

American Legion

Post 1758

Newsletter



July 2025

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 **August 12, 2025, 7:00PM** at the East Fishkill Community Center. **[No Post Meeting in July!]**
Meeting details will be confirmed via a call out message.

“Preparation for war is the surest guarantee for peace.”

Theodore Roosevelt

Good of the Legion:

No drawing occurred due to no July Post meeting. The “pot” remains at \$58.



Veterans' News

VA hospitals remove politics and marital status from guidelines protecting patients from discrimination

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs has imposed new guidelines on VA hospitals nationwide that remove language that explicitly prohibited doctors from discriminating against patients based on their political beliefs or marital status. The new rules, obtained by the Guardian, also apply to psychologists, dentists and a host of other occupations. They have already gone into effect in at least some VA medical centers. Under federal law, eligible veterans must be given hospital care and services, and the revised VA hospital rules still instruct medical staff that they cannot discriminate against veterans on the basis of race, color, religion and sex.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Emblem Sales Order: Please contact Commander Ashworth (845-475-5834, laashworth@optimum.net) if you wish to purchase American Legion items (patches, stickers, etc.) as part of an upcoming “Flag & Emblem” group purchase order to be placed by the Post. **Deadline is August 1, 2025.**
- As a result of the annual election (May vote; June swearing-in), Post 1758 has a new leadership team:
 - Commander Lance Ashworth
 - 1st Vice Commander Bill Meyer
 - 2nd Vice Commander John Polasko
 - 3rd Vice Commander Don Burns
 - Adjutant Jeff Miedowski
 - Treasurer John Call
 - Chaplain Ed Morrison
 - Historian Bill Kriebel
 - Membership Officer Drew Bellantone
 - Judge Advocate Jay Livermore
 - Sergeant-at-Arms Kevin Hines
- Thank you Norm Dauerer, Danny Oberhauser, Bill Meyer, John Call and Karl Sokol (pictured in order) for cleaning the post’s M1 ceremonial rifles on Saturday, June 21st!



- Congratulations to long-time post commander Jim Reynolds who was honored by U.S. Representative Mike Lawler and East Fishkill Town Supervisor Nick D'Allessandro during a ceremony held Thursday, June 26, 2025 as part of the regularly-scheduled town board meeting. Lawler named Reynolds his "Veteran of the Year" and the town proclaimed a day in honor of Jim. Thank you to the ten post members that attended!
- Thank you John Call, John Polasko, Bill Meyer, Jeff Miedowski, Bill Kriebel and Jim Reynolds for honoring departed veteran Richard J. Buoniconti with a rifle salute at his graveside service on Saturday, June 28th. The M1 rifles performed flawlessly with no misfires...undoubtedly as a result of the recent weapons' cleaning.
- All Post members are encouraged to review the draft Post Yearbook (2024-2025) and provide feedback to Post Historian Bill Kriebel (845-226-6895; kriebelw@optonline.net). The Post Yearbook may be found at the following: <https://al-ny1758.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/Yearbook.pdf#page=3>
- Please join me in remembering former AL Post 1758 member Tom Budington who passed-away on June 15, 2025. His family held a private ceremony in his honor.
- The annual renewal of memberships is fast-approaching! **Please help reduce Post expenses and man hours by renewing on-line (electronically) at MyLegion.org** rather than renewing by mail or paying cash (at a monthly meeting).

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Recruiting new members is critical to post operations both present and future. In addition to providing steady revenue for the post (via the annual dues kick-back and additional Pot O' Gold contributions), the recruitment of new members increases the number of potential volunteers for staffing post events and activities and expands awareness of the American Legion to additional local veterans. As such, I am implementing an annual membership drive as follows.

To expand membership, increase volunteer potential, and add revenue, Post 1758 will participate in a competition to recruit new members to occur now through December 31, 2025. At each of the monthly meetings held during those months, the Commander will ask post members to submit the application forms and payments of any new members they have recruited. [DD-214s will be verified by the Membership Officer going forward.]

For each individual that a member recruits, s/he will earn one additional ticket to be added to the Pot O' Gold drawing in their name. At the January 2026 meeting, the member with the highest number of newly-recruited Legionnaires will be automatically awarded the Pot O' Gold

money. The runner-up will be reimbursed for the cost of attending the Christmas Dinner (member and spouse ticket cost) and the 3rd place member will earn 1 additional Pot O' Gold ticket. In case of a tie, the member who has recruited the youngest new Legionnaire will be considered the overall winner.

Please contact the Commander if you need “new member application forms” or have any questions. Good luck!

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Tuesday, July 8, 2025, Noon: Former Commander's Luncheon at Daddy O's. Uniform is casual dress. Invited are: Jim Reynolds, Don Burns, John Lyons, Danny Oberhauser, Dan Briscoe, and Joe Ryan.
2. Thursday, July 17, 2025, 10:30am (updated!): Storage locker cleanout, organization, and inventory at Page Self-Storage, 1456 Route 55, Lagrangeville NY 12540. Uniform is casual (work clothes). Volunteers welcome; Contact Commander Ashworth for details.
3. Saturday, August 2, 2025, Noon – 5:00pm: Annual Post Picnic at the East Fishkill Recreation Park Pavilion. Uniform is casual. Each member is asked to bring a side dish or dessert and coordinate the same with Bill Meyer (845-724-4035; w.meyerjr@att.net) or John Polasko (845-464-7681; sgtjohnpolasko@gmail.com).

