

THE BOUTON BUGLE

December

2005

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Circulation 700 Members

ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

Legion Telephone 387-4212

COMMANDER:	Al Richar	387-5920	Newsletter Deadline	ADJUTANT:	Phil Colvin	387-6550
AUX. PRES:	Vickii Barry	387-9512	15th Of The Month	SAL CMDR:	Chris Bennett	387-6255
EDITOR:	George Van Valen	387-9858		TYPIST:	Kathi Roach	387-6636

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

Thurs	Dec 1	7:00 PM	Joint Legion Family Information Meeting
		7:00 PM	Euchre Night
Fri – Sun	Dec 2 – 4		Winter Festival (See Special Events)
Fri	Dec 2	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Dinner Buffet with Live Music
		Dusk	Bonfire & Fireworks
		9:00 – 11:00 PM	Dance Music
Mon	Dec 5	7:00 PM	Tompkins County American Legion Meeting at Post 1134, Dryden
Tues	Dec 6	7:00 PM	Unit 770 American Legion Auxiliary Christmas Party
Weds	Dec 7	FLAG	PEARL HARBOR DAY
		5:00 – 8:00 pm	State Park Employees Party in Meeting Room
		7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs	Dec 8	7:00 PM	Euchre Night
Fri	Dec 9	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Don Smith Crew
Sat	Dec 10	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Snowmobile Club Safety Course
		6:00 PM	HOGS Christmas Party – Cocktails
		7:00 pm	Dinner
Sun	Dec 11	8:00 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast – Public Invited
Mon	Dec 12	7:30 PM	Post 770 American Legion Meeting
Thurs	Dec 15	7:00 PM	Euchre Night
Fri	Dec 16	5:30 – 8:00 PM	Auxiliary Dinner – Public Invited
Sun	Dec 18	1:00 PM	Kids Christmas Party – Public Invited – Sign-up Required
Weds	Dec 21	Noon	Senior Citizens Christmas Luncheon
		7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs	Dec 22	7:00 PM	Euchre Night
Sat	Dec 24	4:00 – 6:00 PM	Christmas Eve Open House, Free draft beer, soft drinks & hors d'oeuvres
Sun	Dec 25	FLAG	CHRISTMAS DAY – POST CLOSED
Thurs	Dec 29	7:00 PM	Euchre Night
Sat	Dec 31	5:30 – 9:00 PM	Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Combination Crew
		9:00 PM – 1:00 AM	New Years Eve Party with Juke Box in the Lounge
Sun	Jan 1	FLAG	HAPPY NEW YEAR – Football Bowl Games on TV at the Post

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Winter Festival – is being held from Friday through Sunday, Dec 2nd – 4th. Featured are our dinner buffet accompanied with live music on Fri, Dec 2nd from 5:30 – 8:00 PM, a bon-fire and fireworks at dusk, followed by live dance music from 9 – 11:00 PM. ALL HAPPENING AT THE LEGION! Sounds like a great evening. See you there!

Salvation Army Bell Ringers – This is a late appeal for you to check our bulletin board for Sat, December 3rd. Post 770 has pledged to fill up this day with Bell Ringers at the Shursave. This worthwhile cause is one we should dedicate ourselves to each year at this time. The slate will probably be filled, but check anyway. Thanking you in advance.

Kids Christmas Party – will be held on Sunday, Dec 18th at 1:00 PM. Plenty of refreshments and fun are in store when Santa arrives with his bag of toys and goodies. All little boys and girls between the ages of newborn and 12 are invited to attend. Bring your Mom and Dad, Grandma and Grandpa, the more the merrier. We need you to sign up and tell us the ages, sex, and how many children you are bringing by Weds, Dec 14th, so that Santa can fill his sack with presents for everyone.

Christmas Eve Open House – on Saturday, Dec 24th between 4:00 – 6:00 PM is a good opportunity to wish your friends a very Merry Christmas. We will be offering free draft beer, soft drinks, and snacks at this time. Please come and celebrate this holiday eve. Also, the SAL will be drawing the raffle for a digital camera/printer package.

New Years Eve Celebration – We are offering our 2nd annual New Years Steak & Fish Fry dinner on Sat, Dec 31st, 5:30 – 9:00 PM, followed by dancing to the music of the juke box in the lounge from 9 until 1:00 AM. Come bring the New Year in with your friends at Post 770. We are looking for a combination steak and fish fry crew for this evening. If interested, let Jim Heroux know.

New Years Day – at the Post is always a great time to watch the football games on our big screen TV. Won't you come and join us for an afternoon of great games.

POST NEWS

Well, we did it again ... November's lead page, the calendar, was all ready for press, but as it was scanned at the bar while awaiting Kathi's final check ... yes, we were informed that just that day a swap of dates was made between the Seniors Thanksgiving Noon luncheon and the Flu clinic. Fortunately, we were able to redo the first page and provided you with correct dates. Unfortunately, no one mentioned the times had also changed. Our point of this Post news explanation is this: often times, dates, and cancellations and additions occur at the last moment. So, please check other sources such as the Penny Saver, Free Press, Journal and our own lighted sign out along the highway for corrected and up-to-date information. We do our best but you need to double check.

