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

**17 CANNON AVENUE**

**STATEN ISLAND, NY 10314**

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

**September 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 |
| 5 September | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 | Wednesday |
| 3 October | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1300 | Wednesday |
| 20 October | Walk-a-Thon | Various | All Day | Exercise 22 minutes |
| 27 October | Poppy Distribution | Shop Rite | 0900-1500 | Tentative |
| 2 November | Poppy Distribution | SI Ferry | 0700-1000 | Tentative |
| 2 November | Poppy Distribution | Philips Refinery | 1100-1300 | Tentative |
| 3 November | Poppy Distribution | Stop & Shop | 0900-1500 | Tentative |
| 4 November | Poppy Distribution | Stop & Shop | 0900-1500 | Tentative |
| 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. 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. Congratulations to post member, Fianna Sogomonyan who was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer 2. We wish her well in her military career.

4. 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 | **30 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 Air Forces Sgt. Alfonso O. Duran**, 22, Regensburg, Germany, Feb. 25, 1944.

**Air Force Col. Richard A. Kibbey,** Det 5, 38th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, Feb. 6, 1967.

**Army Pfc. Kenneth B. Williams,** Hvy Mortar Co, 32nd Inf Regt, 7th Inf Division, Chosin River, North Korea, Nov 1950.
**Army Pvt. William A. Boegli,** Co L, 332nd Inf Regt, 81st Inf Division, Sept. 30, 1944.
**Army Pfc. Morris R. Worrell,** Co F, 2nd Bn, 31st Inf Regt. Cabanatuan POW camp.
**Navy Machinist's Mate 1st Class Eugene K. Eberhardt,** 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, September 20. To schedule an appointment, contact Isabell Muhlbauer, Paralegal, at 212-613-6526 or imuhlbauer@nylag.org.

**Items of Interest**

**Things They Never Teach You About American History.** Wooden Ships and Iron Men. From "Oceanographic Ships, Fore and Aft", published by the Oceanographer of the Navy. It has to do with a cruise of the 204-foot frigate USS Constitution, commonly known as Old Ironsides, in 1779. It reads: On 23 August 1779, the USS Constitution set sail from Boston loaded with 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of water, 74,000 cannon shot, 11,500 pounds of black powder and 79,400 gallons of rum. Her mission: to destroy and harass English shipping. On 6 October, she made Jamaica, took on 826 pounds of flour and 68,300 gallons of rum. Constitution reached the Azores, where she provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and 6,300 gallons of Portuguese wine. On 18 November, the ship set sail for England where her crew captured and scuttled 12 English merchant vessels and took aboard their rum. But the Constitution had run out of shot. Nevertheless, she made her way unarmed up the Firth of Clyde for a night raid. Her landing party captured a whiskey distillery, transferred 40,000 gallons aboard and headed for home. On 20 February 1780, the Constitution arrived in Boston with no cannon shot, no food, no powder, no rum, no whiskey. Just 48,600 gallons of water.

 **Detailed analysis:**

* Length of cruise -- 181 days
* Booze consumption -- 2.26 gallons per MAN per day (plus whatever they rescued from the 12 English merchant ships)
* Guestimated re-enlistment rate -- 100 percent, winner of the Secretary of the Navy Golden Anchor for Retention.
* Probable EPA Award of Gold Certificate for water conservation.