

# NEWSLETTER



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

*American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills*



## *Greetings from the Commander*



### LEGION OFFICERS 2016-2017

Commander  
FRANK CAPUTO

1st Vice Commander  
DON SMOLEY

2nd Vice Commander  
CRAIG KERN

Adjutant  
THAD WEIDMANN

Finance Officer  
BILL MARTINIS

Service Officer

Chaplin  
EDWARD HLAD

Judge Advocate  
NICHOLAS  
D. KRAWEC ESQ.

Sgt-At-Arms  
STAN TUMAS

As I take on the duties as post Commander I want to thank you all for your confidence in me and your support. It will take all of us working together to keep Post 712 as great as it is. We are fortunate to not only have Regular Members but also 3 very active groups within our post, American Legion Riders, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion along with a great many Social Members. I look forward to working with all of you. If you have any ideas on ways to bring in much needed revenue please bring them to our attention. One of our members has brought up plans to hold an "October Fest", there will be more information as plans progress.

Keep November 18<sup>th</sup> open for our first Gun Bash. Tickets are on sale now for \$35.00 each and are available at the bar. Ask your friends to attend. The ticket price includes great food, a chance win one of 17 guns. Special raffles held during the day and will be held at Salvatore's in Baldwin. The guns are being furnished by Allegheny Arms. Winner need not be present and will have 30 days to claim their prize. On the day of the event we will need a lot of help to make our first Gun Bash a success.

God Bless our Troops and Keep Them Safe  
Frank Caputo,  
Commander



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*Volunteers asking for donations in return for Poppies at Kennywood on July 2nd.*

## HOW TO GET A COPY OF YOUR DD214

Although it is best to have a copy of your service member's DD214 in a safe place where it can be located at the time of his or her death, here is information you can follow in the event you need an emergency DD214.

For emergency DD214 requests for funerals:

1. Call 314-801-0800 and explain you need a DD214 for a funeral service.
2. Call Department of Veterans Affairs, Pittsburgh, PA Veteran Benefits: for funerals: 800-827-1000. You will need the veteran's social security number.

For assistance, call:  
Post Adjutant 412-512-1301.



DIRECTIONS from Rt 51, take Coal Valley Road past Jefferson Hospital to Rt 885. Turn right onto 885. South 3/4 mile to Wray Road on the right. ( Al's Cone Zone is on the right ). Turn right on Wray Road. Go past the fire house on the right continue down the hill past the ball fields. The pavillion is behind the basketall courts. You can park anywhere on the grass. There is a play area for the children. Restrooms are nearby.

## AMERICAN LEGION PUFL MEMBERS

Each Paid up for Life member receives a permanent card from National. You will not receive an additional card from any American Legion Post.

Why become a PUFL member?

1. To avoid dues increase
2. To avoid late notices

For new, simplified PUFL program FAQs of The American Legion go to the following link for details.

<https://www.legion.org/membership/218307/new-simplified-pufl-program-faqs>

**Post 712 Website**  
***alpost712pa.org***

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## Your Choice:

New Round Tables  
With Optional Lights



Traditional Long Tables



## SOCIAL HALL

- Reserve our social hall for your next special event (Members \$125, non-members \$175) for 4 hours.
- Large room holds up to 100 people.
- Private entrance with wheel chair access from back of building.
- Three different exits for safety.
- Free parking on side and rear of building.
- Create your own atmosphere with our soft dimmer controlled lighting or bright florescent lights.
- Climate controlled heat and Air Conditioning.
- Wood dance floor.
- Tables and chairs available to be set up to meet your event plans.
- Large buffet style food area with outlets for food warmers.
- Separate Bar & Refreshment area.
- Dedicated rest rooms.
- Food and soft drinks may be brought in or catered.
- Alcohol, if desired, must be ordered from one of our waitresses or bartenders (\$10 per hour, minimum 4 hours). Alcohol prices included on rental agreement.
- Walk-in cooler space available, if needed.

## Join us at the Legion . . .

- \* to root for Pirates with game Beer and hot dog specials
- \* enjoy Nachos + the drink of the day.
- \* Wednesdays BINGO at 7 PM with a different sandwich featured each week. Bring a guest, join in the fun with our new BINGO Blower Machine & Digital Display.
- \* Thursdays are Thirsty with the bucket special from 6-8 PM
- \* Fridays we have Kitchen Specials from 4-8 PM. Open to the public. No smoking from 4-9
- \* Saturdays & Sundays have Free pool 4-8 PM & Free juke box. 4-Midnight
- \* We have leagues for pool, bowling, corn hole and golf. If you would like to join any of these, let the bartender know and someone will contact you.
- \* Enjoy a friendly visit alone or with your friends. We have an internet juke box (that you can program from your smart phone), Blotto daily number games like LRC (Left, Right, Center).
- \* If you're hungry, enjoy our free popcorn every day, sandwiches on Wednesday before BINGO, different full meals open to the public with no smoking on Friday plus meals at half time of select Steelers games or you can order from our bar menu.
- \* View future events in our Newsletter, Facebook Photo Album section or on our web site [alpost712pa.org](http://alpost712pa.org). Browse through our Post pictures for your friends and family in our Facebook Photo section. We have loaded over 650 pictures so far.
- \* Contact Lisa Deiley (412-758-9116) or ask the bartender for details about hall rentals for your special occasion.

