



THE REPORTER

GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803

www.post803.com

MARCH 2023

★ ★ COMMANDER'S REPORT ★ ★



Greetings fellow Legionnaires and Friends of the Legion:

We just recently celebrated our grand reopening of our newly remodeled and refreshed Bar at the Legion Hall. It was well attended, and everyone had a great time and were impressed with the new decor and the work that had been accomplished by all the volunteers who helped with this project. We welcome and invite members and guests to stop in and join us at our newly decorated bar. The Bar is open every Friday beginning at 6 PM.



I find it hard to believe that two months have passed since I assumed the role of Commander. The fact that I have the support of the members, Ladies Auxiliary, and Sons of the Legion behind me helps to make the load a little lighter and everything run smoothly.

We have been busy actively planning for upcoming events, such as the St Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage dinner. Which is scheduled on March 18th. The annual Golf Outing which will be held at Island's End Golf Course on June 12th.

We just held our annual Daytona 500 Party which was well attended and a huge success. Thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary and members who volunteered to set up and work this event.

We were very fortunate and extremely grateful to the Southold Town PBA for their generous donation of a large screen TV to be used at our Daytona 500 Party. Their generosity and all the work that went into this event helped to make it the success it was. Lest I forget to mention and thank all the people who supported and attended our Daytona 500 Party. Thank you all very much.

I am proud and privileged to be Commander of this fine organization, The American Legion! Our members and Ladies Auxiliary have gone above and beyond to provide a heartwarming gift and assistance to a needy Veteran and his family at a time when they were down on their luck and in desperate need of assistance. That is one of the reasons we are here, to help and assist our Veterans in their time of need.

That is all I have to report at this time. We have had some nice days and I hope that spring will come early. But I think the groundhog saw his shadow on Groundhog Day and we may have more winter weather for the next six weeks.

For God and Country, God Bless,

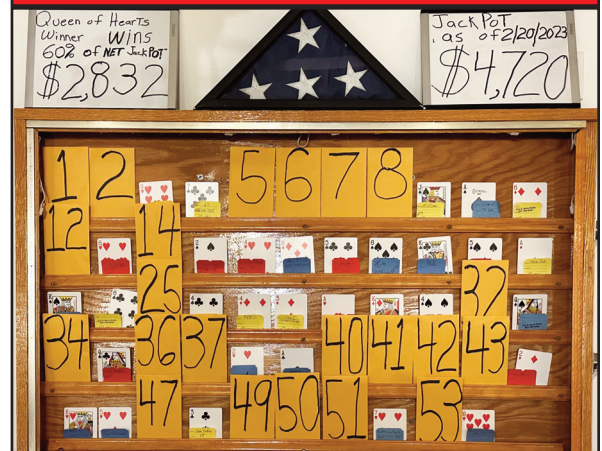
David E. DeFriest

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gtgpost803@gmail.com

Post number: 631.765.2276

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.

Daytona 500 Party



★ LEGION AUXILIARY POST 803 ★

March has arrived and Spring is just around the corner! The Legion's annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner is back! Tickets are only sold in advance so contact Earl Brock for them now for the popular event on Saturday March 18th.

The Daytona Party was a great success due to the efforts of a multitude of people. Denise and Greg, Tina and Jamie, Janique and Rob, Priscilla, Mimi, Patty, Bill, EJ, Bob, Carlisle, Terry and Ray, Gary, Commander Dave, Ty and myself worked to make it all happen. And a big thank you goes to the Southold PBA for donating a new large TV! A fun time was had by all! And as always thank you to the community for supporting our American Legion!

We were pleased to interview nine outstanding young women for Empire Girls State last month. It is heartening to meet so many talented, well-rounded students. Although only one can attend Girls State as our selected citizen, all have great potential for their future and we thank them for participating in this important program.

I would like to share part of the Opening Prayer of the American Legion Auxiliary: "We pray for all those who serve the people and guard the public welfare; that by Thy blessing they may be enabled to discharge their duties honestly and well. We pray for our members; that by Thy help they may observe the strictest Justice; keep alight the fires of freedom, strive earnestly for the spirit of democracy, and preserve untarnished our loyalty to our country and to Thee." Although written so many years ago, this prayer still rings true today.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, March 8th, at 7PM. We look forward to the return of our snowbirds!
Joan Cochran, *President*

★★ HISTORIAN ★★

FOR THEIR SERVICE AND SACRIFICE.

The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 was signed into law by 45th U.S. President Donald J. Trump, designating every March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. This was the last day US combat troops were in country.

Bob Bitner, *Guest Columnist*

★★ MEMBERSHIP ★★



Post Status: We are in our second month of 2023 and we have currently have **165/207 (80%)** paid up members. We have 49 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. We would like to welcome two new members to Post 803, OD Lingo who served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and Henry J. Pesce who served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. Thank you both for your service to our country and joining Post 803. Welcome aboard.

