

DISTRICT 23 DISPATCH

Published specifically for the members of Department of Alabama District 23

Fall 2023

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Volume II , Issue 4



Alabama Department Mid-Winter Conference 2024

64 Water St, Mobile, Alabama

This year's conference will be held January 11 through the 14, 2024. The meeting will be at the Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel. Room rates are \$135.00. Parking is \$14.00 per day. To make reservations please use the below link or call 800-468-3571. [American Legion Mid-Winter Conference 2024 Reservation Link](#) Reservations must be made by December 14th to receive the Legion Family Rate.

If you are wanting a vendor table at the Conference you will have to fill out the vendor contract below. We will not be able to give anyone a free table. The hotel is charging us \$45.00 per table.

If you are a Chairman or part of the Legion Family we can try and work something out just give Christy Jones a call at Headquarters. 334-262-6638.

Hospitality Suites will have to be booked through the Sales office of the hotel. You will have to call 251-415-3086 and talk with the Sales Admin.

Below you will find Conference forms and information.

Member Posts

- Post 6 -Clanton
- Post 17 -Talladega
- Post 45 -Sylacauga
- Post 47 -W. Blockton
- Post 68 -Childersburg
- Post 105 -Goodwater
- Post 131-Columbiana
- Post 138 -Alabaster
- Post 195 -Sterrett
- Post 216- -Clanton
- Post 343 -Clanton
- Post 555 -Pelham

LEG/SAL Registration Form

[Download File](#)



Vendor Packet

[Download File](#)



Auxiliary Registration Form

[Download File](#)



Conference Vendor Contract

[Download File](#)





Zone American Legion Oratorical Contest

Join us for the Zone American Legion Oratorical Contest on February 10, 2023!

To our American Legion family,

We are excited to announce the upcoming Zone American Legion Oratorical Contest hosted by Post 555 Matthew Blount, taking place on February 10, 2023, at the American Village main Ballroom. This prestigious event will kick off at 8:00am and continue until completion.

We extend a warm invitation to all high schools in the Zone and District 23 Posts to send one representative to participate in this inspiring competition. It's a fantastic opportunity for talented young speakers to showcase their oratory skills and engage in friendly competition. High Schools included in the Zone are: Calera High School, Chelsea High School, Coosa Valley Academy, Evangel Classical Christian School, Haven Christian Academy, Helena High School, Indian Springs School, Kingwood Christian School, Linda Nolen Learning Center, Montevallo High School, Oak Mt High School, Pelham High School, Shelby County High School, Thompson High School.

To ensure the smooth running of the event, we have recruited a dedicated team, including a Master of Ceremony, Time Keepers, Ushers, Escorts, and judges. Their expertise will contribute to the overall success of the contest.

We encourage family members to join us and support the participants. Your presence will undoubtedly motivate and encourage these young speakers as they deliver their thought-provoking speeches on the US Constitution.

Mark your calendars for February 10, 2023, and be a part of this memorable event. We look forward to welcoming you to the American Village main Ballroom for the Zone American Legion Oratorical Contest.

If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to reach out to us. We are here to assist you.

There will be further discussion about this event at the District 23 meeting on October 28, 2023 in an effort to reach more students giving them opportunity to participate.

Best regards,

*Jerry McClain
Post 555 American Legion
Oratorical Chair
206.412.3548*



The District 23 Dispatch Is published quarterly for the members of American Legion Alabama District 23. Items for publication are accepted on the Executive Committee approval and available space.

Submit articles prior to the no later than 14 days for publication the prior

to the monthly quarterly meeting. We reserve the right to edit any submissions for the purpose of publication.

Letters to the Editor must include name, address and telephone number. Names will be withheld upon re-quest. Send email to: ron.koonce@gmail.com

*Summer District 23 Meeting
Post 555 Pelham, Alabama*



Message From the Commander's Desk
Charles Duncan



This is a reminder of our next District Meeting on Saturday, Oct. 28th at 9:00 AM. The meeting will be held at Post 45, 8 Hammett Ave & Ft. Williams St. Sylacauga, AL 35150. I expect all of you to be there unless you had a prior engagement that you have told me about or due to health issues.

I also want to thank Post 45 for hosting our meeting. Out of respect for them please be there. There will be a lot of information given out that will help you with the function of your Post.

You also need to be working your membership. Remember, our goal is 100% by Dec. 31st. This should be a standard since National considers you delinquent Jan 1st and on Feb. 1st you are considered not in good standing. Your magazine stops and also your LIT insurance.

We also have 4 Posts that are currently below charter strength. This needs to be addressed before Department takes some action. They are no longer willing to allow a Post to operate year after year below charter strength. If you are having problems, just ask for assistance. We are more than willing to assist you any way we can.

See you at the meeting

Charles Duncan
23rd District Commander
cduncan67@yahoo.com
1(205) 910-3258



Chaplain's Corner



Being **THE ONE** during the Holidays

The Holiday Season is already upon us! It's hard to believe it is already that time of year again. While many of us will be celebrating the holidays with our family and friends, we should not forget our brothers and sisters who will spend the holidays alone. This can be a particularly hard time of the year. But we are not alone! We have our Veteran family. I urge you to reach out to other Veterans you may know who will be spending the holidays alone and let them know that they are loved. They are important. They matter to the Nation, and to us. Have coffee, or lunch with a shut-in veteran. Invite them to dinner. Listen, and hear their stories. Let's all stand up for our brothers and sisters, and be present with them this Holiday Season. This is what it means to be the ONE.

In Peace,

Shane Layton, Post 138
23rd District Chaplain



Next District Meeting



Public Relations Update

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The District 23 Quarterly welcomes articles from Posts within the District to be published.

Recommended subject matter is past and future activities of your Post or any American Legion or Veteran-related subject matter.

