

PLANTING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

One of the things I've really come to appreciate about being part of the Legion family is just how much history and experience exists within our own community.

Recently, I had the opportunity to spend an afternoon with **Legion and Auxiliary members Nick and Teresa Peters**, along with fellow **Legion member Chris Garcia**, at Nick and Teresa's century farm here in Sherwood. We walked through their incredible garden, heard some of the history of the property, and left with an incredibly generous bounty of fresh vegetables.

Afternoons like this are a reminder of what makes the Legion family special. There are so many opportunities to spend time with people whose experiences are different from our own, hear their stories, learn something new, and connect in ways we might not otherwise have the chance to.

We have members who remember why traditions started, who built programs from the ground up, and who have watched Sherwood and the Legion change over the decades. We also have newer and younger members bringing different experiences, new ideas, skills, and perspectives about what community involvement looks like today.

We need both.

Walking through a century farm felt like a fitting reminder of that. A place can be deeply rooted in its history without remaining exactly the same. A garden survives because someone keeps tending it, planting new seeds, adapting to each season, and eventually teaching someone else how to care for it.

Maybe organizations aren't so different.

In our last newsletter, I wrote about the future of our Post. I think part of building that future isn't choosing between preserving our past and embracing change. It's recognizing that the two can, and should, exist together.

Preserving a legacy doesn't mean keeping everything exactly as it has always been. It means understanding what is worth carrying forward and making sure there are people ready to carry it.

The future of our Post won't belong to one generation or another. It will be something we build together.

And maybe the best way to preserve a legacy is simply to invite someone new into the garden.

Allison DeGraaf
Newsletter Editor | ALA Secretary



Nick Peters in the garden at his family's century farm in Sherwood.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – Grounds for Appreciation

Brian Berryhill - SAL

If you've spent much time around Post 56, chances are you know Brian, our Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Commander. Whether he's bellied up to the bar, behind the grill, or outside working on his latest project, Brian is a familiar face around the Post.

With a family background in the nursery business and plenty of hands-on experience, including operating his own sawmill, Brian has put his skills to good use around the Post grounds. After last year's tree removal left the backyard in need of some serious TLC, Brian helped restore the lawn and create the green space we now enjoy for gatherings and our Cornhole Classic tournaments.



More recently, Brian helped lay pavers alongside the shed, turning a once-dirt area into a clean, functional space for the grills.



From left: Troy Haffner, Jodi Berryhill, Brian Berryhill, & Preston Davis

But his handiwork around the Post goes back much further. Over the years, Brian has laid the pavers for the fire pit area, rebuilt the backyard fence, and planted trees and shrubs. Some of these improvements were also part of Eagle Scout projects, combining Brian's knack for getting things done with his commitment to the Post and the community. And that's just the outdoor work.

So next time you're enjoying the backyard, take a look around. There are plenty of grounds for appreciation. Thanks, Brian!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – Behind the Lens

John Fisher – LEGION

You may not see John in many of our photos—and there's a good reason for that. He's usually the one behind the camera! A Legion member for about four years, John became our go-to photographer shortly after mentioning to our past commander, Phil, that he was a photographer. As John tells it, Phil's response was simple: "You're hired."

Since then, John has helped capture everything from Cruisin' Sherwood to Trivia Nights, documenting the people and events that make our Post special while helping us promote Legion activities throughout the community. For John, though, being part of the Legion is about more than taking photos. He values the friendships he's built with fellow members, regulars, and board members. He is also especially proud of his own military service with the Strategic Air Command, where he served as a Deputy Missile Combat Crew Commander.

Thank you, John, for helping us capture—and preserve—the memories being made at Post 56!



FROM THE PAST COMMANDER

My wife Rosemary (now the ALA Chaplain), Legion Officer Kenny Sandquist, ALA member Georgia DeLozier and I attended the Department of Oregon Convention at Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City from June 24th to the 27th. A very moving opening ceremony was held Wednesday evening. Meetings for TAL, SAL and the ALA were held Thursday and Friday and a half day Saturday.

