

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

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CALENDAR FOR APRIL

Thurs	Apr 1		April Fool's Day
Fri	Apr 2		Good Friday
		5:30 – 8:00 PM	7 th Lenten Steak & Fish Fry Dinner– Don Smith's Crew
Sat	Apr 3	1:00 – 4:00 PM	Kids Easter Party (See Special Events)
		TBA	Wedding Reception in the Small Room
Sun	Apr 4	FLAG	Easter Sunday - Post Closed
Mon	Apr 5	7:00 PM	Squadron 770 Sons of the American Legion Meeting
		7:00 PM	Snow Club Meeting
Tues	Apr 6	7:00 PM	Unit 770 Auxiliary Meeting
Weds	Apr 7	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Fri	Apr 9	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Steak & Fish Fry Dinner– Jim Heroux's Crew
		6:30 PM	Boy Scout Leaders Meeting in the Small Room
Sat	Apr 10	8:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Red Cross Bloodmobile – Have you given lately?
Sun	Apr 11	Noon – 3:00 PM	Bath VA Hosp Visitation & BBQ Chicken Luncheon (See Special Events)
Mon	Apr 12	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting (See Special Events)
Weds	Apr 14	Noon	Senior Citizens Luncheon
Thurs	Apr 15		Income Tax Deadline for 2009
		5:30 – 8:00 PM	American Legion Auxiliary Dinner
Sun	Apr 18	1:00 PM	6 th District Spring Meeting at Post 770
Mon	Apr 19	7:00 PM	Snowmobile Club Meeting
Tues	Apr 20	6:30 PM	Tompkins County Joint American Legion & Auxiliary Meeting Ithaca Post
Weds	Apr 21	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs	Apr 22		Earth Day – Think Green
		5:30 – 8:00 PM	SAL Pulled Pork Dinner (Mild or Spicy)
Sat	Apr 24	6:00 PM	Fire Department Banquet in the Banquet Room
Sun	Apr 25	7:30 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast
Mon	Apr 26	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting (See Special Events)
Tues – Fri	27th – 30th	9:00 – 5:00	Training Sessions for Census Takers
Weds	Apr 28	Noon	Senior Citizens Luncheon
Fri	Apr 30	6:30 PM	Boy Scout Pack Meeting in the Banquet Room

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kids Easter Party: Will take place on Saturday, April 3rd from 1:00 – 4:00 PM. The event will include all kids from newborn to 10 years of age. Following the Easter Egg Hunt, the Easter bunny will hop to each little boy and girl with a basket full of goodies. There will be refreshments for all. Parents and grandparents will need to sign up your children by Sunday, March 28th.

Bath VA Hospital Visitation & BBQ Chicken Luncheon: will take place at noon on Sunday, April 11th. No, that's not a mistake! We will be serving BBQ Chicken instead of steak for a change. Once again we will be extending our hospitality to our Bath Hospital Veterans and staff. Come and extend a bit of commeradarie and make these guys and gals

feel at home. If you can pour coffee, smile, and carry a plate, please volunteer to help. The inner reward you receive will be heart warming. Let's hope there will be enough time left for us to show them the local attractions that surround our Post. Some of you will be getting a call to bake a pie or contribute some homemade cookies. It's all for a great cause.

American Legion Election of Officers: will be held at the regular Post meeting on Monday, May 10th. Commander Dew has appointed a nominating committee to recommend officers for 2010 – 2011. If anyone is interested in running for an office, please let the nominating committee know. It is important that we continue to provide leadership for our organization in order that we may be an intricate part of community service.

Wednesday Wing Nights: will be suspended until further notice.

Special Joint Legion Meeting: Will take place Wednesday, May 12th at 7PM to discuss the IRS audit and changes needed in our business practices resulting from the audit.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Sick Call: **Myron (Jr) Cronk:** We saw Laurie at CMC on March 15th and she informed us Jr. would be coming home in another day or two following a bout of pneumonia along with a broken shoulder.

Susie Smith: Surgery – Home **Eleanor Green:** CMC – Improving

Fred & Irene Asay: Attended the St Patrick's Day dinner at the Post. Glad to see them out and about.

Bill Parker: who had been under the weather also attended the St Patrick's Day dinner and looking good.

Bruce Newhart: Saw Bruce & Jackie at Shur-Save recently. He looks good and is doing well following his stay in the hospital.

