

# VETERANS VOICE

THE AMERICAN LEGION JONATHAN D. ROZIER POST 164 KATY TEXAS



January, 2026 NEWSLETTER (Harry Woodstrom, Editor)

## Commander's Chatter

By Morrow (Sandy) Krum (Post 164 Commander)

Happy New Year to all our Post Family. With the new year here, I would like to say that as a Post family we are doing so well. When I look around the 22<sup>nd</sup> District and listen to some of the things going on in surrounding Districts, our Post is a shining example of what "American Legion Family" means. The support that each of our Family groups gives to each other is awe inspiring. Let's keep this going into the new year.

We have some events coming up soon. The Annual Gary Tilton Memorial Awards dinner where we recognize some of our local area first responders will be held on February 21<sup>st</sup>. The American Legion Birthday Party will be on March 14<sup>th</sup>. April 25<sup>th</sup> we will be holding an American Legion Family Day for legion members and our community. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Deb Watson will be heading these up, so if you can please step up to assist her in the events.

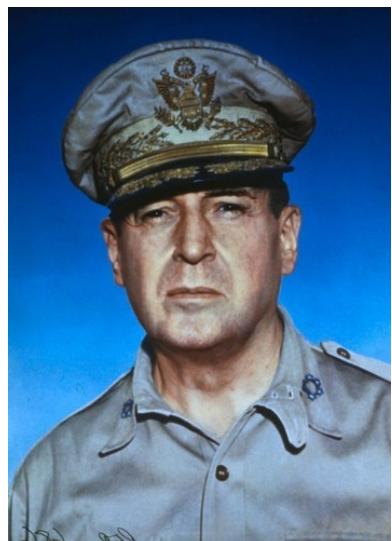
Our Sons group is continuing to hold their quarterly dinners. These will be opened to the public. All legion family members should try to attend and support our Sons.

Lets remember that our Legion Family is only going to get stronger with your active support and participation.



"Duty, Honor, Country...  
those three hallowed  
words dictate what you  
ought to be, what you  
can be, what you will be."

**Gen. Douglas MacArthur**



## **The Right to Bear Arms By Deb Watson (Post 164 2nd Vice Commander)**

Let me start by saying, I believe in being armed to protect my family, my country, and my property. Being armed, carrying a weapon has become common place in Texas. Many Veterans feel safer knowing that there is a gun in their vehicle, or a gun on their person. At our house, we have a closet dedicated to weapons. I call it the "Free State of Arnold."

When we were planning our trip to the Smoky Mountains, Larry was the one who said, "We are traveling through eight states and we need to know their gun laws". He registered for a concealed carry license and renewed his gun carry insurance.

I never really thought much about using a weapon for protection, until Larry and I were returning from our vacation trip. We had stopped in Bolivar, Tennessee to eat dinner. Bolivar is in Hardeman County, next town past Selmar, home of "Walking Tall" Sheriff Buford Pusser. While we were waiting for our dinner to be served, I had an uneasy feeling. I asked Larry to check the truck, to make sure it was ok. He came back in the restaurant and said, "It's fine." I still felt uneasy. When dinner was over, I walked around the truck, checking the tires. The left front tire had 4 ten penny nails in the tire in a row. The right front tire had 2 nails. I looked at Larry and said, "We have to get out of here before these tires deflate. This is intentional and they have a plan for us." I drove west on a very dark two lane road, heading to I-40. We had just left the city limits of Bolivar, when a car was following us and flashing its lights. I said to Larry, "Don't be scared, but we are being followed and they want us to pull over. Get your Betsy out of the glove compartment, take her out of the case, and put her right beside me so I can reach her. If these tires go flat and I have to pull over, we are not going to be robbed, car-jacked, or murdered without shots being fired." I was never so prepared to defend us as I was at that mom-

ment.

