

The American Legion

St Marys Post 323

2880 Celina Road, St Marys, Ohio, 45885

Phone---419-394-3792

E-Mail—johnmcj3@gmail.com

Facebook Page--[https:// facebook.com/legionpost323](https://facebook.com/legionpost323)

Legion Officers	Auxiliary Officers	S.A.L Officers	ALR Officers
Commander— Steve Huff 1 st Vice Commander— Justin Arnold 2 nd Vice Commander— Mike Bower 3 rd Vice Commander— Walter Meharg Adjutant—John McJunkin Finance Officer—Ron Kline Chaplain----Luther Gibbons Historian---Paul Gossard Sgt-at-Arms— Executive Committee-Randy Micheal, Tom Grunden	President— Alice Beougher 1 st Vice — Georgia Grunden 2 nd Vice — Secretary—Diann Rush Treasure—Diann Rush Chaplain—Sue Weadock Historian— Sgt-at-Arms— Executive Committee—Deanna Anderson	Commander, Paul Gossard 1 st Vice — Dave Jacobs 2 nd Vice— Adjutant—Dave Coleman Historian---Paul Gossard	Director-Mike Bower Asst.-Crystal Boyer Finance-DeWayne Marsee Secretary-Jackie Boatright Historian—Paul Gossard

January/February

12-23-19

Steve Huff

Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

Hopefully you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years. As we begin 2020, I hope all your hopes and dreams come true this year. Please be careful when out and about during the cold and snowy weather and stay safe. Even though winter just started it also begins the countdown to spring. As the Winter Solstice has passed the nights will begin to get shorter.

The post was honored to host our annual Veteran's Day dinner. I hope all of you were able to attend. Veterans Day is a time to remember and honor veterans both past and present. We are always honored to host veterans and share a meal on this special day. We were fortunate to recognize several members for continuous membership.

I would like to thank the volunteers who helped make the evening a success. They set up the hall, prepared and served the food. The Veteran's Day program would not be possible without volunteer's willingness to give up a small portion of their time. Volunteers are the backbone of the American Legion and without their hard work and participation we would be limited on the programs we sponsor. Again, thank you all for your hard work.

For those of you who attended the Ohio State/Michigan game at the post we had a surprise for you. This year we were able to purchase an 85-inch 4K UHD flat screen TV. The enhanced picture quality made the experience almost like you were at the game. There were many positive comments and you will now be able to watch all the games and races year-round on the big screen. I invite you to come out and take advantage of the new TV and enjoy some comradeship with your fellow veterans.

The post hosted the Auglaize Industries Christmas party. I would like to thank those who participated in this event. I would also like to give a special thanks to Continental. Three of the company's representatives were there and provided gifts to the Auglaize Industries clients and helped serve them dinner. I would like to encourage everyone to participate in this event next year. You would be amazed at how much they enjoyed the party and what it meant to them. We also had the post Children's Christmas party. Santa was able to take a quick break in preparing for Christmas to make a special appearance at both events. Again, thank you to all who helped with these events.

I would like to take a few moments to highlight some upcoming events at the Post. Frog Legs are the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The Fish Fry's begin again in January and they are on the 4th Friday of the month. Keep an eye out for the Post 323 Cash Give-Away event. There will be music and cash will be given away every 15 minutes from 8:00 PM until 10:45 PM. There will also be other opportunities to win merchandise. Remember there will only be 323 tickets sold. Tickets will go on sale soon at the post. As always, if you ever want to know what's going on at the Post, please go online and check out all the latest event news on our website or Facebook page, or stop in the Post to get the latest news.

If you haven't paid your dues, please do so. You can stop by the post to pay your dues, pay by mail or go online. If you know someone who is eligible for membership, please let them know what the American Legion stands for and bring them out to the Post so they can see for themselves. We would be happy to have them as our guest.

