

UNIT 376 E-NEWS



American Legion Auxiliary

Fort Hill ~ Unit 376
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NY 13830-0832

From Jeanie Petersen, Membership-Treasurer-Publicity Chairman

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March 29, 2018

Easter Greetings ALA Members,

With only 3 meetings* left, we're starting to wrap things up! (*April 10, May 8, and June 12 – the installation meeting.) We still, however, have the Memorial Day parade to march in (– please consider joining us), paper poppy distribution (for donations), a Poppy Princess, Girls' State candidate to give a speech on Memorial Day; our Cinco de Mayo dinner –actually on May 5th this year; a scholarship recipient to choose; and much more (see below). It's not a quiet 2 ½ months!

Sunday, April 1: If you haven't been (upstairs) in the dining hall, it is all decked out with Easter Eggs and bunnies! That's because this Sunday, April 1st, is **EASTER** and the Easter Bunny will be hopping over at the Sunday Breakfast! Bring the kids and your cameras!

Monday, April 2: We're hosting the **Chenango County ALA Meeting** this coming Monday, at 6:30 p.m., at our American Legion Post #376. CC ALA First Vice, Joy Lawrence will head up the meeting in lieu of President Sophie Liberatore who will be away. (Dinner at 6:30 p.m./ business meeting begins at 7 p.m.) Julie will be serving a Scalloped Potatoes & Ham dinner with squash, bread and muffins. Dessert: brownie with ice cream. Unit 376 members, if you've ever considered coming to a County meeting, please come to this one held at OUR Post, please. We'd like to have a good showing!!!

Tuesday, April 10: Our **Unit 376 Meeting**. This is the 7th regular Unit 376 monthly meeting of the Auxiliary's fiscal year (almost always the 2nd Tues of the month). Time: 6:30 p.m. No dinner at our meeting. Our First Vice, Louise Spicer will be running this meeting because President Jan will be away. **This is the officer nominations meeting. If anyone is interested in running for any officer position, please come to the meeting – this is your chance!**

We will also be voting on our Standing Rules. (Anyone who wants to see the Standing Rules, send me an email and I can email them to you.) If approved locally, we will then mail them to the ALA State Dept (Albany) for their final approval. Meeting location: Fort Hill Post 376, 17 S. Washington Ave, Oxford, NY.

BTW- If anyone would like to read our ALA Unit minutes, drop me a line. I can email them to you too. We also post them on the ALA bulletin board (by the popcorn) in the bar.



Me – Jeanie, Jan Pollard, and Terrill Sutton at the Valentine's Sale, Feb. 10, 2018. Goodies galore!

Thank YOU Everyone! for helping make our Valentine's Bake-Soup-Casserole sale a success!

Empire Girls' State: The 2018 EGS committee interviewed candidates from the Oxford High School for us to sponsor. Genevieve Gorman, with Kelsey Drewniak as her alternate, were chosen! Congratulations Oxford Academy Juniors!!! We are very proud to have Genevieve (and possibly Kelsey) represent us!

Poppy Program: Our Poppy Chairman is Terrill Sutton and she and Julie Blanford are heading up (our first ever) **Poppy Poster Contest** in both the Middle School and the High School! They are setting up cash awards for place winners. See some National winning contest posters -



<https://www.alaforveterans.org/Programs/Poppy-Poster-Winners/> Perhaps we'll have an art gallery showing at the Post? We'll let you know.

Cards at our Post - Play Pitch? There are two games. It's a great time and the public is welcome!

Wednesday Pitch - games are held at 7 p.m. every Wednesday. They have a 50-50 raffle and proceeds are used for a buffet dinner. For more info contact: Cindy Mullenax - (607) 725-7120.

Winter Pitch Tournament - games are held the second

Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. during the winter. It usually ends the 3rd Sat. in April. Come and enjoy an afternoon of conversation, good food, and cards at Post 376. Tournament starts at 1, but come a little early to sign up. \$10/team, 50¢/up. Only even number of teams allowed. Play 10 games to 11. 100% payback. Contact: Carla McLaren - mclaren.carla@yahoo.com



"Paint & Sip", Sunday, May 6, 1 pm - CCALA President Sophie Liberatore (of the Norwich Auxiliary) invited us to join them, "We're having our next 'Paint & Sip' and we're painting a poppy." The cost is \$30 and it includes all materials.

Jane Utegg (now an ALA member) teaches the class. She had items in Made in Chenango and she's great! We have it in our Post 189

Legion Hall. We have to get our drinks from the front bar, so they are not included, but we usually have snacks to eat for free. 29 Sheldon Street, Norwich. Open to everyone.

