

NEWSLETTER



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

American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills



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

Commander's Call

Speaking for the entire Post 712, I would like express our deepest sympathy to Marg, wife of our Past Commander, Carl Anderson. Carl meant so much to my wife and I. He is the primary reason why we became so involved in the Legion. I can still remember Carl asking for volunteers to go to a dinner in January 2015 – a dinner for Homeless Veterans. It's always difficult to get folks to volunteer and Carl experienced the same thing we are still experiencing – difficulty trying to find volunteers. I can still remember Carl looking at us and asking, "How about you two going to the dinner?" Because of Carl's personality and demeanor, it was hard to say "no" if he asked you for help. We went to the dinner, learned a lot, and enjoyed ourselves immensely. Carl and Marg were always available to answer a question or just to be good listeners. When you take on the job of being a new commander, it is extremely helpful for your predecessors to be willing to share what they had learned to be able to set you on the road for a successful journey. Carl and Marg did just that. They were always kind and ready to offer a helping hand. We know Carl is taking his rightly place in heaven because he was such a great man with a caring heart who was also a successful leader and would do anything for anyone. We will miss you, Carl. Marg, we are always here for you. I want to express my sincere thank you to the Legion members who participated in the funeral detail for Carl. We were blessed to have so many of our members as well as the District Commander, Brent Johnson, and other District officials in attendance.



I hope each of you had a very Merry Christmas and included volunteering at Post 712 in your 2017 New Year's resolutions. Now that the major holidays are behind us, it's time to roll up our sleeves and begin our journey into 2017. We have a lot of ideas on our agenda, but each of the ideas require helping hands (and a lot of them) to make them successful. Our first big event is Lent-at-the-Legion. Ash Wednesday is on March first this year. This is the day we begin our work. Last year's Lent-at-the-Legion was financially beneficial to our Post. The amount we made on these dinners paid the bills for four months. We hope this year's event

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Commander's Call continued from Page 1

will even be more successful. Shortly, there will be a volunteer list at the bar for anyone who is willing to volunteer his or her time to help us. We REALLY need your help. You do not have to volunteer every Friday, but if you could plan to spare a few Fridays to help us we would be most appreciative. If you cannot physically come to the Post to sign up, please call the Legion (412-653-1555) and give the bartender your information (dates and times you are available and your phone number).

We also have some great news on an event the Jefferson Hills School District is working on to assist veterans that will be revealed very soon. I spoke of this in past newsletters, but I want to keep you updated on this event.

In June, we will celebrate our own Vietnam Era Veterans. Expanding from our WWII/ Korean War Era Veterans Dinner last September 3, we will recognize our own Vietnam Era Veterans. This means, any Post 712 Legionnaire, who served in Vietnam or anywhere else in the USA or other areas of the world during this time frame are invited to the dinner. There were many important military MOS's that took our Veterans to other parts of the world other than Vietnam who held very important supportive positions. The fact that you signed on the dotted line and agreed to go anywhere in the world you were assigned made you qualified to attend this dinner. Your duty assignment could have been changed on a moment's notice if Uncle Sam needed you. We will be selecting a date very soon for this event. Please be sure the adjutant has your current phone number and address (412-616-1834). She will be sending our invitations to these Veterans and there will be announcements also made in the upcoming newsletters.

We are very excited to pass along that our Legion Riders presented the Post with a thousand dollar check to be deposited in our Veterans Fund in order to help support these and other Veteran related activities. American Legion Post 712 salutes all the riders that made this contribution possible and our veterans are eternally grateful.

Lastly, at least for this month's newsletter, there is a call for members to serve on the Home Association Board. The Home Association is a very integral part of the organization of the Post. It serves to assure we retain fiscal responsibility. The Home Association also serves as a buffer in order to protect the Legion's assets. Please contact me or any present Board Member if you are interested.

With that being said, I am available 24/7 should anyone have any suggestions or ideas that can be beneficial to your Post.

As always we support our troops.
Richard J. Wojnar

2017 Membership Information From the Post 712 Adjutant

To avoid receiving late notices and reminders from National, you can pay your 2017 dues early by mail to Post 712, online at <http://www.myLegion.org>, or you can pay your dues at the bar.

Please record your phone number on your dues renewal slip or on your check when you pay your dues. It is vital for us to have your most current information on file.

As of **January 20**, the State has recorded **729** Legion members who have paid their 2017 dues to Post 712. This takes us to **87%** of our Legion members who have paid their 2017 dues so far. Please pay your dues as soon as possible so that we reach the target dates National has set for our post.

Dues are \$30.00. Please make your check payable to:
American Legion Post 712.

