



The Legion-Air

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Commander

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February 2020

Commander's Message:

I want to remind all Post Commanders that I would like to come and visit your Post during your meeting. Please call me at 716-867-5730 to decide what date and time would be best for my visitation.

This past week I along with members from Erie County Staff attended 2020 mid-winter meetings. I want to believe that we all learned some very important information. Every Post should try and send someone to these meetings. It is only two days. They have what I consider a class although they are called meetings on Membership, Boys State, Child and Youth, Press Releases, many other interesting topics. So next year why not consider it.

I also had the opportunity to attend the District Oratorical contest. I give the six students a 100% for taking part. Yes, there was a winner but, in my heart, they were all winners.

How many Posts want to get to 100%? Going over the Department report for January, I counted 11 County Posts that have not signed up a new member. In fact, the County has only 104 new members. So, I ask that you listen to Paul as he gives his report and try to sign up a new member and get unpaid members paid so we help Bill Miskell and the mighty Eighth District beat District Seven.

Thank you very much God Bless each of you, God bless all our troops, and God Bless the USA.

Membership – VC Paul Wackowski

I'd like to take a moment and "Thank" all the Post Commanders and Membership Chairmen for all of your efforts and hard work to recruit new members and retain current members at your Posts to attain your membership goals. However, there is still work to be done.

After reviewing the latest Department Membership Report, there are Posts that need assistance in obtaining their membership goal. Therefore, I will be contacting them in an effort to offer them some suggestions on recruitment of new members and getting members that have not renewed their 2020 membership to do so.

I can be reached at; 716 - 262-5245
or paulwackowski@yahoo.com

UPDATE: Should any PUFL Member in your Post request a transfer to another Post they need to contact National at; 1 - 800 - 433 - 3318 [Customer Service], ask to be transferred to the PUFL Department or My Legion.com to place their request. Legion Posts, and County cannot process a PUFL Transfer on MYLEGION. Transferring a PUFL can be done by submitting the proper paperwork documentation to Department Headquarters.

Special Activities – VC Gary Wald

My sincerest thank you to all who are participating in selling the County Calendars. You're doing a tremendous job !! I have collected 935 stubs to date. If you still want a couple of calendars, please let me know because I'm always packing a few with me, and I know where others are out in the field. I will start tabulating to see who the incentive winners for the three cash prizes are. They will be awarded at our March meeting.

Dept. Leadership Visitation – Anthony Solina

The dinner honoring Department Commander Michael McDermott, Department President Linda Tome, and Detachment Commander Dennis George will be on Saturday, February 15, 2020 at the Matthew Glab Post #1477, 1965 Abbott Road, Lackawanna. Cost \$32, cash bar cocktails at 6 PM, dinner at 7 PM. Paid reservations must be made with the County Office by Friday 2/7. No reservations or payment the week of the dinner or at the door.

Legionnaire of the Year – Kathleen Garvey

Now is the time to start submitting your candidate for Legionnaire of the Year. This is a great way to recognize your members. Posts please start to work on submissions for Legionnaire of the Year. Information regarding Legionnaire of the Year is available on the Erie County American Legion web page under Bulletin Board and Events. You can find the page at <http://www.eriecountyal.org/pdf%20files/2020%20Guidelines%20EC%20Legionnaire%20of%20the%20Year.pdf>

Please make sure that the resume DOES NOT contain the name, gender, post name and number and community of the candidate. Submit the resume of your candidate to: Chairman Kathleen Garvey, 5792 Main Street, Williamsville NY 14221 NO LATER THAN APRIL 11, 2020. Please include a resume cover sheet that will identify the candidate, his/her Post name, number, and relative information that has been omitted from the resume. Cover sheets MUST be sealed in a plain white envelope and attached to the resume.

Law & Order – Ron Diebold

Each year, the American Legion gives its National Law Officer, Fireman, And Emergency Medical Technician of the Year Award to a well-rounded candidate who has exceeded the duty requirements expected of his or her position and has demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service coupled with professional achievement. The process starts at the County level. The winning candidate will then be submitted to the District and then on to Department. Only one winner per Department is submitted to National. Please start now in our search for a worthy candidate. Applications will be submitted in the spring. More information will be available at the next County meeting.



Americanism – VC Fred Pask

The American Legion's interest in Immigration and Naturalization focuses on the security and protection of our Nation's borders, the assimilation of immigrants into American society, immigration quotas, and citizenship and naturalization matters.

The Americanism Commission works closely with the Legislative Commission to review all legislation affecting these subjects.

The American Legion is unalterably opposed to illegal immigration and the granting of amnesty to any and all illegal aliens.

The American Legion supports rigid enforcement of employer sanctions as called for in current laws that provide penalties for employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens.

The American Legion supports a temporary workers program for certain industries that face persistent and/or seasonal labor shortages, but supports the establishment of a numerical quota established and under the control the appropriate government agency.

The American Legion insists that legal immigrants be admitted in such numbers that can be readily absorbed into the life stream of America and would not displace veterans from either employment or housing.

American Legion Americanism Manual, page28.

JR. Shooters – Tim Winterhalter

WNY Maritime Charter School Jr. Shooters recently attended the National American Legion Competition and placed 23rd out of 58 Teams. Great job! The County helped sponsor them with the application fees.



