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Commander's Corner

Kathy Nicholson, Post Commander

As we head into September, I want to thank everyone who continues to support our Legion and the work we do in our community.

We had a **great turnout at our August Family Night benefiting the McPherson Hospital Volunteers**. Thank you to everyone who came out and helped make the evening a success. Our **September Family Night will benefit MCDS**, and I hope you will join us again and show them the same great support.

We are continuing to make improvements around the Legion. Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time, lends a hand, makes a donation, or simply shows up and supports what we are doing. It all matters.

Friday night food is back every week! We cut back to every other Friday during the summer, but now you can join us **every Friday night for a delicious home-cooked meal**. And we have some great Friday nights planned for September:

- **Sept 12 – Jaydon Evans, 7–9 p.m.** Always a great evening!
- **Sept 26 – Steak Fry**, with great steaks prepared by Steve Root.

And football season is here! **Post 24 is your destination to watch the Kansas City Chiefs games**. The bar will be open, so bring some snacks and come enjoy the game together. Wear your **Chiefs gear—or your favorite team's gear**—and join in the fun. A little friendly rivalry is always welcome!

Please don't forget about **Veterans Story Night**. These evenings give us an opportunity to hear the stories and experiences of our veterans and remind us why preserving and sharing their history is so important. Bring a friend and join us.

Finally, **it's time to renew your membership for the coming year**. If you haven't renewed yet, please do so as soon as possible. Your membership and continued support help keep Post 24 strong.

And while you're renewing your own membership, think about someone you know who might enjoy being part of our Legion family. **Invite a veteran to join the Legion, or someone eligible to become part of the Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion**. Sometimes all it takes is a personal invitation to bring a new member through our doors.

There are a lot of good things happening at our Legion, and they happen because of **all of us working together**.

Thank you for being part of it.

- Kathy Nicholson, Post Commander
(Post Meeting September 21st - 3rd Monday, 6 PM)

Special Member Events in September

Sept 1 – Veteran's Social Night: Join other Veterans for a free drink

Sept 4, 11, 18, 25 – Friday Dinners 5:30pm (\$)

Sept 4, 5, 11, 12, 14, 19, 20, 26, 27 – Watch Parties w/ friends

Sept 7 – Lounge Closed for Labor Day

Sept 8 & 22 – Adult Trivia: Starts at 6:30pm in the Banquet Hall

Team Competitions – 2nd & 4th Tuesday (\$2/person)

Sept 9 & 23 – Legion Cornhole: 6:00pm Reg, 6:30pm Play, \$10

Sept 10 & 24 – 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!

Sept 12 – Jaydon Evans, 7–9 p.m.

Sept 15 – Veteran's Story Night: 5:30pm Meal, 6:30pm Stories, Free

Sept 16 – Board Game Night: 6:30-9pm, 3rd Wed.

Bring your own games or join others playing theirs.

Sept 17 – Family Night Dinner: 5-6:30pm, \$6 Fee

Hamburger/Hot Dog/Fries/Drink/Dessert (Pick 4, 2 meat limit)

Sept 26 – Annual Steak Fry: Purchase tickets ahead of time at bar.

Sept 30 – Vinyl Night: Play your own records on the 5th Wed.

Bingo every Sunday Except Sept 6, Happy Hour every Thursday



Auxiliary Notes

Tresa Rauh, President

Next Meeting Sept 7th at 6:00 PM (1st Monday, 6:30 PM)

Next meeting Sept 7th, 6:00pm. Having a covered dish supper. Bring your favorite dish and your membership for 2027. We will have a short meeting after meal. Please join us. Meeting Oct 5th next month.



Sons of American Legion

Mike Price, SAL Commander

Next Meeting Sept 21st at 7 PM (3rd Monday, 7 PM)

We want to thank the following people who came out and helped to get your 2027 memberships ready for you: Sherry Hutts, Cilla Moore, Donna Grant, Gary Grant, Jeff Owens, Roger Cheesman, Charlie Chriswell, Roy Dunham, & Steve Reed. Please fill them out and send them back so Gary can get your card sent to you. Don't forget to promote the Legion: get your Post 24 Legion License Plate for \$10. Join us at the next meeting Sept 21st, 7PM.



Legion Rider Rumbles

Ken Gawanda, Director

Next Meeting Sept 27th at 1:00 PM (4th Sun, 1:00 PM)

We had a great turnout for Salute To American Veteran's Rally in Cripple Creek last month. Seeing other ALR members we haven't seen in awhile was nice. Had a fun time. Looking forward to next year! Anyone want to experience the fun and camaraderie or join the riders please contact one of the legion riders to get more information. Next big event will be the McPherson Toy Run in November.

