

Melvin Roads Post 1231

Post 1231 Newsletter

April May 2014



Commander's Message

Upcoming Events:

- **April 24th Post Family Officers Meet with Board**
- **April 26th Line Dancing**
- **May 24th Memorial Day Parade**
- **June 7th Annual Installation and Service Awards Dinner**

Dear Legionnaires:

I want to thank everyone that participated in our St. Patrick's Day/Legion Anniversary party. It was a great success as so many made the effort to come, enjoy the evening and support the Post. We have so much to offer here!

We are coming into the biggest part of the administrative year. The process for the nomination and election of new officers for the Post is underway as is for the other members of the Legion family.

But just as importantly, we recognize that Memorial Day is in the not-too-distant future which means the placing of flags on the graves of our honored deceased veterans and the East Greenbush Memorial Day Parade (May 24th), this year under the guidance of our friends at the VFW Post. June brings us Armed Forces Day and our annual Installation of Officers and Service Award Recognition Dinner to be held June 7th. Details are not yet complete, but we hope you mark your calendar now and



plan on being with us!

Patrick J. Vallee Commander

Board of Directors continues to address concerns

Melvin Roads Post continues to confront a serious crossroads in its operations. Recently, the Board of Directors presented to all the officers of the Post Family (Auxiliary, SAL, Riders) a comparative financial report. Our efforts during 2007, 2008 were put up against 2012, 2013 and in general there has been a decrease of 50% in all sources of income, while expenses have increased. Fortunately, the

Board had a Money Market account that could be drawn upon to make up our significant differences (loss of \$48,000 in 2013). But that Money Market has been drained dry! While we do have \$100,000 in investments, we still owe over \$80,000 on our mortgage which is just less than 10 years out. The Post family will be meeting once again on April 24th to get a financial report on this year's

first quarter. While there has been an improved financial picture, we are not out of the woods.

Another issue confronting the Post is the Board itself. One member has resigned, two who are up for election are choosing not to run, and another board member may be moving out of the area. With the change in Commanders, the Board of Directors will have a very different make up next yr.

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The SONS continue holding Fish Fry Friday's during the Lenten season. Running every Friday until April 18th, Fish fries with French fries and Cole slaw will be offered. Also, hamburgers, hot dogs, clam roll dinners are on the menu. Eat in or take out. Doors open at 5pm and run until 8pm.

The SONS are pleased to announce that Detachment Commander John Chang will be holding his homecoming at Melvin Roads Post, June 28th.

The **American Legion Riders (ALR)**, a family oriented motorcycling activity, was founded to promote the aims and purposes of the American Legion. ALR is known for many charitable works and has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support wounded service members. The Riders will have a presence at the East Greenbush Memorial Day Parade, May 24th.

Ladies Auxiliary will hold a Ginger Bread house raffle for Easter. The annual distribution of poppies is in the works and the Memorial Day parade is on the schedule for May 24th.



Play Ball! Melvin Roads American Legion Baseball Team is gearing up for the 2014 season. Recently the athletes gathered at the Post to complete their paperwork and get their instructions from Manager Marc Peluso and General Manager, Matt Murphy. There are 17 players in all, students from Columbia, Troy High, Niskayuna, CBA, Rensselaer High, Averill Park and Hudson High School. A 32 game schedule begins June 4th. Home games will once again be played at Legion Field in Albany. The season will include tournaments in Sherrill, NY and Saratoga Springs—Coopers Cave Tourney—which attracts 24 teams from throughout the state. Assisting Marc will be coaches Curtis Nobles and Casey Job.

If you are considering your estate, why not include Melvin Roads Post 1231 in your remembrances. We are a 501 (c) (19) charity per the IRS.

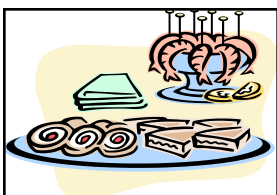
How would you like to win a "Wheelbarrow of Cheer!" One is being raffled off at the Post. Tickets can be purchased in the lounge for \$1.00/ ticket or 10 for \$5.00. Drawing will be Saturday, May 24th. All proceeds will benefit the Post Building Fund.

Having a family get - together in the future?

Or maybe an office party?

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

Call our hostess Ginny Brockley for info at (518) 527-4278



Queen of Hearts Continues

This past January, we had a grand prize winner on our first attempt at the Queen of Hearts. An individual walked off with \$12,000! That's right! We continue this game of chance here at the Post. Tickets are \$1.00 each. The grand prize pool increases weekly until the Queen of Hearts is drawn from a sealed deck of 54 cards displayed at the Post. This time around

there is a little better incentive to play: when any 2,3,4, or 5 is drawn, the winner gets 5% of weekly sales. Any 6,7,8, or 9, 6% of weekly sales, Any 10, Jack or King, 8% of weekly sales, Any Ace, 10% of weekly sales, Any Joker, 15% of weekly sales and any Queen other than Hearts, 20% of weekly sales. The grand prize shall be 60% of the grand prize pool up to 60% of \$25,000. Tickets on sale in the Lounge.

Bingo Report

Dan Holmes, who along with Bob Doherty chair our Wednesday night Bingo has given us an update on the proceeds of this critical fund raising effort of the Post: For January-February, there were 777 players. Gross receipts: \$21,598; Prizes were \$16,100 for a net profit of \$5,498. Beginning March 5th, the total prize monies awarded each night was increased to \$2,700.

