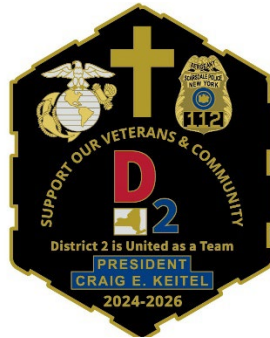


# District 2

## January / February 2025 Newsletter

President's Message:



Here is the first edition of our District 2 Newsletter!

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and Happy Holidays!

Our Spring District 2 Conference will be on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Maybrook VFW Post, 209 Main Street, Maybrook, NY 12543. I would like to thank President Lynda LaRosa for hosting the Conference. The meeting will start at 12:00 pm with lunch served afterwards.

Our Department Spring Conference will be Friday to Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> 2025 at the Holiday Inn in Binghampton.

Our Annual Inspections are all done and submitted. Thank you for all your hard work. There are still a few details which we need to work on, but we are well on our way.

Below, please see pictures of our Past District President Sylvia Reid distributing the toys donated to the District by our Auxiliaries at the Fall Conference. The toys were given to children at Our Lady of Victory Pre K school in Mount Vernon. Thank you to all the Auxiliaries who donated toys to bring these children some cheer and happiness.

Please send me flyers and information for any details and functions your VFW and Auxiliary will be holding. I will include them in future Newsletters. This way we will all know what is going on around our District. It also may give some good ideas of possible fundraisers or functions our Auxiliaries may be able to hold by seeing what works at other Posts.

I have attached flyers which I have been sent.

Jr. Vice President Sandy Valentino is working on sending out our Annual Fund-Raising Raffle tickets. Please support our District by buying tickets.

Our District 2 Membership is currently at 95.13% and we are in First Place of the Districts! We still have a number of annual members who have not paid their dues. Please reach out to any unpaid members so that they can become current again and we can reach 100 + percent!

I have been able to make official visits to some of our Auxiliaries already, and I intend on trying to make it to all Auxiliaries in our District this year.

I will be out of town on vacation from January 17<sup>th</sup> to February 4<sup>th</sup>. While I am away, if anyone has any questions or issues, please contact Sr. Vice President Lori Juskiewicz.

If anyone would like to write something for future newsletter editions, please send it to me. Also, if anyone is interested and available to be the newsletter editor, please let me know.

I hope everyone has a safe winter and I look forward to seeing you at our District 2 Spring Conference on March 8<sup>th</sup> in Maybrook!

*Craig E. Heitel*

District 2 President

914-552-1781

[craigekeitel@gmail.com](mailto:craigekeitel@gmail.com)

## **Message from the Sr. Vice President**

Dear District 2 Auxiliary Members,

I hope this message finds you well and that you all enjoyed a joyful holiday season! As we step into the new year, let's raise a toast to a happy, healthy, and productive 2025.

As we find ourselves right in the middle of winter, it can be challenging to engage in community activities, and many of our veterans may be hibernating during this chilly season. However, this period presents a fantastic opportunity for us to focus on planning and strategizing for the months ahead, especially when it comes to recruiting new members to join our cause.

Let's take this time to reach out to potential members, share our mission, and invite them to be part of our vibrant community. Each new member brings fresh energy and ideas, strengthening our commitment to supporting our veterans and their families.

