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THE REPORTER

GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803

JULY 2024

COMMANDER'S REPORT



Greetings fellow Legionnaires and Friends of the Legion,

Summer has arrived and we are already into the month of July.

The 4th of July celebrates the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. The Declaration announced the political separation of the 13 North American Colonies from Great Britain.

The Southold Village Merchants will be holding their 26th annual 4th of July Parade 12:00 noon on July 4th. The parade will step off beginning at Boisseau

Ave and the Main Road. Parade Participant Members of Post 803 will muster at that location at 11:30 AM.

As I mentioned in last month's Reporter, we participated in the Memorial Day Parade held in Greenport. I wanted to give a shout out to Charlotte, Rich, and Bill Mullen, Mullen Motors, for providing two new jeeps for our Veterans and Auxiliary to ride in the parade. It is nice to see that some traditions are carried on for many years. The Mullen family has supported community service and promoted good will to our community and Veterans, as did Rich and Bill's father and grandfather before them. We are very grateful for the loan of these vehicles, Thank You.

On June 17th we held our 31st Annual Golf Outing at Island's End Golf Course. It was a huge success, thanks to our Golf Outing Chairman, Bob Bittner and his very competent Committee. There were many volunteers, several who worked from 7:30 AM until 7:30 PM. I am very grateful for all the help we received on and off the Golf Course. I am not going to mention your names at this time for fear that I will overlook someone. Without the assistance of these volunteers we would not have been able to pull this event off as well as we did. The weather was perfect also. The participants, business sponsors, the many businesses that advertised on our Tee signs and Island's End Golf Course, Thank You!

In the month of August we can look forward to attending and participating in our Annual Car Show. It will take place on Sunday August 25th 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, rain or shine. Cars are a donation of \$20 to enter and spectators are a free will donation. There will be live music, vendors, food trucks, and a 50/50 raffle. Please come out to enjoy this event. We look forward to seeing you.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable and healthy Summer. Until next month, be well, stay safe, and carry on.

David E. DeFriest, Post 803 Commander

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CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

REST IN PEACE - JOSEPH HENRY KOLLEN, a Korean War veteran who served in the US Navy, passed on June 20th at the age of 91. Joe was a long-time member of our Post who served on the Bingo Committee and was always the type of man who would say yes whenever we needed help with anything. He was loved and adored by all of his friends and colleagues. When I was a new guy at the Post twenty-two years ago he was always there to offer kind words and encouragement. A true gentleman and role model for all of us. We can not ask for more than that from anyone. Joseph Henry Kollen 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.* In our thoughts and prayers is Henry Santacroce Sr.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Matthew - 5:9

Jeff Chagnon - Post Chaplain 631.456.3258

SOUTHOLD AMERICAN LEGION POST 803

SAVE THE DATE OUR CHICKEN BBQ IS BACK!

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2024

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



10TH ANNUAL

CAR SHOW



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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

★ ★ SONS OF THE LEGION ★ ★



The legion golf outing was a big success. Golf committee Chairman Bob Bittner did a lot of work putting this event together. Special thanks to Bob and everyone who helped with the golf outing. It was a great day for all involved.

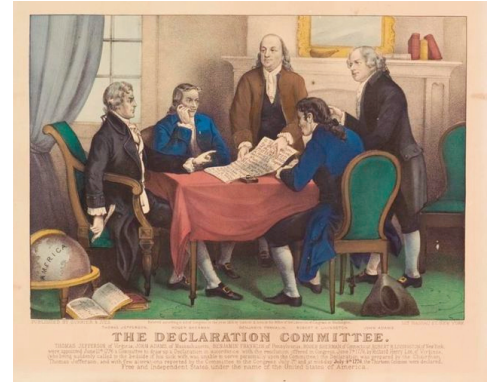
As we go to press, July 4th is upon us and I hope to see everyone at the Southold Village Merchants parade. The American Legion will be marching. July 4, 2024.

"America will celebrate its 248th birthday as independence was achieved from Great Britain following the Revolutionary War. The founding fathers signed this declaration on July 4, 1776."

Hope everyone is enjoying summer on the North Fork, and I will see you all at the next Legion event. I leave you with this quote from General George Patton.

"Never Tell People How to Do Things. Tell Them What to Do, and They Will Surprise You with Their Ingenuity." People hate to be micromanaged. A good leader, as Patton knew, tells his or her subordinates what is expected, or what the overall goal is.

