

# POST 30 NEWS



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## Commander's Comments

As we approach the holiday season, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to everyone. Reflecting on this year, I'm truly grateful for the strength of our Post. Your support, dedication, and camaraderie have been the cornerstone of our success. Through your commitment, we've continued to honor our veterans, their families, and our community.

Let's take this time to cherish our loved ones, appreciate the blessings we have, and remember those who may be far from home during this season.

May the spirit of Christmas fill your homes with love, peace, and happiness. Wishing you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for being an incredible part of our American Legion Post 30 family.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter or have any veteran oriented events you'd like to highlight, please send us an email – [alpost30sc@gmail.com](mailto:alpost30sc@gmail.com).

-- Tommy Tripp, Post 30 Commander

## Adjutant Advisory

Renewing your membership at Post 30 means a lot more than just a yearly commitment. It's a solid promise to stand by our veterans and their families. Your renewal fuels our essential mission, allowing us to fight for crucial benefits and build unbreakable bonds. Your ongoing support directly powers our ability to create

impactful programs that support our community. Huge thanks to everyone who renewed last month, boosting our membership from 60% to 71%. That's awesome progress, but we're not there yet. Our goal is 100% paid memberships. If you haven't paid up yet, please do so soon. Your quick action keeps our mission going strong. Thanks for your support in keeping our community thriving!

Our annual dues are \$55.00. We accept cash or check, and you can turn in your dues to me at our monthly meeting or you can mail your check, made payable to American Legion Post 30, to:

American Legion Post 30  
P.O. Box 30  
Edgefield, SC 29824

You can also pay your dues on-line by going to [Mylegion.org](http://Mylegion.org).

-- Jane Doolittle, Post 30 Adjutant

## Pecan Fundraiser Success We are SOLD OUT!

We would like to extend a massive thank you to everyone who made our pecan fundraiser a roaring success! Your enthusiasm, support, and hard work have truly paid off. Thanks to your efforts, we've raised a significant amount that will go a long way in helping us reach our goal of replacing our heaters. Together, we're making a real difference in ensuring our facilities are comfortable and safe for everyone.

Let's continue this momentum and keep working together towards our objectives. Your continued support means the world to us.

Thank you once again for your outstanding efforts and unwavering dedication to our cause.

### Edgefield Arts with a Heart Market

We're thrilled to share some fantastic news with everyone! Our participation in the Edgefield Arts With a Heart Market was a huge success. Special shoutout to Rhonda Nowicki for selecting Post 30 as the non-profit of the month—her choice made a significant impact on our fundraising efforts.

A massive round of applause to Christine from Christine's Farm to Fork for her outstanding dedication in pre-selling \$1000 worth of raffle tickets! Her efforts truly pushed us closer to our goals.

Collectively, we've raised over \$2000, and half of this impressive sum is designated for replacing our heaters. This achievement wouldn't have been possible without the dedication of our volunteers, Tom Yoder, Will Beaver, Hugh Chrisco, Micki Pennington, Tommy Tripp, Barbara Tripp, and Winston Boddie, who manned our tent and helped us have a successful day.

Let's celebrate this achievement together and continue our momentum towards reaching our objectives.

### Christmas Dinner

We hope you're all gearing up for our fantastic Christmas Dinner! It's going to be an evening filled with warmth, joy, and amazing company. We can't wait to catch up and share some holiday cheer.

During our dinner, we've got something special planned. It's the perfect opportunity for us to express our heartfelt gratitude to the local businesses that have been our pillars of support throughout 2023. We'll be recognizing and presenting certificates of appreciation to some incredible folks – Robert Brazell from The Ole Edgefield Butcher Shop, Christine Smith from Christine's Farm to Fork, and Rhonda Nowicki from Edgefield Arts With a Heart Market. Their

support has truly made a difference for us at Post 30.

See you at the dinner!

### American Legion Oratorical Contest

We're excited to announce that we're hosting our first American Legion Oratorical Contest, in collaboration with Post 154 in Johnston and Post 71 in North Augusta. Partnering with these posts assists in securing volunteers for the contest and enables us to send multiple winners to the quadrant level, presenting an exceptional opportunity for the youth in our community!

We're gearing up for a mid-January 2024 contest and are currently in talks with potential contestants and their parents to finalize our list. To ensure fairness and expertise, we've partnered with the Toastmasters as our judges.

We'll need volunteers so if you would like to help let us know. Please contact Winston Boddie at 803-761-2508 or drop us an email at the post email address.

Stay tuned for further updates. Once we lock in the exact date for the contest we'll let everyone know.

### Chaplain's Corner

#### *Oh, Those Holiday Classics!*

I don't know about you, but there's something comforting about those classic Christmas and holiday songs. The ones from the 1940's through the 1960's. They never get old to me. Did you know that many of them originated during WW2, the Korean conflict and even the Vietnam War? It was a way performers gave something back to deployed servicemembers and their families. Music has a magical power.

From Wikipedia: "I'll Be Home for Christmas" is a [Christmas song](#) written by the lyricist [Kim Gannon](#) and composer [Walter Kent](#) and recorded in 1943 by [Bing Crosby](#), who scored a top ten hit with the song. Originally written to honor soldiers overseas who longed to be home at Christmas time, "I'll Be Home for Christmas"

has since gone on to become a Christmas [standard](#).

When I was deployed and away from family, those old familiar songs strangely made me feel closer to them. Same with religious Christmas carols. Something about music lifts my spirit and gives me wonderful reminders of the best Christmases I have had. Sure, there have been some difficult holidays, but I am always reminded of a church that brought my family and me a truck full of food, gifts and Bibles one Christmas when I was a boy and we had nothing. This is why I love Christmas. Jesus loved me. I can love others. And those wonderful timeless songs reach into my soul and make my heart sing, reminding me of what is really important this time of the year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!

-- William Beaver, Post 30 Chaplain

### Calendar of Events

**December 16, 2023**

Wreaths Across America beginning at 1100 at Sunset Memorial Gardens, Columbia Rd, Johnston, SC

**December 21, 2023**

Annual Post Christmas Dinner at 1800

**January 13, 2024**

District 17 Meeting, Post 61, 200 S. Hendrix St, Leesville

**January 20, 2024 (proposed)**

Post 30 Oratorical Contest

**January 18, 2024**

Monthly Meeting, Dinner at 1800, meeting at 1830

**February 10, 2024**

Quadrant Oratorical Contest, Post 20, Greenwood, SC

**February 15, 2024**

Monthly Meeting, Dinner at 1800, meeting at 1830

### NOTE IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:

**You must call Jane Doolittle (803-480-1061) or email the post no later than the Monday prior to our scheduled meeting.**