

# NEWSLETTER

"Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. it flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it."

– Unknown

## Commander's column

May was a busy time at Post 160 and a lot of activities were held that were both fun and important.

Elections were held for Officers for Legion Year 2025, which begins 30 June. The Officers who were elected are (Note: I = Incumbent):

- Commander: Wade Lnenicka (I)
- Senior Vice Commander: Maher Abed (I)
- Vice Commander - Ballroom: Paul Peceros (I)
- Vice Commander - Lounge: Harold Leverette (I)
- Finance Officer: Jeff Oakes (I)
- Sergeant At Arms: Bob Kingdon
- Executive Committee Members (5):
  - Rhoda Basey (I)
  - Camille Caldwell (Pending appointment by Executive Committee on 4 June)
  - Michael Cameron (I)
  - Greg Gamble (I)
  - Chantay Jones
- Immediate Past Commander: Bill Lienhop
- Adjutant: George Mitchell (Note: This position is appointed by the Commander)
- Chaplain: Tracy Blunier (Note: This position is appointed by the Commander)
- Judge Advocate: Kytly Frye (I) (Note: This position is appointed by the Commander)

Please thank Past Department Commander Bill Lienhop for again running a successful nomination and election process for the Post. He conducts everything with honesty and integrity. That ensures there are no problems or complaints. Thank you Commander Lienhop!

Please also thank all these Legionnaires for either remaining in office or for stepping forward to take on a new position. The Post has a great leadership team that works hard and well together for the best interests of the Post as a whole. Please support them in their efforts.

## Commander's Column Cont'd

There are other opportunities to serve the Post in various capacities. Please talk with any Officer about your interests and skill set. We will endeavor to help you find a position that is "best" for you. (Best = You like serving in that area and bring something to the work that helps the Post and our members.)

Appreciation and Congratulations are also due to the Officers of our Legion Family, ALA Unit 160 and SAL Squadron 160. Thank you all for what you do to help and support the work of the American Legion!

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to two long term members and Post Officers. Harold and Denise Watkins were married in the Post, where they met. So Post 160 is more than "just" a Post to them. They are moving to Florida in June, and we wish them well in retirement. They will be missed.

Harold served in multiple Officer positions at the Post. He is a Past Post Commander and a Past 5th District Commander. He is a long-standing member of the Boys State Staff. He served on the Post Executive Committee as the Immediate Past Commander for the last 7 years.

Denise Watkins served in several Officer positions during her time at the Post. She most recently served as our Adjutant for about the last 5 years. She has trained many Adjutants in the 5th District and elsewhere, and she is the best Adjutant in the District.

Thank you Harold and Denise for your many years of service!

Memorial Day went very well again this year. The Ceremony was top-notch as always. I believe our event sets a standard by which other Posts and communities measure their work.

Legionnaire Dr. Joel Desaulniers was a marvelous Keynote Speaker for the event. The New Praise Choir from Smyrna First United Methodist Church in Smyrna gave exceptional performances (again). The Army JROTC Cadets from Campbell High School always excel in their work and are a credit to our community. Local Pastors Herb Zabel (TRU 2:42 Church) and Jamal Wright (Reviving Generations Church) gave moving prayers to start and conclude the event.

Thank you to the members of the Smyrna Veterans Committee (SVC) who plan and conduct the ceremonies for Memorial Day and Veterans Day. The SVC has been led for the past 7 years by Denise Watkins.

Anyone interested in becoming involved with the SVC and helping us do this work is encouraged to speak with any Post Officer. The SVC meets once a month at the Post.

## Commander's Column Cont'd

The lunch at the Post following the Memorial Day Ceremony was wonderful and very well attended. Several hundred members and local citizens enjoyed a great lunch of BBQ and fried catfish with sides prepared by Chef David Shoffner. Club Manager Rodney Turner kept everyone supplied with beverages. Both worked very hard that day.

ALA Unit 160 and SAL Squadron 160 prepared and sold the food. Many members volunteered to help run food orders to customers, clean up, take orders, etc. Thanks to everyone who had a hand in making this a wonderful Legion Family event!

