



THE POST PATRIOT

KITCHEN'S OPEN!

- **HOURS**
Thurs. thru Sat. 4pm—9pm
Sun. 1pm—9pm
- Full Menu Fri. & Sat.
- Karaoke!
Sat. nights 9pm—1am
Kitchen Open
\$1 Drafts
(Coors, Miller & Lager)
- New Menu Jan 2013!

UPCOMING BANDS 8:00 PM—MIDNIGHT

Jan 4	Underground Hotel
Jan 11	Love Haters
Jan 18	Flash Back
Jan 25	NO BAND District Meeting
Feb 1	Roof Rockers
Feb 8	Maxwell Project
Feb 15	Pocket Full O' Soul
Feb 22	Love Haters
Mar 8	Cheeze Brothers
Mar 15	SYRPLUS

COMMANDER'S NOTE

On behalf of the Officers and Board members of Post 34, I would like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year! The activities here at the Post have been very successful and widely enjoyed. It is very satisfying to see that the hard work going on behind the scenes bears fruit of fun times and special memories for all. I hope the Children's Christmas party was a joy for the little kids and that all you big "kids" had great time at the New Years Eve party! The holidays are such a joyful time of the year at our Post.



Again, I would like to thank everyone for a successful 2012 and extend my best wishes to all as we begin 2013! Let's get ready for another great year at Post 34!

James R. Vollrath

American Legion
Post #34 Commander

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

I'd like to start out by thanking our newsletter advertisers (featured on page 9). They are ALL Post #34 members! We've decided to add an advertising spread to this and future newsletters to help defray the cost of printing your *Post Patriot*. We will also feature them on the Post's webpage—www.al34.com. The ads will run for a full year. Let's support our business members. If you are interested in being a featured advertiser, contact Bill Schulz.



(Continued on page 10)

SAL CORNER



MANY THANKS

The Sons of American Legion Post #34 would like to thank all our members for supporting the many events we held in 2012. We had a successful year largely thanks to your help!

Giving back this year was very important. We have been able to help many people in need in these hard times by donating to the Lebanon VA, Beacon and Milagro Houses and Wounded Warriors, just to name a few.

Now in 2013 we will focus on three main fundraisers. First, the Fisher House Project which is our new National SAL Commander's, Chris Hunzinger, initiative. Chris is from the Penbrook Post in Harrisburg and he would like to see Pennsylvania be #1 in the nation for helping this worthy cause.

Second, we will support State Commander, John Metzger, in raising funds for Housing for Homeless VET'S. We're off to a good start with over \$200 raised with much help from Pat Schizer. She had a birthday party at the Post, purchased the keg and asked, in lieu of reimbursement,



From left: Sam Ricketts, Ty Turner, Ron Riehl and Dickie Dowlin provide security at the District #10 SAL Fundraiser. Thanks guys!

that \$1.00 donations be made to homeless veterans. This was a true group effort! Our thanks also go out to Pam Quinn, Gary Wilson and Sam Wilson who also had birthdays that day.

The first District #10 SAL Event was held on November 10th, 2012 and was coordinated by our District #10 SAL 2nd Vice Commander, Ron Riehl. The event raised over \$3,000 after expenses and the money was used to fund various veterans programs throughout Lancaster County.

In closing, we would be remiss without saying a special thank you to Sammy Huffman and Kahla Shaab for tending bar all day. To Sharon McNece and Carol Sears for facilitating the baskets, and to Ty Turner, Chet Buohl and the Legion Riders for manning the doors and providing security. And last, but certainly not least, to Gary Vollrath for coordinating the flow of food at the event.

Welcome 2013! Here's to another great year!

