

**THE BOUTON BUGLE**  
**SEPTEMBER 2008**

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

Circulation: 588

**ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770**

Telephone 387-4212

<b>CMMDR:</b>	Tom Stilwell	387-5361	Newsletter Deadline	<b>ADJUTANT:</b>	Phil Colvin	387-6550
<b>AUX. PRES:</b>	Vickii Barry	387- 9512	15 <sup>th</sup> Of The Month	<b>SAL CMDR:</b>	Brady Roach	387-6636
<b>EDITOR:</b>	George Van Valen	387-9858		<b>TYPIST:</b>	Kathi Roach	387-6636

**CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER**

<b>Mon</b>	<b>Sept 1</b>	<b>FLAG</b>		<b>LABOR DAY</b>	
Tues	Sept 2	7:00 PM		Unit 770 American Legion Auxiliary Meeting	
Weds	Sept 3	7:00 PM		Board of Trustees Meeting	
Sat	Sept 6	12:45 PM		Post 442 Horseheads Poker Run	
Sun	Sept 7	9:00 AM		Install Molding in the Banquet Room (See Special Events)	
Mon	Sept 8	7:00 PM		Tompkins County American Legion Meeting at Post 770 Trumansburg	
Tues	Sept 9	7:30 PM		Post 770 American Legion Meeting (Note Change in Date)	
Weds	Sept 10	Noon		Senior Citizen's Luncheon Meeting	
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>Sept 11</b>	<b>FLAG</b>		<b>PATRIOT DAY – Flag at Half Mast until Sunset</b>	
Fri	Sept 12	5:30 – 8:00 PM		Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Jim Heroux's Crew	
Sat	Sept 13	3:00 PM		Wedding Reception	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>Sept 14</b>	<b>Noon – 4:00 PM</b>		<b>Family Picnic at Raymond's Pond – Post Closed</b>	
<b>Weds</b>	<b>Sept 17</b>	<b>FLAG</b>		<b>Citizenship Constitution Day</b>	
		7:00 PM		Board of Trustees Meeting	
Thurs	Sept 18	5:30 – 8:00 PM		American Legion Auxiliary Dinner – Public Invited	
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sept 19</b>	<b>FLAG</b>		<b>POW/MIA Recognition Day</b>	
Sat	Sept 20	Noon		Activities in the Meeting Room	
Sun	Sept 21	6:00 PM		Wedding Reception	
Mon	Sept 22	7:30 PM		Post 770 American Legion Meeting	
Weds	Sept 24	Noon		Senior Citizen's Meeting	
Sat	Sept 27	5:30 PM		Retirement Reception	
Sun	Sept 28	7:30 – 11:00 AM		Breakfast – Public Invited	
<b>Tues</b>	<b>Sept 30</b>			<b>Last Day to Pay Dues and Receive a "Free" Early Bird Dinner</b>	

**SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Installing Wood Molding:** in the banquet room at 9:00 AM on Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup>. The replacement of plastic molding with wood adds to the decor of our rooms throughout our Post. With the completion of this, our largest room, we will have made the change over throughout this building. Many hands mean less work. Let's hope for a good turnout for this project.

**Patriots Day:** September 11<sup>th</sup> – This will be the 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this fateful day. Be sure your flag at home is at half mast until sunset and do stop in at the Post. I'm sure there will be some special observances held on this day.

**Family Picnic at Raymond's Pond:** This is a great opportunity to visit with friends and fill up with beer and goodies. We may just be surprised with a genuine Pig Roast to round out the festivities. Bring the family and a huge appetite. There will be fun for all as we celebrate this annual event.

**Walk of Honor:** We continue to accept orders for bricks to be etched and installed at our Memorial Site. 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:** [www.Post770.com](http://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

