



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FALL 2024

AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY THE ENVY OF THE WORLD

Space X catches returning Starship rocket alongside landing tower in first successful attempt at recovery in Boca Chica, Texas.



2024 Recipients of the Order of St. Sebastian



BISHOP JOSEPH COFFEY

BISHOP JOSEPH L. COFFEY

The Catholic War Veterans are pleased to bestow upon their Bishop Protector, BISHOP JOSEPH L. COFFEY of the Military Archdiocese of the U.S., the highest honor of the Order of St. Sebastian. Bishop Coffey was appointed to that position by National Commander David Crum in 2022.

Bishop Coffey was born in Rochester, MN but raised in Philadelphia, PA. He graduated from LaSalle University in 1982 with a double major in English/French, which included a year of study at the Sorbonne in Paris. After college, he worked as a grade school teacher, a ski instructor in Switzerland and in the auto industry in Germany and Belgium for five years.

Heeding a call to the priesthood, he attended St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia. He was ordained in 1996 by Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua. While in Seminary, he entered the U.S. Naval Chaplain Candidate Program with the rank of Ensign. He remained in the Navy Reserve for the next nine years. Following

ordination, he was assigned to St. Katherine of Siena parish in Philadelphia for five years of parish ministry, before becoming a full-time active duty Navy Chaplain in September of 2001.

Bishop Coffey's duty assignments have included: Combat Assault Battalion, Okinawa, Japan; Command Chaplain aboard the carrier USS GEORGE WASHINGTON; Chaplain of the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center in Caper May, NJ; Marine Air Group 39, Camp Pendleton, CA, where he deployed to Afghanistan; Chaplain aboard the carrier USS RONALD REGAN, home ported in Yokosuka, Japan; and Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA.

DANIEL MARTINEZ

DANIEL MARTINEZ joined St. John's Post 1269 in Victoria, Texas in 1972 and has been an active member for 52 years. He was awarded Life Membership in 2005. He has held the positions of Post Commander for nine terms, Service Officer and Director/Trustee. He served two years as Department of Texas Commander and currently serves as Department Adjutant. Daniel has served as National Officer of the Day; Historian; and Welfare Officer.

In 1966, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and volunteered for Vietnam, but was assigned to South Korea instead. Upon his return, he married wife Lupita. They have 5 children, 16 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. He has long been active with the Military Funerals Honors Group, providing over 100 military funerals yearly.

Under his supervision, his post sponsored the Southeast Little League baseball team, providing registration fees and uniforms. Bingo games were run twice weekly. The annual Christmas Party was co-sponsored by the Post and Auxiliary, with Daniel playing Santa Claus. They also ran an annual graduation party for children and grandchildren of members, usually at a local restaurant. He also hosted a number of CWV National Commanders, personally providing transportation to and from the airport.



DANIEL MARTINEZ
St. Johns Post 1269
Victoria, Texas

Daniel regularly attends CWV National Conventions. He was proud to support his wife, Lupita Martinez, during her term as National President of the Auxiliary. As Post Commander, he received several awards for his outstanding work in support of the CWV Auxiliary. Past National Commander Francis J. Kowalski presented the Catholic War Veterans National Department Distinguished Service Award to Daniel at the 84th National Convention Banquet in San Antonio, Texas in August 2019. He continues to serve and to develop new post members to take positions as officers and future leaders of Post 1269 to keep the post and the CWV active in church and community activities.

2024 Recipients of the Order of St. Sebastian

ROBERT CARR

His recommendation appropriately reads: “For exemplary service to the Catholic War Veterans of the USA.” ROBERT CARR joined St. Sebastian’s Post 870 in September of 1966. During the next 58 years, he served in various post and department leadership roles from 3rd Vice Commander through Commander.

Drafted into the U.S. Army in 1962, he went through training at Fort Dix, NJ. He was then assigned to Fort Bliss, TX as a Nike Hercules Missile Crewman. He then returned to Fort Hancock, NJ, Battery D. 3rd Missile Battalion, 51st Artillery Regiment as part of the New York Area Coastal Air Defense System. Upon his return home, he married his wife of 59 years, Maureen Carroll, in 1965.

He volunteered as Leader of Post 870’s Boys Brigade from 1968 to 1980, mentoring the boys of his parish, and operating the post’s camp in upstate NY where he taught field craft, drill, ceremonies, marksmanship and most importantly, character. Many of his boys went into professional careers and took on roles in the community thanks to the “Father Figure of Woodside.”

