

The Patriot

July/August, 1999



July/August, 1999
Kells-Grennie Post #316
2750 Amboy Road
Staten Island, NY 10306-2140
(718) 351-9233

OFFICERS

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

Committees

Americanism.....	John Crowley
Bar & Lounge.....	Leo Milham
Boys State.....	Frank Triolo
Children & Youth.....	Sal Bastiani
Graves Registration.....	William Bonelli
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.....	Sal Fulcinelli & Rocco Valenti
POW/MIA.....	Lester Modelowitz
Program Chairman.....	Elias Arout
Publicity.....	Elias Arout
Service & Welfare.....	Leo Milham

The Commander's Message



My first duty as your new Commander was to preside over the Memorial Weekend ceremonies. I took great pride in watching our members perform these memorial services proudly and professionally. I assure you that the officers and men of the Kells-Grennie Post do not forget their fallen comrades. See the article in this newsletter for a detailed description of these ceremonies and you'll see what I mean.

I would like to inform our membership that our *Sons of the American Legion*, Squadron #316, will hold their first Blood drive at our Post on Sunday, July 11th, from 9:00am until 2:30pm. The need for blood is always the greatest during the summer months. I urge all of our members and their families to support this worthy cause.

As your new Commander, I want to sincerely thank the entire membership for giving me the opportunity to serve in this position. I hope to carry on the great traditions of *The American Legion* and this Post as we enter a new millennium. I hope that as we near the year 2000, many more veterans will join the *Legion* and other veterans organizations. I want to see that the patriotism and dedication of the 20th Century legionnaires continues to grow with the 21th Century legionnaires. Our dedication to the principles of American ideals must never fade. Our defense of this great country must never cease.

Yours for the Legion,
Pat Miserendino
Post Commander

TAPS

James H. Mercereau
Anthony Meglio
May 21, 1999

May They Rest in Peace

Membership Report

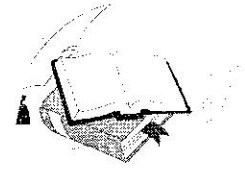
Membership Chairman Dennis J. Conroy announced at our last meeting that our Post membership for the year 1999 is 368 members. Although we did not achieve the Department's goal of 372, we did exceed last year's membership total of 365, giving us a net gain of three members or 100.8%.

The Post welcomes new members Gerard Tempone, Alan Halfenger, Anthony A. Barbara and Kevin O'Shea. We also welcome new transfers Ed Falcone and Thomas W. Bird. *Welcome Aboard.*

A breakdown of our 1999 membership is as follows:

World War II Veterans	154
Korean War Veterans	84
Vietnam War Veterans	121
Lebanon/Grenada War Veterans	5
Panama War Veterans	1
Persian Gulf War Veterans	3
Total Membership	368

Highlights of the *"Minutes of the Meeting"*



May 14 The Post finalized their plans for the upcoming Memorial Day weekend. The first order of business will be the placing of American Flags on the graves of our departed members interned at Moravian Cemetery and Ocean View Cemetery on Wednesday, May 26th, at 9:00am. On Sunday, May 30th, at 9:00am we will hold our annual wreath laying ceremony at the various veterans monuments located in the New Dorp area. On Monday, May 31th, our annual Memorial Day Mass will be held at 9:00am at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church on New Dorp Lane. After Mass a breakfast will be served at the Post. Following the breakfast, our Honor Guard, Post members and the *Sons of the American Legion*, will participate in the annual Memorial Day Parade on Forest Ave. to be held at 11:30am.

Vincent Zangari reported that Post member Bob Helburn is back in the hospital and Post member Teddy Ventura is out of the hospital. We wish them both a speedy recovery and hope to see them back at the Post real soon.

Leo Milham reported on the new eligibility rules for VA health care programs. (See article in this newsletter.)

Our Honor Guard and Post members will be marching in this year's Great Kills Memorial Day Parade on Sunday, May 16th.

