

# NEW YORK STATE OVERSEAS VETERAN

Official Publication  
Dept. of New York,  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
of the United States



June/July 2006

*"We honor our warriors because they are brave and because by seeing death on the battlefield they come to respect the greatness of life."*  
-Winnebago Elder

Volume 26, Issue 2

## Donald Doell Commander

The 2006-2007 year didn't take long to get started. A few days after the Convention in Binghamton, torrential rains caused damaging floods across the state. State Surgeon Allan Davenport led a relief effort to give aid to some of the Posts and veterans that were affected by the floods.

Special Projects Chairman Doc Schmitz (as promised) hit the ground running with this year's special project. This year's project is the Combat Veteran PTSD program and the Women Veterans Sexual Trauma Unit at the Batavia VA Medical facility. This joint effort between the Ladies Auxiliary and the VFW will be looking for your support throughout the year. Any questions about the project can be directed to either Doc Schmitz on the VFW side or Brenda Koch for the Auxiliary.

Membership Chairman PSC Harry Wurth and his team have put together an excellent membership program for this year. There are many incentives and rewards for recruiting new or reinstated members. The team is pretty excited about the program, and I know that we will have a successful year with membership.

To help the membership program along, VFW National is promoting a "National Recruiting Week-

end" planned for September 9 and 10, 2006. "National Recruiting Weekend" Kits are available from National Headquarters by calling 816-756-3390 or by e-mail: membership@vfw.org.

FYI: An important notice was distributed regarding deceased life members. The National Office has recorded as deceased 6,000 life members from across the organization from information received from the Social Security Administration. These deceased members will not be included in the September life membership dues payment. They will also not be included in the 2006-2007 membership strength of the organization.

I am looking forward to working with President of the Ladies Auxiliary, Martha Ferens and the ladies of the Auxiliary. (A Big Fan). Thanks for taking it easy at OTI graduation.

We are also looking forward to the growth of the Men's Auxiliary and working with them.

The year is starting out very busy but at the same time, very

exciting. I feel that together we can accomplish our goals and have a good time doing it.

It's difficult to express the feelings and emotions one experiences being elected to the highest office in the Department of New York, in a word, "NICE." Equally difficult is how to express the appreciation and gratitude for all the support I have received throughout the years to many comrades and sisters all over New York, in a word, "THANKS."



*Election is a wonderful thing if you can share your victory with some beautiful women. L-R: Sr. Vice Commander Robert Barnhart, wife, Karen; Commander Donald Doell, Peggie, and Inspector Ed Bassett.*

## Robert Barnhart Senior Vice Commander

### THANK YOU!

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the delegates of the Department of New York Convention for electing me to the high office of Senior Vice Commander.

There will be many challenges ahead, as we move into a new year. As always, membership will be our focus to keep us strong and make our programs work. It is important that we make every effort to approach our troops, as they return home, advise them of what this organization has to offer and encourage them to join the VFW.

By the time you read this, I will have returned from attending the National Convention in Reno, Nevada, and look forward to relaying the National Program information to you, as I travel throughout the state.

Going forward, I intend to continue to examine our revenue

and expenses with the top line officers to manage the current budget and analyze expenditures throughout the year(s) for the succeeding budget.

I look forward to working with Commander Don Doell, along with all our comrades in the Department of New York in this coming year.



*Senior Vice Robert E. Barnhart in a lighter moment, and someone is very sleepy!*

## Jack L. Haight, Jr. Junior Vice Commander

First, I would like to thank all of you that have encouraged me to run. A special thanks to PSC Ben Thompson for nominating me when PSC Ron Bush became ill and could not come to the Convention.

The next VFW National Convention will be held in Reno later this month. We have already been alerted that there will be proposals to raise annual dues and Life Membership fees. The Life Membership raise was narrowly defeated last year, and I would say will probably pass this year. If you are thinking of becoming a Life Member, you can still get the old rate up to the first of the year.

Also, annual members can keep the old rate to the first of the year. After that, there will be an increase from the Department of New York, also.

The Fall Conference will be in Liverpool in October. I will see you there.




*Relaxing dinner at the State Convention with Jr. Vice Commander Jack L Haight and wife, Charlotte.*

*Jack L. Haight, Jr. Jr. Vice Commander*

**Photographer:**  
  
**John Brunato**



**State Editor:**  
  
**William "Doc" Schmitz**

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## New York State Overseas Veteran

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Photographer: John Brunato

### 2006-2007 State Officers

**Commander:**  
Donald Doell  
**Sr. Vice Commander:**  
Robert Barnhart  
**Jr. Vice Commander:**  
Jack Haight  
**Judge Advocate:**  
Phillip Schiffman, PSC  
**Surgeon:**  
Allan Davenport  
**Quartermaster:**  
Harold Burke, Jr.  
**Adjutant:**  
Art Koch, III, PSC  
**Chaplain:**  
Rev. Edward R. P. Kane  
**State Chief of Staff:**  
Jack Veazy  
**Inspector:**  
Ed Bassett  
**Patriotic Instructor:**  
Harold "Mick" Learor

### POLICY

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The views expressed herein are those of the writers and, unless otherwise stated, do not reflect the positions of NYSOV or its staff.

All members and other interested parties are encouraged to submit articles, opinions, letters to the Editor, or any other copy of pictures for publication on subjects relevant to veterans' issues and concerns. *New York State Overseas Veteran* reserves the right to edit material for length or grammar and to reject any material that is deemed not to meet current editorial needs.

