



AMERICAN LEGION POST 18

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www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com



Flying InFormation ~ News from the Post ~ JUL/AUG 2008

COMMANDER'S BRIEFING

Hometown. What does that mean to a military family? Is it where you were born, where you enlisted or where you're currently stationed? Is it your favorite or last duty station where you forged lasting friendships, met your mate or graduated from high school (our Unit 18 President's measure)? All of us have experienced deployments and separation from loved ones as a member of the armed services and/or as dependents. Knowing that our family and community will embrace and welcome us can be a great comfort for those who are returning home. Be a good neighbor, co-worker or classmate to a military family transferring to your area! Speaking of neighbors, we share Aquidneck Island with Naval Station Newport, the Naval War College and a host of other military schools and commands. Let's keep these active duty personnel and their families involved in our activities.



I crossed paths with two of my mentors at Newport International Polo (USA v. Scotland) on 21 June 2008. Pictured above are CAPT David V. V. Wood, USCG (Ret.), former skipper of the USCG Barque EAGLE, and Graeme Smith of Atlantic Technology Group, sponsor of the Mystic Highlanders pre-game and half-time performances. Both have taught me lessons in tall ship sailing as well as diplomacy and humility. As a dual member, I look forward to working with my slate of officers representing the members of our Post and Unit.

ripost18legion@aol.com

Christine L. Hayward, Commander

ADJUTANT/TREASURER'S REPORT

First, let me say what an honor and privilege it is for me to be your newly elected Adjutant and Treasurer. Retirement has afforded me time to become more involved. As is my experience in other organizations, those that do the work are mostly taken for granted and the operations seem to be automatically continued. How further from the truth can that assumption be? I admit, I never would have realized being involved and responsible for the sale of the cherished Post Home would fall on our shoulders. After much deliberations, we have decided that selling the Home is the only option due to maintenance costs. Past Post Commander Bob Kain hinted at selling the Home while he was still in office; we delayed the inevitable. A Real Estate agent and lawyer have been obtained to ensure the sale is legal, carefully planned and any proceeds are distributed according to the desires of the Ad Hoc committee and voted upon by the quorum of members gathered at a later meeting. A plan and budget are being developed that will allow for future operating funds to be set aside to support our scholarship commitments; Unit 18 support; obligation to our Post sponsored baseball team; facility rental if required and a host of other administrative and incidental monetary obligations. We hope that the proceeds will serve our Post well for many years to come, but we will continue to raise funds to supplement same. You're newly elected Post 18 officers are enthusiastic about our challenges to keep or improve upon our 100% membership record. Membership is everyone's duty, not just the membership chairman. We look forward to achieving our goals and know that with your support, this can be done. Congratulations and thank you to the slate of officers who stepped up!

geoedna@aol.com **RMC George Wardwell, USNR (Ret.), Adjutant/Treasurer**

VOLUNTEERING IN OUR COMMUNITY



FLAG DAY EDUCATION PROGRAM @ MELVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Spearheaded again this year by Damaris Mangold, outgoing Unit 18 President, the annual Flag Day Ceremony and Flag Education Program were held on Friday, 13 June 2008, at Melville Elementary

School. Parents representing each of the branches of service—Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy—proudly wore their uniforms for the flag raising ceremony much to the delight of the crowd. All of the students received hand-held flags. Afterwards, the students returned to their classrooms for a more in-depth program teaching flag history and etiquette. Our thanks to Damaris for organizing this event. Patriotism is alive and well on Aquidneck Island!

2008 LITTLE RHODY BOYS STATE/GIRLS STATE

Students arriving at Roger Williams University (www.rwu.edu) were greeted on 15 June 2008 by DEPT OF RI and DEPT OF RI AUXILIARY volunteers. Post 18 & Unit 18 donated toiletry ditty bags for all of the participants as we have for the past 3 years. By popular demand, we again produced 140 customized postcards (with stamps) for participants and volunteers to send to family, friends and sponsors. Our Post 18 Commander served as an overnight chaperone. She also spoke to the students about protecting their integrity and the danger of posting negative data on MySpace, Facebook, blogs and U-Tube, etc. that could derail their future aspirations (college, employment and public office!).

