

THE BOUTON BUGLE

MARCH

2005

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Circulation 700 Members

ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

Legion Telephone 387-4212

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CALENDAR FOR MARCH

Tues	Mar 1	7:00 PM	Unit 770 American Legion Auxiliary Meeting
Thurs	Mar 3	7:00 PM	Joint Legion Family Information Meeting (See Events)
Fri	Mar 4	5:30 – 8:00 PM	4th Lenten Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Don Smith’s Crew
Sat	Mar 5	TBA	Department Oratorical Contest in Albany
		2:00 – 5:00 PM	Shower in Meeting Room
		5:00 – 7:00 PM	Cub Scouts Spaghetti Dinner – Public Invited
Sun	Mar 6	5:00 PM	Squadron 770 Sons of the American Legion Meeting
Mon	Mar 7	7:00 PM	Tompkins County American Legion Meeting at Post 1134, Dryden
		7:30 PM	Snowmobile Club Meeting
Weds	Mar 9	Noon	Senior Citizen’s Meeting
		7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Fri	Mar 11	Noon	Pioneer Seed Company Luncheon
		5:30 – 8:00 PM	5 th Lenten Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Jim Heroux’s Crew
Sat	Mar 12	Noon – 4:00 PM	Dart Banquet in the Lounge
		7:00 – 9:30 PM	Monte Carlo Night
		9:30 PM	Auction (See Events)
Sun	Mar 13	8:00 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
		2:30 – 5:30 PM	Shower
Mon	Mar 14	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Tues	Mar 15		Hill Day in Albany
		7:30 PM	Snowmobile Club Meeting
Weds	Mar 16		Hill Day in Albany
Thurs	Mar 17		St Patrick’s Day Celebration
Fri	Mar 18	5:30 – 8:00 PM	6th Lenten Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Phil Colvin’s Crew
Sat	Mar 19	8:00 – 10:00 AM	Traveling Baseball Team Breakfast Fundraiser – Public Invited
		Noon – 2:00 PM	Kids Easter Party – Must sign up by Weds, Mar 16 th (See Events)
		7:00 PM	American Legion Birthday Party (Hors d’oevres at 6:30) (See Events)
		8:00 – 12:00	Dancing to the music of DJ Jon Kiltz (See Events)
Sun	Mar 20	11:00 AM	Harley Group Meeting
Weds	Mar 23	Noon	Senior Citizen’s Meeting
		7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Fri	Mar 25	5:30 – 8:00 PM	7th Lenten Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Don Smith’s Crew
Sat	Mar 26	1:00 – 5:00 PM	Shower
SUN	MAR 27	FLAG	EASTER SUNDAY
		8:00 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
Mon	Mar 28	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joint Legion Family Information Meeting – with a “dish to share or not” will be held on Thurs, Mar 3rd at 7:00 PM. Along with our usual update of questions and suggestions, we will be sharing a meal among our SAL, Auxiliary, and AL members. We hope this monthly get-together will enhance our programs and foster a greater camaraderie between our members.

Lenten Steak & Fish Fries – will continue every Friday night throughout the month of March, ending on Good Friday. We hope you will try to make as many as possible. Besides enjoying a great meal, getting together with your friends, and meeting new people, it helps the Post pay its bills. We look forward to seeing you there.

Monte Carlo Night – will be held on Sat, Mar 12th from 7 – 9:30 PM with an auction to follow at 9:30. We hope you will enjoy the games of chance playing with our “funny money”. The winners will have a chance to bid on great prizes donated by our area merchants at the auction. This has always been a real fun night and we hope to see you.

Breakfasts – from 8 – 11:00 AM continue to be held twice a month. They are Sun, Mar 13th & 27th (Easter Sunday). These are hearty “all you can eat” breakfasts consisting of a wide variety of goodies. It’s a great way to start off your day without spending all of your time in the kitchen. Incidentally, we could use more help. If interested, see Shirley Willard or Jim Heroux.

Kids Easter Party – will take place at Noon on Sat, Mar 19th by our Auxiliary. The event will include all kids from newborn to 12 years of age. Following the Easter Egg Hunt, the Easter Bunny will hop to each boy & girl with a basket full of goodies. There will be refreshments for all. Parents and grandparents will need to sign up your big or little tots by Weds, Mar 16th.

American Legion Birthday Dinner and Dance – Just like the “Golden Oldie” days, when we always had music and dancing with every major event, this night will no exception. Our annual American Legion Birthday Party will be held on Sat, Mar 19th at 7:00 PM (Cocktail hour at 6:00). Spanish Pot Roast will be featured by Chef Tom Bennett, as this is to be his “Swan Song” dinner. Tom will be stepping down as Kitchen Steward after this event. Those of you who used to frequent the old Legion will surely remember DJ Jon Kiltz. He will be on hand to finish up the evening with some great dancing music we all enjoy. This is a “must” night on your agenda! See you there with an appetite and dancing shoes.

