

# NEW HARTFORD POST 1376 THE AMERICAN LEGION



*The AH1 Cobra Gunship  
"The Snake"*  
8616 Clinton St.  
New Hartford, NY 13413-3400  
(315) 736-7041



FEBRUARY

NEWSLETTER

2017



Hours of Operation:  
Monday-Saturday  
11:00 AM-12:00 AM  
Sunday  
12:00 PM-12:00 AM

## DATES

- 1st-Executive Board Meeting-6:30 PM
- 1st—SAL Meeting-7:00 PM
- 7th-Board of Directors Meeting-6:30 PM
- 7th-Auxiliary Meeting-6:30 PM
- 14th-Tuesday Night Dinner  
Serving 4:00—7:00 PM
- 14th-Valintines Day
- 15th-Post Membership Meeting-7:00 PM
- 16th-Post Color Guard Meeting-6:00 PM
- 20th-Joint Oneida County Legion Meeting @  
New Hartford Post 1376-7:00 PM



*"THE FRIENDLY POST"*



Lunches Served Daily  
Monday-Friday  
11:00 AM-2:00 PM



Friday Night Fish Fry  
Served Weekly  
4:00 PM-7:30 PM

\*\*\*\*\* PROUDLY SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS \*\*\*\*\*





### **COMMANDER'S MESSAGE**

Welcome to the New Year ! I hope everyone's holidays were safe and filled with joy. I am hopeful that in 2017 we will continue to grow and strive to make the New Hartford American Legion an even better Post than it is now. I know the Board of Directors and the Executive Board are always looking into ways to improve the Post and the experience of our members.

Again I would like to thank our wonderful staff for the great job they did last year and to remind everyone that now that the Queen of Hearts is starting to pick up to please understand that our bartenders start to get a little busy, as more and more people stop in to get their tickets, and to be a little patient when things get hectic.

Since our last newsletter we have had a couple of events. We held our Legion Christmas Party on December 10th with a fantastic meal put on by our caterer and music supplied by our own Tim Creaser. On Christmas Eve and New Years Eve we put out a buffet downstairs for our members that was well received. And as always we held our Children's Christmas Party with a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Some upcoming events include the American Legion Department of New York Mid-Winter Conference held in Albany.

Also I would like to inform everyone that on February 20th we will be hosting the Oneida County Joint Meeting which will include the Legion and Auxiliary.

Once again thanks to everyone and feel free to come to me with any concerns or better yet attend one of our monthly meetings. We hold them on the 3rd Wednesday at 7 PM September to May.

For the Good of the Legion,  
*Rand Kennedy, Post Commander*



### **AUXILIARY NEWS**

The next meeting of the Auxiliary will be on Tuesday, February 7th starting at 6:30 PM.

The 2017 membership dues are due now so please get them in as soon as possible.

Dues remain at \$25.00 and they can be sent to Janice Hurley at 1904 Redfield Ave, Utica, NY 13501, or dropped off at the Post in the Auxiliary mailbox in the Lounge area.

Please talk to your relatives and friends and have them join. We have activities throughout the year and always welcome new faces.

I would like to thank the Legionnaires, the SAL and Auxiliary who helped out making the Veteran's Christmas Party a success again this year. It is always appreciated and we are glad to work as a Legion family.

All the veterans from area nursing homes enjoyed great food, spirits, gifts and companionship.

The annual children's party was another success this year. Thanks to all for your help especially Nelson & Deb Pohoreskey for being Santa & Mrs. Claus.

We also adopted a Veteran and his family of three children for Thanksgiving and Christmas. They were very grateful for all that we did.

We are looking for some projects to do for children & youth, the community or even the Legion itself. Please contact me at 315-723-0504 with any ideas you may have.

Ladies, let us know of any Auxiliary Members who are sick or in nursing homes. Please contact Janice Keesler at 724-5693 with any information.

