

2023-MEMBERSHIP IS OUR FUTURE

Commander Emery Perry



Greeting Fellow AMVETS,
As we come to the end of a challenging year (2022), I am thankful we are now able to share time with each other again.
In August I attended the National Convention in New Orleans, where I met and collaborated with Veterans & their families from all over the United States. This was an informative and enjoyable Convention.

On December 4, 2022, Post 1013 Commander Joseph Rheams and I were invited to Post 88 Pearl Harbor Memorial Service. It was my pleasure to honor and remember veterans and their families. We were entertained by the Amityville American Legion Pipe Band. After a discussion with Rich Rossi, Executive Director, I decided my Commander's Project is to donate to the Amityville American Legion Pipe Band for an overseas tour. Thanks to Dave Feary, on December 21, 2022, I was able to delivery Holiday Gifts to Veterans at the St. Albans VA Medical Center in St Albans, NY.

Again, I thank everyone for all your continued support.
I wish you a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Yours In Amvets,
Emery A. Perry
NY Dept. Commander

1st Vice Commander Joe Ashman



Happy New Year AMVETS!
Membership is constantly fluctuating – for the good and bad. We must remain vigilant in our efforts to renew our annual memberships and get our MALs assigned to a local Post. I'm challenging all 1st Vice Commanders and Zone Directors to assist with this effort. Soon, I'll be reaching out with a list of MALs for each Zone and will communicate this to the appropriate 1st Vices and Zone Directors. Hopefully our combined efforts will help boost Post membership numbers.

Believe it or not, we still have a handful of Posts that have not revalidated. I'm working with them to get back on track. I'll provide a more thorough accounting of our membership at the Spring SEC (March 18-19, 2023) in Binghamton.

As a reminder, our current life membership fee is \$250. Effective September 1, 2023 dues shall be not less than \$500 for those members age up to and including 55, ages 56 through and including 65 will be \$400 and those 66 and over \$300.

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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President Susan Gardner



Greetings to all of our AMVETS families, Veterans, Auxiliaries and Sons, I hope everyone had a great Holiday. I know a number of us were snowed in. We still made the best of it.

I pray that 2023 will be a better and a productive year for everyone.

Please let me know if there is anything at all I can do for you or your Post, Auxiliary, or Sons. It is my Honor to serve you. Keep up the good work.

Stay Safe. I Hope to see everyone in March at our SEC.

Yours in AMVETS Ladies AUXILIARY
Department of NY President
Susan Gardner

On Friday, December 23, 2022, 02:20:56 PM EST, Empire Amvet empireamvet1@gmail.com wrote:

It is that time to get your reports in to me for the paper.
Please submit them to me before Jan 1 2023. Thank you!!

Executive Director Rich Rossi



I am writing this on January 1, 2023 which means you probably won't be reading this until around St. Patrick's Day. I hate this time of year because we haven't had a meeting since October. I don't know how we run a Department this size with only two SECs a year. Some Departments have seven a year. Maybe we should have one or two Virtual SECs. This would definitely save money and maybe we would get better attendance.

National seems to be going in that direction. Let's pray for all our Buffalo AMVETS. I know that quite a few people lost their lives but I haven't heard of any AMVETS being one of them. I guess they now know what a Blizzard is. Our next meeting is St. Patrick's Day weekend and a number of Posts are complaining, including mine that they have Dances that weekend. I will make sure that this doesn't happen in the future. Start converting your Annual members to Life Members before the Dues are raised.

See you in March,
Rich Rossi, Executive Director



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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,

Editor's Message

Darrin Keech, Empire AMVET Editor



Fellow AMVETS,

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas. 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 fantastic way to highlight your doings and accomplishments. If members are sending images from their smart phones or tablets, send them as Actual size. Any 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.

It costs \$3.00 per photo to have them converted for use in our paper, therefore 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. The Fall issue cost just under \$10,000 to produce. Because of this cost I am asking for more articles and be sure to make the pictures count.

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 Commdr

John Foster



Commander, Officers, and Fellow AMVETS

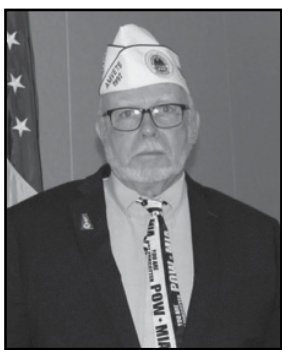
I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year with a great year to come. I would like to give a big thank you to everyone who is selling the April 2023 raffle tickets. The ticket will be \$50.00 on the mid-day drawing and \$300.00 on the evening draw on the New York Daily Lotto Numbers. There is a bonus drawing for anyone that sells 50 tickets will be entered in a drawing for 2-\$250.00. Also don't forget about the 200-club ticket they are going fast. If anyone is interested in selling tickets my contact information is listed below.

P O Box 10 Hornell N Y 14843
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Yours in AMVETS,
John Foster, 2nd VICE COMMANDER

3rd Vice Commander

John McCullough



Greetings to all my fellow Veteran's, Auxiliary and Son's members, I hope you all had a verry Merry Christmas and I wish all a Happy and Healthy 2023.

Reporting through me has improved since the Fall SED. So far, I've received reports from 13 different Posts. This is a big improvement, but we have approximately 67 Posts in the Department. I realize some of you may be reporting directly to National. As of today, Christmas Eve 2022, there is no way for me to check on it. So PLEASE send your reports through me. You can either email them to me at johnmcc1225@aol.com or snail mail them to 7122 SH 37, Ogdensburg NY 13669.

There are only 2 worker bees at National trying to input all the reports we send them so to make it easier, they have requested that you only report one month at a time. Don't put more than one month on a sheet and try to gt them in within 15 days of the end of the month. If you fill up 1 form and still hve more to report that month, just use more than 1 sheet.

Like all of you, I will be so happy when they get the software required for us to all report directly to National as it was before. Until then, PLEASE send your reports through me by the above means.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Spring SEC, 17-18 March 2023 in Binghamton. If we wear red and green on Friday the 17th, it will look just like Christmas in March.

Yours in AMVETS, John McCullough, 3rd Vice Commander



The Amityville American Legion Pipe Band has been nominated to be Lead Pipe Group and official US Ambassadors during D-Day Commemoration Ceremonies in Normandy France in June of 2023 and is currently asking for donations to help replace threadbare uniforms and subsidize travel costs. The Band will perform official music for all events, including Wreath Laying and Commemoration Ceremonies at Brittany and Omaha Beach American Cemeteries, and parade services in Sainte-Mère-Église (the first town liberated by American paratroopers on D-Day).

The Battle of Normandy, which lasted from June 1944 to August 1944, resulted in the Allied liberation of Western Europe from Nazi Germany's control. The battle began on June 6, 1944, when some 156,000 American, British and Canadian forces landed on five beaches along a 50-mile stretch of the heavily fortified coast of France's Normandy region. The invasion was one of the largest amphibious military assaults in history. On the 79th Anniversary of D-Day, the Amityville American Legion Pipe Band will be honoring the brave servicemen who fought in that battle; many of whom paid the ultimate sacrifice for freedom.

Total cost to send the Amityville American Legion Pipe Band to the D-Day Commemoration Ceremony is estimated to be \$50,000. Please show your support by making a charitable contribution to send the Amityville American Legion Pipe Band to this prestigious event. Every tax-deductible donation received, no matter the amount, is greatly appreciated and will bring the Band closer to achieving its fundraising goal. Thank you.

To donate by check, please make payable to Amityville American Legion Pipe Band and mail to:

To donate online, simply scan the QR code below and follow the instructions provided.

Amityville American Legion Pipe Band
"2023 D-Day Commemoration Fundraiser"
66 Veterans Boulevard
Massapequa, NY 11758



The American Legion is a non-profit organization and was established on March 15, 1919 in Paris, France, by delegates from units of the American Expeditionary Forces following the end of the first World War. The Amityville American Legion Pipe Band was founded in 1952 by WW II Veterans of Amityville American Legion Post 1015 and granted written permission, by Queen Mother Elizabeth, to wear the well-known "Black Watch" plaid of the 3rd Battalion, Royal Regiment of Scotland. Not all pipe bands have this distinction. In 2013 the Band relocated to Massapequa American Legion Post 1066 to continue its patriotic duty to the American Legion, our Veterans and Long Island communities year-round.

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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4572-6472-7275-8113

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1473-1887-8735

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1417-2000-9594

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2004-2017-2752-2946

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

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**If you have corrections or
updates to the Department
Officers information on this
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VOLUME 11 ISSUE 1 • WINTER 2023

POST NEWS STATEWIDE

In this issue of POST NEWS we honor Pearl Harbor and Veterans Day. Posts that held ceremonies and parades will appear in the color center spread. God bless our veterans.

POST 8 - MALONE



POST 8 RECREATION PARK

Post 8 Ladies Auxiliary put on a chicken and biscuit dinner which raised over \$1,700 to benefit the Malone Recreation Park fundraiser to install a new pool at the local park.



