

ROLL CALL

Clayton E. Moneymaker American Legion Post 237



Alabama's Largest American Legion Post

Volume 21, Issue 3

March 2021

2900 Drake Ave. SW, Huntsville, AL 35805

256-883-9911



Billy Heatherly *Post 237 Commander* **Commander's Corner**

Hello fellow Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons,

March is here and Spring is around the corner. We are getting ready for a change at your Legion Post as well. Election of Officers will be upon us before you know it. Our next General membership meeting will be the 15th of March at 1900 hrs and I will be appointing the Nominations Committee for the candidates of officers for the 2021-2022 Legion year. So, if we have any Legionnaires that are interested in becoming an Officer of the Post, please let your intentions be known.

With the Covid Pandemic still upon us, we have done a lot of work that we all can be proud of. I commend the current staff of Officers for the hard work that was put in to our Post Home during these trying times. I expect no less for the upcoming months. Please be advised, that due to lack of attendance, there will be NO Membership Dinner before the meeting until further notice. Once we see a rise in attendance numbers, we will bring back the dinner at the same low price, and hopefully with a perk or two to entice more members to attend.

Some points that I do need to reiterate. If any of you, or know someone in our Legion family that are feeling the effects of Covid, we do ask that you stay at home to get better. If there is anything we could do to assist, please contact us. I still need volunteers to help with the Officers of our Post. I need to appoint a 3 Year Trustee who would work closely with the other trustees for the inventories and security of the Post assets. I also need a volunteer to become the Bingo Chairman. If you wish to volunteer for these or any other functions of the Post, please let either my officers or myself know. For other happenings, please visit "The Clayton E. Moneymaker American Legion Post 237" Facebook page and hit the Like button to keep up with your Post.

I would like to take the time to thank all the membership for their continued support of the officers and staff of your American Legion.

May you all be healthy and safe and thank you all,

Commander Billy Heatherly

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Legion Members,

The 2021 Annual Memorial Day Golf Tournament season is upon us. We have to start early to raise the money we need to support Post 237 through a rough time brought on by reductions in sales and other events brought on by COVID.

I am looking for anyone who would like to be on the Golf Committee, I need about 5 or 6 volunteers. This will take 4-6 hours per week with meetings and doing the solicitation required for a successful tournament. If you would like to help out please call me at 301-326-8762.

Dennis Atkins
Golf Committee Chairman
Trustee1@legion237.com

Membership Update

Our Membership for 2020 was 1277. Our current 2021 paid Membership is 1117 and our goal is 1392. Please renew as soon as possible. Renew at the Adjutant's Office, weekdays 1-4PM or call for an appointment. Renew online via credit card or setup Automatic Annual Renewal at: www.legion.org/renew

Dragonman's Military Museum – YouTube

Follow the link below to a video of a private military museum in Colorado Springs, CO. that is absolutely amazing. Everything is functional. It is incredible!

[HTTPS://m.youtube.com/watch?v=9hUI5Fz1jOg](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=9hUI5Fz1jOg)

Virtual Tour of the National Museum of the United States Army

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wo-yEf4HF-s>

The online version of the Redstone Rocket is available here:

https://www.theredstonerocket.com/eedition/page_5e6a1bfd-0f21-5c57-98a0-884d987806f6.html

AMERICAN LEGION CLAYTON E. MONEYSMAKER POST 237

OFFICERS

Billy Heatherly	Commander
CeVin Barnes	1st Vice Commander
Tom Paone	2nd Vice Commander
Roy Llamas	3rd Vice Commander
Mary McCoy	Adjutant
Bud Pagakis	Finance Officer
Dennis Atkins	Chaplain
Nicholas Jones	Service Officer
Ken Carpenter	Historian
Douglas Gregory	Sergeant-At-Arms
Dennis Atkins	1 Year Trustee
Rudy Cowe	2 Year Trustee
John Carr	3 Year Trustee

Earl Hokanson	Honor Guard Cdr.
John Murphy	ROTC Liaison
Steve Bowling	S.A.L. Commander
Buddy Miller	S.A.L. Adjutant
Steve Bowling	ALR Director
Sherry Schroen	Auxiliary President
Channa O'Keefe	Club Manager

Executive Committee

Billy Heatherly, CeVin Barnes, Tom Paone, Roy Llamas, Mary McCoy, Bud Pagakis, Jerry Creel, Nicholas Jones, Ken Carpenter, Douglas Gregory, Rudy Cowe, Dennis Atkins, and John Carr.

House Committee

Roy Llamas, Glen Vela, Gerry Frank, Billy Heatherly, Channa O'Keefe, Bob Wasniewski, Jerry Phelps

Finance Committee

Bud Pagakis, Mary McCoy, Dennis Atkins, Rudy Cowe, and Roy Llamas.

Building Committee

Rudy Cowe, Dennis Atkins, John Carr, Juan G. Hernandez, Justin White, Ted Carson, Robert Barnett, and Barbara Cowe

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

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

Phone Number: 256-883-9911

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.



A FEW GOOD MEMBERS

John E. Carson

If the Honor Guard had a recruitment slogan it would say we are looking for a few good members to join our ranks. With over 300,000 veterans in the state of Alabama according to the latest VA statistics and an average of 1200 members attached to Post 237 the percentage of people serving on the current roster of our Honor Guard (12) stands at 1%. Yet that 1% handles several funerals during the week. They also do flag raisings, perform Color Guard duties at events, educate school children on flag history and flag etiquette, handle flag disposals and participate in parades and public events.