I finish my year as 5th District Commander on 30 June. It has been a rewarding and enlightening experience. I learned a lot about the American Legion and the other 18 Posts that comprise the "Mighty 5th District." Thank you for the honor of representing you and Post 160 in this role.

I am a candidate for election to a Department of Georgia Vice Commander position at the annual Department Convention at the end of June. As of this writing, there are 6 candidates for 5 positions. I leave it in God's hands to select the ones who will serve in this role. I appreciate the support of the Post 160 Legion Family in these endeavors.

Finally, I need to thank our Legionnaires for again placing your trust in me to lead the Post for another year. LY 2025 will be my 8th year as Post Commander. That is the longest tenure in Post 160 history. But, whatever my record might be, it will be broken by someone in the future. I don't care about records. I care about serving Veterans. I care about serving our community. Thank you for the honor of representing you. It is a highlight of my life.

Best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy Summer!

Wade S. Lnenicka  
American Legion Department of Georgia  
5th District Commander  
Commander Post 160  
Candidate for Department Vice Commander



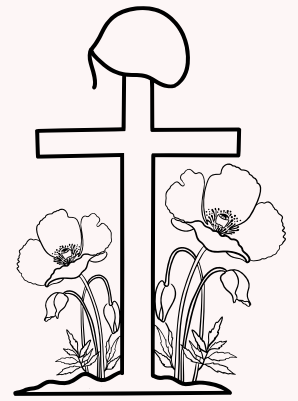
# Smyrna Veterans Day Ceremony



The City of Smyrna, Smyrna Veterans Committee, and American Legion Post 160 Smyrna recognize and wish to express gratitude to the following organizations and individuals for their support and assistance for today's ceremony:

Mayor Derek Norton, The City of Smyrna  
Smyrna City Council Members  
Richard Garland, Director, Smyrna Parks and Recreation Department  
Eric Randall, Director, Smyrna Public Works Department  
LTC Michael Hulsey, Campbell High School Junior ROTC Battalion  
Chief Keith Zgonc, Smyrna Police  
Chief Brian Marcos, Smyrna Fire Department  
Jennifer Bennett, Director, Smyrna Community Relations





**Honoring the  
memory of those  
that paid the  
ultimate price**



# Spotlight on Veteran's Support



Post 160 Legionnaire Donavan Wade presents an autographed baseball to Elaine Isley. Elaine represents the Smyrna Little League (SLL) Board of Directors. The baseball is signed by Hall of Fame member Don Sutton. The baseball was donated by Legionnaire Donavan Wade to the Post for the purpose of supporting the annual fundraiser for the SLL. Post 160 is a proud sponsor for the SLL and has been for many decades.



Post 160 Legionnaire Donavan Wade, Elaine Isley representing the Smyrna Little League (SLL) Board of Directors, and Post 160 Commander Wade Lnenicka are shown with 3 autographed baseballs. The baseballs were donated by Legionnaire Donavan Wade and Adventure Outdoors owner Jay Wallace to the Post for the purpose of supporting the annual fundraiser for the SLL. Post 160 is a proud sponsor for the SLL and has been for many decades.

# HOLIDAY FOOD GIVEAWAY

Hello All,

What a way to honor our Veterans, during Military Appreciation Month. Our Memorial Day Food Giveaway was a great success! Nineteen families picked up food from the food pantry. Eleven of the families that picked up were Veterans. Chantay Jones invited the Veterans to visit or join our Post. I had a great helper in Chantay, from beginning to end. She did a lot of heavy lifting. As she can attest, the families picked up hearty boxes of food. In addition, they received a bag of meat that covered breakfast, lunch, and dinner. To top it off, they received bread and milk too.

We do have extra remaining in the food pantry for walk-ins to the Post. There are six packed boxes and six bags of meat in the big freezer.

All in all, it was a good day! Shout out to Chef for ensuring Chantay and I were nourished.

