Merle Guild American Legion Post 208
121 N. Douglas Avenue
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

NEWSLETTER

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MERLE GUILD AMERICAN LEGION POST 208
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Well, we are about in the middle of summer already and things are finally getting back to normal (whatever that is) around our Post. Hall rentals are doing well, the bar business is thriving. We just completed our biggest fundraiser of the year (Festival Days). It was a tremendous success (largest ever). The bills for this event are still coming in but so far, it looks like we had a fantastic year. A complete report should be compiled soon. Speaking of Festival Days, I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to our committee members and all the volunteers who helped make this event a success. A lot of planning and work go into an event like this and I'm happy to say that Merle Guild Post, S.A.L., Auxiliary and Junior Auxiliary members, as well as many families and friends stepped up. There was no ******* in the Kitchen, food was fabulous thanks to the grillers (Mr. Steak Sandwich-Gary, Brian, Rowdies, and Eddie's group). A round of applause to our bar staff, they did an excellent job with three deep at the bar. We received compliments from customers on what a fantastic job we do at the Post. We may not be the biggest Post around, but we are the best and friendliest Post there is.

All our other activities – Bingo, Pull Tabs, Juke Box, Pool Table, Queen of Hearts are strong. It has truly been an honor to represent our wonderful American Legion Post! I'd like to thank the members of Post 208 for your support and belief in me and re-electing me as your Commander. We have accomplished so much this past year working as a family. A big thank you to the Board members and Executive Board members for their time and support this past year. The working relationship with our Auxiliary and S.A.L. couldn't have been better. Members and visitors often comment on how our Post is becoming a Military Museum and a wonderful place to come to. I'd like to extend my best wishes and support to the incoming officers of the 2023/2024 year. Reminder that our Officer's Installation is August 6 at 1:00 PM. In closing I would like to just say to all our members…. get involved! The involvement of our members is what makes our Post a great Post! God Bless, enjoy your summer, and I look forward to seeing you at the Post.

Dale Berg, Commander

From the Desk of the Auxiliary President . . . .

A new Legion and Auxiliary year is upon us. I am grateful to the Auxiliary members for their vote of confidence in me. I am very proud of my Auxiliary career and even prouder to now be called the Merle Guild Auxiliary President. After a successful 2023 year, we are all looking forward to the new changes being implemented. Our Auxiliary calendar meeting has already been completed with a lot of fun activities and several service projects set to happen. More information will be shared in the coming months.

New officers will be installed in August and we all are anxious to meet more of our Auxiliary members. Please come out and say hello. The National organization raised the per capita for members at the last National convention. This year it hit our Unit. Dues for the coming year will be $35.00 for Senior members, but still $10.00 for Junior members. Dues are due starting August 1, 2023.

The first service project we have is school supplies. A large box is set up at the Legion Post earmarked for supplies. These will be given to the Wheeling Township Pantry for distribution to schools in our vicinity, everything from backpacks to pencils. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Congratulations to the newly re-elected Post Commander Dale Berg and the rest of his Legion officers. We are looking forward to working with and for you this year.

Pat Sienkiewicz, Auxiliary Unit 208 President

Congratulations to our February & March Golden Bucks Winners….

June

Kelli McDonald
James Zarno

Congratulations to all of our winners!
Will you be one of our next winners???
GOOD LUCK!

A Note from the Sr. Vice Commander . . .

Closing off last year's membership with 333 members giving us 101.2% of our goal, placed us tied for third place in Ninth District. Let's try it again this year by doing our part in getting our renewals in before December 31st. Membership cards are available for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Please renew early and send your renewal slip with your payment of $50.00 for a one-year card or $175.00 for a five-year gold card.

I also invite all members, new and long-standing, to attend our monthly member meeting. You just may be surprised at how much your Post and the American Legion as a whole has to offer you as being part of the American Legion Family. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. I hope to see you and meet you soon.

In the meantime, be sure to renew your membership promptly. You can mail your dues to the Post or pay online. If mailing a check, please make your check payable to and mail to:

AMERICAN LEGION POST 208
Post 208 membership
121 N. Douglas Ave.
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Visit **www.legion.org** if you wish to pay dues on-line.

