

THERE ARE NO LOSERS IN AMVETS

Commander Emery Perry



Greeting Fellow AMVETS Member,
I look forward to seeing you at the National Convention in August in New Orleans.
As we resume more in person activities and operations with COVID-19 still among us and Monkey Pox on the rise, we must remain vigilant and take steps to support health and safety guidelines.
Thank you, to all who were present and supported me at my installation in June at the Spring SEC Meeting. I was humble and excited to become your commanding officer.

The Fall SEC Meeting will be October 7-8, 2022 in Binghamton.
Unfortunately, we lost post 101, they were advised to join other posts or become MALs. Please remember that recruitment of members is the key to success and everyone's responsibility. I was happy to visit and participate in the installation of officers at Post 88 on June 25, 2022.
FYI: FORT DRUM: Annual Remembrance Ceremony (Memorial Park, August 30, 2022 (10:30a.m.-11:30 a.m.)). If you plan to attend, you will need Photo ID to get onto post. Contact Person: Loretta DiBrino.
Again, thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans at the National Convention.

Yours in AMVETS,
Commander Emery A. Perry

1st Vice Commander Joe Ashman



Thank you for electing me to the office of 1st Vice Commander. I appreciate your continued confidence in me as I continue to represent you at the Department level. I pledge to do the very best I can to make this a successful year for all of us.
Membership is the key to our growth and success. Please help the Department by committing your Post to increase your membership by 10% for the 2022-2023 year. It may seem like a lofty goal, but with everyone's commitment and creativity, it's absolutely achievable.

The assignment of MALs remains on our priority list for this year. Member at Large (MAL) are members of AMVETS who are not assigned to a home Post. Bringing these members into the fold of a local Post serves a few of purposes. It allows the member to be in touch with their comrades for support and gives them access to Post functions. It also increases that Post's membership count, which could ultimately strengthen their delegate count. If you know an MAL who may wish to transfer into your Post, I welcome your assistance in making this happen.
I look forward to working with you to make this a great year for AMVETS. If I can be of any assistance to any member or Post, please feel free to contact me by phone or email.

Yours in AMVETS,
Joe Ashman
1st Vice Commander
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Auxiliary President Susan Gardner



To the AMVETS family,
I wish you all a prosperous year. May we all grow together.
To the Ladies Auxiliary, I thank you for having faith in me to elect me as your President for the year 2022-2023.
It is truly an honor and a privilege. I will do the best of my ability. I am looking forward to meeting many of you at your Home Post.
PLEASE, do not forget to take all the credit you deserve when you write your service reports. It is very important that

we let the National Officers know all the work we do.
My Theme this year is (Putting All Veterans First).
My project for this year is CAMP SERENITY, WOUNDED WARRIOR OUTDOOR ADVENTURE.
May everyone have a Wonderful summer. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Fall SEC.

Susan Gardner
AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary
Department of New York President

Executive Director Rich Rossi



As many of you know I had to miss the Dept. Convention for Health reasons. I would personally like to Thank You for all your prayers, Cards and Phone calls, they went a long way. Right now, I am almost 80% back to Normal (my normal) so watch out. This means Cigars, Imbibing, Gambling etc. The only thing missing is Golf which I hope to try before the Oct. SEC. Right now, most of you are attending the National Convention in New Orleans. That is the only Convention

I wanted to attend out of the last couple but Carol was having a Hip Replacement so I had to stay home and "guard her". Our next SEC is on Oct. 7th and 8th. This will be Commander Perrys First meeting so let's have a good showing. Because there are a number of issues that we have to discuss that I was going to address at the Convention but now I have to do so at the SEC. The Zone Commanders meeting will be very Important. One of the issues is dues. Right now, some people believe that dues went up one dollar. That is not the case but the format used by National to collect dues makes it appear that dues were raised but that is not the case. Look forward to seeing you guys in October, I MISS YOU GUYS.



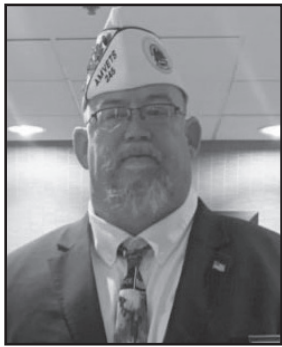
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PREAMBLE to the AMVETS CONSTITUTION
We, the American Veterans who have served or are serving in the Armed Forces of the United States during and since World War II, fully realizing our responsibility to our community, to our state and to our nation, associate ourselves for the following purposes: to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States; to safeguard the principles of freedom, liberty and justice for all; to promote the cause of peace and goodwill among nations; to maintain inviolate the freedom of our country; to preserve the fundamentals of democracy; the perpetuate the friendship and associations of these veterans; and to dedicate ourselves to the cause of mutual assistance, this by the grace of God.

Editor's Message

Darrin Keech, Empire AMVET Editor



Fellow AMVETS,

I want to say it is an honor to serve as the editor of The Empire AMVET. I enjoy reading your submissions and would like to encourage all to submit articles for the paper. It is a great way to showcase your doings and accomplishments. If members are sending images from their smart phones or tablets, send them as Actual size. And photos exported from Facebook, while they look good on their monitor will not reproduce well for print media. Make sure all photos are in jpeg format and sent as an attachment, not embedded in a word document.

I would like to see more stories of posts doings, as well as stories of veterans in action along with a good bit of history too.

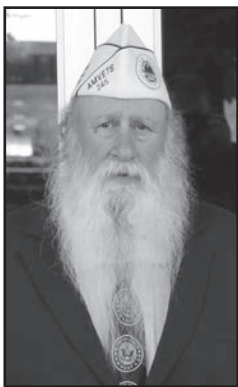
I am available to help in any way I can. The email address to submit articles is empireamvet1@gmail.com You may also mail articles and pictures via usps to Darrin Keech 3247 County Route 31 Canisteo NY14823. Pictures sent via email need to be in jpeg format. Captions are needed please. If I can be of any assistance feel free to reach out with any questions or ideas.

Thank You for your help in making our paper something to look forward to seeing in the mail. Remember it is also available on our dept website too.

Darrin Keech
Editor
Empire AMVET

2nd Vice Commander

John Foster



Commander, Officers, and Fellow AMVETS,

I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as 2nd Vice Commander. My project for the year 2022-2023 is a monthly drawing for the month of April 2023, it will be \$50.00 on the mid-day drawing and \$300.00 on the evening draw on the New York Daily Lotto Numbers. There is a bonus drawing for anyone that sells 50 tickets will be entered in a drawing for 2-\$250.00. If anyone is interested in selling tickets my contact information is listed below. By the time the paper is delivered everyone will be back from the National Convention. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the SEC in October.

Yours in AMVETS,

John Foster, 3rd Vice Commander
607-324-4937 Home | 607-382-1634 Cell | whiskers1055@outlook.com

3rd Vice Commander

John McCullough



Greetings fellow Veterans,

Thank you for your support in electing me as your 3rd Vice Commander at the June Convention. I'll work hard and try to not let you down.

Now for the nitty gritty. As I write this, the National Programs Reporting system is still like trying to eat a soup sandwich. You must go to the National website, *AMVETS.Org*, click on Membership, and tab down to Submit Reports, and select Program Reports. There you will find a few notes that tell you the system is broken and what to do.

After National's Address, there is a line "Online Reporting" for you to click on. This will bring up The Programs Reporting

Form for you to fill out. You can report 7 events per page. Next to the number, put in the date. Tab to Number of Volunteers, then tab to # of Hours. It may or may not do the math for the \$TOTAL. Next tab to #MILES. Again, it may or may not tabulate the TOTAL. Next Tab to Activity Cost. This is the cost of materials, food, etc. beyond hours and miles. Next Tab is Cash Donations. Actual cash your Post gave to the charity. The Column Total Cost of Program may or may not total for you. Next is the harder part. Click on the row below the date. This will bring up the choices for classification of the activity. If you cannot find a close one, there's always Other Community Service. These are the categories National uses when they report to or testify before Congress. Your FINAL tab is to Description. This is where you put what it is you are reporting i.e., fundraiser dinner for the Scouts, Senior Dance,

— 3rd Vice Commander, continued top of next column

luncheon for Veterans, etc.

After you complete the form, you may either email to National at programs@amvets.org or mail to AMVETS National Programs, ATTN: Reporting, 4647 Forbes Blvd., Lanham MD 20706.

If you mail the form in **do not send** a duplicate copy. You can also send the report to me, and I will forward to National. If you do send it to me, please let me know if you sent it to National and my copy is info only.

My mailing address is: 7122, SH 37, Ogdensburg NY 13669.

My Email is johnmcc1225@aol.com.

Thank You for your patience on this. With a lot of luck, by the time you read this the problems at National will be solved.

John D. McCullough
3rd Vice Commander

IMPORTANT DATES - MARK THEM DOWN!

