

Post 880 News

COMMANDER'S CORNER

I hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful summer. The Corn Festival is upon us and many volunteers are needed for that weekend. If you have signed up, PLEASE show up for your time slot.



Repairs to the building roof are hoped to be started after the Corn Festival and completed by the Fall. Insurance claims and grants are coming along and the donations to get our post repairs completed. New exit sign lights have been installed to bring us in compliance.

Upcoming events:

- Corn Festival Parade Sunday, August 7
- 21-gun salute at Erie County Fair, Sunday, August 14
- KIA ceremony at Chestnut Ridge Park, Saturday, August 20

Next Post Meeting will be September 6, 2022, at 7PM. Come to the meeting to find out what is being done to the post. Bar talk is not the way to find out what's going on!

And as always God bless our troops and your loved ones.

Cmdr. Jim Blidy

UPDATE ON POST 880'S 2022 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

We would like to thank those of you who supported our building fundraising campaign and made donations either through GoFundMe or by cash or check.

We did receive some grant money, some of which is matching funds and some is not and we plan to have the roof repairs made right after the corn festival. We are continuing with our fundraising events as there is a lot of work that needs to be done to our building and grounds to be ADA compliant.

There has been some bar talk and grumbling about the appearance that we are begging and it doesn't look good for the Post. If our members don't support the Post, we need to turn to the community and others for financial assistance. Forty or fifty years ago our members were able to make repairs to our building when they were necessary. Unfortunately those members and our building are all 40 - 50 years older now!

We are blessed to have the support from a group calling themselves "Friends of Post 880". This group is planning an aggressive fundraiser in October with proceeds going to Post 880. It is going to be a combination large item raffle/meat raffle along with a basket raffle. It's an ambitious undertaking by this group and member support will be needed to make this event successful. More details will be provided as they become available.

2022 - 2023 OFFICERS

LEGION

Commander	Jim Blidy
1st Vice Cdr.	Bob Weisedel
2nd Vice Cdr.	Vinny Skoczylas
3rd Vice Cdr.	Ken Franz
Finance Officer	Bob Reed
Adjutant	Bill Clark
Judge Advocate	
Sgt.-at-Arms	Bob Franz
Chaplain	Jerry Kopyranski
Historian	Dennis Stender
Service Officer	Dick Casseri
Public Relations	Jim Trembath

AUXILIARY

President	Karen Ferguson
1st VP	Cindy Henry
2nd VP	Lori Ranney
Secretary	Anne Smith
Treasurer	Grace Yingling
Sgt.-at-Arms	Renee Hadley-Scott
Chaplain	Karen Pruchnicki
Co-Historians	JoAnne Franz & Rosemary Peters

SAL

Commander	Ken Szal
1st Vice Cdr.	Pat Pitillo
2nd Vice Cdr.	Mark Flowers
Finance Officer	Mark Sisti
Adjutant	Joe Tutuska
Sgt.-at-Arms	Scot Christiansen
Chaplain	Wayne Mintz
Co-Chaplain	Jonathan Bauer
Historian	Larry Clerc

GUESTS AND BOOSTERS

President	Bill Forness
Membership	Paul Marcin
Secretary/Treasurer	Jeff Winter

Karen Ferguson
 3099 Milford Terrace
 Hamburg, NY 14075
 716/870-2857
KJFERG59@GMAIL.COM

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Summer Blessings

I hope everyone is enjoying these hazy, crazy, lazy days of summer. We are all running in different directions in this beautiful weather, but we should all stop for a few moments and praise and thank God for our many blessings!

I ask you to say extra prayers for our country, which at present is so deeply divided. You would think that with all our Good Lord has blessed us with that we could put our differences aside and enjoy the many things we have.

I also ask you to pray for the men and women of our armed forces that are protecting this great land of ours and the freedoms we have.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and remember to be kind to one another for kindness begins with the understanding that we all struggle.

God bless you and your families and God bless our troops.

Chaplain Jerry K.



AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

Hope everyone is well and enjoying the beautiful Western New York summer weather.

I attended the Eden High School graduation ceremony along with Commanders Blidy and Szal. The Auxiliary presented scholarships to Rachel Hooper and Brianna Rigley. Congratulations to both of them.

I have finalized our schedule for the Corn Festival wine stand and mailed parking passes to those who are working at the stand. Thank you to all who have volunteered to help. In addition to the Copa wine, we will also be offering Daily's Cocktail Pouches. They are a frozen wine slushie in a pouch and come in a variety of flavors.

The Legion needs volunteers to sell drink tickets, serve beer and sell pull-tab tickets so if you can spare a few hours, please sign up at the Post for a shift.

There is a Corn Festival parade this year and arrangements have been made for the Auxiliary ladies who ordinarily march to ride on a float hauled by a tractor that will have seating for 9 or 10 ladies. Thanks to Steve Brzezinski for providing the float.

As you know there will not be a parade or dugout at the Erie County Fair. However, on Sunday, August 14 veterans and Auxiliary members will be admitted for free and receive a \$10 voucher for food or drink purchase throughout the fairgrounds. The Legion's Honor Guard will be there for the veteran service in the infield.

We needed to reschedule our barbecue with the vets at Eden Heights to Tuesday, August 16. Please arrive at 11:15 for temp check and COVID screening. We will be grilling up hot dogs and hamburgers along with several side dishes.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13.

Take care, stay safe and healthy.

