

# Post 880 News

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hope everyone had an excellent Thanksgiving, I for one did not count calories!

Regular Post Meeting has been changed to DECEMBER 13, 2022, due to Banquet Hall Booking.

My THANKS to Bob Reed (GM) & Karen Ferguson (Finance Assistance). You kept our post running efficiently and financially sound. You both WILL be missed come January 1st. Hopefully we can have a smooth transition and keep our post operating.

I hope to have Tuition Assistance applications out January 1st.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!!!

Please be safe over the holidays.

God Bless Our Troops and Your Loved Ones,  
Cmdr. Jim Blidy



## 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 Kopryanski
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	

### 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](mailto:KJFERG59@GMAIL.COM)



Help the Whirlwind Veterans & Warrior  
Retreat

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on  
a veteran's grave this December at

Eden Evergreen, Immaculate  
Conception, Lakeside, Quaker, Holy  
Spirit

Scan the QR code with your smartphone  
camera to make a donation online or  
visit

[www.wreathscrossamerica.org/NY0327P](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/NY0327P)



[www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/NY0327P](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/NY0327P)



1. Open the Camera app on your phone.
2. Point camera at code.
3. Click on the link that shows up.

Whirlwind Veterans & Warrior Retreat is looking for wreath sponsors. Please consider purchasing a wreath for \$15 to be placed on the grave of a veteran at one of the local cemeteries. Volunteer help will be needed December 17 beginning at noon to place the wreaths on veteran graves.

## CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

### Peace On Earth

There is a song that begins with the words "Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me." Each one of us are called to be instruments of peace....peace in our families, in our communities and in our nation. If we are at peace with ourselves we will have the ability to share that peace with others and where there is peace, love will follow. Love for our families and for all others.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy, Holy and Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year.

God bless each of you, your families and friends. God bless all our men and women in the armed forces. Please remember them in your prayers especially during this holy season.

Love and peace to all,

Chaplain Jerry K.



## NEWS FROM SAL

Hello all,

I hope all are doing well after that light brush with winter we just had. What the heck! I don't ever remember getting that much snow in that short amount of time. I have heard many stories of friends and neighbors helping each other out with snow plowing, shoveling, and snow removal. That is what we do as Americans. Come to the aid of others when needed.

Coming to the aid of others is what we do at Post 880 also. The Auxiliary sponsored Christmas senior dinner, the Sons' breakfasts with the Easter Bunny and Santa (community events where we keep the price low so everyone can enjoy them), and the Legion with their never ending donations of time and money to various organizations throughout the region. These are just a few mentions of the many, many projects that benefit our fellow man that we pridefully take part in as an organization. Please ask yourself if you are doing your part. The Post, the Sons, and the Auxiliary all need volunteers to help us with our various activities throughout the year. We are a nation of givers and volunteers. Please give some of your time to help lessen the load of those that are there for every event. Thank you.

I have been giving a special mention to volunteers that make our Post one of the best posts around. This newsletter I would like to honor Karen Ferguson. Now Karen, with this newsletter being one of her tasks, probably will not want to print this part of my entry, because she is so humble and doesn't want or seek the acclaim. But Karen wears many hats at our post and performs her tasks energetically and always with a smile. She is President of the Auxiliary, and is always helping the Legion and the Sons with their activities. Karen is a very special person. Please thank her next time you see her. She's one of the best and we are lucky to have her at Post 880.

The annual breakfast with Santa is coming up Dec. 11, from 10:30-12:30. The Sons will be loading up decorations at our storage facility Wed., Nov 30 at 6 pm. We are decorating the hall on Thursday, Dec 1, at 6 pm. And because of the tight schedule at the Post we are finishing our decorating Sunday, Dec 11 at 8 am. This is a huge undertaking and we need many hands from all the organizations and their families to get this done. Loading and unloading the trailer is very physically taxing, so if you can bring your teenage child or grandchild to help that would be great. Hope to see you all there.

We have a vacancy on our Sons' board for a historian. Please step up and volunteer. Give me a call and we can talk about the position.

That's all for now. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

May God bless our military, past and present, our country and our post.

Kenneth D. Szal,  
Commander, SAL Squadron 880



Mark Your Calendar - Breakfast with Santa!

December 11th

10:30-12:30

Post 880

2912 Legion Drive, Eden



## AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

As I write this we have been inundated with 5' of snow and more is expected! I guess this is the price we are paying for having such a wonderful summer and fall!

The Auxiliary has a few events taking place in December. On Thursday, December 1 at 6:00 pm the Sons are decorating the hall for Christmas. We will decorate the Christmas tree that evening and help decorate the hall too.

On Sunday, December 4 at 1:00 pm we will host our annual Christmas ham dinner for Eden's senior citizens. We haven't done this since 2019 and we don't know how many seniors to expect but I am confident our ladies will be up to the challenge. We need a few volunteers to help set the tables in the morning. Some of you signed up at our November meeting but we could use a couple more. Please plan to be at the Legion by 9:00 am to help set up. I've asked the Boy Scouts again to help serve dinner. We'll need a few ladies to assist them. Then after dinner we will need some ladies to distribute the poinsettias to the door prize winners.

Our Auxiliary member Christmas dinner is on Thursday, December 8. If you plan on attending, I need your payment and order form by Saturday, November 26. There are order forms available at the bar or you can contact me at 716-870-2857. After dinner we will play card bingo so please don't forget to bring your "white elephant" gifts. Also if you plan on participating in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift valued at \$20. We'll also have a 50/50 that night as well.

On Tuesday, December 13, we will host our Christmas party for the children from BOCES. If you would like to help please be at the Legion around 8:30-9:00 am. The children arrive around 10:00 am and we serve them lunch and hand out gifts and treats after they visit with Santa.

On Thursday, December 15 at 1:15 pm we are going to Eden Heights to visit with the veteran residents. We'll serve coffee and cookies and also have Christmas gifts for them.

We do not have a meeting in December so our next Auxiliary meeting will be on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Karen Ferguson  
Unit President



## OUTDOOR GEAR & MEAT RAFFLE

Our Outdoor Gear and Meat Raffle that took place in October was very well attended and a huge success.

Special thanks to Dave Rice and his committee who were phenomenal. We are fortunate to have these "friends of Post 880".

Thanks also goes out to all the sponsors of the event and to those who purchased tickets.

We are very grateful.



Pictures from Outdoor Gear and Meat Raffle.  
More on back page



## OUTDOOR GEAR & MEAT RAFFLE



## Calendar

### November

- 24 - Happy Thanksgiving - POST CLOSED
- 29 - Sons Meeting
- 30 - Help Sons load trailer with Christmas decorations 6 pm

### December

- 1 - Decorate Hall 6 pm
- 4 - Sr. Citizens Christmas Dinner
- 8 - Auxiliary Christmas Dinner
- 11 - Breakfast with Santa
- 13 - Legion Member Meeting  
BOCES Children's Christmas Party
- 15 - Auxiliary visit with Vets at Eden Heights
- 21 - Post Executive Board Meeting
- 27 - Sons Meeting

### January

- 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- 4 - Legion Member Meeting
- 11 - Auxiliary Meeting
- 19 - Post Executive Board Meeting
- 25 - Sons Meeting

### ***Sick Call***

*Joe Laud  
Ed Travis*

### ***In Sympathy***

*David Blas  
Phyllis Jost  
Dave Knoll  
Pat Puckhaber (death of father)  
Ed Wesolowski*

*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*