

“FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER”

The 268'er

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF WHEATON POST # 268

MAY -- JUNE, 2019

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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Dear Legion, Unit and SAL 268 members

March 15th saw the American Legion celebrate 100 years of existence as the largest Veteran's Service organizations in the world, and the biggest advocate for Veterans Rights and Benefits anywhere. Post 268 celebrated by having a cookout and potluck event featuring the McGovern men and other SAL volunteers cooking on the big grill. A good sized crowd came in to enjoy their selves with food, camaraderie, and the karaoke afterwards. Many thanks to the SAL, Unit 268, and Sandy Smith for providing food, setting up and hosting this event in supporting the Post and big American Legion.

Speaking of SAL, kudos to SAL Commander Sean McGovern and his merry group of volunteers for providing Saturday brunches the past few months. Everyone I've spoken with really appreciates your efforts in producing a hearty breakfast to start the weekend. We'll be sorry to see that end in the summer after Memorial Day. The SAL also hosted a Chili Night (Unit had a Bake Sale) on the last Friday of March that proved popular enough that a lot of folks stuck around for entertainment night provided by the group, Low Key. Not sure if the band's name has anything to do with the Florida Keys but I do recall they played at least one Jimmy Buffet song. St. Patrick's Day Friday was well attended as Pete Stover's Irish Band played Irish music throughout the evening. I think there was even an Irish Jig or two being attempted on the dance floor. Results of the participants' chiropractic exams were not revealed.

Post Officer Election season is upon us. If you have an interest in serving the Post either as an elected Officer or member of the Executive Committee, please inform Adjutant Sandy Smith or myself. Nominations will end at the next Executive Committee meeting on May 16. There are still slots available. As was the case last year, if in accordance with the change in the By-Laws regarding Post Elections all positions are unopposed, then the nominations will be ratified at that time and the Post Officers and Executive Committee will be sworn in at the Installation on June 25. No election will be necessary on May 28. Please view the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting that are always posted the next day after the meeting for information regarding results or if elections will be necessary.

The Department of Maryland Legion Convention will be in Ocean City. Again. Dates of the convention are the week of July 15-19. The Kick-Off event, the Annual Fish Fry, will be at the Convention Center on Monday the 15th starting at 4:00pm. Post 268 has a block of 10 rooms at the Sea Bay Motel at 60th St. and Coastal Hwy for our members use. Post 41 is also staying there and will operate the hospitality room. The room rate is the same as last year, \$135.80 (inc. tax) per night Monday to Friday if booked thru the Legion. The weekend rate is \$220.95 for those who may want to stay for Friday and Saturday night. Please make your checks payable to American Legion Post 268 in order to reserve your rooms. State on the check memo line "Convention" and the dates you wish to reserve the rooms.

Our new Diamond Pool Tables are due to be delivered and in place by May 10. Come in and check them out. We're hoping that the addition of these top-of-the-line tables will resurrect the Wednesday Night Pool League.

Post 268 will host the Memorial Day Service at Wheaton Veterans Park. The event will be held on Memorial Day, Monday May 27 at 11:00am. Please consider attending on this solemn day in honor of those that have given their all for our country. After the event, which includes our guest speaker and the wreath laying

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Big thanks for great Post spirit on the S.A.L. Chili Dinner! Fun times had by many. As we enter early Summer season your S.A.L. is on deck. We have new pool tables coming end of May. We need mid week traffic, so get word out that the Post needs some Wednesday action. They will be gold standard Diamond brand, league blessed size and perfect for a new team. There is also interest in firing up a Dart league. All it takes is a bit of personal organization and Post 268 Facebook advertising to get a group going.

