

March 2009



PRESIDENT ROSEMARY COLLINS
VICE PRESIDENT EVELYN FREDERICKS
SECRETARY JULIE ISENBERGER
TREASURER JANE BERNARDINI
CHAPLAIN DOLORES HARRISON
HISTORIAN KATHLEEN HOTCHKISS
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS LOUISE LEWANSKI
ASST. SERGEANT-AT-ARMS ARLENE GUEST

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....Dorothy Nied
 1968....Eleanor Bartels
 1969....Alice Pechinski
 1970....Helen Beck
 1971....Jeanette Foster
 1972....Dorothy 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



Commander's Column

The Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion ends with "To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness." Are these words still valid? How many live by them? Well, this column is dedicated to those of you at Post 80 that live by these words every day. It is my humble way of saying 'Thank You' in a very personal way. As some of you know, my 19 year old son was a passenger in a car accident from which the blunt force trauma collapsed his lung. So far he has spent two weeks in the ICU and surgical recovery rooms. During this time my attention has not been on the Post. Yet we held four fundraisers, held a board of Directors meeting, paid our bills, and held bingo due to people who exemplify the last part of the Preamble. Ed Ludwig stepped up and ran the pancake breakfast and stayed from 11AM to Midnight for the poker fundraiser. He has handled numerous issues that I simply could not get to. Jim Nelson not only ran bingo and pull tabs but also sat court on Tuesdays for me; plus he made sure that the plumber and snow removal people received direction. Rich Mueller who had an issue with some other Legionnaires, put it aside to insure that our bills were paid and our insurance was renewed. Todd Hanson stepped in to run the Board of Directors meeting. Todd also opened and closed the Post on four consecutive Friday nights for our social night. (I think we will be lucky to have Todd as Commander some day.) Emery Wolff stepped up in any and every way that I asked. Countless number of you offered prayers and asked after Sam.

I am sure that I am forgetting some people and for that I apologize, but I think it's important to know that our Preamble that is recited at the beginning of every meeting is much more than simple words. It is, in fact how some of us lead our lives and for these people there can be no more thanks than to renew our effort to follow in their footsteps. As his holiness the Dalai Lama has said, "We can hardly call a beggar an obstacle to generosity".

As Governor Sarah Palin said "We've got to fight for each other, not against, and let external sensationalized distractions draw us off course." (Quotes by the Dalai Lama and Gov. Palin in the same article - I can't believe it either.) In September I asked you to put aside any rancor and find the good in each other. I asked that you try it for six months. Well we did not quite make the six months, so I am asking once again to try to find the good in each other and focus on promoting our programs for your own good and that of your Post. We are only as good as the people who make up the Post.

The Post is feeling the pinch of the economy. We have identified costs that can be cut to meet our revenue at the Post. We are looking for ways of increasing our revenue. In another article later the first six months are reviewed. Please remember be kind to each other.

- Woody



MARCH 2009

Veterans Memorial Scholarship For 2009

This is our 32nd year of the Veterans Memorial Scholarship and we hope to have many of our children and grandchildren enter. All the children must be out of high school and in 1st year of college.

Don't forget to send in your scholarship applications by March 15, 2009.

The Post will pick 5 Judges, 3 from Post 80 and 2 non-post members.

Applications mail back to; American Legion Post# 80, 4008 Saratoga Ave. Downers Grove, IL 60515 c/o Scholarship Committee. Thank you.

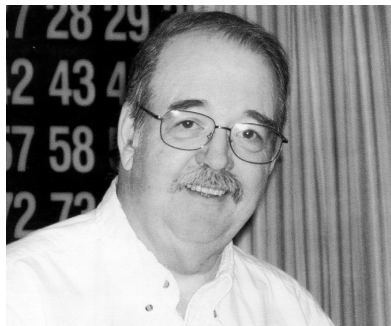
Veterans Helping Veterans

March 19 is Post 80 day to take the veterans from DuPage County Convalescent Center out to I.H.O.P. for breakfast. We meet at Post 80 at 8AM and get to I.H.O.P. by 9AM to help the Veterans off the Bus.

