
Harry N. Cutting

Post 59 American Legion Family

Waterbury, Vermont

May, June, July 2014

COMMANDER

Hello Legion Family. As Commander, I have learned a lot this year about what the Legion does for our community, children and youth, and most importantly for our Veterans. I want to say thanks to my officers for all they have done this past year. And a big thanks to the Sons, the Women's Auxiliary and the Legion riders for all they have done. Thanks to the bar staff for all the extra time and effort they put in at the Legion. A huge thanks to Terri Ann for all she does. And thanks to everyone who helps out in their own way. You all make this Legion what it is. Thanks.

May is election for new officers, and we're in need of members to fill the positions; please help the post by considering running for a position. Last year we had no one running for the main officer positions. Some veterans stepped up to the plate at the last minute and hopefully we'll have more veterans step up this year. There will be a sign up sheet



at the Legion. Thank you. We have had some changes at the Legion this year. Terri Ann will be retiring in January 2015. Tammy is jumping in running things,

trying to learn all the ins and outs, so be patient please. Thanks Terri Ann, for being there to help us during this transition period.

We have pulled some funds out of our investment fund to get caught up on our bills this winter. Our bar business was slow the winter of 2013 and through last summer. That, along with our overhead, cost electricity, fuel oil, and insurance, etc. is the reason we had to tap into our funds.

This year we're pushing more events to raise money and increase bar revenue, such as our \$20 dollar dinners that give you dinner for two and five chances to win \$100.

We're also doing a weekly queen of hearts raffle on Tuesday nights. Come on in and help support your Legion Family.

Thanks again to all the Legion family for all you do.

For God and Country,
Mike Preedom
Commander, Post 59

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

Some are aware that I'm the Department Commander for Vermont this year. Having fun, and doing a lot of travel to visit legions around Vermont that generally don't see Department Officers.

The Department of Vermont will be making history this coming year. For the first time in our American Legion history, we will be recycling a Department Commander. I guess we can say that we have very few Legionnaires' in line to become Commander. The Ladies Auxiliary has had the same problem. I believe they have had to recycle three (3) past Presidents over the years.

So, at the last Post meeting I was endorsed to run for a 2nd year as your Department Commander!! J A second year may show that maybe, two year commitments, for Department Commander is the way to go? One year to get your feet wet, and the additional year to make a difference. I'm in the seat and ready to go an additional year if elected.

We are in the middle of a Department Membership Challenge folks! Gene may have mentioned that we have a good number of legionnaire's that have not paid their 2014 legion dues. Membership is always the driving force of any

organization. Some may say that "I" don't get anything out of it? Our National American Legion staff is doing great things on Capitol Hill. The American Legion recently won the battle of having our government make major changes to our veteran's cola. A retiring service member would have lost thousands in their retirement pay if the American Legion didn't fight the fight!! Please take a minute and send in your legion dues. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (802)522-7770, or by e-mail: topvet10@gmail.com.

PAY YOUR LEGION
DUES ON LINE:
GO TO LEGION.ORG;
CLICK ON RENEW-
ONLINE.

A credit card will be
required....

Waterbury Post #59 will be hosting my testimonial on Saturday, May 10th, 2014. This is an annual event hosted by the Department Commander's home post. It is a meal, and an opportunity to "Roast" the Commander.

I have asked the dinner to be less formal. Lighter attire and NO head table. Just a fun night! Oh, a real bargain on the dinner & \$15.00 – WOW! Call the post after 3:00 PM to

reserve your place at the dinner.

As Department Commander I need to address the excellent support and work from our "Legion Family", and additional volunteer's from Barre Post #10!! The National Commander's Dinner, was held on Saturday, March 8th, 2014. Commander Dellinger was extremely pleased with his visit and the banquet. Post #59 had a special guest at the dinner. Captain Richard Phillips and his wife, Andrea, were also guests of the Post. Captain Phillips touched on his ordeal when the Somali pirates hijacked his cargo ship in April 2009. He noted that the real heroes were sitting in the chairs, our veterans in attendance.

