

A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families Happy Spring, everyone! I hope you have all had a chance to get out and enjoy this beautiful weather we have been having.

This message is possibly the most important message I have submitted to the "Bugle" since I was elected President last May. At our next general meeting on May 5th, it will be election time. Every officer's position is available as well as the chairmanship for each of our various committees. Several currently elected or appointed officials have stated they would be happy to stay on for another year, but the tradition has always been to open all positions to anyone who

might be interested. If more than one person speaks for an office or chair, we will hold a balloted election. If you have ever held an office in the American Legion Auxiliary, you know how important your position was to the smooth functioning of the organization.

I would like to invite everyone to attend this very important meeting so you can have a say in who your next officers will be and how the Auxiliary will continue to support the Post, Veterans, and our community. I am not saying you HAVE to take an office; however, your vote for those that have agreed to either return as an officer or a new person that would like to take an office, .would be greatly appreciated!

> Karen Mikulewicz, President, ALA Unit #52 daycaremom 1@hotmail.com / 970-290-1130

REMINDER FROM COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR MARYANN SLADEK:

I want to encourages everyone to keep saving Best Choice barcodes, all year long! They are redeemed every December and this past year, we were only able to send in 3000. Our goal this year is 5000 or more, so please focus on buying Best Choice products and help us earn a little extra cash for our unit! Each 1000 barcodes earns us \$30! Granted, it's not a LOT, but it adds up over time!



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Looking Ahead ...

The 2025 "In Remembrance" memorial service has been scheduled for Sunday, November 9, following the same general format as the 2024 ceremony, which was very well-received.

Names of deceased Veterans you wish to honor may be sent in at any time during the year, along with a donation of \$10 per Veteran. Use the form below or write all the information requested on a piece of paper, and send to In Remembrance, 717 Market Street, Mountain Home AR 72653. Checks may be made payable to ALA Unit 52, with "In Remembrance 2025" in the memo line.

IN REMEMBRANCE 2025

Deceased Veteran's Name

Branch of Service

Donor's Name & Address



I want to thank everyone who helped with our March and April Monday Night Dinners. Without vour assistance, neither one would have been a success. We sold out of corned beef and cab-

bage in March, and had over 80 diners for the lasagna in April. We are looking forward to our Meatloaf Dinner in May and Cashew Chicken Stir-Fry in June.

Don't forget, the proceeds from these dinners help fund the delegate fees for the girls we send to Girls State every spring!

Hope to see you all at the District 2 meeting on Sunday, May 4 at 2:00 p.m. Dinner will be served after the meeting featuring pulled pork sandwiches. I will be calling to ask for donations of salads, sides and desserts, so please be as generous as you can --we expect to serve 50 people or more.

Debbye Barreda, 2nd Vice President debbye barreda@yahoo.com / 704-495-1449

Donation

FROM THE UNIT 52 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:



Welcome to Spring and many patriotic activities, including the Memorial Day ceremony on Veterans Plaza on Monday, May 26, at 11:00 am.. If any unit member is available and able to assist me in posting the flags for the Auxiliary, please contact me. (Pictured above

is Past Unit President Sherie Brown, who carried the US Flag for us in 2016!)

We will also be helping the Post with placing flags at gravesites of veterans in local cemeteries the week before Memorial Day. Please contact Frank Kaye, who covers Mountain Home Cemetery (870-404-5462), or Lisa Gunter, who covers the Kirby-Tucker cemetery (870-676-9152), for more information or to volunteer.

> Jamie Barreda, Unit 52 Sergeant-at-Arms 704-495-1449





Memorial Day vs. Veterans Day THE READER'S DIGEST VERSION

Memorial Day Veterans Day Who does it honor? Those who died in battle Everyone who has served in or after injuries sustained the military, wartime or not in battle When is it? The last Monday in May November 11 annually How is it observed? By visiting cemeteries and Towns hold parades, churches schedule special memorials; volunteers often decorate the graves at services and families come national cemeteries with together to thank living and American flags fallen veterans What was it originally called? **Decoration Day Armistice Day** RD

Poppy Day is Coming Soon!

This year's Poppy Day distribution and donation collection campaign will be held on Friday, May 23 (National Poppy Day 2025), starting about 9:00 am at the Town & Country grocery store on 9th Street in Mountain Home.



