



Kettering American Legion Post No. 598

5700 Kentshire Drive Kettering, OH 45440-4248 Phone: 937-433-9327

January/February 2025

The Commander's Corner...



Hello everyone. Now that the holidays are past us we are ready to start the New Year. Phase 1 of the expansion project is complete here at the Post. The contractor, Oberer & Thompson, did a great job with the outside additions matching the existing building extremely well and the inside looks great as well. Phase 2 is expanding the kitchen as well as moving the existing bar in the banquet room plus the new patio enclosure on the canteen side. Preliminary ideas have been given to the architect for review. We will discuss these ideas at our monthly meetings. We will only go forward with these projects with the approval of the membership each step of the way. Once again our Toys for Tots collection this year was very successful and larger than last year. The Post donated several thousand dollars worth of toys this year. The Post members, SAL, Auxiliary, and Riders all donated to this great program. Special thanks to the riders for doing the shopping. This combined effort from the Post definitely put hundreds of smiles on children's faces Christmas morning. That my friends is one of the many reasons this Post is so great. We also gave 12 Thanksgiving food baskets and 12 Christmas baskets to military families in need. Special thanks to Rhonda Hunter for coordinating these baskets for the last 20 years along with Phil Stevenson and their volunteers. If you haven't paid your 2025 dues by January 1st, you will be removed from the roster and key card deactivated. Once you pay your dues you will be put back on the roster, so please pay your dues. Thank you!

Jan. and Feb. are our coldest months. Along with snow please use caution when visiting the Post. We do our best to remove the snow and salt the property on these slippery days. I ask all members to watch out for each other. It takes just a few minutes to help a member to or from their car. If you are not stable on your feet get dropped off at the portico.

Pictured below are some of our great volunteers that made our Toys for Tots collection so successful this year. Also pictured below is Rhonda Hunter along with her helpers.

The Post has been profitable for the last year. This is due to the great volunteers and Post members that we have. This would not be possible without you! I can't thank you enough for what you do. This is the reason that REG=SAL+AUX= One great legion family.

God bless you, Commander, Gavin Long

Our Volunteers



Food Baskets

Erica Kubea, Russ Hunter, Rhonda Hunter, JoAnn Flynn. Not Pictured: Phil Stephenson.



Toys for Tots

Cmdr. Gavin Long, Pres. Erica Kubea, Dir. Frank Burks and their helpers.

From the Auxiliary...

Happy New Year! With the arrival of a new year, we embrace a fresh start filled with positivity and purpose. Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication throughout 2024. Whether you've been part of our auxiliary family for years or recently joined, we are grateful for the vital role you play in our successes.

Teamwork: The Heart of Our Mission

The combined efforts of the Post, Sons of the American Legion (SAL), Riders, and Auxiliary embody true teamwork, creating an even greater impact for our veterans and our community. Through countless hours of volunteering and unwavering commitment, we've strengthened our ability to serve those who have given so much for our country.

2024: A Year of Meaningful Impact

Last year, your dedication helped us achieve incredible milestones:

- Fundraising Events: Quarter auctions, bake sales, and the lively Girls Just Want to Have Fun event were just a few of the initiatives that brought us together to raise crucial funds.
- Community Support: Thanks to your efforts, we provided assistance to a range of organizations and causes, including: Blue Star Mothers, Save a Warrior, Tunnel to Towers, Toys for Tots, Food Baskets for Families in Need, Buckeye Girls State Program and the VA to name just a few.

Each event we organize is designed with a purpose in mind, ensuring every dollar and every effort directly benefits those we serve.

Join Us: Your Voice Matters

Have you attended one of our monthly Auxiliary meetings? Whether it's been a while or you've never joined, now is the perfect time to see what we're all about. We value your thoughts, ideas, and energy. Together, we're achieving record-high membership, and your voice is essential to shaping our future.

Looking Ahead: 2025 and Beyond

As we reflect on a successful year, we're filled with excitement for what lies ahead. Let's build on our accomplishments, embrace new opportunities, and continue to serve with unwavering dedication. Service to our veterans, military, their families, and the community is at the heart of everything we do. There's no greater reward than making a difference in the lives of others. Let's make 2025 another extraordinary year of service, growth, and impact.

Thank You

To all our volunteers, thank you for your hard work and commitment. We couldn't achieve our mission without you. Together, let's make this year our best yet!

