

# Post 880 News

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

I would like to thank you for joining us in our Veterans Day service. The thank you cards we received from different groups in the area told all of our veterans what the real meaning of Veterans Day is. The donation of a mural created to commemorate the 1943 "The Tower" magazine donated by Ferris Randall is awesome. Ferris is a 67-year member of our Legion. The Mural is hung in the Veterans Club Room for all to see. On behalf of Post 880 Thank You Ferris, Linda Prell and Robin Evenhouse of Evenhouse Printing for the work that went into this project.



December is always a busy month with events at our Legion, to name a few Breakfast with Santa, Meat Raffle, and Senior Citizen Dinner.

There will be no post meeting on December 26, 2016. The next meeting will be January 30, 2017.

Tuition assistance applications will be available January 1st and must be submitted by March 1, 2017. Please make sure the Applicant's Name, Address, Town, State and ZIP Code are on the application.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

God Bless,  
Jim Blidy, Post Commander

## 2016-2017 OFFICERS

### LEGION

Commander	Jim Blidy
1st Vice Cdr.	Bob Weisedel
2nd Vice Cdr.	Juan Carias
3rd Vice Cdr.	Ken Franz
Finance Officer	Bob Reed
Adjutant	Bill Clark
Judge Advocate	Paul Pruchnicki
Sgt.-at-Arms	Bob Franz
Chaplain	Ron Smith
Historian	
Service Officer	Dick Casseri
Public Relations	Jim Trembath

### AUXILIARY

President	Karen Ferguson
1st VP	Sharon Reilly
2nd VP	Lori Ranney
Secretary	Anne Smith
Treasurer	Grace Yingling
Sgt.-at-Arms	Dora Bowen
Chaplain	June Sercu
Historian	JoAnne Franz

### SAL

Commander	Ken Szal
1st Vice Cdr.	Bob Reed
2nd Vice Cdr.	Larry Szal Jr.
Finance Officer	Mark Sisti
Adjutant	Joe Tutuska
Sgt.-at-Arms	Scot Christiansen
Chaplain	Wayne Mintz
Historian	Larry Clerc

### GUESTS AND BOOSTERS

President	Bill Robison
Secretary/Membership	Bob Brueggeman
Treasurer	Jeff Winter

The deadline for the next issue of Post 880 News will be January 15, 2017.

**Karen Ferguson**  
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Hamburg, NY 14075  
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## CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

### Thanksgiving Message

God gives us 100% of his love every minute of every day.

God is unable to give us less than 100% of his love.

There are times in our lives when it is hard to say thank you to God. Perhaps we or a loved one is seriously ill or we find ourselves in the middle of an unraveling relationship. Or we are struggling with loneliness or depression. Or we are just tired of putting up with our own failures or shortcomings. So we ask, how can we give thanks?

We can give thanks if we truly believe that God is present and active in our lives at all times – not just the so-called good times. For our faith tells us that God is at work in sun and darkness, pleasure and pain, harmony and conflict. We thank God, then, not because things work out the way we want them to work out. No, we thank God for being a God who, from messiness brings forth beauty; from absurdity, meaning; and from death, everlasting life.

Sr. Melannie Svoboda, S.N.D.

In Thanksgiving for God's Blessings,  
Chaplain Ron Smith



## NEWS FROM SAL

Hello from the Sons,

May you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and Happy New Years. The Sons will be doing their annual decorating party on Thursday, Dec. 1 at 6pm. Please come down and lend a hand. We have had a good turnout the last couple of years and we would like to keep that momentum going. The Sons will provide food and beverages for those that work. These decorations stay up for the whole Christmas season, and are appreciated by the many groups that use our hall during the holidays.

The Sons will be having their annual Breakfast with Santa celebration on Sunday, Dec 1. Bring your children and grandchildren down for a visit with Santa, and a very good breakfast, featuring unlimited pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee, just \$3.00 for adults, and \$2.00 for children. Make sure you bring your cameras with you to take pictures of the little ones and Santa.

The Sons were very fortunate this year with our fundraising. We had another good year and have many people to thank. Because of the efforts of many, we will be able to help many deserving organizations with our yearly donations. We will have a list of the organizations that will be the benefactors of all of our volunteers' work in the next newsletter.

Once again, may you have a wonderful Christmas season and a Happy New Year.

God bless you, and may God bless our military, past and present.

Kenneth D. Szal  
Commander SAL



## AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

As I write this, I'm also making my shopping list for our Thanksgiving dinner and all the other preparations that need to be done, and I know it's a busy time for many of you as well. Right after Thanksgiving we'll get busy with all the Christmas activities at the Post. Some dates to keep in mind are:

Thursday, Dec. 1 - Decorating the hall 6 pm.

