

**September 2009**





## Commander's Column

The past few months a lot has been happening at Post 80. We have lost a very special member and friend in Bill Westrup who up to the very end blew a mean horn. We had the Korean War Era dinner and the Installation of 2009 – 2010 Officers. Scheduled for September are the Labor Day Picnic, hosting the County meeting and the POW – MIA Dinner, and of course the Vietnam Memorial “Moving Wall” will be here on October 1 – 5th.

I congratulate Rosemary Collins on being elected and installed as President of the Ladies Auxiliary and look forward to working with her and the rest of the Auxiliary in the upcoming year. I pledge to do everything I can to have a close and mutually beneficial relationship between the Auxiliary and the Legion.

As for me being re elected as Commander, well, let me just quote Mel Brooks, “I do not know what to say so I’ll just say what’s in my heart... badoom, badoom, badoom.” I am truly humbled to be the Commander of one of the best Posts within Illinois, if not the nation. This year I am going to again focus on programs, along with implanting a business model that will insure we will survive for another 100 years. The model has to be based on three tenets: first, we are a voluntary organization; second none of us are entitled to anything; and third, we are a service organization. If we cannot live within our means, then some programs will suffer.

As Commander, I am asking each of us to do three things. First, please try to enlist one more person to join our Post, second, remember we are only as good as our ability to implement programs and the people those programs help. Finally, to put your differences with each other aside (if need be have a frank, factual conversation with each other, but keep it at a high level) and work towards the betterment of the organization.

*Continued*



The past year I have ended each column with the phrase ‘be kind.’ This is not just a catch phrase, but a way of being. We have had conflict amongst ourselves, with the Ladies Auxiliary, the Boy Scouts, the Court, and other outside organizations. As each of these items came up, I found that this basic element was missing, damaging our ability to allow each other differences of opinions and still walk away with a sense of fairness and of having been heard. This absence of kindness in our dealings amongst ourselves and with others will undermine the good efforts and successes we have worked to develop. Just a few words can destroy years of work; yet a few kind words can ensure them and the fellowship we all value.

Remember the Will Rogers quote “It isn’t what we don’t know that gives us trouble; it’s what we know that ain’t so.” We have much to be proud of and many more upcoming events that support people and organizations about which we all care deeply. Keep Will Rogers in mind before we speak; it will save us a lot of trouble. Be kind to each other.  
- Woody

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## **Legion Installation**

A big thank you to Jack Border, Herb Morrison and Elmer Mears for being the installation team for this year’s officers. This year we used the short form which was the first time I saw this method. It made for a shorter night. Job well done by all.



CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

Some News from the Illinois Department Convention in Springfield  
It is my sad duty to inform you of the loss of the following comrades this past legion year.

Division	Legionnaire	Auxiliary		
#1	655	85		
#2	643	150		
#3	429	362		
#4	561	177		
#5	428	130	2910	99
			SAL	41

NOTE: Post 80 is included in the second division.

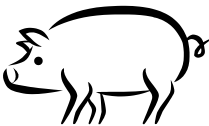
Almighty God, our Heavenly Creator, Who has dominion over life and death, grant to us the grace to remember with love and reverence our valiant and honored departed comrades. Grant peace and eternal rest to those who have gone before us, and make us ready for that last hour. Strengthen and console those in sorrow and bestow upon us the everlasting blessing. Amen.

Yours in a rededicated service to veterans, I remain  
Wm. Jack Border Chaplain



**LABOR DAY PIG ROAST**

This year Labor Day is Monday September 7, 2009. We are currently chasing the pigs (slippery little buggers) all you need to do is bring either a side dish or desert to share. We will supply the chickens, the pork, corn, brats, burgers and beer. This is a family affair so bring the gang and have some fun.





