

American Legion
Post 1758
Newsletter



March 2020

Est 1949

Highlights In this issue:

1. Sick Call
2. Post Elections
3. St. Patrick's Parade
4. MOH
4. Welcome New Member
5. Web Site information
6. Vietnam Veterans Day
6. Upcoming Events
7. WWII History
8. Military Pay

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday April 14th, 2020** at 7:00PM in the East Fishkill Old Town Hall, Rte. 52, next to the East Fishkill police Station.

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.

Sick Call

Mark Graser had one of his knees replaced and is on the road to recovery.

Cosimo Napolitano is undergoing chemo treatments.

Claude Wuytack had heart procedure on March 10th which didn't even require an overnight hospital stay.

Vinny Richards is continuing diagnosis and treatments for his intestinal issues.

Also, **Tom Dolan** has been in and out of the hospital lately with a couple of problems.

Please keep these gentlemen and all others that are having health issues in your thoughts and prayers.

May you and your families keep safe and healthy, not only during the current crisis but always.

Post Elections

In May we will hold elections for the upcoming year. Commander Reynolds would like to pass the gavel on if anyone is interested in the Commander's position.

Pot of Gold

Tyler Bliss's name was drawn at our March 10th meeting and unfortunately, he was not in attendance. The Pot is now \$77.00.



On the left is Norm Daurer holding the past commander's plaque that he coordinated. On the right a larger view of the plaque.

Thanks, Norm, for all your work on this project!



Dutchess County St. Patrick's Day Parade



The **Dutchess County American Legion** honored two high school students who competed in the American Legion Oratorical Competition. Shown here are Kevin Hathorn, Oratorical Chairman, Katelynn Albert from Roy C Ketcham High School, James Reynolds Post 1758 Commander, and Isebailla Hewitt from John Jay High School. Both young ladies represented Dutchess County in the 9th District of New York State competition which includes Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Westchester and Bronx Counties. Isebailla moved on to the New York Zone competition where she placed 3rd.



MOH

Rank: Corporal
Organization: U.S. Marine Corps
Company: Company E, 2nd Battalion
Division: 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division
Born: 12 August 1931, Terre Haute, Ind.
Departed: Yes
Entered Service At: Terre Haute, Ind.
Place / Date: Hangnyong, Korea, 10 June 1951



Charles G. Abrell

Citation

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a fire team leader in Company E, in action against enemy aggressor forces. While advancing with his platoon in an attack against well-concealed and heavily fortified enemy hill positions, Cpl. Abrell voluntarily rushed forward through the assaulting squad which was pinned down by a hail of intense and accurate automatic-weapons fire from a hostile bunker situated on commanding ground. Although previously wounded by enemy hand grenade fragments, he proceeded to carry out a bold, single-handed attack against the bunker, exhorting his comrades to follow him. Sustaining 2 additional wounds as he stormed toward the emplacement, he resolutely pulled the pin from a grenade clutched in his hand and hurled himself bodily into the bunker with the live missile still in his grasp. Fatally wounded in the resulting explosion which killed the entire enemy guncrew within the stronghold, Cpl. Abrell, by his valiant spirit of self-sacrifice in the face of certain death, served to inspire all his comrades and contributed directly to the success of his platoon in attaining its objective. His superb courage and heroic initiative sustain and enhance the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

Welcome

To **Karl Sokol**, our newest member who transferred to our post from post 01. Karl is a member of Whortlekill Rod & Gun, a Coat Guard veteran and a friend of Norm Dauerer's. Welcome Karl!

Fund Raising Committee

At our February meeting it was suggested that we increase our fundraising efforts beyond the coin drops. Bill Kriebel volunteered to lead that effort. If you have suggestions for fundraising please let Bill know. You can contact him at Historian@AL-ny1758.org or 845-226-6895

County Meeting

We had a good showing at the County Meeting we hosted on February 19th. Twelve of our members were in attendance, the most by any one post since I've been attending. Hosting the meeting cost us \$173 for food and \$50 for the Community Center rental.

Thanks for your support and showing the county what great participation we have.

Wealth of Information

Our Post web site (al-ny1758.org) has a wealth of information:

- *Meeting and executive board minutes
- *Newsletters
- Programs
- Photo's
- Post History
- Important Links
- And much more

* For "members only" pages you need a logon which you can obtain from web master Bill Kriebel at Historian@al-ny1758.org

The March meeting minutes can be found here (requires login) <https://al-ny1758.org/docs>.

Vietnam Veterans Day March 29



National Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29 honors the men and women who served and sacrificed during the longest conflict in United States history.

It was on March 29, 1973, when combat and combat support units withdrew from South Vietnam. Generations later, Veterans of this time period are gaining the respect that was not so freely given upon their return. Involving five U.S. presidents, crossing nearly two decades and 500,000 U.S. military personnel, it left an indelible mark on the American psyche.

Returning Veterans did not always receive respectful welcomes upon their arrival on American soil. There were 58,000 killed, never to return. National Vietnam War Veterans Day recognizes the military service of these men and women who answered the call to service their country when she needed them. They didn't make the decisions to go to war.

Upcoming events

May 16th – Cemetery Flag Detail – Breakfast at 9:00AM at the Falls Diner on Myers Corners Road. 10:00AM Start placing Flags at St. Denis – Uniform of the day – Legion Cap.

May 21st – Memorial Day Ceremony at John Jay High School, 7:00AM. Uniform of the day: Legion Cap, uniform shirt, dark slacks and shoes, gold scarf and braid.

