Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 email: Commander@al-ny1758.org

# American Legion Post 1758 Newsletter



PO Box 92

## **October** 2019

Est 1949

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Our next meeting will be **Tuesday November 12, 2019** at 7:00PM in the East Fishkill Old Town Hall, Rte. 52, next to the East Fishkill police Station.

"When obstacles arise, you change your direction to reach your goal; you do not change your decision to get there."

Zig Ziglar MOTIVATIONAL AUTHOR, SPEAKER

#### **Upcoming Post events**

November 4<sup>th</sup> - 7:00PM Department Commander's Dinner

November 8th - 7:00AM John Jay Veterans Day Service

November 8<sup>th</sup> – 1:30PM Noxon Rd Elementary School Veterans Day Service

November 11<sup>th</sup> - 7:00AM Flags along Rte. 82

November 11<sup>th</sup> - 8:00AM Coin Drops

#### Non-Post events

November  $1^{st} - 6:00$ PM Patriot Dinner Dance (see enclosed flyer)

November 14<sup>th</sup> ... Hudson Valley Hospice Veterans Breakfast (see enclosed flyer)

**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. American Legion Post 1758 Al-ny1758.org/ PO Box 92



Good of the Legion:

<u>Ferg Foley's</u> name was drawn at our October 1st meeting unfortunately, he was not in attendance. The Pot of Gold continues to grow.

### **Avalon Family and Friends Picnic**

On September 15<sup>th</sup> Norm Dauerer and Jim Reynolds visited the folks at the Avalon Assisted Living Center. Norm took his WWII jeep which was a big hit and Jim took his 1966 Mustang. Both enjoyed interacting with the residents and had a delicious meal with them.



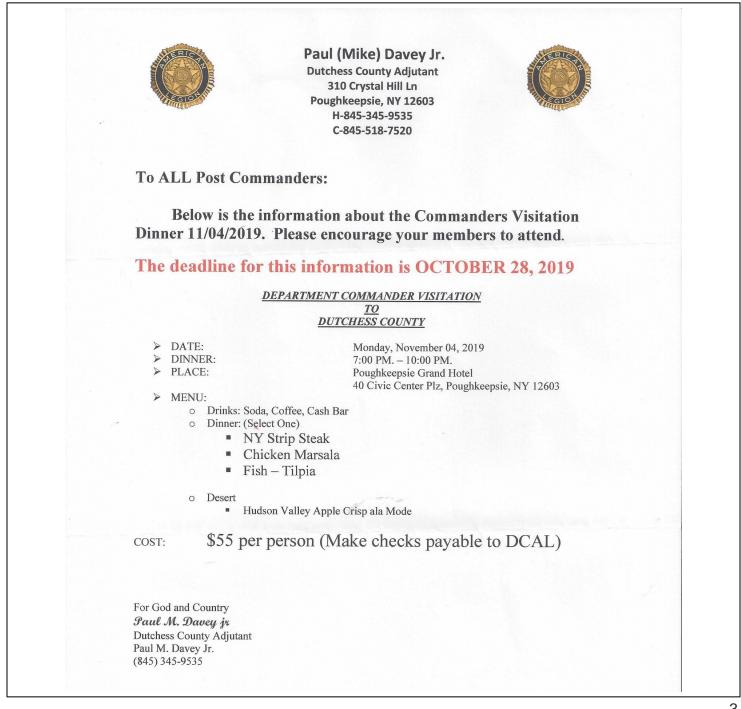
## **Arlington National Cemetery**

As burial space becomes more sparse, the Army has proposed new criteria on which service members can be laid to rest at the sacred Arlington National Cemetery.

For more visit:

Arlington new rules proposed

The Department of New York Commander's Visitation Dinner information is below. It would be nice to have a table of our own at the dinner. **The Post is contributing \$110** toward the total purchase price for the dinners so each dinner will be somewhat less than the \$55.00 listed in the flyer below. The final cost will be determined based on the number of our Post members attending.



## MOH

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# **BALDONADO, JOE**

Service: Army Rank: Corporal Conflict: Korean War Year of Honor: 1950 Born: Colorado

# CITATION

Corporal Joe R. Baldonado distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving as an acting machine gunner in 3d Squad, 2d Platoon, Company B, 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment during combat operations against an armed enemy in Kangdong, Korea on November 25, 1950. On that morning, the enemy launched a strong attack in an effort to seize the hill occupied by Corporal Baldonado and his company. The platoon had expended most of its ammunition in repelling the enemy attack and the platoon leader decided to commit his 3d Squad, with its supply of ammunition, in the defensive action. Since there was no time to dig in because of the proximity of the enemy, who had advanced to within twenty-five yards of the platoon position, Corporal Baldonado emplaced his weapon in an exposed position and delivered a withering stream of fire on the advancing enemy, causing them to fall back in disorder. The enemy then concentrated all their fire on Corporal Baldonado's gun and attempted to knock it out by rushing the position in small groups and hurling hand grenades. Several times, grenades exploded extremely close to Corporal Baldonado but failed to interrupt his continuous firing. The hostile troops made repeated attempts to storm his position and were driven back each time with appalling casualties. The enemy finally withdrew after making a final assault on Corporal Baldonado's position during which a grenade landed near his gun, killing him instantly. Corporal Baldonado's extraordinary heroism and selflessness at the cost of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty, are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

## Castle Point is no longer accepting clothing donations. They have a large inventory on hand and have exceeded their storage space.

