

QUARTER 2- 2025

POST 673 NEWSLETTER

Commander's Corner

By Mike Stojak, Post Commander



American Legion Newsletter Article – APRIL 2025

Greetings from American Legion Post #673!

Greetings,

Well, Spring is upon us once again. The Honor Garden will be fully open soon. There are many Legion activities coming up in the ensuing months. Family Day on the last Saturday in April. We showcase our Legion to the community to show what the American Legion is all about.

Our birthday dinner was a big success. Thanks to Ken Raymer, our entertainment chairman and those who helped him. The entertainment by Martin Lopez (with his students) was outstanding and the food (Catering with Elegance) with desserts (Barb Read) were exceptional.

Our annual Memorial Day ceremony will be at 11:00 am on May 26, 2025, at Huntley cemetery. This will be preceded by the Poppy Day fundraising on Saturday May 24th. There will be a pinning of the Village President on that morning at the Farmer's market. Flag Day is on June 14, 2025. Join us for our ceremony to retire the torn and tattered flags of our country. Exact times will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Then our legendary Vetfest will be on us. That will be on June 21, 2025. Sponsorships and volunteers are always welcome. I hope that all our members, families and friends will join us. More information will be forthcoming and commented on elsewhere in this newsletter.

The hope is that there will be a Fourth of July parade this year. Our Honor Guard and the entire Legion will be looking forward to that. The Legion has decided to be the sole sponsor for the fireworks display this year.

For God and Country

Michael Stojak

Commander

Huntley Post 2025 Meetings:

Apr 17 , 2025 (7:00PM)

May 15, 2025 (7:00PM)

Jun 19 , 2025 (7:00PM)

Jul 17, 2025 (7:00PM)

Auxiliary

By Suzan Hoehn, President Auxiliary



Happy Spring Everyone!

In December, the Auxiliary organized a Giving Tree at the Legion to support the residents of the VPTH in Hebron. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who generously donated gifts for our Veterans—your contributions were deeply appreciated.

Queen of Hearts Update

The Queen was found again in January! A new board is now active, and the jackpot currently stands at \$6,603 and continues to grow. Tickets are available for purchase all week until 7:15 PM on Tuesdays, with the drawing taking place at 8:15 PM each Tuesday evening. Proceeds from the game support Veterans' organizations, scholarships, and community events.

Poppy Day – Saturday, May 24th, 2025

We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to assist with this year's Poppy Day fundraising event. Donations will be collected between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, with several time slots—typically two-hour shifts—still available. Poppy Day is a cornerstone event for the Auxiliary, and your participation is invaluable. If you would like to help, please reach out to Sharon Stojak, our Poppy Chairperson, at 847-464-4214.

Monthly Auxiliary Meetings

Auxiliary meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:15 PM in the Legion Hall. We invite you to join the Auxiliary and make a meaningful impact by supporting those who have served and continue to serve our country.

Thank you, and God bless America.

Suzan Hoehn
President, Auxiliary



Entertainment

By Ken Raymer

During the first quarter we only had one organized Legion event, the Legion birthday dinner, which was very well attended. The meal catered by Catering with Elegance was good as usual and was complimented on by everyone in attendance. Many people have asked for contact details regarding the caterer we have used so I am including it here. Jon Karpinski has been my contact and may give a discount if you mention the Huntley American Legion. The website is cateringwithelegance.com, and his email is jon@cateringwithelegance.com.

June 21st is our annual Vet Fest, and a lot of effort is being put into making this year as successful as last year. This event requires much planning and many volunteers to help pull this off. We are still very much in need of volunteers. The day before we do as much set-up and organizing as we can while being mindful of the Farmers Market on Saturday. Then on Saturday starting around noon we need an army of people to quickly get things set up and organized once the Farmers Market people are clear of Coral Street. We need people to help during the fest, and then stack chairs and tables, and a few other functions once the fest is finished at the end of the night. Sunday morning is the final clean up and storing of awnings, fencing, and a multitude of other fest supplies. So, if you are able, please help as the money we make from this event is distributed to many worthwhile veteran charities.

Other than that, there is always a fun time to be had at the Post. Stop by to watch one of the many sporting events that are always on one or all the TVs, or just to be entertained by our fabulous bar staff. Improvements to the honor garden are being hashed out and hopefully will be implemented soon. We will be doing a bags league again this year, so if you are interested, please watch for the notification for league sign up.

