

# The Post Parade



May, June 2019

POST 500

## Commander's Corner

I would like to thank the 1,500 plus Legion Family members for the support that you have given me this past year. I truly believe that the Post is currently in a good place. I also would like to thank the Post for the fundraisers that have been conducted for me, to support my campaign for State Commander of the American Legion during the 2020 – 2021 Legion year.

**It's not too late to volunteer to help in the Clubroom and for parking. We need all the volunteers we can get.**

Membership is the life blood of our organization. We need members. Every one of you reading this newsletter knows of someone who is eligible to join the American Legion, all you have to do is ask them to join. We have lost at least 28 members to Post Everlasting this year, and we have had members transfer. As of this writing, there are 81 members that have not renewed their membership for the 2019 Legion Year. Please ask and recruit members.

During the Department Executive committee meeting, which was held on Sunday, April 7, 2019, a resolution was passed to create a new Five-Year Membership plan. This plan permits the Department of Indiana to establish a dues discount program of a one-time payment of \$175.00 for five years of continuous membership. What this means is that if you pay \$175.00 for your next membership renewal you do not have to worry about your membership for the next 5 years. If there are any dues increase during this time, it would not affect you. Participation is purely voluntary. The Post membership has voted on April 9, 2019 to participate in this program once it is voted on by the delegates of the 101<sup>st</sup> annual convention, to be held on July 13, 2019. If you are interested in the new 5-year membership program there will a form available after July 13, 2019. For more information, contact the Membership Chairman or me.

Neil Armstrong, Bill Clinton, Michael Jordan, Jane Pauley, Bruce Springsteen, Mark Wahlberg, Jon Bon Jovi, Barry Barnes, Nancy Redd, Christine Gregoire. What do all these people have in common? They all attended Boys State or Girls State when they were seniors in High School. If you know of a young adult who will be a senior next school year, you can get more information at <http://hoosierboysstate.org> and <http://www.aladepin.org> and enroll them in the program.

Did I mention that **Hoosier Boys State, Hoosier Girls State** and the **IALYClea** are **FREE** of charge to attend? Children and Youth is one of our founding principles of the American Legion.

A new program that was created, by a resolution at Post 500 last year, is the Indiana **American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Academy**. This year's academy will be held at Anderson University from July 14<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup>. This year we are looking for 75 High School cadets. If you have an interest in this program and need more information, please contact me or visit <https://www.indianalegion.org/lawcadet.html>.

## POST 500 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### Commander

Mark Gullion – 317.431.0184  
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### 1st Vice Commander

Johnette Lawson – 317.504.9768  
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### 2nd Vice Commander

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### Adjutant

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### Service Officer

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### Chaplain

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### Judge Advocate

Joe Olofson – 317.518.9642  
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### Sergeant-at-Arms

Bryce White – 317.509.7550  
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### Historian

Jasmin Pettiford – 317.506.3634  
[2jazzi1218@gmail.com](mailto:2jazzi1218@gmail.com)

Another Children and Youth program is the **Junior Shooting Sports**. You may remember that we had this program in the Post in the late 90's. Junior Shooting Sports begins in the Post and go to regional, state and national competition. Bruce White and Louis Day II are heading this program up and working on becoming certified instructors. Stay tuned for more information on the Post level, and for more information please refer to <https://www.indianalegion.org/jssp>.

Our annual elections were held during the April 9, 2019 meeting. The following are the officers of the 2019 – 2020 Executive Committee:

Johnette Lawson	Commander
Mark A. Gullion	Adjutant
Jasmin Pettiford	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander
Steve Sabo	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander
Bruce Drake	Finance Officer
Louis C. Day II	Service officer
Danny Cain	Chaplain
Mark Jacobs	Historian
Larry Kuhns	Judge Advocate
Bryce White	Sergeant-At-Arms

Please welcome these members of the Executive Board and join them at the annual installation of Officers on June the 7<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:00 PM. Tickets for this event can be purchased in the Clubroom beginning May the 28<sup>th</sup>. This will be a joint installation with the Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion.

On June 2, 2019 the 11<sup>th</sup> District will be conducting a Golf Outing fundraiser. The outing will be held at the Winding River Golf Club, 8015 Mann Road. There will be a Shotgun start at 8:00 AM. Hole sponsorship is \$100.00, Foursome is \$200.00, and individual is \$50.00. For more information, contact Bryan Davis, the 11<sup>th</sup> District chairman at 317-363-1750, applications can also be found in the lobby of the Post.

Again, I would like to thank everyone for all that you have done. If I can be of any assistance, please contact me.

