



# THE POST PATRIOT

## **KITCHEN'S OPEN!**

- **Social Quarter Hours**  
Mon. thru Thurs. 2pm—10pm  
Fri. 2pm—1am  
Sat. 12pm—1am  
Sun. 12pm—10pm
- **NEW Kitchen Hours !!**  
Every Day 4pm—9pm
- Mon: Mexican Food & Drink  
Specials
- Wed.: Made-To-Order Pasta
- Thurs: Wing Night
- Fri & Sat: Full Menu
- Sun.: Football Menu
- **Karaoke! Sat. 8pm—12am**  
Kitchen Open. Closing based  
on attendance.  
\$1 Draft Specials

## **UPCOMING BANDS 8:00 PM—MIDNIGHT**

Sept 12	Full Tilt
Sept 19	Pocketful O' Soul
Sept 26	Love haters
Oct 3	Cheeze Brothers
Oct 10	SYRPLUS
Oct 17	John King Dance Band
Oct 24	Kat & the Mad Dogz
Oct 31	Screamin' Daisys
Nov 7	Pocketful O' Soul
Nov 14	Love Haters
Nov 21	Flash Back
Nov 26	Roof Rockers
Nov 28	Underground Hotel

## **COMMANDER'S NOTE**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank James Vollrath for his two years serving as our Post #34 Commander and also congratulate him on being elected Eastern Section Vice Commander. We are proud of you, James!

With the summer coming to a close and vacations dwindling, I would like to ask all of our members to please volunteer some of their time giving back to our Post and helping it to succeed in its mission to benefit veterans, active military and the community. There are many areas where help is needed and the tasks are varied. Regardless of what you're able to do and what your time commitment is, we can find a way for each of you to help out and further our cause.

We have fundraisers where more volunteers are nearly always needed. We hold BINGO in the banquet hall every Tuesday evening. Assistance is needed with that program as well.

One of the best things you and can do, and something we need to see more of, is members attending the monthly meetings of their organizations. See the back page of this newsletter for scheduling information. Participating in meetings is a great way to find out what is happening at the Post and in your respective Legion Family groups and where you can help out. It's also a great way to share any ideas you may have on improving your Post.

Respectfully,

*Jere Axe*

American Legion Post #34 Commander  
10th District



## **LETTER FROM THE EDITOR**

We did it again! For the second year in a row, our Post Patriot took 1st place in the state of Pennsylvania in the annual competition by the PA American Legion Press Association. As if that wasn't exciting enough, we took it one step further and participated in the same competition at the NATIONAL level and took 2nd place in the whole United States! At the American Legion National Convention, our Eastern Vice Commander, Jim Vollrath, accepted the "Al Weinberg Award" for the larger posts category on behalf of Post #34. THANK YOU Ali Lovell, our sponsors and all who contribute to our great publication!

We are looking to having a guest speaker present prior to the monthly Legionnaire meetings on the 1st Wednesday of every month. The speaker would begin at 6:30pm. This will be open to everyone and all members are encouraged to attend. If you have a suggestion for topics or a specific speaker, please let me know.



*(Continued on page 12)*

# SAL CORNER

SEPTEMBER MEETING MOVED: Wednesday, 9/17 at 7:00pm



Another exciting year is upon us! Our officers have been installed, we are in discussions, and brainstorming ideas of what we will do as an organization this year. More details to follow as those ideas take shape. I am excited, as always, to see what great things we will accomplish

for our veterans, active service members and people of the community! With our members' help, attendance at meetings and participation in our events, I know the SAL can spread happiness and positivity throughout our District.

Speaking of such things, the SAL was proud to help a single mother and her family from the Milagro House with a \$250 gift card when they encountered a significant and unforeseen hardship. In the photo shown below, Tammy Lyons presents the gift card on behalf of our Squadron.

As I've said before, there is strength in numbers. Please attend our regular meetings, offer an idea or make a donation of funds or your time to help our vets, those in service and those less fortunate than ourselves.



**Left:** Tammy Lyons presents a Kohls gift card to a community member in need from Milagro House. Tammy identified this family's need and communicated their situation to our SAL, so she ultimately presented the gift on behalf of Squadron #34.

