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THE REPORTER

GRISWOLD TERRY GLOVER POST 803

SEPTEMBER 2019

COMMANDER'S REPORT



Hello Fellow Legionnaires & Friends of the Legion:

I'm writing the day after the Car Show and I have to say that E.J. Flynn and Denise Thilberg and their team of volunteers did a great job organizing and executing this annual event. I had National Guard duty over the weekend but was able to

come back Sunday afternoon to catch the tail end of the show. I would like to extend a special thanks to our Town Supervisor Scott Russell for coming each year to work the entrance and assist with whatever is asked of him. Thank you Scott!!

New Membership Rules

I'm excited to announce new membership criteria for joining the American Legion. This comes straight from the Legion.org membership site, "If you have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces since December 7, 1941, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving - you are eligible for membership in The American Legion!" Please read this month's Historian column for more details on the new law. Reach out to me or Bob Cochran if this law affects you or a friend. We are excited for more members joining Post 803!

9/11 Presentation

As mentioned in last month's Reporter I will be giving a presentation on 9/11 again this year. I do this because I believe it is important to, "Never Forget" those lost on that day and to understand the history leading up to and following 9/11. This year I will be presenting it outdoors on Wednesday, September 11th at Jean Cochran Park in Peconic. The presentation will start at 4:30PM and last about 45 minutes. The public will be granted the opportunity to plant American flags in the park provided by the 9/11 committee. Each flag represents someone that perished on 9/11. The Southold Fire Department will conduct a remembrance ceremony at 6:30PM.

Dr. Chat

I try to have lunch with our Bingo volunteer crew on Tuesday and I noticed that they are often chatting about their experiences good and bad with this or that doctor or this and that medical facility. While

Commander's Report continues next page

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Sick Call - **Arthur Gibbons**, who resides at Peconic Landing, is now in The Bluffs at Peconic Landing where he is recovering from an illness. Keep Arthur in your prayers and maybe stop in to say hello.

Rest in Peace - Two of our Legionnaires have recently passed.

Edward J. McGurn passed on August 17th. We just received this news and at this time I do not have any other details.

Dr. Sheldon J. Goodman, who was residing in Boca Raton, Florida, passed away recently. At this time I do not have any other information.

We thank both Edward J. McGurn and Dr. Sheldon J. Goodman for their faithful service as Legionnaires and extend our heartfelt condolences to their families and friends.



Color Guard - Thomas LaMothe has answered our call to arms and is now the newest member of our Color Guard. Welcome aboard Tom! We could still use a few more volunteers for this unit. Please call me if you have an interest.

Jeff Chagnon - *Post Chaplin*

Hm. - 631-765-6077 • Cell - 631-456-3258

"Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought"

- Pope John Paul II

MEMBERSHIP

Attention All Members!

Post 803 is currently at 206/ 228 (90.4%) paid up members for 2019. We have 102/218 (46.8%) paid up for membership year 2020. The American Legion eligibility dates for membership has changed. Anyone who has served after December 7, 1941 to the present can join our Post 803. Help spread the word to friends and family. The membership office is open every Tuesday afternoon if you need assistance. Please send your dues (\$50) for 2019 or 2020 to Post 803, P.O. Box 591, Southold, NY 11971. Thank you for supporting Post 803.



Bob Cochran, *Membership Chairman*

COMMANDER'S REPORT

continued from previous page

speaking with Joe St. Pierre on the subject of his knees I thought that a new column on positive experiences in the medical world could be beneficial to our members. It will grant our members the opportunity to share their experiences and possibly help someone else dealing with a similar issue. You will notice a new column called Dr. Chat and our first article is by Joe St. Pierre. If you would like to share a positive experience that may assist another member please feel free to email me your article to gtgpost803@gmail.com.

Brass Memorial/In Honor of Plates

I'm excited to report that we have to date received 26 donations toward the purchase of our new bar furniture. It is our goal to have all of these plates installed on the back of the chairs by Veteran's Day this year. All of the bar stools are filled up but we still have room on the backs of the other chairs. I want to thank everyone that has donated to the Post for this effort.

Annual East End Maritime Festival Parade

The Legion is invited to march in the Maritime Parade on September 21st in the Village of Greenport. We will follow behind the Greenport Color Guard and just march with our banner. If you would like to march please muster at 10:30AM on broad street in the Village of Greenport. We will march into the village and enjoy refreshments provided by the Greenport American Legion after the parade. The uniform for the day is Legion tie, cover, and a short or long sleeve white dress shirt. If you don't have these items please come anyway.

Your service to our country matters more.
God Bless All of You
Our future is looking bright and our 2018/2019 successes prove that our brilliance is sustained through combined effort!

