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Commander's Corner

Kathy Nicholson, Post Commander

June has arrived, and with it comes the beginning of summer. May brought graduations, the end of the school year, Memorial Day observances, and many busy family activities. As we gathered to honor and remember those who gave their lives in service to our country, we were reminded once again of the true meaning of sacrifice and the freedoms we enjoy because of them. Now we look forward to all the fun and connection that June has in store at the Legion.

We have many events planned this month, and I hope you can join us for some of our regular favorites like Trivia Night, Karaoke, Cornhole Tournaments, Queen of Hearts, and Veterans Story Night. This month, Joe Pfannenstiel will be sharing his story, and I know it will be an evening worth attending.

On June 8th, we will be hosting a Silent Disco Dance — be sure to read more about it in this newsletter. It sounds like it is going to be a great time for all ages. Then on June 12th, Fallis/Stockham Syndrome will be playing, which always brings out a wonderful crowd and a fun evening of music and good company.

On June 13th, we will be serving a traditional steak dinner that you definitely will not want to miss. We are also trying something new this month with a Board Game Night on June 17th. We are always looking for new and fun ways for members and guests to come together, enjoy an evening out, and strengthen the friendships that make our Legion so special.

As always, if you have ideas for events or activities you would like to see at the Legion, please let me or anyone at the Post know. We truly appreciate member input and involvement.

We know summer is a busy time for everyone with vacations, travel, and kids' sports activities. Because of that, we will be scaling back our Friday night meals to twice a month for the next three or four months. The great food will not change — just the number of Fridays we serve it. Be sure to keep an eye on the calendar so you do not miss out on everything happening at your Legion.

Hope to see you at the Post this summer!

(Post Meeting June 15th - 3rd Monday, 6 PM)

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.

Special Member Events in June

June 12 & 26 Friday Dinners 5:30pm - \$12-\$15 most Fridays

June 8 – Silent Disco Dance: 6-8 pm Dance to Your Own Beat

June 9 & 23 – Adult Trivia: Starts at 6:30pm in the Banquet Hall
Team Competitions – 2nd & 4th Tuesday (\$2/person)

June 10 & 24 – Legion Cornhole: 6:00pm Reg, 6:30pm Play, \$10

June 11 & 25 – Queen of Hearts Draw: 2nd & 4th Thurs-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!

June 13 – Steak Dinner: Starts 5:30pm \$20 Advanced Tickets Req.

June 13 – Karaoke Night: Starts at 7pm in Lounge, No Charge

June 16 – Veteran's Story Night: 5:30pm Meal, 6:30pm Stories, Free

June 17 – Board Game Night: 6:30-9pm, 3rd Wed.

Bring your own games or join others playing theirs.

June 18 – Family Night Dinner: 5-6:30pm, \$6 Fee
Hamburger/Hot Dog/Fries/Drink/Dessert (Pick 4, 2 meat limit)



Auxiliary Notes

Tresa Rauh, President

Next Meeting June 1st at 6:30 PM (1st Monday, 6:30 PM)

Next Meeting June 1st. 6:30. We would like everyone to come to our meeting. We have a lot of openings for officers. Please have a Great summer. 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 June 15th at 7 PM (3rd Monday, 7 PM)

Next SAL meeting is June 15th at 7PM. If anyone would like to help with Bingo on Sundays 1 time a month for about 5 hours, we would appreciate it if you would contact one of our officers. Thank You!



Legion Rider Rumbles

Ken Gawanda, Director

Next Meeting June 28th at 1:00 PM (4th Sun, 1:00 PM)

Riders still have raffle tickets available. Help support our cause and reach out to a rider to get a chance to win one of our bundles. First choice a \$250 Chamber Check, Second will be a \$250 McPherson Walmart instore voucher, Third a Canton Lockers \$200 meat selection and an Ace Hardware BBQ grill accessories bundle, and Fourth will be a \$50 Ellinwood meat voucher, a \$50 Little River Grocery Store voucher and 2 rounds of golf with golf carts at Turkey Creek Golf Course. Tickets are \$5 for 1 or \$20 for 5. Each ticket will be for 1 selection only. We're always looking for new members to ride with. You're welcome to attend one of our meetings to see what we are about.

