



# Canandaigua American Legion

## Post #256 Newsletter

July 2012 - September 2012

454 North Main Street Canandaigua, New York 14424

585-394-3790

[www.alny256.com](http://www.alny256.com)

post256@alny256.com

\*\*\*\*\*  
*Contents: Legion News - 1, Auxiliary News - 3, SAL News - 6, Board of Directors' News - 6, Manager - 7, Calendar - 8.*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Legion News from Ron Evans, Commander**

Post elections were held on June 12th. The following elected Officers will continue for another year.

Post Commander – Ron Evans

Adjutant – John Cipollina

Financial Officer – Dan Bresnan

1st Vice Commander - Fran Bucher

2nd Vice Commander - Brad Fisher

3rd Vice Commander Lloyd Savage

Post appointed positions will also remain the same with the exception of the Chaplain. Jim Williams has asked to step down. Norma Weisend will be our new Chaplain.

Judge Advocate - Dick Milton

Sergeant at Arms – Chuck Pelton

I want to thank everyone for helping make this a great year and to our Past Commander Jerry Luzum for his on going support given this Post and this Commander.

Unfortunately Jerry and Rosemary can no longer publish The Post newsletter. Thank you Jerry and Rosemary for the years of keeping us

well informed.

Soon after the July Post meeting there will be a Post Executive Board meeting. The agenda will address three Post business topics, Budget, Review of the existing Post By-laws and continuing the Post Newsletter.

Please take a look at our updated website, [www.alny256.com](http://www.alny256.com) with a new format and updated information. Also, consider receiving the Newsletter via email. You are now able to read your quarterly Post newsletter on-line, either at the website or we can e-mail it to you. If you would like to read it on line or have your newsletter e-mailed to you, please send an e-mail to: [post256@alny256.com](mailto:post256@alny256.com) and put Post Newsletter in the subject line and indicate your desire to read it on line or have it e-mailed to you. In either case we will take you off the mailing list. On a personal note, I want to thank all the members of Post 256 for the honor of serving as your Post Commander. You have all, the Auxiliary, the Sons and the Legionnaires been exceptional providing selfless support to our

Community, Youth and Veteran programs. I am proud to be a member of this Post.

### **Ontario County Legion Officers for 2012-13**

In addition to the Post Officers, Ontario County elected Jim Sullivan as Commander, Dale Mosher, First Vice Commander, Tom Irland, Second Vice Commander, Roger Moyer, Third Vice Commander and Duane Fisher, Finance Officer. Del Jenner will serve as the Seventh District Commander.

### **Membership Report**

The 2012 Membership drive is over. We made our target of 427 plus 8 for a total of 435 (101.87%). It was no small feat for our Membership Chairman Fran Bucher who deserves a great deal of credit for not only making our goal but also dealing with the first year of on-line renewals. On a percentage basis, the Post was second in the County, a few tenths behind the Victor Post. Overall, 5 of the 8 posts in the County made 100% of their goal putting Ontario County 5th in the Department and helped boost 7th District to first place.

The 2013 membership drive has begun. Legion members are able to renew their 2013 membership on-line using a credit card and printing a temporary card. Members are instructed to mail or take their receipt to the post to receive their new card. Snail mail still works. Either mail or stop by the Post with your dues and Fran will provide you with a 2013 card.

**Continuous Membership.** By Brad Fisher  
On June 9th, 2012, Canandaigua Post 256 held an awards ceremony in appreciation of continuous membership. A certificate noting the years, along with a pin, was given to each recipient.

Those that couldn't attend the ceremony will receive their certificate and pin by mail.

This ceremony honored 6-25 year continuous year members: Richard Boyle, Ernie Cummings, David Frarey, Ralph Gardner, James Williams and David Williams. The 8-30 year honorees were: Barry Aldrich, Fran Bucher, Charles Kimball, Steve Kuchinick, Edwin Laskowski, Louis Pirozzi, Jerry Valdez and Vic-

tor Welch. The 7-35 year members were: Terry Dekouski, Richard Desio, Howard Meath, Kenneth North, Preston Pierce, Paul Ruhl, and Jeffrey Trumbull. There were three 40 year members: Gordon Cripps, Walt Kurzejeski and Phillip White. The 7-45 year members were: Ronald Brand, Dan Bresnan, Leo Dunton, Ken Fletcher, Daniel Moore, James Moore and Bruce Roe. We were honored to have 3-50 year members: George Cornish, James D'Agostino and Robert Mack. There was 1-55 year member J.B. Patterson and 1-60 year member, Arnold Schwartzmeier. We were also honored to have 2-65 year members: James Anderson and John Mulheron. The 6 recipients who able to attend were: George Cornish, Bruce Roe, Dan Bresnan, Terry Dekouski, Fran Bucher and James Williams.

