

American Legion

Post 1758

Newsletter



November 2021

Est 1949

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Special Notice If you are a veteran in emotional crisis and need help RIGHT NOW, call this toll-free number:

1-800-273-8255

It is available 24/7 and tell them you are a veteran. All calls are confidential.

Next Meeting

Our next will be **January 11, 2022, 7:00PM** TBD.
[Listen for the broadcast phone message.]

Meeting details will be confirmed via a call out message.

“Avoid Strength, Attack Weakness.”

-Sun Tzu

Good of the Legion:

Lawrence Lange's name was drawn at our November Post meeting and he was not in attendance. The “pot” is now at \$43.



Veterans' News

VA accesses resources to increase housing assistance for vulnerable Veterans

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs updated regulations Nov. 10 governing the Supportive Services for Veteran Families grant program to provide a more effective subsidy to Veterans in high-cost rental markets and to increase the cap in general housing assistance available to the most vulnerable Veteran families. Under the new regulations, in certain communities, the SSVF grant will cover up to 50%, an increase from 35% of eligible Veterans' reasonable rent for two years without need for recertification. “We know Veterans are increasingly vulnerable to homelessness and housing insecurity,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “The updated regulations give Supportive Services for Veteran Families grantees more flexibility and tools to keep Veterans housed while also helping them increase their income and access permanent affordable housing solutions.” The new rule also expands the maximum stay in emergency housing for unsheltered Veterans. VA stands up commission to recommend new Veterans Health Administration Under Secretary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

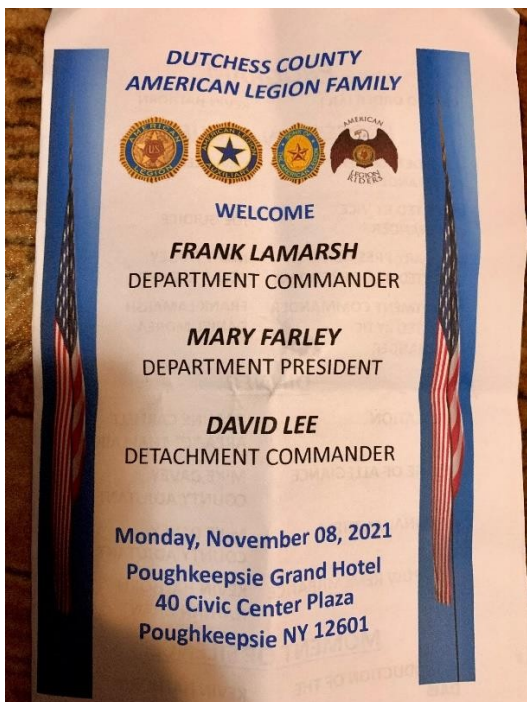
1. Commander's Dinner: On Monday, November 8th, in Poughkeepsie, several members of Post 1758 attended the Commander's Dinner. Shown in the photos below is Danny Oberhauser presenting Department Commander Frank Lamarsh with a check for \$100 in support his charity cause "Operation Comfort Warriors."
2. Sixteen Post members (our largest turnout ever) participated in the Veterans' Day ceremony at John Jay High School on Wednesday, November 10th. The number of students that surrounded the flag pole was also the largest crowd we've had. Having Sue Serino join us and WCSD Superintendent Dr. Bonk speak made the day even more special. After the service we had time for breakfast in the library and then spent time with selected students who seemed very interested in our experiences. Thank you to the following members: Dan Briscoe, Ed Morrison, Don Burns, John Call, Norm Daurer, Dona Greenwood, Len Hart, Kevin Hines, Bill Kriebel, Bill Meyer, Jeff Miedowski, Dan Oberhauser, John Polasko, Karl Sokol, Jim Reynolds. See photos, below.
3. On Thursday, November 11th, Post members distributed Poppies and executed "Operation Coin Drop" which netted the following: Florys I - \$925.434; Florys II - \$597.36; Convenient Mart - \$672.75. Grand Total \$2195.54. See photos below; thanks to all those that staffed the event.
4. On November 10th, 1st Vice Commander Jim Reynolds received the following message from Gayhead Elementary School: "Hello Veterans! The students and staff at Gayhead wanted to wish you a Happy Veterans Day. We honor you and wish you all the best! Several of our classes made videos to share with you. Here is Mrs. LeFevre and Mrs. Porteous' class singing Thank A Vet for you! Take care! Let me know if you have any trouble opening the link. They were so excited to perform for you! We also sent you another class singing! So much love to share!" from Mrs. Shannon Banda, Gayhead Music Teacher [Background: For several years the third graders at Gayhead Elementary have provided veterans with a Veterans Day breakfast. The

students have their little chef's hats on and serve us scrambled eggs, sausage, danish, fresh fruit, etc. They also have a few questions on 3x5 cards that they ask the vets in one to one conversations. The morning would end with a little concert given by the students. Like so many other things they have not been able to have us visit the school for the last two years. But they are still thinking of us on veterans Day!]

5. Turkey Shoot: On November 13th, Whortlekill Rod and Gun Club had a “Turkey Shoot” and post member Norm Daurer was one of the winners. Norm wished to donate his winning turkey to our post. John Polasko delivered the turkey to long time member Joe Ryan who is recovering from back surgery and also just tested positive for COVID. Congratulations to Norm on the good shoot and thanks for donating the turkey.

Photos

Commander's Dinner



Coin Drop/Poppies Distro



John Jay H.S. Ceremony



UPCOMING EVENTS

Post Holiday Dinner:	Saturday, Dec 4 th , 6:00pm (18 North Grill)
Pearl Harbor Lecture:	Tuesday, Dec 7 th , 6:30pm (EF Town Hall)
Executive Officers' Meeting:	Tuesday, Jan 4 th , 7:00pm (TBD)
Post Meeting:	Tuesday, Jan 11 th , 7:00pm (TBD)

America's Oldest Living Vet

Lawrence Brooks, Age 112, WWII Veteran

Louisiana's Lawrence Brooks, aged 112, smiled as his daughter, Vanessa, tenderly placed his new garrison cap on his head in the ICU bed. She says it's what her father, the world's oldest living World War II veteran, wanted most a new Army uniform to replace the original he'd lost 16 years ago in Hurricane Katrina. Brooks was presented with an authentic reproduction WWII uniform and his old unit's badge during a recent short stay in the New Orleans VA hospital at the beginning of November. Brooks' health is declining rapidly and he is adamant about spending his remaining days at his home with family. God-willing, he says he plans to wear his khakis this Veterans Day.

"This is it," said Brooks. "This is the uniform I wore in Australia." Brooks immediately recognized the components of the summer service uniform he wore while serving in the Pacific theater. He was back at his house in New Orleans on 4 NOV smiling and fondling his cap before placing it on his head. He also held the insignia from the 91st Engineer Battalion, the predominantly African American unit in which Brooks served in Australia, Papua, and the Philippines.

