

November 2021

Volume 58, Issue 11

# The Sentinel

*American Legion Post 362 (716)652-9862*

## **Executive Committee:**

Mike Devine  
Lee Crewson  
Don Haney  
Eric McNally  
Jeff Crewson  
Liz Raleigh

## **County Delegates:**

Don Haney  
Jerzy Folta  
Harry Kwiek  
Jack Patterson  
Tom Ricci

## **Highlights:**

Ladies Aux  
Chaplain's  
Corner  
From the Bar  
Calendar of  
Events  
Editors Report



Americanism  
Jim Suttell

Children & Youth  
Jim Suttell

Graves & Flags  
Joe Kelly

Boys State Greg Hunt

Legislative  
Charlie Schack

Newsletter Team:  
Rick Wells Editor  
Gary Wald Asst.  
Amy Gould  
Bill McAfoos

## **Commander's Corner**

**Commander KEITH BENDER**

Officers: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice – Jack Patterson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Bill Lewis, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice – Larry Galusk Jr, Adjutant – John Franz Jr; Finance Officer – Paul Petersen;- Service Officer – Ken York Sr; Sgt.-at-Arms – Hank Durski Jr; Chaplain – Ken Krieger; Historian – Joe Stapleton; Past Commander–Tom Ricci

All,

The holidays are quickly approaching, and we have a ton of things going on at the post. I hope everyone is taking advantage of this time to prepare for the holidays, particularly your Christmas shopping, because there seems to be shortages with just about everything this year.

The Auxiliary is sponsoring “Christmas Stockings for Veterans”. If you know of any veteran in or around the East Aurora area, who would enjoy a present from Santa, please submit their name, address, and branch of service (if you know it) to Peggy O’Brien at (716)949-1342 or [peganob19@gmail.com](mailto:peganob19@gmail.com). Donations are appreciated which can include the following: Hats, Scarfs, Toiletries, Gift Cards, or Cash (that will be used to purchase stocking fillers). There is a donation box in the front hall of the legion, and a donation jar on the bar. Let’s make this a Merry Christmas for our fellow veterans, particularly those that may be alone this holiday season.

As always, achieving our annual membership goal is always an issue at the forefront of our minds. Our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Jack Patterson does an outstanding job leading the charge on this. If the rest of us each recruited just one new member this year, we would not only take some of the work off of Jack’s plate, but we would beat out the Hamburg Post as the largest post in the county. I’m committed to getting us recognized as the largest, most active post in the county..... Will you help me?

We will begin our Kitchen Renovation at the post on Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. We originally were going to start on November 1<sup>st</sup>, but a conflict with the American Red Cross Blood Drive has arisen, and we won’t be able to start the demolition on Monday. If you are available to help out, please join us at the post on Tuesday November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8am and be prepared to get dirty! We’d like to complete the demolition in 3-4 days, so the more people who can help the faster it will go! I need to take this opportunity to thank all of the groups that have helped make improvements at the Post in the recent months: The VFW for the purchase of the new grill, the TV behind the bar, and upgrade of the parking lot lights; The Vietnam Vets for the offer of a new TV to upgrade the Historian’s TV; The Sons of the American Legion for their contribution of new Stainless Steel Food Prep / Dish storage tables for the renovation; and the Auxiliary for their financial contribution to the Kitchen Renovation. Without all the support of our legion family organizations it would not be possible for us to maintain and improve the incredible Post that we all have inherited.

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# VFW Post 205

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## **Commander-Larry Galuski**

Officers: Sr. Vice Cmdr – B J Shepard; Jr. Vice Cmdr - Nick Schieman; Quartermaster – Jeff Crewson; Adjutant – Dave Nachreiner; Chaplain - Len Bradley; Svc. Officer - Dean Brewer; Sgt-at-arms - Norm Suttell; Judge Advocate – Lee Crewson; Surgeon – Jim Suttell

Good day comrades,

I hope everyone is well and taking advantage of this fine fall weather. We have been busy this month and there is a busy November coming! October brought us a new grill, TV and parking lot lights. Come down to the post and check them out!

November is coming and so is the kitchen renovation. We start demolition on the 2nd. We are planning on a smooth and safe demo. We also have Veterans Day on the 11th at 11. Pray for good weather since we will be outside.

In closing, remember to use good judgment and be safe while enjoying yourself with family and friends.

