



P.O. Box 301
Depew, New York 14043

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

APRIL 2018 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	Tom Blaszkiewicz
3rd Vice-Commander	John Stutzman
Adjutant	Richard Walczak
Finance Officer	Donald Schram
Chaplain	David Hajduk
Sgt.-at-Arms	Jim Taylor

POST NEWS

Nominations for 2018—19 Officers were held at the April 5, 2018 meeting and elections will be held at the May 3rd meeting. Nominations were held and made for the following positions:

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

The Post again held our annual Lottery, starting in February 2018. We thank Richard Walczak for again chairing this im-

portant function. 2018 was a huge success again! Way to go Rich!

We thank 2nd VC Tom Blaszkiewicz for his attention to the updating deceased members plaque and Wally Waiss for taking 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.

Specifically, we need help with:

- Membership **always** needs help

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

COMMANDER'S REPORT	2
POPPY DRIVE	3
MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES	3
JOINT VETERANS COMMITTEE	4
GRAVES REGISTRATION	4
FLAG DAY	4
BASEBALL	5

- Fund raising events always need help, **especially the poppy drive**
- **Boys State needs a chairman**
- 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 2017—2018:

- 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. Please step up for this.
- Post 1528 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. As Chairman, I received a call from the Music Academy of WNY, asking if they could participate in the Memorial Day event. We welcome them with open arms this year and thank them for offering to sing at our Monday service and parade.
- As suggested at our Executive Committee meeting on Feb. 3rd, Officers need to at least have email. Commander, Adjutant and Finance Officer need to have a working knowledge of MS Word and Excel, as a minimum. Most communications between Post/County/Dept./National is all electronic today.
- I, along with Don Schram, attended Dept. Commander Rena Nessler's dinner at the Matt Glab Post on Feb. 10th, where we presented her with a Post check for \$100 for her project, which is the American Legion National and Dept. of NY Emergency Fund.
- Poppy drive chair Dave Hajduk and I made the rounds to the four banks we will be setting up at and hand delivered letter to the managers, asking for permission to do this. All approved and were very receptive.
- 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—DAVE HAJDUK CHAIR

Our annual poppy drive days are May 4th and 5th 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 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 again this year! This is our main fund drive and is the main financial support for the post, our activities and contributions to charities and fund raisers. Poppies and cans will be distributed at our May Post meeting. Meet at the Post on Monday, May 7th at 1000 to count the proceeds.

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

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

On Saturday, May 26, 2018 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 28, 2018, 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. We look forward to having the Music Academy of WNY with us this year, who will sing several patriotic songs, including the National Anthem. 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 Depew Founders Day Celebration parade, will be held on Saturday, July 21, 2017. The event is planned to start at noon, The parade will start 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—MIKE JOHNSON CHAIR

We are happy to report that our Post is on target for our Membership goal for 2018. We currently are at 178 Members which is 104.7% 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 2019 dues will be billed in July of this year. Please pay your \$41.00 membership dues for 2019 as early in July or August as possible. The sooner membership dues are received, the sooner we reach our Membership Goal. The legion is a family and is family oriented. Tell, others about us and recruit them.

FLAG DAY

Just a reminder that Flag day 2018 is Thursday, 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

I have completed grave registration work on 4 of the 5 cemeteries under Post 1528's jurisdiction. This task includes compiling cemetery records, fragmented and incomplete records that cover deceased Veterans from the Indian Wars to present service. In the past 3+ years since volunteering I spent over 3,500 hours and have walked over 46,000 grave sites and identified more than 4,700 veteran's graves. The following is a breakdown by cemetery:

LANCASTER RURAL: 100% complete 19,200 sites; 806 Veterans

St. ADALBERTS: 100% complete 20,100 sites; 2,092 Veterans

St. AUGUSTINES: 100% complete 5,330 sites; 603 Veterans;

SACRED HEART: 100% complete 1,340 sites; 165 Veterans. These 4 cemeteries are now on a maintenance schedule where Jack will contact them monthly to update our files. I will be starting this month to survey

St. MARYS: 0% complete 11,300 sites; 610 Veterans. As always, if you know of a veteran that may be buried in one of these cemeteries, please contact me so that I may follow up on that person and add them to our data base.

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: Jake Schu, Legion/VFW/AMVETS

Vice Chair: Jim Taylor, Legion/AMVETS

Secretary: Peter Riester Sr., AMVETS/Legion

Treasurer: Don Schram, Legion/AMVETS

Parade Marshall: Dennis Zimny, DAV



Both the VFW and AMVETS Posts 7275 were invited to join the Joint Veterans Committee and unanimously agreed to join us. Welcome aboard! We have also added the VFW logo to our DJVC logo.

LEGION BASEBALL— BY WALLY WAISS— BASEBALL LIAISON

The 2018 American Legion baseball season is set to start Wednesday, May 30th. Plans are to play home games at Stiglmeier Park off of Losson Rd. in Cheektowaga. The schedule calls for 18 games, with 9 at home and 9 away. Team manager and head coach Tony Sekuterski will field this year's team with players from Depew and Lancaster High Schools. Our final meeting is set for Tuesday, May 15th. The final schedule will be given out at that time. After that, we are ready to play ball for the 2018 season. Come on out and enjoy some great games!

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 2017:

John Amati
Frank E. Barszcz
Joseph F. Jay Sr.
John P. Kopasz
George Orzeszek
Norbert J. Sliwinski