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Take Care of America's Veterans Act Support

The American Legion is asking members to support the **Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCAVA)**, a major package bringing together more than 60 bipartisan bills aimed at improving the lives of veterans and their families.

TCAVA includes several long-standing Legion priorities, including expanded suicide prevention, improved care and research for traumatic brain injuries, faster and fairer VA claims, additional support for caregivers and surviving spouses, and improved access to health care. It also includes the **Major Richard Star Act**, which would help combat-injured veterans receive both their earned military retirement pay and VA disability compensation.

There has been some confusion surrounding TCVA, particularly concerning proposed changes to disability ratings for sleep apnea and tinnitus. According to The American Legion, those proposed changes originated with a separate VA regulatory process that began in 2022 and were **not created by TCVA**.

The American Legion believes this is an important opportunity to move many veteran priorities that have been stalled in Congress for years. **Now is a good time for veterans, families and Legion members to make their voices heard.**

Want to help? Visit The American Legion's Grassroots Action Center to learn more and contact your representatives:

Website: legion.org/action

Taking care of veterans and their families is what The American Legion is all about. Staying informed and speaking up for legislation that affects our veterans is one more way we can continue to make a difference.

Come Hungry for Steak Night on Sept 26th!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 26th and join us for a delicious steak dinner prepared by Steve Root!

Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. and includes a ribeye steak, baked potato, vegetable, roll, and dessert — all for \$25 per person. Tickets will be sold in advance, and we are limiting the evening to just 80 tickets, so be sure to get yours early. Come hungry and enjoy a great meal and a fun evening at the Legion!

American Legion Harry B. Dorst Post 24 newsletter editor: Mark Hunter

Thanks to our August Veteran's Story Night Speakers



Timmy Mayo, US Air Force Michael D Fasse, US Army

**Our speakers on September 15th will be
Army veterans Tim Davison and Scott Waters**

Important September dates for our Legion family

September 2 – V-J Day: Marks the formal surrender of Japan in 1945, bringing World War II to an end.

September 11 – Patriot Day: This year marks the **25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks**. We remember the nearly 3,000 lives lost, our first responders, and the servicemembers who answered our nation's call in the years that followed.

September 16 – American Legion Day: On this date in 1919, Congress granted The American Legion its federal charter, allowing the organization to begin its work on behalf of veterans and their families.

September 18 – U.S. Air Force Birthday: A day to recognize the men and women who have served and continue to serve in the United States Air Force.

September 18 – National POW/MIA Recognition Day: Observed on the third Friday of September, this day reminds us of our prisoners of war and those who remain missing in action. Their message remains simple and powerful: **You Are Not Forgotten.**

September 27 – Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day: We honor the mothers and families who have lost a loved one while serving our country.

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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Welcome Home Honor Flight Veterans

Several of our own Post 24 members will be traveling on Kansas Honor Flight Mission 108C, September 7–9. What a special experience for these veterans!

They return to Wichita on **Wednesday, September 9, around 12:30 PM**, and we'd love to see Post 24 members there to welcome them home.

Come along, wear your Legion gear, and help us give our veterans the warm welcome home they deserve!

Kansas Boys State 2027

It's time to start thinking about **Kansas Boys State 2027!** Every American Legion Post is encouraged to sponsor at least one young man for this outstanding program.

Boys State will be held **June 6–12, 2027, at Kansas State University in Manhattan**. Eligible students are boys who will be **juniors (preferred) or sophomores during the 2026–27 school year**.

Boys State gives young men a hands-on opportunity to learn about government, leadership, citizenship, and their responsibility to their community, state, and nation.

We are also looking for someone from our Legion who would be willing to serve as our Boys State contact person. This person would receive Boys State communications and help us stay informed as we recruit and sponsor delegates. If you are interested, please let us know.

And if you know a young man who would be a great candidate for Boys State, **we want to hear from you!** There is no limit to the number of delegates a Post or school may send. Application deadline is April 30, 2027.

Applications & information is available at ksbstate.org.

Join us at the Legion on Sept 12, 7-9pm



Jaydon Evans is playing, Sponsored by Grain Craft

22-Hour Vigil: Be the One

On **November 22, 2026**, veterans and community members are invited to come together in **Lyons, Kansas**, for a **22-Hour Vigil** to honor veterans lost to suicide and bring awareness to veteran suicide prevention.

The vigil begins at **2:00 p.m. and continues for 22 consecutive hours until noon the following day**. It is open to public. The purpose is simple but important: **remember those we have lost, support those who may be struggling, and remind every veteran that they do not have to face difficult times alone.**

The vigil also supports The American Legion's **Be the One** initiative. Be the One encourages each of us to reach out, listen and have conversations with the veterans in our lives. Sometimes simply asking someone how they are doing—and taking the time to truly listen—can make a difference.

