

# COTTREALL-WARNER, POST 942

## AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWSLETTER



### Officers:

Commander: Jeff Jolley

1st Vice:
Dan MacDonald

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: Gordon Clarke

3rd Vice:
Don Linborg

Adjutant: Staci Sukhenko

Treasurer: Al Gubiotti

Sgt. At Arms: Al Mikolajko

Historian: Herb Gauch

<u>Chaplain and</u> <u>Service Officer:</u> **Gordon Clarke** 

Bar Manager: Ted Sykes

Membership: Gordon Nenno



### Legion Family,

It's officer nomination and election time of year again. As Veterans, we all have a specialty and passion for something. This is the annual opportunity to bring that to the table.

Gordon Clarke is the current Nomination Committee
Chairman. The committee is looking for anyone who has
a desire to be in an elected position. In our busy world
it's easy to overlook the profound impact of volunteering.
Volunteering not only benefits our Post and causes but
also enriches the lives of those who participate.

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# **Upcoming Events 2024**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	Group	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mar 2	4:30 pm	All	Auxiliary Corned Beef Dinner	American Legion
Mar 6	6:00 pm	Home Corp	Home Corporation Meeting	American Legion
Mar 10	12:00 pm	Delegates	7 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting	Marion Post #1430
Mar 12	8:15 pm	Riders	Legion Riders Meeting	Brimont Bistro
Mar 14	5:30 pm	Ex Committee	Executive Committee Meeting	American Legion
Mar 14	7:00 pm	Legionnaires	Legion Post Meeting	American Legion
Mar 21	7:00 pm	Auxiliary	Auxiliary Meeting	American Legion
Mar 28	7:00 pm	SAL	SAL Meeting	American Legion
Apr 3	6:00 pm	Home Corp	Home Corporation Meeting	American Legion
Apr 9	8:15 pm	Legion Riders	Legion Riders Meeting	Brimont Bistro
Apr 11	6:00 pm	Ex Committee	<b>Executive Committee Meeting</b>	American Legion
Apr 11	7:00 pm	Legionnaires	Legion Post Meeting	American Legion
Apr 18	5:30 pm	Auxiliary	Auxiliary Meeting (Birthday)	Proietti's Restaurant
Apr 25	7:00 pm	SAL	SAL Meeting	American Legion
Apr 28	5:00 pm	All	Past Commander's Dinner	American Legion
May 1	6:00 pm	Home Corp	Home Corporation Meeting	American Legion
May 7	8:15 pm	Legion Riders	Legion Riders Meeting	Brimont Bistro
May 9	5:30 pm	Ex Committee	<b>Executive Committee Meeting</b>	American Legion
May 9	7:00 pm	Legionnaires	Legion Post Meeting	American Legion
May 4	TBD	Legion Riders	Raleigh's Ride	Eldrid/Olean
May 5	12:00 pm	Delegates/Mbrs	7 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting	Ovid Post#463
May 16	7:00 pm	Auxiliary	Auxiliary Meeting	American Legion
May 18	1:00 pm	Legion Riders	Sportsman Raffle	American Legion
May 27	9:00 am	All	Memorial Day Parade	Spry High School
May 30	7:00 pm	SAL	SAL Meeting	American Legion

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation, and volunteerism. If you are seeking information, please contact the individuals below:

- Legion Staci Sukhenko (585) 281-2042
- o Auxiliary Anne Leckenby (585) 943-0746
- o **SAL** Ned Stromfeld (585) 872-9190

If you haven't paid your 2024 dues, please do so as soon as possible. We have approximately 347 members paid. That's 81.07%. of our goal of 428. **You can pay on-line now at:** <a href="https://www.legion.org/renew">https://www.legion.org/renew</a>

We already have 105 that paid on-line for 2024. The portion of the dues that are due to the Post will be credited to our Post by the Department of New York.

Remember, if you paid your 2024 dues and have your 2024 card, you are paid;

#### CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

It is with heavy hearts that we share the news of the passing of Mike Butwid... one of the esteemed founding members of our Post.