His own career spanned fields from bus driver to business entrepreneur to building resident manager. He has served over 30 continuous years on the Building Board of Directors. He has managed the Post’s Canteen’s operations, supervising the bartenders as well as operating the physical plant and overseeing the management and sale of several rental properties which, in one case involved exhaustive litigation to evict a tenant for non-payment of rent. He currently serves as 1st Vice Commander from 2000 to the present. Robert was appointed Department Historian by PNC James Finkel in 1996. He is considered by the members of St. Sebastian Post 870 to the epitome of a Catholic War Veteran.



ROBERT J. CARR
St. Sebastian Post 870
Woodside, New York



Mission, Texas native Virginia Bourbois Silva is pictured in Texas Army National Guard uniform in 1978.

State House Recognizes CWV Member’s Record of Service *Honored by the State of Texas on Her 70th Birthday!*

Born in Corpus Christi, the former Virginia Bourbois grew up in Mission, Texas. She enlisted in the Texas Army National Guard in 1978, serving until 1984 as an administrative specialist with the 49th Armored Division, 141st Infantry Regiment. During that time, she was awarded the Adjutant General’s Award and Armed Forces Achievement Medal. In 1990, the 141st was mobilized for Operation Desert Storm. She organized a family support group with over 800 members. She was then named to the State Council for Family Support Groups.

Ginger is a Life Member of the Catholic War Veterans Post 1065 in Mission, having served as 2nd Vice Commander. Today, she is Commander of Post 6 in Austin. Displaying her entrepreneurial spirit, she became a certified aromatherapist and launched her own company. She and Husband David also operated a tour company, “Casino Night Out with David & Ginger,” which served more than 12,000 customers over 15 years, prior to their well-deserved retirement. She now spends her time with family and friends, reflecting on her many contributions on behalf of her fellow citizens!



Today, Ginger Silva dotes on her children and grandchildren while still supporting Veterans and their families in the Catholic War Veterans.

2024 Recipients of the St. Agnes Medal



RITA WULF

The Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary is pleased to announce that RITA WULF, a member of St. Jude Thaddeus Post in Toledo, Ohio has been selected as this year's recipient of the prestigious Honor Legion of the Order of St. Agnes Award.

She is a Life Member for over 35 years. She has served as President of Unit 1675, President of the Department of Ohio for four years and, on the national level, National Director for three years—one as Lead Director. She currently serves as National Welfare Officer.

Rita has been a parishioner of St. Clement's Church for over 20 years, serving as Eucharistic Minister and Lector and assisting in parish events. She has volunteered at the Diocesan Memorial Mass and various luncheons for VFW, American Legion and Catholic War Veterans. She is a hospice volunteer and Multiple Sclerosis volunteer for family support.

Rita She leads and supports her state's units in recruiting, community service, silent auction fundraisers and helping homeless veterans.

They say behind every busy man, there is a busier woman. This is true of Rita, who is married to National Commander Larry Wulf. He would be the first to say how much Rita has helped him be a better person, husband, father and grandfather while dedicated to Catholic War Veterans work.



FR. WILLIAM MCLAUGHLIN

Father William McLaughlin is a native of New York City, born in the borough of Queens in College Point in 1958. He attended parochial school in the Parish of St. Fidelis in Queens. He graduated from St. Francis Preparatory High School, and later, St. John's University both in Queens.

He taught at Mary's Nativity, St. Joan of Arc and St. Joseph Grammar Schools, before entering the Seminary in 1987. He was ordained a Priest of the Diocese of Brooklyn (which encompasses both Kings and Queens Counties) on May 23, 1992.

Father McLaughlin has been assigned to a number of parishes in both Brooklyn and Queens, to include St. Anthony-St. Alphonsus in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, Immaculate Conception (the home parish of the Catholic War Veterans) in Astoria, Queens,

As Parochial Vicar at St. Raphael and St. Teresa parishes in Long Island City. He has also taught at the Diocesan Pastoral Institute and at St. John's University.

Father Bill (as he is universally known) has been with the CWV Auxiliary as its Chaplain since 2015 and is a regular attendee at our National Conventions, leading the worship and delivering inspiring homilies. He has also been honored by St. Anastasia Council 5911 of the Knights of Columbus at its Communion Breakfast for his service to the Church and community. Fr. McLaughlin has been a mainstay on various committees of the Auxiliary, in particular the Scholarship Selection Committee and 3rd Vice Commander Student Program Awards Selection Committee. He is always available to individual members for spiritual advice and counseling. He is well deserving of this distinct honor!



