

Melvin Roads American Legion

Post 1231 Newsletter February/March 2012

A word from our Commander....

Upcoming Dates

- February 5th Super Bowl Party
- February 24th, Fish Fry Friday's begin
- February 25th Special Karaoke/TRIVIA NIGHT
- March 17th Legion Birthday, St. Patrick's Day Party
- Lunch Every Thursday from 12N to 2:00pm in Lounge
- Karaoke every Friday evening

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Dear Legionnaires:

As the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan come to an end let's face it the majority of Americans have a very short memory. Given that fact, I think we need to address something that affects us as veterans in the political arena. I'm not talking about any specific political persuasion, I'm speaking of those that don't do the right thing when it comes to veterans, military personnel and their families. A good example of what I'm talking about is the issue surrounding the Blue Water Navy vets who served on hundreds of vessels off the coast of Vietnam. By doing so they—just like those “in-country”—were exposed to Agent Orange through the drinking water supplies which came from Vietnam. Bill H.R.

3612, The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2011, would allow blue water veterans who served up to 12 miles off-shore in Vietnam presumptive coverage for Agent Orange exposure. This would enable them to receive Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits if they have suffered from any of the diseases the U.S. government has linked to Agent Orange. This legislation is about 10 years overdue and if it were not for the American Legion and Vietnam Veterans of America it would never have been brought forward.

Let's face it we have to look out for each other which means getting veterans the services they need and deserve. So we need to follow this legislation and inform our representatives



Commander Dan Yates

of our support for it to make sure veterans are getting what they need even in a volatile economic and political climate. We were there when our country needed us, we need to be sure the government is there for us now.

Commander Dan Yates

Super Bowl Party February 5th

Melvin Roads Post will once again hold a Super Bowl Party in the Lounge. All are welcome to attend. We will be offering 2 for 1 on beers and well drinks. If you would like, bring a covered dish to share with old and new friends; there is a sign up list on the Lounge bulletin board. These items will be placed out buffet style 30 minutes before kick-off

and remain out until half time.. Jell-O shots will be available for purchase.

We will have many games to play throughout the evening such as Word of the Quarter, Trivia questions and Final Score Prediction. All winners will receive a prize.

The Super Bowl between the

New England Patriots and the New York Giants is scheduled for Sunday, February 5th in Indianapolis, Indiana at Lucas Oil Stadium (with retractable roof). Kick-off is scheduled for 6:25pm.

Remember that our LOUNGE IS ALWAYS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Pass the word and invite family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to join us for a fun time.

Ladies Auxiliary News.....



Auxiliary President Linda Doherty has extended a word of gratitude to all who donated to the Auxiliary December Ham Raffle Fundraiser. She reports that the proceeds will help fund various projects and training programs for auxiliary officers and members.

Auxiliary members are reminded that monthly meetings are the first

Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm and all are encouraged to attend (refer to the Post's monthly calendar).

The Auxiliary Department of New York offers many scholarships for high school seniors to apply for. Our scholarship applications have been dropped off at Columbia High School for students to pick up and complete. Submitted applications must be

received by The Ladies Auxiliary at 200 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer, NY 12144 by March 1st, 2012. The applications are then sent on to the Department of New York's Education Committee for a final decision. Seniors should check with their Guidance Council Office for more information.



SONS and Riders News....

The Melvin Roads Post Squadron of the American Legion will be holding Fish Fry Fridays again during the upcoming Lenten season. It all starts Friday, February 24th and goes through Friday, March 30th.

The next Rensselaer County SONS meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 7th at 7:00pm at the Wynantskill Post.

The Sons monthly meeting at Melvin Roads is held the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm in the Squadron Room. All members are encouraged to attend.

The Melvin Roads Post Legion Riders meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Auxiliary Meeting Room. All members are urged to attend the monthly meetings.



Legion Birthday Gathering, St. Patrick's Day, March 17th

The Annual Legion Birthday coupled with the St. Patrick's Day Celebration has once again been scheduled at Melvin Roads Post. The date is March 17th, Saturday evening, from 5:30pm on. Participants will have the choice of entrees. Beer, Wine and Soda are included.

Music will be provided from 7:30pm to 11:30pm. Tickets will be available in the Post Lounge; call the Lounge for the specific date they go on sale. Tickets must be purchased NO Later than March 12th so that the committee can plan accordingly.

We've all heard of **Hospice Care**. This is a most comforting way for persons to experience the sunset of their days. The VA Hospital in Albany has a hospice unit. For information about hospice, you are invited to visit www.visn2.va.gov/gec/ai.asp or call the Stratton VA, 113 Holland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208 at 518-626-5000.

Our Banquet Hall has several open dates and is an ideal location for family, business or community gatherings.

