



Knoxville, Tennessee

March 2024

Chartered in 1919

The American Legion Post 2

Legionnaires -

The March meeting will be important, as the Executive Committee will be officially presenting the updated Post 2 Constitution and Bylaws to the membership for final approval. A complete copy of the document is available on the [Post 2 website](#).

I encourage as many Legionnaires to be present as possible for this vote. This has been a huge undertaking by the Bylaws Committee, and I feel this is the most inclusive and comprehensive set of bylaws we have ever presented.

The Post Elections will be upon us soon, and all positions are available. Nominations will be made in March and April, with the elections at the May Post meeting.

This will give us time to certify and install our officers prior to the Department convention in June. If you are considering stepping up for any of the positions, I would recommend that you take the American Legion Online Basic Training course.

*** MARCH MEETING***

Monday March 4th at the American Red Cross Building

6921 Middlebrook Pike

Dinner begins at 6pm with the meeting at 7pm

Baked Potato & Nacho Bar!

The Auxiliary will be providing baked potatoes and chips with toppings including pulled pork, chili, cheese, bacon bits, jalapeños, salsa, sour cream and butter, along with delicious desserts, iced tea, coffee, and water.

The meal cost is \$10 per person

[REGISTER HERE**](#)**

If you invite guests, YOU MUST REGISTER THEM on the Eventbrite site or email Patrice Collins so we have an accurate headcount. Those who arrive who are not pre-registered will go through the food-line last.

If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please email Patrice at pcollins@knoxvillechamber.com or call 865-806-4487.

legionknox.com

Commander@legionknox.com

865-313-0964

More than a Century of Service

1919-2024

Simply go to legion.org, login and scroll down to basic training and you will find the training program. This is a great overview of the history of the American Legion, as well as the structure and governance.

If you would prefer an in-person experience, the East Division will be conducting an in-person American Legion Basic Training on April 13th at Post 13 in Maryville. This is open to all Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SON members - so please consider attending if you are available.

Post 13 will also be hosting the Second District Convention on April 27th starting at 12:00pm, and anyone from Post 2 is welcome to attend.

Please remember to help the Auxiliary by remembering to register for the monthly meal. Your cooperation allows them to ensure an accurate headcount for dinner.



Finally, I want to thank the Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans Chapter #1078 for their generous donation of \$2500 to the Post 2 Building Fund.

If you have any comments, questions, or complaints about Post 2, please feel free to contact Commander Mike Testerman at 865-742-6170 or by email at commanderlegionknox.com.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the American Red Cross on March 4th!

Mike Testerman

UPCOMING EVENTS

All events are held at the Red Cross Building unless otherwise noted.

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| Mar 4 | Post Meeting meal and dinner begins at 6pm, with meeting beginning at 7pm |
| Mar 21 | Legion Riders meet at Knoxville Harley Davidson beginning at 6:30 pm, followed by SAL meeting at 7:30 |
| Mar 25 | Post Executive Meeting begins at 6:30pm |
| Mar 29 | Vietnam Veterans Day ceremony begins at 10am at the ET Veterans Memorial. |

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Post 2 Chaplain Steve Sword

(Author's note. These columns are written for those of all faiths. Due to the personal nature of this entry, I am writing from my personal Christian faith.)

As I wrote this column in late February, my father-in-law is in intensive care and will have likely passed away by the time you read this. It is a sad time for our family with many difficult decisions having to be made. My father-in-law has had a good life, and his death cannot be considered a tragedy. However, death and loss are always painful and leave scars. There is something inside us all that knows this shouldn't be. Death just seems wrong.

The author of the book of Ecclesiastes declares, "Meaningless! Meaningless!", says the Teacher. "Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless." Ecclesiastes 1:2. If this is so, why would a loving God create us just to die after a meaningless existence? The author of Ecclesiastes is declaring the state of the world as it exists now. This fallen world truly is meaningless. Our instincts are correct, death is wrong and outside of God's original design. We were created to live, not to die. But thanks be to God! He has provided a way back to life from this world of death.

The world and all those in it have been dying since the fall of man. Yet, eternal life still prevails. God is actively redeeming this world and His children who live in it. The creator brings back to life through the sacrifice of His son, Jesus, all who would call upon His name. Life is meaningless outside of God's plan. Inside His plan: we find the love we have longed for; we find the hope that has escaped us; and we find the life that death tried to take from us.

If you find yourself fearing the end of a meaningless life, just listen to the voice of the Father who is calling to you, even now, "Come home. Life is full of meaning with me. Death is not the end."



Congratulations!

The American Legion Post 2 would like to wish The Honorable Joe Duncan, a Happy Birthday at 100 years young!

In addition to being a member of Post 2 since July 1955, (69 years!), Joe also served as the Past Tennessee Department Commander.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Dan Chipman, Squadron Commander

The annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, July 27 at Three Ridges Golf Course. SAL members are actively recruiting hole and tournament sponsors. See Dan Chipman for more details.



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Dan Chipman, ALR Director



The Riders are gearing up for spring and summer and will begin cooking at Harley beginning on Saturday, April 6th and will be serving lunch, working the first and third Saturdays of each month.

The Riders gathered for the monthly Sunday lunch run, with more than a dozen members meeting at the The Local Eatery and Grill in Sevierville.

The annual camping trips, will be on Apr 25-28 to the KOA in Baileyton, Tennessee and July 11-14, staying at the Pride RV Resort near Maggie Valley in North Carolina. For more information on how to join the group for these camping weekends, please contact Dan Chipman.



AUXILIARY UPDATES

Melina Rogers, Unit President

Thanks to everyone who attended our February Valentine's meal - it was well received and appreciated.

In our business meeting, discussions continue on how the Auxiliary can work with engaging more with the community, both in encouraging membership and raising awareness of the poppy program. In addition, we discussed several organizations that we might financially support through our previous Poppy drives.

The March meal will be a baked potato and nacho bar with toppings including pulled pork, chili, cheese, bacon bits, jalapeños, salsa, sour cream and butter. Please be on the lookout for an email from Patrice to see how you may contribute.

Look forward to seeing everyone on March 4th