Thank you in advance!

**To All
Members of
Post 712
Organizations**

All door locks
at the Legion were
changed and
anyone needing a
replacement
key should see Lisa
or Thad.

WANTED

Volunteers:
(Legion, SONS, ALA or Social Members)

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Please sign up at the bar for events you are willing to volunteer. *List your name and contact information (email and phone number)* and which events you are willing to be of assistance. You will be contacted by the Post adjutant for more details.

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We will need volunteers for. . .

- Lent-at-the-Legion • Kids' Easter Event
- Bingos • Memorial Day Event
- Post 712 Vietnam War Era Veterans Dinner in June • Funeral Details and various other special events.

POST 712
HOME ASSOCIATION
OFFICERS 2016-2017

(Acting)
President
RUSS WILSON

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Board Members

JOHN DILLON

RICHARD J. WOJNAR

FRANK CAPUTO

NICK KRAWEC, ESQ.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Service Officer: **Don Smoley 412-655-1668**

- Contact for information about the rights, benefits, and programs for veterans and their families.
- Assistance with claims - forms or other questions concerning our members
- Members who are in need of VA Services who are having difficulty getting appointments, etc.
- Notification of death of members – Requests for Funeral Details/ Services

Adjutant: **Linda Wojnar 412-616-1834**

- ALL LEGION CORRESPONDENCE (parade requests, community day events, mail regarding ALL Legion business, community requests, etc.)

- Membership – New and Transfers – Verification of DD214's for Post 712
- Requests for Color Guard/ Requests to be on the Color Guard

Home Assoc. Magr: **Thad Weidmann 412-512-1301**

- Social Membership – New and Renewals
- Key Cards for access to Post 712 and Key Card issues (cards don't work etc.)
- New and replacement Key Cards are \$6.00

Home Assoc. Kitchen &

Bar Manager: **Lisa Deiley 412-758-9116**

- Downstairs Room Rentals/Catering, Consider having your next event at Post 712.

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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,

Our Hoagie sale on January 15th started out slow, but it ended up being one of the best hoagie sales ever! We had a great turn out of volunteers from the SAL and friends in putting together over 250 hoagies. Thanks to all that helped and bought the hoagies.

Next SAL meeting will be February 23rd at 7:00pm.

Thank you,
Commander of the SONS,

Gary Hartman

Auxiliary Corner,

I HAVE RECEIVED MANY CALLS ABOUT AN ARTICAL IN THE LAST NEWS-LETTER THAT I NEED TO ADDRESS. MANY OF THE LADIES WANT TO KNOW WHY THE POST AND THE ALA PURCHASED GIFTS FOR THE CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY WITHOUT A VOTE? NO VOTE WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE THE GIFTS WERE DONATED. A GROUP OF YOUNG GENTLEMAN DONATED THEM FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS AND WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS. WE ARE VERY THANKFUL FOR THEIR GENEROSITY. PAT O'TOOLE AND MYSELF ATTENDED THE DINNER FOR THE HOMELESS VETERANS ON JANUARY 21ST AND IT WAS GREAT AS USUAL. MANY OF THE OFFICERS FROM THE VARIOUS LEGIONS AND AUXILIARY WERE THERE AND A NICE AMOUNT OF MONEY WAS RAISED TO HELP OUR VETERANS. WE ARE IN NEED OF ITEMS FOR THE HOMELESS VETERANS, THERE IS A BOX IN THE HALLWAY OF THE POST. EVEN ONE ITEM THAT YOU GIVE, COUNTS IN HELPING THEM. OUR CONDOLENCES TO MARG ANDERSON AND HER FAMILY ON THE PASSING OF CARL ANDERSON. CARL WAS OUR FORMER COMMANDER AND WAS LOVED BY ALL. HE WAS ALWAYS SUPPORTIVE OF THE ALA AND WE COULD ALWAYS CALL ON HELP FROM HIM. WHEN NOT AT HOME, WE COULD ALWAYS FIND HIM AT THE POST. WE WILL MISS HIM.

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

CONGRATULATIONS . . .
to our ALA president appointed Community
Liaison to work with the Southwestern Veterans
Hospital and the Infection Control Board.



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



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

American Legion Riders,

Cha'o Ban Legionnaires. The Riders are happy to announce on January 2, 2017, we donated \$1,000 to Post 712; during a small ceremony conducted during the Post meeting. The Riders donation is to be used toward the Post Veteran's Fund which supports local Veteran's in need and activities benefiting local Vets. The Riders earned the money as part of the Christmas Gun Raffle, which allowed the Riders to donate funds not only to Post 712, but also to raise funds for the Fisher House of Pittsburgh.

