



# The American Legion Post 2

Legionnaires -

## THE POST NEEDS YOUR HELP!

As you know, Post membership voted last spring to again operate a concession stand at Neyland Stadium during the University of Tennessee Home Football games. Due to health issues and other circumstances, we are in **DIRE NEED OF VOLUNTEERS** to assist with the final games of the season. If we do not have enough volunteers, we will lose the concession stand, **as well as the income it has generated already this year.**

Working the games is the biggest moneymaker for the Post. Please consider working at least one game, and remember volunteers do not have to be a Post member to work the concession stand. Anyone aged 16 or older are eligible to work - and there are a variety of opportunities to help, including stocking the cooler making popcorn and cooking hotdogs . Please contact 2nd Vice [Kim DeDominico](#) if your your family can help.

The November Post meeting will feature our our traditional Thanksgiving meal - and I hope that you will be able to join your fellow Legionnaires and their families. This meal is being catered this year by Cracker Barrel and so an accurate head count is essential!

### 2024 Post 2 Officers

Commander	Mike Testerman
1st Vice Cdr	Steven Patrick
2nd Vice Cdr.	Kim DiDomenico
3rd Vice Cdr.	Chris Richardson
Adjutant	Norita Cruz
Asst Adjutant	Kim DiDomenico
Finance Officer	Marty Everett
Chaplain	Steven Sword
Assistant Chaplain	Bob Dewald
Sgt at Arms	Joseph Cruz
Historian	Sean Deal
Judge Advocate	Ken Irvine

Please sure to register for the dinner using the link provided on the next page and remember that if your plans change - PLEASE CANCEL your reservation by contacting [Patrice Collins](#).

The 99th Annual Knoxville Veterans Day Parade is Monday, November 11th and we need help with parking and parade entry lineup, so please contact [Marty Everett](#) or [Dan Chipman](#).

As always, if you have any comments, questions,, please feel free to contact me at at 865-742-6170 or by email at [commanderlegionknox.com](mailto:commanderlegionknox.com).

*Mike Testerman*

# \*\*\*NOVEMBER MEETING\*\*\*

## Monday, November 4th

at the American Red Cross Building  
6921 Middlebrook Pike

The Auxiliary is coordinating the annual Thanksgiving meal which will feature a traditional roast turkey dinner, complete with dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetables, rolls & butter and a choice of pumpkin or pecan pie, along with coffee, iced tea and water. The cost is \$10 per person.

This meal will be catered by Cracker Barrel, and to ensure an accurate headcount

**You MUST RSVP in order to be served!**

If you register and cannot attend, please contact Patrice Collins at soon as possible.

**Please rsvp for the meal using the following link:**

**<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/american-legion-post-2-thanksgiving-meal-monday-november-4-2024-registration-1052656964317>**

**KNOXVILLE VETERANS DAY PARADE  
VOLUNTEER INFORMATION  
Monday, November 11th**

**Please arrive no later than 7:30am.**

**Parking is available at the Dwight Kessel Parking garage, located at 900 State Street. Rally point is the corner of Gay and Hill Street. Please wear a Post 2 cap/shirt or other Legion identifying clothing.**

**Remember this is a rain or shine event.**

# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

*Post 2 Chaplain Steve Sword*

The holiday season is upon us. Christmas is not only one of the most important events on the Christian calendar, but it has also become the most significant holiday on our cultural calendar. But let's not rush past Thanksgiving on our way to see Santa.

For many, Thanksgiving is their favorite holiday. We see distant family members, eat, slow down, eat, enjoy the fall weather, nap, and eat some more. Besides the bounty of great food, thanksgiving has played a significant role in our nation's history.

From the first Thanksgiving to George Washington's Thanksgiving proclamation to Abraham Lincoln's act making Thanksgiving a national holiday, there is one common truth, the nation was called to give thanks at a time of uncertainty and hardship.

The first winter for the Pilgrims in 1621 saw half of the population die. After the harvest later that year, William Bradford called on the people to give thanks. George Washington was elected the first president under our new constitution that was born out of the blood of the revolutionary war. One of his first acts was to declare a day of thanksgiving. In the middle of the Civil War, President Abraham not only called for a day of thanksgiving, he declared it to be a national holiday.