Chairman Ron Levasseur was impressed with the class of 60 young men and women who learned and practiced the mechanics of state government. Two from each go on to Boys Nation/Girls Nation in Washington in July. Learn more at www.legion.org/boysnation/.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2008-2009

It's that time again! Let's get a head start on our renewals. Please take a moment to complete and mail this form with your dues.

FOR POST 18, CHECKS PAYABLE TO LEGION HOME, INC.

FOR UNIT 18, CHECKS PAYABLE TO ALA-UNIT 18.

**MAIL TO:
PO BOX 307
PORTSMOUTH, RI 02871**

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____@_____

PHONE #: () _____ - _____

POST 18/LEGION = \$30 ____ **UNIT 18/AUX = \$15** ____



POST 18

Christine L. Hayward, Commander
Vincent C. D'Andrea, Sr. Vice Commander
John Mangold, Jr. Vice Commander
George Wardwell, Adjutant/Treasurer
Walter Alves, Sergeant-at-Arms
Rev. Don Boucher, Chaplain
Christine L. Hayward, Historian/Editor/
Webmistress

UNIT 18

Stephanie Perry, President
Veronica "Roni" Perry, Vice President
Damaris Mangold, Treasurer/Secretary
Christine Hayward, Sergeant-at-Arms

NOTE: This newsletter is printed in a larger format for those who have vision challenges. Please make an effort to speak up at meetings and events for those who are suffering hearing loss due to age or lack of hearing conservation during their service. Any member needing a ride to Post or Unit 18 meetings or events can call 401.683.6148 to make arrangements.

This award-winning newsletter has an initial distribution of 625 copies per issue with countless pass-along readership and a web presence. We welcome submission of photos, articles and calendar items from members, other Posts and Units, the Department and veteran-friendly organizations for consideration. Mail to: C. Hayward, Editor, 19 Hillside Ave., Newport, RI 02840 or ripost18legion@aol.com. All photos by D. Hayward, AL Post 35-Albion, NY unless otherwise noted.

WELCOME ABOARD OUR NEW/TRANSFERRING MEMBERS!

POST 18

**LAWRENCE BENTO
CRAIG JONES**

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Started in 1993 in Garden City, Michigan, there are over 800 Chapters of American Legion Riders around the globe. You do not have to transfer out of your own American Legion



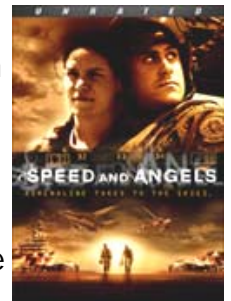
Post to join an ALR Chapter, but you must be a current member of the Legion, Auxiliary or SAL. Made up of motorcycle enthusiasts, Riders participate in numerous local, statewide and national programs and support charities such as the Legion Legacy Run. Riders also participate in parades and other ceremonies in keeping with the aims and purposes of The American Legion. In addition to supporting Legion programs, the ALR also supports motorcycle safety.

Jeffrey Therrien of AL Post 88 and his wife Lynn (above) are seeking members for a new American Legion Riders Chapter here in RI. There is an alternate membership for supporters who don't ride. He's also working with the Patriot Guard Riders (PGR) and the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA) to help spread the word and coordinate participation in statewide events. If interested, contact Jeff at 860.796.3459, 401.710.7466 or jefft1223@cox.net. For more info, visit www.americanlegionriders.net.



MOVIE REVIEW: SPEED & ANGELS

The documentary "Speed & Angels" played at the 11th Annual Newport International Film Festival (NIFF). "In 2003, Director P. Wilson captured and created the most intimate film ever made on fighter pilots featuring epic high definition aerial footage and stunning cockpit photography. Peyton followed two young Navy officers—Jay and Meagan (the last pilot trained for the F-14 which was phased out)—as they chased childhood dreams of becoming naval aviators. Their 2 1/2 year journey takes them through dogfights in the Nevada desert, night landings on aircraft carriers and wartime deployment to Iraq." The professionalism on the flight line during ops was noteworthy (unlike Hollywood versions depicting horse-play). Look for paid TV and/or DVD release in the fall. Visit www.speedandangels.com.



