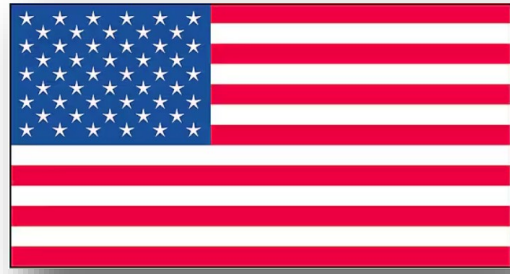




Leasure-Blackston Post 239



Worthington, Ohio

Jan-Feb-Mar 2026

Post 239 Officers Post Commander Glenn Luksik

**1st Vice Commander
John Dernberger**

**2nd Vice Commander
Scott Yates**

**Finance
Daniel Winter**

**Adjutant
Bill Ansley**

**Sergeant-at-Arms
Joseph Lippert**

**Chaplain
Tony Konecny**



Post Commander Glenn Luksik

Happy New Year, Legionnaires! As we step into 2026, we're excited to bring you news, updates, and upcoming events at your Post. Let's make this year memorable with service, camaraderie, and celebration. Looking Back, Moving Forward

2025 was a fantastic year for our Post, thanks to the dedication and donations of our members and volunteers. We hosted successful fundraisers, honored our veterans, and rebuilt the canteen. With the canteen done, we will be refreshing the rest of the building. Let's keep the momentum going in 2026!

Upcoming Events

Monthly Meeting: Join us on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM for updates, planning, and social time.

Community Outreach: We're partnering again with the City of Worthington to participate in America 250. November is Military Appreciation Month and may be when we put on an event. Volunteers are always welcome! More on this later.

Friday Dinners: We will resume Friday Dinners January 9th. Lent starts February 18th and our fish fry's will return.

Mid-Winter Conference: This is an American Legion Family event for The American Legion, Sons of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and The American Legion Riders. The conference is focused on training and education of the American Legion and its offices/ programs through Buckeye American Legion College. Anyone is welcome to attend the conference and any meetings and classes offered. Friday, January 16, 2026 – Sunday, January 18, 2026 Find more information here.

Member Spotlight

This month, we proudly recognize members new and old.

New – Fred Kerner is a new member that transferred here from the Dublin Post. His background is in journalism and broadcasting. He has volunteered to be our Activities Officer. Fred is the reason for our starting up this newsletter again.

Old – your Executive Committee, who worked tirelessly to work with the contractor and do some of the work ourselves to save money during the remodel.

Stay Connected

Follow us on Facebook and check your email for updates. Got ideas or want to volunteer? Reach out to our Commander, any member of the executive committee, or stop by the Post anytime. **Here's to a vibrant and successful 2026—together, we make a difference!**

From the Editor:

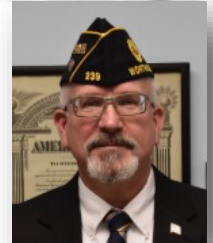
Welcome to the newly revised quarterly Post newsletter.

If you have any inputs for future newsletters, please forward them to me. Our next newsletter will be April/May/June. Inputs will need to be to me by March 30.

Fred Kerner
joc93@yahoo.com
714-946-7733

The 2026 Membership Campaign ended on 31 Dec 2025. That means if you haven't paid, your membership is in limbo and will expire soon. We ask that you renew ASAP! If you pay before 1 Feb you will automatically reinstated. If you have questions in reference to your membership status, feel free to contact me at jp.dernberger@gmail.com or 740-403-1760. By now you should have received multiple mailings from national headquarters. If not, then we need to verify your address so please reach out to me.

**Post Membership
John Dernberger**



We currently set at 209 paid members. Our quota for 2026 is 248 members. There are currently 60 plus members that have not paid their 2026 dues. Due to this fact, the post is missing out on financial rebates. The sooner we reach our quota the more rebates we receive. Therefore, it is very important / beneficial to reach our quota earlier than later.

If you are experiencing financial hardship and need assistance with paying your dues, we do have a few "hardship" memberships that have been donated by members / local Worthington business's. Please reach out to me and I will work with your and the Executive Committee.

The 2027 Membership Campaign will be kicking off in July 2026. This is why it is important we close the books on the 2026 Campaign quickly. Otherwise, it feels as if we are nagging / begging you constantly year around.

Once again, if you have any questions / comments about your membership don't hesitate to contact me either by email : jp.dernberger@gmail.com or phone (740) 403-1760



Auxiliary



**Paula Lombardo
President**

Wishing all our Unit Members a very Happy New Year!

