

**The American Legion
Morton Grove
Post 134**
6144 Dempster, Morton Grove,
IL 60053 (847) 965-9503
www.mortongrovepost134.org



May-June 2019

Post 134 is proud to be the largest Illinois Post

Calendar of Meetings & Events:

- May 1st - 7th District Auxiliary Meeting
7:30 p.m.
- May 4th Kentucky Derby Party 4:30 p.m.
Post 1226
- May 9th Rifle Squad Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- May 13th Corporation Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- May 14th Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 p.m. &
Taco Tuesday in Clubhouse
- May 15th - 7th Dist. Meeting @ Post 134,
Everlasting at 7:30 p.m.
- POPPY DAYS** May 16th-18th
- May 17th Cocktail party for National
Commander 5:00 p.m.
- May 18th Armed Forces Day
- May 20th Executive Board Meeting 7:30
p.m.
- May 21st Riders Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- May 23rd Post 134 Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- MEMORIAL DAY PARADE** May 26th 1:30
p.m.
- May 28th Build your own Grilled Burgers
in Clubhouse
- June 10th Corporation Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- June 11th Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Taco Tuesday in Clubhouse

Notice some changes?

You may notice some changes in this month's newsletter. We are now going to be including greetings and articles from all of our Legion Family Members, listing events, and making it easier to reach us. We want to encourage our members, like YOU, to actively participate in being part of the largest Post membership in Illinois. If you have never, or it has been a while since you have attended a Post meeting, we encourage you to take a look and be involved. Post 134 has many events scheduled, with more coming. Stop in and say hi, take a chance at finding the Queen of Hearts during our raffle which is drawn every Tuesday night at 8:30 p.m. Volunteer a couple of hours for Poppy Days, March in a parade... Supporting YOUR Post 134 is supporting the American Legion!

*Our Facebook page: **The American Legion Morton Grove*** is updated daily with pictures, events, and articles that will keep you up to date with Post 134. We encourage you to check it out!

If you prefer to receive this newsletter, and Legion events electronically, please just contact the editor at: mortongrovepost134@gmail.com Every issue we send out electronically, saves us in printing costs.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Michelle Homme, Editor (847) 721-6959 mortongrovepost134@gmail.com

Commander's Message

Bill Petersen (847) 712-1124 j3cubpilot1@yahoo.com

Hello Legion members,
On April 25th we had the Post Everlasting ceremony for our Legion members who passed away last year. Post everlasting is one of many ways we honor our Members.



If you know of anyone who has served in any of the Branches and would like to join Post 134, please contact me with their names, addresses, and/or phone numbers and I'll be happy to contact them. There are many benefits the Post 134 offers our Veterans, and I would be happy to share them with perspective members.

I hope everyone had a good Easter celebration with their family members. Until the next newsletter, I wish everyone good health and happiness.

Calendar of Meetings & Events

Continued:

June 13th Rifle Squad Meeting 7:30 p.m.

June 17th Executive Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.

June 18th Riders Meeting 7:30 pm

June 20th Post Meeting 7:30 p.m.

June 21st Country Party-Line dancing with lessons in main hall 6:30 p.m.



Support the Friday S.A.L. volunteer bartender! The Clubhouse is open from 4-11:00 p.m. on Fridays. No meetings or events are scheduled for May & June, so stop by and say hi!



Legion Riders, save the date! July 20th Riders Fest!



Auxiliary Message

Sharon Martin (847) 967-1875

The Patriotic Conference was held last month in Springfield. Guest speakers included three female homeless Veterans speaking of how they overcame homelessness. It was moving, and quite humbling to hear them talk about the obstacles they have overcome. Together with other Auxiliary members, we made over 100 welcome kits for our homeless female veterans. It was truly an honor to support these women in providing some basic essentials.

During our April Unit 134 meeting, Auxiliary members decided to provide some treats to the veterans at Jesse Brown Veterans Hospital for Easter. Plastic Easter eggs stuffed with candy were given to the 35 veterans that showed up to play bingo during our monthly visit, as well as raffle prizes such as t-shirts & socks. Remaining candy stuffed eggs were distributed to the veterans the following day at their Easter party.

We encourage members to join us in these monthly visits! The time commitment is only a few hours, on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Our next meeting is May 14th, and we will be completing another project after the meeting to show our thankfulness to our veterans.

May is a busy month for our Auxiliary, and a great time to get involved! Join us at the Kentucky Derby Party, Poppy Days, Armed Forces Day, and the Memorial Day Parade! Hope to see you there!



We wish to thank everyone to help with our project of blankets for Jesse Brown VA Hospital for the Dialysis Unit. We delivered these blankets to Jesse Brown VA on February 28th, and we made 100 blankets for a cost of \$1,844.

The total hours were 392 hours, with 233 for Auxiliary members, and 42 for Legion members and 117 for non-legion members. We could not have completed this project without all the help that everyone gave. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

**Morton Grove Auxiliary Unit 134
Donna Hedrick and Bonnie Sheirok**

Check out the article of our Unit in the May issue of the National ALA Magazine www.alaforveterans.org



Gone but not Forgotten

Don Stotz, Service Officer (847)967-5264

Papa213@sbcglobal.net

Ernest Connelly entered Post Everlasting on February 22nd.
He was a 44 year member.

American Legion, Post 134 Executive Board Meeting March 28th 2019

Armed Forces Day Dinner is May 18th at the Elks Lodge in Des Plaines. Members interested in attending contact Post Commander Bill Peterson.

Balance of the Centennial Fund will be placed into the Donation Fund; final balance should be available next month.

Membership is at 102% (1311 members).

