



Knoxville, Tennessee

May 2025

Chartered in 1919

The American Legion Post 2

Legionnaires,

I want to again thank everyone who braved the weather last month at the ground breaking for the new building. Start looking for changes at the new Post site - as we are finally cleared for construction and hope to start moving dirt!

Please like and follow the Legion facebook page and check out the website for updates. In addition to building construction, 2025 is also the 100th anniversary of the Knoxville Veterans Day Parade, and we have some special activities planned.

The 2nd District Legion convention to elect new officers will be held on May 1st at the the American Red Cross Building beginning at 6pm. All Post 2 members are invited to attend.

Nominations are currently open for Post leadership positions, so please consider stepping

*****MAY DATE CHANGE*****

TUESDAY, May 6th

**Knoxville American Red Cross Building
6921 Middlebrook Pike**

Due to the scheduling conflict with the annual ETVMA Medal of Honor Evening, the May Post meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 6th.

There will be no meal served, however, the Post will provide beverages, and Post members are encouraged to bring a brown bag supper.

Post leadership elections will be held at this meeting.
Doors open at 6pm with the business meeting starting at 7pm.

forward to help the Post.

legionknox.com

Commander@legionknox.com

865-313-0964

More than a Century of Service
1919-2024

If you have any questions about the responsibilities or duties of a position, please don't hesitate to contact me. The election will be held at the May meeting.

We have some new faces in the Post, and new ideas are appreciated! If you are interested, I recommend that you take a look at the [American Legion Basic Training course](#). Scroll down to basic training and log in - it's a great primer on the history and mission of the American Legion.

Remember that the May meeting, which will include leadership elections will be on Tuesday, May 6th and there will be no meal served.

Finally, as always, if you have any comments, questions,, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at at 865-742-6170 or by email at commanderlegionknox.com.

Mike Testerman

2024-2025 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

May 2025 Calendar of Events

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

- May 6th Post Meeting social begins at 6pm, with meeting beginning at 7pm.
- May 15th American Legion Riders monthly meeting begins at 6:30
Sons of the Legion Monthly meeting begins at 7:30
Knoxville Harley Davidson, 5810 Clinton Hwy.
- May 17 Armed Forces Day
- May 20 Run for the Wall at the East TN Veterans Memorial 12:30pm
- May 24 Flag planting at John Sevier State veterans Cemetery. at 8:30 am. Please bring a large screwdriver or rebar to assist with making the flag holes. This is a rain or shine event.
- May 26th Memorial Day Reading of the Names at the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial begins at 6am, followed by the annual Post 2 Memorial Day Ceremony beginning at 11:30am. This is a rain or shine event.



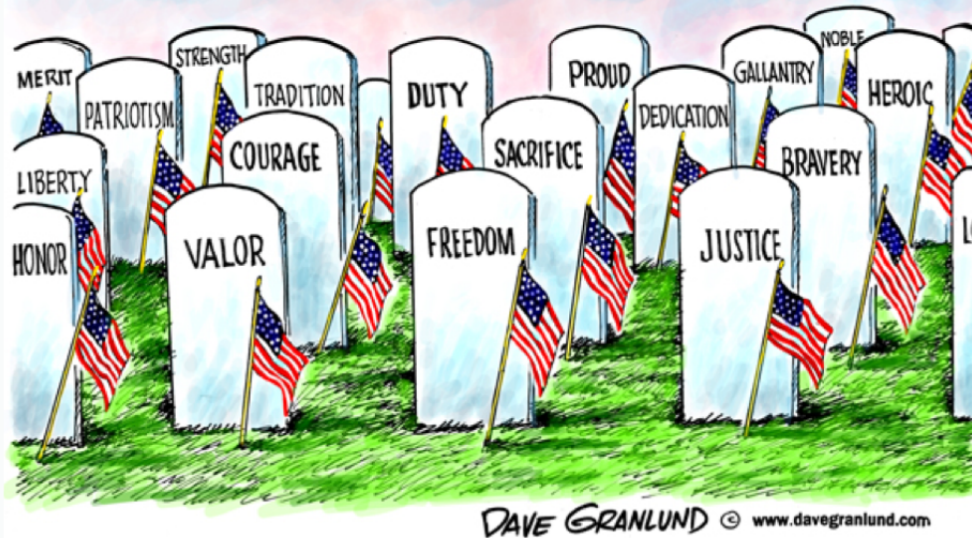
ETVMA

ANNUAL READING OF THE NAMES

Beginning at Sunrise on Monday, May 26th

East Tennessee Veterans Memorial at World's Fair Park

Remember their names...



