

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Lester C. Rees, Post 57, Newberg, Oregon

April 11<sup>th</sup> - General Legion Meeting (Elections)

April 14-16 - Spring DEC (Redmond Post 44)

May 7<sup>th</sup> - District 2 meeting in Newberg

May 8<sup>th</sup> - V-E Day Declared 1945: FLAGS

May 9<sup>th</sup> - General Legion Meeting

May 20<sup>th</sup> - Armed Forces Day: FLAGS

May 31<sup>st</sup> - Memorial Day: FLAGS

June 13<sup>th</sup> - General Legion Meeting

June 14<sup>th</sup> - Flag Day (US Army Founded 1775): FLAGS

June 14-18 - Oregon Department Convention

July 4<sup>th</sup> - Independence Day: FLAGS

## General Meetings

2nd Tuesday of each month  
at 7:00 PM

Chehalem Park & Rec Bldg.  
125 S. Elliott, Newberg, OR

### Post Officers

<b>Commander: Mike Ireton</b>		<b>Chaplain: Steve ("DOC") Schollenberg</b>	
<b>1st Vice: Gordon Kroemer</b>			
<b>2nd Vice: Evan Cater</b>		<b>Service Officer: Dana Speer</b>	
<b>Adjutant: Mike Speer</b>		<b>Sgt.-at-Arms: Carey Martel</b>	

# The American Legion

Lester C. Rees, Post 57, Newberg, Oregon

## Newberg Connection

2nd Quarter NEWSLETTER April 2023

### Commander Michael



Greetings all. Wishing all a Happy Easter and a glorious Spring. Hoping all of you are well and in good health. We are winding down our year and I am proud of all the hard work our members have done in reaching our goals. We have had several new members join us. Our meetings continue to have more members in attendance. We have nominated our upcoming officers and will be electing them in April. Our three scout units are active with supervision from our post liaison. We continue our collection of cans and bottles at our post meeting, so please bring them in for recycling to support youth programs. This has been a great fund raising project for the Post. George Fox veterans club continues to recognize veterans. Our auxiliary continues to do a tremendous amount of work supporting our post and the community. As always remember to do buddy checks and report the number to our Adjutant along with reporting any volunteer work you do in service to the community or

Legion. Our goal is to "BE THE ONE". Please consider coming to our meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to share what you would like to have our Post do for our community, our veterans and what or how to get the word out that Post 57 is active and ready to serve. Our Chaplain should be able to return to our meetings since his release from quarantine. This will be welcome since we have lost members that were transferred to Post Everlasting. We need his words of encouragement and comfort as we remember those members. I would like to see a large turn-out in May at the District meeting, as we will be hosting the meeting. It will be at the Chehalem Senior Center on Foothills Drive.

Michael Ireton

### Commander



## Adjutant's Clipboard



Priorities As some of you know, I have a “hat rack” with 5 pegs. That means I can only wear 5 hats (jobs), otherwise I run the risk of getting overwhelmed. Until recently, they haven’t conflicted. But now, I am facing scheduling conflicts. I should visit a post as District rep, but I have a post E-board meeting at the same time, or there is a Scouting event the same time as a Riders event. There was one time when I had 3 conflicting events at the same time. What to do? For me, I have to set priorities. As a rule, the post comes first. When a member calls and says they can’t make an event because their kids are sick, we always say “family comes first”, and the post is my first Legion family. But come June, I may become District Commander which will require me to interact with 17 posts as well as other responsibilities and priorities. I am developing the ability to say NO, with help from my wife, but sometimes it’s hard. Adjutant will always be my main job (unless someone wants to try it), but I may have to give up one of my other hats to ease the work load. The choice will be hard. We all have to set priorities in our life. Sometimes, we have a choice of what to give up for sanity’s

sake, sometimes we don’t. That’s life.  
Mike Speer  
Post Adjutant



### Legion Riders

Due to the lack of riding weather, the chapter has been quiet since December. Now that things are improving, we have started meeting as of the 3rd Tuesday in March. We have an OALR meeting on April 1st at Seaside Post 99 and will be involved in DJ’s journey from his home to his Celebration of Life at the Fernwood Grange later on. The group used to enjoy lunch rides, so we will try to start them up again. Officer elections are coming up in April as well as a DEC in Redmond. I’m hoping that, as we get into spring and summer, we gain some more members. If you ride and are interested in being part of a group that is safety minded, we’d love to have you as part of the Legion Riders.