WHAT WAS THE #1 POPULAR SONG IN JANUARY 1954? *(Answer Below)*

The first and only CWV band in the U.S., organized by its Director, Ray Zamiska, was an outgrowth of a post Drum and Bugle Corps. He brought together 32 musicians, mostly former members of service bands in World War II. It practiced in the post clubroom and its personnel wore CWV uniforms. It appeared at parish and patriotic affairs and was available for lodge and organizational functions.

Under the musical direction of Ray Zamora, it proudly represented Cuyahoga County and the Department of Ohio at the CWV's 18th Annual National Convention in Detroit, Michigan. In 1953, the band received national acclaim when each member was awarded the gaily colored fourragère by Past National Commander Thomas Cuite.

Thanks to son Mark Zamiska of Southeast Suburban Post 1812, Cleveland Oh, and the Song ~ "Oh! My Pa-Pa" by Eddie Fisher

"The Post" newspaper was started, published and printed by Ray T. Zamiska, who passed away in 1983.

INTO THE JAWS OF DEATH

D-DAY AT NORMANDY | 80 YEARS LATER | ROLE OF THE COAST GUARD

The photo below is known as "Into the Jaws of Death," one of the most reproduced photos of the June 6th, 1944 D-Day invasion. The picture was captured by Coast Guard Chief Photographer's Mate Robert F. Sargent, a veteran of the invasions of Sicily and Salerno. He shot it from his landing craft at sector "Easy Red" of Omaha Beach around 7:40 A.M. Operation Neptune, the naval assault phase of Operation Overlord, was the largest single combat operation in which the Coast Guard had ever taken part. During those initial days of the liberation of Western Europe, the service demonstrated its expertise, versatility and value as a maritime service in a number of ways: combat operations; ship and small boat handling; loading and discharging cargo at sea and ashore; directing vessel traffic; and search and rescue operations—in most cases under enemy fire

The original photo is among the many historical items archived within the U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office.





CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY

89th National Convention

NEW ORLEANS, LA



Members experienced the Cajun culture!



Alligator greets visitors on the swamp tour!



The city famous for food and music!



Let Us Begin, As We Do All Things, In Prayer!



Father William McLaughlin
National Chaplain, CWV Auxiliary



Bishop Joseph Coffey, U.S. Military
Archdiocese Bishop Protector, Catholic War
Veterans



Father Tony Mensah, National
Chaplain, Catholic War Veterans

Led By Our Distinguished Clergy



Officer of the Day Mike Blau prepares the altar.



We remember at the Memorial Service for deceased members.

Presentation of National Awards



Commander Wulf, assisted by PNC Dave Crum presents the award medal to Bishop Protector Joseph Coffey.



Commander Wulf proudly presents this year's award to National Treasurer Andres Veiga, for his efforts to reconcile the annual audit, IRS tax filings, and investment and insurance coverage for the past several years.



Assistant Executive Director Mike Kasinkas is at the ready to check in members and tally the number of voting delegates.



Past National Commander Jim Finkel joins in the presentation to Robert Carr of St. Sebastian Post 870, New York.



Ben Nunez helps honor fellow Texan Daniel Martinez of Post 1269, Victoria, Texas.



Auxiliary PNP Renee Rygalski presents the St. Agnes Award to Ohio's Rita Wulf.

A Break in the Action



Fr. Bill McLaughlin receives St. Agnes Award for his years of service to the Auxiliary.



Hungry delegates descend on nearby Mother's Restaurant for lunch!

Election Results



Commander Wulf congratulates New Hampshire's Regina Bilodeau on her election as President of the CWV Auxiliary.

Meanwhile, At The American Legion Convention



National Auxiliary 2nd Vice Commander Mike Collins, assisted by William Hebert, from College Park, Georgia man a display booth in the exhibition hall of the nearby Legion Convention to recruit new members to the CWV and Auxiliary.

The Closing Banquet



As the banquet begins, dinner guests pause to commemorate our POW/MIA's in a ceremony conducted by Officer of the Day Mike Kasinskas and Master of Ceremonies John Peterson.



