

THE BOUTON BUGLE
JUNE **2008**

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

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CALENDAR FOR JUNE

Mon	June 2	6: 30 PM	Tompkins County American Legion Installation of Officers Dinner At Post 1134 - Dryden
		6:45 PM	Bingo
		7:00 PM	Squadron 770 Sons of the American Legion Meeting
Tues	June 3	7:00 PM	Unit 770 American Legion Auxiliary Meeting
Weds	June 4	7:30 AM	Chamber of Commerce Meeting
		7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Sat	June 7	2:00 – 9:00 PM	St. Francis Dinner & Dance
Mon	June 9	6:45 PM	Bingo
		7: 30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Tues	June 10	7:00 PM	Joint Legion Family Meeting (AL, AUX & SAL)- See Special Events
Weds	June 11	12:00 PM	Senior Citizen's Luncheon
Fri	June 13	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Smorgasbord Dinner – Public Invited – See Special Events
Sat	June 14	FLAG	Flag Day
		6:00 PM	6 th District Convention Dinner at Post 89 – Vestal
Sun	June 15	FLAG	Father's Day
		1:00 PM	6 th District Convention at Post 89 – Vestal
Mon	June 16	6:45 PM	Bingo
Weds	June 18	7 :00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs	June 19	5:30 – 8:00 PM	American Legion Auxiliary Dinner – Public Invited
Sat	June 21	2:00 – 4:00 PM	Shower – Tent Rental
Sun	June 22	7:30 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited – Tent Rental
Mon	June 23	6:45 PM	Bingo
		7: 30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Weds	June 25	6:00 PM	Senior Citizen's Dinner
Sat	June 28	Noon	Wedding Reception
Sat – Thurs	June 28 th – July 7 th		Boys State at Morrisville

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joint Legion Family Meeting: will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday June 10th. This is a very important meeting. One you should not miss. In as much as we have not met together as a group in quite a while, there are a lot of things that need to be discussed. Without getting into what needs to be gone over and agreed upon, we will leave it up to you to bring to the meeting your questions and suggestions. See you there.

6th District Convention Dinner: will be held at 6:00 PM on Saturday June 14th at Post 89 in Vestal. Anyone wishing to attend please contact Bill Parker or Tom Bennett for tickets to the dinner.

Smorgasbord Dinner: will be open to the public and take place from 5:30 – 8:00 PM on Friday, June 13th. In as much as there is no fish fry taking place in June, July or August, Tom Bennett and crew will be putting on a special array of various foods on the 2nd Friday of June. See you there.

Walk of Honor: Now that the weather is nice we continue to accept orders for bricks to be etched and installed. Order forms are available in the entry way to the lounge. The purchase of a brick is a meaningful way to honor a veteran.

Post 770 Website: www.Post.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.

Purchase Receipts: Please be sure to get receipts when making purchases at stores. This past month we were billed for a couple of purchases at local stores for which we had no receipts. We need these to keep our bookkeeping in order.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Sick Call: **Oleta Bower:** Hospital – Now Home **Barb Cole:** CMC

POST NEWS

Let us begin this months Post news by announcing our newly elected officers for the year 2008 – 2009. They are: Commander: Tom Stilwell, 1st Vice: Jim Dew, 2nd Vice: Scott Hulslander, 3rd Vice: Tom Bennett, Adjutant: Phil Colvin, Financial Officer: Lee Weaver, Service Officer: Don Bennett, Chaplain: Bill Parker, Historian: George VanValen, Sgt-at-Arms: Cal Bailey, Judge Advocate: Don Smith. If the list of officers sounds familiar it is because it is pretty much a repeat of last year. We would love to have more members get involved. ...We have heard that the 32 Square Dancers group enjoyed the Turkey & Ham Dinner put on by Tom & Roberta Stilwell, Roberta Chiesa, and Lee Agard and plan to return again next year. Where else can you find food and facilities like that but at the American Legion? ...We were able to attend the May Steak & fish fry dinner with some of our family. The crowd seemed to be pretty good judging by the full parking lot. It's going to seem strange not having the monthly Friday night fries during June, July, and August. Did you notice we forgot to cancel our fish fry ad for June with the Pennysaver? However, Tom Bennett and crew will be aboard with a smorgasbord dinner in June. ...American Legion baseball will be underway soon although I don't have a schedule to know when and where they play. Scott Miller will be coaching the team this year. ...Wow! Have costs raised recently. We are now assessed extra charges for gas when companies make deliveries. The bottom line seems to be that we are going to have to increase some of our prices in order to stay afloat. Look for a small increase in the cost of drinks at our bar and elsewhere. ...Tom Bennett has been chosen to be our delegate at the American Legion convention this year. We normally send two delegates, however we do not have another at this time. Is anyone interested in representing our Post this year? If so, contact Commander Stilwell. ...We are pleased to make our annual contribution to the TCS Yearbook TRUCE for the display of an American Legion ad.

