

POST 44*American Legion NEWSLETTER –July, 2013**PO Box 1073 – 1005 Hwy. 195 - Elephant Butte, NM 87935**575-744-4144**WEBSITE – americanlegionelephantbutte.com***COMMANDER – Roy Lucero – Commander & Newsletter Editor**

Happy Independence Day! Have a great holiday. Enjoy the fireworks here at the Butte or wherever you are. Be safe, and be careful. There are already too many fires ripping through the southwest .

Summer is officially here and a lot of you will be traveling to visit family and friends, or just to see the sights. Take care and plan well. We look forward to seeing you when you get back.

I just got back from the Annual Department of New Mexico Convention in Albuquerque. I'll be passing along some of the hi-lites at our next meeting. The School of Instruction will be in Albuquerque July 27th and 28th. Please contact me for details if you'd like to attend.

This month's General Membership meeting on Saturday, July 20th, at 10:30 a.m.

We need your ideas and your support. Once again, thank you for all you do, and see you at the Post.

Post 44 Officers to serve from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 are:

COMMANDER	Roy Lucero	
1st VICE COMMANDER	Tom Cleveland	
2nd VICE COMMANDER	Craig Pierson	
FINANCE OFFICER	Vince Barrett	
CHAPLAIN	Vince Hadley	
JUDGE ADVOCATE	Jim Coslin	
SGT AT ARMS	Al Norton	
SERVICE OFFICER	Ray Mullins	
HISTORIAN	Bob Nellis	
ADJUTANT	Richard Kaudelka	3 Yrs.
TRUSTEES	Warren Roberts	2 Yrs.
	Richard Alexander	1 Yr.

Congratulations to you all.

Vice Commander – Tom Cleveland

Hope everyone has a fun and safe forth. I am on an extended trip so I don't have any Post news to report.
SUPPORT THE TROUPS and YOUR LOCAL AMERICAN LEGION POST

Traditionally, the summer months are our most difficult revenue generating times; so please come into the Post and support the many functions and fun activities the committee has planned.

Thanks again! Have a safe and fun summer and hope to see you at Post 44!

Finance Officer – Dr. G. Vincent Barrett

No report at this time

Adjutant – Bob Nellis

In order to continuing entry into Post 44, you must be paid-up and receive your 2013 membership card. Effective July 1, 2013 – new membership cards for the new fiscal year will be available from National through our NM Department.

Activities Committee – Kathy Norton and Linda Amdal A special thank you to Linda N., Arlea, Carmen & Ginny for a great job preparing and serving the Father's Day Dinner!!

Beginning Wednesday, July 3rd, through Labor Day, the kitchen "Grill" will be open on Wednesday's with an extended menu. Wednesday dinners will start up again in September. Saturday, July 6th, the Post will close early for the fireworks.

(Sneak Peek into August! Steve & Linda Ross' 50th wedding

Thanks to all that purchased T-Shirts!! We did order 65 shirts and had no idea they would go so fast!! Those particular shirts were a special/time sensitive offer & cannot be ordered again for the same price. We will be ordering some different shirts soon & I will see about getting a list going for those that need specific sizes.

The Post is planning our next golf tournament for Saturday, September 21st. Our first planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 16th at 3 p.m. Please plan to attend & help us make it bigger & better than last year!

Sunday, July 21st at 5:00 p.m., the S.A.L. is having a Fund Raiser Dinner for Wyatt Salina (T.D. & Pat Knull's grandson) who is under going Bone Marrow Transplant treatments for the next several months. We will also have our "1940's Style USO Show", complete with swing music and songs to lip-sync and/or sing with, provided by Bob Acre. Era costumes are highly encouraged!! Put together a group or go solo!! It will be a hoot!! We will also celebrate July birthdays that day.

The next Activities meeting is Tuesday, July 23rd at 1:00 p.m. T-Shirts, golf tournament and August events will be on the agenda. Please plan to come (and besides, it is \$2.00 Tuesday!!)

Wednesday, July 24th, we are honoring Jerry Gustin for all his contributions to the Post! Thanks, Jerry, for all you have done for us!! (Most recently, for our electric "Open" sign!)



