

Origin of
AMERICAN LEGION
NORDONIA HILLS POST #801
14TH DISTRICT
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO
By Judy Quesenberry
and Loretta Quinn

In July 2002, Jim Fiedler, National Membership Chairman and Jim Nagella, District 14th Commander came to Nordonia Hills to canvas Veterans in the area to see if there was enough interest to start a new post in the area. They called on Carl Quesenberry, told him of their plans and asked for his assistance.

An article was placed in the New Leader inviting all veterans to attend a meeting in September 2002 at Hometown Buffet in Macedonia Commons Shopping Center to discuss the future of a new post.

October 12, 2002 a second organizational meeting was held by the 14th District Commander James Nagella and Past District Commander Jim Forsythe. These men laid the groundwork by giving an overview of the Legion responsibilities. The next meeting was set for October 26, 2002.

Department of Ohio Commander Glenn Hickman formally asked for two volunteers to take the leadership offices. Thomas O'Brien and Carl Quesenberry accepted the positions of Commander and Finance officer respectively.

Portage County Deerfield, Ohio Post donated the initial funds to start the treasury. It was further determined that the new post would meet at the VFW Post# 6768 in Northfield Center who graciously allowed the fledgling post to use their facilities.

The post quickly sprang into gear to recruit charter members that would form the body of the new post. During

the November meeting, Commander O'Brien installed Frederick "Fritz" Wasco as Adjutant and Jeffrey Keil as Chaplain.

At the December meeting, George Wright was installed as Sgt of Arms and Fred Lassorella as 1st Vice President. The primary goals of the new Post were to establish themselves as a post by developing a Constitution and By-Laws that would be approved by the parent organization. Membership advanced to 70 paid members and the post worked to raise in excess of \$600.

A EIN number was obtained by Commander O'Brien

January 2003 the Post Taps was started with the death Of our first member, John Brnilovich. Duane "Duke" Doyle was installed as Judge Advocate.

February 2003 Commander O'Brien moved to start the Ladies Auxiliary. A motion quickly passed and Judy Quesenberry accepted the position of President of the newly formed Auxiliary. The 14th District Auxiliary came to the area and canvassed the spouses of post members for interest in joining the auxiliary.

A EIN number was obtained, and we filed for a tax exempt number through American Legion Auxiliary National.

March 2003, dual member Loretta Quinn accepted the position of Post Historian.

May the Auxiliary held it's first Poppy Drive at Topp's Market, Aldi's and Peppers Market.

June 9th, 2003 the Auxiliary Unit 801 received their official charter with 15 charter members. Officers were Judy Quesenberry, President, Christine Lerz, Secretary and Darlene Pristash, Treasurer and Loretta Quinn, Historian.

June 11, 2003 the Post received their official Charter, with 70 charter members.

Both the Post and Auxiliary exceeded membership goals for their first year and were off to an impressive start.