

# The American Legion

## St Mary's Post 323

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

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### **Legion Officers**

Commander— Justin Arnold  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander— Steve Huff  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander— Mel Garza  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander— Mike Bower  
Adjutant—James Dieringer  
Finance Officer—Tom Grunden  
Chaplain----  
Historian---  
Sgt-at-Arms—  
Executive Committee— Jeff Steinke,  
Randy Micheal, Ron Kline, John  
McJunkin

### **Auxiliary Officers**

President— Alice Beougher  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice —  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice —  
Secretary—Rose Brown  
Treasure—Diane Rush  
Chaplain—Sue Weadock  
Historian—  
Sgt-at-Arms—Georgia Grunden  
Executive Committee— Evelyn  
Hartley,

### **S.A.L Officers**

Commander—Jim Rowen  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice — Dave Jacobs  
Adjutant—Dave Coleman

## January/February Newsletter 2018

Justin Arnold – 12/21/17

Good day Fellow Legionnaires,

I hope everyone is doing well and looking forward to the upcoming holiday season. I know this is a very busy time for a lot of us, but hopefully we all get a chance to slow down, relax, and enjoy family and friends.

Looking back at the past few months, I hope everyone had a great Halloween. Hopefully there was more treating than tricking? I wasn't able to make it the party that evening, but I hope all of you were able to join the Halloween Party festivities in the canteen. I'm sure it was full of comrades, friends, and fun.

I would like to congratulate Gary Sharpe on winning this falls Chili Cook off in the canteen. There were a lot of great entries, but only one can win. I'll be looking to get my title back at the next cook off. I'm sure we will hold one again next year, so hopefully it will be a great time just like the past event, so I hope to see everyone out in the canteen!

I want to give a huge thank you to all of those that helped and participated at the Veteran's Day Dinner. It was a very special day for us at Post 323. We were fortunate enough

and honored to have the American Legion Ohio Departmental Commander Stanley Pleasant as our guest speaker. Not only was it a day to give thanks and celebrate our veterans, past and present, but we were also able to award those that have been with us, as members, continuously for many years. One member in particular, Kenneth Kraus, was given a plaque and award for being a 70year continuous member to the American Legion. Thank you, Kenny for your loyalty and commitment to the American Legion. Also at the event, we were able to hear the reports of the 13 boys from Boys State and 1 girl from Girls State that our American Legion Post sponsored this year. It is always a pleasure to hear their reports and stories of what they learned and friendships that they have gained from the events. Thank you again to everyone!!!

As with everything that we do, we are always in need of help to ensure the success of continuing and upcoming events. If you are interested in helping at an event, or just want to know what you can do to contribute, please let any one of the officers at the Post, or our bar manager Jenny know, and we would be glad to help make you part of our great team.

**\*\*\*\*\*MEMBERSHIP \*\*\*\*\***

I know that we push membership every month. That being said, everyone's hard work and commitment to membership has paid off. Our District, and Post, has been awarded the Little Brown Jug!!! The requirements to win this award is that our District (District II), has to have the highest percentage of paid members by Veteran's Day in our category, and be at least at 80% of total membership quota by that date. Our district came in at just short of 81%, and our Post came in at 92% for the official turn in for the Little Brown Jug award! This was a great show of force by our District, and especially our Post veterans. We all should be proud of ourselves and be happy that we were able to bring the Little Brown Jug back to District II, where it had belonged for 48 continuous years!

We still have a few members out there who are in need of paying their dues, so please stop out at the post, mail in, or go online and pay your dues to ensure continuous membership. And as always, we are still looking for new members who would like to be a part of our Legion family. If you know of anyone, please don't hesitate to let them know what we are all about!

For upcoming events, 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.

As always, I would like to invite everyone to please come out and join us for bingo on Thursdays, our next Fish Fry of the new year on Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>, and in the canteen for great food, cool refreshments, great conversation and fun.

Last, but certainty not least, I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!! Be safe and I will talk to you again next year!

For God and Country,

Commander Justin Arnold

Fellow SAL members

Well now that 2017 is in the books. Let's start the new year off right by getting your dues paid. The first thing on the agenda as always is membership. We are at 110 members or about 70% of our quota for 2018. Great job for the ones that have paid their dues. If you know someone that has not paid their dues please remind them to get them paid so that we can get to quota and get money back from the state. As of December 31, unpaid members are not eligible to participate in the canteen functions.

The SAL mid-winter conference is going on in Columbus the weekend on January 19-24 and Jim Rowen will be attending for our post. At that time, he will be presenting checks for \$500 to Child Welfare Program and \$500 to Special Olympics from our post to the state. This money is from the raffles and dues that we have done this year. Thanks to all that helped sell tickets. We will also be sponsoring 2 boys to Buckeye Boys State again this year.

Some of the Christmas decorations are up at the post and you can vote on your favorite ones to the canteen by putting money in jars for your favorite group. All the money that is collected will go to the Child Welfare Program for the state which is the National Program for the nation. The winners for the decorations will also receive money. So come out and pick a spot and win some money for yourself and the post.

A couple of new projects that the post is trying to get started is a "Legion Riders" program. This program is starting to get off the ground. This is a motorcycle club that supports the legion programs. So, if you ride a motorcycle and belong to the Legion you are eligible to join. Legion Baseball is coming back in 2019. We are sending two teams to the State Bowling Tournament this year in Sandusky.

One last thing in closing is that we have to elect officers for next year and that has to be done by May 1. If you are interested please contact one of the present officers and we can help you out.

Adjutant

David Coleman