

**ZACK WHEAT AMERICAN LEGION POST 624**  
**PATRIOTS DISPATCH**  
**APRIL 2026**

PRESORT  
STANDARD  
U.S POSTAGE  
SUNRISE BEACH MO  
PERMIT#13

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



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## Commander's Newsletter Input – April 2026

Happy Month and welcome to Spring!! The Defense Department and every military service celebrate military children during the month of April. There are more than 1.6 million military children who face many challenges and unique experiences as a result of their parents' service. While military members serve around the world, we often forget the challenges faced by their military children. Military families move on average every two to three years, impacting military children through changing schools and support networks. Each April, the Department of Defense joins national, state, and local government, schools, military serving organizations like the American Legion, companies, and private citizens in celebrating military children and the sacrifices they make. In our family, our daughters moved a lot and felt the stress of new schools and making new friends. Our oldest daughter went to four different high schools. Our second daughter went to three and our last two went to two high schools each. Talk about turmoil in their lives! But honestly, it made them stronger and self-sufficient and all have successful lives as adults. So let us pause this month and celebrate the military children who serve with their parents around the world. Since its founding in 1919, The American Legion has been a staunch supporter of children and youth! At our Post, we support many local programs for children and youth that provide opportunities for growth and to plant the seeds of service to the Nation and community and respect for our flag. We support Boys and Girls State, Cadet Patrol, Lil' Hogs Youth Football program, our local High School Junior ROTC battalion, college and trade school scholarships, various programs for Hurricane Deck Elementary School, and a host of other programs in our community. Thank you for your support of these programs and the children and youth in our communities. You truly make a difference in the lives of these children and their families!! Our kitchen is back in full swing with a lot of new and exciting menus and food for you! On 5 April, the Patriots Bar is hosting an Adult Easter Egg Hunt at 3pm. This will be great fun and hope you can come and enjoy the festivities! We have a lot of other great things going on at the Post...please come out and support us!!

God Bless you, God Bless our Veterans and their families, and may God Bless the United States of America!!

John Seward  
Commander  
Zack Wheat American Legion Post 624

The logo for the American Legion Auxiliary. It features the words "AMERICAN LEGION" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Above the word "AMERICAN" are three horizontal red stripes. Below "AMERICAN LEGION" is a thin blue horizontal line, and below that, the word "AUXILIARY" is written in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

Hello!! Although the Kitchen was closed in January and February the Auxiliary still had a few opportunities to serve. We hosted the New Comers for lunch for nearly 50 ladies serving breaded shrimp, green beans, mashed potatoes and Julie's fabulous Chocolate Cake. Thank you to those that came together to make this event happen. The New Comers were extremely happy and look forward to coming back to see us again in November. The Friday night Queen of Hearts has become very popular. The Auxiliary did a couple of Friday night "pop up" dinners where we served an unscheduled meal. Those that were hungry appreciated our efforts. We also helped with the Turkey Shoot on Saturdays.

March was a different story!! We had our monthly meeting with many in attendance. Several ladies volunteered to bring in desserts. You can too. Just bring your dessert to the kitchen. And thank you when you do!! Many signed up to work in the Kitchen. But we can always use more help. Sign-up sheets are located in the Kitchen. We kicked off our March lineup with a Mardi Gras Shrimp Boil. We introduced our new Fish Sandwich. Followed up by our St. Patrick's Day dinner with Corned Beef and Cabbage and Reubens. The Legion has been packed full of fun, excitement and patriotism.

The Auxiliary worked the Kitchen during our St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. This is our third year to participate in this event. We served a lineup of "Grab n' Go" menu items. Thank you to those that volunteered to help. Nancy knocked it out of the park with her Swag Sales, thank you Lisa for the donations. Our Legion has become "one of the favorite stops" on the Crawl. Thank you to everyone that helped with this event. We all had a fun, fun time.

Our Legion Birthday dinner was Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. A small but mighty group of Members hosted the event for the Legion. With the Auxiliary catering the event for the Legion we help save the Legion outside catering fees. This is another way the Auxiliary shows our support. We served nearly 70 Members our Birthday dinner as well as all those participating in Queen of Hearts. It was a grand night serving a lot of people.

