

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 June 14th 2025

**Or Current Resident**

«AddressBlock»

**Dear Post 1365 American Legion Members,**

I hope you are all enjoying the summer and are finding time to relax. Your Post officers and a handful of volunteers have been busy with preparations for the annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Post raffle and the Travis parade. We Had a great day on July 4<sup>th</sup> thanks to our volunteers. Our weekly Veterans Yoga class has been very successful and we are experiencing increased interest each week. The post has also been busy with several events including the June 11th NYC DVS County meeting and the Richmond County American Legion Convention on June 20. Many Post members attended the Military Appreciation Day at the Ferry Hawks Stadium Jun 14. The Post was also open for members and other veterans as a cooling center during the recent heat wave. We are planning additional activities and we certainly will appreciate any ideas from the membership regarding ways to attract new members, especially younger veterans.

Our Wednesday afternoon gatherings after the Yoga session has been growing in attendance and we encourage all members to visit the post, enjoy some air conditioning, music, and conversation with other veterans.

Our landscaping volunteers have been doing an amazing job keeping the Post grounds looking great. Our House Committee has also been busy keeping the Post comfortable and clean for our members and guests. We have also initiated an Auxiliary and we had our first meeting on June 3. The Auxiliary will be a big plus for the Post.

Remember, this is your Post, take advantage of your membership, and our programs. Join us on Wednesday afternoons for the Veterans Yoga and an opportunity to visit with other members. Food and snacks are available.

As always, please continue your efforts to encourage veterans you know to join the Legion, and thank-you for your service.

Respectfully, Frank Saladis – Commander

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 by Commander Frank Saladis, the roll call was taken and noted. A motion by Frank Peters to accept the minutes of the May meeting as distributed was seconded and passed. Paul Dietrich provided the treasurer’s report as of May 2025, the details were provided but will not be published. Any member wishing to see the details should contact Paul. Commander Saladis reported that he plans on presenting a \$100 certificate pending membership approval to a student at PS 26 for the best essay on “what it means to be a good American”. Commander went over the proposed Post budget for the Legion year 2025-2026. The budget included projected income, expenses and the process for managing Post finances. 94 year old member Roland Benedetti passed away and only four members attended the service. Frank LaMarsh reported that the SAL consolidated post report (CPR) has been submitted. House Report: Mark Kelly reported a sun shade has been installed on the back deck and the benches have been repaired, there were no additional expenses. Boys State: 17 boys from Richmond Count will be attending the week-long session at SUNY Morrisville, The Post is sponsoring two boys at a cost of \$500 each. Frank peters stated there are other events like the annual high school oratorical contest, scholarships and temporary financial assistance available. Frank also stated the Auxiliary is doing well and that Maryann Stallone will be taking on the role as president. Bi-laws final approval by the county Judge Advocate is pending. Commander Saladis reports the Bell Jar is doing well and looking into the possibility of buying a used machine. A motion by Gene Guerra to authorize the \$100 prize for the essay contest at PS 26 was seconded and approved. The meeting was closed at 11:42.

Respectfully submitted, Frank LaMarsh, Adjutant

American Legion Information  
<https://nylegion.net/programs-services/>

**Reminder to all members:** Our Veteran Yoga project, which offers chair yoga and balance exercises in a relaxing calming environment, is something for you to consider. It is offered every Wednesday from 12 Noon to 1 PM. Families are also invited and welcome. If you prefer, you can participate online using zoom in the comfort of your home. You can do some, or all of the balance exercises and the stretching and limbering exercises. The goal is to provide you with an option to help improve your health, reduce stress, and enjoy the company of other veterans. This program is offered at NO cost to you. Please join us ether in person or online. It can make a difference in your quality of life.

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

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](mailto: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](mailto:militaryservices@northwell.edu) Web: [Northwell.edu/veterans](http://Northwell.edu/veterans)

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

**Membership 2026-** We finished the 2025 year with 96.8% of our goal. Renewal notices for the 2026 year will be arriving in the near future and the 2026 cards are available. Renew early to avoid any interruption in benefits. If you renew online you may wish to renew for multiple years which protects you from any dues increase during those renewed years. This can ONLY be done online. All of those who renewed for multiple years last year \*(2025) have had their 2026 cards mailed out, if you did NOT receive it let me know and I will resend.

We encourage you to recommend Legion membership to Veterans you know. Post 1365 would like to see our membership grow. We especially would like to see young veterans join us. Please help promote the Post as an ambassador for the American Legion.  
Visit [legion.org/renew](http://legion.org/renew) or [legion.org/join](http://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](mailto:goldstarsal1365@gmail.com).

**This Month’s Donations to support the Post** – Shust, Morandi, Dietrich, Saladis

**Final Honors: No reports.** Please honor our members by attending the Post ceremony offered to the families at the Wakes of our members who have been called to Post Everlasting

**Sick Call** – Joe Modzelewski, Harold Bregman, Joseph Marrone

Veteran Liaison at Borough Hall – [bbeale@statenislандаusa.com](mailto:bbeale@statenislандаusa.com) 718-816-2062

Hotline for Difficulties with the VA -855-948-2311

S.I. Veterans Discount cards from S.I.E.D.C – 718 477-1400 ext. 813

**Veterans renew push for Staten Island hero to receive Medal of Honor**  
<https://www.silive.com/news/2025/07/veterans-renew-push-for-staten-island-hero-to-receive-medal-of-honor.html>  
Mark Kelly, the commander of the Richmond County Legion, told the Advance/SILive.com that the county has penned a resolution advocating SSG Michael Ollis’ Distinguished Service Cross be upgraded to the Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration awarded by the U.S.

**Upcoming veterans Events can be found at:** <https://bobwoodrufffoundation.org/our-veterans-nyc/>



- Important Military Dates in June**
  - **July 4 – Independence Day**
  - **July 21 – Department of Veterans Affairs Created**
  - **July 25 – National Hire a Veteran Day**
  - **July 27 - National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day**
  - **July 28 – National Buffalo Soldiers Day**
  - **July 29 - Anniversary of the Army Chaplain Corps**

**Next Meeting: Saturday July 12, 10am,** Zoom Meeting - Meeting ID: 818 3435 4014 Passcode: 963247 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81834354014?pwd=dVINEDgwM2FKTG11bJQUkFydUNXQT09>

**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).

July 4 – Independence Day  
July 10 - SMVF Taskforce meeting: 3pm, The Staten Island PPS, 1 Edgewater Plaza, Suite 700, Staten Island, NY 10305  
Sounds of Summer Concert Series – Concerts Start at 7pm -  
<https://www.statenislандаusa.com/summerconcerts.html>  
July 10 – The Black Ties – at the Conference House  
July 27 - [21st annual Frankie “TOWKAR” Appice Memorial Three Borough Run](#)

Online Legion Updates and Information <https://www.legion.org/>

**The Food Pantry at Staten Island Giving Circle, which supports Veterans in need, is in need of your help.** Please consider a donation to keep the pantry stocked with essential items.

**Letter From Gold Star Post’s Boys State Candidate:**

Dear Members of American Legion Post 1365

I want to sincerely thank you for sponsoring me to attend Boys State. Your support has given me this once in a lifetime opportunity to learn about leadership and government and civil responsibility. This experience means so much to me and I truly appreciate your generosity. I’m honored to represent your Post and will do my best to make you proud.

With Gratitude,  
Aiden Eng, Tottenville Highschool, Class of 2026