

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS  
AMERICAN LEGION

ALEXANDER BRADLEY BURNS POST 80

[www.post80.org](http://www.post80.org)



*For God and Country*

# LEGION - AIRE

## FEBRUARY 2024

### Commander's Column

I hope everyone had a fulfilling holiday season and is ready for the new year. Last night we had our first Bingo of the new year. About 80 people attended and we made a little money. It seemed like everyone was glad to be back. Next week is half price night so it should be interesting. We could use help on Tuesdays. A combination of snowbirds and illnesses/accidents have combined to make us shorthanded. If you can spare the time, please come and help. Bingo is our main fundraiser and we need to be well staffed to make the players experience enjoyable.

The Post continues to be busy. Rentals are picking up and the Saturday morning coffee and doughnuts meeting is thriving. The Board of Directors is planning several projects to increase membership and participation. Any ideas will be appreciated. The more input we get from members, the more dynamic the Post will be.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize the efforts of Ed Ludwig and John Cruz. They have allowed us to continue to rent the hall and staff the rentals. Their efforts have been invaluable in continuing this revenue stream.

As the weather gets better, I hope to see you at the Post.

Howie



### REMEMBERING THE FOUR CHAPLAINS

The story Early on Feb. 3, 1943, an enemy torpedo struck the Army transport Dorchester as it carried 902 officers and enlisted men, Navy armed guard, merchant seamen and civilian workers in the North Atlantic. The Coast Guard cutter escorts Comanche and Escanaba rescued 230 men. As Dorchester took on water, four Army chaplains – Lt. George L. Fox (Methodist), Lt. Alexander D. Goode (Jewish), Lt. John P. Washington (Roman Catholic), and Lt. Clark V. Poling (Dutch Reformed) – calmed frightened soldiers, aided the wounded and guided the disoriented toward safety. On deck, they opened a storage locker and began distributing life jackets. When there were no more available, the chaplains removed their life jackets and gave them to four young men. "It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven," said John Ladd, a survivor. As the ship went down, men in rafts saw the four chaplains, arms linked and braced against the slanting deck, singing hymns and praying. Congress attempted to confer the Medal of Honor on the chaplains but was prevented by strict requirements of heroism under fire. It authorized a one-time posthumous Special Medal for Heroism, awarded by President Eisenhower in 1961; it was intended to have the same weight and importance as the Medal of Honor.



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- COMMANDER.....HOWARD PARKER
- SR. VICE ..... ED LUDWIG
- JR. VICE.....JASON WALES
- FINANCE OFFICER .....RICK McLAREN
- SGT-AT-ARMS..... WILLIAM DAWSON
- HISTORIAN..... NICOLE DEDICK
- CHAPLAIN ..... BOB HAHN
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- SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.....JOYCE WILK



# IN MEMORIAM

This Legionnaire Has Gone To The  
Commander of Us All.

## FRANK RISKY

U.S. Navy Veteran  
Korea  
American Legion member - 60 years

*Rest Well, Our Friend.*



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POST IT ON INSTAGRAM OR FB AND INCLUDE  
#DGICEFEST FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A \$25 GIFT  
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# SICK CALL

The following Veterans are on sick call.  
Let's keep them in our prayers.



**JIMMY SOTIRAKOS**  
**MIKE NAWARA**



## Auxiliary News - FEBRUARY 2024

### “Serving Veterans, the Real Super Heroes”



Hi Everyone and Happy New Year!

January had been very cold. I hope everyone stayed warm and healthy.

Frigid temperatures kept us inside.

I'm back to our meetings. Julie Isenberger did a wonderful job heading up our meetings these past months in my absence. She also took care of the Newsletter report. Thank you Julie! I really appreciated your help.

Jean and Joey are off the finance committee. I am looking for two volunteers to fill in the two seats. Our check books need to be balanced

Along with our budget report. I will have to assign two ladies if I cannot get any volunteers to help. We need volunteers on our Committee's. Please help.

We have a Nominating committee. Arlene Guest, Joey Klingbiel and Kim Cruz have volunteered. Thank you for volunteering.

Julie reported on Membership. We still have 15 unpaid members and 5 unpaid from 2022. She contacted all with only one responding. Ladies please send in your membership. Kim gave her bingo report.

We have an 11th District meeting on Sunday February 4th. The meeting will be held at the Thomas Hartung post 1977, 14414 Ford Drive, New Lenox. 815-485-4651. Open at 11:30 with lunch at noon. Meeting starts at one to approximately 3:00. Five ladies: Arlene Guest, Donna Rosenkrantz, Jean Krupin, Julie Isenberger, Rylla Gasaway will be attending along with myself. We will be meeting at the legion home at 10:50.

