



### **Legionnaires' March is ON!**

So much going on at the Post, kitchen is complete and beautiful. As I'm writing this the bar ceilings and wall painting is in progress and wow what a difference!! Again, thank you all that helped, or are helping revitalize these hallowed halls. The legion members cannot express our gratitude enough.

**Big attractions coming up this month & a few early April:**

- **St. Pat's Day corned beef & cabbage with Fender Benders and Front Porch Pickers.**
- **March 18<sup>th</sup> the St. Pat's Parade at the strip. Honor Guard and Riders are in it, come Show your support!**
- **New entertainment! Back Tracks will be coming to the Post Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup> thanks to Brad Deters with Laurie Realty and the Branding Iron for sponsoring!**
- **Starla & Scotty are back on March 31<sup>st</sup>. I missed them last time but heard they were GREAT! I'll definitely try to make it this time!**
- **April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7pm the Laurie Care Center Director Patty will be speaking and answering questions on volunteer opportunities and requirements at the care center.**

**Volunteer opportunities at the Post:**

- As for the district revitalization project I have 5 volunteers, but can always use more. Thank you, John Seward, Stefanie Lowes, Becca Deuel, Bill & Chris Meenan!
- Need Buddy check callers, this is a wellness and roster info check only, NOT solicitation or recruiting. Let's check on our Brothers and Sisters!
- I still need a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice (events coordinator) to step to the plate. Nobody can do this alone, that includes this guy! I need help!
- We need more Honor Guard members, this is totally a come when you can position, it's fun, it's HONORABLE, and it's needed. We do have 2 new members, thank you for joining Brian and Elyse Smith!

We need to keep up on Facebook, keep those comments and pictures going, Let the world know what we're doing. Please consider getting the newsletter by email, it will save the Post \$5000 a year, that is 5 extra scholarships, or other more beneficial things we could be doing with that money. Please contact [stefanielowes@yahoo.com](mailto:stefanielowes@yahoo.com) to switch to electronic form.

Enjoy life, help out your fellow Vets, none of us know how much time we have left. For those gone, we grieve, this is about taking care of them, as well as those still with us. Make it count.

God Bless,

Austin Teel

Commander Post 624



I am starting my March newsletter with the excitement of knowing that spring is just around the corner.

The American Legion kitchen remodel is complete. It looks amazing!!! I can't even begin to say how appreciative and thankful we all are of the hard work that everyone has done. A huge THANK YOU to the House Committee, Bill and Chris Meenan. Auxiliary, Rice Concrete Company and everybody else who had a hand in making this renovation possible.

The kitchen will start serving meals on March 1st (chicken night). Dinner hours remain the same, 5 o'clock to 6:30. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

The Auxiliary Board has set "Event" dates for 2023. Now that the newsletter calendar includes 2 months, it should be easier for all of the members to plan in advance of the different events. Thank you in advance for everyone's participation and attendance, which is key in order for all of the events to be successful.

The American Legion is working on upgrading the post 624 website. Once completed it should be very user friendly and easy to find information for the Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Legion Riders and Sons of the American legion.

Thought for the month:

A mistake that makes you humble is better than an achievement that makes you arrogant.

Let faith be bigger than your fear.

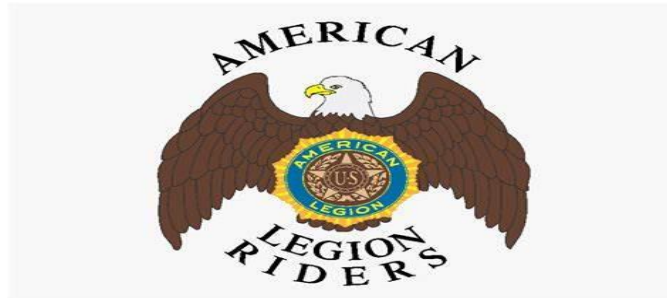
Respectfully

Betty Hovey

President

HOME OF THE  
**LAKE THUNDER RIDERS**

CHAPTER 624



Education with Google is always helpful...

Ides of March,

Worm Moon,

Maal linen Kuu

Daffodils,

St. Patrick's Day and

Spring Equinox...spring forward March 12

Fresh paint, spring flowers, and new ideas to catapult us all in a forward direction.

New beginnings, new motorcycle rides, new feelings of excitement, and comradery are upon us all.

