

### THE REPORTER

#### **GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803**

AUGUST 2025 ★ 631.765.2276

#### ★ COMMANDER'S REPORT ★



Comrades,

At the time we submitted our article for the July Reporter, the Southold Fourth of July Parade had not yet taken place. I'm happy to report that the parade went off without a hitch. We were fortunate to have beautiful weather, and it was great to see such a large turnout of community members lining the streets to show their patriotism and support.



A sincere thank you goes to Joan Tyrer and Carol Scott, who once again did an outstanding job organizing the parade—just as they have for the past 27 years. Their dedication and commitment to this annual tradition are truly appreciated, not only by our Post but by the entire Southold community.













Another update worth mentioning is the launch of our newly organized Thursday Night Bingo. David Wilburn has stepped up to take the lead, and we're grateful to him for taking on this responsibility. Earl Brock, along with some of the regulars from the Tuesday daytime Bingo crew, has also been assisting David. The very first Thursday night was a great success with a sell-out crowd. However, attendance has dropped a bit in the weeks since.

To keep Thursday night Bingo going strong, we'll need to work on building up attendance and spreading the word. It's a great opportunity for the community to have a fun evening out while supporting the veterans of Post 803. Thank you to David, Earl, our dedicated Bingo volunteers, and to our loyal participants who show up week after week to support the cause.

#### There are two upcoming events that I would like to remind everyone about:

#### 1. Annual Car Show – Sunday, August 24th, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

We're looking forward to another great turnout at our annual car show. Volunteers are needed to help with setup, registration, raffle sales, and cleanup. If you're able to assist during any part of the day, please contact Denise Schlacter at 631.466.2527 or email: msvater69@aol.com, or Dave DeFriest at 631.682.8810 or email: ded631@aol.com. Your help makes this event a success!

#### 2. Annual Chicken BBQ - Saturday, September 20th

Mark your calendars! Our always-popular Chicken BBQ is scheduled for September 20th. This event is still in the planning stages, and more details will be shared soon.

In the meantime, I hope everyone is taking time to enjoy our beautiful North Fork community and the joys of summertime.

Let us always remember—freedom is never free, and we are forever grateful to those who served to protect it.

#### For God and Country,

David E. DeFriest, Commander, American Legion Post 803 www.post803.com gtgpost803@gmail.com



#### **American Legion Post 803**

51655 Main Road, Southold, NY 11971

## WE START SELLING SHEETS AT 6 PM GAMES BEGIN AT 7 PM, ENDING BY 9:15-9:30 PM

Cash prizes for Thursday Night BINGO will be determined by sales and attendance, which we are anticipating will be considerably higher than Tuesday afternoon bingo.

#### **ALL WELCOME • ALL AGES • CASH ONLY**

Players can bring in food and drink, but no alcohol. Legion bar is closed. For questions, call Earl at 516.901.3228.

Tuesday afternoon bingo is still on-going and remains the same.

## VETERANS BENEFITS "CORNER"

## IF PASSED, THE MAJOR RICHARD STAR ACT WOULD PROVIDE VETS FULL PAY & DISABILITY BENEFITS

For years, there has been support for passing the Major Richard Star Act. Now, Senators are working to get the latest rendition made into law. If the bill passes, tens of thousands of medically retired Veterans would receive a substantial boost to their benefits, providing both retirement pay and disability pay from the VA.

David Chiaro – keyarrow@hotmail.com

SCAN HERE TO READ MORE





#### 11TH ANNUAL

# CAR SHOW

GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803 • 51655 MAIN RD, SOUTHOLD, NY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24TH • 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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# UNVEILING THE SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AT SOUTHOLD'S 4TH OF JULY PARADE CELEBRATING TRADITION AND UNITY

The 4th of July is not just a holiday; it is a celebration of heritage, culture, and community. In Southold, Long Island, this significance comes alive through a vibrant parade on Main Street that culminates at the American Legion Post 803.

As the sun rose this past July 4th, excitement filled the air. Locals donned their best red, white, and blue outfits, ready to honor the nation's independence together. The energy was infectious, echoing the deep-rooted traditions that connect Americans from all walks of life.