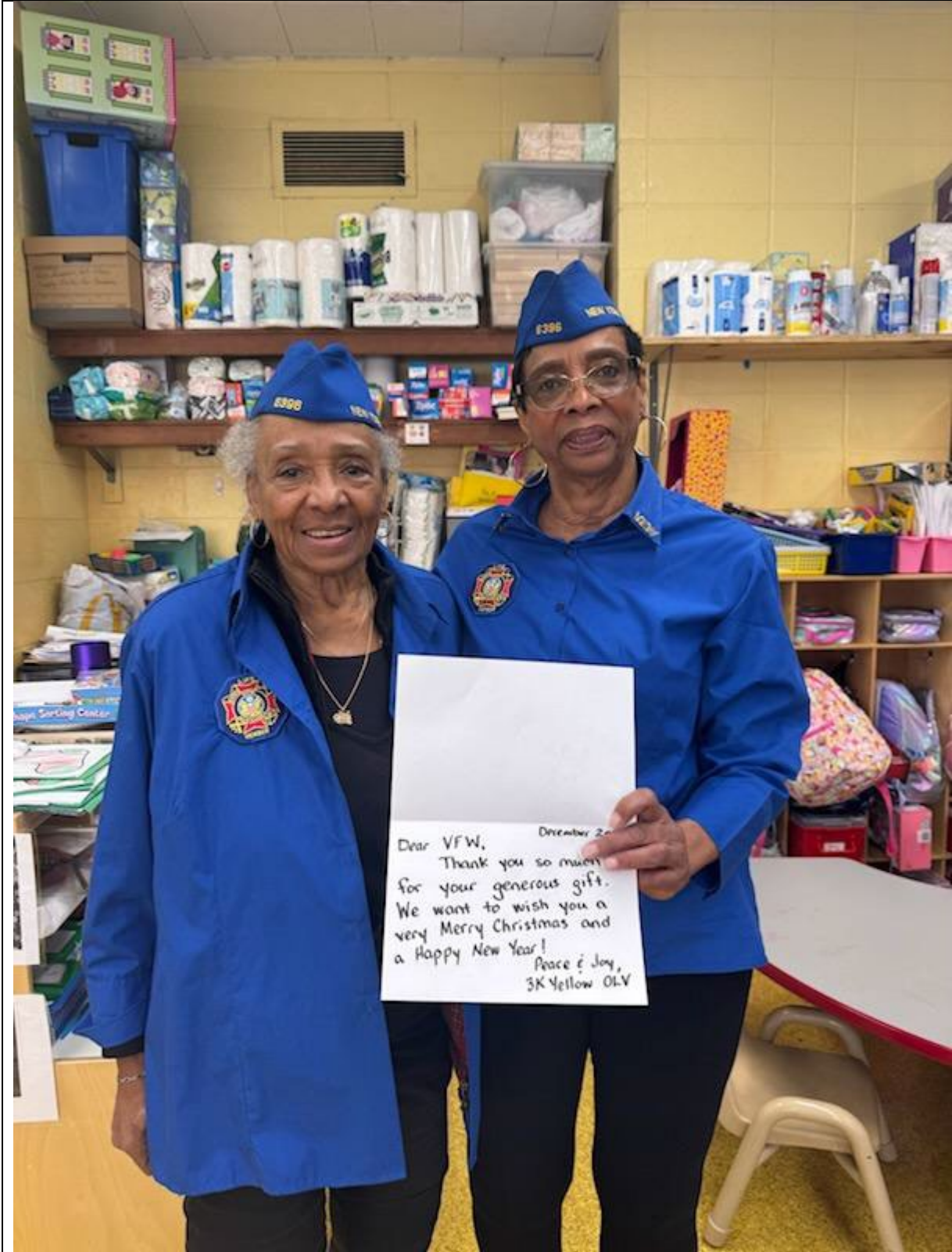
I am also excited to remind you about our upcoming spring conference in March. It's always a wonderful experience to gather with fellow members from the Department of New York,

share stories, and collaborate on initiatives that make a difference. I hope to see many of you there!

Wishing you all a warm and productive winter season. Let's make the most of this time to plan, recruit, and prepare for a successful year ahead!

Warm regards,

Lori Juskiewicz  
Senior Vice President  
District 2 Auxiliary



December 20  
Dear VFW,  
Thank you so much  
for your generous gift.  
We want to wish you a  
very Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year!  
Peace & Joy,  
3K Yellow OLV







# VFW Auxiliary 7765 Red Hook

presents

1950'S

SOCK  
HOP



February 7, 6pm cocktail hour

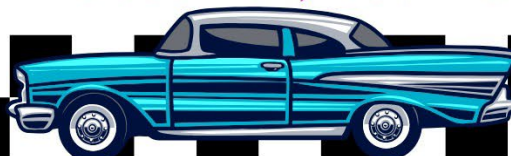
7-10 dance party

\$20 donation

includes dance party, 50's  
diner food, and one drink

**Themed dress is encouraged**

30 Elizabeth St, Red Hook







VFW POST 5491 2ND ANNUAL

# OPERATION ICE SPLASH

FOOD TRUCKS



50/50



RAFFLES



CHILI COOKOFF



Polar Plunge Sign-Up  
(includes T-shirt)

\$35 if Paid by Jan.10  
\$40 After Jan. 10



**SIGN-UP HERE**

PRIZE FOR BEST POLAR PLUNGE COSTUME  
1 ADULT & 1 CHILD WINNER

VFW POST 5491 - 154 EAST LAKE BLVD, MAHOPAC

12:00 - 4:00 STREET FAIR - DJ RYAN DWYER

2:30 - POLAR PLUNGE

4:00 - PM VFW AFTER PARTY - LIVE BAND



SPONSORED BY

VFW 5491 AUXILIARY & THE DELDUCCO FAMILY

Interested in being a sponsor or vendor?

Contact Rob Kearns (646) 630 - 0800 or Rachel DelDuco (914) 329 - 2398

operationicesplash5491@gmail.com



# FOUR CHAPLAINS



1

FEBRUARY

1027 Route 311, Patterson NY

**PATTERSON AMERICAN LEGION**

Please help us remember the extraordinary heroism of the four chaplains who died aboard the USS Dorchester February 3, 1943

11<sup>AM</sup>

FUNDRAISER SUPPORTING

MAHOPAC VFW POST 5491

**\$100/TICKET**

Only 500 tickets available.



Grand Prize - \$10,000

2nd Prize - \$5,000

3rd Prize - \$1,000

4th - 7th Prize - \$500 each

8th - 12th Prize - \$200 each

**Tickets Available Now!**

**Contact a VFW Officer, Rachel DelDuco, or George Tompkins**

Tickets also available for  
purchase behind the bar.

914-329-2398

845-494-0513

VFW Post 5491

154 E. Lake Blvd. Mahopac, NY 10541

**Raffle Drawing and Party April 5th**

18 years or older. Winner need not be present.

