



# AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



Gahanna Post # 797

January 2009

Volume 8, No. 8

Post Commander - Malcolm Glasgow  
 Post Chaplain - Rusty Lundy  
 IPPC/2d Vice - Diane McDaniel  
 Post Historian - John McDaniel  
 First Vice/Adjutant - Harvey Jones  
 Service Officer - John Chestna  
 Sergeant-at-Arms - Jerry McDaniel  
 Finance Officer - Gary Filaseta

### Executive Committee

Jim Garrabrant  
 Craig Reynolds  
 Jack Steinhausser, Sr.

### Note from Commander Glasgow:

All the best and Great Success in 2009

Now that 2008 is behind us, I just want to reflect on the year it was for Gahanna American Legion Post 797. I believe our greatest services to the Gahanna community are the Americanism Programs of Baseball, Boys & Girls State, Oratorical Contest and the Honor Guard. These programs have really established Post 797 in the 12<sup>th</sup> District. Thanks to the efforts of Craig Reynolds, Gary Filaseta, Jack & Phyllis Steinhausser and so many others, Gahanna knows we are serious about these great programs for the community. With all of these programs, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice/Adjutant Harvey Jones reminds us that we still need all the help and support of all our members in 2009!

I'm asking everyone who reads this to contribute in whatever way you can to our Posts efforts. Harvey needs members to make phone calls to members to request help. I'm also hoping in 2009 that the Building Committee can finally lay the foundation in establishing a Post Home. This is going to take total commitment from all our members if we want a Post Home to become a reality. Our Post is well respected and best known for our Honor Guard that provides services at Memorial Day & July 4<sup>th</sup> Parades, Veterans Day and many private Burial

### Ladies Auxiliary:

Unit President - Carole Ebersole  
 First Vice President -  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Linda Gease  
 Unit Secretary - Betty Burnett  
 Membership Chair - Vacant  
 Sergeant-at-Arms - Diane McDaniel  
 Unit Chaplain - Joyce Mahr  
 Treasurer - Dawn DePew

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### Sons of the American Legion Squadron 797

Post Advisor - Malcolm Glasgow  
 Commander -  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander -  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander -  
 Adjutant - (Temp) Harvey Jones  
 Finance Officer - (Temp) Gary Filaseta  
 Sergeant-at-Arms - Sam Snyder  
 Chaplain -

Ceremonies for our Veteran Comrades who served our nation.

Finally, I want to thank all our Post Officers and members for their concerted efforts in Committee participation, with special thanks to our Auxiliary Unit and SAL Squadron and wish everyone in our American Legion Family all the best and even greater success in 2009.

For the Good of American Legion Post 797  
 Malcolm "Mac" Glasgow  
 Commander

### From 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Harvey Jones:

The Post is presently at 275 members who have paid their dues for 2009. We still have 74 members who have not sent in their dues for next year. Calls to these members have been delayed due to the holidays so they might not be bothered with reminders during the holiday season, but I would like to remind all members that December 31<sup>st</sup> is the end of the 2008 year for the current membership



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year, and it would be beneficial to the Post if all those members would send in their dues as soon as they possibly can.

Most members are cognizant that the dues were raised to \$35.00 over two years ago, but apparently not all members have seen the newsletters sent out notifying them of that fact. The dues and per capita to Department and 12<sup>th</sup> District went up at that time and the Post elected to raise the dues of members at the Post to keep the same amount going into the Post treasury so we would have sufficient funds to operate and fulfill our obligations. Without the increase, we would barely have enough to do the necessities each month, let alone help any veterans or any of the youth in the community. Your dues are in part the most important thing you do with your membership in the Legion, and belonging to a Post keeps that Post alive and able to function. I realize that times are harder than usual, but belonging to the 888 Post does not help any of the Posts in the Legion, only the 888 Post in Delaware, as they do not share what they receive. I suggest that even if you do not want to attend any meetings, come to any functions, or get involved with the other members, that you please maintain your membership in our Post so we can keep up the work we have started.