**Sick Call:** Bill Luce: Lakeside for Rehab Dick Tuttle: CMC

**TAPS:** Jane Mearian: Passed away on August 6, 2008. Jane was the mother of member Gordy Veley.

## POST NEWS

Legion baseball continues to be a puzzle. Without a schedule or announcements in the Journal, we just don't know how they did in the playoffs. Our last bit of info went like this. "Ben Robertson and Andrew Wall allowed one run each in complete games to help Post 770 advance in the District 6 American Legion National Division Tournament." Trumansburg will continue play in the loser's bracket against either Homer or Horseheads at Main-Endwell." We have not heard the result of that one. ...Although we were not able to work in the Legion food tent this year at Grassroots, we noted that all of the slots were filled on the signup sheet posted in the lounge. We assume by the size of the crowd that despite the occasional shower the food tent did quite well this year as it had done in the past. Those of you who volunteered your time helped the Legion pay a lot of its operating costs as well as mortgage payments. ...On the heels of Grassroots followed the Trumansburg School Reunion. This get together, which happens every presidential election year, brought High School grads from far and wide. Everything seemed to go smoothly with a slide show, chicken BBQ, dance and above all seeing many classmates from years ago. Some great reminiscing took place at the fairgrounds on that day. ...It will seem strange to no longer be looking at a crowded parking lot on Monday nights. On the other hand those who have been working the Bingo games will surely enjoy a few Monday nights off. Where will we go from here? ... Our thanks to Oleta Bower for her donation of large patriotic pictures, which will be hung to enhance our display of artifacts at the Post. ...As we wind up "Post News" by the August 15<sup>th</sup> deadline we are looking ahead to a very busy schedule for the rest of August and beginning of September. ...Let us close our column with this announcement. James Douglas and Amber Lorraine had a daughter, Anna Leahbelle, born on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Grandparents are Brian and Melinda Durfee and Jim and Cindy Dew.

## MEMBERSHIP

Our 2009 membership year is now underway. We are off to a good start with re-ups and sign-ups coming in daily. We have 207 signed up so far. Please remember membership renewals honored on or before September 30<sup>th</sup> provides you with a free Early Bird dinner in October. What more incentive could you want? There are a large number of eligible veterans just waiting to be asked to join up. Why not tell them of the benefits for veterans provided by the American Legion. Welcome new member Timothy W. Kilpatrick. Nice to have you with us.

## AUXILIARY NEWS

**Reminder:** Pay your dues by September 30<sup>th</sup> and your name will go in a drawing for your dues to be paid for 2010. Two names will be drawn at our October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Also at the September 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting at 7:00 PM we will be reelecting Roberta Stilwell or Sue McConnell to the Board of Directors. Come out and support your new president, Ann Stiles Hunt. Our Auxiliary dinners start back up in September and will be every third Thursday of the month. Please support us in whatever way you can. In July Barb Cole and Peg Finch spent some time in CMC and both are home now. On July 17<sup>th</sup> Junior member Christina Bennett and Brandi Sue Borden earned second highest Girl Scout Silver Award honor for their community service project "Eat Healthy Can Be Fun" booklets. Their leader was Senior member Sue Borden. On August 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> junior member Jamie Heroux competed in the National American Miss Pageant in NYC. She made many new friends and loved Brooklyn and the pageant that she has decided to try again next year. With her having more experience and knowing what the judges and pageant expects, she should do well. Jamie would like to thank everyone that supported her. Thank you everyone who helped out at Bingo. Watch for date when we will start again. For 26 years the Auxiliary has sponsored a ladies horseshoe team. Finally in August we "Took First Place". Congratulations Susie Smith, Dawn Smith, Marge Bennett and Sue Weaver. Have a Happy and Safe Labor Day. Marge Bennett

## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

The SAL would like to thank all those who helped out at the Trumansburg Fair Food Tent. We will publish all the names next month as we gather them. If we missed anyone at Grassroots or the Fair, our sincerest apology and please let us know. We will make it right. We would also like to thank those who cleaned up the tents for these occasions: Phil Colvin, Don Smith, Lee Weaver, David Wright, and the other unknown guy. Our September meeting is cancelled, as Labor Day lands on the 1st. We should plan on how to be a significant workforce for the fall cleanup of the Post. Guys, we need to be there for our Post. Time to step up. The SAL has purchased a couple of fans for the Fair and Grassroots. We are also going to buy some new tables for the dinning room. Lastly, we are going to buy a new TV for the Bar; all with 50/50 funds from Bingo

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This is a short letter to inform American Legion Members and those connected with the military in any way, of conditions at some of our larger military bases. Our son, Anthony DeFranco, stationed at Fort Bragg, has been robbed of valuables twice within a 3-month period. When they burglarized his home the last time they cut all outside electrical connections before entering and making off with a number of valuables. It appears they have knowledge of the status of military personnel assignments. Prime targets are those who have been or about to be shipped out to Iraq, leaving their houses empty. Local police are not able to stay on top of this situation because of the vast number of military personnel residing in the area. Although the American Legion is not in a position to do anything in this situation, we can at least make sure military personnel are aware of what is going on and take steps to be sure that valuables are secured or put into a safe deposit box. Perhaps there are other ways to deal with this situation. We are also planning to contact the National American Legion Organization. Tony & Sarah DeFranco, Trumansburg, NY

