

# DECEMBER 2016

Park

Post 854

"The Hospitality Post"

9701 South Kedzie

Evergreen Park, Illinois

708.422.9513

Commander/Service: William Cooper  
Senior Vice Commander: Ron Reding  
Junior Vice Commander: Gary Brockman  
Chaplain/Finance Officer: William Winters  
Adjutant/Historian: Jim Quintavalle  
Sgt at Arms: Richard Venkus  
SAL Commander: Dennis Reilly  
Ladies Auxiliary President: Nora Cummings

November/December 2016

POST 854. MAKE YOUR PLAN FOR THIS FUN EVENING NOW

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE - W. Cooper

My fellow Legionnaires,  
Greetings,

By now you have received your 2<sup>nd</sup> notice, from the department, concerning your 2017 Dues. 66.83% of our members, to date, have sent in their dues. Please don't sit on the notice because you will receive 4 more notices. To eliminate this undo inconvenience, please send in your check for \$35.00 and the "Dues Notice" **RIGHT NOW!** Don't delay. We have 208 Members who still have not paid their dues. If you want to be dropped, let us know.

You can renew your members online at [www.members.legion.org/renew](http://www.members.legion.org/renew), it's easy and painless. The 5 year dues card is still available by mailing a check for \$175.00 and that will cover you for the next 5 years.

The "Queen of Hearts" raffle is getting bigger. The grand total payout is approaching \$33, 00.00. We pull the winning ticket, every Wednesday at 7:00 PM. So stop by the post for your tickets and have some fun.

Our trip to Manteno was a complete disaster! Due to the lack of volunteers we had to cancel the bingo with the disabled vets. You talk about disappointment! We let these people down. They look forward to our visits to help them get through the day. Hope you didn't get couch burn.

We are also having trouble getting volunteers to help out at Bingo on Sunday evenings. The regulars are starting to get burned out and could use some relief. So please consider helping for a few hours on upcoming Sundays. Bingo may be coming to an end if we can't get help.

Remember the Post home is your home so stop by and hoist a cold one with your family and friends.

## SENIOR VICE COMMANDER - R. Reding

Season Greetings Comrades! I know it sounds early but Christmas is right around the corner and it will be here before you know it. The projects and repairs are coming right along. By the time you receive your newsletter the tuck pointing around the back door will be completed then I'll be able to scratch that off the list.

As always we are looking for volunteers to help out around here and the various events and functions that we hold. Just to name a few: Nov. 4th the Ladies Auxiliary Spaghetti Dinner, Nov. 26th Hall decorating for the Holidays, Dec. 17th Kids Christmas Party, Dec 17th Wreaths Across America at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Dec. 25th Christmas dinner for the Sailors at Marrs-Meyer Post 991, weekly Sunday Bingo and our weekly Wednesday Queen of Hearts drawing. As you can read we have a lot going on which needs a lot of help so come on out and

WE ARE AN AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY!

November 2016						
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lend a hand and help out the Rouge Patrol. Remember this is your Post you can only get back what you put in.

Merry Christmas and May the New Year bring better health and happiness to everyone.

JR. VICE COMMANDER - G. Brockman

We will have a Fish Fry on Veterans Day Friday November 11<sup>th</sup> 2016 from 12:30 to 3:00 in the Members Room. No cost to our members. If anyone has a propane fryer with a pot and basket that he is willing to let me use it would be appreciated. I will supply the oil. Please call me at 708-610-4173.

Thanks

FINANCE OFFICER - W. Winters

**You no longer have to wait for a copy of your DD-214!**

It's official; DD-214s are NOW online. Please pass this on to other vets. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214s online:  
<http://vetrecs.archives.gov/> or try  
<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files.

Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for

documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site.

Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time. Please pass this information on to former military personnel you may know and their dependents.

Kelly Drey needs donor for Liver Transplant

One of our members Pete Drey, has a niece is in need of Liver. Please view the flyer on our website [www.legionpost854.com](http://www.legionpost854.com) for additional information.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER - W. Winters



Final taps have sounded for eight of our comrades.

