



American Legion
Donald C Thompson
Post and Auxiliary Unit 135

United for Veterans Newsletter

January-February 2022

Volume 35

Post Commander

Ken Johnson

Hello Comrades!

November and December were busy months. Our Community Dinner and Membership drive was well attended. We were able to meet many new folks in the community and even recruited some members for the Post and the Auxiliary. We look forward to having them at our meetings and functions.

In December, a group of Post, Auxiliary and Honor Guard members participated in the Wreaths Across America event at the Prescott National Cemetery. They, along with other volunteers, placed wreaths on every veteran grave at the cemetery. Thank you to all who participated.

The Post did not meet in December, but will resume meeting on Wednesday, January 12th at 6:30 pm at the Cornville Fire Station. I hope to see you at our meetings.

Any questions give me a call 805-714-9369 or send me an email at kennyj52@aol.com.

Ken
Commander



Auxiliary President

Jonnie Maddox

Happy New Year!

New beginnings are always welcome. While 2021 was a challenge for many, the new year brings a chance to start afresh. I hope that you are looking forward to a fresh start.

The Auxiliary will not be meeting in January but there are several things coming up that will give us an opportunity to gather to support each other, meet new members and learn something new.

The **Early Bird/Volunteer lunch** is on January 9th at Post 93 in Camp Verde. We will start with a short program and then enjoy a Baked Potato Bar and some homemade soup. The luncheon starts at 12NOON.

In February, we resume our **regular meeting** on February 2nd at 6 pm at the Cornville Fire Station.

On February 12th, we can learn about the American Legion Auxiliary at a **Mission Training class** held in Humboldt at Post 78. It is an all-day event where we will learn about the history and programs sponsored by the Auxiliary. Lunch will be available to purchase so we can eat together and get better acquainted with other Auxiliary members. Registration information will be emailed to you.

For God and Country,
Jonnie



Membership

Happy 2022 New Year...

I sincerely believe we can all say that we're tired of missing activities, visiting our friends and traveling due to Covid, not to say that observing health precautions are not important, we just need to be cognizant of life around us.. Be cautious, And vigilant, but life needs to go on!

One way to keep an eye on Legion members is through the "Buddy Check" program. Many of you have probably received phone calls or emails from either the Post Chaplain, John Maddox, or me.

The contact serves three purposes:

1. Making a health and wellness check
2. Confirm contact information
3. And of course, remind members that the new membership year is underway.

As many of you are aware the official membership year for both the post and auxiliary is Dec.31. If you do not have your 2022 card, you are delinquent, and all benefits tied to your membership will become void: for instance, the Legionnaire Insurance Trust free accidental insurance available for both post and unit members. You need to renew to reinstate them.

Another post/unit benefit tied to your renewal is entitlement to the **Early Bird/Volunteer Lunch** which will be held **January 9, 2022**. Originally the event was scheduled to be held at the Clarkdale Moose, but due to circumstances beyond our control it was moved to **American Legion Post 93 located at 286 S 3rd St in Camp Verde.**

This year the Auxiliary is in charge of the menu which is a baked potato bar with all the trimmings and a variety of soups, plus any food surprise donation that members might bring. Setup for lunch starts at 11am - program starts at noon - lunch to follow.

The lunch is free to all Early Bird and activity-volunteers. Non-Post Family guests will be asked to donate \$5 to participate.

Please direct all questions to Unit President, Jonnie Maddox at 760-413-5912 or me at 928-648-3374.

Looking forward to seeing you at the event.

Jeri Strande
Post Adjutant and Auxiliary 1st Vice President

Beef Raffle Winner:

The winning ticket for the Beef Raffle that began in October has been drawn! And the winner is:

James Church

Mr. Church purchased his ticket at the Cornville Mercantile on Cornville Road. He is shown below with Auxiliary Treasurer, Phyllis Kennedy collecting his winnings.



Thank you to all who participated. We are one step closer to our goal of a Post home.