**DO GOOD
WITH CHIPOTLE**

CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR
WWW.OPERATIONHOMEFRONT.ORG/STAR-SPANGLED-BABIES/
25% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9TH | 4-8PM
10 WESTAGE DR, FISHKILL, NY, 12524

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **3X3Z9ZA**
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT

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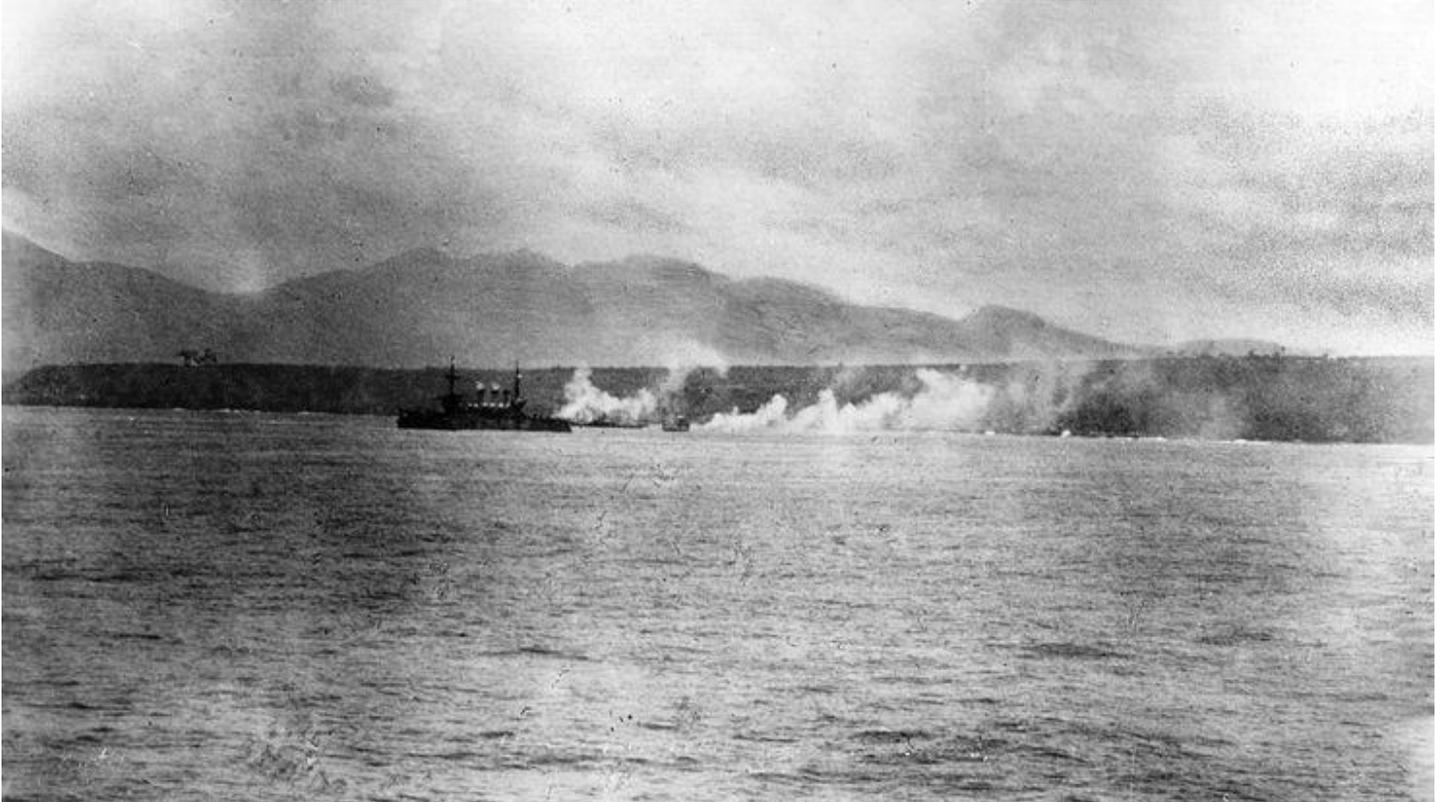
For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

This Month in Military History

July 1-3, 1898

Battle of Santiago (Cuba)

In the Battle of Santiago (Cuba), U.S. forces complete their assault on San Juan Ridge by capturing its highest point, San Juan Hill. In an effort to escape capture, Admiral Pascual Cervera y Topete leads the Spanish squadron out of Santiago harbor. All the Spanish ships come under heavy fire from the U.S. fleet and are destroyed. Fourteen days later on July 17, 1898, Spain surrenders to the United States.



The USS New York bombarding Spanish shore positions in Cuba, July 1, 1898 during the Spanish-American War.