



Yorktown e-Legion

Yorktown American Legion Post #1009

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Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

For the second year in a row the Yorktown Lions Club, Yorktown Leos, and our Post teamed up to run a Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on March 23rd in our Post Hall. This event was another wonderful success because of the dedicated members who volunteered their time to set-up, serve, cook, entertain, and of course, clean-up. This year we planned on 3 seatings at; 8 AM, 10 AM, and 12 noon and we sold out two of the seatings and were pretty close on the third with a lot of last minute reservations. All told almost 300 people visited our Post for breakfast. Their children did some crafts and enjoyed visits by costumed characters like 'Simba the Lion', 'Dora the Explorer', 'SpongeBob Squarepants' and of course the lovable Easter Bunny.

Events like this are a lot of work - but the money they raise helps keep our Post above the red ink financially. We thank everyone who came with their kids and grandkids for the breakfast. We also want to thank: Vinnie Andreozzi, Roger Thompson, Lee DeFrancesco, Bill Lewis, John Gunn, Cas Faughnan, Gerry Knapp, Al Laughlin, Fred & Barbara Wooding, John McQuillan, Pat McDonough, and Ralph Garcia for all the help from set-up to clean-up which made this such a success. Look for this wonderful event again next year at our Post.

Veterans Commemorative Park

The Memorial Garden surrounding our Post flagpole will soon be transformed into a new Veterans Commemorative Park. A few weeks ago Post volunteers took up the old grey paving stone plaza and removed the old floodlights to make way for the new park. The new plaza will consist of red bricks engraved with the names and military details of local veterans, our Post members, and beloved family members of Yorktown residents who served in the US military. These beautifully engraved bricks will celebrate these veterans and the honored service they gave

to their country. At press time, John Gunn, our Post Chairman for the program, reports we have 110 of these engraved bricks purchased by Post members and local residents for installation in the plaza. The funds raised from the purchase of these engraved bricks will be used to cover the cost of the park construction and maintenance care. Funds raised above this amount will be used for donations to the 'Wounded Warriors Program', 'Operation Comfort Warriors', the Fischer Houses, Montrose VA residents, and Yorktown Community Programs.

Construction will begin during the last week of April and the park dedication will be held on Memorial Day immediately following the parade. The Post will continue to accept brick orders after the Memorial Day dedication and those additional bricks will be installed in the plaza and dedicated at succeeding Memorial Day ceremonies.

Memorial Day Parade

Every other year our Post organizes and conducts the Yorktown Memorial Day Parade. This year is our year for it. I know... its April and it seems too early to talk about the Memorial Day Parade but it's right around the corner. Parade Chairman Fred Wooding has already been working for months to make the parade a reality. This year the NY State Police Color Guard will lead off the parade and three more bands, for a total of six will be in the parade. New bands and new organizations mean a much better parade. It also means we will need more help to get the marching groups in order by the Highway Department at Front St and Underhill Avenue. We need 3 Post members to help with this important detail. A few members who feel the route is a bit too long for them to walk would be very welcome to this important part of the parade. Please participate in the parade with us. Come march with the Post or help start the parade off on the right foot. Contact Fred Wooding (914-930-1957) or Pat McDonough (914-953-6807).

Anyone can receive this FREE Newsletter via e-mail to keep up with what Yorktown Post #1009 is doing. Send your e-mail address to: post1009@nylegion1009.org

Post Elections

Every Spring each American Legion Post conducts an election of Post Officers to run their Post for the following year. Other than valid membership, the only requirement for these positions is a desire to see our Post continue its success in our community. Not sure what to do in these positions? At our Executive Committee meetings we informally sit around the table and report on what each Officer or Chairman is doing. Everyone listens and then offers suggestions and advice from their past experience. You get training, suggestions, and a good consensus of what direction the Post wishes you to go in to succeed. It is a great environment for the mentoring of our leaders. Our Post needs someone to step into the open position of 1st Vice Commander for the coming year. Again... no experience is necessary, as the Post Commander, Adjutant, and the rest of the Executive Committee will work with you every step along the way. Interested members should reach out to Gerry Knapp (914-462-2774) or Pat McDonough (914-953-6807). In either case come to our May 9th meeting and be a part of selecting your leaders.

Possible Dues Increase Coming...

The Department of New York American Legion is seeking an \$8.00 increase to the state's dues beginning in January of 2014. The Department has been running a deficit for a couple of years and they have been diverting money from the reserve funds to pay for operations. These reserves are now in need of assistance and an increase to the dues has been drafted for presentation at the Department's Convention in July. The decision and vote will take place at that time. We discussed this issue during our Post's April meeting and the consensus was we believe this large increase in dues will seriously hurt our older fixed income members and deter younger members with family expenses from joining the American Legion as well. The dues for each Post #1009 Legionnaire in 2013 were \$38. \$13.50 of that goes to the National Legion HQ. \$11.00 goes to the Department of New York Legion. The Westchester County Legion takes \$6.00 of the dues and our Post gets to keep \$7.50 for our operational budget. We will keep you

informed of the status of this dues increase as we learn it.

Post Photo Board

Three years ago we put a photo board of our members up in the lobby of the Post. The display shows a recent photo of our Post Legionnaire side-by-side with a photo of them 'back in the day' when they were in the military. If you stand in the lobby when an event is going on you see people drawn to this photo display every few minutes. We now have 41 member's photos up on the board and we are always looking for more. Contact Pat McDonough and he will scan your photos into the computer and you can have the originals back right away. Next time you're at the Post look for this permanent display.

Speakers Needed...

Several of our Post members will be visiting with a Yorktown HS music class on Wednesday, May 22 for two sessions to explain why Memorial Day is so important and why Veterans feel so strongly about it. If anyone wishes to share a story to the youth of today contact Chaplain Fred Wooding (914-930-1957) and join us that day.

Post #1009 Upcoming Events

Tue May 7 Exec. Committee Mtg 7:00 PM

Thu May 9 Post General Meeting 7:30 PM

Sun May 25 Poppy Fundraiser at A&P Supermarkets and Turco's from 9 AM to 1 PM.

Mon May 27 Memorial Day Parade 11am
Form up at Town Hall at 10:45 AM
Veterans Commemorative Park
dedication follows the parade.

Tue Jun 4 Exec. Committee Mtg 7:00 PM

Thu Jun 13 Post General Meeting 7:30 PM

Sat Jun 15 Flag Retirement Ceremony 9 AM
At Yorktown FD Carnival Grounds

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