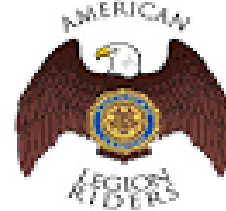


ROLL CALL

Clayton E. Moneymaker American Legion Post 237



Alabama's Largest American Legion Post

Volume 24, Issue 2

February 2024

2900 Drake Ave. SW, Huntsville, AL 35805

256-883-9911



Jerry Phelps Post 237 Commander Commander's Corner

Fellow Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL members, I am proud to announce that the renovations of the Post and annex are almost complete. The flooring in the main bar was redone during the first week of January to correct an issue that arose after it was installed the first time. While the bar area was closed we were able to replace the 8 existing video cameras and added 5 more. The 8 cameras that were removed from the Post were relocated and installed at the annex to allow for better coverage for the safety of our patrons and our employees.

The last item that needs to be done to finish all of the renovations at the Post and annex is the installation of the exhaust fan at the annex. This should be completed by the end of this month.

Don't lose a very important American Legion benefit. If you have not paid your 2024 dues yet, then your **Legion Insurance Trust (LIT) benefit** is no longer active. The LIT requires you to be a member in good standing of the American Legion. The American Legion defines that a member is delinquent if their dues are not paid by January 31st. If dues are not paid by February 11th members are considered not in good standing with the American Legion. I urge you to renew your dues as soon as possible.

Best Regards,

Jerry Phelps, Post Commander

Upcoming Americanism Events

The 2024 Madison County Oratorical Contest is scheduled for Saturday, February 10th at 10AM at Madison City Hall. The winner of that contest will participate in the District 12 contest on Saturday, March 2nd at Madison City Hall.

The 2024 Alabama Boys State will be at Troy University from May 26th through June 1st. The Madison County Boys State Orientation will be held at the Post 237 Annex on Thursday, May 16th at 6PM.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 **Commander's Corner, Americanism Events**
- 2 **Earl Hokanson Thank You!, Post 237 Info, Adjutant's Message**
- 3 **Chaplain's Corner, 2024 Baseball Caps and Jerseys, American Legion Riders**
- 4 **3rd Vice Report, Marine Corps League**
- 5 **Flags of Iwo Jima**
- 6 **Honor Guard Cover Page**
- 7 **Honor Guard Donation Request**
- 8 **VAO Donations, Online Redstone Rocket, North Alabama Electric, Boys State**
- 9 **Events Calendar, Social Quarters, CDR and ADJ Hours, Lunch, Trivia, Pot Luck**
- 10 **Humor in Uniform, Around the Post, Texas Holdem Fundraiser**
- 11 **2024 Oratorical Contest**
- 12 **Bingo!**
- 13 **Calendar**

Earl Hokanson Thank You!

We are very appreciative for the leadership that Earl Hokanson has provided as the Commander of the American Legion Huntsville Alabama Post 237 Honor Guard. On January 13th Earl participated in his 500th funeral service honoring veterans who have passed on.



From the Adjutant's Desk

Three-Year Membership

Membership Dues for Legionnaires at Post 237 will increase to \$55.00 annually effective July 1, 2024.

If you renewed for the 2024 American Legion membership year prior to the new multiyear membership rollout on December 4th, you can take advantage of a three-year membership starting with the 2025 membership year which is July 1, 2024.

Visit legion.org/renew or legion.org/join for the multiyear membership of 2025, 2026 and 2027.

Legionnaires still needing to renew for 2024 or veterans joining for the first time can lock-in a three-year membership of 2024, 2025, and 2026. Visit legion.org/renew or legion.org/join.

Multiyear membership sign-up is only available on the national American Legion website. Payment for the three-year membership will be upfront.

If a member renews before the dues increase on July 1, 2024, the renewal rate will be \$45.00 per year. Once the three-year renewal is up, the renewal rate will adjust to the rate at that time.

Call 256-397-3659 to reach my office and I will process your dues payment on-line.

