



POSTINGS

Newsletter of American Legion Young-Budd Post 171, Westerville, Ohio

January 2018

Commander's Notes:

As I look back on the rapidly ending 2018, I am amazed at the activities Post 171 has undertaken during the year. My sincere thanks go out to all of you who made these activities happen, it took a lot of planning, organizing and hard work; and at the risk of not including all our accomplishments, I will list a few of them:

- Quarterly dinners for Livingston Commons residents
- Monthly breakfasts for Veterans and First Responders
- Organizing the Memorial Day Wreath Laying and program at Otterbein Cemetery
- Marching in the July 4th Parade
- Providing the Honors Detail for the Westerville 9/11 Program
- Providing Honors for 36 Veterans' Funerals
- Organizing and conducting the Americanism and Government Testing Program
- Selecting and funding Buckeye Boy State and Buckeye Girl State participants
- Supported Honor Flight and Wreaths Across America
- Collecting funds at Uptown Westerville 4th Fridays to support veterans programs
- Conducted Veterans' Day visits to Westerville schools
- Honored Westerville Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year
- Began sponsorship of a Venture Scout program

On the sadder side, a number of our members moved on to the Post Everlasting. Of special note were Past Commanders Harry Miller and Paul Schuller. All will be missed.

The coming year sets up to be an exciting one for Young-Budd Post 171 as we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of our charter, granted October 4, 1919. January 2nd will be the inaugural meeting of this anniversary year and we will be honoring the Americanism and Government Testing winners for 2018. Wednesday January 16th will be the Veterans breakfast with Ann Williams of the Auxiliary conducting a special presentation. February will be an exciting, and busy, month as in addition to our meeting on Wednesday February 6th and the Veterans Breakfast on the 20th; Boys State interviews will be held on the 25th and Girls State on the 26th. Bev Etling will be looking for Post members to sit on the interview panel and if you want to reaffirm your faith in the youth of this great nation, at least come and observe the interviews if not actively participate.

Always remember --- this is **YOUR** post and its success depends on the participation of the membership. Offer suggestions on activities for the coming year, volunteer to participate in one or more of the ongoing programs but at the very least come to the meetings and enjoy the camaraderie. See you at the post!

—John R. McElhaney, Commander

News You Can Use:

Shingles Vaccination Update

By Ronald Wolf, Writer-Editor, Office of the Surgeon General/Medical Command

In the last issue, we included a reminder for Soldiers for Life to ask about vaccines for shingles. The vaccine is recommended for everyone over 60 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), but approved by the Food and Drug Administration for those over 50.

A newer vaccine, Shingrix, is now available and is considered to be more effective and longer lasting. The CDC recommends Shingrix for shingles and related complications. Usually, two doses of Shingrix are needed with injections 2 to 6 months apart for adults aged 50 years or older.

You should consider being vaccinated with Shingrix even if you have already been vaccinated with the current vaccine Zostavax. Studies have shown that the effectiveness of Zostavax wanes over time. If you have previously had a Zostavax vaccine injection, discuss with your physician whether you should and how soon you can receive a Shingrix vaccination. You should wait at least 8 weeks after a patient received Zostavax to administer Shingrix.

One thing: check at your health care facility about availability of Shingrix. Demand is high, and some temporary shortages have been reported.

To recap, shingles is a painful rash that usually develops on one side of the body, often the face or torso. It is caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox. After a person recovers from chickenpox, the virus becomes dormant in the body and can stay dormant for decades.

During a shingles outbreak, a rash consisting of blisters forms; it usually fades away in 2 to 4 weeks. The problem with shingles is the nerve pain that may last for months after the rash goes away.

The pain can be deep and intense, and most over-the-counter pain killers have little effect. Over time the nerve pain will diminish, but that process can be slow and especially frustrating.

Most people who develop shingles have only one outbreak during their lifetime, but you can have shingles more than once.

Vaccinations are an important tool in maintaining health and readiness for all ages. The vaccine for shingles is an important vaccine. Even if you've already been vaccinated, ask your physician what he or she recommends.

