



# POST 690 NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2015

WWW.ALPOST690.US



## COMMANDER'S NEWS ED GRABOWSKI COMMANDER

Happy New Year To all our Legion family members!!!

2014 was a great year for Post 690. We ran a number of successful programs last year, including the Queen of Hearts game which brought in over \$31,000.00. We did have to pay half of it out (less taxes) to the Queen of Hearts winner, yet this was an amazing accomplishment for the post. Averaging 80 – 90 people a week for the drawing, also saw post bar revenue increase substantially, as we needed both bars open to handle the traffic. We have played 16 weeks into our new Queen of Hearts game, and expect it to heat up again as the pot grows larger in the spring.

Our largest project, of the year, was upgrading our old upstairs hall, into a new and modern facility. We had a ribbon cutting ceremony, including cake and refreshments to open up the new Hall. With the audio/visual equipment, we can display presentations on our flat screen televisions, and it enhances the rooms' marketability. There has been a number of positive comments about how nice, professional, and warm the new hall is for rental activities. It worked great during our "Squid Fest" this past Thanksgiving.

We also signed up for the "Hometown Heros" project, where we receive a flat screen terminal, and a data feed that will include profiles of local veterans, veteran friendly businesses, and any other adds or information we want to pass along to our members in our clubroom. There is no cost to the legion for this project, and we expect it to be online here in the first quarter.

Looking into 2015, one project I want to tackle before it gets forgotten, is our clubroom plumbing. As you know, we had a sewage backup in June 2013, and had to have part of the floor dug out. We were down for four days and lost some substantial revenue. Fortunately, this was recovered through our insurance company.

**SENIOR VICE, MIKE KLANANG**

Happy New Year! Post 690's paid 2015 membership is over 91% as of January 1.

I would like to thank Chris Maurer, James Brenner and Gerald Bode for signing up for the Five Year Gold Cards. Also, I would like to thank those who are receiving this newsletter via email to help keeping our costs down. Please email me if you would like to be added to the email list.

As always, please attend the monthly membership meetings. They are on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30pm. It is a great time share military stories with fellow vets and your participation will help things run more smoothly.

If you haven't paid your 2015 dues please do it ASAP, you are now technically delinquent for 2015. Call or email me if you are not sure if you still owe or if you have any other membership questions.

Thanks,  
 Mike Klanang  
 Sr. Vice  
 American Legion Post 690  
 Membership@alpost690.us  
 847-772-4352



**Upcoming Post events:**

February

Saturday 6th Bingo Night 7pm -9pm

Friday 20th Fish Fry's start

Auxiliary

Wednesday 25th Americanism Program - 9th

District Legion

Friday 27th Fish Fry

March

Friday 6th Fish Fry

Friday 13th Fish Fry

Friday 20th Fish Fry

Friday 27th Fish Fry

## WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CORNER—PAT KOWALSKI, PRESIDENT



Hello Everyone,

I wish you and your family a Happy New Year. Now that the holidays are over the Auxiliary is still working hard on all of our programs. I do hope many of you looked into the Scholarships that are available for our Veterans children and contacted our Educational Chairman Niki, and the Americanism/Legion Oratorical Contest and contacted the Chairman Suzanne King. All the Scholarships were listed in the last newsletter along with the Americanism and Oratorical Contest rules.

Here are some events that are coming up throughout the Auxiliary –

February 12th is Lincoln Pilgrimage in Springfield,

Palatine Auxiliary Bingo February 21st,

9th District Legion will be having an Americanism Program on February 25th, being held at the Franklin Park Post, 9757 Pacific Ave, Franklin Park. Come and listen to what Americanism is all about.

Patriotic Conference March 13th held at the Parke Regency in Bloomington – Patriotic Conference speakers are from one of the Military Branches etc. Very interesting lectures along with a luncheon. Please check your ALA Today for more information.

