



# Bolingbrook Legionnaire

American Legion

Post #1288, Auxilliary Unit #1288

P.O. Box 1133

Bolingbrook, IL 60440-1133



An Award Winning Newsletter

June 2006

Volume 9, Number 6

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

## AUXILIARY ELECTS SLATE

At its May 15 Auxiliary meeting, Unit 1288 elected following slate of officers for 2006-2007.

President: Nicole Armstrong    Chaplain: Esther Laffoon  
Vice-Pres.: Herstine Crenshaw    Historian: Rose Downs  
Treasurer: Carolyn Hansen    Sgt.-at-Arm: Alexis Wallington

## POST, AUXILIARY MEMBERS INITIATE WAL-MART VETERANS THANK YOU

On Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, our local Wal-Mart held the first ever Wal-Mart Veterans Thank You from 10:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. Wal-Mart employee and Post member John Harasti wanted to see Wal-Mart do something to show appreciation to Veterans for their service. He approached his store's management with an idea for a simple time of 'thank you' to be held before Memorial Day. His idea won approval from the Managers at our Bolingbrook store #1596.

The staff caught the vision, and a fellow employee, Nicole Armstrong, our Unit President, joined in. Nicole also spread the word of the event to the auxiliary and post, whose members also informed the VFW. John arranged for public service announcements on four local radio stations, contacted local, state and federal government representatives about the event, secured the services of a Shriner's bagpipe and drum unit and developed a thank you token to be (see page 2)

## POPPY DAYS DO WELL

Post 1288 received \$2,743.04 from the distribution of 2,117 poppies during 49.65 hours of collection time. We averaged 42.6 poppies per hour with an average receipt of \$1.293 per poppy. The people of Bolingbrook have been contributing larger amounts in the last two to three years. We used to average about 96 cents per poppy. Thank you to all eleven who helped: Dan Armstrong, Harry Frost, Mel Hansen, Elden Laffoon, Mike Leonardo, Wayne Macejak, Al Miller, John Radkte, Leroy Rheubottom, and Joe Rojek.

Unit 1288 received \$1,163.38 from the distribution of 975 poppies during 23.8 hours of collection time. They averaged 41.6 poppies per hour with an average receipt of \$1.192 per poppy. Thank you to the 5 who helped: Nicole Armstrong (and her fiancé – at the time – Joe), Sandy Armstrong, Rose Downs and Carolyn Hansen.

A special thank you goes to Carolyn Hansen for the two days she spent tallying all the receipts.

## POST ELECTION JUNE 5

Post 1288 will hold its election of officers at the June 5 Post meeting. Posts must elect their officers 30 to 60 days prior to the start of the Department convention, which is in July. According to our constitution (<http://members.aol.com/ilam1288/images/bb1288cn.pdf>) our elected officers are Commander, Senior Vice-Commander, Junior Vice-Commander, Finance Officer, Judge Advocate, Chaplain and Sergeant at Arms. We will also elect a delegate and alternate to the Department Convention and to the Will County VAC. The incoming Commander will then appoint the following officers: Adjutant, Service Officer and Historian.

## POST MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS NOW AT 108 (93.1%)

The Department Membership Statistics report shows the Post at 108 renewals as of May 26. Just 8 short of were we need to be to make our 100%. **If your Membership Card does not say "2006," please send in the \$30.00 renewal to the Post at P.O. Box 1133, Bolingbrook, IL 60440-1133.**



### Always Remembered

### Never Forgotten

#### Blood Donations Always Needed

Help Support the Legion Blood Donation Program  
Donate at the Bolingbrook Medical Center

400 Medical Center Drive

Sundays: Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Mondays: 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Call 630-856-7837 for an appointment

Tell them you are from Post 1288 and tell us, too.

