



June 2024 #140 Post Meetings 2nd Wednesday of the Month

# American Veterans

Hammond Biggs Post 111 Patchogue, New York

Commander: John Morge

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Patchogue, New York  
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## Happy 249th Birthday to the United States Army

As the oldest and most senior branch of the U.S. military in order of precedence, the modern U.S. Army has its roots in the Continental Army, which was formed to fight the American Revolutionary War (1775–1783)—before the United States of America was established as a country.

On 14 June 1775, The Second Continental Congress formed the Continental Army as a means for the 13 unified American colonies to fight the forces of Britain.

George Washington was unanimously elected Commander-In-Chief of the fledgling Army, and he would lead the colonies to victory and independence.

Today, the Army is made up of more than 700,000 Soldiers, including active duty and Army Reserve personnel.



Army Soldiers fill many roles. They are doctors, lawyers, and engineers; they are electricians, computer programmers and helicopter pilots; they are police officers, logistics experts and civil affairs representatives.

The Army's constant need for a diverse range of individual Soldiers, each with his or her own expertise is what sets it apart from other military branches.

From the first skirmishes at Lexington and Concord to the Civil War to the liberation of Nazi-controlled Europe, American Soldiers are celebrated for their vigor and bravery in combat.

## Commander/John Morge



Hello my fellow Veterans, I hope everyone had a memorable Memorial Day. I want to thank all who came down and participated in all the events. I also want to thank everyone for having the trust in me to be your

commander. As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, we need more people to come down and support the post. We have the first fishing trip coming up for the Veterans at Stony Brook. Stop by the post for more details. There is not much more then that coming up in June.

We are working on setting up a pig roast in the near future. Stay tuned. Congratulations to past state com-

mander **Scott Devery** on becoming the Sons Commander again replacing **Jason Morge** who did a great job. Marine **Roger** is doing his 22 mile walk to support 22 a day on 5/31 – 6/1 followed by a barbeque at the Dunton Inn. Great work Roger.

*Well that is all for now.  
Hope to see everyone soon.*

## 1st Vice Commander/Chaplain/SHR - Michael Amodio



July marks 70 years since the cease fire was established between North and South Korea. It was originally called a police action due the fact that it was so close to the ending of WWII and the top brass didn't want Americans to know that we were enter-

ing into another war. 33 Thousand men were killed in the Korean War and more than 7,500 still remain unaccounted.

### It was called the Forgotten War.

Next time you are in Washington DC make it a point the visit the Korean War Memorial on the National Mall and remind all the Korean War veterans that they are not forgotten.

\*\*\*\*\*

Memorial Day was a busy day for our Post as you can see by the photos on pages 6 & 7

After the parade and ceremonies we had a barbeque at our post.

Thanks to all who helped make the afternoon a successes and a special thanks to

**Sons Commander Jason Morge**  
for manning the grill.

## Bits & Pieces

Not many 77-year-olds would be willing to embark on a 22-mile walk, and likely no one of any age could organize and participate in a 22-mile walk with as much vigor and enthusiasm as **Roger Fonnest**.



left to right  
John Morge, Roger Fonnest, Joe Perrone

\*\*\*\*\*  
I should have planned better for getting old and living this long., it sorta crept up on me.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Moses was the first man with a tablet who downloaded data form the cloud  
\*\*\*\*\*

When we were kids we laughed at the commercial,

**“Help! I’ve fallen and I can’t get up.”**

I get it now, and it’s not so funny  
\*\*\*\*\*  
If milk gets bad, it becomes yogurt. Yogurt is more valuable than milk. If it gets even worse, it turns to cheese. Cheese is more valuable than both yogurt and milk. And if grape juice turns sour, it transforms into wine, which is even more expensive than grape juice. You are not bad because you made mistakes. Mistakes are the experiences that make you more valuable as a person. Alexander Fleming’s mistake led him to invent Penicillin. Don’t let your mistakes get you down. It is not practice that makes perfect. It is mistakes we learn from that makes perfect!  
\*\*\*\*\*

America dose not need to see the tax returns of a billionaire who became a public servant.

