



DANIEL SIMPSON

POST630
112N. MAIN ST. ELBURN IL 60119



4TH QUARTER 2019

FROM THE SENIOR VICE DESK:

(The following is an article taken from The American Legion Dispatch)

11 Key Things To Know About The Legion Act

With President Trump's signature on the Legion Act, the ongoing declared period of war was extended back to Dec 7th, 1941. The congressionally approved act is a way to honor thousands of veterans who were killed or wounded on duty during periods not previously considered a time of war.

"Finally, Congress has acknowledged the service and sacrifice of at least 1,600 veterans who died or were wounded in previously undeclared periods of war," said American Legion National Judge Advocate Kevin Bartlett.

"This new law honors the memories of those veterans while allowing other veterans from those previously undeclared eras to receive all the American Legion benefits they have earned through their service."

The Legion Act - Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service Act – also redefines The American Legion's membership eligibility dates. The eligibility now spans from Dec. 7, 1941, until a time when the U.S. is no longer at war, as determined by Congress.

Here are answers to key questions about the new law and what it means for The American Legion.

Q: How does this change the eligibility requirements for The American Legion?

A: The only change is that Congress has reduced the number of eligibility periods from seven to two. They are April 6, 1917, to Nov. 11, 1918 and Dec. 7, 1941 and continuing. No other restrictions are changed.

Q: What's the impact on veterans who previously were not eligible for American Legion membership?

A: Veterans who were honorably discharged but whose service did not fall into the previous defined war eras may now join The American Legion immediately.

Q: I am among the veterans who were not allowed to join previously, so why do you want me now?

A: The American Legion's founding fathers believed, "a veteran is a veteran," an axiom that has held true throughout the organizations more than century of service. Some Veterans were ineligible to join because of the war eras that were defined by Congress. The recent bill passage and the president's signature changed that.

Q: So how does this differentiate The American Legion from AMVETS?

A: The American Legion's eligibility criteria states that veterans must have served during "wartime." When Congress decides, the U.S. is no longer in a state of war, the Legion's membership eligibility period will close, while AMVETS will still be open to those who served.

(Full article can be seen in the August 2019 issue of The American Legion Dispatch)

Post Officers

- Commander: Mark Krebs
- Vice Commander: Dan Kolzow
- Jr. Vice Commander: Chris Mulvihill
- Adjutant: John Reece
- Sergeant at Arms: Lloyd Damask
- Chaplin: Jim Elgar
- Interim Finance: Dan Kolzow
- Judge Advocate/
Parliamentarian: Paul Gardner
- Post Service Officer: Norm Welker

Contact Us



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Just for Laughs



Machinist's Mate "A" School: Day One



@AmericanLegionPost630

Check out Our New web page!

www.elburnpost630.org



If you have any pictures, articles or ideas you want to share with the post, contact us in the office. All contributions must be in alignment with the values and guidelines of the American Legion.





JR. VICE CHRIS MULVIHILL

A word on membership dues

Everyone else has gone to bed, the Bears just beat the Redskins and I'm wondering if all our members are ready. It's an odd thing to be thinking about at 2300, but I wonder if we have anyone who might not be eligible for benefits should a disaster strike our area. Is everybody's membership paid up to date? The answer to this question is important for a variety of reasons. The most recent and relevant example is the events of this past month. Hurricane Dorian and the disastrous flooding in Texas have undoubtedly affected the lives of many of our Legion brothers and sisters. Thankfully, we have The National Emergency Fund (NEF) which provides up to \$3,000 to American Legion Members and up to \$10,000 for Legion Posts displaced by declared natural disasters. However, in order to receive the benefit, your membership must be active at the time of the disaster and the time of application. I can only imagine that \$3,000 is huge when you've lost everything. In addition, Legion members also receive discounts on travel, lodging and car rentals, insurance, moving and relocation expenses and many others. All of that is great, and no doubt the NEF is crucially important. However, I would have to say that the best benefits are the intangibles, like the benefit of being part of an organization which exists to serve veterans, not just nationally, but also locally, right here at home. The benefit of being with an organization whose sole purpose is to look out for the interests of us veterans. We enjoy the benefit of the comradery which only comes from being around like-minded individuals, who along with you understand what it means to serve. Whether you're the person who never misses a meeting or you're rarely ever seen at the post, it doesn't matter, because another benefit is an equal voice when it comes to issues affecting veterans. Each membership carries with it, a voice...a voice to effectively challenge Congress when it comes to funding for VA benefits and programs. When it's time, will all of ours be heard?

VA Day
American Legion
Post 630

October 30, 2019 10:00am to 1:00pm

American Legion Post 630
112 North Main Street
Elburn, Illinois 60119

Come by to learn about your veteran benefits! Bring your DD-214 and you and your spouse's income and medical expenses for 2018. Our service providers can help with a wide array of services, including:

- Applying for VA Health Care
- Applying for Burial Eligibility in a National Cemetery
- State Veteran Benefits
- VA Disability Compensation
- DD-214 and record requests
- Honor Flight Chicago
- Career Opportunities

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
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AMERICAN LEGION
HONOR FLIGHT CHICAGO

What's Happening Down at the Post?

