



The Patriot

January/February 2002

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Kells-Grennie Post #316
2750 Amboy Road
Staten Island, NY 10306-2140
(718) 351-9233

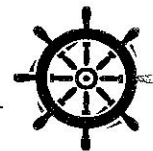
OFFICERS

Commander.....	John Crowley
Vice-Commanders.....	Tom Simonetti
.....	Nick Moscariello
.....	Joe Dietrich
.....	Sal Bastiani
Treasurer.....	Emery Chagnon
Adjutant.....	Bill Kuntz
Judge Advocate.....	Ferdie Salvatore
Chaplain.....	Gene Ramirez
Sgt-at-Arms.....	Jerry Quinn

Committees

Americanism.....	Thomas Simonetti
Bar & Lounge.....	Donald O'Hanlon
Boys State.....	Sal Bastiani
Children & Youth.....	Sal Bastiani
Graves Registration.....	Nick Moscariello
Hall Rentals.....	Jerry Quinn
Historian.....	Lester Modelowitz
Honor Guard Captain.....	Emery Chagnon
Hospital Visitations.....	Vincent Zangari
Houseman.....	Jerry Quinn
Membership.....	Dennis J. Conroy
Post Editor.....	Dennis J. Conroy
Post Parties.....	Rocco Valenti
POW/MIA.....	Lester Modelowitz
Publicity.....	William Kuntz
Service & Welfare.....	Leo Milham

The Commander's Message



I hope this message finds all in good health and recovering from the Holiday season. I wish to extend to all members and their families a joyous and Happy New Year. This past year will be one that know one will ever forget. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who suffered a loss on September 11th. **We will never forget!**

Our military forces have been able to do in months what took the Russians ten years and still failed. Where we go from here is anybody's guess, but I feel confident the American people will continue to support our armed forces. Keep those flags flying to honor all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and who continue to be in harm's way.

The Post's Children's Holiday Party was a huge success. For all those who volunteered, a very huge thank you.

Recently, a motion was passed to have our first meeting of the month changed to a 1:00pm start time. We held two meetings (November and December) at this new time and I'm sorry to say the attendance was very poor. So, starting in January, 2002, we will go back to our normal start time, at 8:30pm for all meetings.

The Post Hall bookings have slightly increased, but we still need the support from all our members in selling our Post's party facilities. Support your Post. Come on down on a Friday night. Meet old friends, make new ones, learn current events that pertain to veterans, break bread and enjoy. See you soon.

Yours for the Legion,

John Crowley

Post Commander

TAPS

George J. Molfino

11/8/01

May He Rest in Peace

Life Membership

On behalf of the entire membership, we wish to congratulate Post member James R. Wright who chose to become a **paid-up-for-life Member** in the American Legion.

Well done, Jim.

Membership Report

Our membership goal for the year 2002 is 303 members. As of the end of December we have 243 renewals, or 80.2% of our goal. If you haven't sent in your 2002 renewal notice, please do so now.

The Post welcomes new transfers: Rudy M. Auriti, Vincent Imbesi, James E. Jackson, Donald M. Kenny, Angelo J. Lecce, John S. Levendosky, Bernard F. Mazzocchi, Salvatore V. Raspa and John Vitale. *Welcome Aboard!*

Remember the Pentagon and the World Trade Center



Highlights of the *"Minutes of the Meeting"*

November 9 Service and Welfare Chairman Leo Milham reported that we are seeing an increase in hall rentals. Leo also reporting meeting with a Brigadier General who will be coordinating an outsource service between the VA and Staten Island University Hospital. Commander Crowley will try to contact the General and arrange for him to address the membership at a future meeting.

Sergeant-at-arms Jerry Quinn referred the members to a plaque hanging in our foyer that was donated to the Post by Bill Knapp.

Honor Guard Captain Emery Chagnon reported there will be a ceremony in Veterans Park, Port Richmond at 1:00pm on November 10th. Emery also said the Honor Guard and members will attend the Veterans Day ceremony at the Staten Island Mall at 11:00am on November 11th.

