

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS
AMERICAN LEGION

ALEXANDER BRADLEY BURNS POST 80

www.post80.org



For God and Country

LEGION - AIRE

MAY 2024



Commander's Column

May will be a busy month at the Post. On May 18th, we will hold the new member initiation dinner in conjunction with the Past Commander's ceremony. We have 22 new members. The post has achieved a 100% membership rate according to the district. This is the result of many hours of work by Bill Dawson, Bruce Peiffer, and the members of the membership committee. We are one of the few Posts in the state to do this. I would encourage all new members to attend this ceremony. Most of the Past Commanders will also be there. It will be a great opportunity to meet many of the people involved in the current operation of the Post. The past commanders are the people who have made this Post the Thriving organization it is today and they deserve our gratitude. Their efforts have certainly made my job much easier and I thank them.

May 27th is Memorial Day. Please try to attend the ceremonies at the Post and Fischel Park to remember those who gave the last full measure so that we can enjoy the freedoms we have today.

As the weather warms and the grounds come alive, it is a good time to reflect on the promise of Spring. Although the news is filled with stories that make you feel the world is descending into chaos, the emergence of abundant life after a seemingly endless winter shows us that this too shall pass. We live in the greatest country in the world and should be proud of what we collectively have done. We are not perfect and should not try to delude ourselves that we are, but we should never cease our efforts to make this country fulfill its promise.

See you at the Post.

Howard

Alexander Bradley Burns Post 80 The American Legion Memorial Day Monday May 27, 2024

Events of the Day

- 1. Breakfast at the Post**
6:30 A.M. – 7:45 A.M.
- 2. Memorial Service & Post Everlasting**
8:00 A.M. in front of Post
- 3. Honor Guard Salutes Fallen Veterans**
8:30 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. at
Area Cemeteries (see below)
- 4. Memorial Day Parade**
Main Street - Downers Grove.
Railroad to Fishel Park.
Parade step off at 10:45 A.M.
- 5. Memorial Day Ceremony**
11:00 A.M. Veterans' Memorial Park
- 6. Light Lunch at Post**
1:00 P.M. for Participants

The following is the schedule of the area cemeteries to be visited:

- 8:30 A.M. St. Bernard's Cemetery (Hobson Road)
- 8:45 A.M. West Side Cemetery (Oak Hill)
- 8:55 A.M. Blodgett Cemetery (Oak Crest)
- 9:15 A.M. Memorial Park (Maple Ave.)
- 9:30 A.M. Main Street Cemetery (Downtown)
- 9:45 A.M. Pierce Downer Cemetery (Linscott Ave.)



PHONE: (630) 968-9710
WEB: WWW.POST80.ORG ABBPOST80@GMAIL.COM
TWITTER: AMLEGIONPOST80

- COMMANDER.....HOWARD PARKER
- SR. VICE ED LUDWIG
- JR. VICE.....JASON WALES
- FINANCE OFFICERRICK McLAREN
- SGT-AT-ARMS..... WILLIAM DAWSON
- HISTORIAN..... NICOLE DEDICK
- CHAPLAIN BOB HAHN
- JUDGE ADVOCATE..... TODD HANSON
- ADJUTANTBRUCE PEIFFER
- SERVICE OFFICER.....RICH JONES
- WEBMASTER..... ED/JON LUDWIG



- PRESIDENT.....BONNIE WISBROCK
- VICE PRESIDENT.....JULIE ISENBERGER
- SECRETARYJEAN KRUPIN
- TREASURER..... CHRISTINE GRAVES
- CHAPLAINJOEY KLINGBIEL
- HISTORIAN..... KIM CRUZ
- SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.....JOYCE WILK



A NEW EAGLE SCOUT FOR TROOP 80!

Youth Programs are one of the important pillars of the American Legion. Post 80 has been sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 80 continuously since 1936. The Troop has produced 142 Eagle Scouts to date.



Darren Burrows receiving this plaque in recognition of receiving his Eagle Scout rank from the Boy Scouts of America.

Darren is our 142nd Eagle from Troop 80 that has been sponsored by the Post since 1936.





Auxiliary News - MAY 2024

“Serving Veterans, the Real Super Heroes”



Our April meeting was called to order at 6:40. Sadly only four of us were present: Christine, Jean, Julie and myself.

Treasurer gave her report.

Jean gave an excellent report on the Patriotic Conference she had attended in Springfield on Friday March 22nd.

After opening ceremonies, the first speaker for the day was Brigadier General Martin Green of the Air National Guard and Assistant Deputy Judge Advocate General, USAF. He spoke on the Air Mobility Command which is responsible for evacuations of military personnel and civilians from International conflict zones and air drops of supplies, food and soldiers. The Department of Defense has 3000+ airmen in the National Guard. They have units in Illinois that are responsible for repairing the large fighter jets.