If you can make it call 630-968-9710 and ask for Nick Brescia.



Legionnaire of the Month



William "Jack" Border

Member 14 years

Past Commander 2000-2001

DuPage County Commander 2009

Post 80 Chaplain, Judge Advocate,

Legion Riders, Bingo Worker

Member 40 & 8 La Society Military



AUXILIARY NEWS

I hope everyone had a very nice Valentine's Day. Rose Policky said thank you for the ceremony for Stephanie Sekoki. The second Division is having a meeting March 22nd at Downers Grove Post 80. I want to say thank you to the ladies that helped in the kitchen for the poker and family bingo, Carol, Kathleen, Pat, Lorraine, Julie, Michelle, Arlene, Dee, Rylla, and Mary. I hope everyone is planning on having a nice St. Patrick's Day.

Rosemary Collins



Remember to change your
clocks back for day light savings time



Tickets & Emblem Sales

As you may know since September we have been collecting drink tickets in exchange for up to \$30 per month in Emblem Sales goods. About a dozen people have used the program. We have helped buy jackets, flags, hats & other items. After close review we will be discontinuing this program on April 1, 2009. This gives everybody the month of March to redeem any tickets that they may wish.



MARCH 2009

Sick Call

Please keep the named people in your prayers, or if you prefer raise your glasses it a toast to them, for a speedy recovery.

To: Bob Jenson
William Morrison
Jim Shanahan
Bill Westrup



IN MEMORIAM

Stanley J. Adamczyk

William "Bill" Hudson Department Commander

Mary Morrision Wife of Herb Morrision

These Legionnaires & Auxiliary Member Have Gone To
The Commander of Us All.
Rest Well Our Friend.



POKER TOURNAMENTS

Sunday Mar 29

Post 80 has begun poker tournaments which are licensed by the state through our Charitable Gaming license. The tournaments run from 12 noon to 12 midnight with different tournaments starting every few hours. We are assisted in the tournaments by Chicago Charitable Games. Players must be 18 years old and the tournaments are open to the public. Entry fees range from \$40 on up. If you or someone you know enjoys poker, please attend. Thousands of dollars are paid as prize money to winners. Rich Mueller



The Vietnam Moving Wall is coming to Alexander Bradley Burns Post 80, The American Legion, October 1 through October 5, 2009. To cover costs, we are seeking a \$2 donation from 3,000 people. Please ask your friends, relatives, and co-workers to donate also.

Please mail or bring your donation to:
Alexander Bradley Burns Post 80
4000 Saratoga Ave.
Downers Grove, IL 60515

www.post80.org
630-968-9710





The First Six Months of This Year

During the past six months we have focused on people in many different ways. Besides the traditional events such as the Labor Day Picnic, New Year's Eve Party and the Post Christmas Party we have tried new things. We ran a Taco Dinner and a Pancake Breakfast as fundraisers. We received very positive press for our POW/MIA Recognition Dinner. We have held two family bingo nights and three charitable poker nights. We have had a program for six months whereby members could exchange work tickets for Emblem Sales goods. About a dozen people took part and bought hats, jackets, shirts etc... We have purchased polo shirts with your Post name and location embroidered on them. We have started to open the Post during football games and Saturday mornings we have started to serve donuts and have another dozen or so people drop by and just chat, strengthening fellowship. For Veterans' Day we had two celebrations; the first about fifteen members from the Post participated at the Downers Grove North High School Veterans' Day ceremony; then on the following cold and rainy day we held the Veterans' Day Ceremony from our new Pavilion. We also held an electronics recycling drive, where members could drop off non-working or old TV's, computers, etc..... We hit the streets of Downers Grove to collect for the Gifts For Yanks program. We have continued to support veterans' through our contributions to the DuPage County Convalescent Home. We have taken these veterans to IHOP for breakfast and had them to the post for lunch. We sent money to the Legion Emergency Relief Program and sent \$1,000 to the Wounded Warrior Fund. This program supplies sweat suits to wounded active duty members that the DoD does not supply because they are seen as personal items. We have continued to give to Operation Support Our Troops, which sends packages to Active Duty Members that are serving overseas.

