

THE BOUTON BUGLE

January

2006

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Circulation 700 Members

ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

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CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

Sun	Jan 1	FLAG	Happy New Year – Lounge open from 3 until 8:00 PM Football Bowl games featured on TV
Tues	Jan 3	7:00 PM	Unit 770 American Legion Auxiliary Meeting
Weds	Jan 4	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs	Jan 5	7:00 PM	Joint Legion Family Information Meeting
		7:00 PM	Euchre Night
Sun	Jan 8	8:00 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
Mon	Jan 9	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Thurs	Jan 12	7:00 PM	Euchre Night
Fri	Jan 13	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Jim Heroux’s Crew
Sat	Jan 14	6:00 PM	Model UN Club Spaghetti Dinner
Mon	Jan 16	FLAG	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Weds	Jan 18	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs	Jan 19	7:00 PM	Euchre Night
Sat	Jan 21	6:00 PM	Experimental Aircraft Dinner
Sun	Jan 22	8:00 -11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
		11:00 AM	Squadron 770 Sons of the American Legion Meeting
Mon	Jan 23	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Thurs	Jan 26	7:00 PM	Euchre Night
Fri	Jan 27	FLAG	Vietnam Cease Fire, 1973
	Jan 27 – 29		Mid-Winter American Legion Conference in Albany

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Year’s Day – This is “Football Mania” day! With all of the college football games being broadcast on this special day, why not enjoy them at the Post on our large screen TV with your Legion friends? Hope to see you there.

Joint Legion Family Information Meeting – will be held on Thursday, January 5th at 7:00 PM. You might have to start your Euchre game a few minutes late in order to make a suggestion or get the latest bit of info. This is a good way to participate in our Post affairs. Do you eat early? Why not bring some snacks along to share with others. This is only a thought and is certainly not mandatory for your attendance.

Breakfasts, Fish & Steak Fries, Auxiliary Dinners – are continuing during the New Year. Check the time and dates on our calendar. Plan to attend them all. You can’t beat the food, price and camaraderie at the Post.

Post 770 Legion Meeting – are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 7:30 PM. You need not be an officer to attend. Let’s start the New Year off by becoming more involved and attending our meetings. They are only an hour or so long and we could use some fresh ideas concerning the operation of the Post. Don’t put decisions up to the same people all the time. Get involved and lets all share in what goes on in our Post.

Post 770 Website – 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. Check out our website, who knows what you are likely to find. Maybe you will see yourself.

Volunteers – You have been responding admirably to our appeal to be come involved. We now have four or five volunteer bartenders, several fish fry crews, 2 breakfast crews, a couple of banquet crews, and many helpers for Legion and Auxiliary dinners. We appreciate what we have but are always in need of greater numbers so that no one gets “burned out”. Please become involved. This is what life is all about!

Notices – 1) Angus Beef will be served at our dinners open to the public. Because of greater cost, the price will be raised to reflect the increase.
2.) Mail received at the Post will remain unopened if addressed to a particular individual or group.
3.) Please reserve Valentine’s Day Dinner at the Post for a very special dinner with your loved ones. More details to follow in next month’s newsletter.