CLAYTON E. MONEYMAKER AMERICAN LEGION POST 237

OFFICERS

Billy Heatherly	Past Commander
Jerry Phelps	Commander
David Ladner	1st Vice Commander
Tom Paone	2nd Vice Commander
Bob Wasniewski	3rd Vice Commander
Mary McCoy	Adjutant
Jack La Fountain	Finance Officer
Bill Pond	Chaplain
Ken Vining	Service Officer
Ken Carpenter	Historian
Cody Klinner	Sergeant-At-Arms
Billy Heatherly	Judge Advocate
Ken Reisenweber	1 Year Trustee
Robert Barnett	2 Year Trustee
Don Pinkerton	3 Year Trustee
Earl Hokanson	Honor Guard Cdr.
Tom Hartley	ROTC Liaison
Steve Bowling	S.A.L. Commander
Buddy Miller	S.A.L. Adjutant
Steve Bowling	ALR Director
Sherry Schroen	Auxiliary President
Anna Marie Wasniewski	Club Manager

Executive Committee

Jerry Phelps, Billy Heatherly, David Ladner, Tom Paone, Mary McCoy, Ken Carpenter, Cody Klinner, Bill Pond, Bob Wasniewski, Don Pinkerton, Robert Barnett, Ken Reisenweber, Jack La Fountain, Ken Vining.

House Committee

Bob and Anna Marie Wasniewski, Ralph Miller, Billy Heatherly, Ed Wilson, Joe Norman, John Schantz, Steve Bowling, Ken Reisenweber, Joyce Hampton, Helen French, and Howard Krueger.

Finance Committee

Jack La Fountain, Bud Pagakis, Jerry Phelps, Mary McCoy, Robert Barnett, Don Pinkerton, Ken Reisenweber, Bob Wasniewski

Building Committee

Robert Barnett, Don Pinkerton, Ken Reisenweber, Sherry Schroen, Thad Paone, Rick Jerrell

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1176
Huntsville, AL 35807

Post Address: 2900 Drake Ave. SW
Huntsville, AL 35805

Phone Numbers Main: 256-883-9911
Adjutant: 256-397-3659
Finance: 256-489-9668

Website: www.legion237.com
Webmaster: webmaster@legion237.com

Facebook Page:
"The Clayton E. Moneymaker American Legion Post 237"

Newsletter Contact: newsletter@legion237.com

Newsletter Archive:

<http://www.legion237.com/index.php?id=126>

Printed copies of the current newsletter are available in the Social Quarters.



Chaplain's Corner

Bill Pond
Post 237
Chaplain

Any member of the Post who is going in the hospital for 2 or 3 days, please contact the Chaplain at 931-209-7694 or email at: billpond6@gmail.com

Psalms 36:7 How priceless is your unfailing love of God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
Psalms 85: Love and faithfulness meet together, righteousness and peace kiss each other.
I Corinthians
16:14 Let all that you do be done in love.

How Much Does God Love You?

God's love is personal He knows each of us by name.

His love has no beginning nor end.

Does God love me – the simple answer is Yes.

God created male and female.

While Adam was sleeping God took a rib from Adam and created woman.

God did not want Adam to be alone by himself.

There is supposed to be intimacy between husband and wife.

They are to share their love with each other. I call on You.

I know you can hear me.

I ask for healing and strength right now.

Please take away my sadness and pain.

Help me value my worth.

So I can have faith in myself.

And find peace in my heart.

Life is a series of twists and turns.

We don't know what is around the next bend.

Sometimes I want to just reminisce.

Sometimes I feel lonely and empty.

Sometimes I feel loved.

You gave me a gift – love.

To love You. To love others. To love myself.

Your love is perfect.

Love is an emotion that God gave us.

We all want to be loved by someone.

Love is a gift.

Love should be cherished.

We are to give this love away to others.

