



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

MAY 2021 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	PC Jacob E. Schu
1st Vice-Commander	Mike Johnson
2nd Vice-Commander	Jesse Majchrowicz
3rd Vice-Commander	Thomas Johnston
Adjutant	Jack Betz
Finance Officer	PC Richard Walczak
Chaplain	David Hajduk
Sgt.-at-Arms	Jim Taylor

POST NEWS

Elections were held this year and the above listed officers were elected. Mike Johnson is also currently our Membership Chair and Jack Betz is also our Graves Registration Chair. For a complete list of officers and committee chairs, visit our website.

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 Tom Johnston has numerous items for sale. Contact him at (716) 480-9691.

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*
- *Memorial Day*
- *Membership*
- *Poppy Drive*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

COMMANDER'S REPORT	2
POPPY DRIVE	3
MEMBERSHIP & DUES	3
GRAVES REGISTRATION	4
JOINT VETERANS COMMITTEE	4
SICK CALL	4

COMMANDER'S REPORT — BY JAKE SCHU

I want to start by thanking Commander Dick Bulman and the officers who stuck it out for two years during one of the most difficult times in our history. GREAT JOB!

I have agreed to again be Post Commander for 2021-22 and am hopeful there will be someone to step up next year as this will be my eighth term in 10 years. We have some new members who are now officers and Deacon, soon to be Fr. Mike Johnson as 1st VC.

On that note, I want to congratulate Deacon Mike for his continued service to our Post and the American Legion. He will be ordained a Roman Catholic Priest on 5 June 2021.

Our annual Poppy Drive was cancelled last year and delayed this year due to COVID . We now have planned to hold it on Friday July 16th and Saturday July 17th at the usual places. Chaplain Dave Hajduk has again agreed to chair this very important drive. Thank you! See the article on the Poppy Drive later in this newsletter.

Now that COVID regulations have been reduced, we are going forward with the planning for the dedication of the Middle Eastern Conflict monument we erected in 2019, in the Depew Veterans Park. More details will be forthcoming as we progress. Our hope is to hold it this summer.

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

On **Saturday, May 29, 2021**, Memorial Day Services will be held at Lancaster Rural Cemetery at 1000 and at Depew Veterans Park at 1100. We will not be placing flags again this year due to lack of people, again due to COVID and not enough time to organize before Memorial Day. There will be no parade or hot dogs and refreshments as we usually have them for the same reasons. Anyone interested is welcome to attend either or both services, please join us.



MEMBERSHIP & DUES— BY MIKE JOHNSON, CHAIR

Brother Legionnaires of Depew Post 1528,
Department of New York has set a goal for our Post of 190 to reach 100% for this Legion Year. We reached 173, which puts us at 91% of our goal. Not bad for the year we had! If you have paid your 2021 dues, thank you!! If you have not yet paid your dues, 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 2022 Legion Year starts on July 1, 2021 and will go to June 30, 2022.

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 you 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

POPPY DRIVE—DAVE HAJDUK CHAIR

Our annual poppy drive days are July 16th and 17th 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 time, 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. We also have a monument dedication ceremony to fund this year. Poppies and cans will be distributed at our June Post meeting. Meet at the Post on Monday, July 19th at 1000 to count the proceeds.

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

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.

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: Marty Bugaj, AMVETS 14

Vice Chair: Jim Taylor, AMVETS 14/AM. Legion

Secretary: Peter Riester Sr., AMVETS 14/AM. Legion

Treasurer: Don Schram, AM. Legion/AMVETS 14

Parade Marshall: Jacob Schu AM. Legion/ AMVETS 7275



SICK CALL

Please call Jake 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: George Frederick, Chet Pawlowski, Ray Wolfe, Peter Riester Sr., Wally Waiss,

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