



# - - The Liberty Press - -



**FREEDOM** ISN'T **FREE**

## The Official Newsletter of AMVETS Post 45 June 2018

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### FROM THE COMMANDER

Our next meeting is on **June 7th, 6:30** p.m. sharp at the N.L. American Legion Clubhouse.

---Doc Borchardt, Cmdr.

### EDITOR'S COMMENTARY



Summer has finally arrived...with a vengeance! Let's hope we cool off a little from time to time. What a change from the blizzard in April to our heat-wave in May... but this is Wisconsin.

We are just a few weeks away from Flag Day, June 14<sup>th</sup>. Remember to fly your Flag proudly that day. It commemorates the adoption of the Flag of the United States, which happened on June 14, 1777. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1946, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. Appleton, WI claims to be the oldest National Flag Day parade in the nation, held annually since 1950.

---Bob Dessort - editor

### MEMBERSHIP

There is still 1 member not yet renewed; please renew soon! There is a **X** on your label ---Bob Dessort, V-Comdr/Membership



We will be dining at the **N.L. Family Diner** on June 7th, at 5:00, before the meeting. Hope to see

### WHAT'S HAPPENING!!

- June 21 – 24 – Dept. Convention, Radisson Hotel & Convention Center, Green Bay
- July 22 – Post Picnic, Kunkol Shelter
- Aug. 19 – Timber Rattler Tailgate / Game, Appleton

### HAPPY BIRTHDAYS TO:

AMVET members – Don Huettner, Gene Haase, & Bob Dessort.  
Aux. members – Cindy Bellile,

If I missed your birthday, please let me know.

## LADIES AUXILIARY

Our next monthly meeting will be on June 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:25. at the American Legion Clubhouse; please be prompt.



'Thank You' to all my Aux. sisters for the cards and phone calls after the recent passing of my sister, Patricia.

On May 17<sup>th</sup>, the 4<sup>th</sup> District Aux. hosted a cook-out for the V.A.P. members at W.V.H., King. Thanks to all the ladies who brought food for the outing. It was greatly appreciated by the veterans.

The 2018 Dept. Convention is June 22 – 24 at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, Green Bay. More on this at the meeting. Registration Fee is \$18.00 in advance. The Awards Luncheon will be held at 12:00 non and the cost is \$12.00. The costs, as listed above, will be paid at the registration table.

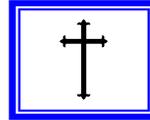
Ladies, if you could, please bring a donated Convention baby layette item to our June meeting.

All the service reports have been sent to Dept. Aux. Our 990 financial report to the I.R.S has been filed. Our By-laws have been signed and remitted to the Dept. so we are all ready for convention.

Just a reminder, our joint Post / Aux. picnic and Flag retirement will be on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The 4<sup>th</sup> Dist. Picnic and meetings will be Aug. 12, hosted by Post 30, Greenville.

Keep on saving those milk caps, coupons, pop can pull tabs, greeting card 'face page', empty ink jet cartridges; hearing aids; eye glasses and parts; also, used cell phones.

---Helen Dessort, President



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### Old Guy and a Bucket Of Shrimp

This is a true story! It happened every Friday evening, almost without fail, when the sun resembled a giant orange and was starting to dip into the blue ocean. Old Ed came strolling along the beach to his favorite pier. Clutched in his bony hand was a bucket of shrimp. Ed walks out to the end of the pier, where it seems he almost has the world to himself. The glow of the sun is a golden bronze now.

Everybody's gone, except for a few joggers on the beach. Standing out on the end of the pier, Ed is alone with his thoughts...and his bucket of shrimp. Before long, however, he is no longer alone. Up in the sky a thousand white dots come screeching and squawking, winging their way toward that lanky frame standing there on the end of the pier.

Before long, dozens of seagulls have enveloped him, their wings fluttering and flapping wildly. Ed stands there tossing shrimp to the hungry birds. As he does, if you listen closely, you can hear him say with a smile, 'Thank you. Thank you'. In a few short minutes the bucket is empty. But Ed doesn't leave. He stands there lost in thought, as though transported to another time and place.