Please be safe, keep the rubber side down, and keep a weather eye out for changes that are heading our way

Bill Meenan

ALR Director



**SAL report March 2023:**

**Your SAL will have our first meeting on Wednesday March 1, 6:30 PM at the post.**

**Looking forward to seeing some of our new members as well as those "older" members. Discussion will include plans and goals for 2023. Your input is needed, please make an effort to attend.**

**Current membership is 48 souls, some renewals as well as new members. The first SAL sponsored dinner will be Wednesday April 12th. Thanks to all Post members for your continued support of SAL.**

**Contact info: [jjmellody@charter.net](mailto:jjmellody@charter.net) or text 913-269-3375**

**Jim Mellody**

**SAL Commander**





## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

### FOR APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION (DIC), SURVIVORS PENSION AND ACCRUED BENEFITS BY A SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD (INCLUDING DEATH COMPENSATION IF APPLICABLE) VA FORM 21P-534

**Note: Read very carefully, detach, and keep these instructions for your reference.**

#### A. How can I contact VA if I have questions?

If you have any questions about this form, how to fill it out, or about VA benefits, contact your nearest VA regional office. You can locate the address of the nearest regional office in your telephone book blue pages under "United States Government, Veterans" or call 1-800-827-1000 (Hearing Impaired TDD line is 711). You may also contact VA by Internet at <https://www.va.gov/contact-us>.

#### B. What is the purpose of VA Form 21P-534?

Use VA Form 21P-534 to apply for:

- VA benefits you may be entitled to receive as a surviving spouse or child of a deceased veteran, *and*
- any money VA owes the veteran but did not pay prior to his or her death (accrued benefits).

**NOTE:** If you apply for any one of these benefits, the law requires that we also consider you for the others.

#### C. What is the purpose of the attached SSA-24 form?

You can apply for Social Security (SS) benefits by using the SSA-24 form attached to this VA Form (see pages 12 and 13). You don't have to apply if you don't want to or have already done so. If you do want to apply, fill it out and leave it attached. We will send it to the Social Security Administration for you. They will then contact you.

#### D. What are dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) and Survivors Pension benefits, and how does VA decide what I will or will not receive?

1. Dependency and indemnity compensation may be payable when:

- a veteran's death occurred while on active service, *or*
- a veteran dies of a service-connected disability or disabilities that was/were either the principal or contributory cause of death, *or*
- a veteran died from a non-service connected injury or disease AND was receiving, or entitled to receive VA compensation for a service-connected disability rated totally disabling;
  - For at least 10 years immediately before death; *or*
  - For at least 5 years after the veteran's release from active duty preceding death; *or*
  - For at least 1 year before death, if the veteran was a former prisoner of war who died after September 30, 1999.

2. Survivors Pension may be payable when:

- the death of a veteran with wartime service is not due to service, *and*
- income and assets are within applicable limits.

VA pays pension based on the amount of family income and assets and the number of dependent children. This is based on law. VA must include as income all sources that Federal law specifies. If there is no surviving spouse, pension may be payable on behalf of a child or children.

You must provide information about the Social Security benefits you and your dependents receive. Report the gross amount you and your dependents receive monthly before deductions are taken out. If you have a copy of your most recent Social Security award letter, please include a copy of the letter with your application.

You must tell us if you or your dependents receive or received income from sources other than Social Security. Please also report if you or your dependents own your primary residence and the value of your assets and your dependents' assets. Your assets **do** include your spouse's assets. Although your assets **do not** include your child's assets, you must tell us if your child has significant assets.

**Assets** means the fair market value of all property that an individual owns, including all real and personal property (excluding the value of the primary residence including the residential lot area, not to exceed 2 acres) less the amount of mortgages or other encumbrances specific to the mortgaged or encumbered property). Personal property means the value of personal effects that are in excess of being suitable and consistent with a reasonable mode of life.

Unless a claim for dependency and indemnity compensation or Survivors Pension is filed within 1 year from the date of the veteran's death, that benefit is not payable from a date earlier than the date the claim is received in the VA.

If it is determined that you are entitled to DIC and death pension, we will pay you whichever benefit entitles you to the most money. Benefit rates and income limits are frequently changed, so it is not possible to keep this information current in these instructions. You can find out what the current income limitations and rates of benefits are by contacting your nearest VA regional office.



