



www.post803.com

# THE REPORTER

## GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803

APRIL 2018

### COMMANDER'S REPORT



Hello Fellow Legionnaires:

I have to say that I'm so proud of how members are pulling together to make things happen. The St. Patrick's Day Dinner was a great success despite a few mistakes I made in communication regarding how meals would be sold. Each time we have an event at the Legion we learn more about the best practices for executing the event. You will notice that we are trying more and more new activities. This month Legionnaire Jan Powers stepped up to the plate and volunteered to chair our first Legion breakfast in 2018 to be held on Sunday the 29th of April. We are learning from our St. Patrick's Day Dinner and making sure that we have a section of the breakfast ad that can be cut out for advanced purchases and estimated arrival times. We setup the hall for only about eighty guests and when I arrived from marching with my unit in the city the whole hall was filled with people enjoying a wonderful meal prepared by E.J. Flynn and his crew comprised of Bob Cochran, Neil Rohford and Ron Rossi. Ron is new to the Post and it didn't take long for him to volunteer to lend a hand. After the dinner he amazed a group of us with stories of his time in service. I was so touched by how many people came early to setup the hall to include Dave Steele and his lovely wife, Vincent Monteforte and his lovely wife and the day of the dinner Vicky DeFriest rolled up her sleeves and pitched in to serve, clean and do whatever else needed to be done. Jeff Chagnon along with Mike Burke took the lead at the door and then Jeff hit the dishwasher to clean all the dirty dishes while Mike counted the 50/50 money. Speaking of the 50/50 we were able to raise over \$1,000 with the

*Commander's Report continues next page*

### CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

**Sick Call:** Gary Herman, who is one of our bartenders, had an accident while at work on his day job that resulted in a broken arm. Although he is managing as well as possible with one arm he is looking at a lengthy recovery. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers that he may heal quickly and without any problems.

Mike Pankowsky who is the County Commander was present at our last business meeting. He gave us a report about a local chapter of the Missing in America Project. Sadly there are often cases where veterans are buried at Calverton National Cemetery and they have no next of kin or family who are able to be present at the funeral service. The Missing in America Project supplies volunteers who stand in as surrogate family and friends. If anyone is interested in participating as a volunteer contact Mike via his email (mikebets@optonline.net) or get in touch with me.

God bless you all and be well.

Jeff Chagnon - Post Chaplin  
Hm. - 631-765-6077  
Cell - 631-456-3258



*"The secret of happiness is to live  
mLove is the beauty of the soul."  
~ St. Augustine*

### MEMBERSHIP

Happy New Year! Our 2018 goal is to increase ACTIVE membership as well as adding new members. Will You Help? We have 213 paid members out of 226 members for 2018. We are in the process of calling Non-paid members. If you have not paid your dues yet then please do as soon as possible. Dues are \$50.00.



Don Wagner, Chairman

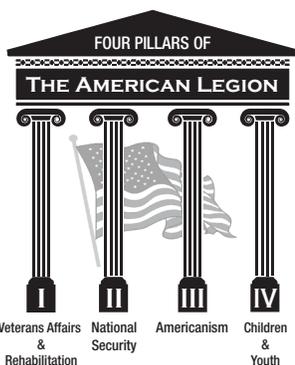
## COMMANDER'S REPORT

*continued from previous page*

combined Auxiliary's 50/50 contribution to assist one of our faithful bartenders that was injured in a fall at work. Denise Thiberg brought an awesome cake decorated with an Irish theme and an American Legion symbol in the middle. What does the Legion stand for? Everything I just mentioned. Life on this earth is difficult for anyone with a thoughtful mind and a work ethic. When tragedy or war raises its evil head we are all tested. How do we care for our fellow human beings? I know I'm getting a little deep, but as annoying as it is to volunteer for things it does make a huge difference. Thank all of you that stepped up to the plate and hit another homerun for the Post. Forgive me if I forgot to mention anyone who contributed to this event. Post 803 stands for Veterans even during times when our country seems to have forgotten them. April 30th 1975 marks the end of the Vietnam War but the wounds of war live on in the hearts, minds, and bodies of so many Veterans. I want all of you to know that Post 803 exists to fulfill the Four Pillars of the American Legion and one of those pillars is Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation. Part of rehabilitation is knowing you have a safe place to come and socialize with fellow service members. Griswold-Terry-Glover American Legion Post 803 welcomes you.

