

NEWSLETTER



Ph: 412-653-1555 • 650 Old Clairton Road, Pleasant Hills • April 2017

American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills



Commander's Call

While the cold winter days are coming to an end, Lent-at-the-Legion will keep the Post heating up for a while. Thanks to our volunteers who devoted their time in order to make this year's Lent-at-the-Legion even more successful than our first Lent-at-the-Legion in 2016, Lisa and her staff who have exceeded expectations preparing the food and filling all of the orders, and especially the entire community who have supported our Post and our veterans since the inception of this major fund raising event for this Legion. Both last year and this current year, I have attended numerous community meetings to elicit the community's support for our Post and veterans. Pleasant Hills Boro personnel took up the torch and were very instrumental in marketing for our events. What is truly amazing is that around every corner you can see signs located at local restaurants, churches, fire departments, and even food stores asking the community to attend their Fish Frys, but yet, our business continues to grow.

One event which does sit as well for me is the fact we had to cancel the dinner to honor our own Post 712 Vietnam Era Veterans. Outside funding is always difficult to obtain and as much as I have tried, I could not get outside funding to cover this event and the Legion is not in a position to pay for it at this time. I do want to apologize to members who have already signed up for the dinner and who were excited they would finally be recognized for their service. I firmly believe it is equally important to honor our own veterans along with honoring veterans from our community.

I attended the District 36 Meeting in March and was extremely honored to have been asked to serve as Commander of District 36, but I am not in a position to accept the honor; otherwise, I would have continued to serve (if

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LEGION OFFICERS 2016-2017

Commander
RICHARD J. WOJNAR

1st Vice Commander
FRANK CAPUTO

2nd Vice Commander
CRAIG KERN

Adjutant
LINDA WOJNAR

Finance Officer
BILL MARTINIS

Service Officer
DON SMOLEY

Chaplin
EDWARD HLAD

Judge Advocate
NICHOLAS
D. KRAWEC ESQ.

Sgt-At-Arms
STAN TUMAS



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asked) as Commander of Post 712 for another year. I am proud to serve alongside our Legion officers. We have a great team of officers, most of whom who are willing to serve in their current positions for another year if voted in by the members at the June meeting. We do have one candidate for commander who has come forward so far. Nick Krawec, Judge Advocate, is chairing the nominating committee this year for the adjutant. His information is located in a separate announcement in the newsletter. This is a great time for me to pass the baton to another commander. We are held in high regards by the District and by the community. We have completed several very successful outreach events with the community.

There will be two Post 712 Legion officer positions that will need to be filled for the upcoming year: Commander and Adjutant. If anyone is considering running for commander or adjutant and who has questions about these positions, we are available to answer your questions. The new commander will appoint the next adjutant. Leadership skills are a must for both positions. The commander office requires a lot of networking, staying in touch with the community, attending meetings and listening to members. Both offices interact with many people. For the adjutant, a customer service attitude, organizational skills, and attention to details and deadlines are especially critical. The adjutant position actually steers all Legion

matters. We expect we will have the names of the candidates who are interested in running for commander to Nick by the May meeting. The commander position will be voted on at the June meeting.

In closing, there will be other events coming up where we could really use your help as a volunteer: Lent-at-the-Legion in April, Kids' Easter Party, Collecting and replacing American flags on gravesites of various cemeteries on Memorial Day weekend, Memorial Day Ceremony at Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home, Thomas Jefferson High School, Bill Green Shopping Center in Pleasant Hills and our Post. Even if you could only donate a couple hours of your time, it would be greatly appreciated.

As always, we support our troops.

Richard J. Wojnar

ATTENTION: **CANCELLATION** OF POST 712

VIETNAM WAR ERA VETERANS DINNER

We sincerely apologize, but the Post 712

Vietnam Era Dinner has been cancelled.