NEWS FROM UNIT 18



Greetings! I look forward to continuing the traditions of my predecessors as I serve as your President for the coming year. I'm grateful to Damaris for mentoring me and for continuing to serve our Unit. Fran Kain proved that being an out-of-state officer is a challenge that can be overcome as long as we have willing volunteers ("boots on the ground") in RI. As a Navy "brat" of a career Navy man, I am well aware of both the opportunities (travel, exposure to other cultures, etc.) and challenges (relocating, deployments, etc.) facing military families—our focus this year. I work at RPI, a university in Troy, NY. Did you know that Troy is the official home of Uncle Sam? Who was Uncle Sam, and how did he become the symbol he is today? During the War of 1812, Samuel Wilson (1766-1854) was a meat packer in Troy. The barrels of meat were stamped "US" before being shipped to the soldiers. The soldiers used to say the US stamp stood for "Uncle Sam," rather than the United States. The story eventually grew larger than life, and Sam became one of the symbols of America. The most notable symbol of Uncle Sam was created in 1916 by James Montgomery Flagg. The famous "I Want You" poster, using the Uncle Sam image, was used regularly as part of the war-time recruitment effort. The 87th US Congress adopted this Resolution in 1961: "Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives that the Congress salutes Uncle Sam Wilson of Troy, NY as the progenitor of America's National symbol of Uncle Sam." So, now you know the story of Uncle Sam, if you didn't already. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in North Troy, so we have a real piece of patriotic history here in my hometown—come and visit!

sperry007@nycap.rr.com

Stephanie Perry, President



NEWPORT COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS (CIV)

The CIV helps foreign visitors (those attending programs at the Navy Base or local universities, or participating in special events such as the Black Ships or Tall Ships festivals) get the most out of their stay in the Newport area. CIV members may sponsor a visitor for a long or short stay, provide event specific accommodations, greet at the airport, provide a tour, volunteer at a reception, etc. Sponsorship does not mean providing room and board or being a free taxi service! It's a rewarding experience conducive to life-long friendships. To learn more, visit www.newportciv.org or call 401.846.1640.

DEPT OF RI'S 90TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

Guest speakers at this year's convention included Major General Robert T. Bray, Commanding General of the RI National Guard and Director, RI Emergency Management Agency (REMA), and Dr. Ng, Director, VA Hospital. MG Bray spoke of the commitment to provide graveside funeral honors for families requesting same; deployed units coming home; and the possibility of a regular air wing at Quonset Point which will bring military billets and civilian jobs to the area. Dr. Ng provided an in-depth update on projects at the VA Hospital in Providence. Daniel Evangelista, Chief, Office of Veterans Affairs, was also on hand to answer questions about the RI Veterans Home and the RI Veterans Cemetery. Christine Hayward and George Wardwell attended representing Post 18. George prepared a detailed report on the 6/7/08 and 6/8/08 sessions. If you would like a copy, call 401.556.5940 or e-mail ripost18legion@aol.com.



RI SEA CADETS FEATURED IN WINNING PHOTO

Chartered by Congress and sponsored by the US Navy and the Navy League of the United States (NLUS), the Naval Sea Cadet Corps has three units in RI: Providence, Newport and Quonset Point. Cadets learn about the sea services, Naval History and traditions; participate in patriotic ceremonies; develop teamwork and leadership skills and much more. For more info, contact David Kerwood at 401.932.2396 or contact@riseacadets.org or visit www.riseacadets.org.



Sea Cadets from NCBC Battalion at Quonset Point train in the very specialized art of ceremonial flag folding under the watchful eyes of OS1 Doug Doxsee, Funeral Honors Coordinator for Naval Operations Support Command (NOSC), Newport, and EM2 Nancy Albro. The training was put to the test the following week when the Cadets performed the ceremony during the annual Armed Forces Salute concert by the Lafayette Band in N. Kingstown.