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 ★★



The Legion bar makeover project was a big success, it looks beautiful! So come on down any Friday at 6:30, check out the new bar and meet some great folks. If you haven't paid your 2023 dues, please get a \$25 check to me, or mail it to the Legion attn: Legion Sons. Come join us March 18th 6:30pm for St. Patrick's Day dinner. \$20 per person- RSVP by March 12th, as no tickets will be sold at door. See ad in Reporter for details.

As we continue to observe the state of our Nation, I leave you with this quote by Edward R. Murrow. "A nation of sheep will beget a government of wolves."

Gary Iorio, SAL Commander

★★ CHAPLAIN'S REPORT ★★

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

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

"Let us love, since that is what our hearts were made for." - Saint Therese of Lisieux

Jeff Chagnon, *Post Chaplin* • 631.456.3258



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WHAT ARE VA MEDICAL AND DISABILITY BENEFITS, AND HOW DO YOU GET THEM?

WHAT HEALTH AND DISABILITY BENEFITS DOES THE VA OFFER?

Veterans, and in some cases their dependents, may be eligible for many health and disability benefits, including:

- **VETERANS DISABILITY COMPENSATION:** Paid to veterans with a service-connected disability.
- **SPECIAL MONTHLY COMPENSATION:** Paid in addition to disability compensation for seriously injured veterans with special conditions.
- **AID AND ATTENDANCE OR HOUSEBOUND BENEFITS:** Paid to veterans who require in-home care and assistance or have difficulty leaving their home due to their injuries.
- **VETERANS HEALTH CARE:** Provided free or at reduced cost to eligible veterans.
- **CHAMPVA (Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs):** Health care for families of severely disabled veterans, or survivors of veterans who died as a result of their service.
- **DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION (DIC):** Payable to surviving spouses of veterans who were severely disabled or died as a result of their service.

More VA benefits (<https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits>) are available to veterans and their families. If your disability or injury is severe enough for the VA to rate you at least 50% disabled for compensation benefits, all your medical care is free from the VA. If you have a lower level of disability rating, you may have to pay the VA a copayment, depending on what type of medical services you get and what condition you are being treated for.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any veteran who suffered an injury or developed a chronic illness during their service that requires treatment after leaving the service may be eligible for these benefits. Normally, your injury or illness must have been documented in your medical or service records before the VA will give you any benefits for it. Otherwise, the VA has no way of knowing you didn't hurt yourself after leaving the service. The VA will also examine medical records to determine your medical history. There are also certain situations, like exposure to chemicals or mental-health issues, where the VA will examine your unit's deployment history and locations of service to determine your eligibility to certain benefits, such as burn-pit related illnesses or illnesses related to chemical exposure.

HOW TO APPLY

The easiest way to apply is online at VA.gov. You can upload scans or pictures of your documents and can apply on a mobile device or computer. You can also begin an application, add documents and submit the application later, when you have more information or documents. If you don't have any documents, the VA can still process your claim. In most cases, you can do all the paperwork yourself. However, if it is confusing or you have a complicated situation, the best option is to contact a Veterans Service Organization, such as the American Legion or Disabled American Veterans, to help you. Remember, you do not have to pay to file a claim for any veterans benefits.

By David A Chiaro
eyarrow@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

VOLUNTEER CORNER

**GOLF COMMITTEE STILL NEEDS HELP, PLEASE VOLUNTEER.
CONTACT BOB BITTNER 631.680.6244.**



SATURDAY, MARCH 18TH 2023

Bar Opens at 6:30 PM • Dinner at 7:30 PM

\$20 per person • RSVP by March 12th

THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR

CONTACT EARL BROCK AT 516.901.3228.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

to help set up the event on Friday March 17th, 6 pm, meet at the bar.

*We also need help with collecting admission,
running the 50/50 and with the buffet line!*

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★★ MARCH & APRIL 2023 EVENTS ★★

03/08 Wed. Auxiliary Meeting: 7 PM

03/12 Sun. RSVP Deadline for St Patricks Dinner
RSVP to Earl Brock

03/14 Tues. Golf Outing Meeting 6 PM

03/14 Tues. Executive and Business Meeting:
Bar 6:30 PM • Meeting 7 PM

03/17 Fri. St. Patricks Dinner Set-Up 6 PM

03/18 Sat. St Patricks Day Dinner
6:30 PM • Dinner 7:30 PM

04/11 Tues. Executive and Business Meeting:
Bar 6:30 PM • Meeting 7 PM
Need to Select New Officers

04/12 Wed. Auxiliary Meeting: 7 PM



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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