(L-R) presenting the check is 1st Vice Cindy Queyor; Aux 8 President Mel Warner; Park Fundraisers Stephanie Bannon and Carol Ann LaShomb.



POST 8 - MALONE CONTINUED

NORTH COUNTRY HONOR FLIGHT

Post 8 hosted the awards ceremony for the recent North Country Honor Flight held in Oct 2022. Participants each received an encased flag flown over the capitol building in Washington DC with a certificate of authenticity, as well as an Honor Flight jacket, and other gifts.



Pic (L-R) Barrie Finnegan of Honor Flight; Post 8 Commander Bruce Allen; Veterans Hank Cummings; Bob Helms; Chuck Boss; and Nick Eggink; Janet Duprey of Honor Flight; and Post 8 Adjutant Hal Queyor.

MR AMVET

Malone Amvet Member Richard Raville was awarded the coveted Mr Amvet Award for 2022 for outstanding service and dedication to the Malone Post.



Pictured left is Commander Bruce Allen presenting the plaque to Amvet Raville.



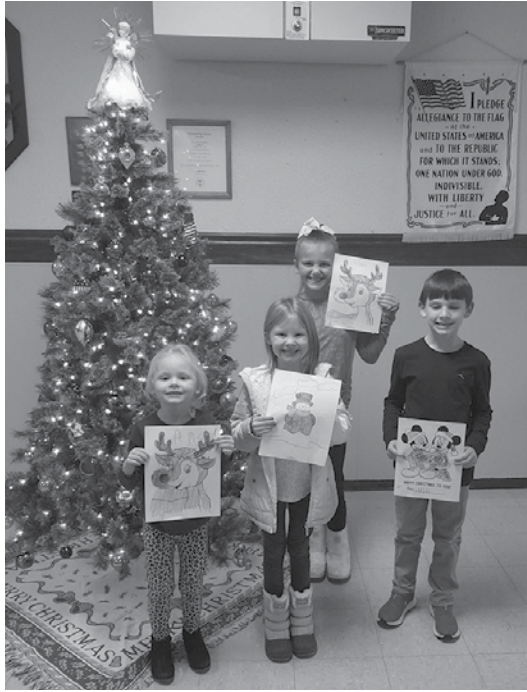
Post 8 Auxiliary assisted Families R' Us with a Santa meet and greet. They made cookies and provided gifts for the children.



(L-R) Lois Marshall, Cindy Queyor, Mrs Claus, Santa, Donna Smith, and Doris Allen.



POST 14 - DEPEW

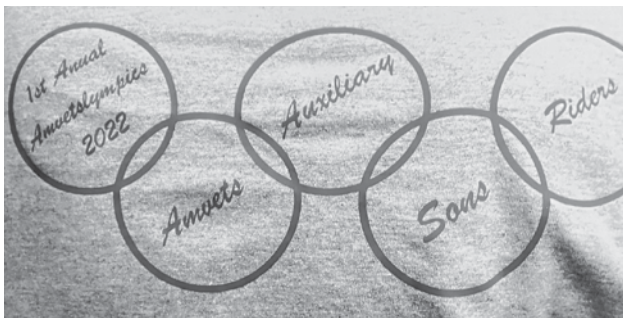


COLORING EVENT HOSTED BY POST 14

We're sending pictures to Troops overseas.



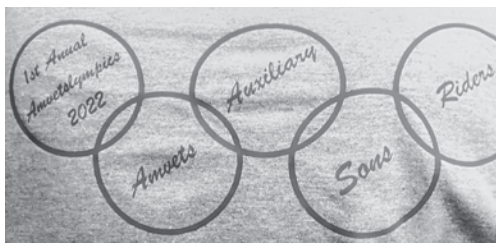
Plug Your Hole



AMVETSlympics logo



David Feary representing Buddy's Cadets as the champions of the 1st annual WNY AMVETSlympics.



Jenga

Swing Your Ding-a-Ling



POST 18 - EAST ISLIP



Cropped 9-12-2022 Volunteers with shirt



2022 12 21 - Induction Lilly & Sabrina



Group Mitten, Hats and Scarves for East Islip Library.



Jul 2022 - AMVETS, SONS & Auxiliary Membership Drive



Lily, Josephine, Vicky & Betty B Lk Ronk Street Fair Sept 2022



Small sampling of donated school supplies



Marie, Josephine, Betty St John 2nd coat delivery.



President Gloria Morck & Commander Fred Vatter

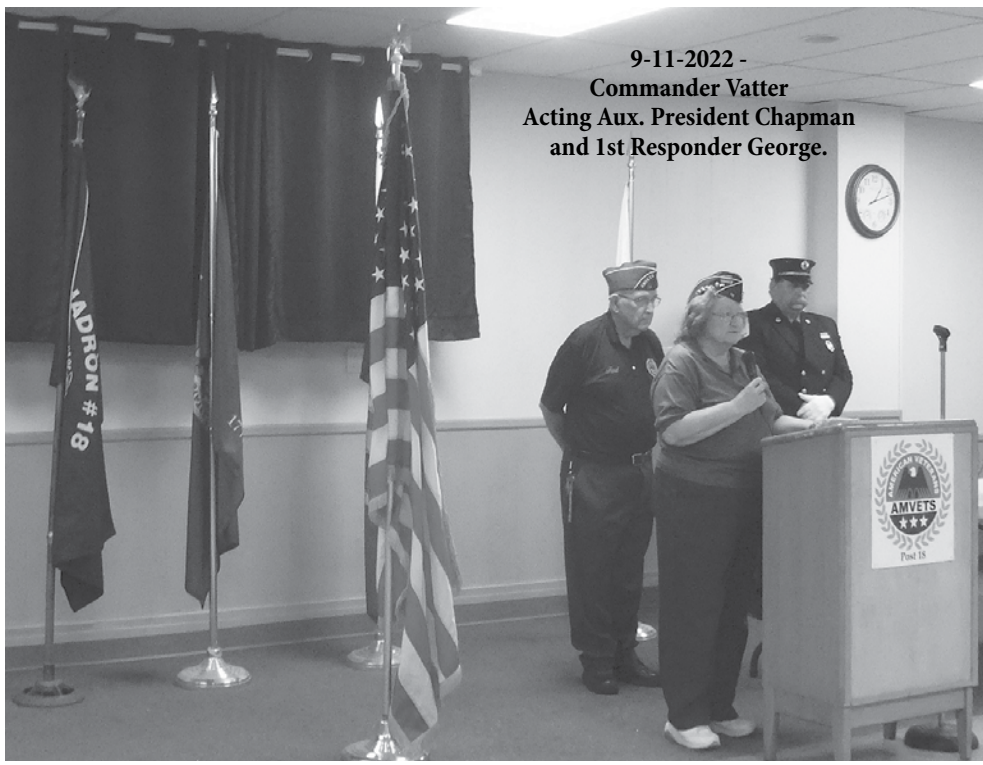


Sep 13 2022 - Ducks Game Men Post 18

POST 18 EAST ISLIP CONTINUED



Auxiliary Group Shot PB&J



9-11-2022 -
Commander Vatter
Acting Aux. President Chapman
and 1st Responder George.

POST 21 - OYSTER BAY



AMVETS Post 21 Color Guard Bob Lane, Rich DeJesu and Bob Selby And Members of Bayville American Legion Stand with Presidential Wreath at President Theodore Roosevelt's grave site.



Post 21 Oyster Bay continued

HOLIDAY WISHES FROM POST 21 - AND HOPES FOR A NEW YEAR 2023

Post #21 in Oyster Bay - our Commander Richard DeJesu and his wife Laura, the Post Executive team and our Board of Directors - wished everyone and their families a joyous and Merry Christmas - and to our Jewish brethren - a Happy Hanukkah to celebrate their holidays. And to ALL - a Happy NEW YEAR 2023 that is filled with GOOD HEALTH, GOOD LUCK and some PROSPERITY as well.

We are PROUD to have had another busy year 2022 - rebounding for the restrictions of COVID and back to a sense of normalcy for our communities and our Post. We were able to lead our traditional veterans and community events again ... and deliver on our PROMISES to assist our neediest of citizens and veterans alike ... to help reduce their burden and make their lives a bit more tolerable. We have a slogan of great meaning: "WE HAVE SO MUCH ... AND THEY HAVE SO LITTLE".

