

POST 30 NEWS



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Commander's Corner

We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and are ready to ring in the new year.

It's the season of giving and our generous members have outdone themselves this year. We'd like to thank Paul and Suzy Spurgeon for donating a 65" TV to the Post in honor of Suzy's mom. We'd also like to thank Hurman Nicholson for his donation of \$100.

2022 was an active one for Post 30. Let's take a brief look back at some of the highlights.

At a ceremony in January, we presented a \$4,600 check to Veterans K9 Solutions founder/CEO, retired Navy veteran Jerry Lyda, beneficiary of the proceeds from our successful Service Dog Dash 5K the previous November.

Edgefield County Sheriff Jody Rowland was the guest speaker at our February meeting during which he discussed upgrading the aging fleet of sheriff's vehicles, increasing the number of officers, and expanding public outreach, all part of his vision to reform county law enforcement. After addressing the crowd, he invited everyone outside to get a closer look at some of the new vehicles.

The lodge wished a fond farewell in April to Jimmy Painter who, with his wife, moved to Westminster, SC to be closer to their children. The lodge presented a certification of

appreciation, plaque and a challenge coin in recognition of his contributions to the post over the last 25 years. Jimmy will continue to be a valuable member of our Post and we hope when he visits Edgefield in the future he will have an opportunity to attend a meeting.

Our May meeting was devoted to honoring the members whom we lost over the past year. In a moving ceremony, we chronicled the life of, James Brodie, Dr. James Hawk, Lennie Joiner, Doyle Joiner, and Kenneth Ray. We presented each family with a patriotic-decor scarf, a small American flag, and a certificate.

Post 30 cohosted the annual Memorial Day ceremony, May 30, at the Edgefield County Veterans' Park where a large crowd paid tribute to the Edgefield County veterans who failed to return home from the battlefields.

The Boys State and Girls State delegates sponsored by Post 30 and the Post 30 Auxiliary joined us for our September meeting. The delegates shared stories from the program and expressed their appreciation for our continued commitment which provides local students this exceptional learning experience.

Not even the prediction of a tropical storm could deter Post 30 from cohosting the annual Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11. Although we were forced to change to an indoor venue at the last minute, the ceremony went off without a hitch. A shout out to Edgefield Mayor Ken Durham for allowing us to use the town gym!

Let's work together to make 2023 an even better year because together we can achieve anything.

As always, if you are willing to receive our newsletter electronically please send us an email – alpost30sc@gmail.com.

-- Tommy Tripp, Post 30 Commander

**Adjutant Advisory
Forward, March (into 2023)**

Let's make 2023 a "Year of Growth" for Post 30. In 2022, we went from dwindling numbers to a modest gain of 4 members, putting us on the path to ensure the continuation of our mission to help veterans and instill patriotism in the next generation. Growth would invigorate our purpose and prepare those who come after us to carry on our traditions. But each of us would need to commit to bring one friend, new acquaintance, or even someone whose membership has lapsed, to join us. Let's continue to extend a warm welcome to all veterans and family members to attend our monthly meetings and enjoy the company of those bonded through military service.

Believe it or not we still have current members who are delinquent on their 2023 dues. We are currently sitting at 59% for dues paid. If you have not paid your dues, please get them paid as soon as possible. You can pay me in person or online at <https://www.legion.org/>.

-- Jane Doolittle, Post 30 Adjutant

Calendar of Events

January 19, 2023

Monthly Meeting, Dinner at 1800, meeting at 1830

February 16, 2023

Monthly Meeting, Dinner at 1800, meeting at 1830

NOTE! IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:

You must call Billy Doolittle (803-637-3722) or email the post no later than the Monday prior to our scheduled meeting.

Legionnaire Spotlight

Calvin Bartley



Calvin Bartley was born on July 31, 1928 and served in the Air Force for four years during the Korean War. Enlisting on November 27, 1951, with his first stop at Lackland AFB, TX for basic training followed by Air Police school at Shepherd AFB, TX. He was stationed at: Fort Gordon, GA; Walker AFB NM; Sidi Slimane AB, French Morocco, North Africa; March AFB, CA; and completed a three month TDY to England. Airman First Class Bartley separated from the Air Force on November 26, 1955, proudly bearing the National Defense Service Medal and the Good Conduct Medal.

Christmas Party 2022 – Oh what a night!

This year's Christmas party on December 15 will go down as one that was hard to beat, no matter how you look at it. The food is always delicious and the company of our friends is always impossible to beat. But the gathering of 2022 was the most beautifully decorated and festive with symbols of the season dotting the room: gaily-wrapped gifts, Santa Claus, our tree draped in blinking lights, the most perfect and festive floral arrangements, and glittering snowflakes dancing overhead.

But the real story is one that leads up to that moment, so gather around, my friends, and hear the tale of The Hut Before Christmas.

'Twas the week before Christmas and all through the lodge,
not a creature was stirring
---except for Tommy, Jane, Winston, Suzy and Diane.

Jane's firm direction dispelled hesitation
And soon the hut buzzed with seasonal preparations

Like Santa's helpers, employing quick paces,
Unpacking bags and boxes, bright smiles on their faces.

Poinsettias placed near the windows with care,
and mantels all dressed with garlands aflare.

The tree boughs adorned by Tommy with lights,
All ornaments hung, and one star lit the night.

Suzy's skilled hands filled the air with snow-flakes,
Festive arrangements laid next to our plates.

Diane placed presents over here, over there,
and Christmas ambience soon filled the air.

Winston's electronics brought life to the scene,
images of times past danced o'er the screen.

Christmas tunes a backdrop to banter and chatter,
'Til the feast was laid out on bountiful platters

Roger's prayer of thanks reminded us what mattered,
Then plates heaped with goodness, and now we're much fatter.

Charlotte's desserts devoured with coffee and tea,
Capped the joy of another blessed season with thee.

Warm thanks all who came out to spend the evening together and here's wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



