



# AMERICAN LEGION Post 517

100 Keefer Drive ■ Mercersburg, PA 17236

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

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Commander: Barbara E. McLaren

*Spring 2020*

Ladies Auxiliary President: Linda Brechbiel

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

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

■ **OUR COMMANDER SPEAKS:** Hello Spring ----- Goodbye Winter. As I write this article, it is with a heavy heart for the situation that is happening in our country. We must all keep the faith that – "This too will pass." Our Kids Easter Hunt was cancelled; our Memorial Day Services remains questionable. Several other activities are slated for the summer; those activities will be posted on our web site at [www.papost517mercersburg.org](http://www.papost517mercersburg.org) and published in THE MERCHANT. I personally want to thank all for your continued support of our Post 517. GOD BLESS AMERICA AND OUR VETERANS. **Barbara E. McLaren, Post Commander** ■

## NEWS FROM OUR LEGION HOME ASSOCIATION:

As most of you know, we have been instituting many changes since New Year's Day. We have instituted a **No Tobacco Policy** making our Post Home totally tobacco free. This change has been met with great success. And we appreciate your co-operation in continuing to support our facilities. We have a very conscientious and hardworking Board of Directors this year. We have been able to replace our old Henny Penny Chicken Fryer with a brand new one that has greatly enhanced the flavor of chicken and wings that are so popular to our patrons. We are in the process of updating our menus to be more responsive to your culinary wishes. Our bar, which is starting to show its age from 24 years of hard use, is scheduled to be refinished later this year. Our employees have diligently supported the changes instituted through this period and continue to happily serve you for dining and refreshments. We are anxiously waiting to re-open again after this pandemic period. Our Saturday afternoon 500 Bid Card League was very successful with William (Bub) Swailes and Robin Mills the overall winning team. As you all know, we have been closed down for over a month now and temporarily laid off all our employees. All of us are anxious to reopen in the future; but, it is uncertain when. Because of this, we have cancelled our Spring Gun Drawing scheduled for May 16, 2020. We will conduct a consolidated Fall Gun Drawing on Sept. 12, 2020. Additional details will be forthcoming as soon as we receive clearance to reopen our facilities. I want to re-emphasize that all gun drawing tickets purchased with the date of May 16, 2020 reflected will be honored at our Fall Gun Drawing (Sept. 12, 2020). We sincerely appreciate all the support we have received thus far and hope that GOD continues to watch over us through this current pandemic crisis. **William "Bill" E. Sanders Jr., Home Association President** ■

■ **OUR AUXILIARY PRESIDENT SPEAKS:** As we swing into Spring, the Auxiliary has some new things to share with all of you. It was unanimously decided at the March 2020 Auxiliary Meeting to only hold meetings every other month. We will try this through the end of 2020 and re-assess our decision at that time as to whether to continue every two months or go back to meetings every month. Following are the dates of Auxiliary meetings to be held for the remainder of this year: July 7, 2020; September 1, 2020 and November 3, 2020. Please mark your calendars accordingly and plan to attend our meetings at 6:30 on those dates. We also would like to take this time to welcome Nancy Stokes as our new Corresponding Secretary/Membership Chairman. Nancy has been working closely with Debby Homeier learning the ropes to the membership position. Please be patient as we go through this transition. For any membership questions, please contact Nancy at 717-552-3295. With the cancellation of the Spring Gun Drawing, we remain committed to having a 50/50 drawing at the Fall Gun Drawing on Sept. 12, 2020. Please plan on helping us with this drawing. All proceeds are directed to supporting our veterans. **IN GOD WE TRUST, Linda Brechbiel, President** ■

■ **2020-2021 DUES STRUCTURE:** All dues (Post, SAL, AUX, and Social) will remain at \$30.00 for the forthcoming year. We will commence accepting dues for Post and Social members on or about July 1, 2020. Post members may pay on-line at [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew). Please follow instructions contained in your renewal notice. **NOTE:** Social members are not provided with renewal notices; they may pay their dues at our canteen facility or mail payment to Post 517 H/A, 100 Keefer Dr., Mercersburg, PA 17236. As a reminder, Post meetings are held the 2nd Wed. of every month at 6:30 P.M.; SAL meetings are held the 1st Sunday of every month at 1:00 P.M. **Please attend!** All post and SAL members are encouraged to keep their personal information up to date, including phone number and e-mail address. To verify and/or correct your personal information, visit [www.legion.org/membershipmanagement](http://www.legion.org/membershipmanagement) ■

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION:** With everything that is going on with this pandemic, the SAL board is hoping that all members in the American Legion family are doing well under these hard times. We have completed the BBQ pit at the post for the most part and it looks great. Still have a couple of minor things to do but ready to use. With the uncertainty of the future ahead of us, we have set a schedule for 4 chicken BBQ's this year. The first one is scheduled for June 6th, 2nd one August 22nd, 3rd one September 19th, and the last one for October 3rd. This schedule is tentative as we all strive to get through these tough times. We will post these in the Mercersburg Journal and The Merchant two weeks prior to the event. Please come out and support our Chicken BBQ's to help support us to support our community and the American Legion programs. Lastly, I would like to thank our SAL squadron commander, Paul Showe, for a fantastic year under his leadership. When you see Paul give him a big **Thank you** for keeping the SAL squadron going in the right direction. As we go, please be safe and use good judgement in where you go and who you talk to under these hard times. We will always

be here for you! We need to see you in the future when this is all over. **Robert Stouffer, Squadron Adjutant** ■

**MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES:** Normally, we would be holding a Memorial Day Parade/Service at Fairview Cemetery at 9:00 A.M., May 25, 2020. With the Coronavirus, we cannot make any firm commitments on that event. While we have procured Dr. (Col (MC) US Army Retired) Vincent Barnhart of WELLSPAN HEALTH as our guest speaker, we may have to cancel that event or scale it back. The Department of Veterans Affairs has provided us with 1100 cemetery flags to be placed on the gravesites of deceased war veterans. We will be seeking volunteer help in placing those flags throughout Fairview Cemetery at 9:00 A.M., May 9, 2020. We also have some 15 outlying cemeteries which our legion post is responsible for the placement of flags on gravesites. Individuals desiring to assist with this project should contact our Post Service Officer, Carl Stokes at (717)816-2310 or e-mail him at: [nstokes13595@comcast.net](mailto:nstokes13595@comcast.net) ■

## ★ **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

**Per the order of the governor of PA, all activities within Post 517 are cancelled with our restaurant and lounge closed indefinitely pending an announcement from the governor of PA that we can re-open for business. During this war against the coronavirus (covid-19), please comply with federal guidelines for social distancing. Your understanding appreciated.**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

MAY 9	9:00 A.M.	PLACE FLAGS ON AREA CEMETERIES
MAY 10	11:00-3:00 P.M.	MOTHER'S DAY DINNER BUFFET
MAY 25	8:30 A.M.	MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND SERVICES
JUNE 14	2:00 P.M.	FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONIES
JUNE 20	8:00 A.M.	POST 517 GOLF TOURNAMENT
JUNE 21	7:00-10:00 A.M.	FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST BUFFET
SEPT. 12	10:00-5:00 P.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.papost517mercersburg.org](http://www.papost517mercersburg.org)**

