

The LIBERTY LEGIONNAIRE

1st Quarter 2006

**We served our Country...,
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Community**



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Spaghetti Dinner

Get ready for Post 95's sixth annual Spaghetti Dinner. The menu includes all you can eat spaghetti, salad, bread, veggies, desert and drinks.

The event will be held on March 25th from 4:30 to 7:30 PM in the Memorial Building at the corners of Hwys H and B, just past William Jewell. Our Newsletter sponsors again have come up with some great door prizes. Raffle items include a B&D Drill, Slow Cooker, Bath & Body Works basket, \$60 Lowes Gift Certificate and \$30 Rancho Grande Gift Certificate. Proceeds go to our youth fund. Door prizes are 5 Green Lantern car washes and a Hy Vee Gift Certificate.

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Oratorical Contest

At the January 8th District meeting in Richmond there were three contestants for the oratorical contest. The first place winner was William Franks, an eleventh grader from Albany High School; he will advance to the sectional to be held next month in Higginsville. Second place went to Jonathan Carpenter, a twelfth grader from North Kansas City High School. Third place went to Kelsey Bastlan, an eleventh grader from King City R-1 High School. All did a fine job.

Veterans Home Plaque In Cameron

By Kyle Sublett

While America slept you stood
the watch

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While families watched the storm clouds of war build you stood the watch.

Your dedication and sacrifice helped keep the United States strong and proud.

Membership

Robert Emery signed three new members today. That would be big news by itself but he signed a three generation membership. John Kopp is active Navy; his father served two tours in Vietnam, and his grandfather who is a Korean Veteran.

A big **THANK YOU** to Robert for his hard work he is always doing good things for Post 95. I am really proud to serve with him.

Commander Paul

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

By Paul Ellison

I would like use this space to point out two very special groups within Post 95.

The first is the flag etiquette classes given to fourth grade students. For those not familiar with this program it started several years ago with Dale Moses. Dale for the most part did this by himself. He contacted the schools, set up classes, and conducted the lessons. It has evolved into six or eight Post members going each time to help with the classes. Since school opened last fall we have educated over 700 students on the proper way to respect the Flag. The classes are the responsibility of Mike Edwards. We have conducted classes in Liberty, Kearny, Holt, and Lee's Summit this school year.

The Same group has conducted "What is a Veteran?" program to 6th grade students. This year we have had contact with 650 students with this program.

Another group of Post 95 members is the Funeral Honors Team. This group conducts honors for fallen comrades at the

grave site. These dedicated people buy their own uniform and will spend up to three hours of their day driving to and from the cemetery site to perform this last honor. They endure hot sunny weather and cold Missouri winter days.

During 2005 we performed this honor for 39 fallen veterans. The team will fold the casket flag and present it to the family, sound taps and fire three rifle volleys. These are special proud members and they make Post 95 look good.

We are always in need of more team members. If you are interested in joining either of these teams let your wishes be known and we will train you.

Say **THANK YOU** to these members for a job well done and for serving their community.

Shingles

Doesn't it seem that more and more physicians are running their practices like an assembly line? Here's what happened to Buford: Buford walked into a doctor's office and the receptionist asked him what he had. Buford said, Shingles. So she wrote down his name, address, medical insurance

number and told him to have a seat. Fifteen minutes later a nurse's aide came out and asked Buford what he had. Buford said, Shingles. So she wrote down his height, weight, a complete medical history and told Buford to wait in the examining room. A half hour later a nurse came in and asked Buford what he had. Buford said, Shingles.

So the nurse gave Buford a blood test, a blood pressure test, an electrocardiogram, and told Buford to take off all his clothes and wait for the doctor.

An hour later the doctor ~~came in~~ and asked Buford what he had. Buford said, Shingles. The doctor asked, Where? Buford said, Outside on the truck. Where do you want them?

"Why does Sea World have a seafood restaurant?? I'm halfway through my fish burger and I realize, Oh my God..I could be eating a slow learner."-Lynda Montgomery

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Legion Leader Blasts U.N. Report on GITMO

INDIANAPOLIS (Feb. 13, 2006) - The leader of the nation's largest veterans organization blasted a new U.N. report calling for the closing of the detention facilities at Guantanamo Bay as "incredibly inaccurate." A draft of the report that has not yet been released was reviewed by the Los Angeles Times. The paper said that the report concludes that violent force-feeding of hunger strikers, incidents of excessive violence used in transporting prisoners, and combinations of interrogation techniques "must be assessed as amounting to torture." "That's not the Guantanamo Bay that I saw," American Legion National Commander Thomas L. Bock said. Bock led a delegation of Legionnaires to Guantanamo Bay Feb. 6 -9, 2006.

