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Commander's Corner

Kathy Nicholson, Post Commander

October is here, and there is plenty happening at Post 24!

Our Family Night this month will benefit the Lincoln Elementary School PTO. Family Night is always a great opportunity to enjoy a good meal while supporting organizations that make a difference in our community. Thank you to everyone who continues to come out and support these evenings.

Football season is in full swing! The K-State Wildcats and KU Jayhawks games will be playing in the lounge, and we continue to be a great place to watch the Kansas City Chiefs. Wear your team colors, bring some snacks to share, and enjoy the games with friends!

Our Friday Night Food is back every Friday, so make plans to join us for a delicious home-cooked meal.

We could always use a few more helping hands! Our meals, events, and activities wouldn't be possible without volunteers. Even helping once in a while makes a difference, so if you have a little time to give, please consider pitching in. Every bit of help keeps our Post active and going strong!

We are also looking forward to our Wine Tasting on October 3 at 6:00 p.m. Guests will enjoy wine along with hors d'oeuvres pairings. It promises to be an incredible evening!

We have some great live music coming up in October, too! On October 16, The Relics will be playing your favorite classic rock.

Then get ready for some Halloween fun! On Oct 30, Artifact is playing for our Halloween Dance & Party. Come dressed in your best Halloween costume because we'll have a costume contest with cash prizes! Bring your friends, put on your dancing shoes, and join us for a fun night at the Legion.

Thank you to our Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, Riders, volunteers, employees, and everyone who supports Post 24. It really does take all of us working together to make our Post successful, and we appreciate each of you.

I hope to see you at the Post this October!

- Kathy Nicholson, Post Commander
(Post Meeting October 19th - 3rd Monday, 6 PM)



Auxiliary Notes

Tresa Rauh, President

Next Meeting Oct 5th at 6:30 PM (1st Monday, 6:30 PM)

Please come to our next meeting on Oct 5th, 6:00pm. We will be planning on helping with the Toy Run & Toy Distribution. We are now collecting for the VA Christmas Shop.

Please let families in need of assistance for Christmas know about the 2026 Online Christmas Pre-Enrollment available at:

<https://www.mcphersonangeltree.org>

The McPherson Christmas Project is a collaboration of McPherson County Resource Council (sponsoring Angel Tree, Shoes & Coats for Kids), McPherson Optimist Club (sponsoring Gifts for Teens), American Legion (sponsoring Toys for Kids), McPherson Quilt Guild (sponsoring Quilts for Babies), and the joint efforts of many organizations & volunteers for Food Baskets and books for children.



Sons of American Legion

Mike Price, SAL Commander

Next Meeting Oct 19th at 7 PM (3rd Monday, 7 PM)

Thank you to everyone who has already paid your membership dues! We still have a few members who need to get their dues paid, so please take care of those as soon as you can.

We could also use a little extra help with Bingo from time to time. If you would be willing to fill in occasionally, please contact a SAL officer. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Next SAL Meeting: October 19 at 7:00 p.m. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend!



Legion Rider Rumbles

Ken Gawanda, Director

Next Meeting Oct 25th at 1:00 PM (4th Sun, 1:00 PM)

On September 9th we participated in the Little River football by rooting for the football team running on the field by revving up the bikes. Always a crowd pleaser. Great times as usual. Plus, they host a hamburger feed which, as always, is very tasty. There was a Children's Cancer Awareness parade scheduled for Sept 19, that the ALR always leads with bikes. Tim Davison led the parade this year after a 30-minute rain delay. We are looking forward to next year's parade. I'm happy to see a break in the weather. Here's to getting more riding in! If you're interested in joining the ALR please reach out to any member. We'd love to have you join the family.

Next big event will be the McPherson Toy Run in November!



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Special Member Events in October

Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 – Friday Dinners 5:30pm (\$)
Oct 3, 4, 10, 17, 18, 24, 31 – Football Watch Parties w/ friends
Oct 6 – **Veteran's Social Night:** Join other Veterans for a free drink
Oct 8 & 22 – **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!
Oct 13 & 27 – **Adult Trivia:** Starts at 6:30pm in the Banquet Hall
Team Competitions – 2nd & 4th Tuesday (\$2/person)
Oct 15 – **Family Night Dinner:** 5-6:30pm, \$6 Fee
Hamburger/Hot Dog/Fries/Drink/Dessert (Pick 4, 2 meat limit)
Oct 16 – **Relics Band, 7-10 p.m.**
Oct 20 – **Veteran's Story Night:** 5:30pm Meal, 6:30pm Stories, Free
Oct 21 – **Board Game Night:** 6:30-9pm, 3rd Wed.
Bring your own card and board games or join others playing theirs.
Oct 30 – **Artifact Band, 9 p.m. – 12 a.m.**
Bingo every Sunday 2pm, Happy Hour every Thursday 4-7pm

MARK YOUR NOVEMBER CALENDAR!

