

# Post 880 News

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Election of new officers have been completed for this year. One new edition is Jim Trembath as our Public Relations person.



June 14 the Honor Guard have three assignments for Flag Day, 8:30 AM at the GLP school, 10:30 AM, at Eden Heights Assisted Living Home, and at 6 PM on the American Legion grounds adjacent to the swimming pool. Please check the bulletin boards in the social quarters for ALL upcoming events.

June 27 will be the last meeting, for summer break. General post meetings will start up again in September on the 26th starting at 7 PM. And again we are looking for new members for all the organizations, just ask your friends and neighbors to join our post.

Letters have been sent out to our Veteran Members requesting a copy of their DD-214, the reason for this is to keep our records up to date and in compliance. Your help will be greatly appreciated by Bob Weisedel who has taken on this assignment.

Have a safe summer, don't forget to stop by the post to say hello and check the bulletin boards for more upcoming events.

Jim Blidy, Post Commander

If you do not have your DD-214 you can request one by going online to [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) or send a written request to the National Personnel Record Center (NPRC):

**NPRC Mailing Address:**  
National Personnel Records Center  
Military Personnel Records  
1 Archives Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63138

**Phone: 314-801-0800**

## 2016-2017 OFFICERS

### LEGION

Commander	Jim Blidy
1st Vice Cdr.	Bob Weisedel
2nd Vice Cdr.	Juan Carias
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	
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, 2016.

**Karen Ferguson**  
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**CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE**

**“God Willing”**

**No matter what  
the cause,  
God is only as  
willing as  
you are.**



There is an old customary way of speaking that I used to hear when people were making plans for the future. When they stated what they were going to do, they would conclude their plans or promises with the words, “God willing.” I seldom hear people saying that today. It is an expression of faith, acknowledging that we don’t have total control of our lives; we don’t know what the future will hold. We certainly need to make plans, yet we know they may not become reality. Saint James says we are to be humble and not boast as though we are in complete control of our future – that is arrogant thinking, we are told. In my appointment book, I write with pencil, knowing some of my plans will need to be erased. My plans for today may, due to unforeseen circumstances, need to be revised before breakfast. I wish you good health, happiness, and a long life – “God willing.”

Fr. James McKarns

God’s Blessings to All,  
Chaplain Ron Smith

**NEWS FROM SAL**

Hello all



Another Gun Raffle has come and gone. Chairman Mark Sisti reports that we had another successful event. Attendance was down a little, but with all the competition out there, the Sons are very happy with the results. The Sons

would also like to thank all of the volunteers, from the Legion, the Auxiliary, the Boosters, and non members alike. We couldn't do it without everyone's help.

If you would like to join the Sons, or have a question about your card, please contact Bob Reed at 716 982 6543. Bob does a great job with membership, and would be glad to help you out.

Summer is upon us, and our next project is the Corn Festival. The theme at this year's Cornfest will be baseball. So when you come to volunteer, wear your favorite team's gear, whether it's a hat, jersey, or full uniform. We'll be serving a new item or two at the clam stand, so come by and check us out.

The Sons would like to thank everyone for their support. May God bless you all.

Please take time and say a prayer for our military, past and present.

May God bless the United States of America.

Respectfully,  
Kenneth D.Szal  
Commander, Squadron 880

## AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

Our elections took place in April and I want to thank our officers for serving another year with me. I think we have a great staff and work well together.

Americanism Chairman Cheryl Matwijkow worked with Mr. Utley from the Eden School on our 8th Grade Americanism Essay contest. This year's winners are Clayton Blaszczyk and Anna Braymiller. They will be acknowledged at our Memorial Day service on Monday, May 30th. Congratulations to them and thank you to Cheryl. It's a difficult job judging the essays and selecting the winners. Also being recognized on Memorial Day will be our Empire Girls State representative, Maureen Bender. Maureen will be representing Unit 880 at SUNY Brockport at the end of June. Congratulations and best wishes to her as well.

June and July are kind of a quiet time for the Auxiliary. It gives us time to rest up for the Corn Festival! We have one more meeting on June 6 and then take a break until September.

We have a group of ladies who are visiting the veterans at Eden Heights on a monthly basis. We will be visiting on June 2nd and again on July 7th. We bring treats and if a veteran has a birthday during the month, we also bring them a red, white and blue crocheted lap blanket. If you would like to join us, we meet right at Eden Heights at 1 pm and each visit lasts about an hour or so. Feel free to contact me or JoAnne Franz if you have any questions or would like more information.