I want to share just few of our highlights of the last quarter of 2025:

We had our Fall District Conference at Post 144. This is historically when the District also holds a Baby Shower that benefits the Veterans that are expecting within the next few months. Our Unit provided \$200 in Gift Cards and a basket full of goodies. Attendees were: Cheryl Smith, Barb O'Connor, Betty Scurlock and Paula Lombardo. In November, many Auxiliary members across our District volunteered and provided pies for the Columbus VA Thanksgiving Dinner at Post 144. While attendance was down this year, we still served approximately 250 meals and had the opportunity to meet and talk with the veterans. Our Unit generously provided 14 assorted apple and pumpkin pies. It truly was a very Blessed event.



In December we also lost one of our long standing members- Marie Knepp. Not only was Marie an Auxiliary Member, but she was also a Proud Veteran of the United States Army. Please keep her family in your thoughts.

Maria Knepp
March 12, 1930 - December 2, 2025

When We Meet:
The 3rd Wednesday of each month
7:00pm @ Post 239



Keep the Legion Strong in 2026



Prioritize Membership Recruitment & Retention:

Membership is the lifeblood of the Legion.

Recruit actively:

Carry membership applications with you or use the Legion's app to sign up new members on the spot. Emphasize the benefits, such as assistance from accredited service officers in obtaining VA benefits, and the collective power of advocacy in Washington, D.C..

Focus on retention:

Retention begins immediately after a new member joins. Ensure new members feel welcome, informed, and invited to participate at their comfort level.

Enhance member communication:

Use emails, newsletters, social media, and personal phone calls to keep members informed about post activities and the Legion's mission.

Engage in the Community and Promote Programs:

Increased visibility in your community can attract new members. Implement "**Be the One**":

Actively promote The American Legion's mission to end veteran suicide.

Encourage members and the public to take the associated mental health training and disseminate the Veterans Crisis Line number **(988 press 1)**.

Support youth programs:

Get involved with local schools and sponsor youth programs like American Legion Baseball, Boys State/Nation, Girls State/Nation, and oratorical contests. This connects the Legion with younger generations and their families.

Organize community service events:

Participate in community clean-ups, clean veterans' memorials, or hold events like Blue Star Banner presentations. Wear Legion apparel during these activities to increase visibility and brand awareness.

Foster a Welcoming Environment:

Successful posts are inclusive and inviting to all veterans and their families.

Strengthen the entire Legion Family:

Encourage participation from the Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion (SAL), and Legion Riders. Integrated, family-friendly events build camaraderie and a sense of shared purpose.

Conduct "Buddy Checks":

Regularly check in on fellow members, especially those who haven't renewed or been active, to offer assistance or simply a friendly connection.

Offer training and leadership development:

Promote opportunities like the Legion Leadership and Education Development (LEAD) Program or department-level Legion colleges to equip members with the skills to serve in leadership roles.

By taking these steps, you can help ensure The American Legion remains a powerful and relevant force in supporting veterans, their families, and communities for years to come.

Post 239 Renovation Complete

The renovation of our post took longer than expected, but we are now back in business, and once again will be having our monthly meetings, as well as other Post activities.

As part of the renovation, the equipment is now installed behind the bar. We have reinstalled the drop ceiling and moved the air vents. We installed new lighting over the bar and replaced the sliding door. The floor is complete with the new tile.

Our Post is a member of the Worthington Veterans Alliance. They donated funding to the Post to replace the furnace and air conditioner. Kudos to Favret Heating and Cooling for donating a portion of this project.



Our Post SAL chapter also contributed money to the purchase of new tables and chairs for the canteen. A big thank you to them.



And a huge thank you to all the post members who contributed their time and talent to this much needed renovation

Pass this along to any Veteran who would be interested in joining!



Children & Youth Programs

Scholarship & Financial Aid

Veterans Legislation & Benefits

National Security & Protection of Our Flag

I WANT YOU

to be a Legion Family member

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To Learn More, Contact:

Legion \$45.00 - John Dernberger 740-403-1760
 Sons of AL \$25.00 Scott Yates 937-207-7015
 Auxiliary \$45.00 Paula Lombardo 614-827-5362

Eligibility Dates

World War I
April 6, 1917 - Nov. 11, 1918
World War II - Present
Dec. 7, 1941 - Present*


* if currently serving on active duty today, you are eligible.

Post Calendar


January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Friday Dinners	
					↓	
				15 Members Meeting 7:30 p.m.		

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						Valentines Day 14 
			18 Lent Begins Ash Wednesday	19 Members Meeting 7:30 p.m.	Fish Fry	
					↓	

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					↓	
		March 17 St. Patrick's Day 		19 Members Meeting 7:30 p.m.		