



## *The Legion-Air*

**Anthony Solina**  
Commander

**Jim Bojanowski**  
Adjutant/Editor



thelegionair@gmail.com

May/June 2019

### **Commander's Message:**

It is hard to believe that this will be my last Commander's Message, the year certainly does move fast!

This past month has been busy with the many Post visitations I made. It has been a pleasure seeing the different Posts and various architectural styles of the respective buildings of those Posts I have never been to before. Also, meeting our fellow Legionnaires that I would not have had the opportunity to do otherwise was nice along with having some back and forth with them. Amongst the visitations was a trip to the MJ Brounshidle Post 205 that saw one of their Vice Commanders, Raymond Borawski, receive the Veteran of the Month award from State Sen. Jacobs. For the second month in a row I had the honor of witnessing this as County Sgt. At Arms Joe Cash earned that distinction last month. The first Friday and Saturday of April was the Gold Star Mother's Department Convention at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga. The Memorial Ceremony on Friday was very touching and somber. The dinner and program on Saturday were very well organized and Department President Holly Baker had some excellent remarks. We can be proud of the tremendous job the Color Guard from Newell-Faulkner Post 880 did both nights.

In May we have our annual Memorial Day ceremonies at Forest Lawn, decorating graves is at 8 followed by the ceremony at 9. Two days prior, on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> is the Gold Star Memorial Day Mass at Our Lady of The Sacred Heart on Abbott Road in Orchard Park. The Mass begins at 4:30 followed by a reception at Matthew Glab Post 1477. Please come out and show some strong American Legion support for these great families.

As a reminder, on June 14<sup>th</sup> there will be the 8<sup>th</sup> District Golf Tournament down at Vineyard Golf Course in Fredonia. Hope to see you there.

### **Membership – VC Gary Wald**

I sincerely thank our Commander Tony Solina, for asking me to chair membership. It has been a learning experience, and I truly enjoyed working with all of you.

The year is not over, and although it may have slowed to a trickle, memberships are still coming in. As of 4/25, the date of our County Meeting, Department of New York showed Erie County at 93.4% of goal.

This has been the year of change and modernization for the American Legion. The implementation of the computer for membership has greatly simplified the post membership chairman's job, and provided faster information than ever before. As the computer software and applications evolves through our organization, learn to embrace it, not fight it.

We currently have 7 Posts in the County at 100% or more according to the latest information from Department. A eighth Post is at 98.1%, another Post is at 97.3%, and another at 97.1%. Eleven other Posts are above 90%. We're in our final drive so please reach out to all your members who have not yet paid, and to your existing members to sign up a new member. Thanks go out to everyone for your hard work. Yours for The American Legion.

### **Editor's Note:**

Hats off to Jack Betz of Depew Post #1528 who has accomplished an enormous amount of graves registration work. Jack has been compiling cemetery records that cover deceased Veterans from the Indian Wars to present service for the last four years. The task included over 4,500 hours, walking 46,000 gravesites, and identifying more than 4,700 veteran's graves.

### **5/25 Gold Star Mother's Mass – John Kasmer**

Our Lady of Sacred Heart Parish 4:30 Mass located at 3144 Abbott Rd, Orchard Park, NY. Reception to follow at Matthew Glab Post #1477.

### **Memorial Day Services – VC George Barton**

5/27 Annual Services at Forest Lawn Cemetery will begin with graves decoration at 8 AM, with the Erie County Services starting at 9 AM. Please join us if you do not have Post Services at that time. New flags have been secured from the County and the City of Buffalo by our County Legion Office. Flag distribution to the Posts will be at Forest Lawn Cemetery Garage on May 17 from 10 AM to Noon.

### **Armed Forces Week**

Opening ceremony at Riverworks, Sunday May 5 at noon, luncheon Thursday May 9 at Salvatore's, Cost \$30, Ball will be Saturday May 18, Cost \$50. Contact John Kasmer for tickets at 634 – 1128.

### **Sunday, May 12: Mother's Day Breakfast**

**Buffet** at Concord Post #431, at 109 Zoar Valley Rd. Springville, NY. 8 AM TO NOON, Buffet includes: Scrambled eggs, Pancakes, gravy and biscuits, homemade breads/muffins, sausage, bacon, home fries, fruit, & toast. \$12 Adults, \$5 children 4-9, 3 and under free. Present for Mom!!

**Saturday May 25** Flea Market 9 AM to 3 PM at Matthew Glab Unit 1477 located at 1965 Abbott Rd., Lackawanna. Admission is Free. Join us we have a large variety of treasures. A Chiavetta Chicken BBQ will be available for \$10/p.

**Newell Faulkner Post #880 Honor / Color Guard presented Colors at the opening ceremony for the American Gold Star Family Convention with Holly Baker, Department of New York President.**



### **Erie County Commander Anthony Solina "Roast" Testimonial Dinner Saturday May 11**

at Matthew Glab Post #1477, 1965 Abbott Rd. Lackawanna, NY 14218. Cocktails 6:00 PM, Dinner at 7 PM, Cost \$25. Ticket deadline is Friday May 3. Send to Tom O'Connell, 299 Linden Ave., Buffalo, NY 14220. Make check payable to Tom O'Connell. Dress Legion Casual. NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR.

### **Special Activities – VC Thomas O'Connell**

I want to start by thanking all who took part in the sales of the 2019 calendars. We sold 877. If you have any calendars left please get them to me so we know they were not sold. I want to thank Commander Tony for my appointment.

### **Boy's State – VC Thomas O'Connell**

I want to thank all who help get the 40 boys who will attend this year's class. On June 8th we will hold the Boys State get together. A letter will be going out to tell the boys what is expected. They are asked to report to Post 1041, 533 Amherst St. by 9:30 AM and the breakfast served at 10:30 AM. All Post Commanders are also invited. This will be casual dress.

