Post 23 was chartered in Bowling Green-Warren County, Kentucky on August 5, 1919, and over the years has continued to honor the **FOUR PILLARS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION:**

*Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation*  
*Americanism*

*National Security*  
*Children and Youth Services*

700 + members proudly call Post 23 their home which annually ranks in the **top 2** of Legion membership in Kentucky. Our long time Commander Roger Miller, the officers, and Home Committee provide guidance for all Legion activities. Our current annual dues are $37. Please see page 7 of this document for some additional information regarding membership.
BACKGROUND

Commander Miller regularly reminds members... this is not an I, You, or Me, organization this is a We organization. And it takes everyone working together to be successful as a Legion. Simple enough encouragement, for every member to find a way to contribute your time, talent, or treasure and support the many programs and services that your American Legion is proud to sponsor. Your Legion needs your involvement. Your brother and sister veterans and their families need your involvement. And... the many people we help...need your involvement! VETERANS working for VETERANS...Do not wait to be asked!

So, let’s take a look at some of the...

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES YOU WILL FIND AT POST 23

• Free van service shuttle to the Nashville, Tennessee VA Clinic operates Monday thru Thursday each week using all volunteer drivers. Veterans can ride the vans on a weekly basis to access their health care. Call 270-781-4046 for details and to confirm ride.

• Trained Service Officers are available every Thursday 9am-12 noon to help VETERANS and their families access VA Benefits, including a review of required documents, and assistance with benefit applications. 300+ veterans and families are served annually.

• A dedicated group of volunteer members make monthly visits to all known VETERANS living in seven nursing homes and routinely provide special gift items to comfort them.

• Monthly dinner meetings are held on the last Wednesday in order to conduct the business of Post 23. Meeting time is 6 pm CST, and the meal is free for paid-up members and their spouse. NOTE: we do not meet in May, November and December.

• Our annual community wide Memorial Day luncheon celebration, held the last Monday of May each year, provides us the opportunity to honor those men and women who paid the supreme sacrifice while serving in the United States armed forces. Elected officials and other dignitaries regularly attend this special day of remembrance. Also, the American Legion partners with Bowling Green High School ROTC cadets to place American flags on veteran graves.
• A full service Canteen operation provides our members and their guests with a place to enjoy time socializing, sipping their favorite beverage, and watching sporting events. The Canteen is open 12 noon to 7pm daily. Stop by and meet your Canteen Manager, Chuck Paul, and find out about special events that are always entertaining.

• Bingo games are held Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday beginning at 7pm. Cash prizes are awarded to winners, and all profits fund our charitable programs and help cover expenses of our home operation.

• New electronic gaming machines are now available at the Post. Cash payouts are made to winners, and all profits cover our expenses and help fund charitable programs.

• Thompson's Café, is now open at the Post Monday through Friday for breakfast 6:30 am-10:30 am and lunch until 1 pm. Some of the breakfast offerings include: bacon, sausage, thick cut city ham, eggs [any style], hash browns, biscuits & gravy. Lunch offers a home cooked meal & homemade desserts, with a variety of options and daily specials. VETERANS, active duty military, law enforcement & fire officials receive a 10% Discount.

• The Auxiliary supports all Legion programs and services. Volunteers assist with many community projects. Their annual dues are $20 and if interested call 270-781-4046.

• Boys State is sponsored each year, and Post 23 has provided travel expense funds for ten local high school seniors to attend Boys State over the past several years along with sponsoring one candidate to attend Boys National. The program is open to seniors-to-be in all our five high schools. Girls State will be sponsored beginning this school year.

• National Commander Dale Barnett visited Post 23 on August 24, 2016 as the American Legion Riders made a pit-stop on their Legacy Run raising money to support the Scholarship Fund for children of military veterans who have lost their life since 9/11 while serving on active duty. Led by race captain Bob Sussan, more than 450 Riders enjoyed dinner and a fun-filled night which included a city/county proclamation.

• A special POW-MIA table and flag were donated by the U.S. Military Vets Motorcycle Club to honor those veterans still listed as prisoners of war or missing in action. On the Third Friday of September, the Club hosts the Annual POW-MIA Recognition Day Tribute at the American Legion. Thanks Irish and the members of the Vets Motorcycle Club.

"VETERANS WORKING FOR VETERANS"
• Helping HOMELESS VETERANS is a service near and dear to our Post. We have partnered with the VA and the Good Deeds Club of Alvaton Elementary School to help homeless veterans find and move into an apartment or house. Several homeless VETERANS now have a safe place they can call home. Individuals and community groups donate household items to help make this program a success. Call Jim Manley 270-781-4046 to learn how you can help or to donate items. VETERANS working for VETERANS!

• Financial contributions, (when available) are made to local non-profit and schools by Post 23 for various programs benefitting youth and the needy in our community.

