



**Robert E. Coulter, Jr. Post 1941
& Auxiliary Unit 1941**

American Legion
Department of Illinois



June 2015

70 Years of Service for God & Country
Volume 66 No. 11



Commander's Message: Gigi Callaway

Cell: 708-670-5539

Cmdr@AL1941.org

Post Officers

Commander
Gigi Callaway

Senior Vice Commander
Ray Hodson

Junior Vice Commander
Jason Coclans

Adjutant
PC Al Krenz

Finance Officer
PC Joe Delaloye

Service Officer/Chaplin
Jerry Matuch

May went well for such a busy month. The Post May Social Meeting hosted the Alzheimer's Association. There was a plethora of information and attendees discovered information that personally related to them or a family member. One item of interest was that a recent study found older veterans identified with PTSD as have nearly double the risk of dementia than other veterans. The speaker stated that they offer veterans and their families a variety of services. (24-hour helpline: 800-272-3900)

On May 24th it was the inaugural La Grange Park Memorial Day Program. This day was planned by Legionnaire Jim Zwit, Ray Wielgos (LGP Park District) and our post 1941. Jim and Ray did an outstanding job. Our Honor Guard looked very smart. It was truly an honorable day.

On May 25th our post did its traditional Memorial Day Tour of Ceremonies. We did encounter some rain drops along the way. We began with a memorial ceremony at Lyons Township High School (north campus) at 0830. There was the ceremonial bell ringing honoring those La Grange area residents who gave their lives in service to our country from the civil war to the present time. Additionally, our Boy Scout Troop 19 placed the crosses and read the name of those killed in action. The Emmanuel Episcopal Church and Grace Church Choir sang. La Grange's President Tom

Sergeant-at-Arms

Guy Vorsanger

Building Trustee

PC Bill Manders

Executive Committee

Fred Hartman

Wally Pidde

PC Don Baumgart

PC Len Sherwin

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Livingston and several trustees attended along with members of the community.

Photos: Courtesy of Mike Holub (click the word photos to view)

We boarded the bus and provided brief memorial services at Parkholm Cemetery, Lyonsville Cemetery, St. John's Cemetery, Hodgkins Memorial, and Countryside Memorial Park.

The final ceremony was at our Post Home. Our guest speaker was H. Brook Miller, Jr., from the Illinois Army National Guard. Those Coulter Post members who reported to the Post Everlasting were remembered. The Emmanuel Episcopal Church and Grace Church Choir sang here too. Bagpiper Steve La Rue played Amazing Grace as Legionnaire Charlie Miller (incoming 5th District Commander), Dr. Jim Discipio (Village President of LaGrange Park), Sean R. McDermott (Mayor of Countryside) assisted Post Chaplain Jerry Matuch in laying

the Memorial Wreath. PC / ADJ Al Krenz and Legionnaire Steve Palmer played our Service Hymns. Past Commanders Len Sherwin and Joe Delaloye provided the MIA / POW ceremony. PC Baumgart assisted with raising our flag and post everlasting ceremony. SVC Ray Hodson was our Bugler. JVC Jason Coclanes and his family provided refreshments. PC Al Ewert handled the Bar. Both our Auxiliary and SAL units assisted in many tasks during the Memorial Day ceremonies. Our Honor Guard did an exceptional job.

It was a day dedicated to all that gave the ultimate sacrifice so that we may enjoy the freedoms that we have today. I personally would like to **thank all that participated**. A special thank you to Legionnaire Steve Palmer for providing the sound system, the Emmanuel Episcopal Church and Grace Church Choir, Illinois National Guard, Boy Scout Troop 19, the Post Honor Guard, post officers, SAL, Auxiliary and members that assisted in a myriad of tasks that day. **THANK YOU!** Additionally, we are most appreciative to the Village of Hodgkins in providing transportation and escort for the day's events. The Village of Countryside for the portable sound system and escort throughout the day. Special recognition to Post Secretary and Auxiliary member Dorothy Fara for the beautiful landscaping work in the front of our Post Memorial Home. Again, thank you all! During the month of May, PC Manders chaired the nominating committee. Also, PC Krenz chaired post Americanism Awards. Thank you both. Also, thanks to those that served on the nominating committee and those of you that participated in the Americanism Awards. Post Delegates attended the 5th District meeting to elect the next legion year District officers. Charlie Miller from Bellwood Post 500 was voted in to be the next 5th District Commander. Post Delegates Cmdr Callaway, SVC Hodson, PC/ADJKrenz and SaA Vorsanger will be attending the State Convention in Springfield this year in July. SaA Guy Vorsanger and our Post Honor Guard finished the month off by leading off the 69th Annual Pet Parade. Legionnaires were able to ride behind the Honor Guard with the NIGMVPA's trucks and jeeps. Rain drops appeared but we persevered. Our Honor Guard

looked very sharp. It is an honor having each of you. Thank you for participating once again.