The following are dates for Department Meetings in 2022

Fall SEC:

Friday, October 7 and Saturday, October 8

District 1 Meeting - November 18-20, Windsor, Connecticut

**This list contains each Post and which Zone they are in.
Each Zone has a contact name and phone number.**

If there is an error in the information below, please call Rich Rossi at 516-312-2896

**Missing Post, incorrect Zone, or your Post should be in another Zone*

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ZONE FIVE

SAM RITI

914-819-2333

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38-40-50-103-826-917-1213-2004-2017-2752-2946

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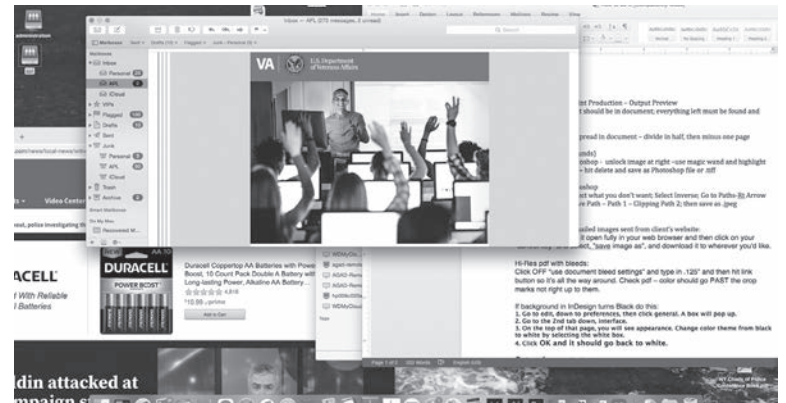


Train for a New Job with VRRAP

If you're a Veteran who lost your job due to the COVID-19 pandemic, VA may have a solution for you. The Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP) offers education and training for a variety of high-demand jobs so you can get back to work.

Qualifying Veterans can receive up to 12 months of tuition and fees along with a monthly housing allowance.

To be eligible for VRRAP, you must be between 22 and 66 years of age, unemployed due to COVID-19, able to work, and not eligible for education or unemployment benefits.



The Empire AMVET is published 3 times a year by the Department of New York in conjunction with American Publishing, LLC
Jenny DeBack, Owner



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**WE STAND
AND SALUTE
THE UNITED
STATES
OF
AMERICA**

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Post News Statewide

Post 4 - MASSENA

Post 4 Newly Elected Officers

On Tuesday May 17, 2022 the Amvets Post 4 held their annual election of officers. We are grateful for those who accepted the positions to serve the Amvets and the community at large and wish them a very successful year.



Pictured left to right: Darin Oakes, Will LaBross and Ken Kells, Bar Committee; Chris LaPrade, Chaplin; Mel Phelix Provost Marshal; Alan Ashley, Judge Advocate; Mike Villeneuve, Adjutant; Jim Gardner, Finance Officer; Ron Marshall, 3rd Vice; Tim Mattice, 2nd Vice; Lee Fregoe, 1st Vice; and Fred Cockayne, Commander.

Hosted Carp Shoot

The Amvets Post 4 hosted the 45th annual St. Lawrence Bowfishing Championship during June 17th to 19th 2022 at the Riverfront. Sandi Cockayne, President of the Ladies Auxiliary 4 and her volunteer's prepared a variety of food with the proceeds going into our Christmas Donations, while Fred Cockayne, Post 4 Commander hosted the tournament and has been for the past 40 years. Top prize was \$1,000 for the largest carp went to Chris Saures. We anticipate hosting many of these events in the future.



Dylan LaMora and Tyler Jones, grandsons of Sandi and Fred Cockayne show largest carp contenders.



Massena Ladies Auxiliary 4 Chaplin Sandi, Auxiliary President & Fred Cockayne, Commander Post 4 Instrumental in the Carp Shoot.



Our Post 4 Rifle Squad stood guard at Massena's annual Memorial Day Celebration at the Andrew Street Veterans Memorial Park.

Pictured from left to right are Commander Fred Cockayne, Tim Mattice, Ken Kells, Randy Montour, Leo Murphy, Jim Gardner, Fred Tram, Mel Phelix, Jerry Rubado and Larry Paige.

Massena Ladies Auxiliary 4 Scholarship Awarded

On Monday May 16, 2022 the Amvets Massena Ladies Auxiliary 4 presented a scholarship check to this year's recipient. Every year Senior's from Massena Central School have the opportunity to complete an application. They must follow explicit instructions which must be signed by our local Auxiliary President. Included in the application is an official high school transcript and a copy of the letter of acceptance from an accredited college or university. The applicant then must write an essay of approximately 250 words stating goals and objectives for their future. Applications are then reviewed by Auxiliary members and a winner is selected.



This year Kailee Olivia Paige won the award of \$1,000.00. She is an eighteen-year-old Massena Central Senior who will be studying for a Bachelor's Degree in Neuroscience at the University of Rochester in the Fall. Presenting her award is Sandra Cockayne, President; Jeremy Paige, Father of Recipient; Kailee and Julie Pratti, 2nd Vice and grandmother.



Massena Ladies Auxiliary 4 stands Susan Gardner, NYS Department Ladies Auxiliary President for 2022-2023.



Rosalee Waid, NYS Dept Parliamentarian Post 726 presented the outgoing NYS Dept. Ladies Aux. President, Cindy Queyor, Post 8 and the newly elected NYS Dept. Ladies Aux. President, Susan Gardner, Post 4.



Massena Ladies Auxiliary 4 is proud to present Mary Lou LaPointe, appointed the Americanism Chairperson, and Valerie Harrington, voted PRO/Historian Officer for the NYS Dept. Ladies Auxiliary for 2022-2023.



Son's Installation

Amvets Post 4 Sons Ben Gladding, elected for 2022-2023 NYS Dept. Provost Marshall on the right and Andy LaPointe elected Adjutant on left initiated at the NYS Dept. Sons Convention along with Scott Devery, President and Lee Smith, 1st Vice in the center.



Post 4 - continued from Pg. 4

Father's Day Breakfast

Our Massena Ladies Auxiliary 4 sponsors a free Father's Day breakfast for all Amvets father's, while guests pay a nominal fee.



Pictured are the kitchen help for this day Auxiliary President, Sandi Cockayne; 3rd Vice, Joy Hughes and 2nd Vice, Julie Pratti.

On Friday, August 6, 2022 Alan Ashley, Post 4 Judge Advocate, hosted a Meet & Greet for the Massena Central High School 1980's Mega Reunion for all the Veterans and First Responder attending the reunion. There were over 30 attending with their guests. Sandi Cockayne, President and Connie Barto, Parliamentarian provided a vegetable and fruit platter from the Ladies Auxiliary and a cake was donated by Alan's sister, Vonda Davis. Each Vet and Responder was given one drink ticket by Alan who was also a 1982 graduate. Our Dept. of NYS President of the Ladies Auxiliary attended as well as our Commander, Fred Cockayne.



MCHS Mega Reunion Veterans and First Responders.



Susan Gardner, NYS Dept. Ladies Auxiliary President.



Commander Fred Cockayne with Alan Ashley, Judge Advocate & Chairperson for the Reunion.



Connie Barto and Sandi Cockayne clean berries to be added to the tray.

Post 8 - MALONE



Post 8 would like to thank Auxiliary 8 member Jackie Rowe for setup and daily maintenance of our 22-A-Day Display at the Franklin County Fair in Malone. PDC's Jim Benware and Hal Queyor assisted with the booth and Post 8 won a 1st Place Blue Ribbon for content and appearance.



U.S. Congresswoman Elise Stefanik stopped by the Post 8 County Fairstand to visit with our staff and PDC Hal Queyor.



Riders Bar-B-Que

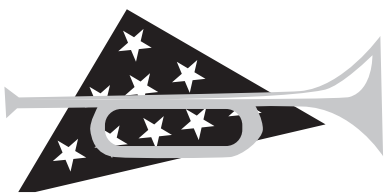
Post 8 Riders held a Bar-B-Que and member drive on Sunday, May 22 at the Post home and used their refurbished Smoker. Pictured (L-R) are Chapter 8 Riders Pres Walt Brand, Department Commander and Riders 8 Chaplain Hal Queyor, Riders 8 1st Vice Mike Mainville and Post 8 Commander Bruce Allen.



Post 8 members provided the Color Guard for the Flag Pole Dedication Ceremony on Flag Day, June 14 at the new Homeward Bound Adirondacks Facility in Lake Titus, NY in the Great Adirondack Mountains, which will be up and running soon to treat active duty soldiers and veterans suffering from PTSD. Pictured L-R; Department Cmommander, Hal Queyor; Department Auxiliary President Cindy Queyor; Post 8 Commander and Department Chaplain Bruce Allen; Department Auxiliary Chaplain Doris Allen; Department Sons 1st Vice Lee Smith; and Department Auxiliary PNP and NEC Donna Smith.



Post 8 Finance Officer Hal Queyor presents a check to Auxiliary 8 President Mel Warner for a share of the Lenten Fish Frys put on by the post.



Post 8 - continued from Pg. 5



Department Auxiliary President Cindy Queyor administers the Auxiliary Oath of Office to the newly elected officers of Auxiliary 8.



Department of New York Commander Hal Queyor administers the Oath of Office to the newly elected officers of Squadron 8 Sons of Amvets.



Post 8 members welcome National Auxiliary President Joan Sirek and Past National Commander Duane Miskulin to their post for the Comander's & Presidents' Testimonial.