Mark A. Gullion  
Post Commander

*Did you know that last year Speedway Post 500 donated over \$47,000.00 to support our legion programs and other charities in the community?*

**I am the American Legion:  
LZ Harrison (video)**



because it matters



## OPERATION COMFORT WARRIORS

As the war in Afghanistan winds down, U.S. military personnel are coming home where they join other recent veterans who served in Iraq. Many of these servicemembers have left the battlefield only to be faced with a new fight: a struggle to overcome the mental and physical wounds suffered during deployment. Those with traumatic brain injury (TBI) or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are returning home in unprecedented numbers. In fact, the Army has said that up to 20 percent of the men and women who served in Afghanistan or Iraq have suffered TBI.

Even as the wars conclude, those in the military still face inherent dangers while fighting the global war on terrorism, during training exercises and while performing other dangerous duties. While the care at many military hospitals and warrior transition units is extraordinary, The American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW) program was created to provide "nonessentials" - items that help wounded warriors' recovery but don't usually show up as a budget line on government spreadsheets.



**How it Works** - The Legion contacts officials at military hospitals, warrior transition units and surrounding communities, and obtains lists to determine which items are needed by wounded, injured or ill servicemembers. Once a need is identified, the items are ordered by the Legion and delivered in an expeditious manner. It's as simple as that. No red tape.

**How Recipients Benefit** - today, wounded warriors need a variety of items to help in their recovery. Some patients might need loose-fitting sweatsuits to cover their healing wounds without adding pressure to burns sustained during a rocket attack. Others might need an iPod to help drown out the tinnitus that has plagued their ears since their vehicle struck an IED. Still others might need fitness equipment to rebuild strength in their muscles.

From gift cards to patients at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, to electronics for Marines at Camp Pendleton, OCW represents the Legion's expression of gratitude. These gifts will not make our wounded warriors whole again, but they do express the Legion's gratitude. The program relies on funds, which are used to purchase items for the servicemembers.

**How You Can Help** - most military medical centers are not equipped to store large quantities of care packages. The Legion strongly prefers monetary donations so that it can expedite the purchase and delivery of items to troops.

**How to donate** - [Click here to contribute a donation electronically.](#)

Checks may be mailed to:  
Operation Comfort Warriors  
The American Legion  
5745 Lee Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216

## **M E M B E R S H I P !!**

1. **Membership** for 2020 will go from June 2019 through May 2020.
  - If you are a **dual member** or **you and your spouse belong to two different memberships**, please make payments out separately. This will solve a lot of confusion and we will make sure the said membership group gets the credit and payment.
  - If you have a **change in address**, please make sure that the membership coordinator is aware of the change.
  - Our membership cost for Legionnaire is **\$45.00**.
  - If you are aware of a member who has **passed away**, please be sure to relay that information to the membership coordinator and/or any officer of the legion.
  - When you pay your 2020 membership dues show your new card to the bartender and they will give you a **new door key**.
  - If you have any issues with your membership, please address it with the membership coordinator or the Commander.

We have made that mark with 89.70%. I want to thank everyone for their work in recruiting new members, great job! However, we can't let up and we need to continue this great effort.

2. **Monthly Meeting:** We, the board, would like to see more of our members at our monthly meetings. The meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month. We need your participation to help build our Legion. Your ideas, input, and presence are very important to us and our veterans. We are in the process of putting together more programs within the Legion. How would you like to play Euchre/cards, take a trip, or just get together for a family picnic and have fun? Hope to see you at our next meeting!
3. **Programs:**
  - **Boys State:** I will be reaching out to some high school counselors to get the word out for the upcoming Boys State program. If you know of any young males who have successfully completed their junior year of high school and who have at least one more semester remaining are considered. Previous participants of a Boys State competition are not allowed to attend a second session. Only those who illustrate leadership, character, scholarship, loyalty, and service in their schools and community should be considered. Merit and ability are the basis for evaluation during the actual citizen's selection process.
  - **Post Scholarship:** The John Hannon Scholarship and Keith Collins Scholarship will be awarded the first of May 2019 to the winners.
4. **May 2019 Race Parking:** With the month of May quickly approaching, we are calling on all Legionnaires, Riders, Sons of Legionnaires, and Auxiliary members for assistance.
  - I will be putting up the signup sheets for volunteers.
  - The hours will be in four-hour increments.

Until we meet again, always remember, "For God and Country, we are committed to the welfare of our fellow veterans and their families."

Johnette Lawson  
1st Vice Commander

## Steve Sabo - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander

My favorite month of the year is finally here. It won't be long, and we'll hear race cars.

Last year when Johnette decided she was going to run for Post Commander she asked if I would be her 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice. I told her I would be proud to do so for the first female Commander of Post 500. I hope everyone will support her. She is the right person for the job.

