



The Patriot

First Quarter--January - March

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 April - June. Any information you would like published is due no later than May 19, 2015.
 Patriot Editor William Baumwoll



Important Phone Numbers

Kells Grennie Post	1-718-351-9233
VA Benefits	1-800-827-1000
Social Security	1-800-772-1213
Medicare-A	1-800-433-9592
Medicare-B	1-800-333-7586
Empire Blue Cross	1-800-433-9592
G.H.I.	1-800-358-5500
H.I.P.	1-800-447-8255
NYC Health Line	1-800-521-9574
Poison Control Center	1-800-222-1222

AMERICAN LEGION WEBSITE LINKS

Post 316 - <http://www.alegion316.org/>
 County - <http://legion1ny.tripod.com/index.html>
 NY State - <http://nylegion.net//>

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
.....	Charles Goffredo
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 - Winter 2015

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Fellow legionnaires, as we all have experienced so far, this winter has proven to be one of the toughest to endure in a long time. I would like to personally thank all of you who made an effort to brave the wind, snow, ice and heavy rain to attend our meetings and other activities connected to our post and the Legion in general. It means a lot to know you all care. As the seasons change into more pleasant conditions, my hopes are for some of our members who were unable to maneuver thru the winter months, come to the meetings and become more a part of post and American legion activities in general.

In January along with our membership

chairman, Allen Palazzo, we gathered at our post to have a re-invite, calling some of our members who were not up on their dues and also calling some post 1 (Albany) members that were within our zip code for the express purpose of inviting them to become members of our post. Also at this re-invite session a concerted effort was made by Allen Palazzo With the help of Paul Dietrich (Gold Stat Post) to bring our membership totals up to speed. Allen has been preoccupied for some time with health issues but is now on the highway to recovery and back a hundred percent doing a great job with membership. Special thanks to Paul for his help. During this session we were able to add 8 members to our ranks from post 1 and a correction of 36 members with membership I'd cards out in the mail to them bringing us that much more closer to our membership goal. Thank you to all who attended. You see Legionnaires, there is strength in numbers. That's why I am urging all of you to please attend our membership meetings (third Monday each month) where great things happen for the good of our post so we look forward to seeing more of you at our meetings. For God and country.

Respectfully Yours,
Joseph Occhipinti, Post Commander



Post Meetings

Held on the 3rd 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**

The Patriot Newsletter

William Baumwoll editor

The Newsletter is our window to Post activities and items that Post members want to see that relate to veterans. I depend on YOU to contribute material to include in the Newsletter..

The Newsletter is available electronically by e-mail at:

Post316Newsletter@yahoo.com

on the Post's web site at:

<http://www.alegion316.org/>

Please send your e-mail address to **wbsisland@yahoo.com** to be added to the Post's e-mail list.

Members please send a photo of yourselves when you were in the service and a current photo. Lester Modelowitz wants to feature a spot on our website of members then and now.

POST BUILDING

AVAILABLE Joe Occhipinti Post Commander

We are calling on our membership, or whoever else reads this newsletter; for your help. As you may know, our current long term tenant has acquired a building and after some renovations will occupy that building in the very near future. We are now looking for a long or short term rental of our building If you know of anyone or any group who is in need of rental space, please refer them to us for consideration. Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated. For information, please contact Joe Occhipinti (732-900-4227) Leo Milham (718-948-8596) They will be able to assist you.



Post Commander's Loss

Post Commander Joseph Occhipinti's mom Frances Occhipinti, 80 of Whiting, N.J., passed away on 3/11//2015. She was a homemaker who loved being with her three generations of family. Born Frances C. Scarlatta in Tompkinsville, she lived in there until 2001, when she settled in Whiting.

She graduated from Curtis High School. Mrs. Occhipinti was an avid Yankee fan who loved family gatherings, lottery scratch off games, celebrating the holidays and visiting Atlantic City.

She embraced life to the fullest, with heartfelt appreciation for each and every day, her family said, adding that her favorite expression was "I love you more." She was a parishioner of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Manchester Township, N.J.

Her husband of 59 years, Joseph, died in 2011. Surviving Mrs. Occhipinti are her sons, Joseph, Anthony, Vincent, Randal, Kenneth and Robert; her daughter, Sandra Reinold; her sister, Clara Caputo; 14 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.



Post Member's Daughter Married

Post Treasurer Carmine Vacirca had the pleasure of seeing his daughter Janine Vacirca married on February 28, 2015.

The ceremony took place at St. Patrick's Church in Richmond town. The groom, Jake Raimondo is a bus driver for the MTA on Staten island. Carmine's daughter is a teacher at PS 41 in New Dorp.



Interfaith Breakfast

The Richmond County Legion hosted its 72nd annual Four Chaplains Interfaith breakfast Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015 at the Staaten.

The event pays tribute to Jewish Rabbi Alexander Goode, Methodist minister George L. Fox, Dutch Reformed minister Clark V. Poling, and Catholic priest John P. Washington.

In 1943, the four Army chaplains joined 900 soldiers aboard the USAT Dorchester headed for Europe when on Feb. 3, a torpedo from a German submarine ripped through the hull. The chaplains passed out life vests until they ran out and took off their own life jackets to save other men. Of the 920 men on the ship, only 230 survived.