Put this date  
on your calendar  
**Novembers 18**  
**GUN BASH**

POST 712  
HOME ASSOCIATION  
OFFICERS 2016-2017

President  
BOB STOODT

Vice President  
FRANK CAPUTO

Secretary  
ED HARMON

Treasurer  
BILL WEIKEL

Board Members

JOHN DILLON

NICK KRAWEC, ESQ.

## Future Legion Events

August 1  
Installation  
of Officers

August 25  
Karaoke

August 26  
Legion Picnic

September 21  
SAL Steak  
Dinner

September 29  
Matt Tichon

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SAL OFFICERS  
2016-2017

Commander  
GARY HARTMAN

Sr. Vice Commander  
DON W. GOULDER

Jr. Vice Commander  
DON J. GOULDER

Adjutant  
THAD WEIDMANN

Finance Officer  
RICHARD HARTMAN

Chaplin  
AL DANKO

## *Sons of the Legion,*

On August 1 at 7:00 is the Installation of the Officers.

The SAL would like to invite everyone to the picnic at 885 in Jefferson Hills on Rt 885 on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to sign up for your dues and drink some beer.

Watch the newsletter for details for "a steak fry" on September 21.

Next meeting August 31

Thank You

Gary C. Hartman,

Commander of the Sons of the American Legion



ALA OFFICERS  
2016-2017

President  
MARY ANN MARUNICH

1st Vice President  
DONNA McCRUMB

2nd Vice President  
VICKY GOLDEN

Secretary  
MARGARET PHILLIPS

Treasurer  
ANNE GIOVANNITTI

Chaplain  
BARBARA TERIHAY

Sgt-At-Arms  
ROSE BREEN

Sgt-At-Arms  
DONNA ROTTMAN

Sgt-At-Arms  
PAT O'TOOLE

## *Auxiliary Corner,*

Ann Giovanetti and myself just returned from the State Convention. We came back with a lot of new ideas as our ALA members will learn on Monday night. Please try to attend. The weather held till we were at Camp Hill and then it broke loose. We went by bus over to the Hilton for the opening of the Legion Convention. It was great as usual. Everyone should try to go at least once to see how well both affairs are conducted. We didn't have time to go to the other legions. Don't forget installations on Tuesday August 1st. Everyone is invited. We need volunteers for the picnic so see one of the officers at the post if you can help out. It's not too late to start thinking about the gun bash. We would like to see you all there. Please remember our Veterans. The box upstairs needs some help in getting filled.

GOD BLESS AND PROTECT OUR TROOPS

Mary Ann Marunich, ALA PRESIDENT





## American Legion Riders,

Greetings Legionnaires:

The Riders Annual Benefit Ride is Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. This will be our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Ride and will begin at the Kurt J. Lesker Company in Large (Jefferson Hills), PA, where we will ride a 90 mile, police escorted trek, ending at Post 712 for a great picnic style dinner, American auctions and 50/50's. We have one scheduled stop at Laurel Hill State Park in Somerset County. The stop will give riders the opportunity to stretch their legs, drink some water and eat some snacks and then it's back on the bikes to return to Post 712 for the after-ride party. Proceeds from this year's ride benefit local Veterans through the Riders partnership with the Veterans Place at Washington Boulevard, the Valor Clinic and of course, Post 712. The ride is open to the public and is also open to cars and trucks. Cost of the ride is \$25 for the rider, \$15 for each passenger and \$15 for dinner only. Your donation includes the ride, dinner, drinks, snacks, refreshments and the ability to participate in the after-ride party activities. Spread the word and come along for a great time.

The Riders also have a Gun Raffle occurring on the day of the Ride, August 6<sup>th</sup>, in which we are raffling a Colt 1911, .45 caliber, M45A1 pistol. The winning number is based on the first drawing of the afternoon Pick 3 number of the PA Daily lottery. Retail value of the Colt pistol is \$1,669. The winning number will also receive a Colt Range Bag, a set of Peltor Tactical 100 Ear Protection, 400 rounds of Remington UMC .45 ACP ammunition and 40 rounds of Federal Hydra-Shock .45 ACP ammunition; for a retail value exceeding \$2,000. This is a great gun that is already considered a Collector's Item. Proceeds from the raffle benefit the Veterans Place at Washington Boulevard, the Valor Clinic and Post 712. Thank you **Senior Road Captain Dan Oeler, Secretary Susan Dillon and Treasurer Beverly Weikel** for running the Gun Raffle for the Riders.

