



American Legion *Est. 1949*
Post 1758
Newsletter
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American Legion Post 1758
Facebook.com/Post 1758

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Food for thought:

*“Things may come
to those who wait, but
only the things left by
those who hustle.”*

— Abraham Lincoln

*Our next meeting:
08November @
7PM, in the Old
Town Hall. County
meeting is in
RHINEBECK, Post
429. See you for
dinner @ 6:30PM.*



Our Meetings

September’s meeting had 12 of us there, while 14 showed up for October’s. The Pot of Gold got larger, and the news was more varied as well. But, there were two less officers and 7 more non officers there in October. That’s great! Welcome back, Johns Polasko & Pizzuti, Jim Broughton, Cosimo and Len. Good to have you at your first meeting, John Call and Carl Eyler! Lance took an awesome set of notes as replacement Adjutant—thank YOU!

At the September meeting, we welcomed Dan Tanaka, a very Legion involved young veteran. He paraded with us at the Community Day Parade. Wow!

Pot of Gold



For September's meeting, Andrew Donovan's name was drawn, but he wasn't there. For October's meeting, Hale Engel's name was drawn for the Pot of Gold, but he wasn't at the meeting to collect it. There's now a rollover of \$74.00 available for a 50/50 split with the next name drawn that's also at the meeting.

Facebook Pages



Go to facebook.com (or just fb.com) and type in Post 1758. Presto, you're there. It's much easier if you have a Facebook id & password, but not required...

Leave a LIKE, a SHARE, and a COMMENT! Anyone can post photos to share!

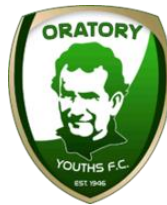
Newspaper Articles



This month, I sent a number of articles to the three news publications. One was the Stoutenburgh family Cemetery ceremony, one was about the Community Day parade, and another was about Operation Recognition. It was this last one that showed in the Southern Dutchess News. The Stoutenburgh Cemetery, in Hyde Park, was covered in a couple of editions. More on these later.



Our Post Programs



Oratorical Competition

The time is now! We're due to hit the high schools in search for Oratorical candidates. This competition is open to anyone from 14 to 20, enrolled in organized education. I say that because home schooled kids make great candidates. The National Oratorical committee, each year, searches the U.S. Constitution Bill of Rights and Civil Rights for specific clauses from 4 different Amendments. Contestants speak, initially, for 8 to 10 minutes, on the clause of their choice. They speak at the post level, where the speaker with the highest score is modestly rewarded. All contestants from the post level then proceed to the county, district and zone levels within a state. The highest scored contestants then proceed to their state capital, where one contestant is rewarded, as well as sent to Indianapolis to the National competition. There are a number of prizes, in the form of college scholarships, range from \$10,000 to \$18,000.

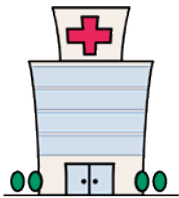


Boys State & Empire Girls State

One student who went to the Brockport Girls State, Oreoluwa Odeniyi from RCK, came to our August meeting to tell us about her time at Girls State. One of the two boys from RCK, Philip Scarano, spoke to the post at our September meeting, relating his experiences; Matt Kline, from John Jay, has been extremely busy. Two of the three also told us how their experience will aid them in their future careers. Two post members raised over \$1310 in Fishkill to offset the \$1730 it cost the post to finance these four students in their Boys & Girls State trips.

Business donations came from the McHoul Funeral Home has been kind enough to donate \$250, Healey Brothers Hyundai donated \$400, several Route 9 auto dealers donated \$100 each. About 15 other businesses in the Fishkill and Wappinger area made up the balance in \$25 and \$50 contributions. Photos of many of these are waiting to be printed in local papers.

HOW ABOUT DOING IT AGAIN IN THE SPRING? AIN'T TOO PROUD BEG.
BESIDES, I WROTE UP A COUPLE OF SOFT SHOE ROUTINES (flyers) THAT SAY WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT. VERY LITTLE YOU NEED TO THINK ABOUT.



