



Sons of The American Legion

DETACHMENT OF NEW YORK

Suite 1300 • 112 State Street • Albany, New York 12207 • (518) 463-2215

Fax (518) 427-8443 • Email: info@nylegion.org • Website: www.ny.legion.org

WILLIAM P. O'CONNELL MEMORIAL **VETERANS REHABILITATION SCHOLARSHIP**

--RULES--

One (1) scholarship in the amount of \$500.00 will be awarded annually. This is a gift scholarship – not a loan.

- 1. Candidates for this award must be a MEMBER in good standing of Detachment of New York Sons of The American Legion, and are in their Senior year or are a graduate from an accredited high school.**
- 2. There will be no limit to the number of applications that any one Squadron may wish to submit.**
- 3. Applications are mailed to all registered Squadrons; additional applications may be photocopied. Applications are also available on line at www.ny.legion.org. Completed applications must be returned to Detachment Headquarters, ATTN: SONS Coordinator, by April 30th.**
- 4. The Squadron Advisor and the Detachment Veterans Rehabilitation Chairman shall certify each application.**

SELECTION PROCEDURES:

- 1. A Committee of at least five (5) distinguished members of the Detachment of New York Sons of The American Legion Veterans Rehabilitation Commission will serve as judges.**
- 2. The winner will be announced in the month of July at the Annual Convention of the Sons of The American Legion, and will also be published in a Detachment mailing.**
- 3. Candidates shall be selected on the following basis: 25% each for: Veterans Rehabilitation, Character, Community Service and Scholarship.**

SONS Coordinator will forward all applications to the Chairman with one (1) week after due date.

**WILLIAM P. O'CONNELL MEMORIAL
VETERANS REHABILITATION SCHOLARSHIP
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF NEW YORK
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME OF APPLICANT _____

ADDRESS _____

DATE OF BIRTH ___/___/___

HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER (___) _____

FATHERS NAME _____ MOTHERS NAME _____

If both parents are deceased, person responsible for your financial support:

(Name and Address) (Relationship)

HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDED _____
(Name and Address)

DATE OF GRADUATION ___/___/___ AGE AT GRADUATION _____

COLLEGE OR TRADE SCHOOL APPLICANT EXPECTS TO ATTEND OR IS PRESENTLY ATTENDING _____
(Name and Address)

Type of program you expect to enter or are presently enrolled in: (Check One)

Two Year Program ___ Four Year Program ___ Other ___

Has application for admission been submitted to college? Yes ___ No ___

Have you been accepted? Yes ___ No ___

What is the approximate cost to each student per semester in the program you plan to enter or are presently attending: \$ _____

(Signature of Applicant) (Date)

(Signature of Squadron Advisor) (Signature of Detachment VA & R Chairman)

Squadron Name _____ Squadron Number# _____

County _____

THE FOLLOWING MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.

- 1. Copy of APPLICANT'S CURRENT YEAR Membership Card.**
- 2. An article written by applicant, consisting of no more than 200 words, with the subject being: "WHAT WE CAN DO FOR VETERANS REHABILITATION".**
- 3. A certified transcript of high school or college grades.**
- 4. Listing of extra-curricular activities, participation in civic activities, employment, number of hours worked per week, paid and volunteer work.**
- 5. (High School Seniors Only) Certificate of acceptance and / or letter stating date you will receive it from the school you will attend.**

Send by April 30th to:

Sons of The American Legion 112 State Street, Suite 1300, Albany, NY 12207

ATTN: SONS Coordinator.

WILLIAM P. O'CONNELL'S BIOGRAPHY

William P. O'Connell was born in Buffalo on March 21, 1932. He lived most of his life in Machias, N.Y. He Graduated from Delevan Machias High School in 1950. He joined the Marine Corp while still a senior in high school, right after graduating he left for boot camp at Parris Island , SC.

He served with the Marines in Korea from 1950-52. On May 6, 1952 in Sardinia he married the former Kaye Goodemote and they had 4 daughters: Colleen, Dorothea, Patricia, Kathleen. He was a steam fitter for Local #395 of Buffalo, retiring in 1991. He was also employed for several years with the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department in the Mounted Division. Mr. O'Connell worked security at Bluemont Ski Area in Yorkshire and became Head of Security at Holiday Valley for several years. Along with being a self-employed farmer he served as Constable in the Town of Mathias and also as Dog Warden for several area towns.

Proud of his military service, he was active in The American Legion, and was a Life Member of the Glenn A. Pratt Jr. Post 1460 in Machias. He held many offices in the Post, including that of Commander and was a member of the 40/8 and a Life Member of VFW Post 9487 in Franklinville.

Mr. O'Connell was a volunteer for Boys State with The American Legion. He served as Commander of the Cattaraugus County American Legion from 1961-1962, and later became active with the Sons of The American Legion, where he was honored for his community service on a national level. He was 8th District Commander and a member of the National VA & R Commission.

His volunteerism also included the Cattaraugus County Veterans Service and The Pines in Mathias. An exempt fireman in Mathias, Mr. O'Connell was also a member of the 4-H of Cattaraugus County Fair in Little Valley.