



P.O. Box 301
Depew, New York 14043

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

APRIL 2017 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. **STARTING SEPT. 7, 2017 MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1900, SO AS NOT TO CONFLICT WITH DEDEW COURT PARKING.**

Depew Post Officers

Commander	Jacob E. Schu
1st Vice-Commander	Richard Bulman
2nd Vice-Commander	Michael Johnson
3rd Vice-Commander	John Stutzman
Adjutant	Richard Walczak
Finance Officer	Donald Schram
Chaplain	David Hajduk
Sgt.-at-Arms	Walter Waiss

POST NEWS

Nominations for 2017—18 Officers were held at the April 14, 2016 meeting and elections will be held at the May 12th meeting. Nominations were held and made for the following positions:

Commander - Jacob E. Schu
 1st Vice-Commander - Richard Bulman
 2nd-Vice Commander - Mike Johnson
 3rd Vice-Commander - John Stutzman
 Adjutant - Richard Walczak
 Finance Officer - Donald Schram
 Sgt.-at-Arms - Walter Waiss
 Chaplain - David Hajduk

The Post again held our annual Lottery, starting in February 2017. We thank Richard Walczak for again chairing this im-

portant function. 2017 was a huge success over past years. Way to go Rich!

We thank 1st VC Dick Bulman for his continued attention to the updating deceased members plaque and Wally Waiss for taking on Sgt.- at - Arms and the Quartermaster job. 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.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Annual Nominations and Elections
- Memorial Day
- Depew Founders Day Celebration
- Membership
- Baseball Report

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Specifically, we need help with:

- Membership **always** needs help
- Graves registration
- Fund raising events always need help, **especially the poppy drive**
- Work parties need a few more people. Most of the time, we rely on our retired members but we will be more than willing to schedule some efforts when those who are working can attend. Call us.
- Help with the semi-annual newsletter (i.e. an Editor)

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:

"We see you are flying the American Flag . We just wanted to stop by and say 'thank you' for flying the flag. We are from your local American Legion Post, and we help serve our community.

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."

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—2017:

- Altamont Homeless Veteran's organizations in Buffalo — supplies and clothes drive. We are continuing a clothing and donation drive for Altamont, 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.
- 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 will attend the county convention in June as a delegate along with Don Schram and one other person. As our membership exceeded 166 now, we get a third delegate for the convention. If you are interested, contact me. You or your alternate **MUST** attend.
- AMVETS Post 14 will be the Chairman for the Memorial Day services this year. Please turn out and spend part of your day honoring those who have fallen. If you cannot march, we will get you a ride.
- **It was voted on the February meeting to change our meeting nights to the first Thursday of every month to avoid the parking conflict with Depew Court night. This will start September 7, 2017.**
- As suggested at our Executive Committee meeting on Feb. 4th, Officers and Graves Reg. Chair can now have Post business cards for those that want them. See me to get them printed.
- I continue to support Legion websites for Post 1528, Erie County and ECAL Veterans for Veterans, as well as Lancaster VFW/AMVETS Post 7275. The County Legion has a website and can be found at the following URL: <http://eriecountyal.org>

POPPY DRIVE

Our annual poppy drive days are May 12th and 13th 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 3 Saturday. Last year, several members did multiple shifts to cover all slots. If we can get more people, we can shorten shifts and expand to additional locations. **Thank you** to Chaplain Dave Hajduk for chairing this committee this year! This is our main fund drive and is the main financial support for the post and our activities.

Please contact Dave Hajduk at 681-4939 to sign up. Thank you!

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

On Saturday, May 27, 2017 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 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 29, 2017, there will be a combined service at 0930, at the Vine Wesleyan Church, followed by a parade to the Veteran's Park. Assemble at 1015 at the Post after the church service, parade at 1030. Hot dogs and refreshments will be at the Depew fire hall on Meridian St. following the ceremony. We will pick up flags on Tuesday, May 30th. Meet at St. Adalberts at 1000.