One last thing, please... The Department Convention will be held on June 26-28, 2014, Thursday through Saturday. Post #59 is generally allocated 12-14 delegates to participate in the programs and election process. If you would be interested in attending, please give me a call, or better yet, attend a post meeting and show your interest. We have our Post meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM. See ya there comrades!

For God and Country,
Rick Gray
Adjutant, Post 59

SECOND VICE COMMANDER

There is some confusion about Honorary Life Member eligibility. Your Post has adopted the following policy regarding HLM. It is as follows: Your 2014 dues must be paid. You must be at least 70 years old by 31 December. You must have at least 20 years of continuous Legion membership and at least 10 continuous years as a member of Post 59. If all these requirements are met, then Post 59 will pay your dues for 2015 and in the future.

The only exception to this rule is if, the Post membership votes to pay your dues for exceptional service to the Legion and the Post. If you are a WWII veteran and a member of Post 59, you do not need to meet any of the above requirements. If you transfer to another Post we will no longer pay your dues.

You cannot be eligible unless the Post knows your birth date, War Era and branch of service. Surprisingly, 28 members still have not given some or all of this information to the Post. If you suspect some information is missing call me. It is very easy to create your own legion account at www.mylegion.org, update any contact information and pay your dues. There are 40

members who have not renewed their dues for 2014. 38 members did not renew their 2012 dues. That's a loss of 78 members.

You may contact me any time at 802-879-4838, sweetserg@aol.com or the Post at 802-244-8144, alpost59@comcast.net.

For God and Country,
Gene Sweetser,
2nd Vice Commander

Post 59 Website:
<http://www.alpost59vt.us>

SERVICE OFFICER

REMEMBER!!!! Veterans in the VA health care system and those in Tri-Care and Champava are eligible for the VA/Delta Dental insurance program. Premiums start at \$10.73 monthly for a single person and the program is accepted at Family Dentistry here in Waterbury. E-mail your Service Officer for a brochure.

GLAUCOMA

The highest risk group is those Veterans over 60. What is glaucoma? Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases in which the optic nerve, a bundle of over one million nerves that convey vision from the eye to the brain, slowly becomes

damaged over time. In many cases, blood flow to the optic nerve is reduced and may be further reduced by increased fluid pressure inside the eyes slowly rising, leading to vision loss or even blindness. Glaucoma usually starts without any symptoms. Later, there is some loss of side vision. Objects straight ahead are seen clearly, but objects to the side are missed. As the disease worsens, the ability to see objects on the side is increasingly lost and eventually the center of vision is affected. Get Tested! It's Painless.

SOCIAL WORKERS HELP

You will find social workers in all program areas in VA medical centers who are ready to help you with most any need. If you have questions or problems, the social worker will be able to help you or can refer you to the right person for help.

How do you know if you need a social worker?

Here are just some of the ways that VA social workers can help. They can advise you on getting help from the VA or from community agencies, such as Meals on Wheels, so you can continue to live in your own home.

Do you need help in applying for benefits from the VA, Social Security and other government and community

programs? Ask your VA social worker.

VA social workers develop and implement treatment approaches which address individual social problems and work with acute or chronic medical conditions, dying patients, and bereaved families.

VA social workers – a voice for at-risk Veterans and their families.

WIDOWS & WIDOWERS

Low-income widows and widowers of veterans are eligible for the VA Aid & Attendance program. Call or email your Service Officer for details.

Sam Miller, Service Officer
LsamMiller1@gmail.com
(802) 244-1484

LEGION RIDERS

Hello from the Legion Riders Group! We formed up just a little more than a year ago, and we have been busy building a riders program for Post 59. Who are the American Legion Riders? We are members of the American Legion who are also motorcycle enthusiasts. Any member of the of the American Legion that rides a motorcycle can be a part of the Legion Riders including Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members. We are not a motorcycle club

and do not follow motorcycle club rules and regulations. Our aims are to participate in American Legion Programs, support our Veterans, promote motorcycle safety, and provide a social atmosphere for American Legion members who share the same interests.

