

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

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CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

Sat	Aug 1	2:00 – 8:00 PM	Wedding in Banquet Room
Mon	Aug 3	7:00 PM	Squadron 770 Sons of the American Legion Meeting
Weds	Aug 5	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs	Aug 6	FLAG	Purple Heart Day
Sat	Aug 8	8:00AM – 1:00 PM	Red Cross Bloodmobile – Have you given lately?
		7:00 – 11:00 PM	Summer Dance Presented by the SAL with DJ & Karaoke
			Cash Bar – Public Welcome
Mon	Aug 10	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting – (Only One This Month)
			Voting on a By-Law Amendment (See Special Events)
Weds	Aug 12	Noon	Senior Citizens Luncheon Meeting
Fri	Aug 14	FLAG	VJ Day 1945
		5:30 – 8:00 PM	Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Phil Colvin’s crew
Sat	Aug 15	7:00 PM	Set up for Furniture Auction in Banquet Room
Sun	Aug 16	1:00 – 7:00 PM	Furniture Auction (More info in paper ads)
Fri – Thurs		Aug 21 st – 27 th	National American Legion Convention at Louisville, Kentucky
Sun	Aug 23	TBA	Set up Food Tent at the Fairgrounds
		7:30 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
Mon	Aug 24	7:00 PM	Tompkins County American Legion Meeting at Post 221
Tues – Sun		Aug 25 th – 30 th	American Legion Food Tent at the Fair (See Special Events)
Sat	Aug 29		Trumansburg Fair Fireman’s Parade (See Special Events)

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

American Legion Food Tent at the Fair: will take place Tuesday thru Sunday, August 25th – 30th all day long. This is another fundraiser for the American Legion family and it takes an enormous number of volunteers to prepare and serve breakfast, lunch and dinner every day. Please check with Al Richar if you want to be placed on a crew or stop in at the Post and sign up. Something new this year – we will be serving BBQ chicken on Saturday night because neither Rotary or any other group is doing it this year. The pits are next to our tent so why not cash in? We are counting on you.

Trumansburg Fair Firemans Parade: The parade will begin at 5:00 PM sharp on Saturday, August 29th. Parade lineup will commence at 4:00 PM. We will form our color guard at the Post at 4:15 and head over to the starting point at about 4:30. Uniforms will be will Legion logo or short sleeve shirts, dark navy or black pants and shoes, and a Legion hat. If you are unable to walk we are hoping to have a flat bed transportation for you. Let’s have a good turnout for this event.

Post 770 By-Laws Amendment: The American Legion membership voted unanimously at their June 22nd meeting to amend ByLaw Article XIV Trustees – Section 1 which reads as follows: The Post may elect nine trustees, seven of which are American Legion members, and one Auxiliary and one Sons of the American Legion member to serve in accordance with the provision of the Benevolent Orders Law and who shall have the care, management and control of all the temporalities and property of the Post. Pursuant to section vie of the Benevolent Orders Law, after the Trustees are first elected they shall, by lot, be assigned a term of one, two or three years and here after all the Trustees shall be elected for terms of three years. The amendment will add Part A which states: The duties of the Auxiliary and Sons of American Legion members shall be to gather and dispense appropriate information to their units and Board members. The Auxiliary and Sons of American Legion members shall not have voting privileges. By rule, once the amendment porposal has been

made available to the American Legion membership, a vote of acceptance will be held at the next meeting which will be on August 10th. The By-Laws were last updated in 2006.

Walk of Honor: We continue to accept orders for bricks to be etched and installed among the many that are already part of our "Walk of Honor". Order forms are available near the entryway in the lounge. The purchase of a brick is a meaningful way to honor a veteran.

