



AMERICAN LEGION POST 18
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 18

PO Box 307, Portsmouth, RI 02871

Phone: 401.683.6148

www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com



"Land of the Free Because of the Brave"

20 April 2014

Attn: Mr. Gene Pytka, Adjutant
American Legion DEPT of RI

Attn: Ms. Beverly Burns, Secretary
American Legion Auxiliary DEPT of RI

Dear Mr. Pytka and Ms. Burns:

Enclosed please find our battery of Annual Reports for 2013-2014 to be distributed to the various Program/Committee Chairs. Most especially, I would appreciate it if you would give the DEPT/DEPT AUX Chaplains our reports so those members will be included in the Memorial Service.

POST 18

AMERICANISM
BASEBALL
BOYS STATE
CHAPLAIN
CHILDREN & YOUTH
COMMUNITY SERVICE
EDUCATION
HISTORIAN
JR SHOOTING SPORTS
LEGISLATIVE
MEMBERSHIP
NATIONAL SECURITY
PUBLIC RELATIONS
VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHAB

UNIT 18

AMERICANISM
CHAPLAIN
CHILDREN & YOUTH
COMMUNITY SERVICE
EDUCATION
GIRLS STATE
HISTORIAN
JUNIORS
LEGISLATIVE
MEMBERSHIP
NATIONAL SECURITY
POPPY
PUBLIC RELATIONS
VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHAB

Working in concert with our Unit, it has been a pleasure to represent the veteran community here on Aquidneck Island both in leadership and support roles.

Respectfully,

Christine L. Hayward
Adjutant/Past Commander—Post 18
President—Unit 18



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ANNUAL REPORT—AMERICANISM (PG 1 of 4)—2013-2014



Post 18 members John Mangold, Walter Alves, David Crow, and David Hayward and Dual Post & Unit 18 members Janet Gill and Christine Hayward were proud to march onto the field with our banner at **McCoy Stadium's 34th Annual Armed Forces Night (27 JUN 2013)**. Naval Sea Cadets provided our Color Guard. We were flanked on the field by the **RI**



Military Youth group.



Many members of Post and Unit 18 participated in several Memorial Day ceremonies on Aquidneck Island including the "strewing of the flowers into the ocean" at Storer Park and the larger ceremony at Newport City Hall (**26 MAY 2013**). Post 18's SGT-AT-ARMS Walter Alves proudly held Old Glory in the Color Guard and Post 18 member Michael Pine represented service members from WWI in period dress along with Unit 18 member Leslie Pine.



Unit 18 provided hand-held flags with safety ball tips to the student bodies of both Hathaway Elementary School and Melville Elementary School for their **FLAG DAY** programs (**14 JUN 2013**).

POST 18

TIME: 410 HOURS

COST: \$1,416.33

**PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD
POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN**

UNIT 18

TIME: 230 HOURS

COST: \$296.24

ANNUAL REPORT—AMERICANISM (PG 2 of 4)—2013-2014



Several members of Post & Unit 18 participated in **ECHO TAPS WORLDWIDE** at the RI Veterans Cemetery in Exeter. Event is promoted and volunteer brass players are recruited in our newsletter and on our web site.

(18 MAY 2013 & 17 MAY 2014)



FLAG COLLECTION STATION & FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY



On **12 JUN 2013**, ten members of Post & Unit 18 joined our friends from Post 104 & Unit 11 at their annual Flag Retirement Ceremony in Warren. Thousands of flags were inspected and sorted prior to the ceremony led by **Post 104 CDR Dave McCarthy**. Students and Scouts brought forth the flags to veterans who manned the fire pit under the watchful eyes of firefighters from Warren's Engine #5.



Kudos to Post 18 member **David Crow** who organized, promoted and manned a tattered flag collection station at Clements' Market on **9 JUN 2013**.

LtCol John Mangold also collected tattered flags from various commands at Naval Station Newport.



BEIRUT MEMORIAL CEREMONY

The annual ceremony marking the anniversary of the Beirut Bombing was held at the Portsmouth Historical Society. Nearly cancelled at the last minute

due to illness of the event's long-time organizer, a few members of the community (most notably Charlie Masterson and Dual Post & Unit 18 member Christine Hayward) stepped up resulting in the best-attended ceremony on record. Post & Unit 18 designed and

paid for the production of the program (copy attached). Unit 18 member Lis Mullen's brother and brother-in-law both died in the attack on the Marine Barracks in 1983. Several members of Post & Unit 18 attended the solemn ceremony marking the 30 year anniversary. **(23 OCT 2013)**



Post 18's Americanism Chair Dave Duggan Presented a 6' x 10' flag to Robert E. Littlefield, M.Ed., Principal of Portsmouth High School on **16 OCT 2013**.



ANNUAL REPORT—AMERICANISM (PG 3 of 4)—2013-2014



FLAGGING GRAVES ON AQUIDNECK ISLAND

Members of Post & Unit 18 along with Scouts and fellow citizens/students from the community flag graves at 3 Portsmouth cemeteries; 2 Newport cemeteries and historic Fort Adams (**18—20 MAY 2013**). We also added a Middletown cemetery at the request of the caretaker. We will be flagging again **17-19 MAY 2014**. Students earned community service hours for badges/school and Scouting. We also provide flags to the caretakers to replace tattered/damaged flags throughout the year or to ensure a flag is placed at a new veteran's gravesite.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS (JWV)

Post 18 member Kim Ripoli (below right) was a keynote speaker at the annual JWV Memorial Ceremony on **26 MAY 2013**. Post & Unit 18 members stood in a PGR flag line at the event attended by dignitaries from around the state. Founded in 1896, the JWV is the oldest active veterans' organization.



Members of Post and Unit 18 participated in a RI Patriot Guard Riders flag line at the annual **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA** event at the RI Veterans Cemetery On **14 DEC 2013**. Green scarves, WAA pins and patches were distributed to volunteers courtesy of Post & Unit 18. US/RI crossed flag pins were distributed to attendees courtesy of Post & Unit 18. Holiday corsages were made by Unit 18 members and distributed to the DEPT OF RI AUX contingent and visiting guest from National.



Bill Pennoyer (Post 12) organized the **PATRIOTS DAY** ceremony at the RI Veterans Cemetery on **11 SEP 2013**.

Two Post 18 members stood in the flag line with the RI Patriot Guard Riders. Members from Chapters 2 and 3 of the RI Korean War Veterans Association and the Kent County Marine Corps League provided the Color Guard, the RI Funeral Honors Team provided the rifle volley and bugler, Lindsay Cashman sang the National Anthem and Rev. William Reynolds of the Free Will Baptist Church offered prayers.

Guest speakers Kim Ripoli (Associate Director of Veterans Affairs) and Greg Wallace (Exeter #1 Volunteer Fire Department) encouraged attendees to remember those who perished, honor first responders, the military and those who guard our way of life, and to cherish each day. At left above, Kim Ripoli (Post 18) and Ginny Hanson (WAVES and Post 18). At left, Michael Jackson.



ANNUAL REPORT—AMERICANISM (PG 4 of 4)—2013-2014



On 8 SEP 2013, six Post & Unit 18 members were on hand when the DEPT OF RI dedicated a 12' x 18' flag to historic Fort Adams. At right, Post 18's Mike Pine as WWI "Doughboy."



VETERANS DAY

@ PORTSMOUTH TOWN HALL

Please visit our web site for link to the program with speaker/performer names and more photos of our ceremony and honorees. Special thanks to Scott Jamieson for photography.

www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com
(11 NOV 2013)



We were honored to be invited to speak at a **VETERANS DAY CEREMONY** @ the John Clarke Retirement Center in Middletown, RI on **7 NOV 2013**.