Sunday, Dec. 4th - Breakfast with Santa sponsored by SAL. Help is appreciated.

Thursday, Dec. 8th - Auxiliary Christmas dinner. Don't forget your wrapped "white elephant" bingo prizes.

Sunday, Dec. 11th - Sr. Citizens Christmas dinner. Help is needed setting the tables around 8:30-9:00 am. Servers and Boy Scouts should arrive by 12:45 pm. We also need pies for dessert. If you don't bake you can bring a store-bought pie. They can be dropped off any time after 10:00 am on Dec. 11th.

Tuesday, Dec. 13th - BOCES Children's Christmas Party. Help is needed beginning around 9:00 am. After the party we will fill Christmas stockings with treats and goodies for the veterans at Eden Heights.

Thursday, December 15 at 2:00 pm. Auxiliary members will be visiting the veterans at Eden Heights. We are meeting in the Common Area, which is down the far left hallway, past the activities room. We will distribute Christmas stockings filled with goodies to the vets who reside at Eden Heights.

Recently one of our Auxiliary members whose family is living at JBER (Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson) in Alaska wrote to me about a military family there who is in need of some serious Christmas cheer. The family is not from Eden but when I heard their story I thought we should help them out. It's a family of four. Dad has been deployed 3 times, his wife is terminally ill and they have 2 boys, ages 12 and 14. If you'd like to help this family please bring a wrapped gift marked "Mom", "Dad", "Boy-12" or "Boy-14" to the Legion no later than Thursday, December 8th. Better yet, you can make a monetary donation or purchase a Walmart gift card (there is a Walmart just outside the base). Please mail any gift cards or checks payable to "ALA Unit 880" to me at 3099 Milford Rd. Hamburg, NY 14075. Any monetary donations received will be used to purchase Walmart gift cards for the family.

We are also collecting NEW clothing for homeless veterans that will be delivered to the Buffalo VAMC sometime in December. Due to a previous problem with bedbugs at the VA, they can only accept new clothing. Items needed are t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, socks and underwear - all sizes - men's and women's. Oftentimes veterans are admitted through the emergency department with only the clothes on their back and when they are released the VA provides them with clean clothing which preserves their dignity. Collection barrels are located at our Post and also at the Eden Town Clerk's office at the Eden Town Hall.

Thank you for your generosity and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, January 2, 2017 at 7 pm.

For God and Country,  
Karen Ferguson, Unit 880 President

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mark your calendars for some great musical entertainment beginning right after the holidays:

- Two Left Boots will be playing country music on Saturday, January 7th at 7:30 pm.
- On Saturday, January 21st, we have Tom Stahl & The Dangerfields booked beginning at 8:00 pm.
- Our Winterfest dance is returning on Saturday, February 11th once again with the Hitmen, featuring WYRK's Brett Allen. The theme this year is country so dust off your cowboy hat and boots and come on out for some great country music and dancing.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

There will **NOT** be a New Year's Eve party in the hall this year at the Post. The Post club room bar will be open though.

Line dance lessons at the Post will resume on Wednesdays beginning January 4, 2017. Lessons are \$5 and go from 7 to 8 pm.



**Calendar**

**December**

- 1 - Decorate Legion Hall 6:00 pm
- 4 - Breakfast with Santa 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
- 6 - BDC Meeting 7:00 pm
- 8 - Auxiliary Christmas Dinner 5:30 pm
- 10 - Meat Raffle 7:00 pm \$5.00 admission
- 11 - Sr. Citizens Christmas Dinner 1:00 pm
- 13 - BOCES Children's Christmas party 9:00 am
- 25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS - POST CLOSED
- 31 - New Year's Eve

**January**

- 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR - POST IS OPEN
- 2 - Auxiliary Meeting
- 3 - BDC Meeting
- 7 - Two Left Boots Country Music 7:30 pm
- 18 - Post Board Meeting
- 21 - Tom Stahl & The Dangerfields Music 8 pm
- 30 - Post Membership Meeting
- 31 - SAL Meeting

***Sick Call***

*Michael Chiacchia  
Terry Filbey - Mercy Hospital*

***In Sympathy***

*Patricia Schwert*

*For illness or death notification, please call the  
Post at 992-3304 or  
Dick Casseri at 549-4975  
Auxiliary Contact is June Sercu 649-0772  
SAL Contact is Wayne Mintz 941-3966*