

# Hillsboro Post 6 News



The American Legion Family



Still Serving America Proudly



Volume MMXX

Official Newsletter of Hillsboro Post No. 6

March Issue

## Hillsboro Police Officer of the Year Award Dinner



The American Legion Hillsboro Post No. 6 conducted our annual Police Officer of the Year Dinner and Award event on the 11th of February. Officer David Bonn was selected by his peers to be The American Legion Hillsboro Post No. 6 Officer of the Year for his dedicated service to the citizens and community of Hillsboro Oregon.

Officer Bonn's Fiance, along with her parents and Officer Bonn's parents, attended the dinner and ceremony.

Pictured on the left is Officer Bonn with his fiancée and his K-9 partner, Ace.



## Commander's Corner

By Tim Pierce, Commander

### Volunteer Opportunities

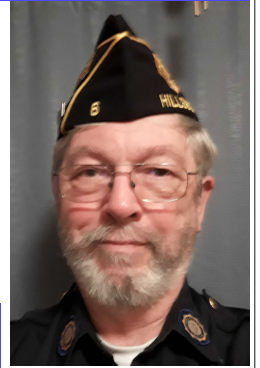
We have volunteer opportunities for the following events.

Fun Run on Memorial Day,

4th of July Parade,

Garlic Festival in the Roasted Corn booth coming up in August,

The Baseball teams for the American Legion Baseball are starting to be registered. When the season starts we can use volunteers to help the Hillsboro Post 6 AAA team, Barbers Baseball. If you have a passion for serving veterans or helping with the events please let us know.



## Chaplain's Corner

By Lynn Hamm, Chaplain

Our family experienced the passing of a nephew earlier this month. Jon would have been 31 years old on the 16th of February. Needless to say his passing has devastated his parents and most of the rest of the family as well. Children shouldn't die before their parents. It's just not normal. Thankfully almost everyone in our family is a Christian and therefore a believer in the promises of God. So we have our faith and each other to see us through difficult situations like this.

But I know there are those among us who don't have a faith or even family to fall back on during the struggles we all face at one time or another in this life. So how do they get through it? Hopefully this is where the American Legion can offer at least some partial assistance. After all, it's a part of what we are known for. We exist to help and to serve our fellow veterans who are facing difficulties and are in need.

So, if you've got something you're dealing with or you just need someone to talk to, we're here to help. I can not tell you we'll always have the answer or be able to resolve every issue, but I can say that we're willing to listen and try to help if we are able. Just let us know.

The best way to reach out to us is to attend one of our meetings or some of the other functions we hold throughout the month. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except in July and August). Other times that we're together are listed on our website (<http://hillsboropost6.org>). The events calendar is on the left side of the first page. So check it out and we'll hope to see you even if you don't need any help right now.

Blessings, Lynn

P.S. please contact me if you become aware of anyone facing a serious illness or the passing of a member of our Post. My phone number is listed on this newsletter and if I don't answer right away, please leave a message along with your phone number. I promise I will respond. Thank you.



## Auxiliary President

By Teresa Hammond, President

Hello All,

March is here with the flowers starting to come up and bloom. Speaking of flowers...we will soon be distributing poppies in the month of May. I will post a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board sometime in March. All that's needed is a smiling face and an appreciation for our Veterans, past and present. If you haven't done it before, we can put you with someone who has. We would especially like to invite Legionnaires who can also be with us. Your presence reminds people why we are there and the importance of supporting our Veterans. You can email or call me if you would like to help.

Also, this month the Post is hosting the Hillsboro Firefighters to honor their Firefighter of the Year award. This will take place during what would be our potluck time before the March meetings. No need to bring something- the Post is serving the meal and the Auxiliary (us!) will bring desserts only. Traditionally, we will send any remaining desserts back with the firefighters for those who couldn't get away. Please come if you can, it is always great to visit and thank them!

Always, Teresa

## Auxiliary Membership

By Linda Liebenow, Unit Membership Chair

The second renewal notice went out in February. If you received one, that means that we have not received your membership dues for 2020. If you have any questions, please call Linda Liebenow 503-826-5877.

Your membership is important to us. We would love to see you at a meeting or a social event, but if you can't, your membership dues help us fund programs for our Veterans, Girls State, Americanism and Poppies. We thank you!

## The Adjutant's Desk

By David Bogner, Adjutant

Mike Marusa has stepped down as the Newsletter Editor and Publisher. He is preparing to move out of state so I volunteered to fill the position on a temporary basis. Some of you may recognize the format of this issue being similar to the Department of Oregon, Legionnaire publication that I helped to publish in years past. I hope this is satisfactory as we look for someone to fill the position. Hats off and many thanks to Mike for his service!