As always, members of the Clergy have head of the line privileges at the buffet. Bishop Protector Coffey is way out in front of Chaplains Father Mensah and McLaughlin.



Guest Speaker Army LTC Dr. Jennifer Marie Crum-Bailey, psychiatrist & neurologist, spoke on treatment of Veterans.



Newly-elected National Auxiliary President Regina Bilodeau, of New Hampshire is welcomed by Commander Wulf.



Keynote Speaker was CWV member COL Charlton Meginley, USAF Ret., Secretary of the Louisiana Dept. of Veteran Affairs.

Fellowship and Inspiration!



Give us this day our daily bread! Past National Auxiliary President Marylyn Crum makes sure Commander Wulf doesn't miss anything on the buffet line!



With the business of the 89th Nation Convention behind them, delegates and members of the Catholic War Veteran and Auxiliary Families socialize on the final night. See you next year!

TWO BOYS KILLED IN ACTION ARE STILL REMEMBERED BY THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD

And By a Relative One Never Knew!

Russo-DeMarco CWV Post #1702 was founded in 1951 in Brooklyn, NY. The post is named after two local boys who fought in World War II and never returned home. The neighborhood was tight-knit in those days and everyone knew and looked out for each other. My late father, Gladinoro Russo, started the post to honor his younger brother Alfred who was only 19 years old when he was shot down. His body was never recovered. A memorial in Florence, Italy remains to this day. Another Brooklyn native, Army PVT Frank DeMarco, was killed in action and awarded the Purple Heart. I am proud to be the current President of the Auxiliary of Post 1702. Our Unit is the only remaining one in Brooklyn.

The post sponsors an annual Memorial Mass to honor all Veterans on Columbus Day weekend at St. Mary Mother of Jesus Church in Dyker Heights, Brooklyn. Special booklets are printed with the names of all our post and auxiliary members who are deceased, to include pictures of both post namesakes. A wreath is placed on the altar. Prayers are said outside the Church near a commemoration plaque.

On a recent vacation trip to Missouri, our group visited a building with rooms honoring different wars. I raced to the room honoring World War II Veterans to look up my Uncle Alfred on the wall. I was overwhelmed to see ladders up to the high ceiling in that room, which you had to climb to view names on top. I started looking randomly and by some miracle I found his name at eye level. At that point, tears started coming down my face and I was frozen in my tracks and could not speak or move. I called my father who I knew was at the Memorial Mass. I felt as if a family member had just attended his funeral. Not only was our family in Brooklyn honoring him that day, but so was his niece at that very same moment in Missouri. I was with them in spirit, a wonderful experience I will never forget.



(Left): Catholic War Veterans and neighbors pray following the Mass. Leaflets feature photos of Post 1702 namesakes.

(Middle): St. Mary Mother of Jesus Pastor joins the Post Commander to lead the prayer to honor all deceased Veterans, also in the leaflet. A moment of silence followed.

(Right): Participants gathered for lunch following the ceremonies. Standing at the center of the photo are Auxiliary President Sue Redding and Post 1702 Commander Lou Mastandrea.

Story and photos thanks to Sue Redding

BUCKEYE BULLS-EYE

OHIO CONVENTION MEETS EXPECTATIONS

The Department of Ohio State Convention took place at the Holiday Inn in Canton, Ohio in April. Those attending were not disappointed at the ceremonies, festivities, business sessions or solemn celebration of the Holy Mass. One evening was highlighted by a “Mexican Fiesta” themed dinner and party. The delegates thanked retiring State Commander Joe Illencik, and elected a new State Commander, recently retired postman Mike Blau, who also assists in maintaining and updating the National website.



Catholic War Veterans National Commander Larry Wulf, a native of Ohio, presided over the convention program. He is shown here with wife, Rita.



Members of Southeast Suburban Post 1812, located in Garfield Heights, Ohio, don their best “South of the Border, Down Mexico Way” regalia to add to the festive evening!



Past Department Commander, and currently 2nd V/C of St. George Post 613 in Cleveland, John Milkas, joins Elaine Majewski, 1st VP and Steve Varga, 3rd V/C of Jude Thaddeus Post 1675, Toledo in trying their luck at the lotto ticket raffle.



New State Commander, Michael Blau is resplendent in a shirt better suited to the state of Tijuana!



Life Member and Commander of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Post 579, Chuck Preto, is fired up after winning a fire extinguisher in a raffle drawing.