Thursday included breakout committee meetings, and I attended Children and Youth and Membership and Youth Activities, both very interesting. On Friday, awards were handed out for the 2025-2026 year to many posts, including Post 56. I accepted five awards: three for our Legion Family for making their Membership Goals, one for best Newsletter and one for Public Relations. All five are framed and on display at the Post.

Elections for Department Officer positions were held Friday afternoon, and Richard Ramey was elected Department Commander for the 2026-2027 term. I met him and he is a very nice person with lots of ideas for growth of the Legion. It was a productive convention. I learned a lot and met many very nice people.

Regards, Phil Morton

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Auxiliary Meeting @ 6PM	3 Pizza Night 4:30 Legion Meeting 7PM	4 Karina's Kitchen 5-7 PM	5
6	7 Labor Day	8 Taco Tuesday 5PM SAL Meeting 6PM	9	10 Pizza Night 4:30	11 Karina's Kitchen 5-7 PM	12
13	14	15	16	17 Pizza Night 4:30 E-board Meeting 7PM	18 Karina's Kitchen 5-7 PM	19 Remembrance Dinner 5:30 PM
20	21	22	23	24 Pizza Night 4:30	25 Karina's Kitchen 5-7 PM	26 Trivia w/ Potluck 5PM Trivia 6PM
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Pizza Night 4:30 Legion Meeting 7PM	2 Karina's Kitchen 5-7 PM	3
4 Shuffleboard tournament 3PM	5	6	7 Auxiliary Meeting 6PM	8 Pizza Night 4:30	9 Karina's Kitchen 5-7 PM	10
11	12	13 Taco Tuesday 5PM SAL Meeting 6PM	14	15 Pizza Night 4:30 E-Board Meeting 7PM	16 Karina's Kitchen 5-7 PM	17
18	19	20	21	22 Pizza Night 4:30	23 Karina's Kitchen 5-7 PM	24
25	26	27	28	29 Pizza Night 4:30	30 Karina's Kitchen 5-7 PM	31 Halloween Party 7PM

Post 56 - Upcoming Events for September - October

Tuesday, September 8, 5:00, Taco Tuesday. Two hard or soft shell tacos \$8. Mile High Taco Salad \$10. Bring you family and friends as your guest. Hosted by the ALA. All proceeds support the Girls State Program.

Saturday, September 19, 5:30, Remembrance Dinner. Please join us for this special free dinner to honor those members that transferred to Post Everlasting in the last 12 months. Barbara Cecil will be singing during the ceremonial portion of the evening and after dinner.

Saturday, September 26, Trivia with Potluck. Get your teams together for one of our most popular events. Potluck starts at 5:00 and Trivia at 6:00. Please bring a dish to share. Hosted by Auxiliary member Jan Carlson.

Sunday, October 4, 3:00, Shuffleboard Tournament. Single elimination. Bring a family member or friend to play. It's free. Sign up sheet on counter under the bulletin board.

Tuesday, October 13, 5:00, Taco Tuesday. Two hard or soft shell tacos \$8. Mile High Taco Salad \$10. Bring your family and friends as your guest. Hosted by the ALA. All proceeds support the Girls State Program.

Monday, October 19, 5:00 to 7:00, Smocktoberfest Dinner. Don't miss this great dinner of Sausage, Sauerkraut, German Potato Salad and Dessert. Just \$10. Tickets pre-sold at the bar beginning Friday, September 4th.

Saturday, October 31, 7:00, Halloween Costume Party. Please join us for this annual event. Potluck Hors D' Oeuvres. Costumes encouraged but not required. Best costume contest with cash prizes. 1st Place \$75, 2nd Place \$50 and 3rd Place \$25. Come if you dare and bring a friend. You will have a howling good time.

NEW BAR

CLOSING HOURS

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1

SUN-THURS
9:00 P.M.

FRI-SAT
10:00 P.M.

The bar may remain open later at the bartender's discretion.

