

# Westchester Legionnaire



Vol. 44 No. 1

Port Chester, NY 10573

Winter 2012

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## Hill Day

9<sup>th</sup> District Legislative Chairman Howard Heyel visits Assemblyman George Latimer during the Department of New York Legislative Hill Day on Mar. 12 and 13 in Albany.

## 2013 Per Capita Increase Notice

The County membership has been decreasing over the past several years. This has caused a decrease in the County Budget. The existing County obligation (per capita) is presently \$4.00 per Legionnaire (including PUFL members).

A discussion was held at the regularly convened Westchester County American Legion meeting on Jan. 10, 2012 at Mamaroneck Post 90 regarding a per capita increase from \$4.00 to \$6.00. After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the \$2.00 increase.

This change will be effective with the 2013 Legion Year, starting on July 1, 2012. It is recommended that all Posts review their present dues as soon as possible. Remember to take into consideration that National sent out a notice (around Mar. 1) regarding post information and dues obligations for the coming year.

## Increase in Vets Plot Allowance

On Oct. 13, 2010, section 501 of Public Law 111-275 amended section 2303 of title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.) to increase the plot allowance benefit from \$300 to \$700 for deaths occurring on or after Oct. 1, 2011.

The amendment **did not affect the eligibility criteria** under 38 U.S.C. § 2303. VA may

continue to pay the \$700 for eligible individuals who are buried, *without charge for the cost of a plot or interment*, in a cemetery that is owned by a state. The allowance is not available to those buried in a national cemetery.

The law allows the plot allowance rate to increase  
**Please turn to page 4**



Members of Peekskill Post 274 along with State Senator Greg Ball, State Assemblyman Bob Castelli, Assemblywoman Sandy Galef and County Legislator John Testa at the Mar. 3 Heroes to Hometowns meeting hosted by Post 274.

## Veterans Unite Community to Help Returning Military

*An older generation of veterans is organizing the community to help their younger counterparts returning home from war.*

By Liz Giegerich

A group of determined veterans is organizing to help military members returning from war in any way they can. Korean War veteran John Donohue and others spoke passionately about the need for the community to aid disabled veterans at a Heroes to Hometowns meeting hosted by the Peekskill American Legion Post 274 on Mar. 3.

"It can get off the ground. We just have to light the candle," Donohue told the group after telling his inspirational story about how the community united to build WWII veteran Jack Buhs a handicap modified house after his spine was crushed in the war. "We have to do this again." A group of about 40 veterans, public officials, clergy and community members learned about the Heroes to Hometown program, designed to welcome home and support service members who are severely injured. The program is supported on the national level by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The program creates a network of community



From left, Post 274 Cmdr. John Donohue, County Legislator John Testa and Assemblyman Bob Castelli at the meeting.

members, veterans groups, businesses, municipalities, schools and other institutions that work together to connect veterans to national and local support services and to raise funds for veteran needs. Saturday's meeting was the first step in getting committed representatives from various groups to dedicate their time and energy to the cause. The groups will form a Heroes transition team that identifies needs, emotional and practical, and pools resources to fulfill them.

So if a disabled veteran needs a handicapped ac-

**Please turn to page 2**

**The next District meeting has been moved to MAY 6 and to a NEW LOCATION.**

The District meeting will be held at Moses Taylor Post 136, Mt Kisco. Westchester is hosting the meeting and looking for Westchester Legionnaires to attend.

**DEADLINE**  
for the next issue of the Westchester Legionnaire is Saturday, June 16, 2012

**DATE CHANGE**  
for the  
**COUNTY CONVENTION**  
at Moses Taylor Jr.  
Post 136  
1 Legion Dr., Mt. Kisco  
**Sat., June 9**  
**1:00 PM**  
ALL LEGIONNAIRES  
ARE INVITED

**Regular Meeting**  
at  
**Katonah**  
Post 1575  
136 Jay St. (RT. 22)  
**Wed., May 9**  
**7:30 PM**  
ALL LEGIONNAIRES  
ARE INVITED

**9th District Meeting**  
**Moses Taylor Jr.**  
Post 136  
1 Legion Dr., Mt. Kisco  
**Sun., May 6**  
Lunch served at noon  
Meeting 1 p.m.  
ALL LEGIONNAIRES  
ARE INVITED

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Thanks for Going Above and Beyond for Our Vets

FAR Campus  
Route 9A  
Montrose, NY 10548  
January 26, 2012

Bob McGuirl, all members and auxiliary members of AL Posts 1038; 1009; 50; 90:

On behalf of the veterans from 28 at the VA in Montrose, I want to thank you for sponsoring the pizza party held on 11/25/12. As usual, everything was great. The pizzas were delicious and plentiful. No one went away hungry. The guys from the dorm got a nice surprise, too, when I took the extra pies for them.

Please thank Loretta for bringing the hoodies. That was a nice surprise and all were happy to get a new veteran sweatshirt.

Thank you always for going above and beyond for our veterans. They appreciate it as do I always. The vets are still talking about how special they felt. That is a testimony to all of you. It's such a pleasure for me to work with you. We'll see you next time on Feb. 22 at Bldg. 28 for another fun pizza party. I'll call you the week of the 13th to confirm #'s and types of pizzas.

Sincerely,

Amy B. Hahn, CTRS  
Recreation Therapist  
PTSD, Substance Abuse and Welfare Programs  
914-737-4400 x3747

## VA Sending Out Handbooks and Other Healthcare Info

March 20, 2012  
Mr. Robert J. McGuirl, Jr.  
845 James Street  
Pelham, NY 10803

Dear Mr. McGuirl:

I'm writing to share with you some important news from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The VA has begun sending out personalized health care book-

lets with a listing of benefits based on a veteran's specific eligibility along with information on local VA medical facilities, appointment scheduling information, guidelines for communicating with their clinical team, and, as applicable, information on co-pays. Distribution of the handbooks began last month. All 8.5 million veterans enrolled in

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## Westchester Legionnaire



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P.O. Box 307, Rye, NY 10580

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## County Can Send 30 Boys to Boys' State This Year

Here we go again. This year's Boys' State will run from June 24-28. We can send 30 boys. The bus company we have used for many years just went out of the tour business, so we were forced to find another. Thanks to Vince Cartelli, we do have one and the price is a little lower than last year. We also have a couple of boys who have asked their guidance counselors to contact me expressing their desire to attend. One is in Harrison and one in Somers. Both counselors tell me they are great kids and deserve to go. I am looking for some funding to be able to send these boys.

