

American Legion S. Mike Lacy Post #554

Family Newsletter

THE PATRIOT



February 2024

Website: leaguecitylegion554.org

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings,

I hope that everyone got through the freeze in January without any mishaps. We lost some plants in our yard, but no major damage otherwise. In situations like this, if you lose power at your home, please contact the Post or come by. If our utilities are intact, you are welcome to warm up here. If you need temporary shelter, due to a natural disaster, please reach out to me and we will assist in any way we can to make sure that you have a place to go.

The date has been set for the 40th annual BBQ Cook-off. Our Cook-off will be held on April 26-27 and the Chairperson this year is Legionnaire Benny Jaramillo. I am sure it will be another fun and successful year. Sign up to compete or bring in an auction item. All of the proceeds go toward supporting our Post programs.

Monday, February 19, 2024, is President's Day. We will hold a Flag Retirement Ceremony at sundown. There will be an open house with refreshments. The event is open to the public.

In the Canteen, we will have darts on Saturday nights, sign up is at 7:00 pm.

That's about all for this month. I hope to see you all at the Post.

For God and Country

Tim Dohr, Commander Post 554

Service Officer

Hello everyone!

Glad you made it through the New Year's festivities. This month the Texas Veterans Commission.(512) 463-6564 is hosting a workshop online @- <https://www.tvc.texas.gov/organizer/texas-veterans-commission-2/>

VHA UPDATES, APPOINTMENTS,CARE IN THE COMMUNITY (CITC) & MY HEALTHVET are some of the things they will cover.

Let me know if I can help in any way possible.

For God and Country

Chad Crawford, Service Officer

Chris's Corner

We are not quite out of Winter yet! I hope you all made it through the hard freezes unscathed!! Stay vigilant and stay safe through the remainder of Winter. Spring is right around the corner!

All, please take a few flyers out of the Riders Mailbox at the Post and start distributing to friends, family and local business owners.

We will be doing our annual Potato Bake. The event will take place on Thursday, February 22nd. For a minimum \$15.00 donation, you will get a loaded 1lb. baked potato with chopped brisket with all of the fixings and a salad. Pre-Orders Only will be taken through Thursday, February 20th at S. Mike Lacy Post 554 Close of Business. Delivery available for 3 or more orders. We will need volunteers to prepare on Wednesday, February 21st and we will need delivery driver volunteers on Thursday, February 22nd the day of the event. All deliveries will be made between the hours of 11:00AM and 1:00PM.

Reminder, our Riders meeting will take place offsite this month on Saturday, February 10th at Cheers Pub in Friendswood. Address: 502 N. Friendswood Dr. (FM 518), Friendswood, TX 77546. Meeting will start at 11:00AM. The business has informed us that they will have a breakfast taco food truck onsite the day of the meeting. I hope to see you all there. Please come out and support those that support us!!

For God and Country
Chris Smith, Director ALR

Son's

Good Day all,

Hope to see all S.A.L members at the next S.A.L meeting on **February 22,2024 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

Flag retirement ceremony will be held February 19th, 2024 at dusk.

We will be having a Burger dinner on Thursday February 1st, 2024 Before the Legionnaire meeting starting at 4:30PM ending at 6:40 PM. There will no longer be a burger night on the 4th Thursday.

Starting 2025 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 age 18 yr to 1 yr are \$20.00. If an eligible new member joins before his first birthday his first-year dues will be waived.

As you see the 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.

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, S.A.L. Squadron 554 Commader

Padre's Corner

Greetings everyone at the 554. February 3rd marks the anniversary of an important event of our military history. The SS Dorchester, a civilian liner converted to troop carrier had set out enroute to the European theater of the war with over 900 military passengers and crew. During the early morning hours of Feb 3rd, 1943, in the frigid waters off of Newfoundland, a German U-boat found the Dorchester in its sight and fired its torpedoes.

A chaotic scene prevailed on board the rapidly sinking ship. Four Chaplains sprang into action helping as many men as they could get to the lifeboats, handing out life vests all while desperately trying to keep men from panicking. When there were no more life vests, each of these chaplains took off their own and handed them to the next four men.

These four chaplains, Methodist minister Rev. George L. Fox, Rabbi Alexander D. Goode, Catholic Priest Father John P. Washington, and Reformed Church in America minister Rev. Clark V. Poling gave all in order to save as many as they could. Witness accounts have it that four chaplains locked arms, stood in that slanted deck praying and singing carols as the Dorchester plunged to its ocean grave.

The Four Chaplains Medal was approved by a unanimous act of Congress on July 14, 1960 to honor these Chaplains. The medals were presented posthumously to the next of kin of each of the four Chaplains.

Please come out and help us pay our respects by honoring this important event of our military history. Four Chaplain's Sunday will be held at 1400hrs (2 pm) on February 4th in the Hall.

For God and Country
Laszlo Nyerges, 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 jeanebrown123@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 February, **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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Legion Post #554 Officers 2023-2024

Commander	Tim Dohr
1 st Vice Commander	Chris Smith
2 nd Vice Commander	Open Position
3 rd Vice Commander	John Wilson
Post Adjutant	David Dean
Chaplain	Laszlo Nyerges
Finance Chair	Doug Kamien
Service Officer	Chad Crawford
Historian	Mike Lee
Judge Advocate	Open Position
Sergeant at Arms	Harold Sample
Asst. Sergeant at Arms	Jim Heldt
Members at Large	Ron Kirby
	Tony Hughes
	Tommy Coldwell

Auxiliary Unit #554 Officers 2023-2024

President	Sara Lacy
Vice President	Martinas Smith
Treasurer	Carrie Hendricks-Helm
Secretary	Ashli Sample
Membership Chair	Lois Hayman
Chaplain	Jean Reaves
Historian	Open Position
Sergeant at Arms	Virginia Hughes
Asst. Sergeant at Arms	Wendy Heldt
Members at Large	Brenda Bonneau
	Karen Wiggins
	Rhonda Dohr
Junior's Director	Valerie Coldwell
Asst. Jr. Director	Rebecca Meate

Sons of the American Legion #554 Officers 2023 - 2024

Commander	Thomas Coldwell II
Vice President	Bill Bellinghausen
Finance Officer	Johnny White
Judge Advocate	Travis Bergh
Adjutant	Rich Huntley
Chaplain	Joe Lacy
Historian	Open Position
Sergeant at Arms	Tony Hughes
Asst. Sgt. at Arms	Open Position

Legion Riders Post #554 Officers 2023 – 2024

Director	Chris Smith
Asst. Director	Billy Ward
Treasurer	Martinas Smith
Secretary	Lois Hayman
Chaplain	Laszlo Nyerges
Historian	Mike Lee
Sergeant at Arms	Kyle Vickers
Advertising Chair	Martinas Smith