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THE REPORTER

GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803

SEPTEMBER 2020

★ ★ COMMANDER'S REPORT ★ ★



Hello Fellow Legionnaires & Friends of the Legion:

I would first like to mention the sad news that we have lost one of our most faithful Legionnaires. Don Wagner passed and we Legionnaires were honored to conduct the Legion funeral ceremony for his family. Don personified dignity and honor. I never once heard him raise his voice or get angry. On the contrary Don was always positive and kind to every member at the Post and his kindness encouraged me to stick it out as commander when times got tough. You are missed Don!



As I write this column we are preparing for the Car Show this weekend. We anticipate a great turnout and so far our Golf Classic is doing very well too. It looks like we are fully booked for golfers but we still need sponsors. If you have sponsored us in the past we have your sponsor sign and could really use the support. The cost is only \$50.00 and it goes a long way toward helping us fight against the consequences of COVID-19. You can also purchase raffle tickets, sponsor a raffle prize, or send in a donation. I'm keeping this short because we are trying to reduce the Reporter's size to save money during this difficult time. We will come back stronger than ever so hang in there with us.

Bingo

We understand that our Bingo players want to get back at it and enjoy the game but we need to be careful. Earl will keep an eye on the current COVID-19 situation and possibly open up for Bingo in September. You may call Earl for more details 516-901-3228.

Upcoming Events

The Annual Golf classic set for Monday, September 21st is our last fundraising event for 2020. We are at full capacity for the outing and I have to thank Bob Bittner for all his hard work while I was away on duty in the city. We are canceling all other fundraising events for the year. We are still going to hold our annual Veterans Day Ceremony at 11AM on November 11th to be followed by a brunch for all Veterans and their spouses. The Pearl Harbor Cross Sound Ferry Ceremony & Day at Foxwoods is still on. More details to follow as we get closer to December 7th.

Refunding of St. Patrick's Tickets

We have a plan for how you may receive your refund until we are open for business. Our finance officer Mort Kelly is prepared to send you a check for your St Patrick's dinner ticket purchase. If you paid by check and it never cleared

Continued on the next page

★ ★ CHAPLIN'S REPORT ★ ★

Rest in Peace

Donald Everett Wagner who was a US Army veteran of the Korean War, passed on August 1st, 2020 at the age of 91. Don was an active member of our Post for almost twenty years. During that time he served as our Post Commander and Membership Chairman. He was also a longtime member of our Bingo committee and a volunteer at almost all of our events and fundraisers. Don was a dear friend to all of us. He always inspired us to be the best we could be through his kindness and the love that he had for his family, friends and Country.



The American Legion Wake service was conducted on August 6th at the DeFriest-Grattan Funeral Home. Special thanks to our Funeral detail for an outstanding turnout and Earl Brock for his heartfelt and moving eulogy.

On behalf of the American Legion I thank Donald Everett Wagner for his dedicated service to his Country, Community and The American Legion. May his soul rest in peace.

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." —Matthew 5:8

Jeff Chagnon, *Post Chaplin*

Home: 631.765.6077 - Cell: 631.456.3258

MADE IN AMERICA

Commander's Report Continued

he will be sending your check back to you. If your check did clear or you paid cash he will mail you a refund. All you need to do is send him your tickets with your address and he will send you a refund check back. **Mail to Mort Kelly P.O. Box 391, Southold, NY 11971.** If you do not want a check mailed to you then you will have to wait until the Legion is officially open for business. You will still need to provide us your tickets in order to receive a refund in the mail or in person. We will setup a future time for people to come in and receive a refund face-to-face.

Update on Legion Projects

I'm excited to report that the kitchen hood and suppression system work is finally complete and the kitchen is painted thanks to Joe St. Pierre and Neil Rochford. A huge thank you once again to **Mattituck Environmental Services and the Lomangino family** for their generous donation of \$25,000 toward this needed repair. We are holding off on any new projects that require funds until we can get back to normal operations. We are still planning on tackling the basement and 2nd floor cleaning project including the dumpster area. We have a lot of scrap metal that we need to haul away. We will publish a date for this event soon. If you are willing to help us with this project then give me a call. We could use a few trucks that have dump stickers. We still have funds allocated for our outdoor sign but we are on hold until we work out the details with the town as to the design for our sign. We need special approval for an internal-illuminating sign so we may change the design to have outside lights illuminate it. We will most likely push all of our 2020 goals into 2021 due to COVID-19.

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

HISTORIAN

Never Forget

It is the month of September and the saying, "Never Forget," appears to have diminished in the minds of many in America. It is understandable that the emotions surrounding that day are absent from those Americans not yet born or too young to understand. For those of us alive on that day we need to communicate our stories to them. I was able to give my 9/11 presentation to Soldiers of the Fighting 69th in NYC over their August National Guard drill. I was amazed by how many of the Soldiers were not born yet or only a few years old at the time of 9/11. Now these Soldiers are picking up the torch from an older generation and leading the National Guard into the future. It is so important that today's youth understand American history and especially our war history and the sacrifices made by all our Legionnaires.