The New Hartford Auxiliary Unit 1376 would like to welcome the following new member to our Unit. Please Welcome: Elizabeth Panuccio

Please pray for our service men and women and continue to support our veterans.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Monica Lawendowski, President*



### SAL NEWS

The next meeting of the Son's of Post 1376 will be held on Wednesday, February 1st starting at 7:00 PM.

We are asking that if you have not renewed your membership in the Sons to please get your dues in as soon as possible. The 2017 cards have been in for some time now. If you are not sure you have paid your dues, just check your membership card, if it says 2017 on it you are paid. if not, your dues are due. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated. Thank You.

Dues remain at \$20.00 and can be mailed to: Bob Byrd, 4 Foxcroft Rd., New Hartford, NY 13413 or put them in the SAL mailbox at the Post. Checks for dues can be made payable to SAL Post 1376. PLEASE NOTE; If you pay by cash, ask for a receipt and make sure your name is on the envelope. Also, if your address has changed please let me know so we can be sure you will receive your newsletter.

New Hartford Post SAL Squadron 1376 would like to welcome the following new members to our Squadron. Please welcome: Thomas Wilkinson, John McPhee, John Lichorowic and Paul Jarrett.

A big THANK YOU to all who have supported our "Queen of Hearts" raffle, this helps out greatly. The proceeds are used to support various programs of the Post.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Robert Byrd, Adjutant*



### ONEIDA COUNTY LEGION MEETING

Please be aware that New Hartford Post will host the February 20th Oneida County American Legion Meeting. The meeting starts @ 7:00 PM.

This will be a joint meeting along with the Auxiliary. All Legion and Auxiliary members of Post 1376 are encouraged to attend. Lets have a good turn out from our Post. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.



### POST LOTTERY REPORT DECEMBER 2016 LOTTERY NUMBERS

#### DATE/NUMBER

1/414 2/505 3/222 4/941 5/457 6/638 7/442 8/204  
9/671 10/773 11/536 12/205 13/709 14/742 15/217  
16/546 17/712 18/987 19/568 20/666 21/938 22/159  
23/926 24/286 25/Post Closed Christmas 26/204  
27/747 28/710 29/382 30/509 31/637

Disclaimer: Every effort is made to accurately report these numbers. The official numbers are those recorded on the Post Lottery Payment Log Book by the Fund Raiser Chairman. The Post will not be responsible for typos in the newsletter.

Post Fund Raiser Report: Our 2016 Fund Raiser was a success raising over \$4600.00 for the Post to use to fund Legion Baseball and other Children and Youth Activities. We paid out almost \$6000 in prizes in 2016! Thank you to all who participated.

Our 2017 Fund Raiser is underway and tickets are still available at the bar. If your ticket is not in yet, get it in ASAP. Tickets play from when received by the Fund Raiser.

Special thanks to all the ten tickets sellers for 2017: Linda, Christine and Heather at the Bar plus Ray Perkins, Ray Zdanowicz and Glenda Scott. You can still earn a free 2018 membership by selling ten tickets or a free Tuesday night dinner for selling five.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Jerry Johnson PC, Lottery Chairman*



### BOY SCOUT REPORT

Troop #4 plans to present their 2017-2018 Organizational Charter to Commander Kennedy at the Post's March membership meeting. Once again American Legion Post 1376 was very generous with

their annual donation to the Boy Scout Troop #4 and many thanks are extended to both the Post and its membership for always keeping Scouting as one of their top priorities. The annual donation was approved at the January membership meeting with plans to formally present it to the Troop on April 1st which will mark the 50th anniversary of their existence & our Post has been at their side each step of the way.

Earlier in the month I received yet another check for a donation to Troop #4 from Adjutant Bob Byrd; Commander Don Wisnoski and the Son's of Post 1376 which will serve to help offset any other 2017 monetary deficiencies in Troop #4's 2017 budget. The Son's increased their donation by 50% and both donations give us a great start to the New Year 2017. The Troop, as well as myself commends both the Legion and Son's for both their monetary and moral support throughout the years. The sense of common purpose with respect to Troop #4 exhibited by our Legion and Son's is what Esprit De Corps is all about!