We recently had our kickoff meeting when I passed out the packages of information from State and we got updated on the changes in the process. For example, the application process is going online this year for the first time. The boys will be filling out the forms online, then printing them out to get signed by the principal, parent and notary.

As most of you know, Boys' State is a highly

regarded honor. Colleges look very favorably at boys who are selected and attend. If you haven't sent a boy, please consider doing it this year. I can't tell you how enjoyable it is to meet and talk with these kids. It is a pleasure and it reinforces your hope for the future; and you will be amazed at the level of maturity and accomplishment these kids demonstrate.

We have found that the boys who do best at Boys' State are Boy Scouts at the Life or Eagle level, those interested in ROTC or the Academies, those interested or active in politics and government, and other high achievers. If you don't find any boys in your immediate area, please consider funding a boy from elsewhere in the county. You will have the opportunity to have the boy visit your post once he returns and he will present to you his experiences.

If you have any questions about the process or anything else regarding the program, please call or e-mail me at 917-796-6638 or drewmcfadden@aol.com.

## Veterans Unite Community to Help Returning Military

**Continued from page 1**

cessible bathroom in his home but cannot afford it, the network will mobilize to find the volunteers and materials needed to help.

Essentially any business, organization or individual in the community can help. Hotels are needed for veterans who might need to travel somewhere for treatment. Construction, plumbing, electrical and other unions can offer labor and supplies to build handicapped accessible ramps or to help with needed home improvements. Landscape companies and snow-plow businesses can help veterans who are unable to perform that kind of work themselves.

American Legion Post 274 Commander John Nichols explained how veterans often let pride stand in the way of them asking for help and keep problems to themselves. Heroes to Hometown is different from other veteran aid programs because it actively seeks veterans in need rather than waiting for them to ask for help, Nichols explained.

"There are so many people in need right now with the economy in the tank," Donohue said. "One percent of American citizens are in the armed forces ... 22 percent of veterans are homeless. We need

to help that one percent."

Alec Pandaleon, (Past County Commander of the Dutchess County American Legion, the Department Service Officer for the Jewish War Veterans of the USA, a member of the Marine Corps League and a National Service Officer for the Gold Star Wives of the USA) gave examples of how his community has joined together to help local veterans. He described a situation where a veteran needed a handicapped accessible bathroom and within a short period of time the community had enough materials and resources to renovate five bathrooms.

He emphasized, "It is a just ask situation. But you need to tell people the specifics of what you need."

Several other people made comments and announcements at the meeting. At the start of the meeting New York State Senator Greg Ball presented Legion officials with an \$18,000 grant check to go toward improvements to the almost 100-year-old building.

Kenny Lewis, a veteran and member of the Mt. Carmel Society, announced that this spring the Society will be throwing a big picnic for military members and their families to welcome them

home from the war. Julie Bentley, director of Peekskill City Seniors Services, was recognized for her efforts in running a quilt making program for veterans.

Jerry O'Shaughnessy, Post 274's Treasurer, announced the American Legion 5K run to be held June 9 which will raise funds for the program.

New York State Assemblyman Bob Castelli talked about veterans legislation he has introduced and said it is moving through the senate.

County Legislator John Testa declared Mar. 3 Star Spangled Banner Day in Westchester County and gave the Legion a proclamation honoring them for their work.

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef said she will host a show on the local cable government channel that explains Heroes to Hometown to the viewing public.

Cortlandt Town Supervisor Linda Puglisi congratulated the American Legion on their work, said she is honored to be a part of the program and looking forward to helping. Peekskill Mayor Mary Foster, Councilman Darren Rigger and Councilwoman Kathie Talbot were also at the meeting.

*Reprinted with permission from Peekskill Patch.*

## Dates to Remember

May 6, 2012	9th District Meeting Westchester County	Moses Taylor Post 136, Mt. Kisco
	1:00 PM (Lunch @noon)	
May 9, 2012	Regular	Katonah Post 1575
Jun. 9, 2012	County Convention	Moses Taylor Jr. Post 136 Mt. Kisco
Jun. 15-17, 2012	Legion College Dept. of NY	Morrisville, NY
Jul. 18-21, 2012	Department Convention	Rochester, NY
Jun. 24-30, 2012	Boys State	Morrisville, NY
Jul. 2013	Department Convention	Niagara Falls, NY
Aug. 26-Sept. 1, 2011	National Convention	Minneapolis, MN
Aug. 24-Aug. 30, 2012	National Convention	Indianapolis, IN
Aug. 23-Aug.29, 2013	National Convention	Houston, TX
Aug. 22-Aug. 28, 2014	National Convention	Charlotte, NC
Aug. 2015	National Convention	Baltimore, MD
Aug. 2016	National Convention	Cincinnati, OH
Aug. 2017	National Convention	TBD
Aug. 2018	National Convention	Minneapolis, MN
Aug. 2019	National Convention	Indianapolis, IN

NOTE: All county meetings start promptly at 7:30 P.M. unless otherwise noted  
All dates and times subject to change



# Annual Convention

Westchester County American Legion  
Department of New York

Saturday, June 9, 2012

Moses Taylor, Jr., Post 136  
1 Legion Drive  
Mt. Kisco, NY 10549

**COUNTY CONVENTION CALL**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Westchester County American Legion, Department of New York, I, Patrick Calcutti, County Commander, do hereby call the 94th Annual Convention of the Westchester County American Legion, Department of New York, to be held at

Moses Taylor, Jr., Post 136  
1 Legion Drive  
Mt. Kisco, NY 10549

to convene at 1:00 p.m. on June 9, 2012 for the following purposes:

1. To elect delegates and alternates to the Department Convention
2. To elect officers of the Westchester County American Legion for the ensuing year; namely, a Commander, four (4) Vice-Commanders, a Treasurer, Judge Advocate, two (2) Chaplains, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Service Officer.
3. To elect seven (7) members of the Executive Committee for a term of two (2) years;
4. To take action on any proposed amendments to the County Constitution and By-Laws; all such proposed amendments must be submitted in triplicate (3) copies at a meeting of the County Committee not later than May 9, 2012.
5. To consider matters of general interest pertaining to the welfare of the American Legion and its members;
6. To transact such other business as may properly come before the Convention.

**REPRESENTATION**

In the County Convention, representation shall be by Posts. Each Post shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate, and one (1) additional Delegate and one (1) additional Alternate for each one hundred (100) members, or major fraction thereof, paid up and reported in the hands of the County Adjutant, John Venturina, by 6:00 P.M. May 9, 2012. All Past County Commanders in good standing in their respective Posts in Westchester County are ex-officio members of the County Convention but in each case without the right to vote. Registration fees for Legion Delegates and Alternates shall be five dollars (\$5.00) per person. Payment may be made prior to Convention call; payable also at time of registration.

