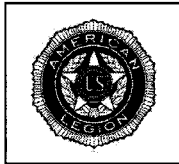


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The Liberty  
Legionaire  
1st Quarter 2015  
Volume 1, Issue 23

We served our  
Country  
Still serving our  
Community

**Spaghetti Dinner**  
March 21, 2015

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

The event will be held on March 21st from 4:30 to 7:00 PM at Our Lady Of Mercy Country Home, 2115 Maturana Dr., Liberty MO.

Our Newsletter sponsors again have come up with some great door prizes.

Raffle items include:

- \$100 Price Chopper card
- \$100 Hy-Vee card
- \$25 Lowe's Card
- \$25 Quick Trip Gift Card
- \$25 Sutherlands Gift Card
- \$25 Pizza Ranch Card
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- \$25 Ming Dragon Card

Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and you need not be present to win!!

Donation for all you can eat is \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 13 and under.

Proceeds go to American Legion Youth Programs.

**Dates To Remember**

- March 17 - Legion Mtg. 7:00 PM
- March 21 - Spaghetti Dinner 4:30 - 7:00 PM
- March 25 - 40&8 6:00 PM
- March 26 - Bingo @ Cedars 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- April 21 - Legion Mtg. 7:00 PM
- April 22 - 40&8 6:00 PM
- April 23 - Bingo @ Cedars 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- May 19 - Legion Mtg. 7:00 PM
- May 25 - Memorial Day
- May 27 - 40&8 6:00 PM
- May 28 - Bingo @ Cedars 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- May 31 - June 5 - Missouri Cadet Patrol

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June 13 - 20 - Missouri Boy's State

June 16 - Legion Mtg. 7:00 PM

June 21 - 27 - Missouri Girl's State

June 24 - 40&8 6:00 PM

June 25 - 40&8 6:00 PM

**Why It's Called The Silent Service**

Yes....on the sub I was on we did do some of the stuff we did, and we didn't do some of the other stuff we did, because if we did do it, it was secret...so we didn't really do it. Even though we really did. But not really.

The medals me and my shipmates got that we didn't get for doing what we didn't do that we did...I really got those. Except not. But, yeah. That's because we never went where we were, so we weren't there where we were. And even though we weren't where we were, we did do the stuff we didn't do while we weren't there, not doing it.

As far as what boat we were on when we didn't go there on it, and didn't do the stuff we did while not doing that either, I'm not supposed to refer to that either.

So the bottom line is that while we weren't on the boat I won't mention, not doing what we were doing where we weren't...we didn't do that either.

I hope this clarifies things. I really was a submariner.

**Sickness**

John Gibbs is being treated for cancer.

Jim Rieckis battling lung cancer.

Jerry Pate is going in for shoulder surgery.

Robert Beatty needs knee surgery.

Les Vanbibber is dealing with PTSD.

Sam Lenorad is recovering from lung cancer surgery.

Ray Thompson continues his fight with cancer and heart problems.

Ted Nelson had cataract surgery.

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**Commander's Corner**

Judi Samborski

Welcome to 2015! Hope everyone had a great holiday.

Our membership goal for this year is 317. I don't know why but when we reach our annual goal, set by the Department, I might add, they keep raising it higher. But I know Post 95 will not only reach our goal but exceed it. Keep up the excellent work.

At our January meeting we set the dates for our Spaghetti and Chili Dinners. The Spaghetti dinner will be Saturday, March 21. And the Chili Dinner will be Saturday, October 24. So mark your calendars. Both events will be at Our Lady of Mercy, Tighe Hall. Larry Allen will be organizing each event and he will need a lot of help. So I'm asking everyone to help make our two fundraisers a success. Not only do they keep our Post financial sound but they are lots of fun with great food. And Larry Allen always does a great job. We only have 2 Post meetings to get everything organized.

The next 3<sup>rd</sup> District meeting will be on Sunday, April 12, at Post 236, Excelsior Springs, MO. Lunch is at noon and the meeting starts at 1:00 pm; that's 1300 for the military. Everyone attending is asked to bring a small side to share.

