

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

Or Current Resident

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Gold Star Post Website - www.goldstarpost1365.org

Dear Post 1365 American Legion Members,

Gold Star Post continues to be active in many areas. A tree removal was conducted to remove dead trees that were creating a potential safety hazard. The Post by-laws have been updated and are available for review by the membership at the post or on the post website <https://goldstarpost1365.org/> Contact the Post for the password for the members only section. Paul Dietrich, Frank LaMarsh, and Frank Saladis participated in a CCTV program – “In Honor Of” – Hosted by Paul Dietrich. The subject was Boys Sate and was intended to promote interest in the program. The Post continues to host a Veterans Chair Yoga activity every Wednesday afternoon at 12 noon. A Post Legion Auxiliary is in the process of being formed and the Post 75th anniversary, which was postponed due to the pandemic, is being planned for the Fall of 2024. The Post is also organizing a tradition Flag Retirement ceremony to be held at Pouch Camp Feb. 24. A Post Super Bowl fundraiser has been organized and the Post will be open for Superbowl Sunday.

On a much sadder note, as you know, the continuing war in Gaza has been escalating and we mourn the loss of three US service personnel. As all veterans know, service to the nation can be dangerous and occasionally the ultimate sacrifice is made. The price of freedom is high and we thank all active-duty service personnel and our veterans for the time and the individual sacrifices they make and have made to protect our country and defend our way of life.

Please thank our veterans when you see them or meet them and consider volunteering some time to help the Post grow and to help us serve our veterans and our community.

Submitted By: Frank Saladis – Vice Commander

American Legion Gold Star Post # 1365 - Minutes from January 13th, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Commander Mark Kelly at 10:07, the roll call taken and noted. A motion by Paul Dietrich and Paul Cempa to accept the minutes of the December meeting as read was passed. Past Post Commander Will Alcock was in attendance after an illness.

Committee reports:

Americanism: Nick Ogrosso reported on the anniversary of Alaska becoming the 49th State.

Boys State: Frank Saladis reported he received a letter from Ann Brown the Department coordinator stating the dates are June 28th to July 3rd at SUNY Morrisville. All forms must be submitted by April 24th. Frank stated Post members who have a junior in high school with a “B” average or better grade average are encouraged to apply.

Resolutions and Bi-laws: Frank Peters read the updates to the bi-laws and they should be posted on the Post website. Frank also stated that changes by the National Executive Committee do not need to be voted on because they are automatic. Commander Kelly thanked Frank for the work on the updates. **The four Chaplains Interfaith luncheon** will be held on February 3rd at the Staaten 12:30 PM the cost is \$60 per person. Legislation: Frank LaMarsh reported the NYS budget proposal has been completed and again this year the grant to offset the cost of Boys State was missing although funding for the migrant crisis was included. **Finance:** Paul Dietrich reported the post finances have been verified and that he expects additional funding from the Wednesday Yoga session. Paul stated they will be attempting to host the Yoga sessions via Zoom for those who are unable to attend.

House report: Commander Kelly reported the annual fire extinguisher certification cost \$450 and was completed. There was a safety issue with dead trees along the driveway and had to be removed. The driveway apron will be repaired and the millings and asphalt are being donated.

Membership: Paul Dietrich reported membership now stands at 82% of our goal.

Frank Peters reported the required number of applicants for the Auxiliary has been met and the charter request will be submitted. 75th Anniversary: Frank Peters reported the yacht club is available and is looking at a date in the Fall. Frank Saladis reported on a planned flag retirement ceremony he is organizing will be on February 24th at Pouch Camp at 11:00. Volunteers are needed to help sort the flags. **New business:** Frank Peters made a motion for the Post to pay initial per-capita and application fee to start up the Auxiliary, the motion was passed. A motion by Paul Dietrich and Frank Peters for approval of the emergency costs for the tree removal previously approved by the executive committee was ratified. **A flag canning event** will be scheduled when the weather improves. Paul Cempa reported on the Post jackets and had a sample, the jackets are lined and include the emblem and an embroidered US flag patch. The cost is \$110 each and if you are interested, he needs to know the size. The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 by Commander Mark Kelly.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank LaMarsh,
Adjutant

Next Meeting: Saturday February 10, 2024 10:00am.