#### THE PARADE: A JOURNEY THROUGH TRADITION

The day kicked off with a lively lineup of parade participants showcasing the diversity of Southold's community. Entries ranged from vintage cars to local fire trucks, and school groups to community organizations. Each float not only represented its team but also told a story of pride and passion.

Parents enthusiastically waved to children dressed in creative costumes, marching side by side with their



Southold Firefighters salute Members of the American Legion Post 803 marching in the 2025 Parade.

friends and family. Local businesses also joined the fun, promoting their services while embodying the spirit of togetherness.

The presence of many veterans and active-duty service members highlighted the significance of the day, connecting past sacrifices to present celebrations.

As the parade flowed through Main Street, laughter, music, and patriotic songs created a joyful atmosphere. Children clutched colorful balloons and enjoyed ice cream cones, creating sweet memories that would last well beyond the day itself.

#### THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 803: A BEACON OF COMMUNITY

The parade culminated at the American Legion Post 803, a cornerstone of Southold where residents gather for various events throughout the year. As participants entered, the celebratory mood shifted to one of camaraderie and reflection.

The Post created a perfect backdrop for



enjoying these heartfelt moments, with its welcoming atmosphere and picturesque surroundings, allowing attendees to fully immerse themselves in the warmth of camaraderie.

#### A CELEBRATION OF UNITY AND HERITAGE

As this cherished tradition continues, each year presents another opportunity for residents and visitors alike to build deeper connections, honor the past, and revel in the spirit of independence that



enriches Southold's identity. Through events like these, the town deepens its commitment to tradition, unity, and the joyous celebration of freedom that characterizes its community.

John Christina, Historian

#### \* ★ SONS OF THE LEGION \* \*

Hope you all are enjoying your North Fork summer. The Southold July 4th parade was a big success. Our honor guard under Vice Commander Jeff Chagnon led the parade. Special thanks to all who assisted. August 24 is the Legion sponsored car show. Always a fun day so come on down and check out some classics. If you own a classic car you can enter the contest. See newsletter for details.

July most importantly brought us the dedication of Town Beach to the late Lt. George Sullivan. A long time Southold resident and public servant.

"Mr. Sullivan was awarded the Navy Cross as a Marine during the Vietnam War when his left leg was amputated after being hit by enemy fire". "The award is the country's second-highest military decoration."

"He was stationed in Dông Hà as a member of Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, when he took part in a mission to rescue the crew of a downed helicopter. He was wounded during a long firefight and struck by enemy fire at least seven times."

The heroism of Lt. Sullivan will not be forgotten. An American hero and humble Southold resident. Continue to Rest In Peace sir.

Gary Iorio

SAL Commander





At the request of John Copertino, a

friend of Charles Sanders, who had reached out to him to see if he and his troops needed anything in Kuwait, the Auxiliary and our Legion Post 803, purchased and shipped him a coffee maker, coffee, and pods.

#### ★★ MEMBERSHIP ★★

Post Status: The 2026 membership ID cards have arrived at our Post. Members have already sent in their dues of \$57 for 2026. Allan Goldsmith gets the honor of being first to pay his dues for the upcoming year. To review and update our Post 803 records and the Dept. of NY data base, we request that you send in your dues notice with your dues. Kindly check the back of the dues notice and make sure your mailing address is correct along with the phone number, email, branch of service and service period are filled out. The requested info will also help us update the Post 803 Reporter mailing list.

We are closing in on the end to the 2025 membership year with 177/191 (92.6%) paid up members. We still have 14 membership ID's at the post for 2025. I would like to thank the five new members who joined and seven members who transferred to Post 803 during the 2025 membership year.

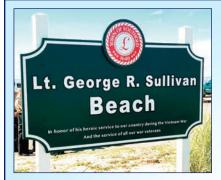
Veterans, come join us we could use the help.

Members are welcome: To contact the Post, use P.O. Box 591, Attn. Membership

Legion 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 \$57 for annual dues. All membership correspondence should be sent to Post 803, Attn. Membership, and P.O. Box 591, Southold, NY 11971. Thanks for supporting Post 803.

