



Ten Forty Times

DELMAR, NEW YORK



FOURTEENTH EDITION

MAY 1970

LET'S COOPERATE

We are pleased with the large attendance at all of the functions held since we have moved into our new building. Such response is not without problems. We are all aware of the limited parking caused by the location of our new building in the middle of the old parking lot and the fact that we have not been able to complete new parking facilities. All of this will be resolved when we are able to remove our old building and finish landscaping the grounds.

In the meantime, let's remember that the welfare of the community and its fire protection is much more important than *any* of us parking almost at the front door of our building. A few people have parked in such a manner so as to impede the operation of the Elsmere Fire Department, something of grave concern to them and us.

The Fire Department has recently completed a new parking lot on the north end of the building and informed us that we are welcome to use it. For those of you who do not know, it is the end of the building furthest away from Elsmere Avenue. They do ask that we refrain from parking in the area *south* of their building. This area is needed for the firemen to park in case of fire. They can not park in the street, as the full street is needed to maneuver the fire apparatus as it leaves the firehouse.

This is a serious matter and we are *all* asked to cooperate. We are concerned with the welfare of our town and are determined to do all we can to maintain good relations with our neighbors across the street. With your help we will.

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Annual Meeting

In accordance with Article IV, Section 3, By-laws of the Constitution of Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post 1040, The American Legion, notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting will be held in the Post Building, Poplar Drive, Elsmere, New York, at 8:30 p.m., May 18, 1970. The purpose of such annual meeting is the election of officers and such other business as may properly be brought to the floor.

Edward M. Korp
Adjutant

Don't Lose Your Privilege

At the April 6 meeting it was reported that 97 men on last year's roster had not paid their dues for the year 1970. Our quota for 1970 is 776. To date we have signed up 732. It is hard to see where we would be if all had paid their dues. To belong to the Legion is a privilege and to belong to Blanchard Post is doubly so. Failure to pay dues results in your name automatically being removed from the rolls.

If you want to maintain your privilege of belonging to Blanchard Post and the American Legion, you should pay your dues **IMMEDIATELY**. Protect yourself by making your check payable to the Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post 1040 and mail to Robert J. Smith, 144 Hudson Avenue, Delmar, N. Y. 12054. Do it *today* before you forget.

Coming . . .

In our next issue we hope to have more news about our baseball team and complete results on our 1040 keglers.

AMENDMENTS PASSED

Having been duly read and published the following two amendments to the By-laws were adopted at the April 6th Post meeting:

No. 1

So much of Section 1, Article IV of the By-laws of the Constitution of Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post No. 1040 of the American Legion, Dept. of New York as reads "The Commander shall also be an ex-officer member of the Board of Directors" is amended to read "The Commander and Finance Officer shall also be members of the Board of Directors."

No. 2

So much of Section 1, Article VII of the By-laws of the Constitution of Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post No. 1040 of the American Legion, Dept. of New York as reads "The annual dues of members shall be Seven Dollars and fifty cents (\$7.50) payable in advance on the 20th day of October in each year" is amended to read "The annual dues of members shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00) payable in advance on the 20th day of October in each year."

BLANCHARD CALENDAR

MONDAY, May 4—The Post Affairs Committee meets at 7:30 p.m.;

Regular Post meeting at 8:30 p.m.

MONDAY, May 18—Mid-monthly Post meeting at 8:30; election of officers

TUESDAY, May 19—Blanchard Auxiliary meets at 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, May 23—Installation of new Post officers for 1970-71 at 8:00; dance and buffet following installation

MONDAY, May 25—Board of Directors will meet at 8:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, May 28—County Legion meets at North Albany Post 1610 at 29 North First Street, Albany, N. Y.

SATURDAY, May 30—Memorial Day Parade forms at Post Headquarters at 9:30 a.m.

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Installation Dinner

Installation of new officers will be held Saturday, May 23 at 8:00 p.m. A buffet and dance will follow.

To show respect and to give confidence to all our new officers for 1970-71. It is hoped that a large attendance will be at the event. Everyone come along—show them you care—and also have an evening of fun.

Stars and Stripes Forever

Never before in the history of our country has it become more important and necessary to display our National Flag, then during these times of disregard for law and order. Therefore, in a continuing effort to have a display of American Flags on specific holidays, particularly by ex-servicemen and women, the Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post 1040, American Legion, will again offer for sale 3x5 ft. cotton bunting 50-star Flag kits with jointed pole, halyard and bracket for \$3.50 complete.

Kits may be purchased at the Post or from Flag Chairman George Reeber at 524 Kenwood Avenue, Delmar, N. Y., telephone 439-5910.

