



Floresville, TX Post 38 | August Newsletter Purple Heart Day, Victory over Japan, the Veterans Ball, and Remembering 9/11.



BE =THE= ONE

Come visit every second Thursday from 7pm to 9pm at the American Legion Hall, and our Tailgates on the third Thursday of every month from 6:30pm to 8pm for fun activities and some good food.

**American Legion Hall | 1412 4th Street, Floresville, TX 78114
(830) 393-7929**

Or check out our new website: <https://txlegion38.org/>

Purple Heart Day: Honoring Those Wounded in the Nation's Defense

Honoring Wounded Warriors – August 7

On August 7, American Legion Post 38 in Floresville, Texas, joins the Legion Family nationwide in observing Purple Heart Day, the anniversary of the Badge of Military Merit. General George Washington established that badge on August 7, 1782, at his headquarters in Newburgh, New York — a purple, heart-shaped piece of cloth or silk, edged with narrow lace, worn over the left breast. It was among the first American decorations open to enlisted soldiers as well as officers.

Washington meant the badge to honor unusual gallantry, extraordinary fidelity, and essential service. After the Revolution it fell into disuse. In 1932, on the 200th anniversary of Washington's birth, the War Department revived the decoration as the Purple Heart, with Washington's profile at its center. The criteria were later refined so that the medal is awarded to those wounded or killed by enemy action, and to those who suffer as prisoners of war.



A Purple Heart is presented on a U.S. Army uniform. U.S. Army photo (public domain).

Only three soldiers of the Revolutionary War are known to have received Washington's Badge of Military Merit: Sgts. Elijah Churchill, William Brown, and Daniel Bissell. The original cloth heart was worn over the left breast. Today the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor in New Windsor, New York — a short distance from Washington's Newburgh headquarters — keeps the names and stories of those who have earned the modern medal.

The Purple Heart is not a campaign ribbon and not a mark of longevity. It records a wound received in action against an enemy of the United States, or death from such a wound. It has been awarded across every service and every conflict from the First World War to the present. Oak leaf clusters or gold stars mark additional awards. That is why the medal sits at the center of Purple Heart Day: it is a public accounting of what war costs a human body.

Post 38 does not publish a roster of members who have earned the Purple Heart, and we will not invent names here. We know, all the same, that among the Legion Family in Floresville and Wilson County are men and women who wear the medal — and many more whose households have been reshaped by a wound, a recovery, or a loss. Purple Heart Day belongs to them, and to the families who learned the long work of care.



The Purple Heart medal, shown in full. U.S. Air Force graphic (public domain).

The American Legion was founded by veterans of the First World War. That charge continues at 1412 4th Street. When we gather for General Membership Meetings on the second Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m., and when we welcome veterans to Tailgates on the third Thursday from 6:30 to 8 p.m., we do more than share a meal. A Buddy Check — a call, a visit, a simple question honestly asked — is one of the most practical honors we can pay to those who came home wounded in body or in spirit.

We encourage members and neighbors to make this observance useful. Bring a worn flag to the collection box at the Hall. Look in on a veteran you have not seen at a meeting. Share the story of the Badge of Military Merit with the Scouts of Troop 114, who meet at the Hall each Sunday from 4 to 5 p.m. Visit txlegion38.org for Post news. If you or a veteran you know is in crisis, dial 988 and press 1 for the Veterans Crisis Line.

The Purple Heart reminds Floresville that freedom is paid for in human terms. Post 38 will keep that reminder before our community whenever we stand for the colors, sponsor our youth, and take care of our own.

We invite members to mark Purple Heart Day in ways the Post can actually do: a moment of silence at the September 10 General Membership Meeting, a Buddy Check to someone who has not been in the Hall lately, and a worn flag placed in the collection box at 1412 4th Street. Honor does not require a roster. It requires that we show up.

Post 38 – Honoring Wounded Warriors, Yesterday and Today.

Victory over Japan: Eighty-One Years After the End of World War II

August 15, 1945 — The 81st Anniversary in 2026

On August 15, 1945, after nearly four years of war in the Pacific, Imperial Japan announced its surrender. American Legion Post 38 in Floresville, Texas, marks the 81st anniversary of that Victory over Japan — V-J Day — as both a historical milestone and a living duty to remember those who served.

