



For God and Country

Seward Post 5 Newsletter

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

By Clare Sullivan



Greetings to one and all, we're in the 3rd "ber" month now and the holidays are coming upon us! We've had a good month at the post with our membership supporting our events and enjoying our nightly meals. I think having food at the post every night helps to "round out the edges" when funds get tight as the summer months and the tourism jobs are now shut for the season. We also were there for people in our community who needed a hot meal as well so I'm glad we're here to serve not only our members but our community. I especially want to thank all our volunteers that make the "social area" an enjoyable place to come and share a meal and if wanted an "adult beverage." Your help behind the bar and in the kitchen make all the world of difference! The post is everyone's post home and I am happy many folks are taking advantage of what we have offer.

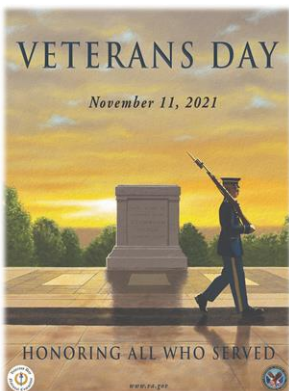


I also want to especially thank Dinah Staggs for the amazing Halloween cake that was sure to satisfy the sweetest tooth of any of our visiting ghouls, ghosts and gremlins! 🎃👻🦋 And....we're happy for those who stopped by to celebrate "All Hallows Eve" in some amazing costumes!



November is **Membership Retention Month**. We have met our target for November (which is 65% by Veterans Day) and have a goal of 75% for December. As we get closer to the end of the year renewals slow down with the holidays looming. If you have renewed - thank you! 🍷 If you haven't, please renew; continue with your benefits of membership and help Seward Post 5 reach our membership goals for the next few months. And remember to stop by the Post and say hello and grab a bite, we always have free food for our members and those in need!

I'd like to welcome the **USCG Cutter Fir** to Seward! We appreciate you all coming to the post and spending time with us! We look forward to having a dinner with you on the 4th and the USO has something special planned on the 13th so stay tuned!!!!



This month we have two special events that we will be holding - Veterans Day Dinner and our Thanksgiving Day Dinner. As you know we go all out to serve good food on special days, and both of these are well worthy of celebrating. On Veterans Day we will hope to also honor several veterans for their service with the presentation of Honor Quilts, all made by the Seward Area Quilters.

Okay, as I do every year, I've been collecting names and addresses for our service members for **Operation Apple Pie** so, get those addresses to me and we'll get a fun package to our Seward kids who are serving in our armed forces - in time for the holidays!

We had a great Halloween and I want to thank Michelle Polland-Doherty, Arron Pfeil, Susan St Amand, Sharon Dillon and Mike Calhoon who decorated the post. I'd also like to thank those courageous enough to "brave" the blowy winds and enjoy our devilish temptations at dinner. At the post for our Halloween Dinner, we had some incredible "noshies," finger foods, and delightful treats for our membership!

From the President's Desk

By Deb VanTassel

We made it to November and the Holiday season is upon us. Hope everyone has been able to enjoy some nice fall weather.

With all the issues that COVID-19 has caused in the community it has been tough year for many people. As part of our annual community programs the Auxiliary is again taking applications for Holiday Food Baskets. Applications are available at the Legion Post and are due back by 5 PM November 13th. I know this is early deadline but it is necessary so that we can work with the Vendor to order the baskets. These baskets are a full pre-cooked meal that just needs to be heated at home and will serve 6-8 people. This is a totally different program than the full meal that the Post Family prepares/serves and delivers on Thanksgiving and Christmas. Our goal is to make certain every family in the community has a good Holiday meal. If you know of a family that is in need of a little extra assistance this Holiday Season please have them fill out an application. Please note on the applications, we need a good contact phone number and the physical address so that we can deliver the baskets.

Another of our annual events is the Santa Parade and Toys for Tots. We have set December 18th as the date for this year. We do not know yet whether we will be able to do the Firetruck parade or not but we will still hand out presents to the children if we can't. We will need volunteers to help wrap presents prior to the 18th, help decorate the Post and then assist the day of the parade. Lots of Volunteer opportunities!

Thank you again to our volunteers that keep Bingo going every Monday night. Come on down it is a great way to spend a cold winters evening with friends and have a good time. Doors open at 6 and games start promptly at 6:30pm. Remember to renew your membership for 2022. We are currently at about 60% so we still have lots of members that need to renew. Lets try to be the first Unit to hit 100%!

Few important dates in November:

Veteran's Day is officially on November 11, 2021, Veteran's Day honors all members of the Armed Forces who served this country. They served and fought to protect us, to keep our country safe, and to preserve our way of life. Veterans gave their time and risked their lives for you and me. In some cases, they made the ultimate sacrifice.

