



**LAMM LIGHTS Newsletter for February 2023**  
**Website: <http://americanlegionpost622.com> 716-204-2516**



Commander Phil



## Commanders Message

I would like to remind you that our next Executive board meeting will be Saturday February 11th. The membership meeting will be at 11:00 AM. I would like to remind everyone that we will be handing out Veteran caps at the meetings. They are courtesy of the Bank on Buffalo.



There will be 2 Meat Raffles held at the Lamm Post during the month of February. The 1st one will be Saturday the 11th and the 2nd one is on Saturday the 18th.

Please see the calendar for the time of the events.



Take care for now and I hope to see some of our members and their friends at the events.

For God and Country

Commander Phil

## OUR KOREAN WAR STORY: Combat Christmas

The American Legion  
DEC 19, 2022

The December 2000 *American Legion Magazine* continued its 50th anniversary tribute to those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Korean War. A two-page presentation of letters from veterans recollected holiday memories from a half-century earlier.

This article can be viewed in the newsletter on line at our website. <http://americanlegionpost622.com>, pages 9 and 10.

**If you want the GFLP Lamm Lights newsletter sent directly to your email account, send an email to: [georgeflamppost622@gmail.com](mailto:georgeflamppost622@gmail.com) with the heading, I want Lamm Lights.**



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3rd Vice	Don Helminiak	716-668-2905
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Finance Officer	Bob Bruno	716-574-5574
Corp. President	Paul Shea	716-906-9257
1st Asst. Chaplin		
Post Manor Number		716-204-2516

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD AT-LARGE MEMBERS 2022

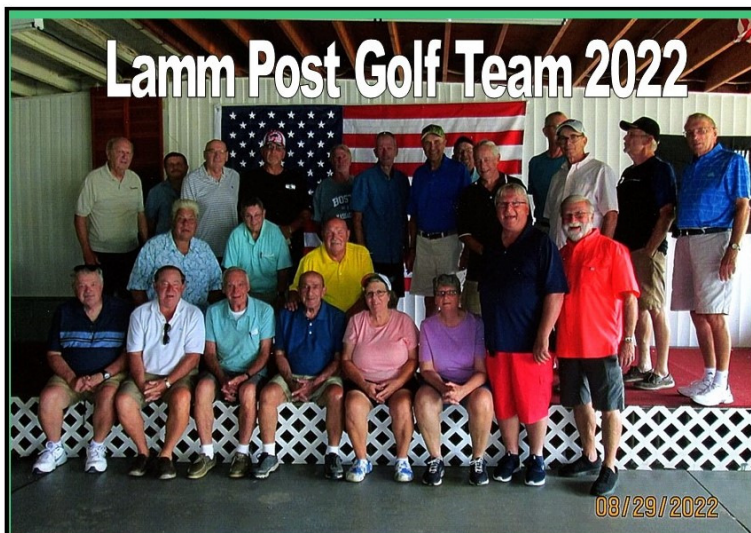
Frank Barone	716-833-4138
Rick Herrmann	716-243-5348
David Shia	716-907-2329
Duane Swirgos	716-830-0435

#### AUXILARY OFFICERS 2022

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Secretary	Susana Colon	716-491-2429
Treasurer	Mary Ann Bush	716-759-1171
Chaplain	Sharon Huber	716-901-1092
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Contact the Post at  
[gflamm962@gmail.com](mailto:gflamm962@gmail.com)

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## GOLF !!!

Take a look at the Lamm Post Golf Team, possible PGA material!  
If you are interested in playing and having fun,  
Call Ken at 716-481-4678 for more information.  
Big party at the end of the season.  
So remember FORE!  
P.S. You do not need to be a post member to join the Golf Team.





## Legion lays out priorities for a new Congress

The American Legion

JAN 26, 2023

As Legionnaires prepare for Washington Conference Feb. 26 – March 1, the nation's largest organization of veterans has assembled its legislative priorities for 2023.

Among them:

- Destigmatizing mental health services, and improving access to those services, to advance the Legion's "Be the One" initiative to reduce and prevent veteran suicide
- Ensuring that VA is effectively resourced to deliver "the best care anywhere" for veterans in a hybrid system that includes tele-health and community services, as well as traditional treatment
- Leveling the playing field for National Guard and Reserve veterans whose GI Bill eligibility is now restricted
- Easing the transition for Afghan allies of the U.S. Armed Forces who have come to the United States, and helping those who were left behind
- Protecting U.S. Coast Guard personnel from losing pay in the event of government shutdowns
- Changing U.S. Flag Code to permit common patriotic practices at major events and amending the Constitution to return to the states the ability to protect the flag from deliberate desecration

[The American Legion's legislative priorities for the first session of the 118th Congress are condensed into a trifold brochure that can be downloaded or printed.](#)

American Legion National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola will present the Legion's priorities in a joint session of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs on March 1. That testimony will be streamed live on the committees' websites.

