



The Patriot

Spring- Summer 2016 - May

KELLS -GRENNIE POST # 316
PO Box 10096
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10309-0096
718-351-9233

The Patriot is published quarterly. The next edition will be for July -September. Any information you would like published is due no later than June 20, 2016.
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://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

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.....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- Summer 2016

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Greetings to all post members and your families.

We have started a new chapter in our Post history. Our meetings are now being held at the New Dorp Moravian Church. While we continue to operate with the same officers and Board members, we need

fresh leadership to revitalize our Post. given our improved financial condition we will be able to offer Post members many new opportunities to become more active in Legion events and participate in their programs.

Come join us. We look forward to seeing you at our monthly meetings and Post events. Share with us your ideas and experiences as veterans.

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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**

The History of the Edmund Kells – Richard A. Grennie American Legion Post No. 316

(Lester Modelowitz)

I have been a member of Post 316 since 1992. From 1993 – 1996 I served as a Vice-Commander. In 1997 I was elected to the position of Commander. I also served as Commander from 2003 – 2005. Through the coming years I continued to be active with the Post. I also served as a Vice Commander with Richmond County and as the membership chairman for the county.

In 2014 I became the historian for the Post, but really did not do that much. In 2015 our Post was having problems maintaining our building monetarily and after discussing the issues about what we could do the only thing left was to sell the building. It was a sad day when that had taken place at a meeting in May 2015. It was then that I realized that all the events that had taken place in this building for more than seventy years would possibly be not remembered and lost.

Then I took on the responsibility as the Post Historian a little more seriously and I began going through old files, letters and minutes from past years. I began retyping hand written minutes from many past years. I did find out that sometime in the late sixties there was fire in the attic and a

lot of files and photos were lost. I contacted Department of New York and received a lot of help from them. We began taking down photos and certificates that were hanging on the walls for many years and scanned them all. I created a website and placed all the information on it in different categories.

My next step was to make a slideshow video of all the photos and listed all the past commanders since the beginning of Post 316. All this basically had taken about a year and now the slideshow video is online and on DVD. I will continue to add material as it happens. Please visit our website at <http://www.alegion316.org/> to learn more about the Post.



PLEASE BE AWARE THE JULY MEETING WILL BE HELD AT A RESTAURANT TO BE DETERMINED AT THE JUNE MEETING. THERE WILL BE NO POST MEETING IN AUGUST.

Children and Youth Breakfast at the Staaten

The Richmond County American Legion held its Children and Youth Breakfast on Sunday April 10 at the Staaten. Post members in attendance included Judge Advocate Robert Mahoney and Treasurer Carmine Vacirca.



Vietnam Veterans Day 2016.

Senator Andrew Lanza and Assemblyman Matthew Titone hosted a Vietnam Veterans Day celebration at Tottenville High School. The gathering commemorated New York's 8th Annual Vietnam Veterans Day, where in a special way the 84 Staten Islanders who gave their life in service to our nation during the Vietnam War were remembered.

Heroes are honored for their service during a time when many criticized the war. Vietnam Veterans Day became a state holiday eight years ago.



Boys Girls State Ready To Go

Kells-Grennie Post 316 has sponsored candidates for both Boys and Girls State. This financial commitment totals close to \$1000

Diane Gerber informed me about our candidate for Girls State. She is Greena Jung of Stuyvesant High School a student with a 95.54% average who plays the violin and is very active in many programs. She lives on Staten Island in 10306.

The 2016 American Legion Auxiliary Empire Girls State program will be held June 26, 2016- July 2, 2016 at The College of Brockport in Brockport, NY.



David Martin explained that there will be an orientation at Gold Star Post on Monday, June 6th, beginning at 6:30pm. where he will introduce all of the boys and name who has sponsored them. We can meet our Boys State candidate at that time.

Boys State will be held from June 26 to July 2, 2016 at SUNY Morrisville State College in Morrisville, NY.



New Meeting Place (Lester Modelowitz)

Dear Fellow Legionnaires

We recently sold our headquarters building because of monetary reasons. The membership operated there for more that seventy years. It was a hard choice to make but we had no other option.