Bill Pond

2024 Baseball Caps and Jerseys

The 2024 baseball jerseys and caps are on sale at the bar in the Social Quarters and are pictured below. Proceeds from the sale will help fund our 2024 Post 237 American Legion Baseball Team. Baseball caps sell for \$25 and jerseys sell for \$40.



American Legion Riders Update

The American Legion Riders will be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:30PM at Post 237. For more information you can contact Steve Bowling at stevebowling.sal@gmail.com

The Riders are selling poker chips for \$3 to benefit the Veterans and Children's Foundation. You can purchase them from a member or at the bar.

FROM THE 3RD VICE COMMANDER



Bob Wasniewski, Post 237 3rd Vice Commander

Hello, my fellow Legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion, and Auxiliary members. I wanted to let you know about some of the upcoming events in February.

2024 Membership Dues: Get your dues paid if you haven't already done so. Key card access will be disabled on January 31 for people who have not paid their dues. As a reminder, you cannot play the games or get on any of the books or boards if you are not current with your dues.

Kitchen Hours: We have returned to the normal operating schedule. We will be opening the kitchen on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. A nighttime menu has been developed.

February Baseball Fundraiser: A rib fundraiser with Texas Roadhouse is underway to support our American Legion baseball team. A full rack of cooked and chilled ribs and a 3oz cup of BBQ sauce sells for \$20.00. Place your order by February 15th. Ribs can be picked up at the Post on Wednesday, February 21st. See the Club Manager or the bartender on duty to order.

Chili Cook Off Contest: Scheduled for Saturday, February 3, 2024, in the Canteen from 5 PM until 8 PM. Prizes will be rewarded to the for the top three finishers. Pay \$5.00 to sample the chili. Proceeds will benefit the Post 237 Honor Guard.

First Wednesday Steak Lunch: Scheduled for Wednesday, February 7, 2024. We will be selling ribeye steak, baked potato, salad, and a roll. Lunch will be served in the Canteen during the normal hours of 11 AM until 1:30 PM.

Valentine's Day: Valentine's Day is Wednesday, February 14, 2024. The Valentine's Day dinner will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at 5:30PM in the Ballroom. Music will be provided by Doyle Bradley and the Full Circle Band. Tickets are on sale now. See the Club Manager or the bartender on duty for tickets.

Bunko Night: Bunko Night is the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Come join us in the Ballroom at 6:30PM. Win Prizes, the cost is \$5.00 to play.

Marine Corps League

Brandon-Wilbourn Detachment #820 Marine Corps League meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Tim's Cajun Kitchen at 114 Jordan Ln NW, Huntsville. Social at 5:30pm - Meeting at 6pm. Contact Ed Becher @ 269-221-2221 for more info.

THERE WERE ACTUALLY TWO U.S. FLAGS RAISED AT THE BATTLE FOR IWO JIMA

In early 1945, U. S. military command sought to gain control of the island of Iwo Jima in advance of the projected aerial campaign against the Japanese home islands. Iwo Jima, a tiny volcanic island located in the Pacific about 700 miles southeast of Japan, was to be a base for fighter aircraft and an emergency landing site for bombers. On February 19, 1945, after three days of heavy naval and aerial bombardment, the first wave of U.S. Marines stormed onto Iwo Jima's inhospitable shores.

The Japanese garrison on the island numbered 22,000 heavily entrenched men. Their commander, General Tadamichi Kuribayashi, had been expecting an Allied invasion for months and used the time wisely to construct an intricate and deadly system of underground tunnels, fortifications, and artillery that withstood the initial Allied bombardment. By the evening of the first day, despite incessant mortar fire, 30,000 U. S. Marines commanded by General Holland Smith managed to establish a solid beachhead.

During the next few days, the Marines advanced inch by inch, under heavy fire from Japanese artillery and suffered suicidal charges from the Japanese infantry. Many of the Japanese defenders were never seen and remained underground manning artillery until they were killed by a grenade or rocket, or incinerated by a flame thrower.

