

**The American Legion Morton Grove  
Post 134**

6144 Dempster  
Morton Grove, IL 60053  
(847) 965-9503

[www.mortongrovepost134.org](http://www.mortongrovepost134.org)



November / December 2019 Vol. 3

*Post 134 is proud to be the largest in Post Membership in  
the State of Illinois*

UPCOMING DATES

**NOVEMBER**

3<sup>rd</sup> Daylight Savings Time Ends

3<sup>rd</sup> Bears Game, Clubhouse opens at 11:00 a.m.

10<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day Parade 1:00 p.m. staging  
& Marine Corps. Anniversary

10<sup>th</sup> Bears Game, Clubhouse Opens at 11:00 a.m.

11<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day

19<sup>th</sup> Riders Meeting 7:30 p.m.

21<sup>st</sup> Post 134 Meeting 7:30 p.m.

24<sup>th</sup> Bears Game, Clubhouse opens at 11:00 a.m.

28<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving with Naval Recruits

**DECEMBER**

7<sup>th</sup> Pearl Harbor Day

10<sup>th</sup> Auxiliary Meeting & Christmas Party 6:00 p.m.  
*December Dates continued:*

15<sup>th</sup> Bears Game, Clubhouse opens at 11:00 a.m.

17<sup>th</sup> Riders Meeting 7:30 p.m.

19<sup>th</sup> Post Meeting 7:30 p.m.

29<sup>th</sup> Bears Game, Clubhouse opens at 11:00 a.m.

## How are you Legioning?

Michelle Homme, Editor

[mortongrovepost134@gmail.com](mailto:mortongrovepost134@gmail.com)

Are you *reading* the newsletter, or just browsing through? Do you take note of Post events and attend events to show your support? Have you reached out to members of your Legion Family and finally said hello, catching up like you've been meaning to?

We are approaching the Holiday Season. It is a perfect time to get involved with the many activities our Legion Family participates in.

Our Veterans Day Parade is November 10<sup>th</sup>, and WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO KEEP IT GOING. Come out and spend an hour or two showing our Veterans and current servicemen, they matter! Visit our Veterans at the hospital with our Auxiliary, collect for Toys for Tots, join our Riders in their many rides or fundraisers, support the Clubhouse and watch a Bears game, or stop in for Taco Tuesday and stick around for the Queen of Hearts drawing.

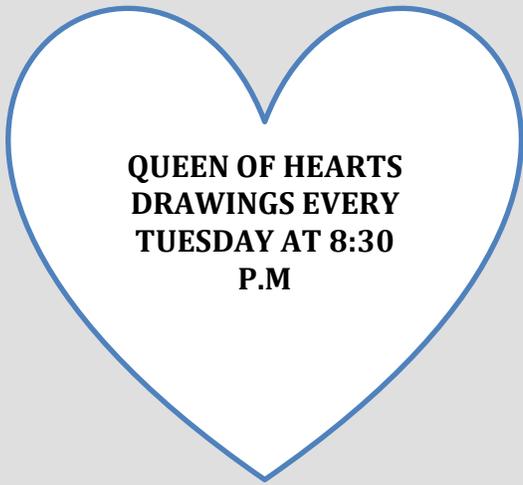
There are so MANY ways to be involved and show your support. We are always looking for members willing to continue serving. If you are interested in our rifle squad for honor services, or working with organizations, please let us know!

## Commanders Message

Nora Gunning (773) 633-0140 [noragunning@yahoo.com](mailto:noragunning@yahoo.com)

Come join the Post during Taco Tuesdays and Bears games in the Clubhouse! We have slot machines coming soon to the post as well. In November we will be hosting the Great Lakes Sailors for Thanksgiving. Reminder that if any member is having any issues or concerns please contact me!

Happy Halloween & Happy Thanksgiving!



