



Bolingbrook Legionnaire

American Legion

Post #1288, Auxiliary Unit #1288

P.O. Box 1133

Bolingbrook, IL 60440-1133



An Award Winning Newsletter, Again

March, 2007

Volume 10, Number 2

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

COMING EVENTS

- Monday, **Mar 5**, 7:30 p.m.: Post Meeting, Levy Sr. Center, 251 S. Canterbury Ln
- Monday, **Mar 12**, 7:30 p.m.: Will County VAC Comission Meeting, 128 N. Scott St., Joliet.
- Thursday, **Mar 15**, 5:30 p.m.: Hines Blind Center BINGO. Leaving Levy Center @ 5:30.
- Friday, **Mar 16**, 8:00 p.m.: County Meeting, Lockport Post #18, 15052 Archer Ave.
- Sunday, **Mar 18**, 11:30 a.m.: Manteno BINGO trip, Departing from Levy Sr. Center at 11:45 a.m.
- Monday, **Mar 19**, , 7:30 p.m.: Auxiliary Meeting, Levy Sr. Center. 251 S. Canterbury Ln.

POST TO SPONSOR ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS

At our last Post meeting, the Post voted to pay the dues for our active duty members. We have a number who are serving stateside as well as overseas. At least while this war is on, we will honor their service to our county by paying the Department and National portion of their dues.

POST MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS STILL NEED HELP

We are now only 18 short of our last year's total. Please, if you have not renewed yet, do so now. Do not wait until May or early June, even if that is when you paid last year. Why? Because waiting makes you 5 to 6 months delinquent and technically ineligible for any benefits that are dependent upon current membership status. It also make the Post look REALLY bad at the County, District, Division, Department and National levels.



Always Remembered

Never Forgotten

Primary Post Officers

Commander	Joe Rojek	630.759.6450
Sr. Vice Cmndr	Elden P. Laffoon, Sr.	630.783.2669
Jr. Vice Cmndr	Bettye Carter	630.378.1433
Adjutant	Frank Zwettler	630.759.1575
Finance Officer	Wayne Macejak	630.378.6223

Primary Unit Officers

President	Nicky Delatorre	630.378.9247
Vice-President	Herstine Crenshaw	630.759.5661
Secretary	Garnett Shaver	630.759.1274
Treasurer	Carolyn Hansen	630.739.4439

HINES BINGO TRIP MARCH 15

Post 1288 will again sponsor a BINGO event at the Hines VA Hospital's new Center for the Blind on Thursday, March 15, 2007. The Post will provide prize money for the event, with a partial matching gift from VFW Post 5917. We will also provide refreshments: bagels, pop, etc. We will depart the Levy Center at 5:30 p.m. for this 7:00-ish event. The Auxiliary Unit has also volunteered to participate.

We expect that there will be somewhere between 10 and 30 attendees. The new Blind center is a live-in facility with a 3 month program to help people become accustomed to living as a blind person. Since it is for the blind, the residents often need assistance playing this sighted game. We need as many to turn out to help with the event as possible.

MANTENO BINGO TRIP MARCH 18

The Bolingbrook Legion Post and Auxiliary and VFW will again join together to help sponsor an afternoon of BINGO for the residents of the Manteno Illinois Veterans Home. Our organizations will participate with approximately 8 other units to typically provide over \$1,000 dollars in prize money. This is one of the largest prize pots that occur at the Home.

We will assemble at the Levy Sr. Center, 251 Canterbury Lane, about 11:30 and depart at 11:45 a.m. NOTE: THIS IS A TIME CHANGE FROM THE PREVIOUS NOON DEPARTURES. Return to the area will be about 4:30. Hope to see you there.

GOT A GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR IN THE FAMILY?

The Department of Illinois has several \$1000.00 scholarships for the children and grandchildren of legion members. The Deadline for receipt of applications is March 15 (simple application) and the chances for selection are excellent due to low submittal numbers. Check it out at www.illegion.org/scholarship.html Contact Mel Hansen at 630.739.4439 or MelHansen@aol.com (continued next page).