Mike's passion, dedication, and unwavering commitment have left an indelible mark on Post 942's journey. His vision and values laid the foundation upon which we continue to build and thrive today.

Our thoughts and deepest sympathies are with Mike's family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time. May they find strength and comfort in the cherished memories we hold of him.

If you know of a Legionnaire that is currently sick or recently deceased, call Chaplain Gordon Clarke at 585-978-0429





### PAST COMMANDER'S DINNER

The Legion will be hosting the Past Commander's Dinner on April 28th.

This event will start at 5 pm. The ceremony will honor and celebrate those who have gone before us, serving as commander of their respective branch of this organization.

All are invited with their significant other. Dress is smart casual.



# **AUXILIARY UNIT 942**



The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) hosted their first meeting of 2024 on Thursday, February 15th to get ready to welcome in Spring.

Mark your calendars! The ALA will be hosting their **Annual Corned Beef Dinner** on Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4:30-7pm (or until it's sold out) with some assistance from the Sons. \$15 per plate. Dinner includes the following: Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, onions, and dessert. Hope to see you all there.

Help us send a little bit of home to our deployed soldiers. Our goal is to send 50 military care packages overseas. We are asking for your help in support of our care package drive. You can drop off care package items at the legion. See the flyer in this newsletter for the items we need.

The ALA will be celebrating their 99th Birthday for our April meeting at Proietti's Restaurant. Members don't forget to RSVP to reserve your seat.

Again, this year our ALA unit will be supporting Girls State. We have completed the interviews and are currently making our selections.

Please ensure you have renewed your membership for 2024. You can mail in a check, pay online, pay by phone (Call National Headquarters at (317) 569-4570 with your member ID ready) or simply stop by the post. Dues are \$35 for ALA senior members. \$10 for ALA Jr. members (17 and under). You are always welcome to pay for years ahead will and automatically receive your membership card in the mail the following fall season.

Remember the ALA monthly meetings are held on the **Third Thursday** of each **month** for the months of August,
September, October, November, February,
March, April (traditionally -- an Auxiliary
"Birthday" dinner at Proietti's) and May.
No meetings in the months of January,
June, July and December. Meeting starts promptly at 7pm.

Be a Beacon of Light!

For God and Country,
Amy VanDerwerken,
Auxiliary Unit President

### SONS OF THE LEGION

The Sons of the American Legion are giving away a 36" Blackstone grill and cash for a fund raiser. Please stop in the Post and see it on display. Only 50 spots are being sold.



March 2nd is the Auxiliary's Annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. Please come out and support this amazing meal.

Please check to verify you have paid your 2024 membership dues... You must have a 2024 card to enter ANY American Legion Post. (\$20 for 2024) Dues will be increasing to \$25/year in 2025. Our monthly meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the FINAL Thursday of each month. Please try to attend and stay informed.

Thank you for your time, Nate Burdick, Squadron Commander

#### POST HISTORIAN'S CORNER BY HERB T GAUCH

Post 942 mourns the loss of MIKE BUTWID. Mike was a Past Commander, Vietnam War Hero, dedicated Legionnaire and all-around Great Guy. I'd like to share part of an article that appeared in the **Webster Herald in June of 1967**.

A Webster serviceman 1965 graduate of RL Thomas HS has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal, with Oak Leaf Cluster and "V" device. He is Michael A. Butwid Spec 4 US Army Company A, 1st Battalion 26th Infantry. The award was presented for heroism on March 31, 1967. His citation reads: "On this date, Spec 4 Butwid and his comrades were dispatched as a relief element. When they arrived in the vicinity of the besieged patrol, he engaged the insurgents with a heavy volume of fire. After the enemy had been routed. Spec 4 Butwid assisted in the evacuation of the friendly casualties. The resolution of purpose, undaunted courage and bold initiative displayed by Spec 4 Butwid significantly contributed to the overwhelming defeat of the Viet Cong, and the extraction of American soldiers who otherwise might have died from their wounds. Spec 4 Butwid's actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service, and reflect great credit upon himself and the 1st Infantry Division of the US Army. Mike returned home on the 4th of July 1967.