OUR COMMUNITY AND NEEDY ASSISTANCE EFFORTS HAVE INCREASED

Our community leaders alerted us about mid-year - that the number of people seeking help and assistance - HAD TRIPLED. Inflation had taken its toll on our FIXED INCOME and LOW INCOME and our ELDERLY FOLKS men and women who lost their jobs due to the poor economy etc. Our POST came to the RESCUE to help meet their needs ... we collected non-perishable food items and health aid items at our General meetings - thanks to the generosity from our members - and outside organizations came forward and donated to us - so we could give more - and our donations were delivered to local church food banks and centers that support our neediest and homeless citizens. Since our own food donation program inception, we delivered in excess of 7,500+ food and health aid items for our community. We also collected USED EYE-WEAR from our members and donated more than 100 pairs of used eye-wear to the VA Center in East Meadow for distribution to Veterans in need but can't afford the high cost of NEW EYE-WEAR. SERVING OUR COMMUNITY and OUR VETERANS has always been our TOP and MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITY.

OUR 26th PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT - 164TH BIRTHDAY CEREMONY

On October 27th - our Post, other veterans organizations and our Oyster Bay town leadership - celebrated the 164th birthday of our hometown hero - OUR 26th President of the United States - Theodore Roosevelt - at his gravesite overlooking his beloved community of Oyster Bay. Our Post joined other groups with presenting our Color Guard - posting with our Commander DeJesu and Provost Bobby Lane. Our Town Supervisor Joe Saladino presented a memorable ceremonial address - and our local elementary school invited their young students and music teachers to join us performing our PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE and singing OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM. Then the children placed red roses in front of President Roosevelt's grave site ... and our Veterans groups donated beautiful wreaths that were placed around the Presidents' head-stone. Our 26th President made his summer home in beautiful SAGAMORE HILL overlooking Oyster Bay Harbor - that is a NATIONAL PARK and has a terrific presidential museum.

LEARNING TREE NURSERY SCHOOL HEALTH AIDS COLLECTION FOR AMVETS TO DONATE TO NEEDY VETERANS

The wonderful leadership at the Learning Tree Nursery School in Oyster Bay - led by Cindi Mantegari - led the students and the parents of the students - to run a specific collection drive to gather health aid items for our needy Veterans - and timed perfectly to supply hundreds of Veterans with health related items collected for our "VETERANS STAND-DOWN" in Freeport, Nassau County on Long Island and just before Thanksgiving. The "STAND-DOWN" program this year was mostly a drive-through event due to flu and COVID issues within the community. Food banks and veterans organizations LIKE OURS - donated crates of needed supplies ... food items, health aids, clothing, and the VA had informational packets to help our Veterans understand what VA services are available locally and contact information ... especially for the homeless now that WINTER is upon us.

OYSTER FESTIVAL RETURNS TO OYSTER BAY, LONG ISLAND AND IN A BIG WAY

Over 150,000+ visitors - RENEWED their LOVE for the "OYSTER FESTIVAL" in our great town of Oyster Bay ... after 2 years closed due to COVID restrictions. WE HAD OUR USUAL ANNUAL EVENT for 2 days - highlighted with a full-size carnival, live musical performances, arts & craft tents, animal pens for children to play, AND OUR FAMOUS "OYSTER CHUCKING CONTEST" and "OYSTER EATING CONTEST" ... and the most incredible seafood booths to enjoy the best seafoods around. In our town - local crafters offered their goods and local restaurants offered their foods along busy streets and our local brewery offered their beers to enjoy. Thank goodness too for the great weather for 2 days.

Our AMVETS POST had the only Veterans tent available to the visitors set-up for 2 days and manned by Commander DeJesu, Provost Bobby Lane, Vice Commander Bob Selby and post members Joe Messina and Tabettha Robbins ... and Louise and her WONDER DOG. We offered "22-a-day" Suicide Prevention information on our tables, VA information packets

Continued on Pg. 8

POST 21 OYSTER BAY CONTINUED FROM PG 7



Commander Rich DeJesu and Third Vice Selby attending class at the Learning Tree Nursery School.

and free items for kids and veterans. Our “experienced donation collectors” circulated among the visitors seeking donations for our POST in Oyster Bay - and the festival visitors were very generous with their offerings of support - and very inquisitive about our military service and what we do to support our community and Veterans.

“WALLS OF HONOR” CEREMONY AND UNVEILING OF ENGRAVED NAMES AND WALL LOCATIONS FOR OUR HEROES

Over 350 NEW VETERANS names were added to the “WALLS of HONOR” at the Veterans Memorial Plaza in Eisenhower Park in East Meadow, Long Island. So many attended on a rainy and nasty day - to SEE their loved ones get inducted ONTO this prestigious WALL of heroes - with thousands of other veterans that have served throughout the years. Their names unveiled on the WALLS and locations - placed there for eternity. Our AMVETS Provost Marshall Bobby Lane is the WALLS of HONOR Chairman ... and grateful for those who attended in the foul weather ... and veterans relatives to witness the unveilings. Our Post 21 supplied the RIFLE DETAIL and Vietnam Veterans of America chapter 82 in Hicksville provided the COLOR GUARD.

. 560 names were added in 2021 in 2 sessions of 280 Veterans each - due to COVID ceremony restrictions at the time.

. A VETERAN can be nominated & added to the WALLS of HONOR from anywhere they live ... Military Veterans of families that served can be ADDED TOGETHER on a WALL location ... for a small fee and DD-214 showing proof of service. Contact Bob Lane through AMVETS Post #21 and Commander DeJesu.

“DONATION COLLECTION CANS” - OUR COMMANDERS RECOMMENDATION TO OTHER POST LEADERS

Our Post #21 “donation COLLECTION CANS” are situated in over 20 retail and business establishments .. placed on counter-top check-out areas - where consumers can see our cans and DONATE right on the spot of their purchases. The program initiated by Commander DeJesu nearly 4 years ago has been a huge success - and our Commander recommends that OTHER AMVETS posts create THEIR OWN COLLECTION CAN program to gain needed dollar-revenue that helps support their post activities for Veterans and community needs. Richard collects the collection cans funds twice per month and proceeds are added to our Post funds. Richard provided a picture of what the collection cans look like and can be customized for each post. Other post leaders can contact Commander DeJesu to discuss how to start their program, material needed and how to sell the container use at local retailers. Richard’s phone number is (516) 922-3283.

VETERANS DAY - APPRECIATION DAY EVENTS AND A SCHOOL VISIT TO ENGAGE YOUNGSTERS ABOUT “WHO VETERANS ARE”

This years VETERANS DAY was packed with events to HONOR OUR VETERANS again - after a few years of Covid restrictions of gatherings. Our local St. Dominic’s church offered Veterans groups a “VETERANS APPRECIATION DINNER” ... and supported by leaders and our Boys and Girls Scout troops from Oyster Bay ... and volunteers of parents and church patrons that prepared multiple trays of wonderful foods and desserts for us. The Boy Scouts presented their Color Guard for our Pledge of Allegiance and V.F.W. Post #4 Commander Reggie Butt performed the POW / MIA TABLE message of remembrance. Bob Selby, AMVETS Vice Commander was asked to talk about the importance of VETERANS DAY in our community.

. Our local senior center - the LIFE ENRICHMENT center offered their annual Veterans Appreciation Luncheon for veterans and wives. A very patriotic event with singing of patriotic songs, presentation of our COLORS and Pledge of Allegiance. Lunch and desserts are always terrific and appreciated by us veterans.

. Our Oyster Bay High School invited us to their “FIELD OF FLAGS” ceremony in front of the High School and Veterans Monument where many flags were being flown to honor our township veterans. Hundreds of students attended and the High School band performed our NATIONAL ANTHEM and a few patriotic songs. The high school administration presented a wonderful and respectful tribute to VETERANS.

. Bob Selby, Post 21 Vice Commander was invited to a Queens, New York public elementary

school - to address 2 - student assemblies - 3rd thru 5th graders - then 6th thru 8th graders. My task for this Veterans Day - was to EDUCATE the youngsters about “WHO VETERANS ARE” ... “WHAT VETERANS HAVE DONE & DO FOR OUR COUNTRY” ... and “HOW THEY CAN BE HONORED FOR VETERANS DAY”. After each presentation group - the children looked at display material I brought with me and asked really good questions that I answered with the understanding of their age groups. A hugely REWARDING PERSONAL ADVENTURE FOR ME.

OUR PEARL HARBOR DAY REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

AMVETS Post #21 - has become the focal veterans organization to host our PEARL HARBOR DAY REMEMBRANCE ceremony for our invited surrounding community of veterans organizations - to attend at the Theodore Roosevelt Park in Oyster Bay - at the waterfront area. We invited 5 veterans groups to join us - from Bayville, Oyster Bay, Locust Valley and Syosset - V.F.W. and American Legion posts ... all in Nassau County.

- . V.F.W. from Bayville provided their COLOR GUARD
- . AMVETS POST 21 provided their FIRING DETAIL
- . Bob Selby, AMVETS Post 21 Vice Commander was the Master of Ceremonies
- . Deacon Jay Valdes - Post 21 Chaplin delivered inspirational Invocation and Benediction messages for our ceremony
- . Town of Oyster Bay, Town Clerk - Richard La Marca delivered a solemn & thoughtful Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance address.
- . ALL VETERANS had an opportunity to throw Red Roses into our bay - a symbol to HONOR our ALL LOST LIVES on that fateful day the Japanese attacked our Pearl Harbor.

