

NEWSLETTER



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

Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow this year telling us we may experience six more weeks of long, cold, wintry weather. While that prediction may be true things are just starting to heat up at the Legion since Lent-at-the-Legion begins on March first – Ash Wednesday. We're expecting this year's event may be even bigger and better than last year's event - if you can believe it! This event, like all others, depends on volunteers for it to be successful. This is where you step in. Volunteers do not have to sign up to work every Friday during lent. If you could devote a few hours here or there whatever your schedule permits, this would really be appreciated. Moving forward this year, we will be posting the name of the point of contact for each event. This is the person who is in charge of the event. The point of contact for this event is Lisa, Bar and Kitchen Manager. She can be reached at 412-653-1555. We need help breading fish, answering phones, packing the take-out orders, cleaning tables, seating customers, and signing in folks just to name a few of the tasks that are need for this event. This event is so much more than selling fish. The profits of this event carries our Legion financially for approx. three months.



For those members of Post 712 who served during the Vietnam War Era, we are hosting a major event for you. This event will take place at the Post on **June 17, 2017 at 4:00 PM.** We are so proud to honor our own men and women who served our country from ***February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975*** no matter where in the world you served. **What veterans fail to realize is that when you signed on the dotted line to serve in the military, you went wherever Uncle Sam told you to report. Some of you had orders to go to Vietnam, while others were assigned in the states or even in other parts of the world. Each of you served your country well and we would be so honored if you would take time to share a meal with us.** Thank you for your continued service. Family members in attendance will be charged a \$5 fee for each of their meals. The money will be collected at the door. The point of contact for this event is our Adjutant, Linda. Please contact her at 412-616-1834 to attend the dinner. Please tell her your name, phone number

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Commander's Call continued from Page 1

and number of guests who plan to accompany you at the dinner. She has already had several members RSVP. It's not too early to do so.

This year's **installation of officers** for the Legion, SAL, ALA, and Riders will take place at the Post on **August 1, 2017 at 7:00 pm**. Please mark your calendars.

It is with great honor that Post 712 announces the following **Legion members who have had 50 or more years American Legion**. Please take time to thank these members for their continued support of the American Legion.

Hand salute goes to:

James V. Cook – 62 Years

Robert J Bleichner – 50 Years

Bob Essey – 50 Years

John R Sabina – 50 Years

As always we support our troops

Richard J. Wojnar

...

MATT ROWE FUTURE EAGLE SCOUT
by Frank Caputo

We have another Boy Scout we are assisting with an Eagle Scout project. His name is **Matt Rowe** and he is with St. Sylvester troop 296 in Brentwood. For his project he has chosen to collect non-perishable food items to be given to the Veterans Shelter of Washington Blvd. If any of you would like to donate any items Maryann has given permission to leave your donation in the ALA bin in the lobby of the Legion. If any of you would like to donate money to purchase some of these items you may leave it at the bar in Matt's name. All donations must be in by **March 15th**. Don't forget our Lent at the Legion starts on Ash Wednesday and continues every Friday through Lent, we need a lot of help to have a successful season. Please volunteer some of your time to help out. We can use help from all members including, Riders, SAL, ALA and social members. Tell your friends about our great fish sandwich.

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 **759** Legion members who have paid their 2017 dues to Post 712. This takes us to **90%** 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!

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!

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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,

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 **Breakfast with the Easter Bunny**. It is always fun to see the children enjoy this event. 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 30TH

Gary C. Hartman
Commander of the SAL



Auxiliary Corner,

THE ALA IS SPONSERING A SOUP COOK OFF ON MARCH 11TH. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE SOUP AND ENTER IT IN THE CONTEST. THE TIME IS FROM 1:00 TILL 5:00 P.M. WE WILL HAVE SALAD AND BREAD. THE COST IS \$5.00 AND WELL WORTH IT. YOU CAN SAMPLE ALL THE SOUP YOU CAN EAT AND THEN VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE. THERE WILL BE PRIZES AND ALL MONEY RAISED WILL BE FOR THE VETERANS. ON MARCH 23RD WE WILL BE MAKING A TRIP TO PLAY BINGO WITH THE VETERANS AT SOUTH-WESTERN HOSPITAL. WE CAN USE VOLUNTEERS TO GO WITH US. WE LEAVE THE POST AT 6:00 AND RETURN ABOUT 9:00 P.M. MATT ROWE IS A BOY SCOUT WANTING TO EARN HIS EAGLE BADGE. HIS PROJECT IS COLLECTING FOOD FOR THE HOMELESS VETS. WE CAN HELP HIM OUT BY BRINGING NON PERISHABLE ITEMS AND PUTTING THEM IN THE BOX IN THE HALLWAY. IF YOU DONATE ONE ITEM WE CAN HELP HIM MAKE HIS GOAL. THE COUNTY MEETING IS MARCH 5TH IN CRAFTON. IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO GO PLEASE SEE ME AND WE CAN GET YOU A RIDE.

