

Orland Memorial Post 111

*For God and Country*

# THE POST

Website: [www.orlandpost111.org](http://www.orlandpost111.org)



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## HAPPY THANKSGIVING



**VETERANS DAY**



Father O'Malley rose from his bed one morning. It was a fine spring day in his new Texas Mission parish. He walked to the window of his bedroom to get a deep breath of the beautiful day outside. He then noticed there was a jackass lying dead in the middle of his front lawn.

He promptly called the local police station . . .

The conversation went like this:

"Good morning. This is Sergeant Jones. How might I help you?"

"And the best of the day te yerself. This is Father O'Malley at St. Ann's Catholic Church. There's a jackass lying dead in me front lawn and would ye be so kind as to send a couple o'yer lads to take care of the matter?"

Sergeant Jones, considering himself to be quite a wit, replied with a smirk:

"Well now Father, it was always my impression that you people took care of the last rites!"

There was dead silence on the line for a long moment...

Father O'Malley then replied, "Aye, 'tis certainly true; but we are also obliged to notify the next of kin."

### ADJUTANT'S CALL

#### PLEASE PAY ANY UNPAID DUES ASAP.

Department has sent out renewal forms on July 1, They will be sending them out on October 1, 2009, January 10, March 15, and May 1 2010. Some times even if you have 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

Father Leo Lyons	John Cranston
Sean Kasper	and family
Arlene Manring	(wife of Ray)
John O'Rourke	Richard Parker
Gene Sinclair	Bob Lewis
Ralph Bechtold	

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

### R.I.P

Albert 'Toots' Morrell	Robert Suhs Jr.
Kathy Sharp	(wife of Victor Sharp)
Harold Moss	Eugene Pertile
John Hennessy	

## FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER

We had a flurry of activity during the early part of this month. Some down time and R & R is greatly appreciated at this time. I want to thank each and everyone of you who participated in our first "Veterans Day Fund Drive" during November 5th thru 7th. The weather was great. We exceeded my expectations and you can take pride in the "esprit des corps" shown during this period. Special mention must go out to Rich Parker, Gene Montalbano, and Pat Rafferty for being out there for all 3 days. Kudo's also to the "55th steet tag team of Hammerin Hank Callahan and Johnny De La Salle Fats Ferraro" who over their 2 day period at the east entrance of the Jewel at 159th st greeted everyone who entered there and asked for a donation. Both men have problems with their legs and yet gave maximum effort and hours over this period. Their leadership was noted and appreciated.

Another vision I will cherish is that of Ralph Bechtold and Bob Lewis each covering an entrance at the Jewel at 179th st enduring wind gusts up to 30 mph refusing to leave their station until had they fulfilled their obligation. Yes once again the women of the area declared Earl DeVries as the "most desireable" legionnaire. There is something to being almost 90 and having a full head of wavy white hair. Thank you Earl for the time you gave. However Gene Montalbano was the overwhelming winner of women 70 and above as the "legionnaire they wanted to date". Perhaps for our next fundraising effort we will put out a calendar with men of the legion photo's over the corresponding month. However there will be no pictures of "men in speedos though".

We also had five activities to perform during November 10th and 11th. Once again thank everyone for their participation. There was a nice article in the Southtown about our service at St. Michaels school. There also was a very poignant picture of Bob Lewis being cheered by the students there as he followed us as we marched off following completion of the ceremony.

Sandwiched between our full schedule of activities on the evening of November 10th was the "Commanders Veterans Day Dinner" to recognize and reward those legionnaires who best exemplified the legions greed of "Duty, Service, Courage, and Loyalty" for their service to the post. This affair was held at the prestigious Reserve Steakhouse at Harrahs Joliet Casino. No funds from the post were used for this. It was the honor of the Commanding Officer to provide for these outstanding men. One of the highlights of this dinner was when we were leaving the private room we had for this event the whole restaurant broke out in applause and a standing ovation was given.

Finally Veterans Day itself was a beehive of activity. From a ceremony at Smith's Crossing at 9:30, to Orland Park at 11 for theirs, and finally to Peace Memorial Village for a 1:30 service. I also would like to thank the residents of both facilities and their directors (Germaine Dignan & Joy Burkland) for their generous donations. It was an honor for us to share this day with them. Thank everyone again who participated in making these events a success. Take care, enjoy the Thanksging holiday, and we will see you at the Post Christmas dinner on December 9th at the Orland Chateau.

Dean Morrell

Post Commander

Editors Note: Sorry, due to my travel schedule I was unable to coordinate with the Senior Vice Commander for hi s comments.