The second speaker was Annastacia Wiscshki with her companion dog, Axel Nose. She is a Children and Youth advocate and founder of All4Hope, Inc. She spoke about Veteran related suicides, which are now approximately 123 a day. The highest rate of suicide is with the 10 - 34 year olds and the #2 cause of death in this age group. The group represents Gulf War and their children. In Illinois the 10 - 54 year old children of Vietnam vets have the highest rates of suicide.

In Illinois there are 500,000+ vets and 300,000 are at risk of suicide. 40% of the vets complete their suicides and 75% of their children will kill themselves without any intervention. PTSD, loneliness and amputations are the main reasons, by gun or hanging. Youth who use 3 of more substances, alcohol, tobacco or marijuana and 3x more likely to kill themselves.

Margo Watson, Senior Program Manager/Women Veteran Coordinator, Illinois Dept of Veterans Affairs spoke on how the government spending \$2 million with goals of prevent and reduce, increase knowledge and evidence based practices.

Final speakers Mathew Raymond and Trish Billings spoke on the basics of C.E.R.T. Volunteer teams of local neighborhoods and assist First Responders as needed.

This was very informative information. Thank You Jean.

The 11th District meeting has been changed to Post 342 St. Charles. We are meeting at the legion around 11:20. It is still Saturday May 4th.

National Poppy day is officially May 24th. A sign up sheet will be in the lounge shortly.

A reminder to the finance committee, we need our report.

Julie and myself will be composing a letter to Dept. for membership concerning dropping those who have not paid dues.

Nominees for next year:

President	Bonita Wisbrock
Vice-President	Julie Wiesenberger
Treasurer	Christine Graves
Historian	Arlene Guest
Sgt at Arms	Joyce Walk

We need you at our May meeting to Vote.

We have had no calls for Poppy girl. Madeline Krajniak has offered to be our Poppy girl again. Thank you Madeline.

Our next bowling date 9:30a.m., Suburbanite Bowl in Westmont.

Wednesday May 1st and Wednesday May 15th.

Bonita Wisbrock
President Unit 80
630-303-2691



MAY 2024

NOMINATIONS FOR 2024/2025

The Nominating Committee has developed the following slate of candidates for offices of Alexander Bradley Burns Post 80 in Downers Grove, Illinois, which will be placed on file with the Post Adjutant:

Commander	Howard Parker
Sr. Vice Commander	Ed Ludwig
Jr. Vice Commander	Jason Wales
Finance Officer	Rick McLaren
Sgt. At Arms	Bill Dawson
Historian	Nicole Dedick
Chaplain	Bob Hahn
Judge Advocate	Todd Hanson
Adjutant	Bruce Peiffer (Appointed by the Commander)
Service Officer	Rich Jones (Appointed by the Commander)
Board of Directors – 1 yr.	Ed Ludwig (previously elected 2023/2024)
Board of Directors – 1 yr.	Frank Mangone (previously elected 2023/2024)
Board of Directors – 2 yrs.	John Cruz (previously elected 2021/2022)
Board of Directors – 2 yrs.	John Pavich (previously elected 2021/2022)
Board of Directors – 3yrs.	Sergio Delgado (previously elected 2023/2024)
Board of Directors – 3 yrs.	Dick Rooney (previously elected 2022/2023)
Honorary Post Position	
Jr. Past Commander	Rich Jones

In accordance with Post 80's Constitution, By-Laws & Standing Rules, the above positions will constitute Post 80's Board of Directors. Nominations may be made from the floor of the June Business Meeting. Nominees must submit written acceptance and proof of eligibility to the Post Adjutant five (5) days prior to the June Business Meeting.

FIREFLY MARKET
Saturday, May 11
 10:00 am-4:00 pm
DUPAGE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
 2015 MANCHESTER RD | WHEATON, IL 60187

Buy Tickets at
FIREFLYCANDLEMARKET.COM

Looking for something fun to do?

Enjoy shopping from 100+ handcrafted vendors! Music will be flowing through the heated indoor Firefly Market as shoppers look for Mother's Day gifts, one-of-a-kind gifts, handmade jewelry, home decor, handcrafted pottery, soy candles, garden items, farmhouse finds, delicious food, warm and cold drinks, beautiful body care, bath bombs, pillows, leather goods, wooden artisan goods, mobile boutiques and so much more!

Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$6. Kids 12 and under are free. Purchase tickets at fireflycandlemarket.com



Special Military Observances in May

May 1, 2024

Silver Star Banner Day

Per Congressional resolution, it is an "Official Day to honor wounded, ill, and injured Veterans".

May 10, 2024

Military Spouse Appreciation Day

This date recognizes the service and sacrifices of military spouses.

May 13, 2024

Children of Fallen Patriots Day

A day to honor the children left behind by the brave men and women who gave their lives while defending our freedom.

May 18, 2024

Armed Forces Day

Observed on the third Saturday every May, this is a day dedicated to paying tribute to men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

May 27, 2024

Memorial Day

A solemn occasion to honor the men and women who died while serving in the military.



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Contact John
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for details.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING INTERESTING TO SHARE?

Articles and photos for the
newsletter must be submitted
no later than the **17th** of the
month.

Please contact Bruce Peiffer:
agnlbp@gmail.com.

AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



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Visit our website at www.vfw503.org

Monthly Events:

- Canteen open Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays at 3:00 PM
- Members meeting, 3rd Thursday at 7:00 PM
- Auxiliary meeting, 2nd Wednesday at 6:30 PM
- Taco Tuesday, 2nd Tuesday of the month at 3:00 PM
- Hall Rental (Maximum Seating 100 people) see website
- Upcoming events (Calendar) see website

Please stop by to visit, all veterans welcome

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MAY 2024

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We salute our veterans. Thank you.



Jennifer Wilken, AAMS®
Financial Advisor

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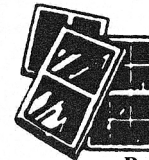


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PAST COMMANDERS DINNER

*Saturday,
May 18th*

...is the Past Commanders Dinner which is open to one and all Legion, Auxiliary, and other family members. It is the one chance to pay honor to the past commanders who are alive and those whose voices have been stilled.

The Social Hour.....5PM – 6PM

Dinner.....6PM

Program will follow dinner

We are asking \$8/per person for the dinner. Past Commanders and their spouses are free.

Please come and join us, by returning the lower part of this notice so that we can minimize waste and off set the cost of food.

Yes, I am coming to Past Commanders Dinner

Name _____ How many in your party? _____

Mail back to:

American Legion Post 80
Attn: Rich Jones
4000 Saratoga Ave,
Downers Grove, IL 60515

COME CELEBRATE

ARMED FORCES WEEK

MILITARY APPRECIATION DAYS
FREE SANDWICH for all active duty service members and veterans.
Thanks For Your Service.

ARMY.....MON, 5/13
MARINE CORPS.....TUE, 5/14
NAVY.....WED, 5/15
AIR FORCE & SPACE FORCE.....THU, 5/16
COAST GUARD.....FRI, 5/17

AN INVITATION FOR ALL ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY & VETERANS

LUNCH WITH THE HEROES.....SAT, 5/18
11:00AM - 2:00PM
Join us for a FREE SANDWICH and be sure to arrive before Noon for our live National Anthem.

MISSION BBQ
The American Way

Celebrate Armed Forces Week with a visit to the National Veterans Art Museum

Located in the Portage Park neighborhood of Chicago

4041 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago IL 60641

Hours of Operation

T-Sa: 10am-5pm



The National Veterans Art Museum inspires greater understanding of the real impact of war with a focus on Vietnam. The museum collects, preserves and exhibits art inspired by combat and created by veterans.

CONTACT

www.nvam.org

(312) 326-0270



~ INTERESTING THINGS TO DO IN MAY ~

Don't miss it! **FLOWER & PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER** **Brighten up your Home!**
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-- 9:00am to 4:00pm --

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Admission \$3.00 • Dealer Tables \$50.00
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~ July 21 ~ Sep. 15 ~ Nov. 17 ~

For Information Call • 630-898-1533 Evenings

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Friday, May 17 | 10:00 am-7:00pm

Saturday, May 18 | 9am-2pm

159 species – 15 new or returning in 2024! 30% more inventory than previous sales! On-site plant experts answer questions and make planting recommendations

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VETERAN INFO PAGE

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Steve Fixler, Superintendent

Alberto Ranjley-Ninegia, Asst. Superintendent

Brittany Micher, Case Manager/Service Officer

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1-4 p.m. Monday - Friday

email: dupagevac@dupageco.org



Cook County Department of Veterans Affairs

Bureau of Administration Cook County

Government

Audrey Mollo, Administrative Assistant I

Telephone: **312-603-2221** Fax: 312-603-4479

email: Audrey.Mollo@CookCountyIL.gov

Veterans.Affairs@CookCountyIL.gov

Website: www.cookcountyil.gov/agency/veterans-affairs

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1-877-4AID VET

(1-877-424-3838)

LEGAL HOTLINE FOR ILLINOIS VETS

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for more info go to iejf.org

For anyone having difficulties with the VA, there is a White House HOTLINE that is staffed 24/7: 855.948.2311

DISCOUNTS

FOR VETERANS and/or ACTIVE MILITARY

VISIT <https://veteran.com/military-discounts/>

to find information on discounts for:

AT&T, Home Depot, Lowes, Yeti products,

Apple, Microsoft, HP, AMC Theaters

and many other retailers.

