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THE REPORTER

GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803

NOVEMBER 2023

COMMANDER'S REPORT



Greetings fellow Legionnaires and Friends of the Legion,

Last month, on October 10th, Legion Post 803 member O.D. Lingo and Commander Dave DeFriest attended a Funeral Service for Sergeant Bernard J. Sweeney Jr., a U S Army Sergeant aged 22 who entered the Military in NYC on November 27, 1942, served valiantly in Company 1, 330th Infantry Regiment, 83rd Infantry Division during the second World War. He was reported missing as of December 16, 1944, near Strass, Germany, during the Battle of Hurtgen Forest. His remains were not recovered or identified following the War, leaving

him an unknown soldier for many years. In April 1950, unidentified remains numbered as X-2752 were interred in Ardennes American Cemetery in Neuville, Belgium. These remains were recovered from a minefield north of Kleinbau, Germany. Thanks to exhaustive efforts by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and the American Battle Monuments Commission, his remains were exhumed in April 2019 and designated as CIL2019-174. Through historical research and comprehensive laboratory analysis, the DPAA has now confirmed that these remains belong to Sergeant Bernard J. Sweeney Jr., service number 32645733.

Sergeant Sweeney, who had no immediate family or next of kin remaining, was laid to rest with full military honors at Calverton National Cemetery, Calverton, NY, the nearest National Cemetery to his hometown of Waterbury, Ct.

Ken Rothwell of Alexander -Rothwell Funeral Home in Wading River donated the Funeral Home, Casket, and his services for Sergeant Sweeney's Funeral. A horse drawn caisson carried his remains to their final resting place, symbolizing a solemn tribute to a fallen hero. The caisson came from out of state and the costs were donated by Riverhead Rotary, Riverhead American Legion and VFW. Warrior Ranch provided a quarter horse, to serve as the riderless horse in the procession to the Cemetery from the Funeral Home.

Veterans, Fire Departments, Police Departments, U.S. Federal, State, and local government officials, along with community members, lined the streets to attend the funeral services and pay their respects to Sergeant Sweeney.

The Army provided pall bearers. There were full military honors, including, Taps, folding & presentation of the United States Flag, gun Salute, Canon Salute, Army Helicopter and Police Helicopter Fly Over. There were hundreds of people in attendance as well. Everyone came together to honor and remember the service and sacrifice of Sargent Sweeney Jr. They paid their respects to a hero who, after all these years, finally received the recognition he deserved.

The Walk4Valor took place on Sunday October 22nd. The weather cleared, it was sunny, windy, and cool. We had about 40 participants registered to walk the 22 miles. Four ladies from the Legion Auxiliary and three of their friends participated in a virtual walk at Jean Cochran Park in Peconic.



The walkers departed our American Legion at 8:20 AM. The first break, refreshment, and rest room stop was at Goldsmith's Boat Yard, the next stop was Greenport American Legion, then on to East Marion Fire Dept. and then Orient Fire Dept. They turned around and headed back, stopping at the same locations on the return trip. The final stop was the Southold Fire Dept. where they graciously provided the walkers and families with a BBQ.

On behalf of Peter Fertig of the Bob Feller Walk4Valor Foundation and American Legion Post 803 I would like to express our gratitude for their





participation and support to Goldsmith's Boat Yard, Greenport Legion, East Marion Fire Dept, Orient Fire Dept, and the Southold Fire Dept. Very much appreciated! Thank you as well to Peter Fertig, Charles Sanders, and all the people who donated their time and supported this event. Thank you, also to members, Bob Bittner and Michael Burke and to the NJROTC Cadets who came out at 7 AM to help set up and register Walk participants. Thanks to everyone involved, it was a very successful event.

Bob Bittner has been filling in for the past several months, as our Post 803 Adjutant, at our monthly business meetings on a voluntary basis. It is now official, he accepted the position, and was voted in at our last meeting. He will continue for the remainder of our legion fiscal year which ends in June of 2024. Hopefully, he will agree to continue for another year. We wish to extend our debt of gratitude, Thank you Bob!

VETERANS DAY

World War I ended with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on June 28, 1919 according to the Department of Veterans Affairs, (DVA). Seven months earlier the fighting ceased when a truce between Allied Nations and Germany went into effect causing a ceasefire on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. November 11th, 1918, is regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars," according to the DVA. The observance of Veterans Day on November 11th honors the historical importance of the date, but also celebrates and honors American Veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

On November 11th at 11:00 am we will conduct a Veterans Day Ceremony here at Griswold Terry Glover Post 803 American Legion. All in our community and surrounding communities are invited to attend. Weather permitting, it will be held outside on the grounds of the Legion. Immediately following the ceremony the Southold and Greenport Rotaries will provide a brunch for all Veterans in attendance.

