



## AMERICAN LEGION POST 18

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Portsmouth, RI 02871

Phone: 401.683.6148

[www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com](http://www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com)



### Flying InFormation ~ News from the Post ~ MAY/JUNE 2008

#### COMMANDER'S BRIEFING



At a lawfully convened meeting in May, members discussed the viability of keeping the Post Home which has been a liability rather than an asset for many years. Fire code compliance, sky-rocketing heating fuel costs and other maintenance expenses cannot be justified when the Post Home is used for memorabilia storage and only used 11 days per year for meetings. After discussing and tabling the issue over the past several years, members voted to put the Post Home on the market. The proceeds will be used to continue the work of Post 18 including our annual PHS scholarship, troop and veteran support, alternate meeting space rental, support for statewide and national Legion programs and initiatives, administrative expenses, etc. A committee has been charged with overseeing the transaction, and professionals will be involved every step of the way. Post 18 membership is alive and well, and we will continue our important mission. Please attend the June 10th meeting for elections and updates.

[vincentc.dandrea@cox.net](mailto:vincentc.dandrea@cox.net)

**Vincent C. D'Andrea, Commander**

#### PORTSMOUTH POST 18 BASEBALL CLASSIC



Tom's Lawn & Garden/Portsmouth Post 18 American Legion Baseball Team will be hosting the first American Legion Baseball Tournament in Portsmouth since 1998. The Portsmouth Post 18 Baseball Classic will be held at Portsmouth High School's Bob Crudup Field on **Friday, 6 June through Sunday, 8 June 2008**. The tournament will include four teams representing various amateur baseball associations from RI and MA, and employ a round robin format in which all teams will play each of the other three teams. At the end of those games, the two teams with the top records will play for the tournament championship on Sunday, 8 June at 5 PM. (See CALENDAR section for details.)

Along with the host team, Tom's Lawn & Garden/Portsmouth Post 18 American Legion, the tournament will include the following: Aquidneck Island Sr. Babe Ruth, Middletown, RI (Sean Risley, Head Coach); Extra Innings-Warwick Select, Warwick, RI (Phil Davidson, Head Coach) and New England Ruffnecks, Boston, MA (Kirk Fredericks, Head Coach). These teams include some of the top players in the New England area! "We are very excited to be able to host this tournament. The players are of the highest caliber which should produce some great baseball throughout the course of the weekend," said Dave Ulmschneider, General Manager, who hopes this will become an annual event. For rosters, schedules, directions to fields and stats, visit the BASEBALL link from our Post 18 web site (URL above). So bring the family to cheer on our team, and witness great baseball and sportsmanship in action!

## TREASURER'S REPORT

When our elected Treasurer, Art Perry, resigned a few months ago, I was appointed the interim Treasurer to serve out his term. Even though I've been a member of Post 18 for 27 years, I did not previously have the time or opportunity to offer my candidacy. I have been nominated for both the Adjutant and Treasurer position for which elections will be held June 10th.

Since accepting the position of Treasurer, I have been developing a comprehensive fiscal accounting of the Post's income and expenses with the help of other officers and long-time members. Due to budget constraints, the Post and Unit may not be receiving community grants from the Town of Portsmouth this year forcing us to make some hard choices. My experience in the budget process in other non-profit organizations is thorough, and I intend to have a proposed budget available for vote each year to ensure the continued accurate accounting of the Post assets and best use of funds.



George Wardwell and Eddie Lopes and son help VFW Post 406 and AL Post 7 flag graves in Newport in preparation for Memorial Day.

[geoedna@aol.com](mailto:geoedna@aol.com)

**RMC George Wardwell, USNR (Ret.), Treasurer**

## SFC CURTIS MANCINI MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



The Association of the United States Army (AUSA), Rhode Island Chapter, will be hosting their 4th Annual Golf Tournament on **Monday, 16 June 2008** at Exeter Country Club, 320 Ten Rod Road, Exeter. Cost is \$100 per golfer and includes breakfast (7:15 AM), green fees, cart and dinner. Registration: 7 AM to 8:15 AM; shotgun start: 8:30 AM. Non-golfers can join in the fun at 1 PM for post-golf activities and the steak-fry for only \$25 per person! Sponsors/raffle prize donations needed. For more info, contact CSM(R) John Mancini at 401.334.2508 or e-mail [C1901@ausa.org](mailto:C1901@ausa.org).

