



American Legion Post 1758 Newsletter

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American Legion Post 1758,
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Our next meeting will be May 12th at 7:00 PM at the **Old East Fishkill Town Hall, Rte. 52**, next to the Police Station. Please try to attend. We're conducting post elections.

Veterans Graves

Flags have arrived. They will be placed at graves on May 16th (RAIN DATE the 17th). Breakfast will be at the Falls Diner on Myers Corner Rd., just east of DeGarmo Hills Rd. 10-12 volunteers expected. Notice going out to High Schools to allow students volunteer activity hours. For flag removal, the date will be announced at upcoming post meeting.

Memorial Wreaths

The five memorial wreaths were delivered to Sabellico's in Fishkill Plains, where ribbons will be replaced. The wreaths will also be refreshed and picked up prior to Memorial Day. The post has decided that there will be no lettering on the ribbons, allowing simpler wreath selection in the memorial ceremony.

Letters of Thanks

Our Service Officer and Commander delivered letters to the Convenient Deli Mart and Lake Walton Stewarts, thanking them for their support. I have photos which will be sent to the Journal and Southern Dutchess News for publication. A letter will be forthcoming to Flory's on 82 at the Taconic. The idea of plaques was moved out to later in the year. The idea of high school students assisting us in our collection efforts was floated to the students and principal at John Jay. Again, this counts toward students' volunteer activity.

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! There is another ACSD vote on the 19th of May, so let's get out there and get active.



Good of the Legion

Once again "not here" was pulled for Pot Of Gold Drawing at our March meeting. So the pot is now at \$134 ! Starting in May, the Pot of Gold will be done BEFORE then end of the meeting. Currently, there's too much going on at the exits.

Poppies and Collections

We have our poppies, and we also have reservations for our three sites—Flory's, Stewarts at Lake Walton & 82, as well as the Convenient Deli Mart. The collection date is Saturday, May 23rd, beginning at 8AM.

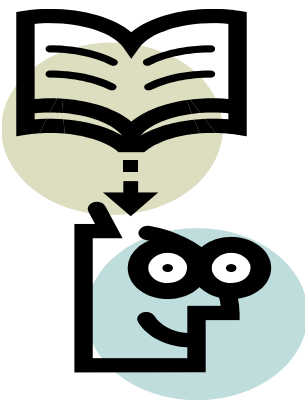
Your commander will be in Florida from May 17th to May 24th, and will not be in town for collection day. Arrangements will be made for the collection supplies to be available. All the moneys must be delivered to Jim Reynolds at Stewarts at days' end...between 3:30 and 4:00PM.

I'll arrange for Legion publications to be available for distributed to the interested donors at each site. Over the past year, much the same guys have been at the three sites, so we don't need assignments.



Boys State 2015

The John Jay student who volunteered for Boys State was sponsored by the Ossining post. One of the two Ketcham students dropped out in lieu of a family vacation. We will be checking on the third candidate, and make sure he is still in the program. The cost per student is \$350, plus \$100 for transportation to the Morrisville campus where the program is held.



Speaking at John Jay

Our post was invited to speak at a series of study halls during the four lunch periods, April 23rd and 24th. Danny was on vacation, so the Commander went solo. I prepared notes outlining the origin and purpose of the legion, as well as the history of our post. I outlined our four pillars and spoke on the programs within, stressing Americanism and community activity. I told the students, maybe as many as 300 of them, that there are many opportunities for community voluntary activity, and a number of hours of community service are required for college admission.

Several teachers invited me into their Social studies classes, where I spoke on the topics of interest. The principal is interested in learning more and having more presentations.

Wake Brake April 18th, 8AM

Nine members helped us out on the first date. We collected \$475. We Also had more than enough food. We ran out of coffee cups—my fault for poor planning. The second Wake Brake will be smoother, should be warmer, and less windy. Mark, thanks for the planning.

If it turns out that the soft drink machine has no lemonade for sale, maybe we could vend some ourselves, May 9th.



Volunteer Hours Report

The hours have been logged and will go off to National in time for accounting.

Preparing for Flag Day

Flag collecting is going well. We have two boxes of discarded flags in the storage locker, one more in the Old Town Hall, and another in the new Town Hall. Flag Day is Sunday the 14th of June. Should be a pretty remarkable day!!

New Member to the post, plus a guest

Tony Nicolis has joined us from 1302 in Arlington...under the new member agreement, we've ordered him a hat from Flag & Emblem. If he attends 6 out of the next 12 events, it's free!

Lance Ashworth, President of the Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot will be joining us at our May 12th meeting. I have invited him to join our post as a member. He and I will arrange a presentation on the FSD, which will interest everyone, as we all follow the current events there. We have donated to their cause and will continue to do so, as they really represent the original veterans.

American Legion Programs at all the local High Schools

We'll be returning to John Jay and Ketcham to help them explore both Oratorical and Boys State Programs. We will also explore a relationship with Our Lady of Lourdes High School on Boardman Road. We'll make sure they all have the latest info we have, plus we will be regular visitors at all three.

Signage to show we're here and we're active !

ON April 21st, I met with our Town Supervisor regarding signs for our post. One part of the plan is a three sided sign in front of the Old Town Hall...one side facing East on Route 52, one West, and the other at 376 where it meets Route 52. Typically, that's Routes 52 and 82, at either end of Hopewell, as well as where Route 376 enters Hopewell.

John Hickman was in favor of the idea, and the next meeting will include ideas for the sign in front of the Old Town Hall.

The feeling is that if we advertise, we can grow our membership. We can sponsor Community Activities, and be integral to the town. Stay tuned!