### E. How do I apply for special monthly pension or special monthly DIC?

VA may pay increased survivor benefits to a surviving spouse who is blind, a patient in a nursing home due to mental or physical incapacity, requires the aid of another person to perform personal functions required in everyday living, such as bathing, feeding, dressing yourself, attending to the wants of nature, adjusting prosthetic devices, or protecting yourself from the hazards of your daily environment (38 Code of Federal Regulations 3.352(a)); or who is permanently confined to his or her immediate premises because of a permanent disability. If you wish to apply for this benefit, check "Yes" for Item 31.

### F. How do I complete my application?

Print all answers clearly. If an answer is "none" or "0," write that. Your answer to every question is important to help us complete your claim. If you do not know the answer, write "unknown." For additional space, use Item 49, "Remarks," or attach a separate sheet, indicating the item number to which the answers apply. Make sure you sign and date this application (Items 46A and 46B).

**Note:** If the claim is being made on behalf of a minor or incompetent person, the application form should be completed and filed by the legal guardian. If no legal guardian has been appointed, it may be completed and filed by some person acting on behalf of the minor or incompetent person.

### G. What do I do when I have completed my application?

When you have completed this application mail it or take it to a VA regional office. Be sure to attach any materials that support and explain your claim. Also, make a photocopy of your application and everything that you submit to VA before mailing it. You can find the mailing address of your local VA regional office at [www.va.gov/directory](http://www.va.gov/directory).

### H. How can I assign someone to act as my representative?

A representative can be a VA accredited Veterans Service Organization or other service organization that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs recognizes or, a VA accredited attorney or claims agent. Agents and attorneys can charge you for services that you get from them only after the Board of Veteran's Appeals (BVA) gives you their final decision about your application. That means you can use an attorney during any stage of your application for benefits. However, the agent or attorney cannot charge you for services unless you are trying to resolve a dispute with VA after BVA has made a decision about your claim.

If you want to use a representative to help you with your application, contact the nearest VA office. Depending on the type of representative you want to designate, we will send you one of the following forms:

- VA Form 21-22, Appointment of a Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's Representative, *or*
- VA Form 21-22A, Appointment of Individual as Claimant's Representative.

You may also download these forms at [www.va.gov/vaforms](http://www.va.gov/vaforms). If you have already designated a representative, no further action is required on your part.

### I. What if I believe that VA has made an error in processing or deciding my benefits?

You can ask for a personal hearing at any time during the processing of your claim. That means you can ask for the hearing while VA is processing your claim or after VA has made a decision. You should contact the nearest VA office and tell them that you want a personal hearing on your case. Someone in the local VA office will arrange a time and place for your hearing. At this hearing, you can bring witnesses. VA will record whatever you and your witnesses say during the hearing and include it in the official record. VA will furnish the hearing room and officials, and prepare a transcript of the hearing. VA cannot pay your expenses or the expenses of anyone you want to bring with you to the hearing.

### FEES FOR CLAIMS

Section 5904, Title 38, United States Code (codified in § 14.636, Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations) contains provisions regarding fees that may be charged, allowed, or paid for services provided by a VA-accredited attorney or agent in connection with a proceeding before the Department of Veterans Affairs with respect to a claim for benefits under laws administered by the Department. Generally, a VA-accredited attorney or agent may charge you a fee for assisting in seeking further review of a claim for VA benefits only after VA has issued an initial decision on the claim and the attorney or agent has complied with the applicable power-of-attorney and the fee agreement requirements.

**IMPORTANT:** If you are certifying that you are married for the purpose of VA benefits, your marriage must be recognized by the place where you and/or your spouse resided when you filed your claim (or later date when you became eligible for benefits) (38 U.S.C. § 103(c)). Additional guidance on VA recognized marriages is available at <http://www.va.gov/opa/marriage/>.

**PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION:** The VA will not disclose information collected on this form to any source other than what has been authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974 or Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations 1.576 for routine uses (i.e., civil or criminal law enforcement, congressional communications, epidemiological or research studies, the collection of money owed to the United States, litigation in which the United States is a party or has an interest, the administration of VA programs and delivery of VA benefits, verification of identity and status, and personnel administration) as identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22/28 Compensation, Pension, Education, and Veteran Readiness and Employment Records - VA, published in the Federal Register. Your response is required to obtain or retain benefits. Giving us your SSN account information is mandatory. Applicants are required to provide their SSN under Title 38 USC 5101 (c) (1). The VA will not deny an individual benefits for refusing to provide his or her SSN unless the disclosure of the SSN is required by Federal Statute of law in effect prior to January 1, 1975, and still in effect. The requested information is considered relevant and necessary to determine maximum benefits under the law. The responses you submit are considered confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). Information that you furnish may be utilized in computer matching programs with other Federal or state agencies for the purpose of determining your eligibility to receive VA benefits, as well as to collect any amount owed to the United States by virtue of your participation in any benefit program administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**RESPONDENT BURDEN:** We need this information to determine eligibility for death benefits and accrued benefits under 38 U.S.C. 1310 through 1314, 1532 through 1543, and 5121. Title 38, United States Code, allows us to ask for this information. We estimate that you will need an average of 1 hour and 15 minutes to review the instructions, find the information and complete this form. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed. You are not required to respond to a collection of information if this number is not displayed. Valid OMB control numbers can be located on the OMB Internet Page at [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.



