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THE REPORTER

GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803

MAY 2020

COMMANDER'S REPORT



Hello Fellow Legionnaires & Friends of the Legion:

I want to start off by thanking the Sons of the Legion for all their great work in the support of the 106th Air Wing and Coast Guard. Commander Gary Iorio and his team comprising of Legion members and SAL members provided food and support to these active components. Gary Herman dropped off some chow to the Coast Guard, Jim Best and Joe Best helped locally too by cleaned up the Legion bar and refrigerator in preparation for the Legion coming back on line again when the COVID-19 pandemic dissipates. A thank you is extended to the Auxiliary and their efforts to support local businesses such as providing some treats to the workers at IGA for staying open and serving our community. These are all activities that support the Four Pillars of the American Legion!

I have a feeling that the phrase "Cabin Fever" has taken on a very different meaning in the year 2020. I know that everyone is anxiously awaiting the time when the COVID-19 pandemic is a distant memory. This too will pass and we can all be proud of how America has responded. Can you imagine if you were sitting on a planning board in 2019 with the task of determine what will Americans tolerate if a pandemic hit? Would you be the one that raises your hand and says, "Ah...well..ah... if we are hit with a pandemic we may need to shut down the entire United States economy." I have a feeling that the rest of your board members will snicker at you if not talk slanderously about you when you stepped out to get a cup of coffee. Frankly, this pandemic and our thoughts about it are very similar to 911. The majority of us could not imagine a group of people choosing to fly commercial airliners into buildings pre-911.

It is only now that our minds have adjusted to the terrible idea that hijacked suicide planes are a "normal thought." Currently we are inundated with COVID-19 information just like we were during and after 911. The

Commander's Report continued on next page

CHAPLIN'S REPORT

Rest in Peace

Joseph Miller, a US Navy veteran who served during World War II, passed on March 16, 2020 at the age of 93. Joe was a long time member of our Post who was always there when we needed him. He was on our golf committee and a member of our funeral detail.

Theodore O. Beebe, a US Army veteran who served from 1952 to 1954, passed on March 19, 2020 at the age of 89. Theodore was a long time member of our Post who not only served his community as a Legionnaire but also as a 28 year member of the Southold Town Police Department where he retired as a Sergeant.

On behalf of The American Legion I offer our deepest condolences to the families and friends of both Joseph and Theodore. We thank them for their faithful service. They will be dearly missed.

"If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday."

- Isaiah 58:10

Jeff Chagnon, *Post Chaplin*

Home: 631.765.6077

Cell: 631.456.3258

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



I want to express my sincere condolences to the families of our fallen. Joe Miller always put a smile on my face when I was at the entrance table for our socials. He was always so friendly and complimentary to me and made me feel so proud to be the commander of this Post. I'm very sorry we were not able to honor these men with our Legion ceremony but they are not forgotten.

COMMANDER'S REPORT

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only difference today is how each day blends into the next and we find our minds quickly forgetting just all that has been accomplished in such a short period of time. The talking heads on television are so focused on the negative that they forget just how awesome America as a whole has been during this pandemic. Imagine if one of your fellow board members actually took your suggestion seriously and a discussion about what would Americans tolerate occurred? Could you and your fellow board members imagine that Americans would in mass stay home and self-isolate or quarantine if they discovered they are showing symptoms? Could you imagine that Americans when out in public would respect the concept of social distancing, wear masks and tolerate not going to concerts, movies, ball games etc? Let's be honest, we Americans for the most part have found it odd when flipping channels to news stories showing people from other cultures wearing surgical masks on a day-to-day basis prior to this pandemic. We have all had a little chuckle when we learned of how obsessive-compulsive Howie Mandel is about sanitizing his hands. Well, this has now become the, "new normal" for America but these "normal" activities would most likely not fly during a 2019 boardroom discussion.

Yes, there are some Americans that are not respecting the CDC guidelines or complying with emergency declarations but they are the minority and not the majority. I'm currently serving with the Fighting 69th in New York City and I'm amazed at how compliant and respectful New Yorkers are. Business owners in mass didn't disobey the shutdown even though complying meant the possible loss of their businesses. Americans have responded to the pandemic in wonderful ways from volunteering to adopt new pets from their local shelter, make and deliver food to those in need, convert their businesses to produce masks, ventilators, protective shields, and so much more. Our scientists are collaborating on new testing methods, vaccines, and other medical treatments to combat COVID-19. We will discover a COVID-19 vaccine, we will get the economy roaring back again, we will enjoy parades, picnics, ball games, plays and other social gatherings again. We are Americans and we adapt and overcome and I say this with confidence because of our shared history. Look at what we have overcome in the past and you too will share in the confidence that looks at COVID-19 as just another challenge to overcome and we will.

