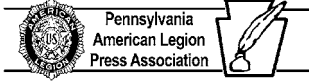


The Legion in the Woods



POST 245 NEWSLETTER

1950 PINE HALL RD., STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801

814-237-6880 EMAIL: POST245@COMCAST.NET

WEBSITE: WWW.POST245.COM

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER 2021

FROM THE COMMANDER,

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the summer. First off is a BIG congratulations to Crystal and her team for Winning the 2021 Wingoff!!! It's been a long time coming. I do have to say at last night's final a lot of people were talking about "Legion" wings! Just sayin!!! A congratulations also goes out to the Post, Aux., and SAL for hitting the 100% membership mark. Job well done. Again and I can't say it enough to all that have come out and supported the Club through these hard times. I keep seeing the same faces eating and having fun with friends and family. Thank You!!!

In these hard times keep an eye on your veteran friends. Not all veterans are members of a club, and don't have the comrades to check in on them. So if you know a vet who might need help keeping cool or getting food give them a call. Vets helping Vets!!! Veterans Day is coming up, remember the "Vets" who have gone before us. Take a few moments and think of someone you know on that special day.

James Lanning has been appointed Post Service officer. He will be working with Bill Long who will still be doing Bingo. Speaking of Bingo, Bill recently had a Bingo that was very well attended. Also the SAL had a Bingo too. Thank You!!! The Post is still looking for a Chaplin. Anyone interested Please contact Me.

It is the start of a new year membership drive. We did it last year we can do it again. 100% !!!! It was hard work, but just try and get ONE new member.

That's about it for now. Everyone be safe, and see you at the Post.

ThankYou!!
Rich Seifert, Commander



Club Hours:

11am - 11pm Mon thru Sat
12 noon - 8pm Sun

Kitchen Hours:

Grill: 11am - 8pm Mon - Sat
Fryers: 11am - 10pm Mon - Sat
Grill & Fryers: 12 Noon - 7pm Sun

Happy Hour:
Monday 7-9pm

EVENING SPECIALS NIGHTLY!

FRIDAYS
Wing Night 5-10pm

Like Us On Facebook 

HVAC Project Update

The summer of 2021 is about over and we are heading into the fall season which means football and cooler temperatures. In the past couple of months, we have experienced some really hot days outside but it was always comfortable inside of Legion Post 245 due to our new Air Conditioning System. I want to Thank all of the donors that stepped up and answered the call. The replacement of the HVAC system was a complete success and sometimes a Thank You is not enough. Below are listed the donors since our last newsletter. Again, my Thanks to all for your help.

Bob McCool

Donors; Brian (PIKA) McMahon; John Coughlin; Max Schnellbaugh; Robert H. Elliot, Jr.; Louis A. Bernier; Ronald L. Johnson; James A. Knapp; Louis Matsick; Louis Kraus; Dennis Malachosky; Robert Kelly; Wayne Bicehouse; James Pressler; Jeffrey D. Bailey; Charles Lutchko; Raymond Dinsmore; Nancy Kavelak; Charles Clark; Ken Kulp; John G. Fleck and John A. Coll

Football Tailgates at the Legion

One of the taglines for football commercials that I have heard over the years is "Are you ready for some football?" I know that I am. Last year was sort of a bust as we all know and I missed football Saturday's on our Big Screen at the club. I am very happy and pleased to say that Post 245 Penn State Tailgates are back starting on Saturday, September 4th versus Wisconsin. The game starts I understand at 12 noon, and as in the past, the Club will be providing some food for the tailgates and all we ask for those in attendance to bring a dish to share. See you on the 4th.



NEWS FROM THE LADIES AUXILIARY...

The ladies auxiliary hopes that this newsletter finds you well and looking forward to cooler weather and the football and holiday seasons!!

We are excited to have several new auxiliary members. They are Angela Kempt, Janine A. Surovec, Anita M. Chiarkas, Joann Mazurak, Gail Jensen, and Kristen Connolly. We welcome you and hope to see you at a future meeting. Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Come to a meeting to socialize and learn about all the wonderful things the auxiliary does for community, our veterans, and the club.

