

NEWSLETTER



Ph: 412-653-1555

August 2015

American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills



POST OFFICERS

Commander
RICHARD J. WOJNAR

Sr. Vice Commander
AL DI LEMBO

Jr. Vice Commander
DON ROTTMAN

Adjutant
BOB ESSEY

Finance Officer
BILL MARTINIS

Service Officer
FRANK CAPUTO

Chaplin
BOB BLEICHNER

Judge Advocate
BOB HARTUNG

Sgt-At-Arms
RALPH CASCIELLO

Sgt-At-Arms
STAN TUMAS



Commander's Call

I want to thank those of you whom I have met both individually and collectively who have offered support of my upcoming position. It is very much appreciated. Your positive attitudes and outlooks regarding changes that we will explore together, as a really cohesive Legion, demonstrates your dedication to service, to our fellow Veterans, and to a sustainable future. Many of you have already begun to share your ideas with me. Some of you mentioned that you would like to see a lift to the interior décor. For others, your ideas may not have come to fruition. As I have learned over the years, sometimes it is just the timing of the ideas, not the ideas themselves, which may not have worked. That doesn't mean the ideas should not be revisited. I respect each of you for sharing your ideas and candor. It's important to take your ideas to the leaders of the Legion who are in a position to bring your ideas forward and who are able to make those changes.

Personally, I would like to see more members attending the monthly meetings in order for your voice to actively be heard. We will continue to support what is working well currently as well as supporting the thinking and changes that will lead Post 712 into

the future.

I plan to add a suggestion box that only I will have access to so you can feel comfortable continuing to share your ideas with me. If you do have a complaint, I would ask that you try your hand at offering a workable solution in your suggestion.



Our next big event, the Legion picnic on August 15, requires an *All Hands on Deck* approach. Countless hours of planning and preparation goes into making this event a success. A few plans include: purchasing necessary food items, moving of equipment, setting up the equipment, reviewing licensing issues, meal planning, preparation and cooking (the highlight we all look forward to), activities for the children, and then the culmination of the picnic includes the tear down and clean-up process and returning equipment to the Post.

At our July meeting, a suggestion was made to entertain the idea of having a brief ceremony for the National POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 18th. Our new member, Dan Mack, volunteered to coordinate the event. Although Dan is new to our Post, he is not new to the military or to mili-

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CORPORATION OFFICERS

President
RUSS WILSON

VicPresident
DAVE PETERSON

Secretary
BRIAN DAETWYLER

Treasurer
ROB BUTELLI

Board Members
DAVE KRILL

BUZ HANDSHUE

CARL ANDERSON

LES BRANCHEN

DON ROTTMAN

AUGUST EVENTS

Post Meeting August 3 - 7:00 pm

Installation of officers August 4 - 7:00 pm

Corp. Meeting August 10 - 7:00 pm

Rider's Meeting August 11 - 7:00 pm

Post 712 Annual Picnic August 15 noon -5:00

ALA Meeting August 24 - 7:00 pm

Sons Meeting August 27 - 7:00 pm

We are *not* affected by the road closure for now. Easy access from both directions.

August Kitchen
FULL MENU
But No Specials
Please Check Our
FaceBook Page
for Updates

Get Well
Wishes
to
Carl
Anderson

POST 712 ANNUAL PICNIC

Jefferson Park (directions on page 6)

August 15, 2015

Cost: \$5.00 - Cover

\$20.00 - Family

(see page 6 for more details)



Check us out... see what's new every day!

Web site: alpost712pa.org

Facebook: [Americanlegion.Postsevenonetwo](https://www.facebook.com/Americanlegion.Postsevenonetwo)

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ALA OFFICERS

President
MARY ANN MARUNICH

1st Vice President
DONNA McCRUMB

2nd Vice President
VICKIE GOLDEN

Secretary
LEIGH ANNE CASTANET

Treasurer
ANNE GIOVANNITTI

Chaplain
BARBARA TERIHAY

Sgt-At-Arms
ROSE BREEN

Sgt-At-Arms
DONNA ROTTMAN

Sgt-At-Arms
PAT O'TOOLE

Auxiliary Corner

Thanks to all the members of the post and the ALA who participated in our latest distribution of poppies at Sam's Club. We do much better when the post members are there with us. I will soon be asking for help again. The flea market will be held the last weekend of September, so please start gathering items for us. Don't forget the installation is on August 4th. The "Sharing and Caring" boat trip with the veterans is on September 8th and this is always a fun time with our vets. Please see me to sign up quickly as they need to have one caregiver for each vet. I am trying to get a date now for Southwestern to come here to the post. Our next meeting will be on August 24th. Try to attend. Get well wishes to Carl Anderson who is home and recovering from surgery.

God Bless and Protect Our Troops
Mary Ann Marunich, ALA President

*next meeting
August 24th*

Volunteers needed
for the
"Sharing & Caring"
boat trip
September 8th
(one caregiver for each vet)
Sign up with Mary Ann



Get well Carl we miss u

Last Weekend in September



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SAL OFFICERS

Commander
GARY HARTMAN

Sr. Vice Commander
DON W. GOULDER

Jr. Vice Commander
DON J. GOULDER

Adjutant
JAMES CHRISTOFEL

Finance Officer
RICHARD HARTMAN

Chaplin
AL DANKO

Sgt-At-Arms
TIMOTHY MOWRY

Sons of the Legion,

SAL held nominations for officers and I would like to thank the old officers for all the work and dedication and welcome the newly elected officers and new members. Here is the SAL officers that will be sworn in and take over their duties in August.