Post Everlasting will be held at the Howard H. Rohde Post 888, 241 E North Ave, Northlake on March 25th. The 9th District Legion holds a memorial service called Post Everlasting where all our beloved deceased Legion family of the whole 9th District is remembered.

Diane Cetera First Division Cook County Council American Legion Auxiliary, Ways and Means Chairman will be having a fundraiser called Numbers and Raffles for our Veterans on March 28th, Being held at the Morton Grove Post, 6140 Dempster St, Morton Gove.

Fish Fry's to start February 20th.

Please watch for other events that will be coming up on Face Book and by email from our Ways and Means Auxiliary Chairmen, Legion and SAL.

Alice our First Vice President has sent out letters reminding dues are do. If you happen to know any of these ladies or you happen to see your name please send in your dues or give a call to Alice letting her know that your dues are on the way. Her number is 847-456-2422 -----

Unpaid Members: Maureen Edgar, Falcia Fields, June Frasch, Ranveig Mayer, Laura Ohman, Carley Rebolledo, Mila Rebolledo, Cora Schartz, Jean Schinkowsky, Carolyn Thomas, Mary Uitto, and Delle Vol-lenweider. The Unit can become 100% once all dues are collected. Please help her to get there.

Ladies, I hope to see many of you at our Auxiliary meetings on the Second (2nd) Thursday of the month, starting at 7:00pm and most of the time we can be done within an hour to an hour and a ½ meeting.

Pat Kowalski/President

## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION JIM STEINER, SAL COMMANDER



Happy New Year!

In case you were not there, the annual Breakfast with Santa was a huge success! Santa visited with the kids for 4 ½ hours and we served over 50 dozen eggs with all the pancakes. Many thanks to Mike Rocha who coordinated the event and to all the many volunteers that made the event a success. We plan to have a couple more pancake breakfasts before the summer break.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Fish Frys during Lent (20FEB to 02APR). Bring your friends, family and neighbors to enjoy the meal or volunteer for a couple hours...as your Lenten penance.

Most of the SAL members have renewed their memberships. There are still a few we are trying to contact for renewal. If you have not yet renewed and know that you will or won't renew, please contact Senior Vice Adam Anderson either way. You can also send any roster and contact information changes to palatinesal@gmail.com so we can keep in touch.

We are interested in hosting a Baggo tournament at the Post but need a chairman. Can you volunteer to put this event together? We have several folks willing to provide guidance and help. You can contact Junior Vice Gerard Iannuzzelli if interested.

Stop by the Post on Feb 6th for Casino Night. The Palatine Rotary will be hosting this event in the Hall.

Do you have any other ideas for SAL events? If so, please contact me or any of the Board and we will help you make it a reality.

## PISTOL TEAM REPORT—ED HEWSON, PISTOL TEAM CAPTAIN

Article II (Gun World) practical match 11-4-14

Post 690 won both center fire and rim fire matches. Center fire score were Post 690 365, Post 1084 342 and Posr 888 247. In rim fire Post 690 336, Post 1084 320 and Post 888 215. Dave Valentine of Post 690 was top scorer in center fire and rim fire.

Team 690 contributors were David Valentine, CJ Malchow, Joe Hartmann, Ed Hewson Jr, Mike Klanang and Ed Hewson Sr.

The competitors in the order in which they placed and their Post number: Bud Hainault 888, Joe Hartmann 690, Ed Hewson Jr 690, Pete Platt 1084, Dan Eisenstein 1084, Owen O'Reilly 1084, Dave Valentine 690, Ed Hewson Sr 690, CJ Malchow 690, Greg Hull 1084, Rich Seamans 690 and Gus Mehilo 1084.

