

PROUD WINNER OF POST EXCELLENCE AWARD



AMERICAN LEGION POST 18
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 18
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NEWS FROM THE POST ~ **Flying InFormation** ~ NOV/DEC 2014

COMMANDER'S BRIEFING

A year in the planning phase, our joint Veterans Day ceremony at Portsmouth H. S. was outstanding with nearly 350 attendees in the auditorium and another 30+ prepping the outdoor portion. Honorees humbly accepted the certificates, proclamations, ball caps (presented by Scouts) and bracelets (made and presented by military youth). The Program—which is available for download on our web site—provides details on sponsors, speakers, performers and those that helped make the event a success. The following organizers deserve special recognition: Carolyn Evans-Carbery, Christine Hayward and Carlton Johnson.

Professor John P. Mangold, PhD, LtCol, USMC (Ret.), Commander
jmangold@liberty.edu



VETERANS DAY
"WELCOME HOME"
CEREMONY
(photos by Paula Visnoski)



"WELCOME HOME" CEREMONY (CONTINUED FROM PG 1)



Two Post 18 members attended a wreath-laying ceremony conducted at Island Cemetery Annex in remembrance of sailors from the German submarines U853 and U550 sunk in our harbor during WWII. Commander Christoph Otto Ciliax, a German officer attending the Naval Command College, presided over the annual memorial ceremony.



MGEN Kevin McBride, USA, attended St. Barbara Night at the Artillery Company of Newport HQ on 6 DEC 2014. The punch was potent, the toasts were



numerous and the ceremony was steeped in tradition. Attendees brought gifts to be distributed to needy children. Members wanted for historical re-enactments and living history. Learn more at: www.newportartillery.org.



GIVING THEMED PUZZLE

There are many ways to contribute to the local causes you love. While monetary donations help keep non-profit organizations running, in-kind donations of furniture, clothing, groceries and supplies help, too. Donating your talent, skill or time, recruiting others to participate or join and helping to spread the word are valuable ways that you can support charities in your community. For example, the RI Veterans Home and local nursing homes need large-print books and magazines for their lending libraries. Stop in and play a game of cards or cribbage. Register to volunteer at the Military Lounge at the airport (see PG 6).

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WORD LIST

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|-------------|------------|
| SPONSORSHIP | EVENT |
| DONATION | FUNDRAISER |
| MATCHING | RECRUIT |
| GIFT | MEMBERS |
| MEDIA | TEAM |
| PARTNERS | STRATEGY |
| ACT | PLANNED |
| MARKETING | GIVING |
| LOCAL | VALUE |
| COMMUNITY | TIME |
| SUPPORT | MONEY |
| CHARITY | IN KIND |
| TALENT | SILENT |
| HEART | AUCTION |
| HOPE | NEEDY |



Kudos to the Newport Chapter of the **Surface Navy Association (SNA) (www.navysna.org)** for bringing the **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA** tradition to Newport on 13 DEC 2014. Naval Sea Cadets—NCBC Battalion (www.seacadets.org) provided the color guard, MUCS (SW) Don Chilton, USN (Ret.) played TAPS and his son SPC William Chilton, USA, 88th Army Band of RI provided the “echo.” Guest speaker was CAPT David Welch, USN, President of the SNA. Master of Ceremonies and organizer LCDR John Benda, USN hopes to continue the tradition next year. Sponsors will be needed for wreaths.

TREASURER'S REPORT

I recently attended a presentation at Atria in Portsmouth to learn more about the Honor Flights sponsored by the Rhode Island Association of Fire Chiefs Foundation. Retired Chief George S. Farrell, President, RIAFC Foundation was the presenter assisted by Portsmouth Fire Chief and Deputy Chief Michael O'Brien. Three WWII veterans donning their Honor Flight t-shirts were in the audience to share details of their recent trip to Washington. Retired Master Chief Carl Peterson and newly transferred member Vincent Roche who relocated to the area from Connecticut also attended to learn more about the program. Post 18 member Walter Alves participated earlier this year. The Foundation sponsors two flights a year between March and November. The round trip tour to our nation's Capitol is free to veterans in most cases. Each veteran has a sponsor (can be an able-bodied family member) assigned to them for the entire trip. At present, WWII veterans are given priority due to the age consideration. In the next few years, the offer will be expanded to include Korean War and Vietnam veterans. In RI, 8 flights have been conducted since 2005 carrying a total of 231 vets. An application (including permission from a medical doctor) is necessary prior to being considered for the trip. The tour includes military monuments, Arlington National Cemetery to view the Changing of the Guard and other stops. Safety is a number one concern. The flight leaves from T. F. Green in Providence to Baltimore; then a luxury motor coach takes you to Washington for the day. Meals, snacks and beverages are free to the veterans. Participants report it was one of the most memorable days of their lives. Download application and details at www.rifirechiefs.com or you can call Chief Farrell directly at 401.741.7999.

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RMC George Wardwell, USNR (Ret.)
Treasurer/Past CDR**



ADJUTANT'S REPORT



Helping to plan and execute the “Welcome Home” ceremony was rewarding. I thank the Posts and their Auxiliaries and the local community for supporting the showing of “Good Morning, Vietnam” at Jane Pickens Theater & Event Center to honor both Vietnam-era veterans and the late Robin Williams who was a huge supporter of the USO. Pre and post event coverage provided by Newport Daily News, NAVALOG, Patch, Providence Journal and Newport This Week.



