Brown & Lynch Post 9 Newsletter

November 2026

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Website: www.brownandlynchpost9.org
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Commander—Terri Kaiser Krecker

As we enter November, we are reminded of the many blessings we enjoy and the sacrifices made by the men and women who have worn our nation's uniform. This month provides us with a special opportunity to honor our veterans, express our gratitude, and reflect on the importance of service to our country and community.
On Veterans Day, Brown & Lynch Post 9 will host a Veterans Day Luncheon. The luncheon will be held from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM at Post 9. This special gathering offers an opportunity to share a meal and honor the service and sacrifice of all who have worn our nation's uniform.

At the luncheon, Post 9 will have the Super Raffle Drawing. We are proud to offer a Top Prize of $10,000 (or a percentage of the prize pool if all tickets were not sold) along with multiple additional cash prizes supporting our Pavilion Building Fund.

Please sign up in the Social Quarters or contact me by email at terrikrecker@aol.com.
Cutoff Date: Sunday, November 8, 2026

Homebound Veterans Day Meal Program

Post 9 will once again provide a complimentary Veterans Day meal to any homebound veteran on November 11. This program ensures that those unable to leave their homes are still honored and included in the day's observance. The spouse or significant other of a homebound veteran is also eligible to receive a complimentary meal as part of this program.
When registering, please indicate if a spouse or significant other will be receiving a meal so that we can ensure accurate preparation and delivery.

If you are a homebound veteran—or if you know of one who would like to participate—contact Commander Terri Krecker at 610-533-4071 or terrikrecker@aol.com. Also, Meal Order Forms are available in the social quarters.
Cutoff Date: Monday, November 2, 2026.

Super Raffle Ticket – Still Available

Tickets are $100 each and offer a top prize of $10,000 or 25% of the proceeds, along with multiple additional cash prizes. Proceeds benefit the American Legion Brown & Lynch Post 9 Pavilion Building Fund.

Prizes include:
1 Prize: $10,000 or 25% of proceeds
1 Prize: $3,000 or 7.5% of proceeds
1 Prize: $2,000 or 5% of proceeds
4 Prizes: $500 each or 1.25% of proceeds
20 Prizes: $150 each or 0.37% of proceeds

With 27 opportunities to win, there will be plenty of happy winners!

For tickets or additional information, contact Terri Krecker at 610-533-4071.

Don't miss out on a chance to win one of these outstanding cash prizes.

Flag Removal at the Shrine

On Saturday, November 14, 2026, we will gather to respectfully remove flags from the graves of our Fallen Heroes at Northampton Memorial Shrine Cemetery.
Location: 3051 Green Pond Road, Palmer Township, PA 18045.
Time: Meet at 8:00 AM
Rain Date: Saturday, November 21, 2026 at 8:00 AM.

Your help is needed and deeply appreciated. Volunteers of all ages are welcome.

Operation D.C. – April 18, 2027

Brown & Lynch American Legion Post 9 is proud to announce that we have chartered two buses for Operation D.C., scheduled for Sunday, April 18, 2027. Our original plan called for three buses; however, due to rising costs, we have adjusted the trip to two buses and limited participation to only Korean and Vietnam War Veterans.

Post 9 will proudly sponsor all Korean and Vietnam War Veterans, ensuring that every eligible veteran may participate without financial concern. Space is limited to 90 veterans. If all veteran seats are not filled, any remaining seats will be made available to family members.

Operation D.C. remains one of our most meaningful initiatives—an opportunity to honor those who served during two of our nation's most challenging eras and to provide them with a day of remembrance, fellowship, and gratitude.

Trip Details:
Sunday, April 18, 2027 – Depart Post 9 at 7:00 AM
Sunday, April 18, 2027 – Return to Post 9 at 8:00 PM
Lunch: Bag lunch provided
Dinner: Stop at a restaurant on the return trip

These buses will transport our Korean and Vietnam War Veterans to Washington, D.C., where they will visit Arlington National Cemetery and the memorials dedicated to their service and sacrifice. Ambulatory assistance will be available throughout the trip.

Fundraising efforts will cover the full cost of the trip so every veteran may participate without financial concern. We continue to seek corporate and private donations to support this important mission.

