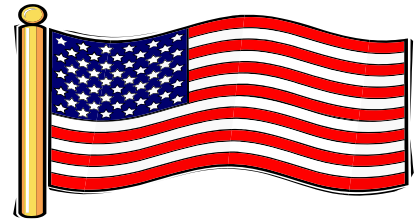


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AMERICAN LEGION POST 1239
601 S. CLINTON ST.
AVISTON, IL 62216
(618) 228-7311



January 2025
Commander, Dale Rakers
Editor, Chuck Schrage
www.avistonlegion.com

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings,

The Legion Christmas Party was a good turn out from all organizations. Thanks to Deb and Barb for their work on the games played that evening.

A review of the past year was requested. The Legion mentioned the solar panels have been installed and the electric bills have been the minimum every month since. It was mentioned that the Legion is looking into a cleaning machine also. Mary Peek mentioned some of the Auxiliary achievements that they held and Dennis Rakers mentioned some of the SAL events they are hosting.

The December meeting was short due to being the Christmas Party. All readings were skipped, financial report was given, and service officer report was given. It was mentioned that we will be giving away tickets to the Citizens for Aviston event at our next meeting.

Demonstration for a cleaning machine was given by Hillyard Supply and a price was given. We will have another demonstration be Royal Whole Sales from Mt. Vernon on January 9th.

It was mentioned that the dance floor upstairs needs to be refinished. Bids are being sought and will have them for the next meeting.

We are also checking on prices for cleaning the aprons and towels as Clean prices have increased.

The new Marquee should be in sometime in January.

I would like to thank all volunteers who have been part of helping with the day to day work around the Legion Home and the many events we have. This is something that we cannot do without. Thanks to all the Auxiliary & SAL who help with funerals, rummage sales and pork dinners. Volunteer help is always hard to get. THANKS TO THOSE WHO COME OUT AND HELP!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Just a reminder the 550 raffle is going on every Wednesday.

Commander Dale Rakers

AUXILIARY NEWS

The Mondt-Lampe Auxiliary meeting was called to order by Pres Mary Peek on Tues, Dec 17.

The Aux Charter was draped for member Sarah Ratermann. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Rocky and his family.

A big thanks to Peggy T and her crew for the Hero's Christmas program. Another outstanding reminder of why we can celebrate Christmas and what the military does for all of us.

"Soup Dinner" - Wed, Jan 8!! Meals can be picked up at the Legion between 4pm and 7pm. Choice of potato soup or chili with corn bread and cake. Price:\$8.00. Order deadline is Dec 31. Pre-order with Venmo to: AvistonAmericanLegion Auxiliary1239. Preorder is necessary to know how much to prepare.

The Legion Family Christmas party was full of Christmas cheer and thankful for another successful year. Happy hour, dinner, games, and a lot of fellowship was shared by all.

The Legion Booking position is open. Debi L has filled this position for many years....time to pass the torch. If interested, contact Debi, 618-581-1950. Thanks so much Debi for all you do. She will help with training through the transition.

Peggy T has been our Treasurer for many years. She wants to share this opportunity with someone else! Give it some thought. You have until Jul 2025 to decide. Thanks Peggy....Great Job!

Membership reviewed and approved the 2025 Aux Constitution, General Rules, and Meal Contract.

April P will again lead the Scratch-off boards raffle this year with 4 fish dinners added. Ticket sales will begin in Feb with the drawing at the April meeting.

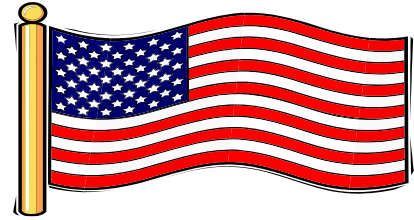
Peggy T briefed us on the "Derby Day", May 3. WOW! What a day it will be. Tickets will be available for purchase on line in Feb. Peggy and Michelle K are getting us up-to-date with automation. Thanks girls!!

Mary outlined the Aux accomplishments in 2024. We have a lot to be proud. Give yourself a pat on the back. That's what good leadership and cooperation does. **Next mtg Tues, Jan 21,7pm.**

Happy New Year to all!! Barb H Aux Rpt

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SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION (SAL) SQUADRON 1239

NOTES AND HAPPENINGS

The regular meeting of the Aviston S.A.L. Squadron 1239 was called to order at 7:30 PM at the Aviston Legion on 12/10/24 by Commander Greg Riechman, with 37 members present.

A moment of silence was held in memory of SAL father James "Jim" Rakers. Our condolences to Dennis "Rocky" Rakers and his entire family.

Thanks to everyone that attended "A Heroes Christmas: Military Tribute & Christmas Sing-A-Long" on December 8th. Thanks also to those who helped with set-up/tear-down, and special thanks to the Auxiliary for doing an incredible job once again!

Please mark your calendars, as SAL assistance will be needed for the following upcoming events:

- New Year's Day @Aviston Legion (please see the Worker's List and make sure that your shift is covered!)
- 19th Annual Black-Tie & Talent Show @Hidden Lake Winery (Saturday, January 11th @5 PM)
 - Help is needed at HLW on Thursday, January 9th (stage pick-up at Jim Kues' house @5 PM / set-up at HLW @6PM)

Many thanks to everyone that purchased a ticket for the "Aviston Kopff Park Playground Raffle" for a Polaris 570 Ranger, and special thanks to Rocky Rakers, Dean "Hash" Horstmann and Jake Richter for running the project.

Sick Call: Ryan Haukap (and continued prayers to the Ratermann and Rakers families for the recent loss of Mrs. Sarah Ratermann and Mr. Jim Rakers).

Hash's cash: Pete Bob Ottensmeier picked the six of clubs.

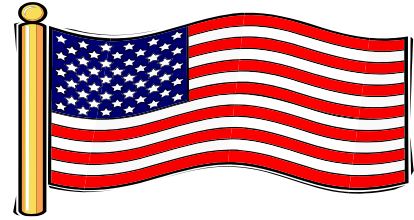
Next Fish Fry: **Marvin Ratermann's** Crew on January 17th.

Next Meeting: January 14th @7:30 PM at the Legion.

Finally, I want to wish everyone in the SAL, Auxiliary, and Legion a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2025! ...and we'd also love to see you at our Black-Tie event!

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Cmdr: Greg Riechman

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fish Fry – AUX

Ottensmeier Christmas Party

Gun Club Meeting

Fish Fry – Legion

Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby

SAL Meeting – 7:30

Vietnam Veterans Meeting

Exec Board Meeting – 7:00 PM

Fish Fry – SAL

Top Ag Holiday Party

Legion Meeting – 7:00 PM

Auxiliary Meeting – 7:00 PM

K of C Meeting

Fish Fry – K of C

Fish Fry – 5th Friday - Auxiliary

HEROES PUB HOURS

Fri Jan 3

Sun Jan 5

Tues Jan 7

Fri Jan 10

Sat/Sun Jan 11/12

Tues Jan 14

Wed Jan 15

Thurs Jan 16

Fri Jan 17

Sat Jan 18

Mon Jan 20

Tues Jan 21

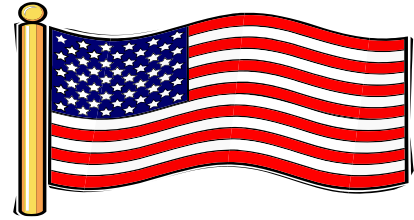
Thurs Jan 23

Fri Jan 24

Fri Jan 31

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Tues – Thurs

6:00 pm - 12:00 am

Fri – Sat

4:00 pm – 1:00 am

Sunday

3:00 pm - ???