MEMBERSHIP

Our appeal to re-up or sign up has apparently not reached the right people. We remain at 380 members. No change from last month. It appears we will be about 13 short of our quota as we head into our convention. Not bad, however it would have been rewarding to have a 100% realization.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Our membership, with 143 seniors and 8 juniors, is at 151, short 11 members to make our quota. We welcome Margaret French, a new senior. The newly elected officers for the year 2008 – 2009 are: President: Ann Stiles Hunt, 1st Vice: Beth Jenkins, 2nd Vice: Marti Smith, Secretary: Elaine Joseph, Treasurer's: Roberta Stilwell & Mary Schmidt. President Hunt will appoint the other officers. Roberta Stilwell was elected to serve on the Board. Continuous year certificates and pins were given out to 60 Yr – Mary K Read, 40 yr – Marion Asay, Marge Bennett, Betty Covert, Doris Maybee, Sue Weaver & Sue Wright, 35 yr – Anne Albertsman & Barb Goldsmith-Liske, 30 yr – Christina Hulslander and Phyllis Pearsall, 25 yr – Joyce Bennett, along with 20 – 15 – 10 & 5 year intervals. Congratulations to Corey & Julie Richardson on the birth of a daughter, Lydia Adela, on May 14th. This makes grandchild # 9 for George & Trudie Richardson. Our condolences to Diane Schooley on the loss of her mother, member of 40 years Doris Maybee on May 10, 2008. Doris used to work on all the clambakes at the old Post. Our thoughts to Kathy Rumsey on the loss of her husband on May 12, 2008. The next Auxiliary dinner will be June 19th serving a smorgasbord dinner. The next meeting is June 3rd at 7:00 PM. There will be no meetings during July and August. Wear your poppy proudly on Memorial Day. We made a monetary donation to Troop 506 Girl Scouts to prepare pamphlets on good healthy routines for younger kids. They will be placed in businesses and are free. Happy Fathers Day to all. Respectively submitted, Marge Bennett.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Membership is at 58; a good turnout, however, there are still a few that have not renewed. You still have a few months. Welcome new members Carl Mount and Corey Mount. As per the membership, the slate of officers will be the same for the 2008-2009 time frame. Congratulations go out to “Popcorn” John Everhart on winning the Mothers Day raffle digital camera/printer combo. Special thanks to Lenny, Chip, Steve, and Jamie for delivering the park benches to the Bath VA hospital on Armed Forces Day, May 17th. Also, special thanks to the SAL members who helped place flags on the veteran’s graves at Grove cemetery. This was not a chore, it was a privilege. Our last meeting was quite successful at cleaning up the grounds around the post. There was a lot more garbage accumulated over winter than any of us imagined. Thanks to all those that participated. Our next meeting will be Monday, June 2nd.

AMERICAN FLAG CELEBRATES 130 YEARS

June 14th will mark the 130th birthday of the American flag, a symbol that embodies the essence of patriotism. In 1877 the first Flag Day was celebrated, 100 years after the Continental Congress adopted the flag. In 1949, President Harry Truman officially made Flag Day a day of national observance. Many Americans are showing their support for their country in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington by flying the American flag.

Here is a brief history of the flag and tips on how to display our nation’s symbol:

History: 1776: The Continental Navy used the flag with a rippling form of a rattlesnake, and the words “DON’T TREAD ON ME.” **Jan 1776:** “Grand Union” flag. In the “union” square are the crosses borrowed from the British flag. **1776:** The “Betsy Ross” flag. The 13 stars represent the newly formed 13 states – Del., Penn., N.J., Ga., Conn., Mass., Md., S.C., N.H., Va., N.Y., N.C. and R.I. **1777: Aug 1777:** The “Bennington Flag”; carried into battle in Jan. 1781. **May 1, 1795:** Vermont and Kentucky join the union; 15 stars and stripes are adopted. **1818:** 20 stars and 13 stripes adorn the flag – Tenn., Ohio, La., Ind. And Miss. join the union. Congress mandated the number of stripes be fixed at 13 and one star would be added for each new state. **1846:** Following the Mexican-American War, 28 states make up the nation. **1861:** 34 states now in the nation. Even after the South secedes from the Union, President Lincoln would not allow any stars to be removed from the flag. **1908:** The United States had 46 states. No official design for the 46-star flag was used from 1908-1912. **1912:** 48 states in the United States. Presidential order issued, fixing the position of the stars. **July 4, 1959:** 49 stars on flag after Alaska enters the Union Jan. 3, 1959. **July 4, 1960:** The 50th star is added after Hawaii’s entry to the United States on Aug. 21, 1959.