Article II (Gun World) practical match 12-2-14

Post 690 won center fire with a 746 score, second was Post 1084 with a 743 and Post 888 a 647 for third place. Post 1084 won rim fire with a 755. Post 690 was second in rim fire with a 677 and Post 888 602 for third place. Usually Post 1084 wins center fire and Post 690 rim fire. The scores have been

**COMMANDER'S NEWS (CONTINUED)** ED GRABOWSKI COMMANDER

Some new plumbing was added, and some temporary flooring put on top. (it still kinda looks like an adhoc dance floor ). Anyway, the plumbing is old, and still shifting under the clubroom floor. We still have a smell behind the bar in the early morning, and sometimes late in the evening.

My goal, is to raise \$15,000.00 to put toward the replacement of the clubroom plumbing. I plan to do this through a fund raiser campaign. Last year I ran the Ft. Sheridan to Great Lakes 5K race. It was tough, grueling, challenging, and very rewarding when I crossed the finish line and was presented my completion medal. This year I am signed up to do it again, and training begins soon. The race is in late August. As a Navy veteran, I see this is as an excellent opportunity to raise funds for our post. In the next newsletter, and using the website and facebook, I will present the details for the fundraising campaign.

This year, I have expanded the ticket opportunities for our Queen of Hearts game to generate more revenue, this year, and if successful, we may contribute some of these funds to the clubroom floor project. Other gaming projects are also in the works.

Lastly, I have exchanged emails with the Home Depot foundation, Lowes, and Sears foundation, looking for funds, as they are dedicated to helping veterans and their causes, in the community. I have presented them with the details of our clubroom project, and what we are doing on our behalf, as well.

I know all this seems aggressive, but with legion family support, this goal can be accomplished! I hope you are behind me on this project!!!

As I close, if any of you have any unused gift cards, we are always looking for them to help the veterans and their families in Palatine. We are looking for \$25 Jewel, Walmart, Walgreens, and CVS gift cards. This will be much appreciated.

For God and Country!



## Cook County Set to Launch Military and Veterans Discount Program

(CHICAGO) – Cook County’s new Military and Veterans Discount Program is officially launching Wednesday, November 12, and will provide veterans and active duty military with a free money-saving Discount Card and access to a diverse network of over 120 businesses that are committed to providing these discounts. Active-duty personnel, veterans, and guard members and reservists may visit the Cook County Recorder of Deeds’ Veterans Service Office at 118 N. Clark St, Room 120, Chicago, and upon providing proof of service, receive the Discount Card.



“Though we are mindful to say ‘thank you’ as often as we can, helping those who have served our country save money is a way our gratitude can go beyond words,” said Karen A. Yarbrough, Cook County Recorder of Deeds. “Many veterans and active-duty military families are struggling to get by, and I’m proud to do what I can to help.”

The Military and Veterans Discount Program (MVDP) is authorized by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, and its purpose is to build a network of businesses across Cook County who offer military and veterans’ discounts beyond the normal military holidays. This public-private partnership is a small way to honor those who have served by helping them keep more of their hard-earned money. The discounts range from a percentage off the service-member’s total bill to free admission to a theater or museum, and the list of participating businesses can be accessed at [www.cookrecorder.com/militarydiscount](http://www.cookrecorder.com/militarydiscount).

During the initial rollout of the program, Discount Program ID Cards will be only available at the Cook County Recorder’s Veterans Service Office, located in Room 120 at 118 N. Clark, in Downtown Chicago. Please bring a government-issued photo or military ID, and if you are a veteran, please bring a copy of your DD-214 or other separation papers indicating discharge status (dishonorable discharges are not eligible). If a veteran has previously recorded a DD-214 with the Recorder of Deeds, a photo ID is all that will be required for enrollment. Those who bring DD-214s to the Recorder’s Office will have the option to have them recorded for free in CCRD’s confidential DD-214 repository, meaning the veteran and their family will always have fast access in case the original is destroyed or misplaced.

“The Military and Veterans Discount Program is launching with a large list of participating businesses,

## **PISTOL TEAM REPORT—CONTINUED**

very close with aggressive competition but it is a lot of fun. CJ Malchow did a great job in center fire to secure the win.

