



P.O. Box 301
Depew, New York 14043

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

Email: jbetz@depewlegion.org

Web site: www.depewlegion.org

OCTOBER 2020 ISSUE

POST MEETINGS

Post meetings are held at 1900 on the **first 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	Richard Bulman
1st Vice-Commander	Tom Blaszkiewicz
2nd Vice-Commander	John Stutzman
3rd Vice-Commander	Mike Johnson
Adjutant	Jack Betz
Finance Officer	Richard Walczak
Chaplain	David Hajduk
Sgt.-at-Arms	Jim Taylor

POST NEWS

Elections were not held this year due to COVID. Officers remain as:

Commander - Richard Bulman
 1st Vice-Commander - Tom Blaszkiewicz
 2nd-Vice Commander - John Stutzman
 3rd Vice-Commander - Mike Johnson
 Adjutant - Jack Betz
 Finance Officer - Richard Walczak
 Sgt.-at-Arms - Jim Taylor
 Chaplain - David Hajduk

Mike Johnson is also currently our Membership Chair and Jack Betz is also our Graves Registration Chair.

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.

Quartermaster Wally Waiss has numerous items for sale. Contact him at (716) 681-6858. Remember, that our Post sells American Legion American flags, POW-MIA flags, ties 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*
- *Veterans Day*
- *Lottery*
- *Membership*
- *Christmas Party*

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COMMANDER'S REPORT— BY DICK BULMAN

This has been a tough year for all but we have and will continue to persevere. Hopefully, next year will be a better year.

- Our Memorial Day DJVC service was cancelled.
- The Middle East Conflict memorial stone and plaque were completed this summer. We now have to plan a dedication ceremony when regulations allow. Thanks to Mary Jo Monnin and Dick Young for donating the stone; and Garland Graphics for providing and installing the plaque. Special thanks to the Depew DPW for their fine efforts transporting, cleaning and installing the stone. Drive over and take a look, it looks great!
- Depew Founder's Day was also cancelled.
- The Special Olympics party at the Lamm Post was cancelled.
- The Poppy Drive was cancelled this year and will be rescheduled for next year.
- Ten bags of donated clothing were dropped off at the Post by the son of member Gerald Lewindowski and need to be distributed at some future date
- Veteran's Day services are on for this November 11th, with services at St. John's Lutheran Church on Litchfield Ave. as usual.
- I am still working on a Red-White & Blue award for the Elks. They have supported and continue support veterans and our Post in numerous ways.
- I want to acknowledge the passing of PC Leo Rybak, who was a charter member of Post 1528 and was Commander in 1949. Leo was a great man and Legionnaire for 75 years. He shall be missed.
- I want to thank the officers and members who made our projects over the last year successful. 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 and we also need people to step up and assume officer positions. We are not asking for full time commitment. Our Poppy Days are a good example, the first weekend in May every year. If we get enough members to volunteer, we only ask for a two hour shift on Friday 0900—1700; and Saturday 0900—1200. Some have had to cover multiple shifts due to lack of participation.

2020—2021 LOTTERY BY RICH WALCZAK

Enclosed are three (3) tickets for our annual lottery drawing fundraiser. You get two numbers on each ticket and they are good for two months (February & March)

We ask that you purchase or sell all three tickets. If you need more, please contact Rich Walczak at 716-472-2591.

This is a very important fundraiser that helps your post support many functions throughout the year. Please help!

Please return your three ticket stubs and \$30.00 to:

Depew American Legion Post 1528
P.O. Box 301
Depew, NY 14043



VETERAN'S DAY SERVICES

On **Wednesday, November 11, 2020**, 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 0945. Church service at 1015, followed by the Veteran's Day ceremony outside of the church at 1100.

The Lancaster Elks Lodge will again put on a Luncheon for all Veterans on **Wednesday, November 11th**. This year due to COVID, the event will be **drive through only and will be from 1400 to 1800**. All mask protocols will be enforced and you must stay in your vehicle. 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. This year, Post 1528 approved a donation \$250 toward this event to assist with the costs. Our own Bob Wilde is chairing this event again this year. The event is known as the Bob Sharpe Veteran's Dinner, as Bob chaired this event for many years. Bob was our 2nd VC and very active in our Post events as well as with the Elks.

THANK YOU ELKS!

Dinner will include spaghetti w/2 meatballs, chef salad, bread w/butter.



VFW Post 7275 is holding a Veterans steak dinner from 12N to 4PM on Sunday, November 8th if anyone is interested. Cost is \$13/person, dine in or take out. **All social distancing rules will be in effect.**

MEMBERSHIP & DUES— BY MIKE JOHNSON, CHAIR

Brother Legionnaires of Depew Post 1528,
 Department of New York has set a goal for our Post of 180 to reach 100% for this Legion Year and we are well on our way to reaching and possibly exceeding our goal, but we need your help! If you have paid your 2020 dues, thank you!! If you have not yet paid your 2021 American Legion dues, **which were due to our Post by September 1, 2020**, please either go to www.legion.org, click 'RENEW', enter your Membership ID and Last Name, and pay your dues online (which will process through within 24 hours); or a check or money order for \$41.00 made out to American Legion Depew Post 1528 and mail to our Post at:

American Legion Depew Post 1528
 P.O. Box 301
 Depew, NY 14043—0301

A reminder, the American Legion goes by fiscal year, so the 2021 Legion Year started on July 1, 2020 and will go to June 30, 2021 which is why your 2021 dues were due on September 1, 2020. If you paid for this Legion Year, your Membership Card would say 2021 on the top of it. If you have already paid your 2021 dues, please do not re-send payment. If you inadvertently paid twice for this year, we will apply your overpayment to your 2022 dues.

