# Northwest Du Page American Legion Post 1084





November and December 2020, January 2021

# The Legion Eagle

Volume 101

## FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK

I looked at the article I wrote this time last year and was amazed at how many events have been surrendered because of the virus. We will not be actively soliciting funds for the Give to the Yanks Legion program this year. We will likely ask each club to make a contribution similar to the past, and send that to the State program. The annual Veteran's Benefit concert has been cancelled. Our monthly trips to Hines' RCF unit have been on hold since March. We are working on a plan to pay for a meal to be brought in monthly and a way to distribute our coupon books we usually give out as prizes at bingo. The annual Thanksgiving Day dinner for Hines vets is also cancelled. The Elks have organized a meal to be catered to the Vets this year. Our post (RALCF) has contributed towards the expense. The annual Legion Raffle will take place this season with prizes similar to the past few years. Fourth place \$250, third place \$500, second place \$750 and first place \$1000. The raffle will become the Legion's biggest fundraiser now that the concert is cancelled. Tickets and a letter will be mailed soon to all members. Extra tickets will be at the post.

We are still planning to hold our annual Open House but we know that the State's virus restrictions are likely to hamper this event too.

The Flag retirement ceremony will take place at the post on Saturday November 7 at 10:00 am. The cannon battery will also be there to inspire us. All members and guests are welcome to attend to honor our country's Flag!

I pray that the coming year will bring us back to something similar to normal and we can get back to honoring our veterans and working with our community and youth.

Ty Cobb

Commander

# FROM THE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

I closed my last Newsletter input by saying, "Here's hoping you and yours are staying safe from the virus, and that we can soon start trying to get back to some semblance of "normal". Well, "normal" seems just as far away now as it did then. We just have to keep on trying to stay safe...distance, masks, and wash your hands!

I'm sure everyone would be disappointed if I didn't nag about membership, so if you haven't renewed...do it now!

Finally, one more reminder that our new website is www.alpost1084.com.

Take care and stay safe.

Mike Fennell; Senior Vice Commander

# **NO BRAINS WAY TO SUPPORT OUR FOUNDATION**

If you are planning on making purchases from Amazon, set your browser to "Smile.amazon.com and select "RALCF" as your charity of choice.

Your purchases will reflect donations to our foundation. Here is what you see if doing it right:



## FROM THE SARGE

Welcome to the Foxhole.

I know everyone is still coping with this stupid Covid19, but things still need to get done.

As I write this article, I placed a Request for Casket Watch on Sat. Oct. 17, 5pm at Countryside, for member Curtis C. Medine. May he rest in piece. This something we can't postpone or cancel., The Color Guards next assignment is Nov. 7 sat 9 AM set up for Flag-disposal at 10 AM. The Taylor Battery Canon will be their also. Bring your friends ,Neighbors, and Family . It's an outside event. So most can maintain their social distancing. This is another thing we cannot cancel; We have close to 2000 flags. This service we provide to the surrounding community. No

charge just be their for your Flag,

It's the patriotic thing to do. There was no Parade, no Taste of Roselle, no coco crawl. So let's get out there and enjoy. Hope to see all. To the Color Guard! Get ready, You're on duty. Hoa!

> Tim O'Neil The Sarge

#### FROM THE SERVICE OFFICER

# How to Obtain a VA National Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility

You can apply to find out in advance if you can be buried in a VA national cemetery. This is called a pre-need determination of eligibility—and it can help make the burial planning process easier for your family members in their time of need. Follow the steps below to apply.

Step 1: Find out if you're eligible. One of these must describe you:

- A Veteran who didn't receive a dishonorable discharge when you separated from the military, or The spouse or dependent child of a service member or Veteran, even if the service member or Veteran has already passed away.
- In some cases, the adult dependent child of a service member or Veteran (if you aren't married) VA bases their decision of whether or not you qualify for burial in a VA national cemetery on your service history— or the service history of the Veteran or service member who's sponsoring your application for burial as a spouse, surviving spouse, or unmarried adult child.

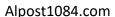
To get more details about eligibility refer to <a href="https://www.va.gov/burials-">https://www.va.gov/burials-</a> 33 | P a g e memorials/eligibility. Note that if a service member dies on active duty, they're eligible for burial without a preneed decision letter.

