

THE BOUTON BUGLE

NOVEMBER

2009

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

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CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

Sun	Nov 1		All Saints Day
			Daylight Savings Time Ends (Set Clocks Back One Hour)
Mon	Nov 2	7:00 PM	Squadron 770 Sons of the American Legion Meeting
		7:00 PM	Snowmobile Club Meeting
Tues	Nov 3	FLAG	Election Day – Get out and Vote
		7:00 PM	Unit 770 American Legion Auxiliary Meeting
Weds	Nov 4	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Fri	Nov 6	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Sons of The American Legion Meatloaf Dinner – Public Invited
Sat	Nov 7	4:00 – 9:00 PM	Little Blue Cheerleaders Banquet
Sun	Nov 8	2:00 PM	Tompkins County Veterans Parade in Ithaca (See Special Events)
		6:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Pee Wee Football Banquet
Mon	Nov 9	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Weds	Nov 11	FLAG	Veterans Day – Signing of WWI Armistice, 1918
		9:00 AM	Set Up For NRA Banquet
		11:00 AM	Ceremony at Dewitt Park in Ithaca (See Special Events)
Thurs	Nov 12	5:00 – 12:00 PM	National Rifle Association Banquet & Activities
Fri	Nov 13	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Phil Colvin’s Crew
Weds	Nov 18	11:00 – 2:00 PM	Senior Citizen’s Thanksgiving Luncheon
		7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs	Nov 19	5:30 – 8:00 PM	American Legion Auxiliary Dinner – Public Invited
Sun	Nov 22	7:30 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
Mon	Nov 23	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Thurs	Nov 26	FLAG	Thanksgiving Day – Post Closed

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tompkins County Veterans Parade: will take place at 2:00 PM on Sunday, November 8th in Ithaca. Our Color Guard will form up at about 12:30 PM at the Post in order to be on station for a 1:15 PM line up. Uniform is the usual white shirt, navy or black pants and shoes with Legion hat and jacket. If you able to march, lets have a good turnout.

Veterans Day Observance at DeWitt Park: Post 770 is often asked to join this celebration on the corner of Cayuga and Buffalo Streets at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, November 11th with a firing squad and color guard. Uniforms will be normal attire for ceremonies. Lets form up at the Post at about 10:00 AM. Please make an effort to attend this event.

As veterans, this is our day!

The American Legion Online Update: Sign up for a weekly electronic newsletter published every Thursday and sent to your e-mail address. It has great stories with links to slideshows, video clips, and related materials at their website. Just go to www.org and click on publications and submit your e-mail address. It’s easy and it’s free.

Signs Posted Everywhere: All signs posted on doors, windows, and mirrors will be removed and further posting of signs in these areas should not take place. This should enhance the attractiveness of our Post. Also, the outside smoking area has been moved from the entryway area to the picnic table further north. This is in response to complaints made by our patrons.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Taps: Douglas J. Pokorney: Passed away in the comfort of his home with care of family on September 23, 2009. Doug proudly served in the US Navy as a boiler man on the USS Charles H Roan from November 1961 until the time of his honorable discharge in March of 1966. In 2004 Doug was diagnosed with mesothelioma. Members of the Trumansburg American Legion Post 770 funeral detail and the US Military Honors team performed a military honors tribute at Grove Cemetery following committal prayers.

Francis "Midge" Snyder: passed away October 23, 2009 at the Lakeside Nursing home. Midge was a member of the Arthur E Bouton American Legion Auxiliary Unit 770. Her husband, Norman "Snip" Snyder, preceded her in death. Midge and Snip were "4 o'clock regulars" at the old Legion Post for many years.

Donald DeWitt Teeter: passed away on September 26, 2009 at Cayuga Medical Center. He enlisted in the US Navy in 1942 and served in the Pacific as a radioman and tail gunner. He was awarded the Navy Air Medal and was discharged from the Navy in 1945. He was a member of Post 770 and a member of the Masons. Donald's internment was at the Union Cemetery of Hector, Burdett, NY. Members of the Armed Forces and the Post 770 Burial detail performed military honors.

Ralph Thorpe: died recently was laid to rest with military honors conducted by the Post 770 Funeral Detail. Ralph was a veteran having served in the Armed Forces.

