

# **BLANCHARD POST NO. 1040**

MEMBER NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION

PRESS

Twenty-second Year

Delmar, New York

**DECEMBER 1977** 

# A Joyous Holiday Season to

#### COMMANDER'S CORNER

Fellow Legionnaires:

As must have been evident by now, one of my main concerns has been the maintenance of a strong and active Post through retaining the membership that we have and adding new members for the future. As I see it, we must project an image in the community of what the Legion really is all about, particularly to those veterans of the Vietnam era whose understanding of the Legion has been colored by an often hostile news media.

So, let us all chip in and give a hand to our very dedicated membership chairman, Milt Andre, and stop around at the Post during this holiday season to greet old friends or to introduce yourself. We have a lot of projects just looking for additional volunteers and other projects Reeding help to get off the drawing board.

I found the following item in my mail the other day which is quite appropriate

to the theme of this column.

Our Post Has Need of YOU

If it's ever so small the part you take, Our Post has need of you Be it big or little the effort you make,

Our Post has need of you If it's only a small gift to a Legion

foundation, If it's a visit to a veteran who helped save our nation,

It's a part you yourself can play, So, our Post has need of you. By your smile you can change a

Legionnaire's life, By a word you can bring peace out of

Then lift your head and never say die, Count your blessings, stop every sigh, Get busy, don't let a chance slip by, For our Post has need of you.

Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season.

Bill Blanchard, Commander

#### DECEMBER CALENDAR

5 (Mon.) Post meeting at 8 p.m.

Refreshments follow 7 (Wed.) Pearl Harbor Day.

Fly the Flag.

10 (Sat.) Tinsel Ball

17 (Sat.) Children's Christmas Party

18 (Sun.) Egg Nog Party

Post Affairs meeting, 8 p.m. 19 (Mon.)

25 (Sun.) Christmas Day. Have a joyous one.

26 (Mon.) Board of Directors meeting, 8 p.m.

29 (Thu.) County Meeting 31 (Sat.) New Year's Eve Party

**Uncle Miltie Says** Mail your dues today. You'll feel better for it tomorrow.

#### **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

The first year of the third century of our nation will be rung out at the Post's 1977-78 New Year's Eve Party. Rollie Whitney is our genial chairman this year and his advice is "get your tickets early, it looks like a rough winter for the laggard.

Dancing will be to the strains of the Joe Del Combo from 9 to 2 a.m. Noisemakers and hats will also be provided.

At 11 bells there will be a buffet providing the usual and the rare to suit the taste of even the most demanding epicurean. The buffet will remain available for that later-on-nibbling.

All-inclusive tickets are \$30 a couple for the night's activities, including an open bar from 9 to 2 a.m. upstairs only. Tickets are available in the Lounge

from Jake or Vic and from Chairman Rollie (439-1057) or Vice Chairman Frank Futia (439-5280). Reservations way be made by calling Blanchard Post (439-9819) — you will be advised of the date by which tickets may be picked up.

Sunday, Dec. 18, will witness the annual "pouring of the nog" at the Post, beginning at 3 p.m. Webster's dictionary defines an egg nog as "a cold drink composed of egg, milk and sugar, usually with the addition of a distilled liquor." What Webster does not mention, is the need for a very talented and experienced supervising mixologist. This year that task will again be assumed by that eggspert Dan Lantz with the assistance of an outstanding crew of local "nog" fanatics. The gathering will also savor the delectable hors d'oeuvres put together by the girls of the Auxiliary and other charming young females.

See you in the Lounge on the 18th.

#### EGG NOG PARTY

**Lest We Forget JANUARY 21, 1977** 

#### TINSEL BALL

The Holiday Season will be ushered in at Blanchard with the annual gala Tinsel Ball on Saturday night, Dec. 10. The chairman is the ever affable Joe Marino, who promises a great fun night with happy music, fine food and the wherewithal to wash it down.

The dinner will consist of a menu of roast beef, prepared by that super-chef Hank Voorhees, with all the trimmings. There will be an open bar (in the dining room only) from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

All-inclusive tickets at \$25 per couple are available from Chairman Joe (call 439-6427) or from Jake or Vic in the Lounge. Hors d'oeuvres will also be available in the Lounge at no additional charge starting at 6:30. Dinner will be served starting at 7:30.

