



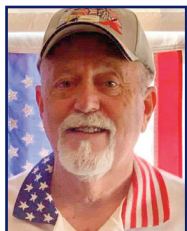
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# THE REPORTER

## GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803

APRIL 2023

### COMMANDER'S REPORT



My Fellow Legionnaires and Friends of the Legion,

We are now entering the second quarter of this year beginning with April 1st. While its exact history is shrouded in mystery, April Fool's Day or All Fools Day is an annual custom observed around the world. April Fools Day traditions include playing hoaxes or practical jokes on others, often yelling "April Fools!"



We just recently held our annual St Patrick's Day Dinner. As is true with any of our fund-raising events, there is a great deal of work involved in organizing and carrying out these events. I want to thank Earl Brock who was our chairman and managed this event. E.J. Flynn was our cook and demonstrated his culinary excellence. Kudos to you both. Also helping with the cooking and prep were Joe St Pierre, Bob Cochran and Neil Rochford. Thank you, Donna St Pierre, for the excellent crumb cake for dessert. Everyone raved about it. We were so fortunate to have so many members, Ladies Auxiliary members, and Friends of the Legion to assist us in making this such a successful event. Thank You All!

The next upcoming scheduled event for members of Post 803 Color Guard will be Memorial Day Ceremonies at the five Veteran's monuments in Southold Hamlet. As for the general Membership on Memorial Day, Mattituck Legion will be hosting the annual Southold Town Memorial Day Parade. Speeches will begin at 10:00 AM at the Mattituck Legion located on Pike Street followed by the Parade where we will line up at the Legion and march west on Pike Street.

Our next scheduled fund-raising event will be our annual golf outing to be held at Island's End Golf Course on Monday June 12th. Contact Bob Bittner to volunteer or for additional information at 631-680-6244.

As always, Volunteers are needed, not only for our events, but to fill officer positions. Volunteers are the driving force that keeps the American Legion marching forward!

I would like to extend best wishes to everyone and their families for a Blessed and Happy Easter!

Thank you to all Veterans for bravely doing what you were called to do so we can safely do what we are free to do!

For God and Country, God Bless,

David E. DeFriest

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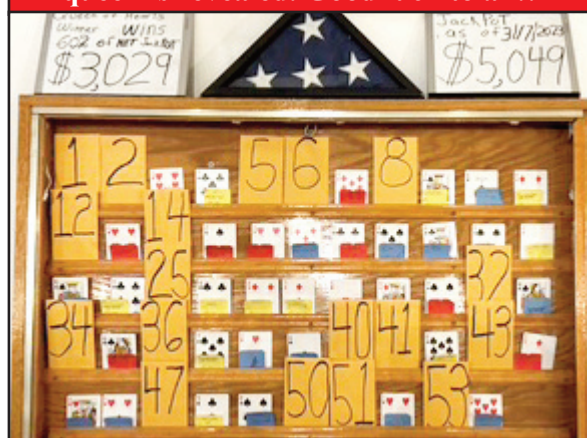
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### 2023 Queen of Hearts Game

The Queen is still on the board. Please support this last QOH fundraiser as this will be the last QOH board after this queen is revealed. Good luck to all!!



If you want to purchase tickets, please contact Jan Powers 914.213.8467 or email GalaxyFCC@gmail.com.

**There will be a Suffolk County American Legion's Business Meeting scheduled for April 12th at the Riverhead Legion Post No. 273.** The meeting will commence at 8PM. Dinner at the Riverhead Post is served at 7PM. The Riverhead Legion Post is located at 89 Hubbard Ave. in Riverhead. Proper Legion Business attire is requested. Any questions please contact me at; Home phone: 1.631.765.6320 • Cell phone: 1.631.559.2013 • Email: rdevito582@gmail.com Thank you, Rob DeVito, Suffolk County American Legion Fourth Division Commander

