

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Joe Ashman
Commander

Greetings AMVETS Family!

To say that my nomination and election this past June was emotional is putting it lightly. If you were in that room, on that day, and at that hour - you shared a moment with me. Having my brother Eddie nominate me was very special, but hearing a recording of my father's voice also offering his nomination for me was something that will be with me for the rest of my life. I've had many mentors throughout my time in this great organization, but my father, Marty, is by far the greatest AMVET I have ever known. He guided

me until the very end. Thank you all for indulging me (and my family) during that special time in June.

Thank you to my friend, PDC Emery Perry, for leading the way and for your words of wisdom throughout the last year, in particular when my father passed away. I will always fondly remember our talks.

Now, on to business. As we move forward through the year, I envision a time filled with greater communication, accountability, and transparency. Let me explain:

- **Communication** – It's a two-way street. While many think to speak, some may be better served by first listening. We must make the time to listen. Really hear what our people are saying and react accordingly to their needs. We must continue to communicate, and work to come together as a true AMVETS family. Cultivate our relationships from across the aisle, so to speak. AMVETS may be the "parent organization", but we would not enjoy such success without all of the assistance, knowledge, and experiences from the Auxiliary, Sons, Riders, and our Juniors.
- **Accountability** – See it. Own it. Solve it. Do it. Whether it's John Boy giving his report on the floor of the SEC, or Jimmy Jack submitting his Post programs on the world wide web, Reporting is key. Reporting on our positions and our programs, both at the Department and National level, is paramount to our organization's

success and is the most effective way for us to be held accountable in our individual roles.

- **Transparency** – Open and honest leadership. Our SEC and Convention meetings will be open to all members in good standing. If you have a question, ask it. If you have an idea, share it. Just because I was elected Commander, doesn't mean I have all of the answers. If I don't know something, I'll find it out for you.

"If we represent knowledge as a tree, we know that things that are divided are yet connected. We know that to observe the divisions and ignore the connections is to destroy the tree." - Wendell Berry

Also, during the coming year, the Department will host on-line Executive Board meetings and training courses related to AMVETS activities, duties, and responsibilities. Stay tuned to our Facebook page and the website (nyamvets.org) for more information.

I feel like the luckiest guy on the planet, having been elected as your 2023-2024 Commander. However, if you can't tell by now, I did not take this position simply for the title of Commander. I took this position to work for you, and to work to make the Department of New York the best version of itself. You may like my ideas, or you may not. No matter how it all shakes out, collectively everything thing we do this coming year will be for the betterment of our AMVETS family.

You are encouraged to follow the chain of command. Nevertheless, "my door" is always open. Call me, email me, text me, Facebook message me, however you want to get ahold of me, please do. Each and every one of you have complete access to me and my Executive Board.

I would like to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as your Commander. It is an honor and a privilege that I take very seriously, and I look forward to working with my Executive Board, and the Service Foundation, representing you at the highest levels of the AMVETS organization in the coming year.

If I can be of any assistance to any member or Post, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Yours truly,

Joe Ashman
Commander
Department of New York AMVETS



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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; to perpetuate the friendship and associations of these veterans; and to dedicate ourselves to the cause of mutual assistance, this by the grace of God.

Executive Director's Message



Rich Rossi
Executive Director

As I write this today it is July 2023. When you receive this, it will be in the paper that you should receive in September 2023. Between now and then there will be an NEC and District Meeting along with the National Convention in Pittsburgh. It is frustrating to wish Good Luck to those running for Office at the National Convention because when you receive this everything will be in past tense. I can only hope that our Candidates were successful. At the last Convention we were informed

that we are going to be getting less money from National so we will have to be making some adjustments. Unfortunately, the Foundation has decided to cut back on Grants and Packages to the Troops. The Foundation has always been good to the Department and I support them on any decision they make. I don't know enough to comment on Finances but I would

like to know how much money the Heal Team cost us. Some people are worrying that AMVETS is going under but I put a lot of faith in Joe Chennelly who assured me that things will be getting better. Shortly after the Convention National laid off 38 of 40 NSOs. One of those laid off was New York's only NSO Bill Siegel who I think is one of the Best NSOs in Amvets. It is sad that a Department the size of New York would have to survive without an NSO to support Veterans which is what were all about. Again, the Foundation stepped up and decided to pay for Bills salary which is good for us but what about all the Departments in AMVETS who are not as fortunate as us to have a Foundation like ours. Just a reminder that Reports and Grants for the October SEC must be submitted three weeks before the Meeting. Remember It was decided at the Convention that all members whose Rooms are paid for by the Department must have a report in the Red Book.

