

January 2026



NOTES FROM COMMANDER HAL DULLE

I'd like to wish a Happy New Year to the Best American Legion Post in Missouri!! We did not win any new award, which says we are the best, but I see amazing things that

happen every day at the Post and I have not seen any better anywhere else.

- The opportunities for service in a new year come to my mind as we enter a new year. With over one thousand members listed on our family roster, I find it hard to believe that we only have one hundred members doing most of the work in our organization. That is an estimated 10% of our membership actively doing our post work and we need to improve that. I would like to encourage all our family members to attend their respective meetings and get engaged in the post. We have great ideas that we do not act on because we just do not have someone to lead the effort or workforce to get the job done. Those of you who bring me great ideas every week are going to be continually disappointed until we get more members engaged in our efforts. Thanks for being the greatest people in our community and helping our Post are the welcome home that our veterans deserve.
- She may hate the spotlight, but a big thank you to Daffeny Rose for her hard work, delicious meals, and the outstanding job she does as our Kitchen Manager during the holiday season. Again thank you for all you do!
- Please remember to submit your membership renewals. Maintaining strong membership numbers is essential in our continued effort to safeguard veterans' rights and ensure access to VA health care. Elected officials pay close attention to these numbers, and a united, active membership strengthens our voice in these important discussions.

Post Commander, Hal Dulle

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Please plan to attend a Post 5 **Quilt of Valor Ceremony** on Sunday, January 4th from 1:00 – 3:00, it is a wonderful opportunity to thank OUR veterans.
 - District 8 **Oratorical Contest**, 12:30 January 11th.
 - The district 8 meeting is Sunday, January 11 following the District Oratorical Contest.
 - Please plan to come to the **Post for Donuts and Coffee** at 8:30 on January 15th for the entire Legion family, veterans, and their families. The Post 5 Veteran Service Office (VSO) will be in attendance.
 - Annual Post Family **Chilli Cook Off** is Saturday, February 7th, 2026, so start getting your teams ready.
 - Also start thinking of a post idea for **floats** for the Jefferson City Fourth of July parade on July 4th, 2026, to celebrate 250th birthday of America.
 - Follow all events on Facebook at **American Legion Post 5** – www.post5.com - call 573-636-2311 – Email post5ha@mchsi.com
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NOTES FROM AUXILIARY UNITY 5 PRESIDENT ESTHER ROSNER

It was a wonderful 'Christmas Giving' time. With American Legion Family and community support we provided donations to Operation Bugle Boy, the Mid Missouri Military Pantry, Fisher House, and Tiny Homes. The RACS Angel Tree recipients were thrilled with the outpouring of gifts that brightened their Christmas.

- This year Veteran Christmas Gift bags from the American Legion Family were prepared for one hundred twenty veterans in area retirement and nursing homes. Each Veteran was thanked for their service, and we wished them a Very Merry Christmas. This program was again headed by Debbie Alderson and her many elf assistants.
- We continue to support Wreaths Across America and were proud to place wreaths on the brisk, cold day. There is still a need for wreaths in 2026 to insure all Veteran graves are covered, if you'd like to help us meet the need the link is:
<https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/179667/Overview>
- Our Auxiliary volunteers had the Post looking festive for the fun-filled Christmas party attended by so many. Dorothy Goodin's design had the tables sparkling as we greeted family of Senior Airman Camilia A. Calderon De La Barca who was honored with a Quilt of Valor while home on leave from Italy. We thank Helen Barnett and the Capital Piecemakers QOV group for presenting the lovely quilt.
- As a reminder, the 2026 \$48 Auxiliary dues renewal should be mailed to ALA 1423 Tanner Bridge Road. We encourage you to attend our January 20th Business meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Annex.
- I can be reached at 573-230-1086 if I can answer any questions or be of assistance.