Meeting in the Levy Senior Center

251 Canterbury Lane: 7:30 p.m.

Post #1288 – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the Month

Auxiliary Unit

#1288 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the Month

American Legion Motto: *Get Involved*

## COMING EVENTS

Monday, **Jun 5**, 7:30 p.m.: Post Meeting, Levy Sr. Center, 251 S. Canterbury Ln. **Election of Officers.**

Monday, **Jun 12**, 7:30 p.m.: VAC Meeting, 128 N. Scott Street, Joliet.

Wednesday, **Jun 14**: Flag Day (FLY YOUR FLAG) 7:30 p.m.: Flag Retirement Ceremony and perhaps a Post Band concert, Joliet Post 1080, 2625 Ingalls.

Friday, **Jun 16**, 8:00 p.m.: Legion County Meeting, Crete Post 1291, Main St. Exchange Bar & Grill, 25346 Dixie Highway (IL-1) (0.15 mi. N. of Crete-Monee Rd.)

Monday, **Jun 19**, 7:30 p.m.: Auxiliary Unit Meeting, Levy Sr. Center, 251 S. Canterbury Ln.

Sunday, **Jun 25**, 11:00: Post and Unit - Villiage Picnic, Behind Village Hall. Staff Legion Post and Unit booths. (Post may sell pork sandwiches, watch e-mails & web site for details latter in the month.)

Monday, **Jul 3**. Post Meeting? Probably not.

## POT OF GOLD

If Art Prazak had been at the May Post meeting, he would have won the Pot of Gold worth \$20.00. Each month, members place a quarter in the "Pot of Gold." At the end of the meeting, a name is drawn from all Post members. If you are present when your name is drawn, you win the pot.

## Wal-Mart Thanks Vets (cont.)

given to each vet. He also arranged for the Legion, Auxiliary, and VFW to have recruitment tables and display their respective flags. Local Navy, Army and Marine recruiters were also offered space.

The event was held in the old café space, complete with cake and coffee. Wal-Mart had employees stationed at a table for sign in and passing out the tokens of appreciation, a very nicely printed poem honoring veteran service.

Over thirty veterans stopped by and enjoyed a time of refreshment and socializing.

With any luck, this may be adopted at more Wal-Mart stores in the future. It is just another example of a veteran setting out to help other veterans, and making a difference.

Thank you, John, for serving your fellow vets. And thank you, Nicole (and Sandy), for helping with the event publicity, set-up and the set-up and staffing of the Unit's display table.

Post 1288 and VFW Post 5917 also had displays and passed out a number of applications as well as assorted veterans' literature. Thanks to Dillard West, Wayne Macejak and Mel Hansen for helping with those displays.

## POST HONORS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Post 1288 honored the following High School students (See last month's newsletter for an explanation of the awards):

### ROTC General Military Excellence Medals

- Bolingbrook: James Volz
- Romeoville: Brandon Hileman

### ROTC Scholastic Excellence Medals

- Bolingbrook: David Pawlak
- Romeoville: William C Huffstutler

### American Legion Scholastic Medals

#### Gold Medal (Academic First Place)

- First Place Girl: Joanna Gundersen
- First Place Boy: Eric Rutter

#### Silver Medal (Academic Second Place)

- Second Place Girl: Allyson Wolsfeld
- Second Place Boy: Sean Hughes

### American Legion School Award

- Michelle Corless

### Honorable Mention Certificates

- Linda Agyapong
- Asif Kamal

### Boys State Scholarships

- Eric Light
- Joseph Zak

## VETERANS INFORMATION BULLETINS

There is a really great e-mail veterans information bulletin put out by James Tichacke twice a month. Jim is the Director, Retiree Activities Office, U.S. Embassy Warden Baguio City, Republic of the Philippines and has one of the most current sources of comprehensive updates on things that affect military members, retirees and veterans. You can find the newsletter from the link on our webpage or directly at:

[http://post\\_119\\_gulfport\\_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html](http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html)

### Primary 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

### Primary Unit Officers

President	Nicky Armstrong	630.378.9247
Vice-President	Herstine Crenshaw	630.759.5661
Treasurer	Kimberly Macejak	-----