

“FOR GOD AND COUNTRY WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER”

The 268'er

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF WHEATON POST # 268

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2017

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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Legion, Unit and SAL members:

First of all, I apologize for the lateness of the newsletter which should have been out a week ago. My intention was to have it done the last week of December after I completed the Commander's Message. But I came down with a viral something or other that apparently is as difficult to get rid of as it is to pronounce. Hence, I was away from my work computer where I have stored the template for doing my part of the newsletter.

First, once again a big thank you goes out to Mark Ruhl for fixing a leaking pipe in the Men's room. The leak was ruining ceiling tiles in the downstairs hall and Mark had to cut through the wall in the Ladies' room in order to do the repairs. Result: No more leak. Thank you, Mark.

So let's see what the past two months brought and what is upcoming. November had Post 268 providing some logistical support and participating in the Veterans Day ceremony in Wheaton Veterans Park that was hosted by VFW Post 2562. After a nice ceremony, a majority of the attendees adjourned to the VFW for a light fare and liquid refreshments. Thank you to all who attended the ceremony and to VFW Post 2562 for hosting the event. Post 268, as is tradition, will host the Memorial Day Observation in May.

The night after Veterans Day, our own Clint Sandford (SAL) hosted a tribute to The Who and The Beatles in the downstairs hall. It was extremely well attended and a lot of fun as both bands really "Rocked the House". Make plans to attend next year if you are 20 something, an aging hippie, or somewhere in between. Please be mindful that the marijuana laws, medical or otherwise, remain unchanged in Montgomery County for those who might wish to pay extra "tribute" to The Who and their live appearance at Woodstock in 1969.

Thanksgiving saw the Post closed but bodies seemed to stuff themselves in the bar area all weekend as there were plenty of football games to watch and Saturday night drew a big karaoke (Mike Brooks) crowd.

December seemed to go by fast (as did the whole of 2016) but we did have a few highlights. The Friday night dinners were excellent beginning with the Unit's Chicken Cordon Bleu, the SAL coming up with fine dining of Pork Chops, and culminating with another Cultural Dinner Night featuring Brisket, Latkes, and Matzah Ball Soup served up by the "Jew Busy" Team of Lauren, Esther and helpers. Thank you all who volunteer to host our Friday Night Dinners. By the way, the Post is always in need of volunteers so don't be shy about approaching someone on the various brunch and dinner teams and offering your services no matter how slight. (Side note: Army beat Navy for the first time in something like 14 years.)

And lastly on New Year's Eve Eve (Dec 30), the Post hosted a new band in the lounge called Jackson Dean & Friends that was booked by request at the last minute so no newsletter announcement was previously made. That did not stop the Lounge and Bar area from having an almost overflowing crowd. For those unaware, Jackson Dean is a young singer-songwriter-guitarist who performs a unique blend of Americana, Blues, and Country Music, and sounds much older than his 17 years. Together with other members of his family they provided a night of entertainment that was truly awesome.

As most of you are aware, we were forced to cancel the much-ballyhooed New Year's Day Pig Roast due to logistical glitches. We will remedy that next year. In the meantime, many Post members stepped up and brought in a hodge-podge of food and delicacies that sated even the most discerning palates while awaiting a Redskins victory that never materialized. The few Giants fans in attendance seemed to tone down their celebration after some "don't expect a drink from me" glances from the burgundy and gold crowd. Oh well, six more weeks until spring training. Go Nats! And, of course, the Caps are still in the Stanley Cup hunt.

Please stay up-to-date with upcoming events and/or changes by providing the Post with your email address so that you can receive the weekly email put out by Chris Willard or continually check out the Post 268 Facebook site updated by Lauren Keys and Chris.