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## Harold "Hal" Burke Jr. PSC, Quartermaster

Comrades,

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of you for your support and re-electing me to the high Office of State Quartermaster. As you all know by now, I take the responsibilities of this Office very seriously and promise to continue to work in the best interest of the Department of New York and maintain a strong financial base. I appreciate your support, patience and understanding as we completed the financial transition during the past year.

I would like to congratulate our newly elected Department Officers and pledge my support to Commander Don, Sr. Vice Bob and Jr. Vice Jack. My best wishes to each of you for a successful and enjoyable year.

A special acknowledgement and thank you to PSC James McNally for all of his support and assistance last year as well as Commander Don Doell and Sr. Vice Bob Barnhart. They certainly made some of the difficult transition issues easier. The changes that were made by the 2005-06 C of A were the correct changes. The proof, the Department's financial records for 2005-06 have been closed; and the ending balance is favorable. Currently, the 2005-06 Financial Records are being audited by Casey and Lubbe, the Department Auditors. Their preliminary report is positive. The final report should be completed by August 30, 2006.

## Notes From the Editor

First, you might have noted that the last edition was labeled the June/July issue, when it was actually the April/May edition; and this is actually the June/July issue, my error.

Quartermaster and PPC Dominick Ercolano, Post #395, St. James, age 81, is also the Poppy Chairman. His Post raises \$20,000 per year; he is responsible for \$12,000.00. WOW! Hats off to you and your Post; how about a picture, "DOC."

Please, fellow veterans, when submitting articles or pictures, don't hesitate to contact me by phone with your questions or concerns. My phone number is in the inside of the paper on page 2 on the left, bottom. This will help to insure your article is complete, and thus has a better chance of being published. We can discuss what I'm looking for in articles and pictures.

## The Commanders Club of Rome Post 2246 met for a picture at a recent meeting

The club was established on the 23rd of November 1985. The purpose of this group is to promote social contact and provide assistance to the Post Commander when requested and also to promote projects designed to improve the Post and benefit its members.

This summer's project is to assist the Commander with planning the VFW Post's 75th Anniversary banquet, which will be held on October 7th.



Front, left to right: Butch Swartz, Sam Diskin, Pete Dangelo, Joe Peluso, John Corcoran and Dan Rooney. Rear, left to right: Ted O'Connor, Jim Connors, Harry Livingston, Chuck Hildreth, Dave Johnson, Frank Woznicki and Bob Beldon.

Please remember that as voted on by the membership at the 2005 State Convention, we have started on the National Direct Dues program. All dues should be sent directly to the National VFW in Kansas City. Membership is the corner stone of the Department's financial well being. If you have not paid your dues for this year, do so. If you know a Veteran, ask them to join, much of the time that is all that they are waiting for. We have a great Membership Team this year. Do not hesitate to call on them to help with recruitment in your area.

As always, I am available if you need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,  
Harold "Hal" Burke, Jr., PSC, State Quartermaster



From left to right: Hal Burke, Jr., State Quartermaster; Steve Yuhasz, Post 3275 Quartermaster; Bob Andrews, member Post 3275; David Hotaling, Post 3275 Commander; Mark VanAlstyne, member Post 3275; and Allan Davenport, State Surgeon.

State Quartermaster Hal Burke and State Surgeon Allan Davenport are presenting checks from the Department of New York Disaster Relief Fund to Post Commander David Hotaling, Bob Andrews and Mark VanAlstyne to assist with damages sustained from the June 2006 flooding in this area. As the banks of the Mohawk River overflowed, the water level in the surrounding areas of Post 3275 rose to between four and six feet causing massive damage to the Post, homes in the area and property. The recovery from this disaster will take many months, and for some will never be completed. The Department continues to provide assistance to the Comrades in the Flood effected areas and asks that you continue your support of this effort by sending in donations to the Department Disaster Relief fund.

## Silas Wainwright Post 6338, Gouverneur

The Silas Wainwright Post 6338, Gouverneur, on Flag Day, June 14, had a flag burning ceremony for the community.

When the flag is in such condition through wear or damage that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

Commander Mike Webster, Quartermaster Karl Beck and Trustee Cecil Steele conducted this ceremony with respect to our flag.



Support our Troops





Air National Guard Unit 105 recognized Pat Riemann for work in obtaining grants to obtain this new Tanker Fire Truck. L-R: Department Senior Vice Bob Barnhart, Chief Barnhart, Jaiden Barnhart, Pat Riemann, Bill McNamara, Bill Brooks and Nick.

## Hurley VFW Post 5086

Hurley VFW Post 5086 continues with its busy schedule in 2006 by supporting the Voice of Democracy program. Post members placed 400 flags on veterans' graves at Hurley Cemetery, sold 2,000 poppies in May, participated in dockside services for those who died at seas, had Honor Guard at a funeral; and the Color Guard led the Memorial Day Parade in Hurley. Commander Jack Jordan thanks the members for their support.



Color Guard listens as Hurley Supervisor Mike Shultis addresses Memorial Day crowd. Members are left to right: Commander Jack Jordan, Bill Stall, Les Frost, Jim Cahoon, Don Briggs, Bill Clogston, Clarence Jansen, Herb Morehouse and Rocky Maxson.