NOMINATIONS FOR AMERICAN LEGION POST 712 COMMANDER

Submit all nominations for the American Legion Post 712 Commander to Judge Advocate, Nick Krawec, Esq. Nick is the Chair of the Legion Nominating Committee. Nominations will be announced and finalized at the May 1 Legion Meeting. Please be sure your nominee is willing to serve in this position before submitting your selection. Ballot voting will take place at the June 5 Legion Meeting. ***Call Nick at 412-877-1629 (cell) to submit your nomination.***

Thank you!

Caputo's Corner

Frank Caputo, Home Association, Vice President

- Board members of the Home Association recently held a reorganizational meeting. The new officers are, President, Robert Stoodt, Vice President, Frank Caputo, Treasurer, William Weikel, and Secretary, Edward Harmon. Please give them your full support when called on to volunteer. Help us to continue to move forward. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Russ Wilson who tirelessly served as President for many years but due to commitments from his new job has found it necessary to step away. He has agreed to stay on the board.
- Boy Scout Matt Rowe has completed his Eagle Scout project. Today, March 22, 2017 we transported canned goods, paper products and clothing to the Veterans Place on Washington Boulevard. We loaded two pickup trucks and three cars full of the donated items. Matt would like to thank all who donated goods to his project.
- Our Lent at the Legion Fish Fry's are

going extremely well. We have increased sales each Friday since Ash Wednesday. The volunteer staff has been amazing, we have had volunteers from the post members, the ALA, the Sons and a strong presence from the Legion Riders. The kitchen staff as usual is doing an excellent job putting out a quality meal that is second to none.

- Currently we are in the planning stages of several fundraising events, more information to follow. We will need the help of all to make them successful.
- We will be scheduling CPR classes in the near future. You will not only be taught adult CPR but child/infant CPR and obstructed airway. If you are interested please leave your name and phone number at the bar, Cost will be only \$15.00 per person, class size limited to 10 to 12 people.

POST 712
HOME ASSOCIATION
OFFICERS 2016-2017
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President
BOB STOODT

Vice President
FRANK CAPUTO

Secretary
ED HARMON

Treasurer
BILL WEIKEL

Board Members

JOHN DILLON
RUSS WILSON
RIHARD J. WOJNAR
NICK KRAWEC, ESQ.

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SAL OFFICERS
2016-2017

Commander
GARY HARTMAN

Sr. Vice Commander
DON W. GOULDER

Jr. Vice Commander
DON J. GOULDER

Adjutant
RICHARD J. WOJNAR

Finance Officer
RICHARD HARTMAN

Chaplin
AL DANKO

Sons of the Legion,

The American Legion will be having an Easter Egg Hunt on April 8th and The SAL will be starting off the morning with our Pancake and Sausage Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. It is always fun to see the children enjoy this event.

This year for the Easter Egg Hunt, we will be doing something a little bit different. We will be sending the children out in age groups. NOT ALL AT ONE TIME. We want all ages to have the same chance of collecting the eggs. We will have more eggs and some different things in the eggs. Look for special gifts in the golden eggs.



Cost for Adult and children ages 11 and up is \$3.00.

Children 10 and under will be free.

