

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

September/October 2016

#### COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

My fellow Legionnaires,

Greetings,

By now you have received your notice, from the department, concerning your 2017 Dues. To date, 53% of our members have sent in their dues. Please don't sit on the notice because you will receive 5 more notices. To eliminate this inconvenience, please send in your check for \$35.00 and the "Dues Notice" RIGHT NOW! Don't delay.

You can renew your membership online at <a href="www.members.legion.org/renew">www.members.legion.org/renew</a>. 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 \$29,000.00! We pull the potential winning ticket every Wednesday at 7:00 PM. So why don't you stop by the post for your tickets and have some fun?

Don't forget 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 can mail them to you. The first group of Korean War vets have already been accepted and left Midway in early April.

We are 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.

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

William J. Cooper

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

## SENIOR VICE

My fellow Veterans,

I would like to introduce myself to those of you who don't attend the regular meetings. My name is Ron Reding. You may know me as Otis the old Sgt-at-Arms for many years. I have finally moved up the chain of command. Thanks for putting your faith in me as your new Sr. vice Commander. I hope I do not disappoint you. There are a few repair projects that need to be addressed to keep the Post running smoothly. If anyone is tired of sitting at home doing nothing, you can always come here and help us out.

We are kicking around a few ideas on how we can promote comradeship, bring in new members, and improve bar sales. Anyone with some new ideas please speak up at the meetings.

On September 10<sup>th</sup>, we will have a Music Fest in the back parking lot. The hours are 3:00-11:00PM. There will be food and drinks available for purchase and a table set up for a membership drive. This will be more like a neighborhood fest in which there is no cover charge. We will need a lot of volunteers to make this work. It's not only a Legion function but also a Ladies Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion function. So mark your calendars, give me a call and I'll put you on the list. Hope to get enough volunteers to rotate people around so you're not stuck in one job and everyone can have fun. Remember this is your Post so let's work together to make it the best Post in the Division

Ron (Otis) Reding 773-931-5636 Senior Vice

# JUNIOR VICE

As Junior vice Commander, I am not only responsible for preparing meals for our meetings but also responsible for post activities and patriotic observances that might draw residents and prospective members from our surrounding community to the post.

Being Co-Captain of the Color Guard, the patriotic part should not be too difficult. We pretty much cover that part already.

I am confident that with the assistance of Commander Cooper, Senior vice Commander Reding, and my fellow Color Guard members that any future activities will not be difficult. I am looking forward to helping Otis in September with the Music Fest.

I ask all of you to volunteer some of your time to help YOUR post. We need you and new members to keep YOUR Post successful.

Gary Brockman Junior vice Commander

## FINANCE OFFICER

# 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 for additional information.

William R. Winters Finance Officer

# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Final taps have sounded for seven of our comrades.

The following Veterans have been called to the Post Everlasting:

- Andrew Kuebrich- 18 Year Member Korea Army
- Dominic M. Glorioso- 44 Year Member-World War II- Army
- Galen Everett-17 Year Member-USAF-WWII-
- Albert V. Cappetta—26 Year Member-USAF-Korea
- Fred Mondt–27 Year Member-World War II- Army
- John A. Nordstrom—15 Year Member-Korea-Army
- Lawrence T. Matkaitis—27 Year Member-Vietnam

Since the Post 854 - 2016 Memorial Day Observance, the above Seven individuals have joined their fellow comrades in Post Everlasting. Please remember them and all our deceased comrades. 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.

William R. Winters Chaplain On Sunday, August 14, 2016, I took my wife and my grandchildren to Springfield for the Illinois State Fair. Sunday was Veteran's day and all Veterans were given free admission. One of the local businesses provided a free lunch for the Veterans. In the hall (known as The Shed) there were tables of every kind set up with various Veteran's Organizations directed toward Veteran's and Veteran's needs. The Department of Veteran Affairs was there and all you had to do was show identification and they could produce a copy of your DD214. They would answer any question you might have had concerning benefits, etc. The Secretary of State was present also. They were selling "Military" license plates and also had a spot set up to get your Veteran classification on your driver's license. There was an entire schedule set up for Veteran's events. They really did it up first class. If you can make it next year, it is sure worth the time.

For God and Country, Jim Quintavalle Adjutant

# SERVICE OFFICIER

Please remember our members who are in nursing homes, disabled and our departed comrades in your prayer. Since the 1st of July we have lost 5-WWII members, 3-Korean War members and 2-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.

