



THE REPORTER

GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803

www.post803.com

MAY 2024

COMMANDER'S REPORT



Greetings fellow Legionnaires and Friends of the Legion,

April showers bring May flowers, as they say. What else is the month of May known for? Cinco de Mayo (May 5th), Mother's Day (May 12th), and the federal holiday, Memorial Day (May 27th) are May holidays you probably already know. But did you know about Star Wars Day (May 4th) National Cherry Cobbler Day (May 17th), Nascar Day (May 19th), Armed Forces Day (May 20th)? I will not go into detail regarding these other mentioned holidays,

however, if you wish to obtain more information regarding these holidays, you may google them.

I would like to wish all Mothers a very Happy Mother's Day. Mother's Day in the U.S.A. is Sunday, May 12th. The holiday falls on the second Sunday of May every year. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson established the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day, according to the History Channel.

Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for honoring and mourning the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. From 1868 to 1970, it was observed on May 30th. Since 1971, it has been observed on the last Monday of May.

Our Color Guard and members of Post 803 will be participating in the Memorial Day Parade, this year to be hosted by Burton Potter American Legion Post 185 on May 27th. In addition to taking part in the Parade on Memorial Day our Color Guard and Ceremonial Detail will muster at the Post, 7:30 AM to conduct memorial ceremonies at five War Memorials at various locations within the hamlet of Southold. We generally begin at the Flagpole in front of our American Legion Post 803. Move on to the Civil War Monument adjacent to the Legion, then onto the front yard of Southold Free Library where the WWI monument is located, then to Triangle Memorial Park for WWII and Vietnam War Monuments are located, then the Flagpole in front of Southold Highway Dept in Memory of Harry Schlachter Army Sgt WWII and lastly Peconic School WWII monument for Citizens of Peconic who served during WWII.

"Americans may not only pay tribute to our honored dead but also unite in prayer for success in our search for a just and lasting peace", John F Kennedy "Prayer for Peace", Memorial Day 1962.

Here are some things you should not do on Memorial Day:

Don't wish any veteran a "Happy Memorial Day", as this day commemorates lost comrades.

Do not forget about the purpose of the Holiday.

Don't Disregard its importance.

Don't forget to honor those who have served.

Don't let Politics keep you from rendering respect.

The Auxiliary Unit 803 is having their annual Memorial

Day Poppy curbside distribution at the Legion on Friday, May 24th from 11 AM to 5 PM.

We had a productive executive and business meeting on April 9th this past month. I was pleasantly surprised and pleased that our newest member David Wilburn stepped up and agreed to be nominated for the position of 2nd Vice Commander. Also Chris Salmon, graciously stepped up and volunteered to be our annual chicken BBQ chairman. Much appreciated gentlemen.

We will be holding our annual election of officers at our monthly meeting this month. The slate of officers that have been nominated will remain the same as last year, with the addition of David Wilburn as 2nd Vice Commander. The list of officers appears on the back of this issue of our Reporter.

We appreciate your continued support at our meetings and fundraising events. Thank you.

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



★★ SONS OF THE LEGION ★★



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

Memorial Day will soon be upon us and I hope to see a great turnout from the Legion and citizens of Southold. We are living in "The home of the free because of the brave."

From World Wars to Korea, Vietnam and the War on Global Terror, Memorial Day is a time to remember all our Military who died in service to our Nation.

I must remind everyone of a quote "Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died for them" Let's all turn out for the Memorial Day service and parade and never forget the sacrifice of our United States Military. This year's parade will be held in Greenport following the monument services. I ask all members of the Sons of the American Legion to join us. Thank You and God Bless America.

Gary Iorio, SAL Commander



★★ HISTORIAN ★★

May 5, 1865 - Decoration Day was first observed in the U.S., with the tradition of decorating soldiers' graves from the Civil War with flowers. The observance date was later moved to May 30th and included American graves from World War I and World War II, and became better known as Memorial Day. In 1971, Congress moved Memorial Day to the last Monday in May, thus creating a three-day holiday week

May 8, 1942 - During World War II in the Pacific, the Battle of the Coral Sea began in which Japan would suffer its first defeat of the war. The battle, fought off New Guinea, marked the first time in history that two opposing naval forces fought by only using aircraft without the opposing ships ever sighting each other.

May 23, 1943 - The USS New Jersey, Admiral "Bull" Halsey's flagship during WWII and the only Battleship to provide gunfire support during the Vietnam War, is commissioned in Philadelphia, PA for service in WWII

Vietnam
Phase Two of the Tet Offensive of 1968 (also known as the May Offensive, Little Tet, and Mini-Tet) was launched by the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) and Viet Cong (VC) against targets throughout South Vietnam, including Saigon from 29 April to 30 May 1968.