For more information or to sign up, contact Commander Terri Kaiser Krecker at 610-533-4071 or email Terrikrecker@aol.com.

Pavilion Proiect

Help Us Complete the Pavilion — Be Part of the Legacy
Pavilion Project Update

Our long-awaited Pavilion is finally taking shape, and it's exciting to see this dream becoming a reality. As we move closer to completion, we are asking for your support. Every contribution — large or small — helps bring us one step closer to creating a space that will serve our members, families, and community for many years to come.

Ways You Can Support the Pavilion:

Plaque Donations
Your gift will be recognized with a plaque inside the Pavilion.

- ***Platinum: $1,000***
- ***Gold: $500***
- ***Silver: $250***

Paver Brick Program
Dedicate a brick to honor a veteran or loved one.
4" x 8" bricks — Text Only or Military Logo + Text
$55 per brick
Corporate Sponsorships
Recognized on a prominently displayed plaque.

- ***Bronze: $2,000***
- ***Silver: $5,000***
- ***Gold: $10,000***

Platinum: $20,000

Pavilion Naming Rights:
The Pavilion will be named after the first entity to contribute $50,000.

Auxiliary Unit 9

Geneva Weiss - President

Fall has arrived, daylight saving time is upon us, and the holidays are approaching. As we prepare for Thanksgiving & Christmas, please keep our veterans and youth in mind, especially during this season, which can be particularly difficult for many of us.
Give extra recognition to those in need. Here are a few suggestions to keep in mind:

1. *Remember the Veteran next door who is all alone.*
2. *Remember the child whose parents are deployed.*
3. *Proudly display the Military Child's Table.*
4. *Adopt a Military family to make the holidays brighter.*
5. *Keeping this in mind, remember our youth are our future.*

Please make Note:

Make membership dues checks payable to ALA Unit 9. Dues unpaid by December 31 become delinquent January 1st

Auxiliary will once again have a Bake Sale table at the S.A.L. November 14th meat drawing. Anyone interested in baking, please see Geneva Weiss (610-704-3642).

As the weather gets colder, the Auxiliary will start SOUPER SUNDAY with a start date in January.

Legion Riders

Meetings are held on the 1st Sunday of each month at 10:00 AM. All members are encouraged to attend and stay involved in upcoming rides, events, and community support efforts.

BREAKFAST AT THE POST

1st Sunday of Each Month
8:00 AM – 11:30 AM

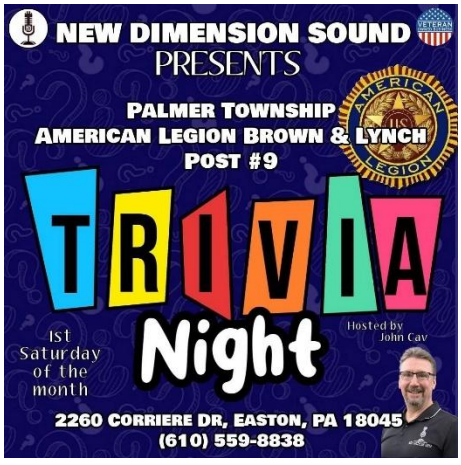
Members and guests are invited to join us for a warm, welcoming breakfast at Post 9. Enjoy good food and good company as we gather to support our Legion Riders.

Sons of The American Legion

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. All members and prospective members are welcome to attend and get involved.

Trivia Night

First Saturday of Each Month



Post 9 Honor Guard

Join the Post 9 Honor Guard

The Brown & Lynch Post 9 Honor Guard is seeking new members. All volunteers must be Legionnaires or Sons of the American Legion, but no prior experience is required.

We provide the uniforms and training—you bring the heart, dedication, and willingness to serve. Our mission is to honor veterans with the dignity and respect they deserve through military funeral honors.

If you feel called to this meaningful service, you can get in touch with the Brown & Lynch Post 9 Honor Guard: Frank Merritt – 484-547-3930 Email: lz2bits@ptd.net

The Honor Guard Meeting is held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:30 PM.

A Final Honor. A Final Promise.

Some moments in life words cannot fully carry. At a veteran's funeral — when the flag is folded, the salute is rendered, and Taps is sounded — something sacred takes place. In that moment, we honor a life of service not with fanfare, but with dignity, gratitude, and remembrance.

