



P.O. Box 301
 Depew, New York 14043

Post Location: 85 Manitou St., Room 200
 Depew, NY 14086

OCTOBER 2013 ISSUE

COMMANDER: JACOB E. SCHU

POST MEETINGS

Post meetings are held at 1900 on the second Thursday of every month in Room 200 at the Depew Municipal Building, 85 Manitou St. We invite you and urge you to attend. We are looking for new people to help out on committees and to move into Officer positions and serve on committees.

Depew Post Officers

Commander	Jacob E. Schu
1st Vice-Commander	Richard Bulman
2nd Vice-Commander	Robert Sharpe
3rd Vice-Commander	Chester Pawlowski
Adjutant	Richard Walczak
Finance Officer	Donald Schram
Chaplain	James Sterlace
Sgt.-at-Arms	Donald Krupski

POST NEWS

Nominations for 2014 Officers will be held at the April 10, 2014 meeting and elections will be held at the May 8th meeting.

Nominations will be held and made for the following positions:

Commander
1st Vice-Commander
2nd-Vice Commander
3rd Vice-Commander
Adjutant
Treasurer/Fin. Officer
Sgt.-at-Arms
Chaplain

Elections for 2013 Officers were held at the May 9, 2013 meeting.

Remember that any member bringing in a new member, will get \$20.00 off of their dues. The member must not be a transfer from another post but a new member never belonging to the Legion before

The County Legion is on Facebook and can be found at the following URL:
<http://www.facebook.com/ages/Erie-County-American-Legion/286962493152>

Our Post also has a Facebook link on our web site home page.

Post 1528 continued to support an A. L. Baseball Team for 2013. See the complete article on page 5.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Commander's Note*
- *Americanism—WWI monument rededication*
- *Poppy Days*
- *Veteran's Day 2013*
- *Homeless Vet's clothing drive continues*
- *Children and Youth*
- *Baseball Report*
- *Post Lottery 2014*

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COMMANDER'S NOTE — BY JAKE SCHU

THE AMERICAN
LEGION

STILL SERVING
AMERICA

I want to thank all of the officers and members who contributed time and effort to help with our projects and events. Our programs have been successful because of your dedication. We continued to support the following activities:

- Homeless Veteran's organizations in Buffalo — supplies and clothes drive
- The annual poppy drive was a huge success
- Updating the Post contact information for all members
- Attended eight deceased member's wakes thus far in 2013
- Supplied volunteers to cook at the Legion Special Olympics picnic at the Lamm Post
- We can always use help with our events and committees. Please consider becoming active in your Post. Many are doing double duty to fill needed positions. We especially need help with the Membership Committee. We are also continuing a clothing and donation drive for the Homeless Veteran's organization in Buffalo, NY, in conjunction with the Lancaster Elks Lodge. This organization serves all of WNY. Donations for clothing, working appliances, TVs, radios, etc. can be dropped off at the Depew Municipal Building, 1st floor in a container provided for that purpose. Post 1528 will collect all items and deliver them to the shelter. Needed items are: pants, hats, baseball caps, gloves, boots, belts, coats & jackets, NEW underwear & socks, etc. Working appliances (radios, TVs, etc.) are also accepted.
- Gathering graves registration information to compile a master list for our local cemeteries is an ongoing effort. If you are interested, please give me a call.
- The National office and Department of NY office are now providing on-line access. If you have internet access, please consider using the "My Legion" web access provided by the American Legion National web site. Any Legion member can now go to **mylegion.org** and sign up for individual access to your own membership records and a host of other information. I urge all of you to do so. It provides a wealth of information and gives directions as to how to sign up.
- In keeping with Legion tradition, I have reinstated the POW/MIA ceremony at our meetings. The short version takes only about three minutes and remembers our brothers and sisters that never came back and who are still missing today. The ceremony is set up around a table and one empty chair, with various symbolic items placed on it. The POW/MIA flag is placed on the chair at the start of the meeting and retired at the meeting's end, so as not to have our guest sitting alone in the room when we all leave for our homes.

LET US REMEMBER



AMERICANISM—BY 1ST VC RICHARD BULMAN AND JAKE SCHU

Our Post sponsored and led an effort to rededicate a WWI American Legion plaque that used to be displayed at the Lancaster American Legion Washington Post 287. This plaque honors those that made the ultimate sacrifice in that conflict. It is now displayed at the Village of Lancaster Veteran's Park on Lake Ave. Many thanks to The Lancaster Historical Society for keeping the plaque safe for the many years since the Washington Post closed and allowing us to have it rededicated. Thanks also go out to Lancaster Mayor Paul Maute, Superintendent of Public Works Bill Cansdale, Joe Brunet of Depew Post 1528 and member of Lancaster VFW Post 7275 for assisting in getting this project started. The Lancaster DPW crew, comprised of Joseph Marino, John Burke, William Huff and Joseph Dennis did a magnificent job of setting the stone and pouring the concrete pad. A big thank you to them also for personally donating the concrete coloring, stamping and sealant used to finish the project in Bristol fashion. Please stop by and check out this absolutely beautiful piece of workmanship.

