

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



**THE LIBERTY
LEGIONAIRE**

3rd Quarter 2011
Volume 1, Issue 9

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

**Chili Dinner
Fundraiser**

It's time again for 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. A donation of \$7.00
for adults and \$3.00 children for
all you can eat.

The date is set for **Saturday,
October 29th from 4:30 to 7:00
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**AMERICAN LEGION
ORATORICAL CONTEST**

The High School Oratorical
Contest for Clay County will be
held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday,
December 5, 2011 at the old
Liberty high school.

The oration must last between
five and six minutes and address
some aspect of the Constitution
of the United States.

The purpose of the contest is to
create interest in and a better
understanding of our form of
government.

Contestants who advance to the
state level of competition are
eligible for significant

scholarships.
If you know of high school
students interested in competing
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Fact

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Chaplin's Corner

By Donna Warren, Chaplin

In the business of life, prayer can easily take a back seat. With all the responsibilities we have, all we must do, the schedules we must keep, it seems as though we cannot afford to take the time for prayer. The fact of the matter is, despite wondering whether or not we can afford to take the time, the real question is: Can we afford not to?

Life is a matter of priorities and the quality of life is a matter of how we define those priorities. In the game of making our life more productive, we often leave out the very things that could make it so. Prayer is one of those things.

Jesus sent his apostles out into the world to teach, preach and heal. When they came back they were excited about what all they had done and seen. Jesus knew that after their strenuous missionary tour they needed a rest and a change. Jesus knows how all to often, while getting caught in the doing we can forget who we are and what we are about.

We go to our jobs. We take care of our house. We tend to the needs of our children. Some of us

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even take care of our aged parents. We go here and we go there. Some days it even seems we go everywhere. How often do we stop? How often do we take Jesus up on his invitation to come abide with Him?

Prayer is not meant to change God and to get God to deliver what we want. It is not a conscious experience of God's place in our life. It is a time when we allow God to focus our life. We don't pray to change God, we pray to Him to change us.

Does prayer time have a slot in your calendar? A daily slot, a weekly slot, or is it penciled in as needed? As most of us find out, the 'as needed' approach to physical exercise isn't very effective. The same is true of spiritual exercise. A prayer tossed in here or there changes little because the spiritual side of who we are requires regularity of prayer in our lives.

You and I are sent as surely as the apostles were sent. We are sent to make a difference in that part of the world in which we find ourselves. We have been sent to learn, and to teach love in every relationship we experience

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— but only with prayer will we do it well. Only with prayer can we remain focused on what matters and how to make it matter. Only with prayer can we retain the way of our life.

Coming to church is fine; worshipping with each other is a necessary part of our learning and teaching love. But we also need the time alone with Jesus. That is simply the way it works. No matter how busy we are, no matter how often we might wonder whether or not we can afford to take the time, in reality, we cannot afford not to do so

A Police STOP at 2 AM

An elderly man is stopped by the police around 2 a.m. and is asked where he is going at this time of night.

The man replies, "I am on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late."

The officer then asks, "Really? Who is giving that lecture at this time of night?"

The man replies, "That would be my wife."

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Flag Quiz

1. When the Flag passes in a parade you should:
 - a) Wave at the carrier
 - b) Turn and face east
 - c) Stand silent, remove your hat and place your right hand over your heart
 - d) Salute
2. Who may order the Flag be flown at half-staff?
 - a) The Mayor
 - b) Anyone
 - c) The President or Governor
 - d) The Postmaster General
3. What is the significance of displaying the flag at half-staff?
 - a) To publicly mourn the death of one or more people
 - b. Indicates a federal holiday
 - c) An excuse to close the banks
 - d) Flag pole maintenance
4. When should the Flag be flown at half-staff?
 - a) Memorial Day - sunrise to noon
 - b) By order of the President
 - c) By order of the Governor
 - d) All of the above
5. Can the Flag be flown at night?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
 - c) Yes, if properly illuminated
6. When the National Anthem is played, you should:
 - a) Stand

- b) Remove your hat
 - c) Face the flag if you can see it
 - d) All of the above
7. What is the proper manner of pledging allegiance to the Flag?
 - a) Same as the National Anthem
 - b) No rules apply
 - c) None of the above
 8. The 13 stripes on the Flag represent:
 - a) a baker's dozen
 - b) The 13 original colonies
 - c) Signifies good luck
 - d) None of the above
 9. If a new state were added to the U.S. on March 1st, when would a new star be added?
 - a) March 2nd
 - b) Never - there isn't any room
 - c) July 4th
 - d) January 1st of the following year
 10. Old Flags
 - a) Can be used for clothing
 - b) Should be destroyed discreetly by burning
 - c) None of the above
 - d) b, but never a

See below for answers.