DISH NETWORK ***For New Customers only*** Legion Dish will install up to 2 free Dish Network Satellite receivers for your Post or business when you subscribe to qualifying programming. Eligible programming packages start at just \$27.99. In addition, American Legion members, Sons of The American Legion and their families are eligible to receive up to 4 Dish Network Satellite receivers installed for free in your home when you subscribe to qualifying programming. Eligible programming packages start at just \$31.99 a month.

***For more information about Legion Dish and to sign up for DISH Network services, visit [www.legion.org/benefits](http://www.legion.org/benefits) or [www.legiondish.com](http://www.legiondish.com) or call 1-866-LEGION9(534-4669)***

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## **AMERICAN LEGION TRAVEL** **New Leisure Travel Benefit for Members**

Launched in May of 2006, this all new online and offline leisure travel benefit is designed to provide American Legion members and their families the benefit and savings of booking flights, hotels, rental cars, vacations and cruises at the best available rates as well as a dedicated American Legion Travel Call Center for assistance before, during and even after booking.

### Benefit Highlights

- Exclusive discounted vacation packages, as well as a best-price guarantee on all cruises
- Reserve and confirm reservations online
- A private, secure site; your information stays completely safe
- Live travel agents to assist you before and after you book your trip

Whose eligible

- All American Legion members and their families

For more information or to book your next vacation call **1-800-676-1004** or **1-800-881-7442** for a cruise specialist or visit [www.AmericanLegionTravel.com](http://www.AmericanLegionTravel.com)

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## **CVS Caremark American Legion Discount Prescription Drug Program**

American Legion, Sons of the American Legion members and their dependents can save up to 20% or more on prescription drugs at over 50,000 retail pharmacies or through a mail order prescription program. Effective June 1, 2007, The American Legion's program will be administered by CVS/Caremark. Simply present your current American Legion membership card to the retail pharmacist. The discount will vary by location, but at no time will a member be charged more than the pharmacy's usual and customary price. To use the mail order program, obtain a form by calling CVS/Caremark. The program is a great deal for you and it helps the Legion too.

Service representatives at CVS/Caremark may be reached toll-free at **1-888-414-3141**

for any questions you may have.

**Eye Med Vision Care** Your eye health is important. Regular eye exams can detect correction needs as well as conditions such as cataracts, glaucoma, macular degeneration and even symptoms of diabetes. If it has been two years since your last eye exam, then it is time to schedule an appointment. The American Legion has chosen EyeMed Vision Care as your vision care provider to offer you discounts on your eye exams and eyewear. To access your benefits:

1. Locate a participating network provider– LensCrafters, Pearle Vision, Sears Optical, Target Optical or one of thousands of independent doctors of optometry.
2. Show your American Legion card to identify yourself as a member of The American Legion or Sons of the American Legion.
3. Save up to 40% on eyewear.
4. Use your discounts as often as you want.

To find a provider call **1-800-793-8626** or visit [www.eyemedvisioncare.com](http://www.eyemedvisioncare.com) and enter your **plan number 9233016**– go to member access and then provider locator, scroll to the bottom of page to Discount Plan Members and search under “A” for The American Legion.

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## **THE GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL ORGANIZATION**

For information regarding life insurance policies that were purchased prior to June 1, 2008, you will need to call the following numbers:

Term Life: 1-800-542-5547

Whole Life: 1-800-621-0393

Senior Whole Life: 1-800-715-1239

Our new Insurance broker (Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc) is in the process of obtaining new insurance carriers to provide new and improved plans for our members and heir families!

For information on future insurance plans, please call our new administrator at **1-866-329-1769**

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## **AOM Diabetes Wellness Program**

This program, administered by AOM Healthcare Solutions, one of the nations leading diabetes supply companies (formerly Access Diabetic Supply), provides you and your family members that have diabetes access to the latest technology that is key to controlling diabetes.

In addition to easy access to diabetes testing supplies, participating members will receive, free of charge:

New glucose meter of your choice, including alternate site testing meters

Home delivery of supplies

Membership in Club ABC, a program to help you stay in control of your health and well-being. AOM will bill Medicare, or your healthcare plan on your behalf so there are no complicated forms to fill out and no upfront cost (copays and deductibles may apply). Call (888) 759-9845 for more information. This program is offered in collaboration with Veterans Care Plus, a health advocate for veterans and their families. Your participation helps you manage diabetes easier and also benefits he American Legion.

## UNITED HEALTH RX

**United Health Rx Medicare Part D** prescription drug coverage is designed to give people with Medicare affordable insurance to help with the high cost of prescription drugs. The American Legion has partnered with UnitedHealthcare to offer the UnitedHealth Rx prescription drug plans. To learn more about the UnitedHealthRx plans call **1-800-811-5376**, Monday—Friday, 7:00am-8:00pm ET, (TTY users should call 877-730-4203).