Memorial Day Ceremony and Upcoming Events

We will hold off on our election of officers until our June Meeting. We will discuss officer positions in June and then vote in July for our 2020/2021 slate of officers.

Unfortunately, the parade and ceremony for this year is canceled. The Mattituck Legion did not make this decision lightly and the driving force behind this decision was the safety of the participants and the public. I agree with their concerns and it is my goal as commander of Post 803 to hold a Memorial Day ceremony at the Post at a later date. We need to remember the sacrifices made by those in the past but I'm confident our brothers and sisters from the past would want to be remembered under safer conditions for the public.

We are still moving forward with our Golf Classic but we have shifted the date to Monday, September 21st. We want to give ample time for our local sponsor businesses to get back and running so that we may ensure maximum participation. This is going to be one of the most important events for Post 803 in the year 2020. We are relying on this fundraiser to fill the gap caused by COVID-19. We will need maximum participation for this event and I ask all of you to do what you can to make this a successful event. You may help individually by sponsoring a hole for \$50.00, purchasing raffle tickets, volunteering during the outing or participating as a golfer.

The ceremony and burial of 1LT George R. Sullivan has been postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. We will keep everyone posted when a new date has been set.

Refunding of St. Patrick's Tickets

No need to fret for you will all receive your St. Patrick's ticket money back. Fortunately, we were able to make the decision to cancel the dinner prior to purchasing all of the food. Some of you have already received your money back but I ask that everyone else be patient with us. Don't lose your ticket because you will need this to get your money back. We have a list of almost everyone that purchased tickets including those that sent checks in the mail but never received their tickets. I was unexpectedly ordered onto State active duty so I was not able to give all the checks and funds back to those that sold you your tickets prior to coming to the NYC.

Commander's Report continued on next page

COMMANDER'S REPORT

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As soon as I'm able to get back to the North Fork I will distribute the funds back. Don't worry we can't go to the casino with your ticket money because the casinos are closed due to the COVID-19 outbreak... just checking to see if you're actually reading this. 😊

Update on Legion Projects

Joe St. Pierre is coordinating with All-Island Blower and Sheet Metal to re-schedule the installation of the hood and fired suppression system after the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided and the economy is up and running. Again, thank you **Mattituck Environmental Services and the Lomangino family** for their generous donation of \$25,000 toward this needed repair. They are also doing wonderful work supporting our local hospitals.

We had one of our beloved trees fall down due to severe weather and it was removed through the coordinating efforts of Joe St. Pierre and Earl Brock. Shawn Fitzgerald a 106th Air Wing service member and a local was able to come to the Post and hall away a lot of the tree too. We are looking forward to Shawn becoming one of our new members.

For God and Country
God Bless,
Charles J. Sanders, *Post 803 Commander*
www.post803.com
gtgpost803@gmail.com
Post Number 631.765.2276

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership for 2020 is currently 207/234 (88.46%) paid up members. Since the start of the current virus crisis the Post has been closed. If you recently sent in your membership dues for 2020 please be patient your ID cards will sent to you at the first opportunity. Keep safe and don't make a trip to the Post until the virus crisis passes. Please send your dues (\$50) to Post 803, P.O. Box 591, Southold, NY 11971. Thanks for supporting our Post 803.

Bob Cochra,
Membership Chairman
631.765.5828



LEGION AUXILIARY POST 803

As May begins and we enter another month of the "new normal", nothing feels normal at all. I hope you are all well at this difficult time. Usually we would be distributing poppies, marching in the parade with hundreds of people lining the street, and holding Memorial Day ceremonies. This year will be different but let us each take time to remember those who gave their all for our country.

Since our May meeting is cancelled we will hold our annual election by email and phone on the same date, Wednesday May 13th. Sadly, after much deliberation we cancelled the Summer Fair this year due to the uncertainties ahead. Girls State has also been cancelled but they are working on the possibility of a virtual event. Hopefully by June or July we will be able to meet, perhaps by holding a meeting outside.

On a positive note we voted to purchase donuts and crumb cake to deliver to the grocery workers at the Southold IGA as a thank you gesture. The IGA has always been supportive to our Legion family and we appreciate all their hard work supplying our community with food during this pandemic. We also voted to contribute funds for the purchase of robes for women veterans at the Women's Wellness Center at Northport VMAC. We will continue to do what we can to help.

