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POST 2 FAMILY NEWSLETTER

NO. 49

ISSUE: May 2012

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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Fellow Legionnaires:

I am honored to be Commander of the Sweeney Post this year, and proud to be part of the greatest veterans organization in the world.

I ask all Legionnaires, Sons and Auxiliary to support the Post functions, from baseball to breakfast, and don't forget the Saturday night dances. All these things are an integral part of our success. I am looking forward to a great convention this year and hoping to see you there.

With support from the entire Post, we can remain the best!

Respectfully
Greg Hunt, Commander

SR VICE COMMANDER

Fellow Legionnaires,

It is a great honor to be selected as your new Senior Vice Commander.

Thank you to all the members that took time from their busy schedules to come down and vote.

As senior vice commander my primary responsibility is membership, my goal is to reach or exceed our 100% membership! To achieve this we will all have to contribute in some way whether calling and reminding existing members at renewal time or introducing new potential members to our post.

Thank you again.

God Bless America,

Daniel Beliveau
Senior Vice Commander

2012 OFFICERS

Commander	Greg Hunt
First Vice Commander	Daniel Beliveau
Second Vice Commander	David McCloskey
Adjutant	Mike Lopez
Finance Officer	Charles Leveille
Service Officer	Bill Roy
Chaplain	Bob Patrick
Historian	Al Heidenreich
Sgt at Arms	Francis Madden
Judge Advocate	David Nixon
Executive Board	
	Leo Cote
	David Jobin
	David Quinn
	Bill Whitmore
Canteen Committee	
	Mike Lopez
	Francis Madden
	Bill Whitmore



NEWSLETTER ISSUES

The Henry J Sweeney Post No. 2 Newsletter is published in March, May and November for the 2012 calendar year.

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HENRY J. SWEENEY POST NO. 2
AMERICAN LEGION
125 MAPLE STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03103-5401

JR VICE COMMANDER

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is David McCloskey and I am the incoming Jr Vice Commander. I say this because even though I have been a member at this Post for 17 years, there are many members who do not know me. My civilian employ over the last 24 years was a Mail Handler with the USPS. I went to Basic at Ft. Jackson, SC and completed my A.I.T. at Ft. Sill OK as a 31U (Tactical Communication Electronics Technician). The next 20 years I was assigned to the 1st/172nd FA BN, HQ Btry, in the Commo Section. I consider myself quite lucky to have spent my entire military career with the same Unit, thus establishing lifelong relationships with my comrades. It is my hope to bring the same cohesiveness (*esprit de corps*) that I experienced to this Post in my new position and it is my intent to promote this. One of my fiduciary responsibilities is to coordinate the scheduling of events with the usage of our Hall. It is in that capacity I wish to maximize the utilization of our facility, as this is most definitely in the best interest of the Post and member support would be greatly appreciated in that regard.

Several years ago a call went out to recruit volunteers with knowledge in carpentry, painting, electrical, etc to assist in various projects around the Post. The objective was to compile a list of skilled members that can help Sweeney to grow and prosper. This is still an excellent idea and I would like to see our database continue to expand as we go forward. Feel free to contact me at (Home) 626-7692 or (Cell) 867-4667, if you are interested in playing a role with this ongoing effort to continue improving your Post.

Please be advised that I take these tasks, duties, and obligations quite seriously and seek to execute them in an organized and professional manner while conducting them with the utmost attention to detail. I wish to thank the membership for the opportunity to serve this great Post in my new position and look forward to a very successful year ahead.

Respectfully Submitted in Comradeship,
Junior Vice Commander
David McCloskey

"The Pessimist complains about the wind, the optimist expects it to change, the realist adjusts the sails."

SAL COMMANDER

As the newly elected Commander of the Sons, I would like to thank everyone for contributing to our first Food Drive benefiting the NH Food Bank. It was a tremendous success.

I would also like to thank everyone who showed up and participated in our Spring Cleaning Day.

I would like to remind everyone about our SAL/AUX BBQ on June 9th and our 2nd Annual Luau on August 17th on our new and improved patio area. I invite everyone to take a stroll outside and enjoy themselves.

There are still two vacant officer positions for the SAL, they are Historian and Chaplain. If anyone is interested, please feel free to contact one of the current SAL officers for more information.

Thank you for your continued support.
Brian Smith

AUXILIARY

Thanks to all! Congratulations to the recently installed "on-going" Auxiliary officers for the term 2012 - 2013.

Thanks to the Auxiliary officers, the Sons of the American Legion and the Legion for assisting us in our Auxiliary programs and fundraisers.

The Auxiliary will have a dinner dance on Saturday, May 12th, 6 pm social, 6:30 PM Chicken Cordon Bleu dinner, 8 pm dancing to the Bushwhack band. Only \$10 a ticket which includes door prizes and 50/50 raffle.