Yours in Scouting,

*Rick Watkajtys, Post Scout Chairman*



### **COLOR GUARD REPORT**

The next meeting of the Color Guard will be held on Thursday, February 16th starting at 6:00 PM.

If there are any changes you will be notified by Janice Hurley.

This past month has been quite calm for us. We did attend funeral services for Jim Norton a decorated World War II Veteran, who will be greatly missed by all of us. Our sympathies are extended to his family. Part of the Unit also took part in the Wreaths Across America program which is a very rewarding event.

A summation for 2016 shows that we took part in 70 Events with 1100 hours of service time to our Community. This has been a banner year for us.

All of our events are under the direction of Capt. Nelson Pohoreskey, Rd. Cdr. Larry Winfield, Lt. Duane Clark.

The Unit wishes everybody to drive safely this Winter and think Spring!

Respectfully Submitted,

*Donald Wisnoski, Historian*



### **POST CATERER REPORT**

Our Friday Fish Fry and Tuesday Dinners continue to be doing very well. Please stop in, we think you will be pleasantly surprised.

Below is the menu for our Friday Fish Fry:



*All Dinners include a Garden Salad & Fresh Baked Bread*

*Fresh Haddock*

*Fried or Baked, Served with a choice of Fries, Mac Salad, or a Baked Potato*

*Sea Scallops*

*Mouth-watering Fresh Sea Scallops, Deep Fried to a Golden Perfection. Served with a choice of Fries, Mac Salad, or Baked Potato*

*Combo Plate*

*A Full Fish Fry & Scallops Combined*

*Smaller Combo Plate*

*Half Piece of Haddock*

*&*

*Smaller Portion of Scallops*

*Chicken Riggies*

*Our Home Town Favorite, Chicken, Peppers, & Onions served in a Thick, Creamy Vodka Sauce, Served Mild or Hot*

*For The Kids*

*Chicken Tenders & Fries*

*or*

*Hot Dog & Fries*

*Please call ahead for parties of 6 or more.*

*736-7041*



## *The Four Chaplains*

On Feb. 3, 1943, the United States Army Transport *Dorchester* – a converted luxury liner – was crossing the North Atlantic, transporting more than 900 troops to an American base in Greenland. Aboard the ship were four chaplains of different faiths: **Reverend George Fox (Methodist), Jewish Rabbi Alexander Goode, Reverend Clark Poling (Dutch Reformed) and Father John Washington (Roman Catholic).**



### *USAT **Dorchester***

Around 12:55 a.m., a German U-boat fired a torpedo that struck *Dorchester's* starboard side, below the water line and near the engine room. The explosion instantly killed 100 men and knocked out power and radio communication with *Dorchester's* three escort ships. Within 20 minutes, the transport sank and more than 670 men died.

As soldiers rushed to lifeboats, the four chaplains spread out, comforting the wounded and directing others to safety. One survivor, Private William Bednar, later said, "I could hear men crying, pleading, praying. I could also hear the chaplains' preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going."

Another survivor, John Ladd, watched the chaplains' distribute life jackets, and when they ran out, they removed theirs and gave them to four young men. "It was the finest thing I have seen, or hope to see, this side of heaven," he recalled.

As *Dorchester* sank, the chaplains were seen linked arm in arm, praying.



Fox, Goode, Poling and Washington were posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Purple Heart, and in 1948, Congress declared Feb. 3 to be Four Chaplains Day. The four chaplains were also honored with a U.S. postage stamp that year.



Because of the Medal of Honor's strict requirements of heroism under fire, Congress authorized a one-time Chaplain's Medal for Heroism on July 14, 1960. The award was presented to the chaplains' next of kin Jan. 18, 1961.



