



The American Legion

*"Veterans still serving America"*

# POST 134 NEWS



**Legion Memorial Home • 6144 Dempster St • Morton Grove, IL 60053 • (847) 965-9503**

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## COMMANDER'S REPORT

By: Tim Milios

Comrades:

Time has come for me to step down from the podium of this great post and with great pride turn the gavel to our new Commander, Jan Lepinski. Please give her and all her officers and chairs all the support you gave me.

I'd like to take a moment and thank all the membership and my officers for their cooperation and hard work during my year as your commander; it is their competence that put American Legion, Post 134 on the No. 1 list in the State of Illinois.

This was an important and busy month with new Rifle Squad Officers being installed and thanks to Rifle Squad Commander, John Maloney; the Squad Party at the post went very well. Thanks also to Poppy Day Chairmen, NEC Ken Trumbull and all the participants for an outstanding job.

We had our Budget Meeting and we were able to cut down on our expenses by approximately \$13,000 from last year's total.

At the 1<sup>st</sup> Division Mini Convention in Summit, our own PC Ron Daum was unanimously elected to the Sr. Vice Commander's post. Keep in mind the Department Convention in Springfield, July 8 thru 10.

Once again, I served with pride and did my best and will have fond memories and cherish the friendships I made during my 35-40 years affiliated with the American Legion and especially my year as your commander.

In closing I wish to extend my congratulations to our new Commander, Jan Lepinski and her entire line of officers.

For God and Country,  
Commander Tim

## July, 2009



### AUXILIARY NEWS

By: Anne Marrazzo

The Auxiliary donated:

\$ 100.00	Morton Grove Library
\$ 300.00	North Chicago VA
\$1,000.00	Hines Hospital
\$1,500.00	Jesse Brown
\$ 25.00	Salvation Army
\$ 50.00	Special Olympics
\$ 50.00	Morton Grove Days

I would like to thank all my Auxiliary Officers and the members for making my two years as President very pleasant and successful.

Without all your competent help I could not have achieved and done all the things to make our Auxiliary a success.

I would also like to thank American Legion, Post 134 for all their help and cooperation. It was a pleasure working with all of you.

I would like to extend my congratulations to our new President, Donna Hedrick, I wish you the best.

God bless,  
Anne



Help the Post save some money!!! If you have a computer and you're using email, get your Legion Newsletter via email. You won't have to wait 2 weeks for the bulk mail to be delivered and you'll have all the info you need by the first day of every month. To sign up you can call Cheryl (847) 663-0539 and give her your info or you can email us at [Post134bulletin@aol.com](mailto:Post134bulletin@aol.com).



# The Chaplain's Corner

I'd like to share a little story with you today submitted by Legionnaire Rich Piasecki, from Fr. Greg -

A successful young executive was driving a bit too fast down a neighborhood street, in his new Jaguar. He was watching for kids darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something. But no one appeared – instead, a brick smashed into the Jag's side door! He slammed on his brakes and backed up, grabbing the nearest kid, and pushed him up against a parked car shouting "What was that all about and who are you - why the heck did you do that? That's a new car and the brick you threw is going to cost you a lot of money!"

The young boy was very apologetic and said "Please mister . . . I'm sorry but I didn't know what else to do. I threw the brick because no one else would stop." With tears dripping down his face and off his chin, the youth pointed to a spot around a parked car - "It's my brother – he rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair, and I can't lift him up." Now sobbing, the boy asked the stunned executive "Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He's hurt and he's too heavy for me."

Trying to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat, he hurriedly lifted the handicapped boy back into his wheelchair, took out a linen handkerchief and dabbed at the fresh scrapes and cuts. A quick look told him everything was going to be okay. "Thank you and may God bless you," the grateful child told the stranger.

It was a long, slow walk back to the Jaguar. The damage was very noticeable, but the driver ever bothered to repair the dented side door. He kept the dent there to remind him of this message: Don't go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at you to get your attention!"

God whispers in our souls and speaks to our hearts. Sometimes, when we don't have time to listen, God has to throw a brick at us. It's our choice to listen or not.

