

# Post 880 News

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Just think spring will be here - about 50 days.

The new POS and credit card system is in service and will help when ordering your dinner, turn around will be faster.

The front handicap ramp is completed and looks great. See picture below.

The emergency generator has been returned as it was not sized large enough for our needs. A new order was placed with the manufacturer to build to our specifications. That upgrade is going to take about 20 weeks.

Tuition assistance applications are at the club room bar and are due back by March 1st. These are for the children and grandchildren of any Legion, Auxiliary or SAL member who are attending college or a trade school.

My THANKS to Nancy James for all the painting and decorating at the post and to the bartenders for holiday decorations!

Winterfest will be on the legion grounds February 3rd, BE VERY CAREFUL DRIVING when coming to the post.

The next post meetings will be February 6th and March 5th. At the March 5th Meeting nominations will be open for post officers. Nominations and Elections of officers will be at the April 2nd meeting.

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 or late to start learning about the different positions held by our officers.

God Bless our Troops,

Cmdr. Jim Blidy



New Ramp at bar entrance to Post

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

It has come to our attention that we are missing 2 round banquet tables. If you borrowed them or know what happened to them, please return them as soon as possible - no questions asked!

## AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

We had to cancel our January meeting due to inclement weather so our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 13. Our executive board meets at 6:30 followed by our general membership meeting at 7:00 pm. This is our last meeting before our March Madness event so please bring any ticket stubs and payment to the meeting. If you have any tickets that you are unable to sell, please bring them as well so someone else can sell them. It is imperative that we sell all 400 tickets. A few of you have asked for a supply of tickets and I will have them for you at the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting and would like some tickets, please call or text me 716-870-2857 and I will make arrangements to get them to you.

Donations of items and gift cards are needed for our basket raffle. You can bring them to the meeting on Feb. 13 or anytime but please drop them off at the Legion no later than Tuesday, Feb. 27 so we can plan on how much space we need to set up.

We also will need handheld desserts such as cookies or brownies (homemade or store bought) to serve at the event.

As always, any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

For God and Country,

Karen Ferguson  
Unit President



Making pancakes for Breakfast with Santa



Santa and Mrs. Claus (Steve Brzezinski and Pattie Hartman) listening as these little girls give them their wish list for Christmas and promise to be good little girls!



Santa arrived at the BOCES children's Christmas party.



Auxiliary members pose with Santa (Paul Lawton):

Karen Ferguson, Deb Holscher, Dora Bowen, Rosie Peters, Cheryl Matwijkow and Sandy Franz

One of the children visiting with Santa





## CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

### Can't do it without You Lord

As morning breaks, I look to you O Lord, to be my strength this day. .. (Psalm 63).

Most people (me included), often use prayer like a fire extinguisher. We only use it when there's a fire. Truth is we need God every moment of our lives!

When do we need God? People only reserve God for the "This-is-so-tough-I-can't-do-it-without-You-God" moments of life when life threatening sickness comes, death visits us, financial anxieties plague us, or marriage problems break our hearts. It's true, in those times we need God, we need Him in a real way, because let's be honest, we can't do it without Him.

Prayer is our way of communicating with our Lord. Prayers need not be long and involved, For example, just by saying thank you to our Lord for the day becomes a prayer. Performing a difficult task and asking God for help, is a prayer. Throughout the day, just treating other people with respect and loving our neighbors becomes a prayer.

In the gospel according to Luke our Lord states "Ask and it will be given to you, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you."

Please pray for all our men and women in the armed forces, for our country and for peace in the world.

God bless you and your families,

Chaplain Jerry K.



## NEWS FROM SAL

Hello all,

The Sons have some events coming up that I'm sure you don't want to miss. We have our monthly meeting this coming Tuesday, January 30. Our board meets at 6:30 and general membership meeting is at 7:30. Pizza and refreshments will be provided. Just a reminder, all of our Sons meetings take place on the last Tuesday of the month, at the previously stated times.

The Sons help the Auxiliary with their March Madness event by running our paddle wheel game throughout the event to help the ladies with additional income at this event. Each organization helps each other with their events. We operate as one big family. The Auxiliary helps the Sons out throughout the year, and we couldn't do our events without them. We need about 6 volunteers to help with their March Madness program. Please give me a call if you can lend a hand.

Our 15th annual Gun Raffle will take place on Saturday, May 4, from 4-8pm. Many hands are needed to make this event a success. We need ticket sellers, rippers, runners, and many other positions filled. This is historically our biggest event. So please volunteer, Call me to help out. Thank you.

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

Kenneth D. Szal  
Commander  
Squadron 880



2 Big Fundraisers for our Organizations are coming up:

Auxiliary's March Money Madness FUNdraiser is on Saturday, March 2. Tickets are still available. Only \$10 for a chance to win up to \$500. Includes food and beverages. Basket raffle and other raffles too. Contact Karen Ferguson 716-870-2857 for tickets. Basket raffle donation items are needed too.

SAL Gun Raffle is on Saturday, May 4. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the bar or contact Mark Sisti 716-868-7509 or Ken Szal 716-498-0560.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

*We would like to thank everyone for their well wishes and prayers during these difficult times. Sue lost her son in a car accident on January 24. We appreciate all the love and prayers. God bless you all.*

*Ken Szal and Sue Kruszynski*

## LEGACY GIVING

Please consider leaving a legacy gift or planned giving to the Newell Faulkner American Legion Post #880.

You are able to place us in a Will or Trust.

Making a legacy gift in your will is a meaningful and gracious way to ensure that the American Legion will be here at the Center of Eden, New York for years to come. Our Legion Post that is more than a social club of Veterans.

Our Legion is a supporter and resource for our community and our surrounding areas.

Naming Newell Faulkner American Legion Post #880 as a beneficiary in your Will or Living Trust can be done at anytime. You can even add a charitable provision to an existing document or express your charitable wish in a new one.

You can give a specific dollar amount or a percentage.

No matter the form or size, a gift in your will or living trust ensures that we will remain a vital resource for our community.

Thank you.

**Thank you to everyone who purchased gifts or made a donation to the family we sponsored. Once again our Legion Family members came through big time - over \$1,000 in cash and gift cards were donated in addition to the gifts. I think we gave this family a very Merry Christmas!**

The Outdoor Gear and Meat Raffle was a great success and netted over \$12,000 in profit for Post 880. Thanks to everyone who supported this event by purchasing tickets and attending. A very special thanks to Dave Rice and his crew - Ed Kane, Jim and Tera Clerc to name a few, and all the other volunteers and sponsors who worked so hard on this fundraiser.

We are very grateful.

## Calendar

### February

3 - Winterfest events on Legion Grounds

6 - Post Membership Meeting

13 - Auxiliary Membership Meeting

14 - Ash Wednesday

Valentine's Day

20 - Post Executive Board Meeting

27 - Sons Meeting

### March

2 - March Money Madness FUNdraiser

5 - Post Membership Meeting - Nominations  
for officers

12 - Auxiliary Membership Meeting

17 - St. Patrick's Day

20 - Post Executive Board Meeting

26 - Sons Meeting

29 - Good Friday

31 - HAPPY EASTER!

### ***Sick Call***

*Janice Johnson  
Ed Travis*

### ***In Sympathy***

*Richard Krazmien*

*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*