VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS. NEWSLETTER



VIETNAM TRAVELING WALL

November 2025

This amazing memorial for our lost veterans has come and gone, and it was a big draw in terms of Americans who came out to support our veterans and honor their memory! It was an event of love and dedication, so we thank everybody who participated! And a special thank you to the men who have dedicated 18 years of their lives, bringing this piece of history to American towns across the nation!



An extra special thanks to Gary Fileseta, American Legion 797 Commander & Honor Guard Captain (and many volunteers), for all their efforts in helping make this happen! Over 2,500 folks came to honor our vets!

Congratulations!

SEE LAST PAGE FOR POST CALENDAR! 2025 NOVEMBER SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 20

GAHANNA HIGH SCHOOL VETERANS DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

Students at Gahanna Lincoln High School will honor past classmates who served in the US Armed Forces on Thursday, November 6, at 930am. The VFW American Legion Honor Guard will also participate. All veterans and their families are invited to attend. Parking is limited because of the new high school construction.



VETERANS DAY at 11:00 am, MEMORIAL PARK

Veterans, their families, and friends will gather at Memorial Park on November 11 at 11:00 am to reflect on the immense sacrifices made by the brave men and women of the US Armed Forces.



THE MAGIC OF THE WALL

I volunteered to help at the Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall when the Legion brought it to town. I was helping people find those they knew whose name was on the Wall. I looked up my next-door neighbor, Dave O'Neal, and made an etching. That evening my wife and I went to the Wall, and I was going to show her Dave's name. Looking at his date of death, I realized I was only eight years old, but I was sending him letters every couple of months. My mom probably nudged me along because that's the kind of person she was. Those letters made such an impression on me that my wife has heard enough about Dave through the years and wanted to see his name. When we got to the Wall, there was a group of people standing in front of the panel with Dave's name, so we waited until they were finished and went to the Wall. As I was pointing to Dave's name a lady came up and asked, "Are you Ray Mularski"? I said, "Maybe" ...she said, "I'm Fran and this is Leslie". Fran was Dave's wife, and Leslie was his one-year-old daughter when he died. Since we didn't take very good care of our soldiers' spouses, when they passed, Fran had to move in with Dave's parents, next door to me. So, I grew up with them. They both now live in Florida but came back to Gahanna to see the Wall and some old friends. They just happened to be at the Wall at the EXACT moment that I was!

Perhaps Dave had a hand in this. I told them how I sent Dave a letter with a monkey on the letterhead, writing "Viet Cong" and pointing to the monkey (don't judge me; I was only eight). He wrote back and laughed about that. It was the last letter I sent.

Fran had the newspaper clipping from 1967 about Sgt. O'Neal's death, along with Cpl. Samuel Lee Parker, 19, both of the 3rd Battalion Marines, who died at Cahe Sahn, as well as Cpl. Hugh Goins, 20, and Army Spec 4 Robert L. Righter, 18, also from the Columbus Area.

Dave seemed so old to me because I respected him and looked up to him, but now I know that 24 is too young to give up your life for your country. I hope it brought some solace to Fran and Leslie that my wife and I (people who never met him) cared enough to show our respects almost 60 years later. "It brought chills down my arms and tears to my eyes. That is the Magic of the Wall."

~ Ray Mularski











OSU ROTC ROCK CEREMONY

The cadets of OSU ROTC will conduct their annual Rock Ceremony on Wednesday, November 5, at 10:00 a.m. The Rock is located on the Oval, on the south side of Bricker Hall. The cadets' tradition started after World War I to honor OSU graduates who served in the Armed Forces of the United States. All veterans are invited to attend. The ceremony is open to the public.





MARINE CORPS 250TH ANNIVERSARY

It all started in a tavern. On Nov 10, 1775, the Continental Congress authorized two battalions of Marines. Prominent Philadelphian Samuel Nicholas was given authority to raise the two battalions. He led his recruiting drive from Tun Tavern, located on the Delaware River waterfront. Commissioned a captain, Nicholas, patterned this sea-to-land service after the British Royal Marines. The Marines have traditionally celebrated their anniversary more than the other services. It was Gen John Lejeune in 1925 who started the annual traditions, cake cutting, and his message to all Marines.



Menu



FIRST WORLD WAR ARMISTICE 1918

"At the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month – we will remember them." The Armistice, an agreement to end the fighting of the First World War as a prelude to peace negotiations, began at 11:00 am on 11 November 1918. Armistice is Latin for to stand (still) arms. However, World War I officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles in France.



80th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Saturday, November 15, 2025

Cocktail Hour 6:00 PM Dinner served 7:00 PM

Tickets \$25/person (see bartender)

Loaded Wedge Salad

Bacon, cucumber, egg, & tomato Ranch, Bleu Cheese, or Balsamic Vinaigrette

Warm Dinner Roll

Pan Seared Cod w/tomato basil white wine sauce

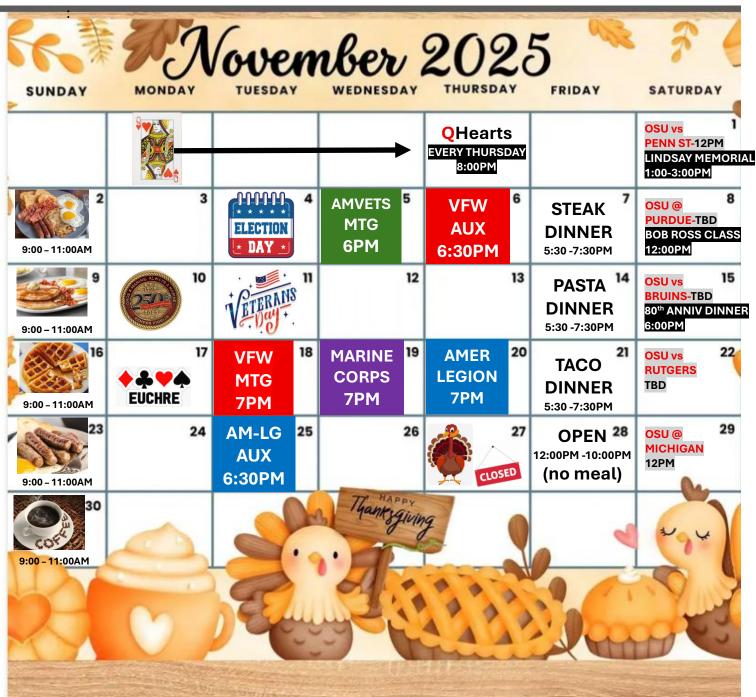
served w/Asparagus & Herbed mashed potatoes

Apple Cider Braised Pork Shoulder

served over sweet potato puree w/sauteed fresh green beans

Chicken Piccata

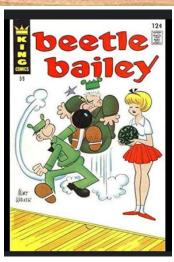
Gerved over angel hair pasta w/tender broccolini



POST OFFICERS

LOUIS SANTOS, Commander

Kim Sims, Sr. Vice
Andrew Thornton, Jr. Vice
Bill Pederson, Adjutant
Bill Scharff, Quartermaster
Ben Brockway, Chaplain
Chuck Rees, Trustee
Steve Ebersole, Trustee
Steve Pearson, Trustee



POST HOURS

SUNDAY 9:00am - 8:00pm

MONDAY 4:00pm – 10:00pm

TUESDAY thru SATURDAY

12:00 pm-10:00pm

Closing time is subject to change!

Canteen Mgr, Dutch Grootendorst