



P.O. Box 301
Depew, New York 14043

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

OCTOBER 2016 ISSUE

POST MEETINGS

Post meetings are held at 1900 on the second 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	Michael Johnson
3rd Vice-Commander	Open—TBD
Adjutant	Richard Walczak
Finance Officer	Donald Schram
Chaplain	David Hajduk
Sgt.-at-Arms	John Stutzman

POST NEWS

Elections were held in May for the following positions:

Commander - Jacob E. Schu
 1st Vice-Commander - Richard Bulman
 2nd-Vice Commander - Robert Sharpe
 3rd Vice-Commander - Mike Johnson
 Adjutant - Richard Walczak
 Finance Officer - Donald Schram
 Sgt.-at-Arms - John Stutzman
 Chaplain - James Sterlace

2nd VC Mike Johnson was elected Erie County Vice-Commander at the County Convention in June. Mike has done a great job at Post 1528 as well.

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.

Adjutant Rich Walczak asks us to remember that our Post sells Legion American flags, POW-MIA flags 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

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 2016:

- 3" M5 Gun has been reviewed by several people and we are looking at what it would take to get the coating re-finished. Thanks to Jim Wolfe for his assistance with this ongoing issue.
- 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 attended the National Commanders Dinner at Lamm Post on October 14th along with Don Schram and George Frederick.
- I will be the Chairman for the veterans Day services. Please turn out and spend part of your day honoring those who have fallen. As in the past, the Elks will put on their spaghetti dinner for veterans and their guest.
- 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://eriecountyal.org>
- I made two trips to the Erie County office and one to Best Buy to assist the county with computer selection and installation. The county now has a new computer and updated systems.
- It was suggested that we form a call list for wake services and events. I sent out a communication and received several responses from members willing to help.
- The website members roster is now updated to 10/11/16 and can be accessed on the website through the members only and officers only sections.
- There have been a few changes to the officers list since our elections in May. Due to the unfortunate passing of 2nd VC Bob Sharpe in July, I appointed 3rd VC Mike Johnson to 2nd VC and appointed Dave Hajduk as Legislative Chair to fill Bob's role there. Chaplain Jim Sterlace recently asked to be relieved due to family issues. I then appointed Dave Hajduk as Chaplain after he offered to take over that slot and appointed Jim Sterlace as Legislative chair, as he still wants to remain active in a reduced role.
- The Executive Committee approved the officer changes as well as an update and revision to the Post Constitution and Bylaws (C&BL). This had not been done since 1991 and was overdue. The revised C&BL booklet is now printed and has been mailed to our members.
- **I need to fill the 3rd VC slot.** I would hope that someone out there would like to get involved and move through the chairs. The same people cannot continue to do everything and we need younger people to step up. Please consider helping your Post! The 3rd VC duties are very light and mostly involve help with the few events we have.
- One last thing. 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. If we support them, they will support us. We want to be good neighbors in our community.

VETERAN'S DAY SERVICES

On Friday, November 11, 2016, 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 Lunch-Veteran's Day from 1400 to 1800. This is a totally free event and includes food and beverages. Depew Post 1528 will muster at the Elks at 1400 and go in as a group at 1415. Dress uniform/caps not required and 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.

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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

2016—2017 LOTTERY BY RICH WALCZAK

Enclosed with this newsletter are two (2) lottery tickets. We have changed the ticket to make it more appealing to our members and whoever purchases them. The new ticket is \$10.00, but the big changes are that you get two numbers per ticket and they are good for two months (February and March). This format also increases your odds of winning.

We ask that you purchase both tickets or sell them to a friend or family member. They also make great Christmas gifts. If you can't sell or purchase them, please return them to the post so that we can sell them to someone else. The proceeds from this fundraiser go to support our children and youth program which is mainly our American Legion baseball team. Sponsoring a team is very costly with such expenses as franchise fees, insurance, uniforms, equipment, baseball diamond fees, umpire fees, etc. Without your support, we won't be able to sponsor our team in the future.

