

Web: [www.alpost24.com](http://www.alpost24.com) - Email: [al24ks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:al24ks@sbcglobal.net) - Phone: 620-241-0343

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## Commander's Corner Kathy Nicholson, Post Commander

### HAPPY NEW YEAR – 2026!

I am honored - and humbled - to serve as the new Commander of Post 24 for 2026. I am truly grateful for the guidance, support, and advice being shared by our past officers and employees. Your willingness to help is so appreciated.

There are certainly big shoes to fill following our past Commanders, and I look forward to continuing the strong traditions they have built. I am excited about the many events and activities planned for 2026 and hope to see both familiar faces and new members at our Post throughout the year. Members are encouraged to **bring a friend** to our events—whether they are a veteran, a family member, or someone interested in learning more about the American Legion. Our Post is at its best when we come together and welcome others.

If you have ideas, suggestions, or things you would like to see happen at the Post, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of our officers. Be sure to check the newsletter or our website to see who your new officers are for the coming year, and the monthly events and activities.

**Membership Reminder:** Please renew your membership as soon as possible. Members without their 2026 card may miss receiving the newsletter and information about upcoming events and activities.

Thank you for your continued support of Post 24. I look forward to a great year together. (Post Meeting Jan 17<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 6 PM)

## Special Member Events in January

**Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 Friday Dinners 5:30pm - \$12 most Fridays**

**Jan 8 & 22 – Queen of Hearts Draw:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays-5:45pm.  
Winner gets half the jackpot if Queen of Hearts is picked off board OR \$50 if not. Chances: \$5 each or 5/\$20. Odds increase weekly!

**Jan 10 – Karaoke Night:** Starts at 7pm in the Lounge, No Charge

**Jan 13 & 27 – Adult Trivia:** Starts at 6:30pm in the Banquet Hall  
Team Competitions – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday (\$2/person)

**Jan 14 & 28 – Legion Cornhole:** 6:00 PM Reg, 6:30 PM Play, \$10

**Jan 15 – Family Night Dinner for Cat House:** 5-6:30pm, \$6 Fee  
Hamburger/Hot Dog/Fries/Drink/Dessert (Pick 4, 2 meat limit)

**Jan 17 – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ugly Dress Dance:** 6-10pm, \$10 Admission

**Jan 20 – Veteran's Story Night:** 5:30pm Meal, 6:30pm Stories  
No Fee, Always looking for Speakers & Sponsors

**Jan 21 - Bring Your Own Vinyl (BYOV):** 6-8pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. We play a variety of your music that you bring for the enjoyment of all.

### Special Legion Band Nights:

**Jan 31 – Three Bands | One Night | Just \$10 Admission Total**



Dan Hervey & Kathy Nicholson

## Dan Hervey's Commander's Exit

When you elected me to be the 2023 Post Commander, I never thought it would be for 3 years. I hope that I have fulfilled the duties of the office as expected. I have tried to attend Post activities as often as possible, which I felt was important. We have been blessed to have awesome Past Commanders. Under their commands, we have seen the kitchen get remodeled, the north parking lot paved, the Walk of Honor installed, a separate smoking lounge, new paint and ceiling tiles throughout the Post, and now the completion of the entryway and foyer remodel. I have all the confidence in the world that Kathy Nicholson will be a great Commander and will lead us through the second phase of our planned museum remodel.

**Thanks to Jim LaDuke.** Not enough people recognize what Jim LaDuke does for this Post. I'm not going to list all he does, but we all know he manages the lounge, handles payroll, pays the bills, etc. He also puts together the agenda for all the Commanders. For me, he made sure we had food for our Post meetings. These last 2 years in particular have been challenging for me, and he has been there for me. Thank you Jim for all you do to keep this Post running.

## Drink Prices Update Starting January 1, 2026

Starting January 1, 2026, American Legion Post 24 will be making a small adjustment to drink prices due to rising costs in 2025. Beer will increase by \$0.25 and mixed drinks by \$0.50.

We're grateful for your understanding—and we're committed to continuing to offer some of the best drink values in town, along with something you can't find just anywhere: a place where you're known by name, welcomed like family, and your support helps keep our Post strong for members, veterans, and our community.