## SAL OFFICERS

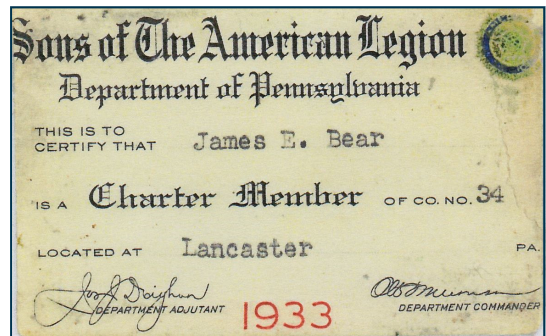
- Commander** Todd Lovell
- 1st Vice Commander:** Dave Sloat
- 2nd Vice Commander:** Gary Fickes
- Adjutant:** Gary Vollrath
- Chaplain:** Ken Deaven
- Finance Officer** Gary Wilson
- Historian:** Jeff Lane
- Sgt. At Arms:** Sam Ricketts
- Jr. Sgt. At Arms:** Christopher Foland

Looking forward to enjoying good times with you all this coming year at Post #34!

Proud to be an American.



**Todd Lovell**  
Commander  
SAL Squadron #34



**Above:** Blast from the past! Membership card belonging to James E. Bear, charter member of the Post #34 SAL. Dated 1933.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**DON'T FORGET!:** SAL Meetings at Post #34. Every **2nd Wednesday, 7:00pm**. Need to see more members there!

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# AUXILIARY ALLEY



I would like to thank all of our Auxiliary members for having the confidence in me and welcoming me back as your President for the 2014-2015 year. I especially want to thank Genevieve Malone for taking over as your President when I had to step down due to family illnesses. I'm looking forward to a very successful year helping our veterans, children and youth.

I want to welcome back Jere Axe as our Post Commander and send a special congratulations to Jim Vollrath on his election as Eastern Section Vice Commander at the Department of PA Convention in July. Wishing both of you a very successful year.

We have an appointed position of Parliamentarian available. If any of our members are interested please contact me either at the Post or by phone. 717.587.1625.

We would love to have transfers from other Units to ours. In order to do so we need a copy of your original qualifying documents, ie. DD214, obituary, etc. and your original current membership card. Dept. of PA requires that we return your original card in order to issue a new card because you may not hold membership at more than one (1) Unit.

Look for membership renewals to be sent to you in September. Please send your renewal back to our Treasurer/Membership Chairman, Karen Axe, or bring it into the Post.

Our first meeting of the new year was held on Wednesday, September 3rd, 2014. We welcomed our District President, June Whalen, who installed our new board members. Congratulations to them! Our next meeting will take place Wednesday, October 1st, 2014 at 7:00pm in the "pool room." Auxiliary members, please try to attend.

We will be participating in the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends fundraiser again this year. This was a huge success for us in 2013. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be obtained from Auxiliary members in September and October. Our Unit receives the entire \$5.00 for our treasury



The American Legion Auxiliary is the **most influential patriotic women's organization in the world**. It maintains its own unique identity while achieving important goals for both the Post and the community.

and you get a 25% discount when you shop on Tuesday October 21st, 2014. Thanking you in advance for helping us again this year. A big thank you to Carol Sears and Sue Shellenberger for their help in this fundraiser.

Yours In Service,

**Marilyn M. Pew**  
President  
Auxiliary Unit #34



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ★ **Auxiliary Meetings:** October 1st, November 5th and December 3rd. 7:00pm at Post #34
- ★ **Coatesville VA Medical Center:** Monday, September 15th—**Vets Picnic.** Monday, December 15th—**Vets Christmas Dinner** (set-up is the Sunday prior to each event).
- ★ **Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Fundraiser:** Tuesday, October 21st at any Bocov's department store.
- ★ **Children's Halloween Party:** Sunday, October 26th, 1:00pm
- ★ **Veterans Victory House Dinners:** Will begin in October on the 3rd Monday of each month at 5:00pm. If you are at the Post during this time, please come and welcome them, help serve dinner and/or just chat with them a bit.
- ★ **Veteran's Day:** Please remember to honor our Vets on November 11th

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS

**President:** Marilyn Pew  
**1st Vice President:** Ann Marie Fluke  
**2nd Vice President:** Alison Lovell  
**Secretary:** Lisa Sanders  
**Treasurer:** Karen Axe  
**Chaplain:** Marian Walters  
**Sgt. At Arms:** Helen Bunteman  
**Sgt. At Arms:** Ann Ricketts

### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT #34 \* MARILYN PEW, PRESIDENT



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## RIDERS ROAD

Dear Fellow Veterans and Supporters,

I was very happy to represent our American Legion Riders of Post #34 at the state convention this year in Harrisburg. I was joined by fellow members as we supported our District Commander, Jim Vollrath, and we had a great opportunity to meet American Legion Riders from across Pennsylvania. I learned a great deal and shared what I learned at our August meeting. The Riders are looking forward to attending Convention next year and learning more about the political process. Our District is a great one and is supported by a large number of Riders who care about making a positive difference in veterans' lives.

