



Melvin Roads Post 1231

Post 1231 Newsletter

June/Summer 2015



Commander's Message...

Hello Legion Family...

Another year has passed us by and I would like to thank all the members who made my first year as your Commander a successful one. We have seen many changes at the Post and have seen a great increase in our members working together as one Legion family. There are so many people I would like to thank for their assistance, but I am afraid I would leave someone out so here I just say thank you; I will thank you personally as I see you. If you have not seen the physical improvements to the lounge area I highly suggest stopping in and taking a look.

In regards to offices and elections, I thank the members once again for electing me to a second term and I look forward to continuing our efforts to improve upon past accomplishments.

Here are the newly elected Post officers for 2015-2016: Commander, Beverly Baker; 1st Vice Commander, Ross Wilber; 2nd Vice Commander, *Vacant*; 3rd Vice Commander, *Vacant*; Finance Officer, George Basher.

Appointed positions: Adjutant, Michelle LaRock; Sergeant-at-Arms, Matthew Allen; Chaplain, Brother Robert Francis; Historian, *Vacant*.

As you can see we have vacancies in the position for 2nd and 3rd Vice Commanders. If you are able and willing to hold one of these offices, please let us know at our next meeting which is the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. Please come and show support for the Post. We also have positions open on the Board of Directors and are looking for fresh ideas and assistance in these areas. As always we encourage participation by our membership in the various activities we support. If you are not already on our email list, please email melvinroads1231@nycap.rr.com with your full name, Post entity (Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons), and your email address and we will place you into the system to receive emails of Post activities and announcements.

Sadly I must also report that over the past year we have lost several members in the Legion



Commander Bev Baker

Family; their loss has created a void within us. We honor the memories of our fallen comrades by carrying on the Legion tradition of support for our members, their families, and our communities for which we live in and serve. When we lose a comrade we must remember that they may be gone in body, but never in spirit. We thank them for their service to their country and to their fellow Legion members. God Bless them, God Bless their families, and God Bless America.

As we look to the new year, we need everyone's voice as we make decisions for the good of the Post and the American Legion. I look forward to working with the Post Family and serving our Veterans.

Bev Baker

Installation Dinner set for June 6th

Melvin Roads Annual Installation and Service Awards Banquet is set for Saturday, June 6th in our Heroes' Banquet Hall beginning at 5PM. All newly elected officers for the Post, Ladies Auxiliary, SONS and Riders will be installed that evening.

Service Awards will be presented to those who over several continuous years have been

members of the American Legion. Tickets are on sale in the lounge for \$20. The purchase of a ticket entitles the holder to hor'dourves, dinner, beer and soda in the banquet hall during the evening's events. A lasagna dinner will be served at 6PM. Following the dinner and awards, all are invited into the lounge for entertainment by Face the Music.

Upcoming Events:

- **June 6th Annual Installation and Service Awards Dinner**
- **June 11th Flag Retirement**
- **June 14th Flag Day**
- **June 15th Executive Committee**
- **Fourth of July**
- **July 25th 100 Mile Poker Run**

Inside this issue:

- Auxiliary, SONS, Riders News **2**
- Poker Run Scheduled **2**
- Flag Retirement **2**
- Boys' State **3**
- Chaplain's Corner **3**
- For those who serve...and served **3**
- Post News Notes **4**

Melvin Roads Ladies Auxiliary President, Lori McFarland offers the following: "I would like to thank the members of my unit for once again honoring me by my election as your President once again. I would also like to announce my officers for the year of 2015-2016: 1st Vice President is Leslie Millhouse; 2nd Vice President, Lynn Rossello; Secretary, Barbara Fonda; Treasurer, Linda Dougherty; Chaplain, Helene Reed; Historian, Dee Conner; Sgt-at-Arms, Cheryl DeRusso. At the same time I would like to congratulate the new officers of the Legion, Sons and Riders. Thanks is extended to my unit for all their help throughout the year; with everything we had done it was a great year and we are looking forward to another. I thank the Legion, Sons and Riders

for their help throughout the year, and to let all know our unit will continue supporting everyone in maintaining this great organization moving forward.