Team 690 contributors were CJ Malchow, Bob Zimay, Joe Hartmann, Rich Seamans, Ed Hewson Jr. and Ed Hewson Sr.

Article II (Gun World) practical match 1-6-15

Post 690 swept the match winning both center fire and rim fire. A great way to start 2015. The scores in center fire were Post 690 840, Post 1084 with a 826 and Post 888 602. In rim fire Post 690 528 and Post 888 a 494, Post 1084 did not compete in rim fire. Dave Valentine of Post 690 SAL was top scorer in both rim fire and center fire.

Team 690 contributors were Dave Valentine, Mike Klanang, CJ Malchow, Bob Zimay, Rich Seamans, Joe Hartmann and Ed Hewson Sr.

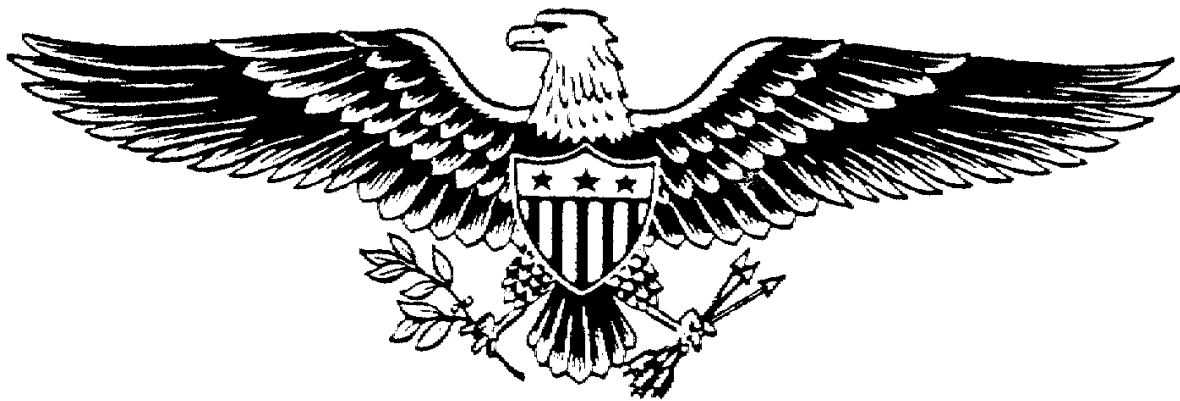
Article II range is located at 250 Cortland Avenue in Lombard and I can be emailed for directions. Anyone can compete in the matches as an Independent if they have a valid FOID card. Safety classes are held before each match.

Ed Hewson

Pistol Team Captain

Past Commander Post 690

edhewson@sbcglobal.net



## **Military Discounts—Continued**

but my hope is that the network will continue to grow as word spreads,” said Yarbrough. “I urge all businesses in Cook County to do what they can and enroll in the program.”

More information and a web-based business signup form can be accessed at [www.cookrecorder.com/militarydiscount](http://www.cookrecorder.com/militarydiscount) - CCRD's Veterans Service Office can be reached at (312) 603-5788.



The American Legion  
Attn: Commander  
122 West Palatine Road  
Palatine, IL 60067

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 2709  
PALATINE P&DC IL

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Meeting Time and Date</i>
American Legion Post 690	1st Thursday of Every Month @7:30 PM.
Post 690 Executive Board	3rd Monday of the Month @8:00 PM
Post 690 Board of Managers	3rd Monday of the Month @ 7:00 PM
Sons of the American Legion	First Saturday of the month, 10:30 AM (not in July)
Legion Auxiliary Unit 690	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday @ 7:30 PM (meetings NOT held in July or August)
Junior Auxiliary	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday; 10:00 AM to app. 1:30 PM at Post 690 (not in Jul or Aug)
Palatine Jaycees	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 7:00 P.M