Meet the "Persons of the Year" from each of the Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary Units around the State of Ohio who gathered at the State Convention.



Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary Members from around the State of Ohio join in solemn remembrance of those service members who made the ultimate sacrifice in our nation's many wars, and their own CWV/A comrades who have gone before, who created and made the organization as it is today.



A Priest of the Diocese of Youngstown, Fr. Michael Marcelli, Parochial Vicar at the parish of St. Patrick in Kent, Ohio, celebrated the Memorial Mass.



Ron Janning, husband of Mary Ann Janning who staffs the Ohio Department office, "attends" the convention from his bed in Grove City, Ohio, via digital interface with his laptop. He had recently suffered an ankle injury.



John Buettner, Welfare Officer of St. George Post 613, Cleveland, and a resident of Cleveland Heights, was awarded the Tommy Anderson Award, the State of Ohio's 2nd highest honor, for "selfless service to Veterans and Families" at the convention.



The first order of business, as usual, at the state convention was the installation of the slate of Department of Texas officers for the coming year by National Commander Larry Wulf



THIS, THEN IS TEXAS!



State Commander Keith Thomas receives the charge of his responsibilities from Commander Wulf.



Past National Auxiliary President Lupita Martinez enjoys some down time during a lunch break from the meetings.



Auxiliary delegates compare notes in between business and strategy planning sessions for the coming year.



Auxiliary and Veterans reconvene for a joint afternoon discussion.



At the Memorial Mass, thoughts and prayers were forefront for those members who have since gone to God. National Commander Larry Wulf and Past National Auxiliary President Lupita Martinez, representing current President Marylyn Crum, presented gifts at the altar.



Then it's time for food, fun and good fellowship! Famous Texas hospitality includes the traditional presentation of authentic cowboy boots and Stetson hat to the new National Commander. Past National Commander Jose Garcia assisted in the presentation.



Larry Wulf hugs Ben Nunez!



Presentation of Awards by State Commander Keith Thomas is an anticipated part of the convention!

Wisdom is exchanged between Commanders old and new!

POST 386 MEMBER DONALD PLUNKETT RECEIVES LCDR NICHOLAS BROOKS, USN AWARD



LCDR Nicholas Brooks:
Prisoner of War
Vietnam War Hero.

In Memorial Day ceremonies in New Windsor, New York, Town Supervisor Steve Bedetti presented Donald Plunkett, a member of Joseph R. Farina Memorial Post, with the LCDR Nicholas Brooks Award.

Commander Brooks was a New Windsor native, U.S. Naval Academy Graduate and a Naval Aviator. A member of Attack Squadron 196, he was the bombardier and navigator aboard an A-6 Intruder on a strike mission over Laos. The Intruder was shot down and Brooks was forced to bail out.

He was captured by enemy forces and became a POW. During his captivity, he escaped three times, only to be caught each time. He died in captivity and the specifics of his death are uncertain. In 1982, a Laotian local turned over unidentified remains to U.S. custody. Forensic analysis confirmed his identity. At his request, his ashes were spread over the ocean.



CWV Post 386 members surround the 2024 LCDR Nicholas Brooks Awardee, Donald Plunkett. (From left to right): Service Officer Mike Lutz; Jim McGuiness; Treasurer Jack Angelo; 3rd V/C Matt Infante; SgtMaj. Mary Kay Messenger (Soloist of the US Military Academy Band); Don Plunkett; Bob Murphy; Past Post Commander Steve Delgado; Post Webmaster Carlos Martinez; Trustee and Sgt. Of the Firing Squad Ray Lopez; Ted Coughlin; Past Commander Robert Schiela; Richard Lay, Trustee



Gulfport Veterans Support Team USA at 2024 Paris Olympics



Former Commander of Post 1976 in Logootee, Indiana, George W. (Bud) Erler joined other residents of the U.S. Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport, Mississippi in an opening celebration honoring all of the participants in the Paris Summer Olympics.

Oklahoma Memorial Post 168 Mourns Loss of Margie Tisdel

Margie was an active member and Past 3rd Vice Commander of the Post. After graduating Midwest City High School in 1958, she proudly served her country in the U.S. Air Force until 1967. She continued her government service as a civilian material management specialist for 22 years at Tinker Air Force Base. Upon her retirement, she worked as a teacher and office secretary at St. Philip Neri Catholic School, affectionately known as "Miss Margie." She was 83.