And as always, we need volunteers to help with our events. You can volunteer as little or as much as you would like. I know everyone is busy but just an hour would make a big difference and would be welcome. It is volunteers who enable us to have the different events and functions throughout the year. Without Volunteers we will have to limit the number of events we can support. So please contact the post or an officer if you would like to donate some of your time.

May 2020 brings you health and happiness.

Commander Steve Huff

Post Adjutant

The post did not make it to quota this year, but it was very close. I want to thank all for paying your dues and remaining members of the American Legion. The 2019 year here some changes were made, new projects started, and the yearly projects grew. The membership program never stops, all members are important recruiters, invite friends to come to the post, hopefully they will also become members.

Of course, for the post to get more active will take the help of our members. New activities and ideas from all of you are needed to keep our post active and of course, activities will attract new members.

Later this Spring, the elections of post officers will take place. There will be several officer and chairmen positions will need to be filled. The legion, auxiliary, the sons and the post riders need your help to carry on all the post does for the community, state and nation. Please contact me if you would be interested in taking an active role in the post operations.

The programs of the American Legion are all worth the efforts involved with. The main goals of the Legion, helping veterans, veterans' families, children and youth programs and National Security. Post 323 is a small part of the huge Patriotic organization.

John McJunkin

Post Adjutant

Fellow SAL Members

The first thing on the agenda as always is membership. We stand at 130 paid up members which is 84% of quota. The door key cards have been changed so you cannot get in the canteen anymore with your old key cards. Also let's get your membership paid up so we can get quota for the year. There is a list of unpaid members at the canteen. Look at it and remind everyone to get their dues paid.

The 2nd District is having a gun raffle this year to raise money for the district. If you are interested tickets are available at the post. Tickets are \$5.00 a piece or 6 for \$25.00. Our post is looking into a couple funds raiser but have not decided on any yet. We are in the planning stages of a motorcycle rally in the spring. More details after the holidays.

The Bingo Committee needs help on Thursday night. Bingo is keeping the doors open at the Legion and without help we will have to discontinue it. The money that is made at bingo goes back into the community to support programs in the school and city. So, if you want to help the community come out and support bingo. Even if you can only work an hour or two that would help to keep Bingo going.

The post is looking into getting a new digital sign for the front of the building and have asks for help from the SAL to pay for it. I think this will be a good thing to do since everyone likes the new one on the inside. No one will have to go out in the weather to change it all the time. The post has got some bids on the sign and now are collecting money to get it done. The SAL donated \$1000.00 to the project.

Hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday.

Adjutant
David Coleman

From the Post Riders

The Riders have been plenty busy, when weather permits, they escort veterans to their final resting place. The riders hosted the post children's Christmas Party. Riders also donated to the Shop with a Cop program.

They are now planning the dates for the rides and programs for the upcoming year.

The riders are part of the Chained Eagles program, together there is a lot of Patriotism for Veterans.

The riders are accepting more people to join the program.

John McJunkin

Public Relations Chairman

A new year starting, fish fries, karaoke are back, starting January 24, and continuing the 4th Friday monthly. Those working hope that many of you will come to the post for those events. The post might have a program March 29, the National Viet Nam Veterans Day. The post 323 Party also is being planned at this time, more information soon. The 4 Chaplains Ceremony usually held the 1st Sunday in February, more info soon.

Please check the website for more current events and information.

The post donates money to the St Marys summer sports programs, veterans and families, and to community events. Also, donates to many student programs, including scholarships, boys state and girls state and more throughout the year.

Memorial Day Ceremony, we are working on some additions to this program attempting to get more local people to share a little time to attend. That ceremony should be so important to all, to take a little time to remember those who served to protect our American Dream and people throughout our country and the world.

In the canteen, Lamonica and all the others are always happy to see you and your family. The beverages, food and many games of chance are all available. Remember to sign the books for more chances to win money and prizes. In the canteen, 3 TVs have been added, so you will have a front row seat to watch your favorite events.

Those of you who do not see the post webpage, please send me your email address and I will send post updates a couple times a month.

John McJunkin
PR Chairman

