



# LEGION-AIRES

## MOLINE AMERICAN LEGION POST 246

*For God and Country*

January 2016

### **Post Commander's Message:**

Our Post home has been sold. We will continue to meet at the Moline VFW Post 2153. The maintenance, marketing and sale of our property was very time consuming. We are now in position to change to a visionary focus. One that will allow us to better support each other and our community. A special thank you to all of our Officers, Legionnaires and Auxiliary members who helped us get to this point. I look forward to working with everyone involved in helping to determine our future course.

God bless the United States of America.

Jack T. Smith, Commander  
American Legion Post 246

### **Senior Vice Commander:**

On January 7, 2016 we held a brief service at the Post Home to retire the color. Commander Jack Smith said a few words, the firing squad fired one volley, the honor guard lowered the flag as the bugler played retreat - and it was official - we are currently without a post home.

VFW Post 2153 has graciously allowed us to use their home until we can move on. It's a tight space but we really appreciate what they are doing for us.

Jim Joseph  
Senior Vice Commander  
American Legion Post 246

### **Post 246 Auxiliary Message:**

We are starting our new year with a tear in one eye. This is normal when you lose a good friend, a good friend of course was our Legion home. We depart with many old memories. Our forefathers built this club from bottom to top, although many are departed we believe we can continue to carry on. Do we see a new home in our future? It may take time, but it will happen.

Our meetings are being held at the VFW Post in Moline on the fourth Monday of every month except December.

I am encouraging old and new members to join us. At present we have 141 members but need to have more ACTIVE members. May God's blessing shine down on all of us.

Millie Bowling  
Auxiliary President



Post 246 Honor Guard Retiring the Colors at the Post one last time. The ceremony was held on 1/7/2016.

### **Adjutant:**

All of you have received at least one 2016 renewal notice to pay your 2016 dues and to those of you who have PAID, THANK YOU! For those who have not paid please do so. We are striving to increase our membership by a minimum of 5% more than we had in 2015. You can help by paying your 2016 dues today and also by signing up a new member. "The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives." You can pay your dues on-line by going to [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org). If you have not paid, please do so and continue to support the American Legion and Post 246.

If you haven't done so please furnish us your e-mail address. Send it to: [alpost@alpost246moline.org](mailto:alpost@alpost246moline.org)

Tom Behl  
Post Adjutant

### **Illinois Boys State 2016:**

Post 246 is looking to sponsor two or more High School student who wants to attend the Illinois Boys State - "A Week That Shapes A Lifetime" 81st Annual Session, June 11th - 17th, 2016 at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois. If you know of anyone that may be interested, please have them contact Doug Bodeen in the Moline High School Counselors' Office (743-8824).



Post 246 Honor Guard Retiring the Colors at the Post one last time. The ceremony was held on 1/7/2016.

**Honor Guard Commander:**

Total honors provided by the Honor Guard for calendar year 2015: 249.

On December 12th we were wined and dined at the VFW courtesy of Esterdahl and McGinnis/Chambers Funeral Homes(Third year for this). Everyone had a good time. We really do appreciate their good will.

As mentioned in our last article the snowbirds would be leaving, they were and they did. One to florida and one to Hawaii. As I write this article the temperature has slowly risen to +2. It hurts to think our snowbirds are missing out on the January freeze. Oh well, they have no one to blame but themselves.

So far this year we have provided honors for ten comrades. If you are interested in joining this elite group please contact Honor Guard Commander James Joseph.

James Joseph  
Honor Guard Commander  
(309)781-5201 or [jjr4733@aol.com](mailto:jjr4733@aol.com)

**Finance Officer:**

Now that our Post Home is sold we are starting a new chapter in the life of Moline American Legion Post 246. With great anticipation we wonder how we can start our new chapter on sound footing and to be guided on the path of good judgement and sound decisions. Our financial situation is fair but we have no income other than our Membership. This month National will start taking \$5.00 more from the \$40.00 of each member's dues. That leaves us with only \$9.00 per member. I'm sure we can all work together as a team to increase our financial situation and our Membership.

