Gold Star Post 1365 17 Cannon Ave Staten Island NY 10314 Frank Saladis, Editor



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Dear American Legion Members, Member Families, and Friends,

As we come closer to ending another year, the officers of Gold Star Post wish all of our members a safe, happy, and healthy New Year. The past two years, due to the COVID Pandemic have been a challenge for the Post but, with the help of a few dedicated members who kept the post functioning and the generosity of many members, the Post has survived and will thrive in 2022.

The Post officers are planning a social gathering after the December 11 meeting and our members are invited to attend the meeting and the social. The roof above the women's room has been repaired and we thank Bob Motisi and Mark Kelly for managing that repair.

We are planning for a children's event at the Post December 5. Our annual children's movie and party will not happen due to the continued issues associated with the COVID situation. More information will be provided as the details are developed. It is important for all members to take an active interest in Post activities and we encourage all members to participate and consider chairing an event. The Post is open for small functions and we invite members to stop by for a visit. Please call before you visit to ensure there will be someone to greet you. As always, please thank our active duty service men and woman when you see them in uniform and we certainly thank all our members for their service. I want to thank those members who came out on Sunday 21 November to help the post by distributing flags to the folks outside of ShopRite. Their efforts helped us to cover the recent cost of roof repairs to the post. Our next meeting will be on 11 December Saturday at 10 AM. Instead of a regular meeting, I would like to have a social event at this date and time. Members and Sons may bring their spouses and are encouraged to bring some type of dish or finger food so that we can have a good social Legion Family Holiday event. Good times, Good food and Good friends and family.

Gold Star Post has entered the Digital Age with a new website thanks to Vice Commander Mike Marra. You can visit the site at <a href="https://www.goldstarpost1365.org">www.goldstarpost1365.org</a>

Next Meeting: December 11 2021 10am. Meeting ID: 818 3435 4014 Passcode: 963247 NYC # 1 646 558 8656

#### FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Frank Saladis for Mark Kelly -Commander

# THE AMERICAN LEGION Gold Star Post # 1365 Minutes from November 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Commander Mark Kelly at 1010. The customary American Legion ceremonies were observed. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present. A motion by Paul Cempa to suspend the meeting for a presentation by Michael Rosado to discuss the benefits of joining the National Income life insurance Co. A motion by Harold Bregman and Gene Guerra to resume the normal order of business. New Members: Nick Ogosso (Navy) was introduced and welcomed by the membership. Membership is 68% and is behind previous years due to the new membership system causing difficulties. SAL membership 54 Finance: Treasurer, Paul Dietrich gave the Post financial Reports and was approved. The call out system for next year will cost \$180. He will be looking another system that will be more efficient. Children and Youth The Trunk n' Treat set up at the GSP for Halloween was a big success. Several members provided candy. Cars were decorated, Coffee and Donuts were served for the adults and many residents from the Travis area were eager to volunteer for next year. The Annual Children's Holiday Party will be held on Sunday Dec 5th at the Gold Star Post in 3 sessions: 10:00 am,,12:30 pm and 3:00 pm

The Veteran's Day Ceremony held at the S.I. Mall was attended by more than 150 Legionnaires, elected officials and guests. Dan Carucci, Chaired a very good program including the 11th hour Toast read by Steve Ayling, CC and an inspirational speech by John Dalton, Esq. and patriotic songs sung by Harold Bregman and Frank Saladis' 8 yr old granddaughter Emmy Moscoso. Quartermaster: VC Neil Schimler reports Utility payments for Verizon, Con Edison, National grid has increased by 60 to 80 % next year. Neil also said anyone interested in purchasing American Legion hats will cost approximately \$80 to \$90. depending on the number of letters chosen. Also the size of the hat must be known before ordering. No returns. Boys State is scheduled from June 27th to July 2nd . All applicants must be a Junior in high school and have a "B" average and in leadership positions. More info in near future. New Business: An inspection of the Post roof showed serious leaks in the bathrooms and kitchen area of the building. Lowest estimate for repairs was \$4700. House Chairman made a motion to approve the cost of the roof repairs and seconded by Paul Cempa and was approved by the membership. For the Good of the Legion: The post members outdid themselves this year with the overwhelming donations of non-perishable food items to the less fortunate for Thanksgiving. Pearl Harbor Ceremony: Meet at Gold Star Post for Bus to Ferry leaves 8:30 sharp \$5.00 pp

Respectfully submitted, Anthony J. Pergola, Acting Adjutant

**Volunteers needed** – The Post needs volunteers to chair and organize our yearly events: St. Patrick's Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Veterans Day, Christmas and Holiday Party. Contact Mark Kelly if interested.

