

# 2019 ANNUAL VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

## Membership

- Oliver Groman, Chairman
- Peter Scott Vice Chairman
- Members: Andrew Bracy, Chris Patton, Chris Roth, Vincent Valinotti
- Alternates Joan Klein, David Houpt
- Honorary Member Bill Grun

We lost our honorary member Bill Grun and he is sorely missed. We also lost David Houpt who passed away in December. Andrew Bracy resigned due to health concerns, Oliver Groman resigned due to moving away from the area. We will miss Andrew Bracy, Bill Grun and David Houpt's contributions and Ollie Groman's leadership.

Seven meetings were held in 2019; Jan, Feb, April, May, June, Aug and Nov.

## 2019 Events

### **Memorial Day Ceremony May 25, 2019**

As with the previous year, we had record attendance, the Veterans Association of Military Musicians performed magnificently. We recognized and added the names of Anthony Sklodowski (WWII) and Jerry Steel for service in Bosnia and Iraq. State Senator Maria Collett and Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick were in attendance and each spoke to the crowd. Warrington Township resident and Veteran Larry Bullock read a very moving poem he composed.

### **Veterans Day Ceremony November 10, 2019**

We held a brief ceremony to honor veterans at the township building on November 10<sup>th</sup>. State Representative Todd Polinchock was in attendance and spoke briefly; Vice Chair Peter Scott gave a short talk focusing on two Medal of Honor recipients, and Larry Bullock read another inspiring poem that he wrote.

### **Warrington Days**

The Veteran Affairs Committee had a booth with three of our members in attendance, Andrew Bracy, Vincent Valinotti and Vice Chair Peter Scott.

### **Valley Square Tree Lighting Event**

In support of Tony Black, General Manager, Shops at Valley Square, the Veteran Affairs Committee attended and had a booth at this event.

## **Finances**

Budget from Supervisors \$3000.

### **Memorial Day Expenses**

Band \$550

**Warrington Days** spent \$26 on Pretzels to sell at booth

Profits of \$57 on sale of pretzels and filled the boot campaign

### **Valley Square**

Profits of \$11 on fill the boot campaign

### **Paver sales**

2 pavers sold at a profit of 200.88.

All sales monies have been deposited in the Township account from the Veterans Bricks or Donations as appropriate.

## **Projects**

### **Veteran Affairs Committee (VAC) Helping Hands Project**

The VAC has spent a lot of effort on this project with minimal success. While the VAC had quite a few respondents to our letters, the overwhelming response was from volunteers who wanted to help. The VAC met with three individuals requesting assistance and responded in all three instances. One was for an individual who needed a veteran to simply talk with him. VAC member Chris Roth met the challenge and successfully met with the veteran. The other two needed help with mowing their lawns. Communication with these individuals was difficult and before we could act they found a neighbor to help. Peter Scott dealt with both issues himself. In the first case, Peter Scott met personally with the individual around the April timeframe. Peter Scott spoke with him, looked at his yard, saw that he had a mower and said he would get back to him when grass started growing. After a few days of calling and leaving messages, the requestor said he had not listened to his messages and found a neighbors child to cut the lawn. The second individual acted similarly. The VAC received a call the next day to find the second requestor had secured help from a neighbor.

For the next few months, the VAC placed the project in abeyance due to COVID concerns. During this time, the VAC organized the volunteers by their specific duties.

When the VAC contacted the Boy Scouts to volunteer for the two lawn mowing jobs, they were shut down due to the virus.

### **Daniel P Bradley Marker**

In August 2018, the VAC received a memo from Dr. Constance Ace, Chair of the Warrington Historical Commission stating the Historic Commission found a historical marker for Daniel P. Bradley in a garage on Turk Road. Daniel was a young soldier had been stationed at Warrington Nike Base and was killed in a motorcycle accident.

The marker stone is currently at the Public Works building. VAC committee member, Chris Roth has designed a holder shaped like a Nike Missile to hold the marker for planned installation at Igoe Porter Wellings Memorial Field. The project currently is awaiting the township engineers to review the plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Scott, Vice Chair, Veteran Affairs Committee