



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

Spring 2021

Ladies Auxiliary President: Linda Brechbiel

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

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

■ **OUR COMMANDER SPEAKS:** My fellow legion family members. I saw some robins in my yard the other day so that must mean that spring will soon be here. I am quite sure that everyone is ready for some warmer weather after the cold and snow this winter. The past year has been a real challenge for everyone. We all want this "virus" to go away and get our lives back to normalcy. I do believe there is a light at the end of the tunnel. With the restrictions that have been placed on our post, not to mention our restaurant and lounge operation, we are still functioning as best we can. Your continued support, as always, is greatly appreciated. Without your support, we could not survive. All our yearly activities have been placed on hold pending the lifting of the many restrictions imposed. We all must stay strong, and we will get through this pandemic together. **GOD BLESS AMERICA and our Veterans!** **Barbara E. McLaren, Post Commander** ■

■ **FROM THE AUXILIARY:** As we begin to maybe see some light at the end of this pandemic, the Auxiliary is beginning to get back to some normalcy. We will begin having regular monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Post Home. Please join us as we need new ideas and active members once again. We are planning some upcoming fundraisers and your ideas would be greatly appreciated as well as your attendance at our meetings. In May, we will once again do our Poppy fundraiser. Depending on the pandemic, we hope to be able to do our "Silent Auction Poppy Night", Friday May 15th. (The Silent Auction all depends on the status of the pandemic). All proceeds from our poppy fundraiser goes to support our veterans. We would love your donations of new or slightly used items for this event. In June we will have election of officers, if you are interested in a position, please let one of the current officers know. We will have positions vacant, and your help is welcomed. So, whether you are contacted, or not, to run for an office, please volunteer. The auxiliary is your organization. We are also planning another fundraiser or two during the next few month, so please keep your eyes peeled for announcements. Stay safe and hope to see you at our next meeting. **Linda Brechbiel, Aux Unit 517, President** ■

■ **SPRING 2021 GUN DRAWING (May 22, 2021):** With all drawings cancelled last year, we will be awarding the same prizes, using the tickets that were printed for last year's Spring Drawing (May 16, 2020). Due to the Governor's Restrictions, we will be holding this drawing virtual at the Post Home. You can go to our website to watch and see the winner list that will be posted after the drawing on our website. If you want to watch the drawing, go to our website (papost517mercersburg.org), there will be a link to the YouTube site we are using to video the drawing. The site will stay on the website for future viewing after the

day of the drawing. As we are still under the Governor's Restrictions, the gun drawing committee will have (12) members at the drawing, which will include members of the Post, SAL, AUX, and Home Association. The door to the ball room will be locked during the drawing so the committee has no interruptions. The tickets are good only for the drawing; there will be no food or drinks. Due to the Governor's Restrictions the canteen will be monitoring the number of members allowed to enter the day of the drawing. Restrictions in effect on the day of the drawing will apply on occupancy of the building. (Please do not plan on attending the drawing; watch it on our website as it will be live and show all ticket numbers and names of the winners.). Copies of the winner list will be available at the canteen the day after the drawing for members to pick up for salespeople and anyone who may have purchased tickets. We are including two (2) tickets for this drawing with the mailing of this newsletter. Please support this drawing by the purchase of these two tickets and returning the stub annotated with a minimum of your name and phone number, along with payment (\$10.00 per ticket), to our post or mail to: **Post 517, 100 Keefer Dr, Mercersburg, PA 17236 (ATTN: Todd Sixeas)**. Additional tickets are available and can be obtained by contacting Todd at (717)328-2410 or e-mail: post517@comcast.net ■

■ **PROFANITY AND ABUSIVE/LOUD LANGUAGE:** We ask that everyone abide by our house rules when visiting our canteen facility. Abusive and/or foul language is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Do not jeopardize your membership and/or ability to utilize our canteen facility. Firearms and large knives are also prohibited. Our Post Facility is a **MEMORIAL HOME**; your respect expected and appreciated. Likewise, use of tobacco products inside our facility is not allowed; use the outside canopy accordingly. ■

