

From: Oliver McGuire Adjutant American Legion Post 388 Inc.

As you are aware, the Post had election's for several positions. I moved from 1st Vice Commander to Post Adjutant. I'm looking forward to learning my new position with the help of Jim Griesenauer our past Adjutant. One of my responsibilities is to keep all member's informed of what our Post is doing and forward information that needs to be forwarded from State and National. What I have found is that some of our records have no email or incorrect email addresses. Most people have a cell phone or a home computer. What I'm asking is for everyone that is not receiving e-mails to send an e-mail to "alpst388@gmail.com". In the subject block just type email. In the message area just enter your membership number, your name as it reads on your card, home address, phone number and email address. I'm hoping to update our email mailing list to insure everyone keeps informed of what our post is working on to better serve our members.

Our Post is working hard to improve our Membership Monthly meeting attendance. Please mark your calendar for the 4th Monday of each Month. Our post provides a light meal. Some members bring a covered dish. Meeting's start at 7:00pm, arrive early (6:00pm) for the meal. Our hall is open every Wednesday at 1:00 pm for card playing. Bring your own group and play whatever you wish to play. As Adjutant I'm reaching out to all members to start making our monthly meets. We have scheduled several key note speakers to talk about Veterans Issues. Hope to see you at our next meeting. Adjutant Oliver McGuire American Legion Post 388 Inc.

Boys State/Girls State/ Patrol Academy

This program was both a success for our local students and for Post 388. The membership, the Women's Auxiliary, and our local merchants all contributed to the program's success. The final tally was a total of thirteen students making the trip to Central State University in Warrensburg Missouri. The students responses were all very good. We had initially agreed to sponsor four boys and four girls. The Post will once again sponsor one

boy and one girl from each of the four high schools in the O'Fallon area. It will be a bigger challenge this year as the tuition for Boys State has risen to \$500, and Girls State to \$400.

Change in By-Laws

Our by-laws are being reworked to show more transparency on how the post finances are being spent. We will form a Building Committee which will consist of a Property Business Manager, "appointed", a Quarter Master, "appointed", a Post Finance Officer, "elected", Accountant/Secretary, "appointed", a Maintenance Supervisor," appointed". The Commander is a member on all committees. These by-law changes will be **posted** on the Post Bulletin Board located inside the Post Home at 607 Westridge Dr, O'Fallon Missouri 63366 and will be voted on at a Sunday meeting in December. Date to be announced.

Dues

If you have paid your dues before October 17th., please check your envelope for your card. We do it this way for several reasons. Your dues total \$35.00. National Headquarter receives \$18. State Headquarters takes \$9.50, and Post 388 receives \$7.50. This was done to save postage and envelopes. It was brought to our attention a few weeks back that National is talking about raising the dues in Post 1000 to \$40. If they do that, our assessment from National will go up to \$23 and that leaves the Post with \$2.50 to run the Post. With 355 members and our portion of \$2.50, we could not pay half of our insurance cost, much less water, electric or bonding cost on our officers that handle the post funds. If National raises the dues, we will be forced to pass them on to the membership, something we hope will not happen. At this printing, we have 138 unpaid member for 2019.

Mailing Address

As of the 1st. of October, the post no longer is using PO Box 453. All mail is delivered to our front door at 607 Westridge Dr.

American Flags

The post recently purchased 39 3' X 5' Nylon American Flags to be donated to the city of O'Fallon. These flags will be displayed on Main Street in the city

on Veterans Day. Hopefully all Legionnaires will feel proud when they see them waving in the breeze.

Meeting Changes

The Post is willing to try something different with our meeting dates this wintery season. On Sunday the 28th of October, we will have a meeting, open house, at the Post Home. It is open to all members from one till four and there will be a reading of the by-law changes. This is in addition to our regular meeting held on the 4th Monday of the month. On Sunday December the 9th., starting at 1 pm there will be a short meeting and open house again until 4 pm. At this meeting we will vote on the by-law changes. I might suggest a few Christmas Cheers.

Awards Dinner

Our Awards Dinner will be held again at Cornerstone Methodist Church on Monday the 19th of November. The doors open at 5:30 pm and dinner is served at 6. The cost is \$12 per person. If you are a paid member of the Post, the Honor Guard will pick up half of the cost. You will need tickets for this event. You can contact Roger Hadley for details at 636-233-2699

Rifle Raffle

The rifle raffle in August was won by Roger Hadley. All he needs now is a hunting license and a friend with some ground that will let him hunt. Congrats Rog.

B-B Gun Shoot

At the August meeting there was a discussion about having a BB Gun shoot for meat or whatever. Anyone interested in this type of entertainment can contact the Adjutant either by phone or e-mail. We are trying to get more of our membership interested in the post activities and anyone with a new idea please make contact with the Post.

The St. Charles County Veterans Museum

The museum will be located in O'Fallon at the end of East Elm Street and opening should be soon, possibly early Spring. For more information go to St. Charles County Veterans Museum.com and catch up on the latest information available.

Wheel Chair Ramp

When Jim Cole, a member of Post 388 passed in the Summer of 2018, his family had no use for an aluminum wheel chair ramp that was vital for Jim's mobility around his house. His family donated the ramp to Post 388 with the understanding that this ramp be given to another veteran to make life easier for himself. Our Post Adjutant Oliver McGuire made many calls and located a veteran in our area by the name of Alvin Hunsel, a 23 year veteran and amputee that was in dire need of this ramp. He helped Alvin's brothers install this ramp. While calling around, he contacted Post 106 who had an electric wheel chair and was able to find a home for the wheelchair. One good deed turned into two.

Honor Guard

Post 388 Honor Guard unit was assembled in September of 2003. We assisted at our first funeral on December 19, 2003. At the time of death, every veteran that has a military funeral is assigned a number. The number assigned to that veteran was #30240. On October 16, 2018 we performed our 2273rd funeral. The number assigned to that veteran was #167964. If you do the math, you will come up with the number of Veterans in Missouri that had military funerals. I believe that averages out to 176 burials per week.

Taps

Members of Post 388 that have left this world for the next in 2018.

Thomas Blaine, Charles Bowden, Warren Brown, Henry Buelterman, Robert Chant, James Cole, Robert Crain, Robert Englehart, George Foster, Willie Johnson, Joseph Molitor, James Orr, Delbert Peters, Franz Wolfrum, Denis Wood and Arthur Hausdorf.

The Holiday Season

Thanksgiving is almost here and Christmas and New Years will follow shortly thereafter. Last year the post helped several veterans from our area that lost their homes due to fires. Please be careful. Stay safe and healthy and have a happy holiday season.