## Auxiliary Message

Sharon Martin (847) 967-1875 [mumooof5@att.net](mailto:mumooof5@att.net)

The holidays are coming up, and we are getting ready to make our gifts bags for the Veterans at Jesse Brown Veterans Hospital. If you have any toiletries to donate, you can drop them off at the Post. We will again be giving Christmas cards out at Jesse Brown this year.

November 10<sup>th</sup> is the Veterans Day Parade, fly your flag, and celebrate because it's also The Marine Corps Anniversary! Our next meeting will be November 12<sup>th</sup>, and our meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup> will be our Christmas Potluck Dinner and Party at 6:00 p.m.

## American Legion Riders

George Vail (847)287-7414 [gvail@yahoo.com](mailto:gvail@yahoo.com)

Legion Family,

Now that late Summer has turned to Fall, the Legion Riders are hoping to get a ride or two in before Old Man Winter comes into our area. We will be looking to plan a run for Toys for Tots, and we will also be planning a Winter Fest sometime after the holidays. This will give everyone chance to get together, share warm thoughts and camaraderie. We will share more details as become available.

We always welcome and encourage fellow legionnaires to become new members, and if you would like to be a Legion Rider, you must:

- Be a member of the Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion in good standing.
- Own a 350cc or larger motorcycle.
- Be licensed to operate a motorcycle in the State of Illinois and have current insurance coverage.

If you meet these criteria, we welcome you to be a member of the Legion Riders Chapter of Post 134!

Our Riders Meeting are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm. The meeting will be held in the meeting room by the Club 134 Bar. Feel free to call me with any questions!



***Please consider joining the American Legion to help us help veterans, and to have a stronger voice to make changes.***

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*During the Morton Grove Park District Board Meeting, The American Legion (Pictured: Ken Trumbull) thanked Commissioner Mark Manno for his many contributions to the Village of Morton Grove Veterans and presented him with an American Legion Legacy and Vision Award.*

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**Thank you, Mark!**

Our Auxiliary had another fun night of Bingo with the Veterans at Jesse Brown VA Hospital!  
 (Pictured Auxiliary members: Nuala Novak, Diane Durkin, Donna Hedrick)



**MEETING MINUTES**

**September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Opening** - The meeting of was called to order at 1930 hours by Jr. Vice Shreffler.

**Approval of Minutes** - Minutes accepted as printed and distributed.

**Commanders Report** – Not present, no report.

**Finance**-Financial report accepted.

**Executive Board Report**, PC Ken Trumbull

Legionnaire’s for 2020 Life Membership are now being considered. If you would like to nominate a Legionnaire, please submit a resume for the candidate and contact the Post 134 for Life Membership criteria.

**Legion Riders** - The in-state Legacy Run raised \$17,091.68. Along with Illinois’ total, \$32,825.00 was donated to the Legacy Scholarship Fund from Illinois. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest state contribution, and the first time Illinois was mentioned at the National Convention. \$975,208.00 total was raised Nationally. The fund has now been opened to children of Veterans who are 50% or more disabled

*With the signing of the LEGION Act – Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service Act – into law July 30 by President Trump, the U.S. government now acknowledges that the military has been involved in at least 12 additional military conflicts not previously recognized. As a result of this, The American Legion National Executive Committee (NEC) adopted to amend the organization's Preamble to recognize the millions of U.S. military veterans from all of these wars and conflicts that have occurred since World War I and II. Resolution 1 was adopted by the NEC Oct. 16 during Fall Meetings in Indianapolis, which amends "the Great Wars" to "all wars." The Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion now reads:*

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:  
 To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;  
 To maintain law and order;  
 To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;  
 To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations **in all wars;**  
 To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;  
 To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;  
 To make right the master of might;  
 To promote peace and goodwill on earth;  
 To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;  
 To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

post 9/11. The fund provides a full college scholarship to their children.

