



# Rhein Main Post GR05

Postfach 2837, Moerfelden Walldorf

February 2020

## Covered in this Months Newsletter:

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- Birthday's!!!
- Piece of the Post's past
- Welcome new members!
- New Post 'Laws'
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- Commissary access now available in Germany
- American Legion Virtual Museum
- Change in location for upcoming Post Service Officer meeting
- History of our Post

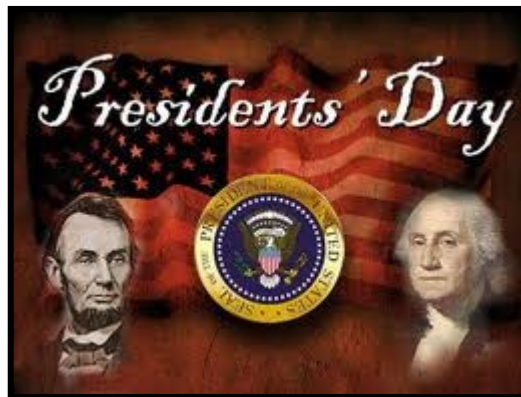
## Commander's Message

I hope that everyone had a wonderful January! This month we celebrate President's Day, which serves as a day to honor the birthdays of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Additionally, we are also celebrating Valentine's Day, so don't forget to surprise your sweetheart this day! :)

Currently we are standing at 111% on membership and are way ahead than we were last year. I thank all those that paid their dues early; your dedication has brought our Post back up and full of life.



Commander Santos Alvarado



## Elected Officers of Post GR05

- Post Commander: Santos Alvarado
- 1st Vice Commander: Quincy Foster
- 2nd Vice Commander: Stacey Krueger
- Adjutant: Bruce Cole
- Chaplain: John Jones
- Sergeant at Arms: Juan Barrenchea
- Judge Advocate: Stacey Krueger



- Executive committee members:  
Ron Epps, Ernie Cojoe, Michael Blood,  
Dallas Smith, and Walter Becker



Missing Man table at Thanksgiving Dinner

### Upcoming Post Meeting

Our next meeting will be held:

**8 Feb at 1400**

Location is the Flying Dragon, in Der Trift 5-7, 64546 Walldorf. All Members are asked to arrive at least 30 mins early for social hour, as the meeting starts promptly at 2 pm. The kitchen may not be open until later, so keep that in mind.

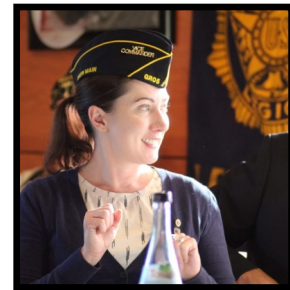
If you intend to be late or unable to attend, please RSVP your intentions to me by email or by 0151 14959970. The meeting will also be available by Skype on rheinmaingr05.



### Happy Birthday to members in our Legion Family!



- Gary Louden (Feb 14th)
- Stacey Krueger (Feb 17th)
- Robert LaCroix (Feb 21st)



Happy Birthday Comrade Krueger!

### Piece of our Post's Past!



Straight from the original Box!

This plate is over 20 years old and in perfect condition. You can buy a plate of your own from Commander Santos; contact him for more info. (He will have them for sale at the next meeting!)

← **WOW!**



Past Post members with the plate in 1991

## New Members to our Post



Welcome to our Newest Post Members: Ron Sampson, Wesley Drake, Richard Bolten, John Foster, and Terry Woodard! Pictured above with GR05's Commander Santos and Vice President's Foster and Krueger.

## Beginning of Post 'Laws' enacted!

At last month's Post meeting, proposal for Meeting 'laws' were voted on and approved. With these, we are upholding a long time Legion tradition; combining principals of respect, teamwork, and simple fun. Please make sure to review and learn these! Just in case though, have \$5 in your pocket :)

All Legion member's who 'break the law' will be caught by our Sergeant at Arms, Juan Barrencchea. He will announce all rule breakers at the end of each meeting. So watch out, he's got a great eye!!