SEPTEMBER 2009

ALEXANDER BRADLEY BURNS POST 80

# **LABOR DAY PICNIC**

On The Post Grounds

**Monday Sept. 7th 12:00 Noon**

**RAIN OR SHINE**

***FOR MEMBERS OF POST 80 AND THEIR FAMILIES***

**FEATURING PULLED PORK**



**WE'LL HAVE CORN ON THE COB, HAMBURGERS,  
BRATS, KEG OF BEER AND SODA  
THERE WILL BE GAMES FOR THE KIDS AND THE ADULTS  
CAN MAKE UP THEIR OWN GAMES.  
BRING YOUR FAVORITE SIDE DISH TO SHARE**

**THIS IS A DAY TO CELEBRATE "LABOR"  
SO, COME ON OUT AND CELEBRATE  
AND HELP US HAVE FUN**



## Auxiliary News

I hope everyone had a nice summer. I want to say thank you to the ladies that helped on Aug 9th. Our American Legion Aux meeting is Sept. 21st Monday at 7:00 p.m.. Plus the third Friday is game night for the ladies at 7:00 p.m. See you at the meeting and at the game night

Rosemary Collins

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### 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  
Frank Risky



### *IN MEMORIAM*

Bill Westrup

This Legionnaire Member Has Gone To The  
Commander of Us All. Rest Well Our Friend.



SEPTEMBER 2009

## NUMBERS, NUMBERS, NUMBERS

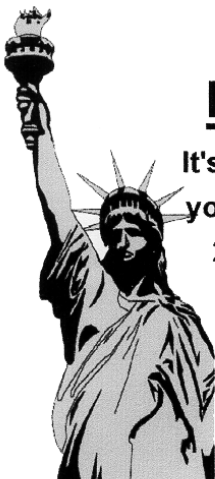
Having always enjoyed statistics I thought I would share some distributions of our membership with you. This is for Legion members only and was taken from the roster dated 4/17/09. Like all good statics if the numbers do not reach 100 blame rounding.

War Era: 25% of our membership served during WWII, while 29.2% severed during Korea. 32.9% served during Vietnam and during the current conflict 12.6% served.

Length of Membership: 34.6% 0 to 10 years, 11-20 years category 30.6%, 21 to 30 years 21.6%, 31 to 40 years only 3.1%, 41 to 50 years 5.6% and over 50 years 4.2%. There is a tie between Mr. Maurice Hanford Mr. Joe Hinton for the most years in the Legion (66 years).

Location: 44.2% of our members live in Downers Grove, 7.2% live in Woodridge, while Lisle has 5% and Darien is next with 4.2% of membership, Westmont is the home of 3.7% of our members, other Illinois towns account for 24.9% and out of state accounts for 10.7% of members. We have one member that lives outside of the Country in Belize (you better belize it).

We have members in 21 states. Florida has the most members with 31.4%, than Arizona with 14.3%, and California has 11.4% of the members out of state. Alaska, Georgia, Missouri all have 3 members or 8.6% of the out of state members.



## **MEMBERSHIP**

**It's that time again. Have you payed  
your dues ? Dues are still \$35 for**

**2010. We are asking all that have not  
to please do it as soon as possible.**

**Let's help our Sr. Vice Commander and  
our Adjutant make this a successful  
membership year.**

**Please do your part by sending  
your dues now !**





## 'The Moving Wall'

The 'Moving Wall' is coming to Alexander Bradley Burns Post 80, The American Legion, October 1 Through October 5, 2009. The 'Moving Wall' is a half size replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. To cover costs, we are seeking donations. Please ask your friends, relatives and coworkers to donate also.

Please mail or bring your donation to:  
Alexander Bradley Burns Post 80  
4000 Saratoga Avenue  
Downers Grove, Illinois 60516  
(630) 968-9710

Visit our website at  
[www.post80.org](http://www.post80.org)



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## Rentals Available for the 2009 Season

Do you have an Event in the near future?

We can accommodate your Rental Needs.

Our Banquet Hall, Our Pavilion and Our Gazebo are available for the 2009 season. Our Banquet Hall can accommodate 300 people, Our Pavilion will seat 144 people under cover and the surrounding 11 acres can accommodate many more people and Our Gazebo with a garden like atmosphere is just right for that romantic wedding. Up to 200 chairs surrounding the Gazebo can accommodate any large wedding. We give discounts to members, school organizations and charities.

