



BROUNSHIDLE POST #205 LEGIONNAIRE

3354 Delaware Avenue, Kenmore, NY

May 2020

Commander Requests a Moment of Reflection this Memorial Day 2020

With regard to the cancellation of Memorial Day activities due to the Corona Virus this year, we as Americans honor the more than 1 million men and women who have lost their lives defending America since the Revolutionary War will look different due to safety concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

In these times when a lot of what we have done routinely is no longer an option, we must continue to honor those who fell for us in battle.

I am requesting that each of you please take a moment on this Memorial Day to pause and remember all those who have sacrificed their lives while serving others.

May God bless them and may God bless you for remembering them this Memorial Day 2020.

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

You're traveling through another dimension, a dimension not only of sight and sound but of mind. A journey into a wondrous land whose boundaries are that of imagination. That's the signpost up ahead - your next stop, the Twilight Zone! To say that 2020 has been surreal is an understatement. I hope that this finds each of you and your families all well and not in need of anything.

In an attempt to ensure the safety and well-being of all of our Legion Family Members, by now everyone should have received word that the 2020 American Legion Conventions from National down to County have been canceled. As the entire Legion Family has been unable to conduct any meetings, National & Department have directed that all current Officers be held over for a second term.

Per the State of Emergency at the local level, Memorial Hall, including the TVC Bar, has been closed down and all Hall Rentals thru May have been canceled and refunded accordingly. Post 205 has lost anticipated revenue from several fundraising opportunities (Canceled 2 Pancake Breakfasts & Meat Raffle).

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

What's Been Happening – Spring Raffle, Fresh Produce Delivery to Kenton Cares

Upcoming Events – Events for May are Cancelled

Everything Historical – Vietnam War, 1955-1965

Our Members – Birthdays, etc.

Post Everlasting

Information Corner; Temporary Financial Assistance, Change to Electronic Copies, Sons of the American Legion (SAL)

That being said, I am sending a Huge Salute to all those Post 205 Legionnaires who Stepped Up and responded to support the Post Spring Raffle. The plan had been to sell 1000 \$5 chances at Post Spring Fundraisers, but with all of the cancellations we were left well short of making this year's Raffle viable. In an effort to salvage this year's Raffle, the Post sent a request to each member to support the Spring Raffle by purchasing tickets. You All Stood Tall - and you sent additional donations on top of ticket sales! Thank you for saving the Raffle from being a total loss! While it didn't sell out, we managed a respectable return. Thank you all, so very much for all your support & much appreciation to both Vice Commander Borawski and his wife Pam (our editor in chief) for completing the mailing and Vice Commander Baumgartner for managing this year's raffle!

As a trade-off, the Posts' anticipated costs have also been reduced. In addition to the above cancellations, this year's Boys State & American Legion College have been cancelled. For the first time in its over 70 Year history, we have been forced to cancel Kenton's Memorial Day Parade, leaving the Post on Financially Stable Ground.

As previously stated, if at any point during this time of isolation, you or your family need any type of assistance, we are requesting that you do not hesitate to contact any of Post 205 Officers or myself. We will do whatever is necessary to assist you in whatever your need may be. We are Family!

I look forward to meeting each of you at any or all of the upcoming Post events when they resume! Thank you for your continued service and support of your American Legion and the Milton J Brounshidle Post!

In Continued Service for God & Country... Stay Well!

Ted Balbierz

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 5th Social Night – Cancelled
- May 8th 75th Anniversary of VE Day
- May 9th Happy Mother’s Day
- May 16th Armed Forces Day
- May 18th Newsletter Articles Needed
- May 19th Executive Committee Mtg (tentative)
- May 20th Regular Mtg (tentative)
- May 21th County Meeting – Cancelled
- May 22nd National Poppy Day
- May 25th Wreath Laying – Cancelled
- May 25th Memorial Day Parade - Cancelled

~~* Tonawanda Veterans Club open daily from Noon to 11:00pm.~~

POST OFFICERS

Commander	Ted Balbierz	534-6288
1 st Vice Cmdr	Ray Borawski	832-8969
2 nd Vice Cmdr	Wayne Baumgartner	837-2077
3 rd 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	Derek Sansone	585-313-9671
Editor	Pam Borawski	228-1105

WHAT’S BEEN HAPPENING!

SPRING 2020 RAFFLE

Although the pancake breakfast was cancelled, we have done the drawing for the Spring Raffle winners. But first we would like to thank the membership-at-large for their tremendous support of this event. We sold 490 tickets and had donations of \$620. All your support brought in \$3,070. Jim Cavallaro won the 50” LG 4K Smart TV; Pam Borawski won the Thurman Thomas Autographed Football, and Otto Regensdorfer won the Paddock Chevrolet Golf Bag with accessories. Congratulations to all of the winners.