## VFW Post 9000 and Auxiliary, Corfu, NY

Patients of the VA Hospital in Batavia, New York, are transported to and from their appointments in DAV vans, which are not wheelchair compatible. However, if the patients are wheelchair-bound, they must find other methods of transportation. In order to solve this problem, a fund drive has been established to purchase a replacement van, which will transport one or two wheelchairs and enable these patients to attend their appointments.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9000 and their Auxiliary of Corfu, New York, learned of the fund and contributed toward it in the hope that others will follow their lead; and a new van will soon be available.



Checks were donated by the VFW and Auxiliary to Paul Judkins, Treasurer and Drive Chairman for the Batavia Disabled American Veterans Chapter 166 of the Van Replacement Fund, by (L-R): Rich Doktor (Commander), Leilani Spring (Auxiliary Vice President), Jack Shollard (Sr. Vice Commander), Ray Spring (Service Officer), and Bob Musall (Jr. Vice Commander). Paul Judkins also serves as the Transportation Coordinator at the VA Hospital in Batavia, New York.

## Post 2736



June 19th, a thank you and a plaque were presented by Commander Otto H. Jensen from VFW Post 2736 at East Meadow to the Manager of Stop & Shop in East Meadow. The recipient was Miss Carletta (Manager). Stop & Shop has been very supportive of the veterans on more than one occasion, sponsoring luncheons for veterans that are at the A. Holly Patterson facility in Uniondale.

## Post 7275



Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7275 of Lancaster, NY, Senior Vice Commander volunteered to assist the Hillview Elementary School celebrate Flag Day. The third grade class honored Mike DePalmo with their own Certificate of Appreciation signed by all the students.

## Piermont, New York, was known by thousands as "Last Stop USA"

On Memorial Day, the Piermont Memorial Post 7462, Veterans of Foreign Wars, U.S., dedicated a bronze statue, "G.I. Joe," in Kennedy Park located at the beginning of the Pier Road in Piermont, New York, representing the soldiers leaving for Europe, bringing that history alive for many generations to come. All who pass through Piermont or walk to the Pier will see the monument and learn about those brave thousands.

One million three hundred thousand G.I.s left for Europe from the Piermont Pier embarking onto ships in the Hudson River to begin their long journey to Europe to fight and free the world from tyranny during World War II. This struggle lasted from 1941-1945 with more than one-half million returning the same way. Many who left from Piermont never returned. In fact eleven (11) young boys who grew up in Piermont never returned from that conflict.

Camp Shanks and the Piermont Pier played a tremendous role in the battle to regain Europe, and a large percentage of the troops that hit the beach on D-Day came through Camp Shanks. The significant role of Rockland County, New York, in the history of the war is known by few.

The six-foot-four-inch life-sized statue, bronzed by the Tallix Fine Arts Foundry in Beacon, NY, after design and other work by Studio EIS in Brooklyn, is based on an idea supplied by Post Commander George A. Lynch, Jr.

The statue officially represents the Army and Air Corps personnel who were processed through Camp Shanks, where the actual staging of units for the D-Day invasion began, but it really is symbolic of all who went off the fight in a war for survival, the goals of which seemed quite clear to most. The Post raised all of the \$74,000.00 needed through donations over the past two years.



G.I. Joe Statue with Post Commander George A. Lynch, Jr. and Post Quartermaster Theodore W. Jessup, Jr., Past District 2 Commander.



## Department of New York VFW and Ladies Auxiliary Special Project

The project is up and running. To date, \$860.50 has been raised; and several items have been donated. I would like to recognize Post #8645, #3054, #1666, and #150; they have stepped up to the plate first. Now, it's your turn. All Posts and Auxiliaries who donate will be recognized in the Department paper. We, as veterans, and those that support veterans frequently talk the talk but neglect to walk the walk. So walk with me in this quest for betterment of veterans' health needs and donate as you have never done before. I will pursue each and every Post to insure you receive this call to arms and participate; no donation is too small. For once in the history of the Department, I would be proud to say – all Posts reported in, Commander Doell; and the project has raised the largest amount of monies and products in our history. We are a combat-based organization, let's show them our brass and send in your donations ASAP. I love to return fire. Please don't hesitate to contact me pertaining to any questions regarding this project – 1-607-962-2126.



Commander Doell takes a break at OTI at the Special Projects table, l-r: Brenda Koch, Auxiliary Special Projects Chairman; Commander Doell; Dr. Terri Julian, Program Director of both the PTSD Units and Sexual Trauma Clinics at the Batavia VA.

Yours in comradeship,  
**“DOC” your Editor and Special Project Chairman**

Our service men and women dutifully serve our country and are often placed in life threatening and dangerous situations. Some of our military brothers and sisters have experiences that hurt them and continue to bother them for some time. If these experiences are particularly painful and *traumatic*, a veteran might experience depression and anxiety that creates struggles at work, in relationships, and self-esteem. Often these experiences lead to a diagnosis of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

When challenged with PTSD, it can be a daily struggle to carry on and it seems impossible to live a peaceful, satisfying, and healthy life. These emotional wounds of war and military service are too often left without healing. What veterans with PTSD need to know is that they can lead happier and more function lives. Healing is possible. I have been touched by a place where these emotional wounds are tended to with nurturing concern and professional expertise. There is a VA Program where veterans are welcomed home and receive professional and peer support and help in learning and coping with the pain of their military experiences. The Batavia VA offers two residential programs: The Jack H. Wisby, Jr. PTSD Treatment Program for male veterans suffering with PTSD due to combat and war zone experiences and The Women's Residential Program (WRP) for women veterans who have experiences military-sexual and/or combat trauma. Both programs are located in their own building on the serene grounds of Batavia

VA. The beautiful and special grounds contribute to a renewed sense of personal safety and security. These residential programs provide state-of-the-art treatment for veterans who need to understand their trauma, stabilize their symptoms, develop skills for day-to-day life and relationships, and/or work through trauma-related memories and thoughts. The programs include treatment opportunities of individual therapy, medication management, family therapy, and group therapy. These programs help veterans develop the skills they need to rebuild and maintain a healthy life.