*For more information:*

*Call Post 80 at (630) 968-9710*

*or our Rental Agent at (630) 971-0515 or*

*visit our website at [www.post80.org](http://www.post80.org)*





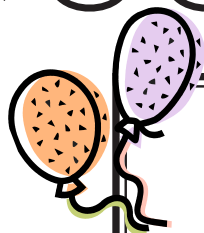
## Help Needed

As many of all know bingo is an important source of income for our Post. This source of income generates the revenue we need and support our programs for our members, disabled veterans, action personal, and our community. This income also pays some of the Posts' expenses. The dues alone cover the expenses to keep this building open and operating.

For many years now we have had teams for setting up the hall for bingo, selling pull tabs, calling bingo, and calling back the winners cards. Well we are getting short handed due to illnesses, and team members that can't do this work anymore. The problem is even worse when we have a significant member of people who have to go out of town.

We desperately need help especially during the bingo games, the games run from 6:30 pm to approximately 9:00 pm every Tuesday night.

We have a very nice Post with a lot of good programs. Keep this a great Post and as nice as it is, and to keep us going. Please step up and help us.  
RFG



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE  
COAST GUARD  
August 4, 1790**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE  
AIR FORCE  
September 18, 1947**





## Veterans Helping Veterans

Nov. 14, 2007, Post #80 Was Invited To Go To Dupage County Conv. Center, With The Downers Grove Women Club To Have A Veterans Day Party For All The Veterans There. This Year's Women's Club Provided The Food And The Legion Provided The Entertainment.. Nick Brescia And Herb. Morrison Was From The Legion With 10 Women And 2 Men For The Women's Club. The Food Went Over Great And Doggie-Bags Were Given To The Veterans To Take Back To Their Rooms. This Is Part Of Our Gift For Yank Fund Program, We Thank You For Your Help.

Rehab. Chairman Herbert Morrison.

### Veterans Helping Veterans

Post #80 Has One More Motor Operated Wheelchair And Other Equipment That Is Needed To Recover From A Hospital Visit, Wheelchairs, Walkers, Canes And Comodes, Free To Legion And Auxiliary Members Families, 630-968-9710 Or 630-969-1655.

September 17th. Post #80 Well Take The Dupage County Veterans To Ihop. If You Want To Go Meet At Post #80 At 8 Am, You Can Call 630-969-1655 Or 630-968-9710 Ask Nick Brescia Or Herb, Morrison.

### New Veterans Plaque For Obelisk

Post #80 Needs More Veterans' Names For New Plaque For The Obelisk, The Post Has 6 Names And We Need 44 More. You Must Know Some Veterans That Their Names Are Not On Any Plaques And Should Be Remembered. Call 630-968-9710 Woody Or 630-969-1655 Herb.

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## “All Bingo Players”

The next Half Prince Bingo Night will be

**Tuesday, September 8**

Mark your Calendar Bring Your Friends

Get in the Action

**Be A Winner at Post 80**



SEPTEMBER 2009

## THE FORGOTTEN WAR

July 27 marked the 56th year of the signing of the armistice that ended the Korean War. On July 25 we celebrated those veterans of this war era and that belonged to the post. About 60 people had a very nice time at the dinner. The auxiliary came to the rescue again by bringing a side dish or a dessert, helping to lay out the food and cleaning up. For the record, if it were left to me we would have been eating with our hands, which would have been O.K. for the chicken, but would have been very messy with the coleslaw. So a big "Thank You Ladies!"

Here are some facts that I read that astounded me about this 3 year conflict:

33,741 U.S. Dead

23,615 Killed In Action

92,134 U.S. Wounded - Lightly wounded who were treated and released back to duty are not included in these figures

4,820 U.S. Missing In Action (Declared Dead)

7,245 Prisoners Of War

2,847 Died in POW Camp

389 POWs known to have been alive after all U.S. POWs supposedly returned.

22 different countries defended South Korea under the auspices of the UN.

Here is a picture of those who made the dinner who wore the uniform during this war.





### **American Legion School Awards -2009**

Once again Post #80 presented the American Legion School Awards to the following schools this year. The awards are given to those students who have been chosen by the faculty of their school for possessing the highest qualities of Courage, Honor, Leadership,) Scholarship,, Patriotism and Service, qualities the Legion feel are necessary to the preservation and protection of the fundamental institutions of our government and the advancement of society.