If you have not paid your \$25 S.A.L. dues, you best get them in for 2019. Simply, you will be dropped from the rosters, bartender checked and have to start all over again without your current renewal before May 30th. No longer interested, sorry to see you go. I say no more. Get a receipt from the on duty bartender. Indicate if you want card behind bar for pick up or mailed to your listed address. If you change address/email or phone we ask that you write new info on slip of paper and put that paper in the mail slot of Adjutant Sandy Smith's office. If a friend wants to join S.A.L., they MUST have their father's DD214, THOROUGHLY as in each line, fill out an application with a check or cash for \$25 submitted in an envelope with phone number to the bartender, they will get a receipt. To get a missing DD214 please go online to the American Legion/S.A.L./DD214. Should you have any specific membership questions, Sandy Smith is the one to ask. Call Post for her availability, business hours during the week. The best way to stay informed of Post events and activities is to get on the "Chris List". Email her at: chris1939@verizon.net and get weekly event and food notices sent to your email. Check the Post 268 Facebook page where Lauren Keys posts weekend specials and events too!

Food wise: Commander Sean and his crew have been doing an outstanding job on S.A.L.brunches. They are now doing them a couple times a month. Follow Chris emails as to when they are scheduled. The Commander has asked if the S.A.L. will do a Friday dinner in the fall. It all comes down to a team committed to that project, see Commander Sean. Keep in mind the Mike Devlin Hall for public rentals. See Linda Sarkisian for all the many options and rate details. Weekly scheduled Food and Brunches stop end of May, but can happen on a "pop up" (trendy new word) basis. Check your Chris posts. Clean the fridge dinner soon.

Good of Sons: S.A.L. has revitalized the Post gardens. This is work on our part to make for a nice looking entrance. If you have a favorite plant to donate see Jim C or Peter Jung and we will find a spot. Sorry to our Caps, but let us all "play ball" cheer the Nationals. We ask that Post patrons wash their hands to avoid spreading flu germs this season. We will need S.A.L. members to facilitate chairs to the park for Memorial day, see Sean McGovern please. On a sad note, we mention fellow S.A.L. member Steve Allen that his wife, Sandra Doherty, recently passed. Our squad reaches out to you Steve and hope you and family are blessed with great strength and wonderful memories. Every day is a gift from God. Bless you. Also a shout out to Post 41 Commander Dan Bullis. He has been instrumental in getting our beloved Past Commander Bob Allen's estate in order. Lots of work. Dan you are 1 in a million. Thank you.

Next meetin' in Wheaton, will be Tuesday, May 7th at 7pm. Nominations for 2020 season Officers now being taken. Please keep our brave service folks in your thoughts and prayers as they are on the line for us every day. We need Vets. See a Vet, HUG that Vet, better yet, sign up that Vet! We love new members! On behalf of the 268 S.A.L. "here comes Summer time, round the corner" when she comes!!! Reach out, always help your neighbor. Comes right back at you.

Jim Cavender
S.A.L. Post 268, Vice Commander
jcavender8@gmail.com

Auxiliary News

In March the American Legion celebrated it's 100th Birthday.

Post 268 had a party to celebrate. The SAL had burgers and dogs on the grill, with all the trimmings. Sandy provided food, both homemade and bought for the Post. The Unit furnished the birthday cake. A good crowd was on hand to celebrate.

The American Legion Auxiliary's National President came to Maryland in March. Our Department President Linda spent the weekend with her showing her parts of our great State. They had breakfast at Ruth and Chick's in Annapolis, then went to the Maryland Senate and saw our Congress in action. They went to the Gold Star Memorial, to Ft Mc Henry where the National President had her flag raised, and Johns Hopkins Hospital. They attended the National Commanders Banquet. It was quite an honor the have both the National Commander and President in Maryland at the same time. The group then went to the Creative Arts in Bowie. This is a place our disabled Veterans can show case their art. We saw very lovely art work and skits and songs, all performed by our Veterans.

Unit members also went to the Day for God and County where we had a very lovely service to honor God, our great country and the 4 Chaplains. It was followed by a good lunch.

April is Children and Youth month. Our project this year is a division of the Easter Seals. It is in Silver Spring, where Military members and their children can come for needed help.

Our Presidents dinner will be on June 11th, 6:30 pm. It will be at the Baronessa Restaurant on Gude Dr. in Rockville. Email Betsy at betsy80@verizon.net or call Chris 301 649 2709 for revelations. We had our Christmas Dinner there and all enjoyed the food and the services.