**ripost18legion@aol.com
Christine Hayward, ADJ/Past CDR**

2014—2015 POST 18 OFFICERS

Prof. John P. Mangold, LtCol, USMC (Ret.), Commander
Vincent C. D'Andrea, Sr. Vice Commander
CTO1 Dan Dougherty, USNR (Ret.), Jr. Vice Commander
Christine Hayward, Adjutant/Webmistress
RMC George Wardwell, USNR (Ret.), Treasurer
Walter Alves, Sgt.-at-Arms
Marty Lynch, USN, Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms
Ken Williams, Chaplain

2014—2015 UNIT 18 OFFICERS

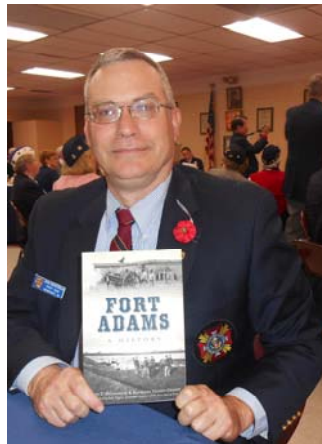
Christine Hayward, President
Lisa Hoffman, Vice President
Veronica "Roni" Perry, Secretary
Janet Gill, Treasurer
Judy Bento & Denise Higgins, Co-Chaplains
Shannon Fuentes, Junior Advisor

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 or Unit 18 meetings or events can call 401.683.6148 to make arrangements. This award-winning newsletter has an initial distribution of 845 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 4499, Middletown, RI 02842 or ripost18legion@aol.com.



The **2014 Annual Congress of the Naval Order of the United States (NOUS)** was held in Newport, RI from 30 OCT to 1 NOV. Members from commanderies around the country heard speakers on topics centered around the theme "Newport—Then & Now" and enjoyed local tours. The Order's mission is to encourage research and writing on naval and maritime subjects and promote the preservation of historic artifacts and memories of our maritime history. Founded in 1890, NOUS is the oldest such organization in the U.S. The Newport Commandery, under the leadership of retired Chief Petty Officer George Wardwell,

Local VFW and American Legion officer and Artillery Co. of Newport member John Duchesneau co-authored **FORT ADAMS—A HISTORY** with Kathleen Troost-Cramer. Explore the history of the most notable commanding officers of the fort, the changing role of women within the community and the legacy left behind by the families who called the fort home.



Available as an e-book for Nook and Kindle, and at Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble and other fine retailers. Congratulations, John!



Check out Fort Adams Trust on Facebook® or www.fortadams.org

hosted the event. Lectures by Naval War College professors and other speakers including Admiral James Hogg, Keith Stokes, Captain Richard Bailey and Bart Dunbar of SSV *Oliver Hazard Perry*, and the Command Master Chief Petty Officer of USS *Constitution*, Nancy Estrada educated attendees. The Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award was bestowed upon former Secretary of the Navy John Lehman. In attendance were former Secretary of the Navy, Ambassador J. William Middendorf II, and Medal of Honor recipient Captain Thomas Hudner. The Distinguished Sea Service Award was bestowed upon General James Mattis, USMC (Ret.), former commander of U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM). General Mattis is currently a Hoover Fellow at Stanford University. The 2015 Congress will be in New Orleans.

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS—MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND JOIN US!

NOTE: We will be “dark” (no meeting) in January.

SATURDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 2015 @ 12:30 PM—Joint meeting of Post & Unit 18 @ RI Veterans Home, 480 Metacom Avenue, Bristol. We will conduct a brief meeting prior to hosting our annual Valentine's Day Themed BINGO (details below). This is weather permitting!

WEDNESDAY, 5 MARCH 2015 @ 7 PM—Meeting of Post 18 @ VFW Post 5390, Common Fence Point, 822 Anthony Rd., Portsmouth. This is weather permitting!

For more info and updates, please visit www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com where you can download this and archived issues of our award-winning newsletter.

WELCOME ABOARD OUR NEW/
TRANSFERRING MEMBERS

POST 18

PETER DAVIS, SR. (U.S. Navy)

VINCENT ROCHE (U.S. Army)

ELLIOTT WHITNEY, SR. (U.S. Air Force)

Do you know someone eligible for membership? Let us know so we can get them on board! Prompt renewal helps minimize the expense of reminders. Those funds can be put to better use supporting veterans, our troops and military families!

**VALENTINE'S DAY
THEMED BINGO
@ RI VETERANS
HOME @ 1 PM ON
SATURDAY
7 FEB 2015**



Socialize, help vets play their cards and award prizes at our annual Post & Unit 18 Valentine's Day Themed BINGO. Wear red, pink and/or white. (Note: This is the week BEFORE Valentine's Day so you can spend that special day with your sweetheart!)



NEWS FROM UNIT 18

I'm using my space to share more pics! Above, the Sisson Memorial after our “Welcome Home” ceremony at Portsmouth High School. At left, vets from US Veterans Motorcycle Club at Newport's WAA event.



Please check on your neighbors, the elderly and pets as winter weather approaches. Be kind and generous with your time and talents.

**ripost18legion@aol.com
Christine Hayward, President**

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

If you would like to volunteer at the **Military Lounge at T. F. Green Airport**, you'll need to complete an application, orientation and background check. The next orientation class will be held on Friday, 9 JANUARY 2015 @ 5 PM at Beacon Mutual Insurance, 1 Beacon Centre, Warwick. For application, e-mail [rimovolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:rिमovolunteer@gmail.com) or visit www.rimilvets.org.



SFC William McCollum, USA (Ret.) and BGEN James D'Agostino, USAF (Ret.) flank **Veteran of the Year CAPT Shirley Ann Hill, NC, USN (Ret.)** on 9 NOV 2014. Photo credit: George Wardwell