“GOING FOR BROKE!”

THE 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

Soon after the attack on Pearl Harbor, President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, effectively placing over 100,000 west coast residents of Japanese descent, the majority of them American citizens, into incarceration camps. Racism against Japanese Americans was rampant as much of the country was fearful and suspicious of possible collaboration with the Japanese government. But Japanese were equally outraged at the attack on their country, and many of them answered the call to war.

President Roosevelt activated the 442nd Regimental Combat Team on February 1, 1943. Hawaiian-born NISEI (second generation Japanese Americans) made up roughly two-thirds of the regiment, the remaining third were NISEI from the mainland United States. The motto of the unit was “Go For Broke,” a phrase that meant putting everything on the line in an effort to win big. Just as other minority groups, Japanese Americans faced a two-front war, both against the Axis powers, and a war against racism at home. “Go For Broke” was an appropriate motto.

Training for the 442nd was completed, and in April 1944 the unit left Camp Shelby in Mississippi for their first overseas assignment in Europe. They arrived in Italy and began to fight against Germans encamped across the country. In September, they participated in the invasion of Southern France, liberating French cities from Nazi occupation.

Today, the 442nd is remembered as the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the US military. The unit, totaling about 18,000 men, earned over 4,000 Purple Hearts, 4,000 Bronze Stars, 560 Silver Star Medals, 21 Medals of Honor and 7 Presidential Unit Citations.



Men from the 442nd practicing training maneuvers in Camp Shelby, Mississippi. (Courtesy US National Archives)



President Harry S. Truman removes his hat in front of the color guard of the 442nd. (Photo courtesy of the Harry S. Truman Library)



They trained for combat, learned to fight as a team and excelled in practice maneuvers. They fought a 2-front war: against the Axis—and racism at home.



★ ★ ★ Memorial Day 2024 ★ ★ ★

Above: BACK HOME IN OHIO: Members of Jude Thaddeus Post 1675 conduct a Memorial Day ceremony featuring its Color Guard. (From left): O.D. Joe Klosowski, Paul Klososki, Jeff Zeleski, National Commander Larry Wulf, Mike Pietrzak, Steve Vargo and Tom Flowers.



CWV members assemble at the entrance to the magnificent St. Patrick's Cathedral before lining up to process down the main aisle.



Veterans old and new, including invited Fleet Week sailors, filled out CWV reserved pews.



FLEET WEEK NEW YORK: National Commander Larry Wulf joins CDR Shane Brewer, Commanding Officer of USS MARINETTE (LCS-25) in placing a memorial wreath on the fantail of the ship, part of ceremonies during a port call for New York City's annual Fleet Week 2024.



CMDR Wulf, Auxiliary President Marylyn Crum, Exec. Director Dave Crum, NY State Commander Bruce Lubkeman presented the wreath..

RECOGNIZING OUR MILITARY OFFICERS OF THE FUTURE!

POST 386 NEWBURGH, NEW YORK
AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC



Post Commander Richard Lay and Post Chaplain Michael Lutz present an award on behalf of the VFW to Cadet Major Caroline Campos.

POST 1944 DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA,
AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC AND ARMY ROTC



3rd Vice Commander Matt Infante and Service Officer Mike Lutz present the Catholic War Veterans Award to Cadet Lt. Col. Catherine Joysaca.



Commander Joe DiBiasi of Fr. John Washington Post 1944 presented medals, as well as a \$500 scholarship check, to JROTC students at Mainland High School, and 8 other high schools,

NY, CT, IL POSTS MAKE PRESENTATIONS TO STUDENT AWARD WINNERS



(From left to right): Post 870 Historian Helen Olt, Auxiliary 3rd V/P Susan Haugh, Art Teacher Laura Doyle, CWV 3rd V/P Gary Jacobson, Auxiliary President Catherine Fleming and St. Sebastian Catholic Academy Principal Michelle Picarello.



Proud Art Teacher Laura Doyle, National 1st prize winner Rhamille Alarcon, 3rd place winner Valerie Win, 2nd place winner Niamh Kirwan. 3rd V/C Gary Jacobson and Auxiliary President Cathy Fleming offer their congratulations.



Post 1562 in Derby, CT celebrates their student art winners. Post Commander Tom Voytek is joined by St. Mary-St. Michael School Principal Grace Torres, Auxiliary President Loretta Budd, and Post 3rd V/C Maureen Mc Donnell. Winners (from left): Isabella Mendes, Kindergarten; Christiana Rizzitelli, Grade 2; and Olivia Malerba, Grade 1.



