

Orland Memorial Post 111

For God and Country

THE POST

Website: www.orlandpost111.org



Volume IX Issue II

February 25, 2009

HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY

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**FROM THE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
2009 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

- . 137 Members Paid
 - . 28 Unpaid
- . 2 Tranferred In - Welcome to the Post
 - . - 1 Deceased - RIP
 - . 166 Total Members

Note, we have strength in numbers "
if you have any questions - call me at 708-479-7795
ask for Sal, 1st Vice Comdr

ADJUTANT'S CALL

PLEASE PAY ANY UNPAID DUES ASAP.

Department will be sending out renewal forms on July 1, October 1, 2008, January 10, March 15, and May 1 2009. Often times if you have not yet paid your dues you will get one. Please make sure that any notice you get is addressed back to the Post at P.O. Box 413, Orland Park, Il.

PRAYER CORNER

Maurice Fernandez
Sean Kasper
and family
Karen McCurdy
(wife of Ralph)
Arlene Manring
(wife of Ray)
Father Leo Lyons

R.I.P

Daniel Kahovec
Albert 'Toots' Morrell
Kathy Sharp
(wife of Victor Sharp)

All our brothers and sisters far from home
and in harm's way and their
loved ones.

FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER

Legionnaires of Post #111

This is a letter I sent expressing my concerns about your long term health care options to the Illinois Legislative Vice Chairman Ronald Daum, Illinois First Division Commander Al Coughlin, Illinois Dept Sr Vice William Flanagan, and National Commander David Rebein. There has been no response. Obviously our leadership is good at soliciting new members and asking for monetary donations through numerous raffle drives. However when it comes to providing critical health initiatives for our own members and all Veterans of this state it appears we are inept and ineffective at showing leadership and advocacy on real life and death issues that could critically impact your lives.

Dean Morrell
Post Commander

Subject: Advocacy of Legion

Vice Chairman Daum,

Ron, thank you for your service to the country and to the Legion. For the past 3 years we have assertively and aggressively lobbied for the 100% funding and staffing of the VA long term nursing homes in the state. For too long our members and all Veterans of this state have been on waiting lists or have been fed misinformation about these homes. Unfortunately in the past some of our leadership has bought into these reasons why Veterans cannot be provided for. The state has financial problems, there is a shortage of nurses, and every conceivable excuse in the book is given. Yet to fully fund these facilities would be an allocation of less than 1% of the entire State of Illinois budget.

These state mandates of 80 to 89% of capacity and funding are an insult to all of us who have served with honor. None of us recall being asked to give less than 100% during our tours of duty. With over 100,000 members in this state you would think some "muscle" flexing on our behalf would improve the long term health options for Veterans in this state.

We have met with state reps McCarthy, Rita, Kosel, Cross, Hassert, and Watson plus state senators Crotty, Halvorson, Radogno, and have conversations with Dahl and Dillard as well. Our efforts have netted newspaper articles and editorials from a leading journalist plus an investigation by the I-team at channel 7 news. Yet at the end of the day the situation does not seem to be improving.

The men and women under my command want to know what specifically you and Chairman Volpe are doing in Springfield to address this situation. Before Debbie Halvorson moved on to congress she was the powerful Senate Majority Leader who wielded a lot of influence in Springfield. I asked her if she had met with chairman Volpe concerning these issues and she could not recall ever meeting with him. Perhaps it was an oversight. (next page)

For the record the nearest facility for my members is Manteno. It has 340 beds. It is mandated at 89% capacity. That is 302 beds. There are 262 filled now. The state has recently hired 15 cna's for that facility. It is currently operating at 40 beds under mandated capacity and 78 under total capacity. This is an insult to the men and women under my command who have no place to go if the need should arise. Perhaps we could concentrate less on membership drives and allocate more resources for taking care of the members we currently have.

"Freedom is Never Free

Dean Morrell

Commanding Officer

Orland Memorial Post #111

American Legion

"You cannot legislate the poor into freedom by legislating the wealthy out of freedom. What one person receives without working for, another person must work for without receiving. The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from somebody else. When half of the people get the idea that they do not have to work because the other half is going to take care of them, and when the other half gets the idea that it does no good to work because somebody else is going to get what they work for, that my dear friend, is about the end of any nation. You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it."

Dr. Adrian Rogers, 1931-2005

Dr Rogers was a Baptist minister who served three terms as President of the Southern Baptist Convention

Subject: Tiger Woods comments/speech given at the inauguration

Tiger Woods spoke Sunday at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington during "We Are One," an inauguration celebration for President-elect Barack Obama. Below is the text of his speech, entitled "You'll Never Walk Alone," as posted on his Web site:

"I grew up in a military family - and my role models in life were my Mom and Dad, Lt. Colonel Earl Woods. My dad was a Special Forces operator and many nights friends would visit our home. They represented every branch of the service, and every rank. In my Dad, and in those guests, I saw first hand the dedication and commitment of those who serve. They come from every walk of life. From every part of our country. Time and again, across generations, they have defended our safety in the dark of night and far from home.

