

## Commander's Comments

A word of thanks for the support and participation of our Auxiliary and Sons of the Legion during our Jeff Adams Annual Chili Cook off. Several participants and attendees commented that they enjoyed the event and were impressed at how well organized it was. I need to say that this was a big success mainly due to the volunteers: Mendy Staton Henry, Jan Wilson, Diane Reid, Mary Christy, as well as our staff chef Texanna White and our bar manager Dena Foster. We are honored to host this event with the family of Jeff Adams to celebrate his memory. Jeff's love of chili is still bringing people together and we look forward to doing it again next year.

Please check the February 2026 calendar for upcoming events, we are expecting busy weekends for Super Bowl Sunday and Valentines Day. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

Larry Raper, our Adjutant, will be available Saturday, February 21, from 12PM-3PM to assist those who need to renew membership.

**Joe Sprague- Post Commander**

## Chaplain's Corner

Greetings to all the veterans and their families as the first month of the year comes to an end. I want to personally invite everyone to our Sunday morning church services. You know in the book of Hebrews chapter 10 verse 25, it says, do not forsake our meeting together as the habit of some but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the day approaching. Which means come to church to be encouraged and to encourage others! I have witnessed our church family on Sundays being blessed to worship God and hear the Word of God spoken into their lives. Lives are being changed and people are coming together for fellowship, good food and laughter. So come and be a part of a great group of imperfect people including their pastor and see what God can do for you! The Bible says God loved you so much He sent His only Son Jesus Christ to die for you so you can know Him. We serve a mighty God.

**Anthony Van Noy- Post Chaplain**



## MILITARY HOLIDAYS & OBSERVANCES

**Feb 3 FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY-** Honoring the selfless sacrifice of four U.S. Army chaplains who gave their life jackets and lives to save others when the troopship Dorchester sank in 1943.

**Feb 4 USO BIRTHDAY-** The United Service Organizations (USO) celebrates its birthday, marking the founding of the organization, with 2026 being their 85th anniversary.

**The National Salute to Veteran Patients** in 2026 will be observed from Sunday, February 8, to Saturday, February 14. This week-long event is focused on honoring veterans receiving care at VA medical facilities and encouraging community support through activities like sending cards and volunteering.

**Feb 19 COAST GUARD RESERVE BIRTHDAY-** This day celebrates the 1941 Congressional Act that established the Coast Guard Reserve as a military branch.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD



Next Meeting February 15, 2026  
at 2PM

**Commander- Joe Sprague**  
**First Vice- Don Christy**  
**Second Vice- Jon MacLerran**  
**Adjutant- Larry Raper**  
**Judge Advocate-**  
**Bill Hassiepen**  
**Finance Officer- Ken McLain**  
**Chaplain- Anthony Van Noy**  
**Service Officer (s)-**  
**Jim Wilson**  
**SGT at Arms- Bobby Lewis**  
**Historian- William Boyd**  
**Members at Large-**  
**Mike Hamilton,**  
**Jason McJimsey**

# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

President- Mary Christy

Vice President-

Belinda Robertson

Secretary- Shawna Sprague

Treasurer- Juanita McLain

Historian- Jan Boepple-Wilson

Chaplain- Elvira Salizar

Sgt at Arms- Kiffani Smith



Next Meeting February 15, 2026 at 2PM

*The year started with a bang and January was a busy month for the American Legion Family. We had a nice New Years Day Party and an excellent Jeff Adam's Annual Chili Cook Off. I would like to give special thanks to Diane Reid and Mendy Stanton Henry for volunteering their time to help me with the cook-off. I know Dena and Texana appreciated the extra support. Everyone had a great time and it was a great success. Wishing all our January and February Auxiliary Ladies a very Happy Birthday! Hope to see everyone at our February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting at 2PM.*

*Stay Safe, Mary Christy*

*Jan Boepple -Wilson, January 15<sup>th</sup>. Michelle Davidson, February 7<sup>th</sup>. Theresa Schwertner, February 8<sup>th</sup>. Barbara Hendershot, February 11<sup>th</sup> and Mendy Stanton Henry on February 25<sup>th</sup>.*

# Paint Night

AMERICAN LEGION  
AUXILIARY

Joe Kott American Legion Post 317 in the Banquet Hall

THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY | 7pm - 9pm

All supplies included. Walk ins are welcome but registration is strongly suggested. \$35 Per Painter 9x12 Pre-Sketched Canvas.

