



## American Legion CSM Gary W. Crisp Post 289

PO Box 2641, Clarksville, TN 37042

Newsletter for November 2019, Volume 1, Issue 11

Post Website: [HTTPS://WWW.TNPOST289.ORG](https://www.tnpost289.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegion289>

Email: [tnpost289@gmail.com](mailto:tnpost289@gmail.com)



COMMANDER: DAVID ZEVENEY

ADJUTANT: SANDRA EMPEY

<b>November Events</b>	
5 <sup>th</sup>	Executive Meeting at Daymar College at 6:00PM
10 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>	Buddy Check Week – A week of calling & connecting to Veterans
9 <sup>th</sup>	Veterans Day Parade in downtown Clarksville. Start time is 10:00AM
10 <sup>th</sup>	American Legion Auxiliary's 100 <sup>th</sup> birthday (1919)
10 <sup>th</sup>	Marine Corps Birthday (1775)
11 <sup>th</sup>	Veterans Day
11 <sup>th</sup>	Post 289 Color Guard presenting at Mission BBQ, Clarksville @ 1200
19 <sup>th</sup>	Membership meeting at Daymar College. Potluck 5:30PM / Meeting 6:00PM
<b>December Events</b>	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Executive Meeting at Daymar College
7 <sup>th</sup>	Pearl Harbor Day on Dec. 7, "A Day That Will Live in Infamy."
14 <sup>th</sup>	Wreaths Across America – Ceremonies held at Rest Haven, Clarksville TN, Kentucky West Veterans Cemetery & Fort Donelson.
17 <sup>th</sup>	Membership meeting at Daymar College. Potluck 5:30PM / Meeting 6:00PM

### VETERANS CRISIS HOTLINE



**1-800-273-8255 and Press 1,**

Chat online or send a **text message to 838255** to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Website: <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>

### ONE-YEAR POST NARRATIVE HISTORY CONTEST

During his speech to the National Executive Committee during Fall Meetings on Oct. 16, American Legion National Historian James Mariner announced the winners of the 2019 national history contests, judged by members of the National Association of Department Historians of The American Legion (NADHAL).

Congratulations to Post 289 on 2nd place in the 2019 national history contest. A job well done by Fae Casper & Robert Lamon for putting together the One-Year Post narrative history. Thank you for your very hard work!

## SUICIDE PREVENTION CONFERENCE ON OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2019

The Montgomery County Veterans Coalition hosted a Conference on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 bringing together many support groups to help veterans, first responders and their families that may have personal issues that could lead to suicide.

Sherry Pickering, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Veterans Coalition (MCVC) contacted our Commander to see if our Post would like to have a table at the event. Sherry saw that our Post is getting our name out into the community and wanted us there as a resource.

Our Commander accepted the offer and Bob Grigsby, our first Vice took the ball and ran with it. Because of the short notice we had to get a volunteer in a hurry. He contacted several of the officer's and they gladly accepted. The officers that came to help were Bob Grigsby, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, Larry Johnson, Finance Officer, Robert Lamon, Historian, Tony Walters, Membership Chairperson and John Beck, Service Officer.

The conference lasted about four hours with a host of speakers speaking about their organization and how they're able to help our veterans, first responders and their families. It's not always the vet or first responder that are hurting. There are signs you can watch to help prevent suicide.

The vendors that were here at the conference, do a very good job training people to see the signs as well as help those that are hurting.

Some of the organizations that were at the Suicide Prevention Conference are listed below:

