



★ ★ ★ Bill Smith, Commander • (847) 673-2197 ★ ★ ★

The American Legion POST 134 NEWS



Legion Memorial Home • 6144 Dempster St • Morton Grove, IL 60053 • (847) 965-9503 • www.mortongrovepost134.org

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2010 1st place winner in the State of Illinois Post Newsletter Contest

Commander's Message By: William J. Smith

Although the year 2010 might not have been all that we had hoped, I feel 2011 has a lot of promise. This is the halfway point in the Legion Calendar Year, and we have already accomplished much. One of the lines in the Preamble includes the words "Community, State And Nation"; notice that "Community" is the first word in that phrase. We are well known at the National and State levels, but we have been giving the people in our Community "short change". When I took over as Commander, the people of Morton Grove barely knew who we were and, the Village Administration was totally confused by our actions. My Staff and I have managed to turn that around so that people are beginning to recognize us and what we stand for. We have been prominently featured on local television, in newspaper advertising, and through our amazing Bulletin, which is getting wider and wider readership. People are starting to sit up and take notice. Still, there are some who cannot see the value of change yet.

New Year's Eve, our biggest party of the year, presents an opportunity for all of us to end the year with a bang and reestablish connections with old friends. We're having the same band we had last year, much better food although last year's was pretty good, homemade hors d'oeuvres, a sweet tray at each table, champagne, and much more.

Plus, you get to sing Auld Lang Syne with your friends which means in Scottish: Let's remember the good old days we used to have and not "get our shorts in a bunch over very little". Truly though, Myrna and I pray each and every one of you be granted all the wishes you have for 2011. And as Jesus might have once said: You can't have a good party without any people, so come on down.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

William J. Smith
Post Commander

January, 2011



AUXILIARY MESSAGE By: Donna Hedrick (847) 965-1774

The Auxiliary helped serve the food for the Thanksgiving Navy recruits. It was a wonderful experience. The Jesse Brown Group gave 50 gifts to our bingo veterans in December for the holidays. \$150 was given to Morton Grove Fire Department for the Food and Holiday Drive. We mailed to the local grammar school the essay contest information. At our December meeting, we had a Holiday party which was enjoyed by everyone. There is no meeting in January. We hope to see you at the February meeting.

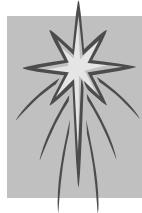
A Happy and Healthy New Year.

THANK YOU

Sailor's Thanksgiving

Thanks to all of you who made this day a big success. The fourth annual Thanksgiving with the Navy recruits was another great event that Post 134 can be proud of. It seems to get better with each year. The Navy Recruits really had a great time. Our thanks to all who helped make this a day to remember for them. Thanks to all the volunteers from the Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, and friends and residents who worked, donated goodies or just stopped by sometime that day to say Hello. You all know who you are.

The Navy Recruit Thanksgiving Day Committee



The Chaplain's Corner

Did it ever seem like others around you have no problems? Makes you wonder why things are always so good for them. They seem to move from one great experience to the next, while you're struggling to just keep your head above water.

You catch yourself starting to think things like "It's not fair - why can't I get a break? When is it going to be my turn?"

The Evangelist, Joel Osteen, suggests that "when challenges come our way, we should look at our choices - will I still believe God is a good God and that He has great things in store for me, or will I settle for less than God's best?

"When we face challenges, especially really significant ones, it's easy to slide into survival mode, but we're not supposed to stay there! Even with the most difficult problems, there is still opportunity. God has given you everything you need to succeed. He wants you to do more than survive; He wants you to 'THRIVE'!"

"You are encouraged to choose to fill your mind with God's promises and His expectations for your life. This is really the key to thriving - don't let your problems shape your expectations. You can live with confidence more easily, knowing that great things are coming your way. This is your moment to thrive!"

So, let's all start this New Year fresh – believe God is who He says He is!

In His service, Chaplain Phil

"The Legionnaire of the Year Dinner"

Honoring

Thomas Stump

Sunday, February 20, 2011

Donation is \$25.00 a person

Cocktails: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Dinner: 5:15 pm

For further info contact Bill Bickley (847) 803-8299



Events Calendar

CLUB 134 LOUNGE is open Monday thru Friday
3:30 pm to 8:00 pm and on
Sundays 12:30 to 5:00 pm.