I kept on driving until I reached I-40 and pulled into a well lit service station. I called Road Assistance and they arrived in 15 minutes, changed out the one tire and repaired the other. We got back on I-40 and headed to Arkansas where we spent the night and felt safe. Next morning, we were on our way home to Texas.

## **Sons of the American Legion by Gene Britton (Squadron 164 Commander)**

February is a great time to think about how you want to step up and be a more active part of the Sons of the American Legion. This year we are looking for new leaders and members that want to assist us in having a great year. By looking at your own strengths and interests, you can match up with a great future position:

Commander – a good facilitator and supporter to those with their feet on the ground

Vice Commander – patriotic, socializer, and a people person (membership liaison)

Adjutant – great organizer, record keeper and news-caster of the group

Finance Officer – good with numbers and paying bills on time

Chaplain – spiritual leader and likes to be involved in ceremonies

Historian – story and image keeper of the year

Sergeant-at-Arms – guardian of the squadron and its personal effects

Our next meal will be Friday January 30<sup>th</sup> 6PM, It will be held at the Post.



## **American Legion Auxiliary By Alana Saboor (Unit 164 President)**

The American Legion Auxiliary is an organization that is open to the spouses, grandmothers, mothers, sisters, and descendants of Legionnaires, as well as female veterans themselves.

It is my belief that many military members and also non-military individuals are in the dark about the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary is a vital part of the American Legion. We as Auxiliary members support our Unit and Post in many ways.

Some of the ways include:

Wreaths Across America, Poppies, Pies for Hope, Turkey Dinners for Veterans and their families, Girls State, Breakfast with Veterans, Backpacks for school children in need, Fish Fry, etc. In raising funds, through various organizations, raising donations in the community. This allows us to help our Veterans' and our communities.

**The ALA has significant scholarship opportunities for Veterans and their families.**

### **Educational Scholarships**

For 2026, ALA National offers several significant scholarship opportunities for members and their families:

**Member Loyalty Scholarship:** ALA National awards ten \$2,500 gift scholarships to current college students who have been ALA members for at least three years.

**Children of Warriors Scholarship:** ALA National offers fifteen \$5,000 scholarships for children of veterans to pursue higher education.

**Non-Traditional Student Scholarship:** A \$2,000 award from ALA National for members or veterans returning to school later in life or after an educational interruption.

### **Community and Fellowship**

**Ready-Made Support System:** Joining a local unit provides a network of peers who share similar values and a dedication to the military community.

**Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF):** Members who have maintained membership for at least three consecutive years are eligible for national grants of up to \$3,000 to help during financial setbacks caused by natural disasters or personal crises.

The American Legion Auxiliary's declaration -- the story of who we are, what we do, and why we matter:

We are the American Legion Auxiliary.

We are called to serve.

We respect our country and the service of those who defend our freedoms.

We are loyal to our United States Constitution and to those who protect it.

We are humbled by the courage of our veterans and their families.

We are alone, yet we stand together.

We are of every color. We are of every faith.

We are of every age.

We are anyone and everyone.

We are common and extraordinary.

We are citizens.

We live in small towns.

We live in suburbs.

We live in cities.

We work in fields, in factories, warehouses, offices, at home.

We are a community. We help one another.

We love our flag and all that it stands for.

We are many. We are one.

We are the American Legion Auxiliary. A Community of Volunteers

Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families. We commit ourselves to the ideal: Service Not Self.

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY FAST STATS

3.2 million hours volunteered in serving veterans and military

Nearly 8,000 local Auxiliary units

Nearly \$7 million raised and spent on youth, scholarships, communities

If you have a heart of service, and want to make a difference the ALA is the place to come. We would be happy to have you join this wonderful organization.

Growth is a continuous journey of gaining skills, broadening perspectives, learning, and adapting to new experiences. Come and grow with the Auxiliary, you have nothing to lose. You will be amazed at how much you grow.

**Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon, is a prominent graduate of the Ohio American Legion Buckeye Boys State Program**

## District 22 Oratorical Contest

Post 164 hosted the 22<sup>nd</sup> District Oratorical Contest on January 11, 2026.