CCALA: Speaking of our County Auxiliary, if anyone would like to see the County ALA minutes, drop me a line. I can email them to you. The last County meeting (held in Norwich) was the annual Legion's Birthday – a joint meeting. It was the 99th annual (next year is the big Centennial Celebration!), and in celebration they had speaker representatives from **NY Run for the Fallen**.

Along with a PowerPoint presentation, they also discussed the **Honor and Remember Flag**.



3/13/18 County Meeting: guest speakers Jim Carraba and Robert Wansor from the NY Run for the Fallen.

Upcoming Activities at the NYS Veterans' Home at Oxford:

May 11 (Fri) – Mother's Day Flower Arranging

June 18 (Mon), – Men's Casino Day

Any questions, contact [Tami Zebrowski-Darrow](mailto:Tami.Zebrowski-Darrow), 6th D. Field Service Rep. [Click for complete schedule](#)
Volunteers always wanted!

The **American Red Cross** is back for another blood drive on **Saturday, May 12**, from 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (It's usually on the 2nd Saturday every 2 months.) They ordinarily take walk-ins, but making an appointment is a much better idea. You can even go online for the screening questions to save time. Visit the website: <http://www.redcrossblood.org/> . Please sign up to donate blood via our **convenient online scheduler** or **Blood Donor App.**"

Saturday, April 21, **6th District ALA Spring Conference**: at the Munnsville Fire Department. Starts at 8 a.m. Registration fee \$5 (pay @ the door). If needed, lodging is available at Super 8 in Oneida (\$80.99 double bed-your cost). Conference Reservation and Luncheon is \$12. (Menu: Salad, chicken and biscuits, assorted desserts, coffee and tea.) RSVP by 4/13. (5210 S. Main St. Munnsville, NY.) Louise Spicer has the reservation form.

"Thank you!" to those of you who paid your **ALA membership dues** since my last newsletter! Our paid membership is up to 85% now (180 of 211), so I'm feeling much better about this. If, however, you haven't paid your 2018 ALA membership dues yet, please do so. (\$25.00). Let's get it over and done with... please? Mail to the PO address in the upper right of this header. Don't have the renewal form – no problem. Don't worry about your mbr # either - I have all of that. Prefer to pay cash – leave it at the bar, but please ask for a receipt from the bartender. Thanks! Please try to get it done no later than April. That's when National ALA prints membership cards for the next year. Crazy right? (FYI – I have nothing to do with the Legion or SAL memberships.)

Rate Increase to Come: ALA dues are going up in **2019!** Yes, folks it's true, we have to raise our rates because National is raising theirs. \$3.00 for adults and \$1.25 Juniors. That means your dues will be: **\$28.00** - Adults; and **\$6.25** - Juniors. Sorry to be the bearer of bad news- but it's not that much of an increase.

The Senior \$28 dues breakdown: National Rate (increase from \$9 to) \$12 + Department Rate (- the same/no increase) \$8. Unit portion will be \$8.

Juniors \$6.25 breakdown: National Rate (increase from \$1.25 to) \$2.50 + Department (no increase) \$3.75. Our Unit portion: -0-

Department of NY President Pat Hennessy says, "Bolster community awareness wherever you can.

Wear your Legion Family apparel and pins."

(FYI- All sorts of items are sold at <http://emblem.legion.org/> They have inexpensive patches and pins, centennial items, a really nice stars & stripes tote bag, as well as t-shirts and other wearables.)

BTW- All you seamstresses/quilters/crafters: There's a line of Poppy printed fabrics that would just be perfect for promoting the Auxiliary's Poppy Program! It's designed by Cynthia Coulter printed by Wilmington Prints. Google: **Wilmington Scarlet Dance – Poppies**. It may be in local stores; otherwise, Hancocks of Paducah online has it.



Best wishes,

Jeanie

(Petersen)

Unit 376 Membership/Treasurer/Publicity

Events@OxfordNY.com , (607) 843-2121

PS- 2 non-ALA events: Chenango County Habitat for Humanity is having a Soup & Baked goods sale with gift card & basket raffles on Sat., April 14 from 9 a.m. til Sold Out in the lobby of the Norwich Family YMCA. And – Oxford Village and the Tree Board are having their Arbor Day celebration in LaFayette Park on Sat., April 28, 9 a.m. – some nice flowering shrub give-aways, but come early!