



### **Post 644 Commander's Coin**

The front of the Coin is a tribute to the members of the Greater Cincinnati Women's Post 644 of The American Legion. At the center is a cameo image of Pallas Athena, the Greek goddess of both war and wisdom. Though Athena was a goddess of war, she disliked fighting without a purpose and preferred using wisdom to settle predicaments. She only encouraged fighting if it was for a reasonable cause or to resolve conflict. This symbol also pays homage to the veterans of World War II who founded our Post, as the Women's Army Corps chose Pallas Athena as their symbol during that era. The background is a crossed sword and olive branch. The sword represents our members' service during wartime and our willingness to fight and sacrifice for our country. The olive branch represents our members' continuing service to our country during peacetime and our everlasting hope that peace will ultimately prevail. Finally, the inscription "Still Serving America Since 1946" reminds us of our long and proud history and heritage.

The back of the Coin is dominated by the emblem of The American Legion, surrounded by all of our members' branches of service. The rays of the sun form the background of our proud emblem and suggest the Legion's principles will dispel the darkness of violence and evil. The wreath forms the center, in loving memory of those brave comrades who gave their lives in the service of the United States that liberty might endure. The star, victory symbol of World War I, also symbolizes honor, glory and constancy. The letters "U.S." leave no doubt as to the brightest star in the Legion's star. The larger of two outer rings stands for the rehabilitation of our sick and disabled comrades. The smaller inside ring denotes the welfare of America's children. The smaller of two inner rings set upon the star represents service to our communities, state and the nation. The larger outer ring pledges loyalty to Americanism. The words "American Legion" tie the whole together for truth, remembrance, constancy, honor, service, veterans affairs and rehabilitation, children and youth, loyalty, and Americanism.

*\* The Post 644 Commander's Coin was designed and privately commissioned by 2009-2010 Commander Kelly Knox. In the tradition of a military Commander's Coin, it is issued by the Commander to Post 644 members and to other individuals who have made significant contributions to Post 644, women veterans, or the United States. It is not for sale.*