We have a lot going on at the Post in May. Please check the calendar of the entertainment schedule. I'd like to encourage all our loyal customers to continue to support the Clubroom in May. Beer prices will NOT increase. Every effort has been made to make parking in the evenings as easy as possible for our regulars. I'd also encourage everyone who comes in to welcome all of our out of town visitors and campers. Please make them feel like a part of the American Legion. A lot of the campers are Legion members, and several are Post 500 members but live in other states.

There will NOT be a Friday night drawing on Carb night (May 24). The United we Stand Game was hit on April 12<sup>th</sup> for \$10,600.00. The new Friday game is called JACKPOT RACING.

***We really need volunteers to park cars.*** There are signup sheets in the main lobby. We need help on several days, not just Race Day. If you can help for a few hours, it would really help. If you have any questions, please contact Johnette or me.

We have a new Kitchen Manager; it is Kim Nordmeyer. I think she is a perfect fit for your Clubroom.

Just a reminder, the Post is now open on Mondays. Six days a week we open at 3:00 pm - Mondays is also \$1 beer day.

I'd like to invite every member to attend our monthly membership meetings. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. Come in and see what the Post does, it's not just the Clubroom. It's the American Legion.

If anyone has questions or concerns about the Clubroom, please contact me.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS POST 500!

Steve Sabo  
2nd Vice Commander



May 14 – American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7 pm  
May 14 – Sons of American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7 pm  
May 21 – American Legion Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 7 pm  
May 28 – American Legion Riders Monthly Meeting, 7 pm

June 11 – American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7 pm  
June 11 – Sons of American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7 pm  
June 18 – American Legion Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 7 pm  
June 25 – American Legion Riders Monthly Meeting, 7 pm



## Kelley Lowry - Assistant Clubroom Manager

Hello American Legion Friends and Family! A big welcome to our Indy 500 campers and parkers! Here we are again at the greatest time of the year here at Post 500. We are planning on a busy month, so please make sure to check your emails, newsletters and calendars for different events, entertainment, dinner specials and drink specials. We will be needing some help around here this month, so if you think you could possibly spare a few hours of your time, please talk to me or one of our officers to get you penciled in. Thank you in advance for any time you can give us!

Everything on the clubroom side is going great. Both our Thursday night drawing (Treasure Hunt) and our Friday night drawing (United We Stand) have been getting busier and busier. Thank you to all who come in and participate in all the activities those evenings. We wouldn't be able to do all the fun and great things that this post does without our Veterans and their families.

Don't forget that we are now open on Mondays for \$1.00 beer, along with specials on our awesome pizzas! Another new thing taking place here at the Post is our Tuesday night Family drawing. If you are a current 2019 member of the Legionnaires, SAL or Auxiliary here at Post 500 you are eligible to be in the drawing. It only takes \$1.00 a week. Come in and sign the book any night and the drawings are on Tuesdays at 6 pm.

Thank you!

Kelley Lowry  
Assistant Clubroom Manager

Congratulations to our weekly winners!

Join us Thursday nights for **YOUR** chance to win the Treasure Hunt!



**Congratulations!**



## The National Convention is coming to Indianapolis.

**How much do you know about your post and legion history if someone were to ask?**

Here are just a few things that might help you answer our guest's questions.

Members of the American Expeditionary Force convened in Paris for the first American Legion caucus. The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919. The first Legion Convention was held in Minneapolis. There are 55 Departments of the American Legion with Headquarters here in Indianapolis. The first woman elected National Commander was Denise Rohan of Wisconsin in 2017. The four pillars of the American Legion are Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism and Children and Youth.



The first installation of officers was at Post 198 of the 12 District in 1941 and became part of the 11<sup>th</sup> District in 1943. In 1967 the request was made to change the Post to 500 as it is known today. Speedway Post 500 has an annual Flag Retirement Ceremony, where unserviceable flags are ceremonially burned. The Indiana Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Academy, Hoosier Boys and Girls State, Oratorical Contest, Flag Education are just a few of our youth programs. The Post 500 family includes the Auxiliary, the Sons and the Legion Riders.



# Auxiliary News from Dorinda Resner



## OFFICERS

### President

Dorinda Resner

### Vice President

Judy Otey

### Secretary

Rhonda Jones

### Recording Secretary

Tammy Rork

### Treasurer

Vickie Bunting

### Chaplain

Terri Hannon

### Historian

Evelyn Hinshaw

### Parliamentarian

Kristen Hinshaw

### Sergeant-at-Arms

Jackie Pearson

Denise Albrecht

Kind words can be  
short and easy to  
speak, but their  
echoes are truly  
endless.