America demands to see tax returns of public servants who became millionaires while being public servants!  
\*\*\*\*\*

A dog had his chain reduced one link at a time, every few days, until his chain was so short he could barely move. He never resisted because he was condi-

tioned to the loss of his freedom slowly, over time. It’s happening to us all  
\*\*\*\*\*

### DUNNING-KRUGER EFFECT

A type of cognitive bias, where people with little expertise or ability assume they have superior expertise or ability. This overestimation occurs as a result of the fact that they don’t have enough knowledge to know they don’t have enough knowledge.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Before you mock children who still believe in Santa. Remember there are still adults who believe everything they read on Facebook  
\*\*\*\*\*

When I say “I miss my old job”, I don’t actually mean the job. I miss the people I worked with. they made it fun.  
\*\*\*\*\*

The only English word that ends with ‘mt’ is Dreamt

This is yet another example of Idiosyncrasies In the English language.  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Cats can’t taste sweet flavors

This is mainly because they don’t possess the pair of genes that detect sweet flavors. As a result, sugar does not code on their tongues as proper proteins.



**AMVETS Post Officers \*\*\* 6-1-24 to 5-31-25**

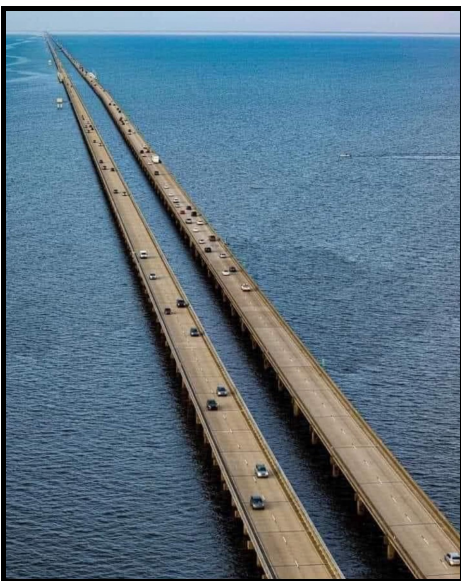
Commander .....	John Morge 806-6612
1st Vice Commander .....	Michael Amodio Sr. 807-9235
2nd Vice Commander .....	James Culliney 289-0163
3rd Vice Commander .....	Robert Gully 981-1698
4th Vice Commander .....	Robert Lendino 618-5505
Adjutant /Finance Officer .....	Joseph Perrone 513-5317
Provost Marshal .....	VACANT
Judge Advocate .....	VACANT
Public Relations Officer .....	VACANT
Service Officer .....	VACANT
Chaplain .....	Michael Amodio Sr. 807-9235
Recreation Director .....	Robert Gully 981-1698

**AMVETS Sons Officers \*\*\* 6-1-24 to 5-31-25**

Commander .....	Scott Devery 790-2010
1st Vice Commander .....	Matt Morge 609-0954
2nd Vice Commander .....	VACANT
3rd Vice Commander .....	Jason Morge 806-9156
Adjutant .....	Dave Marlborough (516)-317-6730
Finance Officer.....	Arnie Mendelsohn 879-7445
Provost Marshall.....	Pete Loizides 935-3262
Judge Advocate.....	Dan Prunty 741-3003
Service Officer.....	VACANT
Chaplain.....	William Dolcimascolo 902-2217

**The Longest Bridge and Smokey the Wonder Dog**

The Lake Pontchartrain Causeway in Louisiana is the longest bridge in the United States, spanning 23.79 miles across Lake Pontchartrain. It's also the longest continuous bridge over water in the world. The bridge connects New Orleans with smaller communities on the north shore of the lake. It's made up of two parallel bridges supported by 9,500 concrete pilings.



In February 1944, an American soldier discovered a Yorkshire terrier dog in an abandoned trench in the jungles of New Guinea, which received the nickname Smokey. It was owned by Ohio corporal William Wynn, who bought it from the soldiers for 2 Australian pounds. For the next two years, Smokey was with her master in the Pacific theater of operations.

The dog participated in 12 air and sea rescue and photo reconnaissance missions. During these operations, Smokey was often under fire in a soldier's backpack for a long time. She survived at least 150 air raids and two typhoons in Okinawa. Smokey also made jumps with a special parachute from a height of 9.1 m. And Wynn said that she warned him about the threat of a bombing by barking and behavior, which saved his life. Once a dog saved the labor of 250 workers at an airfield. They would have had to dig a new ditch to lay the cable. This would also require the relocation of 40 warplanes. A buried old narrow pipe was found. The dog was placed at one end of the pipe, and its owner called Smokey from the other end. And a tiny dog with

a wire tied to it, was not afraid to crawl through this long tunnel.

