



# 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: Barbara E. McLaren

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

*Spring 2023*

Ladies Auxiliary President: Linda Brechbiel

Home Association President: Karl Myers

■ **OUR COMMANDER SPEAKS:** Having served as the Commander, Harry Lackhove American Legion Post 517, for some nine (9) years commencing in 2013 – 2017 and again in 2020 – 2023, I will continue to support our post to the maximum extent possible. In those past years, I have had the opportunity to meet and serve alongside some of the most wonderful people in supporting the mission of the American Legion. I also had the opportunity to serve as the Commander of our Bi-County (Franklin-Fulton) Council, Judge Advocate of the 22nd District (Franklin, Fulton, Adams, & York County) along with being a Deputy Commander. I will always cherish those times; what a wonderful experience. As our post continues to recover from all the adverse effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic, I ask all our members to continue their support of all the programs and endeavors of our post and The American Legion. MAY GOD BLESS ALL.

**Barbara E. McLaren, Post 517 Commander ■**

■ **FROM THE SAL COMMANDER:** As we start a new year, we are all facing challenging times. It is very important that everyone in the Sons of the American Legion to support this Post in any way possible. Everyone's voice matters. We need new bodies to attend our monthly meetings. Give new ideas on which direction this squadron wants to move and what to do in the future. The current board has been together for some time, and we would really appreciate anyone that wants to get involved to start attending our meetings. The future depends on all of you! This past year we have donated to Keystone Boys State, Child Welfare Foundation, Oratorical Scholarship Fund, U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corp., Friends of Franklin County Sheriff Office, meals to Brindle Terrace, and other donations to the community. Your money from dues along with what we raise from our chicken BBQ's does go for a good cause. We do have 4 chicken BBQs scheduled for this year, April 8, May 6, June 10, and September 16. Please come out and support this great organization. With that said please enjoy this spring with family and friends as the weather gets nicer. See you all sometime soon! **Commander Paul Showe**

■ **FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT:** As winter is ending and spring is arriving the auxiliary plans to get busy once again. Please plan to attend our monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Once again, we will be looking for officers for the June election and sincerely hope that volunteers step up, anyone interested in becoming an officer should contact one of the present officers. Our volunteers for officers and activities are scant and with few volunteers we are limited as to what activities we can do. With over 250 members and only 6-8 volunteers, it is hard to do any type of fundraising or activity for the community or veterans. I have heard statements made that the auxiliary doesn't do anything. Well, that is true, but the reason for that is we need more members willing to volunteer their time to help with any function we have. We

can't plan a function unless we know ahead of time that we are going to get the support of the auxiliary. We realize that a lot of our members are getting older and unable to help, but there also are a number of younger members who are able to volunteer, so please feel free to attend the meetings and offer some ideas and volunteer to help. The auxiliary will once again hold a 50/50 drawing at the Gun Drawing, May 27th, 2023. Anyone who is interested in helping to sell 50/50 tickets please let one of the officers know or come see us the day of the drawing. GOD BLESS AMERICA **Linda Brechbiel, President ■**

■ **POST GUN DRAWING:** Our gun drawings are a major source of revenue to enable our post to support the local community, our youth, and most importantly, our veterans. As we attempt to return to normal conditions post COVID-19, our Spring Gun Drawing will be held on Saturday, May 27, 2023. Tickets are currently available for a donation of \$10.00 per ticket. Prizes include 50 guns and 10-\$250.00 cash payouts. To enable all our members to participate, we are including two tickets with the mailing of this newsletter. Upon receipt, we would anticipate your support by the purchase or sale of these tickets and return the stubs with the appropriate information and \$10.00 per tickets to our post: American Legion Post 517, Suite 1, 100 Keefer Drive, Mercersburg, PA 17236. For those receiving this newsletter via e-mail, your support is equally solicited. Please send your ticket donation to the above address with a self-addressed/stamped envelope along with applicable information for each ticket and we will mail tickets to you accordingly. Our Fall Gun Drawing date has been set as Saturday, September 23, 2023. Further information on that drawing will be forthcoming. Continue to check our website for updates. You can call our Post Adjutant, Dave McLucas, at (717)860-7530 or e-mail him at: [davemclucas75@comcast.net](mailto:davemclucas75@comcast.net) for any additional details.

**FROM THE HOME ASSOCIATION:** Like most businesses, our canteen operation (Restaurant and Lounge) is suffering the consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are encountering employee vacancies, increased cost of goods/wages, and other difficulties resulting from the current economic environment. Our canteen manager has announced his retirement and we are actively pursuing a replacement. We are also hiring kitchen and waitress staff, which should allow for an increase in kitchen hours through the week. All I can offer at this time is for our members to remain steadfast with us as we make every attempt to recover and look forward to our endeavors to make further improvements. We appreciate your continued support.  
**Karl Myers, Home Association President ■**

**MEMORIAL DAY PARADE/SERVICES:** We will need the assistance of our community members as we prepare for this memorial event. Specifically, on Saturday, May 13, @ 9:00 A.M., we plan on placing flags on the gravesites of

our war veterans interned in Fairview Cemetery. Just show up and help. Our parade will start at 8:30 with Memorial Services at Fairview Cemetery on Monday, May 29, 2023, at 9:00 A.M. All veterans, youth groups, and community leaders are encouraged to participate. ■

**SCOUTING:** Our American Legion Post 517 is now the sponsor of Scout Troop 28 of Mercersburg. In October of last year, continuous meetings with scouting leaders and much discussion, the Harry Lackhove American Legion Post 517, Inc., accepted the responsibility and are now the proud sponsors of Scout Troop 28. Hopefully our members and the local community will support our post in this endeavor. Mark your calendars accordingly as Troop 28 will conduct a Flag Retirement Ceremony in the rear parking area of our post home on June 11, 2023, at 2:00 P.M. Area residents with worn out flags may deposit them in our "Flag Drop Box" at the entrance of our post home. Please join us for this ceremony. ■

**ELECTIONS (Legion Year 2023 – 2024):** Next month we will commence the nomination process for officers of the Post, SAL, and AUX). We have a number of officers who have been in their positions for some years and are approaching the age where they need to step down and permit our younger members to become involved and step-in to these officer positions. Anyone interested in assuming an officer position should plan on attending the monthly meetings of their respective organization. For post members, meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. with a Home Association Membership Meeting immediately preceding at 6:30 P.M.; SAL meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at 1:00 P.M., and the Auxiliary meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 P.M. Make it known that you are interested. Annual dues for all members will remain at \$30.00 for the upcoming year. Look for them to be raised for 2025.

## *Easter Egg Hunt*

We will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt for the children of our legion family members. Children through age 12 are welcome to participate, with special prizes for each age group. This event will be held on the grounds of the APX Facility located at 95 Fox Dr (just north of Food Lion) at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, Apr 2nd.



**NOTE:** Our Canteen and Kitchen hours are subject to almost daily changes. Please check our website: [www.papost517mercersburg.org](http://www.papost517mercersburg.org) under "Menu and Canteen/Kitchen Hours" for the most current information.

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

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