

# The LIBERTY LEGIONNAIRE

3rd Quarter 2006

We served our Country...,  
Still serving our  
Community



P.O. Box 417  
Liberty, MO 64068  
roberthbakerpost95.com

## Chili Dinner Fundraiser Planned

At the August meeting, members decided to hold the annual Chili and Hot Dog Dinner.

The menu will include Chili, Hot Dogs and buns, veggies, dessert and drinks. The normal "fixings" and crackers will also be provided. The cost will be \$6.00 for all you can eat.

The date will be Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 7:30 PM. We will have our normal raffles and Door Prizes provided by our Newsletter Advertisers.

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## You Might Be A True American If:

It never occurred to you to be offended by the phrase, "One nation, under God."

You've never protested about seeing the 10 Commandments posted in public places.

You still say "Merry Christmas" instead of "Winter Festival", or "Felice Navidad."

You bow your head when someone prays.

You stand and place your hand over your heart when they play the National Anthem... with words in English.

You treat Viet Nam vets with great respect, and always have.

You've never burned an American flag or any one else's flag.

You know what you believe and you aren't afraid to say so, no

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matter who is listening, it also helps if they understand English.

You respect your elders and expect your kids to do the same.

You'd give your last dollar to a friend.

You know the difference between an immigrant and a person who has no respect for your laws.

God Bless the U S A!  
Git'er done!!!

## Post Meeting Times

Robert H. Baker American Legion Post 95 meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. at the Memorial Hall located at the junctions of Highways H & B just past William Jewell College.

## Dues

Be sure to pay your dues by **December 31**. Dues are going up about **\$8.00 January 1, 2007**

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### **COMMANDER'S CORNER**

John F. Kopp - Commander

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the vote of confidence (or was it a sigh of relief) in my selection as commander of our post. Paul has left some mighty big shoes to fill. As we used to say, I will need a ladder to climb high enough in those shoes just to spit. On behalf of all the members of Post 95, "THANK YOU" Paul for all you have done as commander. You have definitely left an extremely large positive mark on our post. Job well done.

For those of you who, for one reason or another, have not been able to attend any meetings, or wonder about that guy, who was just elected commander, let me tell you a little about me. I have been married to my wife, Susan, for thirty-four years, we have three daughters, one son, two granddaughters and one grandson. In order to dodge the draft, I enlisted in the Navy in 1964 and during my time of service onboard the U.S.S. Uhlmann, DD687 I was involved with two cruises to the South Pacific and Viet Nam.

When I returned to civilian life I went back to my old job at the Post Office. I transferred from there to the Defense Mapping Agency, for a few years, repairing their computer systems. After that I transferred to General Services Administration and started teaching crypto equipment.

Finally, I transferred to the National Weather service, first as an instructor, then as lead technician at the nuclear test site just out side of Las Vegas. I spent the last five years of my career on the top floor of the Federal Building in downtown Kansas City as an electronic technician for the Weather Service's central region headquarters. After 31 years of government I decided to call it quits and retired.

As I look around our community I can see the mark of Post 95 almost everywhere. The community activities in which we participate, the services we render, the various educational activities we support and perform, all of the things we do are remarkable. And, you can be proud of all you do.

Now, to look ahead to the future. We are entering our busy season with the Fall Festival, Veteran's Day, chili dinner, all the school and other community activities that may arise. We also need to reach out to more veterans and their families and more of our present active duty people, render assistance to those in need, invite them to join and become an active member of our post.

Maybe we can think about adoption. We could adopt a sailor, soldier, airman, or ship or unit and send care packages, like cookies, letters, toiletries, etc. Something to think about. When we raised our right hand and swore to protect and defend the constitution little did we realize that, at the moment, we had joined, for life, a group of citizens who proudly carry the title of VETERAN.

Most of the things worth doing in the world had been declared impossible before they were done.

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### **THANKS TO ALL**

Paul Ellison Past Commander

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have supported me and all of the Post 95 endeavors during my tenure as your Commander. I have enjoyed the time as your leader and looking forward to supporting our new Commander.

We have come a long way in the past few years and I know we will add new programs to what we have in place now. It will be good to have fresh leadership as that is the way the American Legion is supposed to operate. I know the Post will support any good ideas that we introduce, so put your brains to work and let's get the ideas on the floor to discuss the pros and cons. Not all ideas seem like they are good ones to you but with all working and getting everyone's input we might may it work. Heck not all ideas do work, but maybe other ideas will come out of the discussion.

