

PROUD WINNER OF POST EXCELLENCE AWARD



AMERICAN LEGION POST 18

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www.ALPost18RI.homestead.com



NEWS FROM THE POST ~ Flying InFormation ~ APR—JUN 2019

POST 18 ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY, 4 MAY 2019

@ 10 AM @ CONFERENCE ROOM

@ HOWARD JOHNSON INN

(351 W. Main Rd., Middletown)

- ◆ **Election of Officers**
- ◆ **Scholarship Deliberations**
- ◆ **Guest Speaker**
- ◆ **Luncheon**

Please RSVP so we know how many people to expect for lunch. You may bring a guest! To RSVP, leave message @ 401.236.2224 or e-mail ripost18legion@aol.com.

COMMANDER'S BRIEFING

At Post 18, we want our members to know that we are here for you. If we can't assist you directly, we will try to find resources to improve your quality of life. Our former Commander Vinny D'Andrea recently suffered a stroke. He's learning to overcome new challenges thanks to the nurses and staff at the rehabilitation center. It's not just about meetings, waving the flag and patriotic ceremonies; it's a genuine culture of caring. Sending a card, making a visit or caring phone call, running an errand, collecting mail, walking/checking on pets, providing a healthy meal—these are all things we can and should do for our fellow veterans. Do it! You'll feel good, too!

We hope to see you at our upcoming Annual Meeting (details at left) and/or one of the many events and volunteer opportunities promoted in this issue. We welcome local veterans to "try us on for size" by participating with us in our community, state and nation!

Dave Duggan, Commander
duggan55@gmail.com

REFLAGGING OF GRAVES/ VETERAN GRAVE DATA COLLECTION

SUNDAY, 19 MAY 2019

@ 10:30 AM

Meet @ St. Mary's Church @ 10:30 AM. When done, caravan across the street to Trinity Cemetery. When done, caravan to Portsmouth Burial Ground. Union Cemetery and other smaller cemeteries will be done the same week.

Volunteers needed!

Scouts, students and other patriotic citizens needed to help flag graves and assist with data collection and photo documentation. Water and snacks will be provided. Gloves and sunscreen recommended.

For more info, leave message at 401.236.2224 or e-mail ripost18legion@aol.com.

FALLEN COMRADE CEREMONY

~ Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War ~

TUESDAY, 30 APRIL 2019 from 3:15 to 5:15 PM

Based on Native American warrior welcoming-home rituals, the ceremony restores hope for healing the soul injury that veterans often carry. Ceremony is open to the public and designed to honor veterans while allowing them to lay their burdens down. Wyndham Newport at the Atlantic Resort (240 Aquidneck Ave., Middletown). RSVP to 401.846.0698 or Kim@MemorialFuneralHome.com.

ECHO TAPS WORLDWIDE

SATURDAY, 18 MAY 2019

@ RI VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Brass players & flag holders should report no later than 11 AM. Refreshments will be provided. Ceremony starts promptly at 12 noon. For info or to sign up, contact: BUGLER MICHAEL JACKSON @ istrum4u@cox.net.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Heavenly Father we thank you for your love. We thank You that Your love is poured into every intricate aspect of creation and released to live within our hearts. We come together as Your children, brothers and sisters, to lift You high over our lives. Thank You that Your love can bring great change, hope and life to all. Come God and awaken our spirits to worship. May we learn and grow together as we meet and celebrate Your Grace. Amen.



At left, Past Commander Vinny D'Andrea gets a visit from current Commander Dave Duggan while recuperating from a recent stroke. Prayers for a speedy recovery, Vinny. We love and care about you, brother!

YNCS GinaMarie Doherty, USN (Ret.), Chaplain
yncsgrd@aol.com



The family of **JAMES E. HOLIDAY** (USN/ Korea) in West Virginia reported his passing in April. We pray fond memories comfort his family and friends.



Veteran Angler Charters ("Fishin' with a Mission") offers no-cost charter fishing trips to disabled veterans of all branches of the armed forces, providing our troops with recreational rehabilitation and therapeutic support. Upcoming fundraiser: **20 MAY 2019** from 6 PM to 9 PM at VFW Post 449 located at 197 Providence St., W. Warwick, RI. Celebrity bartenders (Kasim Yarn, Mayor Allan Fung, Pam DiMicco and CAT Country Radio's Phil Marlow), music by DJ Chevelle, appetizers and 50/50 raffle. In RI, charters depart Bristol or Pt. Judith. Visit www.veterananglercharters.org or contact Captain Bagwell at 401.699.1974.

2018—2019 POST 18 OFFICERS

Dave Duggan, Commander
Francis "Cisco" Gutierrez, Sr. Vice CDR
Stephen Doherty, Jr. Vice CDR
Christine Hayward, Adjutant/Webmistress
Stephen Doherty, Treasurer
David Crow, Sergeant-at-Arms
GinaMarie Doherty, Chaplain
CTO1 Daniel Dougherty, USN (Ret.), Membership Chair

NOTE: This newsletter is printed in a larger format for those with 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 18 meetings or events can call 401.236.2224 (leave message) to make arrangements. This award-winning newsletter has an initial distribution of 766 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. Contact: Editor C. Hayward, PO Box 307, Portsmouth, RI 02871 or ripost18legion@aol.com. Member, National American Legion Press Association (NALPA) (www.nalpa.org).