The Riders have begun their fundraising efforts with a T-shirt sale. The shirts are black with an imprint of a motorcycle on the back of the shirt. One bike design has flames and the other does not. The shirts come in men's and ladies style necklines. See a Rider for more details and/or to purchase.

Yes, the rumors are true! We are planning a ride in October during Fall Foliage in Bedford Pennsylvania. The date is Saturday October 11th, 2014. Our Road Captains, Mark and Dick, are planning the ride and mapping out the route to ensure a safe and enjoyable ride. Once we arrive in Bedford and settle in, we will visit the 9/11 Memorial in Shanksville where Flight 93 crashed. Shanksville is in Somerset County not too far from Bedford. We will return home on Sunday October 12th, 2014.

We are planning for additional fundraisers that will benefit our veterans and their families. Hopefully, you will feel our enthusiasm and join our efforts in helping support the Riders of Post #34. You all bring excitement, dedication and fun to any event we plan which leads to success for everyone!

On a personal note, Riders you always amaze me with how you do the best job you can possibly do. I want you to know I am proud of your hard work and your efforts that make every-

thing we do a success. Every single success is due to your commitment. I also want to thank all members of Post #34. You support the Riders and we could not give back to our veterans without your patronage and passion.

I know we did not do as much riding as we wanted this season, but it is not over yet! I am still recovering from my surgery, but let your Road Captains know you are ready to ride!

Thank you also to all of our Legion Family members who donate their time, energy and companionship to the American Legion Riders of Post # 34 and other Legion Post Riders. Our fellow Riders always feel welcomed and included.

Looking forward to more adventures.

Respectfully,

**Dave Fluke**

American Legion

ALR Chapter #34 President



### **RIDERS OFFICERS**

**President:** Dave Fluke

**Vice President:** Curtis Rager

**Chaplain:** Sue Shellenberger

**Sgt. At Arms:** Dave Miller

**Treasurer:** Chet Buohl

**Secretary:** Ann Marie Fluke

**Historian:** Sherri Rutherford

**Road Captain:** Mark Shepherd

**Road Captain:** Dick Wilkensen

### **AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER #34 \* DAVE FLUKE, PRESIDENT**

## MEMBER'S PERSPECTIVE

The things I like about Post #34...

The very efficient staff and comradeship among members. Great food and drink at very reasonable prices is excellent also, but what I appreciate most of all is the outpouring of support when someone is in need.

**Bob Horst**

Legionnaire

American Legion Post #34

# LEGION UPDATE

## NATIONAL COMMANDER HELM: STAY THE COURSE



Department of Nebraska Legionnaire Mike Helm wants his fellow Legionnaires to “stay the course” this year. But don’t think for a minute that means maintain the status quo.

Helm, elected American Legion national commander Aug. 28 during the final day of the 96th Annual American Legion National Convention, said during his acceptance speech that he wants Legionnaires to stay true to the ideals of the organization’s founders and use them as a guide toward future progress.

“That is the plan for this year: stay the course,” Helm said. “And no, I do not mean that we shouldn’t raise the bar and constantly seek to improve. What I mean by ‘stay the course’ is to continue to live and honor the great traditions and values established by our founders nearly a century ago. These policies and traditions that got us here will continue to guide us forward.

We are a God and country organization, and we will not apologize for that. We know that a veteran is a citizen of this country who has offered his or her life to honor this nation’s commitment to justice freedom and democracy, and by that action has had his or her life radically and sometimes violently changed forever. We will not let this nation forget that we owe that individual respect and any help they need in making their lives whole again.”

Helm, a U.S. Army Rangers veteran and member of Jack Helt Post 313 in Lebanon, Neb., has served as post, county, district, department and national vice commander, and has chaired the National Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation and Foreign Relations commissions.

