September 2017



The Post 615 I nsider

TINLEY PARK

Commanders Viewpoint William Porter

POST MEETS FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH (except on Election Day)

First I'd like to thank the membership for electing me as your commander for 2018. I promise to do the best I can to make our post successful. I'd also like to thank Bill McNellis for his fine leadership of our post for the past two years.

Membership:

The National and State Departments are making membership a top priority this year. From a peak of 3.3 million in 1994, the Legion has dropped to 2.4 million last year and it is expected to drop below 2 million this year without a concentrated membership drive.

Our biggest problem is in recruiting younger members. We need to attract veterans from Afghanistan, Iraq, and the War on Terrorism eras.

Speak to any you know and invite them to visit the post and sit in on a meeting, no obligation to join, and see what we have to offer them.

In our post we have almost 450 members, yet it is the same 20 or so that come out each month for our meeting. This is **YOUR** post, come out and support it!



Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Memorial Squad:

The Memorial Squad is in need of new members. Currently the squad has about 120 members and can perform honors ceremonies for 22 veterans a day. The cemetery is getting busier as more people learn of its existence and they want to increase to 33 services a day. If they do this we will not be able to give every veteran the service they deserve.

If you can spare one day a week to volunteer, think about joining. Call the cemetery at (815) 423-9958 and they will get you in contact with our membership team and arrange for you to come out and see what we do. Then you decide if you want to join.

Cont'd on page 4

Membership report

Jim Taylor Sr. Vice

As of Sept. 8th membership stood at 286 (66.4%). Remember that membership is on a fiscal year, Aug. — July, not calendar. Take a look at your card, if it says 2017 then you are past due. Unless you are current by December 31st you will lose all benefits of Legion membership, so get your dues in ASAP

The Happenings Carl LaPorte Jr. Vice Commander

I would like to thank everyone who helped me through my second year as Jr. Vice Commander.

I could not have done this without all the help from all of the Legion Families. I would also like to thank all who volunteered their time, talent and effort to make our events a success. As you know these events would not have been a success without the commitment of all our members and volunteers. Also thanks to the Sons of the Legion for all their help in the kitchen with the cooking. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming months because we have a lot of events. As you know this event could not have been a successful without the Commitment of all our members and friends.

Please keep in mind that around Christmas we will need Volunteers for the Christmas Bazar at the Oak Park Ave train station, last year we were shorthanded. The date will be announced at a later time. Signup sheets will be posted on the bulletin board.

Remember this is your post and the events we hold can only be a success with you help.

****** VOLUNTEER *** VOLUNTEER *** VOLUNTEER ******

Service Officer Alan Patterson

Veterans wanting to file a service connected disability claim and have the misfortune of misplacing their military records have an option. The V.A. along with the American Legion can assist in finding those lost records necessary in filing that claim. Records from a private physician can also be obtained if needed to complete the process.

Until recently veterans that passed away prior to October 1990 were not able to obtain a service medallion to affix to their headstone in a private cemetery. That legislation has changed to include all veterans going back to World War I that passed away before that date. V.A. FORM 40-1330M is available for download at the V.A.website. Instructions and adhesive are included with your order.

For those veterans and spouses who choose a national cemetery as their final resting place can reserve a space by filling out V.A. form 40-10007 PRE-NEED DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY IN A VA NATIONAL CEMETERY. A separate form is required for both the veteran and spouse if so desired.

All V.A. forms mentioned above are available for download on the Veterans Administration website or by contacting me at (708)614-6408.



Sons of The American Legion Squadron 615



John Joyce, Commander

No report

Commanders Viewpoint Cont'd

I have started sending out emails to inform everyone of upcoming events at the post.

The first email I sent out went to 194 members who had their email listed with the post. 24 of those came back as 'undeliverable' or 'no such address'. If you did not get that email then we do not have your email address on file. Please send an email to commander@post615.com with your email address and name to be added to the list. Don't worry about getting a bunch of emails, I don't expect it to be more than one a week.

If you did get it, then you are all set.



American Legion Riders Chapter 615

Lou Volpe, Director

No report



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 615

Peggy Williams, President

No report

Come on into the Post 615 Canteen to watch all your favorite sports . Enjoy the Camaraderie of old and new friends. Have an enjoyable refreshment. Try your luck at our many games. Watch and participate in "Jeopardy" and "Wheel of Fortune"

101111





Check out our "Queen of Hearts" game and Just relax and have fun. Play our pull tabs, or just listen to your favorite song.







STEPHEN E. EBERHARDT Attorney at Law



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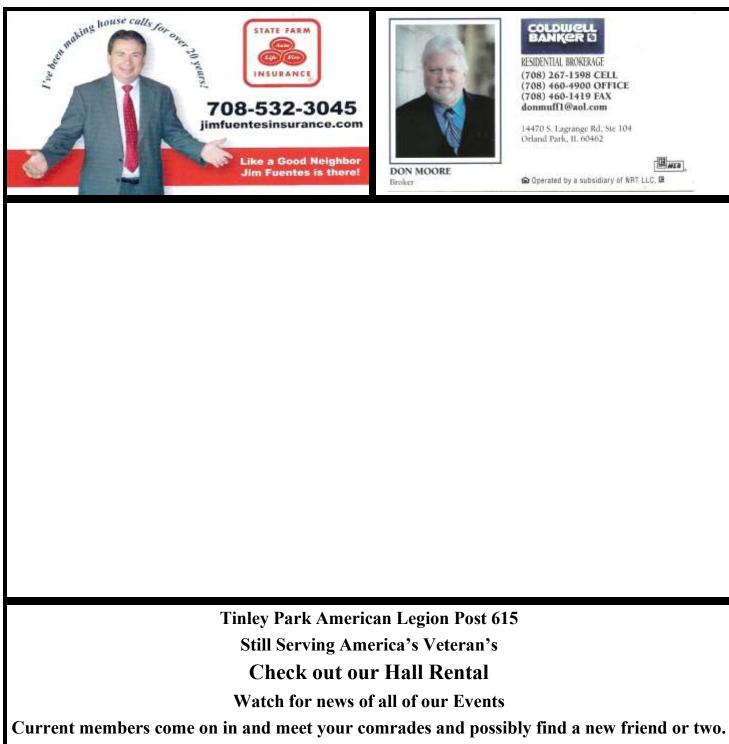
Support our service personnel and their families here and abroad as well as our police, firefighters and first responders here at home.





6006 W. 159th ST., UNIT D OAK FOREST, IL 60452 TEL # (708) 687-4649 FAX # (708) 687-6180

KEVIN WALSH



Watch for news of our programs, you might find one that interests you,

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We Are On The Web WWW.Post615.com	
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17423 67th Court Tinley Park, IL. Phone: 708-532-1737 Web: WWW.Post615.com For God and Country	
God Bless America	
	nd good will on earth
Upcoming events: VA Health Fair Fri. Oct 6th, 8:30 til ? TPVC Veterans Breakfast, Sat Oct 1 Veterans Day, Nov 11th, 80th Ave tra Holiday Market, Fri Dec 1st thru Sun ALNC Direct Burial Service, Thurs. I Christmas with the recruits, Mon Dec	, 10201 S Cicero, Oak lawn 4th, @ Post 615, doors open 8:30 AM ain station Dec 3rd, train station on Oak Park Dec 14th, 9 AM shelter C
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