

The Robert H. Baker
 American Legion Post 95
 P.O. Box 417
 Liberty, MO 64068-0417
 roberthbakerpost95.com



The Liberty
 Legionaire
 2nd Quarter 2015
 Volume 1, Issue 24

We served our
 Country
 Still serving our
 Community

Dates To Remember

- August 18 Legion Mtg. 7:00 PM
- August 26 40&8 Mtg. 6:00 PM
- August 27 Bingo @ Cedars 6:30PM
- August 29 Post 61 Car & Bike Show 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- September 7 Labor Day
- September 11 Patriot Day
- September 15 Legion Mtg. 7:00 PM
- September 23 40&8 Mtg. 6:00 PM
- September 24 Bingo @ Cedars 6:00 PM
- September 26 Dance Sponsored by 40&8 Our Lady of Mercy Country Home 7:00 PM til 11:00 PM
- October 12 Columbus Day
- October 20 Legion Mtg. 7:00 PM
- October 22 Bingo @ Cedars 6:30 PM
- October 28 40&8 Mtg. 6:00 PM

Member Sickness

- John Gibbs is recovering from chemotherapy for bone cancer.
- Jim Rieck is battling cancer treatments.
- Ray Thompson still suffering lung cancer

Anniversaries and Birthdays

- June 13, 1944 Robert Beatty
- June 14, 1775 U.S. Army
- June 24, 1940 Gentry Thomason
- June 25, 1940 Wally Glasco
- July 7, 1937 LeRoy Coe
- July 21, 1943 Ray Creswell
- September 6, 19?? Stephanie Ebner
- September 20, 1915 Lester Brown

U.S. Army

The Continental Army was created on 14 June 1775 by the Continental Congress as a unified army for the colonies to fight Great Britain, with George Washington appointed as its commander. The army

was initially led by men who had served in the British Army or colonial militias who brought much of British military heritage with them. As the Revolutionary War progressed, French aid, resources, and military thinking influenced the new army. A number of European soldiers came on their own to help, such as Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, who taught the army Prussian tactics and organizational skills.

The army fought numerous pitched battles and in the South 1780–81 sometimes used the Fabian strategy and hit-and-run tactics, hitting where the enemy was weakest, to wear down the British forces. Washington led victories against the British at Trenton and Princeton, but lost a series of battles around New York City in 1776 and Philadelphia in 1777. With a decisive victory at Yorktown, and the help of the French, the Continental Army prevailed against the British.

After the war, though, the Continental Army was quickly given land certificates and disbanded in a reflection of the republican distrust of standing armies. State militias became the new nation's sole ground army, with the exception of a regiment to guard the Western Frontier and one battery of artillery guarding West Point's arsenal. However, because of continuing conflict with Native Americans, it was soon realized that it was necessary to field a trained standing army. The Regular Army was at first very small, and after General St. Clair's defeat at the Battle of the Wabash, the Regular Army was reorganized as the Legion of the United States, which was established in 1791 and renamed the "United States Army" in 1796.

Brown's Law of Physical Appearance

If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

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Commander's Corner

Judi Samborski

Winter is over and summer is just around the corner. Warm weather, longer days, and growing gardens; provided we don't have anymore heavy rains. Summer means more time outside with family and friends. Nice nights around a campfire or just grilling out. The kids are out of school and out playing enjoying the longer days. I love being able to finally hang up my winter coat, putting the long johns, and heavy socks away. Unfortunately, it means the beginning of tornado season. Being in "Tornado Alley" Missouri, along with several other Central States, are usually inundated with severe weather and tornados this time of year.

June 7th Post 95 will be hosting the 3rd District meeting. Lunch is at noon and the meeting is at 1:00 pm (1300 for you military types). If you plan to attend, please bring a very small side dish to share. We usually have plenty of food. Post 95 will provide the meat, rolls, and drinks. Also at this meeting the District will have the elections of their officers. I'd like to see a lot of Post members. I know it's in June and many of you may be leaving for vacations, but hopefully you can attend.

May 19th the Post presented the annual Citizenship Awards to selected students at Heartland Middle School (formally Liberty Junior High). This year we presented medallions to boys and girls in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. I would like to say a big Thank You to Larry Allen, Stephanie Ebner, and Robert Beatty for braving the rain and joining me in presenting these Awards. We saw a lot of talented students and

had some laughs along with the students and teachers in each grade's assembly.

Post 95 will be electing our officers during the June meeting. I originally planned to hold them during the May meeting but with Don Happy's surgery that day, I decided to postpone the elections until the June meeting so he can be at the meeting. The positions up for elections are Commander, 1st Vice Commander, 2nd Vice Commander, Finance Officer, and JAG Officer. The positions of Adjutant, Chaplain, and Sergeant-At-Arms are appointed by the Commander. The Officers will be sworn into office at the July meeting.