While Japanese kamikaze flyers slammed into the Allied naval fleet around Iwo Jima, the Marines on the island continued their bloody advance across the island, responding to Kuribayashi's lethal defenses with remarkable endurance. On February 23, the crest of 550-foot Mount Suribachi was taken by U.S. Marines.

Who Raised The First Flag on Iwo Jima?:

A forty man combat patrol led by 1st Lt. Harold G. Schrier, was the first Marine unit to reach the summit of Mount Suribachi on February 23. These men were from the 3rd Platoon, E Company, 2nd Battalion, 28th Regiment of the 5th Division and they carried with them a U.S. flag taken from the USS Missoula, a tank transport ship that delivered troops and cargo to Iwo Jima. Earlier, Schrier had been handed the flag by his battalion's adjutant and told Schrier, "If you get to the top, put it up."

Tom Price, a U.S. Navy veteran serving on the USS Missoula stated, "We watched them go up the mountain and raise the flag about 500 yards from

the ship. There were about thirty ships and everyone blew their sirens and horns. Everybody cheered and it was really something because the flag from the Missoula was the very first to be raised on Japanese territory," Price said. "We were very proud."

Marine photographer Louis Lowery was with Schrier's platoon and recorded the event. Marines on and near the flag raising site fighting for control of Suribachi's slopes cheered the raising of the flag.

Who Raised the Second Flag?:

The original flag planted by 1st Lt. Schrier was considered too small to be easily seen from the northern side of Mount Suribachi, so the Marines searched for a replacement. According to historian Robert E. Allen's book "The First Battalion of the 28th Marines on Iwo Jima" the flag shown in Rosenthal's famous photograph was delivered by Tank Landing Ship USS LST-779, and measured 56 inches by 96 inches.

Several hours later after the raising of the first flag, more Marines headed up to the crest with the larger flag. Joe Rosenthal, a photographer with the Associated Press, met them along the way and recorded the raising of the second flag along with a Marine still photographer and a motion-picture cameraman. Rosenthal took three photographs atop Suribachi. The first, which showed six Marines struggling to hoist the heavy flag pole, became the most reproduced photograph in history and won him a Pulitzer Prize. The accompanying motion-picture footage attests to the fact that the picture was not posed. Of the other two photos, the second was similar to the first but less affecting, and the third was a group picture of 18 Marines smiling and waving for the camera. Many of these men, including three of the Marines seen raising the flag in the famous Rosenthal photo, were killed before the conclusion of the Battle for Iwo Jima in late March.

By March 3, U.S. forces controlled all three airfields on the island, and on March 26, the last Japanese defenders were wiped out. Only 200 of the original 22,000 Japanese defenders were captured alive. More than 6,000 Americans died taking Iwo Jima, and some 17,000 were wounded.

Contributed by Tom Hartley





AMERICAN LEGION

POST 237

HONOR GUARD



A CALL TO ARMS TO SUPPORT THE POST 237 HONOR GUARD

The Post 237 Honor Guard is asking for your assistance to help replace its old, unreliable van used to transport Honor Guard members to and from veteran's funeral sites and the additional support it provides to community-requested patriotism events.

Please read the following and hopefully you will see that your tax-free donation to the Honor Guard is vitally important to allow your Post's Honor Guard to continue the invaluable support it provides to deceased veterans and their families.

HONOR GUARD MISSION: To provide military funeral honors for deceased veterans who have served honorably in the United States military.

SERVICE AREA: The Honor Guard services Northern Alabama and Southcentral Tennessee. To date in 2023, the Honor Guard has supported 91 funerals traveling 1,926 miles to do so. As the funeral services provided by the Honor Guard become more widely publicized, the number of funerals and mileage driven to support them will significantly increase.

