

The Morning Report

Quarterly Newsletter for The American Legion Springfield Post 32 Family

The American Legion

Adapted from Original Communications from

John Raughter, Deputy Director, Media Relations, National American Legion



Paul Peavy
Commander
Post 32



Suzie Q. Weiss
President
Unit 32



Jim Peters
Commander
Squadron 32



Mike Lee
Director
Post 32 Riders

The American Legion was founded 103 ago years in Paris, France, by U.S. veterans of the Great War. Today, The American Legion continues the work begun by those committed veterans.

The American Legion led the fight to create the Veterans Bureau to provide medical assistance for our wounded comrades. We pushed for the creation of the Veterans Administration and ultimately, the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Our founders had hoped that World War I would truly “End All Wars,” but they also understood that America must always be strong and vigilant. Defense is a constitutional responsibility, as The American Legion constantly reminds our presidents and lawmakers.

The U.S. Flag is displayed in accordance with a code produced by American Legion-led conferences in 1923 and 1924. To the Legion, Americanism includes flying the flag, civic engagement, voting, good citizenship, and patriotism.

The Servicemen’s Readjustment Act (The GI Bill) of 1944 was The American Legion’s plan to ensure that World War II veterans could transition into a productive society rather than a second Great Depression. The American Legion understood that veterans were not looking for hand-outs, just opportunity. Congress listened. It has been estimated that the GI Bill returned \$7 to the economy for every dollar invested in veterans. Seventy-seven years later, veterans and their families continue to benefit from modern versions of this landmark legislation.

The American Legion led the fight for

the government to care for veterans who experience the effects of Agent Orange, radiation poisoning and other toxic exposures during military service. The Legion also speaks for veterans suffering from PTSD, homelessness, military sexual trauma, and other issues some would prefer to ignore.

With programs like the National Emergency Fund, the Veterans & Children Foundation, the Legacy Scholarship and Operation Comfort Warriors, The American Legion provides a safety-net to Americans in need.

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, more than 17 veterans a day take their lives. These men and women are not just statistics - They are our American Legion Family.

National Commander Paul Dillard was elected on a platform of “No Veteran Left Behind.” He asks us to check on each other, to do Buddy Checks. By reaching out to other veterans, we can listen to their pain and, most importantly, we can save their lives.

Since 1925, more than 3,000 American Legion Baseball teams have served nearly 50,000 young athletes in the United States and Canada. While the quality of play is high, Legion Baseball puts an even greater emphasis on sportsmanship, citizenship, and fair play.

Through American Legion Boys State, Boys Nation, and the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State and Girls Nation, the United States has benefited from outstanding public servants, business leaders, cultural icons and other success stories.

The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program attracts 1,400 people

See The American Legion continued on Page 3.



THE INTER-VETERANS BURIAL DETAIL NEEDS VETERAN VOLUNTEERS

IN 2009, THERE WERE 43 BURIAL DETAIL MEMBERS ON THE ROSTER. NOW, THERE ARE ONLY 18 AND THERE ARE ONLY FIVE (5) MEMBERS REMAINING FROM THE ORIGINAL 43.

IN 2009, THE DETAIL PROVIDED HONORS AT 274 FUNERALS AND PATRIOTIC EVENTS WITH 43 VOLUNTEERS. IN 2021, THE 18 VOLUNTEERS DID 399 FUNERALS AND EVENTS.

AS MEMBERS, WE BELIEVE IT'S AN HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO SERVE FELLOW VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND TO SERVE AT PATRIOTIC EVENTS AND PARADES.



WE ARE DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS THAT ARE PROUD OF WHAT WE DO AND HOW WE DO IT

YOU MUST BE HONORABLY DISCHARGED AND A MEMBER OF A SERVICE ORGANIZATION

ALL UNIFORM ITEMS AND POST DUES ARE PROVIDED BY THE BURIAL DETAIL



GAEL KENT, COMMANDER, INTER-VETERANS BURIAL DETAIL
217.993.1021

BURIALDETAIL.SPFLD.IL@GMAIL.COM

PO BOX 291, ROCHESTER, IL 62563
ATTEND A FUNERAL AT CAMP BUTLER

Friends of the American Legion Family and Sponsors of The Morning Report



THE INTER-VETERANS BURIAL DETAIL OF SANGAMON COUNTY

NEEDS YOU

VOLUNTEER AT KAMPER279@COMCAST.NET
ATTEND A FUNERAL AT CAMP BUTLER N.C.