Bill Middleton

American Legion
Squadron #34 SAL Commander

SAL OFFICERS

Commander William "Bill" Middleton

1st Vice Commander: Todd Lovell

2nd Vice Commander: Gary Fickes

Adjutant: Gary Vollrath

Chaplain: Ken Deaven

Finance Officer Ben Williams

Historian: Jeff Lane

Sgt. At Arms: John States

Sgt. At Arms: Dave Sloat

Jr. Sgt. At Arms: Christopher Foland

AUXILIARY ALLEY



2013 MEMBERSHIPS

You should have received your 2013 Membership Renewal in the mail during the month of September. Please renew your membership as soon as possible if you haven't done so already. Renewal and membership fee for 2013 is \$20.00 which includes a \$5.00 increase from years past.

We achieved almost 120% membership during 2012. Let's do it again this year!

Don't forget to check in at the Post to pick up your new Key Card. Cost is \$4.00 and is a permanent card.

MEETING DATES

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.

Scheduled Meeting Dates*

- January 2, 2013
- February 6, 2013
- March 6, 2013



*All at 7:00pm in the Pool room unless otherwise noted

BINGO SNACK BAR—NEW HOURS!

Our major fundraising project is our Bingo Snack Bar that operates every Tuesday evening. We are hoping that by **limiting our hours to between 5:00pm to 6:30pm**, we will be able to have more of you willing to volunteer your time to help us. We are hoping to form four groups of three members each which will result in working one Tuesday per month. We also appreciate donation of food items to sell. All of the proceeds from the Snack Bar are donated back to our veterans and community projects.

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

- President:** Marilyn Pew
1st Vice President: Genevieve Malone
2nd Vice President: Lucy Esbenshade
Secretary: Lisa Sanders
Treasurer: Karen Axe
Chaplain: Marilyn Vollrath
Sgt. At Arms: Sharon McNece
Sgt. At Arms: Angie Esbenshade



UPCOMING EVENTS

Feed the homeless from Victory House dinner—Post #34 Banquet Hall

- January 28th—5:00pm
- February 25th—5:00pm
- March 25th—5:00pm

RIDERS ROAD

In November, the American Legion Riders had a very successful fundraiser. The proceeds helped to support various veterans programs.

In December our riders helped to support the Unit #34 Auxiliary by sponsoring a Christmas dinner for the Coatesville Veterans Hospital. Your Legion Riders, alongside the Auxiliary members, greeted the vets, helped serve and dined with the vets during the meal.

We're looking forward to a new year and working together for our veterans and their families.

Our meetings will be held at 11:00am every 3rd Saturday at Post #34.

Dave Fluke

American Legion
Chapter #34 President



RIDERS OFFICERS

President: Dave Fluke

Vice President: Curtis Rager

Chaplain: John States

Sgt. At Arms: Dave Miller

Treasurer: Chet Buohl

Secretary: Ann Marie Fluke

Road Captain: Robert Klingseisen

A MEMBER'S LETTER OF THANKS

Dear James Vollrath & American Legion Post #34,

We would like to thank Mr. Vollrath and the American Legion Post #34 for their help in our family's time of need. We had been struggling to keep our housing when my wife took ill and could not work. We also have a daughter who has Lupus and Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. We are grateful for all the kindness and time given to us by Bill Schulz.

We can not put into words the appreciation we have for the American Legion and the wonderful people who devote their time to helping others. We are pleasantly anticipating joining the American Legion and hoping to give back to others who are in need.

My wife is healing after surgery and getting physical therapy in order to return to work. I am currently getting through all the processes needed for deployment in January 2014.

I am proud to serve my country!

Sincerely yours,

A grateful member

VETERANS SERVICE CORNER

GOVERNOR CORBETT SIGNS LEGISLATION TO BENEFIT PA VETERANS

On November 12th, 2012 Governor Tom Corbett ceremonially signed seven pieces of legislation that benefit Pennsylvania's military veterans and Pennsylvania National Guard.

"Today is about honoring a debt; a debt earned in blood and sacrifice," Corbett said. "These bills are various in their goals. But they share the single purpose of repaying part of the debt we owe to those who have guarded our freedom and place their very lives between us and our enemies."