Please keep in mind that with no Bingo, no large gatherings and the bar shut down funds will be tight for the Legion along with so many who are out of work. Our local food pantries and churches are in need as well. And as local businesses reopen please support them as much as possible.

Keep in touch with family and friends to help get through the feelings of isolation from all this social distancing! Take solace in the beauty of nature all around us. My thoughts and prayers are with all those suffering due to Covid19 and the essential workers helping us get through this. May God bless us all and may God Bless America.

Joan Cochran, *President*

The Bar IS CLOSED FOR MAY

*Tentatively opening up in June
Queen of Hearts Drawing
is tentatively scheduled
to restart in June*



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We thank our Veterans for their
service, and are proud to salute
those currently serving!

CW2 Jeffrey T. Heppner
Active Duty, Fort Drum, NY

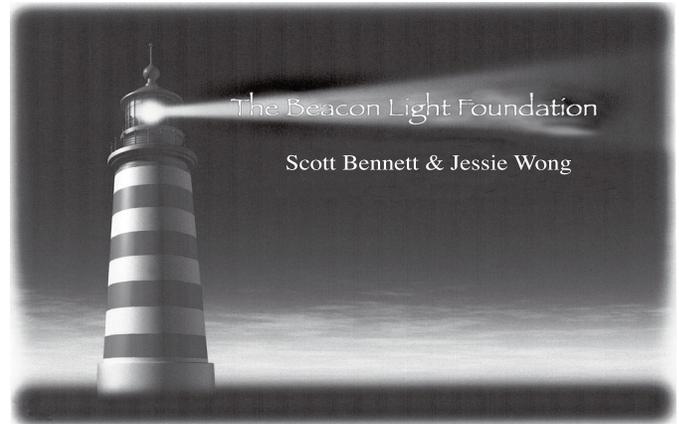


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CHANGE OF DATE! MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST



AMERICAN LEGION GOLF CLASSIC FUNDRAISER

Dedicated this Year to the Memory of 1LT George Sullivan USMC

LOCATION

This Year all Events will be held at Island's End Golf Course to include Dinner.

TIME

Check-In - 10 AM - 11:15 AM • (Putting Contest Available)
Brunch - 11:15 AM • Shotgun - 12:30 PM
Open Bar - 5 PM - 6 PM • Dinner & Open Bar - 6 PM - 7 PM

PRICE \$165.00 per golfer

ISLAND'S END MEMBERS ONLY \$140.00

DINNER ONLY \$55.00

ACTIVITIES

Driving Range • Scramble Tournament • Other Contests

ON THE COURSE

Beer and Wine Cart • Hamburgers
Hot Dogs • Raw Bar

DINNER MENU

Sliced Prime Rib • Fried Chicken • Mac
Pasta • Salad • Veg



HISTORIAN

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2020 occurs on Monday, May 25. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

Early Observances of Memorial Day: The Civil War, which ended in the spring of 1865, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment of the country's first national cemeteries. By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers. Did you know? Each year on Memorial Day a national moment of remembrance takes place at 3:00 p.m. local time. It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings. And some records show that one of the earliest Memorial Day commemoration was organized by a group of freed slaves in Charleston, South Carolina less than a month after the Confederacy surrendered in 1865. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day.

*This article was obtained from the following website:
<https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/memorial-day-history>*

Sincerely,
Commander Sanders

SONS OF THE LEGEND



As I write this column we are all learning of the Presidents guidelines to reopen America. Hopefully in the near future we will determine how Legion events will proceed going forward. I want to stress that if anyone knows of a legion member that needs assistance please reach out. We have resources that can be of help. With all the cancellations and bad news surrounding the virus we have a little positive news. Speaking with Jim Best, we decided to do something for our local Military units. We provided a catered lunch to both the US Coast Guard station Montauk and Air National Guard West Hampton in appreciation of their service during this difficult time. I can tell you it was a great morale booster! Special thanks to Wendy's Deli in Mattituck, and Jim Best for his coordination efforts. We are in support of our veterans and active duty military. We look forward to a return to normalcy. Stay safe and stay well. I leave you with a quote from President Teddy Roosevelt:

"The things that will destroy America are prosperity-at-any-price, peace-at-any-price, safety-first instead of duty-first, the love of soft living, and the get-rich-quick theory of life".