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## Auxiliary Notes Tresa Rauh, President

**Next Meeting Mar 2nd at 6:30 PM (1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 6:30 PM)**

Next meeting will be on Monday, March 2 with no meetings in January or February. Please pay your dues. We really count on your membership to keep us operating. Thanks so much to those that have paid. Thank you to everyone that helped with the toy distribution. It was very smooth this year.

Please note the Ugly Dress Dance has been changed to Jan 17<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for Bingo volunteers. Contact Tresa at 620-419-6191 if you have any questions or would like to help.



## Sons of American Legion Mike Price, SAL Commander

**Next Meeting Jan 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7 PM)**

I'd like to thank everyone who has helped the SAL. This year, a special thank you goes out to Cliff & Sherry Hutts, Cilla Moore, and Jeff Owens for picking up and delivering items to the VA Hospital. SAL donated \$2000 for these items. Next SAL meeting is Jan 19<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7PM. All members are welcome to attend.



## Legion Rider Rumbles Ken Gawanda, Director

**Next Meeting Jan 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM (4<sup>th</sup> Sun, 1:00 PM)**

Hoping everyone had a great and safe Christmas and New Year. We are currently selling raffle tickets for either a \$500 gift certificate to Treasure Chest or \$400 in cash. Tickets are \$5 for 1 or \$20 for 5. Drawing will be held Feb 22nd during the February meeting. If you're interested, please contact a Legion Rider. Just a slight change in officers for 2026: Celeste Gawanda was voted in as secretary at the December Rider Meeting. Now that we're in the cooler months, it would be a great time to give your bikes a good inspection. Be safe and stay warm.

## Three Bands on Jan 31

We have 3 bands playing at the Legion on Jan 31, 8 PM–Midnight. Admission is \$10. The bands are Iziik – Histry Music, Eternal Tone, and Deflecting Ghosts. Individual performers will perform earlier in the evening with full bands performing later in the evening. Hip Hop, R&B, and Hard Rock will be played.

## Log Your Volunteer Hours Help Tell Post 24's 2025 Service Story

As we wrap up 2025, we're collecting volunteer hours so Post 24 can accurately report the impact our members make—both at the Legion and throughout our community. That includes volunteering at Post 24 and service with other organizations and events such as The ReUselt Center, All Schools Day, church or school projects, youth activities, and more. And don't overlook the everyday acts of service that reflect who we are: giving someone a ride to a doctor's appointment, helping a neighbor clean up their yard, checking in on a friend, or lending a hand when it's needed. If you volunteered in 2025, please send us your estimate of total hours (and a brief note about what you did). Every hour matters—because every hour helps show what it means to belong to an organization where you're known by name and where service is personal. Leave a printed copy at the bar Mon-Sat, 4-8pm or send your **"Total Volunteer Hours"** and a brief summary to: [adjutantpost24@gmail.com](mailto:adjutantpost24@gmail.com) with the subject line: **"Adjutant: 2025 Volunteer Hours"**.

## Super Bowl at the Legion – Feb 8

Plan to come to the Legion on Feb 8 to watch the Super Bowl. More details about hours and shared snacks will be announced.

## Valentine's Dinner/Dance – Feb 14

Plan ahead to join us for Dinner and Dance on Feb 14. Dinner will be served at 5:30 PM with Country, Soul, and Blues music in the evening. More details will be posted online on the website and in the February Newsletter.



*Nearly 200 years of wisdom – and they still made last call.*

**The American Legion is more than just a veteran's organization; it's a community of individuals dedicated to service, patriotism, and the well-being of those who have served the nation, their families, and their communities.**



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## Employees and Volunteers Honored



Kathy Nicholson, Dan Hervey, & Anne Clark

The annual dinner to appreciate Legion employees and volunteers was held on Tues, Dec 16<sup>th</sup>. Honorees and their spouses were treated to a special dinner. After the meal, 2025 Commander Dan Hervey and 2026 Commander Kathy Nicholson expressed appreciation for the volunteers' help with Legion activities, maintenance, and behind the scenes roles. They also handed out annual bonuses to the paid employees. They especially thanked Anne Clark who is central to the Post's operations. She manages the bar and rentals. On the night of the employee dinner, she took a shift at the bar when another employee was ill and missed the dinner.

