



For God and Country

# The American Legion

Henry J. Sweeney Post 2 – 251 Maple Street – Manchester, NH 03103 - (603) 623-9145

POST 2 FAMILY NEWSLETTER

NO. 53

ISSUE: October 2013

## 2013 OFFICERS

Commander	Daniel Beliveau
Sr Vice Commander	Bill Whitmore
Jr Vice Commander	Dave Quinn
Adjutant	David McCloskey
Finance Officer	Charles Leveille
Service Officer	Bill Roy
Chaplain	Al Heidenreich
Historian	Mike Lopez
Sgt At Arms	Francis Madden
Judge Advocate	David Nixon
Executive Board	Leo Cote
	David Jobin
	Joe Dutile
	Gail Prince
Canteen Committee	Mike Lopez
	Bill Whitmore
	David Jobin

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to all. We had a very successful summer great turn outs at convention, surf and turf, and the Luau (pig roast) we hosted the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Gill Stadium, we hosted a blood drive, had a luncheon for the National Commander Dan Dellinger who is a very well spoken man and is a great asset to the organization as can be attested to by Bill Whitmore, PPC when he witnessed his testimony regarding veterans issues to our representatives in Washington.

Sunday Auxiliary Breakfasts are starting up again "the best breakfasts in New Hampshire and probably New England. Come down on Wednesday nights for the Cribbage League. Early Bird Dinner is on October 19, 2013 6:00 pm. Get your dues paid and enjoy another great dinner and dance.

There is change in the air at Sweeney Post: we will be electing a new Finance Officer, Charlie Leveille, PDC, is stepping down after an outstanding 18 years of service to the Post. I'd like to personally thank Charlie for his years of service to Sweeney Post, such devotion to duty and service is what keeps the American Legion going.

The Entertainment committee has a new agenda to make Saturday night dances more interesting and profitable, we need more participation at these events come down and enjoy the music and company of other veterans and strut your stuff on the dance floor.

Lastly we need to recruit members, we all are recruiters many vets don't know about the American Legion or what it stands for. Just talk to that returning vet, local National Guard or Reserve Member and invite them down to the post.

Thank you all for your service to our nation and continued service to the American Legion.

Respectfully and in Comradeship,  
Dan Beliveau  
Commander

## SR VICE COMMANDER

Having served as Legislative Liaison for the Department of N.H American Legion for a number of years, I was offered an opportunity recently to travel to Washington D.C to be present when our National Commander Dan Dellinger testified before a joint session of the Senate and House Veterans Affairs Committee chaired by Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont.

National Commander Dellinger spent about 25 minutes presenting the Legion's agenda in reference to the veterans of America.

After the presentation, I and four other N.H. Legionnaires went to the offices of all four of our representatives; Senator Shaheen, Senator Ayotte, Congresswomen Shea-Porter and Kuster. We discussed the Legion priorities, we were very well received and assured of there support on all veterans issues.

Everyone I meet in Washington is very supportive of veterans and all the issues that concern us.

Respectfully,  
Bill Whitmore  
Sr. Vice Commander

**JR. VICE COMMANDER**

I hope that all have had an enjoyable summer and are looking forward towards our beautiful New Hampshire fall season.

The Post is in reasonably good shape, with no major repairs on the horizon. The last newsletter mentioned that we would have to install a new exhaust hood and fire suppression system in the kitchen, which would have severely strained the Post's struggling financial situation.

I am pleased to pass along the news that further investigation by the committee that was formed to look into the project, revealed that we do not have to replace the hood and fire suppression system at this time. It may become necessary at a later date, but we can rest easy at this point.

As always, keeping the Post in good condition and looking good is a team effort and as a reminder, these are some ways in which you as a Sweeney Post member can help:

1. Notify me personally by phone (603) 361-7033 or email [dquinn@nhesgr.com](mailto:dquinn@nhesgr.com) about anything in the Post that you observe in need of repair or maintenance.
2. Offer your suggestions for items or procedures that you feel will help to improve the function and condition of our Post
3. Do your part in helping to keep the Post picked up when you stop by

With everyone pitching in, our Post will be a facility that all members can enjoy and be proud of.

Also don't forget to encourage other members and folks who have an interest in keeping up with Post activities, to forward their email address to [post2news@sweeneypost.org](mailto:post2news@sweeneypost.org), so they can be added to our email list in order for them to receive the periodic eBlast messages that are sent out.

Lastly, please don't forget to go to our website [www.sweeneypost.org](http://www.sweeneypost.org) to see additional items of interest and to access the full calendar of upcoming activities and scheduled meetings.

Respectfully  
submitted,  
Dave Quinn  
Jr. Vice Commander

**SERVICE OFFICER**

Reminder.

If any Legionnaire of the Post needs assistance with filing a claim with the Veterans Administration, obtaining medals, ribbons, awards, etc. from your service to our country please do not hesitate to contact your Post Service Officer.

If you know of anyone of our members who is ailing, in a hospital or extended care please inform your Post Service Officer. Your Post is here to assist you in your time of need.

Your Post Service Officer can also assist if you need to enter the Veterans Home in Tilton, NH.