Illness in the Post

Sharon Ryan is recovering from a number of surgeries. The latest is comprehensive dental work. Owen Cottle is also recovering, but from spinal treatment.

Advertising our Post

The 99th Convention is coming in July, and there's a Program Book we can advertise in. There're many reasons to make sure people know about us, and it's important that we place maybe an eighth of a page ad. The cost is \$50.00.

I know from last year's convention, that EVERYone reads the Programs, and we should be noticed, along with everyone else. I'll bring last year's program to a spring meeting, and we can see what sort of AD to run...like, design it.

News from our last Post Meeting

Veterans Day Collecting

We'll be at four locations in the area:

Acme Supermarket, Rte 82, Hopewell Village: John Pizzuti, Ashworth
Stewart's @ Rte 82 & Lake Walton: Joe Ryan, Dan Briscoe, and Len Hart
Convenient Deli Mart: Danny, Cosimo, Jim Broughton, John Call
Flory's North, Rte 82 at Taconic: John Polasko, Don Burns

Uniform of the Day: Dark slacks, light colored shirt and your legion cap.
Danny brings a table and banner for the Convenient Deli Mart. Flory's on 82 has no room for a large table, so a small round table is needed. We could use a four footer at Stewart's and at ACME. Kevin will be at various Veterans Day salutes and ceremonies, so he won't be able to help.

Tom Masch has been cleaning up the Wappinger Rural Cemetery on old Route 9. Lots of hours to date, probably done by now. Good job!
It's been suggested to advertise how much food has been collected for the Vets' Pantry at Castle Point. To start, here's some rough annual numbers:
2014 = \$1600; 2015 = 2019; 2016, to date, roughly \$1500; estimate \$2300 for 2016; We'll want a photo to go along with story text...soon.
By the way, if you go to Adams & pick up food for Castle Point: add up the dollar amounts, estimate what's not marked. If you can't write it down, make sure you fill out the form at Castle Point. If you're unsure, call one of the guys in the post...you gotta have SOMEbody's phone number. Done wrong, there's no accountability. We need to show off to the public...we need numbers.
Poppy money was an annoying topic this past summer. We have a sub account in the HVFCU just for Poppy money, and used \$500 of it for the Veterans auto at



John Jay High School

On 10 November, Mike Ambron, Economics teacher, has organized the students a second time for a patriotic ceremony. The first one was last Memorial Day, and this year, the theme is Veterans Day. Be there at 6:45.
A number of students, around 6AM, will be putting out hundreds of small flags. All over the sidewalks, the driveway, and along Rte 52 in front of the school.
We're all invited to come, with Legion hats, dressed nicely. I put out the word to

all posts in the county. Be there 6:45AM. We'll have an Honor Guard, no rifles, and march to the flagpole. We should be either facing or surrounded by many, many students. A student will play taps; there will be a short speech. A couple of students will sing the National Anthem. The Honor Guard will march back to the main door to the school. Then a lot of applause. All this around 7AM. Following this, there's a continental breakfast in the teachers' lounge. And then the bell rings to start the school day!



Veterans in the Classroom

At John Jay, every Tuesday, I lecture at two study halls about the American Legion. You wouldn't believe how many people—children AND adults---ask me, "What IS the American Legion?" I usually spend 15 to 20 minutes talking to the kids (all high school ages) about the Legion: when it began, by whom, where, and why. We discuss WW1 thru Vietnam, and how the vets have returned from wars and how they still do. We discuss the four pillars, and from class to class, we talk about different parts of each. More than that, we talk about why these programs are necessary.

I always finish a talk to applause. I have the attention of most of the kids, and I finish up by telling them to talk to the vets in their family. That it's good to talk, and it's good to listen, to learn.

Funny thing, after doing it last year, Bonnie King, the principal, asked me to come in to plan another year.

I've resumed a dialog with Darlene Seckler, Principal's secretary at Roy C. Ketcham High School, to lecture study halls on Thursdays. Stay tuned.

Anyone can do this. I can use some help. You'd like it, and you can tell the kids your experiences. You have them under your spell. And it warms your heart.