Lee Smith received the Sons Commander's Award.



North Country Honor Flight.

Malone Chapter 8 Riders received winnings from AMVETS Department of New York.



Post 8 Americanism First Grade winner Jacob Schongar with his Certificate and \$25 cash he won with Auxiliary 8 member Debbie Sansone.



Post 8 members Dave Brunett and Richard Raville put flags on veterans graves in time for the Memorial Day Services.



Post 8 Finance Officer Hal Queyor presents a check to Sons of Amvets Commander Mike Suprenant for their share of the Lenten Fish Frys put on by the post with help from the Sons.



The Post 8 delegation to the Department Convention held in Binghamton on June 9-12.

Annual Adirondack Vet Fest



Post 8 hosted a 22-A-Day booth at The Post 8 hosted a 22-A-Day booth at The Annual Adirondack Vet Fest.



Post 8 22-A-Day staff on duty at the Franklin County Community Connections Mental Health Awareness Day held at North Country Community College. Pictured (L-R) PDC Jim Benware, Sue Tupia, Post 8 Sons Adjutant Benny Bashaw and Department Commander Hal Queyor.



PDC Jim Benware receives a Vietnam War Era Commemorative Pin at The Annual Adirondack Vet Fest held in Malone on July 16.



Post 8 members attend the Annual Adirondack Vet Fest Dinner honoring the Veteran of the Year.



Adirondack Veteran of the Year Award was presented to Post 8 Member and Vietnam Combat Veteran Marvin Raville at the Annual Adirondack Vet Fest held in Malone on July 8th.

Post 18 - East Islip

Auxiliary 18



Dolores Johnson donating clothing to local organization that gives clothing free of charge to anyone in need.



Blood Drive held June 13th, Auxiliary 18 E. Islip volunteers. 1st row is Barbara Chapman and Gloria Morck. 2nd row is Victoria Vatter, Betty Beiner, Marie Meyer and Patricia Wilkens. 3rd row is Josephine Pearl and Blanche Rossetti.



Blood Drive PDP Jane DeSanctis donating blood at the June 13, 2022 Auxiliary 18 Blood Drive.

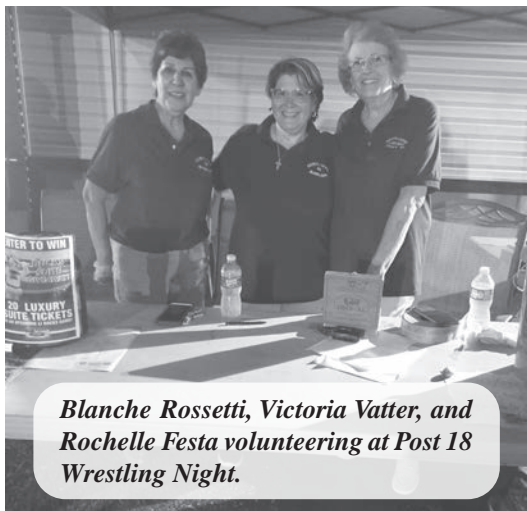
Monthly Breakfast



Some of the veterans at the breakfast.



Betty Beiner, Blanche Rossetti, Ray, and Victoria Vatter at the Veteran's Monthly Breakfast.



Blanche Rossetti, Victoria Vatter, and Rochelle Festa volunteering at Post 18 Wrestling Night.



Auxiliary 18 Ladies helping out at Post 18 fundraiser Nite at the Races. Left to right Rachele Festa, Betty Beiner, Blanche Rossetti, Victoria Vatter, Patricia Wilkens. Seated Madam President Gloria Morck.



Memorial Day Parade May 28, 2022

Members of Post 18 Sons of AMVETS and Ladies Auxiliary participated in the Town of Islip Memorial Day Parade.

Back Row: Ray Meyer, Jr., Ricky Mackey, John Kobel, and Bob Herrel. Front Row: Blanche Rossetti, Victoria Vatter, and Elizabeth Beiner.



Auxiliary 18 East Islip, Auxiliary of The Year. Pictured left to right; Barbara Chapman, Dolores Johnson, Victoria Vatter, President Gloria Morck, Patricia Wilkens and Josephine Pearl.

Post 18 Welcomes National Commander Greg Heun



National Commanders visit. Pictured Madam President Gloria Morck with AMVETS National Commander Greg Heun on his recent visit May 4, 2022 to Post 18, East Islip.



PNC Harold Chapman, National Commander Greg Huen, Post 18 Commander Fred Vatter and Finance Officer George Podlaha.

Auxiliary 18 - Memorial Day



Auxiliary 18 East Islip Josephine Pearl placing flags at Calverton National Cemetery for Memorial Day, May 28, 2022.



Josephine Pearl Auxiliary 18 removing flags at Calverton National Cemetery.



Post 21 - Oyster Bay

AMVETS Post #21 from Oyster Bay, N.Y. - under the leadership of Commander Richard DeJesu - is a relatively small post - BUT boasts at being extremely active for our Veterans community and servicing our entire Oyster Bay community that full-fills the NEEDS of our community through various donations, activities and events - that broadens our exposure as the premier veterans organization throughout our Oyster Bay community.

Elections

Post #21 held our annual Post 21 elections, following AMVETS rules and direction for elections to our various posts for the 2022 - 2023 calendar year. We re-elected the majority of posts held from the 2021 into 2022 year and elected to fill two posts that were temporarily vacant. Loretta DeBrino - AMVETS Department of NY Zone 6 Director, officiated at the swearing in of Post #21 officers for 2022 and 2023. She then swore in Commander Richard DeJesu who will lead us again to another successful period of time and our leader.

AMVETS POST #21 officers and members understands the serious conditions local families are in due to high inflation, food shortages and the remnants of the COVID pandemic. We're working very closely with community church food banks to supply them with non-perishable goods gathered through the very generous collection of goods at our monthly General Meetings. We distribute the goods based on the food banks need for that time period and we always receive a letter of thanks from their ministry for our generous and needed donations. We also do a special toy drive around Christmas time for children that need some holiday cheer and happiness to celebrate that joyous time of year. We know how to arise to the occasion.

Collection Can

For several editions and contacts that Commander DeJesu has had with other POST LEADERS, we've mentioned a very successful "Donation Collection Can System" that Commander DeJesu initiated in Oyster Bay. Since our AMVETS posts get no state or governmental assistance to run their posts and post activities, it's up to EACH POST TO BE CREATIVE in how we raise funds to operate as a post and for the community. Commander DeJesu developed the "Collection Can" system, a coffee can size collection can with our AMVETS MESSAGE for support and with the agreement of owners, is placed on the retailers counter close to the check-out registers where customers can donate to our POST #21. Richard collects the "can funds" twice a month and we announce the proceeds at each General Meeting and Board meeting. The amount of donations we've taken in TO HELP VETERANS, CREATE EVENTS AND COMMUNITY has been "substantial" and that's why Richard recommends that EVERY POST INITIATE A PROGRAM JUST LIKE OURS. If a POST COMMANDER needs to speak to Richard about how to start a "COLLECTION CAN" system, he's willing to discuss it. Please call Commander Richard DeJesu at 516 922-3283.

Bobby Lane - 22-A-DAY

Our Post #21 has the luxury of having an officer **BOBBY LANE**, an expert for handling the "22-A-DAY" suicide prevention activity in our region. He's always willing to set-up a tent with a massive amount of information to educate families, veterans and active-duty service people about the issues of suicide and the preventive care that is available through the prevention hot-line system, which has recently changed to a much easier system to use BY SIMPLY DIALING "988" and then follow brief instructions to be connected to emergency assistance to help defuse any potential suicidal situation. Bobby also collects donations from our street fairs and events that goes directly to the aid the "22-A-DAY" fund to assist the program to reach those in need of preventive care services.



Bob Lane manning our AMVETS Post 21 22 Everyday display at a recent affair.

Theodore Roosevelt Jr. Memorial Stone



Left to Right, Ed Curry Jr, Ed Curry Sr, Bob Selby And Joe Messina Paying respects at Theodore Roosevelt Jr. Memorial Stone.



Left to Right, Bob Selby and Ed Curry Jr. placing memorial wreath at President Theodore Roosevelt's Grave.

Memorial Day Events

Three years ago, Bob Selby was appointed Oyster Bay Town parade and ceremony Chairman and AMVETS Post #21 became the Memorial Day and 4th of July parade and ceremony SPONSOR for our local communities. Two years had suspension of events due to COVID restrictions. **This year was the first for us to manage Memorial Day events for our town.** We were able to organize 27 organizations and groups to march in our rather lengthy parade and 3 local FIRE COMPANIES to march and display their equipment for our thrilled spectators and town visitors. We held a solemn Memorial Day ceremony at our Town Hall with patriotic music played by our High School Band, Bob Selby delivering a memorable Memorial Day message and FIRING DETAIL provided by the Westbury H.S. Jr. ROTC team and "ECHO TAPS" played by 2 brothers with experience to make this a very somber moment - **TO HONOR OUR FALLEN HEROES WHO HAVE SACRIFICED EVERYTHING FOR OUR NATION.**



Left to Right Memorial Day Chairmen Bob Selby and Deacon Jay Valdes Addressing all assembled.