Your Post officers and members greatly appreciate the Legion employees' time and effort!

## Toy Run was a Success

Despite having to cancel the motorcycle parade, we had a decent turnout for the auction. As expected in this situation, numbers were down for attendance, toys, and income but we were still able to bring in over \$13,000! The Auxiliary distributed toys to those in need.



## Toys for Kids – Dec 15-20

The Legion Auxiliary Toys for Kids program was able to distribute toys to 317 children in need this year. Special thanks to everyone who helped with this program. We could not do it without the volunteers. We would also like to thank all of the sponsors and those who donated toys and items for Toy for Kids and the Toy Run Auction.

### Toys for Kids Sponsors and Donors

A-5 Western	Farmers State Bank	O'Reilly Auto Parts
Abate	Fox Theater	Sean Simpson
Al & Kenna Longstaff	Furniture Store of Kansas	SGT. C's Leathers
Anne Clark	Garden of Eden	Smoke Shop
Auto Zone	Grabers Ace Hardware	Stewart Sports
Barb Mohler-Spear	Jerome Brown	Tim & Tammy Davidson
Barbara Behrens	Jim & Becky LaDuke	Tractor Supply
Bello Capelli	Jo French	Treasure Chest
Bomgaars	John Deere	Tresa Rauh
Cook's Nook	Ken Patterson	United Towers
Cosmosphere	M & M Choppers	Venables
Daryl & Velita Larson	Maple Street Barbershop	Walmart
Dave Casey	McPherson Hospital	Wendy's
Dean & Sharon Landrem	McPherson Quality Air	Wilson Liquor
Debbie Rieman	Mead's Liquor	Woodies
Debra Van Syoc	Noffy's	and Many Others

## Ladies Only Ugly Dress Dance Jan 17 – 6-10pm

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ugly Dress Dance Fundraiser will be held from 6-10pm on Jan 17 at the Legion. Admission is \$10 and prize tickets will be available for 6 tickets for \$5. Hors d'oeuvres will be served, and Dance Music will be provided. Lots of prizes will be raffled. Thank you to the committee for making this event possible and these sponsors for providing prizes:

- Bello Capelli
- Culver's Liquor
- Grabers Ace Hardware
- White's Foodliner
- Wilson Liquor



Post 24 2026 Legion Officers

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<b>Please Pay Your 2026 membership dues at the Legion:</b> This ensures you are associated with our post.  <b>All Bingo Sessions and Family Nights events are open to the Public:</b> Other events are for Members & Guests unless otherwise specified. Almost anyone can join as a Legion, Aux, SAL, or Guest member!  <b>Banquet Hall available for Receptions, Parties, &amp; Special Events:</b> Call 620-241-0343 Mon-Sat, 4-8pm to reserve				<b>1 – Thursday</b> 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Legion Family New Year's Breakfast Bloody Mary's & Screwdrivers 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO	<b>2 – Friday</b> Friday Food \$12 5:30pm Mexican	<b>3 – Saturday</b> 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM VFW Breakfast 9:00 AM Legion Maintenance
<b>4 – Sunday</b> BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games	<b>5 – Monday</b> No Auxiliary Meeting this month	<b>6 – Tuesday</b> 5:00 PM Veteran Social Night	<b>7 – Wednesday</b>	<b>8</b> 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:45 PM Queen of Hearts Draw	<b>9</b> Friday Food \$12 5:30pm Meat Loaf	<b>10</b> 7:00 PM Karaoke
<b>11</b> BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:30 PM Adult Trivia	<b>14</b> 6:00 PM Cornhole Registration 6:30 PM Cornhole Play begins	<b>15 Family Night</b> 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM Family Night Meal: Helps Cat House	<b>16</b> Friday Food \$12 5:30pm Breakfast Casseroles, Biscuits & Gravy	<b>17</b> 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM VFW Breakfast 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM Ugly Dress Dance \$10 Admission
<b>18</b> BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games	<b>19</b> 6:00 PM Post Meeting 7:00 PM SAL Meeting	<b>20</b> Veteran Story Night: 5:30 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Veteran Presentations:	<b>21</b> 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM BYOV: Bring Your Own Vinyl	<b>22</b> 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:45 PM Queen of Hearts Draw	<b>23</b> Friday Food \$12 5:30pm Soups:Chili, Ham & Beans	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 1:00 PM Legion Riders Meeting  BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30 PM Adult Trivia	<b>28</b> 6:00 PM Cornhole Registration 6:30 PM Cornhole Play begins	<b>29</b> 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO	<b>31</b> Friday Food \$12 5:30pm Fried Chicken	<b>31</b> 3 Bands Playing Hip Hop, R&B, and Hard Rock 8:00 PM - Midnight \$10 Admission