All of that being said, what has taken place during the past month? Since our last newsletter was written I am happy to announce that we recently attended our ships, The USS Leyte (CV-32) reunion at Annapolis, Maryland. It is always a pleasure to reunite with shipmates whom you served over 50 years ago. Although our ranks are thinning, there are still many "sea stories" to be told. Adding to the importance of the reunion was the site selection. Much of our time was spent at the US Naval Academy. If your patriotism is not stirred up by viewing the Academy campus, it sure is as we watched the noon assembly of 4,200 men and women Naval students marching to mess while in formation and accompanied by 2 Navy bands. For Chloe and I it was an experience we will never forget. ... I want to thank Phil Smith for being at every high school home football game to hoist the colors while the National Anthem was being played. I was able to be there with him for most, but not all of the Flag raisings. ... Looking back to the Early Bird Dinner, we want to thank all of those who attended and those who worked in the kitchen to put on such a great feast. It was a pleasure to have our Boys State representative, David Porter, relate his experience. The Boys and Girl State program is certainly worth the investment to bring out the best in our young people. ... Harold Wright informed me that the book signing at the 2nd breakfast by Bruce Babcock was well received. All of the copies of "Taught to Kill" that he brought with him were autographed and sold. While we are on the subject of breakfasts, I have been informed that we are seeking another crew to work the 2nd of the month breakfasts. Serving in the neighborhood of 175 –200 breakfasts twice a month indicates a need to keep them going. If you are interested in working on the 2nd Sunday of the month, please contact Jim Heroux or Shirley Willard or any officer. We thank you in advance. ... Our Halloween brought out a few funny faces. I wore a total rubber pig mask when I entered and ordered at the bar. The response was "Will you have the usual, George?" Not too many were fooled this year, but lets keep trying. ... The Flu Clinic at the Post was well attended despite the wrong hours posted in the newsletter and warnings of shortages of vaccines. The only problem was perhaps quite by chance, we came down with a heck of a sore throat and cold the next week. Oh well, we hope we are now protected from getting the flu. ... We put scheduled Euchre dates in our newsletter calendar during December. I'm told it will be cancelled if more players don't show up. So, if you want to continue please make an effort to attend. ... Veterans Day produced a lot of activities for our Post and its members. I'm sorry to say that Butch Smith and I were the only two to show up for marching in the Ithaca Veterans Day Parade on Sunday. We decided, although not enough to march, that we would attend the Parade with our wives anyways. This is the first time ever that we were able to stand in front of the VFW and enjoy a spectacular parade with many Naval, Army, and Air Force Units, Bag Pipe Bands, along with various other units and bands. It was spectacular! Yet the best was yet to come as the 3-bagpipe bands from the Southern Tier and Pennsylvania put on a 45-minute show in the VFW. Guys and Gals, lets march next year and be part of the spectacular events in our area. The Veterans Day celebrations continued with our participation at 11/11/05 at 11 AM at Dewitt Park in Ithaca. The ceremony was called "Honoring Those Serving in War and Peace". "We salute the National Guard, Reserves, and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary". Post 770 was listed in the program for the "Rifle Salute". David Boyd, Henry Van Ness, and Tom Bennett did the salute accompanied by George VanValen and Calvin Bailey from Post 770. It was a very nice ceremony hosted by Ithaca Post 221. Our Veterans Day dinner continued at Post 770 on Saturday, November 12th with a Roast Beef Dinner (I could have sworn I was told Roast Pork), which was delicious. All veterans were our guests. At this dinner I was pleased to display an

oil painting picture donated to the Post by Mary Kay Read. The painting, which will be hung in the banquet room, was of the Tug Boat "Cockenoe" which was transported to Honolulu aboard Bob Read's ship, the USS Castor (AKSI) in 1942, following the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. In the background of the painting can be seen the hangers of Hickam Field. The artist is William F. Madden of the US Navy. We thank Mary Kay for the painting and hope as we view its display we will be reminded of her husband and great Legionnaire, US Navy Chief Retired, Bob Read. We were pleased to receive an anonymous donation toward the purchase of the food for this dinner. ... The Sunday following our Saturday night Veterans Dinner brought forth the Annual Department Visitation. The dinner was held at Post 770 this year because our Cmdr Al Richar is also the Tompkins County Commander. As guests began arriving at mid-afternoon, they were greeted with an outstanding presentation of decorations in the banquet hall by Auxiliary President Vickii Barry, an outdoor Xmas tree display of lights recently put up by Harold Wright, and a great looking shiny indoors recently done by the cleaning crew. Also, the camaraderie and greeting by members of the Post to welcome our Dept officers was outstanding. If you have not attended one of these functions on our home turf, you should mark it down on your calendar for the future. It was a great day to welcome old friends. ... As I am writing this newsletter, my wife has just returned from working on the Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Turkey Luncheon. 111 Seniors were extremely pleased with their luncheon and annual get together. We thank all of the Auxiliary gals and Legionnaires who help in the kitchen. Great community participation. ... As our last newsletter for the year 2005 begins to be assembled I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those behind the scenes that make this publication possible. Kathi Roach, our typist who makes the most of my poor penmanship and creates legibility where none existed. Roger Meier and Chris Bennett who keep track and update our 700 or so mailing addresses, David Updike and Mailbox, Inc. and crew who fold, address, sort and bring your mail to T-Burg, the Post Office who stuff your mail in the boxes and sends the rest on its way, the businesses who rent ad space to help defray the cost of producing our publication and Fred Asay who keeps track of the business ads. It is a joint venture for all of us and we thank you all. Merry Christmas. While we are in the Christmas mood and thanking people for their contributions, several stand out for their outstanding work and organizing abilities. They are Shirley Willard and Sue Wright and their crews and Tom Bennett and his crews. Also, a big thank you to Brady Roach who generously donated various kitchen & office equipment and a generator. Without their dedication it is doubtful we would have the outstanding American Legion Post that we have. THANK YOU!

