



The Argonne Newsletter

January - February, 2026 E-Edition

The American Legion – Argonne Post 56

22548 SW Pine St. Sherwood, OR 97140, Phone: 503-625-5889

Website: SherwoodLegion.org Facebook: facebook.com/sherwoodlegion

The Post Opens: Mon-Sat 3:30 and Sunday 1:30

Legion Officers

Commander

Phil Morton
503-449-8831

First Vice

Nick Peters
503-412-9907

Second Vice

Chris Garcia
503-476-5249

Adjutant

Joe Martin
971-222-4089

Finance

Joe Martin
971-222-4089

Chaplain

Syl Gibbons
503-655-4961

Service Officer

Bill Middleton
503-816-0549

Sgt. at Arms

Ken Sandquist
503-625-7569

Historian

John Fisher
503-502-7579

E-Board

The E-board consists of the Officers listed above plus the following:

Gary Gibbons
Jim Edy
Ed Contreras

Photographer and Manager of Website and Facebook
John Fisher

Manager of Email Communications
Scott McClure

From the Commander

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year with family and friends. It is a very busy time of the year with shopping, decorating, parties, and in my case, the birth of our first Great Grandchild, a healthy and happy baby girl. What a wonderful Christmas gift. It was also very busy at the Post. Here are some of the highlights:

Nov-Dec Events: On Veterans Day, there were two events that honored our Veterans. The City of Sherwood had their annual Veterans Brunch, where our Color Guard, Ryan Shockley and Chris Garcia, performed the opening ceremonies, and we had our Annual Veterans Day spaghetti dinner. Nick and Teresa Peters cooked the sauce and the Auxiliary cooked the noodles and prepared the salad. Eight Sherwood High School students volunteered to serve the meals. They did great and were very well received. Pastor Robert Garon attended, and he spoke about Veterans, the sacrifices they made for our country, and said a few prayers.

On November 22nd we had our second annual Pizza with Music party. The music was provided by the duo Mortal Soulstice, who played 70's through the 2000's music, which everyone enjoyed. This was a fun event with about 45 attending.

The next big event was our Annual Christmas Party with our Ugly Sweater Contest. This was a potluck with Brian and his team providing Traeger BBQ Tri-Tip. There was music provided by Barbara Cecil. Barbara sang many Christmas songs and the audience was encouraged to sing along with her. There were 16 contestants for the Ugly Sweater Contest, and after an applause vote from the audience, the top three finishers were Gary Walgraeve 1st place, Jan Carlson 2nd place and Erin Eaton 3rd place. Fifty five people attended. It was a very nice Christmas party.

Upcoming Events: In addition to our monthly Taco Tuesdays and Trivia with Potluck, we have two special dinner events coming up. The first one, a SAL hosted event, is a Baked Alaskan Cod and Chips (fish and chips) dinner, which includes coleslaw and dessert. The dinner will be on Monday, January 26th. The second one is our annual Crab Feed, produced by Melanie Heald, which will be on Saturday, February 14th. Please see the ads in this newsletter for details on both of these events. (cont. next column)

From the Commander (cont.)

This year the Super Bowl is on Sunday, February 8th, with kick off about 3:15. We will not be having a soup and chili cook off, however our big screen will be tuned to the game, so please come and watch the game with family and friends. Please bring some appetizers to share.

Internal Affairs: The E-Board recently made some amendments to the Post Constitution. In accordance with the requirements, the amended Constitution must be approved by a two-thirds vote of Post 56 Legionnaire members in attendance at a General Meeting. The vote will be taken at the General Meeting held on Thursday, February 5th., 7:00 p.m. If you are a Legionnaire and interested in voting, please attend. If you would like a copy of the amended Constitution in advance please contact me.

Nominations of Post Officers and the three E-Board members, for the 2026-2027 term, take place during the General Meetings in February, March and April, with the election being held at the April meeting. If you are interested in being nominated for a position, please contact me. We encourage all Legionnaire members to become involved in running the Post.

On Wednesday, January 7th, at 7:00 p.m. there will be a Joint Session of all members to discuss and determine events and other activities we would like to have in 2026. Please attend if you are interested.