Home show bingo will be held Sunday, October 17th, 2021. The doors open at 1:00 p.m., with bingo starting at 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$6, which includes your bingo card and light refreshments. In addition, the kitchen will be open for any additional food items you would like to order. Check out the extensive menu of delicious choices with extremely reasonable pricing!! We will play at least 16 games of bingo, with the winner of each game receiving a prize valued at \$20 or more. There will also be door prizes, and we will hold a 50-50 drawing. There will be many vendors on site that will have cash and carry items available for purchase. Please come out and support these vendors that provide the door prizes and make this event possible.

Stay safe and healthy!!!

Donita Gibboney, Second Vice-President



NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS...

Hello Everyone!

We've had a busy summer! Hard to believe it's winding down already.

Huge thanks to everyone who attended and also volunteered at our Car and Bike Show on July 10. It's the main fundraiser for our organization and was a big success!

Bike nights were also a successful venture this summer. Thanks to everyone who helped support us and congrats to our 2021 bike night champion Steve Rossman.

Our friends from Greencastle Legion Riders came to town for a weekend and participated in a ride with us! They had an awesome time visiting our post and looking forward to future endeavors with them.

Hopefully the great riding weather will continue into the fall.

Stay safe,

Scott Spear, ALR president

FROM THE VICE COMMANDER...

Well, I'm back in the seat as your Post Vice Commander. Before, it was a temporary appointment. Now I have been elected to the position, and I look forward to working with all of you to help our post continue to grow.

One of the key responsibilities of the VC is membership, particularly increasing membership. Many of you might know that my time in the Army was over 12 years as a recruiter, where I was awarded the highest award for recruiting excellence, the Morrell Medallion & Ring. I don't say this to flaunt my creds, just to let you know that I know what I'm talking about when I am about to ask you to do certain things that I hope will increase the lifeblood of our organization, membership.

Many times, we have been repeatedly asked to talk to others about joining the Legion. Realistically, I know that it can be uncomfortable to go up to someone and speak about the Legion. One objection that many have for not speaking to others is the "Oh my gosh! What if they start asking questions about the organization?" We all know our personal reasons for joining, but those might not be the same reasons for someone else to join.

My idea is to remove the stigma of face-to-face involvement. Let's use the technology. We all know someone who is a veteran. You all probably know more of those someone than I personally do. So, I would ask you to do me just one favor. One day a month reflect on these vets that you know and reach out to them via email. In that email ask them "Have you considered joining the American Legion? If not, why?" If they respond to you that shows they have some interest. If they have questions that you don't feel comfortable answering refer them to me or one of the other post officers, and we'll take it from there.

In recruiting we call it not being afraid to close. In essence it is the adage, you don't get what you don't ask for. Many times, all these vets want is for someone that they know to ask them to join. You don't need to be versed on program particulars, its history, or its costs. You know as an organization, that we are doing good. If we work together by you asking them to simply join, and the officers filling in the gaps to answer questions, we can't help but to have our organization to have continued growth.

I will say right now that many of you will answer the call, and in anticipation, I say thank you.

Ron Quinn Jr., Vice Commander

~ In Memoriam ~
JAY C. RHINEHART

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER...

Many times we hear the adage, one should grow in their faith. Actually, if one has faith they will grow. Individually and as an organization we will need to continue to grow. Growth means change and change means transitions. I was recently notified that I will no longer be the Post Chaplain, due to my election as the Vice Commander. I look forward to this growth and transition, and with the knowledge that God will continue to guide us to keep growing personally, organizationally, and spiritually.

I have been proud to be your chaplain for the last 15 years, and hope that many of you have found something of value with the articles that I have left with you. Many of you have helped me to continue to grow in my faith, and hope that you all will continue to grow in the future.

As I move to the Vice Commander position I look forward to helping our posts grow, and our membership grow together. With your help I know we can do great things with our post. I also would like to wish our new chaplain luck and prayers, and will find the position as rewarding as I have found it.

Thank you, and as always, God bless our country, our Legion, and Post 245.

Ron Quinn Jr., Post Chaplain



History of the American Flag

The Mother of Invention

By Thomas Palchak

Fourth in a series

Why the founding Founding Fathers chose stars, stripes, and the red, white, and blue colors for the American flag remains shrouded in history, so too, does the question of who made the first American flag. Most American school children universally assume that Betsy Ross stitched together the first Stars and Stripes in her seamstress shop in Philadelphia. She is credited with sewing thirteen five-pointed stars, aligned in a circle, in the canton along with thirteen stripes. Betsy Ross was indeed, a Philadelphia seamstress who made flags, but a thorough historical review reveals that Elizabeth (Betsy) Griscom Ross sewed the first flag, is a myth.

