

POST 44
American Legion NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2012
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COMMANDER – Roy Lucero – Commander & Newsletter Editor

Summer is over and fall is upon on us. We've been invited to take part in the Veterans Day observance at the Veteran's Home in T or C in November. If you would like to volunteer to be a flag bearer or participate in some other capacity, let one of our officers know.

The next few months usually bring a lot of our members down from the north. Let's be sure and welcome them back and encourage them to stay longer. I hope you've all noticed the added pool table and flat-screen TV. Come in and enjoy a friendly game of pool or watch your favorite sporting events. Football is a lot more fun to watch with a crowd cheering on their favorite team.

Don't forget about all our men and women in uniform at home and away. Keep them in your thoughts and in your prayers.

Vice Commander – Tom Cleveland

Well September has come and gone. Soon our winter visitors will be returning and cooler weather will be upon us. If you haven't been to the Post lately you need to stop by and see the changes that have taken place.

We will be replacing the flooring in the smoking side soon. I will be asking for volunteers to help with painting the Post. It is not too early to start preparing for our tenth year anniversary celebration so jump on the band wagon and help make our facility fresh and bright.

Our success depends on you members to support the Post by coming in and participating in the many events that are planned by the activities committee article and calendar.

Hope to see you at the Post soon.

Finance Officer – Dr. G. Vincent Barrett

The Post financial condition is improving as we had a small net profit last month. Overall for the month of August we had a net profit of approximately \$1000. Our reserve position is improving as the bar and kitchens are experiencing increases in sales. Discussions with Aries Gaming indicate that we may have a few new gaming machines in the game room by the first of the year as well as improved air circulation. This should help improve the gaming revenues. The second pool table and new TV, both of which are in place, are also expected to improve the bar and kitchen sales. I am confident that with

these few improvements and the generally improving economic conditions the Post should be able to remain on a sound financial footing throughout this coming fiscal year.

The VFnp (Veterans and Fraternal non-profits gaming lobby of which we are a member) has agreed to hold its next monthly meeting at Post 44 on October 23, Tuesday registration at 11AM with lunch at 12 noon preceding the meeting.

Adjutant – Bob Nellis

CONGRATULATIONS to James Moody of T or C – he was the winner of the Early Bird Drawing and his dues for 2013 have been reimbursed to him.

Our paid membership for 2013 now stands at 212. Our total membership is 413.

Remember, beginning on January 1, 2013, your old door card will not work to enter the post. Upon entering after ringing the bell, please show the bartender your 2013 membership card and she/he will issue you a new key entry card.

Activities Committee – Kathy Norton and Linda Amdal)

Time to start snorkeling through your closets for your Halloween costume and your lederhosen!! It's that time of year again!!

The golf tournament on Saturday, October 6th has SOLD OUT!! Thanks to all for your support!! For all those wanting to join in on the fabulous Brisket Lunch & Raffle following the tournament at 2:00 p.m., tickets are available for \$7.50 per person. We will also be selling raffle tickets (\$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00) for more than \$1700 worth of prizes!! Bob & Fran Acre has also offered to provide entertainment for us!! Contact Linda Nenno or Linda Amdal for more info.

Special thanks to the Line Dancers for their great performance on Sept. 16th!! And to all those that "CowBoy'd-Up!!" Bob & Fran, YOU ARE AWESOME!! Thank you!! It was a "Hoot!"

Starting **Friday, October 5th**, Elaine is adding pop corn shrimp with fries and soup or chips for just \$5.00 to the menu!! Claudia & I got a "taste-test" & they are fabulous!! Be sure to mark your calendars for the **Post All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast (9:00 to 11:00), Saturday October 13th.**

Wed. Oct 3	Chicken Fajitas & Soup du Jour, Music by Sue Barr
Fri. Oct 5	Burgers, Wings, Popcorn Shrimp & soup du jour, Entertainment by Gene Armijo
Sat. Oct 6 9 am	Golf Tourney and at 2 pm, Brisket Lunch
Wed. Oct 10	Chicken Fried Steak, soup du jour, Music by Jim Corrons
Fri. Oct 12	Burgers, Wings, Popcorn Shrimp & soup du jour, Entertainment by Cindy Bellini
Wed. Oct 17	Baked Fish Dinner & soup du jour, Music by Sue Barr
Fri. Oct 19	Burgers, Wings, Popcorn Shrimp & soup du jour, Entertainment by Cindy Bellini
Sun. Oct 21	Soup Pot Luck
Tues. Oct 23	VFNP Meeting 11:00 am
Wed. Oct 24	Ham & Mac & Cheese & soup du jour, Music by Cactus Flats
	Member Appreciation to Liz Nellis
Fri. Oct 26	Burgers, Wings & Popcorn Shrimp & soup du jour, Entertainment by Gene Armijo
Wed. Oct 31	Halloween Costume Party - Indian Tacos with Chicken & Rice & soup du jour, music by Sue Barr

