



# Canandaigua American Legion

## Post #256 Newsletter

October 2012 - December 2012

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**Attention:** The Annual Corporation meeting will be held on Thursday, October 18, 2012, at 7:30 PM. At this meeting the Corporation Board of Directors for 2012-13 will be elected. A minimum of 20 Legion members must be present in order to conduct business. Please bring your membership card.

**Legion News from Ron Evans, Commander**  
 Our Legion has had a busy three months as you will see from the articles in this newsletter. In addition, our Post Honor Guard provided ten military funerals, meeting all family requests. The Post budget for the year has been approved, as have the plans for the Post lounge renovation. The renovation is scheduled in early January. The Special Persons Picnic was held in July with over forty attendees. The Legionnaires and Sons set up the accommodations and the Auxiliary served the food. The Sons sponsored a Pig Roast, which was a lot of fun and well attended. Keep watch on our lounge bulletin board for the Red Kettle sign up sheets. Also keep watch in the Post calendar for up-

coming Veterans help and service programs sponsored in part by our Legion. The Post's web page is up and running and is quickly becoming the center for Post communications. This newsletter and five previous newsletters are posted on our webpage. From the Homepage click "Newsletters" and select the one you want to view. With the rising cost of printing and mailing, our newsletter will eventually be available only on our web site or via E-mail. We are looking at the possibility of eliminating the mailing sometime in 2014. That will give us all plenty of time to adjust to the transition.

Also, consider participating in the following events during the next two months.

**National Commander James Koutz' visit and dinner** on Saturday, October 27th at Winnek Post 396 in Geneva. If you are interested, make reservations by October 18th; the price is \$27. Reservation forms are on the bulletin board in the lounge.

**Veterans Day Dinner, November 10th**, at the Post Home. On this special occasion we recognize all our veterans, past and present, the past Post Commanders and Past Unit Presidents who have served

us, and our future leaders, the Boys' Staters and Girls' Staters. Cash Cocktail Hour will begin at 6:00 with Dinner at 7 PM. Meal choices include Prime Rib or Chicken Cordon Bleu. Cost is \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. Call for reservations and tickets at 394-3790.

November 11th is our **Veterans' Day ceremony, at 11:00 AM**, followed immediately by a reception.

Thursday, November 15th is the **Early Bird Dinner** at 5 PM. So get your 2013 dues in by November 11th and enjoy a free dinner of either hot roast beef or hot turkey with all the fixens.

**Membership** by Fran Bucher, Chairman

It's that time of year again. Your dues are due. It's not that we enjoy harassing you for your dues every year, but Department insists on getting them in as soon as possible. We have certain deadlines to meet throughout the year and your payments can make this happen. As of September 28th, 290 members (66.51%) have paid. It's not easy going to a County, District or Department meeting and being constantly reminded that our Post is behind the goal again. So help me to meet our deadline by sending in your dues promptly - your help would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

**Post Judge Advocate** - Richard Milton  
PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS of CANANDAIGUA AMERICAN LEGION POST #256. These changes will be read at our October 9, 2012 Post meeting and voted on at the November 13th meeting. These changes will not be voted on at a Corporation Meeting.

By-Laws: Article V - Finance and Dues, Section 1:

Now Reads - The amount of annual dues shall be determined at the Annual Meeting by a majority vote of those voting and shall be payable in advance of the 20th day of October next following. The minimum annual dues of individual members of this Post shall be Five and 50/100 dollars (\$5.50) and in addition thereto, any amount charged as dues or per capita by any intermediate body between the Post and Department of New York. (i.e. \$0.90 for Ontario County Committee, and \$.10 for the Seventh (7th) District.)

Proposed - The amount of annual dues shall be determined at the Annual Meeting by a majority vote of those voting and shall be payable in advance of the 20th day of October next following. The minimum annual dues of individual members of this Post shall be Four and 50/100 dollars (\$4.50) and in addition thereto, any amount charged as dues or per capita by any intermediate body between the Post and Department of New York. (i.e. \$0.90 for Ontario County Committee, and \$.10 for the Seventh (7th) District.)