JANUARY 2011

JAN 10	Corporation Meeting	7:30 pm
JAN 13	Rifle Squad Meeting	7:30 pm
JAN 19	7 th Dist. Meeting @ 166	7:00 pm
JAN 19-26	Department Caravan	
JAN 24	Executive Board	7:30 pm
JAN 27	Post Meeting	7:30 pm

FEBRUARY 2011

FEB 2	1 st Division @ 134	6: 00 pm
FEB 6	Super Bowl	4:30 pm
FEB 7	Corporation Board Mtg.	7:30 pm
FEB 8	134 Auxiliary Meeting	7:00 pm
FEB 10	Rifle Squad Meeting	7:30 pm
FEB 11	Lincoln Pilgrimage	
FEB 16	7 th District 108 @ 142	7:00 pm
FEB 20	Legionnaire of the Year @ 134	
FEB 21	Executive Board Meeting	7:30 pm
FEB 24	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 th & 5 th FRI.	AIR RIFLES	7:30 pm

CHECK WITH RANGE OFFICER FOR EXACT TIMES.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

The Post is looking for a veteran to award him or her with a Life Membership. Please submit a resume for a deserving legionnaire who has demonstrated that he has done great work for the Legion. On the resume, list his or her accomplishments and offices held. The award will be given out next year.

POST 134 December Executive Meeting News

Minutes	PC Joe Hedrick	PC Don Stotz
Approved as written		One death Clifford Schultz. Sick list includes John Perkowitz, Tony Alongi, Warren Unrath, and Al Abudja.
Financial Report	PC Joe Hedrick	PC Don Stotz
Moved and accepted		No applications received
Americanism	PC John Slater	Dennis Dziedzic
Sunday presented our award to an Eagle Scout, Brian Zimmer, from Troop 228 Parkview School. Event held in the main hall. We will be presenting a new flag to a school to replace theirs when we get the size.		Community Service PC Phil Hutchins
Commander	Bill Smith –	Check for \$250 presented to Molloy School. Six members present Hutchins, Matz, Dziedzic, Hedrick, Stotz, and Piento. Breakfast at Marilyn's before.
We are getting ready for the membership caravan which will be coming to our post January 16 th for lunch. Other posts from the area will be stopping to turn in membership. Work has started on fixing the air problem on the gun range. Enough funds can be generated by selling some of the rifles owned by the gun club to cover the expense. A show was done by the Commander and Senior Vice for Comcast that will be airing on their station soon. Joe Piento was sent a registered letter after the last board meeting. Some time was given after the bulletin was printed. There was no response, so the letter was sent. The return receipt was dated December 16 th . Joe was called to meet, but he is out of town until Thursday. The board decided to wait until after he met with the Commander to determine what action, if any, should be done.		Poppy Day Bill Smith
Sr Vice Commander	Matt Ingram	No report
About 589 members, long way to 100%. There are about 75 members that have not renewed for 2010 and 19 2009 that have not paid. This is members with more than two years in the post. Looking for ideas on how to get to 100%. Asked for and received a motion to give the Editor a year end bonus of \$1,000. Award will be given after the floor votes to approve.		SAL Bill Smith
1st Jr. Vice Commander	Kurt Lepinski	Has not received any correspondence or calls from the SAL.
New Year's Party planning has been completed: only thing missing is guests. Very few have made reservations and paid. Rifle Squad Report - they are having a Super Bowl Party February 5 th . Details are in a mailing that just went out.		Veterans Affairs Bill Smith
2nd Jr. Vice Commander	Ray Arias	No report
Hot roast beef for Thursday.		Auxiliary Donna Hedrick
Adjutant	PC Joe Hedrick	Participated in the Thanksgiving for Sailors, attended the thank you for volunteers at Jessie Brown, first time the night groups invited. Thursday bingo at Jesse Brown gave out Christmas gifts. Extras went to a ward where they cannot come down.
Read the correspondence and distributed the information from the Department to the various committee chairs. There have been several instances of individuals going around the Commander and the Executive Committee. Checks are written to the committee instead of the post, and they are working on projects without board approval. We need to work together to build the post regardless of how we feel about different officers.		Public Relations PC Joe Hedrick
Children and Youth	Joe Gesicki	Continuing to get showing of the TV show on channel 6 in Morton Grove and the new show on Comcast that goes over the whole area.
Received thank you letters from MNSAR and Mercy Home for Boys and Girls.		Historian PC David Lee
Corporation	PC Ron Daum	No report.
The trust fund balance will be given at the meeting on Thursday. Starting to transfer funds from the Trust to the Post. WII bowling will start in January. Our poker machines are legal until July. State is still trying to get the new system going. They really haven't got started. It will probably be another year before they have anything in place.		Morton Grove Days PC Jerry Weaver
		Thank you letter on the Halloween event.
		Parliamentarian Lee Tamraz
		No report
		New Business –
		Good of the Legion – PC Trumbull was present and at various times asked about various items. The post office is going to require a new system in February. Adjutant will find out. The bunting is available when a member dies. Who takes care of putting up and taking down? This is not the janitor's job. Commander will resolve. Asked to present a resolution at the post meeting. He will be recognized during for the good of the Legion.
		Chaplin Phil Hutchins – Reminder that a new Assistant Chaplin needed.



GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Clifford Schultz, 9 year member, passed away Nov. 26, 2010.



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