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



The Liberty Legionnaire 1st Quarter 2019 Volume 2, Issue 5

We served our Country Still serving our Community

Spaghettí Dinner March 2, 2019

Get ready for Post 95's 15th annual Spaghettí Dinner. The menu includes all you can eat spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, desert and drinks. The event will be held on March 2nd from 4:30 to 7:00 PM @ Our Lady of Mercy Country Home, 2115 Maturana Drive, Tighe Hall, Liberty, MO.

Raffle items include: \$100 Hy-Vee card \$100 Price Chopper Gift Card \$50 Quíck Trip Gift Card \$25 LOWES Gift Card \$25 Sutherlands Gift 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 are \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 12 and under.

Proceeds go to American Legion Youth Programs.

Important Dates

February 19 - Legion Mtg. - 7:00 PM February 20 – Washington's Birthday February 23 – Boy Scouts Pancake Breakfast @ Methodist Church 6:00-11:00 AM February 27 - 40&8 Mtg. - 6:30 PM February 28 – Bingo @ Cedars 6:30 PM March 10 - Daylight Savings Time Begins -2:00 AM March $10 - 3^{rd}$ District Mtg. @ Post 61 - 2:00

March 19 – Legion Mtg. – 7:00PM

March 20 – First Day of Spring

March 27 - 40&8 Mtg. 6:30 PM

March 28 – Bingo @ Cedars – 6:30 PM March 29, 1973 – Last US troops leave

Vietnam

April 15 – Taxes Due

April 16 - Legion Mtg. 7"00 PM

April 21 – Easter Sunday

April 24 – 40&8 Mtg. 6:30 PM

April 25 – Bingo @ Cedars 6"30 PM

May 12 – Mother's Day

May 18 – Armed Forces Day

May 21 – Legion Mtg. 7:30 PM

May 22 - 40 & 8 Mtg. 6:30 PM

May 23 – Bingo @ Cedars 6:30 PM

May 27 – Memorial Day

Birthdays

April 14, 1945 Larry Allen April 29, 1944 G. Ray Nichols May 13, 1940 Jim Roberts May 14, 1939 Jerry Head May 30, 19?? Jake Samborski

Anniversaries

Ray & Helen Nichols April 29, 1967



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each month @ 7:00 PM
Our Lady of Mercy
Tighe Hall

Chaplin's Corner

G. Ray Nichols, Post 95 Chaplin

Have you ever looked in your closet to see how much excess baggage you have? I have 8 coats and I still have not cleaned out my closet, shame on me. From the Upper Room there is this statement. "My overflowing closet resembles what happens in our lives. In our hearts we may store up envy, resentment, bitterness, and hurt -- excess baggage that keeps us from being the people God wants us to be. Today is a good day to free our hearts from everything that does us harm and to seek a genuine relationship with God." Keep this in mind for the New Year. Let's not only clean out our closets but also our mind. Our relationship with God will be much better & individually we will all feel much better.

God bless all of you and God bless America.

Commander's Corner

Jim Elliott, Commander Post 95
The holidays are over and we mostly have survived them. A new year has begun and we are looking forward to ways in which we can make Post 95 stronger and more recognizable in our community.

First I urge all members who have not renewed their membership to do so.. Every member should be on the lookout for potential new members. Carrying an application form in your pocket or wallet makes for a convenient transition from offering to action. The price of membership is still \$35 per year for now. Don't forget the

National Commanders program of "Team 100"; if you sign up 3 new members or 6 renewals you get a pin for your cover.

Membership gives us power in numbers when lobbying Congress for Veteran causes and benefits. It has become obvious we have to keep fighting for the cause. Increased membership also helps us to fund our local causes; Boys/Girls State, Cadet Patrol, Oratorical Scholarships, and supporting local Veteran causes.

In our January meeting we paid out \$500 to Veterans Community Project, \$100 to Healing Waters Fly Fishing, and \$100 to Liberty Fire Department for fire safety materials for their safety programs, (We actually voted \$80 to this program but a member added \$20 after the meeting).

Our annual spaghetti dinner is coming up March 2, 2019 at Our Lady Of Mercy Country Home; dinner served from 4:30-7:00pm. Tickets are available for sale for the dinner and raffle prizes. In order to make this a profitable event we need to sell a lot of tickets. Invite your neighbors, friends, and family members. Let's raise more for this dinner than we did a year ago.

