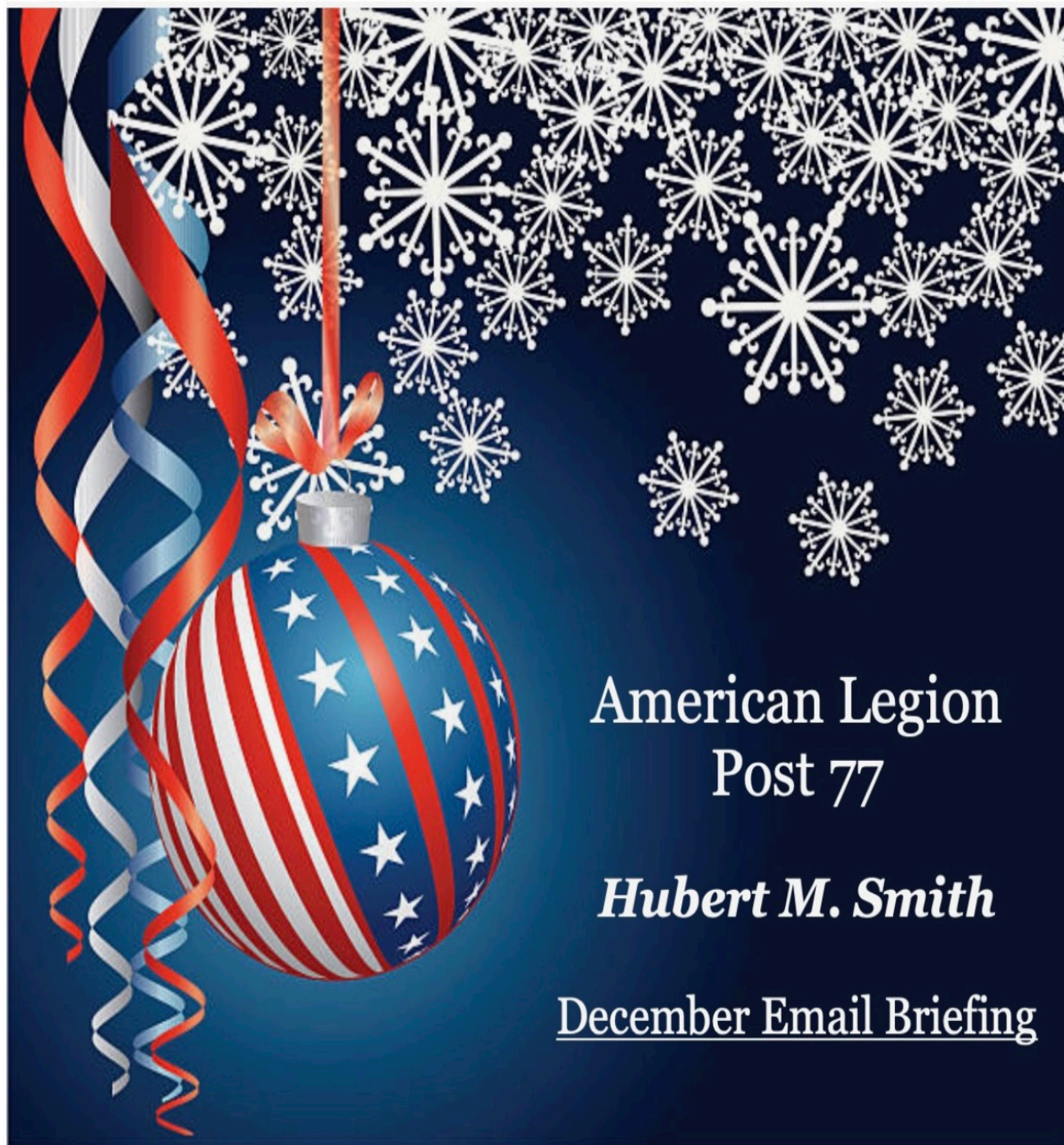




American Legion Post 77 **Newsletter**

Hendersonville, NC

DEC2025



American Legion
Post 77

Hubert M. Smith

December Email Briefing

Canteen and Post Events

December 10: Bingo

December 12, 19, 22: Karaoke

December 7: Auxiliary Children's Christmas Party 2-4pm

December 13: Commander's Christmas Party (Canteen Closes @ 12)

