



American Legion Post 1758 Newsletter

Est. 1949

April, 2018

American Legion Post 1758, PO Box 92, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
Facebook: Manny Bacon/Post 1758

April 10th meeting attendance:

Burns, Hathorn, Call, Oberhauser, Ashworth, Briscoe, Boes, Livermore,
Broughton, Kriebel, Ryan, Dickman, Polasko, Richards, Logan, Meyer,
Dauerer, Masch, Eyler, Lyons
Past Post Commander: Reynolds

Graves

For Memorial Day, flags will be placed at the St. Denis Cemetery and the Hopewell Reformed Church Cemetery on May 12. Breakfast will be at the Falls Diner at 9AM, paid by the post. Minimum of twelve helpers are expected. Flags will be pulled in on June 2, beginning at 9:30AM. As the American Flag is always placed on its own right, each flag will be placed to the left of the headstones, as near as possible

Next meeting

Our next meeting will be May 8th at 7:00 PM at the **Old East Fishkill Town Hall**, Rte. 52, next to the Police Station. Please try to attend. **ELECTIONS MEETING!!**

Here's the rundown as to office and officer candidates for next year:

Commander - Jim Reynolds
1st Vice Commander - Don Burns
2nd Vice Commander - Kevin Hathorn
Adjutant - Lance Ashworth
Finance - John Call & William Kriebel
Chaplain - Danny Oberhauser
Historian - Empty Slot
Sergeant-at-Arms - Jeff Boes
Judge Advocate - Jay Livermore

Service Officer - Empty Slot

Committee Chairman positions - TBD by new Commander/Executive Board

National Commander's Dinner

National Commander's Dinner at ANTUN'S Restaurant was held in Springfield Gardens on April 13th, 2018. There were probably 775 attending. Good music and dancing. The food was very good. Traffic was horrible, but that's New York.

Thoughtful Mind

"You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines, whimpering and complaining. You make progress by implementing ideas."

– Shirley Chisholm

Veterans news

--It is reported that there are 994 properties receiving the tax exemption in the East Fishkill. Tabled for further discussion, a list could be used to send out offers of membership.

--Veterans Committee- A new veterans park is being discussed, as is a separate tent for veterans organizations at the September 2018 Community Day. Vinny brought up the VA having a separate tent in past years.

--Tom Masch suggested Purple Heart Parking spots in large parking areas in the town, such as what is offered at the Wappinger Home Depot.

Memorial Day festivities

There are 5 wreaths to be placed during the ceremony, as long as there are representatives for each group so named.

We are reaching out to several organizations to see if representatives can work with us at the ceremony.

The Parade forms up at the Community Center around 10:15AM, kicking off at 10:45. As much as possible, timing is being confirmed. We will have Caleb Verdue for taps, as well as our Firing Squad. We should have enough marchers from the post.

We DO have a problem accounting for bibs, scarves and gloves. If you have any extras lying around, bring them to the next meeting...

Tom Masch will be involved with other communities, so he will get the Bofors Cannon to Norm to be attached to the jeep in the parade.

Memorial Day High School Ceremonies

Roy C. Ketcham High School

Thursday the 24th of May is set aside for this school's holiday ceremony. There will be the choir and their own trumpeter. The ceremony is scheduled to step off at roughly 9:20AM, after the morning announcements. Mrs. Kalah Boscia, School Guidance Counselor has made all the arrangements, including a continental breakfast afterwards. Mrs. Boscia is responsible for implementing Empire Girls State, Boys State, the Veterans Day and Memorial Day school ceremonies, as well as Veterans in the Classroom...in Ketcham High School.

We will take part, as the centerpiece, with as many Legionnaires as possible.

John Jay High School

Mr. Michael Ambron, Economics Teacher here, is entering his 3rd year of sponsoring these ceremonies at Jay. The Memorial Day ceremony at John Jay will be held on May 25th, at 7AM. There have been hundreds of participants every year, and more are expected this year. The students arrive in the dark to place small American flags along the

sidewalks prior to the start of ceremonies. We are also treated to a continental breakfast, sponsored by ACME Supermarket and Dunkin Donuts, and we are also treated to time with the students.

