

# POST 34 NEWS



Glenn M. Sickels Post 34 of Kennewick-Pasco

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### Commander's Corner

Greetings and salutations American Legion Family!

Well, it's finally football time and September 12th is the opening day!

Beginning September 12<sup>th</sup>, we will open our doors at 8:00AM every Sunday and of course will be open on Mondays for Monday Night Football starting September 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Legion will have our September yard sale Friday (17<sup>th</sup>) and Saturday (18<sup>th</sup>). If anyone has anything they'd like to donate please bring it to the Post.

I also would like to mention that September begins activities like dinners and breakfasts.

I would love to see the Ladies Auxiliary start-up again, but that will take least ten ladies to get things rolling again. Please let me know if you're interested. In addition, anyone in the SALs please contact me or Kurt. It would be really nice to see the SALs have their breakfast again along with the Riders.

We now have our gambling license and there are plans in the works for some live music as well as having Karaoke nights.

It's hard to believe since April we've been moving right along with little things here and there it's an honor and a pleasure to be a part of the American Legion. If anyone has any suggestions have any ideas please come forward and share them with me.

Until we meet again, God bless the American Legion God Bless America!

Garth Rettinghouse  
Post 34 Commander



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### The Narrow Gate



The following contains excerpts from "How Criticizing in Private Undermines Your Team" by Roger Schwarz.....

"Praise in public, criticize in private." Most of us have grown up on those words and believe the old adage. Often when a team member does something that negatively impacts the team, he/she is usually talked to privately. But this can be a dangerous path to follow because it significantly reduces accountability, the quality of team decisions, and the team's ability to manage itself.

For behavior that happens in a meeting or that affects the team, if you criticize in private it undermines team members' accountability to one another and sends the message that the team member is only accountable to you; not the team. It sends the message that the members don't need to be accountable to each other; you will do it FOR them. It also makes it difficult to solve the problem. By stating that you want a team in which members can openly and constructively give each other feedback in the team, members may form a new mindset so they see themselves accountable to the team; not just to the leadership.

The key is learning how to discuss each other's behavior in a way that's productive and doesn't contribute to defensive reactions. Matthew 5:22 in the Bible says, "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire". My friends, I have been guilty of this myself.

Sound leadership isn't about being comfortable. It IS about being efficient even when you are UN-comfortable.

If anyone has a question about this month's topic or any other matter of the heart, please contact the Post Chaplain.

Murrel Petry  
Post 34 Chaplain



## The Final Note



What to do when you are faced with a bare minimum of responders for a funeral to honor one of our Nation's Veterans who recently passed away AND at the very last minute you are informed that the Marine Corp will NOT be there to fold the flag? OR play the Bugle?

Answer: listen to your members as they offer help to RE-organize the presentation in a manner different than the norm yet satisfying all the requirements; just in a slightly different order.

Watch any number of videos or read any number of informational postings and you will find that many "set-in-stone" guidelines are altered slightly to meet logistical circumstances or physical requirements. That was the case yesterday as we stretched a dedicated group of 4 into an accomplished "platoon" of motivated Honor Guardsmen to make a Marine's exit from this world an honorable and respectful event.

He left no family, but a church full of brothers and sisters in Christ who were appreciative of his service to our country and who will miss him very much.

Our willingness to reshuffle the deck and present a "Royal Flush" graveside rather than a "pair of Aces" resulted in a more efficient Military Honors presentation and renewed confidence that we will ALWAYS meet a funeral for one of our Nation's finest with Honor and Respect. God speed, Lance Corporal.

Many thanks to our Honor Guardsmen.

As Veterans or current Service Members, most of us realize at any one time we are each only a heartbeat away from being "formally eligible" for the services of a Military Honor Guard.

If you "HAVE what it TAKES" to be an Honor Guard member, we will "TAKE what you HAVE". Contact: Murrel Petry, Honor Guard Captain (509) 627-9038

"Know OUR Flag" answer for August:

Can any rule or custom pertaining to the display of the flag be modified, altered, or repealed by the Commander in Chief whenever he deems it

appropriate or desirable by order of a proclamation, Yes or No?

YES.

"Know OUR Flag" question for September:

Can a mayor, town official, or Post Commander order the flag to be displayed at half-staff?

Yes or No?

(Answer revealed in October edition of "The Final Note")

Murrel Petry

Post 34

Honor Guard Captain



## American Legion Riders News

Greetings Riders!

It's almost that time of year again! Our 9/11 Patriot Day Ride & Poker Run is approaching fast. On September 11th our annual ride will start and end at Post 34. Registration starts at 10:30AM with KSU @ 12:00PM. The cost to participate is \$20 per person and \$10 for lunch which is provided by Texas Roadhouse. We will have a live auction, door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. All vehicles are welcome and all members of the community are welcome to participate! Please invite your family, friends and neighbors! All proceeds are going to the ALR Veteran's Relief Fund to support local Veterans. We will be accepting donations for our live auction until September 10th and are still in need of items. Please contact Tammy at (509) 845-5773 if you are able to donate.

In October, we have our nominations for the new Executive Board for 2022. Tammy and I will not be seeking re-election as it's time for new blood to take the lead. Please come to October's general membership meeting to nominate a member or accept a nomination.

We will be resuming our monthly breakfasts in October. New volunteers are needed to help with breakfast. You will need a food handler's card to be in the kitchen. You can obtain one online at the Benton Franklin Health District website. Please consider stepping up because help is much needed! All events and information is posted on our ALR Facebook page: @riderspasco or search American Legion Riders Chapter 34. Please like and share our page!

Thank you to everyone that joined us for our annual ALR BBQ! A great time was had by all. Thank you to Randy Knight for hauling all of our supplies!! As always, reach out if you have any questions or concerns. This is a difficult time for a lot of Veterans so please check in with your brothers and sisters. If you need help, please reach out to one of us, a friend or family member.

We have your back! Keep the shiny side up! Jeff "Mad Dog" Madsen, ALR Director

Jeff "Mad Dog" Madsen  
ALR Chapter 34 Director



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

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

**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

**Chapter 34 AL Riders Officers 2020 - 2021**

- Director ..... Jeff "Mad Dog" Madsen
- Assistant Director..... John "Jake Brake" Wilson
- Secretary ..... Tammy "Gingersnap" Madsen
- Treasurer ..... Frank Akerley
- Sergeant at Arms ..... Marc Dehart
- Road Captain ..... Chuck "Woodchuck" Cutrell
- Quartermaster..... Bob "Caveman" Smith
- Chaplain..... Garth "Bebop" Rettinghouse