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Fiscal Situation First Six Months

Like many of us, the Legion is running into tough financial times. We are far from broke but over the past few years we have spent operating and investment money at an alarming rate. For the first five months of this operating year we have spent \$36,000 more than we have taken in. I can not and will not oversee the further erosion of our finances. The key to our future economic health lies in improving our revenue stream. Having said that, at the February General Business Meeting the following actions (spending cuts) to limit spending were passed:

- 1) Defer ALL nonessential spending for 6 months
- 2) No Lincoln Pilgrimage
- 2) Cut out our 90th Anniversary activities
- 3) No additional Post funds besides what is collected for the Children's Miracle Network
- 4) Initiation Night every other year. This year's is canceled.
- 5) Cut back sitters fee to the original \$50 from \$60 per day.
- 6) Cut donations in half (e.g., Little League - 1 gold standard not 2; \$150 to Close Up not \$300)
- 7) Cap participants at 4 to Boy's State
- 8) Ask for a \$5.00 donation per person to offset Dinners. No member will be turned away for lack of the \$5.00
- 9) Although not in this fiscal year, cut pulled pork order in half and increase the hamburgers, etc.... The goal is to cut the cost of this activity cost by 30%.
- 10) Order less food at all events. Eliminate take home bundles.
- 11) Keep installation of officers' event in house. Cut by budget by 40%.
- 12) End tickets for Emblem Sales on April 1st.

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I wish to leave no doubt that first, I am very serious about bringing revenue and costs into balance and second, there will be no cuts in our support of Veterans nor Active Duty personnel

Some of these cuts hurt. The 90th Anniversary was originally my idea and I truly wish we could have developed a realistic budget before we began our activities. The truth is we simply can not afford it. The same can be said about the Children's Miracle Network and the portion that the Post has kicked in.

What Does This All Mean?

We will continue to support Veterans, service members and the Boy Scouts, as we have been. Most other activities that require a cash donation will be cut in half. All spending will be reviewed carefully, but we will continue to strive to provide you with the best post in the nation and to live up to ideals of the American Legion. Thank you for your continued support and understanding. -Woody Kawaters



Attention Baseball Fans

Mark your calendars for May 24th. I am planning an outing for all post and auxiliary members including their families and friends to attend the ball game with the Kane County cougars. The Game starts at 6:00PM. This would be a fun time for us all. There will be fireworks that night If we get twenty people or more the box seats are \$12.00 per person. These seats are on the west side of home plate. We will have the sun to our backs and some shade possibly. We can have a chartered a bus to take us to the game and return us to the post.

The cut off date is April 2nd

To purchase your box seat tickets at home plate. Please make checks payable to American Legion Post 80 for \$23 per person, which includes the cost of transportation (\$11.00 for chartered bus). The incentive to purchase tickets by April 2nd is four undated tickets good for any game for the rest of the season. Two pair of these tickets will be raffled off on Game Day to all who attend. So get your money in ASP.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Number of people: ____ x \$23.00= ____ (Total)

Rich Greenwald Sr. Vice



MARCH 2009

Winter At Post 80





THOUGHT-OF-THE-MONTH:

When movies were movies:

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Recently I saw the movie **Gran Torino** with Clint Eastwood. As modern movies go, not too bad. It is rated by some as “**Best Picture**” of the year. But it is not unlike many of today’s movies. Should it receive an Oscar for best picture, I’ll consider retiring on the grounds that I no longer understand what the American public wants. Clint Eastwood was good, but used words he never used in his Golden years of movies.

I had problems like: 1). Had trouble understanding much of the movie; 2). Didn’t like some of what I did understand; 3). Picture is fake arty. Produced something good enough that people would call it a work of art; 4). Language inexcusably dirty. Adds nothing!