Taps: **James Frank Golden:** Went to be with the Lord on March 3, 2010. Jim is survived by his wife Beverly, and three children, Pamela, David, and William. For many years Jim was a regular at the Post. I can still hear that New England accent for which Jim was widely known. He was a veteran of the Korean War. Services were conducted at the American Legion by Rev Jeff Losey followed by a reception for family and friends.

POST NEWS

We noticed some positive changes in the small meeting room lately. It appears Ruthie Doane is beginning to straighten up the room and organize our library. It is our desire to eventually have a sign out library utilizing all of the books people have been donating concerning our military history. Thanks Ruthie and Wayne. We are sure they would appreciate any help you may offer along those lines. ...Our Lenten fish fry and steak dinners have done as well as can be expected when you consider the competition from a lot of other facilities. Our crew served 121 dinners on March 4th and we believe this to be about the norm during Lent. We sure do appreciate our loyal Legion patrons returning week after week during Lent. We see many of the same faces returning weekly. Also our crew members have been putting in a lot of time. Oh, well, it will soon draw to a close. ...We were asked recently if we might consider the Legion as a site for our village fire whistle. You may remember it used to be located downtown until someone complained it was too loud and it was removed. That person has since moved away but we still lack a whistle because of a village ordinance. Because we are located outside of the village we received the requests, which we deferred to the fire department to see what their feelings are. Meanwhile we are tabling the issue. ...We mentioned in the last newsletter that Bill Parker was stepping down as Boys State Chairperson. He is being replaced by a relatively new person to many of you. Lloyd Loop has moved here from Saugerties and has been quite active and attended most meetings since his arrival. I have been quite interested in Lloyd's movement to T-Burg from Saugerties because the area from which he came is the same one all of my relatives and my mother's side of the family came from. My aunts & uncles, cousins and grandparents all the way back to the revolutionary War are buried in the Chestnut Hill and Woodstock Cemeteries out on Rte 212. Enough already! It's enough to say we are sure Lloyd will do a fine job replacing Bill. ...Incidentally, we were able to attend the Legion Birthday Dinner on Saturday the 13th of March despite a bad cold and laryngitis. I mention this now because our program was put on by our two Boy Stater's Andrew Dunn and Keith McMillan. They were accompanied by their parents, Jim and June Dunn and Kent and Tammy McMillan. The boys told of their experiences and about the offices they sought and were selected to. Boys State is indeed a wonderful asset and experience for those fortunate enough to be selected and appointed to attend. It was indeed a pleasure to know that the Legion is a supporter of such beneficial programs as this. We thank Renee Heroux, Cindy & Gary Reckdenwald for the fine dinner they put forth. Tom Bennett was out of state for the weekend attending to grandparent obligations. The meal was great; our only complaint was the sparse crowd of 27 people who were in attendance. Was it because of the time of year? Other obligations? Illnesses? Or whatever? We would like to have a greater attendance at these kinds of functions. Let our members know how we may

increase our attendance at these functions. ...The membership is please to have made a monetary donation to Life Relay. ...Although we have not participated in any of the Snowmobile Poker runs we understand they are a great success and we appreciate all of those members who are cooking up a storm for the benefit of our Post. ...At the membership meeting of March 8th we listened to a representative telling us about the VA and new Cemetery to be located in the former Sampson Naval Base area. The cemetery is a State rather than National Cemetery and will occupy 162 acres; that is, if the State will assume ownership. The site is on or near the WWII Naval hospital located just beyond the wide turn on 96A beyond Ovid heading toward Romulus. In several years the National Cemetery at Bath will shut down due to lack of space. Grant money has been released toward this project. You may send any donations toward this project to: Veterans Cemetery, In Care of Rick Conners, and Chairman. Phone # 315-568-4155. Sampson's Veterans Memorial. ...We were fortunate to find a seat at the Boy Scout Spaghetti dinner on Saturday March 6th. What a great turnout for a wonderful cause. All of the tables were occupied by 5:30 PM but we enjoyed sitting with a family we did not know, yet found we had many thoughts in common and mutual acquaintances. The meal was spectacular, especially when being served by my grandson, Jonathon. It was a great evening and for a great cause. ...We have been informed recently that our neighbor down the street, Donald Reynolds, has been promoted to Chief Petty Officer in the US Naval Reserves. Don is currently employed with the Ithaca Fire Department. ...As we conclude the Post news, we note there are many events to look forward to during the next month. Among them are St Patrick's Day and the Senior Citizen's Corned Beef dinner put on by Rotary and Lions Club, 3 more Lenten Dinners, a breakfast, kids Easter Party, Bloodmobile visit, Bath VA Hospital visitation, and election of officers. If that's not enough to keep you occupied, you might want to join a few more organizations. ...We attended the St Pat's Day dinner and I don't know how many times there has not been a sound system. What is the problem? Do we have one? Do we need one? Let's do something about it please. It has been nice visiting with you; until next month. Be glad you belong to a Veterans Organization of the greatest country on this Earth – THE USA!