December 18: Free Veterans Breakfast Buffet

VFW Christmas Party

December 21: Canteen Closes @ 5pm

December 24: Christmas Potluck 12-5pm

December 25: Canteen Closed

December 28: Barnyard Bingo

December 31: Canteen Closing @ 5pm

New Year's Eve Party with Local Gossip Upstairs



Merry & Bright: Your Guide to Celebrating an All-American Christmas in 2025

by Grok

The tree is going up, the radio won't stop playing Mariah Carey, and somewhere a neighbor has already inflated a 12-foot Santa on their lawn. Yes, friends—Christmas in America is officially in full swing. Whether you're a life-long celebrator or just looking to dive into the red-and-green deep end this year, here's your cheat sheet to doing Christmas the American way in 2025.

1. The Great Tree Quest

Nothing says "American Christmas" like schlepping home a real Fraser fir that smells like childhood and pine-sol combined.

- Hit a local Christmas tree farm (bonus points if there's a hayride and hot cider) (National Christmas Tree Association, 2024).
- For apartment dwellers: the pre-lit, slim-line artificial tree is no longer judged—embrace the convenience. Sales of artificial trees now outpace real ones in the U.S. (American Christmas Tree Association, 2025). Pro tip: National Christmas Tree Day is the first Saturday in December—December 6 in 2025 (Chase's Calendar of Events, 2025).

2. Deck Every Possible Hall

Americans don't decorate—they commit acts of holiday warfare with outdoor lights.

- Classic: all-white icicle lights dripping from the gutters.
- Chaotic good: synchronized light shows set to "Trans-Siberian Orchestra." (Your electric bill will cry, but your neighbors will applaud.) U.S. households spent an estimated \$3.2 billion on Christmas lights and décor in 2024 alone (National Retail Federation, 2025).

Inside, go full cozy: flannel blankets, scented pine candles, and at least one item that says "Farmhouse Christmas" unironically.

3. The Cookie Industrial Complex

Baking 17 dozen cookies is not excessive; it's patriotic.

Must-bakes in 2025:

- Cut-out sugar cookies (still the undisputed champion of holiday baking, with 68% of Americans making them) (American Bakers Association Holiday Survey, 2024).
- Chocolate crinkles, snickerdoodles, and yes, the controversial ranch-flavored snowball cookies released by Hidden Valley in late 2024 (Hidden Valley Ranch, 2024). Host or crash a cookie swap. Bring six dozen, leave with diabetes and new friends.

4. The Ugly Sweater Renaissance

The uglier, the better. 2025 trends:

- LED-lit sweaters (some now play music—because peace on earth was never an option). Global ugly-Christmas-sweater sales topped \$1.1 billion in 2024 (Statista, 2025).

- “Vintage” thrift store finds with 3D pom-pom reindeer.

Wear one to literally any event from the day after Thanksgiving onward. Office party? Ugly sweater. Grocery run? Ugly sweater. First date? Still acceptable in at least 38 states.

Bonus 2025 Traditions to Adopt Immediately

- Watch the Rockefeller Center Tree Lighting (December 3, 2025, NBC).

- Drive through a neighborhood that made the local news for “excessive” light displays.

- Argue passionately about whether Die Hard is a Christmas movie (it is).

However you celebrate, may your eggnog be spiked, your Amazon packages arrive on time, and your Wi-Fi strong enough for one more Zoom ugly-sweater party.

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- American Christmas Tree Association. (2025). 2024–2025 Artificial Tree Market Report.
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- Hidden Valley Ranch. (2024, November 12). “Ranch Snowball Cookies” Recipe Release.
- National Christmas Tree Association. (2024). Real Christmas Tree Industry Statistics.
- National Retail Federation. (2025). Holiday Spending Forecast 2024–2025.
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*Merry Christmas from
American Legion Post 77*





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Join The American Legion Family To-
day!

Happy Holidays!