

Newsletter



February 2005

2004 IN REVIEW

Well since this is the first news letter Ive gotten out in some time maybe we should start by going over what we acomplished in 2004.

The post donated 150.00 to Fisher House . Fisher House takes care of wounded soldiers and their families.

The post served dinner to members of the DAV at the Knights of Columbus .The post also made a monetary donation to off set the cost off food.

The post won the midwinter membership award for having the highest membership percentage in New York by the 2004 midwinter conference in January.

The post continued its involmment in Scouting by providing medals and certificates to several Eagle Scouts from our area.

We had 2 raffles the first one raised 1000.00 for our building fund largely thanks to our own members buying tickets. The second raffle didn't do as well but still raised another couple of hundered. All funds raised were placed into the building fund.

The post raised 1500 selling poppies and all funds were donated to Post 270 in Virginia to be used at Walter Reed Army Medical Center

Once again the post placed over 500 flags on veterans graves for Memorial Day and also got the scouts involved.The Post as always participated in Memorial Day ceramonies held in Hopewell.

The Post Participated in Flag Disposal Ceramonies in June

The Post answered a plea from Nickie Mendancino a 15 year old veterans advocate for flowers for her friend and mentor Mr. Kridlo who participated in the landings on D-Day. Mr Kridlo had past away and had no family. We were the only Post or organization to respond to that E-mail.

I represented the Post and County at a rally in front of the capital building in Washington DC for Capt Scott Speicher shot down during the first gulf war and still MIA, This was at my own expense

The Post made a donation to the Family of Nathan Bruckenthel who was from Long Island and was KIA in Iraq. He left behind a wife who was several months pregnant at the time.

The post won the overall NY State membership award for having the highest membership percentage in NY for the 2004 legion year.

Members participated in the Gold Star mothers memorial dedication at castle point
Also MIA/POW day at Castle Point and the annual American Legion Christmas
Party for the patients at Castle Point.

We again sold poppies on Veterans day and Donated \$600.00 to be used to fund
pizza parties for a year for the Patients at Castle Point.

1758 was the first post in the county to 100% for 2004-2005 again.

For the first time in DECADES our post now has a Ladies Auxiliary.

Charlie Barger won the pot of gold and took home a couple hundred dollars proving
it can pay to go to meetings !

POT LUCK DINNER NEXT MEETING

So Far we have Sausage and Peppers, Corn Chowder , Rolls and Soda.....If you would like
to bring a dish feel free ...Give me a call at 845-724-4666 and let me know what your bringing
we still need paper plates and bowls , plastic utensils and of course more food is always
welcome.

If you cant bring anything don't let that stop you from coming to the meeting ...come down
and enjoy good food and good friends, we will start eating at 730 pm March 8

Post Everlasting

Ray Jurrina has been called by the Supreme Commander ...I have a Certificate for his family so if
anyone knows the family please come to the meeting and I will give it to you to pass on...Mailing
would be the last resort as I would hate to see it get bent.

LONGEVITY CERTIFICATES

I will be sending out certificates starting the middle of March recognizing members for your years
of membership in the legion. They will be given in 5 year increments if your card says 5- 10-15-20
years ECT you will get a certificate this year, if not you will get yours when you hit the next 5 year
increment. So if your card says 24 years you will get yours next year when you hit 25.

I've Moved

My new address is 240 Dorn Rd Apt 6 Lagrangeville NY 12504

My phone number is 845-724-4666

I also want to thank Commander Klock for the DJ at the Christmas Party He paid for it out of
his own pocket ...if you didn't make it... it was a great time had by all ...thanks to all who
attended.

NEW ID CARDS

New ID cards are being issued at Castle Point. Any Veteran who uses the VA needs to go down and get issued a new card. Just go to the front desk by the main entrance.

CALL TO ACTION!

Once again the proposed VA budget falls well short of what is needed to adequately fund the VA. The National Commander has testified before congress voicing his opinion on this and letting congress know that the Legions stance that ALL honorably discharged veterans are entitled to VA health care.

Here are some highlights of the proposed VA budget..

- * The medical care budget request is woefully inadequate by about \$2.4 billion. It currently takes about 1.4 billion in additional funds each year just to maintain current VA services.
- * Increasing prescription co pays from 7 to 15 dollars.
- * The Proposed 250.00 dollar enrollment fee is an insult to every honorably discharged veteran. They are asking Veterans to pay for what we have already earned and were promised.
- * The goal of these two initiatives according to the VA is to generate an additional 424 million dollars and drive 1.1 million veterans out of the VA system.
- * The budget proposal also seeks to limit the number of veterans in state Veterans Homes that the VA will pay per diem for and repeal VA currently mandated inpatient nursing home care beds census. These long term care initiatives will have serious economic impact on State Veterans homes.

Please contact our senators and congress people and tell them we don't want any increase in VA fees, no enrolment fees. Tell them this budget falls way short of the needs of Americas Veterans and lastly ask that they support MANDATORY FUNDING FOR THE VA!

A Home for Manny Bacon

Over the last four or five months, much progress has been made in attaining what we have all wanted for so long....a post home. A building committee has been formed led by Paul Corish and Mike Dennerlein.

As most of you know the post has 3 parcels of land on Prout Ln.

This land was donated to the post to be used to build a post home on.

We had to pay off some outstanding legal fees from the last attempt at getting the wording on the deed changed to be able to sell the land.

The post wasn't in a financial position back then to pay them, but now with over 5000.00 in our building fund we are once again moving forward. Thanks to all of you who made a donation or bought a raffle ticket.

Once the wording on the deed is changed the plan is to sell the land and then take that money and look into building or buying a post home. The town, thanks to Peter Idema, has pledged to help us in any way feasible.

Most of you have heard me say it before...If we can get this built we will leave something here that will keep giving back to the community and to Veterans long after we're gone.

Hang in there guyswe are closer than we have ever been since 1949