This holiday was originally call Armistice Day and was first celebrated in 1921. In 1954, President Eisenhower changed it to Veteran's Day, in honor of those who served and died from all wars.

On November 11th at 11:11, 1921 the U.S., France and England each buried an unknown soldier in honor of those who died in World War I. This began the annual Armistice Day holiday. The time and day was picked because fighting ceased in WWI in 1918 on November 11th at 11:11. In keeping with the tradition, work stops on this day and time each year for a moment of silence. Please remember to recognize and thank our Veteran's on this day.

November 10th is USMC Day which celebrates the birth of the United States Marine Corps. The Marine Corps was created during the Revolutionary War. The Continental Congress of the newly formed United States of America authorized the creation of the Continental Congress on November 10th, 1775. The name was later changed to the U.S. Marine Corps and is often abbreviated as USMC. The Marine Corps has participated in every war that has involved the United States. If you see a Marine, active or retired, thank them for their contributions to protecting our country and freedom. They deserve our thanks and appreciation.

HAPPY 102nd BIRTHDAY to the American Legion Auxiliary! On November 10th, 2021, the American Legion Auxiliary will celebrate its' 102nd birthday.

Thanksgiving is November 25th. The Post will once again prepare a full holiday meal and deliver out to the community and again at the Post. Volunteers are always welcome and much appreciated to help with this program

Short History of Veterans Day

By multiple Internet excerpts

World War I - known at the time as "The Great War" - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars."



Soldiers of the 353rd Infantry near a church at Stenay, Meuse in France, wait for the end of hostilities. This photo was taken at 10:58 a.m., on November 11, 1918, two minutes before the armistice ending World War I went into effect

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11:00 a.m.

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Later that same year, on October 8th, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the first "Veterans Day Proclamation" which stated: "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose. Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, which shall include such other persons as the Chairman may select, and which will coordinate at the national level necessary planning for the observance. I am also requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch of the Government to assist the National Committee in every way possible."

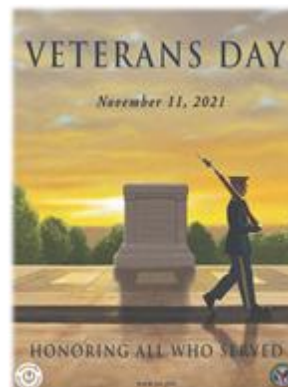


President Eisenhower signing HR7786, changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day. From left: Alvin J. King, Wayne Richards, Arthur J. Connell, John T. Nation, Edward Rees, Richard L. Trombla, Howard W. Watts

On that same day, President Eisenhower sent a letter to the Honorable Harvey V. Higley, Administrator of Veterans'

Affairs (VA), designating him as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee.

In 1958, the White House advised VA's General Counsel that the 1954 designation of the VA Administrator as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee applied to all subsequent VA Administrators. Since March 1989 when the VA was elevated to a cabinet level department, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has served as the committee's chairman.



The Uniform Holiday Bill (Public Law 90-363 (82 Stat. 250)) was signed on June 28, 1968, and was intended to ensure three-day weekends for Federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. It was thought that these extended weekends would encourage travel, recreational and cultural activities and stimulate greater industrial and commercial production. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 (89 Stat. 479), which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veterans service organizations and the American people.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

House and Vice Report.....

By Mike Calhoon



Hello from the Second Vice

Winter looks to be just around the corner as November starts out sort of "Dark and Stormy". Sounds like a popular adult beverage we know. ☺

I want to thank all our members for their continued support of the Post and Club. You are all awesome and help us provide all the benefits and services to our membership, veterans, and the Seward community.



All our volunteers have really stepped up and shown what the Legion family is all about by donating their time and effort in furthering the mission of Post 5. Sharon, James, Clare, and Troy and Avery have been great helping out with bartending shifts and kitchen duty. I truly appreciate the assistance that allows us to put out food every day and provide the great service to our members and their guests.

What's Happening



This month the Post will host the crew of the USCGC Fir, from Cordova, for a dinner and promotion party on November 4th. Veterans

Day dinner is on November 11th. The Community Breakfast is on November 21st and our Thanksgiving meal is on November 25th. We have plenty of opportunities for volunteers helping during these functions. If you have time to give, let us know and we will gladly put you to work.

The next gun raffle is underway. It is for an AR15-22 Pistol. Tickets are \$20.00 with 120 to be sold and the drawing will be held on November 11th at 7:00pm.