## VOLUNTEERING IN OUR COMMUNITY

**(BELOW)** Post & Unit 18 members along with other volunteers flagged graves on 24MAY08 at three Portsmouth cemeteries, plus the Town Hall, the Black Regiment, the Beirut Memorial and a few other locations. Special thank you to Lis and James Mullen. A tattered flag retirement ceremony will be conducted by former Post Commander Bob Kain in July. **(RIGHT)** Bugles Across America, Scouts, members of the RI Patriot Guard Riders (PGR) and many other organizations took part in ECHO TAPS on 17MAY08. Several members of Post & Unit 18 participated.





### POST 18

Vincent C. D'Andrea, Commander  
 John Mangold, Adjutant  
 George Wardwell, Interim Treasurer  
 Walter Alves, Sergeant-at-Arms  
 Don Boucher & Ken Williams, Co-Chaplains  
 Christine Hayward, Historian/Editor/  
 Webmistress

### UNIT 18

Damaris Mangold, President/Treasurer  
 Veronica "Roni" Perry, Vice President  
 Calisa Mangold, Secretary  
 Catherine Viera, Chaplain  
 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](mailto:ripost18legion@aol.com).

All photos by D. Hayward, AL Post 35-Albion, NY unless otherwise noted.

### MAY THEY REST IN PEACE...

**Rachel Alves (Unit 18)**  
**George Diaz (Post 18)**  
**Kenneth Grinnell (Post 18)**  
**Roland Gutierrez (Post 18)**  
**Orma Phillips (Post 18)**  
**Angelina Pine (Unit 18)**  
**Christopher Withers (Post 18)**

Our thoughts and prayers are with their loved ones.



### WELCOME ABOARD OUR NEW/TRANSFERRING MEMBER!

#### POST 18

**Col. Gregory Reilly, USA**

The Post has exceeded our membership goals.  
 Come on, Unit 18 ... you can do it, too!

### NAVAL WAR COLLEGE MUSEUM TO DISPLAY ANTIQUE FLAG

The Naval War College Museum has accepted the Post's early Colonial American, 13 star flag on loan for a long-term display. The curator is currently determining the best method of displaying the flag considering age and condition.



The flag was donated to Post & Unit 18 in 1938 by Ida Fuller. It had been in the Fuller family for nearly a century, and flown from the flagpole at the family home on East Main Road on holidays and special occasions.

In 1999, the Smithsonian National Museum of American History evaluated the flag and determined it was most likely made between 1820 and 1850 based on the material and construction. At the time, the Smithsonian was very interested in acquiring the flag as it sports an unusual arrangement of stars (one large star in the center surrounded by 12 smaller stars).

We encourage you and your out-of-town guests to visit the Naval War College Museum. Exhibits change as collections are added. Visit [www.visitri.com/navy.html](http://www.visitri.com/navy.html) or call 401.841.4052 for information on access, hours, special exhibits, etc. Please note: Naval Station Newport has strict access guidelines.

## POST & UNIT 18: WHAT WE DO FOR VETERANS AND OUR COMMUNITY

Recently, a list was compiled summarizing our on-going and seasonal activities. Some items require volunteer time, some require funds, some require both time and funds. One key realization was that NONE of the items required use of the Post Home. So here it is in a nutshell.

- ◆ Support for the Troops—C.A.R.E. packages; cards; Operation Holiday Cheer
  - ◆ RI Veterans Home—BINGO & Christmas Shoppe
  - ◆ Tom's Lawn & Garden/Post 18 Portsmouth Baseball Team
- ◆ Flag Education—Flag Day @ Melville School; flag retirement ceremony; DVD to schools & libraries
  - ◆ Community Outreach—newsletter; web site
  - ◆ Portsmouth High School (PHS) Scholarship Award
- ◆ Portsmouth Garden Club & PHS Garden Club—beautification of Sisson Memorial; tree plantings
  - ◆ Veterans Day—speech at Portsmouth Town Hall
  - ◆ Poppy Awareness—fund raisers at Clements' Market
  - ◆ Boys State/Girls State—ditty bags; chaperones
- ◆ Memorial Day—flagging of graves in the days prior to holiday
  - ◆ Operation Stand Down & Stand Down Homes
- ◆ RI Community Food Bank—non-perishable food collection
  - ◆ Senior Center and VA Hospital Support

