



# For God and Country

Seward Post 5 Newsletter  
American Legion Post 5  
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## Commander's Comments...

By: Bobby Dunno

Yea I know, most of you are used to seeing me write about riding my motorcycle at this time of year and much later in the newsletter, but now that I have moved up in positions at the Post ya'll get to read my excitement at the spring riding season on the front page! Speaking of spring it is a good time to reflect on the past winter and send a heartfelt thanks out to those who came out and supported the Post through the winter months. Also to remind everyone that there is lots of activities coming up soon that will call on your continued support to see us through as we continue our mission to support our community and the Veterans in it.

Some may have noticed (not that you can help it) but the stairs on the south side of the



building have been removed signaling the beginning of the restoration project for the Post

south wall. We are replacing most of the windows and all the exterior siding along with making repairs to any and all defects we discover as we remove the old and replace with all new materials endeavoring to stop the continuous and aggravating leaks when it rains. Not that it ever does that in Seward right! Mike has requested that anyone who wants to spend some time outdoors working in the fresh air come on out and pitch in. It is going to hard but rewarding work and I believe they plan on getting it done during a break in the weather so hopefully it will be sunny and warm.



Larry Gentry and I attended the 97 Annual Department of Alaska Convention last week, together we learned more about the workings of the American Legion here in Alaska. Post 5 was again presented the Certificate of Distinguished Service from the National Americanism Commission, for Department of Alaska. It is the top Americanism awarded to a Post in each American Legion Department and we at Post 5 can feel real good to have earned it again through our Community Service and Americanism programs this past year. Having this presented to us again recognizes the great job our Volunteers from the Legion Fam-

ily at Post 5 actually do and demonstrates just how well we support our community when compared to other Post here in Alaska.



On the subject of volunteering there will be ample opportunities to pitch in during the month of May. Mother's Day is on May 8<sup>th</sup> and of course we all want to honor our Mom's, the Post will be hosting a Mother's Day breakfast I am not exactly sure what the breakfast menu will be but, I will bet that it will be tasty as most Post 5 breakfast events are. We will be celebrating Armed Forces Day on May 21<sup>st</sup> which will also coincide with Seward's Harbor Opening and our own American Legion Riders

Blessing of the Bikes. Awesome volunteers from our American Legion Family will be down at the Boat Harbor cooking and serving Hot Dog and other picnic fixin's. Our own Chaplain Vernon Willet will be conducting the Bike Blessing here at the Post before then we are headed to the Harbor to help and help eat some of those tasty hot dogs, potato salad and baked bean, hmmm good. May 26<sup>th</sup> will find us supporting the Armed Forces YMCA Combat Fishing Tournament, Post 5 will be performing a multitude of task beginning at a very early hour and working to support Seward's Fishing Charter Boat Association while they do their best to bring the Soldiers and Airman who have fought in America's Conflicts out on Resurrection Bay and the Gulf of Alaska and haul in some big ones! On May 30 is Memorial Day and we will be planning for the Cemetery clean up and



ceremonies remembering all those who have served and past on before us. There will be a Ceremony at the American Legion Cemetery and then at the Waterfront Monument just as we have done in the past. Honoring our past is as important as planning for our future so we hope to see you out at the cemetery for both the cleanup and ceremony and lets all say a small prayer for fair weather along the way. So you can see with the Southern Wall repair and our normal activities we need all the help we can get, working at these activities is a rewarding experience and the pride felt in supporting and honoring our veterans is one that last and brings a feeling of increased self-worth so volunteer and join in the fun.



*For God and Country!*

# 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Membership Memo...

By: Clare Sullivan

Hello! As your Membership "Maven" I will be providing information in the newsletters regarding our Post membership status and encouraging folks to renew and if someone is not a member I am asking those who are eligible for the privilege of membership - to join the American Legion. You may ask why we want people to join because many of you aren't regular "legion" folk, but membership does so much more than simply support Post 5 and our programs that help others in town. Your annual dues help not only our programs here in Seward but they contribute cross the nation. Part of your membership fee funds National programs such as Troop Support, Child Welfare Foundation, Heroes to Hometowns, American Legion Baseball, Department Service Officers who help veterans with obtaining benefits, Family Support Network, Flag Advocacy & Etiquette, Junior ROTC & ROTC, Operation Comfort Warriors, Scholarships, Veterans Job Fairs, and many others. That is quite a bit of support not only for our veterans but their families as well. As you can see the American Legion has so much more going on that what simply is seen from driving by the building!



We have different ways to renew and/or join. The simple way is to stop by the post and chat us up with what you are interested in and ask what we do. Other ways is to look online at the website which gives you tons of information about the American Legion throughout the country and nationally. The website is [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org) . On this site you will find a link that will allow you to join us or renew your membership in this great organization that has performed some amazing stuff for veterans and the families since its inception in 1919! Thank you for ensuring that The American Legion remains the most powerful voice in America on behalf of veterans, service members, their families, and communities across the nation.

For God and Country!

## House and Vice Reports...

By: Mike Calhoon

*Hello from the Second Vice/Club,*

Spring has sprung and the April showers definitely gave us a visit.

We have started the south wall renovation and should have it completed, hopefully, this weekend. If you can come and give us a hand on May 7<sup>th</sup> or even Mother's Day, May 8<sup>th</sup> we would truly appreciate it.

