



BROUNSHIDLE POST #205 LEGIONNAIRE

3354 Delaware Avenue, Kenmore, NY

July 2020

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

On Saturday, July 4th, we as a Nation will celebrate our 244th Birthday. I use the new definition of "Celebrate", of course, keeping six-foot distancing and face masks in mind.

On Wednesday, June 10th, members of the TVC Board met with Town Officials to discuss moving forward to begin the phased re-opening of Memorial Hall and went into further detail to discuss the requirements of opening the TVC Bar.

This is not a simple process and requires strict adherence to the Phase 3 & Phase 4 Guidelines set by the State to include but not be limited to:

1. 36sq ft per person represents social distancing. [Phase-3 25 People] [Phase-4 90 People] per active use zone if physical distancing is not possible.
2. Clean, sanitize, and disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the day. Maintain daily opening and closing sanitation schedule.
3. Clean and sanitize according to CDC guidelines. Limit contact of facility electronics
4. Adhere to Group gathering guidelines and 6ft physical distancing.
5. Provide for handwashing or sanitizing before and after each activity. Prop open doors when possible. Use a different entry and exit when possible.
6. Do not use touch pads or sign in sheets. Staff should sign in and out all users. Provide barriers for staff when possible. Use electronic payment as much as possible.
7. Ensure proper time needed between each program/meeting for proper sanitation.
8. No shared food and beverages. Disposable packaging only.
9. Registered participants only.

With strict adherence of the above requirements, we are moving forward to re-open Memorial Hall as a meeting place. Your TVC Board is working together with the Bar Steward to determine the best course of action for the reopening of the TVC Bar and will be making a determination as to when it will be cost effective to reopen the TVC Bar. (Stay Tuned)

After reviewing all of the guidelines and requirements we have decided that we will be assembling in the Lower Hall for our first General Meeting since

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

What's Been Happening - 2020 Veterans Hall of Fame Inductee

Upcoming Events – Events for July are Tentative or Cancelled

Everything Historical – The Tanker War

Our Members – Birthdays, etc.

Information Corner; Temporary Financial Assistance, Past Issues, Sons of the American Legion (SAL)

February on Wednesday, July 15th at 1900hrs. No Food or Drink can be provided. We will be getting together as an organization to discuss moving forward... Please be sure to wear your mask.

Until further notice there will not be a Social Nite or Executive Board meeting. Vice Commander Ruth Ann Coppola has been in contact with the Buffalo VA about the resumption of Post 205 VA LCR Game Nite and the Hospital has not relaxed its restrictions and we will not resume functions at the Buffalo VA, until approved.

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
Post 205 Commander

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jul 1 st	Social Night – Cancelled
Jul 4 th	Happy Fourth of July!!
Jul 7 th	Social Event – Cancelled
Jul 14 th	Executive Committee Mtg (cancelled)
Jul 15 th	Regular Mtg (will be held)
Jul 16 th	Newsletter Articles

~~*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!

2020 VETERANS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

In a ceremony in front of the Vietnam Memorial at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park, NY State Senator Chris Jacobs recognized John "Jack" O'Connor as the 60th Senate District's Veterans Hall of Fame Inductee for 2020.

Mr. O'Connor served in the US Army in Vietnam, with the 82nd Airborne Division and the 25th Infantry Division. He earned the Bronze Star, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, an Army Commendation Medal and a Combat Infantry Badge.

After discharge, he was involved with the Erie County Social Services working closely with veterans. He played a part in the establishment of the Veterans Treatment Court. He continues his support of his fellow veterans as a member of the Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 77.

For a more detailed statement from the office of Chris Jacobs go to:
<https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/chris-jacobs/jacobs-honors-2020-veterans-hall-fame-inductee-john-jack>

FOOD TO VETERAN FAMILIES

Western New York Heroes and the food delivery service Hello Fresh made it possible to assist veteran families.

Hello Fresh donated enough food to feed 150 veteran families. Each box had chicken strips, beans, cheese and oranges. It also included a card with instructions for families to make each recipe.

Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul was there to help pack the boxes and hand them out. She says this was a much-needed donation after months of

hardship and went on to say the meals are being delivered quietly, right to families in a dignified way.

Each Tues (12-5pm), Wed, & Thurs. (9-5pm) through Aug. 4th, Veterans can drive to WNY Heroes office at 8205 Main St. Suite 1, in Williamsville 14221; stay in their car, show them your DD214, and receive free meals for them and their immediate dependents, with preparation instructions provided by our staff and volunteers. The menu items will change each week.

EVERYTHING HISTORICAL

The "Tanker War."

Targeting by Iran & Iraq of each other's merchant shipping (in particular oil tankers) became known as the "Tanker War. "

It represented the most sustained attack on merchant shipping since World War II & resulted in over 400 civilian seamen killed, hundreds of merchant ships damaged & substantial economic losses. Its broader significance lay in the danger such attacks posed to an international economy critically dependent on Gulf oil exports traversing the Straits of Hormuz. Equally as significant was the Tanker War's potential for escalation, as outside powers became drawn in to the conflict w/the intention of ensuring freedom of navigation.

1987–1988: Operation "Earnest Will" & Operation "Prime Chance."
US increased Persian Gulf Ops & adopted policy of reflagging & escorting Kuwaiti oil tankers through the gulf to protect them from Iraqi & Iranian attacks.

5/17/87:
USS Stark struck by 2 Exocet anti-ship missiles fired from Iraqi Air Force fighter jet, killing 37 U.S. Sailors.

10/19/87: Operation "Nimble Archer."
U.S. Navy attacks 2 Iranian oil platforms in Persian Gulf in response to Iran's attack on the MV Sea Isle City, a reflagged Kuwaiti oil tanker with a Silkworm missile on 10/16/87.

July 1988: Operation "Praying Mantis."
After U.S. ships were fired upon or struck mines, U.S. Navy attacked w/several groups of surface warships, plus USS Enterprise aircraft & her cruiser escort, USS Truxtun.

This battle was largest surface engagement since World War II. It also marked U.S. Navy's 1st exchange of anti-ship missiles w/opposing ships & only occasion since World War II in which the US Navy sank a major surface combatant.

By end of operation, U.S. air & surface units had sunk, or severely damaged, 1/2 of Iran's operational fleet.

Since these battles in '80s, Iranian Revolutionary Guard has invested in a range of anti-shipping capabilities including: small submarines, mines, anti-ship weapons, large #'s of fast attack boats geared towards swarming tactics. The threat to international shipping & freedom of movement through the Straits of Hormuz remains ever present. However, in the face of dedicated US & international counter-measures, the ability of Iran to close the Straits for long periods of time remains doubtful.

If anyone has pictures of Spring/Summer '19 Post 205 events, please provide copies. Email to: killer-bee05@hotmail.com.

OUR MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP

The Post's membership is currently 305, 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

JULY: Charles Bainbridge, Stephen Buda, John Camardo, James Curran, David Dolce, Keith Greiner, Michael Hennessy, John Hess, Richard Hubbard, Jeffrey Johnson, Dennis Kaniecki, Henry Kolb, Paul Kramer, Ralph MacVittie, James Pernick, Frank Pfalzer, Robert Ritter, Carlton Rusch, Joseph Sardo, Tim Shotwell, Roy Starkey, Marc Tronolone, Denis Uminski, Daniel Woitas.

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

PAST ISSUES

During the pandemic, some months of newsletters were only available in electronic format. If anyone needs a copy of past newsletters, please contact the editor.

AUXILIARY VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello to all Auxiliary Members!

It is now four months and counting since the virus disrupting all normalcy. Our prayers go out to all of those states who are now going through what New York had with this virus epidemic. If anyone is planning any travel this summer, please stay safe and follow all guidelines.

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.

All Auxiliary Meetings have still been cancelled at this time. Hopefully we can start up meetings again in July. Please watch for updates. It has also been stated that all officers can continue in office for the 2020 year until elections next May. This can be discussed further if our meetings begin again soon.

Stay healthy and hopefully we will be together again in the upcoming months.

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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and VFW Post 9226



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