I have reserved the Legion Hall on Saturday September 14th for an Auxiliary Craft Fair and Bake sale from 9:00 to 2:00. Set up tables on Friday 9/13 3:00 to 6:00. Spread the word ladies and plan on donating a baked item for our bake sale.

Five of us will start Auxiliary bowling on the Third Wednesday of each month at 9:30 Suburbanite bowl in Westmont. Donna, Julie, Jean, Rylla and myself.

Keep Poppy Day in mind for volunteers and help finding a Poppy Girl.

Including myself we had 11 members present this past month.

Come on out ladies and join us at your meeting. Second Monday of the month at 6:30 Legion home.

Donna Rosenkrantz won our Pot last month. Happy Birthday to Rylla Gasaway on her February birthday.

Bonita Wisbrock  
President





## ILLINOIS JOINING FORCES

*Supporting Service Members, Veterans  
and their Families*

Illinois Joining Forces Foundation is a network of over 200 community organizations that serve Service Members Veterans and their Families in Illinois – all working collaboratively to create a “no wrong door” system of support. At Illinois Joining Forces, you will find available working group pages, a veteran support community information, and an ability to request assistance from our coordination center if needed.

### Illinois Joining Forces at a Glance

At Illinois Joining Forces, we know that sometimes it can be challenging to find the support you need, when you need it. Since our founding in 2012, we have been determined to make an impact. The core of our efforts is connecting service members, Veterans, and their families to the services and resources in their local communities.

### Veteran Support Communities:

Illinois Joining Forces' staff is small, but our mission is not. Therefore, we identify, partner with, and help develop community-based collaboratives throughout the state. With thousands of resource providers statewide, identifying key stakeholders and developing relationships with those individuals/organizations allows IJF to leverage our knowledge and connections to better serve the Service member, Veteran, and family (SMVF) community.

### Warrior Assistance Program

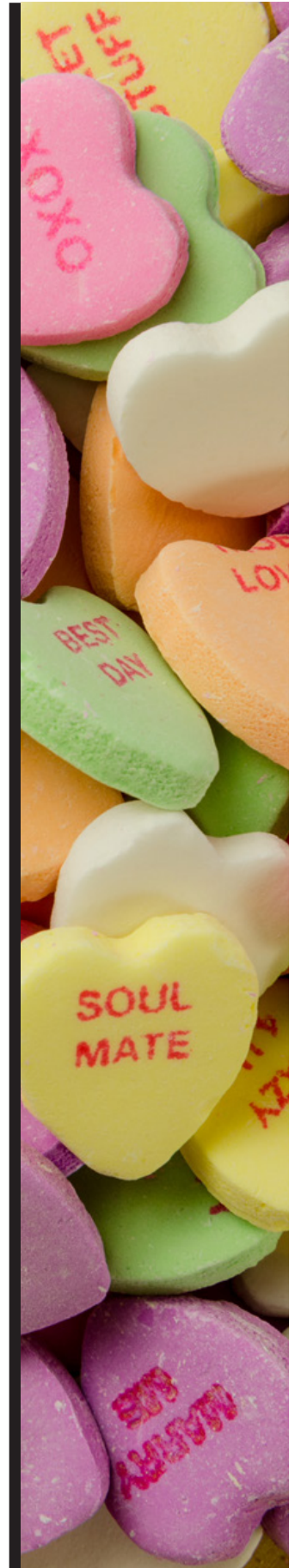
Illinois Warrior Assistance Program (IWAP) is a warm helpline and high touch holistic resource navigation and case management service providing information, resource referrals and support to Illinois Veterans, their families and caregivers experiencing emotional challenges associated with PTSD, mild TBI, Military sexual trauma, stress, anxiety, depression, addiction and substance abuse, and overall emotional wellness.

### Care Coordination Center (CCC)

is the first line of support for a Service Member, Veteran, or their family to connect to the service providers that meet their needs.

The IJF CCC is available round-the-clock, ensuring that you can reach out for assistance whenever you need it. Through collaboration with an extensive network of providers, IJF offers comprehensive support across the entire state. No matter where you are in Illinois, IJF can connect you with the right resources and partners ready to assist you.