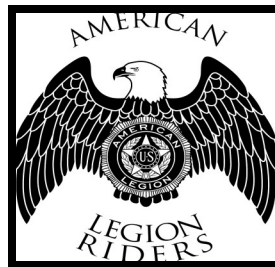
Ladies, just want to let you know that dues are payable; please make sure you get them in; also if you receive a notice from National in regards to dues, please disregard as dues are paid on the unit level, and then that is sent to Department (state). Every year National sends out dues reminders, and once in a while someone sends it to them, and then it takes an army to get the money back. When you pay your dues to unit our Treasurer will provide you with your membership card.

Also a reminder that Convention is coming up in July and I will be attending from our unit. I will provide all new information that is voted on back to our next meeting in September.

The 4th of July is coming and I hope that we can do something big at the Legion. We will discuss this with the other members of the MR family. Remember to fly your American Flags during Flag Day and the 4th of July. Have a great summer and we look forward to see you again in September." President Lori McFarland.



Melvin Roads Sons thank the Legion Post and Ladies Auxiliary who helped out during



various events this past year. Commander Bill Baker notes, "We look forward to continuing this family spirit and congratulate the newly elected Post and Auxiliary Officers and extend our gratitude to last year's officers."

Commander Baker congratulates the SONS officers for 2015-16: Commander, Bill Baker; 1st Vice Commander, Dominic Indelicato; 2nd Vice, Paul Rossello; 3rd Vice, Dennis Helmes; Treasurer, Kevin DeRusso; Sgt-at-Arms, Jack Cain; Chaplain, Jim Williams; Squadron Mom, Annie Harrington; Webmaster, Kevin Harrington. In light of the elections, Bill's hope is that "...we become better Sons of The American Legion as we learn and teach by words and deeds the principles of Justice, Freedom, Democracy and Loyalty... Keep up the good work as you carry on assisting the Legion for God and Country."

100 Mile Poker Run Scheduled by Melvin Roads' Riders

The Melvin Roads Post **American Legion Riders** have scheduled a 100 mile Poker Run for Saturday, July 25th. Registration at Melvin Roads Post, 200 Columbia Turnpike, is set for 9:30am that morning. The Ride will begin at 11:00am. All should be returning to the Post 3:30/4:00pm when food and refreshments will be available. Funds raised in this effort will go toward programs that offer Veterans' support.

The Riders also remind everyone to look for word on the annual comedy night which is being planned for the fall season. More information will be in the next [September] Newsletter.

Flag Retirement Set for June 11th

In conjunction with Flag Day June 14th, on Thursday evening, June 11th Melvin Roads Post will hold their formal flag retirement ceremony. It will begin at 6PM behind the East Greenbush Town Hall on Southern Avenue. All members of the Post family and the wider community are encouraged to attend. Anyone who wishes to retire worn American flags are invited to bring them to the ceremony. The Clinton Heights Fire Department will assist with the extinguishment of the remains. Following the ceremonies all are invited back to the Post at 200 Columbia Turnpike for pizza and beverages.

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
Call our hostess
Leslie Millhouse
518 462-7006



Boys' State Delegates Set for Melvin Roads

Stephen R. Reilly and David Q. Sills, will be Melvin Roads Post's delegates to the 2015 New York Boys' State Program. Here's a brief bio of each:



Stephen Reilly is a Junior at Columbia High School and is very interested and excited to be attending Boys' State. He is applying to the Naval Academy at Annapolis and feels this program will be most beneficial to him. Both of his grandfathers are veterans of World War II; his maternal grandfather, John Curran, served in the Army from 1945-1948. His paternal grandfather, Richard Reilly, served in the Air Force from 1950-1954. Stephen himself has always been interested in being in and around water; he also is hoping to be able to apply for the aviation program with the Navy. Asked how he heard of Boys' State, he said when he visited the Naval Academy recently, he was invited to shadow a midshipman for two days. In their

conversation he was told that Boys' State is held in high regard and that he ought to consider applying for it. Stephen is on Columbia's Lacrosse team, and enjoys the core STEM subjects in his high school curriculum.

David Sills, like Stephen, is a well-rounded young man. He



heard of Boys' State from the Guidance Office at Columbia and especially as it was promoted by Principal John Sawchuck. He has a great interest in World History and is now studying U.S. History. He plans to pursue a degree in law. Dave plays Varsity Tennis at Columbia, and recently participated in the Section 2 Championships. Additionally, he is an accomplished musician on multiple instruments. He has been taking piano lessons since second grade and plays in the jazz band at school. He also plays the clarinet, which he intends to bring to Boys' State.