**Send check and completed form below to: VFW Department of NY, 1044 Broadway, Albany, NY 12204-2527. Please designate “Special Projects” and make the check payable to the Dept. VFW or Ladies Auxiliary, respectively. Send the completed donation form with the check so as to insure your recognition on your donation!**

### Bowling Chairman

**Wilber A. Gray**

This year's Tournament was held at Sunset Bowl in Geneva. Your host was, Geneva Post 2670.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Post Commander Alan

Fox and his Committee for a job well done.

This year, we had 30 team events, 57 doubles events, 10 single events, and 99 all events.

Next year's Tournament will be held in Auburn at Post 1975.

### 1st Annual Mixed Bowling Tournament Department of New York Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies and Men's Auxiliary

1st Place Handicap Team –  
 Cuba Post 2721 #1

1st Place Scratch Team –  
 Auburn Post 1975 #5

1st Place Doubles Handicap –  
 Perington Post 8495 #1  
 Bill Kuhn and Barb Bock

1st Place Doubles Scratch –  
 Dansville Post 6780  
 Sam Folts and Bob McKeown

1st Place Singles Handicap –  
 Cuba Post 2721 #2  
 Becky Murphy

1st Place Single Scratch –  
 Dansville Post #6780  
 Sam Folts

1st Place All Events Handicap –  
 Cuba Post #2721  
 Becky Murphy

1st Place All Events Scratch –  
 Perry Post #5009  
 Joel Dennis

Post # \_\_\_\_\_ VFW or Auxiliary (please circle)

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number with Area Code ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Amount donated \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Product donated \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate product value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For product or item (wish lists) donations, please contact any of the following to insure no duplications and/or what is needed at the clinics:  
**Darryl Fuchs, 1-716-893-0147, e-mail darrylr11@verizon.net**  
**William “Doc” Schmitz, 1-607-962-2126, e-mail doclurch@stny.rr.com**  
**Brenda Koch, 1-518-462-6263, e-mail brendak@WBEEMAIL.COM**

### Department of New York National Citizenship Education Teacher Award Winners

**Grade K-5: First Place**  
 Charlene Ludwikowski  
 District 4

Mohawk-Adirondack County Council  
 Boonville Post #5538

**Grade 6-8: First Place**  
 Danielle Eaton  
 District 6

Cattaraugus-Allegany County Council  
 Salamanca Post #52196

**Grade 9-12: First Place**  
 Carol Amberg  
 District 4

Saint Lawrence County Council  
 Gouverneur Post #6338

### Life Membership Chairman

**George H. Osborne**

For those who did not make it to the Convention, New York did an unbelievable job in Life Membership this year, transmitting just over 2,000 Life Members. The Post transmitting the most was 1371 Owego with 99 Life transmitted. Just think how they will feel July 1st with practically 100 less members to worry about. And remember, those 99 don't have to worry about ever paying their dues again. “The more you get, the less you have to get.”

This year, the Life Membership increased cost is the big issue. New York voted unanimously to oppose it at the National Convention in August. No one knows how it will turn out. Thus, if you haven't already sent out letters please do so right away. Tell your members what the new rate will be, offer to pay a percentage of their current Life cost if you can. Show a list of what their actual cost will be at each age group and tell them to hurry while they can still get a deal. I've sent out letters in my Post and have received 10 checks back just since convention. If anyone needs help, please contact me at 607-776-4058 or at usmc@empacc.net.

## 2005-06 Membership Awards

County Council  
Commander

## All State Awards

All receive cap  
and \$100 gift certificate

**Co-captains:** Dale Scurr, Cattaraugus-Allegany C.C.; \$600 CC award; \$300 cdr award  
Wayne Dunbar, Chautauqua CC; \$300 CC award; \$150 cdr award  
**Team:** Roger Becker, Schenectady-Schoharie CC; \$300 CC award; \$150 cdr award  
James Sheets, Mohawk-Adirondack CC; \$350 CC award; \$150 cdr award

County Council  
Membership

## Chairman Award

Cross pen and pencil set  
Harold Leavor,

Cattaraugus-Allegany CC  
Daniel Kell, Chautauqua CC  
Roger Becker,  
Schenectady-Schoharie CC  
Firth Turner,  
Mohawk-Adirondack CC

## Post Commanders

## State Convention Award

Three days per diem @\$55.00/day  
plus round trip mileage for the  
Commander plus pen and pencil  
set for the QM

## Div 2, Post 395

CDR. Richard Woltman  
QM Domenick Ercolano

## Div 3, Post 202

CDR. Daniel LaBarge  
QM William Silpoch

## Div 4, Post 7466

CDR. Richard Cropsey  
QM Joseph Bernstein

## Div 5, Post 1419

CDR. David Chamber  
QM Gerald Olejniczak

## Div 6, Post 2246

CDR. Arnold Swarts  
QM Howard Johnson

Post Division Award  
(largest numerical gain)

## Plaque

Div 1, Post 3529  
Div 2, Post 5088  
Div 3, Post 202  
Div 4, Post 6912  
Div 6, Post 2246  
Div 7, Post 1469  
Div 8 Post 53

## Big Ten Award

## Plaque

53 Jamestown  
1469 Huntington Station  
2246 Rome  
8647 Mayville  
1371 Owego  
375 Yonkers  
1975 Auburn  
161 Port Jervis  
4927 Centereach  
7466 Poestenkill  
7393 Whitestown (plaque on order)

## All State

## Post Commander

## and Quartermasters

All receive cap, lapel pin and  
voucher. If the Commander  
received the Post Commander's  
Convention Award, he does not  
receive this voucher.