The Legion Auxiliary will be holding their Annual Holiday Craft Fair, Sunday November 5th from 10 AM to 3PM. This is an excellent opportunity to get some early holiday gift shopping accomplished and at the same time support the Legion Auxiliary.

As the Fall splendor of colorful foliage begins to dissipate, it is replaced by the cacophony of neighborhood leaf blowers!

I would like to extend best wishes to everyone and their families to have a safe, healthy, and Happy Thanksgiving Holiday.

For God and Country, God Bless

David E. DeFriest, *Post 803 Commander*

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★ ★ SONS OF THE LEGION ★ ★

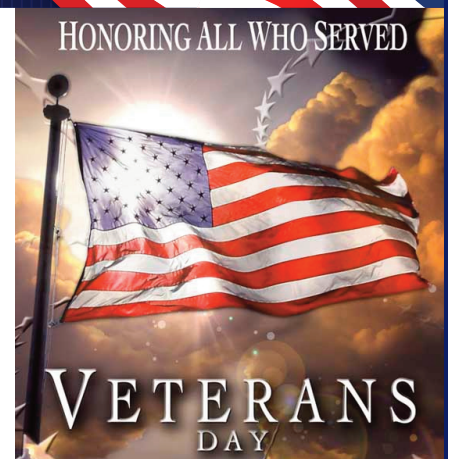


SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

As we turn the calendar to November, I encourage everyone to vote this Election Day. It's our veterans who fought for our right to do so. November also brings us to **Veterans Day**, so I ask all our Legion Sons to attend on Saturday November 11 at 11AM in front of the legion there will be a ceremony followed by brunch. It is a day that all Sons of the Legion should attend in show of support. If you haven't attended many events this would be a great one to renew your standing. Hope to see you there. Have a Happy Thanksgiving. And let's

all say thanks to our active duty military who are currently deployed worldwide keeping us safe.

Gary Iorio, SAL Commander



★★ HISTORIAN ★★

November Military History

November 4, 1862 - Richard Gatling patented his first rapid-fire machine-gun which used revolving barrels rotating around a central mechanism to load, fire, and extract the cartridges

November 11, 1972 - The U.S. turned over its military base at Long Binh to the South Vietnamese, symbolizing the end of direct American military participation in the Vietnam War.

November 20, 1962 - The Cuban Missile Crisis concluded as President John F. Kennedy announced he had lifted the U.S. Naval blockade of Cuba stating, "the evidence to date indicates that all known offensive missile sites in Cuba have been dismantled."

November 25, 1963 - Three days after his assassination, John F. Kennedy was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery

★★ MEMBERSHIP ★★



Post Status: We currently have **102/181 (49.7%)** paid up members for 2024. We have **190/207 (91.8%)** paid up members for 2024. I urge all unpaid members to submit their dues for 2024 before the holiday season so you can have your Membership I.D. card in your hand before January. We welcome Fred Kaelin, from Cutchogue, who served in the U.S. ARMY during the Vietnam Era to Post 803. We need more new members.

Please ask veterans you know if they would consider joining our ranks.

New 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, P.O. Box 591, Southold, NY 11971.

Thanks for your support of Post 803.

Bob Cochran, *Membership Chairman*, 631.765.5828

SNACKS WITH SANTA

MONDAY DECEMBER 11TH, 2023

4-6 pm

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TALKING MEMORY LOSS WITH YOUR DOCTOR

When do memory issues become a problem?

Everyone forgets things at times. How often have you misplaced your car keys or forgotten the name of someone you just met? While it can be normal to forget some things as you get older, it can become troubling if you can't hold a conversation or even lose track of what year it is. If this starts to happen, it's time to talk to your doctor about what to do next. Learn more about what to ask and what you should bring to your appointment.

When to ask about memory loss

Most people experience some memory loss as they get older. You shouldn't worry too much unless memory problems start to disrupt your daily life. If you have difficulty completing daily tasks, it may be time to talk to your health care team. Watch for other warning signs like:

- Asking the same questions over and over
- Feeling very confused about time, people, and places
- Getting lost in familiar places
- Neglecting basic needs, like eating, bathing, and personal safety
- Having difficulty following directions

What to bring to your appointment

At your appointment, be prepared for an evaluation. You'll need to bring a list of changes you've noticed in your health, memory, or behavior. You'll need your past and current medical information list of everything you're taking: prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, or supplements.

Based on what you share, your doctor might give you a physical exam and take some labs. In some cases, your doctor might conduct cognitive testing.