Soldiers for Life: Retiree-At-Cost Hearing Aid Program

By Ronald Wolf, Writer-Editor, Office of the Surgeon General/Medical Command

Many factors may cause hearing loss during your lifetime. Military service is one of those factors. Weapons, explosions, and artillery are loud and have the long-term capability to affect your hearing, but so are jet engines, heavy military vehicles, and many types of equipment. Few who served are immune from the potential for hearing loss. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Veterans are 30 percent more likely to have significant hearing impairment than non-veterans, and veterans who served from September 2001 to March 2010, during Operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom, were four times more likely than non-veterans to have significant hearing impairment. Where can you get help? The Retiree-At-Cost Hearing Aid Program (RACHAP) may be able to assist. RACHAP is a program that allows hearing aids to be purchased at cost at many military medical treatment facilities. All MTFs do not support this program; here is a list of the MTFs that do by state and by country:

CONUS

Alaska—Fort Wainwright
California—Travis Air Force Base
Connecticut—Naval Hospital Groton
Florida (2 locations)—Eglin Air Force Base; or Naval Hospital Jacksonville
Hawaii (2 locations)—Fort Shafter; or Schofield Barracks
Kansas—Fort Riley
Kentucky—Fort Campbell
Louisiana—Fort Polk
Maryland (2 locations)—Walter Reed National Military Medical Center; or Andrews Air Force Base
Missouri—Fort Leonard Wood
Nevada—Nellis Air Force Base
New Hampshire—Naval Health Clinic Portsmouth
Ohio—Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Oklahoma—Fort Sill
Rhode Island—Naval Health Clinic Newport
South Carolina (2 locations)—Naval Hospital Beaufort/ Parris Island; or Fort Jackson
Texas (2 locations)—Fort Bliss; or Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland
Washington (2 locations)—Naval Hospital Bremerton; or Joint Base Lewis-McChord

OCONUS

Germany—Bavaria Medical Activity
Guam—Naval Hospital Guam
Italy (3 locations)—Aviano Air Base; Naval Hospital Naples; or Naval Hospital Sigonella
Japan (3 locations)—Naval Hospital Okinawa; Naval Hospital Yokosuka; or Yokota Air Base South
Korea—US Army Garrison Yongsan
Spain—Naval Hospital Rota

RACHAP is a MTF hearing aid program that allows eligible beneficiaries to purchase hearing aids at cost and receive fittings and related medically necessary services. The extent of RACHAP implementation and scope of RACHAP services are based on MTF capability, capacity, and access to care standards. RACHAP eligible beneficiaries may purchase hearing aids at the government contract price through manufacturers; fitting and related medically necessary services are available within the direct care system. The program is not a TRICARE private sector care benefit.

RACHAP is only available through direct care; MTFs are not authorized to reimburse the purchase of hearing aids through the private sector, prescriptions, or audiograms from a network provider outside of RACHAP. Hearing aids purchased under RACHAP will be paid for by the beneficiary.

Hearing is vital to your ability to communicate, your overall health, and your quality of life. But you should be realistic if you are starting to have hearing loss. Most hearing loss is permanent and may get worse over time; it can create social and other problems. The retail cost of hearing aids can run from a few hundred dollars to a few thousand. The RACHAP program may be a convenient benefit for you and may be a significant cost saving over the private sector.

MINUTES: Below are the minutes from last month's meeting. Please read them and offer any corrections to the Adjutant prior to the call for approval at the 2 Jan 2019 meeting.

Membership Meeting Minutes, 5 Dec 2018

- Called to order by Commander John McElhaney at 1900 with customary ceremonies.
- Resolution 288 for 67th National Convention read aloud.
- Meeting resumed: Quorum declared by Sergeant-at-Arms Bill Laidley. Motion forwarded by Glen Golden and seconded by Jack Cashman to approve the Nov 2018 minutes. Approved on vote by membership and published online.
- New member Wayne Rolsen introduced. He was previously a member in 1980. He served in the Army from 1971-1972 and lives in Powell.

Committee reports:

- Finance - Flo Evans passed out the budget, explained it and provided an overview to members. No issues. Glen Golden asked a question regarding money for checks for the Americanism test winners. Mike Etling commented that rentals are covering expenses and stated it was a good report.
- Membership – Chuck Hurley reported that we are at 88% of renewal goal of 223 members.
- Building – Tom Poulton stated that he has met with the City of Westerville personnel and we are satisfactory on the design for the ADA Compliant restrooms and storage areas.
- Rental - Mark Eucker reported that all is good with rentals and referred members to the budget report.
- Americanism - Glen Golden reported his request for funding to cover prizes for the Americanism tests that were approved by the membership last meeting. The certificates are prepared. The top boy and girl Seniors, Juniors and Sophomores were from Westerville South Central and North respectively.
- Service Officer - No report
- Adjutant - David Troutman posted the Dec 2018 minutes and newsletter.