Post 95 will once again be hosting a 3<sup>rd</sup> District meeting. It will be Sunday, June 7, at Our Lady of Mercy. I'm hoping for a better turn out to help at that meeting than last year, so please plan to help with the meeting at our Post. There are only 4 3<sup>rd</sup> District meetings a year. It would be nice to have more members of Post 95 attend these meetings since we are the largest post in the district.

Continue to keep our troops and their families in your thoughts and prayers, and also those who are suffering as well.

**Chaplin's Corner**

Ray Nichols, Chaplin

This winter has been exceptionally difficult for some of our older people. We have had an epidemic of flu, (a poor flu vaccine has not helped) and bronchitis has hit many in this area. Many of our veterans are now the older population and suffering health issues. In our monthly meeting we discussed 6 veteran members in Post 95 having health issues that run from PTSD to cancer which is quite a gamete to run. We all know to pray for all of these very fine veterans and their families. But, there are daily things that may be done. Phone calls, personal visits, and a card to let people know they are not forgotten. So let's all take the time to call on someone and help them pass the time- let them know we are thinking about them, and miss seeing them at our meetings and events.

As the Lord Jesus Christ taught us - let us pray for and help one another. God bless all our Veterans and all of their families.

**Member Death**

Alvy Edward "Ed" Eberle passed away January 16, 2015 and was entered into the Post Everlasting on January 20, 2015.

Ed was born January 12, 1925. He was a proud marine and will be missed by Post 95 members, family, and friends.

Ed wrote many articles that appeared in the Liberty Tribune, Kansas City Star and our newsletters over the years.

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### **Origin of the 21-Gun International Salute**

All personal salutes may be traced to the prevailing use in earlier days: to ensure that the saluter placed himself in an unarmed position, and virtually in the power of the saluted. This may be noted in the dropping of the point of the sword, presenting arms, firing cannon and small arms, lowering sails, manning the yards, removing the headdress or laying on oars.

Salute by gunfire is an ancient ceremony. The British for years compelled weaker nations to render the first salute; but in time, international practice compelled "gun for gun" on the principle of equality of nations. In the earliest days, seven guns was the recognized British national salute.

Here again we see that the number seven had a mystical significance. In the Eastern civilization, seven was a sacred number: astronomy listed the seven planets, the moon changed every seven days, the earth was created in seven days, every seventh year was a sabbatical year, and the seven times seventh year was a jubilee year.

Those early regulations stated that although a ship would fire only seven guns, the forts ashore could fire three shots (again the mystical three) to each one shot afloat. In that day, powder of sodium nitrate was easier to keep on shore than at sea. In time, when the quality of gunpowder improved by the use of potassium nitrate, the sea salute was made equal to the shore salute; 21 guns as the highest national honor. Although for a period of time, monarchies received more guns than republics, eventually republics gained equality. There was much confusion because of the varying customs of maritime states, but finally the British government proposed to the United States a regulation that provided for

"salutes to be returned gun for gun." The British at that time officially considered the international salute (to sovereign states) to be 21 guns, and the United States adopted the 21 guns and "gun for gun" return, Aug. 18, 1875.

Previous to this time our national salute had been variable; one gun for each state of the Union. This practice was partly a result of usage, for John Paul Jones saluted France with 13 guns at Quiberon Bay in 1778 when the Stars and Stripes received its first salute. The practice was not officially authorized until 1810.

When India was part of the British Empire, the king-emperor would receive an Imperial salute of 101 guns. Unless rendered to a president or the flag of a republic, 21 guns is called a Royal Salute in the British Isles, and even then it is called (colloquially) "royal" in the British Commonwealth. In short, it would be said of the president of the United States, if saluted in Canada, that he received a "royal salute."

The United States also has an extra-special ceremony known as the "Salute to the Nation," which consists of one gun for each of the 50 states. The mimic war is staged only at noon on the Fourth of July at American military ports, although it has been given on a few other occasions, such as the death of a president. The Navy full-dresses ships and fires 21 guns at noon on the Fourth of July and Feb. 22. On Memorial Day, all ships and naval stations fire a salute of 21-minute guns and display the ensign at half-mast from 8:00 a.m. until completion of the salute.

