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

**17 CANNON AVENUE**

**STATEN ISLAND, NY 10314**

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

**August 2017**

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| 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 |

**IN MEMORIAM**



Joseph Angelo Calabria, 86, beloved husband, father, and grandfather; longshoreman, a tireless advocate for Korean War veterans, passed away on Friday, July 28, 2017. Born in New York, N.Y., he was a resident of Eltingville, Staten Island. He was a longshoreman for 42 years, and a union delegate for Local 856. Joseph was the beloved husband of 60 years to Josephine "JoJo" Sanfilippo; loving father of Anthony, Debra, Joseph, and Gina; dear father-in-law of Francine and Denise, and cherished grandfather of Joseph and Nicole. He is also survived by a brother, Dan, and two sisters.   
Joseph was a fan of the New York Yankees and enjoyed reading and crossword puzzles. He was a member of VFW Blazing Star Post. He was commander for 18 years for the Corporal Allan F. Kivlehan Chapter of Korean War Veterans on Staten Island. During his tenure, he was instrumental in the renaming of the Richmond Parkway to Korean War Veterans Parkway and the renaming of P.S. 6 to the Allan F. Kivlehan School. He also helped to establish the Korean Veterans Memorial on Ocean Terrace and the Allan F. Kivlehan Park in New Dorp.

**Calendar Events**

Calendar of Events for 2017:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Event | Location | Time | Remarks |
| 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 |

Calendar of Events for 2018

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Event | Location | Time | Remarks |
| 6 January | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 3 February | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 3 March | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 7 April | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 5 May | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 2 June | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 7 July | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 4 August | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 5 September | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 | Wednesday |
| 3 October | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 | Wednesday |
| 7 November | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 | Wednesday |
| 5 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. Dues Renewal Reminder:

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| Mahoney, Elizabeth L | Current Until | 8/21/2017 | ***19*** |
| Scazzafavo, Laura A | Current Until | 9/18/2017 | ***47*** |
| Krigel, Adam C | Current Until | 6/26/2017 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Robinson, James A | Current Until | 6/6/2017 | ***EXPIRED*** |

3. Post member, former trustee and Korean veteran Peter Speziale is currently in Staten Island Hospital with heart issues. If you would like to call him his number is 347-861-4397 and let him know his veteran buddies are thinking of him.

**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>.

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

7. 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). Also at NYC Department of Veterans' Services  
1 Centre Street, Suite 2208, New York, NY 10007, DVS General Phone: (212) 416-5250

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

9. 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.

10. 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/>

**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.

3. UPS Positions. Bound Brook – Staten Island – Edison Warehouses, $18.75 per hour, Temporary Full time – August thru January 15 – Possibility of permanent hire Overtime paid out at time and half – Overtime is anytime worked over 8.5 hours in one day Clean driver’s license – Class D is fine NO CDL license required 21 & Over Please have interested Veterans contact me directly for next steps.

Peter Romano (USMC), Veterans Specialist, Staten Island Workforce1 Career Center, 120 Stuyvesant Place, 3rd Floor

Staten Island, NY 10301 T: 718 – 285 - 8431 F: 718 – 981 - 8367 E: [promano@edsisolutions.com](mailto:promano@edsisolutions.com) W: [nyc.gov/workforce1](http://nyc.gov/workforce1)

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 Office announced the identification of remains belonging to the following personnel. Returned

home are:

**Navy Fireman 1st Class Elmer T. Kerestes**, 22, USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.      
**Army Cpl. Edward L. Borders**, 20, D Btry, 82d AAA Bn, 2nd Infantry Division. Changbong-ni, Korea. Feb. 11, 1951.   
**Navy Yeoman 3rd Class Edmund T. Ryan**, 21, USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.     
**Army Cpl. Glen E. Kritzwiser**, 19, Btry C, 15th FA Bn, 2nd Infantry Division. Changbong-ni, Korea. Feb. 11, 1951.    
**Marine Reserve Pvt. Alberic M. Blanchette** Co K, 3rd Bn, 2nd Marines, 2nd Marine Division. Tarawa Nov. 20, 1943.  
**Marine Pvt. Joseph C. Carbone** Co K, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marines, 2nd Marine Division. Tarawa Nov. 20, 1943.