Bob Cochran, Membership Chairman, 631.765.5828



On Tuesday July 22nd, Southold Town, led by Supervisor Al Krupski had a dedication ceremony changing the name of town beach to Lt George Sullivan Beach. NJROTC color guard & American Legion members and Legion color guard were present.

Lt. George Sullivan was one of nearly 500 Marines wounded during the 1967 operation Prairie 2 in Vietnam. Lt. Sullivan envisioned a career in the military, but on a rescue mission to save a crew member of a downed helicopter, that path changed his life forever.

Lt. Sullivan was wounded during a long firefight. He was hit by enemy fire at least 7 times but managed to survive.

Lt. Sullivan moved to Southold in 1973. He transitioned from his military career to owning an accounting practice. He also served as the Southold Town Receiver of Taxes for more than 20 years.

He belonged to American Legion Griswold Terry Glover Post 803 for more then 40 years. In 2014 Lt. Sullivan was voted as Commander of the post. Lt. Sullivan was awarded the Navy Cross, the country's second highest military decoration.

In 1998, Congress approved the American Veteran's Disabled for Life Memorial, in Washington DC. This memorial honors more than 4 million veterans that are permanently disabled. Labeled the Voices of Veterans. Lt. Sullivan's accounts and experiences detailing his life, have been recorded and archived. One of his quotes reads: Yes, I wish things would have worked out a little better for me, but I did come home alive and had a fairly successful life

Lt. George Sullivan passed away on January 20, 2020.













#### National Navajo Code Talkers Day

is celebrated on August 14th each year to honor the contributions of Navajo Marines who served in World War II. The day recognizes their unique ability to use their native language to create an unbreakable code, which helped the US military in the Pacific Theater.

#### **★★ CHAPLAIN'S REPORT ★★**

**REST IN PEACE** I am very sad to report that our dear friend and comrade, Captain Brendan Kelly, a 27 year US Coast Guard veteran, passed on July 7th at the age of 55. Captain Kelly had an outstanding career in the Coast Guard that was marked by excellence at every step of the way. At the end of his service, he was a pilot for The Commandant of the Coast Guard and The Secretary of Homeland Security. When I first met him at our Post it was very clear to me that he was a Gentleman of the highest order who did not hesitate to step up and offer his services. On behalf of the American Legion, I offer our deepest condolences and support to Brendan's family who were so remarkably kind and gracious to the hundreds people who attended his wake. Captain Brendan Kelly was a true American Hero. May his soul rest in peace.

**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." - Amen. Jeff Chagnon - Post Chaplain 631.456.3258

#### ★ ★ LEGION AUXILIARY POST 803 ★ →

August is here and summer is in full swing. Get out and enjoy it! In July, Southold town held a dedication ceremony naming Southold Town Beach in honor of Past Commander George Sullivan. Legion and Auxiliary members attended to represent Post 803. It was a wonderful tribute and memorial, with a ribbon cutting ceremony in front of the new sign. Stop in and spend some time at the beach, and ponder the sacrifices of so many that made it possible for us to live freely in this great country.

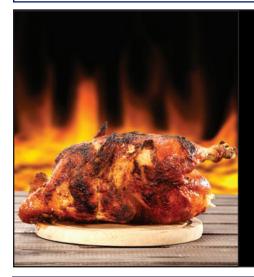
The Legion Car Show will be held on Sunday, August 24th. This event is popular and we need both Legion and Auxiliary members to volunteer to help at the gates and selling raffle tickets. Please let Commander Dave, Joan or Denise know what time you can help. If we each do a couple of hours, we'll have it covered. This is a big fundraiser, and a fun day!



The July 4th parade was spectacular this year. The weather was the best ever, and the crowds were patriotic and happy to celebrate! Post 803 proudly led the parade, and hot dogs were served afterwards at the Legion grounds. Thank you to all who worked hard to make this day special!

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 13th at 7:00PM.

Joan Cochran, President



**SOUTHOLD AMERICAN LEGION POST 803** 

# SAVE THE DATE OF OUR CHICKEN BBQ! SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2025

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE BBQ. CONTACT DAVE DEFRIEST AT 631.682.8810

#### **VOLUNTEER CORNER**

"Many Hands Make Light Work" Volunteers are needed for the car show. Contact Denise at 631.466.2527. Easy tasks and any amount of time will be greatly appreciated.