Start the New Year by putting these Legion activities on your calendar for 2026:

- Public Bingo almost every Sunday: Sales start at 1pm, Early Bird Games at 2pm, Regular games at 2:45pm
- Veteran Social Night 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, Story Night 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday - 6:30pm talks, 5:30pm meal
- Adult Trivia Team Competitions - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays 6:30pm (\$2/person)
- Cornhole - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 6:00pm Registration, 6:30pm Play Begins (\$10/person)
- Bring Your Own Vinyl (BYOV) - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 6-8pm (No Cover Charge)
- Buy1/Get1 Happy Hour (members only) Every Thurs, Queen of Hearts Draw (members only) 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs
- Family Night Meal 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs benefiting a different local charity each month (\$6 meal)
- Different Friday Foods Every Week - \$12 most weeks - Reservations Requested
- 50 cents off Wells (members only) every Monday through Wednesday 5-7PM





### Special thanks to this month's Veteran Story Night Sponsors

Bruce Kellogg  
Bob & Kathy Nicholson  
Gary & Lavona Peterson  
Barry & Debbie Powell

*Consider Sponsoring a Story Night for \$100.  
At Least 4 Sponsors are needed each month.*



**Use Your Legion:** We provide numerous activities at the Post such as Bingo, Karaoke, Trivia, Family Night, Corn Hole, Veterans Story Night, Happy Hour and Friday Night Food. Your participation keeps our Post operating.

Thank you to those that have scheduled weddings, birthday parties, Celebration of Life and named the Post in Memorials.

Book the Legion Hall for your events! Contact us at 620-241-0343.

**Keep up to date on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AmLegPost24/](https://www.facebook.com/AmLegPost24/) and our Website: [www.alpost24.com](http://www.alpost24.com)**

## 2026 OFFICERS

																			
<b>Post - 2026</b> Commander: Kathy Nicholson 1st Vice Cmdr: Jeremy Bower 2nd Vice Cmdr: Ken Gawanda Adjutant: Sean Simpson Asst. Adjutant: Richard Johnson Frank Ballicki Finance: Jim LaDuke Asst. Finance: Steve Root Chaplain: Jeremy Bower Asst. Chaplain: Richard Johnson Historian: Steve Root Sgt at Arms: Sean Simpson Landon Wall Tim Davidson Gerald Garcia Brandon Likely Don Wagner Jerry Montagne Ken Grant	<b>Auxiliary - 2026</b> President: Tresa Rauh Secretary: Jan Bieri Treasurer: Barb Behrens Chaplain: Pam Unruh	<b>S.A.L. - 2025-26</b> Commander: Mike Price 1st Vice: Roy Dunham Adjutant: Gary Grant Finance: Dan Hervey Advisor: Dan Hervey	<b>Legion Riders - 2026</b> Director: Ken Gawanda Asst Director: Allen Whorton Secretary: Celeste Gawanda Treasurer: Dan Hervey Ride Captain: Tim Davison Chaplain: Keena Longstaff																
<div data-bbox="743 1732 1258 1774" style="text-align: center;"><b>Executive Committee - 2026</b></div> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Dennis Friesen</td><td>Brandon Likely</td><td>Dan Hervey</td><td>Gerald Garcia</td></tr> <tr> <td>Danny Schafer</td><td>Sean Simpson</td><td>Shaun Carlson</td><td>Roy Wash</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tim Davison</td><td>Kathy Nicholson</td><td>Jeff Pudy</td><td>Jim LaDuke</td></tr> <tr> <td>Jim Toews</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <div data-bbox="496 1942 1523 1990" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">             McPherson American Legion Harry B. Dorst Post 24 January newsletter editor: Mark Hunter           </div>				Dennis Friesen	Brandon Likely	Dan Hervey	Gerald Garcia	Danny Schafer	Sean Simpson	Shaun Carlson	Roy Wash	Tim Davison	Kathy Nicholson	Jeff Pudy	Jim LaDuke	Jim Toews			
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 <p><b>Pfizer</b></p> <p>Veterans in Pfizer (VIP)</p> <p><b>Colleague Resource Group</b></p>		<p><b>William S. Mills</b> <i>Attorney at Law</i></p> <p>900 N. Main Street - P.O. Box 1244 McPherson, KS 67460</p> <p>Telephone: 620-241-7333 Toll Free: 1-800-247-7333</p> <p>Cell 620-242-7333 Fax 620-241-7335</p> <p><a href="mailto:wmillslaw@gmail.com">wmillslaw@gmail.com</a></p>