Here's a reminder of what is happening at the Huntley Legion this Summer:

- **APRIL 26, 2025** – American Legion Family Day (Noon - 3:00PM)
 - Learn about what the Legion does in the community
- **MAY 24, 2025** – Poppy Day
 - Fundraiser, pinning ceremony with Mayor at Farmers Market
- **MAY 26, 2025** – Memorial Day Ceremony
 - Held at the Huntley Cemetery at 11:00AM
- **JUNE 14, 2025** – Flag Day
 - Flag retirement ceremony
- **JUNE 21, 2025** – VetFest (3:00PM – 11:00PM)
 - Come celebrate at our 9th annual VetFest



HUNTLEY AMERICAN LEGION CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

HALCF

Charitable Foundation

By Don Smolinski, Treasurer

OPERATION COMFORT WARRIORS



The 2024 annual report to members was presented at the Legion meeting on 16 January 2025. The Foundation conducted a successful Feather Party raising over \$8,000. Other general donations totaled over \$15,000 all of which enabled the Foundation to make donations to its purposes to support veterans. Donations included to Gifts to the Yanks Who Gave, New Horizons, and Christmas gifts to veterans at Huntley nursing homes.

The Foundation Board of Directors consists of Ken Raymer, President, Suzan Hoehn, Vice President, Dan Stewart, Secretary, Don Smolinski, Treasurer, Bob Panek, Director, and Chad Panier, Director. The Foundation will be offering scholarships to Legion descendants. The deadline for application is April 1. The Foundation will be sponsoring this year's VetFest event on June 21. Volunteers are needed. As an IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization, the Foundation is accepting donations from individuals and companies. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent of the law. Please consider donating.

[Huntley American Legion Charitable Foundation Donation](#)

Don Smolinski
Treasurer



HALCF Board 2025

- President: Ken Raymer**
- Vice-President: Suzan Hoehn**
- Treasurer: Don Smolinski**
- Secretary: Dan Stewart**
- Director: Bob Panek**
- Director: Chad Panier**

McHenry
County
VAC

From the Adjutant's Desk

By Dan Stewart

Membership:



We have approximately 300 paid out of 365 members.

If you haven't paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Stewart at (244) 427-8013 or dstewart13@yahoo.com.

Dues may be paid online at MyLegion.org or mailed to **Huntley American Legion, PO Box 389, Huntley, IL 60142** or dropped off at the Post.

Dan Stewart/Adjutant

(224)427-8013

post673@huntleylegion.org



If you were not aware, as a member you can get discounts from the American Legion website, for things like insurance, car rentals, hotel, etc... Here's the link:

<https://www.legion.org/benefits>

The American Legion Membership Application

NAME DATE OF BIRTH
Format: mm/dd/yyyy - select date by clicking inside box

MAILING ADDRESS PHONE NO.


CITY STATE ZIP POST NO.

EMAIL MALE FEMALE DUES

I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.

Please check appropriate service era and branch of service below

<input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army
<input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy
<input type="checkbox"/> Panama	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force
<input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines
<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Space Force
<input type="checkbox"/> Korea	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard
<input type="checkbox"/> WWII	<input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines (WWII only)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Conflicts	



SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT DATE NAME OF RECRUITER
Format: mm/dd/yyyy - select date by clicking inside box

RECEIPT OF DUES

FROM

\$ FOR 20 POST NO.

RECUITER'S NAME

RECUITER'S SIGNATURE

RECUITER'S PHONE NO.



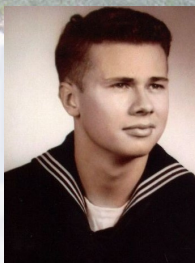
John Fellmann
US Army - Vietnam



Joseph L. Legenza
US Navy - WWII



James Morby
US Navy - Korea



A Hero's Welcome by Robert Longley

Time to come home dear brother
Your tour of duty through
You've given as much as anyone
Could be expected to do

Just a few steps further
The smoke will start to clear
Others here will guide you
You have no need of fear

You have not failed your brothers
You clearly gave it all
And through your selfless actions
Others will hear the call

So take your place of honor
Among those who have gone before
And know you will be remembered
For now and evermore



Huntley Chamber Annual Dinner

The theme “Chamber Rocks!”



ROCK



Red Robin Dinner

Red Robin in Algonquin provided Legion members with a free dinner and \$1,800 in gift cards at our January Meeting.

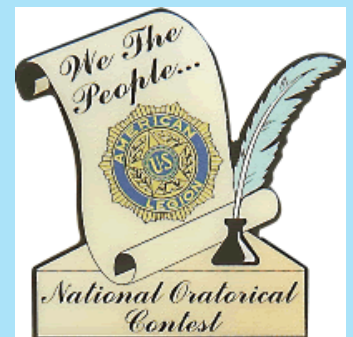


High School Oratorical Contest

We had 1 student participate downstate at the American Legion High School Oratorical Contest:

Abigail McKoy

Took 2nd Place in the State!



