



# Art Semro Legion Family News



276 8<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, PO Box 904, Ephrata, WA 98823

Phone 509-754-2761

## Serving Ephrata & Soap Lake Area Veterans and their Families since 1921

April 2024

Volume 24, Number 04

**Post & Auxiliary Meetings**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 7PM  
E-board 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 7PM

**Lounge Hours**  
Monday thru Saturday 12PM – 8PM  
Sunday 9AM – 7PM

### From the Commander

Welcome to April everyone! I hope you all had a good Easter and are enjoying our days of spring weather as they come. I'm ready to get outside!

In March I got to attend the American Legion Oratorical contest at Big Bend Community College. Teenagers from across the state competed for a spot at the National Contest and presented speeches on the Constitution. This was my first time attending and I was really impressed with the event and the hard work these young adults put in.

As we move into Spring there will be events to attend at the Post home as well as opportunity to volunteer and help out. Additionally, the nominating committee will be looking for anyone who wants to step up for work on the Executive Committee. Please take some time and consider how you can participate.

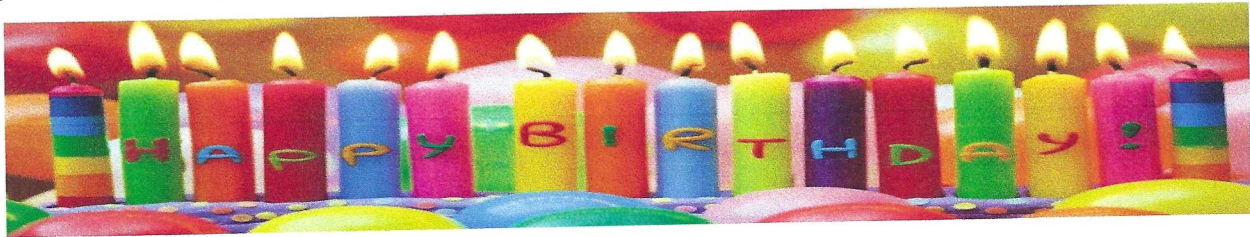
Kimberly Thomas/Commander  
509-398-5535 or [kkallen1965@gmail.com](mailto:kkallen1965@gmail.com)

### From the Editor

Our goal is to have your newsletter in your hands by the first of every month. In order to accomplish this goal, we have established a **deadline of the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month** for all input to be in the hands of

Manager's Comments: We are officially into Spring with lots of things going on this month. The Chili Cook Off is on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. The entry fee is \$10; and, we'll have a Potato Bar and Hot Dogs to purchase to try out your favorite chili. We'll have Karaoke on the 27<sup>th</sup> so let's come on in to show off your talents or just enjoy the entertainment. You'd be surprised how many people you know who've been hiding their talents. We won't have a dinner on the 26<sup>th</sup> but we will have a special celebrity chef cooking on 28<sup>th</sup> for breakfast – come down and enjoy. *Remember what I said about hidden talents.*

In keeping with the "Planning ahead" – please remember our Parking Lot Sale on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 9-4. We're still looking for vendors – applications can be picked up in our Lounge. And mark it on calendar to come down and shop.



April birthdays – 3<sup>rd</sup> Paul W.; 4<sup>th</sup> Rachel S.; 5<sup>th</sup> Billy C.; 16<sup>th</sup> Trich B.; 17<sup>th</sup> Terese B.; 24<sup>th</sup> Betty W.; 25<sup>th</sup> Jeanette M.; 27<sup>th</sup> LorEll W.; 28<sup>th</sup> Jim P.

Don't forget Jean and Mardi's services at the ERC on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 11am.

And, please remember we will be holding Memorial and Reception to include full Military Honors here at the Post Home on April 17<sup>th</sup> 11am for Loren Richard. Loren is a Past Commander of Post 28 as well as a Past 9<sup>th</sup> District Commander; and, although he had to move to Wenatchee for his health, he maintained his Legion membership here at Post 28. His family would love to be able to meet and share stories with Loren's Legion Family.

*If you can provide a salad or dessert for Loren's reception please call Jane Montaney at 509-760-1433.*



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14467 Dodson Rd. Ephrata, WA arladon@nwi.net





Hello Everyone! It is with great sadness, that I have been promoted to Unit 28 President. I'm just going to say that Mardi left some huge shoes to fill. She will be greatly missed by not only this Unit, but the entire community.

As elections for officers are quickly approaching, I have appointed Arla, Carol, and Terri as our Nominating Committee. If you are interested in running for one of the positions, please contact one of these ladies.

April is going to be a busy month with memorials, so if you can help with food, please do so.

I would like to point out that April is a very special month, because it is the one month of the year where military children are recognized and celebrated. Military children go through so much, and they must be resilient.