The following have been called to the Post Everlasting

- John W. Konecki
- Victor Freze
- James Kennedy
- Charles Brockman
- Ralph M Romeo
- Edward J Murphy
- Donald J Klein
- Richard d hall

Since Memorial Day 2016, the above individuals have joined their fellow comrades in Post Everlasting. Please remember them and all our deceased comrades who have passed away. Also, remember those comrades who are ill, in the hospital, or recovering at home, and pray for our young men and women who are serving our country on foreign soil and in harm's way.

**"Let us pray"**

Almighty and Heavenly Father in whom we live and move and have our being, without which we can do nothing, grant, we humbly pray, Thy blessings and protection upon our Nation. We are grateful for Thy help on days past. We humbly ask Thee to be with us still as we face the problems of the present and the difficulties of the uncertain future.  
**AMEN.**

ADJUTANT - J. Quintavalle

There seems to be some confusion as to what the chain of command is for our Post. Let me try to clarify this for you. Excerpted from our By-Laws:

1. The Post Commander: This person presides at all meetings of the Post and has general supervision responsibilities over the business affairs of the Post.
2. The Senior Vice Commander: This person assumes and discharges the duties of the office of the Commander in absence or when called upon by the Post Commander. This person is also the Chairperson of the Membership Committee and the Executive Board. The Senior

Vice is responsible for the repair and upkeep of the Post. This includes the calling for bids for any work in excess of \$1,000 and then submitting the bids to the Finance Committee for disposition.

3. The Junior Vice Commander: This person shall assume and discharge the duties of the Senior vice Commander if he/she is absent. He/she is the Chairperson of the Ways and Means Committee, develop Post activities, and be interested in patriotic observances of all kinds.
4. Finance Officer: This person has charge of all the Post finances. He/she will make sure they are safely deposited in some local bank or banks.
5. Sergeant at Arms: The Sergeant at Arms shall preserve order at all meeting and perform such duties as assigned to him/her by the Post Commander.
6. Post Adjutant: This person be in charge of and keep full and correct record of proceedings of all regular meetings, keep such records as the Department and the National organization may require.

For God and Country

#### SERVICE OFFICER - W. Cooper

Please remember our members who are in nursing homes, disabled and our departed comrades in your prayer. Since the 1<sup>st</sup> of July we have lost 8-WWII members, 7-Korean War members and 3-RVN War members.

It is very important that you tell your family members and closest friends where they can find your DD-214. It a very important document and it will get you all the benefits that you earned.

#### SERGEANT AT ARMS - R. Venckus



This will be my first contribution to our Post 854 Newsletter. First, thanks to all who supported my selection as your Sergeant-at-Arms; in particular, Otis and Bob whom have given me valuable advice and assistance in learning and executing my duties correctly. I will promise to always try to do my best to show our leadership and every member of our post the respect they deserve. I have begun to do some research in not just the duties of an American Legion Sergeant-at-Arms, but also, the origins and history of this office. I will be sharing this information to you in my next communication. Again, thank all you for your support.

#### COLOR GUARD:

##### CAPTAINS:

Gary Brockman/ Ron Reding

708.610.4173

773.931.5636



We are always looking for new members. At our last wake on a Sunday seven of our guys showed up. Four of the seven also did the bingo game that day. That means they came in earlier than usual in uniform. After the wake they changed clothes and helped out at bingo. None of them complained. It would be nice to have more members on

the Color Guard to help alleviate this problem. Being on the Color Guard is not that difficult or time consuming. Ask a member. Remember it may be you laying in that coffin wondering why no one showed up.

#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION- D. Reilly

Greetings Fellow SAL Members,

We have our new fryer up and running. For those of you who have not sent in your dues please do so ASAP, thank you. Our next meeting is December 3rd in the member's room at 11AM. Please plan to attend.

I need a little help occasionally for Sunday Bingo in the kitchen from 5PM to 8PM. It is a lot of fun when we have enough help.

Our membership is increasing and Queen of Hearts is close to \$40,000 now. We could use a little help on Wednesday from 5PM to 7PM.

The Queen of Hearts is being moved one time from Wednesday November 9th to Thursday November 10th. Please pass the word.

The Legion is also hosting the Holiday Hop December 3rd. Check with Bartender for details.