Spring is in the air and the bulbs are pushing skyward. It's a welcome sight! As we look forward to warmer weather and longer days I hope you will find time to spend at the Post. We really need more members participating in activities and helping with Post maintenance. Only a hand full of us are keeping the place clean and the plumbing in working order. There are many open projects on the "board". I try to be available at the Post on Saturday's, 07:30-Noon, if anyone is interested in helping.

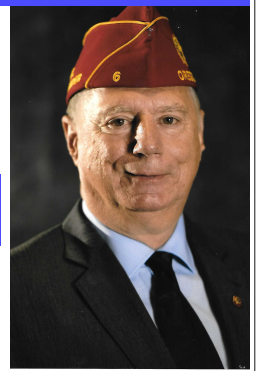
Thank you for your membership and for your support!



## Membership Report

By Robert D. Liebenow, Chairman

As of this writing, our paid membership stands at 219, that is 7 behind where we were last year at this same time. Whether you attend meetings or not, your membership is important to us and to the veterans that we help. Please renew today, help us make a difference in the lives of our veterans and their families.



## Sons of The American Legion

By Robert D. Liebenow, Commander

As members of The Sons of The American Legion, our purpose is to promote the aims and goals of The American Legion.

Our membership stands at 11, with only 2 members on our roster that have not yet paid for 2020. When they pay, we will be at 130% of our 2020 goal of 10. If you have a son or grandson, please consider signing them up in the SAL.

## Nominations Open for Post Officers

The Bylaws of Hillsboro Post No. 6, state;

### ARTICLE V—ELECTIONS

Section 1. - Election of Post Officers shall be held annually at the May meeting. Officers shall be installed at the June meeting.

Section 2. - Elections will be by voice vote, unless there are two or more candidates for the same position, then voting will be done by ballot.

Section 3. - The following will be elected to a one year term, Commander, Vice-commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Chaplain, and Sergeant-at-Arms. One member at-large will be elected for a three year term.

Section 4. - Those so elected and properly installed shall take office at the close of the June meeting.

It is customary for the Post to open nominations at the March meeting in order to allow time for selecting nominees for office for the coming year. Officers serve one year terms commencing after the Department Convention at the end of June, and serve through the following 12 months.

The Post operates as a non-profit, 501(c)(19) Veterans Services Corporation. The organization is complex as it must satisfy the American Legion National Organizations charter requirements, Federal IRS regulations, State of Oregon Corporate rules and the fiduciary responsibilities associated with our finances and banking. If you have experience with administration, finance, human resources, facilities maintenance, experience running a non-profit corporation or small business, we need you.

Please help us with these important functions. The Post can not survive without dedicated individuals volunteering their time and effort to carry out daily corporate operations and oversee the important programs the American Legion supports. Service to our Community, State and Nation is a primary pillar of our organization. Please step up and lend a hand!



## Flag Room Progress



*By David Bogner - House Committee Chair*

The flag room is finally taking shape with shelving and tote boxes replacing the floor to ceiling stacks of random, torn and scattered cardboard boxes. What a relief! Now, we need to keep the inventory moving out to the community and make room for more flags that come in each month from our friends at Good Will Industries. This presents an opportunity for all Post members to participate by contacting your neighbors and friends with an offer to replace worn and unserviceable flags and demonstrate the American Legion's support for a strong Americanism. See you at the Post!

## Message From The VA Secretary

February 6, 2020

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War

President Trump signed the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 on March 28, 2017, to recognize and thank our Vietnam Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice during one of the longest wars in our country's history. This Act designates every March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day—a day for all Americans to come together to remember and honor the service and sacrifice of our Vietnam Veterans and their families.

We remember 9 million American men and women—more than 6 million living today—who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces during our involvement in Vietnam from November 1, 1955, to May 7, 1975. Whether they were stationed in-country, in-theater, or elsewhere during those two decades, they answered the call to duty.

I am the son of a Vietnam Veteran and career Army officer. One of the most traumatic days of my life was being told that my father had been gravely wounded in the invasion of Cambodia in 1970. I was six. After three long years of recovery, he returned to the 82nd Airborne Division. So, my family and I experienced first-hand the enormous sacrifices this generation of Americans made in courageous service to our Nation.