Judge Advocate Ferdie Salvatore announced the following: the County Meeting for November 16th would be held at Huttner-Pasqualini Post at 8:00pm; the memorial service for deceased members and the Pearl Harbor ceremony, both on December 7th.

The 50/50 drawing was dispensed for this meeting.

November 23 Commander Crowley hoped that all the Post members had a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Leo Milham reminded the membership that the Children's Holiday Party will be held on Sunday, December 16th at 1:00pm and that the Post's members Holiday Party will be held after our regular Post meeting on Friday, December 28th.



The winner of the 50/50 drawing was John Crowley. Congratulations, John.

December 14 Leo Milham asked for volunteers to help set up for the Children's Holiday Party, this Sunday.

Don O'Hanlon reported on the Christmas Party for the children of the September 11th victims, which was held at the Labetti VFW Post on December 12th.

Sergeant-at-arms Jerry Quinn made a motion to discontinue the afternoon meetings on the second Friday of each month and return the meetings to 8:30pm, due to poor attendance. The motion was seconded and carried. Jerry also announced

that the Post's annual Super Bowl party will be held at the Post on Sunday, February, 3rd.

Adjutant Bill Kuntz read correspondence from the American Legion, Department of New York, announcing a Battle of the Bulge exhibit being held at the New York State Vietnam Memorial Gallery in Albany through January 16, 2002.

Commander John Crowley reported that the Twin Towers Fund and Emergency Fund being collected by the American Legion, Department of New York from New York State Posts totaled more than \$46,000.

December 28 Judge Advocate Ferdie Salvatore announced that the Mid-Winter Conference will be held in Albany on January 25th-26th. Representatives from our Post, for this conference, will be Ferdie and Tom Simonetti.

Ferdie also announced that this year's American Legion Oratorical Contest for Staten Island will take place on January 19th, at 2:00pm, at Snug Harbor. In addition, this year's Four Chaplain's Breakfast will take place on Sunday, February 10th, at 9:00am, at the Staaten Restaurant. The cost to members is just \$10.00 per person. See Ferdie if you're interested in attending.

A motion was made to change the starting times of our evening meetings from 8:30pm to ????? This motion will be voted on at our next meeting on January 11th.



The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Ferdie Salvatore. Congratulations, Ferdie.

***** IMPORTANT NOTICE *****

On Friday, November 9th, we held our first afternoon meeting at the Post. Our second afternoon meeting was held on Friday, December 14th. As far as attendance went, they were both dismal failures.

In few of this low turnout, a motion was made and approved to discontinue day meetings. Beginning in January, 2002, both of our monthly meetings will be held in the evening.

Another motion was made to begin our evening meetings earlier than the current 8:30pm starting time. This motion will be voted on at our first meeting of the new year on Friday, January 11th.

All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Children's Holiday Party..... Another Big Success!

On Sunday, December 16th, the Kells-Grennie Post and the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #421 hosted our annual Children's Holiday Party.

Over 100 children and parents were in attendance awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus (a.k.a. Mel Hanson). While waiting patiently for Santa, all those in attendance were served hot dogs, salad, kinishes, cookies and cake.

At precisely 2:00pm, the American Legion's 40&8 Locomotive and Caboose pulled up in front of our building with Santa Claus. Santa entered the hall to the applause and excitement of the children and then invited all of them on a train ride around the neighborhood.

After the train rides, Santa sat down in his special chair and distributed presents to all the children. Even the adults got into the act by participating in our raffle drawing of a Christmas wreath covered with lottery tickets.

When the party ended, each child received a Christmas stocking as a memento.

The Post and VVA would like to thank all the volunteers from both organizations for making this year's Children's Holiday Party the best ever.

Come On (TOUCH)Down!!!

