



The Patriot

Spring 2017-March

KELLS-GRENNIE POST # 316
PO Box 90096
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10309-0096
718-351-9233

The Patriot is published quarterly. The next edition will be for April -June. Any information you would like published is due no later than May 19, 2017.
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 - <http://www.ny.legion.org/>

To Receive this newsletter by E-mail. Send
your E-mail address to:
Post316Newsletter@yahoo.com

Post Officers

Commander.....Joseph Occhipinti
Vice Commanders.....William Baumwoll
.....Allen Palazzo
Treasurer..... Carmine Vacirca
Adjutant.....Lester Modelowitz
Chaplain Dennis Rosenwald
Sgt-at-Arms.....Gasper LaRosa
Judge Advocate.....Robert Mahoney
Historian and Webmaster.....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 WardenRichard Burdge

Commander's Message - Spring 2017

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Greetings to all post members and your families.

We have entered the new year with the financial ability to support our veterans and their communities. Let's keep our focus on this end while honoring the sacrifices and service of our fellow veterans. Members should join us on the third Monday of each month to participate in these efforts. In addition we extend our sincerest invitation to all veterans to join our Post. To be eligible for membership in

The American Legion, you need to have been assigned to at least one day of federal active duty service any time during the eligibility periods as determined by U.S. Government, and received an honorable discharge/discharge under honorable conditions, or currently serving in one of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Memorial Day— Memorial Day (the fourth Monday in May) honors American service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle.

Share with us your ideas and experiences as veterans.

.....
AS ALWAYS KEEP OUR TROOPS AT HOME AND ABROAD IN OUR PRAYERS AND PRAY THAT WE SUCCEED IN OUR MISSION.

For God and Country, Joseph Occhipinti, Post Commander



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**

Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act - Up for Vote in the House

(Lester Modelowitz)

Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.) supports House Judiciary Committee's Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 (S. 305).

This bill would amend Section 6(d) of title 4, United States Code, to encourage the display of the U.S. flag on National Vietnam War Veterans Day, which is honored each year on March 29. Introduced by Senator Toomey, S. 305 passed the Senate by Unanimous Consent last month.

Any recognition these veterans receive now is an insufficient substitute for the recognition they should have received when they first arrived back in the United States. And while nothing can remove the pain surrounding the hollow reception these veterans received, one can hope that their sacrifice, which continued well after the war, will help ensure that this generation of veterans. (see Act on page....)

The Department of Defense Extends Online Military Exchange Shopping Privileges to Veterans

(Leo Milham)

The Department of Defense announced a policy change that will extend limited online military exchange shopping privileges to all honorably discharged veterans of the military effective this Veterans Day, November 11, 2017

Privileges exclude the purchase of uniforms, alcohol and tobacco products. This service is provided as a small, tangible way of saying, 'Thank you' to those who served. The DoD feels the online benefit will also strengthen the exchanges' online businesses by doubling the exchanges' online presence improving the experience for all through improved vendor terms, more competitive merchandise assortments, and improved efficiencies.

Play Ball!

The Post has voted to support The Great Kills Little League Challenger Division to the tune of \$384. Located at 245 Greaves Avenue Susan Andone is the President of Challenger Funding. (718-288-0457)

Post Valentine's Party

On Friday February 17 Post 316 held a Valentine's Party at the Moravian Church Meeting Hall. It was originally scheduled for February 10th but was rescheduled because of the 9 inch snow fall. There was a great turnout of Legion Members and their friends and family. The food was catered through Little Italy Gourmet with Cake from COSCO.

There was a DJ providing great dance music throughout the party which ran from 6PM to 10:30 PM. Here are some pictures Our thanks to Charles Goffredo and Carmine Vacirca as Event Chairmen for organizing the party. in addition Allen and Anna Palazzo for decorations; Leo Milham for facility arrangements; John Vivolo for beverage and lottery events. We appreciate the lovely basket of joy contributed by Northfield Bank. Also the Sons of Legion David Curran and Bill Knapp with their three volunteers did a fantastic job in preparing and serving our food and clearing the Hall.



Boys and Girls State

(Daniel Martin and Diane Gerber)

The Post will sponsor 2 candidates each for both Boys State and Girls State. John Vivolo raised an additional \$350 to do something extra for Boys and Girls State.

Boys' State will be held from June 25 through July 1, 2017 at SUNY Morrisville State College in Morrisville, NY. The boys may enroll between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm on Sunday, June 25, and must leave on Saturday, July 1 at 8:00 am following breakfast. Lunch will not be provided on Sunday, June 25, 2017. Attendees should have lunch prior to their arrival.



The 2017 American Legion Auxiliary Empire Girls State program will be held July 2, 2017- July 8, 2017 at The College of Brockport in Brockport, NY. Richmond County is going to send five girls in all. When Girls State candidates finish their program they will share their experiences at meeting in October at Marine Corps League. The Post is invited.

