



FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

SEWARD POST 5 NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020
VOLUME 17, ISSUE 04

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

By Clare Sullivan

You know I usually start this paragraph with "what a busy month we've had." We've been busy in some ways, and have come to a complete stop in others. Our "Last Hurrah" was our Saint Patrick's Day party. Mike and Ozzie cooked up some fabulous Irish fare for our membership and of course our own Pinky Bleth outdid herself with the fabulous desserts!



On the afternoon of St. Pat's we had the Coronavirus dictate from the state government that we all "self isolate." Which we followed the order and in some cases caused us to come to a screeching halt at the post for most of our daily activities. Even with that, we haven't completely stopped trying to do our bit in service! We had some wonderful volunteers (David Osborn and Sharon Dillon) step up to help us do our nightly "curbside service" for meals. As most know our nightly meals are for donation only except Steak Night so it really is a great deal, especially in this challenging time for all of us. We ensured to follow all precautions for social distancing and sanitization and still managed to provide some yummy and warm dishes - from Halibut Olympia to Bacon Mac and Cheese.... We're here to please!!!! 😊



The Post, Auxiliary and the Sons just had their installations following the new state mandated guidelines of separation and it sure was an experience! As many of you know we usually have a big dinner with dignitaries and lots of "pomp and circumstance" but this year.... Not so much! 😊 We scheduled times for the organizations and had the new officers come in, stand at least six feet apart in the room and we installed them in our meeting room. Following that we celebrated with a hearty cup of coffee and went on our way... all maintaining appropriate distancing!

We have a great slate of officers who have adapted during this "unique time" in the Post, Auxiliary, Sons and the Riders! We are so fortunate to have the talent we have at Post 5, and once this crisis is over, I will bet, whether it is in the kitchen, on our board of officers in any of our organizations or just rolling in to volunteer during our events, we will definitely see once again the dedicated people who really care for our veterans and this community return and pitch in at the post. And, huge kudos to all who are helping their neighbors outside of the post - a good volunteer won't stop just because the schedule has been interrupted!

So, as we enter April, I'd like to let you know each month the American Legion has programs that focus on veterans, their families, and the community for support and observance; April is the **Children and Youth Month**, which also happens to be one of the Four Pillars of the American Legion on which we stand as a service organization. We have many ways to get involved from simply making donations to child welfare organizations to active involvement in school programs (when they start again) that help in the areas of children's education, safety and health. As we know our youth is our future so we have an obligation to invest in our future for the benefit of all.



As April progresses, we will be forming our scholarship committees (telephonically) and will be in receipt of scholarships from graduating seniors from Seward High School. Each of our organizations provide scholarships to select students to further their education and to recognize their scholastic excellence as well as their community service efforts. We look to reward those students who are well rounded and community minded in addition to performing well in school.



April is Children and Youth Month

Children ... Our most precious natural resource is the American Legion's national theme for "April Is Children & Youth Month."

As Americans, we need to remember amid the problems we face daily with the environment, crime, unemployment and financial uncertainty; the one constant that will make or break this nation is our young people. They are our future. Our hopes and dreams for a better tomorrow rest in their hands.

The American Legion has been actively involved with children's issues since the early 1920s. In many instances, the American Legion has been the driving force on the federal, state and local levels representing their interests and voicing their concerns.

In 1938, April was formally designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month) and has continued on an annual basis. During this special time, we urge each of you to show your community that The American Legion Family is committed to Children... Our Most Precious Natural Resource!

The following numbers, gathered from the American Legion Annual Report 2019 shows how Legion members and posts influenced not only the lives of veterans but our children and youth in their community and beyond:

Overseas Graves Decoration Fund:	\$ 953,471
Samsung scholarship:	\$ 1,658,791
American Legacy Fund:	\$14,425,418
National Emergency Fund:	\$ 6,146,647
Boy Scouts:	\$ 467,899
Operation Comfort Warrior:	\$3,270,363
John DeVore	\$ 319,164
Edwin J. Dentz VA Boy's State	\$ 617,244
Samsung American Legion Alumni Association	\$ 89,235
Others	\$ 152,540
Total with specific purpose	\$28,100,772
 <u>In perpetuity</u>	
Samsung scholarship	\$ 5,000,000 (Korean War Vet Decedents & other US Wars)