What ever your talents are, be it large or small, lets share it with the Post. Those of you who are not able to get to meetings on a regular basis, pass your ideas on to someone you know who will be in attendance and let them bring them to the floor.

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Remember we are always on the look out for new members, let's see if we can each get at least one new member this year.

Thank you for your military service to the United States of America.

### **Oh That Older Generation**

Unknown

A very self-important college freshman at a recent football game, took it upon himself to explain to a senior citizen sitting next to him why it was impossible for the older generation to understand his own.

"You grew up in a different, actually almost primitive, world," the student said loud enough for the whole crowd to hear. "We young people today grew up with television, jet planes, space travel, man walking on the moon, our spaceships have visited Mars... We even have nuclear energy, electric and hydrogen cars, computers with light-speed processing and uh.."

Taking advantage of a pause for breath in the student's litany, the "wizeden" one said, "You're right, Son. We didn't have those things when we were young.....so we invented them..... you arrogant little blockhead!!; Now.....what are

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you doing for the next generation?"

### **Packages To Soldiers**

Paul Ellison

I got the following today. I called the number, and this IS legit. Anyone can do it, family member or friend, so there is no more excuses regarding the cost of boxes, tape, packaging materials and labels. **Best of all, it is FREE.**

The USPS has a program for military family members and friends to supply them with packaging materials to send packages to troops overseas. If you call **1-800-610-8734** and select option #1., ask them for the "Military pack". They will send you boxes, tape, packaging materials and labels. They will also give you an **I.D.** number so if your supply runs low, you just call them and they'll send you more supplies. The materials take about four to ten days to receive. I don't know if any of you have mailed any packages lately, but if you go to Mail Box Etc., they will charge you for everything they can think of! After a while, those charges start to add up!

This is just FYI. I thought it was a pretty good deal and wanted to try and get the word out to everyone who didn't know.

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### A Simple Thank You

Last week, while traveling to Chicago on business, I noticed a Marine sergeant traveling with a folded flag, but did not put two and two together. After we boarded our flight, I turned to the sergeant, who'd been invited to sit in First Class (across from me), and inquired if he was heading home.

No, he responded.

Heading out I asked?

No. I'm escorting a soldier home.

Going to pick him up?

No. He is with me right now. He was killed in Iraq. I'm taking him home to his family.

The realization of what he had been asked to do hit me like a punch to the gut. It was an honor for him. He told me that, although he didn't know the soldier, he had delivered the news of his passing to the soldier's family and felt as if he knew them after many conversations in so few days. I turned back to him, extended my hand, and said, Thank you. Thank you for doing what you do so my family and I can do what we do.

Upon landing in Chicago the pilot stopped short of the gate

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and made the following announcement over the intercom.

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Without a sound, all went as requested. I noticed the sergeant saluting the casket as it was brought off the plane, and his action made me realize that I am proud to be an American.

So here's a public Thank You to our military Men and Women for what you do so we can live the way we do.  
Stuart Margel, Washington, D.C.

### Quote

"No arsenal, no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women." - - - Ronald Reagan

### Officer humor - Wyoming state police!

In most of the northern states, there is a policy of checking on

any stalled vehicle on the highway when the temperatures drop down to the single digits or below.

About 3 a.m. one very cold morning in March 2004, a state police officer responded to a call: there was a car off the shoulder of the road on the outskirts of Casper. He located the car, stuck in deep snow and with the engine still running.

Pulling in behind the car with his emergency lights on, the officer walked to the driver's door to find an older man passed out behind the wheel with a nearly empty vodka bottle on the seat beside him.

The driver came awake when the officer tapped on the window. Seeing the rotating lights in his rear view mirror and the state policeman standing next to his car, the man panicked, jerked the gearshift into "drive" and hit the gas. The car's speedometer was showing 20 30-40 and then 50 mph, but it was still stuck in the snow, wheels spinning.

The policeman, having a sense of humor, began running in place next to the speeding, but still stationary, car. The driver was totally freaked thinking the

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officer was actually keeping up with him!

This goes on for about 30 seconds when the patrolman yelled at the man ordering him to "pull over!" The man obeyed, turned his wheel and stopped the engine.

Needless to say, the man from Casper was arrested and is probably still shaking his head over the state patrolman who could run 50 miles per hour.

Who says policeman don't have a sense of humor?

### **BOYS & GIRLS STATE**

Paul Ellison

American Legion sponsored Boys State was held the third week of June, with the Girls State held the following week. This week of studying how government functions at the City, County and State levels was held on the campus of Central Missouri State University.