In comradeship,

Bill Roy PDC/ANEC



**FREE LIFE INSURANCE**

Amazing that the American Legion offers FREE life insurance and as of January 2013 we only have a limited amount of people taking advantage of this great deal. A benefit of up to \$5,000.00 with a minimum of a \$1,000.00 paid to your beneficiary. See the Post Adjutant for more information.

**FINANCE OFFICER ELECTION**

After many years of service as Post Finance Officer, Charles Leveille, has resigned effective October 1<sup>st</sup>.

In accordance with the Post Constitution and By-Laws, an election to choose a new Finance Officer will take place at the regularly scheduled **General Membership meeting on October 22, 2013 starting at 7:00PM.**

The individual who is elected will serve until the next general election in the spring of 2014 and can run for a full term at that time, if they so choose.

Anyone who has a knowledge of general accounting procedures including QuickBooks or similar accounting software and the financial operations of a small business, is encouraged to consider running for the office. Good computer skills are also essential.

Briefly, the Finance Officer, with the assistance of an outside accountant, is responsible for:

1. Maintaining the financial accounts of the Post.
2. Receipt of all dues and other money due the Post.
3. Coordinating the receipt and deposit of hall rental income with the Jr. Vice Commander
4. Coordinating the receipt and deposit of dues with the Adjutant.
5. Timely payment of all bills and payroll and related expenses.
6. Advise the Finance Committee if revenues or expenses are not likely to be within the amounts budgeted and approved by Post membership.
7. Being the custodian of all Post funds
8. Presentation of monthly reports to the Executive Board and General Membership
9. Timely filing of city, state and federal reports

The above is intended to present a general outline of the basic duties and responsibilities of the office and is not intended to be completely definitive of all duties and responsibilities.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS/PHONE NO.**

Post records. If you change your address, phone number, or have an email, please call 623-9145 and let us know. We try and keep our records up-to-date and the only way we can is with your help.

**AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES**

Congratulations to all the Auxiliary Chairmen for their excellent reports of our activities this past year. The winning trophies are displayed in the case and reflect dedication, hard work, support for veterans and their families and service to our community.

It is a privilege to be part of the memorable events carried out by the Auxiliary Chairmen. We appreciate all the support given for the success of our auxiliary programs. Let's keep up the great work! Renew your membership.

The first auxiliary meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 25th at 7 pm. Note the meeting night change. The auxiliary meetings have changed to the fourth Wednesday of each month which are: 9/25; 10/23; 11/27. December is a Christmas dinner at a selected restaurant, not at the Post. Please mark your calendar so you don't miss out on our meetings.

The breakfasts are served on Sunday - 10/13; 11/10; 12/8 7:30 am - 11 am.

The proceeds benefit the Annual Children's Christmas Party to be held Sunday, December 15th 1 - 4 pm. Please sign up the children prior to Thanksgiving. Forms will be available shortly.

I will conclude this year with this motto: "Good, better, best. Never let it rest. Until the good is better and the better is 'Best'".

Wishing everyone the "Best". Hope to see you October 19th at the Early Bird Dinner.

Yours in Service  
Auxiliary President, Unit 2  
Jan Michon

**2013 - 2014 OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	<b>Jan Michon</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Sandy Searles</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Elaine Smith</b>
<b>Treasure</b>	<b>Marilyn Cashin</b>
<b>Historian</b>	<b>Patricia Bryan</b>
<b>Chaplain</b>	<b>Mary Steele</b>
<b>Sgt At Arms</b>	<b>Carol Ducasse</b>



**SWEENEY POST CRIBBAGE LEAGUE**

The new season of the Post cribbage league has just been launched and it's shaping up to be a great year. We have many new people who have joined this year and we want to extend a warm invitation to anyone, **member and non-member, novice or experienced player**, to join as well. All that's required is a love of the game and a desire to have a good time.

The league meets **every Wednesday at 7:00pm** at the Post and all you need to do is stop by, sign up and start playing. The cost is just \$5.00 per week and there are weekly monetary prizes and a superb banquet at the end of the 32 week season, with cash prizes in several different categories.

If you'd like more information, you can just stop by any Wednesday night or contact Dave Quinn [dquinn@nhesgr.com](mailto:dquinn@nhesgr.com) or Bob Patrick [pat\\_lil@myfairpoint.net](mailto:pat_lil@myfairpoint.net).

**BIG BAND SWING NIGHT**

The second of the scheduled Monthly Big Band swing nights was held on September 17 at the post hall and was very well attended although not as large as the inaugural event of August 20 which saw a capacity crowd of over 150 music and dance lovers. Everyone involved is happy and excited about this new series of entertainment presentations and plans are being finalized to make this a year around event to be held on the 3rd Tuesday of every Month.

The Freese Brothers Big Band features a host of talented musicians from throughout the Southern New Hampshire area as well as several excellent vocalists, male and female. The plan is to have a variety of entertainers to perform as opening acts for the band as well as some additional surprises.