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership continues to increase as we near the end of 2005. You are delinquent if you have not paid your dues for 2006 before the 1st of the year. Currently we are at 320 members and getting closer to our quota of 432, but still have a way to go. As you may have realized, we have stopped sending our newsletter out to members who have not renewed their membership. Some 38 fewer newsletters were sent out in November, some because they have been dropped as members. On a positive note, we welcome 5 new members: Tonya Lutz, Timothy Frank, Philip Swaney, Douglas Frost, and Cecil L. Teeter. It's nice to have all of you with us. Izzy and John Duddleston informed us their granddaughter, Lisa Stanton Gibson, in her 5th year in the Air Force, has just reenlisted. Congratulations on a great choice. Please let us know of any address changes or if you wish your newsletter to go south for the winter. Roger Meir & Chris Bennett have been keeping our address computer up to date.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Sick Call: **Ron Ashcraft** – Seneca Nursing Home – Waterloo **Tony Chiesa** – Surgery - Now Home

Taps: **Robert (Bob) Miller** – died in October. He was the father of member Jim Miller.

Frederick Ungleich – died November 10, 2005 in Interlaken. He faithfully served in the US Army during WW II with much of his time spent in Germany. He received an honorable discharge in 1946. Following services at the Agape Bible Church in Enfield, he was committed at Lakeview Cemetery in Interlaken with full Military honors provided by the Post 770 Ritual team and 2 active duty members from Fort Drum.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Membership stands at 133 – quota is set for 188. At the Early Bird dinner continuous year awards were presented as follows: 50 Years – Mary Alford & Jan Fergus, 40 years – Marcie Gray, 35 years – Lois Ditmars, Connie Holden, Wescena Smith, 30 years – Nichole Makala, 25 years – Doris Robinson. Congratulations Ladies!

Our best to Irene Asay after having surgery on 11/08. Our thoughts are with Josie Wright. There was a benefit for her 11/27 at our post. On 11/13 the Post hosted the Department Officers visit to Tompkins County with a delicious prime rib dinner put on by Shirley, Sue & crew. Vickii & crew spent many hours decorating for the above visit. She also mended the Welcome Banner (of which needs replacement). You did a **fabulous** job! Have you noticed the Xmas lights that Harold

Wright put up? Just getting ready for the holidays. We received 12 soldiers' names that are in Iraq, that we will be sending phone cards of 600 minutes to all. Mary Schmidt's Auxiliary project is selling candles at the next few dinners. Be sure to check them out. Emily Artley & crew put on a Mexican dinner on November 18th and served about 90 patrons. On 11/20 we hosted the Bath Vets. Thanks to all who donated baked goods. 12/02 Shirley, Sue & crew will do Festival of Lights Dinner. Stop in and greet our community. On the 6th we have our Auxiliary Xmas Party. Snacks will be provided, but please bring a \$5.00 gift for the exchange. On 12/08 Jackie Newhart and crew will host the Kids Xmas Party. Please sign up early.

This Christmas, all the volunteers that do whatever for the good of the Post, Unit, Squadron, or Community service, take a moment and pat yourself on the back. Nobody else will do it. Thank You One and All and Have a Safe & Merry Christmas.

Respectively Submitted, Marge Bennett

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

We have been advised there will be a change in 2006 because of increased Detachment Dues. Sons of the American Legion members under the age of 21 will be \$8.00. Squadron 770 members are putting on a raffle at this time with a prize of a digital camera and printer. Tickets for this fantastic prize that everyone could use may be purchased at the bar or from any Sons of the American Legion member. Lets give them our support during their fundraiser.

"WALK OF HONOR"

We have recently installed our latest batch of inscribed bricks. Along with the bricks, Harold Wright is locating our recently inscribed marker "Walk of Honor". The large flat marble slab was donated by Phil and Nan Colvin and their family and was inscribed by member Larry Weaver of Glenside Monument. We are currently working on a plan to put a chain from marble post to marble post around the "Walk of Honor" and Cannon Memorial. Because of the winter weather we are about to receive, we will not be putting in any more bricks before spring. However, you may still pick up an order form and send it in to be ready to install in the springtime. An inscribed brick for a veteran friend, loved ones, or family member is a great idea for a Christmas gift. It will be one, which will be displayed for our lifetimes.