WE WILL BE ASKING FOR SIGN-UPS AT THE UPCOMING MAY POST MEETING.

Scouts and Venture Crew

A check from Stewart's Lake Walton Store for \$300 was received and presented to Dan Briscoe in an annual presentation, in its 5th year. A report on the Venture Crew is requested and anticipated. Dan Briscoe requested help filling a District Chair position, I accepted and requested further information.

Veterans Appreciation Picnic

Vet 2 Vet picnic is scheduled for June 15th, 2018 at Bowdoin Park, at Pavillion#5. It will run from 4:30 to 8:30PM. The food is great, and there's plenty of it. You'll need to call 473-2500, ext. 1306 to reserve. Call by the 14th of June. It's free.

Veterans Services Director Chosen For Dutchess County

POUGHKEEPSIE, NY — Dutchess County Executive Marcus J. Molinaro has announced he has selected Marc Coviello to serve as the Director for the Division of Veterans Services following the retirement of former Director Nelson Eddy Rivera earlier this year. "Whether bravely defending his country on the battlefield or dutifully working for his neighbors in the Dutchess County Legislature, Marc Coviello has dedicated his life to serving others," Molinaro said.

"We are proud and honored he has chosen to continue that service as the new director of the county's Division of Veterans Services," he said.

"A tireless supporter of his fellow veterans and the issues important to them, Marc will continue his dogged advocacy for the brave men and women who have safeguarded our freedom and the benefits their service has earned them," Molinaro said. "I look forward to Marc's smooth integration into our dedicated Veterans Services team, and I'm confident local veterans will benefit from his devotion to their cause."

Coviello is a United States Army Veteran, who served from 2010 to 2014, rising to the rank of sergeant. He served as an infantry rifleman in the 1st Cavalry Division during a deployment to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn, and later served as Squad Leader for the 1-32 INF, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. He also served as a long-range marksman attachment to 3rd Special Forces Group during a deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. During his tours of duty, he conducted over 75 special operation missions and earned over 20 different military awards and medals, including the Purple Heart Medal, Army Commendation Medal with valor and Army Good Conduct Medal.

Following his honorable discharge from the U.S. Army in 2014, Coviello founded the non-profit foundation Hudson Valley Hero Project and served as its executive director until December 2017. Hudson Valley Hero Project serves veterans throughout the Hudson Valley who are facing financial struggles. Initiatives have included awarding college scholarships, housing for homeless veterans, purchases of vehicles for veterans including a handicap accessible van for a paraplegic veteran, and financial assistance for multiple veterans battling various types of cancer, as well as continuously sending goods to local service members deployed overseas.

Coviello has also served as Dutchess County legislator representing the Towns of Beekman and Union Vale, having been first elected in 2015 and re-elected in 2017 for his current term. He currently serves on the Environment Committee, the Government Services and Administration Committee and is the vice-chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee, as well as liaison to the Citizens Advisory Committee on Sex Offender Management. As legislator, he worked to expand the military benefits for County employees serving in the National Guard and Reserves, restructure the Veterans Affairs Committee to be more efficient, and is actively involved in the effort to establish a veterans treatment court in Dutchess County.

Coviello will resign from his position as legislator effective midnight on May 15, 2018.

According to Legislature Chairman Gregg Pulver, his seat will be filled in accordance with the Dutchess County Charter.

He earned a management certificate from the Army Leadership Academy at Fort Hood, TX in 2012 and will complete a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications and political science at Pace University this fall. He is a lifelong resident of Dutchess County and has been very active in the community. He was inducted into the New York State Senate's Veterans Hall of Fame in 2015 and recognized as a Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce Forty Under 40 honoree in 2016.

As Veterans Services Director, Coviello will be responsible for informing, advising and assisting veterans, service personnel and their families with the benefits they are entitled to from the federal, state and county government. He will serve as an advocate for veterans and their families, participating in and coordinating initiatives and events to highlight veterans and their needs in the community.

"I am honored that the county executive has selected me for this position and I am eager to continue serving our area's veterans in this important role," Coviello said.