### **Special Notice**

WNY Heroes Inc invites all Veterans to the annual Veteran's Fishing Day. **Friday, June 28**, 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM Location is Chadwick Bay, 30 Centrall Avenue, Dunkirk, NY 14048. All fishing equipment is provided by the boat captain. Lunch is from 2:00 to 4:00. Fishing from 7 to 1 with biggest catch contest 1 to 2 PM. Contact Lynn at 716-630-5020 extension 202. The whole day is free for all Veterans.

**Thursday May 23 6:00 PM** South Park High School is honoring alumni who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our Country.

### **Paperwork DUE – Jim Bojanowski**

Consolidated Post Reports, Committee Chair Reports, County Post Delegate & Alternate, \$3.00 per name, District/Department Delegate & Alternate, \$10 per name, Officer Certification Form, Executive Delegate & Alternate, & National Delegates and Alternates.

**NYS Senator Chris Jacobs honored Brounshidle Post #205 VC Raymond Borawski as Veteran of the Month in April.**



**County Commander Anthony Solina extends congratulations to National SAL Commander Greg "Doc" Gibbs at his recent Homecoming.**



**Jim Bojanowski with Dawn Samuelson at Homestead Stables on 4/19 reviewing their Mental Health Veterans Therapy program. Call 716-338-5350 for info. Also [www.theneigh.org](http://www.theneigh.org)**



**Thursday County Meeting Dates**

Executive Dinner Meeting: 6:30 PM

Regular meeting starts approximately at 8 PM

**May 16, Iroquois Post #1587**

12789 Route 438, Irving, NY 14081, near Versailles Plank Rd. Menu: Full Turkey Dinner.

**June 1, Matthew Glab Post #1477**

**Erie County Convention**

**1965 Abbott Rd. Lackawanna, NY 14218**

Please support the convention with your ads, boosters, and your attendance.

Memorial Service 9 AM

Convention Start 10 AM

Registration from 8 AM to 11:30 PM

Past Commanders Club will have info on upcoming events and you can pay your dues.

**Saturday June 15 - 8<sup>th</sup> District Convention**

at Dunkirk Memorial Post #624

211 Central Ave. Dunkirk, NY 14048

11:00 AM – Nominating Committee Meeting

1:00 PM – Convention Start

Registration 10 AM to 1:30 PM

**NYS Department Convention – Buffalo NY**

Deadline for submission of ads & boosters for the Buffalo Department Convention is June 1.

Join us as the local committee has worked very hard to host our visitors across NYS for our

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention that will have

special related events. Sessions will begin at 9 AM mornings at the Hyatt Hotel Thursday 7/18

– Saturday 7/20, Bring out your Color Guard for the Friday 6:30 PM parade that will start in front of the Convention Center on Franklin St.

Submit your Post Dept. Delegates by 5/28.

**Erie County Website – [eriecountyal.org](http://eriecountyal.org)**

**Office Hours, M,W,F – 7:30 Am to 12:30 PM**



**SUBMISSIONS  
For the July  
"The Legion-Air"  
Due June 23  
[thelegionair@gmail.com](mailto:thelegionair@gmail.com)**



### Saturday May 4

ECAL Veterans For Veterans, Inc. hosting a Meat Raffle at the Niagara Frontier Post #1041, 533 Amherst St., Buffalo. Raffle begins at 7 PM. \$5 donation includes beer, pop and pizza. Proceeds to help Homeless Veterans. Also having a basket raffle. Call Anne at 592-3756 or Kathy 822-6121 if you have questions.

### Sunday May 12 – Mother’s Day Special

ALL YOU CAN EAT Pancake Breakfast at AJ Jurek Post #1672, 655 New Rd., Swormville, 8 AM to 12:30 PM. Fresh, hot, buttermilk pancakes, "Egglands Best" eggs, link & patty sausage, juice & coffee or tea. Adults \$8.

### Saturday May 18

Erie County Clerk Michael Kearns Thank A Vet Day at Sahlen Field. Free Veteran Bison’s tickets. 1:05 PM game. Call 858-4739. \$7 of each ticket sold goes to Post Restoration fund.

### Thursday, May 30

George F. Lamm Post #622, 962 Wehrle Dr. Williamsville, is having a Chiavetta’s Chicken BBQ from 4:30 – 7:30 PM \$10 per person.

### Wednesday June 19

Buffalo Veterans Stand Down at Key Bank Center 10 AM to 3 PM. Free, bring Military ID.

**South Buffalo Post #721** located at 136 Cazenovia St. Buffalo, 14210 is serving dinners every Monday night 5 – 8 PM.

### Francis Donovan Post #1626

3210 Genesee St. Cheektowaga 14225 serves our famous Friday fish fry 4-8, join us. On 5/3 Midlife Crisis Band, 5/17 Rockabilly Steve.

**Newell-Faulkner Post 880**, 2912 Legion Dr., Eden, 14057, Wednesday 75 cent wings, dine in only. Thursday steak night. Friday night fish fries and specials. Saturday pizza, wing's and sandwiches. Regular menu also Wed.-Sat. Go to kitchen link, [www.post880.com](http://www.post880.com).

Send in your articles for the Legion-Air to [thelegionair@gmail.com](mailto:thelegionair@gmail.com) by 6/23 for the July edition. PCC Jim Bojanowski Editor

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
The Erie County Committee  
609 City Hall  
65 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, NY 14202

PHONE: (716) 852-6500  
FAX: (716) 852-4664  
e-mail: [veteran14202@verizon.net](mailto:veteran14202@verizon.net)



### THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