In His Service,  
Chaplain Phil

# EVENTS CALENDAR



CLUB 134 LOUNGE is open Monday thru Friday 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm and on Sundays 12:00 to 5:00 pm. There will be extended hours during the week of Morton Grove Days. July 2<sup>nd</sup> , 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> the hours will be 3:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

## JULY, 2009

JULY 4	M.G. 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade	1:00 PM
JULY 8-12	DEPT. CONVENTION	
JULY 13	Corporation Meeting	7:30 PM
JULY 20	Executive Board Meeting	7:30 PM
JULY 23	Post Meeting	7:30 PM

## AUGUST, 2009

AUG 9	Legion Annual Picnic	1:00 PM
AUG 10	Corporation Meeting	7:30 PM
AUG 11	Auxiliary Budget Meeting	7:00 PM
AUG 13	Rifle Squad Meeting	7:30 PM
AUG 16	First Division Installation	12:00 PM
AUG 21-27	National Convention	
AUG 24	Executive Board	7:30 PM
AUG 27	Post Meeting	7:30 PM

## GUN RANGE ACTIVITIES

MON.	GUN CLUB PISTOL SHOOT	All
TUES.	SENIOR GUN CLUB	range
WED.	JUNIOR GUN CLUB	functions
THURS.	ARLINGTON HTS. CLUB	begin
FRI.*	OPEN SHOOT	approx.
4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> FRI.	AIR RIFLES	7:00 pm

\* Please note, the gun range will open on Fridays at 7:30 pm.

**CHECK WITH RANGE OFFICER FOR EXACT TIMES.**



## JUNE, 2009 MEETING NEWS

### Commander

Tim thanked everyone for their help and cooperation throughout his year as commander.

By: Tim Milios

### Commander Elect

Jan thanked everyone for their support. She outlined her theme for the next year as being "The Four Pillars-Back to Basics." She also discussed her committee chairs and thanked the outgoing chairs for their dedicated service.

By: Jan Lepinski

### Corporation President

Ron thanked Wally Z and Ken Trumbull for the wonderful job they did on the Conference Room. They painted and gave the room a new floor. If anyone wants to add memorabilia to the Memorial Room they must get approval from PC Phil Hutchins or PC Ron Daum.

By: PC Ron Daum

### Rifle Squad Commander

Rifle Squad Party was a success. We had 35 people in attendance. We have a new Rifle Squad member, John Dorgan and we have 3 Squad members on probation.

By: Bob Ferraro

### Service Officer

Visited Haben Funeral Home in Skokie for Columbus Valenti's wake. Columbus was a 60 year member. Talked to PC Don Huber on the phone this month. Mr. Abuja has rendered his resignation, citing health reasons.

By: Al Abuja

### Poppy Day Chairman

Poppy Day gross was approximately \$16,086. \$3,000 was spent on expenses for Poppy Day.

PC Ken Trumbull

### NEW BUSINESS

Joe Piento, Historian, won 2<sup>nd</sup> place on his Post 134 Scrapbook and Cheryl Cubine won 3<sup>rd</sup> place on the Post 134 Newsletter.

The members for the By-Laws Committee are Ron Daum, David Lee and Jerry Weaver. The Committee is going to review changing the Post Everlasting month to April instead of the same month as Elections.

The Executive Board recommends spending \$200.00 to start a Post 134 website. PC Daum stated that these funds should come from the corporation.

All line items on the budget was approved by the Executive Board.

Have you paid your 2010 dues yet? The Legion year runs from July 2009 to July 2010 so your 2010 dues are due now. Please support your Post and pay your dues

***TODAY!!!***



## **POST 134 LEGION FAMILY ANNUAL PICNIC Sunday, August 9, 2009 1:00 pm**

We are asking every family to bring at least one side dish. There will be chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, music, wine, beer, soda and raffles.

Must RSVP by Sunday, August 2, 2009 to attend. Contact Cheryl at (847) 663-0539 or send me an email at [Post134bulletin@aol.com](mailto:Post134bulletin@aol.com).