Your membership is important to us in many ways, as I have said before, but those who decide to leave the Post and transfer back into the 888, or to quit the Legion altogether are really doing a disservice to all of us who work so hard to carry out the projects for which we have given our word. As of October 1<sup>st</sup>, the Ohio Department will not be sending out new 888 lists to the posts due to National dropping the project.

That means no more listings from which to draw new members. The membership will grow only with your help in recruiting new people, so soon we may find a way to get that building we are all looking for. We are also working with the VFW

to try to get something new started, so keep watching the site for updates on that issue.

## From 2d Vice Diane McDaniel:

A belated Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all of you. Those who attended the Post Christmas Party had a great time and a very good meal, along with the White Elephant items that were so warmly received. Photos of the Party, held at the Nutcracker Restaurant, are posted in the Photo Gallery on the web site. In addition to the festivities, most attending brought pairs of new socks to take to the Chillicothe VA Hospital in January. This is something the veterans there look forward to since others go there at Christmas time. The attendees also donated money to the Post 433, Ironton, Ohio effort, raising our total to \$52.00 to send to Post 433.

Attendees also bought raffle tickets on the table decorations and the Post Executive Committee voted to add the amount collected to the money already donated to the Gifts for Yanks Program. We were able to get \$81.00 for that effort, with more hopefully to come.

Now that the holidays are over for 2008, planning is going forward on our next get-together, which will be in February, for the Post Valentines Day Party. I will be working with the Auxiliary Unit to plan this event. Let's all start planning to get together for this great time. Date & Place will be announced.

## From Post Historian John McDaniel (JJ):

Work has begun on the Post History for the past year and from past records and histories, I feel it will go together very well. I do have a short supply of photos though, so if any of our members have photos that they would like to have go into the 2008 Post History book, please either get them to me or to Diane at one of the meetings prior to the Post



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Elections, so I can proceed with the history up to that time.

I also want to report to the Post that we now have another Paid Up For Life Member, Steven Kimberling, making our total PUFL membership at 13 members. We know it's not easy to come up with the amount required to become a PUFL, so it is not something we try to stress to membership, but it does solve all those renewal calls one receives each year. Even so, every post needs to grow to stay in existence, and Post 797 has done just that over the past six years, and has met it's quota each of those years, but to make all-time high this year we need at least 40 more members to renew their memberships. I would like to report in my history that we did again make all-time high for the 7<sup>th</sup> straight year. **PHOTOS PLEASE!!**

## From the SAL Side:

SAL membership is at an all time high going into the 2009 year, but with the Squadron having no new officers to take over and operate the group, it is feared that some of those members will decide to go elsewhere if we do not get something working to keep the Squadron functioning as it has in the past. We hope that this assumption is wrong, and that all the members will remain with Squadron 797, but we need those members who are close enough to attend any meetings to come to one of the Post meetings and let the Post Officers know that you want to work with us in keeping the Squadron moving.

Since the recent resignation of the SAL Officers, the Post has added 2 new members to the roster, making the total membership at 39 members. What may happen though, is that the Officers who resigned will most likely leave the Squadron after their paid-up dues for 2009 expire. Hopefully, this is not the case, and they will continue to remain members and eventually come to realize

that their membership in the SAL was never in question for any reason. The SAL Squadron 797 was well known throughout the District as being a dedicated unit, and we would like to see it remain so.

## From Jack Steinhausser on Legion Baseball:

The 12<sup>th</sup> District has a new Baseball Manager and scheduling of the teams is being contemplated in a few short weeks. Post 797 is working hard to keep the 2 American Legion Baseball teams here in Gahanna, as there have been efforts made to take those teams away from the city and put their sponsorship elsewhere. The High School Baseball Coach is scheduled to talk with me in a few days to confirm that he will assist with putting the 2 teams together and we will then get the team uniforms ordered and with the schedules in place, will hire the umpires and buy the equipment that will be needed for maintaining the teams.

