

THE



VET

APRIL / MAY / JUNE 2015

SPRING EDITION



James R. Hickey American Legion Post 120
132 Cuyler Street, Palmyra, New York 14522
(315) 597-2412
jhickeycorp120@yahoo.com
www.palmyraamericanlegion.com

LEGION OFFICERS

Commander: Ann Guest (597-9243)

1st Vice Commander: David Bannister (585/381-4639)

2nd Vice Commander: Dave Borland (331-7545)

Adjutant: Dave Jankowski

Chaplain: Peter Campbell (597-6059)

Historian: Jim Arthurton

Finance Officer: Raymond Jenkins (597-4262)

Sergeant-at-Arms: Bob Trox (597-4672)

Service Officer: John Schlafer

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President: Kathleen York

1st Vice President: Dorothy Sobus

2nd Vice President: Pat Goodness

Secretary: Deborah Price-Murray

Treasurer: Heidi Jarvis

Chaplain: Linda Tome

Membership: Dorothy Sobus

SAL OFFICERS

Commander: William S. Campbell

1st Vice Commander: Paul Hamilton

2nd Vice Commander: Jim Murray

Adjutant: Jeff Vanderwege

Treasurer: Mark Nye

Chaplain: Jeff Jarvis

Historian: Tim York

Sergeant-at-Arms: Bob Pease

Advisor: Robert Trox

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Raymond Jenkins (597-4262)

Vice President: Bob Eagley (597-1689)

Secretary/Treasurer: David Jankowski (597-2412)

Directors: Bob Trox (597-4672)

Jim Arthurton (597-5275)

VA Health Care

The VA provides world-class health care to eligible Veterans. The Veterans Health Administration is America's largest integrated health care system, with more than 1,700 sites of care, and it is consistently ranked among the nation's top health care providers.

Many Veterans may be eligible for VA health care. Enrollment in VA health care satisfies your Affordable Care Act health coverage requirement—no add-on insurance plan is needed. VA encourages you to explore your health care benefits, including the following services:

All enrolled Veterans have access to VA's comprehensive medical benefits package including preventive, primary, and specialty care; prescriptions; mental health care; home health care; geriatrics and extended care; medical equipment and prosthetics; and more.

Most Veterans qualify for cost-free health care services, although some Veterans must pay modest copays for health care or prescriptions.

Women Veterans can receive primary care, breast and cervical cancer screenings, prenatal care, maternity care coverage, and other gender-specific services.

Veterans who have served in combat-zones—and their family members—may visit VA's many community-based Vet Centers, which provide no-cost counseling, outreach, and referral services to help the whole family adjust to life after deployment. Combat Veterans who were discharged or released from active service on or after Jan. 28, 2003, are eligible to enroll in the VA healthcare system for five years from the date of their discharge or release, regardless of their disability claim status. Combat Veterans who enroll with VA under this enhanced Combat Veteran authority will continue to be enrolled after their enhanced eligibility period ends, although their enrollment priority group may change. Many Combat Veterans applying after their five-year special enrollment period ends are eligible for enrollment and are encouraged to learn more about [these and other health care benefits](#) on VA's health benefits page - <http://explore.va.gov/health-care>

FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER



Greetings Post #120 Legion Family!

When you receive this newsletter, it will be Spring! (at least, according to the calendar!) We have been cold, frozen, cold, sick, and frozen more. Better days are coming!

APRIL

No steak dinner will be held due to the fact that the first Saturday of the month is the night before Easter.

Elections – All offices are up for election, except the Adjutant (the Adjutant is appointed by the Commander). If you would like to run for an office, contact the nominating committee (call me for the correct phone number). We will elect the Post officers in May and swear them in at our June meeting.

I wish you all a blessed Easter and hope your families can be together to share the day.

MAY

Mother's Day Chicken BBQ will be held on Sunday, May 10. 12:00Noon until 4pm (or sold out). Pre-Sale price is \$8.50 or dinners can be purchased for \$9.00 the day of the BBQ. Take Out Dinners Only.

Flags will be placed at Veterans' graves at 6pm on May 22. During the day, Mr. Albert's high school class will place flags on our Veterans' Plot. Hope to see as many as can come out for the service.

Memorial Day – May 25. The parade will begin at 9am, organizing at the Primary School on Canandaigua Street. Memorial services will be held at the Palmyra Cemetery immediately following the parade. Post participants will then proceed to memorial services in East Palmyra. Open House at Post #120 at 12:00pm.