Commander: Gary Hartman
Sr. Vice Commander: Donald W. Goulder
Jr. Vice Commander: Donald J. Goulder
Adjutant: James Christofel
Finance Officer: Richard Hartman
Chaplain: Alan Danko
Sgt. At Arms: Timothy Mowry

As you have noticed the bar stools are in need of repair. We have decided with the Legion Riders to take on this task. The SAL and the Riders will split the cost and recover 40 stools.

Hope to see everyone at the American Legion picnic.

Keep an eye out for our Steeler football menu. We will be cooking!

Thank you,
Commander of the SONS,
Gary Hartman

Veteran Information . . . Is Their War Really Over?

In 1984 a \$180 million Out-of court settlement was announced in the Agent Orange class-action suit brought by Vietnam Veterans who charged they'd suffered injury from exposure to the defoliant.

The U.S. sprayed millions of gallons of Agent Orange and other herbicides on trees and vegetation during the Vietnam War. Several decades later, concerns about the health effects from these chemicals continue. VA offers eligible Veterans a free Agent Orange Registry health exam for possible long-term health problems related to exposure, See more at: www.publichealth.va.gov/exposure/agentorange

Exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam Exposure on land in Vietnam or on a ship operating on the inland waterways of Vietnam took place between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975.

I know of what I speak because many years after Vietnam I was diagnosed with Diabetes. I am now compensated for it and medication is free. Do not take for granted some of your health problems are natural or because of the aging process. Do you and your family a favor and get checked out.

Submitted by Don Rottman

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President
JOHN DILLON

Sr. Vice President
KEVIN JACKSON

Vice President
BILL ALLAN

Sr. Road Captain
DAN OEHLER

Road Captain
STEVE HORVATH

Road Captain
DAVE PETERSON

Road Captain
DAN TILLERY

Sr. Sergeant-at-Arms
TOM BODNER

Sergeant-at-Arms
ED HARMON

Treasurer
MIKE DUDENUS

Secretary
NANCY SCHWARTZ

Adjutant
LLOYD RAY

Chaplain
MARK SMITH

Historian
GARY SCHWARTZ

American Legion Riders,

The Riders annual ride to benefit The Pittsburgh Fisher House will be on Sunday August 16th. We are proud to do our part in helping this wonderful organization that brings comfort to our Veterans families that need a home away from home while their loved one is staying at the VA Hospital. All are invited to join us. The ride information is located on the flyers in the Posts lobby.

As I leave my tenure as President for the past year, I want to thank Carl Anderson that was our Commander in the past year. He was very helpful and encouraged me as a leader. Carl set a great example to all in helping not only our Veterans but in his dedication to making our Post a better place. Although health issues prevented him from finishing out his term he was always a welcomed face when he showed up for any event that he was able to attend. Carl and Marg- thank you for everything. I also want to thank the Rottman's and the many others that continued to keep the Riders group a successful part of the Post in the last year.

Joining the Riders helped me to fulfill my way to pay it forward. Helping Veterans and their families has been and will always be an honor for me. Thank you to all that have served and to those that have made the ultimate sacrifice.

President Nancy Schwartz

MARK YOUR CALENDARS . . .

August 4: The Installation of the newly elected Officers.

August 11: The August regularly scheduled meeting of the Riders has been moved. This is the last meeting before our ride in support of the Pittsburgh Fisher House.

August 16: Benefit Run for the Pittsburgh Fisher House.

September 1: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Riders for September will be held the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. We will have a guest speaker in attendance.

CONGRATULATIONS
to our Officers-Elect
for the 2015 -2016
Riding Season



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Commander's Call

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tary ceremonies. He is a retired Submarine Commander. Dan was involved in the POW/ MIA Recognition Day ceremony at his former Post in Orlando Florida, where the event was very successful. As you enter the Post dining area, you'll notice a small table that is filled with symbolism relating to the remembrance of our POW/ MIAs. The next time you sit down for a beer or for a dinner, please take a serious look at the table. Do you know the significance of each item on the table? This ceremony will not only educate us, but will honor the POW/MIAs at the same time. This will be one of the first of many events and ceremonies that will follow.

Finally, I would like to ask for your support at the August 4th Installation of Officers Ceremony at 7 pm. The ceremony recognizes both new officers, myself as Commander and John Dillon as our new American Legion Riders President, and those who are continuing to serve for another year for the Legion, SAL, Legion Riders, and ALA. If you can attend the ceremony, your presence will be appreciated by all. Let's all put forth our best foot forward to make our Legion the best it can be.

As always, we support our troops.
Richard J. Wojnar
Commander-Elect

Post 712 Annual Picnic

Jefferson Park (directions below)

August 15, 2015

12:00 'til 5:00

- Games for the kids
- Cornhole for adults
- D.J. Tim will be there!

Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Kielbasa, Salads & Beer

\$5.00 - Cover

\$20.00 - Family



PICNIC DIRECTIONS

Andrew E. Reilly Memorial Park, Rt. 885 Jefferson Hills

DIRECTIONS from Rt. 51, take Coal Valley Road past Jefferson Hospital to Rt. 885 Turn right onto Rt. 885. South $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to Wray Road on the right. Al's Cone Zone and Katser Dental are on the right before Wray Road. Turn right on Wray Road. Go past the fire house on the right. Go down the hill past the ball fields. The pavilion is behind the basketball courts. You can park anywhere on the grass. There is a play area for the children. Restrooms are nearby.