



KILLS-GRENNIE NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

VOLUME XII

NO 1

JANUARY 1958

THE COMMANDER SOUNDS OFF

I hope you had a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and that the NEW YEAR will bring GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS TO ALL!

With the new year K-G will continue to participate in the programs mandated at our National Convention. If I continue to get the cooperation I've been getting, I know K-G will hold its own in these programs.

Time marches on and here we are in the first month of a new year. This is the month of resolutions...most of which will be broken...but here are a few we can all make and try to keep:

R E S O L V E D: That I will pound Legion membership into every eligible veteran.
...That I will report all new and renewals promptly to Joseph Miller, Membership Chairman.

...That I will support my Post in all its efforts and aims.

...That I will attend my Post meetings as regularly as possible.

Keep these little resolutions and you will be classed an A-A-A One Legionnaire. They're not hard to keep...just a bit of will-power will do it. Try it and see.

If you don't already know it, the Christmas Party held at the Post, December 20th went off smoothly, with the parents enjoying the movies as much as (if not more) than the kids. Frank Rooney, Andy Procopio, Joe Smith, Ray Swanson, Phil Kolb, Lou Lonangino and a couple of non-Legionnaires (no fault of their own) went down along New Dorp Lane and the Beach area distributing ice cream and candy. The kids were happy to get it and the Legionnaires were just as happy to get out and do a good deed. I'd like to thank you all for helping out. If there were others there and I've missed your names, please forgive me.

I'll try to have movies for the meeting night of January 24th, so come on out and I'm sure you'll enjoy them.

Now, before I sign off, Ruthie and I wish you all a
VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Sincerely for the Legion,

Louis J. Somma

LOUIS J. SOMMA

COMMANDER

THIS AND THAT - FROM THE EDITOR

Will Killen is out \$15. for not attending the December 13th meeting. It also cost Fred Campo \$20.00 for missing the meeting on the 27th. Is it worth \$25.00 to be present at the Post on January 10th?.. Welcome to new members Ole Kvenvik, Dominick Paterno and Joseph Sand...Are the movies to be shown at our next meeting going to be westerns?...Lou Somma, Lou Lamangino, Joseph Smith, Andy Procopio and Phil Kolb did a nice job in helping to wrap and distribute gifts to vets at Marine and Sea View Hospitals...Give an assist to Mrs.Kolb for also lending a hand...Your Christmas Party for children was quite successful. Santa Claus was played by Anthony Pinto who did a very nice job. Commander Lou Somma was assisted by Andy Procopio (Driver of 40/8 Locomotive) Frank Rooney (Fireman and Commentator), Lou Lomangino, Joseph Smith, Ray Swanson, Phil Kolb and John Krieder, all as Santa's helpers. Gifts were distributed in New Dorp Beach area and also in shopping center on New Dorp Lane. About 75 member's children were entertained at the Post and gifts given out by Santa and his helpers... Jack Reycraft (Advance News Hawk) is quite an accomplished story teller... YOUR DUES ARE DUE - YOU ARE LATE FOR 58.

ORATORICAL CONTEST

The purpose of the contest is to create interest in and respect for the basic principles of our form of Government. Therefore this contest is centered around the Constitution of the United States. This year's contest held at Cichon Post Headquarters has brought a measure of glory to our Post. Two of the first three prizes were won by children of members of our Post. First place was won by Louis Rappaport, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Rappaport. Third place was won by Roberta Smith, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Smith. Congratulations to the proud parents and sincere good wishes to the winning contestants. Louis is a student of New Dorp High School and Roberta attends St. Louis Academy.

BIRTHDAYS

The practise of reporting the birthdays of our members is being revived. Many birthdays are now on record. To insure your name's appearance in this column please send your name, month, day and year of birth to your Editor. From our available records, we know the following members are observing natal days in this month of January 1958:

<u>JAN.</u>	<u>JAN.</u>	<u>JAN</u>
1 Daniel J.Lomangino	10 Michael J.Valentino	26 John P.McGrath
3 Charles F.Dougherty	10 Joseph A. Pate	29 Vincent P.Flattery
3 Frederico DeSimone	11 William R.Torgersen	30 Angelo Motola
4 Drakoulous Demetriou	13 Vincent J.Catalino	31 Frederick A.Lewis
6 Joseph Smith	18 Louis A.Vastola	31 Louis J.Somma
10 Michael DeQuila	26 Joseph G.Doucet	

MEMBERSHIP: As of press time Ye Editor knows that Membership Chairman Joseph Miller has reported 165 paid-up members. No other message??????

