

**The Robert H. Baker  
American Legion Post 95  
P.O. Box 417  
Liberty, MO 64069-0417  
roberthbakerpost95.com**



**THE LIBERTY  
LEGIONAIRE  
2nd Quarter 2008**

**Printed by Veterans  
for Veterans like:**

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

**Membership**

Post 95 paid member-ship is at 264 or 102.33%.

**Calendar of Coming Events**

**Post 95**

**4<sup>TH</sup> of July** Post 95 will put up Flags at Fountain Bluff Park for the city of Liberty celebration. We will also have a color guard present the colors and the rifle team will fire 3 volleys.

**Fall Festival** - September (date unknown) we will carry the colors in the parade and have a flag disposal ceremony in the evening.

**Bingo** - the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month at Cedars.

**40et8**

**Sept. 6 1:00 PM** Chick-Nick Pick Nick at Wallace State Park. There will be BBQ chicken and

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**VFW**

**Taco night**- every Wednesday night 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Tacos are \$1.00 each. Come out and have some good tacos and support your VFW.

**Karaoke** - Every Saturday night 8:00 PM to 12:00 AM. This is a fun way to spend the evening.

**Full time cook** - now at the VFW, try the food, you will like it.

**New Commander**- The new VFW commander is Jerry Pate.

**Challenge**

At our June meeting a motion

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was made and seconded and passed to donate \$100 to the POW/MIA scholarship fund started by Gary Reno. This is a challenge to the other Posts in the district.

**New Member**

Everyone please welcome new Post 95 member: Ralph Tymson signed up by Ray Adkins.

**Ben Franklin Quote**

Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch.

Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote!

**Stressed?**

Remember: Stressed spelled backward is desserts.

**Rule Of Life**

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**ALWAYS THINGS**  
**HAPPENING AT POST 95**  
By Ray Nichols, Commander  
We have a busy May each year. On Memorial Day weekend our Post puts out approximately 300 flags for the Avenue of Flags. This year we had to skip putting out flags on Saturday for safety reasons. From 6 to 7 a.m. there was serious thunder & lightning. As Commander, I made the decision to skip putting out the flags on Saturday. If there are any complaints or negative comments please refer them to me. As always we had a lot of help with the Boy Scouts in Liberty helping out. Bill Bland scoutmaster and a member of our post is to be commended; getting young boys out at 6 a.m. to put out the flags & then return at 8 p.m. to pick up the flags is appreciated very much. When you see Bill or any of his scouts remember to thank them.  
Memorial Day was busy all day visiting the 5 nursing homes, and putting on our program. Thanks to all who helped out. At the VFW Memorial Service at noon we had a great turnout of American Legion, Post 95 people

to help out. The VFW appreciated our help as well. Next we will have the 4th of July celebration on the 4th. There will be a meeting and we have everything in place to assist the city with this great celebration.  
On June 5, 2008 J. D. Moore came to a joint meeting of the VFW & American Legion to inform us about the West Point Military Academy. There were approximately 50 people present and J. D. gave a very interesting talk about West Point.  
So Post 95 lets keep up the good work. Remember our mission veterans helping veterans and veterans' families. If any of you know a veteran or a veteran's family that needs help in some way make sure we know about it so we can do something?  
**Etiquette**  
By Miss Manners  
This explains the rule for removing one's hat or 'cover'.  
Etiquette expert Miss Manners offers an explanation regarding hats for men and women. She writes that baseball caps are considered men's hats. Consequently, the rules for removal apply to both genders:

during the national anthem, when entering any building and especially at the table.  
The etiquette of a civilized society requires hat removal as a sign of respect for others. It was the right of the hostess to enforce the restaurant's dress code. Her only error was in not applying it to the woman. However if the woman had been wearing a charming red felt hat with, say, a dashing feather, she would not have been required to remove it.  
A man wearing anything on his head should remove it at the table regardless of the restaurant. Hat hair isn't an acceptable excuse. Leaving it on forces others to conclude that he is disrespectful or ill-mannered.  
**On The Lighter Side**  
It is well documented that for every minute you exercise, you add a minute to your life. This enables you, at 85 years of age, to spend an additional five months in a nursing home at \$5000 per month.  
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**New Officers**

On June 17, 2008 at our regular meeting new officers were elected as follows:  
 Ray Nichols, Commander  
 Jerry Head, 1st Vice Commander  
 Ted Nelson, Vice Commander for Recruiting  
 Robert Emory, Adjutant  
 Donald Happy, Finance Officer  
 On behalf of all of the officers I want to thank the great turnout of people for our election night. Personally, it is an honor for me to be elected as your commander, and I am sure the other officers feel it is an honor for them to be elected as well. We will all do our best, and so not hesitate to make suggestions or step up & help out.