Saturday February 15

MJ Brounshidle Post #205, 3354 Delaware Ave. Kenmore, 14217, Spaghetti Dinner 4 to 8 PM. Pasta, Meatball, Salad, Bread, NA Drink, \$9 full order, \$5 half order.

Sunday February 16

ALL YOU CAN EAT Pancake Breakfast at A. J. Jurek Post #1672, 655 New Rd., Swormville, 14051, 8 AM - 12:30 PM. Fresh, buttermilk pancakes, "Egglands Best" eggs, link & patty sausage, juice & coffee or tea. Adults \$8.

Saturday February 22

Matthew Glab Post #1477 is playing your dance favorites - Crash Cadillac from 7 to 11 PM. Admission \$10, 1 Free Drink, Bring Snacks

Sunday February 23

MJ Brounshidle Post #205, All you can eat Pancake Breakfast, from 9 AM to 1 PM, w Eggs, Sausage, OJ, Coffee, & Tea. Adults \$8, 12 & Under \$5.

Newell-Faulkner Post 880, 2912 Legion Dr., Eden, 14057, Wednesday 75 cent wings, dine in only. Thursday steak night. Friday night fish fries and specials. Saturday pizza, wing's and sandwiches. Regular menu also Wed.-Sat. Go to kitchen link, www.post880.com.

- **Eden Winter Fest 2/7 – 2/9** on Legion Grounds.

- **Snowmobile Run February 15**

Proceeds to benefit Homeless Veterans, Registration 9 AM. Depart 11 AM. \$15 each, Additional \$10 per rider. Live Band 6 PM. Everett Lee & Underground Stampede.

Hamburg Post 527

Spaghetti Dinners. Served on Thursdays, 4:30 to 7:00 PM. Meatballs, salad, bread. Coffee \$.50 (refills free). Full order \$8.50. Half order \$6.50.

Francis Donovan Post #1626

3210 Genesee St. Cheektowaga 14225, Friday Fish Fry's from 4-8 PM. Music in February:

- Feb 7 GD Rose Country and Western Show

- Feb 14 Valentine's Day Show and Party with

F.O.M.R. Band,

- Feb 28 Hello Molly Band

South Buffalo Post #721

located at 136 Cazenovia St. Buffalo, 14210 is serving Spaghetti Dinners the first Monday of each month from 5 – 7 PM. Monday February 10, 17 & 24 - Beef n Wing nights (65 cent wings, dine in only) 5:30 – 8 PM.



Thursday County Meeting Dates

Executive Dinner Meeting: 6:30 PM

Regular meeting starts approximately at 8 PM

February 27 Matthew Glab Post #1477

1965 Abbott Rd. Lackawanna, NY 14218

Menu: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes w/ gravy
Green Beans, Corn, Chef Salad, Rolls & Butter
Coffee/Tea, Dessert: Assortment of Pastries

March 26 David McKeever Post #64

April 30 East Aurora Post #362

Sunday February 9

8th District Meeting – Erie County

Thomas E. Tehan Post #1449, 2076 Electric Ave. Blasdell, NY 14219

NOON - Membership Mtg.

1:00 PM – General Meeting

Albany Hill Day – 2/24 & 2/25

Please notify Adjutant Bojanowski if you are planning to attend ASAP. We are working on teams to visit our Albany representative offices.

NY American Legion College 6/5, 6/6, & 6/7

This is a great year to attend the College if you have never been. The County Convention will not be conflicting this year since the convention will be held on 6/13.

FYI To receive email copy of the newsletter, please send a request email to the Erie County Office at veteran14202@verizon.net. The last print edition of The Legion-Air was December 2019. Only by special exception, will a newsletter be mailed at first class postage.

Erie County Website – eriecountyal.org

Office Hours, M,W,F – 7:30 AM to 12:30 PM



SUBMISSIONS
For the March
"The Legion-Air"
Due February 28
thelegionair@gmail.com

Erie County Commander Thomas O'Connell presents our campaign contribution to leading candidate for New York Department Commander Frank LaMarsh from Richmond County. Other Legion attendees at the conference were Gary Wald, Paul Wackowski, Fred Pask, Jim Bojanowski, Joe Porempski, Sue Quirk, Joe Cash, Charles Herschlag, Tim Van Patten, John Siefert, Marty Moot, Dennis McCarthy, Bill Miskell, John Kasmer, Art Forman, Tom Deinzer, Nelson Oldfield, Wayne Sorrentino, Bruce Mayfield, Patrick Bapst, & Jeffrey Cipolla.



2019 Buffalo Department Convention Chairman Jim Bojanowski presented two checks from our funds at the Mid-Winter Albany Conference. One check for \$1,000 to Department Commander Michael McDermott's project for America's VetDogs, and another check for \$4,000 to NYS Veterans Temporary Financial Assistance.



**Send in your articles for the Legion-Air to thelegionair@gmail.com by 2/28 for the March edition.
PCC Jim Bojanowski Editor**

Editor's Note:

A wealth of information can be accessed online at the Department of New York website.
Overall website address - <https://nylegion.net>
From here you can access all general information by clicking on various topics presented.
Specific other direct webpage links:
Membership - <https://nylegion.net/membership>
All overall program information can be accessed here - <https://nylegion.net/programs-services>
Scroll down and click on the various programs on the right side of the screen.

National American Legion website - <https://www.legion.org>

Erie County American Legion website - <http://www.eriecountyal.org>

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