Students must have completed the eleventh grade. They are interviewed and selected by American Legion Post 95. Upon completing the week at C.M.S.U. they are required to make a report to a Post 95 regular meeting.

Girls attending were Samantha Francis, Sarah James, Courtney

Rhodes, Katie Booth and Heidi Buell. Boys attending were Erik Adams, Daniel Hammond, Adam Haferty, Devan Irick, Nick Pallo, Tarik Yameen, Jacob Neth, Justin Trotter, Dustin Rhevport and David Kilo.

The sponsors of the Girls are: PEO LH Chapter (2 girls), Liberty lions Club (1girl), American Legion Post 95 (2 girls).

Those sponsoring boys are: Liberty Lions Club (1 boy), Liberty Sertoma Club (3 boys), VFW Post 4043 (3 boys), American legion Post 95 (3 boys).

American Legion Post 95 would like to thank all boys and girls for participating, and their sponsors for supporting this excellent program. Also a special thanks to Robert Emery ( Post 95Boys State Chairman), and Donna Warren (Post 95 Girls State Chair woman) for all their work putting together the forms, letters and phone calls to make it possible to send these young people. Also thanks to Foster Sires and Ray Nichols for the interviews to select the young men to attend.

### **Gas Prices and Illegal Immigrants**

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My mailbox is being flooded with mail concerning gas prices and illegal immigrants. To boycott oil companies or not; to provide amnesty to illegal immigrants or not, etc.

Since I have become jaded to the various solutions proposed by the Republicans, Democrats, Sierra Club, ACLU, etc. I have elected to solve the problems as they affect me. It solves both my gas and illegal immigrant problems.

I have hired illegal immigrants to push my car. They're plentiful and cheaper than buying gas. .

### **THINGS TO PONDER**

A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.

Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?

Scratch a dog and you'll find a permanent job.

There are no new sins....the old ones just get more publicity.

There are worse things than getting a call for a wrong number at 4 AM. It could be a right number.

Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.

The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.

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### **Uncle Sam Wanted This Man**

By Ed Eberle

During, and following our weekly post breakfasts, various conversations take place. They are usually related in some way to the military. At one of these, near the end of the row of tables, the conversations were exchanged about some of our first days of joining, or in the military. One individual's story seemed rather unique in his beginning.

Mr. Foster Sires tells of his joining even before the draft. He was to report to the Sheriff's office in Keytesville at 4:00 PM. It was in the dead of winter with near blizzard conditions. The roads were a little slippery but he made his way from Mendon and reported to the Sheriff's office by 4:00 PM. To his amazement he was told he was to report at 4:00 AM. That explained why he was to have reported to the Sheriff's office because that was the only thing open at that time of morning.

With the weather stormy, the Sheriff wouldn't let him go home for fear he wouldn't be able to return the next morning. So he put him in a jail cell for the night. But Mr. Sires was quick to explain he didn't lock the door.

You can imagine a couple listeners clearing their throats on that, while another murmured "I'll bet".

Back in those days the army was still using animals, and Sires went on to be a top notch mule skinner.

So a follow up, Mr. Sires had revealed that at the beginning of World War II he along with his unit was down near the Mexican border. It is not known if the mules were with them at the time but if they were, how were they to be used in the defense of the country. Any one who has been around these animals knows that their most lethal weapon is the strength of their back legs. They are able to thrust those hoofs with great force. Mr. Sires also revealed at some time the ridiculous rumor of enemy midget subs coming up the shallow Rio Brand. Could the been to space the mules across the river facing up stream with the power of their back legs kicking away approaching subs back down the river.

Perhaps the above theory should be used with caution, and not leaked to today's terrorists. With the inability of our government to secure the border, maybe the National Guard could again

purchase all the mules that could be found. Lead them into the shallows of the Rio Grand, space them facing north, keeping an eye on our country, and with their lethal weapons (their hoofs), kick the law breakers back into Mexico.

Now comes the question, are the heroes of yesterday our veteran mule skimmers going back into service and teach our young bucks how to groom and care for these animals?

The follow up is to tease the good nature of Foster and definitely should not be printed without his absolute OK. Mr. Sires gave his OK.

### **Pecan Pie Muffins**

1 cup packed brown sugar  
1/3 cup flour  
1 cup chopped pecans  
2/3 cup real butter (no substitutes) melted  
2 eggs, beaten

In a bowl, mix brown sugar, flour and pecans; set aside. Combine melted butter and eggs; mix well. Stir into flour mixture just until moistened. Fill greased and floured miniature muffin cups two-thirds full (do not use larger muffin pan).

