



AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

Gahanna Post #797



Volume 10, No. 10

March 2010

American Legion Post 797 Officers

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

Post 797 Executive Committee Members

Jim Garrabrant Jack Steinhausser, Sr. Craig Reynolds Richard Trushel John Raab

Sons of the American Legion Squadron 797

Post Advisor - Malcolm Glasgow	Commander - Robert Crawford
First Vice Commander -	Second Vice Commander -
Adjutant - Harvey Jones	Finance Officer - Gary Filaseta
Sergeant-at-Arms - Sam Snyder	Chaplain -

Ladies Auxiliary Unit 797

President - Carole Ebersole	First Vice Commander -
Second Vice Commander - Linda Gease	Unit Secretary - Judy Filaseta
Treasurer/Membership - Joice Mahr	Unit Chaplain - Ruth Wepking
Sergeant-at-Arms - Diane McDaniel	Fundraising - Dawn DePew

COMMANDER'S REPORT:

Gahanna American Legion Post 797 reaches quota for the Ninth Time

Gahanna American Legion Post 797 has 304 members and needs 31 more to attain "All Time High" membership for the Ninth consecutive year. The officers and members of the Membership Committee led by First Vice Commander Stan Wepking and Adjutant Harvey Jones, have led the charge to retain 304 members to make quota again. Just one of two posts made quota in the 12th District, which was announced at the 12th District Meeting on Tuesday, February 23d at Worthington Post 239.

I would like to congratulate Stan and Harvey for making this achievement happen. During March, nominations for the Post Officers will take place at the Post meeting on Thursday, March 18th. Interviews for Boys State Candidates will be conducted in which 15 students from Gahanna-Lincoln High School and New Albany High School will be done on Saturday, March 20th at Gahanna City Hall.

Finally, the 91st Birthday of the American Legion National Organization will be celebrated on Monday, March 15 thru Tuesday March 16th. Be sure to read the article on the 91st Birthday in the March Legion Magazine. This 91st Birthday will be celebrated during this month's Post meeting on Thursday, March 18th at 7:00pm. Please plan to come to the meeting for Birthday Cake and coffee. Please bring your wife or friend who may want to join our post.

For God and Country,

Malcolm "Mac" Glasgow
Commander

FROM FIRST VICE COMMANDER STAN WEPKING:

We have been over quota for a couple months now, but we seem to be losing more members than we are gaining. There are a couple reasons for this and one of them is not the way to lose a member. That is by their passing away. We have some members who are out of work and cannot meet the dues payments, and some who are not active in the Post so they feel they don't need to remain a member. That is one thing that they themselves could change, by becoming more active in the Post. We sorely need more active members, as those who continually do the work also get tired of doing it over time, and need a change.

NOTE FROM 2D VICE COMMANDER DIANE McDANIEL:

Any member who is interested in taking the planned trip to the Air Force Museum on March 6th, Saturday, should call me at 855-2120 to RSVP so we can plan how many vehicles we will need to make the trip. We plan to leave the VFW parking lot by 8:00am, stop by McDonalds for a snack, and proceed to Dayton. We will stop at a restaurant after leaving WPAFB for dinner before coming back home. Guests are welcome to accompany you, and if you cannot RSVP prior to leaving, just be at the VFW lot before 8:00am, March 6th.

FROM AMERICANISM CHAIR CRAIG REYNOLDS:

I am happy to announce that we just completed the Oratorical Contest and of the two candidates we had, one of them became the finalist from the 12th District and now proceeds on to the Department Contest. We wish that contestant, Yelizanveta Filonenko, a Senior from New Albany High School, the best of luck in the State contest.

On March 20th, Saturday, the interviewing team will conduct interviews of the Buckeye Boys State candidates at City Hall, beginning at noon and lasting till 5:00pm. We have contestants from both Gahanna and New Albany this year.

FROM POST HISTORIAN MERLIN DEPEW:

The Oratorical Contest, sponsored by Post 797 was held January 31, 1010 in the GLHS Media Center. After opening ceremonies, Commander Glasgow introduced the judges, who included Dale Foor, Phil Koppel, and the Honorable Guy Reece, along with other distinguished guests.

Craig Reynolds introduced the candidates, Rob Roll, a Senior from GLHS and Yelizanveta (Leeza) Filonenko, a Senior from New Albany High School. Each candidate presented their prepared speech on the Constitution for 8-10 minutes. Then a subject was selected on Article 5 of the Constitution. Each candidate had five minutes to prepare and was allowed to speak for no longer than five minutes on the subject. Both candidates, Leeza and Rob presented excellent speeches in both areas. Upon completion, Craig announced that the judges had a difficult time selecting the winner. However, Leeza Filonenko was elected to represent Post 797 and District 12 at the State Oratorical Contest to be held at Dominican College on February 28th.

CATCH-UP ON VENTURE CREW 797 FROM STEPHEN ELEK:

The year 2009 was a good year for the Crew. We were named crew of the year Simon Kenton Council. Samantha Johnson (daughter of a Navy vet) was named crewmember of the year Simon Kenton Council.. Stephen Elek received a leadership award, one of four given to adults in Simon Kenton council (Venturing). The Crew completed recharter and has 10 youth and 11 adults. Upcoming events are the Maple Syrup fest at Camp Lazarus, north of Columbus on Route 23. This will be held the last Saturday of February and the first Saturday in March, and is open to the public for the cost of \$2.00, and all the pancakes you can eat for \$5.00. The syrup is made from trees on camp right in front of your eyes.