We visited the detention centers at Camp Delta and toured the cells. We visited the medical clinics. We talked to the guards and ate the same food the detainees ate," Bock said. "Their medical care is state-of-the-art, superior to what's given to our veterans I might add, and as far

as the food goes, well, I recommend the steak and eggs."

"When detainees engage in a hunger strike," Bock said, "each of them is placed in a hospital under full medical supervision. When I visited last week, only four detainees were refusing food and they were tube fed (enteral feeding).

A nation that values life cannot sit back and watch people starve to death," Bock said. He pointed out that all detainees are offered 4,200 calories per day of culturally appropriate meals.

"The United States may be the only country whose captured enemy-combatants gain weight during their detention," he said.

"The members of Joint Task Force Guantanamo are absolute professionals. One guard had feces hurled on him just moments before we arrived. He calmly showered, changed his uniform and returned to work. The abuse at Guantanamo is coming from the detainees and it's aimed at our military."

The U.N. report relied heavily on accounts given by detainees, detainee attorneys and their families. The accounts are consistent with an al Qaeda training manual that first surfaced

in Manchester, England, and instructs extremists to claim torture and mistreatment during detention by "infidels."

The U.N. Commission on Human Rights includes Cuba, China, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and other nations not known for their compassionate treatment of prisoners. "These accusations are a slap in the face to every dedicated military professional fighting the war on terror," Bock said. "The U.N. researchers should have talked with survivors of the Hanoi Hilton, the German Stalags, North Korean prisons, or Japanese prison camps during those wars to understand the real definition of maltreatment. I have seen it with my own eyes -- the treatment given to these men who have vowed to destroy America is far better than what's given to inmates at virtually any U.S. prison in America. It far exceeds the standards set forth by the Geneva Convention."

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FINGER POINTING

By Rev Donna L Warren,
Chaplain

A group of Christians were sitting around a table having a Bible study. During one session, they were discussing sin and sinfulness. Comments were made around the table concerning how awful things were in today's world and how much better things would be if only "they" would shape up and "fly right", The "they" meant almost any group: rebellious teenagers, crooked politicians, welfare cheats, ungrateful adult children, etc.

Finally, one in the group had enough, "Look, see my hand? Watch what happens when I point my finger at you, or you, or you." The person made the hand look like a pistol and aimed a finger at one person, then another. "Notice, that when the finger is pointed at a person, there are three fingers pointed back at me."

Finger pointing at others becomes far too easy and far too common as a way of absconding with our own responsibilities. Sometimes as with comedian Flip Wilson, we claim "The devil made me do it." Other times, we shrug at our own behavior and

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say, "Well, that's the way I am, but boy, let me tell you about so and so." A syndicated cartoonist, Doug Larson, put it well.

"Hereditry is a splendid phenomenon that relieves us of all responsibilities for our shortcomings."

The "others" we blame can indeed be other people or groups, or even our own families. After all, if the gene pool was shaken up a little bit when we were created, well, it's not our fault, is it?

Everyone must repent. Everyone must return to God. Tragedies occur: A poorly engineered tower collapses and people die, regardless of the victim's backgrounds. And on the other hand, those blessed with good fortune are not always right in their relationship with God.

In our all too human frailty we sometimes make God into our convenient scapegoat when we find it awkward to blame other people. Never mind poor engineering, the forces of the wind, rain and erosion. It must be God. How else to explain it, unless, of course, we suddenly see those additional fingers pointing back at ourselves.

As a result, repentance is required of all. Everyone falls

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short. No one is perfect. But, fortunately, all is not lost. God gives us a second chance, friends!

God does grant forgiveness. But God also demands that we engage in change when forgiveness is granted. Seek God's forgiveness through repentance, regardless of the circumstances in which you find yourself. Otherwise, life becomes nothing but useless finger-pointing. And sadly we then fail to see the extra fingers pointing at us.

Dog and His Owner

By Unknown

A dog had followed his owner to school. His owner was a fourth grader at a public elementary school. However, when the bell rang the dog sidled inside the building and made it all the way to the child's classroom before a teacher noticed and shoo'ed him outside, closing the door behind him. The dog sat down, whimpered and stared at the closed doors. Then God appeared beside the dog, patted his head, and said, "Don't feel bad fella'... They won't let ME in either."

