VETERANS HELPING VETERANS
AMERICAN LEGION
ALEXANDER BRADLEY BURNS POST 80
4000 SARATOGA AVENUE
DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515

LEGION - AIRE

March 2011

POST INFORMATION
PHONE: (630) 968-9710 WEB: POST80.ORG TWITTER: AMLEGIONPOST80

COMMANDER.....RICH GREENWALD
630.960.5898
SR. VICE .....TODD HANSON
JR. VICE.....RALPH LUNEBURG
ADJUTANT .....JIM NELSON
FINANCE .....BOB PARKER
AS. FINANCE ..... ELMER MEARS
SGT-AT-ARMS.....HOWARD PARKER
AS. SGT – AT – ARMS ..... RICH JONES
HISTORIAN..... DICK BERNARDINI
CHAPLAIN .....JACK BORDER
JUDGE ADVOCATE.....DAVID D. WISBROCK
SERVICE OFFICER.....HERB MORRISON
630-969-1655
NEWSLETTER.....JOE PAPPALARDO & WAYNE MUHS
DUES: LEGION $35.00/YEAR / S.A.L. $ 7.00/YEAR **630-964-0011 630-963-9100**

1919....Walter Staats
1920....Robert W. Carpenter
1921....Jay Allison
1922....Dan M. Diener
1923....Norman E. Anderson
1924....Henry Swift
1925....Morris E. Stevenson
1926....William E. Hooper
1927....Harold H. Clarke
1928....George Hannan
1929....A.T. Witt
1930....Arthur Johnson
1931....A.T. Witt
1932....A.J. Walter
1933....J. Richard Hawkins
1934....Melvin G. Binder
1935....L.J. Dixon
1936....William A. Finger
1937....G. Willard McCollum
1938....Leslie L. Meyer
1939....Charles Dyer
1940....Newell Fishel
1941....Rollin Whitaker
1942....Ivan M. Webster
1943....Thomas C. Arndt
1944....Wallace S. Whitlock
1945....Stanley A. Lynch
1946....Louis A. Edwards
1947....Thomas J. Lanagan

Italics denotes deceased

1948....Eugene Weaver
1949....Fred W. Lester
1950...Harvey H. Kenitz
1951....Joseph R. Krepper
1952...Gilbert G. Giesler
1953....Andrew S. Blaida
1954....Herschel Hubbard
1955....A.R. Fister
1956....Dino Convalle
1957....Tony F. Morello
1958....W.H. Schenke
1959....James L. Newall
1960....Edwin D. Wrenn
1961....Bernard J. Blaida
1962....Louis W. Wrenn
1963....James R. Hodous
1964....Jerry Kopecky
1965....Earl W. Will
1966....Leonard J. Voss
1967....Gene Kappelman
1968....Alois E. Sheber
1969....Mason Taylor
1970....William Harkness
1971....Earl W. Will
1972....Steven J. Kadlec
1973....Joseph A. Bartels
1974...Zedo Oliver
1975....Herbert Morrison
1976....Chester Kotowski
1977....Ed Knickerbocker
1978....Elmer J. Mears
1979....Dudley E. Smalley

1980....Jens P. Vimtrup
1981....Elmer W. Anderson
1982....Elmer W. Anderson
1983....Frank J. Bulin
1984....George R. Novak
1985....George R. Novak
1986....Bill Johnson
1987....A.E. Sheber
1988....David D. Wisbrock
1989....David D. Wisbrock
1990....David D. Wisbrock
1991....Gilbert J. Gawin
1992....Gilbert J. Gawin
1993....Ken Gallagher
1994....Richard Bernardini
1995....Emery Wolff
1996....Curt McCullagh
1997....Larry Bryant
1998....Larry Bryant
1999....John Magic
2000....Jack Border
2001....Jack Border
2002....Bob Isenberger
2003....Bob Isenberger
2004....Joe Pappalardo
2005....Richard Rooney
2006.. .Richard Rooney
2007.. .Richard Mueller
2008.. .Richard Mueller
2009....Woody Kawaters
2010....Woody Kawaters

Commander's Column

April 1st is one month away, and is the deadline mandated by the Illinois Department to have all dues paid to be current for 2011. Our Post has 73 members to date that have not paid. It would be a wonderful thing if all would pay up. It's not the money so much as it is the numbers. We have signed up twenty new members this fiscal year. If all of our current members were paid for the year. That would bring our membership from 434 to 454 a 5 percent boost.