Our membership now holds our meetings at the **New Dorp Moravian Church which is located at 1250 Todt Hill Road.**

[Address: 2205 Richmond Rd, Staten Island, NY 10306, Phone:(718) 351-0090]

Directions are available on our website and **following this message.** The meetings are held on **the third Monday** at 7:30 P.M.

Join us at our meetings and be part of something you can be proud of. Have some coffee or a soft drink and a bite to eat after the meeting. You might see some old friends or have a chance to make new ones.

Driving Directions to New Dorp Moravian Church

While your GPS may direct you through a variety of side streets, we have found this to be simpler:

1. From the East (Brooklyn) using the Verrazano Bridge)

After crossing the bridge, continue West on Hwy 278. Exit at Exit 12 (Todt Hill Road and Slosson Road). At the end of the ramp, turn left onto Slosson (Note: Slosson will become Todt Hill Road.)

Continue on Todt Hill Road for about 2 miles. The gate to the Moravian Church will be on your right shortly after you pass the Richmond County Country Club Golf Course. *From the West (Newark) and using the Goethals Bridge*

If you are using the I95, the Goethel's Bridge is Exit 13. After crossing the bridge, continue East on Hwy 278 until Exit 12 (Todt Hill Road and Slosson Road). At the stop sign at the end of the ramp, turn RIGHT onto Todt Hill Road. Continue on Todt Hill Road for about 2 miles.

The gate to the Moravian Church will be on your right shortly after you pass the Richmond County Country Club Golf Course..

2. From the South (Perth Amboy) using the Outer bridge Crossing

After crossing the bridge, take Hwy 440 North (West Shore Expressway). Take Hwy 440 North until it connects with Hwy 278. Follow the signs directing you to the Verrazano Bridge (East). Once on Hwy 278, continue on until Exit 12. Turn RIGHT onto Todt Hill Road. Continue on Todt Hill Road until you come to the gate to the Moravian Church.

3. From South Staten Island (Tottenville)

From Tottenville, you can drive North (toward St. George) taking either Hylan Boulevard or Amboy Road for 7 - 8 miles. Using Amboy Road (which becomes Richmond Road at New Dorp Lane) you would just continue on Amboy Road until reaching Todt Hill Road, (the 3rd traffic light after New Dorp Lane).

Turn LEFT up the hill and then again turn LEFT through the gate to the Moravian Church. Using Hylan Boulevard, we recommend that you continue on Hylan until Lincoln Avenue (White Castle on the left.)

Turn LEFT onto Lincoln Avenue until Richmond Road. Turn LEFT onto Richmond Road. Go two blocks and turn RIGHT onto Todt Hill Road, and then LEFT through the gate.

Public Transportation to New Dorp Moravian Church

1. Bus:

The church is located on the route of the S74, S76 and The bus stop is at the corner of Richmond Road and Todt Hill Road, and it is a very short walk up the hill to the church.