Larry Galuski  
Commander

## **SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

### **Commander Ted Skarupinski**

OFFICERS: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice – Steve Kraft; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Rick Rejman; Finance Officer – James Collins; Adjutant – Dave Drosendahl; Chaplain – Jerry Boye; Sgt-at-Arms – Jonathan Zajdel; Historian – Mark Cooke; Past Commander Lenny Mazurkiewicz

**Your 2022 membership dues are due now. Check your card to make sure it says 2022, if not you are overdue. It is still only \$20.00. You can mail it in to the Legion , Attention SAL MEMBERSHIP. Or you can pay at the Legion bar.**

We would like to welcome 5 (five) new members to squadron #372. They are: MARK HARTLEY, DAVID ROBBINS, ZACHARY BENDER, BRENDAN D. RALEIGH and MICHAEL P. RALEIGH. All are from East Aurora. When you see them at the Post give them a warm welcome.

Information on our SWEET HEART RAFFLE will be coming out in November. There are still tickets available for the TriStar O/I 12 gauge. Tickets are available at the Legion Bar or you can contact me or another SAL member about getting tickets. The Sons will also be doing a CHILI COOK OFF sometime in November or December for a Bills game or a Happy Hour Friday. More information will follow. We still have hats, T shirts, Polo shirts, and Sweat shirts available. If anyone is looking for a winter jacket, we can order one for you, but, we have to order a minimum of 12 jackets to put the order in. They are selling for aprox. \$25.00, based on the last order we placed. The cost could be a little more. If you are interested in these items, you can contact our Finance Officer JIM COLLINS @ (716) 479-4709.

**November 11th is The Veterans Day Ceremony that is held at the Legion Post. Any SAL member that wants to attend should be at the post by 1030am. The ceremony starts at 11am. Any member that has a uniform is asked to wear it to this event.**

Please keep all of our Military and Veterans in your thoughts and prayers. Also, that all of our Military from overseas have returned home to us and their family safe and sound. If not for all their efforts, we would not have what we have today.

## Bar Report- *Greg Hunt*

No Report

## Vietnam Vets

### **President Bill Lewis – ealegion362.vietnam.**

OFFICERS: Vice Pres – Tom Ernst; Secretary –Charlie Schack; Treasurer – Nat Gaghigh; Chaplain – Earl Hattenberger; Historian – Bill Wright; Sgt-at-Arms – Pete Mistretta; Past President – Gary Wald

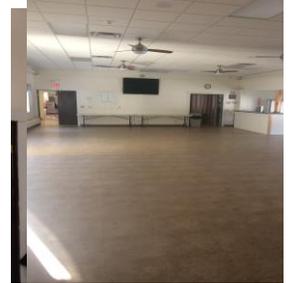
The Cruise season is over, and it's time to concentrate on our biggest fund raiser, the wreath project. Volunteers are needed to assemble the wreaths. The price this year is \$35 due to rising prices for materials. Thank you all in advance. Remember to thank a Vet, and see you soon!

### **Bill**

Vietnam Veterans are invited to attend the annual Mass for them at St. John Vianney Church in Orchard Park at 10am Saturday, Nov 7<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments will be served afterwards according to Paul Rudnicki, who sponsors the event. Those interested in attending are asked to call Paul at 675-1212.

**Submitted by Tom Ernst**

## Our Hall



Over the course of the last several months, many of you have noticed the many amazing updates happening at our Post. While we aren't done yet, the hall/ picnic grove is still available for rent.

We have many amenities including:

- Ample Parking
- Restrooms
- Tables/Chairs
- Handicap Accessible
- Presentation Ready with WiFi, Microphone Access and Power Point Capable
- Access to use of 65" Flat Screen TV/DVD/Cable
- Air Conditioned
- Kitchen Access
- Bar/Beverage Service
- Full Catering Options Available

Please contact Seija Sadowski at: ealegion362.rental@gmail.com or call the Post for more information.

## Marine Corps League – Southtowns Detachment 1136

### **Commandant Marcy Ramsdell**

OFFICERS: Sr. Vice Cmndr- Mike Cronym; Jr. Vice Cmndr.- Bernie Bartkowiak; Sgt. At Arms- Dave Ramsdell, Judge Advocate – Dave Miller, Chaplain – Earl Harrington; Paymaster- Margie Sly; Adjutant- Dave Miller; Historian – Merle Sly

No Report

# General

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Hello Legion Family!