Each year I make the plea for assistance at the ball field to assist with field maintenance and working in the concession stand. Each year I get no response from anyone other than the same people that volunteer every year, that being Gary Filaseta, Mac Glasgow, and my wife, who even helps out when she is not feeling well. If it were not for the head coach and a couple of the players, we would not be able to complete our end of the maintenance agreement, and we could lose use of the ball field entirely.

I would like for this coming baseball season to be a different experience for us all. I will put the schedule of all the home games in the newsletter and those members who can help out on any of those play days can call me at 471-0703 and tell me you can assist, or tell me a time when you can be at the field to help in any way. It's time all our members realize that these teams represent us, the American Legion, and although they can also benefit from being Legion players, we benefit by



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having helped them along the way. Now is the time to show these young men that we not only help them along the way, but that we care how well they do on that journey.

## **From the Honor Guard Captain:**

The Honor Guard has had a busy December, and the prospect of slowing down does not seem to materialize. We seem to have more and more to do each month, and in the process we are losing Legion, VFW, and AMVETS members quicker than we would like. Illness is causing a good many of our Honor Guard to be unable to help out when they are needed, and it seems as though there is no new blood to help balance us out.

If it were not for being able to call upon each other, the Post Honor Guard and the VFW Honor Guard would be unable to participate in a large number of the calls to arms for which we are summoned. It's time for some of our younger Legion members to step up and help us out and to be in line to take over for some of our ailing and aging veterans.

If we have a large enough force, everyone is not needed every time we are called upon to participate. It's not as though you will be called upon to stay home from work to participate, only to participate when you are available and needed at the same times. Think about it and call me.

## **From the Post Adjutant Harvey Jones:**

Since the new Post Officers took over their positions this past June, there have been a lot of changes made to help the Post save expenses. Some of those changes worked very well, and in that area we have found ways to save much of the money that was paid out in the past that could have been maintained for other charitable causes. We have still been able to contribute to several of the same charities as in the past, as well as being

able to have a few dollars to help in our membership drive.

If the Post alone had to send out the renewal notices each and every time they had to be sent out, our expenses would at least double, but so far we know that Department sends out at least 2 dues notices to every Legion member who does not remit his/her dues within 60 days of the 1st notice. But, if they don't receive the dues payment in time, another notice is sent out. Many of our members lose, forget, or ignore the notices, feeling that they will remember and send in their check to the Post. Unfortunately, that does not always happen, and they have to be again reminded by myself, or others who assist in membership.

We first begin with phone calls in order to try to save the postage and other expenses that it takes to send out a mailing, and when we don't have the phone numbers, we have to mail out our own notice that dues are payable. While it would be quicker, and much more economical to be able to phone all the members who have lost their reminders, it falls upon the membership committee to use every method available to contact our members who have forgotten to keep us informed of their mail or phone changes. It would also be great to have an email address if you have one, so we could save even more by using that media instead of the mail or phone for contacts or newsletters.

I don't know how many members realize that it takes people to keep an organization moving, and to keep it functioning in its purpose, which is to serve our veterans and also our youth and community. It would be a much easier and enjoyable task to have a little more help in these efforts if anyone would just give a little of their time. We don't ask for much, but the Post Officers can't do it all.

Now that the month of December is closed out, we still have 74 members who have not renewed their dues for 2009. The Post has been on a continual growth pattern since its inception in 2002, and in



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order to keep that record, we need to get everyone to send in his or her 2009 dues ASAP, so we can reach that ever-increasing goal. Your continued membership is very important to the Post as there are set goals a Post must reach in order to get additional delegates to attend the District, Department and National Conventions. At present, we are eligible to send 4 delegates to those Conventions, but we are hoping to raise our delegate count to 5, with the help of our yet unpaid members. This is a very important goal for us, as there are a lot of Posts who never reach this goal to have the opportunity for a stronger say at the Conventions. We would like to show the upper echelon that Gahanna is a Post that will have a voice in the American Legion.