There are a number of people previously that helped this post grow in a tremendous way over the last 10 years; I will take a risk and name a few: Marvin Mendenhall, Dale Moses, Paul Ellison, and John Kopp. All of these people definitely deserve credit for making our post grow.

With all of your help we will keep growing, and doing anything worthwhile for veterans, veterans' families and our community.

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Ray Nichols, Commander  
 Robert H. Baker Post 95

**Truism**

A truism worthy of note: ... Do not fear the enemy, for they can take only your life.  
Fear the Media far more, for they will destroy your honor

**Charles Windolph**

Lead was home for many years to a special hero, Charles Windolph, the last soldier living to see the battlefield after Custer's Last Stand at the Little Big Horn in June of 1876. Windolph was a member of Company "H" under Benteen in that engagement. He left the army in 1883 and in a few years came to Lead where he worked for the Homestake. Mrs. Irene Fehlman, a daughter, states that her parents worked for a time in the old log hospital with Mrs. Windolph doing the cooking and perhaps helping with the patients.

Late in 1899 Charles had both legs broken when a cable broke in the mine and a cage fell. He was laid up for months and Irene, who was learning to walk, circled the bed - she was his special pet. After his recovery he worked in the Homestake Harness Shop located near the site of the present Rod and Gun Club. He

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retired at the age of 85.  
 Charles Windolph was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and the Purple Heart. He died March 11, 1950 and is buried in the National Cemetery in Sturgis where his grave is marked with a Medal of Honor headstone.

**VA BURIAL BENEFIT**  
**UPDATE 04:**

The VA has changed the regulation concerning the provision of a VA headstone or marker for a grave already marked in a private cemetery. As a result of passage of the Dr. James Allen Veteran Vision Equity Act of 2007, the VA can now provide a headstone or marker for those graves already marked in a private cemetery for those Veterans who died after 1 Nov. 90. The claimant must pay the cost of the installation of the Government headstone or marker in a private cemetery.

**Rules Of Life**

1. The best is yet to come.
2. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
3. Believe in miracles.

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**Auxiliary News**

Samantha McCoy  
President Unit 95  
District Historian

Well the first year is soon to be completed, the officers stay the same, and I still don't know what I am doing, but trying to learn. I want to thank everyone that helped with the garage sale, and everyone that came out. I wouldn't say it was a smashing success but it definitely a learning experience.

Just so everyone is aware, our meeting will now be quarterly, following the district meeting (next meeting will be September 16). This was voted on and motion carried. Once participation is up we hope to move the meeting back to monthly, so bring your friends and family, this is a great opportunity to have everyone get together and maybe have fun while helping not only the Legion but the community.

If any one wants to attend the district meeting she is more than welcome, just bring a covered dish. Really this is a fun get together we have, and an opportunity to meet and enjoy the company of other Units.

The district meeting had its votes for officers this past

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meeting, and it stands as: President, Vice, Treasurer, Color bearer, Secretary, and Sgt. at arms will remain the same, however the Chaplin is our very own Carolyn and I was made Historian. For those who don't know this makes 3 District officers from our own Unit, as Anne Reno is the treasurer. Congratulations to all those elected.

**Election Year 2008**

Ray Nichols, Commander

Everyone knows this is election year since we have had news coverage for a couple of years. Please get out and support the candidate of your choice, and VOTE.

As an American Legion member please leave your American Legion cap & coat at home! The American Legion by charter is a non-political organization. Let's make sure we keep it that way!

So remember support the candidate of your choice, campaign, and above all get out and VOTE for your choices. This is what our great country, the good old U.S.A, is all about. We get to vote and pick who we the people want.

**Alan Dan Shannon**

Dear Legionnaires,

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It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of one of our own. We received word that Alan Shannon, of our Post 95, passed away April 14, 2008.

Services were held Friday April 18th, 2008 at Prichard Funeral Home, Excelsior Springs, MO. With interment was at Means Cemetery, Liberty, Missouri.

Alan will be greatly missed by the Post both as a member and a friend.

Our prayers and condolences go out to Betty and Bill Shannon.

**District 3 Meeting**

John Kopp

On June 8, 2008, the Tweedie-Murray Post 117, of Braymer, MO hosted the second quarter District 3 meeting. As always, our Post 95 was well represented. Of the thirty or so posts in the Third District, 9 posts were represented.

Some of the highlights from the meeting are as follows:

Our Commander, Ray Nichols was appointed chairman of the District 3 Committee on Americanism.

There was a discussion concerning raising the per capita tax from 50 cents to 60 cents. This is due to the ever increase in expenses for everything. It will

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be voted on during the next meeting.

