



AMERICAN VETERANS

AMVETS MEMORIAL POST 88
962 BROADWAY
Massapequa, NY 11758

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



HOME OF AMVETS DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
OF NEW YORK STATE - JACK GRAY

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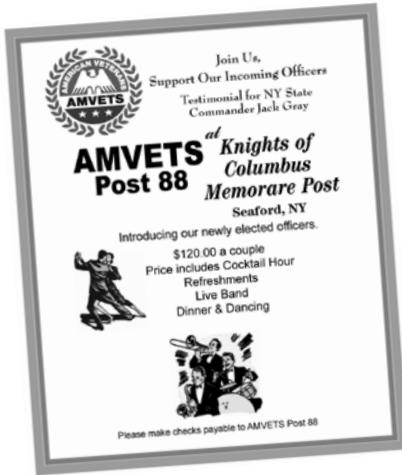
June 2010

Executive Board Meeting 6:30 PM, Tues., June 8th

Northport Hospital Visit Tues., June 8th,

Northport VA Hospital Picnic, June 23rd, Building # 63 10:30am

AMVETS POST 88 Installation & Testimonial Dinner Saturday, June 19th

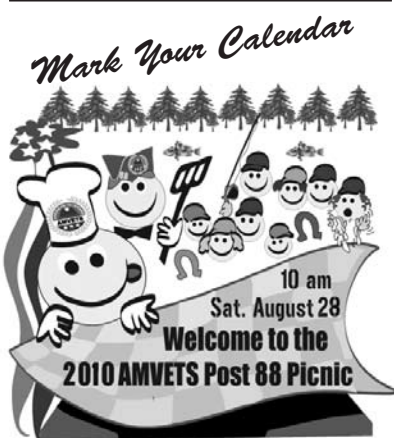


Post 88 Installation and Testimonial Dinner, June 19th, \$60. per person, to be held at the Knights of Columbus Memorare Post. This year, in addition to installing our new commander and honoring our outgoing commander, the dance will be a testimonial dinner for State Commander Jack Gray.

Northport VA Picnic, Weds, June 23rd. Building #63



See you all on June 15 and if you can attend building # 63 Picnic, it will be on June 23 behind the nursing home at 1030 am. thanks again for all your help and support.



Picnic at Marjorie Post Park
Located at Massapequa Park, Unqua Road, between Sunrise Highway and Merrick Road.

Our thoughts & prayers are with our men & women In harms way, fighting the global war against terrorism

July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
<p>Visit AMVETS Post 88 Website - http://post88amvetsny.us AMVETS.org The national website offers another avenue to find Post 88 and New York State website to find forms and a complete list of veterans benefits.</p>						
4 Independence Day Parade Saturday, July 4th	5	6 Executive Board Meeting 6:30 PM, Tuesday, July 6th	7	8	9 Membership Meeting 8:00 PM, Friday, July 9th	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<p>Thanks to the sellers & purchasers of tickets for the Post Building Fund (Donation \$5.) Bill Tauss & Jim Huff </p>						
25	26	27 Blood Drive Tuesday, July 27th 3:30 - 9:30pm	28	29	30	31

'Wall of Honor' Ceremony, Saturday, June 26th, 10am at Eisenhower Park.

320 names will be unveiled at the 2010 ceremony, a large number of AMVETS Post 88 members and family are included. Post 88 will have the Color Guard represented. Everyone can attend.



AMVETS Memorial Post 88

Cpl. Albert F. Klestinec, Jr. USMC

Lt. Col. Robert V. McHale, USAF

General Membership Meeting is held the second Friday of every month at 8:00pm.

The Executive Board meets the Tuesday before the second Friday of every month at 6:30pm.