Pfizer Veterans Steak Night – November 7th

Pfizer & Veterans in Pfizer (VIP) will once again host a special Steak Night at the Legion honoring our veterans. This evening is open to **all veterans plus one guest**. Come enjoy a delicious steak dinner, good company, and an evening of appreciation for those who served. More details soon.

Veterans—Plan to join us on November 7th!

VETERANS STORY NIGHT

Help Us Keep Their Stories Alive

Veterans Story Night has become one of the most meaningful evenings at American Legion Post 24. Each month, two veterans share their stories, their service, experiences, memories, and friendships made along the way.

Every veteran has a story, and every story matters.

We're looking for 2 veterans each month willing to share their story. You don't have to be a public speaker or feel your service was extraordinary. If you served, we want to hear from you!

We also need five sponsors at \$100 each every month. Your donations help provide the meals for Veterans Story Night and Veterans Social Night, as well as two complimentary drinks for each veteran as a way of saying thank you for your service.

Your sponsorship helps us create a place where veterans can gather, share a meal, enjoy fellowship, and know that their service is remembered and appreciated.

Please help us continue to honor our veterans, preserve their stories, and bring our veteran community together.

WE NEED YOU!

2 Veteran Speakers + 5 Sponsors Each Month

To speak or become a sponsor, contact:

Dennis Friesen | 620-242-7702, Kathy Nicholson | 620-242-3483

Thanks to our October Veteran's Story Night Speakers



Tim Davison, U.S. Army National Guard, & Scott Waters, U.S. Navy

Thank you to Tim Davison, U.S. Army National Guard, and Scott Waters, U.S. Navy, for sharing their stories at our September Veterans Story Night. We are grateful for their service and for giving us the opportunity to hear about their experiences.

Every veteran has a story, and every story deserves to be heard.

Wine Tasting & Karaoke - Oct 3rd!



Come spend a fun evening with us at the McPherson American Legion on **Saturday, October 3rd at 6:00 p.m.!**

We'll be sampling **six wines — three white and three red** provided by **Tiffany Floyd with Culver's Liquor**. And what's wine without some great food? **Angela Patton** will be preparing delicious **hors d'oeuvres**, specially paired with each wine.

This is truly a team effort, with **many of our Legion members volunteering their time to help make the evening special**. We're looking forward to a relaxed night of good food, good wine, and lots of visiting and laughter.

Tickets are \$35 per person, cash only, and must be purchased in advance in the lounge. Space is limited, so don't wait too long to get yours!

Once wine tasting wraps up, fun continues with **Karaoke!**

Grab some friends, get your tickets, and join us for a great night at the Legion!

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Budweiser Clydesdales Make a Special Stop at Post 24



What a memorable day for McPherson and American Legion Post 24! On September 18th, the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales made their way through downtown McPherson as part of Budweiser's 150th Anniversary celebration.

The Clydesdales began their journey at Culver's Liquor Store, traveled down Main Street and made a special stop in front of American Legion Post 24. From there, they continued to the County Courthouse before heading back down Main Street.

The beautiful eight-horse hitch drew a large crowd to the Legion, filling the area in front of the Post with families, friends, Legion members and community residents. It was wonderful to see so many people gathered, taking pictures, visiting and enjoying the opportunity to see these magnificent horses up close. The excitement and turnout made the afternoon even more special.

The Budweiser Clydesdales have been an American tradition since 1933, when August A. Busch Jr. and Adolphus Busch III surprised their father with a Clydesdale hitch to celebrate the end of Prohibition for beer. Since then, the Clydesdales have traveled throughout the country and become one of the most recognizable symbols associated with Budweiser.

Their McPherson appearance was especially fitting as Budweiser celebrates 150 years in 2026, dating back to the introduction of Budweiser in 1876.

A very special thank you to City Beverage and Budweiser for making this incredible visit possible and for including American Legion Post 24 as one of the Clydesdales' stops. We truly appreciate the opportunity to be part of such a memorable event for our community.

Seeing the Clydesdales standing in front of our Legion and so many people gathered was truly something special, a day Post 24 and our community will remember for years to come!

Membership Dues Reminder

Please pay your **2027 membership dues** as soon as possible! This includes **Legionnaires**, **Sons of the American Legion (SAL)**, and **American Legion Auxiliary** members.

Keeping your membership current helps keep our entire American Legion family strong and allows us to continue supporting our veterans, their families, and our community.

