**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS BLAZING STAR POST #1574**

**17 CANNON AVENUE**

**STATEN ISLAND, NY 10314**

**Website. http://blazingstarvfwpost1574.org/wp**

**December 2018**

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| BLAZING STAR POST 1574 CONTACT NUMBERSAl Porto, Commander - 718-578-1242, albert.porto38@gmail.comPaul Dietrich, Quartermaster - 718-698-5269, paul@the-dietrichs.comWilliam Alcock, Adjutant - 718-698-1923 |

**Calendar Events**

2018

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Event  | Location  | Time | Remarks |
| 5 December | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 | Wednesday |
| 5 January 2019 | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 2 February | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 2 March | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 6 April | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 4 May | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 1 June | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 13 July | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 3 August | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 4 September | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 | Wednesday |
| 2 October | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 | Wednesday |
| 6 November | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 | Wednesday |
| 4 December | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 | Wednesday |

**Membership**

1. Consider Life Membership. You save money over the long run and eliminate the need to renew yearly. Below are the membership rates for Life membership and Installment Plan Life Membership.

**Age on 31 Dec             Payment in Full             Installment Plan Option
                         Total:                   Initial Fee:        11 payments of:**

Through Age 30               $425.00                $45.00                $38.64

31-40                                  $410.00                $45.00                $37.27

41-50                                  $375.00                $45.00                $34.09

51-60                                  $335.00                $45.00                $30.45

61-70                                  $290.00                $45.00                $26.36

71-80                                  $225.00                $45.00                $20.45

81 and over                        $170.00                $45.00                $15.45

2. We are collecting items such as snacks, microwave popcorn, jiffy pop and hard candies, etc. for fellow post member Adam Scher who is deployed to Afghanistan.

3. Dues Renewal Reminder:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Curry, Albert | UnPaid | 12/31/2017 | **EXPIRED** | Maloney, Brian T | UnPaid | 12/31/2017 | **EXPIRED** |
| Hayes, Matthew T | UnPaid | 5/9/2018 | **EXPIRED** | Ruggiero, Blenda C | UnPaid | 6/29/2018 | **EXPIRED** |
| Johnson, Khadijah L | UnPaid | 5/2/2018 | **EXPIRED** | Sheinwald, Abe | UnPaid | 3/30/2018 | **EXPIRED** |
| Krishna, Ash | UnPaid | 6/18/2018 | **EXPIRED** | Krigel, Adam C. | UnPaid | 10/31/2018 | **EXPIRED** |
| Leunes, Peter | UnPaid | 5/16/2018 | **EXPIRED** |  |  |  |  |

**Service Officer**

1. Veterans are encouraged to enroll in the VA health care so they are on record should they ever need it.  No cost to apply.  Apply on line at [www.va.gov/healtheligibility/vfw](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CAlbert%5CDocuments%5CVFW%5CNewsletters%202011%5Cwww.va.gov%5Chealtheligibility%5Cvfw) or call 1-877-222-8387.

2. DD Form 214 website. http://vetrecs.archives.gov. If you need assistance, contact the post service officer, Doug Encarcion.

3. Survivor Outreach Services. The website has a lot of information for those left behind when a service member or veteran passes. <http://www.sos.army.mil/> or <http://www.westpointmwr.com/acs/survivor_outreach_services.html>

4. To someone going through a difficult time, one simple act has the power to make a difference. Reach out to veterans and service members in your life today – <http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/ThePowerof1.aspx>.

5. Online Health Care Application.[www.vets.gov](https://www.vets.gov/).  or call 877-222-VETS (8387).

6. Veterans Representative on Staten Island. Matthew Basile, Borough Hall, Room G-15 and at CSI Campus Center, Room 216. **(646) 799-2743** or emailing **mbasile@veterans.nyc.gov**. Also at NYC Department of Veterans' Services
1 Centre Street, Suite 2208, New York, NY 10007, DVS General Phone: (212) 416-5250

7. [Vets.gov](http://vets.gov/) Connects Veterans to Services.

8. John Bartow, Assistant VSO, Veterans of Foreign Wars 518-626-5687.

9. The following web site is the medical providers close to your house who have accepted the VA Choice program and are registered to do so.  Quite a few here on SI.  It gives a map where you can see them in relation to where you live or work.  You can also get contact information to reach out to them. <https://www.va.gov/opa/apps/locator/>

10. A VBA Representative at the Staten Island Vet Center every Wednesday.  **There are no walk-ins everyone must call  (718)816-4499 to set up an appointment.**  All services are free. Samuel B. Cottes, Jr., Veterans Outreach

Specialist, Staten Island Veterans Center, US Department of Veterans Affairs; Readjustment Counseling Services, 60 Bay Street, Staten Island, NY 10301 Tel:   (718) 816-4499 x 7747 Cell:  (929) 359-2449 Fax:  (718) 816-6899

11. Discharge Upgrade Online Tool.

<http://www.ourveterans.nyc/discharge_upgrade_online_tool?utm_campaign=180129&utm_medium=email&utm_source=nycveteransalliance>

**Employment and Education**

1. Looking for a job? Need quality employees? USE VETJOBS! [www.vetjobs.com](http://svarialce.vfwemail.org:81/CT00004002MzA1OTA1NDk%3D.HTML?D=2011-08-26)

2. Vets looking for jobs, the website: 100000jobsmission.com. Go there to apply and search for available jobs specifically held for veterans.