What do you call a boom-a-rang that won't come back? A stick.

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Student Letters

Dear Veterans

Thank you for coming and telling us about your time in the military and thank you for serving our Country. - Alex

Dear Veterans

Thank you for coming to talk to us about your past experiences in all of the wars. We really appreciated you coming and taking time out of your morning to come speak to us. - Samantha

Dear Veterans

Thank you for spending your time to talk to all of us. Thank you for the things you taught all of us. We appreciate it. THANK YOU - Kenon

Dear Veterans

Thank you for telling us about the flag and for showing us the movie and for telling us about what you do to the flag when it is old. I really want to thank you for the little flag pin and thank you very much. - Emmaly

Dear Veterans

We really enjoyed your visit last week when you taught us about the flag. It was very interesting. Thank you for giving us a flag pin. - Sarah

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Dear Veterans

Thank you for helping me understand how to use a flag and how not to use a flag. I've got a couple of questions for you and if you don't now don't stress just don't think as hard as you have to. Question 1: how long did the World War II last? Question 2: how long did the Korean War last? Just wondering and thank you for the cool flag pin too.
Christian

MY FIRST YEAR

By Larry Allen

My first year as a member of the American Legion has been an eventful one. It all started when Post 95 members came to the school I work at to present the "What Is A Veteran" to the 6th grade students. I was given the opportunity to join the group and take part. I decided to join the post and participated in the next year's programs twice.

Soon after I joined I became part of the Military Funeral Honors team which does veteran funerals and also performs Honor Guard for parades. I took part in the Liberty Fall Festival as color guard and have done several funerals. I also worked preparing and serving the annual spaghetti dinner which is one of our

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fundraisers that takes place again this month.

Preparing the quarterly news letter is the most involved thing I do. When Dale left I was ask if I could take over. I agreed and it has been a learning experience to say the least. I hope I have been able to have something in each of the 3 issues I have done that is of interest to every one. I am open to suggestions and gladly accept contributions.

It has been a busy year that also has included monthly bingo night at Cedars, a visit to patients in the Veteran's Hospital and my first district meeting. Another enjoyable function is the breakfast group that gets together each Saturday morning at 0700 hours. There are usually 20 to 25 members and spouses there.

This is a great group and organization to be a part of. They make you feel like an important member from the start. Come out on the third Tuesday of each month to our monthly meeting and see for yourself. You can be as involved as you want and your time permits. Thanks to all the members who make the post what it is.

Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

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Marine Grenade Training

From Ray Nichols

During our grenade training one young was different & got the whole platoon to move at once and very quickly.

The young man was in the fox hole with the instructor and of course there is a sump or hole in the front of the fox hole in case a trainee drops the grenade. The rest of the platoon is sitting on a set of bleachers some 20 feet behind the foxhole watching. What is supposed to happen is he trainee is to pull the pin on command and throw the grenade as far as possible in front of the foxhole; on command of course. This young man pulled the pin on command, but on the command of throw the young trainee threw the grenade up in the air with his right hand and caught the grenade in his left hand turned and threw the grenade as far as possible.

The entire platoon of 70 to 80 young men jumped off of the bleachers when the grenade went straight up in the air and attempted to get under the bleachers if possible or at least hug the ground.

Of course the training instructor was describing the young trainee's family with all of the foul language he could muster after almost having a heart attack when the hand grenade was

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thrown straight up on the command of throw.

The young trainee said he saw no reason to tell the training instructor he was left handed?

American Legion Birthday

As a result of a proposal by Lt. Col. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. at a caucus of American Expeditionary Force in Paris France the American Legion was born. This was March 15 - 17, 1919. An organizational caucus was held in St. Louis, MO. May 8 - 10, 1919

The American Legion was named at the caucus in Paris. Maurice K. Gordon, then a major in the 36th Division made the successful motion for the name as a result of a controversy that had developed over the name.

The AEF delegates wanted to create an association of veterans whose primary devotion was to God and Country. One of their goals was dedicated to fair and equitable treatment for all veterans, particularly the disabled, and the widows and orphans whose loved ones paid the ultimate price of freedom.

Theodore Roosevelt Jr. won the affectionate title, "Father of The American Legion" as a result of his unwavering service.