Dates for the summer our Post meetings are June 16, July 21, and August 18. We are located at Our Lady of Mercy Country Home the meetings start promptly at 7:00 pm. Hope to see you there.

Have a safe and fun summer!

Keep the men and women of our Armed Services who continued to serve. God Bless America!

3rd District Officers

The 3rd District meeting was held June 7, 2015, at Post 95.

Here are the officers for the 3rd District for the 2015-2016 year.

- Commander – R.E. Holtz
- 1st Vice Commander – Calvin Bumgarner
- 2nd Vice Commander – Douglas Millison
- Adjutant – Robert Emery
- Chaplain – John Kopp
- Sergeant-At-Arms – Gary Nichols
- JAG – John Kopp
- Finance Officer – Judi Samborski
- National Security Advisor – Jake Samborski

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Remains Returned

Associated Press

July 26, 2015

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — The military and a private organization have brought home the remains of 36 Marines killed in one of World War II's bloodiest battles.

A group called History Flight recovered the remains from the remote Pacific atoll of Tarawa, the U.S. Marine Corps said. A ceremony was held Sunday in Pearl Harbor to mark their return.

History Flight has started identifying the remains, and the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency will complete the effort, the Marines said. The Marines plan to return the remains to their families after they've been identified.

More than 990 U.S. Marines and 30 sailors died during the three-day Battle of Tarawa in 1943. Japanese machine gun fire killed scores of Marines when their boats got stuck on the reef at low tide during the U.S. amphibious assault. Americans who made it to the beach faced brutal hand-to-hand combat.

Only 17 of the 3,500 Japanese troops survived. Of 1,200 Korean slave laborers on the island, just 129 lived.

The U.S. quickly buried the thousands of dead on the tiny atoll. But the graves were soon disturbed as the Navy urgently built a landing strip to prepare for an attack on the next Pacific island on their path to Tokyo.

About 520 U.S. servicemen are still unaccounted for from the battle.

Preliminary work conducted by History Flight indicates the remains of 1st Lt. Alexander J. Bonnyman, Jr., a Marine who was posthumously

awarded the Medal of Honor, are among the 36 brought to Hawaii.

Gen. Joseph Dunford, the commandant of the Marines Corps, said in a statement he's pleased to learn of the discovery of the remains at Tarawa, the site of one of the service's most significant battles.

"It was also the first contested landing against a heavily fortified enemy, and a turning point in the development in our amphibious capability. The lessons learned at Tarawa paved the way for our success in the Pacific campaign and eventual end to the war," Dunford said.

History Flight brought attention to the Tarawa missing when its research indicated it had found the graves of 139 U.S. servicemen. The Marathon, Florida-based organization used ground-penetrating radar, reviewed thousands of military documents and interviewed veterans to narrow down possible grave sites.

Quote

Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty. —John F. Kennedy

Political Correctness

FINALLY, A DEFINITION OF THE TERM "POLITICAL CORRECTNESS!

Political Correctness is a doctrine, recently fostered by a delusional, illogical minority and promoted by a sick mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that it is entirely possible to pick up a piece of crap by clean end!

Helpful Hint

Running your bacon under cold water before cooking will reduce shrinking by up to 50%.

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Vietnam Memorial Wall

A little history most people will never know.
Interesting Veterans Statistics off the Vietnam Memorial Wall

There are 58,267 names now listed on that polished black wall, including those added in 2010.

The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 36 years since the last casualties.

The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, Mass. Listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965.

There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.

39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger.

8,283 were just 19 years old.

The largest age group, 33,103 were 18 years old.

12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old.

5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old.

One soldier, PFC Dan Bullock was 15 years old.

997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam.

1,448 soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam.

31 sets of brothers are on the Wall.

Thirty one sets of parents lost two of their sons.

54 soldiers attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia. I wonder why so many from one school.

8 Women are on the Wall. Nursing the wounded.

244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War; 153 of them are on the Wall.

Beallsville, Ohio with a population of 475 lost 6 of her sons.

West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation. There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall.

The Marines of Morenci - They led some of the scrappiest high school football and basketball teams that the little Arizona copper town of Morenci (pop. 5,058) had ever known and cheered. They enjoyed roaring beer busts. In quieter moments, they rode horses along the Coronado Trail, stalked deer in the Apache National Forest. And in the patriotic camaraderie typical of Morenci's mining families, the nine graduates of Morenci High enlisted as a group in the Marine Corps. Their service began on Independence Day, 1966. Only 3 returned home.

