
THE MILLERTON LEGIONNAIRE

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Legion Post 178 - Millerton NY 12546

August 2007

The Final Word

A word from the Post Commander

Lee Garay

Post Commander

First off I would like to begin by hoping that everyone is having a great and safe summer with friends and family. While we are all enjoying the final weeks of summer before Labor Day weekend, I would like to take a few moments to comment on some of the things that have happened in the last few months and address some upcoming events as well.

First off Memorial Day this year was another great success! This year we had Lt. Col. Gilbert E. Mestler as our guest speaker, and Robert Jenks was our Master of Ceremonies. We also had great participation from both the town and the community in both the Parade and Ceremonies throughout the morning. The days events ended once again at the legion home with our normal lunch that was opened up to the community.

The following month in June we had our annual Post Officer Induction Dinner. This year both the SAL and the Ladies Auxiliary assisted the post in preparing our Barbeque

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Memorial Day 2007

This year we had another great turn out for Memorial Day. This year the days activities began as usual at 6am at the Legion Home. After firing the rifle salute to the colors and the playing of Taps, the Post Honor Guard went to each of the local cemeteries in both the Village of Millerton and the Town of NorthEast in order to pay respect to those who have served and died in our nations wars.

The parade started at 10am on Century Lane and followed its traditional route marching down Main Street to the Bridge where the wreath was tossed into the creek. Following the parade continued to Iron Dale cemetery and then returned to Veterans Park. This year Post 3rd Vice Commander Robert Jenks who was home on leave from service overseas was this years Master of Ceremonies. This years Guest Speaker was Lt. Col. Gilbert E. Mestler.



6am Rifle Salute to those who have served in the past.

LTC Mestler entered active military service at the United States Military Academy, West Point New York on 1 July 1971. After Infantry officer Basic course and Ranger school he served as a rifle platoon leader in the 1st Battalion 9th Infantry (Manchu) 2nd US Infantry Division, Republic of Korea.

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dinner. I would like to take a moment to thank all those who have served the post in the past in the capacity of a Post Officer. Without all of your past efforts this Post would not be where it is today.

The 2007 – 2008 Post Officer are as follows:

Post Commander: Lee Garay
1st Vice Commander: John Boice
2nd Vice Commander: Robert Jenks
3rd Vice Commander: Dick Snyder
Post Treasure: Sid Byron
Adjutant: Stan Chase
Post Service Officer: Roger E. Bradley
Post Chaplin: Herbert Day
Post Historian: Sean Klay
Post Membership Chairman: Al Andrews
Sgt. At Arms: Frank Kelly
Homeland Defense Officer: Al Andrews

Upcoming Events:

Fundraising and Veterans Day

As we approach the fall and the start of a new meeting season, once again the Post will be conducting its annual fundraising events. This fall and early winter we will have two significant fund raisers taking place. The first will be our Veterans Day Dinner which will take place on Saturday November 10th. The purpose of the dinner is to recognize both a Legion and Community members, that have made significant contribution to either veterans and/or the community in the past year.

A Chicken Dinner will be served on Saturday night with a baked potato, roll, with vegetables and a desert. The dinner can be either ordered as a take out or as a sit down meal. Take out can be picked up between 4:30pm and 6:00pm that evening. The Sit down dinner will begin to be served at 6:15pm. Following dinner we will have an address by our guest speaker and the presentation of awards. Tickets can be purchased for both the sit down and the take out dinners for \$10.

The second fund raiser will be the annual Christmas raffle. Tickets can be purchased starting in September until the day of the drawing on December 15 at our annual Christmas Party. The first place drawing will be \$800, the second place drawing will be \$300 and the third place drawing will be \$100. Tickets can be purchased for \$1 a piece

or a book of 6 for \$5.

In closing I would like to encourage our members to participate as much as they can in meetings, events, activities and other post functions. With greater participation we will be able to increase services provided to our veterans and community.

Membership Chairman Report

Membership Chairman, Al Andrews reports that we have achieved our 100% membership goal for 2007. Yearly dues are \$30 per year, your timely payment of dues is greatly appreciated.

Any members interested in PUFL (Paid Up For Life) information should contact Al Andrews at (518)-789-3768.

Treasures Report

Treasure Sid Byron reports that the general account is balanced and reconciled each month, as well as the Bar and Bell Jar accounts. Legion member Sebastian Amato assists the Legion by filing our yearly taxes and reports. Any questions concerning our treasury should be directed to Sid Byron at (518)-789-4498.

Scholarship Committee Report

The Scholarship Committee is happy to report that we will have almost \$10,000 to award in scholarship grants for those students who graduated in 2007. This years recipients will be notified by the end of September 2007. We will announce those recipients in our October Newsletter. Legion Members Herbert Day, Al Andrews, Sid Byron, Robert Jenks and Sean Klay comprise this years Scholarship Committee.

