

Post #5 Newsletter

April 2025

Inspirational Quote for
the Month:

**" Who you are speaks
so loudly, I cannot
hear what you are
saying."**

Ralph Waldo
Emerson

Membership Meeting:

First Thursday of the month
at 7pm

Auxiliary Meeting:

Second Thursday of the
month at 6:30pm

Sons of the American Legion Meeting:

First Monday of the month
at 6:30pm

Legionnaire/SAL/ Auxiliary Meeting:

First Thursday of the
month at 6:00pm

House Committee Meeting:

Third Monday of the
month at 6:00pm

**AMERICAN
LEGION**



Commander's Corner

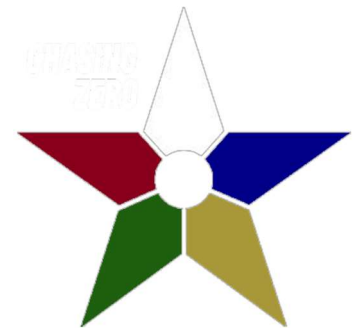
Hello members of Post 5! Hope you are doing well and we've almost made it through Winter. We would love to see some new faces at our monthly meeting coming up this Thursday night April 3rd at 1900hrs. It is also nomination of officers night and we need to fill out the positions for the upcoming year. Friday night dinners are going well and with it starting to stay lighter out longer more people are venturing out. Hopefully, fingers crossed, warmer weather will be here soon. Until next time, take care and we look forward to seeing you at the Post in the near future.

Jay Mills

Post 5 Commander

July 4th Celebration and Membership Drive!

Initial planning has begun for our "July 4th Celebration" happening in conjunction with the annual parade in Brattleboro. This event will serve as an opportunity for our members and families to take part in a multitude of entertaining activities, enjoy some great food and ice cream, and celebrate everything we enjoy as Americans! If you would like to offer ideas or help by volunteering to plan/host the event, please reach out to Chad Mulverhill at cmulverhill@northstar.com. Lots of exciting news to pass on regarding the event and membership drive as details unfold. However, I would like to hint at something I am very excited for: a fly-by perhaps?



CHASING ZERO

Synergy Anyone?

In an effort to help improve coordination and communication throughout our Post #5 Family, a monthly meeting has been established to include any Legionnaires, Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion members that would like to attend. Meeting fatigue is a thing and we understand that. However, we believe the value of sitting down collectively and sharing our thoughts, challenges and ideas will only make us stronger and better adept in moving our Post forward. A basic agenda has been prepared but the important consideration here is that all voices will be heard.

Details for the next meeting will be released soon...

The Auxiliary

Spring has finally started to show itself! We look forward to seeing the daffodils out front in blossom. Any members of the Legion, SAL or Auxiliary who would be interested in assisting with Spring clean-up of the front flower bed, please reach out me as I will be preparing a schedule to get this done. Donations of perennials will also be accepted in May if anyone wants to support the garden project.

An Easter party is being planned for April 20th as part of our Children and Youth initiative. Casy Martin is leading this and we will be having games for children as well as serving brunch. If you are interested in attending, please sign up with the bartender as soon as possible. The Easter Bunny will be in attendance as well! If you would like to help with the party, a sign up sheet will be posted on the Auxiliary board.

To assist with the cost of the Easter party, we are raffling off a donated generator in the member's lounge. We are selling 200 tickets at \$10 each and will draw the winner's name when those tickets are sold. Please support this wonderful event.

As in previous years, the Auxiliary is offering scholarships for college bound students from several local schools. Applications can be picked up at the guidance offices of BUHS, Leland and Gray, Hinsdale HS and St. Michael's HS.

Auxiliary member Jacque Brown is now cooking for the Building Bridges dinner on the last Wednesday of each month. This dinner is free to Veterans and guests and is supported by grants and donations.

A reminder that our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm and all Unit members are invited to attend and learn about our missions and programs.

In the spirit of service, not self,

Lori Nelson

President, Unit #5



Hail and Farewell

Help us recognize our Vets! Do you have a nephew leaving for boot camp? Did your Son or Daughter just get back from a deployment? Do you know someone that is retiring from the Military?

