

Post 880 News

15th Anniversary Issue - Our first issue of Post 880 News was dated Feb/March 2003

COMMANDER'S CORNER

How's everyone doing with the cabin fever? Break that fever February 10th and join us at the Winterfest Dance. Come and enjoy a dinner before and then dance the night away.

On February 7th Thank-A-Vet program will be at the post from 10 am to 12:30, bring a copy of your DD 214, the staff from the Erie County Clerk's office will do the rest.

Spring is around the corner with a lot of upcoming events. Be sure to check the bulletin boards in the club room and also our Facebook Page and website.

Tuition assistance applications are available at the bar and are due by March 1.

Nomination of post officers will be in March and in April nominations and Election of new officers.

God Bless America,
Jim Blidy, Post Cmdr.



ATTENTION: Auxiliary member Rosemary Peters is working on a project to create a book about the history of our Post that will also honor our veterans and members. Rosie is looking for the following:

- Military photos of our past and present members with their name, year and branch of service
- Photos, news articles, or any stories from our post family members regarding their service years.
- Photos of the growth that has taken place over the years at our Post.

Please contact Rosie at 992-9076 or rosedenny2@roadrunner.com if you have any items. She can scan and return your photos if you want them returned.

2017-2018 OFFICERS

LEGION

Commander	Jim Blidy
1st Vice Cdr.	Bob Weisedel
2nd Vice Cdr.	Fred Blas
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	Bill Keller
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	Dora Bowen
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	
Secretary	Mary Ann Clerc
Membership/Treasurer	Jeff Winter

The deadline for the next issue of Post 880 News will be April 15, 2018.

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

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

With the problems that we are experiencing in this Country and throughout the world, I ask that you reflect on the message that follows.



"The Need for God and Country"

In the beginning of our Nation's history, when it was still a colony of England, America covenanted with God in a unique sense, and later, when the republic was born, God was recognized as the source of all fundamental rights. Since its very beginning, America has recognized God and God's purposes as standing above the Nation and the Nation's interests. The highest role a Nation can play is to reflect God's righteousness in national policy and to promote God's purposes in all of life's relationships. The greatest and most significant heritage of our Country has been its spiritual heritage, our religious heritage. Apart from faith in God, American history has no meaning. In this faith our institutions were created, our laws enacted, and our liberties secured. To safeguard America today, that same dynamic force of religion must prevail in our political, social, and economic life. Our aim must be the same as that of our Country's Founders -- that religion must permeate every phase of living. An individual belongs to God alone, their purpose in life is to enhance God's glory and do God's will.

Trusting in God's Will!
Chaplain Ron Smith

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

**Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
and Reuben Sandwiches
will be served on
Saturday, March 17th**



NEWS FROM SAL

Hello all from the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 880. Our organization is coming off of another successful breakfast with Santa. We had about 300 attendees. Moms and Dads, and especially the children, all had a great time. Santa, and for the first time, Mrs. Claus, entertained the children, while Sons and other volunteers worked diligently in the kitchen preparing a tasty breakfast for all. Decorating our hall for the Christmas season takes a lot of work, and this year we had about 30 volunteers helping out. A heartfelt thanks to all that were involved in making this year's Breakfast with Santa another big success.



Our Breakfast with the Easter Bunny will be Sunday, March 25, from 10:30-12:30. Come on down and join the fun.

The Sons next event will be our 9th Annual Gun Raffle, to be held April 28, from 4-9 pm at the Post. Our chair persons, Mark and Noelle, promise to make this year's event the best ever. They have expanded the main prize drawing list, and improved on the quality of guns to be raffled. You probably noticed that you received your 3 ticket mailing earlier than usual this year. We are trying to give everyone more time, whether it's to buy or sell more tickets, or to plan on attending our event. We are proud to partner up with the John Heinrich Co, located on Green Street right here in Eden. If you are looking for a fair deal on new or used guns, stop in and talk with Adam. I'm sure they can help you out. Another reminder, all proceeds from this event will benefit veterans' related services. This is our biggest event of the year. So please help us help our veterans and buy an extra ticket or two, and plan on attending. Thanks very much.