October Birthdays: Oct. 3, Wally Fluckey, Oct. 5ht, Liz Nellis, Oct. 10, Susanah Allen, Oct. 12, Roy Lucero, Oct. 14, Butch Walters

As the Tournament Contact, I would like to express our appreciation to those that sponsored the golf holes: The Fluckey family, Steve & Linda Ross, Tom & Marty Novak, Marge Roady, Fran & Bob Acre, Toni & Warren Rainwater, Gene Hill & Cathy Mitchell, Amin's, Tuck's Turf, Howie Tucker, Landscaping Ideas, Sierra Sam's RV Club, Aries Gaming, Barrett Appraisal Services, Barking Dog Mesa Land Co, Citizen's Bank, T or C Women of the Moose, T or C Moose Lodge 2050, American Legion Post 49, VFW Post 1389, Cobalt of New Mexico, Pine Knot Bar. Thank You So Much!!



Sons of the Legion (S.A.L.) Corner - Bill Nenzo, Commander Squadron 44

The Sons of the American Legion, Post 44, held its regular meeting Sept 18 2012. In attendance were, Bob Nellis, Donnie Polstin, Deone Harty, and Bill Nenzo.

Membership: We are currently soliciting payment for 2013 membership dues. So far we have had 24/85 or 28% of our members renew. We ask that you renew as soon as possible - ASAP in medical talk .Department sets various percentage renewal guidelines and these are always nice to meet. Additionally, early renewals are eligible for the drawing for a free membership for 2013. Paying your membership early also gets it out of the way so you don't have to worry about coming up with the money around Christmas time when your money is flowing out of your pockets about as fast as the water is currently flowing out of the lake!!

Finances: Gene Hill is out of town and in his place the commander gave the financial report.

American Legion Golf Tournament: In addition to the \$300 donated, the S.A.L. will be raffling a set of Woods at the American Legion Golf Tournament. Tickets will be sold at the event and also at the dinner following. The tournament will be held on October 6 at the Truth or Consequences Municipal Golf Course. The format will be a scramble consisting of four person teams. Teams will receive 20% of total handicap and will be divided into two flights based on total handicap. For this you get to play golf with some great people, receive a polo shirt, a meal and even a free raffle ticket for some of the wonderful prizes that will be available. All of this can be had for a measly, paltry, giveaway price of \$60.00 per person.

The event is filling up fast so make sure you get your fees in by the deadline. We are asking that you pay your entry fee at the golf course to make keeping track easier; .If this is a problem hunt down Linda Amdal who is the chief cook, bottle washer and ramrod for the event. For more information please see the flyers at the post.

Dinner: Donnie Polstin and Deone Harty volunteered to cook an enchilada dinner. The dinner will be held on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, Sunday, November 18. Music will be by Sue Barr. Be sure to mark this on your calendars. Additional postings will appear as time for this dinner nears.

Flea Market: As always the S.A.L. volunteered to cook hamburgers and hot dogs in conjunction with the flea market. Gene Hill did the cooking and Bill Nenzo took the money. No other S.A.L. members turned up to help, so Linda Nenzo was ordained as a single, one day, temporary S.A.L. member. The S.A.L. made \$197.75 on the event.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 16 at 6:30 PM at the Post. The S.A.L. meetings are always held on the third Tuesday of the month and all are invited to attend.

As always remember that organizations are not really organizations, they are just people. Help out when you can and when you see them, thank those that do help out and let's all work together for the common good.

Thanks for supporting our club, our community and most of all ---the veteran



Legion Riders- American Legion Riders Chapter NMALR 5: Jim Coslin, President

(Written by Craig Pierson, Secretary):

Membership: We currently have 30 members and 2 prospective members.

Calendar: Next meeting will be Tuesday, October 2nd. October Ride scheduled for Saturday, the 6th.

Fund Raiser(s): The Riders are also actively supporting the effort of the Unit 44 Auxiliary to put on a golf tournament on October 6th.