As an added incentive we will give a Flag kit free to any honorably discharged Vietnam veteran and also any Boy or Girl Scout organization in the Tri-Village area.

George Reeber

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Vice Commanders	John Ennis
	Robert Smith
	Lewis Kindberg
Adjutant	Edward Korp
Finance Officer	William McGoe
Chaplain	Rev. Charles H. Kaulfuss
Judge Advocate	George F. Wenger, Esq.
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Mullin
Historian	Winthrop P. Robinson
Service Officer	Thomas Piazza, M.D.
Chmn. Board of Directors	Edward Costigan
Advertising Chairman	Guy P. Switzer
Editor	Michael Mele

* AUXILIARY NEWS

Auxiliary President's Corner

BY MARCIA ROSENFELD

President	Mrs. Herbert E. Hafley
First Vice Pres.	Mrs. Robert Rosenfield
Second Vice Pres.	Mrs. William Campbell
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Robert Smith
Corresponding Secretary	Mrs. Donald Smith
Treasurer	Mrs. Edwin Tyman

The Spring Card Party was a great success because you were a helper, an attendant, a sandwich maker, a contributor of a door prize, a committee member, or a model. President Maud Hafley would like to extend a thank you to the personnel of Town & Tweed, members, guests, and all who shared the responsibility and enjoyment of the evening.

On April 23, four birthdays were celebrated at the Veterans Hospital. Rehabilitation Chairman Helen Reynolds and President Maud passed out canteen books, cards and cake to the men.

On May 18, a group of pretty gals will shine brightly on Channel 10's Dialing-for-Dollars. We would like to take this opportunity to explain to the public our poppy program. Members and guests are invited to join the group. Please phone Barbara Palmer (439-5385) or Marcia Rosenfield (439-6225) to add your name to the list. Transportation can be provided.

The next day, May 19, will be our regular monthly meeting. The Nomination Committee, under the chairmanship of Helen Reynolds, will present candidates for office. Election and installation will proceed. Also included in the evening will be a Memorial Service under the direction of Chaplain Esther Cooke. Since we lost three of our dear members this year, the service will be inspirational, yet sad and nostalgic.

No time for leisure. The next day—May 20—is Poppy Day in our "town."

On May 26, the County will meet at our Post. County officers will be the hostesses. County Chaplain Maud Hafley will prepare a Memorial Service honoring our beloved departed Auxiliary members.

*"In Flanders Field the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row..."*

This poem was written in April of 1915 by Col. John McCrea, a Canadian medical officer. Sadly, within three years, he too was buried beneath a military cross on a foreign shore. His immortal words live on.

The replica of the Poppy of Flanders Field has meant so much to us over the years, and through its distribution, has been of great value to the veteran and his family.

For 50 golden years red poppies have been worn proudly by many Americans. We wear this poppy once a year to signify the feeling of reverence in our hearts for the servicemen who died for America during two World Wars, the Korean War and the Vietnam Conflict. The poppy is their flower. It grew along the battle lines and among the graves of American dead; because of this it has become the symbol of their sacrifice.

But in addition to serving as a memorial to the war dead, the poppy helps lighten the burden carried by the men who returned disabled in mind and in body. Making poppies gives employment to veterans who otherwise would not be able to earn support for themselves and their families. What form of aid could be more effective than helping veterans aid themselves with productive work? Poppy Day provides an opportunity for the Tri-Village community to offer encouragement and support to these men.

Dimes and dollars contributed during Poppy Day go directly into the Rehabilitation and Child Welfare program of our Unit. Not one cent is retained by the organization.

As we distribute poppies, let us say a silent prayer to God, thanking Him for the many who did come back home, well and strong, and asking His Peace upon those who gave their lives that we might live in freedom.

In V.A. Hospitals the Poppies grow
Beneath the fingers of ex G.I. Joe,
Who responded to the bugle call
To defend the country for one and all.

Time has passed and still they pay
In hospital rooms, day after day.
Disabled, blind or amputee,
They don't want our sympathy.

American Legion Poppies are veteran-made
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continued on page three

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AUXILIARY NEWS continued*continued from page two*

A chance to work to retain their pride, but Production is limited to a community's stride. Income tax problems they have none, But who would trade places, Anyone?

Memorial Day is the time of year There's a tug at the heart-string or perhaps a tear.