OPERATING EXPENSES: The annual cost of outfitting Honor Guard members with uniforms, procuring needed equipment, weapons and van maintenance is \$7,312.50. **The Honor Guard's operating expenses are paid for ONLY from donations from individuals and organizations.**

DONATIONS: Donations are the life blood of the Honor Guard. They are even more vitally important now. While we remain committed to providing these funeral services, reliable transportation has become a major issue. Our current van is 22 years old with 180,000 miles on it and is in need of immediate replacement. Even as unpaid volunteers, many Honor Guard members provide their own transportation to guarantee their arrival at funeral sites. Your help is needed to allow us to continue fulfilling our mission. The current condition of the van is such that its unreliability may cause the inability to support future funerals which would be terrible.

The cost of a 12 passenger Honor Guard van is about \$48,000. It is desperately needed now to allow the continuation of the Honor Guard's mission to pay well deserved final respects to its men and women veterans.

The American Legion Post 237 Honor Guard is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. On behalf of the Honor Guard, I humbly ask you, with your strong military spirit, to see fit to provide a monetary donation. **Any amount you provide will be greatly appreciated.**

Tax free donations to the American Legion Post 237 Honor Guard can be made by:

- Mailing a donation to: Post 237 Honor Guard, PO Box 1176, Huntsville, AL 35807
- Bringing your donation to Post 237 located at 2900 Drake Avenue in Huntsville

Post 237's Honor Guard's dedicated efforts to provide patriotic support to deceased military veterans and their families can be best verbalized in the following quote:

"Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices."

President Harry S. Truman

Volunteers of America Donation

At the end of 2023, while we were busy collecting, sorting and packing items in backpacks for our homeless brothers and sisters an urgent request was brought to our attention by one of our members Ms. Miriam Umbraugh. The Volunteers of America home in Scottsboro was in desperate need of towels, washcloths, and personal hygiene items for its residents. We were fortunate to have a surplus of body wash items and some surplus towels among the homeless collection but not near enough to address the needs of the VOA residents. So, moneys were collected via 50/50 drawings at bar bingo and other venues and Anna Marie Wasniewski bought the required items. Miriam and Brenda Holden delivered the items before Christmas! Below is a heartfelt thank you note to the Post from Miriam.

For Only You – Post 237 From Miriam B. Umbraugh

If my “thank you” could be measured in height, it would be taller than Mt Everest. If my “thank you” could be measured in length, it would surpass the galaxy. If my “thank you” could be measured in weight, it would be heavier than the Rock of Gibraltar. The only thing I know that could express my heartfelt thank you would be for you to see the reaction of the caregivers when I with my buddy, auxiliary sister, Brenda Holden, delivered the beautiful brand new towel sets and body wash items to the VOA home in Scottsboro.

The caregivers expressed the dire need for the towels. This gift from Post 237 was a Godsend. As the mother of a daughter, age 46, who can only walk and feed herself, I can’t speak the message from the beat of my heart.

This home accommodates 10 residents with varying needs and levels of function. At present there are 9 residents. This gift has made a huge impact of caring for these angels.

My daughter Tam has severe autism. There are some who cannot walk, talk, etc. This gift will meet the needs of all residents regardless of their level of function or diagnosis. So you see, saying thank you leaves a lot more to be said.

American Legion Post 237 is more than the largest Post in the state, it has the biggest heart.

I pray that the leadership and the membership will feel the sincerity and know that this action is greater than you can imagine.

Thank you and God bless.

Miriam and TaMiria (Tam)

The online version of the Redstone Rocket is available here:

<https://www.theredstonerocket.com/eedition/>

North Alabama Electric

The Post 237 Building Committee would like to thank North Alabama Electric for donating the labor to change all the 4 foot light fixtures to LED.

The phone number for North Alabama Electric is 256-350-5057.

Robert Barnett, 2 Year Trustee

2024 Boys State

Boys State is a unique summer program designed to train our youth in the ideals and objectives of American government through hands on experience and participation in a model state government.

The 2024 Alabama Boys State convention will be held at Troy University, Troy, Alabama, May 26 through June 1, 2024.

The Madison County Boys State Orientation will be held at the Post 237 Annex at 3806 Colonial Park Circle SW, Huntsville, AL 35805 on May 16, 2024 at 6PM.