Our next meeting is February 19, 2019 at 1900hrs. We will be drawing for the framed print. Everyone who has paid or renewed their dues and those with paid up life membership is eligible for the drawing.

See you at the next meeting,

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United States Military Academy

The United States Military Academy (USMA), also known as West Point, Army, Army West Point, The Academy, or simply The Point, is a four-year federal service academy in West Point, New York. It was originally established as a fort that sits on strategic high ground overlooking the Hudson River with a scenic view, 50 miles (80 km) north of New York City. It is one of the four U.S. military service academies, and one of the five U.S. service academies.

The Academy traces its roots to 1801, when President Thomas Jefferson directed, shortly after his inauguration, that plans be set in motion to establish the United States Military Academy at West Point. The entire central campus is a national landmark and home to scores of historic sites, buildings, and monuments. The majority of the campus's Norman-style buildings are constructed from gray and black granite. The campus is a popular tourist destination, with a visitor center and the oldest museum in the United States Army.

Candidates for admission must both apply directly to the academy and receive a nomination, usually from a member of Congress or Delegate/Resident Commissioner in the case of Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands. Other nomination sources include the President and Vice President of the United States. Students are officers-in-training and are referred to as "cadets" or collectively as the "United States Corps of Cadets" (USCC). Tuition for cadets is fully funded by the Army in exchange for an active duty service obligation upon graduation. Approximately 1,300 cadets enter the Academy each July, with about 1,000 cadets graduating.

The academic program grants a Bachelor of Science degree with a curriculum that grades cadets'

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performance upon a broad academic program, military leadership performance, and mandatory participation in competitive athletics. Cadets are required to adhere to the Cadet Honor Code, which states that "a cadet will not lie, cheat, steal, or tolerate those who do." The academy bases a cadet's leadership experience as a development of all three pillars of performance: academics, physical, and military.

Most graduates are commissioned as second lieutenants in the Army. Foreign cadets are commissioned into the armies of their home countries. Since 1959, cadets have also been eligible for an interservice commission, a commission in one of the other armed services, provided they meet that service's eligibility standards. Most years, a very small number of cadets do this.

The academy's traditions have influenced other institutions because of its age and unique mission. It was the first American college to have an accredited civil-engineering program and the first to have class rings, and its technical curriculum was a model for later engineering schools. West Point's student body has a unique rank structure and lexicon. All cadets reside on campus and dine together en masse on weekdays for breakfast and lunch. The academy fields fifteen men's and nine women's National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) sports teams. Cadets compete in one sport every fall, winter, and spring season at the intramural, club, or intercollegiate level. Its football team was a national power in the early and mid-20th century, winning three national championships. Its alumni and students are collectively referred to as "The Long Gray Line" and its ranks include two Presidents of the United States (as well as the President of the Confederate States of America), presidents of Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and the Philippines, numerous famous generals, and seventy-six Medal of Honor recipients.

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HISTORY OF THE FLAG

The United States Flag is the third oldest of the National Standards of the world; older than the Union Jack of Britain or the Tricolor of France.

The fag was first authorized by Congress June 14, 1777. This date is now observed as Flag Day throughout America.

The flag was first flown from Fort Stanwix, on the site of the present city of Rome, New York, on August 3, 1777. It was first under fire three days later in the Battle of Oriskany, August 6, 1777.

It was first decreed that there should be a star and a stripe for each state, making thirteen of both; for the states at that time had just been erected from the original thirteen colonies.

The colors of the Flag may be thus explained: The red is for valor, zeal and fervency; the white for hope, purity, cleanliness of life, and rectitude of conduct; the blue, the color of heaven, for reverence to God, loyalty, sincerity, justice and truth.

The star (an ancient symbol of India, Persia and Egypt) symbolizes dominion and sovereignty, as well as lofty aspirations. The constellation of the stars within the union, one star for each state, is emblematic of our Federal Constitution, which reserves to the States their individual sovereignty except as to rights delegated by them to the Federal Government.

The symbolism of the Flag was thus interpreted by Washington: "We take the stars from Heaven, the red from our mother

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country, separating it by white stripes, thus showing that we have separated from her and the white stripes shall go down to posterity representing Liberty."