Sponsor space is still available. If you wish to have an area here, call Jim LaDuke @ 241-8600 for availability.



**Members can bring guests – Almost anyone can join as a member**

## Live Music at the American Legion

Sat Jan 31 – 8 PM–Midnight – Three Bands – One Night – \$10 Admission to All  
**Band 1** – Iziik – Hitzory Music      **Band 2** – Eternal Tone      **Band 3** – Deflecting Ghosts  
 Individual performers early with full bands later in the evening – Hip Hop, R&B, Hard Rock



## Jan 3, 11, 18 & 25 - Bingo Sunday

2:00 PM Early Bird, 2:45 PM Regular Games  
 These games are open to the Public



## Jan 10 – Karaoke Night

7:00-11:00pm in the Lounge, No Cover Charge



## Jan 13 & 27 – Adult Trivia

6:30-7:30pm in the Banquet Hall, \$2/person



## Jan 14 & 28 – Legion Cornhole

6:00pm Register, 6:30pm Play - \$10/person



## Jan 15 – Public Family Night Meal

5-6:30pm Supporting McPherson Cat House  
 \$6 Meal - Pick 4: Hamburger, Hotdog, Fries, Drink, Dessert (2 meats max)



## Jan 17 – Ladies Only Ugly Dress Dance

6:00-10:00pm, \$10 Admission Fee

*This is a public fund-raising event – Prize Tickets \$6/5*



## Jan 20 – Veteran's Story Night

5:30pm Meal, 6:30pm Stories  
 Free, Always looking for Speakers and Sponsors



## Jan 21 – Bring Your Own Vinyl

You decide which vintage hits to share.  
 6:00-8:00pm, No Cover Charge



## Jan 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 – Friday Meals

*Different meals each Friday (\$12) - Reservations Requested*



**Join the Legion & receive our monthly newsletter:** Almost everyone is eligible to join the Legion as a Veteran, Aux/SAL Member, or Guest member. Inquire at American Legion Post 24, Mon-Sat, 4-8pm.

McPherson American Legion Presents

# Karaoke Night



**Saturday  
January 10th,  
7pm**

**Ring in the New Year - 2026!**

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*American Legion - 401 N Main McPherson*

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Presented By M&T Entertainment



Get Ready for the  
**4<sup>th</sup> Annual**

# **UGLY DRESS DANCE!**

**Fundraiser for the American Legion**

**401 N Main Street, McPherson**

**Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup>  
6-10PM**

**Prizes!**

**6 Ticket Entries  
for \$5!**

**\$10 Admission**



**Jan 13 & 27**

# Team Trivia Night

**Tuesdays 6:30PM**

**AMERICAN LEGION**

**Post 24 McPherson**

**\$2/person**



## VETERAN STORY NIGHT

**American Legion Post 24**

**McPherson, Kansas**

**Tuesday Jan 20**

**Veteran's Story Night**

5:30pm Meal, 6:30pm Stories

Free, Always looking for Speakers and Sponsors



**McPherson American Legion Post 24**  
**401 N Main, McPherson, KS, 620-241-0343**



**Wed Jan 14 & 28, 2026**

6:00 PM Registration, 6:30 PM Play begins, **Cost:** \$10/person

---



**Wed Jan 21**  
**Bring Your**  
**Own Vinyl**

You decide which  
vintage hits to share.

6:00-8:00pm  
No Cover Charge