Downers Grove South High School- Michael R. Holloway & Colleen P. Dobry  
Downers Grove North High School - Catherine Rivera & Jordan Frank  
Christ the King Catholic School - Cedric Martinez & Amber Whaley  
St. Scholastica Catholic School - Madeline Gilleran  
St. Joseph Catholic School - Kathryn Gelwicks & Tomas Cyvas  
St. Mary of Gostyn Catholic School - James Burke & Katherine Burjek  
Herrick Middle School - Mary Bedalov & Jake Kola  
O'Neill Middle School - Elizabeth Walsh-Rock & Josiah Williams  
Lakeview Jr. High School - Emily Foernssler & Connor Bailey  
Thomas Jefferson Jr. High School - Kaylina Breig & Mariko Del Rosario

The awards consist of the framed American Legion School Award Certificate, the American Legion Bronze Medallion and a U.S. Savings Bond. Every year these schools are very appreciative of our presentation of these awards made by Post #80. My thanks once again to Past Commander Dick Rooney for presenting the award to Jefferson Jr. High School when there were too many schools for me to handle on that same day.

Past Commander Elmer Mears, School Awards Chairman



## Thought-of-the-Month

.....as time goes by.....

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- >> Check again the front page of this booklet! Does it really say September? Is summer almost over, already??
  - >> It's hard to believe how fast time passes (when you are old!).
  - >> It's almost time to check your snowblower, and take your car in for it's annual winter checkup!
  - >> In my most recent high school reunion (we had a large class), it has been reduced from a night of parties and dancing to a lunch get-together!
  - >> Can you believe the 6 or 7 year old kids you are playing with are not your children, but your grandchildren!!
  - >> You're lucky if your mortgage payments are completed. It's hard to make payments out of a pension!
  - >> My wife still complains if I look too long at an attractive lady passing by! Why?? I'm harmless!!
  - >> It's like they say: "Once you are over the hill, you pick up speed!"
  - >> It's tough when I am aware of all the fantastic things stored in my brain – that I've lost most of the access keys!
  - >> We are all older today than we have ever been – but look around the Legion hall – be happy! A few of them look older than you!!
  - >> Sometimes I wonder where all my years have gone! But I can't think of any of those years I could do without!!