But of all the duties the Honor Guard performs, the most important one is honoring the service of a veteran at their funeral. That veteran does not even have to be a member of the Post or even the American Legion. And many of those services happen during the week, when our available number of volunteers is the smallest. Many of our members are still employed and only available on the weekend.

I have personally been on graveside details when only two of us were present to fold the flag, play taps and fire the gun salute. And while the family is always grateful imagine their disappointment when they expected a squad of seven on the guns.

We are a full-service Honor Guard and at times we have been called on to provide chaplain services, officiate the funeral as well as render full military honors for that veteran and present the flag to the family they leave behind. →

The fact is we do not have enough members to provide those services, especially on weekdays. Some people think the Honor Guard is an all-male organization. It is not. Many times in the past, female Legionnaires have served on our roster. Some think that only Legionnaires can serve. The fact is that members of the SAL are welcome. Some think they have to provide their own uniform, fact is the member only pays for his Legion Cap and parade shoes, the Honor Guard provides the uniform. The Honor Guard provides transport to the event and back, a member just has to drive to the Post.

The rewards of serving on the Honor Guard are not monetary, although grateful families give donations the Guard depends on as our only means of funding. Handshakes from tearful family members, whispered thanks from the children of veterans and people asking for spent shells to remember their loved one by are the only rewards we receive.

In the past eighteen months we have had to rely on the assistance of Post 229 in Madison for many of our details. But weekdays are a problem for them as well. And the donations must be shared, putting a strain on our budget. This is a situation we should not be in. Imagine what we could do with just another six people we could call on during the week.

For thirty years this honor guard has been self-sufficient and with our Posts membership numbers it should be again. To paraphrase John Donne, English soldier and cleric (1572-1631) "Every Man's death diminishes me, for I am involved in mankind. Do not send for whom the bell tolls-it tolls for thee."

The Honor Guard represents the finest of the American Legion, and we are its public face. We are what people see and remember and we represent our Post. How sad would it be if one day when our own family called we had to say it was gone. To keep it alive we need a few more good members. How about you?

The Honor Guard has been extremely busy this winter and is in need of additional volunteers. Please contact Honor Guard Commander Earl Hokanson at hongrdcdr@legion237.com if you are interested in joining the Honor Guard.

Saint Patrick's Day Basket



**Jose Quervo
Crown Apple
Jack Daniels
Dewar's
Courvoisier
Several Different Wines
A Flask
A DVD Set**

-

**6 Tickets for \$5
Or
Arm's Length for \$20**

-

Purchase your tickets at the bar

-

Drawing March 17, 2021 7 PM

Saint Patrick's Day Lunch

\$7.00 Lunch Special on Wednesday March 17th

- **Corned Beef**
- **Cabbage**
- **Potatoes**
- **Carrots**

AN AMERICAN'S PRAYER

(By Dave Whitfield)

Dear Lord,

As the sun sets on another day,
Glowing softly in the west,
Please set a special place aside,
For our wonderful country's best.

For the selfless men and women,
Who knowingly give their all,
Who stand guard round our banner,
And shall never let it fall.

They leave behind both spouse and child,
To protect and preserve our land,
They leave behind both hearth and home,
In service great and grand.

They endure heartache and hardship,
For an occasional word from home,
They endure sharp criticisms,
And often feel alone.

But Lord, please touch their souls tonight,
Somehow let them know we care,
That we're standing right behind them,
Even when they're 'Over There'.

And Lord, if they're wet and cold in the darkness,
On a wild and rolling sea,
Or sweltering in the desert sands,
And waiting patiently.

If they're soaring through the silver clouds,
Or standing guard out in the rain,
If they're laughing, living, loving,
Or in quiet, heartfelt pain.

Please, Lord, tonight brace them,
Soldiers, Sailors, one and all,
For they dearly love their country,
And they daily give their all.

For the young airman away from home,
For the first time in his life,
And the officer far away,
From his children and his wife.

For the women dressed in olive drab,
Instead of skirts or jeans,
Because when you say 'patriot',
They can tell you what it means.

And Lord, if before the night is through,
Heaven's gate should open wide,
And a Soldier, Airman, Sailor,
Or Marine should step inside. →

If he straightens to attention,
With a clicking of the boot,
And proudly states his presence,
With a textbook sharp salute.

Embrace him, Lord, and love him,
In Your Great and Perfect Way,
For he was one of the best, Dear Lord,
The Pride of the U-S-A.

Contributed by Tom Hartley

2021 District 12 Oratorical Contest

On Saturday February 13, 2021 American Legion Posts in North Alabama conducted the 12th District Oratorical Contest, "A Constitutional Speech Contest", at Post 15 in Decatur, AL.

Earnestine Doubek, Chairman of the Oratorical Commission for The American Legion Department of Alabama emceed and chaired the event.

Emily Drown, the 2020 State Oratorical winner, took first place and Brinkley Cottingham was runner up. Ms. Drown will represent Madison County and the 12th District at the **First Division online competition**, February 27, 2021 at 10am. The **Department of Alabama online competition** will be March 6, 2021, 10am.