Long-time members may recall our participation in other areas that we might revive, such as parades, funeral details, rifle team sponsorship, oratorical contest, Safety Town, JROTC, Scouts, Lucy's Hearth, April Showers, blood drives, etc. If you would like to learn more about these volunteer opportunities, or you have a student in your family in need of documenting volunteer hours for school or Scouts, please contact us!



### NEWS FROM UNIT 18

Remember our troops and their families; please pray for their safety and praise them for the freedoms we all enjoy. Let us not forget their sacrifices. I will be sending another packet of notes of encouragement from our elementary school students. If you would like to enclose a personal note, magazines, cards or books, please contact me. I will be sending the package the 2nd week in June.

This has been a very busy year for our small but mighty Unit. In June, we have Flag Day ceremonies and a flag education program at Melville Elementary School. In partnership with the Portsmouth High School Garden Club, we will be dedicating a dogwood tree and lilac bush in memory of Angie Pine and Rachel Alves...God rest their giving souls. We need volunteers for Little Rhody Girls State (see calendar). Elections will be held during our joint meeting at the Post on June 10th. Would you consider volunteering for this worthy organization (see vacancies below)?

Also, please note that we are waiting for the Town of Portsmouth to approve their budget. Even though I appeared before the Council to plead our case, we were not guaranteed a Community Grant for the upcoming fiscal year. More than ever, we need your volunteer time. Let's continue to promote Americanism. God bless you all!

#### **PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS & APPOINTMENTS**

Stephanie Perry, President  
Veronica Perry, Vice President & Membership Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Damaris Mangold, Treasurer & Americanism Chair  
Christine L. Hayward, Sgt.-at-Arms & Historian & PR Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_, Chaplain

**Please attend next meeting (10 JUN 2008) to vote!**

**E: dmangold1@cox.net**

**P: 401.848.0399**

**Damaris Mangold, President**

**KOREAN WAR VETERANS OF AMERICA (KWVA)  
FEATURED IN WINNING PHOTO**

The KWVA (West Bay Chapter) provided the color guard for this year's ECHO TAPS WORLDWIDE event at the RI Veterans Cemetery in Exeter on 17 May 2008. Several Post 18 members participated.

**FLAG PHOTO CONTEST RULES**

A photo featuring an American flag will be included in each issue. 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!



**TOMB OF THE UNKNOWNNS WORD FIND PUZZLE**

G	L	O	V	E	S	H	Y	R	O	T	C	I	V
A	M	E	M	O	R	I	A	L	V	E	S	S	G
B	I	J	W	D	E	R	C	A	S	P	F	A	U
S	E	N	T	I	N	E	L	U	E	S	G	R	A
H	L	D	A	S	Y	R	E	T	E	M	E	C	R
N	E	S	O	C	L	Q	S	I	W	T	I	O	D
O	N	O	T	G	N	I	L	R	A	N	W	P	E
T	N	L	B	D	R	A	V	E	F	D	H	H	L
G	A	D	E	M	E	U	H	A	O	E	I	A	A
N	C	I	C	P	O	T	N	I	L	R	T	G	N
I	I	E	A	W	I	T	X	K	Z	O	E	U	O
H	R	R	E	H	R	J	I	A	N	N	R	S	I
S	E	T	P	Y	R	C	D	Y	R	O	L	G	T
A	M	M	A	R	B	L	E	F	M	H	W	U	A
W	A	Z	A	L	P	W	R	E	A	T	H	N	N

**WORD LIST**

- TOMB
- UNKNOWN
- SOLDIER
- PLAZA
- MEMORIAL
- STEPS
- GLOVES
- INFANTRY
- SACRED
- WHITE
- MARBLE
- SARCOPHAGUS
- WASHINGTON
- GUARD
- SENTINEL
- AMPHITHEATER
- HONORED
- GLORY
- AMERICAN
- GOD
- WREATH
- CRYPT
- ARLINGTON
- NATIONAL
- CEMETERY
- PEACE
- VICTORY
- VALOR
- RITUAL

