

SUSQUEHANNA POST 135 NEWSLETTER

American Legion Susquehanna Post 135
PO Box 98, 300 Cherry Street
Perryville, MD 21903
410-642-2771
post135@verizon.net
www.AL135.org



Winter 2017

OFFICERS ELECT 2016-2017 LEGION

Commander.....Ernest C. Miller
1st Vice Commander.....Terry W. Marrs
2nd Vice Commander.....Robert L. Hiles
Finance Officer.....Nancy S. Polk
Chaplain.....Robert "Blair" Smolar
Historian.....Alfred Davisson
Sgt-At-Arms.....James "Richard" Hall
Adjutant.....Charles F. Cunningham

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Charles F. Cunningham
Donald L. Griffith, Sr.
Douglas G. Hornberger
Frederick F. Reil, Jr.
Thomas P. Ward

AUXILIARY

President.....Eleanor Deal
1st Vice President.....Holly Charsha
2nd Vice President.....Sally Fayer
Secretary.....Terri Grove
Treasurer.....Cyndie McMullen
Chaplain.....Donna Lindenmuth
Historian.....Colleen Chamberlain
Sgt-At-Arms.....Wendy Kramer

SAL

Commander.....Mark Fayer, Sr.
1st Vice Commander.....Joe Carabetta
2nd Vice Commander.....Paul McMullen
Finance Officer.....Thomas Deal
Chaplain.....John Jones
Historian.....Larry ("Bear") Weinzirl
Sgt-At-Arms.....John Buck

LEGION RIDERS

Director.....Terry Marrs
Assistant Director.....Marc Orlando
Secretary.....Vicki Marrs
Treasurer.....Gregory S. Warner
Sgt-At-Arms.....Gene Fromm
Road Captain.....Bob Coffeen
Membership Chairman.....Robert Chenoweth



Commander's Message

Dear Fellow Legionnaires:

Once again, let me say thank you for your support. Our Veterans Day program was a success due to the assistance from my officers, great help from great people, our American Legion Auxiliary ("Job well done, ladies.") and to The Sons of the American Legion, as well as the American Legion Riders. Thank you all!

As we move forward, let me ask you to take notice of our POW/ MIA table in the lounge area and, coming soon, we will have an Officers Board above the sign-in book so you will know who our officers are.

I would like us all to remember our Legion Members that have now moved on to Post Everlasting: John T. Barrow, III, Mary D. Berger (ALA), Richard P. McKay (Dual Member) and Daniel R. Wanken. May they rest in peace as we pray for their families.

In closing, I would like everyone to come together to help make this Post a very prosperous and enjoyable place to eat, drink, appreciate some good music and share in the camaraderie.

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you all a Happy New Year!

God Bless America,

Ernest C. Miller

Ernest C. Miller

Commander, Susquehanna Post 135

POST EVERLASTING



John T. Barrow, III
Mary D. Berger (ALA)
Melvin "Moke" E. Boyd
Louise A. Lounsbury (ALA)
Richard P. McKay (Dual Member)
Frieda E. Peck (ALA)
Daniel R. Wanken
Daniel L. Wilson



Our deepest sympathy and condolences go out to the family and loved ones of our departed comrades and friends.

2016-2017 Membership Dues

We are collecting dues for the 2016-2017 membership year. Dues are \$30 for Legionnaires, \$20 for SAL and \$25 for ALA (ALA Juniors \$9).

Please help us in our effort to recruit new members. If you know a Service Member on Active Duty or a Veteran who has served in the past, please inform them about our great organization and The American Legion's many programs and encourage them to join.

Chaplain's Corner:

"And there were in the same country shepherds watching, and keeping the night watches over their flock. And behold an angel of the Lord stood by them, and the brightness of God shone round them; and they feared with a great fear. And the angel said to them Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, that shall be to all the people: For, this day, is born to you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, in the city of David. And this shall be a sign unto you. You shall find the infant wrapped in swaddling clothes, and laid in the manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly army, praising God, and saying: Glory to God in the highest; and earth peace to men of good will." DRV (Luke 2:8-14)

Fulton J. Sheen penned these quotes on Christmas:

"There were only two classes of people who heard the cry Christmas night: shepherds and wise men. Shepherds: those who know they know nothing. Wise men: those who know they do not know everything. Only the very simple and very learned discovered God -- never the man with one book."

"The Christmas gift of peace was the uncoiling of the links of a triple chain that first unites a person with God, then with himself, then with his neighbor."

Two thousand years since the birth of "Our Sovereign King" Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen of various nations have experienced Christmas in battle and mundane duties; as being separated from their homes and families. As today, our fellow countrymen serving in all the branches in the military again find another Christmas away from home, either in the boredom of "Steady State" or in the uncertainty of "Combat" operations. During this present time, Service Branch members will find merriment with fellow unit friends, find personal comfort in reflecting of past memories spent with friends and family or contend with the weariness and loneliness that daily duty can bring away from home. Thus, let us keep them in our prayers.