He will use his VA&R experience this year to focus on current issues with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“Under the leadership of our (immediate Past National Commander Dan Dellinger), we have drawn the line in the sand,”

Helm said. “We say now that the health-care needs of the individual veteran must be met in a timely manner. We say that the VA can do a better job in the claims and appeals process. At the same time, we will continue to seek out answers to what went wrong at the VA and why it went wrong.” Those people involved in the scandals have to be held accountable, Helm said.

“We know that what happened wasn’t an accident or a circumstance. There is an entrenchment in VA that is not helpful to veterans’ health care or compensation. We will find it and get rid of it. At the same time, we will continue to support the VA as a national provider of veterans’ health care. We need our VA medical facilities because we know it can be and is the best care anywhere if administrated properly. “Those calling for the end of the VA and privatization of veterans health care are wrong. We continue to see The American Legion as partners and friends of the VA. We know they can and will do better.”

National security also is on Helm’s radar. “We cannot continue to see the mounting crises erupting in the world and still think it is a prudent thing to reduce our military force and training,” he said. “Those forces of evil and hate are enemies of our way of life. This nation must be ready to answer that challenge.

“We will also continue our efforts to end illegal immigration. It is a national security issue of great importance. Fair and legal immigration is a good thing that has helped build this country into a great nation. We must continue that process. Anything else is a constant danger – especially amnesty proposals which seek to reward illegal behavior and penalize those who have waited patiently to immigrate the legal way.”

Helm said the Legion will continue to support its youth and Americanism programs, saying those programs “make up the fabric that keeps us strong as a nation.” And rather than focusing on a specific fundraising program, Helm has set a goal for the Legion family to raise a combined \$4 million for the various Legion charitable programs.

“I am leaving the choice of fundraising to you,” he said. “All I ask is that you give. America is paying attention to The American Legion not just because we are right on the issues, but because we are doing these great things in our communities.”

## VETERANS SERVICE CORNER

### AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY?

If you are suffering from a disability that was caused or worsened while you were on active duty for the military, you may be eligible for VA's service-connected disability compensation. Remember, with each service connection, you must be able to prove your medical condition is related to your service, which can be done through a medical statement from a qualified provider. The following are five ways to establish if a disability is service-connected:

**Direct Service Connection:** First you must have a disease, injury, illness or occurrence in service which produces a chronic, debilitating condition. Second you must have the same or closely related condition presently. Third you must have a nexus (link) between the two either through interval medical treatment for the condition or a statement from a qualified medical person stating the following: diagnosis of a chronic condition; that the medical person has reviewed your entire medical history, to include service treatment records (STR); that it is "at least as likely as not" (50/50) that your current condition is related to military service; and reasons and bases for the medical opinion. Direct service connection may be established when the chronic, debilitating condition did not begin to produce symptoms while on active duty but did manifest to a compensable degree within a certain time period after exit from active duty. This criterion is IAW 38 CFR 3.303(d).

**Presumptive Service Connection:** The Veteran must have served in certain places in the world, at certain times and/or during certain operations in order to qualify for presumptive service connection. Some common examples of presumptive service connection involve exposure to agent orange defoliant, exposure to ionizing radiation, being held as a prisoner of war and other criteria as outlined in 38 CFR 3.309.

**Secondary Service Connection:** This type of service connection results when a service connected condition is shown to be the cause of another disability. For example if a Veteran is service connected for a right knee disability and the left knee begins to have issues due to uneven weight bearing, improper gait and other factors caused by the right knee then the left knee by be service connected as secondary. A competent medical statement is usually needed in order to provide medical basis for secondary service connection.

**Aggravation:** This type of service connection may be considered in two different ways. First if a Veteran entered active duty with a pre-existing condition but that condition becomes worse there may be basis for service connection due to aggravation. Again a medical statement from a qualified provider which states that there is a chronic condition, review of medical history, that the condition was aggravated "beyond normal limits" by military duty, and reasons and basis will be needed to substantiate the request for service connection. The other means of establishing service connected aggravation is when a presently existing condition is aggravated by a service connected condition. This must again be presented with corroborating evidence from a medical person.

**U.S.C. 1151 Claim:** This type of service connection results when will full negligence and/or misconduct occurs in a VA healthcare facility which results in a chronic debilitating condition. The 1151 claim is facilitated by an accredited service officer, investigated by a VA identified senior medical provider, and compensated using the service connected rating codes in 38 CFR Part 4.