Gary Reno discussed the caution that must be used by posts and individuals when using the American Legion Emblem and the need, in most cases, to obtain a permission letter from National.

Members present voted to donate \$100 to the USO at Fort Leonard Wood.

Gary Reno was ask about the progress of the POW/MIA Memorial Scholarship fund. He responded that he has raised around \$7000 to date, but his target is over \$20,000 so that the fund will be self supporting. Ray Nichols stated that he would ask Post 95 to donate \$100 to the fund and challenges the other posts in the district to do the same.

Gary Reno, a member of Post 95, is the one who actually convinced the state legislature to rename I35 to the POW/MIA Memorial Highway. There is a sign stating the new name one mile north of Kearney and another sign one mile south of Cameron. Once he got the highway dedicated, he took all of the remaining funds he had collected for that venture, held a couple of fund raisers, and

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started the POW/MIA Memorial Scholarship Fund. What the fund is slated to do is to pay for the entire education of any child of any POW or MIA service member.

Paul Ellison, Che De Gare of the 40et8 Locale 1379, announced the 40et8 annual Chick-Nick will be held on Sept 6, 2008 at the shelter in Wallace State Park beginning at 1:00 PM.

One of the duties of the District Commander is that he/she attempts to visit every post in the district at least once during his/her term, plus attend the various conferences held by state and some by national. Needless to say this can present a financial burden upon the commander. The District does contribute \$500 a year for this. During the meeting it was voted on to raise this contribution to \$600. Hopefully this will help to defray the costs a little bit.

It was also noted that this year is an election year. It is very important that we vote! But, if we are going to support a candidate, we must be careful that we do not do so as a member of the American Legion, but, rather, as a private citizen. As we know, the American Legion is a non-political, non-sectarian

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organization whose members are wartime veterans, and is chartered by the Congress of the United States.

Our District Commander, Gary Nichols, and Commander of Post 61, Calvin Bumgarner are in the process of starting up a Legion Riders Chapter in our district. There was a meeting June 23, 2008 at Post 61, 5125 N. Bellaire, Kansas City, MO 64119, Phone (816) 454-7570. On the web: post-61.org. You can contact Calvin for more information on (913)523-1103 (cell phone) or email: ebumgar522@aol.com.

**Rules Of Life**

By Unknown

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
3. Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.
4. It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else.
5. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
6. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
7. What other people think of you is none of your business.
8. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift.

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**EVERYONE IS A CRITIC**

By REV Donna Warren,  
Chaplain

It has been said many times that everyone is a critic, usually we all are in one way or another. People also speak of "Monday morning quarterback." These folks dissect the big Sunday game on Monday morning, rendering opinions on why the team lost. We can play quarterback in other areas of life as well, especially when it comes to our faith. We are surrounded by people seeking to tell us how to do Jesus' work. Sometimes it is important to listen. Jesus faced this in His life. By focusing on what God wanted Him to do, Jesus did not let the critics crush Him and His vision. He wanted to continue on with what God wanted Him to do. So must we. Monday morning quarterbacks cannot be permitted to bring our mission to a halt.

All of us have times when we think we can do things better or more effectively. Maybe sometimes, our concerns, criticisms or suggestions are legitimate. But there also are times, as Jesus discovers, when the Monday morning

quarterbacking is done simply to do Him or us in.

Yes, we can all do better in life. There is always room for improvement, as every teacher, coach, and parent has said since the beginning of time. But if the criticism is designed solely to bring us down, to destroy us. Well, don't let the carping critics crush us.

Sometimes what we need to do when faced by a bunch of Monday morning quarterbacks: Simply, but strongly, explain what we are doing - and keep on doing it, not out of arrogance or ignorance, but out of conviction that this is what God wants us to do.

Anybody can Monday morning quarterback. The real challenge is getting into the game for Jesus Christ and sticking with it.

**SALUTING THE FLAG**  
**UPDATE 02:**

[Source: eFlorida News 20 Jun 08]

President Bush signed on 28 JAN 08 a law amending federal code to allow a veteran to salute the U.S. flag while not in uniform in certain, but not all, situations. The amended federal code addresses actions for a viewer of the U.S. flag during its hoisting,

lowering or passing. In these instances, the law allows a veteran in civilian attire to salute the flag. All other persons present should face the flag, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Citizens of other countries present should stand at attention. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes. However, another section of federal code that specifically relates to actions of those reciting the Pledge of Allegiance was not amended. In this case, a veteran in civilian attire is not specifically authorized to render a hand salute during the Pledge. In any case, a veteran in civilian clothes is authorized to place their right hand over their heart as has been tradition.

**Quotes**

In my many years I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm, and three or more is a congress. - **John Adams**

Artificial Intelligence is no match for natural stupidity

There's a time for compromise... it's called later.

