

*POST 44*

*American Legion NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2013*

*PO Box 1073 – 1005 Hwy. 195 - Elephant Butte, NM 87935*

*575-744-4144*

*WEBSITE – [americanlegionelephantbutte.com](http://americanlegionelephantbutte.com)*



COMMANDER – Roy Lucero – Commander & Newsletter Editor

September was another good month here at the Post. Lots of things to do, and plenty of good times shared.

The highlight of the month was the American Legion Family 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament. Special thanks to the two Linda's – Amdal and Nenno – for their efforts in organizing the event. Kudos to everyone who volunteered their time, talents and efforts to make it a huge success. A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!!

This month promises to just as good. Hope you all find time to come out and support the Post and enjoy everything planned in this month's calendar. Your support enables us to assist our fellow veterans, local charities, students, and youth activities. Keep up the good work.

Thanks, Melanie Millsap, for taking on the task of preparing our newsletter.

Remember, the General Membership meeting is on Saturday, Oct 19, at 1030 a.m. Thank you for all you do, and see you at the Post

Vice Commander – Tom Cleveland

No input at this time

Finance Officer – Dr. G. Vincent Barrett

The financial condition of the Post continues to remain sound. The months of July and August were both good months for both gaming and the bar/kitchen. By good I mean we did not lose money. For the two months combined we covered all costs including the outlay for a complete new air conditioning unit and managed a profit of \$1000. The bar and kitchen are holding their own while pull tabs and gaming are having a very strong showing. Although we only turned a small profit the benefits to our Members is still large. All indicators are that we are looking at a financially reasonably summer and fall with no major financial problems. Our overall capital position is solid and we are meeting all financial obligations on time. See you at the Post.

Adjutant – Bob Nellis

Keeps the membership coming.

## Activities Committee – Kathy Norton and Linda Amdal

I'd like to begin with a special thank you to everybody that contributed to the great success of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Scramble! Linda Amdal and Linda Nenno for heading up this project, sponsors and helpers that made it all possible.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> soup supper of the season was great too. I am always amazed at our members; we do have the best post!

Please refer to the monthly calendar for our entertainment and menus. I will highlight events we have planned. We will have flyers around the post as well.

10/5	5:00pm	Frank & Barb Kapela's 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary party
10/6	1:00pm	Decorate the post
	3:00pm	9-Ball Tournament & finger food potluck
10/12	8:30am	All you can eat breakfast
10/20	5:30pm	Soup supper and October birthday bash
10/26	2:00pm	Battle for the Elephant, 9-ball Tournament & pot luck at VFW 1389
10/30	5:30pm	Halloween Party

Check it out-we are also now on facebook, thank you Christie Conklin!

We are going to have a Chili cook off in November and are hoping to have representation from the Post, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders. So get your crock pots and recipes ready!!!

**SEE YOU AT THE POST!!!**



## Sons of the American Legion – Bill Nenno

No input at this time.



Legion Riders- American  
Legion Riders Chapter NMALR

5:

Jim Coslin, President

(Written by Craig Pierson, Secretary): Membership: .....

**Membership:**

We currently have 25 members.

**Calendar:** Next Riders meeting will be on the first Tuesday of the month: October 1<sup>st</sup> at the Post at 6:30pm. The next scheduled ride would be on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Rider Activities September, 2013**

**Scheduled Ride:** The ride scheduled for the 7<sup>th</sup> of September was cancelled. **Activities and Events:** Chapter 5 hosted the first (possibly) annual "Fall Picnic" in the early evening of September 15<sup>th</sup> at Winding Roads Park above Dam Site. The event was well attended by Chapter 5 members and guests. Chef Nikiforow (pictured) offered up a typical picnic fare of hamburgers, hotdogs and sausage. Also on hand was an abundance of side dishes brought by various Chapter 5 members including several offerings straight from Chuck and Carolyn's home garden. Carolyn's homemade salsa was a big hit. Later, after the ravaging horde was sated, a wandering band of troubadours happened by and, for the price of food, agreed to provide musical entertainment for the crowd.





A few days Later Chapter 5 members rode to Ruidoso for the 44<sup>th</sup> edition of the Golden Aspen Rally. The "rally site" was at the Inn Of the Mountain Gods Resort and Casino which was well able to host the numerous vendors and participants quite comfortably.

The weather was generally good and the rides through the mountainous terrain were occasionally interrupted by a short rain shower. These events were normally followed by a quick stop for sustenance. One such stop was at the Western Bar and Cafe in Cloudcroft.

Early in the week our chapter members were the only representatives of the NMALR present and John "Husker" Bush won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in our initial "poker run".



One of the "tours" went through the virtual ghost town of White Oaks, not far from Carrizozo. Billy the Kid and Pat Garret rode the streets of White Oaks in the late 1800's when it was a booming gold mining town

Once again the group found it convenient to patronize a local watering hole named the "No Scum Allowed Saloon". That name drew a few laughs and seemed somewhat curious since prominently displayed on the outdoor patio fence was a large "Bikers Welcome" banner.



Our monthly meetings are held at Post 44 on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. – Feel free to drop in, guests are always welcome.