Annual Installation Dinner set for June 7

The **Annual Installation and Service Awards Banquet is scheduled for Saturday evening, June 7th.** All newly elected officers for the Post, Board of Directors, Ladies Auxiliary, Legion Riders and Sons of the American Legion will be installed during the formalities of the evening. Service Awards will be presented to those who have continuous service to the Legion; Certificates and pins will be presented to several members who have 25, 40 and 60 years

of continuous membership. Hor'doeuvres will be served at 5:00pm which will include bread and cheese, a veggie tray and dip. A Turkey Dinner served family style will commence at 6:00pm. Beer and Soda are free all evening. (Tickets prices have yet to be set as of this writing.) Life Members and Past Commanders are entitled to one free ticket for themselves. Entertainment will follow. We hope to see many of our members from throughout the Legion Family at this most important Post function.

Post Hosts Tues-Fri Lunch Menu

Lunch is Served! This past fall, the Board of Directors of Melvin Roads Post began to offer a lunch opportunity at the Post. From 11:30AM to 2PM, Tuesday thru Friday our luncheon chef, Caitlin Morris has been offering an appetizing menu with specials every day! The price is modest and as always, bar drinks are available.

We encourage members to patronize this new feature at Melvin Roads. Your presence will go a long way not only toward promoting our programs but provide additional revenues that will help us achieve financial stability! Caitlin is also offering bar fare, Fridays from 4pm to 7:30pm.

Bingo Wednesday's 7:30pm!

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 email us*

Robert Brockley
Vincent Catalfamo
George Corbari
Alicia Howard

Chris Whalen
Scott J. Collins
Glenn Robinson
Danielle Richardson
Caroline Cleveland
Josh Spath
Nick Monuteaux
Robert Kleamovich III
Jim Rosencrans
Brittany Hellwig
Justin Edberg
Kyle Anderson

Line Dancing Events Scheduled at Post

On Saturday, April 26th Kevin Richards, D J with WGNA will host "Line Dance Party 2014." A similar event at the end of March was a huge success! Wrist band is \$10 for the evening. Bring your friends and enjoy dancing to your favorite Country Songs. Our "Post Country Team" will have some great snacks to take away the hunger pains and "The Post Bar Staff" will also be ready to serve up your favorite beverage to wet your whistle. Come on down, spin your partner 'round and just have an evening of fun.

Chaplain's Corner

My wonderful Comrades

We must remember that there is a God that is a lot more personal to us than anyone we know. Most precious sacred God we pray daily and with consistency to you that we may constantly grow in our relationship with you and be strong knowing that we can count on you in battle or personal to bring us through the midst of the thick of things. Bless all of our American Legionnaires and people throughout the world who cry unto you as the little children as they may know that such is the Kingdom of GOD that come unto me for the kingdom will be theirs. Please Lord remember all of our members who have passed on to your heavenly home and comfort them along with the families who mourn for we know you will comfort them.

Br. Robert-Francis Matthews, Fsd, Chaplain

Welcome Home
Melvin Roads Post 1231
Member
Major Paul Bednzaryk
From Oman, Jordan

Mark Becker
Grant Staats
Michael Burdette
Spencer Boyd
Matt Raymond
Sean Markham
Joshua Stickle
Michael Sciarrino
Bill Daniels
Jerry Mulaney

May they Rest In Peace:
March 21, 2104
Miron "Mike: Michela



This year's **Legion Birthday (95th!) and St. Patrick's Day Celebration Banquet** was an overwhelming success! Over 150 members, guests, friends all filled Heroes' Hall for food, fun, music and raffles. Beverly Baker and Michelle LaRock were co-chairs and did a great job organizing and making this event happen! Thanks so much!

Melvin Roads Post 1231

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**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 now being offered at Melvin Roads
Heroes' Lounge, Tues—Fri, 11:30am to 2:00pm
Join us!*

Melvin Roads Post 1231 Newsletter, April May 2014

Post News Notes.....

- **Wednesday is Bingo Night** at Melvin Roads. There has been an "uptick" in attendance allowing us to increase the total prize money to \$2,700 not including the two casinos. Members of the Post Family are encouraged to stop by anytime after 5:30pm to assist. There is always a job for anyone who can offer their time for this important fund-raising effort.
- The **Memorial Day Parade** has been set for May 24th starting at 10AM. The VFW is taking the lead this year so the parade route will be up Columbia Turnpike from the bowling center to the Hayes Road Cemetery and then to the VFW Post. We look for a good turnout of American Legion Post members!
- Members are requested to **send their email address to the Post** so we can

send along notices as well as this newsletter. Send to

melvinroads@nycap.rr.com

- *The **Capital District YMCA** is offering a generous membership option to Veterans and their families. An individual who presents proof of their veteran status can join the Y for half price and the membership fee is waived. Further, the family rate is reduced by 50% also! For further information, contact Chris Mallison at the Greenbush Y at 477-2570.*
- We have been informed that a scholarship opportunity is being offered by Saratoga Eagle in conjunction with Budweiser. The Folds of Honor Foundation is offering two \$5,000 scholarships for

children and spouses of military service men and women killed or disabled while serving our great nation. Details may be found at www.foldsofhonor.org/childrens-fund. Or by calling 918-274-4700.

- Paid Up For Life membership may be easily obtained by going online: www.legion.org/join/pufl.



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200 Columbia Turnpike
Rensselaer, New York 12144**