This last year found us taking care of business as we voted in officers, wrote our bylaws, and developed a vision for the Legion Riders program at Post 59. Our current core group of officers are:

Chris Wood - President,
Mike Wood - Vice President,
Peter Wood – Sgt. at Arms,
and David Dow - Treasurer.

This group of four has met once a month putting together a program that seeks to promote American Legion programs and raise money for charities providing support for our neighbors in Waterbury and surrounding communities. Last summer we rode to several area Legions -- getting in some riding time while spreading the word about the American Legion Riders program. This winter we held an Ides of March music Jamboree that helped us make it through the winter doldrums and start thinking about spring, and we managed to raise over \$200 to support Legion programs! Have we piqued your interest in becoming a member of the American Legion Riders

Group? Want to know how to join us? We typically meet the third Sunday of each month at Post 59 at 4 pm. During the summer months we try to incorporate a ride into the meeting agenda, and these are usually short trips to area legion posts or other local places.

We are also in the process of planning more events and hope to be able to have live bands at Post 59 on a regular basis. All this takes planning and participation from members like you. If you would like to be a member of the Legion Riders Group then please contact me at 802-793-4904, e-mail chriswood0869@gmail.com, or visit us on the third Sunday of the month at Post 59. If it is warm enough, then bring your motorcycle and ride with us!

Chris Wood, President
Legion Riders

CINCO DE MAYO
Monday, May 5th
Join the party downstairs
5:30

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hello Post 59 Legion Members. Spring is in the air and at our Post too! It's been an active 2014 at the Post

with much more to come . . .

The next Big item at the Post is the Legionnaires biggest annual fundraiser. The Post Annual Calcutta, the 12th annual to be exact. Each ticket is good for dinner for two, your drawing numbers and a night of music, dance and laughs! Please call the Post if you're interested in attending. The event is the Saturday evening of April 26th.

Mark your calendars as we begin the last quarter of the 2013 / 2014 session of the American Legion. The SONs and Post Family look forward to seeing you at some of our Post and Community events:

- 5/10 – Commander
“Dick’s” Testimonial
- 5/11 – Mothers Day
- 5/17 – Armed Forces Day
- 5/26 – Memorial Day
- 6/11 – Installation of
Officers: Legion,
Auxiliary, Sons
- 6/14 – Flag Day:
Flag disposal at Rusty
Parker Park
- 6/15 – Fathers Day
- 6/26-28 – State Convention
- 6/28 – NQSID Not Quite
Independence Day

Upcoming for the SAL –
April 1st, May 6th, June 3rd –
SAL Monthly meetings at
6pm upstairs at the post.

**Now the “MEAT and
potatoes” message to all**

Son’s, and to all American Legion Members at large:

It is again time to prepare to regroup and elect new officers for the next session that will start July 1st 2014. Nominations are currently open and the form is on the wall by the pool table as you come into the downstairs hall. Please sign up nominees. The nomination paper will go to the May 6th meeting where the floor will be open to nominees one last time and then the actual election to follow. The election is on May 6th at our monthly meeting, 6pm upstairs. Please consider working with or as an SAL officer this next session. Please share in this privilege!

- 4/1 – SAL Officer
Nomination Sheet Posted
Downstairs
- 5/6 – Election of
Officers at the SAL
Monthly Meeting
- 6/11 – Installation of
Officers

A special thanks to our entire Post Family for supporting this year’s Freezing Funds for Families fundraiser. The generous support of our Post’s Legion, Auxiliary and Squadron combined with all participants fund raising this year tallied over \$32,000. Although one of our coldest events ever, it meant nothing to the number of participants & spectators who came out around the clock over this

winter weekend to rally again for this great event!

A callout and thanks for the weekly “Red Neck Horseshoes” league players. It brought great fun and activity to the post through many cold weeks this winter with the warming of laughter and cheer, and a lot of metal “clink!”