And don't forget - invite someone to join our Legion family!

Remembering Troop E, 114th Cavalry

Many of you have probably walked past the Troop E, 114th Cavalry display at the Legion, but you may not know the history behind it. The display is located on the north wall of the Legion, just before you enter the main dining room, and it tells an important story of military service that is closely connected to McPherson and to our own Post 24.

Troop E, 114th Cavalry was a Kansas Army National Guard unit based right here in McPherson. In May 1968, during the Vietnam War, the unit was called to federal active duty. The men first prepared here at home before departing for Fort Carson, Colorado, where they underwent additional training.

The photograph in the display "E Troop At Departure" captures the men together as they prepared to leave. Looking at that photograph today is a powerful reminder that these were local young men leaving behind their families, jobs and community to answer their country's call.

The individual brass plates contain the names of the men who were members of the troop. What makes this display even more special is that some of the veterans whose names appear on it are members of American Legion Post 24. These aren't simply names from history—they are our friends, neighbors, fellow veterans and members of our Legion family.

The display was dedicated to the members of Troop E, 114th Cavalry on June 11, 1988, so their service and sacrifice would continue to be remembered.

The next time you're at the Legion, take a few minutes before entering the main dining room to stop at the north wall and look closely at this special display. Look through the names and see how many veterans you recognize. You may discover a connection to this important part of McPherson's military history.

We are honored to preserve this piece of our community's history and especially proud that some of the men represented on it are among our own members. Their service is part of our history, and their stories deserve to be remembered and shared.

Join us October 16 at 7pm to hear the Relics playing your favorite classic rock



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October 2026		Bingo Sessions & Family Nights are open to Public		1 – Thursday	2 – Friday	3 – Saturday
Lounge Opens Mon-Sat at 4pm		Other events are for Members & Guests unless specified public.		4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO <i>Personal Pizza available</i>	Friday Food \$12 5:30 PM Baked Ham	8:00 AM VFW Breakfast 9:00 AM Legion Maint 6:00 PM Legion Wine Tasting Event <i>Advanced Sales Only</i> 8:00 PM Karaoke <i>KU Home</i>
4 – Sunday	5 – Monday	6 – Tuesday	7 – Wednesday	8	9	10
BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games 3:25 PM Chiefs vs Raiders	6:30 PM Aux Meeting	Veteran Social Night		4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:45 PM Queen of Hearts Draw <i>Personal Pizza available</i>	Friday Food \$12 5:30 PM Chicken & Stuffing	<i>KSU Home</i> <i>KU Home</i>
11	12	13	14	15 Family Night	16	17
BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games		6:30 PM Adult Trivia		4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM Family Night Meal Lincoln PTO	Friday Food \$10 5:30 PM Chili & Ham-&Beans 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM Relics Band	8:00 AM VFW Breakfast <i>KSU vs KU Home</i>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Meeting BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games 3:25 PM Chiefs vs Chargers	6:00 PM Post Meeting 7:00 PM SAL Meeting	Veteran Story Night: 5:30 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Veteran Presentations	6:30 PM – 9:00 PM Board Game Night	4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO 5:45 PM Queen of Hearts Draw <i>Personal Pizza available</i>	Friday Food \$15 5:30 PM Woodies Pulled Pork & Trimmings	<i>KSU Away</i> <i>KU Away</i>
25 Family Day	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween
1:00 PM Legion Riders Meeting BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games 7:20 PM Chiefs vs Seahawks		6:30 PM Adult Trivia		4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour BOGO <i>Personal Pizza available</i> 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM Trick or Treat on Main Street <i>Watch for Pedestrians</i>	Friday Food \$10 5:30 PM Fried Chicken 9:00 PM – 12:00 AM Artifact Band	<i>KU Away</i>
November 1	November 2	Put these Legion activities on your calendar for 2026:				
BINGO: 1:00 PM Sales Start 2:00 PM Early Bird 2:45 PM Regular Games 3:25 PM Chiefs vs Broncos	6:30 PM Aux Meeting	• 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) • 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 Veterans Night Sponsors

Culligan

Dan Hervey

Brandon & Jamie Likely

Bill and Peggy Mills

Steve Spence

Consider Sponsoring Social & 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:		Social:
Jerry Clark	Rogelio Luera	Jennifer Bonham	Barbara Nowak	Dawn Davis Trijuana
Jerry Heydenberk	Steven Campbell	Chatty Clark	Angie Timson	
		Dianna Frantz		

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 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				
Dennis Friesen Danny Schafer Tim Davison		Brandon Likely Kathy Nicholson Jim Toews	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.