



# THE AMERICAN LEGION FIRST CALL!

# UTICA POST 229

CHRIS URBAN, COMMANDER

OCTOBER 2012

JACK LAPAGLIA, MEMBERSHIP

POST MEETINGS ARE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:30 P.M. (OPTIONAL DINNER AT 6:15)

## ENJOY AN ITALIAN BUFFET AND AN EVENING OF DANCING

The October dinner dance features an Italian buffet, open bar and music by Sonny Farrar on Friday, Oct. 12.

Social hour gets under way at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7. Music and dancing is from 8 to midnight.

Cost is \$22 per person.

To make a reservation, contact Chair Rose Coniglio at 735-9091 or Post 229 at 793-9377.

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## OCTOBER

2	Bingo, 6:30 pm
3	Bloodmobile, noon-5
4	Monthly Dinner, 6:15 Post Meeting, 7:30 pm Auxiliary, 7:30 pm
8	Vietnam Vets of Am., 1
9	Bingo, 6:30 pm
16	Bingo, 6:30 pm
20	DAV, noon
21	Kids Halloween Party, 12
23	Bingo, 6:30 pm

## DAV, YANKEES TAP WILSON



**Post 229 Service Officer Dave Wilson was elected a national executive committeeman for District 2 (New York) at the National Disabled American Veterans (DAV) convention held in Las Vegas in August. Also, on Aug. 15, Dave was honored at Yankee Stadium as the Yankees hosted a DAV Appreciation Day. He was one of four DAV members whose images appeared on the big screen as the announcer read their brief biographies to the baseball fans.**

## OCT. MEETING HONORS PAST COMMANDERS

Past commanders of Utica Post 229 are invited to be special guests at the Oct. 4th dinner and meeting.

Any past commanders planning on attending are asked to make a reservation by calling the post at 793-9377.

## HAVE FUN WHILE HELPING AT BINGO

Volunteers are needed to help with the Tuesday bingo nights at the post, bingo chair Jim George announced.

"We need callers and floor volunteers, especially for the first and second weeks of the month," he said.

"We do have a lot of fun."

## POST REPRESENTED AT SEPT. 11 PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Genesis Group sponsored a "Prayer Breakfast" on September 11 to commemorate the events eleven years ago with terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The program was to honor emergency responders, firefighters, police and the military.

At the opening of the program a welcoming

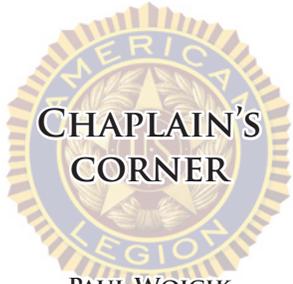
speech was presented by Ray Durso, executive director of the Genesis Group, followed by presentation of the colors and the National Anthem. Colors were presented by area firefighter and police units.

The keynote address was given by Steve Redisch, executive director of the Voice of America. Some dignitaries present were Assembly members Anthony Brindisi

and Claudia Tenny, State Senator Joseph Griffo, Oneida County Clerk Sandy Deperno and Utica Mayor Robert Palmeri.

The city and the Utica Police Department graciously extended an invitation to Post Commander Chris Urban and Law & Order Chairman Paul Wojcik to join them at the breakfast.

-- Paul Wojcik



PAUL WOJCIK

The trees have donned their  
finest robes  
of dazzling red and gold  
On hillsides near the masters  
touch  
Is splendorous to behold  
I walk along the woodland  
path  
Midst leaves in colors bright  
And marvel how God paints  
each leaf  
To bring this sheer delight

The sky above is azure hue  
The maples scarlet flame  
Oak trees are dressed in  
brightest shades  
Along the country lane

It's on these days I like to roam  
Mid scenes of warm bright  
cheer  
When God takes me by the  
hand  
In the autumn of the year  
*Kay Hoffman*

OCT. NOTABLES

- Oct. 3 George Washington names the first nat'l Thanksgiving Day
- Oct. 4 Armistice signed with Germany WWI 1918
- Oct. 7 First Colonial Congress met 1765
- Oct. 12 Columbus arrived in the New World 1492
- Oct. 13 U.S. Navy born with building of 2 ships 1775
- Oct. 21 First electric light 1879
- Oct. 22 Sam Houston sworn in as 1st president of Republic of Texas



# COMMANDER'S CALL

CHRIS URBAN

## BRAVO ZULU

Bravo Zulu to Scott Sebastian, Stu Bailey, Phil Capraro, Dave Valentine, Jack LaPaglia, Frank Cassella, Paul Wojcik, Jim Haggerty, and Tony Palladino for volunteering to serve the Oneida County American Legion Auxiliary Meeting that was hosted at our Post on September 15.

