The topic is "Why Am I Proud to be an American".

Membership approved the purchase of a new refrigerator and also new salt and pepper shakers and table holders.

Pork Sausage and Beef dinner is Sun, Mar 17. Be looking for the WORKERS LIST next month.

Behind every man who wears the pants is a woman who told him which pants to wear!! hehehe. Next mtg will be Tues, Feb 20, 7pm. **Barb H, Aux Rpt**

## SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION (SAL) SQUADRON 1239 NOTES AND HAPPENINGS

The regular meeting of the Aviston S.A.L Squadron 1239 was called to order at 7:30 PM on 01/09/24 by Commander Greg Riechman, with 33 members present.

We welcomed Jennifer Thompson as our guest. Mark Hilmes invited Jennifer to discuss the Snack Pack Program of Clinton County.

Many thanks to the large number of SAL members who worked on New Year's Day at the Legion. Even though it was a Monday, we had a great turnout and enjoyed welcoming The Cheers Band. Special thanks to Whitey Kues, Rick Peek and Brad Richter for chairing the event.

I would like to thank the Legion for hosting the 5th Division Winter Meeting on Sunday, January 7th. Wayne Madson did a fine job leading the meeting. Special thanks to Mark Hilmes and Ryan Haukap for attending and their ongoing support of the division/district.

Our 18th Annual Black Tie and Talent Show at Hidden Lake Winery on Saturday, January 13th was a huge success, with over \$15,000 in scholarships and 12 credit hours at Kaskaskia College being awarded to eight contestants and three alternates. Special thanks to: 1) Angela and Steve Gorazd for hosting us at Hidden Lake Winery; 2) Jim Kues and Craig Timmermann for doing another outstanding job as Co-Chairs of the event, and 3) to Dr. Brian Walsh for another amazing performance as our witty and hilarious Master of Ceremonies.

Please contact Dale Peek if you are interested in seeing country music singer-songwriter Lee Greenwood celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the "God Bless the USA" tour at the Lincoln Theatre in Belleville on Saturday, February 24th.

Sick Call: Continued prayers for Bill Gooch and Lelette Spihlmann.

Hash's cash: Dale Peek picked the king of spades.

Next Fish Fry: **Steve Schrage's** Crew on February 16th.

Next Meeting: February 13th @7:30 PM at the Legion.

**Cmdr: Greg Riechman**

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **Fish Fry – AUX**

Citizens for Aviston

Gun Club Meeting

Republican Party Meeting

### **Fish Fry – Legion**

**SAL Meeting – 7:30**

**Ash Wednesday Fish Fry – Legion**

**Exec Board Meeting – 7:00 PM**

**Auxiliary Rummage Sale Drop-off**

**Fish Fry – SAL**

Gun Club Banquet/Membership Mtg.

**Legion Meeting – 7:00 PM**

**Auxiliary Meeting – 7:00 PM**

**Auxiliary Rummage Sale**

K of C Meeting

**Fish Fry – K of C**

**Fri Feb 2**

Sat Feb 3

Tues Feb 6

Thurs Feb 8

**Fri Feb 9**

**Tues Feb 13**

**Wed Feb 14**

**Thurs Feb 15**

**Fri – Mon Feb 16 - 19**

**Fri Feb 16**

Sat Feb 17

**Mon Feb 19**

**Tues Feb 20**

**Thurs – Sat Feb 22 - 24**

Thurs Feb 22

**Fri Feb 23**

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## HEROES PUB HOURS

Tues – Thurs

6:00 pm - 12:00 am

Fri – Sat

4:00 pm – 1:00 am

Sunday

2:00 pm - ???

Check out the Heroes 550 Drawing held every Wednesday! Details are in the Heroes Pub.