

THE BOUTON BUGLE

JANUARY

2007

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

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CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

Mon Jan 1	FLAG	New Years Day – Post Closed
Tues Jan 2	7:00 PM	Unit 770 American Legion Auxiliary Meeting
Weds Jan 3	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs Jan 4	7:00 PM	Joint Legion Family Meeting
	7:00- 10:00 PM	Private Party
Sat Jan 6	8:30 – 4:00 PM	Snowmobile Safety Course at Post 770
	4:00 – 6:00 PM	Private Party
Mon Jan 8	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Fri Jan 12	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Don Smith’s Crew
Sun Jan 14	8:00 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
	Noon – 6:00 PM	Private Party – Banquet Room
Mon Jan 15	FLAG	Martin Luther King Day
Weds Jan 17	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Sun Jan 21	1:00 PM	6 th District Winter Meeting at Post 89, Vestal
Mon Jan 22	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Fri–Sun Jan 26 – 28		Dept of NY Mid Winter Conference in Albany
Sun Jan 28	8:00 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grant Writing – The Board of Trustees are interested in finding an individual who is knowledgeable in doing grant writing, who would like volunteer to work with them. If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact Dave Boyd or any member of the Board.

“Walk of Honor” – We continue to receive orders for inscribed bricks to be added to our Memorial. Applications may be found on the table in the lounge entry way. Orders are forwarded to our inscriber monthly.

Newsletter Items – We encourage anyone having news of interest to our Legion readers to please drop us a line or give us a call. Often personal items such as special anniversaries, birthdays, additions to the family or unusual happenings or events are of interest to our readers. Don’t be bashful if you would like to go public through your newsletter.

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.

MEMBERSHIP

We are currently at 344, an increase from last month, but still 61 short of our quota of 407. At the December 11th Post meeting, the names of all of the members who have not paid their dues were read. We can’t help but think this is just an oversight to some of you and we will attempt to remind you either by personal contact or letter. Our organization has a lot of push behind Veterans benefits and offers much camaraderie and involvement on the local level. This is your last chance to re-up, sign up or be dropped from the active roles. If you change your address let us know. Postal authorities

don't usually forward your newsletter. Let Roger Meier know if you are not receiving your newsletters. He keeps our address computer disc up to date.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Sick Call: Anne McCord – ICU – CMC

Jim Dew – Quad Bi-Pass – Rochester, Now Home

Taps: Marietta “Joan” Proctor – passed away on November 23, 2006. She was the mother of friend of the Legion, Jim Proctor.

Mary Lee Weeks – passed away on Sunday, December 3, 2006. Mary was an active member of the T-burg American Legion Post 770 Auxiliary and enjoyed playing on their horseshoe team. Mary is the daughter of Auxiliary President Susie and Post member Butch Smith. Contributions may be directed to the American Legion Post 770 Auxiliary, PO Box 456, T-burg, NY 14886.

James R. Wilson, SR – passed away at Lakeside Nursing Home on Tuesday, December 12, 2006. He served in the US Army during WWII, receiving his honorable discharge on July 27, 1945. Jim was a longtime member of the American Legion and enjoyed playing Euchre at Post 770. Jim was interred with full military honors conducted at graveside by the Post 770 ritual team. After the funeral a reception was held for family and friends at Post 770.