The next big event is the 2010 Camporee held at the Ross County fairgrounds. This event is for the 100 years of Boy Scouting in America, and is open to the public on Saturday, the 1st of May for \$15.00. The military will be well represented and there will be lots to do. There will be two fly-bys and a concert in the evening. More information can be found by searching the Simon Kenton BSA web site. The Boy Scouts of America is also looking for alumni. This information can also be found at the Simon Kenton web site. We have many campouts coming up and summer camp is at Chief Logan in Ray, Ohio, the week of July 13-17. As always, we are looking to grow the Crew with male and female youth ages 14-21, as well as adults. If you have any flags you want retired, let us know and we can take care of them at any campout.

FROM POST ADJUTANT HARVEY JONES:

It's been a cold, snowy winter, and from the looks of things, it's not over yet, but we're coming into the time of year when the weather always starts to turn warmer, so let's hope for the best real soon. Jack tells us that things are coming together for the American Legion Baseball season, and he feels that the teams should do well this year. Our Honor Guard, teaming with the VFW Honor Guard, have been kept very busy over the winter months honoring our departed veterans, and recently had to lay to rest one of their own, the Captain of the VFW Post 4719 Honor Guard, Frank Doherty.

American Legion Post 797 was challenged back in the fall of 2009 to sponsor one of the ASBP Blood Drives, and the officers of the Post committed to the March 2010 period to sponsor one. The Air Force team will be in Columbus on March 21st, Sunday, to draw blood for our troops, and we, the officers of the Post, have committed our Post to have the largest blood drive for any Legion Post here in Columbus. We told 12th District that we could raise the standard to at least 100 pints of blood for the March drive, and I am asking that each and every member of Post 797, your wives, and any one over 18 years of age that you can bring, come to this blood drive and donate if you can. Our soldiers need this blood badly, and you all know by now that the American Red Cross does not collect blood for our soldiers, so it is our duty to do so.

There will be refreshments, eats, and snacks for everyone who comes on the 21st of March, so we are looking to have a full house for this blood drive. Please don't let the Post down by not coming to donate. And, even if you are not eligible, we can always use the extra help serving the food, snacks and drinks to those who can. We will also need help cleaning up after the drive is over, and there will be plenty of food to dispose of before we all leave. The flyer on the reverse of this page will tell you all you need to know of the date, time and place, so don't forget us.

Also, on March 6th, the Post is taking a trip down to Wright Patterson AFB to visit the Air Force Museum. You can RSVP to Diane McDaniel at 855-2120, or just show up at the VFW Post that morning prior to 8:00am, as everyone will be leaving at that time. They will stop by McDonalds for a snack and then head on out to Dayton. After the visit is over there, they will stop at a restaurant to have dinner. This will be a very interesting trip and if you have never been there before, it may prove to be a joyful day for you.



Blood Drive For Our Troops

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sunday, March 21st, 2010

Proud sponsor of this drive: American Legion Gahanna Post 797
And The United States Army Reserve

Where: The U.S. Army Reserve Center
165 N. Yearling Rd. (Next to DSCC)
Whitehall, Ohio 43213 (side entrance please)

Eligibility: Previous donation must have been before
Jan. 24, 2010. Other eligibility criteria listed at:
http://www.militaryblood.dod.mil/Donors/can_i_donate.aspx

With intensive ongoing fighting in Afghanistan and 30,000 more troops now going over, there is an ongoing critical need for blood to support our military. The Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP), a part of the Department of Defense is the ONLY agency that collects for and directly supports our Armed Forces fighting overseas.



Walk-ins are always welcome, but pre-registration is encouraged at:
<https://www.militarylifeforce.com/>

Enter Zip Code 43213, and set Sunday March 21st to schedule an appointment.

Please—Give a wounded GI a great gift that comes from the heart.



ASBP
Armed Services Blood Program

<http://www.BloodDrivefortheTroops.org>

Additional Contact: Pete Margaritis (614-395-0387) or Steve Ebersole (614-783-6862)
NEXT ASBP BLOOD DRIVE: END OF MAY, 2010



Please note your mailing label when you receive your newsletter. If there is a colored dot next to the label, it indicates that you are no longer a paid-up member and this will be your last newsletter. If dues are paid prior to the mailing of the June issue, the newsletter will continue to be mailed, but we cannot continue to mail newsletters to non-members. If you would like to remain a member, please send your check for \$35 to P.O. Box 30843, Gahanna, OH 43230 upon receipt of this issue so you are not dropped from the database.

American Legion Post #797
Post Office Box 30843
Gahanna, OH 43230



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COLUMBUS, OH

MARCH 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
VFW Breakfast 9-11am	1	2	3	4	5	6 Bowling Tournament Newark
7 VFW Breakfast 9-11am Bowling Tournament Newark	8 Americanism	9 Government	10 Trip to Gettysb	11 urg & Washin	12 gton DC	13 thru today
14 VFW Breakfast 9-11am	15	16 VFW 4719 Meeting 7pm	17	18 Legion Meeting 7pm	19	20 BBS Interviews Noon-5pm City Hall
21 ASBP BLOOD DRIVE Whitehall 9am-2pm	22	23 12 th District Council Mtg Post 171 7:30pm	24	25	26	27
28 VFW Breakfast 9-11am	29	30	31			

The VFW Post 4719 in which American legion Post 797 meets continues to look for members to join and help support the Post. Full membership is available to all combat veterans and guest memberships are also available to any member who is either in the Legion or has a close relative who is a veteran and a DD 214 to prove the relationship. Annual dues for either are \$35.00. Guest membership is limited to a certain percentage, but there are still many available. If anyone is interested, contact Harvey Jones who is the in-house recruiter for both Posts.. Post transfers are also welcome, so if you are traveling too far, try out the Gahanna Post.