In 1791, Vermont, and in 1792, Kentucky were admitted to the Union and the number of stars and stripes was raised to fifteen in correspondence. As other states came into the Union it became evident there would be too many stripes. So in 1818 Congress enacted that the number of stripes be reduced and restricted henceforth to thirteen, representing the thirteen original states while a star should be added for each succeeding state. That law is the law of today.

The name "Old Glory" was given to our National Flag August 10, 1831, by Captain William Driver of the brig Charles Doggett.

The flag was first carried in battle at the Brandywine, September II,1777. It first flew over foreign territory January 28, 1778, at Nassau, Bahama Islands; Fort Nassau having been captured by the Americans in the course of the war for independence. The first foreign salute to the flag was rendered by the French admiral LaMotle Piquet, off Quiberon Bay, February 13, 1778.

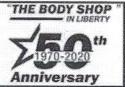
The United States Flag is unique in the deep and noble significance of its message to the entire world, a message of national independence, of individual liberty, of idealism, of patriotism.

It symbolizes national independence and popular sovereignty. It is not the Flag of a reigning family or royal house, but of 305

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million free people welded into a Nation, one and inseparable, united not only by community of interest, but by vital unity of sentiment and purpose; a Nation distinguished for the clear individual conception of its citizens alike of their duties and their privileges, their obligations and their rights.

It incarnates for all mankind the spirit of Liberty and the glorious ideal of human Freedom; not the freedom of unrestraint or the liberty of license, but an unique ideal of equal opportunity for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, safeguarded by the stern and lofty principles of duty, of righteousness and of justice, and attainable by obedience to self-imposed laws.

Floating from the lofty pinnacle of American idealism, it is a beacon of enduring hope, like the famous Bartholdi Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World to the oppressed of all lands. It floats over a wondrous assemblage of people from every racial stock of the earth whose united hearts constitute an indivisible and invincible force for the defense and succor of the downtrodden.

It embodies the essence of patriotism. Its spirit is the spirit of the American nation. Its history is the history of the American people. Emblazoned upon its folds in letters of living light are the names and fame of our heroic dead, the Fathers of the Republic who devoted upon its altars their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. Twice told tales of National honor and glory cluster thickly about it. Ever victorious, it has emerged triumphant

from eight great National conflicts. It flew at Saratoga, at Yorktown, at Palo Alto, at Gettysburg, at Manila Bay, at Chateau-Thierry, at Iwo Jima. It bears witness to the immense expansion of our national boundaries, the development of our natural resources, and the splendid structure of our civilization. It prophesies the triumph of popular government, of civic and religious liberty and of national righteousness throughout the world.

The flag first rose over thirteen states along the Atlantic seaboard, with a population of some three million people. Today it flies over fifty states, extending across the continent, and over great islands of the two oceans; and three hundred and five millions owe it allegiance. It has been brought to this proud position by love and sacrifice. Citizens have advanced it and heroes have died for it. It is the sign made visible of the strong spirit that has brought liberty and prosperity to the people of America. It is the flag of all qf us alike. Let us accord it honor and loyalty.

Children Are Quick

Teacher: Why are you late?

Student: Class started before I got here.

Teacher: Winnie, name one important thing we didn't have ten years ago that we have today.

Winnie: Me.

Teacher: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No, sir. It's the same dog.

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Thirty Days

From Judi Samborski
Thirty days hath September,
April, June, and November.
February has twenty-eight alone;
All the rest have thirty-one.
Excepting Leap Year, that's the time
When February's Days are twentynine.

Vote Wisely

From Judi Samborski
There are two ways to be fooled. One is
to believe what isn't true; the other is to
refuse to believe what is true.

Did You Know

There is a species of antelope capable of jumping higher than the average house? This is due to its powerful hind legs and the fact that the average house cannot jump.

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Army Reserves Birthday

Born April 23, 1908 as the Medical Reserve Corps, evolved into the Organized Reserve, a strategic reserve under federal control, to what is today a global operational reserve force. Manned, trained and equipped to enable combat formations, the Army Reserve provides quick access to trained and ready forces and the critical capabilities the Army needs to initiate, sustain and prevail in major operations.

Through two World Wars, the Cold War, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, the Global War on Terror and countless crises, operations and contingencies, the Army Reserve has never failed to answer the Nation's call.