The war in Europe had ended in May. In the Pacific, fighting continued through the summer of 1945. On August 6 and 9, atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Soviet Union entered the war against Japan. On August 15 — August 14 in the United States, across the International Date Line — Emperor Hirohito announced acceptance of the Allied terms. President Harry S. Truman told the nation the war was over. Formal surrender was signed on September 2, 1945, aboard the battleship USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay. World War II, the deadliest conflict in human history, had ended.

Americans poured into streets and town squares. In Wilson County, as in towns across Texas, families waited for telegrams, for ships, and for sons and daughters who had been gone for years. The American Legion, already more than a quarter-century old, opened its doors to a new generation of veterans — men and women who would raise families, build Posts, and teach what the war had cost.

Post 38 will not invent local World War II names for this page. Many of that generation have passed. Their example has not. Veterans of Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, Iraq, and later operations sit in our Hall. They know, as the World War II generation knew, that victory is not the end of the story. Coming home, caring for the wounded, and teaching history to the young are work that never clocks out.

That teaching is part of Post life in Floresville. Scout Troop 114 meets at the Hall every Sunday from 4 to 5 p.m. Flag education, respect for the colors, and the story of those who served are not extras; they are the point. Our second-Thursday General Membership Meetings and third-Thursday Veteran's Tailgates give Wilson County veterans a place to belong. The flag collection box at 1412 4th Street offers neighbors a dignified way to retire worn flags — a small civic act that ties this generation to the one that came home in 1945.

Eighty-one years on, V-J Day asks more of us than a date on a calendar. It asks that we keep faith with those who fought across the Pacific and with every veteran who has worn the uniform since. We encourage members to share family stories of the war's end, to bring a younger relative to a meeting or tailgate, and to visit txlegion38.org for Post news. The guns of 1945 fell silent. The duty to remember did not.

After the surrender, millions of Americans came home to towns like Floresville. The American Legion's doors opened to that generation, and they have not closed.

Post 38 – Preserving the Memory of Victory and the Cost of Peace.



President Truman announces Japan's surrender, Aug. 14, 1945. National Archives.



Surrender ceremony, USS Missouri, Sept. 2, 1945. U.S. Army Signal Corps / NARA.

Military Veterans' Ball: Wilson County Looks Ahead to December 19

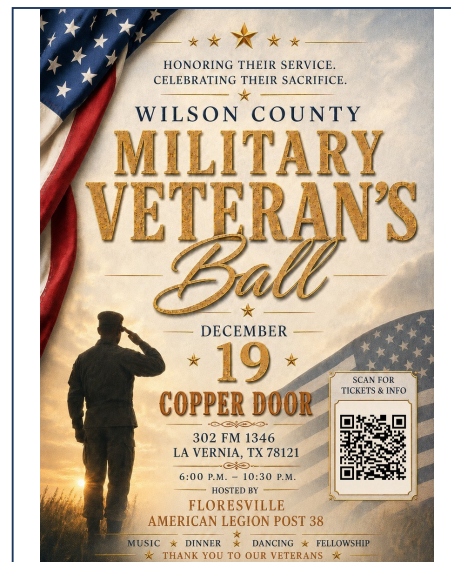
Saturday, December 19, 2026 • The Copper Door, La Vernia

American Legion Post 38 in Floresville, Texas, will host the Wilson County Military Veteran's Ball on Saturday, December 19, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at The Copper Door, 302 FM 1346, La Vernia, Texas 78121. The evening is music, dinner, dancing, and fellowship — a county-wide thank-you to those who served.

Post 38 hosts this county-wide evening of honor because the veterans of Wilson County are not confined to one town or one era. They live in Floresville, La Vernia, and every community in between. An open invitation is how this Post says, in public, that service still counts here. The Hall at 1412 4th Street is our home; The Copper Door is where we ask the county to gather.

December 19 is a date to put on the refrigerator now. Buy tickets early and fill a table. Invite a veteran who is not yet a member of the Post. Invite a family member who has stood the watch at home. The Ball is for those who wore the uniform and for those who kept the household running while they did. A full table is the point of a county-wide evening.

