



Est. 1949

# American Legion Post 1758 Newsletter

January 2019

American Legion Post 1758,  
<https://al-ny1758.org/>

PO Box 92,

Hopewell Junction, NY 12533  
email: [Commander@al-ny1758.org](mailto:Commander@al-ny1758.org)

## HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2. RCK Veterans Day
3. Tom Masch Award
4. Avalon Assisted Living visit
6. Post Oratorical Contest
7. Holiday Party

Our next meeting will be Tuesday February 12, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the **Old East Fishkill Town Hall**, Rte. 52, next to the Police Station. Please try to attend.

Don't forget to check out our Post web site at <https://al-ny1758.org/>. There is a wealth of information there.

Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.

Francis of Assisi

**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.

**Membership:** Our Post has about 80% of the membership renewed for 2019. Remember you have an option of renewing your membership online. You can do so by clicking here: [Online Renewal](#)

You can also become a PUFL by clicking on this link: [PUFL application](#)

Rates are based on your age and they are currently running a \$100 Off promotion. Payment may be spread over 12 months if you wish.

**Please submit your renewal ASAP! Thank you**

November 14, 2018

SOUTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS

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# Roy C. Ketcham High School honors veterans



From left, Veterans in American Legion Post 1758, Jim Reynolds, Jimmy Metrando and Kevin Hathorn at the Veterans Day Ceremony held at Roy C. Ketcham High School on Friday, Nov. 9.

-Photos by Anna Barton



The Chamber Choir at RCK sings at the Veterans Day Ceremony on Nov. 9.

**By Anna Barton**

Students gathered around the flagpole at Roy C. Ketcham High School (RCK) for a Veterans Day Ceremony on Nov. 9.

RCK's Chamber Choir honored the veterans by singing the National Anthem and "America the Beautiful." A student played a beautiful rendition of "Taps" as the flag was raised by

members of American Legion Post 1758 in Hopewell Junction.

Speaker Jim Reynolds served from 1965-1968 in the U.S. Army. "We've lost some of the information on veterans over the years," he said, emphasizing the need to stay in local schools and stress the importance of honoring veterans to students. Reynolds said there are currently 20 million veterans living in

the United States.

Post 1758 attends the Veterans Day ceremony yearly at RCK, as well as returning annually for the Memorial Day ceremony.

Other veterans present included Kevin Hathorn and Jimmy Metrando.

Hathorn served in the U.S. Navy from 1968-1972, and Metrando served in the Marine Corps from 1963-1969.

Metrando recounted a breakfast for veterans at Gayhead Elementary School last week where he was encouraged by the respectful and articulate questions that seven-year-olds asked the veterans.

"Make your parents proud and God bless the United States of America," Reynolds concluded.




## Good of the Legion:

Donald Kellam's name was drawn to our January 8th meeting. Unfortunately Donald wasn't in attendance so \$24.00 was added to the Pot Of Gold.



Congratulations to Tom Masch for being named one of Assemblyman Kieran Lalor's 2018 "Heroes of the 105th Assembly District."


  
**HEROES**  
*of the 105th*  
**ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

*Please join Assemblyman Kieran Michael Lalor as he honors local heroes.*

**Shawn Dasecke**, *Beekman*  
 Peekskill Department of Public Works  
**Tommy Masch**, *Wappinger*  
 Momma's Towing  
**Kelly Lyndgaard & Staff**, *East Fishkill*  
 Unshattered

*When:*  
Monday, November 19 at 4:00 p.m.

*Where:*  
Mill Creek Caterers  
17 NY-376 Hopewell Junction NY, 12533





### **Tommy Masch**

Tommy Masch is the owner of Momma's Towing in Wappinger. Tommy is an Army veteran and also a long-time volunteer at Hughsonville Fire Department. Tommy has volunteered for his community during various crisis periods, including the tornado in spring of 2018. Tommy has also volunteered his tow truck services in a memorable and unique way. Some of the last steel beams from the original World Trade Center were donated to create memorial in Wappingers and Beacon. Tommy used his truck to move these beams from New York City to the Beacon Elks Lodge and the Sgt. Mark C. Palmateer 9/11 Memorial Park in Wappinger.

