

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



The Liberty  
Legionaire  
4th Quarter 2015  
Volume 1, Issue 26

We served our  
Country  
Still serving our  
Community

## ***Post 95 Christmas Dinner***

***Join us for our annual***

***Christmas Dinner!***

***When: December 15, 2015***

***Time: 1830 hours (6:30 pm)***

***Where: Our Lady of Mercy Country***

***Home***

***Tighe Hall***

***Who: All Post 95 members and their***

***Spouse/Significant Other***

***The Post will provide the meat and  
rolls.***

***Members please bring a side dish to  
share.***

### **Birthdays**

January 11, ???? Judi Samborski  
January 30, 1947 Jim Elliott  
January 31, 1932 Paul Ellison  
February 23, 1950 Charles Allen

### **Dates to Remember**

December 17 – Bingo @ Cedars – 6:30 PM  
December 25 – Christmas Day  
January 1 – New Years Day  
January 18 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
January 19 – Legion Mtg. - 7:00 PM  
January 27 – 40&8 - 6:00 PM  
January 28 - Bingo @ Cedars -6:30 PM  
February 10 – Ash Wednesday  
February 12 – Lincoln's Birthday

February 14 – Valentine's Day  
February 15 – President's Day (Observed)  
February 16 – Legion Mtg. - 7:00 PM  
February 22 – Washington's Birthday  
February 24 – 40&8 – 6:00 PM  
February 25 – Bingo @ Cedar's – 6:30 PM  
March 13 – Daylight Savings Time Begins  
March 15 – Legion Mtg. - 7:00 PM  
March 23 – 40&8 - 6:00 PM  
March 24 – Bingo @ Cedars – 6:30 PM  
March 25 – 25 – Good Friday  
March 27 – Easter Sunday  
April 2 – Spaghetti Dinner

### **One hundred years from now.....**

From our pastors sermon, By Walden Parker  
It will not make much difference, friend, a hundred  
years from now.

If you live in a stately mansion or on a river scow;  
If the clothes you wear are tailor made or pieced  
together somehow,

If you eat big steaks or beans or cake ... a hundred  
years from now

It won't matter your bank account or the make of the  
car you drive

For the grave will claim all riches and fame and the  
things for which you strive.

There's a deadline that we all must meet, and no one  
will be late.

It won't matter then all the places you've been, each  
one will keep that date

We will only have in eternity--what we gave away on  
earth.

When we go to the grave, we can only save the things  
of eternal worth.

What matters, friend, the earthly gain for which some  
men always bow.

For your destiny will be sealed, you see...a hundred  
years from now

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**Chaplin's Corner**

G. Ray Nichols, Post Chaplin

Our Pastor's sermon this week at Liberty United Methodist Church was on being "together". At this time of year being together is most important in our family culture. Getting together as a family at Thanksgiving and Christmas are the best memories in every family.

Now we are faced with a terrorist threat from the Middle East. Old adversaries are now coming together to make a stand together against this threat. From Corinthian's 2:5-10, "Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger". Pray for the safety of our troops, and security protecting our country and our citizens. This is a time of year when everyone needs to stand together as Christians - remember that is the reason for the season. Merry Christmas and God bless all of you.

**Ted Nelson's, Service**

By Ted Nelson

I signed up for the U.S. Navy, February of 1951. They sent 8 of us to Omaha for all our shots and then took us by train to San Diego, CA. Got in about 3:00 A.M. and up at 6:00. We learned to march with all our gunnery. I was sent to Alameda, CA for about four months. From there we were loaded on a sea plane and went to Hawaii for four days, then on to Johnson Island, then to Guam for four days. Next it was on to Taiwan for a short day. From there we went to an Air Base in Japan.

They loaded us on a train for a trip to Southern Japan, went past Nagasaki and got to see all the A-bomb damage. Four of us were loaded on an oiler to go out to be loaded on A/C carrier, the USS

Antietam CV 36. I was put in the mechanic shop for aircraft repair. After seven months of going back to the States to get new planes and different pilots they loaded us on the carrier USS Princeton. We were shipped back to Korean waters and were there until the end of the conflict. Then we went to lower China and made a stop in Hong Kong. Finally back to the good old USA.