Post Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 2:00pm till midnight

Friday: 2:00pm - 1:00am

Saturday: 1:00pm - 12:00am

Sunday: 1:00pm - 8:00pm

AMVETS Post 88 Phone Number: 516 798 9188

Newsletter produced & designed by Peter Ridam

email address: ridamart@optonline.net

2010 - 2011 AMVETS Post 88 Executive Officers

Commander	Richie Maenza
1st Vice Commander	Richie DeJesu
2nd Vice Commander	Ray Easley
3rd Vice Commander	Charlie Guinan
Adjutant	Bob Reilly
Finance Officer	Pat Pratola
Judge Advocate	John Perez
Provost Marshal	Charlie Perry
Chaplain	Ed Maxwell
Past Post Commander	Jack Maxwell

AMVETS Post 88 Trustees

Trustee	John Rigores
Trustee	John Neville, PPC
Trustee	Jack Gray, DC

AMVETS Post 88 NY State Officers & Appointed Positions

NY State Commander	Jack Gray, DC
Service Foundation	
Trustee	Rich Rossi, PDC
Vice President	Joseph Bishop, PDC
Treasurer	Edward Kelly, PPC
NY Convention Chairman	Carmine DeFrancesco
VAVS Representative	Jack Maxwell
Long Island National	
Cemetery Representative	Jim Santangelo, Dick Cote
United Veterans Organization	Ed McQuade
Nassau Monument Fund	Peter Ridam



New Phone Number 'Wall of Honor' Forms

New 'Wall of Honor' forms are available on the bulletin board or call **516-804-5802**. Veterans or family members who wish to have a veteran recognized on the wall located at Eisenhower Park in East Meadow, NY., unveiling June 2011. Donation \$100. per name.

Commander's Message

From the Desk of Jack Maxwell



As I write my last message, I have 38 days and a wake up as Commander of Post 88. I thank the Executive Board and the Membership for their service, support and understanding over the past three years. I and the Board had to make some difficult decisions and sometimes it was not easy especially when it affected individuals. On other occasions we had to decide for the good of the Post, not the individual. I believe the Board, with the support of the Membership, managed to keep the Post on an even keel.

Some members consider the Post a social club when in fact it is a business and has to be run in that manner. It is the duty of the Commander and Executive Board to balance accounts and keep the Post solvent. Haphazard and/or unnecessary expenditures would not be prudent. For example, some VAVS Volunteers were upset that the Post did not pick up the cost of beverages at the Northport luncheon. I made that decision, not the Board. As Commander, and a VAVS representative, I felt that withholding this one perk to save some money would not be a hardship for our volunteers. Obviously some did not agree but, as the saying goes, "Your dammed if you do and your dammed if you don't." I was elected to make decisions in the interest of the Post and this is one I will have to live with. Again, I thank everyone for their support and trust you will give the same to our new Commander, Rich Maenza. I congratulate him and the new Board of Post 88.

God Bless You All- A.S.N.F. (America Should Never Forget)

Jack Maxwell, Commander Amvets Post 88



Americas Mighty Warriors is a charitable organization managed by Debbie Lee in memory of the sacrifice of her son, Marc Alan Lee, the first U.S. Navy SEAL killed in Iraq on August 2, 2006. Marc stood in the direct line of fire three times on August 2nd. He choose to use his "today" to defend his buddies, to defend us and to protect this nation from the terrorists who want to destroy America and everything we represent. Marc could have fallen to his knees and helped his

wounded teammates or stay below the protective cover provided by the cement wall on a rooftop. He could have been home today with his family and the outcome would have been different for his buddies and their families. But Marc was a young man who valued others lives more than his own. He recognized the urgency of what he had to do with his last "today". He did that for you and me. Debbie's mission in life to to honor, thank, support and encourage our troops and their families in memory of her son, Marc.

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AMVETS 200 CLUB TICKETS AVAILABLE See Rich Rossi 516-312-2896

PROCEEDS BENEFIT VETERANS - ONLY 200 SOLD DRAWING IN JUNE AT DEPT. OF NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION GRAND PRIZE \$10,000 · 2ND PRIZE \$1,000 · 3RD PRIZE \$500 · 5TH & 9TH PRIZE \$200 - EACH SELLER OF GRAND PRIZE \$250 · DONATION \$100.



