We had around 90 or so come to the post to celebrate with us and we had the opportunity to deliver around 100 meals to folks who were working or are not able to get out and spend time with family and friends. We hope we made these folks’ Thanksgiving a bit warmer, tastier and more comforting. Our volunteer cooks, aka “the Kitchen Crew,” really met the mission and made it happen, and the delivery drivers got the meals delivered with “style” and timing! It was a great time serving our fellow veterans, our elders and the local community.

Okay, on to December, we all have a lot planned, not only in our own lives and jobs, but we have quite a few things planned at the post. It is of course the holiday season and we will be having our Christmas dinner as usual, so plan on a big and delicious meal.

The Auxiliary has the Santa Parade going on with Santa and Mrs. Claus for the youngsters in town where the elves and Santa will be giving out gifts at the post to our local Seward kids on December 16th. It will be a “sure to please” good time!!!

We will also be finishing making up and mailing out our “Operation Apple Pie” packages to our local Seward young men and women who are in the military. So, if you know any active duty military from Seward please let us know so we can get some nice Christmas packages out to them ASAP! 😊❄️🎄
Another event in December is the National Guard Birthday which falls on Wednesday the 13th. This year the National Guard is 387 years old.

An interesting item to take note of is the National Guard is the oldest military organization in America and was established in 1636. These dedicated citizen soldiers leave their jobs and families when called to serve, so on the 13th of December, take the time to thank and honor our National Guard, many of whom live and work right here in our community.

I’d also like to acknowledge the Alaska National Guard’s Honor Guard who participated in many of our ceremonies that provide the final respects to our members and other veterans who have passed to “Post Everlasting.” The men and women of these organizations demonstrate maturity and willingness to take time out of their busy lives to help the community where they currently serve and to honor deceased veterans and this great nation.

As we head into December it also means we’re coming to the end of the 2023 membership year and the start of the 2024 year. I sincerely appreciate all who have joined or renewed, and that shows we’re a stable and growing post. With good numbers of members at the local, state and national level it allows us to continue to have a strong voice regarding veterans’ medical, rehabilitative and educational benefits. These collective voices from a million and a half members nationally speak “volumes” and have influence on lawmakers and decision-makers regarding military members earned compensation for injuries and disabilities sustained while in the military. After all, one of the many roles of the American Legion posts is to provide service and comradeship to veterans, their families and the community. And how better done than helping a vet get healthy and receive the benefits and education which will assist him/her to be productive and viable in our community. The way we can help at this level is to be aware of what is going on in our community, helping others, promote community involvement, patriotism and volunteerism. We have a good crew in our Post 5 Family and have many who are dedicated volunteers (and we can always use more 😏), so come on down and see what we do – we even manage to have a lot of fun helping others!

As we come to the close of 2023, I want to thank all in our Post 5 Family and our community for a good year of good deeds and good times. I look forward to another “outstanding” year of service and camaraderie as we continue in our second century of service! Sooo, come on down to the post; it is amazing how good it feels to be with like-minded people committed to service - doing good deeds to help others, especially your friends and neighbors.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!!

Oh, and a brief reminder for those who don't ready the articles and haven't renewed!! 😐😡😢😢😆
Vice & Adjutant Report
By Mike Calhoon

Hello from the Second Vice and Adjutant!

What a warm and wet start to winter. Kind of DeJa’Vu from last year. Everybody be safe driving and walking as the roads can become icing with

I want to thank all the great volunteers who helped the Post and Club take care of all the everyday and special activities to support our veterans and the community. So many to name from Thanksgiving that I won’t try to name everyone in case I forget someone. Just know how important all our volunteers are and how much we appreciate what you do for our veterans and the community.

This month we will have the Auxiliary Unit 5 Santa Parade and gift giving on December 16th, community breakfast on December 17th, the USCGC Mustang crew Christmas Party on December 21st, and our Christmas Meal on December 25th. Let us know if you can help with any of these functions and we will gladly put you to work.

We held our latest raffle drawing on November 25th with the winner being Post 5 member Dan Oliver. Congratulations!! We will be starting another raffle very soon for a 300 Win Mag with stainless steel barrel, model 700. This will be sponsored by SAL Squadron 5.

I would like to ask everyone to be considerate of others when you come to enjoy the food at the Post. We provide these meals as a benefit to our membership and would like to see as many members have had the opportunity to eat as possible. Please limit yourselves to one helping until it is apparent that most folks who want to have eaten. Thank you for your consideration.

The 2024 membership year is well underway, and 2023 memberships will expire on December 31st. If you have not done so, please consider renewing prior to the end of the year.

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.

Winter is starting out like last year with everyone else getting snow and just rain for us. Guess we’ll just go with the flow.

This month, the Squadron will be holding a raffle for a stainless steel barrel 300 Win Mag, model 700. Tickets will go on sale on November 1st for $20.00, 120 tickets to be sold and the drawing will be on December 24th.

Thanks to all the Squadron 5 members who gave of their time and effort during November. In particular, Scott Wilde, Jed Wilde, Randy Kockritz, Rick Brown and Randy Berry who all helped during the Thanksgiving holiday.

This month the Auxiliary Unit 5 will have their Santa Parade and gift giving on December 16th at 10:30, the Post will be hosting the crew of the USCGC Mustang for their Christmas Party on December 21st, and of course, the Christmas meal on December 25th at 1:30-4:30pm. Let us know if you can help and we will put you to work.