Post 770 Website – <http://www.post770.com/> – Patrick Richar at 111 Third Street, Waterford, NY 12188-2430, is our contact for computer info of interest to our membership. We are now offering our newsletter to be sent on line to those who would prefer to receive it in this manner. All you need to do is let Patrick know and you will be put on his list of recipients via on-line preference. If you feel it to be a better solution than to receive via mail, it would save on our mailing costs and ensure prompt delivery. It’s your choice.

Post Volunteers – have been responding admirably. We have received some requests to join our fish fry crews, help with bartending, laundry, etc. Please leave your name, phone number, and the area in which you want to contribute, with any officer or the bartender on duty. We will get back to you.

An American Legion Prayer for March – Almighty God, as we gather this month to celebrate the birthday of The American Legion, we rejoice that we are able to assist in its programs. We thank you for the founding fathers of this great Legion Family and pray that we continue to care for our veterans, especially the homeless veterans, as long as there is a need. We pray for peace throughout the world and ask your continued blessing on this great country. Amen.

AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERSHIP

At present our membership is 404. Our quota for this year is 446. Our dues are currently \$25. It’s up to you to encourage any eligible veteran to join our organization. We can be heard when voicing our thoughts and ideas in large numbers. Our members might want to take a look at “Welcome Home”, a Legion guide to benefits.

“Welcome Home” Legion booklet guides new veterans to benefits. Numerous federal and state programs provide financial support, medical care and rehabilitation, and social and economic readjustment services to veterans. Active-duty service-members, reservists and National Guardsmen serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom have earned certain veterans rights, such as medical and dental care, disability compensation, and readjustment counseling services, educational assistance, employment services and reemployment rights. The Legion’s National Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission offers the booklet “Welcome Home”, to inform the nation’s newest veterans and their families of their entitlements and benefits, and where to apply. To obtain one, veterans are encouraged to contact their local American Legion posts or department headquarters.

JOINT MEETING

At the February Joint Meeting (no food this time) about a half dozen or so got into an in-depth discussion on one subject... the kitchen! It was an excellent information meeting and we are sure a lot of positive steps will be taken as a result of the discussion. Here is what you, as a kitchen crew worker, do and don’t do! 1. All opened pickle, olive, mayo, salad

dressings, etc. jars are to be stored in the sliding glass door cooler, not the walk in cooler. 2. Food can be returned to the freezer, if it has not come up to room temperature. This will enable us to extend the life of certain foods that might otherwise be thrown out. 3. When terminating the salad bar, DO NOT RETURN SALAD VEGGIES TO THE SLIDING GLASS DOOR COOLER, unless you know they will be used in the next day or two. Veggies do not last and must be thrown out. There are a few exceptions. Please put peppers and onions in plastic zip lock bags and freeze them, to be used at a future time for soups, stews, etc. Also do the same with celery, which can be used in making dressing. The rest of the veggies, including cut up lettuce, should be either taken home by the volunteers or dumped into the garbage. (I have been one of the biggest offenders of saving everything. OK, a point was made.)

Finally, funeral receptions, of which we have hosted an increasing number, became a topic of discussion. We are inviting, Joe Sibley of the Ness-Sibley Funeral Home, to address this subject to the membership at our next regular meeting.

POST NEWS

We have been having a lot of events occurring on the weekends during February and March. The last I knew, there were no open Saturdays in March. Here is a rundown of the highlights occurring since the last Post news. . Although we don't have actual counts on the February Auxiliary dinner, fish fry, and breakfasts, the attendance has been far from disappointing in fact it has been great! We thank our patrons and hope you will continue to enjoy our efforts. ... On Sunday, Jan 30th, a beautiful sunny day with a temperature of 28, the Snowmobile Club held their annual Poker Run event. They could not have ordered a more perfect day for the event. About 140 riders from 6 Finger Lakes Snow Mobile Clubs began their day with a great breakfast that the Legion put on by Tom Ferretti, Gordon Whitaker, Glen Barrows, Doug Hoover, Peter Meskill, Jeff Williams, Jim & Renee, Spook & Jackie, Jamie H, Pat, Al, Brady, and Dave P. Following the breakfast they made the rounds to various other places, picking up and playing their cards as the Poker Run Day progressed. As the day came to a close, 200 chicken BBQ halves were cooked at the Post by Jim, Renee, Don, Dawn, Brady, Al, Jamie H., and Pat Platt. Together with potatoes, baked beans and rolls, 175 dinners were served. As we swung by a completely full parking lot, we estimated about 100 snowmobiles parked in the field north of the Post. What a great conclusion to a perfect day. ... We would like to take this opportunity to thank Eric Hallman for cleaning and repairing our M-1 rifles, which are used in firing at military funerals and carried by our parade color guard. Loren Fisher used to do this and then Harold Wright took over. Eric is a gunsmith and it's great to add someone with this expertise to work with Harold. ... We located the "information for the newsletter" sheets for you to fill out when you have something for our newsletter. They may be found on the setup counter in the kitchen and also at the front door entryway.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

