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

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MERLE GUILD AMERICAN LEGION POST 208
JUNE/JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hi everyone, summer is just a few weeks away and the weather is It's time to get out of the house and spend time outdoors with family and friends. The month of May was a busy time at our Post. The Auxiliary had a Cinco de Mayo Day, give a big shout out to Jan Crigler for all her work. S.A.L. had their last pancake breakfast for the season and the whole season was enormous success. Memorial Day weekend is always a busy weekend for the American Legion Family. We hold Poppy Days and rely on our many volunteers to distribute poppies at local merchants, and proceeds support our veterans in need. Flags are placed on the graves of all veterans at the Wheeling Township Cemetery, and don't forget about the annual Memorial Day Parade.

A big thank you to our Poppy Chairmen, Jack Schwar and Barb Conner for organizing Poppy Days, and to the many volunteers who participated in honoring our veterans not only by distributing poppies, but by placing flags at Wheeling Township Cemetery on the graves of our Veterans we have lost. Summer is here and our activities are increasing by the month, Flag Day, June 14, Post Everlasting is held at 6:00pm).

Bingo, Queen of Hearts, and hall rentals are all doing great thanks to the volunteers, members, family, and friends of our Post who support these activities. And speaking of activities at the Post, the month of July brings our biggest fundraiser of the year to the Post – Festival Days. Whether you can sign up to volunteer for one shift or many shifts, your help is very much appreciated. Bring your family and/or friends and make it a team volunteer event. We guarantee you'll enjoy the time spent meeting the many people who visit our Post over this five-day event, not to mention the many Merle Guild family members you'll meet. The Volunteer Sign-Up sheets should be at the Post the first week of June so be sure to stop in and grab a shift or two. Texas Hold 'em is back, June 26and 27.

We will be holding the annual election of officers at our June meeting, so be sure to attend and support the officers being elected or throw your hat in the ring if you're interested in being involved in this wonderful organization.

I hope everyone has a safe and healthy summer and that I get to see you at our Post. God Bless America in these trying times and remember my door is always open for suggestions on making our Post a better place.

Dale Berg, Commander

From the Desk of the Auxiliary President . . . .

Congratulations to Jan Crigler on putting together a VERY SUCCESSFUL and fun Cinco de Mayo party! If you were not there, you missed a great party!

If this newsletter has reached you in time, Poppy Days are Friday, May 26th and Saturday, May 27th. If you can spare any time at all – even just one hour, please sign up to distribute Poppies. Proceeds are used to help active duty and hospitalized Veterans and their families.

The Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 29th. The bus which takes us to the starting point of the parade usually arrives about 8 AM. It will make a few trips but if you want a ride, get there early.

Festival Days are June 30 thru July 4th. We can use all the help you can give us. The Auxiliary is responsible for seeing that the kitchen is staffed. Our job is to keep the food warm and serve it to the public. We do not handle money – all purchases are by ticket only. We serve hot dogs, hamburgers and brats. The SAL usually cooks the food and brings it in to the kitchen. We wash the pans used for transporting the food and at the end of the night we wash the dishes. Shifts are 3 hours long. We would ideally like 4 people in the kitchen on each shift. There are all sorts of other opportunities for helping during the festival, please see the sign-up sheets in the binder on the bar and donate some of your time to help the Post during its biggest fundraiser of the year.

Congratulations to the newly-elected officers who will serve during the 2023–2024 year. I wish you all the best. May you have a very successful year.

Finally, thank you to all my officers. We had a great year and I very much appreciate all your hard work!

Lois Kurowski, Auxiliary Unit 208 President

A Note from the Sr. Vice Commander . . .

Congratulations to Post 208 on making their membership goal for the 2022-2023 membership year. We renewed 330 members, giving us 100.9%! This would not have been possible without you renewing your membership and recruiting new applicants. I look forward to the 2023-2024 membership driving that begins July 15, 2023. Be sure to update your contact information; this is important to us so that we can ensure you are receiving important information from the Post.

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, if need to renew your membership 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.

AS A REMINDER…. Annual dues is $50.00, or $175 for five years

Stewart Abbink
Senior Vice Commander

Color Guard News . . .

The Color Guard would like to extend many thanks to all those who supported our Annual Spring Fling Dinner / Dance. The event went very well and all those in attendance had a great time!

The Color Guard has been very busy with outings; April 1st – funeral honors; April 20th – funeral honors; April 29th – Color Guard Spring Fling; May 26th – Friendship Village (Schaumburg) Memorial Day Celebration; May 28th – Memory Gardens Memorial Day Salute to fallen veterans; May 29th – Memorial Day Parade honoring Arlington Heights fallen veterans.