When he finally turns around and begins to walk back toward the beach, a few of the birds hop along the pier with him until he gets to the stairs, and then they, too, fly away. And old Ed quietly makes his way down to the end of the beach and on home.

If you were sitting there on the pier with your fishing line in the water, Ed might seem like 'a funny old duck,' as my dad used to say. Or, 'a guy who's a sandwich shy of a picnic,' as my kids might say. To onlookers, he's just another old codger, lost in his own weird world, feeding the seagulls with a bucket full of shrimp. To the onlooker, rituals can look either very strange or very empty. They can seem altogether unimportant .... maybe even a lot of nonsense. Old folks often do strange things, at least in the eyes of Boomers and Busters. Most of them would probably write Old Ed off, down there in Florida. That's too bad. They'd do well to know him better.

(Continued on page 3)

## POINTS TO PONDER

- Success is never certain; failure is never final.
- Funny how many of us don't have the time to do something right but will always find the time to do it over.
- The trouble with people trying to get away from it all nowadays is that most of it is portable.

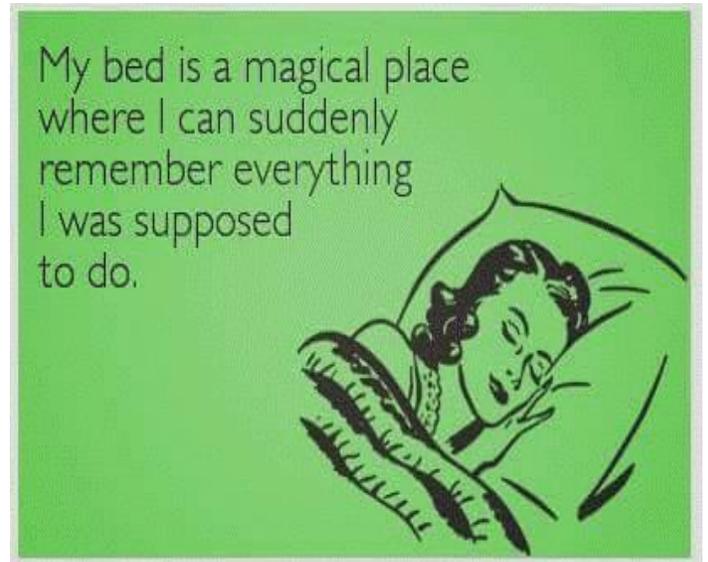
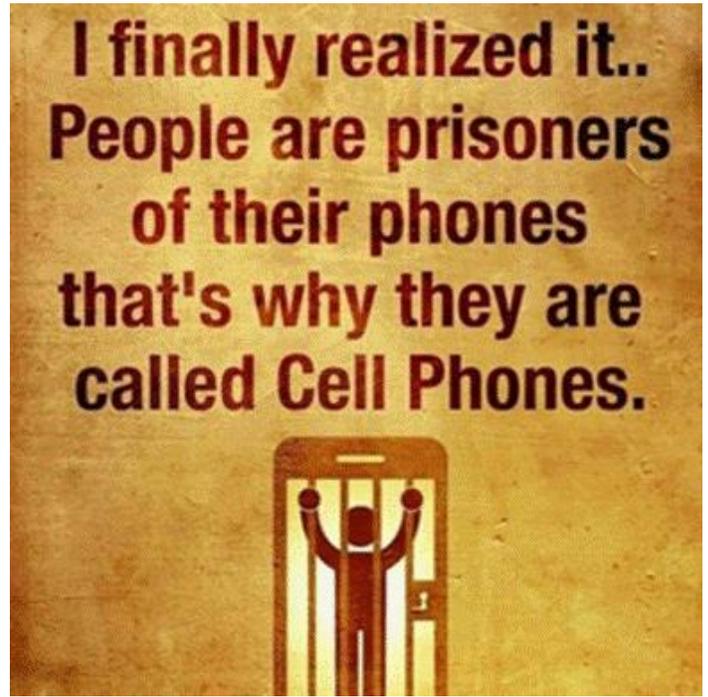
(continued from page 2)

His full name: Eddie Rickenbacker. He was a famous hero back in World War II. On one of his flying missions across the Pacific, he and his seven-member crew went down. Miraculously, all of the men survived, crawled out of their plane, and climbed into a life raft. Captain Rickenbacker and his crew floated for days on the rough waters of the Pacific. They fought the sun. They fought sharks. Most of all, they fought hunger. By the eighth day their rations ran out. No food. No water. They were hundreds of miles from land and no one knew where they were.

