



# Bolingbrook Legionnaire



American Legion Post #1288

P.O. Box 1133 • Bolingbrook, IL 60440

An Award Winning Post Newsletter

September 2004

Volume 7, Number 9

On the Web: <http://members.aol.com/ilam1288>

## PATRIOT DAY 2004

Plans for an observance for September 11<sup>th</sup> have not been finalized as of the printing of this newsletter. Attend the September meeting for the latest developments. Don't forget to fly your flag at half staff for the day.

## BOYS STATE DELEGATE TO SPEAK

Matthew Baker, the Bolingbrook High School Jr. student selected to be the Post's delegate to this year's Premiere Boys State event will provide the post with remarks on his experience at the September Post meeting.

## POST STAFFS COUNTY FAIR BOOTH

Thanks to Charles Bruce and Mel Hansen for staffing the Legion table at the County Fair in Peotone on Saturday, August 28.

## POT OF GOLD

The Pot of Gold now stands at \$114.00. The winner was not present for the August meeting.

## 2004 GIFTS TO YANKS WHO GAVE

Gifts to Yanks days for 2004 are set for November 5 and 6. Please mark your calendar and help us be among the top ten posts again this year.

Post Officers		
Commander	Elden P. Laffoon, Sr.	630.783.2669
Sr. Vice Cmndr	Larry Shaver	630.759.1274
Jr. Vice Cmndr	Bettye Carter	630.378.1433
Adjutant	Joe Rojek	630.759.6450
Finance Officer	Wayne Macejak	630.378.6223
Service Officer	Wayne Macejak	630.378.6223
Chaplain	Rev. John Skanse	630.378.4749
Judge Advocate	Mel Hansen	630.739.4439
Sgt.-at-Arms	Frank Zwettler	630.759.1575
Historian	Bettye Carter	630.378.1433

## PATHWAYS PARADE 2004

Post 1288 will again participate in the Pathways Parade on Sunday, September 12. We and VFW Post 5917 will march at parade position #6. There will be transportation for those who would like to participate by riding. Meet at the Village Hall parking lot at Noon for transport to our starting location which is near the park district building on the north side of Briarcliff near Annerino Dr. Let's show Bolingbrook that there is a good size presence of vets in this village. Come out and be seen.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AT 57

Thank you to the 57 members who have submitted their membership dues for 2005. If we are 100% (121) by November 11<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Illinois will present the Post with a \$100.00 check and a 100% streamer for our flag. It has been a long time since we had even a streamer.

Let's be the first in the County to make our Hundred Percent mark. Send your \$25.00 renewal (with or without the form) to Post at P.O. Box 1133, Bolingbrook, IL 60440-1133 TODAY. Thanks.

## COMING EVENTS

- Monday, Sep 6, 7:30 p.m.: Post meeting, Levy Center, 251 Canterbury Lane.
- Saturday, Sep 11: Patriot Day Ceremony? Veterans Memorial, 375 W Briarcliff – Fly U.S. Flags at half staff.
- Sunday, Sep 12, Noon: Pathways Parade, Meet at Village Hall parking lot, parade: 1:00.
- Monday, Sep 13, 7:30 p.m.: VAC meeting, 128 N. Scott St., Joliet
- Friday, Sep 17:
  - Dusk (7:30 p.m.): POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony, Veterans Memorial, 375 W. Briarcliff.
  - 8:00 p.m.: County meeting, Steger Post #521, 34 W. 34<sup>th</sup> St.
- Friday, Oct 4, 7:30 p.m.: Post Meeting, Levy Center, 451 Canterbury Lane
- Saturday, Oct 16 - Past Commanders Dinner: Joliet Harwood Post #5, 705 S. Larkin Ave (S.W. corner I-80 & Larkin) \$9.00 per person.

Post #1288 meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the Month in the Levy Senior Center, 251 Canterbury Lane at 7:30 p.m.