In 1775 John and Elizabeth Ross opened a small shop on Arch Street in the Commercial District not far from Independence Hall. They repaired furniture and as a seamstress, Betsy Ross performed the upholstery work, and she produced many types of flags. Virtually every historian who has studied the issue believes that she did not sew the first American flag. In fact, the name Betsy Ross was unknown to history until 1870 when her last surviving grandson, William J. Canby published a paper, "The History of the Flag of the United States," and read it before the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in March of that year. He announced that his maternal grandmother made the first Stars and Stripes at the behest of George Washington. The family version of this story was made public when the nation was recovering from the Civil War.

This "tradition" was started when Canby reported his grandmother passed on stories to her children, her nieces, and her sisters. The June 14, 1777 Flag Resolution could find nothing indicating the origin of the Stars and Stripes. The matter was put to rest in 1908, when William J. Campbell, chairman of the Philadelphia's Historic Sites Committee, published a report titled, "The Betsy Ross House: Where Betsy Ross Did Not Design the American Flag," in which he called Canby's Betsy Ross story "a fake of the first water."

Today the consensus among historians is that Betsy Ross undoubtedly made flags, but the earliest evidence she did so was in May 1777, when she was paid fourteen pounds, twelve shillings by a merchant for "ship's colours, &c," which, most likely, was the Continental Colors. In fact, the very first Betsy Ross flags ever made were in the 1870's and sold by the Ross family as small hand-held flags. The question remains, then: Who did sew the first American Flag?

The first design of the flag was done by Francis Hopkinson. He also designed the "Great Seal of the United States", which remains today. The credit of the first flag maker goes to Margaret Manny, who began making jacks and ensigns in December of 1774. She made the Continental Colors, not the Stars and Stripes, for the Alfred and it was raised on the fighting vessel by John Paul Jones on December 3, 1775. Her family still retains the original receipt and date.

Final Notes: On Flag Day, June 14, 1916, when asked his thoughts on the Betsy Ross story, President Woodrow Wilson replied, "Would that it were true."

The U. S. government and organizations such as the National Flag Foundation and American Vexillology Association recognize the Betsy Ross flag as an official American flag, due all the respect and forms of etiquette therein.

Flag Facts

Q: Are flags placed near graves real American flags? What about hand-held flags? What defines an actual flag?

A: To be considered an American flag, the emblem can be no smaller than 2 feet by 3 feet. It must be able to fly from a mast or flag pole. The hand-held flags we wave or place upon the grave sites of our veterans are not American flags. They are classified as "flag decals." Therefore, they need not be retired in the traditional manner and can be thrown away when worn out, soiled, or no longer recognized as our national ensign.

Have a question about the American flag? Email me at tompalchak@gmail.com

Bingo Updates

I am very pleased to report that our Post and SAL were invited back to the VA home in Hollidaysburg to resume Bingo.

Post 245 made the trip on August 10. After going through pre COVID-19 security and each one of us being tested for COVID-19 we were allowed to proceed to Mac Hall for Bingo. I believe we had one of the largest resident attendances we ever had, they were glad to see us back!

The volunteers for Post 245 were Bill Klucher, Bill Long and assisted by SAL 245 members John Kite and SAL Commander Rick Dills. A big thank you to them, and the SAL volunteers who also held a separate Bingo at the home on a Thursday night.

We inquired to when we would be able to return, and told we will be advised, due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 restrictions and changing regulations.

Still looking for additional volunteers to put on the call list for future events!

Contact Bill Long @692-8535 or text 814-441-6635.

U.S. Constitution Jeopardy Game

A U.S. Constitution Jeopardy Game with local teams headlines the annual Constitution Day Celebration set for Sunday, Sept. 26, at 1 p.m., on the outdoor patio of the American Legion Post 245, 1950 Pine Hall Road, State College. The event is free and open to the public.

Five local nonprofit organizations will compete for cash prizes in a Constitution Jeopardy Game, with emcee Tor Michaels and judge Dr. Greg Ferro. Dr. Ferro is a Constitutional and presidential historian, and a popular lecturer. "Cheer on your local teams and learn more about the U.S. Constitution!" says Dr. Ferro. "One of our goals is a friendly exchange of questions and answers in a fun atmosphere. Everyone living in America is connected to the U.S. Constitution. It is America's Rule Book."