Other events:

Sunday May 13th 7:30 am - 11:00 am Mother's Day Breakfast

Saturday June 9th 6:30 pm is the AUX/SAL Chicken BBQ dinner - \$10/ticket

Sunday June 10th - 7:30 am - 11:00 am Breakfast - last one before summer break

Thank you Breakfast Crew!

Memorial Day there is a 9 am Mass at St. Joseph's Cemetery (at the Cathedral if it rains).

June 22, 23, 24th - American Legion Convention held at the Radisson Hotel on Elm St. Expect many guests from around the state, so welcome them and show them your fine hospitality.

Special thanks to Elaine Smith, the Auxiliary Membership Chairman. Unit 2 has achieved its 100% membership goal. This is a great accomplishment, nice job.

Congratulations to Elaine's daughter Abby who will serve as the Dept of NH American Legion Auxiliary Junior President next year. Best wishes from all.

Enjoy the summer recess. Our breakfasts will resume Sunday, September 9th.

Thanks again to the Sweeney Post American Legion family. It has been the Auxiliary's pleasure to serve you this past year. See you in the fall.

For God & Country
Jan Michon, Unit 2 President

2012 - 2013 Auxiliary Officers

President	Jan Michon
1st Vice President	Eileen Byrne
2nd Vice President	Melva O'Keefe
Secretary	Sue Bessette
Treasurer	Marilyn Cashin
Historian	Pat Bryan
Chaplain	Mary Steele
Sgt At Arms	Carol Ducasse



SWEENEY BASEBALL

The 2012 Sweeney Post Baseball season is only a month away. Gone are the pings of aluminum and back are the cracks of the bat. New Hampshire American Legion Baseball will become exclusively wooden bat league this season. Coming off an appearance in the 2011 state tournament, this year's team will look to improve their showing with the hopes of garnering another State Championship.

The 2012 season kicks off on June 12th with an opening night game against Bedford at 7 pm. The team will play a 25 game schedule that is highlighted by a four day trip to Rhode Island. Sweeney, a long time member of District A will also be a thing of the past, as redistricting has placed Sweeney in the newly formed District B.

Coaches Dave Flurey, Matt Welch, Ron Beaurivage and Bob Beaudet are anxious to see what this year's nine have in store. A blend of youth and experience should be scattered throughout this year's team and the quest for state championship number 30 could be there for the taking.

The tireless work of the baseball committee (George Smith, Eddie Collins, John Cashin, Ray Caron, Paul Lemire and Dick Sewall) and all those involved with Sweeney Baseball are what make Sweeney the cut above the rest.



Be reminded that we are once again having The Jumbo Reilly Golf Tournament on June 1st at Derryfield Country Club. Anyone interested in playing should contact Paul Lemire at 234-1326. The team looks forward to seeing everyone this summer and as always we thank you for your support and dedication to Sweeney Baseball.

Thank you,
Dave Flurey

**HENRY J. SWEENEY POST #2
2012 BASEBALL SCHEDULE**

Tues - June 12	Bedford	7 pm
Thurs - June 14	@Jutras	7 pm
Sat - June 16	Lynn MA (DH)	Noon
*Mon - June 18	Raymond	5:15 pm
Tues - June 19	Post 79	7 pm
*Wed - June 20	@Dover	5 pm
*Fri - June 22	Salem	7 pm
*Mon - June 25	@Exeter	5:15 pm
*Tues - June 26	Rochester	7 pm
Thur - June 28	@R.I. Tourney	TBA
Fri - June 29	@R.I. Tourney	TBA
Sat - June 30	@R.I. Tourney	TBA
Sun - July 1	@R.I. Tourney	TBA
*Mon - July 2	@Londonderry	5:15 pm
*Thur - July 5	@Rochester	5 pm
*Fri - July 6	Dover	7 pm
Mon - July 9	Exeter	7 pm
*Tues - July 10	@Portsmouth	7 pm
*Thur - July 12	Hudson	7 pm
*Fri - July 13	@Derry	5:15 pm
*Mon - July 16	Nashua	7 pm
Fri - July 20	Portsmouth	7 pm
*Sat - July 21	Raymond	1 pm
*District Games		
Home Games - Gill Stadium		

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Freedom Isn't Free

In today's world we find this whole land of ours in turmoil. How can we make it better?

Let us start by asking ourselves what can I do today to make this a better world to live in. A little kindness goes a long way.

With so many of our young warriors defending this land of ours like our forefathers have since the beginning of wars, our nation has survived and conquered because they shed their blood to give us freedom as we know it today.

Let us get on a bended knee and Thank our Lord for what we all enjoy. Thank our veterans for their dedicated service to this country.

American Legion Sweeney Post #2 has a chaplain on the E-Board and his services are offered to any member who requests such.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL

HONOR FLIGHT SPONSORS

Connor & Healy Funeral Home Inc was mistakenly omitted from the list of \$100 Sponsors in the last newsletter .



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee met and reviewed all the applicants and selected one female and one male on the basis of a point system predetermined by the Scholarship Committee.