Land for Sale, looking for a Post home

We seem to have all our documentation in order, even if it's old. We own 3 lots on Prout Lane, off Route 52 in eastern East Fishkill. Land values are not good. Don and I did some looking around, looking at different plots and houses. The thought was to leave our cramped and free quarters for something larger and less than 150 years old. It's not easy, nor is it now. We all voted to shelve the idea, in hopes of an increase in the value of the 3 lots. One of the lots is pretty much DEC protected, so it was a good move.



Membership

We secured a listing of Post 0001 members living in the East Fishkill area, as Department said it was a good way to boost membership. Then, it was decided that the "transmittal" form had to have a member's signature to show he was willing to transfer to a local post. A separate letter, signed by the transferring member, was deemed good enough to pass the willingness test. But, Department decided, not right now. At least not in batches. So, from 28 or so letters sent out to prospective transferees, 11 or 12 came back showing interest. The names, signatures and transmittal forms were sent to Albany, where accuracy will be decided. Currently, the post is at 65% of the members having renewed for 2017.



Boy Scouts and Venture Crew

Dan Briscoe reports 9 Eagle Scout Courts of Honor so far this year. The latest one is for Joseph Giusto. Recruiting is key for maintaining membership in the Boy Scouts.

The Venture Crew Shooting Group is looking for new members. It is for boys and girls 12 to 20 years of age. Next month, they will compete in the NYS Shooting Competition.

The Venture Crew recently sold popcorn to raise money.

Both groups are included in my discussions with students at John Jay.



Post 1758 Holiday Party

This year's Post Holiday Party will be at the Blue Fountain again. We all had a good time last year, and that's the main point. It's going to be 11 December 2016, from 4PM to 8PM. For the members, it's \$35, and for the member's guest, it's \$15 more, for a total of \$50. Make the check out to "Manny Bacon Post 1758", and mail it to our PO Box 92, Hopewell Jct., NY 12533. Gratuity is included in your payment.

It will be a buffet. There will be a choice of Baked Ziti, or Beef Bourgeon, Chicken Marsala, stuffed filet of sole and salad. There will be a cash bar, but included are soda, coffee, water and cake for dessert.

WE NEED YOUR MONEY AND NAME(S) BY NOVEMBER 15 so the Proprietor can judge how much to cook for us.



Community Day

The parade was great. We led it...the Color Guard, that is. Marched pretty well, too. Our table was within the town tent, since we weren't vending. We attracted quite a few, but Masch's truck was a kid magnet.

We got a number of membership questions and promises to join, and maybe some will work out. We've been lucky this year. Jim had an idea for a flag-plaque, as advertised at the last few meetings. I left a flyer at Dutcher Golf Course...who knows what that'll draw? Post 37 showed an interest when we showed them.

Miscellany



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...what next?

There's a lot more to put in here.

The Department Commander's Dinner is at the Dutchess Manor on Route 9D in Beacon on 12 November. It's \$45.00 per person. Kevin has info. 845-264-5159.

The next County meeting ...it's in going to be about membership. If you've been listening, you know that's a touchy topic. Try to make that meeting...it's about MEMBERSHIP. If you've been listening, you know that's a very touchy subject. It should be a good meeting. Remember, county meetings are for EVERYBODY. YOU ALL MAKE UP PART OF THE COUNT AMERICAN LEGION.

05 November 2016 is Veterans Appreciation Day up in Hyde Park. On the grounds of the FDR estate is the Wallace Center. There's a schedule of Events posted at the door. We've been collecting food at Adams for years now; I printed earlier in this newsletter. If you volunteered to pick up the food, and you can't get to it, call Don...845-297-5295...let him know, so he can arrange for a fill-in for you. Jim Broughton has been doing it when he's not a Florida winter snowbird. He's doing a remarkable job, too. We need a fill in soon, since he should be leaving soon. We'll find out.

We donated \$100 to the National Emergency Fund, a Legion Pillar program. The idea was floated in September.

Veterans Day will have some Legion members at Castle Point as a cheering squad; contact Kevin to join in...2PM. Same thing at Manor at Woodside...168 Academy St, Poughkeepsie, 7PM.