*God Bless All of You!*

### 2018 FOUR PILLARS MURAL COMPETITION



I'm happy to report that I have received positive feedback from our local schools and MAJ Grigonis has stated that all three NJROTC programs will participate in this competition. What we need from members is their willingness to be on the Veteran selection committee to choose the winning artist or group of artists. If you would like to be on the selection committee please give me a call at the Post. Here is a reminder of what the Four Pillars of the American Legion mural competition is about. We recently finished

restoration of the Commander's Office with the help of the NJROTC, and there is a wall behind the Commander's desk that is boxed out forming what looks like a picture frame (7' 10" X 9' 4").

That is where the mural will be painted with interior latex paint. The goal is to have local students compete to win a \$500.00 scholarship in the form of a \$500.00 check directly to the student or team of students willing to participate in the project. Individual students or a team of students will submit their designs on canvas or drawing paper with a minimum size of 8.5X11 inches. Submissions are due to the Veteran selection committee by the 1st of June 2018.

The Veteran selection committee will review the submissions and choose the individual student winner or team winner. The winner or team winner will paint the mural (before end of 2018) at the hall with all supplies provided by the Legion to include lunch during work. The winner or team winner will also receive a \$500.00 scholarship check and will be our guest to be recognized at our installation of officer's dinner in June of 2019 (Parents included).

The timeframe for this project is the selection of the winner by the end of the school year and the completion of the mural before the end of 2018.

### APRIL FIRST LEGION BREAKFAST

See flyer for details but you can call breakfast chairman Jan Powers at 914-213-8467 or email him at GalaxyFCC@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer. Cost for the breakfast is \$15.00 and all are welcome. You may send in a check made out to American Legion Post 803 with each reservation stub provided in this issue of the *Reporter*.

### APRIL SOCIAL DINNER/ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We could use some more volunteers that are willing to make 5-10 calls each month to invite members to the social. Please give me a call if you would be willing to at least contribute in that manner. Dinner is only \$10.00 per person and we offer a 50/50 too. Here is a task list for the April Social:

**PHONE CALLERS:** Need people to volunteer to invite 5-10 people 1-2 weeks in advance.

*Commander's Report continued on page 4*

# OUR SPONSORS

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We thank our Veterans for their  
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those currently serving!

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



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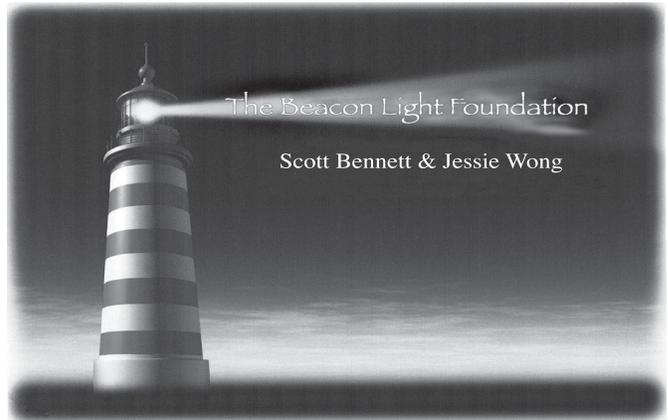
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## COMMANDER'S REPORT

*continued from page 2*

**COOKS:** We have cooks covered.

**TABLE SETUP:** Need four volunteers to come to the Post at 4:30PM on Tuesday the 24th to help setup the tables and place settings.

**FOOD SERVERS:** Need two volunteers to come to the Post for dinner but are also willing to help serve the food at 6:30PM.

**CLEANUP CREW:** Need three volunteers to come to the Post for dinner but are also willing to help clean up after the dinner at 7:30PM.

***Our future is looking bright!***

For God and Country

Sincerely,  
Charles J. Sanders, *Commander*  
Post 803  
www.post803.com  
gtgpost803@gmail.com  
Post Number 631-765-2276

**TUESDAY 03 APRIL 2018 GOLF COMMITTEE MEETING** The meeting will begin at 6:00PM and food and drinks will be served after. This meeting is to approve the 2018 flyer, letters, discuss sponsorships and logistics. All committee members please try to attend. List of committee people is reflected in half page golf flyer inside this issue of the Reporter.