\*Retired Navy Vice Adm. Leland P. Lovette,  
Naval Customs Traditions and Usages, 4th ed.,  
(Banta Co: Menasha, Wisconsin, 1960).

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**A Brief History of the WASP**

**By Deanie and Nancy Parrish**

Over 70 years ago, at a time when America was desperate for gasoline, money for war bonds and a few good men, something extraordinary happened.

1,830 young women pilots from all over the United States quit their jobs and left the safety of their homes and families to come to Texas. Some came by car, some by bus, others hitched or rode the train, a few even came by plane, but they all paid their own way and they all came to Texas because their country needed them. They came to Texas because they loved to fly.

It all began in 1942, when there was a severe shortage of male pilots. Jacqueline Cochran, America's foremost woman pilot, convinced General Hap Arnold, Chief of the Army Air Forces, that she could bring together a corps of seasoned women pilots and train them the "Army Way," so they could replace the male pilots being sent overseas.

When they heard the call, young women from all over America responded. But the requirements for acceptance of females were tougher than of men, so only 1,830 of the 25,000 women volunteers were eventually accepted. The first class of 29 young women began their training, under extremely adverse conditions, at the municipal airport in Houston, Texas. They flew dilapidated civilian aircraft that had been taken over by the Army, until military trainers were made available. Three months later, at Avenger Field near Sweetwater, Texas, the United States Army transformed a base that was being used to train male cadets into the only military flying school for women in the United

States.

When each class of trainees arrived at Avenger Field, they were given no special treatment. They lived in barracks with 6 cots to a room, ate in a mess hall, followed a strict set of regulations, and marched. They marched everywhere. They marched to the barracks, they marched to the mess hall, they marched to their classes, and they marched to the flight line. Their training program was the same as the one male cadets were going through all over the country: ground school, flight school, cross-country flying, night flying, instrument flying, daily calisthenics, flying link trainers, and constantly marching --the Army way.

At the end of each phase of flight training, they were given Army check rides by Army Air Force officers in good weather or bad weather, in dust storms, or with snow up to the propellers. Those who didn't pass washed out, packed their bags, and paid their way back home. Only 1,074 of the original 1,830 graduated. They were honored with a dress parade at a graduation ceremony where they received their official WASP wings. Together with 28 WAFFS, they became WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS, the FIRST women in the history of America authorized to fly military aircraft.

Their Army orders directed them to report to air bases all over the United States to the Air Transport Command, Training Command, the 1st, 2nd and 4th Air Force, the Proving Ground Command, the Weather Wing, the Air Technical Service Command, and the Troop Carrier Command. They lived in the officers' quarters and took their orders from Air Force commanders. They flew every type of aircraft the

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Air Force owned--trainers, fighters, bombers-- they flew them in all kinds of weather and under all kinds of adverse conditions. They ferried personnel and hauled cargo, they delivered aircraft to points of embarkation, they test flew new planes, old planes, rebuilt planes, and some planes that male pilots refused to fly. They towed targets for ground-to-air anti-aircraft gunnery practice and targets for air-to-air gunnery practice--always for gunnery trainees firing live ammunition. And they delivered many old war-wearry airplanes to the junkyards and scrap heaps of America.

In less than 2 years they flew more than 60 million miles for their country. They flew every kind of mission the Air Force had (except combat), and 38 of them made the supreme sacrifice. They, too, went home, but with no help from the country they had given their lives for. Unlike the male pilots, WASP families or friends had to pay for their final trip home.

