

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

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CALENDAR FOR JULY

Weds-Fri	July 1 st -3 rd	Continuation of Boys State at Morrisville
Weds July 1	4:00 PM	Wedding Party
Sat July 4	FLAG	Independence Day
Mon July 6	7:00 PM	Squadron 770 Sons of the American Legion Meeting
Weds July 8	Noon	Senior Citizen's Luncheon Meeting
	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Weds-Sat	July 8 th - 11 th	Department of New York Convention in Buffalo, NY
Fri July 10	5:30 - 8:00 PM	Steak & Fish Fry Dinner - Public Invited - Jim Heroux's Crew
Mon July 13	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting - (Only One This Month)
Thurs-Sun	July 16 th - 19 th	Grass Roots Food Tent (See Special Events)
Sun July 19	2:00 PM	Wedding Party
Weds July 22	Noon	Senior Citizens Luncheon Meeting
Sun July 26	7:30 - 11:00 AM	Breakfast - Public Invited
Fri July 31	TBA	Decorating for Wedding

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grass Roots Sign-up: We need help on Friday and Sunday Lunches. Please check the signup sheet at the Post. Let's fill 'er up!

Walk of Honor: We continue to accept orders for bricks to be etched and installed among the many that are already part of our "Walk of Honor". Order forms are available near the entryway in the lounge. The purchase of a brick is a meaningful way to honor a veteran.

Post 770 Website: www.Post770.com Why not pull up our website and see what is new? If you have any newsworthy items that would be of interest to our Legion family, please contact Patrick Richar, 111 Third Street, Waterford, NY 12188-2430

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Taps: Steward McWhorter: Died November 1, 2008. Steward served in the US Army Air Force during WWII. He was a member of the Post 770 American Legion. There will be a memorial service for him on Sunday, July 26, 2009.

Oleta H Bower: Died peacefully at home on Sunday, June 14, 2009. She enlisted in the US Navy during WWII and retired from the service in 1965. Her Naval assignments were many leading up to the rank of Chief Yeoman. Medals and awards received were: Good Conduct, American Campaign, WWII Victory Medal, National Defense, and the Army Commendation Ribbon with medal pendant for meritorious service while serving with the US Armed Forces in Paris. It would be an understatement to say her service with the US Navy was the most important thing in her life. She could not do enough for the American Legion during her 33 years of continuous membership. Contributions may be made in her memory to Post 770, Trumansburg, NY. Burial took place in Grove Cemetery with full military honors provided by the Post 770 funeral detail and the US Navy.

Norman Hogben: Died June 24, 2005.

Alma Charlotte Mount Hogben: Died November 12, 2008. The family of Norman and Alma will be present to receive friends on Weds, June 24, 2009 from 1:00 – 2:00 PM at the United Methodist Church. Alma was a longtime member of the Post 770 Auxiliary. Contributions may be made in Norman and Alma's memory to the Post 770 American Legion Auxiliary in Trumansburg, NY.