Smokey is also considered the world's first professional "treatment dog" - she entertained the wounded by showing them all sorts of tricks. In this capacity, the dog worked for 12 years, during and after World War II.

There are a total of six monuments to Smokey in the United States. In addition, the Yorkshire Terrier National Rescue awards an annual "Smoky Award" to rescue dogs that excel that year.





# Sons of AmVets

## Squadron 111 Sons Serving Veterans

### Commander: Jason Morge



*No Report This Month*

### Rocky Marciano

**O**n March 4th 1943 at the age of 20, Rocky Marciano enlisted into the Army and was sent overseas to Europe.

Marciano was assigned to the 150th Combat Engineers and stationed in Wales where he helped ferry supplies across the English Channel to Normandy. The 150th regiment went on to receive honorary service stars for their assistance in Normandy and Central Europe during World War 2.

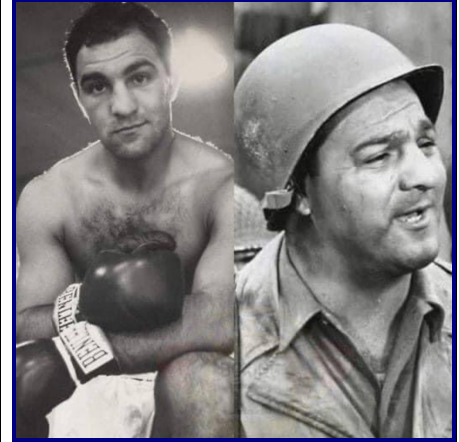
Marciano first took up boxing in the army, reportedly as a way to get out of kitchen duty.

When the war ended, Rocky received an honorable discharge from the Army with the rank of Private First Class, in order to pursue his boxing career.

*Rocky Marciano went on to finish unbeaten his entire professional career with 49 wins, 43 KO's and 0 defeats.*

*Marciano remains the only fighter ever to have stopped every opponent he ever faced for the world heavy-weight title.*

The word legend is thrown around too much these days.



*Rocky Marciano, a true legend.*

### JUNE CALANDAR OF EVENTS

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE
WEDNESDAY	12	7:00PM	AMVETS Membership Meeting	Post Meeting Room
THURSDAY	13	7:00PM	Sons of AMVETS Membership Meeting	Post Meeting Room
FRIDAY	14	9:00AM	Flag Day celebration	Sylvan Ave School
SUNDAY	30	12 Noon	Post Members Roll of The Day	Post Hall
SUNDAY	30	1:00PM	Post Members Birthday Celebration	Post Hall

### OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER IN JUNE

June 01, 1952	Soviet "Iron Curtain" Isolates West Berlin
June 04, 1942	Battle of Midway Begins
June 06, 1944	D-Day Invasion of Normandy
June 14, 1775	U.S. Army Established
June 14, 2024	Flag Day (Fly Your Flag)
June 16, 2024	Fathers Day (Fly Your Flag)
June 22, 1942	Pledge of Allegiance Recognized by Congress
June 25, 1942	Eisenhower Takes Command of U.S. Forces in Europe
June 25, 1950	North Korea invades South Korea

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS OF ALL POST MEMBERS

01 - John Morge	10 - Robert Wayte	15 - John Somma	22 - Vincent Cina
02 - Edward Rosavitch	11 - Scott Devery	18 - John Hofmann	23 - Harold Schindler
04 - Wayne Kovarik	11 - Ryan Pontieri	19 - Robert Mulcahy	25 - Matthew Morge
06 - Robert Waszmer	12 - David Dayton	20 - Leroy Batorsky	25 - Daniel Truchan
07 - Michael Zacchea	13 - Michael Gallagher	21 - George Smalling	28 - Thomas Newman



James Stewart, died in 1997, was, is, and will always be one of the bravest men to come out of Hollywood.