Call our hostess Ginny Brockley and learn more.

Ginny can be reached at

527-4278.



POW/MIA We Will Never Forget

Florida Melvin Roads Post Member Honors two Vets

(The following letter was received from Melvin Roads Post member Frank E. Curthoys. It is reprinted here with his permission).

"I found these two veterans seeking out a living doing auto motive work on a dirt road. No car left but they did want to work and earn a living. They both have physical problems and injuries. They find it hard to get regular work with the big guys.

I thought this was a good time to cheer some one up for

'Christmas.' I thought it would be a good time for my part to do something for them so I donned my Melvin Roads Post uniform and [bought each a gift] and pizza pie. I told them their gifts were from Melvin Roads Post #1231 New York. They were surprised and very happy to receive the attention and presents. 'Troy Hicks said [I] never thought anything like this would happen to them.' He said thank the post for thinking of them. I said I would. The three of us in

the picture represent WW 2, Korea and Vietnam. When I looked at their faces I knew we did the right thing at the right time..

P.S. If you want to use this in our news letter its ok by me. It might stir up some emotion in the guys at the post. If anything it gave me great joy doing it for fellow vets."

Regards, Frank



Pictured from left, Charley Moehan, Troy M. Hicks and Frank E. Curthoys. Frank is a member of Melvin Roads Post 1231.

Web Site Offers More

The Web Site Committee of Melvin Roads has been meeting regularly to improve our web site (melvinroads1231.org). New with this issue of our newsletter is an on-line calendar that has interactive features. A printed version is included with the mailed newsletter. The committee is made up of Kevin Harrington, Ed Pratt, Craig McIntosh, Bill and Beverly Baker and Anne Harrington.

To All Melvin Roads Patrons:

The Board of Directors at Melvin Roads Post regret to inform our patrons of the necessity of a price increase on most of our product sold at the bar.

Over the past three years the post has absorbed all of the price increases by our distributors. With the on set of a new year, they have chosen again to increase the prices on most of our wines, liquors and beers and reduced our profits to almost nothing. With that in mind, we have no recourse but to increase our current prices. With but a few exceptions most increases will be a modest twenty-five cents per drink.

We wish to thank everyone and all of our patrons for their past patronage, and hope they will continue on as our patrons and allow us to continue to serve their needs.

The Board of Directors

Those who serve.... And served

In each bi-monthly newsletter we are proud to publish the names of those 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 at melvinroads@nycap.rr.com:

Robert Brockley, Vincent Catalfamo, George Corbari, Joshua Getz, Alicia Howard, Chris Whalen, Scott J. Collins, Glenn Robinson, Danielle Richardson, Dawn Denton, John Rossello, Caroline Cleveland, Jason Sanabria, Josh Spath, Nicholas Monu-

teaux, Robert Kleamovich III, Jim Rosencrans, John Clements, Glen Stagnitta, Brittaney Hellwig, Fredy Tellocastillo, Tyson Quink, Tera Quink, Aaron Bentley, Justin Edberg and Kyle Anderson.

May they rest in peace....

Arthur Lee Carkner, Jr.

Gerald J. Hart, Sr.

George Hepinstall, Jr.

Howard L. Grogan

200 Columbia Turnpike
Clinton Heights
Rensselaer, New York 12144

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

**Take a look at our website
www.melvinroads1231.org**

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News Notes....

- The February meeting of the Rensselaer County Committee will be at the Nassau Post 1268, February 15th.
- The March meeting of the Rensselaer County Committee will be at the S & S Barrett Post 1881, North Greenbush Post, March 21st.
- Several families have used the Post Lounge for a family gathering after a funeral service. Please call us so we can be helpful in your hour of need.
- Members who are behind on their dues are urged to contact Membership Representative, Pat Vallee at the Post (see mailing address and phone number on masthead (above)). Annual dues are \$32.00.
- Members who have email are asked to

send their address to melvinroads@nycap.rr.com so that the newsletter can be emailed to you saving not only the Post postage but also allowing you to have the newsletter in color and our now interactive calendar.

From our Chaplain....

O God our common Heavenly Father, as we seek by your grace to be good Legionnaires, help us to do justice to all our ministrations to the sacred memory of all veterans of all wars, but more especially to give our all to eliminate the necessity of their being in days to come—veterans of those greater scourges by which people are beset today—poverty, addiction, disease and indifference toward the things of the spirit. For we pray in your Holy Name. Amen

Brother Robert-Francis Matthews, fsd

The **Paul Donnelly Scholarship** offers \$1,000 given each year to a college student who is a son/daughter, grandson/granddaughter of a Legion Member, Auxiliary or Squadron. Applications are available at the Post and must be submitted by

March 1st.



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