



THE POST PATRIOT

KITCHEN'S OPEN!

- Hours: Thurs. thru Sat.
4:00pm—9:00pm
- Friday & Saturday:
Full Menu
w/ Dinner Specials
- THURSDAY SPECIAL:
.25ct Wings &
\$4.00 Pitchers
Coors Light, Miller Lite
& Lager
Plus Limited Menu
- Banquet Hall available for
rent. Great for all types of
occasions. Contact The
Post for details

UPCOMING BANDS

8:00 PM—MIDNIGHT

July 13	Blue VooDoo
July 20	Pocket Full O'Soul
July 27	Underground Hotel
August 3	Groove Dawgz
August 10	SilverHawks
August 17	Forget Harry
August 24	Back In Motion
August 31	Screamin' Daisys

OPENING REMARKS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOW!! Our first annual Memorial Day Flower Service at the Lancaster Cemetery was a great success! **THANK YOU THANK YOU** all for participating and making it a wonderful day. I have already met with Jack Shenk of Flowers by Paulette to begin planning for next year's ceremony. We will be adding a couple of surprises for 2013.

Also thanks to all members who partici-



pated in the Elks Flag Day ceremony at Binn's Park. We will be more involved in that event next year.

I hope the seed packets from Burpee for Operation Military Kids are providing enjoyment. If you took pictures of your planting or progress, please bring them in to share.

On another note, the

deadline for sending the "give a hand" lollipops is September 1st. Please participate in that great opportunity to support our troops.

We will be having an American Legion Post #34 day at Clipper Stadium with the Lancaster Barnstormers on Saturday, Septem-

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A SONS POINT OF VIEW

On Thursday, June 14th, 2012 a ceremony was held at Binn's Park in downtown Lancaster to honor the American Flag on Flag Day. The event kicked

off at 7:15pm in Penn Square followed by a parade up Queen Street to Binn's Park. About 200 people were in attendance at the very moving com-

memoration sponsored by three different Elks Lodges—Lancaster, Columbia/Middletown

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SAL CORNER



A COMMANDER'S APPRECIATION

I would like to start by thanking the whole American Legion Family for making our Wounded Warrior benefit a big success. We raised over \$2,000 after expenses. Thanks also to Tom Young and his band SYRPLUS as well as DJ Jimmie Rod for the great music that everyone enjoyed. In addition, I cannot say a BIG enough thank you to Sharon Mcnece, Carol Sears and the Ladies Aux-

iliary for pulling our basket auction together, to Stan and the Legion Riders for watching the doors and providing security and to Dave Fluke who kept the hamburgers and hot dogs coming all day long.

Post #34 Family: It is all of your help and support that makes these events possible. Again, I thank you.

Bill Middleton

American Legion

Post #34 SAL Commander

ANOTHER GREAT CAUSE, ANOTHER GREAT TIME

The next SAL event will take place on July 28th from 2:00pm—10:00pm. Proceeds will benefit the Stevens Greenland Memorial Park located on the southwest side of Duke Street in downtown Lancaster. This cemetery is the final resting place of Buffalo Soldiers, Civil, WWI, WWII, Korean and Vietnam

war veterans and Post #34 was responsible for placing the main monument there (pictured at right). Tickets are already available and are \$10.00 each. Cost covers food—chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs and sides—soda, and draft beer. A DJ and later a band will provide the entertainment. The Sons of Post 34

have partnered with the Conestoga Lodge of Elks #140 and Queen of Sheba

Temple #137 for this event and fundraising effort. and the ongoing care of this cemetery.



MOWERS, YARD TOOLS & TRIMMERS, OH MY!

We are in need of a riding and/or some push mowers as well as gas powered yard care tools, trimmers, etc. to help with the care and upkeep of the Stevens Greenland Memorial Park cemetery. Volunteers for this task are also needed.

AUXILIARY ALLEY



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations go out to our officers who were re-elected for another term: Marilyn M. Pew, President; Genevieve Malone, 1st Vice President; Lisa Sanders, Secretary; Karen Axe, Treasurer; and Marilyn Vollrath, Chaplain. A special congratulations goes out to

Sharon Mcnece who was elected Sgt.-At-Arms and will be replacing Ruth "Boots" Baldwin who has served our Auxiliary for many years. Please keep Boots in your healing prayers as she is still recovering from a serious illness.

THANK YOU!

A special "thank you" to all of our members who volunteered at the Memorial Day Flowers service at the Lancaster Cemetery. It was truly a memorable experience that Post 34 will support again next year. Thank you also to all of our members who helped out with Legion

Riders and Sons fundraisers. Through your efforts they were able to raise monies to support the Fisher House and the Wounded Warrior Project.



DON'T FORGET!

