

# POST 34 NEWS



Glenn M. Sickels Post 34 of Kennewick-Pasco

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## Commander's Corner


Greetings and Salutations.

I hope you are doing well and had a very nice Christmas. Also, Happy New Year!

We are looking forward to putting this past year behind us and moving forward in 2021 with the revitalization of the bar and opening back up. We will be having food service again. So, for those of you that love to help volunteering, now is a good time to get your Washington State Food Worker Card by going online to <https://fwccourse.foodworkercard.wa.gov/> and following the instructions. The cost is \$10.00. Remember, too, that if you obtained a card previously - and it is nearing the end of its three-year limit - it can be renewed at this website.

Also, as of last month our Post Adjutant stepped down, so I need a person that would love to take that on. Let me know by the Thursday, the 21st of January, which will be our next General Meeting at 7 00 pm in the post. I look forward to seeing you all.

We still have a calling for members on some Committees . If anyone has any thoughts or concerns, please let me know. I apologize for the lastness of getting 2021 membership cards out. We're working on that and hope to have them sent out by the end of the month.

God bless you all, our post, and God Bless America! 

Garth Rettinghouse  
Post 34 Commander



## The Narrow Gate



My hope for the Post, as we conclude 2020, is that we operate more as a cohesive unit this next year. Sickness and mishap have sought to divide

us through isolation and rumors/ill-spoken comments. Words of encouragement and actions of real brother/sisterhood will be instrumental in the success of the Post in the coming year. We need each other but we especially need the guidance and direction of the One who created us in His own image; the One who gave us the spirit of kindness and humanity; the One who gave us the spirit of serving and protecting our community: The Holy Spirit.

May your 2020 end with finality and your 2021 begin with possibilities.

Murrel Petry  
Post 34 Chaplain



## The Final Note



We have come to the end of a most challenging year: 2020. Our duty, to bring Honor to deceased veterans of our American Military services, has been challenged to Hold the Line even under the ensuing siege of a thus far year-long "storm" which has even infected our own ranks at times.

But our members have the same fiber running thru their veins as that of our Active-duty service personnel across the globe: the inner drive to Honor those others who have faithfully and willingly served, putting THEIR affairs above our own personal agendas.

Our actions are rooted in and tied directly to combat and resulting Victory, and are steeped....nay, "dripping" in Tradition and Ritual. That journey through conflict and eventual victory or decision to re-evaluate the circumstances is regularly and continuously in rituals that mark the passage of time; the passage of administrations; and the passing of life itself.

One such example of Ritual is honoring our dead warriors with a service consisting of 3 volleys of

Rifle Fire, a Soldier/Sailor/Airman/Marine's Poem, the folding of and presentation of an American flag that has flown proudly over our Nation's Federal Facilities, presentation of polished brass shell casings fired in remembrance of our heroes, the playing of "Taps", and a Final Roll Call to tie together that the torch of protecting our Nation at ALL costs has once again been passed to and protected by the Living.

But our Ritual tells the story, in minutes, of WHO we are. It answers the question of WHY we do what we do. Our ritual declares, to ALL who will listen, WHAT our Nation is MADE of and HOW it has survived nearly 250 years of constant threat, yet with victory. And it answers the WHEN of how long our Nation will keep calling our men and women to defend her Honor: 'til the end of time!

Ritual tells the story of who we have been and are now even when our world has been rocked and our honored have been ripped from our grasp; ALWAYS at the most inopportune time.

And OUR actions are the ones that will live on in the hearts and minds of the bereaved and those friends and associates left behind. You see, our Rituals are ALL woven from the fabric that makes our Nation great in the first place: dedication to duty, bravery in the face of battle, compassion for our wounded brothers/sisters, training and learning from our actions, and accountability for those actions and dealings.

America is great because we continue to improve, never being satisfied with mere status quo. I see that in the eyes and heart of every member of our Honor Guard and the public sees it as well. To hear the words, "your performance was stunning and breath-taking" leaves an inscribed "tattoo" on the heart of all who participate in our Ritual. It is with honor and the Grace of our God that I write this message of appreciation to a group of men and women I am proud to serve with. May 2021 prove to be yet more stunning and breath-taking... because we ARE that fabric.

If you are interested in being part of this coveted Team, please call or text the Post Commander at 509-539-7315 or the Honor Guard Captain at 509-627-9038.

With deep humbleness,

Murrel Petry  
Post 34 Honor Guard Captain



## American Legion Riders News

Happy New Year ALR Chapter 34!! 2020 has finally come to an end, and it is our hope that 2021 will be a much better year for everyone. I would like to say thank you to all of you for putting up with all the craziness and maintaining a positive attitude during the last 9 months. We will continue to participate when and where we are able as our missions still stands. Please welcome our 3 newest members and Legionnaires, Lorrie Collins, and Mark & Kerry Dehart!

We have a vacant Sergeant at Arms position. If anyone would like to step up, please notify one of our Executive Board members. If you have any questions regarding this position, please contact me at 509-845-5780. With my work schedule permitting, I am open and available for any questions or discussions regarding any matter of our Chapter or members. Open communication is key for is to be successful!

There will be a community calendar meeting coming up and hopefully we can fill our calendars with some awesome rides and fundraisers. We need to start a committee to plan for our annual ride. All input is helpful, and we welcome anyone that is willing to head the committee as well as those that want to be involved.

We currently are in possession of the Department of Washington's ALR trophy for the most patched members at the 2019 State Rally. I hope that the 2021 rally will be held as scheduled (Yakima). I need all of your help to attend the rally and keep the trophy with ALR Chapter 34!! In the meantime, be safe on the roads, keep the rubber side down and the shiny side up!

Jeff "Mad Dog" Madsen  
ALR Chapter 34 Director



**Post 34 American Legion Officers 2020 - 2021**

Commander..... Garth Rettinghouse  
Adjutant ..... (Vacant)  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander ..... Bob Smith  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander ..... (Vacant)  
Finance Officer ..... Frank Akerley  
Service Officer ..... (Vacant)  
Chaplain ..... Murrel Petry  
Sergeant at Arms..... Luz Medrano  
Historian ..... (Vacant)  
Judge Advocate..... (Vacant)  
Honor Guard Captain..... Murrel Petry  
Junior Past Commander ..... (Vacant)  
1<sup>st</sup> Year Committeeman ..... Bob Wiggins  
2<sup>nd</sup> Year Committeeman ..... Dave Cadman  
3<sup>rd</sup> Year Committeeman..... Dwayne Goche

**Chapter 34 AL Riders Officers 2021**

Director ..... Jeff “Mad Dog” Madsen  
Assistant Director..... John “Jake Brake” Wilson  
Secretary ..... Tammy “Gingersnap” Madsen  
Treasurer ..... Frank Akerley  
Sergeant at Arms..... (Vacant)  
Road Captain..... Chuck “Woodchuck” Cutrell  
Quartermaster..... Bob “Caveman” Smith  
Chaplain..... Garth “Bebop” Rettinghouse

**Squadron 34 S.A.L. Officers 2020 - 2021**

Commander..... Kurt Bautch  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander ..... Doug Schmunk  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander ..... Dick McIntyre  
Adjutant ..... Kurt Bautch  
Finance Officer ..... Kurt Bautch  
Sergeant at Arms..... (Vacant)  
Chaplain ..... Jim Reed (Dual member)  
Legion Advisers ..... Bob Wiggins (Dual member)  
Bruce McKee