Our sincere condolences go out to Mike's Family from everyone at Post 942.

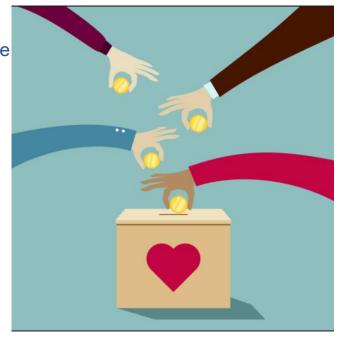
# Charitable Giving for Tax Years 2023 and 2024

Have you thought about your charitable giving for 2023? Please consider your Post 942. Many of you do not realize we are a 501c3 corporation and as such, contributions made to us are tax deductible to you. Always see your tax consultant before considering any contributions to any organization.

Charitable contributions are a tax-saving opportunity. Not only does the charity benefit, but taxpayers enjoy tax savings by deducting part or all of their contributions on their tax returns.

Taxpayers can deduct charitable contributions for the 2023 and 2024 tax years if they itemize their tax deductions using Schedule A of IRS Form 1040. Charitable contribution deductions for cash contributions to public charities and operating foundations are limited to up to 60% of a taxpayer's adjusted gross income.

Qualified organizations include those that operate for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes and the prevention of cruelty to animals or children.



Donations to nonprofit veterans' organizations, fraternal lodge groups, cemetery and burial companies, and certain legal corporations may also apply.

Internal Revenue Service. "Publication 526, Charitable Contributions"

Submitted By: Al Gubiotti

### **LEGION RIDERS**

Riders' meetings are on April 9th, May 7th, and June 11th at the Brimont Bistro at 8:15 pm.



On May 4<sup>th</sup> the Riders will sponsor **Raleigh's Ride**. A Facebook Page is up with details. The ride will go to Eldred WW2 Museum, then overnight in Olean.

This is a sponsored ride. Riders will pay \$25 to join the ride. People can donate any amount to sponsor the ride. Checks can be made out to Post 942 Legion Riders and mailed to Greg Cody at 27 Martin St Webster NY 14580. All donations of \$40 or more will receive an event shirt, please provide the name and address to receive the shirt. Cut-off to receive shirts is April 15th.

Funds raised will go to the Museum and K9s for Warriors. All names of donors will be listed on the Facebook page along with the name of their beloved passed pet. The Bistro and Sue Ayotte will cover the cost of t-shirts; that means 100% of donations goes to the two charities. Preserving true American History, saving K9s, and helping Veterans!

Sportsman Raffle tickets are on sale now, Raffle will be May 18th at Post 942.

If you have any questions or are interested in joining the Riders, contact Greg Cody at 585-750-1490.

## **COLOR GUARD**

Our Color Guard performs many times each year at special events like Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Pearl Harbor Day. We are looking for volunteers to participate in the Color Guard and Rifle Squad.



If you enjoy displaying your patriotism and hearing applause, this is for you! Post 942 provides all the uniforms, except for a pair of black slacks and black shoes; you only need to be a member of The American Legion Post 942 and be willing to get involved. If interested in joining the Color Guard, contact

Brian McCoy at 585-704-3935.



# DOUBLE LUNG TRANSPLANT FUNDRAISER FOR AMANDA CARUSO



WEBSTER FAIRPORT ELKS LODGE 1066 JACKSON ROAD, WEBSTER, NY 1PM-5PM SATUDAY APRIL 13, 2024

DONATION: \$20/PRESALE, \$25/AT DOOR

HAMBURGER GARBAGE PLATES, RAFFLE ITEMS, MUSIC & FUN TIMES!

