



Kells-Grennie Post #316

The Patriot

July/August 2000

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

OFFICERS

Commander.....	Gene Ramirez
Vice-Commanders.....	Tom Simonetti
	Nick Moscariello
	John Crowley
	Sal Bastiani
Treasurer.....	Emery Chagnon
Adjutant.....	Elias Arout
Judge Advocate.....	Ferdie Salvatore
Chaplain.....	Pat Miserendino
Sgt-at-Arms.....	Jerry Quinn

Committees

Americanism.....	John Crowley
Bar & Lounge.....	Leo Milham
Boys State.....	Frank Triolo
Children & Youth.....	Sal Bastiani
Graves Registration.....	Tom Simonetti
Hall Rentals.....	Gene Ramirez
Historian.....	Lester Modelowitz
Honor Guard Captain.....	Emery Chagnon
Hospital Visitations.....	Vincent Zangari
Houseman.....	Gene Ramirez
Membership.....	Dennis J. Conroy
Post Editor.....	Dennis J. Conroy
Post Parties.....	Rocco Valenti
POW/MIA.....	Lester Modelowitz
Program Chairman.....	Elias Arout
Publicity.....	Elias Arout
Service & Welfare.....	Leo Milham

The Commander's Message

As your new Commander, my first order of business is to thank the membership for allowing me to begin a new century as your Commander. Although this position is not new too me (I served as Commander of this Post twice before), I will still need the help of every member to ensure a successful year for the Post.

By the time you receive this newsletter, OPSAIL 2000, will be just about over. This was a great week for New York and especially for Staten Island. Many of our members too advantage of the festivities by ordering free tickets to such events as: The Parade of Ships, the Fireworks Show, the Sunset Parade and, *believe it or not*, an amphibious landing by United States Marines at the Home Port Pier. I hope the City plans another OpSail real soon because it truly is a sight to see.

Well, the dog days of summer are upon us and although many of you are planning your well deserved vacation, remember that our Post will remain open and active during these summer months. So for those members who have never stepped inside the building, why not pay us a visit. Come down on a meeting night or visit our lounge on any Friday night. Remember, its your Post too.

Once again, thanks for the opportunity to serve as your Commander, again.

Yours for the Legion,
Gene Ramirez
Post Commander

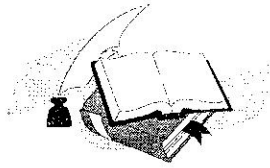
Membership Report

Membership Chairman Dennis J. Conroy announced at our last meeting that our Post membership for the year 2000 is 336 members. We did not achieve the Department's goal of 380, nor did we maintain last year's membership of 368. Needless to say, it was a disappointing year and not the way to begin a new century.

The Post welcomes new member John R. Sardone.
Welcome Aboard.

TAPS

Salvatore Gallo
5/10/00
Salvatore Fulcinelli
5/24/00
Charles A. Nolan, Jr.
6/1/00
May They Rest in Peace



Highlights of the *"Minutes of the Meeting"*

May 10 Our guest speaker tonight was current County Vice-Commander Lawrence Lee, who is a candidate for the office of Commander of Richmond County. Lawrence spoke on his past accomplishments in the American Legion and the many offices he has held as an active member in both the County and his Post: Huttner-Passquallini #1367. He has asked our Post to support him for County Commander.

Honor Guard Captain Emery Chagnon announced that the Dept. of the Interior has requested that our Honor Guard participate in an upcoming Memorial Day ceremony to be held at Fort Wadsworth on Tuesday, May 30th, at noon. Our Captain has graciously accepted this invitation. All members of the Post are invited to attend.

Post Commander Pat Miserendino announced that the election for Post Officers for the year 2000-2001, will be held at our next meeting on Friday, May 26th. All members are encouraged to attend and vote in this election.



The winner of the 50/50 drawing was William Knapp. Congratulations, Bill.

May 26 Commander Pat Miserendino reminded the membership of the upcoming Memorial Day ceremonies to be held this weekend: The placing of wreaths and memorial services at the six New Dorp veterans monuments this Sunday; the Memorial Day mass at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church on Monday and the Memorial Day Parade on Forest Avenue, also on Monday.

A motion was made and passed to donate \$25.00 to the West Shore Little League.

The last order of business at tonight's meeting was the election of Post Officers for the year 2000-2001. (See article in this newsletter for the election results.)



The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Pat Miserendino. Congratulations, Pat.

June 9 Membership Chairman Dennis J. Conroy announced tonight that our Post Membership total for the year 2000 is 336 members or 88.4% of our goal (380). Needless to say, it was a disappointing year for membership.

New Post Commander Gene Ramirez announced the appointment of Thomas Simonetti as Chairman for Graves and Registration.

Boys State Chairman Frank Triolo announced that a send-off party will be held on Monday, June 12, at the Gold Star Post,

at 7:30pm, for all the high school students who are representing Richmond County at this year's Boys State convention. Our representative will be Timothy Kuck from Monsignor Farrell High School.

On Saturday, August 12, the Con Thien Post #1945, will hold their annual Summer Bar-b-que and Installation of Officers at the Arthur Kill Correctional Facility. All interested parties should contact Adjutant Eli Arout for more information.

On Sunday, June 11, the VVA, Chapter #421 will be holding their *"Ride for the 84"*, in memory of the eighty-four Staten Islanders who died in the Vietnam War. The veterans motorcycle club *"Rolling Thunder"* (between 500 and 700 motorcyclists) will also participate in this memorial event.

