

# Post 880 News

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Another year has gone by and I would like to congratulate all the elected officers of the Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion, I know they will follow through on all their assignments. As I start my 7th term as commander, I would like to thank everyone for their support. I look forward to seeing all our members at our Memorial Day service and all events that support our post.



A new bar and serving table have been built for use in our Annex (beer barn) by members of "The Crew". We are also in the process of replacing the ceiling in the men's outside bathroom.

Other upcoming events include Raiders response, preparation of the Blue Star Highway Memorial marker on May 23rd at 1130 AM with the dedication on June 10th @ 11 AM in the banquet hall. June 14th, our Flag Day service will be held at 6 PM in the parking lot adjacent to the swimming pool. At this time our nation's flags that are worn and torn will be properly disposed. Flags can be placed in the drop box outside the post building.

Our last meeting before the summer break will be on June 26th. Enjoy your summer and will be looking for you come Corn Festival time.

God Bless America,  
Jim Blidy  
Post Commander



The "Crew" with their masterpiece custom-built bar for the Beer Barn. Looking good!

## 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	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 July 15, 2017.

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## CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

### STAYING CLOSE TO GOD

These days, it seems that we all have friends or relatives who have been battling a form of cancer and have had their share of ups and downs with the many forms of treatment they receive. When it does not go well, they are tired. When it goes well, you can see the joy in their face.

It can be that way in our relationship with God. When we feel distant, things do not go well for us. But when God is near to us, maybe a smile appears on our face. Do our burdens seem lighter? Our cares more manageable?

The difference between our relationship with God and a cancer patient's treatment is that we do have choices in how it goes. We have some control. We usually know exactly what ails us—and even if we don't, we have a way to find out—through prayer. Stay close to God and be "radiant with joy."

By: Paul Pennick

God's Blessing and Good Health To All,  
Chaplain Ron Smith



## NEWS FROM SAL

Hello All,

The Sons just completed their 8th Annual Gun Raffle. All of the hard work by so many paid off in another successful event. Chairman Mark Sisti should be proud of his efforts and the efforts of all of our volunteers.

We had some new folks in some new positions and they did absolutely great. We had a few new volunteers this year. The Sons appreciate all of our volunteers help. The Legion, Ladies Auxiliary, and Boosters all had members helping us out this year again.

The Sons recently completed their donations program for the year. We proudly donated over \$18,000 to various Veteran/Military organizations, community groups and through our scholarship programs. We work very hard as a team to accomplish this, and it can only be done with the work of many volunteers, and the countless hours they give of their own free time. Various organizations such as Post 880, Unit 880 Ladies Auxiliary, Guests and Boosters of Post 880, Eden Athletic Association, Eden Little Loop Football, Western New York Heroes, Volunteer Services of the VA Hospital, Eden Central School Scholarships, Eden College Students, Homeless Veterans, and many more are the beneficiaries of our labor. Our goals as an organization are to support veterans, the community and to uphold the Constitution of the United States. Our fundraising, through the sacrifice and work of many, allow to accomplish our goals. We thank all who support the Sons programs.

I hope everyone has a great summer. We'll see you at the Corn Festival.

May God bless our great country. May God bless our military. May God bless you.

Kenneth D. Szal  
Commander SAL Squadron 880



## EASTER EGG HUNT WINNERS

Under 6	Over 6
<u>Gold</u> Parker Styers - Age 4	<u>Gold</u> Adam Hodge - Age 13
<u>Silver</u> Madison Bozdziaik - Age 6	<u>Silver</u> Annabelle Kozelak - Age 10
<u>Brown</u> Abbey Schlegel - Age 5	<u>Brown</u> Emily Wahl - Age 9





## AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

Our election of officers was held in April and all officers were re-elected. Thank you all for your support and I look forward to working with you all this coming year.

If you get an opportunity to visit the Eden Town Hall, check out the 2 showcases in the lobby. Eden Town Clerk, Mary Jo Hultquist graciously granted us permission to set up a display promoting the Auxiliary. We have some items from our Post's showcase as well as a few other things that will be on display through the summer months.