Each day -- and particularly on this historic day -- we honor the men and women in uniform who serve our country and protect our freedom. They travel to the dangerous corners of the world, and we must remember that for every person who is in uniform, there are families who wait for them to come home safely.

I am honored that the military is such an important part, not just of my personal life, but of my professional one as well. The golf tournament we do each year here in Washington is a testament to those unsung heroes. I am the son of a man who dedicated his life to his country, family and the military, and I am a better person for it.

In the summer of 1864, Abraham Lincoln, the man at whose memorial we stand, spoke to the 164th Ohio Regiment and said:

'I am greatly obliged to you, and to all who have come forward at the call of their country.'

Just as they have stood tall for our country - we must always stand by and support the men and women in uniform and their families.

Thank you, and it is now my pleasure to introduce the US Naval Glee Club."

VETERANS MEMORIAL ARA PACE

Each Memorial and Veterans Day, the village's Veterans Commission adds the names of veterans to the granite wall surrounding Orland Park's Veterans' Memorial, "Ara Pace ~ Place of Peace."

Remembered military need not be residents of the Village of Orland Park or deceased. Veterans from throughout the region have been honored by family and friends as they proudly rise when their name is called at the village's Memorial and Veterans' Day Ceremonies.









To add a name to the memorial, complete and return the [form](#) with your payment. The cost to add a veteran's name to Orland Park's memorial is \$250 each. For more information, call Village of Orland Park Veterans' Commission Secretary Gail Blummer at (708) 403-6203.

April 27, 2008 is the last day to add a veteran's name for Memorial Day, 2008.

The word form above is a link to the form on the Village Website. The link will not work from here. For anyone with Internet access the form can be downloaded from the Village site. If anyone else needs one I will be happy to print and mail

FROM THE EDITOR

By now you know better Than I that we are actually going to have a contested election this Spring (Apr 7). A new party, the Concerned Citizens of Orland Park has mounted a full slate of candidates including one of our own Ken Zworek running for Trustee. Also on the slate headed by Gerald Maher candidate for Mayor (Village President) and brother of Orland Township Supervisor Robert Maher but not related to any of the other Mahers currently in the local election news; are Kenneth Houston, Candidate for Trustee, Marian M. Klemm, Candidate for Trustee and Patrice Pykett, Candidate for Village Clerk who join Maher and Zworek on the ticket. Biographical information on each Candidate is available on the website of the Concerned Citizens of Orland Park, www.ccop.us. Also available on the site is information on issues of importance. The most important of which appears to be what the party refers to as the Bermuda Triangle. I haven't seen anything about the issues from the perspective of the Orland First Party. But wait!!! Why am I writing this? To promote CCOP? To promote Orland Park First? NO!! NEITHER!!! My purpose is to promote VOTING. Examine both sides make a decision and for Heaven sake VOTE ON APRIL 7th.

<p>Inksmart, Inc. Ink & Toner Cartridges Sales & Refilling</p> <p>9979 W. 151st Street (151st & West Avenue) Orland Park, IL 60462</p> <p>Phone: 708-349-9555 Fax: 708-349-9030 E-mail: inksmart@comcast.net Web: www.inksmartinc.com</p> <p>Tim Brown President</p>  <p>Inksmart, Inc.</p>	<p><i>Classic Realty Group</i> MATT PIWOWARSKI Realtor</p>   <p>15545 S. 71st Ct., Suite 202 Orland Park, IL 60462 Email: mattthewpiwowarski@yahoo.com www.chicagoinvest.com</p> <p>Phone: 708 645 8500 Fax: 708 645 8028 Cell: 708 308 5369</p> <p> </p>
 <p>Allstate You're in good hands.</p> <p>24-Hour Customer Service</p> <p>John Garrett, LUTCF Exclusive Agent</p> <p>Allstate Insurance Company 7620 W 159th Street Orland Park, IL 60462-5401</p> <p>Phone 708-614-0770 Claims 800-255-7828 Fax 708-614-9901 johngarrett@allstate.com</p> <p>Mon-TH 9-6, Fri 9-5 or by appt. www.allstate.com/johngarrett</p> 	<p>TWIN TOWERS HISTORIC CHAPEL 8987 West 144th Street www.twintowerschapel.com</p>  <p>choice for small weddings, gatherings and meetings.</p> <p>Old Orland Heritage Foundation P.O. Box 743 Orland Park, Illinois 60462 (708) 349-4850</p>
<p><i>R. C. Mulligan's</i> <i>Riviera Country Club</i></p> <p>8801 W. 143rd Street Orland Park, Illinois 60462 (708) 460-1020</p>	

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EVENTS ON THE HORIZON

- Mar 16 Officers Meeting
8PM Veterans Center
- Mar 16 Veterans Job/Health Fair
10AM to 2PM OP Civic
Center
- Mar 25 General Membership
Meeting 8PM Veterans
Center

Federal Benefits Booklet (2008) for Veterans and Spouses is currently on line at: www.va.gov



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