The Auxiliary members that volunteer to work in the Kitchen do an amazing job. In the last year the Auxiliary has added additional dinners, catering events, special dinners and special events to our Kitchen schedule with the same volunteers. With that said, you will notice a slight change to our current dinner calendar. The Legionnaire's and Sons will continue to offer their dinner on the first and second Wednesday of each month. The Auxiliary will no longer serve a Wednesday dinner but instead will serve dinners on Thursdays and Fridays. Also beginning in March, the back Lake View Bar will be open to accommodate those that wish to come to the Legion but don't want to participate in the Thursday activities in the front Patriot Bar. The Auxiliary will continue to serve a great lineup of dinners each month. Please see the monthly calendars for details.

Also, due to the low number of volunteers in the Kitchen, we sometimes need to change the dinner that is reflected on the calendar. When this happens, we do our best to communicate the change via Facebook or the Highway 5 sign. We welcome anybody to volunteer in the Kitchen. The Kitchen Schedule is located in the Kitchen on the white dry erase board. Thank you!!

Show Me the Money begins Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. This night has become of busiest night in the Kitchen. Sign-up sheets to volunteer on Thursdays is located in the Kitchen. The Mouse Races and Auxiliary Silent Auction is Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. We are asking Auxiliary members to make a Basket to auction. Pick any theme of your liking and create a Basket for us to auction off. Bring in your Basket and put it in the Auxiliary room. This is one of the ways we raise money to support the Auxiliary efforts. The Kitchen will be open at noon during the Mouse Races. Please sign up to help in the Kitchen.

We are in desperate need of volunteers to support all our activities. It's always the same group of ladies that do the majority of activities and we are getting tired. Do your part as a member and volunteer to help in your way. It will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you and God Bless the USA



Sons of the American Legion Post 624.

Welcome Spring and warmer weather. Our first meeting will be on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm. Show Me The Money starts up again on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and we continue with Queen of Hearts every Friday. We will be serving Pork Steak Dinner on Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup>. Please Volunteer on Kitchen night. Thank You for all You do for our Legion.

Paul Henderson



Chapter 624 ALR Riders,

We had our first Riders meeting in March. Good turnout even though there are still a few snow birds that have not made it back.

The Foundation of Hope MO ALR Legacy Ride is June 19 - 21. Attached is a link to the Legacy Ride registration form. Post 624 will be the host for this event. We will be needing several volunteers to make this event a success. The more volunteers we get, the fewer hours each person needs to work. If you would like to help plan the event or have ideas, let us know and we will get you on the planning committee.

ALR Legacy Ride REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALRMOLegacyRun/posts/26146184781684651/>

We have our first ride of the year scheduled for April 18. **KSU 0900**. We will meet at the Legion gassed up and ready to roll. Smiley is planning the ride.

Speaking of planning rides, we could still use a Road Captain.

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. If you want additional coins, they are available for sale \$5 for Chapter 624 Riders and \$10 for all others.

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 April 8, at 1830 or 6:30 for our next regular meeting.**