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

- **Labor Day Poppy Distribution:** Once again Auxiliary members and friends joined together to distribute Poppies around the TorC/Elephant Butte area over the Labor Day weekend. Thanks to the joint efforts of Poppy Chairman Linda Nenno and Joyce Hudgens it was a huge success and we wish to thank EVERYONE who helped man the tables and distribute the Poppies. (shown here in front of Hodges are Steph Ross & Becky Nazareus, hard at work distributing Poppies and fighting off flies)
- **Elephant Butte Days Parade:** The Legion family entered 5 Patriotically decorated golf carts in the parade this year with representatives of the Legionnaires, the Sons, the Riders and the Auxiliary participating. Sandi Harrison and Marty Seeley walked alongside the carts passing out "Anti-Bullying" stickers and flyers as well as treats for the children. (shown at left are Sandi and Mary as they prepare to walk the parade, just as well we don't have an "after" photo)



- **9/11 Fire Department Visits:** On September 10 and September 11 members visited the Elephant Butte Volunteer Fire Department and TorC Volunteer Fire Department, respectively, with cases of bottled water, Gatorade and granola bars .Each fire department was presented with a "Certificate of Appreciation", our way of saying "Thank you for all you do".



- Give 10 for Education/School Needs:** Marty Novak, Arlea Hadley and Ginny Lucero distributed the school supplies we raised to the various Sierra County schools during the week of September 16<sup>th</sup>. Nancy Palladino also obtained gym clothing and when she took them to the schools discovered they still need the following: **Elementary schools need socks for boys & girl's size 1 to 3, shoes in sizes 1 to 3, and both boy & girl underwear. They could also use tennis shoes in these sizes. The Social worker for the Middle School (who also holds/stores/distributes items for the High School) tells us they need 3 and 5 subject spiral notebooks, adult sweats sizes S, M, L but no hoodies, tennis shoes adult sizes 8-9 for girls and 7-10 for boys, and boys belts sizes 27-32.** If you would like to help with these items you can contact Marty or Arlea or drop them off at the Post anytime.



- Second Annual American Legion Family Golf Tournament:** 40 golfers hit the TorC Municipal golf course on September 21<sup>st</sup> and after 4 hours of hard playing and drinking oops - I meant golfing, enjoyed a brisket dinner at the Post. Tournament winnings and raffle prizes were drawn for and distributed, followed by karaoke. Linda Amdal and Linda Nenno worked **very hard** to make this fundraising event happen and Elaine Garlow did a magnificent job embroidering all the shirts. Thank you ladies and thanks to Gene Hill for cooking the brisket.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sierra County Fair:** Unit 44 will host a booth at the fair this year, October 10-13<sup>th</sup>, and we need help manning the booth. Please see Ginny Lucero for the signup sheet.
- Open House at Martha's:** On Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> Martha's downtown is hosting an open house and is reserving a table for Unit 44. We plan to use this opportunity to raise funds for Care Packages and to continue our part in the war on "Bullying". Martha's has also invited us to host a table at their facility during the Old Fashioned Christmas in TorC on Friday December 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Potato Bar & Cake Walk:** The last potato bar was such a success we've decided to have another one on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5pm – till all potatoes are gone? Please contact Ginny Lucero or Linda Nenno if you would be willing to bake potatoes or a cake for the walk.

## Auxiliary Membership Report-Linda Nenno

Thank you to those who have renewed for 2014. 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 25, we have 238 paid members, which put us at 59% of our final goal. **The most exciting news is that we have 4 NEW Junior Auxiliary members with the potential of 5 more by the end of the month! That will be 10 Juniors total. Welcome Courtney Deithrick, Kayla Richardson, Juliana Holt and Natasha Richardson.**

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.

**Please join us for our meetings the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at 10:30 at the Post. We have some exciting things in the coming months and you don't want to miss anything!**

## The Chaplain's Corner - Linda Ross

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

**PRAYER FOR THE ILL:** O God of the strength of the weak and the sufferers, mercifully accept our prayers on behalf of our comrades. Grant them, if it be your will, the blessing of a swift recovery. Amen

**GET WELL WISHES:** Wally Fluckey, Papa Vince, Sofio Trujillo, Butch Walters, Jerry Light, Maida's grandson, Ruth Handlin, Wyatt Slanina, grandson of TD and Pat Knull, Mary Heiligenthal, Brenda, Sharon Pierson's sister, and Davonna Stoner.

Almighty God, who along can bring order to the chaos that man creates; look mercifully upon us as we go about our daily lives, teach us to apply Thy wisdom to things, guide us in our dealings with our fellow men, and give us renewed strength when we seem to falter along the way; in Thy holy name we pray. Amen

## Care Packages and Cell Phones: Marty Novak

We sent 62 Care Packages in September. Thanks to everyone who came to help pack the boxes. If you haven't joined us for Care Package day it's something you might want to try. It's lot of fun and it gives you a good feeling to know you are helping give our Troops a little bit of home. There isn't a lot we can do for our deployed troops but sending them Care Packages sure helps. I also want to thank all you wonderful people who donate items or money for our Care Packages. Without all of you we couldn't keep this project going. Next Care Package day is October 9. We always pack on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Packing starts between 10:30 and 11:00...as soon as we get all the supplies out and arranged...and it takes about an hour to finish. Come join us.

## CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS

We are still collecting used cell phones. These are sent for recycling and provide calling cards for our Troops. There is a collection container in the entry way 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..*