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May's Veterans Story Night



May's Veterans Story Night featured Shaun Carlson, U.S. Marine Corps, and Derek Daniels, U.S. Army. Both veterans shared deeply personal and emotional

stories about their military service and the struggles they have faced with PTSD since returning home from the military. Their honesty, courage, and willingness to speak openly about the lasting effects of service touched everyone in attendance.

New Front Entry Railing

Special thanks to Dan Hervey, Dennis Friesen, Michael Jakabosky and Central Plastics Inc. for the new railing in our front entry way.



Board Game Night - Wed, June 17th

Who: Legion family and guests

What: Do you enjoy playing board games? Come join us for some fun and friendly competition. We'll have some of our favorites. Feel free to bring one of yours. We'll have a variety of strategy, word, resource building, and maybe cooperative games.

When: Wednesday, June 17th, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM (3rd Wed)

Cost: Free

Flag Retirement: Saturday, June 13th

June 13th We will load our flags to be retired at 8:00 am at the Post. We will then travel to the Lindsborg Post for the ceremony and retirement. If you have any flags needing retiring you may drop them off at the Post or use the Flag Drop Box on the south parking lot. If you would like to help, please join us.

Kansas Honor Flight (KHF) Volunteer & Supporter Meeting on June 2nd

KHF volunteers and supporters from Hutchinson, McPherson, Pratt, Sterling, Great Bend, Halstead, and surrounding communities are invited to join in person or by Zoom to connect, share ideas, and work together as we continue our mission of honoring Kansas veterans. In Person – Gambino's Pizza, South Hutchinson. Come as early as 6:30 PM. Join by Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82386725856> ?pwd=mi70O0zuleEHajTViUizVh8wp2ZfMn.1 Meeting ID: 823 8672 5856, Passcode: 924081

Ride Kansas Honor Flight Float on July 4th

The Kansas Honor Flight is having a float on July 4th in Hutchinson. All are welcome to participate.

Kansas Honor Flight Local Contact

Contact: Steve Bowman, KHF Hutch Area Volunteer Coordinator, 620-728-9064 if interested in either the Meeting or the July 4th Float in Hutchinson.

Veterans Float was part of McPherson All Schools Day Parade



What a great turnout for McPherson's All Schools Day Parade! What an incredible honor it was to have both the Veterans Float and the Kansas Honor Flight Float participating this year.

For the veterans riding on the floats, this was much more than just being part of a parade. Many of them served during times when they came home quietly, without recognition or appreciation. To see the crowds stand, wave, clap, salute, and show such genuine respect along the parade route was emotional and deeply meaningful. You could see the pride, gratitude, and emotion on their faces. It was a reminder that their service and sacrifices have never been forgotten. As the floats made their way through town, the overwhelming support from the community created a moment many of those veterans will never forget. It was truly one of the most heartfelt displays of patriotism, honor, and appreciation our community has seen.

A special thank you goes to Bobby Cox from the VFW for coming up with the idea, and Shaun Carlson for chairing the committee and making sure everything came together just as it should. So many wonderful volunteers helped make this happen: Dennis and Judy Friesen, Kelly and Laura Vogts, Jim and Helen Nichols, Jeff Owens, Daryl Larson, Bob Nicholson, Ron Folck, and Bobby Cox. We'd also like to thank Elliott Insurance Agency, Discount Banners, McPherson Lumber, Maple Street Barber Shop, AgriCenter, and Gary Reiman for providing assistance in helping get the float built.

The biggest thank you of all goes to the veterans who rode on the float. Your presence reminded all of us what service, sacrifice, and love of country truly mean.





History of the Sons of The American Legion

The Sons of The American Legion (SAL) has been an important part of the American Legion family since it was officially founded in 1932 during the American Legion National Convention in Portland, Oregon. The organization was

created to honor the service and sacrifice of veterans while teaching future generations the importance of patriotism, citizenship, and service to our communities and our nation. Membership in the SAL is made up of sons, grandsons, and other eligible male descendants of veterans who served honorably in the United States military. Since its beginning, the SAL has grown into a nationwide organization with members who proudly support veterans, military families, youth programs, and local communities.