Please help out at the Post when you can through volunteering and patronizing the clubroom.

May God bless our military.

God Bless the United States of America.

See you at the Post.

Kenneth D. Szal
Cdr, Squadron 880

AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

I would like to start off by thanking all those who volunteered with our many projects and events in November and December. We were very busy shopping and packing care packages to be mailed to our local military service personnel, decorating the Christmas tree and hall for all the Christmas parties and events, preparing and serving food to our senior citizens and BOCES children and shopping and making up gift bags for our veterans at Eden Heights. Auxiliary members also helped out at the Meat Raffle and the men were grateful for that help. Many hands make for light work and we are fortunate to have a group of dedicated volunteers to help us fulfill our goals to provide cheer to our veterans, children and senior citizens.

Many Legion Family members also purchased gifts and made monetary donations for a deserving Eden family who we learned not only had financial difficulties, but also some health issues. We received a very moving thank you note from the social worker at Eden Schools on behalf of this family. A total of \$475 in cash was donated that was used to purchase a \$475 Walmart gift card for the family. One member donated a TV and there was a car load of gifts and clothing purchased. Special thanks to Karen Pruchnicki for delivering the items to the school. This is true Christmas spirit.

As mentioned in our last issue, a motion was made at our October meeting to increase our membership dues beginning in 2019 from \$25 to \$30. This was approved at our January meeting.

We will be visiting with the vets at Eden Heights on Thursday, February 8 at 1:15.

The jackets have been ordered and I will contact those of you who placed an order for one as soon as they are in.

We are gearing up for our annual fundraiser - March Money Madness FUNdraiser. This year it will be on Sunday, March 11th. Tickets are \$10 for a chance to win up to \$500. We also have a lottery hat raffle and a basket raffle. We must sell all 400 tickets in order for this event to be a success. Tickets are available at the bar or you can contact me for tickets. We also need donations of items for our basket raffle. If you aren't sure what to donate, you can always purchase a gift card or certificate to a local restaurant or store for the raffle. And of course we will need volunteers to help the day of the event. Bob Franz and Jim Trembath will man the bar for us and the Sons will help us out again this year with the paddle wheel and we thank them for their help and support.

Finally, it doesn't seem possible but in April we hold our election of officers for the upcoming year. My, how time flies! If anyone is interested in running for an office, please make your intentions known at our February and March meetings.

Thank you for all you do to help our Post and American Legion Family.

For God and Country,

Karen Ferguson, Unit President

GUESTS AND BOOSTERS OF POST 880

Happy New Year and hopefully a prosperous year for all of our Legion organizations.

The Guests and Boosters are going through some structural changes and will be having a meeting some time in mid February. Please watch your email for the date.

If anyone has any questions prior to our re-organizational meeting please feel free to reach out to me or Mary Ann Clerc.

Thank You,

Jeff Winter – Membership, Treasurer
Mary Ann Clerc - Secretary

Last month we raffled a big screen TV with proceeds going to help with expenses at the Post. Although it didn't raise as much money as we had hoped, we are grateful to those who did buy tickets.

Recently we have had some rather large unexpected expenses to purchase a new ice machine and to repair the compressor for the draft beer in the clubroom. The building and its equipment is aging and needs repair and sometimes equipment needs to be replaced and installed. These costs are kept to a minimum thanks for the volunteer labor of our own members who do everything from installing new kitchen cabinets, to building the new bar in the barn to making roof and plumbing repairs just to name a few.

So, when you purchase raffle tickets, you are helping all of us - this is OUR Post! Thank you for your support.

PICTURE PAGE



LEFT: Auxiliary members filling Christmas care packages for local military servicemen and women. Items included Cheerios, Frank's Hot Sauce, Weber's Mustard and a kazoo!



RIGHT: Post 880's Color Guard was invited to attend the swearing in ceremony for Erie County Comptroller Stefan Mychajliw.



LEFT: Decorating the hall for all the Christmas events in December.



RIGHT: On January 11th, Senator Chris Jacobs awarded Post member Jim Trembath 'Veteran of the Month'. Our Color Guard and a few Auxiliary members were present to congratulate Jim



LEFT: Boy Scout Troop 603 helped our Auxiliary members serve dinner at our Senior Citizens Christmas dinner on December 10th.



