



# The Patriot

Fourth Quarter--October - December

KELLS -GRENNIE POST # 316  
 2750 AMBOY ROAD  
 STATEN ISLAND, NY 10306  
 718-351-9233

The Patriot is published quarterly. The next edition will be for January - March. Any information you would like published is due no later than February 16, 2015.  
 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://lester6768.tripod.com>  
 Face book - Amer Legion Edmund Kells Richd Grennie  
 County - <http://legion1ny.tripod.com/index.html>  
 NY State - <http://www.ny.legion.org/>

To Receive this newsletter by E-mail. Send  
 your E-mail address to:

[Post316Newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:Post316Newsletter@yahoo.com)

## Post Officers

Commander.....Joseph Occhipinti  
 Vice Commanders.....William Baumwoll  
 .....Allen Palazzo  
 .....Charles Goffredo  
 .....Emery Chagnon  
 Treasurer..... Carmine Vacirca  
 Adjutant.....Lester Modelowitz  
 Chaplain..... Dennis Rosenwald  
 Sgt-at-Arms.....John Vivolo  
 Judge Advocate.....Robert Mahoney  
 Historian.....Lester Modelowitz

## Committees

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

# Commander's Message - Fall 2014

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We are not getting any younger is something to keep in mind when heading into these winter months. Dress warmly, walk carefully and stay well throughout the season. I am looking forward to seeing you all at our annual Christmas meeting/party.

I will close in wishing you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy New Year and in general **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**. AS ALWAYS KEEP OUR TROOPS AT HOME AND ABROAD IN OUR PRAYERS. PRAY THAT OUR Nation remains sound

*For God and Country, Joseph Occhipinti, Post Commander*

Greetings to all post members and your families.

I often start with, "Greetings to all post members and families", but have since come to realize that a spouse or any family member of a legionnaire is part of the American Legion family and therefore also a member. The Kells Grennie American Legion Post 316 encourages all our members to continue to make your families a part of our team and a part of the American Legion Family. This member/family partnership was seen firsthand at our post's summer barbecue where we all pulled together which resulted in a successful and enjoyable outing. Thanks everyone for that teamwork. As we put the summer behind us let's hope and pray that the winter ahead is a mild one.

## Old Bermuda Inn Veterans Day Breakfast

Kells Grennie Post members attended the "Salute to Veterans" breakfast at the Historic Old Bermuda Inn in Charleston on Wednesday November 5th there were about 300 people in attendance.

Scalia Home For Funerals sponsored the event where, Kevin Moran, funeral director spoke, and Assemblyman Michael Cusick and Sen. Andrew Lanza also spoke,. Additional event sponsors included Ivy Branding & Marketing Group, Empire State Bank, Drs. Abrams, Piazza & Julewicz and Jonathan D'Agostino & Associates.

There was an information seminar and over 40 vendors with giveaways for the veterans.

Entertainment was provided by "Tim Maggart & The New American Freedom Train Show," a live musical and multi-media stage show. There was also a book-signing by Kathy Maggart, co-author of the book, "Freedom Train for Kids."



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### Post Meetings

Held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. at Kells-Grennie. 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 at the Mall



The American Legion of Richmond County organized the annual Veterans Day ceremony at the center court of the Staten Island Mall. William Magnuski, past county commander, was honored as the guest speaker.

Veterans and their families honored U.S. Military service members past and present, Borough President James Oddo, District Attorney Dan Donovan, Assemblyman Michael Cusick and Councilman Stephen Matteo were in attendance. The event culminated with a moment of silence and the 11th hour toast, to commemorate the end of World War I.

## County Installation Dinner at the Staaten

The Richmond County American Legion held its Installation dinner on Sunday September 14 at the Staaten. Post Commander Joseph Occhipinti, Judge Advocate Robert Mahoney Treasurer Carmine Vacirca and Post member Ferdinand Salvatore attended this function.



## In Memoriam John (Jack) Devlin

There was a good turnout by Post Members for Jack Devlin's wake at Hanley's Funeral Home. We hope to have the same turn out in the future.

## Christmas Party at December Meeting

Our December 15th meeting will be adjourned for a Post Christmas Party for members and their families.

## In the Pink

The Post welcomes back post members Charles Goffredo, Allen Palazzo and Paul Zalesak who were out because of illness. Feel well !!

## New Post Website

Lester Modelowitz has transferred our tripod website to <http://www.alegion316.org> to provide us with more flexibility space and elimination of the advertisements. We will send post cards to all our members to alert them to the new website and to advise them that our news letter is only available online.

## Pearl Harbor Remembered on SI Ferry

Pearl Harbor Services were held on Sunday December 7th, 2014. Legionnaires met at the S.I. Ferry at 9:30 AM and boarded the 10:00 AM Ferry.