Do you shop at Amazon.com? If so you can support the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation there. Type that in the search box, you will get a confirmation. Be sure to see smile.amazon.com when you shop. Money goes to our foundation each time you do.

Dues are \$30.00 and due now. Let's get them in now so we can take them to our Department Convention in July. Make checks payable to ALA Unit 268. Sent to Linda Sarkisian 3117 Farnborough Ct, SS MD 20906.

Chaplain Lynne would like to know of anyone sick or in the hospital or just needs a cherry note. 301 807 1495.

Continue clipping the coupons, put them in the plastic tub in the pool room. We sent them to commissaries overseas for use by our troops. We are also collecting old cell phones to be used by domestic violence victims. They can be put in the same tubs. Thank you.

Please try to come to the Unit meetings. We meet on the third Tuesday at 7:00 pm. We need ideas and help for all our Veterans programs. Next meeting May. 21st. Try to be there.

Christine Williard
President.

The Pocket Flag Project

The Pocket Flag Project was conceived in October 2001 when LuWanda Ford visited with fellow Boy Scout leaders who were veterans of the Vietnam and Gulf Wars. Both Scout leaders carried small, folded flags in their left shirt pockets and shared how important these flags were, and are, to them. Inspired, Ford adapted the idea into a project for her Cub Scouts to develop patriotism and pride for our country while supporting our military troops. After folding and packaging 100 flags, the Scouts presented them to local Naval Reserve representatives. Her 9-year old son told an attending reporter that the flags were going "to all the soldiers in the war". The Pocket Flag Project has since grown into an international non-profit project. In addition to learning about the U.S. flag and the sacrifices of our military, volunteers fold and package flags to send to our front line and deployed troops. Included with each flag is a card that says: ***"A flag for your pocket so you can always carry a little piece of home. We are praying for you and we are proud of you. Thank you for defending our country and our freedom."*** There is room on each card for volunteer groups to include a personal message or return address for thank you notes.

It is our goal to get as many pocket flags as we can into the pockets of our deployed troops. They serve as a pocket full of home, hope, love and support.

MAY 2019

SUN	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 POCKET CHANGE 8:00 PM TO 11:00	4 OPEN JUKE BOX
5 EXERCISE WITH RUSS	6 Pool League Unit coupon clipping 1:00 pm	7 S. A. L. Business Meeting 7:00	8 EXERCISE WITH RUSS 7:30 DOWNSTAIRS HALL	9 Dan & Lynn 7:30	10 MOTOR DRIVEN 8:00 PM TO 11:00	11 SAL BRUNCH Karaoke w/Alan Faulk 8:00-12:00
12 EXERCISE WITH RUSS	13 Pool League	14	15 EXERCISE WITH RUSS 7:30 DOWNSTAIRS HALL	16 POST EXECUTIVE MEETING 7:30	17 MIKE AND SAX 8:00 PM TO 11:00	18 PIT CREW BRUNCH OPEN JUKE BOX
19 EXERCISE WITH RUSS	20 Pool league	21 UNIT BUSINESS MEETING 7:00	22	23 Dan & Lynn 7:30	24 ACME BAND 8:00 PM TO 11:00	25 SAL BRUNCH LEN/LUISA SLEEMAN (BLINKIE) 8:00 PM TO 12 MID
26 EXERCISE WITH RUSS	27 MEMORIAL DAY (Veterans Park 11:00) Pool League	28 POST BUSINESS MEETING 7:30 (Elections held, if necessary)	29 EXERCISE WITH RUSS 7:30 DOWNSTAIRS HALL	30	31 LOW KEY 8:00 PM TO 11:00	

In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
 Between the crosses, row on row,
 That mark our place; and in the sky
 The larks, still bravely singing, fly
 Scarce heard amid the guns below.
 We are the Dead. Short days ago
 We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
 Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
 In Flanders fields.
 Take up our quarrel with the foe:
 To you from failing hands we throw
 The torch; be yours to hold it high.
 If ye break faith with us who die
 We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
 In Flanders field.*

