

American Legion Post #554 Family Newsletter THE PATRIOT



January 2023

Website: leaguacitylegion554.org

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Happy New Year!

Here's to wishing for a prosperous 2023 for all!

Thanks to all who attended the Special General Meeting in December, regarding the state of Post finances. For those who were unable to attend, I am happy to announce that the Post is in a strong post-Covid financial position.

In February 2020, we had about \$75,000 in the bank. The following month began a series of closures and restrictions in compliance with constantly changing government regulations.

Since then, our finances have seen a certain amount of ebb and flow for a variety of reasons. However, at the meeting we announced that our bank balance was at approximately \$110,000. In addition to getting back to a good financial position, we were able to perform some long-awaited capital improvements and maintenance, and support all of our programs.

There is still much to do. In the coming year, we will be looking at improving the parking lots, resurfacing the hall floor, and painting the exterior of the Post, just to name a few of the improvements we will be looking at.

We are in an ongoing process of identifying areas where we can streamline our finances, in order to trim the fat and redirect funds toward improving your Post, without sacrificing services to our members. We will also be taking a look at obtaining some grants to supplement our finances. If anyone has any grant writing experience would like to help with this, please reach out to me.

I'd also like you to save the date of February 25th for the ceremony to rename the Post to Shannon Michael Lacy Post 554. There will be more details forthcoming for this event.

I hope to see you all at the Post!

For God and Country

Tim Dohr, Commander Post 554

Service Officer

Hope all had a safe happy holiday season and ready for a new year that will be better than the last. We are always hoping that the new year result in positive change for all.

Camp Lejeune

Veterans who have experience illness contacted at Camp Lejeune and diagnosed by a medical professional should contact an Accredited Service Organization to file a claim. The presumptive illnesses are located on the VA website. Be aware with attorneys because you will pay a fee if your claim is successful.

LOST DD 214

If you have lost your DD 214 you can request it online at National Archives. Another way is DD214Direct.com or 1-877-759-5083 where you can speak to someone for an expedited copy for a fee of \$99 USD. If not needed quickly the National Archive is the way to go.

24/7 Crisis Confidential Support

Are you a veteran in crisis or concerned about one?

Serves Veterans, their families, and friend

Dial 988 then Press 1

Thoughts Of Suicide, call 988 24/7 to speak to a license crisis counselor

For God and Country

Ron Kinney, Post 554 & 9th District Service Officer

Chris's Corner

I would like to say thank you to all who participated with our Christmas Sponsorship for our 15 Veterans. The event at the Post on December 17th was met with much appreciation from not only the Veterans, but the Hellfighters MC as well. It was a wonderful effort by all factions of American Legion Post 554 and is a testament of what can be done when we all work together. Please see the special note left for us below.

"From: Miss Marty and Doug

Up praying this morning and thought of all what you guys did and gave to my bunch of veterans. It will be the only Christmas most or all will get. They called that night after the meeting and again the next morning and that's the truth.

They all said thank you and they had such a good time; sorry I couldn't be there You guys are what America, God and country are truly about. Please thank all your members for us, amen "

We had another successful Taco Night on Friday, December 16th. It was great to see all of the Riders come together!

Meeting Reminder Sunday, January 8th, 2023 11:45AM at Post 554, in the Hall. There will be some very important announcements at this meeting. I would like to see 100% attendance or close to that. There are some important changes coming and I want to make sure you all hear the same information.

I would like to say thank you to everyone for their prayers and kind words leading up to and after my surgery. I am blessed.

Happy New Year to all!! I look forward to a successful and charitable 2023!

For God and Country

Chris Smith, Director ALR

Son's

Happy New Year, as we enter the New year, I hope all are doing well and that you have had a wonderful holiday.

Hope to see all S.A.L members at the next S.A.L meeting on Thursday January 26, 2022, at 7:00PM. We are missing contact information for a lot of S.A.L members. We need updated contact information for your email and phone number. Please update your information.

We will be doing a Burger dinner on Thursday January 26th before the S.A.L. meeting starting at 5:15PM ending at 6:50 PM.

