

# UNIT 484

# HAPPENINGS

*Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month*

## DECEMBER 2023

Thanksgiving is in the rearview mirror and Christmas will be here before we know it. It's that time of year when we take inventory of those things, we are grateful for, health, family, friends, your home, and the ability to put food on the table are just a few. With inflation and prices rising on almost everything, managing the basics of daily living becomes a challenge. This is the time of year to take a moment and reach out to our Legion members and Veterans, say hello, and extend your hand if needed. Nothing means more than a hello and a simple gesture of, "Do you need anything?". Many folks won't admit they need help but knowing they have a resource means everything.

Please keep our troops in your prayers as they serve our country during this holiday season.

We hope to see our Legion Auxiliary members at the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting which will be brief so we may spend time socializing, celebrating the holiday, and exchanging gifts. It's a great time filled with laughter and cheer.

As a reminder, the quarter auction is paused in December, however, it will start back up in January.

Our monthly breakfast will be on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, adults \$10 and children \$5, all you can eat. Please come join our wonderful team and celebrate the holiday with a nice hot breakfast.

Don't forget to donate toys and sundry items for our local children so everyone can receive a gift from Santa this holiday season. As mentioned, prices are up this year, and becomes a challenge for parents to purchase gifts in addition to paying their monthly bills and keeping food on the table.

Lunch with Santa is Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Please remind your friends and neighbors with children and come have a great time with Santa and lunch with gifts for the kiddos. It's another great time and opportunity for kids to get a meal and gift during these challenging times.

Happy holidays to all.

For God and Country,

Cindy E Zimmerman



## BREAKFAST BUFFET

December 10 – 9am- Noon

We will again be serving our all you can eat buffet from 9-12 (\$10 adults, \$5 children 5-16)

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VA & R

Liz Castle 513-232-5648

I am very happy to announce that the Cincinnati VAMC, has opened up the Community Living Center to groups for them to sponsor events at the center. Beginning this month, on Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm we, along with the S.A.L. will host a bingo at the center. Anyone interested in helping or attending please contact me. You will find this to be a very rewarding experience helping the men and women that served our country. Hope to see you there.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.

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**QUARTER AUCTION** Vicki Monroe 231—3572

Returns in January 2024

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POPPY

Debbie Holden 513-400-7485

Tricia Oehler was the winner of a "fall gnome" for the poppy activity at the Auxiliary November meeting. Congratulations!



**COMMUNITY SERVICE** Liz Castle 232-5648

The S.A.L.'s Luncheon with Santa will be held on Sunday, the 17th at 12:00pm. As in the past years, the Auxiliary has helped the S.A.L. by donating games, toys and gently used books. If you would like to donate any of these items, please bring them to our December meeting. If there is anyone interested in helping at the event be there at 11:00am. Remember there is no better feeling than to see a happy child at Christmas.

Like in past years, Unit 484 will be donating \$250.00 to both SEM Food Pantry and Inter Parish Ministries to help the less fortunate families in our community. If anyone would like more information about these organizations, you can contact me.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.

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**EDUCATION** Sandy Pennington. 513-231-6697

On our 11-14-23 meeting night we had guest speaker Nikki Marksberry, Resource Coordinator for Mt. Washington Elementary School. Nikki shared information on the Mt. Washington Elementary School Foundation, and how it supplements their teacher's agendas and enhances the learning experience for students. Teachers truly are education's superheroes: often they are called upon to self-fund many projects as money is often not available for special events or even improvements. Currently there is a plan in progress to develop an enclosed garden area on one side of the school so an outside learning area can expand learning outside of the classroom. Our unit was able to donate \$150.00 to the Mt. Washington Foundation- and I will keep the unit informed of any special programs they are having this year too.

Mt Washington School is also having their **Christmas** Store again this year: This is where the students are able to do shopping for their families; their moms and dads, brothers, and sisters, and even their grandparents! The following items are being collected for the school: mugs, scarves and gloves for adults, lotions for men and women, holiday dish towels and potholders, small fun items for children, small toys... pretty much anything that does not cost more than \$5! Ollies and Dollar General have many inexpensive items that make the store fun for the students... and I have already started collecting stuff from our members! You can bring items with my name on them to the Post - I will be checking with our members and friends of Post 484 so everything can be delivered before **12/12/23**. Thanks everyone for making **Christmas** happen for some families.