More information is at www.constitutiondaycentre.org or contact: info@constitutiondaycentre.org

LCB Audit

Earlier this spring, we had a visit from the LCB for a routine audit on our books and By-Laws. It was discovered that we have a few minor issues with our By-Laws that were never identified by any earlier LCB audits. We will need to correct these issues at our next Corporation in March of 2022. We are using this and our next newsletter as the vehicle to give proper notice to our Class A members concerning these changes that will need to be voted on.

Article # 2

Section 4: Corporation meeting held on the 2nd Thursday of February.....change to March.

Section 5: Board of Directors shall meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm...change to 6:00pm

Section 6: Board of Directors shall submit at the Annual meeting on the 2nd Thursday of February their report on the affairs of the Corporation.....change to March.

Article # 3

Section 2: Annual meeting shall be held on the 2nd Thursday of February.....change to March.

Article # 6

Section 1: Annual meeting shall be held on the 2nd Thursday of February.....change to March.

Section 4: Fifteen (15) members present shall constitute a quorum at the CORPORATION meeting.....reduce down to 10 members

These changes will help to make us LCB compliant.

Comment Box

If you were not aware of this, there is a Comment Box on the shelf to your left as you exit the club. This Comment Box is a means for us to validate on how well we are doing as an organization. We have seen some not very nice comments over the years, but, on the other hand we have received some very nice complements as well. But we need your help going forward. All of the complaints that we receive are investigated by our House committee and then forwarded up to the Board of Directors for their review and any necessary action. But, we notice that the majority of the complaints are missing one crucial piece of information that we really need to have. We need a signature to go along with the complaint. We realize that it is not very easy to sign your name, but how can we get any better as an organization if we do not know who to talk to. Can you help us ?

FROM THE EDITOR... The deadline for the December 2021 - February 2022 edition is **Friday, November 12th, 2021**

Comments and suggestions are welcome and can be emailed to mayesb76@icloud.com

If you **DO NOT** want your newsletter mailed, please fill in the form below and send it in.

If you know of a member without computer access, please pass this information along to them. Becky Mayes, Editor

NO! I do not want the newsletter (4 issues per year) mailed to me.

Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please mail completed form to: American Legion Post 245 ~ 1950 Pine Hall Rd. ~ State College, PA 16801
Attn: Newsletter Editor Or Email: Becky Mayes w/complete info at mayesb76@icloud.com

POST OFFICERS

Meets 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m.
Commander Rich Seifert
1st Vice Ron Quinn
2nd Vice Rich Jackson
Adjutant Larry Hess
Treasurer Chris Solo
Sgt.at Arms Gerry Thompson
Chaplain– Vacant
Service Officer Bill Long &
James Lanning
Judge Advocate– Vacant

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

Meets 4th Tuesday, 7 p.m.
President Rhonda Spear
1st Vice Penny Dry
2nd Vice Donita Gibboney
Secretary Kathy Croyle
Treasurer Tina Johns
Sgt.-At-Arms Karen Jackson
Chaplain Jean Folk
Historian - Tina Hoy
Sp. Events Coord. – Brandi Hartman

SAL OFFICERS

Meets 3rd Thursday, 6 p.m.
Commander Eric Waltz
1st Vice Bill Shuey
2nd Vice Terry Bickle
Adj. / Treas. Jigs Poorman
Sgt. at Arms Guy Williams
Chaplain Mike Boonie
Historian Nate Frey

POST 245, INC. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS - Meets 2nd Wednesday @ 6 p.m.

Class of 2022

Barry Dickman
Rich Seifert - Secretary
Don Hartzell

Class of 2023

Dan Verdoorn - President
Lewis Watt - Treasurer
Tom Palchak

Class of 2024

Larry Hess
Chris Solo - Vice President
John McCabe - Pandemic Officer

Ex-Officio: Aux. President, Rhonda Spear; Social, Tom Houck; SAL Cmdr., Eric Waltz;
ALR-President, Scott Spear; Club Manager, Crystal Myers

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS 245 – Meets 1st Thursday @ 7 p.m.

