

# Winter

## Melvin Roads Post 1231

# Post 1231 Newsletter November December, 2015



### Upcoming Events:

Election Day November 3th

Columbia High School Interact Club Veterans Day Service November 10th

Veterans Day November 11th

Adult Comedy Night November 14th

Thanksgiving Raffle November 20st

Thanksgiving Day November 26th

Country Line Dancing November 28th

Photos with Santa and Pancake Breakfast December 5th

Pearl Harbor Day December 7th

Post Christmas Party December 12th

Spiral Ham Raffle December 18th

Christmas Eve Gathering December 24th

Christmas Day December 25th

New Year's Eve Gathering December 31st

New Year's Day, January 1st, 2016

## Commander's Message

Hello Legion Family,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well. With the weather getting colder, we are entering a very busy time of year with Veterans Day just around the corner and New Year's Eve in just a couple months. Please take a look at all the activities in the newsletter and join us for as many of the upcoming events that you can.

Since being Commander, many have worked diligently to improve our Post. Now, we see that it's not just a money issue. We have over 380 post members, plus another couple hundred in the Auxiliary and Son's, but yet we still see the same faces at meetings and events. Those numbers are starting to dwindle because these same members are getting burned out from all that they are putting into our Post.

We have had to lower the quorum for the Post meetings, and still we have a difficult time meeting that quorum. We have several openings for Post and Board positions that we were not able to fill because of lack of participation. Most importantly, the Post is in need of a Bingo chair (or two to split the workload). Bingo pays the majority of the Post's expenses and bills, if a Bingo chair is not found in the near future we will have to cancel Bingo.

I'm not going to imply that we will be closing our Post, but there is a real threat of that happening without volunteers. The Post needs its members to participate at meetings, and at events (regardless of which entity is hosting it). Money alone will not keep the Post open, we need volunteers now.

Beginning January 2016, The National American Legion will be increasing the Post portion of the dues by \$5. The Department of New York will be covering \$2 of that increase, so at the last Post meeting, an increase of 43 to begin January 2016 was passed. To avoid increase for your 2015 Post Dues, please have it in before December 31st.

Our Bingo workers who are there every week – Bob Doherty, Ed Pratt, Tony Rossello Sr., Ruth Leeson, Pat Vallee, Chuck Alger, Rich Bender, Herb Bauer, Dan Holmes, Lori McFarland, Linda Doherty, Barbara Fonda, Lynn Rossello, Jack Cain; and those that help out a couple times a month – Joel Montross, Steve Shannon, Bill Baker, Michelle LaRock, Gary Noesen, George Maloney, Paul Rossello, Tony Rossello Jr., Hugh Blake, Peter Benko, Dominic Indelicato, and Jason Labombard.

There is another group



**Commander Beverly Baker**

of members that we should thank for their help at different times when it is needed: Lynn Rossello, Leslie Millhouse, and Christy Doherty for all the volunteering they do on a regular basis.

As a reminder, the Post monthly meeting is the second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. and the Board meeting is the third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. We need everyone's voice to be present as we make decisions for the good of the Post. As always, I look forward to working with the Post Family and serving our veterans.

*Bev Baker*

Bev Baker

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## Veterans Day Ceremonies Scheduled at Melvin Roads

In celebration of Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11th, 2015 Melvin Roads Post 1231 will hold a solemn ceremony at the Post beginning at 12:00N. Led by First Vice Ross Wilber 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 prepared by our chef. The buffet will be offered throughout the day until 5PM. There is no cost and all veterans, active duty personnel and

their families are invited to attend. Last year well over 100 persons honored our veterans by their supportive presence. Mark your calendar and plan to attend Wednesday, November 11th, 2015.

### Ladies Auxiliary

November is here Holidays around the corner. November is Military Family Appreciation Month, Veterans Day. During this month I hope when you see a Veteran that you stop and say Thank you for your service, it's so little but means so much. Thank-giving is just around the corner and I would like to wish

everyone a Happy Thank-giving. We have our annual Ham Fund Raiser on 12/18 hope to see you there. Dues are due please get your renewals in quickly. Our fundraiser for Pat Hennessey did well Thanks to all who volunteered. Yours for the Auxiliary, President Lori McFarland

## Pearl Harbor Remembered At Melvin Roads Post December 7th

The attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941 is ever etched on the minds of those who are old enough to remember. For the rest, it is our solemn duty as members of the American Legion to bring this horrific day to the attention of those younger and who may not appreciate the meaning of this solemn occasion. At 12 noon, Monday, December 7th, 2015 Melvin Roads Post will hold a moment of prayer and remembrance for veterans and the wider community. This day commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii by the Imperial Japanese Navy. This surprise attack led President Roosevelt to say that "this is a day that will go down in infamy." It signaled the entry of the US in WWII.

