

# NEWSLETTER



Ph: 412-653-1555

• 650 Old Clairton Road, Pleasant Hills, PA 15236 •

November 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  
LINDA WOJNAR

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

This month, I will share my report on some of the progress we have made over the past three months, on an event that has recently taken place at the Post, and on a few projections where I can see more progress can be made moving forward. Although we are nowhere near my final goals, we are moving in the right direction in order to meet those benchmarks. Our last few Legion meetings have been extremely productive. I applaud all members who are making the effort to attend the meetings. We need your input! Increasingly, I am noticing the norm is becoming our members are sharing more powerful, more detailed recommendations. Their positive attitudes are contagious! Members have approached me recently and shared some of the changes they have noticed to date.



Without a doubt, Post 712 has the right ingredients and the right people to make it self-sustaining. One of the prime turning points I have noticed is that for the first time since I have been a member, we are signing up new volunteers who have expressed their desire to get involved. Keep in mind you don't have to volunteer for every event, but even if each member could volunteer for at least one activity or event throughout the year, we will make a difference! One noticeable change I have heard our members sharing is they have noticed our food menus are continuing to evolve. Our bar food menu has added new items and our take-out orders are growing. To be perfectly honest, we are looking everywhere (under every rug and in all corners) for ways to remain fiscally responsible.

At my last meeting, I reported that a local Legion, whose name was not disclosed, will be closing its doors at the end of October. While we are reaching out a hand to welcome any of their members. It is a chilling thought to see fellow Legionnaires losing their home. Although this is not huge news, at it is happening to many Legions across our great country, there is something about the reality of the closures when this happens in our own neighborhood. How many more wake-up calls do we need before we realize that this can happen to any Post regardless of its size? I am truly honored to be your commander and as I stated at my last meeting, as long as I am at the helm we ARE going to survive!

*continued on page 6*

# American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills

## November 2015



CORPORATION  
OFFICERS

President  
RUSS WILSON

VicPresident  
DAVE PETERSON

Secretary  
BRIAN DAETWYLER

Treasurer  
ROB BUTELLI

Board Members  
DAVE KRILL  
BUZ HANDSHUE  
RICHARD J. WOJNAR  
LES BRANCHEN  
DON ROTTMAN

Web Master  
THAD WEIDMANN

Newsletter Design  
DONNA ROTTMAN

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                        | Monday                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <b>1</b><br><b>GAME 1:00</b><br><b>BEER SPECIALS &amp; HALF - TIME FOOD</b><br><b>FREE POOL 4:00 - 8:00</b> | <b>HAPY HOUR</b> <b>2</b><br><b>3:00 - 7:00</b><br><b>BUCKETS OF BEER</b><br><b>POOL LEAGUE</b> <br><b>◦ POST MEETING</b><br><b>7:00</b> | <b>HAPPY HOUR</b> <b>3</b><br><b>3:00 - 7:00</b><br><b>MON. THRU FRIDAY</b><br><br><b>BOWLING</b> <br><b>◦ RIDERS MEETING</b><br><b>7:00</b> |
|  <b>8</b><br><b>GAME 1:00</b><br><b>BEER SPECIALS &amp; HALF - TIME FOOD</b><br><b>FREE POOL 4:00 - 8:00</b> |  <b>9</b><br><br><b>◦ CORP. MEETING</b><br><b>7:00</b>                                                                                    | <b>10</b><br><b>PAINTING PARTY</b><br><b>W/DEBBIE</b><br><b>(Table Runner)</b>                                                                                                                                                  |
|  <b>15</b><br><b>GAME 1:00</b><br><b>BEER SPECIALS &amp; HALF - TIME FOOD</b><br><b>FREE POOL 4 - 8</b>    | <b>16</b><br><b>FIRST RESPONDERS MEETING</b><br><b>7:00</b>                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>17</b><br><b>PENS 7:00</b><br><b>SMALL PITCHERS \$3.00</b><br> <b>BOWLING</b>                                                           |
|  <b>22</b><br><b>BUS TRIP TO NEMICOLIN</b><br><b>FREE POOL 4:00-8:00</b>                                   |  <b>23</b><br><b>POOL LEAGUE</b><br><b>◦ ALA MEETING</b><br><b>7:00</b>                                                                 |  <b>24</b><br><br><b>Happy Hour</b><br><b>Mon.- Fri. 3:00 - 7:00</b><br><b>Buckets of Beer</b>                                             |
| <b>29</b><br><b>STEELERS</b><br><b>Game 4:25</b><br><b>Food Served at 3:45</b><br><b>Bucket Special</b><br><b>FREE POOL 4:00 - 8:00</b>                                                       |  <b>30</b><br><br><b>3:00 - 7:00</b><br><b>Bucket Special</b>                                                                           | <b>NOTES:</b><br><b>Every Saturday</b><br><b>FREE Pool 4:00 - 8:00</b><br><b>and FREE Juke Box</b><br><b>from 4:00 until Close</b><br><b>except when there is entertainment.</b>                                                |

