

SEPTEMBER, 2024



AMERICAN LEGION BOONE POST 4 MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

Legion Officers – 2nd Sunday 2 pm

Commander – Dan Rouse
1st Vice – Dan “Gunny” Finke
2nd Vice – Dennis Garnett
Adjutant - Joann Hollis
Finance – Doug Brashear
Judge Advocate – Ralph Dinn
Sgt. At Arms – Chris Borchers
Chaplain – Rick Hopple
Service Officer – Rick Hopple
Exec. Board – Mike Moses
Exec. Board – Mike Sera
Exec. Board – Rosemary Moorman
Exec. Board – Gary Reed
Exec. Board – Teddy Floyd

Auxiliary Officers – 3rd Wed 6:30 pm

President– Nancy Moses
1st Vice – Tina Wade
2nd Vice – Darla Mattsson
Secretary – Joann Harvey
Treasurer – Joann Harvey
Chaplain – Linda Borchers
Historian – Vacant
Sgt. At Arms – Pam Goodman
Asst. Sgt. At Arms – Bonnie Smith

Sons of Legion – 3rd Tues 6 pm

Commander – Bill Doyle
1st Vice – Norb Lankheit
2nd Vice – Vacant
Adjutant – Mike Brokamp
Finance – Paul Wells
Historian – Ron Cornelius
Sgt. At Arms – Bobby Merrell
Chaplain – Mike Beach

Legion Riders – 1st Wed 7 pm

Director – Danny Rouse
Vice Director – Tom Gadd
Secretary – Rich & Dan
Treasurer – Chuck Clark
Sgt at Arms – Rich Eilers
Chaplain – Ralph Dinn
Historian – Tom Gadd

CONTACT US:

American Legion Boone Post 4
8385 U.S. Hwy 42
Florence, KY 41042
859-817-0924

Website: boonepost4.org

Rouseflor@aol.com

Commanders Corner

Boone Post 4 is in a good place. Our finances are showing positive results and our Charitable Gaming revenue is helping to get our total funding picture back where it should be. Our reorganization is moving along smoothly; however, I caution everyone that we are taking “baby steps” toward completion. This reorganization is progressing, but its end date is still a few months off. Please be assured that your Post 4 officers are putting in many hours to accomplish this huge initiative.



As your Post Commander, I am increasingly concerned about the low turnout at our monthly Legion meetings that are held the second Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. In recent meetings, I have counted half a dozen to maybe a dozen members present besides Post officers. With over 250 members on our rolls, I find this lack of attendance troubling. Other Posts have similar problems, so this is nothing new or alarming, however, we do see many members frequenting the Post Bar area throughout the month that are not taking the time to attend meetings. This, I believe, is a problem.

The officers of Boone Post 4 govern the activities of the Post based upon the desires of the membership. By not attending meetings you are leaving the responsibility of guiding our Post to just a few members, or in some cases to the best intentions of the officers themselves, without full input of our membership. Is this what you as a member want? I am not stating that our current officers are doing a bad job or anything improper. What I am stating is: Do you have concerns or issues that are not being addressed? Do you believe that the Post should be working different initiatives? Do you know what is happening at the Post, and why? Good Posts have an active membership that attends meetings, volunteers for activities, and gets involved with the how the Post is run.

A dozen members can keep the Post running, but I believe that most of our membership wants more than just a “Card Carrying” Post. Most American Legion members really want an active Post that includes fellowship with other Veterans, engaging Post events, practicing the programs of The American Legion, and assisting our Veterans and the local community. They also have an active relationship with the Auxiliary and the Sons of the Legion. I firmly believe that our membership cares about Boone Post 4, including the performance of our officers and the programs that we pursue. Our membership meetings are only an hour or two out of your busy week. I urge you to not only attend these meetings, but also to give your Post a little of your time during the week. We need your guidance, your help in assisting Veterans, and your oversight of our leadership and mission. It is your Post—Get Involved!

Financial Team Report

Our Finances are in good condition. All Post accounts are at a positive state as our September Finance Report will show. However, we do have a few major annual bills that are payable in the next month or so. It will probably take another few months to get past these major expenditures and have some reserve money to fall back on, if necessary.

We have streamlined the number of bank accounts from eight to four. The Honor Guard account was given back to them to manage; the Building Fund and Can accounts were absorbed into the General account; and the payroll account was placed under the Bar account. This will place all expenses into the proper category and allow for easier oversight by management and the membership.



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We will have summarized detailed presentations on all Post finances at every membership meeting. This will provide to the members in attendance a clear description of our income and expenditures for the month and our overall financial position. This is your chance to ask questions or to ask for more clarification if there is something that you do not understand,

It is up to you, the membership, to constantly review and question our financial reports. This is the "audit check" of our management of Post funds, and it is your duty as a member to ask questions if something is questionable or just does not seem right. We are all human, and mistakes do happen. If we have made an error someplace, we also need to know so it can be corrected before infecting other parts of our financial system.