Left to right: Ken Williams, Chaplain, American Legion Post 18; Arthur Plymesser, Past CDR, American Legion Post 18; Carolyn Evans-Carbery, Project Blue Star Co-ordinator and Rosie; Christine Hayward, Adjutant/Past CDR, American Legion Post 18/President of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 18 and Professor John P. Mangold, LtCol, USMC (Ret.), CDR, American Legion Post 18.



VETERANS DAY @ NEWPORT CITY HALL (11 NOV 2013)

Post 18 Co-Historian Tony Cercena at right; Mike Pine (Post 18 & Artillery Co. of Newport) as WWI dough boy with wife Leslie (Unit 18 & Artillery Co. of



Newport); and LCDR Shawn Stebbins, USN, with Post 18's Sgt.-at-Arms Walter Alves and Post 7's Edmond Lopes.



POST & UNIT 18 PETITIONED THE TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH TO DECLARE 11-17 NOV 2013 "GREATEST GENERATION WEEK" AND AREA VENDORS OFFERED DISCOUNTS TO WWII AND KOREAN WAR ERA VETERANS. SEE ATTACHED VETERANS DAY PROGRAM.



**Town Council
of the
Town Of Portsmouth**

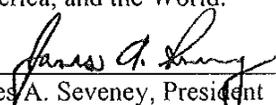
2200 East Main Road / Portsmouth, Rhode Island 02871

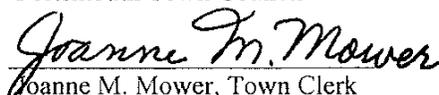
GREATEST GENERATION WEEK PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS: Aquidneck Island has always provided its best and brightest sons and daughters to serve our nation during times of peace and war; and
- WHEREAS: this year, as American men and women continue to fight for the security and the freedom of their fellow man, we also remember previous generations of veterans that stood up against tyranny and against those who would do Americans harm; and
- WHEREAS: President Eisenhower signed the first national Veterans Day proclamation in 1954 for "us to solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom, and to let us re-consecrate ourselves to the task of promoting an enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain;" and
- WHEREAS: it has long been our custom to commemorate November 11th – the anniversary of the ending of World War I – by paying tribute to the heroes of that tragic struggle and by rededicating ourselves to the cause of peace; and
- WHEREAS: the generation who grew up in the United States during the deprivation of the Great Depression, and then went on to fight in World War II and the Korean War, as well as those whose productivity here on the home front made a decisive material contribution to the war effort, for which the generation is also termed the G.I. Generation and the Greatest Generation; and
- WHEREAS: the courage, dedication, self-sacrifice, and compassion of this Greatest Generation have inspired subsequent generations, including those currently in service around the world; and
- WHEREAS: the entire Greatest Generation, military and civilians alike, has provided a model of unity and community that serves as a source of inspiration for current and future generations of Americans to come together to work for the continued betterment of the United States and the world:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Town of Portsmouth does hereby declare the period 11 November 2013 through 17 November 2013 as Greatest Generation Appreciation Week in Portsmouth and asks the citizens to honor World War II and Korean War Veterans and those who served on the home front and their families for their outstanding service to Rhode Island, America, and the World.




James A. Seveney, President
Portsmouth Town Council

ATTEST: 
Joanne M. Mower, Town Clerk

Certificate of Appreciation

Awarded to

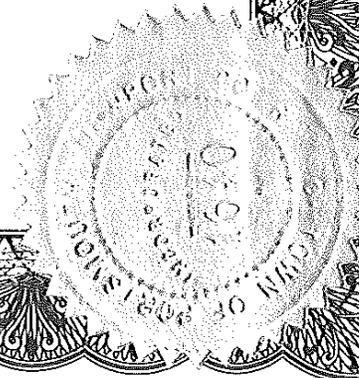
James Bartram

*on this 11th Day of the 11th Month of 2013
in recognition of Service to our Country as a member of the*

"Greatest Generation"

On behalf of the Town of Portsmouth, Rhode Island


James Seweeney
President, Portsmouth Town Council





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ANNUAL REPORT—BASEBALL—2013-2014

Excerpt from JUL/AUG 2013 "Flying InFormation"



On Saturday, 6 JUL 2013, we hope members make plans to watch our team under the lights at historic Cardines Field in Newport—one of the oldest ball fields in the country! For the team's schedule, visit the web site below.

WWW.RILEGIONBASEBALL.ORG

We now sponsor two teams competing in Legion Baseball! Members attend games and wear our Legion regalia while cheering on the teams. We donate sports beverages for the players. The team is featured regularly during the season in our newsletter and on our web site. We regularly replace the flag at the PHS Baseball Field. The local media provides great coverage of Legion Baseball, and our coach, Dave Ulmschneider, is well-respected in the League.

R & R CONSTRUCTION-POST 18 SR. AMERICAN LEGION

- ~ 16 of the 18 available roster spots have been offered and accepted by players from Tiverton HS, Portsmouth HS, Middletown HS, Rogers HS and St. George's.
- ~ The coach is reviewing the budget will try to purchase new uniform jerseys that will better reflect their proud affiliation with Post 18.
- ~ Non-league schedule begins on 2 JUN 2014 at Fall River (MA) Post 464 (Thomas Chew Park, Globe St., Fall River MA) at 5:30 PM. Additional non-league games will be added.
- ~ 22-game RI Sr. American Legion Baseball League Schedule begins on 16 JUN 2014 at New England Frozen Lemonade-Shields Post 43 (Warwick Veterans HS, West Shore Rd., Warwick RI) at 5:30 PM.
- ~ First home league game is scheduled for 19 JUN 2014 vs. South Kingstown Post 39 at Cardines Field in Newport at 7:30 PM.
- ~ The team will be participating in the annual Burdell Bailey Coopers Cave Sr. American Legion Invitational Tournament in Saratoga Springs, NY from 8—13 JUL 2014. We will play a minimum of 5 games while in New York.
- ~ This year's team will be managed by Dave Ulmschneider (15th year). He will be assisted by retired Navy LCDR Christopher Rankin and Jim Thomas.

TOM'S LAWN & GARDEN-PORTSMOUTH POST 18 JR. AMERICAN LEGION

- ~ 18 players from Portsmouth HS, Tiverton HS, Bishop Connolly HS and Bishop Stang HS.
- ~ 18-game RI Jr. American Legion Baseball League Schedule to be released on 30 APR 2014.
- ~ Team will play nearby rival R&R Construction-Post 7 on 26 JUN 2014 @ 7:30 PM, at Cardines Field in Newport, and on 10 JUL 2014 @ 6:00 PM, at Cardines Field in Newport.
- ~ Home games to be played primarily on Mondays and Fridays (beginning on 13 JUN 2014) at the Gardner Seveney Sports Complex on East Main Rd. in Portsmouth.
- ~ The team will be managed by Bob Campion (2nd year). He will be assisted by Keith MacDonald (2nd year).

Overall, a total of 36 young men from all over Aquidneck Island will be representing Post 18 this year on the diamond.

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD, POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

POST 18
TIME: 32 HOURS
COST: \$525



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ANNUAL REPORT—BOYS & GIRLS STATE—2013-2014

A dual Post & Unit 18 member helped promote the Little Rhody Boys and Girls State programs by including it in our award-winning veterans newsletter, posting it on our web site, and submitting photos and stories to LegionTown, USA, Facebook® and other social media. She also wrote to Guidance Counselors at Newport County public and private high schools to make them aware of the programs.

A dual member of Post & Unit 18 also served as an overnight chaperone for Girls State, and participated in discussions regarding Bill writing and lobbying. In addition, she brought the female Commander of Post 22-Jamestown with her to mentor her in the duties of chaperoning and educate her about both the Little Rhody Boys State and Girls State programs and Boys Nation and Girls Nation. **(9-14 JUN 2013)** Both plan to volunteer as overnight chaperones again in JUN 2014.