What the colors mean: The colors red, white and blue did not have meanings for the Stars & Stripes when it was adopted in 1777. However, when the Congress of the Confederate chose red, white and blue for the Great Seal of the United States in 1782, the meanings were **Red** for valor and hardiness. **White** for purity and innocence. **Blue** for vigilance, perseverance and justice.

How to display: The American flag is more than just colorful cloth, it symbolizes our country. There are traditional ways in which we give respect to the flag. Proper etiquette should be used when displaying the flag. They are: Flags should always hang freely but never with the stars down, except as a distress signal. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed with the “union” (stars) to the left of the outside observer. No other flag may be flown above or to the right of the U.S. flag, except at the United Nations headquarters. The flag should never touch the ground, be carried flat or horizontally, or be used as a drapery, covering or receptacle. A citizen may fly the flag at any time, but preferably from sunrise to sunset – except for special occasions or when well-lighted. The flag should not be embroidered nor printed on clothing. Nor should words or designs be placed on the flag. When a flag becomes unfit to fly, it should be destroyed with dignity. The flag should never be used as a costume or uniform.

How many flags were sold: Major retailers saw a spike in American flag sales during the end of 2001. In 2000 3.6 million flags were purchased. In 2001, 12.2 million and then way down in 2002 to only .67 flags being purchased.

The Pledge Allegiance: In 1892 the “Pledge of Allegiance” was first published in The Youth’s Companion magazine, written by Francis Bellamy, a Baptist minister, The words, “under God” were not added until June 14, 1954.

How to fold the flag: **1.** First, hold the flag at waist level with another person so that its surface is parallel to the ground. **2.** Fold the lower side with stripes over the side with the “union” on it. Fold again so that the union is on either side, facing the ground and sky. **3.** To start the triangle fold, take the corner of the folded edge and bring in diagonally over the open edge, which should form a triangular flap. **4.** Continue cornering process until just a blue square of the union is visible from the triangular fold. **5.** When the flag is completely folded the blue triangle of the union will be visible.

DID YOUR KNOW? OUR FLAG, OUR PRIDE

The flag is more than just a colorful piece of fabric. It's what drapes over the coffin of your grandparents, parents, spouses and child's coffin after he or she has honorably served their country. It represents freedom. In 1776, our young nation gained its independence and a flag was created to represent a new country and new freedoms. While that flag has evolved as our nation has grown, the meaning behind it remains. "The flag is a symbol of this country," said Janet Jefford, Americanism National Chairmen. "Every time I see the flag, it makes me proud to be an American." Perhaps one of the most memorable examples of this inspiration is the famous photograph of U.S. soldiers raising the flag on Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima in 1945 during WWII. The valor shown by these men provided hope to a nation torn by war. The men raising the flag who survived battle were rushed home to sell war bonds and became instant celebrities. Was it the men in the picture that inspired Americans? Yes, but it was most likely, the American flag flying strongly above them that inspired a nation. It showed strength and renewed faith in a nation, its servicemen and the will to overcome the greatest obstacles victoriously. In 1949, Harry S. Truman signed a bill requesting that all Presidents preceding him call for the observance of Flag Day on June 14th. Another historic image includes U.S. Astronaut Neil Armstrong uttering his famous words after planting the American flag on the moon: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." Generations were inspired to dream, and a nation's horizons were expanded beyond this world. The flag was there the whole time. More recently, hope was restored in a similar act when President George W Bush appeared at Ground Zero in New York City after the September 11th attacks with Old Glory prevailing once again. The American flag is everywhere. It hangs in classrooms, outside of banks, sports stadiums, churches and has been featured on postage stamps for decades. Take advantage of opportunities to educate people about the importance and history of the American flag. As our nation honors our service members, it is important to remind each other and ourselves about what the U.S. flag represents: the men and women who gave and still give their lives for our freedom. By: Mariah Merkel

Important Dates to Fly Your Flag: May 17th: Armed Forces Day, May 29th: Memorial Day (Half mast until Noon), June 14th: Flag Day, July 4th: Independence Day