N E W Y E A R 1958 promises to be a banner year for the American Legion. Our resolutions will be made and broken with abandon. Out of it all will come a BIGGER and STRONGER LEGION dedicated anew to a firm resolve that our organization shall not forget the principles for which we were organized. Your Editor joins with the Commander and his staff in wishing you a VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR...May your drink for the road on New Year's Eve be coffee so that on New Year's morning you can have a bite of the dog that bit you the night before.

Y O U R S E R V I C E O F F I C E R S P E A K S :

Leo D'A. Balbach, 36 Richmond Terrace, Staten Island 1, N.Y. GI 7-9021

During my years of experience as a Post Service Officer, and a State Veterans' Counselor, I have seen life insurance (particularly Government policies) paid to beneficiaries where I was convinced that the veterans never intended to leave insurance to those persons. These occurrences happened because the veteran's nearest-of-kin status had changed, but he neglected to change his designated beneficiary. Marriage, divorce, birth of children, death of parents, or other reasons are cause for the veteran to check up on his insurance to make sure that the insurance, in the event of his death, will go to the person to whom he wishes it paid. There are special forms provided for the changing of beneficiaries which I will be glad to process for any veteran who wishes to make such a change. IT IS NOT NECESSARY THAT PRESENT BENEFICIARIES BE NOTIFIED OF ANY CHANGE THE VETERAN WISHES TO MAKE. Under the law a change of beneficiary by a veteran is his own personal affair, and the Veterans Administration will not disclose such changes to any other person. THIS IS A MIGHTY IMPORTANT MATTER FOR YOU TO CHECK UP ON.

HOSPITALIZATION There are many veterans who are constantly seeking information regarding their rights and privileges to be hospitalized at Veterans Administration Hospitals. My office is contacted by many veterans or families of veterans who feel that their applications for hospitalization are unjustly rejected. The following information may be helpful in clarifying this situation: Just being a veteran does not guarantee anyone admission to a VA hospital. The VA first takes care of all eligible veterans who need hospitalization for service-connected diseases and disabilities. The second group includes veterans discharged for disability in line of duty or receiving compensation from the VA for a disability and who need hospitalization for non-service-connected conditions. They may be admitted to a VA hospital when beds are available. The third group includes war veterans without service-connected conditions, who may under law, be admitted to VA hospitals if three conditions

are met. First, they must need medical care of a type or extent for which hospitalization is required. Second, they must certify under oath they are unable to pay for the needed hospitalization elsewhere. Third, the VA hospital must have a bed available.

Peacetime veterans are eligible for care in a VA hospital only if they were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions for disability incurred in line of duty, or are receiving VA compensation for service-connected disability. The VA hospitals, like other hospitals, accept emergency patients as a life-saving measure and VA priorities for admission are waived in such cases.

ARMED FORCES PAY

Commissioned officers or former commissioned officers of the U.S. armed forces who were advanced in grade between July 1, 1932 and June 30, 1934, who did not receive raises in pay and allowances when they were promoted may now submit a claim for reimbursement under Public Law 85-255

Widows and legal representatives may also file claims in the case of a deceased officer.

All claims must be filed by September 2nd, 1959.

KELLS-GRENNIE POST 316
NEXT MEETINGS
JANUARY 10th & 24th
8:30 P.M. SHARP

KELLS-GRENNIE NEWS
THE AMERICAN LEGION
MEMBER OF
AMERICAN LEGION PRESS
ASSOCIATION

EDITOR
FRANK J. ROONEY
457 Victory Boulevard
Staten Island 1, N.Y.

HAPPY
PEACEFUL AND
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
TO ALL!

KELLS-GRENNIE POST 316
2750 Amboy Road
Staten Island 6 N Y

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
S I N Y
PERMIT #17

PHILIP H. KOLB
23 MANILA PL.
S.I. 6, N.Y.