MADE IN AMERICA



**The Southold American Legion Auxiliary Post 803 is a proud supporter of the Long Island Cares Veterans Project.**



Established in 2011, the Veterans Project is a multi-faceted program which meets the wide-ranging needs of veterans and their families with food, outreach, care coordination, and job placement services. The program has four primary functions:

- (1) Veterans Outreach:** Long Island Cares attends or hosts community-based veteran events, such as Stand Downs, and supports attending veterans with nutritious food, household supplies, and information on various services and upcoming events.
- (2) Care Coordination:** Assists veterans throughout the process of accessing benefits and services. To date, we have aligned eligible veterans with various nutrition, housing, transportation, and health benefits and services.
- (3) VetsWork:** Counsels veterans on all aspects of the job search. This includes resume creation, strengthening interview skills, and translating military experience into civilian terms.
- (4) Military Appreciation Tuesdays (MAT):** Offered at all Long Island Cares' satellite locations, MAT offers military personnel and their families the ability to access emergency food, household supplies, and referral information on a weekly basis. On the East End, Long Island Cares hosts Military Appreciation Tuesdays at its Hampton Bays Hunger Assistance and Humanitarian Center located at 286 West Montauk Highway.
- (5) Mobile Pantry:** Initiated in 2009, the mobile pantry delivers nonperishable food and essential personal care and household products bi-weekly to individual homes. This program has very specific criteria. A recipient must be a homebound senior (65 and over), a homebound disabled veteran, and/or an individual with debilitating medical conditions which prevent them from leaving the home. Mobile pantry clients are those who do not have access to other community supports, and/or individuals in the home that drive.

**If you, or a veteran you know, would like to request assistance through Long Island Cares Veterans Project, they may contact Isabel Fritz at: (631) 582-FOOD (3663) ext. 142.** Additional information about Long Island Cares Veterans Project and its other services may be found online at: [www.licares.org](http://www.licares.org).

★ ★ LEGION AUXILIARY POST 803 ★ ★

**ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS OF APRIL!** Let the Spring season of hope and renewal inspire us to continue our Mission to support veterans and our active military. Let us renew our commitment to support the ideals of freedom, democracy, good citizenship, and patriotism.

We would like to congratulate Jolin Chen, our Empire Girls State Citizen for 2023, along with our Alternate, Amy Estrada. These outstanding young women will represent us well! We wish them the best in this important endeavor.



It was wonderful to see the results of all the hard work of Earl and his committee at the recent Legion Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. The support of our Legion family and our community came together to produce a great event! The sold-out meal was delicious, the decorations were festive, and it was so good to see all those smiling faces again. Thanks especially to the kitchen crew who once again produced a top-notch dinner!

It's time to mark your calendars for our upcoming events. Our Poppy Drive-Thru will be held on National Poppy Day on Friday May 26th. We will set up on the front lawn of the Legion and you can drive through the front driveway to get your paper lapel poppies. On Saturday July 15th the Auxiliary will hold our Annual Summer Fair.

**Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 12th, at 7:00PM.** Members who want to enjoy pizza at 6:30 please email me your RSVP. Hope to see you all!

Joan Cochran, *President*

## ★★ HISTORIAN ★★

On April 6, 1917, the United States formally declared war against Germany and entered the conflict in Europe. Fighting since the summer of 1914, Britain, France, and Russia welcomed news that American troops and supplies would be directed toward the Allied war effort. Under the command of Major General John J. Pershing, over two million U.S. troops served in France during the war.

Bob Bitner, *Guest Columnist*

## ★★ MEMBERSHIP ★★



**Post Status:** We are in our third month of 2023 and we have currently have 177/207 (85.5%) paid up members. We still have some members who need to submit their dues for 2023. Please check and see if they have a 2023 membership card. If you have paid your dues please ignore the renewal notices from Indianapolis.

