

ZACK WHEAT AMERICAN LEGION POST 624
PATRIOTS DISPATCH
MARCH 2026

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The American Legion Zack Wheat Post 624
P.O. Box 61, 852 American Legion Road
Sunrise Beach, MO 65079



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[988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](#)

- Call or Text or Chat the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

988. Hours are available 24/7 and the cost is free.

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Happy Month! Welcome to the First Day of Spring in March and our path to warmer days ahead! It's been a weird winter with some weeks in the 60s and others below zero-weather only Missouri can provide my friends!! March also brings us the twice-yearly change to Daylight Savings Time...warmer, longer days ahead!!

This month we will all be focused at the Post on our support of the Westside St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl. This requires all hands-on deck to make this event a success for us and our community. Please volunteer to help us and we will see you on Saturday, 14 March, 4pm-12am!! We will also be supporting the Westside Business Expo at Lake Christian Academy, 27-28 March...come out and help us if you can!!

The Nation celebrates Vietnam Veterans Day on Sunday, 29 March. This day commemorates the hardships suffered and sacrifices made by nine million Americans during the Vietnam War and their families who supported them during and after they returned. Finally, 20 March is the date in 2003 when American and Allied forces crossed the berm into Iraq to begin Operation Iraqi Freedom. I served in an Army Brigade attached to the First Marine Expeditionary Force and 1st Marine Division. If you served there or in any other peacekeeping operation, conflict, or war, share your stories and experiences with your friends and other Veterans at our Post. If you are a Son or Auxiliary, share your family's story. Each one of you is a treasure to us all!! We are Better Together!!

May God continue to bless us and our Nation!!

See you on the high ground!!

John Seward
Commander
American Legion Post 624



Hope you all had a great break! Let's get ready for Spring as we come back together in March and the Post begins to bloom again! See you at our meeting on 3 March. It will kick off with the Post Synch Meeting at 5:30pm, followed by the E-Board at 6pm, and our Membership Meeting at 7pm. The kitchen re-opens on 4 March with Wing Night...hope to see you all there!! The Westside St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl is 14 March, 4pm-Midnight. Please volunteer and support us as we showcase this fun night at our Post!! The Westside Business Expo is 27-28 March at Lake Christian Academy. We are looking for a few members to man the table and promote our Auxiliary. Dates for meal nights are changing so please check the calendars to stay updated with events and meal nights. As always, we need your help! Thanks for all you do for our Veterans, their families, and our community!

Lisa Seward
Auxiliary President
American Legion Post 624

SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

The sons meeting will be March 4th at 630pm. We will have our first dinner of the year on Wednesday the 11th and we will be serving up a tenderloin dinner. I hope we all got through winter and ready to go as there is so much coming in march at the legion come out and have some fun. Last Turkey Shoot is March 28th. We are back up with Queen of Hearts on Fridays from 430-630.

Paul Henderson



Chapter 624 ALR Riders,

Welcome back snowbirds. Hope everyone enjoyed the Holidays and the opportunity to relax in the freezing cold, then warm then whatever kind of weather comes next.

We will have our first 2026 Riders meeting March 11 at 6:30. I'm sure we are all looking forward to the 2026 Riding Season and all of the events and activities at Lake of the Ozarks

You may recall that the Riders financed the installation of the Handicap Swing in the Laurie City Park. There is a great video of a young lady who is 100% wheelchair bound enjoying the swing. Her smile is why we support these community needs. BTW -that old guy pushing his daughter is a Navy vet.

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1406930507581513>

There was a State meeting in February, unfortunately I was unable to attend. However, we had Turtle, Clara and Smiley representation us at the meeting. Part of the agenda was to discuss the Missouri Legacy Ride or as it is now called – Foundation of Hope MO ALR Legacy Ride. We are the hosts this year and with the 250th anniversary of our great nation, I'm sure we along with our family here at Zack Wheat Post 624 will make it a special event. We have received our Riders Challenge Coins. Some Riders have already received theirs. Come join us at our meeting and get your coin. If you know someone that you believe should receive a coin, please let one of the Officers know, or bring it to our attention at the Riders meeting.

On behalf of the Riders Officers, I want to thank everyone for supporting our Veterans, our Post and the community. You are the ones that make a difference.