The Auxiliary basket-of-cheer will be raffled off during the course of the evening. Dancing will be to the music of Angel Feiden and her band from 9 till?

This affair is always a sell-out, so be sure to make your reservations early and guarantee yourself an enjoyable evening greeting old friends and generally having a good time in the spirit of the season.

#### BLANCHARD POST PHONE (518) 439-9819

Commander	William J. Blanchard, Sr.
Senior Vice Commander	Francis A. Futia
Vice Commander	Milton F. Andre
Vice Commander	Arthur P. Blanchard
Adjutant	John B. McDonald
Finance Officer	Joseph A. Marino
Chaplain	Rev. Charles H. Kaulfuss
Judge Advocate	George F, Wenger
Service Officer	Frank Zini, Jr.
Historian	
Sergeant-at Arms	Thomas J. Oro
Public Relations	Robert J. Smith
Editor, 1040 Times	Charles J. O'Hara

#### MEMBERSHIP

As this report was written, 71% of the current membership (1977) had paid their 1978 dues, giving a total number paid-to-date of 619. You have the sincere thanks of your membership chairman for this promptness. The first target date set by the Department of New York for 100% of quota was November 11. We missed that goal which is an awfully difficult one for a Post of our size to attain. However, we did report a total of 501 paid members at the County Meeting in October, which gave us a commanding lead over the second place Post.

I feel sure that by the time this issue reaches you, we will have passed the quota of the second place Post and continue our standing as the largest Post in the County, the District and this area of the state. Please keep those checks coming! I am eyeing January 15 as our goal date for a 100% paid-up membership. We can surely do that, even surpass our quota, and with the recruitment of new members, perhaps pass our all-time high.

The growth and future health of our Post are in the hands of our present membership. You hold the reins, so it is up to each of you. It is important for the future that we direct much of our efforts toward recruiting Vietnam-era veterans who will continue the work of the Post in the years ahead.

Second dues notices were being prepared at the time of writing this report and will have been sent before this issue is received. Some members have complained that they did not receive the September issue of 1040 Times and thus did not get the first dues notice.

Again, please cooperate and keep the checks coming. You will make me and the Finance Officer a couple of real happy guys.

The last new member signed up was on October, but we did welcome to the Post a transferee, Ernest Vigars, formerly of the North Albany Post.

In closing, may I wish all of you in Blanchardland, a healthy, hearty, happy Holiday Season and good health in the coming year.

Milt Andre, Membership Chmn.

### ''A FINE BODY OF MEN'' The World War I Group at our Veterans' Day Luncheon



Seated, left to right—Lou Feldman, Al Adams and Harry Brookman; standing—Fred Mosmen, Win Robinson, Norm Bender, Ed Van DeLoo, George Reeber, Jim Hickman and Hank Westphal.

#### NEWS FROM NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Legion National Commander Robert C. Smith has pointed out in a letter to department commanders, adjutants and employment chairmen that "At no time since the inception of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) have veterans been placed, either in CETA job training programs or CETA-financed public service jobs, in proportion to their rate of unemployment or their numbers in population to be served."

All of us are aware that the above refers principally to the Vietnam veteran and is another tragic example of the unconcern shown for these veterans by the government they served honorably. Here again it is up to the President himself to show more concern for loyal Americans in view of his concern for those who were disloyal.

Apropos the above, another news item notes that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has established an affirmative action program for the hiring, placement and advancement of disabled and Vietnam-era veterans.

It is good to hear a pleasant bit of news from a Bureau which has been the target of a great part of the news media and other lefties in our midst. Of course this kind of news isn't reported in the public press at all or is stuck away on a page where it will be unlikely to be seen by most of the reading public.

Another item from National concerns a communication from the Veterans Administration relative to the American Veterans Group Insurance which is being offered by the National Home Life Assurance Company of Valley Forge, Pa. We have been urged by the VA to inform all members that the American Veterans Group Insurance Trust is not in any way connected with the VA. The New York State Insurance Department could give further information about the company to anyone who is interested.

As is the custom each year, the National Commander has sent greetings to those hospitalized veterans who cannot be with their loved ones Christmas time.