Which questions to ask

Bring a list of questions about memory loss with you. This list can help you get started:

- What tests might I need, and how should I prepare?
- If I have dementia, what should I watch for?
- How long will it take to get my test results?
- What are my next steps?

Before you worry, remember that some memory loss can be normal. But it's important to share any concerns you have with your health care team. If you have questions about your memory, reach out to your doctor today. More information and VA Secure messaging can be found here www.myhealth.va.gov

By David A Chiaro / keyarrow@hotmail.com

November is a time to honor our Veterans and give thanks. Remember to attend the Legion Post 803 Annual Veterans Day Ceremony on Saturday, November 11th at 11:00AM.

Joan Cear and her phone crew did a phenomenal job contacting Post 803 members about our turkey distribution on Veterans Day. The Auxiliary teamed up with Long Island Cares through their Veterans Program to give away the fixings for a Thanksgiving meal to our veterans as a thank you for their service. Those of you who signed up, can pick up your turkey, ham or chicken after the ceremony at the Post on Veterans Day.

A big thank you goes to Rose and her committee for organizing another afternoon of entertainment at San Simeon for our veterans there, and all the residents. Larry Liso sang classic tunes with his heart on his sleeve and again connected with everyone! This is one of the few community interactions taking place there since the Covid pandemic, and we appreciate all of you who made it happen again. Rose, Denise, Sherry, and Doris – you did a great job!

Amy Estrada, one of our Girls State citizens, attended our October meeting and did a presentation on her experiences at Girls State last July. She was very enthusiastic and told us the program helped her to decide on a career path. Thank you, Amy, for representing us so well! Jolin Chen will join as at a future meeting.

Sunday, November 5th, brings our Annual Auxiliary Holiday Craft Fair. Denise has lined up a great group of vendors once again. Wood carvings, photos, jewelry, tumblers, knit items, jellies, honey and beeswax candles, wreaths, gift baskets, and more will be available for purchase. Hot dogs and chili will be sold as well. Come on down and start your holiday shopping and support our Legion Auxiliary!

Mark your calendars now for the Legion Auxiliary's "Snacks with Santa" event. This year it will be held on Monday, December 11th, from 4 to 6 PM at the Legion Hall.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 8th at 7 PM, with a meal prior to the meeting at 6:30 PM. Blessings to you all during this Holiday Season, and pray for peace.

Joan Cochran, President



— 2023 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 —

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
9. Renovation of Second Floor Bathroom and Rooms

2023 QUEEN OF HEARTS GAME

The first drawing for our Queen of Hearts new game will be on Friday November 3rd.

See you at the bar!

Thanks to everyone who has contributed and helped make this a successful fundraiser for American Legion Post 803.

Jan Powers 914.213.8467
or email
galaxyFCC@gmail.com



VOLUNTEER CORNER

GOLF OUTING

Golf Outing is scheduled for June 10, 2024... A Committee is forming now. The majority of the work is done in March, April and May prior to the event. We are in need of individuals Experienced in the Fundraising aspect of Golf Outings or Sales... or those able to pitch in at the course or with the Raffle. Email Bob Bittner at navyjan70@gmail.com.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

We are in need of a volunteer to chair the Scholarship Committee. Charles Barkley is stepping down. Contact Commander Dave DeFriest.



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★★NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2023 EVENTS★★

- 11/03 Fri. **Craft Fair Setup 6 PM**
- 11/03 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30 PM**
Queen of Hearts Drawing Returns at Bar 8 PM
- 11/05 Sun. **Holiday Craft Fair 10 AM – 3 PM**
- 11/07 Tues. **Election Day PLEASE VOTE!**
- 11/08 Wed. **Auxiliary Meeting 7 PM**
- 11/10 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30 PM - QOH Drawing**
- 11/11 Sat. **Veterans Day Ceremony 11 AM**
& Veteran Brunch to Follow
- 11/14 Tues. **2024 Planning Meeting 6 PM**
- 11/17 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30 PM - QOH Drawing**
- 11/24 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30 PM - QOH Drawing**
- 12/01 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30 PM - QOH Drawing**
- 12/08 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30 PM - QOH Drawing**
- 12/11 Mon. **Snacks with Santa 4 - 6 PM**
- 12/12 Tues. **Executive and Business Meeting:**
Bar 6:30 PM Meeting 7 PM
- 12/15 Fri. **Pot Luck Christmas Party 6:30 PM - QOH Drawing**
- 12/22 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30 PM - QOH Drawing**
- 12/29 Fri. **Bar is Open 6:30 PM - QOH Drawing**



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★★ LEGION OFFICERS ★★

- Commander** - Dave DeFriest
- 1st Vice Commander** - Jeff Chagnon
- 2nd Vice Commander** - Vacant
- Past Commander** - Earl Brock
- 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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