Wishing everyone the very best for 2026.

Sincerely, Phil Morton

From the Service Officer

Did you know you can get a free Hunting and Fishing license if you have a rated 25% disability? Go to <http://www.myodfw.com> to apply. Also, veterans with a rated disability can get a free access pass for free parking at Oregon State Parks. Beware, the State is talking about removing this benefit in a cost saving measure. I will keep everyone updated on changes. You can also get the America the Beautiful pass giving you free access to National Parks. For information go to <http://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm>.

A bill passed in 2019 also allows individuals issued a resident disabled hunting license to receive additional preference points in the controlled hunt permit system. You earned these benefits so use them. If you have questions contact me at wmiddleton70@yahoo.com. Thank you, Bill Middleton



Auxiliary Officers

President
Mikkinsky Saling
503-747-9441

Vice President
Rebecca Fairbanks
503-267-5511

Secretary
Malia Jasmer
503-575-0466

Treasurer
Jeanne Moffatt
503-896-7409

Chaplain
Tess Kies
McDowell
503-516-7114

Sgt at Arms
Lynette Pascoe
503-332-1410

Historian
Sue Wilson
971-645-9011

It Takes Many Volunteers

At the beginning of a new year, I look back and I'm always amazed at the number of volunteers it takes to keep our Post running smoothly, making it, in my opinion, the best Post in District 1. In no particular order, here are some of our volunteers I would like to thank: **to Nick and Teresa Peters** for cooking the fantastic spaghetti sauce for our Veterans' Day Dinner, for cooking hamburgers and fries for our Burger Night and cooking the pizzas for our Pizza with Music night; **to Chris Garcia and Ryan Shockley** for performing the Color Guard duty at the City of Sherwood's Veterans Day Brunch; **to Scott McClure** for setting up our new computer, fixing any computer problems and sending out mass emails to our members, on various topics; **to Jim Edy and Tess Kies McDowell** who produced our annual Remembrance Dinner; **to John Fisher** for taking all the great photos at our events, for maintaining our Facebook and website and for helping on Trivia night; **to Brian Berryhill** and his SAL team for cooking many of our great dinners throughout the year, and for overseeing and helping with our yard improvements and maintenance; **to Gary Gibbons** for purchasing all our bar beverages, bar and paper supplies, food for our bar menu, and for overseeing all maintenance and repairs; **to Jan Carlson** for hosting the very popular Trivia with Potluck the last Saturday of most months, and for heading up the Halloween Costume Party, including putting up the fantastic decorations; **to Melanie Heald** for heading up our annual Crab Feed; **to Mikkinsky Saling, Rebecca Fairbanks, Ardis Snyder, Tony Richardson, Melanie Heald and Malia Jasmer** for hosting Taco Tuesdays; **to Les Lucas** who spends hours working with our accountants to help keep our financials on track, for giving us financial advice, and for hosting our annual Bean Bag Toss Tournament during the Robin Hood Festival; **to Bill Middleton** who writes an article for every edition of this newsletter and for maintaining our Adopt a Road program in Sherwood; **to Joe Martin** who empties the American Flag drop-box and always helps out during all our major events, **to Nick Peters and Chris Garcia** who continue to fix almost everything around the Post, and take the American Flags from our drop-box and burn them with respect; **to Sue Wilson** who keeps our kitchen refrigerator neat and clean and for helping on trivia night; **to Mikkinsky Saling** who heads up the Annual Giving Tree Christmas program along with help from many others; **to the great E-Board** that keeps me on my toes and makes my job easier; **and to our Bartenders** who always serve us with a smile on their faces. I would also like to thank the many other members, that were not mentioned, that helped throughout the year.

I appreciate everyone's dedication and hard work very much.

Sincerely, Phil Morton, Commander

From the Auxiliary President

Happy New Year to everyone, and I wish you the best of health and happiness for 2026.