**CREDENTIALS**

In the County Convention, representation shall be filed with the County Adjutant, credentials, listing the names of the Delegates and Alternates and certifying their selection, over the signature of the Post Commander or the Post Adjutant. You will expedite Convention routine by forwarding these Credentials to the County Adjutant not later than May 9, 2012 so that the reports of the Credentials Committee may be received immediately upon the opening of the Convention.

**RESOLUTIONS**

All resolutions for consideration by the Resolutions Committee should be sent in triplicate counterparts (3) copies to the County Adjutant not later than May 19, 2012, twenty (20) days prior to the date of the Convention so that the Resolutions Committee will have ample time for careful consideration and revision, if necessary.

**POST COMMANDERS**

Post Commanders are requested to inform all members of their Posts of the Calls of both the County and Department Conventions, and such other information as may be pertinent thereto. It is suggested that Convention Calls be posted on Clubhouse bulletin boards and in local post flyers, newsletters, etc.

**SECTION 2. INDEPENDENT NOMINATIONS.** Independent nominations for the various elective offices of this organization, elective members of the Executive Committee and for delegates and alternates to the Department Convention may be made by petition in substantially the following form: Form of Petition: I, the undersigned, do hereby state that I am a member in good standing of the Westchester County American Legion, Department of New York; that my place of residence and the American Legion Post of which I am a member in good standing are truly stated opposite my signature hereto, and I do hereby nominate the following named person (or persons) as candidate (or as candidates) for the office (or offices) in the Westchester County American Legion, Department of New York, to be voted for at the next annual convention of the Westchester County American Legion, Department of New York:  
NAME OF CANDIDATE; Membership ID #; HOME ADDRESS; NAME & NUMBER OF POST

**Section 3. SIGNATURES REQUIRED.** Independent nominating petitions must be duly signed by not less than forty members of the Westchester County American Legion, Department of New York, in good standing; and the said petition must be signed by such members, from not less than five Posts of the American Legion, in Westchester County, and not more than one-half of the signers thereof may be members of the same Post.

**Section 4. TIME FOR FILING.** All petitions for independent nominations must be filed with the County Adjutant not later than the 10th day immediately following the adjournment of the regular meeting of the County Committee (May 19, 2012) at which the report of the Nominating Committee is read pursuant to Section 1 of this Article.

**Section 5. CANDIDATE'S CONSENT REQUIRED.** At the time of filing such petition, there must be filed with the County Adjutant the signed written acceptance of the nomination in substantially the following form: I, do hereby accept the nomination for the office of (name of office or position) of the Westchester County American Legion, Department of New York, and consent that my name be presented to the convention as a candidate for such office and do hereby agree that, if elected to such office, I will serve.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate – Signature & Printed

Patrick Calcutti, County Commander  
March 26, 2012

## BENEFACTORS

Single donations of \$500 or more

New York American Legion Press Association

## EDITOR'S CLUB

Single donations of \$100 or more

THRU WINTER 2012

Agostino "Gus" Paese

Robert Caldwell

Post 1009

THRU SUMMER 2012

Martye & Tony Futia

Parker Bale

Post 1597

THRU SPRING 2012

In memory of

Wilfred Hurley, PC

Post 1038

By Kathleen Hurley, President Unit 1038

THRU WINTER 2013

In memory of

Deceased members of Post 1038

By PCC Ron Rose and Rosemary

Rose

Robert Caldwell

Post 1009

Moses Taylor, Jr.

Post 136

Ernest Pasqua

Post 1506

*Thank you  
to all those whose donations  
make this newspaper a reality.*

## PATRONS

Single donations between \$25 and \$99

THRU WINTER 2012

In memory of

Pia Perseo Palmer

By Clifford Palmer

Mamaroneck Post 90

Donald W. Link

In memory of

Past 9<sup>th</sup> District Commander

Salvatore Tornello, Post 1030

By Rose Tornello

Stephen H. Smalley, Post 1054

THRU FALL 2012

In memory of

Russ Partelow, Post 1575

From Dan Lynch and Don Gibbons

Charlotte Craven, Past E. Div. Nat'l

V.P.

In memory of

John M. Barnaskey, P.C. Post 979

From Loretta Barnaskey

Francis and Ana C. Ramos-Alix

In memory of

P.C. Orsino and Rose Zulli

Post & Unit 979

From Loretta Barnaskey

In memory of

Pia Perseo Palmer

By Clifford Palmer

Mamaroneck Post 90

James Hagele

THRU SPRING 2012

In memory of

Sal Tornello, Post 1030

By Rose Tornello

Civil Air Patrol – JPCS-NY238

THRU SUMMER 2012

Charlotte Craven Past E. Div. Natl V.P.

Parker Bale Post 1597

THRU WINTER 2012

Donald W. Link

## BOOSTERS

Single donations up to \$25

# I want to support the Westchester Legionnaire

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please list my name (one line only) under the appropriate category.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Benefactors** (donations of \$500 or more)  
List my name in this special section for 1 year.

Individual contributions  
are tax-deductible.

**Editor's Club** (donations of \$100 or more)  
List my name in this special section for 1 year.

Please return to:  
Westchester Legionnaire  
P.O. Box 307  
Rye, NY 10580

**Patron** (donations \$25 to \$99)  
List my name as a patron for 1 year.

**Booster** (donations up to \$25)  
List my name as a booster for one issue.

## POST NOTES

### Peekskill Post 274

On Mar. 3, Peekskill American Legion Post No. 274 held a community meeting bringing individuals of all aspects of our community to discuss Heroes to Hometowns, a program designed to welcome home service members who are severely injured. In creating a positive transition home, Heroes to Hometowns inspires community pride and establishes a support network for service members and their families so they can live productive lives.

Heroes to Hometowns is a community-based program and Post 274 requested that you and other members of the community come to attend the meeting that was on Mar. 3. It was anticipated that attendees would help the Post with this program to just say thank you to those who have given so much for us.

They looked for input from the local business and religious communities as well as service and government groups to make Heroes to Hometowns the success in our area we know it can be. Many Heroes to Hometowns programs are working across the country providing our veterans the welcome they deserve.

For those who were unable to attend, if you or your group

wants to participate, please contact either the Post at 914-788-5697 or John Donohue at donohueo1@gmail.com.

John Nichols  
Post Commander

### Gilbert Rauh Post 1574 Thornwood

We continue to celebrate Veterans Day in Thornwood. This year we were fortunate to have County Executive Rob Astorino come home and attend as well as Nita Lowey and Andrea Stewart-Cousins. And we had a great speaker from West Point, a female major who was the first female battery commander in the Army.

