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THE REPORTER

GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803

JANUARY 2023

COMMANDER'S REPORT



Hello Fellow Legionnaires & Friends of the Legion:

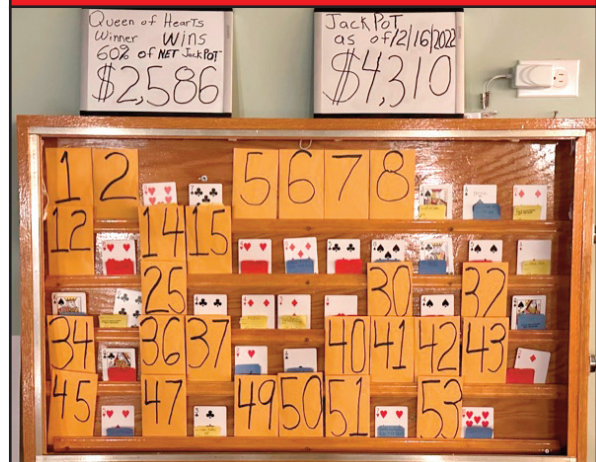
I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to be the commander of Post 803 over the past 6 years and 7 months. I have learned so much as a result and we have accomplished so much over these past years. The Legion has been a beacon of Americanism in our community and I'm confident it will continue to be so into the future.



Veterans have a special understanding of just how blessed we are to be Americans. We are living in a time where so many Americans have lived blessed lives without shedding a drop of blood or sweat toward the creation of those blessings. It is so easy to criticize America with a touch of a finger on a phone but so difficult to criticize from the inside of a foxhole. America is not perfect and our Founding Fathers never intended our country to be so. They understood that America at its founding and into its future will be led by imperfect humans. What does the Preamble to the Constitution state: "We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." The goal of the Constitution and the intent of our Founding Fathers was to create **a more perfect union**, not a perfect union. One word of caution is best expressed by Benjamin Franklin when responding to what type of government was formed after the Constitutional Convention of 1787, "A Republic, if you can keep it!" We Legionnaires still believe in the Constitution and we will continue to support it so that Benjamin Franklin's caution should never be realized. There is a lot of great events planned for 2023 but I will be stepping away this next year. The Legion will need a lot of shared effort in 2023. I hope you will support the Legion in any way you can from volunteering to help at an event or contribute financially toward one of our goals or programs. I'm confident the Legion will strive in 2023.

Sincerely,
Charles J. Sanders
www.post803.com
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.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

January 2023 has arrived! Let's welcome the cold, crisp days and the chance to begin again to fulfill the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary: "In the Spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support the American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security."

Over the past year we strived to fulfill this mission by assisting local veterans and families, by sponsoring a local young woman to Empire Girls State, donating to a Suffolk County American Legion Auxiliary's project to support our military deployed overseas, supporting a local Warrior Reunion, donating to the Warrior Ranch in Calverton, the Walk for Valor which works to prevent veteran suicide, the Long Island Cares Veterans Programs, Wreaths Across America, Honor Flight, and Veterans at Northport VA. In December Linda Ruland again put together gifts for veterans through the Southold Town Senior Center. Denise delivered bags of snacks and crafts to the residents of San Simeon. Thanks go to all of you who worked so hard on these accomplishments, and to the community for their continued support!

Our "Snacks with Santa" was a wonderful after school event held in December. The children each received a snack and stick-on ornament craft. They wrote letters to Santa, posed for photos, and listened to Santa read "The Night Before Christmas". Rose and Patty Hocker designed the letters. Our local neighborhood Santa was assisted by Mrs. Claus and Elf Bill. Both parents and children enjoyed the event! Thanks go to Denise, Donna, Priscilla, Joan Cear, Marcia, Rose, Tina, Barbara, Patty, Greg and Bill for putting together a great event!

Thanks go to Girl Scout Troop 340, Suffolk County Girl Scout Member Specialist Janet Latham, and Tracey Grattan from our local Girl Scout Service Unit 60 for the donation of the military themed Christmas tree on display in the lobby of Post 803. The tree was part of the "Hall of Trees" display at the Juliette Low Friendship Center at Camp Edey, and Tracey and Janet facilitated the donation in appreciation of the use of the Legion hall by our local Girl Scout leaders. Thank you Girl Scouts for thinking of our Veterans!

A good time was had by all at the Legion Christmas Potluck. We presented outgoing Commander Sanders with a plaque of appreciation, and Gary from the Sons presented a gift as well. Thanks go to Donna and Priscilla for the lovely evergreen centerpieces! Joe and Earl did a great job with set-up. Thanks also to all who participated by bringing tasty dishes and helping with clean-up! The hall looked the part with all the decorations put up by Donna, Marcia, Priscilla, Joe, Ty and myself the week before. And thank you to Janique and Rob for donating the treetop star that lights up! We plan to take down the decorations on the first Friday in January.