POST NEWS

We noticed recently about a dozen or so “Thank you Veterans” cards on the Post bulletin board. They appeared to have been created by Kindergarten or first grade students judging from the coloring done on the preprinted pictures. Isn’t it wonderful that our teachers take the time with their students to inform them of the sacrifices being made by the Armed Forces protecting our freedom and to express their heart-felt thanks for a difficult job? ... The Bath VA Hospital patient’s annual visit to our Post is always a heart-warming affair. About 66 Veterans and staff enjoyed a wonderful steak luncheon with all of the trimmings followed by a variety of homemade pies contributed by Auxiliary members. Three busloads of patients enjoyed a beautiful fall day for their trip to the Burg and subsequent tour of our area. Sue Weaver and I had the pleasure of showing our guests to many sites for which we are noted including Taughannock Falls and Inn, Camp House, Historical Society, Biggs home, downtown, churches, schools, fairgrounds, and Cayuga Lake. Many pictures were taken to preserve the memories and some taken by a patient sometime ago are posted on our bulletin board along with a short letter. We thank Susy Smith for the two afghans she made and donated for the door prizes drawn by our visiting Veterans guests. We also thank those who donated pies, breads, prepared and served our luncheon. Our steak cookers, servers, coffee pourers, clearers, greeters, and guides were made up of the following 19 people: Dawn, Don, Marty, Jerry, Briana, Marge, Don, Sue, Lee, Shirley, Liz, Pat, Chloe, George, Sarah, Taryn, Ally, Dawn D. and Suzy. Need we use last names? We thank all of those who helped to make this an outstanding day for our Bath Hospital friends. We look forward to next year.... We thank Sue Weaver for the Thanksgiving decorations. It wasn’t long before Chris and Harold’s Christmas decorations overtook us. The winter festival saw our hallways filled with Christmas trees decorated by various youth groups and under which canned foods were left indicating votes for the best decorated tree. Perhaps I am being partial, but I feel the best events took place on Friday night right here at the Post. The buffet, which was served by Shirley and Sue and their crew delighted 190 diners who not only enjoyed the Macaroni and Cheese, rice dish, pork, beans, salads, cupcakes, cookies and much more but also were entertained by the music of The Bob Champion Band. Following this extravaganza, spectacular fireworks entertained us. Then from 9 – 11PM we enjoyed dancing (which we haven’t been doing much lately) to a variety of country music from this same band. The lead singer was one of T-Burgs well known personalities, Charles (Fuddy, to those who knew him in days of yore) Dickson. We enjoyed his many comments and the antics of his fellow band members. On Friday night the Legion was truly the place to be. To be honest, the events downtown were great as I made my way from one end of the village to the other earlier in the evening, however it sure was cold and snowy. We were surprised the fireworks were able to take place. All in all the Winter Festival made itself felt throughout the weekend. We thank every one who had a hand in organizing the event. A great undertaking! ... It was a pleasure to be a bell ringer for the Salvation Army Kettle Fund Drive along with numerous others from the Post on Saturday, Dec 3rd. I couldn’t help but notice that I relieved bell ringers Renee Heroux and granddaughter Jamie and was relieved by Suzy Smith and granddaughter Brittany. Yes, you guessed it! My granddaughters, Taryn and Ally, accompanied me. Seems that bell ringing brings forth the family. Thanks to all who helped out for a great cause. ... Jim Heroux and the crew put forth a lot of energy on Saturday and Sunday Dec 10th and 11th. The Hog’s Christmas party and dinner took place on Saturday and a breakfast open to the public on Sunday. I wonder what Jim and Renee and their crews do in their spare time? ... The Kid’s Christmas party on Sunday the 18th will finish up our Post news. The Auxiliary gals under the leadership of chairperson Jackie Newhart organized, shopped, wrapped, fed, and put on the traditional Santa Christmas party with a monetary contribution from the Legion membership to help defray the cost. Each child receives a present and a chance to sit on Santa’s knee. It’s a great way to bring in the Christmas season and nice for the parents and grandparents to get out with the kids. Thanks to all who made this day such a success.

2006 NEW YEARS WISH LIST

1.) Money to purchase wall plaques to be hung between the windows in the dining room. These 15” plaques are colorful, available from the American Legion in Indianapolis and represent each of the 5 branches of service. The cost is about \$700.00.

2.) Sliding glass doors and shelves for the large trophy cabinet in the hallway. We have the trophies from the old Legion but need to display them. 3.) Mannequins – suitable to display a number of armed forces uniforms that have been donated to the Post. 4.) Librarian – to develop a numbering system for our books and set up an honor system sign-out from our meeting room with its beautiful book shelves that have been built for this purpose. 5.) Bulletin Board Monitor – to help keep our current announcements up to date. 6.) Highway Sign Caretaker – to keep our lighted events announcement sign up to date. 7.) Ideas? All work and no play make Jack a dull boy! How about suggestions for some fun activities and ways to pay for them?

