

Veterans Strengthening America

Seward Post 5 Newsletter

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Well this summer has been pretty darn good, we've had quite a bit of sun and some good pockets of rain so all in all things have been going well. 👺 😂 😎

July was so busy and I am amazed with all our outstanding volunteers that made things happen in our Post 5 Family. We're still providing support and good nightly food for our membership and those in need; we couldn't do it without our reliable and amazingly dedicated volunteers. Whether they were serving dinner upstairs, helping out in the social area or cooking breakfasts, maintaining our cemetery (on a near weekly basis), our volunteers are amazing!

July is normally is one of busier months and fortunately we returned with having the Mount Marathon Race on the same day as the 4th of July activities in town. It sure was nice to get things back to "normal." all our summer activities.





As always the ALR lead the 4th of July Parade and we had another "return" to the old 4th of July activities where there

were many kids things to do and the Post sponsored the Sawdust Pile Coin Search where the kids in town dove in to hunt down 50 cent pieces. It was so fun and huge kudos to Cody, Jim and Betty Gilmore for running the "Pile!"



On the Active-Duty side of things, we welcomed at the Change of Command on the 21st Lieutant Gabrielle "Gabby" Troise as the incoming commander of the USCGC Mustang and said farewell to the outgoing CO Mike Burke who is moving onto his next assignment.





We also had the annual arrival of the USCGC Healy on their way to the North Pole for some research operations. As always, the Healy never fails to impress with their camaraderie and service! We wish them the best as they continue north for several months of work. Kudos too to all those that helped in preparing the dinner and the "entertainment" for the crew!!! A good time was had by all!







Another fun event we have started at the Post for the summer is Jewelry classes courtesy of Carol Souza. It's a fun time to get together, be social and be creative and make some amazing jewelry. Thanks Carol!



This month has the Silver Salmon Derby going on in town and it will be busy with all those wanting to catch the big monied fish, which is good for our town and everyone who has a business. Good luck to all the Derby participants, there are some good prizes to be won and not just good fish!

Some folks have said, I really don't do much, I only come during this event or that, or wash dishes, etc. - believe me, anything you do even with a small contribution of support goes a long way. You know the saying -"Many hands make light work"; and for your



participation and amazing help, I am extremely grateful. Your efforts assist us in service to our veterans and our community.

House and Vice Report...... By Mike Calhoon



Hello from the Second Vice!

What a great and busy summer we have had at the Post and Club. We are looking forward to a great late summer and hope you are all enjoying this time of year.

I want to thank all our members for their continued support of the Post and Club. Last month we had a great 4th of July celebration, we welcomed the new captain of the USCGC Mustang, LT Gabrielle Troise, and we hosted the USCGC Healy crew for dinner and karaoke. We also had a very busy community breakfast. I want to thank all the volunteers who continue to give your time and effort in support of the Post Family functions and activities. None of this could happen without you and we are grateful for all of you.

This month we will be holding the memorial service for Hugh Darling on August 14th at 2:00pm, we will have our community breakfast on August 21st, and we will see what other activities come along. Also, cemetery maintenance is ongoing so we can always use help with mowing and trimming. If you want to help with any of these activities just let me know and we will gladly put you to work.

hankyou

The 2023 membership has begun so you can now renew online at Mylegion.org, by mail, or here at the Post. The dues remain \$60.00. Membership is the backbone of this 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.

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.

Sounding Off from the Sons.... By Mike Calhoon



Greetings from the SAL First Vice Commander.

Finally, the needed rain came in July and August looks to be a good continuation to a great summer.

I want to thank all Squadron members who continue to volunteer their time and effort in support of the mission of the Post 5 family. July was a very busy month for the Post and help will also be needed in August. Thank you to Al Dykstra and David Osborn for their help in the kitchen and at the cemetery.

This month the Post will be hosting a memorial service for Hugh Darling on August 14th, and the community breakfast will be on August 21st, and cemetery maintenance is ongoing.