We sponsored and participated in the Mount Pleasant Invitational track meet for the third year. We give out t-shirts to the winners of the many events. This is a well-attended track meet with about five schools competing.

We got together also to remember Pearl Harbor Day. We retold the story of the attack and then reminisced about our experiences in the war and told each other our favorite war stories. It was a really enjoyable morning.

We continue to collect old flags at two locations in Mt Pleasant. It is remarkable how many people drop off their old and torn flags. If any post is interested in starting a flag collection program, you can contact me. One of our Boy Scouts acquired two old mailboxes and decorated them and identified them as flag boxes.

We have become close to our local Boy Scout troop, Troop 1 of Hawthorne. They have done some great work for us and continue to do so as part of their Eagle Scout projects.

Last year we were flooded five times, a record. One flood filled our lower room to about 3 1/2 feet deep. The creek that runs past our post overflows its banks so much more often than in the past. It also floods the town's baseball/soccer fields so badly they are hardly usable. We have tried many methods to block the water but so far have struck out. Pat Cardone invented a watertight door we thought would work, but it hasn't. It was a great invention, but the pressure of that much water is just too much. We continue to search for a solution.

We look forward to the return of our snowbirds.

Drew McFadden  
Commander

## POST NOTES

### Military Service Records Are Now Online

It's official. DD-214s are now Online. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214's online:

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of their DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files.

Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records

system to request documents.

Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online website. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized.

The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time.

Please pass this information on to former military personnel you may know and their dependents.

### Veterans Retraining Assistance Program

*VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 creates new benefit for unemployed vets*

Congress passed, and the President has signed into law, the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011. Included in this new law is the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) for unemployed Veterans. The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) and the Department of Labor (DoL) are working together to roll out this new program on July 1, 2012. The new program will provide retraining for veterans hardest hit by current economic conditions.

The VRAP offers 12 months of training assistance to unemployed veterans. To qualify, a veteran must:

- Be at least 35 but no more than 60 years old
- Be unemployed (as determined by DoL) with special consideration given to veterans who have been unemployed for more than 26 weeks
- Have an other than dishonorable discharge
- Not be eligible for any other VA education benefit program (e.g. the Post-9/11 GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Assistance)

• Not be in receipt of VA compensation due to unemployment

• Not be enrolled in a federal or state job training program

The program is limited to 45,000 participants during fiscal year 2012 and to 54,000 participants from Oct. 1, 2012 through Mar. 31, 2014. Participants may receive up to 12 months of assistance at the full-time payment rate under the Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty program (currently \$1,473 per month). Applications will be submitted through DoL and benefits paid by VA. DoL will provide employment assistance to every veteran who participates upon completion of their program.

Participants must be enrolled in a VA approved program of education offered by a community college or technical school. The program must lead to an associate degree, non-college degree, or a certification and train the veteran for a high demand occupation.

Frequently Asked Questions About the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP):

1) *Question: Who can use the VRAP? Answer: To use the program a Veteran must:*

- Be at least 35 but no more than 60 years old
- Be unemployed (as determined by Department of Labor (DoL))
- Have an other than dishonorable discharge

• Not be eligible for any other VA education benefit program (e.g., the Post-9/11 GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Assistance)

• Not be in receipt of VA compensation due to unemployment

• Not be enrolled in a federal or state job training program

2) *Question: What can I use the VRAP for?*

Answer: Participants must be enrolled in a VA approved program of education offered by a community college or technical school. The program must lead to an associate degree, non-college degree, or a certification and train you in a high demand occupation as determined by DoL.

3) *Question: How much does the VRAP pay?*

Answer: You may receive up to 12 months of payments at the full-time Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty rate (currently \$1,473 per month).

4) *Question: Will the payments under this program be sent directly to the school like payments under the Post- 9/11 GI Bill?*

Answer: No. The benefit will be paid directly to you and you are responsible for paying your expenses including tuition, fees, and books.

5) *Question: When, where, and how can I apply?*

Answer: The program begins July 1, 2012. Watch the GI Bill website and follow our GI Bill Facebook page for more details on when, where, and how to apply.

6) *Question: What will happen when I finish my program?*

Answer: The DoL will provide employment assistance to every veteran who participates upon completion of their program.

7) *Question: What do I do if I need a job now?*

Answer: There are extensive employment resources available for veterans provided by the Federal Government. Visit <http://www.fedshirevets.gov/> and the Department of Labor's <http://www.dol.gov/vets> to learn more.

If you would like local assistance, in Yonkers you can contact 914 377-6700, in White Plains 914 995-2145 or Mt. Vernon call 914 665-2319.

Media Contact:

Al Ramsey, Director  
COY Dept. of Veterans Services  
914 -377-6700  
Albert.ramsey@yonkersny.gov

### Increase in Vets Plot Allowance Continued from page 1

annually based on the cost of living increases tied to the consumer price index (CPI). Beginning Oct. 1, 2012, VBA's burial and plot allowances may be increased annually based upon the CPI for the preceding 12-month period.

The plot allowance is admin-

istered by the Veterans Benefit Administration. Specific questions related to VBA benefits should be directed to the local VA Regional Office.

For more information about VBA's burial and plot allowances, please refer to VBA's fact sheet: [\[efits/factsheets/burials/Burial.pdf\]\(http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/benefits/factsheets/burials/Burial.pdf\).](http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/ben-</a></p>
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#### Related Benefits

VA National Cemetery Burials / Headstones and Markers / Presidential Memorial Certificates / Burial Flags.

For more information, call toll-free 1-800-827-1000 or visit our website at <http://www.va.gov>.



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**914-698-7072**

**JAVIER ZAMANO**

629 Third Street, Mamaroneck, NY 10543

Port Chester Post 93  
78 Pearl Street

### FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

*Varied Menu Includes but not limited to:*

Roast Loin of Pork  
Chicken Scapariello  
Lamb Chops  
Pork Chops/Peppers

Dinner served every Friday  
from 7-10 p.m.

Requests happily accepted with advance notice.

Parties of 4 or more by reservation only.

**914-937-5562**

# Westchester County American Legion Auxiliary Honors Amy B. Hahn with Americanism Award

The Westchester County American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Luncheon was held at Adolph Pfister Post 1038 on Mar. 3. County President Margaret Miller and Co-Chairmen Kathleen Hurley and Barbara Klein welcomed approximately 75 guests to this annual affair.