Step 2: Choose the VA national cemetery where you'd prefer to be buried. To find a VA National cemetery go to <a href="https://www.cem.va.gov/cem/cems/index.asp">https://www.cem.va.gov/cem/cems/index.asp</a>. Note that this application is only for VA national cemeteries. If you'd like to be buried in a state or tribal Veterans cemetery, contact that specific cemetery ahead of time to find out about their pre-need program. You can apply for a pre-need determination of eligibility from VA and also from a state or tribal Veterans cemetery. Getting a pre-need determination of eligibility doesn't guarantee you'll be buried in a specific VA national cemetery. VA does not take reservations at any VA national cemetery. However, they ask where you prefer to be buried so they can try to help fulfill your final wishes. To find a state Veterans cemetery go to <a href="https://www.cem.va.gov/cem/cems/index.asp">https://www.cem.va.gov/cem/cems/index.asp</a>. Some state Veterans cemeteries require that you live in that state or have other rules around eligibility. This application doesn't apply to Arlington National Cemetery or the United States Soldiers and Airmen's Home National Cemetery. If you'd like to be buried in either of these Department of the Army cemeteries, call 877-907-8585 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET, and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. ET.

Step 3: Gather the supporting documents and information you'll need to fill out the application. See the list below. If you don't have everything on the list, you can still apply and VA will help by finding the supporting documents needed. Just keep in mind that the more information you can give when you apply, the faster your application can be reviewed and you can be given a decision. VA will contact you they need you to provide additional information.

Step 4: Be sure to fill out an application for each person requesting a pre-need eligibility determination. If both you and your spouse are applying, you'll each need to fill out your own application. Information needed to apply. To apply, you'll need your (or your sponsor's):

- Social Security number
- Rest of article continued on next page......



# FROM THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Greetings from Squadron 1084! Like everyone else we continue to take a "wait and see" position with regards to planning any activities or events. Sadly we will not holding our Annual North Chicago Beef Brisket Lunch in November since volunteer access to VA facilities has been restricted because of COVID-19.

Our inaugural Smokin' on Maple BBQ Team Competition in August was very successful! We received great feedback from the eight teams that cooked in this event to raise funds in support of SAL veterans activities and programs. This year's competition was held as a private event and closed to the public with necessary precautions in place. We expect next year's fundraiser event will be even bigger and better, open to the public for team observation, with food available for sale.

A shout out to SAL Junior Vice Bill Mehilos for organizing the event and lining up our sponsors. And also to the volunteers who helped with set up and judging.

Squadron 1084 members Achille and Nick Crudele were part of BBQ team "Up in Smoke" and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Chicken competition. Good job!

If you know someone who is the son or grandson of a veteran please remember they may be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion. SAL membership is the perfect gift for one (or more) of your loved ones! (Or friends, neighbors, coworkers!)

It's hard to believe 2020 is finally winding down. What a year it has been! So Trick or Treat, Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year! Everyone in Squadron 1084 wishes you and your family a healthy and prosperous rest of the year. And may 2021 be an outstanding year for everyone!

In closing, please remember some around us are experiencing some difficult times. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Be kind to each other. Reach out and make "buddy check" calls to those you haven't heard from lately. And please let us know how things are going. We are here to help.

For God and Country,

Mike Vozar; Commander Squadron #1084

### FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

What an interesting year it's been! This whole COVID thing gives new meaning to the Daylight-Saving Time term, "Spring Ahead, Fall Back". I just want to fall back into bed! Of course, we all push on through these weird times and try to find ways of finding comfort while meeting the challenges presented to us. Personally, I take great comfort in knowing that, through it all, our Post family is still finding ways to help our Veterans.

As you'll read elsewhere in this newsletter, the annual Trunk or Treat and Veterans Concert events were cancelled this year due to...well, you know. But our Legion family is not to be denied! The Riders still plan on helping out with the planned Holiday Market in December, provide support for the families at the Fisher House at Hines Hospital and don't forget the Super Bowl Raffle in February (at this writing, the Bears are in 1st Place!)!

So, regarding Riders sponsored events, things have been really slow. We had to cancel/reschedule our Annual Veterans Run, the Luau and the Good Friday Fish Fry. Yikes!! Will this year never end?!

Weather permitting, we might still get in a ride or two this year. That being the case, there might still be bikers out there so please keep your eyes and ears open.

Please do everything you can to stay healthy and don't forget to keep our troops and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Paul Goodwin; Director; American Legion Riders Post 1084

# Service Officer: Continued from page 2

- Date and place of birth  $\cdot$  Military status and service history (like service dates, discharge character, and rank—commonly found on the DD214 or other separation documents)  $\cdot$  Discharge papers (DD214 or other separation documents) Note: If you don't have discharge papers, find out how to request the DD214 at <a href="https://www.va.gov/">https://www.va.gov/</a>

Pat Hull: Service Officer

# **Schedule of Events**

#### **LEGION FAMILY EVENTS**

- Nov 3rd: House Committee 6:30
- Nov 5th: RALCF Meeting 6 PM
- Nov 5th: Exec Mtg 7 PM
- Nov 7th Flag disposal 10 AM
- Nov 10th: Legion Mtg 7 PM
- Nov I I TH: AUX MTG 7 PM
- Nov 17th: SAL MEETING 7 PM
- Nov 18th: Legion Riders 7 PM
- Nov 26TH: SHOOTING SPORTS

