



The AMVETS Informer



2022



<https://m.facebook.com/AMVETS-Deptof-Massachusetts-State-Honor-Guard-2027042380767670/>

E-MAIL amvetsma@verizon.net

STATE COMMANDER ARTHUR R. MARCHETTA:

Happy Spring Fellow AMVETS,

As we get ready for our 77th Annual AMVETS Dept of Mass Convention at the Sturbridge Host Hotel in Sturbridge, MA there is lots to do.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Stephen Garner, State Adjutant who has announced his retirement as well as his resignation from his duties as State Adjutant. Stephen has done a great job for our organization creating a working relationship with our Department down to the District Commanders and all of our local AMVETS Posts. He has obtained and shared lots of news and information to be valuable to our membership. He has also connected our organization with our VA Medical Centers and Soldier's Homes to ensure that we are a part of their unique mission. He has served all of our committees with great enthusiasm and direction helping us to achieve our connections and accomplishments as an organization. Thank you Stephen for your many years of good service and I wish you and Karen a wonderful retirement.

The March SEC was held March 27th at Post 79 in Natick where first nominations were held for incoming officers and committee members. Second nominations will be held at our State convention June 16th-19th at the Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center, Sturbridge MA.

I would like to thank all those involved in this February's Passion Plunge from cutting the ice to cleanup, all the volunteers were awesome. We could not have asked for a better day with beautiful weather, and we had a great number of happy plungers. The generous donations raised will go very far to enrich the programs and events for SOMA.

On April 20th I attended a No Veteran Forgotten service held at Bourne National Cemetery.

I attended the service with State 3rd Vice CMDR William O'Connell where he will be presiding as Chaplin. Billy is a man who wears many hats. These services are to honor the men and women who have served their country whether in war or peace. Many of these veterans no longer have family or the families are unable to attend. The ceremonies are important because the National Cemetery is the final resting place for the veteran.

I would like to encourage any veterans living in Abington MA or the surrounding areas to go to Martin's Restaurant in Abington for breakfast on Wednesdays. Not only do you get a delicious breakfast, but you will get to share the camaraderie with many other veterans. Fred the owner is and always has been a strong supporter of veterans and his staff is just as gracious. Please keep the citizens, the children and all of Ukraine in your thoughts and prayers so that they may live in peace once again.

Yours in AMVETS,
Arty Marchetta - State Commander

STATE 1st VICE COMMANDER WAYNE ANTHONY:

Greetings Fellow AMVETS Family,
I was able to attend Transfer of the Flag ceremony in Natick at the Wilson Middle School with 3rd Vice Commander Billy O'Connell. This is the only town left in the country that still participates in this ceremony. It is where students who raise the flag each morning pass the duties to the new students picked for the upcoming school year.

The Department website is still in the works and we hope to have more information and updates soon for everyone. The Facebook page listed at the top of this page is a good reference some stuff in the meantime. Thank you to everyone for your patience while we work on things.

I am so looking forward to seeing everyone at our State Convention at Sturbridge in June. As you all may already be aware, I am running for your State Commander for the 2022-2023 year and would appreciate delegate support by your vote which will be taking place on the Sunday morning.

**STATE 2nd VICE COMMANDER
TIMOTHY J. EATON**

Greetings AMVETS,

I am so looking forward to our Annual State Convention coming up in June. Seeing fellow AMVETS and getting down to our AMVETS business.

Hope Everyone had a very a Happy Easter!

On Friday, April 15, 2022, my wife Tricia and I are flying to India, to attend my son Joshua's wedding. In their tradition, the wedding will last for seven days and seven nights.

Tim Eaton State 2nd Vice Commander

**STATE 3rd VICE COMMANDER
WILLIAM O'CONNELL:**

Hello fellow AMVETS,

Good News to report! The VA is lifting restrictions and we can get into the hospitals for all parties. You must be fully vaccinated, two shots plus your Covid vaccination card. You have to get there before 5:45 p.m. for an Instant Covid test and they will be shut down at 6:00 pm. and finally, mask must be worn while there.

If you served in the Air Force on an aircraft as Flight Crew or Maintenance between the years of 1970 to 2004, the Air Force released a report that you have a risk of melanoma of the skin or prostate cancer at a high level, this is important information to know. You can always touch base with your primary care physician.

Back in April, with Commander Marchetta we attended and I served as Chaplin at the "No Veteran Forgotten" ceremony at Bourne National Cemetery. I also went to Logan Airport at 6:00 am with Commander Marchetta on April 24th to send off veterans on a Freedom Flight. After Logan, we went to an Eagle Court of Honor for Max Streker to present the State Award to him. I have to say it was a real good feel good day,

Yours in AMVETS,

Billy "O" O'Connell - State 3rd Vice Commander

**JUDGE ADVOCATE
JOE DINEEN:**

Hello AMVETS and Happy Spring,

Hopefully all Post s will continue to review and update their Bylaws to agree with National's.

