



KELLS-GRENNIE NEWS

SEPTEMBER 1957
VOLUME 11
BOOK 9

POST OFFICE BOX #13 2750 Amboy Road, Staten Island 6, N. Y.

MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER - SEPTEMBER 13th and 27th, 1957 8:30 P.M. SHARP

YOUR SERVICE OFFICER SPEAKS

By Leo D'A. Balbach

Apparently my article in the August issue of the "KELLS-GRENNIE NEWS" was read because a number of our members have called me regarding the subject described. The purpose of this column is to enlighten our members and your calls have shown that the column is not just for filling in space.

One never knows the importance of personal records until it is necessary to use them and then find out they can't be found. It has come to my attention very often, particularly when the veteran dies, that documents, or information that could assist in obtaining the documents, are not available. In the case of widows or other beneficiaries of a veteran applying for her just benefits, it comes to light that the veteran was previously married, but the widow doesn't know to whom, when, where, or how the marriage terminated. It then becomes a hard job, sometimes impossible, to locate the documents, and in the meantime the widow's benefits are held up.

While you are alive and able to gather the documents together is the time to obtain them and put them in a place known to both you and your beneficiary, and I don't mean a bank safe deposit box, because it takes a court order to open such a box after you die and sometimes this action takes months. If you have or obtain original documents, get certified copies of same and then place the originals in the safe deposit box, BUT KEEP THE CERTIFIED COPIES AT HOME FOR IMMEDIATE USE.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF DOCUMENTS YOU SHOULD HAVE AVAILABLE:

1. Your service discharge or release. This document should be recorded in the County Clerk's Office, Room 147, County Court House, St. George, Staten Island;
2. Your Veteran's Administration Claim Number if you have one;
3. Birth certificates of yourself, wife, children;
4. Marriage certificate of your present and previous marriages;
5. Marriage certificate of your wife's previous marriages;
6. Death or divorce certificates of your previous wives;
7. Death or divorce certificates of your wife's previous husbands;
8. Your will;
9. Your social security number, and/or civil service retirement number and certificate.

If you want any assistance in obtaining these documents or you have any questions, contact me at the office of Division of Veterans' Affairs, State of New York, Room 113, 36 Richmond Terrace, St. George, Staten Island, N. Y. Telephone GIBRALTAR 7-9021

VETERANS' PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

The New York State Attorney General has held that it was the intent of the State Legislature to exempt from taxation any real property in which eligible funds were invested. The decision stated the Legislature desired to limit the amount of such exemption to \$5,000.00 rather than to limit the number of pieces of property to be purchased with the eligible funds. As a consequence, a veteran, his wife, unremarried widow or dependent parents may claim exemption on more than one piece of real property purchased with eligible funds, the maximum total exemption being \$5,000.00. If you wish a booklet on Veterans' Property Tax Exemption, let me know. (The time for filing for exemption in Richmond County is between February 1st and March 15th in any calendar year).

G I LOANS

Widows of World War II and Korean veterans who died in service or as the result of service-connected causes are eligible for G I loans. Widows qualify for this loan benefit even though the deceased veteran may have obtained a GI loan prior to his death. A widow who is a veteran herself, however, does not qualify for a second or third GI loan because of her husband's death.



KELL'S - GRENNIE

AMERICAN LEGION POST No. 3 1 6

THE COMMANDER
SOUNDS OFF

Dear Comrades:

The summer is almost done and so are vacations. After our Labor Day Picnic, we can say "It's all over".

Then it will be time to put our shoulders to the wheel and really do some work for K-G Post and get it back on the map again. Our first big job this year will be our membership, which at present stands at 250. The County membership chairman has given us a quota of 315. That figure was the highest membership we had in the last four years. The County is assigning quotas by taking the highest number in four years. As you can see, we've got to go some to make our quota for this year. But, having done it before, we can, and I'm sure, will do it again. K-G hasn't won any trophies or citations in a long time, so how about all of us going all out to get our dues paid, and those of you who don't come around too much, try to get it in to our membership chairman as soon as he requests it...If NOT SOONER!

It's amazing, but since K-G was renovated two or three years ago, the majority of the members have NOT yet seen it! Why don't some of you come out and see our Tropical Rendezvous Room where we have our T.V. set, and chairs and tables, and our bar. After the meetings refreshments are served in the Rendezvous and the fights or baseball can be seen on the T.V.

It won't be long before the National Convention arrives in Atlantic City, September 16th to 19th. If you have the time there are several events that are well worth the trip down to see. The first is on Sunday night; the finals of the Drum and Bugle Corps competition will be held in the Steel Pier. If the sound of a bugle and drum sets your blood to tingling, this is an event that will never get out of your memory once you've seen it. On Monday, the Legion will step out at 10 A.M. along the Boardwalk for its annual parade. On Tuesday the 40 & 8 will hold its parade with all kinds of stunts and bands and locos...ours included...from all over the country.

(over)

The Commander Sounds Off - Continued.

Collectively or individually these are not-soon-to-be-forgotten events.

Before signing off, on behalf of all the members of K-G, as well as myself, I want to thank Ed Tietjen for the splendid job he has done as Treasurer for the past three or four years. Thanks again, Ed, and remember to send us your address as soon as you're settled. Lots of luck to you and Anne and Eddie wherever you may go.

Sincerely for the Legion,

Louis J. Somma

LOUIS J. SOMMA

COMMANDER

SPECIAL NOTICE

At the meeting of July 12, 1957, following a recommendation of the Budget Committee, a motion was duly made and seconded as follows: "Resolved, that the Annual Dues, commencing with the dues for the year 1958, shall be increased from \$5.00 to \$6.00." Action on this motion will take place at the meeting which will be held Friday, September 27th, 1957.

I N M E M O R I A M

Since the last edition of your K-G NEWS, three of our members have passed away. Each of them active in the Post's affairs at one time or another, and we shall all miss them. We extend our deepest sympathies to the families of WILLIAM F. MADSEN, MARINO SALVATORE AND WILLIAM A. COBB, SR.

MEMBERSHIP

Since last month's K-G NEWS carried a list of suspended members, eight of them brought their dues for 1957 up to date. There are still 34 members who are procrastinating and they have had more than the usual number of notices and requests to pay their dues. These slow boys cause a lot of unnecessary time and expense. If you happen to be one of the 34, send check or money order IMMEDIATELY to Joseph R. Miller, 76 Bay Street, S.I. 1, New York.

B O W L I N G

The bowling season started Thursday, September 5, 1957 and our Post has entered two teams to bring glory and credit to Kells-Grennie Post. In the Blue Division is the "A" team with the Bowling Chairman, Ray Swanson, as Captain, with him are Frank Rooney, Bert Williams, Vince Kieran, Cliff Johnsen and Trygve Evensen. The "B" Team, which is the Gold Division, is headed by Walter Marchese. His team is rounded out by William Rumph, Thomas Orr, William Stevens, Lou Lomangino and John Kreider.

Across the top of the top of the S.I. Advance sports page for Sept. 6, 1957 was the following headline... "Kells-Grennie 'A' Pinmen Register Shutout". Congratulations fellows, let's hope both teams have a really good season. GOOD LUCK!