Our major fundraising project is the Bingo Snack Bar that operates every Tuesday evening. We need your support in offering to help set up, serve and clean up. We also appreciate the donation of food items to sell. All of the proceeds from the Snack Bar are donated back to our veterans and community projects.

Auxiliary meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of every month except July & August. 7:00 pm at the Post.

WHERE ARE THE OTHER 300?

Our Auxiliary membership has surged this year to over 336, yet we are only seeing 20—25 members attending meetings and helping us with your many fundraising pro-

jects. We would love to see you at the Post for our next meeting on Wednesday, September 5th at 7:00pm. Let us all remember why we joined the American Legion Auxiliary—to

help in the rehabilitation of our disabled veterans, to support children and youth activities in our community and to serve our community through volunteerism.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **July 11th:** County Fair at Coatesville VA Medical Center
- **July 19th—21st:** Department Convention; Radisson Penn Harris Hotel, Camp Hill, PA. Auxiliary President, Marilyn Pew, has been nominated to serve on the Credentials Committee for the Eastern District.
- **September 5th—7:00pm:** Auxiliary Meeting; Post 34
- **September 9th—4:00pm:** Set up for Veterans Picnic
- **September 10th—4:30pm:** Veterans Picnic; Post 34 Banquet Hall
- **September 20th :** POW-MIA Remembrance Day; Penn Square, Downtown Lancaster
Details to follow at the September meeting

LADIES AUXILIARY UNIT #34 * MARILYN MILLER PEW, PRESIDENT

DO YOU RIDE?

The Post #34 American Legion Riders meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm. The group then rides the Sunday following.

The Legion Riders is a motorcycle enthusiasts association within the American Legion organization. It offers an environment where Legion family members can come together and share a common love for motorcycles. If you are a Legionnaire, SAL or Auxiliary member and would like to join the Riders, stop by one of the meetings or talk to a current member for more information. Dave Fluke is the President of our Post's Legion Riders organization.



OPENING: *Continued*

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ber 15th at 12:00pm.

Tickets are \$10.00 each, \$4.00 of which will be retained by Post #34 and set aside in an Emergency Aid Fund being established to help Legion Family members in distress. Come out and be a part of this fundraiser and help us ensure that we can take care of our own in need. Also stay tuned for upcoming additional information.

For veterans who don't qualify for veteran benefits, do not have a department of VA Affairs card and would like an acceptable ID card to take advantage of the many discounts for vets, please see me. Also available is an 8-page listing of businesses offering discounts to veterans.

Legion Post #34 and myself, as Veterans Service Officer, are willing and dedicated to

A DATE TO REMEMBER

- **July 26, 1990:** Americans with Disabilities Act Signed
- **July 27, 1953 :** End of Korean War
- **August 7th:** Purple Heart Day
- **August 14, 1945:** Japan surrenders to end WWII
- **September 2nd :** VJ Day (1945) & Labor Day
- **September 11th :** Patriot Day
- **September 20th :** POW-MIA Recognition Day

community. Please contact me with questions, suggestions, concerns and needs.

Lastly, when you see Ali Gordon, thank her for the time and effort she put in assembling all of the content and creating a professional newsletter that we can be proud of.

Bill Schulz

American Legion
Veteran Service Officer

VETERANS SERVICE CORNER



WELCOME!

American Legion Post #34 wants to welcome all Veterans and Family members to our Veterans Service Corner (VSC). Each month we will have articles and information pertaining to Veterans Affairs.

The 3 major departments that may be covered are:

- Veterans Health Administration (VHA)
- Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA)
- National Cemetery Administration (NCA)

**YOU MAY BE ELIBIGLE TO ENROLL
IN THE VA'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM!
TO FIND OUT IF YOU QUALIFY VISIT WWW.VA.GOV.AMELIGIBLE
CALL 1-877-222-VETS OR SEE BILL SCHULZ**

VA OFFERING PERSONAL HEALTH CARE HANDBOOKS TO VETS

WASHINGTON – Veterans enrolled in VA health care in coming months will receive personalized handbooks with information on their benefits, local medical facilities, applicable copays and how to schedule an appointment.

The booklets are part of a new push by VA officials to keep veterans informed about available services and benefits available, department officials said. Distribution of the handbooks began this month, and 8.5 million are expected to be sent

out to every veteran enrolled in the system by the end of the year. Veterans will also receive updated handbooks if their benefit options change. Officials said the books will include "a personalized listing of health benefits based on each veteran's specific eligibil-

ity," along with guidelines for communicating with nearby clinical teams and other pertinent local VA facility information. More information about handbooks are available at the VA website or by calling 1-877-222 – VETS (8387).



ANOTHER NOTE

For input, suggestions, questions or issues regarding health care benefits, acquiring DD-214's and/or records, upgrading discharges, upgrading disabilities, or percentages contact Bill Schulz.