Post 770 Website: www.Post770.com Why not pull up our website and see what is new? If you have any newsworthy items that would be of interest to our Legion family, please contact Patrick Richar, 111Third Street, Waterford, NY 12188-2430

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Sick Call: Jim Rohan: Surgery

Bill Hall: CMC

Taps: Ethel L. VanValen: Passed away on Sunday, June 21st at Beechtree Care Center in Ithaca. Her family of children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren surrounded her. At the age of 101 years the family celebrated Christmas together including her great grandson of 1 year of age, a span of 100 years. Ethel was the mother of Legion members George & Chloe VanValen.

Jerome A. "Jerry" VanRiper: died at Cayuga Medical Center on June 26, 2009. He proudly served his country as a 1st Lieutenant in the US Army from 1963 – 1965. A celebration of Jerry's life was held at the Post 770 American Legion.

Letha A. Dean: passed away at home on Sunday, June 28, 2009. Letha was the sister of Post 770 members Clarence, Earl, and Kenneth Wright.

A General Reminder: It has always been a tradition at the Post that anyone attending calling hours for a departed member, meet at the Post, hat in hand, and go to the funeral home at 7:00 PM as a group.

POST NEWS

The VanValen's and Colvin's journeyed to Alexandria Bay over the 4th of July to witness the spectacular fire works originating from Boldt Castle and bursting in air over the St. Lawrence River. It was indeed quite a show. However, our visit to their American Legion was just as fruitful. As we entered the Post situated on American Legion Street, several people cooking hamburgers & hot dogs on a BBQ grill greeted us. We were given plates of freshly cooked burgers, baked bean, potato salad, and etc., which were all free. That was an impressive introduction to our stay at the Post. As we looked around we were quite impressed with a knitted American flag about 5x8 feet in size. Upon closer examination each of the 50 stars appeared to be knitted individually and sewn on. It was quite a piece of work. After donating to the cause through a few pull-tabs we were ready to call it a day. ...Did you have a great time at the Spring Dance back in April sponsored by the SAL? If you did, brace yourself for a summer dance. David LaPadula informed me that he has acquired the DJ and the SAL is once again taking the reins and putting on what promises to be a real fun night. You won't want to miss it. August 8th at 7:00 PM. ...Henry Van Ness called with a Post 770 American Legion baseball schedule, but it was too late to get it in the newsletter. I hope many of you were able to attend some of the games, which were played in June & July. The Journal and Free Press usually printed the results of games that were played each night in our area. Under the headline "Trumansburg Legion Takes Two" there appeared a full-page write up about our team in the Free Press. According to the article our Post 770 team "reads almost like an all star team. Athletes from 5 different towns compete on the same team, in the same uniform." Some are in their last year of eligibility, having played a year in college and others are on their way to college. Still more have at least one more year of High School left. Nearly everyone on the team has been an all star or honorable mention. One of the parents said these are all the kids who really want to play the game. As we write this newsletter there is still another week of Legion baseball to go. Hope our guys keep their impressive record going. ...Wow! What a turnout for the Father's Day breakfast. 237 people were served and the crew apologizes to those that had to wait a long time. With food running out and the overwhelmed crew tiring we are sure there were some problems. They did their best, but can you believe it, 237 served!!!... We noticed Phil Garrow died recently. Although not a member and perhaps not a veteran, he and Lulu Powless used to be regulars at our Post. Lulu died last year. ...We recently received a copy of the Elmira Heights July, August and September newsletter. Wow, 3 months in one issue. We have a difficult time coming up with a calendar of one month. I've often thought it would be a savings to publish every other month, but again, we seem to be able to only figure out our schedule one month in advance. I love the design of both the Heights and Waterloos Legion newsletter, however we are just not that gifted when it comes to setting up a computer-designed newsletter. We would really welcome someone who would be willing to do that.

