



The Patriot

Winter 2018 - December

Kells - Grennie Post # 316
PO Box 10096
Staten Island, new York 10309-0096
718-351-9233

The Patriot is published quarterly. The next edition will be for October - December. Any information you would like published is due no later than March 18, 2019.

Patriot Editor William Baumwoll



Important Phone Numbers

VA Benefits	1-800-827-1000
VA Out Patient Clinic	1-718-761-2973
SI VA Vet Center	1-718-816-4499
Social Security	1-800-772-1213
Medicare-A	1-800-433-9592
Medicare-B	1-800-333-7586
NYC Health Line	1-800-521-9574
Poison Control Center	1-800-222-1222

AMERICAN LEGION WEBSITE LINKS

Post 316 - <http://www.alegion316.org/>

Face book - Amer Legion Edmund Kells Richd Grennie
County <http://www.alegion316.org/richmond-county-american-legion.html>

NY State - <https://nylegion.net/>

**To Receive this newsletter by E-mail. Send
your E-mail address to:
post316newsletter@yahoo.com**

Post Officers

Commander.....	Carmine Vacirca
Vice Commanders.....	William Baumwoll
.....	Allen Palazzo
.....	Leo Milham
.....	Gaspar LaRosa
Treasurer.....	Carmine Vacirca
Adjutant.....	Lester Modelowitz
Chaplain.....	William Baumwoll
Sgt-at-Arms.....	Gaspar LaRosa
Judge Advocate.....	Robert Mahoney
Historian and Webmaster.....	Lester Modelowitz

Committees

Americanism.....	Charles Goffredo
Boys State.....	William Baumwoll
Children & Youth.....	William Baumwoll
Houseman.....	David Curran/Bill Knapp
Membership.....	Allen Palazzo
S.A.L.....	David Curran
Service & Welfare.....	Joseph Toronto
Fire Warden	Richard Burdge

Commander's Message - Winter 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Commander's Message	1
Past Members/ Carmel Visit	1
First Responder Night	2 - 4
Boys girls State	4 - 5
Christmas Wreaths	5
Volunteer Awards	6
Now and Then	7
Bob Mahoney Tri fecta	7
Post Happenings	8



My Fellow Legionnaires

We have had an outstanding year this 2018 and I am proud of each and every one of you for your loyalty and cooperation. You have once again chosen me for a third season to lead our Post. I am happy to do this but expect that Post members will continue to help me and my wonderful staff.

I have received letters from organizations that we have donated to as well as congratulations from people in our community that we have honored with awards.

Our Boys State and Girls State award ceremony as well as our first responders award night ceremony has solidified our relationship with the Staten island community.

We place flags at the Moravian Cemetery with 60 - 70 volunteers with the help of Laurie from Northfield Bank. We honor vets through a ceremony at the Carmel Home. Both have become an annual tradition.

We have made some wonderful memories and made a host of new friends from Philadelphia to Washington DC.

I want to be able to continue these events and bring back some events which have been put aside. But only with your continued help and cooperation can we accomplish our goals.

Finally I want to welcome our new members who have recently come aboard and let them know that their input counts and should they want to join any committee please let us know.

In closing, let's have another great year. Season's greetings - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. May God Bless you and may God bless the United States.

For God and Country, Faithfully Yours
Carmine J. Vacirca,
Post Commander



Post Member Passes

Anthony P. Scalfani passed away at 81 years old on Friday, August 10, 2018. Anthony was born on 1/13/1937 in Brooklyn He was a member of Post 316 for thirty-two years passed away on August 10, 2018. Anthony also known as "The Bear" served during the Korean War in both Air Force and the Army. He was also a retired NYPD Detective,



Post members spent an afternoon at Carmel Richmond Nursing Home on Sunday November 11, 2018.



Post Meetings

Held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. at the New Dorp Moravian Church. The Post will provide a ride to anyone who needs transportation to a Post meeting or event. Please call the Post number **718-351-9233** to make arrangements.

Need A Notary? - Contact Post Member Charles Goffredo at **718-440-4330**

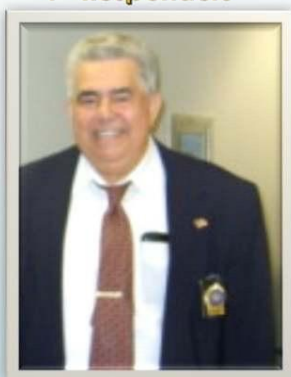
Veterans Day Lunch at Carmel Richmond

First Responder Night

At our meeting on September 17th the Post held a First Responder Night Edmund Kells - Richard A. Grennie American Legion Post 316 Second annual DETECTIVE SALVADOR DAVILLA COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD to recognize two members of the NYPD, FDNY and EMS, who have been nominated by their units for bravery above and beyond.



