



## *The Legion-Air*

**Anthony Solina**  
Commander

**Jim Bojanowski**  
Adjutant/Editor



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August 2018

### **Commander's Message:**

It has been a fun start to this American Legion year. We started it off with the 99<sup>th</sup> Erie County Convention at Iroquois Post, which did an excellent job as the hosting Post.

The following week there was the ground breaking for the large Veteran's monument in North Collins. They are starting to pour the concrete very soon and are scheduled to have it completed with a grand opening ceremony this fall.

The Erie County Staff was invited to the inauguration of the new President of the Erie County Auxiliary, Rosemary O'Connell, held at Niagara Frontier Post #1041. I look forward to working with her this year.

Last week we had the Department Convention in Rochester with a nice contingency from Erie County. Congratulations to new Department Commander Gary Schacher being elected and installed last week. His visitation to our county will be on Saturday February 16.

On August 12, it will be Veteran's Day at the Erie County Fair. The 8<sup>th</sup> District and Erie County will be having a tent with beverages and food. There will be a Catholic Mass at 10:00, Memorial Ceremony at 11:30 in the infield, and the parade is at 1:00 with lineup at 12:30. If you are down there please stop on by, march with us if you can, or just visit our tent to share in some hospitality. We will be having a booth again in the historical society building like last year. Anytime during the fair, feel free to sit in at the booth to answer questions as there will also be literature on all the good that the American Legion does.

**NOTE: The August County meeting is being held earlier on Thursday August 16, due to the National Convention timing.**

### **Membership – VC Gary Wald**

I thank all of you for your vote of trust in electing me Vice Commander. I also wish to thank Commander Solina for giving me his previous charge of membership. I firmly believe that The American Legion does, and can provide programs our Veterans need, not only for themselves, but also their families.

I look forward to working together with all of you in reversing the trend on our declining membership numbers and also retaining those members we have. My cell phone number is 716-863-1919. If I don't recognize your phone number, I will not pick up, so please leave a brief message and I'll get back to you. Do not hesitate to call.

### **Newly Elected Department Commander Gary Schacher addresses the 100<sup>th</sup> State Convention during his acceptance speech.**



### **Special Olympics Picnic - Wayne Sorrentino**

Will be held Sunday September 16 at the George F. Lamm Post Grove starting at noon. Volunteers from The American Legion Family will be needed to participate and sign in by 1130 hours. We are planning for a much better and bigger turnout than last year. Thank you in advance for your continued support of this very worthwhile annual event. If you are so inclined, you can also support us financially by sending your check, payable to "Erie County Committee of The American Legion" to the City Hall Office: 609 City Hall, 65 Niagara Square, Buffalo, NY 14202, earmarked "Special Olympics Picnic 2018". Donations in any amount are greatly appreciated and allow us to continue this great tradition.

**Cruise Night** each 3rd Monday of the month thru September. Starts at 4:30 PM at East Aurora Post 362. Enjoy a bit of nostalgia and bring your family to this great event. Hot dogs are available at a reasonable price. No admission charge and if you bring a show car, you get a chance to win prizes. We are located at 1 Legion Drive, East Aurora, NY about a mile south of Main St.

### **County Adjutant Jim Bojanowski won the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Henry Rifle at the Rochester Department Convention.**



### **Special Activities – VC Thomas O'Connell**

Next month, our annual calendars will be available for sale. Each month we award up to \$1,000 in prizes. The calendars will be packed in bundles of 10. I hope each Post can pick up some to sell at our August meeting. I will also be planning a Casino bus trip later this year. We continue to have Delta Sonic car wash coupons available.

A County Golf Tournament is planned for Saturday 9/22 at Concord Crest. \$75 includes golf, cart, lunch, dinner, and prizes.

Congratulations go out to Clarence Post on sponsoring Akilesh Ramakrishna who was selected to attend Boys Nation. It is time to start putting your interview team together to select a boy(s) for next year. Work with your area guidance counselor ASAP. You can ask businesses/other organizations to help sponsor Boy Stater's.

### **Oratorical Contest - Wayne Sorrentino**

Now is the time to begin locating those hard-working, dedicated and sometimes invisible high school students who need to apply for inclusion in the 2019 Oratorical Contest. This is a great way for students to earn big bucks to help offset their future college expenses. The job of the Post Chairs is to find and sign up these kids. The job of Erie County is to run the County-wide competition to select our winner who moves on to the 8th District competition in January 2019. Please give an extra effort this year to find a deserving student or two. Please contact me with questions: Home: (716) 891-5164 or wayne.sorrentino868@gmail.com, Thank you.