MEMBERSHIP

Time is growing shorter for those who need to re-up or sign-up. At a time when we are sending our men and women overseas and in harms way, we would expect these newly eligible veterans to be pounding on our doorstep. Such is not the case. It seems like fraternal organizations such as the Masons, Knights of Columbus, Elks, Odd Fellows, Moose, etc is not the place for our younger guys and gals. Our older members are diminishing in numbers! We need some younger people to be involved and gradually take over the reins if we are to remain the pillar of our community. Won't you make it a point to encourage our active veterans to sign up today? The American Legion has a lot of clout in seeing to it that our congressmen listen to what is needed and what is happening with our veterans serving in the Armed Forces today. Even though an attempt has been made to contact all of our members by mail or phone, membership remains at the same as last month – 332. Just 22 short of our quota. If you have changed your address please let us know that we may stay in contact.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Membership is now 142. HELP! We need 15 more to make our quota of 157. Our best to Susie Smith from recovering from leg surgery on March 8th. Mary Schmidt has offered to do flowers for Memorial Day around the Post. The next meeting is April 6th at 7:00 PM. The nominating committee will report who will possibly be running for officers. The Kids Easter Party is April 3rd from 1 – 3 PM. The Bath Vets are coming at noon on April 11th. April 15th is our next Auxiliary Dinner. I understand we will need someone to take over our Auxiliary dinners after June 2010. Our cook Mindy has decided to spend more time with her Grandson. Have a Happy Easter! Submitted, Marge Bennett

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

We still have a few that have not renewed their membership for 2010. Come on out guys and help us make our quota. The SAL will be hosting a Pulled Pork Dinner with all the traditional side dishes on April 22nd from 5:30-8:00 PM. There will be mild and spicy versions so don't let the heat scare you away. We will also be hosting a Mother's Day Breakfast on Sunday, May 9th. We'll need some help and ideas. Please note: Officer Elections will be held at our May meeting. Nominations will be taken at our April meeting. Our next meetings are Monday, April 5th and May 3rd at 7PM.....Brady

DID YOU KNOW?

Navy to Allow Women to Serve on Subs: The Pentagon has moved to lift a decades-old policy that prohibits women from serving aboard Navy Submarines, part of a gradual reconsideration of women's roles in a military fighting two wars whose front lines can be anywhere. The thinking previously was that the close quarters aboard subs would make coed service difficult to manage. Defense Secretary Robert Gates notified Congress in a letter that the Navy intends to repeal the ban on women sailors on subs. Congress has 30 days to weigh in. Women began serving aboard Navy surface ships in 1993.

Editors Note: Having served aboard ship for more than 2 years with more than 2,000 men, I don't know about this.

New Legion Baseball E-Newsletter: A new electronic newsletter – “The Dugout” – delivers a hot lineup of American Legion Baseball news straight to your inbox. Legionnaires, coaches, players, families and fans are invited to subscribe to the free e-newsletter, which appears monthly until baseball season and more frequently at tournament time.

Visit www.legion.org/baseball/newsletter to subscribe today.

A New Approach to Electronic Records: Information-technology wizards tasked by President Obama last April to create lifetime electronic health records for US service members and veterans have broadened their goal. VA and Defense officials concluded that the solution to creating what the president called a Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record for service members would not be found in adopting a single health-record system for two mammoth government departments. Instead, the answer was to use the influence of VA and DoD to help move the entire country toward a national standard and single set of protocols for electronic record sharing. So VA and DoD officials began learning how to use NHIN to solve their own electronic health-record challenges. In January, VA unveiled preliminary results from a pilot program using NHIN standards to exchange patient-safety information between VA and Kaiser Permanent health-care providers for 400 volunteer patients in San Diego. The process “of taking weeks to get stale paper records now occur in seconds. DoD is to begin participating in the San Diego pilot early this year. More pilots are planned for locations throughout the country. The software tools needed to make VA and DoD health records available to any secure system in the nations are “an adapter and a gateway. An adapter is like a universal translator. A gateway is like an on ramp to the NHIN. But the systems themselves don't have to change, whether AHLTA, VISTA or any of the private sector systems. When they send data out, they just have to go through these universal translators, which are already built.