

Post 880 News

COMMANDER'S CORNER

I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving Dinner and had a pleasant holiday.

Kitchen remodeling is ongoing and equipment has been ordered.

Soon, the front ramp to the post will be replaced.

A new credit card system will also be in service soon.

And hopefully the emergency backup generator will be installed.

Upcoming post member meetings are December 5th, January 2, 2024, and February 6, 2024.

Tuition Assistance applications will be available January 1st.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!!!

Once again, if anyone is interested in serving as a post officer, now is the time to get acquainted with the position you'd like to run for in March. It's never too early to start learning about the different positions held by our officers.

Please be safe over the holidays.
God Bless Our Troops and Your Loved Ones,
Cmdr. Jim Blidy



Outdoor Gear & Meat Raffle Saturday, December 9, 2023

Tickets are \$30 and are available at the bar.

We are in need of items for the basket raffle. Items can be dropped off at the Legion. If you prefer to donate a gift card, please give it to the bartender and tell her it is for the Outdoor Gear & Meat Raffle.

We need our members to support this event by either purchasing or selling tickets to make it successful.

Legion Dues are \$46
Check payable to Post 880
Leave at the bar or Mail to
2912 Legion Drive
Eden, NY 14057

Auxiliary Dues are \$40
Check payable to ALA Unit 880
Leave at bar or mail to
Cindy Henry
7180 Gowanda State Road
Eden, NY 14057

2023 - 2024 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	Paul Pruchnicki
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	Carol Haag
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
3rd Vice Cdr.	Chuck Danzi
Finance Officer	Mark Sisti
Adjutant	Bill Forness
Sgt.-at-Arms	Scot Christiansen
Chaplain	Wayne Mintz
Co-Chaplain	Jonathan Bauer
Historian	Dave Daurelio

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

Sons Dues are \$30
Check payable to SAL Squadron 880
Leave at bar or mail to
2912 Legion Drive
Eden, NY 14057

AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

Tis the season to be jolly, despite all the hustle and bustle of getting things ready for the holidays!

Before I forget, I want to thank everyone who provided food for our luncheon on Veterans Day and to those who helped serve. Everything went well - we received lots of compliments on the food.



We will be decorating the hall and putting up the Christmas tree in the Legion on Thursday, November 30 at 6:00 pm. Help will be greatly appreciated. Our Auxiliary members' Christmas dinner is on Wednesday, December 6 beginning at 5:30. Afterwards we will play card bingo and enjoy each other's company. Then on Saturday, December 9 the Legion is having their Outdoor Gear and Meat Raffle.

We are sponsoring a family this year for the holidays and there is a collection bin for wrapped gifts for the children at the Legion. If you prefer to make a cash donation or donate a gift card, you can leave that at the bar for me. We are accepting gifts and donations until December 10. Thank you for helping to spread Christmas cheer to a family who could use help this year.

On Tuesday, December 12 we are hosting our Christmas party for the BOCES children. This year we are serving pancakes and sausage. Help will be needed beginning around 8:30 - 9:00 am to prepare and serve the food and also to help distribute the gifts for the children after they visit with Santa.

The Auxiliary treated the veteran residents from Eden Heights to a fish fry on November 24.

After our November meeting our members packed up 13 care packages for our local military service men and women who will not be home for the holidays. Postage to ship the boxes was paid for by the Captain John Levulis Foundation.

We do not have a meeting in December so our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

Looking ahead, our March Money Madness FUNdraiser event will be on Saturday, March 2, 2024. Tickets are only \$10. Please contact me to purchase or sell any for the Auxiliary. Thank you.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a

Happy Healthy New Year

Karen Ferguson
Unit President



Post 880 member Major Christopher Haggard helped serve Thanksgiving dinner to his fellow enlisted men and women who are currently stationed in the Middle East. Major Haggard was the recipient of one of the care packages sent by the Auxiliary.



Veterans from Eden Heights enjoying dinner at Post 880.

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

A Very Special Time

It's Christmas time. The time when we all act a little nicer, we smile a little easier, we cheer a little more, and during this time out of the whole year, we are the people that we always hoped we would be. Yes, Christmas is a very special time!

With all of the pain and suffering we witness on a daily basis, it can be tempting to think that humanity has been abandoned by God. But we know in our hearts that Our Lord is indeed merciful and good, and that even the most difficult moments of our lives are unfolding according to the wisdom and goodness of His plan.

Christmas is a time to be grateful to God for everything—our blessings and our misfortunes, the moments of grace but also the times of trouble. All of reality is a gift from God who is love; a love revealed in the birth of His only begotten Son.

So smile, it's Christmas! Gather with family and friends. Tell them you love them and enjoy the love God has shared with us that was born at a very special time on Christmas Day!

To all members of our Post, the Sons and Auxiliary and those employed by our Post, have a merry, holy and blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Please pray for world peace and for all of our armed forces that keep us safe!

God bless you and your families,

Chaplain Jerry K.



NEWS FROM SAL

Hello all,

Get ready for the Christmas season... it's almost here. What better way to start the season with a great breakfast and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. The date is December 3, from 10:30 - 12:30. We will be decorating on Thursday, November 30 at 6pm. Please come lend a hand and enjoy some complimentary food and refreshments. We always do a great job decorating with many functions sponsored by our various organizations and committees utilizing this hall during the holiday season. We always get a great many compliments on the job we do. So please come lend a hand and help create that special Christmas feeling once again.

Our 2024 dues are due. They are \$30, and your check can be made out to SAL 880. Just pop it in an envelope, write Sons dues along with your name on the outside and drop it off at the bar in the post. Just a reminder, our calendar year starts on July 1 and ends June 30. Any questions about your dues or how to sign up a new member just contact our first vice in charge of membership, Pat Pitillo, at 716-310-3553. If you received a mailer about sending in \$11 to the state, please disregard it and just pay your dues as I have described previously.

We are always looking for new active members, so if you know anyone that would like to serve our country, our post, our veteran initiatives and our community bring them around. We are family oriented and always have a good time no matter what the event.

Our annual gun raffle tickets should be available shortly so keep an eye out for them.

Keep an eye on our lighted sign and social media for upcoming specials and special events.

That's all for now.

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

Kenndth D. Szal
Cmdr Squadron 880



Applications are now being accepted for a Memorial Plaque to honor a deceased veteran. These plaques will be on display in the newly named Memorial Hall, formerly known as the beer barn. The plaques are \$35 and are made of wood and in the shape of a dog tag with the deceased veteran's name, years served and branch of service. For more information or to obtain an application, please contact Ken Szal at 716-498-0560.



Our Veterans Day service was well-attended. Pictures courtesy of Dennis Stender



Calendar

November

30 - Decorate Hall for Holidays

December

3 - Breakfast with Santa

5 - Post Membership Meeting

6 - Auxiliary Christmas Dinner

7 - Pearl Harbor Day

9 - Outdoor Gear & Meat Raffle

9 - Diamond Sound music in bar 2-5 pm

12 - BOCES Children's Christmas Party

16 - Wreaths Across America

20 - Post Executive Board Meeting

23 - Diamond Sound music in bar 2-5 pm

25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS!

26 - Sons Meeting

31 - New Year's Eve

January

1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2 - Post Membership Meeting

9 - Auxiliary Membership Meeting

17 - Post Executive Board Meeting

30 - Sons Meeting

Sick Call

*Janice Johnson
Ed Travis*

In Sympathy

*Linda May Corbin
Jim Wittmeyer*

*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*