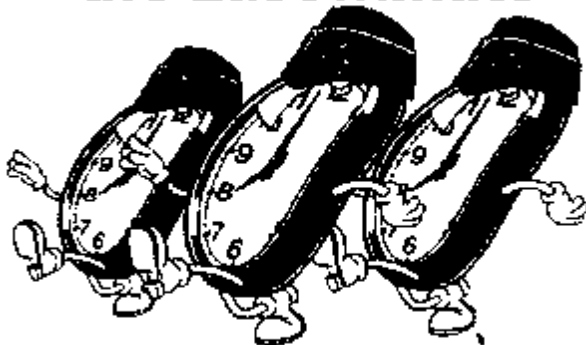
American Legion Motto: *Get Involved*

## MILITARY RECORDS

A message is being sent around the military community via email that alleges the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) is automating their storage and management of our military records. When this is complete, the email alleges, they plan to destroy the hard copies of records unless requested by the veteran or a deceased veteran's family to send those records to them. It further states that if a veteran or members of the veteran's family wants to request those records be sent to them instead of being destroyed they can make their request by mail to: National Personnel Records Center Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Ave., St. Louis MO 63132-5100 or make their request online at <http://vetrecs.archives.gov>.

The only part of this allegation that is true is the procedure provided for obtaining copies of a veteran's records. There is a study, repeat study, at NPRC to possibly digitize CIVILIAN personnel files if a former federal CIVILIAN employee returns to federal CIVILIAN service. Rather than send the new agency paper, the Civilian Personnel Records area of NPRC may scan and transmit them electronically. The paper file would then go back on the shelf. For the last 10 years all the military services have stored their permanent military personnel records on electronic media. Prior to that the records were on microfiche, and before 1972 those records were paper only. At this time NPRC receives, stores and services military personnel records only in paper and/or fiche. [Source: NPRC Management Analyst msg dtd 28 AUG 04 – reprinted from RAO Bulletin Update 30 August 2004]

**Don't Wait Until  
the Last Minute**



**Re-new Your  
Membership TODAY!**

## POST MEMBERS PARTICIAPTE IN HONOR GUARD MEMORIAL CEREMONY

The Bolingbrook Veterans Honor Guard conducted a memorial ceremony August 21 for World War II veteran Glen R. Anderson. Those participating were John Davin (AL/VFW), Elden Laffoon (AL), Larry Shaver (AL/VFW), Wayne Ward (AL/VFW), Jack Flanagan (VFW), and Dillard West (VFW).

The Bolingbrook Veterans Honor Guard is an independent association of Bolingbrook area Veterans who have gathered together to provide a brief, but very dignified, service of remembrance and recognition for fellow Bolingbrook area veterans at the time of their death. The service is usually provided at the funeral home used by the Veteran's family, although a grave side service is possible, under optimal conditions.

If you would be interested in serving in this meaningful activity, please make that interest known to John Davin, Mel Hansen or Elden Laffoon. It helps to have a large pool of members to draw from for these short notice events. We typically have only a two day lead time.

Learn more about the Honor Guard on the Post's website at: <http://members.aol.com/ilam1288>. Click on the Bolingbrook Veterans Honor Guard link on the left sidebar.

## MOVING WALL IN AREA SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 18<sup>TH</sup> AND 19<sup>TH</sup>

The Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall and POW/MIA Balloon will be in Dwight, an easy 50 mile drive down beautiful, scenic I-55 (lots of cornfields to see) September 17 – 19.

Dwight American Legion Post #486 and V.F.W. Post #2608 will host this three day event. If you haven't had the opportunity to see one of the mobile wall exhibits (or even if you have), take a pleasant ride for the afternoon. Whether you visit the Wall in Washington or see one of the mobile units, it is a powerfully meaningful experience. The Wall and balloon will be located at the Dwight V.F.W. on old Route 66.



**Always  
Remembered**

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**Never  
Forgotten**