1. **SAFE: Soldiers and Families Embrace:** <https://www.soldiersandfamiliesembraced.org/>
2. **Centurion Witness Ministries** – Veteran Focused – Jason Ladd – VP Community Relations  
Phone: 615-290-2032      Email: [jason@centurionwitness.org](mailto:jason@centurionwitness.org)
3. **Cheatham County Community Enhancement Coalition** - <http://cheathamcoalition.org/>  
Candis Batey 615-246-8075
4. **Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network** – [www.tspn.org](http://www.tspn.org)  
(**Tennessee Crisis Line:** 1-855-274-7471 – Option 1)
5. **The Veterans Administration**
  - a. Veterans Crisis Line
    - i. Phone: 1-855-273-8255, Option 1
    - ii. Text: 838255
    - iii. Live Chat: [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)
  - b. **Make the Connection:** Veterans & their families share stories of stories strength & recovery in personal videos. [www.maketheconnection.net](http://www.maketheconnection.net)
  - c. **Vet Center:** Counseling peer support & other resources for veterans & their loved ones at community-based offices across the US. [www.vetcenter.va.gov](http://www.vetcenter.va.gov)
    - i. Phone: 1-877-927-8387
  - d. **Help for the Homeless:** Coordinators and programs help veterans establish and maintain safe, stable housing. [www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless)
    - i. Phone: 1-877-424-3838
6. **Yellow Ribbon Fund:** Yellow Ribbon Fund (YRF) recognizes the crucial role military caregivers like play in the healing process. YRF's Keystone Program provides free transitional services and training at any point in your journey so you will be equipped and ready to face life's challenges.
  - a. **Website:** [www.yellowribbonfund.org](http://www.yellowribbonfund.org)
  - b. **Facebook:** (**National:** <https://www.facebook.com/YellowRibbonFund/>)
  - c. **Facebook:** (**Local:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/155297651491068/>)
  - d. **Email:** [email@yellowribbonfund.com](mailto:email@yellowribbonfund.com)

- e. Phone: 240-223-1180
7. **Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center, Inc:** Phone 931-920-5000  
Website: [www.mwchc.org](http://www.mwchc.org)
  8. **Unity Psychiatric Care** – Phone: 931-538-6447 – Website: <https://www.unitypsych.com/>
  9. **Cumberland Hall Hospital** – Phone: 270-886-1919 – Website: <https://www.cumberlandhospital.com/>
  10. **Centerstone Behavioral Health Care** – Phone: 931-221-3850 – Website: [www.centerstone.org/cohen](http://www.centerstone.org/cohen)
  11. **Wounded Warrior Project** – Phone: 877.TEAM.WWP (832.6997) Website: <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org>

**THANK YOU VETERAN'S AND FIRST RESPONDER'S**

October 5<sup>th</sup>, we thanked our veterans, first responders and their families with a day of fun, games, and free food. The location of the event was at 223 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street here in Clarksville. We also included the first responders that had to work, including the men and women at the jail and 911 center. Over 300 meals were served!!

We are looking to do an event like this hopefully every quarter. Members and officers alike are welcome to comment and/or make suggestions for future events. Events like this will keep our post active in the community.



We would like to do the next event in February. We can make it our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Dance.

**We need members to volunteer for the committee so we can start getting everything together. If you are interested please contact the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Bob Grigsby.**

**Email: [Bdg-51@hotmail.com](mailto:Bdg-51@hotmail.com),**

**Phone: 614-208-2154**

**POST 289 CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

The Post Constitution and By-Laws were reviewed by the Special Committee. The recommended changes to the Constitution and By-Laws will be presented to the Executive Committee (EC) on 5 November for review. If approved by the EC, The Constitution and By-Law revisions will be presented in writing and read at the next membership meeting. Furthermore they will be published on our website ([www.tnpost289.com](http://www.tnpost289.com)) and voted on for approval at the December meeting. Some changes were required to reflect the changes to the National Constitution as revised by the Legion Act.

**AMERICAN LEGION TENNESSEE SIXTH DISTRICT MEETING**

The Sixth District meeting will be hosted by Post 17 in Gallatin, TN. Open to Legionnaires and their guest(s). Call or email to RSVP your reservation as soon as possible with Ron Wade so the host can plan accordingly.

**DATE/TIME:** Saturday, November 23, 2019: 12:30 PM Lunch/Meeting

**PLACE:** American Legion Post 17,  
1140 South Water Avenue  
Gallatin TN, 37066

**MENU:** Baked Chicken, Parsley Buttered Potatoes, Vegetable, Salad, Rolls, Desert and Coffee or Tea

**PRICE:** \$10.00 per person

**CONTACT:** Ron Wade, Phone: [\(615\) 478-1941](tel:6154781941), Email: [TNLegion17@outlook.com](mailto:TNLegion17@outlook.com)

**PROGRAM:** Membership Drive Coordination and Legion Business

## JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

On October 19, Larry Johnson and Doug (Red) Kirby with Post 289 partnered with David Spicer and Vince Hernandez of the Clarksville Amateur Transmitting Society (CATS) and Daymar College to hold our 2nd Annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA).