On December 19, 1777, General George Washington led a dispirited and defeated Continental Army in retreat to Valley Forge, PA, to set-up winter quarters. General Washington intently disobeyed and defied the Continental Congress' order to launch a "mid-winter" attack against the British Army, which was quartered in Philadelphia, PA. That Christmas Eve, during the winter of 1777-1778, soldiers of this army dined on a "meal of rice and vinegar" and were forced to bind bleeding and blackened "frost-bitten feet with rags." This condition existed because Congress was unable to provide funding for adequate supplies to support this army, who faced the superpower of their day. Washington penned to Patrick Henry, "We have experienced little less than a famine in camp."

During the Civil War, Christmas time was a difficult time for both sides, as the costliest war in America's history waged from 1861 to 1865; as hundreds of thousands of troops left the home front to many women and children who took on their responsibilities and suffered hardships caused by the absence of their Husbands, Fathers and Sons.

2nd Lieutenant Robert Gould Shaw wrote to his family about picket duty from around Frederick, MD, he stated, "*It is Christmas morning and I hope a happy and merry one for you all, though it looks so stormy for our poor country, one can hardly be in merry humor.*"

James Holloway, assigned to an encampment near Dranesville, VA tells his family that Christmas: "*You have no idea how lonesome I feel this day. It's the first time in my life I'm away from loved ones at home.*"

Elisha Hunt Roads wrote, "This is the birthday of our Savior, but we have paid very little attention to it in a religious way... It does not seem much like Sunday or Christmas, for the men are hauling logs to build huts. This is a work of necessity for the quarters we have been using are not warm enough."

One Iron Brigade soldier described the Christmas of 1862 of how "Two men from Company F provided a temporary diversion on Christmas Day. The two got into a fight that ended with one struck the other over the head with a musket bending the barrel so badly as to render it unserviceable."

(continued on next page)

Chaplain's Corner (cont.):

During the Christmas of 1914, combatants from three nations held a truce amongst them to recover their dead, held football (soccer) games and exchanged personal gifts with men who were their enemies. This became the "Christmas Miracle of 1914." After this event, the higher headquarters of these units involved in this "Christmas Miracle" enacted punitive measures against all the officers and men, to ensure it would not happen again for the remainder of WWI.

"During the Battle of the Bulge, the 101st Airborne Division made a heroic stand at Bastogne from December 20-27 which helped turn the tide of the battle. On December 25, a packed midnight Mass was held in Bastogne, with Brigadier General Anthony McAuliffe, who commanded the 101st troops at Bastogne, in attendance. Afterwards the General listened to German POWs singing Silent Night, and wished them a Merry Christmas."

Today, American Legion Post 135 has members who have personal Christmas memories as they served during the Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, Desert Shield/Desert Storm and the War on Terrorism. Our members are the epitome of having uncoiled the "triple chain" that unites service to God, Country and Family with the continuous charitable works being performed within our community.

Volunteers are needed at Perry Point to assist at each Sunday's Protestant Service, held at 9:00 a.m., and Catholic Mass held 10:30 a.m. to assist medical staff in getting Veteran Patients to their respective chapel service.

On behalf of Post 135 Commander and all the Executive Officers, I wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I sincerely pray that in the upcoming New Year that everyone within the Post is blessed with good health and success in all personal endeavors.

Faithfully Yours In Christ.
Chaplain Blair Smolar

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Saturdays 8pm-11pm in the Lounge

| | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| Jan. 14 | DJ Culpepper Karaoke |
| Jan. 21 | DJ BackTraxx |
| Jan. 28 | Chasin' Cleveland (Band) |
| Feb. 4 | Raising Cain Band |
| Feb. 11 | Chasin' Cleveland (Band) |
| Feb. 18 | DJ Jimmy Karaoke |
| March 4 | DJ BackTraxx |
| March 11 | Chasin' Cleveland (Band) |
| March 18 | DJ Jimmy Karaoke |

AUXILIARY UNIT 135

BINGO

Every Monday

Doors Open At 5:30 PM

Games Begin At 6:30 PM

Early Birds, 5 Specials, Winner Take All & 50/50

Progressive Number Jackpot Game

Payout: \$500

Food Available for Purchase



About The American Legion


The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is the nation's largest veterans service organization, committed to mentoring and sponsorship of youth programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting a strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION **SQUADRON 135**

