

2023 LONGWOOD  
GWOT MONUMENT  
NAME UNVEILING  
& VETERANS DAY  
CEREMONY  
COMMITTEE



# THE LONGWOOD ALLIANCE

P.O. Box 24 Middle Island, New York 11953

Gail Lynch-Bailey,  
*Alliance President*  
*Middle Island Civic Association*

Paul Infranco,  
*Alliance Secretary*  
*Longwood Youth Sports Association*

Frank Bailey,  
*Alliance Treasurer*  
*Boy Scout Troop 433*

Harold Bachmann,  
*Committee Member*

Debbie Fearon,  
*Committee Member*

Diana Koch,  
*Committee Member*

Nancy Lupfer,  
*Committee Member*

Tamika Mendoza,  
*Committee Member*

Tony Morris,  
*Committee Member*

Steve Pastena, *President*  
*Central Brookhaven Lions*

Robert Kessler, *President*  
*Yaphank Historical Society*

Lisa Jacobs, *Director*  
*Longwood Public Library*

Melanie Cardone-Leathers,  
*LPL Local History Librarian*

Victoria Molloy,  
*Longwood BOE President*

Daniel Tomaszewski,  
*Longwood BOE Vice President*  
*Yaphank FD*

Carl Verdi,  
*Longwood Principal Emeritus*

Pam Donovan,  
*PR Specialist, Longwood CSD*

Jeanne Knudsen,  
*Longwood High School*  
*Seal of Civic Readiness Program*

Victor Massian,  
*Longwood Junior High School*  
*Seal of Civic Readiness Program*

Dear Friends of the Longwood Community,

**Thanking Every Hometown Hero** is an essential part of our mission. To that end, we have installed and unveiled eight granite monuments at Bartlett Pond Park in Middle Island. Seven of these bear the names of Longwood military service people from the Revolution, Civil War, World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam and the Global War on Terror. The eighth is a tribute to all Gold Star Families.

Our task at hand is to complete the name engravings on the Global War on Terror stone. This was our nation's longest active military conflict. There are currently 325 names on the red granite; although the War in Afghanistan ended in August 2021, we haven't added any names since 2017.

Our initial list of 30 names to be added has already more than doubled to 70. We think it could top 100. At an average cost of \$80 a name, that's \$8000 we just don't have -- yet.

Here's where you can help: we cordially invite you to become a Sponsor of the Longwood Alliance's Veterans & History Project at Bartlett Pond Park.

Please see the enclosed Sponsorship Form for support levels. We plan to engrave all remaining Longwood GWOT names and unveil them at this year's Veterans Day Commemoration Ceremony on Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 11a.m.

We hope you will support us financially and join us that morning for a moving tribute. Your organization and donation will appear in the Veterans Day program, on signage at the park, and in associated media.

Sponsorship proceeds will first fund the pending name engravings and ceremony expenses. We present all newly unveiled Veterans with a Longwood medal and cap. Each time we unveil a batch of names, we learn of more to add! So we are never quite finished and always need more funding.

We are also restoring the 1835 Historic Schoolhouse at Bartlett. It needs a new roof, window casings, paint and more. If funds allow, we will make these improvements and pursue matching grants. We want to have the school open for public visits, especially during our four annual ceremonies at the park on Memorial Day, Gold Star Families Day, Veterans Day and our Pearl Harbor Day Patriotic Tree Lighting.

Longwood is a big place with a big heart. The hundreds of GWOT names prove our community's amazing level of volunteerism and sacrifice. We look forward to hearing from you as we complete our mission of **Thanking Every Hometown Hero**.

Please contact us with any questions, ideas, or...names! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gail Lynch-Bailey, President 631-921-6971, gailybaily@aol.com  
Paul Infranco, Secretary 631-741-2644 pinfranco@aol.com