Rich Rossi
Executive Director
Department of New York AMVETS

1st Vice Commander

John Foster



Fellow AMVETS
 We are moving along this year with the new Officers installed for the year 2023-2024. My goal for this year is getting the MALs into Post that are struggling to keep their Charters. As many of you know the Life Membership Dues are going from \$250.00 to \$500.00 effective 1 September 2023. If anyone has questions on Membership, I am available at any time. I can be reached at the following phone numbers listed below. I have voice mail and an answering machine on my land line. In closing by the time, the paper is out the National Convention will be over New York should have a large delegation at the National Convention in Pittsburg Pa since its only a few hours' drive. Stay safe and hope to see everyone in October in Binghamton.

Yours in AMVETS,

John Foster
 1st Vice Commander

2nd Vice Commander

John McCullough



Thank you all for your support in electing me as your 2nd Vice Commander at Convention.
 Due to the new reporting system and the fact that other Departments have their 2nd Vice handle Programs, Commander Ashman has left me responsible for Programs and Program reporting for this year. 3rd Vice Loretta DiBrino will perform the fund-raising duties for the Department.
 I'm sure most of you have dipped your toe in the water of the new system. I'm getting reports from Posts that think it's easy to use and others that think its impossible. I use it for my Post and like it. You can go in today to report something you did yesterday. You don't have to wait until the end of the month to do it.
 In the Convention Redbook there were 5 pages of instructions and another 10 pages explaining the categories and sub-categories. If you weren't at Convention, please get with the delegate from your Post to get copies. One important note is that ALL boxes on the reporting portal must be completed. If there were no miles recorded, put 0. If there's a red * by the box, you must enter a number, or you'll get an error message, and it won't save.
 As of Today, July 10th, 18 Posts have reported using the New Portal. \$97,700 was reported as Americanism with \$78,900 of that being for Memorial Day Services; \$56,100 went to Supporting Veterans and their Families with \$36,000 going to Homeless Veterans; \$28,400 went to Suicide Awareness; \$55,500 was reported under Remembering Me with \$42,000 going to Red Shirt Friday; \$18,000 was reported on Membership activities; \$22,200 on Fundraising and \$61,400 for Community Service. Annually (which is just May and June) \$339,000 was the Total dollar amount; 283,000 hours were reported; 9,000 miles driven; \$25,000 spent as cash out and \$23,000 for activity costs. All in all, those 18 Posts have done a great job. Now we just must get the rest of the Posts reporting. If you need assistance, Email me at johnmcc1225@aol.com. If I don't know the answer, I'll find out and get back to you.
 Thanks again for your support. I look forward to seeing all of you at the October SEC. Remember your Red Shirt with a collar for Red Shirt Friday.

Yours in AMVETS,

JOHN D MCCULLOUGH
 2nd Vice Commander

3rd Vice Commander

Loretta DiBrino



In my first address, I would like to say thank you to all for electing me to the office of the Department of New York 3rd Vice Commander. I deeply appreciate your support, and I will do this job to the best of my abilities. Now, for the regular business:
 I am selling the April 2024 raffle tickets based on the mid-day drawing which is \$50.00 and the evening drawing which is \$300.00, both as you know are based on the New York Daily Lotto numbers. We will also have a bonus drawing eligible only to those that sell 50 tickets or more and that'll be 2-\$250. I am asking everyone to please purchase tickets @\$20.00 each. All profit from this fundraising as you know goes directly to the Department.
 If you have any question's or just want to purchase tickets, please contact me on my cell (631) 804-8205.
 Also, I will be attending the National Convention in Pittsburgh, PA. Then on August 31st I'll be at Ft. Drum to help serve hamburgers and hotdogs to our active duty troops serving our Country. Thank you again for all your support and I look forward to seeing many of you

3rd Vice continued

I'm sure at one or all of these exciting events, the National Convention, Ft. Drum Picnic, and the October SEC Meeting.

Yours in AMVETS,

Loretta DiBrino
 Department of New York 3rd Vice Commander
 dibrinolb@aol.com

Auxiliary President's Message



Linda 'Chickie' George
 Auxiliary President

I, Linda George, also known as "Chickie," have held the offices of 1st Vice President/Membership Officer, 2nd Vice President/Child Welfare Officer, 3rd Vice President/Community Officer, Chaplain/Scholarship Officer, and Sargent at Arms on the Department Level. It was a pleasure and honor to do so. I want to thank you once again for electing me to the office of AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Department of New York President 2023-2024.
 I am a Life Member of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary #08 in Malone, New York. At Malone Post I have served four years as 3rd Vice President/Community Service Officer. Previously at the local level with Auxiliary 19, I served as treasurer for multiple terms. I was appointed by the Department of New York in 2015 as their local President which was a huge honor and privilege to reorganize the local auxiliary. While doing so, I fulfilled appointed and elective positions.

