

**AMERICAN LEGION & AUXILIARY
YOUNG-BUDD POST 171
January-February-March
2009**



COMMANDER'S CORNER

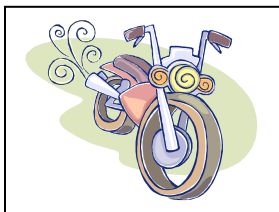
At our membership meeting on Jan. 7th, Post 171 decided to have a Legion Birthday Party on Mar 29th. It has been ninety years since the Legion was formed. We have had parties in the past but not for several years. It should be a good time to see the history of the Legion and of our Post. January through July is a busy time for us. Some of the events are the Boys State-Girls State program, Birthday Dinner, Memorial Day Ceremony, Flag Retirement Ceremony and the 4th of July Parade. We will need a lot of help with these activities so please be willing to volunteer.

At the meeting Steve Romeo, our Membership Chairman, announced that he signed up our 171st member. That is quite a milestone for our Post. Steve has put in a lot of hard work into getting the membership built up and working with the Department to keep our membership rolls in good order. He also encouraged any member that has not paid last years dues to please do so. We appreciate all of Steve's efforts.

Jack Cashman has been our Rental Manager since we bought our building last year and has done an outstanding job. He developed a workable program and increased our rentals. Jack has decided to give up the job and I have appointed Walt Malys as new Rental Manager. Thanks to Jack for handling the job over the last year and to Walt for stepping up to fill the position. Also, Jack and John Sterba have been instrumental in developing a new web site for our Post. It will have more links to help increase our rentals, promote our programs and help recruit new members.

Our next meeting is Feb. 4th. I encourage all members to attend and get involved with some of our programs.

Mike Etling, Commander



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Post 239 in Worthington has started a chapter of American Legion Riders (aka "ALR") and they are seeking charter members. The ALR is a motorcycle club that supports all Legion activities but primarily the Legion Legacy fund. They sent an invitation to our Post and several members are interested. If anyone needs more information go to www.alohio239.org.

PACKAGES FOR TROOPS

Post 171 continues to get letters from deployed troops who received the packages that we sent out last fall. All of the letters express gratitude, not only for the packages, but for all of the support they receive from the people in Westerville as well. Over 4,500 pieces of Troop Fan Mail" and over 80 boxes were sent last fall. Thanks to the Auxiliary and VFW this has turned out to be a successful program,
(Please see more details in the Auxiliary's article)

~~ POST CONTACTS ~~
Commander Mike Etling – 614/ 891-9388
Auxiliary President, Kim Mann – 614/ 899-6922
Post phone: 614/ 891-0171



BUCKEYE BOYS & GIRLS STATE

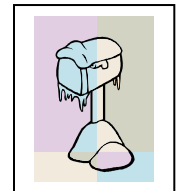
The selection of students for the Boy & Girls State program is coming up in March. This year the selection process will be held at our Post at 7:00 pm on two evenings: March 3rd for boys and March 10th for girls. The Legion and Auxiliary will participate both evenings. There will be an organization meeting at the Post on Feb 17th for any one interested in the selection process. All members are invited and encouraged to come and help with the judging. In the past, it has been very rewarding for the membership to interview these students. They are well informed and a pleasure to work with.

WE NEED SPONSORS! Many of these students go on to become leaders in their community! Last year the Post and Auxiliary were able to sponsor a total of 8 boys and 12 girls, more than any other post in the State of Ohio! However, this takes money. As an individual, or if you belong to an organization and would like to sponsor or partially sponsor a student, please contact Cmdr. Mike Etling or Auxiliary President, Kim Mann. So, please consider supporting one or more of these young people in their academic careers.



“RETURN TO SENDA...ADDRESS UNKNOWN” (or... can we reach you?)

Elvis may have originally sung these words, but sadly, these words were also on stickers pasted to the front of many of our November newsletters – items returned to the Post. Unfortunately, the post had to pay for each item returned by the post office. Our Membership Chairmen for the Legion & Auxiliary (Steve Romeo & Jean Evans) have been working with Bev Etling (Mike’s wife & mailer of this newsletter) to have good consolidated and *accurate* information for contacting Legion/Auxiliary members.



***** If items are returned as “Undeliverable” then...**

YOUR NAME WILL BE DELETED FROM OUR MAILING LIST. ***

If you received this letter, then we have your correct mailing address. Mike Etling has gradually been adding to his email list of members and finds this a quick and efficient way of contacting members. The Auxiliary would like to do the same. We would also like to have accurate phone contacts for everyone.