Every year the American Legion has to report to Congress on our activities, and one of the key points are how many members we have. We as the legion are a significant voting block. As a result the Legion has been successful in getting The Veterans Administration and the Department of Defense to standardize the medical records of active military with those recently discharged into civilian life. Another recent achievement is the vastly improved GI Bill that also includes the Army reservists and National Guard.

March 19th is the Annual New Members Initiation Dinner. We will have the traditional corned beef dinner with Frank Pongo at the keyboard for our entertainment. Be sure to RSVP by March 11th.

The Auxiliary came to our rescue Feb 19th. That Saturday was the Lester PTA Fundraiser, and earlier that week the kitchen refrigerator died. The refrigerator was needed for the second bar setup in the kitchen. Thankfully the Auxiliary let us use their refrigerator to cool the beer and wine for the Fundraiser, and very appreciated.

Rich Greenwald, *Commander*

AUXILIARY NEWS

Unit 80 is growing. Our membership is now 114. That's ten new members. It's not about the dues money, it's about the numbers. Because, like the Legion, we report to congress. And we need numbers to make our voices heard. We need to let our representatives know that we do not support shabby treatment of our veterans.

Did you know that Chase Bank was foreclosing veterans homes while they were on active duty? Did you know that Chase Bank was overcharging veterans on their mortgage fees? Chase says that they are correcting these procedures and making restitution. BUT, these practices were already against the law and Chase still cheated our veterans. Are you mad yet? So this is what we the Legion Family are all about. Taking care of our veterans and their families and making sure that our representatives are accountable to us.

Volunteers are needed desperately in the Vamc's ad Veterans Homes. Auxiliary volunteer hours and volunteers are down everywhere. A specific goal of our National President is to increase the number of volunteers. Can you spare 2-4 hours a month to help? After all, THIS IS WHY WE ARE HERE! Now we can put our field service training to good use. Interested? Your contacts are below.

Illinois Veterans Home - Manteno
Alice Franklin - Hospital Rep. - 815.933.9346

DuPage County Convalescent Center
Penny Griesmann - Hospital Rep. - 630.879.7451

Elgin Mental Health
Carrie Petrie - Hospital Rep.- 630.365.6032

And finally, it's time to start looking for Girl State candidates. She must be a junior in High School. Contact Gloria Parker at 630.717-8488 for more information.

Auxiliary scholarships are available from Unit 80. Call Pegi Castle at 630.953.9662

Respectfully Submitted,Karen Greenwald, President

March 5		**District Meeting** and **Gold Star Luncheon,** Lockport
March 11		**Patriotic Conference,** Urbana, IL
March 13	**10:00am**	**Poppy Meeting**
	1:00pm	**Spring Division Meeting**, Sycamore
March 19	**5:00pm**	**New Members Initiation Dinner**
March 20		**Power Poker**
March 21	**6:00pm**	**Service Hour**
	7:00pm	**Meeting**
		Hostesses: *Jane B. & Midge Z.*
March 26		**Bingo Workers Party**

ATTENTION BASEBALL FANS

I have made our reservations with the Kane County Cougars for **May 29th**. It's a **Sunday evening** game that starts at **6PM**. The ticket prices are **still $12 each** for reserved seats at our favorite spot at home plate on the third base line.

The bus will pick us up at **4:30 PM** at the Post and return us after the game.

The bus fare has risen again and including gratutuity will be $11/person. The total ticket cost will be $23.