Election of Post Officers will be held at our May 11 meeting.

JUNE

Remember Flag Day – June 14! This date is also the Army's Birthday! ***Fly your Flag!!***

Swearing in of Post #120 Officers will be held at our June meeting. This will be our last meeting until September.

Post #120 scholarship awards will be presented at Dollars for Scholars ceremony on June 20.

Cancer Relay for Life will be held at the high school track, June 20, 5pm to 11pm. We have sponsor sheets and sign-up sheets for you to help out. This is a Cancer/Post #120 event – if you'd like to start a team to raise funds or offer a helping hand, please contact me (597-9243) or Bob Trox (597-4672).

June 13-14 – The Gus Macker Tournament will be held at the Palmyra Community Center/Stafford Street. Our Post will be hosting the food booth. Workers are needed!

IN GRATITUDE

Thank you very much to DAVE BORLAND, our 2nd Vice Commander. He has been working hard and steadfast on many projects! See his message in this newsletter to catch up on current and future projects! He surely can use a few more hands!!

Thank your from Bob Trox and myself to BOB EAGLEY for his back up work as Sergeant at Arms. He has agreed to stay on as Assistant to Bob Trox.

Thank you to all who stepped up when needed, especially the SAL and Auxiliary!!

Yours for the Legion,

Ann

Ann F. Guest

APRIL / MAY / JUNE News & Notes

from the 2nd Vice Commander

I have been busy looking for Spring, and almost forgot to work on an upcoming newsletter contribution! Let me summarize the first quarter's activities to see if there is anything to add to the second quarter.

The Post was able to make a little money during the first quarter thanks to two sell out dinners (one steak and one chicken parmesan). The Super Bowl final score allowed the Post to realize a \$250 donation for the scholarship/Boys State fund. Our website (www.palmyraamericanlegion.com) continues to be updated and I have found out that people actually do read the messages I put into the bar TV ads as well!

Because of the date of Easter, I conferred with the Auxiliary President, Kathleen York, and we decided that it was not in the economic best interest of the Post to have a steak dinner in April. They will resume hopefully in the October. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, supported, and enjoyed the dinners over the winter!

I have been working with Bill Campbell, SAL Commander, on a golf tournament for the Post – to be held August 22 at Winged Pheasant in Shortsville. **We will need both golfers and workers to make this a successful (and hopefully) annual event!**

We have been offered the opportunity to handle the entire Gus Macker Tourney's food concession needs. This will **need the help of many volunteers**, but we will actually then receive all of the proceeds! I am hoping that all three organizations will see this as an opportunity to work together to make this a great community event. We are also **looking for an active Canaltown Days Committee** to take over the planning and execution of our involvement. Again, here's another opportunity for the Post, SAL, and Auxiliary to work together to make the activity successful. Many hands make light work!!

If you would like to **help with securing advertising for the Post**, and are willing to speak to local merchants about supporting our Post, please give me a call! The Bar TV runs ads and information daily; it is changed each month. Local merchants who support Veterans receive free advertising. However, we need to get some names and businesses that you believe are worthy of this free advertising. If a merchant chooses to send in a donation, that's even better!

I would like to propose creating placemats for our dinners to include our logo as well as have local businesses highlighted on them. **If you know of a business** who would like to participate, let me know. As well, **if you know of a printer** who could do a job like this for us, let me know. I am continuing to work on a “dog & pony show” PowerPoint (PC) or Keynote (Mac) presentation so that John Schlafer and I can get out to more senior living communities east of the Genesee River to promote the work of the American Legion and how we support the Veterans and their spouses. Let me know if you would **like to help with this project**.

My closing thought is that if you think someone else is going to do it, you are mistaken. *In the Body family, a task was needed to be done by one of the kids (“Any”, the oldest, “Some”, the middle child, and “No”, the youngest). Any Body could do it. Some Body should do it but, unfortunately, wouldn’t, so No Body ended up doing it!! (Get it??)*

Respectfully submitted,

Dave

Dave Borland, 2nd Vice Commander



NEW POST HOURS

After much thought and consideration, the Board of Directors has decided to implement new operation hours covering our Post facilities. The new hours went into effect on March 1, 2015. Our exception to this is that we WILL stay open if people are here for functions and parties.

Over the past couple of years, we have monitored member attendance, not only at any of the special events here at the post, but also for routine use. During the course of that time, we noticed that night and evening attendance dropped off substantially to the point that we regretfully needed to take the action we did.

