

THE BOUTON BUGLE
JULY **2008**

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Circulation: 588 **ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770** **Telephone 387-4212**

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CALENDAR FOR JULY

Tues – Thurs	July 1 st – 3 rd	Boys State at Morrisville
Fri July 4	FLAG	Independence Day
Mon July 7	6:45 PM	Bingo
	7:00 PM	Squadron 770 Sons of the American Legion Meeting
Weds July 9	12:00 PM	Senior Citizens Luncheon
	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Sat July 12	12:00 PM	Wedding Reception
Mon July 14	6:45 PM	Bingo
	7: 30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Thurs-Sun	July 17 – 20	Department of New York Convention in Albany
		Grassroots American Legion Food Tent at the Fairgrounds
Mon July 21	6:45 PM	Bingo
Sat July 26	8:00AM – Midnight	TCS Alumni Meet at the Fairgrounds
Sun July 27	7:30 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
	Noon	Shower in the Meeting Room
Mon July 28	6:45 PM	Bingo

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer Help Needed: We are in dire need of volunteer bartenders and help around the Post in general. It's your home away from home so in order to keep it running smoothly we need your help. If you can contribute a few hours to the cause, stop in and see our bar manager, Brady Roach, or to assist in other ways check with Commander Tom Stilwell to see what needs to be done. Your contribution of assistance will be appreciated.

Summer Dinners: During July and August both the Auxiliary and American Legion will not be holding their Thursday night dinner or Friday night fish fry which are both open to the public. It's a little summer break for both organizations but when September arrives we will be ready to go again.

Walk of Honor: With the wonderful warm weather slated for July we continue to accept orders for bricks to be etched and installed. Order forms are available in the entryway to the lounge. The purchase of a brick is a meaningful way to honor a veteran.

Post 770 Website: <http://www.post770.com/> Why not pull up our website and see what is new and appealing? If you have any worthy items of interest to our membership, please send them to Patrick Richar at 111 Third Street, Waterford, NY 12188-2430.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Sick Call: Barb Cole: CMC – Now Home Fred Asay: CMC Tom Bennett: CMC – Now Home

TAPS: Thelma Jane Cowan Frost: passed away on May 24th, 2008. She was the wife of member Jack Frost.
Judy Vann Hauss: committal service took place on Sunday, June 8th at Grove Cemetery. Judy was the sister of Auxiliary member Joyce Vann Basilius and sister-in-law of Legion member Tobey Basilius.

Lester Bennett: The Post 770 funeral detail conducted a military interment at Grove Cemetery on Saturday, June 7, 2008. 9 Members participated.