We welcome new members! Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11th, at 7:00PM.

Joan Cochran, President



You are invited to JOIN THE AUXILIARY FAMILY of the Southold American Legion - Griswold Terry Glover Post 803



Our members are dedicated to serving, helping and meeting the needs of veterans, the military and their families.

We meet the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Veterans' mothers, daughters, sisters, grandmothers and granddaughters are eligible.

Please contact Donna St. Pierre at 631.765.8144 for more information or email her for an application at dfsp@optonline.net

★★ MEMBERSHIP ★★



Post Status: We currently have **188/205 (91.7%)** paid up members for 2022. You can still pay your dues for 2022 and maintain the continuous years of membership on your membership ID. The Post is at **136/194 (70%)** paid up members for 2023. It's January and we have fifty plus members who need to pay their dues for 2023. Check your current membership card, if it has 2022 across the top you probably need to send in your dues for 2023. If it has 2023 across the top you have paid your dues for 2023 and you can ignore the renewal notices from Indianapolis. I will soon send out a friendly reminder to those who need to update their membership status for 2022 and 2023.

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

★★ HISTORIAN ★★

On January 23, 1968, North Korea captured the USS Pueblo, an unarmed US Navy intelligence vessel, in international waters. The North Koreans held the 83-man crew hostage for 11 torturous months.

In January 1968, the North Vietnamese Army and Viet Minh begin the Tet Offensive. Attacks are launched in cities across South Vietnam, including Saigon and the invasion of the US Embassy. The Tet Offensive marks the turning point in the war and begins the gradual withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam.

Bob Bitner, *Guest Columnist*

★★ SONS OF THE LEGION ★★



Happy and healthy New Year to all our members. We finished 2022 with a send off to Charles Sanders and a thank you for both his military service and good work to the Southold community. Charles served as Post Commander for over six years and is stepping down as Commander but will remain a post member. As I write this column plans are being worked out to close the bar first week of January for cleanup and painting. Additional help appreciated so come on down. We also plan a reopening party after completion.

I leave with this thought from General James Doolittle "There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer."

Gary Iorio, SAL Commander

★★ CHAPLAIN'S REPORT ★★

Sick Call - John King is currently at the Quantum Rehab Center, 63 Oakcrest Ave., Middle Island, NY 11953, where he is recovering from complications due to COVID. Please remember John in your prayers or maybe send a card.

Rest In Peace - Our dear friend and comrade Irving G. Pitman passed at home on November 22nd at the age of 105. Irving was a World War 11 veteran who served in Italy with the 5th Army Medical Corps. He was a long time member of our Post who was dearly beloved and admired by all of us. Irving was a man who loved his family, friends and country with all his heart and soul. He was a true American hero. May his soul Rest In Peace.

On January 14th 2023 at 11:00 am there will be a Memorial Service for Irving at the Cutchogue Presbyterian Church, which will include the American Legion Wake Service.

All are invited to attend. Following the Memorial Service at 1:00pm there will be a luncheon in his honor at the Post.

Jeff Chagnon, *Post Chaplin*
631.456.3258



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★ ★ VETERANS BENEFITS “CORNER” ★ ★

A LETTER FROM THE DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

Dear Retiree,

As you may know, Congress made changes to the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) to phase out the offset for surviving spouses who are also receiving Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

On January 1, 2023, the SBP-DIC offset will be fully eliminated. That means, beginning in 2023, SBP payments will no longer be offset (reduced) by DIC. Spouses will receive full SBP (issued by DFAS) and full DIC (from the VA).

There is no action you need to take as a retiree for the changes to apply to your surviving spouse. However, you should check your RAS to ensure your SBP beneficiary is up to date. This is especially important if you have a former spouse. Find out more: <https://www.dfas.mil/SBPforspouse>

Also, if your monthly premiums are not automatically deducted from your pay, you should ensure your account does not have unpaid monthly premiums. If you pass away with unpaid monthly premiums, this could cause hardship for your survivors. Learn more: <https://www.dfas.mil/payforSBP>

For more details on the changes to SBP, see our special SBP-DIC News webpage: <https://www.dfas.mil/sbpdicnews>

Sincerely,

DFAS Retired & Annuitant Pay

— 2023 GOALS —

1. Volunteer to take Department of Health Food Certificate Course
2. Bar Face Lift: Project Manager is Dave Chiaro
3. Look Into New Legion Hall Ceiling: Project Manager Joe St. Pierre
4. Look Into Fire Alarm System: Project Manager Joe St. Pierre
5. 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

Bob Bittner would like to get the word out early that our **GOLF FUNDRAISER** is scheduled for **MONDAY JUNE 12TH**. It's never too early to plan and ask for help! All members (including S.A.L. or Auxiliary) can apply. Volunteers are needed to run additional games of chance on the course, seek sponsorship from the community, sell raffle tickets prior to the event, brainstorm on making the event better, run the grill on the course. The more volunteers the easier the task.