It is so simple to attack the history of the United States if its history is not studied in context. It is the same for judging individuals around us. We can easily point to a mistake that someone makes and paint them with broad strokes of negativity. When I see today's youth in the streets peacefully protesting I'm proud of their freedom. When I see today's youth in the streets rioting I wonder just how much they understand of their collective history. America is imperfect but its imperfections pail in comparison to the bright light of freedom that it provides all Americans today. That light may not have shown equally for all at all times in our history, but that light has guided more towards goodness than darkness. It is not an accident that we have many fleeing to the United States and few fleeing away.

NEVER FORGET!

Charles J. Sanders, Commander/Historian



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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



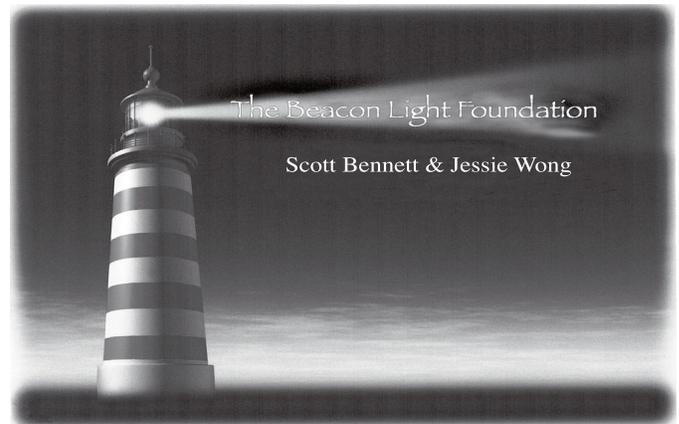
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**We are Fully Booked for
This Event BUT Sponsorship
is still Available!**



AMERICAN LEGION GOLF CLASSIC FUNDRAISER

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST

LOCATION

TIME

This Year all Events will be held at Island's End Golf Course to include Dinner. 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 per golfer • **ISLAND'S END MEMBERS ONLY** \$140 • **DINNER ONLY** \$55

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



★★ MEMBERSHIP ★★



The Membership for 2021

The Membership for 2021 is currently underway and Dave Steele gets credit for being the first to renew his membership. We currently have 83/209 (39.7%) paid up members for 2021. We would like to welcome William Donahue, a new member who served both in the Coast Guard and NY Air National Guard. For the few who still need a membership card for 2020 please send in your dues. Remember if you skip a year you lose your accumulated years of continuous membership. We hit 90% 211/234 paid up members for 2020. Please send your dues (\$50) to Post 803, P.O. Box 591, Southold, NY 11971. Stay safe and thanks for supporting our Post 803.

Bob Cochra,
Membership Chairman
631.765.5828

★★ SONS OF THE LEGION ★★



As I write this article preparations are being made for both the Car Show and Golf Outing. We will continue to sell raffle tickets for the "Big Green Egg" Smoker BBQ. Proceeds will go to the SAL. The drawing will be held at the September 21st golf outing. Hope to see all at these Legion events.

"Founded in 1932, Sons of The American Legion exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires." S.A.L. members include males of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the U.S. military and were eligible for American Legion membership.

As we approach Election Day I leave you with a quote from President Eisenhower;

"Some politician some years ago said that bad officials are elected by good voters who do not vote."

SAL Commander,
Gary Iorio



THE BAR IS CLOSED INDEFINITELY



LEGION AUXILIARY POST 803

September is here, with the promise of crisp, cool and clear days! Try to get out and walk and take it all in! Our August meeting was an informal one since we did not have a quorum. It was still great to get together!

Donna has our membership cards for the coming year. Please bring a check for \$20 dues to our next meeting on Wednesday September 9th or mail it to her. We received our Membership Award Certificate for reaching 100% membership in 2020 and look forward to welcoming even more members next year!

We are excited about the arrival of the new picnic tables - they look great! Our flag etiquette book order has been delayed but should arrive soon. Sadly we will not have our Holiday Craft Fair this year due to the pandemic, but as I write this we are looking forward to the annual Legion Car Show.

Be sure to spread the word about our reading program for children about history. Details can be found on the Post 803 website Kid's Page. Check it out!

Amid the uncertainties of today's world, I urge you all to continue to respect our American flag and fly it proudly! As Ronald Reagan once said, "When we honor our flag we honor what we stand for as a Nation - freedom, equality, justice and hope."

Joan Cochran, *President*

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



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★ ★ SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2020 ★ ★

09/15 Tues. **CHANGE OF DATE**
Golf Classic Committee Meeting - 5 PM

09/15 Tues. **CHANGE OF DATE**
Executive and Business Meeting
Bar - 6:30PM • Meeting - 7:30 PM

09/09 Wed. Auxiliary Meeting - 7PM

09/21 Mon. Annual Golf Classic
at Islands End Golf Club

10/13 Tues. Executive and
Business Meeting
Bar - 6:30 PM
Meeting - 7:30 PM

10/14 Wed. Auxiliary Meeting - 7 PM



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★ ★ 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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