

Commitments

One day you woke up and decided that today is the day you will be active in everything you have put off for one reason or another. You joined a music club and a health club and a couple of years ago you joined the American Legion. Now, you only bought one CD and it is good because the Doors have their greatest hits on it. You went down to the gym and did five zillion reps on the pull up bar and then you thought about stopping by the Post to see if anything was going on but didn't. Kind of shows you have a negative commitment to everything.

You just have not been down to the Post for, hell has it been two years now. You have been paying your dues each year so how come they don't know you? It's easy you don't look like Ben Franklin on that bill you sent in.

It takes more than sending in your dues. Some places and organizations have dues monthly not yearly. So being a member of the American Legion is very affordable. Being part of the American Legion can mean you get a say in what happens to the Post, and you can express what you would like to see happening. Is it fair to say it is ok to let others do all the work and you sit back and just enjoy? No, it's not, you need to be part of the solution not the problem.

So why do people join and not participate in the activities they started out to enjoy. Is there any one reason or is there multiple reasons. Who cares, what is important is you get active. You come to meetings so you can see what is going on and you also can have a say in what is being done at the Post. You enjoy an event someone recommended, and you had a great meal at a perfect price.

I joined the American Legion for two reasons, first being a Rider where I found myself on the road to freedom with the wind in my hair and bugs on my teeth. Now you know that's not true because the helmet covers my hair. I do find it more enjoyable to ride with others that have those similar likes. No, not the taste of bugs, the ride, the freedom and the commitment to a group that feels exhilarating during those rides. I could ask why you spent all that money for your bike, the insurance on it, the registration, even the cost of getting a license and you let it all sit in your garage. What a shame.

This can be said about joining the American Legion and then not going down to enjoy the surroundings or see what is going on. Everyone counts and everyone should pitch in, even if it's a small contribution. Remember, each small group under the umbrella of the American Legion should be as active in the Post as they are in their smaller groups.

Why haven't you volunteered to help, to participate, to enjoy what you first committed to do? Remember your views and recommendations can change the way the Post is run, and these same ideas can change how others see things because you are now committed to the largest Veteran group in the world. Participate be committed.

I knew you would ask; the second reason, I hate house chores.

Mike Stevenson – President American Legion Riders 365