The American Legion Auxiliary supports the Post on this evening, as it does throughout the year. Tickets are \$50 general admission via Zeffy at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/annual-gala-5336>. The flyer on this page carries a QR code for the same ticket page. Volunteers should speak with a Post officer at the September 10 meeting (7 to 9 p.m.) or a third-Thursday Tailgate. Questions: (830) 393-7929 or txlegion38.org. Put December 19 on the calendar. Fill a table. Show up for the people who showed up for this country.



Post 38 Military Veterans' Ball flyer — December 19, 2026, The Copper Door, La Vernia.

Post 38 – Saving a Place at the Ball for Those Who Served.

Buddy Checks: Be the One Who Looks After a Comrade

A Call, a Visit, a Place at the Table



American Legion Hall, 1412 4th Street, Floresville.

American Legion Post 38 in Floresville, Texas, exists because veterans chose to look after one another. A Buddy Check is that charge in its simplest form: a telephone call, a visit, or a question honestly asked. It is not a speech and not a committee. It is the habit of noticing who has not been seen.

The American Legion's Be the One initiative asks every member to be the one who notices, the one who listens, and the one who acts. Isolation does not wait for a crisis that makes the papers. A Legionnaire who misses two meetings, a rider who used to be at every Tailgate, a neighbor whose name has gone quiet — those are the moments a Buddy Check is for.

Our Hall at 1412 4th Street is built for that work. General Membership Meetings on the second Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m., and Veteran's Tailgates on the third Thursday from 6:30 to 8 p.m., are more than the business of the Post. They

are the places we see one another. A chair saved, a plate passed, a ride offered — these are Buddy Checks by another name. We invite every member to use them that way.

If you or a veteran you know is in crisis, dial 988 and press 1 for the Veterans Crisis Line. Help is available around the clock. The rest of us can do the quieter work: keep the list of who belongs to this Post alive in our minds, and do not let a comrade slip out of sight.

Isolation is not always visible at a crowded tailgate. Members who cannot get to 1412 4th Street still belong to this Post. A Buddy Check can be two minutes. If the conversation turns toward crisis, stay with them and dial 988, then press 1.

Post 38 – Be the One. Make the Call.

Never Forget:

Twenty-Five Years After September 11, 2001

Remembrance, Service, and Looking Out for One Another

September 11, 2026, marks twenty-five years since the terrorist attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, at the Pentagon, and in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. American Legion Post 38 in Floresville, Texas, remembers that morning not as a closed chapter but as a living obligation: to honor the dead, to stand with those who served in the wars that followed, and to look after one another in the years still unfolding.

On that Tuesday, nineteen terrorists hijacked four airliners. Two struck the World Trade Center. One struck the Pentagon. Passengers and crew on United Flight 93 fought back; their aircraft crashed in Pennsylvania, short of its intended target. First responders ran toward the fires. In the days that followed, Americans enlisted, donated, and gathered under flags hung from porches and overpasses. A generation of service members — many of them now Legionnaires — deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq, and other theaters in the long conflict that began that morning.



The Pentagon, Sept. 11, 2001. U.S. Marine Corps photo (public domain).

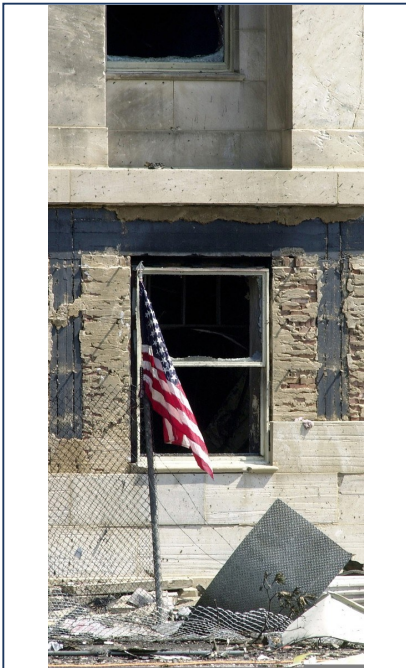
This September 12, Post 38 will memorialize the anniversary in a way the community can see: members will select neglected cemeteries in Wilson County and perform brush clearing, mowing, and other maintenance as a service back to the community. Remembrance that day is a rake, a mower, and a few hours of work among the stones. Members are asked to turn out.