One-, two- or more- hour shifts are available for any Legionnaire or Auxiliary member interested in helping distribute our Memorial Poppy to — and hopefully collect donations from — the community. The most important part of this event, though, is to give out the poppies even if the recipient can't or won't make a donation. Education is the ultimate goal, so make sure you know the significance of that bright red flower and share your knowledge with the folks you come into contact with. Find out more at https://www.legion-aux.org/national-poppy-day.

Volunteers are needed for BOTH doors, from 9 am until at least 3 pm, possibly later, depending on store traffic and who is available to help. If you can commit to taking one or more shifts, please contact Unit 52 Poppy Chair Nancy Stang at (870) 404-1259 and get on her list.

Thanks for your support!

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A single poppy has the soul of a thousand heroes and the tears of a million Loved ones LEST WE FORGET





Legion Auxiliar



May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Hall Rentals (870)424-6277	2™ Mondays Public	4th Saturdays All-You-Can-Eat		1	2	3 <u>Public</u>
Leave Message If No Answer	Dinners 4:00-6:00 pm	Pancake Breakfasts 7:30-11:00 AM	17 - Armed Forces Day	Loyalty Day		Coffee Social 9 am Vets Pantry 9-11
4 <u>Leg / Aux</u>	5 <u>Leg / Aux</u>	6 <u>Public</u>	7	8	9 <u>Public</u>	10 <u>Public</u>
District 2 mtg 2 pm — Post 52	Potluck 5:00 pm Meetings 6:30 pm	Craft Time 10 am - 3 pm		V-E Day	Vets Benefits Fair BaxCo Fairgrds	Coffee Social 9 am Vets Pantry 9-11
	12 Public Meatloaf Dinner 4:00-6:00 pm	13 Public Craft Time 10 am - 3 pm	14	15 <u>Legion</u> Board meeting 9:00 am	16	17 <u>Public</u> Coffee Social 9 am Vets Pantry 9-11
18	19	20 Public Craft Time 10 am - 3 pm	21	22	Poppy Day @ Town & Country	24 Public Breakfast 7:30-11 Vets Pantry 9-11
25	26 Memorial Day on the Plaza - 11 am	27 <u>Public</u> Craft Time 10a-3p Aux Board Mtg 1p	20	29	30	31 Vets Pantry closed (5th Saturday)

June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
HALL RENTALS (870)424-6277 LEAVE MESSAGE IF NO ANSWER	lst Saturdays Care Package Box-Up 9:00 am	2 [™] Mondays Public Dinners 4:00-6:00 pm	4TH SATURDAYS All-YOU-CAN-EAT Pancake Breakfasts 7:30-11:00 AM		14—Flag Day	
1	2 <u>Leg / Aux</u>	3 <u>Public</u>	4	5	6	7 <u>Public</u>
	Potluck 5:00 pm Meetings 6:30 pm	Craft Time 10 am - 3 pm			D-Day	Coffee Social 9 am Vets Pantry 9-11
8	9 Public Cashew Chicken 4:00-6:00 pm	10 Public Craft Time 10 am - 3 pm	11	12 Women Veterans Day	13	14 <u>Public</u> Coffee Social 9 am Vets Pantry 9-11
15 Happy Father's Bay	16	17 <u>Public</u> Craft Time 10 am - 3 pm	18 Public Red Cross Blood Drive, 10a-2p	19 Legion Board meeting 9:00 am	20	21 <u>Public</u> Coffee Social 9 am Vets Pantry 9-11
22 29	23 30	24 Public Craft Time 10a-3p Aux Board Mtg 1p	25	26	27 PTSD Awareness Day	28 <u>Public</u> Breakfast 7:30-11 Vets Pantry 9-11



2025 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION Wyndham Riverfront - N. Little Rock 📗 JUNE 20-22 (LEG); JUNE 20-21 (AUX)



ASEBAL

2024 Twin Lakes Classic Invitational **American Legion Baseball Tournament** June13-15, 2025 @ Cooper Park, Mtn Home



Historically Speaking

When I was in the 11th grade, I had a World History teacher by the name of Mr. Minor who turned me on to a lifelong love for history. He explained that history is more than just dates and names, but also about decisions people make and the results of those decisions. At some point during the year we started studying the second world war. It was during these studies that we had to get parental permission to watch a film on the holocaust. I cannot remember which concentration camps the film depicted as there were many. But I remember that it was quite disturbing watching the inhumanity born to one group of people by the pure hatred of another. The film was probably not even an hour long, but its contents were such that they would stay with you for a long time.