A heart felt thank you to Buffalo Crushed Stone for donating the 3,300 pound stone. Commander's special thanks to 1st VC Dick Bulman and 2nd VC Bob Sharpe for the many hours they put into assisting with this project. We plan to dedicate this monument on November 2, 2013 at 1100, at the Lancaster Village Veteran's Park. Our next efforts will be to create and dedicate a Korean War monument, and then a Viet Nam War monument in the Village of Depew Veteran's park.

HOMELESS VETERAN'S HOME—ALTAMONT PROGRAM

The Post, along with the Lancaster Elks, has supported the Altamont Program with donations of clothing and appliances, furniture, etc. throughout 2013 and continues to do so. Donations can be brought to the Post and should consist of clean clothing in decent condition, old but operational TVs, radios, etc., baseball hats, jackets and similar items. The home is a male facility but female clothing will be donated to the women's shelter next door to the veteran's facility. Contact a Post officer if you have anything.

On September 23rd, Post 1528 delivered six bags of clothing, a TV and Lazy-Boy recliner to Altamont. The new Director there is Mark Massey and the number to call with donations is 716 892-0132.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS PICNIC

Again this year we had three members from the post assist in the Special Olympics luncheon and picnic. They were the kitchen staff that cooked and served the food. Also, the post gave a donation to the program. The members were Commander Schu and his wife Marie, Robert Sharpe and Chet Pawlowski. Seeing the joy on our guests faces, as well as on the faces of their families made this a very satisfying experience. Congratulations and thank you to the Lamm Post for hosting this important event.

VETERAN'S DAY SERVICES

On Monday, November 11, 2013, Veteran's Day Services will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church, 67 Litchfield Ave. in Depew. Post members will muster at the church at 0930. Church service at 1000, followed by the Veteran's Day ceremony outside of the church at 1100.

The Lancaster Elks Lodge will again put on a Luncheon for all Veterans on Veteran's Day from 1400 to 1800. This is a totally free event and includes food and beverages. Depew Post 1528 will muster at the Elks at 1415 and go in as a group. Dress uniform/caps not required and your spouse or a guest is welcome. There will also be a ceremony performed by the USAF Honor Guard. The Elks are huge supporters of the VA and Veteran's activities. They also host the flag retirement ceremony on Flag Day. Let's plan to show our appreciation for this event with good attendance. Our own 2nd VC Bob Sharpe chairs this event for the Elks.

THANK YOU ELKS!

Dinner will include spaghetti w/2 meatballs, chef salad, bread w/ butter and deserts. Elks will also provide limited draft beer, wine, coffee, tea and soft drinks in honor of our veterans



Operation Iraqi Freedom—2003

USMC 2nd Marine Division

2nd Tank Battalion, Delta Co.

These were all local Marines, spear-headed the invasion and occupation of Baghdad and were there when the famous statue of Saddam Hussein was pulled down. SEMPER FI!

POST 1528 GRAVES REGISTRATION PROJECT

At our September and October meetings, further discussion took place regarding Graves Registration and what records were available as to the location of our veteran's graves. Commander Schu said he has obtained many records in electronic format and continues to receive help from the Lancaster Historical Society. This would include Lancaster Rural, St. Augustine's, St. Mary's, Blessed Sacrament and St. Adalberts. D. Krupski, Graves Registration Chairman, stated he will continue to contact the cemeteries and advance this effort and has compiled a list of known graves at St. Augustine's Cemetery. The list will now be entered in an electronic database. All lists will be shared with any Posts and veteran's organizations who desire it and all lists will be available electronically when all is done. The Erie County American Legion has also taken on a similar effort to our Post.

If anyone has information that may be pertinent, please contact :

Don Krupski at:
716 684-6740

or

Jake Schu at:
716 440-3302

E-mail: jschu@depewlegion.org

Remember, every veteran is entitled to have a service by our Post at the wake and/or cemetery; and a plaque or marker on their grave. The family must request this from the funeral director, who must then pass this on to our Post. Please pass this on to anyone you know.

If you have lost a veteran and have not requested a marker, please contact us with the appropriate grave location information.

2013 MEMBERSHIP REPORT— BY DON SCHRAM

Membership & Dues

For the 2013 membership year, our post had 145 paid members. This represents 94.8% of our goal. National headquarters created a program in 2011 that allowed veterans to pay your dues on-line. The problems have been resolved. The only issue is that it takes 4 to 6 weeks for your information to reach our post. I would like to thank last year's membership committee for their help: Commander Schu, George Frederick and Robert Sharpe.