**There will be a signup sheet at the bar
for this event for all participants.**



Next meeting – Thursday, APRIL 27TH

Gary C. Hartman

Commander of the SAL

Auxiliary Corner,



ALA OFFICERS
2016-2017

President
MARY ANN MARUNICH

1st Vice President
DONNA MCCRUMB

2nd Vice President
VICKY GOLDEN

Secretary
LEIGH ANNE CASTANET

Treasurer
ANNE GIOVANNITTI

Chaplain
BARBARA TERIHAY

Sgt-At-Arms
ROSE BREEN

Sgt-At-Arms
DONNA ROTTMAN

Sgt-At-Arms
PAT O'TOOLE

OUR SOUP COOK OFF WAS A HUGE SUCCESS DUE TO THE EFFORTS OF DONNA MCCRUMB AND HER TEAM OF ALA MEMBERS. ALL OF THE SOUPS WERE DELICIOUS, BUT IT WAS NARROWED TO THREE. CHRIS BODNAR WON FIRST PLACE, DONNA MCCRUMB SECOND AND MARG ANDERSON THIRD. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THAT ENTERED. GOOD JOB. OUR TRIP TO SOUTHWESTERN HOSPITAL WENT WELL AND THE VETS APPRECIATE EVERYTHING WE DO FOR THEM. MATT ROWE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO HELPED HIM WITH HIS EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT TO FILL THE BOX FOR THE VETERANS PLACE ON WASHINGTON BOULEVARD. THE CHILDRENS EGG HUNT IS COMING UP AND THE SIGN UP SHEET IS AT THE BAR. IT WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 8TH AND WE NEED HELP FOR THAT. A HAPPY EASTER TO ALL. THINK ABOUT BINGO . . .

GOD BLESS AND PROTECT OUR TROOPS
MARY ANN MARUNICH, ALA PRESIDENT



American Legion Riders,

Guten Tag Legionnaires.

The Riders were very pleased to donate \$2,100 to the Pittsburgh Fisher House during our meeting held on March 7th. Representing the Friends of the Fisher House was Post 712's own Jim Bruder. Jim is Chairman of 'Friends and a great guy. We are fortunate to have him with us at Post 712. The donation was raised by a Riders Gun Raffle and by **Susan Dillon** and **Beverly Weikel** working as Guest Bartenders at the Post. Great Job Riders!

As I prepare this article Lent at the Legion is well under way. The Riders volunteered to work the first three events (March 1st, 3rd and 10th) and each event was great. Lisa did a great job in planning and running the events and smashing last year's total sales. It is imperative that all members support Post fund raising activities. Thank you to the Riders who volunteered their time for this worthwhile cause and to support Veterans through Post 712: **Bill and Donna Allan, Tom and Chris Bodner, John Caligiuri, John and Susan Dillon, Mike Dudenas, Jim Easley, Craig Goodwill, Ed Harmon, Ken Lancaster, Kevin Jackson, Jennifer Jenkins, Dan Oeler, Lee and Margie Phillips, Dave Saunier, Ed Schmidt** and **Bill and Beverly Weikel**. It was also great to see Post Officers attend and roll up their sleeves to pitch-in. Thanks Don, Frank and Stan! And thank you Donna Rottman for all you do!

The Riders began selling tickets for a new Gun Raffle for May 20th, Armed Forces Day. The gun is a Springfield M1A Match rifle (M-14), with an MSRP of \$2359 and accessories in the form of a spare magazine, ammunition and carrying case. We are only selling 250 tickets at \$20 each. This is a great raffle and I'm sorry to say all the tickets are sold. Though don't fret if you didn't get one, our next raffle is scheduled for August 6th and **Senior Road Captain Dan Oeler** is already working on the gun to be raffled.

Gruss Gott,

Top

President
JOHN DILLON

Sr. Vice President
KEVIN JACKSON

Vice President
BILL ALLAN

Secretary
SUSAN DILLON

Adjutant
LLOYD RAY

Chaplain
MARK SMITH

Treasurer
BEVERLY WEIKEL

Deputy Treasurer
BILL WEIKEL

Sr. Sergeant-at-Arms
TOM BODNER

Sergeant-at-Arms
ED HARMON

Sr. Road Captain
DAN OELER

Road Captains
KEN LANCASTER
BOB STEFANIC
DAN TILLERY

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Successful Week Three of our Six Week
Fund Raising Fish Fry
at the Pleasant Hills American Legion



Each branch of the Legion took their turn at volunteering for the night. The Riders did their volunteering for the first three weeks. The Sons did the honors for week four and the Ladies Auxiliary handled week five. Week six will be the combination of the volunteers that show up.

ATTENTION:

CANCELLATION of POST 712
VIETNAM WAR ERA VETERANS DINNER

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Post 712 Vietnam Era Dinner
has been CANCELLED.

NOMINATIONS for
AMERICAN LEGION
POST 712 COMMANDER

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Thank you!

TAPS



You will be missed.

**RICHARD MAXWELL
2/2017**

**WILLIAM SANDERS
2/2017**

**ROBERT SCHWEITZER
3/2017**

May you rest in peace.