On Feb. 3, 1951, President Truman dedicated a chapel in the chaplains' honor at Grace Baptist Church in Philadelphia. When the building was sold, the chapel fell into disrepair, and the foundation overseeing the chapel moved it to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in 2001. The chapel was repaired in 2004 and given the name Chapel of the Four Chaplains.



### *Grace Baptist Church in Philadelphia*

In 2006, at The American Legion's 88th National Convention in Salt Lake City, the National Executive Committee passed a resolution that supported awarding the Medal of Honor to Fox, Goode, Poling and Washington.



*The Chapel of the Four Chaplains  
Philadelphia Naval Shipyard*

This is the story of the Four Chaplains. The first Sunday in February is Four Chaplains Sunday and many American Legion Posts conduct memorial events to mark the anniversary of the sinking of the USAT Dorchester. We hope you enjoyed the reading.



**LEGION RIDERS REPORT**

The next meeting of the Riders will be held in the Spring.

Happy New Year, we made it another year! We have 47 active members going into 2017, the largest numbers of members since our inception in 2009. In 2016 we added eight new members, they are:

Frank Amarosa: Rider, Susan Amarosa: Supporter, Bethany Curtis: Supporter, William Curtis: Rider, Guy Delmastro: Supporter, Felicia Talarico: Supporter, Bonnie Delmastro: Supporter, Thomas Larkin: Rider

Welcome on board new members! I fully anticipate another great year of rides and get together. Please remember there are no meetings for the next several months. I look forward to seeing you at the Post or the next Riders meeting in the spring.

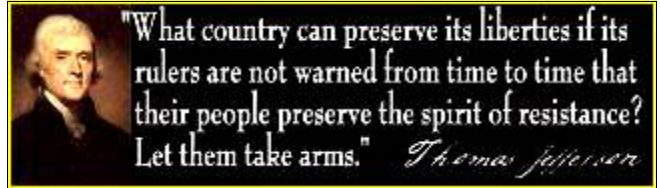
Riders / Supporters: the 2017 membership dues are now due; please make your check out to the American Legion Riders Post #1376 or drop off \$12 in an envelope in our mailbox with your name on it and address it to Tom Liesch. If you joined the Riders team in October or later, your 2017 dues are covered.

Please visit our face-book site... New Hartford American Legion Riders... or browse the website: [www.AmericanLegionRiders.net](http://www.AmericanLegionRiders.net), or National at [www.legion.org/riders](http://www.legion.org/riders).

Ride to Live - Live to Ride!  
For the Good of the Legion,  
*Jim Converse, President*



**QUOTE OF THE MONTH**



**THOMAS JEFFERSON**  
3rd President of the United States  
1743-1826



**\*\*\*\*\*FEBRUARY'S\*\*\*\*\***  
**\*\*TUESDAY NIGHT DINNER\*\***  
**CHICKEN PARMASEN DINNER**  
With Penne Pasta, Sauce  
Salad, Rolls, Coffee & Tea  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
Serving from 4:00—7:30 pm  
Donation—\$10.00  
**Inside Dining & Take Out Available**  
Call 736-7041  
Visit us @

[www.newhartfordamericanlegionpost1376.com](http://www.newhartfordamericanlegionpost1376.com)



The Pentagon, one of the largest office buildings in the world, has twice as many bathrooms as necessary, because when it was built Virginia laws still required separate toilet facilities for blacks and whites.



## MONTHLY HUMOR



### “WE’LL TALK ABOUT IT”

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car.

His father said he'd make a deal with his son, "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car."

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed on it.

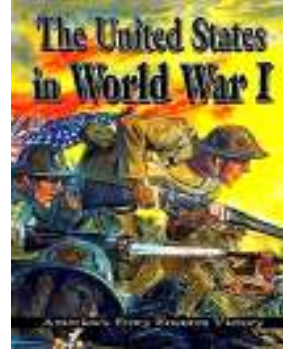
After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

The dad looked at his son and said, "Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?"