Fast forward 49 years. My wife and I decided to take a 15–day, 6-country tour of Europe for our 45th anniversary. Day 6 of this trip would find us traveling between Warsaw and Krakow, Poland, and stopping at the concentration camps of Auschwitz-Birkenau. This stop intrigued me while reading the tour's itinerary.

DAY 6, 17 April 2025: TODAY I VISITED AUSCH-WITZ-BIRKENAU Our local tour guide Kuba was very well-versed on the camps. Yes, camps, plural — Auschwitz-Birkenau are two separate camps, but both fell under Auschwitz jurisdiction. For brevity, I will only discuss the visit to Auschwitz.

Auschwitz, like several of these camps today, houses museums to explain what happened here. There are many visitors on this Thursday before Good Friday, including several tour groups like ours. Except for the tour guides addressing their respective groups and the shuffling of many visitors, it is quiet. Eerily quiet.

Walking into the camp, you pass under the iconic metal sign which reads in German, "ARBEIT MACHT FREI" or "Work makes one free."

It is one of the most recognizable signs used in the many documentaries of the Holocaust. It is hard to imagine the everday activities that went on here, but one thing is for certain: There was no



amount of work that would set you free. These were death camps for millions; Jews, gays, gypsies, political prisoners, POW's, etc. If the Nazis didn't send you straight to the gas chambers, they worked you to death performing slave labor, in helping to keep their military machine running.

The tour of the museum takes you through a few of the remaining buildings left standing, and culminates by exiting through one of the old gas chambers. You may have seen many of the documentaries on television showing unimaginable death and inhumane treatment, but walking through these buildings while listening to your tour guide really makes you think. There are rooms filled with luggage, shoes, burnt eyeglasses, and clothing, all taken from the prisoners before they were murdered. For me, the one display that stood out the most was the one containing piles and piles of human hair, each clipping belonging to a person who, for the most part, was totally innocent of any crime, other than for being who they were.

As I stated earlier, you exit through the gas chamber and there is a reason for this. Walking into the chamber, you are told to remain quiet and to look up at the ceiling to see where the Zyklon B gas was delivered. Once everyone is inside, the door is closed. There is very little lighting. We all entered the chamber knowing what it had previously been and after being told that it was through here that we would exit the camp. Imagine now the millions that entered voluntarily because they had been told that they would be showering, and that they would then exit and soon be housed. Their exit, in reality, would be in their deaths. This comparison is the reason they have you exit here. When you grasp the similarities, it is startling.

January of this year marked the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz by the Allies. It is museums like this that help keep history alive in hopes for man to never repeat such atrocities. Roughly 49 years ago, I learned to appreciate history thanks to Mr Minor. Had I not, I would never have anticipated going to Auschwitz or to any of the other concentration camps. For that matter, my life may have taken another path altogether.

Thank you, Mr. Minor, wherever you are!

Bob Renforth, Post 52 Historian 623-451-2160

For more information, visit https://wwv.yadvashem.org/



MEMO FROM THE 2ND VICE COMMANDER

Election for post officers will be at the May meeting. We need all local members present to elect next years officers. We need to get more involvement in post activities also. We will need members to help in the committees also. Get out and attend to make our post strong.

~~ David Fenwick, 2nd Vice Cmdr

Gun Raffle

Enter To Win Tickets: \$10.00 ea. or 6 for \$50.00

HENRY ARMS



Golden Boy American Legion Tribute Edition

Drawing Held July 4th, 2025. Winner Need Not Be Present

For Tickets, <u>Call (870)424-6277</u> Proceeds Help Support Local Veterans & Their Families

Henry Arms American Legion Bifles Are Not Sold to The General Public or Dealers (Only to American Legion Members) Visit www.henryusa.com

FROM THE ADJUTANT'S DESK

Membership year 2025 is just about finished. 2026 membership renewal notices are sent out starting July 1st. I will have the 2026 membership cards after the Department Convention in June. Dues are still \$50. Each member no matter what their level of participation helps Veterans and their families (locally and beyond).

