

**American Legion Post 388 Inc.**  
**607 Westridge Dr., O'Fallon Mo. 63366 alpst388@gmail.com www.alpost388mo.org 636-219-0553**  
**March 2019 News Letter**

**From the Desk of American Legion Post 388**

**Adjutant:** Oliver McGuire

It's hard to believe that it is already February 2019. It has been several months since our last newsletter and a lot has happen within our Post.

Last November at our Awards Dinner we recognized two members of Posts 388 for the Legionnaire of the Year Award; They were Jim Griesenauer and Ted Richardson and they were recognize for their service to the Post. We also recognized Detective Ed Klipfel from the O'Fallon Police Department and Fireman Michael Knipping from O'Fallon Fire and Rescue.

Our Post also sent thirteen young adults to Boys and Girls State. These classes are taught at Central State University in Warrensburg Mo., and upon completion of the classes, they can pick up one college credit. In 2018. our American Legion AAA Baseball Team finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place. Our Honor Guard has performed 2344 Grave site services at Jefferson Barracks or at local cemeteries since 12/23/2003 totaling 28110 hours of their time donated by our Post Honor Guard. Our Color Guard Unit has performed at many events around O'Fallon and St. Charles County from raising the Flag at FZ North Football Games to Ceremonies at the O Fallon Walk of Life. Our VSO Officer has helped a record number of Veterans with financial help. We have also helped two disabled Veteran who needed an electric wheelchair and one with a wheelchair ramp for his home. The American Legion has many good projects and we could do more if we had the help.

At our last Executive Meeting, Historian Ralph Pieper gave a very troubling report. The report was about our future. Mr. Pieper's report goes as follows: We presently have 400 members. We presently have 20 active members. We have about 15 members that are coming to our Monthly meeting. The average age is 70+ years of age. There is a possibility that within 10 years our number of members that are active and coming to our meeting will be near zero. I feel that this will happen in less than ten years. So with that being said, I'm

reaching out to all our members **to not just be a card carrying member** but an active member of our Post. I know very well there are members that are still in the work force and free time is something we do not always have. We have one meeting a Month and that is the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. We have food and drink before the meeting. The doors open at 6:00 pm and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm. The meetings last about 1½ hours. I know how hard it is to become involved in volunteering. **It's not about giving up your time, it's about what you get in return It can be 1 hour a month, or 100 hours. it's your choice.** We need to get our membership to step up or our future doesn't look all that bright. I'll give you an example of one program we need members to volunteer for and that is coming up in May. We have several days in May for Poppy distribution.. Each slot is for 2 hours, we need to fill several time slots. The money we collect goes to helping Veterans in need. **Two hours of your day is not that much, but the money you collect could help a disable Veteran and his family in need.** Please make a choice to become active in your American Legion Post before we lose it.

Now back to my Adjutant business! Upon receiving this newsletter please ask yourself if you have received an e-mail from the Post in the last 6 months. **If not** please send me an e-mail to "[alpst388@gmail.com](mailto:alpst388@gmail.com)." In the subject area write "update my email" In the message area please write your name, card number and then retype your e-mail address and phone number. I have been working to get these addresses up to date, and I'm still getting addresses that are incorrect or no longer valid. Hope to see you at one of our meetings.

**Oliver McGuire Post Adjutant**

**To whom it may concern:** The fiscal year is winding down and if you haven't paid your 2018 dues, this is for you. The final due notice is March 31st. At this time we have 68 members that have not yet paid. If you have doubt about your status in the legion, give the Adjutant a call at 636-219-0553 and he will bring you up to date. If you know of someone

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that might have interest in the legion, pass our phone number to them and have them call. At the present time our dues are \$35 per year. Our goal is to recruit more active members.

**First Vice Commander** Joe Belfiore

### **Sons of the Legion**

The Adjutant of American Legion Post 388 has been very busy for the past several months getting the information together to form the "Sons of the Legion" for American Legion Post 388. We are now happy to report that the groundwork has been finished. We have (10) young men signed up, they have paid their dues, and are now waiting for the approval of their charter to get the program running.

This is a program for the Sons of members of Post 388 to get together and get the experience of operating their own organization. They elect their own officers, control their own finances plan their own events. There are no restrictions on age, they just have to be the son of a member of the Legion.

The young men that have signed up are anxious to get the program up and running. The officers and members of Post 388 are looking forward to the startup date and will assist in any way possible.

### **Building Committee**

The building committee was formed in the fall of 2018. The guidelines have been set and the Quartermaster has the responsibility of maintenance, rental agreements and the cleanliness of the property. The committee has its own checking account, and will operate according to the by-laws of the post.

### **Boys State/Girls State**

The dead line for the schools to return the students request is March 1st.. The committee had asked the schools to return the applications as soon as possible to give the committee more time to obtain the required tuition. As of the

printing of this letter, we have sent three application with the tuition money to Girls State. We have one application for Boys State and that application will be sent in the near future. We are still waiting for FZW and Christian High. When we receive their request we will than know how our finances are and if we will need additional help. I am not asking for any donations at this time, but as in the past, if we need help with the tuition, we will once again appeal to our membership. Last year we sent thirteen students. This year so far, we only have four and we have them covered. Things get hectic as the deadline approaches.

**Chairpersons;** Jim Griesenauer 636-688-9052  
Roger Hadley 636-233-2699

At our regular meetings held on the 4th. Monday of every month, with the exception of December we open the doors at 6pm. We have a refrigerator stocked with beer, soda, water, and there is hot coffee on the counter. The cost of the beer is \$1.50, soda is .75, water is .25 and the coffee is free. There is lunch and sometimes a meal Our meeting on March 25th is a full blown meal and we are asking the members whose names start with A up to F to bring a desert. All others are to bring a covered dish. The meat will be furnished by the Post and more than likely will be fried chicken, or road kill. The doors will open at 5 pm.

### **Ladies Auxiliary**

The ladies still meet on the same night as the men.

The Sons of the American Legion and the Ladies Auxiliary have the same benefits as any member of our Post 388 when it comes to renting our facilities.

Get **Active**, be **Proud**, and **Enjoy** the benefits.