We will have Past County Commander, Don Edwards give a brief outline of an energy savings program for the American Legion Family. This will be available for Legionnaires, Sal and Auxiliary members. This meeting is scheduled for February 15th at 7 PM, which is our regular monthly Legion meeting. Please plan on attending.



On April 6, 1917 the United States entered World War I joining its allies Britain, France and Russia to fight in the War.

Under the command of Major General John J. Pershing, more than 2 million U.S. soldiers fought on battlefields in France.

Many Americans were not in favor of the U.S. entering the war and wanted to remain neutral however, the U.S. eventually did enter the war.

World War I cost the U.S. 116,708 lives including 8 soldiers from New Hartford with 205,690 wounded.

On January 18th at our monthly membership meeting and with this year marking the 100th anniversary of the United States entry into World War I, New Hartford Post's SAL Squadron 1376 presented our Post with a plaque honoring the eight soldiers from New Hartford who lost their lives during the War. Their names are engraved on this plaque and they are:

Pvt. FRANK BAKER

Pvt. MICHAEL BRUNO

Sgt. EDWARD L. CLONAN

Pvt. LOUIS JOHNSON

Machinist THOMAS JONES

Pvt. WILLIAM McAULIFFE

Pvt. WALTER SAUTTER

Pvt. JACOB J. SCHAFER

Our sincere appreciation to our Sons for their thoughtful consideration in honoring these veterans.

*New Hartford American Legion Post 1376*



### THIS DATE IN MILITARY HISTORY

On February 12, 1973, Operation Homecoming began as the first release of American prisoners of war from the Vietnam War took place.



### **Certificate of Appreciation**

At the December 21, 2016 Membership Meeting, our Post Color Guard was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for their service at the Edward Bator/USS Arizona Memorial Monument in the Village of New York Mills which is held every year on December 7th as part of Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

The certificate was presented to Larry Winfield, Road Commander of the Color Guard by Fred Griffiths, Adjutant of Edward Bator Post 21 of the Polish Legion of American Veterans in New York Mills. The certificate reads:

#### **Certificate of Appreciation**

*This Certificate is Presented to:*

**The New Hartford American Legion Post 1376  
Color Guard & Rifle Squad**

*“In appreciation of your continued years of service at our Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Service held at the Edward Bator/USS Arizona Memorial Monument in the Village of New York Mills.*

*With this being the 75th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, this certificate is presented to you with our most sincere appreciation for your participation in our memorial service.”*

**The Polish Legion of American Veterans**

**Edward Bator Post 21**

**New York Mills, New York**

**On this the 21st Day of December 2016**

**Frederick J. Griffiths,**

**Edward Bator Post 21 Adjutant**

Congratulations to our Color Guard, you make us very proud of your dedicated service to our Post and our Community!

**New Hartford American Legion Post 1376**



### **QUEEN OF HEARTS UPDATE**

The Queen of Hearts was \$8648 with 33 cards remaining, as of Thursday January 12th. Tickets are \$1.00 each, and you can purchase as many as you like during the week at the Bar, or on Wednesday night at our Hearts Table. The tickets are deposited in the Queen of Hearts Box and on Wednesday night at 8:15 PM one ticket is drawn from the box by a patron in the Post. A member of our staff will then take the ticket to the Queen of Hearts board and remove the card from the sealed envelope that was chosen. If the Queen of Hearts is in the envelope, that person wins 60% of the Pot.

The player drawing a card other than the Queen of Hearts shall be awarded a cash prize valued according to the following schedule:

<b>CARD DRAWN</b>	<b>PAYOUT</b>
ANY 2,3,4, OR 5	\$5.00
ANY 6,7,8, OR 9	\$6.00
ANY 10, Jack or King	\$8.00
ANY Ace	\$10.00
ANY Joker	\$20.00
ANY Queen other than Hearts	\$25.00

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Bill Brucato, Manager**



### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

Once again, a reminder that scholarship application are available at the Bar.

