

Melvin Roads Post

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Private Gathering/ Hall
2 Private Party/Hall	3 Labor Day 2018	4 No Ladies Auxiliary	5 	6 Private Gathering	7 Hampton Manor Re- union 8-12PM Music in the	8 Private Gathering/ Hall/Wedding
9 Private Party/Hall	10 6:00pm Pub Poker	11 September 11th Ceremonies 12Noon 7:00pm SONS Mtg 7:30pm Post Mtg	12	13	14 8-12pm Music in the Lounge Marie Slagen	15 Private Gathering/ Wedding Riders' Poker Run 7-9pm Trivia
16 Private Party/Hall/ Wedding	17 6:00pm Pub Poker	18 Yom Kippur Begins	19	20	21 8-12pm Music in the Lounge with Johnny O	22 First Day of Fall Private Gathering
23	24 6:00pm Pub Poker	25	26	27	28 8-12pm Music in the Lounge Marie Slagen	29 Private Gathering/ Wedding
30 Gold Star Mother's Day Private Party						

Melvin Roads Post

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:00pm Pub Poker	2 7:00pm Ladies Auxiliary	3	4	5 8-12pm Music in the Lounge with Brian Z	6 Private Gathering/ Wedding
Private Gathering	8 Columbus Day 6:00pm Pub Poker	9 7:00pm SONS Mtg	10 	11	12 8-12pm Music in the Lounge with Marie Slagen	13
	15 6:00pm Pub Poker	16	17	18 Life Screening	19 8-12pm Music in the Lounge with Johnny O	20 Private Gathering/ High School Reunion Trivia 7-9, Karaoke
	22 6:00pm Pub Poker	23	24	25	26 8-12pm Music in the Lounge with Bob	27 Private Gathering
	29 6:00pm Pub Poker	30	31 Halloween	November 1st All Saints Day	November 2nd 8-12pm Music in the Lounge TBD	November 3rd

MELVIN ROADS POST 1231 NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018



Upcoming Events...

September 11th
Patriots Day
Ceremonies 12Noon

September 15th
Fonda Poker Run

November 10th
Comedy Night

November 11th
Veterans' Day
Ceremonies 1:00pm

November 16th
Turkey Raffle

December 9th
Breakfast with Santa

March 16th 2019
Legion's 100th
Anniversary Dinner

Commander's Message...

Dear Legionnaires:

A new year begins with more challenges. A real concern is that our small band of brothers that keeps the post functioning is getting smaller and smaller. Too few are doing too much! As an example, Ed Pratt is our Financial Officer, Chaplain, Historian, Boys' State Coordinator, Scholarship Coordinator and editor of this newsletter! We need others to step up to the plate and help out. And we are still looking for someone to fill a seat on the board of directors, and vice-commander positions.

Last year we raised funds for veterans causes with our turkey raffle, and this August we had a special bingo to support the Honor Flight program. This coming year is the American Legion's 100th anniversary of service to

our veterans. We will emphasize this throughout the year culminating with our annual dinner scheduled for March 16th, 2019. So The American Legion Birthday/Saint Patrick's Day Dinner and raffle will be our high point for next year. Please mark this date on your calendar now; let's have a great turn out.

I need to apologize for sending out the membership cards late this year. We encountered some problems with our mailing process but that has been straightened out. I appreciate your understanding. This is one more example of our need for assistance. I take care of the membership along with all the other demands of the office of commander.

We always are looking for help with our Wednesday night



Commander Hugh J. Blake

bingo. See information on this issue on page 2.

We have Congressman Paul Tonko coming to our September 11th ceremonies (see below).

As always, if you want to be in touch with me, you can send a letter in the mail to the Post to my attention or email me at

SEPTEMBER 11th CEREMONIES SCHEDULED FOR MELVIN ROADS

In This Issue....

Auxiliary, Sons, Riders News	Page 2
Bingo Report	Page 2
Availability of Lounge and Heroes Hall	Page 2
Fonda Poker Run	Page 3
Rensselaer County	Page 3
Board of Directors	Page 3
Post News Notes	Page 4

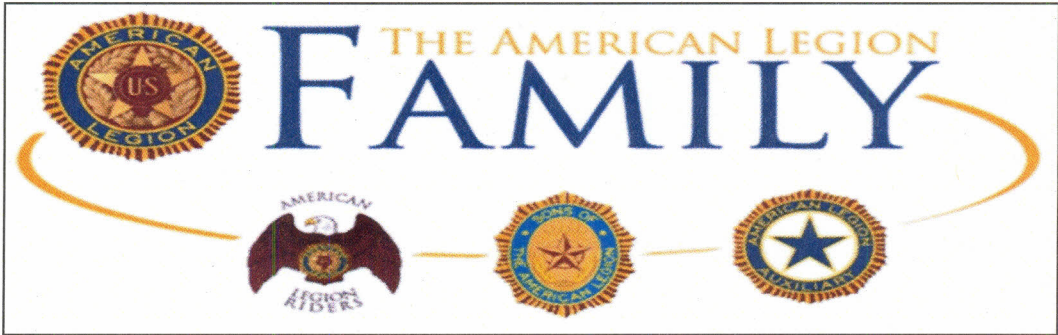
Each year since 2002 on September 11th, the Melvin Roads Post 1231 has hosted ceremonies commemorating the tragic events of September 11th, 2001 when the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and United Airlines Flight 93 were attacked by terrorists killing close to 3,000 innocent civilians and first responders with over 6,000 persons injured. President George W. Bush