Texas Hold'em Tournament
Saturday, January 14, 2017

ANNUAL DRAW DOWN
Saturday, March 4, 2017


January 2017

| SUN <u>Shrimp</u> | MON | TUE | WED | THU <u>Pizza</u> | FRI <u>Chicken</u> | SAT <u>Wings & Shrimp</u> |
|---|--|-----------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1  | 2 ALA Bingo | 3 | 4 Gen. Membership Meeting 7pm | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 ALA Bingo | 10 SAL Meeting 7pm | 11 ALA Meeting 6pm | 12 No ALR Meeting | 13 | 14 DJ in Lounge SAL Texas Hold'em Tournament |
| 15 | 16 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i> ALA Bingo | 17 | 18 Leadership Meeting 6pm Exec. Comm. Meeting 7pm | 19 | 20 | 21 BackTraxx DJ Service in Lounge 8pm-11pm |
| 22 | 23 ALA Bingo | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 <i>Vietnam Cease-Fire 1973</i> | 28 <i>Chinese New Year Chasin' Cleveland in the Lounge 8-11pm</i> |
| 29 | 30 <i>Start of Tet Offensive 1968</i> ALA Bingo | 31 | | | | |

February 2017

| SUN <u>Shrimp</u> | MON | TUE | WED | THU <u>Pizza</u> | FRI <u>Chicken</u> | SAT <u>Wings & Shrimp</u> |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| | | | 1 <i>National Freedom Day</i> Gen. Membership Meeting 7pm | 2 <i>Groundhog Day</i> | 3 | 4 Raising Cain Band in Lounge 8-11pm |
| 5 SUPER BOWL PARTY | 6 ALA Bingo | 7 | 8 ALA Meeting 6pm | 9 ALR Meeting 7pm | 10 | 11 Chasin' Cleveland in Lounge 8-11pm |
| 12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i> | 13 ALA Bingo | 14 <i>Valentine's Day!!!</i> SAL Meeting 7pm | 15 Leadership Meeting 6pm Exec. Comm. Meeting 7pm | 16 | 17 | 18 DJ Jimmy Karaoke in Lounge 8-11pm |
| 19 | 20 <i>Presidents' Day</i> ALA Bingo | 21 | 22 <i>Washington's Birthday</i> | 23 <i>Iwo Jima Flag Raised 1945</i> | 24 <i>Operation Desert Storm 2/24/91-2/28/91</i> | 25 |
| 26 | 27 ALA Bingo | 28 <i>Mardi Gras</i> | | | | |

March 2017

| SUN <u>Shrimp</u> | MON | TUE | WED | THU <u>Pizza</u> | FRI <u>Chicken</u> | SAT <u>Wings & Shrimp</u> |
|---|--|-----------------------|---|------------------------|---|---|
| | | | 1 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Gen. Membership Meeting 7pm | 2 | 3 | 4 SAL Draw Down BackTraxx DJ Service in Lounge 8-11pm |
| 5 | 6 ALA Bingo | 7 | 8 ALA Meeting 6pm | 9 ALR Meeting 7pm | 10 | 11 Chasin' Cleveland in Lounge 8-11pm |
| 12 <i>Daylight Saving Time begins</i> ALR Breakfast Fundraiser | 13 ALA Bingo | 14 SAL Meeting 7pm | 15 <i>TAL Birthday</i> Leadership Meeting 6pm Exec. Comm. Meeting 7pm | 16 <i>TAL Birthday</i> | 17 <i>TAL Birthday</i> <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>  | 18 DJ Jimmy Karaoke in Lounge 8-11pm |
| 19 <i>Start of Operation Iraqi Freedom 2003</i> | 20 <i>First Day of Spring</i> ALA Bingo | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Cornhole Boards Raffle Drawing |
| 26 | 27 ALA Bingo | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

HOURS OF OPERATION

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| KITCHEN | | CLUB/LOUNGE |
| Monday-Wednesday | 11AM - 8PM | Monday-Thursday |
| Thursday-Friday | 11AM - 3PM | 10AM - 12AM |
| Saturday | 11AM - 4PM | Friday-Saturday |
| Sunday-Steamed Shrimp | 12-6 PM | 10AM - 2AM |
| Monday-Spaghetti AYCE | 4-8 PM | Sunday |
| Tuesday-Hamburger Steak | 4-8 PM | 12PM - 8PM |
| Wednesday-Flounder | 4-8 PM | Happy Hour: |
| Thursday-Pizza | 6-8 PM | Monday-Friday 4-6PM |
| Friday-Chicken | 6-8 PM | |
| Sat.-Wings & Fried Shrimp | 6-8 PM | |

RENTALS



All use of Legion facilities **MUST** be scheduled through the Office. Our Activity Hall is available for rent for weddings, birthday parties, anniversaries and special celebrations. The Ladies Auxiliary has a variety of menus to choose from for your special event. We will make every effort to make it a special occasion for you and your guests. We also have meeting rooms that would be suitable for monthly meetings, luncheons and small parties. For more information and to book your activity, please call 410-642-2325.

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These businesses support the American Legion through donations and/or discounts. 

THE AMERICAN LEGION
SUSQUEHANNA POST 135
PO BOX 98
PERRYVILLE, MD 21903
410-642-2771

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
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North East, MD 21901

MONTHLY MEETING TIMES

AL - 1st & 3rd Wednesday 7:00 PM
ALA - 2nd Wednesday 6:00 PM
SAL - 2nd Tuesday 7:00 PM
ALR - 2nd Thursday 7:00 PM