Be **green** and save Post 18 the cost of production and mailing! Subscribe to receive "FI" via e-mail in full color in an easy-to-share PDF format. It's free; membership not required! Send your e-mail address to ripost18legion@aol.com.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Welcome aboard to our new member:

JOSEPH CERRITO
(USN & USAF)



A former State Commander with the VFW, Joe volunteers with us at the RI Veterans Home and participates in Patriot Guard Rider (PGR) flag lines.

Please attend our Post 18 Annual Meeting. Details can be found on PG 1. We will be electing officers to lead us for the coming year. Take a leadership role or learn the ropes with a mentor!

Post 18 has 141 members, most of whom have renewed. You can renew on-line at www.legion.org. If you are wondering about your membership status, please call me at 401.253.8828.

We're thrilled with our stats and hope to see new faces at upcoming meetings and events.

CTO1 Dan Dougherty, USN (Ret.)
Membership Chairman
dansdahlia633@cox.net

The Moving Wall Vietnam Veterans Memorial is Coming to Our Town

By Kim Shute, Community Relations, Memorial Funeral Homes

If Forrest Gump the movie only did one thing for our country, it helped us know more about the Vietnam War through character, Lt. Dan Taylor. Maybe this story made the Vietnam experience more accessible. His character changed from a strong leader as a Lieutenant in the military to a frightened casualty to an addicted survivor to a man who reclaims his life and makes peace with his past. May every veteran who suffered have such an ending and make peace so neatly.

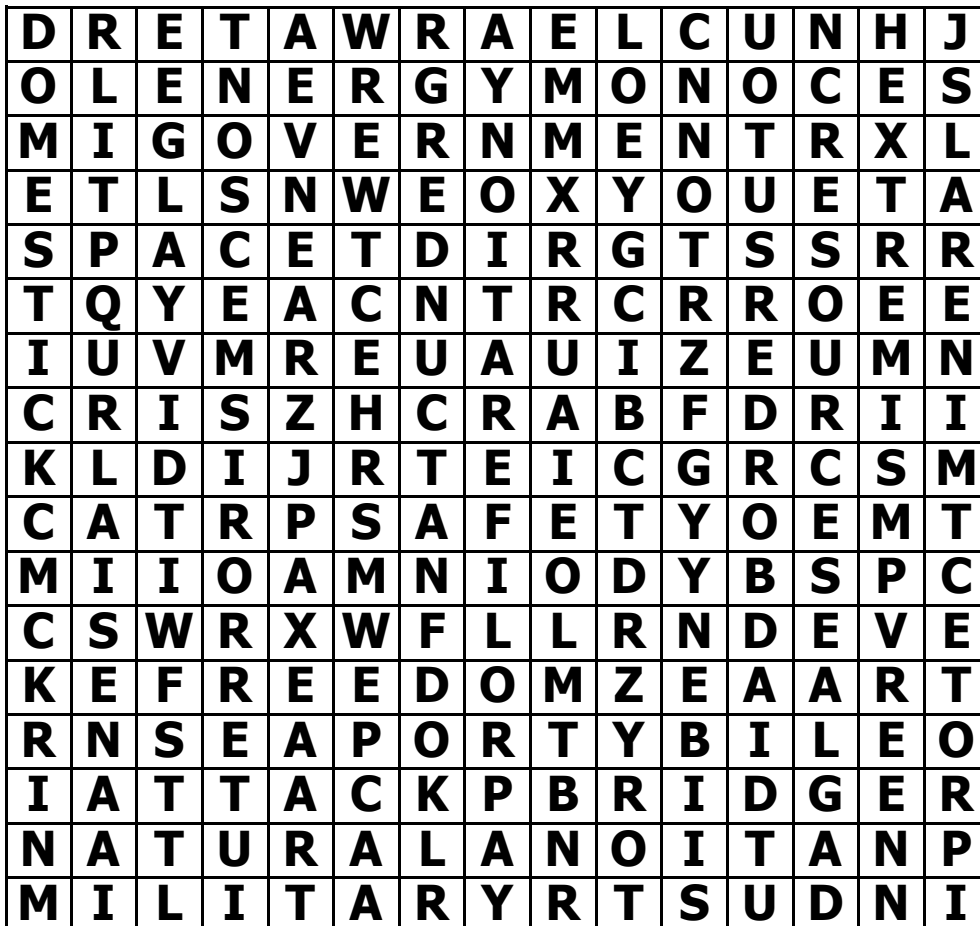
Each individual, family and community decides how and if they will help veterans recover and receive acknowledgement for their service. For over 30 years towns across the United States have been bringing a tool for memorialization, recognition and healing to display in their communities, it is The Moving Wall Vietnam Veterans Memorial. This is an opportunity for Veterans and their families—as well as for lay people and students—to learn first hand about this war and the people who fought in it.