# Welcome

Two new members joined our post at the January meeting. Anthony (Tony) Pulliam transferred in from the Millbrook Post and John Jackson rejoined the Legion after dropping out in the 1950's. Welcome, gentlemen!

Jim Reynolds visited the Avalon Assisted Living Center on November 30th where he spoke to residents about the American Legion and their local programs. The Avalon presented him with a check for \$126.00 that they had collected in a donation jar. Pictured below are Jim and Melissa Madison, Life Enrichment Director.

On December 19th Jim returned to the Avalon with home made cookies for the residents and staff and was surprised with another \$31.00 in donations.



## MOH

**William Harvey Carney** was the first African-American awarded the Medal of Honor. He was born a slave in Virginia, but eventually made his way to freedom in Massachusetts.

When the Union Army began accepting volunteers, he joined the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, the first African-American unit organized by the northern states, though it was led by white officers.

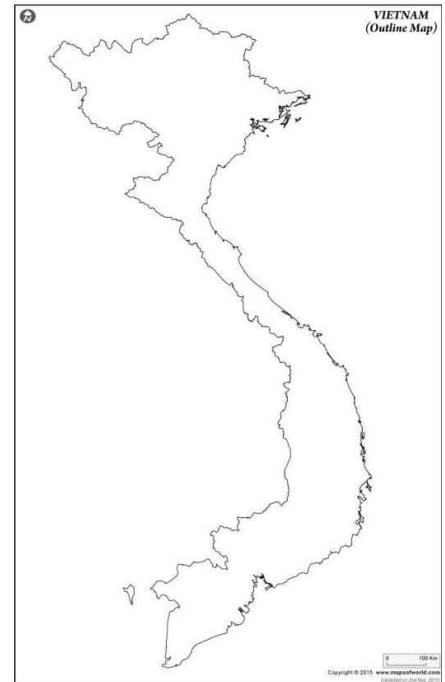
The 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, led by Robert Gould Shaw, was tasked with [taking Fort Wagner](#), a beachhead fortification that guarded the southern approach to Charleston Harbor.

A previous attack on the fort failed, and the 54th was chosen for the next attempt. As the soldiers stormed the fort's walls, the Union flag bearer was killed. Carney grabbed the flag and held it for the duration of the battle.

Carney, along with the rest of the 54th, was forced to retreat. Throughout the battle Carney never lost possession of the flag, despite suffering multiple injuries. "Boys, I only did my duty; the old flag never touched the ground!" [he said](#) after the battle.

Carney was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1900.

**The East Fishkill  
Veterans Committee  
and  
American Legion Post 1758**



Present  
**Vietnam: A Seabee's Different  
Experience**

A personal account by Craig Marshall, Dutchess Co. resident, of his experiences as a USN Seabee stationed in Da Nang, Vietnam as part of the Civic Action program to help local families.

Saturday, January 12, 2019  
2:00PM  
East Fishkill Community  
Center  
888 Route 82, Hopewell Jct.

Light refreshments will be served.



Seabee Craig Marshall with patrol dog Freckles in Da Nang, Vietnam - 1967



Seabee Craig Marshall teaching English at a village school in Da Nang, Vietnam - 1967

Bad weather date January 19, 2019



# Oratorical Contest

The County Oratorical Competition was held on December 15th at Post 203 in Beacon. The two contestants from our post were the only competitors.



Katelyn Albert a junior at Roy C. Ketcham won first place and her brother, Bryce Albert, a senior took second place. They were both awarded their Post winnings as well as the County awards at the December 19th County meeting in Hyde Park.

The 9th District Oratorical contest will be Saturday, January 12th, 2019. Again, at Post 203, at 10AM.

The Zone competition will be held at the Town of Haverstraw Town Hall, 1 Rosman Road, Haverstraw, NY on February 10th at 1:00PM.

# HOLIDAY PARTY







There are more pictures on the Post website at:

[ChristmasParty](#)

or

<https://al-ny1758.org/gallery.php?2018;12;ChristmasParty>