4th ANNUAL TOY, GIFT AND FUND DRIVE FOR OUR NEEDY CHILDREN

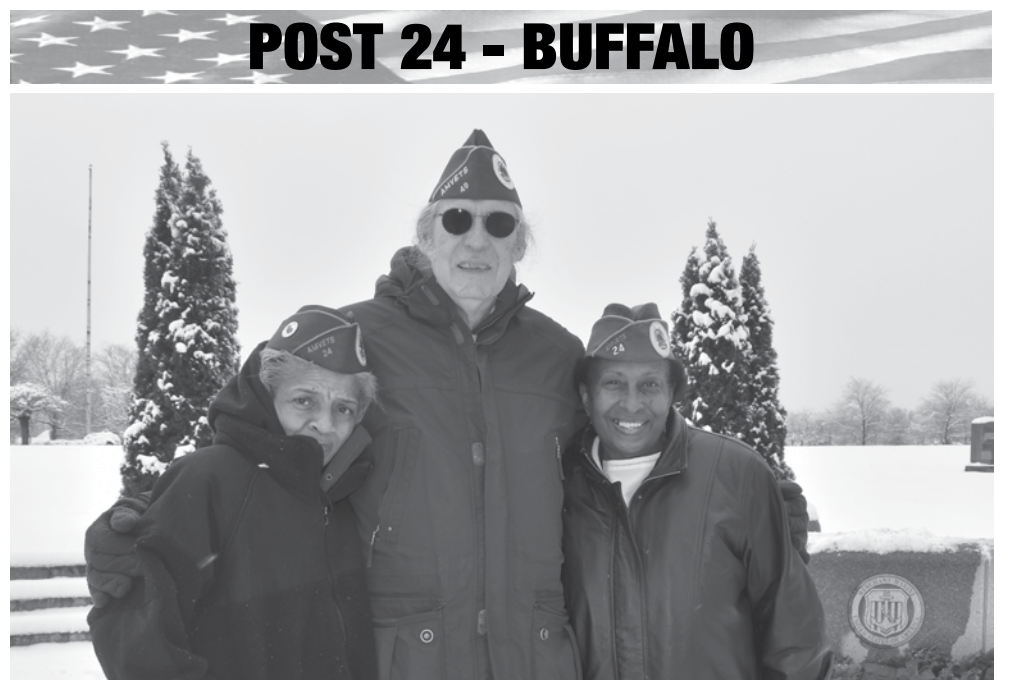
Our 4th year of collecting toys, gifts and raising funds from our AMVETS Post members - to buy toys and gifts to support children that MAY NOT HAVE HAD A CHRISTMAS TO CELEBRATE ---- without the toys and gifts WE DONATED AND DELIVERED to provide a real CHRISTMAS for needy kids. We supported and donated toys and gifts to “Veterans / Service-members FAMILIES IN CRISIS” and 2 local TOYS - FOR -TOTS locations in Oyster Bay and East Norwich communities. Commander DeJesu and Bob Selby, our post Vice Commander - THANK OUR POST MEMBERS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO OUR FUND RAISING - so children in need - families in need could actually have a CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY. Giving like this - gives us a warm feeling and PRIDE.

MAKING OUR VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INTO A CHRISTMAS AND WINTER WONDERLAND

The VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA in Eisenhower Park, East Meadow is the premier location for most veterans events and ceremonies for our country - and the home of the “WALLS of HONOR” ... and a recent memorial location for and to honor “BLUE STAR MOTHERS” as well. Our AMVETS post #21 Provost Marshall Bobby Lane is the “CARE-TAKER” supreme for the Veterans Plaza and the museum ... and the entire plaza surrounding grounds. He’s a busy man.

This year there were so many holiday decorations and lights that needed to be installed ... too much for Bob and his little other help. He requested assistance from the Westbury High School Jr. ROTC ... that is part of our Firing Detail for military holiday events ... and over 50 cadet / students arrived to help - with their ROTC leader Bill Caraballo. They cleaned out a trailer full of holiday decorations and strung thousands of lights on flag poles and bushes in the plaza and the entrance to the Veterans Memorial Park. A truly magnificent accomplishment on a very cold morning start.

Bobby Lane thanked the Westbury Jr. ROTC ... Bill Caraballo and Bob Selby, Post 21 Vice Commander for attending and being the major part of creating the PLAZA CHRISTMAS and WINTER WONDERLAND it turned out to be.



Veronica Johnson and Debbie Ransom of Johnetta R. Cole Amvets Post Number 24 and Andy Pierce of the Amherst Amvets Post Number 49 at the Wreaths Across America on December 17th 2022 at The Pine Lawn Cemetery in Cheektowaga New York.

POST 35 - "E.J." KNAPIK



GULDERLAND FOOD GIVE-AWAY 2022

Three members of "E.J." Knapik AMVETS Post 35 on December 17th, 2022, help provide 19 Christmas food bags to 19 veterans, from Guilderland Food Pantry. From Ron Boisjoli and Amy Davis, missing but taking pictures is John McDonnell.

POST 48 -RONKONKOMA



Amvets Fred, Ed, Paul, and Joe attend The Ronkonkoma Middle School Veterans Day Celebration.



Receiving their 15-year membership pin is Stefani Curasi and Wayne Brew.

SYMPOSIUM ON MILITARY TRAUMA AND HEALTH CONCERNS - OCT 16th, 2022

A symposium was held to discuss mental and physical problems agent orange and other toxic substances that may of the military are and will experiencing. Many informational exhibits were on display such a a beautiful display of the Twin towers in NYC presented by Marty Muller photographer, as well as "22 a Day" and the Legacy Project.



From left to right: Kathy and Doug Van Iderstyne, Ron Mannarino, Fred Whelan, Tony Guzzardi, and Marty Muller. Missing from picture is Andrew "Doc" Berry.



VETERANS DAY



Post 48 members get ready to enjoy the donated pies on Veterans Day.

"STUFF THE BUS"

"Stuff the Bus" at the Guilderland Elks, on December 17th a stop was made to pick up toys, food, and \$200 dollars in gift cards for the VA, then proceeded to the Stratton VA in Albany NY.

Women from The Hamlet bringing pies to the Veterans of Post 48.



MEMBERS OF POST 48 PUTTING UP THE TREE AND DECORATING THE HALL FOR THE HOLIDAYS.



From Left to right - Doug Van Iderstyne AMVETS Post 35, Kelly Munson AMVETS Post 2000 Auxiliary, elf in front Kaylee Sanders, Behind Joe Ballas AMVETS Post 2000, Fred Clark AMVETS Post 35, (behind) Ed Sanders (Santa) AMVETS Post 2000, in front Kathy Van Iderstyne AMVETS Post 35, Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara AMVETS Post 35, Dan Dawson Son's of AMVETS (driver) pictures.

WE STAND AND SALUTE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



NEW YORK AMVETS POSTS HONOR PEARL HARBOR DAY

POST 21 - OYSTER BAY PEARL HARBOR DAY CEREMONY



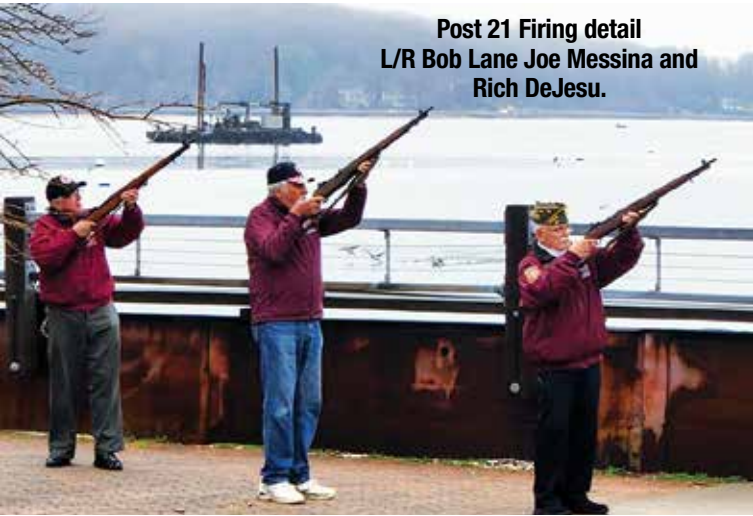
L/R Bob Lane, Deacon Jay Valdes, Bob Selby, Joe Messina, Rich DeJesu and Rich LaMarca.