By-Laws: Article IX -Meetings, Section 1:

Now Reads - The regular meetings of the Post shall be held at the Post Headquarters or a place to be decided by the Post, on the Second (2nd) and Fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month from September through June, and on the Second (2nd) Tuesday in the months of July and August. Ten (10) members shall constitute a quorum for Post meetings.

Proposed - The regular meetings of the Post shall be held at the Post Headquarters or a place to be decided by the Post, on the Second (2nd) Tuesday of each month January through December. Ten (10) members shall constitute a quorum for Post meetings.

By-Laws-Article XV-Board of Directors, Section 4:

Now Reads - The President of the Auxiliary Unit of Canandaigua Post #256, Department of New York, The American Legion, shall at all times serve and sit as the eighth (8th) member of the Board of Directors, however, never serving in the capacity of Board of Directors officer or preside at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Said official shall not vote on any and all questions brought before the board of Directors, and the Presidents presence shall not be construed as the fifth (5th) member of the Board of Directors in order to form a quorum. (This section not approved by Department)

Proposed - The President of the Auxiliary Unit of Canandaigua Post #256, Department of New York, The American Legion, and the Squadron Commander of The Sons of The American Legion, Canandaigua Post #256, Department of

New York, The American Legion, shall at all times sit and serve as the eighth (8th) and ninth (9th) members of the Board of Directors, however, never serving in the capacity of Board of Directors officer or preside at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Said officials shall not vote on any and all questions brought before the Board of Directors, and the President and the Commander S.A.L. shall not be construed as the fifth (5th) member of the Board of Directors in order to form a quorum. (This section not approved by Department)

### **Sergeant at Arms - Chuck Pelton**

I want to thank the Post Family for their help with the programs during the past year. Our next Legion program is Veterans Day, November 11th at 11 AM. On that day we will 'close' the Trail of Remembrance in a year that focused on the Peacekeeping, Humanitarian Operations and Campaigns in the Americas and China. The flags will be retired for another year, but you are still invited to walk the trail and reminisce.

### **Keep These Dates**

Please mark your calendar and participate in the following events.

Post Horseshoe Tournament on October 20th at 11 AM. Registration and \$10 entry fee required by October 15th.

Veteran's Day Ceremony at the Post 11 AM, 11/11.

Veteran's Day Dinner at the Post 6:00 PM 11/10.

Early Bird Dinner at the Post 5:00 PM 11/15.

Children's Christmas Party at the Post 9:00 AM - 2 PM 12/15.

### **New Members**

Please extend a warm welcome to our newest members: Richard Booth, Patrick Fisher, Augusta Fountain, Donald Grundke, William Hansen, Richard Moore, Donald North, Dennis Stafford and Richard Stefanello.

### **Sick Call**

Crest Manor: Jim Nenni and Al Bender.

### **In Memory**

Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Eileen Clutter, Ina Mason, Carl Stell and Kenneth Weeks.

### **Auxiliary News Rosemary Luzum, President**

I hope everyone had a great summer and is ready to start our new year.

Attendance at our meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Post Home at 2:00 PM has been great. Everyone has pitched in with committees and other work like funeral luncheons.

Department Convention was held in Rochester from July 19 - 21, 2012. Our new Department Officers are: President - Sally Johnston, 1st Vice President - Barbara Corker, 2nd Vice President - Diane Gerber, 3rd Vice President - Janet Mahoney. Department President Sally's project is Warriors Family Assistance. Following the retirement of long-time Secretary/Treasurer, Terry Lochner, a new Secretary was hired, Sandra Tarkleson, as well as a Treasurer, Desiree Smulski. It had been determined the job had grown too large for just one person to do. The Fall Conference was September 9th in Phelps. The new 7th District Color Guard, lead by Barb Kesel, did a good job. Several Department officers attended the Conference, which was presided over by the 7th District President, Charlotte Ridley.

