

Dwyer Newsletter

October 2025

October, 1918, The Hundred Days Offensive is going full throttle to finally bring an end to The Great War. The 328th Infantry Regiment, 82nd Infantry Division was taking part in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, one of many which made up the overall offensive. This offensive was born out of the ashes of the German spring offensive (Kaiserschlacht), which began on 21 March 1918 and ended in failure on 18 July 1918 as the initiative transferred to the Entente with tens of thousands of fresh Americans arriving daily and the German troops being low on food, supplies and morale.

During this war, 116,708 Americans would die while 204,022 would be wounded. Miraculously, a 30-year-old named Alvin Cullum York would not be counted among these figures; especially given his ordeal on 8 October 1918.

Alvin York was born in Pall Mall, Tennessee on 13 December, 1887 into a farming family as the third of 11 children in a two-room log cabin. The family was very poor and to help supplement the family's meager income from farming, Alvin's father, William, worked as a blacksmith on the side. The men of young Alvin's family farmed and harvested their own food while the women did the cooking and his mother, Mary, made the family's clothes. The boys attended school for just nine months each as William needed their help on the farm and often times the boys would be sent out to fish and hunt for the family's protein supply. All of the game hunting that Alvin had to do would one day come in very handy in The War to End All Wars as he developed into a crack shot out of necessity. William died when Alvin was 23, so he stayed home to assist in the raising of his younger siblings as his two older brothers were already moved out and married. He would also work in railroad construction and then as a logger to help the family while also becoming an alcoholic prone to fighting in saloons while also being a regular church goer. His mother tried to have him change his ways and she eventually succeeded. While at a revival meeting in December 1914 he began to see that a change was needed and thus he experienced a change in his heart on 1 January, 1915 and took to heart the pacifist mindset that his congregation extolled, the Church of Christ in Christian Union, a sect that shunned secular politics and preached pacifism. They split from the Methodist Episcopal Church during the Civil War because of their support for slavery and supporting armed rebellion during that time.

Alvin registered for the draft as all men between the ages of 21 and 30 had to do in 1917 as a result of the Select Service Act. When he applied, he claimed exemption from the draft, writing, "Don't want to fight." This initial claim was denied; during this time, conscientious objector did not exempt one from military service, just from being in a combat arms type of MOS. York appealed the denial, and while it was being considered he was drafted in November, 1917 and was sent to Camp Gordon in Georgia. (York's appeal was ultimately denied as his denomination was not a recognized one so thus the claim for religious exemption had to no grounds in the government's eyes.) While there, he spoke at length with his company commander, Captain Edward Danforth, Jr. and his battalion commander, Major G. Edward Buxton, a fellow devout Christian. After spending hours going over various biblical passages, York was persuaded to reconsider his thoughts on the war. Alvin was granted 10 days of leave to go home and after spending much time in prayer and reflection, returned as committed as ever, convinced that God meant him to fight and would keep him safe.

Alvin arrived in France on 27 June 1918 and was immediately sent to the front as a part of Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 328th Infantry Regiment, 82nd Infantry Division.

Visit our Website for complete history of his Battles, Awards, and later life

<https://wycojvc.wixsite.com/wycovets>



Upcoming Events

RSVP by calling 786-8860

Or RSVP ONLINE at : <https://wycojvc.wixsite.com/wycovets>

Join us for Coffee Hours

No RSVP needed



October 6th
10am

The Prospector in Attica

October 14th
10am

Wyoming Hook and Ladder

October 17th
8AM

Heavy Eavy's in Castile

October 21st

10am
Perry VFW

October 27
10am

Warsaw Vets Club

Learn to paint with Watercolors

From a locally renowned artist

Every Wednesday started Sept. 24th

Runs through October

Wyoming Village Hall

10am– NOON



If you are interested in a free
Veteran Bus pass call the office and
schedule an appointment anytime

786-8860

D & D Game Nights

October 3rd & October 17th

36 Center St. Basement

6PM

Please bring a dish to share



RSVP @ 786-8860

Quilting and Sewing class

We will be making a Holiday table runner!

October 9th

2pm

101 Miner St

Check out our website for More info:

<https://wycojvc.wixsite.com/wycovets>



Low Vision Support Group

October 3rd & October 31st

11 am-12:30am

36 Center St. Warsaw

All Low vision Veterans welcomed
You don't need a VA rating to attend!



**Operation
Wellness
At Beaver Hollow
October 8th
October 22nd**

**Check our Website for
updates on Class
Schedules**

**As always, please RSVP the
week before each Class**

Arcade Office Hours:

**Thursday,
October 16th
2pm-4pm**

**Arcade VFW Post
550 West Main St
Arcade, NY**



**Hair cuts are back!!
Free Veteran/spouse Haircut
October 1st 10am
36 Center St Basement
Every 1st Wed. of each month
through May—no RSVP needed**



October Socials

Dwyer Social

October 1st 4PM

Dwyer Pavilion 36 Center St.

Bring a Dish to Share



Dwyer Social and Flag Retirement Ceremony

October 24th 1PM

36 Center St– Dwyer Pavilion

**Flag Retirement Ceremony followed
by a social Please bring a dish to
share!**

Important Military Dates in October

October 13: **Navy Birthday**



Some might be surprised to learn that the official birthday of the United States Navy is Oct. 13, 1775. Back then, it was known as the Continental Navy and consisted of a small fleet of ships patrolling to intercept ships sent to re-supply British Army troops at or near the colonies. The U.S. Navy will next celebrate its **250th** birthday on Monday October 13, 2025.

The creation of this fleet was not without controversy. In fact, it was hotly debated for 11 days in the Continental Congress. According to the official website of the U.S.

Navy, some in that debate were convinced that having a standing navy was “the maddest idea in the world.” In the end, the debates were won by “navalists” who were in favor of adding a naval fleet as another branch of defense in addition to the already-created Continental Army which was authorized in June of 1775.

NRC Rochester 250th Navy Ball

Saturday October 18th

Italian American Community Center 150 Frank Dimino Way Rochester, NY 14624

Guest Speaker: Rear Admiral Lawrence Weill– Ret. Commander, NYS Naval Militia

Guest of Honor: Mr. Don Alhart– Ret. 58 year television journalist

1700 Social Hour 1800 Ceremony 1900 Dinner 2000 Guest speaker

Officers: \$65- E7-E9 \$55– E6 \$45– E5 \$40– E4 \$35 MIDN/ROTC \$40—Sea cadets \$30

Civilians \$45.

Uniform: Navy Sea Service Dress Blues (or equivalent) with ribbons

Civilians: Formal Attire/Black Tie/ Cocktail NO JEANS

Contact : Desirae Mears 607-661-2603 desim1987@gmail.com



**We need to know your Veteran Day plans for the
November newsletter**

**Please call the office with your Post/ Organization and or
school district plans if you want us to include them in
November news by Oct 20th. 786-8860**