Notification and registration packets will be emailed to principals, counselors, and ROTC POCs at all high schools in Madison County the first week of February.

Post 237 will offer sponsorships to students in need of financial assistance, conduct the Madison County Boys State Orientation, and will provide round trip bus transportation for delegate to the Boys State convention.

Male students enrolled in high school or home school are eligible at the conclusion of their junior year. Students must have the approval of their school administration,

Along with the educational, leadership, and social benefits that Boys State offers there is a long list of college scholarships available to participants.

For more information or if you would like to assist with our Boys State outreach please contact Tom Paone at vicecdr2@legion237.com or 256-656-4952.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LUNCH IN THE SOCIAL QUARTERS

MONDAY – FRIDAY, SATURDAY 11 AM -1:30 PM

Specials: Wed – Philly Cheese Steak, 1st Wed – Steak

Thu – Taco Salad, Fri – Fish

Evening Kitchen Service

Wednesday – Saturday 6:00PM-8:00PM

KARAOKE IN THE SOCIAL QUARTERS

WED 7-11PM KARAOKE WITH CAROL

THU 7-11 PM AND SUN 3-7 PM KARAOKE WITH HOWIE

SAT 8 PM - 12 AM KARAOKE WITH JERIMY

FRI 7 – 11 PM KARAOKE WITH JERIMY

TRIVIA IN THE SOCIAL QUARTERS

MONDAY 7-9 PM WITH LISA AND ZACK

BINGO AT THE POST 237 ANNEX

SUN 3:30 PM MON, WED AND SAT AT 6 PM

MEMBERSHIP DINNER AND MEETING IN THE BALLROOM

3RD MONDAY DINNER AT 6 PM (\$7.00) , MEETING AT 7 PM

POOL TOURNAMENT

SOCIAL QUARTERS - ALTERNATING THURSDAYS 7 PM

TEXAS HOLDEM FUNDRAISER

SOCIAL QUARTERS - TUESDAY 6 PM

BAR BINGO

SOCIAL QUARTERS - SUNDAY 12-2PM

First Wednesday Steak Lunch

Join us for lunch: ribeye steak, baked potato, roll and salad on the first Wednesday of each month. 11-1:30



Second Sunday Pot Luck

Join us on the second Sunday of the month from 3 PM to 7 PM for a Pot Luck. Bring a dish to share and enjoy Karaoke with Howie!



Monday Night Trivia

Join us on Monday nights at 7PM for Trivia presented by Lisa and Zack! Have fun, exercise your brain and win Legion Bucks!



Social Quarters Hours of Operation

Monday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Tuesday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Wednesday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Thursday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Friday	10:00AM – 1:00AM
Saturday	11:00AM – 1:00AM
Sunday	12:00PM – 8:00PM

Adjutant's Office Hours

Monday through Friday 10:00AM – 4:00PM

Call 256-397-3659 to make an appointment.

Email at adjutant@legion237.com

Commander's Office Hours

Monday and Tuesday 4PM until 6PM

Email at commander@legion237.com

Lunch at the Legion



Monday through Friday and Saturdays in Football Season
11:00AM to 1:30PM

Specials:

Philly Cheese Steak – Wednesday

Taco Salad – Thursday

Fish – Friday

Smoke Free Lunch!

The area in front of the bar is smoke-free from 10AM to 2PM Monday through Friday. The area in back of the bar is open for smokers. Please be courteous and observe these new restrictions.

HUMOR IN UNIFORM



TALKING DOG?

An Army Sergeant Major while on leave is driving through a small rural town in Georgia and sees a sign in front of a house: "Talking Dog for Sale." He is very curious about this and stops at the home. He rings the doorbell and the home's owner comes to the door. The Sergeant Major asks about the talking dog and the owner tells him the dog is in the backyard. He goes to the backyard and there is a German Shepherd. He asks the dog, "You talk?" The dog replies, "Yep". The Sergeant Major then asks, "So what's your story?"

