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

**17 CANNON AVENUE**

**STATEN ISLAND, NY 10314**

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

**March 2017**

|  |
| --- |
| BLAZING STAR POST 1574 CONTACT NUMBERS  Al Porto, Commander - 718-578-1242, albert.porto38@gmail.com  Paul Dietrich, Quartermaster - 718-698-5269, paul@the-dietrichs.com  William Alcock, Adjutant - 718-698-1923 |

**Calendar Events**

Calendar of Events for 2017:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Event | Location | Time | Remarks |
| 1 March | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 |  |
| 4 April | Blood Drive | CSI - Green Dolphin Room | 1130-1730 |  |
| 5 April | Blood Drive | CSI - Green Dolphin Room | 0830-1430 |  |
| 5 April | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 |  |
| 3 May | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 |  |
| 7 June | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 |  |
| 1 July | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 5 August | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 9 September | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 7 October | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 4 November | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 2 December | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |

**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 attained             Payment in Full             Installment Plan Option                               
 on Dec. 31st                       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. Dues Renewal Reminder:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Leunes, Peter | Current Until | 6/17/2016 |
| Ruggiero, Blenda C | Current Until | 3/17/2017 |
| Sheinwald, Abe | Current Until | 3/30/2017 |
| Spillane, Richard E | Current Until | 3/26/2017 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |

**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:\Users\Albert\Documents\VFW\Newsletters%202011\www.va.gov\healtheligibility\vfw) or call 1-877-222-8387.

2. Tri-Care Dental. Tri-Care dental isn't free. You must enroll to be covered. Tri-Care dental web site, [www.trdp.org](blockedhttp://www.trdp.org)   
Delta Dental Tel #. 888-838-8737. The Tri-Care number for NY, is 1-877-874-2273.

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

4. 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>

5. 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>.

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

8. 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**](mailto:mbasile@veterans.nyc.gov).

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

11. Marlene Roll, Assistant VSO, Veterans of Foreign Wars Office days: Tuesday – Fridays, Ph: 716.857.3348, Fax: 716.857.3484 <http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/32858/myva311-one-number-call-reach-va/> Please be advised that this email address is not checked on a daily basis. If you need *immediate*response, please call 716.857.3403.

**Employment and Education**

1. Looking for a job? Need quality employees? USE VETJOBS! [www.vetjobs.com](http://svarialce.vfwemail.org:81/CT00004002MzA1OTA1NDk=.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. Call 718-226-4325 for an application.

2. 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.

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

3. 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.

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |

4. North Central Kiwanis will be hosting a **“Veterans Recognition Night”** on May 31st at The Staaten.

On this night we will be honoring 50 WW II veterans for their service. There will be further details of the evening to follow.

At this time we are in the process of reaching out to various Veterans’ organizations in order to identify and confirm the attendance of the 50 Veterans. We are reaching out today to ask that if anyone in the Kiwanis Family has a WWII veteran that they personally know who would like to attend this event. Susan Megan Fiorentino 917-525-9789

5. The Vietnam Veteran's Day event will be on April 8th at 1PM at Tottenville High School. 100 Luten Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10312. For each veteran we kindly request that they send a picture of themselves during their service and a current picture for a special presentation. You can email these pictures to [dmytrow@nysenate.gov](mailto:dmytrow@nysenate.gov). If you need any flyers we can mail them to you or if you have any other questions you are more than welcomed to email those to me or call the office at (718)-984-4073. Thank You, Gabriella Wagner

**Items of Interest**

According to the Department of Defense Directive 1005.8, the prescribed precedence of military flags is determined by service birth year. The appropriate order is given below:

Army Birthday: 14 June 1775

Marine Corps Birthday: 10 November 1775

Navy Birthday: 13 Oct 1775 - Abolished Feb 1781 - Reinstated 7 Sep 1781

Air Force Birthday: 18 September 1947

Coast Guard Birthday: 4 August 1790\*

\*According to the Institute of Heraldry, and in keeping with the order in which troops are listed in Department of Defense Directive 1005.8, during peacetime the Coast Guard falls under the Department of Homeland Security. During wartime, if the Coast Guard comes under the control of the Department of Defense, then the Coast Guard flag would come before the Air Force flag in order of precedence. Also  the U.S. Air Force has precedence over the U.S. Coast Guard, even though it was officially formed after the Coast Guard was authorized, because it was originally part of the U.S. Army and known as the U.S. Army Air Forces.