The National High School Oratorical Program in Indianapolis has been cancelled, however, each certified contestant (first place winner) at Department competition will receive a \$5,000 scholarship to any US college/university.

Article by Tom Paone. Pictured is Earnestine Duobek, Brinkley Cottingham, Emily Drown, and Chuck McClendon.



ARE YOU REALLY IRISH OR IRISH JUST ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY?

By Tom Hartley

When you think of St. Patrick's Day, you probably think of green beer, shot glass necklaces that say "Kiss Me I'm Irish," and everybody talking about how suddenly they are Irish. That's all well and good, but I bet you don't know much about the holiday origins, or saint it celebrates. Well, take off that stupid hat, stop talking like a leprechaun for a second, and educate yourself.

St. Patrick, considered the patron saint of Ireland, was actually born in a town in Roman Britain, sometime in the late 300s A.D. That's right, Patrick wasn't Irish and his name wasn't Patrick either—it was Maewyn Succat. He actually had many monikers throughout his life: he was known by many as Magonus, by others as Succetus, and to some as Cothirhiacus. But we'll just call him Patrick since everybody else does.

Patrick wasn't much of a religious believer himself. It wasn't until he was captured by Irish pirates at the age of 16 and enslaved for six years that he chose to convert to Christianity. While in Northern Ireland, Patrick learned the Irish language and culture before attempting to escape back to Britain. But Patrick wasn't very good at escaping apparently, because he was captured again. This time by the French. He was in France for several years before he was released and sent home to Britain where he continued to study Christianity.

Eventually, Patrick claimed he had a vision that told him to bring Christianity to the Irish people, who were predominately pagan, so Patrick made his way back to Ireland and brought a big ol' bag of Christianity with him. Patrick's preaching ways were initially not accepted, but eventually gained followers, baptizing thousands of people.

Folklore tells of Patrick in the fifth century A.D. banishing all the snakes from Ireland chasing the slithering reptiles into the sea after they began attacking him during a 40-day fast he undertook on top of a hill. As badass as that may sound, there were never actually any snakes in pre-modern Ireland. Reptiles never made it across the land bridge that prehistorically linked Ireland to the European continent.

Patrick is believed to be the one responsible for popularizing the shamrock, or that three-leafed plant you'll see plastered all over the place today. Patrick allegedly used it to teach the Irish the concept of the Christian Holy Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Ghost). →



St. Patrick's Day started as a religious celebration in the 17th century. This celebration transitioned to the American colonies. As more and more Irish came across the Atlantic, the celebration grew in popularity. The first ever St. Patrick's Day parade was held in Boston in 1737.

If you're wondering why you wear green to celebrate the holiday, there's more to it than protection from pinching fingers. It goes back to the Irish Rebellion, when Irish soldiers wore green as they fought off the British. The song Irish soldiers sang during the war in 1798, "The Wearing of the Green" was instrumental in making green the color of shamrocks. From then on, people wore green on St. Patrick's Day in solidarity.

Okay, why all the drinking then? It's part historical, part us succumbing to advertising, and part stereotyping. Originally, St. Patrick's Day saw the lifting of Lent restrictions for the day, giving Christians a breather as they made their way to Easter. Basically, it was a day to eat and drink as much as you please in celebration. A huge marketing push from Budweiser in the 1980s convinced thirsty revelers that drinking beer and St. Patrick's Day were one and the same. The rest is drunk history nobody seems to remember.

Much like Cinco de Mayo, many people now use the holiday as an excuse to binge drink which has incorrectly associated the act of getting wasted with Irish culture. But at least now you can take a swig of your Guinness in pride because you know the real story.



COVID Resources – Vaccination

On February 8th, 2021 Huntsville Hospital began distributing COVID-19 vaccinations to the next category of patients. This includes all people 65 years of age and older, teachers, essential workers, and healthcare workers. If you believe you qualify for this group, you may sign up at: <https://www.huntsvillehospital.org/covid-19-vaccination> to be contacted for a vaccination appointment.

Madison County residents age 65 and over can get the coronavirus vaccine at the Madison County Health Department at 301 Max Luther St. Huntsville, AL.

Call 1-855-566-5333. More info at:
<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/madison/>

If you receive your medical care from Fox Army Health Center check your eligibility at and make an appointment:

<https://www.facebook.com/Fox-Army-Health-Center-260595728505/>

The big question on the mind of many TRICARE beneficiaries is, "When can I get the COVID-19 vaccine?" The Department of Defense (DoD) is offering the COVID-19 vaccine to service members, retirees, and their families through different phases of the schema. Please see the link for additional details. https://tricare.mil/CoveredServices/BenefitUpdates/Archives/02_10_2021_When_Can_I_Get_COVID19_Vaccine

If you received your medical care from the VA you can call 877-222-8387 or B'ham 866-487-4234. Use the link to register on-line for your VA COVID shot. <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/stay-informed/form> Just received, the Birmingham VA is scheduling Covid-19 vaccinations to 55 and above. Call 205-558-7099.