Thank you to all who volunteered to distribute poppies on May 18-19 at Eden Shur Fine. Thanks also to Poppy Chairman, JoAnne Franz for coordinating the schedule and recruiting volunteers. All donations collected from poppies must be used for veteran-related programs and projects. We collected over \$700 this year for veteran programs. Great job!

On Monday, May 29, Post 880 will have our annual Memorial Day services followed by a luncheon. Members are asked to provide side dishes, salads, and desserts to serve. For planning purposes, please contact me and let me know what you plan on bringing. Dishes can be dropped off at the post anytime after 10 am on the 29th. Ladies, if you are planning on marching, please meet at the Post at 9 am.

Each year our Unit sponsors a high school junior girl to attend Empire Girls State at SUNY Brockport where girls from all over New York State participate in a weeklong program that teaches them about good citizenship. This year we were asked to sponsor 2 girls and provide 2 alternates in the event someone would not be able to attend. We interviewed several girls and each one was worthy of attending. We ultimately chose Hannah Cialone and Isabel Woodworth to represent our Unit and Rebecca Navel and Hailey Brenner as our alternates. We were excited to learn that this year all 4 of our girls, including our 2 alternates, will be attending Girls State! Matthew Glab Unit is sponsoring Rebecca Navel and East Aurora's Unit is sponsoring Hailey Brenner. Congratulations to all 4 girls - Eden will be well-represented this year at EGS!

Each year we also sponsor an Americanism Essay contest for 8th grade students. This year we've chosen essays written by John Preischel and Emma Cockerel.

I will be attending Eden's high school graduation ceremony along with Commanders Blidy and Szal to present our annual scholarships.

We will be visiting with the vets at Eden Heights on Thursday, June 8 at 1:15. All are welcome to join us.

## GUESTS & BOOSTERS

Hello Legion Family,

The Guests & Boosters share the same problems that all organizations are facing now. Each group has many members and a very small number of ACTIVE members. This is a sad

reality of our times motivating our members to take an active role in Post 880. The Legion groups must support each other's projects, the combined effort now is the only option.

The Guests and Boosters' next meeting is Tuesday, June 13 at 7 pm.

Thank you.

God Bless our Troops and Veterans,

Bill Robison

President



### *Auxiliary (Continued)*

Our last meeting before we break for summer will be on Monday, June 5. Executive board meets at 6:30 pm followed by our regular membership meeting at 7:00 pm. I'd love to see more members attend. I know everyone is very busy so I do my best to keep the meetings short and sweet. We usually adjourn before 8 pm.

If you have any questions on any of this information, please don't hesitate to call or text me at 716/870-2857.

For God and Country,

Karen Ferguson, Unit President



Auxiliary members Michelle, Connie, Debbie, Peg and Shelly distributed poppies at Eden ShurFine on May 18 & 19



Volunteers from the SAL Breakfast with Easter Bunny - Noelle and Ray handled admissions while Bob, Marie, Paul, Sandie and Curtis served up pancakes and sausage.



## Calendar

### May

- 25 - Flag Detail 9 am
- 29 - Memorial Day
- 30 - SAL Meeting
- 31 - Line Dance Lessons 7 pm

### June

- 5 - Auxiliary Meeting
- 10 - Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication
- 14 - Flag Day
- 18 - Father's Day
- 21 - Post Executive Board meeting
- 26 - Legion meeting
- 27 - SAL meeting

### July

- 4 - Independence Day
- 19 - Post Executive Board meeting

### ***Message from Service Officer Dick Casseri:***

*Hope everyone has blessed & safe summer, please keep me informed if cards are needed to be sent (we have no meetings during the summer) Phone number 549-4975*

### ***Sick Call***

*Terry Filbey - Select Specialty Hospital, Erie, PA  
Dave Knoll  
Jim Nedimyer  
June Sercu*

### ***In Sympathy***

*Wilbur Jost  
Ernie Penn - death of brother  
Glen Scheuneman*

*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*