General Hap Arnold, the Commanding General of the Air Force was the keynote speaker at the graduating ceremonies for the last class of WASP on December 7, 1944. General Arnold said, *"You and more than 900 of your sisters have shown that you can fly wingtip to wingtip with your bothers. If ever there was any doubt in anyone's mind that women can become skillful pilots, the WASP have dispelled that doubt. I want to stress how valuable I believe the whole WASP program has been for the country. . . We . . . know that you (they) can handle our latest fighters, our heaviest bombers; we . . . know that you (they) are capable of ferrying, target towing, flying training, test flying, and the countless other activities which you have proved you can*

*do. So, on this last graduation day, I salute you and all WASP. We of the Army Air Force are proud of you; we will never forget our debt to you.*

Eleven days later, on December 20, 1944, over the objections of General Arnold, the WASP were disbanded. At hundreds of air bases all over America, the WASP hung up their Army parachutes for the last time, packed their bags, and paid their way back home. There were no GI benefits, no fringe benefits, and no dress parades--just the satisfaction of knowing that they had done their duty and they had completed their mission. Despite General Arnold's pledge that the Air Force would never forget them, it did, and so did America.

WASP WERE GIVEN VETERAN STATUS IN 1977

WASP WERE AWARDED THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL IN 2010 Birthdays

January 11, 1925	Judi Samborski
January 12, 1925	Ed Eberle
January 31, 1937	Paul Ellison
April 14, 1931	Ted Nelson
April 14, 1945	Larry Allen
April 29, 1944	Ray Nichols

#### Anniversaries

April 20, 1946-Ray & Helen Merrell

#### Life From The Seat Of A Tractor

Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.

#### THE WHOLE NINE YARDS

American fighter planes in WW2 had machine guns that were fed by a belt of cartridges. The average plane held belts that were 27 feet (9 yards) long. If the pilot used up all his ammo he was said to have given it the whole nine yards.

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**Tomb of the Unknowns**

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier stands on top of a hill overlooking Washington, D.C. One of the more well-attended sites at the Cemetery, the tomb is made from Yule marble quarried in Colorado. It consists of seven pieces, with a total weight of 79 short tons (72 metric tons). The tomb was completed and opened to the public April 9, 1932, at a cost of \$48,000.

It was initially named the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier." Other unknown servicemen were later entombed there, and it became known as the "Tomb of the Unknowns", though it has never been officially named. The soldiers entombed there are:

Unknown Soldier of World War I, interred November 11, 1921. President Warren G. Harding presided.

Unknown Soldier of World War II, interred May 30, 1958. President Dwight D. Eisenhower presided.

Unknown Soldier of the Korean War, also interred May 30, 1958. President Dwight Eisenhower presided again, Vice President Richard Nixon acted as next of kin.

Unknown Soldier of the Vietnam War, interred May 28, 1984. President Ronald Reagan presided.

The remains of the Vietnam Unknown were disinterred, under the authority of President Bill Clinton, on May 14, 1998, and were identified as those of Air Force 1st Lt. Michael J. Blassie, whose family had them reinterred near their home in St. Louis, Missouri. It has been determined that the crypt at the Tomb of the Unknowns that contained the remains of the Vietnam Unknown will remain empty.

The Tomb of the Unknowns has been perpetually guarded since July 2, 1937, by the U.S. Army. The 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment ("The Old Guard") began guarding the Tomb on April 6, 1948. There is a meticulous routine which the guard follows when watching over the graves. The Tomb Guard:

- Marches 21 steps down the black mat behind the Tomb.
- Turns, faces east for 21 seconds.
- Turns and faces north for 21 seconds.
- Takes 21 steps down the mat.
- Repeats the routine until the soldier is relieved of duty at the Changing of the Guard.

After each turn, the Guard executes a sharp "shoulder-arms" movement to place the weapon on the shoulder closest to the visitors to signify that the Guard stands between the Tomb and any possible threat.

Twenty-one was chosen because it symbolizes the highest military honor that can be bestowed—the 21-gun salute.

Each turn the guard makes precise movements and followed by a loud click of the heels as he snaps them together. The guard is changed every half hour during daylight in the summer, and every hour during daylight in the winter and every two hours at night (when the cemetery is closed to the public), regardless of weather conditions.