President: Scott Spear
Treasurer: Jeff Gonet

Vice-President: Randy Weaver
Chaplain: Brian McMahan

Secretary: Rhonda Spear
Road Captain: Samantha Hartman
Randy Weaver

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP LISTS

BUDGET & FINANCE

Meets as required
Bob McCool and Lewis Watt

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Meets 2nd Tuesday @ 6pm
Barry Dickman (Co-Chair)
Don Hartzell (Co-Chair)
Rich Jackson, Bud Yohe
Dana Landskroner
Gerry Thompson, D.J. Watkins

DONATIONS

Meets Monday before BoD @ 7 p.m.
Larry Hess (Chair)
Bob McCool (Co-Chair)
Karen Jackson, Rich Seifert,
Bud Yohe, Crystal Myers,
Tom Palchak, Tina Hoy

MEMBERSHIP

Meets as Required
Larry Hess (Chairperson)
Rich Seifert

HOUSE RULES & BY-LAWS

Meets as Required
Dan Verdoorn (Chairperson)

HOUSE

Meets 1st Thursday @ 6 p.m.
Dan Verdoorn (Co-Chair)
Larry Hess (Co-Chair)
Bud Yohe, Rich Seifert,
Crystal Myers, Rhonda Spear,
Chris Solo, Eric Waltz

LCB RULES & REGS

Meets as Required
Dan Verdoorn (Chairperson)

NEWSLETTER

Meets as Required
Larry Hess (Chairperson)
Becky Mayes (Editor)
Karen Jackson

SPECIAL EVENTS

Meets Monday before BoD @ 6 p.m.
Larry Hess (Co-Chair)
Bob McCool (Co-Chair)
Crystal Myers, Karen Jackson,
Bud Yohe, Carol King,
Tom Palchak, Tina Hoy



Are YOU interested in volunteering?
Please do the following:
1. Go to <http://www.post245.com>
2. Click on the Volunteer Form link
3. Print it out and fill it in and drop off completed form at club

American Legion Post 245 Upcoming Events

September

9/4 12pm.....Penn State / Wisconsin A
 9/6Labor Day / Club Closed
 9/11Patriots Day
 9/11 3:30pm.....Penn State / Ball State H
 9/11 8pm.....Jeopardy / Trivia Game Show
 9/13 6pm-9pm.....Food Special - BBQ Ribs
 9/16 7pm-9pm.....Military Officers MOAA / Air Force Birthday**
 9/18 7:30pm.....Penn State / Auburn H
 9/19 10am-1pm.....Sunday Brunch Buffet
 9/25 TBA.....Penn State / Villanova H
 9/26 1pm.....U.S. Constitution Jeopardy Game**

October

10/2 8pm.....Jeopardy / Trivia Game Show
 10/2 TBA.....Penn State / Indiana H
 10/4 6pm-9pm.....Food Special - BBQ Ribs
 10/9 TBA.....Penn State / Iowa A
 10/10 10am-1pm.....Sunday Brunch Buffet
 10/13 7pm-9pm.....Military Officers MOAA / Navy Birthday**
 10/16 9am.....Fall Work Day
 10/17 1pm-4pm.....Doors Open 12noon / Ladies Aux.
Home Show Bingo
 10/23 9am.....Fall Work Day Rain Date
 10/23 12pm.....Penn State / Illinois H
 10/25 11am-4:30pm....Red Cross Blood Drive
 10/30 TBA.....Penn State / Ohio State A

November

11/1 6pm-9pm.....Food Special - BBQ Ribs
 11/6 TBA.....Penn State / Maryland A
 11/6 8pm.....Jeopardy / Trivia Game Show
 11/10 7pm-9pm.....Military Officers MOAA / Marine Birthday**
 11/11Veterans Day
 11/11 11am.....Post 245 Veterans Day Service
 11/11 11:30am-1pm....Veterans Day Luncheon
 11/13 TBA.....Penn State / Michigan H
 11/14 10am-1pm.....Sunday Brunch Buffet
 11/18 11am-2pm.....Club Thanksgiving Meal
 11/20 TBA.....Penn State / Rutgers H
 11/25Thanksgiving Day / Club Closed
 11/27 TBA.....Penn State / Michigan State A

**Non Smoking Events

Pine Hall Flags

9/11 Patriots Day.....7am Flags Raised (Half Staff) -7pm Flags Lowered
 11/11 Veterans Day7am Flags Raised (Full Staff) -5pm Flags Lowered

Organization Meetings:

(Post: 9/16, 10/21, 11/18) (Auxiliary: 9/28, 10/26, 11/23) (SAL: 9/16, 10/21, 11/18)
 (Riders: 9/2, 10/7, 11/4) (Post 245 Boy Scouts: every Monday)