They needed a miracle. That afternoon they had a simple devotional service and prayed for a miracle. They tried to nap. Eddie leaned back and pulled his military cap over his nose. Time dragged. All he could hear was the slap of the waves against the raft. Suddenly, Eddie felt something land on the top of his cap. It was a seagull!

Old Ed would later describe how he sat perfectly still, planning his next move. With a flash of his hand and a squawk from the gull, he managed to grab it and wring its neck.. He tore the feathers off, and he and his starving crew made a meal - a very slight meal for eight men - of it. Then they used the intestines for bait.. With it, they caught fish, which gave them food and more bait.....and the cycle continued. With that simple survival technique, they were able to endure the rigors of the sea until they were found and rescued (after 24 days at sea...).

Eddie Rickenbacker lived many years beyond that ordeal, but he never forgot the sacrifice of that first life-saving seagull... And he never stopped saying, 'Thank you.' That's why almost every Friday night he would walk to the end of the pier with a bucket full of shrimp and a heart full of gratitude.



**Application for Membership**

*(Please Print Information below)*

**AMVETS**

American Veterans  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
4647 Forbes Boulevard, Lanham, Maryland 20706-4380



I APPLY FOR \_\_\_ NEW ANNUAL \_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_ LIFE MEMBERSHIP AND PRESENT \$ \_\_\_\_\_ FOR DUES.

POST # \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ SPONSOR \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH OF SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR ENTERED SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR DISCHARGED \_\_\_\_\_

SERVICE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ TYPE OF DISCHARGE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX: \_\_\_ M \_\_\_ F

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ I CERTIFY THAT I MEET THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR

MEMBERSHIP IN AMVETS. IF I JOIN AS A MEMBER AT LARGE, I UNDERSTAND THAT I MAY BE ASKED TO

PROVE MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY BY SHOWING A DD214 TO ENTER AMVETS POST FACILITIES.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ POST \_\_\_\_\_

RETAIN THIS CARD FOR POST RECORDS

AUTHORIZING OFFICER

**AMVETS  
TEMPORARY MEMBERSHIP CARD  
NOT VALID MORE THAN 60 DAYS  
AFTER DATE ISSUED**

Your official Membership Card will be forwarded to you. If you do not receive your card within 60 days, contact AMVETS National Headquarters, 4647 Forbes Boulevard, Lanham, Maryland 20706-4380.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ POST \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
THE SUM OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_ IN PAYMENT OF AMVETS  
MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR THE YEAR \_\_\_\_\_  
HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM:  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PERSON RECEIVING DUES  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_ (WORK) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of person receiving dues

## Job Evaluations

*For everyone who has ever had or given an evaluation - just remember, it could have been worse. These are actual quotes taken from Federal Government employee performance evaluations.*

1. "Since my last report, this employee has reached rock-bottom and has started to dig."
2. "I would not allow this employee to breed."
3. "This employee is really not so much of a has-been, but more of a definite won't be."
4. "Works well when under constant supervision and cornered like a rat in a trap."
5. "When she opens her mouth, it seems that it is only to change feet."
6. "This young lady has delusions of adequacy."
7. "He sets low personal standards and then consistently fails to achieve them."
8. "This employee is depriving a village somewhere of an idiot."
9. "This employee should go far, and the sooner he starts, the better."
10. "Got a full 6-pack, but lacks the plastic thingy to hold it all 15. "He brings a lot of joy whenever he leaves the room."
11. "A gross ignoramus -- 144 times worse than an ordinary ignoramus."
12. "He doesn't have ulcers, but he's a carrier."
13. "He's been working with glue too much."