The positions of judges, timekeepers and score tabulators were filled with members of the local community and several area Post members.

Those in attendance were able to listen to three contestants. All the speeches were very well presented. The eventual winner was Adelie Rock representing James E. Taylor High School of the Katy Independent School District and Post 164. She will advance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Contest to be held on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations Adelie.



## LEGION POST 164 FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, the Post Family held its first joint Christmas Party. We had about 60 in attendance. Family members enjoyed a large variety of food. Everyone played a few rounds of bingo and door prizes. It was a great time to just visit and hang out for a few hours celebrating the Holiday Season. Please consider attending next year, you'll have a lot of fun!



### Major Richard Star Act

<https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Campaigns/116903/Respond>

The American Legion strongly supports the latest effort to eliminate the unjust offset that penalizes thousands of combat-injured veterans.

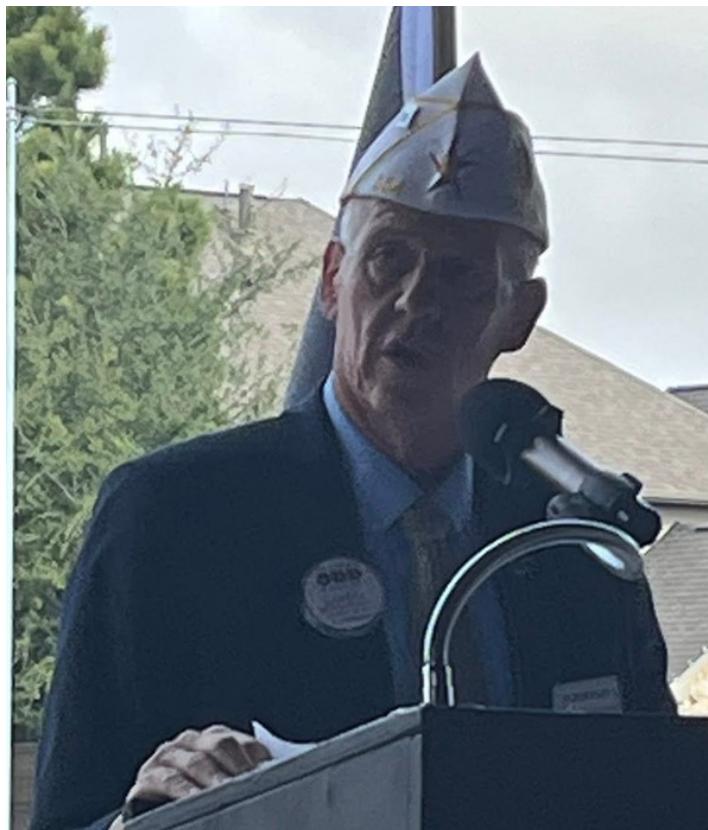
This long-overdue reform—backed by The American Legion and more than 60 other military and veteran organizations—would ensure that combat-injured retirees can receive both their Department of Defense retirement pay and the disability compensation earned through their sacrifices. Current law reduces retirement pay by the exact amount of VA disability compensation received, a policy that punishes wounded veterans for their service and injury. We call this what it is: a “wounded veteran tax,” and it must end.

The standalone bill has overwhelming bipartisan support, with 313 cosponsors in the House and 77 in the Senate as of January 2026—more than enough to pass if brought to a floor vote.

The American Legion urges Congress to do right by our nation’s combat-wounded heroes and pass this amendment without delay. These veterans have already paid more than their fair share.

## WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

On December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 The American Legion Post 164 Family conducted the annual wreath laying ceremony at Magnolia Cemetery in Katy. Many area VIPs were in attendance including State Representatives Mike Schofield and Matt Morgan; and Mayor of Katy, Dusty Theil. The keynote speaker was American Legion Department Commander Rich Huntley. The Sea Cadets presented the colors and the combined Honor Guard from American Legion Post 164 and VFW Post 9182 conducted the rifle salute with Steve Walker from Bugles Across America presenting taps. American Legion Post 164 also recognized our oldest member 101-year-old WWII Veteran Aaron Mendoza. The community was out in force and 575 wreaths were placed.



