

# Lisbon Legion News

September/October 2009

Volume 5, Issue 5

## NOTICE

The SAL BBQ that was scheduled for Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> has been rescheduled for Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, same time, same channel. Tickets will be on sale in the canteen. A roast pig will be cooking all that day while the yard sale is going on. There will be music by Scott Lagasse from 8 PM on. Come on over!!

### COMMANDER'S COLUMN

It has been a busy couple of months. We hosted the 195<sup>th</sup> Army National Guard Band on Moxie Day and the Auxiliary outdid themselves by cooking steak, baked potatoes, and salad for the band. Boy, did they ever have young appetites! One guy had three servings! They put on a great concert, despite the cold, and if you missed it, you really missed a great gig by a group of our young soldiers!

Madam President Doreen Heath and SAL Commander Rodney Gagnon, aided by all kinds of help, outdid themselves on family day. There was a bouncy house, a water slide and all kinds of games. Bennie Judd even made a balloon board for darts and bought all kinds of prizes to make it an even more exciting event. It was an absolutely beautiful day. This is one of our best family oriented days! If you didn't make it, maybe you should put it on your list of "things to do" next year.

In another area, there has been a lot of clean-up activity going on. The kitchen floor that was

damaged by water last winter has been replaced and the walls painted. The trees have been trimmed and the area behind the cook shed has been cleaned up. The trustees are taking bids on the roof so we don't have the same water problem again this year and also for some work on the building foundation.

Did you know that we don't pay our helpers? For example, we don't hire janitors so Jack LaChance and Tom Naragon try to get in on Sundays to clean the floors. Most of the work around the post is through the effort of volunteers.

But, the trustees only three people. They can't take care of everything around the post. There are numerous small projects to be done like the pile of rocks behind the post that need to be moved. Anyone would be welcome to dispose of them. It doesn't matter if you are in the Legion, Auxiliary, or SAL. You are all part of the Post 158 family, which means you all have the rights and responsibilities of membership.

So, I would like to send two messages here, maybe three,

- 1 – if you want to host and put on an event for the membership, bring it up (no good ideas will be turned away)
- 2 – the more hands we have to help out lightens the load
- 3 – all our members are encouraged to attend post activities; come in, relax, have a few laughs, and enjoy being a member of the Post 158 family

Mona Naragon  
Commander/Adjutant

### President's Column

Hello Legion Family,

I would like to thank the 195<sup>th</sup> Army National Guard Band for the concert we all enjoyed. It was a pleasure and an honor for all of us to serve them a great meal. Thank you to all the Auxiliary and their families who made our steak barbeque a success. It was all delicious.

We will be participating in the Post's indoor yard/craft sale in November. We need to start preparing crafts for this event. We can meet twice a month like we did last year. We had a lot of fun. If you have any easy

craft ideas, please call me at 353-5434.

I'm sorry to say the Senior Dance has been postponed until a later date.

September is coming and suppers are starting. We have the first supper on September 4<sup>th</sup>. We have a new second vice, Diana Pyrdeck. Welcome Diana! We wish Judy Ramsey good luck and good health in her future endeavors. We thank her for her years of diligent and dedicated service to the welfare of our members.

May the Lord keep you all safe,

Doreen Heath  
President

## **SAL COMMENTS**

You may have tired of reading thank-you notes by now but I

sincerely want to thank everyone for all their efforts this past summer. You turned out when we needed you for the Moxie Day concert and especially family day.

We have postponed our pig roast until September 12<sup>th</sup> so be sure to buy your tickets and have one last outing before (shhh...winter hits).

Second Vice Commander Bennie Judd is cooking his heart out to help with post and veterans projects. He will be cooking breakfast the first Saturday of the month, starting in October. The first Saturday in September fell on Labor Day weekend so he thought it best to wait until October. He'll also be putting on a shingdig of sorts on the first Sunday of the month during the football games. Who knows what you will find, chili, nachos, raffles, and all for a nominal donation. You gotta

give the man credit: he is always trying to raise money for the veterans and the post.

Meetings start up in September and your presence is such a help. Feel free to bring a friend and who knows, they might thank you for introducing them to an excellent organization. There are a lot of people out there looking for a way to help veterans and those in the military right now.

We will be starting the raffle for the L. L. Beans gift certificate after Labor Day. The proceeds go to help veterans.

So, come to the cook out, the Friday night suppers, meetings, and feel free to bring friends.

Rodney Gagnon  
Commander

## **Martins Point Healthcare and Generations**

We will be hosting Tom Breault from Martin's Point to give us insurance information available not only to military retirees but to veterans who did shorter stints. Watch for a flyer or a future newsletter. This would be a great session for those who might be wondering about what is available for the aging veterans as well those without current insurance.

We are finding through meeting with our more seasoned friends, some who may be turning 65, that many are not aware, even those who are eligible for military health insurance, that their spouses are also eligible for this reduced premium program. Currently a military retiree or their spouse pay \$237 a YEAR. We know of some who have been paying or contributing to employer plans at that rate monthly. Come on over and check it out. The other program called Generations will be explained as well.

## **Another Beautiful Thank-you Letter:**

This was just too touching to only post on the bulletin board. I sincerely hope it does not embarrass the author but it needs to be shared.

“...I’ve recently been awarded the Post 158 Non-Traditional Scholarship in the amount of \$500 for my continued education and I want to thank-you for your generous support! This aid could not have come at a better time for me – not just financially, but also emotionally and spiritually. The money, of course, is a great help to ease the strain of student life, but the symbolic show of support means a great deal to me as well. Life can be hard sometimes, often harder than it needs to be, and it is nice to be reminded that I have family and friends at the American Legion.

I’ve never been in the military. I’ve never had to be. I appreciate that my life has been very rich and full of freedom. The sacrifices, commitments and hardships of generations of military service men and women have ensured that I am able to pursue my personal and academic interests freely to whatever end I see fit. My life has been able to run this course because of those who have come before.

This continued support shows the true generosity possible in depths of the human heart. The great and honorable soldiers of America have given the nation, the flag, and the future so much already. And yet, many continue to sacrifice and service the greater cause in whatever way they can. Your volunteered support for each other, members and fallen, families and the community is an impressive feat of human virtue and you should all be proud. It is because of the passion and dedication of folks like you that I am proud to say that I am an American.

Thank-you,

Zachary Durisko”

## **PAID-UP-FOR-LIFE MEMBERSHIPS**

These are going to go up again in cost on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October. If you have any interest in paying your dues up, once and for all, and be done with yearly renewals, you may want to take advantage of this program. There are over 30 members who have purchased these and not one of us regret it. Think about it....dues done once and for all. Although there currently is an installment program, an extended version will be available with the increase. Personally, I would prefer to pay \$300 less and get it done in one year versus paying the additional amount over a 3 year period. Applications are available in the Adjutant’s folder in the canteen or you can contact her for form.

## **End of Summer Yard Sale**

Another yard sale and breakfast will be held on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. If you have items to donate, please bring them to the post or give us a call at 353-8192/407-1265 for us to pick them up. The hours of the sale will be 7 am to 4 pm and we have some really neat treasures.

## **E-Mailing of Newsletter**

With the new internet access at the Post, the Adjutant will try to email newsletters. For the time being, please email your address to [thnraven@roadrunner.com](mailto:thnraven@roadrunner.com)