TO HONOR OUR FALLEN HEROES WHO HAVE SACRIFICED EVERYTHING FOR OUR NATION.



Post 21 Member and Westbury High School Navel Jr. ROTC coordinator, Bill Caraballo, helping Cadets set up prior to start of parade .



Post 21 Provost Marshall, Bob Lane, giving pre parade instructions to Firing Squad and Memorial Day Color Guard Cadets from Westbury High School Navel Jr. ROTC.



Memorial Day Firing Detail manned by the cadets from the Westbury, NY Navel Jr. ROTC.



Post 21 First Vice Commander Rich Bellospirito and Ceremony participant's casting roses into Oyster Bay, Harbor.

Post 21 - continued from Pg. 8

Our 2nd holiday parade and ceremony was for the 4th of July, a smaller version of our Memorial Day event. This time we had the honor of having join us and escort the parade into our town, the Patriot Guard Riders, the American Legion Riders, the Blue Knight Riders and the Rolling Thunder Riders. The crowd was thrilled at the patriotic showing by the motorcycle riders. We invited the president of our local BLUE STAR MOTHERS chapter to march and speak to the audience. Our town Supervisor Joseph Saladino was invited to be our key-note speaker and delivered a rousing holiday message filled with the patriotism we're accustomed to hearing. We also had a Teddy Roosevelt impersonator looking and sounding much like President Roosevelt himself. We also had two of our local FIRE COMPANIES join us to display their equipment and their officers and firefighters marched with us to Town Hall. ANOTHER GREAT SHOWING OF OUR PATRIOTISM and community togetherness.



AMVETS Post 21 Color Guard, Left to Right; Joe Messina, Bob Lane and Rich De Jesu.



AMVETS Post 21 members marching in 4th of July parade. Left to Right; Tabatha Robbins, Deacon Jay Valdes, Bob Selby, Joe Messina, Bob Lane and Commander Rich DeJesu.



AMVETS Post 21 4th of July Celebration Oyster Bay, NY. Left to Right; Joe Messina, Tabatha Robins, Bob Selby, Theodore Roosevelt impersonator Joe Wiegand, Commander Rich DeJesu, Deacon Jay Valdes and Bob Lane.



President Theodore Roosevelt impersonator Joe Wiegand marching in AMVETS Post 21 4th of July parade.



AMVETS Post 21 Color Guard. Front: Tabatha Robbins and Bob Hathaway. Rear: Joe Messina, Bob Lane and Rich DeJesu.



Town of Oyster Bay Officials. Left to Right; Town Clerk Rich LaMarca, Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor Joe Saladino and Candidate for NY State assemblyman Jake Blumencranz. All Taking part in our AMVETS Post 21 4th of July Parade.

Lost At Sea



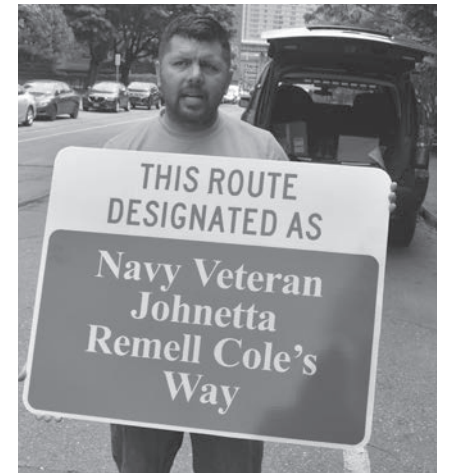
Left to Right; Bob Selby, Deacon Jay Valdes and Tabatha Robbins.

Post 24 - Buffalo

Street Sign Dedication



Members of the Johnetta R. Cole Amvets Post Number 24 along with the family of Johnetta R. Cole plus Superintendent of Traffic Signals and Signs for the City of Buffalo New York, Nicholas Pugliese, viewing the street sign that will be erected on May 28 2022 to honor Navy Veteran Johnetta R. Cole at the corners of Main and Glenwood in Buffalo.



Nicholas Pugliese, Buffalo, New York Superintendent of Traffic Signals and Signs, delivering the trailblazing sign for review on May 25, 2022 to Amvets Johnetta R. Cole Post Number 24 members at the Naval and Military Park in Buffalo New York.

Memorial Day



Command Debbie Reynolds of the Johnetta R. Cole Amvets Post 24, being interviewed on Memorial Day 2022 in Buffalo, New York by a local news reporter.



Provost Marshall Sam Murphy of a Johnetta R. Cole Amvets Post 24 at Memorial Day Celebration at the Historic Concordia Cemetery in Buffalo, New York on May 28, 2022.



Johnetta R. Cole Amvets Post Number 24 members at the Juneteenth Festival in Buffalo New York on June 19, 2022.



Alice and Jerry Bowman receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from the Johnetta R. Cole Amvets Post Number 24 on June 14th, 2022 for recognition of their recently deceased brother, Carl Bowman, who was very active with Post 24.



SY 21-22 Award Ceremony Hofstra University April 29, 2022 Post 1013 American Veteran Awardee Emery A Perry, 1st Commander Dept of NY, MSII Cadet Scott Morsette & Joseph Rheams, Post 1013 Commander

Post 35 - Schenectady



Rollin Thunder's "Up-State" Thunder Run on June 25, 2022
 Joe Ballas, Post 2000 and Zone 4 Director and a Bike Rider with Gene Loparco Post #35 attends at Colonie's Robert L. Weininger VFW Post 8692.



Schenectady County "Hometown Heroes" Banners' Event on May 20, 2022
 From left to right: "E.J." Knapik, Post 35 Assemblyman and Past Commander Angelo Santabarbara, Linda Loparco, Gene Loparco, with good friends and honoree, Army PFC. Armin "Skip" Nickel and wife, Joan.



Schenectady County's "Honor-A-Veteran" Posthumous Ceremony On May 21, 2022
 St. Luke's Catholic Church Center for Army Pfc. Morton "Mort" R. Miller.; "E.J." Knapik Bill Frank Schenectady County Veterans Bureau Affairs Director and Gene Loparco with other participants.



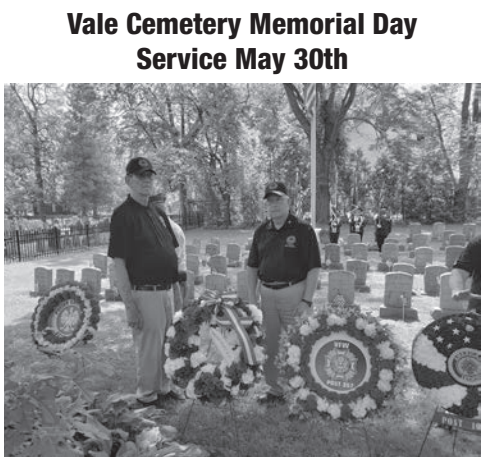
Scholarship Post 35.



Jr. ROTC Albany.



Bradt School.



Vale Cemetery Memorial Day Service May 30th



Placement of Flags at Saratoga National Cemetery on May 28th
 Front Row from right to left: Post Commander Fred Clark, Fred Whelan, Georgina Frese, Kathy Van Iderstyne, Amy Davis. Back Row from right to left: Dave Bullett, Tony Chagnon, Doug Van Iderstyne, Jeff Bentley, Tony Guzzardi, John Koelker.



Rotterdam Parade.



Scotia Parade Group.



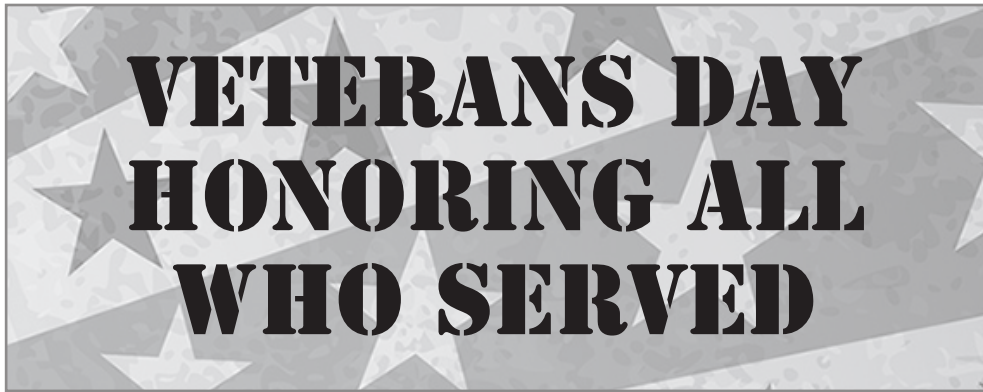
Rotterdam Memorial Day Parade May 26, 2022
 Pictured in left photo: Grand Marshall - Bob Becker and family. Right photo, walkers: Kathy Van Iderstyne, Georgina Frese, (holding banner) Jeannine Mannarino, Fred Whelan, Bill Frank, Angelo Santabarbara, Amy Davis, Michael Santabarbara, (holding banner) Gene Loparco. We had 7 others but were riding in vehicles Tony Guzzardi, Fred Clark, Nora Wakeley, John Koelker, Tony Chagnon, Ron Boisjoli, Doug Van Iderstyne.