### **Horseshoe Pits.**

Two sets of horseshoe pits, just south of the Pavilion have been added for our members entertainment and recreation. John Fisher, SAL member, Brad's son and horseshoe enthusiast floated the idea with Brad who obtained Board approval for their construction. The pits are regulation down to the angle of tilt of the stakes. John constructed the wooden frames and backstops, dug one set of pits and made a couple of 40 mile trips to get the regulation blue clay pit material. Wayne Inman and Mike Bucher dug the first set of pits and Ron Fisher along with helping dig the pits has been watering them to keep them playable. A Friday morning (8:30) tournament has been organized with the teams of Ron Evans/Ron Fisher against Chuck Pelton/Brad Fisher. Additional tournaments can be scheduled with Brad - email him at [2ndvicecomm@alny256.com](mailto:2ndvicecomm@alny256.com). The shoes are kept in the Pavilion for practice. Ask the bartender for the key and remember to return the shoes and key after use.

**2012 Post 256 Scholarship Winners.** By Norma Weissend

The following Canandaigua Academy Seniors were awarded scholarships of \$1000 each dur-

ing their Commencement Exercises on June 23, 2012.

James Knapp Scholarship Award: Anna Wood, daughter of Chris and Joan Wood. Anna plans on attending the Alfred State College to study Nursing.

Sesto Vecchi Scholarship Award: Jaclyn Andrus, daughter of Rebecca Andrus. Jaclyn plans to study Psychology at SUNY Albany.

Fred Schutz Scholarship Award: Nick Como, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Como. Nick plans to attend Alfred University to study Chemistry and Medicine.

American Legion St. Pauly Scholarship Award: Briana Sloth, daughter of Beth Sloth. Briana plans on attending Onondaga Community College to study Psychology.

The Post wishes Anna, Jaclyn, Nick and Briana much success in their college careers.

Congratulations also to Hannah Proper, a fifth grader, who received the American Legion Citizenship Award at a recent Canandaigua Elementary School ceremony.

**Cash Bash** - Bob Fredricks has volunteered to chair this event this year. The early bird drawing is August 25th and the final drawing is September 22nd. Please, strongly consider buying a ticket for the drawing and dinner. This is a major fundraiser for the Post activities and requires our strong support. Our thanks and appreciation to Bob and all the ticket sellers.

### **Keep This Date**

Please mark your calendar and participate in the following event.

Patriot Day Ceremony at the Post 7 PM, 9/11.

### **New Members**

Please extend a warm welcome to our newest members: Lawrence Gleason, Lance Rearick, MaryEllen Sandle, John Sandle, Raymond Baxter, Thomas Krajacic, Howard Ross, Jarred Mc Nerney, Paul Yeater, Phillip Guadalupe, Richard Medlin, Luke Visconti, Michael Watts, Truman Nichols, Brian Vanee, Vincent Trainer, Nickolas Cosmano, Fredrick Cole, Scott Perron and David Fancher.

### **Sick Call**

Jim Nenni and Al Bender - Crest Manor, Bud Nicholson - Home.

**In Memory:** Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of John Morgan, Stewart North, John Ferran Sr, Harold Oliver, Albert Schojan and Robert Watkins

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

I want to thank everyone for their support during my year as president and thank the Unit for their vote of confidence in electing me for another term. Thanks also to all for submitting information for our committee reports and for the chairs in compiling those reports.

Since we recess for the summer, our next meeting will be Sept. 4, 2012 at 2:00 PM at the Post Home. Hope to see everyone there. It's been wonderful to see so many Auxiliary members at the meetings. Have a wonderful summer.

