



# POST 690 NEWSLETTER



MAY 2015

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## COMMANDER'S NEWS ED GRABOWSKI COMMANDER

Greetings Legion Family,

Spring is finally here, and hopefully the warm weather too. We hope to see you at the Memorial Day parade, and our annual 4th of July corn roast. Don't forget the picnic on the last Sunday in July! Everyone have an enjoyable and safe summer!

### Palatine Post 690

Nomination Committee

Chris Maurer

Daphne Matthews

David Lee

The following persons are the suggested candidates for 2015 - 2016.

Commander: Jacqueline Blount

Senior Vice: Mike Klanang

Junior Vice: TBD

Finance Officer: Fred Hall

## LOOKING FOR WWII VETS FOR HONOR FLIGHT

### WWII VETS NEEDED!

70 years ago this month, Nazi Germany unconditionally surrendered to the Allied Forces in Europe. Scores of Americans gave their lives to protect our country around the world. Many also lived on to tell the stories of heroism and sacrifice to countless generations. To this day, there are around 20,000 of those heroes living in the Chicagoland area.

To give them the recognition they deserve, I made it my mission in my eagle project to find WWII veterans for an organization called Honor Flight. This organization sends WWII veterans to Washington D.C. to see their memorial.

You can assist by helping me find these Veterans and giving them the honor they deserve. It does not matter where, how, or who, but it does matter when. Around the world, an estimated 413 American WWII veterans die every day. That is why we need to act now. Please, help me find these heroes and contact me with any information.

-Alex van Roon  
Life Scout, Boy Scout Troop 209  
847-707-4231  
avr.dutch@gmail.com

### Memorial Day Planning (If you get this newsletter before the 25th)

All Post/Vets/Auxiliary/SAL members interested in participating in the parade have 2 options:

1) Meet at the Post by 9:15 AM on Monday May, 25 for a 9:15 departure to the parade staging area. Vehicles will be available to transport people to the route. At the route, people can chose to ride in the parade or march in the parade.

2) Be at the parade route by 9:30 AM. There is NO PARKING on the parade route, so plan your morning walk accordingly.

Regardless of #1 or #2, we ask that people sign up on the sheet on the clubroom bulletin board. They will have to chance to note if they are a Vet, Past Leader or Gold Star. Small flags will be available to hand out along the parade route for those that are walking. The parade steps off at 10:15 AM and ends at Community park for the 11 AM ceremony. Transportation can be arranged for a ride back to the Post for lunch after the ceremony.

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



Hello Everyone,

The Auxiliary year for 2014-2015 will be coming to an end at the Department Convention in July. We only have a few more programs to complete. April and May will be very interesting meetings. I do hope many of you will attend. At the April meeting we will have the POW/MIA Ceremony and will have our Americanism contestants; Stephen Hannon, Matthew Nicholason, Cameron Scott, and Claire Hannon read their essays on What New Amendment should be added to the U.S. Constitution? And Tulsi Patel who has entered the Americanism Oratorical contest. She will give her essay and not using any note cards. We are proud of her; she didn't come in as first place but 2<sup>nd</sup> place. You will need to come to the meeting and hear what these young people have written. Please come out and show your support for these young people.

From Alice our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Poppy Chairman. **Reminder Poppy Days are approaching, and the distribution of Poppy's will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday; May 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.** All volunteers are appreciated and if you can give 2 to 4 hours would be fine. There is a signup sheet down in the clubroom, please stop in and sign up. The money we receive from the Poppy's we are able to buy what our veterans need.

Looking through our membership paid list we find a few members that haven't paid their dues. Please mail in your check and help us become 100%. The unpaid members are as follows: Maureen Edgar, Carley and Mila Rebolledo, Jean Schinkowsky, Mary Uitto, Della Vollenweider, Rebecca Hernandez, June Frasch, Mayer Ranveig, Cora Schatz, Falcia Fields. Please give Alice a call and let her know that you are sending in your check – 847-456-2422.

In May we will be having an Initiation ceremony and a Memorial Ceremony for members that have passed on. Kathleen Bourke passed on 7/22/14.