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION (SAL): As we head into the end of winter and spring just around the corner, I would like to thank each member that have paid their dues for this year so far. If you have not paid your dues yet, please get them paid as soon as possible. Time is running out so either send them in by mail or stop by the club and pay them in person. Your membership is especially important to us! This has been a trying time for all of us and especially for the Post that we all belong to. Please try to support this great Post as much as possible. As we are getting ready to start the spring season, we will be starting our chicken BBQ's this year. Our schedule for these is as follows, March 13th, April 10th, May 15th, June 26th, August 14th, and Sept 25th. Please come out and support our BBQ's as we try to raise money for different programs in the American Legion and try to support the local community as much as possible. As I close, I hope that all members of Post 517, Post members, Auxiliary, Sons, and social members and their families are staying safe and doing your part in

moving forward as we all hope that we can get back to a somewhat normal lifestyle as soon as possible! Please be careful and remember come support the Post when you feel comfortable enough to come in and enjoy the Post you belong to. **Robert Stouffer, SAL Squadron 517 Adjutant** ■

DUES STRUCTURE AND OFFICERS FOR 2022: Our current dues for the upcoming year of 2022 will remain at \$50.00 (Post, AUX, SAL, and Social). Within the next few months, we will be looking for individuals who are interested in becoming involved with our American Legion and serve in some capacity as an officer in one of the organizations. Please consider serving and let one of our current officers aware of your interest. Nomination of officers will be made at our May 2021 meeting with elections accomplished at the June meeting. ■



★ **Business Hours:**

Canteen

★ Daily 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Kitchen

★ Monday & Wednesday CLOSED
 ★ Tuesday & Thursday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 ★ Friday, 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 ★ Saturday & Sunday

* Last call 15 minutes before closing.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MAY 8	9:00 A.M.	PLACE FLAGS ON AREA CEMETERIES
MAY 15	4-7:00 P.M.	AUX POPPY NIGHT (SILENT AUCTION)
MAY 22	1:00 P.M.	HOME ASSOCIATION GUN DRAWING -VIRTUAL
MAY 31	8:30 A.M.	MEMORIAL DAY PARADE/SERVICES
JUNE 13	2:00 P.M.	FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONIES

Effective Apr 5, 2021, our restaurant/lounge customer capacity will be increased to 75%; we can again use our bar for seating and the requirement to serve food will have been eliminated. We ask that our customers continue to follow the recommended guidelines of the CDC in combatting the COVID-19 Pandemic. Please come out and enjoy yourself in supporting your American Legion Post 517 Canteen Facility.

FROM OUR CANTEEN MANAGER: I would like to thank everyone using the Post at these difficult times, understanding that the Governor's Restrictions has been a challenge to keep the Post open and operational with all the changes that we have been given. As the manager here I am so immensely proud of our membership here the way you have supported us with these restrictions given to us. I understand how hard it is for each of you and how hard it is for our staff here at the post, the staff and myself have never encountered anything like this before as well as all the posts in Pennsylvania. We are doing everything that the state asked of us to keep the doors open here at Post 517, some are upsetting but we must do what the state tells mandates us to do. Our staff has twice the work to do now with not having the bar area and having to wait on tables making their job so much more demanding, I ask all of you to be patient with the staff as we are all trying to serve all of you the best we can. Thank you all again for

your support and understanding. **Todd Sixeas, Canteen Manager.** ■

MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM/SERVICES: We remain unsure on whether we will be restricted from holding our normal parade and services in remembering our deceased war veterans. In the event we can hold these services, Dr. (Col (MC), US Army Retired) Vincent Barnhart, currently associated with WELLSPAN HEALTH, has agreed to be our guest speaker. As additional information becomes available, we will provide updates throughout the local community. Regardless, we will again be placing flags on the gravesites of our war veterans on May 9th at 9:00 A.M. We have over 1,000 war veterans interned in 16 area cemeteries, with over 600 of those being in Fairview Cemetery. Anyone desiring to assist with this endeavor should contact our Post Service Officer, Carl Stokes, at (717)816-2310 or e-mail: nstokes13595@comcast.net. ■