COMMANDER’S MESSAGE
Well as my tenure as Brounshidle Commander fast approaches its one-year anniversary, I can honestly look back over this year and am happy to say that we as an organization have accomplished quite a bit in a very short time.

Our focus has been on strengthening membership, improved public relations/exposure and moving the post electronically into the 21st Century. To date we have confirmed 18 New Members, which is second best in the County, trailing only the East Aurora Post 362 by just one new member. With the last quarter remaining, through your continued efforts, we can push to finish 1st. Each one of you is a Post 205 #1 Recruiter and none of this would be possible without your continued efforts.

I must thank everyone who made time to ensure the success and participated in the following events: 2017 Memorial Day Parade, Kenmore Days 2017, Post Picnic, Veterans Open House, Veterans Day 2017, Holiday Outreach & Family Support, Thank-a-Vet, Post Selection of 3 High Schoolers to attend Boys State, renewed involvement supporting our Brothers and Sisters at the VA and Post First Tuesday Social Nights. An early partnership with the Kenmore Rotary Club initially led to financial support of the Post Open House but became much larger when the post was encouraged to apply for and received a Grant which allowed for the upgrade of the Post Computers.

All of these events occurred in the Public Spotlight with not only print media but television coverage as well. If you have not already done so please Like & Follow the Milton J Brounshidle American Legion Post 205 on Facebook which points to the Post website @ www.kentonpost2015.org

As we turn the corner together in this 99th Year that we celebrate as a Legioninaires and recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice ending the War to End All Wars, we continue to encourage your participation and involvement in Post Functions starting with Post meetings the 3rd Wednesday of each Month at 1930 Hours.

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your Commander! I look forward to meeting you and hearing your ideas at Post events through the coming year! May God Bless America and thank each and every one of you for your continued service.

Ted Balbierz
Commander

POST OFFICERS
Commander Ted Balbierz 534-6288
1st Vice Cmdr Carl Marranca 876-5528
2nd Vice Cmdr Wayne Baumgartner 837-2077
3rd Vice Cmdr Ruth Ann Coppola 446-0321
Adjutant Bob Haug 725-4220
Finance Officer Mike Walsh 834-2161
Chaplain Ed Miller 833-1412
Sgt @ Arms Otto Regensdorfer 833-9196
Historian Bill Kieser 694-0479
Editor Pam Borawski 228-1105

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
May 1st Social Night at the Post @ 7:00pm
May 16th Regular Meeting @7:30pm
May 17th County Mtg @ Hamburg Post 527
May 25th Boulevard Towers Presentation
May 28th Memorial Day Wreath Laying
Jun 2nd County Mtg @ Iroquois Post 1587
Jun 3rd Social Night at the Post @ 7:00pm
Jun 10th Article Deadline for July Newsletter
Jun 14th Flag Day at Lindbergh School
Jun 20th Executive Meeting @ 7:00pm
Regular Meeting @ 7:30pm
Jun 20-23 Kenmore Days

WEBSITE UPDATE – www.legionpost205.org
All events that are scheduled for the VA Center Freedom Hall (Rm 301) will now be posted on the Events Calendar. Also, there is new info on the Special Events Page. As always, any comments or suggestions may be submitted to

WHAT’S IN THIS ISSUE:
- Veterans Valentines
- Kenmore Rotary Grant
- Thunder of Niagara
- Memorial Day Event
- VA Claims
- Post Picnic
- Boys State
- Boulevard Twrs Pres
- Color Guard
VETERANS VALENTINES
On February 21, 2018, Senator Chris Jacobs came to the post meeting to deliver valentines made by the First and Second grade classes at Hoover Elementary School.

KENMORE ROTARY GRANT
The $2,000 grant received from the Kenmore Rotary Club was used to purchase a desktop computer, printer and laptop for the Post.

THUNDER OF NIAGARA AIR SHOW
The Thunder of Niagara Air Show will be held on June 9-10, 2018 at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (thunderofniagara.com). This year, our fearless leader will continue as the announcer. Come one, come all to a very good show.

COLOR GUARD
On May 28th we will be going to the 8 Cemeteries. Please meet at the Post at 7:15am. We are still looking for a few members for the Color Guard. If you are interested, please call me at 876-5528 and I will set you up.

On June 14th, Flag Day, we will meet at Lindbergh School. I will contact you as to the time. Please wear your Legion suite and cap.
Thank you.

PC Carl J. Marranca – Captain

BOULEVARD TOWER PRESENTATION
We’re having an event for Memorial Day on May 25, 2018 at 12:00pm at Boulevard Towers. Veterans will be doing a presentation and will talk with the residents about Memorial Day and its significance.

