

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



The Liberty  
Legionnaire  
2nd Quarter 2018  
Volume 2, Issue 2

We served our  
Country  
Still serving our  
Community

### Important Dates

June 19 – Legion Mtg. – 7:00 PM  
June 21 – First day of summer  
June 22 – 40&8 – 6:00 PM  
June 28 – Bingo @ Cedars – 6:30 PM  
July 3 – Fountain Bluffs – Liberty 4<sup>th</sup> of  
July celebration  
July 4 – Independence Day  
July 7 – Hat Sales @ Sam’s Club – 8:00  
AM  
July 11, 1955 – US Air Force Academy  
Dedicated  
July 16, 1790 – Washington D.C. chosen  
nation’s capital  
July 17 – Legion Mtg. – 7:00 PM  
July 25 – 40&8 – 6:00 PM  
July 26 – Bingo @ Cedars – 6:30 PM  
July 31, 1876 – Coast Guard Academy  
founded  
August 4, 1790 – Coast Guard established  
August 4, 1942 – W.A.V.E.S established  
August 4 – Hat Sales @ Sam’s Club – 8:00  
AM  
August 21 – Legion Mtg. – 7:00 PM  
August 22 – 40&8 – 6:00 PM  
August 23 – Bingo @ Cedars – 6:30 PM  
August 25 – Post 61 Car & Bike Show  
August 28, 29, 30 – Liberty Fall Festival  
**Birthdays**  
May 14, 1939 Jerry Head (Omitted 1<sup>st</sup> qtr)

June 13, 1944 Robert Beatty  
June 24, 1940 Gentry Thomason  
June 27, 1943 Ron Pardeck  
July 7, 1937 LeRoy Coe  
July 21, 1943 Ray Creswell  
August 23, 1931 Vern Maddox  
August 31, 1945 Mike Edwards  
September 3, 1941 Jerry Pate  
September 6, 196? Stephanie Ebner  
September 9, 1935 Frank Henderson

### Anniversaries

June 2, 1995 Jake & Judi Samborski  
June 11, 1962 Ron & Pardeck  
June 15, 1990 Robert & Beatty  
July 11, 1957 Ted & Ruth Nelson  
July 10, 1965 John & Joan Gibbs  
August 2, 1969 Mike & Mary Edwards  
August 11, 1967 Larry & Mitsuko Allen  
September 1, 1962 Jerry & Pate

### Raffle Winners

Winners of the raffle at the spaghetti  
dinner, March 24, were:  
Jim Custer - \$50.00 Darden Gift Card  
Michael Allen - \$50.00 Lowe’s Gift Card  
Jim Custer - \$50.00 Quick Trip Gift Card  
Gene Welch - \$75.00 Hy-Vee Gift Card  
Mona Hobbs - \$75.00 Price Chopper Gift  
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Thanks to everyone for their support in  
this fundraiser for our youth programs.

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**Commanders Corner**

Robert Beatty, Commander

Just a reminder that the election of officers is just around the corner.

Several members of the Post 95 attended the first annual fund raiser for Tiny House for homeless veterans at William Jewel Collage. Manny thanks to the senior class for all their efforts. It was a very informative meeting followed by a great meal. Jerry Head, Jerry Pate, Stephanie Ebner, Ray Crestwell, Wally Glasco and I attended.

I would like to take some time to remember all our members who have passed on with this thought, not by my hand:

**A Debt That Can Never Be Repaired!**

To Those Who Gave The Ultimate  
Sacrifice...

We Salute You, You Are Not Forgotten...  
If Someone Is Forgotten, It Is If They Never  
Lived.

After They're Deceased, They Continue To  
Live On In the Hearts of Those They Made  
Impressions Upon.

When You Marched Onto the Battlefield,  
You Paved A Future for Us With Your

Courage.

You Watered The Tree of Freedom, With  
Your Blood...

For That We Are Forever In Your Debt.  
The Price that Our Freedom Demanded,  
Didn't Allow You To Come Back.

Today We Acknowledge, And Honor You!  
Please give some thought about the  
American Legion and the Robert H Baker  
Post's 100th birthday in 2019 and come up  
with some ideas for a fund raiser event.