Erica Kubea, Unit 598 President

From the SAL...

Hello and greetings fellow members,

The sons look forward to having another banner year for 2025. Just as a reminder we need everyone to pay their 2025 dues so we can make our quota for the year.

We will be having our annual AYCE fish fry January 31 for \$17. Our broasted chicken dinner on February 22. Please come out and support us.

As always thanks to Dot's Market for giving us such great pricing so we can pass on the savings.

The SAL donated \$2400 for the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets this year to help our local military families in need.

I encourage all SAL members to attend our monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month.

For those that served...Doug Spisak, Commander, Squadron 598

From the Riders...

Greetings Legion Family. Congrats to our 2nd annual chili cook-off winner, Patti Kepler with her "Gotcha" chili. Patti won herself a Chili's gift card. Thanks to all the volunteers and everyone who brought in a chili (yours truly took 2nd place for the 2nd year in a row). It was another great event for the riders wrapping up our Toys for Tots drive. All in all, the Riders (with generous donations from the Post, SAL & Aux) spent over \$3600 on toys. Thanks to everyone else who donated a toy or supported us in some other way. Make sure you come out and support our next event Jan. 26, the AFC and NFC championship games. We will have a Hot Dog/Nacho Bar, football boards, and lots of fun.

The riders held our officer nominations at our December meeting. All our officers were nominated to remain in place for 2025. Congrats to everyone, and thanks for all you do. Our Rider of the Month is Duane Cobb (Capt Cobb at the Kettering Fire Department). Duane is our assistant Road Captain and has a huge heart! Duane recently spearheaded a donation drive for families affected by Hurricanes Helen and Milton. He orchestrated the donations of thousands of pounds of food and supplies that were eventually flown in by helicopter to help those most affected. Duane led the effort at the Kettering Fire Department, then personally drove the supplies to Indiana, where they were transported by plane. Duane is also being nominated to be the Department of Ohio American Legion Firefighter of the Year. Thanks for all you do Duane, you make us all proud!! On behalf of the Riders, God Bless and Merry Christmas, Director Frank Burks.

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January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Text AL598 to 78859 to get daily updates on events & notices.			New Year's Day 1 Kitchen Closed Key Cards will be Deactivated if 2025 dues aren't paid	2 Aux. E-Board Meeting 6:30 pm Trivia w/ Nora 6:30 pm	3 Pork Tenderloin or Fish Sandwich 6-7:30 pm \$6 Live Your Dreams 7-10 pm	4
5	6 Regular Post Meeting 6:30 pm Aux. Bake Sale 6 pm	7 Tuesday Night Dinner 5-6:45 pm \$6	8 Burger Nite 5-7 pm	9 Aux. Regular Meeting 6:30 pm	10 Pizza Night 6-8 pm \$15 Free Jukebox 7-9 pm	11 District Bowling Tournament
12	13	14 SAL Mtg. 6:30 pm Tuesday Night Dinner 5-6:45 pm \$6	15 DAV Mtg. 7:30 pm Burger Nite 5-7 pm	16 Bldg. Comm. Mtg. 6:30 pm Trivia w/ Nora 6:30 pm	17 Aux Chicken & Dumplings and Baked Apples 6-7:30 pm \$10 Hearts on Fire 7-10 pm	18
19 Omelet Breakfast 10am - Noon \$8.00	20 Post E-board Mtg. 6:00 pm National Championship Game 7:30 pm	21 Marine Corps Meeting 6:30 pm Tuesday Night Dinner 5-6:45 pm \$6	22 Burger Nite 5-7 pm	23	24 Shrimp Dinner Baked Potato or Fries 6-7:30 pm \$10 Southern Accents 7-10 pm	25
26 Riders Hot Dog and Nacho Bar 3-6 pm \$5 or \$7-AYCE Euchre 1-3 pm AFC/NFC Championship Games	27	28 Planning Mtg. 6:00 pm Tuesday Night Dinner 5-6:45 pm \$6	29 Burger Nite 5-7 pm	30	31 SAL AYCE Fish Fry 6-8 pm \$17 Pre-Sale	