Heather Wilson, Unit President

American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 28

208-350-9142

[heather\\_denver7@yahoo.com](mailto:heather_denver7@yahoo.com)



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**Randy Weitzel**  
Managing Broker  
1075 Basin St. SW  
Ephrata WA, 98823


## THE OFFICIAL FLOWER OF THE MILITARY CHILD IS THE DANDELION. WHY?

Dandelions put down roots almost anywhere and it's almost impossible to destroy. It's an unpretentious plant, yet good looking. It's a survivor in a broad range of climates.

Military children bloom everywhere the winds carry them. They are hardy and upright. Their roots are strong, cultivated deeply in the culture of the Army..... planted swiftly and surely. They're ready to fly in the breezes that take them to new adventures, new lands, and new friends.

Military children are well-rounded, culturally aware, tolerant, and extremely resilient. They have learned from an early age that home is where their hearts are, that a good friend can be found in every corner of the world.

They learn that to survive means to adapt. That the door that closes one chapter of their life opens up to a new and exciting adventure full of new friends and new experiences.



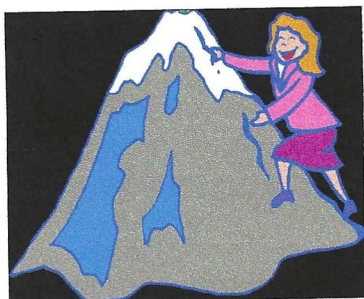




**Membership is the strength from which we accomplish our mission of service. Please never forget the importance of membership in providing assistance to veterans, military, their families, and our communities.**

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2024

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Now is the time of year when we offer a discount someone just joining – if they pay for both the and 2025 Membership Years at the time the application is submitted. Normally 2 years' dues come to \$100 but for a new applicant to Auxiliary 28 the cost is just \$94. This action would also the member an Early Bird with all the perks including free drink of their choice and a free

dinner at our Appreciation/Early Bird Dinner in October.

**We still have 16 who haven't renewed and need 6 members to make goal.**

**Those who have still not renewed, PLEASE SEND IN YOUR RENEWAL NOW!!!!**

If for any reason you can't renew right now please contact me, Jane Montaney (509)760-1433; and, we'll work something out.

**Membership dues for American Legion Auxiliary, Art Semro Unit 28, are:**

**Auxiliary (18 or older) \$50    Junior Auxiliary (17 or younger) \$13**

You can drop off your renewal at the Post Home or mail it to:

Jane Montaney 204 Maringo Rd, Ephrata, WA 98823

**Please make checks payable to ALA, Unit 28.**

If it's easier for you, renewals can also be paid directly to National online at [www.ALAForVeterans.org](http://www.ALAForVeterans.org) . It takes several weeks before the unit is notified of your renewal; so, if you decide to pay directly to National, please forward a copy of your confirmation to [jmontaney@yahoo.com](mailto:jmontaney@yahoo.com). When you notify me, I'll send you the special thank you from your Unit 28, your card, and update our files.

### **WHOOOOOSE JOB IS IT?**

Here's a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it.

Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR ALL THE ACTIVITIES AROUND  
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND. Poppy Distribution, Putting up the crosses &  
flags in the cemeteries, attending (maybe even helping put on) the ceremony  
at Ephrata Cemetery, and taking the flags & Crosses down.**



The Legion's motto – "Still Serving America" and the Auxiliary's "Service Not Self" should never be just words; we need to remember and live up to them.

Whether a member of the Auxiliary or Legion, now is the time to contact your Nominating Committee to volunteer for an officer's position or check into a chairmanship and be prepared to offer your services to the newly elected President or Commander. Don't want to be a leader? Join the crowd; but positions need to be filled. Most of the time we all work together, as a team, anyhow. Leadership just means you get the blame ;- ) or the accolades ☺ We also need many, many, worker-bees –  
**PLEASE VOLUNTEER!!**

Planning ahead is a good way for people to gauge what they can do. Keep in mind events coming up, like Honor Flight Fundraiser and Memorial Day responsibilities, are things we of Art Semro Unit and Post 28 normally do in fulfillment of our promise of service.

We're planning ahead to ensure their success.



### **Armed Forces Day – Sat. 18 May – Honor Flight Fundraiser**

Unit & Post 28 are planning our annual Honor Flight fundraiser.

Honor Flight is a wonderful



opportunity for veterans to see the memorials in Washington D.C. built in their honor – WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and special cases of veterans who served in Enduring Freedom. Our event will include the traditional Taco/Nacho Feed and dessert auction. We'll also have a few other delightful items because people just want to donate em and I can't turn em away. 🐱 Depending on what comes in, we may start a Silent Auction a couple days in advance. The event kicks off at 5 with meet & greet, looking over Silent Auction, perhaps watching a little video of an Honor Flight, and getting your bidder paddles too of course. At 5:30pm we'll open with Prayer and POW/MIA Table Setting Ceremony. We used to plan this as a buffet with meal served till 7 or we ran out of food, but some people came at 6:30 or 7 expecting food only to find it gone. SO, this year the meal will be served after the opening with desserts being auctioned off periodically through the evening; and, if things go as in the past we'll still have desserts to auction off after 7 too.