American Legion Endowment Fund	\$ 8,599,920 (VA & Rehab)
Total in perpetuity	\$13,599,920
Total assets with donor Restriction (designation)	<u>\$41,700,692</u>



American Legion Post 5 Family Officers for 2020-2021

POST OFFICERS

Commander:	Clare Sullivan
1 st Vice Commander:	Bobby Dunno
2 nd Vice Commander/	
Adjutant:	Michael Calhoon
Finance:	Melody Moline
Service Officer/Judge	
Advocate:	John Moline
Chaplain:	Fr. William Hanrahan
Historian:	Clare Sullivan
Sgt-at-Arms:	David Joslin
Executive Board:	Daniel Oliver David Squires



AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President:	Deb VanTassel
1 st Vice President:	Michelle Oliver
Secretary:	Lori Skaggs
Treasurer:	Susan St. Amand
Executive Board:	LaNno Settles Joanne Frey



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander:	Mike Mootter
1 st Vice Commander/	
Adjutant:	Michael Calhoon
2 nd Vice Commander:	Scott Wilde
Finance:	David Dieckgraeff
Sgt-at-Arms/Historian:	David Osborn
Chaplain:	Randy Kockritz



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Director:	Bobby Dunno
Assistant Director:	Larry Gentry
Sergeant at Arms:	Terry Moon
Secretary:	Debra Dunno
Treasurer:	Mike Calhoon
Chaplain:	Larry Gentry
Historian:	Clare Sullivan



Congrats to the New & Returning Officers!!!!!!

House and Vice Report.....

By Mike Calhoon



Hello from the Second Vice,

We were certainly looking forward to a busy Spring but have gotten a bit sidetracked. I hope everyone is staying safe and getting through the medical and economic emergency in good health and spirits.

I want to thank Sharon Dillon and David "Ozzie" Osborn for their help in providing take-out dinner service each night at the Post. We have been providing meals, for donation, every night starting on March 18th. If you are interested in getting food to go, come by between 5-7pm. You can call or watch for an email, for those on the email list, to see what is for dinner. You can be added to the email list if you are not on it at this time.



Please feel free to contact us and let us know if you need a meal or other assistance and we will try to help where we can. It is a tough time for all in our Post 5 Family, but we can help each other get through this.

The 2020 membership year is in full swing and we have reached all monthly goals so far. I want to thank everyone who has already renewed their memberships and urge those that have not to consider doing so. Membership is the backbone of our organization and we need to keep that backbone strong to continue to carry the load we do for our veterans and the community of Seward. You can renew at the Post, mail in your renewals, or go to MyLegion.org and renew.

Thanks to all of you who continue to support your Post and all the activities designed to support our membership, our veterans, and the community. We look forward to seeing you all and please feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns.

For God and Country

Sounding Off from the Sons....

By Mike Calhoon



Greetings from the SAL First Vice Commander.

Wow! A busy 2020 came to a screeching halt for us all. I hope you are all well and coping with the lifestyle changes we are all dealing with.

Squadron members David Osborn and Rick Brown helped with the community breakfast on March 15th and David Osborn helped with the St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 17th. It was a great night before the Post had to shut down most operations.

The Squadron was able, using proper methods and distancing, to have the Officer Installation Ceremony on March 28th. The Squadron 5 Officers are as follows:

Mike Mooter
Mike Calhoon
Scott Wilde
David Dieckgraeff
David Osborn
Randy Kockritz
David Osborn

Commander
1st Vice Commander
2nd Vice Commander
Finance Officer
Sergeant at Arms
Chaplain
Historian

The Adjutant will be appointed by the Commander at the next meeting on April 9th.

The Post is still providing dinner to go from 5-7pm each night.

The Post will keep us informed on any other meetings or acceptable functions that come up prior to a return to normal business.

Remember that membership is the key to all the success. The 2020 membership year is here so consider renewing your membership if you have not already done so. Membership is the cornerstone of our organization and we need to continue to strive to be a strong and active part of the Post 5 family.



Thank you again for all your hard work and support of the Post 5 Family mission of service to the veterans and other community members in Seward.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 224-5440. Thanks again for all your support of the Post 5 family and I look forward to seeing you all around the Post when possible.