Post Bar Updates

As part of the overall reorganization of the Post, we realize that we must make several changes to the management and operation of the Post Bar.

First and foremost is that we are selling some items at a loss because current pricing does not fully recover the actual cost of that item. There has not been a price change to bar in at least seven years. At the same time prices for everything has risen significantly over the past few years. We do not want to raise prices on anything, but we are forced to do so or we will have to start funding the bar from other accounts. The changes will be as small as possible while still making each item profitable.

We are treating our Post Bar as a business. As an American Legion our profit margins are lower than what a commercial bar would be because of our mission to serve our Veterans and to keep prices low, however, we still must make a profit to stay solvent.

The Post is going through a remodel that includes painting of the ceiling and walls in the Bar. As part of this, some items will not be put back up on the walls and you may see some new items. As a member of Boone Post 4 you may voice your opinion as to what the Bar will look like after the remodel. If there are conflicting ideas over major changes, they will be voted on at the next member meeting and the majority side will have the final say-so.

Please contact any Executive Committee member if you have an opinion, idea, or criticism that you would like to share. In the meantime, please consider attending our Post 4 membership meetings where we often discuss the Post remodel and many other Post issues.

Memorial Hall Rentals

We have revised the contract and back-up documents for Hall Rentals. All parts of the contract must be signed when reserving the Hall. Additionally, the Hall Rental deposit must be paid at the time the contract is signed.

A valid contract to reserve the Hall does not exist until the contract is fully signed and the minimum Hall deposit is paid. Additionally, the remaining Hall Rental costs and the cleaning deposit must be paid by 30-days prior to the event.

These measures are being taken to ensure that the Hall is available and in good condition for the next user. There have also been a few double bookings that have caused last minute changes in the past. These revised procedures will illuminate these.

How Well Do You Know Your Northern Kentucky Honor Guard?

I am not talking about the individuals that make up this unit, but rather what the Honor Guard is and what it does. Most of us have seen Honor Guard Members at the Post, wearing a military uniform, sometimes having a beer, and seldom staying late. If that is the extent of what you know about the Honor Guard, then you do not know very much.



The Honor Guard provides military honors at Veteran funerals all over Northern Kentucky and metropolitan Cincinnati whenever called upon by veteran families or funeral homes. They do this anywhere between 100 to 150 times a year. The average funeral takes about four hours out of the middle of the day. They perform these duties in all kinds of weather, from blistering heat with no shade to single-digit temperatures; from hot dry days to gale force windstorms; from pouring rain to snow blizzards. Some grave-side services are relatively fast, lasting about 20 minutes,



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others last up to 90 minutes or more. It is not easy standing at attention or parade rest for those periods of time. Did I mention that many of our Honor Guard members are at over 60 years old?

What do Honor Guard members receive in return for rendering these services? NOTHING! The members who drive everyone to the funerals do get reimbursed for the use of their vehicles. This money comes directly from the donations provided by the Veteran's family. After such expenses, every penny of these donations is subsequently donated to worthy Veteran and community causes, including Post 4. Rest assured that no one on the Honor Guard ever benefits personally from their participation.

Why am I writing this article? Because our Honor Guard needs YOU! During the Winter months several of our members become "snow birds" until Spring. Additionally, some of our members are getting old or may have medical issues that prevents them from participating. To provide a complete ceremony we should have about 11 members falling out; however, we seldom have that many. I am asking that you consider joining us if you have the time and are able medically to participate. We can certainly use your help.

Regardless if you decide to help with Veteran funeral honors ceremonies, I will ask for your support for our program and Boone Post 4 in general. If you have any questions about the Honor Guard or if you are interested to learn more about our Honor Guard, please contact me, Craig Beech, any time at (513) 526-5317.

6th District Meeting

Remember to mark your calendar for the first 6th District meeting of the Legion calendar year that will be held at American Legion Boone Post 4 on October 5th, 2024. 12:00 is registration, 1:00 p.m. is food and 2:00 p.m. is the meeting start date.

Quarters In – Paddles Up: Auxiliary Quarter Auction – November 9, 2024

The American Legion Auxiliary Boone Post 4's first ever Quarter Auction will be held on November 9, 2024, in our Post Hall starting at 2 pm to raise funds for the Auxiliary to help our Veterans, our Military and our community. A quarter auction is an event where you bring lots or quarters or buy them at the door and bid on baskets filled with great items. This is a great time to start Christmas shopping and get some great deals. If you would like to donate a basket, please contact Nancy Moses at 859-630-7941. Deadline for basket donations of items is October 25th, 2024. (See attached flyer)

Post Website & Social Media

We have been working on the Post's Internet presence for the past couple of months and are finally seeing some positive changes in both platforms. There are constant changes being made to these Post marketing platforms, so check back often. This is especially true for the Post website.