This four-letter word along with others was used dozens of times as a cheap trick by the writer to attract attention without saying anything. Movies of old could get this affect without these words. It was as if the producers thought that the reviewers would say it was “honest & realistic” if the actors shouted enough filth and profanity.

Civilization is a bootstrap operation. We have to make a point of being civilized. Our best behavior doesn’t always come naturally to us so we have to impose restrictions. It is necessary to rise above some of our basic instincts. Some of those restrictions are laws, but a lot of them are self-imposed -- you know -- just good manners.

Dirty words in a movie makes everyone in the audience less civil by reducing them to what they’re forced to think, by what they hear together. (Notice TV is gaining, and is not far behind!).

RWB

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POST PHONE NUMBER
(630) 968-9710

COMMANDER..... **WOODY KAWATERS**
630-541-3023
SR. VICE**RICH GREENWALD**
JR. VICE **TODD HANSON**
ADJUTANT.....**JIM NELSON**
FINANCE **RICH MUELLER**
SGT-AT-ARMS**FRANK RISKY**
HISTORIAN **DICK BERNARDINI**
CHAPLAIN.....**JACK BORDER**
JUDGE ADVOCATE**JACK BORDER**
SERVICE OFFICER.....**HERB MORRISON**
969-1655
NEWSLETTER **JOE PAPPALARDO& JIM LEONAS**
964-0011 964-0030

DUES: LEGION \$35.00/YEAR / S.A.L. \$ 7.00/YEAR

1919.... <i>Walter Staats</i>	1948.... <i>Eugene Weaver</i>	1978.... Elmer J. Mears
1920.... <i>Robert W. Carpenter</i>	1949.... <i>Fred W. Lester</i>	1979.... <i>Dudley E. Smalley</i>
1921.... <i>Jay Allison</i>	1950.... <i>Harvey H. Kenitz</i>	1980.... <i>Jens P. Vimtrup</i>
1922.... <i>Dan M. Diener</i>	1951.... <i>Joseph R. Krepper</i>	1981.... <i>Elmer W. Anderson</i>
1923.... <i>Norman E. Anderson</i>	1952.... <i>Gilbert G. Giesler</i>	1982.... <i>Elmer W. Anderson</i>
1924.... <i>Henry Swift</i>	1953.... <i>Andrew S. Blaida</i>	1983.... <i>Frank J. Bulin</i>
1925.... <i>Morris E. Stevenson</i>	1954.... <i>Herschel Hubbard</i>	1984.... <i>George R. Novak</i>
1926.... <i>William E. Hooper</i>	1955.... <i>A.R. Fister</i>	1985.... <i>George R. Novak</i>
1927.... <i>Harold H. Clarke</i>	1956.... <i>Dino Convalle</i>	1986.... <i>Bill Johnson</i>
1928.... <i>George Hannan</i>	1957.... <i>Tony F. Morello</i>	1987.... <i>A.E. Sheber</i>
1929.... <i>A.T. Witt</i>	1958.... <i>W.H. Schenke</i>	1988.... David D. Wisbrock
1930.... <i>Arthur Johnson</i>	1959.... <i>James L. Newall</i>	1989.... David D. Wisbrock
1931.... <i>A.T. Witt</i>	1960.... <i>Edwin D. Wrenn</i>	1990.... David D. Wisbrock
1932.... <i>A.J. Walter</i>	1961.... <i>Bernard J. Blaida</i>	1991.... <i>Gilbert J. Gawin</i>
1933.... <i>J. Richard Hawkins</i>	1962.... <i>Louis W. Wrenn</i>	1992.... <i>Gilbert J. Gawin</i>
1934.... <i>Melvin G. Binder</i>	1963.... <i>James R. Hodous</i>	1993.... <i>Ken Gallagher</i>
1935.... <i>L.J. Dixon</i>	1964.... <i>Jerry Kopecky</i>	1994.... Richard Bernardini
1936.... <i>William A. Finger</i>	1965.... <i>Earl W. Will</i>	1995.... Emery Wolff
1937.... <i>G. Willard McCollum</i>	1966.... Leonard J. Voss	1996.... <i>Curt McCullagh</i>
1938.... <i>Leslie L. Meyer</i>	1967.... <i>Gene Kappelman</i>	1997.... Larry Bryant
1939.... <i>Charles Dyer</i>	1968.... <i>Alois E. Sheber</i>	1998.... Larry Bryant
1940.... <i>Newell Fishel</i>	1969.... <i>Mason Taylor</i>	1999.... John Magic
1941.... <i>Rollin Whitaker</i>	1970.... <i>William Harkness</i>	2000.... Jack Border
1942.... <i>Ivan M. Webster</i>	1971.... <i>Earl W. Will</i>	2001.... Jack Border
1943.... <i>Thomas C. Arndt</i>	1972.... <i>Steven J. Kadlec</i>	2002.... <i>Bob Isenberger</i>
1944.... <i>Wallace S. Whitlock</i>	1973.... <i>Joseph A. Bartels</i>	2003.... <i>Bob Isenberger</i>
1945.... <i>Stanley A. Lynch</i>	1974.... <i>Zedo Oliver</i>	2004.... Joe Pappalarido
1946.... <i>Louis A. Edwards</i>	1975.... Herbert Morrison	2005.... Richard Rooney
Italics denotes deceased	1976.... <i>Chester Kotowski</i>	2006.... Richard Rooney
1947.... <i>Thomas J. Lanagan</i>	1977.... Ed Knickerbocker	2007.... Richard Mueller
		2008.... Richard Mueller