Stewart Abbink
Senior Vice Commander

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings Post members. I have to report the June 7th passing of Bruce Thomas, a Vietnam Navy vet. Also, Korean War vet, Dave Jack passed (no date was found for passing). Please reach out to any relatives of the family that you know to extend our condolences. I also want to thank all of you who attend our Flag Day/Post Everlasting services on June 14th. Even though I missed honoring Tony Balzan, we will remember him and the other 22 members that we lost last year. If you have any word on a member passing or having health problems, please let me know so I can spread the word.

For God and Country,

Chap. Jack Schwar (630) 542-3528
jack.schwar@gmail.com

Looking for a hall to hold your Special Event . . .

The Legion has a large hall available for rent to celebrate your special occasion.
From Christenings to Weddings and everything in between,
our hall will suit your needs.
We still have 2023 dates available and are already booking dates in 2024
so don't wait.

Contact: Donna Locher, Rental Chairman @ 847-502-1002

Bingo

UPCOMING DATES:
August 11th & 25th
and
September 8th & 22nd

7:30 p.m.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Regular Bingo Games / Special Bingo Games

PROGRESSIVE SPLIT THE POT GAME

Cash Bar / Drink Specials

American Legion Post 208
121 N. Douglas Avenue
Arlington Heights
847/253-6632
www.arlingtonheightsamericanlegion.org

PROCEEDS BENEFIT OUR LOCAL VETERANS & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Join us on Friday Nights . . .

AMERICAN LEGION POST 208 PRESENTS

WOLFMAN JACK'S

KARAOKE

Party

With Your Host,
John Peterson

EVERY FRIDAY

8pm-12:30A
(After Bingo 9:30PM Start,
2nd and 4th Fridays)

Diamond Entertainment
John Peterson
WLFMNJACK@AOL.Com
847.337.2482

ARLINGTONHEIGHTSAMERICANLEGION.ORG

AMERICAN LEGION

Festival Days 2023

Festival Days 2023

AUGUST, 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 **POC Mtg 5:30** **Exec Board 7pm**	**2** VFW 981 (VH) 7 pm	**3** **Q.O.H.** **Red Cross Blood Drive**	**4** **Karaoke**	**5** Rental (VH)
6 AA 7:30 - 9:15 **INSTALLATION 1:00**	**7** USMC 7pm	**8** **Post Mtg 7pm** **Aux Board Mtg 7pm**	**9** **SAL Mtg 7pm**	**10** **Q.O.H.** **ColorGuard 7pm**	**11** **BINGO** **Karaoke**	**12** Rental (VH)
13 AA 7:30 - 9:15 **Jr Mtg Noon-4**	**14**	**15**	**16** USMC 7:30 (VH)	**17** **Q.O.H.**	**18** **Karaoke**	**19** 9th District Installation of Officers
20 AA 7:30 - 9:15	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24** **Q.O.H.**	**25** **BINGO** **Karaoke**	**26** Cmdr Mtg 10 a.m
27 AA 7:30 - 9:15 Texas Hold 'Em	**28**	**29**	**30** VFW 981 (VH) 6:30 pm	**31** **Q.O.H.**		

SEPTEMBER, 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1 **Karaoke**	**2**
3 AA 7:30 - 9:15 **S.A.L. PANCAKE BREAKFAST**	**4**	**5** **Exec Board 7pm**	**6** VFW 981 (VH) 7pm	**7** **Q.O.H.**	**8** **BINGO** **Karaoke**	**9**
10 AA 7:30 - 9:15 **Junior Meeting 11 am**	**11** USMC 7pm (CR)	**12** **Post Mtg 7pm** **Aux Mtg 7pm**	**13** **SAL Mtg 7pm**	**14** **Q.O.H.** **ColorGuard 7pm**	**15** **Karaoke**	**16**
17 AA 7:30 - 9:15	**18**	**19** Red Cross 9 am	**20** USMC (VH) 7:30pm	**21** **Q.O.H.**	**22** **BINGO** ~~**KARAOKE**~~	**23** **SAL Meat Raffle**
24 AA 7:30 - 9:15 VFW District Mtg 11-3 (VH)	**25**	**26**	27 VFW 981 (VH) 6:30 pm	**28** **Q.O.H.**	**29** **KARAOKE**	**30** Cmdr Mtg 10 a.m.