MEMBERSHIP Notes!



It is now April and we are fully in the new membership year. We're getting close to our goal of 95% by April 6th, so if you have renewed - thank you for doing so and if you like what we do please spread the word to others! We need just 12 more members to renew or join to get us to 100% goal. Your support and membership keep us strong and allows us to continue to serve our veterans and our community.

If you have had one of our free meals whether during the holidays or during the week, had a child who received a scholarship, or a neighbor who received help in times of need, please know we can only do this due to having a strong and active membership. We as Seward Post 5 are only as good as the strength of our members. With that strength it permits us to reach out and help others. So please strongly consider renewing and encouraging others to join too! We really have a great organization and have a solid group of folks dedicated to our veterans and our community!

Thanks again to all who are members and those that volunteer at the post or simply stop by to visit with friends and family. Whatever your participation, everything helps and is truly appreciated.

If you have time on your hands..... ☺



An exhibit, available online, at the National Museum of the U.S. Navy. (Web photo)

Seven Military Museums You Can Visit Virtually

The American Legion
APR 01, 2020

Many museums today - military and veterans museums included - incorporate virtual components and rotating exhibits to complement their physical locations. With the coronavirus pandemic spreading, forcing museums to close and people to stay indoors, now would be a perfect time to see what some museums have to offer online ... and maybe make plans for a future visit.



National WWI Museum and Memorial, Kansas City, Mo.: current online [exhibitions](#) include "The Rise of Giving: American Philanthropy and WWI," "War Fare: From the Homefront to the Frontlines" about the effects of food on the war, and "Curator's Tour," a "narrated, immersive tour of the galleries." The museum also offers an online collections [database](#), and educational [resources](#). And its bimonthly program "Mrs. Wilson's Knitting Circle" will go virtual on April 4. Along with the knitting, public program specialist Camille Kulig will discuss the rise of modern art in the 1910s and 1920s. RSVPs by knitters and the general public are encouraged at my.theworldwar.org/6006.

National World War II Museum, New Orleans: Among the [options](#) are "Road to Tokyo," the U.S. Merchant Marine Gallery and "The D-Day Invasion of Normandy." Educator [resources](#) are available, and distance [learning](#) for all ages.

National Veterans Memorial and Museum, Columbus, Ohio: A [gallery](#) of this newer museum is on offer. The education [section](#) offers curriculums for grades PK-8.

National Museum of the U.S. Navy, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C.: [Exhibits](#) that cover the whole of the Navy's long history include "The Forgotten Wars of the Nineteenth Century," "Steel Navy" and "Covert Submarine Operations." Distance learning [options](#) include school curriculums.

Pritzker Military Museum and Library, Chicago: A virtual [tour](#) of the museum is available (must have, or download, Adobe Flash Player 9/10 or higher). Pritzker offers many [ways](#) to explore military history - from past exhibits, to digital archives, to [reading lists](#) curated by the five service branches and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Cold War Museum, Warrenton, Va.: Although somewhat off the beaten path, this museum offers a host of online [exhibits](#), including "Patches Collection" to "Cold War Artwork" to "KGB/Stasi Prison."

And, as always, the virtual tour of the Emil A. Blackmore Museum at American Legion National Headquarters in Indianapolis is available at legion.org/museum/tour. Be sure to keep up with the museums on social media for the latest on new and ongoing virtual options.



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Vice President

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APRIL 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
	Have a wonderful and safe April! Meetings will probably be virtual so stay tuned! And... <u>Remember, remaining six feet apart is only temporary...if you don't, then remaining six feet under could become permanent.</u> (stolen from a Sterling Friend)			ALR Meeting 5:30pm* 		
5 Palm Sunday 	6 95% Membership Target Date	7 Post Meeting 5:30 pm* 	8 Auxiliary Meeting 6pm* Passover	9 SAL Meeting 7pm* Passover	10 Good Friday 	11 Passover
12 Easter Passover	13 Passover	14 Passover	15 Passover	16 Passover	17 Passover	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Food is Served Every Night
(Curbside)

*Thanks to all our amazing volunteers who keep things going
Even in this time of COVID-19!*