AMERICAN LEGION POST 18

PO BOX 307 – PORTSMOUTH, RI 02871
www.ALPost18RI.homestead.com

Flying InFormation **FALL 2026**

JOIN US FOR A HOLIDAY GATHERING

SUNDAY, 13 DEC 2026 @ 3 PM @ Portsmouth Publick House

(1 King Charles Drive, Portsmouth, RI)

Post 18 members and a guest are cordially invited to join us for an afternoon get-together to celebrate friendship and our year of volunteerism. Cost: $20 per person. **RSVP no later than 5 DEC 2026.** Checks payable to: AL POST 18 mailed to address above (preferred) or pay cash at the event venue. RSVP to: **ADJPOST18RI@gmail.com**

COMMANDER'S BRIEFING

Welcome Fall! As we prepare for cold weather, let us continue to support our local veterans. Our senior and home-bound members always enjoy a card, visit or phone calls as we transition from WWII and Korean War veterans to Vietnam senior members. In another article, you will see pics from our visit to the RI Veterans Home where approximately 60 residents won a total of $250 in prizes. Everyone had a good time, and we always meet new friends.

Veterans Day was observed with VFW Post 5390 and their Auxiliary on 11 NOV 2026.

With mid-term elections over, we will continue to support our veteran community no matter what changes may happen.

Thank you to all for your membership and fellowship.

Dave Duggan
Commander & Finance Officer

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

It was SRO (standing room only!) at Portsmouth's annual Veterans Day ceremony on 11 NOV 2026. Scouts from Troop 1 paraded the colors; the Navy Choristers delighted attendees with the National Anthem and branch service songs. Post 18 CDR Dave Duggan served as Master of Ceremonies introducing guest speaker **Col. Patrick M. McCarthy, Jr. USA** (photo PG 2), from the Naval War College faculty who delivered an inspiring speech encouraging everyone to practice being service-oriented in the community. The VFW Auxiliary put on quite a spread of traditional picnic fare along with homemade desserts. **Post 18 CDR Dave Duggan** was honored with the 2026 VFW **Patriot Award** presented by VFW Past CDR Ken Rutter.



CONT'D ON PG 2

FIREPLACE SAFETY TIPS: Have chimney inspected and cleaned annually to remove soot and creosote buildup. Burn only dry, seasoned wood. Use a sturdy screen to contain sparks and keep children and pets away. Keep a three-foot clear safety zone free of furniture, decorations and flammable items. Make sure flue is fully open before lighting a fire. Dispose of cooled ashes in a metal container with a tight lid and store outdoors away from combustibles. Fully extinguish fire before leaving the house or going to bed. Clean the firebox after each use to prevent buildup of coals that can reignite. Keep the roof and gutters clear of leaves to reduce exterior fire hazards. Install and test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Keep a fire extinguisher nearby and know how to use it. Be safe!



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V	M	U	M	S	X	G	H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	S

WORD LIST

AUTUMN
FALL
EQUINOX
PUMPKIN
LEAVES
HIBERNATION
FIREPLACE
SCHOOL
HOLIDAYS
HALLOWEEN
VETERANS
DAY
THANKSGIVING
DECORATE
TURKEY
CRANBERRY
SAUCE
ORANGE
RED
BROWN
FOREST
MUM
ACORNS
HARVEST
BLANKET
BOOTS
SOCKS
SWEATER
CORN
MAZE
EGGNOG
MOON
STAR
SUN

VETERANS DAY (CONT'D) A heart-felt thank you to "Cisco" Gutierrez for loaning his complete flag set – including the Space Force flag – for the stage. Jack Conboy of VFW Post 5390 Auxiliary gave a history lesson on the Battle of Rhode Island. Let's continue to serve!





