

# Post 880 News

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello All,

We are waiting for a reply from Congressman Chris Jacobs' District Director who is looking into possible options for funding the parking lot and carport roof repairs. The parking lot needs to be repaired before the Eden Corn Festival (if it's a go.) If someone knows of a Grant Writer, please let us know.



Post meeting is on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7PM. Nomination of officers and Elections will take place. County Commander has scheduled a visit.

Repairs of sidewalks around the post building will be done 2nd week of May.

Cemetery flag detail will be Thursday, May 27, 2021. Meet at the Post at 9 AM. Also flags along Main St. will be put up. Rain date Friday, May 28.

Memorial Day Services will be at 10 AM at St. Mary's Cemetery and at 11 AM. at Even Evergreen Cemetery Field of Honor at 11 AM on Monday, May 31, 2021. There will be no parade.

Flag Day Ceremony will be on Monday, June 14, at 5 PM in the parking just east of the swimming pool. Retired flags can be placed in the blue bin before June 14 or brought that day.

God Bless You, God Bless Our Military.

Jim Blidy,  
Post Commander

The Buffalo News is looking for veterans to interview for a series of profile articles they'll be publishing in the coming weeks and months. They're particularly interested in talking to veterans who served during World War II or the Korean War.

If you are interested or know of any veterans from that era who have a good story to tell and are in a position, perhaps with the assistance of a relative, to take part in an interview, please contact:

Stephen T. Watson  
News Staff Reporter  
The Buffalo News  
One News Plaza  
Buffalo, NY 14240  
office: (716) 849-3486  
mobile: (716) 228-6363  
[swatson@buffnews.com](mailto:swatson@buffnews.com)

## 2020 - 2021 OFFICERS

### LEGION

Commander	Jim Blidy
1st Vice Cdr.	Bob Weisedel
2nd Vice Cdr.	Nancy James
3rd Vice Cdr.	Ken Franz
Finance Officer	Bob Reed
Adjutant	Bill Clark
Judge Advocate	Heidi Wysocki
Sgt.-at-Arms	Bob Franz
Chaplain	Jerry Kopryanski
Historian	
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
Historian	Larry Clerc

### GUESTS AND BOOSTERS

President	Bill Forness
Secretary	Mary Ann Clerc
Membership/Treasurer	Jeff Winter

**Karen Ferguson**  
3099 Milford Terrace  
Hamburg, NY 14075  
716/870-2857  
[KJFERG@ROADRUNNER.COM](mailto:KJFERG@ROADRUNNER.COM)

## CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

### A Time for War and a Time for Peace

Welcome to Spring! I think!? Someone once said, "If you don't like the weather in Western New York, just wait 15 minutes."

In 1965 the Rock group "The Byrds" released a song entitled "Turn, turn, turn". It became an overnight success to those of us who are old enough to remember. The song was actually based on a book from the Bible called Ecclesiastes. It is considered among the "wisdom" books in the Bible. It is a song appropriate to all generations for it deals with the contradictions each of us will face in our lives. "A time to give birth and a time to die. A time for Love and a time for hate. A time for war and a time for peace."

Recently a local pastor went on vacation and reported in a newsletter "I noticed on my travels the increasing divide between people. Economic, racial, ethnic and political positions continue to lead to the estrangement of friends and the separation of families.". It seems the nation hasn't been this divided since the Civil War.

At the end of May we will be celebrating Memorial Day. Somehow, the true meaning of Memorial Day has gotten lost in the three-day-weekend with all the barbecues, beach parties and sales. Memorial Day is to Reflect and Remember those who lost their lives in service to our country. These men, women, minorities and immigrants went to war regardless of the cost and gave their lives for our freedom.

Yes, there is a time for war and a time for peace. We should all put our differences aside and on Memorial Day take a minute or perhaps several and pray for all the victims of war. But we should also pray for peace. Peace in our world and especially peace in our country, and our families!

May God Bless you and your families.

Chaplain Jerry K.



## NEWS FROM SAL

Hello all,

I can't tell you much about the Post because I have been in sunny Florida since the beginning of the month. I will be home shortly so I hope to see you at the Post. We do have some important information to pass on so here goes.

Just a reminder, our Sons dues are \$30.00 per year. Please forward your dues at the appropriate time. And we will be having our monthly meeting the last Tuesday of April, the 27th, 6:30 board meeting, 7:30 general membership. Thank you.

Our annual Post 880 golf tournament will take place on Friday, July 16 at the Eden Valley Golf Course. This year's fee is \$100 per golfer. We have had to raise the fee because of our increasing costs. I hope you understand. I still believe that its a great buy for the money and goes to a great cause. Sponsors are needed as well as golfers. Please contact the Sons Bob Reed, Mark Flowers or myself to be a hole sponsor. There will be a golfer sign up sheet in the post in a couple of weeks.