Gary Iorio, SAL Commander

2020 GOALS

1. Outdoor Sign Installed
2. Fundraising Thermometer with goal to raise \$25,000 per year
3. Emergency Egress for 2nd Floor
4. New Main Hall Ceiling Repair/Cleaning or Replacement
5. Main Hall Painted
6. Fire Alarm System Installed
7. Finish Replacement of all Blue Hall Chairs
8. 10 New Chafing Dish Sets for Catering
9. New Kitchen Hood and Suppression System Installed
10. Website Updated and New Pages Added
11. Total of 16 Paid ad in the Reporter
12. Compile Cost Estimates on Long-Term-Goals
13. Basement and 2nd Floor Cleaning and Organizing

LONG-TERM GOALS

We will be installing a fundraiser thermometer in front of the Post to raise funds for the Legion to address our Long Term Goals.

- Replace Bar Roof
- Replace Main Building Roof
- Renovation of Entire 2nd Floor (excluding the SAL Bar Room).
- Emergency Exit for 2nd Floor
- Bar Makeover
- Bathroom Renovation Male and Female Main Hall (Handicap Accessible)
- Bathroom Renovation 2nd Floor SAL Project.
- Inspect and Possibly Reinforce/Repair Foundation if Necessary



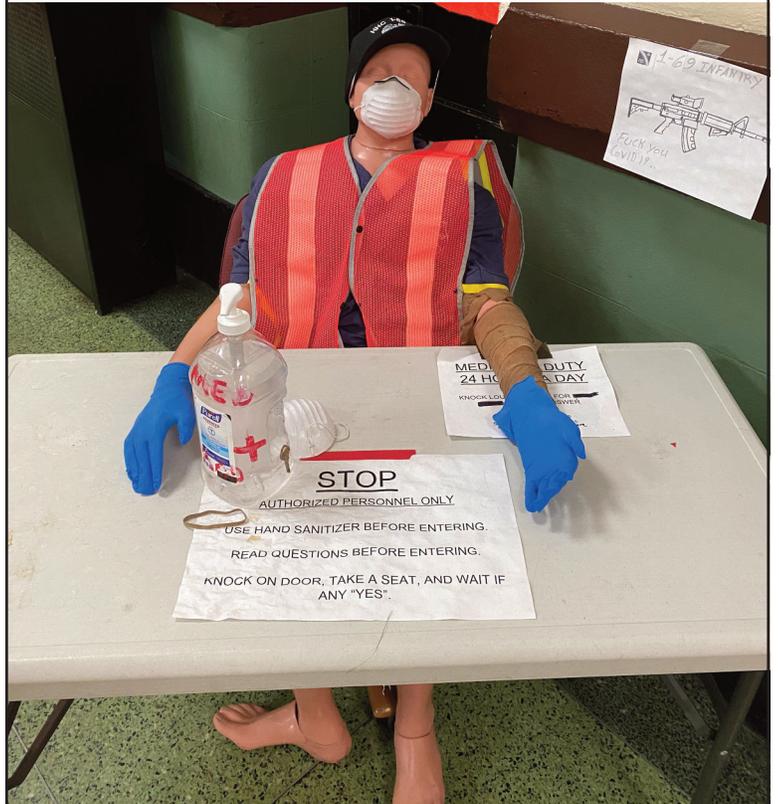
We Need to Laugh Too!

When dog groomers go into lockdown, and customers are left to their own devices



If you thought Toilet Paper was crazy.....Just wait until 300 million people all want a haircut appointment

Outside Fighting 69th Medical Office
Soldier Humor



MAY & JUNE ACTIVITIES 2020

ALL MAY ACTIVITIES CANCELED *This includes the Memorial Day Parade*

06/05 Fri.	Tentatively Still On: Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM
06/09 Tues.	Tentatively Still On: Golf Classic Committee Meeting 5:30
06/09 Tues.	Tentatively Still On: Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM, Meeting 7:30PM
06/10 Wed.	Tentatively Still On: Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM
06/12 Fri.	Tentatively Still On: Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM
06/19 Fri.	Tentatively Still On: Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM
06/23 Thurs.	Dinner Social: CANCELED
06/26 Fri.	Tentatively Still On: Queen of Hearts Drawing 8PM



MADE IN AMERICA

LEGION OFFICERS

Commander - Charles J. Sanders
1st Vice Commander - Jeff Chagnon
2nd Vice Commander - Jose Perez
Past Commander - Earl Brock
Adjutant - David DeFriest
Finance Officer - Mort Kelly
Finance Assistant - Raymond Terry
Sergeant at Arms - Neil Rochford
Chaplain - Jeff Chagnon
Post Historian - Charles J. Sanders
Membership Chair - Bob Cochran
Membership Assistant - Don Wagner

SAL OFFICERS

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

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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