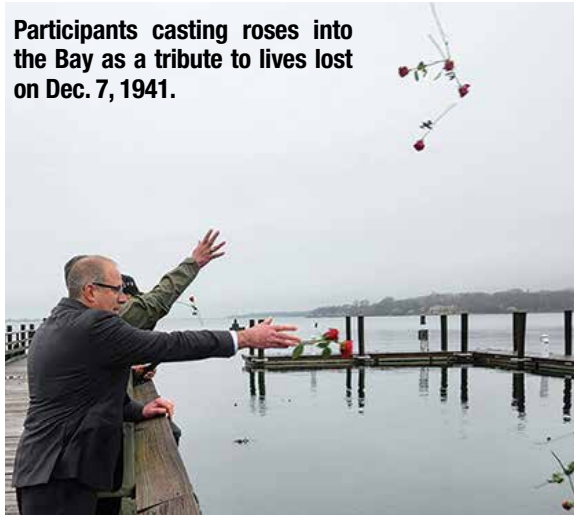
L/R Oyster Bay Town Clerk Rich La Marca, Post 21 3rd Vice Bob Selby and Commander Rich DeJesu.



L/R Oyster Bay Town Clerk Rich La Marca, Post 21 3rd Vice Bob Selby and Commander Rich DeJesu.



Post 21 Firing detail
L/R Bob Lane Joe Messina and Rich DeJesu.



Participants casting roses into the Bay as a tribute to lives lost on Dec. 7, 1941.



Roses on the water

POST 35 - SCHENECTADY PEARL HARBOR DAY CEREMONY



Photo on left:
Pearl Harbor Breakfast December 7th at Zaloga American Leagon Post in Albany.

Seated from left to right WWII Navy Veteran - Harold Fox, WWII Navy Veteran - William Scharoun. Behind from left to right "E.J" Knapik AMVETS Post 35 Doc Perryman, Doug Van Iderstyne, Kathy Van Iderstyne, Gene Loparco.

Photo on right:
Pearl Harbor Services at Rotterdam Town Hall December 7th

First row seated from left to right: Bill Frank, Amy Davis, John Davis, Doug Van Iderstyne, Gene Loparco. Second row standing from left to right: Kathy Van Iderstyne, Tony Guzzardi, Fred Clark, Ron Bosjoli, Jim Bleser.



POST 88 - MASSAPEQUA PEARL HARBOR DAY CEREMONY



Representatives from Oyster Bay, Department Commander Emery Perry, Post 88 Commander Doug Dervin, Representative Rose Marie Walker, Department Provost Marshal Loretta DiBrino attending the wreath ceremony at Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony.

POST 111 - PATCHOGUE PEARL HARBOR DAY CEREMONY



Post 111 Color Guard marching in the Pearl Harbor Commemoration on December 4, 2022.

NEW YORK AMVETS POSTS HONOR PEARL HARBOR DAY

NEW YORK AMVETS POSTS HONOR VETERAN'S DAY

POST 35 - SCHENECTADY VETERANS DAY CEREMONY



Albany Veteran's Day Parade - Nov 11, 2022
L-R: AMVET Fred Whalen, with veterans from Korea, World War 2 and Vietnam with their wives.



Rotterdam Veteran's Day Services - Nov 11, 2022.
L-R: Bob Becker (seated); 2nd Row from L-R: Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara, Amy Davis, Commander Kathy Van Iderstyne, Fred Whelan, Tony Guzzardi, Fred Clark, Gene Loparco; 3rd Row from L-R: Bill Unknown Vet, Fred Whelan, Tony Guzzardi, Doug Van Iderstyne, Frank, John Koelker, Doug Van Iderstyne, Jim Bleser, Pete Kournkewich.



Son's of Italy Breakfast - Nov 13, 2022
FREE TO ALL VETS

Seated at table from L-R: AMVETS - Bob Becker, George, Kathy Van Iderstyne; Standing behind from L-R: Gene Loparco, Unknown Vet, Fred Whelan, Tony Guzzardi, Doug Van Iderstyne, Doc Perryman, Marty Muller, Ron Manocchi

POST 24 - BUFFALO VETERANS DAY SALUTE



POST 48 - EAST ISLIP VETERANS DAY



AMVETS Post 48 Commander leading the Veterans Day Ceremony.

POST 76 - BAY SHORE VETERANS DAY



The Amvets Post 76 and in cooperation with the American Legion Post 365 had a heartwarming commemoration held at the Bay Shore Memorial Park for Veterans Day. Afterwards there was a celebration at Amvets Post 76 to honor all the veterans, past and present. Thank you all for your service. Back row Hank Schroeder, Chaplain, Commander Bill Denatalie, John DiGilio, Brigadier General retired, Chet Stricklen-Chaplain American Legion Post 365. Front row are representatives from Scouts of America, troops 43 and 430 and at Podium Bob Oakes, PPC.

POST 88 - MASSAPEQUA VETERANS DAY



Past Post 88 Commander John Lentini, Members and Riders attending the ceremony on Veterans Day.



Post 88 Color Guard performing their duties at Klestinec Park on Veterans Day with a little help from some new friends

POST 245 - HORNELL VETERANS DAY



Gold Star Mother Kim Smith speaks about the sacrifices Veterans and their families make in Service to our Country.

POST 262 - COLTON VETERANS DAY

AMVETS POST 262 HONORS AMERICA'S VETERANS ON THIS VERY PRESTIGIOUS DAY

AMVETS Post 262 Commander Colonel Rick Miller, U.S. Army (Retired), Colonel James Hassett, U. S. Army (Retired), PNCM(SS) Bill Swafford, U. S. Navy (Retired), and UTC Bob Crary, U. S. Navy (Retired) honored those Veterans both on Active Duty and those with prior service for their dedication to duty and to the place they call home – the United States of America. This ceremony also recognized those personnel that gave the ultimate sacrifice in giving their lives for their Country. In addition, the group recognized all service members' moms, dads, spouses, and children. Guest speaker James Hassett reflected on the Gold Star parents and family members of those who gave their lives for their country. The ceremony concluded with Randy Regan, a member of the Sons, playing taps. Afterward, the Post 262 Auxiliary and Sons provided a meal while plenty of "Sea Stories" finished off a very eventful day.

Photo taken by Lyn Swafford



POST 897 - BLADELL VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST



Post 897-Auxiliary President Janell Ashman (L) and 1st Vice Kalene Pencek (R) prepare Veterans Day Breakfast.

NEW YORK AMVETS POSTS HONOR VETERAN'S DAY

POST 76 - BAY SHORE



JULY 7
Maureen and Doug enjoying a relaxing evening at the post.

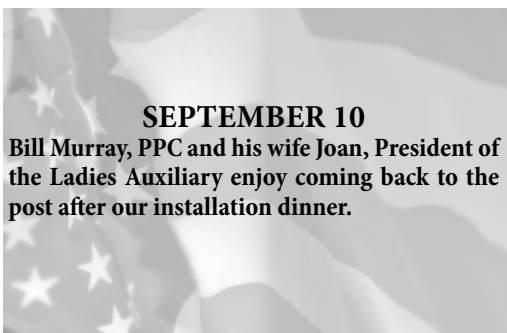


JULY 19
The Post held its annual Fishing Trip on the Dixie III out of Captree State Park on July 30th. Plenty of fluke came aboard, with David Fisk having the largest fluke! It was a beautiful summer day and a good time was had by all!



SEPTEMBER

On Saturday, July 30 The Sons of Amvets, Post 76 held their annual pig roast, organized by John Dannenfeiser, Commander of Sons of Amvets with the help of the Amvets and the Ladies Auxiliary. Many of the Amvets and Sons kept watch all night at the BBQ pit for the pig roast to be cooked to perfection. Seen here is Commander Bill DiNatalie, and Amvet Patrick Warner keeping watch. Dinner and desserts were outstanding.



SEPTEMBER 10
Bill Murray, PPC and his wife Joan, President of the Ladies Auxiliary enjoy coming back to the post after our installation dinner.



SEPTEMBER 20
The Installation Dinner was held at Captain Bills in Bay Shore on September 30th. Shown here (l to r) Chris Ciejka, Commander Bill DiNatalie, David Fisk, Bob Oakes, PPC, Rich Butera and Hank Schroeder. Dancing and dining the night away!

OCTOBER

All the brooms were parked at the door and we shared Ghostly Greetings to all who attended! The costumes were amazing this year! Rich Lowery, Patrick Warner, Heather Tourney and Vince Russel were decked out in the Wizard of Oz crew... taking first place. There was plenty of food and fun to last all evening long.



1ST PLACE WINNERS



2nd place costume winner Antoinette Miglionico (not shown partner David Fisk) and winner of most original, Jim Lanigan.

NOVEMBER



Enjoying Veterans Day! Ben Morselli, Hank Schroeder, Jim Lanigan and Mike Carmody.



Robert Barcone (aka Slomin) worked so hard to feed everyone cooking hot dogs, hamburgers and french fries. We also enjoyed a delicious pot of clam chowder made by Bruce Stelzer.



