



# Bolingbrook Legionnaire

American Legion

Post #1288, Auxilliary Unit #1288

P.O. Box 1133

Bolingbrook, IL 60440-1133



An Award Winning Newsletter, Again

July 2006

Volume 9, Number 7

On the Web: <http://members.aol.com/ilam1288>

## NEWSLETTER RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

The Bolingbrook Legionnaire took a third place in the Department's statewide newsletter contest in the Small Post (15 – 200 members) category. The newsletter was among 7 entries judged for the competition. Department (and Will County) Public Relations Chairperson Tom Riley made the announcement at the last County meeting, June 16.

## POST/UNIT INSTALLATION AUGUST 7

Post and Unit 1288 will hold a joint installation August 7, 2006 at the Joseph and Sarah Levy Senior Citizen Center. The evening will include dinner, followed by the installation ceremonies. We may also have an open bar if we can fund the bar costs. Post 1288 will provide the meat (BBQ pork) and the Unit will provide side dishes. Anyone can bring a dish to pass if they like. The times have not been established, but will probably be in the range of 6:30 for refreshments, 7:00 for dinner and 7:30ish for the installations.

The Will County installation will be July 23 at 3:00 p.m., 5:00 Dinner, Post 1291, 25346 Dixie Hwy, Crete, IL

## BINGO FOR BLIND HINES VETS JULY 20

Post 1288 is sponsoring a BINGO night for the Hines residents of the new Center of the Blind on July 20. Approximately twenty and perhaps up to thirty five residents are likely to attend the event. We will be providing cash prizes (up to \$150) and refreshments. Similar to the events we have participated in at the Manteno Illinois Veterans Home, this will provide a break from the routine of institutional living for the residents.

We will need as many "helpers" as we can get. While it will only take four or five persons to put on the technical aspects of the BINGO, the residents appreciate assistance with helping fill out their cards. So we can use as many additional "helpers" as we can get.

The event is set to start at the Hines facility 7:00 p.m. on the 20<sup>th</sup>. If you can participate and or drive, we can caravan from the Levy Center and leave about 5:30 p.m. If you can participate, as a helper and or a driver, please let us know by the 15<sup>th</sup> so we can make sure we have enough car space. Please call Mike Leonardo at 630.972.1199 or e-mail him at [mike229@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mike229@sbcglobal.net).

Auxiliary members are invited to participate also.

## WE HAVE NEW POST OFFICERS

Post 1288 elected/appointed the following persons to offices for the 2006-2007 Legion year. The year begins and ends with the installation of the new Department Commander at the close of the Department convention, July 15. Local officers, however, usually assume their duties during the Post or County installations.

This year's Post officers are:

- Commander:..... Joe Rojek, Sr.
- Senior Vice-Commander:..... Elden Laffoon, Sr.
- Junior Vice-Commander:..... Bettye Carter
- Finance Officer:..... Wayne Macejak,
- Judge Advocate:..... Angelo Pellitieri
- Chaplain:..... Mel Hansen
- Sergeant at Arms:..... Dan Armstrong
- Assistant Sgt. at Arms:..... Leroy Rheubottom
- Adjutant:..... Frank Zwettler,
- Service Officer:..... Arthur Taylor
- Historian:..... Bettye Carter
- Department Convention
  - Delegate: Bettye Carter
  - Alternate: Arthur Taylor
- Veterans Assistance Commission
  - Delegate: Wayne Macejak
  - Alternate: Arthur Taylor



### Always Remembered

### Never Forgotten

#### Out Going Primary Post Officers

Commander	Elden P. Laffoon, Sr.	630.783.2669
Sr. Vice Cmndr	Larry Shaver	630.759.1274
Jr. Vice Cmndr	Bettye Carter	630.378.1433
Adjutant	Joe Rojek	630.759.6450
Finance Officer	Wayne Macejak	630.378.6223

#### Out Going Primary Unit Officers

President	Nicky Armstrong	630.378.9247
Vice-President	Herstine Crenshaw	630.759.5661
Treasurer	Kimberly Macejak	630.202.2053

**Meeting in the Levy Senior Center**  
**251 Canterbury Lane: 7:30 p.m.**  
**Post #1288 – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the Month**  
**Auxiliary Unit**  
**#1288 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the Month**  
**American Legion Motto: *Get Involved***

## COMING EVENTS

Monday, **July 3: NO POST MEETING**

Monday, **July 10**, 7:30 p.m.: VAC Meeting, 128 N. Scott Street, Joliet.

