



The Legion-Air

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Commander

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Adjutant/Editor



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December 2020

Commander's Message:

On behalf of my family I would like to extend a Happy Thanksgiving to all our Legion Family. Please stay safe and keep a safe distance so we might stop this horrendous virus. You know a zoom Thanksgiving is not a bad idea for this year. That is what my family will be doing.

Here we go again! Partially shut down. We have had to cancel the November and December Erie County Executive meetings due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic guidelines limits that the Governor has imposed. We will keep you informed when we can go back to at least Erie County Executive Meetings.

Please, when you go out, wear your mask and stay six feet apart. The doctors seem to think that we should follow the rules of mask wearing and staying apart to get the COVID-19 Virus under control. Obviously, the vaccines are hopefully going to end the hardships we have all had to endure.

I want to again congratulate Milton J. Brounshidle Post #205 as they have received both the Department Law and Order Award for Tonawanda Police Officer Julia Taylor, the second year in a row for this award, and also the Department Award for Legionnaire of the Year Wayne Baumgartner. WOW on both accounts!

Editor's Note:

The WNY National Veterans Cemetery located in Pembroke, NY will be dedicated with a private invite only ceremony next week. The first interments are projected to take place before the end of this year.

Membership – VC Paul Wackowski

Unfortunately, as we continue to deal with the COVID-19 Pandemic, personal contact with our current members to obtain renewals and recruit new members has been very difficult.

Please remember to utilize all very effective means to reach out to our Veterans. Make sure you continue your periodic newsletters, send emails, US Postal Mail reminders, Facebook, Twitter, etc. I know that the Posts continue to be a valuable source of assistance in your communities, so effectively utilize these communication vehicles to spread the word about The American Legion.

I will continue to send out updates on membership totals thru our County Adjutant or you can review information on the Department website in the membership section.
<https://nylegion.net/membership/>

Thanks go out to everyone as they work to continue their work on keeping our membership strong. As of 11/16, Erie County currently stands at 70.4%. Great job everyone!

For those Posts still using paper transmittals, in can take up to two months for your updated totals to appear. Now is the time to pick up a new skill and begin using the MYLEGION membership processing software.

https://www.members.legion.org/CGI-BIN/lansaweb?wam=REGISTER&webtrn=User_Agree&ml=LANSA:XHTML&part=TAL&lang=ENG

Or, search on MYLEGION Officer Login, click on User Registration to begin the process.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Mission Blue Assistance Program

The National American Legion has created a \$1,000 grant program to assist Posts during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The submission must be sent to Department Headquarters for approval and they will send the approved application on to National Headquarters. Send to ann@nylegion.org,

Application must be received at National by the end of 2021. The application must include required attachments.

- Corporation Papers
- Insurance Certificate needs to list National as additionally insured
- What they are using the money for
- What Legion programs they participated in over the last 18 months
- Last filing of IRS 990 papers
- Department will check to see if 2020 – 2021 Post Officers and the 2020 Consolidated Post Report was submitted.

I have sent out the fillable PDF form on previous emails. Contact me if you need again or assistance.

Jim Bojanowski
Erie County Adjutant

Americanism – VC Gary Wald

Remember Pearl Harbor Day on December 7.

We in the American Legion can make a difference. In the words of Ronald Regan: “Some people live an entire lifetime and wonder if they have ever made a difference in the world. A Veteran doesn’t have that problem.”

Have a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, & Happy New Year. Stay safe out there.

2020 Erie County Education Awardees.

Thanks to all who donated to assist our future college graduates. Art Forman & Martin Moot

Maeve Hall – Hamburg
Thomas Kolasny – Delavan
Renee Rozler- Hamburg
Madeline Ferro – Hamburg
Kimberly Pham – Cheektowaga
Hope Willert – West Seneca
Carolyn Steffers - Lancaster



Special Activities – VC Fred Pask

We are entering the final month of 2020, I still have 2021 Calendars remaining to be sold. With the Erie County meetings being canceled, dropping off/picking up additional Calendars or money and stubs is more difficult.

I still have about 100 calendars to distribute. To facilitate getting additional Calendars or dropping off money and stubs for sold tickets, please contact me to make arrangements. I am willing to meet at a convenient location. You can mail money and stubs to me at the address listed below.