**Volunteers are needed** to help finalize the planning, set up, decorate, cook, serve, place posters, provide the delicious desserts, and of course spend money at the event. If you can volunteer in any way, please contact Mike 509-989-4417 or Jane 509-760-1433 Montaney.





Mardi and Jean with the 3<sup>rd</sup> mousekeeter – Pat Witham (center)

In our last newsletter we told you of the passing of Mardi Carroll and Jean Fleming in a house fire on Feb 14<sup>th</sup>; and, that Jean's family asked for joint services and Michael, Mardi's son, was glad to agree. I'm very honored to have been asked by Michael to take the lead on putting on the event. There was a Draping of the Charter done at a joint opening of our general meetings on March 14<sup>th</sup> to honor Mardi, Jean, and 2 other Auxiliary members we just learned had passed away – Zoe Anderson and Jerene Brammer; plus, Legionnaire Loren Richard (Past Post Commander and 9<sup>th</sup> Dist. Cmdr.)

A Celebration of Mardi and Jean's Lives will be held on April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Ephrata Recreation Center (ERC 112 Basin SW) from 11am-2pm; a continuation of sharing will be accommodated after 2 at the Legion Post 276 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.

The other organizations in which Mardi & Jean were a part of sat down with some of us Legion Family members and came up with a plan; it will take all of us to make this a success. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!!!** Set up (which will include moving things from Post to ERC as well as setting up tables & chairs, putting tablecloths and decorations on the tables) greeters to man the guest book and direct people to their chairs, and of course clean up (which includes gathering things to transport to the Post Home, putting table and chairs away, then ensuring everything clean before locking up). We're expecting approximately 250 people, so we'll need **LOTS OF FOOD**. We have the meat, cheese, and rolls covered but need lots of salads (each one should be big enough to feed at least 20 people) and desserts (brownies & cookies work best).

Cards and letters of condolence for Mardi may be mailed to:

Michael Carroll 9518 N Atlantic Spokane, WA 99218

Cards and letters of condolence for Jean may be mailed to:

Kristina Firouzi-Hallberg 5315 Mae Valley Rd NE Moses Lake, WA 98837

Donations in memory may be sent to:

American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 28 c/o Post 28 PO Box 904 Ephrata, WA 98823

OR

Fibrolamellar Cancer Foundation 20 Horseneck Lane (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) Greenwich, CT 06830

Anyone who can help in any way please contact me as soon as you can.

Yours in service & friendship for God & Country,  
Jane Montaney, 9<sup>th</sup> Dist. Sec. & Unit 28 Treas.+  
American Legion Auxiliary, Dept of WA



509-760-1433

[jmontaney@yahoo.com](mailto:jmontaney@yahoo.com)



# April 2024

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
	1	2 Burger Night 5-7PM	3	4 Post Closed for Sewer repair	5 Fish Night/Clam Chouder	6																																																																																											
7 Breakfast 9-Noon Chip Toss	8	9 Burger Night 5-7PM	10	11 Post & Aux meeting 7PM Pulled Pork Sand w/Cole Slaw & Baked Beans	12 Spaghetti	13																																																																																											
14 Breakfast 9-Noon Chili Cook Off 2PM \$10 entry fee	15	16 Burger Night 5-7PM	17 Loren Richard Memorial 11-3	18	19 BBQ Burgers & Hotdogs 5-6:30	20 Mardi Carroll & Jean Fleming Memorial ERC 11-2 Post Closed till 2PM																																																																																											
21 Breakfast 9-Noon	22	23 Burger Night 5-7PM	24	25 Post Executive Committee 7PM Taco Bar 5-6:30	26 No Dinner	27 Karaoke																																																																																											
28 Breakfast 9-Noon Guest Cook	29	30 Burger Night 5-7PM	<div> <div> <b>Mar 2024</b> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <b>May 2024</b> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table> </div> </div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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## Legion and Auxiliary Officers

Post 28		Unit 28	
Commander	Kim Thomas	President	Heather Wilson
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice	Alexander Duncan	Vice President	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice	Frank Tempel	Secretary	Maggs Skowronski
Adjutant	Heather Garces	Treasurer	Jane Montaney
Finance Officer	Tom Moncrief	Chaplain	Arla Deycous
Chaplain	Don Deycous	Historian	Stephanie Sherwood
Historian	Marv Wixson	Sgt at Arms	Marina Best
Sgt at Arms	Jeff Krausse		
Service Officer	Vacant		
Judge Advocate	Mike Montaney		
Jr. Past Commander	Vacant		

### Executive Board Members at Large

2026 Jason Wilson  
2025 Vinny Sanchez  
2024 Don Deycous

Patty Thornton  
Terri Moncrief  
Sunshine Pray