The 2023 Membership year has started so please consider renewing your membership at any time. I

have been informed from SAL National that the 2023 membership cards will not be available until September. You can still renew now but will



not receive the new card until they arrive. Your current 2022 membership is still valid for a few more months.



The Early Bird Dinner will be held in September so think about renewing in the next few weeks. The dues will remain at \$35.00 for the 2023 year. Membership is the foundation for all the SAL programs.

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.



From the President's Desk

By Sharon Dillon, Unit 5

Well, another 4th of July is gone by and we survived all the activities, well at least some of us!!!! 😂 🤪 😂 😂 This next month we will be busy with Salmon Derby. For those who are unfamiliar, the Derby Started in 1956, and is one of the oldest and largest fishing derbys in the state and derby days are Seward's busiest fishing days each year, with thousands coming to town to cast their line for the chance to win the "big one!" So brace yourself, boats and people will be invading our town and we'll be bustin' t the seams!!! Check out the Seward Chamber of Commerce site for lots more information on this historic derby.



Founded in 2007, the purpose of the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation is to assist in carrying out the educational, charitable, and other purposes of the Auxiliary by raising funds for, assisting in and providing support to the Auxiliary programs.

The programs that are supported by this foundation help our veterans and their families through the VA and their rehabilitative services. It also supports Girls State and many Children and Youth programs. Additionally, the ALA programs promotes citizenship, patriotism and leadership in communities across the nation.

As a 501(c)(3) it is a fully non-profit entity and relies heavily on corporate and private donors. Donors contribute to furthering the ALA mission and it is a way to secure our legacy and heritage of "Service Not Self," ultimately enhancing the quality of life for future generations of veterans, military and their families.

August 4th is National Coast Guard Day and it is celebrated on the birthday of the U.S. Coast Guard. The Coast Guard was founded on August 4th 1790. This day honors the military branch that protects our waters and shorelines. The Coast Guard has been continuously at sea since its inception, although the name Coast Guard didn't come about until 1915 when the Revenue Cutter Service was merged with the Lifesaving Service. The Lighthouse Service joined the Coast Guard in 1939, followed in 1946 by the Bureau of Navigation and Steamboat Inspection. Then in 1967, after 177 years in the Treasury Department, the Coast Guard was transferred to a newly formed Department of Transportation. Finally, on

March 1, 2003, the Coast Guard was transferred to the Department of Homeland Security.

The USCGC Mustang is stationed in Seward and the crew of the Mustang has always been great in their support of the Post 5 Family for many years. We would like to acknowledge them and their families for their service to our great country and recognize the sacrifices they have made to serve. The "Cutter Mustang" is a great addition to

our town!





August 7, 2021 - Purple Heart Day

National Purple Heart Day honors the men and women who have been wounded or killed in military service. An important day for us to all remember those who have served to keep us free and the many who have made the ultimate sacrifice.



Please visit the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor for more information: https://www.thepurpleheart.com/



Also, another important day in the history of the U.S is VJ Day (Victory over Japan Day). Exactly what day it is celebrated is a little confusing:

August 14th - Japan surrendered

August 15th - the surrender is announced to the world. The day that is most commonly recognized and celebrated in modern days.

September 2 - the formal surrender ceremony was held in Tokyo Bay aboard the USS Missouri and formal signing of the surrender occurred. At that time President Truman declared September 2nd to be VJ Day.

VJ Day marks the end of WWII and the end of fighting against Japan. It is called Victory in Japan Day or Victory over Japan Day. Regardless of what day it is celebrated it marked the end of WWII and the fighting between the US and Japan.

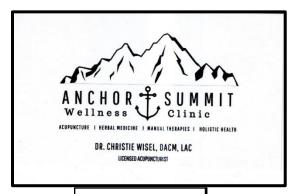
It is important to remembers these days in history and remember the men and women who served during this time. Many of them making the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

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Thank you Kevin Finch for bringing your grandson to our Legion Cemetery so he could place flowers near many of the graves. Not many young people would think about that.

You and your family are doing a great job raising him!









Have Fun at the Silver Salmon Derby in Seward!! 13-21 August 2022

Food Served Every Night at the Post!!!!