



EVERGREEN PARK POST 854
"THE HOSPITALITY POST"
9701 SOUTH KEDZIE
EVERGREEN PARK, ILLINOIS
(708) 422-9513

March/April 2016

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

My fellow Legionnaires,

Greetings,

Membership renewal has become stagnant.

**IF YOU ARE READING THIS AND YOUR NEWSLETTER IS YELLOW,
IT MEANS THAT YOUR 2016 DUES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID.**

As you know the dues have been raised to \$35.00. The post will extend the \$30.00 rate until June 1, 2016. So send in your check for \$30.00 ASAP and we will mail out your 2016 membership card.

On January 23, 2016 the Woman's Auxiliary, The Son of the American Legion and members of the legion post provided lunch for over 200 Nation Guard soldiers at the armory in Crestwood Illinois. I have never seen such a dedicated bunch of volunteers work so hard to bring a little bit of joy to so many. So many of the military members came up to us to thank us for the event, some even wanted to donate to cover expenses. I was never as proud as I was that day to be part of such hard working organizations.

Just a note, you can still renew your membership, at the \$35.00 rate, online at www.members.legion.org/renew, it's easy and painless.

If you are retired military and your VA card contains your social security number, you must apply for a new card through any VA facility.

The "Queen of Hearts" raffle has turned into a night out at the post. We added Karaoke, opened up the back event room, and the SAL serves hot dogs and chips, don't forget the libations.

Congratulations to all the entrants that took part in the chili cook off and to the winner. Ron "Otis" Reding.

The "Freedom Flight" program is now accepting Korean War veterans for the free flights from Chicago to Washington, D.C. Forms are available at the post or we will mail them to you.

Save the date of March 12, 2016 for our annual St. Pats and St. Joseph party. Cost will be \$35.00 per person.

I'm still hoping that we can have some of our female veterans come to the meetings. We are trying to shed the image of it's being an "Old Boys Club" and it's a good time to meet other veterans and talk about old times.

William J. Cooper

William J. Cooper
Commander / Post 854
708-860-6517-(Cell)
wjc1249@att.net

RICHARD J. O'CONNEL SCHOLARSHIP

The Richard J. O'Connell Scholarship was announced on February 19, 2016. It a monetary award that will be awarded in May 2016. The scholarship will be awarded to a senior Child, Grandchild or Great Grandchild in high school of a Post 854 Member or a student at Marist High School or Mother McAuley High School who is a grandchild or child of a Veteran. Details will be available by calling Bill Winters at 708-422-9513 or ILCFE02@Yahoo.com.

Bill Winters and the Family of Richard J. O'Connell

William R. Winters
Finance Officer

ADJUTANT REPORT

Once again, we are running a food drive for the Evergreen Park Food Pantry. For the next three meetings, until March 19 we will be accepting non-perishable food items. See Bob Stadaucher or Steve Davies with any questions.

The Freedom/Honor Flight is accepting applications from both World War II and Korean War Veterans. You can find applications at the Post Bar.

For God & Country,

Steve Davies
Adjutant

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Please remember them and all our deceased comrades who have passed away. Also, remember those comrades who are ill and 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.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR MEETINGS

William R. Winters
Chaplain

SERGEANT AT ARMS

As many of you already know, I miss quite a few meetings. But, now I'll be missing more because of a medical course I am taking for my job. Luckily, Rich Venckus and Steve Davies have stepped up to fill-in for me when I am unable to be here. I just wanted all of our members to know what a great job they are doing and to say: Thank you so much! If anyone else would like to help out, just show up early on meeting nights and Rich or Steve would be happy to explain what is being done as well as be thankful for the help.

Ron (Otis) Reding
Sgt-at-Arms

COLOR GUARD



For the year 2015, the Color Guard was asked to attend twenty-two wakes to post colors for our comrades who reported to Post Everlasting. In addition, the Color Guard has posted colors for Post functions. We have represented the American Legion Post 854 at schools, LCM Hospital, and the Evergreen Park Independence Day parade. We have done this a total of about a dozen times.

We currently have 19 members.

I want to give a big thank you to our members who take the time from their busy schedules to show up when called. Sometimes, this happens on very short notice. The team is always respectful and professional.

Anyone interested in joining the Color Guard, please attend our next practice on 2 April at 10:00 AM. There you can see what we do. We will answer any questions and address any concerns you may have.

A final note to Color Guard members who have a SAL shoulder braid. Bring it to the next practice and it will be replaced with the American Legion braid.

Gary Brockman
708-610-4173

Ron (Otis) Reding
773-931-5636

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The chili cook-off was a complete success. Otis Reding was the 1st place winner with Julie Pasciak coming a close 2nd place. We hope to have another cook-off in the near future.

Our next SAL meeting will be 4 April, at 7:00 PM, in the member's room.

The Queen of Hearts raffle is doing wonderfully. Please come out and help for about an hour on Wednesday's at 6:00 PM for the 7:00 PM drawing.

We are still looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen on Sunday's for Bingo. Please let me know if you would like to be involved.

We have received a Citation of Appreciation from the Detachment of Illinois for 100% membership.

Dennis Reilly
SAL Commander

AUXILIARY NEWS

A heartfelt thanks to all the men and women from the auxiliary, Post, and SAL who participated on the 23rd of January to help serve and socialize with the members of the Armory in Robbins. What a great group of young men and women. We were able to give them a pizza party. They were truly grateful.

Our next meeting will be on 28 March. We will be having the Initiation of New Members.

At the 25 April meeting, we will hold a memorial service for any of our members who died this past year.

Don't forget to send in your dues and to join us at our monthly meetings. We would love to see you.

Nora Cummings
Women's Auxiliary President

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Post 854 would like to enter the 21st 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
View our Web Address: legionpost854.com

QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING



BE SURE TO BUY YOUR TICKETS FOR OUR WEEKLY QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING ON WENESDAY AT 7:00PM. THE DRAWING WILL BENEFIT THE LEGION PROGRAMS AND OUR SAL SQUARDON. TOTAL AS OF 16 FEB, \$30.000! YOU CAN'T WIN IF YOU DON'T PLAY!!!

REQUEST

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.

"Bill "Cooper, Commander



Save the Date!
March 12. 2016
Saint Patrick's – Saint Joseph's Party
Evergreen Park Post 854
9701 So. Kedzie Ave
Chicago, IL. 60805
Happy Hour – 6:00 p.m.
Harrington's Corned Beef Dinner – 7:00 p.m.
Entertainment – Irish Dancers
Our Kilty Bag Pipers
Fab Tones Band



Tickets \$35.00 per person available at the bar or see Bob O' Staudacher

EDITOR

Some of you will be receiving your newsletter electronically via email. You will also be getting a hard copy U.S. Post. Please answer the email asking if you did in fact receive it.

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.

Thank you for helping to make this project a success.

Jim Quintavalle
Editor

ONE LAST NOTE

Attention Comrades!

Please plan on coming to a Post Meeting the first and the third Tuesday of the month. We are a post of over 600 members and we can barely achieve a membership present of 35 at these meetings. Do not worry. It costs you nothing to attend. You can donate to the Manteno Veterans if you choose to do so. We do not force anyone to volunteer for anything. That is of your own volition. And, after the meeting, we conduct two raffles, provide a meal, and an atmosphere of comradery.

We look forward to seeing you!

The Rogue Patrol

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

Website Address: legionpost854.com

E-Mail Address: alpost854il@aol.com

MARCH 2016

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