# American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills

## November 2015



Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

|                                                                                                                                         |                                                                     |                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>BINGO 7:00</b><br/> <b>DIFFERENT FOOD SPECIAL EVERY WEEK</b><br/> <b>PENS 10:00</b><br/> <b>SMALL PITCHERS OF BEER \$3.00</b></p> | <p><b>CORN HOLE 6:30</b><br/> <b>ENTERTAINMENT MEETING 6:00</b></p> | <p><b>PENS 9:00</b><br/> <b>WE HAVE TAKE OUT !</b><br/> <b>DINNER SPECIAL SHRIMP STUFFED W/ CRAB MEAT</b></p> | <p><b>LEGION COLLEGE AT LATROBE</b><br/> <b>OPEN HOUSE FOR FIRST RESPONDERS 6:00 - 8:00</b><br/> <b>D.J. TIM 7:00 - 10:00</b><br/> <b>PENS - 10:00</b></p> |
| <p><b>VETERANS DAY</b><br/> <b>BINGO</b><br/> <b>PENS - 7:00</b></p>                                                                    | <p><b>FREE WIFI</b></p>                                             | <p><b>DINNER SPECIAL</b><br/> <b>STUFFED PORK MASHED POTATOES AND GRAVY</b><br/> <b>PENS 7:00</b></p>         | <p><b>VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION</b><br/> <b>FOOD 1:00 - 3:00</b><br/> <b>D.J. 3:00 - 6:00</b><br/> <b>PENS 7:00</b></p>                                     |
| <p><b>BINGO 7:00</b></p>                                                                                                                | <p><b>CORN HOLE PENS 7:00</b><br/> <b>SAL MEETING 7:00</b></p>      | <p><b>DINNER SPECIAL</b><br/> <b>RUBEN SANDWICHES</b><br/> <b>TAKE OUT AVAILABLE</b></p>                      | <p><b>SOUP COOK OFF 1:00 - 5:00</b><br/> <b>PENS 7:00</b><br/> <b>FREE POOL 4:00 - 8:00</b></p>                                                            |
| <p><b>NO BINGO</b><br/> <b>FREE JUKE BOX</b></p>                                                                                        | <p><b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b><br/> <b>LEGION CLOSED</b></p>          | <p><b>KITCHEN CLOSED</b><br/> <b>BAR MENU Available</b></p>                                                   | <p><b>PENS GAME 7:00</b><br/> <b>SMALL PITCHERS \$3.00</b><br/> <b>FREE POOL 4:00 - 8:00</b></p>                                                           |

2 month calendar . . .