The dog looks up and says, Well, I discovered that I could talk and understand what people were saying when I was pretty young, and I wanted to help the government; so I told the CIA about my gift, and in no time they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years. The jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger, so I decided to settle down. I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security work, mostly wandering near suspicious people and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings there and was awarded a bunch of medals and citations. I got married, had a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired."

The Sergeant Major is totally amazed. He goes back to the owner and asks him what he wants for the dog. "Ten dollars," the owner says. The Sergeant Major replies, "This dog is amazing. Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?" The owner replies, "Because he's a liar. He didn't do any of that stuff he told you."

Contributed by Tom Hartley



Help! We are running out of jokes! Please give us a hand. To contribute a cartoon or funny story to Humor in Uniform email to: newsletter@legion237.com



Around the Post

Since the COVID shutdown when the license plates were taken down they have been boxed up in storage. Third Vice Commander, Bob Wasniewski, decided it was time to put them back on the wall. There are currently 280 to 290 license plates that have been collected from other American Legion Posts and Legion dignitaries. Bob cleaned and hung the plates on the walls around the pool table and behind the big TV on the backside of the Canteen. They look great and many of our longtime members who were involved in collecting the plates are very happy with the results. Bob also recently installed new blinds on the windows in the Canteen. Thank you Bob for all the hard work you are doing to improve our Post.



Texas Hold'em Fundraiser



Come and play in the weekly Texas Hold'em fundraiser every Tuesday at 6 PM in the bar.

Funds raised will benefit charitable and Legion projects throughout the year.

Come on down and join in the fun!

2024 Madison County Oratorical Contest

The following email was sent to all high school principals, counselors, and ROTC POCs by Larry Vannoy, Commander of Post 229 inviting students to compete in the Madison County High School Oratorical Contest on February 10, 2024 at Madison City Hall at 100 Hughes Road, Madison AL. Post 237 provides volunteers who act as judges, tabulators and timekeepers for this contest.

The assigned topic discourse for 2024 will be chosen from the 2nd Amendment, 23rd Amendment, 25th Amendment (Section 3), or the 5th Amendment. The text for each of those amendments can be found here:

<https://www.legion.org/oratorical/topics>

First, I would like to introduce myself. I am Larry Vannoy, Commander, American Legion Post # 229 here in Madison. We are pleased to announce the Department of Alabama's 2024 State High School American Legion Oratorical Contest. The Oratorical Contest presents our nation's high school participants with an academic speaking challenge that develops important leadership qualities, exposes students to a brief history of our U.S. Constitution, and enhances their ability to think and speak clearly as they articulate their understanding of select duties, responsibilities, rights, and privileges of American citizenship.

Not only do we provide them with academic challenges, but young orators earn some of the most generous college scholarships available to high school students. Starting at the county level \$500 is awarded to the winner, followed by \$300 for second and \$300 for third place. Winners move to the District and then Division level competitions, each time winning a substantial financial award. The Department of Alabama awards \$4,500, \$1,500, and \$1,000 respectively. Additionally, Alabama pays travel and lodging to its winner to compete in the National Contest. The National contest will be held at Hillsdale College, Hillsdale Michigan, 17-19 May 2024 to award scholarships of \$25,000, \$22,500, and \$20,000 to the first, second, and third place finishers.

The Madison County oratorical competition will be held at Madison City Hall, 100 Hughes St. Madison on 10 February 2024. Schools/parents must ensure a biographical sketch (attached) of a proposed contestant is submitted no later than 2 February 2024 to the email address: oratorical@americanlegionpost229.org. Note that space is limited and Chairman Danny Marr will notify each accepted contestant soon after receipt of their submission. (Note: The 2023 Alabama State Oratorical winner, Ms. Christine Johnson, hails from Madison County and was awarded over \$6,000 in scholarships.

I have included a "One Sheet Oratorical Brochure" with a QR Code link explaining the scholarship program and how your outstanding student(s) can compete for local as well as national scholarships offered by the American Legion. The American Legion National Website's Oratorical details are at: <http://www.legion.org/oratorical/about>.