Queen of Hearts/Gaming machines: The Queen of Hearts continues to be a steady draw on Thursday nights. While we have a long way to go to catch up to the McHenry VFW, we are up to a jackpot over \$10k! Gaming machines are proving to be a steady stream of much needed income for the building fund. While not a large amount, it is still something. On the night of the Bears / Packers game, also Queen of Hearts night, we raffled off a donated Bears Jersey (Butkus) and took donations for a bratwurst dinner. In all \$250 was raised for the NEF. Not bad for an impromptu fundraiser!



USO BB-Q for the Troops: Our second annual event, held on July 13th partnering with Bob Jass Chevrolet, was another success. Music, free lunch and raffles amounted to a good time and donations of close to \$2000 raised for the USO of Illinois! Job well done everyone!

Bar Crawl: Elburn American Legion was proud to take part in a local "bar crawl" this past July. An event put on by two local young adults for the benefit of a local resident with stage 4 cancer. Attendees visited local bars during the event and their first stop was "The Bunker Bar" at our legion hall. In 2-3 short hours \$155 was raised for the cause. Nice work!

0.1K Beer Run: This past September 14th our second annual beer run was held in the back-parking lot. This year's attendance was more than last year's and people seemed to stay around a lot longer. Queen of Hearts raffle tickets had solid sales thanks to George Morris, Llyod DaMask and Norm Welker. Commander Krebs followed that up with a 50/50 raffle along with a donated beer sign raffle. Final numbers are not in yet but early returns show a strong donation of approx. \$4000 to the newly formed American Legion Post 630 Charities.

Membership & Dues: Yes, that time is here and we need your renewals in NOW! To the 80 members who have already renewed, thank you! To the others who have not, why not? As an incentive for the post, the state gives \$1 per member to the post, if that renewal happens before a certain date. That incentive declines the closer we get to the end of the year. With the lowest annual dues of any post around, we need every dollar we can muster. That could be \$120 in the post fund. Which is the cost of one issue of your newsletter. Do your part and renew NOW!

Post 630 would like to welcome new members, Christina Murri, Scott Boan and Charles Peterson. Thank you for your service and we look forward to seeing you around the post. The membership team is still hard at work recruiting new members. If you know of anybody that you think would be a good fit for our post, let us know. Remember with the new "Legion Act" membership eligibility dates have changed for the better. Veterans need to have served any time from Dec. 7th 1941 to current. All other eligibility requirements are still in place.

Veterans Day Dinner: Save the date, Saturday November 9th invitations with details will be going out soon.

POST HISTORY

The following is a summary of regular meeting minutes from the post archives:

The first recorded regular meeting minutes in our possession, of the Daniel Simpson Post 630, date back to **January 9, 1922**. The post had been established and active for almost 2 years. Holding patriotic celebrations, community picnics and fundraising for Legion causes during that time. We do not know if they took minutes in those first two years but the post activities are well documented in the Elburn Herald.

Jan 9 1922:

“Commander Hannon presided, after bills were ordered paid a finance report was given, \$368.37 on hand. Leroy Corrigan acting as installing officer, the following officers were installed.

P.C. (Post Commander) K.L. Johnson, VPC (Vice Post Commander) W.J. Reeves, S.A. (Sargent At Arms?) G.J. Kommes, F.A. (Finance Officer?) C.L. Morris, Adj. (Adjutant) M.L. Hannon. The following officer positions were appointed; Chaplin, Historian, Service Officer, Employment officer, Athletic Officer and the Executive Committee. Application of R.K. Garfield was accepted. Meeting closed by new Commander Johnson. After the meeting a stag was held. The new officers gave short talks and a supper was enjoyed consisting of; baked ham, potatoes with gravy, pickles, cheese, ice cream, cake and coffee.”

A few take notes from this entry. First if you were to see the journal, you cannot help to be impressed with the handwriting back then. It is truly a lost art. Installation of officers was held in January not in July like it is now. The different officer positions filled and the detailed menu. There might not be much happening in the meetings but they will almost always record what they had to eat that day.

Feb 13, 1922:

“Previous minutes read and accepted. Weather was so bad no meeting was held on Jan 23. Application of Hicks Downing was accepted. And a letter concerning the American Legion Aux. was tabled. Meeting closed by Com. Johnson.”

Notes; Meetings were held twice a month and we get the first mention of the Aux. beginning to come about. The next two meetings run by then VPC Reeves were uneventful and only posted 3or 4 lines each.

The Legion basketball team was celebrated with a banquet on April 10 at an open meeting held at the Mystic Hall. A detailed menu as well as guest speakers was listed. A roster of the 21-22 team, their record and teams played were listed. April 24 and May 8 mentions were made about a home talent show and the cost being to high to bring the Batavia Legion show to Elburn (no doubt a fundraiser event). \$5 was donated to decorate graves overseas. Daniel Simpson Post to assist the town as in other years in the Memorial Day services.