Our annual Gun Raffle will take place Saturday, August 28. The event will take place outside in the beer barn. Whether it is a drive through or sit down, we will have to wait and see what the government will allow us to do. Details will follow.

There are many who do more than their fair share of volunteering at our Post. One of those people is Kenny Franz. He is a tireless worker, member, and board member. If you see him, tell him thanks, and we appreciate everything he does to help make this post what it is.

Please support our post. "The place where heroes hang out."

May God bless you, and may God bless America.

Kenneth D. Szal  
Cdr. Squadron 880



## AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

The Auxiliary held its election of officers for 2021-2022 and no surprise - all officers were re-elected for another term. I would like to personally thank the members of my staff for their dedication and support. I couldn't do it without you!



The drawing for our March Madness FUNdraiser took place on March 14. 5 members were present to witness and record the winners. Checks were mailed to all winners on March 15.

We will be distributing poppies this year on May 20 and 21 at Eden Shurfine. Barb Caffery is our Poppy Chairman and she will be contacting members to volunteer an hour or two to distribute poppies. I hope you will be able to help her out.

We are sponsoring 4 girls this year for Empire Girls State which will be held virtually once again this year.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, May 11. Executive board meets at 6:30 followed by our regular membership meeting at 7:00 pm. Please wait in the bar or vestibule - someone will get you when we adjourn the board meeting.

Please stay safe and healthy.

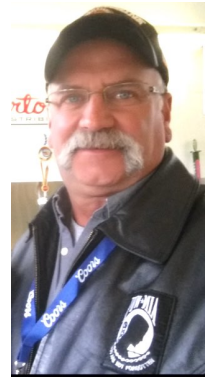
For God and Country,

Karen Ferguson  
Unit President

## GUESTS & BOOSTERS

It's been over a year now with the pandemic, even though somethings are getting back to normal a lot of us are still lying low.

I hope to have an organizational meeting later in the summer when things are back to normal. I hope life finds you and your family well.



God bless.  
William J Forness

**Weidner's Drive-Thru  
Chicken BBQ  
Post 880 American Legion  
2912 Legion Drive, Eden NY**



**Saturday, May 1  
Noon - 5 or sold out.  
\$12**

**Pre-sale orders call 992-3304**



On the morning of March 16, Dave Cole was working at the Post when he collapsed and went into cardiac arrest. Fortunately Ken Franz and Bob Reed were at the Post and when Ken found Dave on the floor and unresponsive, they called 911 and Ken began chest compressions until the Emergency Squad arrived to take over. Dave was hospitalized and is now home recovering. There was a reception at Post 880 on April 22 at to honor those who saved Dave's life. Dave presented certificates and gave thanks and praise to those involved.



On March 31, Legion member Ken Blachura was honored at our Post as Veteran of the Month by Congressman Chris Jacobs. Ken is also the Commandant of the Marine Corps League in Lackawanna. Congratulations Ken!

The VA has compiled a list of discounts available to veterans for things such as automotive, clothing, computer, entertainment and travel just to name a few. Click here for a full list of discounts:

[https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/85765/veteran-discounts-available-year-round/?utm\\_source=VRfeature&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=VetResources](https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/85765/veteran-discounts-available-year-round/?utm_source=VRfeature&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=VetResources)

## Calendar

### May

- 1 - Weidner's Chicken Barbecue noon - 5 or sold out
- 4 - Post Membership Meeting
- 9 - Mother's Day
- 11 - Auxiliary Meeting
- 19 - Post Executive Board Meeting
- 25 - SAL Meeting
- 27 - Flag Detail
- 31 - Memorial Day

### June

- 1 - Post Membership Meeting
- 8 - Auxiliary Meeting
- 14 - Flag Day
- 16 - Post Executive Board Meeting
- 20 - Father's Day
- 29 - SAL Meeting

### **Sick Call**

*Dave Cole  
David Holscher (son of Debbie Holscher  
and brother of Connie Holscher-Przepasniak)  
Joe Laud  
Ernie Penn  
Robert Robertson  
Everett Smith*

### **In Sympathy**

*Barbara Balcerzak (death of mother)  
Judy Gustas-Stoj  
Joan Ham  
Herman Hatten  
William Hill*

*For illness or death notification, please call the  
Post at 992-3304 or Dick Casseri at 549-4975  
Auxiliary Contact is Karen Pruchnicki 380-4410  
SAL Contact is Wayne Mintz 575-4045*