



Nordonia Hills American Legion Post 801
Commander Dave Pristash
American Legion Post 801 Auxiliary
President Judy Quesenberry
January 2010
Website: <http://www.alpost801.com>



FROM YOUR POST COMMANDER



It's the start of a new year and a new decade and we all hope that 2010 will see us moving out of the economic problems that have dogged us for the past two years. This deepening recession and the continuing military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan make our Post efforts at helping the community and

the past and new veterans doubly important. We can never do too much.

We, in Post 801 and the Ladies Auxiliary, have continued to participate in working with the Brecksville VA the North Cost Behavioral Center and the Nordonia Hills School system as well as many other local projects to help those in need and promote Americanism. We must keep up these good works and expand them where ever possible. People look for leadership when times are bad and we all should do whatever we can even if it only to give words of encouragement.

We have our major fund raising event the "Reverse raffle" coming up on March 7th at a new location this year the Streetsboro American Legion Post. We are presently selling tickets for this event and also we are still looking for donations for the door prizes. These activities are all being coordinated by Judy Quesenberry, the Auxiliary President. We need to make a strong effort at this "Reverse raffle" as it is our most important funding event of the year.

The Post 801 meetings for the balance of the first half of 2010 are February 10th, March 10th, April 14th, May 12th and June 9th. We meet at the VFW Post 6768 at 8584 Old 8 Rd. at 1930 hours in their

meeting room. It has been brought to my attention that the February meeting may need to be held someplace else as the VFW will be remodeling that room and it may not be finished by February 10th. We will notify the members in advance of any changes as we monitor the situation.

Since our last newsletter we have had some bad news with members and their families. Our past Commander Tim Garth's wife Kathy lost her battle with cancer; Bill Mang our Second Vice Commander, is undergoing treatment for cancer and Sonny Alquero's farther passed on. Our hearts go out to them and their families for their losses.

We may be recommending some changes to the Post's "By- Laws" this spring to cover minor procedural issues and technicalities. Carl Quesenberry is reviewing the By-Laws and will make recommendations to the executive committee when he is done. Those changes will require a vote by the membership and we will make an announcement at the appropriate time to the membership so they may make an effort to attend that meeting.

The Ohio American legion will hold its Annual Convention June 25-27 in Toledo and the National American Legion will hold its Convention from August 27 to September 2 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

In closing let's remember our obligations as stated in the preamble of the constitution of the American Legion as a reminder of our duties. "For God and Country, We associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend The Constitution of the United States of America; To maintain law and order; To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the

Great Wars; To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; To make right the master of might; To promote peace and good will on earth; To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy; To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."

POST MEETING DATES

We meet at the Northfield VFW, 8584 Olde Eight Rd., Northfield Center on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:30 pm, September through June.

SICK CALL

2nd Vice Commander Bill Mang is continuing treatment for cancer. He is currently receiving treatment in Houston, TX. Larry Exl continues to recover from a stroke. Tom O'Brien is recovering from a broken ankle. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your loved ones. Please send them a card.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The 801 Auxiliary Breakfast Raffle is Sunday, March 7, 2010 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at American Legion Post 685, 10001 Aurora-Hudson Rd., Streetsboro, OH. Tickets are \$20 each. If you want to buy or sell tickets, contact Judy at 330.468.5256.

BUCKEYE BOYS STATE

Is at Bowling Green State University, June 12-20, 2010. We are working with Nordonia High School for applicants. If you have a son or grandson who is a current 11th grader at Nordonia, encourage them to apply. Mr. King is the point of contact at the school.

BUCKEYE GIRLS STATE

Is at Ashland University, June 13-19, 2010. Mr. King at Nordonia High School is coordinating Girls State also so encourage your current juniors (11th grade) to apply.

RECENT EVENTS

The Post and Auxiliary enjoyed a terrific "Night at the Races" at Northfield Park on August 21, 2009. All had fun, some won money. Below, the ladies gather with the winning horse and driver for our sponsored race.



The Post and Auxiliary had another great Christmas dinner at Mariachi Coco's in Northfield. 28 people attended and had lots of fun.

The Auxiliary, supported by the Post, stuffed bags for Veterans at Brecksville VA Hospital on December 12th. Thanks to all who participated.

We donated 150 pair of socks to Northcoat Behavioral patients. We also donated 16 bibs to the United Disability Services home on Valley View.

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Julius J. Szabo

FROM YOUR UNIT PRESIDENT



Auxiliary member Kathy Garth passed away Oct 17th. She was Chairman of the Buckeye Girls/Boys State programs as well as the Americanism Testing Program at Nordonia High School.

Because of her love of books as well as encouraging

students to go on to higher education in her 12 years as an English teacher, the Auxiliary has set up a Memorial Book Fund in her name.

The Auxiliary will provide one (1) \$300 book fund grant to a child or grandchild of Post 801 and Auxiliary members. If no one in our organization applies, it will then be offered to a student at Nordon High School.



Auxiliary member Barb Stalnaker has accepted chairmanship of this program. If you would like to apply for this Book Fund Grant please contact Barb and she will send out the application and subject for the essay to the applicant. The grant will be given out in August. The criteria for qualifying are being set up now.

Please have the student contact Barb for an application.

We are asking our membership to personally contribute to this fund which would allow us to offer more than one grant to students per year. **Please make out your checks to “ALA Unit 801 Memorial Book Fund”** and send them to Barb. Your support of this program will be greatly appreciated . Money is tight for many students trying to further their education.

Barb Stalnaker
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Macedonia, OH 44056
e-mail: Barbara.stalnaker@adxt.com
phone: 330-908-1843

VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

[Summit County Veterans Services](http://www.summitohvets.us/About/tabid/53/ctl/Private/Default.aspx)
<http://www.summitohvets.us/About/tabid/53/ctl/Private/Default.aspx>

There are many distinct services that our commission provides for Summit and Cuyahoga County residents:

Financial Assistance to eligible veterans and family members who have a demonstrated need and meets agency requirements.

Mobile Meals to homebound Veterans

Medical assistance that includes dental, eyeglasses, prescriptions and hearing aids.

School Clothes during specific time frames in fall and winter

Assistance when dealing with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The Veterans Service Commission represents and assists veterans, family members and survivors when they apply to the Veterans Affairs (VA) for benefit, with special emphasis on Veteran Compensation Claims and survivor benefits.

Transportation from our agency to VA medical facilities at Wade Park and Brecksville.

Counseling services through Vet Center of Cleveland.

Outreach to help homebound and nursing home residents receive benefits.

Provide flags and markers for veteran gravesites on Memorial Day.

Educating our community on veteran issues through Outreach.

Instilling American pride in our youth through our adopt-a-flag program

Veterans Service Commission phone numbers :

- Summit Co. - 330.643.2830
- Cuyahoga Co. - 216.698.2600

The Ohio American Legion has a number of competent Department Service Officers prepared to assist veterans and their dependents. Department Service Officers (DSOs) are a vital component in the service network that includes County Veteran Service Officers (CVSOs).

Cleveland VA Regional Office
Anthony J. Celebreeze Federal Building
1240 E. Ninth Street, Room 1005
Cleveland, OH 44199
(216)522-3504

Wade Park VA Medical Center
10701 East Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44106
(216)791-3800 ext. 4155



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