



AMERICAN LEGION Post 517

100 Keefer Drive ■ Mercersburg, PA 17236

www.papost517mercersburg.org

717.328.2410 ■ E-mail: post517@comcast.net



Commander: Barbara E. McLaren

Fall 2020

Ladies Auxiliary President: Linda Brechbiel

SAL Commander: Paul (Too-Tall) I. Showe

Home Association President: William "Bill" E. Sanders, Jr.

■ **OUR COMMANDER SPEAKS:** Almost daily, our ability to function as a veterans' organization changes. With the onset of COVID 19, we encountered a complete shut down in normal operations from the national, state, district, and local levels. From the top down, incumbent officers were retained in their current positions for the legion year of 2020-2021. Our national and state conventions were all cancelled. Likewise, many activities at the local level were postponed and/or cancelled. It is most regretful that I must announce that we have **cancelled all plans for a Veterans' Day Program/ Dinner** which was initially planned for Nov 7, 2020. With all our fundraising activities cancelled, we are unable to provide funding for many veteran, community, and youth programs. I urge all members to be acutely aware of our current circumstances with the anticipation of a quick and viable solution to our nation's health crisis. **Barbara E. McLaren, Post Commander** ■

For our local area residents, I invite you to join us in the rear parking area of our post home on the evening of Tuesday, September 8th at 7:00 p.m. as Scout Troop 28 of Mercersburg conducts a "Flag Retirement Ceremony".

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOME ASSOCIATION:

First of all, I would like to thank all our members for supporting us during this 2020 COVID 19 pandemic crisis. I personally want to thank all our employees and manager for all the extra sacrifices that you have personally made for the Post. We had diligently tried to comply with all the mandates that have been placed on us by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. Those of you who come to our post will find that we have changed the canteen operation again to comply the latest COVID 19 restriction that was put into place by the PA Governor. All members and their guests must wear a facial covering when entering the Post; once you have been seated at a table, you can remove your facial covering. If you leave your table, you must have a facial covering on to enter the restrooms and/or exit the Post. It is a State Requirement that everyone seated at a table consuming any kind of alcohol must have food to be consumed. This new requirement took effect July 15, 2020; the Post is complying having had a Liquor Control Enforcement State Police Officer at the Post for inspection. We ask that you be patient to our servers during this crisis. This is a new endeavor that we must comply with which we never had to endure before, along with us understanding you have never had to endeavor a situation like this to come and enjoy our Post. For the good news: we have accomplished the following improvements to enhance a more pleasant atmosphere for your dining pleasure:

- No smoking policy effective January 1, 2020
- Installed a new Chicken Boaster in February 2020
- Completely refinished the bar in June 2020
- Completely redesigned the Bar and Dining Room for the COVID 19 Pandemic

Due to the Covid-19 out break the 2020-2021 Election of Officers of the Harry Lackhove Post 517 Home Association, Inc. has been cancelled, Considering our COVID-19 limited hours and capacity (25% occupancy) of the Post Home, it would not be feasibly possible to conduct an election that all Home Association members would be able to vote. All Officers and Directors serving the current year will remain in office for the following year. **William "Bill" E. Sanders Jr., Home Association President** ■

SPRING 2021 GUN DRAWING (May 22, 2021): All being aware of the cancellation of our 2020 Spring Drawing, we were intent on having a Fall Drawing on Sep 12, 2020. However, with the added restrictions on our abilities to hold such event, we have also elected to cancel that drawing. We are now looking ahead for our Spring 2021 Drawing which we have scheduled for Saturday, May 22, 2021. We will be using the same ticket utilized for our Spring and Fall 2020 Drawings. That ticket, same prize list, will continue to be sold for our Spring 2021 Drawing. For those who have already purchased tickets, hold on to them as they will remain valid for our upcoming Spring 2021 Drawing. All members are encouraged to get involved in the sale of our gun drawing tickets; tickets can be signed out at our canteen facility. Anyone desiring to obtain tickets by mail, simply send payment (\$10.00 per ticket) to Dave McLucas, 75 Seminary Lane, Mercersburg, PA 17236. Insure to provide at least a name and good phone number for placement on each ticket. Enclose a stamped addressed return envelope. Additional information on our drawing can be found at our post web site: **papost517mercersburg.org**. For our Facebook users, feel free to post our gun drawing information on your Facebook Page. ■