Boys' State is not a summer camp! Although there will be designated recreation times, Boys' State is NOT a picnic – NOT an outing – NOT a sports camp. Sponsoring groups are asked to note that Boys' State is in no way a rehabilitative, disciplinary, or recreational camp. Only young men with outstanding qualifications in leadership, character, scholarship, service, and citizenship who have a serious attitude toward an intensive citizenship training program should be selected. Appearance, neatness, and good grooming are expected of Boys' State participants. Attitude and appearance go hand-in-hand and the ability to follow directions is a must. The image projected by candidates to Boys' State reflects upon the youth of America.

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. During their week these students, under the guidance of the Americanism Chairman, will also learn proper flag etiquette, participate in and create either a flag lowering or raising ceremony, and participate in a POW-MIA Ceremony.

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.


Students are selected to become citizens a mythical 51st State, from the county to the state level. As the government begins to take shape, these young women come to understand their roles in a democratic society.


Senator Andrew Lanza &
Assemblyman Matthew Titone

Invite You to the
9th Annual Celebration of

VIETNAM VETERANS' DAY



SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH AT 1PM
Tottenville High School
100 Luten Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10312
If you have any questions, please call (718) 984-4073




Senator
Andrew Lanza

Then & Now

We kindly request that each veteran send a picture of themselves during their service and a current picture for a special presentation. If you sent in your pictures last year, there is no need to submit them again.

Please email pictures to
dmytrow@nysenate.gov



Assemblyman
Matthew Titone

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.

Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017

115th CONGRESS

1st Session

S. 305

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 6, 2017

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

AN ACT

To amend title 4, United States Code, to encourage the display of the flag of the United States on National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ``Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. DISPLAY OF FLAG ON NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY.

Section 6(d) of title 4, United States Code, is amended by inserting ``National Vietnam War Veterans Day, March 29;" after ``third Monday in February;".

Passed the Senate February 3, 2017.

Attest:

JULIE E. ADAMS,

Secretary.

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 \$11.00 per short sleeve shirt and \$16 per blue long sleeve shirt, a dollar more for XXL sizes. call 718-702-7578

The Post will pay for one of the shirts.

Elections

We will start the nomination and election process for post officers at the March 20th meeting. This will be followed up at the April 17th meeting. All Post members who wish to hold office should be present at these meetings.

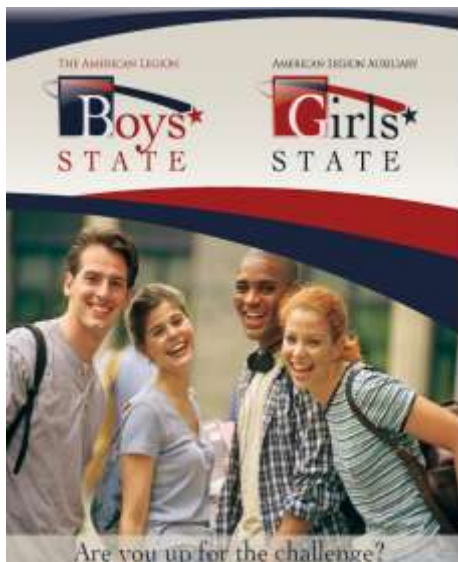
Copies of Our Newsletter

We will make available 20 paper copies of our latest Newsletter at our Post meeting.

Vietnam Veterans Day

On Saturday April 8th at 1PM at Tottenville H.S., 100 Luten Avenue. Call 718-984-4073 for questions.

We Support Boys State and Girls State



Membership Notes

(Allen Palazzo)

As of January 20 we have 82% renewal complete in Department data base. Our current membership renewals is at be sure to check your status at our next meeting with Allen. You can help for 2017 by telling your friends and fellow veterans about our new location and encourage them to come to meetings. This year the membership dues are \$45.00. If anyone has any questions regarding your status or membership see me at the meetings in our new meeting hall or call 718-987-7982 or please call Allen Palazzo at 917-667-0457

Try and bring a friend to our next meeting.....

Law and Order Night

Kells Grennie voted to have a Law and Order Night to honor Staten Island 9/11 first responders to show our continued gratitude to those who serve. Slated for the September meeting

Children and Youth Breakfast

April has been celebrated as "Children & Youth Month" since 1938. The Richmond County American Legion hosts a child- or youth-themed community event to recognize this.

Children represent the future of our nation.

Children and Youth Breakfast

Sunday, March 26 at 9:00 AM

Li Greci's Staaten

697 Forest Ave, Staten Island, New York 10310

Flags at Moravian

The Post will place flags on veterans graves at Moravian Cemetery on Saturday May 20, 2017. Arrangements are being worked out. More information to come.

Ocean View Cemetery

A ceremony honoring veterans will be held at Ocean View Cemetery at 11:00 A.M. May 20th.

Worn American Flags

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



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