Please return your two ticket stubs and \$20.00 to:

Depew Post #1528 American Legion

P.O. Box 301

Depew, NY 14043

If you need more tickets, please contact Rich Walczak, Adjutant at 716-472-2591 and we will be happy to get them out to you.

MEMBERSHIP & DUES— BY DON SCHRAM

Congratulations to our membership! Depew Post 1528 achieved 110% of our goal for the 2015-16 year. The year ran from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 and we ended with 187 members! We won 1st place in our division. Well done to our membership Chairman, 2nd VC Mike Johnson and our Commander. Our goal this year is 188 members, as determined by the national office. As of October 13th, we have 124 members or 66% 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 2017 dues were billed in July of this year. We ask you all to please pay your \$41.00 membership dues for 2017 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 and follow the easy instructions or bring your dues to a monthly meeting, we would be glad to see you!

One last thing to our membership: REMEMBER TO GET OUT AND VOTE IN NOVEMBER!

DEPEW JOINT VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

The Depew Joint Veteran's Committee (DJVC) met October 25th to discuss planning for Veterans Day. The American Legion Post 1528 will be lead for services held. 2016 DJVC officers are:

Chair: Jacob Schu, AM. Legion/AMVETS

Vice Chair: Dick Bulman, AM. Legion/AMVETS

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

Treasurer: Don Schram, AM. Legion/AMVETS

Parade Marshall: Don Schram, AM. Legion/AMVETS



POST 1528 GRAVES REGISTRATION PROJECT— JACK BETZ, CHAIR

This info will be shared with AMVETS and the VFW when complete. He has contacted the local cemeteries and has made great progress in this effort. To date, Jack has walked over 20,000 total grave sites and identified over 3000 veteran's graves. This information was then compiled into a spreadsheet, along with pictures of each veteran's grave. Jack personally has over 2,000 hours in on this and his grandson, Kyle Thompson, has well over 250! Our Post has distinguished itself in the County as a leader in graves registration and documentation. THANK YOU to Jack and his assistants for great work here.



If anyone has information that may be pertinent, please contact Jack Betz at: 716 684-5526, email: jxb73@hotmail.com; or Jake Schu at: 716 440-3302, email: jschu@depewlegion.org

LEGION BASEBALL— BY WALLY WAISS— BASEBALL LIAISON

Post 1528's baseball team will again play in 2017. Check the calendar on our web site for the schedule as it becomes available.

The 2016 team showed a vast improvement from the 2015 season. Our Post team finished with a 10—7—1 record. We made the playoffs and lost both games, even though we were very competitive. Through the efforts of Coach Tony Sekuterski, the team fared well. Prospects for 2017 have a bright outlook because of the experience of the past season. The team is thankful that the Post will again sponsor team next season. Efforts will be made to play our home games again at Dawson Field. My thanks go out to the Town of Cheektowaga Recreation Department for the use of Stiglmeier Park. Thank you all for keeping baseball alive in WNY.

DEPEW POST 1528 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Post 1528 will again have our Christmas Party at AMVETS Post 14 on December 8th. We thank Chet Pawlowski Jim Sterlace, Don Schram and Jim Taylor for their help with this event. If you have never attended this, please do. You will find it a great evening with great food and company. As costs have risen for food and beverages. Cost this year will be the same as last year at \$15/member, \$30/member & spouse or one guest and \$25 ea. for any additional guests. Please contact Chester Pawlowski at (716) 393-3489 for reservations.

The party starts with an open bar from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM, with dinner at 7:00 PM. The party will be catered and the menu will be a family style sit down dinner, with pork chops, turkey w/all the trimmings, mashed potatoes, salad & desert. Special arrangements will be made for glucose intolerance, etc. if you inform Chet of this requirement. Anyone that has attended knows that the food is great and no one goes home hungry. There will also be gifts handed out by drawing throughout the evening. Chet is heading up the gift procurement. Anyone who can assist or knows a business, etc. that could donate a gift, please contact us.

SICK CALL

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
Jack Betz

Passed since May 2016:

Conrad Marchwinski
Robert W. Sharpe

