



## *Newsletter*

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*March 2004 Manny Bacon Post 1758*

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### **Spring 2004 Fund Raiser Underway**

By now everyone should have gotten ten raffle tickets to buy yourself or sell and mail in the money . Please remember that the post only gets about 10.00 from your yearly dues. The rest goes to department and national, so in order for us to fund the various post programs obviously the money has to come from some where, so far this year the post has invested over 300.00 in local area scouting and another 100.00 to the wounded at Walter Reed Medical Center . Its causes such as this that the money generated by your selling or buying those tickets supports . Please don't send cash, send Moe Baxter a check or Money order.

MAURICE BAXTER  
7 RYANS AVE  
BEACON NY 12508

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### **Its Finally Here**

The 2004 Midwinter membership award is finally going to be presented to the post by the County Commander and the 9th district membership chairman at the April meeting. Uniform for next meeting will be white uniform shirt and dark pants . This award recognizes the number one post in the STATE for membership percentage by the January midwinter conference. One down one to go guys. Manny Bacon is still number one but in order for us to stay there we have to keep bringing in those brand new members!!!! There are other posts nipping at our heels !!

The next award will be presented at the Department convention in July in front of representatives from every county in the state. I want to hear Manny Bacons name called at that state convention. We can Do it. We have to stay number 1 till June.

Here is a thank you note the post received from Nikki Mendicino . You will remember from last letter she is a 15 year old veterans advocate and has been since age 10. The post sent flowers to the funeral services for the Veteran that got her started down this path. Her call went out to literally hundreds of people via the internet, yet we were the only ones who responded . Amazing considering everything this young lady has done for veterans and the MIA/POW issue . You should all feel proud to be a member of this post. There is a link to her web site on ours.

Members of Manny Bacon  
American Legion Post 1758

Thank you so much for  
the flowers. Without you,  
there would have only  
been two sets of flowers,  
mine and his family's.  
It is great to know that  
Mr. Kridlo won't be  
forgotten. Everything was  
greatly appreciated.  
Thanks for everything!

~Nikki Mendicino~  
A friend to All Vets  
and proud of it!

**Mr Kridlo was WW2 veteran and Participated in the landings on D-Day.**

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On a personal note I want to thank all the members who came to the last County meeting . The showing of solidarity and support didn't go unnoticed and I want to especially thank those that drove from long distances in the snow. You all made me proud be part of this post and to represent 1758 at the County level . Again thank you all.

On a sadder note I have to report the transfer of Francis Sharkey to post everlasting. "Fair Winds and Following Seas" Francis.

**WW2 Memorial Dedication**

If you cant make it to Washington DC on May 29th for the dedication ceremonies , the American Legion is staging something of a block party in times square in NY City.

The festivities start at 11am and will run till 4 pm , it will be held from 42nd St all the way to 47th . If you are planning on gong I would leave early since I anticipate a large crowd. The back of this page lists what department has planned. You may also want to go down to Washington before memorial day, the memorial is now open to the public but will not be dedicated till the 29th.

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**5th Annual Vietnam Vets Reunion**

July 30 2004 - August 1 2004

It will be held in freehold NY about 35 miles south of Albany  
Hotels are available for those who don't wish to camp. The reunion offers live entertainment-nightly campfires -free camping-a barbecue.

A memorial service will be held Sat. July 31st at 12 noon and The Moving Wall - The Wall That Heals 29 July through 1 August. This event is open to ALL veterans . For further info please call John Kellegher 518-634-2897 or Jim Sill 518-966-5295 or Mark Manley 863-465-0163

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That's it for now hope to see you all at the meeting on the 11th.  
I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank Ritchie Silva for his years of service as Sgt at Arms. He will be missed. Hope you still pop in once in awhile Ritchie. Don't be a stranger.

## OUTLINE OF PROPOSED EVENTS -SA TURDA y -MA y 29, 2004

Dedication Ceremony: The WW II Memorial will be dedicated in Washington, DC at precisely 2:00 pm EST. From 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm, there will be live entertainment (Big Band, Swing, and Military Bands, etc. ), video images and newsreels of the WW II era, and wartime remlliscences.

Live entertainment from Military Bands and Big Band music will be provided in Times Square by the USO Metropolitan NYC Troupe. At 2:00 pm, we will broadcast the entire dedication ceremony from Washington. At the conclusion of the ceremony, we again "go live" from NYC and proceed with our show.

The other major components to be considered.....

.Securing Times Square for the "main event."

.Transporting WW II veterans and special participants to and from the "staging" and "event" areas.

Key points to consider are:

.Weather (reports will be obtained from US Coast Guard, NYC) .Screen/projectors/sound system needs

.Should the event be held inside or outside?

.What is the contingency plan for inclement weather?

### ACTIVITIES PLANNED :

.A special morning mass for WW II Veterans at Saint Patrick's Cathedral

."Live from Times Square" outdoor festivities -12:00 noon unti12:45 pm- ."Live from Times Square" military and big band music.

.Seating for all WW II veterans and family members attending with blocked off areas for the general public similar to what is used for New Year' s and other events held in Times Square.

.Large viewing screens throughout Times Square for watching the DC dedication ceremony.

.Attendance and speeches by City and State officials (i.e., Mayor, Governor, and those political/civic/corporate leaders who are allies of the veterans).

.Our own NYC dedication ceremony to WW II Veterans to include the unveiling of a plaque and wrath laying service-

.Active duty and ROTC/JROTC Drill team presentations.

### IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE A V AILABLE:

.V A Services Reps will be on hand to provide information on veterans' resources and benefits-

.An exhibition on the planning and building of the WW II Memorial in Washington, PC.