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

**17 CANNON AVENUE**

**STATEN ISLAND, NY 10314**

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

**August 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

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Event  | Location  | Time | Remarks |
| 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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| Curry, Albert | UnPaid | 12/31/2017 | **EXPIRED** |
| Hayes, Matthew T | UnPaid | 5/9/2018 | **EXPIRED** |
| Johnson, Khadijah L | UnPaid | 5/2/2018 | **EXPIRED** |
| Krishna, Ash | UnPaid | 6/18/2018 | **EXPIRED** |
| Leunes, Peter | UnPaid | 5/16/2018 | **EXPIRED** |
| Maloney, Brian T | UnPaid | 12/31/2017 | **EXPIRED** |
| Ruggiero, Blenda C | UnPaid | 6/29/2018 | **EXPIRED** |
| Scazzafavo, Laura | Current Until | 9/30/2018 | **60 days** |
| Sheinwald, Abe | UnPaid | 3/30/2018 | **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. Tri-Care Dental. Tri-Care dental isn't free. You must enroll to be covered. Tri-Care dental web site, 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**. 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. John Bartow, Assistant VSO, Veterans of Foreign Wars 518-626-5687.

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/>

11. 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

12. 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. Thomas W. Reagan**, 18, Co A, 14th Engr Cbt Bn, 24th Inf Div, Naktong Bulge in South Korea Aug. 12, 1950.

**Army Sgt. 1st Cl Elmore B. Goodwin**, 25, Co G, 2nd Bn, 24th Inf Regt, 25th Inf Div, Anju, North Korea, Nov. 27, 1950.
**Army Sgt. John W. Hall**, 23, Hqs Btry, 503rd FA Bn, 2nd Inf Div, Somindong, North Korea, Dec. 1, 1950.
**Army Air Forces Sgt. Charles H. Daman**,21, 714th Bomb Sqdn, Wesendorf, Germany, April 4, 1945.

**Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. John H. Canty**, 22, 555th Bomb Sqdn, Gavrus, France, June 22, 1944.
**Army Pvt. Kenneth D. Farris**, 19, Co B, 22nd Inf Regt, 4th Inf Div, Gey, Germany, Nov. 28, 1944.

**Army Air Forces 1st Lt. William W. Shank**,24, 338th Fighter Sqdn, Bremen, Germany Force, Nov. 13, 1943.
**Navy Seaman 1st Cl Joseph M. Johnson**,22, USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Navy Seaman 1st Class Leon Arickx**,**22**, USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**USMC Pfc. Roger Gonzales,** Co F, 2nd Bn, 7th Mar Regt, 1st Mar Div, Toktong Pass, North Korea, Nov. 27, 1950.

**Army Pvt. Donald E. Brown,** Co A, 745th Tank Bn, Cambernon, France, July 28, 1944.

**Navy Fireman 1st Class Raymond R. Camery**USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Navy Fireman 2nd Class Lowell E. Valley**, 19, USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Army Pfc. Willard Jenkins,** Co C, 307th Abn Engr Bn, 82nd Airborne Div, Nijmegen, Netherlands, On Sept. 20, 1944.

**Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Vincent L. Politte**, 19, 345th Bomb Sqdn (Heavy), Bucharest, Romania.

**Navy Seaman 1st Class Eugene W. Wicker**, 20, USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Army Cpl. Albert E. Mills,** Co F, 2nd Bn 5th Cav Regt, 1st Cav Div, Taejon, South Korea, July 23, 1950.

**Navy Aviation Radioman 3rd Cl Walter E. Mintus,** Torpedo Sqdrn 51, Malakal Harbor.
**Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Ottaway B. Cornwell,** 4th Fighter Sqdn, Pierrefeu-du-Var, France, Jan. 27, 1944.
**Army Pvt. John B. Cummings,** Co A, 276th Inf Regt, 70th Inf Div, France and Germany border, Dec. 31, 1944.

**USMC Pfc. Robert K. Holmes,** USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Navy Fireman 1st Class Millard C. Pace** 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. Many of the members have asked about a schedule for the Veterans TV shows on CTV. The schedule comes out only for a week at a time. Now, all of the 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. You can select from several issues; VA services, women veterans, black veterans, veterans fishing trip or any other items of interest for veterans and their families. As new shows are taped, they are placed on Youtube within a week.