The Auxiliary's Department of NY's website lost its long-time webmaster, Ann Viverito, and is having some problems, but still has much information about ALA activities <http://www.deptny.org>. It is possible to sign up for email updates and legislative alerts. Sample letters are offered and an email link to local legislators is available.

### **Community Service** Jeanne Stahl, Chair

The Auxiliary is hosting a dance for ARC enrollees on December 1, from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Our last dance was a great success as these young people love to dress up and dance. So, we welcome our "Legion Family" members to dress up and help them enjoy their Holiday Dance.

A portion of your annual dues and money generated by fund raisers is used to support activities like this dance and other local charities, such as Happiness House, Cancer programs at local hospitals and hospice facilities.

And speaking of fund raisers, thanks to all who supported our latest Rummage Sale the end of September. We earned \$600 to support our various charitable projects.

**25th Annual Craft Show and Bake Sale - Rose Cornish, Chair**

The Craft and Bake Sale will be held Saturday, November 3 from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM. We have over 30 Crafters displaying their beautiful goods. Now is the time to do your early holiday shopping! Put this date on your calendar now!! We will again be having our "SUPER RAFFLE" and tickets are available from many Auxiliary members. Get your chance to win 1st prize of \$275, 2nd prize of \$175 and 3rd prize of \$150, \$1 per chance, with the drawing at the close of the show.

We also are having a Bake Sale and the Chairman, Florence Trumbull, will be contacting members for baked goods donations.

Lunch will be available between 11:30 AM and 1:30 PM for those wishing some chili, a sandwich or hot dog. Hoping for another great show. See you there.

**Education by Chair Deb Dekouski**

The American Legion Family realizes the importance of providing our youth with support in the form of various scholarships to make a difference in their lives and in our futures, since they ARE the leaders of the future. Therefore, the applications for the \$1000 Rose Comella scholarship and the \$1000 Marie Trumbull scholarship, as well as those offered by the National ALA, have been made available to the local school. Please urge any young people in your families who are Seniors in High School to apply for ALL the scholarships awarded by the American Legion Family. They are listed in the "Need A Lift" CD available at the school and at the local library.

Thanks for saving Campbell brand labels and UPC's for our local schools, which can redeem them for education funds. Labels dropped off at the Post Home over the summer have been turned over to local schools. Just a reminder, eligible products are:

**UPC's** (or entire labels if you prefer) from ALL Campbell's products, including their subsidiaries.

Thanks also for the Betty Crocker Box Tops for Education which can be an additional source of funds for the schools. If you prefer to donate to your local school, please put a note in the Coupon box telling us of the number of labels or box tops.

**Empire Girls' State Barb Saar, Chair**

This is an educational Americanism program developed to offer a better perspective of practical government operations and to emphasize the integral

part that individuals have within a democratic government. In the spring, interviews will be given to any Junior girl in the Canandaigua School District. Orientation will be in Stuben County in June, 2013. Brockport College will again host the program from June 30 - July 6, 2013. There will be 360 High School Juniors who will learn flag etiquette and participate in either raising or lowering the flag. This is the 72nd year for Girls' State. If you know of a candidate for this program, urge her to contact the guidance office at the high school.

**Leadership by Rose Cornish**

The 7th District Leadership Information Conference will be held on October 20th, from 8 AM - 1 PM, at Canandaigua Post #256. Cost is \$9 per attendee and reservations must be made by October 10th by calling Barb Kesel, the 7th District Secretary, at 315-548-5378. Breakfast by the Post Caterer, Mike Bucher, is included.

**Legislation by Chair Sandy Counciller**

There are still several legislative issues that we need to pressure Congress about. Of particular interest is the threat to veterans' retirement and Tri-care health benefits. Proposals have been made to "civilianize" military retirement, showing an alarming insensitivity to the differences between a military and a civilian "career." The inability of Congress to address the threatened reduction in Medicare payments to doctors is still an issue. This decision has been postponed repeatedly, each time with an increase in the percentage of reduction. Again, let your representatives know your wishes on these issues and the continued struggle to protect our Flag from desecration.