Members have attended, supported and/or helped promote several fundraisers in our newsletter and on our web site. Post 18 donated \$_____ to Little Rhody Boys State in MAY 2014. Unit 18 donated \$_____ to Little Rhody Girls State in MAY 2014.

SCENES FROM LITTLE RHODY BOYS STATE/ GIRLS STATE

9-14 JUN 2013

@ ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY



POST 18

TIME: 20 HOURS
COST: \$_____

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD
POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

UNIT 18

TIME: 20 HOURS
COST: \$_____



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ANNUAL REPORT—CHAPLAIN (PG 1 of 2) —2013-2014

"Get Well" and "Sympathy" cards are sent to members and their families by Chaplain Ken Williams. These members joined **POST EVERLASTING** during this reporting period:

- **FRED TANTIMONICO** of Florida; on or about **23 MAY 2013 (FORMER MEMBER)**
- **NORTON H. GOOSELL** of Rye, NH; on or about **1 AUG 2013**
- **EDWARD R. HURLEY** of Portsmouth; on or about **24 OCT 2013**
- **WILLIAM N. NAPERT, JR** of Fall River, MA; on or about **28 JAN 2014**
- **EDWARD F. MURPHY** of Portsmouth; on or about **11 FEB 2014**

BEIRUT MEMORIAL CEREMONY

The annual ceremony marking the anniversary of the Beirut Bombing was held at the Portsmouth Historical Society. Nearly cancelled at the last minute due to illness of the event's long-time organizer, a few members of the community (most notably Charlie Masterson and Dual Post & Unit 18 member Christine Hayward) saved the event. Post & Unit 18 designed and paid for the production of the program (copy attached). Unit 18 member Lis Mullen's brother and brother-in-law both died in the attack on the Marine Barracks in 1983. Several members of Post & Unit 18 attended the solemn ceremony marking the 30 year anniversary. **(23 OCT 2013)**



Many members of Post and Unit 18 participated in several **MEMORIAL DAY** ceremonies on Aquidneck Island including the "strewing of the flowers" at Storer Park representing those **lost at sea** and the larger ceremony at Newport City Hall **(26 MAY 2013)**. Post 18's SGT-AT-ARMS Walter Alves proudly held Old Glory in the Color Guard and Post 18 member Michael Pine represented service members from WWI in period dress along with Unit 18 member Leslie Pine.



PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD, POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

POST 18
TIME: 191 HOURS
COST: \$132.85

ANNUAL REPORT—CHAPLAIN (PG 2 of 2) —2013-2014

We were proud to participate in the annual **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA** ceremony at the RI Veterans Cemetery on **14 DEC 2013**. It was standing room only!"



ECHO TAPS WORLDWIDE

Several members of Post & Unit 18 participated in Echo Taps Worldwide at the RI Veterans Cemetery in Exeter. Event is promoted and volunteer brass players are recruited in our newsletter and on our web site. **(18 MAY 2013 & 17 MAY 2014)**



GOLD STAR PARENTS WELCOME VISIT

Gold Star Mother and Unit 18 member Melane Paranzino and her husband Butch were visited by **Michael Verardo** of Middletown who was injured in Afghanistan in 2010. He placed a flag at their son's grave for Memorial Day. **SGT Michael Paranzino** was KIA on 5 NOV 2010 in Kandahar. The Army Reserve Center in Newport is named in his honor. The family recently attended a remembrance ceremony at Ft. Drum, NY, where Michael was assigned with the 10th Mountain Division. May God bless and grant comfort to all Gold Star families.



Several members of Post & Unit 18 also belong to the RI Patriot Guard Riders. Donning our Legion caps or poppy scarves, members stand in flag lines at wakes, funerals, memorial ceremonies (such as **ECHO TAPS; RI GARDEN OF HEROES; WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**), welcome home and deployment ceremonies, etc. We provide refreshments and flag pins for other volunteers. **(YEAR ROUND/ONGOING)**

A bugler from **BUGLES ACROSS AMERICA** was contacted to perform TAPS at the outdoor, wreath-laying portion of our annual Veterans Day ceremony on **11 NOV 2013**.





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ANNUAL REPORT—CHAPLAIN (PG 1 of 2)—2013-2014

New **Chaplain Judy Bento** and **Assistant Chaplain Elizabeth "Betty" Williams** sends sympathy, get well, thank you, congratulations and "thinking of you" cards to members, their families, DEPT/DEPT AUX and National leadership. The following member passed to the **GREAT BEYOND** during this reporting period:

• NONE TO REPORT!

BEIRUT MEMORIAL CEREMONY

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We provide refreshments and flag pins for other volunteers. **(YEAR ROUND/ONGOING)**

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD, UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

UNIT 18
TIME: 50 HOURS
COST: \$50

ANNUAL REPORT—CHAPLAIN (PG 2 of 2)—2013-2014

Several members of Post & Unit 18 participated in **ECHO TAPS WORLDWIDE** at the RI Veterans Cemetery in Exeter. Event is promoted and volunteer brass players are recruited in our newsletter and on our web site.



(18 MAY 2013 &
17 MAY 2014)



We were proud to participate in the annual **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA** ceremony at the RI Veterans Cemetery on **14 DEC 2013**. It was "standing room only!"



GOLD STAR PARENTS WELCOME VISIT

Gold Star Mother and Unit 18 member Melane Paranzino and her husband Butch were visited by **Michael Verardo** of Middletown who was injured in Afghanistan in 2010. He placed a flag at their son's grave for Memorial Day. **SGT**



Michael Paranzino was KIA on 5 NOV 2010 in Kandahar Province. The Army Reserve Center in Newport is named in his honor. The family recently attended a remembrance ceremony at Ft. Drum, NY, where Michael was assigned with the 10th Mountain Division. May God bless and grant comfort to all Gold Star families.

In collaboration with our friends from the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 5390, Unit 18 provided poppies, the story of the poppy and poppy postcards with postage affixed for the 3rd graders at Hathaway Elementary School.

Students learned about the significance of the poppy and the postcard include the poem "In Flanders Fields." (**NOV 2013**)

A bugler from **BUGLES ACROSS AMERICA** was contacted to perform TAPS at the outdoor, wreath-laying portion of our annual Veterans Day ceremony on **11 NOV 2013**.





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ANNUAL REPORT—CHILDREN & YOUTH (PG 1 of 2)—2013-2014



Once again, our friends at **BankNewport®** held a **“BACK TO SCHOOL-CHILDREN’S BOOK DRIVE”** in partnership with United Way of RI’s Women’s Leadership Council and *Books Are Wings*. Dual member Christine Hayward donated 36 books. The age-appropriate books and school supplies were distributed during a local backpack give-away in mid-August. We hope to revive the Unit’s tradition of donating patriotic comic books from Legion Emblem Sales next year! **(JUL 2013)**

For the 7th year in a row, members of Post & Unit 18 donated trees to **Cub Scout Pack 50** for planting and further distribution in honor of **EARTH DAY** (22 APR 2014) and **ARBOR DAY** (25 APR 2014). This year, the apricot trees and orange azaleas were selected to provide honey bee support. Educational word find puzzles (sample attached) were also distributed to area schools, Visiting Nurse Services and hotels. **(APR 2014)**



SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED—JUNE 2013

ELIZABETH MOSTERT—\$1,000
KATELYN KUCERA—\$500
EMILY GORDON—\$250
SAMANTHA TURCOTTE—\$250

Unit 18 donated art supplies to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center’s After School Program. Supplies included postcards with postage affixed. Students decorate front of postcard and practice letter writing skills on back! **(NOV 2013)**



POST & UNIT 18 sponsored a booth with a “Lollipop Tree” on 1 **SEP 2013** at the **PORTSMOUTH 375 FAMILY DAY** event. “Tree” made and painted by Unit 18 member; booth manned by and prizes and lollipops supplied by both Post & Unit 18.



