



The Patriot

Third Quarter--July - September

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 October - December. Any information you would like published is due no later than September 15, 2014.
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://lester6768.tripod.com>
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.....Carmine Vacirca
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 WardenRichard Burdge

Commander's Message - Summer 2014

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Greetings to all post members and your families. First and foremost I would like thank all members who participated in any of the memorial day activities in and away from our post. I feel that our fallen heroes are more than deserving of the honor and gratitude bestowed upon them this time of year as well as every time of year. I would also thank our members who continually participate in the wake service ceremonies that we perform at the funeral homes for our deceased members. Special thanks to Emery Chagnon the honor guard chairman. Despite the fact that we lose some of our ranks due to the laws of nature, the membership numbers at our post continue to increase day by day. This is in part due to an increasing awareness by you the membership of the importance in targeting more active members. Special thanks by our membership chairman Allen

Palazzo who's diligence and attention to detail has our membership numbers on the rise. Well done Allen! Also the flag program (take a flag leave a donation) instituted by our sergeant at arms John Vivolo, has proven to be a success as a useful tool in increasing our goals at Kells Grennie. Well done John. These are just some of the reasons I am proud to serve you guys as commander for another year. We have a great team! I would like to welcome home from Korea, Charles Goffredo IV, the grandson of our Vice Commander Charles Goffredo. I am looking forward to our July meeting with him there. I will kick off my summer by heading upstate to the Department Convention where I will cast a vote for the top candidate for the Department of New York Commander, Frank Peters. Let's all show our support for Frank as we have in the past. I will close with the hopes that you all, along with family and friends have a safe and fun summer. As always, keep our military at home and abroad in your thoughts and prayers. Say a prayer for a speedy recovery for the hospitalized and comfort for the homebound.

For God and Country, Joseph Occhipinti,
Post Commander

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



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**

Memorial Day Service - OLQP Memorial Day Ceremonies

Members of our Post attended a special Memorial day service during Mass at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church at 8:30 A.M. to honor deceased Post members.



Present from our Post were Joseph Occhipinti, Emery Chagnon, Carmine Vacirca, Charles Goffredo and Ferdinand Salvatore, This was followed by breakfast at our post donated and prepared by our own Sons of the American Legion, Dave Curran (aka Spider) and William Knapp (aka Billy). Attended by our members and family members of deceased Post members.

Kells Grennie Post 316 honor guard led by vice commander Emery Chagnon visited the six veteran memorials in the New Dorp area. Each monument was honored by the placement of a wreath and the conducting of a gun salute.

Americanism Chairman, Vice Commander Charles Goffredo and his committee members placed our nations colors at various gravesites at Moravian Cemetery.



Yard Sale for Ronald McDonald House

On Saturday June 14, 2014 a yard sale was held in the Post's back yard to raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House.



The amount raised was six hundred and ten dollars. This was achieved by selling merchandise, renting table space to outside vendors and from donations. The largest donation was made from the Heart to Heart Club of Staten Island University Hospital and was presented to Vice Commander Charles Goffredo from Post members and Heart to Heart Club officers Larry and Augie. Another generous donation was received from the family of Louis Morelli who was a WWII veteran for whom the Kelli's Grennie honor guard performed a wake ceremony. The family was deeply touched and this was their way to show appreciation.

Robert was presented with the \$600 check at our July meeting at which he gave a very passionate talk on the medical status of his niece and the workings of the Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald House was chosen to be this year's charity, for its support of a young girl named Destiny and her family. RMH is run on donations. (Destiny is the niece of Robert Goffredo, our Vice Commander Charles Goffredo's nephew) Destiny was extremely sick and had to endure several surgeries and months of recovery and rehabilitation.

Robert, his wife and family received a lot of help, love and compassion at a Ronald McDonald House. This included being housed and given parking for many months.

They were cared for and fed by the many RMH volunteers and there was never a charge nor were they ever asked for reimbursement as they alternated at the hospital.

Since 1974, RMHC's network of local Chapters have been making children happier and healthier by keeping families together – giving them a place to rest and refresh. A place that feels like home. RMHC has helped address these needs every day.

New Department Commander

Frank J. Peters of Staten Island was elected as the new commander of the New York State American Legion at the 96th Annual Convention of the American Legion's Department of New York. Peters, who succeeds Kenneth Governor of North Greenbush, will serve for one year with a focus on "honoring all who served."

He is a Navy veteran and retired ferry boat captain, and a 25-year member of Gold Star Post 1365. Peters lives in the community of Travis with his wife and two daughters.



Carmine Vacirca, Post Adjutant drove Post Commander Joseph Occhipinti and Post member Ferdinand Salvatore to the Convention in Albany. They worked at the Hospitality Suite in the Desmond Hotel greeting visitors from outer counties, giving out pins, pens and other informative handouts about Candidate Peters..

Post Welcomes Member Back Home

At our July 21st Post Meeting Legion member Charles W Goffredo IV, who returned home to Staten Island on June 30 from a two year tour of duty in South Korea was welcomed Charles home. His grandparents Charlie and Jean Goffredo hosted the welcome home party for the members and invited guests at the post.