See you March 11 at 6:30.

Enjoy the Ride

Mike Koenigsman

Chapter 624 ALR Director

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Mission Stables any time after 9am Calendar Meeting 11am Game Day 1:30pm Shuffleboard 3pm	3 Post Activity Meeting 5:30 Legion & Aux E-Board Meeting 6pm General Meeting 7pm	4 Legion Wing Night 5-6:30pm Sons Meeting 6:30pm	5	6 Aux Mardi Gras Shrimp Boil Dinner 5- 6:30pm Music By Cowboy 5-8pm Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30	7 Turkey Shoot Lunch Provided by the Auxiliary 11am-2pm
8	9 Shuffleboard 3pm	10	11 Sons Dinner 5- 6:30pm Riders Meeting 6:30pm	12	13 Aux St Patrick's Day Dinner 5- 6:30pm Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30	14  Food served throughout the Crawl by the Auxiliary Fender Benders 6- 9pm No Turkey Shoot
15	16 Deadline to purchase Legion Birthday Dinner tickets Game Day 1:30pm Shuffleboard 3pm	17	18 No Wednesday dinner will be served. Join us Thursday instead. Please see Auxiliary Newsletter for details.	19 Aux Sandwiches & More Lineup Dinner 4:30- 6:30 Laurie Care Center Veterans Visits 1:30pm	20 Legion Birthday Dinner Mix & Mingle/Awards 4-5pm Dinner 5pm Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30	21 Turkey Shoot Lunch Provided by the Riders 11am- 2pm
22 Print Newsletter	23 Fold Newsletter 9am Shuffleboard 3pm	24	25 No Wednesday dinner will be served. Join us Thursday instead. Please see Auxiliary Newsletter for details.	26 Aux Sandwiches & More Lineup Dinner 4:30- 6:30	27 Aux Breaded Shrimp Dinner 5-6:30pm Healing Box 5- 8pm Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30	28 Turkey Shoot Lunch Provided by the Legion 11am- 2pm Last Turkey Shoot 
29	30	31				

Tentative 2026 Event & Entertainment schedule (Subject to Change)

- March – Wing Night starts up again (3/4)
 - -Cowboy (3/6)
 - St. Patrick’s Day Pup Crawl (3/14)
 - Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders
 - -The Healing Box (3/27)
- April – Show Me The Money (4/2)
 - Legion Mouse Races & Auxiliary Silent Auction (4/11)
 - Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders (4/10)
 - Helen Russell (4/24)
- May - Memorial Day Breakfast & Ceremony (5/25)
 - Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders (5/1)
 - Marcus Words (5/22)
- June- Sign up starts for American Legion Golf Tournament (held in August)
 - Auxiliary Garage Sale (TBD)
 - Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders (6/5)
 - Ron Mosier (6/19)
 - ALR – Missouri Legacy Rally (6/18-21)
- July – Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders (7/10)
 - Astro Katz (7/24)
- August – Ron Mosier (8/7)
 - Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders (8/14)
- September – Bike Fest (9/15-20)
 - Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders (9/18)
 - ALR Veterans Memorial Ride (9/18)
 - Cowboy (9/4)
 - Starla & Scotty (9/11)
- October – Oktoberfest with Legion Mouse Races & Aux Silent Auction (10/10)
 - Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders (10/9)
 - Helen Russell (10/23)
- November – Veterans Day Breakfast & Ceremony (11/11)
 - Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders (11/13)
 - Starla & Scotty (11/20)
 - Thanksgiving Dinner (11/13)
- December – Christmas Dinner (12/11)
 - Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders (12/4)
 - The Healing Box (12/18)



The American Legion Zack Wheat Post 624
 P.O. Box 61, 852 American Legion Road
 Sunrise Beach Missouri 65079
 Phone # 573-374-6091, lakelegion.com

LEGION OFFICERS

Commander	John Seward	573-480-0329	Judge Advocate	Karl Wendell	904-263-0501
1st Vice	Ron Naber	309-363-8696	Chaplain	Ted Cone	573-480-2854
2nd Vice	Rich Fischer	573-505-3055	Historian		
3rd Vice			Service Officer	Brian Smith	816-392-8788
Adjutant	Austin Teel	573-280-7585	Sgt-at Arms	Rebecca Deuel	254-702-2370
Finance Officer	Jamie Slinkard	573-578-6481	Asst. Sgt-at Arms	Ray Lacroix	303-263-8592
			Public Relation	Elyse Smith	816-392-1828