Zoey and Hannah Denatalie from troops 222 and 10, handed out homemade "thank you for your service" cards to each Veterans at the Post Each card had pictures drawn with American Flags, hearts, etc.. The Veterans were most appreciative of the kindness shown. A few of the Veterans shown here with the girls are (from l to r) Ben Morselli, Brian Hassman, Sean Ashley PPC, Chris Ciejka PPC, Zoey & Hannah, Jim Lanigan, Mike Carmody, Hank Schroeder and Bill Murray PPC.

NOVEMBER CONTINUED



Wishing a warm welcome to new members Cole Rader and Anthony Delvalle II, shown here with Commander Bill Denatalie.



The Ladies Auxiliary Post 76 purchased items to make 48 holiday gift bags that were delivered to the Woman's Veterans Program at the Northport VA Medical Center. These bags will be distributed to the female veterans at the hospital in appreciation of their service. Shown here is Debbie Salmon, Charlene Lanigan and Asst. Manager Joanne Savan with the gift bag delivery.



Auxiliary members from Post 76 helped sort food. Shown here is Susie Zappia, Nancy Ford, Penny Hallenback and Heather Toumey



The Ladies Auxiliary of Post 76 collected food and donated to Beacon House in Bay Shore. Shown here is Secretary Charlene Lanigan and President Joan Murray.

The Sons of Liberty accumulated, packed and delivered nearly 4,000 pounds of Thanksgiving dinner supplies. The Amvets Post 76 helped to sort the food collected and make boxes for delivery to Veterans. Much food was also brought to United Veterans Beacon House.



Shown here on the right is Sons of Liberty President Polo LaGrandier and Bob Oakes, Treasurer of Post 76 along with members from Sons of Liberty and Post 76.



The food donations being sorted. Hundreds of frozen turkeys were on the other side of the room.



Auxiliary President Joan Murray and Anne Shumicky are a few of the ladies that wrote out over 200 cards to send to our dear Veterans.

Adrienne Mellino and Barbara O'Connell helped to decorate the post.



POST 88 - MASSAPEQUA

GETTING READY FOR PEARL HARBOR CEREMONY



Commander Charlie Watts and Chaplin Rich Scola getting ready for Pearl Harbor ceremony.



Amvet Sons Gary playing taps.

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY



Past Post 88 Commander Jim Owens on left and Present Post 88 Commander Doug Dervin at Veterans Day Ceremony.



Members of AMVETS 48, American Legion and VFW rifle squad

KIDS NEED MORE



Kids Need More is an organization started about 8 years ago to enhance the lives of children and families coping with cancer and serious illnesses. They send out approximately 50 buses throughout Long Island filled with Christmas gifts, Santa's elves, volunteers singing Christmas songs, Santa's on every bus visiting families throughout the day bringing smiles and surprises. The children and their families were very appreciative and the happiness on the children's faces brought joy to everyone.

Post News cont. on Pg. 14

POST 88 CONTINUED FROM PG. 11

PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY



Post 88 Commander Doug Dervin, Department Commander Emery Perry, Past Post 88 Commander John Lentini and Past Post 88 Commander Jason Pachuki, marching in the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony at the National Cemetery in Farmingdale on Sunday, December 4, 2022.

FLAG RETIREMENT



Flag Retirement -Finance Officer Gerard Sardina, Post 88 1st Vice Commander Loretta DiBrino. 3rd Vice Commander John O'Dwyer, and Chaplain Rich Rossi performing their duties at the flag retirement ceremony at Tobay Beach October 15, 2022.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



Santa Claus (aka. Nick Cerullo) and his elf (aka. Annie Pachuki) paid a visit to Post 88 Children's Christmas Party on Sunday on December 11, 2022.



Santa-Past Post 88 Commander Jason Pachuki, his daughters Grace and Charlotte and Elf (Annie Pachuki) surrounding and smiling with Santa.

NASSAU COUNTY PLAZA CHRISTMAS LIGHT DISPLAY



POST 111 - PATCHOGUE



Post 111 Commander John Morge had just presented a \$1000 check to the Amityville Pipe Band to help them raise the funds needed to attend the D Day Commemoration Ceremony as the lead Bag Pipe Band chosen and official representative of the United States. To help them raise funds Post 88 had a fundraiser at the Post and donated over \$800 to the Pipe Band Members and they were very appreciative of everyone's love and generosity. Standing in the picture is Post 88 Commander Doug Dervin, standing to the left of Post 111 Commander John Morge.

POST 245 - HORNELL

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY



Rain could not stop the City of Hornell from honoring its veterans on Veterans Day. The Ceremony kicked off at 11 am. VFW Commander and AMVET Keith Cone was the master of ceremonies. Hornell School Choir Performed the National Anthem and America the Beautiful. Mayor John Buckley gave a speech thanking veterans. Gold Star Mother Kim Smith, mother of Zach Smith, gave a moving speech about the sacrifice Veterans make as well as their families. Wreaths were laid at the Veteran's Memorial on Broadway Mall.

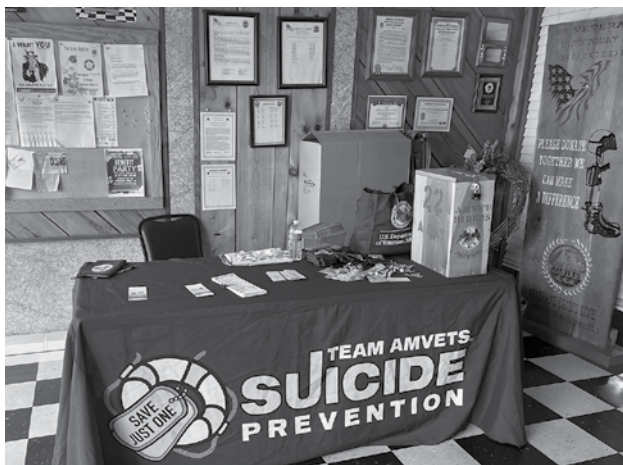
WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Dec 17



I attended the Wreaths Across America ceremony at the National Veterans Cemetery in Bath NY. It was a very moving tribute honoring our fallen veterans. Seeing all of the markers of veterans that have passed on being honored with wreaths is something to behold. It really makes you realize that your service was not in vain. I would encourage anyone, veteran or not, to support this cause by attending the ceremony. Placing wreaths is an experience you will never forget. If you are unable to attend please sponsor a wreath or two or as many as you can. Amvets Post 245 sponsored 100 wreaths this year.

POST 245 CONTINUED FROM PG. 14



Amvets and Amvet Riders hosted a benefit and also had a 22 a day awareness event.



Amvet Riders post 245 held its annual members Christmas party December 10, 2022. A great time was had by all.

POST 262 - COLTON

PRESS RELEASE

JANUARY 3, 2023

CONTACT BILL SWAFFORD AT swaffbill@gmail.com or 315-262-2807

AMVETS POST 262, AUXILIARY & SONS DONATE TO SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS OVER THIS PAST YEAR

The Colton AMVETS Post 262, its Ladies Auxiliary and Sons have donated \$5000.00 to charitable organizations in the North Country throughout this past year. The following organizations benefited from the Post's generosity: Wounded Warrior Camp Serenity, Helping Hands of Hannawa Falls, Cystic Fibrosis, American Legion's Project Life Preserver Program, Potsdam Humane Society Pets/Vets Program, Colton Hepburn Library, Pierrepont Hill Cemetery, Potsdam High School trap shoot student Espre Pignone, Garner Funeral Home in recognition of one of Post 262's deceased members. and Hospice of Potsdam, New York.

In addition, the Post waived the price of its hall rental totaling \$500 for two organizations. Post 262 takes pride in being able to assist those in need in our local communities and hopes the upcoming year will be as successful.

PRESS RELEASE • DECEMBER 5, 2022

AMVETS POST 262 RECOGNIZES LILLIAN BONO THIS YEAR'S AMVETS NATIONAL AMERICANISM AWARD WINNER



On December 5, 2022, AMVETS Post 262 presented Lillian Bono, currently a second grader at Colton Pierrepont Central School, with the organization's National Americanism Award, presented annually by the AMVETS National Organization. The competition commenced in May while she was still a first grader. Lillian won the local competition, proceeded to win at the state level (New York) and then went on to win the national competition earlier this month.

The competition consisted of properly coloring the American flag, knowing how many stars are on the flag as well as the number of red stripes (7) and white stripes (6). In addition, her winning entry correctly identified the number of original colonies as 13. Post 262 presented Lillian with a certificate from National Headquarters and a \$50.00 gift card. She is the daughter of Eric and Charlene Bono of Colton, NY. The North Country can take great pride in Lillian's accomplishment as she represented our area. Congratulations, Lillian!