#### • LIONS CLUB EVENT

• LIONS COMB MTG: NOV 19TH

# NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Stappy	-27	28
29	30			Sbanksgivin,	g.	

# FLAG DISPOSAL CEREMONY



Saturday
November 7th 10 AM
Set up at 9 AM
Cannon will be on site









BEARS FOOTBALL
AT YOUR POST

Nov 1, 3:25 PM Saints @ Bears FOX Nov 8, 12:00 PM Bears @ Titans FOX Nov 16, 7:15 PM Vikings @ Bears **ESPN** Nov 29, 7:20 PM @ Packers Bears NBC 4-0



# Elks Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving for the Vets on Thanksgiving Day will be off site due to Covid restrictions.

Our Legion Family is supporting this event through donations.

# DECEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 ARMY NAVY
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Merry	26
27	28	29	30	31 Happy New	Year!	

# **Schedule of Events**

#### **LEGION FAMILY EVENTS**

- DEC 1ST: HOUSE CO MTG: 6:30 PM
- DEC 3RD: EXEC MTG 6:30 PM
- DEC 8TH: LEGION MTG 7 PM
- DEC 9TH: AUX MTG 7 PM
- DEC 12TH: ARMY NAVY GAME:
- DEC 15TH: SAL MEETING 7 PM
- DEC 16TH: LEGION RIDERS MTG 7
  - PM
- DEC 22ND: SHOOTING SPORTS
- LIONS CLUB EVENT
- Dec 17th: Lions Comb Mtg

# 2020 Auxiliary Kid's Giving Tree

Help make this Christmas a little brighter for those in need. Please participate by taking an ornament from our giving tree. If you have no time to shop, a \$25 donation will mobilize the Ladies Auxiliary as your Santa Shopper

# Holiday Open House

Join your Legion family and celebrate the

**Holiday Season:** 

**Monday December 21st** 

6-8 PM

See you there







BEARS FOOTBALL AT YOUR POST

*	Lions 1-3	Dec 6, 12:00 PM @ Bears FOX 4-1	C
5	Texans 0-4	Dec 13, 12:00 PM @ Bears CBS 4-1	С
C	Bears 4-1	Dec 20, 12:00 PM @ Vikings FOX 1-3	*
C	Bears 4-1	Dec 27, 12:00 PM @ Jaguars FOX 1-3	

# Super Bowl 50/50 Raffle:

Super Bowl 55 will be held on February 7, 2021 at Raymond James Stadium , Tampa Bay

As tradition, Post 1084 will hold its raffle drawing during half time of the game. The prizes are:



First place: \$1,000.00
Second Place: \$750.00
Third Place: \$500

Fourth Place: \$250

This raffle is a major fund raiser for the Post. Expenses keep increasing so please purchase as many tickets as you can. There will be winners and one of them may be you. Tickets are \$5 apiece or 6 for \$25. A separate mailing will be made shortly providing you with the tickets.

# **Schedule of Events**

#### **LEGION FAMILY EVENTS**

- JAN I: HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- JAN 5TH: HOUSE COMMITTEE MTG 630 PM
- Jan 7th: RALCF Mtg: 6 PM
- JAN 7TH: EXEC LEGION MTG: 7 PM
- JAN 12TH: LEGION MTG 7 PM
- JAN 13TH: AUX MEETING 7 PM
- JAN 19TH: SAL MEETING 7 PM
- JAN 20TH: LEGION RIDERS MTG 7 PM
- JAN 26TH: SHOOTING SPORTS CLUB MTG

#### **COMMUNITY CLUB EVENTS**

- JAN 21ST LIONS BOARD MTG
- JAN 28TH LIONS GENERAL MTG

# January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31		***				



#### **GET INVOLVED**



Your Legion Family Officers and Chair people answered the call to help our organization be as great as it is.

When someone comes a knocking at your door, you owe it to our family to have an open mind.

Most who serve grow into their positions with the help of those who have passed through before.

Don't be afraid to take the lead. You will grow into a leader.

2021

Packers
4-0

Jan 3, 12:00 PM FOX

@ Bears



# Super Bowl 50/50 Raffle:

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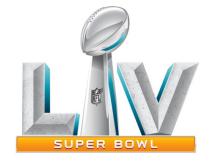
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# **LADIES AUXILLARY**

As we head into the 4th quarter of 2020 the world is still dealing with Covid, but the good news is people, businesses and organizations are learning how to live, survive, and even thrive.

We have started holding our regular meetings, with masks and/or distancing in compliance with local regulations.

We have many activities going on and as always need and appreciate the support of our Legion Family members and friends.

We continue to support Fisher House, Cindy Ostrega continues to identify needs and work them to satisfaction. This is a great opportunity to directly support our veterans and their families.