## Post - Commanders/

## Quartermasters

16 - Ned Northrup/  
Hyman Goldman  
44 - Lee Houser/James Allen, Jr.  
53 - Daniel Kell/  
Nicholas Frederes  
161 - Dennis Simmons/  
David Gibbs  
200 - Vincent Petrucelli/  
James Byrne  
202 - Daniel LaBarge/  
William Silpoch  
357 - Robert Shave/Floyd Purdy  
361 - Donnie Stevenson/  
Jessie Bell  
369 - Paul Gorman/  
Donald Babcock  
375 - Joseph Porcelli/  
Robert Wasiczko

395 - Richard T. Woltman/  
Domenick Ercolano  
416 - Salvatore Schillaci/  
Constantine Gianiodis  
455 - Thomas Bennet/  
Frank Cappa  
487 - Anthony Moore/  
Herman Riese  
516 - Douglas Makosky/  
Frank Bondieto  
672 - Arthur Hanley III/  
Louis Gasparini  
686 - George Clarke/  
Robert Barnhart (no cap)  
770 - Leroy Post, Jr./Ed Gaggiano  
851 - Kenneth Walters/  
Anthony Cannata  
945 - Louis Corte/  
Joseph Pascarella  
1161 - Donald Ruckdeschal/  
Steven Fanizzi  
1204 - Salvatore Proietti/  
Clement Tardo  
1310 - Paul Zydor/  
Kenneth Combs  
1419 - David Chamber/  
Gerald Olejniczak  
1449 - William Baker/  
Roger Bensley  
1466 - Vern Barnes/  
Wayne Westover (deceased)  
1469 - Thomas Ronayne/  
William Pasterak  
1470 - Donald Robinson/  
George Osborne  
1498 - Thomas Gillis/  
Arthur DeVoe  
1545 - Ronald DeLong/  
Louise McRoberts  
1666 - Jeffery Felenchak/  
Dennis Fitzgerald  
1708 - Benjamin Kilvert/  
James Bruno  
1896 - Steven Epps/  
Bernard Thompson  
1975 - Joseph Barwinczuk/  
Edward Foley  
2077 - Ralph VanAlstyne/  
Lawrence Cross  
2161 - Roger Becker/  
Willard McDonnell  
2246 - Arnold Swartz/  
Howard Johnson

2250 - Billy Jo Robertshaw/  
James Becker  
2320 - George Hoffman/  
Howard Harvey  
2332 - Wayne Felsheim/  
Richard Slate  
2475 - Eugene Rounds/  
James O'Mara  
2530 - Roy Bonham/  
Ronald Tomah  
2670 - Allen Fox/Philip Smith  
2721 - Joel Vanik/James Rose  
2837 - Kenneth deThomas/  
Ron Hallinan  
3083 - Phillip Wise/  
Anthony Mason  
3350 Joseph McCarthy/  
Robert Jacoby  
4823 - Daniel Murtha/  
Joseph Daniel  
4927 - Andrew Chapman/  
Dennis Sullivan  
5088 - Donald Mackey/  
David Schaffer  
5199 - George Buck/  
Edward Berry  
5218 - David Robling/  
Dennis Ambrose  
5260 - Francis Pillo/  
Larry Snyder  
5294 - Clifford Lockwood/  
Alan Kenyon  
5491 - Bernard Boccia/  
Richard Farrell  
5538 - Guy Case/  
Terrence O'Rourke  
5540 - Lewis Steinbrecher/  
E. James Fields  
5798 - William Comello/  
Robert Jakubczak  
5800 - Ernest Bonnier/  
Thomas Doin  
5913 - William Goebel/  
George Hemroth  
6249 - Robert Ward/  
Joseph Cognitore  
6396 - Eugene Bryant/  
Melvin Garrett  
6427 - Paul Zimmerman/  
Joseph McDonald  
6530 - Robert Stinger/Paul Burgy  
6778 - Robert Murales/  
Jack Haight

6912 - Steward Burnham/  
Peter McLane  
7062 - Louis Lefevre/  
Roger Chapman  
7279 - Edward Mattina/  
Richard Tibbetts  
7290 - John DeVries/Paul Dyer  
7291 - Brian Gillis/  
Miguel Pacheco  
7325 - Ronald Sakonyi/  
Thomas Padden  
7336 - Donald McBride/  
Thomas Mazza  
7393 - Kenneth Hunter/  
Michael Spellman  
7414 - James Durkin/  
Francis Mooney  
7417 - Nickolas Budinock/  
Roger Voelker  
7466 - Richard Cropsey/  
Joseph Bernstein (no cap)  
7765 - William Moore/  
James Brennan  
7955 - Arnold Anderson/  
Richard Clark  
7962 - Clinton Gotham/  
William Frost  
7967 - Michael Fronckowiak/  
Donald Gratien  
8158 - Donald Gilbert/  
David Stein  
8444 - Henry Rosenzweig/  
William Ridgeway  
8534 - Albert Johnson/  
David Lizotte  
8647 - Donald Skellie/  
Wayne Dunbar  
8664 - Joseph Weinberger/  
Edward Fletcher  
8692 - Robert LaDuke/  
Robert Clingerman  
8734 - William Hinto/  
Kenneth Farnham  
9132 - Guy Gioeli/Gene Polak  
9249 - Daniel McMahan/  
Richard Lozo  
9263 - Frederick Amore/  
Eugene Orlandi  
9314 - Leslie Kick/James Tille  
9486 - John Mauro/Andres Veiga  
9487 - Dale Scurr/Jerry Seiwert  
9592 - James Hasselmann/  
Fred Wedin