DEPEW FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION

The Mayor of Depew, Hon. Jesse Nikonowicz contacted me regarding planning for a Depew Founders Day Celebration, to be held on Thursday, July 27, 2017. The event is planned to start at noon and run until 9:00 PM, with a parade to start at 3:00 PM on Manitou St. and proceed to the Veterans Park on Terrace Blvd. Post 1528 and the Depew Joint Veterans Committee is proud to take part in this event and will assist in organizing and marching in the parade. We have also invited our fellow veterans from the Lancaster VFW/AMVETS Post 7275 to join us.

Additional details and notices will be listed in local news as it develops.

MEMBERSHIP & DUES

We are happy to report that our Post is on target for our Membership goal for 2017. We currently are at 166 Members which is 88.2% of our goal. Thank you all for making this possible through your diligence in keeping your dues current. We have a lot of current military members who have joined us. We thank them all for their continued service to our Nation. Please keep recruiting. Remember, if you recruit just one new Member and re-instate a previous member or recruit two new members before the end of June, you will earn the Department Commander's Pin. You all probably know of at least one veteran or active service member who is not a member of the Legion. Get an application to them and have them join us. Your 2018 dues will be billed in July of this year. Please pay your \$41.00 membership dues for 2018 as early in July or August as possible. The sooner membership dues are received, the sooner we reach our Membership Goal. As our Dept. Commander put it: "Tell somebody" about our organization and programs.

FLAG DAY

Just a reminder that Flag day 2017 is Wednesday, June 14th. Depew Post 1528 will again be assisting the Lancaster Elks Lodge and Boy Scouts 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. 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. Tell your friends and relatives to give their old flags to our Post or to the Elks for proper disposition.

POST 1528 GRAVES REGISTRATION PROJECT— JACK BETZ, CHAIR

Jack has been very busy redoing the records for five cemeteries that reside within our membership area. This a huge task, as the electronic records we had were fragmented, repetitive and somewhat inaccurate. St. Adalberts has no electronic records and St. Augustine's gave us printed hard copies that had to be reentered.

This info will be shared with AMVETS contacted the local cemeteries and has date, Jack has walked over 15,000 veteran's graves. This information was with pictures of each veteran's grave.



this and his grandson, Kyle Thompson, has well over 150! Our Commander issued a letter of recommendation for Kyle to apply for a Legion Auxiliary scholarship based on this effort. Jack and Marie Schu also received certificates from the Erie County Legion for their efforts on the project.

and the VFW when complete. He has made great progress in this effort. To total grave sites and identified over 1500 then compiled into a spreadsheet, along Jack personally has over 1,000 hours in on

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

DEPEW JOINT VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

The Depew Joint Veteran's Committee (DJVC) met March 14th and again April 11th, to discuss planning for Memorial Day events. The next meeting is April 24th at AMVETS Post 14. This year, AMVETS Post 14 will be lead for services held. 2017 DJVC officers are:

Chair: Marty Bugaj, AMVETS

Vice Chair: Jim Taylor, AMVETS/Legion

Secretary: Peter Riester Sr., AMVETS/Legion

Treasurer: Don Schram, Legion/AMVETS

Parade Marshall: Jake Schu, Legion



LEGION BASEBALL— BY WALLY WAISS— BASEBALL LIAISON

This year's Legion baseball will begin on 5/31/17. The league will be divided into two divisions—North & South, with seven teams in each division. The Cuba-Rushford team is a new addition to the South division. Team manager Tony Sekuterski has scheduled a fund raiser meat raffle for April 28th at the Lancaster Moose Club on Broadway in the Village. Raffle starts at 6:00 PM.

Check the calendar on our web site for the schedule as it becomes available. As baseball Liaison, I have contacted the Cheektowaga Recreation Dept. for use of their diamonds, in the event Dawson Field is not available. The team has filled almost all positions for this year and the coach is optimistic about the 2017 season. The next league meeting is April 4th at the Brounshidle Post.

SICK CALL

Please call Jacob Schu at 440-3302 or Don Schram at 668-8734 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
Chester Zwolak

Passed since May 2016:

Conrad Marchwinski
Robert Sharpe