Military funeral honors matter because they assure families that their loved one's service will never be forgotten. They tell a grieving wife, husband, son, daughter, parent, or friend that this nation remembers. That this sacrifice mattered. That this life mattered. And when Taps is played live, it becomes even more personal.

It is not merely music drifting through the air. It is a living tribute — a real person standing there, offering those 24 notes from the heart. One final act of respect for someone who served our country.

Because this is more than a ceremony. It is more than tradition. It is a final promise: we will never forget.

Welcome Our New Legionnaires

Brown & Lynch American Legion Post 9 is pleased to announce two new Legionnaires on our membership rolls.
New Member: Jonathan Dodd
Transfer Member: John DeMarco

We're honored to have both of these Legionnaires join our ranks and look forward to their involvement in our Post 9 community.

Veterans Day Meals Available in the Lehigh Valley

For Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11, 2026, several national restaurant chains with locations in the Lehigh Valley have announced free meals or special offers for veterans and active-duty military. Most require proof of military service and participation may vary by location.
Some of the most common Lehigh Valley options include:

- *Applebee's – Free dine-in entrée from a special Veterans Day menu.*
- *Bob Evans – Free meal from a select Veterans Day menu.*
- *Chili's – Free meal from a select menu for veterans and active-duty military.*
- *Denny's – Free Original Grand Slam breakfast (dine-in).*
- *Golden Corral – Free Military Appreciation Dinner (typically beginning at 4:00 p.m.).*
- *Bonefish Grill – Complimentary Bang Bang Shrimp and a nonalcoholic beverage.*
- *Chipotle – Free chips and guacamole, queso, or salsa with a qualifying purchase.*
- *Buffalo Wild Wings – Traditionally offers free wings for veterans and service members.*
- *Blaze Pizza – Participating locations may offer a free pizza.*

The above restaurants have locations in or near Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Whitehall, and Palmer Township
Because many restaurants are independently franchised, veterans should call ahead to confirm participation before traveling.

Message from the Chaplain

Vince Menegus

If you know of any Legionnaire who is ill, facing hardship, or has recently passed away, please notify me at jmenegus@rcn.com or by phone at 610-252-6196. When possible, include their address or the family's contact information.
Post 9 will send a heartfelt get-well or sympathy card to offer our support and care.

Message from Ken Haney
Post 9 Service Officer

American Legion Veterans' Service Officer in our Area is Eric Medei <eric@pa-legion.com>. His preferred contact method is via email. If you do not have access to email, his phone is (484) 268-8151.
Here are the locations he goes to every month and the days he is there. The best way to get an appointment with him is to call the State Rep's office and get on the schedule.
1st Monday – Rep Joe Emrick, Nazareth
1st Thursday – Rep Zach Mako, Northampton and Slatington (alternates every other month)
2nd Wednesday – Rep Ann Flood, Pen Argyl
2nd Thursday – Rep Guenst, Hatboro
2nd Friday – Rep Ryan Mackenzie, Macungie
3rd Monday – Rep Jeanne McNeill, Whitehall
3rd Friday – Rep Peter Schweyer, Allentown
4th Tuesday – Rep Ryan Mackenzie, New Tripoli
4th Wednesday – Rep Milou Mackenzie, Bethlehem
4th Thursday – Rep Jamie Barton, Tamaqua

He will also meet with Veterans at the Legion Post 397 in Hellertown (he is the Commander of that Post) on days when he is not scheduled for an Outreach.

Post 9 Welcomes You!

Haven't been to Post 9 in a while?
Now's the perfect time to stop in and see what's new.

We're proud to have over 1,200 members across the American Legion, Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, Legion Riders, and the Home Association. There's truly something for everyone—from toddlers to centenarians—with entertainment and activities offered all year long.

If you enjoy great food, swing by for lunch or dinner and check the Newsletter for our monthly dinner specials. You won't leave hungry.

Volunteers are the heart of Post 9. Whether you can give an hour or a day, your help makes a real difference and strengthens the sense of family that makes this place special.

Legion General Membership Meeting

Held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM
All members are encouraged to attend and stay involved.