The Buddies of Midvale - LeRoy Tafoya, Jimmy Martinez, Tom Gonzales were all boyhood friends and lived on three consecutive streets in Midvale, Utah on Fifth, Sixth and Seventh avenues. They lived only a few yards apart. They played ball at the adjacent sandlot ball field. And they all went to Vietnam. In a span of 16 dark days in late 1967, all three would be killed. LeRoy was killed on Wednesday, Nov. 22, the fourth anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination. Jimmy died less than 24 hours later on Thanksgiving Day. Tom was shot dead assaulting the enemy on Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

The most casualty deaths for a single day was

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on January 31, 1968 ~ 245 deaths.

The most casualty deaths for a single month was May 1968 - 2,415 casualties were incurred.

For most Americans who read this they will only see the numbers that the Vietnam War created. To those of us who survived the war, and to the families of those who did not, we see the faces, we feel the pain that these numbers created. We are, until we too pass away, haunted with these numbers, because they were our friends, fathers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters. There are no noble wars, just noble warriors.

The Meaning of the Flag-Draped Coffin

Do you know that at military funerals, the 21-gun salute stands for the sum of the numbers in the year 1776?

Have you ever noticed that the honor guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the United States of America Flag 13 times? You probably thought it was to symbolize the original 13 colonies, but we learn something new every day!

The 1st fold of the flag is a symbol of life.

The 2nd fold is a symbol of the belief in eternal life.

The 3rd fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing the ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of the country to attain peace throughout the world.

The 4th fold represents the weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His divine guidance.

The 5th fold is a tribute to the country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, 'Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong.'

The 6th fold is for where people's hearts lie. It is with their heart that they pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and the Republic for which

it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

The 7th fold is a tribute to its Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that they protect their country and their flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of their republic.

The 8th fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The 9th fold is a tribute to womanhood, and mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The 10th fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of their country since they were first born.

The 11th fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrews eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The 12th fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christians eyes, God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

The 13th fold, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding them of their Nations motto, 'In God We Trust.'

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for them the rights, privileges and freedoms they enjoy today.

There are some traditions and ways of doing things that have deep meaning. In the future, you'll see flags folded and now you will know why.

Law of the Result

When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.

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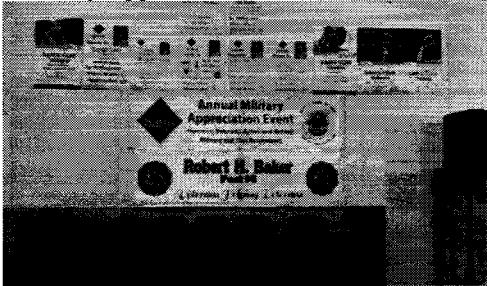
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Military Appreciation Event at Sam's Club



Post 95 presented the colors at the second annual Sam's Club Military Appreciation Event on June 26, 2015. After the National Anthem was sung all veterans and their families were treated to a breakfast and a program featuring guest speakers representing organizations that work with veterans.

Topics presented were in the areas of healthcare, registration at the VA, PTSD, and the Clay County Veteran's Court.

2016 Dues

You may have already received notice that your 2016 dues are due. What you may not know is that if you pay before December 31, 2015 you will save \$5.00 because as of the first of the year National has raised the dues \$5.00 due to the falling number of members.

Ira Hunter

From Ray Nichols

There are 3 fine WW 2 men in Valley Manor, Excelsior Springs, Mo.

Lester Brown, 99 years old & will be 100 on Sept. 20th.

Bert Wackenknecht, 90 plus years old. Marched across Europe with a bazooka and he will tell you he was good with that bazooka.

Ira Hunter, 92 years old & also marched across Europe. Ira told us black soldiers did not get to carry rifles until the Battle of the Bulge. I asked Ira why did you get a rifle then? Ira said "Because we were getting out butts kicked & EVERYBODY GOT A RIFLE".

When you have time stop in & see these fine old men.

Thank You

David Wiglesworth Family

Thank you so much for the beautiful service for our brother David. He made us so proud for his service to the U.S. Marine Corp. He protected his sisters & all Americans.

Love,
 Janet & Sandy
 (Sisters)

Thank You

Cornelius Edward Uehline, Jr. Family

Thank you so much for honoring my father on 1/30/15. Your respect and participation in his service added so much and I truly appreciate your service.

Teri Winnie

Thank You

Thank you for supporting the 16th Annual Veterans Home Assistance League Golf Tournament as a \$150.00 for 3 – cart sponsor. Our tournament was a great success because ou your generosity! This year benefits from the Golf Tournament have been deposited in the Recreation Fund and will be used to enhance the lives of all the Veterans in the Cameron Home.

