



# The Patriot

Winter 2017 - December

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 October - December. Any information you would like published is due no later than March 19, 2018.  
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://www.alegion316.org/richmond-county-american-legion.html>  
NY State - <https://nylegion.net/>  
**To Receive this newsletter by E-mail. Send your E-mail address to:**  
[post316newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:post316newsletter@yahoo.com)

## Post Officers

Commander..... Carmine Vacirca  
Vice Commanders.....William Baumwoll  
.....Allen Palazzo  
.....Leo Milham  
.....Gasper LaRosa  
Treasurer..... Carmine Vacirca  
Adjutant.....Lester Modelowitz  
Chaplain..... Joseph Occhipinti  
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  
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 2017

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Commander's Message	1
Waked Members	1
First Responder Night	2 - 4
Boys girls State	4 - 5
Now and Then	6
Post Happenings	7



Seems like we just finished the Thanksgiving feast, and now the Christmas season is upon us, followed by a brand New Year.(2018) . We have come a long way since last year, Our finances are strong, Membership is up.

We have a good, healthy relationship with our community. Our politicians know and respect us, and are willing to lend a helping hand whenever we ask. We have several programs that we put in place to help and assist our community,

Our Boys and Girls State project was a complete success. Our placing of the flags in the cemetery with the help and support of volunteers provided by Laurie of

Northfield Bank was beyond what we had anticipated. We continue to donate funds to worthy causes on Staten Island. We are looking to sponsor an Autistic football team and renew our sponsorship of our Autistic baseball team in Great Kills

We are also reaching out to all the high schools in our community that have an ROTC program in need of sponsorship. We could not have done all of these wonderful projects without your help. I want to thank you all for your hard work and assistance. especially my staff and chairmen. with a shout-out to spider and bill who work so hard in sett-up for each meetings and events and in cleaning afterward.

With all that said. I want to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. May God Bless you and may God bless the United States.

*For God and Country,  
Faithfully Yours  
Carmine J. Vacirca,  
Post Commander*



## Longtime Post Members Honored at Wakes

Julius Riso passed away at 98 years old on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017. Ceremony at Casey-McCallum



Julius was a World War II veteran who served his country in the 100th Infantry Division, U.S. Army. Among his various combat medals are: American Campaign; Good Conduct; European African Middle East Campaign; Victory Medal. He was also a longtime member of the Kells Grennie American Legion. He retired from Governors Island as a master plumber

and moved to Staten Island. He loved fishing and history. He raised his 2 daughters when his wife Sally died too soon.

Paul J. Zalesak was a World War II Veteran who passed away on November 20, 2017 at 89. Ceremony at Hanley's.



Paul was an Honorary member of the Kells – Grennie Post 316 since 1986 (31 Years). He served as the Corporation treasurer for many years and was also an active member of the Post 316 Honor Guard. He will always be Remembered for his Service to the Nation and to the Kells – Grennie American Legion Post.

## Post Meetings

Held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

## First Responder Night

At our meeting on September 18th the Post held a First Responder Night Edmund Kells - Richard A. Grennie American Legion Post 316 First annual DETECTIVE SALVADOR DAVILLA COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD to recognize two members of the NYPD, FDNY and EMS, who have been nominated by their units for bravery above and beyond.



**Salvador Davila** who the award was named for - served in the U.S. Air force and from 1960 – 1965. Salvador joined the NYPD in 1967 attained the rank of detective and retired while serving with the 120th Precinct in 1987 He r was a special investigator with the attorney general's office 1987 – 2005.

Salvador loved the New Dorp Community where he resided. He also loved soccer and helped found the Staten Island Soccer League and coached the sport at St Charles and St Josephs By the Sea.

Salvador joined the Post in 2004, became a Vice Commander in 2006 and ran the Post 316 Honor Guard and Rifle Squad. He served three years as Post Commander 2007 – 2010.

After the September 11, 2001 attack Salvador was working as a special investigator at ground zero collecting evidence. A few years later he became very ill from the debris in the air but remained a loyal active member of this Post until his passing on December 22, 2012.

Post Commander Carmine Awards Emergency Medical Technicians **Lt. Sheldon Glaubagh** and **Lt. Salvatore Cangilosi**.

Salvatore Cangilosi was born and raised in the New Springville and wanted to join the FDNY all through high school.



He was certified as an Emergency Medical Technician in 2013 after taking a course about pre-hospital emergency care. On April 18, 2016 he entered Probationary EMT School, hitting the streets of Staten Island in July of the same year.

He was assigned to EMS Station 22 where he aided those needing emergency attention both on and off duty. He shows compassion in providing patient care, treating his patients with dignity and respect, like family. EMT Cangilosi is passionate about his job adapting and overcoming any challenges to achieve his objective.

On May 27, 2017 Emergency Medical Technician Salvatore Cangilosi, off duty and in civilian clothes heard a commotion and someone calling for help in front of a restaurant. He responded and found an unconscious man. EMT Cangilosi immediately sent someone to call 911 and got technician kit from his vehicle. He then evaluated the victim's condition and recognized that he was in respiratory arrest. EMT Cangilosi, using a "pocket face mask" delivered rescue breaths and monitored the patient until the arrival of additional responders.