Dale Brahm  
Finance Officer

**Chaplain's Corner:**

My fellow Legionnaires, a new year has come and I pray it will be more rewarding than the year past. I had the opportunity, from a few of you to pray for some of your love ones, and I thank you for that privilege. As post 246 we have new challenges facing us this year, and I ask that all of you would be praying on where the LORD would take us as we look to SERVE GOD AND COUNTRY. GOD bless you all.

In Christ's love  
Harry C Scarff Sr.  
(309) 428-3330

**Taps were played for:**

Member	Branch of Service	Date of Burial
David Holst	Marine WWII	12/06/2015
Vernon Ryckeghem	Army WWII Army Korea	01/05/2016

May their soul rest in peace and watch over us and keep us safe. Farewell comrade. Keep their family in your prayers.

**The American Legion Annual Dues process:**

Why you may have received another notice after you paid your annual dues:

The Legion year is the calendar year, which is why the top of your card shows the year for which you have paid dues. However, the dues collection process begins in the July preceding the Legion year. All dues are to be sent to the Legion through the Post. It usually takes a week or two before you get your card after the Post receives your dues. All of the dues notices are sent out by the American Legion National Headquarters, and are based on their receipt and posting of members' dues. The bottom of the dues notices show an "as of" date, which is usually two or three weeks preceding the mailing date. For unknown reasons, it can take in excess of two months for National to post dues. Have you gotten a dues notice, and you think you have already paid your dues? The easiest way to determine if the Post has gotten your dues is to look at your most recent membership card. If it is for the year for which dues are requested, the Post has gotten your dues, and you can throw out the notice, National just had not posted them by the "as of" date. If you mailed in your dues more than three weeks previously and haven't received your annual membership card from the Post, then contact the Post Adjutant for clarification.

By Jeff Van Bogaert, Post Adjutant, Post 119, Estes Park

**Blood Donors:**

Did you know every 10 seconds someone in the US receives a blood transfusion? Donors are always needed. If you can donate please do. Code 585 credits the Legion.

**Post Web Page:**

Please visit Post 246 Web Pages at [alpost246moline.org](http://alpost246moline.org).

Also use the link to visit our facebook page.

**2015-2016 Elected and Appointed Officers:**

Commander: Jack Smith

Senior Vice Commander: Jim Joseph

Vice Commander: Open

Finance Officer: Dale Brahm

Chaplain: Harry Scarff

Sergeant-at-Arms: Nick Huyten

Service Officer : Open

Historian: Open

Adjutant: Tom Behl

**2015-2016 Auxiliary Elected and Appointed Officers:**

President: Millie Bowling

First Vice President: Dion Firch

Second Vice President: Chris Carlson

Secretary: Jan Frey

Treasurer: Connie Mohr-Wright

Historian: Elayne Hogan

Chaplain: Julie Schomer

Membership: Julie Schomer

**Post Calendar for February:**

- 22-February-2016 7:00 PM - Membership Meeting

**Post Calendar for March:**

- 28-March-2016 7:00 PM - Membership Meeting

**Post Calendar for April 2016:**

- 25-April-2016 7:00 PM - Membership Meeting

Membership meetings are the 4th Monday of the month and are currently being held at Moline VFW Post 2153 1721 7th Street in Moline.

**Post 246 Mission Statement:**

Our Mission is to exceed the expectations of our membership in providing an atmosphere of camaraderie for all veterans.

This includes sharing information and working with related organizations to provide support and assistance to all veterans, active duty military and their families.

Our focus is on the future with remembering and observing past sacrifices.

**Updated e-mail addresses:**

Thank you to those who furnished their email address to the Post.

We are still accepting e-mail address from members who have an email address. Please send it to us, we will use it for sending out American Legion news items and the Post Newsletter. The cost of printing and mailing our newsletter comes to several hundred dollars each mailing. If we could reduce the number of mailings by using email, it would help our post save money. We will NOT give out your email address to anyone. This information will remain confidential. To assist us please send your updated email address to [alpost@alpost246moline.org](mailto:alpost@alpost246moline.org). Thank you for your support.