



United Military Veterans of Kings County, Inc.

Proud sponsor of Brooklyn's Memorial Day Parade

LEST WE FORGET

Brooklyn's 156th Memorial Day Parade Fact Sheet

This is the oldest Memorial Day Parade in the nation. The parade will kick off on Monday May 29, 2023 at 11:00 AM on 78th St. and Third Ave. We will hold our annual Memorial Service immediately following the parade in John Paul Jones Park (Cannonball Park) on 4th Ave. & 101st St. in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn immediately following the parade.

*** All Veterans are invited to march. Veterans do not have to be a member of a service organization. For Veterans unable to march there will be floats and rides available. You must call (631) 946-6249 to coordinate rides.**

* The United Military Veterans of Kings County is the successor to the Veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Mexican-American War and the United War Veterans and is a constituency of all Brooklyn Veteran Service Organizations. After the Civil War in 1867, the Kings County Memorial Day Parade was held along Eastern Parkway. It then ran along Prospect Park West in Park Slope for only a few years and then moved to Bay Ridge in 1985.

* Our 2023 Grand Marshal is Brigadier General John Digilio

* Our Deputy Grand Marshals are the Tiger Battalion from the Fort Hamilton JROTC and the Rough Rider Battalion from Theodore Roosevelt Bronx High School of Law and Community Service.

* The Reviewing Officer is Colonel Brian A. Jacobs, Fort Hamilton Garrison Commander accompanied by Command Sergeant Major Eva Commons.

* Special Guests are the Veteran Corps of Artillery and Hope For The Warriors.

* The Veterans of Foreign Wars will be the lead Veteran Service Organization followed by the 715 Veterans Association, Korean War Veterans, American Legion, Catholic War Veterans, Jewish War Veterans, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans Thomas Coughlin Chapter 72, Women Veterans, the Brooklyn "Key Chapter" American Ex-Prisoners of War, Hope for the Warriors, and Gulf War, Iraq and Afghanistan War Veterans. Fleet Week Sailors and Marines, NYC Army Recruiting Battalion, 174th Infantry Brigade, NYPD and FDNY, Ironworkers local 361, Operating Engineers 14-14b, Carpenters local 926, civic organizations and patriotic youth organizations participate and march. Vintage fire trucks, automobiles and military vehicles will also be featured in the parade with patriotic floats, and Boy and Girl Scouts, Sea Cadets, Explorers and many Brooklyn High School bands.

* Parade kicks off at 11 AM on May 29, 2023 on 78th Street and Third Ave. The parade route is along Third Ave. to Marine Ave. then up to Fourth Ave. and over to John Paul Jones Park, for a memorial service that includes Bag Pipes, a Wreath Laying, Flag Raising, a 21 gun-salute by the Veteran Corps of Artillery, New York States oldest military organization that dates back to the American Revolution, and the Playing of Taps.

* The General Membership meetings will be held at 7:00pm on April 25 and May 15, 2023 at Greenwood Park, 555 7th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11215. **All those who plan to march should attend these meetings.** You must call (631) 946-6249 if you plan on attending and leave your name, phone number and organization's name.

* Our major sponsors include American Legion Amity Post 791, Con Edison, USAA, John & Margo Catsimatidis, Kings County American Legion, Local 361 International Brotherhood of Ironworkers, Operating Engineers Local 14-14b, United Brotherhood-Carpenters Local Union 926, Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis, Councilman Justin Brannan, New York City Department of Youth and Community Development,

* "**Lest We Forget**" is a phrase commonly used in war remembrance services and commemorative occasions. Before the term was used in reference to soldiers and war, it was first used in an 1897 poem written by Rudyard Kipling called "**Recessional**". The phrase occurs eight times; and is repeated at the end of the first four stanzas in order to add particular emphasis regarding the dangers of failing to remember past sacrifices and the horror of war.

* Chairman of the Memorial Day Parade is Ray Aalbue. He can be reached at 347-907-9547. The President is Connie Ranocchia and she can be reached at 917-697-6333.