We also need volunteers for the Chicken BBQ. Please contact Dave DeFriest if you can help. Ded631@aol.com

The Post is trying to improve lines of communication. Please provide us your email address. The best way to do this is to send us an email at gtgpost803@gmail.com with your contact information. Or if you want to call, leave your name and email address on the answering machine 631.765.2276, lastly you can mail it to American Legion Post 803, P.O. Box 591 Southold, NY 11971

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Emily F. Franchina, Esq. efranchina@elderlawflg.com

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★★AUGUST & SEPTEMBER EVENTS ★★	
08/01 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
08/05 TUE.	TUESDAY DAY BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON AND GAMES START AT 12:30PM
08/07 THU.	NIGHT BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM AND GAMES START AT 7PM
08/08 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
08/12 TUE.	TUESDAY DAY BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON AND GAMES START AT 12:30PM
08/12 TUE.	EXECUTIVE AND BUSINESS MEETING: BAR 6:00PM, DINNER 6:30PM, MEETING 7:00PM
08/13 WED.	AUXILIARY MEETING 7PM
08/14 THU.	NIGHT BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM AND GAMES START AT 7PM
08/15 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
08/19 TUE.	TUESDAY DAY BINGO- DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON AND GAMES START AT 12:30PM
08/21 THU.	NIGHT BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM AND GAMES START AT 7PM
08/22 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
08/24 SUN.	CAR SHOW 9AM – 3PM
08/26 TUE.	TUESDAY DAY BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON AND GAMES START AT 12:30PM
08/28 THU.	NIGHT BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM AND GAMES START AT 7PM
08/29 FRI	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
09/02 TUE.	TUESDAY DAY BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON AND GAMES START AT 12:30PM
09/04 THU.	NIGHT BINGO- DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM AND GAMES START AT 7PM
09/05 FRI	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
09/09 TUE.	TUESDAY DAY BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON AND GAMES START AT 12:30PM
09/09 TUE.	EXECUTIVE AND BUSINESS MEETING: BAR 6:00PM, DINNER 6:30PM, MEETING 7:00PM
09/10 WED.	AUXILIARY MEETING 7PM
09/11 THU.	NIGHT BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM AND GAMES START AT 7PM
09/12 FRI	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
09/16 TUE.	TUESDAY DAY BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON AND GAMES START AT 12:30PM
09/18 THU.	NIGHT BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM AND GAMES START AT 7PM
09/19 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
09/20 SAT.	CHICKEN BBQ
09/23 TUE.	TUESDAY DAY BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON AND GAMES START AT 12:30PM
09/25 THU.	NIGHT BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM AND GAMES START AT 7PM
09/26 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
09/30 TUE.	TUESDAY DAY BINGO - DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON AND GAMES START AT 12:30PM

#### MADE IN AMERICA

#### **★★LEGION OFFICERS ★★**

Commander - Dave DeFriest

1st Vice Commander - Jeff Chagnon

2nd Vice Commander - David Wilburn

Past Commander - Charles Sanders

Adjutant - Bob Bittner

Finance Officer - Jim Cowan

1st Finance Assistant - Vacant

2nd Finance Assistant - Vacant

Sergeant at Arms - Neil Rochford

Chaplain - Jeff Chagnon

Post Historian - John Christina

Membership Chair - Bob Cochran

#### **★★SAL OFFICERS** ★★

Commander - Gary Iorio
1st Vice - Rich Feely
2nd Vice - Michael Anasagasti
Adjutant - Jerry Murtha
Treasurer - Brian Hughes
Sergeant at Arms - Jonathan Bittner
Chaplain - Daniel Kaelin

#### **★★AUXILIARY OFFICERS ★★**

President - Joan Cochran

1st Vice Pres - Denise Thilberg Schlacter
2nd Vice Pres - Jeanette Cooper
Treasurer - Patricia Burns
Recording Sec. - Priscilla Devine

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Guiswold Terry Glover Post 803 The American Legion P.O. Box 591 ISON 11971