#### AUXILIARY NEWS - N. Cummings

Happy Thanksgiving!

Merry Christmas!

Our next meeting will be on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Do not forget to bring some quarters for the Veterans at Hines Hospital.

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, our Auxiliary Christmas Party will be held. There will be a very short meeting. If you care to participate in our gift exchange, please bring a wrapped \$10.00 gift.

Our annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Friday November 4<sup>th</sup>, from 5 PM to 8 PM. Please join us for a delicious dinner with your friends and neighbors.

The Auxiliary participates in various scholarship programs offered to children of Veterans throughout the state. If you have a senior in high school, someone already in college, or anyone interested in a nursing career; please contact us for more information.

P.S. Do not forget to renew your membership. Dues are now \$26.00 for the year.

#### BOYS STATE

JUNE 10-16, 2017

#### EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS

Do you have a Son, Grandson, and Great Grandson who will be entering his junior year of High School this coming school year? You might talk to your son or grandson on the Benefits of attending Boy's State next June. If you need any information, please contact Bill Winters-Finance Officer-  
[ALPOST854IL@aol.com](mailto:ALPOST854IL@aol.com) or 708-422-9513.

#### QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING



The Post Family, the Sons, Auxiliary, and the Post appreciate your support for the Queen of Hearts, and we have completed week eleven of the new board.

**BE SURE TO BUY YOUR TICKETS  
FOR OUR WEEKLY QUEEN OF  
HEARTS DRAWING ON WENESDAY  
AT 7:00 PM.**

#### E-MAIL ADDRESS

Post 854 would like to enter the 21th Century and we would like to send our newsletter to you via E-Mail so if you like to receive FUTURE Newsletter via E-Mail:

Send an email to: [alpost854il@aol.com](mailto:alpost854il@aol.com)

View our Web Address:  
[legionpost854.com](http://legionpost854.com)

#### REQUEST - W. Cooper

If a member wishes to attend a meeting, and has no transportation, we may be able to get a ride for you. If you call the Post, it may be possible to arrange transportation for you. We are trying to set up a crew of volunteers to get you to our meeting and back home. Call (708) 860-6517.

#### EDITOR - J. Quintavalle

Newsletter articles for our January/February Newsletter will be due by our 12/20/2016 Meeting. Make sure to have them in by then.

Those of you, Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL, who would rather receive their newsletter electronically, but have not provided an email address, you can do so anytime. We would love to include you on our mailing list.

#### HAPPENINGS:

##### Post:

11/26/2016 -Hall decorating for the Holidays

12/17/2016 - Kids Christmas Party

12/17/2016 - Wreaths across America at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

12/25/2016 - Christmas dinner for the Sailors at Marris-Meyer Post 991

##### Auxiliary:

11/04/2016 - the Ladies Auxiliary Spaghetti Dinner

11/28/2016 - Auxiliary Meeting

12/19/2016 - Auxiliary Christmas Party

##### 8th District:

December 3, 2016-Holiday Hop Evergreen Park

11/17/2016-Glen Maker #1160-Chicago Ridge, Illinois

Illini Girls State - 06/18/2017 thru 06/24/2017

Youth Police - 06/25/2017 thru 06/30/2017

##### Department Dates to Remember:

Oratorical Contest - 03/04/2017

Boys State - 06/10/2017 thru 06/16/2017

##### ONE LAST NOTE - The Rogue Patrol

We have been seeing some new faces at our Tuesday Meetings. This is great, however, some of the Veterans who had attended are now absent. We have over 600 members and all we can muster at the meetings is about 36!

This is your Post. It cannot exist without you. We all can give a couple of hours on every other Tuesday to attend a meeting. The cost is \$1.00. For this money, you will be eligible for two raffles and a free meal.

IT'S THE BEST DEAL IN TOWN!

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO LOSE?

We look forward to seeing you!

The "Hospitality Post" newsletter is the official publication of Evergreen Park Post #854 of the American Legion. It is published bi-monthly and distributed by US Mail, at the First Class Rate, and/or emailed to all Post members, Auxiliary members and SAL Members.

Jim Quintavalle  
Editor

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E-Mail Address: [alpost854il@aol.com](mailto:alpost854il@aol.com)

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