Enjoy the Ride

Mike Koenigsman

Chapter 624 ALR Director

### April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Free Line Dance Classes Offered Every Monday 6-7:30pm</b>  <b>New Fish Sandwich Offered Every Friday with Fries or Onion Rings</b>  <b>Notice New Wednesday Dinner Schedule</b>  <b>Patriot Club Open Daily at 2pm</b>  <b>See New Hours of Operation for the Lake View Club</b></p>			<p><b>Legion Wing Night 5-6:30pm</b>  <b>Sons Meeting 6:30pm</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	<p><b>Show Me the Money</b>  <b>Aux Dinner 4:30-6:30pm</b>  <b>Game 6pm</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	<p><b>Aux Fish Sandwich or Breaded Shrimp Dinner 5-6:30pm</b>  <b>Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	
<p>  <b>Adult Easter Egg Hunt 3pm</b>  <b>Hosted by the Bar Team</b></p>	<p><b>Game Day 1:30pm</b>  <b>Shuffleboard 3pm</b></p>	<p><b>Post Activity Meeting 5:30pm</b>  <b>Legion &amp; Aux E-Board Meeting 6pm</b>  <b>General Meeting 7pm</b></p>	<p><b>Sons Dinner 5-6:30pm</b>  <b>Riders Meeting 6:30pm</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	<p><b>Show Me the Money</b>  <b>Aux Dinner 4:30-6:30pm</b>  <b>Game 6pm</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	<p><b>Aux Mexican Themed Dinner 5-6:30pm</b>  <b>Fender Benders 4:30-7:30pm</b>  <b>Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	<p>  <b>Mouse Races Lunch Begins at Noon by the Auxiliary</b>  <b>Mouse Races 1pm</b>  <b>Auxiliary Silent Auction</b></p>
	<p><b>Mission Stables any time after 9am</b>  <b>Calendar Meeting 11am</b>  <b>Shuffleboard 3pm</b></p>		<p><b>No Wednesday dinner. Join us Thursday &amp; Friday</b></p>	<p><b>Show Me the Money</b>  <b>Aux Dinner 4:30-6:30pm</b>  <b>Game 6pm</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b>  <b>Laurie Care Center Veterans Visits 1:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>Aux Italian Themed Dinner 5-6:30pm</b>  <b>Honky Tonk Harmony 5-8pm</b>  <b>Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	
<p><b>Print Newsletter</b></p>	<p><b>Fold Newsletter 9am</b>  <b>Game Day 1:30pm</b>  <b>Shuffleboard 3pm</b></p>		<p><b>No Wednesday dinner. Join us Thursday &amp; Friday</b></p>	<p><b>Show Me the Money</b>  <b>Aux Dinner 4:30-6:30pm</b>  <b>Game 6pm</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	<p><b>Aux Create Your Own Smash Burger Dinner 5-6:30pm</b>  <b>Helen Russell 5-8pm</b>  <b>Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	
			<p><b>No Wednesday dinner. Join us Thursday &amp; Friday</b></p>	<p><b>Show Me the Money</b>  <b>Aux Dinner 4:30-6:30pm</b>  <b>Game 6pm</b>  <b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>		

## May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>May 1st - Celebrate Cinco de Mayo – Mexican Themed Dinner, Margarita Specials, Corona Bucket Specials &amp; More!!</b></p> <p><b>May 2nd – Kentucky Derby Day – Doors Open at 2pm-Activities begin at 4pm</b></p> <p><b>May 8th &amp; 10th – Celebrate Mom - Gifts for Mom &amp; Bloody Mary Bar</b></p> <p>Free Line Dance Classes Offered Every Monday 6-7:30pm</p> <p><b>New Fish Sandwich Offered Every Friday with Fries or Onion Rings</b></p> <p>Notice New Wednesday Dinner Schedule</p> <p><b>Patriot Club Open Daily at 2pm</b></p> <p>See New Hours of Operation for the Lake View Bar</p>					1	2
					<p><b>Aux Mexican Themed Dinner 5-6:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Fender Benders 4:30-7:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30</b></p> <p><b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	 <i>Kentucky Derby</i> <b>Kentucky Derby Day</b>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					<p><b>Aux Mother's Day Dinner 5-6:30pm</b></p>  <p><b>Gifts For Mom</b></p> <p><b>Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30</b></p> <p><b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
 <b>Mother's Day</b> <b>Bloody Mary Bar</b> <b>Hosted by the Bar Team</b>	<p><b>Shuffleboard 3pm</b></p>		<p><b>Sons Dinner 5-6:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Riders Meeting 6:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	<p><b>Show Me the Money</b></p> <p><b>Aux Dinner 4:30-6:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Game 6pm</b></p> <p><b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	<p><b>Aux Italian Themed Dinner 5-6:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30</b></p> <p><b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p><b>Print Newsletter</b></p>	<p><b>Fold Newsletter 9am</b></p> <p><b>Game Day 1:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Shuffleboard 3pm</b></p>		<p><b>No Wednesday dinner. Join us Thursday &amp; Friday.</b></p>	<p><b>Show Me the Money</b></p> <p><b>Aux Dinner 4:30-6:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Game 6pm</b></p> <p><b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p> <p><b>Laurie Care Center Veterans Visits 1:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>Aux Breaded Shrimp Dinner 5-6:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Marcus Words 5-8pm</b></p> <p><b>Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30</b></p> <p><b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
					<p><b>Aux Hot Roast Beef or Philly Sandwich Dinner 5-6:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Queen of Hearts 4:30-6:30</b></p> <p><b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	
					<p><b>Memorial Day Breakfast &amp; Bake Sale 8-10:30am</b></p> <p><b>Honor Guard Ceremony 11am</b></p>	
					<p><b>No Wednesday dinner. Join us Thursday &amp; Friday.</b></p>	
					<p><b>Show Me the Money</b></p> <p><b>Aux Dinner 4:30-6:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Game 6pm</b></p> <p><b>Patriot &amp; Lake View Clubs Open</b></p>	