We are well into the 2024 membership year so please consider renewing your membership. Dues are $35.00. There has been a bit of an issue with Nationals sending renewal notices out stating the dues are $16.00 but that is only the amount that goes to Nationals. If you renew online and only pay $16.00 you will still owe $19.00 and should pay that at the Club. Remember, your membership helps us support the mission and goals of the Sons of American Legion and the Post 5 family.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 907-224-5440. Thanks again for all your support of the Post 5 family and I look forward to seeing you all around the Post when possible.

Hope you all have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!
As we celebrate the 231st anniversary of the Bill of Rights on December 15th, Bill of Rights Day we should look back at the origins and history of that day.

On December 15th 1791, the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, later identified as the Bill of Rights, were ratified. James Madison was one of the original framers of the U.S. Constitution and our 4th President. He studied the shortfalls in the U.S. Constitution and authored many of these amendments to address them. Some of these amendments protect our most fundamental rights - freedom of speech, the freedom of protest and assembly and conscience, right to bear arms, freedom from search without warrant, the right to an attorney, the right not to testify against yourself and guarantees equal protection under the law. Most states embraced the Bill of Rights however, it is interesting to note that Massachusetts, Connecticut and Georgia did not ratify it until 1939.

It is interesting to look at the English Bill of Rights, from 1689, and to compare it to the U.S. Bill of Rights, created 100 years later. The English Bill of Rights was an act of Parliament that guaranteed the right of British subjects to petition the king and to bear arms. It also prohibited excessive bails, fines, and cruel and unusual punishment. The English Bill of Rights became part of the British Constitution and set a precedent upon which Enlightenment philosophers relied. Some of those philosophers lived in the American colonies, and they imported parts of the English Bill of Rights into the U.S. Constitution.

Madison's amendments were originally designed to extend the protection of some of the Bill of Rights to the States, however the amendments that were finally submitted for ratification applied only to the federal government. It wasn't until the 1860s that state governments benefitted, following ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment (equal protection under the law). Since the early 20th century both federal and state courts have used the Fourteenth Amendment to apply portions of the Bill of Rights to state and local governments.

In 1941, 150 years after the first 10 amendments were ratified, President Franklin Roosevelt declared December 15 "Bill of Rights Day."
By Connie Kullander

Hello everyone. Another month has gone by, and we are at the end of another year.

We had another fantastic Thanksgiving. We would like to thank everyone who helped with everything involved. From the cooking and prepping to the eating. Thank you everyone!!!

December is upon us, and we have a huge list to fill. Presents to wrap, parade to partake in and Santa to greet. December 9th, at 5:30 - 6:00 we will be wrapping presents for our Santa Christmas Party. If you want to help, please give either myself or Sharon a call. Connie 907-362-1685 or 907-831-1009

December 16th, we will have a party with Santa and the giving of presents. There will be hot chocolate, apple cider and goodies for everyone. Between 11:00 and noon we will be assembling outside the front of the American Legion to ride on the fire trucks, (weather permitting). We will be passing out the presents with Santa after the fire truck ride. We would love to see everyone there.

Events going on in December.
12/3- Advent Begins
12/4- Santa’s List Day - hope you are on the nice list
12/7- Pearl Harbor Day
12/9- Christmas card day
12/10- Human rights day, International children’s day
12/12- Poinsettia Day
12/13- Ice cream day
12/15- Bill of rights day
12/21- Winter solstice day
12/24- Thank a Soldier Week
12/25- Christmas around the world celebrating the birth of Christ.
12/31 New Year eves

December 7th, we need to honor the patriots who perished, and commemorate the valor of all those who defended our Nation. Thank you all who served and protected us during that trying time and after. Thank you all for your service. Bingo is still every Monday, at 6:00 pm. Come to the Legion and join the fun. Win some prizes and have a good time.

Dinners are served every night for donations, except Friday and that is steak night for $25.00 per person.

We have our meeting every second Wednesday of the month, at 6:00 pm. Come join us, toss around new ideas, and see what the Auxiliary is all about. We would love to see new faces at the meeting and in the club.

I hope everyone has a Happy Holiday Season and a Merry Christmas!

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Date When Observed: Always December 7th

Pearl Harbor Day, commemorates the Japanese attack on the U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor. The attack began at dawn December 7, 1941. It crippled the U.S. Pacific Fleet, and caused the U.S. to enter World War II.

During the attack at Pearl Harbor, over 2,400 American serviceman and 68 civilians were killed. Five of the eight battleships at Pearl Harbor were sunk or sinking, and virtually all ships were damaged.

On Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, U.S. flags are to be flown at half-staff.

On December 8, 1941 President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated in a speech to Congress it was “…a day that will live in infamy.” The U.S. then declared war on Japan.

...we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain...

REMEMBER DEC. 7th!
BRASS BONES
Sam Clemons Jewelry Artist/Owner

VA Approved Provider

VA Approved Provider

Seward Insurance Agency
Erick C. Amberg
Agent
PO Box 2160
Seward, AK 99664
(907) 224-2200 • Office
(907) 224-7160 • Fax
(907) 224-1558 • Cell
sewardinsurance@alaska.net
Locally owned & operated

“If it has a key, we have a policy to fit it!”

S-n-M Stitches
Custom Embroidery
Sharon Dillon
Owner
snm.stitches907@gmail.com
P.O. Box 2662
Seward AK, 99664
(907)831-1009

Adventures SIXTY NORTH
Outdoor Adventure Center
Seward, Alaska
907-224-2600

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<td>BINGO!!! 6:30PM</td>
<td>Chili Dogs</td>
<td>Jewelry Class 6:00 pm</td>
<td>Burgers &amp; Bacon</td>
<td>Pioneers Igloo #9 Meeting</td>
<td>Flags Half Staff</td>
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Food Served Every Night at the Post