The American Legion Zack Wheat Post 624

P.O. Box 61, 852 American Legion Road

Sunrise Beach Missouri 65079

Phone # 573-374-6091 Fax # 573-374-3055



<b>LEGION OFFICERS</b>			<b>LEGION AUXILIARY</b>		
Commander	Austin Teel	573-280-7585	President	Betty Hovey	573-216-2305
1st Vice	John Seward	573-480-0329	1st Vice	Michelle Koenigsman	402-657-6005
2nd Vice			2nd Vice	Susann Huff	573-216-9358
3rd Vice	Stefanie Lowes	254-228-3617	Secretary	Cathy Blamy	314-307-0465
Adjutant	Barry Campbell	573-216-3605	Treasurer	Deborah Schnoebele	573-216-1294
Finance Officer	Ron Naber	309-363-8696	Chaplain	Shirley Dull	573-374-1912
Judge Advocate	Jim Morton	573-374-3013	Historian	Linda Loafman	573-353-3512
Chaplain	Ted Cone	573-480-2854	Membership	Michelle Koenigsman	402-657-6005
Historian	Ray Lacroix	303-263-8592	Sgt-at Arms	Jessica Simpson	573-692-0052
Service Officer	George Wallace	573-374-2691	Asst. Sgt-at Arms	Jane Boyce	573-286-8507
Sgt-at Arms	Brad Deters	573-789-9876			
Asst. Sgt-at Arms	Tom Boyce	573-723-0222	<b>AUXILIARY EXECUTIVE BOARD</b>		
Public Relation	Mike Koenigsman	402-740-7649	Lisa Seward		573-480-6656
			Donna Engelbert		573-216-4230
<b>LEGION EXECUTIVE BOARD</b>			Sheila Spry		573-410-2775
Jim Morton		573-374-3013			
Dale Hanke		402-660-0025	<b>AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS</b>		
Ron Spry		402-699-6852	Director	Bill Meenan	417-350-3792
Mark Schnoebelen		573-280-3252	Asst. Director	Bob Hansen	573-745-0923
John Seward		573-480-0329	Secretary	Chris Meenan	573-999-3218
			Treasurer	Clara Clarke	573-480-2587
<b>SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS</b>			Historian	Terry Roesner	816-520-6902
			Sgt.-at Arms	Lance Cartwright	417-298-6272
Commander	Jim Mellody	913-269-3375	Chaplain	Ted Cone	573-480-2854
1st Vice	Paul Hendersen	618-514-8202	Judge Advocate	Mike Koenigsman	402-740-7649
2nd Vice	Tyler Scrivener	573-505-1495	Road Captain	Kelly Preator	573-552-5575
Adjutant	Jim Mellody	913-269-3375			
Chaplain	Matt Laughlin				
Finance Officer	Joe Brunk				
Sgt-at Arms	Jim Ray	573-216-1439			