## Auxiliary



Hello Auxiliary: Our last activity was “Game Day”. Bring your favorite snack and games. I knew some folks weren’t coming due to family. Never feel bad, family first! If we can help, something as simple as activating our prayer chain, we’re happy to do that! Michael and I spent the first 2 hours together. The last hour we had 2 visitors...Ron Lafountain and George Edmonston. No games,



just visiting...that’s so important! We’re all busy or isolated and the visiting, either to take a breath or to reach out and establish an open line of communication is so important. I can’t tell you how many “after-after meetings” occur after the general meeting. We need that contact or chance to visit. Join our group...come visit. We do lunch...any day.

March 29th (Wed) the

National Auxiliary President Vicki Koutz is visited. There’s was a dinner at McMinnville Post 21 at 5:30pm. April 5th (Wed) Unit elections will be at the meeting. May 7th (Sun), we, (the post and unit) are hosting the District 2 Caucus. District officer elections will be held and Dept. candidates will speak. Potluck at noon, business at 1:00pm. We’ll be at the Senior Center before for to set up.

Respectfully,  
Dana Speer



1095 S Industrial Pkwy Suite A Newberg, OR 97132 Sales@HighLineFirearms.com	<b>Hours:</b> Tues-Fri 10am-7pm Sat 10am-5pm Sun 10am-5pm Phone: 503-437-4841
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## Chaplain's Chat Corner



Well hello everyone, as most of you know by now, I finally made it back from my sabbatical up in Seattle. What a long 3 months. The Stem Cell Transplant went great, but it was a pretty tough procedure, I was pretty sick for about a month and half, but with the outcome, I dealt with it OK. I am cancer free, and not expecting it back.

I want to thank everyone that called me, sent me Christmas cards, New Years cards, Birthday cards. I received over 70 cards from my Legion family, and almost every card had multiple names and signatures on them. So again, thanks to everyone for all the thoughts, prayers, calls, and cards while I was up there, it truly meant a lot.

And speaking of calls, how about them BUDDY CHECKS. We do our BUDDY CHECKS all the time, but you never really know what a BUDDY CHECK means until your on the receiving end of one, when its needed. I've made numerous BUDDY CHECKS over the last few years, and didn't think that much about it, except just checking on a buddy and saying HI, and seeing how they're doing. But when your in the hospital, setting in a hotel room sick, or at home sick, injury, or whatever is going on in your life,

and you receive a BUDDY CHECK from someone from your post, or district, or even department, it means the world to you. Someone to talk to, someone to listen, someone who cares enough to call you is on the other end of the phone, it's a life line for you at that specific time, I know it was for me. I had a few bad days, sick, anxiety, wishing I could just crawl into a hole somewhere and forget about it all, but then the phone rings and a familiar voice is on the other end, checking up on me, wondering how I'm doing. It's literally a life changer. I thank everyone, from the bottom of my heart for those called, you will never know just how much they meant.

When your doing "BUDDY CHECKS" you never know, you just might "BE THE ONE." So if you know of someone who is in the hospital, home sick or injured, or can't get out for whatever reason, give them a call and check up on them, or let me know and I will call and check in on them.

Steven D. Shollenburg,  
Chaplain  
Post 57, Dept. of Oregon  
ssholly1@yahoo.com  
971-241-8925

HAPPINESS WILL  
NEVER COME TO  
THOSE WHO DON'T  
APPRECIATE WHAT  
THEY ALREADY HAVE.

## First Vice Commander



Greetings,

The weather is changing and things are getting busier for all of us. That includes our Post.

Elections are held this month, April. We start putting flags up soon. Memorial Day is just around the corner. A Flag Retirement Ceremony is in the works, again. Women's Ved Conference, Department Convention, Law Enforcement Career Camp Boy's State, and Legion Baseball are coming, too. Our scout troops are busy, with camping, Eagle projects, etc. The Wood Ministry is still going strong, even though the heating season is near the end. (Need to start an next season's supplies. The Honor Guard still practices, to be ready and will be helping to honor DJ.

We have passed the membership goal that was set by Department, but we are still looking to increase our membership, more. If you see a vet, check on their condition (Buddy Check) and invite them to join. Showing concern helps through the rough times and them joining us helps other vets as well as our community. Something that came across my desk, that I want to pass on.