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE** this fall and help a Veteran to vote if you know someone who needs a ride to perform his or her civic duty.

**Manufacturer's Coupons**

National Security Chair, Rosemary Luzum.

Our supporters have done an outstanding job of supplying the Auxiliary with manufacturer's coupons.

**REMEMBER!!!** Coupons **MUST** be no older than **three months**. From July to September, 18 volunteers have spent 106 hours so that we could send coupons valued at \$21,000 to our military families at 10 bases overseas. **GOOD JOB, EVERYONE.** A special thanks to all who cut the coupons out so my husband, Jerry, and I don't spend so many hours clipping.

## **Membership** Rose Cornish, Chairman

"Remember - Renew - Reach Out" As this new Auxiliary year begins, as American Legion Auxiliary members, we will be following our Dept. President Sally Johnston's theme in her pin, The Pine Tree.

REMEMBER why you joined, to serve our veterans, their families and the community. RENEW your commitment to the Auxiliary by making membership everyone's job, one new member at a time, and, finally, REACH OUT to those in need. Sometimes our members need help and it's our job to make sure that we reach out and are there for our members in their time of need. We can all grow together in Dept. President Sally's "Forest." Just as Pine Forests grow when nurtured, so can our membership, when every member takes on the responsibility of recruiting one new member this year! To accomplish this, we need to continue with new attitudes, welcome new members into our ranks and learn to accept new ideas. We need to all have winning attitudes and LOSE negativity. Dept. President Sally is the "TRUNK," the main stem of the pine tree. Unit members, you are PINE CONES - the pine cones of the pine tree, when ready, release seeds to start new trees. Unit Membership Chairmen are the NEEDLES - they are fine toothed and are soft and flexible. Dues notices have been sent out and many thanks to all who have already paid - all 174 of you, bringing us to 64.44% of our goal of 270 for this year. But get your dues in and also bring a new member in so we can get 100% plus.

If your dues aren't already paid, please write a check for \$20 for a Senior and \$6 for Juniors and send it to me, Rose Cornish, Membership Chairman, or drop it off at the Post Home. If you have paid and receive a notice from National, please ignore it. We sent our own notices because we were told National would not send any this year.

We need each and every one of you!! Get them in before Nov. 11th for our EARLY BIRD DINNER on Thursday, Nov, 15.

**Early Bird Dinner** - Thurs. Nov. 15 from 5 - 7 PM at the Post Home All members of the Legion, Auxiliary or SAL who have paid their 2013 dues before Nov. 11 are eligible for a free dinner on this date!! If your spouse is not a member, the cost to them will be \$7. Be sure to bring your 2013 card along.

## **Past President's Parley**, Barb Saar, Chair

We have 10 past presidents in Unit 256: Rose Cornish, Debra Dekouski, Betty Herendeen, Rosemary Luzum, Marlene Milton, Edith Robbins, Barbara Saar, Jeanne Stahl, Florence Trumbull, and Dorothy Waugh. A big thank you to all our past presidents for making a difference to the Auxiliary.

## **Troop Fan Mail**

We again hope to send Christmas greetings to service members, by sending the cards directly to Chaplains of units. With so much negative press coverage, our troops like to hear a friendly message of gratitude. If you want to start writing cards now, your message should be positive and upbeat. Include info about yourself, your hobbies, job, pets, etc. and make it a personal note, not from an organization. Greeting cards (NO envelopes) should be no larger than 8 1/2 x 5 1/2 and should have the sender's name and address on the back. Address labels are acceptable since many greeting cards have a very slick surface that is difficult to write on. ALL cards MUST be at the Post by December 1. They can be placed in the same area as the coupons. Last year we received many letters of thanks from both the chaplains and the soldiers.