This year, VA again joins more than 11,000 organizations across the country as a commemorative partner supporting the Department of Defense in this Vietnam War Commemoration. The commemoration program was launched in 2012 and continues to 2025. I invite all VA leaders to either host ceremonies or participate in community events from March 25 to March 29.

Additionally, help us reach those Vietnam Veterans who may be living in remote locations, those who are physically unable to attend commemorative events, and those in assisted living, geriatric, rehabilitative, or palliative care. It is our duty to show our deep gratitude to this generation of warriors and their families.

Please visit <https://www.vietnamwar50th.com/> to learn how your organization or facility can be a commemorative partner and participate in this important tribute. Official commemorative partnership offers historical media and opportunity to request lapel pins and other recognition items to present to Vietnam Veterans.

Thank you all for your service to VA and your devotion America's Veterans.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Wilkie



## MARCH - This Month in Military History

The month of March, like every month of the year, has its notable events that occurred in our military history. In March of 1931, Congress approved "The Star Spangled Banner" as the official national anthem. Unofficially, Americans had been singing Francis Scott Key's song since the War of 1812.

In 1933 the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was established, providing jobs for 250,000 unemployed young men between the ages of 18 and 25. U.S. Army officers directed CCC projects in reforestation, road construction, prevention of soil erosion, flood control, and maintenance of national parks.

On March 5, 1942, the U.S. Navy Seabees (Naval Construction Force) began operations during the early days of World War 2, and became famous during the Navy's island hopping campaigns in the Pacific, for their engineering skills as well as their bravery.

In March of 1943, the Battle of Bismarck Sea demonstrated the feasibility of the new "skip-bombing method of attack adopted by the Allies. In this battle, which started on March 2nd, and lasted until the 14th, American and Australian medium bombers, under Lt. Gen. George Kenney, flew low level attacks and destroyed eight Japanese Transports and four destroyers.

Also during March 1943, the U.S. 2nd Corps opened its drive toward Gabes, Tunisia, in a series of diversionary blows intended to distract the Germans from Field Marshal Montgomery's major assault on the Mareth Line. The new commander of 2nd Corp, Lt. Gen. George Patton, revitalized the beaten troops of Kasserine with his insistence on discipline and soldierly pride.

On March 9, 1945, the fire bombing of Tokyo killed 84,000 Japanese and destroyed about one-fourth of the buildings in the Japanese Capital. Under the command of Maj. Gen. Curtis LeMay, the 279 Superfortresses dropped large numbers of incendiary bombs on the city. 14 Superfortresses were shot down during the operation.

Later in March, 1945, U.S. Naval Task 58, under Admiral Mitscher, conducted carrier strikes against military targets on Kyushu to neutralize the island before the impending invasion of Okinawa.

Also that same month, the first Allied troops to land across the Rhine were airborne forces under Maj. Gen. Matthew Ridgeway. Winston Churchill witnessed the spectacular daylight drop of two airborne divisions.

Also in March of 1945, The U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima destroyed the last enemy resistance and occupied the island. This bloody month long campaign cost the United States more than 20,000 casualties, and almost the entire Japanese garrison of 23,000 was annihilated. Admiral Nimitz said, " Among the Americans who served on Iwo Island, uncommon valor was a common virtue. More Marines received the Medal of Honor for their bravery on Iwo, than any other campaign or battle in history.

During the Korean War, on March 14, 1951, United Nations Forces recaptured Seoul. Seoul changed hands for the fourth time, following the success of "Operation Ripper". Under General Matthew Ridgeway, the United Nations forces drove the enemy from Seoul and marched into the capital unopposed. By March 31, the Eighth Army resumed its old position along the 38th Parallel.

In Vietnam, on March 3, 1965, the first direct and massive intervention of American ground forces in Vietnam began. U.S. Marines, 3,900 strong, landed on the beaches near DaNang at the request of the government of Saigon. Their mission was to protect DaNang Airbase. The old advisory role of the U.S. became a combatant role.

On March 16, 1968, U.S. Army soldiers swept through the hamlet of My Lai outside the village of Sonsung. Lt. William Calley, was in charge of First Platoon, Company C, First Battalion, 20th Infantry, under the Command of Captain Ernest Medina. Calley was ordered to lead a task force to Son My in Quang Ngai Province and destroy a suspected Vietcong stronghold in the hamlet of My Lai.

Reports circulated that Calley and his platoon gunned down 109 men, women and children. It was three years later, on March 29, 1971, that Lt. Calley Jr. was convicted by a court martial jury of six officers of 22 premeditated murders at My Lai Hamlet. Two days later the jury sentenced Calley to life in prison, dismissal from the service, and forfeiture of pay and allowances. His verdict was lessened to twenty years, and then he was paroled in November 1975.

