

THE BOUTON BUGLE
JULY **2006**

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Circulation 630 Members

ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

Legion Telephone 387-4212

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CALENDAR FOR JULY

Sat	July 1		Boys State at Morrisville Ends
Mon	July 2	7:00 PM	Sons of the American Legion Meeting
Tues	July 4	FLAG	Independence Day
Weds	July 5	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Sun	July 9	10:00 AM	Antique Road Show – Auxiliary Fund Raiser
Mon	July 10	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Weds	July 12	Noon	Senior Citizens Luncheon
Fri	July 14	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Don Smith’s Crew
Sun	July 16	9:00 AM	Reunion Breakfast
Tues	July 18	6:00 PM	Set Up for Grassroots Food Tent
Weds	July 19	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Weds – Sat	July 19 – 22		Department of New York Convention in Rochester
Thurs – Sun	July 20 – 23		Grassroots American Legion Food Tent at Fairgrounds
Sat	July 22	1:00 PM	Wedding Reception
Thurs	July 27	FLAG	Korean War Ends, 1953
Looking Ahead:			
Tues-Sun	Aug 22 –27		T-burg Fair American Legion Food Tent
Sun	Sept 10	Noon -?	Legion Family Picnic at Raymond’s Pond - Post Will Be Closed
Tues	Sept 12	1:00-7:00 PM	Antique Appraisal Show

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joint Legion Family Information Meeting – The Membership has decided to forgo Joint Meetings during July and August because of a drop in attendance recently. Post meetings will be held once each month on the second Monday of the month. In September we anticipate a renewed interest in attendance and will probably return to our regular meeting times.

Sign Up for Grassroots Food Tent – See Rene or Jim Heroux or sign up at the lounge sheet that is posted at the end of the bar. As of this writing: Thursday – Noon –6 shift is only a third full, Friday’s shifts only needs a half of crew for the noon till 6 shift, Saturday’s shifts are all full, and the Sunday shifts needs help on both afternoon and evening shifts, noon – 6 and 6- 12 hours. Set up, washing dishes, and tear down can use some help, as can all of those shifts that are partially filled. These volunteers will receive a Grassroots pass for the day they have signed up for. Be sure you pick up your entry pass at the fairgrounds and have a place to park. This event is our biggest fundraiser of the year and its proceeds have already been ear marked for 3 months of mortgage payments. We do appreciate our volunteers so lets make the most of it. Thank you in advance.

Tent Rental – Again this year we are renting out our 20 x 20 foot tent complete with putting it up and taking it down on your property. For more information call Phil Colvin at 387-6550.

Fish Frys and Breakfasts – We have continued to enjoy great attendance at both. Therefore we will continue with our fish fry’s throughout the summer months. However, because all of our grills used for breakfast will be at the fairgrounds on Sunday, July 23rd for Grassroots, we will be unable to provide breakfast at the Post on that date. Come to Grassroots

on Sunday morning and enjoy our breakfast there. Thank you for your patronage and to those volunteers who provide for these events.

Volunteer Bartenders- Continue to be in demand. If you would like more information regarding participation in this program please see the Commander or any Board of Trustees member or Legion officer. We sure could use your help at weddings, banquets, and regular hours.

