

Melvin Roads Post 1231*Winter***Post 1231 Newsletter
November/December 2016, January 2017****Upcoming Events:****November 8th
Election Day****November 10th Interact
Club Presentation****November 11th
Veterans Day****November 12th
Adult Comedy Night****November 18th
Turkey Raffle****November 24th
Thanksgiving Day****December 7th
Pearl Harbor
Remembrance Day****December 11th
Breakfast with Santa****December 16th
Ham Raffle****December 17
Post Christmas Gathering****December 24th
Holiday Gathering****December 25th
Christmas Day****December 31st
New Years Eve Party****January 1, 2017
New Year's Day****Commander's Message...**

Dear Legionnaires:

I hope everyone had a great summer and is enjoying the beautiful fall foliage.

The next three months are the busiest time of the year. While the Post itself is not hosting all of the upcoming events, our Melvin Roads family is. From the Post to the Auxiliary, to the SONS, Riders, to the Board of Directors, we will all need help from each other to make these events happen.

For example, you can see on the enclosed calendar and in this newsletter dates and information about activities such as Veterans Day, our annual Turkey and Ham raffles, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, and our annual Christmas party, just to highlight a few of the events being sponsored by our Legion family. Members, without your

participation the work that goes into making these events happen will fall on the same officers and individuals as they have in the past. Your presence and support is strongly encouraged to help make our legion family remain strong and active.

Please seek out any officer of our family—Post, Auxiliary, SONS, Riders—and volunteer to help. They'll take your name and number and get back to you to discuss how you can contribute your time and talent to the cause. Or feel free to contact me personally at jfinn4@nycap.rr.com. Remember, this Post is here for YOU. Take pride in your organization and its activities. Frankly, if we do not have more volunteers, many of these events may not be held in the future. I want to ac-

**Commander Joe Finn****Veterans' Day Activities Scheduled**

Veterans Day is Friday, November 11th and Melvin Roads Post will once again hold a ceremony at the Post beginning at 12Noon. Led by Commander Joe Finn, everyone is invited to gather their thoughts and offer a moment of silence on behalf of those who have served their country in the

military services over the years. Following the ceremony, all veterans and their families are cordially invited to join in a buffet in the Post Lounge. The buffet will be available until 4pm. There is no cost and the wider community is invited along with our veterans, active duty personnel and their families. Included in the day will be displays presented by several

knowledge and thank the officers of the Post, Auxiliary, SONS, Riders and the Board of Directors, and our employees who made the recent events the success that they were. A special word to Ed Pratt who mc'd our 9-11 ceremonies and Bob Doherty, our Bingo Chair for their ongoing hard work.

Joe Finn, Commander

Vietnam Veterans (see page 3). On Thursday, November 10th, at 9am, the Interact Club of Columbia High School will honor our veterans at the site of Melvin Road's grave located in the cemetery behind the church at the Turnpike and Hayes Road. All veterans are encouraged to attend.

Melvin Roads Ladies Auxiliary...

Fall Greetings to our Auxiliary members! Let's pretend that winter is a long ways off! Halloween is before us and we want to be sure to watch with care for the children in the neighborhood.

Upcoming events for the Ladies Auxiliary are many. We have the Auxiliary Ham raffle coming up (see page 3 for details). And Cabin Fever is being planned for February.

I encourage all our Auxiliary members to make every effort to support our post by participating in many of the important events planned this November and December. There is Veterans' Day, the Turkey Raffle, Pearl Harbor Remembrance, Breakfast with Santa, our annual

***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***



Christmas/Holiday gathering and our Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve parties. We are so fortunate to have a very active post. I encourage all our Auxiliary members to attend our monthly meetings which are scheduled the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm. And a reminder to send in your dues for our 2017 year. Yours for the Auxiliary,

**Lori A. McFarland
President**

BINGO Wednesday nights! Please stop by and help out!



SONS News...

I would like to remind all our members that the monthly meeting of the SONS is the second Tuesday beginning at 7:00pm. Squadron members are urged to make a concerted effort to attend. Also, a reminder that dues notices for 2017 are on the way. An email notice should be arriving.

**Kevin Harrington
Commander**

From the Riders...

On behalf of the Melvin Roads Post Riders, I would like to thank everyone who participated in our 2nd Annual Poker Run. It was a great success and we doubled the amount of participants from last year. We also voted to name our Poker Run in memory of our friend, The Richard Fonda Memorial Run. We miss our friend and fellow rider tremendously.

I am pleased to report that the recent donation of a popcorn machine for our lounge area has been well received! Many thanks to all who made this possible.

Remember our monthly meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Please join us!

**Steve Shannon
Riders' President**

55" TV Raffle

We are excited to report that we are holding a special raffle for a 55" LED TV. The drawing will be held at 3pm on Sunday, December 11th, right after our Breakfast with Santa event! Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10. Each ticket entitles the holder to one free drink the day of the drawing. See the bartender in the Lounge to purchase your tickets!

Pearl Harbor Remembrance

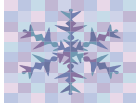
The attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7th, 1941, 75 years ago, is ever etched on the minds of those who remember. At 12Noon on Wednesday, December 7th, 2016 a solemn ceremony will be held at the Post to keep the memory of this horrific day before everyone. Prayer and reflection will commemorate this "day of infamy."