Ferdie Salvatore announced that this years American Legion, Department of New York annual convention will be held on July 14-17, in Binghamton, New York. Our Post will send a delegation to this convention.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Eli Arout. Congratulations, Eli.

May 28 The Post **Election of Officers** was held tonight in our Hall. Elected for a 1-year term were: Commander - Pat Miserendino; Vice Commanders - Andrew Procopio, Gene Ramirez, John Crowley and Sal Bastiani; Treasurer - Emery Chagnon and Chaplain - Tom Simonetti. The Post congratulates each and every one of them and looks forward to their leadership in the coming year. The new three-year Board of Trustees will be: Leo Milham, Lester Modelowitz and Tom Simonetti. (See page 1 of the newsletter for the newly appointed Committee Chairmen.)

Past Commander Tom Simonetti gave a short speech thanking his past officers and members of the Post for their help and support during his term in office. Tom also reported that a group of Post members attended the 10th Anniversary party for the Con Thien Memorial Post #1945 held at the Arthur Kill Correctional Facility. He said that everyone enjoyed themselves and had a good time.

Ferdie Salvatore announced that the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #421, will hold its 11th Anniversary dinner-dance at the Labetti VFW Post in Grasmere on September, 25th. The Post approved a motion to donate \$50.00 for an ad in their journal.

Vincent Zangari reported that he delivered the American Legion Citizenship Medals to all our neighborhood schools. These medals are given to one graduating student at each school who best represents the ideals of American Citizenship, chosen by the principal of the school.

SAL Adjutant Ed Ranieri announced that members of the *Sons of the American Legion* will prepare breakfast at the Post for those members who are participating in the wreath laying ceremonies on Sunday, May 30th.

The following Post members were elected to serve as delegates to this years American Legion of Richmond County annual Convention, to be held on Friday, June 18th at the Huttner-Pasqualini Post #1367: Tom Simonetti, Gene Ramirez, Andrew Procopio, Pat Miserendino, William Bonelli, Maury Grosso, Leo Milham, Vincent Zangari, Sal Albicocco, Lester Modelowitz, Jerry Quinn, Paul Zalesak, Andrew Smith, Joseph Dietrich and Dennis J. Conroy.

The Board of Directors Nominating Committee held a brief meeting to nominate its slate of officers for this years election. The nominees are: Board President - Ferdie Salvatore; Vice Presidents - Sal Fulicinelli, Gene Ramirez; Secretary - Eli Arout; Treasurer - Paul Zalesak; Board Members: Dennis J. Conroy, Tom Simonetti, Jerry Quinn, Leo Milham and Frank Triolo. This election will take place on Friday, June 25th at 8:00pm.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Sal Albicocco. Congratulations, Sal.

June 11 Commander Pat Miserendino announced that Emery Chagnon has been appointed as the new Captain of the Post Honor Guard. In addition, a motion was made and passed that the Post purchase two new aluminum flag poles to replace the heavier brass flag poles. This will make the flags easier to carry in parades.

Mike Coccozza announced that a new POW/MIA flag will be donated to the Post by the *Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #421*. The Post thanks the VVA for their generosity.

Lester Modelowitz announced that Post member Bob Helburn is recuperating at home, following his operation.

He expects Bob to be returning to the meetings in just a few weeks. We look forward to seeing Bob back at the Post. He also announced that the Parks Department is going to turn-over the "island" (in front of our building) for our use. The Parks Department will install a flag pole in the "island" and the Post hopes to install a sign that will be visible along Amboy Road.

Sal Albicocco mentioned that a law pending in Congress would mandate that every deceased veteran have an Honor Guard present at the gravesite. Sal will keep us informed as more information becomes available.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing was William Chung. Congratulations, Billy.

June 25 Tonight the Post unanimously voted for the slate of candidates nominated for this year's Board of Directors. (see article in this issue of the newsletter).