We want to recognize any Veteran that has achieved a key milestone in their career. Reach out to any member of your Post #5 leadership team so you can be put in contact with our 1st Vice Commander to get all of the details. Our "Hail and Farewell" program will take place the 4th Friday of every month in conjunction with the Sons of the American Legion Dinner. Your Veteran will enjoy a free meal on us and we will recognize their accomplishment accordingly! We understand some folks don't desire attention so we will respect their wishes if that is the case. We have a Post full of people that would appreciate the opportunity to shake their hand and say "Thank you"! Note: You must coordinate through the 1st Vice Commander in advance...



Service Officer Assistance

Do you have questions about service related injuries or claims? Please contact the number below to speak with a representative that can answer your questions or help you with a claim.

- American Legion Veteran Service Officer (Office at White River Junction) - (802) 296-5166

Upcoming Events:

April:

4/4 – Friday Night Fish Fry

4/11 – Galumpkie Dinner

4/18 – Bea's Pizza

4/20 – Easter Bunny Brunch

- Get your tickets now!

4/25 – SAL Chicken Dinner

Every Thursday 4-7pm come in for some pub food!



The PACT Act

What's the PACT Act and how will it affect my VA benefits and care?

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act will bring these changes:

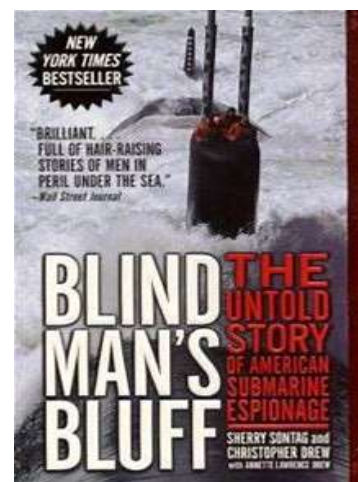
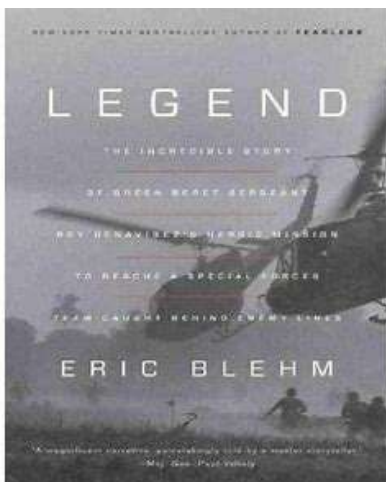
- Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras
- Adds 20+ more presumptive conditions for burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic exposures
- Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation
- Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care
- Helps us improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures

If you're a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits.

Reference: <https://www.va.gov/resources>

Reader's Roost Books of the Month!

"The Legend" by Eric Blehm tells the incredible and true story of Green Beret and Medal of Honor recipient Roy Benavidez. The book chronicles Benavidez's life from his humble beginnings in Texas to his service in the Special Forces. The central focus of the book is on his heroic actions during a rescue mission in 1968, where Benavidez single-handedly saved the lives of numerous soldiers despite being severely wounded multiple times. Facing gunfire, grenades, and shrapnel injuries, he fought on, ultimately saving 8 men and ensuring success of the mission. The book documents struggles, challenges, victories and defeat that I believe truly resonate regardless of anyone's background or experience. Throughout his life, Roy Benavidez was known for his humility, dedication and commitment to his comrades and this book details those qualities quite amazingly. To get a feel for Roy's personality and wit, check out one of his many speeches on YouTube. You won't be disappointed...



"Blind Man's Bluff: The Untold Story of American Submarine Espionage" is a non-fiction book written by Sherry Sontag, Christopher Drew and Annette Lawrence Drew regarding the covert work of U.S. Navy submarine operations during the Cold War. Drawing from interviews, declassified documents, and firsthand accounts, the authors expose the covert operations carried out by the U.S. Navy's submarines as they conducted intelligence—gathering missions under the guise of routine patrols. The book highlights daring underwater missions and the risks taken by submariners where operations remained classified for decades. It also emphasizes the impact of these secret missions on the Cold War and how the Navy's clandestine activities shaped U.S. foreign policy.