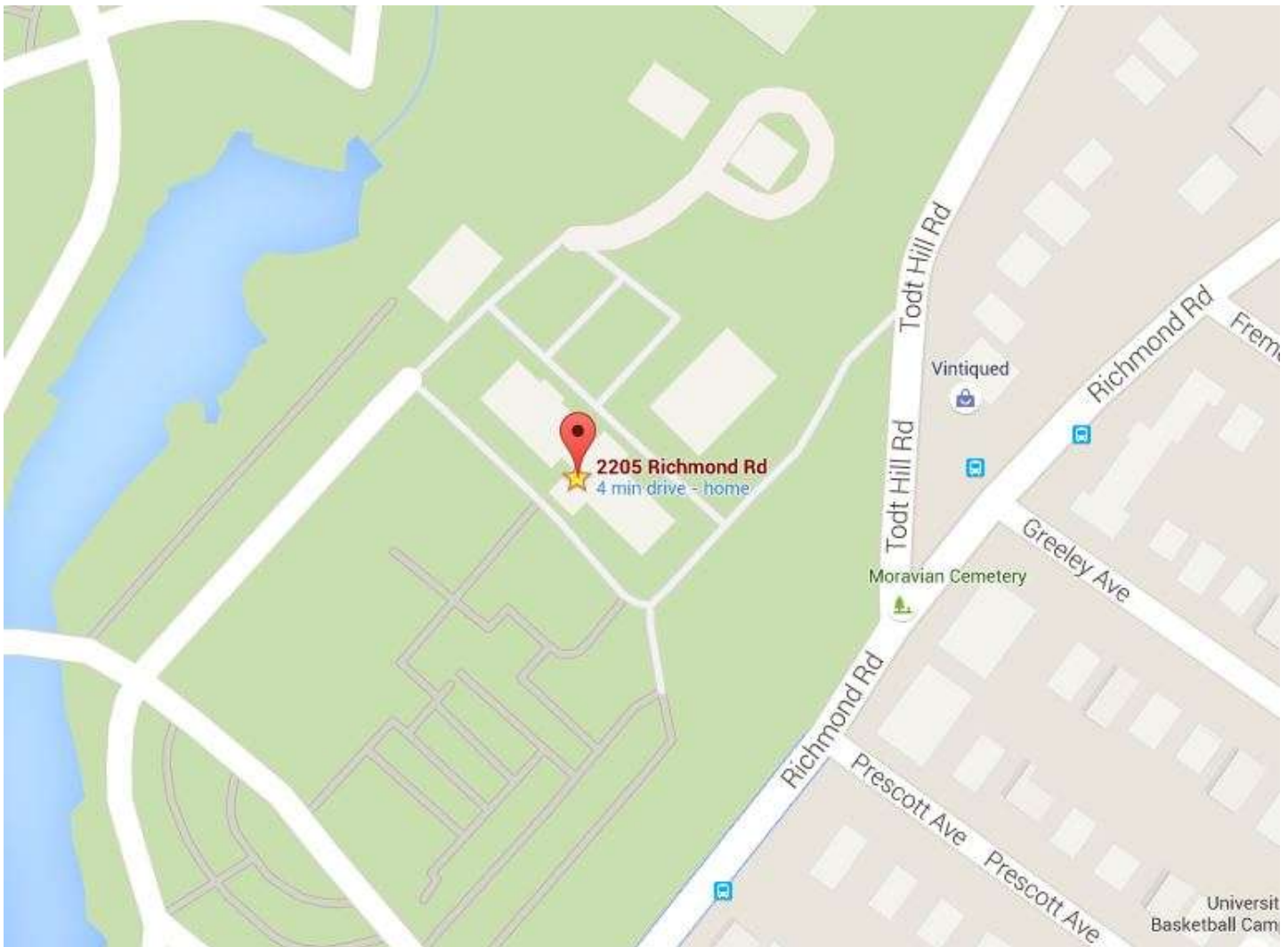
2. Train/Staten Island Railway:

Exit the train at Grant City stop. Walk up Greeley Avenue two blocks to Richmond Road. The church is just up the hill on Todt Hill Road, and on your left.

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.

New Dorp Moravian Church



Membership Notes (Allen Palazzo)

Our current membership number is 163 which is 92.1% of our goal for 2016. We only missed 100% by 14. Post members can help for 2017 by telling their friends and fellow veterans about our new location and encourage them to come to meetings. Our new membership year starts June 1 and you should be getting your new membership reminders soon. 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.

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

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 short sleeve shirt and \$15 per long sleeve shirt, a dollar more for XXL sizes. call 718-702-7578

Many, Many Thanks

The Post thanks Leo Milham for all his work with this Post. He has facilitated the good work that kept our Post Building in good repair and function. He has managed the running of day to day operations.

Leo and Charlie Goffredo have worked closely with the Post's Real Estate Attorney. Confronted with many documentation problems Leo personally followed up and made it possible for the sale of our building to become a reality.



Charlie Stay Away from the Stroke Monster



We welcome Charlie Goffredo back home after having another stroke. Charlie has been tirelessly involved with the sale of the Post through all this and come home going to rehab. He attended the May Post meeting. Keep it up Charlie G no more strokes please !!!

Memorial Day Flags

On Saturday May 21 Girl Scouts from troop 5394 and Post Members of Kells-Grennie Post 316 put out over 500 flags at Moravian Cemetery. Post members Joe Occhipinti, John Vivolo, Allen Palazzo, Gus La Rosa, Leo Milham and Carmine Vacirca were in attendance.



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