FLAG PHOTO CONTEST RULES

A photo featuring an American flag will be included in each issue of "Flying InFormation." If your photo is selected, you will receive a \$10 Dunkin' Donuts Gift Card. To enter, submit your image to: ripost18legion@aol.com or 19 Hillside Ave., Newport, RI 02840. Please include your name, address, when and where the photo was taken, photographer's name and caption. Need not be a member to enter. Good luck!



TRAVEL-THEMED WORD FIND PUZZLE

Please be sure to check out the US Department of State's "Travel Warnings" before venturing out of the country! Visit: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis_pa_tw_1168.html

P	E	T	A	R	E	G	N	A	H	C	X	E	Y
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N	C	U	S	T	O	M	S	M	A	R	T	I	R
E	I	T	H	P	I	H	L	C	U	E	O	R	E
F	M	N	A	R	O	D	A	C	W	G	T	U	N
K	L	E	T	O	H	R	E	U	R	A	R	O	I
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A	I	R	P	O	R	T	H	S	E	G	I	K	I
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WORD LIST

- TRAVEL
- PASSPORT
- VISA
- CRUISE
- PLANE
- TRAIN
- BOAT
- CAR
- BUS DEPOT
- AIRPORT
- POSTCARD
- EXCHANGE RATE
- CURRENCY
- CUSTOMS
- LANGUAGE
- INTERPRET
- BORDER SECURITY
- CUISINE
- TOURIST
- HOTEL
- VISITOR
- ITINERARY
- LUGGAGE
- BACKPACK

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE HONORS SPONSORS

On 19 June 2008, our very own George Wardwell and his wife were recognized by the NWC for their "contribution and dedicated, unwavering commitment" to the International Sponsor Program. This year, they sponsored a family from Belgium. At right, George and Edna Wardwell are flanked by RADM Jacob Shuford, President, NWC, and CDR Carl Gillis, Belgium Navy. Sponsorship provides an opportunity to share cultural, social, professional, educational and diplomatic ideals and to exhibit American hospitality. NWC seeks volunteers for this program. Kudos!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS—MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND JOIN US!

Friday, 4 July 2008—Happy Independence Day!

Tuesday, 8 July 2008 @ 7 PM AND Tuesday, 12 August 2008 @ 7 PM—Joint meeting of Post & Unit 18 (at the Post Home unless otherwise notified).

Sunday, 10 August 2008—Clambake @ Downey-Weaver Post 34, 22 Whipple Dr., Charlestown, RI. **Hotdogs & hamburgers @ 1 PM; bake served at 4 PM.** For tickets, call 401.364.9715.

For more calendar items, please visit www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com.



LEGION BASEBALL UPDATE

Tom's Lawn & Garden/Portsmouth Post 18 recently hosted the Portsmouth Post 18 Baseball Classic. We encourage you to support our team and attend the games! For schedules, stats, photos, special events, directions to fields and more news, visit: www.phsbaseball.org/TLG18/TLG18Home.htm.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

On 9 June 2008, former Treasurer Arthur C. E. Perry awarded the Post 18 scholarship to grateful Portsmouth High School student Kevin T. Beck. Kevin has been an avid volunteer for the past 5 years (flagging graves, assisting with BINGO at the RI Veterans Home and newsletter distribution, participating in Wreaths Across America, etc.) and is our resident puzzlemaster for "Flying InFormation." He will major in electrical engineering at URI. Past Commander Vincent D'Andrea also attended. Congratulations to the Class of 2008!

NEY HALL RE-DEDICATION—12 JUNE 2008



Tony Cercena, National Director, Navy League; Ms. Freddie Templeton, President, International Food Service Executive Association; Chef Frank Terranova, local TV personality ("That's Cooking with Class") and Culinary Arts Instructor, Johnson & Wales University; George Wardwell, Post 18 Adjutant/Treasurer; and Master Chief Bill Peterson, Command Master Chief, Naval War College

