



# Rhein Main Post GR05

Postfach 2837, Moerfelden Walldorf

January 2020

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## Commander's Message

First I must apologize for there not being a December Newsletter. With all the work we had to conduct to prepare for the 1st Thanksgiving Dinner, I understood to give our Editor some time off to prepare for her holiday's.

I hope that everyone had a Wishful Merry Christmas and will celebrate the 2020 New Year with high spirits. As we grow larger as a Post, we are looking for more idea's to bring more activities into the New Year. If you have any, please let us know!



Commander Santos Alvarado



## Elected Officers of Post GR05

- Post Commander: Santos Alvarado
- 1st Vice Commander: Quincy Foster
- 2nd Vice Commander: Stacey Krueger
- Adjutant: Bruce Cole
- Chaplain: John Jones
- Sergeant of Arms: Juan Barrencchea
- Judge Advocate: Stacey Krueger



- Executive committee members:  
Ron Epps, Ernie Cojoe, Michael Blood,  
Dallas Smith, and Walter Becker



Missing Man table at Thanksgiving Dinner

## Upcoming Post Meeting

Our next meeting will be held:

**11 January at 1400**

Location is the Flying Dragon, in Der Trift 5-7, 64546 Walldorf. All Members are asked to arrive at least 30 mins early for social hour, as the meeting starts promptly at 2 pm. The kitchen will not be open till 3:30pm, but its worth the wait!

If you intend to be late or unable to attend, please RSVP your intentions to me by email or by 0151 14959970. The meeting will also be available by Skype on rheinmaingr05.



## Happy Birthday to members in our Legion Family!

### December:

David Leitenberger

Bobby Butler

### January:

Doug Haggan

Vernon Poole

Raymond Landry

Johnny Arriaga

Jacob Campbell

Bruce Cole

John Jones

Steve Poore

Dave Targett



**Happy Birthday Bruce, John, Doug, and Johnny !!**

## Piece of our Post's Past!

This plate is over 20 years old and in near perfect condition. Between 1976 to 1981 they were given out to participants in the Post's annual Volksmarch (Thank you for the information Doug!).

If you have any pictures you'd like to share of our Post's Past, please contact the Editor, Comrade Stacey Krueger @ [rheinmain05@outlook.com](mailto:rheinmain05@outlook.com)



## Pictures from our Halloween Trick-or-Treat Event



Above, Commander Alvarado and Damian worked together to host the 1st Halloween Trick-or-Treat at Die Flying Dragon Bar in Walldorf.



Happy children who attended the event

For this years Halloween, Die Flying Dragon Bar and American Legion Post GR05 teamed together to host a fun event for the local children of Walldorf. With bags and bags of delicious candy, they contributed to the BIG smiles from everyone. It was a wonderful event that was sure to have created fun Halloween memories!



## Veterans Day at Lorraine American Cemetery



Memorial inside the Chapel

This November 10th, members from our Post attended the Veteran's Day memorial for the 10,482 Americans buried in Saint-Avold, France. At Lorraine American Cemetery and Memorial, Comrade's Johnny Arriaga and Michael Blood plus 1st Vice Commander Quincy Foster and Commander Santos Alvarado laid a wreath for remembrance.

The following is an overview from the American Battle Monuments Commission: "The Lorraine American Cemetery and Memorial in France covers 113.5 acres and contains the largest number of graves of our military dead of World War II in Europe, a total of 10,482. Their headstones are arranged in nine plots in a generally elliptical design extending over the beautiful rolling terrain of eastern Lorraine and culminating in a prominent overlook feature. Most of the dead here were killed while driving the German forces from the fortress city of Metz, France toward the Siegfried Line and the Rhine River. Initially, there were over 16,000 Americans interred in the St. Avold region in France, mostly from the U.S. Seventh Army's Infantry and Armored Divisions and its cavalry groups. St. Avold served as a vital communications center for the vast network of enemy defenses guarding the western border of the Third Reich."

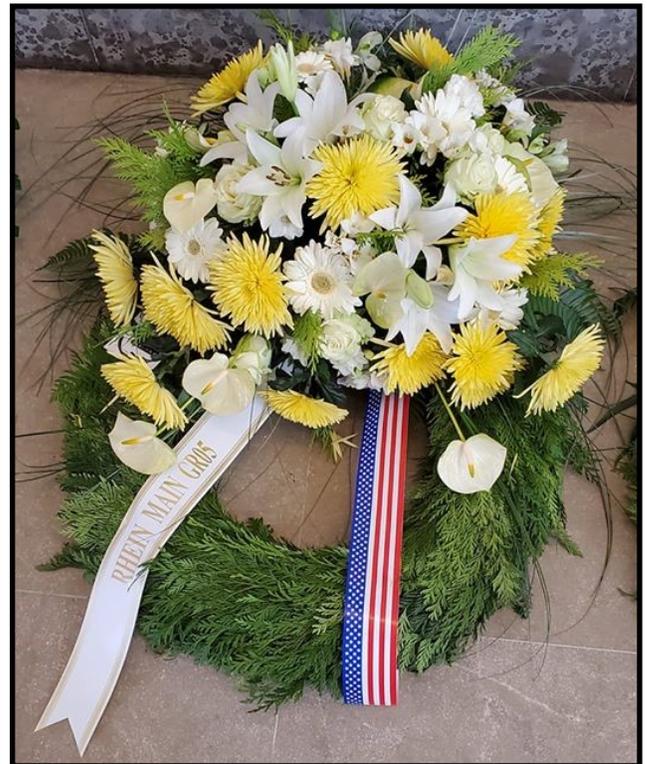
For more information, please click: [Lorraine American Cemetery](#)