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
lunch served Monday thru Friday 11:30-1:30						1
2	3 Regular Post Meeting 6:30 pm Aux. Bake Sale 6 pm	4 Tuesday Night Dinner 5-6:45 pm \$6	5 Riders Meeting 6 pm Burger Nite 5-7 pm	6 Aux. Exec. Board Mtg. 6:30 pm Trivia w/ Nora 6:30 pm	7 Pork Tenderloin or Fish Sandwich 6-7:30 pm \$6 Live Your Dreams 7-10 pm	8 Aux. Valentines Day Dinner/Dance 5-7 pm \$17 w/Kim Kelly Band
9 Super Bowl Party Starts at 5 pm	10	11 SAL Meeting 6:30 pm Tuesday Night Dinner 5-6:45 pm \$6	12 DAV Meeting 7:30 pm Burger Nite 5-7 pm	13 Aux. Regular Meeting 6:30 pm Bldg. Comm. Meeting 6:30 pm	14 Pizza Night 6-8 pm \$15 Valentine's Day Free Jukebox 7-9 pm	15
16 Beauty and the Beast Lunch 2 pm Show 3 pm Lunch \$15 Adults and \$8 Kids	17 Post Executive Meeting 6:00 pm	18 Marine Corps Meeting 6:30 pm Tuesday Night Dinner 5-6:45 pm \$6	19 Burger Nite 5-7 pm	20 Trivia w/ Nora 6:30 pm	21	22 SAL Broasted Chicken Dinner 5-7 pm \$14 Element 3 7-9 pm
23 Day of Caring Pancake Breakfast 10 am-Noon \$10-includes a 50/50 ticket	24	25 Blood Drive Noon-6 pm Tuesday Night Dinner 5-6:45 pm \$6	26 Burger Nite 5-7 pm	27	28 Shrimp Dinner Baked Potato or Fries 6-7:30 pm \$10 Hearts on Fire 7-10 pm	



**Kettering American Legion
Post 598, Inc.**

5700 Kentshire Dr.
Kettering, Ohio 45440-4248

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**“STILL SERVING AMERICA”
The Veteran/The Community
The State/The Nation**

**POST 598 OFFICERS
2024-2025**

Post Officers

Commander	Gavin Long
1st Vice Commander	Joe Law
2nd Vice Commander	Phil Stephenson
Finance Officer	Ed Syron
Adjutant	Betsy Law
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jim O'Neil
Chaplain	Keith Eastman
Canteen Manager	Jim Glaser

Auxiliary Officers

President	Erica Kubea
1st Vice President	Sarah Schwager
2nd Vice President	Regina Goldman
Secretary/Chaplain	Janet Kennedy
Treasurer	Crystal Kahut
Sergeant-at-Arms	Pam Rodkey

SAL Officers

Commander	Doug Spisak
1st Vice Commander	Mike Schreck
2nd Vice Commander	Jim Morris
Finance Officer	Bob Tonar
Adjutant	Joe Law
Sergeant-at-Arms	Tom Storck
Chaplain	Robin Peck
Advisor	Joe Law

Riders Officers

Director	Frank Burks
Asst. Director	Brett Hawkey
Secretary	Crystal Hawkey
Treasurer	Jerry Zennie
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bill Whitaker
Road Captain	Rocky Richardson
Chaplain	Steve Rawlins

Post Everlasting

David Duncombe
James Perkins

Shelley Penewit-Aux.

We honor them for their deeds for God & Country. We wish to those who mourn a departed one the hope that time will heal all sorrow and bring consoling peace.

Keith Eastman, Chaplain

**Memorial Walkway
and Tree Planting
Programs**

“Heritage of Freedom” Memorial Walkway and the Commemorative Tree Planting Programs are available to all members to assist in the beautification of Post 598. Informational handouts with order forms are available in the lobby.

Banquet Room Rental

All your celebration needs start with a great facility.

You can rent our banquet hall at reasonable rates. Great for Weddings, Retirement Parties, Birthday Parties, Reunions, Office Parties, etc.

Call the Post at 433-9327, ext. 5 for information or
E-mail: banquetbilly@yahoo.com
Visit: americanlegionpost598.net

NOTICE

Anyone needing the services of Post 598 Honor Guard should contact:

Jim O'Neil
937-789-9985
or call the Post
937-433-9327.

Hours of Operation: Mon.-Thurs. 11 am-11 pm, Fri. & Sat. 11 am-1 am, Sun. Noon-11 pm