Fred Pask
102 Golden Pond Estates
Akron, NY 14001

Phone: H **716 542-2065** C **716 512- 4321**
Have a great Thanksgiving and stay safe.
Thank you

Veterans Day 2020

Erie County American Legion annual services at Forest Lawn Cemetery were canceled due to the Covid pandemic. A special WBEN radio program sponsored by Forest Lawn Cemetery was broadcasted. The link to listen to this program is still active.

<https://www.radio.com/wben/podcasts/wben-930am-latest-audio-20616/wben-forest-lawn-veterans-day-ceremony-2020-349800100>

A tip of the Cap to the following Posts who contacted the County and held formal Veterans Day Services in their community.

- **Milton J. Brounshidle #205**
- **Newell-Faulkner #880**
- **Sardinia Post #1131**
- **Francis J. Donovan #1626**

Newell Faulkner Post #880 2912 Legion Drive,
Eden, NY 14057 **TAKE OUT ONLY**
Wednesday's, 75 Cent Wings,
Thursday's Steak Night
Friday Nights, Fish Fries and Specials
Saturday, Pizza & Wing's and Sandwiches
Regular menu also available, Wed.-Sat.
OPEN - WED., THUR., SAT., 3PM. TO 9PM.
FRIDAY 12 NOON to 9PM.
CLOSED SUN., MON., TUES.
MENU & TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
www.post880.com go to kitchen link

Francis J. Donovan Post #1626, 3210 Genesee
St. Cheektowaga, NY 14225
Take Out Only Fish fry's with full menu and
monthly Specials. Call 896-3346.

Hamburg Post #527
2 Memorial Dr. off Evans St. in the Village of
Hamburg. TO GO ONLY
Spaghetti Dinners on Thursdays 4 to 7 PM.
Pasta, Sauce, Meatball(s), Salad, Bread,
Butter. Phone in orders after 2 PM at 208-7852.
Open to All, Walk-in's Welcome, Curbside
Service. Regular Order \$7. Large Order \$9.
NO DINNERS ON DECEMBER 24th & 31st

To All Veterans



Whether At Home Or Abroad
Active Duty ~ Reserves ~ Retired
All Americans Say:
THANK YOU!

Happy Thanksgiving to our entire
American Legion Family!



Thursday County Meeting Dates

The last Erie County American Legion
Executive Meeting that was scheduled for
Thursday 11/19 at 7 PM at Matthew Glab
Post #1477 was canceled due to COVID-19.

In order to ensure safety with all of our
Veterans and their Families the December
Erie Executive County Meeting scheduled
for Thursday 12/17 at Francis J. Donovan
Post #1626, is canceled.

The next tentatively scheduled Erie County
Executive meeting is Thursday January 28,
at 7 PM at Niagara Frontier Post #1041.
The meeting will follow current COVID-19
Pandemic guidelines for late January 2021.
Casual Legion attire.
Dinners will NOT be served.
Please contact the Commander or Adjutant if
you have a report to be added to the agenda.

Three Posts have not turned in their
updated Officer list. They are 78, 1449, &
1659. Thanks to all who turned in their
updated 2020 – 2021 Officers.

FYI To receive email copy of the newsletter,
please send a request email to the Erie County
Office at veteran14202@verizon.net. By
special exception, a newsletter can be mailed.

Erie County Website – eriecountyal.org
Office Hours, M,W,F – 7:30 AM to 12:30 PM



SUBMISSIONS
For the December
"The Legion-Air"
Due December 18
thelegionair@gmail.com

Finance Officer Joe Porempski Memorandum to Posts:

Just a reminder that PUFL per capita of \$ 2.00 per member to the County is due now as it is not remitted by the Department out of the dues they send you. It is your responsibility to remit it to the County as noted in the Department communication sent to you. Please send in the respective per capita to County headquarters as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.



8th District Commander Bill Miskell presents the District Legionnaire of the Year Cap to Wayne Baumgartner of the Milton J. Brounshidle Post #295 at the October Erie County Meeting.



8th District Commander Bill Miskell presents the District Law & Order Award to Tonawanda Police Officer Julia Taylor at the October Conference.

Send in your articles for the Legion-Air to thelegionair@gmail.com by 12/18 for the January 2021 edition. PCC Jim Bojanowski Editor

Department of New York website - <https://nylegion.net>
National American Legion website - <https://www.legion.org>
Erie County American Legion website - <http://www.eriecountyal.org>

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