• Three (3) annual scholarships are provided to deserving students attending WKU.

• Scholastic Excellence and Military Leadership awards are presented annually to JR ROTC students in our local high schools and to WKU ROTC cadets.

• Transportation is a new service started recently through the leadership of Legion members. Community Action’s GO BG Public Transit vouchers are available to help veterans access the local Community Based VA Clinic for their appointments. Call Rachel Mouser, the Clinic Social Worker, at 270-782-0120 to learn about this new service.

• A VETERAN’S Nursing Home remains a priority as Post 23 members advocate with our local and state elected officials to locate a Nursing Center in Bowling Green-Warren County. HB13 was approved by both the KY House and Senate. Governor Bevin signed the legislation on April 11, 2017 providing the required match to the federal funds from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to construct the facility—when federal funding is available. But, one provision of the bill was vetoed: the method of bond financing and the debt repayment requirement. More details will be provided to members about the project and a special note of thanks to all who helped make it happen. Stay tuned!

In the past several years our post has given over 2 million dollars back to our community to support VETERANS, their families, and others in need.

Your American Legion Post 23 is designated by the Internal Revenue Code as a tax exempt, 501(c)(19) charitable organization. Your membership dues and any donation you make may be considered a tax deductible contribution. Please consult your personal tax advisor to confirm.

Find us online: www.americanlegionpost23bowlinggreen.com

On Facebook, American Legion Post-23; or call the Post at 270-781-4046 & leave a message.

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## DIRECTORY FOR VETERANS ASSISTANCE

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<td>United Way Crisis Resources: Call Direct 211 or outside the area 1-844-966-0906</td>
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<td>Congressman Brett Guthrie’s Bowling Green Office:</td>
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<td>State Representative - Jody Richards</td>
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<td>State Senator - Mike Wilson</td>
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AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERS

with

40+ YEARS CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP

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<tr>
<th>MEMBER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Charlie Adams</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Coy Hanson</td>
<td>58</td>
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<td>3. George Weissinger</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Richard Unguvary</td>
<td>53</td>
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<td>5. Joseph Zierkelbach</td>
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<td>6. Jim Manley</td>
<td>46</td>
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<td>7. Glenn Burton</td>
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<td>8. Edward T. Martin</td>
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<td>9. Don Poston</td>
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<td>10. Harold Hulshart</td>
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<td>11. Gene Faller</td>
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<td>12. Gerald Kieffer</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Joe Alford</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Carl Gay</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. David Griffith</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Will Leach</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Harold Loafman</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Roger Miller</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. Russell Brewer</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Jessie Howard</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Camille Picciano</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>22. Ray White</td>
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1,012 combined years of membership! We **SALUTE**...and express appreciation to all these members for their dedication to the four pillars of the American Legion.
Dear Members,

Re: Membership, Dues and other General information

I have served as your Adjutant for several years and we continue having the problem of members receiving a notice from National Headquarters indicating the member has not paid their dues when actually they had recently paid them. Let me explain the dues payment process to help alleviate any confusion.

Your first annual notice of dues is sent out in July. When you pay your dues to Post 23, I send the payment to State Headquarters, and they in turn forward payment renewal on to National. So, it does take a little time. I have talked with individuals at both State and National Headquarters and have been informed they try and expedite the process. We will keep trying.

For your information, generally I process your dues payment and send out your membership card within 3-5 business days after I receive it. National Headquarters sends out FOUR (4) renewal notices in a year, the first one coming in July and the last one in April of the following year. This is the system in place. Sometimes a mistake is made or there could be some other oversight on my part, or at State and National Headquarters.

Here is my suggestion to all members: if you receive a second notice in the future and you know you have paid your dues because you have your NEW Membership card in hand, just toss the renewal notice. You can call me at the Post, or my cell# 270-779-3215 to confirm your payment. I may have made a mistake in processing your payment—it has happened on occasion and may happen again— but I promise to do the best that I can. Remember annual dues are $37.

Again, please give me a call if you have any questions. THANK YOU FOR SERVING!

Respectfully yours,

Delane Simpson, Adjutant
270-779-3215
LOOKING BACK: A BRIEF HISTORY OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 23

If you don’t know where you have been, where you are, or where you are going, how will you ever know when you get there....?

Forty + years ago Post 23 was at a crossroads and some wondered if the Post would continue and survive. But a few members answered the call of distress and took immediate action to revive and bring new life to your Post. Thus, it is appropriate for the members to reflect on the efforts of those who were instrumental in bringing us to where we are today—2017! Can we call them Heroes? We believe the term best describes our appreciation for their commitment and their personal sacrifice that now enables us to do the important work for veterans, active duty military, their families and the community we serve. So where were we forty years ago?

