

The LIBERTY LEGIONNAIRE

2nd Quarter 2003



**P.O. Box 417
Liberty, MO 64068**

Printed by Veterans,
For Veterans like:

Annual Post 95 Cook-out

May 20th is the date for the annual Post 95 Cook-out. The dinner is set for 6:30 P.M.. The Post is providing and cooking the Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and Brats; just bring a dish to share.

This is a great time to come out and see what your Post is doing. The only business we do this night is the election of Officers for the 2003-2004 year. The rest of the time is for socializing and having fun.

Please call Commander Paul Ellison at 792-5785 by May 18th to RSVP so we know how much meat to purchase. We are doing a lot for our Community and having fun doing it, come on out and see. **See ya there!!**

New Hope/Fairview Flag Pole

Thursday April 17 found Alan Shannon, Mike Edwards, Don Happy, Fred Cox, Sam Leonard, Ray Nichols, and Marvin Mendenhall as well as your commander gathered around the flag pole in the cemetery ready to scrap, paint, and hang a new flag.

Through the generosity of the **C. W. Mose Electric Co.** we had a truck equipped with a hoist and bucket. After a short lesson on the operation of the bucket Alan was ready to go up to the top of the pole, and begin the process of taking off the old paint.

While Alan was up in the air Fred took over the repair of the bench on the ground. The rest of us were helping where needed.

Some ran for materials, some offered suggestions and lending encouragement to everyone.

After the pole was prepped it was time to paint. Don went up with paint and brush in hand to complete the job. While the paint dried, some of us went to lunch. Upon returning we again sent Alan back up the pole and he did a super job of attaching the rope and flag.

Judy Leonard brought us coffee which was greatly appreciated. Thanks to all of you for your help. Go by the cemetery and take a look we think you will like it. - Commander Paul

The only way to see if someone is trustworthy, is to first trust them.

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Immigrants, Not Americans...

Provided by Sam Leonard

This has been floating around the internet, written by an American Citizen and published in a Tampa Newspaper... Immigrants, not Americans, must adapt.

I am tired of this nation worrying about whether we are offending some individual or their culture. Since the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, we have experienced a surge in patriotism by the majority of Americans. However, the dust from the attacks had barely settled when the "politically correct" crowd began complaining about the possibility that our patriotism was offending others

I am not against immigration, nor do I hold a grudge against anyone who is seeking a better life by coming to America. Our population is almost entirely comprised of descendants of immigrants. However, there are a few things that those who have recently come to our country, and apparently some born here, need to understand.

This idea of America being a multi-cultural community has

served only to dilute our sovereignty and our nation identity. As Americans, we have our own culture, our own society, our own language and our own lifestyle. This culture has been developed over centuries of struggles, trials, and victories by millions of men and women who have sought freedom.

Our national language is ENGLISH, not Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, or any other language. Therefore, if you wish to become part of our society, learn the language.

"In God We Trust" is our national motto. This is not some Christian, right wing, political slogan. We adopted this motto because Christian men and women, on Christian principles, founded this nation, and this is clearly documented. It is certainly appropriate to display it on the walls of our schools. If God offends you, then I suggest you consider another part of the world as your new home, because God is part of our culture.

If Stars and Stripes offend you, or you don't like Uncle Sam, then you should seriously consider a move to another part of this

planet. We are happy with our culture and have no desire to change, and we really don't care how you did things where you came from.

This is OUR COUNTRY, our land, and our lifestyle. Our First Amendment give every citizen the right to express his opinion and we will allow you every opportunity to do so. But, once you are done complaining, whining, and griping about our Flag, our pledge, our national motto, or our way of life, I highly encourage you to take advantage of one other great American freedom: THE RIGHT TO LEAVE.

I wonder...

If love is blind, how can we believe in love at first sight?

If a cat always lands on it's feet, and buttered bread always lands butter side down, what would happen if you tied buttered bread on top of the cat?

WHAT PRICE HAPPINESS?

Rev Donna Warren,
Vice Commander

Are you happy? Were you happy yesterday? When was the last

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time you were happy? For most of us, unless recently recovering from a critical medical problem and are now happy to be alive, happiness is associated with people or circumstances or environments. We often mistakenly connect physical pleasure, emotional excitement, being in total control as lasting sources of happiness, but often we realize that the price we end up paying is higher than we thought.

Three examples: A couple of smokers are sitting over morning coffee, lighting one cigarette after another. If asked if they are happy smoking, would probably say, "Yes, I love my morning cigarette."

A couple entering a motel room under a different name. Both married to someone else, but would claim they are miserable in those marriages, so they are having an affair. If asked if they were happy, would say, "Oh, we're happier when we're together than any other time of the week."