Nov. 7 - OPEN HOUSE for First Responders from our local communities

Nov. 21 - Soup Cook Off

Nov. 22 - Bus Trip to Nemicolin

Dec. 10 - ALA Christmas Party

Dec. 12 - Children's Christmas Party

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve CLOSED at 5:00

Dec. 25 - Christmas CLOSED

Dec. 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE Party

Look for details in next newsletter

# American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills



## ALA OFFICERS

President  
MARY ANN MARUNICH

1st Vice President  
DONNA McCRUMB

2nd Vice President  
VICKY 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,

An enormous thank you to everyone that helped make the veterans visit to our post a huge success. A big thank you to Deb Pozycycki for the backpacks and mugs. Thank you to Leigh Anne for your time in the kitchen. The riders, the ALA and the post were most generous with their time and food donations. I have been out to the hospital since their visit and our post ranks number one with them. The riders who escorted the veterans as they were leaving, was the hit of their day. Thanks again to everyone involved. The ALA is having a soup cook off on November 21. See Vicky Golden or Donna McCrumb for instructions on entering your soup. A trip to Nemicolin is planned for November 22 sign-up sheet is at the bar. The children's Christmas party is December 12th at 11:00 am. The sign-up sheet is at the bar, please sign up your child or grandchildren. The age limit is birth to 10 years old. No names will be taken after November 24th as we have a lot to do in preparation for Santa's visit to our party. I will be away for two weeks so if any problems, see Donna McCrumb. Happy Thanksgiving.

God Bless and Protect Our Troops

Mary Ann Marunich  
ALA President

*Eat, drink and cheer for the*

# Steelers

*at the Legion this season!*

## Sons of the Legion,

Once again, we are doing our Feed 5 Families for Thanksgiving. Look for the board by the bar and put your name as always on the items you would like to donate. If you know any Veterans in need, please let the SAL know.

### **Here is the lineup for the Steelers dinners in November**

**Nov. 1** – food served at half-time  
Pork Dinner with or without Sauerkraut  
& Mashed Potatoes, Salad and Dessert

**Nov. 8** - food served at half-time  
Spaghetti & Meatballs Salad and Dessert

**Nov. 15** – food served at half-time  
Meatloaf & Mash. Potatoes Salad and Dessert

**Nov. 29** – food served at 3:45PM  
(game starts at 4:25PM) Fried Chicken  
& Potatoes Salad and Dessert

**THERE WILL NO BINGO ON NOVEMBER 25TH (DAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING)**

**NEXT SAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ONE WEEK EARLY –NOVEMBER 19TH**

**ALL SAL MEMBERSHIP MUST BE PAID BY THE END OF NEXT MONTH. DON'T GET LOCKED OUT.**

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Sincerely yours,  
Gary C. Hartman



## 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



# American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills



President  
JOHN DILLON

Sr. Vice President  
KEVIN JACKSON

Vice President  
BILL ALLAN

Secretary  
SUSAN DILLON

Sr. Road Captain  
DAN OELER

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

Assistant Treasurer  
BILL WEIKEL

Adjutant  
LLOYD RAY

Chaplain  
MARK SMITH

## **American Legion Riders,**

Greetings American Legion Family. Congratulations to Susan Dillon (Secretary) and Bill Weikel (Assistant Treasurer) who were voted-in at our October 6th meeting. Thank you Susan and Bill for stepping up, being heard and giving back.

On October 4th the Riders called a Special Meeting of Officer's and Advisory Board Members to chart our course for the future. We renewed our commitment to one another as Veterans and Patriots and as a Veteran's Organization foremost. Veterans are part of the 7% of Americans who stood up and served their Nation. Patriots are part of the 25% of Americans who volunteer to help those in need. That is who the Riders are. Though it does make you wonder what the other 93% and 75% of Americans do all day long doesn't it?

Thanks to all who supported the October 13th Lunch with Veterans from the Southwestern Veterans Center. The ALA sponsors this wonderful event designed to build morale for Vets who are having a tough time. While the event is designed for the visiting Vets everyone who attended had a great time. Thank you Bill Allan, Tom Bodner, John Caligiure, Debbie Hromanik, Dave Peterson and Dave Saunier. You lead by example!

