



## *The Legion-Air*

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Commander

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October 2018

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

Unfortunately, we recently had the passing of two past Erie County Commanders in the span of a couple days: James E. Kelly (also Past 8<sup>th</sup> District Commander) and Paul Steward.

May they rest in peace.

Last month was the 100<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Minneapolis which was my first National. It was a very fun and rewarding week filled with learning, fun, and camaraderie. We were on hand to witness the election and swearing in of Hamburg Posts' own Greg 'Doc' Gibbs as the National Commander of the Sons of the American Legion. Congratulations Doc! For those of you who have never been to Minneapolis it is truly a beautiful city right along the Mighty Mississippi.

After returning home, it was time for the Fall Festival parade put on by Iroquois Post. There were 12 color guards marching with a very nice luncheon and some presentations afterwards. During this time, I was honored to be presented with a Seneca Nation flag by Commander Bud Thompson and Seneca Nation President Todd Gates. Their post members and Auxiliary always make you feel welcomed, comfortable and right at home.

The following week was the Special Olympics picnic at the Lamm Post Grove. That was a rewarding experience to serve the kids and their families; I look forward to helping out next year as well.

On Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Jesse Clipper Post #430 had their 99<sup>th</sup> anniversary and awards ceremony at Lucarelli's Banquet Center in Lackawanna. The MC was terrific and it was a very well-run program. They'll have to work hard to outdo themselves for the big 100<sup>th</sup> next year.

I hope to see many of you at the October meeting at Brounsidle Post #205 on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

### **Membership – VC Gary Wald**

A great job to all so far. As of 9/25, our membership stands at 54.7%. We have almost met our 10/4 goal of 55%. I particularly like the way the new member column on our membership spreadsheet is filling up. Keep that Legion Logo out in the open and a membership application within arm's reach.

The 8<sup>th</sup> District is at 50.6%, and the Department of New York is 46.1%.

Please attend the 8<sup>th</sup> District workshop on Saturday, October 6, being held at the: Daniel Goho Post #87, 43 Elizabeth St. Dansville, NY 14437. Phone #: 585-335-8398. Sign in will be at 9:00 AM, meeting starts at 9:30AM, with close by 1 PM. There will be a free lunch immediately following the workshop. Membership workshop is open to all Auxiliary & SAL members.

### **Americanism – George Barton**

The Erie County Colors were presented on the field for the UB/Army game by (L to R) Tom Deinzer, Jim Bojanowski, and Commander Tony Solina. Army won 42 – 13.



### **Annual Veteran's Day Mass – John Kasmer**

will be held on Saturday November 10, at the Our Mother of Good Council Church at 4 PM, located at 3688 South Park Ave. Blasdell, NY. Reception to follow after mass at Thomas E. Tehan Post #1449 on 2075 Electric Ave, Blasdell.

### **Veteran's Day Parade – John Kasmer**

For information on the 11/10 parade call John at 634 -1128. Applications were sent out to all.

### **Veteran's Day Services 11/11 - George Barton**

The Erie County American Legion will be having their annual ceremony at Forest Lawn Cemetery at 9:00 am. Decoration of graves with flags will start at 8:00 am. The recovery of the flags will be Monday November 12, at 9:00 am.

On Saturday November 3, at 11:00 am, the Erie County Honor Guard will be honoring veterans that are residents at the Buffalo Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing located at 1014 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY.

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

The Picnic was held at the George F. Lamm Post Grove on Sunday, September 16. Voiture 51 of The 40 & 8 Society brought their train and provided rides to the kids and their sponsors. Depew Post #1528 did the cooking. Music was donated by Just "In" Sound, hosted by Justin Connors. Thanks to all 41 volunteers from The American Legion Family to make this a special day for our special guests. Thank you also to Lamm Post for donating their Grove for our event. Thank you to Matthew Glab, David McKeever Post, Lackawanna, and Orchard Park Posts, Don Schramm, and Past District Commander Kathy Kindle for their financial assistance. Much appreciated. See you next year!

**Hamburg Post 527 Spaghetti Dinners** every Thursday from 4:30 to 7:00 PM. Meatballs, salad, bread. Coffee \$.50 (refills free). Full order \$8. half order \$6.

**FJ Donovan Post #1626** Dave's Kitchen now serving a full menu, Fish Fries and weekly specials. Fridays 4-8 PM. 10/26 Halloween Party.

**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).



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

All 1,000 calendars have been distributed. Now it is the time to sell! Early bird drawing will be at the next County meeting on October 25. I still have \$10 Delta Sonic Car wash certificates. They make great gifts anytime of the year.

Boy's State activities should be gearing up for your Post. The program will be held next year from Thursday 6/27 to Tuesday 7/2, due to the 2019 exam schedule.

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

ALL POSTS, please take the time to locate those hard-working, dedicated and sometimes invisible high school students (grades 9 - 12) who could be participating in the 2019 Oratorical Contest in December. Please contact me with questions: [wayne.sorrentino868@gmail.com](mailto:wayne.sorrentino868@gmail.com) or home: (716) 891-5164.