Pictured with Lillian accepting the certificate from Auxiliary First Vice Grace Hawley with her father Eric along with Lillian's two siblings, Post 262 Commander Rick Miller, Colonel U. S. Army (Retired) and mother Charlene Bono. Picture taken by Linda Mason

POST 262 CONTINUED

PRESS RELEASE

DECEMBER 6, 2022

AMVETS POST 262 RECOGNIZES THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF ESPRE PIGNONE AS AN ACCOMPLISHED TRAP COMPETITOR



Recently, AMVETS Post 262 presented Espre Pignone, a high school student at Potsdam Central School, with a \$200.00 donation and a T-shirt and hat with the AMVET Post 262 logo. The money was donated to cover some of the expenses involved in the sport of trap shooting. Espre competes throughout the area and also nationally in trap shooting, a growing sport among North Country high school students.

We at AMVETS tip our hats to this young woman and wish her well as she continues to compete in her sport.

POST 722 - BINGHAMTON

HOW TO ATTRACT YOUNGER VETERANS

How to attract younger members? I am positive that all posts have asked this question, I have asked this question many times, granted it is not an easy answer. I asked myself why wouldn't veterans want to be around other veterans? AMVETS provides a unique opportunity to serve our community and to share a bond with all veterans.

The majority of posts are just standing by and waiting for this younger generation to just walk in and join. The current image and what the younger veteran generation think about is real; they see a building with a bar with veterans drinking and telling war stories, the younger veterans do not want to hear war stories, they want to come to a place where they feel at home and be a part of something. So we must CHANGE. The thought that eventually the younger veterans will join because they will miss the comradery is a false notion.

Most younger veterans have families and do not have time to be apart or volunteer for AMVETS. They want to be with their families and spend time with them, because we all know being in the military, we have lost a lot of family time, birthdays, holidays, and many other important get-togethers, so they want that quality time back. I know AMVETS is a family organization, but do younger veterans know? Let us get younger veterans and their families involved.

What positive action can posts take to build membership?

1. Be honest and transparent, educate the younger veterans by conveying what you have accomplished locally and nationally to ensure that veteran issues stay at the forefront of discussion. Let them know about AMVETS, not just membership and money.
2. Treat all veterans equally. Both men and women have served honorable in the Armed Forces.
3. Welcome innovative ideas, embrace the younger generations energy and let them share their ideas about improving your post.
4. Welcome all veterans and families into your posts, when you see someone walk in, welcome them with open arms, make them feel like they belong, and they have found a new family and a group of friends.
5. Keep meetings short and to the point. If you have younger veterans at your post assign them a task and ask them to work with other membership to complete it, get them involved, officers this is a suitable time to mentor and grow younger veterans.
6. Turn your posts into a place where veterans can network with the community. Invite local business owners, politicians, college veterans' representatives, etc. To speak at your meetings.
7. Work with other veterans' organizations within your community.
8. If you have a post close to a military base, work with the base transition office
9. Introduce your post to the local Guard or reserve center, find out drill dates and invite them to your post.
10. Sign up and attend any veteran event in your community that you can.
11. Membership drive, if you do have younger members get them involved in membership drives, younger veterans seeing other young veterans involved will help.

Ed Ashman
Commander Post 722



Commander Ed Ashman, Jamey Supensky, and members of Oxford Veterans home showing off their new sweatshirts.

Oxford Veterans home coordinator Jamey Supensky receives award from AMVETS Post 722 on her years of service to the veterans, as she nears retirement.



POST 897 - BLASDELL

9-11 CEREMONY



Post 897 Commander Joe Ashman addressed the crowd at the 9-11 Ceremony.



Riders President Chris Drzal addressed the crowd at the 9-11 Ceremony.



Members of Silver Creek Post 6472 were in attendance, including the state's only Junior AMVETS.



Girl Scouts participated with the Flag Retirement Ceremony.



Thanks to Girl Scout Troop 30173 for serving our Veterans Breakfast.

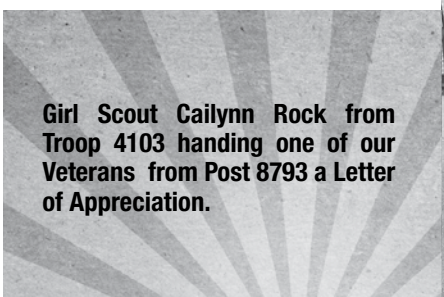


Santa and Mrs. Claus greeting Wyatt.

POST 8793 - CHATEAUGAY



Girl Scout Troop 4103 singing the National Anthem at Post 8793's Veteran's Day ceremony.
Photo by: Commader Eleanor Conto



Girl Scout Cailynn Rock from Troop 4103 handing one of our Veterans from Post 8793 a Letter of Appreciation.



POST 2000 - FORT PLAIN

"STUFF THE BUS" AT THE VA - DECEMBER 17, 2022

This program is in its 2nd year and it was even bigger than our first year. The bus was over 3/4 full of food, toys, clothing, and home made cookies made for the nurses, by AMVETS Post 2000 Auxiliary. We had donations from Walmart Distribution Center 3041, who provided clothes, Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara AMVETS Post 35 provided Christmas Cards made by school children for the Veterans, the VFW in Colonie with toys, the Shults Insurance Agency, owner of a local radio station RCN "The Bug" made donation as well providing food and toys, Jeff Smith from the Montgomery County Sheriff collected toys, Sharon Springs Central School (who donated the bus again this year), and AMVETS Post 2000 (who organized the program) and AMVETS Post 35 provided toys, food, gift cards and manpower.



From left to right - Dom from Albany VAVS, Doug Van Iderstynne, Post 35 (seated) Dan Dawson, Son's of AMVETS Post 2000 (driver), behind cart Kelly Munson, AMVETS 2000 Auxiliary, Joe Ballas, AMVET 2000, (otherside of cart) Kathy Van Iderstynne, AMVETS Post 35, Ed Sanders (Santa) AMVETS Post 2000, Kaylee Sanders, (left), Volunteer from VA Veteran's Services, Fred Clark AMVETS Post 35. Missing from photo are Gene Laparoco AMVETS 35, and Kate Green AMVETS 2000 Auxiliary because they were taking pictures.

EMBARGOED UNTIL RELEASED BY VA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Jan. 13, 2023



AR50 (IF) Emergent Suicide Care

Starting Jan. 17, Veterans in suicidal crisis can go to any VA or non-VA health care facility for free emergency health care.

WASHINGTON – Starting Jan. 17, Veterans in acute suicidal crisis will be able to go to any VA or non-VA health care facility for emergency health care at no cost – including inpatient or crisis residential care for up to 30 days and outpatient care for up to 90 days. Veterans do not need to be enrolled in the VA system to use this benefit.

This expansion of care will help prevent Veteran suicide by guaranteeing no cost, world-class care to Veterans in times of crisis. It will also increase access to acute suicide care for up to 9 million Veterans who are not currently enrolled in VA.

Preventing Veteran suicide is VA's top clinical priority and a top priority of the Biden-Harris Administration. This effort is a key part of VA's 10-year National Strategy for Preventing Veteran Suicide and the Biden-Harris administration's plan for Reducing Military and Veteran Suicide. In September, VA released the 2022 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report, which showed that Veteran suicides decreased in 2020 for the second year in a row, and that fewer Veterans died by suicide in 2020 than in any year since 2006.

"Veterans in suicidal crisis can now receive the free, world-class emergency health care they deserve – no matter where they need it, when they need it, or whether they're enrolled in VA care," said VA Secretary for Veterans Affairs Denis McDonough.

"This expansion of care will save Veterans' lives, and there's nothing more important than that."

VA has submitted an interim final rule to the federal register to establish this authority under section 201 of the Veterans Comprehensive Prevention, Access to Care, and Treatment (COMPACT) Act of 2020. The final policy, which takes effect on Jan. 17, will allow VA to:

- Provide, pay for, or reimburse for treatment of eligible individuals' emergency suicide care, transportation costs, and follow-up care at a VA or non-VA facility for up to 30 days of inpatient care and 90 days of outpatient care.
- Make appropriate referrals for care following the period of emergency suicide care.
- Determine eligibility for other VA services and benefits.
- Refer eligible individuals for appropriate VA programs and benefits following the period of emergency suicide care.

Eligible individuals, regardless of VA enrollment status, are:

- Veterans who were discharged or released from active duty after more than 24 months of active service under conditions other than dishonorable.
- Former members of the armed forces, including reserve service members, who served more than 100 days under a combat exclusion or in support of a contingency operation either directly or by operating an unmanned aerial vehicle from another location who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.
- Former members of the armed forces who were the victim of a physical assault of a sexual nature, a battery of a sexual nature, or sexual harassment while serving in the armed forces.

Embargoed Until Released by VA, continued on pg. 17

Embargoed Until Released by VA, continued from pg. 16

Over the past year, VA has announced or continued several additional efforts to end Veteran suicide, including establishing 988 (then press 1) as a way for Veterans to quickly connect with caring, qualified crisis support 24/7; proposing a new rule that would reduce or eliminate copayments for Veterans at risk of suicide; conducting an ongoing public outreach effort on firearm suicide prevention and lethal means safety; and leveraging a national Veteran suicide prevention awareness campaign, "Don't Wait. Reach Out."