I retired after working 45 years as a Candy Stripper then as Certify Nurses Assistant from Cedars and United Helpers Nursing Homes. In other health fields, I proudly served as manager and Advanced Paramedic EMT- Critical Care/Farm Rescue provider for Ogdensburg Volunteer Rescue Squad, Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department and R.B. Lawrence Ambulance from Canton, New York

Presently, I also find time volunteering as a driver for Volunteer Transportation Center, Inc. (VTC) provides non-emergent medical transportation serving the St. Lawrence County and surrounding area five days a week. I also provide traveling service to the local Amish community to different states as well as Canada.

I am currently married to Philip George, who served in the Army Reserve. We have two sons, Philip and Lamonte. Lamonte is an Army Veteran, who has served as Post Commander and on the Department Grievance Committee. I have one grandson Damyain (24) who is currently serving in the U.S. Army. Damyain previously served as Son of AMVETS Department 3rd Vice and Provost Marshal. He is married with two children and one on the way in November 2023. I also have two granddaughters Breanna (21) and Savanna (17), who is a student at Lisbon Central School and reside with us at our home. My family are all roud members AMVETS #08 in Malone, NY.

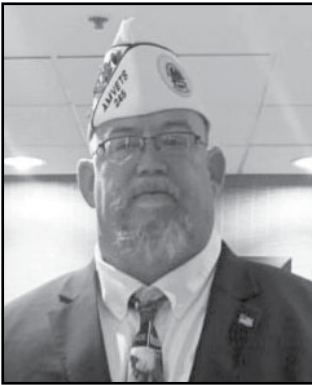
My President's Theme is "A Battle Worth Fighting For | My President's Project is K9SFORWARRIORS.ORG

With gratification and honor, I will step into the role as President to represent Department of New York AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary 2023-2024.

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Editor's Message

Darrin Keech, Empire AMVET Editor



Fellow AMVETS
 I have received a lot from some posts. I am begging the posts that do not submit to consider submitting an item. I am also asking our programs chairmen to submit articles explaining what your program is and how to participate in the program. 22 a day, americanism, scholarships, ROTC, etc are good examples. I am looking to revamp and refresh the paper. I am accepting ideas on how to do this. This paper is only as good as the things submitted. My contact info is in the officer listings. I am available anytime to answer questions or discuss suggestions. Any corrections that you see please submit them via email to me. It is an honor to serve as you editor!

Darrin Keech
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Updates

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VOLUME 11 ISSUE 3 • FALL 2023
**POST NEWS
STATEWIDE**

POST 4 - MASSENA



Standing with the poster is Fred Cockayne, Commander of Post 4.

Children from PALs, the Police Activities League of Massena (Formerly known as the Boys & Girls Club of Massena) is a non-profit after school program serving community and their families since 2013 made the poster for the Amvets to honor their military service people on Memorial Day.



POST 8 - MALONE

OPERATION ADOPT-A-SOLDIER

100 boxes of Girl Scout cookies have been shipped to Seymour Johnson Air Force base in Goldsboro, NC thanks to Operation Adopt-A-Soldier. Airman Erin Gregory will distribute these treats to domestic and airmen overseas in Japan. So thankful for a second successful delivery sponsored by the Malone AMVETS and the AMVETS Department of New York Service Foundation.



**SOME OF THE POST 8 MEMBERS AT THE ANNUAL MALONE
MEMORIAL DAY PARADE**



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

POST 8 CONTINUED



Auxiliary 8 shouts out a big “HEY” to our oldest living member, Jeanette Champagne, 96 years young and a 50 plus year member of Auxiliary 8.

Happy Birthday Jeanette



Malone Girls Softball ages 16-18 in semi-finals at the Post 8 fields. 13-15 league held their playoffs the last week of June.



DECEASED MEMBER REPORTING

Our Memorial Ceremony Committee would like to ask all Posts, Auxiliaries and Sons Detachments to follow the following protocol in reporting the passing of members. Amvets go to www.amvets.org and print the Deceased Member Form, which you can complete online or fill out in pen. Please mail or fax completed form to our Exec Dir Rich Rossi.

Ladies Auxiliaries go to www.amvetsaux.org and print out the deceased member form and mail the completed form to the Auxiliary Dept Chaplain.

Sons of Amvets should go to www.sonsofamvets.org and print out the deceased member form and mail it to the Sons Dept Chaplain.

NOW, HERE IS WHERE THE CHANGE COMES; IF THE DECEASED MEMBER WAS ALSO A RIDER, PLEASE MAKE A NOTE ON THE DECEASED MEMBER FORM THAT HE/SHE WAS A RIDER. BY DOING THIS WE CAN REPORT IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOKLET THAT THE MEMBER WAS ALSO AN AMVET'S RIDER. REMEMBER, the only way to get a deceased member in our Memorial Booklet is to follow this procedure. Our booklet runs from May 1 to April 30 to be included in the June Convention Memorial Service.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

POST 14 - DEPEW



LEO FEARY
Jr. Amvet

Leo was Born 24 May 2023.
He is a happy and healthy baby Boy.