The Riders will soon be conducting another Gun Raffle during which the winner will be selected on May 20, 2017, as this coincides with Armed Forces Day. As always, we will donate the proceeds to benefit local Veterans and their families.

On January 16, 2016, the Riders got together and attended a fund-raising event sponsored by Mon Valley ABATE to support homeless Veterans through the Shepherd's Heart Veterans Home. ABATE held a Spaghetti Dinner with live entertainment, an American auction and all the bells and whistles at Al's Café in Bethel Park. A good time was had by all as there is nothing better than doing a good deed and being well-fed in the process! Thank you to the Riders who supported this worthy cause: **Bill and Donna Allen; Tom and Chris Bodner; John and Susan Dillon; Josh Dillon; Jim and Phyllis Easley; Ed Harmon; Kevin and Cocoa Jackson; Lee and Margie Phillips and Ed Schmidt** and thanks to Representative Rick Saccone of the 39th District who attended the event to lend his support!

You may find it interesting to learn the Riders have a National Creed.

THE RIDERS CREED: For God, For Country, For Our Freedom, For Those Who Serve, For Those Who Have Served, For POW's and MIA's, For Their Families and Ours, For Our Community, We Ride For All.

Upcoming meetings for the Riders are Tuesday, February 7th and Tuesday, March 7th, 2017. Perspective members are welcome but must have a sponsor from the Riders, own a motorcycle and actively support Riders events and projects with their time and efforts. Riders dues are \$12 per year.

Cam o'n ban,
Top

Next Meetings...
Tuesday, Feb 2, 2017
March 7, 2017

February 2017

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

VALENTINES DINNER

Saturday February 11 - Reservations ONLY

Newly Wed - Game 8:00

DJ John Sarkis - 9:00 - 12:00

Everyone Welcome !!!



SUPER BOWL 5
PARTY - 4:00

Bucket of Beer Special
Hot Sausage, Nachos &
Cheese, Side Dishes are
Welcome.



Pens Game 7:00 7



12



FREE
POOL 4-8



13

Pens Game 7:00 14



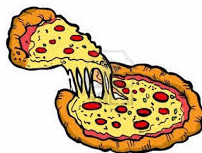
Bowling 6:30

Wine Special
\$2.50

Pens Game 3:00 19



FREE POOL 4-8
\$1.00 HOT DOGS



Try Our Pizza

20

Pens Game 7:00 21



\$1.00 Draft Special

FREE POOL 26

4-8:00



27

Pens Game 8:30 28



Bowling 6:30

\$1.00 Draft Special

ROOM RENTAL

Contact Lisa

412-758-9116

Consider having
your next event at
Post 712

- Wedding & Baby Showers
- Graduation
- Birthday
- Group or Work Parties
- Craft Sales
- Group Meetings
- Wakes

Special Discount Prices
for all Members

Check us out . . .

See what is new
everyday. . .

-on-

The web site:

alpost712pa.org

-on-

Facebook:

[AmericanLegion](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionPostsevenonetwo)

[Postsevenonetwo](https://www.facebook.com/Postsevenonetwo)

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Web Master

THAD WEIDMANN

Newsletter Design

DONNA ROTTMAN

THE ABSOLUTE
DEADLINE FOR
ARTICLES IS THE
20TH OF EACH
MONTH

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February 2017

NO SMOKING
During the Friday
Dinners 4-8:00 pm

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

 1 BINGO! Kielbasa & Kraut	 2 Kitchen Gift Certificates Available	Pens Game 7:00 3 Reuben Sandwiches	Pens Game 8:00 4  FREE POOL  FREE JUKE BOX
8 Hot Sausage Sandwiches	Pens Game 9:00 9  Cornhole 6:30 Bucket Special	10 Stuffed Green Peppers	Valentines Dinner 11 Reservations Only Newly Wed Game 8:00 DJ John Sarkis 9:00 - 12:00 Everyone Welcome
 15 Ham. BBQ	Pens Game 7:00 16  \$1.00 Draft Special	Pens Game 7:00 17 Chicken Parmesan Over Angel Hair Pasta	Free Pool 18 4 - 8  Free Jukebox 4 - Close
22 Meatball Hoagies	23  ALA MEETING 7:00 6:30 CORN HOLE	24 Pork with Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Salad and Rolls	Pens Game 8:00 25 FREE POOL  FREE JUKE BOX

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- * March 4 - THE JADES 8:00 - 12:00
- * LENT AT THE LEGION (begins ASH WEDNESDAY March 1)
Volunteers needed. Sign up at the bar. Put your name, phone number and e-mail on the sheet.