To our 6th Annual Super Bowl Party

Sunday, February 3rd

Time: 4:00pm till MIDNIGHT

Place: Kells-Grennie Post #316

Cost: \$20.00 per person

(includes one box in our Super Bowl Pool)

Open Bar

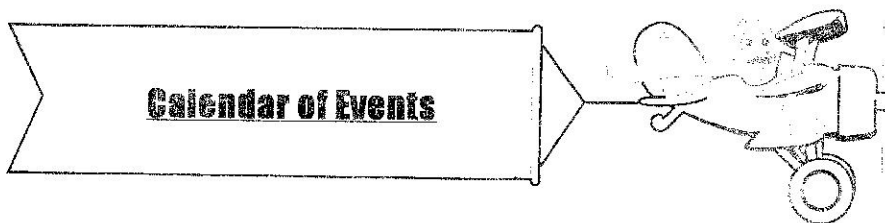
Macaroni and Potato Salad

Assorted Cold Cuts

Coffee and Desert

(There will also be raffles and a 50/50 drawing)

Space is limited to the first forty (40) paid customers. So Hurry, Don't miss out. If interested, contact either: Leo Milham or Jerry Quinn, at the Post.



January

1st, Tuesday

- **New Year's Day.***

11th, Friday

- Membership meeting at the Post, 8:30pm.

17th, Thursday

- *Operation Desert Storm* began (1991).

18th, Friday

- County Meeting, 7:30pm, to be held at Cespino-Russo Post in South Beach.

21st, Monday

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.***

25th, Friday

- Membership meeting at the Post, 8:30pm.

27th, Sunday

- Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord (1973).

February

8th, Friday

- Membership meeting at the Post, 8:30pm.

12th, Tuesday

- **Lincoln's Birthday.***

14th, Thursday

- **St. Valentine's Day.**

15th, Friday

- County Meeting, 7:30pm, to be held at (to be determined).

18th, Monday

- **President's Day.***

22nd, Friday

- Membership meeting at the Post, 8:30pm.

Washington's Birthday.

23rd, Saturday

- U.S. Marines raised flag on Mt. Suribachi (Battle of Iwo Jima), 1945.



* Fly the Flag

Why Not Have It At Your Post?

The Post has a modern hall facility that can accommodate from 40 to 100 people. The rental fee is \$450.00 (\$400.00 to Post members*) for 5 hours usage (One hour to Set-up, Four hours to party).

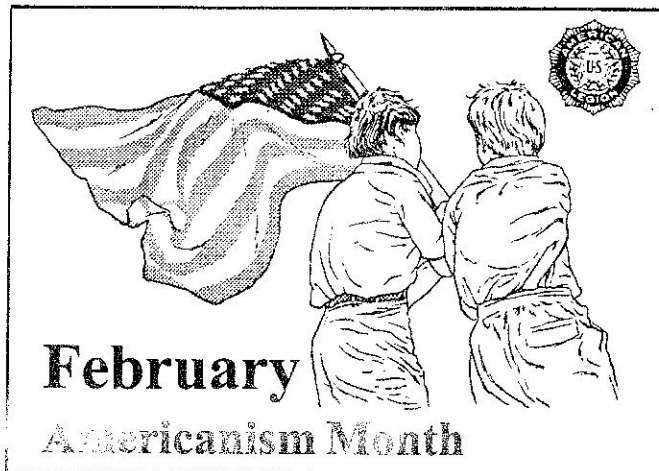
Included in the price:

Soda (Coke, Diet Coke, Ginger Ale, 7-up, Tonic Water, Club Soda, Red Birch Beer and Water), Soda Cups, Ice Cubes, Coffee, Sanka, Tea, Decaffeinated Tea, Milk, Sugar, Sugar Substitutes, Stirrers, Coffee Cups, a Bartender and Clean-up Person.

Come on down any Monday or Friday night after 8:00pm and see it for yourself. Just ask for Jerry. He'll be happy to show you around. You'll be glad you did.

Why pay more and get less?

*With 2+ years membership with our Post.



"...the best medicine."

Any Questions?

1. HOW DO YOU GET HOLY WATER?
2. WHAT DO ESKIMOS GET FROM SITTING ON THE ICE?
3. WHAT DO YOU CALL CHEESE THAT ISN'T YOURS?
4. WHAT DO YOU CALL SANTA'S HELPERS?
5. WHAT LIES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN AND TWITCHES?
6. WHERE DO YOU FIND A DOG WITH NO LEGS?
7. WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ROAST BEEF AND PEA SOUP?
8. WHY DON'T BLIND PEOPLE LIKE TO SKY DIVE?
9. WHAT GOES CLOP, CLOP, CLOP, BANG, BANG, CLOP, CLOP, CLOP?
10. HOW ARE A TEXAS TORNADO AND TENNESSEE DIVORCE THE SAME?