**Army Cpl. John Lane, Jr.**, 18, Hqs Co, 2nd Bn, 19th Infantry Regt, 24th Infantry Division. Chinju, South Korea July 1950.

**Air Force Reserve Capt. Joseph S. Smith**, 25, F-100D pilot. over Cambodia, April 4, 1971.

**Navy Fire Controlman 3rd Class Robert L. Pribble**, 19, USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Richard M. Horwitz** 449th Bombardment Group. Lake Wiezen, Austria Feb. 28, 1945.

**Army Sgt. William A. Larkins** Battery A, 503rd FA Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, Sunchon, North Korea, Dec. 1, 1950.

**Air Force Capt. Robert E. Holton**, 27, 497th Tactical Fighter Squadron, over southern Laos, Jan. 29, 1969.

**Army Pfc. Charles C. Follese**, 20, Co K, 3rd Bn, 187th Airborne Infantry Regt, Hajoyang-ni, North Korea, Nov. 29, 1950.

**Marine Reserve Cpl. Raymond C. Snapp** Co F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, Tarawa Nov. 20, 1943.

**Marine Cpl. Anthony G. Guerriero** Co B, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines, 2nd Marine Division, Tarawa Nov. 20, 1943.

**Air Force Maj. James B. White** 357thTactical Fighter Squadron, Laos, Nov. 24, 1969.

3. 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 |  |

4. 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.

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5. The College of Staten Island blood drive dates are below.  October dates are confirmed.  The 2018 dates are still tentative.  October 24, October 25, January 8, April 3, April 4, June 18.

6. The signing of the Post-9/11 GI Bill in 2008 was the culmination of a decade’s worth of effort by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to fight for a new military education benefit. Now that historic bill is becoming even greater, thanks entirely to strong congressional support and the intense advocacy of the VFW and other veterans and military service organizations in Washington and around the country. Since its activation in 2009, the Post-9/11 GI Bill has helped more than one million veterans to pursue their post-military educational goals, but gaps in eligibility and coverage began to emerge as more and more veterans — or their survivors — took advantage of it. Purple Heart recipients who bled for their nation, but didn’t have the requisite three years of active service, received only a partial benefit. Veterans attending schools that abruptly closed — through no fault of the veteran — were abandoned with academic credits they couldn’t transfer or enough benefit to complete their degrees. More than 25,000 Guardsmen and Reservists continue to be involuntarily activated without accruing the same full benefit as their active duty counterparts. Survivors of service members killed-in-action are denied eligibility for the Yellow Ribbon Program, which limits a family’s ability to cover the full cost of tuition at many participating private institutions. Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits transferred to a dependent child cannot be transferred to another sibling should the first child unfortunately die. And veterans who do not use their Post-9/11 GI Bill within 15 years of discharge or retirement lose the benefit. “But no more,” said VFW National Commander Brian Duffy. “This Congress is acting on our suggestions to correcting deficiencies to ensure that all who are eligible — and those who have yet to raise their right hands — will benefit from the greatest educational benefit for veterans ever created,” he said. “This beefed-up Post-9/11 GI Bill recognizes the long service and sacrifice of the one percent of Americans who have voluntarily put their personal lives on hold to fight an unimaginable multi-front war for 16-plus years,” he said. “The strong congressional support also proves that taking care of veterans and their families is the most bipartisan issue there is in Washington.”

**Items of Interest**

“HOOAH”

(Who-a) adj. [slang used by soldiers, primarily airborne/rangers] referring to or meaning anything and everything except “no”. 1. What to say when at a loss for words. 2. good copy, solid copy, roger, good, great, message received, understood. 3. glad to meet you, welcome. 4. I don’t know the answer but I’ll check on it, I haven’t the vaguest idea.

5. I’m listening. 6. I’m not listening. 7. that’s enough of your dribble-sit down. 8. stop sniveling. 9. oh shit! you’ve got to be kidding. 10. yes. 11. thank you. 12. go to the next slide. 13. you’ve taken the correct action. 14. I don’t know what that means, but I’m too embarrassed to ask for clarification. 15. amen.