### Six Little Stories With Lots of Meanings

1. Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of

prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.

2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.

3. Every nigh we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still set alarms to wake up. That is hope.

4. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.

5. We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.

6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence, "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience." That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember - Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!

See you on the upside.

Gordon Kroemer



## GFU Vets

Our George Fox Veterans Club Prayer Breakfast was well attended on March 6th.

The event was from generosity of filling those Battle Bottles with change. We raised a total of \$576.00 and the bill from the college dining company was \$562.00. The food we had left was donated to community Youth Outreach and fed an additional twenty kids. I just have to say my heart is full of gratitude. The whole two loaves of bread and three fish just kept giving. Thank you!

We had patron members of Post 57 attend, eight veteran students and several faculty members. One of the faculty members spoke of facilitating the next event! Amanda K. who is the VA Coordinator for Fox was present as well as some staff for the Veterans Outreach team. We look forward to working with them more in the future. Christian Pond of the Boondock Boys Band led us with a great rendition of the National Anthem on his electric guitar.

We ended up with myself giving a short address about us Veterans being a community of Sheepdogs on campus. Protecting and utilizing our military training in protection of other students, even if they don't like it. Psalm 5:11 NKJV,

"But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You; Let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them; Let those also who love Your name Be joyful in You."

So with that...we all need prayer! Please be in prayer for our final hurdles through this term! We have 3 more weeks till finals week!

Blessings,  
Stauros Gibson  
President  
George Fox U. Veterans

*In a Society that has you counting*

*money, pounds, calories and steps,*

*be a rebel and count your blessings*

*instead.*

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a one-time payment and/or a monthly check based on the disability percentage. The Legion's service officers are there to help you. Monthly payment can be as little as \$48/mo. Label items for the family or give a list to them before you pass. Big ticket items (cars, trucks, property, guns, etc.) become the property of the surviving spouse and can be liquidated to help with bills. As a divorced/widowed spouse you are able to collect a portion of their Social Security if they are of SS age (62+), it doesn't affect their SS. Remember to get enough death certificates for everyone (bank, phone, landlord, insurance credit cards, etc.)

Please take care of your spouse or kids. Make it easier on them. Love is not only in words, but in actions.

Dana

## Scouting

The Cub Scout Pack said goodbye to 3 of their girl Webelos as they crossed over to the Girl Troop at the pack's Blue and Gold banquet in February. They will continue to have regular meetings until graduation in May.

The Boy Troop will be introducing a new Eagle Scout, Zack Stone. You can see his Eagle project as you pass the grange with their new sign. Another scout is putting up a flag pole for the grange as his project. We're running out of



projects at the grange, so future Eagles will have to find another lucky recipient. The troop is planning a high ad-venture trip canoeing the Willamette in July. Camp Baldwin on the east side of Mt Hood will be the troop's summer camp in July.

The Girl Troop welcomed 3 new scouts as they crossed over from Pack 7265 last month. Now, in March, they will welcome 3 more from Pack 196. The older girls have taken the younger under their wings and are teaching them what they need to know to get started. The troop leaders are very pleased and proud. The troop will be going to summer camp at Camp Meriwether on the coast in August.

Mike Speer  
Charter Organization  
Representative

## Service Officer



Hello Darlin!  
That was DJ. We get to say goodbye to DJ (Dennis Jones) Saturday, April 22, 2:00pm at the Fernwood Grange (216 N. Spring-brook Rd) with a reception

after.

What have I learned? Let me share. Most people aren't prepared. You have 2 choices, burial or cremation. If you plan on being buried outside of Oregon, you cannot transport the body yourself. There are companies that have preplanned/prepaid contracts. Michael and I just took care of that ourselves. The VA has a burial refund of \$795 (2 years ago) with a receipt. Did you know you can order a casket online from Costco? (a set of 3).

Burial at Willamette National Cemetery is free. You need the veteran's DD214 and a death certificate. Spouses can be buried with you (VA form 21P530). When a veteran dies, his retirement stops. If the veteran is disabled, the spouse may receive

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# To All Veterans



Whether At Home Or Abroad  
Active Duty ~ Reserves ~ Retired

All Americans Say:

# THANK YOU!