The American Legion owned the Nahm Building, 422 East Main Street, in downtown Bowling Green, and the Legion was on the 2nd Floor. Sometime in 1976, the officers were forced to close the doors, with utilities and other bills unpaid. Six members came together and took action to clear some unpaid bills and reopen Post 23. Those members were: Dave Andress, Marion Hartis, and Connie Nunn, (all deceased); and Kenneth Childress, Will Leach and Jim Manley. These members deserve the title Heroes, and our collective thanks for their efforts.

On September 8, 1976, the membership purchased the property at 208 Dishman Lane from Morris and Joan Creek. On March 8, 1977, Post 23 sold the Nahm Building to Turner and Mary C. Burns. Thus, one chapter of Post 23 was closed, but a new one had begun on Dishman Lane.

Charlie Bush was a past Commander and a longtime chairman of bingo who donated a lot of time to Legion activities. We walk across Bush’s Bridge when entering the front doors of our home. Charlie Bush earned the title Hero—and our thanks.

Our longtime Commander Roger Miller--41 + years; Adjutant for several years, and current Chaplain Will Leach, and longtime Finance Officer Jim Manley--45 + years, deserve special recognition as Heroes for staying the course, and for helping keep American Legion Post 23 a strong presence in our community and a strong leader in American Legion circles for the devotion to veterans and their families. Thanks for their dedicated service to Post 23!

This brief story reminds us of our past and where we are going. Be proud! Thanks to everyone!

NOTE: if we missed anyone please know it was unintentional and accept our sincere apologies!

This publication was prepared by Third Vice-Commander Don Butler and Adjutant Delane Simpson to inform and remind our members, the general public, and our community leaders about the important work of the American Legion Post 23. Please share the message with others, especially a VETERAN, or active duty military person interested in joining our Post 23.
AMERICAN LEGION POST 23

LEADERSHIP TEAM
2016-17

- COMMANDER: ROGER MILLER
- FIRST VICE COMMANDER: MALCOLM CHERRY
- SECOND VICE COMMANDER: STAN ENGLAND
- THIRD VICE COMMANDER: DON BUTLER
- FINANCE OFFICER: JIM MANLEY
- ADJUTANT: DELANE SIMPSON
- SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: SHELBY HARWOOD
- CHAPLAIN: WILL LEACH
- HISTORIAN: RAY BUCKBERRY

SERVICE OFFICERS

BILL HOTALING
DONNIE BROWN
RON HOWELL

VA REPRESENTATIVE
COL. (R) ROBERT SPILLER

HOME COMMITTEE

DONNIE BROWN
DON SHULTZ
DALE GOINS
DELANE SIMPSON
KENNY RALSTON
JIM ACKZIEN
LOCAL BUSINESSES OWNED BY OUR VETERANS MEMBERS AND BENEFACIORS

CAMPBELL CHEVROLET
CLAYTON MOBILE HOMES
COLDWELL BANKER LEGACY REAL ESTATE
COLDWELL BANKER LEGACY REAL ESTATE
COLDWELL BANKER LEGACY REAL ESTATE
CONE FUNERAL HOME
GERALD PRINTING
HOME CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANT
JB DISTRIBUTORS
METALS AND MORE
P&P TELECOMMUNICATIONS
RILEY’S BAKERY
VAN METER INSURANCE

Joe Earl Campbell
Barry Jenkins
Jim Huggins
Donnie Sims
Kim Bouchey
Kenneth Cone
Joe Davis
Ken Childress
James E. Bohannon Jr.
Malcom Cherry
Perry Snell
Dan Riley
David Wiseman

- BENEFACIORS -

CORA JANE & COL. (R) SPILLER
CREEK SOD FARMS
JIM JOHNSON NISSAN
METALS AND MORE

Mike Creek
Jim Johnson
American Legion Riders
Combat Veterans
Rolling Thunder

"VETERANS SUPPORTING VETERANS"

Please, always support these Veteran-owned businesses!
Sample Only

Members must contact the Legion for information regarding a Membership Application

The American Legion Membership Application

Listed below are just a few of the many programs The American Legion sponsors. Please check the one(s) that are of interest to you. If the program you like is not listed, please indicate it in the "other" area.

☐ Volunteer work at VA Hospital.
☐ Work with youth.
☐ Help/participate in Post's social activities...dances, dinners, etc.
☐ Participate in educational activities... (essay contests, oratorical contests, scholarships)
☐ Work with sports teams.
☐ Supervise groups (drill team, drum & bugle, scouts, etc.).
☐ Post improvement projects.
☐ Membership drives.
☐ Community projects.
☐ Other: ________________________________

☐ Wife would be interested in the Auxiliary.
☐ Son would be interested in the Sons of The American Legion.

Receipt of Dues
(please print)

From ________________________________

$ ______ for 20 ___ Post # ______

Recruiter's Name ________________________________

Recruiter's Signature ________________________________

Recruiter's Phone # ________________________________