Unit 18 provided hand-held flags with safety ball tips to the student bodies of both Hathaway Elementary School and Melville Elementary School for their **FLAG DAY** programs. **(14 JUN 2013)**

POST 18
TIME: 162 HOURS
COST: \$1,991.65

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD
POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

UNIT 18
TIME: 93 HOURS
COST: \$689.00

ANNUAL REPORT—CHILDREN & YOUTH (PG 2 of 2)—2013-2014



NAVAL SEA CADETS and **CUB AND BOY SCOUTS** regularly provide Color Guards for our events for which they receive a small donation. **(YEAR ROUND)**



In collaboration with our friends from the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 5390, we provided poppies, the story of the poppy and poppy postcards with postage affixed for the 3rd graders at Hathaway Elementary School.

The event included a flag folding demonstration by sailors from Naval Station Newport. Interim Superintendent RADM Barbara McGann, USN (Ret.) spoke about the importance of Veterans Day. **(NOV 2013)**

On 27 OCT 2013, the **SGT BRIAN R. STGERMAIN FOUNDATION** hosted a fundraiser to support renovations to the West Warwick High School track. Post 18 sponsored a sign in the Walk-A-Thon, and several members of Post 18 & Unit 18 walked the track, enjoyed the breakfast and donated items at the **TOYS FOR TOTS** collection station. Below: Post 2's Michael Graichen and Post 18's David Hayward flank the Marines.



Post & Unit 18 members help promote (via newsletter & web site) C & Y events. We also support Operation: Military Kids; Boys State and Girls State; Junior Shooting Sports; Legion Baseball and JROTC (Rogers High School)/ROTC (URI).

Purchased 40 purple wrist bands from 4-H to support "Month of the Military Child." **(APR 2014)**

Post & Unit 18 donated 50 boxes of crayons for military families utilizing the new Military Lounge at T. F. Green Airport. **(SEP 2013)**





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ANNUAL REPORT—COMMUNITY SERVICE (PG 1 of 2)—2013-2014

HERITAGE SPONSOR—PORTSMOUTH 375



We were honored to be a Heritage level (\$5,000) sponsor of the year-long **PORTSMOUTH 375** celebrations. The goal of organizers is to have each event self-supported leaving a "nest egg" earmarked for **permanent and rotating/seasonal displays featuring local history** courtesy of the Portsmouth Historical Society at the Portsmouth Free Public Library. We received **lots** of publicity throughout the year!

PORTSMOUTH 375 GRAND PARADE A GRAND SUCCESS

Parade Chairman George Wardwell can be very proud of the well organized and executed parade held on 31 AUG 2013. Every facet of the Portsmouth community was represented. Local farmer Louis Escobar served as the Grand Marshal. Our Post & Unit 18 contingent seemed small, but that's because so many of our members served as volunteers during the parade. Two battalions of Sea Cadets—who often provide Post 18's Color Guard—made a big impression on the crowds along the parade route. Dignitaries and "commoners" alike were treated to the 88th Army Band, Navy Band Northeast and our own award-winning Portsmouth High School Marching Band! Watch video at www.portsmouthri375.com.



American Legion Post 18 and Clements' Marketplace were Heritage Level Sponsors of **PORTSMOUTH 375**. The year-long celebration ended as it started—with a Polar Dive. Funds raised during the year from sponsorship and events will go towards collecting and cataloging historical documents, photos, maps and more. Lectures, a parade, tours, corn mazes, cook-outs, fireworks, concerts, polo tournaments, baseball, wine tasting, a pow-wow, out-door movies, cannon fire, ice cream train ride—our community did it all! A "shout out" to committee members, including our own George Wardwell. Visit www.portsmouthri375.com for videos.



POST 18

TIME: 525 HOURS

COST: \$2,116.33

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD

POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

UNIT 18

TIME: 360 HOURS

COST: \$348.00

ANNUAL REPORT—COMMUNITY SERVICE (PG 2 of 2)—2013-2014

Members will march holding our banner in the **NATIONAL POLICE PARADE** in Newport. Made \$100 donation to the Aquidneck Island National Police Parade. **(4 MAY 2014)**

Monetary donations during the reporting period that do not fall under other categories reported elsewhere:

- PORTSMOUTH FAMILY WHO SUFFERED A HOUSE FIRE—\$100
- DONATION TOWARDS MEDICAL DEVICES FOR DISABLED VETERAN—\$300



On **29 DEC 2013**, Santa successfully landed at USCG Station Castle Hill on Newport's Ocean Drive. The annual trip from the North Pole had been postponed two consecutive weekends due to inclement weather. The children waited patiently for his arrival. In existence for many years thanks to volunteer pilots, Santa, a former Officer in Charge, and USCG Station Castle Hill, the **FLYING SANTA** program is enjoyed by dependents and children "of all ages." Former Post 18 CDR George Wardwell and Post 18 member Tony Cercena assist each year.

On **10 AUG 2013**, the community gathered for the unveiling of the **BLUE STAR MEMORIAL MARKER** on the grounds of the Portsmouth Free Public Library. Post 18 donated \$250 towards the marker in early 2013. The 18 month Project spearheaded by **Carolyn Evans-Carbery** culminated in a dedication



ceremony with guest speakers Beth Jackson (author and Blue Star Family member) and Frank Grzyb (author, historian and decorated Viet Nam veteran). The RI Patriot Guard Riders formed a beautiful backdrop with a flag line; the Scouts from Pack 50 posted the colors; the Artillery Company of Newport fired a salvo and Susan Rousseau inspired us with song. Dual Post & Unit 18 member Christine Hayward presented the Portsmouth Free Public Library with a Colonial Flag. After learning the history of the Blue Star **highway and by-way**

arkers, attendees learned that this is Rhode Island's first **memorial** marker! We will be forever grateful to Carolyn Evans-Carbery and all who donated funds, time and talent



to this project. Attendees enjoyed a cake inscribed "All to see lest we forget those who help to keep us free." Because my photos don't do it justice, I encourage you to visit the memorial in person and view photos and video at www.portsmouthgardenclub.com.



For the 7th year in a row, members of Post & Unit 18 donated trees to **Cub Scout Pack 50** for planting and further distribution in honor of **EARTH DAY** (22 APR 2014) and **ARBOR DAY** (25 APR 2014). This year, the apricot trees and orange azaleas were selected to provide honey bee support. Educational word find puzzles (sample attached) were also distributed to area schools, Visiting Nurse Services and hotels. **(APR 2014)**

EARTH DAY/ARBOR DAY



In 2014, the 43rd anniversary of Earth Day will be celebrated on April 22nd. Arbor Day, a national observance founded by J. Sterling Morton in 1872, will be celebrated on April 25th, the last Friday in April. Planting trees enhances the environment by reducing pollution and erosion, providing habitat and food for wildlife, and beautifying our communities. This info and puzzle page provided courtesy of the members of American Legion Post 18 and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 18—Portsmouth, RI. Visit us on the web at:

www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com

ENVIRONMENT THEMED WORD FIND PUZZLE

WORD LIST
ENVIRONMENT
CONSERVATION
RENEWABLE
ENERGY
GREEN
TECHNOLOGY
GLOBAL
WIND
SOLAR
NUCLEAR
POWER
HYDRO
LAND FILL
GAS
ELECTRIC
COAL
RECYCLE
EMISSIONS
CARBON
TREES
FUEL
PANEL
CLIMATE
CONSUMER
AUTO
DIESEL
TRASH
WASTE
WATER
AIR
POLLUTION

The US Environmental Protection Agency has resources for students, educators, citizens, scientists, governments and businesses on their web site (www.epa.gov). You can search for power and watershed info for your area/by zip code; take a quiz; learn about career options, recycling, conservation, pollution prevention, air quality, etc. The "My Environment" section is full of useful tips for everything from your home and garden to your school and workplace.