Enjoy the summer, check out a ball game, enjoy a cold beverage on the deck, and spend time with family and friends.

God Bless our Troops and our Veterans,  
Karen Ferguson, Unit 880 President

## GUESTS AND BOOSTERS

Dear Legion Family,

This time of the year we all start to get very busy. But we all must take time to keep members of our family who are having health issues in our prayers. Bob Brueggeman, Karen Ferguson, Molly Szal, all very important member of our family.

The Guests and Boosters met Tuesday, May 10th, and our agenda focuses on New Year's Eve 2016 which gives us plenty of "planning time".

I plan on scaling back on meetings during the summer because people are working on summer events, the Corn Festival to mention one, and the fact that families travel. If anyone needs to contact the Guests and Boosters, they can call me at my home at 992-9667 and leave a message. Have a safe summer.

Don't forget South City is playing at the Post on June 4th.

God Bless our Troops and Veterans  
Bill Robison, President

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## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The BDC Committee would like to welcome it's newest member to our committee - Karen Pruchnicki. Karen began helping us with the Winterfest dance back in February and it was only fitting we asked her to officially join us as we meet each month to strategize and come up with ideas to generate needed funds for our Post. Welcome Karen!

We are sponsoring another "Live at the Leeg" concert featuring South City, on Saturday, June 4th starting at 7:30 pm. Once again, FREE Admission, FREE Parking. We hope to see you there and please help us spread the word - tell your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.

Once again we will be raffling \$100 in cash and \$100 in lottery scratch-off tickets on Memorial Day. Tickets are available now - \$1 each or 10 for \$5 and you can get them at the bar.

## JUNE - JULY 2016

He was getting old and paunchy  
And his hair was falling fast,  
And he sat around the Legion,  
Telling stories of the past.  
Of a war that he once fought in  
And the deeds that he had done,  
In his exploits with his buddies;  
They were heroes, every one.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbors  
His tales became a joke,  
All his buddies listened quietly  
For they knew where of he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer,  
For ol' Joe has passed away,  
And the world's a little poorer  
For a Veteran died today.

He won't be mourned by many,  
Just his children and his wife.  
For he lived an ordinary,  
Very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family,  
Going quietly on his way;  
And the world won't note his  
passing,  
'Tho a Veteran died today.

When politicians leave this earth,  
Their bodies lie in state,  
While thousands note their passing,  
And proclaim that they were great.

Papers tell of their life stories  
From the time that they were young,  
But the passing of a Veteran  
Goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution  
To the welfare of our land,  
Some jerk who breaks his promise  
And cons his fellow man?

Or the ordinary fellow  
Who in times of war and strife,  
Goes off to serve his country  
And offers up his life?

The politician's stipend  
And the style in which he lives,  
Are often disproportionate,  
To the service that he gives.

While the ordinary Veteran,  
Who offered up his all,  
Is paid off with a medal  
And perhaps a pension, small.

It is not the politicians  
With their compromise and ploys,  
Who won for us the freedom  
That our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger,  
With your enemies at hand,  
Would you really want some cop-  
out,  
With his ever-waffling stand?

Or would you want a Veteran  
His home, his country, his kin,  
Just a common Veteran,  
Who would fight until the end.

He was just a common Veteran,  
And his ranks are growing thin,  
But his presence should remind us  
We may need his likes again.

For when countries are in conflict,  
We find the Veteran's part,  
Is to clean up all the troubles  
That the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor  
while he's here to hear the praise,  
Then at least let's give him homage  
At the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simple headline  
In the paper that might say:

"OUR COUNTRY IS IN  
MOURNING,  
A VETERAN DIED TODAY."

## Calendar

### May

23 - Post Meeting - Installation

26 - Flag Detail 9 am

30 - Memorial Day Services 10 am East Eden  
11 am Eden Evergreen Cemetery

31 - SAL Meeting

### June

4 - South City classic rock & roll 7:30 pm

6 - Auxiliary Meeting

7 - BDC Meeting

14 - Flag Day

22 - Post Board Meeting

27 - Post Membership Meeting

28 - SAL Meeting

### July

4 - Independence Day

20 - Post Board Meeting

### **Sick Call**

*Bob Brueggeman  
Doris Matie  
Molly Szal*

### **In Sympathy**

*Paul Hammond  
Ed Soda  
Phyllis Willson*

*For illness or death notification, please call the  
Post at 992-3304 or  
Dick Casseri at 549-4975  
Auxiliary Contact is June Sercu 649-0772  
SAL Contact is Wayne Mintz 941-3966*