###

Reporters covering this issue can download VA's Safe Messaging Best Practices fact sheet or visit ReportingOnSuicide.org for important guidance on how to communicate about suicide.

If you're a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, contact the Veterans Crisis Line to receive 24/7 confidential support. You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to connect. To reach responders, Dial 988 then Press 1, chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat, or text 838255.



**PROPOSED RESOLUTION 23-1
TO AMVETS DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK BY-LAWS**

IN REFERENCE to Amvets Dept of New York By-Laws ARTICLE VII, SECTION 1, where it is stated "Election of all department officers shall be by a majority vote of the votes cast by the delegates on the floor of the convention".

WHEREAS, there have been elections where it comes to a difficult decision at times to select a single candidate from 2 or more well qualified members and friends.

IN ADDITION, there have been instances in the past where a losing candidate may foster and hold hard feelings for those members and/or posts that did not cast a ballot in their favor.

AND WHEREAS, many members feel that they do not want these feelings to affect their relationships and friendships with any candidates and/or fellow members.

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT;
Effective Immediately, the said ARTICLE VII, SECTION 1, be changed to read as follows;
"ELECTION OF ALL DEPARTMENT OFFICERS SHALL BE BY MAJORITY VOTE ARRIVED AT BY SECRET BALLOT CAST BY THE DELEGATES PRESENT ON THE FLOOR OF THE CONVENTION".

WE, the undersigned have therefore set our hand to this proposed resolution

8/17/22 8 Hal Queyor
Date Post Hal Queyor

8/17/2022 726 Jim Lanphere
Date Post Jim Lanphere

PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION BELOW



**AMVETS
Application
for
Membership**

I APPLY FOR: * NEW ANNUAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP
and present \$250 for dues. *dues will vary from Post to Post.

POST # _____ STATE _____

SPONSOR _____

NAME _____

SPOUSE _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Branch of service _____

Active duty National Guard Reserves Other

Year entered _____ Year discharged _____

Type of discharge _____

Sex: Male Female Date of Birth ____/____/____

I certify that I meet the eligibility requirements for membership in AMVETS. If I join as a member, I understand that I may be asked to prove membership eligibility by presenting a copy of my DD 214.

SIGNATURE _____

DATE ____/____/____

POST (Authorizing Officer) _____

Present to local AMVETS Post in your city or send to:

Richard Rossi (Post 88)
PO Box 7037, Wantagh, NY 11793
516-312-2896
richross88@verizon.net



AMVETS Post Addresses

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



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

“AMVETS” Wants You!!



ELIGIBILITY: All American veterans who honorably separated after September 15, 1940 or are now serving in the Armed Forces, National Guard or Reservists, are eligible for membership in AMVETS.

New York's Finest Veterans Organization

Ask friends, family members and everyone in your community to join us NOW!

What kind of questions can be answered at the VSC Call Center?

- Your VA health benefits package
- Coverage of special benefits, including:
 - Agent Orange
 - POW
 - Purple Heart
 - Persian Gulf
 - Recent Combat Veteran
 - Women Veterans
- Co-payment responsibilities
- General eligibility questions
- Available services
- Billing questions

What kind of questions are better handled somewhere else?

- Telephone-operator services i.e. requests to transfer to other departments
- Specific phone calls for individuals
- Questions of a medical nature

Stay On Top of the News

Visit the Department Website
www.nyamvets.com



If you are a **Veteran in Emotional Crisis**, call this Toll Free number now:
1-800-273-TALK Press 1
Available 24/7
ALL CALLS ARE CONFIDENTIAL

Reaching Us Is Easy

VA Medical Centers:	Bainbridge 109 North Main Street Bainbridge, NY 13733 (607) 967-8590	Elmira Health Services Bldg. 200 Madison Avenue Suite 2E Elmira, NY 14901 (877) 845-3247	Plattsburgh 43 Durkee Street Plattsburgh, NY 12901 (518) 561-8310
Albany 113 Holland Avenue Albany, NY 12208 (518) 626-5000	Binghamton 425 Robinson Street Binghamton, NY 13901 (607) 772-9100	Fonda Camp Mohawk Plaza Rt. 30A Fonda, NY 12068 (518) 853-1247	Rochester 465 Westfall Road Rochester, NY 14620 (585) 463-2600
Batavia 222 Richmond Avenue Batavia, NY 14020 (585) 343-7500	Catskill Greene Medical Bldg. 159 Jefferson Heights Catskill, NY 12414 (518) 943-7515	Glens Falls 84 Broad Street Glens Falls, NY 12801 (518) 798-6066	Rome 125 Brookley Road Bldg. 510 Rome, NY 13441 (315) 334-7100
Bath 76 Veterans Avenue Bath, NY 14810 (607) 664-4000	Clifton Park 1673 Route 9 Clifton Park, NY 12065 (518) 383-8506	Ithaca 10 Arrowwood Drive Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 274-4680	Schenectady 1322 Gerling Street Sheridan Plaza Schenectady, NY 12308 (518) 346-3334
Buffalo 3495 Bailey Avenue Buffalo, NY 14215 (716) 834-9200	Cortland 1104 Commons Avenue Cortland, NY 13045 (607) 662-1517	Niagara Falls 620 10th Street, Ste. 709 Niagara Falls, NY 14301 (716) 285-6663	Troy 500 Federal Street Troy, NY 12180 (518) 274-7707
Canandaigua 400 Fort Hill Avenue Canandaigua, NY 14424 (585) 394-2000	Dunkirk The Dunkirk Fredonia Plaza 1170 Central Ave. Dunkirk, NY 14048 (716) 203-6474	Olean Olean General Hospital 623 Main Street Olean, NY 14760 (716) 375-7555	Watertown 218 Stone Street Watertown, NY 13601 (315) 788-5050
Syracuse 800 Irving Avenue Syracuse, NY 13210 (315) 425-4400	Elizabethtown P.O. Box 277, Park Street Elizabethtown, NY 12932 (518) 873-3295	Oswego Seneca Hills Health Services Center County Route 45A Oswego, NY 13126 (315) 343-0925	Wellsville Jones Memorial Hospital Health Care Center 15 Loder Street Wellsville, NY 14895 (585) 596-4111
Community-Based Outpatient Clinics:			
Auburn Auburn Memorial Hospital 17 Lansing Street Auburn, NY 13021 (315) 255-7002		Mammography Helpline1-888-492-7844 Spina Bifida1-800-733-8387	
	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	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	*Do not copy & paste photos into your Word.doc; send them as attachments.
	U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs (VA) General Benefits VA Hotline: (disability, compensation, pension, home loan, burial, vocational rehabilitation, survivor, and insurance benefits).....1-800-827-1000 Education & Training1-888-442-4551 Veterans Employment Hotline1-800-342-3358 Life Insurance1-800-669-8477 Headstones/Markers1-800-697-6947	VA Health Care On The Web www.va.gov/visns/visn02	Deadline dates are April 1st, August 1st, January 1st
	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	Update New York Veterans - Wherever you are, When you need help ... VA TELCARE 1-888-838-7890	When submitting material, please remember these helpful tips: All are welcomed to submit materials to the Editor. Photos sent via email from your Smartphones will give you an option to choose a size in which to send it; Large, Medium or Small - when 'possible' choose Medium or Large. Please honor the Deadline dates. Materials that can be submitted <u>before</u> those dates is always well appreciated.
			Thank you, Darrin Keech, Editor of the Empire AMVET.

Change of Address for AMVETS Members
NOTIFY YOUR POST
Your Post will send this information to the New York State AMVETS Executive Director, who will make the change for the Department and who will also notify the National AMVETS Headquarters.
This will change your address for *The Empire AMVET*.
Do not send any changes to The Empire AMVET Editor.



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 *Empire Amvet*? 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.

***Do not copy & paste photos into your Word.doc; send them as attachments.**

Deadline dates are
April 1st, August 1st,
January 1st

When submitting material, please remember these helpful tips:
All are welcomed to submit materials to the Editor. Photos sent via email from your Smartphones will give you an option to choose a size in which to send it; Large, Medium or Small - when 'possible' choose Medium or Large.
Please honor the Deadline dates.
Materials that can be submitted before those dates is always well appreciated.

Thank you,
Darrin Keech, Editor
of the Empire AMVET.

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



Department of New York Commander Emery Perry with various members of the Riders at the Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony.



Traveling with the Commander

DISTRICT 1



New York Department Commander Emery Perry standing with the Amityville Pipe Band at Post 88 following the Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony waiting for their tummies be filled up with delicious food.



National Commander Don Mclean at the District I meeting.



Ronnie Maeby, Dept of Connecticut Commander, delivers remarks to the District I meeting.



Dept of NY Provost Marshall Loretta Dibrino and her partner Tom Chiaro enjoying the Hospitality room at the District I meeting.



A very fun round of left right center being played at the District I meeting. A great time was had by all.



God Bless America

