

July 2009

**Post Officers:**

Legion Commander:

**Bruce A. Brown**

S.A.L. Commander:

**Danny Schmidt**

Auxiliary President:

**Joann Brown**



# AMERICAN LEGION POST 71

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

**Web addresses:**

**POST 71**

[www.urbanapost71.com](http://www.urbanapost71.com)

**LEGION**

**National** [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

**Dept** [www.illegion.org](http://www.illegion.org)

**AUXILIARY**

**National**

[www.legion-aux.org](http://www.legion-aux.org)

**Dept**

[www.illegion.org/Auxiliary](http://www.illegion.org/Auxiliary)

**SAL**

**National**

[www.sal.legion.org/](http://www.sal.legion.org/)

**Dept** [www.il-sal.org/](http://www.il-sal.org/)

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**Upcoming events**

**June 27 Gifford Parade**

**July 4 4th of July Parade and Food at the Post**



On Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 29 volunteers from the Legion, SAL and the Women's Auxiliary went to Bloomington-Normal for the Special Olympics. We took \$1,640.00 of food including cookies, crackers, variety of chips, vegetables and fruit to hand out to the Special Olympics participants and their families. We also donated \$750.00 to the Illinois Special Olympics Program.

This event is one of our projects where we get to see the end result of our donations and hard work. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED. GREAT TEAMWORK!

# AMERICAN LEGION POST 71

## Commander's Corner

### SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2009

On Saturday, June 13th, Urbana Post 71 sent 29 volunteers over to Bloomington, Illinois to the Special Olympics. We took with us over \$1,600.00 in fruits, vegetables and snacks. We also presented Cheri Stanton with 3-\$250.00 checks from The Legion, Auxiliary Unit 71 and Squadron 71. This volunteer project is overseen by the Department of Illinois, but they always need volunteers, and that's where we came in. We usually work from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and that's usually standing in line serving the athletes, their families and coaches for at least 4 hours.

But-If you think you have a tough life or you have lots of aches and pains, come over and watch what these special kids and adults do to participate in these events. Have you ever run a 20 yard sprint when you have to use a walker just to get around. If you think you have it bad, then try volunteering for the Special Olympics next year in June and you will be overwhelmed by the courage of these athletes.

Thanks to everyone who helped with this volunteer project. Volunteer hours for this project-218.

Total miles traveled by volunteers-2,430. Money and items donated-\$2,387.00

Commander's hat is off to You!

### 9-\$100.00 Cash Prizes

Veteran's Day, November 11th at 1:00 p.m. Urbana Post 71 Legion, Auxiliary and Squadron 71 will each draw 3 names from their Early Bird membership ( those members who have paid their dues by November 11th) Each one of those lucky 9 will be receiving \$100.00-just for sending their dues in early!

So when you get those dues notices, simply put the that check in the mail or drop it off at the Post. We can also accept credit card payments for your dues. I haven't heard of an increase for The Legion or Squadron, but I think The Auxiliary will vote at convention for a dues in-

crease.

Legion and SAL members can pay 4 years dues and you will get the 5th year FREE. If you are a 5 year or life member you are still in the drawing for the \$100.00 prizes in November.

The Legion will also give away 1 Life Membership for one lucky paid up member on Veteran's Day. Dues notices for The Legion will be sent out in July. So pay up and get in the drawing.

### 4th of July Parade

Don' forget to go to the 4th of July parade and wave at the Yankee Dandy's Fire truck and the Post 71 Color Guard as they pass by you.

### Scholarships

The Legion and SAL Post 71 Scholarship applications are due to be turned in by July 15th. Forms are available at the Post. Questions? Call me at 217-841-3246.

Yours in Service  
Bruce Brown  
Commander

American Legion Post 71

## From Your President

Dear Members,

It was my honor to attend the Summer District Convention in Rantoul on June 6th and pick up the 8 citations that Unit 71 Auxiliary received for our programs. It has been quite a few years since we have heard Urbana 71 mentioned so many times.

We received citations for our Community Service Program, National Security Program, Operation Military Kids Support Program, Operation Military Kids donations, Gold Star Members Programs, V A & R Outstanding Support and Donations to Illiana Medical Center, V A & R Program Support, and Flag Display. Our National Security and Community Service Programs were for-

warded to Department for judging. Congratulations to the Chairman of these programs and thank you and congratulations to all members for their support during the year.

Our monthly meeting was held at 6:30 p.m. June 10, 2009. It was so nice to see a few new faces. Remember, you are always welcome at our meetings.