(TICKET PURCHASE INCLUDES GARBAGE PLATE)
TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASE THROUGH

THE WEBSTER FAIRPORT ELKS LODGE: ph. 585-872-1847
Lisa Liddings: 585-217-6954 or Liddings58@gmail.com
Bob Snover: 585-746-4885 or Meltedsnoman@gmail.com
Noreen Henning: 585-755-1319 or noreenhenning@yahoo.com

## Post 942 Home Corporation Updates

As with many of us, Post 942 Home Corp is looking forward to the arrival of Spring, with that we are looking towards the upcoming needs of our post for upkeep and maintenance. We are planning on reaching out to Wharram Lawn and Landscape to provide us with a quote for lawn mowing and landscaping clean up and maintenance. Jon Wharram is a US Army Veteran, and we are proud to be his customer and support his business.

The replacement of the two windows on the south side of the Hall was completed at the end of January. Wonder Windows was able to complete the project in a day, and they turned out very nice. The only remaining pieces left for the Hall Renovation are hanging the window dressings on the new windows and some artwork on the walls.

Lastly, we could use some help on the Home Corporation. The committee consists of 5-7 members. If you are interested reach out to Gordon Clarke (Committee Chair) or Chris Jolliff (Home Corp Secretary).

Submitted By: Chris Jolliff

# 2024 Mid-Winter Conference

The Annual Department Mid-Winter Conference was held at the Desmond Crowne Plaza in Albany, NY. Individuals from all posts within NYS came to the conference from January 19 - 21st to attend various committees, workshops, and classes.

Friday evening there was a welcome reception in the Orange Street courtyard, compliments of the Desmond and the American Legion - DNY. Upstate Funk played music, light refreshments were served and everyone was able to network and share with each other.

Individuals were able to attend the different standing committees Friday Evening and allday Saturday to learn about the direction of Veterans Services, Legislation, Programs, SAL Workshop, Counseling, Compliance, Membership, Scouting and more.

Jeff Jolley and team on behalf of Post #942 also used this time to present a check to Keith Koster for his run for Department of NY Commander.

The conference concluded Sunday morning with a general session and everyone safely headed back home.

Submitted by: Staci Sukhenko



### **ELECTION INSPECTORS NEEDED**

The Monroe County Board of Elections is hiring registered voters to work as Election Inspectors at designated sites around Monroe County. There are three election days this year!

Presidential Primary Election Day - Tues, April 2nd Local Primary Election Day - Tues, June 25th General Election Day - Tues, November 5th

Election Inspectors will make over \$270 each
Election Day and \$25 for one yearly training,
available in-person or online. They are working
on training as many inspectors as they can to
ensure our elections are fair and balanced. Here
is how you and your family members aged 17
and older can help:

If you sign up to be an Election Inspector (Poll Worker) on our

website: <a href="https://www.monroecounty.gov/elections">https://www.monroecounty.gov/elections</a>
<a href="mailto:-inspectors">-inspectors</a>, we will contact you to find a polling place needing help for Election Day.

#### Work duties will include:

- · Checking residents into their polling site
- Ensuring residents have the correct ballot
- Ensuring residents cast their ballots successfully
- Making sure all processes occur in a fair and safe manner

#### **Poll Worker Requirements:**

- Must be registered to vote in Monroe County
- · Attend one brief, paid training online
- Poll Workers cannot be a candidate or the parent, spouse, or child of a candidate on the ballot within their respective districts
- Have a working phone and email address and be available for communication with the Training Team

If you have any questions, contact Luke Rydelek by email

at <u>LukeRydelek@monroecounty.gov</u> or by phone at **(585) 753-1523**.



### DEPARTMENT OF NY MONROE COUNTY DINNER

U.S. Army veteran Timothy J. Collmer of Nunda, N.Y., is the 2023-2024 State Commander of the American Legion. His election as Department of New York commander capped the 105th Annual Department Convention, held in Tarrytown, N.Y., July 20-22, 2023.