Sgt-at-Arms Juan Barrencchea

### New Post Laws for Rhein Main Post GR05

Post Fine Schedule	Fee
Foul Language	\$1 or €1
Talk out of Turn	\$1 or €1
Failure to Request Authority to Leave	\$1 or €1
Failure to Request Authority to Return	\$1 or €1
Ring or Sound From a Non Silenced Cellular Phone (Exception Emergency or Exception from Commander)	\$1 or €1
Eating With Cap On	\$1 or €1
Using Hat Instead of Cap When Describing our Cover	\$1 or €1



Following information from The American Legion website, at <https://www.legion.org>

## The story

Early on Feb. 3, 1943, an enemy torpedo struck the Army transport *Dorchester* as it carried 902 officers and enlisted men, Navy armed guard, merchant seamen and civilian workers in the North Atlantic. The Coast Guard cutter escorts *Comanche* and *Escanaba* rescued 230 men.

As *Dorchester* took on water, four Army chaplains – Lt. George L. Fox (Methodist), Lt. Alexander D. Goode (Jewish), Lt. John P. Washington (Roman Catholic), and Lt. Clark V. Poling (Dutch Reformed) – calmed frightened soldiers, aided the wounded and guided the disoriented toward safety.

On deck, they opened a storage locker and began distributing life jackets. When there were no more available, the chaplains removed their life jackets and gave them to four young men. “It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven,” said John Ladd, a survivor.

As the ship went down, men in rafts saw the four chaplains, arms linked and braced against the slanting deck, singing hymns and praying. Congress attempted to confer the Medal of Honor on the chaplains but was prevented by strict requirements of heroism under fire. It authorized a one-time posthumous Special Medal for Heroism, awarded by President Eisenhower in 1961; it was intended to have the same weight and importance as the Medal of Honor.

## How we remember them

Every year, American Legion posts nationwide commemorate the selfless acts of the Four Chaplains on or near Feb. 3, designated Four Chaplains Day by Congress in 1948. Through interfaith services, memorial ceremonies and other solemn events, members of the American Legion Family lead their communities in honoring the chaplains and 668 other men who died when *Dorchester* sank.

Founded in 1951, the Chapel of Four Chaplains in Philadelphia encourages and supports these observances, and recognizes selfless service to community, nation and humanity through its Legion of Honor award program.



Clockwise: Lt. George L. Fox, Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Lt. Clark V. Poling, Lt. John P. Washington



## Commissary access now available for specific Veteran's in Germany

WASHINGTON — Beginning New Year's Day, 2020, commissaries, post exchanges and recreational facilities across the Department of Defense will open their doors to more than 4.1 million additional veterans.

Privileges will be extended to veterans who are Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war, and all who have any level of service-connected disabilities. Individuals who are designated, as primary family caregivers of eligible veterans will also be granted privileges if they are recognized under the Department of Veterans Affairs' Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. For more information, click the link below!

(Source: [https://www.army.mil/article/231261/commissaries\\_exchanges\\_welcoming\\_more\\_veterans\\_in\\_2020](https://www.army.mil/article/231261/commissaries_exchanges_welcoming_more_veterans_in_2020))



## Online tour of the American Legion Museum!

The Emil A. Blackmore Museum of The American Legion is located on the fourth floor of National Headquarters in Indianapolis, between the library and the National Executive Committee Room. The museum occupies two rooms: one a display of military and Legion-related items and the other a fine-art gallery. Emil A. Blackmore, the museum's namesake, served as the Legion's national adjutant from July 1, 1956, until his death on April 21, 1967.

The delegates at the Legion's first convention empowered the National Executive Committee "to make suitable provision for the collection of war photographs, equipment and such other paraphernalia of war as would preserve our knowledge of the Great War for all time." Today, the Emil A. Blackmore Museum honors this tradition by collecting and exhibiting artifacts associated with the history of The American Legion and the wars its members have fought.

A virtual tour of the museum is available at [www.legion.org/museum/tour](http://www.legion.org/museum/tour).