Best,

Eustacia McCloud Carter  
Food Pantry Chair



## Food Pantry News

There is a box in the lobby for food donations. We'll collect food donations every Thursday. You can still donate at any time. We'll accept gladly! We'll also have quarterly monetary donations. Stay tuned!

We provide a much needed service to our Veterans and our local community. The giving of food is the least we can do! Thank you for continued support.

For our veterans and the local community in need. The food pantry provides perishable and non-perishable food items.

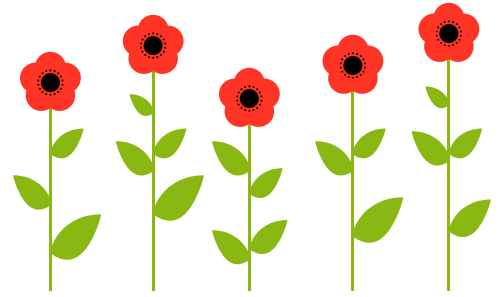


Reservations are requested of recipients.

Post160foodpantry@gmail.com  
770-284-1557



## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



Thank you to everyone that volunteered and supported the Auxiliary during the poppie distribution. All efforts contributed to it's great success.



It's Time To

# RIDE



Dept of Georgia ALR 5th District Presents

## 2nd Annual USO Georgia Ride

### Saturday, June 8th

**START:** Post 294 Powder Springs, GA with several stops planned. **ENDS:** Post 294 for lunch and Silent Auction & 50/50

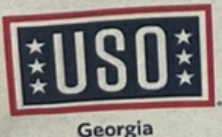
### Register 9 - 10:30 AM

KSU: 11:00 AM | Riders \$25 | Passengers \$5



## Ride & Support USO Georgia

as they support Active Duty Troops through events, refreshments, care packages, information services, and so much more! Direct outreach to Ft. Moore, Ft. Gordon, Ft. Stewart, and the National Guard.



## \$5,000 Goal



50/50  
Auction



Silent Auction  
\$1 & \$5 Ticket Sales



Lunch  
Available

AMERICAN LEGION POST 160

PRESENTS



# COUNTRY MUSIC



& LINE DANCE LESSONS  
Every  
Wednesday



Doors open at 4PM  
Dancing starts at 6PM



# GEORGIA BOYS STATE

Georgia Boys State is a comprehensive one week course in state and local government and is a program of the American Legion Department of Georgia. This year's session will begin on June 9 2024 and conclude June 15 2024, and will be held at Valdosta State University.

Boys State is a “leadership action program” where qualified male high school rising seniors take part in a practical government course. It is designed to develop a working knowledge of the structure of government and to impress upon the citizens the fact that our government is just what we make it.

**Please contact your local  
American Legion Post or your  
guidance Counselor for more  
information.**

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***For more information visit,***

**[HTTPS://WWW.DOGBOYSSTATE.ORG/](https://www.dogboysstate.org/)**

# GEORGIA GIRLS STATE

**Interested in learning how to protect your freedoms?  
Get in on the Action! Apply right now!**

**Girls State is an action packed government simulation program for girls, who will complete their junior year of high school in May 2024. The objective is to provide “hands on” training in city, county, and state government. All levels of government are explored; executive, legislative and judicial. As a citizen you will participate in a variety of activities. Learn the importance of your role in our government. Meet girls from all over the state of Georgia, and establish life-long friendships!**

**Please contact your local  
American Legion Auxiliary Unit  
or your guidance Counselor for  
more information.**

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***For more information visit,***

**[HTTPS://WWW.GEORGIAGIRLSSTATE.ORG/](https://www.georgiagirlsstate.org/)**



# 2024



## June

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| 30 | Tuesday June 4 @ 7:00<br>Executive Board meeting |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  | Tuesday June 11 @ 7:00<br>General Membership meeting |  |
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### We're open on Wednesdays

Every Thursday Night - 6:30 Trivia

Every Friday Night - 7PM Karaoke with DJ Twitch

Every Saturday - 6PM Music Bingo

Every Saturday - 7:30PM Queen of Hearts drawing