## **Building Committee:**

There has been a great deal of talk this year, more than in the past, of having a building committee that is actively working to find a place that the Post can call their own. We need to find a place to allow our membership to meet for all their scheduled meetings, as well as any special meetings that may be called. It also would be the place for the SAL and Auxiliary members to call home. A place where our Legion belongings can be stored and our plaques and awards displayed for all who visit to see.

We may not be able to raise enough money to build our own building right away, but the fact of having our own meeting hall for the time being would be a step in the right direction. No one knows for sure, but we probably have members in our Post who have connections to someone or a business that would be happy to donate, or lease for minimal monies, a building that we could count on having for ourselves, until something more permanent is available. If any of our members knows of such a situation, please contact the Post thru the site and tell us about it, and we

will go check it out. If need be, the person who brought it to our attention can be available also.

Don't be afraid to suggest something, as right now, that is all we have to work with, and we are not getting very many suggestions at all. So, you may be our key to finding someone to talk to about a building and not even realize it. All your suggestions will be considered, but please keep in mind that Gahanna is our community, so we need to remain within the community in whatever we do.

## **Fundraising:**

This is a subject that is not at the top of anyone's list at this time, as all the local businesses and many of the large corporations are holding back on any of their spending to make sure they have capital to operate on during the coming year. To give away money when it could cause them to lose their share would be foolish on their part and it would be foolish on our part to expect it from them.

While the Post has been involved in assisting Post 433 in Ironton by asking for donations for them, and gathering what it can for the Gifts for Yanks Program, we have also got several irons in the fire in asking for assistance for our building project. Most corporations and foundations simply will not give anything to a veterans' organization because they are not 501c3 organizations. They do not realize that the American Legion is still a place where they can give their money and deduct it from their taxes, much like they do with a 501c3 charity.

It is for this reason that we have to look to small businesses, individuals, and our own fundraisers to raise the money needed to get our building project in gear, and to do that will take more than 8 or 10 people. We can start all the raffles and such without much problem, but selling tickets takes a lot more effort than a handful can produce. Therefore, if the Post could get its members to help in selling the raffle tickets and larger attendance at the



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fundraiser dinners, the money would add up a lot quicker than it presently is. We are hoping to be able to start more dinner fundraisers as soon as a good location is found to do so. When we do, it will be shortly after the mailed newsletter goes out so everyone in the organization knows of it.

### Ladies Auxiliary Unit 797:

The Auxiliary is coming around and we have most of the Officer positions filled, but could use a couple more volunteers to fill what positions are left. Check the 1<sup>st</sup> page of this newsletter to see what is needed. If you are not a member and are eligible, please contact one of the members on the Officer list or go thru the website to reach someone.

The Post is considering several options for inclusion for conducting a raffle this spring but would like suggestions from our members on what type items would be worthwhile to raffle off. The raffle can be listed on a nationwide listing if there is something worthwhile to be listed there. Otherwise, it will be listed on the web site and put into the electronic and printed newsletter so everyone has a chance to buy a ticket, or tickets.

### Don't forget the Blood Drive:

There is still a blood drive scheduled by the military MSBP for February. While I still do not have the date, it was tentatively scheduled for either 7 or 8 February 2009. As soon as I have the exact date it will be posted on the web site so all can get the exact date and time for the blood draw. Remember, now even civilians can donate to this blood drive, so if you have a relative, friend, or spouse who desires to help our military personnel, talk to them and ask them to come to the Army Reserve Center on Yearling Road to help out with this blood drive. It is more needed than normal this time, as there has been over 2 months since the last one, so the short supply of fresh blood has

to be even shorter at this time. Keep checking the web site at <http://al797.org> for updated information on this important issue.

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

## POOL TOURNAMENT

### MARCH 14 & 15, 2009

BOCCA BILLIARDS  
749 State Route 28  
MILFORD OHIO  
DOORS OPEN AT 12:00 (NOON)  
TOURNAMENT STARTS AT 1:00 P.M.