I would also ask you all to reach out to any fellow Veterans you know, whether it's family members, friends, or coworkers, ask them if they are a Member of the American Legion, and if they are not a Member, invite them to become a Member. All I need to get their application submitted is their full name, mailing address, E-Mail address, phone number, date of birth, date they entered active duty, their branch of service, and their date of honorable discharge (if they are not actively serving). We will also need a copy of their DD-214 with the SSN blacked out when the membership application is processed. Remember, you could qualify for recognition from Department of New York or Legion HQ for any new members you recruit! Thank you all for your continued Membership in the American Legion and our Post! I would ask that if you have any membership questions, please E-Mail me at: mjohnson@depewlegion.org or call me at (716) 570-1246.

Your post is updating our records of members Phone numbers and E-MAIL addresses. In the future we will be E-mail notices of upcoming events & meetings. Listed below are members that the post has not been able to contact.

If U are one of these Members, please contact our Adjutant, Jack Betz, either by Phone or by E-MAIL so that we can complete our update. His number is (716)-684-5526 or (716) 481-3569 / E-MAIL: JXB73@hotmail.com

102617300	Costa, Jr.	James A.
201138935	Jones	Leyland
201836142	Juszczak	Joseph
205377254	Keltner	Jacob
204871386	Kustra	James
205068195	Lambert	Kevin
205066828	Lines	Joel
203641749	Minotti	Louis M.
201687285	Nawotka	Robert
102615420	Przybyla	Marion
102620311	Rembecki	John
204911900	Smith	David P.
204711693	Szafranski	Edward
200301781	Trautwein	James

POST 1528 GRAVES REGISTRATION PROJECT— JACK BETZ, CHAIR

With help from my granddaughter, I have completed grave registration work on 4 of the 5 cemeteries under Post 1528's jurisdiction. This includes compiling cemetery records, fragmented and incomplete records that cover deceased Veterans from the Indian Wars to present service. In the past 5+ years since volunteering Jack has spent over 6,000 hours and has walked over 48,500 grave sites and identified and confirmed over 4,700 veteran's graves. Jack will continue to maintain records by adding more veterans as they enter their final rest. As always, if you know of a veteran that may be buried in one of these cemeteries, please contact Jack so that he may follow up on that person and add them to our data base.

The following is a breakdown by cemetery:

LANCASTER RURAL: 100% complete 19,200 sites; 834 Veterans
St. ADALBERTS: 100% complete 20,900 sites; 2,207 Veterans
St. AUGUSTINES: 100% complete 5,330 sites; 616 Veterans
SACRED HEART: 100% complete 1,340 sites; 173 Veterans.
St. MARYS: 100% complete 11,500 sites; 901 Veterans.

ERIE COUNTY PAST COMMANDER'S CLUB— BY JAKE SCHU

The Erie County Past Commander's Club will be having a raffle starting in February and running through March. Tickets are \$5.00 each and funds are used to support our PCC activities. Tickets are available by contacting our President, Gary Oakes (goakes_jr@hotmail.com) or our Treasurer, Nelson Oldfield (nelsonwa2zsj@gmail.com). Post 1528 currently has eight (8) PC's belonging to this organization. The EC website can be viewed at: <http://eriecountyal.org>

DEPEW POST 1528 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY— RICH WALCZAK CHAIR

Our annual Christmas party will again be held at the Polish Falcons, 445 Columbia Ave., Depew, NY 14043. The party will be held on December 1, 2020. We will have an open bar at 6:00PM, followed by a buffet dinner at 7:00PM. The bar will reopen for one hour after dinner. The cost is just \$20.00 per member or \$40.00 per member and guest. Additional guests may come at a cost of \$25.00 per person. Gluten free meals are available and we must be notified of this as soon as possible. Please send your payment and reservations to the post. Reservations must be made by November 25, 2019. Call Rich Walczak for more information at 716-472-2591.

There will be prizes and much fun for all.

Send payment to:

*American Legion Depew Post #1528
P.O. Box 301
Depew, NY 14043-0301*

DEPEW JOINT VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

The Depew Joint Veteran's Committee (DJVC) met to discuss planning for Veterans Day. AMVETS Post 14 will be lead for services held. 2020 DJVC officers are:

Chair: Dennis Zimny, DAV

Vice Chair: Jim Taylor, AMVETS/AM. Legion

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

Treasurer: Don Schram, AM. Legion/AMVETS

Parade Marshall: Richard Bulman AM. Legion/ AMVETS



SICK CALL

Please call Richard Bulman at 684-2969 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: George Frederick, Chet Pawlowski, Ray Wolfe

Passed since April 2019: Joseph Ippolito, Louis Kurek, Patricia Pogodzinski, PC Leo Rybak, Norbert Zajak,
Chester Zwolak