Zoom Meeting - Meeting ID: 818 3435 4014 Passcode: 963247

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81834354014?pwd=dVineDgwM2FKTG11bIJQUkFydUNXQT09>

Veteran Benefits Specialist, NYC Department of Veteran Benefits Services: 1 Centre Street, Suite 2208 New York, NY 10007 646-799-2743 jliss@veterans.nyc.gov

Military Liaison Services 251-73 Jericho Turnpike Bellerose, New York, 11426 516-821-5140 Our mission is to connect Veterans with our care coordination team who will help them access our healthcare services. Email: militaryservices@northwell.edu Web: Northwell.edu/veterans

Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife) – Call the VA Life Insurance Center at 800-669-8477 8:30am-6:30pm EDT

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

Membership 2024 - Membership 2024- The post has reached 89.0% of members renewed You can renew online at www.NYLEGION.NET, at a post meeting or by mailing your renewal to the post

MULTI-YEAR MEMBERSHIP: Eliminate the yearly hassle of remembering to renew your American Legion membership. Take advantage of the new multiyear membership available to current and potential members. Legionnaires needing to renew for 2024 or veterans joining the organization for the first time can lock-in a three-year membership by visiting legion.org/renew or legion.org/join.

Multiyear membership sign-up is only available on the national American Legion website. Current or potential members cannot renew or join for a three-year membership at the post level or through MyLegion.org. Learn more here: <https://www.legion.org/membership/260621/american-legion-multiyear-membership-here>

Please discuss membership with your Veteran friends and those who are eligible for Sons of the Legion. Post 1365 needs more members, especially younger veterans. Help promote the Post.

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

This Month’s Donations to support the Post – DeBiase, Dietrich

Final Honors: No report
Please honor our members by attending the ceremony offered to the families of our members who have been called to Post Everlasting. Call the Post to report the passing of a member.

Sick Call – None reported

American Legion Updates and Services for Veterans
https://www.legion.org/vsa?utm_campaign=Source+Code+Here&utm_content=VSA&utm_term=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Adestra

<https://www.legion.org/suicideprevention/256277/risk-ny-veterans-get-major-boost-american-legion>

American Legion Programs <https://www.legion.org/programs>
<https://www.legion.org/newsletters>
https://www.legion.org/join?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiAqNSsBhAvEiwAn_tmxTsgOaugEqehsElUkB10sLI2cY0dCAzjQ4eBueNYPqiVWmM0X8A66hoCINcQAvD_BwE

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives. Please try to find time to visit the Post, encourage others Veterans to join, and participate in our Post activities.



Important Military Dates in February

- February 3 - Four Chaplains Day
- February 4 – USO Birthday
- February 12 to 16 – National Salute to Veteran Patients
- February 19 – US Coast Guard Reserve Birthday

Food Pantry Donations for Active-Duty Personnel – Please continue to donate non-perishable food items for our active-duty service men and women.

Gold Star Post Important Dates and Events:
The Post is open every Wednesday from 1pm to 5pm (or later depending on attendance. The Post hosts a Veterans Yoga program at the post from 12-1 every Wed afternoon EXCEPT the third Wed of the month when it is from 1230 to 1PM. Veterans and their families are welcome. No cost to attend.

- February 3** – Interfaith Breakfast (4 Chaplains) at the Staaten 12:30pm \$60
- February 10** – Post Meeting 10am
- February 11** – Super Bowl Sunday. Post opens at 3pm
- February 16** – County Meeting – Cespino-Russo
- February 24** – **Flag Retirement Ceremony Pouch Camp 11am – Volunteers needed**
- March 15** – **American Legion Birthday** – Cespino-Russo Noon
- April 20, 2024** – Children and Youth Luncheon. \$60 per person. Staaten
- May 11, 2024** - Big Apple Honor Flight is proud to announce that **BAHF: Mission #4 will take place this year on Saturday, May 11th, 2024** when we will honor 70 of our city's veterans from World War II, the Korean War, Cold War, and Vietnam War with a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Washington D.C. to visit the memorials built in their honor.
- June 28 through Wednesday July 3, 2024** – Boys State at SUNY Morrisville.

If you are aware of any Veterans related events scheduled for Staten Island, please send the information to goldstarpost1365@gmail.com or leave a message at 718 983 7675. If you would like to feature a Gold Star Post member or have a story for the newsletter, please contact the Post.

Post Member History – Contact the Post if you would like to feature a member’s service history.