



AMERICAN LEGION Post 517

100 Keefer Drive ■ Mercersburg, PA 17236

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Commander: Barbara McLaren

SAL Commander: Warner Quick

Fall 2014

Ladies Auxiliary President: Elizabeth Brown

Home Association President: Dale F. Thatcher

■ **OUR COMMANDER SPEAKS:** My fellow Legionnaires, and our SAL, Ladies Auxiliary, and Social members. It is with great pride that I begin my third year as commander of Post 517. The past two years have been very successful and I look forward to another productive year. It will take the support of everyone to make this happen. Later this month, at 2:00 P.M., Oct 26, we will hold our KIDS HALLOWEEN PARTY with entertainment provided by D J DONNIE. After a two year absence, the Mercersburg area will again have a Halloween Parade starting at 7:00 P.M. on Oct 27, 2014. This parade has been made possible with the Legion, Moose, and Lions' Clubs joining together and raising the necessary monies required to sponsor this event. I would ask that all our members support this function and volunteer your services to assist in every way possible in again making the Mercersburg Halloween Parade a great success. GOD BLESS AMERICA.

Commander, Barbara McLaren

■ **THE LADIES AUXILIARY:** Newly elected officers for 2014-2015 include myself as president, Vice President: Karen Thatcher, Recording Secretary: Deborah Homeier, Membership: Shirley McLucas, Treasurer: Anita Newman, Chaplain: Daris Higgins, Sgt-At-Arms: Nancy Moats, and Historian: Kimberly Fawley. I seek all members for inputs; give me your ideas on what projects you would like us to undertake. You can e-mail your ideas to me at: cabgrand1@pa.net. I hope to hear from you. Throughout the year there will be a number of events which we always need your help. We need your support and, as I've said before, we are not an organization of one; we are an organization of many.

Elizabeth "Cookie" Brown, President ■

■ **OUR HOME ASSOCIATION:** Having served as post commander (2009-2012), I have now assumed new responsibilities as President of our Home Association. In that capacity, I will oversee the operation of our canteen facility under the overall management of our canteen manager, Todd Sixeas. On behalf of the Home Association Board, I would like to thank all members for their continued support of our canteen. And, a special thanks to all employees that serve us so well in so many ways. To our members, I encourage you to take advantage of the upcoming fall activities. We have fun times planned for the kids as well as the adults. With the spirit of working together for success, I wish all a great fall and holiday season.

Dale F. Thatcher, President ■

■ **SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION:** As your newly elected SAL Commander I would like to thank everyone for your help and support in my transition as commander. Once again we had a successful showing at the Post fall gun drawing. As commander I would also like to ask for your help: Our main goal is to make the SAL the best it can be. For example, community projects and events, legion grounds maintenance, memorial events and functions, and, most importantly, supporting the post in any way we can. If you are interested in helping out or becoming an officer on our board, you can put your extra time to good use by getting involved and learning more about our SAL. Our meetings are held on the first Sunday of every month at 1:00 P.M. As a reminder, we will hold our next meeting on Nov 2nd @ 1:00 P.M. Hope to see you there. My e-mail contact is: quick076@gmail.com. Any questions, comments, or concerns feel free to contact me.

Quick, SAL Commander ■

■ **SERVICE OFFICER NEWS:** We and other communities are experiencing war veteran markers being stolen from area cemeteries, including Spring Grove in the Lemasters area and Fairview here in Mercersburg. These veteran markers are provided by Department of Veterans Affairs and having them stolen is a serious crime. Please be on the alert for anyone removing war markers from cemeteries and immediately report these activities to the nearest law enforcement agency. In 2013, legion services officers assisted more than 181,000 veterans file claims with the VA.

Bruce Wesley, Post Service Officer ■

■ **ORATORICAL AND ESSAY PROGRAMS:** We are seeking Junior and Senior High School students to participate in the American Legion's Oratorical and Essay Programs. Information on these programs can be found at the PA Legion's website: www.pa-legion.com. Parents and interested students should contact school official for additional details and assistance in entering these program. They can also contact our post commander, Barb McLaren, at 328-2470.

DUES NOTICE: We are now in the process of collecting dues for the year of 2015. All dues are \$30.00; Post, SAL, Auxiliary and Social; junior member dues are \$5.00. Please pay your dues early, either by mail or in person. Post members can pay their dues on-line at: www.legion.org/renew. Your membership becomes delinquent on Jan 1, 2015; admission to our canteen facility will be denied until 2015 dues are paid. ■

GUN DRAWINGS: This spring and summer, we held two separate gun drawings with each being a major success. We would like to thank all employees and members who all assisted with the various activities to make these functions so successful. We would also like to pay special thanks to the James Buchanan High School Football Team and their parents who assisted in preparing our picnic grounds for our summer events. A special thanks to those parents who help at our drawing on Sep 6th; they controlled parking, worked in our food booth, and did other jobs. Our post

is most grateful for their help and we have provided the football program with a \$5,000 donation. Tentatively, our next gun drawing will be conducted on May 16, 2015. Tickets should be available in early February. ■

VETERANS DAY BANQUET: We will be hosting a Veterans' Day Banquet on Nov 8, 2014, starting at approximately 5-5:30 P.M. While we are still in the final planning stages, this banquet will be for all area veterans, not necessarily members of our legion post. Our post members will receive a notification; other veterans in the area who are not members will need to contact us. They can call our post adjutant at 328-5629 or e-mail: davemclucas75@comcast.net. There will be an initial reservation fee of \$5.00 for each attendee, veteran and one guest; those fees will be returned upon arrival at the banquet. We are proud to have procured Command Sergeant Major Christopher Kepner, 28th Infantry Division (Iron Division), PA US Army National Guard, as our guest speaker for this event. ■

★ Business Hours:

Canteen

- ★ Monday - Thursday 11:00 AM - 10:00 PM
- ★ Friday 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- ★ Saturday 11:00 AM - 11:00 PM
- ★ Sunday 7:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Kitchen

- ★ Monday - Thursday 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM
- ★ Friday & Saturday 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
- ★ Sunday 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM

★ Last Call 15 Minutes Before Closing!

Nightly drawing will be at 9:00 P.M. Sunday - Thursday and 10:00 P.M. on Friday & Saturday

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Oct. 26	2:00 P.M.	Kids Halloween Party - DJ Donnie
Oct. 27	7:00 P.M.	Mercersburg Halloween Parade
Nov. 4	All Day	Election Day - Get out and Vote!
Nov. 8	6:00 P.M.	Veterans' Day Banquet
Nov. 27	All Day	Thanksgiving - Canteen Closed
Dec. 21	2:00 P.M.	Kids Christmas Party - DJ Donnie
Dec. 23	11:00 A.M.	Adult Christmas Party
Dec. 24 & 25		Christmas - Closed
Jan. 1	12:00 P.M.	Pork and Sauerkraut

Additional activities will be posted at the club and/or advertised in The Merchant.