Legion Men: If you are receiving email from Mike Etling, then you are on his list & can provide him with changes in your information as needed. If you would like to be added to Mike’s email, please email him at: metling@insight.rr.com Could you also email to give him your current phone number(s)?
Auxiliary Women: Could you please contact Bev Etling (at 614-891-9388) with your phone number(s) AND email addresses. Or you can email Bev at: betling@insight.rr.com

PLEASE let our Post know (by mail or calling Mike Etling) if you move so we will not get charged for returned items, including forwarded items!

(See the end of this newsletter for Post information.)

**We would like to have correct contact information for:
MAILING ADDRESSES - PHONE NUMBER(s) - EMAIL**

THANKS FOR HELPING US KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU!

AMERICAN LEGION POST 171 ANNOUNCES A&G WINNERS

Early last fall, each of the Westerville High Schools had over 350 selected students in grades 10-12 take the American Legion's *Americanism & Government Test*. The Post just learned that Caitlin McKenzie is a District Winner and will now advance to competition at the state level. Caitlin, a senior at Westerville North, had the highest score for senior girls in Westerville, giving her a competitive edge at the District level. She will receive a savings bond from the District for qualifying at that level. Adam Shirey, a Westerville Central senior, had the highest score at the local level and will later receive a savings bond from Post 171 for his achievement. Other local Post winners were: Juniors Lot Kwarteng & Nana Owusu-Kwarteng, both of WCHS; Sophomore, Jessica Albright (WNHS).

The "A&G" test includes questions and an essay about government at the national, state & local levels, as well as information regarding the U.S. flag, Constitution and Declaration of Independence. The test is extremely difficult but Westerville students always perform well and it is an honor for the student and the community to receive such recognition as Caitlin has received.

FROM THE AUXILIARY....

AUXILIARY DECEMBER MEETING

Kim Mann, President, shared information about the upcoming Mid-Winter Conference. We were asked to prepare 5 hygiene bags for Homeless Teens, but decided we could do 20 bags. Betty Rose sewed the bags, while others contributed the contents. Betty Burnett (12th District President) later picked up the bags and they were distributed to "needy teens." We have wanted to change our meeting room by getting rid of the old sofas and replacing them with more usable seating. Diane Latiolais has done a lot of work checking out suitable furniture. Thank you! We sent 4,500 pieces of "Troop Mail" and over 80 boxes to "Any Soldier" for Christmas. It was a fun evening (in Nov.) putting the boxes together, stuffing them full. Flo Evans kept saying, "Hey there's still air space in this box!" We've already received letters of appreciation, so our efforts were worthwhile. ***Thanks to all who did letters and helped prepare boxes,*** and to our "***Post 171 Legionnaires***" who got the boxes, paid the postage, and took them to the Post Office. .

AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 15th was a very cold evening, but we met at Momma Mia's for a delightful dinner and warm friendship. Instead of a "gift exchange," it was decided to get decorations for a Post Christmas Tree. We wrapped them and passed them around, so we had fun opening the presents. After dinner we went to the Post Home and put up and decorated the tree with its new ornaments. It was beautiful!

AUXILIARY MEETING - JAN. 7th

We had a great attendance and took in 4 new applications for membership. We are growing! It was decided that on Sat. Jan. 17th would be a shopping trip for new furniture for our meeting room. We want to make our meeting room a delightful and cheerful place, with space to display memorabilia, etc. about the Auxiliary. If you have something you want to donate, please let Kim (899-6922) know. We have been asked to do a dinner on **Sunday March 29th** for the **Legion's 90th Birthday Celebration**. If you can help in any way, please let Kim know. More information to come.

Upcoming Events -- See the calendar at the end of this newsletter.

WE NEED COOKIES for the Boys/Girls State judging! Please bring what you can that evening. ☺



Veterans Still Serving America

Street & Mail Address:

**393 E. College Ave.
Westerville, OH 43081**

Website: www.post171.org

Phone: 614-891-0171

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING POST EVENTS – for Legion and Auxiliary

February 4 (Wed.) - 7:30 - Membership Meetings – Post Home

February 17 (Tue.) - 7:00 - Organization Meeting for Boys/Girls State Judging

March 3 (Tue.) - 7pm - Judging for Boys State candidates

March 4 (Wed.) - 7:30 - Membership Meetings – Post Home

March 10 (Tue.) - 7pm - Judging for Girls State candidates

March 29 (Sun.) - LEGION 90th BIRTHDAY DINNER



April 1 (Wed.) - 7:30pm - Membership Meetings – Post Home

May 6 (Wed.) - 7:30 pm - Membership Meetings – Post Home

May is “Poppy Time”- an “emblem of sacrifice”- more information to come.

May 25 (Mon.) – MEMORIAL DAY