For more information concerning the participation of your local outstanding student, please contact me directly at 256-468-8400.

Thank you in advance.

Larry



Larry Vannoy, US Air Force (retired)
American Legion Madison Post 229 Commander
Website: www.americanlegionpost229.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionPost229
E-mail: Commander@americanlegionpost229.org
Cell: 256-468-8400



**American Legion Post 237 Bingo Annex
3806 Colonial Park Circle SW, Huntsville, AL**

Monday, Wednesday and Saturday

Doors Open at 4PM

Starts at 6PM

Sunday

Doors Open at 1PM

Starts at 3:30PM

Bingo supports many of our charitable programs. Legion Bingo, Sons of the American Legion Bingo, and Auxiliary Bingo fund our Boys and Girls State programs, American Legion Baseball, Veteran's Relief Fund, ROTC and JROTC support programs, scholarships and many other community and veteran related endeavors.

Come and join us for a fun outing at the Annex and help keep our programs strong. There is a isolated smoking section and the public is invited. Who knows, you might win a big jackpot!



~ Post 237 February 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	2 Groundhog Day 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke with Jerimy	3 6p-9:30p AL237 Bingo 6p-8p Kitchen Open 8p-12a Karaoke w/Jerimy 5-8p Chili Cookoff
4 Super Bowl 12p-2p Bar Bingo 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie 3:30p-7p AUX176 Bingo 6-10p Super Bowl Party	5 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-9:30p SAL 237 Bingo 7p-9p Trivia w/ Lisa and Zack	6 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Texas Holdem 7p-8p 40/8 Meeting	7 11a-1:30p 1 st Wed Steak Lunch 6p-9:30p AUX237 Bingo 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke with Carol	8 11a-1:30p Lunch 5:30p-6:30p VVOA Meeting 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	9 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke with Jerimy	10 10:30a-11:30a CVMA Meeting 6p-9:30p AL237 Bingo 8p-12a Karaoke w/Jerimy 10a – Mad County Oratorical 5:30p – 7p Valentine's Day Dinner
11 12p-2p Bar Bingo 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie 3p-7p Pot Luck Dinner 3:30p-7p AUX176 Bingo	12 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-9:30p SAL 237 Bingo 7p-9p Trivia w/ Lisa and Zack	13 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-7p House Comte. Mtg. 6p-8p Texas Holdem	14 Valentine's Day 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-9:30p AUX237 Bingo 6p-7p Exec. Board Meeting 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke with Carol	15 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-7p Comm & Americanism Cmte Mtg 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	16 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke with Jerimy	17 6p-9:30p AL237 Bingo 6p-8p Kitchen Open 8p-12a Karaoke w/Jerimy
18 12p-2p Bar Bingo 2p-3p SAL Meeting - Sons of the American Legion Meeting 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie 3:30p-7p AUX176 Bingo	19 Presidents Day 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Mbrs. Dinner and Meeting 6p-9:30p SAL 237 Bingo 7p-9p Trivia w/ Lisa and Zack	20 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Texas Holdem	21 11a-1:30p Lunch 5:30p-6:30p ALR Meeting 6p-9:30p AUX237 Bingo 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke with Carol	22 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	23 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke with Jerimy	24 6p-9:30p AL237 Bingo 6p-8p Kitchen Open 8p-12a Karaoke w/Jerimy
25 12p-2p Bar Bingo 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie 3:30p-7p AUX176 Bingo	26 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-9:30p SAL 237 Bingo 7p-9p Trivia w/ Lisa and Zack	27 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Texas Holdem	28 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-9:30p AUX237 Bingo 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke with Carol	29 11a-1:30p Lunch 6p-8p Kitchen Open 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie		

Details on Calendar items are available by clicking on the item at:

<http://www.legion237.com/index.php?id=100>

To contribute to the Roll Call Newsletter email your article to: newsletter@legion237.com