FRESH PRODUCE DELIVERY

But not all Community Outreach has been lost in this time of need. In an effort to assist the Kenton Community at Large, Post 205 Officers have approved a \$1000 donation to provide fresh produce to our good friends at the Kenton Closet’s Food Pantry- Kenton Cares. I wish to thank Vice Commanders Borawski, Coppola, Adjutant Haug, Children & Youth Chair Nick Scott and Ways & Means Chair Fran Roselli for

their participation in the delivery of fresh produce to Kenton Cares Food Pantry! This donation was well timed and extremely well received.

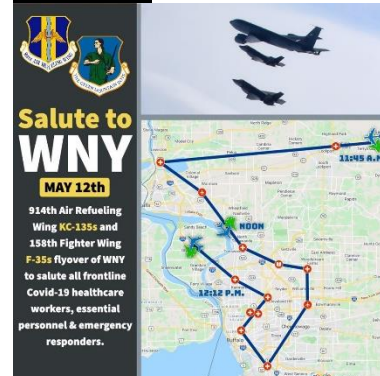


UPCOMING EVENTS

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic Virus, most May events were cancelled.

However, there will be another fresh produce delivery to Kenton Cares on May 7th.

FLYOVER



Following a regional training mission on May 12, aircraft from the 914th Air Refueling Wing and 158th Fighter Wing are scheduled to fly in formation starting around 11:45 am over the Eastern Niagara Hospital followed by Mount

St. Mary’s Hospital, Niagara Falls International Airport, DeGraff Memorial Hospital, University at Buffalo, Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital, Buffalo Niagara International Airport, Mercy Hospital of Buffalo, Buffalo General Medical Center, Erie County Medical Center & Sisters of Charity Hospital, VA Western New York Healthcare System and Kenmore Mercy Hospital. It should be over Tonawanda around noon and Kenmore around 12:10 or a little after.

EVERYTHING HISTORICAL

Conflict of the Month: Vietnam “May” 1955-1965.

5/16/55: US signs military assistance agreement w/Cambodia, replaced France.

- 5/24/57: U.S. personnel in S. Vietnam increase to 736. Most part of Mil. Asst. Advisory Group (MAAG).
- 5/25/59: U.S. advisers to accompany on ARVN ops, "provided they don't become involved in combat."
- 5/60: 3 U.S. SF teams arrive to train Commando Companies (1st Counterinsurgent Op training to ARVN).
- 5/2/61: Pres. Kennedy considers intervening but cease fire btwn Communist Rebels & Laos Govt. troops eased tension btwn U.S. & USSR backing different factions.
- 5/5/61: JCS Chair Gen. Lemnitzer to MAAG Chief McGarr "Kennedy ready to do what w/in reason to save SE Asia" but" marginal & piecemeal efforts wld not save S. Vietnam from Communist victory."
- 5/21/62: Lt. Col. John Paul Vann arrived to head U.S. advisor mission (become best known adviser & spend most of next 10 yrs. in country).
- 5/26/62: Gen. William Rosson to Gen. Maxwell Taylor (advisor to Pres. Kennedy) "SF being used improperly & shld engage in offensive ops."
- 5/63: China's #2 leader Liu Shaoqi told Ho Chi Minh to count on China as "strategic rear" if war expands (btwn '56 & '63, China provided apx. \$130 Mil. in military aid).
- 5/63: JCS direct Adm. Harry Felt (CNC U.S. Pacific Cmd) to plan covert raids in N. Vietnam (OPLAN 34-63).
- 5/63: Showing strain btwn Pres. Diệm & U.S., Diệm quoted in Washington Post "S. Vietnam wld like ½ of 12k to 13k U.S. military stationed here leave country."
- 5/12/63: On S. Vietnam situation, NY Times quoted McNamara: "tremendously encouraged w/progress made." Article titled "McNamara Says Aid to Saigon at Peak & Will Level Off."
- 5/2/64: VC commandos elude detection & place explosives on USS Card. Ship sunk & 5 U.S. Sailors killed.
- 5/23/64: NVA estimated at 16 Divisions totaling 280k + Militias & Border Force totaling 600k.
- 5/4/65: Pres. Johnson requests \$700 Mil. for war, says additional \$ may be requested.
- 5/5/65: 173rd Airborne Brigade (1st Army combat unit) arrive to provide security to Biên Hòa airbase & Vũng Tàu port.
- 5/7/65: NMCB-10 (1st Seabee Battalion deployed to RVN) lands w/3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade.
- 5/10-15/65: Battle of Song Be. VC overran Phước Long Province capital city. ARVN recaptured w/U.S. air support. VC withdrew & evaded pursuit.
- 5/13-18/65: Pres. Johnson halts "Rolling Thunder" bombings to induce N. Vietnam to negotiate peace agreement. N. Vietnam said halt an "effort to camouflage U.S. intensification of war."
- 5/16/65: Ho Chi Minh requests more aid frm Mao Zedong. Logistical aid given but no military intervention unless U.S. invades N. Vietnam (China's personnel in N. Vietnam to reach 160k).
- 5/16/65: 27 U.S. killed & 40 planes destroyed in explosion at Biên Hoa airbase.