When I was on the Princeton I was put on office duty taking care of the Pilots Log Books and aircraft logs. Good duty.

When I got back to the States I was stationed at Fallon, NV. for one and a half years and discharged in February of 1954 - and back to the farm in Northwest Iowa.

I was a Petty Officer Third Class in the Navy.

**! DID NOT KNOW**

Do Las Vegas churches accept gambling chips?

This may come as a surprise to those of you not living in Las Vegas, but there are more Catholic churches than casinos.

Not surprisingly, some worshipers at Sunday services will give casino chips rather than cash when the basket is passed.

Since they get chips from many different casinos, the churches have devised a method to collect the offerings.

The churches send all their collected chips to a nearby Franciscan monastery for sorting and then the chips are taken to the casinos of origin and cashed in.

This is done by the chip monks.

**Post 95 Meetings**

We meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month @ 7:00 PM.

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### "Precious Lord"

AFTER READING THIS, I THINK YOU WILL BE SURPRISED AT WHAT YOU LEARNED. I SURE DID NOT KNOW THIS. GUESS YOU DO LEARN SOMETHING NEW EACH DAY.

### THE BIRTH OF THE HYMN "PRECIOUS LORD"

Back in 1932, I was a fairly new husband. My wife, Nettie and I were living in a little apartment on Chicago's south side. One hot August afternoon I had to go to St. Louis where I was to be the featured soloist at a large revival meeting. I didn't want to go; Nettie was in the last month of pregnancy with our first child, but a lot of people were expecting me in St. Louis. I kissed Nettie goodbye, clattered downstairs to our Model A, and in a fresh Lake Michigan breeze, chugged out of Chicago on Route 66.

However, outside the city, I discovered that in my anxiety at leaving, I had forgotten my music case. I wheeled around and headed back.

I found Nettie sleeping peacefully. I hesitated by her bed; something was strongly telling me to stay; but eager to get on my way, and not wanting to disturb Nettie, I shrugged off the feeling and quietly slipped out of the room with my music.

The next night, in the steaming St. Louis heat, the crowd called on me to sing again and again. When I finally sat down, a messenger boy ran up with a Western Union telegram. I ripped open the envelope.... Pasted on the yellow sheet were the words: YOUR WIFE JUST DIED.

People were happily singing and clapping around me, but I could hardly keep from crying out. I rushed to a phone and called home. All I could hear on the other end was "Nettie is dead. Nettie is dead."

When I got back, I learned that Nettie had given birth to a boy. I swung between grief and joy. Yet

that same night, the baby died. I buried Nettie and our little boy together, in the same casket. Then I fell apart. For days I closeted myself. I felt that God had done me an injustice. I didn't want to serve Him anymore or write gospel songs; I just wanted to go back to that jazz world I once knew so well. But then, as I hunched alone in that dark apartment house first sad days, I thought back to the afternoon I went to St. Louis.

Something kept telling me to stay with Nettie. Was that something God? Oh, if I had paid more attention to Him that day, I would have stayed and been with Nettie when she died.

From that moment on I vowed to listen more closely to Him. But still I was lost in grief. Everyone was kind to me, especially one friend. The following Saturday evening he took me up to Maloney's Poro College, a neighborhood music school. It was quiet; the late evening sun crept through the curtained windows.

I sat down at the piano, and my hands began to browse over the keys. Something happened to me then. I felt at peace. I felt as though I could reach out and touch God. I found myself playing a melody. Once in my head, they just seemed to fall into place: 'Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn, through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light, take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.'

The Lord gave me these words and melody, He also healed my spirit. I learned that when we are in our deepest grief, when we feel farthest from God, this is when He is closest, and when we are most open to His restoring power.

And so I go on living for God willingly and joyfully, until that day comes when He will take me and gently lead me home.