There were other brave actors who joined up in WW2, David Niven, Douglas Fairbanks, Clark Gable, and others. But something about Stewart appealed to me. Sometime after Europe went to war in

1939, he tried to enlist in the US Air Corps in November 1940, a full year before Pearl Harbour. He already held a pilot's license. He was rejected for being too light but kept trying. He finally made it by reaching and surpassing the minimum weight by one ounce. Hollywood offered him a fortune to return but he stayed where he was earning \$21/month.

Because of his standing, when war broke out he was offered a cushy job as a flight instructor. He refused this and insisted on being posted to a theatre of war, either Europe or the Pacific.

He flew on many bombing raids over enemy territory including Berlin and Bremen earning awards such as, Air Medal, Oak Leaf Cluster, and a DFC. At war's end, he returned home a 100-

carat hero and was offered a ticker-tape parade. He turned it down.

What I really admired about him was the fact that he did not want to be known as a hero. It was something he felt he had to do. He had an 'anti-hero' clause inserted into his studio contract where he forbade the studios to promote him as a war hero. He never spoke of his exploits during the war.

At his burial, he received full military honours and 3 volleys of musketry. Several people have enquired about Audie Murphy. As far as I'm concerned Audie was in a class of his own and everyone else is second division. But I restricted the answer to actors during war time. Audie became an actor after the war. I did a bit on Audie here -

### Don Knotts

His mother was 40 years old when Jesse was born. Jesse grew up in a very rough home in Morgantown, West Virginia. Jesse's father, who was mentally ill, was a violent man and was abusive to Jesse. At 13, his father died leaving his mother to take care of



him and his brothers. At the time, things weren't easy for Jesse and he didn't think life held much hope for him. While Jesse had his struggles, he had dreams too. He wanted to be a ventriloquist and he found books on ventriloquism. He practiced with sock puppets and saved his money until he could get a real ventriloquist dummy. When he was old enough, he joined the military. The military recognized his talents and placed him in the entertainment corp. He toured the western Pacific Islands as a comedian as part of a G.I. variety show called "Stars and Gripes." It was there he was able to share his talents with fellow soldiers. In 1946, he discharged with rank of Technician Grade

5, which was the equivalent then of a Corporal.

During his military service, Jesse was awarded the World War II Victory Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal (with 4 bronze service stars), Army Good Conduct Medal, Marksman Badge (with an M1 Carbine) and Honorable Service lapel pin. Through his military service, Jesse gained confidence and found that he had a talent for making people laugh. In spite of his early struggles, Jesse became one of the best-loved characters of all time.

For it was Jesse,...Jesse Don Knotts who brought us Barney Fife!



### PHOTO OF THE MONTH

If you can identify this youngster in this mystery photo;

e-mail me at:

[amvetsnews@gmail.com](mailto:amvetsnews@gmail.com)

or call Mike Amodio Sr. at

631-807-9235

Free drink of your choice for the first correct answer.



Who knows the year, make and model of this vehicle?

(See page 11 for answer)



No one could identify this month's mystery photo

He is

**Jimmy Fallon**

Host of the Tonight Show







**Memorial Service at Patchogue Fire Department**







MEMORIAL DAY



IN GRATEFUL TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO SERVED THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM



The Fourth of July was traditionally celebrated as America's birthday, but the idea of an annual day specifically celebrating the Flag is believed to have first originated in 1885.

**BJ Cigrand**, a schoolteacher, arranged for the pupils in the Fredonia, Wisconsin Public School, District 6, to observe June 14 (*the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes*) as 'Flag Birthday'.

In numerous magazines and newspaper articles and public addresses over the following years, Cigrand continued to enthusiastically advocate the observance of **June 14 as 'Flag Birthday'**, or 'Flag Day'.

On June 14, 1889, **George Balch**, a kindergarten teacher in New York City, planned appropriate ceremonies for the children of his school, and his idea of observing Flag Day was later adopted by the State Board of Education of New York.

On June 14, 1891, the Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia held a Flag Day celebration, and on June 14 of the following year, the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution, celebrated Flag Day.

Following the suggestion of **Colonel J Granville Leach** (*at the time historian of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the Revolution*), the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America on

April 25, 1893 adopted a resolution requesting the mayor of Philadelphia and all others in authority and all private citizens to display the Flag on June 14th.

Leach went on to recommend that thereafter the day be known as 'Flag Day', and on that day, school children be assembled for appropriate exercises, with each child being given a small Flag.