POST NEWS

The food at the family picnic was absolutely fabulous this year as always. Too bad the wind had to be so strong that we needed curtains at the pavilion at Raymond's Pond. They seemed to quiet things down a bit though I am not sure they were responsible for no one falling in the pond or spraining an ankle this year. We did leave a little early to catch part of the German Fest at Lucas and may have missed some of the action. ...Your editor and Chloe did manage to attend his ships Navy reunion in New London, CT this year along with about 180 other shipmates. In addition to reminiscing about old times with 9 others from my Division we were able to tour the Coast Guard Academy which is much like West Point and Annapolis. Because this is a submarine base we were able to tour the original nuclear submarine Nautilus which, if you remember, traveled under the Polar icecap. The Coast Guard training ship "Eagle" arrived in port from Japan while we were there although we did not go aboard. If you have never attended a reunion you should do it sometime. They bring back a lot of memories. ...Minor kitchen cleanup took place recently. The island and all pots and pans were cleaned, the cooler emptied and shelves and walls cleaned, and the floor was painted. What an improvement. Thanks go to Ken Wright for donating the floor paint, Tim Wright for painting it with help from Pete Mahoney, Bill Krom, Brady Roach, Don Smith, Jim Heroux, George Overbaugh, Phil Colvin and Chris Vann. A job well done.... About 55 people signed up and attended the annual Early Bird dinner. Renee Heroux, John and Ange Adams, Mike Wright and a few others put on a great roast pork supper. American Legion Commander James Dew, Auxiliary President Ann Hunt, and Vice SAL Commander Brady Roach introduced their officers and recognized those members having belonged to the Legion for extended periods of times. Unfortunately our two Boy Stater's were unable to attend because of conflicts, but Girl Stater Heather Mount presented her observations of Girls State. What a fantastic job she did when responding to questions regarding the mock government that was set up and her role in its implementation. With our future in the hands of such talented youth our outlook can only be positive. ...We were able to attend a joint Tompkins County meeting early in October and were pleased to know what is going on in some of the other American Legion Posts. Did you know that 31% of the members of Ithaca Post 221 are WWII veterans; that our Veterans Day parade is always held on the Sunday before Veterans Day; that the Tompkins County American Legion donated \$200 each to the Department and National Commanders projects; that the Department Commanders group stayed at the Economy Inn; etc, etc, etc.... Were you in attendance at our 9/11 ceremony? Have you purchased a brick to be installed in the "Walk of Honor" lately? Have you noticed how great our Memorial appears? You can thank Harold Wright for adding each brick to our walk. Not an easy job. He has taken it upon himself to personally make our "Walk of Honor: stand out with its perfect alignment and continuing upkeep. In as much as Harold's work is primarily limited to good weather, we would suggest you lay plans now for any 2009 installations. Once the snow flies it will be springtime before Harold installs bricks again. ...We have noticed changes going on with our American Legion sign at roadside RT 96. Look for a Post 770 sign and also a sign, which will change, listing events, times, and dates. It appears these signs will be quite permanently anchored in a cement base. ...Just returning from the Friday night steak and fish fry on a very rainy night saw a great crowd. Our party of five was lucky to be seated by a bit after 7:00, which tells you how busy it was. It seems great that we continue to attract good-sized crowds despite the economy. We thank our loyal customers for their continued patronage... We were pleased to get a phone call one Sunday morning from David Neiss asking if we could use a Civil War display he had put together recently. How to get it to the Post wasn't the problem we thought it might be since his uncle has a vintage convertible. I'm sure it raised some eyebrows along the way but we are very pleased to have a life-like mannequin complete with

uniform, saber, musket, flintlock, etc. We are deeply grateful to David and family for his Civil War contribution.