*Proud parents and Grandpa Dave Feary
holding baby Leo Feary.
The next Junior AMVET!*



POST 14 CONTINUED

BUDDY KNAUS POST WORKING LONG ISLAND



Post 14 Auxiliary member Pam Marcinek purchasing and delivering food to the county veterans food pantry and delivering donated needed personal care items along with craft kits provided by the AMVETS Foundation to Northport Hospital.

POST 18 - EAST ISLIP



Gloria Morck, President, PDP presenting Commander Fred Vatter with a \$3,000.00 donation to Post 18 as a *Thank You for all the AMVETS do for the Auxiliary.*

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

POST 21 - OYSTER BAY

PATRIOTIC GREETING

For what we consider a small AMVETS Post here in Oyster Bay - we have a tremendously large DESIRE for SERVING OUR COMMUNITY and LEADING the way with OUR PATRIOTIC HOLIDAY EVENTS ... sponsoring and leading our Patriotic parades and many ceremonies to celebrate and honor each holiday. We inter-act with our township of Oyster Bay executives and earned special invitations for projects like leading the “PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE” at many of the Town Hall Executive & Board Member Meetings ... and supplying our Color Guard at special events - like at the grand opening of our NEW local Little League field. We are a WELL RESPECTED AMVETS POST - because we’re known for offering our services and talents - and searching for opportunities to assist our communities - our needy and for our VETERANS.

**I PLEDGE
ALLEGIANCE TO
THE FLAG
OF THE
UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA**



POST 21 CONTINUED

HONORING OUR COMMUNITY AND CELEBRATING
OUR NEW LITTLE LEAGUE BALL FIELD



Post 21 Color Guard Members with future Major League All Stars.



OPENING DAY

We were invited by our County Executives and Board Members - and our Oyster Bay Little League Baseball Commissioner - to participate in the inaugural event that DEDICATED their NEW artificial turf field for our community. We honored the event with our AMVETS COLOR GUARD ... and presented our “PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE” to the many young players, coaches and parents that attended. Our Color Guard for this event ... Commander Richard Dejesu, Vice Commander Bob Selby and our Provost Marshall Bob Lane.



OUR COMMUNITY SERVICE AND HELPING OUR
NEEDY CITIZENS AND VETERANS



Our Post 21 continues to support so many opportunities to help our local community citizens that are “seeking assistance” and for Veterans at our VA center. At our monthly general member meetings - we collect FOOD PANTRY donations of non-perishable food items, household goods, health aid itemsand to date we’ve donated nearly 5,000 food items alone and thousands of health items donated by our members and through a Girl Scout troop and parents that support our collection projects. We continue to collect from our members eyewear they no longer use ... collecting hundreds of pairs of glasses that we deliver to our VA Center in East Meadow - where veterans and families can select eyewear they can use ... which saves them from the high cost of NEW eyewear purchases. Our CHRISTMAS GIFT donation program to community centers and VETERAN FAMILIES IN DISTRESS is now LEGENDARY ... and will continue EVEN BIGGER and BETTER this coming holiday season ... and we’re proud of our support for our youngest citizens - and they appreciate our kindness.

POST 21 CONTINUED

CELEBRATING NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY



Bob Selby, our Post #21 Vice Commander - one of only a few VIETNAM WAR veterans in our post ... and Commander Richard Dejesu - attended this special ceremony and celebration initiated by the VA Commissary unit in Garden City - and the ceremony was lead by our newest AMVETS member - COMMISSARY MANAGER Gary Saiki. We did our PLEDGE of Allegiance - then wonderful words and commemoration messages appropriate for Vietnam War veterans to feel honored. Following the ceremony - a CELEBRATION for the hundreds of Vietnam War veterans that attended ... a BBQ, beverages, honorary cake ... and assorted hand-out memorabilia gifts for our veterans. For our VIETNAM WAR veterans - we appreciated the RECOGNITION for our SERVICE.

OUR AMVETS POST 21 MEMBER - ARTURO EDWARDS RECEIVED A VERY SPECIAL AWARD FROM THE TOWN OF OYSTER BAY



We were extremely thrilled and HONORED to attend an AWARD Ceremony for our loyal AMVETS member ARTURO EDWARDS - that was presented by Town Supervisor Joseph Saladino - awarding the Town of Oyster Bay's most prestigious annual - DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING Jr. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD for 2023 ... for ARTURO'S outstanding service in the U.S. Army and his veteran activites, his never ending support of his community and the needy, support for veterans needs and support for the veteran organizations he represents. Arturo is a Vietnam War veteran ... had a career in Law Enforcement as a detective. Arturo is a newly elected Judge Advocate for our Post 21.