**Thanks to the money counters Chaplain Phil, Jerry Weaver, Roland Keppen and Uncle Buddy and to all the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL members who made Poppy Days a great success!!!**

### Legion Members:

Ron Daum  
Jan Lepinski  
Casey Bachara  
Ken Trumbull  
Joe Piento  
Kurt Lepinski  
Joe Gesicki  
Dennis Dziedzic  
Don Geschwind  
Wally Zawisza  
Matt Ingram  
David Lee  
Tim Milios  
Don Stotz  
Bob Ferraro  
Jeff Lee  
Ray Ariaz  
Joe Hedrick  
Don M.

Joe Brown  
Einer Erickson  
Gabriel Stataro  
Tom Williams

### Auxiliary Members:

Donna Hedrick  
Cheryl Cubine  
Dee Dolan  
Lynne Weaver  
Anne Marrazzo  
Ann Zwik  
Lil Hutchins

### SAL Members:

Dave Wisniewski  
Jerry Coursey  
Greg Nelson  
Dominic Gear

# Premier Boys State

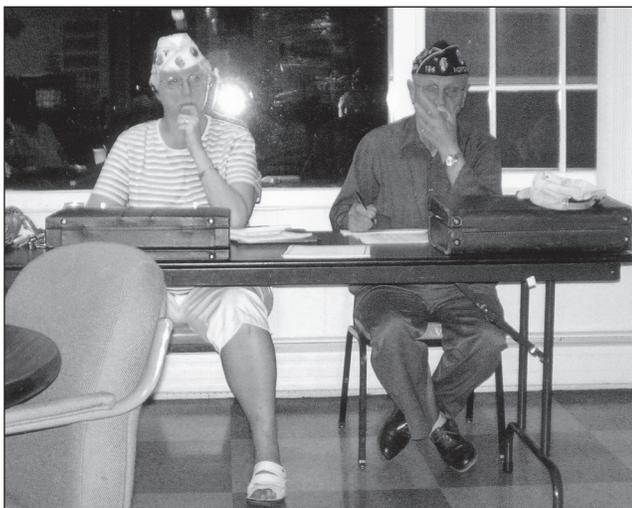
June 12, 2009

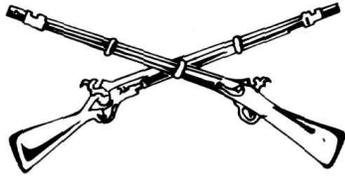
The Morton Grove Post hosted the arrival and departure for the Boys State participants.



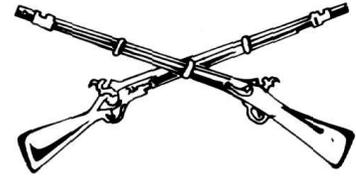
## ***Budget Meeting***

***The Budget Committee met and slashed \$13,000 from our annual budget.***





June 13, 2009



Commander Elect, Jan Lepinski, talked about all the new officers and chairs for 2009-2010.

Bob Ferrao is our new Rifle Squad Commander for 2009-2010.

# *Rifle Squad Party*





*This article was written by a Premier Boys State participant, June 2009.*

During my visit at Eastern Illinois University for the Premier Boys State I had a much better time than I expected. While there I learned many new things that I didn't really know about and learned many things about myself. Some things that I learned from the classes are that one man can not do everything by themselves and the key to success is teamwork. Also I learned how to properly run a city or council meeting with the right ways of parliamentary rules. What I got mostly from my visit to Premier Boys State is that I learned that I do have the courage to go in front of a group of people and give a speech. Also I learned that I can go up to complete strangers and hold a conversation with them, I could also make friends easier than I thought. Another thing I learned from this experience is that you have to put yourself out there and take risks. I followed this by running for the position of the county supervisor, city alderman, city attorney, as well being the goalie for the Stelle County Soccer Team. I took a risk running for these positions because I went in front of my whole city and county at one point and gave a speech to put everything out there and take a chance. Also I learned that there will be failures at times and that you have to just pick up where you left off and keep on charging forward. I really enjoyed all the speeches and assemblies because they gave me the inner power to motivate myself and put myself out there and to take the chances to get the opportunities that are needed to take later in my life. These assemblies' speeches made me look deep into my mind and think about what and where I want to go with my life. Most importantly I would love the opportunity to go back to the Premier Boys State because it was a great time and it made me look inward to answer the difficulties of life.