Points are given for the GPA, Course Level, Essay, Resume, Financial Need, Extra Curricular Activities, and Community Involvement. Each applicant's score is added up winners are determined.

This year we are pleased to announce the winners of the Henry J. Sweeney Post #2 \$1,500 Scholarship are Jordan Gosselin and Brady Bilodeau. Both recipients will be graduating in June from Memorial High School and will future their education at UNH in September.

Members of the Scholarship Committee are Joe Dutile, George Butch Joseph, and Al Nettle.

NATURALIZATION CEREMONY

Friday May 25th - Naturalization Ceremony - Henry J. Sweeney Post #2 - 10 am

The ceremony will be conducted by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 30 people will be sworn in as American citizens. It will begin at 10:00 AM sharp and last approximately 45 minutes.

If you have never been to one of these ceremonies, it is a very moving ceremony.

Post members are welcome to attend.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

With the passing of Ray Dugdale, Leo Cote has been appointed Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, Ruth Morin and Joe Dutile as Co-Chairmen. Other members of the committee are Rita Cote, Priscilla Dutile, Sis and Bob Watson, Jen and Doug Price and Bill Morin.

All members and guests are cordially invited to attend the weekly Saturday night dance from 8:00 pm until 11:30 pm with a live dance band performing with NO SMOKING and NO Baseball Caps allowed in the dance hall.

The following dance bands perform on a regular basis, Bert Scott, Trilogy, Fred Manzi Trio, The Visitors, Manchuka, and Bushwhack.

Keep in mind that once a month we have a Dinner Dance. June 9 - Chicken BBQ, June 21 - Surf and Turf (a must attend), September 22 - Italian Night, October 20 - Early Bird Dinner, November 17 - Roast Pork, and in December we have the New Years Eve Dinner Dance.

The Decorating Committee is in charge of decorating the dance hall for all the seasons of the year. They met in early May to decorate the dance hall for early summer. Members of the Decorating Committee are Leo and Rite Cote, Joe and Priscilla Dutile, Bob and Sis Watson and Ruth Morin.



2012 DANCE SCHEDULE - 65TH YEAR

MAY

12th - Bushwhack - AUX-Chix Cordon Blue Din
19th - Bert Scott Band
26th - Manchuka

JUNE

2nd - Fred Manzi Trio
9th - Manchuka - SAL/AUX - Chix BBQ Din
16th - Bushwhack
23rd - Bert Scott Band
30th - Fred Manzi Trio

JULY

7th - Trilogy
14th - Bushwhack
21st - Bert Scott Band - Baseball - Surf & Turf Din
28th - Fred Manzi Trio

AUGUST

4th - The Visitors
11th - Bushwhack
18th - Manchuka
25th - Bert Scott Band

SEPTEMBER

1st - Manchuka
8th - The Visitors
15th - Bushwhack
22nd - Bert Scott Band - SAL-Italian Din
29th - Fred Manzi Trio

OCTOBER

6th - Manchucka
13th - Bushwhack
20th - The Visitors - Early Bird Dinner
27th - Bert Scott Band

Cover charge \$5.00 except for dinner/dances.

MEMORIAL DAY EVENT

On Monday May 28th we will be doing our yearly pilgrimage called the "SQUARES " .

The honor guard visits 22 monuments located around Manchester , these monuments honor military personnel who served with great distinction from WW I through Afghanistan

Three volleys are fired by the honor guard and a bugler plays taps , very moving experience .

If you care to join us we leave the Post at 7:00 AM , dress is Legion attire or military uniform. Transportation will be provided.

MILITARY MAGAZINE

The Manchester library on both the east and west side are enrolled for life with the magazine titled *Military*. This magazine is published monthly and is written by men and women who served in all branches of the armed forces. The person who enrolled the libraries is a World War veteran and a discharged Air Force veteran retired. He has been enrolled with this magazine for life since its inception.

The articles are written by combatants who have been in combat. They depict what the members face in wartime defending our country. It is factual and worthwhile reading. It will enlighten people on what they had to confront from the enemy in all military conflicts.

This is made possible by a lifetime member of Henry J. Sweeney Post #2.

Yours in Comradeship
M/Sgt. Lionel Leblanc, USAF Retired

MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE

Effective July 1, 2012

Dues for American Legion members will increase to \$28.00 per year.

Dues for Auxiliary members will increase to \$20.00 per year.

SAL FOOD DRIVE UPDATE

We are pleased to announce the successful food drive brought in 11 tubs of food. The lucky winners of the \$25 Belmont Hall gift certificates were:

Jimmy Connelly
Leo Morency
Bob Byrnes

We wish to thank everyone who generously donated to this worthy cause.

HALL RENTAL FEES

The rental fees are very reasonable and the facility can be configured to meet the needs of the renter.

FUNCTION	MEMBER RATES	NON-MEMBER RATES
Hall rental	\$150	\$300
Bar	\$75	\$75
Showers - Baby or Wedding	\$100	\$150