Almost that time of year again, Toys for Tots Toy drive has begun. The drive runs until December 15<sup>th</sup>. A collection box is located in the Legion hallway outside the kitchen doorway. Asking for all members, family, and organizations to support this very worthwhile cause. Please drop off new, unwrapped toys in the box.

Thank you! **Jenn George**

Leon Berner, owner of Berner's Farms in Elma and Marilla, has again donated traditional fall items to decorate our post. Potted Mums, corn stalks, and pumpkins have been placed outside the main entrance. Leon has been a friend of the post for years, and has never turned down a donation request. Items will be in place as long as the weather permits. Leon will also donate flowers for the Veterans Memorial Monument for our Veterans Day services. Submitted by Charlie Schack

## **EDITOR'S NOTE -Rick Wells**

November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veterans Day, please join us at the post for a Service beginning at 11am.

**Thank you to all our Veterans and their families!**

Happy Thanksgiving!

All articles for the Sentinel can be emailed to [rickwells@roadrunner.com](mailto:rickwells@roadrunner.com) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## **American Legion Riders - Chapter 362**

**Director Don Butcher**

**OFFICERS: Secretary – Paul Pedersen, Treasurer – Pat Pedersen, Sgt-at Arms - Ben Antonio; Road Cpt – Ray Herter**

At our October meeting nominations for officers were made. After the meeting we took a ride to Letchworth Park, had a nice breakfast, then learned once again why Don Butcher should never be road captain. After a slight detour on the way to Arcade we finally made it there! November is the month for the election of officers. Nominations can be made from the floor at the November Meeting. **Don**

## American Legion Membership Report for November 2021

Our goal for 2022 will be 3% higher than our final 2021 membership number. This equates to an increase of 15 members over last year's total. The only way to meet this goal is by bringing new or transfer members into post 362. We need to add the 15 plus replace any members who pass away and those who, for various reasons, do not renew. We need everyone's help! Please ask any veteran you come across to join. Applications are available at the bar. Also, I will email an application to the members who have an email address on file.

Now is the time to act if you have not already renewed for 2022. As in the past there are 3 easy ways to renew.

- 1) Pay by mail; simply send your check for \$45.00 with the reminder to the Post in the envelope provided. If you don't have the reminder, please include your full name and member number with your check.
- 2) Stop by the post and pay in cash or by check. The bartender has envelopes for renewing Legion members. Please be sure to include your member number to avoid confusion.
- 3) Renew on line at <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Renew> ,this is the only way to renew with a credit card. Your membership card will be mailed to you from the post.

We have three new members this month. Please welcome **Dave Przeoiora**, **Larry Bronoeski**, and **Jim Kasprzyk** to Post 362. We now have 12 new members for 2022, and are at 56% of goal. Veteran's day will be here soon. Let's all wear a hat or shirt to show we proudly served. And remember to "Thank a Vet". Stop by the Post for our Veterans Day celebration, Nov 11th at 11 am. As always, I can be reached at [ealegion362.membership@gmail.com](mailto:ealegion362.membership@gmail.com)

**Service Officer** Ken York - [ealegion362.serviceofficer@gmail.com](mailto:ealegion362.serviceofficer@gmail.com)

No Report

# TAPS



## Chaplain's Corner

Ken Krieger



When you find that worry and concerns are overwhelming take the advice given in 1 Peter chapter 5 vs 7: " Give all your worries and cares to God for He cares about you."



## Chaplains Report - *Ken Krieger*

Chaplains report:

Please keep the family of Bill Korzelius in your prayers. Bill has gone home to be with the Lord.

Also please keep Mark Palmer, Bill Lewis, Brian White, and Ray Herter in your prayers and any other of our comrades who are dealing with illness and hospitalization. We were unable to meet with the veterans at Absolute Care for a hot dog cookout this past month again due to covid concerns.