Service is the other half of memory. Children and grandchildren did not live through 2001; they inherit it. Teaching them why we stand for the colors, why we retire worn flags at the collection box at 1412 4th Street, and why veterans still carry that day is part of our charge in Floresville and Wilson County.

Looking out for one another belongs to that charge as well. The American Legion's Be the One initiative asks every member to notice when a veteran is struggling and to act. A Buddy Check is not a speech. It is a phone call, a chair saved at the Tailgate on the third Thursday, a ride to the second-Thursday meeting. If you or a veteran you know is in crisis, dial 988 and press 1 for the Veterans Crisis Line. Help is available around the clock.

Twenty-five years is long enough for children to grow up and for some wounds to stay fresh. We will not forget. We will also not leave our own to remember alone.

Twenty-five years on, the wars that followed 9/11 have sent a generation home to Wilson County. Some sit in our Hall. Some do not. Remembrance without care is incomplete.



An American flag on the damaged Pentagon wall after the attack. U.S. Air Force photo (public domain).

On September 11, raise a flag properly, pause at noon if you can, and look in on a veteran who served after 2001. Watch Post meetings and txlegion38.org for any local observance the Post announces. Until then, the work is the same: remember the dead, stand with the living, and do not leave a comrade to carry that day alone.

Meet at the Hall for assignments and tools, then go out to the cemeteries. When the work is done, second-Thursday meetings and third-Thursday Tailgates remain the place a post-2001 veteran can find a chair and a hearing. Bring someone who has not been in. Show up the way this country showed up that week — not with a speech, with a presence.

If the anniversary sits heavy, you are not the only one in Wilson County who feels it. Stay with a comrade who needs the day named. Dial 988 and press 1 if it turns toward crisis. Fold a worn flag for the collection box. Teach a child or a grandchild why we still stand. Memory is a practice, not a headline.

Wilson County sent people to the wars that followed that morning. Some came home to 1412 4th Street. Some have not walked through the door in a long time. A Buddy Check on the week of the eleventh is not extra credit. It is the charge.

Raise the colors. Pause at noon. Then pick up the phone. The twenty-fifth anniversary will pass whether we mark it well or not. Post 38 intends to mark it by taking care of our own.

POST 38 CALENDAR

Late August through September 2026 | Floresville, Texas

RECURRING AT THE HALL — 1412 4th Street

Scout Meeting (Troop 114) • Every Sunday 4:00–5:00 p.m.

General Membership Meeting • Second Thursday 7:00–9:00 p.m.

Veteran's Tailgate • Third Thursday 6:30–8:00 p.m. (ALR typically 6:00 p.m. before)

LIST VIEW • August 30 – September 27, 2026

Sunday		August 30, 2026
● 16:00 – 17:00	Scout Meeting	
Sunday		September 6, 2026
● 16:00 – 17:00	Scout Meeting	
Thursday		September 10, 2026
● 19:00 – 21:00	General Membership Meeting Post 38	
Friday		September 11, 2026
● all day	National Day of Service and Remembrance — 25th anniversary of September 11, 2001 (national observance; watch meetings and txlegion38.org for any local Post details)	
Sunday		September 13, 2026
● 16:00 – 17:00	Scout Meeting	
Thursday		September 17, 2026
● 18:30 – 20:00	Veteran's Tailgate (ALR typically 18:00 before)	
Sunday		September 20, 2026
● 16:00 – 17:00	Scout Meeting	
Saturday		September 26, 2026
● 14:00 (doors 13:30)	LEGO Bingo at the Hall — hosted at Post 38; proceeds to Breakthrough T1D; \$50, 15 games + dauber; 830-391-9086; not a Post fundraiser	
Sunday		September 27, 2026
● 16:00 – 17:00	Scout Meeting	

COMING UP

October 8–10, 2026 — Floresville Peanut Festival

Auxiliary considering a parade entry and membership table — considering, not confirmed.

Saturday, December 19, 2026, 6:00–10:30 p.m. — Wilson County Military Veteran's Ball

The Copper Door, La Vernia. Hosted by Post 38. Tickets \$50 via Zeffy. Contact the Post at (830) 393-7929 or txlegion38.org.