Sobering facts: Every day 23 Veterans commit suicide; which is nearly one Veteran every hour of every day. It affects Vets of all ages and era's from Korea to Afghanistan. The length of Military service or the length of time removed from service are not significant factors. So, why am I telling you this? Our commitment to one another does not end simply because we no longer wear the Uniform. Be alert for the signs of distress and seek help for yourself or for your brothers. You are not alone.

Veterans Crisis Line **1-800-273-8255** or **www.veteranscrisisline.net**.  
re:solve Crisis Network of UPMC **1-888-796-8226** or **333 N. Braddock Ave, PGH, PA 15208**.

Follow the Riders on Facebook at: American Legion Riders Post 712

Hooah,  
Top

# American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills

## Commander's Call

continued from page 1...

On October 13, Mary Ann Marunich, President of the Legion Auxiliary, arranged an annual event held at Post 712 for the disabled veterans of the Southwestern Veterans Center. Members of our Auxiliary, Legion, and Legion Riders assisted the veterans throughout the luncheon. The event was a huge success. Our legion was filled with volunteers for this festive occasion. Many of our Legion Riders escorted our veterans into the Legion. Many of our ALA members formed a line to greet them. Once seated, the veterans were served a fantastic meal that was expertly prepared. Everyone dug in forming a serving line of food and cold drinks, catering to any and all of their needs. After the dinner a bingo game broke out! Our veterans love their bingo games! You should have seen all the smiles! After all the veterans boarded the buses for their journey home, our Legion members formed a line and saluted them in military fashion as the buses departed. Once at the top of our drive our Legion Riders escorted the buses to Route 51 where the drivers knew the route from there. Mary Ann said she heard the thrill for these veterans was the presence of the Legion Riders. While the veterans were able to shed their cabin fever, I believe we benefitted more from their visit than they did. Take a moment to think about how many of our war heroes are tucked away in a one-room facility, with only the belongings they can fit in their room, hoping to be able to attend events such as these. It is our duty and obligation to keep events such as these alive. One day, we may be one of those less fortunate veterans!

It is our responsibility to remain faithful to all of our veterans, especially to all of our present Legion members and disabled veterans, while still demonstrating respect for our past members who are honored through the historical tradition of the American Legion. While honoring legion tradition, I want to make our legion a place where you can leave your troubles at the door and have a fun filled visit. Before leaving this subject I just want to make an impression that we need your support and help more now than ever.

When I first took office, I heard on many occasions that in the past members had put forth their ideas and suggestions, but they were not utilized. Now is the time for you to step forward and share your thoughts so we could revisit them. This invitation is extended to every member of our Post. We will always be looking for new ideas, suggestions and volunteers to make these ideas come alive.

In closing, and as I stated at my Installation Ceremony, I promise to devote tireless energy and endless amounts of time in order to assure American

Legion Post 712 is the absolute best it can be, but never forget that I cannot accomplish this task without you. Much of the credit goes to the many unsung members who devote their time and expertise on a daily basis – the behind the scenes folks – those who never ask for any recognition in return. You know who you are!! The next time you visit the Legion and park on the newly paved lot, observe the beautifully decorated Halloween theme dining area, order a cold beer and hot sandwich, notice the cleanliness of the Legion, read our monthly newsletter, access Facebook or our website, just remember one thing - this does not all happen by magic. Observing our members having a great time and enjoying all of our efforts means so much to all of us. Until next month...

As always we support our troops.