OYSTER BAY-CELEBRATING HISTORIAL TOWN OF OYSTER BAY - "OYSTER BAY DAY" AND STREET FAIR FOR OUR TOWN

It's an annual community event - sponsored by the Town of Oyster Bay Chamber of Commerce - to CELEBRATE OUR home town ... "OYSTER BAY DAY" has special meaning for our citizens - older folks with a long history here in our town and then our younger citizens that are still learning about the wonderful history of Oyster Bay. A huge thank you to Bob Lane and Lois Steingisser and Dolly "the wonder-dog" - for setting up our AMVETS tent early in the morning - to be ready for this special town event. Bob was prepared with material to chat with town folks and veterans or active-service members - about "22 -A-DAY" suicide prevention programs, Bob had recruiting information to join our AMVETS POST, and packets for veterans health care and services offered by the VA. Bob was also able to collect donations for our Post from the many visitors of the street fair and celebration. Thank you to Dave Fischer for attending the events also.

WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL JR. ROTC AWARD CEREMONY AND THE ROTC ALLIANCE WITH POST 21

Our AMVETS Post 21 has crated a very ambitious and rewarding relationship with this Westbury High School's Jr. ROTC program - under the leadership of Bill Caraballo. The ROTC cadets have so many skills and talents - besides their EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE. They have superior marching skills - and capabilities that we utilize for our holiday parades and ceremonies - to provide a us with a multi-team member Color Guard ... and a 7 member RIFLE TEAM that provides us with HOLIDAY RIFLE SALUTES to honor our past heroes and used during our Memorial Day / Remembrance Day ceremonies. Commander Richard Dejesu, Vice Commander Bob Selby and Provost Marshall Bob Lane attended their 1st annual ROTC AWARDS for EXCELLENCE - their student / cadet ceremony that awarded for EDICATIONAL EXCELLENCE and fields of service honors for their ROTC skills performances. Our AMVETS team presented our special AMVETS MEDAL & CERTIFICATE of ACADEMDIC EXCELLENCE to a wonderful young lady cadet ... worthy of our special award.

JROTC AWARDS

Post 21 members presenting the AMVETS JROTC certificate and medal to Westbury High School JROTC Cadet Adelina Santos.



L/R-Post 21 member William Caraballo, Commander Rich DeJesu, Third Vice Bob Selby, Award recipient Adelina Santos and Post 21 Commander elect Robert Lane.

OUR TOWN OF OYSTER BAY - PRE- MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND PATRIOTIC HOLIDAY EVENTS

Our Oyster Bay town PRE-MEMORIAL DAY weekend of ceremonial events happens annually and traditionally - on the Saturday BEFORE Memorial Day. We traditionally hold 4 individual memorial ceremonies at 4 different locations - honoring our history of those that have passed away during our wars. Our first location at a monument and flag pole near at a school in Oyster BAY where we lay a wreath and hold a ceremony & prayer. Then we honor our 26th President of the U.S.A Teddy Roosevelt at his grave site in Oyster Bay and lay a wreath and place new American flags every year. Then we visit his son Quentin's memorial site located on the presidential home grounds at the SAGAMORE HILL historical site - we lay a wreath and place new flags and say a prayer. Our 4th Pre-Memorial Day event is celebrated with the Oyster Bay Italian- American Citizens Club ... and this is an extended ceremony that Bob Selby delivers a special holiday memorial message, we provide a Color Guard for the Pledge of Allegiance ... lay a wreath at their monument for members that have passed away during wars - then we do a 3-shot RIFLE SALUTE and have a TAPS performance. We wrap up that ceremony with a special memorial prayer that Bob Selby delivers. The members of the Italian - American Club always appreciates our AMVETS leadership and participation and REMEMBRANCE services. The Club then has a late morning breakfast buffet for their members and all of our AMVETS members that attended.



Chaplain Deacon Jay Valdes 3rd Vice Bob Selby and 1st Vice Rich Dejesu



Post 21 member Joe Messina and Post 21 Chaplain Deacon Jay Valdes



MILITARY BLUE STAR MOTHERS NY 14



Post 21 Provost Marshall Tabitha Robbins and her Mom Blue Star Mother Susan Robbins carrying Post 21 Banner.



POST 21 CONTINUED

SUPPORT FOR “ENDING CANCER” OUR TOWNS EMPIRE STATE
LONG ISLAND BIKE RIDE TO END CANCER.

