



P.O. Box 301  
Depew, New York 14043

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

Email: Jschu@depewlegion.org

Web site: www.depewlegion.org

OCTOBER 2018 ISSUE

## POST MEETINGS

Post meetings are held at 1900 on the **first 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	Tom Blaszkiewicz
3rd Vice-Commander	John Stutzman
Adjutant	Jack Betz
Finance Officer	Richard Walczak
Chaplain	David Hajduk
Sgt.-at-Arms	Jim Taylor

## POST NEWS

Elections were held in May for the following positions:

Commander - Jacob E. Schu  
 1st Vice-Commander - Richard Bulman  
 2nd-Vice Commander - Tom Blaszkiewicz  
 3rd Vice-Commander - John Stutzman  
 Adjutant - Jack Betz  
 Finance Officer - Richard Walczak  
 Sgt.-at-Arms - Jim Taylor  
 Chaplain - David Hajduk

Mike Johnson is currently our membership Chair and Jack Betz is our Graves Registration Chair.

Please get involved in your post. Officers and committee chairs cannot do all of the work that needs to be done. If you can spare a little time to help, please contact

that committee chair or one of our officers.

Quartermaster Wally Waiss has numerous items for sale. Contact him at (716) 681-6858. Remember, that our Post sells American Legion American flags, POW-MIA flags, ties and many other items. We get credit for this on a point system, where we get \$0.10 for every dollar we spend on American flags. If you see someone flying a flag at their business or home, try this approach:

*“When your flag wears out, we would appreciate your support by allowing us to provide you with a new one. Our prices are extremely low, and your purchase helps to support our Post and the work that we do.”*

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Commander’s Report*
- *Officer changes*
- *Veterans Day*
- *Lottery*
- *Membership*
- *Christmas Party*

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## COMMANDER'S REPORT— BY JAKE SCHU

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I want to thank all of the officers and members who contributed time and effort to help with our projects and events in the past year. Our programs have been successful because of your dedication. We have attended and supported the following activities and in 2018:

- 3" M5 Gun painting project is moving slowly but is still being planned. Thanks to Don Schram for raising funds to support this effort and Jim Wolfe for his time and efforts!
- Our Post, along with AMVETS Post 7275 and VFW Post 7275 participated on the Depew Founder's Day event and parade on July 21st.
- 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.
- I have attended all but a couple of Erie County meetings and continue to do so as best I can.
- I continue to support Legion websites for Post 1528, Erie County and ECAL Veterans for Veterans. The County Legion has a website and can be found at the following URL: <http://www.eriecounty.org>
- There have been a few changes to the officers list since our elections in May. Jack Betz is now our Adjutant and Rich Walczak is now Finance Officer, as Don Schram stepped down due to health reasons. Mike Johnson remains membership Chair and Jack Betz remains Graves Registration Chair.
- Depew Post 1528 again did the cooking for the Special Olympics party at the Lamm Post this year. Thanks to Dick Bulman and Chet Pawlowski for their time and efforts. We grilled about 140 hamburgers! Post 1528 also donates to this event every year.
- Remember to support the other veterans organizations in our area. We have AMVETS Post 14, AMVETS Post 7275 and VFW Post 7275 within a mile or two of Post 1528. Other Legion posts have breakfasts, dinners and events as well. If we support them, they will support us. We want to be good neighbors in our community and remember, **we are all Veterans!**
- Lastly, I will not seek reelection for Commander in 2019. After seven straight years, it is time to turn over the gavel to a new Commander. I am proud to say that during my tenure, we have dedicated a WWI monument in the Lancaster Veterans Park; Korean War and Vietnam War monuments in Depew Veterans park and relocated the 3" M5 gun to Depew's Veterans Park, including a new concrete pad and dedication plaque. All of the planning, engineering and organization for these projects was done in-house by members of our Post and myself. Our Grave Registration Project was implemented in 2012 and has grown substantially under guidance and due-diligence from our Graves Registration Chair, Jack Betz. We now have at least two Executive Committee meetings every year, which had not been done in many years. This is comprised of our Post officers, any Past Post Commanders who wish to attend, our Membership Chair Mike Johnson and Quartermaster Wally Waiss. This year, meetings were again held in February and August. A revised Constitution and Bylaws was compiled and issued in 2016, for the first time since 1991. We started issuing printed meeting agendas and minutes in 2012 and we started performing the POW/MIA ceremony at our meetings, complete with the ceremonial table, in 2014. We also perform this ceremony annually on Veterans day at the Elks dinner. All this has been accomplished by our Post, with valuable input and effort from our members, officers and committee chairs. We have a website, Facebook page and we publish our newsletter in the format you see, starting from 2012. Last year, we

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welcomed VFW Post 7275 and AMVETS Post 7275 to the Depew Joint Veterans Committee at my suggestion and it has been working out great. I then redesigned the DJVC logo to include the VFW logo. I intend to remain active in the Post and look forward to dedicating a Middle East Conflict monument sometime in the foreseeable future.

THANK YOU for your support over a great seven years!