The absolute drop-dead date to purchase tickets is April 18th.

Please make checks payable to **American Legion Post 80** for **$23 per person,** which includes the **cost of transportation**.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Number of people:_____ x **$23.00** = _____ (Total)

Rich Greenwald (630-418-5372)
Commander

Outstanding Scout Leaders Recognized

Several scout leaders from the Boy Scout Troop and Cub Scout Pack chartered by us were recognized for their outstanding service in 2010 at the Tallgrass District Dinner on February 7.

The Tall Grass District of the Des Plaines Valley Council covers 8 villages and towns in the immediate area, consisting of 20 Boy Scout Troops and 25 Cub Scout Packs. From these troops and packs, Mike Kennedy, Scoutmaster for Troop 80, and Rich Busch, Cubmaster for Pack 80, were recognized as Scoutmaster and Cubmaster of the Year, respectively.

Additionally, Bruce Peiffer, a SAL member, was presented the Spark Plug Award for his ongoing motivational efforts and involvement.

Their active participation and leadership serve as an inspiration in the development of the youth we support.

Pictured below are Mike Kennedy (l) and Bruce Peiffer (r) after receiving their well earned awards.

The Alexander Bradley Burns Post #80 of the American Legion has proudly chartered Boy Scout Troop 80 continuously since November 30, 1936. Since then, 108 Boy Scouts from Troop 80 have achieved the prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

LEGION RIDER UPDATE

Legion Riders Post 80 continue to work with veterans at Hines VA Hospital. This includes efforts to get grant money for the 2010 Wheel Chair Olympic Opportunity Fund to support the activities of the Hines VA Physically Challenged Sports Program.

Reminder/Invitation: Hines VA Spinal Rehab Unit patients and staff have alerted us that the Wheelchair Olympics are set for May 14, 2011 and hope that Legion Riders and Legionnaires will volunteer to assist as many Hines VA vets as possible to participate in the day's events.

GlobalHope has responded to our grant request to help pay for the new Wheel Chair van at Hines. We are also asking for the support from American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, other Legion Rider Chapters as well as other charitable organizations to help us significantly underwrite the $100,000 cost of the new vehicle at Hines.

MARK THE CALENDAR – APRIL 16, 2011 - SPAGHETTI DINNER

On Saturday, April 16th, the Post 80 American Legion Riders are hosting their 2nd Annual Spaghetti Feast from 2 pm to 7 pm at Post 80. The proceeds benefit our veterans at Hines VA Hospital and we will have veterans from the Spinal Unit joining us at the Post for Dinner. Tickets are $7.00 for adults. Children (5 to 10 yrs) are $3.00 and children under 5 eat FREE. There will also be a Raffle for a 32" flat screen TV - Raffle Tickets @ $5 each. Please plan to attend and support our veterans at Hines VA!!

American Legion Riders of Post 80 normally meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10 am. Please check with Steve Collins, Director, (630 968 8147), John Pavich, Treasurer (630 541 5710), or Norma Border, Secretary (630 336 3422) to confirm meeting location for any given month. Scheduled meeting dates for 2011 are:

March 19th	**June 18th**	**September 17th**
April 16th	**July 16th**	**October 15th**
May 21st	**August 20th**	**November 19th**
		December 17th

Please check the Post 80 web site at

http://web.mac.com/e.ludwig/American_Legion_Post_80/Home.html

For the Legion Rider's 2011 Event and Ride Schedule.

KEEP FOR YOURSELF OR PASS IT ON

It's Official; DD214 Now Available Online!

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided for veterans to gain access to their DD214 online at: **http://www.vetrecs.archives.gov** . This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD214 for employment purposes or for membership in The American Legion.

NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and internet access to obtain copies of documents for their military files. Veterans and the next of kin of deceased veterans may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the standard Form 180 which can also be downloaded from the online web site. Because the person making the request will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized.

The new web based application was designed to provide better service by eliminated the records center's mailroom processing time. Pass this information on to former military personnel and their dependents.