★ Thank you, ★
JOE MARTIN, COMMANDER

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

A Piece of American History

Legion/SAL member Wayne Ritchie recently had the opportunity to help a gentleman properly fold a special piece of American history—a 48-star flag that had once flown aboard the USS Oregon and was now being passed down to his grandson. As they folded the flag together, the gentleman shared his deep reverence for the American flag and its traditions. He even makes a point to notice worn or tattered flags at local businesses and will offer to replace them with a new one.



Have a flag ready for retirement?

American Legion Post 56 has a flag drop box available for community members to respectfully dispose of worn, faded, or damaged American flags. Flags collected at the Post are retired with the dignity and respect they deserve.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Legion: Brian Sundqvist (USA), John Thompson (USA), Philip Johnson (USAF), James Craig (USA), Marvin Owen (USA)

SAL: Lew Danielson & Tyler Cordill



Facebook: American Legion Sherwood Oregon

★ Follow for updates, events, and more!

Karina's Kitchen Takeover

Local community member and chef Karina Ynez took over the Post kitchen for several Friday nights, serving up homemade Mexican favorites for members and the community. From enchiladas and tamales to tacos and more, Karina brought great food and a little extra flavor to Friday nights at the Post. Thanks to Karina for sharing her talents, and to everyone who came out to enjoy a meal and support a local community member! We're excited to have Karina continue cooking at the Post on **Friday nights throughout September and October**. Come by and see what she's cooking up!



Members and guests enjoy one of Karina's Friday night dinners at the Post

LEGION FAMILY LEADERSHIP

Commander: Joe Martin

Auxiliary President: Rebecca Fairbanks

SAL Commander: Brian Berryhill

Newsletter Editor:

Allison DeGraaf, ALA Secretary

For a complete list of officers and committee chairs, visit SherwoodLegion.org.

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22548 SW Pine St
Sherwood, OR 97140-9335

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Each year, the Robin Hood Festival honors exceptional Sherwood area residents with a ceremonial knighting. This prestigious event recognizes individuals for their dedicated community service, bestowing upon them the titles of "Sir" or "Lady," awarded by Maid Marian. This year the honor went to Post 56 Auxiliary Member Cheri Hamburg.

Congratulations Lady Cheri for your dedicated community service work.



The Robin Hood Festival parade had all the participants that you would expect; marching bands, children on bikes, fire engines, horses, unique cars and local merchants in trucks advertising their products. The parade came down Pine St. and turned onto 1st street right next to our Post, perfect for watching a 45 minute parade.



Wayne Ritchie's Cornhole Classic, Round 2, had five courts with 18 teams playing a five game round robin, with eight teams advancing to single elimination. Medals and cash prizes were awarded to the top three teams. Center photo shows Brian Berryhill making a toss. Right hand photo shows Wayne Ritchie (left) presenting the Gold Medal and cash to the 1st place team. The Legion had a very successful Robin Hood Festival day.



The big Cruisin' day August 8th and the weather was beautiful. The cars started lining up at 6:30 a.m. Lots of great cars with 240 participating.



By arrangement, Post 56 friend Steve Schoening parked his 2008 Humvee right in front of our Post.



Legion member John Wester, by arrangement, parked his beautiful 1946 Ford Cabriolet in front of our Post. John won a Cruisin' trophy for "1949 and older Custom Stock"



Our Recruiting Booth did very well with a possible 6-10 new members. Working the booth L-R: Nick and Teresa Peters, and Chris Gomez. Not pictured, Cathi Sleight, Jim Edy, Chad Russell, Chris Garcia, Alisha Morton and Phil Morton.



The Auxiliary opened the doors at 6:00 a.m. to serve the car drivers and friends. A very rewarding day, selling out by 9:30. L-R: Mikkinsy Saling, Stacy Bent, Georgia DeLozier, Jeanne Moffatt, Mike Cross and Ardis Snyder.



SAL member Brian Berryhill, manning the BBQ, and his crew sold out of Hot Dogs and Tri-Tip Sandwiches at their Side Walk Café. A great day for the SAL.