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**Working Together**

By Ray Nichols, Commander  
Recently we have witnessed the VFW and American Legion helping each other out. Most of this has to do with Military funerals. The American Legion came up short a few months ago and the VFW Commander, Larry Haney & Les Van Bibber helped out. If I have left some people out I apologize in advance.

Later the VFW has needed help & Bob Beeks, Donna Warren and Leroy Coe have shown up and assisted the VFW. Lets keep up the good work of helping out other veterans organization anytime we can. Remember our mission; veterans helping veterans and veterans' families are what both organizations are about.

**Remember**

Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

**The Battle of Belleau Wood**

Source Unknown

In June 1918, one of the deadliest battles the United States fought during World War I became a pivotal chapter in Marine Corps history. The

perilous venture involved a murderous trek across an open wheat field fiercely defended by massive German fire power. Casualties the first day, June 6th, were the highest in Marine Corps history to that date. According to historians, this three-week battle was arguably filled with lack of preparation, poor timing, and tactical confusion.

At the time, the German army was just 50 miles outside Paris. The Allied Second and Third Divisions mounted a counterattack to halt the Germans and retake Belleau Wood. As American forces arrived on the scene, Captain Lloyd Williams of 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Regiment was told by the retreating French army that turning back was the best course of action. He declined, giving the now-famous reply, Retreat, hell! We just got here (Captain Williams did not survive the ensuing battle). With little to no cover, Marines maneuvered through an 800-yard wide-open wheat field trying to reach the heavily entrenched German soldiers. The Marines began their advance with unwavering

courage and the use of precision long-distance marksmanship. Their ability to hit a target from more than 500 yards away stunned the Germans.

In the end, the Marines of the 4th Marine Brigade 5th and 6th Regiments took the grounds of Belleau Wood. The battle that had begun June 1st ended June 26th when Major Maurice Shearer, Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, could finally report with pride, "Woods now U.S. Marine Corps entirely". More than 1,800 Marines lost their lives at Belleau Wood. Still, it was a huge victory for the Allies, especially as a morale booster to weary troops who had started to believe the Germans were invincible. The Marines had decisively proven otherwise. Out-numbered, out-gunned, out-manned, and warned to retreat immediately, the United States Marine Corps defied the odds and managed to smash the superior German forces. For every fallen American, no less than five enemy troops paid the ultimate price.

From the time of that fierce  
**Continued – See The Battle**

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**Harry Truman**

When President Truman retired from office in 1952, his income was substantially a U.S. Army pension reported to have been \$13,507.72 a year. Congress, noting that he was paying for his stamps and personally licking them, granted him an 'allowance' and, later, a retroactive pension of \$25,000 per year.

When offered corporate positions at large salaries, he declined, stating, 'You don't want me. You want the office of the president, and that doesn't belong to me. It belongs to the American people and it's not for sale.' Even later, on May 6, 1971, when Congress was preparing to award him the Medal of Honor on his 87th birthday, he refused to accept it, writing, 'I don't consider that I have done anything which should be the reason for any award, Congressional or otherwise.'

Today, many in Politics also have found a way to become quite wealthy while enjoying the fruits of their offices. Political offices are now for sale.

Good old Harry Truman was correct when he observed, 'My choice early in life was either to be a piano player in a

whorehouse or a politician. And to tell the truth, there's hardly any difference.'

**Post 95 Donation**

Ray Nichols

Some of you may remember the home that was blown away in a tornado. An old couple and others were taken advantage of by an unscrupulous contractor. Tim Harris and a number of other organizations got involved and built a home. Dennis Lawler came to us and asked for appliance money and I think the American Legion Post 95 put up \$500.

I drove by this home last week and this white house is the nicest looking home on the whole block. Paul was commander and everyone who supported this should know how well this turned out.

**Famous Viking**

A famous Viking explorer returned home from a voyage and found his name missing from the town register. His wife insisted on complaining to the local civic official who apologized profusely saying, 'I

must have taken Leif off my census.'

**The Battle - Continued**

battle to the present day, Marines are still known by the nickname given them by the awed Germans at Belleau Wood: *Teufelhunden*, which means Hounds from Hell or Devil Dogs. In honor of the Marine Corps tenacity, the area was renamed The Wood of the Marine Brigade.

Note: According to the movie and other written info most of these Marines at Belleau Wood were thugs from New York who did not like one another; much less the enemy/Germans. The main reason these guys had to bayonet their way; they ran out of ammo and would not give up. Evidently they used those bayonets quite well.

**Puns**

Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly, it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it, too.

There was the person who sent ten different puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.

**Rule Of Life**

If you don't ask, you don't get.

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