Jamboree on the Air is held each year worldwide to give scouts an opportunity to talk to other scouts on amateur (HAM) radio. Although the event was weekend long, we were able to use the grounds and facilities of Daymar College to set up radios and antennas on Saturday. We had a special event callsign secured for the day, K4C. All the scout organizations around Clarksville were invited. Although some were already involved in campouts, we had Six (6) scout troops or packs participate. 37 scouts qualified for their JOTA patch. Although we didn't talk to any other countries, we were able to contact a couple of states outside of Tennessee.

Troop 21	12
Troop 101	14
Troop 503	2
Pack 509	5
Pack 510	2
Pack 516	2

A quick breakdown troops/packs that attended JOTA and the number of participants:

## BUDDY CHECK

National Buddy Check Week is held twice a year by the American Legion. The dates surround The American Legions Birthday 15 March and Veterans Day 11 March. In today's world we recognize that there are a lot of ways to connect to each other. Not all connect well with eMail, text, Facebook, etc. It's time to break out the phones and make PHONE CALLS!

You may receive a Buddy Check call, you may not recognize the number. We are only reaching out to check on your well-being and see how you are doing. You can volunteer to do Buddy Checks too! If you have time and would like to connect with other veterans, even if you are more homebound, we could use your help connecting with members. You might also be asked what activities you would like to see the post participate in and what you might be able to volunteer for.

## BOOTH AT WAREHOUSE 21



We have just rolled out a booth at Warehouse 41 on 1 October 2019. The booth is managed by Mrs. Johnson, Unit Auxiliary Finance Officer and is successful because of donations. The booth is comprised of gently used items and crafted goods which are tagged as recommended donation amounts based on fair market comparisons. All proceeds (minus cost) are redistributed to the Post and Auxiliary to fulfil program needs which support the post, veterans and the community.

Last month, generous donations by Mrs. Crisp & Mrs. Johnson were significant to making it a success. This endeavor can continue to be a success and allow the post to continue to be active in American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary programs only through thoughtful and generous donated items.

For the season coming up, Christmas items would be great. Anything you have laying around, you haven't used think about donating. Items should be clean and serviceable. Contact Larry Johnson at [Americanlegionpost289.finance@gmail.com](mailto:Americanlegionpost289.finance@gmail.com) or 931-257-8069 if you have questions or would like to donate.

## VETERANS DAY PARADE

The Veterans Day Parade will be held on 9 November at 1000 in downtown Clarksville. We would love to see many of you in the parade with us. It will be a cold one, so please, dress in layers and make sure you are bundled. For those that would like to walk, the route will be about 1.5 miles at a slow pace, you can join behind the color guard team. For those who need a lift, there is a trailer set up for you to ride. Bring a lap blanket to help stay warm.