I would like to send my gratitude towards the American Legion for the opportunity to go to the Premier Boys State program. Also I would like to send gratitude to the post that sponsored me to go on this trip.

Keith Fernandez  
Senior at Elk Grove High School  
Class of 2010

## COMMANDER ELECT'S MESSAGE

**By: Jan Lepinski**

First, let me say how honored I am that you had the faith to elect me as your next Commander. I am truly humbled by and appreciative of your trust in me. I have been thinking for over a year about what I would like to do in this position. I have listened to many of your thoughts and suggestions, and pondered on what the American Legion truly stands. The answer became obvious...the four pillars...Americanism, Children and Youth, Care of the Veterans, and National Security. Thus my theme for this year: The Four Pillars...Back to the Basics.

As we approach the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, I think it is appropriate that we examine the meaning of Freedom. Does freedom mean that we can do or say anything that we want to do or say? Does it give us the right to ignore those in need? If we look at the 4<sup>th</sup> verse of the Star Spangled Banner, we see that with Freedom comes an obligation, both to God and Our Country.

Oh! Thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand  
Between their loved home and the war's desolation!  
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven rescued  
land  
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a  
nation.  
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."  
And the Star - Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

This refrain issues a challenge...to stand and continue to defend Our Country. Only our role has changed from that of warrior to caregiver. It is up to us to uphold the Four Pillars upon which the American Legion is founded, and take action here at home to defend, when our warriors cannot due to deployment. Rather than be apathetic, we need to rise up and take a more active role in our community. I am asking all members of Post 134 to join me in this effort. Please take time to volunteer for an activity during this next year. It does not need to be a huge role, maybe just a call to a shut-in veteran, or supporting our role at Jesse Brown VAMC. But do something!

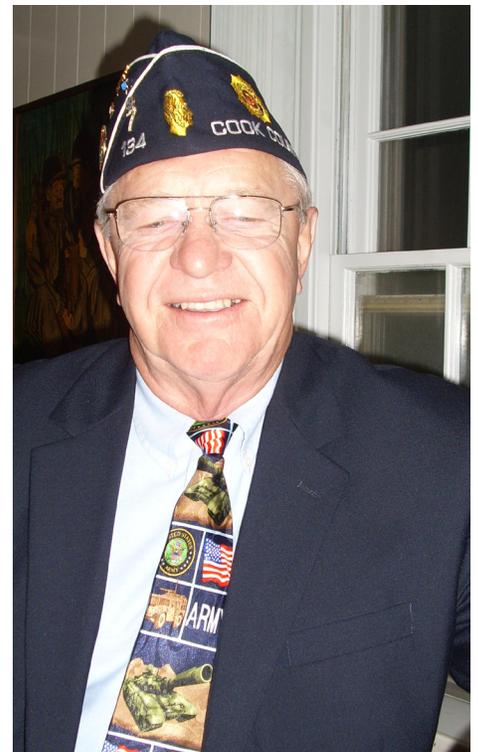
I look forward to talking and working with each of you. If you have an idea for a service event, please let me know.

God Speed and God Bless  
Jan Lepinski



# FIRST DIVISION MEMBERSHIP TRAINING

JUNE 22, 2009 • First Division Membership Training was held at Morton Grove, Post 134. Denise Fields, Membership Director and Ron Daum were the trainers. Al Coughlin was the MC.





# MORTON GROVE POST 134

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 <p><b>VOTE for Ronald I. Daum</b> for 1st Division Commander for the year 2010-2011</p> <p>Member of Post 134</p>	 <p><b>DEMPSTER AUTO SERVICE</b></p> <p><b>847.967.9641</b> 6147 W. Dempster St. • Morton Grove, IL 60053</p> <p>Richard Kim</p>
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