"The issues veterans faces, such as the difficult transition back into civilian life, are

extraordinarily challenging. I understand those challenges and can help veterans and their families navigate to the services and programs that can provide assistance and ensure veterans have full and productive post-service lives," he said.

Photo caption: Marc Coviello. Photo credit: Submitted.

More from Mid Hudson Valley Patch

The new Post 1758 website

Nothing new.

Warrior Wagon

The Dutchess County Fair is August 21-26. Jim Reynolds was asked to sponsor 12 Veterans to ride on the Warrior Wagon one day (to be determined) during the Dutchess County Fair. The Veterans will receive two free tickets for entry to the fair that day. However only the Veterans will ride in the Wagon. If you are interested in participating and did not sign up at the April meeting please contact Jim.

Clove Creek Dinner Theatre

By calling 845-202-7778 for a reservation, you and a guest will get a 3 course dinner and see a dinner show. For free. The Clove Creek Dinner Theatre is in Westage, down the street from Charlie Brown's. This for all local veterans.

American Legion Education Institute

For \$4.95, you can sign up for a computer course. It's basic American Legion Theory, but it covers every phase. If you complete the course and pass the final exam (just take notes), it's actually free. Plus, you can continue to log on and research AL theory for ever.

American Legion Family College

Don Burns will attend the Legion College June 1-2-3, at SUNY Morrisville. The post will reimburse the \$225 cost upon completion.

Julie's Jungle

At the EF Town Recreation area on Old Lime Kiln Road. It's a modern playground, and is kid friendly to the point that everything is padded. A 4x4 brick is available for the post to buy for \$50, and have the post's name printed on it. It was voted on and approved. I believe our Finance Officer is making arrangements.

Shingles shots: John Lyons mentioned that the Shingles Shot is available, for free, at Castle Point.

Used cell phones

Jim Broughton is collecting any sort of used cell phones. They will be set up with phone cards for use by overseas military folks.

Flag Day at the Elks Club, Route 376

June 10th, there will be a ceremony in celebration of the holiday, without a flag burning. Post 1758 is invited; ceremony is 1:30PM, for 60 to 90 minutes.

Army Retirement Day

At West Point on April 28th. Admission at West Point is free. Breakfast is \$15, lunch is \$9. See Lance Ashworth.

Members call list

Tom Masch has a list of Post members, many of whom don't attend meetings. He has agreed to make phone calls, inviting these members to post meetings. If any cannot drive, transportation will be provided.

Boys State & Empire Girls State

We have two boys sponsored for Boys State, both from Ketcham. I have interviewed Bryce Albert and Armin Kermani the candidates, ensuring that the students are aware of what the programs entail, regarding appearances, both at a post level as well as a DCAL level.

The young lady for Empire Girls State, Puneet Dhaliwal, is as exceptional as the boys, and understands her responsibilities to the American Legion after her week at Girls State.

West Point Football Games

The 2018 season schedule will be researched, and a sign up sheet made for interest in going to the Army football home games, as many as possible. It looks like October 20 and November 3 are good home game dates.

Late news: "I have attached a PDF flyer with all our group rates on it. Additionally, we do have specific days that honor veterans and current military. We have a special promotion price of \$25 per ticket no matter how many you get. Those dates are Sept. 15 and Nov. 10." (West Point contact)

TRH meal drawing

\$50 in Texas Road House Meal cards were awarded to George Dickman by a drawing. The Executive Committee agreed that a quarterly drawing of the attending members. Or is it every meeting? The idea was announced in the phone blast that announced the meeting. 21 members, plus Althea Richards, made the 4/10 meeting.

Pot o' Gold...50/50

William Thomas's name was drawn, and he was absent. The total kitty is \$486.

Congratulations is in Order

Carl Eyler will be receiving his Masters Degree from the University of Maryland on June 13th. The degree is in Cyber Security.

County American Legion Convention

Everyone is invited to our Annual Dutchess County American Legion Convention, on June 10th this year. It will be held at the East Fishkill Community Center in Hopewell Junction. The main feature will be County Legion Elections, and will be the end of my two years as County Commander. We will also be filling seats on the various committees, which are one way we keep the county organization ticking.

Lunch will be served at noon, and the meeting will begin at 1:00PM.