Here are the new hours.....

Sunday:	Noon - 8:00 P.M.
Monday-Thursday:	1:00 - 8:00 P.M.
Friday:	1:00 - 10:00 P.M.
Saturday:	Noon - 10:00 P.M.

There probably are several reasons behind the reduction in attendance, but the bottom line is that our members are just not coming through the doors in the numbers we previously enjoyed. This result is a decline in revenue needed to maintain the status quo. We have attempted to offset the reduced revenue by instituting an aggressive expense reduction program that so far has produced a 14% decrease. Work continues with this endeavor. However, we need the support of the members, both physically and financially, to keep our Post viable. We remain hopeful that we will be able to revisit these hour changes in the not too distant future.

Should you have any suggestions and/or recommendations on how to increase our income, please let Amber or any board member know.

Also, if you have any questions or concerns regarding these changes, please don't hesitate to contact either Amber or one of the Board members. We are all here for the greater good of our Veterans and our Post Home!

For the good of the Legion,

The Board of Directors



Sons of the American Legion

Hopefully by the time that all of you receive this, Winter will be behind us! For those of you that spent the past few months in the warmer weather, welcome back. And for those of us that didn't, we wish we had!

As we move into the Spring and early Summer months, we also move ahead as an organization in our efforts to continue to support the James R. Hickey Post 120.

Our **quarterly monthly meetings** for this quarter, held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month @ 7:00pm, are scheduled for **4/15, 5/20 & 6/18**. We encourage you to drop in for one of these so you can better understand what we do as an organization and how valuable our support is, not only to the Post, but also to our community.

On Monday, May 25, Memorial Day, the S.A.L. will again be doing the cooking at the Post after the conclusion of the parade and the ceremonies that will take place at the Palmyra Cemetery. This takes a few hours of our time...time that is very much appreciated by our veterans and others who stop by for the day. Our veterans gave of themselves, the service and dedication to our country, so that we may all enjoy the freedom and liberties that are so precious to all of us. So, I believe, that when we have a chance to show them our appreciation, a few hours of our time is the very least we can do. So I ask you to please contact me and ask how you can help!

The Legion is in the beginning stages of putting together a **Golf Tournament** to be held on Saturday, August 22 at Winged Pheasant Golf Course in Manchester. Please check the website @ www.palmyraamericanlegion.com for news about this event. If successful, this will become a very good fundraiser for all of us.

I would also like to take this opportunity to **thank** all of those who helped out at our monthly dinners last quarter and at the S.A.L. Meat & Shrimp Raffle on Saturday, March 21. Your continued help and support is very much appreciated.

I hope the upcoming months are good to all of you and we hope to see you at an upcoming meeting. It's your organization and, with your support and help, we can continue to make a positive impact on our Post and your community.

Sincerely,

Bill

Billy Campbell, Commander
Sons of the American Legion
James R. Hickey Post 120
billycampbell202@yahoo.com



AUXILIARY CORNER

Yearly Dues

*This is a reminder that yearly dues are \$25.00 and should be made payable to and sent to the James R. Hickey American Legion Auxiliary Unit 120, c/o Dorothy Sobus, Vice President and Membership Chairman, at 128 Cuyler St., Palmyra, N.Y. 14522. We're hoping for 159 members to meet the 2014-2015 goal. As of this printing, we have 133 members, which is 83.65% of our goal. If another 26 join or renew their membership, we'll make our goal. Our slogan for 2014-2015 is: *Marching to the Land of Membership: Bridging our Family Together (SAL, Auxiliary, and Legion)*. Please send in your dues and talk to your friends about joining. The more members we have, the more we can accomplish together! So join now and make a difference in Veterans' lives!*

Monthly Dinners

Just so you know, the last dinner scheduled for April 4 has been cancelled due to the Easter holiday weekend. We did have a sell-out crowd in February! Our first dinner for 2015-2016 will be October 3! More information to come in the Fall newsletter!