Veterans and military members can also utilize the Veteran Tickets Foundation <https://www.vettix.org/visitor/home> to find free and discounted tickets to events in their area.

VeTix is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that partners with sports teams and promoters to give tickets to those currently serving and veterans of all branches of the U.S. military.

ADDITIONAL ONLINE RESOURCES:

va.org • legion.org

suicidepreventionlifeline.org

For a list of benefits Exclusively for ILLINOIS VETERANS, go to

<https://www.legion.org/veteransbenefits/illinois>

DD 214 REQUESTS

If you are in need of your DD 214 go to the following website:

www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records

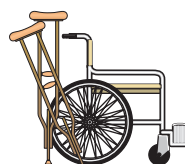
Then go to Start your Military Service Record (DD Form 214) Request and follow the prompts and fill in the required information. It also has you print a signature sheet that you have to mail to them. When they receive the signature paper, they will send you an email confirming that they received it. Then in about 10 days, you'll receive 2 certified copies of your DD 214 and copies of your discharge orders.

It's really easy and it only costs you the price of a postage stamp and an envelope.

Your Service Officer.

WHEELCHAIRS, WALKERS & CRUTCHES

Post 80 lends out wheel chairs, walkers and crutches to anyone that may need them. For more information, call Rich Jones at 630-964-2434.



Anyone who has borrowed a wheelchair, walker, or crutches and no longer needs them, please return them to Post 80 so they may be available for other veterans.

AMERICAN LEGION
ALEXANDER BRADLEY BURNS POST 80
4000 SARATOGA AVENUE
DOWNERS GROVE IL 60515



CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please Change My Address

Are you moving?
We hate to have you miss the next
LEGION-AIRE Newsletter!

Mail this form to:
Alexander Bradley Burns Post 80
Attn: Adjutant
4000 Saratoga Ave.
Downers Grove, IL 60515

NAME _____

NEW Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Effective Date: _____

New Phone Number: _____



JOIN US FOR BINGO!

MAY 7, 2024

KITCHEN: KIM CRUZ
BONNIE WISBROCK
JUDY MAITLAND

TICKETS: CHRIS GRAVES
COMPUTER: TOM LYNCH

MAY 14, 2024

KITCHEN: JEAN KRUPIN
BONNIE WISBROCK
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

TICKETS: BILL COZZI
COMPUTER: TOM LYNCH

MAY 21, 2024

KITCHEN: TODD HANSON
KIM CRUZ
JUDY MAITLAND

TICKETS: BONNIE WISBROCK
COMPUTER: HARRY MCCABE

MAY 28, 2024

KITCHEN: JEAN KRUPIN
BONNIE WISBROCK
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

TICKETS: JASON COCHRAN
COMPUTER: MARY ANN PRONEY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Business Meeting 7:30 pm SILVER STAR BANNER DAY	2 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	3	4 Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 am Coffee, Donuts & Conversation 8:30 am
5	6 Auxiliary Meeting 6:30 pm	7 BINGO 6:45 pm Doors & Bar Open 4:00 pm	8 VE DAY	9	10 MILITARY SPOUSE APPRECIATION DAY	11 Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 am Coffee, Donuts & Conversation 8:30 am
12	13 ARMED FORCES WEEK	14 BINGO 6:45 pm Doors & Bar Open 4:00 pm	15	16	17	18 Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 am CDC 8:30 am PAST COMMANDERS DINNER 5PM
19	20	21 BINGO 6:45 pm Doors & Bar Open 4:00 pm	22 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm	23	24 NATIONAL POPPY DAY	25 Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 am Coffee, Donuts & Conversation 8:30 am
26	27 Memorial Day	28 BINGO 6:45 pm Doors & Bar Open 4:00 pm	29	30	31	MAY IS NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH



NOTE: This calendar can change without notice
SEE www.post80.org/calendar
FOR MORE DETAILS

ELIGIBILITY DATES
WORLD WAR I - APRIL 6, 1917 - NOVEMBER 11, 1918
WORLD WAR II - DECEMBER 7, 1941 to present for any veteran with an Honorable Discharge.