Another COMMUNITY EVENT that our township asked our AMVETS Post to participate and support the GREAT CAUSE of “ENDING CANCER”. This was a huge charity raising BIKING EVENT ... going off in 3 timed stages because there were so many athlete’s that entered. Our Post was provided with a “street fair” location and space to place our AMVETS TENT. Thank you to BOB LANE for getting out early and delivering a massive amount of material for our set-up in our tent and for display tables. Here to support our EVENT were Commander Bob Lane, Lois Steingisser and “Dolly the Wonder-Dog, Vice Commander Bob Selby and AMVETS MEMBER Joe Messina. After the BIKE RIDE was completed our community came out to the Street Fair where we had an opportunity to collect some donation funds for our post ... and engage veterans and family member with information about “22-A-DAY” Suicide Prevention ... health care programs, and recruiting conversation for veterans to join our post. Our town and the Oyster Bay Chamber of Commerce KNOWS THEY CAN DEPEND ON OUR AMVETS POST TO SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE AT THE MAJORITY OF EVENTS THAT ARE DEVELOPED IN OUR TOWN.



Bike ride to ‘end cancer’ events - with Saladino - Board members - and our team that was there.

POST 21 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS SWEARING-IN
FOR 2023 - 2024

The next day after our successful Independence Day -4th of July events ... our 2023-2024 elected Officers and Board Members were sworn in by AMVETS Department of NY - District #6 - Director, Mr. Bob Oaks.

- Post #21’s 2023 - 2024 Officers and Board Members:
- Robert Lane - Newly Elected - COMMANDER of Post 21
 - Richard DeJesu - Newly elected - 1st Vice Commander
 - Joe Oliveri - remains as elected - 2nd Vice Commander
 - Bob Selby - remains as elected - 3rd Vice Commander
 - Bob Selby - remains as elected - Adjutant
 - Tabatha Robbins - Newly elected - Provost Marshall
 - Arturo Edwards - Newly elected - Judge Advocate
 - Butch Grella - remains Trustee for One year
 - Bob Hathaway - remains Trustee for Two years

We wish ALL of our POST Officers and Board members - GOOD HEALTH and a good and productive year for our post - our VETERANS and our COMMUNITY.



AMVETS ZONE 6 DIRECTOR
ROBERT OAKS SWEARING
IN POST 21 OFFICERS FOR
2023/2024.



L/R PROVOST MARSHALL
TABITHA ROBBINS,
COMMANDER ROBERT LANE,
AMVETS ZONE 6 DIRECTOR
ROBERT OAKS,
FIRST VICE RICH DEJESU AND
THIRD VICE ROBERT SELBY.

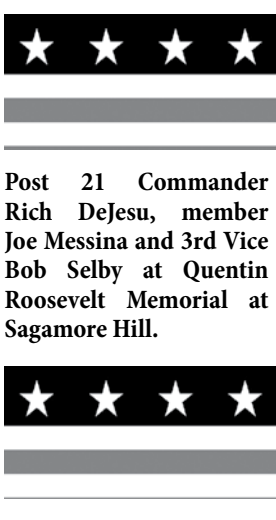


FLAGGING THE GRAVES 2023

THANK YOU TO USCG AUXILIARY COMMANDER VAL ELEFONTE AND
HER CREW FOR THEIR HELP IN THE FLAGGING OF THE GRAVES



L/R Post 21 Commander Rich DeJesu USCG Auxiliary Members Post 21 member Ed Curry Sr. and Jr.



AMVETS Zone 6 Director
Robert Oaks Swearing in
Post 21 COMMANDER FOR
2023/2024 ROBERT LANE.

SAVE THE DATE

10/6-8 Fall SEC Binghamton Doubletree Inn
11/3-5 District 1 meeting Somers Point, NJ

1/5-7-2024 District 1 meeting Lincoln, RI
4/13-2024 Commander’s Testimonial Dinner, Buffalo, NY

POST 21 CONTINUED



Charter Member Bob Hathaway riding with Renee DeJesu Fanning.



Dolly The Wonder Dog all dressed and ready to march.

VETERANS NEWS

AMVETS Dept. Of NY Commander Emery Perry was interviewed by the host of Veterans news EdAulman who is also a life member of Post 21



Pictured with Commander Perry is Bob Lane producer of veterans news Sabrina Lacy, the shows Co-Host and Loretta DiBrino program staff.

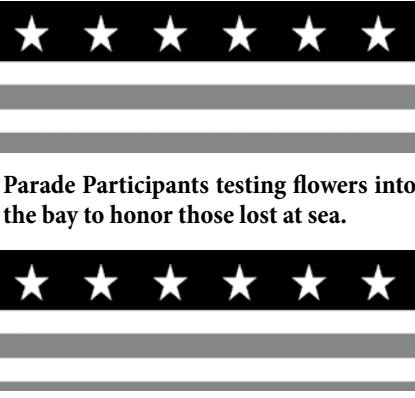
POST 21 COLOR GUARD



President Theodore Roosevelt Himself marching in our Post 21 4th of July Parade.

