



Knoxville, Tennessee

January 2023

Chartered in 1919

# The American Legion Post 2

Happy New Year Legionnaires! Member of Post 2 concluded 2022 by participating in the wonderful Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance Ceremony and the Wreaths Across America program.

I believe that 2023 will be a pivotal year for Post 2, and challenge every Post member to provide me with the name of an individual or company who may be able to provide a contribution to the new post home- either financial or with in kind support to make our new Post home a reality in 2023.

Auxiliary members work very, very hard to provide a delicious home cooked meal each month, and they need Post member cooperation by using the Eventbrite on line registration system (or contacting Patrice directly) to get an accurate headcount for the monthly meal.

Unfortunately, people continue to register for dinner and not attend - or not register and then show up for dinner which makes planning **extremely difficult** for our Auxiliary. The meals are prepared based on the number of people who register, and it is not fair for our Auxiliary members to spend their time and money to prepare the meals — only to see half of it go to waste.

**Please be considerate of the Auxiliary and register for the meal if you plan to eat and do your best to show up for the meal if you register!**

## **\* JANUARY MEETING \***

**The Post 2 Family will meet on Monday, January 9th at the DAV Building in Fountain City at 6pm.**

January's meal will feature a variety of homemade soups and chili, rolls, breads and desserts, along with coffee and iced tea.

**Please Register [HERE](#) to allow for an accurate headcount for dinner**

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More than a Century of Service

1919-2022

As we work toward establishing our new Post home, Jamie Pawlinski and Larry Sharp will be providing a list of in-kind items that will be needed as we begin construction. The list will be available later this month and will be posted on the website as well as the facebook page.

I hope that you will review the list and see where you can contribute! And remember, every member of the Post 2 Family is an ambassador for Post 2 - you might be surprised on who among your friends and family may be able to provide assistance as we move forward!

Wreaths Across America pick up date will be Saturday, January 14th, beginning at 9am at John Sevier Veterans Cemetery and 10am at Lyons View. The National Cemetery wreath pick up is scheduled for the following Saturday, January 21, beginning at noon.

## January Calendar

- Jan 9 January Post Meeting &
- Jan 14 Wreath Pick up Lyons View & John Sever cemetery
- Jan 19 American Legion Riders meet at 6:30pm  
Knoxville Harley Davidson  
Sons of the Legion Meet at 7:30pm
- Jan 21 Wreaths Pickup at National cemetery
- Jan 30 Post Executive Meeting 6pm

Post Leadership elections are around the corner, so if you are interested in serving on the Executive Committee, please let me or another Post officer know. Likewise, if you currently serve in a position and are unable to continue in that role, please help the Executive Committee find a replacement for your position.

I look forward to seeing where 2023 takes us as a Post. And, as always, If you have any questions, or concerns, please call me at 865-313-0964 or email me at [commander@legionknox.com](mailto:commander@legionknox.com)

*Mike Testerman*

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# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

*Dan Chipman, Squadron Commander*

The first meeting of 2023 of the Sons of the Legion will be on Thursday, January 19th, at Knoxville Harley Davidson on Clinton Highway, beginning at 7:30pm., immediately following the Legion Riders Meeting.

For additional information on the SAL, programs and activities, please contact Dan Chipman.

# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

*Post 2 Chaplain Steve Sword*

A new year is upon us. None of us know what this year has in store for our country or for our own lives. Like most years, it will probably contain moments of joy and happiness along with moments of pain and sadness.

Such is life in this fallen world. But whatever we may face in the year to come, God has promised us that He is with us. The Bible is full of God's assurances, and here are just a few verses to cling to throughout 2023.

Zephaniah 3:17

"The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing."

Deuteronomy 31:6

"Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."

Psalms 23:4

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Psalms 145:18

"The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."

Matthew 28:20

"And behold, I am always with you, to the end of the age."

Romans 8:38-39

"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Notice, God never promises us that life will be easy. Sometimes we will walk through the valley of the shadow of death. However, he has promised us something much greater than an easy life. He has promised us His presence. When we experience his comfort, the pain, fear, and sadness melt away knowing that one day we will live in His constant presence. That is truly a hope we can rely on in the year to come.



# AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

*Dan Chipman, ALR Director*

A big thank you to Bob & Lorraine Vergith, who opened up their beautiful home to members of the Legion Riders for our annual Christmas party on December 10th. It was great to have so many of the members able to attend for an evening of great food and fellowship and fun!



While the weather did not cooperate for members of the ALR members to participate in the Powell Christmas parade on December 3rd, Ray Sexton and his family represented American Legion Post 2!

The ALR will hold their first meeting of 2023 on Thursday, January 19th at the Knoxville Harley Davidson on Clinton Highway at 6:30pm.

Finally, the Legion Riders mourn the passing of our friend, Katie Ferguson, who passed away after a hard fought battle with cancer on December 2nd. Please remember Dave and his family in your prayers.



# AUXILIARY UPDATES

*Melina Rogers, Unit President*

Ladies- Happy New Year - let's make it a great one as we continue to work on making the new Post home a reality!



December was another busy month for the Auxiliary members as we put together the blessing bags for homeless veterans at KARM, along with providing veterans residing at several nursing homes with Christmas gift bags.



Thanks goes to all who provided donations to fill the bags with the hand made lap blankets and hygiene items, and to Janet for her donation of the Humana reusable bags. And a very special thank you goes to our "Auxiliary Elves" Lorraine and Jackie who made the deliveries!

I will not be able to attend the meeting on Monday, January 9th at the DAV, so please watch for an email from Joleen regarding the meal needs list. The Auxiliary will be providing a soup supper, with rolls and dessert. We will be needing 6-7 crock pots of soups or chili. Finally, please remember to [REGISTER](#) for dinner, regardless of what you are bringing! Thank you!

# PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY



Under the direction of Larry Sharp and Jim Hackworth, the annual American Legion Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance Ceremony was held at the Lyons View State Veterans Cemetery Chapel.



Thank you goes to all those groups and individuals who participated in this annual event to honor those lost at Pearl Harbor 81 years ago. This includes the Rev. Dr. Pat Polis, who provided the invocation and benediction for the the service, as well as the members of the Smokyland Sound Chorus..



Several members of the Central High School Navy JROTC unit presented wreaths as part of the ceremony, which included a monument of silence at 1255 (0755 Hawaii time).

The keynote address for the ceremony was provided by Major General Leslie A. Purser, USA (Ret.), and a proclamation from Governor Bill Lee was presented.



Thanks also to Nicci Baird for her rendition of "Amazing Grace" and to the members of the East Tennessee Veterans Honor Guard who proved the rifle volley and rendered Taps to close the ceremony.