Globally positioned and engaged to support America's active duty forces, today's Army Reserve is the most capable, combat-ready and lethal federal reserve force in history, providing trained and ready forces and critical capabilities wherever needed, anywhere around the world. But the nature of the threat is changing and the Army Reserve is again rising to meet it, forging the most capable, combat-ready and lethal Reserve the Nation has ever known.

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Staff Sergeant Reckless From Wikipedia

(c. 1948 – May 13, 1968), A decorated war horse who held official rank in the United States military, was a mare of horse breeding. Out of a race horse dam, she was purchased in October 1952 for \$250 from a Korean stable boy at the Seoul racetrack who needed money to buy an artificial leg for his sister.

Reckless was bought by members of the United States Marine Corps and trained to be a pack horse for the Rifle Platoon, Anti-Tank Company, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. She quickly became part of the unit and was allowed to roam freely through camp, entering the Marines' tents, where she would sleep on cold nights, and was known for her willingness to eat nearly anything, including scrambled eggs, beer, Coca-Cola and, once, about \$30 worth of poker chips.

She served in numerous combat actions during the Korean War, carrying supplies and ammunition, and was also used to evacuate wounded. Learning each supply route after only a couple of trips, she often traveled to deliver supplies to the troops on her own, without benefit of a handler. The highlight of her nine-month military career came in late March 1953 during the Battle for Outpost Vegas when, in a single day, she made 51 solo trips to resupply multiple front line units. She

was wounded in combat twice, given the battlefield rank of corporal in 1953, and then a battlefield promotion to sergeant in 1954, several months after the war ended. She also became the first horse in the Marine Corps known to have participated in an amphibious landing, and following the war was awarded two Purple Hearts, a Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, was included in her unit's Presidential Unit Citations from two countries, as well as other military honors.

Her wartime service record was featured in The Saturday Evening Post, and LIFE magazine recognized her as one of America's 100 all-time heroes. She was retired and brought to the United States after the war. where she made appearances on television and participated in the United States Marine Corps birthday ball. She was officially promoted to staff sergeant in 1959 by the Commandant of the Marine Corps. She gave birth to four foals in America and died in May 1968. A plaque and photo were dedicated in her honor at the Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton stables and a statue of her was dedicated on July 26, 2013 at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, Virginia. On May 12, 2018. a bronze statue of Sergeant Reckless was placed and dedicated in the Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington Kentucky.

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A POEM WORTH READING

By Unknown

He was getting old and paunchy And his hair was falling fast, And he sat around the Legion, Telling stories of the past. Of a war that he once fought in And the deeds that he had done, In his exploits with his buddies; They were heroes, every one. And 'tho sometimes to his neighbors His tales became a joke, All his buddies listened quietly For they knew where of he spoke. But we'll hear his tales no longer, For ol' Joe has passed away, And the world's a little poorer For a Veteran died today. He won't be mourned by many, Just his children and his wife. For he lived an ordinary, Very quiet sort of life. He held a job and raised a family, Going quietly on his way; And the world won't note his passing, 'Tho a Veteran died today. When politicians leave this earth, Their bodies lie in state, While thousands note their passing, And proclaim that they were great. Papers tell of their life stories From the time that they were young, But the passing of a Veteran Goes unnoticed, and unsung. Is the greatest contribution To the welfare of our land, Some jerk who breaks his promise And cons his fellow man? Or the ordinary fellow

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Who in times of war and strife, Goes off to serve his country And offers up his life? The politician's stipend And the style in which he lives, Are often disproportionate, To the service that he gives. While the ordinary Veteran, Who offered up his all, Is paid off with a medal And perhaps a pension, small. It is not the politicians With their compromise and ploys, Who won for us the freedom That our country now enjoys. Should you find yourself in danger, With your enemies at hand, Would you really want some cop-out, With his ever-waffling stand? Or would you want a Veteran His home, his country, his kin, Just a common Veteran, Who would fight until the end. He was just a common Veteran, And his ranks are growing thin, But his presence should remind us We may need his likes again. For when countries are in conflict, We find the Veteran's part, Is to clean up all the troubles That the politicians start. If we cannot do him honor While he's here to hear the praise, Then at least let's give him homage At the ending of his days. Perhaps just a simple headline In the paper that might say: "OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING, A VETERAN DIED TODAY."

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