Veteran's Affairs Volunteers From The Desk of Jack Maxwell

May's visit was great, I want to thank Jim Santangelo, Dick and Eva Cote, Frank Burgos, Fran Burgos, Jim Mango, Rich Maenza, John Lentini, John Peters, Bill Capparilla, Tony Guidone, Bill Tauss, Paul Darge, Pat and Helen Pratola, and *Welcome Back*, Milton Blackman and Sal LaMandola.

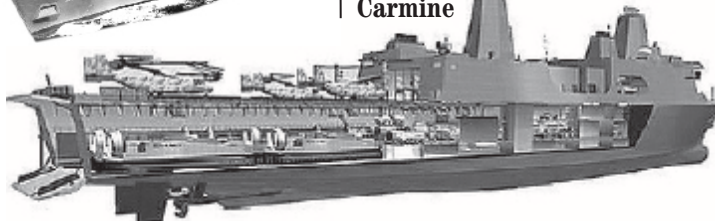
We had a great turn out by volunteers and patients, we served coffee, cookies, soda, Crystal light and ice cream to all those patients who came in to play Bingo. We also gave 125 commissary books to those who won at Bingo. What we do every month is for those veterans who are confined to Northport, many of whom have been there for years and will probably be there for years to come. An outstanding thing occurred at Northport during our May visit that makes what we do very small in

comparison. I brought Sal LaMandola into the room of a young soldier who suffers from a very serious TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury). This young man of 26 will be there for a long time. I introduced Sal to his mother and when I introduced him to Jole, this young man put out his left hand to Sal, you could not believe the response from his mother and from the nurses in his room helping him get into bed, he has not done this for years and for him to do this in front of us was amazing. The response from his mother was the best thing I have ever seen in all the years going to Northport. I only hope he continues to get better. See you all on June 15. If you can attend the Building #63 picnic, it will be on June 23rd behind the nursing home at 10:30 AM. Thanks again for all your help and support.

The 2010 AMVETS Department of New York Convention is dedicated to the USS New York. The ship was built using steel from the World Trade Center. This year the Convention will be held 25, 26, 27th of June. Post 88's Carmine DeFrancesco is Convention chairman.



Collector Pin's available \$3.00 / 2 for \$5.00 Call Carmine



Ship's Crest Symbolism

Shield: Dark blue and gold, the colors traditionally associated with the Navy, represent the sea and excellence. The crossed swords represent the US Navy and Marine Corps. The red is for sacrifice and valor and the white recalls purity of purpose. The gray chevron and two vertical bars represent the bow of LPD 21 and The Twin Towers respectively. They are conjoined to emphasize the use of 24 tons of steel recovered from the World Trade Center, to construct the 7.5 ton bow stem of the USS New York. The phoenix rising personifies the hope and determination of this nation to rebuild and regroup to fight terrorism. The shield on the phoenix's breast honors the New York City Fire Department, New York City Police Department and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. The vertical red stripe is for the Fire Department, the dark blue stripe is the traditional blue for the Police Department and the light blue stripe is for the Port Authority Police Department. The Celeste is taken from the patch of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. The Celeste also alludes to coastal waters and the port of New York. The red drops represent blood shed and the ultimate sacrifice made by the men and women of 9/11. The stars commemorate the three battle stars the USS New York Battleship earned during World War 11. The border of the shield is adapted from the New York State Seal. The sunburst represents the crown of the Statue of Liberty. They represent the seven seas and continents of the world and also suggest a direct connection to the littoral missions of the USS New York anywhere in the world, past and present. The mountains and lakes surrounded by the maple leaves represent the natural beauty of the State of New York.