Vaccination Locations, County Health Departments

Limestone County, Walk-in

20731 Clyde Mabry Dr., Athens AL 35611
Hours: 8:15 - 3 Lunch 11:30 - 12:30
(256) 232-3200
For appointment: 855-566-5333

Madison County, Walk-in

301 Max Luther Drive, Huntsville, AL 35811
Hours: 8:15 - 3 Lunch 11:30 - 12:30
For appointment: 855-566-5333
(256) 539-3711

Morgan County, Walk-in

821 HWY 31 South Decatur, AL 35603
Hours: 8:15 - 3 Lunch 11:30 - 12:30

Lawrence County, Walk-in

13299 Hwy 157 Moulton, AL 35650
Hours: 8:15 - 3 Lunch 11:30 - 12:30

Cullman County, Walk-In

601 Logan Ave.SW, Cullman, AL 35055
Hours: 8:15 - 3 Lunch 11:30 - 12:30

Covid Resources - Testing

Huntsville Hospital Fever & Flu Clinic

120 Governors Drive
Huntsville, AL 35801
Facebook: [facebook.com/HuntsvilleHospitalFan](https://www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleHospitalFan)

Thrive Alabama

600 St. Clair Ave
Huntsville AL 35801
Mon and Wed, drive-up testing on the back side of First Baptist Church on Governors Drive Dr. The testing area is accessed on St. Clair Avenue.
Facebook: [facebook.com/ThriveAlabama](https://www.facebook.com/ThriveAlabama)

American Family Care Clinic – Hampton Cove

410 Sutton Road
Owens Cross Roads, AL 35763

American Family Care Clinic – Huntsville

8151 Whitesburg Drive
Huntsville, AL 35801

American Family Care Clinic – Madison

7559 Highway 72 West
Madison, AL 35758

CarePlus

11100 S. Memorial Parkway
Huntsville, AL 35803

Madison Core Labs (Madison location)

120 West Dublin Drive, Suite 105
Madison, AL 35758

Madison Core Labs (Huntsville location)

2705 Artie St SW, Suite 30
Building 400
Huntsville, AL 35805

Madison Medical Associates Fever & Flu Clinic

3809 Sullivan Street
Madison, AL 35758

QC Wellness Pharmacy and QuickCare

7500 Highway 72 West
Madison, AL 35758

QuickCare Urgent Care

202 Governors Drive
Huntsville, AL 35801

Synergy Wellness

4950 N Memorial Pkwy, Suite B
Huntsville, AL 35810
Phone: (256) 759-9167

Urgent Care for Children – Madison

8490 Highway 72 West, Suite 100
Madison, AL 35758

Happi Health

2597 Sparkman Drive
Huntsville, AL 35810



ATTENTION! HAM RADIO ENTHUSIASTS

If you are interested in Ham Radio and would like to help organize a local chapter of The American Legion Amateur Radio Club (TALARC) please contact Tim Williams at:

Tim Williams
Call Sign; K4AEE
Ham Radio email address: k4aee@gmx.com
Non-Ham personal email:
timmypw65@yahoo.com

Info on TALARC is available at:
<https://www.legion.org/hamradio/about>

The American Legion Amateur Radio Club

CQ, CQ....This is Kilo 4 Alpha Echo Echo and we are looking for some veterans to join and/or train to join our TALARC Amateur Radio Club Chapter at Post 237. I know with the current climate that a meeting will be difficult but, with the new case numbers here in Madison County going down I want start discussing a first meeting and after looking at the Post Newsletter calendar I am thinking that the third Saturdays of the month in either the mid-morning or the early afternoon (1000 to 1400 hrs) and I would like to schedule for March 2021. This gives us about 7 weeks to discuss scheduling so, please contact me at my radio station email account k4aee@gmx.com and I will discuss with the Post leadership about getting a Facebook group that we can use to communicate with till we can get our meeting scheduled. Please feel free to contact me at k4aee@gmx.com.

Topics that will need to discuss are the basic organizational offices, License Testing, Chapter logistics and Community Service.
73's
K4AEE

March Dates

Mar 14, 2021 -- Remember...Spring Forward at 2:00AM Set your clocks ahead/forward one hour at 2:00AM (or before you go to bed Saturday, March 13th). Its a good time to change the batteries in your Smoke/Fire/Carbon Monoxide Alarms, weather radios and emergency flashlights; rotate and replace the supplies in your Storm Shelter and First Aid Kits; and double check expiration dates on your supplies.

March 15 - American Legion Birthday!

March 29 - National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Contributed by Michael Kinney

Second Sunday Pot Luck

Join us at the second Sunday of the Month for a Pot Luck. Bring a dish to share.



Monday Night Trivia

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



Attention: Operation Desert Storm Veterans

The 30th Anniversary of Desert Storm is this year. We are looking for Operation Desert Storm (ODS) veterans for whom we can write feature stories. At the same time, RSA Garrison PAO is looking for photos, video and stories on ODS vets.

