



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

July/August 2016

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

My fellow Legionnaires,

Greetings,

**IF YOU ARE READING THIS AND YOUR NEWSLETTER IS
OTHER THAN WHITE,
IT MEANS THAT YOUR 2016 DUES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID.
WE ARE STILL HOLDING YOUR 2016 MEMBERSHIP CARD.**

In July 2016 you will receive a statement of renewal for your 2017 dues. You will notice that the dues have increased to \$35.00. *All statements we receive with checks of \$30.00 will be returned.* You can renew your members online at www.members.legion.org/renew, it's easy and painless.

If you would like your Illinois State Driver's License to reflect your veteran status and get a State issued ID for free. The following must be done. Take your ORIGINAL DD-214 to the Orland Park VA center at 14700 S. Ravinia St., Lower Level. See the VA rep from 9:00AM TO 1:00 PM daily. She will certify your DD-214 and you will go to the Secretary of State on the first floor and get you license and State ID card. Cost is \$5.00 for License & ID. It is free if you are over 65yrs old. You can also get your retired military ID card changed if your VA card contains your social security number.

The "Queen of Hearts" raffle is getting bigger. The grand total payout is approaching \$10,000.00. We pull the winning ticket, every Wednesday at 7:00 PM. So stop by the post for your tickets and have some fun.

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. The first group of Korean War vets left Midway Airport on April 13, 2016.

The Tribune followed us around for a few days last and they put together a video of what we do. It can be found on the Tribune website. Search for "Post 854"

Important Dates: August 19, 2016-The Post have its installation dinner and entertainment, you are all invited. Cocktails at 6:00 PM and dinner after. Please dress appropriately.

William J. Cooper

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

SENIOR VICE

My fellow Veterans,

Please support Ron "Otis" Reding as well as you supported me in his new role as your Senior Vice Commander.

Thanks for a great ride

Chuck Sulek
Sr. Vice 2015-2016.

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

ADJUTANT REPORT

I found an interesting article online and thought I would share parts of it with you.

Harry W. Colmery changed the world. The American Legion past national commander from Topeka, Kansas, can be credited for such phenomena as averting economic disaster when millions of U.S. troops returned home from World War II, democratizing higher education, making home ownership affordable for average Americans, driving forward racial equality, establishing an all-volunteer military, revolutionizing health care for Veterans, and turning the American dream into an American reality for generation. He drafted the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 - the GI Bill which propelled the United States to superpower status, launching an era of U.S. prosperity that continues today.

He truly was an example of every founding principle of The American Legion. His legacy is cast in bronze so that future generations will understand what one individual can accomplish for his community, state, and nation.

Private donors, American Legion Posts, and the Sons of the American Legion squadrons raised more than \$400,000 for the statue. The statue is located in Topeka, Kansas at their memorial plaza in downtown Topeka.

For God and Country,
Jim Quintavalle
Adjutant

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Final taps have sounded for three of our comrades.

The following have been called to the Post Everlasting

- William W. Bohne USMC 22 Year Member

- Henry "Otto" Meyer USA ~29 Year Member
- Roosevelt Lowe Jr. USMC – 46 Year Member

Since our 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.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR MEETINGS

William R. Winters
Chaplain

SERVICE OFFICIER

Please remember our departed comrades in your prayer.

William J. Cooper
Service Officer

SERGEANT AT ARMS



This will be my last article as Sgt-At-Arms for the Post Newsletter. Rich Venckus will be your new one. He will officially take over right after convention. This means that I can move up the proverbial chain of command and become the new Senior Vice Commander. Rich has been filling in for me for the past six months so he knows the ropes. So for the new members that I have not met yet come up to me and introduce yourself and between Rich, myself and the rest of the board we will answer any question or concerns that you might have.

It was an honor and privilege being your Sgt-At-Arms for these past few years. With that being said, *welcome aboard Rich, the helm is all yours. I know you will keep a straight and steady course. If all else fails "Aim High".*

Ron (Otis) Reding
Sgt-at-Arms

COLOR GUARD



We welcome Bob Leahy to the Color Guard. Bob joined us in May which is a very busy month for us. He got his feet wet quickly. Otis and I would like to thank the members of the Color Guard for their performance at the service for Past Commander Steve Davies. From the posting of the Colors at the wake, the Honor Guard the next day at the chapel and church, and the rifle volley at the cemetery was for most of us the first time the Color Guard performed this type of ceremony. It was a job well done.

While all this was going on, we were being filmed by Chis Walker. Mr. Walker is a videographer for the Chicago Tribune. He heard that our Post had a Color Guard and he wanted to do a piece in time for Memorial Day. He was not familiar with the Legion and all that we do. He came to our various functions and filmed them. When he finished he was impressed and had a good grasp on what the Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons do. The link to the finished project is as follows: "<http://www.chicagotribune.com/ct-so-chicago-veterans-day-american-legion-video-20160526-premiumvideo.html>". There is probably a shorter way, but I'm a computer idiot. It's about 6-7 minutes long and well worth the time and trouble to look it up. Mr. Walker did a great job!

We also want to thank Rich Tipping for his expert knowledge and assistance in cleaning the rifles. As always we are looking for members to join us. If you are interested come, see us.

Gary Brockman
708-610-4173

Ron (Otis) Reding
773-931-5636

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Greetings SAL Members,

We had an election at our last SAL meeting on 4 June 2016. The results were as follows:

- Commander: Dennis Reilly
- Senior Vice Commander: Stanley Marszalek
- Junior Vice Commander: Michael Coffey

- Finance: William Winters
- Adjutant: Bruce Peterson

I would like to take this opportunity to thank David Pasciak for his service and assistance as outgoing Senior Vice Commander this past year. He will still be our representative on the picnic committee which is looking for volunteers for our Sept. 10th picnic at the post. We passed a motion to donate \$1000 to the Evergreen pantry. We are still looking for help for the bingo kitchen on Sundays and the Queen of Hearts on Wednesdays.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday Aug. 6th at 11 AM in the member's room. Our post is celebrating our 75th anniversary next year so let's make an effort to increase our membership to make next year a tremendous success. The Squadron has taken out a full page ad for the Detachment Convention and applied for 100% membership banner. Looking forward to seeing up at the Legion in the next few months.

Dennis Reilly

SAL Commander

AUXILIARY NEWS

A big thank you to all of the men and women who helped out during our Poppy Days on 26, 27, and 28 May. Special thanks to Virginia and Bob Staudacher for doing a great job organizing the event.

New Officers 2016 - 2017

- President - Nora Cummings
- 1st Vice President - Diane Wozniak
- 2nd Vice President - Sharon Alexander
- Treasurer - Diane Reding
- Sgt at Arms - Virginia Staudacher
- Chaplin - Signe Morgan
- Secretary - Rose Hunniford

May was a busy month for us. We held our Americanism Essay Contest and participated in the Post Everlasting Service.

Note: We will have no meetings in July or August.

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



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.

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

EDITOR

Newsletter articles for our July/August Newsletter will be due by our 16 August Meeting. Make sure to have them in by then.

Some of you will be receiving your newsletter electronically via email. Unless you reported an issue (*I didn't get It.*); you will no longer get a hard copy via U. S. Post. There will be some of you just beginning to get the newsletter electronically. You will also get a hard copy via U. S. Post. Please answer the email asking if you did in fact receive it electronically.

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. You will renew comradeship with some old friends. You will enjoy creating new comradeship with some new friends. You will be a part of the “*active Post*” and not a part of the silent membership.

Think about this: you will be fed for attending! You can participate in two drawings for \$1!

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

JULY 2016

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