



# AMERICAN LEGION Post 517

100 Keefer Drive ■ Mercersburg, PA 17236

[www.papost517mercersburg.org](http://www.papost517mercersburg.org)

717.328.2410 ■ E-mail: [post517@comcast.net](mailto:post517@comcast.net)



Commander: Joseph E. Diamond

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

*Spring 2019*

Ladies Auxiliary President: Linda Brechbiel

Home Association President: Barbara E. McLaren

■ **OUR COMMANDER SPEAKS:** It has been almost two years since I assumed duties as commander of our American Legion Post 517 of Mercersburg. I have learned much in these past few years. I will be turning these duties over to an incoming commander (to be determined) in the near future and I look forward to your continued support of our legion post. I would like to convey my heartfelt appreciation to all the officers and members who have assisted me and the post in our many and varied activities in supporting our veterans, our youth programs, and the Mercersburg community. Only through your continued membership and involvement can we further develop our support programs. As we celebrate the 100th Anniversary Year of the American Legion, we are planning on lining the streets of Mercersburg with some 100 US Flags. A special thanks to Moose Lodge 1790 and the Mercersburg Lions' Club for their financial support of this project. Watch for these flags to be in place by Mid-May and come out and pay tribute to our deceased veterans on Memorial Day, May 27th. Our parade will begin at 8:30 at the Mercersburg Elementary School with services at 9:00 A.M., at Fairview Cemetery. All are welcome. BE INVOLVED! **Joseph E. Diamond, Post 517 Commander**

■ **HOME ASSOCIATION:** Thanks to all who wholeheartedly support our restaurant and lounge facility. Our canteen manager continues to work in harmony with our post, SAL, and AUX officers. Our restaurant menu is updated on our post web site every week, normally on Thursday mornings. Please visit that web site accordingly at: [www.papost517mercersburg.org](http://www.papost517mercersburg.org) As we conduct our smoking survey, I ask that all respond with your indication on whether you prefer to remain a smoking facility or go no smoking. Your vote matters. With over one million dollars in total sales during the past year (2018), we ended in relatively good shape. Our winter 500 Bid Card Club is now over with father and son team of Jerry and Richie Smith the declared winners; Billy Swales and Greg Burgard was the runner-up team. We are now preparing to fill a 2-person golf league. Please contact Henry Mills at (717)496-1486 to sign up; a sign-up sheet is also posted at the canteen. In my additional capacity of 1st Vice Commander of our legion post, I would like to remind you of the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt which will be held on Sunday, 2:00 P.M., April 14, 2019, at the APX facility on Fox Drive just north of Food Lion. Gifts and prizes will be awarded. Please bring your kids and grandkids out for this event. Your continued support of our post and canteen facility is most certainly appreciated. **THINK SPRING! Barbara E. McLaren, Home Association President ■**

■ **LADIES AUXILIARY:** As Spring is just around the corner; the Auxiliary is beginning to plan Poppy Night. We will kick off on May 1, 2019 with the hanging of Tribute Cards, memorializing all veterans. These "tribute cards", are hung in memory, or in honor of a veteran. On Friday evening, May 24th the Auxiliary will hold a Silent Auction in the Ball Room from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM. Please plan to join us at this auction as it was so much fun and very successful two years ago. Proceeds from the Tribute Cards and the Silent Auction are used solely toward Veterans in the area. If anyone would care to donate to the Silent Auction, please contact Linda Brechbiel @ 717-328-2789 or Debby Homeier @ 717-498-0238 anytime between May 10th and May 21st. Donations can be a purchased item, a craft item, gift certificate, baked goods, homemade candy or anything you would like to donate. All donations are appreciated. We will also be soliciting local businesses for donations.

**Linda Brechbiel, President, Ladies Auxiliary Unit 517 ■**

■ **DUES STRUCTURE FOR 2020: NO INCREASE OF DUES!** It has been decided that we will retain current dues structure of \$30.00 for the upcoming year of 2020. For post members, dues notices will be mailed by national headquarters at the completion of the PA State Convention being held in July 2019. All other notices from SAL and AUX should be forthcoming in the Sep/Oct 2019 timeframe. Social members are not provided with a due renewal notices; social dues can be paid any time after Aux 1, 2019. All dues for 2020 must be paid by Dec 31, 2019.