*Mother Teresa*

Greetings Ladies!

It is hard to believe my year as President is coming to an end. It has been a pleasure and honor to serve you in this capacity! You have been amazingly supportive and without your hard work and dedication, our Unit would not be able to do the wonderful things we do for our Veterans. THANK YOU!!

Our April meeting was held on 4/16 and elections of your Unit officers for the coming year were held. Please extend your congratulations and support for **Judy Otey** - President, **Connie Crouch** - Vice President, **Tammy Rork** - Recording Secretary, **Rhonda Jones** - Corresponding Secretary, **Melanie Findley** - Treasurer, **Terri Hannon** - Chaplain, **Evelyn Hinshaw** - Historian. The Executive Committee will be **Norma Rowbotham**, **Vicki Bunting** & **Dorinda Resner**. These officers will be installed at the Post Joint Installation the evening of June 7. Anyone is welcome to attend the dinner and ceremony; tickets will be available at the Clubroom beginning May 28.

May is Poppy Month and May 24<sup>th</sup> is National Poppy Day! These small flowers that our Veterans make are a poignant reminder of the sacrifices of our Military during times of war. Money raised by the donations for poppies goes directly to Veterans to give them aid and assistance in their needs. Next time you have the opportunity to make a donation for a poppy, I hope you will. And when May 24<sup>th</sup> comes around, I hope you will take a moment to remember the reason for this holiday and honor those it celebrates.

The month of May also brings the Greatest Spectacle in Racing back to our fair city – and that means a busy time at Speedway Post 500! And a very fun and exciting time – seeing old friends come back to our Post, meeting new friends and welcoming race fans. Melanie Findley is heading the Chairmanship of organizing our red concession shed. If you would like to contribute or help work during any of the races, please contact her and let her know. Her email is: [melfindley@gmail.com](mailto:melfindley@gmail.com).

Ladies - enjoy your Spring and Summer – remember our Military and Veterans – give generously – help one another – and always be kind.

Sincerely yours,  
Dorinda Resner, Unit 500 President 2018-19

## For those who like to knit, crochet or wear jewelry:

During the month of May, for every stitch marker purchased, 50% of the sale will go to the **American Legion Auxiliary, Speedway Unit 500 Poppy Program!**

Now you can have them help with your projects AND help veterans and their families! These can be used as a stitch marker for knitting, progress keeper for crochet, or as earrings, since they are silver plated.

Ann Tudor is a member of the knitting group that meets at Post 500 on Wednesday evenings. To purchase these poppy stitch markers, visit her website: [www.anntudor.com](http://www.anntudor.com).





# American Legion Riders News



The 2019 riding season has begun!

So far, we have participated in several events at other Chapters in District 11. We have also attended the Legion Spring Conference Rider meeting. We did well with our merchandise sales at the conference – as well as having a great time!

We are making plans to attend the International Romp in Elizabethtown, KY. From all indications at the State Meeting, Indiana will be well represented at this event – the last weekend in June. We are planning to meet up in Southern Indiana and all ride in together as a group.

Thanks to all who stopped by our merchandise booth at Conference. We appreciate you spending time and money with us. This is our only means of getting money to support our veterans and veteran organizations. We will be set up at Department Convention on July 12 & 13. Stop by again and chat while you shop!

Riders - 2019 ALR dues are now due! The new 2020 dues year will begin after Close of Books the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in June. Get paid up now so you don't fall behind. If you have not paid your 2019 ALR dues, you are a guest – not a member. Dues may be paid to the Post bartender. Keep your receipt until you get your card.

The Riders continue to support the Post and Post activities. We look forward to everyone there!

**Our regular monthly meetings are the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm.**

Dina Long, Director  
ALR Chapter 500



## Sons of the American Legion News

May is finally here and the motorhomes and cars are all around us. Now all we need is **HELP** with our Post Parking and in the Clubroom. The work is not hard, and the comradery is second to none. Please sign up for a shift or fill in when you can.

Nominations for Squadron Officers were taken at the April meeting and there are still a couple Offices open - voting will take place at the May meeting.

The Detachment Golf Tournament will take place at Kokomo Post 6 Golf Course on Saturday June 1. The Detachment Legion Family Campout will take place at Boonville Post 200 on June 21-23. Information about these activities can be found at [www.indianasal.org](http://www.indianasal.org) along with other Detachment information.

As everyone knows, the cost of doing business has risen over the years and we have done our best to hold the line on raising our dues. However, time has come for an increase starting with the 2020 Membership Year in June. Senior's dues will rise to \$25.00 and Junior's (under 21) to \$10.00.

Have some fun, become active and receive the most from your membership!

Damon Bradtmueller  
Squadron 500 Commander