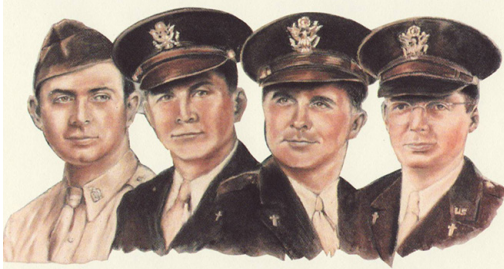
For more information visit: <https://www.illinoisjoiningforces.org/>



# AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



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## FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY

February 3



## PRESIDENTS' DAY

February 19



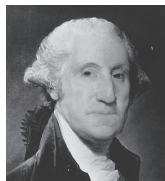
**USO**  
February 4

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN**  
February 12



**U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVE**  
February 19

**GEORGE WASHINGTON**  
February 22



## Community Chiropractic

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1442 W Belmont Ave,  
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Chicago, IL 60657

Phone: 773-528-8485  
Email: [vvk1dc@gmail.com](mailto:vvk1dc@gmail.com)  
[www.communitychiropractic.net](http://www.communitychiropractic.net)

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for details.

### **DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING INTERESTING TO SHARE?**

Articles and photos for the  
newsletter must be submitted  
*no later* than the **17th** of the  
month.

Please contact Bruce Peiffer:  
[agnlbp@gmail.com](mailto:agnlbp@gmail.com).

# AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



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**Century Post 503 – VFW**  
5101 Belmont Rd.  
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Visit our website at [www.vfw503.org](http://www.vfw503.org)

Monthly Events:

- Canteen open Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays at 3:00 PM
- Members meeting, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 7:00 PM
- Auxiliary meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 6:30 PM
- Taco Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 3:00 PM
- Hall Rental (Maximum Seating 100 people) see website
- Upcoming events (Calendar) see website

Please stop by to visit, all veterans welcome

**WELCOME TO Delicious**

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FEBRUARY 2024

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# We salute our veterans. Thank you.



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Financial Advisor

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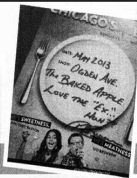
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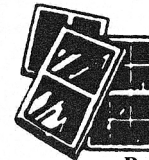


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## SUPER BOWL PARTY

**Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Doors open @ 4:00pm**

**Kickoff @ 5:30pm**

**JOIN US FOR  
SOME  
FOOTBALL!!!**



All Legion and Auxiliary members (and their guests) are invited to the Super Bowl Party.

This is a potluck party, so bring an entrée, side dish or dessert to share.

Admission is a canned or non-perishable food donation for the Township Food Pantry.

Drinks are membership prices for everyone. Cash Bar.

Any questions contact Rich Jones (630-370-2434)

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**

## FREE TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE

Tax preparation assistance is available at no charge to eligible individuals and families. Eligibility requirements include age and/or income. Please check with the assistance provider.

**The College of DuPage Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Free Tax Preparation** program is able to prepare federal and state income tax returns for 2020, 2021 2022 and 2023 tax years. This service is available to all community members regardless of income level. If you have concerns about the complexity of your return contact [taxprep@cod.edu](mailto:taxprep@cod.edu)

Free tax preparation services are available on Saturdays and select weekdays by appointment on Saturdays, Feb. 10 through April 13, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (No appointments on Sat., March 30.)

Go to <https://www.cod.edu/tax-prep> for detailed information including additional locations and how to register.

**Downers Grove Park District is working with the AARP** to offer free tax assistance. Appointment scheduling begins January 8, 2023 on a first-come, first-served basis. Tax appointments will be at Lincoln Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays February 6 - April 11, 9 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. Registration is open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Friday. **To make an appointment: call 630-960-7500** or visit the Lincoln Center (935 Maple Avenue) or Recreation Center (4500 Belmont Road). Detailed information can be found at <https://www.dgparks.org/lincoln-center-adult-center>.



FEBRUARY 2024

# GOT CABIN FEVER?

## Visit the DuPage County Historical Museum

102 E. Wesley St., Wheaton IL 60187



## Meet Me at the Fair: The Chicago World's Fairs in DuPage County until April 13, 2024

In the nineteenth and twentieth centuries expositions and world fairs worked to celebrate the past while also highlighting visions of the future. Chicago hosted two expositions: The World's Columbian Exposition in 1893 and A Century of Progress World's Fair in 1933-34. Meet Me at the Fair: The Chicago World's Fairs in DuPage County looks at the ways in which these two expositions impacted DuPage County residents by exploring the various advancements of art, architecture, social issues, agriculture, and technology that were happening during these points of time.

<https://dupagemuseum.org/collections-exhibits/#changing>

## FREE WINTER THINGS TO DO IN DuPAGE COUNTY

Take a break from the screens and get out of the house!

Enjoy the winter wonderland of DuPage with these outdoor and indoor activities that don't cost a dime.

### Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

Beautiful in all seasons, especially winter, trek across the trails and take in the views of snowflakes on trees and pathways, sunrises, or pastel-colored sunsets. Start your New Year's resolution off on the right foot and explore one of our 60 forest preserves this winter. Challenge yourself and see how many you can get to this winter. Popular DuPage forest preserves include:

**Blackwell**, Warrenville - [www.dupageforest.org/places-to-go/forest-preserves/blackwell](http://www.dupageforest.org/places-to-go/forest-preserves/blackwell)

**Danada Equestrian Center**, Wheaton - [www.dupageforest.org/danada-equestrian-center](http://www.dupageforest.org/danada-equestrian-center)

**Fullersburg Woods**, Oak Brook - [www.discoverdupage.com/listing/fullersburg-woods-nature-education-center/1072/](http://www.discoverdupage.com/listing/fullersburg-woods-nature-education-center/1072/)

**Hawk Hollow**, Bartlett - [www.dupageforest.org/places-to-go/forest-preserves/hawk-hollow](http://www.dupageforest.org/places-to-go/forest-preserves/hawk-hollow)

**Meacham Grove**, Bloomingdale - <https://www.dupageforest.org/places-to-go/forest-preserves/meacham-grove>

**Waterfall Glen**, Lemont - <https://www.discoverdupage.com/things-to-do/nature-outdoors/waterfall-glen/>



## MORE FREE WINTER THINGS TO DO IN DuPAGE COUNTY

Let your curiosity reign at one of many free DuPage museums, rich with history, extraordinary attention to detail, and compelling backstories.

### Free Museums/Galleries

**DuPage County Historical Museum** - [www.discoverdupage.com/listing/dupage-county-historical-museum/44/](http://www.discoverdupage.com/listing/dupage-county-historical-museum/44/)

**Elmhurst History Museum** - [www.discoverdupage.com/listing/elmhurst-history-museum/48/](http://www.discoverdupage.com/listing/elmhurst-history-museum/48/)

**Gallery 200** - [www.discoverdupage.com/listing/gallery-200/3089/](http://www.discoverdupage.com/listing/gallery-200/3089/)

**Glen Ellyn Historical Society** - [www.discoverdupage.com/listing/glen-ellyn-historical-society/127/](http://www.discoverdupage.com/listing/glen-ellyn-historical-society/127/)

**Sheldon Peck Homestead, Lombard Historical Society** - [www.discoverdupage.com/listing/lombard-historical-society/124/](http://www.discoverdupage.com/listing/lombard-historical-society/124/)

**Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art** (free on Wednesdays) - [www.discoverdupage.com/listing/lizzadro-museum-of-lapidary-art/90/](http://www.discoverdupage.com/listing/lizzadro-museum-of-lapidary-art/90/)

**Mexican Cultural Center DuPage** - [www.discoverdupage.com/listing/mexican-cultural-center-dupage/2952/](http://www.discoverdupage.com/listing/mexican-cultural-center-dupage/2952/)

**Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society** (open on Wednesdays) - [www.discoverdupage.com/listing/oakbrook-terrace-historical-society/2921/](http://www.discoverdupage.com/listing/oakbrook-terrace-historical-society/2921/)

**William L. Gregg Museum** - [www.discoverdupage.com/listing/william-l-gregg-house-museum/146/](http://www.discoverdupage.com/listing/william-l-gregg-house-museum/146/)



## VETERAN INFO PAGE

**DO YOU KNOW A VET IN NEED?**

### VETERANS AFFAIRS ASSISTANCE

**The DuPage Veterans Assistance Commission**  
421 N. County Farm Road - 2nd Fl - Rear of Cafeteria,  
Wheaton, IL 60187

**Bill Brophy**, Admin. Assistant

**Bernadette Wawczak**, Case Manager/Service Officer

Phone: **630-407-5655** Fax: 630-407-5656

Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. and  
1-4 p.m. Monday - Friday

email: dupagevac@dupageco.org



**Cook County Department of Veterans Affairs**  
Bureau of Administration Cook County  
Government

**Audrey Mollo**, Administrative Assistant I

Telephone: **312-603-2221** Fax: 312-603-4479

email: Audrey.Mollo@CookCountyIl.gov

Veterans.Affairs@CookCountyIl.gov

Website: www.cookcountyil.gov/agency/veterans-affairs

### VETERANS CRISIS LINE

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### NATIONAL CALL CENTER FOR HOMELESS VETS,

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### LEGAL HOTLINE FOR ILLINOIS VETS

**855-452-3526**

for more info go to [iejf.org](http://iejf.org)

**For anyone having difficulties with the VA, there is a White House HOTLINE that is staffed 24/7: 855.948.2311**

## DISCOUNTS

**FOR VETERANS and/or ACTIVE MILITARY**

VISIT <https://veteran.com/military-discounts/>

to find information on discounts for:

**AT&T, Home Depot, Lowes, Yeti products,**

**Apple, Microsoft, HP, AMC Theaters**

**and many other retailers.**

Veterans and military members can also utilize the

Veteran Tickets Foundation <https://www.vettix.org/>

**visitor/home** to find free and discounted tickets to events in their area.

• VetTix is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that partners with sports teams and promoters to give tickets to those currently serving and veterans of all branches of the U.S. military.