Written by Tommy Dorsey

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**Commander's Corner**

Judi Samborski

As we near the end of another year, I am inclined to look back to what Post 95 has done. We have done a great many things and, my goodness, have we been busy! I'm so proud of what our Post accomplishes each year. And want to thank everyone who has participated in all of our activities this year.

Last year we performed, at the time of this writing, about 60 military funerals honoring those men and women who have passed on. We lost members of our Post as well. Their passing was difficult especially for those who had known them well. Their friendships and accomplishments won't soon fade from our memories, and we thank them for their service to our Country and to our Post.

Every year the Post visits the five Liberty nursing homes on Memorial Day to honor the men and women Veterans who reside at these places. Although it rained and we weren't able to put the flags out for the Avenue of Flags at the Fairview/New Hope cemeteries for the weekend, the Color Guard was able to honor the residents. Maybe the next year the weather will cooperate for us.

This year we also hosted a 3<sup>rd</sup> District meeting in June.

Jim Elliott sets up a table at Sam's Club during nice weather to sell military hats and pins for another fundraiser for our Post. Jim also makes parachord bracelets, key chains, and lanyards of various colors and designs. All of these things are great sellers. Jerry Pate and Robert Beatty help him out. Jim has been given permission to set up inside Hy-Vee during the cold months.

Normally we march in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade in Liberty but it was cancelled this year. That evening the Color Guard presented the Colors at William Jewell College and had flags along the street at the college.

Another thing that Post 95 does that we enjoy is Flag Etiquette classes with the 4<sup>th</sup> graders attending not only Liberty Elementary schools but also in Kearney and Smithville. These classes are led by Mike Edwards. It is informative and fun for both the Post and the children.

This year we marched in the Liberty Fall Festival Parade. Don Happy pulled a trailer behind his truck for those who can't march. Those hills are pretty steep when one is marching. I sure wish they'd flatten them out for us.

The month of November seems like very busy month for our Post. Usually it begins with our Honor Guard team, again led by Mike Edwards, at Wicklund's Carstar in Liberty. It is their annual Veteran's Appreciation event with good food, good entertainment, good fellowship, and the door prizes.

Then on November 11, we have a full day of events. First, Hy-Vee has a free breakfast for Veterans. The Liberty School district also had a Veterans Appreciation breakfast at Discovery Middle School. Then at noon there was supposed to be a ceremony to honor three local Veterans at the Fairview/New Hope cemetery but the weather didn't cooperate, again. We had the ceremony at the Liberty Community Center; inside. One of this year's honorees was Ted Nelson from our Post. He is a WWII Navy Veteran. The Honor Guard fired the 21-gun salute outside under the command of Mike Edwards. Gene Welsh, along

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with a bugler from the VFW did an echo TAPS. It was very moving. We finished the long day at our Post, Our Lady of Mercy Country Home, to do a quick ceremony to honor the Veterans residing there.

We also have our annual Spaghetti Dinner in March and Chili Dinner in October. As always, we have a great turnout with great food. Larry Allen organizes both events and is there all day. But we also have a lot of our members pitching in doing whatever tasks need to be done. Robert Emery does a great job designing and printing the flyers, meal tickets, and raffle tickets for each event. Norma always decorates the tables beautifully. It is really great to have so many people who come out to help.

Post 95 hosts the Clay County Oratorical contest in December. These are juniors or seniors in high school from area schools. These young men and women have to memorize a 4 to 6 minute speech concerning some aspect of the Constitution of the United States. These young people are truly remarkable in the subject matter and presentations.

In March Post 95 presents Citizenship Awards to boys and girls at Heartland Middle School.

Also Post 95 sponsors a number of high school boys for Boys State in Warrensburg during a week in July. We also sponsor high school girls for Girls State and someone for Cadet Patrol.

In June the Color Guard was invited to present the Colors at Sam's Club in Liberty, actually Kansas City. It is what Sam's Club does to honor the area Veterans. They treat us to a nice breakfast and a few speeches.