Looking forward to see you at our meeting held at Palatine Post upstairs on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month starting at 7:00 P.M.

Pat Kowalski  
Unit President.

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



I hope everyone is enjoying Spring and everything going on at the Post.

Many thanks to all of our members that have volunteered at recent projects including the fish fry, BINGO for blind Veterans, pancake breakfast, casino nights and the St. Patrick's parade. Be sure to check the calendar for upcoming events including casino nights, baggo tournament, Memorial Day activities, poppy days, and Hometown Fest corn roast booth just around the corner. Special thanks to Judy Kyska for preparing the dinner and goodie bags with help from Delores Roper, for the BINGO for Blind Veterans event. We hosted 15 veterans from the Hines VA Blind Unit for an evening food, fellowship and BINGO! A great time was had by all!

Jr. Vice Gerard Iannuzzelli is looking for a few good men...to put together a few more projects as we finish this year. Give Gerard a call if you can volunteer a few hour for the good of the Squadron.

The Squadron is doing good membership wise and we always welcome new members. Have you asked anyone to become a member of Squadron 690? If so, please contact Sr. Vice Adam Anderson and he will help then through the simple application process. Any members with contact information changes are requested to send them to [palatinesal@gmail.com](mailto:palatinesal@gmail.com) to update the Squadron contact list. Keep up to date to insure you receive the Post newsletters and other important communications.

As our year comes to a close, Jason Foltyn is the chairman of the Officer Nomination Committee for 2015-16. Please contact Jason, Jeff Johnson or Jeff Vanhorn if you are interested in holding a Squadron leadership position.

What else can we be doing for you? Send me an email to [jimsteiner52@gmail.com](mailto:jimsteiner52@gmail.com) with your ideas and dreams. I can't say we will be able to accomplish everything but we definitely won't if you don't ask in the first place.

Remember that Memorial Day is fast approaching. Everyone is encouraged to help the Auxiliary Unit with the Poppy Days. We also have a parade and several memorial services for your participation. Contact Sgt at Arms Ken Richardson for details.

Thinking of Memorial Day...everyone makes their memorial differently. Some celebrate the coming summer, others seek fellowship in sporting events, parades, and concerts. If you want to try something new, plan on Saturday May 23, usually around 10 a.m. The SAL will be departing the Post to place flags on the grave markers of Veterans in the Palatine Township cemeteries. It is a nice quiet way to get out and thank some of those that we honor and remember on this day.

For God and Country.

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

Article II (Gun World) revolver only match 1-22-15

The 690 Revolver Only match got off to a great start for 2015 with Post 888 sweeping the honors in both rim fire and center fire. Post 690 was second and Post 1084 third.

Team 690 contributors were Joe Hartmann, Mike Klanang, Rich Seamans, Brad Haun and Ed Hewson Sr.

Article II (Gun World) practical match 2-3-15 Canceled due to weather.

Article II (Gun World) practical match 3-3-15

Post 1084 won center fire with a score of 681, Post 690 was second with 648 and Post 888 third with 616. If Post 888 had not received a penalty they would have been second. In rim fire Post 690 was first with a score of 424 and Post 888 second with 195. Post 1084 did not compete. Dave Valentine was top center fire scorer and Mike Klanang top rim fire scorer.

Team 690 contributors were Dave Valentine, Mike Klanang, Bob Zimay, Rich Seamans, Terry Sydorenko 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. A safety class is held before each match.

Article II (Gun World) practical match 4-7-15

Post 1084 won center fire with a score of 654 with Post 690 a very close second with 650. In rim fire Post 690 was first with a score of 712 and Post 1084 second with 703. Post 888 did not compete because it was election day and half their team are election judges. Dave Valentine was top center fire scorer and Joe Hartmann top rim fire scorer.

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

Article II range is located at 250 Cortland Avenue in Lombard and I can be emailed for directions. Competition is by invitation only and you must have a valid FOID card. A safety and rules class is held before each match.