Flag Quiz Answers

1. c, 2. c, 3. a, 4. d, 5. c, 6. d, 7. a
 8. b, 9. c, 10. d

Purple Heart Update 01:

The Army has announced a clarification in its guidelines for receiving a Purple Heart, with an emphasis on battlefield

concussions being eligible for the medal. Official Army guidelines have long considered combat-sustained concussions a valid injury worthy of the Purple Heart, but in practice, it has been left to doctors or battlefield commanders to decide whether a blow to the head during combat warranted the medal. With recent studies on brain trauma, however, the rules have been revised to state what constitutes a concussion, with symptoms including momentary loss of consciousness or memory, dizziness, headache, nausea or light sensitivity. Medical treatment, also required for the medal, is defined by the rules to include merely rest and Tylenol. If you are a Soldier who suffered a concussion and feel you may not have been appropriately recognized for a Purple Heart, the Army urges you to re-apply through your chain of command. Veterans can call 888-276-9472 or email

hrc.tagd.awards@conus.army.mil

. [Source: Mil.com | Benefits article 21 Mar 2011 ++]

Sickness

Ed Eberle is recovering from Congestive Heart Failure. He is undergoing rehab. Keep him in your prayers.

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POW-MIA Recognition Day

The Paris Peace Accords of January 27, 1973 was the agreement thirty eight years ago to end the war and restore peace in Vietnam. The U.S. pledged to cease hostilities (ground, air, naval, and to deactivate mines in all waterways) with total withdrawal to be completed in 60 days. All parties committed to no further acts of force on the ground, in the air, and on the sea. This prohibition also included terrorism and reprisals. Both Vietnamese sides were permitted to replace arms and war materials destroyed, damaged, or worn out, under supervision of the Joint Military Commission. Also agreed to was the return of all captured military personnel and foreign civilians within a 60-day period. North and South Vietnam were to begin peaceful negotiations on establishing normal relations and reunification. And so it ended. At least the war. Not the memories, nor the pain, nor the losses.

Again, on the **third Friday of September** – this year it's September 16th – citizens and combat veterans will join together in a nationwide observance of POW-MIA Recognition Day – never to

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forget the Prisoners of War or those Missing in Action who sacrificed for their country and didn't return. There will be rallies and 24-hour vigils and the reading of names, and candlelight ceremonies. Some groups will have a Missing Man Honors Ceremony with a lone round POW-MIA table, covered by a white cloth topped with an inverted water glass, a lemon slice on a bread plate, a lit candle, and an empty chair indicating that a diner is missing. Or there may be five or six place settings and empty chairs – one for each of the five branches of service, plus civilians. According to the National League of POW-MIA Families, the round table represents everlasting concern; the white tablecloth, the purity of their motives when answering the call of duty; a single red rose, a reminder of the lives of these men, their relatives and friends; the red ribbon, the determination to find them; a slice of lemon, the bitter fate endured by those captured and missing in a foreign land; a pinch of salt, the tears shed; a Bible, for strength through faith; the inverted glass, the inability to share the evening's toast; and empty chairs because they are missing. And

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finally, a toast to honor America's POW-MIAs and to the success of efforts to account for them.

A black and white POW-MIA flag will fly below the U.S. flag at federal facilities and cemeteries, post offices and military installations, state capitols, schools, and ships at sea, VA medical facilities, the World War II Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the official offices of the secretaries of state, defense and veterans affairs, the director of the selective service system, and the White House. This observance is one of six days throughout the year that Congress has mandated the flying of the POW-MIA flag. The others are Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day.

POW-MIA Flag

In 1970, Mary Hoff, an MIA wife and member of the National League of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia recognized the need for a symbol for our POW-MIAs. The job fell to graphic designer Newt Heisley to design a flag to represent the group just as Heisley's son was returning from Marine training at

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Quantic. Home after becoming ill during training, Jeffrey's gaunt appearance became the inspiration for the silhouette. Newt Heisley, himself a World War II veteran who flew missions in the Pacific, was glad he got the chance to design the symbol. "I used to fly within range of the Japanese and wondered how I would hold up if I ever got captured. When I did the design, I thought how easy it would be to forget those guys," he said. "You are not forgotten"

The now familiar slogan, "You are not forgotten," was born of that sentiment. Heisley also remarked in an interview that the flag was not originally intended to be black and white. He figured that once the League selected the design from the several he submitted, a suitable color would be chosen – one less somber, more optimistic. Obviously, the black and white motif was the one preferred.