Meeting in the Levy Senior Center
251 Canterbury Lane: 7:30 p.m.
Post #1288 – 1st Monday of the Month
Auxiliary Unit #1288 – 3rd Monday of the Month
American Legion Motto: Get Involved

MORE COMING EVENTS

Monday, **Apr 2**, 7:30 p.m.: Post Meeting, Levy Sr. Center, 251 S. Canterbury Ln.

Monday, **Apr 9**, 7:30 p.m.: Will County VAC Exec. Committee Meeting, 128 N. Scott St., Joliet.

Monday, **Apr 16**, 7:30 p.m.: Auxiliary Meeting, Levy Sr. Center, 251 S. Canterbury Ln.

Friday, **Apr 20**, 8:00 p.m.: Legion County Meeting: Peotone #392, 109 W. North St.

POT OF GOLD

If Edgar Hamilton had been at the February meeting he would have won the "Pot of Gold" drawing currently worth \$37.00. 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.

DID YOU KNOW

Our own 11th District has, by far, the largest Legion District membership in the Department of Illinois.

Dist	Div	Last Year Total
1 -	1	1412
2 -	1	1584
3 -	1	2298
4 -	1	2704
5 -	1	2792
6 -	1	1204
7 -	1	2632
8 -	1	5265
9 -	1	3841
10 -	2	4347
11 -	2	11465
	DuPage	3549
	Kane	2616
	McHenry	1808
	Will	3492
12 -	2	7368
13 -	2	3927
14 -	3	5231
15 -	3	5534
16 -	3	6186
17 -	4	5684
18 -	4	6116
19 -	4	7718
20 -	3	3472
21 -	4	4399
22 -	5	6291
23 -	5	7073
24 -	5	3108
25 -	5	4688

Interested in where the Districts and Divisions are located? Check out the Membership Statistics reports on the Department Website: www.illegion.org.

"POPPY DAYS AROUND THE CORNER"

Mark your calendars for May 18, 19, and 20 for Poppy Days in Bolingbrook. VFW Post 5917 has submitted the solicitation permit for those days for our veterans' organizations.

While it is a ways off yet, it is really just around the corner, so make plans to help the Post and Auxiliary Unit raise funds that can be used locally for veterans' rehabilitation and assistance. This is the only major national collection effort that permits us to retain funds for local use. Therefore it is very important that we have as good a turnout as possible. We will have the streets and intersections of Bolingbrook, as well as Wal-Mart, the two Jewel stores and probably the Post Office for off street collection efforts.

Post 1288 will have 3900 poppies available and the Auxiliary Unit will have 2000. We can expect to average about 50 poppies an hour. That means the Post could use about 78 hours or better of collection time and the Unit about 40 hours or more. That sounds like a lot, but spread over three days it is really only 26 3 hr shifts for the Post and 13 or so for the Unit. The VFW will also be on the streets with about 4000 poppies. Again those numbers sound large, but we have always run out of volunteers for collecting before the good people of Bolingbrook give up on participating.

So Set Your Clocks for May 18, 19 and 20.

Legion Dept Scholarships Available (cont.)

DEPARTMENT NEWS (Bloomington) "Each year the Department awards 25 \$1000.00 scholarships to graduating seniors. Four awards in each Division are for accredited colleges and universities, with 1 award for a student entering a trade/vocational school (a non-degree program). The only stipulation being that the student be a direct descendant of a Legionnaire (living or deceased—Great-grandparent through parent—mothers included).

"Participation in the program has shown a downward trend in the past several years. Applications are so few that chances are lower than 1 in 4 for obtaining a scholarship.

"Why? A good question...could it be that Posts are not aware of the program? It's been around for several decades. The application is simple, requiring a couple of simple essay type questions, ACT scores, and family financial information. Now it's available on our website so computer-savvy students can easily print it from home." (Editors Note: No, it is not available as of 2/27/07. Call Mel as per page one)