RWB



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

DUES: AUXILIARY \$13.50/YEAR JR. AUX \$3.00/YEAR  
PAST PRESIDENTS

<i>1920....Margaret Bebb</i>	<i>1949....Vivian Harkness</i>	<i>1979....Catherine Smalley</i>
<i>1921....Jessie Straub</i>	<i>1950....Christine McGarvie</i>	<b>1980....Frances North</b>
<i>1922....Matilda Uhlorn</i>	<b>1951....Shirley Wrenn</b>	<b>1981....Anne Creel</b>
<i>1923....Myra Hawkins</i>	<i>1952....Letitia Mrkvicka</i>	<i>1982....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek</i>
<i>1924....Clara Nash Hawkins</i>	<i>1953....Corabelle Krepper</i>	<i>1983....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek</i>
<i>1925....Emily Sanders</i>	<i>1954....Christine McGarvie</i>	<b>1984....Anne Creel</b>
<i>1926....Daisy Swift</i>	<i>1955....Elsie Niedner</i>	<i>1985....Genevieve Kotowski</i>
<i>1927....Florence Johnson</i>	<b>1956....Kathleen Hotchkiss</b>	<i>1986....Genevieve Kotowski</i>
<i>1928....Mary Pfaff</i>	<i>1957....Marian Lacey</i>	<b>1987....Ethel Clark</b>
<i>1929....Esther Binder</i>	<b>1958....Evelyn Fredericks</b>	<b>1988....Bonita Wisbrock</b>
<i>1930....Beulah McCollum</i>	<b>1959....Shirley Schenke</b>	<b>1989....Eleanor Bartels</b>
<i>1931....Viola Vix</i>	<i>1960....Margaret Morello</i>	<b>1990....Bonita Wisbrock</b>
<i>1932....Bernice Goltry</i>	<i>1961....Marian Ruzicka</i>	<i>1991....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek</i>
<i>1933....Mae Jones</i>	<i>1962....Margaret Edwards</i>	<i>1992....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek</i>
<i>1934....Bernice Hannan</i>	<i>1963....Alice Pechinski</i>	<i>1993....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek</i>
<i>1935....Marie Finger</i>	<i>1964....Alice Pechinski</i>	<b>1994....Midge Zielinski</b>
<i>1936....Evelyn Walter</i>	<b>1965....Anne Creel</b>	<b>1995....Boneta Wisbrock</b>
<i>1937....Josephine Mitchell</i>	<b>1966....Evelyn Jenkins</b>	<b>1996....Leora Novak</b>
<i>1938....Lorraine Edwards</i>	<b>1967....Dorothy Nied</b>	<b>1997....Leora Novak</b>
<i>1939....Ethel Margison</i>	<b>1968....Eleanor Bartels</b>	<i>1998....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek</i>
<i>1940....Vera Iehl</i>	<i>1969....Alice Pechinski</i>	<i>1999....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek</i>
<i>1941....Mabel Webster</i>	<i>1970....Helen Beck</i>	<b>2000...Lorraine Vimtrup</b>
<i>1942....Muriel Fischel</i>	<i>1971....Jeanette Foster</i>	<b>2001...Leora Novak</b>
<i>1943....Ruth Karvatt</i>	<b>1972....Dorothy Kadlec</b>	<i>2002....Henrietta Gerz-Zurek</i>
<i>1944....Emily Mrkvicka</i>	<i>1973....Margaret Morello</i>	<b>2003....Midge Zielinski</b>
<i>1945....Flossie Dreuttel</i>	<i>1974....Ann Hodous</i>	<b>2004...Bonnie Wisbrock</b>
<i>1946....Minnie Lester</i>	<i>1975....Ann Hodous</i>	<b>2005...Bonnie Wisbrock</b>
<i>1947....Esther Weaver</i>	<b>1976....Eleanor Bartels</b>	<b>2006...Bonnie Wisbrock</b>
<i>1948....Myrtle Kraft</i>	<i>1977....Alice Pechinski</i>	<b>2007...Bonnie Wisbrock</b>
<i>Italics denotes deceased</i>	<i>1978....Mildred Mueller</i>	<b>2008...Bonnie Wisbrock</b>



# BINGO WORKERS

<b>Sept 1st</b>	
<b>TICKETS:</b>	Midge Zielinski Jane Bernadini
<b>KITCHEN:</b>	Pat Mustradi Julie Isenberger Leora Novak Pam Hartigan
<b>Sept 8th</b>	
<b>TICKETS:</b>	Mary Pizzo Lorraine Donegan
<b>KITCHEN:</b>	Carol Cermack Ilean Kuhnert Leora Novak Karen Greenwald
<b>Sept 15th</b>	
<b>TICKETS:</b>	Eleanor Richards Karen Fredericks
<b>KITCHEN:</b>	Karen Greenwald Rosemary Collins Arlene Guest Kathleen Pleet
<b>Sept 22nd</b>	
<b>TICKETS:</b>	Leora Novak Kathleen Hotchkiss
<b>KITCHEN:</b>	Kathleen Pleet Dolores Harrison Eileen Mears
<b>Sept 29th</b>	
<b>TICKETS:</b>	Leora Novak Kathleen Hotchkiss
<b>KITCHEN:</b>	Terri Johnson ?

**Meeting**  
**Sept 21st**  
**Host Officers**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>SEPTEMBER 2009</b>						
		1 Bingo 6:30 pm	2 Business Meeting 7:30 VJ Day	3	4 Social Night 7:00 pm	5 Coffee Doughnuts Conversation 8:30 am
6	7 Labor Day Post 80 Family Picnic	8 1/2 Price Bingo 6:30 pm	9 County Meeting Downers Grove	10	11 Social Night 7:00 pm	12 Coffee Doughnuts Conversation 8:30 am
13 Grandparent's Day	14	15 Bingo 6:30 pm	16	17	18 POW/MIA Recognition Day Social Night 7:00 pm	19 CDC 8:30 am Legion Riders 10am 10:00 am
20	21 Auxiliary Meeting	22 Bingo 6:30 pm	23 Board Meeting 7:30	24	25 Social Night 7:00 pm	26 Coffee Doughnuts Conversation 8:30 am
27	28	29 Bingo 6:30 pm	30			

## 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