Monday, **July 17**, 7:30 p.m.: Auxiliary Unit Meeting, Levy Sr. Center, 251 S. Canterbury Ln.

**Thursday, July 20, 5:30 p.m.:** Depart Levy Center for BINGO with Blind Veterans at the Hinds Center for the Blind. 7:00 BINGO, 8:30ish departure.

**Sunday, July 23, 3:00 p.m.:** **County Installation**, 5:00, Dinner Crete Post #1291, 25346 Dixie Highway

Monday, **Aug 7**,: Post/Unit Installaton Dinner Meeting, Levy Sr. Center, 251 S. Canterbury Ln. Social: 6:30, Dinner: 7:00, Installations follow.

## FREE FAMILY CALLS TO VETS IN IRAQ

**A message received from Judy Biggert**  
**Do You Have Friends or Family Stationed in Iraq?**  
*Visit with them live through videoconferencing*

Dear Friend,

I am writing today to ask for your help. While in Iraq last week, I had the pleasure of meeting with many soldiers from our area. They all wanted to know what was happening back home, so I'd like them to have a chance to be "home" for the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday - via videoconference.

**If you or anyone you know in the Chicago area has friends or family members serving at Camp Taji, Camp Fallujah or Al-Asad Airbase in Iraq, we want to connect you via a free videoconference session in the days and weeks to come.**

Thanks to videoconferencing technology in my Willowbrook, Illinois office and a not-for-profit organization called Freedom Calls ([www.freedomcalls.org](http://www.freedomcalls.org)) that has similar equipment at bases in Iraq, soldiers can see and talk with their family and friends live via the internet.

The challenge is finding families and friends interested in using this technology. Military records are private, so the Department of Defense cannot help us locate eligible families. So please, **spread the word**. Forward this message to anyone you know in the area who has a loved one stationed in Iraq at Camp Taji, Camp Fallujah or at Al-Asad Airbase. Tell them to email [brian.colgan@mail.house.gov](mailto:brian.colgan@mail.house.gov) or call Brian or Dawn at 202-225-3515 or 630-655-2052 so we can find a way to celebrate our independence with those who fight to protect it.

Thank you,

Judy Biggert

## VILLAGE PICNIC A SUCCESS

Post 1288 sponsored a food booth at this year's village picnic. We sold absolutely really good BBQ pork sandwiches with Cole slaw, as well as pop and potato chips. Unfortunately, our booth was the first one beyond the free hotdog stand, so most who went past us had a fresh hotdog in their hands, but the pop sold pretty well. Still, we sold about 144 sandwiches with the slaw and chips for \$3.00 a piece. The pork was secured by Larry Shavers' son, who works for the company that makes the product. Their primary customer is the U.S. Military. These are 5 pound frozen boil bags and come just the way the military gets them. It was really good. Way better than K or C rations. All in all, we grossed \$519.40 in food sale, with the bills still to be settled up. Luckily, most of the meat was donated.

The Post and the Unit also had information tables, where a good number of applications, and other valuable information, were handed out. We met quite a number of potential members and many vets. The Post info table also sold out of our umbrellas and brought in \$180.

Thanks to all those who helped. At the food booth: Leroy Rheubottom, Dan Armstrong, Garnett Shaver, Dennis Shaver and his son, Eldon Laffoon, and Chuck Bruce. At the Post info table: Mel Hansen, Bettye Carter, and Wayne Macejak. At the Auxiliary table: Carolyn Hansen, Herstine Crenshaw, Alexis Walington, Nikki Delatorre and Sandy Armstrong.

## POST MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS REACHES 117 (100.86%)

The Department Membership Statistics report shows the Post at 117 renewals as of June 23. That is one over our last year's total of 116. Post 1288 is one of the 10 out of 15 Posts to reach 100% in Will County this year. Believe it or not, we are one of only 25 out of 53 Posts in the 11<sup>th</sup> District (Will, DuPage, Kane and McHenry Counties) to reach 100%. Thanks to all of you who renewed and thank to Joe Rojek and Mel Hansen for their efforts to push us over the top.

## POT OF GOLD

If **Al Poolo** had been at the June Post meeting, he would have won the Pot of Gold worth right at \$23.50. Unfortunately, Al was not there. He is one of our "Paid Up For Live" members and lives in Las Vegas. It might be kind of an expensive (and long) to drive in for the meetings at the cost of gas these days. Of course, being in Las Vegas makes him a winner every day anyway. Each month, members who are present place a quarter in the "Pot of Gold." At the end of the meeting, a name is drawn from all paid up Post members. If you are present when your name is drawn, you win the pot.