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

SONS OF THE LEGION

The SAL will start having meetings quarterly with the next meeting being in November. The 2020 SAL Membership cards have arrived, if you have not gotten your 2019 Membership Card please send in your dues ASAP. Due to recent changes in Legion Membership rules some SAL members are now eligible to be Legion Members which will leave some spots open with the SAL, if you are interested in taking an active role in the SAL please contact myself or Jim Best. We will be looking for volunteers September 14th for the Chicken BBQ to help out and it would be great to see some new faces.

Sincerely, Joe Best, *Sal Commander*



THE BAR IS OPEN
every Friday at 6:30 pm
until the crowd
goes home

TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2019 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 is served prior to the meeting at 6:30PM. Thank You Jan Powers for cooking!!!

WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2019 COMMANDER'S 911 PRESENTATION 4:30PM Jean Cochran Park in Peconic with flag planting and Fire Department Ceremony to follow

WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2019 AUXILIARY MEETING 7PM

FRIDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2019 VOLUNTEERS TO SETUP FOR CHICKEN BBQ AT THE POST 6 PM

SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2019 ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ 4PM-7PM

SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2019 30TH ANNUAL EAST END MARITIME FESTIVAL PARADE 11AM

DR. CHAT

I have been using the VA doctors for about 10 years. Recently, I have been having pain in my knee that migrated to my back, shoulders and hands. Initially, we thought it was Lyme's. Test results were negative. Numerous x-rays, MRI's, etc. were taken but still no answers. I am now under the care of Dr. Roy whose speciality is rheumatology. After extensive testing, a diagnosis has been made, meds prescribed and physical therapy ordered. I cannot say enough about the quality of care I have received at both the Northport VA Hospital and the clinic in Riverhead.

Don't be afraid to give them a try; you won't be sorry.
Joe St. Pierre

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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



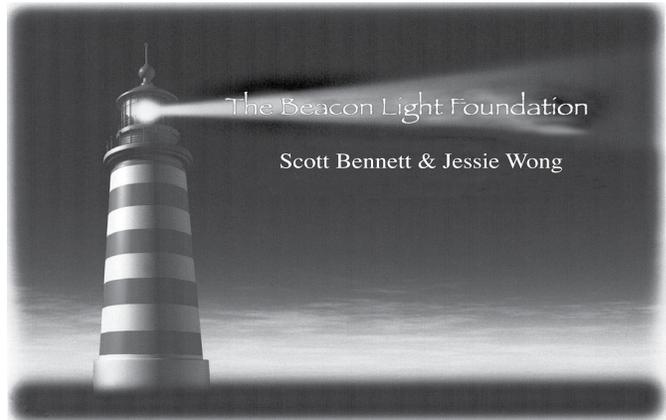
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For more information on Honor Flight please visit their
website or call Virginia Bennett at 631-702-2423.

631-765-1118

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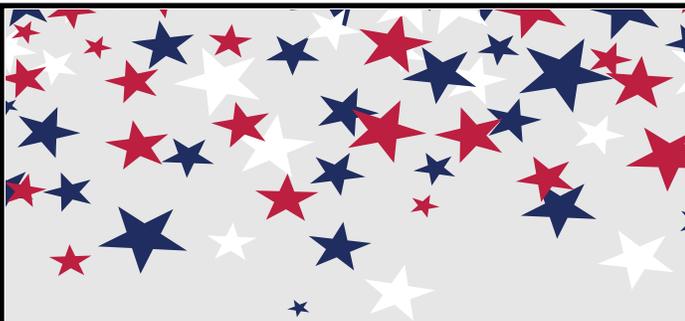
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The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 803 would like to invite you to our

Annual Veteran's Dinner Dance

Saturday, November 9

6 pm to 10 pm

\$40/pp – Cash Bar

**COCKTAILS & HORS D'OEUVRES
AT 6:00 PM**

BUFFET DINNER TO FOLLOW

**ADVANCED TICKET SALES ONLY
RSVP BY NOV. 4, 2019**

For more information please call
Margie Brock at 631-765-1357

Live Music by Studio G



**SETUP FOR THE EVENT WILL BE ON FRIDAY, NOV. 8TH AT 6:00PM.
THE BAR WILL BE OPEN WITH PIZZA TO FOLLOW.**



Public Relations Officer Volunteer Needed

We are seeking someone to fill the position of Public Relations Officer. The duties for this position consist of reaching out to the media regarding events that are taking place here at the Post, updating our Go Daddy website i.e. www.Post803.com, updating our Facebook page and promoting Post 803 to the public. If you are interested in this position please reach out to the Commander 631-702-3083.