**MEMBERSHIP** Vicki Monroe 513-231-3572

We are really coming along. We are at 72% of our goal. Please take a minute and give yourself the gift of membership in our great organization. Send in your dues now. Our dues are \$40.00. You can send them to me at 7988 Asbury Hills Dr. Cincinnati, OH 45255.





**CHILDREN AND YOUTH**  
**Sandy Pennington. 513-231-6697**

Unit 484 purchased \$57.94 worth of incredible snacks for Sands Montessori this month: the snacks were delivered on 11/13/23 and were greatly appreciated by their resource representative. Snyder pretzels, Lance toasted crackers with peanut butter, and Motts fruit gems (two whole boxes!!) were given so students had decent snacks available for when they are HUNGRY. We did this last year and it's amazing how much kids need and appreciate these foods. Our unit is also donating three \$20 Kroger gift cards each to Mt. Washington Elementary and Sands Montessori. These will be given to the school's resource coordinator to hand out for family emergencies. Special thanks to Mary Nash, my partner in crime, when stuff needs to be delivered to our schools!

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**Welcome to The Inspiration Box!**



**Sandy Pennington. 513-231-6697**

Some thoughts in December!

"December - make every child's wish come true." catmichaelswriter.com

"Love winter when the plant says nothing." Thomas Merton

"Welcome December! December, being the last month of the year, cannot help but make us think of what is to come." Fennel Hudson



**COMING SOON! – SAVE THE DATE**

The Chili Cook Off will be held on February 4, 2024. If you are interested in being a contestant, or need more information, please contact:

Debbie – 513-400-7485 or dholden824@gmail.com

Entry fee for contestants - \$10.00

All others \$5.00 at the door

**CHAPLAIN**

**Karol Monroe 513-384-2351**

Vicki Monroe was in the hospital for the removal of a tumor in the lung. She is home now and resting, all signs show that it was an early detection, we are thankful that she will not have to go through chemotherapy or any other major treatments. Please pray for her continued healing and health.

Donna Ray's son passed away. Donna isn't a member of our unit, but is the VA Hospital Rep. She has held various positions within the Auxiliary including district, Ohio and National positions. She has been a huge supporter of Unit 484 and a dear friend to us. Please pray for her, husband passed last year.

As our holiday season kicks in high gear and we become busier with the things that accompany the it, stop a moment and pray for our members who aren't with family. Give them a call or check on them. If they need prayers or anything, you can contact me. I will always remind you that we are a family, and we need to care for those in our unit who need us, especially during the holidays. Text or leave a message if I don't answer.

Every month, our veterans and active military report at least twenty-two suicides, remember to pray for them or reach out to let them know that they aren't alone. The holiday season is hard on many people and loneliness is at its peak. Let them know that they are loved and appreciated for the sacrifices they made for our freedom.

Please remember and pray for those who are in Israel, pray for peace and for healing in a nation that is torn.

Please pray for each other, our world leaders, our nation, community, children, elderly, veterans and active military.



Let us pray:

Jesus, the Light of the World, as we celebrate your birth may we begin to see the world in the light of the understanding you give us. As you chose the lowly, the outcasts, and the poor to receive the greatest news the world had ever known, so may we worship you in meekness of heart. May we also remember our brothers and sisters less fortunate than ourselves in this season of giving. Amen

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**LEGISLATION**

**Carol Reyman creyman44@ymail.com**

Remember next year is leap year! Presidential Election!

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# DECEMBER

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### DECEMBER EVENTS

- 6 – Executive Board Meeting 6-7 pm
- 6 - Hanukkah begins
- 10 – Breakfast 9 am – Noon
- 12 - Regular meeting – Social at 7pm mtg 7:30
- 17 – Lunch with Santa
- 25 – Christmas Day
- 31 – New Year’s Eve



### DECEMBER BIRTHDATES

- 27 - Valerie F. Ratchford
- 31 - Carol Ann Reyman



### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 18 - Shannon & Ben Harwood

### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR **PAM YOUNG 232-5084**

Please send articles or information to [pjyoung@fuse.net](mailto:pjyoung@fuse.net) before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Please continue to send email addresses or updates to Jackie at [jmederruzsa@ERSLIFE.ORG](mailto:jmederruzsa@ERSLIFE.ORG) or call her at 474-6710.

Thanks to everyone for sending articles for the newsletter.