Amy B. Hahn, CTRS Recreation Therapist, was honored with the 2012 Westchester County American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Award. Additional words of thanks and a plaque were given by the American Legion family from Larchmont 347. In addition, Commander Phil Adimari presented a certificate of appreciation on behalf of Adolph Pfister Post and Unit 1038. Gerry Culliton, Director of Montrose VA Hudson Valley Health Care System, spoke about Amy's accomplishments working with veterans during the past 20 years. American Legion family, friends and Amy's family had a rewarding and enjoyable afternoon.

Hahn graduated from Green Mountain College in 1983. She spent three years as a Recreation Therapist at Letchworth Village working with severe and profoundly mentally retarded adults. She became a Certified Therapeutic

Recreation Specialist (CTRS) in 1990 and began her VA journey that same year. Quite by accident, while at a conference in Poughkeepsie, she met the Chief of the Recreation Therapy Dept. at the VA. During their conversation she offered and encouraged Amy to apply for a position at the agency. One thing led to another and Amy made the transition from New York State employee to the Feds. The rest, as they say, is history.

Amy has served veterans on both the Montrose and Castle Point campuses of the VA Hudson Valley Health Care System. She has worked in the geriatrics/nursing home units, substance abuse, mental health, homeless programs and vocational programs. She has been working with veterans in the PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) unit for almost 20 years.

She developed a wellness program for outpatients in 1996 that is still going strong today. She facilitates an annual three-day outdoor adventure/team building program for the veterans in the PTSD residential program, which also began in 1996. She has presented at numerous conferences on recreation therapy and its role in the treatment of veterans' issues. She



From left, County Auxiliary Treasurer Barbara Klein, Amy B. Hahn, honoree, County Auxiliary President Margaret Miller and County Auxiliary 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Kathleen Hurley at the Westchester County American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Luncheon on Mar. 3.



From left, Commander Paul Kearns of Larchmont Post 347, Amy B. Hahn and President BJ Kearns of Larchmont Unit 347 at the luncheon.



Commander Phil Adimari of Valhalla Post 1038 and Amy B. Hahn at the luncheon.

has also taught customer service to employees. She is a student contact person and mentor for students from the University of Wisconsin. She works closely with multiple veterans' service organizations (including Vietnam Veterans of America, Jewish War Veterans, the Elks Club, Am Vets, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and,

of course, the American Legion, just to name a few) to coordinate quality programs and services.

Amy states that one of her goals as a Recreation Therapist is to provide veterans with an experience that is enjoyable and that provokes and encourages a positive change in their lives. Those of us who know her have long admired and

respected her positive attitude and energy, her dedication and the way she effectively interacts with the veterans at Montrose.

She truly exemplifies the spirit of this award, and therefore we are very proud to present the 2012 Westchester County American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Award to Amy B. Hahn.

## VA Sending Out Handbooks and Other Healthcare Info Continued from page 2

VA's healthcare system are expected to receive their handbooks by 2013.

The VA has also announced a new policy that will reimburse some veterans for covered costs pertaining to emergency care received at non-VA facilities as well as paying for emergency care for veterans at non-VA facilities until

the patient can be safely transferred to a VA medical facility. The VA estimates more than 100,000 veterans are affected by the new rules.

In addition, I applaud President Obama's recent proposal to provide greater job protections to family members caring for active service members or veterans for

up to five years after they leave military service. Spouses, parents and children would benefit from the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) which permits eligible employees to take unpaid, job-protected leave for family and medical reasons. Only family members of currently serving

National Guard members and reservists are now covered.

Rest assured, I will continue working to support our veterans and their families because of their incredible service to our country. For more information about services for veterans, please visit the veterans' page on my

website, [www.house.gov/lowey](http://www.house.gov/lowey). If you do not receive my weekly e-newsletter, please subscribe by visiting the website or calling my office at (914) 428-1707 or (845) 639-3485.

Sincerely,  
Nita M. Lowey  
Member of Congress

<p><b>Anthony T. Fava</b> <b>Post 1768</b> <i>Meets 3rd Tuesday in the evening</i> Memorial Room • City Hall Mount Vernon, NY</p>	<p><b>Gilbert Rauh • Post 1574</b> Garrigan Avenue Thornwood, NY Meeting: Every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Commander: Drew McFadden</p>	<p><b>Frank A. Rea • Post 1163</b> <i>Meets Third Thursday 2:00 PM</i> Homefield House 911 Sawmill River Road John Grabowicz Adjutant Pat Viggiano Commander</p>
<p><b>OSSINING POST 506</b> American Legion 58 South Highland Ave., Ossining, NY Meetings: Club Bar Exec. - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. Open from Reg. - 4<sup>th</sup> Tues. Mon.-Sat. 3-10 8:00 P.M. Sun. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.</p>	<p><b>POST 8</b> AMERICAN LEGION 112 North Avenue - New Rochelle Mon.-Thurs. 1 p.m.-10 p.m. Saturday &amp; Sunday Friday 1 p.m. to 12 a.m. Noon to 12 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Moses Taylor Jr.</b> <b>Post 136</b> <i>Regular Meeting</i> Club Lounge Open: 2nd Mon. - 7:30 P.M. 12 noon - 10 p.m. Mon. - Thurs. <i>Executive Meeting</i> 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Fridays 4th Mon. - 7:30 P.M. 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sat. &amp; Sun. Mount Kisco • 914-241-0136</p>

## Veterans Nursing Home Seeks Donations

The New York State Veterans Nursing Home in Montrose holds periodic Bingo games for its residents. It has come to our attention that prizes are awarded to the winners and that financial donations and donated gifts from various outside groups have dwindled. It requested that if any post or individuals would like to make a donation for providing gifts to winners, that their donations be sent to:

New York State Veterans Nursing Home  
2090 Albany Post Road  
Montrose, NY 10548  
and earmarked for Bingo Prizes

## Donations to Memorial Library

If anyone is interested in donating a book in memory of a deceased Legionnaire to the Westchester County American Legion Memorial Library at Westchester Community College

Please contact:

Ron Rose  
4 Stephens Lane  
Valhalla, NY 10595  
914-946-4261

for forms and additional information.

All forms and donations must be submitted to Ron by May 25, 2012.

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

**Bob McGuirl, Chairman,**  
is requesting donations towards the  
Special Olympics

He will accept donations through May 29 so a special presentation can be made at the County Convention on June 9 at Moses Taylor, Jr., Post 136.