Please contact:

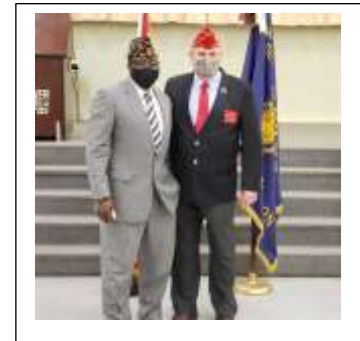
Lisa M. Hunter

Director, Public and Congressional Affairs U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command

Email: Lisa.m.hunter4.civ@mail.mil

National Commander's Dinner

On Tuesday, February 16th National Commander Bill Oliver was scheduled to attend a dinner hosted at Post 237. Unfortunately the icy weather caused Commander Oliver's flight to be canceled. Instead National Vice Commander David King served as the keynote speaker for the evening. Post 237 Commander Billy Heatherly welcomed the guests, the Post 237 Honor Guard posted the colors and Chaplain Dennis Atkins conducted the prayers. Other speakers included Department of AL Commander Ron Bradstreet, Department of AL NEC Willis Frazier, Auxiliary Vice President Iris Keen. AL Vice Commander Tina Bush organized the event. On Wednesday, February 17th District 12 hosted the National Vice Commander at Post 15 in Decatur. First Vice commander CeVin Barnes represented Post 237 at the event.



Upper left: National Vice Commander – David King. Upper Center - Department of AL NEC – Willis Frazier. Upper right – 1st Vice – CeVin Barnes, Dept. AL 1st Vice – Tina Bush, Willis Frazier, Rico Hall. Center left – Billy Heatherly and Department of AL Commander – Ron Bradstreet, Center Center – Frazier, King, Willis Frazier, Rico Hall. Center Right – CeVin Barnes, David King. Lower Left – Vann Daughtry, Judy Daughtry, Tina Bush, Ron Bradstreet, David King, Billy Heatherly, Willis Frazier, Rico Hall, Charles Marsh, Iris Keen, Buddy Keen, and Don Madden. Lower Right – Post 237 Honor Guard Post Colors

Pictures by Ken Carpenter, CeVin Barnes, and John Carson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LUNCH

SOCIAL QUARTERS

MONDAY – FRIDAY 11AM -1:30PM

Specials: Tue – Spaghetti, Wed - Stuffed Potato,
Thu – Taco Salad, Fri - Fish

KARAOKE

SOCIAL QUARTERS

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

SAT 8PM-12 AM KARAOKE WITH CAROL

FRI 7-11PM KARAOKE WITH PAUL

TRIVIA

SOCIAL QUARTERS

MONDAY 7-9 PM WITH LISA AND ZACK

BINGO

POST 237 ANNEX

MON, WED, THU AND SAT 6 PM

MEMBERSHIP DINNER AND MEETING

BALLROOM

3RD MONDAY DINNER \$5.00 AT 6 PM AND MEETING AT 7 PM

POOL TOURNAMENT

SOCIAL QUARTERS

THURSDAYS 7:00 PM

Social Quarters Hours of Operation

The Post reopened Feb 15th. Please observe posted COVID protocols.

Monday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Tuesday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Wednesday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Thursday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Friday	10:00AM – 1:30AM
Saturday	10:00AM – 1:30AM
Sunday	12:00PM – 8:00PM

Adjutant's Office Hours

Monday	1:00 – 4:00PM
Tuesday	1:00 – 4:00PM
Wednesday	1:00 – 4:00PM
Thursday	1:00 – 4:00PM
Friday	1:00 – 4:00PM

Call 256-683-9840 to make an appointment.
Email: adjutant237@legional.org

Wargo Scholastic Scholarship Program

If you are a descendant of a United States Military Veteran and plan to attend college or vocational school then the Wargo Scholastic Scholarship may be for you!

The Wargo Scholarship is a \$1000 award paid directly to the educational institution for tuition and fees.

Application must be made before April 15, 2021.

Additional information and the application form are available on the Post 237 website: www.legion237.com
Select Wargo Scholarship. The direct link is:
<http://www.legion237.com/index.php?id=127>

Questions regarding the Wargo Scholarship can be emailed to: wargo@legion237.com

Handicap Equipment Available

The Post has an excess of handicap equipment available for anyone in need. In stock we have crutches, canes, walkers, porta potties, and wheel chairs (non-powered).

Please contact Rudy Cowe at: rudolphcowe@yahoo.com or 256-426-6540 to arrange to pick up an item.

Searching for a Judge Advocate

The Post is searching for a Staff Judge Advocate. If you are a practicing or retired attorney-at-law and would be interested in assisting Post 237 in legal matters. Please contact Mary McCoy, Adjutant.

Phone: 256-883-9911

Email: adjutant@legion237.com



Lunch at the Legion

Monday through Friday
11:00AM to 1:30PM

Specials:

Spaghetti - Tuesday
Stuffed Potato – Wednesday
Taco Salad – Every Other 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.