The Giving Tree led by MaryAnn Grygiel will be up soon. As always, we will shop for those who prefer to donate instead of facing the crowds. Donations are delivered to the recipients the first week of December so please, give soon.

The Poppy Day activities continue, we hope you will soon be seeing collection tins in local businesses. Not being able to be standing at businesses and with less people visiting businesses our biggest fundraiser every year has been sadly smaller. It is difficult in this time when our community's needs are greater.

We are working with the Main Street Merchants on additional opportunities to not only fundraise but also get out in our community. We will have a Patriotic holiday tree located near the village hall; Thank you Barb Fennell. We also plan to have a tree outside our hall.

I am personally looking forward to Thanksgiving and Christmas. I give thanks for my family and friends and my wonderful Auxiliary members who support me all year. Christmas also just wouldn't be the same without our December Meeting annual dinner and gift game. I already have my gift!!! Mark your calendar and join us!

Last but not least, I hope as this year draws to a close, we all have hope for a better new year. Remember with love those no longer with us, and give thanks for those who sacrifice(d) for our freedom.

**Toby Bobbitt**; **President Ladies Auxiliary** 

### **SHOOTING SPORTS**

The last quarter of 2020 is approaching quickly as we are ending our hot summer days. We're all moving along with the effects the China virus has had on everything in our daily lives. This includes curtailing our shooting both indoors and outdoors. Our monthly pistol shoots are still full steam ahead, but still a lot of the members choose not to attend. Hopefully this virus invasion will be under control in 2021 and our great nation can get back to some kind of normalcy. So far all members are intact and I can report we are all well. Jim Adams, our distant member in Arizona did catch the virus but is over it and doing quite well.

With the recommendation of our VP, Rich "690" Seamans, we enjoyed a pleasant day of rifle shooting at McMiller's Range in Eagle, Wisconsin. Both of us made good use of their 100 yard setup. It felt good to get the .223's, .308's and 30.06 rifles out to shoot there. We had a very enjoyable day. I highly recommend anyone to take a day to go there and enjoy the fresh Wisconsin air, and do some outdoor rifle or pistol shooting. McMiller Range is a nice place and they have 200-300 yard ranges as well as 50 yard and shotgun pits. There is something for everyone. We still have more days of good weather now that it's cooled off. Get out there and do it! You won't be disappointed.

Christmas isn't far off. Get you wish lists off to Santa for any new shooting gear or perhaps that new firearm you have your eye on. Continue practicing and perfecting your skills. You could be the one going home with a first place win at our next pistol shoot. All the teams are just points apart in the standings. You need to be really good to get through the field of excellent shooters.

As we approach Thanksgiving and the Christmas season, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry and joyous Christmas. Stay healthy and keep the faith. Take care Everyone.

Peter Platt:

**Director Shooting Sports Post 1084** 

## **POST BAR TEMPORARY CLOSURE**

The state instituted new restrictions on bars and restaurants in DuPage County, effective Friday 10/23/2020. As of this date we cannot serve patrons indoors until restrictions are lifted.

Given these restrictions, your post leadership made a decision to temporarily close the bar. We will reopen when restrictions are lifted, or decide if we want to reopen with restrictions in place, serving patrons outside. We will revisit our decision in 2 weeks (November 5th).

Should we reopen with restrictions, our gaming machines will be operational and can be played while wearing a mask. Unfortunately you cannot be served beverages inside the building.

For restrictions to be reconsidered, DuPage County's Covid positivity rate must drop at or below 6.5% for at least 3 consecutive days. We wish this to happen shortly to return us to normal operation.

Meetings will continue as scheduled. There will be no beverages served while restrictions are in place. We also cannot bring our own beverages onto the post grounds at any time.

Stay tuned for any changes. We will communicate via email and on our website.

Stay safe and healthy.

# FROM THE JUDGE ADVOCATE

Alert to all members!!

There are some changes made to our Post by laws that can be reviewed by you before we vote on amending them. You can review them on our Post website.

This link will take you right to it: <a href="https://www.alpost1084.com/constitution-and-by-laws">www.alpost1084.com/constitution-and-by-laws</a> Just copy and paste it in your browser.

The by laws are also posted to our bulletin board at the post. Our business is currently closed due to Covid-19, but we will be open for meetings. If you decide you want to review them at the post, I suggest you choose any meeting date you see on the newsletter and the post should be open for you to review them.

Everyone can provide any input at our next meeting.



Election of Officers for the 2021/2022 year will be upon us soon.

Put your ideas to life by being part of your organizations leadership.

Know that the steps you take are not alone.

There are plenty of people that served in all the positions there are.

Step up. You'll be glad you did.

Want to learn more????

Talk to one of your current officers or look for this patch

