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American Legion Post 1758 Newsletter

May 2012

American Legion Post 1758,
Junction, NY 12533

PO Box 92,

Hopewell

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Our next meeting will be June 12, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Whortlekill Rod and Gun Club. At this meeting we will be swearing in new officers for 2012-2013 year. Please wear your uniform shirt as we will be

Your Post needs your help. Contact Commander

Neil Klock at 845-227-

"If there is any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow being, let me do it now, and not deter or neglect it as I shall not pass this way again."

- William Penn

New Officers for 2012-2013 are:

Commander - James Reynolds
1st Vice Commander - Neil Klock
2nd Vice Commander - Joe Green
Adjutant - John Pizzuti
Treasurer - Dan Briscoe
Chaplin - Norm Dauerer
Historian - Evert Munning
Sergeant-At-Arms - Mark Baaden
Membership Chairman - John Polasko
Service Officer - Dan Oberhauser
Homeland Security - Mark Baaden

The VA offers a wide array of special programs and initiatives specifically designed to help homeless veterans live as self-sufficiently and

On May 19th we will be placing flags on Veterans' graves at our local cemeteries. We will meet at 8:00 AM for breakfast at the Plaza Diner in Hopewell Junction. About 9:00 AM we will depart for St. Denis and then the cemetery at Hopewell Reformed Church. This involves placement of about 500 flags. Your help would be greatly appreciated. A long screwdriver or other device is handy to make a hole in the ground for the flag.



Castle Point is always looking for volunteers in a variety of positions. Call (845) 831-2000

Special Notice: If you are a veteran in emotional crisis and need help RIGHT NOW, call this toll-free number 1-800-273-8255, available 24/7, and tell them you are a veteran. All calls are confidential.



Living space available for Veteran in need. *Do you know a homeless Veteran? Commander Klock has room in his home and is willing to take in a Veteran. Contact Neil at 845-227-6091*

Memorial Day Parade line up is 10:30 AM on Monday, May 28th at the East Fishkill Community Center, 890 Route 376 in Hopewell Junction. Ceremonies start at 11:00 AM at Veteran's Park, Rte 82 and Beekman Road. Uniform is cap, white shirt and dark slacks. Please plan to attend, even if you cannot march.



Please mark your calendars for Saturday, May 26th. We will be distributing Poppys at Stewarts on Lake Walton Road and ShopRite in Fishkill. We need help manning the locations. You don't need to spend the entire day, just two hours would be a great help. Hours are from 8:00 AM until about 3:00 PM.

Adding Family Therapists and Mental Health Counselors

Following an announcement two weeks ago of adding 1,900 mental-health staff nationwide, the Department of Veterans Affairs has expanded its mental-health services to include professionals from two additional healthcare fields: marriage and family therapists (MFT) and licensed professional mental-health counselors (LPMHC).

The two fields will be included in the hiring of an additional 1,900 mental-health staff nationwide, which VA announced two weeks ago. Recruitment and hiring will be done at the local level. The new professionals will provide mental-health diagnostic and psychosocial treatment services for veterans and their families, in coordination with existing mental-health professionals at VA's medical centers, community-based outpatient clinics, and Vet Centers.

Good Of The Legion:

Fred Lohrfink's name was pulled for the Pot Of Gold Drawing. Fred was not in attendance so the money was added to the POT.



Soldier Missing From Vietnam War Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced April 27, 2012 that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Vietnam War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Army Capt. Charles R. Barnes, 27, of Philadelphia, Pa., will be buried May 2, in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C. On March 16, 1969, Barnes and four other service members departed Qui Nhon Airfields bound for Da Nang and Phu Bai, in a U-21A Ute aircraft. As they approached Da Nang, they encountered low clouds and poor visibility.



Communications with the aircraft were lost, and they did not land as scheduled. Immediate search efforts were limited due to hazardous weather conditions, and all five men were listed as missing in action.