Please make your check payable to:

Westchester County American Legion  
(Earmark for Special Olympics)

and send to:

Westchester County American Legion  
PO Box 608, Rye, NY 10580

# 2012 Call to Convention The American Legion Department of New York

Pursuant to the requirements of the constitution and by-laws, the American Legion, Department of New York, I, W. Michael Bowen, Department Commander, do hereby call the Ninety-fourth Annual Convention of the American Legion, Department of New York, to be held in Rochester, New York, July 19, 20 and 21, 2012 to convene at 9:00 a.m. daylight saving time for the following purposes:

### Business

1. To elect delegates and alternates to the National Convention to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, August 24-August 30, 2012. (Department of New York is entitled to 5 delegates-at-large and 5 alternates-at-large and to one additional delegate and one additional alternate for each one thousand members or a major fraction thereof, paid up at national headquarters thirty (30) days prior to national convention.)

2. To elect officers for the Department of New York for the ensuing year, viz:

A. Commander, five Vice-Commanders, and Treasurer.

B. National Executive Committeeman and an Alternate Executive Committeeman to serve a term of two (2) years, 2012-2014.

3. To elect in district caucus ten District Commanders to serve on the Department Executive Committee for the ensuing year and ten district vice commanders.

4. To elect ten District Directors of the American Legion Boys' State of New York, Inc., as provided for by the constitution and by-laws of that body.

5. To amend the present department constitution and by-laws, if so desired, and to transact any other business that may come before the convention.

### Representation

In this convention, representation shall be by counties. Each county shall be entitled to four delegates-at-large and four alternates-at-large, and to one additional delegate and one additional alternate for each 250 memberships or the major fraction thereof, paid up at department headquarters 30 days prior to the date of the convention. (Per capita tax and cards must be in department headquarters not later than midnight June 18, 2012 to be credited to convention representation.) Alternates will have the privilege of voting on the floor of the convention only in the absence or inability of regular delegates, but they shall have all other privileges of delegates including the right to serve on all committees.

### Election of delegates

Section 3 of Article IV of the Department Constitution provides "that the delegates to the Department Convention and the alternates shall be chosen by each county at a county convention held at least 15 days prior to the Department Convention. Each county shall provide the method of election of the delegates

and alternates from its county in such manner that each post in the county has a proportionate voice in the election, such proportion to be on the same basis as that of the post representation on the county committee." (No substitution of names for such regularly elected delegates and alternates will be permitted.)

### Certification of delegates

It will be necessary for County Adjutants to forward to department headquarters immediately upon adjournment of their respective county conventions and in no event less than 15 days prior to the opening of the Department Convention, the names, addresses, and post affiliations of delegates and alternates from their counties to the Department Convention. Official forms for this purpose are furnished to all County Adjutants by the Department Adjutant. Delegates and alternates must present proper credentials which will be furnished by department headquarters through the county adjutants when they report for registration at the convention. No duplicate credentials will be issued by the convention credentials committee.

### Registration fee

You are again reminded that the registration fee of \$10.00 must be remitted by the county organization for each of its delegates and such of its alternates as it may desire to register to department headquarters immediately following the close of the respective county convention.

(All delegates and alternates must have their registration fees paid to department headquarters at least 15 days prior to the convention in order to have voting rights on the floor. Only accredited alternates may take the place of convention delegates. Delegates' and alternates' fees may be applied only to the individual of record at department headquarters.)

### Resolutions

All resolutions for consideration by the convention resolutions committee must be received at department headquarters at least 15 days prior to the opening date of the convention. Such resolutions must have the approval of a county committee or convention or of a properly constituted department committee. (It will therefore be necessary for county adjutants to have all resolutions at department headquarters on or before July 3, 2012.) Due to the work involved in preparing and distributing the resolutions prior to the convention, we must insist on this deadline. No resolutions received after July 3, 2012 will be considered. We urgently request that counties do not adopt resolutions that are not germane to the purpose for which the American Legion was organized.

Official: 4 April 2012

Richard M. Pedro, Department Adjutant  
W. Michael Bowen, Department Commander

### DUNWOODIE POST 1508

20 Ridgewood Avenue  
Yonkers, NY 10704

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month

Commander - Anthony Penna      1<sup>st</sup> Vice Cmdr. - John Cipriano  
Adjutant - John DeMeo      Treasurer - Frank Scaramuzzo, Sr.

### Yorktown Post 1009

"GOLDEN POST"

235 Veterans Road, Yorktown Hts, NY 10598  
914-962-2843

Business Meeting - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

Lounge Open Monday-Friday from 4 to 11 p.m.



### North Castle

Post 1097

Armonk, NY

Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays

Lounge Open 4 p.m. Daily

### DONALD W. KONRAD POST 1954

Regular meeting every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Homefield House      Saw Mill River Road  
Yonkers, NY 10701      914-968-0236

Commander.....Eli Vetrano  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander.....Nick Stilo  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander.....Robert Tolli  
Adjutant.....Jeff Scharfman

### LARCHMONT POST 347

The Garden Spot of Westchester County

Regular Meeting - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month  
Lounge Open: Mon. thru Thur. 3-9 p.m.  
Fri. 3-11 p.m. • Sat. Noon-9 p.m. • Sun. Noon-7 p.m.

### Parker Bale Post 1597

Old Albany Post Road, Crotonville

Lounge Hours:      Meetings:  
Mon.-Fri. 3:00-11:00      3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month  
Sat. 1:00-12:00 Sun. 12:00-7:00      1:30 p.m.

"The Sports Post"

### LeRoy Gregory Post 979

Town of Eastchester, NY

40 Bell Road, Scarsdale, NY

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Post meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month 8 p.m.

### Adolph Pfister Post 1038

Valhalla, NY

"The Best Post by a Dam Site"

Regular Meeting - 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the Month at 7:30 p.m.  
Commander Philip Adimari      Adjutant Ed Burke

### Ernest Pasqua Post 1506

Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month  
at the

Chas. M. Bajart, Jr. Post 1122  
840 McLean Avenue, Yonkers

# Four Legion Forms Due This Spring

John Venturina, Westchester County Adjutant, has mailed out the following four forms to all posts:

- Consolidated Post Report (due no later than April 30, 2012)
- Children & Youth Report (due no later than April 30, 2012)
- Certification of Service Records - Installation Papers for Post Officers (Please do not wait until installation to mail – mail upon completion of elections.) (Due no later than May 15, 2012)
- Post Delegates and Post Information for 2012-13 (due no later than May 15, 2012)

Please DO NOT STATE "SAME AS LAST YEAR." Information was not retained. All of this information is used in part by the County for Convention Awards and Directory, Department for Convention Awards and mailing information, and National Organization for reporting to Congress and Convention Awards.

He is requesting that all forms be **typed or printed legibly** and **originals** be mailed to him by due date as noted above to: John Venturina, Westchester County Adjutant, 46 Green Ave., Lynbrook, NY 11563. Questions may be directed to John at 516-369-8414. Please do not mail these forms to Department of New York.