During his one-year term, Collmer visits counties across the state to share the American Legion message of veteran advocacy and community involvement. On January 28<sup>th</sup>, he visited Monroe County. The celebration took place at American Legion - Ely Fagan Post 1151 located in Henrietta.

Department Commander Tim Collmer has designated the below charities as his special projects for 2023-2024 They are: Department of New York Temporary Financial Assistance Program, Operation Comfort Warrior, and **Be The One**.









Pictured Left to Right: Phil Rosini presenting a Boy Scout Award to Craig Kaplan, Tim Collmer presented Staci Sukhenko and Chris Jolley with an autographed headshot and license plate, Commander Jeff Jolley presented a check to Tim Collmer for the Be The One Campaign. Post 942 Delegates and Significant Others attend the dinner.

## **BOYS SCOUT KLONDIKE 2024**

The 2024 Boy Scout Klondike (a winter event competition) is in the history books. It was held in Williamson town park on January 28th. Over 115 scouts and leaders attended.

The Post again supported this event with a \$300 donation that was distributed among the top three patrols. The awards were given out as gift cards for the scout store. 1st place was a \$100 gift card, 2nd was a \$75 gift card and 3rd was a \$50 gift card. I found it refreshing to see young people enjoying the outdoors with no phones or tablets in sight. Covered in mud and having the time of their lives.

The remaining \$75 gift card was given to the best patrol in the flag folding and flag retirement event that I ran. I was overwhelmed by the scout's respect and understanding of our flag. I asked each scout what the flag meant to them and was pleasantly surprised to hear caring and patriotic answers. I also asked if they knew anything about the legion. Their responses were courteous, but virtually no one knew anything about us. Something that did not surprise me and needs to be addressed by all legionnaires.

The 1st place patrol was from Troop 312 from Penfield, 2nd place was Troop 125 from Wayne County





Picture of the 1st place patrol.

The plaque they are holding was donated by the post last year.

and the 3rd place was from Troop 2020 from Penfield. The flag retirement award was given to Troop 425 from Webster. Their flag retirement ceremony was done with honor and respect for our flag and made my day.

Submitted By: Phil Rosini

### COMMANDER'S CORNER Continued from Page 1

I would also like to remind everyone that I have an Open Door Policy. An Open Door Policy signifies more than just physical accessibility; it embodies a culture of inclusivity, transparency, and respect for diverse viewpoints. I want to create an environment where volunteers feel empowered to express their ideas and concerns, knowing that their voices are valued and their contributions appreciated.

Please consider running for one of our Officer Positions this year, through collective action and solidarity we can build a brighter and inclusive future for our Post.

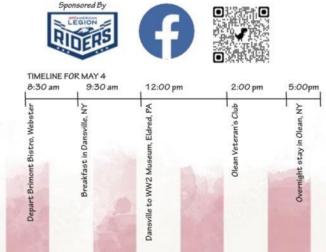
### For God and Country Jeff Jolley, Commander



Raleigh's ride was created in memory of our beloved Schnoodle, Raleigh. This sponsor-supported motorcycle ride benefits

The K9s For Warriors, an organization determined to end veteran suicide by providing highly-trained Service Dogs to military veterans suffering from PTSD, traumatic brain injury and/or military sexual trauma. With the majority of dogs coming from high-kill rescue shelters, this innovative program allows the K9/Warrior team to build an unwavering bond that facilitates their collective healing and recovery. The Eldred WWII Museum is dedicated to preserving and interpreting the history of World War II and to shaping a stronger future for the United States by helping present and future generations understand the lessons of the 20th century.

For more information, including how to register, donate, and/or receive a complimentary, commemorative t-shirt, find us on Facebook or check out our webpage on the Brimont Bistro website or use the QR code below.