In March of 1972, the North Vietnamese launched their long anticipated invasion of South Vietnam. Communist forces staged a coordinated attack on South Vietnamese fire support bases along the DMZ.

The following year, on March 15, 1973, Headquarters, US Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) closed in Saigon. Southeast Asia Operations would transfer to Thailand. On March 29th of that same month, the last U.S. combat troops left South Vietnam. Meeting the deadline set by the Paris Peace Talks, the last of the 2500 American servicemen left Saigon's Ton Son Nhut Air Base for home.

There were still American military personnel in Vietnam, and the dying had not yet come to an end.

Editor's note: This listing was reproduced from the desk of Bob Hogan, Former Director, Burlington, MA Veteran's Services from the following web site: [http://www.burlington.org/community\\_development/march.php](http://www.burlington.org/community_development/march.php)



## History Redux

# ALNS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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9/6/57

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (ALNS)---Winner of the William E Rominger Memorial Award for the best editorial appearing in an American Legion publication during the past year is William A. McKay, Jr. past commander of Westchester County, N. Y. McKay's award winning entry was carried in the "Westchester County Legionnaire." Presentation of the plaque will be made at the annual dinner of The American Legion Press Association, Sunday, Sept. 15 at the 500 Club in Atlantic City. McKay's editorial follows:

"I say with all the sincerity at my command that we must have more people interest themselves in the future of The American Legion or we may follow the buffalo, the Whig Party and the nickel cigar into limbo. Candid appraisal on your part must necessarily reveal that by and large our World War II and Korean Conflict members are not showing the enthusiasm that characterized the World War I founders of our great organization.

"The question seems to be what can the Legion do for me? What do I get out of it if I give my time as an officer committee chairman or committee member? There is only one answer, nothing more than the knowledge of having served others and the satisfaction that comes from a job well done. You get out of The American Legion only what you put into it.

"Unless you believe in its principles, further its aims, attend its meetings and support its programs, you have no right to hold an office. No group can afford the luxury of casual performers in positions of responsibility. Only dedicated people can breathe life into this service organization. Without these dedicated people The American Legion will wither and die.

"Now if you believe in Almighty God, in the United States of America, in the rehabilitation of your sick and disabled comrades, in care for the children of America, in a better and more loyal Americanism and in service to your community, state and nation and what is more, you are willing to do something to further all these beliefs, The American Legion needs you.

"Brother its great to have you aboard. See you at the meetings. Keep up the good work. Best wishes for a successful term of office or committee tenure. May the Lord bless you and endow you with infinite wisdom that you may better serve your fellow man."

## Activities

### Events Schedule for March

**Tuesday, March 3**  
6:00pm - E-Board Meeting

**Thursday, March 5**  
6:00pm - Steak or Salmon

**Saturday, March 7**  
DISTRICT MEETING  
Clatsop Post No.12 (Astoria)  
Lunch @ Noon - Meetings @ 1:00pm  
6:00pm - Hamburger - Hotdog  
- 10 cent Bingo

**Monday, March 9**  
6:00pm - Money Monday

**Tuesday, March 10**  
6:00pm - Fire Fighter of the Year Dinner  
7:30pm - Post Meetings

**Wednesday, March 11**  
8:00pm - School awards dropoff

**Wednesday, March 18**  
6:00pm - Boys State Interviews

**Thursday, March 19**  
6:00pm - Legion Birthday Dinner  
Fun Run Planning Meeting

**Thursday, March 26**  
6:00pm - Tacos

Editors note: Please bear with us as we search for a compatible Calendar application.

### Salad Bar

Coming in April

Mark Thursday, April 23, on your appointment list. The Post will host a Salad Bar - Pot Luck at 18:00. Bring your favorite salad dressing! RSVP to Bob at 503-647-2937 by April 21st. with your preferred salad and Bob will provide your favorites for \$5.00 a person. He suggests; Green, Pasta, Seafood or just Veggie. Various toppings offered as well. Come and enjoy the company of the American Legion family.

### District 1 Raffle

District 1 is raffling a framed lithographic print of "Legacy & Vision" to be awarded at the 2020 Department Convention. This print also has an American Legion silver commemorative coin included in the frame. Tickets are available at the Post. \$5.00 per ticket or 5 for \$20.00. See Adjutant Bogner for tickets.



### Contacts

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Adjutant	David Bogner	503-443-9089
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