**New Members are welcome:** To contact the Post, use P.O. Box 591, Attn. Membership, [Ladies Auxiliary Attn: Donna St Pierre, Sons of Legion Attn: Gary Iorio]

**Post 803 Legionnaire Membership Requirements:** To join Post 803, for Legionnaires you need to submit an American Legion Membership application, a copy of your DD-214 or discharge, and \$50 for annual dues. All membership correspondence should be sent to Post 803, Attn. Membership, P.O. Box 591, Southold, NY 11971.

If you play **BINGO** come by the Post on Tuesdays at 12 Noon.

Thanks for supporting Post 803.

Bob Cochran, *Membership Chairman*, 631.765.5828

## ★★ SONS OF THE LEGION ★★



Two of the most important days for the Legion are Memorial Day- to commemorate our veterans who never returned, and Veterans Day- which honors all who served. The ranks of the Legion are thinning due to the age of our veterans, and the scant amount of younger veterans who join. So I ask all Legion Sons to turn out for the Memorial Day ceremony and parade, and honor those who never returned. Let's get the word out about the Sons of the Legion, and increase our membership! We stand on the shoulders of all who served. We will have an informal meeting April 11th at 6:30. We can discuss Memorial Day Parade details and order Legion/SAL hats for those who need them. So come on down and share some of your family's military history.

Gary Iorio, SAL Commander

## ★★ CHAPLAIN'S REPORT ★★

**Rest in Peace** - Richard F. Mullen Jr. passed on March 3rd at the age of 86. Richard was a man whose life was dedicated to love. Love of God, his family, his community and his country. He always had time for all people and all things. His kindness and generosity was such that he inspired all of us to love one another and be better people. He was an honorary member of the American Legion. Richard F. Mullen Jr., was a true American Hero. May his soul rest in peace.

On November 2nd of this year, which is Richard's birthday, the flag at our post will be set a half mast in his honor.

**Prayer for the Sick** - O God, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that you would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them feel the healing power of Your love. Amen.

In our thoughts and prayers are Carl Deliteris, Henry Santacroce Sr., and John King.

*"Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God." Matthew 5:9*

Jeff Chagnon, *Post Chaplin* • 631.456.3258



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## Q&A ABOUT VA’S NEWEST LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM

Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife) is VA’s newest whole life insurance program that offers cash value and very competitive premium rates. Enrollment opens on Jan. 1, 2023, for all service-connected Veterans age 80 and under. Learn more about the program and find answers to some common questions:

### 1. Who is eligible for VALife?

Veterans age 80 or under with any level of service-connected disability (0-100%) are eligible to apply at any time. Veterans age 81 or older may also apply for VALife within two years of receiving notification of a new service-connected disability if they:

- Applied for a new VA rated disability before age 81, and
- Received a new service-connected disability after turning 81

### 2. How do I apply for VALife?

The VALife application goes live on Jan. 1, 2023, at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/valife.asp>. The application process is completely online, and Veterans will receive an automated instant decision about their eligibility for the program. If accepted into the program, Veterans can enroll and manage most aspects of their VALife policy online.

### 3. What coverage does VALife offer?

VALife offers up to \$40,000 in coverage, available in \$10,000 increments. There are no medical exams or health questions for enrollment. The policy has cash value that builds over time after the first two years of enrollment.

### 4. How much are VALife monthly premium rates?

A full breakdown of VALife monthly premium rates by age can be found here: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/valife-rates.asp>. VALife premium rates are competitive—or better than—similar programs offered by the private sector. Premiums are based on age upon enrollment and coverage amount selected. Current medical condition(s) or gender are not factored into premium rates. Once enrolled, premiums will never increase on the coverage selected. If coverage is increased in the future, rates will be based on age at that time.

### 5. Why is there a two-year waiting period for VALife coverage to take full effect?

The two-year waiting period eliminates the need for applicants to answer health questions or provide proof of good health to be eligible. This waiting period ensures access to guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance for more Veterans than ever before.