P.S. hat sales are on the first Saturday  
until October with some unscheduled  
events with other venues, please help if you  
can.

**New Officers**

Election of new officers and the appointed  
positions were completed at the June 19,  
2018 meeting. They are as follows:

Commander – Jim Elliott  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice – Judi Samborski  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Jim Roberts  
Sergeant @ Arms – Jake Samborski  
Finance – Don Happy  
Adjutant – Robert Emery  
Chaplin – Ray Nichols

**Actual Headline**

Miracle cure kills fifth patient.

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Tom McGiffin

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**West Virginia Admitted as the 35th State in the Union June 20, 1863**

"Mountaineers Are Always Free" is the state motto of West Virginia. The phrase reflects the history and identity of the state and indicates how West Virginia became the 35th state in the Union on June 20, 1863. The land that formed West Virginia used to be part of Virginia, but the two areas differed in both surroundings and people.

Pioneering individuals, mountaineers, settled in the western portion, while a slave-holding aristocratic society developed in the eastern portion.

Westerners wanted to separate from Virginia, and first tried to in 1769, but were unsuccessful.

With the outbreak of the Civil War, Virginia seceded from the Union in 1861. Very few of the residents of the western counties owned slaves, so they decided to stay with the Union. As a result, West Virginia, where "Mountaineers Are Always Free," was formed.

The Appalachian Mountains have always been an important resource in West Virginia. Beneath them is the largest supply of coal in the nation. Until

the 1940s, many West Virginians worked as miners. Nowadays, the tops of West Virginia's mountains are blasted off to expose the coal inside for extraction. The mountains have also attracted different kinds of residents and travelers.

Many people have retired to West Virginia to enjoy its wealth of natural resources. The state, with its Appalachian Mountains, is the highest in elevation east of the Mississippi. Forest covers about three-fourths of the state, while farms cover many of the ridges and fertile valleys. Tourists come from all over to visit West Virginia's 33 state parks, experience its world-class white-water rafting, or encounter its unique cultural traditions in music and the arts. Many West Virginians today would still boast their motto to be true:

"Mountaineers Are Always Free."

**Oratorical Winner Starts College**

Don Happy issued a \$200 check from Post 95 to University of Mississippi as James Hirsch enrolls in his freshman year. James can use the money for books or tuition.

James was the 2017 winner of the Post Oratorical Contest.

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### A VIETNAMESE IMMIGRANT

Quang is a well known American many places in this country, and a bearer of patriotism wherever he goes. An ideal immigrant!

Well Done. The difference between legal and illegal.... This is something everyone in America should read.... It looks like we did some good after all!

On Saturday, July 24th, 2010, the town of Prescott Valley, AZ, hosted a Freedom Rally. Quang Nguyen was asked to speak on his experience of coming to America and what it means. He spoke the following in dedication to all Vietnam Veterans. Thought you might enjoy hearing what he had to say:

#### **Start Quote:**

35 years ago, if you were to tell me that I am going to stand up here speaking to a couple thousand patriots, in English, I'd laugh at you. Man, every morning I wake up thanking God for putting me and my family in the greatest country on earth. I just want you all to know that the American dream does exist and I am living the American dream. I was asked to speak to you about my experience as *a first generation Vietnamese-American, but I'd rather speak to you as an American.*

If you hadn't noticed, I am not white and I feel pretty comfortable with my people. I am a proud U.S citizen and here is my proof. It took me 8 years to get it, waiting in endless lines, but I got it, and I am very proud of it.

I still remember the images of the Tet offensive in 1968, I was six years old. Now

you might want to question how a 6-year-old boy could remember anything. Trust me, those images can never be erased. I can't even imagine what it was like for young American soldiers, 10,000 miles away from home, fighting on my behalf.

35 years ago, I left South Vietnam for political asylum. The war had ended. At the age of 13, I left with the understanding that I may or may not ever get to see my siblings or parents again. I was one of the first lucky 100,000 Vietnamese allowed to come to the U.S. Somehow, my family and I were reunited 5 months later, amazingly, in California. It was a miracle from God.