Gary Iorio, SAL Commander



★ ★ HISTORIAN ★ ★

July 4, 1918, the American I Corps assumed command of a portion of the Chateau-Thierry sector, which included the US 1st Infantry Division. These troops would be the first Americans to see combat in WWI.

July 7, 1948, The first six enlisted women are sworn into Regular Navy: Chief Yeoman Wilma J. Marchal; Yeoman Second Class Edna E. Young; Hospital Corpsman First Class Ruth Flora; Aviation Storekeeper First Class Kay L. Langen; Storekeeper Second Class Frances T. Devaney; and Teleman Doris R. Robertson.

The "New Guard" - In the mid-70s the Coast Guard adopted the blue uniforms seen today, replacing Navy-style uniforms worn prior to the Vietnam War. Known jocularly as "Bender's Blues," they were implemented as part of the postwar transition to an all-volunteer force.

July 11, 1798, The formal re-establishment of the Marine Corps after the Revolutionary War, "to the shores of Tripoli"

First Airman in Space: On July 21, 1961, Air Force Captain Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom became the first Airman and second American to fly into space, aboard his Liberty Bell 7 capsule.

★ ★ MEMBERSHIP ★ ★



Post Status: We currently have **180/189 (95%)** paid up members for 2024. If you want to get credit for membership year 2024 the dues are still at the current rate of \$50, please specify year 2024 on check.

Good news, Membership year 2025 has started and the ID cards are available at the Post. *Bad news*, to maintain the current level of services to Legionnaires both the National and County have raised their dues a total of seven dollars.

That makes the membership dues for 2025 a total of \$57. Online, you can pay your dues for a three year period at the current rate of \$50 per year. Several members have taken advantage of the offer. Paid up for life (PUFL) members will receive their membership cards directly from National in the mail. Please let me know if you have any issues getting your PUFL cards. Thanks for your support of the American Legion.

Veterans, come join us we need new Members.

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 \$50 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

VA Says It Can't Change New Urn, Plaque Benefit that Precludes Future Burials in National Veteran Cemeteries

Published May 13, 2024

The Department of Veterans Affairs acknowledged criticism of its plan to distribute memorial urns and plaques in a final rule published Friday -- namely, that accepting an urn might bar later burials in veteran cemeteries -- but said it didn't have any choice under the federal law that authorized the new benefit.

Both the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs and the National Funeral Directors Association lodged concerns earlier this year over the new benefit and how it might have negative consequences for those who also seek burials.

A 2021 law change expanded the section of the U.S. Code that already authorized the VA to issue "headstones, markers, medallions and burial receptacles" by adding "urns and commemorative plaques," according to information previously provided with the proposed rule. The new authority came as part of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020, enacted the following year.

The urns and plaques will denote the individuals' status as veterans and will be furnished at the government's expense.

But one provision of the VA's rule, in particular, had the organizations worried, and it hasn't changed -- the part that says families forgo a veteran's burial in a national cemetery after accepting an urn from the VA.

Groups contended that the provision might unnecessarily preclude veterans from being buried together with their spouses when, for example, a family decides they want to place a veteran's cremated remains in their spouse's rightful national cemetery plot.

The VA addressed that concern Friday (May 10, 2024) by pointing out that the prohibition is specific to national cemeteries and that accepting an urn or plaque doesn't preclude burial in other types of veterans cemeteries. States also operate veterans cemeteries separately from the VA's National Cemetery Administration.

The organizations also predicted in their comments that the offer of a free urn could result in future generations mishandling a veteran's remains that might otherwise be securely interred. Another worry: Families might be caught off guard and leave cremated remains unclaimed once they realize interment is off the table.

The VA said it plans to try to warn families of the potential pitfalls of accepting an urn or plaque.

"VA will continue to raise awareness of the limitations of [the new law] by providing detailed information about the commemorative plaque and urn program," according to the supplementary information provided with the final rule.

It also hopes its definition of an "applicant" will "minimize the potential for unintended forfeitures of benefits, family disputes and duplicate claims." To receive an urn or plaque, an applicant "must certify they are authorized to make decisions about the disposition of the veteran's remains and certify their awareness of other precluded benefits."

The VA also addressed a suggestion that it create a process in which families could return an urn and have the veteran's full burial benefit reinstated.

"Even if VA agreed with the commenter's suggestion to implement a return process in this final rule, VA has no authority to do so," according to the department.