Sons of the American Legion – Bill Nenno

The Sons of the American Legion held its normal monthly meeting June 18. In attendance were Deone Harty, Gene Hill, Donnie Polstin and Bill Nenno.

The 2013-2014 slate of officers was approved and installed. They are as follows:

Commander Bill Nenno
Vice Commander Donnie Polstin

Finance Officer Gene Hill

Adjutant Deone Hartly

Sergeant At Arms Bob Nellis

Membership continues on an appropriate pace. As of our June transmittal we now have 85 paid members for 2013. This should be our peak membership for this year as we will be getting new membership cards at annual state convention held the weekend of the 29th and 30th of June. The S.A.L. still has openings so if you would like to attend as a S.A.L delegate please see me.

Benefit Dinner : We are in the early stages of planning a benefit dinner towards the ends of July. Tentatively it will be an enchilada dinner but more information will be forthcoming as we firm up.

Thanks for supporting our Post, our Community and most of all ---the Veteran



**Legion Riders- American Legion
Riders Chapter NMALR 5: Jim
Coslin, President**

(Written by Craig Pierson, Secretary) Elephant Butte, NM 87935

Membership: We currently have 24 members.

Calendar: Next Riders meeting will be on the first Tuesday of the month: July 2nd at the Post at 6:30pm. The Next scheduled ride would be on July 6th.

Rider Activities June, 2013

Scheduled Ride: The ride date scheduled for this month coincided with the Winston Fiesta. After the Saturday breakfast at the Post, seven bikes and riders made the short journey to Winston. We arrived in time to watch the annual parade. But instead of being merely spectators Chapter 5 members led the grand processional along the designated parade route. Unfortunately we failed to obtain any photographic documentation of this memorable event.



Following the parade the group continued along into the foothills toward Poverty Creek. The scenery changed quickly from rolling pasture land to pine forest as the elevation increased. All along the ride the effects of the severe and prolonged drought were obvious.

Activities and Events: The final opportunity for the Riders to host a table at the "Cosmic Talent World Expo of T or C". This final chapter of this event is scheduled for Saturday the 13th at the Lee Belle Johnson Senior Center in the early evening in conjunction with the regular Art Hop in downtown T or C.

During June Chapter 5 riders participated in several other events in addition to the trip to Winston:

- On the 6th members of Chapter 5 met with other local motorcycle enthusiasts for a meet and greet at Passion Pie in downtown Torc; a type of event that we hope will become a regular habit locally.
- Bob Duff and Jim Coslin rode to Springerville, Arizona for the "Run With The Wolf" motorcycle rally which took place on the 13th through the 15th.
- On the 22nd another meet and greet was held at Denny's and as a result on Sunday evening a mixed group of Chapter 5 and local motorcycle enthusiasts met at the Post and rode to South Monticello Point to acknowledge the rise of the "Supermoon" above Elephant Butte Lake.

See our face book page at @ <http://www.facebook.com> then go to Search (type) American Legion Riders NM5, then click on the Logo - all our pictures/comments are posted there for the last and previous rides or see Chuck, he has them on his computer. If you are computer-savvy, you can download them for yourself

If you are interested in being in the ALR but don't have a bike – we have a place for you. Ask any ALR Officer or Member for details – membership is \$15 plus vest and patches.



Auxiliary President - Sharon Pierson
AUXILIARY APRIL EVENTS – Sharon Pierson
AUXILIARY JUNE EVENTS – Sharon Pierson

Please pardon the brevity of this newsletter. We are in full swing preparing for convention this week. Hopefully things will get back to normal next month.