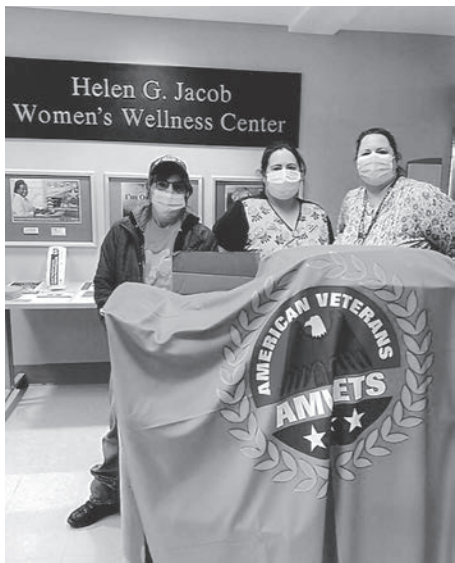
Post 35 and Post 797 attended a Symposium on Military Trauma, Challenges and Resolutions and an information table for "22 a Day" held on April 24. Left to right: Mike Lever, Barry Lill, Kathleen Lill, all from Post 797 and from Post 35 Jeannine Mannarino (Program Coordinator), Andrew Berry (Speaker), William Frank (Schenectady County Veterans Rep and Speaker), Doug Van Iderstyne, Kathy Van Iderstyne, missing from picture is Doc Perryman.



Swearing in of New Officers for 2022-2023 on June 23, 2022
 From right to left: Swearing in by Past Commander Angelo Santabarbara - Kathy Van Iderstyne Commander (front), Georgina Frese Adjutant. (behind) Back Row: Doc Perryman 2nd Vice Commander, Ron Boisjoli Finance Officer, Doug Van Iderstyne 1st Vice Commander, Fred Clark looking on as outgoing Commander.



Post 45 - Orchard Park



April 12, 2022 - Commander Carmela Rigoli with staff members at Women's Wellness Center, Buffalo VA hospital donations for Women's Veterans. Courtesy of NYS AMVETS Service Foundation.

Check Presentation

July 22, 2022 - Presented check, Funds Supporting Whirlwind Veterans & Warrior Retreat, Eoen, NY. Helping to complete projects at hand. Where any and all Veterans are welcome.



Estelle Kester, Carmela Rigoli, Chuck Munson and Jerrod Kester at Sanctuary Barn, which for now houses the chickens, hens, pigs and piglets and goats. Funds will be used to make Barn and area around much more liveable for the animals.



Jerrod Kester - President and owner, Chuck Munson, Estelle Kester - Chief Executive Officer, and Carmela Rigoli - Commander.



Jerrod and Estelle Kester, check recipients supporting Whirlwind.

Annual Car Show at Elk's Lodge - Post 45 Home and Proud Sponsor



Back row: John Skwara, Chuck Munson, David Bridon, Gloria Kolowski and Dennis Kulczyk-Purple Heart Recipient. Front row: Carmela Rigoi, Pat Skwara and Andrea Bridon.



Dennis Kulczyk with plaque in his truck.



John Skwara, Chuck Munson, David Bridon, Pat Skwara, Post 45 for the "Purple Heart" Truck.



Purple Heart Truck.



Post 45 - Orchard Park - continued from left side



Purple Heart Truck.



Presented Plaque to owners of 1956 Studabaker.



WHIRLWIND VETERANS AND WARRIOR RETREAT

10210 Clarksburg Road Eden New York 14057

Whirlwindveteransandwarriorretreat.org
wwwrinc@gmail.com

Phone: 716 597 7212

Jerrod W. Kester
President and Founder

MISSION STATEMENT

To create an environment of healing by providing resources through farming, raising animals, fishing, trails, gardening, horseback riding, beekeeping, and fostering master resiliency techniques.



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Estelle Kester
Chief Executive Officer

WE SUPPORT OUR VETERANS

2022 Dept. of New York Convention

Auxiliary Luncheon



CONGRATULATIONS! to the newly installed Ladies Auxiliary President Sue Gardner.



Outgoing Department Commander, Hal Queyor and wife Cindy with Incoming Department Commander, Emery Perry and wife Edna.



Department Commander Hal Queyor presents the Amvet of the Year Award to Sam Riti of NY Post 40.



The 4 Banditos.



Departmentt Commander Hal serves lunch to the department past Commanders as an rite of passage ritual which is done every year at the annual Past Commanders Luncheon on Friday during the annual convention.



The newly elected Department Commander Emery Perry.



The Department Sheriff proofs convention chairlady Mary Lanphere at the Commanders Hoedown to be sure she is old enough to imbibe.



HQ53 The Amvets Dept of New York Sheriff with his Lady Fair at the Commander's Hoedown at the annual Amvets Convention in Binghamton.



HQ74 We had a sold out crowd for the Commander's Hoedown with Cowboys and Cowgirls all over the place. A Special thanks to the Fabulous Rustic Ramblers for the great music.

2022 Dept. of New York Convention

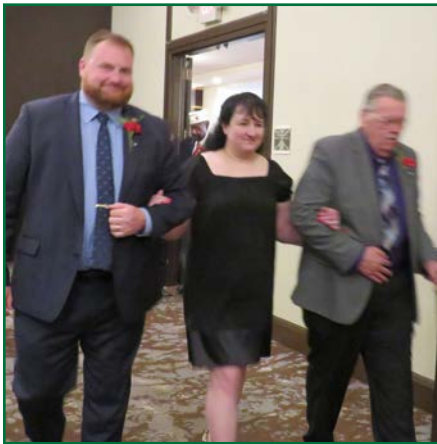


Commander Hal and President Cindy take some time off to enjoy our Friday night Fiesta at the annual convention.



PDC Hal Queyor and Post 8 Commander, Bruce Allen along with members of Post 8 and local area vets receive a Vietnam War Era Commemorative Pin and Certificate at Adirondack Vet Fest held in Malone.

Commander's Banquet



National Executive Director Joe Chenelly and his lovely wife, Dawn, entering the Commanders Banquet.



Outgoing Department Commander Hal Queyor and Ladies Auxiliary President Cindy Queyor accompanied by PDC Dave Feary and PDC Jack Gray entering the Department Commanders Banquet.



Newly Elected Executive Board



Post 48 - Ronkonkoma



Fred Pearl Post 48 and wife Josephine Ladies Auxiliary 18 attended the 72nd Anniversary of The Beginning of The Korean War held at The Armed Forces Plaza, Hauppauge Long Island. Pictured honored guest speaker & Thomas Ronayne, Director Suffolk Veterans Service Agency.



Pictured is Karl Sundquist at Lake Ronkonkoma Memorial weekend street fair getting ready for membership drive and donations to help veterans.



Sons Squadron 48 held a Craft Fair and Basket Auction. Pictured left to right Tony Mazzola, John Neuhaus President his wife Melissa, Kenny Reid, and Kenny Holmes.



This organization trains and places service dogs but also provides a variety of other services for Veterans. Pictured left to right; Casey, of Paws of War, & Fred Pearl Post 48 presenting check.



Donation to American Vet Dogs. Services animals are trained to meet the specific needs of the recipient. Pictured Fred Pearl, Amy, & Rusty the Dog.



Donation to VIBS an organization which offers a number of services to victims of abuse. Pictured left to right Feride & Heather of VIBS, and Fred Pearl of Post 48.



Fred Pearl, Boomer, and Lisa Gatti Founder and CEO of Pal-O-Mine. Their mission is to provide a comprehensive therapeutic equine program using horses to facilitate growth, learning, and healing.



U.S.A. Patriot Amputee Softball Team

Dan Lopez Army Veteran, Desiree Ellison Executive Director, and Fred Pearl Post 48 Ronkonkoma presenting check for \$1,000.00.

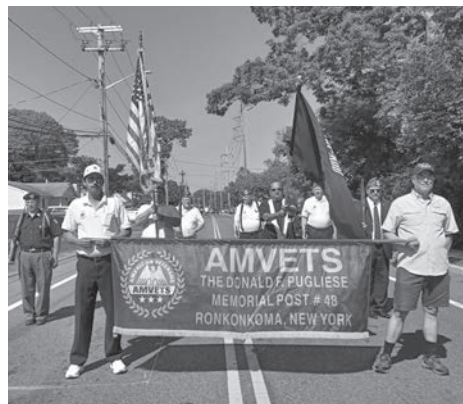
Calverton Cemetery



Commander Mike Dickson and 3rd Vice Fred Pearl ready to place flags at Calverton National Cemetery for Memorial Day.



Removing of Flags at Calverton.



Post 48 getting ready to lead Lake Ronkonkoma Memorial Day parade.



Memorial Day Service at Lake Ronkonkoma.



On May 22nd, Post 48 held a fundraiser and membership drive. Pictured is 1st vice Carlo Milillo.



Post 48 held a White Clover donation to support veterans. Pictured left to right Fred Pearl and Wayne Andersen

Post 48 - Ronkonkoma - continued from page 14



Pictured left to right Fred Pearl, Wayne Andersen, Harold Chapman, Theresa Storms, & Commander Mike Dickson Braving the elements of this cold, wet stormy day to sell plants for Mothers Day.