Ed Hewson

Pistol Team Captain

Past Commander Post 690

edhewson@sbcglobal.net

**DATE:** April 19, 2015  
**THRU:** Post 690 Board of Managers  
**THRU:** Post Executive Committee  
**TO:** Post 690 Membership  
**FROM:** Ad Hoc Committee to Analyze Post Finances  
**RE:** Analysis of Post 690 Finances

### **FINDINGS**

The Committee is pleased to report that it found no discrepancies in the financial reports submitted to the Board of Managers, to the Executive Committee and to the Post membership during the periods of time we analyzed. All members are to be assured that the Finance Committee and the Financial Administrator have capably performed their functions.

### **BACKGROUND**

Wally Degner, Ed Hewson and Fred Hall were asked by Commander Ed Grabowski to serve on a committee to analyze expenses with the renovation of the upstairs hall and associated capital improvements. The committee submitted a report to the Board of Managers, the Executive Committee and the Post membership. This report was accepted.

It is important to note that Finance Officer Edgar, Assistant Finance Officer Pearson and Financial Administrator Van Horn have been invited to and have participated in the committee meetings.

The three member committee was subsequently asked to continue its work by analyzing other Post finances. At the committee's request, Van Horn was asked to prepare and present additional financial information in an effort to determine why the overall financial position of the Post has weakened during the past two years. Van Horn cooperatively provided the requested information and the committee has had the opportunity to review it in detail.

### **ANALYSIS**

Van Horn prepared a summary of revenues and expenses by category for two eight month time frames (July 1, 2013 – February 28, 2014 and for July 1, 2014 – February 28, 2015). The data in his report enabled the committee to make comparisons between the two time frames. Our summary of these comparisons are submitted for review.

Club Room, Hall Rental and Coin Machine operations are quite similar for both time frames. This profit center generated \$13,436 in the 2013-2014 time frame and \$11,062 in the 2014-2015 time frame. The committee wishes to draw attention to the fact that this category of Post operations has generated a profit during the past two years. None of the committee members are aware of this operational category ever generating a profit prior to the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Post Corporate and Building Operations Expenses increased from \$42,285 to \$51,031, a substantial increase of \$8,746. There are several small reasons and one large reason for this increase. The large reason is that the Post is incurring a \$558 monthly lease expense for the audio-visual system in the upstairs hall, resulting in an expense of \$4,978 in the 2014-2015 eight month

time frame. The five year lease started in early 2014. It is important to note Post Corporate and Building Operations Expenses have traditionally been paid by pull-tab revenues.

Program Expenses are about the same for both time frames. Obviously, these expenses can be either increased or decreased each year as available resources permit.

Casino Nights and Queen of Hearts are basically the same. As has been done in the past, we need to be sure that future payouts are properly escrowed so that the Post has the necessary funds to pay when the Queen is uncovered.

Pull-Tabs revenues (the old "cash cow") are down dramatically. The committee understands that profits from this category of operations averaged \$90,000 or more each year as recently as the 2010-2011 fiscal year (\$7,500 per month on average.) In the eight month 2013-2014 (July – February) time frame, this operation netted \$37,670 for an average of about \$4,900 per month. For the last 8 month period (July, 2014 –February, 2015), this operation has netted \$20,700 for a monthly average of \$2,600 per month. As detailed in item 2 above, current pull-tabs revenue is not sufficient to cover Post Corporate and Building Operations Expenses.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The committee makes the following recommendations to the Board of Managers, to the Executive Committee and to the membership of the Post.

All persons authorized to incur expenses on behalf of the Post must be made aware of the loss of revenue associated with charitable gaming. We suggest that any motion made and approved by the Board of Managers, the Executive Committee or the Post membership to incur any non-budgeted expense must be reviewed and authorized by the Finance Committee before any non-budgeted funds are spent.

The Post membership should be advised that the probable reasons for the reduction in charitable gaming are (a) the change in the characteristics of our customer base (many of our former large volume players are no longer with us), (b) changes in policy that prohibit employees from playing pull-tabs, and (c) the likelihood that the availability of video gaming in nearby communities is drawing some of our former players from our Club Room.

The Post membership can best be asked to be aware of our reduced revenue by asking members to expect a little less in the cost of after meeting meals and drink tickets. The committee recommends that this report be published in the Post newsletter after this report is presented to the Board of Managers and to the Executive Committee.



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