Over the years, SAL members have played a major role in supporting many American Legion programs, including veterans rehabilitation, child welfare, scholarships, Americanism programs, youth sports, and community service projects. They have helped raise millions of dollars for veterans and children while volunteering countless hours in their local communities. At Post 24, our SAL members continue that proud tradition of service. Whether helping with events, volunteering their time, supporting fundraisers, or simply stepping in when needed, they are an important part of what makes our Legion family strong. Their dedication, hard work, and willingness to serve do not go unnoticed. We are truly grateful for everything our SAL members do for our Post, our veterans, and our community.

Thank you to all of our SAL members for your continued support, loyalty, and commitment to the mission of the American Legion family. We are proud to stand beside you.

- Kathy Nicholson, Post Commander

Silent Disco Dance – June 8

Get ready for a fun and unique evening at the American Legion Post 24! Join us on June 8 from 6:00–8:00 PM for a Silent Disco Dance sponsored by the McPherson Public Library — and best of all, there is no charge to attend.

A Silent Disco is unlike a traditional dance. Everyone wears wireless headsets (provided for you!) and can choose from up to three different music stations playing at the same time. Dance to your favorite tunes while your friends may be listening to something completely different. It's fun, interactive, and guaranteed to bring lots of laughs and smiles.

All ages are welcome, so bring your kids, grandkids, friends, and neighbors for a night of music and fun. Be sure to bring your glow sticks or light-up jewelry to make the evening even more exciting and colorful! This is going to be such a blast!!

June 13th 5:30 PM Steak Dinner Fundraiser

Get your tickets now for the Saturday, June 13th Steak Night. Enjoy either a ribeye or filet, baked potato, and salad for \$20. Tickets will be sold in advance at the Legion Lounge, from officers and volunteers, or you can call 620-241-0343. All proceeds support furnishings like display cabinets for the museum room at the Legion. Thanks to Gary Reiman for donating the steaks and his cooking skills. Enjoy great food, the camaraderie of your Legion family, and support preserving the legacy of our community's military service.

Table Replacement in Banquet Hall



For quite some time now, the Executive Committee, along with many other members, have been discussing replacing the long heavy tables in the main hall with round tables and folding chairs. If you have noticed the three

white round tables currently in the hall, those are the style we would like to purchase for the main part of the room.

The new tables and chairs are lighter and much easier to move, easier to clean, and will give the hall a more updated and welcoming appearance. They can also be dressed up nicely with tablecloths for special events and dinners.

A couple of our members recently came up with a wonderful idea to help make this project possible. Members would have the opportunity to purchase a table and eight chairs in honor or memory of a veteran or loved one. The approximate cost for one table and eight chairs is \$600. A brass plaque would be attached to the table to commemorate the individual or family being honored.

The Executive Board feels this would be a meaningful way to improve our main hall while also creating lasting tributes to those who mean so much to our Legion family.

If this is something you would be interested in participating in, please let Kathy Nicholson know. We think this could be a wonderful way to completely furnish the hall with beautiful new round tables while honoring veterans and loved ones for years to come.

Memorial Day at McPherson Cemetery



All of our American Legion Family Branches were active and laid wreaths at the McPherson Memorial Day Ceremony.

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June 2026	1 – Monday 6:30 PM Aux Meeting	2 – Tuesday 5:00 PM Veteran Social Night	3	4 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO <i>Personal Pizza available</i>	5 – Friday No Friday Food	6 – Saturday 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM VFW Breakfast 9:00 AM Legion Maint	
	7 – Sunday BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games	8 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Silent Disco Dance	9 6:30 PM Adult Trivia	10 6:00 PM Cornhole Registration 6:30 PM Cornhole Play begins	11 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:45 PM Queen of Hearts Draw <i>Personal Pizza available</i>	12 Friday Food 5:30 PM Pasta 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Fallis Stockham Syndrome Duet	13 8:00 AM Flag Retirement 5:50 PM Steak Dinner Fundraiser \$20 7:30 PM Karaoke
	14 BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games	15 6:00 PM Post Meeting 7:00 PM SAL Meeting	16 Veteran Story Night: 5:30 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Veteran Presentations	17 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM Board Game Night	18 Family Night 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM Family Night Meal Honor Flights	19 No Friday Food	20 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM VFW Breakfast
	21 BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games	22	23 6:30 PM Adult Trivia	24 6:00 PM Cornhole Registration 6:30 PM Cornhole Play begins	25 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:45 PM Queen of Hearts Draw <i>Personal Pizza available</i>	26 Friday Food 5:30 PM Fried Chicken	27 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Jaydon Evans Country Music
	28 1:00 PM Legion Riders Meeting BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games	29	30	July 1	July 2 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO <i>Personal Pizza available</i>	July 3 No Friday Food	July 4 Independence Day Legion & Lounge Closed NO BINGO SUNDAY, JULY 5