## Tentative 2026 Event &amp; Entertainment schedule (Subject to Change)

- April – Show Me The Money (4/2)  
     Legion Mouse Races & Auxiliary Silent Auction (4/11)  
     Kyle Lee Wiles & The Fender Benders (4/10)  
     Honky Tonk Harmony (4/17)  
     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 (6/12)  
     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)

## Tentative 2026 Event &amp; Entertainment schedule (Subject to Change)

March – Wing Night starts up again (3/4)



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

<b>LEGION OFFICERS</b>					
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
<b>LEGION EXECUTIVE BOARD</b>					
Tom Hohnecker		913-488-4580	Dale Hanke		402-660-0025
Austin Teel		573-280-7585			
Tom Boyce		573-723-0222			
<b>SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS</b>					
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			
<b>LEGION AUXILIARY OFFICERS</b>					
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			
<b>AUXILIARY EXECUTIVE BOARD</b>			<b>COMMITTEE CHAIRS</b>		
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			
<b>AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS</b>					
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](mailto:Commander@lakelegion.com)  
 Adjutant: [adjutant@lakelegion.com](mailto:adjutant@lakelegion.com)  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice: [1stvice@lakelegion.com](mailto:1stvice@lakelegion.com)  
 PR: [pr@lakelegion.com](mailto:pr@lakelegion.com)  
 Auxiliary: [auxiliary@lakelegion.com](mailto:auxiliary@lakelegion.com)  
 SAL: [sal@lakelegion.com](mailto:sal@lakelegion.com)  
 ALR: [alr@lakelegion.com](mailto:alr@lakelegion.com)

NO VETERAN LEFT BEHIND





## The History and Purpose of the Honor Guard

Since its founding in 1919, The American Legion has continued the mission of service to God and Country. One of the most visible expressions of that service is the Honor Guard.

Honor Guards were formed from a simple promise: no veteran would be laid to rest without dignity, respect, and military honors. After World War I, Legion posts organized ceremonial teams modeled after military traditions to ensure fallen comrades were properly honored.

Honor Guard members conduct solemn ceremonies reflecting the highest traditions of the United States Armed Forces, including:

Presentation of the Colors

Rifle volleys

Playing of 'Taps'

Folding and presentation of the United States flag

Federal law guarantees military funeral honors for eligible veterans, and Veterans Service Organizations such as The American Legion assist in providing those honors when requested. This ensures every veteran receives the recognition they earned.

Honor Guard service extends beyond funeral details. Members present the colors at schools, parades, Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies, and community events.

Through every folded flag, every note of 'Taps,' and every final salute, the Honor Guard fulfills a sacred promise — that no veteran will be forgotten.

## Our Honor Guard Today

Uniforms are provided.

We average 4–5 honors per month.

Transportation to and from honors is provided.

Training is provided — no prior experience necessary.

More volunteers allow better rotation and flexibility.

Serve when you can — there is no pressure.

Contact any member of the Honor Guard or reach out directly to Honor Guard Captains, Austin Teel at 573-280-7585 or Keith Moss at 816-809-6789 for more information.

**“We honor those who served... with their final salute.”**





**Mouse Races  
&  
Silent Auction**



**Saturday April 11th**

**1pm**

**\$10 to sponsor & name a Mouse**

**Sign-up sheet at Patriots Bar**

**Last Day to sign up April 3rd**

**Kitchen opens at 12pm**