CELEBRATE

August

5 Dolores Tabert
6 Jim Zarno
7 Candice Ramirez
10 Sarah Heyman
20 Maribeth Kaspari
21 Christine Jones
23 Lauri Grzelak
26 Bev Leistico
27 Maureen Blankfield
28 Patricia Metcalf
30 Karen Else
30 Brianne McBrayer
31 Nicole Boven

September

2 Mike McIntyre
3 Debbie Nelson
3 John Nicosia
5 Lois Kurowski
6 Todd Earl
11 Isabella McDonnell
13 Conrad De Latour
13 Cindy Hall
15 Kevin Ziobrowski
17 Linda Caldwell
18 Elaine Izewski
19 Dolores Cosentino
19 Kelly Dean
22 Alisa Pontarelli
23 Corinne Gerstmayer
25 Sheila Hall
29 Tom Ewald

*Please send **Birthday and Anniversary** additions and corrections to:*
NEWSLETTERFORPOST208@YAHOO.COM

August

1 Allan & Mary Kulikowski
3 Steve & Barbara Doerner
5 Conrad & Joyce De Latour
6 Brian & Christine Jones
7 Patrick & Juliana Hickey
11 Mike & Cindy McIntyre
30 Ken & Rose Maschek
30 Walt & Kathy Parus

September

2 Gerald & Debbie Cortesi
7 Chuck & Dian Davis
11 Daniel & Carol Usalis
12 Gregg & Jennifer Vesely
28 Phillip & Theresa Kordek

Congratulations everyone!
Here's to many more years of wedded bliss!

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MONTHLY MEETING & EVENTS

P.O.C. / Executive Board Meeting – Monthly; 1st Tuesday
Post & Auxiliary Meeting – Monthly; 2nd Tuesday
S.A.L. Meeting – Monthly; 2nd Wednesday
Junior Auxiliary Meeting – Monthly, 2nd Sunday
Bingo – Bi-Monthly; 2nd & 4th Friday
Karaoke – Weekly; Friday night
Queen of Hearts Drawing – Weekly; Thursday night

The OCTOBER / NOVEMBER Newsletter deadline is
Tuesday, September 12th
E-Mail Your Articles
(in Microsoft WORD FORMAT and FLYERS in POWERPOINT FORMAT please)

to the Newsletter E-Mail Address

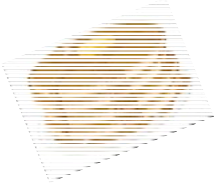
NEWSLETTERFORPOST208@YAHOO.COM

2023 / 2024 UPCOMING EVENTS

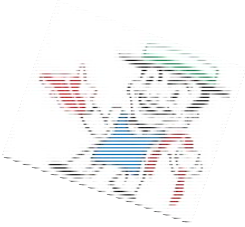
August, 2023

3	Red Cross Blood Drive
6	Joint Installation of 208 Officers
11	Bingo
19	9th District Installation
25	Bingo
27-28-29	Texas Hold 'Em

September

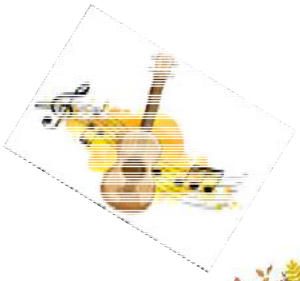


3	S.A.L. Pancake Breakfast
8	Bingo
19	Red Cross Blood Drive
22	Bingo
23	S.A.L. Meat Raffle
24	VFW District Meeting



October

1	S.A.L. Pancake Breakfast
13	Bingo
14	Jr. Auxiliary Spaghetti Dinner
27	Bingo
29-30-31	Texas Hold 'Em



November

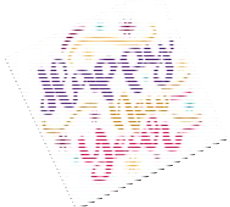
5	S.A.L. Pancake Breakfast
10	Bingo
11	Rock for the Vets
23	Naval Recruits Thanksgiving Dinner
24	Toys For Tots
26-27-28	Texas Hold 'Em