The 1977 National Convention of the American Legion held in Denver adopted an eligibility amendment which extended the eligibility closing date for veterans of the Vietnam period from Aug. 15, 1973 to May 7, 1975. However until the Congress of the United States enacts a law amending Section 5 of the Federal Act incorporating the American Legion so as to reflect the new closing date, we may not enroll any new members under the amended criteria. National Headquarters will keep us advised of the legislation's progress and when we can begin to accept veterans under the amended criteria.

## Uncle Miltie Says Dues are due—they help to pay for our community programs

#### Sick Call

At the November meeting it was reported that Dick Rudolph, Tom Harris, Joe Von Ronne and Al Greenwood were hospitalized but that all doing very well. Jim Holmes was also reported to be sick at home. Get-well cards were sent to all with the hope for a speedy recovery.

#### AUXILIARY NEWS

By Lillian Blanchard

OFFICERS FOR 1977-1978

₽€sident	Pauline Ouderkirk
First Vice President	Carol Cummings
Second Vice President	Lillian Blanchard
Recording Secretary	
Corresponding Secretary	Karla Burns
Treasurer	Dorotha George
Chaplain	Celeste Blanchard
Sergeant-at-Arms	Gloria Broom
Historian	Freda Sherman

At our last meeting firemen Kevin Shea and John Zboray of the Elsmere Fire Company gave an interesting program on fire prevention. A thank you to Marcia Turner, our Community Service Chairwoman, for making arrangements.

A dinner was held October 19 at the Holiday Inn, Latham, honoring Past Albany County Chairwoman Jeannette Burns. Blanchard Unit was represented by Pauline Ouderkirk, Carol Cummings, Rose Mary Blanchard, Barbara Palmer, Lenore Smith and Barbara Whitney.

Bingo was held at the V.A. Hospital November 2. Our thanks to the following: Thelma Ballard, Carol Cummings, Dorotha George, Isabella Greenwood, Rose Ann Levy, Ronnie Moessner, Barbara Palmer, Lenore Smith and Barbara Whitney. Donations of refreshments provided by: Thelma Ballard, Lillian Blanchard, Rose Mary Blanchard, Ruth Gruso, Carol Cummings, Betty Costigan, Chrystine DiNucci, Lee Hurley, Rose Ann Levy, Ronnie Moessner, Barbara Palmer, Betty Pelletier, Lenore Smith, Joan Stowers, Grace Velie and Barbara Whitney. Thanks all for the donations.

If you haven't paid your 1978 dues, please send check to Carol Cummings, Membership Chairwoman, 234 Kenwood Avenue, Delmar, N. Y. 12054. Make the check payable to N.A. Blanchard Auxiliary Unit 1040. Our quota this year is 205. As of last meeting we had 120 paid. Let's help Carol make the quota.

Our sympathy to Mildred Talbot on the loss of her son in an automobile accident; to Barbara Riggins on the loss of her mother in Florida; and to Alice Herber on the loss of her mother-in-law Jennie Herber, a member of our Unit.

Get well wishes were sent to Margaret Kiszka and Ethel Scheiberling who are hospitalized.

Saturday, Dec. 10, is the night of the Tinsel Ball. Once agin the Auxiliary will be holding a drawing for a basket of cheer, a case of champagne and a case of beer. Carol Cummings is in charge of chance sales. Let's get going and sell as many chances as possible. A prize will be awarded to the Auxiliary member who sells the most raffle books. Chances are also available in the Post Lounge.

#### 20-WEEK CLUB PARTY

Art Blanchard, Vice Commander and overseer of the 20-Week Club, reports that the Club party on November 12 was highly successful. While a final accounting had not been made by press time, it appeared that the total net profit would be around \$600 from the latest Club operations. The lower "take" when compared with last year's profit can be attributed to three factors: first, less participation by the membership, second, failure of some to pay for their books, and third, higher cost of food this year.

A new Club is now underway and books may be secured from Art Blanchard (768-2638) or from Jake or Vic in the Lounge.

The winners and prizes on Nov. 12:

1	
1. Nelson McClintock	\$500.00
2. Pauline Ouderkirk	250.00
3. Rose Mary Blanchard	100.00
4. Janice and Eddie	100.00
5. Betty Pelletier	100.00
6. Ronnie Moessner	100.00
7. George Butman	50.00
8. Ida Mae Parker	50.00
9. Dick Dalton	50.00

#### Sympathy

Commander Blanchard expressed the sympathy of the officers and members of the Post to Charles Herber on the recent loss of his mother.