## VETERAN'S DAY SERVICES

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On **Sunday, November 11, 2018**, 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 **Sunday, November 11th from 1300 to 1800**. This is a totally free event and includes food and beverages. **Depew Post 1528 will muster at the Elks at 1300 and go in as a group at 1315**. Dress uniform/caps not required but a veterans cover of some kind is preferred. Your spouse or a guest is welcome. There will be a POW/MIA ceremony performed by Post 1528, in the manner of the ceremony we perform at our meetings. 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. This year, Post 1528 approved a donation \$250 toward this event to assist with the costs. Our own Bob Wilde is chairing this event again this year. The event is known as the Bob Sharpe Veteran's Dinner, as Bob chaired this event for many years. Bob was our 2nd VC and very active in our Post events as well as with 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

Also, VFW Post 7275 is holding a Veterans steak dinner from 12N to 4PM on Veterans Day if anyone is interested

## 2018—2019 LOTTERY BY RICH WALCZAK

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Enclosed are three (3) tickets for our annual lottery drawing fundraiser. You get two numbers on each ticket and they are good for two months (February & March)

We ask that you purchase or sell both tickets. If you need more, please contact Rich Walczak at 716-472-2591.

This is a very important fundraiser that helps your post support many functions throughout the year. Please help!

Please return your three ticket stubs and \$30.00 to:

Depew Post #1528 American Legion

P.O. Box 301

Depew, NY 14043

## MEMBERSHIP & DUES— BY MIKE JOHNSON, CHAIR

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Last year we ended with 189 members, up from 166 the year before.

Our goal this year is 181 members, as determined by the national office. As of October 24th, we have 109 members or 60.2% of our goal. Membership goals cannot be reached by one or two members working on the program. We need your help. Everyone is asked to sign up **one** new member this year.

Your 2019 dues were billed in July of this year. We ask you all to please pay your \$41.00 membership dues for 2019 if you have not done so already. There are three ways to renew; send the renewal with your renewal notice to the Post by mail, go on-line and renew at [www.mylegion.org](http://www.mylegion.org) and follow the easy instructions or bring your dues to a monthly meeting, we would be glad to see you!

**If you have paid your dues and receive a second notice to pay, DO NOT pay again.** The second notices go out before the paid dues are recorded and cause this issue every year. Dept. and our post keeps trying to negate this but it still sometimes occurs.

## DEPEW JOINT VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

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The Depew Joint Veteran's Committee (DJVC) met October 29th to discuss planning for Veterans Day. American Legion Post 1528 will be lead for services held. 2018 DJVC officers are:

Chair: Jacob Schu, AM. Legion/VFW/AMVETS

Vice Chair: Jim Taylor, AMVETS/AM. Legion

Secretary: Peter Riester Sr., AMVETS/AM. Legion

Treasurer: Don Schram, AM. Legion/AMVETS

Parade Marshall: Dennis Zimny, DAV



## POST 1528 GRAVES REGISTRATION PROJECT— JACK BETZ, CHAIR

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I have been very busy redoing the records for our deceased veterans that reside in the five cemeteries under Post 1528's jurisdiction. This task includes compiling cemetery records, fragmented and incomplete records that are over 100 years old. Since volunteering in 2015 date Jack has over 3,000 hours and has walked over 46,000 grave sites and identified more than 3,800 veteran's graves. The following is a breakdown by cemetery: Lancaster Rural: 85% complete 19,200 sites; 700 veterans / St. ADALBERTS: 20,100 sites; 1,688 veterans / St. AUGUSTINES: 5,330 sites; 603 veterans / Sacred heart: 1,340 sites; 167 veterans / St. MARYS: is about 30% complete with about 500 veterans. There are also approximately 500 graves that have not been verified as veterans. I will be posting a list in a future news letter asking for your help to identify these veterans so they can be added to our data base. As always, if you know of a veteran that may be buried in one of these cemeteries, please con-

tact Jack so that he may follow up on that person and add them to our data base.

If anyone has information that may be pertinent, please contact Jack Betz at: 716 684-5526, email: [jbetz@depewlegion.org](mailto:jbetz@depewlegion.org)

## LEGION BASEBALL— BY WALLY WAISS

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This season on the diamonds posted a successful outcome. Depew posted a first place finish in District VIII, won the season end playoffs and went to Utica for the state tournament. Our season ended there with a 2 and 2 record. Following the end of our season, both our head coach and assistant coach decided to step away from Legion baseball. The future of our team was discussed at two separate meetings and it was decided to no longer sponsor a team. The competition for players between our team, schools and travel teams makes it very hard to get and retain players. This combined with the loss of both of our coaches, prompted us to come to this difficult decision. We thank all who supported our team in the past and Head Coach Tony Sekuterski for his fifteen years of coaching.

## DEPEW POST 1528 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

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Our annual Christmas party will be held at the Polish Falcons, 445 Columbia Ave., Depew, NY 14043. Please note the change in location. The party will be held on December 6, 2018. We will have an open bar at 6:00PM, followed by a buffet dinner at 7:00PM. The bar will reopen for one hour after dinner. The cost is just \$20.00 per member or \$40.00 per member and guest. Additional guests may come at a cost of \$25.00 per person. Gluten free meals are available and we must be notified of this as soon as possible. Please send your payment and reservations to the post. Reservations must be made by November 25, 2018. Call Rich Walczak for more information at 716-472-2591.

There will be prizes and much fun for all.

Send payment to:

American Legion Depew Post #1528

P.O. Box 301

Depew, NY 14043-0301

## SICK CALL

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Please call Jacob Schu at 440-3302 or David Hajduk at 681-4939 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.

Sick call: Chester Zwolak, Ray Eisenhaur

Passed since May 2018: Richard Karen