### (continued from page 1)

Finally, in recent weeks, I have been approached by multiple members who all belong to a local community forum on Facebook. These members all reported seeing a post by one of our members that was critical of both our Post, and one of our members. Now is as good a time as any to remind everyone that it is not appropriate (or nice,lets not forget nice) to publicly post, or comment, negatively about our post or any of our fellow members. I find it particularly inappropriate if it relates to something that you have not tried to address/remedy with the Executive Board. A member who behaves in such a manner

could be charged with "Conduct Unbecoming an American Legion Member" and could face either a suspension or revocation of membership rights. Let's police ourselves and make sure incidents like this don't happen again. Nothing will kill our post's forward momentum faster than negative public comments by our own members.

As always, if you need to get in touch with me regarding anything, I can be reached at [commander.ealegion362@gmail.com](mailto:commander.ealegion362@gmail.com) or on my cell (716) 597-9926.

Please pray for our Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airman, and Guardians; keep our deployed in your prayers for a safe return home; and as always, God Bless our Troops.

~Keith

## **American Legion Auxiliary**

### ***President Dawn Haney***

Officers: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice – Rita Cizak; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Dawn Haney; Secretary – Kathy Kuwik; Treasurer – Wendy Lang; Chaplain – Mary Alice Grant; Historian - Sherry Palmer; Sgt-at-Arms - Joan Gillis

Hello Everyone,

Just a reminder your dues for 2022 are \$25.00 and can be paid by mail to Rita Cizak, 6821 Clinton Street, Elma, NY 14059. You may also drop your dues off at the American Legion Post #362, 1 Legion Drive, East Aurora, NY 14052.

If you march or would like to begin marching, please contact Kathy Kuwik. Kathy can be contacted by phone, 1- 716-207-5022 or by email, [klk\\_five@yahoo.com](mailto:klk_five@yahoo.com). The Auxiliary will be purchasing new sneakers for everyone who marches. Please contact Kathy with your shoe size.

Members may have the Sentinel mailed or e-mailed to you. Please contact Christal Backhaus of your preference at [christalbackhaus@gmail.com](mailto:christalbackhaus@gmail.com).

The Auxiliary is sponsoring "Christmas Stockings for Veterans" and we need names of Veterans who would enjoy a visit and a beautiful filled stocking to brighten their holiday. The Morningstar Quilt Guild has graciously offered to quilt us the stockings. Donations are greatly appreciated. Please contact our Chairperson Peggy O'brien by phone, #1-716-949-1342 or e-mail, [peganob19@gmail.com](mailto:peganob19@gmail.com) for items which are needed to fill the stockings and any Veterans names that we can add to our stocking list.

The Auxiliary is very appreciative of your support for this project.

At our meeting on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm we will be voting to change our meetings to the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00 am. Please attend this meeting to vote and voice your opinion on this matter and any new ideas or suggestions you may have.

Our next meeting is Thursday, November 18, 2021 @7:00 pm. Hope to see you there.

Please include our Military and Veterans in your prayers.

Dawn Haney



# November 2021

Subject to COVID 19 Restrictions

Sun	1 Mon	2 Tues	3 Wed	4 Thurs	5 Fri	6 Sat
	Music Night 7:00 pm		SONS OF LEGION MEETING	Connect Life Blood Drive 10-3  NAM VETS MEETING		LEGION RIDERS
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	TRIVIA 7:30PM		AMERICAN LEGION MEETING	VETERANS DAY		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		VFW POST 205 MEETING 7:30		AUXILIARY MEETING		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				MARINE DETACHMENT		
28	29	30				

American Legion Post 362



PO BOX 122  
East Aurora, NY 14052



***PLEASE NOTE:***

For a change of address, please notify Jack Patterson, East Aurora American Legion Post 716-652-9862  
[ealegion362.membership.com](http://ealegion362.membership.com)



# Christmas Stockings



## For Veterans

The American Legion Post 362 Auxiliary is sponsoring "Christmas Stockings for Veterans". If you know of any Veteran in or around the East Aurora area who would like a present from Santa, please submit their name and address to Peggy O'Brien, 949-1342, [peganob19@gmail.com](mailto:peganob19@gmail.com) or mail to the American Legion Post 362 Auxiliary, 365 Center St, East Aurora, NY, 14052, ATTN: Peggy O'Brien. Donations are appreciated which can include the following: Socks, Hats, Scarf, Toiletries, Sugarless Candy, Cookies/ Brownies (prewrapped), Combs, Brushes, Playing cards, or Cash.

There will be a donation box at the Legion Hall.

**LETS MAKE THIS A MERRY  
CHRISTMAS FOR OUR  
VETERANS**