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION (SAL): As we head into the last month of summer with the uncertainty of this pandemic try to get into the club and pay your dues. Cards can be picked up at the bar when you pay in person. Membership cost is still \$30.00 per member. The SAL is always lagging from the American Legion when it comes to paying dues so please help get our numbers up early by paying them as soon as possible. We are still having a few more chicken BBQ's till the end of the year. The next one will be Saturday September 19th and Saturday October 3rd. Please help support us in raising funds for the programs the SAL supports and for the community. Try to support the American Legion as you feel fit in these trying times. The American Legion is vital for this community and the veterans. Remember if it were not for your family veteran there would not be an American Legion. Please be careful and use smart decisions as we all move forward and hope that when this is all over, we all can get together to talk and laugh about what we all were doing since this mess all started. Until next time stay healthy and cool!. **Robert Stouffer, Squadron Adjutant** ■

SCOUT TROOP 28 RAFFLE: In the Fall of 2019, our post agreed to sponsor a raffle to support our local Boy Scout Troop 28 of Mercersburg in raising funds to support their planned trip (August 2020) to the Philmont Boy Scout Camp in Cimarron, NM. Those tickets were placed on sale beginning in December 2019 with a planned drawing date of Mar 20, 2020; monetary prizes totaled \$1500. With the COVID 19 Pandemic and closure of our post/canteen facility, that drawing was placed on hold. The drawing was finally conducted on Friday, Jul 3, 2020, with winners notified and monies distributed accordingly. On Aug 12, 2020, Commander McLaren presented Kurt Schiach, Leader of Troop 28, with a check for \$3345 in support of the troops' trip, which has now been postponed until the summer of 2021. Scout troop 28 supports our post in various activities throughout the year, such as our Memorial Day Parade, Flag Retirement Ceremonies, and other functions, as needed. Anyone desiring to further support the endeavors of Troop 28 can make a monetary donation (make check payable to "Scout Troop 28") and send to Kurt Schiach, 3791 Warm Spring Rd, Chambersburg, PA 17202. ■

★ **Business Hours:**

Canteen

★ Monday - Thursday	2:00 PM - 9:00 PM
★ Friday	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
★ Saturday	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
★ Sunday	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Kitchen

★ Monday & Wednesday	CLOSED
★ Tuesday & Thursday	4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
★ Friday	11:00 AM - 8:00 PM
★ Saturday & Sunday	4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

* Last call 15 minutes before closing.

Nightly drawings will be conducted at 8:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEPT. 8 7:00 P.M. FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY

**The Mercersburg Halloween Parade for 2020
has been cancelled.**

MEMBERSHIP MANAGEMENT: It remain extremely important that we have up-to-date information on all our members. Your address, phone number, and e-mail addresses are especially important and should be updated as changes occur. We are asking that our Post, SAL, and Auxiliary members take a few minutes and review the accuracy of their information at national headquarters and update their records, if necessary. For post and SAL members, with your 9-digit ID Membership Number available, simply log on to the national web site at: www.legion.org/membershipmanagement where you can update your information. For auxiliary members, simply log onto www.alaforveterans.org and proceed to your profile and; likewise, review and update your information. For social members, please report any address changes to the canteen manager or a canteen employee.

PAYMENT OF 2021 DUES: We are now collecting dues (\$30.00) for the upcoming year of 2021. Except for social members, dues notifications are provided by national headquarters. Simply comply with the instructions provided and, when possible, please pay your dues using the on-line function. Social members will need to pay their dues at the canteen facility or mail payment to 100 Keeler Dr, Mercersburg, PA 17236. All dues are \$30.00 and must be paid by Dec 31, 2020, for subsequent entry into our canteen facility.

**American Legion Post 517
100 Keeler Drive, Mercersburg, PA 17236**

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 15
Mercersburg, PA