Starting at sunrise, more than 100 volunteers are needed to read aloud the names of over 6,400 individuals engraved on the granite columns of the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial.

The names are read in chronological order, organized by conflict and county. No pre-registration required—simply visit the readers' tent, sign in, and you'll be assigned names. Families are welcome.

Following the Reading of the Names, five newly engraved names will be dedicated, followed by the annual Memorial Day Service hosted by American Legion Post 2.

REMEMBER HONOR EDUCATE INSPIRE

THIS IS A RAIN OR SHINE EVENT



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Roy O'Neill, ALR Director

Welcome new members Jim Mason and Rick Loope!

ALR members are busy in May with a variety of Memorial Day activities including hosting the "Run For The Wall" riders on Tuesday, May 20th, who will be visiting Knoxville on their way from California to Washington DC for Memorial Day. The Post will be providing lunch for the group, and volunteers are needed!

The The Post 2 American Legion Riders meet on the third Thursday of each month at Knoxville Harley Davidson, located at 5810 Clinton Highway beginning at 6:30pm. The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 15th.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Dan Chipman Squadron Commander

The Sons of the Legion are pleased to welcome new member Rick Loope to the Post 2 American Legion family as as the newest member of the Squadron.

The next event for the SAL will be the annual golf tournament in August, and anyone interested in sponsoring a hole or providing doors prizes should contact Dan Chipman.



Sons of the American Legion Post 2 - Knoxville TN

Annual Golf Tournament

August 16, 2025 - 1:30 PM Shotgun

Three Ridges GC

6101 Wise Springs Rd., Knoxville, TN 37918

All Proceeds Benefit Various Youth Organizations

Four Player Scramble - \$65 per Player

Cash Prizes - 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place

Along With Lots of Door Prizes

Also Selling Hotdogs and Hamburgers

***More Information
and Registration
Contact***

**Dan Chipman 865-719-1207
chipmanvttmn@gmail.com**

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Post 2 Chaplain Steve Sword

When we survey the world today, it is easy to become despondent and think that the current generation of men and women are throwing away the great nation that we inherited from our forebears.

However, I recently came across this excerpt from a Memorial Day speech that made me think differently.

The freedoms we enjoy, the freedoms we take so much for granted, the freedoms we so often trifle with were bought not by the gold of our millionaires, nor altogether the genius of our scientists, nor the sacrifices of the people at home, but primarily by the blood, sweat and agony of those whose names on this day we honor—those who died that we might live!

They found, as have brave men of all ages, that there are principles well worth dying for. Their noble, unselfish sacrifice is a silent, eloquent rebuke to the self-centeredness of this generation. Let those who want “peace at any price” remember this day that thousands have died for honor and freedom and that what we have today has come at the price of shed blood.

The Reverend Billy Graham gave this speech in 1955.

Now, seventy years later, we still have this feeling that the current generation is “self-centered.” I suspect the generations to come after us will feel the same way about their peers. And, like us, they may be right. But what we often fail to take into account is the small remnant that have always been with us who are not self-centered, who are willing to sacrifice their lives for the good of our nation.

That is why we are still here today and that is the spirit of Memorial Day. A time when our country pauses and reflects on the ultimate example of unselfishness, the sacrifice of a life in military service to our nation. So, take heart. There are still many among us willing to step forward and lay down their lives that freedom may endure in the darkest of times.





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. The post and auxiliary meets the first Monday of the month. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. with the meeting to follow at 7:00 p.m. Cost for dinner is \$15.00 per person.

We're begging for more participation. If you are a member of other Legion family pillars (Legion Riders or Sons of the American Legion) please consider coming to fellowship with Auxiliary brothers and sisters. We love any opportunity to be of service to others. In order to continue to serve one another, the community, and to officially conduct business, we are looking more active members.

Now is the time to also consider member interest regarding leadership in the Auxiliary. Leadership is needed at all levels. If you have any questions regarding this, please consider reaching out and/or attending an upcoming meeting. Experience is not a pre-requisite. Opportunities for building leadership skills and mentors are available at all levels.

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 links: alatennessee.org and alaforveterans.org.

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", and 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".

Jenny Testerman
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