### ADDITIONAL ONLINE RESOURCES:

[va.org](http://va.org) • [legion.org](http://legion.org)

[suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

**For a list of benefits Exclusively for**

**ILLINOIS VETERANS, go to**

**<https://www.legion.org/veteransbenefits/illinois>**

### DD 214 REQUESTS

If you are in need of your **DD 214** go to the following website:

**[www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records)**

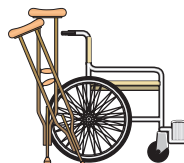
Then go to Start your Military Service Record (DD Form 214) Request and follow the prompts and fill in the required information. It also has you print a signature sheet that you have to mail to them. When they receive the signature paper, they will send you an email confirming that they received it. Then in about 10 days, you'll receive 2 certified copies of your DD 214 and copies of your discharge orders.

It's really easy and it only costs you the price of a postage stamp and an envelope.

Your Service Officer.

### WHEELCHAIRS, WALKERS & CRUTCHES

Post 80 lends out wheel chairs, walkers and crutches to anyone that may need them. For more information, call Rich Jones at 630-964-2434.



Anyone who has borrowed a wheelchair, walker, or crutches and no longer needs them, please return them to Post 80 so they may be available for other veterans.

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



## CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please Change My Address

**Are you moving?**  
 We hate to have you miss the next  
**LEGION-AIRE Newsletter!**

Mail this form to:  
 Alexander Bradley Burns Post 80  
 Attn: Adjutant  
 4000 Saratoga Ave.  
 Downers Grove, IL 60515

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 NEW Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 New Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## JOIN US FOR BINGO!

### FEBRUARY 6, 2024

KITCHEN: KIM CRUZ  
 BONNIE WISBROCK  
 JUDY MAITLAND

TICKETS: CHRIS GRAVES  
 COMPUTER: TOM LYNCH

### FEBRUARY 13, 2024

KITCHEN: JEAN KRUPIN  
 DONNA ROSENKRANZ  
 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

TICKETS: BILL COZZI  
 COMPUTER: TOM LYNCH

### FEBRUARY 20, 2024

KITCHEN: TODD HANSON  
 KIM CRUZ  
 JUDY MAITLAND

TICKETS: BONNIE WISBROCK  
 COMPUTER: HARRY MCCABE

### FEBRUARY 27, 2024

KITCHEN: JEAN KRUPIN  
 DONNA ROSENKRANZ  
 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

TICKETS: JASON COCHRAN  
 COMPUTER: MARY ANN PRONEY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>FEBRUARY 2024</b>						3 Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 am Coffee, Donuts & Conversation 8:30 am
4 USO BIRTHDAY	5	6 BINGO 6:45 pm Doors & Bar Open 4:00 pm	7 Business Meeting 7:30 pm	8	9 GROUNDHOG DAY	10 Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 am Coffee, Donuts & Conversation 8:30 am
11 SUPER BOWL PARTY Doors Open 4PM	12 Auxiliary Meeting 6:30 pm	13 BINGO 6:45 pm Doors & Bar Open 4:00 pm MARDI GRAS	14 Valentine's Day VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16	17 Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 am Coffee, Donuts & Conversation 8:30 am
18 U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVE BIRTHDAY	19 PRESIDENT'S DAY	20 BINGO 6:45 pm Doors & Bar Open 4:00 pm	21	22	23	24 Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 am Coffee, Donuts & Conversation 8:30 am
25	26	27 BINGO 6:45 pm Doors & Bar Open 4:00 pm	28 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm	29 PRAY FOR PEACE		
NOTE: This calendar can change without notice SEE <a href="http://www.post80.org/calendar">www.post80.org/            calendar</a> FOR MORE DETAILS			<b>ELIGIBILITY DATES</b> WORLD WAR I - APRIL 6, 1917 - NOVEMBER 11, 1918 WORLD WAR II - DECEMBER 7, 1941 to present for any veteran with an Honorable Discharge.			