Date to remember: Sunday, Dec. 18 is the Egg Nog Party. As in former years, Auxiliary members and wives of Post members are requested to bring hors d'oeuvres.

The Auxiliary Christmas Party will be December 20. Cocktails at 6:30, dinner at 7:30. General Chairwoman is Rose Mary Blanchard; reservations, Marcia Turner; decorations, Joan Stowers and Lillian Blanchard; entertainment, Dot George and Marcia Turner. A roast beef family-style dinner will be served by the ladies of Kaa Rheu Vahn Caldron, and the cost per person is \$5.50. There will be a gift exchange, cost not over \$2. If not contacted for your reservation, call Reservation Chairwoman Marcia Turner (439-5819). Deadline for reservations is December 13.

There will be an Executive Committee meeting the first week in January. Members will be notified of exact date later.

\* \* \*

To the officers, members and friends of Blanchard Post and Auxiliary: May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas & Healthy New Year.

> Pauline Ouderkirk Auxiliary President

#### SHUFFLEBOARD

The shuffleboard league is off to a fine start. This year's officers are: President, John Handerhan; Vice President, Paul Joralemon; Secretary-Treasurer, Barbara Whitney. Matches started October 6 and will be contested every Thursday until the end of March, except Nov. 24, Dec. 22 and Dec. 29. The banquet will be in early April. More on this later.

As of Nov. 3, the team standings:

	-	Won	Lost
1.	Bill Campbell, Jr./Jim Benton III	8	2
	Al Adams/John Handerhan		3
3.	Jim and Sandy Quinn	. 7	3
4.	Paul and Carol Joralemon	. 6	4
5.	Rolly and Barb Whitney	. 6	4
6.	Henry Engel/George Spawn	. 5	5
7.	Jim and Carol Benton	. 5	5
8.	Joe and Carol Cummings	. 3	7
9.	Bill and Jane Alwell	. 2	8
10.	Pete Conway/Mary Jane Mauer	1	9

Our regular substitutes this year are: Gloria Broom, Helen Quinn, Carol Handerhan, Don Duncan and Ollie Palmer.

> Uncle Miltie Says Don't let a few pennies a day keep you away

#### American Education Week

The committee appointed to recommend the form of award, or other form of recognition that the Post should adopt in connection with our participation in American Education Week, had to defer its final recommendation until a later date. It had originally been planned to have this matter finalized at the Post meeting of November 7. More on this next month.

#### **Baseball Dinner**

The annual dinner honoring our 1977 Baseball Team will be held at the Post during the Christmas holiday season but the exact date and other details were not available at press time. To those interested, it is suggested that you call Ernie Gall, Baseball Manager at 439-3271, or the Post at 439-9819. Tickets will be available from Ernie and in the Lounge.

#### Taps

Milt Andre, Membership Chairman, reports that Lewis King, a 50-year Legion member who received his pin last year, passed away in July. His widow called Milt, who expressed the sympathy of the Post. It seems they had moved out of this area and thus his death had not come to our attention.

#### DOWN THE ALLEY

Another week has passed since the compilation of the standings below and some changes in those standings are now history. Due to a need to make a press deadline, I don't have time to recompute all of the data, but I will update the following as of November 11.

Armistice Day night was a good one for Ray Bender's Infantrymen, to wit, Burns, Tangora, Mitchell and yours truly, since it saw us displace Ken Havill's Air Force as leaders by a scant half-point. Kreh rolled the first 600 set of the season, 616; Havill the previous week having rolled a 599. Congratulations to both of them on their scores and to Ken and his wife Pat who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary and to Doug Kreh and his wife on the birth of their first daughter, Rebecca Lynn.

We also learned that the Doctor has knocked one of our newcomers from "the box," namely, Dick Bedford, who injured an arm at work and will be unable to bowl for the rest of the season.