We have the Arlington Heights Annual Fourth of July Parade on our calendar and will be marching in that parade, proudly representing Post 208!

Stewart Abbink

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings Post members. I am happy to report that I have no bad news to report as of the time of this writing. I would like to thank all of you who participated in Poppy Days, the flagging of veteran graves and honor service at Wheeling Township Cemetery, and the Memorial Day Parade and Village honor services afterwards. Upcoming, we will be having a Flag Day service followed by a Life Everlasting Service at the Post on Wednesday, June 14th at 6:00 p.m. I hope you can join us!

If you hear of any updates on member passings or severe health conditions, please let me know.

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

Congratulations to our February & March Golden Bucks Winners….

April	*May*
Dian Davis	Robert Wisniewski
Larry Mazzone	Nick Paglia

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

Thank you to everyone for your continued support in helping making Poppy Days a huge success again this year. Whether you helped distribute poppies or sent in a donation, you efforts are greatly appreciated.

A shout out to our Juniors who once again did an outstanding job. WAY TO GO GIRLS!!

To everyone, Thank you….may you enjoy a fun and safe summer!

Barb Conner, Auxiliary Poppy Chairman

Bingo

UPCOMING DATES:
June 9th & 23rd
and
July 14th & 28th

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

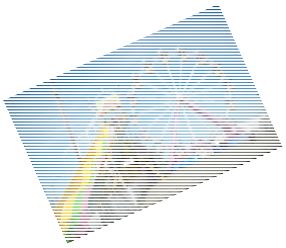
American Legion Post 208
121 N. Douglas Avenue
Arlington Heights
847/253-6632
www.arlingtonheightsamericanlegion.org

PROCEEDS BENEFIT OUR LOCAL VETERANS & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

FESTIVAL DAYS, 2023

Friday, June 30th
thru
Tuesday, July 4th

Calling all Post, Auxiliary & S.A.L. Members
and all
Family, Friends and Neighbors
of
Post 208



This annual neighborhood festival, also known as Frontier Days, is the Post's largest fundraiser of the year.

We are asking for everyone's help in making this event, once again, a huge success.

Stop by the Legion and sign up for a shift or two….or more.

Everyone Welcome!

Welcome New Members . . . .

- Chelsea Hunter
- Teresa Cilio
- Sharalyn Leginski
- Tin Crigler
- Barbara Robbinsn
- Katherine Grubba
- Suzy Finn
- Layla Kohles
- Judy Balek
- Deborah Bodnar

We are happy to have you as are part of Unit 208!

AND . . . .

Congratulations to Anna May Mann on her 90 years of continued membership to the American Legion Auxiliary and to the many hours of her dedication and service to our Veterans!

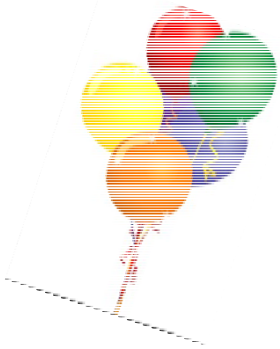
JUNE, 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1 **Q.O.H.**	**2** **Karaoke** Rental (VH)	**3** Rental (VH)
4 AA 7:15-9:15 Rental (VH)	**5** U.S.M.C. 7pm (CR)	**6** Red Cross (VH) **Exec Board 7pm**	**7** VFW 981 7-10	**8** **Color Guard 7pm** **Q.O.H.**	**9** **Bingo** **Karaoke**	**10** **Fest Mtg 10:00** Rental (VH)
11 AA 7:15-9:15 **Jr Aux Mtg 11-2**	**12**	**13** **Post Mtg 7pm** **Aux Mtg 7pm**	**14 Flag Day** Flag Burning/Post Everlasting 6pm SAL 7pm	**15** **Q.O.H.**	**16** **Karaoke**	**17** **Cmdr Mtg 9:00** **Event Mtg 10:00**
18 **Father's Day** AA 7:15-9:15	**19**	**20**	**21** USMC 7:30	**22** **Q.O.H.**	**23** **Bingo** **Karaoke**	**24** Rental (VH) **Fest Mtg 10:00**
25 AA 7:15-9:15 Rental (VH)	**26** Texas Hold 'Em	**27**	**28** VFW 981 6:30	**29** **Q.O.H.**	**30** **FESTIVAL DAYS Day #1**	