**TUESDAY 10 APRIL 2018 EXECUTIVE AND BUSINESS MEETING** The bar will open at 6:30PM and the meeting will begin at 7:30PM. You don't have to be a member of the executive board to attend this meeting. This is your opportunity to learn about what the Post is doing and how you may get involved. Food will be served at the end of the meeting.

**WEDNESDAY 11 APRIL 2018 AUXILIARY MEETING 7PM**

**TUESDAY 24 APRIL 2018 DINNER SOCIAL 5:30PM** Bar is open and 6:30PM dinner is served so that we may accommodate more members. Please RSVP to the Post 631-765-2276 Cost \$10.00 Volunteers are needed at 4PM to setup for the event so come on down.

**SUNDAY 29 APRIL 2018 FIRST LEGION BREAKFAST BASH 7:30AM - 1:00PM** the American Legion will be serving breakfast to one and all. If you would like to assist with this event please call the breakfast chairman Jan Powers at 914-213-8467 or email him at GalaxyFCC@gmail.com. Cost for this event is \$15.00

**Son's of the American Legion NO MEETING IN APRIL**

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American Legion Griswold-Terry-Glover Post 803

**25<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNUAL**

**MONDAY,  
JUNE 4, 2018**



**GOLF  
CLASSIC**

**Island's End Golf and Country Club  
Route 25, Greenport, New York**

**\$165 per player**

**Shotgun Start at 12:30 PM**

**INCLUDES:**

Brunch (11:00 AM) · Green Fees  
Golf Cart · Range Balls  
Refreshments & Hot Dogs on Course  
Open Bar at Post (5:00-6:30 PM)  
Raw Bar at Post  
Hors d'oeuvres at Post  
Complete Prime Rib Dinner (6:30 PM)

**2018 GOLF COMMITTEE**

Charles J. Sanders, Chairman  
Ty Cochran, Co-Chairman  
Al Rava  
Dan Melhado  
Jeff Chagnon  
Neil Rochford  
Tom Kennedy  
Don Insull  
Bill Egan  
Earl Brock  
Joe Kollen  
Mike Burke  
Vic Beck  
Jim Maino

**PRIZES:**

Longest Drive Men · Longest Drive Women  
Low Gross Men · Low Gross Women  
Lowest Net Men · Lowest Net Women  
Closest to the Pin · Closest to the Line

**ANY QUESTIONS CALL:**

Charles J. Sanders - 631-702-3083 · Ty Cochran - 631-765-1166 · Earl Brock - 631-765-1357

**SPONSOR A HOLE AT \$50 EACH THIS INCLUDES YOUR SIGN!**

# *First Legion Sunday Breakfast*

\$15:00 • April 29 • 7:30 am to 1 pm

## **INCLUDES:**

Pancakes, eggs, sausage links/patties or bacon, potatoes.  
Drinks: Coffee, tea, milk, juice OJ or Grapefruit.

RESERVATION NAMES	CHECK ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> 7AM-8AM
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> 8AM-9AM
3.	<input type="checkbox"/> 10AM-11AM
4.	<input type="checkbox"/> 12PM-1PM

MAIL TO: AMERICAN LEGION POST 803 ATTENTION JAN POWERS P.O. BOX 591 SOUTHOLD, NY 11971

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

please contact breakfast chairman Jan Powers 914-213-8467  
leave message if no answer or send text or E-mail: [GalaxyFCC@gmail.com](mailto:GalaxyFCC@gmail.com)

**TABLE SETUP CREW:** Need five volunteers the evening of Saturday the 28th at 6PM to help prepare the hall for the breakfast

**KITCHEN CREW:** Need four volunteers to help cook and work the kitchen at 5AM day of event to help prepare the meal.

**CHECK IN CREW:** Need three volunteers to come to the post at 6:30AM day of event to work the door and 50/50

**BUFFET SERVERS:** Need four volunteers to come to the post at 6:30AM day of event to prepare and help serve breakfast

**CLEANUP CREW:** Need four volunteers to come to the post at 7AM day of event to help clean up after our patrons.



## Scholarship Program

It is with deep regret that I no longer can act as the Post Chairman of our scholarship program. It's time to turn over the "Baton" to someone younger than I. I will be 89 years of age this year and alone with other problems. I will not be able to give my full attention to this program. The past 20 years as chairman I found very rewarding working with students and school personnel. Working with them was something I always looked forward to doing. I want to thank Vic Beck and the departed, Claire Foss, Frank Tarulli and Bob Cotton who were always there. My wish is the program will continue for future years. The program is greatly appreciated by the local schools. I feel very proud that we were able to help those students in their quest for knowledge. I almost forgot to thank Bill Egan for putting out the delicious meals on the awards night held at the Post. Thanks Bill! Thanks also to all those who made this program so successful.

