



P.O. Box 301
Depew, New York 14043

Post Location: 85 Manitou St., Room 201
Depew, NY 14086

APRIL 2014 ISSUE

COMMANDER: JACOB E. SCHU

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 | Robert Sharpe |
| 3rd Vice-Commander | Chester Pawlowski |
| Adjutant | Richard Walczak |
| Finance Officer | Donald Schram |
| Chaplain | James Sterlace |
| Sgt.-at-Arms | Donald Krupski |

POST NEWS

Nominations for 2014 -15 Officers were held at the April 10, 2014 meeting and elections will be held at the May 8th meeting.

Nominations were held and made for the following positions:

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

Remember that any member bringing in a new member, will get \$20.00 off of their dues. The member must not be a transfer from another post but a new member never belonging to the Legion before

The County Legion is on Facebook and can be found at the following URL:
<http://www.facebook.com/ages/Erie-County-American-Legion/286962493152>

(Continued on page 2)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Annual Nominations in April and Elections in May 2014
- Commander's Report
- Memorial Day
- Depew Veterans Park memorial project
- Homeless Vet's clothing drive continues
- Baseball Report

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| MEMBERSHIP & DUES | 2 |
| MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES | 3 |
| POPPY DRIVE | 3 |
| GRAVES REGISTRATION | 4 |
| MEMBERSHIP REPORT | 5 |
| FLAG DAY | 5 |
| SICK CALL | 6 |

Post 1528 will continue to support an American Legion Baseball Team for 2014. Information about the 2014 Depew baseball team will be available on the Post web site as it becomes available at :

<http://www.depewlegion.org>

(Also see the article on page 5)

The Post again held our annual Lottery, starting in

February 2014. We thank Richard Walczak for again chairing this important function. Please check your e-mail frequently, as we are now e-mailing meeting minutes and newsletters to those that have them This saves postage and printing costs.

Please send us your e-mails if you have not sent them.

MEMBERSHIP & DUES

“THE POST HAS RESOLVED TO PAY THE ANNUAL DUES OF POST MEMBERS IN THE SERVICE ON ACTIVE DUTY.”

Benefits of the annual dues of \$37.00 per year include the American Legion magazine and, most importantly, helps us support our returning veteran’s and their families.

2014 dues are due in July. If you have not yet renewed, please consider doing so now. The Post has resolved to pay the annual dues of Post members in

the service on active duty. Active duty service members may send their dues renewal form and a note with their current duty status to the Post, in care of Don Schram.

The address is:

*Depew Post No. 1528
P.O. Box 301
Depew, NY 14043*

Remember, your dues help to support our veteran’s and their families

COMMANDER’S REPORT— BY JAKE SCHU

THE AMERICAN
LEGION

STILL SERVING
AMERICA

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 2013—2014:

- Altamont Homeless Veteran’s organizations in Buffalo — supplies and clothes drive
- The VA with volunteer time and visits
- Rededication of an American Legion WWI memorial at the Lancaster Veteran’s Park on Lake Ave.
- Project underway in 2014 to dedicate new memorials for Korean and Vietnam conflicts at the Depew Veteran’s Park on Terrace Blvd. We have a GO from the Village to proceed and will be going forward very soon.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

- Any Legion member can now go to **mylegion.org** and sign up for individual access to your own membership records and a host of other information. I urge all of you to do so. It provides a wealth of information and gives directions as to how to sign up.
- 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.
- We are also continuing a clothing and donation drive for the Altamont Homeless Veteran's organization in Buffalo, NY, in conjunction with the Lancaster Elks Lodge. This organization serves all of WNY. Donations for clothing, working appliances, TVs, radios, etc. can be dropped off at the Depew Municipal Building, 1st floor in a container provided for that purpose. Or bring them to a Post meeting.
- Gathering graves registration information to compile a master list for our local cemeteries.
- I have attended all but a couple of Erie County meetings and will attend the county convention in June as a delegate along with Don Schram.

POPPY DRIVE

Our annual poppy drive days are May 9th and 10th this year. We need volunteers for both days and will again be doing four banks. Shifts are 0900—1100, 1100—1300, 1300—1500 and 1500—1700 Friday; and 0900—1200 Saturday. To fill all of the shifts with one person at each location, we need at least 16 Friday and 4 Saturday. Last year, several members did eight hour shifts to cover all slots. If we can get more people, we can shorten shifts and expand to additional locations. **Thank you** to Bob Sharpe, 2nd VC, for chairing this committee again this year! This is our main fund drive and is the main financial support for the post and our activities.

Please contact Bob Sharpe at 683-7284 or Jake Schu at 440-3302 to sign up. Thank you!

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

On Saturday, May 24, 2014 Memorial Day Services will be held at Lancaster Rural Cemetery at 0900 sharp. We need to be there by 0845 to assemble. Please take time to attend this salute to those who gave their all for our country. Immediately following this service, we will decorate graves by placing flags on all veteran's graves at Lancaster Rural, St. Adalberts and St. Augustine's cemeteries. If you can, please make time to attend these services. The more members we get, the quicker we can place our flags.

On Memorial Day, May 26, 2014, there will be a combined service at 0930, place to be determined, followed by a parade to the Veteran's Park. Assemble at 1015 at the Post after the church service, parade at 1030. Services honoring our fallen warriors will be held and the bell tolled for each veteran passing since last year. Hot dogs and refreshments will be at AMVETS Post 14 following the ceremony.