POST NEWS

As noted in the T-burg Free Press of May 17th, 2006 “A picture speaks a thousand words”. Nearly 100 people bought tickets for the “Elegant Island” fundraiser for the Music Boosters on Sat, June 11th at the American Legion. We are pleased to be able to host community affairs of this magnitude...We were very pleased to celebrate Mother’s day with an outstanding 4th Sunday of the month breakfast which drew 154 people. Thanks to those who attended and to those who served...As we prepared to join the group putting flags on Veterans graves for Memorial Day, we were informed that our grandson was to receive an award at the high school awards assembly. Needless to say, we attended. Phil Colvin informed me that there was a good turnout at Grove Cemetery and the flags were all out by 8:00 PM. Good job guys and gals. Incidentally, we were informed by a person a day or two later that several graves were missed. We are pleased to say they received flags. We appreciate people letting us know if we have missed a Veteran’s grave...There were about 40 – 50 officers, award recipients, and friends at the annual installation and awards dinner on May 27th. Unfortunately we overlooked the date and have asked others for information about membership awards. Those receiving awards for 40 years or more of continuous membership were Doctor Carl Smith and Bill Parker. (I’m sure there was someone I missed) Congratulations to them and to the officers who will be representing you for the upcoming year. They are to be commended for their long time dedication to the American Legion... Memorial Day saw a number of changes. I arrived at the Post at 8:45 in the middle of a downpour and was informed by the Commander that the parade had been cancelled. All activities we scheduled for 11AM inside the Post. We were honored to have as our speaker this year, a T-Burg girl, Master Sgt. Nancy Moracco. Although we were unable to conduct our flag disposal ceremony because of the weather, we did have a nice turnout for the events and the open house, which followed. We are reminded on this special day each year, of our Veterans who have passed on. It is a tribute to our Armed Forces who have kept American a free nation... Our American Legion Baseball season is underway. I believe several games have been played already but I’m not sure of our win – lost record at this time. You will need to consult our local paper for times and scores. Six T-burgers are on this year’s team, which means we have had to recruit from other villages, namely Newfield, Watkins Glen, and South Seneca. . Tompkins County is sending 9 to Boys State this year. Unfortunately, despite an erroneous announcement of a candidate at the Awards Assembly, T-burg has no one going. We are extremely disappointed. ... Our Post, the Arthur E. Bouton American Legion Post 770, annually presents awards to deserving students at our local high school. A scholarship to a graduating senior who is the son or daughter of a Post 770 member, in the amount of \$300 was awarded to Holly Smith. Also, annual school awards to graduating seniors include a certificate, medallion, and \$50 savings bonds, were given to Leah Champion and Nicholas Sullivan. Congratulations students. ... Members of Post 770 wish to extend a special thank you to Mary Harvey for sewing flags on our new military Ritual team jackets. Great job Mary. The jackets give our group a greater uniform look. ... Our Post is pleased to be able to provide a place in which receptions may be held following funerals. We want to thank Jackie Alford and David Crimmins for their most generous donations following the use of our facilities...We now have Bingo equipment donated to us from the Ovid VFW, given to them by the Bath Vets. Our problem now is that the gaming commission somehow did not receive our paper work from the Town of Covert. This was an oversight and should be rectified shortly. We may actually be able to get started in the fall. ... Commander Al has resigned from the Board of Trustees and is being replaced by Don Smith... Thermostats regulating individual room temperatures are being replaced. Thank you member Dave Pakula... By now you must have heard the latest scuttlebutt. Yes, there is no more sign-in or shake the dice at the bar. Apparently the 25-cent ante for each was just too much temptation and someone turned us into the powers that be. Not only that, but no more friendly Euchre games to enjoy. If you are a senior citizen member and read Ruth Scott’s newsletter comments about the subject, you know exactly how most of us feel about this development. Oh well, we can still play the jukebox or is that 25 cents sacred also. . And what about a game of pool? Good thing we are licensed by the state to provide the Lucky Sevens game of chance, better known as pull-tabs.

MEMBERSHIP

We are presently at 398 members. You might say our goal now is to reach 400 by June 20th, when our membership rolls must be turned into the Department. I don’t think we have a chance to reach our goal of 432 by then. Remember if you

have a change of address we need to be informed. We have membership cards for 2007 and will take your dues anytime. It is still \$25 if you haven't paid your 2006 dues. We are still taking them.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Sick Call: **Shirley Willard** – Undergoing tests

Taps: Let us take a moment to recall the number of Veterans that have passed away recently and to commend those Post members that have made up our military honors Ritual team at their funeral and/or interments: Phil Colvin, Tom Bennett, Dave Boyd, Tony Chiesa, Henry Van Ness, Harold Wright, George Van Valen, Bill Parker, Blair Hoover, Bob Grunder, Bob Smith, Don Bennett, Jim Heroux, Calvin Bailey, Don Smith, Lee Weaver and Dana Smith. We, the American Legion members of Post 770, consider this an honor to be able to pay tribute to our departed comrades. If there are any other members who would like to participate with our Ritual team, please call Phil Colvin. Thank you all! It is a privilege.

Alex "TILT" Park – passed away on Saturday, May 20, 2006. Alex served in the US Army as a signalman in the Aleutian Islands during WWII. He was a Past Commander of VFW Post 961 and the American Legion Post 770. He was accorded military honors by the Post 770 Ritual team at the Episcopal Church in Trumansburg. He was interred in a cemetery in Oneonta, NY.

Ruth Stilwell Beardslee – passed away on May 25, 2006. She was the mother of Auxiliary member Susan McConnell.

James Gary Jacobson – passed away unexpectedly at the Cayuga Medical Center on Sunday, May 28, 2006. Jim enlisted in the US Navy and served on the USS Alley Forge. He received an Honorable discharge from the Navy in 1969. He was a member of the American Legion Post 770. A celebration of Jim's life was held at the Post 770 with the Reverend Pete Hood officiating and the Post Ritual team rendered Military Honors. A reception was held at the Post following the funeral.

