

VFW COMMANDER'S LETTER

JULY 2010

COMMANDER'S REPORT - JULY 2010

Let me first introduce myself to all of our members. My name is Dan MacPhee and I have been a member of the Lieut. John F. O'Grady Post 1384 for six years. I was introduced to our VFW Post by my good friend and my boss at The Daily News, Jake Nash. I am also a Past Commander of the Bernard J. Coleman Post in Howard Beach. I served in Viet-Nam 1966-67 with the 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines.

I want to thank John Zimmerman and all of the out going Officers of our Post for all of the work they have done. John Zimmerman has done a fantastic job keeping our Post connected with the Northport VA Hospital. Great job.

On Saturday, June 12th, the Ladies Auxiliary hosted their 75th Anniversary. A great time was had by all. There were 86 paid members and friends who attended the festivities. Denise Ford, Legislator for Nassau County, presented Jane Adkins with a Citation thanking her for 50 YEARS of service at the VFW. Jane also marched the entire length of the Memorial Day Parade. All those who say they can't march in Our Parade should take a lesson from Jane. Thank you Jane for both your friendship and leadership. The rest of the night was fantastic. The Band was superb, the food was delicious and the bar tending was outstanding (Tom Mattson & Patsey Bradley). Thank you Ladies Auxiliary.

On Monday, June 14th, our Post participated in the flag day ceremony, held at the Veterans Park here in Long Beach. The Post was well represented by our members. I was selected to say a prayer for our POW-MIAs. After the prayer I spoke about stores carrying products made in Viet-Nam, Cambodia, Laos and China. These Countries have been known to have had American POWs in captivity but have never released their names. Economic sanctions is a great way to get cooperation from hostile nations. Please look at the labels on all products that you purchase. Our servicemen & women who have protected us and are still protecting us, deserve our support.

On Tuesday, June 15th, our Post hosted the Nassau County Veterans of Foreign Wars meeting. This is a monthly meeting participated by all Nassau County VFW commanders. At the meeting the new Nassau County Commander received the Gavel. The new Commander is none other than our own Skip Hanley. Congratulations Skip.

On Saturday, June 19th, the Post went to Belmont Racetrack. The trip was sponsored by our Ladies Auxiliary, led by Claire Hanley, It was a great day. There was plenty to eat and drink. The bus picked all 60 of us at the VFW and returned us to a bar-b-que being held by our new County Commander Skip Hanley.

On Saturday, June 26th, the Post held its installation of its new Officers. Installed were Dan MacPhee -Commander, Howard Kalachman - Jr. Vice Commander, Ed Grant - Quartermaster, Chaplin -Marty Heeb, Adjutant - Neil Maley, 3 year trustee -Steve Abramson, 2 year trustee - Marty Heeb and 1 year trustee John Zimmerman. There were plenty of friends and family on hand to wish us all success. Thank you Phil Celella for your phone call of congratulations. Get well soon!

On Saturday, July 9th our Post will be hosting a bar-b-que at the Northport Veterans Hospital. We will meet at our Post at 11:00 AM. We need volunteers to help with the refreshments as well as to lift the spirits of our Veterans.

On Saturday, July 17th, there will be a fund raiser for the Long Beach Wounded Warriors, it will be held at The Inn, 943 Beech Street from 4-7 PM, \$35.00 per person . This includes snacks & drinks. We hope everyone will participate in the happening.

Eddie Grant and John Zimmerman have raffle books to help defer the cost of bringing the 30 wounded warriors & their families here to Long Beach. We need to find more lodging for these families. Please contact Eddie at 477-4339 or John at 431-5345 if you have extra space in your house for our brave veterans. These men, who have sacrificed so much, deserve the best that we can offer them. Eddie & John, you are doing a great job. Thank you.

On Sunday, July 18th. The AOH Division 17 will hold its annual 2010 dinner & dance for the man & woman of the year. The donation for this event is \$75.00 The dinner & dance will be held at Bridgeview Yacht Club in Island Park from 3PM to 7PM. The recipients will be Marianne Fleischer for the women, Daniel Corbett & our own Mickey Ward for the men. Mickey Ward is a bartender and associate member of the our VFW Post. Congratulations to all. All monies due by July 5, 2010.

On Saturday, July 24th the Wounded Warriors will arrive here in Long Beach & stay until July 29th,. There will be a welcoming parade on Sunday July 25th at 3:30 pm, We will meet on Ohio & Beech streets, There will be plenty of activities to follow. Please join us for a real Long Beach celebration on July 25th. For more Info go to www.lbwaterfrontwarriors.org/.

On August 7th, the Post will hold our annual building fund raffle. Donations are \$100.00. There will be plenty of food and refreshments at the Post from 1-5 PM. If you need a ticket, stop by the Post or call me at 516-445-8928, Ed Grant or John Zimmerman.

Diane D'Aloia is organizing a trip to see a Broadway show in December. More info to follow in the next news letter.

On Wednesday, August 4th, I will be holding an open meeting for all members of the VFW, Ladies Auxiliary & Associate members at 7 PM. At this special meeting, I will answer all questions and take in all suggestions about the future of our Post and where I intend to take it..

The next VFW meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 14th.

Commander,
Dan MacPhee