

January 2023 NEWSLETTER

Meetings: Post 5 – Third Tuesday at 6:30 PM, Auxiliary Unit 5 – Third Tuesday at 6:30 PM
SAL Squadron 5 – First Tuesday at 7:00 PM, ALR Chapter 5 – First Thursday at 6:00 PM

Notes from Commander Dee Dee Cryderman:

I pray everyone had a blessed and safe Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. December was a special and memorable time with Wreaths being placed on graves of Veterans at the Jefferson City National Cemetery and Wreaths placed at the Hawthorne Cemetery as well. The 40 & 8 delivered Christmas bags to several local schools to special needs children as well as along with Santa Claus to the Learning Center for their special needs kids as well. We assisted the Marines with Toys for Tots helping them separate toys, Unit 5 did an amazing job with their gift bags for Veterans in local Nursing homes. I was honored with being asked to be the Keynote speaker at Taos Wreaths Laying Ceremony and BIG kudos and hats off to American Legion Post 317 for having their Color Guard there as well, they did an awesome job! Such wonderful love for our community and our veterans was shown this month.

The Legion Christmas Dinner Meal/Party was a huge success, great food, lots of laughs and good times were had by all. A "Special Thank You" for all those who volunteered and participated in the games we all enjoyed that evening to make this a special & fun night.

Happy New Year to ALL Legion families and their families. With the New Year upon us, it is time to begin new things and pursue new opportunities. If you have never come to a Post meeting or an activity, it is Never too late to do so, now is the time to begin. Donate a few hours a month, there is much to do, make new friends and receive satisfaction of helping YOUR Post home. Make this, one of your New Year's Resolution. Happy New Year! Commander Dee Dee Cryderman

Notes from Adjutant Rick Derks:

So far, we have 40 new and transfer members for 2023. As of December, we have 966 members that have paid their dues for 2023. We have reached 78% of our 2023 membership goal and still have a long way to go to our goal of 1,240. If you have not yet renewed your membership, I encourage you to send in your dues as soon as possible to help keep Post 5 and the American Legion a strong organization. If you know a member that has not renewed, please encourage them to renew. If you know a Veteran or someone still on active duty that is not a member, please encourage them to join and become a member of the Largest and Most Active Post in Missouri. Our Post Officers strongly encourage members to attend monthly meetings to provide your input into how your Post operates. There are still spaces available on the Recognition Wall inside the Club Room. Applications are available in the Club Room. The gun raffle for a Rock Island 45 caliber, a 1911 style pistol, is in progress, ask your friendly bartender for tickets.

Upcoming Events: We will have our normal Friday Night Fish and Fried Chicken on December 30th. **The club room will be open on New Year's Eve and CLOSED on New Year's Day.** Past Commander meeting will be January 4, 2023, 12:00 noon at Post 5. Lunch will be available for purchase. The District 8 Oratorical Contest will be at Post 5, January 8, 1:00 pm. The Navy Club Ship 5 will once again host the (almost) annual Chili Cook Off on Saturday, February 11th. Sign up now to compete, entry for individuals/teams is only \$15.

Visit our website (www.post5.com), for the newsletter, calendar of events, news releases and various other functions by our Post Family clubs and follow us on Facebook. Also, visit the Department of Missouri website: (www.missourilegion.org).

New Members: Ray Trammell, Raymond Lichtenauer, Timmy Peters, Scott Seib, Ethan Bercume, Kevin Berendzen, Jeff Switzer, Roger Bodenschatz, Jeff Sullens, Chris Ratcliff, and Ken Steinbeck. Please welcome them to the American Legion Post 5 Family.

TAPS: James Watson. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Rick Derks, Adjutant, Post 5

Notes from Auxiliary President Debbie Cheshire:

Big THANK YOU to Debbie Alderson and all the volunteers for making the Christmas Packages for Veterans in Nursing Homes a huge success. On December 16, gift packages were delivered by American Legion volunteers to 124 veterans in local nursing homes. Connie Pack and volunteers produced 130 pillowcases that were included in the gift packages. Great job!

Also, thanks to Christy Scheppers and Claudia Goodin for coordinating the Shopping Day at the VA Hospital in Columbia on December 6th. Gifts were chosen by the veterans for their family members and wrapped by Christy and Claudia. 28 veterans participated in the festivities.

Likewise, I want to thank Unit 5 Ladies who put up not one, not two, but three Christmas trees at the Post.

Just a Note - The Auxiliary is planning a Post 5 Bar-B-Que and Country Store for February 2023. The exact date and additional details will be released as we get closer to the date.

I would like to take this time to thank my Executive Committee members for their dedication and hard work during this past year. The Auxiliary is so successful because we help and support each other. The true gift is that we develop forever friendships by working together. Remember - We are stronger and better together!

I want to wish all Legion members a Very Merry Christmas Along with a Healthy & Prosperous New Year!

God bless you all. Debbie Cheshire, Auxiliary President, Unit 5, (573) 338-0911

Notes from Sons of the American Legion Commander Chris Althusser:

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a happy New Year. I invite all Sons members to join us at our monthly meets which are the first Tuesday of each month. Meetings start @7 Hope to see you soon at the post. Chris Altheuser, Commander, Squadron 5

Notes from Legion Riders Director Steve Spayde:

December tends to be a relatively slow month when you're a motorcycle rider. We've managed to stay busy with a couple special events though. Everyone had a great time at our annual Christmas Party where we unveiled the rolling cooler that is our winter fundraiser. Tickets are currently on sale behind the bar for \$5.00 each, and you can take some with you to sell outside of the Post. We always appreciate donations to the cooler in the form of bottles of wine, spirits, and scratcher tickets to include in the prize. We'll draw the winner for the cooler at our Valentine's Day dinner in February 2023.

We also laid holiday wreaths at the National Cemetery and Hawthorn Gardens. I appreciate all of those that showed up at both of those events. There will be a special Christmas Eve happy hour in the Club Room on 12/24 from Noon to 4:00 p.m. and then the rest of the month is clear. I'm looking at the super extended weather forecast right now, and it looks like the temperature on New Year's Day should be in the low 40's. That will work nicely for our annual Ride the Temp ride. I'm sure that Ride Captain Travis will have a great ride waiting for us. Hope to see you all there.

Cheers! Steve Spayde, Director, American Legion Riders, Chapter 5

Notes from the Business Management Committee, Committee Chair Vince Rost

The BMC hopes that everyone is enjoying their Post during the Holidays. It takes a huge group effort to make the club your home. I don't receive many paper suggestions, but I do hear a lot of complaints/suggestions verbally. It's hard to track them all. Please make the effort to use the suggestion box. That sounds what it's for. There are many opportunities to enjoy our Post and for members to get together and celebrate the Holiday Season and we hope you take advantage of our great facility. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the BMC. Vince Rost, 757-754-1112

Follow all the events and meals on the insert or the calendar in the newsletter and our Facebook site. If you have any questions, contact Club Manager Kelly Perez 573-636-2311 or post5ha@mchsi.com.