Every anniversary of 9/11 the local 9/11 committee and the Southold Town Fire Chiefs Council participate in a remembrance ceremony at Jean Cochran Park to honor those lost on that day. "Never Forget!" Became the saying after 9/11 but as time passes we do tend to forget.

To help us remember and to understand the past I would like to invite all of you to attend a chronological presentation at Jean Cochran Park prior to the ceremony. Another wonderful way to remember on this day is to participate in planting flags provided by the committee throughout the park. Each flag represents a life lost on 9/11.

**Date: Wednesday, September 11th
Time: Presentation 4:30PM
Fire Department Ceremony: 6:30PM**

Paulette Ofrias

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SOUTHOLD AMERICAN LEGION POST #803

AMERICAN

ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ

LEGION

September 14 – 2019 • 4pm–7pm

Takeout Available – Advanced Ticket Sales Call 631.407.5555 – \$25 per ticket

.....
Includes:

1 Beer or Soda, 1/2 Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Dessert



Mail Your Check:

Attn. Jose Perez – American Legion Post 803, P.O. Box 591, Southold, NY 11971



SUPPORT FOR COLOR GUARD MEMBERS

I'm excited to report that our new member to the Legion Tom Lamothe has volunteered for the color guard and he is extremely excited to assist. He was in the Air Force color guard and he will bring a wealth of knowledge to the job. We still need more volunteers and as stated last month, We will pay for your uniform and your only duty is to support the Memorial Day Parade, 4th of July Parade and our Veteran's Day Ceremony. If you are a member that never volunteers because you don't have the time I'm sure you can commit to just these three events or at least be on the roster with other members to ensure we have enough people for the parades. This is a great way for you to support the 3rd Pillar of the American Legion... AMERICANIMS!

If you are interested please call Jeff Chagnon
- Post Chaplain
Hm. 631-765-6077,
Cell 631-456-6077

LEGIONNAIRE LEGISLATION



In a significant legislative victory for The American Legion, President Trump signed a bill July 30 that declares the United States has been in a state of war since Dec. 7, 1941.

The American Legion sought the declaration as a way to honor approximately 1,600 U.S. servicemembers who were killed or wounded during previously undeclared periods of war.

The LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act) also opens the door for approximately 6 million veterans to access American Legion programs and benefits for which they previously had not been eligible.

“Recognizing the service of these wartime veterans is the right thing to do and it is long overdue,” National Commander Brett Reistad said. “The families of those who were killed or wounded during these wartime acts should take pride in knowing that we recognize their sacrifice and service. Moreover, we are proud to welcome any of the six million living veterans from the previously unrecognized periods into our organization and call them ‘Legionnaires.’”

Now that the legislation has been signed, The American Legion’s eligibility criteria immediately changes from seven war eras to two: April 6, 1917, to Nov. 11, 1918, and Dec. 7, 1941 to a time later determined by the federal government. No other restrictions to American Legion membership are changed.

The law’s journey began on Feb. 14 when Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., introduced S. 504, along with Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C. A companion measure, H.R. 1641, was introduced in the House by Reps. Lou Correa, D-Calif., and Ben Cline, R-Va.

Reistad expressed gratitude to the bipartisan members of Congress for passing the legislation.

Legislation continues next page

LEGION AUXILIARY POST 803

As we look forward to the cooler temperatures of autumn we also appreciate the great summer we had! The Summer Fair was a wonderful success and as I write this we are looking forward to a spectacular weekend for the Car Show. The Auxiliary hosted the July Social and Claire would like to share this letter of thanks to all who helped her make it such a great event:

“To all my Legion Post #803 friends who helped me with the July Social, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you did! The event would not have been such a success without all your help! And what a good time we had doing it! I love being on your team!!!

Thank you Margie, Earl, Charlotte, Carl, Priscilla, Joanie, Janique, Jan, Bob, Gary, Linda, Bill, Rich, Bob, Donna, Joe and my hubby Tom!! I hope I didn’t miss anyone! So sorry if I did. I thank you too!!! Charles, you were missed!!!

I also want to thank Southold IGA for the unbelievably delicious country style pork ribs and the meat department for being so accommodating! We love our friends at IGA!!

What a wonderful experience it was! And how wonderful it is to have such a great community who came out in spades to support the Social! I thank you all too!! We hope you keep coming back!!! See you soon!!!”

Claire Kennedy Thank you Claire for doing such a great job as chair of the event!

We would also like to express our special thanks to Patty DeGreggario who donated the pair of chairs located in the entry of the Legion Hall. They look great! And a big thank you goes to Denise for finding them and Bob for picking them up!

At our August meeting we discussed upcoming projects including sending gift cards to the troops during the holidays. Let us know if you have loved ones overseas. Suffolk County American Legion Auxiliary is planning a coat drive for the fall and we also plan to do some grocery gift card donations. Next spring there will be two Marine reunions in town and we plan to get involved with this great cause.