A person, obviously overweight, fills their arms with chips, cookies and soda pop,

lying on the couch for the next four hours watching TV. This is repeated day after day. If asked if they were happy they would say, "Yes, as long as I have plenty of snacks and no one changes the channel without my permission."

Five years later: The smokers are now non-smokers, two years free of the habit. They are now bike riding and jogging. Are they now happy?

"Oh, there is no comparison, we have more energy, fewer colds, work without getting short of wind." Did they quit voluntarily? No, they developed hacking coughs and the doctor found spots on their lungs.

The couple having an affair are now both back with their spouses. They worked things out and recommitted to their marriages. Are they happy? "There is no comparison." Did they quit voluntarily? No, they were caught. How about the couch potato? He/she is now into regular exercise routines, on strict diet, is proud to go out in public, and is more confident. Did this happen voluntarily? No, after a heart attack the doctor

said, "Change your lifestyle or you'll be dead in a year. "Each believed they were happy, but weren't.

They were paying a price for what they believed was happiness; a price of health, marriages, integrity, life expectancies. Each had to be broken by consequences of their actions before they considered an alternative path to happiness, one that has been created by the One who created us to be happy spiritually, emotionally, mentally. The trouble is most of us do not believe we would be happier by living another way, or we don't believe the price we would have to pay would be so high. Have you taken the step yet, or do you still believe the price you're paying for what you call happiness will produce the genuine article?

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Freedom Isn't Free

Provided by Paul Ellison

I watched the flag pass by one day, it fluttered in the breeze. A young Marine saluted it, and then he stood at ease. I looked at him in uniform so young, so tall, so proud. With hair cut square and eyes alert he'd stand out in any crowd. I thought how many men like him had fallen through the years. How many died on foreign soil? How many mothers' tears? How many pilots' planes shot down? How many died at sea? How many foxholes were soldiers' graves? No, freedom isn't free.

I heard the sound of Taps one night, when everything was still, I listened to the bugler play and felt a sudden chill. I wondered just how many times that Taps had meant "Amen.". When a flag had draped a coffin of a brother or a friend. I thought of all the children, of the mothers and the wives, Of fathers, sons and husbands with interrupted lives. I thought about a graveyard at the bottom of the sea. Of unmarked graves in Arlington. No, freedom isn't free.

Enjoy Your Freedom & God
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Post 95 has a new website for you computer types. It's **www.roberthbakerpost95.com**.

Thanks to my co-worker, fellow Submariner and Post 95 member, Robert Emery; the Post has moved into the new millennium.

Robert has the website looking great. He did his "homework" by checking-out many other Post websites. The site has a calendar of Post events, pictures and descriptions of our programs, and many other features.

Check it out!! And be sure to pass it on to your friends. Let them know what your Post is doing; maybe they will want to get involved!!

Robert, thank you for all of your hard work. - Mose

Boy's and Girl's State News

By Donna Warren- Chairperson

The follow six Liberty High Juniors will be attending Missouri Girl's State in June. Their sponsoring organization is listed also:

Michelle Riley- Sertoma Club
Jacquie Essary- PEO Chapter LH
Erin Jenkins- Sertoma Club
Shannon Klaus- Optimist Club
Lara Deason- PEO Chapter KO/Post 95
Katherine Prather- Post 95

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Since Post 95 does not yet have an Auxiliary Unit, the first five are run thru Holt Aux Unit 194 and the sixth was opening given us by the Girl's State Director.

The following eight boys will be attending Missouri Boy's State in June:

Paul Rotert- Lions Club
Alex Williams Sertoma
Chris Kitahara- Sertoma Club
Mark Godfrey- VFW Post 4043
Steven Farnsworth- Post 95
Ryan Binkley-LHS Student Council

Jim Fritson- Kiwanis Club/Post 95

Jerome Borchell(Kearney HS)- Post 95

Post 95 wishes to thank all of the Sponsors to these two great programs. Please join us at the July meeting (3rd Tuesday, 7:00 PM) to hear these young Americans talk of their experiences.

Side note: The first meeting that I ever attended was of this type, I've been Involved ever since. And Thank you Donna for all your hard work. - Mose

Our Youth; America's Future.

Avenue of Flags and More

May is a busy month and the Post has many activities planned.

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Look for our booth at the “Spring on the Square”. We’ll be up on the sidewalk in front of the Commerce Bank, we will have Flag and Veteran information to hand out.

That morning, we will have a Flag Disposal Ceremony at 8:30 A. M. in front of the Rooney Justice Center. If you have not witnessed this, you may want to, and bring friends and family.

