

Veterans of Foreign Wars  
of the United States



Tioga Post #2149  
510 Georgetown Sq  
Wood Dale, Ill 60191

# Tioga SIGNAL

APRIL 2007

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## Post Commander

We have had a few ups and downs this year, but thanks to our members, our Men's Auxiliary & Ladies Auxiliary, we managed to keep Tioga up to it's standards.

Our nominations and elections are coming up in April. I would like to invite members from all units to get involved with our nomination and election process. The Men's Aux. will have nominations & elections on April 2; the Ladies Aux. on April 5; the Jr. Girls on April 9; the Post men will have nominations on April 12, and nominations & elections on April 26. The installation dinner will be held Saturday, May 26. See page 5 for times.



The annual Poppy Ball was held at the Addison Post on March 3. We had outstanding displays from many of the Posts in the 19th District. Tioga Post was well represented at the ball as we had 11 members of the Post and Ladies Auxiliary in attendance. I am glad to report that from a survey of the people attending, Tioga's Poppy display was voted #1. See the picture of the Post's Poppy display at left. Over 900 poppies were used in the making of the display. Formal judging will be held at the next District meeting with the winner going on to the State Convention in Peoria.

I can honestly promise that 2007-2008 will be one of our best years.  
Commander Rick Storey

## HISTORY OF THE BUDDY POPPY

Among all the flowers that evoke the memories and emotions of war is the red poppy, which became associated with war after the publication of a poem written by Col. John McCrae of Canada. The poem, "In Flanders Field," describes blowing red fields among the battleground of the fallen.

For more than 75 years, the VFW's Buddy Poppy program has raised millions of dollars in support of veterans' welfare and the well being of their dependents.

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## POST HONORS POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS

On Thursday evening Feb 22, the Post honored Police Officer Mike Campbell and Firefighters Pat Johl and Luke Walker. These men distinguished themselves with their service to the Wood Dale community during 2006. The Post, along with many volunteers, prepared an Italian beef dinner with salads and dessert for the Police and Firefighters as well as presenting awards to the three heroes. The dinner was attended by many Tioga members as well as other Police and Firefighters. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the evening a success.

## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE MAY 28TH

Plans for the 11th annual Memorial Day parade are moving along according to members of the committee. Joe Buttice is once again heading up the planning, but this year he is handing a lot of the responsibility and work to a team from the Men's Auxiliary.

Letters have been sent to members of the Wood Dale Chamber of Commerce seeking donations to help defray expenses. Many businesses have responded to the request.

The parade steps off at 11:00am from Wood Dale Jr. High school and will proceed South on Wood Dale Rd. and then West on Irving Park Rd. to the Veterans Memorial. After the Parade there will be a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial to honor our fallen Comrades. A lunch, sponsored by the Post, Ladies Aux, and Men's Aux, will be served at Tioga Home following the ceremony. Lunch will be served after the flag has been raised at the Post. Come join us for a day in honor of those who have sacrificed all for us.

## NEW VETERANS' OFFICE

The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs is opening their second office in DuPage county on Wednesday April 4, 2007. They will be hosting an Open House from 10:00am - 2:00pm. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony and refreshments served at 12:00 noon.

The location is:

113 W. Main St.  
Bensenville, Illinois 60106  
Phone # (630)860.1530

## WEB SITE INFORMATION

The Post has it's own Web Site. The address is "[www.vfw2149.org](http://www.vfw2149.org)". There is a lot of information about TIOGA 2149 posted. Included are monthly calendars listing upcoming events. Since the newsletter may not always have up to date information, the web is the place to go for late additions to the Post's schedule. There is a full copy of the SIGNAL in PDF format on the site, so check there if your mailed copy is late.

## JR. GIRLS UNIT NEWS

Thanks to all that came out and/or gave donations of baked goods and other goodies to the Unit. The girls had a great time with the pancake breakfast & bake sale. They made money to be used for their trip to the Convention to be held at Cantigny Post #367 in Joliet on April 14th. The Unit would like to thank the Men's Auxiliary for cooking and supporting the Unit. Thank you for supporting the ladies of the future in their support of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Vivian Bagnell  
President, Ladies Auxiliary

## Ladies Auxiliary Upcoming Nominations and Elections

Thursday, April 5, 2007 is the date for the nomination and election of Officers for the Ladies Auxiliary. Come to the meeting to choose your Officers. If, for any reason we are unable to fill all of the officers positions we would need to call a special meeting, and if still unable to fill all of the officers positions, we would be forced to disband the Auxiliary.

