

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Circulation 700 Members

ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

Legion Telephone 387-4212

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CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

Sat	Jan 1	<b>FLAG</b>	Happy New Year! Football Bowl games on TV at the Post
Sun	Jan 2	5:00 PM	Squadron 770 Sons of the American Legion Meeting
Tues	Jan 4	7:00 PM	Unit 770 American Legion Auxiliary Meeting
Weds	Jan 5	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs	Jan 6	7:00 PM	Joint Legion Family Information Meeting with dish to share or not
Sun	Jan 9	8:00 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
Mon	Jan 10	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Fri	Jan 14	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Phil Colvin’s Crew
Sat	Jan 15	1:00 – 4:00 PM	Shower Hosted in the meeting room
Sun	Jan 16	1:00 PM	6 <sup>th</sup> District Winter Meeting at Post 154 – Elmira Heights
Mon	Jan 17	<b>FLAG</b>	Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday (Observed)
Weds	Jan 19	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
		7:00 PM	VFW Post 5498 Meeting
Fri	Jan 21	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Auxiliary Dinner – Public Invited
Sun	Jan 23	8:00 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
Mon	Jan 24	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Fri – Sun	Jan 28 – 30		Mid – Winter Conference in Albany

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Joint Legion Family Information Meeting** – will be held on Thursday, January 6th at 7:00 PM with a dish to share or not. These meetings have provided an opportunity for everyone to express ones opinions and suggestions. They are essential to the future of our Post. Why not take an hour or two for camaraderie and participation in our Posts affairs?

**Breakfasts** – We are continuing with our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday breakfasts. Where else can you order an entire menu of goodies for only \$4.50? Bring your friends and enjoy.

**Steak & Fish Fry** – will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month, January 14<sup>th</sup>. Come and enjoy our Black Angus steak and new lighter French fries along with the best salad bar this side of Cayuga Lake.

**Post 770 Website** – [www.Post770.com](http://www.Post770.com) – Patrick Richar at 111 Third Street, Waterford, NY 12188-2430, is looking for photos and info of interest to our Legion family. Checkout our website, who knows what you are likely to find.

**Post Volunteers** – We have been appealing to our Legion members to step up to the plate and you have been responding admirably. Lets put out a list of areas in which help is needed. Bartenders, kitchen crews, snow plowers & shovelers, sign changers, bulletin board changers, decorators, newsletter contributors and article writers, etc. Can you think of other areas we may have forgotten?

AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERSHIP

There are 380 members signed up or renewed for the 2004 – 2005 year. This is 66 short of the Department of New York quota we have been assessed. We have until convention time next summer to attain this goal. As of January 1, 2005, membership dues are \$25. If you have changed your address or know it to be incorrect, please contact us with an updated address so that we may correct it in our computer. Please welcome new members Brendan Binger, James Dew, Benjamin F

Williams, and Christopher Takatis. I believe all of these new members are currently serving in the Armed Forces. If you know of anyone currently serving, why not sign him or her up to an American Legion membership?

## NEWSLETTER

Let me start out by apologizing to Ron Poyer for stating that his father had passed away when it was his brother, Raymond Poyer, Sr. My poor penmanship made "brother" look like "father". Also there were several poorly worded sentences which makes me wonder just how well I proof read our newsletter before it went to press. Perhaps I was still upset over the lateness of the November newsletter.... I am very pleased and happy with the Post Masters response when I went in to pay for the December mailing. "George, we won't send your newsletter to Rochester for sorting." Apparently the November newsletter was sent by mistake, which is why it took so long. We still plan to use the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for our deadline just to be on the safe side.... Perhaps you noticed a "Return Service Requested" notice under the return address. Although we must pay for the return mailing it allows us to know who is not receiving their newsletter. I believe 34 were returned. We need to do this once or twice a year. If you do not have the exact accurate address on the newsletter, it will end up in the trash because it is 3<sup>rd</sup> class mail. Please be sure your address is correct and if you change it let us know. Many of the returned newsletters had the corrected address attached enabling us to correct those addresses on our computer.