- Herb Morrison

ON MARCH 13th

Remember to change your

Clocks Forward

For Daylight Savings Time

New Members Initiation Dinner

Saturday, March 19, 2011

March 19th we will have new class of members to initiate. We will start the program with a cocktail hour at 5PM (cash bar). Dinner will be served at 6 PM featuring corn beef and cabbage in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

Please RSVP by March 11th to Todd Hanson, SR-Vice with a $5.00 donation per person. **Todd can be reached at cell # (773) 931-6618, or e-mail to (todd.hanson@zurichna.com)**

Name:_____ Number of People____

Amount: _____

Family Bingo Is Back

Family Bingo is back by popular demand.

Family Bingo is scheduled for Saturday, March 26th. This is an inexpensive fun event for the entire family to include kids and grandkids (youth under 18 play for free). In addition to game winners, there will be several raffle winners.

Doors Open at 6:00pm to allow time to get your cards and settle in. The kitchen will be open for pizza and hot dogs (and maybe more) at nominal prices, plus the bar will be open. **Games start at 7:00pm.**

This popular and enjoyable event is also open to Scout families and guests of the Legion and Auxiliary.

VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED FOR POWER POKER!

SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2011

Your time supports the Legion Family
Contact Woody Kawaters (630) 541-3023
if interested.

Stamps for Hospitalized Veterans:

In the "Wanted" section of the magazine "**Good old Days**" I added a note in the November issue that the ***American Legion, Post 80,*** of Downers Grove, was collecting used postage stamps for **Hines Hospital,** where they are to be used as a form of therapy for the Veterans there. To date, almost 250 envelopes, packages, and boxes were received from approx. 44 states, (& over 50.000 stamps!). Not surprising, most senders were elderly women and, of course, Veterans!!

RWB

Friday Night Socials

Some of our members have expressed an interest in having a casual dinner dance on Friday nights once a month. We would have a catered dinner with a DJ. There would be a charge to cover the expenses and also do this as a fund raiser for one of the many veterans programs that need financial help. I would like some input on this to see if this would be feasible. You all can email me at: rfg1940@att.net with your opinion. I would really like to see this as a way to bring more of our members together other than the Labor Day Picnic or Christmas Party.

Your Commander, Rich Greenwald

Electronic Equipment Recycling

Last June we collected 1483 LBS of old TVs, computers, etc. I would like to know if there's a need to do this again this summer. That was 1483 LBS less of toxic materials and precious metals that went into a landfill. Let me know: rfg1940@att.net.

SICK CALL:

Please keep the named people in your prayers, or if you prefer raise your glasses it a toast to them (just not too many times). -wk.

TOBY VUKARODIC

GUS WAGNER HARVEY LUND

Those of you who are well.... Stay Well.

If you know of any member that is not feeling well please drop Woody Kawaters an e-mail at **hckawaters@comcast.net**.

Attention:

Be a participating member of Post 80, if you would like to be a volunteer as a paid hall representative contact Ronald A. Czech at 630 734-1098 for additional information.

Thank You

Bartenders Needed

Steve Collins, our Bar Manager, is in need of some B.A.S.S.E.T. trained bartenders (a Downers Grove requirement for someone to be behind the bar, even to serve soda or water) to help with our growing bar business. This is a great and easy way to help more veterans. Contact Steve Collins at usmc.snickers@yahoo.com to express your interest and obtain more details.

Legion Scholarships
Veterans Memorial Scholarship for 2011

This is the 34th year of the veterans memorial scholarship and we hope to have many of our Post 80 children and grandchildren enter. All children must be out of high school,and going into first year of college or more and can enter all four years of college. Scholarship Forms may be picked up at the Post Forms will go to five judges, two non-Legion members and three Legion members. Names will be blocked out and a number assigned to each entry. Only the chairman will know the identity of the entry.