Don McLean is running for National Commander and I am running for National Provost Marshall, we both need your support. Membership numbers here in Massachusetts could benefit if we all work to recruit new members.

Let us all work together to make the Department of Massachusetts #1.

Yours in AMVETship,
Joseph Dineen - State JA

**STATE QUARTERMASTER
CARL BEAN:**

My fellow AMVETS,

As to the last SEC meeting I put out that Dustin was given permission to hold my duties as Quartermaster. As much as he wanted to take this task on, things have changed. Dustin is going to try something new in his life and wants to move on. He is moving down south to North Carolina staying with his Uncle. I apologize to you folks that I won't be there. Hopefully we can get back on track as in the past with the Convention at the beginning of the month. I hope the best for Dustin in his future choices.

So again I'm here to take all your orders and do the best to serve you. You can send orders to Cdbean24@gmail.com or text it to 413 977 3383. Next thing I opened up a Quartermaster Facebook page I don't have everyone as friends to tag you. For those who have been tagged pass along to other members.

Any other suggestions appreciated to improve this as I'm not really technically savvy. I wish everyone well and thank you.

Carl Bean - State Quartermaster

**STATE SERVICE OFFICER
DON MCLEAN:**

Greetings AMVETS family,

I have been working with a couple of veterans helping them get a VA claim started. One didn't know he was eligible and I explained how he was. I also have been talking to gulf war vets and telling them about the burn pit registry and putting them in contact with people to get their claims adjusted.

I worked with the Department of California to help get a Vietnam Veterans remains home to his daughter. I have also been attending some funeral ceremonies at Bourne National Cemetery with some of your Department officers. Other than that, it is a One in progress.

Looking forward to the State Convention.

Don McLean - State Service Officer
National First Vice Commander

**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
ROBERT O'CONNELL:**

State Commander Arty Marchetta and my fellow AMVETS,

I happy to report that I have successfully created a AMVETS Department of Massachusetts Facebook page. Our Department Quartermaster, Carl Bean has also successfully created a Quartermaster's Facebook page. Please check us out there.

Yours in AMVETS,
Robert O'Connell,
Public Relations officer

**CONVENTION CORP.
JIM PEACEY:**

Our convention is fast approaching and now is the time to make sure that you have your reservations and tickets. We just completed a walkthrough at the hotel and meet with some of the new staff. The new owner is putting a lot into the Host and we are looking forward to returning there.

Call now 508-347-7393 to the Sturbridge Host to book a room. Make sure that you state that you are with the AMVETS so that you can be sure to get our rate. Some of the rooms are under renovation getting new rugs and furniture, but they are working mighty to get them online on time.

Friday and Saturday night tickets are still available for purchase. Reach out to Don McLean or Jay Casey for tickets for Friday night. Caroline Kenyon and Joe Dineen are running the sales for Saturday night.

Let's put this pandemic behind us so that we can meet to help propel our organizations forward into this new world and ways of accomplishing our tasks. Any questions or concerns, please reach out to me at 413-250-6278.

IPDC

CAROLYN KENYON:

As the Immediate Past Department Commander, I am on this year's Convention Corporation. Joseph Dineen and I were given tickets for Saturday night Commander's Banquet. As of now, no tables are being assigned. If you wish to sit with someone, please let one of us know so we can arrange that. Tables are typically set for 8, but can make some considerations if we need to.

Ticket cost is \$45 per person.. The cutoff date for the tickets is June 1st 2022. If your pay by check, please make it payable to AMVETS Dept. of MA and put in the memo State Convention Saturday tickets. My mailing address is 1062 Park St Apt 7, Palmer, MA 01069. My email address is kenyoncaroline@yahoo.com if you have questions.
Carolyn Kenyon – Convention Corporation

**CHAPLAIN REPORT
ROBERT O'CONNELL:**

Greetings my fellow AMVETS,

I am calling on all AMVETS Post 1st Vice Commanders, please submit all the Deceased Members forms/or names via email to our Executive Administrator Janice Jordan, so they can be honored at our Memorial Service at June's State Convention in Sturbridge.



Missing Man Table

May God Grant you all His mercy, grace and blessings.

Yours in AMVETS,
Robert T. O'Connell Jr. – State Chaplain

AMVETS IN ACTION:



Commander Marchetta & Larry O'Neil



Bourne National Cemetery



Check presentation to the Special Olympics from the Passion Plunge



*The Americanism Committee
Program Judging held at Post 38 in Leominster*



USS Constitution, Charlestown Navy Yard