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

#### SERGEANT AT ARMS



I am getting my sea legs in this new position and am not ready to provide a meaningful article. Be ready next time though!

Rich Venckus Sgt-at-Arms

## **COLOR GUARD**



Just want to thank all of the guys that attended the Evergreen Park Independence Day parade. Special thanks to Rich Tipping for the use of his trailer and to Otis for the JEEP with the horn. Good thing it doesn't have a siren. Five of us walked the parade route this year. It's been two or three years since we have been able to do that. We received quite a few compliments from the crowd. We hope to do it again next year.

We received new flags and other equipment that Bill Winters ordered for us. "Bugle Bob" Hestroffer and Bob Staudacher helped with replacing the worn and torn flags and rearranging the flag closet. Thank you both! All set for our next gig.

As always we are looking for new members, especially if you are able to walk in the parade.

**Color Guard Captains:** 

 Gary Brockman
 Ron (Otis) Reding

 708-610-4173
 773-931-5636

# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Greetings SAL Members,

We had our last meeting @ 11AM Saturday, Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>. It was a complete success. Our next meeting is going to be @ 11AM Saturday Oct 1<sup>st</sup> at the Post in the member's room.

Still looking for volunteers for Queen of Hearts on Wednesdays from 5:30PM to 7:30PM and Bingo on Sundays from 5PM to 7:30PM. I have the signup sheet if you are interested.

We are also looking for volunteers for our trip in the fall to Manteno to assist with our senior Veterans. All of our activities are awesome and a lot of fun.

I am sorry to report our picnic for Sept has been cancelled and rescheduled for next year.

Remember to keep our friend John Konecki in your thoughts & prayers.

If you are unable to help out, just come up and visit with us when you have time.

Any Questions Call Dennis @ 708 422 5248 or Cell 708 476 5900

Dennis Reilly SAL Commander

## NOTICE TO ALL SAL MEMBERS

As we enter the 2016-2017 season, you are reminded that "DUES are DUE and YOU know WHO"!

Our yearly dues remain at \$15.00 and will take you through June of 2017. Your card grants you access to any Legion Post in the nation! The sooner you get your dues squared away, the sooner I will stop pestering you to renew.

If you have paid and have your card - THANKS! If you haven't, please don't be tardy and submit today.

Bruce Petersen Adjutant SAL Squadron 854

#### **AUXILIARY NEWS**

The first meeting of the 2016-2017 year will be held on Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. It will feature the young women we sponsored for Ilini State this summer.

Our October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting will be joined by the new officers of the 8<sup>th</sup> District. We will also have a guest speaker – Mrs. Patricia Morrin will give us a presentation about her mother Rona Cox's wedding dress. Rona was a Veteran, an Auxiliary member, and Passed Commander of the Post. Her dress was made of parachute silk.

Save the date, Friday, November 4th, we will have our annual spaghetti dinner. It will be held from 5 to 8 PM at the Post. It will feature raffles, a bake sale, and delicious spaghetti.

New Officers 2016-2017:

President Nora Kay Cummings 1st VP Diane Wozniak  $2^{\rm nd} \, VP$ Sharon Alexander Secretary Rose Hunniford Treasurer Diane Reding Chaplain Signe Morgan **Judith Smith** Historian Sgt. at Arms Virginia Staudacher

Looking forward to seeing you at our September 26th and our October 24th meetings at 7:00 PM.

Nora Cummings Women's Auxiliary President

# BOY'S 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 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 nineteen of the new board.

BE SURE TO BUY YOUR TICKETS FOR OUR WEEKLY <u>QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING ON</u> WENESDAY AT 7:00 PM. YOU CAN'T WIN IF YOU DON'T PLAY!!!

# 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

View our Web Address: legionpost854.com

# 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

# **Attention Comrades:**

John Weinburger asks if anyone has a spare U. S. Marine, Air Force, and Coast Guard flag. He is working with the Kozary Funeral Home to have them displayed at all times. If you can supply him with one, call 1.773.239-0604.

Thanks

## **EDITOR**

# Newsletter articles for our November/December Newsletter will be due by our 18 October 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.

Jim Quintavalle

Editor

## ONE LAST NOTE

Attention Comrades!

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. 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 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

# SEPTEMBER 2016

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# OCTOBER 2016

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