Bake at 350 degrees for 18 minutes. Remove immediately to cool

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**A DAY IN THE FOOD**  
**PANTRY**

By Rev Donna L Warren,  
Chaplain

I wrote this article after a special day working at the Food Pantry in Old St Mary's Episcopal Church in Kansas City MO. We served a hot meal to the street people in the arca. Many were Viet Nam veterans.

Today began as a fairly normal day. The usual routine, setting up tables, chairs, preparing the meal, making cold drinks and coffee. This particular day we had a group of youngsters from Springfield coming in as volunteers. When they arrived I spent some time introducing them to our routine and the other volunteers. They pitched right in, and before the service at noon, they had finished the work and came up to join us in the worship service with the homeless people. They picked up plates of food and mingled with the clients. I had asked them to do this to give them the exposure they had done to St Mary's to experience. As the clients left the kids pitched in to help clean up, put tables, and chairs away.

While I was going around speaking to the clients to make them feel welcome and that we cared for them, I heard a woman's rather loud and angry voice at one end of the pantry area. When I headed that way. I saw a very upset and angry woman shouting. The target of her rather obscene comments was sitting two tables away from the angry woman. The angry woman picked up her folding metal chair and started to raise it over her head intending to hit the other woman. I hurried over to try to intercede and stop anyone from being hurt, including the woman who started it all in the first place. When I reached the angry woman, I touched her arm, asked her to put down the chair and reminded her it was a church and she was ruining the meal for everyone in the hall. I had to repeat my comments several times before I was able to reach her mind. She finally lowered the chair and turned toward me and said she was sorry. She had not finished eating her meal, so after getting her calmed down, I told her, go ahead and finish her meal. Whatever the problem was it was

not worth her going to jail. She apologized again and said she was leaving. No amount of encouraging I did it would work. As she left she shouted to the other woman that she would get her when she came outside.

It took a lot of talking to the rest of the clients to calm everything down and get them back to normal. The woman who was the victim said she appreciated my help, and she stayed to finish eating.

This was not a typical happening at the food pantry. Through this whole ordeal, I felt the presence of the Lord, I felt calm and I think the rest of the people there also felt the calmness and responded to the Spirit of the Lord present there.

**Factoid**

Lake Mead, created by Hoover Dam, holds enough water to cover the entire state of Pennsylvania with one foot of water. It took four years for the lake to fill up to capacity. The purpose of the dam was to control flooding and generate electricity. Flooding from the Colorado River created Salton Sea in southern California

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**Let's Say I Break Into Your House**

A lady wrote the best letter in the Editorials in ages!! It explains things better than all the baloney you hear on TV.

Recently large demonstrations have taken place across the country protesting the fact that Congress is finally addressing the issue of illegal immigration. Certain people are angry that the US might protect its own borders, might make it harder to sneak into this country and, once here, to stay indefinitely. Let me see if I correctly understand the thinking behind these protests.

Let's say I break into your house. Let's say that when you discover me in your house, you insist that I leave. But I say, "I've made all the beds and washed the dishes and did the laundry and swept the floors; I've done all the things you don't like to do. I'm hard-working and honest (except for when I broke into your house).

According to the protesters, not only must you let me stay, you must add me to your family's insurance plan, educate my kids, and provide other benefits to me and to my family (my husband will do your yard work because he too is hard-working and

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honest, except for that breaking in part).

If you try to call the police or force me out, I will call my friends who will picket your house carrying signs that proclaim my right to be there.

It's only fair, after all, because you have a nicer house than I do, and I'm just trying to better myself. I'm hard-working and honest, um, except for well, you know.

And what a deal it is for me!! I live in your house, contributing only a fraction of the cost of my keep, and there is nothing you can do about it without being accused of selfishness, prejudice and being an anti-housebreaker. Oh yeah, and I want you to learn my language so you can communicate with me.

Why can't people see how ridiculous this is?! Only in America..... Share it if you see the value of it as a good simile. If not blow it off along with your future Social Security funds.

**Remember**

Peace is seeing a sunset and knowing who to thank.

The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the

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best of everything they have. (Amen to that!)

**Murphy's Other Laws**

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

A day without sunshine is like, well, night.

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.

Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.

Just remember ... if the world didn't suck, we'd all fall off.

The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.

It is said that if you line up all the cars in the world end to end, someone would be stupid enough to try to pass them.

If the shoe fits, get another one just like it.

The things that come to those that wait may be the things left by those who got there first.

Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will sit in a boat all day drinking beer.

Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.

The shin bone is a device for finding furniture.

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