**WE NEED
YOU!**

RECRUITING – POST 712 NEEDS YOU:

We are currently looking for individuals with leadership experience who are willing to serve on various positions in the Home Association – from president on down. All applicants who are interested *must notify* **Thad Weidmann,** Home Association Manager, ***tweidmann@aol.com*** or call 412-653-1555 *before the February 13, 2017 Meeting of the Home Association.* ***Thad will discuss the qualifications needed with you.***

Voting for Home Association Officers and Executive Committee Members will take place during the February 2017 meeting. Please plan to attend.

AMERICAN LEGION PAID UP FOR LIFE PROGRAM (PUFL)

- You may choose 12 monthly installments
 - No more renewal notices
 - Avoid future dues increases
- Each Paid Up For Life member receives a permanent plastic card National. For more information about the PUFL program, call customer service at (800)-433-3318.

ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES From the Post 712 Adjutant

As a courtesy to our active duty members who belong to Post 712, we will pay your dues as long as you remain on active duty.

All we ask in return is for you to notify the Post adjutant in July or August each year that you remain on active duty to assure we pay your dues on time.

We have received several calls saying a family member has been on active duty and his or her dues have not been paid. If the adjutant has not received notification as described above, the dues will not be paid. There is no other way for us to find out a member remains on active duty unless the member or his or her family notifies us. The best way to assure she receives your notification is to call the adjutant (412-616-1834).

We thank you for your service, want you to be safe, and would appreciate if you would let us know if you ever need any assistance. We are here for all of our active duty members and for our veterans. We thank you for your allegiance to the American Legion.

RECRUITING FOR POST 712 COLOR GUARD MEMBERS

If you are interested in serving as a member of the Post 712 Color Guard, please call the Post adjutant at 412-616-1834 so that she has your most recent contact information. A list is being compiled at this time for those members who would be available to participate at various events (i.e. parades, Memorial Day services, events at-the-Post, etc. This includes Legion, SAL and ALA (flag bearers or rifle team). John Dillon, President of the Legion Riders will be notified of these events as well.

RENEW YOUR LEGION MEMBERSHIP ONLINE

- Submit payment of your annual membership dues;
- Eliminate paper renewal notices by setting your account to have your notices delivered via email;
- If you are already paid for the current year, you can set your account for automatic future renewals using your credit/debit card;
- Have your Legion membership card readily available when you log-in online;
- The Post receives reimbursement in a timely manner—within 30 days and receives credit immediately toward our membership goals;
- Excellent way to avoid numerous PAST DUE Notices;
- Access the following website to renew your membership online:
<http://www.legion.org/renew>

Tribute to... Carl Anderson

by Don Rottman

American Legion Post 712 lost one of its pillars last month when Carl Anderson past away after a lengthy battle with his health. Carl was one of the first guys I met when I joined. He introduced me to other members and their goals and visions for the Legion. Carl was directly responsible for getting me involved in the legion and that it was not just a place to have a beer.

There was not a job he would not do from Commander to washing walls to trimming the bushes. He set the example for many of us. And yes, we need more to follow his leadership.

Carl and his wife, Marg were always the first to greet you when you came into the legion. They usually sat at the same place by the door to greet everyone who entered. I enjoyed his stories about the early days of the legion, his days in the Navy and his hunting and fishing trips.

Carl was like a corner stone of the Legion and it will be hard to replace that kind of dedication and loyalty, I hope some members will fill the void caused by his passing and follow his lead and carry the torch he so proudly carried for the legion.

Farewell Fellow Legionnaire.

ATTENTION ALL LEGION MEMBERS: PLEASE READ

IF YOU HAVE A 2017 POST 712 MEMBERSHIP CARD IN YOUR POSSESSION WE KNOW YOU HAVE PAID YOUR DUES, WE HAVE A RECORD OF YOUR PAYMENT, AND YOUR MONEY HAS BEEN SENT TO THE STATE.

You do not need to spend the money on postage to send a letter to the Post to let us know. Unfortunately, you will continue to receive Past Due notices from National if you do not send the money on or before the deadline dates they have set. National takes a longer time to record your payment.

THE BEST POSSIBLE PROACTIVE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM IS TO EITHER:

1. **Pay your dues at the Post 712 Picnic in August (each year) - - or - -**
2. **Pay your dues online.** There is an article in the newsletter each month that lists the website to access to pay your dues online. Paying your dues online eliminates the paper dues reminders and overdue notices.

Please DO NOT send another check to the Post if you already have your 2017 Membership Card.

Thank you!

TAPS



CARL ANDERSON
12/2016

JAMES OBRYON
1/2017

JAMES L LEWIS
1/2017