Please remember this is your Auxiliary, and each and every member is important to this organization; an organization set up to help and support our Veterans. This is very important, especially now with more and more soldiers being deployed. We look forward to seeing you ladies on April 5th at our 7:00pm meeting.

The Installation of Officers will be held on Saturday, May 26, 2007. The Post, Men's Auxiliary and Ladies Auxiliary will be installing their officers that evening if all elections are completed.

Vivian Bagnell  
President, Ladies Auxiliary

## Ladies Auxiliary Membership & Rehabilitation

Ladies I wish you would please pay for your VFW Ladies Auxiliary dues for 2007 which are \$15.50; in a month or so we will be sending letters out to all of you for 2008 dues. We need each and every one of you to help support our men in service. Come on ladies, be one who stands up for our brave men who gave and are still giving for us. God bless them.

Yours in friendship,  
Norma  
Membership Chairperson  
630-766-2529

I thought I would let you ladies know of a few members we have lost in 2007: Bernice Wilberdi, Esther Schultz, Alice Erdman, Margaret Krueger, and Agnes Woodward. They will be missed by all. We've just received word that Lu Spencer is having back problems. Jim Mixon is home doing ok after having medical problems. Please keep the families of those we lost and the ones that have been ill in your prayers.

I want to thank the men and women who have been keeping me informed of the sick or deceased. Keep up the good work. Thank you to Betty Eggert for sending out cards while I was laid up for the last two months. I'm not back on my feet yet but am doing much better. I also want to thank the members of the Post, Ladies Auxiliary and Men's Auxiliary who have called, sent cards or flowers to me while I was ill. Thanks to one and all.

Norma  
Rehabilitation Chairperson

## POPPY DAYS ARE COMING —MAY 17-MAY 19

### Volunteers Needed for Poppy Days

Yes, it's that time again everyone!

This year Poppy Days for Tioga Post 2149 will be held Thursday, May 17-Saturday, May 19. So stop on by the Post to pick up your poppies and donate a few hours assisting the Veterans and distributing poppies in our community. We hope to see many of our members over Poppy Days.

## PATRIOT'S PEN & VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

Students from Blackhawk Middle School were honored at the Post home on January 22, with dinner and awards. First place, Charles Nutley, received a plaque & \$50.00. Second place, Kevin Murphy, received a plaque & \$25.00. Third place Nicole Wigman and fourth place Roberto DeLaRosa each received a plaque. All 32 participant students received certificates, pencils & a "Buddy Poppy" animal.

We also honored teachers Julie Zabel and Richard McGuire with plaques. We thank the parents of these students for the positive attitude of their sons and daughters.

Betty Eggert  
Americanism Chairperson

## A Message From the Editors

We're working hard to publish information in the SIGNAL regarding events from the past few months and those that are upcoming, and would appreciate hearing from any of our members with articles, ideas for articles, suggestions, etc. With your help we can keep everyone better informed and make this SIGNAL a great newsletter. Once again, you can contact us via email: ray@sargent.net or suef1957@yahoo.com or by writing to us at: Ray Sargent

c/o Tioga Signal  
4N715 Wood Dale Road  
Wood Dale, IL 60191

## BINGO BINGO BINGO

BINGO EVERY TUESDAY  
7:00PM AT THE POST  
Doors open at 4:00pm  
COME BY AND TRY YOUR LUCK!

## NATIONAL HOME ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During the past year, our National Home has done a tremendous amount of work for the families and children of our soldiers. A few of these works are listed below:

Provided for over 129,000 meals

Spent almost 81,000 man-hours caring for and assisting children and families

Helped people from 17 States

Invested over 25,000 man-hours for required facility maintenance

Treated 7.3 million gallons of water for campus use

Hosted over 3,000 visitors to experience the campus first-hand

Redeemed over 1.5 million Campbell Soup labels for their third minivan in five years, as well as for educational and musical materials

## Other Happenings

The Men's Auxiliary hosted a spaghetti dinner on March 10th which coincided with the Post's corned beef and cabbage raffle. The Men's Auxiliary has also been hosting a Fish Fry every Friday night during Lent. The food has been great with your choice of grilled tilapia or fried perch.