### ENTRY FORM

**SINGLES - \$15.00**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
POST # \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ LEGION CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

**DOUBLES - \$25.00**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TEAM CAPTAIN \_\_\_\_\_  
POST # \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ LEGION CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
POST # \_\_\_\_\_  
LEGION CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: AMERICAN LEGION  
VICTOR STIER POST 450  
450 VICTOR STIER DRIVE  
MILFORD, OHIO 45150  
NO REFUNDS  
MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO: AMERICAN LEGION POST 450

F:\USER\BRENDA\POOL TOURNAMENT\09\ENTRY FORM

The form above is copied onto the web site also. All the details regarding the Pool Tournament are listed above if anyone is interested in entering it. If there are any questions, suggest you contact Post 450 to get the answers. Good luck to anyone who enters the tournament.



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## Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP):

It was mentioned in the last newsletter that the CMP Program is getting things into gear to get going in the spring. Well, there is a place they can utilize for the range fires, but it is further away than many like, so presently we are asking anyone reading this to think of any gun ranges that are closer to Gahanna where they have a rifle range as well as a handgun range, and if you can get the contact information for Jack or Mac, please forward it to them as soon as you can. They want to get arrangements made so the group can get started at the earliest possible date, and closer to home if at all possible. Contact thru the web site emails is the quickest way to them.

## More from the Post Adjutant:

I have been trying to come up with a way to get our newsletters printed at less cost than previously, and at this time I have two prospects in my contacts. One of them is a member who is familiar with printing newsletters in the past, and he has been asked to provide a cost estimate for the 4 printed newsletters we do each year.

The other contact is a business that I have contacted to print the newsletter letterhead in color for us so the newsletter will stand out more. In order to do this, the letterhead will only appear on the first and last pages of the newsletter, allowing more room for content, or decreasing the sized of the newsletter by at least one page. This in itself would decrease the cost of the newsletter by saving almost one-half ream of paper and the printing of fewer pages.

If anyone else has any ideas I would be happy to hear them, as handling the newsletter by myself, doing all the copying, folding, and mailing is taking more of my time than I can afford at times. I would like to be able to have these quarterly newsletters in the mail within the first week of the

months in which they go out, but I also have to wait at times to get content for them. So, what I am going to look at is if we can get any of our local businesses to advertise in the newsletter, and in doing so, help us to get it printed at a lower cost. If anyone knows of any businesses that might be interested in doing this, please let me know, as the next printed newsletter comes out in March.

## Welcome to our new Members:

The Post is very pleased to welcome the following new members into the Gahanna American Legion Post 797.

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Robert Allis       | William Baird       |
| Ruth Baird         | William Beckley     |
| Dorcus Claytor     | Daniel Barnhart     |
| Ray Creamer        | Peter Crosetti      |
| Charles Daniel     | Paul Cunningham     |
| Ernest Engel       | Dennis Fisher       |
| Michael Farington  | Thomas Flemming     |
| Chuck Fleming      | Michael Frappollo   |
| Charles Goodyear   | Ned Harlow          |
| David Hembroff     | Paul Herring        |
| Thomas Hughes      | John Johnson        |
| Lynn Jones         | Charles Keller      |
| Nick King          | James LaVanchy      |
| Jess Malone        | Mike Mancuso        |
| John Malinky       | Chilton McCullum    |
| William McDaniel   | Paul Mettge         |
| Zanis Morgan       | Ronald Mullins      |
| Raymond Munson     | Dennis Nemeth       |
| Lewis Newhard      | Irwin Pontine       |
| Robert Poe         | Thomas R. Reynolds  |
| Thomas Richardson  | Erik Rowe           |
| Thomas Ross        | Gary Russell        |
| Ray Saunders       | Michael W. Scheerer |
| David Scheffler    | Cynthia Schultz     |
| Michael Smith      | Floyd Spencer       |
| Samuel Stoltz      | William Tippetery   |
| Walter A. Thurston | Richard Trushel     |
| Gerard Valentino   | Timothy Voelker     |
| Kenneth Washington | Robert Workman      |

**WELCOME ABOARD!!**