### Sons Squadron 1231

We want to thank everyone who helped us in our endeavors to promote Americanism and support our Veterans. Recently we had our fall pancake breakfast and want to thank the Sons, Ladies and Post members for all your help in this event. On December 5th we will hold another breakfast only this time we will have a special visitor. Santa will be here and you will be able to have a photo opportunity with the man himself. From 9:00 am to 12:30 pm you can enjoy an all you can eat breakfast and then if you would like you can have a photo taken with Santa until 2pm (this year we also invite you to bring your pet for the photo opportunity). Breakfast is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 7 years old.

This year Melvin Roads American Legion Post is a drop location for the Marine Corp Reserves Toys for Tots program. Please consider dropping off a new, unwrapped toy so a local child who would otherwise have nothing to open on Christmas can have a happier Christmas season. Drop box is in the lounge under the bulletin board.

Once again I am asking Son for their assistance in BINGO Wednesday evenings. This is the staple of our existence and we can not survive without it.

We are collecting Cleaned new/gently used winter coats for our homeless Veterans and their families. Please drop them off at the Post in December and we will distribute them to the VA Homeless Veterans Program. Any given day there are over 68,000 homeless Veterans living on the streets of the United States. We find these numbers to be unacceptable and the Sons of the American Legion are determined to help these defenders



### Country Line Dancing Lessons

After a successful fall season of line dancing, the Post is pleased to announce that it will be starting again in January, Monday nights 7-9pm. Admission is \$8 each night food will be available from 5-8PM. Let's have another great session! See you in January.



*If you are planning your estate, consider including Melvin Roads Post 1231 in your remembrances. We are a 501 (c) (19) charity per the IRS.*

## Welcome to the Ultimate Pub Poker Tour



Melvin Roads Post is hosting an **Ultimate Pub Poker Tournament** on Mondays and Thursday evenings. This venue is one of several throughout the Capital District and is meeting with good success. The Ultimate Pub Poker Tour is a network of free-to-play No-Limit Texas Hold 'Em tournaments hosted by area pubs and taverns. Players pay nothing to participate in the tournaments. Registration starts at 6pm. Bar fare is available starting at 5PM as is the assortment of drinks and beverages served in our lounge. **Join In!**

## December Holiday Schedule

December brings our holiday schedule. For 2015, Christmas Eve falls on a Thursday this year. As has been our tradition, from 1 to 5pm, Brian will entertain us with music in the Lounge. A visit from Santa Claus is a must! We'll be closing that afternoon at 6pm. On Christmas Day itself, the Post will be closed. New Year's Eve will again be celebrated with Brian providing music from 9pm to 1am. New Year's Day 2016, the lounge will be open in mid-afternoon.

of our freedom. Anyone with an email address please sent it to melvin-roads1231@nycap.rr.com. Please provide your full name and I will add you to our email list. With this address we will send you all the Sons information along with the post newsletter. The more people we have on electronic communication the quicker you get the information and it saves the Post money on postage, paper and envelopes. Thank you.

**William Baker, Squadron #1231 Commander**

## 6 th Annual Riders' Comedy Night to be held November 14th

The Legion Riders will be hosting their 6th Annual Comedy Show the evening of Saturday, November 14th, 2015. Hosting will be comedian Shawn Gillis. Featured will be Jennifer McMullen, Sharon Dyer, Rich Williams. Doors open at 7:00pm with the show starting at 8PM. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and includes the show, two domestic beers, soda or well drinks. A 50/50 raffle will be held. Tickets are on sale now for the show and may be purchased at the Post Lounge and at the door. Groups of 8-10 can reserve a table for the show. The last three shows were sell-outs so patrons are advised to get their tickets early!

## Annual Turkey Raffle Fundraiser Nov 20

The annual Turkey Raffle is underway. Tickets have been mailed to all members of the Melvin Roads Family: Veterans, Auxiliary, SONS and Riders. This year we are continuing the traditional fun night on Friday, November 20st. Mark your calendar to join us for an evening of food, fun and raffles: from 5 to 7PM there will be bar fare in the kitchen and then from 7 to 9PM fifteen different 8-12 lbs turkeys will be offered at \$.25 a chance followed by the grand drawings of three twenty+ 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 and please bring this fun-filled evening to the attention of your friends; a pre-holiday festive evening is a sure bet.