Two weeks later on May 8th, the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution unanimously endorsed the action of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames.

As a result of the resolution, **Dr. Edward Brooks**, then Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia, directed that Flag Day exercises be held on June 14, 1893 in Independence Square.

School children were assembled, each carrying a small Flag, and patriotic songs were sung and addresses delivered.

In 1894, the governor of New York directed that on June 14 the Flag be displayed on all public buildings.

With **BJ Cigrand** and **Leroy Van Horn** as the moving spirits, the Illinois organization, known as the American Flag Day Association, was organized for the purpose of promoting the holding of Flag Day exercises.

On June 14th, 1894, under the auspices of this association, the first general public school children's celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield,

Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating.

Adults, too, participated in patriotic programs.

**Franklin K. Lane**, Secretary of the Interior, delivered a 1914 Flag Day address in which he repeated words he said the flag had spoken to him that morning: "I am what you make me; nothing more. I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself."

Inspired by these three decades of state and local celebrations, Flag Day - the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777 - was officially *established* by the Proclamation of **President Woodrow Wilson** on May 30th, 1916.

While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until August 3rd, 1949, that **President Truman** signed an Act of Congress designating **June 14th** of each year as **National Flag Day**.



**God Bless America**





**JANUARY**

Charles Tasso PDC/PPC  
Lillian Tasso PDP/PAP  
Jo Ann Kaan  
"E J" Knapik PDC Post 35  
Rick Stressler PPC  
Peg Stressler  
Helen Stitt  
Ellen Stitt-Bove

**IN MEMORY OF**

Joseph Amodio  
Robert L. Stitt, Sr  
H. "Whitey" Johnsen PDC  
Thomas Suhrhoff  
George J. Stressler  
USN WWII  
Norman Nilsson  
Charles Glover Sr.  
Joseph A Tasso USN  
Albert R Tasso USA  
James E Kaan USAF  
John Hofmann USA WWII  
Frank Nardiello USA Korea  
John Boysak USN WWII  
Reggie Parker USN  
\*\*\*\*\*

**FEBRUARY**

Fuddy Graniello  
Anna Graniello  
Bucko Logan  
Jim Nudo  
Maria Nudo  
Major Romas Zimlicki  
Maia Zimlicki  
John Hofmann  
Ann Marie Hofmann

**IN MEMORY OF**

Richard Logan USN WWII  
Ted Logan USN WWII  
Wenden Logan USN WWI  
Barbara C Sutley  
John Coords WWII  
Helen Coords  
Thomas Mulcahy  
WWII USN  
\*\*\*\*\*

**MARCH**

Anthony Chendemi  
Jim Culliney  
George E. Wood  
Joseph Perrone  
Christina Perrone  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
Robert Albrecht  
Roland S. Baker Jr.

John Johnson USN  
Angelo Raymond Link  
\*\*\*\*\*

**APRIL**

William P. Goshell  
**IN MEMORY OF**

Eric Brand  
Edward P. Cork  
\*\*\*\*\*

**MAY**

Bob Wayte  
Virginia Morellino  
Arleen Rustmann  
Bill Rustmann  
Joann Rustmann  
John Rustmann  
Jon Sudano  
Tina Sudano  
Owen Sudano  
Conner Sudano

**IN MEMORY OF**

Barbara Wayte  
Robbie Wayte  
Perry Wayte  
Scott Wayte  
Sal Morellino  
\*\*\*\*\*

**JUNE**

Fred Adams  
Anselm Massaro  
Ed Ihne  
Wm. Pat Moore  
Loni Watson  
Barbara Watson  
Tom Watson, Jr.  
Robert Watson  
Amy Watson  
Austin Gwilt  
Bonnie Gwilt  
Curtis Gwilt  
Lt. Col. Kristi Kennedy  
Dale Neal

**IN MEMORY OF**

Tomas Watson Sr.  
M/Sgt Howard Boughey  
WWII

Howard Boughey WWI  
Al Massaro USMC WWII  
Fred L. Adams WWII  
\*\*\*\*\*

**JULY**

Bob "Iron man" Zomerfeld  
PPC Jim Furman  
Sue Bereza  
Doug Hulbert

Mary Hulbert

**JULY  
IN MEMORY OF**

Mary Massaro  
Robert Furman  
Jean Furman  
Peter Brand Army Vietnam  
PPC Bill Bereza  
Donald Miller Sr.  
Army WWII  
\*\*\*\*\*