January will see our country swear in a new Commander-in-Chief for the first time in 8 years. What that will mean for present and future Veterans' Benefits and Rights remains to be seen but nothing has changed in so far as getting new members involved with the American Legion and increasing our voice in front of Congress. The American Legion is the #1 advocate for Veterans' Rights but our State and National leadership needs to present a growing membership list to the politicians in order to show them that we are a strong and serious voting bloc. To that end I implore each and every one of you to seek out a friend, neighbor, or family member that has

served in the military and ask them to help themselves and all Veterans by increasing our numbers and making OUR voices heard. If you know someone out of state, then by all means ask them to join their local Post. It ultimately helps all Vets. For those who have yet to pay 2017 dues, please get it in ASAP so that there is no lapse in your membership. For those who are paid up-to-date, the Officers and Executive Committee of Post 268 thank you for your continual support of the Post and The American Legion.

Last but not least, Post 268 has started supporting local craft breweries. Our first venture into this uncharted territory is from 7 Locks Brewing out of Rockville, not to be confused with Seven Locks Detention Center that probably only makes license plates. The libation is Sligo Creek Golden Lager. I have not confirmed that the beer is brewed utilizing venerable Sligo Creek water which is a mere 1/2 mile from the Post Home. So come on in for a mug of Sligo Creek Golden Lager and give us your feedback. We will be bringing in a different craft beer on a regular basis.

Ed McCaw, Commander

~ CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN ~

The following comrades have answered their final roll call, completed their tours of duty and have reported to the Supreme Commander of Post Everlasting” ~ Wes Manzon ~ ~ Dave Rogerson ~.

For those departed which we do not know about, may their souls, and all the souls of the Faithful Departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.

IN MEMORIAM

In Memory of Lenora Ralph

By Jack Ralph (1/17)

In Memory of Joe Storer

By The Storer Family (11/17)

In memory of “Judge” McCaw

By The McCaw Family (1/18)

In Memory of “Blackie” Sarkisian

The Sarkisian Family (6/18)

IN MEMORIAM

In Memory of Edward & Sheila Beall

By Mack E. Beall (12/19)

In Memory of Lieselotte Allen

By Robert O. Allen (1/21)

In memory of Estelle J. 'EJ' Parsley

By Robert O. Allen (1/21)



Past Commander Dave “Gunny” Hill along with wife Donna, recently welcomed his Marine buddies to the Post for holiday cheer. They include Jeff Seabaugh, James Johnson and Jeff Slusser. Fast friends forever!

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Welcome to 2017! Another year older, and wiser I'd like to think. Here we go again! Did you realize that Post 268 has been at the Fern Street location for over 40 years? Yep, the corner marker block and the wonderful Post history books on the book shelf in the pool room say so. Fun looking at the books, changing hairstyles and past Post history. Good news in that we have seen new active service personnel joining the 268 ranks! Thank you for being a member. All sorts of wonderful members/Commanders have passed thru the front door. Just look at the Past Commander's wall in the lounge. I can not think of a better organization to be associated with than this American Legion Post 268. I am very proud of our organization and its accomplishments to veterans and community. I'm sure you are too. Happy New Year to all.

All S.A.L. members must note that as of January 1st the S.A.L. Dues are now \$25 per year. National has increased each Squad's member contribution so we must pass that along to our members. We did a mailing last month to those who have not paid asking them to get them in before the increase. All bartenders have been alerted to check for 2017 membership cards. If you are in the rears, let's get that paid up! If a friend wants to join S.A.L., they MUST have their father's DD214, 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. Any S.A.L. officer will provide you with an application. Any questions can be directed to myself or Commander Harry Wachter. BIG thanks to Sandy Smith for her help on the reminder mailing. Should you have any specific membership questions, she is the one to ask on any Legion protocol and is usually at the Post Mondays and Tuesdays after 11am. With 268er every 2 months now, the only immediate way to communicate is to get on the "Chris List". Email her at: chris1939@verizon.net and get weekly event and food notices. Check the Post 268 Facebook page where Lauren Keys posts weekend specials and events too! Be on her list to keep informed about any Post function postponements due to severe winter weather.