Moving on to Memorial Day. The big event will be the Avenue of Flags. We have over 250 full size American Flags that line the roads of Fairview/New Hope Cemeteries. Since we don’t have lighting, and are afraid of vandals, we put the flags up early each morning and take them down about dusk each night of the week-end. Perhaps, you’d like to help? At least **come out and see the Flags.**

Again this year, on Memorial Day, we’ll visit 5 different Rest Homes with our Memorial Day presentation. These people were just like us at one time, now they are in need of visitors. Since they can’t get out to a Memorial service Post 95 takes it to them. What happiness they get from our short visit. You are welcome to join us at one or all of the services. We’ll try to get our

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schedule in the paper.

Post 95 Presents Certificates

Post 95 is proud of this newsletter, and proud of it’s sponsors that buy ads to support the printing and postage costs.

Post member Robert Emery, designed and printed out Certificates of Appreciation for each of the advertisers of this newsletter. Commander Paul Ellison, purchased frames, mounted the certificates, then delivered them to all the businesses. The Commander stated that the Certificates were well received. Thank you Robert and Paul. - Mose

P.S. - we are always looking for help with the newsletter, if you would like to help with any part of it, please call me at 415-0567. - Mose

Newsletter Filler

Remember - You can lead a horse to water, but you can’t get him to grow moss, or is it you can’t get a rolling stone to drink water? - I forget!!

Haircut Offer!!

Would you like a hair cut at a reduced price? If you go into Town Square Barber Shop on any **THURSDAY** and Identify

your self as an American Legion member Steve will give you a hair cut for \$10.00. The shop is located at 14 S Franklin Street, on the north side of the Liberty Square. Steve is an American Legion member in Blue Springs, and a supporter of our newsletter. Thank you Steve and Susan.

Flag Education

Post 95 has been teaching Flag Etiquette in our area Schools for years. It has been one of our best programs with more and more Legionnaires getting involved.

The kids always want to know a little bit about the history of our Flag, so recently we purchased a small set of historical Flags. The holder that displayed the flags was not that great. Legionnaire and woodworker Mike Edwards designed and made a great little Flag rack that stores and displays the Flags. Thank you Mike!!

Remember this program is available at no cost to your Church and/or Civic group.

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New members to Post 95

Post 95 is proud to welcome the following new members and transfers:

David Pettet
Lloyd Gillman
Paul Payne
Don Grundy
John Hudgins
Charles Fowler
Fred Cox
Billie Daniel
Glenn Edwards

Post 95 has grown again this year. Thank you to all members who recruited new and transfer members.

Remember, the new recruiting year starts July 1st. Dues notices will be send out shortly after that date. Your membership is good until December 31st, but by paying early you help out your Post and it's Officers. Also consider a Life Membership. Our Post has about 12 PUFL (paid up for life) members.

Members lost this year and transferred to Post Everlasting:

George Brinkman
Glen Douglas
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Fred Thomas
Harold Troutz
May they Rest in Peace

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Recipe Time

Here is one provided by my wife, Colleen. She is the one responsible for me losing my “boyish” figure. She is a great cook and I've got the belly to prove it.

7 Can Casserole

1 can chicken rice soup
1 can cream of mushroom soup
1 can cream of celery soup
1 5oz can chow mein noodles
1 small can Pet milk
2 cans boned chicken
Mix together and bake at 350F
for 1 hour.

Never argue with an idiot. They drag you down to their level, then beat you with experience.

Eat one live toad the first thing in the morning and nothing worse will happen to you the rest of the day.

Commanders Corner

As we see the war in Iraq beginning to slow down, and some of our troops returning home we can all breathe a little easier?

Let me remind all veterans that when you were returning home from your tour of duty just how you felt. Some of you were

treated as heroes, some as the bad guy, because of the actions of a few. We were all put in harms way while serving regardless of what job we were asked to do, it is a dangerous occupation.

While this writer served during the Korean Era, the Government called it a conflict. It took many years for them to classify it as a war. Tell that to the family of a high school buddy that was killed serving as a medic while in Korea. I was out of the Army 45 years before some one I didn't know said thank you for your service. Not that people were not grateful; they just didn't say so

My point here is to let it be known to these young people returning how much we appreciate their service time. Ask if you can help in any way to make the adjustment to civilian life easier. Take time to listen IF they want to talk about their experiences. Do not down grade to them that what they did was not good; regardless how you may feel about the war. THANK THEM it will mean a lot.

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“The Chief and the Gunny”

An old Chief and an old Gunny were sitting at the Legion Post arguing about who'd had the tougher career. “I did 30 years in the Corps,” the Gunny declared proudly, “and fought in three of my country's wars. Fresh out of boot camp I hit the beach at Okinawa, clawed my way up the blood soaked sand, and eventually took out an entire enemy machine gun nest with a single grenade. As a sergeant, I fought in Korea alongside General MacArthur. We pushed back the enemy inch by bloody inch all the way up to the Chinese border, always under a barrage of artillery and small arms fire. Finally, as a gunny sergeant, I did three consecutive combat tours in Vietnam. We humped through the mud and razor grass for 14 hours a day, plagued by rain and mosquitoes, ducking under sniper fire all day and mortar fire all night. In a fire fight, we'd fire until our arms ached and our guns were empty, then we'd charge the enemy with bayonets!”

