



LAKE ONTARIO POST 313
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

April 1, 2016

Dear Fellow Veterans and Friends:

Happy April Fools Day, "April Showers Bring May Flowers", I certainly hope so, winter is long enough for me, but not for you?

On Monday, March 14, the Officers and members of the Post hosted the Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner, with Master Chef Danny Cippolitti, and Patty and "Douger". They served a dinner, featuring Corned Beef, Potatoes, Cabbage, Carrots, Salad, Bread and Butter, and Dessert. We had 40 people present who enjoyed the food, plus we had raffles and door prizes to keep our guests entertained.

On March 16th, Post Commander Gary Zanardi and Post Adjutant John Mac Arthur attended a check presentation at the Niagara Falls Factory Outlet Mall, to receive a check in the amount of \$3,000, from the Town of Niagara and Mr. John Doran, Senior Manager of Macerich's Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls. This would not have been possible without the untiring efforts of Junior Vice Post Commander **Walt Stevenson**, who secured the grant for the Post. THANK YOU WALT for a job WELL DONE. (Additional information on the presentation is on page 2 of the Newsletter.)

On Saturday, March 19th, Commander Gary Zanardi, John Moore, Dwayne Brabec, Gordy Balanger (Lockport Post 2525) and John Mac Arthur participated in the Neil Riordan St. Patrick's Day Parade in Youngstown. Although we didn't win a prize, it was great to see the crowds who gave us a very good reception and thanked us for our service.

Our thanks and appreciation to the Post Quartermaster for reviewing and updating the Post By-Laws. We will review and adopt the By-Laws at our Meeting on April 11th. At that time, we will also nominate officers for 2016-2017. Elections will be held at the May 9th meeting and officers will be sworn in at our June meeting.

Up-coming events:

April 11 – Post Meeting and Nomination of Officers for 2016-2017

May 7th – Post Spring clean-up, 9:00 a.m. till Noon. Please bring gloves and yard tools

May 9th – Post Meeting and Election of Officers for 2016-2017

May 21-22 – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. - Poppy Donation at Melloni's and Old Fort Niagara

May 28-29th, Huey Helicopter Celebration, Old Fort Niagara (more information to follow)

May 30th – Memorial Day Celebration at Old Fort Niagara 1812 Cemetery – 11:00 a.m.

Pictured below is Post Commander Gary Zanardi accepting the grant/donation from the Town of Niagara and Macerich's Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls in the amount of \$3,000.00.

In accepting this grant/donation, Post Gary Zanardi stated the following: "When I returned home as a Vietnam Veteran, I immediately changed out of my military clothes into "a sweatshirt and some Levi's" and called my mother to pick me up."

"I didn't want anyone to know I was a Veteran", he said. "That's the way it was 45 years ago. Now here I am, all decked out, and folks like this are giving us grants. So, we've come a long way as a community and I want you to know that we definitely appreciate what you folks have done. We don't take this for granted. Thank you very much."



Post Commander Gary S. Zanardi of Veterans of Foreign Wars Lake Ontario Post 313 in Youngstown expresses his gratitude for a donation. From left are Macerich's Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls Senior Manager John Doran, Town of Niagara Deputy Supervisor Charles F. Teixeira, Zanardi, Town of Niagara Councilman Marc Carpenter and Town of Niagara Supervisor Lee S. Wallace.