Upcoming for this June: Fisher House will host an open house which will be held on Wednesday, June 3rd from 1100 until 1400. The 1st Division Legion Mini- Convention will be held at our Post on Saturday, June 6th starting at 0830. (Coulter Post delegates are Cmdr Callaway, PC/ADJ Krenz, JVC Coclanes, SVC Hodson. Alternates: Chaplain Matuch and SaA Vorsanger.) The Flag Day ceremony will be held on Sunday, June 14th at 1300 in front of our post home. Wednesday, June 17 at 1930, will be our last business meeting for this Legion year. The post home's main hall and bar area will be closed for minor renovations from June 28 until July 5.

For all of our Legion Family Fathers: Happy Fathers' Day!



Sr. Vice Commander's Message: Ray Hodson
Home: 708-496-0930
SVC@AL1941.org

My fellow Coulter Post members, it is time for us to grow. Our membership must expand for the sake of our post. The continuation of our mission calls for more active members and new members. Our fellow vets, some of who have fallen on hard times, need our massed voices. Yes, this country's voices are heard when we speak loudly through our Legion commanders. Why not come to a meeting? If you are reading this you are already connected, you are probably a member. So why not bring a friend that could become one of us.

Thank you, Ray

A fast and easy way to get your renewal in is with the online renewal process. Click here or enter www.legion.org/renew . It is simple, easy and secure. Please be sure you have your legion ID number, which can be found on your membership card or renewal notice.



Jr. Vice Commander's Message: Jason Coclanes
Cell: 708-204-2262
JVC@AL1941.org

NO REPORT THIS MONTH



Adjutant's Message: Al Krenz
Home: 708-352-0751
Adj@AL1941@org

May was a busy month for the Post. We provided a color guard for a veteran's ceremony at the La Grange Park veteran's memorial on May 24th. Our Post's annual Memorial Day ceremonial tour took place on May 25th. The first ceremony was conducted at Lyons Township High School (north campus). After the appropriate remarks, a bell ceremony was conducted honoring those La Grange area residents who gave their lives in service to our country from the Civil war to the present time. Following the LT north servixce, there were brief memorial ceremonies at Parkholm Cementery, Lyonsville Cementery, St. Johns Cementery, Hodgkins Veterans Memorial and the Countryside Memorial Park. The final

ceremony of the day was held at the Post home. After the remarks from our Commander and guest speaker, Post Legionnaires who reported to Post Everlasting were remembered. Thanks to our Legion and Auxiliary member event volunteers, Steve Palmer for the audio support, Boy Scout troop 19 and everyone else that contributed their time and effort to make our Memorial Day program another memorable series of events.

The Coulter Post Americanism awards were presented at the end of May and early June to worthy students at the following schools: St. Cletus, St. John of the Cross, St. John Lutheran, Highland Middle School, St. Louise de Marillac, Pleasantdale Middle School, Gurrie Middle School and McClure Junior High. Additionally, Americanism awards and scholarships were presented to four senior students; two at Nazareth Academy and two at Lyons Township High School. Congratulations to all winning students and a "thank you" to Post members that were able to present the awards.

The Post also participated in the Annual La Grange Pet parade on May 30th. Thanks to our member volunteers who took part. Always a nice event; especially when the weather cooperates!.

The nominating committee, chaired by PC Bill Manders has met and members nominated for various Post offices and committees are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. The election process will take place at the June 17th business meeting which is called the "annual" meeting. The Executive Committee will also be approving the annual budget at the EC Meeting prior to the annual meeting. Please plan on attending.

Our Flag Day ceremony on June 14th at 2:00 pm in the Post home parking lot.

