



American Legion Post 1758 Newsletter

Est. 1949

December 2014

American Legion Post 1758,
www.4ever66/legionpost1758

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Our next meeting will be January 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the **Old East Fishkill Town Hall**, Rte. 52, next to the Police Station. Please try to attend. We have a 50-50 awaiting!

Membership

We received an award ribbon for having 105% of our 2014 membership target. Now the 2015 membership renewal notices are out and we've already added two new members.

Nonetheless, get those renewals done as soon as you can. Send a \$40.00 check to PO Box 92, here in Hopewell.

We are actively reaching out to Department members living in the area, asking for them to transfer their membership to our post.

We've been to a few County Meetings, and the Legion is really stressing membership, especially younger Veterans. There have been a number of suggestions to this end, and we're currently reaching out in different directions. Retention is just as important. Attention is focusing on retention and how to beef it up.

There will continue to be emphasis on expanding Legion membership, including how each of us can do our part. Many posts within the Department see decreasing membership, while membership in Post 1758 continues to increase. The declining membership will continue to be addressed, and the future will show us many more steps in improving the age balance in our post.

By the way, each member needs to make sure they've paid their 2015 dues...if there's a funding problem, let me know. The funding must not get in the way of an up-to-date membership. I know there are members who haven't renewed, and this should be corrected.

Remember that if you wish, you can renew on line at <http://www.legion.org/renew>

To repeat one more time:

Several bib scarfs (dickies) and shoulder cords purchased by the post and lent out for parade use have not been returned. Please return these to the post or if the recipients wish to purchase them the cost is \$7.00 for the scarf or \$8.00 for the cord. If in doubt, see post treasurer Dan Briscoe to see if you've paid for these items.

Thanksgiving Meals for those who can use some help—Jim Reynolds purchased two meals for 2 needy families Ed Reid from the Supportive Services for Veteran Families sent Jim Reynolds this note:

Jim,

This story could not have turned out better. [In one] family, two adult veterans and four children, were ecstatic. I just spoke with the wife. She said they took all the food to her in-laws, who were having a hard time. They shared what they called a wonderful Thanksgiving. There was enough food for the whole group. Jim thanks for checking into having the family pick up their dinner at the Hannaford's in Walden. They truly appreciated that.

[In the other family], the female veteran with the developmentally disabled daughter, were equally as thrilled. They have recently been experiencing some very hard times and this was truly a blessing for them. Michelle has been amazed at all the good things that have happened to her since joining the SSVF program. Not having to worry about providing her daughter with a holiday meal, ranks right up there with the other positive things that have happened.

On behalf of SSVF (Supportive Services for Veteran Families), I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to you and the American Legion Post 1758 for your generous donation. Let's keep in touch. If you need us to give a presentation about SSVF or if you'd like to speak about some collaborative efforts, we'd be more than willing to work with you.

Thanks again.

*** Ed Reid ***

Case Manager

Supportive Services for Veteran Families

Our thanks go to Jim Reynolds for making this happen.

Our Holiday Party was held at Lombardi's, formerly Lilliana's, at the corner of Rte 52 and Old State Rd., in Hopewell.

Our Sargent-at-Arms, Mark Baaden, reported on several choices of restaurants and meal choices, and Lilliana's was chosen. Thirty-seven of us signed up for it, and those of us who made it really had a great time. Unfortunately, there were some families who were unable to attend.

The food was outdone only by the camaraderie.

One photo is on the next page, more are on the Post 1758 webpage. There was a mixup with the photographer (my wife Sandy) and her assignment. She DID get an important shot---congratulating our former Commander, Jim Reynolds, for a job done excellently!



On December 15th, our post visited another Cub Scout Den within Pack 127 for another lesson in Flag Etiquette. We all had a fun time, and the kids finished the evening with a personal flag and a greater understanding of what it means to all of us. It also serves as another way our Post can connect with the Community. (In reading thru Legion literature, I learn that there's a presentation I could've bought for \$7.95...)

Photos follow.



Discussing the Flag with the Scouts



Giving out Flags to the Scouts



Group Portrait



Scouts learning to fold the Flag

New News

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On December 17, 2014, Mark and Susan Oberhauser, son and daughter in law of Danny Oberhauser welcomed their daughter Mia, into the world. She came into the world at 21 inches, and 8 and a half pounds, and healthy. Congratulations to everybody!

ORATORICAL

1. Danny, our Service Officer, is looking into our candidate for the Oratorical contest. It seems as though our candidate didn't complete requirements.
2. At January's meeting, we'll discuss a Veterans Day Recognition for 2015. Neil has signed on to it, and we may look for help there. We should talk about a possible line-up.
3. Jim Broughton has been making the food & grocery pickups at Adams Fairacre Farms, and hand delivering everything (keeping a total of what's delivered, and the estimated cost...) to the Food Pantry at VAMC, Castle Point. Jim will be in Florida from January through March, so we'll need someone to come forward with an offer to help the program; that is, pickup, estimating and logging, and delivery.
4. Town Hall meeting at VAMC, Castle Point, date to be assigned
5. Castle Point Holiday Party, January 4, 2015 at 1PM

6. Vets' Driving Licenses

According to an article in yesterday's Albany Times Union, Veterans can now change their state driver's license, permit, or non-driver identification card to indicate their status as a Veteran without paying additional fees. The Legislature approved the designation this year.

Veterans interested in applying for the designation can send proof of an honorable discharge to the state Department of Motor Vehicles. Those who qualify can have the word "Veteran" printed on the upper left-hand corner of their drivers' license, permit, or non-driver ID. For more information about the military license designation or for assistance applying visit:www.dmv.ny.gov/armed-forces.htm#vetstat or contact Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara's office at 518-382-2941.

7. Salute to Law Enforcement

Kieran Lalor Hosting this salute at the Fishkill K of C, Rte 52
January 10, 2015 at 2PM

8. 97th National Convention, Baltimore, MD August, 2015
Additional details forthcoming...National Commanders' Banquet, 9/1/15
\$45.00 per person

9. Security loosened for "Never Forgotten Honor Flight Trips", so older vets no longer subjected to painful searches and security

Rededication of Veterans Memorial in East Fishkill by Boy Scout Troop 82, applauded by American Legion Post 1758, represented by Dan Briscoe and Kevin Hathorn, 11/11/2014



Group of Boy Scouts from Troop 82, E. Fishkill replace the worn American Flag at the Veterans Memorial on Route 82, while rest of Troop looks on, joined by the American Legion members from Post 1758. The Memorial Park was cleaned, pruned, re-signed, as part of an Eagle Scout Project.



As part of a Veterans Day tribute, Troop 82 of E. Fishkill presents a remodeled Veterans Park to the Town of East Fishkill, much to the pleasure of the Manny Bacon Post 1758 of the American Legion. The Park received a new sign, pruned shrubs, and improved floral layout. The crowning touch was a new American Flag, donated by Post 1758.



Group of Scouts from Troop 82, E. Fishkill, replace a worn American Flag with a new Flag, donated by the Manny Bacon Post of the American Legion, Post 1758. The older Flag is being folded for presentation to the Legion for disposal.



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