We also do flag disposals. Mike Edwards hosts a BBQ at his home and the Officers and

members of the Post perform a flag disposal ceremony. We also do one sometime during the Liberty Fall Festival.

I know this Commander's Corner is fairly lengthy but it was suggested that I let you know what activities that Post 95 is involved in. As you can tell, we are a very busy American Legion Post. But that is not by accident. There are a lot of men and women in our Post who volunteer their time participating in all of those events. And as the Commander, I am extremely blessed to be in such a wonderful Post.

I want to say a huge Thank You to all of the members of Post 95 for making this such a great Post. And I know we will continue being a positive presence in the community next year.

Please remember those men and women in uniform as they continue to defend our country. Also remember those who are in need.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

### **Truisms**

I live in my own little world, but it's OK.  
Everyone knows me here.

I don't do drugs. I find I get the same effect just by standing up really fast.

The most precious thing we have is life, yet it has absolutely no trade-in value.

Every day I beat my previous record of consecutive days I've stayed alive.

No one ever says "It's only a game!" when their team's winning.

### **Quotes**

"A man can fail many times but he isn't a failure until he begins to blame someone else." – John Burroughs

It is always better to be judged by 12 than carried by 6. - In God We Trust

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**Pearl Harbor Remembrance**

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, which is annually on December 7, commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii, during World War II. Many American service men and women lost their lives or were injured on December 7, 1941. National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is also referred to as Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day or Pearl Harbor Day.

**What Do People Do?**

On the direction of the President, the flag of the United States of America should be displayed on the homes of Americans, the White House and all United States government buildings. The flag should be flown at half-mast to honor those who died in the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Many associations, especially those linked with Pearl Harbor survivors or those who died from the attack; participate in special services to commemorate the event. Memorial services are held at venues such as the USS Arizona Memorial in Pearl Harbor. Other activities include: wreath-laying ceremonies; keynote speeches by those associated with the event; luncheons; media stories on survivors' recollections of the Pearl Harbor attack; and school activities to educate students about the attack on Pearl Harbor in relation to World War II history.

**Public Life**

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is not a federal holiday. Government offices, schools, businesses and other organizations do not close. Public transit systems run on their regular schedules. Some organizations may hold special events in memory of those killed or injured in Pearl Harbor.

**Background**

On Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, the American Army and Navy base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii was attacked by the Imperial Japanese Navy. The attack came as a surprise to the American Army and Navy and lead to great losses of life and equipment. More than 2000 American citizens were killed and more than 1000 were injured. The Americans also lost a large proportion of their battle ships and nearly 200 aircraft that were stationed in the Pacific region. More than 60 Japanese servicemen were killed, injured or captured. The Japanese Navy also lost five midget submarines and 29 aircraft.

The Japanese military had hoped that the attack on Pearl Harbor would prevent the United States of America from increasing her influence in the Pacific. However, the events in Pearl Harbor actually led to the escalation of World War II. The day after the attack, the United States declared war on Japan and so entered World War II. President Franklin Roosevelt in a speech to Congress stated that the bombing of Pearl Harbor was “a date which will live in infamy”. Shortly afterwards, Germany also declared war on the United States. In the months that followed the attack, the slogan “Remember Pearl Harbor” swept the United States and radio stations repeatedly played a song of the same name.

In 1991, which marked the 50th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States Congress established the Pearl Harbor Commemorative Medal. This is also known as the Pearl Harbor Survivor's Medal and can be awarded to any veteran of the United States military who were present in or around Pearl Harbor during the attack by the Japanese military. The medal can be awarded to civilians, who were killed or injured in the attack.

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### **Thank You**

We would like to thank you for the wonderful Rifle Tribute and Taps for Bernard Ham. He was very proud of his service in the Marine Corps and it was his wish to have these at his services.

Thank you again for the medallion and casings as well.

God bless you all,  
Darlene, Michael & Nanette  
The Ham Family

### **Thank You**

To all of you in Post 95, Thanks for the ceremony you gave my husband Ray Thompson on the 18<sup>th</sup> of Nov. It was a wonderful ceremony and the flag holder you guys gave me was perfect!