All contributions are 100% Charitable Donation

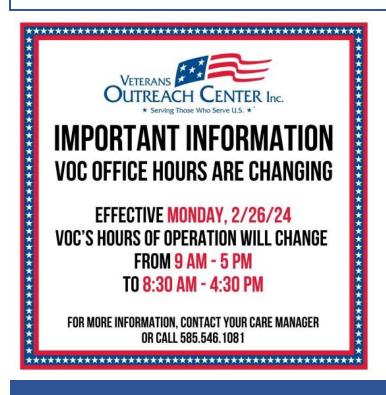
### 2024 Post Officer Elections

It's that time of the year again and the Legion Post 942 Elections are coming up in April. We are looking for Legionnaires who are interested in serving on the Post's Executive Board or appointed positions. It is important to attend the next few meetings and volunteer for positions, as well as vote. Voting will be held during April's meeting, Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup>.

- All candidates running for an officer position on the Executive Board must be confirmed by the Election Committee that they hold a valid Post 942 membership and are eligible to serve.
- The Election Committee is the sole authority for reviewing election and campaign materials for suitability and acceptability. The Executive Board shall have no role in this review process.

If you are interested in running for a position and to be a part of what makes Post 942 great, please contact **Gordon Clarke**, our Elections Committee Chair, at **585.978.0429** or reach out to Chris Jolliff, Phil Rosini or Tony Terra.

Be Involved.





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# Cottreall-Warner American Legion Auxiliary Unit 942 - Webster, NY





# MILITARY CARE PACKAGE DRIVE

Help Us Send A Little Bit of Home to Our Deployed Military

#### PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Baby wipes
- Lip balm/Chapstick
- Sunscreen
- Bars of Soap
- Deodorant / Antiperspirant
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- · Foot powder (medicated Gold Bond)
- Hand sanitizers/moisturizers (travel size)
- Socks (black) (cotton)
- Female hygiene products
- Cards/letters

\*\* PLEASE - NO ALCOHOL \*\*

### SNACKS/TREATS

- Beef Jerky
- Powdered drink mix (individual packets)
- · Protein powder & protein bars
- Granola bars/cereal bars/power bars
- Gum/breath mints
- Hard pretzels/Cheetos/ChexMix/Wheat Thins
- Hard candy
- Cookies (Girl Scout cookies/Oreos)
- . Trail mix, dried fruit, granola, fruit roll ups
- Nuts (peanuts, mixed nuts)
- Playing cards, Frisbees/Hacky sacks

We also accept tax-deductible monetary donations to offset the cost of shipping overseas.

Checks can be made payable to:

Cottreall-Warner American Legion Auxiliary Unit 942 and mailed to the address below.

# Drop off all the donated care package items at the Legion!



Cottreall-Warner American Legion Post 942 - ALA 818 Ridge Road Webster, New York 14580



2024 Blue Star Mothers NYS



#### Honoring Military Families!







Who: Active Duty, Veterans and Military Spouses of Active Duty & Veterans who are expecting or have children up to 6

months old.

When: May 5, 2024 between 11:00am - 1:00pm.

What: Beautiful gifts for you and your baby including baby

clothing, handmade outfits, diapers, baby supplies, and

much m ore.

FREE for the first 20 women to register!!!

Where: American Legion Cottreall-Warner Post # 942

818 Ridge Rd Webster, NY 14580

To register / additional information contact: Baby Shower Committee Co-Chairs: Amy VanDerwerken and Jill Harris email: 1VP.NY8@BlueStarMothers.US



# Celebrating the Month of the Military Child Let's Go Bowling

### Saturday April 20, 2024 12pm-2:30pm

FREE Bowling for Children & Adults
Pre-Registered Military & Veteran Families
Pizza, Soft Drinks, Cake Provided

Bowl-A-Roll 1560 Jefferson Rd, Rochester NY 14623 <u>Space is Limited to 80 Bowlers</u>

Need to Pre-Register Max of 4 Bowlers per Family
Pre-Register with any of the groups listed below

The VA: 585-364-9210 Vet Center: 585-393-7608 CompeerCORPS: 585-546-8280 x 207

National Guard Family Prg: 585-783-5310 Veterans Outreach Center: 585-295-7821



aregiver

Support







Connection.

Camaraderie.

Community.