### 6. Do I have to pay monthly premium rates during the two-year waiting period for my VALife coverage to take effect?

Yes, Veterans must pay premiums during the two-year waiting period. If the Veteran dies during the two-year waiting period, all premiums paid plus interest will be paid to their designated beneficiary. The full face value of the policy will be paid to the beneficiary after the two-year period. Veterans who pay premiums directly, rather than by deduction from their compensation or military retirement or checking account, have the option to pay premiums annually.

### 7. How does VALife coverage compare to similar private sector programs?

VALife’s maximum coverage of \$40,000 is greater than what’s offered by many similar guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance programs in the private sector. The cost per \$1,000 is very competitive or less than similar products, providing savings to Veterans.

### 8. Can I switch from my current VA insurance program to VALife? Can I be enrolled in VALife and another program at the same time?

Veterans currently enrolled in Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance (S-DVI) may either keep that coverage or switch to VALife when the application goes live:

- If you have S-DVI and submit your VALife application on or before Dec. 31, 2025, then by law, you may only keep your S-DVI coverage for two years. When the two-year period concludes, your S-DVI coverage ends, and the full VALife coverage amount takes effect. Any cash value from your S-DVI coverage will be paid to you or can be applied toward your VALife premiums.
- If you have S-DVI and submit your VALife application on or after Jan. 1, 2026, then by law, your S-DVI coverage ends on the day you enroll in VALife. However, you will still need to wait two years before your full VALife coverage amount takes effect. Eligible Veterans currently enrolled in Veterans’ Group Life Insurance (VGLI) may have both VGLI and VALife coverage. Veterans can also be enrolled in Veterans’ Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI) or other VA insurance coverage and VALife at the same time. By law, only S-DVI and VALife is an either/or choice.

### 9. Does VALife also cover family members?

VALife does not cover spouses or dependents of eligible Veterans.

### 10. Is there a premium waiver option for VALife?

No, by law, there is no premium waiver option for VALife.

### MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about VALife, visit the program website here: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/valife.asp>.

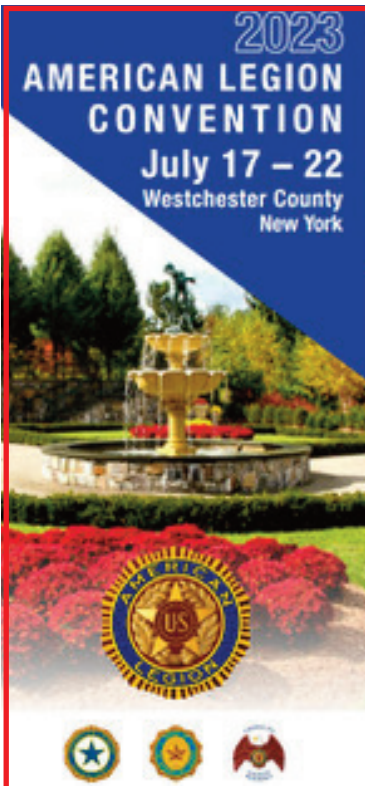
By David A Chiaro  
keyarrow@hotmail.com

## — 2023 GOALS —

1. Volunteer member to step up to fill the position of Adjutant vacated by Dave DeFriest to record the minutes of our monthly business meetings.
2. ~~Volunteer to take Department of Health Food Certificate Course~~
3. ~~Bar Face Lift: Project Manager is Dave Chiaro~~
4. Look Into New Legion Hall Ceiling: Project Manager Joe St. Pierre
5. Look Into Fire Alarm System: Project Manager Joe St. Pierre
6. Gather List of Emails of all Members and Friends of the Legion: Project Manager is Jeff Chagnon

## — LONG-TERM GOALS —

1. 9/11 Memorial Tree Pavers
2. Renovation of 2nd Floor
3. Emergency Exit for 2nd Floor
4. ~~Bar Makeover~~
5. Bathrooms Renovation (Handicap Accessible)
6. Basement Walls Coating for Brick Deterioration Mitigation
7. Pavilion
8. Exterior of Post Painted/Stained



2023  
AMERICAN LEGION  
CONVENTION  
July 17 - 22  
Westchester County  
New York

If any member and their spouse would like to attend the **NYS American Legion Convention** please let Commander Dave know and we will try to organize travel plans and to attend.

