



American Legion Post 1758 Newsletter

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. **Venture Crew**
2. **Post Elections**
3. **Good of the Legion**
4. **Flag Day**
5. **Election Night**
6. **Finance Status**
7. **Membership Notes**
8. **High Schools**
9. **Coin Drops**
10. **Business Contacts**
11. **Picnics**
12. **Installation Photo**

Our next meeting will be September 12th at 7:00 PM at the **Old East Fishkill Town Hall**, Rte. 52, next to the Police Station. We will discuss Community Day, the By-Laws and Veterans Day activities.

Venture Crew—Junior Shooting

Elizabeth Gilroy, 13, was awarded at the 98th Department Convention for placing first in the 9th District Postal match. Norm accompanied Elizabeth to accept the award. I was out of the area at the time, and missed them. She also attended a Civilian Markmanship Camp in Annapolis. She was the youngest shooter there. It was voted to further recognize Elizabeth with a \$50 check, as well as a Certificate of Good Citizenship, at a small ceremony at the Old Town Hall.

Post Elections

The latest post elections:

Commander—Don Burns

1st Vice Commander—Dan Briscoe

2nd Vice Commander— Danny Oberhauser

Finance Officer—John Call

Adjutant—Kevin Hathorn

Service Officer—

Sergeant at Arms—Jeff Bose

Chaplain— Danny Oberhauser

Judge Advocate—Jay Livermore

Historian—Kevin Hathorn

Homeland Security—Jeff Boes

Compliance—Jay Livermore

Good of the Legion

Clarence Munson's name was pulled for Pot Of Gold Drawing at our August meeting. He was not present, so the \$223.00 in the pot gets rolled into the next Pot of Gold, to be split in half.



Flag Day

Flag Day was celebrated with as much ceremony as ever. The crowd was about the same as last year. There were between 500 and 1000 flags to be retired.

Our new flag depository is a white mail box in the New Town Hall lobby.

Election Night

We had the usual Election Night meal—two heros from In & Out. Later in the newsletter, there are photos from this evening. Installation was done by 9th District Commander Luis Humphreys.

Finance Status

John Call is our new Finance Officer. He's been mentored by Jim Reynolds, and from the looks of things, it's a smooth transition.

By the way, within our accounting structure is a separate entry for our poppy donations, as required. This money is to be used for veteran-related expenses only.

We are maintaining a savings account, checking account, a building fund CD, plus another CD to allow us to increase dividends.

Membership Notes

Lance Ashworth replaces Jim Reynolds as Membership Officer.

As of the August meeting, we have 54 paid renewals, which is about 54%. As of our June post meeting, we had two new members, one of these is a transfer from NJ. The other is Caroline Pogge, an active duty Lt. Colonel, having served in Iraq and Afganistan.

Ralph Ildefonso, transferred from post 0001 this past winter, passed away on July 14, 2017, aged nearly 80. Two of our members had family deaths, and we all feel these. Howie Yeomans died March 11, 2017, aged 81.

High Schools

While John Jay has been our main focus for programs, RC Ketcham has come back in focus. Kaleh Boscia, Student Counselor, has shown interest in our programs. Her efforts have provided us with student helpers at our Memorial Day and July 4th coin drops. The 7 students have received credit hours toward their community activity goals, and have helped us hand out poppys as well as flags. Photos of the students are at the end of the newsletter.

We have attracted students from both schools for Oratorical as well as Boys State, but we can expect greater involvement, thanks to Kaleh's efforts.

She has expressed an interest in having school celebrations at Memorial Day as well as Veterans Day, in addition to Lectures in the Study Halls.

Should be interesting.

Coin Drops

We have had coin drops for Memorial Day as well as the 4th of July. We have had perfect participation at each of our sites: Flory's East, Stewarts 82 and Convenient Deli Mart. Donations were really fine (over \$2600 and \$1689 for the two holidays), and Ketcham students supported us at all of our sites, both days. July 4th was a new idea, and we purchased 6 gross of small American flags to hand out on the 4th, at a cost of \$28 per gross. We have about 150 flags left, and could have given them all out, with more time---we operated the coin drops from 8AM to about 1:30PM.

Business Contacts

Don and Kevin went to the Texas Roadhouse late last month and spoke with the Public Relations person, Julia Plourde. She and husband Peter, restaurant partners, wish to back the post and all veterans as much as possible. We explained the Legion, our programs, and our use of coin drops to support causes.

Several ways suggested:

1. Return empty beer bottles for refunds; money to be donated to a fund of choice. (To date, \$13 collected.)
2. The restaurant is available for gatherings at a discount.
3. Julia prepared two gift baskets, containing peanuts and two gift certificates good for up to \$30.
4. Hold coin drops outside their front door whenever we choose, as long as we provide sufficient notice.

We may hold our Holiday Party at the Texas Roadhouse.

Picnics

Sunset Picnic, held June 23 at Boudoin was a success. It was catered, well prepared and well attended. It was tended to by Adam Roche of Vets 2 Vets, as well as Nelson Rivera. The food was good, as was the camaraderie.

The following day was the post picnic, held at the Town Rec Park, under the pavilion. It was reserved beforehand. Don and Kevin supplied the food, plus more was bought by several families. We played horseshoes, and the kids played on the park's playground. Everyone had a good time, and there was little to no stress. It was an occasion well attended, and should happen again soon.

Honor Guard

Norm Dauerer is holding drill practices in the Old Town Hall. There have been two to date, and another, with M1's, is slated for Saturday the 19th of August. Our unit has been fairly busy so far this year. Post 1758's Honor Guard is something of a pilot project for an Honor Guard unit. We may be able to attract other personnel around the county to drill with our post, creating county-wide availability.

County Matters

County directories will soon be available with corrected information, such as post rosters, program dates and locations, as well as meeting dates and places for the county and district. These meetings are for anyone interested in the larger operations of the legion groups. The County and District meetings are for anyone and everyone.