As of April 14th, our post has achieved 87% of this year's membership goal of 262. The online membership roster shows these delinquent members for 2025 dues:

B. Barnard	G. Bean	W. Bradford	L. Clarke	D. Cones
A. Cooper	G. Credeur	W. Dail	R. Farmer	J. Hodges
M. Jensen	B. Johnson	K. Jones	W. Jones	R. McClelland
S. McMaster	R. Miller	G. Muench	L. Rottmayer	W. Schutte
H. Standefer	R. Tucker	S. Weaver	J. Wilcoxen	T. Wilson
		J. Winston		

Their cumulative "Continuous Years" with the American Legion will reset to "1" on their 2026 membership card being printed in a couple of months. Paying 2025 dues ASAP will prevent that loss.

V. Beck	J. Brown	B. Gifford	R. Hatfield	P. Messick
R. Morse	T. Rasmussen	E. Richardson	D. Rottmayer	R. Sallee
		R. Sarto		

These members have lost their continuous years for non-payment of 2024 & 25 dues.:

Continuous years can be restored for 2026 by paying those years.

To be a member in GOOD STANDING, 2025 dues must be paid! <u>Please ignore If payment was made between 4/14 and when "The BUGLE" arrives in your mailbox.</u>

RECORDS UPDATE: Make sure I have on file your current phone number, mailing address, email *(if used)*, & birthday *(contact me for the reason)*. I use email to send out general meeting minutes and announcements. Current addresses will prevent return postage charges of "THE BUGLE" which are almost \$1 currently.

BUDDY CHECKS: Do you call or see a veteran buddy to find out how they are doing? That is a Buddy Check! Our Post Consolidate Post Report counts the # of times & # of members doing these. Call me with your monthly totals!

PLEASE call (870) 405-0047 anytime *(leave a message, if no answer)*, email alleywhitepost52@yahoo.com about your membership status, or questions. Any non-membership questions I will do my best to answer or direct you to the right person!





Chaplaín's Corner

"Be kínd, for everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about."

Please keep everyone you know in your daily thoughts & prayers!!

VSO REPORT

I'd like to wish the following Legionnaires a HAPPY BIRTHDAY in the month of May: LARRY BAILEY, BRUCE CAMPBELL, GIL CREDEUR, BENNY HANEY, WANDA MAGERS, TIMOTHY NICHOLS, CHARLES SCHELINSKI, HOLLIE SCOMA, DIANNA SHORT, PETER STABILE, JERRY STROMER, ROBERT TUCKER, ARTHUR WALLACE and JAMES WINSTON! Happy birthday also to Auxiliary members RYAN HANLON (Jr mbr), SUZAN KAYE, KATH-LEEN MASON, TRISTYN PEACH (Jr mbr), DIANNA SHORT, MARYANN SLADEK, JERI WHITE and IVY WILCOX.

AND in the month of June, Legionnaires: GARY BEAN, BINGHAM, BRADFORD TERRY BUCHMAN. CHARLES CRYTS, ROBERT DE NORMANDIE, DAR-RELL HARRIS, CECIL HERZING, PETER JOHN-SON, JOANN LINDER, BENJAMIN LOHMEYER, GREGORY MOTL, GARY MUENCH, RANDY NOR-CROSS, J GEORGE RIVERA, RODNEY ROWLEY, **ROBERT WILLIAMS, and GRACE CORINNE WIL-**And also to Auxiliary members DEBORAH SON! BOOTS, EVELYN HALL, CLEO HOLM, KAY OWENS, LUCIA PAIROLERO, SANDRA ROBERTS, CHERYL SECREST, MADELYN SIMMONS (Jr mbr), MARY NIDA SMITH and LOURRAINE WOFFORD.



UPCOMING MEALS

MAY 23, NOON: Blacksheep BBQ, Yellville

JUNE 10, 6 PM: WHISPERING WOODS, JORDAN

RSVP 775-301-0605

Meal events are open to all women who are currently serving or who have previously served on Active Duty, in the Reserves, or in the National Guard.