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

See you **March 11**

With your favorite
soup !!!



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



American Legion Riders,

Anyoung haseyo Legionnaires

Special Thanks to the Riders who volunteered on the frigid Saturday morning of February 2nd to help the Wreaths Across America Project and the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies police up holiday wreaths. These wreaths were originally laid during December to honor and remember our Veterans over the holidays. Great work by the Riders: **Chris Bodner, Tom Bodner, John Caligiure, John Dillon, Susan Dillon, Ed Harmon, Paul Marthinsen, Dave Saunier, Ed Schmidt, Mark Smith, Beverly Weikel, Bill Weikel and Paul Weinheimer.**

Well Done Riders!

May 20th is Armed Forces Day. The establishment of Armed Forces Day was led by President Harry Truman and first celebrated during 1950, to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military for their patriotic service. The celebration of Armed Forces Day coincided with the establishment of the Department of Defense. Armed Forces Day is the third Saturday in May and is the culmination of Armed Forces Week which begins on the second Saturday in May. Though Armed Forces Day was supposed to do away with celebrations of the individual services holidays, those individual holidays, or birthdays, are still celebrated:

Army – June 14, 1775

Army Reserve – April 23, 1908

Army National Guard – December 16, 1636

Navy – October 13, 1775

Navy Reserve – March 3, 1915

USMC – November 10, 1775

USMC Reserve – August 29, 1916

Coast Guard – August 4, 1790

Coast Guard Reserve – February 19, 1941

Air Force – September 18, 1947

Air Force Reserve – April 14, 1948

The Leadership Quote of the Month comes to us from Secretary of State, General Colin Powell: *The day the soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you stopped leading them. They have either lost confidence that you can help them or concluded that you do not care. Either case is a failure of leadership.*

Kam sa hae yo,

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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**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 March 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 March 2017 meeting. Please plan to attend.

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.

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.

***Make sure that you see
the JOB FAIR FLYER
and the
INVITE to the dinner
for our
Vietnam Veterans on
June 17, 2017***

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 login 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>

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DINNER and TRIBUTE TO OUR OWN POST 712 VIETNAM VETERANS

When: Saturday, June 17, 2017

Where: Post 712 Time: 4:00 PM

Post 712 will pay for the dinner for each VIETNAMERA VETERAN. A five dollar fee will be charged for each guest at the door. Please call 412-616-1834, Post 712 Adjutant, to RSVP. It is not too early to RSVP. We are so proud to honor our own men and women who served our country from February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975 no matter where in the world they served. *What veterans fail to realize is that when you signed on the dotted line to serve in the military, you went wherever you were needed. Some were chosen to serve in Vietnam and many others served in the states or in other parts of the world. Each of you served your country well and we would be so honored to see you at the dinner.* Thank you for your service.

James V. Cook
MEMBER of POST 712



Thank you for your service.

It is with great honor Post 712 salutes the following Legion Members who have 50 Or more Years of Service and Dedication to the American Legion. Take time to thank these members for their continued support of the American Legion. Hand salute!!!

Commander Richard J. Wojnar

MEMBER of POST 712



Robert J Bleichner – 50 Years

Bob Essey – 50 Years

John R Sabina – 50 Years

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.

TAPS



You will be missed.

ALVIN HENDERSON
2/2017

May you rest in peace.

JOBS FOR VETERANS!



RECRUIT  MILITARY®

VETERANS JOB FAIR



120+
JOB OFFERS
EXPECTED!

HEINZ FIELD

Thursday, March 23, 2017

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

100 Art Rooney Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

A FREE HIRING EVENT

FOR VETERANS, TRANSITIONING MILITARY PERSONNEL,
NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS, RESERVE MEMBERS AND SPOUSES

= COMPANIES ARE HIRING! =

Job Opportunities ► Continuing Education Opportunities ► Business Ownership Opportunities

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