## Membership

Check with Allen Palazzo before sending in another payment for 2015 if they think they have already paid. Allen will be sending out ID cards if they have already paid and not received there 2015 id cards. Allen has been slow getting them out due to his illness this summer.

Members are asked to make a special effort to sign up just one new member into our organization. They will be recognized by receiving a pin from the American Legion Department of New York.

In February the four chaplains interfaith breakfast will be chaired by Allen at the Staaten restaurant. Members pay \$30 and we would appreciate a good attendance from our post.

### URGENT URGENT

The Post needs members to see if they have any ideas or if they know a group or a person who is in need of rental space for any reason be it party, business or group. Call

*We look forward to seeing you at the Post on the 3rd Monday of every month.*

*Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday to All.*



### Hall Rentals

Rentals are \$450 for members and \$550 for non-members. The price includes: ice, soda, a bartender and cleanup. We also have **free WIFI** with rentals. The hall has a capacity of 100 people. For Hall rental information and available dates, please contact our Banquet Manager David Curran 718-351-9233. He will be happy to assist you with your event planning.

### 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.

## Post History Project (Lester Modelowitz)

In mid - September Lester began working on a history project about the Kells – Grennie American Legion Post. He started by first getting information on our Post namesakes Edward Kells and Richard Grennie. He collected old newspaper articles and photos; scanned and converted them into computer files. He also found minutes from Post meetings dating back to the 1950's and also made files of them.

Post and department historians can participate in the American Legion's National Post History Contest and National Department History Contests. The American Legion National website has a program to create a post history for the Centennial that is coming this spring for the 100th anniversary of the Legion. Lester hopes to get this completed around the same time. One of the main features of the Centennial Celebration website is the Post

History Page. A post can start a page – hosted by National Headquarters –that will share the post's history and legacy. Once established, members and friends of the post can add events to the timeline to broaden understanding of the post's place in the community. Check the Centennial celebration website:

<http://centennial.legion.org/new-york/post316?p=about>

When completed the history will be available on line and Lester may also create a PowerPoint Presentation of the history. In the 1980's our Post Headquarters had a fire and some of the post history was destroyed, but that is not

detering Lester from continuing and completing the project. Here is an excerpt of some of Lester's work.



Edward W. Kells Staten Island, NY  
Corporal, United State Army  
Company C, 107th Infantry, 27th Division  
Killed in Action WWI in the Battle of St. Quentin Cana September 29, 1918  
He fought in the trenches of Dickebusch as well as the Hindenburg Line  
Interned Somme American Cemetery  
Bony, France

Richard A. Grennie Staten Island, NY  
Enlisted April 24, 1943 Private First Class,  
U.S. Army  
Killed in aftermath of Normandy Invasion  
At St. Lo, France on July 13, 1944  
Interned at Moravian Cemetery, Staten  
Island NY

***If any members have any information that could help please send it or drop it off at the Post.***

## Post Happenings

### Golf Shirts

If you are interested in obtaining White Golf Shirts with the Kells Grennie American Legion Screen Printed Logo, Carmine Vacirca has them available at a cost of \$10.00 per shirt, a dollar more for XXL sizes.

### Political Forum

On Friday October 17 a political forum was held at our post. It was arranged and organized by Lester Modelowitz.

There were few post members in attendance



### Corporation Officers

New Building Corporation

#### Members:

Carmine Vacirca (Post Treasurer)

William Baumwoll

Charles Goffredo

Joseph Toronto

Allen Palazzo

John Vivolo

Emery Chagnon.



### Worn American Flags

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



## Calendar of Events For 4Q 2014

Date	Day	Event
November 11	Tuesday	Veterans Day Program at the Mall Center Court @ 10:30 A.M.
November 11	Tuesday	Veterans Day Program at Ocean View Cemetery @ 11:00 A.M.
November 11	Tuesday	Veterans Day Parade on 5th Ave and 23rd St to 52nd St @ 11:00 A.M.
November 17	Monday	Post Meeting at Kells Grennie @ 7:30 P.M.
December 6	Saturday	Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony at the SI Ferry @ 9:30 A.M.
December 7	Sunday	Memorial Mass at Fort Wadsworth @ 8:45 A.M.
December 15	Monday	Post meeting and Holiday Dinner at Kells Grennie @ 8:00 P.M.
December 19	Friday	County Meeting TBA @ 7:00 P.M.
January 18	Sunday	County Meeting TBA @ 7:30 P.M.
January 19	Monday	Post Meeting at Kells Grennie @ 7:30 P.M.
January 23-25		Mid Winter Conference at the Hilton in Albany, N.Y.

### Honor Guard

Contact Emery Chagnon at 718-987-2609 if you wish to join the Honor Guard and become an elite member of Post 316. There are several vacancies at this time with many benefits to the members. If a Legion member passes on, please notify the Post and/or the Commander and provide the information for the wake so we can properly honor that member.

### 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