MEMORIAL DAY WREATH LAYING
We are meeting at the post by 7:30am. A bus will be taking all to each of the sites that morning and return to the Post after the last ceremony. Seating is limited so contact Carl Marranca if you plan to attend. Here are the sites if you wish to just go to one or two:
- Failing Cemetery on Delaware Road and Willowbreeze Road
- Veteran’s Memorial at Colvin and Brighton
- Vietnam Memorial in Elmlawn Cemetery off Brighton Road
- VFW Monument in Elmlawn Cemetery
- Field of Honor in Elmlawn Cemetery
- World War II Monument in Mount Olivet Cemetery
- Kenmore-Tonawanda Municipal Building

 Remember, the Memorial Day Parade is at 11:00 on Delaware Avenue.

VA CLAIMS
Thinking of filing another VA disability compensation claim? Make sure you file it through the new Decision Ready Claim (DRC) Program. With DRC, you can get a decision on your claim in 30 days or less. Work with an accredited Veterans Service Organization (VSO) to determine if the DRC Program is right for you and your claim. Your VSO can then help you gather and submit all relevant and required evidence so your claim is ready for VA to make a decision when you submit it.

Visit the Post website which has the link to take you to the DRC Program.

POST PICNIC
The Post 205 picnic will be held on Saturday, August 4, 2018 at the Police Clubhouse, 25 Roswell Ave. Parking will be in the lot off River Road, NOT ON ROSWELL. The rear entrance is level entry and the Roswell entrance has stairs up and down just to get in. The hours will be 12-4 with food served from 1-2:30.

The sign-up sheet will be made available starting at the April meeting. You can also sign up at the bar or call me at home. Just remember to sign up so we know how much food to buy.

Wayne Baumgartner – 2nd Vice Cmdr

KENMORE DAYS
Kenmore Days is Wednesday, June 20th through Saturday, June 23rd. The Brounshidle Post will have a tent exhibit on Friday and Saturday from 6:00pm to 10:00pm
BOYS STATE
The Post is sponsoring three junior students this year. The selected students are: John Arnold from St. Joseph’s Collegiate Institute; Conklin Masters from Cardinal O’Hara High School; and William Speyer from Kenmore West Senior High School.

MEMBERSHIP
We are 278. We still need 5 Members to pay their dues so we can make our goal. Please check your cards to be sure they read 2018. If not, then you are among the ones who still owe. We are picking up some new members and some transfers. That is great. If you should know of anyone who is eligible, ask them if they would like to join.

God Bless
PC Carl J. Marranca - 1st Vice Cmdr

POST EVERLASTING
It is the Post Commander’s sad duty to report that the following Comrades have been called from our midst and have reported to the “Commander of All” and are hereby transferred from roles at Milton J. Brounshidle Post 205 to Post Everlasting.

Gordon H. Tresch

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

CHAPLAIN’S MESSAGE
If anybody knows of a Member who is sick or in the hospital, please call the Chaplain at 833-1412. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Please remember our long-distance members as well. James Henry lives in North Las Vegas, Nevada. The Las Vegas Review-Journal had a 12/16/16 article about him and how he is coping with PTSD.

Bob Manzella is a Korean War Air Force veteran and past Post Adjutant. He is now returned home from his convalescence.

Ed Miller – Chaplain

BIRTHDAY WISHES


AUXILIARY PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
My sincere thanks to everyone who has made this year a successful one. To Commander Ted Balbierz, I would like to thank you and your officers for all the courtesies extended to the Auxiliary and myself.

May is the month designated for the distribution of the poppy. The proceeds from this program are used for the veterans and no other purpose.

I hope that everyone had a healthy and safe Easter vacation, even though our weather didn’t cooperate. Get well wishes to all who’s health is not up to par. If you know of anyone who is ill or in the hospital, please call our Chaplain, Margaret Fischer, at 876-5224 so that she can send a card from the Auxiliary.

The American Legion Poppy
Our poppy is as red as blood
That on the ground did lie –
And quietly it tells its tale
Of those who had to die.

For those who gave us all they had
In memories we keep –
The simple poppy honors those
Who now lay fast asleep.

Again, thank you for a wonderful year as your President.

Marge Manzella – President 876-6597

AUXILIARY OFFICERS
President Marge Manzella 876-6597
1st Vice Pres Helen Schalk 874-7084
Secretary Marge Fischer 876-5224
Treasurer Amelia Parrish 883-0434
Chaplain Marge Fischer 876-5224
Sgt @ Arms Pauline Bertini 862-9250
An Invitation To:
Milton J. Brounshidle Post 205
American Legion
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