At the 2014 Department Convention in July, the legion representatives from posts around the state voted to raise the Department dues by \$5.00. This will make the dues for the Depew post increase to \$37.00, after January 1, 2014. Three dollars of this will go the help the veterans that have issues enrolling in the VA Healthcare system. Two dollars will be put in the Department General Fund.

2014 dues are due in July. If you have not yet renewed, please consider sending your renewal as soon as possible. **2013 dues are still \$32 if paid before January 1, 2014.** The post will continue to pay the dues of members on active duty. Please send the renewal form and a note as to your status to Don Schram. We currently have 103 renewals. The address is Depew Post No. 1528 P.O. Box 301 Depew, NY 14043.

Remember, the post is offering you \$20.00 off of your 2014 dues if you sign up a new member.

“THE POST HAS
RESOLVED TO
PAY THE ANNUAL
DUES OF POST
MEMBERS IN THE
SERVICE ON
ACTIVE DUTY.”

THE DEPEW POST 1528 HAS NOT RAISED OUR SHARE OF THE DUES THAT YOU SEND IN!

POPPY DAYS—2013

Our annual poppy days were held May 10th and 11th this year. To all who turned out—Thank you! Special thanks to 2nd VC Bob Sharpe for chairing this committee this year. The drive was the most successful we ever had and we were able to add a fourth bank. However, we were short on volunteers. Several of our members did 6—8 hr. shifts. Next May, please give us a hand. Please consider coming out for this in 2014. It is our main source of funding and allows us to do things like those described in this article. If we get enough people, the shifts are only 2—3 hours.

POST LOTTERY—2013



The Post will again hold our annual Lottery, starting in February 2014. Tickets (5) for this are enclosed with this newsletter. This is an important fund raiser for the post and helps us support the functions and events we host. Additional tickets can be obtained by contacting Richard Walczak at 685-3059 or rwalczak@depewlegion.org. The lottery is based on the NY State daily numbers. Send checks for tickets to Post 1528, PO Box 301, Depew, NY

LEGION BASEBALL—BY GEORGE FREDERICK AND DON SCHRAM

Post 1528's baseball team will again play in 2014, as voted on by the membership at our October meeting. Check the calendar on our web site for the schedule. The team played 18 regular season games in 2013, with a record of 8 W— 10 L. This year, even though we lost a number of "one run" games, the Depew American Legion team qualified for the District 8 playoffs. We played against the two best teams in the league, Eden and West Seneca. Our team lost both of the first round games. West Seneca went on to win the NY State championship. One of our players, Charlie Hayes, was elected to the High School All Star team. The team manager, George Frederick, was the 8th District representative at the state championship tournament. George was also a member of the committee that awards scholarships to players. He nominated Robert Pietyzk from our team for consideration. Our Commander wrote a letter of recommendation to the selection committee, based on this recommendation. Robert was awarded a \$500 scholarship! All but one player on the current team will be returning for Spring practice. The coaching staff will make a few changes to the player's requirements next year. The most important thing is a greater commitment to the team. We thank Committee Chairman George Frederick, Don Schram and Coach Sekuterski for their efforts.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH—BY DON SCHRAM

Boy's State:

American Legion Boy's State and American Legion Auxiliary Girl's State are the premier programs for teaching how government works while developing leadership skills & an appreciation for your rights as a citizen. This year our post sent one young man to the New York American Legion Boy's State program. Nick Suggs, the grandson of Don Krupski, was selected as post representative. He spent five rain filled days at the workshop on how the American political system operates. He gave an interesting report to the veterans at the July meeting. He was one of around one thousand boys from around the state to attend.

DEPEW JOINT VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

The Depew Joint Veteran's Committee (DJVC) met October 15th to discuss planning for Veteran's Day events. Members of Post 1528 continue to be active in supporting the Depew Joint Veteran's Committee activities for 2013 and will continue to do so for 2014. Please take time to attend our Veteran's Day service as a salute to all those who gave their time and provided service to our country.



HONOR—RESPECT—REMEMBER

SICK CALL

Please call Jacob Schu at 440-3302 or Don Schram at 668-8734 if you know of a member who is ill or has passed away. Also, please pass this information on to the Webmaster, that it can be posted on our web site.

Remember, every veteran is entitled to a grave marker. Contact your funeral director for the proper forms and procedures.

Sick call:

Peter Riester Jr.

Don Krupski

George Frederick

Don Sullivan

Passed in 2013:

Edward Grzybek

Raymond Howe Sr.

George Keller (Father-in-Law of D. Schram)

Joseph LiPuma

Frederick Marty

James Siller

Robert Smith (Father of Linda Smith-Nosbisch)

Melvin Sylvis

Richard Trzcinski

James Vaughan



OUR WEB SITE

The web site URL is: www.depewlegion.org

Just type this into your browser and hit enter to go to our home page.

Please feel free to contact me at:

jschu@depewlegion.org

There are numerous links provided to related sites.