

# NEWSLETTER



Ph: 412-653-1555 • 650 Old Clairton Road, Pleasant Hills • May 2018

*American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills*



## *Greetings from the Commander*



### LEGION OFFICERS

Commander  
FRANK CAPUTO

1st Vice Commander  
DON SMOLEY

2nd Vice Commander  
CRAIG KERN

Adjutant  
THAD WEIDMANN

Finance Officer  
BILL MARTINIS

Service Officer  
LEE PHILLIPS

Chaplin  
EDWARD HLAD

Judge Advocate  
NICHOLAS  
D. KRAWEC ESQ.

Sgt-At-Arms  
BILL WEIKEL

For the upcoming Memorial Day observance anyone wishing to participate please meet at the post no later than 9:00 AM, for those that wish to go directly to Jefferson Memorial Cemetery we are to assemble behind the administration building no later than 10:30 AM. After our ceremony at Jefferson we will meet at the Pleasant Hills Cloverleaf to raise our colors. We will then proceed to Jefferson High School. Then we will return to the post to honor our flag. A lunch will be provided for those in attendance.

Anyone wishing to be nominated for an office in the post please contact either Nick Krawec or Thad Weidman, our nominating committee.

God Bless our troops and God Bless America

Frank Caputo,

Commander

***Post 712 Website: [alpost712pa.org](http://alpost712pa.org)***



## *From the Desk of the Adjutant*

Thad Weidmann

Our Service Officer, Lee Phillips is recovering from surgery. While he is out of commission, Stan Tumas volunteered to coordinate any Honor Guard requests that may come up for Funeral Homes.

Frank Piatek and Jerry Mays volunteered to pick up the 24 dozen flags we will use to mark the graves of our fellow veterans on Memorial Day.

Jefferson Cemetery invited the Post and the Riders to again participate in the Memorial Day ceremony. They would like everyone to meet behind the Cemetery Admin building at 10:30. We will also be doing Bill Green Shopping Center and the High School following the Jefferson ceremony.

We will be doing a lot of refurbishing of the Post in preparation for Memorial Day. The grounds will be cut, weeds cleared and mulch touched up. Our Manager, Debbie, is pursuing getting paint donated to paint the bar and foyer. If you have some free time, we could use help doing the painting. See Debbie.

We ran into some logistical problems getting the new register installed to track our bar sales and inventory. We ran in a new cable from the bar register to our office PC and we will begin programming the register with inventory and prices.

We reserved the Andrew Reilly Park again this year for our annual picnic on August 11th, along with a handicap accessible Porta John. We are looking into the feasibility of having our new 'Soldiers Place' restaurant cater the picnic so that all of our members can enjoy it.

**SORRY IT'S LATE !!!**

I would like to apologise for our newsletter for being so late. I had a few health and maintenance issues that I needed to deal with that left me unable to work on anything even my crafts! It made me think who's going to take over when I can no longer? ? ? I guess this is turning into a swan song and that was not my intention. I just wanted to say I was sorry this issue was so late I hope you got the news from one of the other sources. Our website: [alpost712pa.org](http://alpost712pa.org), on our Facebook page [AmericanLegionpostsevenonetwo](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionpostsevenonetwo), or from the leader board at the legion.

**KEEP THIS DATE  
OPEN !**

**JUNE 4**

**VETERANS FROM  
SOUTHWESTERN ARE  
VISITING OUR POST**

**Volunteers Needed  
Sign up sheet  
at the bar.**

**FRIDAY NITE DINNER SPECIALS**

*No Smoking 4 - 9*

**M A Y 4**

STUFFED PORK  
Mashed Potato  
Gravy

**M A Y 11**

CHICKEN ROMANO  
with Pasta

**M A Y 18**

LASAGNA

**M A Y 25**

RIBS  
Baked Potato  
Baked Beans

**THE FISH WE USED TO HAVE IS BACK !!!  
INCLUDING THE BAKED FISH  
AND CAJUN FISH.**

POST 712  
HOME ASSOCIATION  
OFFICERS

President  
BOB STOODT

Vice President  
FRANK CAPUTO

Secretary  
ED HARMON

Treasurer  
BILL WEIKEL

Board Members  
DAVE BILSKI

ROB BUTELLI

BOB BRANCHEN

JOHN DILLON

NICK KRAWEC, ESQ.

CRAIG KERN

LEE PHILLIPS

**AMERICAN LEGION  
RIDERS**

**AUGUST 4**

**FUNDRAISER  
RIDE**



**Will Resume  
in S e p t e m b e r**

# American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills

Ph: 412-653-1555 • 650 Old Clairton Road, Pleasant Hills • May 2018



## Sons of the Legion,

### SAL OFFICERS

Commander  
GARY HARTMAN

Sr. Vice Commander  
DON W. GOULDER

Jr. Vice Commander  
DON J. GOULDER

Adjutant  
MIKE HAVERTY

Finance Officer  
RICHARD HARTMAN

Chaplin  
AL DANKO

Sgt-At-Arms  
TIM MOWRY

**Hurry we have seats still available** for bus trip to Nemacolin Casino on **Sunday May 6**. Bus will leave legion at 12:00 noon and will head back to the post at 6:00. Cost is \$40.00 that includes \$25.00 free play, a \$ 10.00 food voucher, pop and beer on bus ride up and back. Snacks provided. Pizza and salad on return to legion. You can sign up at the bar.