### **Americanism** - Cynthia Schwab

Thanks to the members who fly their flags proudly. Please be on the lookout for worn and tattered flags in our community. Flag etiquette brochures are available at the Post Home to remind our neighbors of the proper display and "retirement" of flags.

### **Annual Craft Show and Bake Sale** Rose Cornish, Chair

The 25th Annual Craft and Bake Sale is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 3rd, 2012, from 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM at the Post Home. Proceeds will support our Cancer and Community Service Projects. Tables will be available to vendors at \$16 each. Please contact me if you want one: Rose Cornish, 585-394-1434. We will also hold our "Super Raffle" and members will have tickets for \$1 each after Sept. 1st. The drawing will be at the close of the Craft Sale. We are also having a Bake Sale and Chairman Florence Trumbull will be contacting members for baked goods. For more info contact me and also for applications. Hope to see you all there!!

### **Children and Youth** - Sandy Counciller

The Special People's Picnic will be held July 14th at the Post Pavilion. Auxiliary members and Legionnaires are needed for a couple hours to serve the approximately 40 handicapped people and their aides that day. This event occurs every year and is a highlight for the handicapped and a heartwarming time for all the volunteers. Why not plan to join us?

### **Community Service** - Jeanne Stahl

Our members continue to volunteer not only at Legion and Auxiliary functions, but in our larger community. We have volunteers at Clark Meadows, the Victor Cemetery garden, Sonnenberg and the Honeoye and Naples Libraries.

**PLEASE DON'T BRING ANY MORE PERSCRIPTION BOTTLES TO THE POST.** We no longer have a place to send them.

### **Education** - Deb Dekouski, Chairman

Bryan Yehl was this year's recipient of the 12th annual Rose Comella Memorial Scholarship. Bryan graduated with a 91.9 GPA and was one of the Post's Boys Staters. He will be attending Ithaca College this fall to pursue a career in Physical Therapy. Lauren Gardner was the recipient of the first annual Marie Trumbull Memorial Scholarship. Lauren graduated with a 95.7 GPA and will be majoring in Business at RIT this fall. Our congratulations to both these outstanding students. I am still collecting "Box Tops" and "Labels for Education." These are collected and donated to St. Mary's and Canandaigua Primary Schools to help purchase items on their "want lists." Please leave labels and box tops in the Post Lounge. Every little bit helps!! Thank you. For more information see the complete list of Participating Products at:

LabelsForEducation.com

### **Empire Girls State** - Barbara Saar, Chair

The purpose of Girls (and Boys) State is to awaken in the youth of our nation a sincere conviction that well informed, intelligent, participating citizens are vitally needed to protect and preserve our American Democracy. Girls State is a mythical "51st" state, wherein, through actual participation, the girls share the duties, re-

sponsibilities and privileges of American citizenship. Each citizen has an active part in some phase of state, city or county government, thereby learning that government is just what the citizen makes it.

Attending orientation in Phelps on June 3 were Girls State Delegate, Alexandra Grimm and her father David, Alternate Carlie Eagle and her mother, Amy, Barbara Saar, chairperson, and ALA President Rosemary Luzum. Girls State was again held at Brockport College from June 24th to June 30. If you have a junior in high school, a son, daughter or grandchild, urge them to investigate the Boys and Girls State program next year. It's an adventure that is well worthwhile.

### **Legislation** - Rosemary Luzum

We need to continue to pressure Congress about issues of patriotism and those concerning our veterans. The Flag Amendment Bill, the purpose of which is to protect our precious Flag from desecration, is again an issue before Congress and veterans benefits are under attack in an effort to balance the budget. Keep informed and keep those letters going to your legislators. Their e-mail addresses are:

<http://schumer.senate.gov>

<http://gillibrand.senate.gov> and

<http://reed.house.gov> . Please let me know if

you receive a reply from any legislator as Department wants to keep a tally. Copies can be left with the bartender, with my name on the envelope.

### **Manufacturer Coupons**

National Security Chair, Rosemary Luzum. Thanks to everyone who saves the manufacturers coupons for our military families overseas. During April, May and June, 60 volunteers spent 314 hours so we could send coupons valued at \$52,500 to military bases overseas. Please remember, though, **Coupons must be no older than three months from the current month.** Although the commissaries honor coupons recently expired, only coupons dated no earlier than May, 2012, will still be accepted when they reach the facility overseas. So, bring those

coupons in often so they don't become too old to be usable. I especially appreciate if you are able to cut out the coupons so my husband and I don't get scissor cramp. I keep track of the hours so include a note of the time this task took.