POST NEWS

As we near our newsletter deadline of June 15th, my thoughts focus in on the Benefit Fundraiser for Patrick Richar that was held yesterday. As we approached the parking lot it was filled almost to capacity with only a few spaces set aside to cook chickens and for spectators to watch several fast ball pitchers hit their target resulting in a thorough dunking in a tank of water for some good natured volunteers. Inside the music was playing, people were eating, many were playing the cake wheel while others were signing up for the silent auction or taking part in raffles. Ruth Doan said, "It's the best BBQ chicken she has ever tasted." On a beautiful sunny afternoon it seemed to be the perfect place to contribute to a great cause. We thank all of those who contributed and those who attended. It was a great success! ... We had a nice turnout of volunteers to put flags on the graves of Veterans for Memorial Day. Two groups worked through Grove Cemetery as names were called out from a "locator" diagram for the placement of flags. Jim Heroux's crew did one side while Phil Colvin's did the other. Among the more difficult graves to locate were the Civil and Revolutionary War Veterans. With about 8 – 10 people in each crew we finished in about 2 ½ hours. The Catholic St James and other smaller cemeteries were done by a number of individuals. All in all it went quite well so that when Memorial Day arrived it was a sight to behold with all of those flags fluttering in the breeze. Thanks to all of those who helped....The Memorial Day parade was greeted with a beautiful sunny day. This year the parade left the school grounds and ended at the St James Cemetery. As always, our Legion Color Guard looked sharp and its 11 members led the parade down Main Street. We were pleased to have among our color guard, American flag carrier, Jamie Dew, son of Post Commander Jim Dew. He was recently deployed to Iraq. American Legion Officer, Tom Bennett was responsible for putting together the cemetery program. Chief Warrant Officer James Rohan was the speaker. He talked about the many, many MIA's or persons that are unaccounted for in time of war. The numbers enumerated in all wars is astounding. A nice sized crowd was on hand to take part in the ceremonies and listen to the music of our local high school band. Following these activities an open house was put on by the Legion with many goodies provided to accompany the camaraderie that took place among friends. A great day for all. ...The installation of officers and presentation of awards dinner featured prime rib au jus put on by Chef Tom Bennett and aided by Gary & Cindy Reckdenwald. It was truly superb and enjoyed by a turnout of about 60 people. Unfortunately 17 who had signed up in advance were no shows, which make it kind of hard to plan on food quantities. The officers that were installed were listed in June's newsletter so we will not list them again. Those in attendance receiving awards were: Tom Bennett – 64 years, David Boyd – 55 years, James Dew – 5 years, Wayne Doan – 35 years, Jack Ellsworth Jr. – 25 years, John Everhart – 10 years, James Herson – 35 years, Richard Mitstifer – 40 years, George M. Newport – 40 years, David Norman – 35 years, Gordon Veley – 15 years, William Ward – 45 years, and Richard Westbrook – 35 years. A great meal and a great occasion. Let us stand behind our elected officers this year and assist them in any way possible. For the good of the Post!... Installation of Tompkins County American Legion officers took place at Post 770 on June 1st. Our past Post 770 Commander Al Richar was installed as County Commander. Others from Post 770 were Historian – Lee Weaver and Membership Chairman – Tom Bennett. Bill Parker informed me that he and Tom Bennett attended the 6th District Convention at Post 617 in Marathon. There were few in attendance and Bill signed in as an alternate along with our Delegate Representative Tom. ...The Red Cross will continue to use our facility monthly rather than weekly as I erroneously stated in our last newsletter. Not being able to give blood any longer I am not sure just how well the Blood Drive went. ...It was interesting to have the T-Burg School kids use our facility for a chorus rehearsal and concert. It seems the school auditorium was being restored. We are pleased to be a community service for one and all. ...Our sincere thanks, if not somewhat belated, to Dave Boyd for his gift of several military history books and novels. An interesting collection that will be sure to peek your interest and satisfy your need for summer rainy day reading material! Our plan to organize and tidy up the library in the small meeting room is in the final stages of preparation and we hope to begin soon (sounds like a government job!). ...It was nice to hear from Capt. Dennis Compton, Commander of Boise Company. Enclosed were pictures and a newsletter describing their recent activities. Check our glass bulletin board for a copy of their newsletter and pictures. ...It seems our former mailbox, which has been converted into a flag disposal receptacle, still resembles its original intent. Two stamped letters were retrieved from among the flags recently. Well, it seemed like a good idea anyway. ...It has been pretty much decided that the remaining Bingo funds will be used to repair our parking lot. Look for some changes in parking during the upcoming restoration. ...Have you noticed a change in our Legion Highway sign? We just noticed quite a change recently. Thank

you SAL. ..We are pleased to announce the winners of this years American Legion School Award are Eric Irish, and Samantha Robinson. Kayla Hardesty won the school Scholarship award and also the 6th District Scholarship Award. Congratulations students! ...The membership is pleased to have made a monetary donation to the T-Burg All Sports Boosters and the Trumansburg Food Pantry. ...This year's Poppy Princess was Kayden Schmidt. We hope you saw her picture in the May 27th issue of the Finger Lakes Community Newspaper and also in the Memorial Day Parade.

MEMBERSHIP

At this time we have 364 members. It is time to end our current drive. The 2010 membership cards are in. We will accept 2010 dues any time. We will continue to re-up our active duty members. If you are no longer on active duty, please let us know. We hope you will continue your membership by paying your dues. We welcome new members Edward Kabelac and Joshua D. Buckner. Welcome aboard.