### **Armed Forces Sabbath Sunday 11/4**

The Mass & non-denominational service will be at St. Joe's Cathedral, 50 Franklin St, Buffalo, NY 14202 at 10:30 am. We are looking for Color Guards, Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Sons, family, friends & guests to fill the pews to pray with us for our military members around the world, especially those in harm's way. Please contact me with questions or 716 891 5164.

### **Saturday October 6**

WNY Improv and South Buffalo Post #721 presents a Murder Mystery Comedy Dinner Theater at 7:00PM. Tickets \$20 each and available at the post, call 825-9557.

**Newell Faulkner Post #880** provided the salute for the opening of the Tee it Up for Troops event at the Wanakah Country Club, Hamburg, NY.



Commander Anthony Solina is the 1 in this 100<sup>th</sup> Convention photo of Minneapolis National Convention attendees. From L to R, Suzanne Quirk, Timothy Van Patten, Jim Bojanowski, Joe Porempski, Tom Deinzer, Karen Patch, John Siefert, and Ron Danielewicz. Camera shy, Art Forman, John Kasmer, Bill Miskell, and Al O'Donnell.



New National SAL Commander Gregory "Doc" Gibbs from Hamburg Squadron #527 is installed by PNC Fang Wong.



Commander Anthony Solina receives the Seneca Nation flag from Iroquois Post #1587 Commander Bud Thompson and Seneca Nation President Todd Gates.



**Thursday County Meeting Dates**

Executive Dinner Meeting: 6:30 PM

Regular meeting starts approximately at 8 PM

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

3354 Delaware Ave., Kenmore, NY 14217

Menu: Choice of Bratwurst, Chicken Schnitzel, German Potato Salad, Sauerkraut, Cabbage Salad, Breads and Dessert by Anderson's.

**November 29, Troop I Post #665**

**December 20, Francis Donovan Post #1626**

**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> District Membership Workshop 10/6**

Daniel Goho, Inc. Post #87, 43 Elizabeth St.,

Dansville, NY 14437. Starts at 9:30 am.

Free lunch upon conclusion.

**Sunday October 7**

**8<sup>th</sup> District Meeting - Chautauqua County**

William L. Travis Post #493

14 S. Erie St., Mayville, NY 14757

12:00 PM - Membership Meeting

1:00 PM – General Meeting

**National Commander Brett Reistad**

**8<sup>th</sup> District Visitation 10/19 at Dunkirk**

**Memorial Post #62, 211 Central Avenue**

Cash Bar cocktails starting at 5:30 PM, dinner

at 7:00 PM. Cost \$35. Send reservations to the

Post at PO Box 62, Dunkirk, NY 14048

**Erie County Office Hours**

Staffed by Jim Bojanowski every Mon., Wed., &

Fri. 7:30 am to 12:30 pm, excluding holidays.

**Erie County Website – [eriecountyal.org](http://eriecountyal.org)**



**SUBMISSIONS**  
**For the November**  
**"The Legion-Air"**  
**Due October 26**  
**[thelegionair@gmail.com](mailto:thelegionair@gmail.com)**



**Sunday October 7**

Homeless Female Veterans 5K Race will be held 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.

**Saturday, October 13**

Matthew Glab Post 1477 will have Crash Cadillac playing on from 8:00 PM to 12:00 midnight. Admission is \$10 and includes 1 Free Drink. Cash Bar, Bring Sacks. All proceeds to benefit Veterans Programs.

**Saturday, October 13**

Meat Raffle hosted by Concord Legion Auxiliary and SAL Post 431, Springville. Starts at 7:00 PM. Food and drinks provided. We will also be auctioning off food items by the famous Damen Gentner.

**Saturday October 20**

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Homeless Veterans Benefit will be held at Niagara Frontier Post 1041, 533 Amherst St., Buffalo, NY 14207. Doors open at 5:00 PM. Donation \$25 includes food, beer, pop and 1 sheet of 25 Auction tickets. For information contact Pat at 875-9894 or Roe 835-4574

**Sunday October 21**

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 October 28**

Matthew Glab Post, 1965 Abbott Rd., Lackawanna, is running a Vera Bradley & More Bingo. Doors open 12:30, Bingo starts 2 PM. Admission \$5, includes one board and door prize ticket. There will be extra boards, raffles, split club, along with the kitchen open for refreshments. Must be 18 y/o to attend.

**Friday November 9**

Frank L. Gierlach Post #1320 Meat Raffle at 7 PM, \$5 includes liquid refreshments. Held at St. Andrews School Hall, 34 Francis Ave., Sloan, NY. Pizza for sale. Must be 21+.

Send in your articles for the Legion-Air to [thelegionair@gmail.com](mailto:thelegionair@gmail.com) by 10/26 for the November edition. PCC Jim Bojanowski Editor

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