It was reported Poppy distribution brought in \$1,254.00 this year. Not a great year, but unfortunately many of the businesses we contacted either didn't respond, or in the case of Wal-Mart, were extremely restrictive.

Several years ago, Wal-

Mart was the place where we received the most donations. I don't know what has changed there, but now they tell us solicitations are not allowed there during the week, and even though the letters were sent in late March, we could only distribute on Sunday for 4 hours. What makes it sadder is that most of the items we send to the soldiers throughout the year are purchased either at Sam's or Wal-Mart. It's too bad they can't give us more support.

Children and Youth Chairman Diana Marshall indicated we would be preparing the vegetables and fruits on Friday, June 12th for Special Olympics.

We attended Special Olympics on Saturday June 13th. Once again,

217-367-3121

## From Your President continued

Post 71 showed that we are ready to support projects. With the large donations of food, cash for the Special Olympics, and 29 volunteers there that day, I believe we are the single biggest Post contributor in the state. Thank you to everyone.

Girls State Orientation was held at the Post on May 28th. We had around 20 girls, along with their families attend the dinner and learn about the Girls State program and opportunities. Total attendance was over 70 people. It was good to see so many interested parents, and there were lots of questions. Thanks to all who helped with

the dinner and cleanup.

It was approved at the meeting to hold a drawing and award 3 \$100.00 prizes for members who pay their dues by November 11, 2009.

We are only 8 memberships short of 100%. If you are one of those who haven't paid your dues, please send them in now. For those who have paid your dues, thank you for your support.

As my first year comes to an end, I want to thank all my Chairman for their hard work and great ideas this year. From the amount of recognition we received at District Con-

vention, we are on the right track, and making a difference in the lives of our veterans, those currently serving, and the children. It is an honor to serve in an organization that has so many wonderful members and volunteers.

Please keep our troops in your prayers.

Until next month.  
God Bless America.

Joann Brown

Auxiliary Unit #71 President

JLBROWN52@SBCGLOBAL.NET

## Sons of the American Legion

Dear Comrades,

Thank all of you that helped with flag ironing and placing the flags at Eastlawn and Harvey Cemeteries.

Memorial Day services were held inside the Post due to the weather. I thank everyone for attending and participating and Dennis Gordon and Joann Brown for doing such a great job with the meal.

July 4th, meet at the Post to decorate the fire truck at 10:30 a.m. (volunteer basis). A flat bed will be available for people to ride and possibly another flat bed for families of those deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The parade begins at 1:00 p.m.

Hope to see you at the next meeting, 2nd Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.

Yours in service,  
Dan Schmidt  
SAL Commander

## THE AMERICAN LEGION AND SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIPS

The American Legion Scholarship provides \$500.00 to local citizens who are continuing their education by attending a college leading either to a certification for business or trade or to a college degree. Preference is given to members of Urbana Post 71, Auxiliary Post 71, Post 71 Sons of the American Legion and their children and grandchildren, but applications are invited from any resident of Urbana.

The application period will be from May 15, to July 15, 2009. Application information is now available at the Post.

Any questions, please contact Gary Michael, Chairman at 398-9970.

## "BE WISE, JOIN THE EARLY BIRD CLUB!"

**Be Wise! Re-New Your Membership EARLY! PLAN NOW** and join the "Early Bird Club" by sending your 2010 membership dues to Larri Gerhart, 717 S. Broadway Ave., #1, Urbana, IL 61801-4295. You won't be receiving a renewal notice from National until September, however, Your President, Joann Brown, would like to be one of those turning in Membership at our Department Convention in Springfield on Saturday, July 11, 2009. Senior dues are still \$18.00 and Junior dues are only \$3.00. Make checks payable to American Legion Auxiliary Unit 71.



## 4th of July at the Post

**Join us July 4th for the Parade, then come back to the Post at 3:00 p.m. for Roast Pork, BBQ Beef and Turkey with salads and desserts. Everything is free and what a great place to celebrate. Hope to see you there!**



AMERICAN LEGION POST 71  
 107 NORTH BROADWAY  
 URBANA IL 61801

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We're on the web  
[www.urbanapost71.com](http://www.urbanapost71.com)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

JULY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day Parade at 1:00
5	6 Legion Mtg 7:00 p.m.	7	8 No Auxiliary Mtg	9 State Convention Springfield	10 State Convention Springfield	11 State Convention Springfield
12	13 SAL Mtg 7:00 p.m.	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Service Board Mtg 5:00 p.m.	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	