Past Events/Information

***Empire Girls State Delegates** - Jordan Hurlbut, daughter of Marc and Karen, will represent Palmyra and the American Legion Auxiliary at the Empire Girls State 2015. Emma May, daughter of Keith and Patricia, is our alternate candidate. In the event that Jordan is unable to attend, Emma will take her place. Empire Girls State will take place at SUNY Brockport, June 27-July 3. Jordan will work with 360 other girls from around New York State to design and create a government from the county to the state level. Each girl who attends learns the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship in a democratic society.*

***Bakeless Bake Sale** - There is still time to "Not Bake" and send in your contribution to this fundraiser!! If you've misplaced your return envelope, please consider mailing your contribution to Pat Goodness at 1935 Meadow Dr., Palmyra, N.Y. 14522. Pat, thanks for coordinating this annual event.*

Chicken and Biscuit Dinner - The SAL and the Auxiliary organized this well attended event. The dinner was a big hit and thoroughly enjoyed by all. There's nothing like "comfort" food to take our minds off this grueling winter!

Donation - A \$15 shamrock lottery tree was donated to The Relay for Life kick-off to be held at the VFW in March. Be sure to get your tickets!

Future Plans

Poppies - The poppies are in and Bev Ingutti, chairwoman for this event, is already planning for this Memorial Day donation drive. Auxiliary members, along with Post members, will be at Breen's Market May 21-23 from 10 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. A big Thank you, Bev, for working so tirelessly to organize this event each year!



Election of Officers - At our May meeting, we'll nominate members for office for 2015-2016. Plan to attend this meeting to select the candidates for office, and installation will be held at our dinner held in June. Our meetings are held the 1st Monday of every month and begin downstairs at 7:00 p.m. See you there!

Carolyn

Submitted by Carolyn Bradstreet for the American Legion Auxiliary 3/15/15
Kathleen York - President

Box Tops for Education (<http://www.boxtops4education.com/>)
& **Labels for Education** (www.labelsforeducation.com/)

This project is continuing for the 2014-2015 year, so please save these valuable product labels.

POST THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!!

APRIL

April 5	Happy Easter
April 6 2pm	Corporation Meeting
April 6 7pm	Auxiliary Meeting
April 13 7pm	Post Meeting
April 15 7pm	SAL Meeting

MAY

May 4 2pm	Corporation Meeting
May 4 7pm	Auxiliary Meeting – Officer Elections
May 10 12 – 4pm	Mother’s Day Chicken BBQ
May 11 7pm	Post Meeting – Officer Elections
May 20 7pm	SAL Meeting
May 22 6pm	Placing Flags in Palmyra Cemetery
May 25 9am	Memorial Day Parade (Palmyra Primary School)
May 25 12N	Open House – Post #120

JUNE

June 1 2pm	Corporation Meeting
June 1 7pm	Auxiliary Meeting – Officers Sworn In
June 8 7pm	Post Meeting – Officers Sworn In
June 13-14	Gus Macker Tournament – Palmyra Community Center
June 14	Flag Day – FLY YOUR FLAG!
June 18 7pm	SAL Meeting
June 20 5 – 11pm	Relay for Life – Pal Mac High School Track
June 20 6pm	Dollars for Scholars Scholarship Presentations

Good Friday, April 3, 2015

Try to save some green and come into the Post Home on Good Friday! Pick an egg to try to win a free drink! Do your best to avoid the dreaded “no special!” You can also save a little in between with \$.25-\$1.00 hidden in the different eggs. Also, hop on in and try a Fuzzy Bunny or a Jelly Bean cocktail! Happy Easter and hopefully spring is coming!!!

Did you know ???

On Memorial Day, the flag is displayed at half staff until noon and at full staff from noon to sunset.

The Wall

By Tim Murphy

On a drizzly D.C. morning, in the middle of July,
My brother brought me downtown to the Mall;
Past the watchful eyes of Lincoln, 'neath a weeping summer sky,
We crossed the street to the little green and visited The Wall.

I remember I was nervous then, I guess a little scared,
'Cause I wasn't sure how I'd react at all;
To see the names of the servicemen who'd been recorded there:
Who'd heard the final roll call and assembled at The Wall.

Someone might stoop to leave a rose, a letter, or a poem;
A message to a young man loved and lost,
To show they still remember those who never made it home:
Who built The Wall so long and tall, and paid the bitter cost.

And every name's a father or a husband or a son,
Or a daughter or a brother or a cousin to someone;
Or a name might be a classmate or a friend you may recall:
There's nearly sixty thousand fallen names still waiting at The Wall.

As I watched the lines of people that walked by in slow parade,
I read a different story in each face;
And I couldn't help but wonder at this pilgrimage we'd made,
And what common bond, if any, might have brought us to this place.

There were tourists, and the curious, and some veterans who came,
Still others who sought an answer to it all;
But the only thing I'm sure of is: we left not quite the same,
With our memories alive and well, and waiting at The Wall.