### Museum Collections and Exhibits

- Lewis Gun, World War II Rifles, and other weapons of war
- American Legion uniforms and memorabilia
- American Legion National Convention badges and award medals
- Military uniforms and gear
- United States Service Medals and personal decorations
- Dioramas depicting scenes from World War I, World War II, Vietnam and the War on Terrorism
- Over 2,500 World War I and World War II posters – more information about our poster collection is available at [www.legion.org/posters](http://www.legion.org/posters)
- The original handwritten draft for the 1944 GI Bill of Rights – more information about the GI Bill is available at [www.legion.org/education/thelegionrole](http://www.legion.org/education/thelegionrole)

### Fine Art Gallery

- Original paintings, sculptures, prints and photographs
- Featured artists: Howard Chandler Christy, Joe Rosenthal, Wayman Adams, Leon Reni-Mel and many more
- Pieces include portraits of presidents and prominent military leaders, images of heroism and patriotic works

## NEW location announced for Post Service Officer Training

American Legion  
Department of France

### Post Service Officer Training

**MARCH 20, 2020**  
**Katterbach, Germany**

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE IS PRESENTING THEIR POST SERVICE OFFICER TRAINING COURSE.

THIS TRAINING COURSE IS TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR THE PSO TO BE ABLE TO BETTER ASSIST THE VETERAN WITH THEIR VA BENEFIT CLAIM.

**INSTRUCTOR**  
Frank Phillips, Department Service Officer

**REGISTRATION**  
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!  
Please send an email to the Department Service Officer  
Francis.Phillips.Francis.Phillips2@va.gov

UPON COMPLETION OF THIS TRAINING, THE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE A TEST. ALL PARTICIPANTS THAT PASSED THE TEST, WILL RECEIVE A „TRAINED“ CERTIFICATE PRESENTED TO THEM AT THE DEC, THE FOLLOWING DAY.

**LOCATION**  
Training Seminar  
**Legion Post 1982 Home**, 91522 Katterbach  
Dinner, March 20, 2020  
Gasthaus Goldener Stern, Ansbacher Str. 3, 91560 Heilsbronn

Hotel rooms are available at:  
**Gasthof Zum Löwen**  
Marktplatz 6, 91560 Heilsbronn 09872 1231  
SNGL: 45€ /DBL 75€ (7 miles to DEC)

www.goldner-stern-heilsbronn.de SNGL: 47€ /DBL 70€ (7 miles to DEC)

www.hotel-windmuehle.de DBL 70€ (9 Miles to DEC) no rooms blocked for us.

**PROGRAM**

**0730-0800**  
CHECK-IN /REGISTRATION

**0800-0900**  
PSO DUTIES / RESPONSIBILITIES  
VA POLICIES

**0900-1200**  
SMART CLAIM  
BASIC CLAIM - STEP BY STEP

**1200-1245**  
LUNCH BREAK - LEGION HOME

**1245-1345**  
FOREIGN MEDICAL PROGRAM

**1345-1500**  
CLAIM PROCESSING /TIPS

**1500-1600**  
TEST

**1830-????**  
DINNER IN HEILSBRONN  
with  
DSO, ADSO  
DPT COMMANDER

**21 March - 0900**  
DEC - KATTERBACH

**BE ON TIME!**  
We have limited time to complete the training

Please submit any announcements or items for the newsletter to Comrade Krueger, Editor.

Request must be submitted no later than by the 20th of the month for the next edition @  
rheinmaingr05@outlook.com

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64537 Moerfelden-Walldorf

[Click here to go to our Facebook!](#)



Rhein Main Post GR05 received Temporary Charter on Oct. 18, 1972 then received their permanent charter on Apr 6, 1973 in the German State of Hessen. GR05 has contributed various donations to organizations such as Fisher House, CWF, and Legacy Fund. We currently support veterans from around the Rhein Main area and in addition have members in the United States. I

*Join our FB page to see upcoming photo's from our Post's Past!*