Come by, reconnect, and be part of everything happening at Post 9.

HOME ASSOCIATION

The Brown & Lynch Post 9 Home Association continues its dedicated work overseeing the care, maintenance, and improvement of our Post home. This group ensures that our building and grounds remain welcoming, functional, and ready to support the many activities, gatherings, and veteran-focused programs held throughout the year.

Home Association Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM.

November 2026 MENU – DINNER SPECIALS

Friday Night Specials

November 6, 2026
Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes & Carrots - $13.95
November 13, 2026
Tossed Salad w/Dressing, BBQ Ribs, French Fries & Cole Slaw - $13.95
November 20, 2026
Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Sausage over Linguini w/Red Gravy & Italian Bread - $12.95
November 27, 2026
Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Ham, Mac n Cheese & Carrots - $13.95

Saturday Night Specials

November 7, 2026
Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes & Green Bean -s $13.95
November 14, 2026
Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Penne Ala Vodka & Italian Bread - $13.45
November 21, 2026
Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Chicken Parmesan & Baked Ziti w/Italian Bread - $13.45
November 28, 2026
Pork & Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes & Carrots - $13.95

SOUPER SUNDAY

The Legion is kicking off Souper Sunday on November 1, 2026, running through March 2027! Check each month's newsletter to see our featured soup selections. Come in from the cold on Sunday afternoon, grab a drink, and warm up with a delicious bowl of hot soup!

November 1, 2026: Italian Wedding
November 8, 2026: Andouille Sausage Corn Chowder
November 15, 2026: Stuffed Cabbage Soup
November 22, 2026: Chicken Orzo
November 29, 2026: Best Tomato Soup Ever

WEEKLY SPECIALS – WING WEDNESDAY

"Take Care of America's Veterans Act" Update

As of October 2026, the Take Care of America's Veterans Act (H.R. 9237 / S. 4744) has not become law and remains stalled in Congress.

The bill is a large veterans' package containing more than 60 separate proposals, including:

- *The Major Richard Star Act, which would allow certain combat-injured military retirees to receive both full military retired pay and VA disability compensation.*
- *The Love Lives On Act, which would restore certain benefits for surviving spouses who remarry.*
- *Expanded mental health, caregiver, education, and community care provisions.*

The major obstacle is paying the bill. Sponsors proposed funding many of the new benefits by using projected savings from future VA disability rating changes involving sleep apnea and tinnitus. Those proposed offsets have drawn strong opposition from several veterans organizations and lawmakers who argue the changes would reduce benefits for future disabled veterans.

The most recent reports indicate:

- *The Senate package remains held up because of disagreements over the funding mechanism.*
- *House action was delayed, and the legislation has not advanced to enactment.*

Contact Your Members of Congress: Legionnaires can contact Pennsylvania's U.S. Senators and Representatives and express support for provisions they believe are important, such as the Major Richard Star Act, expanded mental health services, caregiver support, and survivor benefits. The bill remains under debate, and lawmakers continue to hear from veterans and veterans' organizations regarding both the benefits and the funding concerns.

Membership Renewal Reminder – Post 9 Family

Attention all members of Brown & Lynch American Legion Post 9 — Legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion, Auxiliary, and Social Members.

Renewals are due by December 31, 2026.

- *As of January 1, 2027, unpaid members will be marked delinquent.*
- *On February 1, 2027, unpaid members will be removed from the membership rolls, and their access cards will be denied.*
- *Reinstatement of your access card will require payment of the membership fee plus a $10 reactivation fee.*
- *Please renew today to avoid the cost and effort of reinstatement.*

Thank you for your continued dedication to Post 9.

Do You Know Where Your DD-214 Is?

Your DD-214 is one of the most important documents a veteran can have. It is the official record of your military service and is required for VA benefits, burial honors, membership eligibility, retirement benefits, and many other veteran services.

Do you have a copy?

If you don't know where your DD-214 is—or if it has been lost, damaged, or misplaced—it's important to secure a replacement.

How to Obtain a Copy

Veterans and next-of-kin can request a copy through the National Archives:

Visit: www.archives.gov/veterans

Select "Request Military Records"

Submit the online form (SF-180)

If the record was affected by the 1973 National Archives fire, alternate documents—such as final pay vouchers, morning reports, or burial records—may be used to verify service.