For God and Country,

Karen Ferguson, Unit President



Flag Day ceremony held on June 14 at Post 880



POLO SHIRTS FOR SALE

Post 880 100th Anniversary polo shirts are now available at a reduced price. Sizes S-XL are marked down to \$30 and 2X-3X are on sale for \$35. They are available in white or navy blue and are on a rack near the display case at the Post. Please pay the bartender.

NEWS FROM SAL

Hello all,

I hope your summer is going well, just seems to be flying by. As we ready ourselves for the Corn Festival, I would just like to say that we are truly blessed to be living in these United States of America. The best and most free country in the world. Yes, we have our share of issues, but in looking at the big picture, we are very fortunate to be able to call ourselves American. Let's be proud of our accomplishments, and readily attack our country's faults.



We just completed our annual Scholarship Golf Tournament. Our committee of Cdr. Jim Blidy, Mark Flowers, Bob Reed, Larry Clerc, Karen Ferguson, and Fred Blaszczyk did another excellent job this year. Numbers are still being finalized but the efforts of our volunteers were unparalleled. Many thanks to all that pitched in and helped. We had 108 golfers, and over 38 sponsors. Our main sponsors were Towne Automotive in N. Collins, and the Yuengling Brewery. The team of Jeff Szal, Blake Morrison, and Don Weidner were the champs this year at -6. Many thanks to all the sponsors, and all the participants.

This will be our activity schedule for the Corn Fest

- 1) Tues - July 25, 6pm - trailer load up at Sons building, followed by board mtg
- 2) Tues - Aug 2, 6pm - Stand set up
- 3) Wed Aug 3 - need help unloading clams, 9am Legion barn
- 4) Every morning of Corn Fest we need help at stand setting up, 9am. For about 1-1/2 hrs, Aug 4,5,6,7

* Please lend a hand. We need a hand setting up stand and daily set up, PLEASE! This is the Sons last fundraiser of the year so "Let's get 'er done!"

* Our stand theme for the Corn Fest is all sports. Wear any sports related gear! Thank you!

May God bless our troops, past and present. May God bless our United States of America!

Cdr. Kenneth D. Szal
Squadron 880

2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES

American Legion National HQ is sending out 2023 dues notices. Some of you may have received them and sent in your dues payment. Unfortunately we have not yet received the 2023 membership cards. Rest assured that once we do receive the cards, the membership chairmen for each organization will begin processing your payment and sending your card.

2023 annual dues amount for each organization is as follows:

Legion Members \$46

Make payment to 'American Legion Post 880' and mail to:
Newell Faulkner Post 880
2912 Legion Drive
Eden, NY 14057
or leave at the bar

Auxiliary Members \$30

Make payment to 'ALA Unit 880' and mail to:
Cindy Henry
7180 Gowanda State Road
Eden, NY 14057
or leave at the bar

Sons Members \$30

Make payment to 'SAL Squadron 880' and mail to:
SAL Squadron 880
2912 Legion Drive
Eden, NY 14057
or leave at the bar.
Sons membership cards will be left at the bar for pickup

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

In June the Legion, Auxiliary and Sons awarded scholarships to the following Eden High School Graduates:

Legion - 4 year \$2,000 to Austin Sroda
Legion - 2 year \$1,000 to Brian LoTempio

Auxiliary - 4 year \$2,000 to Brianna Rigley
Auxiliary - 2 year \$1,000 to Rachel Hooper

SAL - \$500 to Samantha Crowe
\$500 to Charelize Perket

EDEN CORN FESTIVAL - AUGUST 4 - 7 2022

Sheets have been posted for a few weeks for members to sign up to help out at the Corn Festival. Help is still needed for the following:

Drink Ticket Sellers are needed for all 4 days. A few people have signed up but there are still quite a few open time slots. If we don't have anyone selling tickets, we won't be serving any beer so please help out if you can.

Pull Tab Ticket Sellers are also needed for all 4 days.

Beer servers are needed Thursday night from 8 pm to closing and Friday night from 8 pm to closing and Sunday from noon to 3:30 in the beer tent.

Beer servers are also needed in the beer barn Saturday from 8 pm to closing and Sunday from 3:30 to closing.

The Sons Clam stand has a lot of openings as well. Please sign up to help out even if it's only for a few hours.

The Auxiliary Wine stand has all the shifts filled so if any Auxiliary member is able to help out in the beer barn, tent or clam stand, you are encouraged to do so. Guests and Booster members are also urged to sign up and help out.

Calendar

August

- 4 - 7 Eden Corn Festival
- 14 - Veterans Day at the Erie County Fair
- 20 - KIA Memorial Road March at Chestnut Ridge Park

September

- 5 - Labor Day
- 6 - Legion Member Meeting
- 13 - Auxiliary Meeting
- 21 - Post Executive Board Meeting
- 27 - Sons Meeting



Commander Blidy and President Karen presenting scholarship awards at Eden Senior High School graduation



Sick Call

*Neil Curtin
Dave Knoll
Kim Knoll*

*Joe Laud
Wayne Mintz*

In Sympathy

*Al Hauth
Phil Smith **

* Some of you may remember Phil Smith. He was a member of Post 880 for many years and a member of the Post's Honor Guard in the 1970's. Phil and his wife Sandy moved to a small town called Tuckasegee, North Carolina several years ago. Phil passed away in June at the age of 84 and was buried with military honors and in his Post 880 honor guard uniform.

*For illness or death notification, please call
Legion Contact Dick Casseri at 549-4975
Auxiliary Contact is Karen Pruchnicki 380-4410
SAL Contact is Wayne Mintz 575-4045*