Due to the efforts of Donna and Linda we voted to order new sugar bowls and replace some salt and pepper shakers and lids. We discussed the Veterans Day Dinner on Saturday November 9th - remember the American Legion is celebrating 100 years! Our Holiday Fair is shaping up nicely and will be held on Sunday November 3rd.

We voted to return to the second Wednesday of the month for our regular meeting night. I hope to see you all at our next meeting on Wednesday September 11th.

Remember to mark your calendars for the annual Legion Chicken Barbecue on Saturday September 14th!

Joan Cochran, *President*

Legislation

continued from previous page

“We are grateful that President Trump fully acknowledges the importance of The American Legion by signing the LEGION Act in the White House today – just one week after it passed the House of Representatives,” Reistad said. “In an era of partisan gridlock, Republicans and Democrats in Congress overwhelmingly recognized the importance of allowing thousands of honorable but previously ineligible veterans the right to join the largest and most influential veterans organization in the country.”

Reistad pointed out that existing American Legion membership applications are in the process of being updated but can still be used. “In the meantime, I recommend that prospective Legionnaires and recruiters write ‘LEGION Act’ in the eligibility date section of American Legion membership applications if they fall outside the previous war eras,” Reistad said. “The larger pool of veterans now eligible for The American Legion will also open their family members to eligibility in the Sons of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary as well.”

This article was obtained from the Legion website: <https://www.legion.org/membership/246557/legion-act-signed-law>

POST 803 LOOKING TO THE FUTURE OUR LONG-TERM GOALS & NEEDS

We will be installing a fundraiser thermometer in front of the Post to raise funds for the Legion to address our Long Term Goals. Eventually we need to address these needs because the Post is showing its age and there is no better way to do this than to increase our building funds so that we may accurately plan for the accomplishment of these goals. We are seeking your help to begin to address these issues and ensure the stability of the Post. We have been repairing the roof and bathroom issues for years but these small repairs will not last forever. If you are able to contribute financially or perhaps you have a construction company or construction skills and would like to assist us then please reach out to me or Joe St. Pierre our designated in-house construction expert. Call the post and leave a message for either one of us 631-765-2276.

- 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

2019 Goals

- ✓ **Raise \$20,000 for Building Projects Above Normal Fundraising**
- ✓ **Paint Main Hall**
- ✓ **Replace Broken Post 803 Decorative Light Fixture Front of Post** - Thank you to Joe St Pierre for installing the light fixture and Bill Kietsek for his donation and Bill Von Eijff's donation of the emblem
- ✓ **New Permanent Sign in Front of Post**
Co-chair Denise Thilberg, E.J. Flynn & Bob Cochran
- ✓ **Purchase New Bar Stools and Tables for Bar**
Co-chair Denise Thilberg & Jim Best
- ✓ **Mission Accomplished! Thank you Bob Cochran for all your hard work on coordinating this!**
- ✓ **Repair Brick Steps Emergency Exit and Front of Building** - Co-chair Joe St. Pierre & Michael Devine
- ✓ **Install New Soda Dispenser in Bar** - Bartenders agreed not to install soda dispenser at this time.
- ✓ **Install New Professional Coffee Maker in Kitchen** - Thank you to Chaplain Jeff Chagnon and our generous donors Doris Sherman, Paul Krieling, and Al Kropp
- ✓ **Repair or Replace Kitchen Stoves**
Stoves repaired! Thank you Joe St. Pierre and Jan Powers for coordinating this!

Brass Memory Plates

I would like to purchase a brass plate to help support the purchase of new bar furniture.

This brass plate is:

In honor of _____

OR

In memory of _____

I'm including my check for \$100.00.

Sincerely: _____

Please make your check out to American Legion Post 803 and mail to P.O.Box 591 Southold, NY 11971

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 09/10 Tues. Executive and Business Meeting:
Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7:30PM
- 09/11 Wed. Commander's 911 Presentation:
Jean Cochran Park Peconic 4:30PM
- 09/11 Wed. Auxiliary Meeting:
Bar 6:30PM Meeting 7:00PM
- 09/13 Fri. Volunteer Chicken BBQ Setup: 6PM
- 09/14 Sat. American Legion Annual Chicken BBQ:
4PM-7PM
- 09/21 Sat. 30th Annual East End Maritime Festival Parade 11AM
- 09/NA SAL Meeting: Next Meeting in November!!!
- 09/NA Dinner Social: NO MORE DINNER SOCIALS UNTIL 2020
- 10/08 Tues. Executive and Business Meeting: Bar 6:30PM
Meeting 7:30PM
- 10/09 Wed. Auxiliary Meeting: 7PM



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

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