You boil the hell out of it.
Polaroids.
Nacho cheese.
Subordinate Clauses.
A nevous wreck.
Right where you left him.
Anyone can roast beef.
Because it scares the hell out of the dog.
An Amish drive-by-shooting.
Somebody's gonna lose a trailer.

Modern Catholicism

The elder priest, speaking to the younger priest, said, "I know you were reaching out to the young people when you had bucket seats put in to replace the first four pews. It worked. We got the front of the church filled first." The young priest nodded and the old one continued, "And, you told me a little more beat to the music would bring young people back to church, so I supported you when you brought in that rock 'n roll gospel choir that packed us to the balcony." "So, asked the young priest, "what's the problem?"

"Well," said the elder priest, "I'm afraid you've gone to far with the drive-thru confessional."

"But Father," protests the young priest. "My confessions have nearly doubled since I began that!"

"I know, my son, but the flashing "Toot 'n Tell or Go to Hell" neon sign really has to go!"

How Old is He?

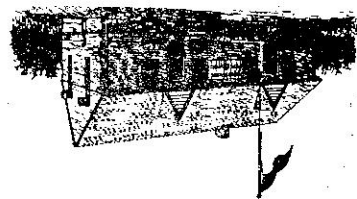
One evening a grandson was talking to his grandfather about current events. He asked what he thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age, and just things in general. The granddad replied, "Well, let me think a minute.... I was born before television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, Frisbees and the pill. There were no credit cards, laser beams or ball-point pens. Man had not invented pantyhose, air conditioners, dishwashers, or clothes dryers. Clothes were hung out to dry in the fresh air, and man hadn't walked on the moon. Your grandmother and I got married first -- and then lived together. Every family had a father and a mother, and every boy over 14 had a rifle that his dad taught him how to use and respect. And they went hunting and fishing together. Until I was 25, I called every man older than me, "Sir"; and after I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with a title, like "Mister". Sundays were set aside for going to church as a family, helping those in need, and visiting with family or neighbors.

We were before gay-rights, computer-dating, dual careers, daycare centers, and group therapy. Our lives were governed by the Ten Commandments, good judgment, and common sense. We were taught to know the difference between right and wrong and to stand up and take responsibility for our actions. Serving your country was a privilege; living here was a bigger privilege. We thought fast food was what people ate during Lent. Having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with your cousins. Draft dodgers were people who closed their front doors when the evening breeze started. Time-sharing meant time the family spend together in the evenings and weekends -- not purchasing condominiums. We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, CD's, electric typewriters, yogurt, or guys wearing earrings. We listened to Jack Benny, The Shadow Knows, The Long Ranger, and the President's speeches on our radios. And I don't remember any kid blowing his (or somebody else's) brains out listening to a song by Doris Day, Elvis Presley, The Drifters or The Platters. If you saw anything with "Made in Japan" on it, it was junk. Pizza Hut, McDonald's, and instant coffee were unheard of. We had 5 & 10-cent stores where you could actually buy things for 5 and 10 cents. Ice cream cones, phone calls, rides on a streetcar, and a Pepsi were all a nickel. And if you didn't want to splurge, you could spend your nickel on enough stamps to mail one letter and two postcards. You could buy a new Chevy Coupe for \$600, but who could afford one? Too bad, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

In my day, "grass" was mowed, "coke" was a cold drink, "pot" was something your mother cooked in, and "rock music" was your grandmother's lullaby. "Aids" were helpers in the Principal's office, "chip" meant a piece of wood, "hardware" was found in a hardware store, and "software" wasn't even a word. And we were the last generation to actually believe that a lady needed a husband to have a baby. No wonder people call us "old and confused" and say there is a generation gap.

And how old do you think I am?????

Answer: I am only 58 years old.



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