- **2013-2014 Officers Installed:** Newly elected officers were installed by Nancy Palladino for the 2013-2014 year: Absent were Sharon Pierson (President) and Sandy Squier (Treasurer).
- **Marina Day Auxiliary Booth:** Many thanks to the members who set up, manned and tore down the booth our Unit had at the lake for National Marina Day.
- **Father's Day dinner:** Kudos to Linda Nenno for taking on the cooking of the brisket for this event. It was a big success. Thank you to everyone who prepared side dishes and made this a special Father's day.
- **Appreciation Dinner for Ryan Knull:** After 20 years of service in the Navy with 6 deployments (the last in Bahrain) Ryan Knull retired as ET1 SW. On June 19th the Post hosted Ryan and his family to a chicken fried steak dinner in appreciation for his years spent protecting our rights and freedoms. Welcome home Ryan Knull.
- **2013 NM Department Convention:** Convention this year is from June 27 – June 30. It should be fun and exciting with our National ALA President, Peggy Thomas, in attendance.

PLEASE NOTE

The July meeting date may be changed if the school of instruction falls on the third Saturday. This will be posted on our facebook page and our web site. Please check with the Post to be certain of the July meeting date.

Also, the September meeting date has changed from September 21st to September 28th to accommodate the Legion Family Golf Tournament

The Chaplain's Corner – Linda Ross

PRAYER FOR THE MILITARY: Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.

GET WELL WISHES: Papa Vince, Sofio Trujillo, Butch Walters, Bob Shuey, Jerry Light, Maida's grandson, Ruth Handlin and Tom Novak.

OUR CONDOLENCES: Our condolences to Margaret Simone on the loss of her husband Pat. And prayers for her mother Kate also. And Condolences to Cyndi Wipf on the loss of her husband Bob.

GOD'S TENDER CARE

When trouble comes, as it does to us all...God is so great and we are so small...

But there is nothing that we need know, if we have faith that wherever we go...

God will be waiting to help us bear our pain and sorrow, our suffering and care...

For no pain or suffering is ever too much

To yield itself to God's merciful touch!

Care Packages: Marty Novak

CARE PACKAGES AND CELL PHONES: We sent 66 Care Packages in June. We always have room on our Care Package list so if you know of anyone who is deployed, please give us their name and address and we will begin sending monthly Care Packages for as long as they are deployed. Thanks to you wonderful people who give us regular donations of money or goods for the packages, for Memorials and any kind of donation for this project because we couldn't continue to do this without your help. There isn't a lot we can do for our deployed Troops to make their lives easier and let them know we care...but these monthly Care Packages sure help. Our next packing date is July 10. We start about 11 AM. If you haven't helped pack Care Packages before, come join us. It's a lot of fun and gives you a good feeling about sending these guys and gals something from home to let them know we haven't forgotten them and we appreciate all they are doing for us.

IT'S GETTING THAT TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN IT IS GETTING VERY HOT OVER THERE. WE STARTED SENDING NECK COOLERS IN OUR CARE PACKAGES IN APRIL. IF YOU SEW AND WOULD LIKE TO MAKE NECK COOLERS PLEASE LET ME KNOW. I HAVE THE PATTERN IF YOU NEED ONE AND EVEN HAVE SOME OF THE CRYSTALS TO PUT INSIDE IF YOU NEED THEM.

A special thank you to all you winter visitors who are going back home. You are a HUGE help with the Care Packages as well as many other programs and projects in our Unit and in our community. God bless you all. We will miss you and we look forward to your return.

This also means that we will need extra help with the Care Packages. So if you haven't done it before and would like to join us in this worthy project, we meet at the Post about 11 AM on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. It takes about 1 to 1 ½ hours.

It's getting that time of the year that our Troops need neck coolers to help them handle the heat. If anyone interested in making them, let me know and I will get the instructions to you. Any help in this is appreciated.

We are an official collection site for cell phones that are no longer being used. These are sent for recycling and provide calling cards for the soldiers. We send the calling cards in our Care Packages. There is a collection container just outside the door of the Post. This year we have sent 142 phones for recycling and received 730 calling cards for our Troops.

As a reminder...the desserts that are donated by our members for the Wednesday night dinners help fund our Care Package project. We ask that you give a minimum of \$1.00 for each dessert. Your generosity is appreciated.

What is a Veteran: A Veteran...whether active duty, discharged, retired, or reserve...is someone who, at one point in their life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America" for an amount of "up to, and including his/her life." That is honor, and there are way too many people in this country today, who no longer understand