



The Legion-Air

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Commander

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September 2018

Commander's Message:

In a few days I will be going to my first National Convention in Minneapolis. I am eagerly looking forward to learning and meeting so many of our brothers and sisters throughout our great country.

Prior to the fair beginning, the Erie County Veteran's Museum set up a display in the Historical Society focused around WWI and WWII (which purely by coincidence was the overall theme of the building for 2018). Museum President PCC Peter Hurd, Past Junior County Commander Sue Quirk, PCC Deinzer, Tehan Post member Danny Lehman and I helped set it up. We received two ribbons for participation (we were not allowed to be in for a place as we are not a town/village). It was very well received by those who both ran the building and regular fair visitors who walked by.

On Sunday, August 12th we had Veteran's Day at the fair. Erie County split our tent with 8th District so anyone from the Mighty 8th could have a place to relax, have some food and good fellowship. Thank you to those who helped with the set up and tear down as well as those who stopped by to say hello. The annual veteran's ceremony on the infield was nicely attended and a monument to Blue Star and most importantly, Gold Star families, was unveiled followed by a nice speech by Gold Star Mother's Department Commander Holly Baker. Erie County had a nice contingent of marchers in the parade with 16 posts, Erie County, and the 8th District having color guards who marched.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting at Concord Post #431 in Springville, on September 27th.

Membership – VC Gary Wald

A 7th & 8th District Membership Workshop on the new batch processing method commencing in October will be held in Dansville on Saturday 10/6 at Daniel Goho, Inc. Post #87, 43 Elizabeth St., Dansville, NY 14437. More details will be "E" mailed to all Posts that I have "E" mails for within the next few days. All information will be "E" mailed to either an officer at the Post or the Membership Chairperson whom I have an "E" mail address for. If you are not the membership chairperson, please forward the information on.

Keep an eye out in your B newsgroup newspapers, and also your Pennysaver groups of newspapers for ads relating to the American Legion. They should periodically be displayed for the next six months around the community events sections of each paper.

New Erie County Fair Monument, referenced by Commander Solina, in honor of the Gold Star and Blue Star Families.



Special Olympics Picnic - Wayne Sorrentino

The Special Olympics Picnic will be held at the George F. Lamm Post #622 in the Grove on Sunday, September 16, starting at noon. We continue to plan for a much better and bigger turnout than last year. Voiture 51 of The 40 & 8 Society will bring out their train and offer rides to the kids and their sponsors. Depew Post #1528 has agreed to do the cooking. Music will be by Just "In" Sound, hosted by Justin Connors for your dancing pleasure. The Erie County Sheriff's Mounted Unit will attend. All volunteers from The American Legion Family, including Erie County and The Mighty 8th District are encouraged to participate and sign in by 1130 hours. 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 their 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. Thank you to Matthew Glab Post #1477 and David McKeever Post #64 for their financial assistance. Much appreciated.

2019 Department Convention – Nelson Oldfield
In preparation for stuffing packets for our 2019 Buffalo Convention, I am looking for your assistance. If you have any material we can place in the packets, it would be greatly appreciated. I am looking for key chains, pens, pencils, ear buds, flash drives etc. Any amount will help. Also, I am also looking for coupons to stuff in the bags for discounts. We need 1,300 total. If you know of someone I can reach out to please let me know Your help would be greatly appreciated and I can be reached at 634-6394 or Email at nelson126@roadrunner.com.

Hamburg Post 527 Spaghetti Dinners start on Sept. 13. Served on Thursdays 4:30 to 7:00 PM. Meatballs, salad, bread. Coffee \$.50 (refills free). Full order \$8. half order \$6.

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.



Special Activities – VC Thomas O'Connell

The Erie County Golf Tournament scheduled for Saturday 9/22 has been cancelled.

2019 Calendars are now available. I can drop them off or you can pick them up at County Meetings. Call me at 867-5730. Early Bird drawing will be at the 10/25 County meeting at Brounshidle Post #205. Commander Solino would like to break the total we sold last year of 915 calendars. I am asking every Post to take at least ten calendars or more. The Post and individual who sells the most calendars will receive an incentive prize of \$100 each.

UB/Army Football – VC George Barton

All Posts received a communication regarding free tickets to all UB Football home games for veterans. The County Honor Guard will be part of the pregame of UB/Army on 9/29.

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 Erie County Oratorical Contest on 12/2. 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 and 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.

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.

East Aurora Post #362

Come out to the Post and enjoy a music jam session every first Monday of the Month Featuring Hintz of Thunder, and Euchre on every other Wednesday starting on 9/5.

Newell-Faulkner Post #880 leading the Eden Corn Festival Parade.



Thursday County Meeting Dates

Executive Dinner Meeting: 6:30 PM

Regular meeting starts approximately at 8 PM

September 27, Concord Post #431

109 Zoar Valley Rd., Springville, NY 14141

Menu: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, corn, salad, dinner roll and dessert.

October 25, Milton J. Brounshidle Post #205

November 29, Troop I Post #665

December 20, Francis Donovan Post #1626

Erie County Golf Tournament Saturday 9/22

Starts at Noon at Concord Crest Golf Course.

Call Tom O'Connell at 867-5730.

7th & 8th 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

8th 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 Visitation 10/19

Dinner at Dunkirk Memorial Post #62

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

Tom Deinzer staffing the WWI & WWII display at the Erie County Fair.



Concord Post #431 celebrating their 100th Anniversary by renaming their local street to Honorary American Legion Drive with (L to R) County Executive Mark Poloncarz, Jim Pukay, Jim Golabek, Commander Thomas Place, Jim Steinmetz, Don, Anne Baglio, and Legislator John Mills.



**SUBMISSIONS
For the October
"The Legion-Air"
Due September 28
thelegionair@gmail.com**



THE AMERICAN LEGION
 The Erie County Committee
 609 City Hall
 65 Niagara Square
 Buffalo, NY 14202
 PHONE: (716) 852-6500
 FAX: (716) 852-4664
 e-mail: veteran14202@verizon.net



Saturday September 8

Iroquois Post #1587 Fall Festival. 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.

Saturday September 8

George F Lamm Aux is holding a "Trunk Sale" from 9 am to 1 pm in the parking lot at 962 Wehrle Dr, Williamsville, NY. Reserve a spot to sell your items for \$20. Call Susana at 716-491-2429 to register. Everyone is welcome to browse and shop- no admission fee.

Sunday September 16

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 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.

Wednesday October 3

Hamburg Post 527 will be hosting a Weidner's Chicken BBQ from 3-7pm. Advanced tickets are \$10, \$11 the day of. Eat in or take out. Half a chicken with two sides, roll & butter. Tickets are available at the Post 716-649-4667.

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.

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 by 9/28 for the October edition. PCC Jim Bojanowski Editor