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PUNS

1. Those who jump off a bridge in Paris are in Seine.
2. A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
3. Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.
4. Practice safe eating - always use condiments.
5. Shotgun wedding: A case of wife or death.
6. A man needs a mistress just to break the monogamy.
7. A wine hangover is the wrath of grapes.
8. Dancing cheek-to-cheek is really a form of floor play.
9. Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
10. Condoms should be used on every conceivable occasion.
11. Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
12. When two egoists meet, it's an I for an I.
13. A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired.
14. Definition of a will: A dead give away.
15. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
16. In democracy your vote counts, in feudalism your count votes.

17. She was engaged to a boyfriend with a wooden leg but broke it off.
18. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
19. If you don't pay your exorcist, do you get repossessed?
20. With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
21. When a clock is hungry, it goes back four seconds.
22. The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
23. You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
24. Local Area Network in Australia: the LAN down under.
25. Every calendar's days are numbered.
26. A lot of money is tainted - It taint yours and it taint mine.
27. A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
28. A midget fortune-teller who escapes from prison is a small medium at large.

Something To Think About
Cindy Sheehan asked President Bush, "Why did my son have to die in Iraq?"

Another mother asked President Kennedy, "Why did my son have

to die in Vietnam?"

Another mother asked President Truman, "Why did my son have to die in Korea?"

Another mother asked President F. D. Roosevelt, "Why did my son have to die at Iwo Jima?"

Another mother asked President W. Wilson, "Why did my son have to die on the battlefield of France?"

Yet another mother asked President Lincoln, "Why did my son have to die at Gettysburg?"

And yet another mother asked President G. Washington, "Why did my son have to die near Valley Forge?"

Then long, long ago, a mother asked, "Heavenly Father, why did my Son have to die on a cross outside of Jerusalem?"

The answers to all these are similar-- that others may have life and dwell in peace, happiness and freedom.

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Molten Chocolate Cakes

From Lana Perrette

Serves 6

You can prepare the batter through step 2, up to 2 hours ahead; refrigerate, covered. Before baking, uncover, and bring batter to room temperature.

4 tablespoons unsalted butter, room temperature, plus more for muffin tins

1/3 cup granulated sugar, plus more for muffin tins

3 large eggs

1/3 cup all purpose flour

1/4 teaspoon salt

8 ounces bittersweet chocolate, melted

confectioner's sugar, for dusting
whipped cream, for serving (optional)

1. Preheat oven to 400.

Generously butter 6 cups of a standard muffin tin. Dust with granulated sugar, and tap out excess. Set aside.

2. In the bowl of an electric mixer, cream butter and granulated sugar until fluffy. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. With mixer on low speed, beat in flour and salt until just combined. Beat in chocolate (do not over mix).

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Divide batter evenly among prepared muffin cups.

3. Place muffin tin on a baking sheet; bake just until tops of cakes no longer jiggle when pan is lightly shaken, 8 to 10 minutes. Remove from oven; let stand 10 minutes.

4. To serve, turn out cakes, and place on serving plates, top sides up. Dust with confections' sugar, and serve with whipped cream, if desired.

Marine General Interview

Marine Corp's General Reinwald was interviewed on the radio the other day and you have to read his reply to the lady who interviewed him concerning guns and children. Regardless of how you feel about gun laws you gotta love this!!!!

This is one of the best comeback lines of all time. It is a portion of National Public Radio (NPR) interview between a female broadcaster and US Marine Corps General Reinwald who was about to sponsor a Boy Scout Troop visiting his military installation.

FEMALE INTERVIEWER:
So, General Reinwald, what things are you going to teach these young boys when they visit your base?

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GENERAL REINWALD:

We're going to teach them climbing, canoeing, archery, and shooting.

FEMALE INTERVIEWER:
Shooting! That's a bit irresponsible, isn't it?

GENERAL REINWALD: I
don't see why, they'll be properly supervised on the rifle range.

FEMALE INTERVIEWER:
Don't you admit that this is a terribly dangerous activity to be teaching children?

GENERAL REINWALD: I
don't see how. We will be teaching them proper rifle discipline before they even touch a firearm.

FEMALE INTERVIEWER:
But you're equipping them to become violent killers.

GENERAL REINWALD:
Well, Ma'am, you're equipped to be a prostitute, but you're not one, are you?

The radio went silent and the interview ended.

You gotta love the Marines!

An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile - hoping it will eat him last. Sir Winston Churchill

If swimming is so good for your figure, how do you explain whales?

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