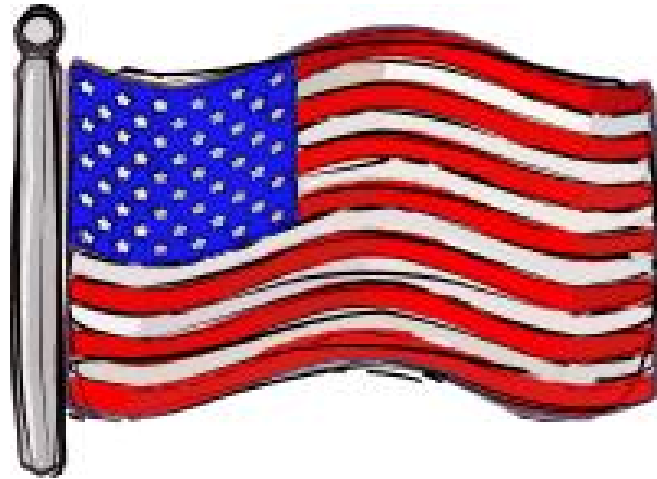
From 1986-1989, unidentified human remains were turned over to the U.S. from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (S.R.V.) in several different instances. None of the remains were identified given the limits of the technology of the time.

VA Begins Claims Improvements

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced that it will initiate the national deployment of claims transformation initiatives at 12 regional offices in the remaining months of fiscal year 2012. During the national deployment, VA will track the transformation plan to reduce the backlog of disability claims and provide Veterans, their families, and survivors with more timely and accurate claims decisions. VA expects to deploy the transformation plan to the remaining 40 regional offices throughout calendar 2013. Veterans filing claims may file online through [eBenefits](#). They can check the status of their claim with a Premium eBenefits account or contact VA Call Centers for more information at 1-800-827-1000.

Flag Day is Thursday, June 14th. Our Post will be retiring United States Flags during ceremonies starting at 7:00 PM behind the East Fishkill Library on Rte. 376

Uniform is cap, white shirt and dark slacks.



Obtaining Veteran Service Documents

Army veterans and family members are eligible to receive service-related documents for free through official sources. Soldiers who separated in October, 2002 or later can submit a signed Standard Form 180/Request Pertaining to Military Records (www.archives.gov/research/order/standard-form-180.PDF) to the U.S. Army Human Resources Command, ATTN: AHRC-PDR-V/ Department 420, 1600 Spearhead Division Ave., Fort Knox, KY 40122-5402. Soldiers who separated prior to October, 2002 should submit a signed SF 180 to the National Archives and Records Administration's National Personnel Records Center, 1 Archives Drive, St. Louis, MO 63132-1002, or telephone the NPRC at 314-801-0800. National Guard Soldiers should contact their State Adjutant General at their state's address found at www.nationalguard.mil/resources/states.aspx. Veterans can also access their information directly at eBenefits at www.ebenefits.va.gov. For more information, telephone the Army Human Resource Command at 1-888-ARMYHRC (276-9472).

For complete guides to all veterans benefits, visit the [Military.com Benefits Center](http://Military.com).



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13TH ANNUAL

SALUTE TO VETERANS RIDE & EXPO

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2012

~::~NEW LOCATION~::~

CASTLE POINT VA HOSPITAL, ROUTE 9D, CASTLE POINT, NY
(2 MILES NORTH OF NEWBURGH-BEACON BRIDGE)

RIDE REGISTRATION FROM 8:30 AM TO 10:30 AM
DONATION \$20.00 PER RIDER, \$10 PER PASSENGER
NON-RIDERS WELCOME

RIDE ESCORTED BY BLUE KNIGHTS XII TO HIGHLAND FALLS
FOR A WREATH LAYING CEREMONY, THEN BACK TO CASTLE
POINT FOR LUNCH, VENDORS, DISPLAYS AND ENTERTAINMENT.
(FOOD AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE FOR NON-RIDERS)

HELP US HELP OUR LOCAL VETERANS AND TROOPS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

John Keller 845-928-0895

Ron Orts 845-416-8125