6. Free Legal Assistance for Veterans. Senator Lanza's district office 1pm-4pm, August 16 and September 20. To schedule an appointment, contact Isabell Muhlbauer, Paralegal, at 212-613-6526 or imuhlbauer@nylag.org.

**Items of Interest**

**Real Officers...**

Can cuss for a full ten minutes without ever repeating a word.

Got their commissions the old-fashioned way - at OCS.

Can remember when they were real NCOs.

Will fight with bayonets and E-tools just to save ammo.

Wear Corcoran jump boots in garrison just in case they have to kick the shit out of some loudmouthed staffer.

Have eyes in the backs of their heads.

Can see in the dark.

Would rather be a squad leader than a general.

Still don't trust the Russians.

Will take vacation time just to make a pilgrimage to Ft. Benning to see Iron Mike.

Know who Iron Mike is.

Don't give a damn about being politically correct.

Don't know how to be politically correct

Love deploying to combat because there's less paperwork.

Know that "Cav" is an abnormal condition that can be cured with testosterone shots.

Can remember the "daily dozen".

Can remember running PT in boots.

Have enough "fruit salad" on their greens to be Mexican field marshals.

Have enough time in service to retire as captains.

Think it's cool to teach their kids how to do "SPORTS".

Know what a short-arm inspection is.

Think that Bradley crewmen are emasculated infantrymen.

Know that tankers exist in order to allow the enemy to deplete its basic load of sabot ammunition.

Know where the "Green Ramp" is.

Can remember who their "Ranger Buddy" was.

Know that there's a difference between "giving orders" and "going through the orders process".

Think that "slides" involve ropes and snap links.

Don't like taking orders from a guy who couldn't get a DD 214.

Still know how to PMCS a buffer.

Can field strip an M1 Garand, although an M14 is an authorized substitute.

Believe that they do have a rendezvous with destiny.

Know that most of life's problems can be solved by applying the eight steady hold factors.

Believe that "Nuts" wasn't exactly all that BG McAuliffe said to the Krauts at Bastogne.

Think that we should develop nuke rounds for the M203.

Know the true meaning of the word Hooah.

Idolize John Wayne.

Know why you should carry two field dressings on your LBE.

Would rather have a "mad minute" than a "VTC".

Shudder when they hear "Garry Owen".

Don't believe that "AAFES" needs a "commander".

Don't need "leadership tabs" to know when they're in charge.

Can pass a PT test slobbering drunk.

Don't give a damn if they get a "one block".

Won't brief it if it's too complicated to fit on a few 3 x 5 cards.

Would have paid money to watch Custer getting his clock cleaned.

Really don't like taking crap from those who haven't "been there".

Believe that "RHIP" was invented by individuals who couldn't lead their way out of a field latrine.

Know how to properly construct a field latrine

Can set the headspace and timing on a "fifty" by touch alone.

Know how to do a "daisy chain".

Enjoy heating MREs with C4.

Would rather be OPFOR than MOPP 4.

Know that the new OER system is as screwed up as the old one.

Realize that Reagan won the Gulf War.

Want to be like Teddy Roosevelt.

Love the smell of napalm in the morning.

Know that "napalm" is really called "incendi-gel".

Don't need a GPS to find themselves.

Think of Army aviators as guys who wear pajamas to work.

Know that it really is possible to crawl inside a Kevlar when someone's shooting at you.

Have enough extra TA-50 in their closets to start a surplus store.

Would love to own their own HMMWV.

Think that MREs taste good.

Would like to see what kind of creature "ham and chicken loaf" comes from.

Realize that there were no starving people in Somalia.

Can remember open bay barracks.

Believe that "combat power on the objective" is a bunch of crap.

Believe that killing the enemy isn't.

Know that "accuracy counts", especially in combat.

Know the Ranger Creed by heart.

Still have jungle fatigues in their closets.

Never count on the artillery in a clutch.

Believe that terrorists can be taken care of for 32 cents each (the cost of a 9mm round).

Can be found eating and bunking with the troops.

Are convinced that "wall-to-wall counseling" really works.

Would love to go to sniper school.

Have more time on a static line than most other soldiers have in the chow line.

Realize that volleyball is the most important subject taught at CAS3.

Know that it's not real coffee if you can't stand a track jack up in it.

Don't blame poor marksmanship on their M16.

Know that shitty leaders will always say they have shitty soldiers.