## VA Expands Medical Forms Program to Support Faster Claims Processing

The Department of Veterans Affairs has released 68 new forms that will help speed the processing of veterans' disability compensation and pension claims.

"VA employees will be able to more quickly process disability claims since disability benefits questionnaires capture important medical information needed to accurately evaluate veterans' claims," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "Disability benefits questionnaires are just one of many changes VA is implementing to address the backlog of claims."

The new forms bring to 71 the number of documents, called disability benefits questionnaires (DBQs), that guide physicians' reports of medical findings, ensuring VA has exactly the medical information needed to make a prompt decision.

When needed to decide a disability claim for compensation or pension benefits, VA provides veterans with free medical examinations for the purpose of gathering the necessary medical evidence. Veterans who choose to have

their private physicians complete the medical examination can now give their physicians the same form a VA provider would use. It is very important that physicians provide complete responses to all questions on the DBQs. VA cannot pay for a private physician to complete DBQs or for any costs associated with examination or testing.

DBQ's can be found at <http://benefits.va.gov/disabilityexams>.

Veterans may file a claim online through the eBenefits web portal at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov>. The Department of Defense and VA jointly developed the eBenefits portal as a single secure point of access for online benefit information and tools to perform multiple self-service functions such as checking the status of their claim.

Service members may enroll in eBenefits using their Common Access Card at any time during their military service, or before they leave during their Transition Assistance Program briefings. Veterans may also enroll in eBenefits and obtain a premium account in-person or online depending on their status.

# Westchester County American Legion MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Department of New York

Report # 5

2011-2012

AS OF: 3/27/2012

POST NAME	POST NO.	2011 TOT.	PREV. RPT'D	THIS REPT	REPORT TO DATE	DEPT & COUNTY GOAL		LAST POST TRANSMITTAL TO DEPT.
						PERCENT		

**POSTS WITH 15 TO 49 MEMBERS**

PARKER BALE	1597	49	51	3	54	50	108.00%	2/23/2012
SING SING CORRECTIONAL	1123	20	20	2	22	21	104.76%	3/2/2012
FANCHER NICOLL	77	24	26	0	26	25	104.00%	2/7/2012
DONALD M. KONRAD	1954	28	28	2	30	29	103.45%	2/23/2012
CARLE ANDERSON	559	17	18	0	18	18	100.00%	1/24/2012
WILLIAM J. BOYLE	1030	49	47	3	50	50	100.00%	2/17/2012
FRANK A. REA	1163	39	38	0	38	40	95.00%	12/19/2011
DUNWOODIE	1508	19	19	0	19	20	95.00%	1/18/2012
NORTH SALEM	1866	19	18	1	19	20	95.00%	3/2/2012
LEONARD S. MORANGE	464	15	15	0	15	16	93.75%	9/1/2011
PEEKSKILL	274	46	36	5	41	46	89.13%	2/23/2012
SAMUEL H. DOW	1017	44	35	4	39	45	86.67%	1/18/2012
ADMIRAL FARRAGUT	1195	34	28	2	30	35	85.71%	2/17/2012
ARDSLEY	458	31	27	0	27	32	84.38%	1/12/2012
BRIARCLIFF MANOR	1054	23	20	0	20	24	83.33%	2/7/2012
ERNEST PASQUA	1506	35	28	0	28	36	77.78%	1/31/2012
BUTLER JOHNSON	520	21	17	0	17	22	77.27%	1/18/2012
<b>JOHN DUNBAR</b>	<b>1125</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>73.33%</b>	<b>9/13/2011</b>
RICHARD SOMERS	1505	36	22	3	25	37	67.57%	2/17/2012
<b>ROBERT F. CRANDALL</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>66.67%</b>	<b>10/4/2011</b>
<b>JOHN B. WINTERS, JR.</b>	<b>1734</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>46.67%</b>	<b>10/31/2011</b>
<b>NEPERA PARK</b>	<b>1509</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>40.00%</b>	<b>9/13/2011</b>
<b>COOK</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>33.33%</b>	<b>8/25/2011</b>
<b>ANTHONY T. FAVA</b>	<b>1768</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>33.33%</b>	<b>1/18/2012</b>
<b>ALAN F. WAITE</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25.81%</b>	<b>1/9/2012</b>

**POSTS WITH 50 TO 99 MEMBERS**

ADOLPH PFISTER	1038	78	79	0	79	79	100.00%	1/31/2012
KATONAH	1575	97	89	3	92	98	93.88%	2/23/2012
FOX - EKLOF	505	53	48	0	48	54	88.89%	1/11/2012
RYE	128	77	64	5	69	78	88.46%	2/17/2012
DOBBS FERRY	1048	68	59	2	61	69	88.41%	2/17/2012
SPENCER KELLY	267	57	45	4	49	58	84.48%	3/2/2012
GILBERT RAUH	1574	74	62	1	63	75	84.00%	2/1/2012
HAWTHORNE	112	54	43	1	44	55	80.00%	1/31/2012
LEROY GREGORY	979	53	40	1	41	54	75.93%	3/2/2012

**POSTS WITH 100 TO 299 MEMBERS**

LARCHMONT	347	166	140	0	140	167	83.83%	3/2/2012
PORT CHESTER	93	187	162	1	163	188	86.70%	3/13/2012
OSSINING	506	160	140	0	140	161	86.96%	3/2/2012
WHITE PLAINS	135	180	160	0	160	181	88.40%	3/2/2012
MAMARONECK	90	132	119	0	119	132	90.15%	2/23/2012
SCARSDALE	52	118	107	1	108	119	90.76%	3/1/2012
PELHAM	50	126	116	0	116	127	91.34%	3/2/2012
NEW ROCHELLE	8	182	165	3	168	183	91.80%	3/2/2012
NORTH CASTLE	1097	111	90	13	103	112	91.96%	1/24/2012
YORKTOWN	1009	110	110	3	113	111	101.80%	3/1/2012
MOSES TAYLOR	136	257	281	-3	278	258	107.75%	3/13/2012

**POSTS WITH 300 OR MORE MEMBERS**

CHARLES N. BAJART, JR.	1122	494	451	1	452	494	91.4980%	3/13/2012
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TOTALS = 3458

3546

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED = 3159

MEMBERS IN THIS REPORT = 31 (356)