Rider Activities 2012

HSHS Football Season Opener Spirit Line: Friday, September 7th several Chapter 5 bikes assembled with riders from the local CMA organization as well as bikes from out of town at the HSHS football stadium. The purpose was to create a "Spirit Line" for the season opener against Deming. Unfortunately stormy weather caused the game to be delayed, leaving the riders sitting in the rain. As a reminder that timing is critical, eventually the bikes drifted off before the game was played.

Elephant Butte Days Parade: The parade was held on Saturday, September 8th and the weather was miserably wet and cold that morning. Jerry Garlow had graciously volunteered to let the Auxiliary use his boat to create their float and then came out and, with only a few small mishaps, drove the float along the parade route.

Brian and Sally Nikiforow also represented Chapter 5 Riders by braving the inclement conditions to ride escort for the Auxiliary float.



Dam Man Triathlon: To be held on Sunday September 30th it was planned as many as four motorcycles might help out by providing race monitors with a ride. At the time this article was due Jim Coslin, Walter Armijo and Don Michelis had volunteered to help out.

Miscellaneous Activities: Recently many of the Riders have participated in Legion and Auxiliary events but no-one has been more active or contributed more than our Vice President Jerry "Turbo" Garlow. Turbo was instrumental in obtaining the new wide-screen HDTV and the second pool table that are critical parts of the renovations currently going on at the Post. Turbo is also involved in negotiating a good price on the materials and installation of new flooring for the main entrance side of the Post. He has also been especially active supporting the Auxiliary. He helped out at the flea market and the Elephant Butte Days parade. Most recently, he has worked to make the Auxiliary sponsored golf tournament a success by becoming a "Hole Sponsor", obtaining numerous items for the accompanying raffle and selling 50/50 tickets. Turbo exemplifies what the Legion is talking about when we talk about the Legion Family.

Our monthly meetings are held at Post 44 on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. – See you on October 2, 2012.

See our facebook page at @ <http://www.facebook.com> then go to Search (type) American Legion Riders NM5, then click on the Logo - all our pictures/comments are posted there for the last and previous rides or see Chuck, he has them on his computer. If you are computer-savvy, you can download them for yourself

If you are interested in being in the ALR but don't have a bike – we have a place for you. Ask any ALR Officer or Member for details – membership is \$15 plus vest and patches.



Auxiliary President - Sharon Pierson

AUXILIARY SEPTEMBER EVENTS

General Membership Meeting:

- ***Drape the Charter:*** Once again our unit had the sad task of draping our charter for Mary Williams. Our hearts sympathize with her family, she will be greatly missed.
- ***Blue/Gold Star Banners:*** We have reinstated the tradition of presenting these banners to families who have members serving in active military duty. We were pleased to present a Blue Star Banner to Barbara & Chester Anderson in honor of their grandson, Paul Ellis Anderson; and to Leona & Frank Wagner in honor of their son Beau Rhys Wagner. If you know any families in our area who are qualified to receive one of these banners please let us know.
- ***Soup & Sandwiches:*** Many of our members stayed on after our meeting to enjoy a BLT or Grilled Cheese sandwich with a choice from a variety of soups. Our new kitchen manager, Elaine Garlow, intends to offer similar fare after each of our monthly meetings at a minimal cost so plan to join us next month!

Flea Market & Bake Sale: We had a great turnout on September 1st for this annual event. It was a lot of hard work and we owe a big "Thank You" to the SAL's for turning out and cooking Hot Dogs and Burgers – they were very popular. The bake sale made \$484 and the flea market brought in nearly \$1000! Thanks to EVERYONE who put in so many long hard hours to make the flea market happen and to all those who baked for the bake sale.



Elephant Butte Days Parade: We may have gotten rained on but that didn't stop us! Jerry and Elaine Garlow allowed us to use their Pontoon boat as our float and Jerry even pulled it for us in the parade – what a trooper that man is, pulling a pontoon boat on a trailer in a parade with 5, very wet, very cold women on the float. The Nikiforow's were there to give us "Rider" escort. Amazingly, a lot of people showed up to cheer the parade on and all the smiling faces and waving flags made all the work (and misery) worthwhile.

State Poppy Poster Winner: On September 19th Unit 44 was proud to present Megan Mansur with her trophy and check for \$10 as the state winner of the 2012 Poppy Poster contest. Megan, a student at Arrey grade school, was joined by her parents and other family members at the school wide assembly held for the presentation.