OUR POP-POP and GRANNY LOVE THE AMERICAN LEGION
Dylan Walton, Benjamin Walton,
Lincoln Davis & Levi Davis

Testimony from a Member of the Inter-Veterans Burial Detail

Post 32 Past Commander Bruce O'Neil



I have been a Post 32 member since 1995. I have been a member of the Inter-Veterans Burial Detail since October 1, 2004. One of the reasons I joined the Detail was I was hearing every day that our brave men and women were in the Middle East sacrificing everything for us back home. I realized that, although I had served and did what was asked of me, I had not done enough. One day while I was reading the obituaries in the local paper, I noticed that a veteran was going to be laid to rest at Camp Butler National Cemetery and that the Burial Detail was going to perform the military service I showed up at the time noted in the paper and introduced myself to a bunch of the most dedicated veterans I had ever met. I had found a way to serve again.

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annually to compete in clubs that emphasize gun-safety and marksmanship.

The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program not only develops great speaking skills, but it requires participants to focus on the U.S. Constitution.

By supporting veterans, defense, America and our nation's youth, The American Legion continues to realize the spirit of its founders 103 years ago in Paris through the efforts of more than 12,000 American Legion posts across the nation.

I have had the honor of helping to lay to rest almost all of that "bunch of dedicated veterans". We still have some of the most dedicated veterans you can ever meet but our numbers are growing smaller. In our prayer that is part of the service, we say, "as comrade after comrade departs, we march on as our ranks grow thinner". AND WE WILL! But, we need help, help to serve the families of the veterans and to see that every eligible veteran gets the honors they deserve.

There are currently 10 active Post 32 members on the Burial Detail and 3 Post 32 members are Emeritus members. Since 1995, there have been 7 past Post 32 Commanders on The Detail. Post 32 is now and has been a large part of serving our veterans and their families. We hope to continue this legacy.

Please consider joining our group if you are able.

Bruce O'Neil, Past Commander, Post 32
Member, Inter-Veteran Burial Detail

Legion Riders Annual National Wreaths Across America

Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 2,500 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. Join us by sponsoring a veterans' wreath at a cemetery near you, volunteering or donating to a local sponsorship group. Go to National web site, www.wreathscrossamerica.org; locally contact Mike Lee at Post 32, 217-741-3003 or Biker1950@comcast.net.

Friends of the American Legion Family and Sponsors of The Morning Report



The American Legion Springfield Post 32 Family Leadership Officers Are Elected Annually to a 1 – year Term

Post 32 Commander Paul Peavy

With fall quickly approaching, I'd like to take a moment to remember all fellow Veterans who have fallen on hard times. Daily we see Veterans standing on street corners and sleeping in doorways. None of us can know what they may have gone through while on active duty. I've heard it said and I agree with the following statement: "Some gave All, and All gave some". Whether a war time Vet or a peace time Vet, we all served our country. Whether by fate or happenstance there will be some Vets in need this fall and winter. If you can spare some time or financial resources, we here at Springfield Post 32 have several opportunities to help our fellow Vets. Please feel free to contact us with any questions about how you can help. Always at your service, Paul Peavy Commander the American Legion, Springfield Post 32. My contact information is below.

For more information, please contact me: paulpeavy@bellsouth.net or 217-622-6840.

Squadron 32 Commander James Peters

Another membership year has passed with another successful convention. Squadron 32 ended the year well over the 100% membership mark and we added several new members. Thank you to all who help recruit and sign up new members. Freedom Fest during convention was well attended and as chairman of the Freedom Fest committee, thank you to all the volunteers who helped set up for the event, serve cold beverages and tear down at the end of a long evening. On July 23rd the Legion Riders hosted a car cruise event at the post. It was a HOT day, but we had a good crowd despite. The Sons cooked hot dogs for the attendees. Thank you again to the volunteers who helped cook and serve. Squadron 32 welcomed John Chernis who agreed to serve the Squadron as our Jr. Vice Commander. Primarily, the Jr. Vice focuses on events like dinner fundraisers etc. It is great to have John on board. He has a lot of great ideas, and we have a few events we are planning for the near future. More to come! For God and Country. Contact me: jpeters.ilsal@yahoo.com or 217-416-1533.