The image was never copyrighted and is now part of the public domain. Neither Heisley nor the League ever anticipated the flag's popularity would reach the level that it has today. Newt Heisley has been honored by Congress and by many veterans groups and

patriotic organizations in the years since he first conceived the flag design.

Congress passed a resolution on July 18, 1979 authorizing POW-MIA Recognition Day. On March 9, 1989, an official League flag was installed in the US Capitol Rotunda where it stands as a powerful symbol of national commitment to America's POW-MIAs. It is the only flag ever to be honored in this way. On August 10, 1990, Congress officially recognized the League's POW-MIA flag. In 1998 it was required that the POW-MIA flag be flown from military installations, national cemeteries, VA medical centers and many other federal buildings.

VA adds to list of Agent Orange-exposed ships

Partial reprint

By Patricia Kime - Staff writer
Posted: Friday Sep 2, 2011
15:53:09 EDT

The Veterans Affairs Department has expanded its list of Navy and Coast Guard ships whose crews may be eligible for disability compensation as a result of exposure to the toxic defoliant Agent Orange. It is an updated inventory of "Blue Water" platforms that operated along Vietnam's

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coastline from 1962 to 1975. The designated vessels either entered the country's inland waterways, docked in Vietnam, or their sailors went ashore, possibly exposing them to the widely used herbicide.

Many of the new ships are landing vessels or destroyers that operated near the shore. The large escort carrier Kula Gulf also was added because it served as a helicopter and troop transport in Cam Ranh Bay for three days in November 1965.

See list of ships and other blue water info
<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/shiplist/index.asp>

Anniversary

Ray and Helen Merrell have been married 65 years. They celebrated their anniversary on April 21st.

Quote

After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him. The moral: When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut. - Will Rogers

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Flag Amendment

Washington, DC (June 14, 2011) – Senators Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and Max Baucus, D-Mont., introduced a constitutional amendment today that would return to the American people the right to protect their flag. The one sentence amendment, Senate Joint Resolution 19, reads, “The Congress shall have power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

The measure enjoys wide support among the American public and the U.S. Congress. It has previously passed the House of Representatives six times, but fell only one vote shy of the two-thirds required in the Senate. A companion bill, House Joint Resolution 13, has been introduced in the House.

“The process for amending the Constitution – set forth in Article V – is *part* of the Constitution,” said Richard Parker, Harvard Law School’s Williams Professor of Law and Chairman of the Board of the Citizens Flag Alliance. “Indeed, it is its lynchpin. For it fastens the ongoing authority of the Constitution to its foundation in popular sovereignty.”

The struggle to protect the flag from desecration was ignited

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shortly after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1989 that flag desecration was “protected speech.” The 5-4 Texas v. Johnson decision invalidated flag protection laws in 48 states and the District of Columbia.

To date, 50 states have passed memorializing resolutions asking Congress to pass the amendment and send it to the states for ratification.

“The Citizens Flag Alliance was formed in 1994 to restore to Congress the power – which it had for the first 200 years in our history – to defend the American flag when misguided individual’s burn it or urinate on it or subject it to other kinds of physical desecration,” Parker continued. “Many amendments over the last two centuries were adopted after campaigns longer – some a lot longer – than ours. Encouraged by the progress we have made, by the conviction in the rightness of our cause, and by the longstanding support of the American people, we will continue to persist – and expect to win.”

Happy Flying!

Scientists at NASA built a gun specifically to launch standard 4 pound dead chickens at the windshields of airliners, military

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jets and the space shuttle, all traveling at maximum velocity. The idea is to simulate the frequent incidents of collisions with airborne fowl to test the strength of the windshields.

British engineers heard about the gun and were eager to test it on the windshields of their new high speed trains. Arrangements were made, and a gun was sent to the British engineers.

When the gun was fired, the engineers stood shocked as the chicken hurled out of the barrel, crashed into the shatterproof shield, smashed it to smithereens, blasted through the control console, snapped the engineer’s back-rest in two, and embedded itself in the back wall of the cabin, like an arrow shot from a bow.