OUR MEMORIAL DAY REMEBRANCE DAY PARADE AND TWO CEREMONIES

Our First Memorial and Remembrance ceremony was staged along side a bay - for a special ceremony to honor "ALL OF THOSE - THAT HAVE BEEN LOST AT SEA" ... attended by the U.S. COAST GUARD FLOTILA directed by Commander Valerie Elefante. and her Coast Guard team. We had a special remembrance service - then placed flowers in the bay to HONOR those lost at sea. Also attended by the Westbury High School Jr. ROTC ... that performed their 3-volley RIFLE SALUTE - and followed by "ECHO-TAPS" performed by 2 talented trumpeters. Bob Selby provided the final prayer and closed this ceremony. Many veterans and residents from the neighborhood attended this ceremony on a cul-de-sac overlooking a calm bay - perfect for this solemn event.



Parade Participants testing flowers into the bay to honor those lost at sea.



Bob Lane, Rich DeJesu, and Joe Massina man the firing detail At Oyster Bay Italian American Citizens Club.



Post 21 members Joe Minicozzi and Reggie Butt at Oyster Bay Italian American Citizens Club.



Westbury High School JROTC manning firing detail at the Oyster Bay water front Memorial Day Ceremony.



Post 21 3rd Vice with Oyster Bay Italian American Citizens Club Color Guard.



Post 21 member Arturo Edwards enjoying his parade ride with Chauffeur Renee DeJesu Fanning, Lois Steingisser and Dolly the Wonder Dog.



Post 21 Color Guard manned by the Westbury High School JROTC Cadets.

POST 24 - BUFFALO

JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL



Johnetta R. Cole Amvets Post Number 24 members at the Juneteenth Celebration at Martin Luther King Park in Buffalo, New York on June 17, 2023.



Johnetta R. Cole Amvets Post Number 24 members along with legislator Howard Johnson enjoying the Juneteenth Festival held at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park in Buffalo, New York on June 18th 2023.



Johnetta R. Cole Amvets Post Number 24 members and guests at the Juneteenth Celebration at Martin Luther King Park in Buffalo, New York on June 18th 2023.



POST 35 - "E.J." KNAPIK

BANNER UNAVAILABLE IN SCHENECTADY - MAY 23RD



Front row - (l-r): Amy Davis, Kathy Van Iderstyn; Second row (l-r): Bill Godfrey, Jim Bleser Third row - (l-r): Doc Perryman, Ron Boisjoli, Doug Van Iderstyn, Bill Frank.

ROTTERDAM MEMORIAL DAY PARADE - MAY 25TH



From (l-r) Front row: Tony Chagnon, Amy Davis, John Davis, Fred Whelan. Second row: John Koelker, Ron Boisjoli Other side of Trolley - Front row - Georgina Frese, Kathy Van Iderstyn Second row - Doc Perryman, Doug Van Iderstyn, Bill Frank, Tony Guzzardi. The trolley was donated by the Capital District Transportation Authority. Missing from AMVETS picture is Thomas Salli, Jim Bleser and Gene Loparco who were unavailable at time of picture.

PLACEMENT OF FLAGS AT GERALD B. SALMON NATIONAL CEMETERY - MAY 27TH



From (l-r): Pete, Tony Guzzardi, Amy Davis, Fred Whelan, Dave Bullett, Doug Van Iderstyn, Jeff Bentley, Kathy Van Iderstyn, Tony Chagnon, John Koelker.

ROTTERDAM MEMORIAL DAY 2023



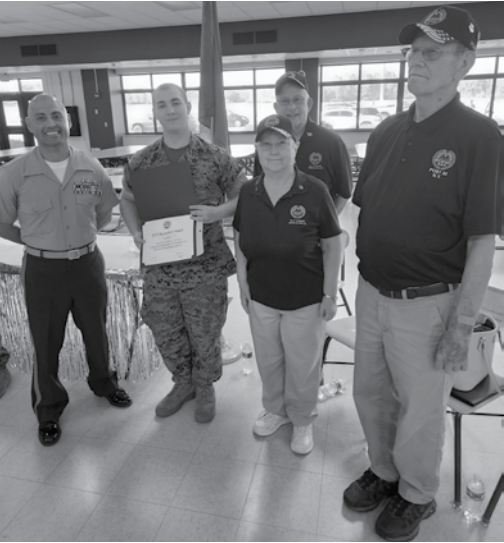
First row (l-r): Kathy Van Iderstyn, Bob Becker, Amy Davis, Bill Frank. Second row (l-r): Gene Loparco, Doug Van Iderstyn, Fred Whelan, Tony Guzzardi, Ron Boisjoli.

