



American Legion

STEWART P. MORRILL POST #35

413 Broadway

South Portland, Maine 04106

207-799-3997



Commanders Letter – December 31st 2020

Good Day!

As we approach the closing hours of 2020, I thought it would be a great time to wish farewell!! I think we have all had more than we ever expected. My wife and I and Mr. Murphy headed to Florida right after Christmas last year with nothing but clear skies ahead of us, after about 6 weeks this virus started to raise its head there in Florida, came on strong and within a few weeks we were packing our bags and heading home. We felt if we were going to be sick we both wanted to be home! So far all are well and we are wishing the same for all of you! 2021 is just about ready to make its appearance; the vaccine is here and at 95% effective. I am hoping that this will help put all of this behind us in 2021!! Hang in there folks, stay focused on things and people around you, wash your hands and wear that mask, let's do our part in stopping the spread of this Virus !!

As this year fades into history let me take the time to thank all of you for your help in 2020, to my officers and those that were able to give your Post a few hours of labor with the work we did do, and to you folks that were able to help us out with your donations, I say THANK YOU !! We couldn't have done it without your help! What a great team effort!

Things that we were able to accomplish this year: A much needed handicap ramp; we did small services for our comrade on Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Pearl Harbor Day. We decorated most of the cemeteries with flags prior to Memorial Day. We also, for the first time, had a very successful Lobster Roll Lunch in the parking lot on Labor Day weekend. It was voted on to make this an annual thing in the years to come. Most other events we had planned had to be cancelled due to the virus! We also had a number of transfers and new members as well, I would like to say Thank you to our Post Adjutant – Mike Pock. Mike has been the main man behind our membership drive as well as many other chores he does for Post 35. If you see him around be sure to say thank you to him. We

also had a transfer from the State of Oregon (Doug Kohkke), not only has this Army Vet joined our ranks and become a big contributor to the Post, but he is our Web Master. For those not aware we now have a web page, go online to www.post35.org and check it out. Doug is also a photographer and several of his photos are on the web page. If you see him around please say hello and welcome him to the Post. I will be hosting a coffee break on the third Wednesday of each month from 0900 to 1100 for anyone who wants to drop by, coffee and donuts and great conversation along with a few stories. If you have a vet that you think would like to join us bring them along, all are welcome!

Starting in 2021, we have things that need to be done. We have our first meeting of the year on 15 January; plans are to have our Initiation of New Members. We have four members that are scheduled to be initiated. At this time I am asking that All Officers wear their dress uniforms (Blue Blazer, Gray Slacks, White Shirt, Neck Tie and Shined Shoes along with their Legion Hat) for this occasion. To the new members, you may invite members of your family to join us, after the service we will break for some refreshments and coffee and cold drinks. All are welcome, please join us and welcome our new members. If any of you need a ride please let me know and I will be pleased to arrange a pick up and return home. Doug, may I ask that you bring your camera for some photos during the service for the Department and District newspapers.

A few projects we are still working on; the bathroom on the 1st floor. Mike has everything that is needed to complete, if anyone can help out with a little labor for this project please check with Mike Pock. The Main Meeting room ceiling needs to be finished, I have checked with the Coast Guard and they have offered some staging as well as labor but we also need a little help from some of our members, please check in with me or Mike. The ceiling in the stairwell between the 1st and 2nd floor need to be repaired and again Mike has the material but needs a little help, if you can help in any way please check with Mike. We are currently working on getting a spotlight on our flag. Thanks to George Johns, who donated a solar light three years ago the flag was lighted according to regulations. However the batteries have given out and another arrangement is required. A



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new LED spotlight has been purchased and under the direction of our 1st Vice Commander – Wes Spletstoeser that project is also going on.

So, let me wish you all a very Happy New Year, I look forward to working with all and working on the continued growth of Post 35 and the American Legion. God Bless You All, God Bless the American Legion and God Bless America!

Guy Linscott- Post 35 Commander