Wear a Poppy, our Memorial Flower Remember our war-dead—Men of the hour.*

*Written by Mrs. Kathryn Hynes, Unit No. 651

Pride in our Nation, pride in our servicemen, pride in the goals and purposes of the Poppy Program, pride in our Unit are all incentives to become a poppy volunteer. It's an all-day affair, from seven in the morning till nine at night. Some soldiers stopped in time, some now, hospitalized, idle in time—but we—we have the richest gift of all, constructive time. Please volunteer your services to either Barbara Palmer, 439-5385 or Marcia Rosenfield, 439-6225.

P-people will soon wear
O-ver their hearts
P-oppies to show they care.
P-oppies all across the land.
I-n VA hospitals made by hand.
E-efforts will bring benefits to you
S-scholarships, Rehabilitation and
C-hild Welfare, too.

The President, officers and members of the Auxiliary send their heartfelt sympathy to Agnes Day on the loss of her beloved husband, Royce. He brought friendship, laughter and congeniality into our midst. A sincere thought of understanding and comfort is sent to the family.

—||—

MONDAY, May 18—Appearance on the Dialing-for-Dollars at 9:00 a.m.

TUESDAY, May 19—Regular monthly meeting, election of officers;
Memorial Service at 8:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, May 20—Poppy Day in our community; all day.

TUESDAY, May 26—County meeting at our Post, 8:30 p.m.

Royce Day

The Blanchard Post and many others will miss a good member, a very fine gentleman, and a man who never failed to say hello as you came in the door. Royce Day many times entertained us all with a song or two and he wouldn't fail to help a member in time of need.

Yes, we all will miss Royce Day and Blanchard Post sends its sympathy to Agnes Day and family.

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Commander Hugh Stowers has named Past Commander George Butman as the chairman, with Past Commander Bill Campbell, Warren Moessner, Bob Smith and Michael Mele as members of the Nominating Committee. They nominated the following members for office in the coming year. They are:

Commander "Hank" Kindberg
 Vice Commanders John Ennis
 Mike Mele
 Joe Cummings
 Adjutant Robert Smith
 Finance Officer Edward Korp
 Sergeant-at-Arms Walt Smith
 Judge Advocate Geo. F. Wenger, Esq.
 Historian Bill Davidson
 Chaplain Rev. Charles H. Kaulfuss
 Service Officer Al Greenwood

Board of Directors: Dick Dalton, Gus Williams and Phil Lee.

County Delegates: Bill Campbell, Al Woehrle, Harold Barkhuff, Sid Kaplan, Donald Smith, Robert Smith, Jack Brady and Hugh Stowers.

Alternate County Delegates: Al Hofaker, Ray LaMay, Walt Smith, Ed Gollman, Murray Maskin, Bill McKeough, Warren Mosmen and Len Sellner.

The election will take place at the mid-May meeting.

Back-to-Church Breakfast

The Back-to-Church Breakfast was held Sunday, Mar. 22 at the Post rooms. Chairman Bill Johnston said over 70 members attended and also would like to thank George Butman (tickets) and Charles O'Hara, toastmaster of the event.

Guest speaker was Rev. John Masci of St. Thomas Church, Delmar. The breakfast was ham and eggs and served by the Women's Auxiliary. Cooking the breakfast was Bob Getner and Phil Giaccone. Thank you Bill on a successful breakfast. It was very good.

Italian Night

Italian Night was held on Saturday, April 4th. According to Chairman Gus Williams over 200 baked lasagna dinners were served. Also with the dinner—salad, fruit baskets, antipasto and wine from the barrel—came with it. By the reports of many, it was great! The lasagna was hot, plus quick service. The entertainment was handled by Jerry Romano and band, and again kept the people in a good festive mood.

Gus had Chef Ambrose handling the kitchen and everything turned out very smoothly. Gus also had plenty of help in waiters, bus boys and wine girls—all of course fine members of the Post. Prizes were given to the lucky winners which helped to make it a success as well as a boost to our Building Fund.

Thanks again Gus Williams for doing a great job and all the members assisting you. See you next Italian Night!

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

He Would Be Proud

Belleair Shores, Florida
 March 4, 1970

Dear Mr. Edwards:

I am happy to give my permission to dedicate "The Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Hall" in honor of my beloved husband on March the eighth.

Your new building will certainly be an asset to your community and I know General Eisenhower would be proud to have his name associated with this American Legion Post which will serve not only his former comrades-in-arms but the youth of the community, as well.

With best wishes,

Sincerely

Mamie Doud Eisenhower

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TAKEN AT OUR RECENT OPEN HOUSE



Past Commanders Herb Drew and Al Woehrle with Mike Mele, 1040 Editor



Ed Costigan, Chairman of the Board, delivering opening speech



A view of the people listening to the ceremonies



Gus Williams (our builder and member, right), presenting keys to Hugh Stowers



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THOUGHTS ON SERVING IN VIETNAM

When you hear that you are going to Vietnam, you feel a bit strange, a bit frightened, a bit anxious. You leave the States, whether by ship or by air, and feel that you are on a great roller coaster and there is no getting off from this ride until you are at the end of the line. The great adventure has begun.

