# P<sup>®</sup>ST 30 NEWS



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### **Commander's Comments**

School is back in session, the end of summer is approaching, and before you know it fall will be here. I hope everyone had an opportunity to take a break, spend time with family, and get a chance to recharge this summer. As the seasons begin their transition Post 30 needs to follow suit. We need to ramp up or membership efforts, prepare for our fall pecan fundraiser, and look for opportunities to increase our support to veterans and the local community. Together we can make a difference.

During our July meeting we discussed raising the cost of our monthly meals from \$5 to \$10. This is due to the significant increase in the price of groceries. Our supper committee informed us that it has gotten to a point where we're spending more than we are taking in. After a discussion a motion was taken, seconded, and unanimously passed. Starting in August our meals will cost \$10. It is also extremely important for us to RSVP to each meeting so the supper committee has an accurate headcount.

As you know facility rentals are a big part of our yearly income and we need your help to keep this going. We need additional people to volunteer to be part of the rental committee. The duties consist of checking the building before and after the rental to make sure it's clean, no damage to either the building or contents (kitchen equipment, tables, chairs, etc ). Even though most people leave it in good shape invariably the bathrooms and kitchen need more attention, especially the floors need mopping. As it stands now we only have two volunteers and with the number of rentals they are overworked. Please consider volunteering to help. Let me know if you have any questions.

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.

-- Tommy Tripp, Post 30 Commander

#### **Adjutant Advisory**

It is that time of year again, time to renew our dues for 2024. Our annual dues are \$55. Our target date for having everyone pay their dues is, October 31, 2023. Currently, 33% of our membership have paid their 2024 dues.

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 <u>Mylegion.org</u>.

-- Jane Doolittle, Post 30 Adjutant

### **Recap of Events**

The drawings for the 2023 Rifle Raffle have concluded and while no one that purchased a ticket from Post 30 won we still had a great year. We sold almost 100 tickets and raised close to \$1000 for the Post. Let's set a goal to sell more tickets in 2024 and hopefully sell a winning ticket.

## On the Horizon

At our August meeting we will attempt to prepare a bulk order for service caps and shirts. You must be present to place an order so please attend the meeting if you're interested in ordering a service cap or shirt.

The Department is holding a second Veteran Experience Action Center (VEAC) August 10-12 at South Carolina National Guard, 301 N. Campus Blvd, Spartanburg.

August 10<sup>th</sup> 0900-1500 (Thursday) August 11<sup>th</sup> 0900-1500 (Friday) August 12<sup>th</sup> 0900-1400 (Saturday)

The VEAC is a great opportunity for eligible veterans and their dependents to be assisted by a team that includes Veteran's Organization Service Officers, Department of Veterans Affairs Benefit Officials and Healthcare Representatives. These representatives can help facilitate and expedite your new or existing VA disability claims, appeals, or other healthcare problems. You must come prepared with the proper documentation about your case: DD214, all medical records about your disability both military and civilian.

The Department is looking for volunteers to help staff the event. If you're interested in volunteering contact Spartanburg Post 28 Commander, Carroll Owings at 865-541-3057.

# **Chaplain's Corner**

## Why I joined the American Legion

I'm not sure when I first started to feel that American pride and patriotic spirit inside me. Maybe it was when I watched the astronauts place the American flags on the surface of the Moon, or when I joined Scouts, and learned about doing my "duty to God and Country."

As a high schooler I went to Georgia Boys State in 1981. I was thrilled to vote in my first election for Ronald Reagan. I have always been a fan of our US military. In seminary, I learned about the social history of our country and the many mistakes we have made. My son's Boy Scout troop was sponsored by an American Legion post.

I was proud of my ancestors' service to our country and my grandfather's leadership in the American Legion. I later felt the call of God to become an Army Chaplain. I love the diversity in our country and the freedom of speech and worship. I'm not naïve to the faults in our nation. However, when I hear anyone put our country down, I get a bit angry. We aren't perfect but I believe we are blessed by God and on a mission to defend freedom globally. This is why I serve my nation in the Army and continue to KEEP America great by serving in the America Legion. I will never disparage this nation or its leaders but will pray for them and serve God. Why did YOU join the American Legion?

-- William Beaver, Post 30 Chaplain

## **Calendar of Events**

#### August 10-12, 2023

Veteran Experience Action Center, South Carolina National Guard Armory, 301 N. Campus Blvd, Spartanburg

#### August 17, 2023

Monthly Meeting, Dinner at 1800, meeting at 1830

#### September 21, 2023

Monthly Meeting, Dinner at 1800, meeting at 1830

October 14, 2023 District 17 Meeting, Post 30, meeting at 1000

October 19, 2023 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.