Here you can see the vehicle storage areas of the LPD 17 class. At the stern of the ship the landing deck is able to accommodate two Sikorsky CH-53E Sea Stallion helicopters, six Bell AH-1W Super Cobra helicopters, four Boeing CH-46 Sea Knight helicopters or two Boeing Bell MV-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft. The hangar deck provides aviation maintenance facilities and is sufficiently large to accommodate one Sea Stallion, two Sea Knight, three Super Cobra helicopters or one MV-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft. The hangar doors are constructed by Indal Technologies. Each blast-resistant door weighs 18,000kg and has three horizontal folding panels. Inside the ship accommodation is provided for two LCAC (Landing Craft Air Cushioned), 700 troops and 14 of the new Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicles (AAAV) vehicles. Each LCAC is capable of carrying 60 tons of cargo and vehicles, including the M1A2 Abrams tank, at speeds of up to 40kt.

Chaplain's Corner



Please contact Chaplain Ed Maxwell of any good and welfare information at 631-587-3362

Chaplains quote: A wise mans heart directs him towards the right, but the foolish mans heart directs him to the left.

A mass will be offered for Marie Meanza, at our Lady of Lourdes Church, July 21 at 8am

Good and Welfare... Carl Pesi has developed pneumonia and will have some tests done in the hospital, his mother in law is in the hospital with a heart problem... Mary Ann Rielly is in rehab, she needs our prayers... Pat Argenzlos grandson was mugged and is in the hospital in a coma... Pete Ridam thanks everyone for their concern and prayers.

I have learned that the living need our prayers more then our loved ones that have gone home to the lord they are in a perfect world amen

Post 88 Membership

Contact Rich Maenza for membership information at: 516-799-4513

May Membership Report - 573 Members
416 Life members / 157 Annual Members

April Membership Meeting.

Attendance 60

Life Member \$180.00 / Annual \$25.00.

Medal Of Honor



The medal was originally proposed to General Winfield Scott who did not like the idea. However, a similar proposal was endorsed by Gideon Welles, then Secretary of the Navy. This proposal was signed by President Abraham Lincoln in December, 1861. The next year a "medal of valor" was created for the Army thanks to the efforts of Edward D. Townsend, Assistant Adjutant General. The bill creating this medal was signed into law in July, 1862. Although proposed only for the Civil War, Congress made the medal permanent in 1863. Since that time more than 3400 men and 1 woman have been awarded the medal.

The Civil War era medals were designed by silversmiths William Wilson & Son of Philadelphia and the designs were coordinated by James Pollock, Director of the U. S. Mint. The "foul spirit of Secession and Rebellion" is depicted on the obverse side as a man holding serpents attacking a female figure (The Union). The back of the medal was unadorned so that the awardees' name could be engraved.

From the time the first medal was issued until January 14, 1997, 3,427 medals were awarded to 3,408 recipients (there were 19 to whom the Medal was awarded twice.) Of these, 2,553 were enlisted personnel and 169 were living as of this date. (Source: Congressional Medal of Honor Society).

Three medals, awarded to Daniel Sickles, Henry Tremain, and Daniel Butterworth (the so-called "Sickles' Circle") forced the review of the process in 1897. Because these high-ranking individuals had gained medals in questionable ways, and because of other abuses of the Civil War era medal nominations, the process of applying for a Medal of Honor was revised. In addition to standardizing the nomination process, eyewitness testimony was required so that the committee could reduce the number of inappropriate medals awarded.

The Purge of 1917 - Who is the only female awardee?

Perhaps the single most famous event associated with the Medal of Honor is the Purge of 1917. Originally convened in 1916 by Nelson Miles, himself a MOH awardee, the commission reviewed each of the Army medals awarded. Their report, presented in February, 1917, revoked the medals presented to 911 people including 864 medals awarded to the 27th Maine for re-enlisting and President Lincoln's funeral guard. Six medals awarded to civilians were revoked as well. Included in this group were Mary Walker, the only female awardee, and Buffalo Bill Cody, a scout and technically not a soldier during the Indian Wars.