Post 48 Ronkonkoma NY Pictured left to right Wayne Andersen & Karl Sundquist at Stonebridge Country Club accepting donations which will be used to support veteran programs.



Pictured left to right Fred Pearl, Peggy President Blue Star Mothers, Ed Teller, and Rosemarie Blue Star Mother.



Post 48 Fred Pearl delivering unservicable U S American flag to Calverton National Cemetery for proper retirement.

Post 49 - Amherst

Memorial Day at Williamsville Cemetery



Amherst Post #49 Cmdr. Andrew Peirce, Ismailia Shrine LOH & Potentate Dennis Caldwell, AJ Jurek Amer. Legion Post 1672 Rifle Squad, LTC Dan Howard, Retired USArmy VFW 416. Police.



Amherst Post 49 Capt. T. Hurley, Ret USN, Cmdr A. Peirce & G.F. Lamm Post 622 Vietnam Combat Veteran Jack Michel.



Captain Hurley, Commander Peirce Amherst Post 49, Commander Debbera Ransom Buffalo AMVETS Post #24, Ismailia LOH Color Guard & Potentate & LTC Dan Howard Retired Army VFW Post 416.



Presentation of Service Flags Ismailia Legion of Honor, Art Sullivan Ret USN.



Presentation of Service Flags. A.F. Cadet Louis Sullivan, Ismailia Shrine Legion of Honor, Art Sullivan Retired USN, Commander Phil English, G.F. Lamm Post 622 Commander Alan Meyer A.J. Jurek Post 1672, Amherst Post 49 Rifle Squad.



Reading Names of Deceased Veterans from all Town of Amherst Posts. Commander A. Peirce, Readers Post 49, Captain Thomas Hurley Retired USN, G.F. Lamm Post 622 LTC Richard Herrmann Retired US Army.



Placement of Wreath. Alan Meyer Post 1672, LTC Dan Howard VFW Post 416, Debbera Ransom Post 24, Phil English Post 622, Potentate Dennis Caldwell, Brian Steward Commander MWV-Niagara Frontier Post 10, Peirce Post 49.



Taps. Hannah Megan Williamsville East High School Sophomore. LOH, LTC Dan Howard Retired US Army VFWj Post 416 and Cadet Louis Sullivan.



Invocation Deacon Arthur Sullivan, Jr. USN Retired.



Samantha O'Connor. Junior at Williamsville East High School Sings the National Anthem.



Pledge of Allegiance. Samantha O'Connor.



Town of Amherst Police Honor Guard.

Post 76 - Bayshore

Post 76 Commander Bill DeNatale and Past Post Commander Bob Oakes welcome National Commander Greg Huen accompanied by Zone Director Loretta DiBrino and Tommy Asher.



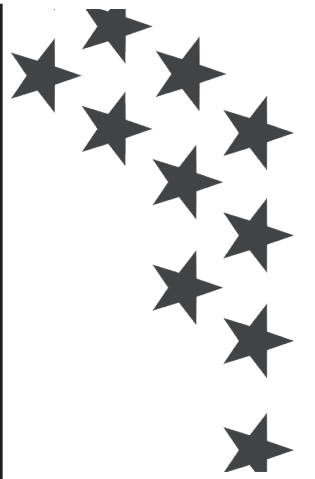
Sisters Barbara and Mickey posing with David. Barbara and Mickey are our oldest members who enjoy coming down to the post! They participate in the parades, memorials and anything they can do to help.



Loretta DiBrino, Zone 6 Commander performed the installation of officers at the Amvet Post 76. Shown above is Chris Ciejka, Paul Faron, Bob Tierney, Rich Butera, John Spillet, Jim Lanigan and Bob Oakes. Missing was Commander Bill DiNatalie.



Having fun on karaoke night. Camille, Barbara, Bruce, Charlene, Denise & Kenny enjoying the new speaker system Bruce installed!



On May 10 2022, members of Post 76 attended the ceremony to support Legislation to have the VA recognize medical problems caused by open burn pits in the field and combat zones. Multiple illnesses including brain tumor, lung issues and more than 22 other disabilities related to the toxic chemicals in the burn pits. Agent Orange is also included in this legislation. The legislation is

named after Sgt 1st class Heath Robinson of the Ohio National guard who died in 2020 at the age of 39 from a rare form of cancer caused by toxic exposure to burn pits while serving in Iraq. The event was held at Project 9 Line in Islip. 9 Line is an organization committed to supporting returning vets with various activities including yoga, guitar lessons and other ways to help the veterans ease back into domestic society.

The Speakers at the event were Patrick Donohue, an Army Vet who served in Afghanistan and Director of Project 9 Line, Sen Chuck Schumer the lead in the legislation, Suffolk County Supervisor Steve Bellone, and Islip Town Supervisor Angie Carpenter.

The event was attended by Post 76 members Commander Bill DiNatalie, Finance Officer Bob Oakes and post members Jim Lanigan, Hank Schroeder, and Nick Forlano. Members of Islip American legion were also in attendance.



Commander Bill DiNatalie of Amvet Post 76 presented a check to the President of the West Islip Breast Coalition. Also a Wagon of Cheer was donated for auction. Many of the post members donated time to help the ladies with anything that needed to be done such as unloading trucks of water and ice, plus setting up tables.



Amvet Post 76 distributed flags on the gravesites at the Oakwood Cemetery in Bay Shore in memory of the men/women who served for our country. Along with Boy Scout troop 43, shown above is Commander Bill DiNatalie, Rich Butera, Chris Ciejka, Penny Hallenback and Jim Lanigan.



Bill Murray performed Ladies Auxiliary installation. From left to right - Charlene Lanigan, Debbie Salmon, Antoinette Miglionico, Penny Hallenback and President Joan Murray. Missing was Heather Tourney and Adrienne Mellino.



Post 88 - Massapequa

Veterans Appreciation Picnic



John Barone cooking up a storm.

Riders Ceremony



Newly Installed Amvets Post 88 Riders swearing in ceremony.



Veterans and the Sons having a tug of war.



Post 88 and Post 48 Riders Presidents with Past Riders President Kevin Matieson

Post 88 - Massapequa - continued from page 16

Memorial Day Parade



Amvets Post 88 participating in the Memorial Day Parade.



Post 88 Rifle Detail at St. James Church after Memorial Day Service.



Post 88's little helpers ready to pass out candy in the Memorial Day Parade.

National Commander's Visit



**WE SUPPORT
OUR VETERANS**

Post 111 - Patchogue

National Commander's Visit



National Commander Greg Huen and Zone Director Loretta DiBrino standing in front of the Post home of Post 111 Patchogue, NY.



Zone Director Loretta DiBrino, Matthew Morge, National Commander Greg Huen, Jim Morge and Tommy Asher 111 in Patchogue, NY.



National Commander Greg Huen receives a warm welcome from Amvets Post 111 in Patchogue, NY.



St. Patrick's Day parade.



Memorial Day parade.



Memorial Day firing Detail.



Sylvan Ave Elementary Flag Day Ceremony.



Flag Retirement Ceremony.



AMVETS Day Ceremony.



4th of July Parade.



Post 245 - Hornell

22 A Day Booth



At a 4th of July Community Celebration, while manning a 22 A Day Booth, I witnessed another AMVET Rider complete an intervention. A younger man approached our booth and Dan Kerr stepped up and introduced himself and asked if he could help him. Seeing the man was incredibly sad and downtrodden, Dan engaged the individual using the steps taught in the HEAL program online course. Dan Talked with this individual for almost an hour explaining the services and

encouraging him. I believe that Dan saved this man's life that day. The purpose of this article is not to boast but to show that the 22 a Day program works and encourage other posts to fully develop a 22 a Day program. Any questions may be directed to Terry Forward, Kevin Matteson, Myself, or any member of the Department of NY 22 A DAY committee. You never know how or who you can impact with the program.

AMVETS Riders 245



Riders President Roy Randall In the City Of Hornell Community 4th of July Parade.



Bikes lined up for the parade.

Memorial Day Wreath Laying



Auxiliary President Joyce Turner lays the wreath at the Memorial Monuments in Hornell on Memorial Day.

Post 262 - Colton

AMVETS POST 262 AMERICANISM POSTER & FLAG COLORING CONTEST

AMVETS Post 262 once again held the Americanism Poster and Flag contest which had been sponsored by the Post in the years prior to Covid-19. The Post's active Ladies Auxiliary, led by President Grace Hawley, sponsored the recent event. Ms. Hawley is pictured on the left along with this year's winners, students in kindergarten through 5th grade from Colton Pierrepont Central School. Colton Pierrepont Central School Superintendent James Nee is on the right. Congratulations to all those winners in this important contest and thanks to all who participated.



AMVETS POST 262 SONS & WOMEN'S AUXILIARY DONATES MONEY TO CAMP SERENITY

Photo by Tina Robert



It was a fun day in early March at AMVETS Post 262 when the Sons and Women's Auxiliary got together to hold both a frying pan toss and a corn hole tournament. The proceeds from these two events raised money for "Camp Serenity". There was great food available, lots of laughs, and everyone who took part donated their winnings back to the program! A

special thanks goes out to everyone who participated; the groups raised \$600.00 for the Camp. Well done one and all!