A motion was made and passed to donate \$25.00 to the Richmondtown Restoration Committee. A second motion was made and passed that future Memorial Day masses be held at 8:30am (instead of 9:00am).

Judge Advocate Ferdie Salvatore reminded the membership that this year's Richmond County American Legion Convention will be held next Friday, June 16th, at 6:30pm at the H&S Cichon Post #1578. He also reminded us that the election for next year's Board of Directors will take place right after the June 23rd membership meeting.



The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Joseph Dietrich. Congratulations, Joe.

June 23 Adjutant Eli Arout informed the membership that the formal installation of Post Officers for the year 2000-2001 will be held on Friday, September 22nd, at the Post.

The membership voted for a new slate of Board of Directors for the year 2000-2001. (See article in this newsletter.) The first board meeting of the new term will be held on Monday, July 17th, at 7:30pm, in the lounge.



The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Thomas Simonetti. Congratulations, Tom.

Long time Post member Andy Procopio (55 years of service to the American Legion) wants all the members to know that he has recently changed his residence to Island Shores located at 1111 Father Capadanno Blvd., Room 38C. So come down and pay Andy a visit or call him at (718) 351-3530.

A Roaring Tribute to 84 Heroes

On Sunday, June 11, the Thomas J. Tori Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America held their annual memorial ceremony, to pay tribute to the 84 Staten Islanders who died in the Vietnam War, at the Manor Road Armory in West Brighton.

As a prelude to this ceremony, over 500 bikers from **Rolling Thunder** (a motorcycle club consisting of Vietnam veterans) and other area motorcycle clubs, gathered at the intersection of Midland Avenue and Hylan Boulevard to begin a 12-mile "Ride for the 84" through the streets of Staten Island. The first 84 bikers in the motorcade wore the name of a Staten Islander who was killed in Vietnam on their helmets.

Led by Chapter President Mike Cocozza, the cyclists roared down Midland Avenue to their first stop, the Midland Beach War Memorial at the intersection of Father Capadanno Blvd. and Midland Avenue. Awaiting the motorcade was our own Honor Guard and a contingent of Kells-Grennie post members. As our Honor Guard fired a salute and our members stood at attention, the 500 motorcyclists acknowledged our presence by flashing their lights and honking their horns as they roared by the monument.

The processions next stop was at the Father Capadanno memorial located at Sand Land and Father Capadanno Blvd. where the H&S Cichon American Legion Post stood guard. More salutes were fired at Matthew Buono Beach, Rosebank, presented by the DAV Chapter #110; at Nickolas A. Lia Park, St. George, by the Staten Island chapter of the Marine Corps League, Sunnyside; at the Lawrence Thomson Monument and the Merrell American Legion Post, West Brighton, presented by members of the Merrell Post.

After the procession, the bikers met up with members of the VVA and other veterans groups, and family members at the Vietnam Memorial on the grounds of the Manor Road Armory for the memorial service.

Board of Directors Elected for Term 2000-2001

At the meeting of June 23rd, members of the Kells-Grennie Post unanimously elected their new Board of Directors for the term 2000-2001:

President.....	Ferdie Salvatore
Vice Presidents.....	Gene Ramirez
	Leo Milham
Secretary.....	Elias Arout
Treasurer.....	Paul Zalesak
Board Members: Frank Triolo, Jerry Quinn, Thomas Simoneffi, Dennis J. Conroy, Pat Miserendino, Emery Chagnon and Nick Moscariello	

Richmond County American Legion Elects New Officers for 2000-2001

On Friday, June 16th, the Richmond County American Legion held its annual convention at the H&S Cichon Post #1578. At this convention, the following legionnaires were elected as our new County Officers for the year 2000-2001: Commander - Lawrence Lee, Vice-Commanders - William Blaine, Robert Mackin, Lester Modelowitz, David Martin and Fred Black; Treasurer - Ferdinand Salvatore.

Calendar of Events



July

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 2nd, Sunday | - U.S. Army Air Corps established (1926). |
| 4th, Tuesday | - Independence Day * |
| 14th, Friday | - Membership Meeting, 8:30pm at the Post. |
| 26th, Wednesday | - <i>Sons of the American Legion</i> , Membership Meeting, 8:00pm at the Post. |
| 27th, Thursday | - National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day * |
| 28th, Friday | - Membership Meeting, 8:30pm at the Post. |

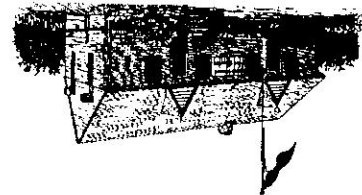
August

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 4th, Friday | - U.S. Coast Guard established (1790) |
| 7th, Monday | - Purple Heart Medal established (1782) |
| 11th, Friday | - Membership Meeting, 8:30pm at the Post. |
| 14th, Monday | - Japan surrenders ending WWII (1945) |
| 23rd, Wednesday | - <i>Sons of the American Legion</i> , Membership Meeting, 8:00pm at the Post. |
| 25th, Friday | - Membership Meeting, 8:30pm at the Post. |



* Fly the Flag

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AMERICAN LEGION
Kells-Grennie Post No. 316
2750 Amboy Road
Staten Island, NY 10306

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