For sixty years the revocation of the medals stood. Dr. Walker, who refused to return the medal as requested by the U. S. Army, proudly wearing it every day until she died. In 1977 President Jimmy Carter re-instated the award to Walker. It would be another 13 years before President George Bush re-instated the medals for Cody and five other scouts. Bush also presented a medal to the family of Freddie Stowers, an African-American who died in World War I, gravely wounded while attempting to destroy a machine gun that had pinned down his men. While Medals of Honor had been awarded to African-Americans for heroic deeds during Civil War actions, in 1997 President Bill Clinton ordered a review of heroic deeds by African-Americans during World War II that may have been overlooked because of racial prejudice. Seven men were chosen to receive the award.

During the second World War a group of Navajo Indians served on the front lines relaying coded messages back to rear echelon support groups. The "Code Talkers" were routinely in the line of fire and performed their assigned task with merit--a duty that frequently brought them into jeopardy. It was felt the heroic action of the "Code Talkers" had been overlooked. Congress approved a special gold medal to be awarded the Navajo Indians who served on the battlefield during World War II. The medals were presented to the living recipients by President George W. Bush on July 26, 2001. While not technically a "Medal of Honor," the Navajos were Marines at the time of their heroic actions and deserve to be mentioned in any history of the Medal of Honor.

AMVETS Hall Rental

Contact John F. Cerny, call 516-721-4226

	Active Member	Member	Non Member
HALL	\$300.00	\$350.00	\$400.00
BEER, WINE AND SODA	\$7.00	\$8.00	\$9.00
UNLIMITED	\$9.00	\$10.00	\$11.00

Note: Rates (as of 8/1/09) based on a minimum of 40 adults. If you have 30 people you must pay for 40. This only applies for non-members.

GUN SALUTE AT ST. JAMES CHURCH



May was a very busy time for our Color Guard. First we had a firing detail practice on Saturday May 22. Coffee bagels and rolls were served and we went through all the moves required to do a good job. We had a good time with a lot of laughs. You would be surprised how much you can forget after being out of the military for 40 or 50 years.

Well it was Worth it. When we did the gun salute at St. James Church after the Memorial service on the morning of May 30, we looked good and did our Post proud. Thanks to all the Color Guard for a great job. That afternoon we also participated in a color guard at the National Cemetery. Only 3 of us could attend but again we did good. On Monday we did the Memorial Day Parade. We had a good showing both from the Color Guard and the Post. It was a long parade and it was hot. Fortunately there was food and beer waiting at the end and all of us attacked and made it. Again, thank you to all that attended.

UPCOMING EVENTS

There will be a need for a color guard at Eisenhower Park and one at Long Beach. The one at Eisenhower Park will be held on June 26 at 10:00am by the lake. The one at Long Beach will be announced. Many of the members on the Color Guard will be away at the state convention, for both of these events and I will need those that are here to help by attending them. It only needs to be 3 or 4 to participate in both of these. Any member who would like to help the Color Guard can. Call me and I will tell you how.

Remember we are always looking for new Color Guard members. If you would like to be part of us call me.

Ray T. Easley 2nd Vice Commander 1-516-742-8995

Bill O'Toole's Sport Desk

AGA 2010 SCHEDULE



- 7 - JUNE 17 CALVERTON 1000
- 8 - JULY 1 GLEN COVE 1115
- 9 - JULY 8 CHERRY CRK 1000 SCRAMBLE (WOODS)
- 10 - JULY 15 SAYVILLE 1130 LUNCH AT COURSE
- 11 - JULY 22 STONEBRIDGE 1000
- 12 - JULY 29 SWAN LAKE 1000 SCRAMBLE
- 13 - AUG 5 CHERRY CRK 1000 LINX
- 14 - AUG 12 FORREST PARK TBA
- 15 - AUG 19 HOLBROOK 1000 SCRAMBLE STEAK LUNCH
- 16 - AUG 26 PINE HILLS 1000
- 17 - SEPT 2 SWAN LAKE 1000
- 18 - SEPT 9 BRENTWOOD TBA SCRAMBLE JACKIE RILEYS