**S.A.L.** Not present, no report.

**Auxiliary** Not present, no report

**Pot of Gold \$553**

**Pot of Silver \$24**

**Adjournment**





## The Challenge Coin Tradition

### A Brief Look at the History of Challenge Coins in the Military

Members of the U.S. military have a long-standing tradition of carrying a special coin symbolizing unit identity and esprit de corps. With bonds forged in battle thousands of miles from home, these custom coins minted for military units – each bearing their own revered symbols and mottos – capture in metal the essence of their affiliation and their fierce pride. Known to generations of American military personnel as challenge coins, they are a vital part of military life today and are revered by troops in every branch of service.

Today, challenge coins are carried by soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines, as well as lawmen and firefighters. These coins identify the bearer as a member of a particular unit with a well-defined history and mission. And, wherever warriors gather, they challenge each other by “coining.” The group’s unique coin is slammed on a bar to challenge all in the group to display their own coins; he who is last must pay a penalty.

The tradition of challenge coins can be traced to World War II when American forces deployed to the far reaches of the globe securing the nation’s freedom. Soldiers back to World War I and the Civil War left for battle with a coin from home in their pocket and kept it after the conflict as a lasting remembrance of their wartime experiences.

American soldiers stationed in Germany after the war adopted that country’s popular “pfennig check.” The pfennig was the smallest unit of German currency. When someone announced a pfennig check, a soldier who could not produce one had to buy a round of drinks for his buddies.

The popularity of challenge coins spread during the Vietnam War, inspired by Special Forces that minted coins to express the unique identity and strong bond forged between them. Other units wanted their own coin to build camaraderie and symbolize their pride of membership in an elite group.

A challenge coin is not merely a token. Challenge coins today are a tangible source of pride for America’s warriors at every level in the chain of command. Commanders use them as on-the-spot awards. Senior military leaders often dole out their coins as gifts to foreign dignitaries or civilian VIPs.

Most important, a challenge coin is carried at all times. Coin checks are still a part of military life, and various penalties are still handed out for those found without their coin. (Some cruelly choose locations apt to yield a victory. Rules commonly followed specify that the coin must be carried at all times; neither shower nor latrine exempt one from producing his coin.)

### What services does The American Legion provide?

- At national, state, and local levels, The American Legion provides advocacy for veterans, support for military personnel, opportunities for children and youth, and promotion of patriotic values, or Americanism.
- Through nearly 14,000 facilities worldwide, The American Legion helps veterans’ transition to civilian lives.
- More than 2,600 service officers provide free benefits counseling to hundreds of thousands of veterans every year.
- The American Legion helps veterans, active duty service members, and their families lead full lives and receive the health care, education, and job placement benefits they earned.
- The Legion provides information and direct assistance to veterans who are in need as a result of natural disasters, emotional distress, unemployment, illness, or disability.
- The American Legion fights in Washington, as well as at the state and local levels, on behalf of veterans and families to protect the benefits they earned through military service.
- The American Legion is a driving force behind some of the greatest veteran benefit programs in history, including the GI Bill.
- The Legion provides millions of volunteer hours in support of veteran’s health-care facilities and community-service programs benefiting children and young people.
- During the recent VA Healthcare Crisis, The American Legion was first to call for an urgent change of leadership in the Department of Veterans Affairs and to set up Crisis Command Centers for health care and VA benefits counseling and problem-solving.



SAL and Legion Riders Present  
Pete's Not-So-Famous BBQ  
**November 19th**  
5 PM until out of Food



**Sliced Brisket**  
**Pulled Pork**  
**Pulled Chicken**  
**Pork Belly Burnt Ends**  
**Mac & Cheese**  
**Green Beans**  
**Cole Slaw**

Sandwich only  
\$5.00

2 Meat dinner (2 meats, 1 side, dinner rolls)  
\$8.00

3 Meat dinner (3 meats, 2 sides, dinner rolls)  
\$10.00

Proceeds going to the Legacy Scholarship Fund