HONOR GUARD POSTS COLORS

John E. Carson

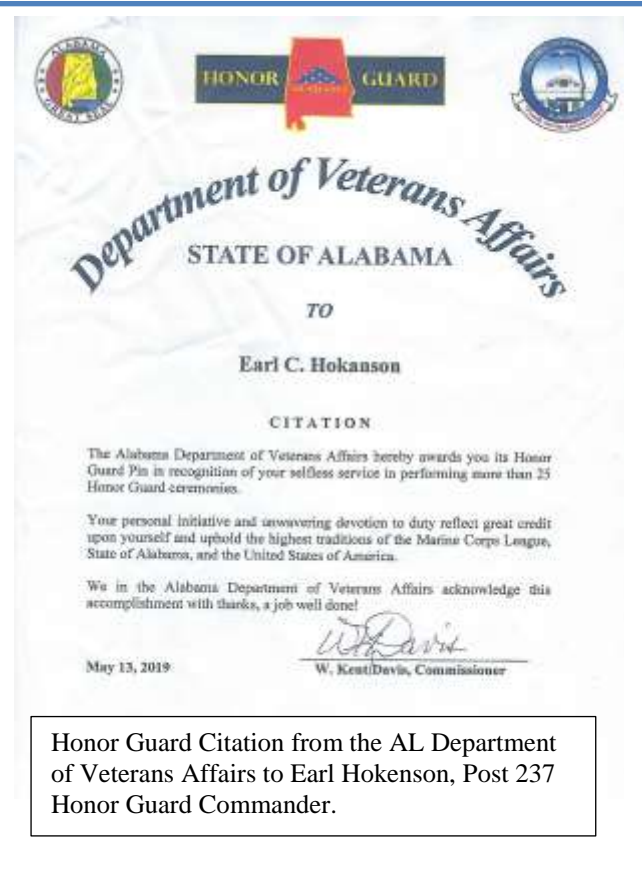
After being locked down due to the Covid virus for the first half of February 2021, both the Post and the Honor Guard were called to duty on Tuesday, February 16 to host the National Commander's visit to Huntsville. Although James W. "Bill" Oxford could not attend due to his flight being cancelled, the National Vice Commander, David King and several other regional and division commanders were present. The Honor Guard of Post 237 had the honor of acting as a Color Guard for the event.

Post 237's Honor Guard does not have a separate Color Guard component, and this was not the first time that Color Guard duties were performed by them. Although it has been discussed on numerous occasions, in order for the Honor Guard to have a separate Color Guard, the number of volunteers would have to be much higher. It is almost a sad commentary that the largest American Legion Post in Alabama would also have the lowest number of active Honor Guard members.

As always, the Honor Guard members present at the Commander's Dinner performed admirably and represented Post 237 very well. The Post 237 Honor Guard's flexibility and their dedication to doing every job well were both on display as they posted the colors for the event and represented their Post and its commitment to the ideals of the American Legion.



The Honor Guard has been extremely busy this winter and is in need of additional volunteers. Please contact Honor Guard Commander Earl Hokanson at hongrdcdr@legion237.com if you are interested in joining the Honor Guard.



Thank You Notes

The Honor Guard performed a funeral detail for Emory McDougal, Age 100, World War Two, U.S. Navy, Aviation Machinist and Tail-gunner in December. The following two thank you notes and donations were sent from the family.

"I wanted to thank you for the 21 gun salute at my father's funeral Dec. 7th in Sardis, Al. He was Emory McDougal, age 100. It was such an incredibly touching honor and I am very grateful. Please accept this donation with our thanks."
Sue McDonald & Randy Maddox [\$100]

"Please accept this donation in memory of my father Emory McDougal. You provided such a beautiful ceremony for my father.
Thank You"
Kay Hechman [\$200]

Searching for a Media Specialist

The Communications Committee is looking for a Media Specialist who would like to interface with radio, TV and print media. Please contact Tom Paone at vicecdr2@legion237.com if you are interested.

The Communications Committee meets at the Post at 11am on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Recruiting New Members

If you know of any qualified Veterans or Active Duty Service Members, talk with them about the benefits of joining the American Legion, and let them know some of the services that we provide for our community and our Veterans. Explain to the Veterans why they should join Post 237.

New Members Recruiters will receive a special recognition from the 1st Vice Commander.

The American Legion Membership Application

Membership ID# (former member) _____

Signature of applicant _____

Name of recruiter _____

350-0108 (20172)

Please check appropriate eligibility dates and branch of service below

Aug 2, 1990 - cessation of hostilities as determined by U.S. Government
 Dec. 20, 1989 - Jan. 31, 1990
 Aug. 24, 1982 - July 31, 1984
 Aug. 24, 1982 - July 31, 1984
 Apr. 24, 1980 - May 31, 1984
 Apr. 24, 1980 - May 31, 1984
 Dec. 2, 1941 - Dec. 31, 1946
 April 6, 1917 - Nov. 11, 1918
 U.S. Army
 U.S. Navy
 U.S. Marine Corps
 U.S. Coast Guard
 Merchant Marine 12/7/41 - 12/31/46 (only eligibility above and was honorably discharged or an anti-aircraft crew member)

(Name) _____ (Phone) _____
 (Mailing Address) _____ (State) _____
 (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____ (Post #) _____

(Serial Address) _____ (State) _____
 (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____ (Post #) _____

Receipt of Dues
(Please Print)

From _____

\$ _____ for 20__ Post # _____

Recruiter's Name _____

Recruiter's Signature _____

Recruiter's Phone # _____

Post Revitalization

On Saturday, January 30th members of the American Legion Posts in Madison County met in our ballroom and conducted Post revitalizations. Buddy Checks were made to members of Post 237. American Legion members who do not belong to a post were called and encouraged to join a local Post. Post 237 recruited 19 new members.