The May Offensive was considered much bloodier than the initial phase of the Tet Offensive. U.S. casualties across South Vietnam were 2,169 killed for the entire month of May, making it the deadliest month of the entire Vietnam War for U.S. forces, while South Vietnamese losses were 2,054 killed.

PAVN/VC losses exceeded 24,000 killed and over 2,000 captured. The May Offensive was a costly defeat for the PAVN/VC.

Bob Bittner



Pop Over For a Poppy
Curbside Distribution

Friday, May 24th • 11am - 5pm

Southold American Legion
51655 Main Road, Southold, NY

★★ VETERANS BENEFITS "CORNER" ★★

Dear American Legion Family members and friends,

The American Legion's commitment to "preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars" is without question. It is explicitly stated in the Preamble to our organization's constitution and recited by our members at every official American Legion meeting.

The third Saturday in May is set aside not just to honor those who served in war, but the men and women who comprise the greatest military on the planet. The first Armed Forces Day was announced on Aug. 31, 1949, by American Legion Past National Commander Louis Johnson, who was serving as the secretary of defense at the time.

There are other days in which we honor our military. Memorial Day is when we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for this country. Veterans Day is when we honor all veterans, regardless of where and when they served. Armed Forces Day marks what President Truman called "readiness for any eventuality."

It is significant that Armed Forces Day was observed after the horrors of World War II and prior to our entry into Korea. It recognized that there are always dangers and sacrifices involved with military service and that America should always be appreciative of those defending our freedom in both war and peace.

Some members of the Armed Forces don't really feel that Veterans Day is for them. I have to confess that when I was in the Navy, I thought of myself as more of a sailor than a veteran. I couldn't have been more wrong. The American Legion believes that you are a veteran from the day you report to basic training. It is why you are eligible to join our organization from day one. It is also when you start following orders from your military, superiors and delivering on your oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies."

So while there is more than one day to acknowledge veterans, Armed Forces Day is the time to honor our military, whether members are on the battlefield or in boot camp.

The American Legion has always recognized that a strong national defense is vital to the prevention of war. It is why the founders of The American Legion included defense as one of our organization's four pillars.

Gen. Omar Bradley described the need for a strong military in 1951. "Real security," he said, "lies in the prevention of war – and today that hope can come only through adequate preparedness."

Simply put, you cannot have true security without an outstanding Armed Forces. In this capacity, the United States is truly blessed. Let's remember that on May 18.

David Chiaro – keyarrow@hotmail.com

Volunteer Corner

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN OR WOMEN TO HELP MAKE THE GOLF OUTING A SUCCESS

by selling raffle tickets outside IGA and King Kullen. These raffle tickets are to help raise funds for the Golf Outing, drawing to be held at the golf outing June 17th.

We need a minimum of two volunteers at each of these sessions, but the more the merrier and the time goes fast.

The seller who sold the first ticket drawn gets a \$150.00 Gift Certificate!

DATES/TIMES:

FRIDAY MAY 24TH, 4-7PM & SATURDAY MAY 25TH, 9AM – 12 NOON

**Bob Bittner, Golf Chairman
Contact: navyjan70@gmail.com
or 631-680-6244**

RAFFLE

WE HAVE A RAFFLE IN PROGRESS TO BE DRAWN AT OUR GOLF OUTING ON JUNE 17TH.

IF EVERY MEMBER PURCHASED THE TICKET THAT WAS MAILED TO THEM, IT WOULD GENERATE SOME \$3600.

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IT'S A GRAND OLD FLAG

MONDAY, JUNE 17TH, 2024

**★★★
SUPPORT THE LEGION!
BUY A RAFFLE TICKET!**



★★ DONATION ★★

\$20 Per Ticket

★★ PRIZES ★★

**1ST PRIZE
\$1000**

**ADDITIONAL PRIZES:
BASED ON TICKET SALES**

**Selling Legionnaire
of Top Prize \$150
Dinner Gift Certificate**

THANK YOU

Our flagpole rope became frayed and broken. The flag that was stuck on the top of the pole had to be removed. Several of the members of the Southold Fire Dept and their aerial ladder truck graciously came to our rescue! We really appreciate their support and performance of this task. Well Done!