(Puzzle by Kevin T. Beck, URI Graduate)

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



AMERICAN LEGION POST 18 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 18

PO Box 307, Portsmouth, RI 02871

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ANNUAL REPORT—EDUCATION—2013-2014



Once again, our friends at **BankNewport®** held a **“BACK TO SCHOOL-CHILDREN’S BOOK DRIVE”** in partnership with United Way of RI’s Women’s Leadership Council and *Books Are Wings*. Dual member Christine Hayward donated 36 books. The age-appropriate books and school supplies were distributed during a local backpack give-away in mid-August. We hope to revive the Unit’s tradition of donating patriotic comic books from Legion Emblem Sales next year! **(JUL 2013)**



For the 7th year in a row, members of Post & Unit 18 donated trees to **Cub Scout Pack 50** for planting and further distribution in honor of **EARTH DAY** (22 APR 2014) and **ARBOR DAY** (25 APR 2014). This year, the apricot trees and orange azaleas were selected to provide honey bee support. Educational word find puzzles (sample attached) were also distributed to area schools, Visiting Nurse Services and hotels. **(APR 2014)**



In collaboration with our friends from the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 5390, we provided poppies, the story of the poppy and poppy

postcards with postage affixed for the 3rd graders at Hathaway Elementary School. The event included a flag folding demonstration by sailors from Naval Station Newport. Interim Superintendent RADM Barbara McGann, USN (Ret.) spoke about the importance of Veterans Day. **(NOV 2013)**

Unit 18 donated art supplies to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center’s After School Program. Supplies included postcards with postage affixed. Students decorate front of postcard and practice letter writing skills on back! **(NOV 2013)**



Unit 18 provided hand-held flags with safety ball tips to the student bodies of both Hathaway Elementary School and Melville Elementary School for their **FLAG DAY** programs. **(14 JUN 2013)**

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED—JUNE 2013

ELIZABETH MOSTERT—\$1,000

KATELYN KUCERA—\$500

EMILY GORDON—\$250

SAMANTHA TURCOTTE—\$250

POST 18

TIME: 205 HOURS

COST: \$2,201.65

**PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD
POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN**

UNIT 18

TIME: 155 HOURS

COST: \$521.00



AMERICAN LEGION POST 18 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 18



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To Whom It May Concern:

Let it be known that _____ participated in the annual "Reflagging of Graves" conducted 17 through 19 May 2014 for _____ hours. Working side-by-side with veterans, volunteers reviewed headstones at cemeteries in Newport County to determine eligibility for a Flag, and removed and replaced tattered Flags. Volunteers—young and old—showed remarkable decorum while participating in this sad, but necessary task.

We thank you for encouraging students and Scouts to volunteer in the communities in which we live, learn, work and play!

Respectfully,

Christine L. Hayward
Adjutant & Past Commander, Post 18

**SAMPLE OF VOLUNTEER
CREDIT CERTIFICATE FOR
STUDENTS, SCOUTS, AND
NON-VIOLENT JUVENILE
OFFENDERS.**





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ANNUAL REPORT—HISTORIAN (PG 1 of 2)—2013-2014



Each year, a joint Post & Unit 18 meeting is held in May at a location of historic significance. The meeting is followed by a tour. In 2013, our May meeting was held at the Seaman's Church Institute in Newport. Our May 2014 meeting will be held at historic Fort Adams in Newport.

Above: Members enjoying the tour. Below: Scholarship deliberations under way!



We believe in preserving the "memories and incidents" for all generations!

Our focus in 2013 was recognizing WWII and Korean War Veterans. Please see attached program and photo collage from our Veterans Day Ceremony.

Our 2013 scholarship essay topic:

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVATION OF LOCAL HISTORY.

Our focus in 2014 is the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, and recognizing those who served during that era. We have an on-going fundraiser (see details attached) featuring a Vietnam-era Marine welcoming home a current GWOT Army serviceman.

Our 2014 scholarship essay topic:

RESEARCH HOW SERVICE MEMBERS WERE TREATED WHEN THEY RETURNED FROM VIETNAM IN THE 1960s AND 1970s (PREFERABLY BY INTERVIEWING FAMILY MEMBERS, NEIGHBORS OR TEACHERS). HOW WILL YOU AND YOUR GENERATION MAKE SURE THAT CURRENT AND FUTURE RETURNING SERVICE MEMBERS ARE HONORED AND RESPECTED?

POST 18
TIME: 520 HOURS
COST: \$674.90

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD
POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

UNIT 18
TIME: 260 HOURS
COST: \$160.00

EXCERPT FROM JAN/FEB 2014 ISSUE OF
"Flying InFormation" BELOW

In conjunction with efforts to update the Town of Portsmouth's Honor Roll, a committee is working with the Town Council on criteria (not only veteran status, but also residency, etc.). Research is underway to see if a digital display that could be more easily updated and include photos is feasible.

A companion project is the on-going effort to identify all living local post-Korea and Vietnam era (JUL 1953—MAY 1975) veterans for a ceremony in November. Vietnam era vets are asked to contact Blue Star Coordinator Carolyn Evans-Carbery at 401.683.9375 or foundersbrook@verizon.net.

American Legion Post 18 and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 18 publish an award-winning newsletter—"Flying InFormation"—5 to 7 times per year. Each issue involves about **50 hours** of research, writing, editing, event attendance for reporting and photography, etc. The newsletter keeps our members and community informed and involved, and is a useful recruiting tool for potential members and donors.

Although it may not seem like the traditional scrapbook" submitted by Historians in the past, I assure you it serves the same purpose: documenting our good deeds in the Community, State and Nation! Therefore, please accept the attached copies of all of our annual reports for the various chairs AND issues of our newsletter as the official record of events for American Legion Post 18 and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 18 for the reporting period: **MAY/JUN 2013, JUL/AUG 2013, SEP/OCT 2013, NOV/DEC 2013 & JAN/FEB 2014.**

Local and state politicians, business leaders, the media and schools are on the distribution list for our award-winning newsletter. Book reviews encourage members to read about military history. Educational word find puzzles and articles on events/people/places of national, regional and local historical significance can be found in each issue. We allot space in our newsletter and on our web site to help promote DEPT OF RI and other veteran-friendly events and fundraisers.



Post & Unit 18 have long been a fan of the arts. We have already hosted two successful fundraisers using original artwork. Local artist/Unit 18 member Paula Visnoski was commissioned by dual member Christine Hayward to create a painting showing a Vietnam veteran welcoming home a current service member. We recognize that Vietnam veterans actively help ensure that today's returning service members receive a warm welcome home—something they were denied when they returned to the States. The painting was framed, and the artwork will be raffled this year to raise funds for a ceremony to honor Vietnam vets (as we did in 2013 for WWII and Korean War era veterans) in partnership with Project Blue Star Coordinator Carolyn Evans-Carbery and our friends at VFW Post 5390 and its Auxiliaries. We want to hear from local Vietnam era veterans with ideas about how they would like to be honored in a meaningful way. To participate, send letter to C. Hayward, c/o PO Box 307, Portsmouth, RI 02871 or e-mail ripost18legion@aol.com. A meeting will be held in the spring, so put forth your best ideas. The framed painting was displayed at our December joint meeting and holiday dinner. Attendees remarked at the symbolism and details. A raffle permit was secured from the State as we move on to the next phase. To learn more about the artist, please visit

www.pmvart.com.