ILLINOIS HITS THE TRIFECTA! St. Mary School in Brussels, Illinois produced all three national winners of the annual Essay Contest. (From left): Aubree Behrnes, 3rd Place; Bishop McNicholas Post 1916 Third Vice Commander Dale Smith; Lorelei Hartman, 1st Place; and Eve Schleeper, 2nd Place!

Thanks, as always, to Helen Olt

JOYCE KILMER POST 1948 HOSTS BARBEQUE AT THE ST. ALBANS (NY) VA MEDICAL CENTER

Many thanks to Post Commander Steve Chory!



(From left), Post Members Tom Zmich, Pat Longo, Scotty Murphy and Karina set up and served food.



Philly “ribs,” Elcira and Scotty celebrate perfect weather and accomplishing a good deed!



Additional Volunteers manned the grill!



ARIZONA, HEY WON'T YOU COME MY WAY!

With apologies to Songwriter Mark Lindsay

John Cuddy, a member of Headquarters At Large Post 4 in Vail, Arizona, set up a CWV recruiting table at the recent Arizona Knights of Columbus State Convention in Tucson. He also recruited at the Tucson Diocese Men's Retreat, in addition to participating in Wreaths Across America last Christmas and placing flags on Veterans Graves at Tucson South Lawn Cemetery on Memorial Day. CWV appreciates your efforts in our behalf! (Photo courtesy of John Cuddy)



The Boys of Summer!

During a May 4th Star Wars Day theme, (May the 4th be with you!), members of Catholic War Veterans Post 1755 in Somersworth, New Hampshire present a “sponsorship” check to the Somersworth Little League, which they have been doing for over ten years. (left to right): Post Commander Maurice “Mr. Baseball” Cote, Past Commander Bill Wenners, State 3rd V/C Edouard Leclerc and, in keeping with the day's theme, the “Umpire Strikes Back!”



RECKLESS IN VEGAS?

Marine Corps Horse Supported the Fighting in Korean War. Battle for "Outpost Vegas" Anniversary

Sergeant Reckless, a warhorse with an impressive array of decorations, achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant in the Marine Corps and played a crucial role during the Korean War. Her most notable achievement occurred in late March 1953 at the Battle for Outpost Vegas, where she completed 51 unassisted supply runs in just one day. Originating from Mongolian stock, she was acquired by the Recoilless Rifle Platoon of the Anti-Tank company, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, and swiftly became a beloved unit member. She was known for her sociability, often wandering the camp at will and even sharing tents with Marines during cold nights.

The battle for Outpost Vegas was waged between forces of the United Nations Command and China from 26-30 March 1953, four months before the end of the Korean War. Vegas was one of three outposts called the Nevada Cities north of the defensive line which stretched roughly along the 38th Parallel. Vegas and the outposts it supported, Reno and Carson, were manned by elements of the 1st Marine Division. They were attacked by the People's Volunteer Army in an attempt to better the position of China and North Korea in the Panmunjon peace talks occurring at the time.

The battle raged for five days before the Chinese forces halted their advance, having been repelled from Vegas. The battle for Outpost Vegas is considered among the bloodiest fighting in Western Korea during the Korean War. It is estimated there were over 1,000 American casualties and twice that number of Chinese. The battle is also known for the involvement of Sergeant Reckless, a horse who transported ammunition and the wounded.

Upon retirement, Sergeant Reckless was honored with two Purple Hearts, a Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, a Presidential Unit Citation with a Bronze Star, a National Defense Service Medal, a Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Korea Medal, a Navy Unit Commendation, and a Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation.



Heroic Marine Corps steed in action on the front lines of the Korean War, near the 38th Parallel.



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

237-20 92ND ROAD
BELLEROSE, NY 11426

703-549-3622
WWW.CWV.ORG

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MANCHESTER, NH
PERMIT NO. 425



DEPARTMENT OF OHIO CELEBRATES FIRST CORPORATE COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Members from a number of posts and cities around the state of Ohio converged on the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in Euclid for the first corporate Mass and Communion Breakfast. Sisters of the Most Holy Trinity operate and maintain the Shrine, and prepared and served a hearty breakfast to the hungry pilgrims of the Catholic War Veterans.