MEMBERSHIP

We are continuing to grow. Our membership is now 331 but still a long way from reaching our quota of 432. How about giving that certain someone a membership renewal as a late Christmas stocking stuffer? Makes a nice gift. If you have renewed and haven't received your card, be patient. It sometimes takes awhile for the "wheels to turn". Keep us posted if your address changes. Welcome new member Helen H Savey. She was a Navy Nurse.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Sick Call: **Ron Ashcraft** – Seneca Nursing Home – Waterloo **Bill Alford** – CMC – Now Home

AUXILIARY NEWS

Membership is now at 133 – quota is set for 188. There will be no Auxiliary Dinner this month. Look for us again in February. 14 members attended the Auxiliary Christmas Party. Vickii & Roberta did the snacks and they shopped for the Xmas family. Thank you to all who ran the Bell at Shursave for the Salvation Army. The benefit for Josie Wright was very well attended by family, friends and the community. Our best to her. Our thoughts are with Mary Lou "Lulu" Powless and to Wescena Smith who had same day surgery. Our condolences to Liz Jenner on the loss of her brother. Congratulations to John & Dawn Daube on their second grandson. Thank you to Suzy Smith for donating two afghans to the Bath Veterans. Have a safe and Merry Christmas. Our next meeting is January 3, 2006 at 7:00 PM.

Respectively Submitted, Marge Bennett

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Recognizing that we have a sound problem at banquets, visitations, speeches, etc. the Squadron 770 membership has donated speakers for our forthcoming new sound system. By the time you receive this newsletter, some lucky person will have won a digital camera and printer. The Sons are always looking to increase their membership numbers from qualified persons. If you know of someone who is eligible and looking to belong to an organization such as this, sign him or her up or bring them in.

MILITARY NEWS

Air Force Master Sgt. Paul N. Silver earned recognition as a recipient of the Mackay Trophy for being part of the most meritorious flight of the year by an Air Force person, persons or organization. The trophy symbolizes gallantry and devotion to duty during combat or non-combat missions. Clarence H. Mackay, a prominent American industrialist, philanthropist and aviation enthusiast, created the exclusive annual award, presented by the National Aeronautical Association, in 1912. Silver was a member of an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter crew who distinguished himself during rescue operations near Kharbut, Iraq in April of 2004. Two helicopter crews rescued a five-person crew of an Army CH-47 Chinook helicopter that crashed during a nighttime sandstorm. In addition to a daring rescue with near zero visibility, the crews were attacked by multiple surface-to-air missiles on their return trip. The helicopter crews were able to evade the attacks and return safely. The crews of both helicopters received the trophy for their efforts. Silver is an aerial gunner assigned to the 41st Rescue Squadron, Moody Air Force Base, Valdosta, GA. He is the son of Jennifer Owlett of N. Settlement Road, Odessa, and Lenny Silver of Ithaca. The master sergeant graduated in 1988 from Charles O Dickerson High School, T-burg. He received two associate degrees: The first degree in aircraft armament systems in 1995 and the second in instructor of technology in 2005, both from the Community College of the Air Force.

THE VOICE

In our last February Newsletter you were exposed to a letter to the editor of the NYSLPA newsletter. Once again I would like to have you read what I consider an article of interest to us all. It seems to promote an interesting philosophy. What do you think?

The Mayonnaise Jar and the Cups of Coffee **Submitted by Ann ViVerito, NYSLPA Public Relations**

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar ... and the coffee. A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some students in from of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was. So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was. The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "Yes". The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed. "Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things – your God, family, your children, your health, your friends, and your favorite passions/ things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, and your car. The sand is everything else – the small stuff. "If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls." The same goes for life, if you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your wife, husband, and kids out to dinner. Maybe even play another 18. There's always time to clean the house and fix the disposal. Take care of the important things first. What about the coffee? one student asked. The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."