These three examples show us that our need to give thanks is not dependent on our current circumstances. The Bible says in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances." There is always something to be thankful for when we realize that we have a God who loves perfectly, offers redemption, and will lead us to freedom. In spite of the divisions we see, the dangers we face, and the uncertainty of the future, we need only follow the examples of our forebears – give thanks.

Let's take some time this month to set aside our fears and anxieties and focus on offering thanks to the provider of all good gifts. Then you can eat another slice of pie.

## November Calendar of Events

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

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|-------------|--|
| November 4  | Post Meeting social begins at 6pm, with meeting beginning at 7pm<br><b>PLEASE RSVP FOR THE THANKSGIVING MEAL</b> |
| November 11 | Knoxville Veterans Day Parade  |
| November 25 | Post 2 Executive Meeting begins at 6pm   |



# AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

*Dan Chipman, ALR Director*

The Legion Riders held their annual Car Show on Saturday, October 5th, with proceeds to benefit the Post 2 Building Fund.

A special thanks goes to Ken Rife with Ken's Firehouse BBQ for providing free lunch to anyone who made a donation to the Hurricane Helene relief efforts (as a cash or in kind donation of items requested ) As a result of his generosity, \$865 was raised as well as filling 1/3 of his trailer.

Our Post 2 Auxiliary supported the event with a variety of baked goods, while Ken Roberts provided delicious home made ice cream.



Ray Sexton was awarded first place in the vehicle division, while Ken Rife won the motorcycle category , Also on view was the Harley Davidson which will be raffled off in early 2025.

Although the Riders will not be meeting in November and December, they will still participate in several events, including the monthly lunch get togethers, the Powell Christmas Parade and the SAL/ALR holiday party.



## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Sons of the Legion is pleased to welcome new member Phil Kaplan to the Post 2 family!

On a more somber note, SAL member Rodney Holbrook passed away unexpectedly on October 5th. Rod had been a SAL member for several years, and was a active participant and supporter of the annual SAL Golf Tournament.. He will be missed.

Finally, a reminder that the Sons of the Legion will not be holding our monthly meeting in November and December., but will start back up in January 2025.



# PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

*Jenny Testerman, Unit President*

If for any reason you haven't attended a meeting in awhile, we hope that you'll give the Auxiliary a second chance on the the first Monday of each month. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. with the meeting to follow at 7:00 p.m. Cost for dinner is \$10.00 per person.

Normally the Auxiliary members work together to provide the meal each month, but the Auxiliary has arranged for Cracker Barrel to cater the traditional thanksgiving meal this year.

Why should you attend district or division events? You never know who you'll see there or what fun will be had! Networking is a great way to encourage one another and an opportunity to learn. November will bring a visit by the ALA National President to Tennessee, along with the National ALA Mission Training in Nashville on November 16th.

I'm enthusiastic about education relating to the needs of those served by veteran service organizations. I think it's important to know why we do what we do in order to better serve one another. An emphasis will be placed on mentoring for leadership and understanding leadership roles. There will be multiple opportunities to better understand the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary

Valuable program information and online training can be accessed at any time using the following link including [alatennessee.org](http://alatennessee.org) and [alaforveterans.org](http://alaforveterans.org).

Unit members have voted to support the Wreaths Across America online program, and Smoky Mountain Service Dogs by sponsoring a puppy. We also will be making a donation to the Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding (STAR) Horse and Heroes program.

Feedback is encouraged Flexibility and being able to adapt and overcome are essential to the survival of any organization. Attempts will be made to infuse fun into events. Members are invited to share constructive suggestions. I would ask that for each "opportunity to improve", a "moment that was enjoyed" is also shared.

The department theme for the year is "Honor through Action". None of the things we do as Auxiliary members would be possible if our loved ones had not laced up their boots and taken action. We honor their sacrifices by serving in the "Silent Ranks" and taking action to preserve the benefits they fought to provide all citizens.

Thank you for all you do to "Honor through Action". I look forward to seeing you at a future Auxiliary meeting! Feel free to contact me at [jenny.testerman@gmail.com](mailto:jenny.testerman@gmail.com) or 865-742-6139

*Jenny Testerman*

Department of Tennessee President 2024-25  
Department of Tennessee Gold Star Chair 2024-25