You don't have to be a counselor or have all the answers. **Be the one to ask. Be the one to listen. Be the one to reach out. Be the one who cares.**

If you are able, consider attending the vigil in Lyons and standing with fellow veterans, families and community members as we **Honor. Remember. Support. Prevent.**

Front Entry New Floor Install Soon!

Thank you to all of our members who volunteered hours of labor in removing the tile and carpet that was in the front entry and for endless dedication to maintaining and improving the Legion



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September 2026		1 – Tuesday	2 – Wednesday	3 – Thursday	4 – Friday	5 – Saturday
Lounge Opens Mon-Sat at 4pm Bingo Sessions & Family Nights are open to Public. Banquet Hall available for Events, Receptions, & Parties: To Reserve: Call 620-241-0343 Mon-Sat, 4-8pm		5:00 PM Veteran Social Night	V-J Day	4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO Personal Pizza available	Friday Food 5:30 PM Make Your own Sub w/ Fixings 7pm KU Home	8:00 AM – 10:00 AM VFW Breakfast 9:00 AM Legion Maint 6pm K-State Home
6 – Sunday NO BINGO	7 – Monday Labor Day Lounge Closed 6:00 PM Aux Dinner	8 6:30 PM Adult Trivia	9 6:00 PM Cornhole Registration 6:30 PM Cornhole Play begins	10 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:45 PM Queen of Hearts Draw Personal Pizza available	11 Patriot Day Friday Food 5:30 PM Enchiladas 7pm KU Home	12 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Jaydon Evans Band 11am K-State Home
13 BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games	14 7:15pm Chiefs/Broncos	15 Veteran Story Night: 5:30 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Veteran Presentations	16 American Legion Day 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM Board Game Night	17 Family Night 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM Family Night Meal MCDS	18 U.S. Air Force Birthday & POW/MIA Day 3:30 PM Clydesdales Friday Food 5:30 PM Lasagna	19 11am KU Away 11am K-State Home
20 Meeting BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games 7:20pm Chiefs/Colts	21 6:00 PM Post Meeting 7:00 PM SAL Meeting	22 6:30 PM Adult Trivia	23 6:00 PM Cornhole Registration 6:30 PM Cornhole Play begins	24 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:45 PM Queen of Hearts Draw Personal Pizza available	25 Friday Food 5:30 PM Fried Chicken	26 Legion Annual Steak Fry 5:30 PM Social 6:00 PM Dinner \$25 Tickets Advanced Sales Only
27 Family Day 1:00 PM Legion Riders Meeting BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games 12pm Chiefs/Dolphins	28	29	30 5th Wednesday 6:30pm Vinyl Night BYOV(inyl)	Oct 1 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO Personal Pizza available	Oct 2	Oct 3 Legion Wine Tasting Event 6:00 PM Advanced Sales Only KU Home

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)
- Board Game Night - 3rd Wednesday 6:30-9:00pm (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)
- Friday Food - \$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

Jerry Bruce

Mark & Sandy Hunter

Kathy & Bob Nicholson

Kelly & Laura Vogts

Dick Weatherly

*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: Billy Brooks

Auxiliary: Trijuana Dawn Davis, Charity Clark

SAL: Tony Clark

Social: Trenton Ruxlow

2026 OFFICERS

															
Post - 2026 Commander: Kathy Nicholson 1st Vice Cmdr: Jeremy Bower 2nd Vice Cmdr: Ken Gawanda 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 Gerald Garcia Tim Davison Brandon Likely Don Wagner Jerry Montagne Ken Gent	Auxiliary - 2026 President: Tresa Rauh Secretary: Jan Bieri Treasurer: Barb Behrens Chaplain: Pam Unruh	S.A.L. - 2026-27 Commander: Mike Price 1st Vice: Roy Dunham 2nd Vice: Steve Reed 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 <table> <tr> <td>Dennis Friesen</td><td>Brandon Likely</td><td>Dan Hervey</td><td>Gerald Garcia</td></tr> <tr> <td>Danny Schafer</td><td>Kathy Nicholson</td><td>Shaun Carlson</td><td>Roy Wash</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tim Davison</td><td>Jim Toews</td><td>Jeff Purdy</td><td>Jim LaDuke</td></tr> </table>				Dennis Friesen	Brandon Likely	Dan Hervey	Gerald Garcia	Danny Schafer	Kathy Nicholson	Shaun Carlson	Roy Wash	Tim Davison	Jim Toews	Jeff Purdy	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.