If you haven't heard lately that this is the greatest country on earth, I am telling you that right now. It was the freedom and the opportunities presented to me that put me here with all of you tonight. I also remember the barriers that I had to overcome every step of the way. My high school counselor told me that I cannot make it to college due to my poor communication skills. I proved him wrong. I finished college. You see, all you have to do is to give this little boy an opportunity and encourage him to take and run with it. Well, I took the opportunity and here I am.

This person standing tonight in front of you could not exist under a socialist/communist environment. By the way, if you think socialism is the way to go, I am sure many people here will chip in to get you a one-way ticket out of here. And if you didn't know, the only difference between socialism and

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communism is an AK-47 aimed at your head. That was my experience.

*In 1982, I stood with a thousand new immigrants, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and listening to the National Anthem for the first time as an American. To this day, I can't remember anything sweeter and more patriotic than that moment in my life.*

Fast forwarding, somehow I finished high school, finished college, and like any other goofball 21 year old kid, I was having a great time with my life I had a nice job and a nice apartment in Southern California. In some way and somehow, I had forgotten how I got here and why I was here.

One day I was at a gas station, I saw a veteran pumping gas on the other side of the island. I don't know what made me do it, but I walked over and asked if he had served in Vietnam. He smiled and said yes. I shook and held his hand. This grown man's eyes began to well up. I walked away as fast as I could and at that very moment, I was emotionally rocked. This was a profound moment in my life. I knew something had to change in my life. It was time for me to learn how to be a good citizen. It was time for me to give back.

*You see, America is not just a place on the map, it isn't just a physical location. It is an ideal, a concept. And if you are an American, you must understand the concept, you must accept this concept, and most importantly, you have to fight and defend this concept. This is about Freedom and not free stuff. And that is why I am standing up here*

Brothers and sisters, to be a real American, the very least you must do is to learn English and understand it well. In my humble opinion, you cannot be a faithful patriotic citizen if you can't speak the language of the country you live in. Take this document of 46 pages - last I looked on the Internet, there wasn't a Vietnamese translation of the U.S.

Constitution. It took me a long time to get to the point of being able to converse and until this day, I still struggle to come up with the right words. It's not easy, but if it's too easy, it's not worth doing.

Before I knew this 46-page document, I learned of the 500,000 Americans who fought for this little boy. I learned of the 58,000 names inscribed on the black wall at the Vietnam Memorial. You are my heroes. You are my founders.

At this time, I would like to ask all the Vietnam veterans to please stand. I thank you for my life. I thank you for your sacrifices, and I thank you for giving me the freedom and liberty I have today. I now ask all veterans, firefighters, and police officers, to please stand. On behalf of all first generation immigrants, I thank you for your services and may God bless you all.

Quang Nguyen

Creative Director/Founder

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**The Army's Birthday: 14 June 1775**

John R. Maass  
Historian

US Army Center of Military History

When the American Revolution broke out, the rebellious colonies did not possess an army in the modern sense. Rather, the revolutionaries fielded an amateur force of colonial troops, cobbled together from various New England militia companies. They had no unified chain of command, and although Artemas Ward of Massachusetts exercised authority by informal agreement, officers from other colonies were not obligated to obey his orders. The American volunteers were led, equipped, armed, paid for, and supported by the colonies from which they were raised.

In the spring of 1775, this "army" was about to confront British troops near Boston, Massachusetts. The revolutionaries had to re-organize their forces quickly if they were to stand a chance against Britain's seasoned professionals. Recognizing the need to enlist the support of all of the American seaboard colonies, the Massachusetts Provincial Congress appealed to the

Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia to assume authority for the New England army. Reportedly, at John Adams' request, Congress voted to "adopt" the Boston troops on June 14, although there is no written record of this decision. Also on this day, Congress resolved to form a committee "to bring in a draft of rules and regulations for the government of the Army," and voted \$2,000,000 to support the forces around Boston, and those at New York City. Moreover, Congress authorized the formation of ten companies of expert riflemen from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, which were directed to march to Boston to support the New England militia.

George Washington received his appointment as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army the next day, and formally took command at Boston on July 3, 1775.

United States Army  
Armed force

Motto: "This We'll Defend"

Founded: June 14, 1775, United States  
of America

Role: Ground warfare

**Actual Headline**

Homicide victims rarely talk to police.