You get there at last. You are afraid, but you try not to admit it. You hear the old top sergeant shout out "Cheer up, men; you're home!" You try to grin, but you are waiting for sniper fire and the crashing of mortars. On the other hand, the war is de-escalating at such a rate that there probably won't be much fighting during your tour. On the other hand you also hear that Vung Tau got hit, after having gone three years without a shot having been fired in anger there. So you never know. The fear perhaps melts into an uncertainty which becomes a primary emotion. This produces a constant tension. You'll forget about it and go about your business. But it will always be there, even if subliminally.

You become aware of the heat, of course, even before you are in-country. It is always there, and varies from hot to hotter. At first you are probably curious about the temperature and like to know how hot it really is. Later on, when you are a bit wiser, you'd just as soon not know how hot it actually is.

It is pill time every Monday morning, and with your tray in the mess hall you receive the huge orange pill which is supposed to protect you from malaria. It will give you, most likely, a case of the "runs" for part of that day, and many is the time you are tempted to forget to take your pill. On the other hand, you notice that in bad malaria country almost no one from your outfit gets malaria, and so you continue your Monday "trots" and you don't get malaria either.

Toilet facilities will become more important to you than they were in the States. Very few of the men had great experience with outhouses before. Once in a while you may find a flush toilet in your travels around the country. Happiness can often be defined as finding dry toilet paper in the critical hour of your need.

Water is another luxurious commodity that you cannot take quite for granted as you could in the States. You learn to look for the signs which give you the clue as to whether or not this water is potable. Which water can you drink and which can you only shave in?

You will most likely be working longer hours than you are used to. Our men got one half day off every other week, and the days themselves were half again as long as what the average civilian worker expects to work. This leads to fatigue which becomes all pervading. The dominant feeling to describe the tour, as I look back upon it, is that I was never so completely bone tired in my life. The fatigue becomes even more important than the fear. Even under an attack, the fear is not always as strong as the fatigue. It also leads to boredom in many of the assignments.

You are also discovering an alien culture which is very difficult to assimilate for a young man who has not had extensive contacts with alien cultures in his past experience. We call it a "culture shock" as you begin to take in a culture which is very backward by American standards. The smell is so all-pervasive that at first you think you will gag and you wonder if Vietnam is one great cesspool. After a few days, however, you become used to it and then forget it until new replacements comment upon the smell as they first enter the country. You are most likely to meet the Vietnamese who are camp followers, and they are not the ones calculated to impress you. Camp followers are camp followers the world over, whether they be Americans or Vietnamese. You find they are as willing to pander to your vices as were Americans next door to your post back in the States. They offer you a girl, or dope, or alcohol. They offer to buy your greenbacks

at an exorbitant profit. You see your PX goods on the black market. Maybe you can't get jungle fatigues through your normal supply channels, but you can get them down town in the black market. You hear that the Vietnamese troops won't fight well. You hear about corruption in their government. You hear them referred to as "slopes" or "slant eyes." Why should you fight for them if they don't fight for themselves?

Can you respect people who act so differently from you? You see the men holding hands as they walk down the street and you wonder if every soldier in the Vietnamese Army is a homosexual, or a "queer." It is a while before you begin to realize that it does not mean the same thing it would mean if you held hands with one of your buddies. You are having trouble communicating with a Vietnamese, because of the language barrier, and he or she giggles at a time when it is very insulting to you and you become angry. It is some time before you realize that a giggle for a Vietnamese is often a way of covering embarrassment and is not really the insult it would be if an American girl giggled at you under the same circumstances. You pull a joint guard mount with Vietnamese Popular Forces in the Mekong Delta and are nervous when they bring their families and have a picnic on the perimeter line and it is a while before you begin to realize that their fighting style is different from yours, but may not be any worse.

In short, in a hundred ways you are trying to learn that what is different may not be bad. It is a hard lesson to learn. They are different, but they may be as well. You are supposed to learn this under very difficult conditions at the age of 18 or 19. Your parents have probably still not learned this basic lesson in human relations, but you are supposed to learn it and surpass your people back home in the maturity of your judgment.

You find that your mission is very difficult to define. You are not fighting the recognizable enemy that your fathers fought in World War II. You do not have the stable battle lines that your older brothers had in Korea. You are fighting a hit and run guerrilla and it is most difficult to tell your enemies from your friends.