VETERANS SERVICE CORNER (CONTINUED)

TRIBUTE TO VIETNAM VETERANS SPUTTERING

WASHINGTON - They returned home to a politically traumatized nation that treated them with indifference and scorn.

Now, veterans' advocates fear the country will again miss an opportunity to recognize the toil and torment of the 3 million service members sent to fight the Vietnam War. The Pentagon's plans to celebrate the veterans - five years in the making - are sputtering.

This Memorial Day is supposed to be the curtain-raiser for a series of gatherings to mark the 50th anniversary of the beginning of US involvement in the decade-plus war and to honor those who served. Yet few events are planned and crucial corporate sponsorship is nonexistent. Most veterans have not even heard about the effort.

"It has to be some issue of leadership and motivation," Phillip Jennings, a veteran Marine Corps captain who served in Southwest Asia and has written several books about the war, said of what he considers to be a flagging effort. "There is no real direction. There is no champion of it at the Pentagon or the White House."

Pentagon officials acknowledge the criticism but insist the commemoration events will, in the end, be numerous, appropriate, and timely. They point out that the events will be scheduled to coincide with key moments in the war 50 years after they occurred, giving them time to plan.

"I'm optimistic we will get it right," retired Army Lieutenant Gen-

eral Claude "Mick" Kicklighter, who was appointed to oversee the effort last July, told Vietnam Magazine last month. "I believe that the country wants to do this right and will do it right."

Yet doing it right means raising money, and one Pentagon official said that has been a major stumbling block. The commemoration office has been given scant funds to organize, and officials have not designed a mechanism for corporations to contribute, according to the official, who was not authorized to speak publicly.

Kicklighter's office said he was unavailable for an interview, and officials would not say how much funding the Pentagon has designated.

The exact dates of



American involvement have been disputed. The United States first sent military advisers in 1959; massive escalation came when Congress passed the Gulf of Tonkin resolution in 1964. This year was chosen by the Pentagon to kick off the 50th commemoration because in 1962 the Pentagon first authorized a Vietnam service ribbon for troops sent to Southeast Asia. It was also the year President Kennedy increased military advisers from a few hundred to several thousand to assist South Vietnamese forces fighting the North Vietnamese communists.

VETERANS SERVICE CORNER (CONTINUED)

VIETNAM CONNECTIONS—VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL WALL

- 39,996 on The Wall were just 22 years of age or younger
- 39,283 were just 19 years old
- 3,103 were 18 years old
- 12 were 17 years old
- 5 were 16 years old
- One, PFC Dan Bullock, was 15 years old
- 997 were killed on their first day in Vietnam
- 31 sets of brothers are on The Wall
- 31 families lost two of their sons
- 54 soldiers on The Wall attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia
- 8 women are on The Wall, Nursing the wounded
- 244 were awarded the Medal of Honor during the war. 153 of them are on The Wall
- Beallsville, OH with a population of 475 lost 6 of her sons
- West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per Capita in the nation. There are 77 West Virginians on The Wall



MEMBERS MEMORIES



Cemetery photos courtesy of Jacque Wilson.

We'd like to expand the Members Memories section in future newsletters so please share your moments with us! See Bill Schulz.

The day we remembered our fallen truly became a day to remember. These photos show a only a few of the many moving moments that took place at our 1st Annual Memorial Day Flower Ceremony at the Lancaster Cemetery.



Far left photo features Cheyanne during a moment of silence. In the center is Destiny Mcnece, granddaughter of Sharon Mcnece, preparing to place a rose on the grave of a fallen soldier. Above is a view of the numerous graves of those we lost adorned with flags and red roses.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES & FUNDRAISERS

- ◆ Please “give a hand” to our military personnel by **purchasing a box of clapping hands lollipops** at the bar for \$8.00. Each box includes a dozen pops and will be shipped to the men and women serving overseas with a personal note from you. **Cutoff is September 1st so purchase and send a box today!**



- ◆ **Cell Phones for Soldiers Collection** continues at Post #34. To date we’ve provided over 300 hours of call time to our men and women in the military by donating cell phones of all types, ages and conditions. Have a phone to donate? Look for the collection box in the Post lobby on the bench. Charitable donation receipts for tax purposes available upon request. See Todd Lovell or Alison Gordon.

Know someone serving that could use some free call-time to contact friends and family at home? **Cell Phones for Soldiers will provide FREE calling cards to military personnel upon request.**

Quantities also available for whole groups/units.

See Todd or Alison for more details.



- ◆ **Operation Military Kids Welcome Home Seed Packets: FREE** and available in the canteen. Make sure to capture your planting and progress on camera and bring your photos to the Post.



Granddaughter of Kim Marks, Bailey Hoke, stands proudly with Bob Shank beside her Welcome Home Seed Packet garden. Looks great Bailey! Two green thumbs up!