# March 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27 Shuffelboard 3pm	28	1 Wing Night 5- 630pm \$12 SAL Meeting 630pm OK Shuffelboard 5pm	2	3 Spagetti Dinner or Fried Fish \$9 5-630pm	4 Turkey Shoot Kitchen open 11am-230pm Hunters Safety Class MDC 9a-1p
5	6 Shuffelboard 3pm	7 Eboard Meeting 615pm Gen Meeting 7pm Aux Meeting 7pm LCC Speaker 7pm	8 ALR Meeting 630pm Tenderloin,Chips & Slaw 5-630pm OK Shuffelboard 5pm	9	10 Baked Chicken Dinner or Fried Fish \$9 5-630pm	11 Turkey Shoot Kitchen open 11a -230 pm
12	13 Shuffelboard 3pm	14 Kitchen Meeting 2pm Calendar Meeting 3 pm Euchre sign up before 4pm	15 OK Shuffelboard 5pm Mexican Night 5- 630 Youngsters Meeting 630pm	16 Suicide prevention class @ Knights of Columbus Camdenton 11am	17 St.Patrick's Day Dinner Cabbage & Corned Beef or Fried Fish,Fries&Slaw 5-630 Music by the Fidlers	18 LOZ St.Patty's Parade on the Strip Turkey Shoot Kitchen open 11am -230 pm
19	20 Folding Letters 9am Shuffelboard 3pm	21	22 Hamburger/ Cheesburger, Fries/ Onionrings 5-630pm OK Shuffelboard 5pm	23	24 Beef Stroganoff,Green Beans or Fried Fish w side & dessert 5-630pm	25 Turkey Shoot Kitchen open 11am -230 pm Chilly Cook Off 330-6pm Music Backtracks 6pm - 9pm
26	27 Shuffelboard 3pm	28	29 Soup,Salad & Baked Potato 5-630pm OK Shuffelboard 5pm	30	31 Shrimp or Fried Fish w side and Dessert 5-630pm Music Starla & Scotty 630-930pm	1
2	3 Shuffelboard 3pm	Notes				

# April 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3 Shuffelboard 3pm	4 Eboard Meeting 615pm Gen Meeting 7pm Aux Meeting 7pm	5 Wing Night 5- 630pm SAL Meeting 630pm OK Shuffelboard 5pm	6 Show Me 6pm Kitchen open 430-6pm	7 Spagetti Dinner or Fried Fish 5-630pm	8 Turkey Shoot Kitchen open 11a -230 pm
9	10 Shuffelboard 3pm	11 Kitchen Meeting 230pm Calendar Meeting 3 pm Euchre sign up before 4pm	12 ALR Meeting 630pm OK Shuffelboard 5pm	13 Show Me 6pm Kitchen open 430-6pm	14 Open Faced Roast Beef or Fried Fish&sides 5-630pm Music Fender Benders 5-8pm	15 Last Turkey Shoot Kitchen open 11a -230 pm AL Birthday Dinner 7pm
16	17 Folding Letters 9am Shuffelboard 3pm	18	19 OK Shuffelboard 5pm Mexican Night 5-630pm Youngsters Meeting 630pm	20 Show Me 6pm Kitchen open 430-6pm	21 Dinner TBA 5-630pm	22 Field Day Legion Clean up Legion Olympics
23	24 Shuffelboard 3pm	25	26 OK Shuffelboard 5pm Hamburger Night	27 Show Me 6pm Kitchen open 430-6pm	28 Dinner TBA 5-630pm	29 Silent Auction 12-5pm Fun with Jerry 2-5pm
30	1 Shuffelboard 3pm	Notes				

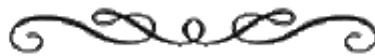


IN MEMORIAM

*Irwin R Anna*

*January 14, 1934 - January 25, 2023*

*US Army*

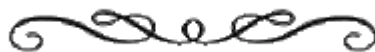


IN MEMORIAM

*Lee W Holst*

*July 31, 1941 - January 23, 2023*

*US Navy*





# Want to be part of the American Legion Family ?

## Join The American Legion

If you have served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and were honorably discharged or you are still serving active military duty honorably, you are eligible for membership with The American Legion.

## Join the Legion Auxiliary

The American Legion Auxiliary is made up of the male and female spouses, grandmothers, mothers, sisters, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion.

## Join the Legion Riders

Members must hold membership in and be in good standing with The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion.

Members must be legally registered motorcycle owners or be the legally registered owner's spouse within the state of registration.

All operators must be properly licensed and insured per state laws.

All members must obey motor-vehicle laws in the state in which they are operating a motorcycle or riding as a passenger.

## Join the Sons of the American Legion

All male descendants adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during the period of April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918, or any time from December 7, 1941, to date, who served honorably, as set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion.

# Chili Cook-Off!



**SATURDAY**

**MARCH 25th 3:30-6 PM**



**Cookers-entry fee \$10.00**

**And**

**Chili Tasters**

**All you can eat \$5.00**

**BRING YOUR BEST CHILI AND HAVE FUN**

**GUESS HOW MANY BEANS IN THE JAR AND WIN**

**MUSIC BY BACKTRACKS**

**6-9PM**



## OKLAHOMA TOURNAMENT

EVERY WEDNESDAY 5PM

Bring your quarters and have  
fun!

.25 cent buy-in

After 4 rounds highest score  
wins the pot!





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Debbie Ites

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