Corporal Goffredo is one of two active duty members of Kelli's Greenie Post. Charles IV who is known to most members through his volunteer work at our Post over the years introduced himself to the audience. He stated that his past assignment was to the 2nd infantry division located on the DMZ which separates north and South Korea. As a fire support specialist his duties entail

plotting the enemy's position with a fire officer who then calls in artillery and or air support on that position. His next assignment is with the Big Red One, the first infantry division located at Fort Riley, Kansas.



Membership

A Years Free Dues

Members who submit new ideas and ways to strengthen and increase our membership numbers can win a year of free dues. Simply log onto our web page <http://lester6768.tripod.com/index.html> and submit their ideas through the guestbook. The idea chosen as the best will get that member, a dues free year, next year.

Elections

Results of our JKune Election are as follows:

Commander.....
Joseph Occhipinti

Vice Commanders
.....William Baumwoll
.....Allen Palazzo
.....Charles Goffredo
.....Emery Chagnon
Treasurer- Carmine Vacirca
Adjutant- Carmine Vacirca
Chaplain - Dennis Rosenwald
Sgt-at-Arms- John Vivolo
Judge Advocate
.....Robert Mahoney
Historian- Lester Modelowitz

We look forward to seeing you at the Post on the 3rd Monday of every month.

Shout Out

We wish Allen Palazzo our membership chairman continued recovery. He recently had surgery and is on the mend.



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.

Street Renamed in Honor of Michael Ollis

The sacrifice of Sgt. Michael Ollis was recognized with a street renamed in his honor.

Burbank Avenue in New Dorp, where Ollis grew up and where his parents still live, was renamed Saturday in honor of the fallen soldier and seven-year U.S. Army veteran, who was killed in action on Aug. 28, 2013 in Ghazni Province in Afghanistan.

".....Enacting this street name legislation was one of the last things I did as a member of the New York City Council and I am proud we have the opportunity to honor this hero," said Borough President James Oddo. A blessing was given by the Rev. Pancrose Kalist, pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace R.C. Church, New Dorp.

Over 100 family, friends, supporters and several politicians attended. Among those speaking at the event were Public Advocate Letitia James, Congress member Michael Grimm, Assembly member Michael Cusick and former FDNY Commissioner Salvatore Cassano. Numerous veterans groups were also in attendance, including members of the SSG Michael Ollis Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars – which as renamed in Ollis' honor in June; as well as members of the American Legion, the Vietnam Veterans, the Disabled American Veterans and the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Ollis was a lifelong New Dorp resident. He graduated from Michael J. Petrides High School and was killed in Ghazni Province when his unit was attacked by insurgents with an improvised explosive device, small arms and indirect fire. Ollis, a squad leader, is credited with saving the life a fellow soldier during the attack.



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.

Boys and Girls State Programs

Our Post candidate for Boys State Richard Whalen attended SUNY Morrisville June 27, 2014 thru July 3, 2014. There were 22 boys from Island high schools.



Our Post candidate Andrea La Point for Girls State attended the College of Brockport June 30, 2014 thru July 6, 2014.



BBQ

BBQ Saturday August 16 1pm at our Post 2750 Amboy Rd. Staten Island. A donation of \$10 per person - kids cheaper. Hot dogs burgers, sausage and peppers, baked ziti, soda, beer etc. rain or shine. food and fun, door prizes, raffles, music and entertainment.

Corporation Officers

New Building Corporation Officers and Board Members were elected on July 21 as follows:

President: Joseph Occhipinti

Vice Presidents:

Ferdinand Salvatore, Lester Modelowitz

Corporation Treasurer: Leo Milham

Board Members:

Carmine Vacirca (Post Treasurer)

William Baumwoll

Charles Goffredo

Joseph Toronto

Allen Palazzo

John Vivolo

Emery Chagnon.

Worn American Flags

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



Calendar of Events For 3Q 2014

Date	Day	Event
July 4	Friday	Travis Fourth of July Celebration. Access roads close at 11:15 A.M. Be sure to be in the Showplace parking lot by then.
July 17-19	Thursday - Saturday	NY State American Legion Convention, Albany, New York
July 21	Monday	Post Meeting at Kells Grennie at 7:30 P.M.
July 26	Friday	County meeting at 7:30 P.M. @ Gold star Post Travis
August 15	Friday	County Meeting at 7:30 P.M. at Merrill Post 447 Cary Ave
August 16	Saturday	Post Barbeque 1:00 P.M. Kells Grennie Post Yard
August 18	Monday	Post Meeting at Kells Grennie at 7:30 P.M.
August 22- 28	Friday - Thursday	96th Annual American Legion National Convention, Charlotte, NC
September 6	Saturday	Executive Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.
September 14	Sunday	County Installation Dinner at the Staaten 7:00 P.M. \$60
September 15	Monday	Post Meeting at Kells Grennie at 7:30 P.M.
September 19	Friday	County Meeting at 7:30 P.M. location TBD
September 21	Saturday	POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony 1:00 PM \VVA Memorial - 321 Manor Road

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