Village Liaison Joe Hedrick – The report has been received by the consultant reference the gun range. We will be responding to the Village after its review.

Memorial Ray Ariaz - Order is at 12 bricks. Order forms are at the post, or can be requested via email to mortongrovepost134@gmail.com Completed forms should be dropped off or mailed.

New Business

Post 134 will be hosting a cocktail party for the National Commander Brett P. Reistad on **May 17th, 1700 hours. We encourage our Legion family to attend**, if you are going to be in attendance, please dress accordingly.

AMERICAN LEGION, POST 134 MEETING MINUTES MARCH 28, 2019

Open Issues / New Business

Lithographs for the American Legion 100th year Anniversary have been presented to The Village of Morton Grove, Park Commissioner Mark Manno, and to the Sr. Vice Cmdr. Dept. of IL Roy Weber.

The 100th Anniversary was a successful and fun event. Music by Sweet Reminder (Andrew Sisters cover duo) had everyone singing and dancing.

Rifle Squad, Ron Sheirok (847) 677-5017

New members are needed for the Rifle Squad.

Plans are in the works for the Memorial Day Parade. Plan on signing up if you are interested in riding on the float, or marching in the parade.

Corporation President, Ken Trumbull (847)663-0539

We are currently in the black for the Queen of Hearts Raffle.

Permits have been obtained from Morton Grove and Niles for Poppy Day. Volunteers are always welcomed and encouraged.

Post 134 is encouraging members to receive correspondence such as the newsletter, in electronic form via email. A reduction in paper copies will save in printing costs. Anyone wishing to receive updates, flyers of events, and the newsletter via email instead of mailings; Please send a message to: mortongrovepost134@gmail.com or send a message via our Facebook page.

Village Liaison, Joe Hedrick (847)212-5336

Space rentals in the MAIN HALL on SATURDAY evenings are all booked from April through October of 2019. Friday and Saturday evenings are based on availability.

Auxiliary, Sharon Martin

100 gift packages were made for homeless female Veterans while at the Patriotic Conference in Springfield. Our Auxiliary donated wash cloths, many that were purchased by monetary donations from Auxiliary and S.A.L. members.

Casey Bachara, our Thanksgiving Chair, donated 9 dozen toothbrushes and related hygiene products to be used for future projects.



Boy Scouts (and Legionnaires) Honor John Slater at Kappys in April

**American Legion, Post 134
Executive Board Meeting
April 22nd, 2019**

Financial Report accepted.

Open Issues/New Business

Post Everlasting mailings were done. 17 family members were invited to attend the ceremony on April 25th.

If anyone has knowledge of a Legionnaire passing, please contact Adjutant, Kurt Lepinski (847) 308-9789 email: kurt.lepinski@gmail.com

Legion Riders Joe Lampert

Blessing of the motorcycles will take place on April 27th.

Village Liaison Joe Hedrick

The Village of Morton Grove will be donating 2 banners to the American Legion in celebrating the 100th Anniversary. The banners will hang from the street lights on the north side of Dempster in front of the Post.

New Business

The front door locks have been rekeyed. Please contact Jan Lepinski if you need replacement keys.

Guests Chris Hildebrandt, Jr. Vice of the 7th District, wanted to remind and invite members to the Kentucky Derby Party at Lincolnwood Post 1226, 4170 W. Morse, Lincolnwood on May 4th from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. There will be a lady's hat contest, door prizes, raffles, and complimentary food. Cash Bar.

New Business / Open Issues

The Queen of Hearts Raffle is doing well, and the pot is now over \$4000. Drawings are every Tuesday evening at 8:30 p.m.

Congratulations to members Ray Ariaz & Ray Perez! They entered and won 1st place in a musical competition at Hines VA hospital, and will be competing in Nationals!

Elections are next month, and a perfect time to come to a Post meeting. Each meeting includes a complimentary dinner prior to the meeting, and is the only way you can win the POT OF GOLD! The Pot of Gold Pot is over \$500! You must be present to win, and all members are automatically entered every meeting.

Rifle Squad, Ron Sheirok

Medals were presented to 4 ROTC cadets at Loyola for Military and Academic Excellence. Members are again encouraged to join us for the Memorial Day Parade on May 26th, at 1:30 p.m.

**AMERICAN LEGION, POST 134
MEETING MINUTES
April 25th, 2019**

YOU ARE INVITED

***Reception and Cocktail Party for
National Commander
Brett P. Reistad***

Friday May 17th 5:00 p.m., Post 134 Club House



Rifle Squad members gave a 21 gun salute during the Post Everlasting ceremony, prior to the Post meeting to honor those who entered Post Everlasting.



Members are strongly encouraged to attend and show our support!

MAY 16th-18th, 2019



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
NATIONAL POPPY DAY®

What is Poppy Day?

After World War I, the poppy flourished in Europe. Scientists attributed the growth to soils in France and Belgium becoming enriched with lime from the rubble left by the war. From the dirt and mud grew a beautiful red poppy. The red poppy came to symbolize the blood shed during battle following the publication of the wartime poem "In Flanders Fields" The poem was written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, M.D., while serving on the front lines.

On September 27, 1920, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion family to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died during the war. In 1924, the distribution of poppies became a national program of The American Legion.

Led by the American Legion Auxiliary, each year members of The American Legion Family distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation to support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs.

Poppy Day is celebrated in countries around the world. The American Legion brought National Poppy Day® to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day as National Poppy Day.

On May 24, wear a red poppy to honor the fallen and support the livings who have worn our nation's uniform.

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<mailto:mortongrovepost134@gmail.com>

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