I will not try to name everyone who has helped with this project



but would like to thank Tom Sears for driving the train to get it set up and underway and David Osborn for lining up equipment and picking up materials. Also thanks goes to METCO, Harmon Construction, On Time Construction and Dave Joslin for use of equipment. Again, I can't name everyone who donated their tools, time, and effort without forgetting someone so I will just give a big thanks to everyone who has worked on this project.

This month we have Mother's Day breakfast on the 8<sup>th</sup>, Cemetery clean-up on the 14<sup>th</sup>, Community Breakfast on the 15<sup>th</sup>, Armed Forces Day hot dog feed on the 21<sup>st</sup>, Combat Fishing Tournament on the 26<sup>th</sup>, and Memorial Day on the 30<sup>th</sup>. May is always a busy month for the Post 5 Family and we can use all the volunteer help we can get. Please contact us if you can donate your time and effort for any of the activities this month.

The 2016 membership year is in full swing and we thank everyone who has renewed their memberships and encourage others to renew if they have not done so. Remember, membership is vital for the accomplishment of all things the American Legion and the Post 5 family do for veterans, their families, and our community.

Thanks to all of you who continue to support your Post and Club. I look forward to seeing you all and please feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns.

## Salutations from the Sons!

By: Mike Calhoon

*Greetings from the SAL First Vice Commander,*

Spring has sprung and summer is not too far away!

I would like to thank all Squadron 5 members who continually support the mission and goals of Post 5. Your dedication and giving spirits are an example for others to follow as we work to support our veterans and the community of Seward. The Post cannot achieve its goals without support from the entire Legion Family and Squadron 5 is a great example of that family support.

I encourage all members to attend the monthly meetings which are held on the second Thursday each month at 7:00pm. We are always looking for new ideas to improve how we can support the Post and the community of Seward.

This month we will continue to renovate the south wall of the Post on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Please consider giving some time to this effort. Also, we can help with Mother's Day breakfast on May 8<sup>th</sup>, Cemetery clean-up on the 14<sup>th</sup>, Community breakfast on the 15<sup>th</sup>, Armed Forces Day hot dog feed on the 21<sup>st</sup>, Combat Fishing on the 26<sup>th</sup>, and Memorial Day on the 30<sup>th</sup>.



Please consider volunteering some time an effort towards these activities in support of the Post 5 family and it's mission.

Remember that the new membership year is in full swing and please consider renewing if you have not done so. Membership drives everything in the Legion so let's continue to move forward.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 224-5440. Thanks again for all your support of the Post 5 family and I look forward to seeing you all around the Post.

*For God and Country!*

# Auxiliary Notes...

By: Michelle Swartz

American Legion Auxiliary

May 2016

Please welcome this year's slate of officers:

Michelle Swartz – President

OPEN - First Vice

Lori Wolfe – Second Vice

Peggy Hamner – Treasurer/Secretary

Misha Gray – Sergeant at Arms

Sharon Dillon – Chaplin

Carla Norman – Historian

We are still looking for a 1<sup>st</sup> vice as well as a Secretary. If you are interested, please be sure to come to our May meeting which will be held May 11<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 7pm.

May is the month we put out our poppies for our veterans. As you go around town look for the poppy cans that are at the local merchants. Please thank our merchants for their support if you have the opportunity. All of the monies received from poppy donations go to our veterans here in Seward.

During the month of May don't forget your Mom's out there. Bring her to the Mother's Day Breakfast Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup>. We also have the third Sunday of the month breakfast for the community May 15<sup>th</sup>.

If you have time on your hands are willing to help out for a great cause – The Post, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders will be assisting with meals and the beer/wine garden for the annual combat fishing tournament that will be held Thursday May 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Auxiliary can always use help putting out the crosses for Memorial Day. Weather permitting that will be done May 29<sup>th</sup> for the May 30<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day celebration.

We are planning on changing the date of the Toys for Tots auction this year. This year it will be held in August. Stay tuned for date!

Have a great May!

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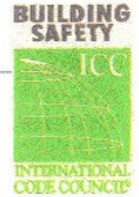
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 <i>Mexican</i> <i>Martes</i>	4	5 <i>ALR</i> <i>Meeting</i> 7:00pm	6 <i>Steak Night</i>	7 <i>Pool League</i> 6:30pm
8 <i>Mother's Day</i> <i>Breakfast</i> 9:00-11:30AM	9 <i>Bingo</i> 6:30PM	10 <i>Mexican</i> <i>Martes</i> <i>Post Meeting</i> 7:00pm	11 <i>Auxiliary 5 Meeting</i> 7:00pm	12 <i>SAL Meeting</i> 7:00pm	13 <i>Steak Night</i>	14 <i>Last Pool League</i> 7:00pm
15 <i>Community Breakfast</i> 9:00-11:30AM	16 <i>Bingo</i> 6:30PM	17 <i>Mexican</i> <i>Martes</i>	18	19	20 <i>Steak Night</i>	21 <i>Armed Forces Day</i> <i>Hot Dog Feed @ Harbor Master's Office</i>
22	23 <i>Bingo</i> 6:30PM	24 <i>Mexican</i> <i>Martes</i>	25	26	27 <i>Steak Night</i>	28
29	30 <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Bingo</i> 6:30PM	31 <i>Mexican</i> <i>Martes</i>	<h1>MAY</h1> <h2>2016</h2>			

**FOOD SERVED EVERY NIGHT!!!  
SEE YOU AT THE POST!**