Sincerely,  
Tom Reese

## Thank You

I would like to thank Tom Reese for his years of dedication to the Post and the scholarship Program. Countless students have been positively impacted by the funds provided them through this program. Tom has honorably fulfilled the fourth Pillar of the American Legion: Children & Youth! If you would like to take on the "Baton" as the new scholarship chairman then please reach out to me so that the Post may continue this honorable tradition. We will need a new chairman as soon as possible as the scholarships are to be presented to students at our June 14th Installation of Officers Dinner on Flag Day 2018.

Sincerely,  
Commander

## HISTORIAN

April 30th 1975 marks the end of the Vietnam War but the sacrifices made by our service members lives on. This article ends with the following, "You have nothing to fear. Between Vietnamese there are no victors and no vanquished. Only the Americans have been beaten. If you are patriots, consider this a moment of joy. The war for our country is over." Regardless of what the North Vietnamese may say about the end of the Vietnam War we Americans must never forget the sacrifices our men and women made during that war. They had the courage to go to war and fight on behalf of America. The North Vietnamese words sting and are distasteful but I allow them only to highlight the greatest sacrifice those service members made to America. I can't imagine coming home from Afghanistan to Americans showing me disrespect because I wear the uniform. I want all the Vietnam War Veteran's to know that at Post 803 we remember and we honor you!

The following article is derived from History.com: <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/south-vietnam-surrenders>

By dawn, communist forces move into Saigon, where they meet only sporadic resistance. The South Vietnamese forces had collapsed under the rapid advancement of the North Vietnamese. The most recent fighting had begun in December 1974, when the North Vietnamese had launched a major attack against the lightly defended province of Phuoc Long, located due north of Saigon along the Cambodian border, overrunning the provincial capital at Phuoc Binh on January 6, 1975. Despite previous presidential promises to provide aid in such a scenario, the United States did nothing. By this time, Nixon had resigned from office and his successor, Gerald Ford, was unable to convince a hostile Congress to make good on Nixon's earlier promises to rescue Saigon from communist takeover.

This situation emboldened the North Vietnamese, who launched a new campaign in March 1975. The South Vietnamese forces fell back in total disarray, and once again, the United States did nothing. The South Vietnamese abandoned Pleiku and Kontum in the Highlands with very little fighting. Then Quang Tri, Hue, and Da Nang fell to the com-

munist onslaught. The North Vietnamese continued to attack south along the coast toward Saigon, defeating the South Vietnamese forces at each encounter.

The South Vietnamese 18th Division had fought a valiant battle at Xuan Loc, just to the east of Saigon, destroying three North Vietnamese divisions in the process. However, it proved to be the last battle in the defense of the Republic of South Vietnam. The South Vietnamese forces held out against the attackers until they ran out of tactical air support and weapons, finally abandoning Xuan Loc to the communists on April 21.

Having crushed the last major organized opposition before Saigon, the North Vietnamese got into position for the final assault. In Saigon, South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu resigned and transferred authority to Vice President Tran Van Huong before fleeing the city on April 25. By April 27, the North Vietnamese had completely encircled Saigon and began to maneuver for a complete takeover.

When they attacked at dawn on April 30, they met little resistance. North Vietnamese tanks crashed through the gates of the Presidential Palace and the war came to an end. North Vietnamese Col. Bui Tin accepted the surrender from Gen. Duong Van Minh, who had taken over after Tran Van Huong spent only one day in power. Tin explained to Minh, "You have nothing to fear. Between Vietnamese there are no victors and no vanquished. Only the Americans have been beaten. If you are patriots, consider this a moment of joy. The war for our country is over."