May 23rd – Coin Drops at Flory's, Convenient Mart and Stewarts. 8:00AM – 3:00PM. Legion cap.

May 25th – East Fishkill Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony. Please be at the EF Community Center at 10:15 to rehearse maneuvers. Uniform of the day: Legion Cap, uniform shirt, dark slacks and shoes, gold scarf and braid.

May 30th – Cemetery Flag Retrieval – 10:00AM Start removing Flags from St. Denis – Uniform of the day – Legion Cap.

June 6th – Graduating Enlistees Luncheon – EF Community Center 12N

September 12th – East Fishkill Community Day Parade. Line up 1:30PM on Trinkka Lane. Uniform of the day: Legion Cap, uniform shirt, dark slacks and shoes, gold scarf and braid.

September 13th – Post Picnic, 12n-3:00PM, Hopewell Recreation Park – more to follow

Post member Clarence Munson sent me this article and asked if I knew if it was true. I did some checking and it appears to be factual. Another WWII story most of us never heard before. Enjoy, and thanks Clarence!

It's always been a puzzle why the German Luftwaffe kept on using 87 Octane Aviation Gasoline while the Americans and British used 100 Octane Gasoline in their Spitfire Fighters and Americans used 130 Octane in our P-51 and other fighters. This morning I discovered the reason!

This is a declassified article by the British Society of Chemists
(Declassified in 2014)

It seems that the German and British aircraft both used 87 Octane Gasoline in the first two years of the war. While that was fairly satisfactory in the German Daimler-Benz V-12 engine, It was marginal in the British Rolls-Royce Merlin XX engine in British aircraft. It fouled the spark-plugs, caused valves to stick, and made frequent engine repair problems.

Then came lend-lease and American aircraft began to enter British service in great numbers. If British engines hated 87 Octane gasoline, American, General Motors built Allison 1710 engines loathed and despised it. Something had to be done!

Along came an American named Tim Palucka, a chemist for Sun Oil in their South East Texas Refinery. Never heard of him? Small wonder. Very few people have. He took a French formula for enhancing the octane of Gasoline, and invented the "Cracking Tower". The oil companies began producing 100 octane aviation gasoline. This discovery led to great joy among our English Cousins and great distress among the Germans.

A Spitfire fueled with 100 Octane gasoline was 34 miles per hour faster at 10,000 feet. The need to replace engines went from every 500 hours of operation to every 1,000 hours. Which reduced the cost of British aircraft by 300 Pounds Sterling. Even more, when used in 4 engine bombers.

Meanwhile, the Germans couldn't believe it when Spitfires that couldn't catch them a year ago started shooting their ME-109 E and G models right out of the sky.

Of course, the matter had to be kept secret. If the Germans found out that it was a French Invention, they would simply copy the original French patents.

If any of you have ever wondered what they were doing in that 3 story white brick building in front of the Sun Oil Refinery on Old Highway 90 that was it. They were re-inventing gasoline.

The American Allison engines improved remarkably with 100 Octane gasoline, but did much better when 130 octane gasoline came along in 1944. The 130 Octane also improved the Radial Engine Bombers we produced.

The Germans and Japanese never snapped to the fact that we had re-invented gasoline. Neither did our "Friends" the Russians.

100,000 Americans died in the skies over Europe. Lord only knows what that number would have been without "Super-Gasoline". And it all was invented just a few miles west of Beaumont. We never knew a thing about it.

Biggest military pay raise in years took effect Jan. 1

For the first time since 2010, troops will see a pay raise of more than 3.0 percent. And they may not have to wait another decade before the next one arrives.

Congress and the White House signed off on a 3.1 percent pay raise for troops starting on Jan. 1, a move that will produce a significant bump to military paychecks next year.

For junior enlisted troops, the raise amounts to roughly \$815 more a year in pay. For senior enlisted and junior officers, it equals about \$1,500 more. An O-4 with 12 years service would see more than \$2,800 extra next year under the increase.

The figure is based on the expected rise in civilian sector wages, so the extra money is designed not as a bonus for military families but instead as a calculation to keep them on pace with their private-sector peers.

Still, the 3.1 pay hike is a cause for celebration among troops because it represents more money than they are used to seeing, based on the last decade.

From 2011 to 2016, the military pay increase never grew above 1.7 percent. Outside advocates have argued that troops' paychecks still lag behind the rest of American workers as a result of those downward adjustments.

2020 Enlisted pay chart for less than 2 to over 6 years of service.					
Pay Grade	Years of Service				
	Less than 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6
E-7	3114	3399	3529	3702	3837
E-6	2694	2964	3095	3222	3355
E-5	2468	2634	2761	2891	3094
E-4	2263	2378	2507	2634	2747
E-3	2043	2171	2303	2303	2303
E-2	1942	1942	1942	1942	1942
E-1	1733	1733	1733	1733	1733

1965 Enlisted pay for less than 2 to over 6 years of service.					
Pay Grade	Years of Service				
	Under 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6
E-7	261.00	312.90	324.30	335.70	347.10
E-6	225.00	273.00	284.40	295.80	307.50
E-5	194.10	239.10	250.50	261.60	278.70
E-4	165.50	204.90	216.00	233.10	244.80
E-3	117.90	164.70	176.40	187.80	187.80
E-2	97.50	136.50	136.50	136.50	136.50
E-1	93.90	125.10	125.10	125.10	125.10