*Parker Bakowski, Ed Boyd, Ty Cochran,
Chief Dave Surozenski, Liam Mullen, Steve Geehreng*



JOIN US AT BREEZE HILL FARM FOR A BREAST CANCER AWARENESS EVENT

Mammography truck
Senator A. Palumbo
Wild Roots Wellness
The Maurer Foundation
North Fork Breast Coalition
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May 9 2024

9am

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Peconic

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★★ MEMBERSHIP ★★



Post Status: We currently have 174/189 (92%) paid up members for 2024. We are two months away from the start of the 2025 membership year. I sent out a friendly reminder to members who need to submit their dues for 2024. I apologize to Fred Kaelin for sending him a letter to pay his dues when he paid earlier in the year. I made an error when entering his paid status in the Dept of N.Y. Database. I'm sorry Fred, you are good for 2024

Come join us we need new Veterans.

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

★★ CHAPLAIN'S REPORT ★★

REST IN PEACE

STEPHEN ROBERT BARBARA, a US Merchant Marine who served during the Vietnam War, has passed on April 6th at the age of 78. The American Legion Wake Service was held at the Horton-Mathie



Funeral Home in Greenport on April 15th. Special thanks to our funeral detail and Earl Brock who gave a heartfelt eulogy for his dear friend. We thank Stephen for his lifelong dedicated service to his family, community, and country. Stephen was a true American Hero who will be dearly missed. May his soul rest in peace.

Update - A memorial service is planned for William Brian Kelly at Founders Landing on July 12th. Last month I made a typo on his date of passing. The correct date is February 8th. So sorry for that mistake.

Sick Call - Henry F. Santacroce is at home being cared for by his family. Please remember him in your prayers.
Jeff Chagnon - Post Chaplain 631-456-3258

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Alice and Harold Culver are dedicating this ad for Honor Flight. For more information on Honor Flight please visit their website or call Virginia Bennett at 631-702-2423.

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★ ★ LEGION AUXILIARY POST 803 ★ ★

May is a month of solemn memorials to our military men and women who gave their all for our country. We pay tribute to them at our ceremonies on Memorial Day. As we celebrate with parades and barbecues, let's keep their sacrifices in mind.

Be on the lookout for Auxiliary members distributing paper poppies this month. All monies donated are used to help active military, veterans and their families who are in financial need. This year our Poppy Drive-Thru will be on Friday, May 24th. Thank you Vickie for organizing this distribution!

Our Car Show Committee is in need of volunteers. This event is a joint effort of the Legion, Sons and the Auxiliary. The funds raised go to help support the Legion. Please talk to Denise to volunteer 3 hours of your time on the last Sunday of August, either helping in the morning or the afternoon. We need this support to continue this fun and successful annual event!

Remember to put Bingo on your calendar, every Tuesday at 12:00PM at the Legion. Come have a great time!

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 8th, at 7 PM. We will be holding our annual elections.
Joan Cochran, President



- 2024 GOALS -

1. ~~Volunteer member to step up to fill the position of Adjutant vacated by Dave DeFrieat 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

★★ MAY & JUNE 2024 EVENTS ★★

05/03 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
05/08 WED.	AUXILIARY MEETING: 7PM
05/10 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
05/14 TUES.	GOLF COMMITTEE MEETING 5:45PM
05/14 TUES.	EXECUTIVE AND BUSINESS MEETING: BAR 6:00PM, DINNER 6:15PM, MEETING 7:00PM
05/17 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
05/24 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
05/24 FRI.	POPPY DRIVE THRU 11AM - 5PM
05/27 MON.	SOUTHOLD MEMORIAL DAY MONUMENT CEREMONY AT LEGION 7:30AM, FOLLOWED BY VISIT TO FIVE VETERAN'S MONUMENTS IN TOWN
05/27 MON.	MEMORIAL DAY PARADE - GREENPORT
05/31 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
06/07 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
06/11 TUES.	EXECUTIVE AND BUSINESS MEETING: BAR 6:00PM, DINNER 6:30PM, MEETING 7:00PM
06/12 WED.	AUXILIARY MEETING: 7PM
06/14 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
06/21 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
06/28 FRI.	BAR IS OPEN 6:30PM AND QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 8PM
06/28 FRI.	LEGION CONSOLIDATED REPORTS DUE TO SUFFOLK COUNTY/STATE LEGION



MADE IN AMERICA

★★ LEGION OFFICERS ★★

Commander - Dave DeFriest
1st Vice Commander - Jeff Chagnon
2nd Vice Commander - Vacant
Past Commander - Charles Sanders
Adjutant - Bob Bittner
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 Bittner
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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