The new aluminum poles to be used by our Honor Guard at parades and other functions have arrived. The new poles will be utilized soon, when our Honor Guard marches in this year's Travis 4th of July Parade. All members interested in participating in this year's parade will meet at the Post on Sunday, July 4th at 9:30am. After the parade a bar-b-que will be held at the Gold Star Post in Travis.

The "official" installation of the 1999-2000 Post officers and *Sons of the American Legion* officers by the new County Commander, Frank LaMarsh, will take place on Friday, September 24th, at 8:30pm at the Post.

Sal Albicocco told the membership about the new "Cold War" certificate that is available from the Defense Dept. to all veterans who honorably served in the United States armed forces from September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991. To receive this certificate just send a military document (DD-214, etc.) with your name, Social Security number, Military Service number and the date of your service to the Dept. of Defense in Washington, D.C.

The *Sons of the American Legion* are holding their first Blood drive on Sunday, July 11th, from 9:00am to 2:30pm at the Post. Anyone in good health, up to 75 years of age and weighing more than 110 pounds is eligible to give blood. All members and their families are urged to attend this worthy cause.

The Post gives a special thank you to Vincent Zangari for cleaning the monument outside of our building. It never looked better..... Thank you, Vincent.

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

Calendar of Events



<u>July</u>	2nd, Friday	- U.S. Army Air Corps Established (1926).
	4th, Sunday	- Independence Day * Travis 4th of July Parade.
	9th, Friday	- Membership meeting, 8:30pm at the Post.
	11th, Sunday	- Blood Drive sponsored by the <i>Sons of the American Legion</i> , 9:30am.
	14th-17th, Saturday	- 81st Annual Department of New York Convention, Binghamton, NY.
	23rd, Friday	- Membership meeting, 8:30pm at the Post.
	27th, Tuesday	- National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day *
	28th, Wednesday	- <i>Sons of the American Legion</i> , Membership meeting, 8:00pm at the Post.

<u>August</u>	4th, Wednesday	- U.S. Coast Guard Established (1790)
	13th, Friday	- Membership meeting, 8:30pm at the Post.
	14th, Saturday	- Japan Surrenders, ending World War II (1945)
	25th, Wednesday	- <i>Sons of the American Legion</i> , Membership meeting, 8:00pm at the Post.
	27th, Friday	- Membership meeting, 8:30pm at the Post.



* Fly the Flag

The Post Remembers Our Departed Comrades

Every year, the Memorial Day Weekend is both an active but solemn time as we pay honor and tribute to our departed members. The first order of business was the placing of American flags on the graves of our deceased comrades who are interned at Moravian Cemetery and Ocean View Cemetery. The Post wishes to thank Andy Procopio, Pat Miserendino, Jerry Quinn and the others who donated their time to continue this honorable tradition.

On Sunday, May 30th, the Post Officers, Honor Guard, members and the *Sons of the American Legion* conducted wreath laying ceremonies at all the veterans monuments located in the New Dorp area. Our first ceremony was held in front of our building. New Post Commander Pat Miserendino and Past County Commander Ferdie Salvatore, led the contingent of attendees in prayer. The placement of the wreath and flag was conducted by Leo Milham and Andy Procopio.

Our Honor Guard (Emery Chagnon, Gene Ramirez and John Crowley), then fired three rounds in salute of our departed comrades.

To conclude this impressive ceremony, *Sons of the American Legion* member, Charles Gentile, played taps on the bugle.

This ceremony was repeated *five* more times. Wreaths and flags were placed at the following veterans monuments; the corner of Rockland Ave. and Richmond Road, the corner of New Dorp Lane and Richmond Road; the corner of

New Dorp Lane and 10th Street; and the monument located in Gateway National Park (Miller Field). Our final ceremony was conducted at the grave site of Richard Grennie in Moravian Cemetery.