Detective Salvador Davila Community Achievement Awards For 1st Responders



Presented By The
Edmund Kells – Richard A. Grennie
American Legion Post No. 316
At
New Dorp Moravian Church
1250 Todt Hill Road, S.I. NY 10306
September 17, 2018 @ 7pm

Salvador Davila who the award was named for - served in the U.S. Air force and from 1960 – 1965. Salvador joined the NYPD in 1967 attained the rank of detective and retired while serving with the 120th Precinct in 1987. He was a special investigator with the attorney general's office 1987 – 2005.

Salvador loved the New Dorp Community where he resided. He also loved soccer and helped found the Staten Island Soccer League and coached the sport at St Charles and St Josephs By the Sea.

Salvador joined the Post in 2004, became a Vice Commander in 2006 and ran the Post 316 Honor Guard and Rifle Squad. He served three years as Post Commander 2007 – 2010.

After the September 11, 2001 attack Salvador was working as a special investigator at ground zero collecting evidence. A few years later he became very ill from the debris in the air but remained a loyal active member of this Post until his passing on December 22, 2012.

The first award was presented to Police Officer Christopher Romano. He began his duties with the NYPD in 2008 being assigned to the 120th Precinct. Officer Romano did his patrol in all of the NYCHA buildings in the 120th Precinct. In mid-2010 officer Romano was assigned to the 122 Precinct to patrol responding to 911 calls. In 2016 officer Romano was assigned to the 122 domestic violence unit assisting victims of domestic violence, ensuring their safety through police enforcement in coordination with other NYPD units such as Safe Horizons, Community Affairs, Crime Prevention, the Detective Squad and his immediate supervisors.



The second award was presented to Emergency Police Officer Jacqueline Barranco. She has 5 years' service with the NYPD, currently in the 122nd Precinct.

Officer Barranco first served at the 70th Precinct in Brooklyn with a passion for assisting victims of domestic violence through conducting follow up visits.

She continued as part of the Domestic Violence Unit with her transfer to the 122nd precinct in her home borough of Staten Island. Officer Barranco has closed out well over 100 cases of domestic abuse at the 122nd Precinct.



First Responder Night (cont)

The third award was presented to Firefighter Stephen J. Cresci. He is a lifelong Staten Island resident, growing up in Huguenot and now residing in Rosebank. He has been married for 3 years and became a father this past February. Michael Cresci, his older brother, has 14 years on the FDNY in Engine 161. Prior to his service with the FDNY, he worked 3 years with the NY Department of Sanitation.

Firefighter Cresci was appointed June 12, 2017 and assigned to Engine 163 on October 19, 2017. While off-duty at a restaurant earlier this year, Firefighter Cresci saved a civilian who was choking on his food. The man was turning red and making a wheezing noise and Firefighter Cresci knew his airway was blocked. He wrapped his arms around him from behind and gave the seated man 1 inward and upward thrust on his lower diaphragm. (Heimlich Maneuver) The food cleared and the man caught his breath allowing him to talk.

The fourth award was presented to Firefighter Robert Unger. He has been a member of the FDNY for the last 22 years. He started his career in Brooklyn's Ladder Company 122 in October of 1996 until March of 2009 when he became a member of Rescue Company 5 where he works today. Firefighter Unger is also very active in the UFA as the battalion delegate for all of the Special Operations Command.

On the morning of July 31, 2018, Firefighter Unger, off duty, on his way in to work, he saw black smoke off to his left emanating from the rear of 3511 Hylan Blvd .

There was a man in the doorway of the rear apartment enveloped in smoke. He assisted him and asked if there was anyone else inside. there was not but he had to retard the quickly advancing fire with just a garden hose. With no protective clothing or Self Contained Breathing Apparatus,

The fire was spreading across the ceiling and that his lungs were beginning to ache from the heat and smoke. Firefighter Unger continued his actions until he the fire department was on the scene.

Firefighter Unger acted selflessly and without regard for his own personal safety to protect life and property, reflecting the highest traditions of the FDNY.

Funerals

The Post has been called upon more often to honor our Post members who have passed away. We believe these veteran's who are our comrades deserve respect and patriotism for what they have done and what they have stood for. Please join us when you can to perform this ceremony for our Post members when they leave us.... We maintain a Wake List to communicate with each other. Feel free to add your name and number to this list to help out.



The fifth award was presented to Firefighter Christopher N. Spagnola.