### **Iroquois Post #1587 Fall Festival Sat. 9/8**

Everyone is welcome to attend our annual parade that starts at Noon on Route 438 near the Post and Fire Hall. Call the Post at 532-1587 if you plan on bringing your Color Guard.

**Homeless Female Veterans 5K Race** will be held Sunday October 7, at the South Buffalo American Legion Post #721 located at 136 Cazenovia Street, Buffalo NY 14210. Registration at 9:00 AM, Race start 11:00 AM.

Erie County Commander Anthony Solina leads the County contingent at the July Rochester Department Convention. Also pictured, John Kasmer, Martin Moot, and Nelson Oldfield. There were 25 Erie County Legionnaires present to represent us.



**Thursday County Meeting Dates**

Executive Dinner Meeting: 6:30 PM

Regular meeting starts approximately at 8 PM

**August 16, Alfred J. Jurek Post #1672  
Legion Casual Business Dress**

655 New Rd., East Amherst, NY 14051

Menu: Tim's Chicken BBQ, plus sides.

**September 27, Concord Post #431**

**October 25, Milton J. Brounshidle Post #205**

**Erie County Fair Veteran's Day – 8/12**

10:00 AM – Catholic Mass

11:30 AM – Memorial Service

12:30 PM – Parade Line Up

1:00 PM – Parade Starts

Stop by Commander Solina's Tent

The Erie County Colors were carried at the Department Convention parade by Anthony Solina, Suzanne Quirk, Nelson Oldfield (hidden by the flag), and Jim Bojanowski.



**National Convention – Minneapolis, MN**

- New York Reception 8/25 Saturday evening.

- Parade 8/26 Sunday afternoon.

- New York Breakfast 8/27 Monday morning.

- American Legion Sessions are 8/28 - 30.

- National Commander's Dinner Tuesday 8/28

- SAL Election for National Commander to be held on Sunday 8/26 at 8:30 am. Leading candidate is Greg "Doc" Gibbs from Hamburg Squadron #527. Election is scheduled 8/26 at 8:30 am, with the installation at approximately 12:30 pm after the joint Memorial Service.

**Paperwork OVERDUE – Jim Bojanowski**

Some Posts have not submitted the following information to the County office yet. Please do so ASAP. You are late!

- Officer Certification Form

- Executive Delegate & Alternate



**SUBMISSIONS**  
**For the September**  
**"The Legion-Air"**  
**Due August 20**  
**thelegionair@gmail.com**



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
 The Erie County Committee  
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 FAX: (716) 852-4664  
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**August 2, 3, 4, & 5**

Eden Corn Festival at Newell Faulkner Post 880, 2912 Legion Dr. Eden, NY. August 5th, Veterans Day 11 AM Service, Parade at Noon.

**Sunday, August 5**

1 to 6 PM, East Aurora Post 362 will be hosting its 10th annual Bills Tailgate Party. Ticket \$15, includes Food, Refreshments, live music featuring the Boneshakers. Two grand prizes, two sets of Bills Season Tickets. Eight cash prizes also awarded. Call the Post at 652-9862 for ticket availability.

**Sunday August 19**

ALL YOU CAN EAT Pancake Breakfast at A. J. Jurek Post #1672, 655 New Rd., Swormville, 14051, from 8 AM to 12:30 PM. Fresh, hot, buttermilk pancakes, "Egglands Best" eggs, link & patty sausage, juice & coffee or tea. Adults \$8, children under 12 \$4, under 5 free.

**Sunday August 26**

LL Tillman Post #900, 9 Eckerson Ave., Akron, 14001, is holding an All-Around Season Sportsman Raffle and Pig Roast from 1 - 5 PM. 17 prizes, plus side raffles. Pig Meal includes macaroni salad, baked beans, pop, and beer. Hot dogs and burgers available. Call the Post at 542-4206 or 512-4321 for tickets.

**Sunday September 23**

ERIECO Annual Corn Roast at the Lamm Post Grove from 1-5 PM. \$12, corn on the cob, hot dogs, salads, desserts, coffee, tea, and beer.

**Newell-Faulkner Post 880**, 2912 Legion Dr., Eden, 14057, Wednesday 75 cent wings, dine in only. Thursday steak night. Friday night fish fries and specials. Saturday pizza, wing's and sandwiches. Regular menu also Wed.-Sat. Go to kitchen link, [www.post880.com](http://www.post880.com).

**FJ Donovan Post #1626** Dave's Kitchen now serving a full menu, Fish Fries and weekly specials. Fridays 4-8 PM.

Send in your articles for the Legion-Air to [thelegionair@gmail.com](mailto:thelegionair@gmail.com) by 8/20 for the September edition. PCC Jim Bojanowski Editor