POST NEWS

As we move beyond the holiday season, our thoughts drift back to the beautiful and plentiful indoor and outdoor decorations that could be seen throughout our facility and grounds. When I think of all of the individuals and groups involved with decorating it is easy to see just how community minded our organization has become. A big thank you to all of you who brought forth this holiday spirit. Along with the visual presentation were the festive events that added to the enjoyment. A lot of people behind the scenes are to be applauded for their non-ending volunteering contributions. All in all it makes one proud to be part of an organization like ours. ... Thank you Salvation Army bell ringers, Susie and granddaughter, Renee and granddaughter, George & granddaughters, Al, Brady & Kathi. Your presence on Saturday at the Shursave brought many dollars into the Red Kettle for those less fortunate. ... We have started to have our second Sunday of the month breakfasts again following the absence because of Shirley's passing away. Although the turnout was low because of a forgotten ad in the Pennysaver, it appears you are ready to respond to that breakfast date once again. We do need more crew workers however. Give us a call or stop in and leave your name. ... You know it is really encouraging to make an appeal and have a fantastic response. Such is the case in asking for hardwood to redo the base molding in our facility. We thank Ed Wright and Blair Hoover for their most generous donations of walnut and red oak respectfully. Carl Butterfield and Joe Lockwood have volunteered to edge the lumber and Doug & Denny Millspaugh to joint it. It is nice to be part of a community in which people such as these respond so well. Thanks guys! ... Please thank Brady Roach, Tom Stilwell, Lee Agard, Don Cole and Harold Wright for fixing our parking lot light the next time you see them. We all feel safer now that the whole parking lot is lit to the max. Thanks guys! ... If you skimmed over your December 2006 American Legion Magazine and missed reading the article titled “A Battlefield too Even”, please take a few minutes to read it. I found it to be quite enlightening. Also, take it from a “Carrier” sailor; the article “A Sailor's Diary” is a very good real life explanation of how some downed Navy pilots are rescued. It would be of interest to everyone.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Membership is 138. There are still at least 50 members who need to pay their dues. Welcome new member Cindy Waid. Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the Post for Xmas. A great job well done. Congratulations to Edyth Neff on her first great great-granddaughter born on 12/11, Stephanie Lynn. The proud parents are Roger & Tiffany Wright. Congratulations to Sue Wright who was presented with Life Membership in Unit 770 on 12/12/06. On Dec 3^d member Mary Weeks passed away unexpectedly. She worked on the Auxiliary dinners and played on the Ladies Horseshoe team. Our condolences to OUR President Susie Smith and family on the loss of her daughter Mary. There will be no Auxiliary dinner in January. They will start again in February. The next meeting is January 2nd, 2007 at 7:00 PM. Have a very happy & safe New Year!

Respectively submitted Marge Bennett

DID YOU KNOW?

Historic aircraft carrier under way. Have you been following the story describing the plight of the Essex class carrier "Intrepid"? Having served on a similar carrier for two years during the Korean War days, I find this article fascinating and I hope you will too.

After 24 years at the same Hudson River pier, the legendary aircraft carrier USS Intrepid is overdue for some R&R – restoration and repair. The ship's rehabilitation began when the high tide and New York harbor's most powerful tugboat joined forces to extract the WWII flattop from its berth for a one-day journey to a New Jersey shipyard. It will return in 2008 to a rebuilt pier, to resume its mission as a military and space museum dedicated to America's war heroes. The Intrepid's move from Pier 86 has involved meticulous preparation worthy of its first departure for Pacific war combat in 1943. A 6,000 horsepower "tractor tug" had been assigned to pull the 27,000 ton ship into deep river water from the slip where it has rested in up to 17 feet of mud. However the USS Intrepid got stuck in the thick mud of the Hudson River as a fleet of tugboats furiously pulled the historic aircraft carrier from its pier, scuttling a carefully laid mission. After a three-week dredging operation that removed nearly 40,000 cubic yards of muck, four tugs accomplished the task on Tues. Then came a 5-mile journey, lasting seven hours with delays waiting for favorable currents, before Intrepid docked at the Military Ocean Terminal in Bayonne, NJ. Towed stern-first by tugboats and escorted by a fireboat shooting streams of red, white, and blue, the aging sea warrior paused at the World Trade Center site to unfurl a giant American flag in remembrance of the 2,749 who perished in the Sept 11th terrorist attacks. The city has come to know the Intrepid as a permanent gray presence and a popular tourist attraction drawing 700,000 visitors a year, also paused. People watched from sidewalks, cars, skyscraper windows as the storied veteran of three wars inched away from its dock and headed down river. Looking worn and weary after nearly a quarter of a century at the same location, the 64-year-old ship was clearly ready for some boatox.