14. "He would argue with a signpost."
15. "He brings a lot of joy whenever he leaves the room."
16. "When his IQ reaches 50, he should sell."
17. "If you see two people talking and one looks bored, he's the other one."
18. "A photographic memory but with the lens cover glued on."
19. "A prime candidate for natural de-selection."
20. "Donated his brain to science before he was done using it."
21. "Gates are down, the lights are flashing, but the train isn't coming."
22. "He's got two brains cells, one is lost and the other is out looking for it."
23. "If he were any more stupid, he'd have to be watered twice a week."
24. "If you give him a penny for his thoughts, you'd get change."
25. "If you stand close enough to him, you can hear the ocean."
26. "It's hard to believe he beat out 1,000,000 other sperm."
27. "One neuron short of a synapse."
28. "Some drink from the fountain of knowledge; he only gargled."
29. "Takes him 2 hours to watch '60-Minutes'."
30. "The wheel is turning, but the hamster is dead."

---4---

**The History of AMVETS** – Truly AMVETS was born in the midst of war. For it was in August 1943, with victory still two years away, that a new organization, later to be known as American Veterans of World War II, had its beginning. Overseas the tide of battle was turning. The Allies had swept through North Africa and Sicily. In the Pacific, fighting raged in New Guinea. Thousands of Americans had made the supreme sacrifice. Thousands more were being mustered out of uniform with battle wounds and medical discharges. These men who fought in history's greatest war found it natural to seek each other's company. They were united by similar experiences – in jungles, in the Arctic, in deserts, in mountains, at sea, and in the skies. Thus, out of such comradeship, AMVETS came to be.

Two independent veterans clubs in Washington, D.C. – one formed on the campus of George Washington University, the other among veterans employed by the federal government – joined together to sponsor a serviceman's party. By September 1944 other such veterans clubs organized throughout America. On Nov. 11, 1944, Veterans Day, an article titled "12,000,000 in Search of a Leader" appeared in *COLLIER'S* magazine. This story, written by Walter Davenport, introduced the clubs and outlined their mutual aims: 1) to promote world peace, 2) to preserve the American way of life and 3) to help the veteran help himself.

In December, 18 leaders, representing these groups, met in Kansas City, Missouri. There, on Dec. 9, 1944, a national organization was formed known as the American Veterans of World War II – or AMVETS, as newspaper headline writers took to calling it. The White Clover, meaning "remember me", was chosen as the official flower of AMVETS. Found not only in America but throughout the world, it symbolizes the states from which U.S. Armed Forces were drawn and the worldwide battlefields on which they fought.

In October 1945, two months after the end of World War II, the first national convention was convened in Chicago. The next year AMVETS petitioned Congress for a federal charter. In the words of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the organization being "organized along sound lines and for worthy purposes . . . having demonstrated its strength and stability, is entitled to the standing and dignity which a national charter will afford." On July 23, 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed the AMVETS charter.

## A TEACHER'S THOUGHTS (On School Shootings)

*Kelly Guthrie has been teaching for 20 years and currently educates kids at Eustis Middle School in Lake County, Florida. Just last month she was named the 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year.*

*The day after the horrific shooting that took place at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, she posted a rant on Facebook that has since gone viral. In the post, she talked about parental responsibility, compassion, and respect.*

*More than 823,000 people have "liked" the post and agreed with it, while more than 649,000 have shared it with others. Here's what Mrs. Guthrie had to say:*

Okay, I'll be the bad guy and say what no one else is brave enough to say but wants to say. I'll take all the criticism and attacks from everyone because you know what? I'm a TEACHER. I live this life daily. And I wouldn't do anything else! But I also know daily I could end up in an active shooter situation.

Until we, as a country, are willing to get serious and talk about mental health issues, lack of available care for the mental health issues, lack of discipline in the home, horrendous lack of parental support when the schools are trying to control horrible behavior at school (Oh no! Not my kid!)

What did YOU do to cause my kid to react that way?), lack of moral values, and, yes, I'll say it - violent video games that take away all sensitivity to ANY compassion for others' lives, as well as reality TV that makes it com-mon-place for people to constantly scream up in each others' faces and not value any other person but themselves, we will have a gun problem in school. Our kids don't understand the permanency of death anymore!!!

I grew up with guns. Everyone knows that. But you know what? My parents NEVER supported any bad behavior from me. I was terrified of doing something bad at school, as I would have not had a life until I corrected the problem and straightened my ass out.

My parents invaded my life. They knew where I was ALL the time. They made me have a curfew. They made me wake them up when I got home. They made me respect their rules. They had full control of their house, and at any time could and

would go through every inch of my bedroom, backpack, pockets, anything!