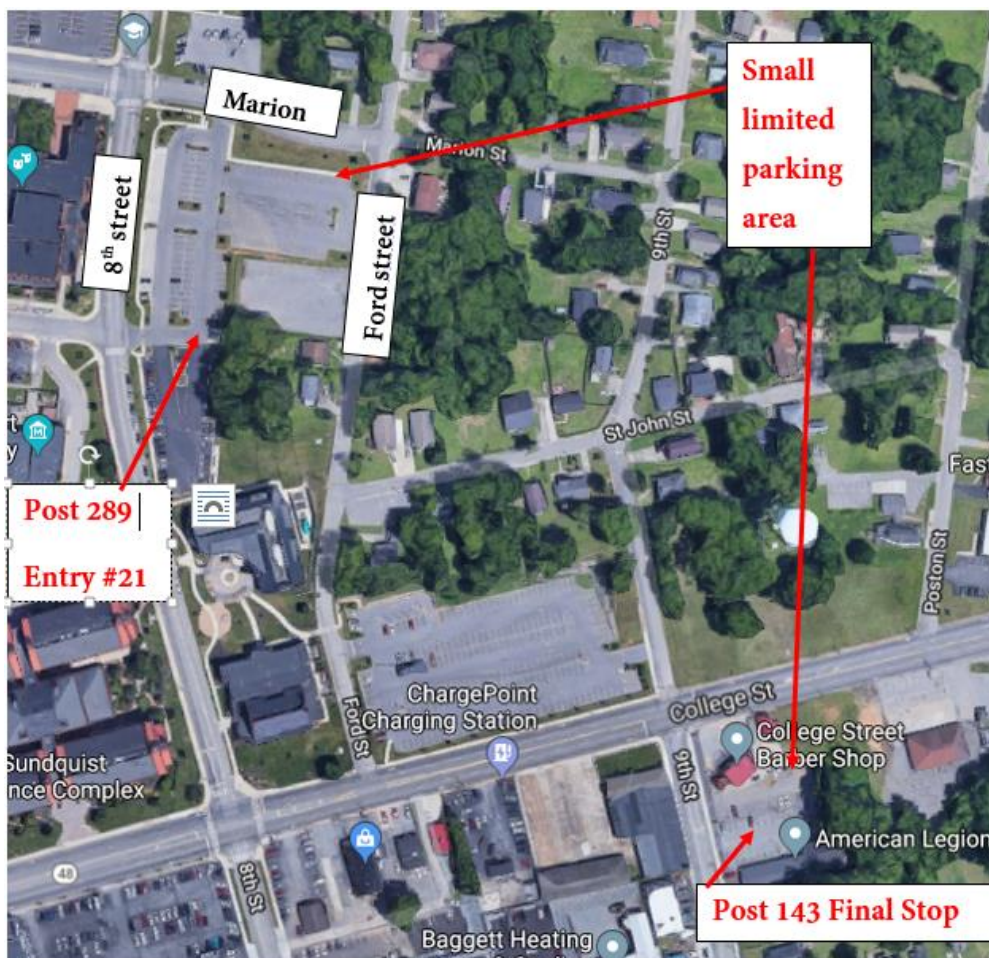
Post 289 is # 21 in the line-up. We will meet in the parking lot between Ford & 8<sup>th</sup> St adjacent to Marion Street. MANY of the roads in the APSU will be completely CLOSED by 0800, so please come early. There is a small parking lot right next to our staging area, but space will be limited. The truck & trailer as well as 2 additional vehicles will be staged by 0730.

The parade will start in the APSU area, turn onto College Street and go downtown past the courthouse looping back to APSU. There are 150 entries in the parade. This year's parade coincides with APSU Homecoming so traffic will be hectic, and parking areas limited near APSU. Bring your high spirit, Veteran pride, patience and warm clothing & gear!

Please contact Billie Zeveney 931-338-7610, [davenbill@yahoo.com](mailto:davenbill@yahoo.com) if you have any questions about the parade.

Personal vehicle parking on the side (very limited) come early. American Legion Post 143 has offered their parking lot for our members as well. They are located on 223 9th Street.

As we complete the parade we will peel off from 8th, onto College and turn onto 9th street to the parking lot (or vicinity of) Post 143.



## VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

The storm that ripped through Montgomery County on 26 October so swiftly left a lot of damage in its wake. We not aware of all the damages sustained by our Legionnaires but we have reports of some. Our Post Adjutant and her husband sustained terrible damage to their home where a tree fell on their garage (photo 1). One of the Auxiliary members was left without power for 5 days and had damage to her home, garage, shed and carport – with 4 mature trees completely consuming her back yard (photos 2-3). Other damage to fences, and extended power outages were also reported by members. (photo 4-5)

Across the area where there was time and resources a few Legionnaires set out to help one another where they could.

We know there is still families out there with unrepaired damage and recovering from this storm, our thought and prayers are with them as they overcome.



## WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Every year organizations across America and abroad gather at Veteran cemetery's to honor those whom we have lost. There are a few within the local community that will be doing the same. We encourage you to support this event in whatever means you can. There are official ceremonies at each cemetery that are posted in the local papers. This year it will be on Saturday, 14 December. Members will be present at all locations.

