



The Great Eighth District NEWSLETTER

January 2010

Commanders Report - Phil Wood Commander phil51281@gmail.com

I hope that everyone had a good time and healthy Holidays. Here we are in January and the year is half over. It doesn't seem possible the time has just flown by. The first thing we have to do is get ready for the Membership Caravan coming up Saturday January 23rd at Calumet Memorial Post 330. I hope that all of the Posts are able to send at least one member of their Post to the event. If you are planning to attend please make sure you let the Post know so they can plan for all who attend. I am looking forward to our next District meeting which will be Thursday January 28th at Tinley Park Post 615. Hope to see you there.

Sr. Vice Commanders Report - Robert Graham (708) 891-1404 delta125@comcastl.net

As we go into the second half of the Legion Year, we still need to work on membership. The 8th District is doing good so far. I hope to have the new 2910 cards by the time we have our, 1st. Dist. meeting of the new year. The January meeting will be at Tinley Park Post #615, on Jan. 28, 2010. That time is 8:00pm, so let's have a good turn-out. See you all there. Let's hope that all of us have a great year for 2010.

Jr. Vice Commanders Report - David B. Montee (708) 349-4965 davebmontee@sbcglobal.net

At this writing the Holidays are all over and I certainly hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. My wish for the holidays is that the entire eighth district celebrated the holidays safely and were able to spend time with their loved ones. The holidays always brings for me a time to reflect and think about the past year. I always hope that I have done all that I could to be the person I want to be as well as the person others perceive me to be. I try to be faithful to my Lord, my family, my Country, State and my fellow man. I would hope that this is what we all do as this is basically the foundation of our great American Legion.

As I looked back on my year within the Eighth District I have seen what appears to be success but not without some failures. I believe the first fund raiser could have been a lot better, although it did raise some funds. My next event was to be the Holiday Hop which is meant to be more of a festive event and not really a fund raiser. At this event I decided to try to make a little money for the District and I believe that we did as well financially as we did on the Lottery. This is still not what I would call complete success due to the fact that the District needs funds to be able to carry out its work and functions to the best of its ability.

We have opportunity to have one more fund raising event before this year is over and it is in the planning stage now. I would hope that this one will be more successful than we have been so far and I hope that all of the Eighth District will help me achieve this goal.

Along with my duties as your Jr. Vice, I have made many Post Visitations along with Commander Wood, Sr. Vice Commander Graham, and Adjutant Wonder. On these Visitations I have met with a large number of new friends and I believe that your District Officers are here to help and be of service. Our Visitations will continue for the rest of the year and I hope to meet even more of you along the way. As I reflected back on this portion of the commitment we have made I believe we have been very successful until I look at the difference we have made with attendance at the District meetings. My hope for 2010 is that we can see representation from every Post at every meeting. You are very important to the District and your input is very valuable. I hope to see all of you more often in the coming months.

Adjutants Report – Mike Wunder (708) 598-4622 Captwunder4@aol.com

Can you believe it? The Y2K meltdown is now TEN years old. Can I throw away all my stored hard copy?

Housing forms for the Department of Illinois convention July 13-18, 2010 can be downloaded from Department web site at www.illegion.org , But don't look in the forms menu, rather go to the home page and scroll thru the events to find the convention info.

I'll have a few copies at the District meeting Jan 28, in Tinley Park. 1st Division will be housed in the Abe Lincoln Hotel; rate listed at \$94.00 plus tax (\$105.28) per day.

I attended the Wreaths Across America event Dec. 12, 2009 at Lincoln National Cemetery. It was very surprising to find the entire cemetery grounds filled with people volunteering to place Evergreen Wreaths on the graves. The wreaths are purchased from donations. The American Legion seemed to be well represented at the opening ceremonial wreath laying, as I saw many members of the crowd wearing the Official head gear. Park Forest Post 1198 was particularly represented well represented, as their Santa Claus for the later Post Christmas Party was drafted into the welcoming ceremony, according to Past Post Commander Ryan. All in all it was fine day and well organized A great holiday event for families to honor our deceased vets.

Just a reminder in closing,..... it's not too early to begin gathering the Post data necessary for the Consolidated Post Activity Report due this spring. Word is....." no cards will be sent to the Posts unless the report is on file."

District Meeting Dates and Locations

January 28 – Tinley Park Post 615

February 25 – Marrs Meyer Post 991

March 25 – Edward Schultz Post 697

April 22 – Calumet Memorial Post 330

May 27 – Evergreen Park Post 854

June 24 – Hazel Crest Post 398

July 14 – 17 Department Convention Springfield IL

Next Deadline to submit articles for the January Newsletter is February 8, 2010