Parents: it's time to STEP UP! Be the parent that actually gives a crap! Be the annoying mom that pries and knows what your kid is doing. STOP being their friend. They have enough "friends" at school. Be their parent. Being the "cool mom" means not a damn thing when either your kid is dead or your kid kills other people because they were allowed to have their space and privacy in YOUR HOME.

I'll say it again. My home was filled with guns growing up. For God's sake, my daddy was an 82nd Airborne Ranger who lost half his face serving our country. But you know what? I never dreamed of shooting anyone with his guns. I never dreamed of taking one! I was taught respect for human life, compassion, rules, common decency, and most of all, I was taught that until I moved out, my life and bedroom wasn't mine; it was theirs. And they were going to know what was happening because they loved me and wanted the best for me.

There. Say that I'm a horrible person I didn't bring up gun control, and I will refuse to debate it with anyone. This post wasn't about gun control. This was me, loving the crap out of people and wanting the best for them. This was about my school babies and knowing that God created each one for greatness, and just wanting them to reach their futures.

It's about 20 years ago this year I started my teaching career. Violence was not this bad 20 years ago. Lack of compassion wasn't this bad 20 years ago. And God knows 20 years ago that I wasn't afraid daily to call a parent because I KNEW that 9 out of 10 wouldn't cuss me out, tell me to go to Hell, call the news on me, call the school board on me, or post all over Face Book about me because I called to let them know what their child chose to do at school because they are a NORMAL kid!!!!!!

Those 17 lives mattered. When are we going to take our own responsibility seriously? This is the way the children should be taught - AT HOME!!

# SPECIAL MEMBERS PAGE

An extra page just for member's personal ads, announcements, and miscellaneous

## A Memorial Day Poem

By C.W. Johnson

We walked among the crosses  
Where our fallen soldiers lay.  
And listened to the bugle  
As TAPS began to plan.

The Chaplain led a prayer  
We stood with heads bowed low.  
And I thought of fallen comrades  
I had known so long ago.

They came from every city  
Across this fertile land.  
That we might live in freedom.  
They lie here 'neath the sand.

I felt a little guilty  
My sacrifice was small.  
I only lost a little time  
But these men lost their all.

Now the services are over  
For this Memorial Day.  
To the names upon these crosses I just  
want to say,

Thanks for what you've given  
No one could ask for more.  
May you rest with God in heaven  
From now through evermore.



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Will Rogers, who died in a 1935 plane crash, was one of the greatest political sages this country has ever known. Here are some of his most famous quips (part one):

1. Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco.
2. Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.
3. Never squat while wearing spurs.
4. Never miss a good chance to shut up.
5. Always drink upstream from the herd.
6. If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.
7. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it and put it back into your pocket.
8. There are three kinds of men: The ones that learn by reading; the few who learn by observation; the rest of them have to pee on the electric fence and find out for themselves.
9. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
10. If you're riding' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.
11. Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier'n puttin' it back in.
12. After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him. **The moral:** When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut.

**MORE NEXT MONTH**



## IT'S HUMOR TIME

*Heard a funny story?  
Put it in The Liberty Press.*

You can identify an Illinois accent.

The town you grew up in had a bar called Ma's Place.

Your best shirt has a big letter G on it.

You know how to polka, but never tried it sober.

You know it's traditional for the bride and groom to go bar hopping between the ceremony and the reception.

You know at least a half dozen Ole and Lena jokes.

You think the start of deer season is a national holiday.

You know the difference between Dairy Queen and frozen custard.

You were delighted to get a miniature snow shovel for your 3rd birthday.

You can recognize someone from Illinois by their driving.

You buy your Christmas presents at Fleet Farm..

You are a connoisseur of cheese curds, and find anyone unfamiliar with them to be frighteningly foreign.

You get irritated at sports announcers that pronounce it "Wes-con-sin".

The "big three" means Miller, Bud or Old Mill.

You spent more on beer than you did on food at your wedding.

You think fast food is hitting a deer at 65 mph.

(to be continued)

I don't have time  
to worry about  
who doesn't like me..



I'm too busy  
loving the people  
who love me.