UPCOMING EVENTS



- ◆ **Wednesday, July 11th:** County Fair at Coatesville VA Medical Center
- ◆ **Thursday July 19th—21st:** Department Convention; Radisson Penn Harris Hotel, Camp Hill, PA
- ◆ **Saturday, July 21st—11:00am:** Benefit Ride for veteran Walter "Troop" Beach. Registration at 9:30am. Start and End at Elizabethtown V.F.W. Stops include Mount Joy Legion, Dirty Ole Tavern, and Bainbridge Inn. \$10.00/person. Includes DJ, raffles, and food after the ride. Contact Theresa Rosbach-Murphy at (717) 381-8593.
- ◆ **Saturday, July 21st—11:00am to 3:00pm:** Veteran Recognition Picnic at Cedars Grove in Harrisburg. **Free to all Iraqi and Afghanistan war veterans residing in Central PA and their immediate families.** All others \$5.00/person. Includes food, drink (no alcohol will be served), and entertainment by the "Special Friends" band, Tall Cedar Clown Unit and Red Cross Animal Assisted Therapy Unit. Event sponsored by Tall Cedars of Lebanon Harrisburg Forest #43. Contact Steven Ryersbach at (717) 679-0230 or steven.ryersbach@hotmail.com.
- ◆ **Saturday, July 28th—2:00pm to 10:00pm:** Stevens Greenland Veterans Memorial Park Fundraiser. Sponsored by the Post #34 SAL. See SAL Corner for additional details.
- ◆ **Saturday, July 28th—1:00 pm:** 1st Annual Felicita Golf Resort and Spa Golf Tournament. Shotgun start. \$65.00/person. Includes cart, range balls, beverages on course, prize fund, dinner, door prizes and auction. **Proceeds to benefit the Marine Corps League of PA Foundation, Inc.** Contact Thomas Hazlett at (717) 420-0623.
- ◆ **Sunday, July 29th—12:00pm:** Welcome Home Picnic for returning veterans and their families. **Hosted by the Tall Cedars of Lebanon County** at the Harrisburg Forest (8143 Jonestown Rd). Event includes activities for children and entertainment by the "Special Friends" band at 1:00pm. Contact Dave at (717) 395-3357 or damdim@gmail.com **no later than July 15th** if interested in attending.
- ◆ **Sunday, August 5th—1:00 pm:** Fallen Soldier Memorial Motorcycle Ride. Start and End at Glatfelter Field, Route 462, Columbia, PA. Registration at 9:00 am and 12:00 pm. \$15.00/Driver & \$10.00/passenger. Food and Entertainment provided.
- ◆ **Saturday, August 18th—9:30am to 1:00pm:** Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1058 Chicken BBQ at Martins Country Market in Ephrata. \$5.00 each. **Proceeds benefit veterans causes.**
- ◆ **Sunday, August 19th—7:30am:** Post #34 Legion Riders Pancake Breakfast and Poker Run. Breakfast until 11:00am, kick stands up to ride at 11:30am. Additional details will be forthcoming.
- ◆ **Sunday, September 9th—2:00pm:** Lancaster's American Spirit Parade. Starts at Penn Square, downtown Lancaster.
- ◆ **September 10th—4:30pm:** Veterans Picnic; Post 34 Banquet Hall
- ◆ **September 20th :** POW-MIA Remembrance Day; Penn Square, Downtown Lancaster

AMERICAN LEGION POST 34 * LANCASTER, PA

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Feedback Welcomed!

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

Contact **Bill Schulz**
Post #34 Veterans Service Officer

JOIN THE CLUB!

The American Legion is the largest veterans organization and **WE WANT YOU!** Are you a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces? Has your parent, grandparent, sibling or spouse served? We have 4 membership types available to you.

The Legion Family

- Legionnaires:** Veterans & Active-Duty Members
- Sons of the American Legion:** Male family members
- Auxiliary:** Female Family Members

Don't fit one of these categories?
Get your Social membership today!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS. MAKE YOUR MEETINGS!

EVERY MONTH AT POST:

Legionnaires
1st Wednesday—7:00pm

SAL
2nd Wednesday—7:00pm

Auxiliary
1st Wednesday—7:00pm

Legion Riders
3rd Wednesday—7:30pm

SON: Ceremony

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and Ephrata. There was much emphasis on the history of the American Flag, including the evolution from a design featuring a tree to the 50 Stars and 13 Stripes on our current "Old Glory". In between were presentations from various speakers, starting with representatives of the Elks and ending with a humor-

ous but heartfelt closing address by Keith Sadler, Chief of Police for the city of Lancaster. Chief Sadler spoke without notes while on horseback (his four-legged friend was quite cooperative during the 10 minute finale). The

last act before officially ending the ceremony at 8:10pm was the playing of "Taps" by a bugler who, as is often the case, brought both tears and joy to a very riveted and appreciative audience.



Dave Hoover
SAL Member