My heartfelt thanks goes to everyone at Post 95, Ray would have liked this very much!

Sincerely,  
Grace Thompson

### **Fourth Grader Thank You's**

"Just as they were written"

Dear Veterans,

Thank you for protection. It doesn't matter what rank or branch your in you're still helping the entire U.S. It's a really dangerous job cause you could get seriously get hurt. Thank you so much for protecting us.

From,  
Gavin

Dear Veterans,

Thank you for serving our country! It is amazing that you veterans do this for us. We wouldn't be here without you! People want to meet their heroes, I know I found mine and that is YOU! Grace H.

### **Quotes**

"If the grass is greener on the other side, water your grass." - (Anonymous)

"To argue with a person who has renounced the use of reason is like administering medicine to the dead." – Thomas Paine – English-American political activist, writer and revolutionary.

"Speed's fine, but accuracy is final!" ~ Wyatt Earp ~ 1881

Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint. - Mark Twain

I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury. - Groucho Marx

I have never hated a man enough to give his diamonds back. - Zsa Zsa Gabor

Last week, I stated this woman was the ugliest woman I had ever seen. I have since been visited by her sister and now wish to withdraw that statement.. - Mark Twain

Money can't buy you happiness.... But it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery. - Spike Milligan

I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap. - Bob Hope

We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Congress. - Will Rogers

Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older, it will avoid you. - Winston Churchill

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible. - George Burns

Until I was thirteen, I thought my name was **SHUT UP**. - Joe Namath

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**Tomb of the Unknown**

From talk by Thomas Tudor

“Soldiers never die until they are forgotten. Tomb Guards never forget.”

There currently have been 634 Tomb Guard badges issued as of today.

Both men and women can be tomb guards (army only).

A tomb guard badge can be revoked for as long as the guard lives. At least 21 have been revoked for conduct unbecoming of a tomb guard such as committing a felony and other transgressions that bring shame upon the guard and the tomb.

The original headstones in Arlington were wooden planks painted white with black letters stenciled. In 1873 congress authorized the use of marble headstones.

On the tomb the inscription on the marker reads: Beneath this stone repose the bones of two thousand and one hundred and eleven unknown soldiers gathered after the war from the fields of Bull Run and the route to the Rappahannack. Their remains could not be identified but their names and death are recorded in the archives of their country and its grateful citizens honor them as of their noble army of martyrs may they rest in peace. September A.D 1866

In 1926 President Calvin Coolidge placed guards on the Tomb of the Unknowns as a result of a family having a picnic lunch on the tomb.

Beginning in 1937 a guard has guarded the tomb nonstop.

Arlington and Old Sailors & Soldiers cemeteries are administered by the Department of the Army. All other veteran cemeteries are under the Veteran Administration.

In 1958 remains of unknowns from the Korean “War” and WWII were entered into the Tomb of the Unknowns.

Remains of the last unknowns from Vietnam were identified and removed from the tomb.

The tomb is now sealed and no more remains will be placed in it. (DNA testing now identifies remains)

In 1953 tomb guards stopped having live rounds in their weapon.

**The Sentinel's Creed**

My dedication to this sacred duty  
is total and whole-hearted.

In the responsibility bestowed on me  
never will I falter.

And with dignity and perseverance  
my standard will remain perfection.

Through the years of diligence and praise  
and the discomfort of the elements,

I will walk my tour in humble reverence  
to the best of my ability.

It is he who commands the respect I protect,  
his bravery that made us so proud.

Surrounded by well meaning crowds by day,  
alone in the thoughtful peace of night,  
this soldier will in honored glory rest  
under my eternal vigilance.

Simon 1971

Arlington currently has approximately 400,000 graves and there are approximately 30 funerals a day.

There are twelve Supreme Court Justices (4 in a row) buried in Arlington.

There is a Muslim buried in Arlington.

There is also a section where slaves are buried.

Abraham Lincoln's freed slave chose to go to Washington with him when he became president and he is buried in Arlington.

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