In reviewing 2025, I believe all of our activities did very well. I want to give special thanks to Jan Carlson who does a phenomenal job hosting Trivia with Potluck and the Halloween Party and to Melanie Heald for hosting the Annual Crab Feed. I would also like to thank all the ladies who help with all the other events not specifically mentioned.

We had a very successful Giving Tree program. This year we helped over 25 families from Camp Withycombe, and over 20 kids in our community. We had lots of toys and gifts donated through the Giving Tree and KGW TV, and 26 food boxes donated by the Sherwood Elks. A special thank you to KGW TV and the Sherwood Elks, for helping us out again this year. I also want to thank all the individuals that helped with this campaign; Jeanne Moffatt, Sue Wilson, Ardis Snyder, Becky Hicks, and John Fisher. And, a sincere thank you to everyone who donated.

Some of my goals for the Auxiliary in 2026 are to increase our membership, find new activities to help increase our income to run our programs, and to find more member volunteers to help us for all of our events.

Sincerely, Mikkinsky Saling

*Unit 56 Auxiliary President
District 1 Vice President*

Crab Feed



POST 56 ANNUAL CRAB FEED

Saturday, February 14

2 Seatings – 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Price TBD – Whole Crab Dinner

Price TBD – Half Chicken Dinner

**Tickets on sale at the bar starting
Monday, January 12th.**

**Dinners include coleslaw, corn on the cob,
garlic bread and dessert.**

Fresh, live crab is cooked in the morning and served that afternoon. **Get your tickets early as this event always sells out!!**

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Pizza Night 4:30	2	3
4	5	6	7 Auxiliary Meeting 6:00 p.m. General Meeting 6:00 & Joint Session 7:00 p.m.	8 Pizza Night 4:30	9	10
11	12	13 Taco Tuesday 5:00 p.m. SAL Meeting 6:00 p.m.	14	15 Pizza Night 4:30 E-Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr Birthday	20	21	22 Pizza Night 4:30	23	24
25	26 SAL Baked Alaskan Cod and Chips Dinner 5:30	27	28	29 Pizza Night 4:30	30	31 Trivia with Potluck Potluck 5:00 Trivia 6:00

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4 Auxiliary Meeting 6:00 p.m.	5 Pizza Night 4:30 Legion Meeting 7:00 p.m.	6	7
8	9	10 Taco Tuesday 5:00 p.m. SAL Meeting 6:00 p.m.	11	12 Pizza Night 4:30	13	14 Crab Feed 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. Seatings
15	16 Presidents' Day	17	18	19 Pizza Night 4:30 E-Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Pizza Night 4:30	27	28 Trivia with Potluck Potluck 5:00 Trivia 6:00



Argonne Post 56
22548 SW Pine St.
Sherwood, OR 97140

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Sherwood, OR 97140
Permit # 30

Return Service Requested



SAL Officers

Squadron Commander
Brian Berryhill
503-209-4333

First Vice
Seth Peterson
503-530-6699

Second Vice
Vacant
Finance
Gary Walgraeve
503-709-2021

Adjutant
Preston Davis
619-715-1517

Chaplain
Kelvin Staven
503-539-4511

Sgt. at Arms
Tim Nester
503-550-5958

Service Officer

Tony Richardson
503-330-1659

Historian
Allen Bower
503-880-0511

About the Newsletter

I have not received one response from anyone interested in taking over writing the newsletter. I'm still hoping that someone will step up. My last newsletter will be the March - April 2026 edition. If no one volunteers there will no longer be a Post newsletter. Please contact me if you are at all interested.

Thank you, Phil Morton, Commander

Welcome New Members

Legion: Wesley Saling, Jess Crain, Benny Talmich, and Robert Ahrens.

Sons: Ryan Barrer, Guy Pabst, Rick Uauble, and Craig Larken.

Auxiliary: Allison DeGraaf and Karen Wilde. Please say hello to our new members and make them feel welcome.

Baked Alaskan Cod Dinner

Monday, January 26th. 5:30.

**Dinner Includes Beer Battered Fries
from our kitchen, Coleslaw
and Dessert.**

Tickets on sale at the bar for \$13.