Unit 32 President Suzie Q. Weiss

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 32 has had a very successful 2021-2022 year.

We finished with a membership up by almost 19% over the previous year.

We are very proud that Unit 32 Chaplain Wanda Saccaro received first place for Unit Prayer Book, composed by Juliana Umstattd, at this year's Department Convention.

We had another successful Harvest Time Dinner and we are looking forward to having another one in November.

So, during 2022-2023, we are on the move. We will try to increase membership and will work all programs. As always, we will do these things as a Team.

As your President, I will serve as 4th Division Vice-President; Jane Harmon as our 21st District President; and, Julianna Umstattd as our 21st District Vice-President. For more information, please contact me: Weissuziq@aol.com, 217-341-3728; or Ethellynn Neville: Ethellynn1@comcast.net, 217-836-9173.

Post 32 Legion Riders Director Mike Lee

Happy Autumn Everyone. Starting the first of October, the Riders will collect donations for Wreaths Across America. This is the program where we place remembrance wreaths on the Veterans' graves at Camp Butler, at Christmas. This is made possible through donations from our supporters.

On the 15th of October, the Post is having its 1st Annual OctoberFest. Look for the flier on this event in your email. Come out and support your Post. We are going to have a great time, live music, good food, and German Beer.

Veterans Day the 11th of November, the Riders will serve FREE Army SOS, starting at 6:30 AM to 10:30 or until we run out. We will accept donations for Wreath Across America at this time.

Wreath Laying Ceremony will be on the 17th of Dec, at Oak Ridge cemetery at 9 am. We will be placing wreaths on the War Memorials and Lincoln's Tomb, as well as veterans' graves at Oak Ridge. There will be a Ceremony at Camp Butler National Cemetery at 11:00 AM the same day. For more information about these events, contact me: 217-741-3003 or Biker1950@comcast.net.

Post 32 Quarterly Calendar of Events

October, November, and December 2022

Event

Day, Date and Time

Regular Events

4th Wednesday Drawing (Must be present to win Color TV or Gift Certificates)

Unit 32 Meetings

Legion Riders Meetings

LaFemmes

ALMHC Club Committee Meetings

Morning Report Meeting

Squadron 32 Meetings

Post 32 Meetings

October, November and December 2022

7:00 PM – October 26, November 23, December 28

5:00 PM – October 5, November 1, December 6

6:00 PM – October 5, November 1, December 6

5:00 PM – October 11, November 8, December 13

5:00 PM – October 18, November 15, December 20

6:00 PM – November 15, December 20

5:30 PM – October 25, November 22, December 27

6:30 PM – October 25, November 22, December 27

Special Events

Sangamon County Inter-Veterans Council Chili Fundraiser Sponsored by Staab Funeral Home

Post 32 Lincoln Pilgrimage Committee

Unit 32 Harvest Dinner

Veterans' Day – Legion Riders – SOS Breakfast

Early Bird Lunch

Thanksgiving Day – Post 32 Closed All Day

Bar and Game Room Open

Christmas Eve – Post 32 Closes Early

Christmas Day – Post 32 Closed All Day

Post 32 Mess Hall, Bar and Gaming Reopens

October, November, and December, 2022

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM – October 1 at Post 32 – Open to The public – no charge – donations accepted

6:00 PM – October 18

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM – November 6

6:30 AM – 10:30 AM – November 11

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM – November 13

November 24 – Closed All Day

10:30 AM – November 25

6:00 PM – December 24

December 25 – Closed All Day

December 26 – Regular Hours

Passage to Post Everlasting

The American Legion Family of Springfield Post 32 notes with sadness the passing of **James J. Gasparin** on July 6, 2022. Jim was known by family, friends, and even strangers to be a generous man with a kind heart, but also a strong man who would stand against injustice. He was active in the community as Commander of the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 32, whether it was collecting money for State Fair parking, or cooking food for the monthly chicken fries. He did what was asked of him with humor and kindness.