Community Dinner-Membership Drive

On November 13th, the Post and Auxiliary hosted its first Community Dinner-Membership Drive. It was an opportunity to let the Cornville, Page Springs and Sedona communities know what the American Legion and Auxiliary goals are for reaching out and serving the veterans and their families as well as members of those communities.



The event was well attended, and members of the Cornville Community Association had an information tent on site. We look forward to working with them on future community outreach projects.



The American Legion, Donald C Thompson Post 135 Honor Guard also performed a flag retirement ceremony for flags that are no longer serviceable.



A special thank you to Auxiliary Secretary, Barbara Spude and E-Committee members, Eleanor Mooney, and Stephanie Marquez for their efforts in organizing and collecting donated supplies and raffle prizes for the event.

We welcome the new members who joined the Post and Auxiliary that day and look forward to having others join us going forward.



Chaplain's Corner

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Another year gone by and what a hectic one at that. I pray all of you had a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New year, spending time with family and/or friends. The Holiday Season, beginning with Thanksgiving in November, is always a very stressful time for Singles and those who have lost loved ones during the year. This is the time of year that we should all be reaching out to our American Legion Family, or others, to give them words of comfort.

We look forward to this New Year, praying for our Public Officials and for the Country as a whole. One way of realizing Hope and self-fulfillment, is through helping others.

Take time out of your busy, or retirement schedule, and volunteer somewhere within our community, to reach out and support others, fulfilling one of the pillars of the American Legion Creed, **Community.**

May each and every one, be Blessed beyond measure this coming year. May you find Peace, Joy and Happiness throughout the year.

Chaplain John

The Honor / Color Guard is looking for additional members...

Post and Auxiliary members are welcome to join the Honor / Color Guard and make a difference in the lives of our community members.

The Color Guard performs flag ceremonies at the request of area organizations such as Opening Day of Little League or opening ceremonies for Special Olympics. They also participate in teaching flag etiquette, folding of the flag and flag disposal.

The Honor Guard, at the request of families of veterans who have gone on to Post Everlasting, performs a military service as part of the memorial services.

Contact Honor Guard Commander, Keith Tucker at 928-301-2618 for more information.

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Wreaths Across America

On December 18th, a group of Post, Auxiliary and Honor Guard members joined other volunteers at the Prescott National Cemetery to place wreaths on the graves of the veterans interned there. It was a privilege to honor our veterans in this way.



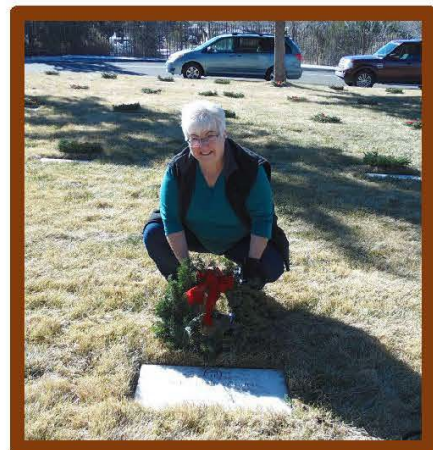
Pictured L to R: Phyllis Kennedy, John Moffit, Jonnie Maddox, Keith Tucker and Jeri Strande



Honor Guard Commander Keith Tucker is 'armed' with several wreaths and ready to start placing them.



Auxiliary Treasurer, Phyllis Kennedy and Post Adjutant Jeri Strande are 'armed' as well.



Auxiliary President Jonnie Maddox, with the help of Adjutant Jeri Strande, found the grave of her Great Uncle Pvt William Short and posed at his grave with his wreath.



Derrick Hall and his dad, Honor Guard member, Bob Hall (not pictured) assisted as well.

All Aboard the Christmas Express

The Cottonwood Christmas Parade was a hit again this year. With the cancellation of last year's parade, this year brought out the crowds. It was fun to see so many familiar faces and hopefully NEXT year, THEY will be on the float with us!