## **VA&R** - Marlene Milton, Chairman

We will be busy during November and December with gift shop and all the other things our unit does for our veterans. Thanks in advance for everyone who assists in any way to make all of these things that we do get done. You make my committee easy for me. I couldn't do it without you.

On December 10th, we will once again be having our annual Veterans Christmas Luncheon at the Post Home. We will serve a full turkey dinner with the trimmings, topped off with pumpkin or apple pie. I will be calling for pies or, if you want to donate, please feel free to call me at 396-9572.

We are still serving our veterans a full dinner at the Veterans Club on Foster St. every fourth Tuesday of the month. Food is donated by Rose Cornish, Barb Saar, Sandy Counciller, Cynthia Schwab and myself. Our unit buys the meat. Everything else is our treat, cooked and served by us and is really appreciated by our local veterans. It is truly a heartwarming experience for us. Thanks ladies. You make it happen.



The first Wednesday of every month we also treat members of the Veterans Club to a spaghetti or roast beef dinner at our Post Home at 5 PM.

The Auxiliary Unit will again support the "Wreaths Across America" program, which sponsors the laying of wreaths on graves at VA cemeteries across the land. The simultaneous wreath laying, including at Bath, will be on December 10th. Applications for the sponsorship of a wreath in honor of your deceased loved ones are available in the lounge at the Post Home.

The Veteran's Holiday Gift Program at the VAMC will be held Sunday, November 18th. Volunteers should arrive at 9:00 AM for orientation. Volunteers are especially needed on Monday, November 19th, and should arrive at 9:00 AM and plan to remain until the end of clean-up. Volunteers assist the vets in selecting gifts for their families and in wrapping those gifts for shipment. Men are especially needed to help with boxes. Home baked cookies help to boost the volunteers' morale and provide sustenance.

In our effort to support the VAMC here in Canandaigua, we are collecting the travel size toiletries commonly given out at motels and hotels. These can be placed in a box in the cloak room at the Post. On behalf of our Vets, thank you for your support.

**Sick Call:** Please remember our members who are in health care facilities: Harriet Muller at Elm Manor, Nancy Kurzejeski at Thompson, Barb Barkley at Strong Memorial, Lillian Toomey at Ewing Continuing Care and Dorothy Waugh at Geneva Care.

**In Memory:** Our condolences go to the family and friends of Arlene Dillon and Eleanor Affleck.

### **SAL Squadron News** from Rod Bray, *Squadron Commander*

The Pig Roast was a great success. We were able to donate \$500 to the 1st Cavalry Division. Thanks to all who participated. Also, Turkey Raffle tickets are available at the Post for the annual drawing. Please come to the Post or see one of the SAL members for your tickets. Membership dues are due now and we hope to fulfill our membership goal and greet new members if possible. More news coming soon.

### **Board of Directors** from Ken Weiner, *President*

I first want to thank all of the board members who have served with me this past year. I believe that we have accomplished much for the good of the Legion. A new lounge and bar in the near future, horseshoe pits that will give many pleasure, and general repairs to the structure of the Post Home that will allow for it's continued excellence, just to name a few. Each of us board members has served with the whole of our Legion community in mind and to keep our Post solvent and functional.

The election of Board Members will take place at the Annual Corporate Board Meeting on October 18th. Nominees to the board have been posted and anyone wishing to become involved as a board member, for a three year term, should sign up on the posted announcement prior to October 18<sup>th</sup>. As stated elsewhere in this newsletter, in November the Post will be voting on an amendment to make it possible for the SAL to be represented as a non voting member of the board. The wording of the proposed amendment has been posted at the Post Home.

### **Post Manager** from Wayne Inman

As winter is rapidly approaching, members need to be aware that January 7, 2013 is the target date for the construction of the new bar. For 3 - 4 weeks we will be using the bar in the Banquet Room. Business as usual.

### **Disclaimer**

Opinions expressed herein are those of the editor or columnist, and are not necessarily those of the National, Department, District, County or American Legion Post.

### **Deadline**

The newsletter is published quarterly. Deadline for the January - March issue is December 24th.