## ANOTHER BRAVO ZULU

Bravo Zulu to Joanne Powers, Kim Lynne, Kathy Briggs, and Tim Oderkirk (our entire bar staff); each of them successfully completed an online TIPS (Training for Intervention

ProcedureS) course in which they learned strategies that ensure responsible alcohol service, promote professionalism, and enhance customer service skills. This course will also help lower our insurance rates.

## OPEN POST COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

We are looking for members who would like to take a leadership role in the Memorial/Veterans Day Committee and the Law and Order Committee. If you are interested, please contact me so that we can discuss these opportunities and the possibilities.

## NEVER ENOUGH BINGO VOLUNTEERS

We can always, always, ALWAYS use more volunteers for Tuesday evening Bingo. Bingo makes the Post \$500 to \$1,000 a week. Our Bingo proceeds are responsible for most of our charitable donations. It would be really great to have more volunteers.

If you can give us a little of your time on Tuesday late afternoon/evening, then please contact the Post and leave your name for Bingo Chairman Jim George.

*For God and Country...*



## NEW MEMBER

**Membership Chair Jack LaPaglia (left) welcomed new member Dick Greco at the September general meeting.**

## JOIN THE POST'S COLOR GUARD

The Color Guard is looking for new members. No experience necessary; will train, says Chairman Anthony Palladino. If interested, leave your name and phone number at the post.

## DAV MEETS ON 3RD SATURDAY

Disabled American Veterans, Leo B. Wheeler/Stars and Stripes Chapter 82 meets at Post 229 at noon on the third Saturday of the month.

## VVA MEETS ON 2ND MONDAY

Vietnam Veterans of America, Utica Chapter 944, meets at Post 229 on the second Monday of the month at 1 p.m.

## MEMBERSHIP: RENEW EARLY

BY ROSE A. CONIGLIO

Our membership quota for the 2012-13 year is 202. Dues are now \$20.

To date we have 27 members paid for 2012-13. So renew your membership early.

If you haven't paid 2011-12 dues yet, please do so we can get your membership up to date and so I can accept your 2012-13 dues.

Make checks out to American Legion Auxiliary Unit 229 and send to:

Rose A. Coniglio  
607 Jay St., Apt. C2  
Utica, NY 13501  
Thank you !



PEGGY KOHLER, PRESIDENT

# AUXILIARY



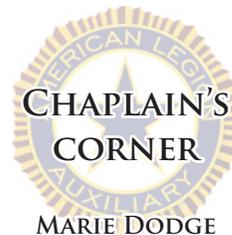
## SIGN UP YOUR GOBLINS FOR HALLOWEEN FUN

Post, Auxiliary and SAL members can sign up youngsters in their family for the Children's Halloween Party, which takes place Sunday, Oct. 21, from noon to 2.

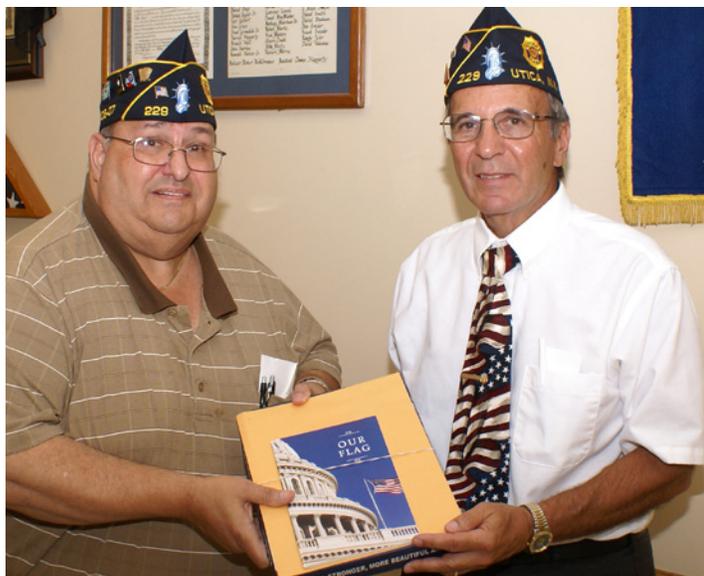
Ages infant to 12 are welcome.