On Monday, Memorial Day, May 31st, our Officers, Honor Guard, members and *Sons of the American Legion* attended the Memorial Day Mass, at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church. Post member Paul Zalesak served as lecturer during the Mass. When the Mass ended, Paul read the names of our departed members who passed away over the last year. Taps was played and Paul then led the congregation in singing "God Bless America". This ceremony was both a beautiful and moving experience.

After the Mass ended, the Post members and many family members of our deceased comrades returned to our building for breakfast. Post members Sal Bastiani and William Bonelli prepared the collation.

When the breakfast ended, members of both the Post and *Sons of the American Legion* left to march in the Memorial Day Parade on Forest Avenue.

This was truly a busy weekend but well worth it.

The Post especially wants to thank the owners of **Moravian Florist** for donating all the wreaths that were used in our Memorial Day ceremonies.

Kells-Grennie Post #316 Deceased Members June 1998 - May 1999

Anthony J. Catania
Frank P. Faluotico
Anthony Meglio
John P. Quinn

Anthony Ciotola
Frank S. LaSpina
James H. Mercereau
Harry Rice

Albin Cordes
Joseph Lawless
Charles W. Popino

May They Rest in Peace

New Eligibility Rules for VA Health Care Programs

The United States Congress is routinely changing eligibility rules, so it is important to keep up to date with this information.

Eligibility Rules

If you are a veteran with an honorable discharge, you can receive care at VA Medical Centers.

If your annual income is less than \$22,351, if single, or \$26,824 if married, you can receive VA medical care **FREE**.

If you fit any of the classifications below, you can receive VA medical care **FREE**:

1. A compensable service-connected veteran (10% or more).
2. A former prisoner of war.
3. A veteran of the Mexican Border Period.
4. A veteran of World War I.
5. A veteran eligible for Medicaid.
6. A veteran receiving a VA pension.

If you fit the classifications below, you can receive VA medical care for that or a related condition **FREE**:
A veteran exposed to herbicides while in Vietnam and Persian Gulf; Ionizing radiation in WWII; Sexual Trauma in the Service.

If you do not fit into any of the categories above, you can still receive VA medical care for a CO-PAYMENT as shown below:

1. A \$45.80 per visit - this covers costs for one or more clinics or laboratory tests.
2. A \$2.00 co-payment for prescriptions.
3. A \$768 co-payment for inpatient admissions for the first 90 days of care during any 365 day period. For each additional 90 days of care, you will pay \$384. In addition, you will be charged a \$10.00 fee per day for inpatient hospital care. Co-payment for nursing home care is \$768 for every 90 days of care, plus \$5.00 per day per diem.

If you have medical insurance, the VA will bill your insurance carrier for the cost of your medical care. You will **NOT** have to pay any health insurance co-payments.

For more information please contact your nearest VA Medical Center.

THE REAL

"Lulla-BUY" of BROADWAY

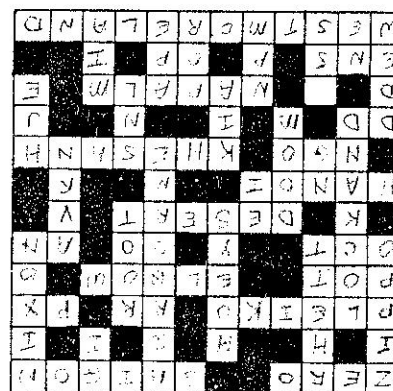
The Soldiers', Sailors' Marines' and Airmens' Club was founded by private citizens in 1919 and was chartered to "Promote the general welfare of all service personnel of the Armed Forces of the United States and their families".

This Club also operates as a Hotel in New York City offering accommodations to all service personnel: active, reserve, National Guard, military retirees and honorably discharged veterans and their dependents for \$25 to \$40 per night.

Information/reservations can be obtained by writing to the Club at 283 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10016 or via the Internet at www.ssmclub.org.