## 50th Anniversary of the beginning of the Vietnam War

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Vietnam War. Over 56,000 of our young men and woman died in this conflict. Many of those who did return came back very different people; sadly they were greeted with less than an honorable reception.

As a sign of appreciation and acknowledgement of our Vietnam Veterans, Melvin Roads Post is proposing a day to honor our Vietnam Vets. While no date has yet been set, we are looking at a late-winter time frame. One of the proposals for the day is that your Vietnam Vets bring in some of their mementos—pictures, dog tags, anything that they would like to share with the larger community. We'll offer a display board for their personal mementos. Watch for more details in the news letter to follow.

## Annual Christmas Dinner December 12th

Saturday evening, December 12th has been set for the Annual Members' Christmas Dinner at our **Heroes' Banquet Hall**. This looked-forward-to gathering sponsored by the Board of Directors is *open to Post members only (including Auxiliary, SONS, Riders)*. Each member may bring one guest. An open bar will be featured from 5-6pm and will feature a veggie tray, bread and cheese while hors d'oeuvres trays will circulate during the cocktail hour. The meal will begin (6PM) with a shrimp cocktail. The entrée choices are Roast Beef or Stuffed Chicken Breast which will be followed by a very special dessert. After dinner, music will be provided from 7PM to 11PM. **Tickets go on sale November 15th for \$25/pp until the 29th; from the 30th thru December 8th, \$30. Cut off is 12/8.** Remember each member may bring one guest—a spouse is that guest even though he/she may be a member of the Post, Auxiliary, SONS or Riders. The Board invites every member to make a special effort to join us this year!

On November 10th the Interact Club of Columbia High School will once again be honoring Veterans. At 9am that Tuesday morning all veterans are invited to gather at the grave of Melvin Roads, Hayes Road Cemetery, for a service held by the students. Following, all veterans are invited to the East Greenbush Diner for a buffet breakfast with the students. We thank the students in advance for their thoughtfulness and respect for our veterans.

## 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 notify us; we have eliminated several names as no input has been provided. Again, if you can help us, please do!* **Vincent Catalfamo, George Corbari, Alicia Howard, Chris Whalen, Scott J. Collins, Nick Monuteaux, Robert Kleamovich III, Justin Edberg, Sean Markham, Joshua Stickle, Michael Sciarrino, Jarrod Dolan, Derek Mazurek, Keenan Krenzer, Jake Schultz**



### In Memoriam

May He Rest In Peace..

James F Jukes



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



**Check us out on the web at :  
[www.melvinroads1231.org](http://www.melvinroads1231.org)**



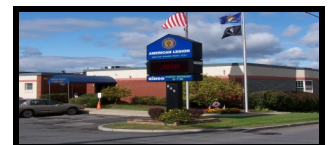
***Lunch is being offered at Melvin Roads  
Heroes' Lounge, Each Friday, 11:30am to 3:00pm  
Also Bar Fare Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 4-8pm!***

## Melvin Roads Post 1231 Newsletter

November December 2015

### Post News Notes.....

- **Red Mill Elementary School** has invited members of Melvin Roads Post to their **Veterans' Day Assembly** scheduled for Tuesday, November 10th at 10AM. If you attend you will need to check in at the front office.
- Melvin Roads Post continues with its **lunch menu Fridays 11:30AM to 3PM**. The price is modest and as always, bar drinks are available. We also offer bar fare Mondays, Wednesday thru Friday from 4pm to 8:00pm.
- Members are requested to **submit their email address to the Post** so we can send along notices and this letter: [melvinroads@nycap.rr.com](mailto:melvinroads@nycap.rr.com). This saves us money and time in getting out our information to you.
- We have on staff a partime General Manager, Bookeeper and Hostess. The General manager, Steve Shannon was brought on to Manage the building and staff. He oversee's cost cutting procedures to lower our expenses and help to increase our revenue. Since his arrival Steve has lowered our monthly costs significantly and continues to do so. He has also brought on board bi-weekly pool leagues along with two weekly Pub Poker nights. All of which generates needed additional weekly revenue. If you have any suggestions or if you can help out at the post, contact Steve @ 462-7006
- Our Bookeeper is Lisa Reilly and she comes to us with a tremendous amount of experience and has been instrumental in continuing to manage/juggle our bills and income. Great job Lisa!
- Hostess Leslie Millhouse is a great asset in bringing in additional bookings to the tune of over 300% over the previous years. Great Job Leslie and please keep us going.



**Melvin Roads Post 1231  
200 Columbia Turnpike**