Hoagie sale cost \$ 8.00 each or 3 for \$ 22.00 Turkey or Italian. *Order by May 17th* will be ready for **pick-up at legion at 2:00 P.M Sunday the 20th of May.**

Thank You

Gary C Hartmans

Commander of the Sons



## Auxiliary Corner,

### ALA OFFICERS

President  
MARY ANN MARUNICH

1st Vice President  
DONNA McCRUMB

2nd Vice President  
VICKY GOLDEN

Secretary  
MARGARET PHILLIPS

Treasurer  
ANNE GIOVANNITTI

Chaplain  
BARBARA TERIHAY

Sgt-At-Arms  
ROSE BREEN

Sgt-At-Arms  
DONNA ROTTMAN

Sgt-At-Arms  
PAT O'TOOLE

We need volunteers and side dishes for the Veterans from Southwestern who will be visiting our Post on June 4, 2018. Sign-up sheet will be at the bar.

We are having a canvas painting class on June 10, 2018 with Lisa. It will cost \$30 and includes all materials, food and door prizes. Sign-up sheet is at the bar.

Our soup cook off was a grand success thanks to everyone who participated. Thank you to Rose Breen and Chris Bodnar for bringing their friends.

Because May 28 is Memorial Day. Our next meeting will be May 21

No June meeting.

God Bless and Protect Our Troops

MaryAnn Marunich

ALA President



President  
JOHN DILLON

Sr. Vice President  
KEN LANCASTER

Vice Presidents  
BILL ALLAN  
KEVIN JACKSON

Secretary  
SUSAN DILLON

Adjutant  
LLOYD RAY

Chaplain  
MARK SMITH

Treasurer  
BEVERLY WEIKEL

Deputy Treasurer  
BILL WEIKEL

Sr. Sergeant-at-Arms  
TOM BODNER

Sergeant-at-Arms  
ED HARMON

Sr. Road Captain  
DAN OELER

Road Captain  
BOB STEFANIC

Zdravstvuyte Legionnaires:

Spring has sprung and yet as I craft this article I am looking out the window at freezing temperatures and snow flurries. Very sad! Now some of my Brothers and Sisters will ride their bikes with temperatures in the 30's and snow or sleet in the forecast; these hearty troubadours are renown as we often see a baby-blue Trike zipping through the South Hills in all manner of weather. The steely eyed Veteran easily navigating the perils of winter riding. These hard core Riders are to be appreciated for their commitment to the open road and a lifestyle of freedom ... but I'm not one of them. I like the temperature in the 60's and the sky's clear when I ride. And let's not even talk about the potholes, collapsing road shoulders, dead animals, salt, car parts and other debris on the

roads following winter. So my bike stays on the battery tender for at least one more week.

On a more humbling note, what does Memorial Day mean to you? Maybe before answering this question we should review what Memorial Day is supposed to mean to our Nation. Memorial Day is a National holiday observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. Military. Memorial Day originated following the Civil War but did not officially become Memorial Day until 1967 and was not an official federal holiday in 1971. The birthplace of Memorial Day is considered Waterloo, NY, where on May 5, 1866, the city honored local Veterans who fought in the Civil War. Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day as Patriots displayed flowers, wreaths and flags on the graves of the fallen in honor and remembrance.

***The following chart is "official" data of the VA pertaining to US Military casualties during war time (Does not include foreign military or civilians)***

### **American Revolution, 1775 – 1783**

Total Military 217,000 /// KIA 4,435 /// WIA 6,188

### **War of 1812, 1812 – 1815**

Total Military 286,730 /// KIA 2,260 /// WIA 4,505

### **Mexican War, 1846 – 1848**

Total Military 78,718 /// KIA 1,733 /// Other Deaths in Theater 11,550 /// WIA 4,152

### **Civil War, 1861 – 1865**

*Union* 2,213,363 /// KIA 140,414 /// Other Deaths in Theater 224,097 /// WIA 281,881

*Confederate* 1,050,000 // KIA 74,524 // Other Deaths in Theater 59,297 // WIA Unknown

( Continued on page 6 )

( Continued from page 5 )

**Spanish-American War, 1898 – 1902**

Total US Military worldwide 306,760 /// KIA 385 /// Other Deaths 2,061 /// WIA 1,662

**World War I, 1917 – 1918**

Total US Military worldwide 4,734,991 // KIA 53,402 // Other Deaths 63,114 // WIA 204,002

**World War II, 1941 – 1945**

Total US Military worldwide 16,112,566 / KIA 291,557 / Other Deaths 113,842 / WIA 670,846

**Korean War, 1950 – 1953**

Total Military 1,789,000 /// KIA 33,739 /// Other Deaths 20,507 /// 103,284

**Vietnam War, 1964 – 1975**

Total Military worldwide 8,744,000 /// Deployed to SE Asia 3,403,000  
KIA 47,435 /// Other Deaths in Theater 10,786 /// Other Deaths worldwide 32,000 /// WIA 153,303

**Desert Shield/Desert Storm, 1990 – 1991**

Total Military worldwide 2,322,000 /// Deployed to Gulf 694,550 /// KIA 148  
Other Deaths in Theater 235 /// Other Deaths worldwide 1,565 /// WIA 467

**Global War on Terror, 2001 – Present**

KIA 7,019. Though unfortunately, these totals are still rising.

***So, what does Memorial Day mean to you?***

You can check us out on our Facebook page, *American Legion Riders Post 712*. Future Riders meetings are scheduled for 1900 hours on the first Tuesday of the month; May 1<sup>st</sup>; June 5<sup>th</sup> and July 3<sup>rd</sup>. See you there.

Charlie Mike,

