



AUXILIARY UPDATE

Volume 1, Issue 3 Spring/Summer 2008

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STETSER-LAMARTINE
AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY UNIT 281

President O'Neill's Farewell Message...

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Since our last newsletter Unit 281 has been very busy. In January some of the Auxiliary joined members of the Post for another visit to Vineland Memorial Home, where they treated the veterans to an afternoon of bowling and snacks.

On April 25, we held our annual awards night. During this special event, the Auxiliary acknowledged the Teacher of the Year from one of our local schools along with our youth for their participation in this year's Americanism Essay—America: Land of the Free. Also, that night we thanked one of our local business proprietors for their support of our Unit programs by honoring that person with the Business of the Year Award. This year's recipient was Connie Spriggs of Hill Top Garden Center. Thank you Connie for sponsoring a girl for Girls state and all your support to our various programs. Also, in April the Unit held its interviews for the 61st Annual Girls State program.

This brings us to May, were we ask you to wear a poppy and honor every American who has died for the American ideals of freedom, justice and equality. So look for one of members at your local proprietor or purchase one our patriotic hats (a new project). All donations received go towards our veterans and veterans programs.

On May 14, we held our annual initiation and get acquainted night for our new

members. Congratulations to those who were initiated that night and welcome!

At this time, I'd like to thank Carol Roach, our Membership Chairman. She has been busy collecting the 2008 dues for the Unit and I am happy to report that Unit 281 is a goal Unit once again. Thank you again Carol for all your hard work and determination!

Finally, I want to congratulate both Commander Bill Holmes and SAL Commander Tim Stillman on successful years. It was a pleasure serving both Post/Unit 281 and the community along with you both. I wish you both health, happiness and success.

It's hard to believe that it was three years ago that I was installed as President. On that note, I want to thank my Unit and officers for supporting my ideas and projects over these years, especially the new ones. As I look back over the past three years, I think that they have been great years, and I hope that you agree. The socials I attended were always a blast and it was fun to watch everyone be themselves, let their hair down and have fun. I think the key to my successful years was not only my determination and dedication to our veterans, but also the dedication and support of my officers, fellow auxiliary members, SALs and Post and, most importantly my family. Thank you to each and every one of you for all

your help and support. Without your help and support we could not fulfill our commitment to our veterans and Unit programs.

Special thank you to my parents Marlene and Steve and my brother Stephen for all their help and support over these years (Especially the 2 very successful Comedy Nights) and for putting up with me. I love you guys!!

Time and space do not allow me to list every event and program of the past year or the dedicated members who work hard behind the scenes. But again Thank You for helping make these past three years memorable. If you are an active member, you know that every day there is something special happening at our Post. The next couple of months at the Post will be filled with fun events. So watch for Al O'Neill's special email announcements or stop by the canteen and make some new friends and find out what's going on.

Our Legion is strong and continues to grow because of our dedicated members who get involved. Get involved by attending one of our meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

For God and Country,

Leslie O'Neill

Past President

Be an "Early Bird for 2009!!

We are once again a goal Unit, but there are still some members who have not paid their dues for the 2007-2008 year. The list of those who have not paid is on the bulletin board in the entrance at the Post. As a reminder, the roster is probably already printed and the new cards for 2009 will be coming out around the end of July and you don't have to wait for a notice from National to renew. I will still be membership Chairman, you can give them to me if you see me after June or mail to P.O. Box 12, Glendora NJ. If you pay early I will mail the cards out as soon as I get them. Be an "Early Bird" for 2009! Let's get the last few in by May so we can get 100% by Convention. THANKS LADIES FOR A GREAT JOB!



Carol Roach, Membership

2007-2008 Children & Youth

This year's Children & Youth Program was a complete success. As mentioned in the last newsletter the Unit was able to distribute school bags/items to a children from one of our local elementary schools. We were also able to make the holidays a little brighter for 8 local area children and make both a monetary/clothing donation to the Anna Sample House. In April the Unit hosted a pizza party for a local CCD class that assisted with our annual food drive. In May we will be presenting a Savings Bond in memory of Linda McAllister to Gabrielle Urban a local 5th grader who is a member of the Safety Patrol at Glendora Elementary School.

Leslie O'Neill, Children & Youth Chairman

Past President's Parley Report

Thanks to your support of the Past Presidents Parley programs and fund raisers, we were able to award a \$250 scholarship to Amanda Ermilio of Highland High School. Thanks, also to all the members who participated in our First Tea-less Tea Party. Hope everyone spent one day relaxing and enjoying a hot cup of tea.

The Past Presidents will be getting together to plan events and fund raisers for the 2008-2009 year. So watch for our next newsletter or look for flyers on the Auxiliary bulletin board.

Leslie O'Neill, Past President Parley Chairman

Essay Contest Winners Repeat at County

Two of Unit 281's 2008 Americanism Essay Contest winners received awards at the Camden County level as well, for their essays.

Alexis McDonald, Ann Mullen Middle School (7th grade)
Gina Venuto-Gabriella, Gloucester Twp. Elementary (4th grade)

Joanne Boyd
Americanism Chairman

Unit 281 receives special awards

On May 17, 2008 Past Unit President, Leslie O'Neill attended the Camden County Convention for the 2007-2008 year. Leslie is happy to report that Unit 281 had a very successful and productive 2007-2008 year; at the county meeting, Unit 281 was presented with the following Committee Awards for 2007-2008:

Children & Youth..... Leslie O'Neill
Education Christina Mayland
Gold Star Mothers Donna Barrett
Membership Carol Roach
VA&R Marlene O'Neill

Also, Leslie O'Neill was the recipient of the Mary Elizabeth Hoffman Trophy. The criteria for this award is that an individual Auxiliary member is nominated either by one of her fellow members or Unit for her dedicated service to veterans. Congratulations on a job well done to all the committee chairman and officers for 2007-2008. Best of luck to committee chairman for the upcoming year.

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