DD214 forms Please ensure that you have a copy of your DD-214 on file at the Post

**Our Military History** – If you have a brief story to tell about your service, or would like to provide a brief article about our military history please call the Post, send your story to the Post via email or US Mail, or contact Frank Saladis at saladispmp@msn.com

**Retiring of Worn American Flags:** A Flag receptacle is in the driveway next to the deck. It is a red white and blue mailbox. Please do not deposit plastic bags, flag holders, or wooden dowels..

**Final Honors-** If you are aware of the passing of a Post member, please contact the post and provide any available details. The Post will arrange for a final tribute and for the family to receive an American Flag and American Legion Grave Marker.

**Volunteers needed for general post maintenance and clean up** – Please contact VC Frank Saladis if you are interested in helping with the maintenance of the post – Outdoor yard work and indoor cleaning and organizing. The post is seeking donations of garden mulch and lawn maintenance items: Weed and Feed, Weed B Gone, Weed killer (Spray Bottles) Grass seed.

American Legion membership renewal for 2021-2022 can be easily, and safely, done through your <a href="MyLegion.org">MyLegion.org</a> account. When your membership becomes eligible for renewal, a "Renew Now" button appears at the top right-hand page of your MyLegion.org account. Click on "Renew Now" and the amount due is displayed in "My Order Balance."

Select "Pay Now" or "Renew Now" to proceed. American Legion members can renew online with a credit card. You can save your credit card on file for auto renewal. Credit cards will be charged by the second week of July annually for the Legion's membership year, which runs July 1-June 30. To set up auto renewal:

- 1. Click Membership Details under MEMBERSHIP tab on the left-hand page.
- 2. Click the box "I want to auto renew my membership and authorize that my credit card be charged prior to the start of membership each year" under your current membership status.
- 3. Enter your credit card information and hit "Add new card."
- 4. Select "Save" to save your future renewal.

**Fund Raising –** Paul Dietrich, Paul Cempa, Mark Kelly and Frank Saladis collected donations at The Shoprite near the Outer Bridge Sunday Nov. 21. Please consider making a donation to the Post or participating in the next fund raising event.

**Donations**: Gold Star Post would like to thank the following for donations during this time of crisis: John Cooney, Philip Napolitano Richard Merlis and Chris DiRiusso

**Sons of the American Legion – For membership in the SAL,** contact Michael Marra at <u>goldstarsal1365@gmail.com.</u>

**Membership 2022 -** Renewals for 2022 have reached 68% as of today. That is behind target for this year. Memberships expire on 31 December so it is recommended that you renew as early as possible to prevent the end of the year rush and to keep our post viable. You can renew online at NYLEGION.NET, or renew at a post meeting or by mailing your renewal to the post. I have mailed out cards to all those renewals we received, if you sent a check and have NOT received your card pls call Paul Dietrich at 718-698-5269. The error showing an incorrect return address on the renewal forms has been referred to National Headquarters. We continue to recover a large number of

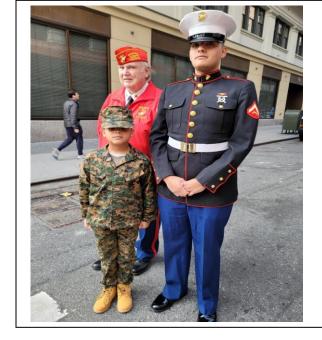
renewals from this address and process them but if you plan to mail your renewal, please cross out the incorrect address and add 17 Cannon Ave SINY 10314-3629.



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Face Masks: Gold Star Post has a small supply of face masks available for veterans. Covid 19 is still a threat. Get vaccinated!

**Post Meetings**: The post is open for normal monthly meetings held on the



Paul Stallone at Veterans Day Parade

second Saturday of each month at 10 AM. If you cannot get to the meeting physically, you can attend via ZOOM or call in. The zoom and call in numbers will be sent via email.

### **Gold Star Post Important Dates:**

7 December – Pearl Harbor Memorial at Staten Island Ferry. Bus leaves 17 Cannon Ave at 8:30am 11 December – Post meeting at 10am and Gold Star Post Holiday Social 8 January – Post Meeting 12 February – Post Meeting

Richmond County meetings - Dec 17th Gold Star at 7PM

American Legion Programs -For information about American Legion Programs, visit <a href="https://www.legion.org/programs">https://www.legion.org/programs</a> <a href="https:/

**Membership Anniversaries** 15 Years – Victor Caso, David Clark, John Cooney, John Grassadonio, James Picone, Joseph Procacio, Valentine Scaramella, Gordon Waite

Coming Events :Super Bowl raffle and Party – TBA. Four Chaplains Brunch- Statten, 12 February