This event provides the Post with revenue to hand out scholarships to our high schools, send students to Boys and Girls State, help other Veteran organizations and keep the Post sustainable.

Email Bob Bittner at ctt3@optonline.net or call 631.680.6244

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

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 at 6 PM, meet at the bar.

Daytona 500 Party

The Ladies Auxiliary is starting to plan next month's Daytona 500 Party
SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19TH • 1PM - 6PM,
 with a set-up date of Friday 2/17 at 6PM.
We need volunteers to help to make this event happen!
Please contact Joan Cochran (joanec@optonline.net) or Denise Thilberg (msvater69@aol.com)



★ ★ 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS ★ ★

01/10 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7PM	07/12 Wed.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM
01/11 Wed.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM	07/13 Fri.	Auxiliary Summer Fair Setup 6PM
01/29 Sun.	Legion Bar Grand Opening	07/14 Sat.	Auxiliary Summer Fair: 9AM to 3PM
02/07 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7:00PM	08/08 Tues.	Executive & Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7:00PM
02/08 Wed.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM	08/09 Wed.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM
02/17 Fri.	Daytona 500 Party Set-Up 6PM	08/25 Fri.	Car Show Setup 6PM
02/19 Sun.	Daytona 500 Party 1PM-6PM	08/27 Sun.	Annual Car Show: 9AM to 3PM
03/08 Wed.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM	09/11 Mon.	Patriot's Day NEVER FORGET!
03/12 Sun.	RSVP deadline for St. Patty's Dinner - RSVP to Earl Brock	09/12 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7PM
03/14 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7:00PM	09/13 Wed.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM
03/17 Fri.	St. Patrick's Dinner Set-Up 6:00PM	09/23 Sat.	Walk 4 Valor
03/18 Sat.	St. Patrick's Dinner bar opens 6:30PM and Dinner at 7:30PM	09/29 Fri.	Chicken BBQ Setup 6PM
04/11 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7:00PM Need to Select New Officers	09/30 Sat.	Annual Chicken BBQ: 4PM to 7PM Takeout is available!
04/12 Wed.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM	10/10 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7PM
05/09 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7:00PM Need to Vote on New Officers	10/11 Wed.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM
05/10 Wed.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM	11/01 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7PM
05/29 Mon.	Memorial Day Parade	11/03 Fri.	Craft Fair Setup 6PM
06/12 Mon.	Golf Classic	11/05 Sun.	Holiday Craft Fair 11AM to 4PM (Chair Auxiliary)
06/13 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7PM Need to Swear in New Officers	11/07 Tues.	Election Day PLEASE VOTE!
06/14 Weds.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM	11/08 Wed.	Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM
06/30 Fri.	Legion Consolidated Reports Due to Suffolk County/State Legion	11/11 Sat.	Veterans Day Ceremony 11AM & Veteran Brunch to Follow
07/07 Fri.	Veterans Appreciation BBQ	11/14 Tues.	2024 Planning Meeting 6PM
07/11 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7PM	12/10 Sun.	Event with Santa
		12/12 Tues.	Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7PM
		12/15 Fri.	Legion Pot Luck Christmas Party 6:30PM

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★★ JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2023 ★★

BAR IS CLOSED THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JANUARY FOR RENOVATIONS

- 01/10 Tues. **Executive and Business Meeting:
Bar 6:30PM • Meeting 7:00PM**
- 01/11 Wed. **Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM**
- 01/20 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30PM and
Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM**
- 01/27 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30PM and
Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM**
- 01/29 Sun. **Legion Bar Grand Opening**
- 02/03 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30PM and
Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM**
- 02/07 Tues. **Executive and Business Meeting:
Bar 6:30PM • Meeting 7:00PM**
- 02/08 Wed. **Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM**
- 02/10 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30PM and
Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM**
- 02/17 Fri. **Daytona 500 Party set-up 6PM**
- 02/17 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30PM and
Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM**
- 02/19 Sun. **Daytona 500 Party 1PM-6PM**
- 02/24 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30PM and
Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM**



MADE IN AMERICA

★★ LEGION OFFICERS ★★

- Commander - TBD
- 1st Vice Commander - Jeff Chagnon
- 2nd Vice Commander - Vacant
- Past Commander - Earl Brock
- Adjutant - David DeFriest
- 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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