AMVETS POST 262 DONATES MONEY TO LOCAL CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

The Colton AMVETS Post 262 continues to donate money to charitable organizations in the local area as the COVID-19 pandemic begins to wind down. Post 262 contributed \$150.00 to Cystic Fibrosis and waived the Post's \$200.00 hall rental fee for the group's recent fund raising function, gave \$100.00 to the American Legion Riders (Project Life Preserver program) to support the Burn Pit for Veterans program, \$1000.00 to Wounded Warriors (Camp Serenity), and \$500.00 to the Potsdam Humane Society Pets/Vets Program for its golf tournament and \$350.00 to sponsor a team in the tournament. Total contributions were \$1750.00 for this last reporting period.

Post 265 - Parishville

State Auxiliary Officer attends Post 265 20th Anniversary Dinner



On July 30, 2022 Susan Gardner, NYS Dept. Ladies Aux. President and her husband Jim from Post 4 attended the 20th Celebration for Post 265 in Parishville.



Susan Gardner, NYS Dept. Ladies Aux. President thanks Michelle Hayes, President of Post 265 Ladies Auxiliary before giving a short speech.



Post 722 - Binghamton



Commander Ed Ashman and 1st Vice Commander Ross Woodrow at the Great American Race.



Great American Race drivers from Connecticut supporting Amvets 22 A Day Program.



PDC Marty Ashman, Ross Woodrow, James Vasquez deliver art supplies to the Oxford Veterans Home.



AMVETS Post 722 members donate kneeling soldier hand crafted by James Vasquez.

Post 797 - Nassau



Standing with Ukraine: Post 797 gives a helping hand. Members present a \$2,000.00 check to Father Mikhal, Pastor of the St. Nicholas Ukrainian church. The funds were used to ship humanitarian supplies to the brave Ukrainian people. Left to right: Member Chris VanDuesen, Father Mikhal, Commander Mike Lever and member John B. Lill.



Members hold a "Bike Rodeo" for local children in the Village of Nassau. Local Police and civic leaders attended. Dozens of donated bicycles and helmets were renovated and repaired were given to all needy children at no cost. Left to right: Members Jacob Coons, Ron Sears, Kathleen Lill, Commander Mike Lever and Bob Brigham.



The recent United States Flag retirement ceremony conducted by AMVETS was attended by members of the local VFW, American Legion, and the Boy Scouts of America.



Post 797 is called upon to provide a color guard and honors at the many functions. This color guard was present at the dedication of a baseball field honoring Staff Sgt. Derek Farley, a local soldier who died in the performance of his EOD duties. Left to right: Members Christopher Lill, Commander Mike Lever, Josh Scholerand and Bob Rings.

Post 897 - Blasdell

Sons 897 at Department Convention



The Sons received the Programs Award at the Department Convention. Left to Right: Mike Drzal, Danny Maher, Gary Pelletier.

Jutta Wachowski Becomes a U.S. Citizen Party



Jutta Wachowski, a longtime member of both the Auxiliary and Riders, became a U.S. Citizen on June 1, 2022. Post 897 is proud of all she has accomplished and happy to have her a part of our AMVETS family!





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WITH SALAD & ROLL

SATURDAY OCTOBER 8TH 2022

DINNER 4:30PM - 8PM


LIVE MUSIC 7PM - 10PM.

THE TRIO

JIM LAMB

RICK LAMOREAUX

MARTY ASHMAN



528 COURT ST
BINGHAMTON NY,
13904

AMVETS POST 722

Post 897 - Blasdell - continued from page 19



Post 897 Swearing-In Ceremonies

Thank you to Kevin Matteson and Laura Bugaj for performing the swearing-in ceremonies.



Danny Maher sworn in as Sons Commander.



Joe Ashman sworn in as Commander for 2022-2023.



Chris Drzal sworn in as Riders President.



Janell Ashman sworn in as Auxiliary President.

897 Riders 7th Annual Spring Break out Run



Kevin "Beast Mode" Matteson ready for the ride!



The lot was full with bikes!



Lance and Kim ready to roll!



Gary and Gabby gonna head out on a father/daughter ride!



Auxiliary Members running the ring toss. Left to Right: Maria Pelletier, Kalene Penceck and Janell Ashman.

God Bless America and all that it stands for.

Take good care of our veterans.

Post 6472 - Silver Creek

Junior AMVETS

Our Juniors are now able to file officially with Nationals and become the only Juniors AMVETS Chapter in all of New York State! We are so proud of what they have done so far and can't wait for all the fun avenues and volunteer work that are coming up! In less than one year, our little group has grown from seven Founding Members to 22 Charter Members! We were honored to have some of the Veterans, Son's, Auxiliary and Rider board members join us in our celebration. Our swearing in ceremony was held on August 4, 2022, officiated by our Post Commander Leroy Herbstritt.

Introducing our Juniors Board: President - Kaylynn, Senior Vice President - Layla, Junior Vice President - Wyatt, Secretary - Justina, Treasure - Donny, Sargent at Arms - Damion, Chaplin - Clayton, Public Relations Officer - Charlotte and Parliamentarian - Corbin. Also pictured is our Post Commander Leroy Herbstritt, 1st Vice President Carl Robinson, Judge Advocate - Mark Lilley, The Son's Commander Jermeij Taggart, Son's Adjutant Thomas Genung, Ladies Auxiliary President Amanda Sobilo, Ladies 1st Vice President Cassie Robinson and the Riders President Cheryl Lilley. We have already done a bunch of volunteer work including, a food bank drive (that we collected enough food and donations to be able to donate to two local food pantries), participated in the Jamestown Blue Star Mothers Care packages, assisted our Post's Riders with their 22 a Day Ride and worked at our local senior center doing yard work. Upcoming, we are going to be doing another food bank drive, a collection box for the Blue Star Mothers and assisting our Post's Ladies Auxiliary with their backpack fund raiser to help local families in need of help with school supplies for this upcoming school year. They have fundraised tirelessly to be able to afford a trip to the historic battlefields of Gettysburg and hope to attend Shanksville Pennsylvania's memorial service of Flight 93 this coming September 11th. Our Juniors are looking forward to meeting you in October in Binghamton for SEC.

If any Posts have any questions, would like help getting their own Junior's started or would just like to follow our journey they can find us on our Facebook page Jr. Amvets 6472 Silver Creek.

Respectfully,
 Ericka Griewisch
 Junior AMVETS Post 6472 Silver Creek
 Auxiliary Coordinator



Town of Allegany Rt. 417 to expected to be renamed for fallen soldier

US Army Staff Sgt. Shawn Clemens was killed in action in Afghanistan in January, 2004



ALLEGANY, N.Y. — A stretch of Southern Tier Highway is expected to be renamed for a WNY soldier who gave his life for his country.

NYS Senator George Borrello announced Friday Rt. 417 in the Town of Allegany will be renamed "Staff Sergeant Shawn M. Clemens Memorial Highway". Legislation marking the designation was sponsored by Sen. Borrello and Assemblyman Joseph Giglio and unanimously passed in both houses.

Staff Sgt. Clemens, 28, was killed inaction by an explosion on January 29, 2004 in the Afghan village of Dehe Hendu.

"Staff Sgt. Clemens served his country with honor and distinction. Now Route 417 in his hometown will stand as a testament to his commitment and selflessness to our great nation," Sen. Borrello said. "He gave his life in defense of freedom. We can never fully repay that debt, but we can remember and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for us and our nation."

Clemens grew up in Allegany and graduated from Allegany Central School in 1993. He was a varsity athlete in football, baseball and wrestling. He attended Alfred State College before enlisting in the Army.

"It was an honor to sponsor this legislation in the Assembly. The renaming of Route 417 in the Town of Allegany as the Staff Sgt. Shawn M. Clemens Memorial Highway is a symbol of our deep gratitude for the sacrifices made by this young soldier and his family," said Assemblyman Giglio. "We can never truly repay the debt we owe to Staff Sgt. Clemens, who fought so bravely for the freedom of others, but we will do everything we can to honor his memory. I urge my colleagues in the New York State Assembly to pass this bill and forward it to the governor's desk for signature."

Staff Sgt. Clemens left behind a wife, three-year-old son and step-daughter. The legislation now goes to Governor Kathy Hochul's desk for her signature.

One single walker/marcher, John E. Turner II from Post 245 in Hornell, NY. He is bringing 22 A Day awareness to south western New York and the United States. No veteran forgotten or left behind!