All scholarship entries must be mailed by March 15, 2011. This will allow the judges to have them by April. Mail Scholarship Entry Forms to: Veterans Memorial Scholarship, American Legion Post 80, 4000 Saratoga Ave. Downers Grove, IL 60515.

All those that enter must not be over 23 years old. 1st place winner will receive $1000 and 2nd place winner will receive $500.

Enter all the scholarships you can. The Samsung American Legion Scholarship gave $20,000 to their winner. This item was in your June Legion magazine. The American Legion Auxiliary also have Scholarships. If we find more scholarships, we will put them in our Newsletter. Good Luck.

Scholarship Book

500 Entries for Scholarship info.
Get a Free book, "Need a Lift"
Go to online: http://www.legion.org/needalift

THOUGHT—OF—THE—MONTH:

This is America

We have a crisis in America more serious than any threat by one of our many unfriendly countries, (or of our own Government), because it affects the lives of every one of us every day.

The problem is: Everything we buy is too hard to open! It doesn't matter whether it's a mouthwash, a video cassette a jar of jam, or a bottle of pills....they're all too hard to open! No one wants to spend five minutes working to get the top off something!!

Pill bottles are called "child-proof," but they are also "adult" proof! The caps on medicine bottles may have saved the lives of some children, but there is no statistic on how many adults may have died because they couldn't get the top off their medicine bottle! Everything opens in a different way. "PUSH DOWN AND TURN TO OPEN". Sure. "Squeeze sides while turning" is about the worst.

And some have plastic seals around the top. You have to go at them with a knife to get the plastic off before you can start twisting, pressing, or turning.

Why should a bag of potato chips be a problem? What are " they" protecting in that puffy bag? Half the time you end up tearing the bag open with your teeth. What about a quart of milk or a carton of orange juice? Is there anything dangerous there?

Maybe there is a reason for this madness. Have you ever noticed there are hundreds of gadgets on the market designed to help you get into a package, a can, a bottle, or a box? The trouble is after you have purchased one, you frequently don't remember you bought one, or can't find it when you need it!!

Well, that's life in America.....RWB

PRESIDENT..... KAREN GREENWALD
VICE PRESIDENT.....BONNIE WISBROCK
SECRETARY ..... PAM HARTIGAN
TREASURER..... NORMA BORDER
CHAPLAIN .....GERRI GRAGG
HISTORIAN.....MARGE PAVICH
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.....ARLENE GUEST
ASST. SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.....LORRAINE DONNEGAN

DUES: AUXILIARY $13.50/YEAR JR. AUX $3.00/YEAR

PAST PRESIDENTS

1920....Margaret Bebb
1921....Jessie Straub
1922....Matilda Uhlorn
1923....Myra Hawkins
1924....Clara Nash Hawkins
1925....Emily Sanders
1926....Daisy Swift
1927....Florence Johnson
1928....Mary Pfaff
1929....Esther Binder
1930....Beulah McCollum
1931....Viola Vix
1932....Bernice Goltry
1933....Mae Jones
1934....Bernice Hannan
1935....Marie Finger
1936....Evelyn Walter
1937....Josephine Mitchell
1938....Lorraine Edwards
1939....Ethel Margison
1940....Vera Iehl
1941....Mabel Webster
1942....Muriel Fischel
1943....Ruth Karvatt
1944....Emily Mrkvicka
1945....Flossie Dreuttel
1946....Minnie Lester
1947....Esther Weaver
1948....Myrtle Kraft

Italics denotes deceased

1949....Vivian Harkness
1950....Christine McGarvie
1951....Shirley Wrenn
1952....Letitia Mrkvicka
1953....Corabelle Krepper
1954....Christine McGarvie
1955....Elsie Niedner
1956....Kathleen Hotchkiss
1957....Marian Lacey
1958....Evelyn Fredericks
1959....Shirley Schenke
1960....Margaret Morello
1961....Marian Ruzicka
1962....Margaret Edwards
1963....Alice Pechinski
1964....Alice Pechinski
1965....Anne Creel
1966....Evelyn Jenkins
1967....Dorthy Nied
1968....Eleanor Bartels
1969....Alice Pechinski
1970....Helen Beck
1971....Jeanette Foster
1972....Dorthy Kadlec
1973....Margaret Morello
1974....Ann Hodous
1975....Ann Hodous
1976....Eleanor Bartels
1977....Alice Pechinski
1978....Mildred Mueller
1979....Catherine Smalley
1980....Frances North