POST NEWS

About 45 people attended our installation and awards presentation dinner for both the American Legion and Auxiliary. Those officers being installed were listed in the June newsletter. Special awards for continuous membership in the American Legion were presented to Tom Bennett 60 yrs, Dave Boyd 50 + years, and George Van Valen 40 yrs. The Auxiliary also made several presentations. Cmdr Tom and Roberta Stilwell, Tom Bennett, and Gary and Cindy Reckdenwald served a Beef Stroganoff dinner. ...The Auxiliary has announced their Girls State selections for 2008. They are Sarah Grove and Mia Goldman with Rian Little as alternative. ...As of this writing Bingo seems to be doing quite well by the looks of a full parking lot of cars but we have heard via the grape vine they could use more help in running the game. Every Monday night can wear a person out. How about it? Want to lend a hand? ...Putting the flags on the graves of veterans at Grove Cemetery went quite well this year. Starting at 6 PM about 20 or so broke up into several groups and by 8 or 8:30 all flags were on and awaiting the Memorial Day observances. Our own Chief Warrant Officer, Jim Rohan, gave the address to a sizeable crowd at the new part of Grove Cemetery. His theme centered on why "Taps" is played. This is a subject we visited in the newsletter sometime ago and plan to do it again in the future. At the conclusion of the ceremonies an open house with all sorts of good food was put on in the Post lounge. Midway through the open house a flag disposal ceremony was conducted at the edge of the parking lot. As an observer this year, the only thing I can say is we need the same amplification as we had at the cemetery. We could not hear what was said. Following the ceremony a video was shown of the 3rd Cavalry's participation in the invasion of Europe with Fred Asay offering explanations. All in all, it was a very meaningful Memorial Day observance with many people participating in numerous ways. Well done! ...The Tompkins County American Legion had their installations of officers at Post 1134 in Dryden early in June, but I haven't heard whether any of our members hold an officer this year. ...The St Frances Church dinner and fun night was a great success from what we hear. The Interlaken group plans to return again next year according to Chef Tom. ...Our first joint Legion family meeting in sometime got off to a nice start with 22 people in attendance. No great discussions this time, only several items on the agenda that were known well in advance. First and foremost, the Post needs a good cleaning. Apparently it didn't get done last year. I don't know. I wasn't around. Anyway, the dates for a cleanup of the Post were set for August 8th, 9th, and 10th (Fri – Sun). If problems are encountered alternate dates of Aug 29th, 30th, 31st is listed. The installation of molding in the banquet room is set for Sept 6th and 7th (Sat & Sun). Please put these dates on your calendar. We would like everyone to participate. The more help we have the faster the job gets done. ...Seems like we are always looking for help. Well, that is what makes our Post active, participation is the key. We are still looking for a breakfast crew the 2nd Sunday of the month. How about it, are you interested? ...Also discussed at the joint meeting were the air conditioning, the family picnic and what to have for food, and the deletion of Auxiliary dinners during July and August. ...Awards to be presented at the TCS School Awards assembly by Cmdr. Stilwell are: Scholarship – Torrie VanDerzee, School Awards – Daniel Sullivan and Kim Hall. ...The American Legion membership made a monetary donation to the Trumansburg Food Pantry. ...Last but not least, don't forget to check the Grassroots American Legion Food Tent signup sheet. There may still be a few openings that need to be filled.

From the Commander: Thank you to every one who participated in the Memorial Day Parade, the flag disposal ceremony, and to Mike Wright and Roberta Stilwell for getting the open house buffet set up which was held at our Post.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership grew by 3 this past month. It appears we will be about 10 short of our assigned quota as we conclude our 2007 – 2008 year with a total of 383 members. Welcome new member Chad A. Baker. 2009 membership cards are coming out. Dues may be paid for this coming year.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Our membership is 147 seniors and 8 juniors for a total of 155. We need 7 more to make our quota. A correction from last month is: We welcome new senior Margaret (Peg) Finch. Sorry Peg. Our best to Barb Cole who has been in and out of CMC lately. Also, our thoughts are with John & Mary Cosgrove. In March their grandson was diagnosed with Leukemia. We have made a monetary donation to help them. Thank you Kathy Rumsey for her donation of hospital

equipment. Unit President Vickii Barry would like to thank all who helped out in the kitchen during Bingo. We will need a new chairperson for Bingo. Thank you Vickii for chairing the event in the past. Roberta Chiesa installed the newly elected officers at the May 17th dinner. There is no Auxiliary dinner in July & August. See you the 3rd Thursday in September. Thanks to Mindy & crew for all the good food this year. We would also like to thank all members who donated desserts for our Auxiliary dinners. A big thank you to Susie Smith & Jackie Ward for all their time they spent at 2 stores distributing poppies. This was a record high for donations. Thank you to /Sue Wright for doing the flowers & planters again. At the September meeting we will need to vote again for an Auxiliary Board member. Due to a slight mistake, the May election was illegal & officers were reelected at our June meeting. Vickii Barry & Susie Smith will be attending the Departmental Convention in July at Albany this year.

Have a safe summer.

Respectively submitted, Marge Bennett.

FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK

The American Legion's Family Support Network stands ready to assist those families affected by activation and deployments in support of the Global War on Terror. Families and military personnel can seek assistance through the American Legion Family Support Network, toll-free at 1-800-504-4098, or online at www.legion.org/fsn. To promote this vital program, the Family Support Network brochure has been redesigned and contains updated information, including the online application address. The updated brochure will be available for mass distribution before the end of the year.

NEW CIVIL WAR MUSEUM EVOKES OLD DIVISIONS, PASSIONS

In some parts of the country, the Civil War is still being fought. And perhaps nowhere are the aftershocks and viewpoints as evident as in Richmond, VA, where a new museum is attempting to tell the history of the war from three angles. That would be: the Union, the African-American and the Confederacy. The American Civil War Center argues in its inaugural 10,000 square foot exhibition, "In the Cause of Liberty", that each of the three had distinct ideas about freedom. Each side was passionate. Each found justification for its goals in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Each suffered many casualties. Some of these concepts bumped into one another, creating more tensions.

HONOR OUR VETERANS

When in England at a fairly large conference, Colin Powell was asked by the Archbishop of Canterbury if our plans for Iraq were just an example of empire building. He answered by saying, 'Over the years, the United States has sent many of its fine young men and women into great peril to fight for freedom beyond our borders. The only amount of land we have ever asked for in return is enough to bury those that did not return.

You could have heard a pin drop.

Then there was a conference in France where a number of international engineers were taking part, including French and American. During a break one of the French engineers came back into the room saying, 'Have you heard the latest dumb stunt the Americans have done. It has sent an aircraft carrier to Indonesia to help the tsunami victims. What does it intend to do, bomb them? A Boeing engineer stood up and replied quietly, 'Our carriers have three hospitals on board that can treat several hundred people; they are nuclear powered and can supply emergency electrical power to shore facilities; they have three cafeterias with the capacity to feed 3,000 people three meals a day, they can produce several thousand gallons of fresh water from sea water each day, and they carry half a dozen helicopters for use in transporting victims and injured to and from their flight deck. We have eleven such ships; how many does France have?

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A U.S. Navy Admiral was attending a naval conference that included Admirals from the U.S., English, Canadian, Australian and French Navies. At a cocktail reception, he found himself standing with a large group of Officers that included personnel from most of those countries. Everyone was chatting away in English as they sipped their drinks but a French admiral suddenly complained that, 'whereas Europeans learn many languages, Americans learn only English.' He then asked, 'Why is it that we always have to speak English in these conferences rather than speaking French'

Without hesitating, the American Admiral replied, 'Maybe it's because the Brits, Canadians, Aussies and Americans arranged it so you wouldn't have to speak German.'

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**AND THIS STORY FITS RIGHT IN WITH THE ABOVE**

A group of Americans, retired teachers, recently went to France on a tour. Robert Whiting, an elderly gentleman of 83, arrived in Paris by plane. At French Customs, he took a few minutes to locate his passport in his carry on. 'You have been to France before, monsieur' the customs officer asked sarcastically. Mr. Whiting admitted that he had been to France previously. 'Then you should know enough to have your passport ready.' The American said, 'The last time I was here, I didn't have to show it.' 'Impossible. Americans always have to show your passports on arrival in France!' The American senior gave the Frenchman a long hard look. Then he quietly explained. 'Well, when I came ashore at Omaha Beach on D-Day in '44 to help liberate this country, I couldn't find any Frenchmen to show it to.'

You could have heard a pin drop

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What Is A Veteran

A Veteran -- whether active duty, discharged, retired, or reserve -- is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to The United States of America, for an amount of up to and including his life.

That is honor, and there are way too many people in this country today, who no longer understand that fact!!!

DID YOU KNOW?

Veteran's Cemetery: The Seneca County Board of Supervisors has accepted from the state a 162 acre site fronting on Route 96A in the town of Romulus for eventual conversion into a veteran's cemetery. "To honor the memory of veterans who have made personal sacrifices in service to their country." The land involved is south of Sampson State Park and housed medical facilities serving the Sampson Naval Training Station during World War II.