**You can also call the Legion
and reserve tickets.**

Hosted By SAL

UPCOMING EVENTS



- Jan 13 Taco Tuesday
- Jan 26 Baked Alaskan Cod Dinner
- Jan 31 Trivia with Potluck
- Feb 10 Taco Tuesday
- Feb 14 Crab Feed
- Feb 28 Trivia with Potluck
- Mar 10 Taco Tuesday
- Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day Dinner
- Mar 28 Trivia with Potluck

This is the McDowells, Tess Kies, and Michael, reaching out to thank the elves who delivered our outside Tree of Hope! Thank you to Brian Berryhill, Mikkinsky Saling, Tony Richardson, and the American Legion Auxiliary, who purchased all the decorations last year! Once again, our tree outside is up, complete with lights, ornaments, and a tree topper star! Note cards, baggies, and clothespins are on a table next to the tree. If you have time, please come by and leave us a note on the tree at my home in Sherwood.

After my pancreatic cancer diagnosis last year, the cards of hope and inspiration meant the world to us. Your love and support throughout the year is why I believe I am still here. We don't get out of this life without trials and tribulations. I know we are not the only ones suffering a challenge. May we all take to heart the message of the season, Love. The love and blessing of family and friends' warms our hearts. It is a season of giving to those less fortunate, a time to count our blessings and reach out in community and love to those in need.

Your love and support this past year is a reminder to me also to count my blessings and to reach out to others who also need hope. Happy New Year! God bless us, everyone!



L-R: Tony Richardson, Mikkinsky Saling, Michael McDowell and Tess Kies McDowell



My Home

Veterans Day – City of Sherwood Recognition Brunch



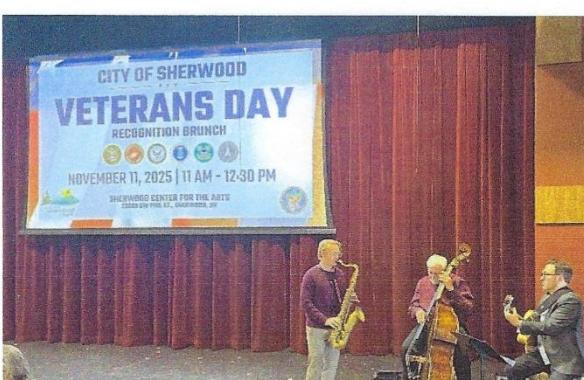
Opening ceremonies, Post 56 Color Guard
L-R: Ryan Shockley and Chris Garcia.



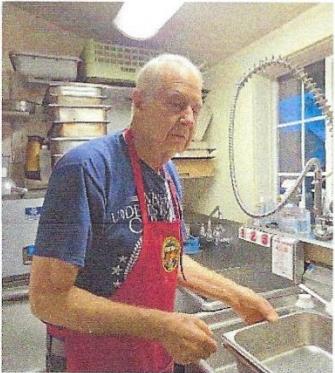
Working our Booth in the Arts Center foyer.
L-R: Sue Wilson and Rebecca Fairbanks.



Sherwood High acapella choir singing the anthem of each branch of the military



Local jazz trio entertaining the large audience



Nick Peters, with his wife Teresa, prepared the meat sauce for the spaghetti.



L-R: Ardis Snyder and Mikkinsy Saling cooking the spaghetti noodles.



Phil Morton, on right, saying a few words to the audience. Robert Garon, Pastor of the Sherwood Community Friends Church, on left.

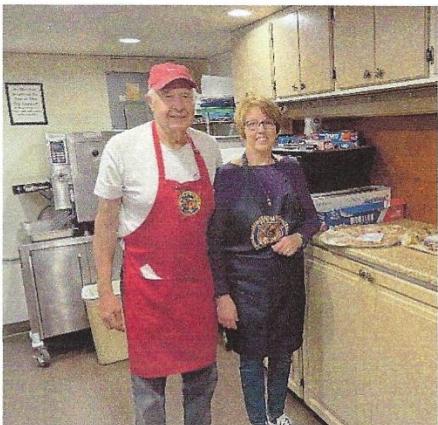


Members enjoying the evening



Phil Morton, center, with volunteer servers from Sherwood HS Club America members.