The 2022 Membership year has begun, and you can renew online at mylegion.org, by mail, or in person at the post. Membership is the backbone of your organization, and we need to keep that backbone strong to continue to carry the load we do for our veterans and the community of Seward. So far, we have met all monthly membership goals so keep up the good work.

Thanks to all of you who continue to support your Post and all the activities designed to support our membership, our veterans, and the community. We look forward to seeing you all and please feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns.

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Sounding Off from the Sons....

By Mike Calhoon



Greetings from the SAL First Vice Commander.

Looks like November will start out as a rainy one this year. Hope you are all prepped for winter's arrival in the near future. I want to thank the Squadron members who continue to support the Post 5 Family and all the activities offered to the membership and the community.

This month the Post is holding a raffle for an AR15-22 Pistol. The tickets are \$20.00 each with a maximum of 120 tickets to be sold. Drawing will be on November 11th at the Post at 7:00pm.

The Post will host the crew of the USCGC Fir on November 4th, will have Veterans Day dinner on November 11th, community breakfast on November 21st, and will have the traditional Thanksgiving meal on November 25th. If you have time to volunteer for any of these events please let us know and we will put you to work.



The 2022 Membership year has begun, and the new cards are available. Thank you to all those that have already renewed their memberships and please consider renewing soon if you have not already done so. Remember the dues are \$35.00 this year. Membership is foundation for all the SAL programs.

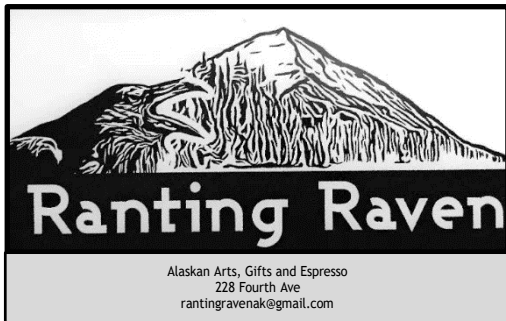
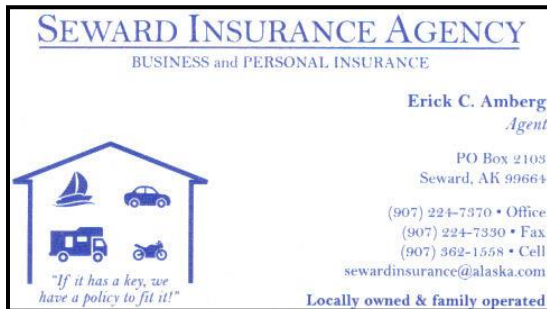
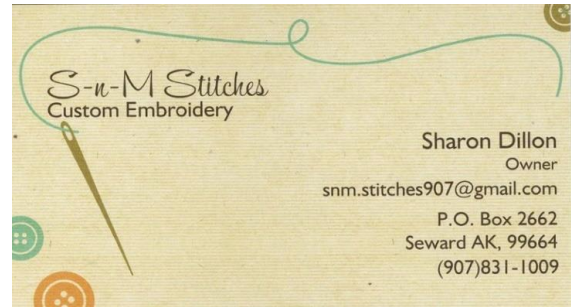


If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 224-5440. Thanks again for all your support of the Post 5 family and I look forward to seeing you all around the Post when possible.



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Rates are \$5 per month or \$50 per year BUSINESS CARDS ONLY, PLEASE!





November



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 	1 All Saints Day 	Mexican Martes 2 Día De Los Muertos All Souls Day 	3	4 B, B, M&C  Pioneers of AK Meeting 6:30pm USCGC Fir Crew Dinner	5 6 Steak Night 	Pool League 7pm 
Daylight Savings Time 7	8	Mexican Martes 9	10	11	Steak Night 12	13
Luscious Leftovers 	Chili Dogs Dinner BINGO 6:30PM 	Post Meeting 5:30pm 	Auxiliary Meeting 6pm  Marine Corps Birthday	Sons Meeting 7pm  Veterans Day Dinner		Pool League 7pm 
14	15	Mexican Martes 16	17	18	Steak Night 19	20
Luscious Leftovers	BINGO!!! 6:30PM Chili Dogs Dinner 			B, B, M&C 		Pool League 7pm 
21	22	Mexican Martes 23	24	25	26	27
Luscious Leftovers Community Breakfast 	Chili Dogs Dinner BINGO!!!! 6:30PM 			Thanksgiving Thanksgiving Dinner at the Post! 2:00-5:00pm  Happy Thanksgiving		Pool League 7pm 
28	29	Mexican Martes 30				
Luscious Leftovers	Chili Dogs Dinner BINGO!!!! 6:30PM 					



Food Every Night at the Post!!!!