Old Business:

- Dave Bergman reported that 589 wreaths were sold for Wreaths Across America. They expect to need 480 for the Vets at Otterbein Cemetery, but will bring 515 to ensure all graves are covered. The additional wreaths will go to Pioneer and Lincoln Cemeteries, or Arlington. The ceremony will be 15 Dec 2018 at 1130 at Otterbein Cemetery. Following the ceremony will be

a free ham and bean dinner at the Westerville Senior Center. The wreaths will be removed in January.

- The post will conduct a Christmas Day Chillicothe VA visit. It will be early, but the time will be coordinated with volunteers. Contact the Commander if you are interested in volunteering.

New Business:

- The Civil Air Patrol requested \$450 to support their balloon launch. We are the only organization they asked for support. After discussion among the membership, they decided on donating \$100 and suggesting the Civil Air Patrol leadership contact other organizations for support. Dave Bergman forwarded a motion to donate \$100, Glenn Golden seconded it and the members approved on vote.
- Mike Etling spoke on behalf of Bev Etling who has taken over Boys/Girls State program for the post. He recognized Glen Golden for all his work on the program the last two years. The total cost for 2019 is \$6,900. We received donations in 2018 for \$6,780 and send more representatives than most. Interviews will be conducted the last Monday and Tuesday of Feb 2019. Glen Golden forwarded the motion to approve designating \$6,900 for the program. Dan Carey seconded it and the members approved it on vote.
- The Honor Guard has collected \$2,680 for calendar year 2018 in honorarium for their services provided to Veteran funerals. Jack Cashman saw a VFW group that had honor guard jackets. He found jackets on sale at Land's End that normally cost \$179 on sale for \$89.50 until 6 Dec 2018. He requested to purchase 20 jackets with tax and embroider them locally at a total cost of \$1,915.40. Approved prior to meeting due to time constraints. Motion forwarded by Jack Cashman to approve \$1,915.40 and seconded by Dan Latiolais. Members approved on vote.
- Discussion on the 100 Year Celebration that resulted in planning for the dinner in October 2019 for honoring the Centennial and Veteran's Day early, in order to not have two dinners back to back months.
- 100th Anniversary T-shirts and Polos expected to be in by the December breakfast at the Legion on 19 Dec 2018. Dave Bergman will collect payment for the \$40 Polos and \$20 T-shirts.

Good of the Legion announcements:

- District will hold it's mid-winter meeting in downtown Columbus from 25-27 Jan 2019
- Post 171 Dinner dance will be held on 15 Mar 2019 at the Villa Milano in Columbus, OH
- American Legion State Bowling Tournament will be held in Toledo from 2-17 Feb 2019 on various days. Entries are due NLT 19 Jan 2019. If interested, please see <https://www.ohiolegion.com/post-activities/departments/bowling-tournament/>
- The American Legion's National Executive Committee passed a resolution during its annual Fall Meetings in Indianapolis Oct. 17 to change that.

Resolution No. 1, "Unrecognized armed hostilities recognition," calls on Congress to declare that the United States has been continuously engaged in a state of war from December 7, 1941 to present, and for Congress to direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to qualify a wartime veteran as any military service personnel who served honorably under Title 10 for at least one day from December 7, 1941 to present.

Following the passing of Resolution No. 1, the NEC adopted Resolution No. 2, "Unrecognized armed hostilities membership date change," which will change membership dates for The

American Legion. This resolution will only be put in motion once the actions of Resolution No. 1 are approved by Congress. Once approved, membership in The American Legion will be

open to the following war periods: April 6, 1917 to Nov. 11, 1918, and Dec. 7, 1941 to the date of cessation of armed hostilities as determined by the U.S. government.

The American Legion believes that membership in the organization should be extended to all U.S. military personnel who served on active duty during the hostile events that are not seen as a period of war.

Meeting adjourned at 1943 – *Respectfully submitted, David Troutman, Adjutant*

Meetings and Events Calendar

NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all American Legion Post 171 meetings and events are at the Post Hall at 393 E. College Ave., Westerville, Ohio 43081. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7883 also meets at the Post Hall.

- 2 Jan 2019: Post Meeting at 1900
- 16 Jan 2019: Veterans Breakfast at the Post from 0900 until complete
- 18 Jan 2019: Entries due for American Legion State Bowling Tournament
- 19 Jan 2019: Veterans Breakfast at the Post from 0900 until complete
- 25-27 Jan 2019: District Winter Meeting in Columbus
- 2-17 Feb 2019: American Legion State Bowling Tournament. Various days.
- 25 Feb 2019: Boys State Interviews
- 26 Feb 2019: Girls State Interviews
- 15 Mar 2019: Dinner dance at Villa Milano

American Legion Young-Budd Post 171

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