Pizza with Music – November 22



Nick and Teresa Peters cooked all the pizza



The team L-R: Rebecca Humphreys, Rosemary and Phil Morton, and Nick and Teresa Peters.



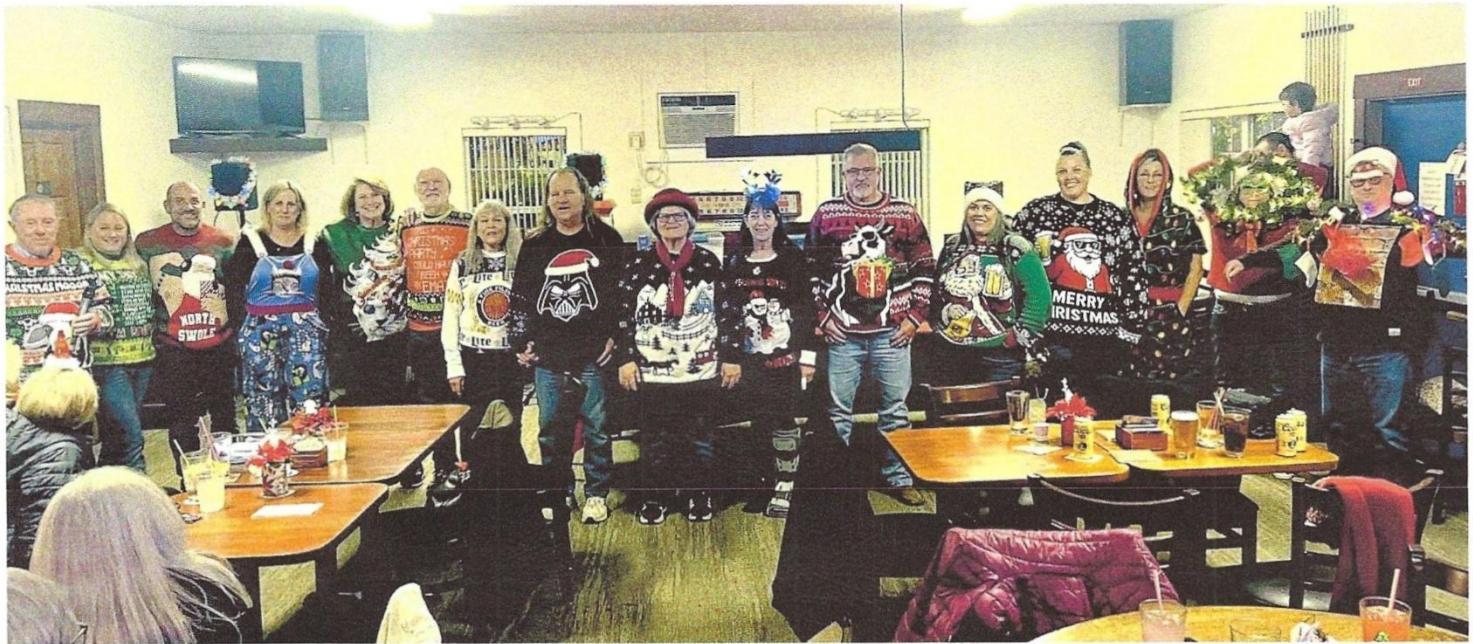
L-R: Becky Hicks and Sue Wilson.



Singing duo Mortal Soulstice entertaining.
L-R Chris and Kevin



Christmas Party with Ugly Sweater Contest



A great attendance of 55. There were 16 Ugly Sweater Contest contestants.



Winners: L-R: 2nd place Jan Carlson, 3rd place Erin Eaton and 1st place Gary Walgraeve.



L-R: Becky Hicks, John Fisher and Sue Wilson.

The Giving Tree



Santa picking Giving Tags



Lots of donated toys and gifts



Testing the bikes, L-R: Jeanne Moffatt, Mikkinsky Saling and Sue Wilson.



Bags of toys and gifts ready to go



26 food boxes donated by the Sherwood Elks