## About National Convention

The American Legion's largest annual meeting is the national convention. Each of the Legion's 55 departments – the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, France, Mexico and Philippines – is entitled to a minimum of five voting delegates to the national convention. A department is granted one extra delegate, a member in good standing, for each 1,000 members (or major fraction thereof) 30 days before the convention. The five annually elected vice commanders round out the group of delegates present. The national convention delegates alone have the authority to approve changes to the Legion's constitution and bylaws. The group is also responsible for passing programs that determine the course of the Legion, setting membership dues for the upcoming year, and electing a national commander and five national vice commanders to serve until the next convention.

For information on the national convention or to obtain information on hosting one, please contact:

**Bridget Robinson, CMP, CMM, Director**

(317) 630-1292

(317) 630-1215 (fax)

[Contact Bridget Robinson](#)

## Future Convention Sites

### Convention Sites

**Charlotte, North Carolina** - August 25 - 31, 2023

[Visit Charlotte](#)

**Follow the Lamm Post 622 on Facebook...**  
**George F. Lamm**



**Meat Raffles hosted at GFLP**  
**Saturday Feb. 11th 5pm to 10**  
**Saturday Feb. 18th 1 pm to 5**  
**Open to the Public**



**GOLF TEAM (LEAUGE) MEETING**  
**TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21ST**  
**GFLP 7 PM**  
**IN THE LOUNGE**



**George F. Lamm Post**  
**Members Meeting**  
**The next meeting will be**  
**Saturday February 11th**  
**at 11:00 AM**  
**Please Support**  
**Your Post**



"ALL THAT IS NECESSARY FOR  
 THE TRIUMPH OF EVIL IS FOR  
 GOOD MEN TO DO NOTHING"



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Korean War  
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of Lamm Post  
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Many families come to us already having Wills, Powers of Attorney, and Health Care Proxies in place but ask if it is time to update their documents. During the course of our lives, there are many life events that may occur that will affect your Estate Plan.

Couples get married or divorced, have young children, have children that have become adults since the last update to their documents, decide they no longer want a person named as a beneficiary or executor in their Will, or have a death in the family. The happening of any of the above events is the time to sit down and re-evaluate your Estate Plan.

If you are unsure whether or not your Estate Planning documents need to be updated, call the Stamm Law Firm today to make an appointment for a consultation with one of our attorneys.

\*The information provided in this article does not and is not intended to constitute legal advice. All information and content of this article are for general informational purposes only. Readers of this article should contact their attorney to obtain advice with respect to any legal matter.

### **The Stamm Law Firm**

1127 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100, Williamsville, NY 14221

**716-631-5767**



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**Kenmore RX Center** 2818 Delaware  
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## Who We Are:

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## What We Do:

- Medication dispensing
- Medication organization (pill packs)
- Medication and device education
- Immunization (flu shot)
- Compounding
- Institutional services

## Institutional Service

**Flu Shot Clinics:** We provide onsite immunization service for employers, schools, health care facilities, and groups.

**Medication Organization:** We provide medication organization services to individual patients as well as health care facilities such as nursing homes. We can tailor our services to fit any institution's needs. Our standard offerings include pill pack and blister cards.

**Medication dispensing:** We are able to provide medication dispensing services to an inpatient facility such as nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, group homes, etc. This includes delivery services and medication review if required.



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email: wojtowiczr@aol.com



## February 2023



### George F. Lamm Post 622

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 <i>Party Manor</i>	4 <i>Party Lounge</i>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 <i>Post Members Meeting 11 AM</i>  <i>Meat Raffle 5-10</i>
12	13 <i>Republicans</i>	14 Elev. Union  	15	16	17	18 <i>Meat Raffle 1 PM to 6 Manor</i>
19 <i>Party 12 to 4</i>	20 <i>Badge and Shield 6 to 9 Manor</i>	21 <i>Golf Team (league) 7PM Lounge</i> 	22 <i>Church Function</i>	23	24	25 <i>Party / Manor</i>
26	27	28	<b>Meat Raffles at the Lamm Post</b> <b>Saturday February 11th 5 pm to 10</b> <b>Saturday February 18th 1 pm to 6</b>			

### Amherst Republican Committee Supports the George F. Lamm Post

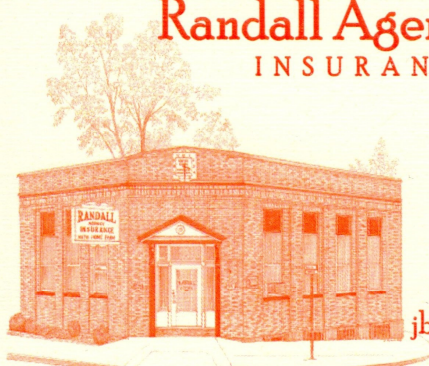
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CoChairs - Marty Mutka & Steve Sementelli  
SEcy - Ruth Ann Barone  
Asst. Sect - Terri Sams  
Treas - Eugene Sibick  
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# OUR KOREAN WAR STORY: Combat Christmas

The American Legion  
DEC 19, 2022

The December 2000 *American Legion Magazine* continued its 50th anniversary tribute to those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Korean War. A two-page presentation of letters from veterans recollected holiday memories from a half-century earlier.