Other services held in Schenectady and surrounding area, were Bellevue Veteran's Park May 20th, Mount Pleasant Polish Momment (May 22nd) Niskayuna (May 25th), Albany Parade (May 29th), Vale Cemetery, Vietnam Memorial, and Veteran's Park (May 29th). All of these services had members of AMVETS Post 35 attending them.

WE STAND AND SALUTE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

POST 35 CONTINUED

PRESENTATION OF AMVETS JROTC AWARD IN AMSTERDAM
HIGH SCHOOL - MCJROTC - JUN 1ST



From (l-r): 1st Sgt James Bautista, Cadet SSgt Bayden McKown-Bledsoe, Kathy Van Iderstyne, Doug Van Iderstyne (behind) Ron Boisjoli



“E.J.” KNAPIK AMVETS POST 35 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FOR 2023 - MAY 18TH



From (l-r): Gene Loparco, and on end Ron Boisjoli Co-Chairman and Kathy Van Iderstyne (Middle) with award winners. William H. Hart Sr. Award (2) winners Grace Lyman, and Sarah Miller

“E.J.” Knapik WWII Award Connor Candee
Louis Lupi WWII Award David Loparco
Douglas Van Iderstyne Award
Madison Teriele
Kathleen Van Iderstyne
Georgiana Carhide

SWEARING IN OF NEW OFFICERS 2023
BY HOWARD GUSHUE JR. ON MAY 18TH



Right: Gene Lopaco - Judge Advocate
Kathy Van Iderstyne - Commander
Georgina Frese - Adjutant
Behind Horance “Doc” Perryman - 2nd Vice

Ron Boisjoli - Finance Officer
Doug Van Iderstyne - 1st Vice
Tony Chagnon - Provost Marshal
John Koelker - Chaplain

HONOR A VET CEREMONY- HONORING BOB BECKER - JUN 10TH



Presenting the plaque is Retired Schenectady County Veteran Representative Bill Frank to Robert Becker Jr.

Other local political people and veterans organizations presenting Bob with certificate presentations.

DEDICATED A PLAQUE ON THE VETERAN’S BENCH TO
FRED CLARK AT THE VIA PORT MALL - JUNE 24TH

Honors are given to Veterans who have made accomplishment to the veteran’s as well as to there community by having a plaque placed on a bench in the VIA Port Mall in Rotterdam. Earlier that month in the hospital, Fred was given a plaque for his dedication to “E.J.” Knapik AMVETS Post 35.



From (l-r): Ed Paige, Ron Boisoli, (Behind) Doug Van Iderstyne, Assembly Angelo Santabarbara (Kneeling), Fred Clark, Kathy Van Iderstyne, Nora Wakeley, (Behind) Norm Miller, Doc Perryman, (Front)Bob Becker, Ed Nagay.

SERVING AS PARKING ATTENDANTS
AT BRADT SCHOOL JUNE 15TH



We were asked to park cars at Bradt School field day for the 2nd Grader Class. In attendance from (l-r): Tony Guzzardi, Fred Whelan, John Koelker, Ron Boisjoli, Kathy Van Iderstyne. Doug Van Iderstyne taking picture

“MAY WE NEVER FORGET
OUR FALLEN COMRADES.
FREEDOM ISN’T FREE.”

—SGT. MAJOR BILL PAXTON

2023-2024 COMMANDER'S PROJECT



501C3 NON-PROFIT SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED US!

Giving back to our veterans by providing life-changing experiences

WHIRLWIND VETERANS & WARRIOR RETREAT, INC.

10210 Clarksburg Road
Eden, New York 14057

Mailing Address:
PO Box 163
Eden, New York 14057

For More Information:

www.whirlwindveteransandwarriorretreat.org

Department of New York State Convention



Amvets Lunch & Installation



Commander Perry presents his executive board with shirts.



Dept of NY was honored to have National Commander Don Mclean attend our convention. Shown is Cmdr. Emery Perry, National Cmdr. Don Mclean, and Rich Rossi.



PDC Emery Perry is walked out by the other PDCs. Thank You for a job well done!



Newly elected officers I to right. Carmela Rigoli Chaplain, 3rd Vice Loretta Dibrino, 2nd vice John McCullough, and 1st Vice John Foster.



2nd from right is newly elected Dept Provost Marshall Chuck Harrison. Along with Chuck is left to right PDC Hal Quayor, Nec Lenny Scheiner, PDC Dave Feary, PNC Harold Chapman, and Chaplain Carmela Rigoli.



Dept of NY Chaplain Bruce Allen and Post 8 Finance Officer Hal Quayor chat with Amvets National Commander Don McLean at the Amvets New York Annual Convention in Binghamton.



Amvets Convention PDC Toast.



Newly appointed Department Chaplain Mella Rigoli gives the benediction.