AMERICAN LEGION POST 18

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ANNUAL REPORT—JR SHOOTING SPORTS—2013-2014

JUNIOR SHOOTERS MAKE US PROUD

Congratulations to Newport Rifle Club Junior Team members Alex Muzzioli and Rebecca Green on their 1-2 finish in the Ian Kerfoot Memorial Offhand match (**NOV 2013**). This was the first time either has fired standing at 100 yards ... and Alex had a 198/200! A heart-felt thank you to the adult members for making them feel so welcome. Our Junior Shooters, Newport Rifle Club and Coach Makucevich are the best!



We are proud to sponsor and serve as match witnesses for the the Newport Junior Rifle Team whose members practice and compete at the Newport Rifle Club. The professional manner in which these young adults conduct themselves is outstanding! To learn more, visit www.legion.org/shooting/.



Matt Makucevich received a "5 year pin" as a volunteer for the NRA's National Matches on **23 JUL 2013**.



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ANNUAL REPORT—JUNIORS—2013-2014

C4 June 15-16, 2013

TOP TEN

MYRANDA A. FUENTES

Valedictorian

Myranda received the Claiborne Pell Award and wrote the third-place paper in the 2012 Rhode Island National History Day competi-



tion. She has been a member of the French Honor Society since her sophomore year and was a recipient of the Alliance Française Award. She received the Harvard Book Award and the National Honor Society Light of Scholarship Award in 2012. She

has been in the Anime Club since her freshman year and currently is president. She has been a member of the mock trial team and Academic Decathlon and volunteered for two years at the Seamen's Church Institute. She is a junior member of the American Legion Auxiliary and represented Rhode Island at the National WWII Museum's opening ceremony of the Freedom Pavilion in New Orleans in January. Myranda will attend Columbia University in New York City, where she plans to major in East Asian languages and cultures, with the goal of obtaining a citation in the Korean language.

Our once active Juniors aren't "juniors" any more! Attached is a glowing article on then Junior **MYRANDA A. FUENTES.**



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ANNUAL REPORT—LEGISLATIVE—2013-2014

CONGRESSIONAL "FLY IN"

Navy League National Director and Post 18 member George Wardwell participated in the first Congressional Fly In on **14 NOV 2013**. Over 100 Congressmen and women listened to a message centered on READINESS and the effects of SEQUESTRATION on our military assets.



At a meeting with Congressman Langevin and Congressman Cicillini and their staff members, Retired Navy Chief Wardwell was able to reiterate that as ship assets continue to decline, it jeopardizes our ability to provide humanitarian assistance when our dwindling military assets are already engaged.

Above: Congressman James Langevin (D) of RI and George Wardwell. Below: Max Miller (Austin, TX Council); Mary Virginia Pittman-Waller (Austin, TX Council); Congressman David Cicillini (D) of RI and George Wardwell.



EXCERPT FROM JAN/FEB 2014 ISSUE OF "Flying InFormation"

GREAT DECISIONS—2014 EDITION

This is a series of eight topics of international significance to US foreign policy open to the public for thoughtful discussion after viewing a 30 minute presentation by the Foreign Policy Association, an independent think tank. This year's first presentation on Tuesday, 4 FEB 2014 is "Food and Climate." Admission to the presentation/discussion is free, but you can wine and/or dine from a special menu if you'd like. Complimentary coffee, tea and cookies available. Social @ 6 PM; program @ 7 PM; discussion @ 7:30 PM @ North End Steakhouse, Best Western-Mainstay, 151 Admiral Kalbfus Rd., Newport. To learn more and view the rest of the schedule, visit www.newportciv.org. This is a valuable networking opportunity.



Local and state dignitaries attended the annual Veterans Day Ceremony co-hosted by Post & Unit 18 at Portsmouth Town Hall on **11 NOV 2013**.

Local and state representatives are on the distribution list for our award-winning veterans newsletter, "Flying InFormation" published 5 to 7 times per year.

Member Virginia "Ginny" Hansen is also active with the **UNITED VETERANS COUNCIL**, and as such, she shares news and information that impacts the veteran community here in the Ocean State.

POST 18
TIME: 58 HOURS
COST: \$116

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD
POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

UNIT 18
TIME: 29 HOURS
COST: \$18



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ANNUAL REPORT—MEMBERSHIP (PG 1 of 5)—2013-2014

Membership continues to be the number one challenge facing most organizations. Post 18 has been successful recruiting new members. Having said that, the demographics of our rosters have a high percentage of WWII/Korean War era members who are joining Post Everlasting at an alarming rate.

With the continued economic recession, people are having to make difficult choices with less disposable income. Membership dues, magazine subscriptions, etc. seem to be the first to hit the chopping block. We need to be able to offer some "value" to their membership, besides the camaraderie aspect. Our **joint annual meeting** is traditionally held at a site of historic significance and includes a tour. This has proved to be very popular and a great way to show appreciation for the members who spend many hours volunteering in the community in which we live, work, learn and play.

Our Adjutant has enjoyed some success recruiting a few new members and transfers from the DEPARTMENT holding Post #102. Using the resources at www.MyLegion.Org, letters (sample attached) are sent to member prospects in our area (over 40 letters went out in 2013-2014). The Membership Chairman reigns were turned over to 2013-2014 Junior Vice Dan Dougherty in the fall of 2013.

We continue to increase the distribution of our award-winning newsletter, "Flying InFormation" to try to reach a larger audience of potential members. Our web site is updated regularly and includes calendar items for other area veteran-friendly organizations in hopes of cross-recruiting. It's actually curious why we haven't been more successful recruiting members since Naval Station Newport—ripe with eligible members—is in our "back yard." The Post covers the dues for all active duty service members.

We've placed ads in several publications to help increase our visibility. We participate in community events and wear our Post 18 covers and ball caps and poppy scarves and often display our banner while volunteering. We communicate regularly with our members via the newsletter and e-mail reminders to encourage their participation at our meetings and events as well as other veteran-friendly events around the state. We distribute a typed Agenda and Minutes in larger, bold font to help make meetings more productive.

In 2013, Unit 18 reviewed and revised our by-laws. We will consider hosting a combination of on-line meetings, weekend/daytime meetings and joint meetings 2 to 3 times per year with the Post in response to the survey results (see attached).



POST 18
TIME: 220 HOURS
COST: \$344.16

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD
POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

UNIT 18
TIME: 62 HOURS
COST: \$33

2013 SURVEY RESULTS – UNIT 18

Last year, we sent a survey (below) to all of our Unit 18 members. About 1/2 responded. Most said they joined to support our mission. About 1/2 of the respondents had served as an officer. The long-time members missed hosting "bake sales" and many no longer drive at night. They were proud of the work that we do in the community, and appreciated receiving the newsletter.

I have been a member of Unit 18 for ____ years (approx.; if known).

I joined because _____

I (check all that apply):

- ____ regularly attend meetings
- ____ have served as an officer for Unit 18
- ____ am a Dual member of Post & Unit 18
- ____ regularly volunteer at events such as BINGO at the RI Veterans Home
- ____ am involved in other youth and/or patriotic activities in the community
- ____ other (please elaborate): _____

I would like to see Unit 18 more actively participate in: _____

I miss the "bake sales" and other fundraising days/ways. ____ yes ____ no

I don't attend meetings because (check all that apply):

- ____ no longer drive/don't drive at night
- ____ feel like my voice isn't heard/vote doesn't count
- ____ too busy w/family, work, church, other activities
- ____ other (please elaborate): _____
- ____ meetings are boring
- ____ feel intimidated
- ____ work/schedule conflict

I have had an unpleasant experience with a member of the Unit or a member of the Post (elaborate on back if you'd like). ____ yes ____ no

I enjoy the newsletter and learning about not only what Post and Unit 18 do, but other patriotic events and volunteer opportunities in our community. ____ yes ____ no

I visit our web site. ____ yes ____ no If yes: ____monthly ____ at least weekly

I use e-mail. ____ yes ____ no E-mail: _____

I plan to continue my affiliation with Unit 18 to support our Community, State and Nation. ____ yes ____ no (Remember, just being a member of The American Legion Auxiliary helps bolster our numbers nationally. When our organization speaks on behalf of veterans those currently serving, our representatives listen!) Please use the back for other comments including your name (or remain anonymous). Return in the self-addressed envelope provided. Thank you!