1981....Anne Creel
1982....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek
1983....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek
1984....Anne Creel
1985....Genevieve Kotowski
1986....Genevieve Kotowski
1987....Ethel Clark
1988....Bonita Wisbrock
1989....Eleanor Bartels
1990....Bonita Wisbrock
1991....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek
1992....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek
1993....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek
1994....Midge Zielinski
1995....Boneta Wisbrock
1996....Leora Novak
1997....Leora Novak
1998....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek
1999....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek
2000....Lorraine Vimtrup
2001....Leora Novak
2002....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek
2003....Midge Zielinski
2004....Bonnie Wisbrock
2005....Bonnie Wisbrock
2006....Bonnie Wisbrock
2007....Bonnie Wisbrock
2008....Bonnie Wisbrock
2008....Bonnie Wisbrock
2009....Bonnie Wisbrock
2009....Rosemary Collins
2010....Rosemary Collins

Bingo Workers

Mar. 1 **Kitchen:** Arlene G., Pam H., Joey K..
Tickets: Jane B., Lorraine D.

Mar. 8 **Kitchen:** Lorraine D., Mary P., Marge P.
Tickets: Evelyn F., Pam H.

Mar. 15 **Kitchen:** Marge P., Kathy P., Charlotte U.
Tickets: Jane B., Evelyn F.

Mar. 22 **Kitchen:** Karen G., Dolores H., Gloria P.
Tickets: Pam H., Leora N.

Mar. 29 **Kitchen:** Karen G., Jen H., Pam H.
Tickets: Leora N., Eleanor R.

Auxiliary Meeting Hostesses

Mar. 21: *Jane B. & Midge Z.*

March 2011

Sun	Mon.	Tue	Wed	Thus	Fri.	Sat
		1 Bingo 6:30pm Doors Open 4:30pm	2 Business Meeting 7:30pm	3	4	5 CDC 8:30 am Auxiliary Dist. Mtg/ Gold Star Luncheon
6	7	8 Bingo 6:30pm Doors Open 4:30pm	9 County Meeting Wood Dale Post 1205	10	11 Auxiliary Patriotic Conference	12 Coffee Donuts & Conversation 8:30 am
13 **Daylight Savings** ***Set Clock Forward*** Auxiliary Poppy Mtg. 10a Spring Div. Mtg. 1p	14	15 Bingo 6:30pm Doors Open 4:30pm	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 C D C 8:30 am Legion Riders 10 am Post Initiation
20 Auxiliary Power Poker 1:30pm - 12am	21 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 pm	22 Bingo 6:30pm Doors Open 4:30pm	23 Board Meeting 7:30pm	24	25	26 CDC 8:30 am Post 80 Family Bingo
27	28	29 Bingo 6:30pm Doors Open 4:30pm	30	31		

ELIGIBILITY DATES

WORLD WAR I *APRIL 6, 1917 - NOVEMBER 11, 1918* ● **VIETNAM** *FEBRUARY 28, 1961 - MAY 7, 1975* **WORLD WAR II** *DECEMBER 7, 1941 - DECEMBER 31, 1946* ● **OPER. JUST CAUSE IN PANAMA** *DECEMBER 20, 1989 - JAN. 31, 1990* ● **KOREAN WAR** *JUNE 25, 1950 - JANUARY 31, 1955* ● **GRANADA & LEBANON** *AUGUST 24, 1982 - JULY 31, 1984* **PERSIAN GULF** *AUGUST 2, 1990 - cessation of hostilities*