and it has since been observed as a **National Day of Service and Remembrance**. At 12Noon that Tuesday at the Post, a solemn program of remembrance will be presented and the public is invited and encouraged to attend. Commander Hugh J. Blake commented that "It is the concern of the veterans of this Post that Americans are forgetting this tragedy and the attack on our nation. This is our way of keeping the memory of this tragic event on

Congressman Paul D. Tonko representing the 20th Congressional District has been invited to be the featured speaker and he has graciously accepted the invitation to attend. Other dignitaries of our community and county will also join us for the gathering. The Clinton Heights Fire Department will toll the bell in commemoration of the fire fighters who gave their all on the first September 11th. Post members are encouraged to bring along

**Workers needed for
Wednesday Night Bingo**

As you can read in the bingo report found on this page, our Wednesday night Bingo has been realizing a marked increase in attendance in the recent past and these figures seem to be holding steady. This is good news for the post, of course, as the monies realized from each event help to offset significant expenses incurred to keep our building and programs going. However, we are sorely in need of bingo workers. Please consider helping out to keep this critical asset to our post up and running. If you can volunteer two to three hours a week or even once every other week or month, your help would be more than appreciated. Please speak to Bob Doherty and let him know of your interest. It is imperative that we have 13 post members each week. There are two shifts, 5:30



Ladies Auxiliary...

Dear Auxiliary Members,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. Our planning meeting for the next year will be held on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 7pm.

Membership cards for 2019 are now available. Dues are \$25.00 payable to Melvin Roads Auxiliary, Unity 1231, and can be mailed to the Post at 200 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer, NY 12144 or you can renew online at alaforveterans.org.

Enjoy the rest of the summer days as we look forward to the Fall season.

From Linda Doherty, Membership Chair, on behalf of

From the Sons....

2019 membership cards are in so please renew yours ASAP! You don't need to wait for a notice (and it saves us dollars!). You can bring a check with your name and member number to the Legion/Post or mail to: Melvin Roads SONS of the American Legion, Attention: Dominic Indelicato, 200 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer, NY 12144. Membership is the most important program for any organization.

*Kevin Harrington
Commander
(kevinmrsq1231@aim.com)*



Bingo Report

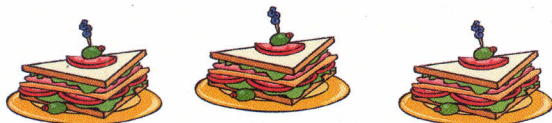
Melvin Roads Wednesday night bingo has been doing very well. Attendance has been up substantially and consistently. For the first six weeks of the third quarter there have been 707 players, or an average of 118. Gross income has been \$22,068; prizes offered \$16,200 not including the two special cover-alls, leaving \$5,029 available for paying post bills. And for this quarter to date we have paid \$5,993 bills of the Post. If you add the first and second quarter to this figure, \$22,516 in bills have been paid on behalf of the Post.

As noted in another column on this page, we are in critical need of volunteers to help with our bingo operation on Wednesday evening. We cannot under emphasize how important having a full crew available to make our bingos go smoothly. We have a reputation for a very well run bingo program—probably the

From the Riders...

Upcoming events on our Riders' schedule are as follows: September 15th is set for our annual poker run; registration for that day begins at 9am; kick-stands up at 11:00am. Our weekly rides are on Monday evenings; kick-stands up at 6:30pm. Our ride begins at the Stewart's on Columbia Turnpike near the Hoffman's car wash. Our Comedy Night has been scheduled for November 10th so set your calendars now! In the meantime, enjoy the first signs of the Fall season, a great time to ride in the

*Having a family get -together
in the future?
Or maybe a wedding or baby shower?
Or looking for a venue for an after-funeral
gathering?*



*Look no further than
our own Melvin Roads
Heroes' Banquet Hall
For all your catering needs
For further information, call our hostess
Leslie Millhouse
518 462—7006*

4th Annual Richard A. Fonda Memorial Poker Run September 15th

For the fourth year now, the Legion Riders are holding their annual Poker Run in memory of our deceased member and Rider, Rich Fonda. The date is Saturday, September 15th (rain or shine). Pre-registration is until 5pm, September 1st at the Post bar. Those who preregister will be able to draw one additional card at the end of the ride to substitute for a card already drawn if one chooses to do so. Cost is \$25 per operator, \$15 for passengers. Registration the day of the ride will begin at 9:30am to 10:45am. Father Tom Konopka, Pastor of St. Mary's Church will be here at this time to offer a blessing of the bikes. Kickstands up at 11am after a short safety/ride decorum briefing. Prizes will be offered for best/worst hands and there will be a 50/50 raffle and door prizes. Food and drink after the ride will be held at the post and is included in the registration fee.