SAMPLE OF LETTER SENT TO MEMBER PROSPECTS



AMERICAN LEGION POST 18 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 18

PO Box 307 (Mailing Address)

Portsmouth, RI 02871

Phone: 401.683.6148

www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com



8 February 2014

Dear _____,

We learned that you may be interested in joining or transferring to a local Post. American Legion Post 18 currently meets on the first Wednesday of the month (most months) at the VFW Hall, 822 Anthony Rd., Portsmouth. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, 5 March 2014** at the VFW Hall on Common Fence Point in Portsmouth. You are welcome to join us and “try us on for size!” In addition, we have a very active Auxiliary. A membership brochure for Unit 18 is also enclosed for your female family members.

A copy of a recent newsletter and the calendar page from our web site are enclosed. Archived issues of our award-winning newsletter can be downloaded from our web site (URL above). “Flying InFormation” will give you a good idea about our members’ participation in the Community, State and Nation.

We understand that due to family and other commitments, not all of our members are able to attend meetings. Even if you would like to retain your membership in your current Post for sentimental or other reasons, we invite you to attend our meetings and functions and volunteer with us!

Respectfully,

Christine L. Hayward
Adjutant/Past Commander

JOIN UNIT 18

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone: (____) _____-_____
 E: _____
 Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Eligibility Information

Name of Veteran Eligible Through:

who is: ____ living ____ deceased
 Member #: _____ of _____
 American Legion Post #: _____ located
 in: _____ (if known).
 Veteran served in:
 ____ WWI (4/6/17—11/11/18)
 ____ WWII (12/7/41—12/31/46)
 ____ Merchant Marines (12/7/41-8/15/45 only)
 ____ Korea (6/25/50—1/31/55)
 ____ Vietnam (2/28/61—5/7/75)
 ____ Grenada/Lebanon (8/24/82—7/31/84)
 ____ Panama (12/20/89—1/31/90)
 ____ Persian Gulf War (8/2/90 until cessation of
 hostilities as determined by the US Government

Applicant's Relationship to the

Veteran (mother, wife, daughter, sister, self, grand
 or great granddaughter, grandmother) (step relatives
 are eligible): _____

Please remit with annual dues payable to
 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 18 in the
 amount of \$21 (\$8.50 if Junior Member/
 under age 18). Mail to address on back.

X _____
 Date: ____/____/____

(BELOW SECTION APPLICABLE TO FEMALE
 VETERANS ONLY)

Date: ____/____/____
 Post Officer Membership Verification
 or Unit Secretary's Verification

Note: As members of both Post & Unit 18,
 dual members are in a unique position to help
 keep our organization focused on the needs of
 veterans AND military families/dependents.



We are women of action. When we see a
 need, we step in to meet it. When we
 determine that greater effort is required, we
 collaborate with others. When a person's
 service is noteworthy, we honor it. To
 prepare the next generation for service, we
 include them. Americanism, Children &
 Youth, National Security and Veterans Affairs
 & Rehabilitation are just a few of the ways
 we serve our Community, State & Nation.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 18

PO Box 307

Portsmouth, RI 02871

Phone: 401.683.6148



www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 18 PORTSMOUTH, RI



**STILL SERVING OUR
 COMMUNITY,
 STATE & NATION!**



Won't you join us as we ...

- Conduct annual Poppy Awareness
- Sponsor Annual Flag Day Ceremony & Flag Education Program @ Melville Elementary School and provide flags to students
- Make ditty bags for and co-sponsor 3 themed BINGOs each year at the RI Veterans Home
- Provide gifts, volunteers and a "Santa" at Christmas Shoppe at the RI Veterans Home
- Support numerous troop care package initiatives including the RI Lt. Governor's Operation Holiday Cheer & Toys for Tots
- Provide ditty bags, guest speakers, volunteers and overnight chaperones to annual Little Rhody Girls State
- Participate in annual reflagging efforts at several cemeteries on Aquidneck Island and annual Flag Retirement Ceremony
- Cheer on our Junior Shooters (year 'round) and Baseball Team (seasonal)
- Provide art supplies and inspiration to several area after-school programs so students can make cards for RI Veterans Home residents and deployed service members
- Bring cheer to residents of area nursing homes
- Donate food, clothing, etc. to Operation Stand Down and Holly Charette House
- Support numerous charities using our time, talents and resources
- Support the work of American Legion Post 18





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ANNUAL REPORT—NATIONAL SECURITY (PG 1 of 2)—2013-2014



Post & Unit 18 promoted, supported and attended a fundraiser for the **MILITARY LOUNGE AT T.F. GREEN AIRPORT** (photo collage attached). Post 18 member **Dave Duggan** (at left) is a regular volunteer at the Military Lounge.



(YEAR ROUND)

Post & Unit 18 donated 50 boxes of crayons for military dependents utilizing the lounge.

169th MP CO RETURNS

On **15 JUN 2013**, several members of Post 18 & Unit 18 participated in a “Welcome Home” at Quonset lead by the **Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA)** and supported by the **RI Patriot Guard Riders (PGR)**. Michael Graichen (Post 2) held the Army Flag.



All 140 soldiers returned from a 10 month deployment in Afghanistan.



On **10 AUG 2013**, the community gathered for the unveiling of the **BLUE STAR MEMORIAL MARKER** on the grounds of the Portsmouth Free Public Library. The 18 month project spearheaded by **Carolyn Evans-Carbery** culminated in a dedication ceremony with guest speakers Beth Jackson (author and Blue Star Family member) and Frank Grzyb (author, historian and decorated Viet Nam veteran). The RI Patriot Guard Riders formed a beautiful backdrop with a flag line; the Scouts from Pack 50 posted the colors; the Artillery Company of Newport fired a salvo and Susan Rousseau inspired us with song. Dual Post & Unit 18 member Christine Hayward presented the Portsmouth Free Public Library with a Colonial Flag. After learning the history of the Blue Star **highway** and **by-way** markers, attendees learned that this is Rhode Island’s first **memorial** marker! We will be forever grateful to Carolyn Evans-Carbery and all who donated funds, time and talent to this project. Because my photos don’t do it justice, I encourage you to visit the memorial in person and view dedication ceremony photos and video (courtesy of RI PGR’s “Pappy”) at www.portsmouthgardenclub.com.



POST 18

TIME: 104 HOURS

COST: \$473.00

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD
POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

UNIT 18

TIME: 52 HOURS

COST: \$110.00

Post 18 sponsored local resident Robert Dresser in the **SPARTAN RACE** in Vermont.

Spartan Races benefit Military charities such as "Homes for our Troops."

Visit www.hfotusa.org or www.spartanrace.com.



Wearing our Legion covers/ball caps; members participate in flag lines with the RI Patriot Guard Riders for troop "send off" and "welcome home" missions and honor missions at the request of the family for those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

(YEAR 'ROUND)

Active duty members are frequently featured in our newsletter. Care packages are sent to our deployed members.



Both Post & Unit 18 have contributed to the NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND (NEF).