We are sorry to report a large number of "Sick Call" and "Taps" members this past month of cold and snowy weather. We were pleased to have a large number of members assemble at the Post and go en-mass to the funeral home to conduct a short ritual for departed comrades. Thank you for honoring our fallen comrades in this manner.

Sick Call: Bob Hastings – CMC – Now Home
 Bob Ditzell – CMC – Now Home

Shawn Miller – Oxford Veterans Hospital
Bill Alford – CMC – Now Home

Taps: Eugene Ball – died Thursday, January 20, 2005. Eugene was a lifetime member of Post 770.

Robert N Read- passed away on Friday, January 21, 2005 following a lengthy illness. Bob was a career Navy man. He graduated from the NYS Merchant Marine Academy in 1940 and enlisted in the US Navy on Feb 27, 1941. Bob's Navel career spanned three wars. He served on several ships and also under Admiral Nimitz during WWII. During the Korean Conflict, Bob was recalled to active duty and served as a Navy Recruiter. Following 37 years of service, Bob retired from the Navy on May 19, 1978 with the rank of Chief Quartermaster. Our personal friendship goes way back to 1948 when I joined the local Navy Reserve unit. We were brought even closer together when, following our discharges from the Navy, we shared a duplex house on Cayuga Street with Bob, Mary Kay, Tommy, and Annie. We have lost a wonderful shipmate and comrade. A large number of our Legion members attended the calling hours at the funeral home for a final salute to a great patriot.

Dorothy Jean Pesco – passed away Saturday, January 22, 2005. Dorothy was a member of Unit 770 American Legion Auxiliary.

Charles W Sumner – passed away on Thursday, January 26, 2005. Chuck was proud to have served his country in the US Air Force during WWII. He was honorably discharged in 1943 and was a member of the Arthur E Bouton Post 770 for many years. A large group of members assembled at the Post for calling hours at the funeral home and rendered a final salute to our fallen comrade.

Edward J Farrell – died on Sunday, January 30, 2005 at Hospicare in Ithaca. During WWII he served as a Naval Officer in Brazil, Washington, DC, and Pearl Harbor. In 1945 he returned to Trumansburg and established an insurance business. It was in 1946 when I first visited with Ed at the “old” American Legion Post to request “backing” for a new T-burg Drum and Bugle Corps. Ed and the rest of the Legion assured us of their support with everything except money... They didn’t have any extra to give away. Ed was a Past Commander of Post 770 and a member since his discharge at the end of WWII. There were no calling hours and services were private at the family home. Contributions in Ed’s memory may be directed to the Arthur E Bouton American Legion Post 770, PO Box 456, Trumansburg, NY 14886.

John Philip Reynolds – died on Monday, February 7, 2005 in Pensacola, FL. John was a Navy veteran, former resident of T-burg, and a member of Post 770.

Wayne Reynolds – died Monday, February 7, 2005 at CMC. He was the father of Post 770 SAL member Donald Reynolds. A reception was held at the Post after the funeral.

Charles W. Kehler – died suddenly Sunday, February 13, 2005 at his home. Following graduation from Auburn High School, he proudly served his country during WWII in the 143rd Naval Sea Bees. Charles was a member of Post 770. A military service was conducted at the Calvary Cemetery in Ithaca, by members of the Post 770 funeral detail. Memorial gifts may be made to the Arthur E. Bouton American Legion Post 770, PO Box 456, T-burg, NY 14886.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Membership is 171 – Quota 193. We welcome three new members: Sarah Brewer, Alma Kramer, & Mary Ann Richar. If you borrowed a wheelchair and no longer need it, Please return it. We are constantly in need of them. Our condolences to the following: Mary Read & family on the loss of Bob on 1/21, Ruth Farrell & family on the loss of Ed 1/30, and to Eric Kunze on the loss of his father. The last Auxiliary Dinner on 1/24 brought out 85 brave patrons considering the temperature was 12 degrees below zero. Thank you Shirley and Dana Smith for helping with the Reynolds’ reception on 2/11 and to Shirley, Vickii & Roberta for doing a funeral luncheon on 1/27. A special thank you goes to Lenny, our faithful SAL member and dishwasher for many of our occasions. Our thoughts are with Antoinette “Boots” Springer who had surgery 2/24 and to Debbie Burns who fell and was in ICU but now home and to our unit President Vickii, who was doctoring herself at home the first part of Feb and now getting out. Please don’t forget about our annual Kids Easter Party. Please sign up by March 16th. It will be on Sat, Mar 19th starting at Noon.