Bottom of Form

General

1. Staten Island University Hospital's Military Appreciation Program. This program entitles active duty members and veterans free parking 12 times per year at the SIUH parking lot. Go to the Security Office with proof of military/veteran status. You will be given 12 parking stamps. Place them on parking ticket and no fee.

2. Free parking for veterans at Richmond County Medical Center. Veterans can park for free in the visitors parking lot where tokens are required. Stop at the main reception desk or security post, show proof you are a veteran (drivers license with vet on it, retired ID card, VA card or similar) and they will give you a free token for the parking lot. Get it on the way in as the reception/info desk is not manned all night. Use the token to exit the lot. Saves you $4 per visit.

3. The Defense POW/MIA Office announced the identification of remains belonging to the following personnel. Returned

home are:

**Army Cpl. DeMaret M. Kirtley,** Btry A, 57th FA Bn, 31st RCT, 7th Infantry Div, Chosin River, North Korea, Dec. 6, 1950.

**USMC Sgt. Meredith F. Keirn,** Co F, 2d Bn, 7th Marine Regt, 1st Marine Div, Toktong Pass North Korea Nov 1950.

**USMCR Sgt. Johnson McAfee,** Co F, 2d Bn, 7th Marine Regt, 1st Marine Div, Toktong Pass North Korea Nov 1950.

**Army Pvt. Floyd A. Fulmer,** Co A, 1st Bn, 110th Inf Regt, 28th Infantry Div, Hürtgen Forest, Germany, Nov. 14, 1944.

**Army Pvt. Harry W. Wilder,** Co B, 1st Bn, 110th Inf Regt, 28th Infantry Div, Grosshau, Germany, Nov. 25, 1944.

**Army Cpl. Joseph Akers,** Co C, 803rd Tank Destroyer Bn, Hürtgen Forest. Germany, Nov. 14, 1944.

**Army Air Forces Capt. Lawrence E. Dickson,** 332nd Fighter Group, Italy, Dec. 23, 1944.

**Navy Electrician’s Mate 3rd Class Charles H. Harris,** USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Navy Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Marvin B. Adkins,** USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**USMC 2nd Lt. Harry H. Gaver, Jr.** USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Navy Seaman 1st Class Walter C. Foley,** USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Navy Fireman 3rd Class Willard I. Lawson,** USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Navy Seaman 1st Class Kenneth H. Sampson,** USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

4. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency is seeking the public’s help to find and encourage more MIA families to donate a DNA sample to help speed the identification process of recovered remains. Each military service and the State Department has a service casualty office that can explain how to donate.

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| Army: 800-892-2490 | Navy: 800-443-9298 | State Department: 202-485-6106 |
| Marine Corps: 800-847-1597 | Air Force: 800-531-5501 |  |

5. Staten Island Community TV: Veterans TV Shows are available 24 hours a day via Youtube. To view, google "Youtube, Ed Salek, In Honor of" or go to Youtube.com and search for Ed Salek, In Honor of.

**Items of Interest**

The Army–Navy Game is an American college football rivalry game between the Army Black Knights of the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point, New York, and the Navy Midshipmen of the United States Naval Academy (USNA) at Annapolis, Maryland. The Black Knights (alternatively, the "Cadets") and Midshipmen each represent their service's oldest officer commissioning sources. As such, the game has come to embody the spirit of the interservice rivalry of the United States Armed Forces. The game marks the end of the college football regular season and the third and final game of the season's Commander-in-Chief's Trophy series, which also includes the Air Force Falcons of the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) near Colorado Springs, Colorado. The Army–Navy game is one of the most traditional and enduring rivalries in college football. It has been frequently attended by sitting U.S. presidents. The game has been nationally televised each year since 1945 on either ABC, CBS or NBC. CBS has televised the game since 1996 and has the rights to the broadcast through 2028. Instant replay made its American debut in the 1963 Army–Navy game.] Since 2009, the game has been held the Saturday following FBS conference championship weekend.[4]

The game has been held in multiple locations, but outside the 1926 game in Chicago and 1983 game in Pasadena, California, it has been played in the Northeast megalopolis, most frequently in Philadelphia, followed by the New York area and the Baltimore–Washington area. The series has been marked by several periods of domination by one team or the other, with Navy's 14-game winning streak from 2002 through 2015 being the longest for either side. Through the 2017 meeting, Navy leads the series 60–51–7.

**GO ARMY! BEAT NAVY!**