HISTORIAN'S NOTE: If anyone has any thoughts on how to support the deployed Niagara Security Forces, please call me at (585) 313-9671.

If anyone has pictures of Spring/Summer '19 Post 205 events, please provide copies. Email to: killerbee05@hotmail.com.

Next Month: Cold War "April."

OUR MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to welcome our new member, Bart Panepinto. Welcome to Brounshidle Post 205!

The Post's membership is currently 300, which is 103% of the goal assigned by National Headquarters. Thanks to all our recruiters, keep it going! If you know any veteran who is eligible to join, please give them my phone number and I will take it from there.

As always, feel free to contact me directly with any concerns about membership.

Ray Borawski, Membership Chairman

BIRTHDAY WISHES

MAY: Paul Angrisano, Robert Beasley, Joseph Bosa, Curtis Collins, Dennis Conroy, Jon Anthony Dulan, Michael Dunn, Kenneth Fox, Valentine Fudala, James Garvey, Robert Golibersuch, Carl Hagan, Richard Hastings, John Higgins, Henry Kapela, Paul Kennedy, Courtland LaVallee, Jerome Maragliano, Edward Miller, Kenneth Perry, Raymond Peterson, John Redner, Otto Regensdorfer, Donald Rinus, Leon Rousselle, Nicholas Scott, Philip Todaro, Erik Ulatowski, Allan Wark, John Zemak.

POST EVERLASTING

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

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.

Charles L. Panzica, Jr.
John C. McCarthy

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Ed Miller – Chaplain

INFORMATION CORNER

TEMPORARY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program has awarded cash grants to help families in need meet the cost of shelter, food, utilities and health expenses. For more information, contact the Department of New York at info@nylegion.org or (518) 463-2215

CHANGEOVER TO ELECTRONIC COPIES

If you prefer to receive an electronic version of the newsletter only, please make sure to supply your email address to the editor at (716) 228-1105 or borajklj1973@gmail.com

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Milton J. Brounshidle Squadron 205 is reviving itself. We have 17 members as of 2/19/2020. Membership is open to sons or grandsons of Legionnaires or deceased Veterans. Applications are available at the Post or by contacting SAL Adjutant PC Bruce Mayfield (716-432-7897). Dues are \$15.00

AUXILIARY VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello to all Auxiliary Members!

I know that this has been an unprecedented event so far. Staying at home, wearing masks, and staying six feet apart are not normal. But we all want to make sure that everyone stays healthy. So, I ask all of you to take these precautions for as long as necessary to keep you safe and to keep your family and the families of others safe as well.

I hope with this writing that everyone is in the best of health. However, if anyone is ill or you know of a member who is, please call our Chaplain, Helen Schalk at 874-7084.

I was just informed recently that our Secretary, Marge Fisher, took a fall and injured herself. Please take some time to send her a card to make her feel better as she heals. The address is 104 Bering Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14223

We would like to welcome our new members to the Auxiliary and Post 205; Lauren Balbierz and Ruth Ann Coppola.

All Auxiliary Meetings have been cancelled. This includes the County, State and National Conventions. It has also been stated that all officers continue in office for the 2020 year until elections next May.

May is Poppy month. Due to the virus we will not be able to do the things we would normally do, but hopefully sometime later this year we can extend this message to the public.

Stay healthy and hopefully we will be together again soon.

Pam Borawski – Vice President

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President	Marge Manzella	876-6597
1 st Vice Pres	Pamela Borawski	228-1105
Secretary	Marge Fischer	876-5224
Treasurer	Amelia Parrish	883-0434
Chaplain	Helen Schalk	874-7084
Sgt @ Arms	Pauline Bertini	862-9250

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— Post Member —



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and VFW Post 9226



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