On March 12, 2014 Firefighter Christopher N. Spagnola and the members of Engine 58 responded to an explosion and building collapse at Park Avenue and East 118th Street. The company arrived on-scene in approximately three and a half minutes and found an entire building had collapsed. Debris covered the street with heavy fire along the side and throughout the collapse area.

The company, working with Engine 79, worked to supply the satellite's manifold and brought down the lines separately in order to continually put water on the fire. In his report of the incident, Deputy Chief Anthony De Vita, Division 3, noted, "...Engine 58 members risked life and limb to save any viable victims with aggressive hand-line operations and



First Responder Night (cont)

protection of exposures from the spread of fire.” To honor their efforts, the Fire Department of the City of New York awarded Firefighter Christopher N. Spagnola and members of Engine 58 today with the Lt. James Curran/NYFFs Burn Center Foundation Medal/Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal in June of 2018.



The sixth award was presented to Paramedic Keith Werner. He joined the FDNY in May 2011, and started his career as an Emergency Medical Technician in Brooklyn. In just over two years, he graduated Paramedic school and went to Station 55 in the Melrose section of the Bronx. There he made the transition from EMT to Paramedic.

In 2014, he was assigned to Station 23 in Rossville. He has become an exceptional Paramedic and reliable member of the Station. His coworkers respect and seek out his guidance. He continuously puts his patient's wellbeing first and is persistently trying to improve his capabilities through training. Paramedic Werner has saved countless lives during his career and provided comfort to those in need.



First Responder Night (cont)

The seventh and final award was presented to EMT Mary Vanicky. She has been with the Department for over 30 years, the past 24, she has been working in the Borough of Staten Island as an EMT Haz Tac Specialist.

EMT Vanicky is the type of person who you want standing next to you or someone to have your back. She is also the EMT you want treating you if you are severely injured or very ill.

In March of 2017, EMT Vanicky and her partner rescued an unresponsive person at the bottom of a deep, swampy ravine. They provided pre-hospital emergency care and assisted in the rapid transport to the emergency room. EMT Vanicky, also gives back to the community off duty as an instrumental part of numerous blood drives with the New York Blood Center for over 5 years. She helps plan the Wounded Warrior event at FDNY EMS Station 23 / Engine 168



Boys and Girls State Awards

County Vice Commander, David Martin welcomed and introduced the Boys State program. he is presently Brooklyn Richmond District Chairman.



Boys and Girls State Awards cont.

Boys State and Girls State Candidate Awards were presented by Post 316 Boy's State Chairman William Baumwoll and Post Commander Carmine Vacirca.

Boys State is an official youth sub program run by the American Legion under the Boys Nation Program. Each year two representatives from each of the 49 Boys State sub programs are sent to represent their state at Boys Nation in Washington, where the young leaders receive an education on the structure and function of federal government. The first Boys Nation convened in August 1946 and it was adopted as an official youth activity.



Boys State candidate Theodore Mercado of Michael J. Petrides School is handed his award.

Boys State candidate Neal Morocho of Michael J. Petrides School was not able to attend.

Empire Girls State is a hands-on week-long educational workshop, focusing on Americanism and the political process, sponsored by the New York State American Legion Auxiliary. The goal of the program is to help students to better understand democratic ideals and the part we as individuals play in carrying out these ideals. This program, which has been accredited by the National College Credit Recommendation Service (National CCRS) is a non-partisan attempt to teach high school junior girls about government, politics, and Americanism.



Girls State candidate Gabriella Venditti of Notre Dame Academy receives her award and talks about her experiences while attending Girls State.



Sarah Lawrence talks about her experiences while attending Girls State both from Notre Dame Academy

Christmas Wreaths

Veterans from the Kells Grennie Post -- William Baumwoll, Leo Milham, John Vivolo and Carmine J. Vacirca -- and John Lastella, placed wreaths on Saturday morning at the Verrazano Kiwanis Club's inaugural Veterans Wreath Project.

Sponsored by the Kiwanis, Christmas wreaths were placed at veterans' graves in Lake Cemetery, Graniteville. It is one of many abandoned cemeteries in Staten Island. Laurie Guinta, branch manager at Northfield Bank and a Kiwanis member thanked the volunteers.



Emeline Long-Earl only woman on Staten Island to serve in the Civil War is buried here at Lake Cemetery.

Volunteer Awards

Members of the Kells - Grennie American Legion, Sons of the Legion Squadron 316, Volunteers from Schools, NYPD Explorers, Northfield Bank, Steven Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation helped to distribute flags at the final resting places of Veterans at Moravian Cemetery. It was an off and on rainy day but they still managed to put our 2300 flags. This was a new record high.