We wish the American Legion a VERY HAPPY 84TH BIRTHDAY in March! Hope you had a nice Valentine’s Day. Happy St. Patrick’s Day to all! The next meeting is March 1st at 7:00 PM. Respectively Submitted, Marge Bennett.

THE VOICE

Do we dare print another controversial letter from the “Voice: the newsletter of the NYS Legion Press Assoc? The letter is as follows written by Barbara J. Kerr, Department Executive Secretary and “proudly printed” by Mike Duggan, Editor.

The following is an OP-ED piece that I submitted to my local papers and the NY Times. None of which were fit to print. The other day I received an e-mail from “True Majority.” The subject was “Let’s put an Ad on Arabic Television.” After a “personal” note to me (“Dear Barbara,” “signed “Ben”. The actual letter began from FaithfulAmerica.org with “Dear Faithful American” as the salutation. This group, FaithfulAmerica.org wants to send a message from the people of the United States to the people of Iraq and the Arab world telling them “we stand shoulder-to-shoulder with them in demanding justice for these sinful abuses committed in our name.” They have filmed a television ad with Christian, Jewish, and Muslim faith leaders to be broadcast on Arabic-language television. My initial response was to just hit the delete key, but I read the first sentence. “The torture scandal continues to grow, and with it the outrage of the Arab world” and I continued to read. Whoa, I thought. Wait just one @*#S% minute here. Saddam had Iraqi men, women, and children put to death on a daily basis. Where was the “outrage of the Arab world????” Saddam had people thrown off 3 and 4 story building while their relatives were forced to watch. Where was the “outrage of the Arab world????” Saddam had people’s tongues cut out, limbs chopped off, and heads lopped off while their families were forced to watch. Where was the “outrage of the Arab world????” The American Legion National Commander, John Briden, recently reported “During a moving ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, seven

Iraqi merchants placed new prosthetic hands over their hearts while laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. They were honoring all US service members who died in the effort to liberate Iraq. Each of the seven lost their hands by the brutal enforces of Saddam Hussein's regime. Saddam's sons, as well as other administrators and military personnel, raped and sodomized Iraqi girls, some as young as 8 years old. Where was the "outrage of the Arab world???" Saddam's regime indiscriminately put to death millions of Iraqi citizens, on a daily basis as evidenced by the mass graves discovered in the last year. Where was the "outrage of the Arab world???" Terrorists have exploded several car bombs in Baghdad alone, killing 17 innocent Iraqi children and dozens of innocent Iraqi citizens. Where is the "outrage of the Arab world???" Four Americans were killed in Fallujah. Their bodies were burned, mutilated, dragged through the streets, and hung on a bridge while Iraqi people cheered and stoned them. Where is the WORLD'S OUTRAGE???? Two Americans and one South Korean, average citizens, not soldiers, have been beheaded on LIVE internet and television coverage. Where is the WORLD'S OUTRAGE???? To really understand prisoner abuse, talk to A1f R. Larson, Survivor of the Bataan Death March. Talk to Thomas Francione who was captured at 19 years of age and held for 1,011 days in Mining Camp #5 in Korea or talk to Sen. John McCain about his time in the Hanoi Hilton. When you hear what those guys went through, you'll look at "prisoner abuse" in an entirely different light. As one mother told me, "I'd rather see my child stripped naked on world-wide television than come home in a body bag!" I don't condone prisoner abuse, so put your phones down and drop the poison pens. However, I'm hard put to classify "humiliation" as prisoner abuse. Nor has sleep deprivation or a diet of bread and water ever killed anyone. I don't want this war. I do want people in this country to be sensible. The biggest part of terrorism is FEAR and UNREST. Make people afraid; make them uneasy, then you can divide the country. By supporting FaithfulAmerica.org, we are contributing to the division in our country. I have no intention of apologizing to anyone. Our soldiers are doing their jobs. Until they are called home, they are responsible to their Commander-in-Chief, not a bunch of yahoos who seek to comfort the enemy by apologizing. No one has any idea what he or she will do in any given situation. No one knows how he or she will react under threats and stress. These kids, and kids they are, the average age of today's "GI" is 19 years, have gone from "a nice pampered existence, clean clothes, a bed to sleep in, sanitation facilities, hot and cold running water showers, moderate temperatures, modern amenities, lights, TV, computers, cell phones, and flashy cars, hot & good food; to clothes worn day and night straight, a hollowed out hole in the sand, a latrine (if you're lucky), fetid water, scorching day temps, cold night temps; modern amenities, can't even remember who they are, K-rations, and being shot at. They are vilified in the press and groups such as FaithfulAmerican.org and rapidly loose heart. A friend asked me, "Would George do this?" referring to my son, Captain George I. Corhari, US Army. I don't know. I don't think he knows - I'd like to think he wouldn't, but you don't know what you are capable of doing until you are confronted with the situation. I didn't raise my child to be a soldier. That was his choice and I stand behind him 100%. Let's put things in proper perspective - As Sherman said, "War is HELL!" He was right. War is not only hell, it's not nice. Bad things happen to good people and good people do, what others might think are bad things. You cannot judge another until you have walked a mile in his shoes. But what else have these "kids" done? The electric production in Iraq exceeds prewar levels and continues to steadily increase. The majority of Iraq's canals have been cleaned of weeds and debris allowing thousands of farms to be irrigated and become productive once again. Seven major water treatment projects and a dozen or more major sewer projects are underway in critical population centers. The Iraqi people are returning to work. They have begun to realize that they have a major role to play in rebuilding Iraq and in its future. Schools are up and running with supplies provided by Service personnel and their families/friends support packages. Medical care is available again, to all citizens, from basic inoculations and check-ups to major, life threatening illness and injury. You may not agree with what I say here. That is your right. We all have the right to "free speech." Just remember, everyday our military men and women defend to their death, that right! Our troops need our understanding. Our troops need our caring. Our troops need our support. Stand up for our troops or SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP!!!!