We need help finding the following people: Ralph Bacon, Denise Carrier, Donald Covell, Douglas Dean, John Gregrow, Kenneth Hart, Debbie Hendrix, David Kline, Deborah Preston, Edwin Wright. If you know any of these people, please tell them to contact us so we may correct their addresses in our files. We can have a separate mailing disc for winter for the snowbirds. Just let us know. Don't want them to miss our newsletters!

## POST NEWS

In response to the many people who have been volunteering their time in connection to Legion functions, the Post has decided to reward them by having a "customer appreciation hour" from 4 – 6:00 PM each day at which time there will be 25 cents off all drinks. Does that wet your appetite? ... We had a great turn out of Seniors and Chamber of Commerce members for their annual Thanksgiving dinners. Over 100 attended the Seniors dinner and consumed 5 or 6 turkeys. The breakfast on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November saw 146 in attendance. ... Our Joint meeting was the first event on the December calendar. There were 12 on hand to enjoy Jim Heroux's chili and an abundance of deviled eggs amongst other things. Discussion began with "who sorts the mail?" when it arrives at the Legion. It seems it doesn't always get to all those it is supposed to reach. Penny saver ads should be called in and paid for by the group (SAL, Aux., Legion) that runs the ad. There are new salad bar dressing dispensers. Familiarize yourself with their operation. Appreciation night hours (4-6) was discussed. and a lot of other info too numerous to mention.... The Festival of Lights was next on the agenda for Dec. 177 patrons enjoyed a true smorgasbord including such items as Spanish Rice, Macaroni & Cheese, Ham, Potatoes, Veggies, and a lot more. Homemade pies were the featured dessert. ... After dinner, the Festival brought on fireworks at the Post. They were super! Many people said it was the high light of the activity laden Friday night festival. Saturday saw the swing dance at the Post from 8 – 11 PM. We understand this group has quite a following of dancers... The Dec steak & fish fry crew served around 175 dinners and we heard comments about how "delicious" our Angus steaks are... Shirley, Wayne, and crew served 78 at the mid-month breakfast. We heard some good comments on that also. "Great omelet" and everything else was good too. 96 were served Prime Rib at the "Hogs" (Harley Motorcycle group) Christmas Dinner. We understand everything was great except the temperature. It seems that the band opened the doors to the outside air to get their equipment in and as a result a lot of heat escaped. It takes a while to bring the large banquet hall back up to room temperature. There is a moral to this story as you can see. ... Ann Russell, Area Chairperson, and Post Commander, Al Richar, wish to thank all of those who rang bells for the Salvation Army kettle located at the Shursave. A sign up sheet was passed around for two persons each hour throughout the day. The Legion family filled up all day Sat, Dec 4<sup>th</sup>. The bell ringers were, Dave Allan, George Van Vallen, Renee Heroux, Harold & Sue Wright, Al Richar, John & Izzy Duddleston, Suzy & Brittany Smith, and Brady & Kathi Roach. Thank You. An old friend of the Legion, Jon Kiltz, contacted Don Bennett recently. Many of those who came to dance at the old Legion should remember Jon. He dropped out of sight for a while due to a kidney transplant and other medical problems, but has resurfaced and informed Don he was available as a D.J. if we had a need. It is nice to hear that he is doing well once again. ... The amendment to our Bi-Laws was voted upon at our November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting and passed by a majority vote. It allows the addition of 1 Auxiliary and 1 SAL member to be added to the present 7 member Board of Trustees, resulting in a 9 member Board. This is in addition to another change in the Bi-Laws, which is an increase in dues to \$25 beginning on January 1, 2005. ... A new American flag now flies over our Brick "Walk of Honor and Cannon Memorial". In addition to becoming tattered, it seems it was wrapping itself around the gold gilded Eagle. ... Upon receipt of a new 6<sup>th</sup> District Directory and

calendar for 2004 – 2005, I find names of a few of our members listed in various offices. The following represent the 6<sup>th</sup> District and Tompkins County: Tom Bennett – Commanders Aid, William Parker – NYSLPA and NALPA (Press Association), Alfred Richar – Tompkins Co. Vice Commander, Lee Weaver – Tompkins Co. Historian, Tom Bennett – Tompkins Co. Membership. ... All orders for bricks to be placed in the “Walk of Honor” have been sent in to be engraved. We do not expect them to be finished before spring at which time the weather will be suitable for installing them. If you are planning to purchase one for a family member or friend, stop in at the Post and pick up one of our “Walk of Honor” brick forms. This is a good time of the year to present a Veteran with a suitable honor.