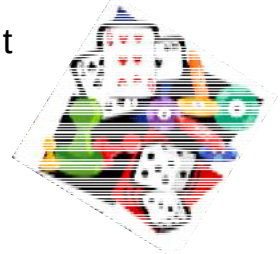
December

2	2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off
3	SAL Pancake Breakfast w/Santa & Jr. Aux. Bake Sale
8	Bingo
9	Post's Children's Christmas Party
19	Red Cross Blood Drive
22	Bingo

January '2024

7	S.A.L. Pancake Breakfast
12	Bingo
13	Auxiliary Game Night
26	Bingo
27	S.A.L. Meat Raffle

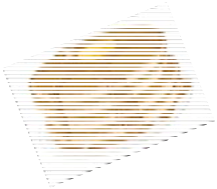




February, 2024

4 Pancake Breakfast & Jr. Bake Sale
9 Bingo
11 Super Bowl Party
18 Jerky Making
23 Bingo

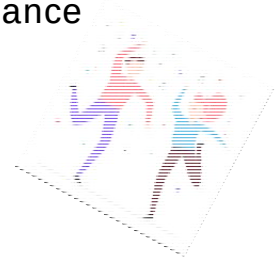
March



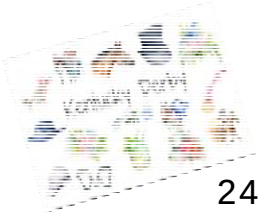
3 S.A.L. Pancake Breakfast & Auxiliary Bake Sale
8 Bingo
16 Jerky Packing
17 Red Cross Blood Drive
22 Bingo

April

7 S.A.L.. Pancake Breakfast
12 Bingo
13 Color Guard Spring Fling Dinner/Dance
26 Bingo



May



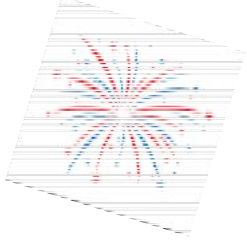
4 Auxiliary Kentucky Derby Day
5 S.A.L. Pancake Breakfast
10 Bingo
24 Bingo
24/25 Poppy Days
27 Memorial Day Parade

June

14 Flag Day / Post Everlasting Ceremony
14 Bingo
28 Bingo

July

Festival Days – Dates to Be Announced



UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

AUGUST

1	P.O.C. 5:30pm / Executive Board 7pm
3	Red Cross Blood Drive 9:00am / Queen of Hearts
4	Karaoke
9	Joint Installation of Officers 1:00 pm
8	Post Meeting / Auxiliary Board Meeting 7pm
9	SAL Mtg 7pm
10	Color Guard Meeting 7pm / Queen of Hearts
11	Bingo / Karaoke
13	Junior Meeting Noon
17	Queen of Hearts
18	Karaoke
19	9th District Installation
24	Queen of Hearts
25	Bingo Karaoke
26	Commander Meeting 10 am
27/28/29	Texas Hold'Em
31	Queen of Hearts

SEPTEMBER

1	Karaoke
3	S.A.L. Pancake Breakfast
4	Labor Day
5	P.O.C. 5:30 m / Exec Board Meeting – 7 pm
7	Queen of Hearts
8	Bingo / Karaoke
10	Junior Meeting 11 am
12	Post Meeting Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm
13	SAL Meeting 7pm
14	Color Guard Meeting 7pm / Queen of Hearts
15	Karoake
19	Red Cross Blood Drive 9:00 am
21	Queen of Hearts
22	Bingo / Karaoke
23	S.A.L. Meat Raffle
24	VFW District Meeting 11 am
28	Queen of Hearts
29	Karaoke
30	Commander Meeting 10 a.m.