## DID YOU KNOW?

**THE POW/MIA FLAG:** In 1971, Mrs. Michael Hoff, the wife of a US military officer listed as missing in action during the Vietnam War, developed the idea for a national flag to remind every American of the US service members whose fates were never accounted for during the war. Newt Heisley, a former World War II pilot, designed the black and white image of a gaunt silhouette, a strand of barbed wire, and an ominous watchtower. Some claim the silhouette is a profile of Heisley's son, who contracted hepatitis while training to go to Vietnam. The virus ravaged his body, leaving his features hollow and emancipated. They suggest that while staring at his son's sunken features, Heilsey saw the stark image of American service members held captive as Prisoners of War.

**NALPA'S NEW WEB LOOK:** National American Legion Press Association has a new home on the web and a new look. To find our new electronic presence, just point your web browser to [www.nalpa.org](http://www.nalpa.org) and begin exploring. The new NALPA Webmaster is Mike Phelps, a four-time Commander of American Legion Highland Post 201 in Louisville, KY, who is also the editor and Webmaster of his Post's newsletter and web site. He's a proud member of KALPA, NALPA and is serving this year as the Area 2 National Executive Board member for NALPA. Mike's post web site was recognized as one of the nation's best in the 2007 NAPA "Best Papers" contest. Even with the new web site off to a great start, it's still in its infancy and needs input from many different quarters. National officers need to submit photos and contact information for inclusion. Departments that have press associations need to supply their president's names and e-mail addresses. NALPA members are encouraged to contact Webmaster Phelps at [alpost201@bellsouth.net](mailto:alpost201@bellsouth.net) to offer ideas for improving the site.

**"VETS TO GET A BOOST FROM BLOCK PARTY" by Pamela Goddard:** "Support Our Troops". This phrase means different things to different people, but, in spite of personal views, providing veterans with access to adequate health care is something everyone can agree on. The Danby American Legion Post 221 is doing its part with a fundraiser for the Ithaca Van Shuttle Service, which provides transportation to the Syracuse VA Hospital. Legion Post 221 is hosting the sixth annual Community Block party on Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup> at the VFW headquarters, Route 96B. Food, music, raffles, a horseshoe tournament and an auction all support a growing need. "They run a van two or three times a week from Ithaca to the Syracuse hospital, taking vets up there," says Lynn Cism, past Commander of Post 221. "Half of everything we raise will go to the VA hospital and the other half for van support. Maintenance, gas, and so on."

**SUICIDE HOTLINE FOR VETS GOT 22,000 CALLS IN FIRST YEAR:** by **Katharine Euphrat:** More than 22,000 veterans have sought help from a special suicide hot line in its first year, and 1,221 suicides have been averted, the government says. According to a recent RAND Corp. study, roughly one in five soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan displays symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, putting them at a high risk for suicide. Researchers at Portland State University found that male veterans are twice as likely to commit suicide than men who are not veterans. This month, a former Army medic, Joseph Dwyer, who was shown in a Military Times photograph running through a battle zone carrying an Iraqi boy, died of an accidental overdose after struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder for almost 5 years. Janet Kemp, national suicide prevention coordinator for the Veterans Affairs Department, said the hot line is in place to help prevent deaths such as Dwyer's. "We just want them to know there's other options and people do care about them, and we can help them make a difference in their lives," she said in an interview. The VA teamed up with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to launch the hot line last July after years of criticism that the VA wasn't doing enough to help wounded soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is available 24 hours a day by calling 800-273-TALK (8255); veterans should press "1" after being connected.

**STORY IDEAS OR PICTURES?** If you have any story ideas or pictures to contribute to NALPA please send to NALPA newsletter, C/O Mike Pipher, Editor, 12 S State Road 446 #35C, Bloomington, IN 47401 or send e-mail to [mpiper@indiana.edu](mailto:mpiper@indiana.edu). Have you moved? Did you know you could submit your own change of address at: [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)