#### CHAPLAINS CORNER

**Sick Call:**

**Bob Hastings** – CMC  
**Roberta Stilwell** – CMC – Now Home  
**Ron Ashcraft** – Ill at Home  
**Edy Neff** – Surgery

**Bobby Bowers, Jr.** – Buffalo – Now Home  
**Don Bennett** – CMC, ICU – Now Home  
**Shawn Miller** – Syracuse VA Hospital  
**Bob Read** – CMC – Now Home

**Taps:** **John E. Breen** – died Friday, November 26, 2004 at Robert Packer Hospital. John was a member of Post 770.  
**Mable Lovelace** – passed away on December 8, 2004 in Lakeland, FL. Mabel is the mother of member Jack Swartz.  
**William Henry (Hank) Houseworth, Sr.** – left this world on December 8, 2004 at Hospicare. He was the father of member William (Bill) Houseworth.  
**William C. Douglas, Sr.** – passed away on December 15, 2004 at Lakeside Nursing Home. He was a member of Post 770.

#### AUXILIARY NEWS

Membership is 146. The officers and members send condolences to the following: Jean DeLaurentis & family on the loss of her brother, “Butch”, on 11/15/04. Elaine Joseph & family on the loss of her mother, Marion, on 12/05/04. Our best to Wescena Smith who was in the hospital 11/19 and now home and to Toni Willard who had surgery on 12/18 at Montour Hospital. On 12/25 Thanksgiving morning your Treasurer Roberta Stilwell and Don Bennett spent the AM in the emergency room and later to ICU for heart related problems. They are both home and doing fine. Before entering the lounge bar area, take note of the gorgeous wishing well fountain in memory of Bonnie Smith. Dawn Reeves – Daube & Jackie Feretti put it together and Jackie Newhart donated the tub & fountain to catch the water. Many thanks to Chris Bennett for decorating the bar and Rene Heroux for decorating the banquet area for Xmas. Thanks to all who rang bells for the Salvation Army on 12/4. Thanks to Sue & Shirley & crew for the lovely buffet for Festival of Lights on 12/3. Thank you Jackie Newhart for shopping for the kids Xmas party on 12/19. 16 members attended the Auxiliary Xmas party.

Have a great holiday and a very Happy New Year!

#### A SALUTE TO OUR FINEST

They were the targets of bullets, mortars and grenades. They stepped into the line of fire to save their comrades. Many suffered devastating injuries. Most died. They are American’s greatest heroes – recipients of the Medal of Honor. I recently had the opportunity of visiting the Medal of Honor Memorial, located on the north bank of the Central Canal in White River State Park in Downtown Indianapolis. The Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial is the nation’s first memorial honoring all recipients of the Medal of Honor, the United States’ highest award for military valor. It features glass panels etched with the names of the Medal of Honor recipients, their branch of service and the locations of their heroic actions. Throughout the day and night, stories recorded by Medal of Honor recipients are played, telling of courage, heroism and the human spirit. The Memorial also has a touch screen monitor for visitors to learn more about the Medal of Honor, the Congressional Medal of Honor Society and each recipient. The Medal of Honor is America’s highest award for military valor. It is bestowed on those who have performed an act of such conspicuous gallantry as to rise “above and beyond the call of duty.” Indeed, the roll of honor includes only 3,459 medals issued, even though millions of men and women have served their country in its time of need since the Civil War. As a symbol of heroism, it has no equal in American life. The Navy medal was the first to be struck, followed quickly by the Army version of this award. There are three different types of Medals of Honor today: the original simple star shape established in 1861 which the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard have retained; a wreath version

designed in 1904 for the Army; and an altered wreath version for the Air Force, designed in 1963 and adopted in 1965. Nineteen have received the Medal of Honor twice. One woman has received a Medal.

### **A Prayer for the New Year**

Father, as we begin this new year, help us to start with hearts and minds open to create a new year for our organization. Lead us with Thy grace that we may see the path to unity in all we do. We pray for peace for all Nations. Help us to lay the corner stone that will bring our country back to being "One Nation Under God." Amen.