The articles need to be proofed and “print ready” prior to sending to the editor for publication. If the article includes graphics or photos, it is helpful to include additional separate photos in Jpeg format along with your article.

The newsletter will be published on the first of the quarter prior to the meeting month. Deadline for articles will be two weeks prior to the publishing date. A reminder will be sent to each Post prior to deadline.

Items for publication are accepted on Executive Committee approval, available space and American Legion regulations. Please submit articles via email to Ron Koonce, Editor at:

americanlegion.ala.23@gmail.com

For God & Country
Ron Koonce
Public Relations Officer

Follow the District 23 news on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/alabama23district>

Fall District 23 Meeting 2023

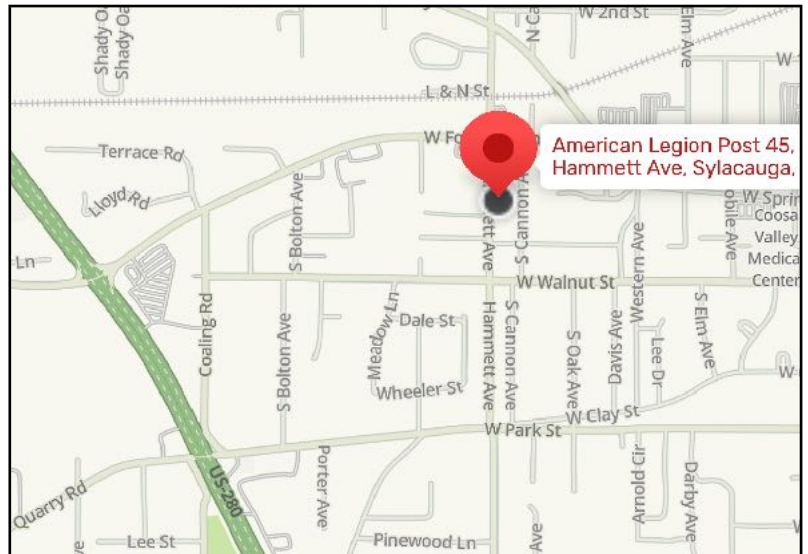
When: Saturday October 29, 2023
9:00 am-12:00 pm

Where: Post 45
8 south Hammett Ave.
Sylacauga , Alabama

Directions to Meeting Location

The American Legion Post 45

Exit highway 280 onto W Fort Williams Street toward town. Turn on to S Hammett Ave. between Arby's and Wells Fargo Bank. The Post can be seen from the road.



Scheduled Meeting

October 28, 2023 - Sylacauga Post 45

Matthew Blount Post 555

SAL Squadron 555 Member Jumps with the Golden Knights



Kyle Phillips, Squadron 555, take advantage of the opportunity to make a tandem jump with the US Army Golden Knight on September 21, 2023

Triple Nickel Baseball



Commander Blount receives trophy from Post 555 Baseball Director, Kyle Phillips and team coach Jonathan Ott.



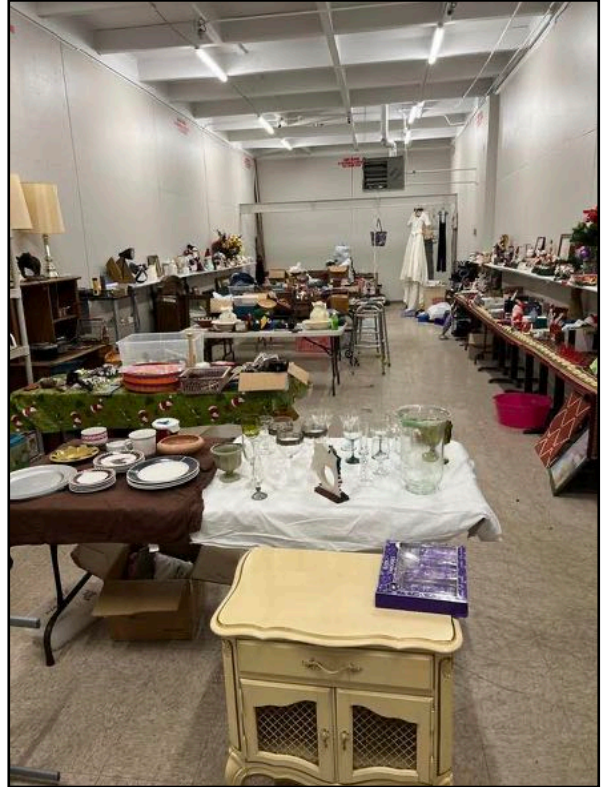
The Triple Nickel Baseball team place in second placed in the 2023 Alabama State Tournament.

Pelham National Night Out.



Post 555 participates in 2023 Pelham Night Out

*Post 45
Sylacauga, Alabama*



Next next Yard Sale will be November 4th due to Veterans Day falling on the 2nd Saturday. Yard sale's regular time is 2nd Saturday each month. Come by and check it out.



Post 45 will host the Veterans Day parade in Sylacauga on November 11, 2023. The parade will begin at the Sylacauga High School and follow a route through downtown Sylacauga. There will be a BBQ at the American Legion Post 45 following the parade. *(Photos from previous parades)*



The The Sons of American are making a big push for people to sign up for The American Legion's Voter Voice program that lets people get updates about pending legislation that affects military members, veterans, and their families and easily send their legislators a letter with the click of a button.

With the QR code, it's suitable for printing or posting on social media. It's already posted on the Squadron 555 SA page at [Spread the word about American Legion's Voter Voice](#) for sharing, or new posts can be created with the image below.

SAL National Legislative Commission Chair Blair Miles (AL) has asked that members spread the word about Voter Voice and gave the approval for the use of this graphic.