DEPT OF DEFENSE PHOTO



Thousands visit the Tomb of the Unknowns each year at Arlington National Cemetery—"Where Valor Proudly Sleeps." The Tomb is guarded around the clock by specially trained members of The Old Guard. To learn more, visit [www.arlingtoncemetery.org](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org).  
(Puzzle by K. Beck)

American Legion  
Auxiliary Unit 18 extends  
a heart-felt "thank you"  
to the  
**Housekeeping  
Department**  
at the Howard Johnson  
Inn-Middletown. As  
they did last year, HoJo  
donated toiletries for  
ditty bags for all of the  
students and volunteers  
for this year's Little  
Rhody Boys State and  
Girls State.



[www.newporthojo.com](http://www.newporthojo.com)

### PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS & APPOINTMENTS

Christine L. Hayward, Commander, Historian & PR Chair  
Vincent C. D'Andrea, Sr. Vice Commander & Membership Chair  
(vacant), Jr. Vice Commander  
George Wardwell, Adjutant, Treasurer & Americanism Chair  
Walter Alves, Sgt.-at-Arms  
Don Boucher, Chaplain

**Please attend next meeting (10 JUN 2008) to vote!**

### PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL (PHS) GARDEN CLUB TO PLANT TREES IN MEMORY OF MEMBERS

In the near future, members of the PHS Garden Club will  
gather to plant several trees in memory of long-time  
members Angie Pine and Rachel Alves. Family members will  
be notified of the date and time so they can make plans to  
attend the dedication ceremony.



Check out this web site ([WWW.SKYLIGHTERS.ORG](http://WWW.SKYLIGHTERS.ORG)) dedicated to the  
story of the 225th AAA Searchlight Battalion of WWII. Featured sections:  
a Maproom, the War in Photos, Pinups, the Night Fighters, Antwerp, etc.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS—MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND JOIN US!

**Saturday Mornings (9 AM—10 AM Eastern)**—Listen to Veterans Radio at [www.veteransradio.net](http://www.veteransradio.net).

**Friday, 6 June - Sunday, 8 June**—DEPT OF RI and DEPT OF RI AUXILIARY ANNUAL CONVENTION

**Friday, 6 June - Sunday, 8 June 2008**—Portsmouth Post 18 Baseball Classic (more info on pg. 1)

Friday, 6 June	@ 5:30 PM Aquidneck Island v. Portsmouth Post 18
Saturday, 7 June	@ 11 AM Extra Innings-Warwick v. Portsmouth Post 18
	@ 2 PM Extra Innings-Warwick v. Aquidneck Island
	@ 5 PM NE Ruffnecks v. Aquidneck Island
Sunday, 8 June	@ 11 AM Extra Innings-Warwick v. NE Ruffnecks
	@ 2 PM NE Ruffnecks v. Portsmouth Post 18
	@ 5 PM Championship Game (top two teams)

**Tuesday, 10 June 2008 @ 7 PM**—Joint meeting of Post & Unit 18 at the Post Home (elections).

**Monday, 16 June - Friday, 20 June 2008**—Little Rhody Boys State/Girls State @ Roger  
Williams University. Volunteers/chaperones needed, especially 4 PM-10 PM. Contact Ron Levasseur  
at [ron@riveterans.com](mailto:ron@riveterans.com) or call DEPT HQ @ 401.726.2126.



**Wednesday, 25 June 2008 (Game Time 7:05 PM)- 29th Annual Armed  
Services Night @ MCCoy Stadium (PawSox v. Braves).** There will be **pre-game**  
ceremonies honoring the Armed Services. Special ticket price available for veterans.  
Visit [www.pawsox.com](http://www.pawsox.com) or call 401.724.7300.

**Friday, 4 July 2008**—Happy Independence Day!

**Tuesday, 8 July 2008 @ 7 PM**—Joint meeting of Post & Unit 18 (location to be determined).

**For additional calendar items, please bookmark and visit our web site  
([www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com](http://www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com)) which is updated often.**