Post House & Grounds Committee

A special thanks to Dick Spencer for fixing the Bar AC unit, and Mike Humbert for replacing the kitchen sink drain lines.

Anyone who is interested in assisting in the upkeep of both the grounds and the Legion Hall should contact Post Commander Lee Garay at (518)-789-4755.

Reminder to all Legionnaires that the Legion Hall is available for rent for \$375 per day. Contact the Legion at (518)-789-4755 if you or someone you know is interested in reserving a date. - ML

POST OFFICERS FOR 07-08

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 2007

WHAT: REGULAR POST MEETING

DATE & TIME: AUGUST 23RD 2007 AT 7:00PM

SEPTEMBER 2007

WHAT: REGULAR POST MEETING

DATE & TIME: SEPTEMBER 20TH 2007 AT 7:00PM

POST 80TH BIRTHDAY! - SEPTEMBER 29TH

OCTOBER 2007

WHAT: REGULAR POST MEETING

DATE & TIME: OCTOBER 24TH 2007 AT 7:00PM

NOVEMBER 2007

WHAT: VETERANS DAY DINNER

DATE & TIME: NOVEMBER 10TH 2007 AT 6:00PM

WHAT: REGULAR POST MEETING

DATE & TIME: NOVEMBER 15TH 2007 AT 7:00PM

DECEMBER 2007

WHAT: POST CHRISTMAS PARTY

DATE & TIME: DECEMBER 15TH 2007 AT 6:00PM

WHAT: REGULAR POST MEETING

DATE & TIME: DECEMBER 27TH 2007 AT 7:00PM

Upon his return from Korea he attended the Special Forces Officer Course at FT. Bragg NC. He served as a Special Operations Officer in various assignments to include A Team Commander 10th SFG(A), Group plans officer 1st SFG(A) and as Commander Company C, 1st Battalion 11th SFG(A).

He has Commanded Mechanized and Airborne Infantry units in various locations overseas and in the United States. He also served in numerous staff officer positions, Battalion and Group level to Division Staff.

Colonel Mestler has completed various military courses including the United States Army Command and General Staff College and the United States Air Force Air Wing College.



Mrs. Annegret Klay receiving a coin from CSM Robert Jenks

His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (with oak leaf cluster), Army Commendation Medal (with oak leaf cluster), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal (3rd award), Global War on Terror Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Expert Infantry Badge, Master Parachutist badge, Ranger and Special Forces Tabs and various foreign awards.

At the end of the ceremony there was a special coin given to Mrs. Annegret Klay who is the mother of 1LT Sean Klay, Specialist Tyson Klay and Private Scott Klay who are all currently serving in the US Army and all are members of Legion Post 178. The coin was given to her in order to recognize her sacrifice in having 3 sons serving in the Armed Forces.

A special thanks goes to the Millerton Police Department and Millerton Fire Police for controlling the flow of traffic during the ceremonies and parade. In addition a special thanks also goes out to the Village Highway Department and Townscape for preparing the grounds at Veterans Park and Upcountry Landscaping for preparing the grounds at the Legion Home for Memorial Day this year. - **ML**

POST 178 WEBSITE

Many of you may not realize that at the end of 2005 this Post joined the 21st Century with the launching of our own post website at www.legionpost178.org. Since that time the website has slowly grown and has gone under a series of revisions and improvements. On the website you will find information on the Post Scholarship, the Boys State program, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, the Post Meeting schedule, The Post Leadership, some of the Post History as well as a number of other items of interest.

Can you help us out?

By Post Historian Sean Klay

The Post Historian is looking to get information on Past and Current Members of Post 178. If you have information relating to a Past or Current member or Past Post Commander, it would be greatly appreciated. At this time any information that you would have will be greatly appreciated. Information would include, but is not limited to the following; Rank, Date(s) of Service, Area or Theater of Service (ex: WWII ETO - European Theater of Operations or PTO - Pacific Theater of Operations), Branch of Service (Army, Navy, Marines, Army Air Corps, Air Force, etc), Decorations Awarded (Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Silver Star etc.), Description of what they did in the service and/or campaigns they participated in.

You can contact the Post Historian at history@legionpost178.org or by mailing any information you have to:

Legion Post 178
ATTN: Post Historian
PO BOX 22
Millerton NY 12546

Your help would be greatly appreciated. - **ML**

IN NEXT MONTHS ISSUE

- The Final Word
- Lee & Sid's Amazing Adventures in Kosovo
- Committee Report Updates



Memorial Day 2007 – Veterans Park