MEMBERSHIP TO DATE = 3190 SHORT

2012 CTY & DEPT. CMDR'S PERCENT = 89.96%

THE FOLLOWING POSTS HAVE ATTAINED 100% OF THE COUNTY & DEPT. COMMANDER'S GOAL

POST NAME	POST NO.	2011 TOT.	PREV. RPT'D	THIS REPT	REPORT TO DATE	DEPT & COUNTY GOAL	PERCENT	LAST POST TRANSMITTAL TO DEPT.
PARKER BALE	1597	49	54	0	54	50	108.00%	2/23/2012
MOSES TAYLOR	136	257	281	-3	278	258	107.75%	3/13/2012
SING SING CORRECTIONAL	1123	20	22	0	22	21	104.76%	3/2/2012
FANCHER NICOLL	77	24	26	0	26	25	104.00%	2/7/2012
DONALD M. KONRAD	1954	28	30	0	30	29	103.45%	2/23/2012
WILLIAM J. BOYLE	1030	49	50	1	51	50	102.00%	2/17/2012
YORKTOWN	1009	110	110	3	113	111	101.80%	3/1/2012
CARLE ANDERSON	559	17	18	0	18	18	100.00%	1/24/2012
ADOLPH PFISTER	1038	78	79	0	79	79	100.00%	1/31/2012

Please notify DEPARTMENT of any discrepancies you may find. This Report is as of: 03/27/12

*From the Shores of the Hudson*  
**DOBBS FERRY POST 1048**  
*"Westchester Action Post"*  
 Continued Success to the Westchester Legionnaire  
 Commander William Florin      Adjutant William Rizzuto

**WILLIAM J. BOYLE**  
**Post 1030**  
 Commander Sean O'Mara  
*Meeting: Noon on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month*  
**Verplanck, NY 10596**

**Mamaroneck Post 90**  
 189 Prospect Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY  
*Chartered July 7, 1919*  
 Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays - 7 p.m.  
 Club Lounge Open Daily at 2:00 p.m.

**BUTLER JOHNSON POST 520**  
 Commander - Arthur J. Deangelis  
 PO Box 216, 12 North Stone Ave.  
 Elmsford, NY

**Scarsdale Post 52**  
*Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. monthly at Noon at Ciao Restaurant in Eastchester.*  
 Thomas V. Adamo      Emanuel P. Caras, P.A.  
 Commander 914-472-6639      Adjutant

**Charles N. Bajart, Jr. Post 1122**  
 Yonkers, NY  
 Executive Committee: First Thursday • Post Meetings: Third Friday  
 Building opens: Monday - Friday 12 pm  
 Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays 12:00 Noon  
**Beverages Available**

**Rye Post 128**  
*Meets 3rd Thursday of Every Month*  
 Rye Recreation, 281 Midland Ave.  
 George Szczebra      Robert Marrow  
 Commander      Adjutant

**BRIARCLIFF MANOR Post 1054**  
*Meets 4th Wednesday at the Fire House*  
 P.O. Box 239  
 Briarcliff Manor • New York

**FOX-EKLOF • Post 505**  
*Croton-on-Hudson*  
 Meetings  
 Every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.  
 at the Harmon Firehouse



Ron Rose from Post 1038 with Dept. Cmdr. Mike Bowen at the Mid-Winter Conference in Albany Jan. 27-29.



Westchester contingent at the convention. Sitting, from left, Estelle and Pat Calcutti, guest, Pat Viggiano, Eli Vetrano, Edie Riley. Standing, from left, Ron & Rosemary Rose, Dept. Cmdr. Mike Bowen, Sue & Howie Heyel.



## Mid-Winter Conference in Albany

From left, Bob McGuirl, Pat Viggiano, Eli Vetrano and Ron Rose.

### WESTCHESTER COUNTY MEETING MINUTES

#### White Plains Post 135

The meeting was called to order in the prescribed manner by Commander Pat Calcutti at 7:30 p.m. With a quorum present, Commander Calcutti introduced New York Assemblyman Robert Castelli from the 89<sup>th</sup> District. Bob spoke about the various American Legion Bills and about his co-sponsorship of many of these pending legislative actions.

Zone 1 Commander – No Report; Zone 2 Commander Scott McGuirk spoke of the Mass of 4 Chaplains in Dobbs Ferry; Zone 3 Commander – Excused; Zone 4 Commander Don Ford mentioned that for this year's Memorial Day ceremonies we should try to find young veterans to be guest speakers.

No minutes were available from the January meeting. Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Ron Rose spoke of the Memorial Library, the last of the books from last year were ordered and placed in service.

Don Ford made a motion; it was seconded and carried to change the date of the County Convention from June 2 to June 9 because of date conflicts.

Bob McGuirl reported on Membership and requested that all posts do a big drive to have Westchester reach 100%.

The Boys' State program will be held from June 24 to June 29.

Howard Heyel talked about the National Commander's Dinner in April. The cutoff for reservations is March 14 at \$60.00 per person.

Bob McGuirl reported on the February 22 Building 28 party.

Richie Calbo reported about the Mid-Winter Confer-

ence, Legion College still has room, Hill Day in Albany on March 12-13, and National Commander Fang Wong's Homecoming in Albany in May.

Squadron 50 Commander Ken Kraetzer reported that the large flag will be presented at the Iona basketball game on February 18. He also mentioned the St. Patrick's Day parade to be held in NYC on March 17.

Correspondence: We received a thank you note from Detachment Commander Doc Gibbs for his visitation. It was greatly appreciated.

The meeting closed at 8:30 in memory of Sheldon Porter and Daniel Lian, Pelham Post 50; Michael Vitetta, Rye Post 128, and Daniel Catalano, Ossining Post 506.

Respectfully submitted,  
Howard Heyel

# IT'S GREAT TO BE A LEGIONNAIRE

#### Spencer Kelly Post 267

Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday  
of every month

Tarrytown, NY



#### PELHAM POST 50

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of Every Month  
Except July, August and December

**Pelham Town House**  
Box 293, 20 Fifth Avenue  
Pelham, NY 10803

#### WHITE PLAINS POST #135

"Veterans Serving the Community"

57 Mitchell Place

Executive Meeting Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday

Regular Meeting Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

Lounge OPEN DAILY 9:00 a.m.

#### Katonah Post #1575 American Legion

Rt. 22, just south of Rt. 35

Open 12 pm to 8 pm - 7 Days

Meets First Thursday of the month at 6 pm

#### Adolph Pfister Unit 1038 Valhalla, NY

The Best "Dame" Site by a Dam Site"

Regular Meeting - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month at 7:00 p.m.

President Kathy Hurley

Secretary Fritzi McClintock

#### Peekskill Post 274

American Legion • 936 McKinley Street

Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month  
at 7:00 p.m.

914-739-1441