A sign-up sheet will be in the lounge area.

Besides food and goodies galore, there will be clowns and other entertainment.



I asked the Lord to bless you  
As I prayed for you today  
To guide you and protect you  
As you go along your way...  
His love is always with you  
His promises are true  
No matter what the tribulation  
You know He will see us through  
So, when the road you're  
traveling on  
Seem difficult at best  
Give your problems to the Lord  
And God will do the rest.  
God will bless you  
On this and every day.



## FLAG DONATED

*A U.S. flag flown over the nation's Capitol in Washington was presented to Treasurer Jim Haggerty (left), who in turn presented it to Post 229 at the September meeting. Accepting on behalf of the post was Vice Commander Len Lascala.*

## FREE DRIVER SAFETY COURSE FOR VETERANS AND FAMILIES

AARP is offering a Driver Safety Course for veterans in November.

The classroom course is free for veterans. For those veterans who wish to take the course online, the cost is discounted 50 percent.

Completing the driver safety course reduces insurance premiums for up to three years.

To find out where the classroom course is being held, call 866-238-0294, or visit [aarp.org/veterans](http://aarp.org/veterans). To sign up for the online course, visit [aarpdriversafety.org](http://aarpdriversafety.org), and enter the promo code, "VETERANS."

The course is open to veterans of all ages, their spouses, domestic partners, widows, widowers, and dependents.

**Utica Post #229  
The American Legion  
409 Herkimer Rd.  
Utica, NY 13502**

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*Since its founding in Paris in 1919, The American Legion has been an advocate for America's veterans, a friend of the U.S. military, a sponsor of community-based programs for young people and a spokesman for patriotic values.*

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## CENTRAL NY VETERANS EXPO AT SUNYIT OCT. 9

The 6th Annual Central NY Veterans Expo takes place 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9 at SUNYIT in Marcy.

The event is intended to connect veterans and their families directly to area providers. It is free and open to the public.

The Expo begins with speakers on veterans issues from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in Kunsela Hall, followed at 11 by a service fair in the Campus Center Gymnasium with over 80 local and regional agencies and businesses including the VA and many not-for-profit service providers. Special services for homeless veterans will also be available.

Veterans can register to attend by going to [vetexpo.org](http://vetexpo.org). Those who register will be eligible to receive a free lunch.

Here is the schedule:

### **SUNYIT, Kunsela Hall**

9 a.m. SUNYIT Provost William Durgin welcomes guests, then Honor Guard Opening Ceremony.

9:15-10:30 Keynote Speaker: Andrew Davis, a staff sergeant and Army Ranger who did two tours in Afghanistan and one in Iraq. He is co-founder of Comfort for Change that created the Veterans Transition Center at University of Minnesota. Davis received the US Small Business Administration Veterans Small Business Champion Award. He came to NY State several years ago to work for the NYS Division of Veterans Affairs. He is a spokesperson and advocate for veterans and their family members.

### **SUNYIT, Campus Center Gymnasium**

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. CNY Vet Expo: Exhibitor Tables and Stand-Down Services Open

### **SUNYIT, Kunsela Auditorium**

COMPANION EVENT: Additional Workshops

1-4 p.m. Training with Cornell University, "Supporting Our Heroes at Work and School". Designed for: HR professionals, college student advisors, managers, supervisors, disability service providers, vocational and rehabilitation professionals, ADA Coordinators, people with disabilities, public sector professionals, college faculty, and veteran advocates.