

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



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 354
Staten Island, NY

THE AMERICAN LEGION Gold Star Post # 1365
Minutes from March 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Commander Mark Kelly at 10am. The customary American Legion ceremonies were observed. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present. Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. Committee reports were completed. The meeting concluded with a prayer and closing comments by Commander Mark Kelly.

Or Current Resident

«AddressBlock»

Next Meeting: Saturday, April 9, @ 10:am

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81834354014?pwd=dVINEDgwM2FKTG11bIJQUkFydUNXQT09>

Meeting ID: 818 3435 4014 Passcode: 963247

Online Information about American Legion Activities

American Legion News
https://www.legion.org/?utm_source=Adestra&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Enter%20Link%20Label&utm_campaign=Source+Code+Here&utm_term=newsletter

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 saladismp@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.

Dear Post 1365 American Legion Members

We have had several events recently which were very disappointing and disheartening. We had a recent member's wake where we used our notification system to let our members know that a veteran brother had passed away and at the funeral home three members and myself showed up. This to me is sad as this is our final opportunity to show honor to our veteran brother and to support his grieving family and friends and we had a poor showing. There are many excuses and I have heard them all but this is a basic show of respect that we owe each other. ALL of us will be in this same boat at some day and expect our brothers and sisters to step forwards. This costs you nothing except a few minutes of your time and means a lot to the family going forward. They are not forgotten.

We have heard that many members would like more events to participate in but here are some recent events with very poor participation: 4 Chaplains Brunch, honoring four chaplains who in WWII gave away their life vests and died for their brothers as a result. Three members other than myself attended. The National Commanders dinner where our fellow post member and current State Commander Frank LaMarsh will greet the National commander with three members of his own post in attendance. Following that will be Commander LaMarsh's homecoming at the Crystal room and again, three post members plan to attend. Yes, these last events have a cost and perhaps members cannot afford all of them but can you not afford one?

We continue to ask post members for assistance in planning and running additional events but to date no one has offered to help. It is discouraging and can only lead to less and less events. Yes, we are coming out of COVID restrictions and perhaps some are not comfortable being in crowds but believe me, with the attendance we are seeing there are no crowds to be concerned about. Our post is the largest and I think the best on Staten Island but we need to have some members decide to assist and actually participate if we are to continue and move forward. Please keep our active duty service members in your prayers and always thank our veterans for their service.

Thank You, Commander Mark Kelly

American Legion membership renewal for 2022-2023 can be easily, and safely, done through your [MyLegion.org](https://mylegion.org) 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 – Please consider making a donation to the chapter or participating in a Post bucketing event. The Post has a number of monthly and annual expenses and your donation will help the Post continue to serve the Veteran community.

Donations: Gold Star Post would like to thank the following for donations to the 4th of July raffle; Tickets were mailed out, if you did not receive them or would like more books please call the post and leave a message. Bregman, Cassar, Cempa, Vurkio, Mauro, Lieberman, Ortiz, Sesny, Snyder, Castro, Peters, Picone, Sobiesak, Halfenger, Stollmeyer Turner, Sollazo, Gustavsen, Camenares, Adams, Draper, Meise, Wright, Cristadoro, Palisay, Sinclair, Buttermark, Anuth, Palumbo, Kruszk, Brown Jr, Reno, Pergola family, Marcello, Greet, Johnson, Napolitano, Seesman, Hayden, Zito, Brodsky, Canarutto, West, Merlis, Carrara, Gundacker,.VFW post 1574, Tortora, Spinelli, Scazzafavo, Conte, Dietrich.

Sons of the American Legion – For membership in the SAL send an email to: goldstarsal1365@gmail.com.

Membership 2022- Gold Star is at 91.93% as of today. Memberships expired on 31 December. We are 26 members short of our goal. You can renew online at NYLEGION.NET, Renew, at a post meeting or by mailing your renewal to the post. The following members have NOT renewed as of this date: Acosta, Azcuy, Bellotti, Calabrese, Deleon, Denaro, Encarnacion, Gaudio, Gomez, Guido, Guido, Hadfield, Howe, Jacobsen, Markowitz, Martini, McGrane, Miller, Mireider, Murphy, Neglia, Phillips, Roe, Russiello, Sabato, Savarese, Scaparrotti, Scazzafavo, Seobarrat, Spinelli, Stollmeyer, Stump, Torres, Winterrenazke

Membership Drive - The Department of NY has instituted a Membership drive contest between now and 4 May of 2022. There are two prizes one for first place (\$1000) and one for second (\$500) awarded to the post. The officers of Gold Star Post 1365 have decided to award 50% of any award should Gold Star Post win the contest, split equally to any of Gold Star Post members who sign up a new member between now and May 4th. If you have friends or family who are veterans, NOW is the time to sign them up as members and take part in this contest.

Member News: VC Mike Marra will be graduating from NYPD police academy on April 13 after 6 months of training at the academy

American Legion Commanders dinner: April 8th at 7PM at Anton's in Queens. Cost is \$70 per person and if enough members attend, there may be a bus provided for the round trip at an additional cost. To attend, contact Paul Dietrich at paul@the-dietrichs.com to have your name placed on the roster. There will be no payment at the door. Support your Department Commander and fellow Post member Frank LaMarsh with your attendance.



- Important Dates in Military History in the month of April**

 - Gold Star Spouses Day – April 5
 - National Former POW Day – April 9
 - Airforce Reserve Birthday – April 14
 - Army Reserve Birthday – April 23
 - Army Day April 6, US Entered WWI (1917)
 - Desert Storm Cease-fire – April 11
 - Civil War Began – April 12 1861

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:
Department Commander Frank LaMarsh has represented the American Legion Department of New York extremely well during the very trying times of the pandemic and now it’s time to say welcome home. We are pleased to announce that on Saturday May 14th 2022 Frank’s Committee and Richmond County will host the **Home Coming of Department Commander Frank LaMarsh**.

The Homecoming will be held at the Crystal Room, 67 Olympia Blvd. Staten Island NY, 10305 from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM. The cost for the homecoming will be \$70 per person and will feature a hot buffet cocktail hour with carving stations, a sit down dinner, desert and an open bar as well as entertainment. Please RSVP to: Anthony J. Pergola 124 Cannon Ave Staten Island, NY 10314

Post Meetings: The post is open for normal monthly meetings held on the second Saturday of each month at 10 AM. If you cannot attend the meeting in person, you can attend via ZOOM or call in. The zoom and call in numbers will be sent via email.

Gold Star Post Important Dates and Events:
April 9 – Gold Star Post Meeting
April 30th. Dandelion Community Festival at Fort Wadsworth to support military kids. More details will be provided. Contact Frank Saladis if interested in Participating
Memorial Day ceremony – May 29 at the Post – Set up May 28. Volunteers needed
Children and Youth – Tentative Egg Hunt and Treasure Hunt at the Post April 16.
Fleet week is returning to Staten Island – Information to follow.

American Legion Programs -For information about American Legion Programs, visit <https://www.legion.org/programs> <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Join>

https://www.legion.org/landingzone/255093/causes-and-consequences-putin%E2%80%99s-war?utm_source=Adestra&utm_medium=email&utm_content=UKRAINE&utm_campaign=Source+Code+Here&utm_term=newsletter