Many veterans and their families have found comfort, both at the Memorial in DC and the Moving Wall. These memorials seem to touch an unresolved part of Vietnam veterans and may bring a sense of peace and reconciliation with a dark time in their lives. If you are a vet or have a member of your family who was touched by this war, please consider joining us 19-23 SEPTEMBER 2019 at Touro Park in Newport, Rhode Island. Maybe this wall could bring a Lt. Dan Taylor closure type of moment to local lives. There will be volunteer opportunities to talk about your war experience with visitors, help locate names of family members and comrades, provide security details, etc. Plans are still being finalized. To learn more or volunteer, visit www.movingwallnewport.org.



NATIONAL SECURITY THEMED WORD FIND

In keeping with our 2019 theme of “**The Four Pillars**,” find these key words in this **National Security** themed puzzle. Think about our citizens and the vulnerable resources our country must protect.



WORD LIST

- | | |
|----------------|---------|
| NATIONAL | ATTACK |
| SECURITY | THREAT |
| NUCLEAR | PROTECT |
| PROLIFERATION | SEAPORT |
| ECONOMY | BRIDGE |
| GOVERNMENT | DAM |
| AGENCY | RAIL |
| NATURAL | CARGO |
| RESOURCES | CLIMATE |
| TERRORISM | LAND |
| EXTREMISM | AIR |
| FOREIGN | SPACE |
| DOMESTIC | WATER |
| INFRASTRUCTURE | CYBER |
| BORDERS | OIL |
| FREEDOM | READY |
| MINERALS | CITIZEN |
| GRID | POWER |
| ENERGY | SAFETY |
| WAR | RISK |
| INDUSTRY | WATER |

CALENDAR OF EVENTS—MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND JOIN US!

SATURDAY, 4 MAY 2019 @ 10 AM—ANNUAL MEETING OF POST 18; elections, scholarship deliberations/voting; guest speaker, lunch. Topic: Four Pillars—National Security.

SATURDAY, 18 MAY 2019—ARMED FORCES DAY; ECHO TAPS @ RI Veterans Memorial Cemetery (details on PG 1)

SUNDAY, 19 MAY 2019 @ 10:30 AM—REFLAGGING OF GRAVES & DATA COLLECTION (details on PG 1)

**For more info and updates, please visit
www.ALPost18RI.homestead.com**

HONOR FLIGHT “VICTORY”



At O'Dark Thirty on 6 APR 2019, the RI Fire Chiefs' Honor Flight Victory departed T. F. Green Airport for our Nation's Capital. Post 18 member Ginny Hanson participated in this first-time, all-female veteran Honor Flight.

Post 18 Adjutant/Past Commander Christine Hayward was proud to be the Ride Captain for the RI Patriot Guard Riders, and Post 18 officers GinaMarie and Steve Doherty were there for the send-off, too.

Sylvia Weber reported: “Wherever we went, I felt at one with all who served.” Our own Billie Dietz accompanied by Francis “Cisco” Gutierrez will be on the next Honor Flight!

www.rihonorflight.com



ARMED FORCES NIGHT @ PAWSOX STADIUM ON FRIDAY, 3 MAY 2019



Free tickets for past, present and future service members. Pre-game/on-field ceremony honors the Armed Forces. Arrive by 5 PM at “Gate A.” For more info, contact Aaron at 401.533.6285 or aweisberg@pawsox.com.

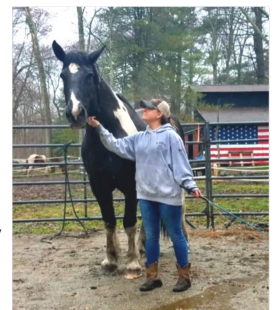
DARE TO DREAM RANCH (D2DR) UPDATE



Dare to Dream Ranch (12 Snagwood Rd., Foster, RI) is growing quickly and receiving requests for individual programs as well as retreats from veterans from across the country.

A new monthly undertaking at the Ranch—**Vendor Fair**—allows the community to support local crafters and tour D2DR to learn more about the programs and volunteer opportunities. The first Vendor Fair is Sunday, 28 April 2019 from 10 AM to 4 PM. Vendor space: \$35.

DreamLineApparel has been created to fund not only Dare to Dream Ranch programs, but as we grow, to offer grants to other alternative therapy programs. On a recent trip to pick up yard work supplies for our corporate community service day with Enterprise, the cashier asked about the purchase.



I took the opportunity to tell her about Dare to Dream Ranch. She teared up because she is the caregiver for a terminally ill veteran with ALS that used to ride Lipizzaner horses. I invited them out to the Ranch. To be able to be open during the day, night and weekends we need revenue to pay for our programs. You can find our online store and new designs on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/DreamLineApparel6> or the website directly at <https://daretodreamranch.itemorder.com/sale>