Thank you so much for your continued support and remember our Veterans with your donations!

Barbara Caldwell
 Director of Volunteer Services and Liaison to the Cameron Missouri Veterans Home Assistance League

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Color Guard @ Cedars

As part of the Memorial Day activities the Color Guard performed a flag presentation for the residents of Cedars. The home requested Post 95 to do the honors. We also do bingo there on the fourth Thursday of each month.

The Post also did flag presentations at 4 other nursing homes.

Chaplin's Corner

Ray Nichols, Chaplin

Helping Others.

The following article was printed in the Upper Room booklet we get at the Liberty United Methodist Church.

"Throughout the Gospels, Jesus tells us to help others we meet on the highway of life, to put our faith into action. He encourages us to give and not look for anything in return, to love our neighbors as ourselves. Showing compassion for those less fortunate than ourselves is one way we reflect the presence of Jesus Christ in our lives.

"Remember as Legionnaires, and Veterans we strive to help other Veterans, Veteran's widows and children.

Continuous Membership

Post 95 Commander Judi Samborski and Post 95 Vice Commander Stephanie Ebner presented continuous membership certificates to the following members.

Ray Creswell 5 years

Wally Glasco 5 years

Ray Merrell 20 years

Post Officers Installed

At our July 21, 2015 meeting John Kopp, 3rd District Past Commander installed the new officers for Post 95 for 2015-2016.

From left to right front row: Robert Beatty, Second Vice Commander, Ray Nichols, Chaplin, Stephanie Ebner, First Vice Commander, Judy Samborski, Commander, Don Happy, Finance Officer. Second row left to right Robert Emery Adjutant and Jake Samborski, Sergeant at Arms.

Quote

"The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch and do nothing" - Albert Einstein

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Freedom Isn't Free

I PLEDGE ALLEGANCE TO THE FLAG,
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND TO
THE REPUBLIC, FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE
NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH
LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL!

We must never forget who gets the credit for the
freedoms we have, of which we should be eternally
grateful.

I watched the flag pass by one day.

It fluttered in the breeze.

A young Marine saluted it,

And then he stood at ease.

I looked at him in uniform;

so young, so tall, so proud.

With hair cut square and eyes alert,

he'd stand out in any crowd.

I thought how many men like him

had fallen through the years.

How many died on foreign soil,

how many mothers' tears?

How many pilots' planes shot down?

How many died at sea?

How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?

NO, FREEDOM ISN'T FREE

I heard the sound of Taps one night,

when everything was still.

I listened to the bugler play

And felt a sudden chill.

I wondered just how many times

That Taps had meant 'Amen'.

When a flag had draped a coffin

of a brother or a friend.

I thought of all the children,

of the mothers and the wives,

of fathers, sons and husbands

With interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard

At the bottom of the sea.

Of unmarked graves in Arlington.

NO FREEDOM ISN'T FREE

Enjoy Your Freedom and

God Bless Our Troops.

Of all the gifts you could give a

U.S. Soldier, prayer is the very best one.

God Bless all!

Medal of Honor Recipient

You're a 19 year old kid. You are critically wounded and
dying in the jungle somewhere in the Central Highlands of
Viet Nam.

It's November 11, 1967. LZ (landing zone) X-ray. Our
unit is outnumbered 8-1 and the enemy fire is so intense
from 100 yards away, that your CO (commanding officer)
has ordered the MedEvac helicopters to stop coming in.
You're lying there, listening to the enemy machine guns
and you know you're not getting out.

Your family is half way around the world, 12,000 miles
away, and you'll never see them again.

As the world starts to fade in and out, you know this is
the day. Then - over the machine gun noise - you faintly
hear that sound of a helicopter. You look up to see a Huey
coming in. But.. It doesn't seem real because no MedEvac
markings are on it.

Captain Ed Freeman is coming in for you. He's not
MedEvac so it's not his job, but he heard the radio call
and decided he's flying his Huey down into the machine
gun fire anyway. Even after the MedEvacs were ordered
not to come he's coming anyway. And he drops it in and
sits there in the machine gun fire, as they load 3 of you at
a time on board.

Then he flies you up and out through the gunfire to the
doctors and nurses and safety. And, *he kept coming back!!*
13 more times!! Until all the wounded were out. No one
knew until the mission was over that the Captain had been
hit 4 times in the legs and left arm. He took 29 of you and
your buddies out that day. Some would not have made it
without the Captain and his Huey.

**Medal of Honor Recipient, Captain Ed Freeman,
United States Air Force, died at the age of 70, in Boise,
Idaho.**

Law

Oliver's law : A closed mouth gathers no feet.

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