District Meeting: Post 18 in Silver City hosted the fall District meeting this year and Unit 18 did a wonderful job hosting the Auxiliary. Our elected District 7 President, Bonnie Ransdell, had to resign her position a few short days before our meeting due to serious health issues. District Vice President, Liz Foster, stepped up to fill the vacancy and appointed Carmen McCleery to acting Vice President. Carmen was subsequently voted on and approved for the position by the attending District 7 membership. We send our thoughts and prayers to Bonnie and commend Liz and Carmen for filling in, on such short notice, so admirably.

Unit 44 had 15 members in attendance and during the meeting was given a Certificate from National for successfully promoting "Give 10 to Education".

UPCOMING EVENTS

Golf Scramble: We continue to move ahead with plans for the Golf Scramble to be held on October 6th. The tournament is full up now with all teams filled. However, anyone who would like to join the golfer's for the B-B-Q luncheon at the Post after the tournament (around 2pm) may do so – the cost is \$7.50 – but you must make a reservation by September 29th. If you would like a reservation for the B-B-Q please contact Linda Nenno at (575) 642-6164.

Sierra County Fair: We are setting up a booth this year at our county fair (October 12 & 13) with plans to distribute Poppies and promote the Auxiliary. We will have membership applications available for those who qualify and would like to become members. If anyone would like to volunteer to help man our booth please contact Linda Nenno.

Walk In The Park: Unit 44 will be putting a team together for this annual SCCA (Sierra County Cancer Assistance) event to be held October 20th from 9am-3pm at Ralph Edwards Park. If you're interested in joining the team and participating in the walk please contact Steph Ross srfoxie@gmail.com or Sharon Pierson skpierson@live.com.

Halloween: Don't forget to join us all at the Post on All Hallow's Eve (October 31st) for the costume contest and all kinds of fun!

Auxiliary Membership Report - Linda Nenno

Thank you to those who have renewed for 2013. The dues are still \$30/year, and help us continue the programs that serve Veterans and their families. Membership is our most important program, since without members, we cease to exist. Tell your non-member friends about us, what we do and encourage them to join if they are eligible. Carry a membership application in your purse. You, as a member, know we have some really good things going on at the Post, and we always have a lot of fun, so spread the word. As of September 20, we have 176 paid members, which put us at 40% of our final goal. This time last year we were at 273 paid members, so we really need to push to reach our 55% goal (63 more paid members) by the deadline of October 8. Please renew now if you haven't already. You can leave your dues with any of our bartenders or mail to PO Box 1618, Elephant Butte, NM 87935. We will draw for the early bird winners at the October meeting. Please keep those renewals and new members coming. We're doing great so far and are leading the units in our District.

National Renewal notices went out last week. They list our annual dues at \$34. This is incorrect!! Our dues remain at \$30/year even though National went up \$4 this year. If you receive this notice, please pay only \$30 so we won't have to issue you a refund check. This will save us time and money. Thank you.

The Chaplain's Corner – Marty Novak

PRAYER FOR THE MILITARY: Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.

GET WELL WISHES: Delbert Smith, Papa Vince, Jim Ridens, Sofio Trujillo

OUR CONDOLENCES: Our condolences to the family of Mary Williams and to family of Dorothy Michelis

A PRAYER FOR WISDOM

Grant me O Lord,
to know what is worth knowing, to love what is worth loving,
to praise what delights you most, to value what is precious in Your sight,
to hate what is offensive to You.
Do not let me judge by what I see,
nor pass sentence according to what I hear,
but to judge rightly between things that differ,
and above all to search out and to do what pleases you.

CARE PACKAGES AND CELL PHONES: We sent 62 Care Packages in September. Thanks to all who helped. People seem to like the earlier start time of 11AM. Thank you to all who donated supplies, made pocket flags and neck coolers. A special thank you to Bullocks for their monthly donation of 2 cases of salsa and to Drs Grant, Davis, and Gribble, dentists in Albuquerque, for their donation of dental supplies through Auxiliary member Wendy Caccamise. And of course, thank you to the Post for their monetary help with this project.

We are an official collection site for cell phones that are no longer being used. These are sent for recycling and provide calling cards for the soldiers. We send the calling cards in our Care Packages. There is a collection container just outside the door of the Post.

What is a Veteran: A Veteran...whether active duty, discharged, retired, or reserve...is someone who, at one point in their life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America" for an amount of "up to, and including his/her life." That is honor, and there are way too many people in this country today, who no longer understand that act..