Fran Gambino Asst Br Mgr Northfield for Laurie Guinta

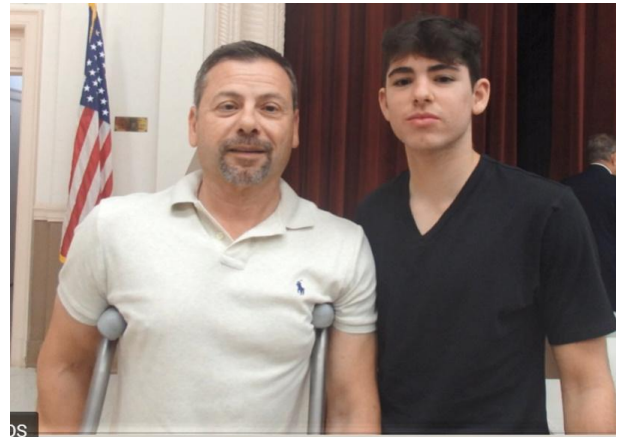


Derek Brown NYPD Explorers



Katelyn Witter ND HS

Volunteer Awards cont.



Matthew Pirozzi and father Sebastian



Charles Percia for son Christopher



Jean Ringoff Northfield & Siller

Tri Fecta!

A group of Post members spent a day in July Monmouth Raceway. Then they enjoyed a nice dinner at Mr. Shrimp.



Bob Mahoney Awarded Plaque



Congratulations to Robert Mahoney Past County Commander, current Post Judge Advocate honored as a 50 year member of the American Legion.

Now and Then

William Baumwoll

Bill joined the United States Air Force and on 11/9/1966 went to basic training at Lackland, AFB. San Antonio, Texas as a Weather Observer Technician (AFSC 25251). January of 1967 he went to technical school at Chanute AFB, Rantoul, Illinois; then in June 1967 he was assigned to Stewart AFB Newburgh, New York. He supported Base Operations for a year and then the Semi-Automatic Ground Environment (SAGE) Center (a technical concrete complex supporting NORAD) for year. He attained the rank of E4 Sergeant in 1969.

From July 2, 1969 to July 6, 1970 he served in country Danang AFB Republic of Vietnam 4th Weather Wing and separated from the USAF with a 4 month early out.

A graduate of Bronx Community College with an Associate of Arts in 1965 he was able to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brooklyn College in May of 1972 under the GI bill (a history major and a minor in education) He got married in 1975 to Camille Gallo. They raised two 2 children.

Bill retired in 2008 from the Federal Reserve Bank where he was a consumer compliance examiner for over 27 years. He is a member of Thomas J. Tori chapter 421 of the Vietnam Veterans of America and Kells-Grennie Post 316 of the American Legion.



Post Happenings

Golf Shirts

If you are interested in obtaining Golf Shirts with the Kells Grennie American Legion Screen Printed Logo, Carmine Vacirca has them available at a cost of \$11.00 per short sleeve shirt and \$16 per long sleeve shirt, a dollar more for XXL sizes. call 718-702-7578
The Post will pay for one of the shirts.

Copies of Our Newsletter

We will make available 12 paper copies of our latest Newsletter at our Post meeting.

Now and Then

Every issue of the News letter we will feature a member of the Post with two pictures Now - a present picture and Then - a picture in when they were in the military.

Along with that we will feature a short biography of the member.

This month our Now and Then Post member is William Baumwoll.

Please submit your pictures and biographies to Lester Modelowitz at his email lmodelowitz@gmail.com

Acknowledgement

I especially appreciate the help I received from Lester Modelowitz in producing this newsletter. Besides pictures the biographies of first responders and his now and then were obtained off our website which Lester populates.

Post 316 prays for all the victims of hurricanes, floods and fires this year. We hope they get the strength to cope with these tragedies and prevail.

Membership

The Membership chairman Vice Commander Allen Palazzo reports that as of 11/29/2018 we have 99 paid renewals for 2019 with a goal of 131 we are now at approx 75.57% of goal.
Please renew 2019 membership online for a faster service than the Post Office.

Please talk to your friends who are veterans and push a transfer or enrollment in Kells Grennie.

Holiday Party

We're having a holiday party on December 7, 2018. It will be a dinner a La Strada. 7:30 PM - to 10PM.

Deceased Post Members

(John Vivolo)

If anyone becomes aware of any of our Post members that have passed away, that we're unaware, please notify the Post and/or the Commander and provide the information for the wake so we can properly honor that member.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let There Be Peace on Earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God as our Father
Brothers all are we
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment and live
Each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me

Worn American Flags

Drop them off at the post so they can be properly disposed of.



Legacy

Post Members and their immediate family can name Post 316 as beneficiary on a will. With a gift through your will or living trust you retain full use of your gift property during your life