**Amendment XXVII**

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**Thank You**

To those at Post 95:

I wanted to send you a personal thank you. Your generosity to me and my family was very much appreciated. Your Organization sent me \$100 a few months back after learning that I am a vet who was involved in a terrible accident back in July. My life has been changed as a result of this accident. However, I'm doing better today. I'm walking again as well as driving. The only unfortunate thing is that I have to undergo another surgery, and the VA has been extremely difficult when helping with my medical bills. Anyhow, I just wanted to thank you again for the help and it didn't go unappreciated. I'm only sorry it took me so long to send you this thank you letter. Thank you very much from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,

*Cierra Bossart*

**Thank You**

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your donation of \$100 to the Liberty Community Christmas Tree 2014 Campaign. The full measure of your contribution had a positive impact on 124 senior adults and 268 families, which included 705 children in the Liberty School District. The touching thank-you notes we have received from several recipients affirm that your generous spirit offered many a merrier Christmas season.

The LCCT is a fund within the Liberty Parks and Recreation Charitable Fund; it was created to generate more resources than public funding makes possible.

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**Ole and Sven**

Ole is the pastor of the local Norwegian Lutheran Church, and Pastor Sven is the minister of the Swedish Covenant Church across the road. One day they are seen pounding a sign into the ground, which said:

DA END ISS NEAR!

TURN YERSELF AROUND NOW  
BAFOR IT ISS TOO LATE!

As a car speeds past them, the driver leans out his window and yells, "Leave people alone, you Skandihoovian religious nuts!"

From the curve, they hear screeching tires and a big splash. Shaking his head, Rev. Ole says, "Dat's da terd one dis mornin'." "Yaa," Pastor Sven agrees, then asks, "Do ya tink maybe da sign should yust say, Bridge Out?"

**Fishing-An Aviator's Story**

The rain was pouring and there was a big puddle in front of the pub just outside the Air Force Base. A ragged old Naval Aviator was standing near the edge with a fishing rod, his line in the puddle. A curious young Air Force fighter pilot came over to him and asked what he was doing. "Fishing", the old guy simply said. "Poor old fool", the Air Force officer thought and he invited the ragged old aviator into the pub for a drink.

As he felt he should start some conversation while they were sipping their whisky, the haughty fighter pilot asked, "and how many have you caught?" "You're the eighth", the old Navy pilot answered.

**U.S. Navy Seals**

"People sleep peaceably in their beds at night only because rough men stand ready to do violence on their behalf."

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### President Harry Truman

Harry Truman was a different kind of President. He probably made as many or more important decisions regarding our nation's history as any of the other 32 Presidents preceding him. However, a measure of his greatness may rest on what he did after he left the White House.

The only asset he had when he died was the house he lived in, which was in Independence, Missouri. His wife had inherited the house from her mother and father and other than their years in the White House, they lived their entire lives there.



When he retired from office in 1952 his income was 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.

After President Eisenhower was inaugurated, Harry and Bess drove home to Missouri by themselves. There was no Secret Service following them. 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."

As president he paid for all of his own travel expenses and food. Modern politicians have found a new level of success in cashing in on the Presidency, resulting in untold wealth. Today, too many in Congress also have found a way to become quite wealthy while enjoying the fruits of their offices. Political offices are now for sale (i.e. Illinois).

Good old Harry Truman was correct when he observed, "My choices in life were either to be a piano player in a whore house or a politician. And to tell the truth, there's hardly any difference!" We ought to have cloned him for telling it like it is and being frugal with our tax dollars!

### DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

Mark your calendars for the next district meetings:

- Date: **January 11, 2015**  
Place: Jarchow Schroeder Post 61  
5125 N. Bellaire  
Kansas City MO 64119  
Time: 1200 PM Lunch  
1300 PM Meeting
- Date: **April 12, 2015**  
Place: Clyde Gustine Post 236  
208 Veterans Memorial Dr.  
Excelsior Springs MO 64024  
Time: 1200 PM Lunch  
1300 PM Meeting
- Date: **June 8, 2014**  
Place: **Robert H. Baker Post 95**  
Our Lady of Mercy Country Home  
2115 Maturana Dr.  
Liberty MO 64068  
Time: 1200 PM Lunch  
1300 PM Meeting

### Fish

The plural of fish is fish! Fish is a noun and a verb.

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