## Post 600 • Canastota, NY

My company encourages to  
volunteer, so here is my volun-  
teer e-mail.

**VFW Post 600 Canastota has  
numerous flags (other than  
American flags we accept  
donations for)**

Please let folks know we have

all services including Coast  
Guard (3x5 Nylon), Liberty  
(4x6 Nylon), VFW 100th  
Anniversary (3x5 Nylon), New  
York (3x5 Nylon, 4x6 Cotton  
and Nylon), POW/MIA single  
and double sided (3x5 Nylon),  
Italy (3x5 Nylon), Wales (3x5  
Duralite), Ireland (2x3 Duralite),

Liberty (3x5 Duralite), Canada  
(4x6 Duralite), Scotland and  
Poland (3x5 Duralite). We also  
accept donations for desk sets,  
flagpoles, holders, woodballs ...  
you just about name it!

Please contact Comrade Alan  
Galster at 315-687-6612 or e-  
mail alan.galster@us.army.mil.

## Commander William Yorton - Post 600

Commander William Yorton  
of VFW Post 600 of Canasto-  
ta, NY, has concluded his two  
years as our leader. His many  
accomplishments have includ-  
ed a new Women's Auxiliary  
and a successful bingo pro-  
gram that has helped us fund  
needed groups and individuals  
in the community.

Also, he started a monthly  
letter-bulletin, which keeps all  
VFW members in contact with  
each other. Bill energized the  
existing flag program. Flag  
Day activities were highlight-  
ed by a flag-burning ceremony  
and a picnic. This picnic was  
held in a new pavilion on the  
VFW property.

Commander Bill led the Honor  
Guard for parades and many mil-  
itary funerals. We participated in  
a new WWII monument in the  
village and had over 50 hand-  
made crosses representing the  
combat dead. Lastly, he has  
pushed for a recruitment program  
that has been very successful.

Thank you, Commander Bill!

Department of New York VFW  
'Scout of the Year' 2005-06

Winner - Joshua Effe - Clifton Park Half Moon Post

James Fatone - Mahopac Post 5491  
Jamian Shapiro - Fort Ticonderoga VFW 0146  
Peter Fildes - Red Hook VFW 7765  
Alexander Bennish - Queensbury VFW Post 6196  
Patrick Bullis - Lake Ontario Post 313  
Josh Barndt - Schenectady VFW Post 357  
Tony Janniery - See Me in 226  
Joseph Reichmann - Whitestone Post 4787  
Brian Jennings - Arthur G. DePeu Post 6200  
Alexander Long - Bloomfield-Holcomb Post 7610  
Christopher Huber - Pearl River Memorial Post 7370  
Anthony Jerome Brown - Pennington-Moya Post 9251

## Membership Update:

Just sign up five new or reinstated members, send them in -  
keep a copy for the Fall Conference. You will be eligible for the  
Grab Bag. It will have watches, VFW pens, VFW tote bags, a  
Complete Guide to All U.S. Military Medals, and \$100.00 cash.

Your Membership Committee

Harry C. Wurth, Chairman

e-mail: hew\_vfw@yahoo.com • Phone No. (516) 621-3878



# What Do the Department Disaster Relief Funds Go For? Let's have a look

Submitted by Commander Wayne Felsheim, Johnson City



These photos of the flood of '06 are taken in Conklin, NY. The Susquehanna River, filled with all kinds of nasty and vile contaminants, overflowed its banks and blew four houses off their foundations from gas leaks. This house floated down river about half a mile and landed on Alta Road. The rescue people in this photo were able to approach this area after floodwaters had subsided.



The trailer park is located across from Johnson Camping/Eureka Tent and Awning. Not shown in the photo is Eureka Tent and Awning, which has floodwater up to the top of their showroom windows. Today, a month after the flooding, Conklin is continuing to clean up the debris. Driving along route 7 still gives you a sick feeling when you see mile after mile of homes and business still damaged or cleaned out from the flooding.

## Post 3254



Erie County Council Commander-Elect Dave Czarnecki presenting a check for \$2,651.00 to PTSD Clinic Manager Dr. Terri Julian from Cold Spring Post #3254, along with Post member and clinic volunteer Jim Rosen. Left to right in photo: Dave Czarnecki, Dr. Julian and Jim Rosen.

## OTI



The staff.



Members of Post 3083 with State Commander.



OTI was a good learning experience for all veterans, note the smiles and, of course, the USMC insignia.



Allan Davenport Department Surgeon at OTI, up front and ready to go!



## Post 6292

Frank Bell Jr. (left), Post #6292, Stanford, NY, asked for some information and was such a nice man, I decided to put his photo in. My pleasure to meet you, DOC.

