



American Legion Est. 1949
Post 1758
Newsletter
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American Legion Post 1758 **P. O. Box 92** **Hopewell Junction. NY 12533**
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Food for thought:

“Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others.”
(Being grateful for things leads to goodness.)

— Cicero

Our next meeting:
13 June 2017 @ 7PM, in the Old Town Hall.
County Convention is at Post 739 @ NOON on SUN. 11 June. It'll be a GREAT convention in Pleasant Valley. Lunch is served!

Our Meeting

May’s meeting had 21 of us there ! The meeting lasted the usual 90 minutes, and we covered everything a variety of topics. The issue of Land Management was addressed, guests were introduced, and elections were hosted.

Pot of Gold

The Pot of Gold got still larger, and the winner was John Volkmann. He wasn’t at the meeting, so \$40 stays in the pot, which is \$152 now. Just think of what you could buy with half of \$152.00!!

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...

I'm pretty sure that if you have appropriate photos or info, you too can contribute.

We also have a Twitter account, and you can find it with "@AL Post 1758". We're publishing donors to our American Legion Boys and Empire Girls State Programs.

Newspaper Articles

Arnoff Moving & Storage was awarded the Veterans Employment & Education Commission of the American Legion, in recognition of outstanding achievement in the employment of veterans during the year 2016.

Jackiemae Perrotta and I travelled to the Best Western in Kingston the morning of 11 May 2017 to join their Company Meeting and Recognition Breakfast for their 140 employees. One thing that's incredible in this company is their team spirit and can-do attitude. In addition to promoting from within, they employ five generations of Arnoff family members, they offer a very reasonable medical plan that the employees contribute a nominal amount to. They also assist the employees with a retirement plan. We were extremely honored to be there—and it wasn't just for the breakfast—as it is truly an honorable company. It's growing like wild fire, by the way. If you know of an veterans looking for solid employment, have them call Arnoff Moving & Storage at 800-633-6683.

Oratorical Competition (nylegion.net)

Jenna and mom Norma Drummond were invited to our May meeting (Post elections that night as well) for her award for coming in first place in the local Oratorical Contest. She and Anusha Nambiar will be invited to the County Convention for their county awards.

American Legion Boys State & Empire Girls State

We already have one entry for Empire Girls State: Jenna Drummond, the junior from John Jay, who's also in the Oratorical Contest. The John Jay Junior is Jacob Baker, and he's ready for American Legion Boys State.

They were both at our May meeting, as an introduction, and we presenting the award to Jenna for coming in 1st in the early rounds. May 16th, at 6PM, we had the orientations for both Boys and Empire Girls State, at the Arlington Post.

Membership

Lance Ashworth reported that post membership is now at 95 or 96, as we've had some dropouts. One new member is Bill Meyer, an Air Force Vet. Welcome, Bill!

Venture Crew

Venture Crew attended the West Point Camporee at the end of April; the NRA and Venture Postal Matches are being planned; the Venture Crew participated in the NYS and Federal matches.

Eagle Scout Ed Sziklas had his court of honor on 4/30; Matt Carney had his COH on 5/13 at the First Reformed Church in Fishkill; Troop 80 has 3 new eagle scout Declan Smith his ceremony was April 23 at 2pm at the United Methodist Church in Hyde Park; Corey Kenny ceremony maybe on June 11 at 2pm at United Methodist Church in Hyde Park; Evan James Weaver ceremony on June 17 unknown time or location.

Flags and Poppys

Flags to be handed out on July 4th: \$28 per 144 from Emblem Sales. Flory's North seems to have most traffic, needs 150-200 flags. 6 gross to be ordered comes to \$168 plus S&H. Email is going out for members wanting to order at this time, to save on S&H.

Joe Ryan has bought new Rubbermaid containers for the 23.5" flags, as the other containers are past their prime. When we collect flags from the cemeteries on June 10th, we will be checking the flags for serviceability.

We had coin drops at the usual places next month: Convenient Deli Mart, Flory's North, Stewarts, 27 May, from 7:30 to 3:00...we had a number of Ketcham students helping at our locations. While the actual amount is pending, it was a success!

Student Volunteers for Coin Drops, 27 May 2017...Post 1758

Matt Colbert	Flory's East	afternoon
Sierra Luppino	Stewart's 82	afternoon
Riley Faulkner	Flory's East	morning
Jordan Aboshanab	Stewart's 82	morning
Danika Bojkaj (Boyka)	Flory's East	anytime
Joe Torres	Conv. Deli Mart	afternoon

All students from RC Ketcham, arranged by Kalah Boscia, School Counselor

We hope to add ACME to our list of locations for July and November.
We'll also do the same on Saturday 11 November: same places, same time.
We'll also do the same on Tuesday, the 4th of July...8:00 to NOON.