\$5 is donated back to ALA to support their mission:

In the spirit of service, not self, the mission of The American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military and their families, both at home and abroad, For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.



*Creativity takes Courage!*

Scan the QR Code to save your seat at the easel. Can't wait to paint with you all!

*Lets be brave together!*



# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Next Meeting February 22, 2026 at 4PM

Squad Commander- Jeff Melend  
Vice Commander- Loren Dixon  
Adjutant- Ken McLain  
Finance Officer- Jeff Kneisler  
Chaplain- Kyle Sneary  
SGT at Arms- Cary Doss



**Founded in 1932, Sons of the American Legion exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires.**

**Upcoming Events with the SONS.**  
DIVE In Movie coming in March.  
Midway (1976)- A dramatization of the battle that was widely heralded as a turning point of the Pacific Theatre of World War II.  
Crawfish Boil- Dates and Times TBD at Next SONS Meeting. Further details will be provided in the March Newsletter.

## Weekly Events in the Banquet Hall

SUN- God & Country Services  
MON- Line Dance Lessons w/ Mendy  
SUN & TUES- Poker w/ Charles  
WED- Karoke w/ Allen (Canteen)  
MON, WED & FRI- Sit Fit Exercise w/ Jamie

POST 317  
JOE KOTT AMERICAN LEGION  
PRESENTS

# A Valentine Party

IN THE BANQUET HALL

FEBRUARY 14 AT 7:00 PM

201 FM487, JARRELL, TX 76537

- VOW RENEWALS WITH OUR CHAPLAIN ANTHONY VAN NOY
- CHEER ON 5 COUPLES COMPETING FOR PRIZES IN OUR VERSION OF THE NEWLYWED GAME HOSTED BY DENA FOSTER
- LIVE MUSIC WITH J.R.'S JUKEBOX

## DOOR PRIZES

JOIN US FOR SOME GOOD AMERICAN FUN!

**Legion Loyalty Night Every  
Thursday!**

**Wear your Legion shirt or hat and  
receive a free beer at the bar!**

# PIZZA & FAMILY Paint Party



February 21, 2026  
3:30PM-5:30PM

In the Banquet Hall

Join us for an "Open Paint Session". There will be several pre-sketched designs to choose from or start with a blank canvas! Choose your design and our artists will get you started! Save your seats at the easel and immerse yourself in an afternoon of creativity, laughter, and community. Bring your kiddos and friends and lets get creative together! \$15 per painter includes Pizza and a drink!

Scan here to save  
your seat at the  
easel!





## American Legion Bar Staff

# Jennifer Martinez

We all LOVE our bartender, Jennifer Martinez. She is warm, loving and always has an ear (and drink!) for our members and patrons at the American Legion. Jen being a self proclaimed Army brat, was born in Killeen where her dad was stationed at Fort Hood. She says, *“My family was in this area more than any other, so we do call this home.”* She moved back to Texas from Colorado in 2020.

Jennifer is a single mother of four, Ayden, Vicente, Eliana, and Jernie. She has an associates degree in Science and a long history with Veterans.



Jen with her four children.