JULY, 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
30 AA 7:15 - 9:15	**31**					**1** **FESTIVAL DAY #2**
2 **FESTIVAL DAYS** AA 7:15-9:15	**3**	**4** **Happy Fourth of July**	**5** VFW 981 (VH)	**6** **Exec Board 7pm Q.O.H.**	**7** **Karaoke** Rental (VH)	**8**
9 AA 7:15 - 9:15	**10** USMC 7pm (CR)	**11** **Post Mtg 7pm**	**12** **SAL Mtg 7pm**	**13** **Q.O.H. Color Guard**	**14** **BINGO Karaoke**	**15** **Fest Mtg 10 am Vol Appr Dinner 6 p.m.**
16 AA 7:15 - 9:15	**17**	**18**	**19** USMC 7:30 (VH)	**20** **Q.O.H.**	**21** **Karaoke**	**22**
23 AA 7:15 - 9:15	**24**	**25**	**26** VFW 981 (VH)	**27** **Q.O.H.**	**28** **BINGO Karaoke**	**29** **Cmdr Mtg 10 am** Rental (VH)

CELEBRATE



June

1 Millie Ewald
2 Ellen Janda
3 Sonja Hill
4 Irene Cohan
7 Paul DuVal
7 Judy Clark
7 Vera Sorensen
7 Kaylee Thurlow
8 Allan Kulikowski
12 Jim Kuhn
13 Clarence Placek
15 Harold Meilahn
15 Chuck Davis
15 Donna Sorci
19 Chuck Leistico
19 Kia Yelinek
50 Carol Know
20 Gloria Pfeifer
21 Leo Blakenfield
24 Carolyn Bolger
24 Gertrude Rateike
25 Deborah Smart
26 Henry Sobieski
30 Lew O'Donnell

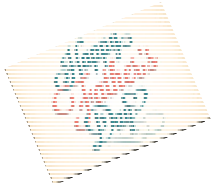
July

1 Beverly Borre
1 Genevieve White
3 Mike Smith
4 Gary Grzelak
6 Barry Blankfield
12 Pat Curley
12 Marion DeVon
12 Jerry Ziobrowski
13 Tony Serigos
15 Jane Heyman
22 George Haupt
22 Patrick Hickey
22 Anne Woodruff
25 Walt Parus
26 Mary (Cathy) DuVal
27 Bob Ferraro
27 Virginia Tarczon
28 Barbara Conner
29 Melissa Gilbertson
31 Dayle Klingler

*Please send **Birthday and Anniversary** additions and corrections to:*

NEWSLETTERFORPOST208@YAHOO.COM

2022 / 2023



June	9	Bingo
	14	Flag Day
	18	Happy Father's Day
	23	Bingo
	26 /27	Texas Hold 'Em
	30	Festival Days BEGIN!!!
July	1 – 4	Festival Days Continue
	4	Happy July 4th
	14	Bingo
	28	Bingo

FRONTIER DAYS 2023

Friday, June 30th
thru
Tuesday, July 4th

Mark your calendars – we need your help!

The May meeting was a busy one. Besides holding the Annual Initiation of New Members, presenting Honor Guard Pins continued years of service including one of our members for her 90 years of service and membership in the Auxiliary, the annual election of officers was held. We are happy to present the names of the 2023/2024 Officers:

President	Pat Sienkiewicz
1st Vice President	Mary Collado
2nd Vice President	Jan Crigler
Treasurer	Donna Locher
Historian	Kia Yelinik
Sergeant at Arms	Krista McIntyre
Chaplain	April Daskowski

Congratulations ladies. And to the officers of 2022/2023, Congratulations on your successful year. Thank you for your service to our Unit!

Donna Locher, Auxiliary Nominating Committee Chairman

THIS JUST IN……Hello everyone, Happy summer. Glad everyone is doing well. With the Fest just around the corner we will be looking for volunteers to help where needed. There will be a book at the bar for all positions that will need to be filled. Please ask your bartender for the sign-up sheet. Remember it's all volunteer, and all help is much appreciated. If you sign up for something please try a show up, if you are unable to after you sign up, please take your name off the list so we can properly refill that shift. Thank you in advance.