*Cajun Comeau*

Service Officer

American Legion North Carolina Department

### HOW TO UPGRADE YOUR MILITARY DISCHARGE



**Q:** I was told before I got out of the military that I would have education benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. I only qualify

for 80 percent of benefits, so I tried to apply last year. Unfortunately, I was denied because I was discharged under other than honorable conditions. How do I upgrade my discharge to honorable?

**A:** To upgrade your discharge, you must complete a DD Form 293—Application for the Review of Discharge or Dismissal from the Armed Forces of the United States—and mail it to the address on the back of the form. The board will upgrade your discharge only if you can prove that it is inequitable or improper. You can do this by providing evidence supporting your case, including signed statements from you and other witnesses or copies of records.

# PAST DAYS OF POST #34



Sincere thanks to Duanne Mishler for sharing these beautiful photos of the **American Legion Post #34 Drum and Bugle Corps** from the late 1920's! Duanne's grandfather, Walter C. Herr, (shown below at right) was a member of the corps and is noted in the group shots with red arrows. How wonderful that these photos have been saved and shared so that we all get a brief glance into Post #34's past. Thanks again, Duanne!



## MAY WE NEVER FORGET...



**Above:** The Liberty Memorial, located in Kansas City, MO, is a memorial to the soldiers who died in WWI and also houses The National WWI Museum, as designated by the US Congress in 2004.



**Above:** Americans burying their dead. November 8th, 1914. Bois de Consenvoye, Lorraine, France. **WWI:** 1914—1919. 116,516 dead.



**Above:** The National WWII Memorial in Washington, DC is dedicated to Americans who served in the armed forces and as civilians during WWII. Dedicated by President George W. Bush on May 29th, 2004.



**Above:** Using a canvas tarpaulin for a church, a Catholic Navy Chaplain holds mass for marines at Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, in memory of those lost during the initial landing. June 1944. **WWII:** 1939—1945. 405,399 dead.



**Above:** The Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC commemorates those who served in the Korean War. Confirmed by the US Congress on October 28th, 1986.



**Above:** Marines carry a wounded comrade while other marines hold positions in the assault on the outskirts of Seoul, South Korea. September 1950. **Korean War:** 1950—1953. 36,516 dead.



# FREEDOM IS NOT FREE



**Above:** The National Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC honors US service members of the US armed forces who fought in the Vietnam War, those who died in service and those who are unaccounted for (POW/MIA).



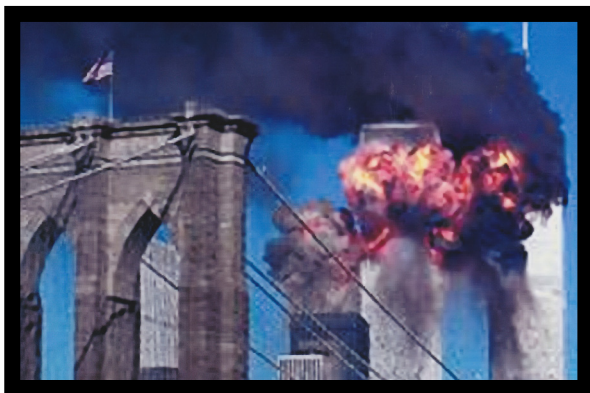
**Above:** As fellow troopers aid wounded, a paratrooper guides a medical evacuation helicopter through the jungle to retrieve casualties in South Vietnam. April 1968. **Vietnam War:** 1955—1975. 58,209 dead.



**Above:** Soldiers place flags in Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery. This section is the final resting place for the majority of casualties that died in Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. 6,805 US service members have died in these conflicts.



**Above:** A defining image of Operation Iraqi Freedom. US soldier, Major Mark Bieger, tries to save a little girl killed by the Iraqi resistance in Mosul, Iraq. May 2005. **Operation Iraqi Freedom:** 2003—2011. **Operation Enduring Freedom:** 2001—ongoing.



**Above:** Terrorist attack on US soil September 11th, 2001. **8:46am:** Flight 11 crashes into the World Trade Center North Tower. **9:03am:** Flight 175 crashes into the World Trade Center South Tower. 2,976 dead. **9:38am:** Flight 77 crashes into the Pentagon. 125 dead. **10:03am:** Flight 93 crashes in Shanksville, PA, only 160 miles from Lancaster. 40 dead, totaling 2,977 dead from this horrific act of terrorism.