One came from a former prisoner of war who told of unsuccessful enemy attempts to break the spirit of Americans in captivity. He sent in a card from the Chinese that on the front wished Americans “A Merry Christmas & A Peaceful New Year” and on the back asked “Why are you ... freezing and dying 5,000 miles from home when you belong with your families?”

Other letters were submitted in gratitude for media interviews from the front that delighted families at home. And one combat veteran told how much an expected government check meant to him and his wife as they struggled to make ends meet in the winter of 1951.

## Card can't break POW's spirit

The Korean War was not only fought with weapons – it was fought with the mind. A Christmas card was given to me and other U.S. POWs in 1951 during our captivity in a camp on the Manchurian border. I was in the POW camp for about six months.

The Chinese used propaganda like the Christmas card to try to break our will. Receiving that on Christmas, 5,000 miles away from home, was tough. The Chinese hoped it would be a morale-breaker, but it didn't work.

Nineteen of us escaped when we were ordered to pick up new Allied prisoners. A surprise artillery barrage disrupted their arrival and gave us an opportunity to flee. A few miles away, we met up with three U.S. tanks and rode out on them.

I went home after the escape and then to Washington, D.C., where I informed officials about POW locations and conditions.

— *Calvin Williams, Houston*

## Thank you, Armed Forces Radio

We all have our special Christmas song that we enjoy during the holidays. Mine is “I'll Be Home for Christmas.” Being away from home at Christmas is difficult for anyone, but for a service member overseas in a war zone, it can be traumatic.

Christmas was only a few days away, and I was in a far-off, hostile land called Korea. I was cold, frightened and lonely. I longed to be home with my loving family to share the warmth and security of their love.

While shivering in my foxhole, I dreamt of being at midnight Mass and opening the presents under the tree with my family. I could taste the delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings that my dear mother cooked for me. While standing under the mistletoe, singing carols with family and friends and drinking hot chocolate, I could feel the tender kiss of my sweetheart on my cheek and the loving embrace of my kid brother.

All was wonderful when suddenly I was shocked back to reality.

“Hey, soldier, we're from Armed Forces Radio. Would you like to send a message home?” One guy shoved a microphone in my face while the other operated the recorder. “Say anything you like,” he said. With a cracking voice and tears in my eyes, I spoke to my mother and family.

**Continued on next page**

## OUR KOREAN WAR STORY: Combat Christmas (continued)

AFR notified my family that I would be talking to them on the radio on Christmas. All my family, friends and neighbors crowded around the radio to listen to me. It was the best present they had that Christmas. By the way, the last verse "I'll Be Home for Christmas" is "If only in my dreams." And it was. Thanks, Armed Forces Radio.

– Martin Francis Farricker Sr., Woodbridge, N.J.

### As seen on TV

On Christmas 1951, I was serving with the 7th Division, 31st Infantry Regiment, Fox Company. My buddies and I went to Christmas Mass and were thrilled to find it being served by Cardinal Francis Spellman of New York. He was a wonderful priest. He took time to shake hands with as many of us as possible.

A few days later, on New Year's Eve, my mother was watching television and suddenly realized she was seeing me and the cardinal. Screaming, she yelled to my father so he could see this wonderful gift. Seeing her son so many miles away when she was missing him so much was the best Christmas present my mother could get – or I could ever give.

– Philip Kinsella Jr., Barnegat, N.J.

### Surprise in the mail

In December 1952, the holiday season ahead looked bleak.

Dot and I had married the previous January, not long after I returned from Korea, and I was now a freshman at the University of Maine. We were both working to keep our heads above water – she in the daytime and me in the evenings – to supplement the GI Bill stipend, which just about covered out-of-state tuition, books and supplies.

After reviewing our finances, even counting deposits on the soda bottles we had ready to turn in, we didn't have enough left over to buy presents for our families. We couldn't even afford the postage to send the presents.

Then one day I received an official government envelope.

Did the Marine Corps want me back? After all, the Korean War was still going on.

Imagine our delight when we opened the envelope to find a check for \$495. For what, we wondered? It was combat pay at the rate of \$45 a month from September 1950 through July 1951. Those 11 months tracked me from Inchon to Seoul, to Wonsan and the Chosin Reservoir, and back south to battle the Chinese in the spring and summer of 1951.

We bought some presents and mailed them home first-class. Dot bought a maternity dress, and we went for Christmas dinner at the fanciest restaurant in town. The first was a necessity, but the last was pure extravagance.



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