*“The American Legion, in a way embodies everything about me. All I want to do is ultimately help others. It is no coincidence I would end up in a place that its sole mission is to do just that. The military holds a very special place in my heart, mostly because of my grandfather CW4 William Bussey. He was the greatest man I have ever known. I see him in a lot of our patrons, strong men that worked tirelessly and selflessly to ensure our freedom. I miss him dearly. Working at the American Legion makes me feel connected to his memory. I am very proud of where I work and what I do. I have a genuine interest in listening to people.*

*I celebrate their good news with them, I suffer their sad news with them. I ask if they've taken their medicine and how their last doctor appointment was. The truth is, I went a long time with my words not mattering to anyone, and I never want anyone else to feel that way. Everybody wants to be heard, and I'm here to listen. The American Legion provides a safe haven, if you will, to make sure every Veteran has somewhere to feel like family, to be heard, to be loved. I couldn't be happier to be apart of this community.”*

*Thank you Jennifer for all you give to create a fun and safe environment in the canteen. We are lucky to have a server with a big heart and a beautiful smile! We love you.*

Let's show appreciation and support for all of our bartenders at the American Legion!

- **Tip Generously:** Bartenders rely heavily on tips.
- **Be Patient:** Understand they're often busy, especially during peak hours.
- **Say Thanks:** A simple, heartfelt "thank you" goes a long way.

# FEBRUARY 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> God & Country <b>10:30AM</b> Texas Holdem <b>6:30PM</b>	<b>2</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Line Dance Lessons <b>7PM</b>	<b>3</b>  <b>FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY</b> Texas Holdem <b>7PM</b>	<b>4</b>  <b>USO BIRTHDAY</b> Fried Chicken Breast <b>5PM</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Karaoke-Bar <b>7:30PM</b>	<b>5</b> Legion Loyalty Night <b>7PM-CLOSE</b>	<b>6</b> Fried Fish Friday <b>5PM</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Free Jukebox <b>7PM-CLOSE</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> God & Country <b>10:30AM</b> Super Bowl Potluck <b>3PM</b> Texas Holdem <b>6:30PM</b>	<b>9</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Line Dance Lessons <b>7PM</b>	<b>10</b> Texas Holdem <b>7PM</b>	<b>11</b> Philly Cheesesteak <b>5PM</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Karaoke-Bar <b>7:30PM</b>	<b>12</b> Legion Loyalty Night <b>7PM-CLOSE</b>	<b>13</b> Fried Fish Friday <b>5PM</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Free Jukebox <b>7PM-CLOSE</b>	<b>14</b> Valentines Day Party-Banquet Hall <b>7PM</b> Couples Game <b>7:45PM</b> Vow Renewals <b>8PM</b> Live Music- J.R.'S JUKEBOX
<b>15</b> God & Country <b>10:30AM</b> <b>MEMBERS Potluck 12PM</b> Daytona 500 Race <b>1:30PM</b> <b>GENERAL MEETING 2PM</b> <b>AUXILIARY MEETING 2PM</b> Texas Holdem <b>6:30PM</b>	<b>16</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Line Dance Lessons <b>7PM</b>	<b>17</b> Texas Holdem <b>7PM</b>	<b>18</b> Chicken Dumplings <b>5PM</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Karaoke-Bar <b>7:30PM</b>	<b>19</b>  <b>COAST GUARD RESERVE BIRTHDAY</b> Legion Loyalty Night <b>7PM-CLOSE</b>	<b>20</b> Fried Fish Friday <b>5PM</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Free Jukebox <b>7PM-CLOSE</b>	<b>21</b> <b>AUXILIARY</b> Family Paint Pizza Party <b>3:30PM-5:30PM</b> Adjutant, Larry Raper will be available to help with Membership Renewal <b>12PM-3PM</b>
<b>22</b> God & Country <b>10:30AM</b> <b>SONS MEETING 4PM</b> Texas Holdem <b>6:30PM</b>	<b>23</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b>	<b>24</b> Texas Holdem <b>7PM</b>	<b>25</b> Spaghetti w/Salad <b>5PM</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Karaoke-Bar <b>7:30PM</b>	<b>26</b> Legion Loyalty Night <b>7PM-CLOSE</b> <b>AUXILIARY Paint Night 7PM-9PM</b>	<b>27</b> Fried Fish Friday <b>5PM</b> Sit Fit Exercise <b>2PM</b> Free Jukebox <b>7PM-CLOSE</b> Comedy Night <b>8PM</b>	<b>28</b> Mad Mike-Banquet Hall <b>8PM</b>