**ELECTION OF OFFICERS – 2019/2020:** Yes, it is approaching that time of the year where we will be conducting election of officers for the upcoming legion year. POST, SAL, AUX nominations will commence in the Apr/May timeframe with final elections to be conducted at the applicable meetings in Jun. Post meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 P.M.; SAL meetings are held the first Sunday of each month at 1:00 P.M., and AUX meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 P.M. Your attendance at these meetings is solicited and highly encouraged. Only through the active involvement of our members can we survive. Anyone wishing to become involved in their respective organization should advise the commander and/or president accordingly. For the Home Association, any post member wishing to be an officer or member of their board of director should advise the canteen manager. Nominations will be accepted in August with final elections to be held just prior to the monthly meeting (always the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M.) in September 2019. ■

**SMOKING VS NONSMOKING:** Since the enactment of the PA CLEAN INDOOR AIR ACT, our post/home association has taken advantage of the exemption permitted for private clubs to continue to permit smoking within our post facility. Over the past 10 years, this item has continued to be an issue of contention at our meetings. We have now concluded that we need to survey our members for their input on this issue. Enclosed with this newsletter is a postage prepaid postcard for return to our home association where you can indicate your preference for a **continued smoking policy** or to institute a **no smoking policy**. As a member of our home association, everyone is encouraged to participate in this survey by returning the enclosed postcard accordingly. Please annotate your nightly drawing number (must be included for vote to be counted) on the return postcard, where indicated. Your nightly drawing number is reflected to the right of your name on the address element of your newsletter. Please return your post card with you vote by April 30, 2019. Thank you for your participation in this survey. ■

## ★ Business Hours:

### Canteen

★ Monday - Thursday	11:00 AM - 11:00 PM
★ Friday	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
★ Saturday	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
★ Sunday	7:00 AM - 11:00 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 drawings will be conducted at 9:00 P.M.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

APR 14	2:00 P.M.	KID'S EASTER EGG HUNT
APR 21	<b>EASTER</b>	<b>CANTEEN CLOSED</b>
MAY 12	11:00-5:00 P.M.	MOTHERS' DAY DINNER BUFFET
MAY 18	11:00 A.M.	SPRING GUN DRAWING
MAY 24	5:00-7:00 P.M.	AUX. POPPY NIGHT (SILENT AUCTION)
MAY 27	8:30 A.M.	MEMORIAL DAY PARADE/SERVICE
JUNE 8	10:00-2:30 P.M.	DIST. 22 SAL VET APPRECIATION DAY (Post 612, St. Thomas)
JUNE 9	2:00 P.M.	FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONIES
JUNE 16	7:00-10:00 A.M.	FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST BUFFET
SEPT. 14	11:00 A.M.	FALL GUN DRAWING

**Additional activities will be posted at the club  
and/or advertised in The Merchant and also  
posted on web site at: [www.papost517mercensburg.com](http://www.papost517mercensburg.com)**

**GUN DRAWINGS:** Tickets are currently on sale for our Spring Gun Drawing scheduled for Saturday, May 18, 2019. Our Fall Gun Drawing is scheduled for Sept. 14th and those tickets will go on sale in conjunction with the completion of our Spring Drawing. All members are encouraged to become involved with the sale of tickets and provide us with some much-needed help at the drawings. These two functions are major fund driving events which supports our legion in all veteran, youth, and community activities. To receive tickets by mail for our drawings, simply send your request to our post adjutant: Dave McLucas, 75 Seminary Lane, Mercersburg, PA 17256. Include your check (\$10.00 per ticket) payable to Post 517 along with a stamped self-addressed return envelope. Insure you provide name, address, and phone number for each ticket requested. Please support these drawings and lend a helping hand. ■

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