WILD BLUE WONDER: THE NEW AIR FORCE MEMORIAL

With one bold leap, the Air Force jumps into first place for having the most distinctive service memorial in the Washington area. Visible up close from I-395 and afar from the patio of the Kennedy Center, three stainless steel arms set on a promontory above Arlington National Cemetery tickle the sky. From a distance they look like the ribs of a crown roast or a metallic flower. The folks who built it, a private foundation formed by Air Force vets and supporters, give its shape a more specific and literal meaning: The spires represent a precision flying maneuver known as the "bomb burst." The Marines, with their iconic Iwo Jima statue, still have a claim to the most recognizable service memorial. And the Navy, with its map of the world inscribed on a plaza in front of the National Archives, built a memorial that deserves a good citizen award, for its understatement and the invitation it offers to buskers, skaters, loafers and kids making out. But the Air Force wanted more than that. Ross Perot Jr. chairman of the Air Force Memorial Foundation remembers a meeting with its designer, the late James Ingo Freed. The architect, who also designed the US Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Ronald Reagan Building, flew into Washington and asked a cabdriver to take him to the Navy Memorial. The what? Where? "I promise you every cabdriver will know where it is," Perot remembers Freed saying of his proposed Air Force design. Now it sits on the skyline, a \$30 million sculpture as visible as the Washington Monument or the Capitol Dome.

LAND TRANSFER FOR COUNTY VETERANS CEMETERY NEARING

People touring the site of a proposed state cemetery for veterans were told the cemetery will become a step closer later this year when a 450-acre site on Route 96A is transferred by the state to Seneca County. State Senator Michael Nozzolio said 100 of those 450 acres would be turned over to a non-profit cemetery association. The senator said he hopes the land transfers will be in place by the end of this year. At that time, he said, a master plan could be developed and site works begun. One roadway would carry traffic off Route 96A and another would connect the cemetery with Sampson State Park just to the north. Some acreage would be added to the state park and care of the roadways handled by state park personnel at Sampson. Veterans, their spouses and dependent children would be eligible for burial. Taking a look at the remains of an old firehouse, Nozzolio said he could envision a chapel being built there with a tower offering visitors a view of Seneca Lake off to the west. The 450 acres, once used by the Navy as the home for its largest hospital on the East Coast, lies in the town of Romulus and borders the state park on the north. During WWII the area known as Sampson State Park was a naval training center. With the end of WWII in 1945, the training center was used as a college

and the hospital became a part of the nearby Willard State Hospital. The state later ended its interest in the hospital and the training center was back in use in 1950 as an Air Force training site for six years. Once the military concluded its interest, the state acquired the land for use as a state park. Between the Navy and Air Force, over 700,000 people were trained at Sampson. The hospital site ended up in private hands for salvaging purposes and only remnants of a few building remain. The idea of a cemetery first came up several years ago and was immediately supported by the Navy & Air Force veterans. Additional backing came from local government as well as local & state veterans' organizations. Navy & Air Force personnel once stationed at Sampson return each September for their annual reunions and regularly go on record in support of the veterans' cemetery.

NEW YORK MUSEUM LOOKS TO HONOR PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS

The setting for the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is deceptively peaceful. The view from the entrance takes in the tranquil Orange County landscapes of rolling hills and valleys, while the simple stone and wood structure barely hints at the stories of battle casualties contained inside. Visitors who come will find an unprecedented tribute to the millions of Americans injured and killed in the country's wars. Such sacrifices are on vivid display along the wall of the entrance hallway, where placards tally the casualties from nearly 50 wars and conflicts, from the American Revolution to the ongoing global war on terror. The Hall of Honor's greatest achievement, however, is its ever-growing database of names, information, stories, mementos, and recordings of Purple Heart recipients, who number as many as 1.8 million, according to historians estimates. The Purple Heart is awarded, since 1932, to military men and women injured or killed in the line of duty. The hall started as a letter to the editor of a New Windsor newspaper more than a decade ago. The 7,500 square foot facility was built for about \$7 million at the New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site, which was chosen because Gen George Washington's troops were camped there in 1782 and 1783 when he awarded the Badge of Military Merit, a small purple cloth that became the model for the Purple Heart.