## First Responder Night (cont)

He remained on scene to assist and provided a detailed description of the incident. For this in particular Kells - Grennie American Legion Post 316 honors honor his exemplary services to the citizens of Staten Island.

New York City Emergency Service Technician Lieutenant Sheldon Glaubagh began his career 37 years ago June 16 1980. He started as a Paramedic with NYC EMS Station 33 (now Station 58) before being transferred to Station 3) (now Station 43). After serving in Brooklyn or 13 years, Paramedic Sheldon Glaubagh was promoted to Lieutenant. He went back to EMS Station 33 (now Station 58) in Brooklyn as Lieutenant and served with pride and professionalism.

In 2003 Lt. Glaubagh was reassigned to FDNY EMS Station 22 on Brielle Ave Staten Island. Lt. He was role model for others in the unit. Now in his 37'h year of service Lt. Glaubagh shows care and compassion for the citizens of New York and his subordinates at Station 22 as he has for many years. When he retires it will be a great loss to the FDNY EMS and the citizens of Staten Island. It is with great honor that we the members of the Kells - Grennie American Legion Post 316 honor Lt. Glaubagh for his exemplary service to the citizens of Brooklyn and Staten Island for the past 37 years.

Lester Modelowitz awards fire fighters  
**Michael Luongo and Rob Mitchell.**



Fire Fighter Michael Luongo was born and raised in Huguenot, grandson of retired (now deceased) FDNY Battalion Chief Frank Caltabellotta. Michael graduated from Tottenville High School and attended East Stroudsburg University before being appointed to the FDNY in June of 2015. After graduating from the FDNY academy he was assigned to Engine160 Staten Island.

Fire Fighter Rob Mitchell a member of the FDNY for the last 15 years started his career in Brooklyn's Engine Company 219 then quickly transferred to Ladder Company 105. In 2014 he became a member of Staten Island Rescue Company 5 Engine160 Clove Road where he continues to work.

On April 17, his company responded to a working fire on the 5th Floor at 145 Lincoln Ave. On arrival a victim was spotted in distress and semi-conscious at a window with heavy dark black smoke pushing overhead. He assisted the victim onto the Aerial Ladder 6 floors up, and began their descent when the victim became unconscious. A Ladder was raised to the sill of the window where Fire Fighter Luongo ascended the ladder. He assured the victim that he was coming for him, that he should remain calm Simultaneously Fire Fighter Rob Mitchell R-5 reached the victim from the interior of the building. The victim could not be removed from the interior due to the heavy fire smoke and clutter. Fire Fighter Luongo and Fire Fighter Mitchell removed the victim out of the 6th floor window onto the ladder, when the victim became unconscious. Fire Fighter Luongo and Fire Fighter Mitchell worked together to secure the victim to the stokes basket and carefully lowered him down to safety.

Fire Fighter Mitchell was able to hold on to the victim and keep from falling to the ground while he waited for assistance from Fire Fighter Luongo. Working together the two men were secured the victim in a stokes basket and brought him down safely.

It is with great honor that we the members of the Kells - Grennie American Legion Post 316 honor these two fighters Michael Luongo and Rob Mitchell for their exemplary services to the citizens of Staten Island

Leo Milham awards police officer **Derek Brown.**



### 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.

## First Responder Night (cont)

Police Officer Derek Brown was born, raised and still resides in the Port Richmond. He is a graduate of Saint John's University where he earned a Bachelor's Degree of Science in Management and Administration. Officer Brown is an 11-year veteran of the New York City Police Department all served at the 122nd precinct. He has worked on patrol, as part of the precinct based Housing Team, precinct School Safety Team for 6 years and is currently the 122nd Precinct's Youth Officer. In 2013, he was awarded a Department Commendation for work during hurricane Sandy where he performed a water rescue and transported numerous civilians who were stuck in the flood zone to safety.

The last 8 years Officer Brown has worked to provide a safe learning environment for the children and teens in the community. He also mentors children in need and at risk by working directly with them and their families through an at home visit program. Furthermore, he coordinates and teaches the Too Good for Drugs program to proactively combat the drug epidemic which educates children in grades 5, 7 and 9 on the dangers and effects of drugs use. He is also an instructor in the NYPD's Summer Youth Police Academy which is a free program the department offers to keep children in need engaged with the police department and off the street during the summer months.



## Boys and Girls State Awards

At the October meeting our Boys State and Girls State candidates were presented with awards and provided the Post with feedback about their experiences

Our Boys' State candidates (Justin Gulino and Hans Harburg) from Msgr. Farrell left for SUNY Morrisville State College in Morrisville, NY on Sunday, June 25 and returned Saturday July 1, 2017



Our Empire Girls State candidates( Mennat Mohamed, College of SI HS. and Emily Jaenicki, New Dorp HS.) left for The College at Brockport SUNY Sunday, July 2, and returned Saturday, July 8, 2017



Mennat Mohamed was not able to attend but some of her co Girls Empire State members were there to celebrate on her behalf - Isabel Gonzalez and Rachael Sanyaolu.