Finally, the annual Veteran's Mass will be held at St. Cletus Church beginning at 8:00 am on Saturday, July 4th. We will be providing a color guard for the ceremony so volunteers are needed. Please contact our Sergeant-at-Arms, Guy Vorsanger if you're able to take part.

I look forward to seeing you at our meetings and at our social events. Should you need to contact me, you may call at 708-352-0751 or e-mail me at akrenz993@sbcglobal.net.



Service Officer/Chaplain: Jerome S. Matuch
Home: 708-579-1094
SvcOff@AL1941.org

.NO REPORT THIS MONTH



TRANSFERRED TO POST EVERLASTING

Combined Legion Family News

**Nominating Committee (NC) slate of candidates for
officer/committee positions for the 2015-16 Legion year**

Commander, Gigi Callaway
Sr. Vice-Commander, Ray Hodson
Jr. Vice-Commander, Jason Conclanes
Adjutant, PC Al Krenz
Finance Officer, Charles Anderson
Sgt-at-Arms, Guy Vorsanger
Chaplain/Service Officer, Jerry Matuch
Building Trustee, PC Bill Manders
Committeeman, Fred Hartman
Committeeman, Dan Hamilton
PC Committeeman, PC Len Sherwin
PC Committeeman, PC Don Baumgart
Investment Account Committee (Elected at Large)
PC Joe Delaloye taking Fran McMonagle's term - 2 years
Pete Viramontes - 3 years
Joining Five Existing Members
Al Dahm Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee (Nominated by the NC)
Dan Hamilton - 2 years,
Therese Anderson - 2 years
Joining Three Existing Members
Respectfully Submitted by PC Bill Manders
Chairman, Nominating Committee

Son's of the American Legion **S.A.L. NEWS**

SAL Commander's Message: Gregg Gammie
whippet@whippetracing.org
708-732-5480

NO REPORT THIS MONTH

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY UNIT NEWS

President's Message: Anastasia Kwit
anastasia@seven10.com
708-831-3289

The summer wind is blowing in as Mr. Sinatra would croon, and I know many of us are excited for the return of warm summer breezes. I invite Auxiliary members to bring light desserts to our June 10 monthly meeting for an informal celebration of our wonderful year. We will hold elections that evening and select delegates to attend the state Convention in Springfield this July.

At the May 13 meeting, our nominating committee proposed the following slate of Unit Officers for 2015-2016:

President: Anastasia Kwit

Vice President & Historian: Rita Baumgart
Treasurer & Sergeant-at-Arms: Samantha Kwit
Elections will be held at the June 10 Unit Meeting which begins at 7pm.

Any members interested in serving as the Unit Secretary or Chaplain should call or email me to express interest in appointment to those offices.

I have honed many skills while serving as Unit President this year and am honored to serve again. Still, the dual officers I'm sure would like some relief, so we must make it our goal to reinvigorate our membership to become more involved in the Auxiliary as committee chairs or officers in the coming year as well as ramp up recruiting to bring in new faces. I thank Rita, Samantha, Dolly, Susie and Georgie for serving as officers this past year and Dorothy and Mary for continuing their chairman positions. Your efforts have helped our unit succeed!

This month we send junior member Kalyn Harris to Illinois Girls State, and thank Commodore Barry Unit 256 for sponsoring our second candidate, Melissa Fuentes. We wish them both wonderful experiences and look forward to hearing about their adventures in legislative mock-government when they return. Did you know the Coulter Legion home will be serving as the area bus stop this year? If you are available to volunteer at the send off (June 21 about 8am) or drop off (June 27 about 4pm), drop us a line!

Did you volunteer for Poppy Days this year? THANK YOU! Auxiliary leadership was able to put together a small program at nearly the last minute, and we are grateful to all Legion Family members who helped raise funds during this vital event. It is critical to replenish Poppy Funds annually so we can continue offering service projects (including Project Day!) and making donations to veterans and active duty military personnel and their families. Due to newsletter deadlines, we will publish final numbers in the July issue. If you didn't see any poppy cans this year, the Auxiliary now accepts online donations via PayPal, and it's not too late to donate for Poppy Days! Visit our website for details or follow this link for the direct page <http://bit.ly/poppydays> -- PayPal is a secure way to send money online & you do NOT need a PayPal account.