Food wise: The monthly Saturday S.A.L. brunch is the second Saturday of the month. Big thanks to Harry's expert egg cooking skills, Sean McGovern's pancake wizardry and Donny Haba's help and of course Sheri Nagel's financial skills. Our seasoned team makes a great \$6 "268 Blue Plate Special". Your S.A.L. hosts a Friday night dinner once a month and hats off again to Harry and Kevin for pitching in. With the snow and ice Ramps and sidewalks are salted, but please be careful of your step in the parking lot especially tricky "black ice". Keep in mind the Mike Devlin Hall for public rentals. See Linda Sarkisian for all the many options and rate details. Thanks to Mo for her Christmas decorating skills. Commander Ed's Toys for Tots effort was a huge success! When you bring a guest, just make sure you sign them in, and they must leave with you. You are responsible for being a Post "host".

Good of Sons: A big Zorro this month to our S.A.L. Advisor and Home Improvement Chair, Mark Ruhl. He recently fixed a broken pipe that caused a leak to the lower level stage area. A quick thanks and praise goes out to the Ladies Unit for McVets and Shepard's table donation work. Please see a Unit member if you have any questions as to what can and should be donated. Many thanks for all who helped make that happen! With limited storage space, we ask that you donate books to the library or local Assisted Living facilities. Thanks to the Pool Leagues for keeping Monday and Wednesday evenings lively at the Post. Want to join? See team captains the day of play.

Next meetin' in Wheaton, Tuesday, January 3rd at 7pm to kick off the new year. Things are getting done under Commander Ed McCaw, and we are so grateful for his leadership. Please keep our brave service folks in your thoughts and prayers as they are on the line for us all. See a Vet, HUG that Vet, better yet, sign up that Vet! On behalf of the 268 S.A.L. we wish you Happy New 2017!

Jim Cavender

S.A.L. Post 268, Vice Commander

jcavender8@gmail.com

Introducing...
THE POST POUR

ALL NEW! **ALL STATE!**

Your Post is now featuring a dedicated tap that will feature local micro breweries! For all who enjoy something a bit different, we now have special fresh brews. Depending on customer demand, we will now support our local economy. Please come up and try a glass next time you visit! This season: "Seven Locks Brew."

AUXILIARY NEWS

The Unit did our Friday Night Dinner in Nov. and served Pork Loin to about 30. We did our monthly bake sale and added \$85 to our account. Our 'Lucy Lady' new game of chance is doing well. We also raffled of an American Girl doll and raised \$325 to help Sophia parents pay for here many hospital bills.

On Veterans day we presented our wreath and Miss Poppy did hers. We passed out poppies to the guests. Miss Poppy then went to Kensington Sr. Living and passed out poppies to the Veterans living there.

We had food baskets for 4 families who names we got from a local school and 10 Veteran families. The Veterans and their wives came to the Post to get their baskets and were very grateful for them.

For National Educational Week we sent school supplies to local schools. 10 for 10 and more.

Our Christmas party was a dinner at The Greek Village. We had 20 members and a few guests including Commander Ed. We brought gifts for a nursing home resident. Such a nice time was had by all. Thanks to Chris Porter for the lovely favors and for making all the arrangements.

We repeated our baskets at Christmas time. We also collected toys, hats, gloves, for needy children in the area.

The Unit has on going projects to collect canned good for the local food bank and clothes for Shepard's Table and MCVETS. The coupons we clip each month go to Commissaries overseas.

Chaplain Lynne want you to inform her of any member sick or in the hospital. 301 807 1495. Please also inform her if you hear of any deaths of our members.

Dates to remember

Jan. 6th Unit Dinner and bake sale 5:30 pm

Jan 12th Coupon clipping 6:00 pm.

Jan. 17th Unit meeting 7:00 pm.