SUBJ: ARTICLE FOR LEGION FROM GRANGER

I thought I would write an article to put into the Legion newsletter. Not sure if there is a word limit.

MARINES CORNER, I would like to let you know that since I left T-burg, to go back to the real Marine Corps, one thing has always been a constant. That would be Mary Ann Richar's CARE packages to the Marines. She has faithfully been making cookies for the Marines of 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marines for 4 years now. No matter where in the world we have traveled, we could count on a box full of cookies and candies to make their way there about once a month. Just to give you some ideas, we have eaten these cookies from Mt Fuji in Japan and Okinawa, to the Orient, Kuwait and Iraq. (see pictures at <http://www.post770.com/news-cookies.htm>) In between that, her cookies have been to Kabul, Afghanistan; Gitmo, Cuba; and Djibouti, Africa. Not only has she made cookies for the Marines but we have been able to count on her homemade jams, bags of candies, cans of coffee (Marine main staple, just wish we had clean socks to make it in), homemade cakes, and deer jerky. As the Gunny and then 1st Sergeant, it was my job to get the boxes and ration the

cookies out to the Marines, ensuring they all got one. In Iraq, you always got one of Mary Ann's cookies with a box of ammo. Her cookie program has expanded considerably, as Marines have come and gone, and she now supports not just one Marine Unit, but three. When my last Company Commander at 3rd Bn 2nd Marines went to 3rd Bn 25th Marines, so did Mary Ann's packages. Since my return from Iraq and time in 3rd Bn 2nd Marines, I have moved on to 1st Bn 25th Marines, where her cookies also now come to motivate the troops. I cannot fathom the count of how many thousands of cookies she has made in supporting the Marines of three infantry battalions. In case you don't know, an infantry Bn has over a thousand Marines. At the same time, she volunteers and sends us pictures of the Legion. Being in the infantry and always gone, we can only send her thank you's from out here, but would ask as a Marine 1stSgt and a prior Commander of Post 770, that you do something to recognize all of Mary Ann's contributions to the Marines and the War effort in keeping the morale up, Lord knows she won't take no money from us. Even though I'm not slated to go back with the current group, 3/2 and 3/25 that are going over again right now, they know they can count on Mary Ann's cookies to make it to the front.

1stSgt Ben A. Grainger, US Marine Corps, Inspector Instructor 1stSgt, Company C, 1st Battalion, 25th Marines, 1 Linsley Dr, Plainville, CT 06062

“Miseries seem light to a soldier if the Chief who imposes hardships on him also volunteers to share them”
Comt De Segut, 1689-1751