Pictured L-R: Jeri Strande, John Maddox, Jonnie Maddox, Bob Hall, Phyllis Kennedy, Keith Tucker and Commander Ken Johnson



Post & Auxiliary Christmas Lunch

We had a small group of Post and Auxiliary members this year and were fortunate enough to support a local restaurant, Farm-A-Go-Go in Cornville. The food and service were excellent, and the usual activities were enjoyed by all.

Eleanor Mooney and Barbara Spude were the winners of two of the games and EVERYONE was a

winner of the Sarah Wrap Ball game. You won't want to miss next year, as Jonnie has already found a few more games for us to enjoy.



Our Farm-A-Go-Go Hosts...



Calendar of Events

January

- 5 Building Committee 4:30pm
- 5 Auxiliary Meeting 6:00pm
- 5 Cornville Fire Station
- 9 Early Bird/Volunteer Lunch
- 9 Noon Post 93 – Camp Verde
- 12 Post Meeting 6:30pm
- 12 Cornville Fire Station
- 12 District 8 Meeting- Gen Mtg
- 15 1pm ; E- Committee Mtg 11am
- 15 Post 90 – Black Canyon City

Cancelled

February

- 2 Building Committee 4:30pm
- 2 Auxiliary Meeting 6:00pm
- 2 Cornville Fire Station
- 5 Run Sedona – Details to follow
- 5 Volunteer Opportunity
- 9 Post Meeting 6:30pm
- 9 Cornville Fire Station
- 9 Mission/Leadership Training
- 12 8:00am Post 78- Humboldt

Post Officers

Position	Name	Phone
Commander	Ken Johnson	805-714-9369
1 st Vice Cmdr.	Jan Allbright	300-2386
2 nd Vice Cmdr.		
Finance Officer	Tom Rounds	202-9992
Adjutant	Jeri Strande	649-3374
Chaplain	John Maddox	760-964-2651
Sgt at Arms	Skip Baker	301-1451
E-Committee	John Maddox	760-964-2651
	Tom Royer	649-9673
Service Officer	Jan Allbright	300-2386
Honor Guard		
Commander	Keith Tucker	301-2618

Auxiliary Officers

Position	Name	Phone
President	Jonnie Maddox	760-413-5912
Vice President	Jeri Strande	649-3374
Treasurer	Phyllis Kennedy	300-7411
Secretary	Barbara Spude	301-8874
Chaplain	Jeanette Volk	639-4292
Sgt at Arms	<i>Position Open</i>	
E- Committee	Eleanor Mooney	606-4930
	Stephanie Marquez	626-255-0024
Historian	<i>Position Open</i>	

NOTE: Unlisted area codes are 928

Newsletter Editor Jonnie Maddox 760-413-5912

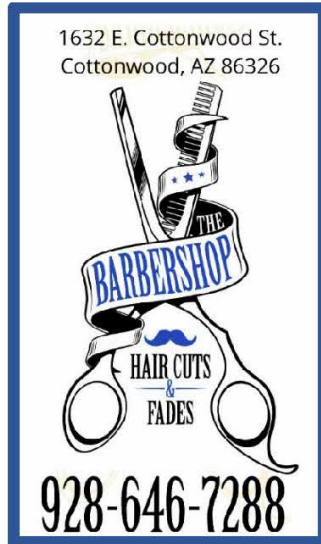
Email: mimi2twins@gmail.com

Christmas Family

Each year the Post and Auxiliary sponsor a local family By providing funds for Christmas dinner along with a Gift for each member of the family. Oak Creek School Provides us the name of the family and the names, ages, Gender and interests of each child so the gift provided Is targeted to them specifically. This year, the family was from Rimrock, and the Christmas Bundle was delivered on December 12th. The kids were really excited to see all the presents and didn't wait even a minute to investigate.....the mother is sitting on the floor in the back row on the far left. Also pictured is 'elf' Phyllis Kennedy, Auxiliary Treasurer.



We appreciate the support of local businesses and hope you will take the opportunity to engage their services when possible.



928-641-6519

11 N MAIN ST, STE C
Cottonwood, AZ 86326

American Legion
Donald C Thompson Post 135
P O Box 172
Cornville, AZ 86325