While checking our bulletin board for current events the other day I was appalled with it's clutter of past events and covered up new events. There is just not enough room. The glass bulletin board next to it is attractive but has no real purpose as far as events are concerned. Couldn't we use both bulletin boards more efficiently? Would some one be willing to take on this project and keep our notices current? ...As we write this newsletter Grass Roots is just getting started today, the 16th of July. I'm sure it will provide us with some interesting happening. Tune in Post news next month to find out what took place.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership for year 2008 – 2009 came to an abrupt halt at 365. Our quota was 380; we were close but no cigar. There is still a slim chance that 15 more will sign up. Chances are this will not happen because we are now issuing 2009 – 2010 membership cards. We already have 47 members for the new year. If you are on active duty keep us informed or if you have been deactivated please re-up you membership. Although Postal authorities are not allowed to return our newsletter because we are a non-profit organization with a permit, I was able to find out that 5 newsletters were trashed in our local PO because of incorrect PO Box numbers or incorrect addresses. How many newsletters on the rural routes that are not being delivered, is anyone's guess. Please take a moment to be sure your address is correct and you are receiving your newsletter. If you know of a member that is not getting theirs, please clue them in as to why? We average \$88 per month on postal fees. Let's get our moneys worth.

Welcome new member Jeremy R. Yaw. Jeremy is now on active duty in the US Army.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Our 2009 – 2010 dues are now due. Seniors are \$20 and juniors are \$5. Remember if you pay your dues by September 30th, 2 names will be drawn for FREE dues for the year 2011 at the October meeting. No meetings until September. Thank you to all who baked for the Patrick Richar benefit. It was a very successful day and all had fun. If you know of a member that is sick or having surgery, please let our Chaplain Roberta Stilwell know. Our condolences to the following families: George VanValen on the loss of his mother Ethel, Jill Ahouse & Kari Blake on the loss of their father Karl, to the Liz Raymond family on her passing, and to Rose Mayo on the loss of her sister Letha. Our congratulations to Ron & Mary Schmidt on their 2nd granddaughter, Kayliegh Ann born July 1st 2009. We will need help at the food tent during the Fair, Aug 25th – 30th. Please consider signing up for a shift or two. Just let us know.

Submitted, Marge Bennett

DID YOU KNOW?

Vote out the Incumbents: Written by Ben Lillard, Newfield

I try not to take sides or get involved with political issues in the newsletters, however this particular article doesn't seem to favor one side or the other but presented a fascinating viewpoint. It appeared in the Journal and involved our Boys State week at Morrisville.

I recently spent a week at the American Legion Boy's State in Albany, where high school juniors from around the state gathered to create a government and learn how it works. I enjoyed doing my job as a Boy's State Senator. I also heard several speakers. To my delight, a real senator was one of them. Taking some well-earned time off from work, Sen. Joseph Griffo, R –Rome, explained to us the "Real" reason the Senate had been misbehaving. Apparently, the Republicans voted for the leadership change because the Democrats were hostile to attempts to reform the government. The majority rulers were also partial toward New York City, and so the two reform-minded Democrats helped stage the coup – at a convenient time in the legislative process. At the conclusion of Griffo's speech, I asked him that if the coup took place to reform government, why didn't the Republicans do it when they were in the majority for 40 years? But he has only been a senator for two years. As every other politician says, "it's someone else's fault." We need reform, but we need different people to do it. Vote against the incumbent senators in 2010.

An Article of Interest from Bill Parker:

They paid the price!

Back in September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a social studies teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten. On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principle, and the building supervisor, she removed all the desks out of her classroom. When the first period kids entered the room they discovered that there were no desks. Looking around, confused, they asked, "Mrs. Cothren, where are our desks?" She replied, "You can't have a desk until you tell me what you have done to earn the right to sit at a desk." They thought, "Well, maybe it's our grades." "No", she said. "Maybe it's our behavior." She told them, "No, it's not even your behavior." And so they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom. By early afternoon television news crews had started gathering in Mrs. Cothren's classroom to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room. The final period of the day came and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the desk less room, Martha Cothren said, "Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he/she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you." At this point Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it. Twenty-Seven US Veterans, all in uniforms, walked into the classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall. By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place, those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned. Martha said, "You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. Now it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, and to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don't ever forget it."