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**Thank You**  
May 30, 2018

Dear Folks,  
Please accept this gift\* with my gratitude for providing the military honors for Dave's funeral.

Wherever we lived Dave always mentioned a membership in the American Legion. He felt strongly about the good they did for veterans. Unfortunately since joining Post 95 his health kept him from becoming active with you folks, however we read your newsletter thoroughly and circled items he found of particular interest (mainly mention of suppers!)

Wishing the best of luck to all the members of the Post and good health.

Most sincerely,  
Carolyn Freese  
Dave's wife

\* Enclosed was \$100

**Thank You**  
June 15, 2018

Dear American Legion,  
Our loved one Ferris E. Cook, was always proud to be a WWII veteran. Thank you for honoring him.

The Ferris Cook Family

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**Thank You**  
May 15, 2018

To Robert H. Baker Post #95  
On behalf of the RHS\* Noteworthy Choir and myself, thank you for your generous donation to the Choir for their trip to Washington DC to honor our nation's Veterans.

\* Richmond High School  
Sincerely,  
Choir Director

**Thank You**  
Thank you for visiting our classroom and teaching us how to be respectful to our country's flag! We thank you for your service to our country.

4<sup>th</sup> Grade at Horizon Elementary School

**Membership**  
Thanks to some hard work, especially by Robert Emery, Post 95 is at 256 paid members for 2019 membership drive. This is 102.81% of our goal set by the Department.

Thanks for work by all who were able to find new members. We benefited by 7 new members that transferred from Post 2000 to our post.

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### Post Happenings

Judi Samborski

Well, it's spring. Although the calendar says it is, lately we've had winter show up, mostly on the weekends. It's almost May and we are all hoping for spring to stay. And not go straight into summer. But the weather does its own thing; especially in Missouri.

Our Annual Spaghetti Dinner on March 24<sup>th</sup> was great! Great food, good prizes, and good fellowship with friends and family. A special thanks to Larry Allen who organized the whole thing. As usual, he did a great job. Thanks to Don Happy who provided the gift cards for the raffle. And all of the Post members who stepped up and participated to make this another great dinner. The next dinner will be our Chili Dinner in the fall.

Memorial Weekend will be May 26 – 28. Once again, weather permitting, our Post will putting up the Avenue of Flags at the Fairview/New Hope Cemeteries. We will have a lot of help from the Boy Scouts as well. They have a lot more energy than most of us do. The American flags will be put up around 6:00 am and taken down around 7:30 pm. TAPS will be played after the flags are taken down each evening. On Memorial Day (Monday) the Color Guard will visit the Liberty Nursing homes to do a short patriotic program for the Veterans and the other residents. It is a great honor to do this program.

On April 8, each of the Clay County American Legion Posts sent a representative, with their Post's flag for the Run So They Can Ride 5K

benefitting the NTRC. Post 95 was represented by Vice Commander Jim Elliott. Thanks, Jim!

Coming up in June is our Post Elections. The positions that we will be voting on will be Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander, and Sergeant-At-Arms. If you are interested in any of those positions, we will be appointing a nominating committee in May, so let them know.

The next sale of our caps and pins at Sam's Club on May 5<sup>th</sup>, from 10:30 am – 4 pm. Jim Elliott is in charge of getting these sales set up with Sam's Club and he can use help. If you're interested in participating, see Jim.

It is time for CPR (Consolidated Post Report). Get your information to Adjutant Robert Emery as soon as possible. He needs the events, mileage, time spent at each event.

This year we are sending a lot of boys and girls to Boys State and Girls State. This year Post 95 is sponsoring 7 boys to Boys State, 7 girls to Girls State, and 1 person to Cadet Patrol (we split the cost of the Cadet Patrol with Post 61).

The Department Convention this year is July 12 – 15, in Springfield. If you plan to attend, let Adjutant Robert Emery know. It is \$5 for each person representing our Post. Details for the Convention will be announced later. Look for them in your Missouri Legionnaire newspaper.

As always, please keep our men and women still serving in your thoughts and prayers. Also keep those Veterans that are facing loneliness, illness, and hard times.

**God Bless America.**

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