Photo by: Jim McGaw



HALLOWEEN BINGO @ RI VETERANS HOME

Post 18 sponsored our "famous" Halloween-themed BINGO at the RI Veterans Home in Bristol on 31 OCT 2026. The games started promptly at 1400 hours with a good turnout of residents. This time, we hosted "Marching BINGO" which not only awards a prize to the winner, but also to his or her buddy to the left or right. The residents were glad to socialize with us, and we were able to give out twice the prizes. Most members dressed in costume which the residents appreciated. Post 18 usually sponsors BINGO at the RI Veterans Home three times a year with a theme (such as Valentine's BINGO, Spring/Easter BINGO, Pirate BINGO, Halloween BINGO). It is a tradition our Post is honored to sponsor. Thank you to our volunteers!



"Dracula" and his bride were a big hit! Above, "Cisco" Gutierrez, Past CDR of Post 18 and his wife Linda (Unit 2).





MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Welcome aboard these new/transferring members:

WILLIAM "BILL" COOGAN, USN
ROBERT EDENBACH, USN (welcome back!)
KENNETH JONES, USAF

We have received a number of duplicate dues payments. National sends out the notices. There is often a delay of National being informed that dues have been paid because payments go to the local Post, then to Department and are then transmitted to National. If you receive a notice and you believe you have already paid, please reach out to the Post to confirm your dues status before mailing another check. We appreciate all who have renewed!

Theresa Mattos
Membership Chair



CALENDAR OF MEETINGS & EVENTS



MONDAY, 4 JANUARY 2027 @ 6:30 PM (WEATHER PERMITTING) – Regular meeting of Post 18 @ VFW Hall (822 Anthony Rd., Common Fence Point, Portsmouth, RI).

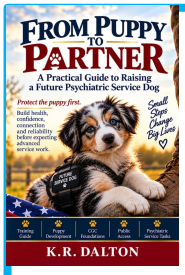
MONDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2027 @ 6:30 PM (WEATHER PERMITTING) – Regular meeting of Post 18 @ VFW Hall (822 Anthony Rd., Common Fence Point, Portsmouth, RI).



SATURDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2027 @ 2 PM (TENTATIVE; WEATHER PERMITTING) – **VALENTINE'S THEMED BINGO** @ RI Veterans Home. Volunteers needed to socialize, help residents play their cards and award prizes.

Please bookmark and visit the CALENDAR page of our web site for updates:
w w w . A L P o s t 1 8 R I . h o m e s t e a d . c o m

Military Women Across the Nation (MWAN) Ocean State Unit 118 will be visiting the RI Veterans Home and presenting gifts to the lady veterans on 4 DEC 2026 @ 1 PM. Formerly known as WAVES National, WMAN encourages patriotism, loyalty and devotion to God, country and family. Membership is open to all women veterans who have served or are serving honorably in all military branches. To learn more, visit: **w w w . m i l w o m e n . o r g** or e-mail **T H E R E S A M A T T O S 1 @ g m a i l . c o m**.



Karen Dalton of Dare to Dream Ranch has published three books.

Search **K. R. Dalton** books on Amazon!



AMERICAN LEGION POST 18 2026 – 2027 SLATE OF OFFICERS/CHAIRS

CDR & FINANCE OFFICER: Dave Duggan, Past CDR
SR VICE CDR: LTC Audrey MacLeod-Pfeiffer
JR VICE CDR: Theresa Mattos
ADJUTANT/WEBMISTRESS & EDITOR: Christine Hayward, Past CDR
SGT-AT-ARMS: Peter Roberts
CHAPLAIN: William McCollum
VA & R CHAIR: Francis "Cisco" Gutierrez, Past CDR
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Theresa Mattos
C & Y CHAIR: LTC Audrey MacLeod-Pfeiffer
SERVICE OFFICER: Donald "Don" Pfeiffer (phone: 401.847.2158; e-mail: d g p f e i f f e r @ h o t m a i l . c o m)

We appreciate those who contributed photos and articles to this edition: Jim McGaw/Portsmouth Times, Francis & Linda Gutierrez, Theresa Mattos, LTC Audrey MacLeod-Pfeiffer. **EDITOR/PUBLISHER: A D J P o s t 1 8 R I @ g m a i l . c o m**