The American Legion Family of Springfield Post 32 notes with sadness the passing of **Jasper J. Madonna**, aged 101 years, on Monday, July 18, 2022. Jasper was a member of Blessed Sacrament Church and served as an usher for over 50 years. He was a United States Army veteran serving in the 704th Ordinance 4th Infantry. He was a member of American Legion Post #32, VFW Post #755, Roman Cultural Society, 4th Infantry Division Association, and was an honorary member of the Italian American War Veterans.

Friends of the American Legion Family and Sponsors of The Morning Report – Thank You!

American Legion Post 32

Mess Hall Restaurant

Lunch: Monday – Friday 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Dinner: Monday – Friday 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM

www.springfieldamericanlegion.com

spfldpost32@outlook.com

Bar & Gaming open M-F 10:30 AM, Noon on Saturday and Sunday

1120 Sangamon Avenue – 217-523-3415

VIDEO GAMING – ALWAYS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



HOLIDAY FOR HEROES

The American Legion Springfield Post 32 seeks your assistance in helping us to ensure that our brother and sister Veterans in nursing homes in the **Springfield** area receive **Christmas**.

Veterans/Members of Springfield Post 32 will prepare and distribute **Christmas** to our brother and sister Veterans living in nursing homes just prior to Christmas.

For many years, Post 32 Veterans like Ron Halberg, Vince Heinen and others have ensured that these veterans are remembered on **Christmas**. You can help us continue this very worthy endeavor by donating to our **HOLIDAY FOR HEROES**.

IF YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO ASSIST,
YOU MAY MAKE YOUR DONATION TO:

Springfield Post #32, The American Legion
1120 Sangamon Avenue, Springfield, Il 62702-1853
ATTN: **HOLIDAY FOR HEROES**

100% of all donations goes to the purchase of items for these Heroes!

QUESTIONS, CONTACT US AT spfldpost32@outlook.com

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Friends of the American Legion Family and Sponsors of The Morning Report – Thank you!





Springfield Post 32



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OCTOBERFEST

Saturday, October 15, 2022,

3:00 PM – 10:00 PM FREE ENTRY

The American Legion Springfield Post 32

1120 Sangamon Ave -Springfield

HEIDELBERG GERMAN BAND from QUINCY

LIVE 6 – 10 p.m.

Paulaner German Beer in Glass Mugs

Food, Fun, Large Tent so it is Rain or Shine

Go to www.springfieldamericanlegion.com for more information

Friends of the American Legion Family and Sponsors of The Morning Report – Thank You!





The American Legion Springfield Post 32
1120 Sangamon Avenue
Springfield, Illinois 62702-1853
217-523-3415
Spfldpost32@outlook.com
www.springfieldamericanlegion.com

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The Mess Hall Restaurant at Post 32

Great Food – Warm and Friendly Service
Best Fried Chicken, Walleye and whole Catfish on the North End

Lunch, Monday – Friday, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Dinner, Monday – Friday, 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Lunch and Dinner specials every day in addition to full menu and children’s menu

Phone 217-523-3415 for the daily special and orders to go

See the full menu at www.springfieldamericanlegion.com

We serve inside, outside and drive thru.

Video Gaming at Post 32

Our Hours: Monday – Friday, 10:30 AM to Closing

Saturday and Sunday – Noon to Closing

We welcome everyone to our Video Gaming Room at your American Legion Post 32. It is considered the nicest private Gaming Room in Springfield. We have six of the most up to date gaming machines, along with our private area with very comfortable chairs.

The Gaming Room offers **free** Soft Drinks, **free** Coffee, **free** Hot Chocolate, and **free** Snacks to Gamers. You should also sign up for the **free** Give Aways offered by Prairie State Gaming. Each time you visit be sure to get your Card punched for a **free** Meal. 10 punches get you a **free** lunch or **free** “All You Can Eat” Spaghetti Dinner on Wednesday or **free** Chicken Dinner on Thursday or **free** Walleye Dinner on Friday.

You can sign up once a day, every day that you come in for our **free** 4th Wednesday Drawing where we give away a 32” Color TV; a \$50 Gift Certificate and a \$25 Gift Certificate.