**AUGUST  
IN MEMORY OF**

Edward Adams PPC  
Thomas Watson Sr.  
Ronald Boughey  
Robert "Top" Parente  
\*\*\*\*\*

**SEPTEMBER**

PPC Manfred Dehritz  
Shirley Dehritz  
Vito Orlando  
Lis Orlando

**IN MEMORY OF**

Nan Dehritz  
Edward Nash  
\*\*\*\*\*

**OCTOBER**

Mike Bruemmer - Tiki Bar  
Caroline Conklin  
Henry Dinkelmann WWII  
Paul R. Dinkelmann  
Bob Gully  
Diane Gully  
Lauren Gully  
Wendy Mendelsohn  
Bob Lendino, PPC  
Rose Lendino  
Arthur Fritz  
Kathy Belmonte  
Bob Belmonte  
Bobby Belmonte  
Paul Belmonte  
Laurie Belmonte  
Lindsey Belmonte  
Paul Belmonte Jr.

**IN MEMORY OF**

Artie Recchio  
Dominick Recchio  
Eugene Swezey  
John M. Conklin  
Angelo Mancuso  
Don Warren U.S. Navy  
Warren Frank  
\*\*\*\*\*

**NOVEMBER**

Maureen L. Kay  
Fran Morge  
James J. Morge  
Jason M. Morge  
Jim Morge PPC  
John P. Morge PPC  
Matthew L. Morge  
Meagan T. Morge  
Joan Wilson  
Scott Wilson  
Daniel Graniello  
Craig Munn  
Harold Chapman  
Barbara Chapman  
Douglas Chapman  
Kevin Chapman

**IN MEMORY OF**

Vincent Fucci  
USMC-WWII  
Edmond Comans  
USN-WWII  
Capt. Joseph Gannascoli  
USA-WWII  
CW04 Jimmy Doner  
USMC-Vietnam  
Joseph W. Munn  
Navy WWII

Ed Nash  
Artie Recchio  
Dominick Recchio  
Eugene Swezey  
Angelo Mancuso  
Bill Richards  
George Wilson CM PPC  
\*\*\*\*\*

**DECEMBER**

Frances Federico  
Pat Federico  
Henry Gordon  
Alberta Marquette  
Al Cohen  
Barbara-Ann Caridad  
Ben Elliot  
Cythera Dombrowski  
Craig Barrack  
Harry W. Ottens Jr.  
Helen Caridad  
James Aaron Sparling  
Jennifer Elliot  
Josephine Fiore  
Millie Marrazzo  
Lola Barrack  
Nicklaus Mesick  
Warren Anderson

**IN MEMORY OF**

Alice Garabrant  
Anna Ottens  
Blanch Cohen  
Carl F. Steinkraus  
Charles Eastwood  
Chuck LuBow  
Dave Cohen  
Donald Fischetto  
Edna Anderson  
Emma Ottens  
Harriet Cioppia  
Harry Ottens  
Harry W. Ottens  
Helen Ottens  
Hugo Anderson  
Jack Kearns  
Jasper Contrino  
Jerry Lampert  
Joe Dombrowski  
Judy LuBow  
June Hartsburg  
Margie Eastwood  
Marshal Post  
Minor Bruce  
Ray Hartsburg  
Regina Dombrowski  
Ronnie Schickowski  
Sarah Contrino  
Terry Fischetto  
Vinnie Marreazzo  
William Klenk  
Tomas Suhrhoff  
Rocky Otteds  
Needy Ottens  
Bandit Ottens  
Beauty Ottens  
Peter Threulaen  
Craig Barrack  
Jennifer Elliot  
Matyann Sedlack  
Mark L. Mendelsohn  
Walter "Wally" Lawlor  
\*\*\*\*\*

**BOOSTER APPLICATION**

Name will appear in month you choose

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Send Booster Application to:**

**AmVets Post 111  
Attn. Jim Morge  
15 Cedar Ave  
Patchogue, NY 11772**

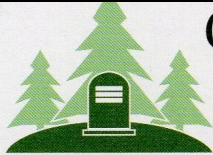


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