June Calendar

Lounge Opens Mon-Sat at 4pm

**Bingo Sessions & Family Nights
are open to Public**

Other events are for Members & Guests
unless specified public.

Banquet Hall available for

Receptions, Parties, & Events:

Call 620-241-0343 Mon-Sat, 4-8pm
to reserve

Put these Legion activities on your calendar for 2026:

- Sunday Public Bingo: Sales start at 1pm, Early Bird Games at 2pm, Regular games at 2:45pm
- Veteran Social Night 1st Tuesday, Story Night 3rd Tuesday - 6:30pm talks, 5:30pm meal
- Adult Trivia Team Competitions - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 6:30pm (\$2/person)
- Cornhole - 2nd & 4th Wednesday 6:00pm Registration, 6:30pm Play Begins (\$10/person)
- Bring Your Own Vinyl (BYOV) - 3rd Wednesday 6-8pm (No Cover Charge)
- Buy1/Get1 Happy Hour (members only) Every Thurs
- Queen of Hearts Draw (members only) 2nd & 4th Thurs
- Family Night Meal 3rd 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**

Ken & Angie Patton

Jim Leach

Sam Ulsaker Memorial

Danny & Pat Schafer

Westerman Family

Consider Sponsoring a Story Night for \$100.

At least 5 sponsors are needed each month.



Welcome New Members

We welcome these new members to our Legion Family. Thank you for joining our ever-growing family.

Legion	Auxiliary	SAL
Laurel Kenney, Jr.	Trish Oakley Francis Meyer	Eric Houghton David Lewis
Social	Nicole Eickbush Janet Fournier	Dave Bohlenblust Zachary Wash
Stacey Post	Jeannie Swick Stephanie Kieffer	Tony Buccola Wayne Pickerell

2026 OFFICERS

AMERICAN LEGION	AUXILIARY	SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION	AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS
Post - 2026 Commander: Kathy Nicholson 1st Vice Cmdr: Jeremy Bower 2nd Vice Cmdr: Ken Gawanda Adjutant: Sean Simpson Asst. Adjutant: Richard Johnson Frank Bialecki Service Officer: Richard Johnson Finance: Jim LaDuke Asst. Finance: Steve Root Chaplain: Jeremy Bower Asst. Chaplain: Richard Johnson Historian: Steve Root Sergeant at Arms Landon Wall Sean Simpson Tim Davison Gerald Garcia Don Wagner Brandon Likely Ken Gent Jerry Montagne	Auxiliary - 2026 President: Tresa Rauh Secretary: Jan Bieri Treasurer: Barb Behrens Chaplain: Pam Unruh	S.A.L. - 2025-26 Commander: Mike Price 1st Vice: Roy Dunham Adjutant: Gary Grant Finance: Dan Hervey Advisor: Dan Hervey	Legion Riders - 2026 Director: Ken Gawanda Asst Director: Allen Whorton Secretary: Celeste Gawanda Treasurer: Dan Hervey Ride Captain: Aaron Mayfield Chaplain: Keena Longstaff
Executive Committee - 2026			
Dennis Friesen Danny Schafer Tim Davison Jim Toews	Brandon Likely Sean Simpson Kathy Nicholson	Dan Hervey Shaun Carlson Jeff Purdy	Gerald Garcia Roy Wash Jim LaDuke

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Sponsor space is still available. If you wish to have an area here, call Jim LaDuke @ 620-241-8600 for availability.