We had to develop a new Facebook page for the Post. It can be accessed at **boonepost4** by entering in the Facebook search bar. The website address is the same, but with .org at the end. **Boonepost4.org**

I do understand that there are several Post 4 websites and Facebook links on the Internet if you do a search. There is nothing that we can do at the present time to delete these unauthorized sites, but we are trying.

Questions for the Post?

Do you have a question about Legion or Post policies or a particular issue involving our Post that you would like everyone to hear the answer? Your elected Post officers try to address all member issues that are brought to their attention, however, sometimes these answers get a little twisted after that are communicated. If you have an issue that you want an answer to, please feel free to put it in writing and leave it at the Lounge for the Executive Committee or Commander to address. We will respond directly to the individual or we can place the answer in the next Newsletter so everyone can see the response. We will keep your name confidential if you wish. You can also email the Commander at rouseflor@aol.com to submit questions. The Newsletter Editor will start a Post Forum section if there is enough interest.

Upcoming Events

September 11th – 911 Observance

October 5th – District 6 Meeting at Post 4 – Registration 12 Noon, meal at 1:00 pm, Meeting at 2:00 pm

October 26th – Halloween Celebration (in the Hall, D.J. Finger Food, dancing. (SAL sponsored. \$15 per ticket)

November 9th – Auxiliary Quarter Auction (in the Hall, ALA sponsored, snacks, auction, fun)

November 10th – Boone Post 4 Membership Meeting

November 11th – Veterans Day



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Events Calendar

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Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
1	2 American Legion Boone Post 4 CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY	3	4 ALR Meeting 7:00 PM	5 Queen of Hearts <u>Drawing_ORG0000581</u> 7:15 PM	6 Karaoke 8:00 PM	7 Karaoke 8:00 PM
8 Monthly Legion Meeting 2:00 PM	9	10	11 FREE Dance Lessons (Swing, etc.) 7:00 PM	12 Queen of Hearts <u>Drawing_ORG0000581</u> 7:15 PM	13 Karaoke 8:00 PM	14 Karaoke 8:00 PM
15	16	17 SAL Meeting 6:00 PM	18 ALA Monthly Meeting 6:30 PM	19 Queen of Hearts <u>Drawing_ORG0000581</u> 7:15 PM	20 Karaoke 8:00 PM	21 Karaoke 8:00 PM
22	23	24	25 FREE Dance Lessons (Swing, etc.) 7:00 PM	26 Queen of Hearts <u>Drawing_ORG0000581</u> 7:15 PM	27 Karaoke 8:00 PM	28 Karaoke 8:00 PM
29	30					



QUARTER AUCTION



NOVEMBER 9th, 2025

Doors open at 1:00 p.m.

Auction begins at 2:00 p.m.

A Quarter Auction is a mix of bingo and auction. Guests bid on baskets and items with quarters and if their number is selected they win the item!

1st Paddle \$5
Add'l paddles \$2

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
BOONE UNIT 4
8385 U.S. 42
FLORENCE, KY 41042



**GOING,
GOING,
GONE!**

Event will have snacks and drinks for sale, raffles, and a great time at the Auction!

Additional Quarters will be available for purchase at the door.

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Volunteers Wanted

Have you ever thought about taking on a Post officer position? How about just volunteering a couple hours each month to do something around the Post or helping out as a member of some committee? We have plenty of opportunities for anyone wishing to help out at Post 4. None of our elected or appointed require any minimum educational degrees or proficiency with anything except for a little common sense. If you have some extra time we can use you.

Bartender Needed

We are still in need of at least one Bartender for our Post Club Room. Must have Bartender experience and good people skills. Our Bar is laid back and very friendly and the atmosphere is very friendly. We offer competitive pay. Please stop by and complete an application today if you are interested in joining our Team.

Boone Post 4 Webpage and Facebook

Have you visited our Internet webpage lately? We are updating our website all the time with updates as they become available. New content is also added whenever we find additional information that is pertinent to The Legion's core values. Our Facebook page is also being updates continually. No passwords are needed to access either the website of Facebook pages.

Website: boonepost4.org

Facebook: [boonepost4](https://www.facebook.com/boonepost4)

Any Improvements, Suggestions, or Concerns About Boone Post 4?

The monthly membership meeting is the perfect place to bring up any issues that you may have questions about. Other members may have similar concerns and this way everyone hears the answers. Let me remind everyone that the Post Bar is not the place to bring up Post business, and it is frowned on should you be observed participating in such conversations.

If your questions are of a private nature, you may contact the Post Commander anytime at:

Danny Rouse Cell Phone: (859) 512-8688 or Email: rouseflor@aol.com. You may also contact any Post Officers.