Unit 5 Auxiliary President, Esther Rosner

SEA CADETS

- American Legion Post 5 is seeking a volunteer to assist with the Sea Cadets, primarily during Post 5 Friday evening dinners. The Sea Cadets earn volunteer service hours for their work at the Post, and a Post 5 member must be present to serve as a supervisor.
 - If you are able to volunteer, please contact me. For additional information, Rosie Brizendine or Ken Gullede can provide further details.
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**NOTES FROM
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
COMMANDER, CHRIS ALTHEUSER**

SAL Dues have been raised to \$30 and are currently due. I invite all SAL members to join us at our monthly meetings, and they are on the **first Tuesday** of each month. Meeting starts at 7:00. Hope to see you soon at the post!

Chris Altheuser, Commander, squadron 5

TAPS



None, well done!

Please keep all our Legion Family in your prayers.



Membership forms can be found at the bar or at the Commanders Officer.

Business Management Committee (BMC)

- The December 2025 BMC meeting focused on security camera administration, appointing Cecil Goodin as Security Officer, addressing food menu pricing for the 2026 calendar year and reviewing event staffing needs. As a reminder, our club staff have gone above and beyond to make every member and holiday guest feel welcome and valued. Please take a moment to thank them for their dedication and hard work during this special season! Finally, the BMC invites you to share your ideas for fun and festive club activities! We are especially looking to add new events on Thursdays and Saturdays. Please talk to a committee member about your recommendations or drop them in the suggestion box and join us in making our club even more special for our members.

Business Management Committee Chair, Tim Bock

Notes from Adjutant

- Membership renewals for 2026 are ongoing. If you have not renewed it, please submit your dues soon. Encourage eligible Veterans or active-duty personnel to join our Post—the largest and most active in Missouri. Please attend monthly meetings and contribute ideas for Post operations.
- The post is searching for a new Post Adjutant that is a paid position, so if you are interested, please contact any of the post officers. **See you at the Post!**

Adjutant, Charlotte Dudenhoeffer

American Legion's USA 250 Challenge

- Celebrate the nation's semiquincentennial by taking part in The American Legion's USA 250 Challenge. Your participation, whether as an individual or part of a team, helps honor our veterans and uplift communities nationwide while promoting physical fitness, mental wellness, and community service. Here is the website to register: <https://www.legion.org/get-involved/community-programs/usa250/challenge>



**NOTES FROM LEGION RIDERS
DIRECTOR DAVID NEIGHBORS**

Well, we made it another year. All the Christmas lights are coming down, unless you are as much of a redneck as I am and leave them all year. We did get seven bikes and twelve riders to show up for the laying of the wreaths at the National Cemetery and at Hawthorne Gardens.

It was chilly 31 degrees when we started and dropped to 22 degrees by the time we were done. A big thank you to all those that helped lay the wreaths of presented wreaths for the different branches. I am not sure if this newsletter will reach everyone before the New Year Day Ride the Temperature, or not, however we are holding our regularly scheduled meeting that night at the post. We tried to look at other dates, but our post is getting busy. So, the executive board felt it was best to leave it at the same time.

- If you reach back in your mind and recall, I asked everyone to turn in your starting miles for the year. Vince was so kind to volunteer for this duty. We are going to turn in the miles at the end of the year. Preferably on the last day of the year, thus you can submit your miles at any time, do not bombard him all on the first day. We are going to total these miles up and see the total many miles we did get and not just the missions we did for the post.

- We did have a winner of the booze box/cooler at the Post Christmas party. TJ will be bringing totals for us. Also don't forget about our big fund raiser for the year. Our second annual comedy night. This was an overwhelming fun time last year. Luke and his team did an amazing job. They will always welcome anyone interested in helping, just let them know. We have the date already March 21st. We have two comedians again and Faith Ann Meyer will also be performing. This show sold out last year, so be sure to purchase your tickets early and encourage friends and family to do the same. We will also be giving away a \$1000 door prize again. Let us make it bigger and better show than last year's!!!

Your Director, David Neighbors



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