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## SEARS Commercial SEARS MEMBER PURCHASE PROGRAM

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Available exclusively through Sears Commercial Sales, members will receive a private selection consultation with a Sears professionally trained specialist and additionally receive Preferred Affiliate Program pricing, backed by Sears' Matching Plus Policy.

For your American Legion discount price contact your Sears Commercial representative at **214-392-5088** or via email at [americanlegion@searshc.com](mailto:americanlegion@searshc.com).

**Selections and purchases are not available through Sears retail or dealer stores.**

Locate an Appliance Select Center: [http://www.contractsales.sears.com/contactus/scs\\_contact\\_as\\_locations.html](http://www.contractsales.sears.com/contactus/scs_contact_as_locations.html)

When making your purchases use Member Purchase Account **#CU-067849**

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**THE AMERICAN LEGION VISA CARD** offers a low introductory Annual Percentage Rate (APR) on new purchases and balance transfers , with no annual fee and an ongoing low rate following the intro period. For more information, or to apply, call toll free **1-866-LGN-VISA (1-866-546-8472)** and mention American Legion offer **66969**

**LOOK FOR NEW BENEFITS** at [www.legion.org/benefits](http://www.legion.org/benefits)

## A CHRONICLE OF NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

**Nov 5, 6,7**– We held a successful Tootsie roll fundraiser with the funds providing more opportunities for programs.

**Nov 8th** ANNUAL ORLAND PARK VETERANS COMMISSION STEAK FRY. A new wrinkle this year was the use of actual ADULT silverware. What a concept.

**Nov 10th** Veteran's Day ceremony at ST MICHAELS school where the Honor Guard fired a volley and the flag was raised. Following the ceremony Post members were invited to participate in a video conference with soldiers in IRAQ over St Michael's High Tech video system. To top off the visit we were invited to share refreshments served by student ambassadors.

A group of Legionnaires went across the street to PARK SCHOOL to present colors and participate in their ceremony.

COMMANDERS DINNER at the Reserve Steak House at Harrahs in Joliet hosted by the Commander with a visit from his lovely wife Saint Sue. We thank him for his consideration and generosity.

**Nov 11th** VETERANS DAY a visit to SMITH CROSSING for a ceremony particularly honoring their residents who are veterans. Again a volley was fired and Post members raised a New flag as part of the ceremonies.

ORLAND PARK CIVIC CENTER the annual village ceremony where the names newly engraved on the ARA PACE Memorial

A visit to PEACE MEMORIAL VILLAGE to honor their veterans. Post members were treated to lunch as part of the visit.

The Marine stood and faced God,  
Which must always come to pass.  
He hoped his shoes were shining,  
Just as brightly as his brass.

'Step forward now, Marine,  
How shall I deal with you?  
Have you always turned the other cheek?  
To My Church have you been true?'

The soldier squared his shoulders and said,  
'No Lord I guess I ain't.  
Because those of us who carry guns,  
Can't always be a saint.

I've had to work most Sundays,  
And at times my talk was tough.  
And sometimes I've been violent,  
Because the world is awfully rough..

But, I never took a penny,  
That wasn't mine to keep...  
Though I worked a lot of overtime,  
When the bills got just too steep...

And I never passed a cry for help,  
Though at times I shook with fear...  
And sometimes, God, forgive me,  
I've wept unmanly tears.

I know I don't deserve a place,  
Among the people here.  
They never wanted me around,  
Except to calm their fears

If you've a place for me here, Lord,  
It needn't be so grand.  
I never expected or had too much,  
But if you don't, I'll understand....

There was a silence all around the throne,  
Where the saints had often trod..  
As the Marine waited quietly,  
For the judgment of his God..

'Step forward now, you Marine,  
You've borne your burdens well..  
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,  
You've done your time in Hell.

**Author Unknown**

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### EVENTS ON THE HORIZON

- **Dec 9 Post Christmas Party**  
Orland Chateau  
Cost Approximately  
**\$25.00**  
Details forthcoming

**Jan 24 2010 Trip to Wolves  
Game**  
Where: Allstate Arena  
Time: Puck drops at 3PM  
Cost: \$30.00 includes ticket and  
transportation  
**PAYMENT DEADLINE DEC 31st**  
**FAMILIES WELCOME**  
**SEE MATT FOR TICKETS**  
**OPPONENT: Grand Rapids**

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



Orland Memorial Post 111  
P.O. Box 413  
Orland Park, IL 60462