The ride begins and ends at Melvin Roads Post, 200 Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush.

Proceeds will go towards Melvin Roads Chapter 1231 and its various veteran and community projects! Recently, the

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following is presented by George Basher, President of the Board of Directors of Melvin Roads American Legion Post 1231:

We hope everyone is having a great summer—we are now planning for the fall season here at Melvin Roads. Here are some of the projects we are working on:

- ◆ Purchasing and installing new cash registers for the front and back bars as well as one for a waitress station in the hall. This will not only improve our ability to track sales better but also automatically send food orders to the kitchen thereby eliminating the need for bartenders to walk orders back.
- ◆ Installing an overhead projector and large screen in the lounge for watching sporting events. Thanks go out to Matt Allen for the donation.
- ◆ Planning to change our Sunday hours as of September 6th when we will open at 11:00am and close at 8:00pm to accommodate the football season. We are looking to offer a pub menu on Sundays as well.
- ◆ Chef Al Pollock is upgrading the regular pub menu and will be adding a number of signature items exclusive to Melvin Roads—stop in and check it out!

Finally a huge "Thank You" to the folks who have volunteered their time and expertise to keep making repairs and improvements to the building: Ross Wilber, Jerry Buldock, Matt Allen, Bob Doherty, Steve

Rensselaer County Veterans Services

Bi-monthly the Rensselaer County Unified Family Services Veterans Service Agency mails out a newsletter that brings particular attention to information that would be of interest to our veterans. Director Peter K. Goebel and staff offer detailed announcements that enhance the life of our veterans and the services available to them. Here are a few points found in the most recent edition:

- ◆ Anyone who does not drive and needs to get a ride to the Albany VA Medical Center has available to them complimentary van transportation to and from the VAMC for most morning medical appointments. For details call 518 270-2760.
- ◆ There is a Veterans Crisis Line available to those who may need confidential support. Call 1-800-273-8255 or one can have a confidential chat at Veterans CrisisLine.net or text to 838255**. This service is available 7 days a week, 365 days a year for veterans and their loved ones.

Pub Poker every Monday and Thursday Eve, 6P.M!

*Line Dancing continues at Melvin Roads
September 10th at 6pm.*



Those who serve... and served

In each newsletter we are proud to publish the names of those from our community who are currently serving in the military of the United States. If you know of anyone else or if you know what follows is incorrect, please let us know:

**Vincent Catalfamo
George Corbari
Scott J. Collins
Ty Harrington
Jim Rosencrans
Mark Becker
Dan Yates, Jr.
Michael Burdette**

**Daniel Richardson
Spencer Boyd
Alicia Howard**

May They Rest In Peace:

Al Coons

**And our friend
Dylan Pollock**

**May they
Experience the Eternal
Light**

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Clinton Heights
Rensselaer, New York 12144

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E-Mail: melvinroads@nycap.rr.com
commandermelvinroads@gmail.com

**Honoring the men and women
of the United States Army,
Navy, Air Force,
Marines, Coast Guard,
Merchant Marines**

**Look! We're on the web at :
www.melvinroads1231.org**

*Lunch is being offered at Melvin Roads
Heroes' Lounge, on Fridays 11:30am to 2pm.
Bar Fare and Specials are available on
Monday thru Friday evenings, 5-8pm!*

Melvin Roads Post 1231 Newsletter

September/October 2018

Post News Notes.....

- Members are requested to **send their email address to the Post** so we can send along notices as well as this newsletter. Send that information to: commandermelvinroads@gmail.com.
- **Pub Poker** is held every Monday and Thursday evenings here at the Post. There is no admission charge! Our regular food menu is available.
- The **Queen of Hearts** continues to be a big hit at the Post. We've changed the date/time of the weekly drawings; they are now held Wednesday evening at 7:25pm, just before bingo begins! Until the Queen is "hit" the jackpot climbs weekly!
- Monthly, the Town of East Green-

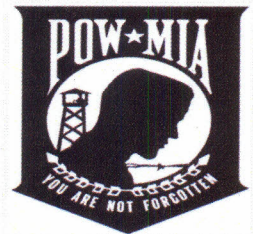
bush holds their **Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony**. Watch for the monthly recognition by going to the East Greenbush Town website. Recently honored were our own Herb Bauer, the Danner Family, Donald Clifford, Francis J. Condo and Joseph Bielawa.

- Commander Blake has reported that our **final membership renewal for 2018 was 92.11%**. Let's see if we can reach that 100% goal for 2019. Renewal cards were mailed by National during the summer. Send your renewal dues to Commander Blake here at this Post address.
- Melvin Roads Post recently received a "thank you" from the **Goff Middle School for supporting their Sci-**

ence Olympiad Team.

- The 100th Anniversary of the **American Legion** will be this coming

for



March 2019! Watch details planning our



**Melvin Roads Post 1231
200 Columbia Turnpike
Rensselaer, New York 12144**