Richard J. Wojnar

Check us out...  
see what's new every day!  
Web site: **[alpost712pa.org](http://alpost712pa.org)**  
Facebook:  
**Americanlegion.**  
**Postsevenonetwo**

# American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills

## VETERANS CRISIS LINE

Confidential help for Veterans and their families. The Veterans Crisis Line is a toll-free, confidential resource that connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) responders. Veterans and their loved ones can call **1-800-273-8255** and **Press 1**, chat online at **www.VeteransCrisisLine.net**, or send a text message to **838255** to receive free confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 day a year, even if they are not registered with the Department of Veterans Affairs or enrolled in VA health care.

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 712 HOSTS VETERANS FROM THE SOUTHWESTERN VETERANS CENTER

Members of Post 712 Auxiliary, Legion, and Legion Riders held a luncheon for Veterans of the Southwestern Veterans Center on Wednesday, October 13, from 12-3 pm.

There were 17 veterans and a variety of attendants ranging from nurses, CNAs, activity personnel, two bus operators, an (American Legion Auxiliary) ALA hospital rep and an ALA hospital deputy who accompanied the veterans on two handicap accessible buses.

All of the members of Post 712 in attendance, including social members and Post staff employees, demonstrated the pride they have in welcoming their brother and sister veterans to the Post. They unselfishly spent their time setting up for the event, greeting the veterans and staff as the buses arrived, went into action pushing

wheelchairs, delivering meals to each attendee and talking to the veterans throughout their stay.

Mary Ann Marunich, President of the Post 712 American Legion Auxiliary arranged for this annual event and graciously accepted all the comments from the veterans as she ran the bingo game. Our veterans love their bingo games! Veterans won prizes and received a going away token as a remembrance of their visit.

As the buses left Post 712, the veterans received a hand salute from Legion members and were escorted by a large group from our Legion Riders. There's nothing like the roar of the bikes as the sound echoed up the driveway from the Post to RT 51! Mary Ann said she heard the thrill for these veterans was the presence of the Legion Riders. John Dillon is the President

of the Post 712 Legion Riders.

The American Legion Post 712 Commander, Richard J. Wojnar, was also in attendance and couldn't have been more proud of all those in attendance for the unwavering support everyone showed for their fellow veterans. To us, the veterans give us more than we could ever give them in return.

We have open membership in the Legion, ALA, Sons of the AL, and Riders. We welcome anyone who is concerned and cares about bettering the lives of our veterans. Until next year, God Bless All of Our Troops!

For more information about Post 712, Pleasant Hills, PA, visit <http://alpost712pa.org> or visit us at Facebook: American Legion.Postseventwelve.

See photos on page 8



### Membership Reminder

Regular Legion  
Membership for 2016  
\$25.00 if paid on or before 12-31-15  
\$30.00 if paid on or after 1-1-16  
I'll be checking the mail for your membership renewal.

Post 712 Adjutant

See **Membership Note** \*\*  
on page 8.

# American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills



Members of Post 712 Auxiliary, Legion, and Legion Riders who volunteered at the luncheon for Veterans of the Southwestern Veterans Center on Wednesday, October 13, 2015.



**NEED Pool Shooter  
For Monday Pool League**

**Call Bill Graeser  
412-655-2610**

**or  
See the  
Bar Tender**

## **Membership Note \*\* ...**

**For membership questions, dial 412-616-1834 or send an email to: [adjpost712@verizon.net](mailto:adjpost712@verizon.net) to reach the adjutant. Please include your contact information: name, phone number, brief message, etc.**



Buses arriving with the veterans from Southwestern Veterans Center.

*With Honor and Gratitude  
We Remember . . .*



**Burt Antonelli  
Richard Baptie  
Joseph Demyan  
Grant J Limegrover  
George J Mackulin IV  
James F McHugh  
John J McKibbin  
William Nix  
Francis E Palma  
Leslie Pletcher**

**James O Powney  
Arthur E Rodgers  
John A Scrima  
Norman J Simmons  
Stanley A Smith  
Edward A Swatko  
William H Walter Jr  
Zygmunt F Wiatrowski  
Norman R Young**  
*May you Rest in Peace my friend.*