BOOTCAMP BREAKFAST

Post 18 member **Virginia "Ginny" Hansen** hosted the annual Bootcamp Breakfast where active duty personnel and veterans learn about resources available to make the transition to civilian life easier. Several members of Post & Unit 18 attended. Post & Unit 18 made bookmarks for all attendees promoting the local DAV. **(MARCH 2014)**



Bill Pennoyer (Post 12) organized the **PATRIOTS DAY** ceremony at the RI Veterans Cemetery on **11 SEP 2013**.

Two Post 18 members stood in the flag line with the RI Patriot Guard Riders. Members from Chapters 2 and 3 of the RI Korean War Veterans Association and the Kent County Marine Corps League provided the Color Guard, the RI Funeral Honors Team provided the rifle volley and bugler, Lindsay Cashman sang the National Anthem and Rev. William Reynolds of the Free Will Baptist Church offered prayers. Guest speakers Kim Ripoli (Associate Director of Veterans Affairs) and Greg Wallace (Exeter #1 Volunteer Fire Department) encouraged attendees to remember those who perished, honor first responders, the military and those who guard our way of life, and to cherish each day. At left above, Kim Ripoli (Post 18) and Ginny Hanson (WAVES and Post 18). At left, Michael Jackson.





AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 18

PO Box 307, Portsmouth, RI 02871

Phone: 401.683.6148

www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com

"Land of the Free Because of the Brave"



ANNUAL REPORT—POPPY—2013-2014

In collaboration with our friends from the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 5390, we provided poppies, the story of the poppy and poppy postcards for the 3rd graders at Hathaway Elementary School. The event included a flag folding demonstration by sailors from Naval Station Newport (photo below). Interim Superintendent RADM Barbara McGann, USN (Ret.) spoke about the importance of Veterans Day. (NOV 2013)



Flanders Field is a United States military cemetery near Waregem, Belgium where 368 members of the armed forces who died in World War I (1914—1918) are buried. **Flanders** is an historical region of northwest Europe including parts of northern France, western Belgium, and southwest Netherlands along the North Sea. For many centuries, it enjoyed virtual independence and great prosperity as a center of the cloth industry. The Hapsburg wars in the Low Countries caused the eventual division of the region, which suffered heavy damage during both World Wars. Canadian poet **John McCrae** wrote the now-famous poem featured on the other side. McCrae was a physician, soldier, and poet who contributed verses to Canadian periodicals before WWI. He did not become famous until 1915 when he published "**In Flanders Fields**" in the English magazine, *Punch*. It remains one of the most memorable war poems ever. Tradition dictates that remembrance poppies must be assembled by or in the presence of a veteran. Please thank



IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders Fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.

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Sample of FRONT (at left) and BACK (above) of poppy card. In **MAY 2013** & **MAY 2014**, poppy cards with poppies were distributed at the front desk at two area hotels.



**PREPARED BY:
CHRISTINE
HAYWARD, UNIT
18 HISTORIAN**

**UNIT 18
TIME: 6 HOURS
COST: \$44.75**



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ANNUAL REPORT—PUBLIC RELATIONS—2013-2014

Post & Unit 18 publish an award-winning veterans newsletter, **“Flying InFormation”** 6 times per year. It has an initial distribution of 862 copies (mostly via e-mail), countless pass-along readership and a web presence. Recipients include members, educators, representatives from other VSOs, local and state politicians and business leaders, dozens of media contacts, etc. We host one of the few VSO web sites (URL above) in the state. Updated two to three times weekly, the web site helps keep members informed, encourages participation and helps recruit and retain new members. **Copies of the newsletter issues released during this reporting period are attached.**

Fronted by our banner, we had contingents march in numerous events including the **NATIONAL POLICE PARADE (5 MAY 2013 & 4 MAY 2014)**, **ARMED SERVICES NIGHT (27 JUN 2013)** at McCoy Stadium and the **PORTSMOUTH 375 GRAND PARADE (31 AUG 2013)**. We've increased our presence on social networking sites such as **FACEBOOK®**. We place ads in local event programs and we're featured regularly in the Naval Community Briefs section of **Newport This Week**. We are occasionally featured in the **NEWPORT NAVALOG** and **Newport Daily News**.



As the **HERITAGE LEVEL** sponsor of the year-long **PORTSMOUTH 375** celebrations, our name and logo were featured on their web site, and in event signage throughout 2013. Many of our members were key volunteers devoting many hours to events.

Our banner goes everywhere! Top: McCoy Stadium's Annual Armed Forces Night (**27 JUN 2013**); bottom: our contingent in the Portsmouth 375 Grand Parade (**31 AUG 2013**)

We distributed environmental themed WORD FIND puzzles (copy attached) to area Scouts, Schools, Visiting Nurse Services and hotels in honor of Earth Day and Arbor Day. Puzzles promoted Post & Unit 18 driving traffic to our web site. **(APR 2014)**

POST 18
TIME: 480 HOURS
COST: \$818.78

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD
POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

UNIT 18
TIME: 275 HOURS
COST: \$0 (Post pays)



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ANNUAL REPORT—V A & R (PG 1 of 2)—2013-2014



Post & Unit 18 supported and helped promote a fundraiser for the **MILITARY LOUNGE AT T.F. GREEN AIRPORT.**

Post 18 member **Dave Duggan** (at left) is a regular volunteer at the Military Lounge.

Post & Unit 18 donated 50 boxes of crayons for military dependents utilizing the lounge.

Post & Unit 18 jointly sponsored **BINGOs** at the RI Veterans Home on **26 OCT 2013** (Halloween themed) and **8 FEB 2014** (Valentine's themed) providing ditty bags, prizes and volunteers.

Post & Unit 18 members volunteer at dozens of other events at the VA Hospital & RI Veterans Home during the year—most notably Post 18 Life members **Norm Patenaude *** and **Cynthia Kindell** who volunteer **5+ hours almost every week!** *Norm moved to Maine in December 2013.

169th MP CO RETURNS

On 15 JUN 2013, several members of Post 18 & Unit 18 participated in a "Welcome Home" at Quonset lead by the **Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA)** and supported by the **RI Patriot Guard Riders (PGR)**.

Michael Graichen (Post 2) held the Army Flag.

All 140 soldiers returned from a 10 month deployment in Afghanistan.



Post 18's Dave Duggan participated in the construction of a wheelchair ramp for the home of a disabled local veteran. **Home Depot** supplied materials, tools, labor and technical expertise. As the Seabees say, "Can do!"



POST 18
TIME: 615 HOURS
COST: \$ 906.32

PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE HAYWARD
POST & UNIT 18 HISTORIAN

UNIT 18
TIME: 235 HOURS
COST: \$412.61

ANNUAL REPORT—V A & R (PG 2 of 2)—2013-2014

The annual **CHRISTMAS SHOPPE** sponsored by the DEPT OF RI American Legion Auxiliary was a great success! Many Post & Unit 18 members volunteered alongside friends from other Posts & Units on **7 DEC 2013** at the RI Veterans Home. Another event was held the following weekend at the RI VA Hospital. Of note, a manufacturer donated hundreds of coats in assorted sizes representing the various branches of service. In addition to the volunteer hours, Post & Unit 18 donated poinsettias, books, calendars, toys, toiletries, scarves, wrapping supplies, cards and other gift items. The residents each received a coat and were able to select three items as gifts—all cheerfully wrapped by “elves!”



Post & Unit 18 co-hosted our famous **HALLOWEEN THEMED BINGO** on **26 OCT 2013** and a **VALENTINE'S THEMED BINGO** on **8 FEB 2014** @ the RI Veterans Home in Bristol. Special thank you to our volunteers. The residents appreciated the ditty bags, prizes and social time.