Adult Comedy Night November 12th

Saturday November 12th is the date for the 7th Annual Adult Stand up Comedy Show. Featured will be Host Shawn Gillie of FLY92.3. Featured will be professional stand-up comedians, Peter Vino, Lauren Turczak and Dan Geurin. Tickets are on sale now at our Lounge or at the door. Cost is \$25 per ticket which includes 2 well drinks or 2 domestic beers. Groups of 8-10 can reserve whole tables when tickets are purchased in advance as a group. Doors open at 7pm with showtime at 8pm. There will be a 50/50 raffle during the course of the evening. Proceeds go to support the American Legion Riders' various veteran and community projects. For further information call Steve or Cheryl at 518 462-7006.

Annual Christmas Gathering

The annual Christmas/Holiday gathering traditionally held at Melvin Roads Post, will be different this year. In the past a sit-down dinner was the venue, but this year the happy event will be held in our Heroes Lounge, with hors d'oeuvres, with beer, wine and soda, hosted. The date is **December 17th**, a Saturday evening, running from 7-9pm. Cost is \$10 per person. Music will be provided. The Board of Directors looks forward to seeing all our members and friends.



Holidays' Turkey Raffle

The annual turkey raffle will be held on Friday evening, November 18th. This is always a fun night and we encourage all members of the Post family to drop in. An envelope regarding this fund raiser has been mailed to everyone. It is an evening filled with fun, food and raffles. From 7-9pm, fifteen different 8-12 lbs turkeys will be offered with the grand prize of three 20+ lbs birds! Free drinks and snacks will be offered to those who remain in the back hall for the drawings. Please return your raffle tickets as soon as possible. This is a significant fund raiser for the Post!

Breakfast With Santa December 11th

Santa and his reindeer are making a stop once again at Melvin Roads Post. Breakfast and Pictures with Santa 2016 will be held on Sunday, December 11th and all families are invited! Breakfast will be served from 8:30am to 12Noon and Pictures with Santa will be taking place during that time. For Breakfast, the donation for adults is \$8.00; children 4-12 years, \$4.00. Under 4, no charge. For a 4"X6" picture with Santa, the cost is \$6.00. You'll get you print right then and there as Santa's elves will be on the spot to assist! So mark your calendars now and listen for the jingle bells! This is a great opportunity not only for parents, but grandparents to bring the kids down to the Post. All proceeds will benefit our veteran related programs.

Chaplain's Corner... Loving God, as we approach the upcoming holidays, indeed holy days, we find ourselves so busy about many matters. Most are important as we gather with family and friends, while others seem to be just "being busy." Give us the wisdom to take time to be busy about prayer and reflection as we take an occasional break from this at-times-hecktic routine so that we keep what is truly important in proper perspective.... Giving thanks, recognizing you, Our Lord, as the center of our lives, looking to a new year as an opportunity for each of us to be instruments of your peace and understanding in this fragile world in which we live. We ask this grace of You, our God who comes so close to us during these holy days. Amen.

Vietnam Veterans Remembered

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Vietnam War. Sadly, this conflict has had many unresolved consequences, not the least of which is the lack of closure for many veterans of the era. To address this issue, Melvin Roads Post is inviting Vietnam Veterans to join us on **Veterans Day, November 11th, 2016** and present a display of their remembrances of their experience. Those interested will be given a poster board to place their mementos, photos, reminiscences of their time there. The displays will be open to the public and the vets will be happy to explain their experience/understanding of the effort. Viet Vets are invited to email Ed Pratt for further info. He can be reached at melvinroads@nycap.rr.com.



Ladies Auxiliary Ham Raffle December 16

On December 16th, from 7pm to 9pm, the Ladies Auxiliary will hold their annual ham raffle drawing in the Post lounge. Tickets will be available in the lounge and the night of the drawing. Everyone is encouraged to support this effort.



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 Rose ncrans
Mark Becker
Dan Yates, Jr.
Michael Burdette
Daniel Richardson
Spencer Boyd

Michael Sciarino
Alicia Howard
Robert Kle amoviich
Caroline Cleveland
Glen Roberson

May They Rest In Peace:

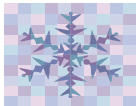
Harold M. Dusenbery
Ernest J. Chiovini
Henry C. Finn
Leroy Bishop
James E. Hutchins

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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, on Fridays 11:30am to 2pm
And Bar Fare Mondays,
Wednesday thru Friday 5-8pm!*

Melvin Roads Post 1231 Newsletter

November December 2016

Post News Notes.....

- Melvin Roads Post offers the **Paul Donnelly Scholarship** each year. College bound high school seniors who are children or grandchildren of a member of this Post, its Auxiliary and Squadron may apply. A \$500 award is presented each summer to the candidate chosen by the scholarship committee. Applications and further information are available at the Post.
- 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: melvinroads@nycap.rr.com.
- Melvin Roads Post was honored to host the **9/11 ceremonies** recognizing the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attack on our country. **House of Representatives member Chis Gibson** was the guest

speaker. The Clinton Heights Fire Department along with members of the East Greenbush Police Department stood in formation during the event.

- A great big thank you goes out to all who participated in the **recent fundraiser** for Cheryl DeRusso's daughter, Kristen. With the funds raised Kristen's family will be able to address the significant medical expenses facing them on her way to recovery. Again, our thanks!
- **Pub Poker** is held every Monday and Thursday evenings here at the Post. There is no admission charge! Our regular food menu is available.
- On November 10th the **Interact Club of Columbia High School** will once again be honoring Veterans. At 9am all veterans are invited to gather at the grave of

Melvin Roads, Hayes Road Cemetery, for a service held by the students.. We thank the students in advance for their thoughtfulness and respect for our veterans.



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