Legislation included:

- The Veterans Trust Fund, sponsored by Sen. Lisa Baker (R-Luzerne), will provide for veterans' programs. Financed through several sources, the fund will receive \$1.7 million after the sale of Scotland School for Veterans Children, and continue to grow, providing help and assistance for veterans.



COURTESY COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

- "V" Designation on Driver License, sponsored by Rep. Jeff Pyle (R-Armstrong), requires PennDOT to issue a driver's license or ID card with a "V" for Veteran identifier at no additional cost, for persons who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. While participation is voluntary, it will allow veterans to qualify for discounts or other benefits.
- Pennsylvania Code of Military Justice, sponsored by Sen. Mary Jo White (R-Butler), substantially revises the code, enforcing order and discipline for members of the Pennsylvania National Guard who are not in active federal service. The code, which had not been updated since 1975, will give commanders more effective options in dealing with military offenses. The new code is based on a model already enacted in 14 other states and under consideration in 22 more states.
- Uniformed Military Overseas Voting Act, sponsored by Sen. Bob Robbins (R-Butler), simplifies and provides uniformity to the registration and absentee ballot process for uniformed service voters and overseas civilian voters for all elections within the state.
- Veteran-Owned Business Procurement Program, sponsored by Sen. Tommy Tomlinson (R-Bucks), encourages state agencies to contract with veteran-owned and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.

(Continued on page 6)

**VIETNAM VETERANS
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c/o VA, 19 -27 Main St
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Monday—Friday 8:30am—4:30pm

VETERANS SERVICE CORNER (CONTINUED)

EASING A BURDEN FOR VETERANS

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is making it easier for vets to provide medical information supporting their disability claims. Veterans medical care providers can now download any of 71 forms for specific conditions at benefits.va.gov/transformation/disabilityexams/. The provider completes the form (called a disability benefits questionnaire) and sends it to a VA regional office.

The VA plans to further simplify the process for clinicians by creating a secure portal by the end of 2012 for completing and submitting disability benefits questionnaires online.

DID YOU KNOW?

- VA provides a one-time payment toward the purchase of an automobile or other vehicle. VA pays for adaptive equipment and for repair, replacement or reinstallation required because of disability.



CORBETT: Legislation

(Continued from page 5)

- Establishes special license plates for World War II veterans of the U.S. Merchant Marine and for all veterans of U.S. Military Airborne Units, sponsored by Rep. John Bear (R-Lancaster). Prior to this legislation, special military license plates were available to World War II veterans of all other military services except the Merchant Marine.
- VA will provide hearing aids and eyeglasses to veterans who receive increased pension based on the need for regular aid and attendance or being permanently housebound, receive compensation for a service-connected disability, or are former POWs or Purple Heart awarded recipients. Otherwise, hearing aids and eyeglasses are provided only in special circumstances, and not for normally occurring hearing or vision loss.
- VA will provide maternity care including labor and delivery to female veterans, but is unable to provide care to the child after birth.
- Vietnam veterans' children with birth defect spina bifida are eligible for certain benefits and services. In addition, VA now provides certain benefits, including health care, for children with birth defects who were born to female Vietnam veterans.
- Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission, sponsored by Rep. Marcia Hahn (R-Northampton), which provides training for all police officers in the state on recognizing and interacting with veterans and other individuals suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury.

YOU MAY BE ELIBIGLE TO ENROLL IN THE VA'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM!

**TO FIND OUT IF YOU QUALIFY VISIT
WWW.VA.GOV.AMIELIGIBLE
CALL 1-877-222-VETS OR SEE BILL SCHULZ**

MEMBERS MEMORIES



To the Nines...

Above: Anne Marie Fluke really knows how to dress for the occasion! In this case, it was appropriate—The Post Halloween Party.



Fun times at the Post for the young AND young-at-heart!