LEGION EXECUTIVE BOARD

Tom Hohnecker		913-488-4580	Dale Hanke		402-660-0025
Austin Teel		573-280-7585			
Tom Boyce		573-723-0222			

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS

Commander	Paul Hendersen	618-514-8202	Chaplain	Matt Laughlin	573-746-0131
1st Vice	John Smiley	303-419-8033	Finance Officer	Tony Lombardo	816-806-1103
2nd Vice			Sgt-at Arms		
Adjutant	Rich Fischer	573-505-3055			

LEGION AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President	Lisa Seward	573-480-6656	Chaplain	Shirley Dull	573-374-1912
1st Vice	Betty Hovey	573-216-2305	Historian	Michelle Koenigsman	402-657-6005
2nd Vice	Christy Fischer	913-708-1760	Sgt-at Arms	Clara Clarke	573-480-2587
Secretary	Cathy Blamy	314-307-0465	Asst. Sgt-at Arms	Kandy Bills	303-883-1241
Treasurer	Deborah Crider	816-454-5476			

AUXILIARY EXECUTIVE BOARD

Nancy Hodges		816-835-5333	Membership	Michelle Koenigsman	402-657-6005
Donna Engelbert		573-216-4230	Fundraising	Christy Fischer	913-708-1760
Sheila Spry		573-410-2775			

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS

Director	Mike Koenigsman	402-740-7649	Sgt.-at Arms	Anthony Ewen	314-882-2021
Asst. Director	John Smiley	303-419-8033	Chaplain	Ted Cone	573-480-2854
Secretary	Michelle Koenigsman	402-657-6005	Judge Advocate	John Withee	314-607-6406
Treasurer	Clara Clarke	573-480-2587	Road Captain	Tiffany Fox	417-531-2181
Historian	Jo Rice	573-505-1375	Safety	Ron Rice	573-502-9053
Merchandiser	Michelle Koenigsman	402-657-6005			

WEBSITE: LAKELEGION.COM

Cmdr.: Commander@lakelegion.com
 Adjutant: adjutant@lakelegion.com
 1st Vice: 1stvice@lakelegion.com
 PR: pr@lakelegion.com
 Auxiliary: auxiliary@lakelegion.com
 SAL: sal@lakelegion.com
 ALR: alr@lakelegion.com

NO VETERAN LEFT BEHIND





What it means to be a member of the Honor Guard

There's a moment at every service when time seems to stand still. The rifles have fired their final volley. The air is still. And then, the soft, mournful notes of *Taps* begin to drift across the cemetery.

When that last note fades into silence, and the flag is carefully folded and presented, something special happens — a quiet peace fills the air. The family feels a sense of closure, knowing their loved one has received the honor, dignity, and respect they earned through their service and sacrifice to our country.

It's in those moments that the true meaning of our mission as an Honor Guard comes to life. We are there to ensure that no veteran's service is forgotten, that no family leaves without knowing their sacrifice was honored."

"If hearing this touches your heart — if you've ever felt that pull of pride and gratitude when you see the flag being folded or hear the sound of *Taps* — I invite you to join us. Come be a part of our Honor Guard family.

Contact the Honor Guard Commander or Captain, Austin Teel at 573-280-7585; Keith Moss at 816-809-6789 stop by Zach Wheat Post 624

"We honor those who served... with a final salute."



American Legion Post 624
P.O. Box 61
Sunrise Beach, MO 65079

Members:

The Zack Wheat Scholarship committee is kicking off our application process this month. Scholarship applications are available online or on request. If you have a Child, Grandchild, or Great Grandchild that is a senior in high school, get them a copy and ensure that they put your name and, that you are a member of Post 624 in the appropriate place on the bottom of page one.

Application must be returned to me prior to April 1st, of this year.

Contact me if you have any questions.