During the weekend of June 23<sup>rd</sup> some of the Riders rode to the historic town of Gettysburg to take in the sights, eat too much food and tour the battlefield. The Gettysburg Battlefield is an awe inspiring memorial to the tens of thousands of Americans who fought and died there in the pursuit of freedom, liberty and unity. If you have never visited the Gettysburg Battlefield you should add it to your list of places to visit. The Riders visit Gettysburg every year. Thanks to **Sergeant-At-Arms Ed Harmon** who rode trail and kept us all safe on the road.

That same weekend other Riders stayed closer to home and visited the Thunder in the Valley Motorcycle Rally in Johnstown, PA. This is an annual rally filled with fun, food and motorcycles. A great time was had by all.

Have you purchased your tickets for the Post 712 Gun Bash being held at Salvatore's Catering on November 18<sup>th</sup>? I have. If you have never been to a Gun Bash they are fun events. They are also very safe events. At a Gun Bash each individual raffle is called every few minutes. The winner is then able to claim the firearm he or she won. There is a Licensed Firearm Dealer on-site who conducts the appropriate background checks and registration as required by law. The winner is then given their firearm to take home with them that same day. No ammunition is given away or raffled-off at the Gun Bash for safety reasons. For the cost of \$35 a ticket you receive about a dozen or more chances to win a valuable firearm; plus the opportunity to participate in additional, side raffles, and you receive great, all-you-can-eat

*Continued on Page 6*

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*Continued from Page 5*

food and all you can drink beer and soft drinks. You are also able to participate in the casual and fun atmosphere of the on-going raffles. Even if you cannot attend the Gun Bash in person, you can buy a ticket and have the opportunity to win the firearms. It's a great way to spend an afternoon. See you there!

Have you noticed the Riders donate a portion of our benefit proceeds to Post 712? Do you realize that in doing so, the Riders are donating a portion of our benefit proceeds to each of you; the Veterans and Patriots of Post 712? What about you and your organization, are you also supporting Post 712? The continued existence of American Legion Post 712 is not guaranteed. It takes membership, it takes leadership, it takes work and money. As we look around to see American Legions and VFWs closing their doors at a record pace due to dwindling resources and financial challenges, I encourage each and every Post Member, member of the American Legion Auxiliary and member of the Sons of the American Legion to donate a portion of their proceeds to Post 712 as a matter of practice to ensure we keep the doors open. If Post 712 closes then our organizations close and we lose the avenue through which we are able to support our local area Veterans and community members. If Post 712 closes, then what happens to those thousands of Veterans who receive support through Post 712, the Riders, Sons, and ALA annually?

As the Newsletter goes to press, the Riders are off on another weekend jaunt traveling to Geneva on the Lake, OH and Erie, PA to attend the Roar at the Shore Motorcycle Rally during July 14 – 16. We'll let you know how it went in next month's newsletter. Thanks to **Senior Vice President-Elect Ken Lancaster** for putting the ride together.

Do you ride a motorcycle and have considered joining the Riders but have not done so just yet? What are you waiting for? We are a family oriented group of Veterans and Patriots with three over-riding philosophies. First is that we ride our motorcycles. Bikes were meant to ride not to sit in the garage getting dusty. Second is that we support Veteran and Military causes through works of charity. We expect participation to the best of your ability as work and family permit. We are pro-Veteran, pro-Military and pro-America; these are our beliefs. Sometimes the charity we conduct is a benefit event to earn financial donations and sometimes it is merely donating our time in helping others. Third, we respect one another. We do not raise our voice to one another in anger and we adhere to a military style chain of command of mutual respect ... or said another way, *Do unto others as you would have others do unto you*. That's it. Life is simple from the back of a bike. We have male and female Riders; Veteran and non-Veteran Riders; American and foreign bikes and our ages range from our 20's to our 80's. At our meet-

ings everyone has a say and all decisions are voted on. All are welcome. If this sounds right for you stop in to join us.

You can check us out on our Facebook page, American Legion Riders Post 712 or <https://www.facebook.com/groups/516028081916303/> or email us at Post712Riders@comcast.net.

The next Riders meeting is at 1900 hours, Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, at Post 712. See you there.

Time to pop smoke!

Top

## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Ride for Veterans

*to benefit*

### Veterans Place



*Sponsored by the  
American Legion  
Riders Post 712  
(Pleasant Hills)*

*When SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2017*

*Kickstands Up: 10 AM (Registration 9 AM)*

*Starting Point: KURT J. LESKER COMPANY*

*1925 Route 51*

*Large (Jefferson Hills), PA 15025*

*Ride Location: Laurel Hill State Park*

*Finish: American Legion Post 712*

***We Ride Rain or Shine***

★ ★ ★

[www.VeternsPlace.org](http://www.VeternsPlace.org)

945 Washington Blvd., PGH, PA15206

**Accepting Donations**