Richmond County American Legion Elects New Officers for 1999-2000

On Friday, June 18th, the Richmond County American Legion held its Annual Convention at the Huttner-Pasqualini Post in Grasmere. Our new County officers for the year 1999-2000, are as follows: Commander - Frank LaMarsh; Vice Commanders - William Blaine, Robert Macklin, David Martin, Lester Modelowitz and Lawrence Lee; Treasurer - Ferdinand Salvatore.



1999 Membership Anniversaries

The following legionnaires of the Kell-Grennie Post #316 celebrated their continuous year membership anniversaries in the American Legion, as follows:

55 years Andrew Procopio

50 years Ernest Reres Albert Somma Louis A. Vastola

45 years Vincent Brigande

35 years Constantine A. Troiano

30 years Silvano Bastiani Robert E. Mahoney Jerry N. Pollio
Charles A. Tantillo Paul A. Tizik Domiano T. Ventura

25 years James McCarthy G. S. Santiago Stephen Varga

20 years Frank Martucci

15 years Arturo F. Averhoff Salvatore Crisalle John E. Larsen
Anthony Podesta

10 years Louis Anderson Joseph Andriulli Ralph M. Bernet
Douglas G. DeWitt Michael Gagliotti Arthur Grover
James P. Hassett Robert J. Kress Ralph F. Oldmixon
Walter E. Pearson Joseph P. Perillo Albert A. Pica
Stephen Podzamsky Gerald R. Quinn Daniel A. Rubano
Francis H. Watson

Sons of the American Legion Elects New Officers for 1999-2000

At their monthly meeting held at the Post on Wednesday, June 23rd, The *Sons of the American Legion*, Squadron #316, elected the following slate of officers for the year 1999-2000:

Commander.....	Michael Ranieri
Vice Commanders.....	Dom Blandino
	Robert Ranieri
	John Regina
Adjutant.....	Edward Ranieri
Treasurer.....	William Muller
Sgt-at-Arms.....	William Knapp
Chaplain.....	Charlie Gentile
Membership.....	Marc Gulinello
Historian.....	Frank Gulinello
Advisor.....	Herb Seplowe
AL Liaison.....	Elias Arout

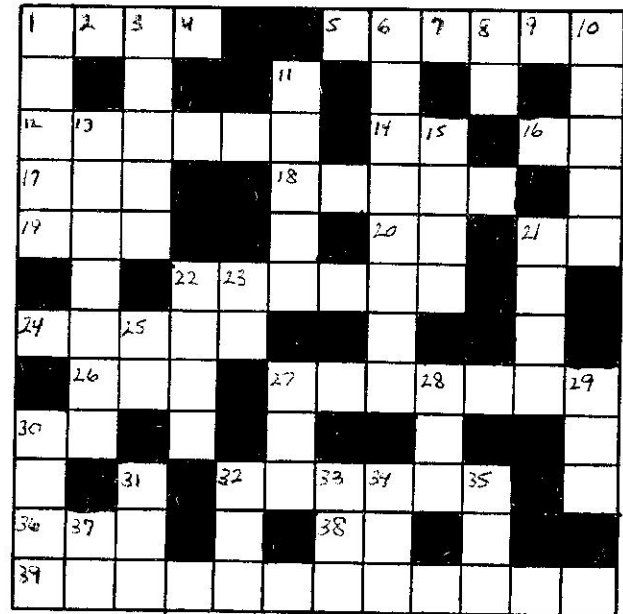
Board of Directors Elected for Term 1999-2000

At the meeting of June 25th, members of the Kells-Grennie Post unanimously elected their new Board of Directors for the term 1999-2000:

President.....	Ferdie Salvatore
Vice Presidents.....	Sal Fulicinelli
	Gene Ramirez
Secretary.....	Elias Arout
Treasurer.....	Paul Zalesak
Board Members.....	Frank Triolo
	Thomas Simonetti
	Jerry Quinn
	Dennis J. Conroy
	Leo Milham
	Pat Miserendino
	Emery Chagnon