The horrified Brits sent NASA the disastrous results of the experiment, along with the designs of the windshield and begged the US scientists for suggestions.

NASA responded with a one-line memo - “Defrost the chicken.” (True Story)

Today

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Commander's Corner

Judi Samborski, Commander

First, I'd like to thank everyone for the honor to serve as Commander of Post 95. I know I have some very big shoes to fill following Jerry Head, and the past Commanders of Post 95. And I know what a great Post it is.

When Post 93 is called to help or serve, we do what is needed without hesitation. That says a lot about an American Legion post.

When Larry Allen asked me write something for this newsletter, I wasn't quite sure what to say. Larry said to write what was on my mind. I wasn't sure that would be such a good idea. Most of you know my sense of humor and my comments may be taken the wrong way. But I will try.

My first thought when I was approached to be Commander was, "Sure, I can do this. I would be honored to serve." The day after I was installed as Commander, I asked my husband, Jake, "What have I gotten myself into?" But as the days went by, I realized that I wasn't alone. I have a lot of great people I can turn to for advice and to bounce ideas off of.

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My first meeting as Commander was a little shaky; I made a few mistakes. I was sure I would be fired afterwards. To say I was nervous was an under-statement. But with all of the encouraging words afterwards, I realized I wouldn't be fired; yet.

Many of you like to call me 'Commandress'. Is that an official title?

I am looking forward to serving Post 95 as Commander for the coming year.

Yours in service,

Judi Samborski, Commander

It Is The Veteran

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Who has given us the right to vote.

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God's Sense of Humor

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Dates To Remember

Oct. 20 Bingo @
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 Oct. 26 40&8
 Oct 29 Chili Dinner
 4:30 – 7:00 PM
 Nov. 15 Legion Mtg. @
 7:00 PM
 Nov 18? Bingo @
 Cedars @ 6:30 PM
 Dec. 20 Legion Mtg. @
 7:00 PM
 Dec. 22? Bingo @
 Cedars @ 6:30 PM
 Jan. 18 Legion Mtg. @
 7:30 PM
 Jan. 26 40&8
 Jan. 27 Bingo @
 Cedars @ 6:30 PM
 Feb. 15 Legion Mtg. @
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 Feb 23 40&8
 Feb 24 Bingo @
 Cedars @ 6:30 PM
 Mar. 15 Legion Mtg. @
 7:00 PM
 Mar 23 40&8
 Mar 24 Bingo @
 Cedars @ 6:30 PM
 Apr. 19 Legion Mtg. @
 7:00 PM
 Apr. 27 Bingo @
 Cedars @ 6:30 PM

Chaplain in Iraq

I recently attended a showing of 'Superman 3' here at LSA

Anaconda. We have a large auditorium that we use for movies as well as memorial services and other large gatherings.

As is the custom at all military bases, we stood to attention when The National Anthem began before the main feature..

All was going well until three-quarters of the way through The National Anthem, the music stopped.

Now, what would happen if this occurred with 1,000 18-to-22-year-olds back in the States? I imagine that there would be hoots, catcalls, laughter, a few rude comments, and everyone would sit down and yell for the movie to begin. Of course, that is, only if they had stood for The National Anthem in the first place.

Here in Iraq 1,000 soldiers continued to stand at attention, eyes fixed forward. The music started again, and the soldiers continued to quietly stand at attention. Again, though, at the same point, the music stopped. What would you expect 1,000 soldiers standing at attention to do?? Frankly, I expected some laughter, and everyone would

eventually sit down and wait for the movie to start.

No!! . . . You could have heard a pin drop while every soldier continued to stand at attention.

Suddenly, there was a lone voice from the front of the auditorium, then a dozen voices, and soon the room was filled with the voices of a thousand soldiers, finishing where the recording left off: "And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. Oh, say, does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave, o'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave."

It was the most inspiring moment I have had in Iraq , and I wanted you to know what kind of U.S. Soldiers are serving you! Remember them as they fight for us!

Pass this along as a reminder to others to be ever in prayer for all our soldiers serving us here at home and abroad. Many have already paid the ultimate price.

Written by Chaplain Jim Higgins, LSA Anaconda is at the Ballad Airport in Iraq, north of Baghdad.

Did You Know?

Walt Disney was afraid of mice!

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