Feb. 3rd Unit Dinner and bake sale 5:30 pm

Feb. 9^h Coupon clipping 6:00 pm.

Feb. 21st Unit meeting 7:00 pm. and our Memorial Service.

Christine Williard, President

50'S ROCKIN SOCK HOP

Menu:

Sloppy Joes
Mac and Cheese
Baked Potato Bar



Ice Cream Sundae Bar

Saturday, April 22nd. 2017
Dinner 5:00 pm till 7:30 pm
Dance 7:30 PM till 10:30 PM
Admission: Dinner/Dance \$8.00
Dance only \$3.00
Sponsored by Unit 268
Tickets will go on sale March 1st.
Door Prizes at Dinner and Dance
Raffles – Cash Bar

JANUARY 2017

SUN	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Pool League	3 S.A.L. MEETING 7:00 PM	4 Pool League	5 Dan & Lynn 7:30 pm	6 UNIT DINNER SPAGHETTI WITH MEATBALLS/SAUSAGE Unit Bake Sale Pocket Change 8:00 to 11:00	7 BRUNCH Open Jukebox
8	9 Pool League	10	11 Pool League	12 POST EXEC. MEETING 7:30 PM Unit coupon clipping 6:00 pm	13 SAL DINNER HONEY DIP CHICKEN Motor Driven 8:00 to 11:00	14 BRUNCH Karaoke w/Alan Faulk 8:00 to 12:00
15	16 Pool League	17 UNIT BUS. MEETING 7:00 PM	18 Pool League	19 Dan & Lynn 7:30 PM	20 LAUREN'S DINNER MEATLOAF MIKE & SAX 8:00 to 11:00	21 BRUNCH Open Jukebox
22	23 Pool league	24 POST BUS. MEETING 7:30	25 Pool League	26	27 NO DINNER BACK IN TIMES BAND	28 BRUNCH Karaoke w/Mike Brooks 8:00 to 12:00 Mid
29	30 Pool League	31			"SPICED" SHRIMP EVERY FRIDAY	

SUPERBOWL PARTY

Super Bowl Party 2016/2017: There are still Super Bowl squares left. The party will be held a WEEK EARLY. The date will be Saturday, January 28th. The time 5:00 pm till 8:00 pm. Menu will be same as last year. It will be again \$100. If you have any suggestions or concerns, please e-mail me at lindasarkisian@yahoo.com. When paying by check, please enter in memo on check the name that should go on Super Bowl grid. If paying by cash, please attach a note to cash with participating person name. The pool is open to all including those who are not a member of post. You may have more than one square. **PLEASE contact Jim or me as soon as possible if you are interested!!** .

Linda Sarkisian, Chairperson (301/602-5276)
Jim Mattingly, Vice Chairman (202/246-6288)

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE: alpost268.org

LOOKING TO MAKE A MOVE?

Did you know we are now in a seller's market? Property values continue to increase! It's a great time to sell your existing home or buy your next investment before prices peak! Call me today!!

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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. 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.

Expires March 2017

William & Karma Harmon
Helen Storer

Expires May 2017

Stephen & Wanda DeMent

Expires March 2019

Bob & Gail McGuire

Expires March 2017

Jim & Geneva Foster
Gerald E. Neumann

Expires August 2017

Bernard P. Howder
John Holmes

Expires October 2020

Ed DiRaimo

Expires May 2017

Walter & Margaret Ayers
Pat & John Krisko, III
Dennis Krisko & Selva Karslo

Expires October 2017

Michael R. D'Andrea
Alvin R. Abraham

Expires January 2021

Bob Allen, PPC
Mack E. Beall

Expires January 2018

Dave Rogerson and Eleanor

Expires July 2022
Sherman & Eva Wong

Expires October 2017

Paul C. Helmke
Tony & Lois Marella
John Supinski
Bill & Fay Schilling
Matt Lynott & Darlene

Expires March 2018

Jim & Sandy Smith

BECOME A BOOSTER!