Milt Andre, Secretary

	Milt Andre, Secretary						
HS	HTP	oints	W = L	3	Pins		
Air Force890			9 8		0645		
Infantry 839		70.700 F			0330		
Navy850			5 12		0017		
Tanks876		7.74	4 13		20089		
Marines809		5.550	3 14	1 27	9495		
Coast Guard 796			$1\frac{1}{2}$ 15		9677		
Army858			0 17		9541		
Sea Bees841		11	8 19		5304		
Sca Dees011							
M.D. 11	HS		Pins	G	Av.		
McDonald		585	4889	27	181		
Havill		599	4253	24	177		
Kreh		562	3114	18	173		
DiSanto		564	3478	21	165		
Bedford		597	3469	21	165		
Bender		512	4298	27	159		
Lantz		507	2379	15	158		
Johnston	191	512	4262	27	157		
Tangora	192	528	4178	27	154		
Marino		539	3699	24	154		
Pauquette		486	3249	21	154		
Giacone		537 487	2778	18 27	154		
Karins			4156 3229		153 153		
Palmer		491 514	3676	21 24			
Oates				24	153 152		
Hanrahan		527	3652	200	151		
Viele		505 509	3639 2419	24 16	151		
Eagan		514	4080	27	151		
Mitchell Andre		526	3624	24	151		
Foy		469	2866	19	150		
Whitney		510	4049	27	149		
Pugliese		481	3094	21	147		
Vail		504	3982	27	147		
Larkin		487	2498	17	146		
Ristau		475	3464	24	144		
McCabe		491	3451	24	143		
Campbell		484	3411	24	142		
Heilmann		484	3398	24	141		
Mosmen		454	1690	12	140		
Hasen		460	3340	24	139		
Burns		448	3705	27	137		
Brady		497	3668	27	135		
Donnelly		516	3237	24	134		
LaForge		442	2826	21	134		
Haker		474	3606	27	133		
Monette		463	3090	24	128		
Buker		421	3077	24	128		
Cole		401	3242	27	120		
Alwell		393	2654	24	110		
***************************************		0,0	2002		440		

#### **Luncheon Dates**

The World War I faithfuls will hold their December luncheon get-together on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 1 p.m. This month will mark a change in the location of the gathering—they will now put on the feed-bag and swap tall tales at Brockley's Restaurant at the Four Corners.

The luncheon sponsored by the World War II veterans of the Post will be held on Thursday, Dec. 15 at noon. The attendance at the ceremony and luncheon on Veterans' Day was excellent and the boys expect another large gathering this month to mark the holiday season.

#### Rotten Thought of the Month

Things continue to get stranger all the time when we can be training Ugandan military helicopter pilots unbeknown to the U.S. State Department and with a President in office who lectures to the world community on human rights.

#### Uncle Miltie Says

That's all for now folks.

Just keep those checks coming!

#### **Bingo Report: October**

In accordance with the provisions of the New York State Bingo Law, the October financial report of our Bingo operations is published herewith:

Four (4) occasions—740 players

Total receipts \$5,627.70
Prizes 4,000.00

Gross profit \$1,627.70

Expenses
Equipment and supplies \$155.61
Services 152.00
License fees 100.24

Total expenses 407.85

Net profit \$1,219.85

#### Legion Mountain Camp

Chairman Ollie Palmer of our Mountain Camp Committee introduced our District Commander, Tom Igoe, at the November meeting in connection with the annual drive to help support our Mountain Camp. Commander Igoe's talk was very informative and helped many of those present to a better understanding of this outstanding Adirondack resort and convalescent facility. It certainly is worth your support fellows, so see Ollie and become a booster for the small sum of one dollar.

#### Cookies for Veterans

Our congratulations to the Bethlehem Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons on their "Big Day" of November 21 when they delivered hundreds of dozens of cookies and oodles of candy to the patients at the VA Hospital in Albany. This meant a lot of work for a host of volunteers in making, packaging and delivering the donations.

Great work by another great community organization.

#### **Election Night Reporting**

This year the American Legion again participated in bringing the election returns to Channel 6 on election night. It was very gratifying during the course of that evening to hear the Channel 6 newscasters repeatedly advise the viewers of this service that was being performed by the American Legion for the speedy tabulating of returns. Another example of the Legion's community involvement.

#### BINGO EVERY WEDNESDAY

• DEC. 7 - 14 - 21 - 28 • \$1,000 IN PRIZES EACH WEEK! Games start at 8 p.m. SHARP

#### Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post No. 1040

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DELMAR, NEW YORK 12054

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Delmar, N. Y.

