

American Legion

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Elgin Post 57

820 North Liberty Street
Elgin, Illinois 60120

Email alelginpost57@yahoo.com

December 17, 2020

Dear Friend,

Elgin American Legion Post 57 needs your help. We have launched a community fundraising effort called "SAVE OUR POST" in an effort to keep the Post open and allow it to continue serving local veterans and the broader Elgin community.

Like many organizations, we have faced a dramatic decline in income due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Now we need the community's help.

Our membership consists of many veterans on a fixed income. They can no longer shoulder the financial responsibility of our Post, amidst the losses we have endured.

They need partners to advocate for them and for our community. It is our hope that together we can get through this challenging time and ensure no one is left behind.

Elgin American Legion Post 57 is more than a Post – it is a *Post Home* for our veterans and their families. Our members form a crucial buddy system for fellow veterans, who by their nature don't complain or reach out for help.

Connecting with veterans who are isolated at home has become more important than ever during the Covid-19 pandemic. We connect them with more than resources – often the true need is camaraderie and social connection with fellow veterans.

If we close our doors, who will do that outreach? We refuse to leave anyone behind, from the Greatest Generation to our Korea, Vietnam, Cold War and Iraq and Afghanistan vets and those currently serving everywhere else.

One of the greatest values of the American Legion is our willingness to serve our community. In addition to serving veterans, the Post serves the broader Elgin community free-of-charge by: organizing community remembrances for Veteran's Day, Memorial Day and Patriot Day, serving as a polling place, hosting blood drives and health screenings, supporting public safety through the annual Firefighter and Police Officer of the Year Recognition, offering free meeting space for community groups and service clubs, and acting as a drop-off location for donations for those in need (food, toys, hats, gloves, coats, school supplies).

Elgin American Legion Post 57 was chartered in 1919 as the 57th Post in the Department of Illinois. Today, Elgin American Legion Post 57 is one of the largest American Legion Posts in the Department of Illinois, with 551 Post Members, 170 Auxiliary Members and 70 Sons of the American Legion Members.

Due to our size, we regularly get asked to support other posts and receive frequent referrals from the VA for patients who are in need. In addition to connecting veterans and their families with needed services and benefits, the Post also renders funeral honors for any veteran whose family requests it. The Post provides practical support for local veterans in need, such as gas money, food, home improvements, and rent assistance.

The onset of the Covid-19 pandemic has decimated our revenues, which primarily rely upon hall rentals, bar service, and gaming. The post did apply for several grants, and we did receive a \$27,600.00 federal PPP loan to pay staff, but that money has since been spent.

How to Support Us

We are inviting Businesses, organizations and nonprofits to participate in the new *Elgin American Legion Post 57 Partner Program*. We need the support of our community to get through this time, and we would love to partner with you.

Through this program, every partner will receive ongoing recognition in the Post newsletters, Post publications, on the Post website, on the Post Facebook Page, and through signage at the Post itself, renewable on an annual basis.

Sponsorship Levels Include:

- **Patriot:** \$10,000
- **Courage:** \$5,000
- **Brave:** \$1,000
- **Honor:** \$500
- **Friend:** \$100.

Donations can be made by check – please send the attached form with your check.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Post by phone at (847) 741-2358/1684. We welcome your support and are grateful for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Gordon F. Steinway
Commander
Elgin Post 57

American Legion Post 57 Partnership Program

- YES, I would like to become an American Legion Post 57 Partner and help keep the doors of the Post open for veterans and our community.*

I can contribute at the following level:

- Patriot: \$10,000
- Courage: \$5,000
- Brave: \$1,000
- Honor: \$500
- Friend: \$100

Business or Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make checks out to American Legion Post 57 and return to
American Legion Post 57
820 N. Liberty St.
Elgin, IL 60120

All donations are tax-deductible.

Questions? Contact Elgin Post 57 at 847-741-2358/1684