## DATES TO REMEMBER



- ◆ September 11th—Patriot Day
- ◆ September 16th—The American Legion Day
- ◆ September 19th—National POW/MIA Recognition Day
- ◆ October—National Disability & Employment Awareness Month
- ◆ October 7, 2001—Start of Operation Enduring Freedom
- ◆ October 13th—Columbus Day
- ◆ October 23, 1983—Beirut bombing
- ◆ October 25, 1983—Grenada Invasion
- ◆ November 4th—Election Day
- ◆ November 11, 1918—WWI Armistice
- ◆ November 11th—Veterans Day

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ September 26th & 27th (Friday & Saturday): The US Army's Spirit of America FREE patriotic live-action show. Giant Center, Hershey, PA. Call (866) 239-9425 or visit [www.spiritofamerica.mdw.army.mil](http://www.spiritofamerica.mdw.army.mil)
- ◆ Saturday, October 18th—9:30am : Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #1008 Chicken BBQ. Martin's Country Market. Main St, Ephrata. \$5.50 per 1/2 chicken.
- ◆ Sunday, October 19th—12:00pm: Marine Corps League Fall Fest & Basket BINGO. Columbia Fire Station. 137 Front Street. BINGO starts at 2:00pm. Tickets: \$15.00 in advance, \$20.00 at the door. Call (717) 653-2071 for info.
- ◆ Saturday, October 25th—7:00pm: PA Legion Riders 2014 Monster Bash. Holiday Inn Harrisburg East. 4751 Lindle Road. All Riders, Legionnaires, SAL and Auxiliary members invited to attend.
- ◆ October 26th 1:00pm—3:00pm: Children's Halloween Party
- ◆ November 11th: Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #1008 Bus Trip to Vietnam Veterans Memorial. \$40.00/person. Contact Ken Ford at (717) 584-6537 for more info.



## ACTIVITIES

- ◆ The Pride of the Susquehanna Riverboat in Harrisburg, PA is offering **FREE ADMISSION on any 45 minute Public Sightseeing Cruise** during the 2013 season to veterans, active duty members of the military, and their immediate families, with appropriate ID. Cruises occur from Memorial Day to Labor Day and weekends in the Fall.
- ◆ We continue to collect old and/or broken phones at Post #34 for **Cell Phones for Soldiers**. Each phone donated provides 1 hour of free call time to an American soldier. To date we've collected **over 890 phones**. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who has helped get us to that point. Keep them coming!!

## TAPS



*"All is well, safely rest, God is nigh..."  
Remembering those we've lost.*

- S. Joseph Crawford  
American Legion Post #34 Member
- J. Michael Heim  
US Army Veteran
- John Edward Renolle—Passed June 26th  
US Army Veteran of WWII and Post #34 Member
- Everett C. Brown—Passed June 27th  
US Army Veteran of WWII and Post #34 Member
- Jake "Billy" Williams—Passed July 6th  
US Marine Corps Veteran of Vietnam
- John P. Ruffino—Passed July 10th  
American Legion Post #34 Member
- Raymond C. Mutzel—Passed August 2nd  
American Legion Member
- William C. Smiley—Passed August 13th  
US Navy Air Corps Veteran and AL Post #34 Member
- Lloyd W. Dull—Passed August 25th  
US Army Veteran of WWII and AL Post #34 Member

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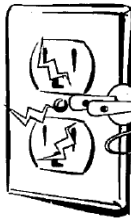
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**Legion Riders**  
3rd Sunday—11:00am

**EDITOR: *continued***

*(Continued from page 1)*

On Friday night band nights, we are collecting donations of canned and packaged foods as well as toiletries to help replenish the inventories of the wonderful organizations that aid our veterans and the community families less fortunate. **Bring in 5 or more items and receive a free appetizer!** Thank you Jessi for that incentive!

In closing, I'd like to welcome Jere Axe back as our Post Commander and congratulate Jim Vollrath on his election as Department Eastern Section Vice Commander!

Lastly, a reminder to all Post #34 members that our mission is to serve our veterans, active military and their families, and to enhance the quality of life in our community. Let's lead the way!

**Bill Schulz**  
American Legion  
Post #34 Veterans Service Officer  
Post Patriot Editor

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**Feedback Welcomed!**

Have an idea, suggestion or something to contribute to a future issue?

**Bill Schulz**, Editor  
Post #34 Veterans Service Officer  
**Alison Lovell**, Layout & Design



*Enjoy your Freedom... Thank a Veteran for their service!*