## VFW-NRA awards



Democrat Photo by Rob Potter Rob Kautz of Jeffersonville received his two national VFW-NRA marksmanship awards from Verl Ringgenberg, Senior Vice Commander New York State VFW District 2, left, and Robert Barnhart, Senior Vice Commander New York VFW, right, who was representing the National VFW Commander-in-Chief.



Convention Banquet



Past Commander James McNally, Sr. Vice Commander Robert Barnhart, Karen Barnhart, and Commander Donald Doell at the Convention Banquet.



No, the Dept Jr. Vice Jack Haight is not sleeping, he's blinded by the beautiful Auxiliary members. R-L Jack, Martha Ferens, Dept. Madam President; Secretary Sharon Connolly and Mona Longly PNP



At the Convention Banquet, Bill McGarr always seems to have pretty women around him?!

Post 524



Post #524 hosted a dinner for WW II vets, over 200 attended. My friend, Walter DeLap, one of the most decorated Navy vets was in attendance. L-R: Sr. Vice Commander Scott Munn, Mary DeLap, Peg DeLap, Walter DeLap and Commander Dan Meholecz.

State Convention



Harold "Mick" Leavor receives a National Citizen Education Recognition Award, presented by Commander James McNally.



Convention time brings people together to exchange ideas, and extend hands of support. L-R: Chief-of-Staff Jack Veazy, PSC James Longendyke, and Patriotic Instructor Harold "Mick" Leavor.



State Convention – Donalyn Wexell touched someone's heart, and it appears to be Edward Bassett.



Newly elected Department Commander Donald Doell receives the oath from PSC Ben Thompson.

Post 686



L-R: Patric Reimann received a National Recognition award as a fire fighter, his wife; Commander of his Post #686 George Clark; Mrs. Barnhart; and officer Christopher Barnhart also of the same Post received National Recognition as a police officer and is active in the Air National Guard; his dad, Robert Barnhart, Sr. Vice Commander; Karen Barnhart; and Christopher's kids.



## Citizenship Education Teacher Awards

### Some items to keep in mind regarding the Citizenship Education Teacher Awards:

1. You cannot nominate yourself for a Post Teacher Award. This has to be done by your colleagues or Post.
2. Post teacher entry form must be submitted. This form must be signed by the Post Chairman or Commander, then the District Chairman or Commander, and then sent to the Department Chairman.
3. Chairmen, the nomination essay should not be more than 350 words. Count your words and write the word count on the form.
4. You must submit a good quality head and shoulders photo. No copies or low-grade computer printouts.
5. Also, for future referral, the winning entries were put

together in binders or folders and contained laminated documentation.

The more recognition that the teachers in our Districts receive, the greater participation we will have in the VOD, Patriot's Pen, and Youth essay programs.

### Department Community Service Reports

It is recommended that the Department Community Service report deadline be move dup at least seven days so the Department and the Department Chairmen have time to complete their reports and have them submitted to National Headquarters by their June 1st deadline.

Lloyd Creeley  
Co-Chairman

Harold "Mick" Leavor  
Chairman 2005-2006

## Purple Heart Veterans: Win a Free Trip to Vietnam

Kansas City, Mo., July 18, 2006 – If you received a Purple Heart while serving in Vietnam, you could be one of nine veterans to win the VFW's "Return to Vietnam" trip.

From May 11-20, 2007, you will visit Saigon, the Mekong Delta, Cu Chi, Hue, the DMZ, Hoi An, Marble Mountain and China Beach. Airfare, accommodations and meals are included.

Don't miss this chance to revisit battle sites and to share your experiences with fellow Vietnam veterans.

Entries must be received before the Dec. 1, 2006, drawing. Winners will be notified by mail or e-mail in early December.



## VFW National Community Service Department Year-End Report

### Combined VFW and Ladies Auxiliary Information

Total Dollar amount  
1st six month total – \$569,687.00  
2nd six month total – \$718,884.13  
**Year-End total – \$1,288,571.13**

Total Hour Amount  
1st six month total – 128,568 hours  
2nd six month total – 101,078.75 hours  
**Year-End total – 229,646.75 hours**

## POST TO POST

**POST #420 – SARATOGA SPRINGS** – BJ's is offering club/Post members a deal on joining. The Moving Wall is coming to the area.

**POST #8647 – MAYVILLE** – Forty-Year Pins – Lavern (Bud) Scriven, George Stroebel, Wes Weise, and Ruth Crandell in memory of husband, Floyd Crandell.

**POST #478 – BINGHAMTON** – Tino DeAngelo, Men's Auxiliary, keeps an article in the Post paper. Alan R. Petrush, State Veterans Counselor has his card printed in the paper. Excellent idea, "Doc."

**POST #5253 – ALBERTSON** – Tom Duignan and Walter Covney have a special flyer for "Buddy Poppies" in the newspaper. Nice job, guys. Anthony Romeo, Post Advocate, has an article. Editor Maurice "Moc" Steinberg, nice job on the paper.

**POST #6196 – QUEENSBURG** – Commander George "Chick" Daley is coming on board in June. Editor Robert Gilman and Co-Editor Bill McGarr still cranking out the Post paper.

**POST #6394 – SYOSSETT** – Happy Birthday: Victor Odwazna, Fred Barrell, Stanley Michelewski, Frank Montelrone, William Titus, Gary Callen and Brendan O'Sullivan.