1st Vice Commander Foster and Commander Alvarado



Comrade Blood and Comrade Arriaga



American Legion Rhein-Main GR05's Wreath

## Honorary Lifetime Member of Post GR05, Col (Ret) Gail "Hal" Halversen

This December, Col (Ret) Gail "Hal" Halversen became an Honorary Lifetime Member of American Legion Post GR05. Between the years 1948 and 1949, he heroically became known as the "Berlin Candy Bomber" and "Uncle Wiggly Wings" to thousands of German children during Operation "Little Vittles". An avid C-54 pilot still today, he continues to serve the local, national, and international community. On the 15th of December, Gail and his family flew circles over the Wright Brothers monument in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

Fly High, Hal!



Flying over Kitty Hawk, 15 Dec 19

### D.C. World War I memorial marks start of construction

On Dec. 12, key leaders gathered on the site of the new National World War I Memorial in Washington, D.C., to mark the start of construction, after the U.S. World War I Centennial Commission received a building permit from the National Park Service (NPS). Those leaders included commission chair Terry Hamby, U.S. Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt, National Park Service acting director David Vela, commission special advisers Sen. John Warner and Adm. Mike Mullen, and American Legion representative to the commission Jack Monahan.

The first phase of construction will be a 360-day project to rebuild the former Pershing Park, and prepare the site for the eventual installation of the memorial bronze sculpture when it is completed. The building permit was awarded after the memorial design was approved by the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission earlier in 2019. The memorial is being built under the commission's authority by the Doughboy Foundation.

Hamby was very pleased with the receipt of the building permit and start of construction. "Finally, the 4.7 million Americans who left their homes to deploy to a country most had never visited, fight in a war they did not start, and were willing to die for peace and liberty for people they did not know, will be honored at this magnificent spot in our nation's capital," he said.

"The new, national World War I Memorial will join the other war memorials in Washington, D.C., each serving as a fitting tribute to the sacrifices that American men and women made to defend freedom throughout the world," Bernhardt added.

The memorial design of architect Joseph Weishaar, featuring a monumental bronze by sculptor Sabin Howard, was selected as the winner from among five finalists after an international design competition in 2015 which received over 350 entries from around the world. "It's wonderful to see construction beginning at last," Weishaar said. "It's been a tireless effort by the design team and the commission to see this project through, and I'm proud of all we've been able to accomplish. This memorial is a century overdue, but here we are, and we're doing it."

-Story by The American Legion at <https://www.legion.org/honor/247901/dc-world-war-i-memorial-marks-start-construction>



Please welcome the latest Member to the 2019 100% Post Membership Club for The American Legion, Department of France

No New Posts have the 100% Club but we have 4 that are within 10 members away from entry into the Club

Rhein Main GR05

They will join the follow Posts in The Department of France already at 100%

Sgt. William D. Nelson GR09  
Lisbon PO01  
Copenhagen DK01

The following Posts are within ten members away from going 100%

Riveria	FR05	1 Away
Isabel La Catolica	SP292	1 Away
Omar Bradley	GR42	5 Away
Father Francis Duffy	IR02	7 Away
Brig Gen. Robin Olds	TH01	7 Away
John Wayne	GR79	9 Away
Commodore John Barry	IR03	9 Away





## Thanksgiving Post Dinner with our Community

On the 28th of November, American Legion Post GR05 hosted its first Thanksgiving dinner at the Die Flying Dragon Bar. Around 50 attendees presented for the feast, including members of our Post and their family.

Additionally, the German Army reserves counterparts from the SF d.R. und BA Marschgruppe, the owner of the SKG sports club, the town's Volunteer Fire Department, and the 2nd Lord Mayor of Walldorf attended.

It took a lot of work getting the food and ceremony ready, but it was an amazing turnout! We appreciate everyone's help and dedication, Thank you!





Please submit any announcements or items for the newsletter to Comrade Krueger, Editor.

Request must be submitted no later than by the 20th of the month for the next edition @  
rheinmain05@outlook.com

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[Click here to go to our Facebook!](#)



Rhein Main Post GR05 received Temporary Charter on Oct. 18, 1972 then received their permanent charter on Apr 6, 1973 in the German State of Hessen. GR05 has contributed various donations to organizations such as Fisher House, CWF, and Legacy Fund. We currently support veterans from around the Rhein Main area and in addition have members in the United States. I

*Join our FB page to see upcoming photo's from our Post's Past!*

