

# **American Legion** Post 1758 **Newsletter**

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Our next meeting will be April 14th at 7:00 PM at the **Old East Fishkill Town Hall**. Rte. 52, next to the Police Station. Please try to

attend. We're preparing for post elections.

## **St Jude's Collections**

Last year we collected \$775 to donate to the WRWD Radiothon...this year, it was almost another \$100 more. At three sites (Flory's was cut to 2 hours), we raised \$871.50. My wife and I drove to the Galleria to donate that money to the cause. A great big THANK YOU goes out to Danny, Jim, Tommy, Joe, Neil, Don, Bob and Tony, as well as the hundreds who pitched in! We have Flory's reserved for next year...the other two are standing dates.

## **Memorial Wreaths**

It's time to maintain our memorial wreaths, the ones we use at the Memorial Day Ceremony. It's decided to simply replace the ribbons, and not identify each individual one for a separate organization. We have five wreaths in all, and will use Sabellico's in Fishkill Plains as the source.

#### **About The Legion**

February was Americanism month. We discussed it in January and February at our meetings, but next year, let's plan to go to the local schools and work with school officials to plan school awards. We could (should) also plan with the community to celebrate the birthday of the Legion. Just a few thoughts to attract attention to our Post, make it a place for our many veterans out there to look into our activities. What say?

Following that, March 15-17 is the anniversary of the Paris Caucus in 1919. March 15 is our birthday.

April is Children & Youth month...good time to look to Boys State. We also prepare for elections. The St. Louis Caucus in May, 1919, was where our Constitution was drafted. At our May meeting we hold Post elections. In September of 1919., Congress chartered the American Legion. September 16<sup>th</sup> is the anniversary of Congress approving, and it's been proclaimed American Legion Day. That too, needs to be celebrated !

The American Legion's first Nat'l Convention was in November, 1919. Membership month!

#### **School Tax Veterans' Exemptions**

Latest news out of ArlingtonCentral School District is that the Veterans School Tax Exemption did not pass. This was discussed at the County meeting, with a call to attend future ACSD meetings. For the good of the cause, we need to stay vocal! The ACSD website lists their meeting dates, sites and times. It's for the good of all !!



#### Department Convention in Buffalo this year

The Department of New York Convention is in Buffalo this year, from July 14<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>. Commander and Service Officer are looking forward to going. There are many going from the county.



Driving up, the more the merrier.





#### Boys State 2015

Danny and I went to our two local high schools and spoke to the principals, and an assistant about Boys State and Oratorical. Both Schools have many students reportedly interested. There are three expected to go, and two other posts (as of the 18<sup>th</sup>'s County meeting) willing to share the costs. This year's Boys State costs are \$350 per student. There appears to be major interest in both schools in the Oratorical program as well. The John Jay principal invited us to speak at a post-Spring Break forum, three days long, from 10-10:30AM. We are putting together a presentation to attract maximum interest in American Legion Programs, as well as increase our visibility to the community. A second visit to RCK is upcoming, with similar results, we expect.

### Legislative Hill Day in Albany

Danny and I drove up north for the day at the State Capital. After a good breakfast and a lot of information, we were ready to speak with Reps Lalor and Serino. We spoke with Sue Serino about the ACSD tax situation, and the Hyperbaric chamber. We left word with Lalor's aides. We also spoke with several people at Department HQ. We had an upstate quality lunch (oh yeah!!) and came home, satisfied at what we, saw, said and did.

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## Wake Brake April 18<sup>th</sup>, 8AM

We will collect on I-84 west, between exits 16 & 17.

We have all the supplies for the two dates. If you feel like some fresh air, bring a plate of wrapped goodies and stop by. It'll be a prime opportunity to recruit new members ! We'll have enough bodies, and I'll bring the basics, tables, chairs, tent and supplies.



#### **Volunteer Hours Report**

For National Headquarters bookkeeping, we all need to log in our volunteer hours in the community. All the guys who showed up at the March meeting listed their hours, and the ones who usually sit with us...well, we can estimate their time.

#### Helping the Vets and the Community

We're still collecting at Adams Fairacre in Wappinger, and going to Castle point once or twice a week.

The quantity and quality of the goods is good and steady. Thanks to the many members who donate, too. LATE NOTES: Cosimo is okay, following an icy slip in his driveway. We hope that a Legion basket of fruit helped the recovery a little. Turnout at the "Night at the Races" was a bit light, but it was a good time had by all. Our own Jim R. had a really good time, winning a couple of races.

I'll be in Orlando until May 24<sup>th</sup>, so I'll miss the Poppy collections; I'll march on Monday.

The NRA is working with our shooting team....22s are on their way.

We will be sending out letters to our store owners, to thank them for their cooperation and spirit. Plaques to be ordered forthwith.

If you're going to use the "Veteran's Choice", you'll need to get a written referral to the VA at Castle Point, BEFORE you use that care/treatment option. Don't assume anything.

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