**Membership** by Rose Cornish

The 2013 Auxiliary Dues are now due. The Dues are \$20 for Seniors and \$6 for Juniors and checks can be made out to Canandaigua Unit 256, ALA, and sent to me at 5555 Purdy Rd., Lot #11, Canandaigua, NY 14424 or left at the Legion Home in my box. There will be more info coming after our Department Convention from July 19-21 in Rochester.

Our Continuous Membership Awards Ceremony was held on June 19. Certificates were awarded to the following members:

5 Years: Denise Balistire, Stella Bull, Alice Calhoun, Mildred Fox, Carol Pierce, Amy Weissend, Elizabeth Weissend & Mary Walsh.

10 Years: Barbara Barkley, Sandra Counciller, Dorothy MacKay, Judith O'Brien, Amber Toomey & Linda Trumbull.

50 Years: Betty Howell and Nellie Cull

55 Years: Patricia Johnson and Eleanor Barry

60 Years: Kathryn Group

New members welcomed at this ceremony: Cynthia Napier, Abbie Rearick, Sara Donaldson, Helen Vallee, Kathleen Giehl, Christine Vigneri, Linda Checho, Heide Willemesen, Barbara Hill, Debrah Kinne, Mary Schultz, Sharon Sullivan, Elizabeth Dresser and Lois Wagner.

Congratulations to all and thanks to all who attended.

Our final membership count for 2012 was 264 paid dues; our goal was 270 so we almost made it. Thanks to all who paid and hope this (2013) dues we can do better. Have a great summer

**Poppy Program** Carol Roe, Chair

Thanks to the hard work of our Auxiliary members and Legionnaires and the generosity of our community, we earned \$7800 this year to support our veterans programs. Thanks to all who offered the poppies at our local merchants, to

the store owners for allowing us to do so and to those whose donations will help our vets.

**75 Club Raffle** Ruth Neilson, Chairman

There may be slots open for this program, which costs \$10/month, payable in advance. Please check with me if you are interested in joining the "75 Club Raffle." This Raffle helps fund Auxiliary sponsored programs such as Scholarships and Veteran's activities. Our drawing is the last Thursday of the month at 6 PM in the lounge. Scheduled dates are July 26, August 30 & Sept. 27. The winner receives \$500, if present, or \$250 if not.

**Additional Fundraisers:**

Our rummage sale was a rousing success, thanks to all who donated items and who then came and bought someone else's treasures. We earned over \$600 to fund our charity efforts. In addition, the Bushel of Joy earned over \$800 and will surely provide much pleasure to the winner. Thanks to all who supported our efforts. Another Rummage Sale is planned for September 28th & 29th. Look for more information in the local media.

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

On June 12th we served about 50 veterans and their care givers at a picnic at the Post. Inclement weather did not dampen the spirits of the attendees, but forced us to stay indoors. All Veterans received door prizes and T-shirts. I would like to thank the twelve Auxiliary members who made the delicious cookies and donated their time to this most worthy project.

We continue to host the members of the Veterans Club at the Post Home on the first Wednesday of the month for a spaghetti or roast beef dinner. Bill Burlingame has kindly been opening the Veterans Club on Foster Street on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4 - 7 PM. We have started providing one dinner a month at the Veteran's Club. These are just a few ways in which poppy donations work for our local veterans.

Both the Legion and Auxiliary continue to support the Honor Flight Program to transport WW II veterans to Washington, DC to see the memo-

rial built to honor them. Since selection is based largely on health considerations, with the LEAST healthy going first, it is impossible to designate a specific person, but donations for this program can be left at the Post Home or sent directly to Honor Flight Rochester, P.O. Box 23581, Rochester, NY 14692.

**Sick Call:** Betty Kransler is still at the Ontario County Facility, Lillian Toomey is at Ewing Continuing Care, Dorothy Waugh is at the Geneva Living Care Center and Harriett Muller, sister of Irene Madru, is at Elm Manor. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

### ***Sons of the American Legion News*** *from Roderick Bray, Squadron Commander*

Greetings. I would first like to extend my thanks to Gabe for being our Squadron Commander for the past year. We wish you success in the future with the 7th District Adjutancy.