Camillus "Camel" Chantra – passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, May 28, 2006. He was called to duty and served in the US Army during WWII in England, France, Germany, Belgium, and Spain. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge and received many honorable awards including a Purple Heart, American Defense Service Medal, European-African Middle Eastern Service Medal and a good conduct medal. Camel, with wife Doris, operated Camel's Restaurant on Main Street in T-burg for many years. He was well known and loved by all who came to know him. A graveside service at St James Cemetery was held with full Military honors being rendered by the American Legion Post 770 Ritual team and two active duty Army personnel. Following the services, friends and family attended a reception held at our Post.

John D. Russell – passed away at Cayuga Medical Center on Friday, June 9, 2006. He served in the US Air Force during the Korean conflict, receiving an honorable discharge with the rank of Sergeant on November 22, 1957. John worked as a security guard at the Seneca Army Depot in Romulus for 13 years before founding Russell's Disposal Service in Interlaken. He was a 33-year member of Post 770. His wife, Joan, and son Thomas and daughters Deborah, Joan, and Jane survived John. Members of Post 770 performed a military honors tribute.

Clifford Roach – passed away on June 17, 2006 in Kenosha, WI at the age of 97. He was the father of the American Legion SAL Commander, Brady Roach. He served in the US Army from 1943 to 1945 and received an honorable discharge with the rank of Sergeant. Survivors include his wife, 2 brothers, a sister, 3 sons, 13 grandchildren, 32 great grandchildren, and 14 great great grandchildren.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Membership is at 172. We need 16 more to make our quota of 188. We welcome Sue McConnell to our Seniors. Our condolences to Sue on the loss of her mother, Ruth. The Tompkins County Auxiliary President Dawn Smith, installed the following officers: President- Susie Smith, 1st Vice- Vickii Barry, 2nd Vice- Ann Stiles Sect- Ruth Scott, Treas- Roberta Stilwell and Mary Schmidt- Sgt At Arms- Pat Plataniotis, Chap- Roberta Chiesa, Historian- Marge Bennett. We made recent donations to the food pantry, travel team member, relay for life walk and 2 bonds to the Jr Prom. There will be NO Auxiliary dinners all summer. Vickii Barry was elected 3rd vice for the County. Our thoughts are with Shirley Williard. Thank you to Sue Wright for doing the flowers outside the home. Thanks to all who worked the retirement party for member Carol Uitos on 6/2 and to all who volunteered all year for the many functions. Please SAVE Sept 12th for the Antique Appraisal Show from 1:00 – 7:00 PM. Each item you get appraised will cost \$3.00. This is NOT an auction. More to follow. Pat Bonsall is chairperson and is planning a meeting on July 11th at 7:00 PM at home. The next regular Auxiliary meeting will be September 5, 2006 at 7:00 PM. Have a Safe Summer.

NALPA NEWSLETTER SPRING 2006

The National Commander of the American Legion, Thomas Bock, wrote the following commentary.

YES, IT'S CRAZY TO ALLOW WAR CRIMINALS INTO OUR COURTS

“War is war, and it has never been the case that when you captured a combatant you have to give them a jury trial in your civil courts,” Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia said during a recent lecture in Switzerland. Scalia is only stating the obvious. That the Supreme Court today is even considering granting enemy combatants access to our criminal justice system is ludicrous. It is an insult to every American that has donned a military uniform. As leader of the world’s largest wartime veteran’s organization, I hope that Scalia’s fellow justices follow his lead on this issue. Never in our history did we open our courts to prisoners of war. Even notorious war criminals like Hermann Goring, Hideki Tojo, Slobodan Milosovic and Saddam Hussein did not have access to our courts. This is not to say that prisoners do not have rights. Simply put, enemy combatants do not have US constitutional rights. IF they did, can you imagine the repercussions? Every American soldier would need a lawyer next to him on the battlefield. Marines could be sued for “pain and suffering” inflicted on the enemy. Special forces would have to read captured enemies their “Miranda rights.” War as we know it would resemble a Law and Order episode. Former Justice Department official Mark Levin said it best. “It is difficult to win a war when the enemy is armed not only with rifles and rocket propelled grenades, but also with subpoenas, affidavits, and lawyers.” Justice Scalia has every right to be concerned. His son Matthew served with the US Army in Iraq. Referring to detained enemy combatants, Justice Scalia said, “If he was captured by my army on a battlefield, that is where he belongs. I had a son on that battlefield and they were shooting at my son and I’m not about to give this man who was captured in a war a full jury trial. I mean it’s crazy.” It is crazy, Justice Scalia. The American Legion believes it is time to stop the madness and get on with the business of protecting America.