Meeting minutes were not recorded in ledger for **June, July, August and September. October** had one entry, **November** was missing and at the **Dec 11** meeting a motion was made to fund the post basketball team for the 22-23 season. Burdette Conley transferred from the Batavia Post and new post officers were elected.

Only three meetings were recorded in **1923** with minimal business being conducted in each. The **Dec 10** meeting had two notable entries. Along with the election of officers a motion was made and approved to continue the Daniel Simpson Post 630 for another year! One can only presume that with the absence of meeting minutes, attendance and participation was significantly down and the post faced the real possibility of disbanding. Post size was still around 25 members, this was a farming community at the time, did the obligations of everyday life at that time not allow for extra activities such as the Legion? Another motion was made and approved that meetings be held once a month and on the second Monday of the month. Perhaps too

many meetings were just burning out the members? This could be in response to the possibility of the post shutting down? Too much of a good thing? Than on **Feb 25 1924** a motion was made and approved “the second Monday of the month be for entertainment and refreshments with the fourth Monday of the month be for business “. A committee of 5 members appointed by the commander each time would provide refreshments and share the expenses. I guess someone didn’t like the motion at the Dec meeting and did a revision. Anybody’s guess here.

May 12 1924:

A joint meeting of the Civil War and Spanish American War Veterans with the American Legion was held to plan that years Memorial Day celebration. (I listed this entry since I was impressed with the mere mention of the other veterans groups even being around)

1922-1924 had several months with no record of meetings. There were no missing pages in the ledger so it could be presumed those meeting did not take place for one reason or another, or someone forgot to bring the minute’s binder? Through those years, you can see patterns developing, election of officers in Dec with installation in Jan, committees forming for entertainment-refreshments-fundraising-athletics etc. Post 630 regularly sent representation to the Kane County Central Committee and also the State Conventions.

March 23 1925: First mention of Legion buying poppies. Order of 100.

May 10 1926: Plans for “Decoration Day” (Memorial Day) were discussed.

October 25 1926:

“Motion made and accepted to give up on Mystic Workers and look for new quarters” The post had been meeting at this location since at least **1922** at a rate of \$24 a year. With sporadic meetings being held this was most likely a cost saving measure. (The Mystic Workers of the World was founded in Fulton, Illinois in 1896 as a fraternal benefit society. The organization was founded to offer insurance alternatives to the growing middle class in the Midwest and northern states.)

Only one meeting was recorded for **1927** and only two for **1928**. On **March 11 1929** a letter was read about starting a Legion Aux. It was undecided how it would be possible to get eligible members together. The next two recorded meetings were **Nov 11 1929** and then **Nov 30 1930**. At this last meeting, which was held up-stairs in the Haumnans (sp) living room, the election of officers was discussed. Through the notes, you can see the hesitation of the present members to accept the nomination for another year. Most present had already served multiple years at every positon.

The next two recorded meeting were held **August 10 1931** and **September 14 1931** both held in a council room of Town Hall. Only 5 members attended each time. At the **Sept 14 1931** meeting; “Several discussions held as to what would be the best thing to do to get the members to come to meetings so we can elect officers. We finally decided to adjourn the meeting till **September 28th**. At which time if the members didn’t turn out to meeting, the advisability of discontinuing the post would be taken up”

In reviewing the last ten years it would seem the luster and celebrations of post WWI were dying down. Along with the decreased participation, the need for organizations such as The American Legion had to be questioned. Was lack of membership and lack of participation a common problem at all posts nationwide? It is becoming obvious that membership and fundraising will be a constant battle moving forward. On this 100-year anniversary of The American Legion one must think about what it was like back then. Did those members realize the importance of the legion and what it would become? What would it be like today if they and all the post like them just gave up? We will have the courage to push on in the face of adversity?

Post Calendar

(Holiday / Notable Day / Post 630 Event / Other)

OCTOBER

- 3rd) Queen of Hearts Drawing
- 9th) Bld.Comm. Meeting
- 10th) Queen of Hearts Drawing, Bld. Comm. Meeting
- 14th) Post Meeting / Columbus Day
- 17th) Queen of Hearts Drawing
- 24th) Queen of Hearts Drawing
- 31st) Queen of Hearts Drawing / Halloween

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27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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- 6th) Bld. Comm. Meeting
- 7th) Queen of Hearts Drawing
- 9th) Veterans Day Dinner
- 11th) Veterans day / Post Meeting
- 14th) Queen of Hearts Drawing
- 21nd) Queen of Hearts Drawing
- 28th) Thanksgiving / No Queen of Hearts Drawing

- 4th) Bld. Comm. Meeting
- 5th) Queen of Hearts Drawing
- 7th) Start of WWII 1941
- 9th) Post Meeting
- 12th) Queen of Hearts Drawing
- 19th) Queen of Hearts Drawing
- 25th) Christmas
- 26th) Queen of Hearts Drawing
- 31st) New Years Eve

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

American Legion
112 N. Main Street
Elburn IL. 60119

The following Businesses have recently donated time and material to better the post
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630-466-7045
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