Why This Matters

Having your DD-214 readily available ensures you and your family can access the benefits, honors, and services you have earned.

Veterans Day Message from the Post Commander

Fellow Veterans and Legion Family,

Each year on Veterans Day, we pause to honor the brave men and women who answered our nation's call to serve. Their sacrifice, courage, and commitment have preserved the freedoms we enjoy and the values we hold dear as Americans.

Veterans Day is more than a date on the calendar. It is a time to reflect on the dedication of those who stood watch during times of war and peace, at home and abroad. It is an opportunity to thank all veterans, past and present, for their service and to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our nation.

As members of Brown & Lynch American Legion Post 9, we are proud to continue the mission of supporting veterans, promoting patriotism, and serving our community. The strength of our Post lies not only in our military service, but also in our continued commitment to one another.

On behalf of the officers and members of Brown & Lynch American Legion Post 9, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all who have worn the uniform of our Armed Forces.

For God and Country,
Terri Krecker
Commander

November Dates to Remember

November 1st: Daylight Saving Time Ends 2:00 AM
November 3rd: Election Day
November 4th: Home Association Meeting 7:00 PM
November 7th: Trivia Night
November 8th: Legion Riders Meeting 10:30 AM
November 8th: Breakfast at the Post 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM
November 9th: S.A.L. Meeting 7:00 PM
November 10th: Marine Corps Birthday
November 11th: Veterans Day –
November 11th: Veterans Day Lunch 11:30 AM
November 12th: Legion Executive Board Meeting 6:00 PM
November 12th: Legion/Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 PM
November 24th: Honor Guard Meeting 1:30 PM
November 28th: Thanksgiving Day

Don't forget! Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 1, 2026. At 2:00 a.m., clocks will be turned back one hour to 1:00 a.m., marking the return to Standard Time.
Before heading to bed on Saturday, October 31, be sure to set your clocks back one hour and enjoy an extra hour of sleep!
While you're changing your clocks, it's also a great time to check and replace batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms to help keep your family safe.

Happy Birthday, United States Marine Corps

On November 10, 2026, the United States Marine Corps celebrates its 251st birthday. Since its founding in 1775, Marines have earned a reputation for courage, discipline, and unwavering devotion to duty. From the shores of Tripoli to today's battlefields, Marines have answered our nation's call with honor and distinction.

As we celebrate this proud milestone, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all Marines, past and present, who have served and sacrificed in defense of our freedoms. Their legacy of commitment, leadership, and patriotism continues to inspire generations of Americans.

To all Marines: Happy 251st Birthday and Semper Fidelis!

What to Know About the First Thanksgiving

The First Thanksgiving is believed to have taken place in 1621 in Plymouth Colony (present-day Massachusetts). The Pilgrims and members of the Wampanoag Nation shared a three-day harvest celebration after a successful growing season.

Here are some interesting facts:
The Pilgrims arrived on the Mayflower in 1620 and endured a harsh first winter, during which many settlers died.

The Wampanoag people, including Squanto (Tisquantum), helped the Pilgrims learn how to plant crops, fish, and survive in the New World.
About 50 Pilgrims and 90 Wampanoag attended the celebration. The feast likely included wild fowl, venison, corn, squash, and seafood. They probably didn't have pumpkin pies, mashed potatoes, or cranberry sauce as we know them today because ingredients and cooking methods differed.

The event was primarily a harvest celebration and expression of gratitude, not an official national holiday. The tradition of Thanksgiving continued in various forms over the years. In 1863, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be observed each November.

Thanksgiving Thought
"As we gather with family and friends, let us remember the spirit of the first Thanksgiving: gratitude for our blessings, appreciation for those who help us through difficult times, and hope for a better future."

SOCIAL QUARTERS HOURS

Monday through Thursday
12:00 Noon - 10:00 PM
Friday & Saturday
12:00 Noon - 12:00 AM
Sundays
12:00 Noon - 7:00 PM

Post 9 Kitchen Operating Hours
Lunch
Monday – Friday
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
Dinner
Monday – Saturday
5:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Sunday - Closed