Like Stephen, David has a rich family history of military service. His maternal grandfather, Paul J. Quinn, served in the Navy in both the Pacific and European theaters

during World War II. His paternal grandfather, Stephen J. Sills, was a flight surgeon in the Air Force during Vietnam. And his great-grandfather, Frank B. Quinn served in the Army during World War I. And incidentally he was a lifelong member of the American Legion

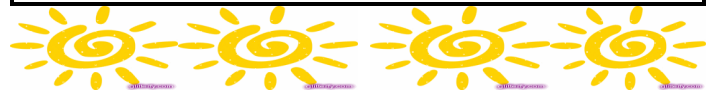
virtually from its inception!

As in the past, the New York State Boys' State Program will be held on the campus of Morrisville College. The dates are June 26th thru July 2nd. Melvin Roads Post wishes Stephen and David great success in this program and beyond!

Post Seeking Part Time Bookkeeper

For probably as long as anyone can remember, the bookkeeping and finances of the Post, that is, the business end, has been handled by several volunteers. Unfortunately, that task has evolved into a time-consuming responsibility even for a willing volunteer. The Post is advertising for a part time bookkeeper (below); if you or someone you know might be interested, please pass this information on:

Melvin Roads American Legion Post, 200 Columbia Turnpike, is looking for a PT bookkeeper (10-15hrs/wk) to begin no later than mid-July. Computer/organizational skills are a necessity. Familiarity with Quicken a plus. A modest hourly rate can be offered. Send information to melvinroads@nycap.rr.com, or call 518 462-7006 and ask for Steve or Ed.



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
Grant S. Staats
Evan Staats
Chris Urmston
George Corbari
Alicia Howard
Chris Whalen
Scott J. Collins
Josh Spath

Nick Monuteaux
Robert Kleamovich III
Sean Markham
Joshua Stickle
Michael Sciarrino
Alicia Endres
Jarrold Dolan
Derek Mazurek
Keenan Krenzer
Jake K. Schultz
Mark Becker
Dan Yates, Jr.
Matt Raymond
Tim Ryan
Michael Woods

Chaplain's Corner

May God continue to Bless our brothers and sisters of Melvin Roads Post! The Lord is kind and merciful and brings us most joyous peace and harmony as we go forward in our work. I thank you all for the prayers for my child, Noel! She is now at Cheryl's house enjoying the family at pool side. All of the Friars at the monastery prayed for her and when I came back I could feel God's Blessings upon her and our family from all of the prayers. Noel is resting with hydro codeine and though I lost three sons with cancer I feel God's Grace is sufficient as Job had felt! May God Thank you and Bless you all!

Brother Robert Francis, Fsd

May He Rest In Peace:

January 2015
Herbert E. James

Melvin Roads Post 1231

200 Columbia Turnpike
Clinton Heights
Rensselaer, New York 12144

Phone: 518-462-7006
Fax: 518-462-5250
E-Mail: melvinroads@nycap.rr.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 now being offered at Melvin Roads
Heroes' Lounge, Wed—Fri, 11:30am to 2:00pm
And we now have Bar Fare Wed-Fri 5-7pm and
Sundays from 2pm to 7:30pm!*

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Post News Notes.....

- **Wednesday is Bingo Night** at Melvin Roads. There has been a steady increase in attendance with total prize money at \$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. Bingo is a critical source of funding for the Post; it cannot be taken for granted.*
- 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: melvinroads1231@nycap.rr.com.
- The 2015 Membership Campaign for the American Legion is quickly coming to a close. The 2016 dues notices should be in the mail in early July 2015. If you have not paid your 2015 dues yet, please

make every effort to put Melvin Roads over the top once again!

- Improvements continue to be made at the Post. Recently, the Ladies Auxiliary room was gutted of the carpeting and a new tile floor put down by Steve Shannon, Ross Wilber, Phil Hanafin, Al Coons, and Jerry Bolduc. Members of the Auxiliary painted the room. The ceiling will be addressed next. And we are also grateful for the work at the monument near our front entrance. Again, Steve and Ross, "great job."
- The members of Squadron #1231 congratulate SAL member Dan Yates Jr. Dan recently graduated from Army Basic Training at Fort Benning, Georgia and has been assigned to Fort Hood, Texas. Dan is the son of our Past Commander, Dan Yates!



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