CrossWord Puzzle "1961-1975"

(Solution to CrossWord Puzzle on Page 5)



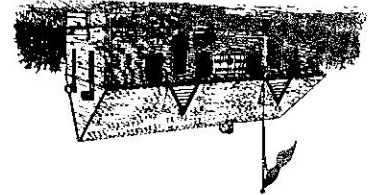
Across

- 1) Japanese Fighter
- 5) Broadway Play - "Miss _____"
- 12) City in South Vietnam
- 14) Rest and Relaxation
- 16) A Soldiers K-Mart
- 17) Cambodia's Pol _____
- 18) _____ grease
- 19) Between Sept. and Nov.
- 20) British Spy _____
- 21) "_____ American in Paris"
- 22) _____ Storm
- 24) "_____ Jane"
- 26) Former South Vietnam ruler
_____ Dinh Diem
- 27) Siege Site
- 30) _____ -214
- 32) Jelly bombs
- 36) Naval Officer
- 38) _____/GYN physician
- 39) Gen. William _____

Down

- 1) Fire starter
- 3) Scarlett's hubby
- 6) 82nd or 101st
- 8) "_____ Joe"
- 10) Ike's Veep
- 11) Helicopters
- 13) _____ load
- 15) _____ Beer
- 21) South Vietnam "friendly's"
- 22) Gloom and _____
- 23) Opposite of "ie"
- 25) no good
- 27) MIA/_____
- 28) Chevy's Show?
- 29) Provincial Capital in Nam _____
- 30) "The _____ Carey Show"
- 31) _____ The Sullivans
- 32) Viet _____
- 33) _____ favor
- 34) Honest President
- 35) POW/_____
- 37) Direction

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 17



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

These Businesses Support Kells-Grennie Post 316 . Please Support Them Too



Gerola Aloisi Scholl
Attorney at Law

(718) 987-0001
Fax (718) 987-1135

Member of
N.Y. & N.J. Bars

173 Old Town Road
Staten Island, N.Y. 10305

PERSONAL TOUCH ENTERTAINMENT

Professional D.J. • M.C. For Weddings & All Occasions
Featuring the Sounds of the 40's through Today
• Lights & Smoke • Games • Dance Giveaways
• Laser Karaoke



DON
(718) 317-9382



Mikes Place
Restaurant, Catering & Diner

(718) 987-2732
(718) 987-2713

1650 Hylan Boulevard • Staten Island, N.Y. 10305
257 New Dorp La.

PHONE: (718) 981-3040
FAX: (718) 876-1771

Robert Hennon Printing Co.

OFFSET & LETTER PRESS

468 JEWETT AVE. STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. 10302

MONUMENTS
MARKERS &
MAUSOLEUMS



MONUMENT
LETTERING
& CLEANING

JOSEPH HALL MEMORIALS
of everlasting beauty erected in all cemeteries

2085 RICHMOND ROAD
GRANT CITY
S.I., NY 10306
(718) 351-1616

CATERING FACILITIES

(718) 979-5414

Toto's
RESTAURANT

PEGGY TOTO BECACIO
GENERAL MANAGER

301 NEW DORP LANE
STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. 10306



**MORAVIAN
FLORIST**

Flowers Telegraphed Phone 718 351-4440 / 800 733-2286
2286 Richmond Road, Staten Island, New York 10306

(718) 966-2721

**RUDY'S CATERING
SERVICE**

6833 AMBOY ROAD • STATEN ISLAND, NY 10309

TELEPHONE (718) 351-5503

**The
Marriage Room**

Handmade Articles - China - Country

LOUISE E. HELBURN
ROBERT R. HELBURN

224 CENTER STREET
RICHMONDTOWN
STATEN ISLAND, NY 10306



(718) 317-7940
(718) 980-0955

- Burglar
- Fire
- Hold-up
- Central Station

56 Elmwood Avenue
S.I., N.Y. 10308