



The Kingsport Legionnaire

THE AMERICAN LEGION Hammond Post No. 3, Inc.

Newsletter for September/October 2026



Post meetings are every third Monday of the month, 6 P. M.
in the Eastman Conference Room, 2nd Floor of the
V.O. Dobbins Community Center, 301 Louis Street, Kingsport 37660

Next meetings are September 21, 2026 @ Golden Corral; October 19, 2026.

COMMANDER'S CORNER: I hope this newsletter finds you well. It has been a while since we had a newsletter. 2025-2026 was a busy year with our very own Todd McKinley serving as Department of Tennessee Commander. We gave JROTC Medals to deserving cadets at Dobyns-Bennett, West Ridge and Sullivan East High Schools; gave two School Awards to graduating seniors at Dobyns-Bennett and West Ridge high schools; held three fundraisers at Freddy's raising over \$450 for Post activities; decorated over 1,000 graves for Memorial Day; the Honor Guard conducted military honors at 207 funerals accumulating 16,500 service hours; the post was mentioned 75 times in local print and broadcast media; one person donated 6 pints of blood; 2 persons conducted a Flag Etiquette class to 65 fourth graders at Providence Academy; participated in Memorial Day in Veteran Day ceremonies; finally, the post participated in 4th of July, Fun Fest and Christmas parades. Angelo Pellitteri, Commander

POST OFFICERS:

Post Commander: Angelo A. Pellitteri
Past Post Commander: Gary R. Stidham
Honor Guard Commander: Nancy Rachel
1st Vice Commander: Todd McKinley
2nd Vice Commander: Gary R. Stidham
Adjutant: Nancy Rachel
Finance Officer: Angelo A. Pellitteri
County Veteran Service Officer: Hunter Woodall

POST EVERLASTING:

- Millard Burton
- Bill "Buck" Conan
- Walt Denson, Jr.
- Hansel Fleming
- Robert Jenkins
- Gary Jeno
- Bruce Poitrast
- Ralph Sanders

SICK CALL:

- Traian Comsa
- Gene Vermillion
- E. Paul Bowman
- Keith & Wanda Hawkins

To add members to the list contact:

Ellen Burchfield (423) 246-6991

Angelo A. Pellitteri (423) 276-5358

HONOR GUARD: The Post 3/265 Honor Guard is looking for volunteers. It is our most visible service in the community. The Honor Guard provides military funeral honors for local veterans and firing parties for Memorial and Veterans days. They average 5 - 10 funerals per month with fifty-eight so far this year. Uniforms are provided. Transportation is provided for all events. If you are interested in this important service, email Nancy Rachel at nancerachel@embarqmail.com.

SEPTEMBER MEETING: The September meeting is Monday, September 21, 2026, at 6 P.M. at the Kingsport Golden Corral, 1910 N. Eastman Road, Kingsport, TN.

Cost is \$5.00 for members and full price for guests. RSVP by Thursday, September 17, 2026.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS: The Post's Constitution and By-Laws have been updated. According to the Constitution and By-Laws, the membership needs to have an opportunity to review and comment on them at least 10 days before the next meeting. The membership then votes to adopt or decline the Constitution and By-Laws. See the attached Constitution and By-Laws.

Veteran Ready Business Recognition (VRBR) Breakfast Symposium: Wednesday, October 7, 2026, in Kingsport, TN. 8:00 – 11:00 AM, 400 Clinchfield Street, Kingsport TN
See attached PDF File.

SONS OF THE LEGION: The Post is looking to establish a Sons of the Legion Squadron. Requirements are to have 10 members that have never been a member of the Sons of the Legion. If interested, send an email to commander@tnpost3.com, or ellen.burchfield@tnpost3.com.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY: We are seeing if there is interest in reestablishing the Post 3 Auxiliary. Send an email to commander@tnpost3.com or ellen.burchfield@tnpost3.com.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES: Members shall pay for their renewals by October 20, annually. The Legion membership cycle is from January 1 to December 31. Department and National dues shall be paid for the full year, irrespective of the month the member may have joined.

DO's & DON'Ts of GENERATIVE AI: Generative AI use of the American Legion emblem and brandmark is becoming more widespread in artwork for flyers, posters, graphics and more. As outlined in the branding guidelines, (see link below) generative AI tools of any kind **MAY NOT** be used to create, recreate, upscale or otherwise alter, stylize or modify the official symbols of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion, American Legion Riders, American Legion Family, American Legion Baseball, Be the One, American Legion Boys State and Boys Nation, American Legion Auxiliary Girls State and Girls Nation, American Legion Junior Shootings Sports, charities of The American Legion and any associated sub-branding. This includes any use of the Legion marks in the visual branding of departments, districts, posts, squadrons or programs associated with any Departments, Districts, Posts or Squadrons. [Hyperlink to AI use.](#)

LEGIONCARE - Enrollments after January 1, 2015, anyone enrolled in LegionCare will be covered for as long as they maintain their membership in The American Legion. This new "one and done" approach will save you from needing to re-enroll every 5 years. The LegionCare program covers you for \$1,000 of AD&D coverage plus provides the added benefit of up to \$5,000 if the accidental loss occurs when on "official Legion business." LegionCare is available to all members of the Legion Family including the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members 18 years and older. Visit www.thelit.com or call 1-800-235-6943 to enroll.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEPTEMBER 2026

- 11: Patriot Day
- 13 – 14: Tennessee Legion College, Department Headquarters, Nashville, TN
- 18: USAF Birthday
- 19: POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 21: Post Meeting
- 20-26: Employ Older Workers Week
- 26-27: Tennessee Legion College, Department Headquarters

OCTOBER 2026

- 12: Columbus Day (HQ offices closed)
- 17: Flag Retirement Ceremony, 11:00 A.M, Kingsport Fire Department Training Facility; 100 Horse Creek Lane (off Wilcox Drive), Kingsport TN

- 17: First District Meeting – Post 113, 307 E. Broadway Blvd, Jefferson City, TN; 12 – 3 P.M.
- 19: Post Meeting
- 31: Halloween

Thank You for Your Continued Membership!

Your Membership helps the AMERICAN
LEGION lobby Congress for YOUR benefits.