“Ah,” said the Chief with a dismissive wave of his hand, “all shore duty, huh?”

America's Veterans Program

In that last issue we put a special section in with letters from the 4th and 5th grades about the Flag Etiquette program; and Kearney 6th graders thanking us for the America's Veterans program.

Since that issue, we have visited several more 6th grades with the program. These include the two Liberty Middle Schools and the Smithville 6th grade. The program is a hit with the teachers and the students. What great questions they ask.

To allow more time for questions next year, Post 95 purchased and presented two copies of the video tape for each school. This will allow the teacher to show the 23-minute tape a day or two before we arrive to answer question. This is a great program, come and help sometime - you'll have a new outlook on our youth.

The Power of the Almighty Navy Chief

As a crowded airliner is about to take-off, the peace is suddenly shattered by a five-year-old boy who picks that moment to throw a wild temper tantrum. No matter what his frustrated, embarrassed mother does to try

to calm him down, the boy continues to scream furiously and kick the seats around him.

Suddenly, from the rear of the plane, an older man in the uniform of a US Navy Chief begins to make his way up the aisle. Stopping the frustrated mother's upraised hand, the white haired, courtly, soft-spoken Chief leans down and, motioning toward his collar, whispers something into the boy's ear. Instantly, the boy calms down, gently takes his mother's hand, and quietly fastens his seat belt. All the other passengers burst into spontaneous applause.

As the Chief slowly makes his way back to his seat, one of the cabin attendants touches his sleeve. "Excuse me Chief," she asks quietly, “could I ask you what magic words you used on that little boy?”

The Chief smiled serenely and gently confides, “I showed him my anchors, service stripes, and battle ribbons, and then explained to him that they entitled me to throw one passenger out of the plane.”

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Those annoying little things

Provided by Tim Coulter

Just in case you started to wonder if you were in the right place. One day I happened to call a man on business whom I didn't know, have not nor will probably ever talk to again. But this day, he felt like talking. He was head of security at a company that had invited the remaining members of a company who had been decimated by the attack on the Twin Towers to share their office space. With his voice full of awe, he told me stories of why these people were alive and their counterparts were dead.

All the stories were just little things. You might know about the head of the company who got in late that day because his son started kindergarten. Another fellow was alive because it was his turn to bring donuts. There were other stories that I hope and pray will someday be gathered and put in a book.

The one that struck me was the man who put on a new pair of shoes that morning. He took the various means to get to work, but before he got there, he developed a blister on his foot. He stopped at a drugstore to buy a Band-Aid. That is why he is alive.

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Now when I am stuck in traffic, miss an elevator, turn back to answer a ringing telephone ... all the little things that annoy me ... I think to myself, this is exactly where God wants me to be at this very moment. May God continue to bless you with all those annoying little things.

Little known naval history...

Provided by Sam Chapman

The U.S.S. Constitution (Old Ironsides) as a combat vessel carried 48,600 gallons of fresh water for her crew of 475 officers and men. This was sufficient to last six months of sustained operations at sea. She carried no evaporators (i.e. fresh water distillers!). However, let it be noted that according to her log, "On July 27, 1798, the U.S.S. Constitution sailed from Boston with a full complement of 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of fresh water, 7,400 cannon shot, 11,600 pounds of black powder and 79,400 gallons of rum." Her mission: "To destroy and harass English shipping." Making Jamaica on 6 October 1798, she took on 826 pounds of flour and 68,300 gallons of rum. Then she headed for the Azores, arriving there 12 November. She provisioned with 550 pounds of

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beef and 64,300 gallons of Portuguese wine.

On 18 November, she set sail for England. In the ensuing days she defeated five British men-of-war and captured and scuttled 12 English merchantmen, salvaging only the rum aboard each. By 26 January 1799, her powder and shot were exhausted.

Nevertheless, and though unarmed, she made a night raid up the Firth of Clyde in Scotland. Her landing party captured a whisky distillery and transferred 40,000 gallons of single malt Scotch aboard by dawn. Then she headed home. The U.S.S. Constitution arrived in Boston on 20 February 1799, with no cannon shot, no food, no powder, no rum, no wine, no whisky and 38,600 gallons of stagnant water.

GO NAVY!! (Even back then they knew Rum and Wine would not go stagnant, ha)

Pray for our Troops and their Families. Pray that this is the start of World Peace and understanding.

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Community**

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