You can find out more at: <https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/>

### **Post 289 Officers Contact Numbers & Emails**

<b>Commander – David Zeveney</b>	<a href="mailto:zeveneydavid@gmail.com">zeveneydavid@gmail.com</a>	931-338-7612
<b>Adjutant – Sandra Empey</b>	<a href="mailto:AmericanLegion.Post289Adjutant@gmail.com">AmericanLegion.Post289Adjutant@gmail.com</a>	615-482-0406
<b>Finance Officer – Larry Johnson</b>	<a href="mailto:Americanlegionpost289.finance@gmail.com">Americanlegionpost289.finance@gmail.com</a>	931-257-8069
<b>1st Vice – Bob Grigsby</b>	<a href="mailto:Bdq-51@hotmail.com">Bdq-51@hotmail.com</a>	614-208-2154
<b>2nd Vice – Ernest Schmidt</b>	<a href="mailto:Eaglewarr7@yahoo.com">Eaglewarr7@yahoo.com</a>	931-624-8564
<b>Historian – Robert Lamon</b>	<a href="mailto:Lamon92@aol.com">Lamon92@aol.com</a>	931-302-0120
<b>Sergeant at Arms – Bob Sisson</b>	<a href="mailto:bob@sissonmail.com">bob@sissonmail.com</a>	931-919-3712
<b>Chaplain</b>		
<b>Service Officer – John Beck</b>	<a href="mailto:Jmbeck5729@sbcglobal.net">Jmbeck5729@sbcglobal.net</a>	817-301-9223
<b>Membership Chairperson – Tony Walters</b>	<a href="mailto:Bruce1bct@aol.com">Bruce1bct@aol.com</a>	931-217-3107

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 289

Mission of the ALA: In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

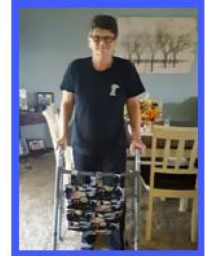
### ACTS OF KINDNESS:

Unit 289 President, Dawn Schmidt, presented as a gift to Betty Colbert one of the 1<sup>st</sup> walker bags she made. Betty recently was in an auto accident and is recovering from a hip fracture as well as other injuries.

*Pictured left Dawn Schmidt & Betty Colbert*



Dawn Schmidt

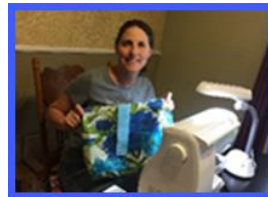


Betty Colbert

### GOOD CITIZENSHIP:

A few Unit 289 members & guest volunteered a total of 20 hours on Saturday 26 October to cut, assemble & sew walker bags that will later be distributed to veterans & their family members.

*Pictured below Cindy DeQuenne, Betty Colbert and Sue Johnson, not pictured Billie Zeveney.*



### 100 YEAR BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR THE AUXILIARY:

On 10 November, the American Legion Auxiliary will turn 100! Unit 289 members will be doing a meet & greet with the Women residents at the Clarksville Brigadier General Wendell H. Gilbert Tennessee State Veterans' Home. Meet up at the front desk at 2:30, we will have cake & ice cream. Legionnaires, if you have a spouse (male or female) or female descendant, they are eligible to be a member of the Auxiliary. Please have them contact an Auxiliary member for more information. We would love to be honored to have them join us.

<b>President - Dawn Schmidt</b>	<a href="mailto:schmidtd61@yahoo.com">schmidtd61@yahoo.com</a>	<b>931-444-4652</b>
<b>1st Vice - LeAnne Fry</b>	<a href="mailto:leannebryant1947@gmail.com">leannebryant1947@gmail.com</a>	931-802-3086
<b>Secretary - Astra Eaglin</b>	<a href="mailto:astraeaglin@yahoo.com">astraeaglin@yahoo.com</a>	931-249-5769
<b>Chaplain - Faye Cherry</b>	<a href="mailto:fayechadwick@gmail.com">fayechadwick@gmail.com</a>	931-919-4902
<b>Historian - Sharon Crisp</b>		931-220-9094