At our May meeting, we learned of new opportunities for crafty members to help veterans at Hines VA. PP Alice Ewert asked our unit to partner with her church to crochet or knit 10x10" ditty bags for veterans and to donate contents to pack inside, such as small toiletries (collect them from your summer vacation hotel stays!), toothbrushes, washcloths, and the like. Donations of yarn remnants or leftover skeins are also welcome (4-ply, all colors)! For a ditty bag pattern and more details, please contact Alice at aewert@sbcglobal.net // (708) 352-7436.

PP Crystal Deters also asked for volunteers to help sew carry-all bags for wheelchairs and walkers as well as small laundry bags from denim and other fabrics that were donated to Hines VA. Thanks to our early volunteers Dorothy & Georgie for getting started on this project and more volunteers are welcome! Please reach out to Crystal for details at ala1941var@aol.com // (630) 667-4743.

Happy Father's Day to all of our fathers and father-figures! This month we fly the flag especially on June 14 for Flag Day, and we look forward to attending the flag retirement ceremony hosted annually by the Post.

For the most up-to-date news about Unit 1941, attend our monthly meetings (June 10, 7pm), visit our website (www.auxiliary.AL1941.org) and LIKE us on facebook! If you haven't been receiving emails directly from the Auxiliary, we do not have your email address! Our list is open to all members of the Legion Family. Please sign up here --> <http://j.mp/elist1941>



Sick and Visitation: Mary Duckett Home: 708-354-6191

We have not heard of any member being ill or under the weather. Good! Stay healthy and happy and enjoy our summer (when it gets here)

Legion and Auxiliary June Birthdays

Theresa Anderson, 17 Carl Armand, 24 Robert Blazina, 26
Virginia Brezina, 21 James Capparelli, 13 Robert Chakmakjian, 25
Chester Curul, 22 Donald Cuttill, 4 Keith Edwards, 16
Darlene Enger, 17 PC Allan Ewert, 17 Janice Gammie, 28
Ray Hodson, 21 Anthony Konvalinka, 29 Stanley Krajczwski, 22
PC Al Krenz, 12 Rafael Lara, 10 Thomas Latham, 14
Joseph Lis, 12 Annamae Lezon, 30 Sheila Lippert, 5 Glenn Maruna, 25 Gene Mazurek, 1
Diana McGee, 26 Jerry Morris, 28 Robert O'Donnell, 1 John O'Rourke, 10
A. Clayton Ostlund, 7 Donald Ourada, 30 Steve Palmer, 27 Paul Pavlinek, 21 Harold
Perry, 27 Wally Pidde, 29 Mary Russell, 23 Norman Sabah, 11 Steve Sanchez, 2 Renee
Szczytko, 11 Myles Tlusty, 10 Wayne Toberman, 30 Joseph Van Cura, 15 Eldon
Whiteside, 17

Hire a Veteran

Have a position and want to hire a veteran?
Contact our PAO at coulterpost1941@gmail.com for details.

Coulter Post is seeking a Bar Manager. Candidate should be a team player that is willing to get the job done! This position is responsible for all bar activities / rentals. Scheduling times may vary with each booking which most likely will include nights and weekends. Person must be able to lift more than 50lbs, bend and stand with ease and be able to climb ladders and stand for long periods of time. This is a part-time position. NO phone calls please. Serious candidates are to forward resume to bldmgr@al1941.org

For other job postings click: [Jobs](#) or visit: <http://illegion.org/jobs/>

Calendar of Events

June

Bingo Mondays, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and NO BINGO ON THE 29th
Wednesday, June 3, Executive Committee Meeting 6:15 p.m.
Wednesday, June 10, Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 17, Executive Committee meeting 6:15 and
Business Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

July

Bingo Mondays, 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th
Wednesday, July 1, Executive Committee Meeting 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday, July 15, Executive Committee Meeting 6:15 and
Social Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

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Edward Jones Investing; Faloon & Kenney, LTD, Attorneys; Hitzeman Funeral Home; J. Benak
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consideration.

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If you are connected already - Thank you.

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Take the time to

 **Forward to a Friend**



Robert E. Coulter, Jr. Post 1941

900 So. La Grange Road La Grange, IL 60525

* Looking to rent for that graduation celebration or a birthday or anniversary party?
Consider the Grand Coulter Hall (at Post 1941) as the location!
Call us at 708-354-3300 or 708-497-9REC (708-497-9732)
(Ask about membership discount)