## Recent executive order removes barrier to research that could alleviate mental health issues and reduce veteran suicide rate, National Commander Wiley writes.

Dear American Legion Family members and friends,

Sometimes we measure our advocacy successes in months, or even sessions of Congress. In the case of the recent reclassification of cannabis, it took nearly a decade.

On Dec. 18, I was honored to participate in an Oval Office ceremony where President Trump signed an executive order directing federal agencies to remove outdated barriers to federally approved research into the therapeutic value of cannabis for veterans. The American Legion has called for reclassification of cannabis to recognize it “as a drug with potential medical value” as early as 2016 when it approved a resolution.

Here’s what the executive order means: It lifts the restrictions on large-scale, randomized clinical trials that could lead to solutions for veterans, first responders and others who are facing challenges with PTSD, TBI, sleep disruption, anxiety, depression and chronic pain.

I am so pleased that this obstacle has been set aside. Advances in cannabis research have the potential to lead to solutions that could alleviate these issues, and contribute to reducing suicide risk among veterans. If just one clinical trial yields a solution that can save the life of just one veteran, it will be worth it.

Just think what that will mean to The American Legion’s efforts to prevent suicide as part of our Be the One mission.

As we celebrate this achievement, let’s also be clear about one thing: The American Legion’s support for this executive order does not imply we support the legalization of cannabis for non-medical use. Reclassification does not mean legalization for recreational use, nor does it mandate use of potential clinical options. It simply removes outdated federal barriers to critical research.

Through years of engagement with veterans and clinicians, we have learned how cannabis can be life changing for some individuals. With the signing of this executive order, science-backed solutions can be reached and more veterans’ lives could be saved.

Dan K. Wiley

## January Schedule

17 Jan, Sat 10am	7pm American Legion Riders Chapter 164 Katy - Meeting
WAA Wreath Cleanup	24 Jan, Sat 10:30am
Magnolia Cemetery, 6801 Franz Rd, Katy, TX 77493, USA	City of Katy - Historical Marker
18 Jan, Sun 11:30am	Harvest Plaza, downtown Katy, TX.
ALR Chapter 164 Katy Rider Skills Practice	1pm Nafud Temple #80 Meeting
6301 S Stadium Ln, Katy, TX 77494	Upstairs room
2pm 2nd Division Oratorical Contest	26 Jan, Mon 6pm
Jersey Village Civic Center, 16327 Lakeview Dr. Jersey Village, Texas 77040	Post 164 Board of Trustees Meeting
2pm ALA New Member Orientation	American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post, 22125 Kingsland Blvd #164, Katy, TX 77450, USA
Downstairs room	27 Jan, Tue
19 Jan, Mon 8:30am	AL Department of Texas Mid-Winter Conference (Day 1/6)
Post 164 - West Side Maid clean-up	28 Jan, Wed
20 Jan, Tue 6pm	AL Department of Texas Mid-Winter Conference (Day 2/6)
Post Social Hour	29 Jan, Thu
Downstairs room	AL Department of Texas Mid-Winter Conference (Day 3/6)
6:30pm Post Training	7pm Civil Air Patrol
Downstairs room	American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, 22125 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77450, USA
7pm Post 164 Membership Meeting	30 Jan, Fri
Downstairs room	AL Department of Texas Mid-Winter Conference (Day 4/6)
21 Jan, Wed 7pm	6pm SAL Dinner
ALA Unit 164 Membership Meeting	7pm Post Game Night
Downstairs room	American Legion Post 164, Upstairs
22 Jan, Thu 7pm	31 Jan, Sat
Civil Air Patrol	AL Depart of Texas Mid-Winter Conference (Day 5)
Post 164 - downstairs meeting room	
23 Jan, Fri 7pm	
Post Game Night	
American Legion Post 164, Upstairs	

