

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

Gold Star Post #1365
Minutes of December 14th 2024

Or Current Resident

«AddressBlock»

Dear Post 1365 American Legion Members,

The start of the New Year is always a time to think about new personal goals, creating resolutions and looking forward to better times. It is also a time to reflect on the past year and the things we have experienced. Those experiences and lessons learned help us to plan for change and to prepare ourselves for the future. Gold Star Post accomplished many things in 2024 and we look forward to another year of growth, new activities and more participation from our members. At our meeting on January 11, we will review our accomplishments and discuss a few very important issues the Post is working through.

The tragedy at New Orleans reminds us that we must remain observant and aware of the threats to our country and its citizens. It is important to continue living our daily lives but maintain an awareness of our surroundings. As it is often said – “If you see something, say something.”

The officers of the Post wish you a happy and healthy New Year and we would like to see more of you attend our meetings and our functions

If you are interested in volunteering to help with Post activities please contact any Post officer. The newly formed Auxiliary also needs additional members. For eligibility information send an email to goldstarpost1365@gmail.com or call the Post at 718 983 7675.

As always, 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.

Frank Saladis – Commander

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 by Commander Frank Saladis, the roll call was taken and noted. A motion by Paul Dietrich to accept the minutes of the November meeting as read with the correction of the Marine Corp birthday to November 10th was seconded and passed. New member Richard Muszel has transferred in from Brooklyn Post 27. Treasurer Paul Dietrich gave the post financial report and stated that the bill for the post survey was still outstanding. Commander Saladis gave an update of the post survey that was last done in 1998. The fence bordering the post’s property is approximately 40’ behind the actual property line resulting in the flag fire pit partially over the property line as well as several other items. The results of the survey will be turned over to the post’s lawyer for action. Commander Saladis reported on the process for incorporating the post, the process is public information. Membership: the post membership now stands at 231 renewed and all renewals are due by December 31st. Michael Marra reported the SAL now stands at 70 members. House report: Mark Kelly reported that the rear door repairs have not begun and due to the amount of work involved the suggestion was made to get quotes from qualified construction companies. Children & Youth: Commander Saladis reported the tree lighting on December 12th was very successful with a full house. Thanks to Harold Bregman for reciting the meaning of Chanukah and the magician for his performance. The total cost for the evening was \$458 but thanks to the donations the final cost to the Post was \$93. The Post Auxiliary has 3 new members. Paul Dietrich reminds the members to have a copy of their DD214 on file at the post and that the social security number should be blanked out. Paul stated that the DD214 is needed for veteran’s tax exemptions and other benefits. Buddy Checks; now is the time to call your buddies and check on their wellbeing and to see if they need anything. Mike Marra emphasized the need for buddy check by reporting on two veterans he had met that were contemplating suicide and thankfully received the needed help. Americanism: The annual Pearl Harbor service on December 7th chaired by County Commander Mark Kelly was extremely well attended and done well. National Security: there is an alarming number of drone sightings in the NY NJ area and the US government should be doing more about it. Media and Communications; Commander Saladis reached out to National with photos from the December 7th service. Good of the Legion; the post received a defibrillator and several members have been trained on its use. Paul Dietrich reported on the visits to the local nursing homes and the gift distribution to the veterans who were very appreciative. New business; Paul Dietrich made a motion to donate \$100 in gift cards to the food pantry for the active-duty service members, the motion was seconded and passed. Frank LaMarsh made a motion to donate \$100 to the campaign to elect John Mega Department Commander, the motion was seconded and passed. A motion by Mark Kelly to send the commander to the Four Chaplains brunch on February 8th as the Post’s representative was seconded and passed. The Post is running a Super Bowl fundraiser. The Post’s Wi-Fi issue was looked at by the communications company and they suggested we upgrade to commercial grade equipment that could cost approximately \$1,000. A decision was tabled until next month. Commander asked for a motion to have the Post become incorporated. A motion to do so was made by Paul Dietrich was seconded and passed. A motion by Mark Kelly to accept the transfer of the real property at 17 Cannon Avenue by the Gold Star Holding Company inc. was seconded and passed. Joe Nassella made a \$50 donation to the post. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 by commander Saladis.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank LaMarsh, Adjutant

Gold Star Post Website - www.goldstarpost1365.org

American Legion Services for Veterans
<https://nylegion.net/programs-services/>

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

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

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) – VA Life Insurance Center - 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.

Super Bowl Fundraiser: The Post has organized a Superbowl fundraiser. Information is available at Post meetings or you may call the Post at 718 983 7675

Membership 2025- Membership 2025- Membership cards are available at the Post. We are currently at 81.1% with 249 renewed. Your 2024 membership expired on December 31,2024. Please check your membership card and, if necessary, renew as soon as possible to reinstate your benefits. For those of you who renew online, be aware that you can now renew for three years online. This will protect you from any dues increases during the three years you advance your membership. We encourage you to recommend membership to Veterans you know. Post 1365 needs more members, especially younger veterans. Please help promote the Post as an ambassador for the American Legion.
Visit legion.org/renew or legion.org/join : <https://www.legion.org/membership/260621/american-legion-multiyear-membership-here>

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

This Month’s Donations to support the Post: Kosinski, Tague, Ogrosso, Dietrich, Muir, Marrone, Cassar, Cooney, Debias, Family of Kenneth Klinge, Manna, Saladis

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

Sick Call – Joe Modzelewski, Harold Bregman, Joseph Marrone

Veteran Liaison at Borough Hall – bbeale@stsrenislandusa.com 718-816-2062

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

Important item: The Post Defibrillator, courtesy of the Staten Island Borough President Vito Fossella, is now active and registered for use. Training was provided to Paul Dietrich, Frank Saladis, and Mark Kelly. Thank you, Borough President!



Important Military Dates in January

January 16 – Desert Storm began – 1991

January 27 – Vietnam War Cease Fire – 1973

January 31 – Panama Campaign ended - 1990

Next Meeting: Saturday January 11, 10am, Zoom Meeting - Meeting ID: 818 3435 4014

Passcode: 963247

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81834354014?pwd=dVlneDgwM2FKTG11bJJQUkFydUNXQT09>

Important Dates and Events: Veterans Yoga- 12 noon -1pm Every Wednesday

The Post is open every Wednesday from 1pm to 5pm (or later depending on attendance).

January 20 – Martin Luther King Jr.

January 25 - Third Annual Reception of Honor at City Winery New York City **Tickets and sponsorships can be purchased on our website**

at <https://www.bigapplehonorflight.com/events.html>

Address: 25 11th Avenue (at 15th Street), New York, NY 10011

Tickets: Honor Flight Veterans FREE, Veterans & First Responders \$75, General Public \$85

Includes: Lunch and Soft Drinks, Wine and Beer Available for Purchase

Feb 8th at 1215 - Four Chaplains Brunch at Staaten \$65,

April 4, 12 noon - Children in youth Brunch at Staaten, \$65

May 10 – **Big Apple Honor Flight: Mission #5**

Online Legion Updates and Information

<https://www.legion.org/>

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcqzQXKWpSBTMvkWKJtrcDgcTPKJnB>

Boys State - <https://boysstateny.org/>