The deadline for submitting a application is April 1, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Ron Ouimette, Chairman**





### *We Need Your Help!!!*

Our Post has seen a dramatic drop in membership over the last couple of years. This is a big problem for many American Legion Posts and we are no exception.

The biggest reason for this is our Veterans are getting up in age and are leaving us in greater numbers every year. It will only get worse as time goes by.

We have an opportunity to get the message out about the American Legion with the help of Sanger-town Mall to promote our Post and get some of these younger veterans to hopefully join this great organization.

In the next few years we will have only a very few World War II veterans left. Korean War veterans are now well into their 80's. Vietnam veterans are in their late 50's to their late 70's.

With the start of Desert Shield/Desert Storm (1990 -1991) there is no "end date" established for the Persian Gulf War and any veteran who served at least one day on active duty during this period and received an honorable separation from active duty is eligible for membership in the American Legion. These are the veterans we need to get involved with the Legion and there are a lot of them out there. Remember, as we get new Legionnaires to join members of the veteran's family have a tendency to join the Auxiliary and the Sons.

In an effort to accomplish this goal our Post Adjutant, Vic Gazzilli and our 1st Vice Commander, Dick Fountain will be setting up a schedule and list of volunteers to help out with membership solicitation at the Sangertown Mall this Spring.

If you can volunteer a few hours for a day or so, please contact Vic Gazzilli @ (315) 525-2721 or E-Mail: [vgazzilli@hotmail.com](mailto:vgazzilli@hotmail.com) We really need to help increase our membership. This is a great way to get involved in our Legion and it would not take up too much of your time. Thank you.

Yours in Service,  
*Vic Gazzilli, Post Adjutant*  
*Dick Fountain, 1st Vice Commander*



### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Our next membership meetings will take place on Wednesday, February 15th starting at 7:00 PM.

Please plan on attending our meeting and voice any concerns that you may have. As always, there will be refreshments served after the meeting.

We currently have 709 members paid so far, which includes 19 new members. This gives us 87% of our new quota of 810.

### **NOTICE PLEASE READ!!**

"If you pay your Legion membership online, you will have to send the Post membership person proof that you paid your dues. There is a receipt at the bottom of your online confirmation to send to the Post. I cannot send your membership card until I receive this confirmation. Please send this in as soon as possible."

This is a reminder that the new 2017 Membership Cards have been in for sometime now. Also please be reminded that our dues will remain at \$40.00. Please note that if you receive a renewal notice from National and you have paid your 2017 dues, just disregard the notice and throw it away. If you are not sure you have paid your dues, just check your membership card, if it says 2017 on it, you are paid. Thank You.

We still have members who have not renewed their membership for 2016. For those who have not as yet sent in your dues, please do so soon. By renewing your dues you will remain continuous and have all of your privileges restored. We thank you in advance for renewing your dues and membership in our Post.

New Hartford American Legion Post 1376 would like to welcome the following new members to our Post. Please welcome: William Brucato, Carlo Graziadei, William D. Reardon and William P. Koscielniak.

As always we truly appreciate your continued support of our Post and we look forward to your continued support in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Janet Keesler & Dick Fountain*  
Post Membership Chairpersons

# NEW HARTFORD AMERICAN LEGION POST 1376



*Pictured from the Left:*  
*Tim Converse, Riders President*  
*Monica Lawendowski, Auxiliary President*  
*Rand Kennedy, Legion Commander*  
*Don Wisnowski, SAL Commander*



## **TAPS**

New Hartford American Legion Post 1376  
regrets to report that the following members have left us:

**EDWARD J. SZUBA**  
**WILLIAM M. O'HARA**

**GRANT THEM ETERNAL REST O'LORD**