## February Schedule

1 Feb, Sun

AL Department of Texas Mid-Winter Conference (Day 6/6)

3 Feb, Tue 7pm

Post 164 Executive Committee Meeting

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post, 22125 Kingsland Blvd #164, Katy, TX 77450, USA

4 Feb, Wed 6:30pm

Group Counseling and Bible Study

Upstairs Meeting Room

5 Feb, Thu 1pm

VA Stakeholder Meeting

Katy Christian Ministries (KCM), 3506 Porter Rd., Katy, TX 77493, USA

7pm Civil Air Patrol

Upstairs meeting room

7pm Sons of the American Legion Squadron 164 Meeting

6 Feb, Fri 7pm

Post Game Night

American Legion Post 164, Upstairs

7 Feb, Sat 7am

Breakfast with a Veteran

Katy Elks Lodge, 1050 Katy Fort Bend Rd, Katy, TX 77493

7am Legion Riders Skill Practice

Leonard E. Merrell Center, 6301 S Stadium Ln, Katy, TX 77494, USA

11:15am Honor Guard Practice

VFW Post #9182

2pm Four Chaplains

Venture Christian Church, 5425 Morton Rd, Katy, TX 77493, USA

6pm Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Alumni

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post 164, 22125 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77450, USA

8 Feb, Sun 4pm

Super Bowl Watch Party

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, 22125 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77450, USA

10 Feb, Tue

AL Post 164 Newsletter Deadline

11 Feb, Wed 6:30pm

Group Counseling and Bible Study

Upstairs Meeting Room

12 Feb, Thu 6pm

Post Night Out

Spring Creek Barbeque, 21000 Katy Fwy, Katy, TX 77449, USA

7pm Civil Air Patrol Meeting

Downstairs room

13 Feb, Fri 7pm Post Game Night

American Legion Post 164, Upstairs

7pm JSSP Meeting

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post, 22125 Kingsland Blvd #164, Katy, TX 77450, USA

14 Feb, Sat 7am Rodeo Parade

VFW Post 9182 & Auxiliary, 6206 George Bush Dr, Katy, TX 77492, USA

6pm Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Alumni

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post 164, 22125 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77450, USA

## February Schedule Continued

15 Feb, Sun 11:30am

ALR Chapter 164 Katy Rider Skills Practice

6301 S Stadium Ln, Katy, TX 77494

16 Feb, Mon 8:30am

Post 164 - West Side Maid clean-up

17 Feb, Tue 6pm

Post Social Hour

Downstairs room

6:30pm Post Training

Downstairs room

7pm Post 164 Membership Meeting

Downstairs room

18 Feb, Wed 6:30pm

Group Counseling and Bible Study

Upstairs Meeting Room

7pm ALA Unit 164 Membership Meeting

Downstairs room

19 Feb, Thu 7pm

Civil Air Patrol

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, 22125 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77450, USA

20 Feb, Fri 7pm

Post Game Night

American Legion Post 164, Upstairs

21 Feb, Sat 6pm

Gary Tilton Memorial Awards

Katy Elks Lodge #2628, 1050 Katy Fort Bend Rd, Katy, TX 77493, USA

23 Feb, Mon 6pm

Post 164 Board of Trustees Meeting

American Legion Post 164, Katy TX, American Legion Post, 22125 Kingsland Blvd #164, Katy, TX 77450, USA

25 Feb, Wed 6:30pm

Group Counseling and Bible Study

Upstairs Meeting Room

26 Feb, Thu 7pm

Civil Air Patrol

Post 164 - downstairs meeting room

27 Feb, Fri 7pm

Post Game Night

American Legion Post 164, Upstairs

7pm American Legion Riders Chapter 164 Katy - Meeting

28 Feb, Sat 1pm

Nafud Temple #80 Meeting

Upstairs room