Event chairman Joe Occhipinti presented guest speakers Dan Ocko, assistant director of the Chapel of the Four Chaplains in Philadelphia and the Rev. Mother Rhoda Margaret Treherne Thomas of St. John's Episcopal Church.



A Message From Our Membership Chairman

Dear Kells Grennie American Legion Members,

As you may know I had a struggle with membership for 2015 due to my illness this year. I am happy to report to you that all the membership is rectified to my knowledge and any double payments have been returned as of the end of February. It does take the legion a few weeks to update their files so that you might still get a renewal notice for 2015 in some cases. Please call me at 917-664-0457 before you send any further payments and I will check it out for you.

Also remember that our 2016 membership requests will be sent out at the end of spring

some time so if you get the 2016 then you must send that in.

The membership dues may go up this year so please read the information carefully and if you have any questions please call. We would also like to see you at our meetings then if we have any issues we can address them sooner.

We currently have 172 paid up members.

Sincerely
Membership Vice Chairman
Allen Palazzo

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.

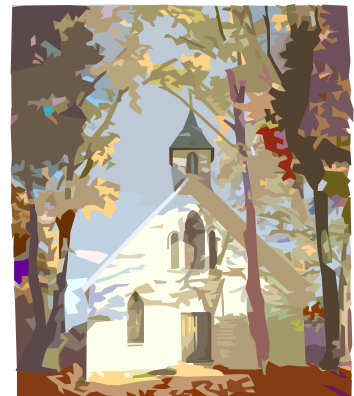
Funerals

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.

Thank You Church of Christ

Our current long term tenant(The Church of Christ) has been a good tenant for us for several years and a good source of income for our post.

Their lease with us has helped to offset some or most of our operating cost for our building at 2750 Amboy road. Staten Island N.Y. We ask our members to join with us in wishing the church many happy years in their new building.



Dr. Michael P. Milham Healthy Brain Network

Dr. Michael P. Milham is a Staten Island native and is the director of the Healthy Brain Network, which will use brain imaging to identify biological markers in the brain that predict or indicate a psychiatric disease. The hope is this will change the way the medical field diagnoses, and in turn, treats mental illness.

Michael P. Milham, MD, PhD, is the the son of Post member Leo Milham. Dr. Milham is an internationally recognized neuroscience researcher, a gifted and caring clinician, and the founding director of the Center for the Developing Brain at the Child Mind Institute. Dr. Milham's innovative research techniques signal a sea change in the field and a revolution in discovery science.

Dr. Milham is also one of our nation's most prolific scientists, with over 60 articles published since 2000, and an average of about 10 publications per year during the past three years.

Dr. Milham received his PhD at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in cognitive neuroscience, psychophysiology, and clinical neuroscience. He received his medical degree from the University of Illinois Medical School, where he became a member of Alpha Omega Alpha National Medical Honor Society. Dr. Milham completed his general psychiatry residency training at the NYU Langone Medical Center, and his child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship training at the NYU Child Study Center.



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.

Vietnam Veteran's Day

On Saturday March 21, 2015 at 1PM at Tottenville High School, 100 Luten Avenue, the 7th Annual Celebration of Vietnam Veteran's Day will be held. The event is sponsored by Senator Andrew J. Lanza and Assemblyman Matthew Titone.

If you have questions please call (718-984-4073)

Future Events

The Children and Youth Breakfast will be held on Sunday April 19, 2015 at 8:30 am at the Staaten, \$30 per person.

The Commander's cocktail hour and dinner will be held at Antun's in Queens on Friday, April 17, 2015, from 7:00 - 12:00 P.M. It is \$65 per person and a formal testimonial dinner. The dinner welcomes the National Commander, Michael D. Helm and also in attendance will be our own Department Commander, Frank Peters.

Mary La Manna is collecting

for both events.

Boys and Girls State

Both Boys State and Girls State programs start again around this time of year.

Last year our Post sponsored a candidate for each program. The Post has been putting monies aside to sponsor candidates again. So far about \$250 has been collected..

Worn American Flags

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



Calendar of Events For 1Q 2014*

Date	Day	Event
March 16	Monday	Post Meeting at Kells Grennie @ 7:30 P.M.
March 20	Friday	American Legion Birthday 7:00 PM at the Varsity Club
March 21	Saturday	Vietnam Veteran's Day at Tottenville High School at 1:00 P.M.
April 10	Friday	County Meeting Gold star Post @7:30 P.M.
April 17	Friday	Commander's Dinner at Antun's Queen's 7-12 P.M. \$65 per person
April 19	Sunday	Children & Youth Breakfast at the Staaten at 8:30 A.M. \$30 per person
April 20	Monday	Post Meeting at Kells Grennie @ 7:30 P.M.
May 6	Wednesday	Michael Ollis Freedom Foundation - Hilton Garden Inn 7-11 P.M. \$75 per person (718-987-1609)
May 16	Saturday	7th Annual Staten Island welcomes our heroes on Richmond Ave from Platinum Ave to Travis Ave Estimated Time of Arrival is 1 P.M.
May 18	Monday	Post Meeting at Kells Grennie @ 7:30 P.M.
May 25	Monday	Memorial Day Parade
May 30	Saturday	Department Commander homecoming @ the Staaten (info to come)

* Due to the timing of this Newsletter I have advanced the coverage period.

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