### Boys and Girls State Awards cont.

Diane Gerber Past American Legion Auxiliary President explained the Girls State program and was on hand to present awards as was Mary Mcloone.

Carmine and Diane present award to **Emily Jaenicki**,



Carmine and Diane present award to **Isabel Gonzalez**



Carmine and Diane and Mary McLoone present award to **Rachael Sanyaolu**



Hans Hamburg award from Dennis McLoone and Carmine.



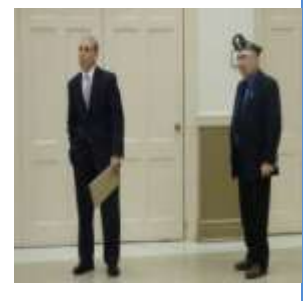
Justin Gulino award from Dennis McLoone and Carmine



### Political Forum

On October 20, 2017 our Lester Modelowitz ran his annual political forum at the Moravian Church Hall.

Various candidates expressed their proposals to help veterans.



## Now and Then

**Lester Modelowitz** was born in Brooklyn, New York. In August 1966, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and sent to Fort Jackson, South Carolina for Basic Training. He remained there for Advanced Individual Training in Supply and Demand. He was then sent to Fort Lee, Virginia for Advanced Individual Training for Quartermaster and Armorer training for Small Weapons.

In February 1967, he was deployed to Vietnam and was assigned to the 1st Aviation Brigade, 162nd Assault Helicopter Company in Phouc Vinh, 3rd Corps. In May 1967, he was reassigned to the 2nd Battalion 94th Artillery in Dong Ha and Camp JJ Carroll in I Corp. He was classified as a Sp4 and was primarily a Small Weapons Specialist. While being attached to this artillery unit he mostly rode in convoys from Dong Ha to the units firing bases in Northern I-Corps. He returned to the United States in February 1968 and was assigned to Fort Campbell, Kentucky as a supply sergeant. After being discharged from the US Army he was awarded the National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

In September 1968 he married and worked in construction with the Carpenter Union until his retirement in 1992. Lester is a member of the Kells–Grennie American Legion Post 316 where he has served as a Post Commander and County Vice Commander. In 2002 he was the Richmond County Legionnaire of the year.

He is a member of the Disabled American Veterans and the Vietnam Veterans of America where he served as 2nd Vice President of Chapter 421. Lester Modelowitz also volunteered at the Arthur Kill Correctional Facility aiding incarcerated veterans from 1992 – 2001, and was named Volunteer of the Year in 1996., he also helped with Con Thien Memorial Post 1945 which was at the correctional facility.

In 2008, Lester Modelowitz asked State Senator Andrew Lanza to sponsor legislation which would designate March 29th as Vietnam Veterans Day in the State of New York. The bill was signed into law by Governor David Paterson on May 27th, 2008. (Chapter 90 of the laws of 2008). In 2010 Senator Lanza had Lester Modelowitz inducted into the New York State Veterans Hall of Fame. In 2009, Lester Modelowitz helped to organize Senator Lanza and Assemblyman Matthew Titone's first annual Vietnam Veterans' Celebration at Mt. Loretto CYO center on Staten Island. He was also an integral part of the second annual celebration of Vietnam Veterans' Day in 2010 and continues to help each year. Lester is still an active member with the Kells – Grennie American Legion Post 316 and serves as the Post adjutant and did a complete history on Post 316.



# 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 \$11.00 per short sleeve shirt and \$16 per long sleeve shirt, a dollar more for XXL sizes. call 718-702-7578

The Post will pay for one of the shirts.

## Copies of Our Newsletter

We will make available 20 paper copies of our latest Newsletter at our Post meeting.

## Now and Then

Every issue of the News letter we will feature a member of the Post with two pictures Now - a present picture and Then - a picture in when they were in the military.

Along with that we will feature a short biography of the member.

This month our Now and Then Post member is Lester Modelowitz.

## Special Acknowledgement

*I especially appreciate the help I received from Lester Modelowitz in producing this newsletter. Besides pictures the biographies of first responders and his now and then were obtained off our website which Lester populates.*

## Membership

The Membership chairman Vice Commander Allen Palazzo reports that we are now at 114 paid renewals for 2018 with a goal of 165 we are now at 69.9% of goal. In addition he has processed two more transferred Legion members to our post. He reports that we are doing well thus far and he hopes the last quarter will produce a significant number of paid members. Please talk to your friends who are veterans and push a transfer or enrollment in Kells Grennie.

## Holiday Party

We're having a holiday party on \*January19, 2018. It will be a dinner at Z Two's. 6PM - to 10PM.

\*subject to Post approval

## Deceased Post Members

(John Vivolo)

If anyone becomes aware of any of our Post members that have passed away, that we're unaware, please notify the Post and/or the Commander and provide the information for the wake so we can properly honor that member.

**Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year**



## Worn American Flags

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



*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*