You are supposed to be a soldier, yes. But more than this, you are supposed to be a diplomat. You are supposed to be an apostle for American democracy, "winning the hearts and minds of the people." You are supposed to use such mature judgment in combat, at the age of 19, that you win the war in the field. At the same time you are supposed to be a missionary to the people of the good life as we know it in America. And if you fail in your judgment in either of these ways, you will be court martialed. Your fathers and mothers, with their experience, could not win the hearts and minds of Canadians or Mexicans for our culture, and yet you are expected to do this for Vietnamese.

The American public does not cheer you or welcome you home as a hero from perhaps the dirtiest and most difficult war that Americans have been called on to fight. Instead you are considered by many as being a sucker, by others as being an imperialist killer, and by so many others as simply having wasted your time, your sweat, and your blood in a lost cause. This is the "support" that you receive from your country. This is a crucial difference between the Vietnam veteran and the veteran of any other war that we have with us today.

And so you are frustrated. More and more you feel alienated from the U.S. The reports of campus unrest especially embitters you. You are afraid. You are lonely. You are tired. Perhaps you are angry also. There is such difficulty in giving you clear-cut goals for your combat mission that you are more and more frustrated. The crown to your feelings comes

with the knowledge that the enemy does not even have to edit the speeches of the American doves in order to use them for propaganda against you in the very field. A sense of restlessness is added to your reservoir of feelings.

This is not a pretty picture. Perhaps it is not universal. But this is the feelings of the soldier in Vietnam, in the Mekong Delta especially, as I felt it and as I saw it as chaplain to engineers, to an airfield, and to American advisors in the field.

The Army is trying to do something about this. An attempt is being made at troop information about the mission and the war to try to clarify the goals in the field. Services are provided the soldier, such as the chaplain, the doctor, the lawyer, the Red Cross, the social worker, the psychiatrist, and the service clubs. Never before have troops in a combat zone been so well fed. Never before have they been so healthy. Never before have so few men died after being wounded. Through the R and R program, a major effort is made to give the soldier a break in his tour by sending him for a week to vacation in some city, such as Hong Kong or Singapore. A major effort is made to provide first class mail service. Never before have I heard of an army in the field which provided virtually free long distance telephone service to call the family back in the States. These are all helpful.

continued on page seven

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THOUGHTS ON SERVING IN VIETNAM

continued from page six

We, as his family and friends, need to realize that mail to him is more important over there than it is to us back home. So we need to write more regularly. Good old Mom can usually be depended to write to her son. But others are not as faithful. I think it is important not to bug him with your worries about his safety, or with detailed accounts of anti-war sentiment. He hears all of this sort of thing that he needs to hear. It is important not to worry him with your worries while he is over there. He has enough worries of his own. It is important to be open and accepting about his feelings as he expresses them, without worrying too much about bitterness or hostility or an excessive vehemence of feeling he may express now.

When he gets home he may be a bit moody or restless. He may even be a little bitter. He may want to tell his war stories. Or he may not want to. Let him give you the clue as to what he wants to talk about. Don't bug him about going back to school the day after his discharge, or going back to his job. Try to understand his feelings of alienation. Remember that he, as a Vietnam veteran, is a member of the least understood minority in the United States, bar none.

Don't worry about him. He's going to be all right. The war experience is not going to change him permanently any more than it changed his father or his uncle. It did not really hurt him down deep in the basic core of his personality. He is still your son or your husband or your nephew or your friend or the kid next door. Give him the time he needs to get over it. But know that in the long run he will get over it, and I think he'll be a better and more understanding man for the experience.

Given recently at a "Committee That Cares" meeting that was held at Blanchard Post by Charles E. Wolfe, Chaplain to Engineers.

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Auxiliary's Anniversary Dinner

On Tuesday, March 17 members of the Legion gave their services in preparing and serving a delicious dinner to the ladies of the Auxiliary who were celebrating their 39th anniversary. Sid Kaplan, chairman, along with his committee, did a fabulous job. Chefs Phil Giacone and Hank Kindberg are the greatest! An attractively decorated cake completed the meal. Entertainment was arranged by Ann Carroll and the ladies enjoyed bingo and prizes. Thanks to all.

Auxiliary President Maud Hafley presented to me, as Commander, a check for the Building Fund.

hank kindberg
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Thanks to "Tip" Nelson and Pierce Greene for the brand-new quoits for our shuffleboard. The Post realizes the expense of the new quoits and thanks you sincerely.

Taps

We mourn the passing of our departed comrade Royce C. Day who will be missed by all. Deepest sympathy is extended to his wife and son.

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