RIGHT: Auxiliary members visited with the veterans at Eden Heights and presented Bill Hill with a red/white/blue crocheted lap blanket for his birthday.



CHRISTMAS AT POST 880



SAL members hosted a pancake breakfast with Santa in our beautifully decorated hall on December 3. Mrs. Claus was seen mingling at the tables and visiting with the children as well. The children received a gift from Santa and also participated in an arts and crafts project.

On Tuesday, December 12, Auxiliary members had a Christmas party for special needs children from BOCES. Lunch was served and the children visited with Santa before receiving a tote bag filled with goodies and a stuffed animal.



Santa and his helpers:
Deb Holscher, Charmaine Barrett, Sandy Franz, Santa (Paul Lawton), Rosie Peters, JoAnne Franz, Karen Ferguson.
Missing from photo is Brenda Hoelscher.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Winterfest Dance on Saturday, February 10th -

Newell-Faulkner Post #880 American Legion presents Winterfest Dance 2018, Feb 10, from 7-11pm. Our theme is A Country Valentine's Day, with music from DJ Dave Rychlik. Cost is \$10, which includes free draft beer and house wine, snacks, and a photo booth area. Chef Marv will have another outstanding menu to offer you and your sweetheart, and you will get free admittance to the dance with the purchase of a dinner. Reservations, along with your dinner choice can be made by calling the Post at 992-3304. Dinner reservations must be made no later than February 7. Table reservations can be made by calling Ken, at 498-0560. Tables seat 8. We have both the long and the rounds available. Come see who this year's King and Queen of the Winterfest Dance will be. Break out of those winter blues, and kick that cabin fever. Hope to see you there. We are also raffling off a cowboy hat with \$100 scratch-off lottery tickets and a crisp \$100 bill. Tickets are \$1 each or 10 for \$5 and are available at the bar from now until the dance. Winner will be drawn at the Winterfest Dance.

WINTERFEST DANCE DINNER SPECIALS

* All pricing includes admission to the dance (\$10 value)

Prime Rib Queen Cut 12 oz.	\$26.95
Prime Rib King Cut 14 oz.	\$29.95
T-Bone Steak 16 oz.	\$29.95
Seafood Stuffed Shrimp	\$26.95
6 oz Lobster Tail	\$28.50
Add a tail to the meal	\$14.50
Chicken cordon bleu	\$24.95

All meals include tossed salad, baked potato, vegetable and dessert.

What a deal! - all this and includes admission to the Winterfest Dance!

March Money Madness FUNdraiser, Sunday March 11 - This is one of 2 fundraising events for the Auxiliary. Tickets are \$10 for a chance to win up to \$500 and are available at the bar or by contacting Karen Ferguson at 870-2857.

SAL Gun Raffle, Saturday, April 28 - Tickets are \$20 and are available at the bar.

Calendar

February

- 5 - Auxiliary Meeting
- 7 - Line Dancing (Every Wednesday)
- 10 - Winterfest Dance
- 14 - Valentine's Day & Ash Wednesday
- 21 - Post Executive Board Meeting
- 26 - Legion Member Meeting
- 27 - SAL Meeting

March

- 5 - Auxiliary Meeting
- 11 - March Money Madness FUNdraiser
- 17 - St. Patrick's Day
- 21 - Post Executive Board Meeting
- 25 - Breakfast with Easter Bunny & Easter Egg Hunt
- 26 - Legion Member Meeting
- 27 - SAL Meeting

April

- 1 - Happy Easter - Post Closed
- 2 - Auxiliary Meeting - Elections
- 18 - Post Executive Board Meeting
- 24 - SAL Meeting
- 28 - SAL Gun Raffle
- 30 - Post Membership Meeting

Sick Call

Marie Hart
Debbie Rudy (rehab)
Grace Yingling (surgery)

In Sympathy

Terry Filbey

*For illness or death notification, please call the
Post at 992-3304 or
Dick Casseri at 549-4975
Auxiliary Contact is Karen Ferguson 870-2857
SAL Contact is Wayne Mintz 941-3966*