AMVETS Post Addresses

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| AMVETS Post 1 (LA)(S)
5276 Maple Lane
Cuba, NY 14727 | AMVETS Post 72 (LA)(S)
2683 Clinton Street
West Seneca, NY 14224 | AMVETS Post 706 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 121
Richfield Springs, NY 13439 | AMVETS Post 1997 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 580
Heuvelton, NY 13654 |
| AMVETS Post 4 (LA)(S)
12 Andrews Street
Masena, NY 13662-1804 | AMVETS Post 76 (LA)(S)
44 West Main Street
Bay Shore, NY 11706 | AMVETS Post 710
P.O. Box 1194
Tupper Lake, NY 12986 | AMVETS Post 1998
P.O. Box 26
Port Jefferson, NY 11776 |
| AMVETS Post 8 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 281
Malone, NY 12953 | AMVETS Post 87
1309 RT9
Keesville, NY 12944 | AMVETS Post 722
P.O. Box 1704
Binghamton, NY 13902 | AMVETS Post 2000 (LA)(S)
990 State Hwy. 163
Fort Plain, NY 13339 |
| AMVETS Post 13 (LA)(S)
25 Review Place
Buffalo, NY 14207 | AMVETS Post 88 (LA)(S)
692 Broadway
Massapequa, NY 11758-2324 | AMVETS Post 726 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 731
Jamestown, NY 14702 | AMVETS Post 2004
P.O. Box 156
South Cairo, NY 12482 |
| AMVETS Post 14 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 505
Depew, NY 14043 | AMVETS Post 99
6383 Dayton St.
Lowville, NY 13367 | AMVETS Post 797
P.O. Box 797
Nassau, NY 12123 | AMVETS Post 2017
4 Fairfield Drive
Patterson, NY 12563 |
| AMVETS Post 18 (LA)(S)
141 Carlton Avenue
East Islip, NY 11730 | AMVETS Post 103
P.O. Box 41062
Staten Island, NY 10304 | AMVETS Post 826
501 Upper Avenue
Newburg, NY 12550 | AMVETS Post 2752
P.O. Box 45
Maryland, NY 12116 |
| AMVETS Post 21
32 Marion Street
Oyster Bay, NY 11771 | AMVETS Post 111 (LA)(S)
15 Cedar Avenue
Patchogue, NY 11772 | AMVETS Post 868
P.O. Box J
111 West Main Street
Brocton, NY 14716 | AMVETS Post 2946
143 Montgomery Street
Walden, NY 12586 |
| AMVETS Post 24
1440 Jefferson Avenue, #120
Buffalo, NY 14208 | AMVETS Post 219 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 271
Boston, NY 14025 | AMVETS Post 897 (LA)(S)
149 Lake Avenue
Blasdell, NY 14219 | AMVETS Post 4572
50 Gates Street
Sloan, New York 14212 |
| AMVETS Post 26
115-14 Avenue
No. Tonawanda, NY 14120 | AMVETS POST 245 (LA)(S)
28 Broadway
Hornell, NY 14843 | AMVETS Post 917
49 The Boulevard
Staten Island, NY 10314 | AMVETS Post 6472 (LA)(S)
234 Central Avenue
Silver Creek, NY 14136 |
| AMVETS Post 35
P.O. Box 4152
Schenectady, NY 12303 | AMVETS Post 262 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 272
Colton, NY 13625 | AMVETS Post 1013 (LA)(S)
114-69 227 Street
Cambria Heights, NY 11411 | AMVETS Post 7275
3741 Walden Avenue
Lancaster, NY 14086 |
| AMVETS Post 38 (A)(S)
1440 Shore Drive
Bronx, NY 10465 | AMVETS Post 265 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 803
Parishville, NY 13672 | AMVETS Post 1174
6 Storm Drive
Holtsville, NY 11742 | AMVETS Post 8113 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 433
West Seneca, NY 14224 |
| AMVETS Post 40
178 Waverly Street
Yonkers, NY 10701 | AMVETS Post 282 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 282
Potsdam, NY 13676 | AMVETS Post 1213
44 East Main Street
Washingtonville, NY 10992 | AMVETS Post 8735
301-4 Street
Little Valley, NY 14755 |
| AMVETS Post 45 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 313
West Seneca, NY 14224 | AMVETS Post 332 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 25291
Farmington, NY 14425 | AMVETS Post 1313 (LA)(S)
246 Horseheads Blvd
Elmira Heights, NY 14903 | AMVETS Post 8793
424 CR 33
Chateaugay, NY 12920 |
| AMVETS Post 48 (LA)(S)
660 Hawkins Avenue
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779 | AMVETS Post 370 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 62
Mexico, NY 13114 | AMVETS Post 1417
P.O. Box 225
Morris, NY 13808 | AMVETS Post 9594
12 Whitebeck Street
Ravena, NY 12143 |
| AMVETS Post 49
3758 Sheridan Drive
Amherst, NY 14226 | AMVETS Post 384
2147 Whitesboro Street
Utica, NY 13502 | AMVETS Post 1460
P.O. Box 435
Machias, NY 14042 | AMVETS Post 2003
4310 S HWY 80
Sherburne, NY 13460 |
| AMVETS Post 55
289 River Road
St. James, NY 11780 | AMVETS Post 637 (LA)(S)
3960 Main Street
Strykersville, NY 14145 | AMVETS Post 1473
P.O. Box 123
E. Randolph, NY 14730 | |
| AMVETS Post 61
65 Church St.
Hamburg, NY 14075 | AMVETS Post 669 (LA)(S)
P.O. Box 928
Cooperstown, NY 13326 | AMVETS Post 1941
1922 Himrod Road
Penn Yan, NY 14527 | |

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- Telephone-operator services
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Additional Contact Info
New York State Division of Veterans Affairs
(NYS/DVA)
*For free, professional assistance in accessing your
veteran benefits, contact your State, County or
Local veteran benefits counselor. To locate a
counselor in your area call: 1-888-VETS-NYS*

**U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs (VA)
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VA Hotline: (disability, compensation, pension,
home loan, burial, vocational rehabilitation,
survivor, and insurance benefits).....1-800-827-1000
Education & Training.....1-888-442-4551
Veterans Employment Hotline.....1-800-342-3358
Life Insurance.....1-800-669-8477
Headstones/Markers.....1-800-697-6947

Health Care Benefits
Veterans Health Care.....1-877-222-VETS
Health Eligibility Center.....1-800-929-8387
CHAMPVA (medical care for dependents)
& survivors of veterans).....1-800-733-8387

Mammography Helpline.....1-888-492-7844
Spina Bifida.....1-800-733-8387

Miscellaneous
Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD)
1-800-829-4833
Gulf War Veterans Helpline.....1-800-PGW-VETS
Debt Management Center (information about
debts owed to VA).....1-800-827-0648

VA Health Care On The Web
www.va.gov/visns/visn02

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Change of Address
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NOTIFY YOUR POST
Your Post will send this information to
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Executive Director, who will make the
change for the Department
and who will also notify the National
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This will change your address for
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**Do not send any changes to
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**HEAR YE,
HEAR YE,
READ ALL
ABOUT IT!!!
You Are All
Invited**

Has your Post done something
you are especially proud of? Would
you share your story with the rest
of the Posts in the Department of
New York? Do you have original
poems, military stories, cartoons?
News of your Post, current events,
pictures and story copy are all
welcomed. Send your story in to
the Empire Editor and let everyone
share your experiences.

**Deadline dates are:
April 15th, August 15th,
January 15th**

**When submitting material, please
remember these helpful tips:**

All are welcomed to submit materials
to the Editor. Photos sent via email or
Messenger the image should be sent as a
large image - before you send the image
your smart phone should have the ability
to allow you to select what size to send
it; Large, Medium or Small - always
choose Medium or Large. *Please honor
the deadline dates.* Anything that can be
submitted before those dates is always
well appreciated.

Darrin Keech
Empire AMVET Editor
empireamvet1@gmail.com

Leading Health Care in the 21st Century Veterans Service Center Call Center 1-888-823-9656

A toll-free, direct dial phone number that provides access to information about VA health care

What is the Veterans Service Center (VSC) Call Center?

The VA Healthcare Network Upstate NY recognized the need to provide veterans with easy access to health benefits information. The VSC Call Center was created to meet this need.

Our goal is to provide veterans with a toll-free number to inquire about VA health benefits, eligibility and billing issues with someone who is knowledgeable and experienced in these areas.

To ensure someone is available to assist you, please remember that if you have an appointment conflict or a specific medical or prescription problem you should contact your primary care team or specialty provider. *The VSC Call Center is not staffed to answer your medical questions.*

**If you have medical questions, please call your primary care team or the
VA telecare number at 1-888-838-7890**



Commander Hal and Auxiliary President Cindy with Post 4 and Post 8 members at Post 262 in Colton for a Saratoga War Horse Fundraiser. Thanks to all the bikers who took part and supported this project.



Traveling with the Commander



Commander Hal and President Cindy with NEC Donna Smith shufflin' off to Buffalo for a gala Testimonial for Post 14 Auxiliary President Ashley Kubiak.



Members of Malone AMVETS Post 8 and Buffalo Post 14 tour the USS Little Rock, the USS The Sullivans and the USS Croacker submarine at the Buffalo Naval Park.



Commander Queyor and President Cindy at Memorial Day Festivities at Post 8 with USMC Brigadier General Mathew Reid and Department Sons 1st Vice Lee Smith and Department Auxiliary PDP Donna Smith.



National Auxiliary President Joan Sirek and PNC Duane Miskulin pay a visit to Commander Hal and President Cindy at Post 8 along with a variety of State Officers.

