



LAKE ONTARIO POST 313
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

January 5, 2020

Dear Veterans, Auxiliary and Friends:

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

COMMANDER'S COLUMN:

I hope that everyone had a great Christmas Holidays and that the upcoming New Year will be a healthy and prosperous one for all. For me it was different, I think because of how it landed on the calendar. It just seemed off. I was always late with getting things done or preparing for upcoming events.

I would like to start something new this month in the newsletter. I would like to devote a little time to benefits that you and I have available to us. I may set this up as a separate part of the newsletter or include it in my forward. It will depend on how much time and space is available. The idea is not to get into the whole benefit, which could take pages, upon pages that nobody will read. I am thinking in terms of just pointing you in the right direction or finding what is the right direction for you to follow.

This past December we were out placing wreaths on Veteran's graves, a lot of which were not marked with Veteran markers. These are Vets who have passed away and did not know how to receive this benefit or their loved ones didn't know what to do. To receive the veteran marker, the veteran or his family needs to contact the County Veterans Service Office. In Niagara County, it is located in the County building at 111 Main Street, Lockport, above the Motor Vehicle Department. You can call them at 716-438-4090 and they will point you in the right direction. You will also need a copy of your discharge papers (DD-214). You can always call me (531-6420) if you are having problems.

Just as a reminder, if you have not already done so, find your discharge papers (DD214) and make about ten copies, because every time you talk about benefits with any VA organization, they are going to ask for a copy.

And with that I hope to see you at our next meeting on the 13th.

Peace, I hope!!

ED JACKSON, POST COMMANDER

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INTERESTING INFORMATION FOR JANUARY:

January is the first month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars and the first of seven months to have a length of 31 days. The first day of the month is known as New Year's Day. It is, on average, the coldest month of the year within most of the Northern Hemisphere and the second month of winter.

Garnet is the birth stone of January which represents constancy

January's zodiac signs are Capricorn (until January 19) and Aquarius (January 20 onwards)

January's flower is the carnation

January is National Book Month

January is National Thank You Month

January is Eye Care Month

January is Volunteer Blood Donor Month

January is Soup Month (good for those cold days)

January 4th is National Spaghetti Day (just for you Ralph Borelli) and Trivia Day

January 13th is National Rubber Duckie Day

January 20th is Martin Luther King Jr. Day

POST HAPPENINGS:

Our Post Christmas Dinner Celebration was attended by over 35 people. Our thanks and appreciation to Danny C. and his crew for putting on a GREAT dinner for our Veterans, Auxiliary and Guests. Thank you to those who brought food and donated items for our Christmas Drawings. I would be very remised if I did not thank all of you for making Christmas a little more enjoyable for many families by bringing in toys for those in need. This year we donated the toys to Community Missions in Niagara Falls and they were very thankful to receive over 50 new toys!!

On December 14th, the Post Auxiliary set up a table at the Youngstown Christmas in the Village Celebration where they sold crafts, goodies, and passed out information on how to become members of the Post and Auxiliary. GREAT JOB representing the Post!

On December 14th, Ed Jackson, Lance Dickinson, Will Hartley and Marty Wojcik placed Christmas wreaths on Veteran's graves at Oakland Rural Cemetery. GREAT WORK AND A VERY WORTHWHILE TRIBUTE TO OUR VETERANS. We will be collecting the wreaths on January 14th at 9:30 if you can help.

Starting January 1st, veterans who received a Purple Heart, were former POW's, or veterans with a service-connected disability rating will have access to base commissaries, exchanges and MWR facilities. Veterans can use their current VA-issued Veterans Health Identification Card (VHIC) to enter the base.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Monday, January 13, 7:00 P.M. – Regular Post Meeting

Tuesday, January 14, 9:30 A.M. – Meet at the Post to remove wreaths from Oakland Rural Cemetery

Wishing you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year. Until next time, take care and God bless.

Col. (Ret.) LANCE DICKINSON, Co-Editor

JOHN H. MAC ARTHUR, Co-Editor

P.S As we write this January newsletter, there are only 79 days before the first day of Spring. WHOOPEE! Also, did you make any New Year's Resolutions!!