**Show time is 7:30 to 9:30 PM** and early arrival is suggested. Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring a friend or two. **There is no admission charge.** See you there! Stay up to date by checking our web site at [www.sweeneypost.org](http://www.sweeneypost.org)



**LET'S DANCE**

Come and join us every Saturday from 7:30 to 11:00 for an evening of fun and dance at Sweeney Post. You are sure to meet and make new friends. Once every month we have a dinner dance, listed below you will find who is playing on any Saturday night and the night which a dinner will be served. Dinners are served at 6:00 pm with dancing starting at 7:30 pm.

**October**

- 5th Bushwhack
- 12th Manchuka
- 19th Fred Manzi Trio **Early Bird Dinner**
- 26th Bert Scott Band

**November**

- 2nd Bushwhack
- 9th The Visitors **Roast Pork Dinner**
- 16th Manchuka
- 23rd Bert Scott Band
- 30th Fred Manzi Trio

**December**

- 7th Bushwhack
- 14th The Visitors
- 21st Fred Manzi Trio

**New Years Eve**

Bert Scott Band **New Years Eve Gala Dinner Dance**

Keep in mind Sweeney Post is entirely **SMOKE FREE.**  
Leo Cote, Entertainment Chairman

**COMMANDER DELLINGER - DC**

American Legion Commander Dan Dellinger presented the American Legion legislative program to a Joint Session of the House and Veterans Affairs Committees on September 10.

So many times I hear what the American Legion is doing for veterans, listed below are a few of the many issues they are working on for us. These ten items were highlighted in Commander Dellinger's recent testimony.

1. Protect veterans and DOD from the harmful cuts imposed through sequestration. (H.R.55)
2. Oppose further increases in TRICARE fees, including prescription drug fees.
3. Properly fund VA to ensure health care and benefits fro veterans. (H.R.813/S.932)
4. Provide quality education through Post9/11 GI bill. (H.R.357/S.257)
5. Focus programs on assisting vets with jobs.
6. Support veteran-entrepreneurs.
7. End veteran homelessness (S.62/H.R.385)
8. Eliminate VA claims backlog
9. Repeal taxes that penalize disabled veterans and widows (H.R.333/H.R.303/H.R.32)
10. Protect the American flag (H.J.47/S.J.RES.17)

As you can see many of these issues are already supported by the Senate, House or Joint Resolutions.

This is why your paid membership is so important; it enables the American Legion to continue its fight on our behalf, 2.3 million members strong.

Please stop by the Post today and renew your membership!!



**LEGION ON SYRIA:  
PROCEED WITH CAUTION**

American Legion National Commander Daniel M. Dellinger is urging Congress to consider national interests carefully before deciding whether or not to take military action against Syria.

"While we have not addressed the Syrian situation as such, we commend Congress for its due diligence under its constitutional authority" Dellinger said. "The American Legion also urges Congress and President Obama to be guided in their decisions by principles outlined in our organizations relevant resolutions. That is, American national interests should be clearly identified and defined before military action is taken.

**Thanksgiving Day Celebration**

Are you going solo this Thanksgiving? As we are all aware the holiday season is approaching and many of our Sweeney Post members have no one to celebrate with on the holidays.

We are conducting a survey to see if anyone who is going it alone on Thanksgiving would be interested in coming to the Post on a date "to be determined" before Thanksgiving for a Turkey Dinner, no charge to the member.

Please let a Post Officer or the Bar Manager Tina know if you would be interested.

**REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS  
LEGION - AUX - SAL**

2014 membership cards are at the bar. 2013 membership expires December 30, 2013. Pay your dues prior to October 19, 2013 and enjoy the Early Bird Dinner. Keep your membership current and in good standing, support your Post.



**Upcoming Events**

**October**

- 13th - **Auxiliary Breakfast** 7:30 am - 11:00 am
- 15th - **Freese Brothers** 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
- 19th - **Early Bird Dinner/Dance** Dinner @ 6 pm Dancing @ 7:30 pm  
 Ham & Bean Supper  
 Members Free with paid 2014 Membership - Guests \$5.00
- 25th - **Meat Raffle** 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
**Karaoke - DJ** 8:00 pm - Midnight

**November**

- 2nd - **Foxwoods Casino Trip** 7:00 am - 7:00 pm  
 \$30.00 (Trip includes \$10 voucher for lunch or merchandise  
 & \$5.00 betting voucher)
- 9th - **Pork Roast Dinner Dance** Dinner @ 6 pm Dancing @ 7:30 pm
- 10th - **Auxiliary Breakfast** 7:30 am - 11:00 am
- 19th - **Freese Brothers** 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
- 22nd - **Turkey Shoot** 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
**Karaoke - DJ** 7:30 pm - Midnight

**December**

- 8th - **Auxiliary Breakfast** 7:30 am - 11:00 am
- 13th - **Yankee Swap/Potluck Dinner** 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
**Karaoke - DJ**
- 16th - **Christmas Concert** 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
 39th Army National Guard Alumni Band
- 17th - **Freese Brothers** 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
- 27th - **Meat Raffle** 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
**Karaoke - DJ** 8:00 pm - Midnight
- 28th - **NO Saturday Night Dance**
- 31st - **New Year's Eve Dinner Dance**

**SWEENEY POST NO. 2 - MEMORIAL DAY 2013**