AUXILIARY NEWS

We made our quota of 100% in membership of 155. First time in a few years. We welcome Joy Gaustad as a new senior. On June 2nd Roberta Chiesa installed the newly elected officers. Cindy Reckdenwald decline Treasurer, but Nan Colvin has accepted. The Department Convention is July 9th – 11th in Buffalo, NY. The scholarship winners are Tiffany Borden & Adriana Sanchez. Congratulations! Our condolences to Bonnie Rappleye on the loss of her mother and to Gail Dean on the loss of her son. Our thoughts are with Liz Raymond and Delores Hendrix. Congratulations to Al Richar who is the Tompkins County Commander for 2009 – 2010. We would like to thank the following for all their time and effort they put in to our Post to the following: Susie Smith for a great job with the poppies, Mindy Craw and crew for all of the Auxiliary dinners this past year (No more until Sept), and to Sue Wright for doing the outside flowers for many years at the old Post and our new Post. She will be retiring after this year, so we are looking for a replacement. A job well done ladies! And thank you all. It was nice to see 16 members at our June meeting. No meetings in July and August. See you in September! Reminder, if you pay your dues by Sept 30th, 2 names will be drawn for Free Dues for the following year and of course the Early Bird dinner. Have a great & safe summer. Submitted, Marge Bennett

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

The SAL would like to thank everyone that participated in the Patrick Richar Benefit. We served over four hundred meals and raised lots of money. Mother Nature was kind to us also. It was a beautiful day. To call it a resounding success would be greatly understated. Thanks also to the grand prizewinner, Cliff Northrup. He has donated the rifle back to the SAL to be re-raffled at some point. The Father's Day Breakfast was another huge success story. We served 230+ breakfasts. By the end of the morning we had run out of just about everything (including our energy). Once again, thanks to all those who came out to help us as well as those that came for the meal. Lastly, our next meeting will be July 6th. Plan on doing some work around the Post.

AN ARTICLE OF INTEREST

Robert E. Mahoney a member of NYALPA was selected as the "Volunteer of the Year" at the Annual Volunteer Recognition night recently held at the ArthurKill Correctional Facility. Bob was presented a plaque designating him as the Volunteer of the Year for his work with the inmates who are members of the Con Thien Memorial American Legion Post # 1945. There are many volunteers who come to ArthurKill Correctional Facility five days a week to help the inmates on a religious, educational, substance abuse, and mentoring programs. Bob was a Correctional Lieutenant who worked at ArthurKill Correctional Facility for 26 of his 30 years service to the New York State Department of Correctional Services; he retired in 1997. Bob started the Con Thien Memorial American Legion Post 1945 in 1990 and it was and still is the only American Legion Post made up of incarcerated veterans in the state of New York Department of Corrections, and was at the time the second such American Legion Post in the country. Bob makes it a point to visit the officers and members of the Post at least once a month to help them run the limited number of programs they try to participate in and sponsor. He also attends various programs run by the Post, such as their annual Family Day Picnic, the American Legion Birthday celebration and special events that takes place throughout the year. A couple of months ago,

Bob invited 2nd District Aux Pres Diane Gerber to accompany him on his monthly visit to Con Thien. Diane was so impressed with the experience of her visit and interaction with the members of Con Thien that she has taken up the causes of the incarcerated veterans to help them with their cancelled stamps program for the VA hospital, greeting cards program, and writing pad collection program. She has spoken of her visit at the Dept., Dist. and County levels, during the Fleet Week visit of the US Navy ships to the homeport of Staten Island. Diane is a member of the Fleet Week committee, she spoke of her visit to various Naval Officers and it inspired them to the point that they wanted to make a visit to the Con Thien Post. She arranged, through Bob, for herself and a Naval Officer (Chaplain) to visit the members of Con Thien Post in April of 2007. That month another first happened, as the Con Thien Memorial SAL Detachment was officially chartered. Past Dept Cmdr Casey and Past Detachment Cmdr of SAL Dikeler came to ArthurKill Correctional Facility to present the charter to the SAL members.

DID YOU KNOW?

MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT THE USO

Myth: “The USO is part of the Government?”

Fact: No, the USO is NOT part of the US Government. We depend on the generosity of individuals like you. The USO is a non-profit charitable organization, chartered by Congress.

Myth: “The USO, all they do is entertain the troops?”

Fact: Not at all! Of course, we’re famous for bringing top-flight entertainment directly to our troops, wherever they are! But the USO also provides essential and unique services to support not only our GI’s, but also their families.

Myth: “The USO, that’s something from WWII.”

Fact: Although it was first started in 1941, the USO now provides critical services that are as vital today as they were back then. For GI’s all over the world the USO is their “key link” to home and family.