The VA did not address a prior query by Military.com about whether it incurred an added responsibility by introducing the incentive, in the form of an urn, for a family not to inter a veteran's remains.

However, in the supplementary information, the VA said it "has no jurisdiction over a commemorative plaque or urn once it has been furnished and must defer to a veteran's family members to maintain control of a furnished plaque or urn as their personal property."

The VA said it has no ability to control the circumstances that may result in the remains of veterans becoming unclaimed by a family member or personal representative.

The department said it "has several benefit authorities supporting unclaimed veterans and those who bring remains to VA to ensure dignified burials," but in the case of a veteran whose family opted for an urn or plaque, burial in a national cemetery will not be an option.

David Chiaro – keyarrow@hotmail.com

★ ★ LEGION AUXILIARY POST 803 ★ ★

Happy birthday America! We will again celebrate the Fourth of July by participating in the parade at 12 noon in Southold. Let freedom ring!

In June we held our Annual Installation and Initiation Ceremonies, assisted by three officials of the Suffolk County American Legion Auxiliary, including President Joanne Johnson. We were joined by seven members of the Legion Auxiliary from Shelter Island. I was unable to attend due to my cataract surgery, but Priscilla reports that all went well! Welcome new members Patty Burns, Vickie DeFriest, Marjorie Deroski, and Patty Hopkins, who have all already contributed so much to our American Legion Auxiliary!

A big thank you goes to Vickie DeFriest, our Poppy Chairperson, and all her helpers who distributed poppies all over town in May! Our Poppy Drive Thru at the Legion was another big success this year. Thank you to all the members of our generous community who are so willing to support veterans, active military, and their families. Special thanks to Overton Day, who again donated in memory of five young men who gave their all while serving in the 173rd Engineers Company, 173rd Airborne Brigade in 1968-1969: Sgt. Dayton Joseph Hooks, Sgt. Peter Lowell Russell, Sp4 Charles Robert Bales, Sp4 Newell Ferrell Leigh, Jr, and Cpl. Terry Teruo Kawamura. May we never forget their sacrifice, and that of all those who died during the Vietnam War.

Put the Car Show on your radar - Sunday, August 25th. We always need volunteers! We will not have our Summer Fair this July, but we welcome Vendors to apply for space at the Car Show.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 10th. I am looking forward to seeing you all!



- 2024 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
7. ~~Create a handicap parking area for two automobiles next to the handicap ramp.~~

- LONG-TERM GOALS -

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 9/11 Memorial Tree Pavers 2. Renovation of 2nd Floor 3. Bar Makeover 4. Bathrooms Renovation (Handicap Accessible) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Basement Walls Coating for Brick Deterioration Mitigation 6. Pavilion 7. Exterior of Post Painted/Stained 8. Renovation of Second Floor Bathroom and Rooms |
|---|--|



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ENPHASE

★★ JULY & AUGUST 2024 EVENTS ★★

07/04 THUR.	SOUTHOLD VILLAGE MERCHANTS JULY 4TH PARADE, FORMATION 11:30AM AT MAIN RD & BOISSEAU. STEP OFF AT 12 NOON
07/09 TUES.	EXECUTIVE AND BUSINESS MEETING: BAR 6:00PM, DINNER 6:30PM, MEETING 7:00PM
07/10 WED.	AUXILIARY MEETING: 7PM
07/05 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
07/12 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
07/19 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
07/26 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
08/02 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
08/09 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
08/13 TUES.	EXECUTIVE AND BUSINESS MEETING: BAR 6:00PM, DINNER 6:30PM, MEETING 7:00PM
08/14 WED.	AUXILIARY MEETING: 7PM
08/16 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
08/23 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
8/23 FRI.	CAR SHOW SET-UP 6PM
8/25 SUN.	ANNUAL CAR SHOW 9AM – 3PM
08/30 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM



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 - Mort Kelly
2nd Finance Assistant - Vacant
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 Bittner
Chaplain - Daniel Kaelin
Historian - John Christina

★★ AUXILIARY OFFICERS ★★

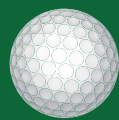
President - Joan Cochran
1st Vice Pres - Denise Thilberg Schlacter
2nd Vice Pres - Jeanette Cooper
Treasurer - Patricia Burns
Recording Sec. - Priscilla Devine

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

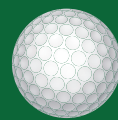
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