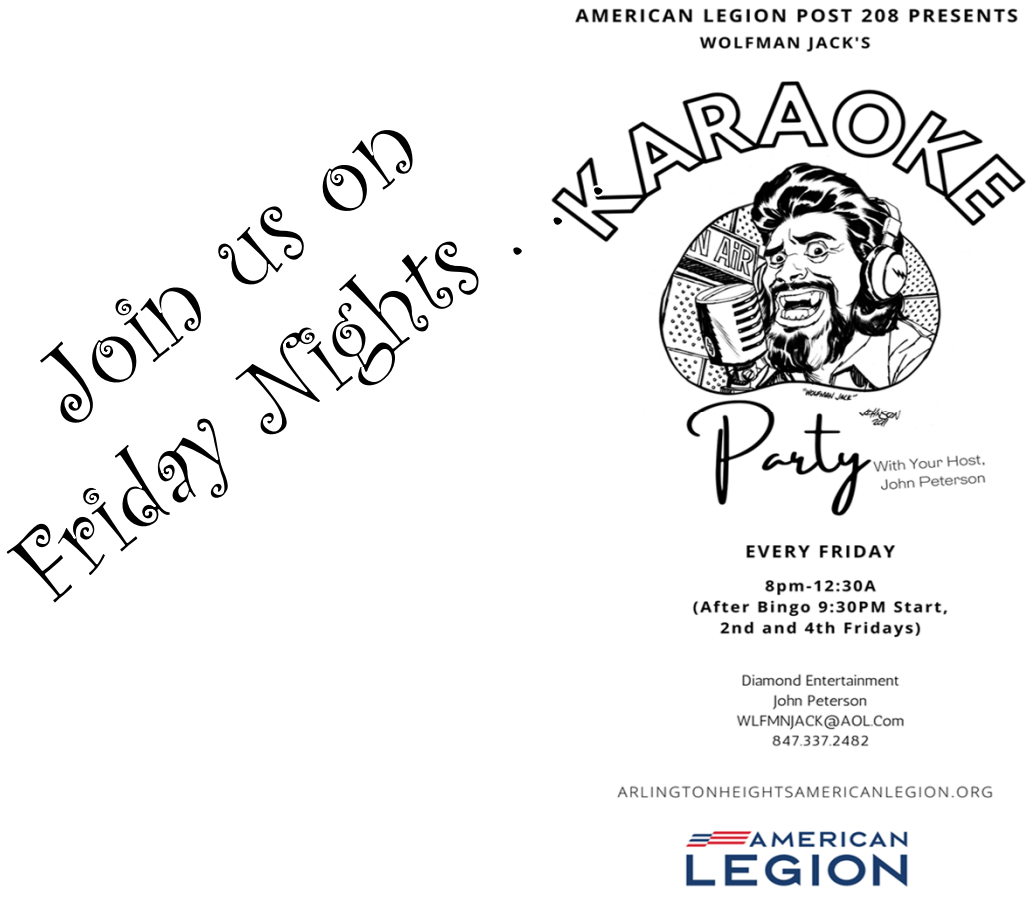
The end of June we also have Texas hold-em coming to the Post. I will be cooking food and selling to those that come and play. I can use a little help with this so please see me at the next meeting or email me, I will let you know the days and times I need help. Thank you again.

Stay Safe this summer and see you at the Fest.

Brian Jones

Junior Vice Commander

Jonezy.bj@gmail.com



June

3 Leo & Donna Blankfield
9 Robert & Louise Knauber
12 Chuck & Bev Leistico
13 John & Kia Yelinek
21 Gary & Lauri Grzelak
25 Harold & Mary Meilahn

July

29 Dan & Maribeth Kaspari

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 AUGUST / SEPTEMBER Newsletter deadline is
Tuesday, July 11th
E-Mail Your Articles
(in Microsoft WORD FORMAT and FLYERS in POWERPOINT FORMAT please)

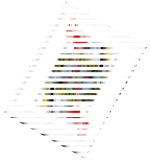
to the Newsletter E-Mail Address

NEWSLETTERFORPOST208@YAHOO.COM

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

JUNE

1 Queen of Hearts
2 Karaoke
6 Executive Board / Red Cross Blood Drive
8 Color Guard / Queen of Hearts
9 Bingo / Karaoke
10 Fest Meeting 10 a.m
11 Junior Meeting 11 a.m.
13 Post Meeting / Auxiliary Meeting 7pm
14 Flag Burning & Post Everlasting 6pm SAL Mtg 7pm
15 Queen of Hearts
16 Karaoke
17 Commander Meeting 9am Event Meeting 10 am
18 Fathers Day
22 Queen of Hearts
23 Bingo / Karaoke
24 Fest Meeting 10 am
26/2 Texas Hold'Em
729 Queen of Hearts
30 Festival Day #1



JULY

1 Festival Day #2
2 Festival Day #3
3 Festival Day #4
4 Fourth of July Parade / Festival Day #5
6 Exec Board Meeting – 7 pm / Queen of Hearts
7 Karaoke
11 Post Meeting 7 pm
12 SAL Meeting 7pm
13 Color Guard Meeting 7pm / Queen of Hearts
14 Bingo / Karoake
15 Fest Meeting 10 am /Volunteer Appreciation 6pm
20 Queen of Hearts
21 Karaoke
27 Queen of Hearts
28 Bingo / Karaoke
29 Commander Meeting 10 a.m.