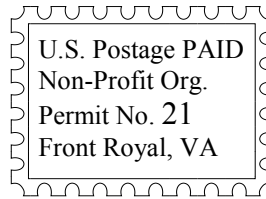


Giles B. Cook
American Legion Post 53
22 West 8th Street
Front Royal, VA 22630

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



Larry Funk, Post Commander
Glen Brown, SAL Squadron Commander
Kathy Hartsell, ALA Unit President



THE COOKIE SHEET

Giles B. Cook Post 53
American Legion Family Newsletter
May—June 2018

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

May 2018

May 4 — Cinco de Mayo @7:00 PM with Top Act
May 5 — SAL Squadron 53 Meeting @11:00 AM
May 9 — Post 53 Executive Committee Meeting @7:00 PM
May 10 — ALA Unit 53 Meeting @ 6:00 PM
May 10 — Post 53 Membership Meeting @ 7:00 PM
May 25 — Karaoke with Top Act @ 7:00—11:00 PM
May 28 — Memorial Day & Dogs of War Event @ 11:00 AM Front Royal Gazebo
May 28 — Mini Memorial Day Picnic @ Post 53 11:00 AM—2:00 PM

June 2018

June 2 — SAL Squadron 53 Meeting @ 11:00 AM
June 13 — Post 53 Executive Committee Meeting @ 7:00 PM
June 14 — Flag Day & Flag Retirement Ceremony @ VFW Pavilion 5-8 PM
June 14 — ALA Unit 53 Meeting @ 6:00 PM
June 14 — Post 53 Elections & Membership Meeting @ 7:00 PM
June 16 — Post 53 Family Installation of Officers @ 5:00 PM
June 23 — Karaoke with Top Act @ 4:00—8:00 PM

From the Post Commander...

Greetings Post #53 Family ... I hope that this newsletter finds you and your families Blessed with good health and happiness. It continues to be an honor and a privilege for me to serve you as Commander of Post 53. I checked the service time since my first election to Commander and it has been since 2009!.....time is flying by at warp speed my friends! ...during my time as Commander and service as an executive committee officer I have had opportunity to work with many outstanding officers and members! ... One of those truly remarkable officers who has served on both the Executive Committee and as the Post's long time Sgt.-at-Arms, is John Kokernak. John continues to serve the Post Home with most admirable dedication and exemplary volunteerism. I especially recognize his long term volunteerism regarding the collection of articles, special events notifications, editing, and publication of the Post Newsletter. (Cookie Sheet). John has a vast knowledge of the American Legion and I have learned so very much from him. John has recently advised that he will be ceasing his editorship of the Newsletter after this edition. It is my pleasure to take this opportunity to thank John for all of his excellent work as Post 53's Newsletter Editor.

Please join me in extending a very special "Thank You" to Sgt.-At-Arms John Kokernak for volunteering his time and talents as "Cookie Sheet Editor"!!! ... I plan to "Showcase" (recognize) a Legionnaire Officer within each edition of our upcoming newsletters. In the event that there is an American Legion officer or member who would be willing to volunteer as the new Post "Cookie Sheet" editor, please advise Adjutant Doug Ramos, Ist Vice Commander Buddy Hartsell, or 2nd Vice Commander Rodney Jones. ... I will finish my humble offerings with the following: as the world continues to convulse with horrific violence, the insanity of wars, and an ever increasing cold and cruel treatment of our fellow man here within our Republic ... I offer these quotes and Holy scriptures: " If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other." Mother Theresa and 1st Corinthians 16:14 (Let all that you do be done in love)... Jesus said that the greatest commandments were "Love God and love your neighbor as yourself" ! ... That's the world I choose to live in! ... How about you my friends ?

Thank you and may God Bless and Keep You!

L.M. Funk Commander Post 53

HELP WANTED

Post 53 is looking a volunteer or volunteers to take over the production of the Post newsletter known as the "Cooke Sheet"

Our current Editor, Legionnaire John Kokernak, is retiring after producing the newsletter for over 2 years. He is willing to work with the new Editor and provide copies of previous newsletters that can be used as samples or templates for future editions.

Legion, Auxiliary and SAL members are encouraged to apply. Please contact the Post 53 Adjutant, Doug Ramos, with any questions or interest.

Nomination of Post Officers for 2018-2019

According to the Post 53 Bylaws, Nominations for candidates for the following elected Post Officers, Executive Committee and House Committee positions will be accepted at the **May 10, 2018 General Membership Meeting**. If you are not able to attend the meeting, you must provide a letter of acceptance to the Post Adjutant prior to the May meeting accepting the position you have been nominated for. Candidates can only accept the nomination for a single position. Elected positions are:

Commander

1st Vice-Commander

2d Vice Commander (Chairman of the House Committee)

Chaplain

Finance Officer

Sergeant-at-Arms

Adjutant

At-Large Members of the Post Executive Committee (four (4) total)

House Committee Members (six (6) total)

Elections will be held on June 14th for any contested Positions!

Post 53 Legion Family 2018 Membership Status!

	Current Members	Goal	Percent
Post 53	329	338	97.337%
SdqN 53	100	114	87.72%
Unit 53	101	131	78.29%

Please RENEW Your Membership for 2018!

FROM THE AUXILIARY UNIT PRESIDENT...

We are continuing to have our meetings the same night the Legion has theirs, (second Thursday of each month) but please check the board in the Club Room at the Post for any changes. We will be having our Unit Officer Elections for 2018-2019 at our May Meeting (May 10th) at 6:00 PM. Please come out and support your Unit and help elect your leaders for the upcoming year! The newly elected officers will be installed on Saturday, June 16, 2018 at 5:00 PM in the upstairs hall so please come and join us for the installation ceremony which will be followed by dinner.

Unit 53 is distributing Poppies to support our veterans on Memorial Day Weekend! If you have an hour or two to help us, please let me know. Please contact me at 540-635-9341 if you have some time to spare! Unit 53 is also planning to have our Annual Fall Bazaar on September 29, 2018 in the upstairs hall. Please put the date on your calendars and come out and join us as a volunteer, a vendor and/or a shopper! We have a number of great vendors each year and it is a great way to get a head start on your Christmas Shopping and support our veterans at the same time!

Lastly, ALA Unit 53 finished 2017 with 129 members and we currently have 101 paid members for 2018 or 78.29%. If you have not paid your dues for 2018, please stop by the Post and pay your dues! Every member is important to us and we need your continued support!

Kathy Hartsell, President

From the Club Room....

Queen of Hearts continues on Tuesday's @ 7:00 PM! Stop in and get your tickets!

Breakfast and Lunch are being served in the clubroom! If you are on Facebook, we are posting our menus on a weekly basis on the Post Facebook Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/alpost53/>

Cinco de Mayo Party on May 4 from 7—11 PM with Karaoke provided by Top Act!

Karaoke by Top Act on Friday, May 25th from 7—11 PM and June 23rd from 4-8 PM

We will be having a Memorial Day Mini-Picnic at the Post on May 28th from 11 AM—2 PM. We will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers to honor our veterans and remember those who gave all! Open to members and their invited guests!

Installation of Post/Unit/Squadron Officers on 16th at 5:00 PM in the upstairs hall. Dinner will be served following the installation of officers ceremonies.

Please put July 6th on your Calendars for our Post 53 Disco Party! Please check back for the details but we are hoping to have a good turn out of folks in their best Disco attire!