**POST #982 – REMSEN** – Memorial Day Parade, refreshments and entertainment at the Post to follow.

**POST #5491 – MAHOPAC** – Ben Boccia, Commander for another year. Member Brennen Mahoney has been activated. Men's Auxiliary President Rich Soehor.

**POST #557 – BEMUS POINT** – Butch Kraft and Herb Crandall step down after long years of service. Chicken BBQ scheduled, how about a picture? Doc.

**POST #1498 – HALFMOON** – Commander Thomas Gillis taking the leadership role with an installation picnic. John Dahoda organizing the Poppy Drive.

**POST #2476 – RIVERHEAD** – Corn Beef Dinner, nice. Joe Klodaski, Jr. Vice, needs to know on the sick comrades.

**POST #4787 – WHITESTONE** – New members: Frank R. Dukes, John P. Gallagher, Jorge H. Lopez, Susan Lopez, Richard Hattan, Michael P. Porcaro and Gerald F. Artz.

**POST #4927 – CENTEREACH** – Quartermaster and Membership Chairman Dennis Sullivan spearheaded a 100% membership drive. Nice job, "Doc."

**POST #524 – CORNING** – Ritual Team Captain Charlie Woodhonic and the team have done a great job on funerals and representing the Post at public functions. Commander James W. Austin did a fine job this year.

**POST #2913 – PATCHOGUE** – Sixty-Year Pins: Wallace Davidow, William Philips, Louis Frabizie, and Thomas Putman.

**POST #2670 – GENEVA** – Commander Fox, Quartermaster Smith and Jr. Vice Comatis paid a visit to Troop E Armory 101st CAV, N.Y.N.G. in Geneva and signed up 15 new members.

**POST #516 – FARMINGDALE** – Mike Daddio arranged for hot dogs and sauerkraut on meeting night. A new recreation room. Frank Avino and Ed Yaworski: get a special thanks.

**POST #1371 – OWEGO** – Si and Irv Cortright will receive honors for their many years of service at a special dinner.

**POST #600 – CANASTOTA** – A special dinner for WWII members scheduled by Commander William H. Yorton 05-06.

**POST #2736 – EAST MEADOWS** – Commander Otto Jensen presented service awards to: John Lorio, 60 years; Alex Dischley, 15 years; Vincent Suclsi, 50 years; Frank Naimol, 45 years; and John Greene, 30 years.

**POST #1666 – YONKERS** – Happy Birthday: Peter Bucack, Stephen Talbot, William Kostik, Virgil Bell, Paul O'Brien, and Robert Taggart.

**POST #2883 – NEWARK** – Starting back luncheons, noon till 3 P.M.

**POST #9249 – GRAND ISLAND** – Buddy Poppy Day chaired by Jr. Vice Commander Damon Wright and Mark Gollwitzer. Men's Auxiliary Butch Backlund, Sr. Vice, doing a Fish Fry. Care package program Chairman Liane Dahlberg, packages go to Active Service persons.

**POST #8692 – ALBANY** – New members Robert G. Falzano and Joseph Thomson, Joseph Biendi and Thomas Alexandrini new Men's Auxiliary members.

**POST #92178 – LIBERTY** – Guard Dev-ery, Canteen Chairman Simons and Mr. Bell an Adjutant.

**POST #307 – ROCHESTER** – Quartermaster Anthony J. Torrelli, Jr., is requesting the membership to become more active in an attempt to keep their Post solvent. A very well written article, Quartermaster, "Doc."

**POST #5298 – SPRINGFIELD GARDENS** – Post Commander Leroy A. Barnes has arranged for the Mayor of NYC Michael Bloomberg to be at the Memorial Day Parade. Youth Committee T.J. Thorpe, PPC, announces the increase of the scholarship program.

**POST #348 – SALT CITY** – Post clean up a big success, thanks to Phyllis Vryhof, John Malinowski, Ralph Gardner, Fritz Schay, George Trzaska, Ted Dziergas, David Gardner, John Way, Jerry Kiely, Dan Bailery, Wally Wallace, Chris Lashomb, and Harvey Moses.

**POST #7172 – STATEN ISLAND** – Commander Ernie Russo, Sr., taking command. Paul Reale, John Johnson did a great job on their journal. Gus Grecsek and Ken Amatrudo also get lots of thanks from outgoing Commander Danny Ingellis, Jr.

**POST #2307 – LYNBROOK** – Peter Behrens, PPC, Charlie Mastrototaro And Arty Bedell get kudos from Commander Pat Cardone on Poppy Sales!

**POST #2813 – WOODSIDE** – New flagpoles installed, with a dedication ceremony, guest speaker Senator Serphin Maltese. Commander Bill Kennedy thanked him for all the support he has given the Post.

**POST #1386 – KINGSTON** – Commander Frank Petersen thanks all those involved in working hard to put the Post back into high gear. The new Commander is Joseph "Jack" Straub.

**POST #202 HOLLY** – Commander Dan LaBarge has an early bird incentive for paid dues. Post partnered with other service organizations in a celebration of Vietnam veterans.

**POST #9587 – STATEN ISLAND** – Commander Joe Pirrello thanks Linda Frascati, Delores Scribani, and Maryann Ward for their cooking. Harvey Geary helped the Commander on the new kitchen floor.

**POST #1666 – YONKERS** – Commander Joe Battista had a golf outing, parking lot picnic. Happy Birthday: Alfred Barfind, Russ Ehrike, and James O'Leary.

**POST #5861 – ELMA** has expanded their Poppy program by 1,000 each year – 6,000 this year.