Placing Flags in Cemeteries

On May 20th, we met at the Falls Diner at 9AM for a Post breakfast. Around 10, we went out to St. Denis Church Cemetery to begin placing flags on veterans graves. We were joined by parents, Cub Scouts, as well as Boy Scouts. At the Hopewell Reformed Church, west of St. Denis, on Beekman Rd, we placed flags there, as well. The Girl Scouts put flags next to most of the white veterans headstones, and we did the rest. We went through about three boxes of flags in all, meaning between 750 and 900 flags. As noted above, when we collect flags from the cemeteries on June 10th, we will be checking the flags for serviceability.

Comedy Night

Comedy Night will be at the Poughkeepsie Elks on September 16th at 7PM. Tickets are \$20 for vets and \$25 for all others. There will be 3 comedians, including Gene Trifilo and Kevin Lee, and there will be food there, too. I've heard people say that Kevin Lee is a riot!! It'll benefit the Dutchess County American Legion. The Poughkeepsie Elks is on Overocker Road.

Tickets are available, and will be sold at next post meeting.

Coin Drops

The meeting membership voted on 3 dates at our usual locations:

27 May 2017 from 07:30 to 15:30

04 July 2017 from 08:00 to 12:00

11 November from 07:30 to 15:30

Arrangements need to be made at ACME. Their policy is one day per weekend per organization. They are in the works.

The Land

Don, Danny and I met with Lance at Panera, discussing everything land-related. We have the minutes of the meeting, if you're interested. Maybe we'll have a Land Committee, like in the old days. Danny will be on it with Lance, and it'll be a pretty active group!

Hometown Heroes

The Hometown Heroes Banner project is ongoing. There was a presentation in late May before a Town Board meeting, so townspeople could see the first banners produced. Below are a sample of the first dozen or so. Many Bacon's banner was erected at 376 and 82 for all to see. Remember, veterans may submit their own photos for free posting on banners. Just stop in to see Gina in the town hall. She has the banner application forms. Bring a uniformed photo, with your branch and dates of service.

The banners are on Route 82, right thru the center of the village. I won't include photos here...they take up too many bytes.

Memorial Day events

There was a celebration at Castle Point on Wednesday the 24th. One of the Gold Star Mothers, Renate DeAngelis, was there to help celebrate the occasion. She was also given a Plaque for her devotion to the volunteer and support efforts of other Gold Star Mothers. The USO were there to perform...there were seven of them. They were fantastic. They also performed for the Valentines Day show in the Multi Purpose room. The photo of the USO group is on our Facebook page.

We had the Memorial Day commemoration again this year, but the parade never materialized...we had rain instead.

We all went to the Community Center and moved all the equipment there to, due to the rain. 10:30 and be ready to step off at 10:45. Norm was able to join us, so we had two chaplains, including Danny Oberhauser. Caleb Verdue was there to blow taps, as was Matt Thompson. We had not heard from Caleb as of Thursday at the John Jay Ceremony, so I spoke with Matt, the John Jay bugler about joining

us Monday. So we had two, and used Caleb, the initial choice. Matt will still get a certificate for three hours of community service. Are you among the crowd at the Community Center? Record attendance...for this century, anyhow. Jim Reynolds sent several photos to the Southern Dutchess News for publication. Below is one of them.

The John Jay Pre-Memorial Day Ceremony

Thursday, May 25, 2017 was a Student Celebration of Memorial Day, at John Jay High School in Hopewell Junction. This 2nd annual event, organized by Mr. Ambron, was preceded by his students erecting dozens of 12" flags along the sidewalks of John Jay High, at 6 AM that day. The Manny Bacon Post 1758 of the American Legion formed an Honor Guard to participate in the ceremony, beginning at 7AM.



The photo shows Mrs. King, principal, with Gino Maselli from ACME in Hopewell, as well as members of Post 1758, and Jim Mertrando from Post 1466 and the Castle Point DAV . Pictured from Post 1758 are John Call, Don Burns, Joe Ryan, Jim Reynolds, Jim Mertrando, and Jim Broughton. Pictured alongside Gino are Danny Oberhauser and Kevin Hathorn. Gino and the ACME market donated some of the breakfast food served after the ceremony. The school supplied Dunkin Donuts bagels, donuts and coffee for the meal. Gathered around the John Jay outdoor flagpole were many dozens of students, teachers, and community members. We all sang patriotic songs, led by one or

two John Jay students. They also led the Pledge of Allegiance. Matt Thompson, student from John Jay, played the bugle for taps during the raising of the flag. Mrs. King , Mr. Ambron and Mr. Kedzielawa were instrumental in ensuring that then entire event was flawless.

Post Elections

Elected for Post offices were:

Commander, Don Burns
Adjutant, Kevin Hathorn
Finance, John Call
1st Vice, Dan Briscoe
2nd Vice, Dan Oberhauser
Chaplain, Dan Oberhauser
Sgt. at Arms, Jeff Boes
Judge Advocate, Jay Livermore
Historian, Kevin Hathorn
Membership Chair, Lance Ashworth
Homeland Security, Jeff Boes
Compliance, Jay Livermore

The Installation ceremony will be held at our next post meeting. Chico Humphreys, Commander of the 9th District will officiate.

Regrettably, this newsletter is very late. We have more events happening every week.