Ron Naber
Scholarship Committee Chairman
309-363-8696

**The American Legion Post 624 Scholarship
Sunrise Beach, Missouri**

To qualify for this scholarship, the following requirements must be met:

1. Must be a senior in a High School.
2. Must rank in upper third of class.
3. Must explain financial need.
4. Must submit one meaningful letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope.
5. Must submit a copy of your current High School transcript.
6. Must submit a copy of your ACT or SAT, and your class ranking.
7. When accepted to a college or university must submit a copy of acceptance.
8. APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN APRIL 1 OF THE CURRENT YEAR. (any application received after the date may be disqualified.)
9. A High School picture (head and shoulders only) along with a newspaper release.

Half of the scholarship will be given at the beginning of the first semester. The second half will not be given without a satisfactory grade report.

Name: _____ Social Security # (last 4 digits) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Male: ___ Female: ___ Date of Birth _____ Home Phone # _____

Father/Guardian's Name: _____

Mother's/Guardian Name: _____

Marital Status: ___ Married ___ Single _____

How many in household (omitting parents) _____

Name of person #1 _____ Age _____ In College _____

Name of person #2 _____ Age _____ In College _____

Name of person #3 _____ Age _____ In College _____

Name of person #4 _____ Age _____ In College _____

Veteran's Name: _____ Relation: _____

Only applicants who are related to veterans (Parents/Grandparents) will be considered.

By signing the Application, you agree to provide information that will verify the accuracy of completed form. This information MAY include a copy of your family's adjusted 1040 income tax form (income form only)

Signed by Student _____ Date: _____

Signed by Mother _____ Date: _____

Signed by Father: _____ Date: _____

Address of High School: _____

High School Phone No. _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Date of High School Graduation: _____

Name of College/University you plan to attend: _____

College/University's Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Have you been accepted _____ Date you expect to enter College/University _____

Financial Need

Family's adjusted income from last years federal tax return: _____

List nontaxable income: _____

Total: _____

Student estimated expense for school year:

Estimated resources for school year.

Tuition and fees: _____

Room and Board: _____

Books & supplies: _____

Clothing (if applicable) _____

Incidentals (laundry etc) _____

Recreation: _____

Miscellaneous: _____

Total: _____

Savings to date: _____

Summer earnings: _____

Parents support: _____

Part time job: _____

Loans: _____

Gifts: _____

Other sources: _____

Total: _____

Explain any other special financial situation you believe merits consideration:

List other scholarship awards or financial aide for which you applied:

Name:	Value if known:	Granted (yes) or (No)
-------	-----------------	-----------------------

_____	_____	_____
-------	-------	-------

_____	_____	_____
-------	-------	-------

_____	_____	_____
-------	-------	-------

_____	_____	_____
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In space below or on a separate sheet of paper, briefly summarize your high school activities, school, Community services etc:

Total Hours: _____

Work record: List jobs you have held, include work even if not paid, and list total hours with each job:

Kind of work: _____ Name of employer: _____
Date of employment: _____ Number of Hours: _____

Kind of work: _____ Name of employer: _____
Date of employment: _____ Number of Hours: _____

Kind of work: _____ Name of employer: _____
Date of employment: _____ Number of Hours: _____

Kind of work: _____ Name of employer: _____
Date of employment: _____ Number of Hours: _____

Kind of work: _____ Name of employer: _____
Date of employment: _____ Number of Hours: _____

REQUIRED

SAT or ACT score _____

Class ranking: _____

G P A: _____

On a separate sheet of paper, type or print in full detail, your plans for your future career, and any other pertinent information you would like the committee to evaluate.

If accepted, you will be notified by mail before May 15.

NOTE: Only your name and picture will be used for publication. All other information will be kept in the Strictest confidentiality

SAVE THE DATE



ST. PATRICK'S DAY CRUISE & CRAWL



**More information
coming soon.**

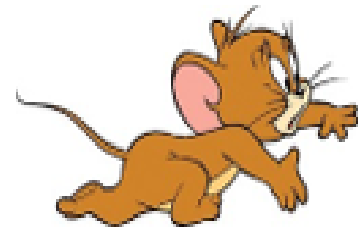


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**Mouse Races
&
Silent Auction**



**Saturday April 11th
1pm**

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Sign-up sheet at Patriots Bar
Kitchen opens at 12pm**