Furthermore, you can refer to this link:  
<https://www.2023alconvention.org/>

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

Calling all members, we are looking to improve sales on Golf Outing Raffle.

Legionnaires, SAL, Auxiliary, we need volunteers on

**APRIL 21st (4 - 7 PM) & APRIL 22nd (9 AM - NOON)**

and again **MAY 19th & 20th** at specified locations in Cutchogue and Southold to sell raffle tickets

As a seller of a winning ticket you will receive a \$200 dinner gift certificate.

So each ticket you sell gives you a chance at a \$200 dinner voucher!!

**PLEASE CONTACT BOB 631 680 6244**

Also, you should have received notice of our annual Golf Outing.

In that notice is a Raffle ticket for purchase. Please, if not playing golf, purchase the raffle tickets and Legionnaires you also place your name in Seller Slot. It gives you a chance of not only winning a prize but if your name is on the first drawn ticket you will receive a \$200 Dinner Certificate



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★ ★ APRIL & MAY 2023 EVENTS ★ ★

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 04/07 Fri.  | Bar is Open 6:30PM and Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM  |
| 04/11 Tues. | Golf Committee Meeting 6pm  |
| 04/11 Tues. | Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7:00PM • Need to Select New Officers                         |
| 04/11 Tues. | SAL meeting 6:30 at Legion Bar  |
| 04/12 Wed.  | Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM  |
| 04/14 Fri.  | Bar is Open 6:30PM and Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM  |
| 04/21 Fri.  | Bar is Open 6:30PM and Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM  |
| 04/28 Fri.  | Bar is Open 6:30PM and Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM  |
| 05/05 Fri.  | Bar is Open 6:30PM and Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM  |
| 05/09 Tues. | Golf Committee Meeting 6pm  |
| 05/09 Tues. | Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7:00PM • Need to Vote on New Officers                        |
| 05/10 Wed.  | Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM  |
| 05/05 Fri.  | Bar is Open 6:30PM and Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM  |
| 05/12 Fri.  | Bar is Open 6:30PM and Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM  |
| 05/19 Fri.  | Bar is Open 6:30PM and Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM  |
| 05/26 Fri.  | Poppy Drive Thru  |
| 05/26 Fri.  | Bar is Open 6:30PM and Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM  |
| 05/29 Mon.  | Southold Memorial Day monument ceremony at Legion 7:30am, followed by visit to five Veteran's monuments in town |
| 05/29 Mon.  | Memorial Day Parade, hosted by Mattituck American Legion. Meet and line up at Mattituck Legion 10 AM            |



MADE IN AMERICA

★ ★ LEGION OFFICERS ★ ★

Commander - Dave DeFriest  
 1st Vice Commander - Jeff Chagnon  
 2nd Vice Commander - Vacant  
 Past Commander - Earl Brock  
 Adjutant - TBD  
 Finance Officer - Jim Cowan  
 1st Finance Assistant - Mort Kelly  
 2nd Finance Assistant - Raymond Terry  
 Sergeant at Arms - Neil Rochford  
 Chaplain - Jeff Chagnon  
 Post Historian - TBD  
 Membership Chair - Bob Cochran

★ ★ SAL OFFICERS ★ ★

Commander - Gary Iorio  
 1st Vice - Rich Feely  
 2nd Vice - Michael Anasagasti  
 Adjutant - Brian Hughes  
 Treasurer - Brian Hughes  
 Sergeant at Arms - Jonathan Bitner  
 Chaplain - Daniel Kaelin  
 Historian - Douglas Kalvns

★ ★ AUXILIARY OFFICERS ★ ★

President - Joan Cochran  
 Vice Pres - Denise Thilberg  
 Treasurer - Margie Brock  
 Recording Sec. - Priscilla Devine

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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