10You will see little pink piggies on the bar or on the tables at the post in the canteen. These little piggies are hungry for your change. All the change that you feed to these cute little piggies will be donated to the Child Welfare Foundation.

Starting August 2022 for the 2023 membership cycle dues membership cost are as follows. Eligible new member dues are \$25.00. If you are eligible and are wanting to be a dual member, dues are \$20.00. Dues for eligible members that are age 18 yr. to 1 yr. are \$15.00. If an eligible new member joins before his first birthday his first-year dues will be waived.

TheLit.com is legionnaire care life insurance for legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion members, and American Legion Auxiliary Members. It is free to sign up. For more details see the website.

For God and Country

Thomas Coldwell II, Sons of the American Legion Commander

Chaplain's Corner

Greetings to all,

Well, we have another New Year to whittle down to size. A new chance to change our lives for the better. God sent his son to span the gap between God and mankind. Jesus came to Earth; His glory will break the chains of sin and bondage. Jesus came from the Father, full of grace and truth. Grace is the undeserved merit or love of God. We don't deserve or can work and earn God's love; He gives it to us for free. At the same time, the truth will set you free, so we get God's best. His unmerited love and the freedom that His truth provides to all who would call upon His name.

This New Year will give plenty of opportunities to volunteer your time and talents to the Post. We will be hosting the Spring BBQ contest in late March. This will give everyone a chance to help out with our Post.

Don't forget to pray for our brothers and sisters or unnamed people.

For God and Country

Bill Day, Chaplain

NOTE TO MEMBERS: If you have access to a computer and have an email address you can receive the newsletter via email. Be sure you have MS Word or Adobe Acrobat. If you would rather receive the newsletter via email, please let Jeanne Brown, Lois Hayman or any officer know and we will remove your name from the mailing list and put it on our email list. In doing this, we will save money on postage, and you'll receive the newsletter as soon as it is complete. We have a lot of members that are choosing this method of delivery so keep 'em coming! You can email Jeanne Brown at jeannebrown123@comcast.net Oh, the joy of the internet! Also – another note: We are a growing family, and we are giving a big shout out to all our members that have birthdays in January, **HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all of You!**

American Legion Post #554 Family
1650 Hwy. 3 South
League City, TX 77573

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US
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LEAGUE CITY, TX

Legion Post #554 Officers 2022-2023

Commander	Tim Dohr
1 st Vice Commander	Open Position
2 nd Vice Commander	Open Position
3 rd Vice Commander	John Wilson
Post Adjutant	David Dean
Chaplain	Bill Day
Finance Chair	Ron Armer
Service Officer	Ron Kinney
Historian	Debbie Evans
Judge Advocate	Doug Kamien
Sergeant at Arms	Chris Edgar
Asst. Sergeant at Arms	Jim Heldt
Members at Large	Tony Hughes
	Gloria Lewis
	Open Position

Auxiliary Unit #554 Officers 2022-2023

President	Brenda Bonneau
Vice President	Martinas Smith
Treasurer	Carrie Hendricks-Helm
Secretary	Ashli Sample
Membership Chair	Lois Hayman
Chaplain	Sara Lacy
Historian	Donna Brooks
Sergeant at Arms	Virginia Hughes
Asst. Sergeant at Arms	Wendy Heldt
Members at Large	Joan Swiatkowski
	Lois Hayman
	Karen Wiggins
Junior's Director	Open Position
Asst. Jr. Director	Open Position

Sons of the American Legion #554 Officers 2022 - 2023

Commander	Thomas Coldwell II
Vice President	Open Position
Finance Officer	Johnny White
Judge Advocate	Dennis Swiatkowski
Adjutant	Rich Huntley
Chaplain	Travis Bergh
Historian	Open Position
Sergeant at Arms	Brad Dillon
Asst. Sgt. at Arms	Tony Hughes

Legion Riders Post #554 Officers 2022 – 2023

Director	Chris Smith
Asst. Director	Harold Sample
Treasurer	Martinas Smith
Secretary	Doug Kamien
Chaplain	Laszlo Nyerges
Historian	Ashli Sample
Sergeant at Arms	Chris Edgar
Advertising Chair	Martinas Smith