Left Top: Pumpkin Lilly Huffman (Bartender Sammy's daughter) & Dragon Cohen Dunkle (Bartender Robin's grandson) get acquainted at the Children's Halloween party.



Left Bottom: Richard Boysher, 77, and Joyce Frey, 65, never miss a Friday night dance at Post #34.



Above: Santa finds out what Haley Katz, granddaughter of Bill Schulz, wants for Christmas.

Right: Santa and his Elf (Sharon McNece) get ready to meet and greet the Children at the Post Christmas party.



Left: Being the jolly guy that he is, Santa decides that even Steelers fans, as long as they were good, deserve presents under the tree on Christmas.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ **Friday, January 25th—7:00pm:** District #10 Legion meeting. Dinner will be provided at 7:00pm, meeting begins at 8:00pm.
- ◆ **Wednesday, February 20—7:00pm:** Meet the Candidates night at Post #34
- ◆ **Monday, March 18th—**Coatesville VA Medical Center Vets Easter Dinner at Post #34
- ◆ **Sunday, March 24th—1:00pm—3:00pm:** Post #34 Children's Easter Party
- ◆ **Thursday, March 28th—1:30pm** Veterans Community Court Program 1st Anniversary Session
Lancaster County Courthouse, Court Room #5.



FINDING AL 34 (A LETTER)

Dear Post #34,

A few months back, I knew that I was going to be headed home to Pennsylvania from Texas, so I started looking online for an active American Legion post. It quickly became evident that AL 34 was a very active post in Lancaster County. The post web site—www.al34.com—was in the first page of search results. I found information about events, Friday night bands, positive feedback about the club and services performed for the community

and vets. One hit that caught my eye was a short news-letter article that someone had written about Operation Military Kids, Welcome Home Seed Packets. All of this Internet visibility drew me to Post 34 and last week I stopped in, paid my 2013 dues and transferred to my new Post. Thank you all for making me feel welcome!

Dave Gibson

Note from the editor: Thanks for the feedback Dave and Welcome to Post #34!

A FUNNY THING...

It was a dark and stormy night. A Marine was on his first assignment—guard duty. A General stepped out to walk his dog. The nervous young Private snapped to attention, made a perfect salute and declared "Sir, Good Evening, Sir!" The General, out for some relaxation, returned the salute and replied "Good evening, soldier. Nice night isn't it?"

In truth it was not a nice night, but the Private wasn't about to disagree with a General so he saluted again and replied "Sir, Yes Sir!"

The General went on, "You know, there's some-

thing about a stormy night that I always find soothing and very relaxing. Don't you agree?"

The Private did not agree, but being just a Private he again responded "Sir, Yes Sir!"

Pointing at the dog, the General continued "This is a Golden Retriever, the best type of dog to train."

"Sir, Yes Sir!" the Private confirmed.

"I got this dog for my wife," stated the General.

Unsure how to respond, the Private simply said "Good trade, Sir."

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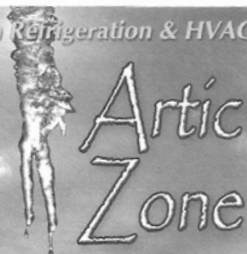
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Feedback Welcomed!

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

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

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

EDITOR: Thanks

(Continued from page 1)

Next, a heart felt thank you goes out to the following: Ron Riehl and Vicki Jenkins for their food donations and Dave Fluke and the Legion Riders for their \$500 donations to Victory House. The funds will help purchase new carpeting for some of the units!

And lastly, a special thanks to Sharon McNece for another fantastic Children's Christmas Party! I know for a fact that Santa appreciates her unwavering dedication to the Legion kids. Ho ho ho!

Have a wonderful New Year!
Bill Schulz
American Legion
Post #34 Veterans Service Officer
Post Patriot Editor

DONATION BOXES!
Lampeter United Methodist Church
Collecting Food Items for needy Vets
Miscellaneous Items Collection
For the Victory House
See the list of needs on the Post bulletin board
PLEASE GIVE!!