Huntley American Legion Birthday Dinner



BINGO 7PM
2ND & 4TH MONDAYS
HALL OPENS
@ 5:00



MONDAY CARD DRAW
CARDS ARE \$1.00 EACH
WINNER TAKES 80% OF THE POT!
6:00PM
MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN THE 80%
REMAINING 20% SUPPORTS THE VETERANS'
ORGANIZATIONS LOCAL TO HUNTLEY AND MCHENRY COUNTY



**WOMEN'S AUXILIARY
 QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE**



TICKETS SOLD
 AT THE AMERICAN LEGION
 ALL WEEK UNTIL 7:15PM ON TUESDAYS
 DRAWING EVERY TUESDAY @ 8:15PM

POST 673

POST PIZZA
HOT & FRESH
LARGE

CHEESE \$10.00
 CHEESE & SAUSAGE \$10.00
 CHEESE & PEPPERONI \$10.00
 (Cheese, Sausage, Mushroom, Green Pepper & Onion) PARTY \$10.00




TORN & TATTERED FLAGS
 BRING YOUR TORN AND TATTERED FLAGS
 TO THE LEGION THROUGHOUT THE YEAR
 THEN COME JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL
 FLAG BURNING CEREMONY
Held annually on Flag Day

"THANK-YOU" TO OUR SPONSORS!



Alliance
CONTRACTORS, INC.



**Join us for Bingo
2nd and 4th Mondays
each month**

MONTHLY PLANNER

April 2025



March '25							May '25						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30	31												

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	9 4PM Legion Executive Committee Meeting 7:15PM Auxiliary Meeting	10	11	12
13	14 7PM Bingo (Doors Open 5PM)	15 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	16 7PM S.A.L. Meeting	17 7PM Legion Meeting 	18	19
20	21	22 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	23	24	25	26 Family Day (Noon - 3:00PM)
27	28 7PM Bingo (Doors Open 5PM)	29 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	30	1	2	3
4	5	Notes				

MONTHLY PLANNER

May 2025

April '25							June '25						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30				29	30					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	7	8	9	10
11	12 7PM Bingo (Doors Open 5PM)	13 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	14 4PM Legion Executive Committee Meeting 7:15PM Auxiliary Meeting	15 7PM Legion Meeting 	16	17
18	19	20 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	21 7PM S.A.L. Meeting	22	23 NATIONAL POPPY DAY 	24 POST 673 POPPY DAY (9:00 AM)
25	26 Memorial Day	27 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	28	29	30	31
1	2	Notes				

MONTHLY PLANNER

June 2025

May '25							July '25							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
		1	2	3						1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	4	5	6	7
8	9 7PM Bingo (Doors Open 5PM)	10 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	11	12 D-DAY (1944)	13	14 US ARMY BIRTHDAY  US FLAG DAY
15	16	17 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	18 4PM Legion Executive Committee Meeting 7:15PM Auxiliary Meeting	19 7PM Legion Meeting 	20	21 VetFest (3:00PM - 11:00PM)
22	23 7PM Bingo (Doors Open 5PM)	24 Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	25 7PM S.A.L. Meeting	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	Notes				

MONTHLY PLANNER

July 2025

June '25							August '25						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
29	30						31						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1 Concert on the Square Food at 5PM / Concert 7PM Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	2	3	4 Independence Day 	5
6	7	8 Concert on the Square Food at 5PM / Concert 7PM Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	9 4PM Legion Executive Committee Meeting 7:15PM Auxiliary Meeting	10	11	12
13	14 7PM Bingo (Doors Open 5PM)	15 Concert on the Square Food at 5PM / Concert 7PM Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	16 7PM S.A.L. Meeting	17 7PM Legion Meeting 	18	19
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27	28 7PM Bingo (Doors Open 5PM)	29 Concert on the Square Food at 5PM / Concert 7PM Queen of Hearts (Drawing at 8:15PM)	30	31	1	2
3	4	Notes				

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 673
PO BOX 389 HUNTLEY, IL 60142**



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HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET YOUR LEGION NEWS?

Our Legion newsletter has been a great success with over 265 emailed and approximately 90 sent out through regular mail. If you are receiving this and getting the mailed newsletter, there is no need to respond to this section, unless you'd like to change your email or mailing address. If you do need any changes, please make corrections here and drop it at the post or mail to: **Huntley Legion Post #673, PO Box 389, Huntley, IL 60142**

Suggestions for improvements or additions should be addressed by the same means.