September 17<sup>th</sup> the **Dutchess County Division of Veterans Services** hosted the first Veterans' Liaison Conference. Representatives from each town in the county were invited to participate.

Veteran service agencies came together to share information about their programs and services with a network of Veteran Liaisons, so that the important work that they do can be distributed to veterans and dependents throughout Dutchess.

We discussed several topics, including, most commonly used benefits that veterans rely on, efforts to improve access to transportation, more outreach to newly discharged vets, and working within the criminal justice system. It is our commitment to always continue to innovate and improve for our veterans.

If you could not make it, or if you would like to help in distributing this information, please see below for just a few of the agencies that were in attendance, with a brief description of what specific areas they address. You are always welcome to call the Division of Veterans' Services at (845) 486-2060 to help navigate these, and more, services, in order to address your specific needs.

- 1. **MHA of Dutchess County.** Here, you will find a one stop shop. As I like to remind everyone about the Division of Veterans Services, they are also another small and very welcoming office. There is no getting lost in system, because by the time you leave, you should know everyone in the group's name. Call for housing, job placement, and PTSD related issues. Please call Adam at 845-473-2500 ext. 1307 to make an appointment.
- 2. Veterans Administration. Hudson Valley VA is nationally recognized as a leader in VA Health Care Delivery. In addition to Castle Point, there are two health clinics in Dutchess County, located in Poughkeepsie and Pine Plains. You can reach Castle Point at 845-831-2000, Poughkeepsie Clinic at 845-452-5151 and Pine Plains Clinic at 518-398-9240.
- 3. **Hudson Valley Veterans' Alliance.** There are many situations of need that arise which the VA simply does not cover. This organization is usually our go-to in those scenarios. They have covered cost's for a wide array of needs, and are always welcoming any requests for assistance at <a href="https://www.hudsonvalleyveteransalliance.org/request-assistance">https://www.hudsonvalleyveteransalliance.org/request-assistance</a> or call 845-325-6965.
- 4. **Takoda Service Dogs.** This agency delivers a top-notch service dog, and an effectively structured program for veterans to learn how to utilize and care for their service dog properly. You can reach Sherry Berger at (845) 242-0876.

Again, these are just some of the programs offered, but they cover a wide span of needs. If you are interested in any potential veteran service, or benefit application, please feel free to call the Division of Veterans' Services at (845) 486-2060.

## East Fishkill Community Day

Parade turnout for our Post was a little disappointing as we only had two marchers; Caroline Pogge and Jeff Boes. Commander Reynolds takes some of the blame for this as he relied on someone who volunteered to pick up marchers at the recreation field and drop them at the parade start point. The volunteer never showed up and left our folks stranded at the field without enough time to walk to the start point. Commander Reynolds heartily thanks Caroline and Jeff for their perseverance and representing our Post so well.

Thanks also go Norm Dauerer and Tom Masch for providing their jeeps both for the parade and at the Veterans Tent.

Several other members hung out and helped at the Veterans tent throughout the day; Bill Kriebel, Don Burns, Bill Meyer, and Vinny Richards.

Thanks to **Bob Logan** for the photos.





Our Post presented a new United States flag to Whortlekill Rod and Gun in appreciation of Whortlekill's support of the Post's Junior Shooting Sports Program. Commander Jim Reynolds, along with Venture Crew Liaison Dan Briscoe and training officer Norm Dauerer presented the flag to Whortlekill club president Mike Nunes and member Karl Sokol. Whortlekill makes their state-of-theart shooting range available to Post 1758's Youth Air Rifle Team.



Thanks to Bill Kriebel for providing the photo.

#### Condolences

On September 27 John Call, Bill Kriebel, Bill Meyer and Jim Reynolds traveled to Pawling to pay their respects for Post member Bill DeMatte who passed away September 20<sup>th</sup>.

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## East Fishkill Veterans Appreciation Luncheon







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## Join Us Friday, November 1, 2019 The Links at Unionvale 153 North Parliman Road, Lagrangeville NY 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Buffet Dinner. Cash Bar Music by Harvest Band Raffles · 50/50 · \$50 per Ticket Call Gail (914) 474-5186 Or visit: www.semperfiparentshv.org