Pictured Top Right:
Mary McCoy,
Post 237 Adjutant



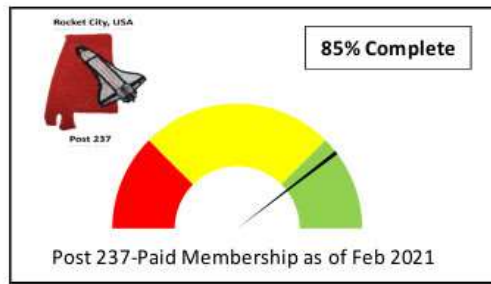
Center:
Tina Bush, AL
Department Vice
Commander and
Charles Marsh,
1st Division
Commander

Bottom:
Ken Carpenter,
Post 237 Historian



First Vice- Commander Report

Our current 2021 Paid Membership Report as of 1 February 2021 is 1,177 officially paid memberships. The post goal is 1,392 paid members. Currently Post 237 is 85% in compliance with the 2021 membership goal.



Please renew as soon as possible. Renew at the Adjutant's Office, weekdays 1-4 pm by appointment. Renew online via credit card or setup Automatic Annual Renewal at: www.legion.org/renew

Members there is the option to renew your membership online as well.

Renew online via credit card or setup Automatic Annual Renewal

Click the link below:

[PAY ONLINE THRU NATIONAL LEGION HEADQUARTERS](http://www.legion.org/renew)

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

Dec 31, 2020 is the last day your **2020** Card is NOT valid

Jan 1st 2020 - Delinquent

Feb 1st 2020 - Suspended

Buddy Check: NOW MORE THAN EVER

With the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic that is affecting us all, the Buddy Check program is perhaps more important now than ever before. The idea is to connect with veterans who may need assistance but don't know where to go or who to ask.

It's not enough to simply pick up the phone and call the veterans you know. We need to check on ALL VETERANS in each of our communities to be sure they are safe, feeling OK and have access to health care and services. If we hear of someone in need, we can offer someone a ride, deliver groceries or supplies and, in short, be there for them.

The important part is to let the veterans in our community know we care and can provide assistance. It's what we do for our battle buddies.

HOW THE BUDDY CHECK IS ORGANIZED?

1. Gather up a team to call members, former members and all veterans in your area. If each member in a team of 10 calls just 10 people, 100 veterans can be reached in one rotation from the comfort of your home.
2. Divide up the call list among your team members. Some may have personal connections with the member or veteran and should make that particular Buddy Check.
3. Make a list of local resources and phone numbers of services such as pharmacies with drive through windows, restaurants that are now providing order ahead takeout and meal delivery vendors that may be in your area, such as DoorDash, Grubhub and Uber Eats. Be prepared to educate people on how they can place orders online or by calling. Having these resources prepared ahead of time will be helpful when your team is making calls.
4. Start calling to see how our veterans are doing. Ask if they need anything. Let them know of the new events going on at the post. Add them to social media and the newsletter email distro.
5. Use the spreadsheet to record your calls and identify those who may need a follow up or additional assistance.
6. Leave contact information in case the call doesn't get answered so you can be reached in the future.

For those that are interested in the Buddy Check program please feel free to contact me via email @ vicecdr1@legion237.com or text 804-312-4657



For God and Country,
Ce'Vin V. Barnes
1ST Vice Commander



HUMOR IN UNIFORM

At the office of the French president the phone rings. Mister Hollande answers it and from the other side of the line a voice says: "This is Paddy from Ireland. I am ringing you from The Old Dublin pub to inform you that we officially declare war on you!"

Hollande replies: "Well Paddy, that is indeed important news. How big is your army?"

"Right now," says Paddy, after a moment's calculation, "there is meself, me cousin Sean, me next door neighbor Seamus, and the entire darts team from the pub. That makes eight!"

Hollande laughs amused and says: "I must tell you, Paddy, that I have 100.000 men in my army waiting to move on my command."

Paddy declared. "I'll have to ring you back." Sure enough, the next day, Paddy calls again. "Mr. Hollande, the war is still on. We have managed to get us some infantry equipment!"

"And what equipment would that be Paddy?", Hollande asks. "Well, we have two combines, a bulldozer, and Murphy's farm tractor."

Hollande again seems rather amused. "I must tell you, Paddy, that I have 6.000 tanks and 5.000 armored personnel carriers. Also, I have increased my army to 150.000 since we last spoke."

"Saints preserve us!" says Paddy. "I'll get back to you."

Sure enough, Paddy rings again the next day. "Mr. Hollande, the war is still on! We have managed to get ourselves airborne! We have modified Jackie McLaughlin's ultra-light with a couple of shotguns in the cockpit, and four boys from the Shamrock Bar have joined us as well!"

Hollande was silent for a minute and then cleared his throat. "I must tell you, Paddy, that I have 100 bombers and 200 fighter planes. My military bases are surrounded by laser-guided, surface-to-air missile sites. And since we last spoke, I have increased my army to 200.000 men!"

"Jesus, Mary, and Joseph!" says Paddy, "I will ring you back." Sure enough, Paddy calls again the next day. "Top o' the mornin', Mr. Hollande! I am sorry to inform you that we have had to call off the war."

"Really? I am sorry to hear that," says Hollande. "Why the sudden change of heart?"

"Well," says Paddy, "we had a long chat over a few pints of Guinness, and we decided there is no way we can feed 200.000 prisoners."



Around the Post

The National Commander's Dinner on February 16th was severely impacted by the icy roads. Several National and State Officers braved the weather conditions to attend, our Post was represented by a handful of members and volunteers.