JUNE 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 OPEN JUKEBOX
2 EXERCISE WITH RUSS	3 Pool League UNIT COUPON CLIPPING 1:00 PM	4 S. A. L. Business Meeting 7:00	5 EXERCISE WITH RUSS 7:30 DOWNSTAIRS HALL	6	7 POCKET CHANGE 8:00 PM TO	8 Karaoke w/Alan Faulk 8:00 PM to 12:00
9 EXERCISE WITH RUSS	10 Pool league	11	12 EXERCISE WITH RUSS 7:30 DOWNSTAIRS HALL	13 POST EXECUTIVE MEETING 7:30 PM DAN & LYNN 7:30 PM	14 MOTOR DRIVEN 8:00 PM TO 11 PM FLAG DAY	15 OPEN JUKEBOX
16 EXERCISE WITH RUSS	17 Pool League	18	19	20	21 MIKE & SAX 8:00 PM TO 11 PM	22 LEN/LUISA SLEEMAN (BLINKIE) 8:00 PM TO 12 MID
23 EXERCISE WITH RUSS	24 Pool League	25 POST BUSINESS MEETING 7:30	26 EXERCISE WITH RUSS 7:30 DOWNSTAIRS HALL	27 DAN & LYNN 7:30 PM	28 COLLIDERS 8:00PM TO 11:00 PM	29 OPEN JUKEBOX

MEANING OF THE "PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE"

- I - - Me; an individual; a committee of one.
- Pledge - - Dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self-pity.
- Allegiance - - My love and my devotion.
- To the Flag - - Our standard; *Old Glory*; a symbol of Freedom; wherever she waves there is respect, because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts, Freedom is everybody's job.
- United - - That means that we have all come together.
- States - - Individual communities that have united into forty-eight great states. Forty-eight individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose. All divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common purpose, and that is love for country.
- And to the Republic - - Republic--a state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people; and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.
- For which it stands
- One Nation - - One Nation--meaning, so blessed by God.
- Indivisible - - Incapable of being divided.
- With Liberty - - Which is Freedom; the right of power to live one's own life, without threats, fear, or some sort of retaliation.
- And Justice - - The principle, or qualities, of dealing fairly with others.
- For All - - For All--which means, boys and girls, it's as much your country as it is mine

And now, boys and girls, let me hear you recite the Pledge of Allegiance:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic, for which it stands; one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country, and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance: **Under God, Wouldn't it be a pity if someone said that is a prayer, and that it would be eliminated from schools, too?**

Lone & Sons

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BOOSTERS

Support Post 268 by being a Booster! For \$10, Boosters' names will be published in six bulletins. For \$20, names will be published in twelve bulletins. Remember, there are six bulletins per year. For \$20, you will be a booster for two years!!! This opportunity is available to all Legion, Unit and S.A.L. Members and to all guests of the Post. Please renew your listing by the 15th of the month prior to its expiration. To become a Booster or to renew your listing, see our Adjutant. Thank you for your support.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 268 BOOSTERS

Expires March 2020

Jim & Sandy Smith

Expires October 2023

Ed DiRaimo

Expires March 2025

Mack E. Beal

Expires Jan 2021

Helen Storer

Expires July 2020

Jim & Geneva Foster

Expires March 2028

Stephen & Wanda DeMint

Expires March 2021

Bob & Gail McGuire
Gene Fitzgibbons

Expires January 2021

Bob Allen, PPC

Expires May 2020

Ron & Roy Warren

Expires October 2019

Matt Lynott & Darlene
Tony & Lois Marella
Alvin R. Abraham

Expires May 2021

Pat & John Krisko, III
Dennis Krisko & Selva
Karslo

Expires May 2020

Anne Jarrett

Expires January 2020

Paul Helmke

Expires July 2022

Sherman & Eva Wong
Michael & Jill D'Andrea