The annual corned beef and cabbage dinner on St. Patrick's day was a great success. All that came to the Post had a great meal and a good time, with the band "Music by Chance" playing after dinner. We hope that more of you members will attend future events and help support our Post.

## Tioga Post 2149 Upcoming Dates April — July 2007

Bingo every Tuesday 7:00pm at the Post. Try your luck!! Doors open at 4:00pm

<b>April</b>	2	Men's Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm Nomination & Election of Officers	<b>May</b>	20	District Meeting & Installation of Officers-West Chicago Post
	4	Open House @ new DuPage County VA Office in Bensenville 10:00am-2:00pm		21	Men's Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm
	5	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm Nomination & Election of Officers		24	Post Meeting 8:00pm
	6	Fish & Chips @ Post 5:00-8:00pm Men's Auxiliary		26	Post Installation Dinner—6:00pm Post, Ladies Aux & Men's Aux
	7	19th District Swing into Spring Villa Park Post		28	Memorial Day Parade in Wood Dale Steps-off at 11:00am. Ceremony @ Veterans Memorial fol- lows. Lunch @ Post afterwards
	9	Jr. Girl's Unit Meeting 6:30pm Nomination & Election of Officers	<b>June</b>	4	Men's Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm
	12	Post Meeting 8:00pm Nomination of Officers		7	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm
	13	Jr. Girls Conference in Joliet		11	Jr. Girls Unit Meeting 6:30pm
	14	Jr. Girls Conference in Joliet		14	Post Meeting 8:00pm
	16	Men's Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm		18	Men's Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm
	19	Corporation Meeting 7:00pm		21	86th Annual State Convention Peoria Convention Center Corporation Meeting 7:00pm
	26	Post Meeting 8:00pm Nomination & Election of Officers		22	86th Annual State Convention Peoria Convention Center
	28	District Vegas Night @ Wheaton Post 2048 5:00pm—?		23	86th Annual State Convention Peoria Convention Center
<b>May</b>	3	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm		24	86th Annual State Convention Peoria Convention Center
	7	Men's Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm		28	Post Meeting 8:00pm
	10	Post Meeting 8:00pm			
	14	Jr. Girls Unit Meeting 6:30pm Installation of Officers	<b>July</b>	2	Men's Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm Annual Corporation Meeting Board Nominations 8:00pm
	17	Poppy Days 6:00am-6:00pm Corporation Meeting 7:00pm		5	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm
	18	Poppy Days 6:00am-6:00pm		9	Jr. Girls Unit Meeting 6:30pm
	19	Poppy Days 6:00am-6:00pm District Vegas Night @ Wheaton Post 2048 5:00pm-?		12	Post Meeting 8:00pm

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
OF THE UNITED STATES**

**TIOGA POST #2149  
510 GEORGETOWN SQ  
WOOD DALE, ILL 60191**

Phone: 630.766.0334  
Fax: 630.766.8771

On the web at — <http://www.vfw2149.org>



*Honoring the Dead  
By Helping the Living*

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



## HISTORY OF THE BUDDY POPPY (CONT'D)

The VFW conducted its first poppy distribution before Memorial Day in 1922, becoming the first veterans' organization to organize a nationwide distribution. The poppy soon was adopted as the official memorial flower of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

It was during the 1923 encampment that the VFW decided that VFW Buddy Poppies be assembled by disabled and needy veterans who would be paid for their work to provide them with some form of financial assistance. The plan was formally adopted during the VFW's 1923 encampment. The next year, disabled veterans at the Buddy Poppy factory in Pittsburgh assembled VFW Buddy Poppies. The designation "Buddy Poppy" was adopted at that time.

In February 1924, the VFW registered the name "Buddy Poppy" with the U.S. Patent Office. A certificate was issued on May 20, 1924, granting the VFW all trademark rights in the name of Buddy under the classification of artificial flowers. The VFW has made that trademark a guarantee that all poppies bearing that name and the VFW label are genuine products of the work of disabled and needy veterans. No other organization, firm or individual can legally use the name "Buddy" Poppy.

Today, VFW Buddy Poppies are still assembled by disabled and needy veterans in VA Hospitals.

The minimal assessment (cost of Buddy Poppies) to VFW units provides compensation to the veterans who assemble the poppies, provides financial assistance in maintaining state and national veterans' rehabilitation and service programs and partially supports the VFW National Home for orphans and widows of our nation's veterans. (Article courtesy of National VFW website)