MEMBERSHIP

As we wind down our current 2009 year and look forward to 2010 our membership rolls stand at 248 plus 33 paid up for life, which equals 281 current members. Our quota is 364. At the end of December we will be dropping all unpaid memberships from our rolls, which means that it is our last call to re-up or sign up. If not paid by January 1st your name will be dropped from our newsletter mailing list. It's a great organization, why not stay with it.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Membership is 105 seniors and 6 juniors totaling 111. Our quota is 157. Our newest junior member is Madeline Barry, the proud grandparents are Dave & Vickii Barry. The two names drawn for free dues for the year 2011 are Josephine Wright and Diane Schooley. Our condolences to Kathy Rumsey on the loss of her mother, Frances "Midge" Snyder on October 3, 2009. She was a 25-year member of our Auxiliary. We wish Dixie Wager a speedy recovery after some hand surgery. We made a monetary donation to the Tompkins County Veterans Committee. Veterans Day is November 11th. Don't forget to get your calendars for \$20.00. Each calendar is numbered 000 – 999 & numbers are based on the evening daily three number drawing. Treasurer Nan Colvin will pay winners out once a week. Drawing starts January 1, 2010. The next Auxiliary dinner is Nov 19th and the next meeting is Nov 3rd at 7:00 PM.

Have a nice Thanksgiving.

Submitted, Marge Bennett

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

Dues are now being taken for 2010. Try to show your support as early as possible this year. The SAL would like to thank all of our members that helped clean the kitchen. We would also like to thank those that helped with the Harvest Dance. It was well attended and a lot of fun. The SAL will be hosting a Meatloaf Dinner on Friday November 6th. Let's try to get all our family and friends out for this one. Our next meeting will be November 2nd at 7 PM. We need, once again, to clean up our office and do some work around the Post

Rededication of War Memorials in DeWitt Park in Ithaca

Written by Erica R. Hendry from the October 5th Ithaca Journal with comment by your newsletter Editor and pictures taken by photographer Charles Harrington. 4 x 6 originals are available from George VanValen to copy.

Once a dirty park, now given a facelift to honor Vets. It was silent, save for the sound of traffic and a lone trumpet singing a song of lost soldiers. People young and old, in uniform and civilian clothes, sat respectfully in rows of fold-up chairs under a canopy of trees; those behind them waited with children on their shoulders, with small American flags in their hands or tucked into the pockets of their shirts. The grass was neatly clipped and free of tangled pieces of trash. The sight was a rare one for the DeWitt Park the city used to know – dark, dirty and often neglected. But Saturday revealed a park with freshly laid bricks, wreaths of red, white, and blue, granite scrubbed and cleaned so it sparkled under the sun. It was a day that Holly Hollingsworth and other volunteers on the Dewitt Park Restorations Committee had waited for seemingly forever. But after three years of volunteer work and donations, it came: a rededication of the veteran's memorials Hollingsworth said had almost been forgotten. "We used this for Memorial Day, Flag Day, and Veterans Day, and then the park kind of got forgotten. There was a lack of respect for the park," Hollingsworth said. "People didn't recognize the memorials, they skateboarded on them and used drugs and alcohol on them and climbed all over them. It's a disgrace if we just forget these guys." But the crowd of about 300 didn't forget as it gathered around the memorial circle for the morning ceremony. "These are not just names of stone you have seen or touched," the Rev James Henery, a veteran of the Coast Guard and also a former Navy Chaplain, said as he opened the ceremony. "These represent unfinished lives." Mayor Carolyn Peterson read a rededication of the memorial and handed it to Hollingsworth, declaring Oct 3rd Rededication Day. But she also took time to recognize Hollingsworth himself, reading a separate declaration that also named Oct 3rd Holly Hollingsworth Day. "It was a dream shared by many but pursued by few," Peterson said, in reference to the parks cleanup. "It wouldn't have been possible with out the cajoling, persuasion and persistence of

Holly.” Several organizations have responded to the committee’s calls for help during the last few years donating their time and materials to restore several aspects of the park. The Bricklayers Union re-laid brick walkways with three pallets of brick left over from West State Street Projects and repaired the memorials, sealing the bases with 15 bags of cement and 40 tubes of caulking. The American Legion Post 221 and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War washed, painted and sealed benches and lampposts. The City provided mulch for the trees, which was put down by the Sons and Vietnam Veterans of America 377, and the city’s cleaning crew removed graffiti, and continues to do so as it’s found. Throughout the rest of the ceremony, speakers urged the community not to forget the veterans’ legacy. Leslyn McBean-Clairorne, a member of the Tompkins County Legislature, spoke about the first dedication of the WWI memorial on November 11, 1924, when the shops all closed at 1:00 PM so residents could view a parade and unveiling of the memorial.