The Pig Roast is slated for July 28th starting at 4 PM until 8 PM. We are looking for volunteers to help with several areas, and I hope to see our Squadron there in full support as it is our event.

As of our last meeting, we are suspending our participation with the Queen of Hearts drawing due to several factors. It is unfortunate, but none the less, a reality.

Finally, we are looking for volunteers to escort our Veterans at the VA Medical Center on the 4th Sunday of each month to Church services for about 2 hours starting at 8:30 I believe.

Please sign up at Building 7 in the Voluntary Service Office at the VA Medical Center.

I look forward to this year as your Squadron Commander to serve along side our members to serve our veteran community and help our Post to grow and have fun doing it.

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

In October, besides the annual election of board members, we are going to be voting on an amendment to make it possible for the SAL to

be represented as a non voting member of the Board. The proposed change to Article XV, Section 4 is as follows - "***The President of the Auxiliary Unit and the Commander of the Sons of the Legion, Canandaigua Post 256, Department of New York, American Legion, shall at all times serve as the eighth (8) and ninth (9) 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 Auxiliary President or the SAL Commander's presence shall not be considered as the fifth (5) member of the Board of Directors in order to form a quorum.***"

The wording of the proposed amendment will also be posted at the Post Home at least a month prior to the 18 October corporate meeting.

Nominees to the board will also be posted and anyone wishing to become involved as a board member should sign up on the posted announcement.

We continue to look at ways of improving our Post Home. An ATM on site has been approved and was installed on 26 May. This will be for your convenience as well as our not having to process so many checks each week. Repairs to the fascia and soffits are being looked at.

Mike Stolt has agreed to change the light fixture and apply a new coat of paint to the handicapped bathroom. It will make change from dim looking to brightening up.

Thanks to Brad Fisher, Mike Bucher and Wayne Inman, new horseshoe pits have been installed and tournaments will be set up soon. Get your throwing arm ready.

At the special corporate meeting held on 12 June, the membership voted to authorize the board to expend more than \$10,000.00 to renovate the bar in the lounge. Thank you for all who attended and voted at that corporate meeting. The time to have this work done will be

January or February 2013 and will take two to three weeks to complete.

The annual appreciation dinner, held in December, will be at the Post Home this year. We are anticipating a savings with having our own caterer supply the food and our own bar supply the drinks. I have been alerted to there being 200 vets now attending FLCC. They are not Legion members and Brad Fisher was told that there is nothing to do for younger vets at the Canandaigua American Legion. Please come forward with any thoughts you may have concerning ways to entice these young folks to join our Post.

As I have mentioned in the past, I invite anyone who has anything to say to come to a Board meeting and say it. We are open to your thoughts and ideas. We welcome your input. The board meetings are always posted in the newsletter calendar. The next two board meetings will be on 19 July and 16 August at 7:30 PM.

### ***Bar Manager from Wayne Inman***

As the days of summer move on, I am pleased to be working with the contractors in preparing for our new bar. With a very successful vote from our membership on June 12th, Post 256 will be updating our bar, coolers and equipment. The start date is scheduled for January 2013. At that time the Post lounge will move out to the dining hall for 2 - 3 weeks. Hope everyone is enjoying their summer!

### ***ATTENTION***

After seven years, Rosemary and I (Jerry) are stepping down as the Newsletter editors effective with the publication of this issue. It's time to transition from creating pages to reading them. We want to thank all who have contributed to our quarterly Newsletter and helped with the mailing process. The following note was received from Vice Commander Brad Fisher, "We would like to take this opportunity to THANK THEM for their utmost time and consideration

on their behalf for doing this for so long in keeping our members up to date on news items.

Jerry and Rosemary We Thank You. Legion Members, Auxiliary Members and the Sons of Post 256 here in Canandaigua, New York."

**Newsletter** - The newsletter is published quarterly, with newsletter items **due no later** than September 24th for the October - December issue, December 25th for the January - March issue, March 25th for the April - June issue and June 24th for the July - September issue.

### **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.