If you have not been in the Post in a while you too will find a redecorating project taking place in the downstairs hall -- a special thanks to the organizers and volunteers taking this project on. Come on by and take a peek, spend an afternoon or evening at your Post!

I look forward to seeing you at our Post and at our Post events!

For God, Country, our
Veterans, and Community
Family! Bless Us All.

Commander Chris Touchette
The Sons of Post 59

Kentucky Derby
Saturday, May 3
Party starts at 5:00
Downstairs
You can place your bets all
week until Post Time!

AUXILIARY
No article this issue.

FROM THE BAR....

Hey everyone, summer is coming, and we are going to "Beat the Heat." We have had a good winter, and hope that it continues.

Come in on Tuesday's at 6:30 for our newest Queen of Hearts game. The pot is building quickly, and you can't win if you don't play. There are lots of functions, both private and

public if you are looking for some good entertainment. We are increasing our number of dinners, so if you like good Food and good Fun, check your attached calendar.

Also, if anyone wants to be added to our e-mail list for updates, please send us a note at alpost59@comcast.net.

We have a face book group as well if you prefer to just join that.

Please remember us for your parties and events. We are very accommodating as most of you know, but book them sooner than later as our calendar is filling fast.

Thanks to all, The Bar Staff

POST 59 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 SAL Meeting 6:00	2	3 Texas Hold'em 7:00	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5
6	7 House Committee 6:00	8	9 Legion & Auxiliary Meetings 7:00	10 Texas Hold'em 7:00	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Texas Hold'em 7:00	18	19
20 Legion Riders meeting 4:00	21	22	23 E-Board Meeting 6:30	24 Texas Hold'em 7:00	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Check with the Post (244-8144) or the website (<http://www.alpost59vt.us>) for more information

April Reminders: Saturday 4/26 Legion Calcutta Monday 4/28 -- MEAT BINGO!

POST 59 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <i>May Day</i>	2	3 Kentucky Derby Party 5:00
4	5 House Committee 6:00 Cinco de Mayo Party 5:30	6 SAL Meeting Elections 6:00	7	8 Texas Hold'em 7:00	9	10 Commander's Testimonial 5:30
11 <i>Mother's Day</i>	12	13	14 Legion & Auxiliary meetings Elections 7:00	15 Texas Hold'em 7:00	16	17 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
18 Legion Riders meeting 4:00	19	20	21	22 Texas Hold'em 7:00	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day Ceremony Lunch follows <i>Call for details</i>	27	28 E-Board Meeting 6:30	29 Texas Hold'em 7:00	30	31

JUNE 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 House Committee 6:00	3 SAL Meeting 6:00	4	5 Texas Hold'em 7:00	6	7
8	9	10	11 Legion & Auxiliary Meetings 7:00 Installation of all Officers	12 Texas Hold'em 7:00	13	14 Flag Disposal Ceremony Rusty Parker Park 5:30
15 <i>Father's Day</i> Legion Riders meeting 4:00	16	17	18	19 Texas Hold'em 7:00	20	21
22	23	24	25 E-Board Meeting 6:30	26 Department Convention Texas Hold'em 7:00	27 Department Convention <i>Not Quite Independence Day Celebration</i>	28 Department Convention <i>Not Quite Independence Day Celebration</i>
29	30					

American Legion Post #59
P.O. Box 417
Waterbury, VT 05676

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FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES

To uphold and defend The Constitution of the
United States of America; To maintain law and order;
To foster and perpetuate
A one hundred percent Americanism; To preserve
the memories and incidents
Of our association in the Great Wars;
To inculcate a sense of individual Obligation
To the community, state and nation;
To combat the autocracy
Of both the classes and the masses;
To make right the master of might;
To promote peace and good will on earth
To safeguard and transmit to posterity
The principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy;
To consecrate and sanctify our Comradeship
By our devotion to mutual helpfulness."