“COURAGE”

POST 1528 DEPEW VETERAN'S PARK MEMORIAL PROJECT

At our March meeting, further discussion took place regarding providing a memorial in the Depew Veteran's Park for our Korean and Vietnam veterans. Commander Schu has communicated with Depew Mayor Steve Hoffman, requesting permission to proceed with this project. The project is approved. We have also received authorization to obtain stones from Buffalo Crushed Stone for our project. Commander Schu and 1st VC Dick Bulman have started preliminary surveys as to the exact location for the memorials. survey Once the stones are selected, we will purchase suitable plaques for mounting. The plaques will list those that made the ultimate sacrifice in those conflicts. We are targeting Veteran's Day 2014 to commemorate these memorials and have a lot of work to do in the meantime. We have compiled a list of Korean and Vietnam veterans from Depew and Cheektowaga, from the National Archives.

If anyone has any information that may be pertinent, please contact :

Jake Schu at:

716 440-3302

E-mail: jschu@depewlegion.org

Remember, every veteran is entitled to have a service by our Post at the wake and/or cemetery; and a plaque or marker on their grave. The family must request this from the funeral director, who must then pass this on to our Post. Please pass this on to anyone you know.

If you have lost a veteran or know someone who has, and have not requested a marker please contact us with the appropriate grave location information.



POST 1528 GRAVES REGISTRATION PROJECT

At our April meeting, more discussion took place regarding Graves Registration and what records were available as to the location of our veteran's graves. Commander Schu, with assistance from his wife and the Lancaster Historical Society, has followed up by obtaining electronic records for St. Mary's, At. Augustine's and Lancaster Rural cemeteries. St. Adalberts does not have any electronic records and still uses card files at this time. What lists we have been able to compile will be shared with any Posts and veteran's organizations who desire it and it will be available electronically when all is done. We are positive not all veteran's graves have been identified.

If anyone has information that may be pertinent, please contact:

Jake Schu at:

716 440-3302 or

jschu@depewlegion.org

2014 MEMBERSHIP REPORT— BY DON SCHRAM

I would like to thank all of the Post members who assisted me with membership this last year. Members who directly assisted me were Commander Schu, 1st VC Dick Bulman and Mike Johnson **Thank you** to Mike Johnson for volunteering to be Membership Co-Chair at our April meeting. So far, Mike has brought in **eight** new members! We can really use more help with this important committee. New members are our future. Please contact me if you have any time to assist.

The 2014 membership year, which runs from July 2013 through June 2014, is coming to a close. As of April 10, 2014, we have 148 members, which constitutes 96.7% of our goal of 153. If you have not renewed, please send your dues in now.

We have had two issues with membership information that are beyond our control. The National Department sends out dues notices in late June, October 1st, January 1st and in March each year. If you send in your dues 15 to 20 days prior to the 1st of these months, they will not make it through the system in time and national will send you a notice that your dues are outstanding. Secondly, if you pay your dues on-line, it takes 4—8 weeks for the notice to reach the post. This delays your membership card from reaching you. The Legion system is archaic and they are working to improve it. Just be aware of why delays and late notices sometimes happen, even if you have paid your dues.

Remember, the Post is offering you \$20.00 off of your dues if you sign up a new member.

DEPEW JOINT VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

The Depew Joint Veteran's Committee (DJVC) met March 11th and again April 1st, to discuss planning for Memorial Day events. The next meeting will be April 29th at Depew Post 1528, at 1900 sharp. This year, American Legion Post 1528 will be lead for services held. 2014 DJVC officers are:

Chair—Jacob Schu

Vice Chair: Dick Bulman

Secretary: Peter Riester Sr.

Treasurer: Don Schram

Parade Marshall: Don Schram

FLAG DAY

Just a reminder that Flag day 2014 is Saturday, June 14th. Depew Post 1528 will again be assisting the Lancaster Elks Lodge with their annual Flag Retirement Ceremony. This is held in the evening at 6:00 PM and we urge anyone interested to take part in this solemn ceremony. Our 2nd VC Bob Sharpe chairs this event for the Elks and we are fortunate to have numerous Post members who are Elks. The Elks and American Legion work closely with each other on numerous veterans projects and we thank them for their continued support.

LEGION BASEBALL

Post 1528's baseball team will again play in 2014, as voted on by the membership at our February meeting. Check the calendar on our web site for the schedule. The team played approximately 18 games in 2013. We are looking to reduce the financial burden on the Post through team fund raising efforts. There will be a team fund raiser on Saturday, May 10th, from 3:00PM to 7:00PM, at The Bar restaurant, next to Page's Bar & Grill, 4275 Transit Rd., Depew. The cost is \$20/person and includes beer and hors d'oeuvres. We ask for your support.



We thank new Team Manager Walter Waiss and Don Schram for their efforts. Walter has agreed to take over team management for 2014. Walter, Don and Jake Schu met with Coach, Tony Sekuterski and outlined expectations for fund raising and reporting on team performance. **Thank you** to George Frederick for all of your efforts over the years as team manager.

The baseball schedule has not yet been set but will be on our website when we get it. The traditional flag raising ceremony, as well as the annual picnic were not held last year due to the weather. We hope to get them in this year.

SICK CALL

Please call Jacob Schu at 440-3302 or Don Schram Sick call:
at 668-8734 if you know of a member who is ill
or has passed away.

Don Krupski
George Frederick
Ray Hohl

Also, please pass this information on to the Web-
master, that it can be posted on our web site.

Passed since October 2013:

Frank Mazurowski
Joseph Karczewski
Howard Lewendowski



OUR WEB SITE

The web site URL is:
www.depewlegion.org

Just type this into your browser and hit enter to
go to our home page.

Please feel free to contact me at:
jschu@depewlegion.org

There are numerous links provided to related sites.