The Honor Guard presented the colors, John Carson and Ken Carpenter photographed the event. Billy Heatherly welcomed the guests and served as emcee. Dennis Atkins offered the invocation to open the meeting and bless the food. Joyce LeDuc Hampton and Shirley Mohler provided desserts. Martha Hall, Channa and Pancha Perez, Tom and Christie Paone decorated the hall, and helped Carl Conley prepare and serve the food. Thanks to all who attended and to those who helped out.



BINGO AT THE ANNEX

**3806 COLONIAL PARK CIR SW
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35805**

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY AND SATURDAY
6:00PM**

To contribute a funny story to Humor in Uniform
email to: newsletter@legion237.com

12 Gun Raffle

The American Legion Department of Alabama is conducting a 12 Gun Raffle to benefit both our local Post and the Alabama Veterans Retreat and the Alabama War Memorial. Drawings will occur monthly and your ticket will remain in the drawing for the entire year unless you win one of the guns. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at the Post 237 Adjutant's Office or online at the Department of Alabama Website (be sure to specify Post 237 when purchasing tickets online). The website for online ticket purchase is: https://www.legional.org/store/p30/12_Gun_Raffle_Ticket.html

Raffle details are included below.

The American Legion Department of Alabama 12 gun Raffle

Rules for the 2020-2021 Gun Raffle

Fundraiser is sponsored by The American Legion Department of Alabama (hereinafter Legion)

Persons under the age of 18 may not purchase a ticket

All Federal and Alabama firearm regulations must be met before you receive a firearm

Tickets are non-transferable

No refunds

Tickets are \$25. The purchase of one ticket required to enter drawing

Winning tickets will be announced the 1st Monday of every month beginning in July.

Winners will be notified by contact information provided. Also winning ticket number will be placed on www.LegionAL.org

Each entry has an equal chance to win. All unsold tickets become property of the Legion.

Prizes and dates awarded are printed on the back of rules and ticket sheet.

Cash, checks, and debit cards are acceptable for the purchase of tickets.

Drawings will be held at The American Legion Department of Alabama HQ.

The winning ticket for each prize month receives the firearm for that month.

No prize will be awarded until ticket number and money is account for by the Legion

The name and address on the ticket must be the same as the required ID.

Winners will have sixty (60) days from date of notification to claim prize.

Unclaimed prizes will be awarded to the next alternate.

Tickets with incomplete, inaccurate, illegible, falsified, or forged information will be disqualified.

The Legion reserves the right to modify any raffle prize if needed, based on manufactures available inventory

Winners must contact 29 Tactical to arrange pickup details (Information on back)

*All Proceeds will be
split 50/50
For
The Alabama War
Memorial
And
The Veterans'
Retreat*



The American Legion
Department of Alabama
P.O. Box 1069
Montgomery, AL 36101



*ALL TICKETS ARE DONATIONS

~Post 237 March 2021 Calendar~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1 11a-1:30p Monday Lunch 6p-7p Bldg Committee 7p-8p Purple Heart Mtg. 7p-9p Trivia with Lisa and Zack	2 11a-1:30p Tuesday Lunch 7p-8p 40/8 Meeting	3 11a-1:30p Wednesday Lunch	4 11a-1:30p Thursday Lunch 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	5 11a-1:30p Friday Lunch 7p-11p Karaoke with Paul	6 8p-12a Karaoke w/Carol	
	7 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie	8 11a-1:30p Monday Lunch 7p-9p Trivia with Lisa and Zack	9 11a-1:30p Tuesday Lunch 6p-7p House Comte. Mtg.	10 11a-1:30p Wednesday Lunch 6p-7p Exec. Board Meeting	11 11a-1:30p Thursday Lunch 5:30p-6:30p VVOA Meeting 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	12 11a-1:30p Friday Lunch 7p-11p Karaoke with Paul	13 10a-11a AL Riders Mtg 10:30a-11:30a CVMA Meeting 12p-1p Marine Corp Mtg 8p-12a Karaoke w/Carol
	14 Daylight Saving Begins 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie 3p-7p Pot Luck Dinner	15 11a-1:30p Monday Lunch 7p-9p Trivia with Lisa and Zack 7p - Membership Meeting	16 11a-1:30p Tuesday Lunch	17 Saint Patrick's Day 11a-12p Comm Cmte Mtg 11a-1:30p \$7 St. Patrick's Lunch Special - Corned Beef and Cabbage	18 11a-1:30p Thursday Lunch 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	19 11a-1:30p Friday Lunch 7p-11p Karaoke with Paul	20 Spring Begins 8p-12a Karaoke w/Carol
21 2p-3p SAL Meeting - Sons of the American Legion Meeting 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie	22 11a-1:30p Monday Lunch 7p-9p Trivia with Lisa and Zack	23 11a-1:30p Tuesday Lunch 7p-8p County Meeting	24 11a-1:30p Wednesday Lunch	25 11a-1:30p Thursday Lunch 7p-8p AL 351 Mtg. 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	26 11a-1:30p Friday Lunch 7p-11p Karaoke with Paul	27 8p-12a Karaoke w/Carol	
28 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie	29 11a-1:30p Monday Lunch 7p-9p Trivia with Lisa and Zack	30 11a-1:30p Tuesday Lunch	31 11a-1:30p Wednesday Lunch				

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

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

