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

**17 CANNON AVENUE**

**STATEN ISLAND, NY 10314**

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

**May 2019**

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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 |

**Calendar Events**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Event | Location | Time | Remarks |
| 4 May | Blazing Star Post Meeting | Gold Star Post | 1000 | Saturday |
| 4 May | A Veterans Town Hall | Crespino Russo Post | 1900 | RSVP Required |
| 17 May | Poppy Distribution | SI Ferry & Refinery | 0700-1300 |  |
| 18 May | Poppy Distribution | Stop & Shop | 0900-1500 |  |
| 19 May | Poppy Distribution | Stop & Shop | 0900-1500 |  |
| 21 May | Ice Cream Social | St Adalbert’s School | 1100 | 718-442-2020 |
| 25 May | Poppy Distribution | ShopRite | 0900-1500 |  |
| 27 May | Memorial Day Ceremony | Oceanview Cemetery | 1100 |  |
| **5 June** | **Blazing Star Post Meeting** | **Gold Star Post** | **1300** | **Wednesday** |
| 8 June | DSC Presentation | Ollis Post | 1300 |  |
| 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. Post member and officer Doug Encarnacion will be the Legislative chairman for District 2 of the VFW.

We offer Doug our support as he deals with our politicians going forward.

3. 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.

4. Dues Renewal Reminder:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Curry, Albert | 12/31/2017 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| DiPietrantonio, Rosa | 1/31/2019 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Garriga, Jose A | 12/31/2018 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Griffo, Arnold P | 1/31/2019 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Ivan, Peter C. | 4/30/2019 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Johnson, Khadijah L | 5/2/2018 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Krigel, Adam C | 10/31/2018 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Krishna, Ash | 6/18/2018 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Maloney, Brian T | 12/31/2017 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Moore, Thomas | 12/31/2018 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Ruggiero, Blenda C | 6/29/2018 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Santiago, Luis A. | 4/30/2019 | ***EXPIRED*** |
| Sheinwald, Abe | 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:\Users\Albert\Documents\VFW\Newsletters%202011\www.va.gov\healtheligibility\vfw) 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. Monique L. Rada Engagement and Community Services Coordinator

NYC Department of Veterans’ Services [1 Centre Street, Suite 2208](x-apple-data-detectors://1/0) [New York, NY 10007](x-apple-data-detectors://1/0) [917-628-8487](tel:917-628-8487) [mrada@veterans.nyc.gov](mailto:mrada@veterans.nyc.gov)

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=.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:

**Navy Fireman 3rd Class Harold K. Costill,** USS West Virginia, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Dec. 7, 1941.

**Navy Seaman 2nd Class Ray H. Myers,** USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941.

**Army Pfc. Dale W. Ross,** Co E, 35th Infantry Regt, 25th Infantry Division, Guadalcanal, Jan. 14, 1943.

**Army Pfc. Dewey W. Harris** Co C, 1st Bn, 110th Infantry Regt, 28th Infantry Division, Hürtgen Forest, Nov. 14, 1944.

**Army Pfc. John W. Hayes,** Co M, 3rd Bn, 335th Infantry Regt, 84th Infantry Division, Mâgôster, Belgium, Jan. 4, 1945.

**Army Cpl. Carlos E. Ferguson**, Co L, 3rd Bn, 23rd Infantry Regt, 2nd Infantry Division, Kangye, So Korea, May 18 1951.

**Navy Seaman 2nd Class Richard J. Thomson**, 19, USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941.

**Navy Seaman 1st Class Ernest R. West**, 22, USS Oklahoma, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941.

**Army Pfc. Raymond H. Middlekauff**, Co F, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf Regt, 4th Infantry Division, Hürtgen Forest, Dec. 4, 1944.

**Army Capt. Rufus J. Hyman**, Co A, 1st Bn, 34th Inf Regt, 24th Infantry Division, Kwonbin-ni, South Korea, July 30, 1950.

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**

**Management Practices**

Management Belongs in the Field, with the customer and with the employees.

Cut Through Layers. It’s not always most efficient or effective to go through chains of command.

No Expenses are Too Small. Spend company money as if it’s your own.

No Whining. We do have rules to be followed.

If you Measure Individual Performance (objectively), it will improve. Use the numbers to measure quantitatively and objectively.

Lead by Example – Everyone follows the boss. Your style will be watched and copied, so set an example.

Get Involved in the Details.

Good Performers should be Promoted – not just good people.

Don’t Confuse Process with Results.