Honor Guard Report

The Honor Guard conducted nine honor ceremonies since last report. We now have 20 active volunteers on the roster, but due to work schedules, health issues or other restrictions it is difficult to muster even 3 rifles, a chaplain and a bugle player for each detail. We have plenty of uniforms available if you would like to join us in this very worthwhile endeavor. No previous experience necessary – we will train you! Please contact me if you are interested.

Frank Kaye / 870-404-5462 / fkaye53@live.com

ATTENTION LEGIONNAIRES



We need two volunteers to carry the flags at the Memorial Day service on May 26th at the Veterans Square. Please contact either Vicky Bair (870-405-0047) or me (970 290-2697) if you are available.

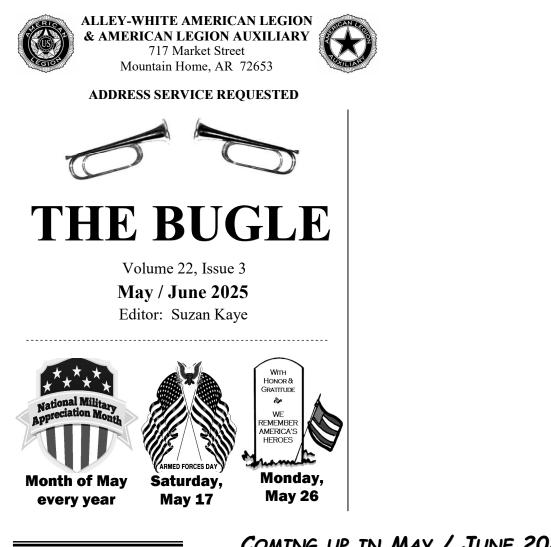
Tim Mikulewicz, Post 52 Sergeant-at-Arms

AMERICANISM REPORT

Our only participant for this year's High School Oratorical Speech Contest, Zane Darracq, competed in the Department contest on Saturday, March 22, in Little Rock at 10 am. The field of entrants this year was very strong and while our contestant performed very well, he sadly did not place in the final three.

The Post 52 Legion Family thanks Zane for his three years of participation in the program and wish him the very best in his pursuit of higher education.

Frank Kaye, Children & Youth / Americanism Chair 870-404-5462 / fkaye53@live.com



COMING UP IN MAY / JUNE 2025

* GENERAL MEETING ON MAY 5 @ 6:30 PM, POTLUCK @ 5:00 PM * GENERAL MEETING ON JUNE 2 @ 6:30 PM. POTLUCK @ 5:00 PM Fried Chicken will be provided — bring sides or desserts & your own table service

* SATURDAYS: COFFEE SOCIALS FROM 9-10:30 AM / PANTRY AT THE POST 9-11AM *** TUESDAYS: CRAFT TIME FROM 10 AM - 3 PM (EVERYONE WELCOME!)**

LEGION

Commander	Jerry Landreth	870-321-7368
1st Vice Cmdr	Kevin Johnson	870-736-4478
2nd Vice Cmdr	Dave Fenwick	717-961-1230
Adjutant	Vicky Bair	870-405-0047
Finance Officer	Curtis Dawson	870-656-9781
Service Officer	Frank Kaye	870-404-5462
Chaplain	Mike Nighbert	870-425-2929
Judge Advocate	Steven Proctor	870-421-9242
Sgt-at-Arms	Tim Mikulewicz	970 290-2697
Historian	Robert Renforth	623-451-2160
Trustees	David Darrow	630-514-2263
	Kevin Johnson	870-736-4478
	Robert Renforth	623-451-2160
Honor Guard	Frank Kaye	870-404-5462
Post telephone		870-424-6277





President	Karen Mikulewicz 870-707-0111
1 st Vice President	Suzan Kaye 870-321-0520
2 nd Vice President	Debbye Barreda 704-495-1449
Treasurer	Charlotte Guest 660-619-4775
- Historian (Acting)	Evelyn Hall
Assistant Historian	Jamie Barreda
Chaplain (Acting)	Jamie Barreda
Sgt-at-Arms	Jamie Barreda
Secretary	Debbye Barreda
(appointed)	704-495-1449
Parliamentarian	<vacant></vacant>
(appointed)	