BINGO WORKERS

March 3rd

TICKETS: Midge Zielinski

Leora Novak

KITCHEN: Pat Mustradi

Jane Bernadini

Rylla

March 10th

TICKETS: Ilene Kuhnert

Kathleen Hotchkiss

KITCHEN: Kathy Pleet

Lorraine Donegan

Mary Pizzo

March 17th

TICKETS: Eleanor Richards

Leora Novak

KITCHEN: Rosemary Collins

Carol Cermack

Eileen Mears

March 24th

TICKETS: Alice Dunn

Rosalyn Gizzi

KITCHEN: Kathleen Pleet

Dolores Harrison

Julie Isenberger

?

March 31st

TICKETS: Kathleen Hotchkiss

Leora Novak

KITCHEN: Terri Johnson

Carol Cermack

Arlene Guest

Meeting

March 16th

Kathleen Hotchkiss

Evelyn Fredericks

Dolaris Kondraschow



March 2009



<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2	3 Bingo 6:30p.m	4 Business Meeting 7:30p.m	5	6 Social Nite 7:00p.m.	7 Coffee, Doughnuts Conversation 8:30a.m
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins	9	10 Bingo 6:30p.m	11 County Meeting @ Bartlett Post 7:30p.m	12	13 Social Nite 7:00p.m.	14 Coffee, Doughnuts Conversation 8:30a.m
15	16 Auxiliary Meeting	17 Bingo 1/2 Price Night St Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Social Nite 7:00p.m.	21 Coffee, Doughnuts Conversation 8:30a.m Legion Riders 10a.m
22	23	24 Bingo 6:30p.m.	25 Board Meeting 7:30p.m	26	27 Social Nite 7:00p.m.	28 Coffee, Doughnuts Conversation 8:30a.m
29 Poker Tournament 12:00 to Midnight	30	31 Bingo 6:30p.m.				

ELIGIBILITY DATES

WORLD WAR I—APRIL 6, 1917 - NOVEMBER 11, 1918

WORLD WAR II—DECEMBER 7, 1941 - DECEMBER 31, 1946

KOREAN WAR—JUNE 25, 1950 - JANUARY 31, 1955

GULF—AUGUST 2, 1990 - cessation of hostilities

VIETNAM—FEBRUARY 28, 1961 - MAY 7, 1975

OPER JUST CAUSE IN PANAMA—DECEMBER 20, 1989 - JAN. 31, 1990

GRANADA & LEBANON - AUGUST 24, 1982 - JULY 31, 1984 PERSIAN