Sincerely,  
Charles J. Sanders, *Historian*

## LONG TERM GOALS

1. Renovation of entire 2nd Floor (excluding the SAL Bar Room)
  2. Emergency exit for 2nd Floor
  3. Bar makeover
  4. Bathroom renovation Male and Female Main Hall (Handicap Accessible)
  5. Bathroom Renovation 2nd Floor
- SAL Project**

## LEGION AUXILIARY POST 803

The St. Patrick's Day/ Legion Birthday party was a great success! EJ Flynn and his kitchen crew produced a delicious meal once again! Thank you to all who participated in our Food Drive for the food pantry at Boots on the Ground which was underway until that day. We collected a nice amount of non-perishable items which will be greatly appreciated.

We had a productive meeting on March 14th. We approved a donation for Gary Herrmann, one of the bartenders at the post, to help him after his accident. We presented it to him at the dinner on March 17th. He was very appreciative and sends his thanks to us all.

We also discussed making a presentation at the Galaxy Car Club event at our post on April 15th. It is Long Island's biggest cruise and ends with a Chinese Auction and luncheon fundraiser benefitting Vet Dogs which is a cause dear to us all.

The Memorial Day parade will be in Southold this year. A suggestion was made to "plant" all the poppies we have left on the front lawn in memory of all rather

than individuals. We also voted to make a donation to Girl Scout Troop 1622, who in collaboration with Post 334 in Floral Park is making poppies like ours to honor veterans and to raise money for Vet Dogs.

Our annual Installation Ceremony will be held on Friday June 1st here at the Post. Nominations will be made at our regular meeting on April 11th and voting will take place at our May meeting.

Hopefully spring will have sprung by our next meeting!

Joan Cochran, *President*

## SONS OF THE LEGION

Wow this winter didn't want to let go.. get out there and plant some flowers don't forget the poppies. The SAL will be selling Raffle ticket for our fundraiser so ask one of us how you can help out. Questions you can call me commander Greg Dickerson 631-298-9733 yes that is my cell so if ya can text that might be best. Thanks in advance.

Greg Dickerson, *Commander*  
SAL Post 803 NO MEETING IN APRIL

## BUILDING PROJECTS/2018 GOALS

- Create a call chain/e-mail list for volunteers to support events
- First annual Halloween Trick or Treat for kids and then adult party
- Paint the hall, bathrooms, and clean up the ceiling tiles in the bathrooms
- Landscape front of the Legion and side of the Legion
- Fix electrical issues to include fire alarms, monitoring cameras, electrical panel, basement lighting, outdoor power box
- New chairs for the hall
- New curtains for the hall
- New events sign in front of Post
- New survey of property
- New light fixture front of Post
- Update signs in front of Post
- Repair or replace "Handicap" ramp
- Boots on Ground Food Drive **MISSION ACCOMPLISHED**
- Four Pillars of the American Legion mural Commander's Office **IN PROGRESS**
- New bar stools, tables and chairs **INVESTIGATION IN PROGRESS**
- Apply Strong Sealant to Contemplation Benches
- USMC "Toys for Tots"
- Create a Larger E-Mail Database **IN PROGRESS**
- Fire Extinguishers Replaced **MISSION ACCOMPLISHED BY NEIL ROCHFORD**
- Complete Cleaning of Color Guard Weapons **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING PLANNED**



# APRIL & MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 04/03 Tues. Golf Committee Meeting:  
6:00PM Food and drinks  
to follow**
- 04/10 Tues. Executive and Business  
Meeting: Bar 6:30PM  
Meeting 7:30PM**
- 04/11 Wed. Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM**
- 04/24 Tues. Dinner Social: Bar 5:30PM  
Dinner Served 6:30PM**
- 04/29 Sun. First American Legion Breakfast Bash in 2018  
from 7:30AM-1PM**
- 05/08 Tues. Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM  
Meeting 7:30PM**
- 05/09 Wed. Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM**
- 05/13 Sun. Mother's Day Breakfast at the Legion *Tentative***
- 05/28 Mon. Memorial Day Parade Information to follow  
in May Reporter**



## LEGION OFFICERS

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

## SAL OFFICERS

**Commander** - Greg Dickerson  
**1st Vice** - Daniel Kaelin  
**2nd Vice** - Rich Feeley  
**Adjutant** - Jim Best  
**Finance Officer** - Jim Best  
**Sergeant at Arms** -  
 Michael Anasagasti  
**Chaplain** - Joseph Cavanagh  
**Historian** - John Slattery

MADE IN AMERICA

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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