



**LAURENCE W. GAY POST 55  
AMERICAN LEGION  
P.O. BOX 755  
GROTON, MA 01450  
Joseph Fischetti, Commander**

### **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE INFORMATION**

Groton's annual Memorial Day observance will be held on Monday 30 May and will consist of a parade with ceremonies at the Main Street Common, Old Burying Ground, Groton Cemetery, and Sawyer Common. As always the parade honors veterans of ALL wars. We would like to invite ALL veterans to join us, whether in uniform or not. Veterans who wish to participate but are unable to march are asked to contact Dave Elliott at (978)448-6303 to arrange a ride in one of the vehicles in the parade.

Our Grand Marshall and primary speaker this year is a Groton resident Lt. Col. John Bruggeman, Inspector-Instructor of the 25<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment. We will be joined at the Cemetery again this year by the Granite Statesmen Barbershop Chorus, 12-time Northeast District champions of the Barbershop Harmony Society [you can visit their web site at <http://granitestatesmen.org/> for more information about this group].

We will assemble on the grass of Legion Common at 8:30 AM with each unit gathering between numbered signs on the common and the Old Burying Ground. The order and sign number are in the separate "Order of March".

At 8:50 AM the Groton Police Department will close School Street and all units will move into the street, retaining the order established on the Common, and we will start the parade promptly at 9:00 AM. Parade vehicles and their riders will meet on the north side of School Street in front of Badger Funeral Home at 8:45 AM -- drivers are asked to be in place absolutely no later than 8:40 AM. The parade will proceed out to Main Street, return to Legion Hall, move on to the Groton Cemetery with a stop at the Sawyer Common enroute, and return to Legion Hall. While we never know for sure how long the parade will take, we are usually back at Legion Hall by about 11:15 AM.

Parking will be a problem for participants and spectators alike -- **THERE WILL BE NO PARKING ANYWHERE ON THE PARADE ROUTE WHICH INCLUDES ABSOLUTELY ALL THE STREETS AROUND LEGION HALL!** We are asking everyone who can walk or carpool to do so. Participants are requested to try to park outside the parade route and leave the lot behind the Boutwell School for veterans and participants with heavy or bulky equipment such as guns or large musical instruments. Available areas outside the parade route include Sacred Heart Church lot [NOT on West Street next to the church], medical offices and bank parking lots on Main Street beyond Sacred Heart Church, Willowdale Road [includes block between Main and Hollis Streets -- this block will be closed] and Main Street EAST of Hollis Street

Anybody who NEEDS close-in parking is asked to contact Parade Adjutant Bob Johnson at (617)513-4484 who will try to coordinate space. I will be wearing a Legion uniform with blue-and-gold "rope" on my left shoulder at the parade. Any questions on the day of the parade should be directed to me. In the event of questionable weather on Monday, LEADERS of units are asked to call my office phone (978)448-1175 after 6:15 AM [answering machine will be updated with a message indicating parade status] and then get the word out to your group. Our inclement weather plan calls for wreath-laying ceremonies by a small group of veterans and fire-fighters -- all other activities will be cancelled.

Sincerely,

*Bob Johnson*

Bob Johnson,  
Parade Adjutant  
Cell (617)513-4484  
[rcjcommon43@aol.com](mailto:rcjcommon43@aol.com)



**MEMORIAL DAY  
MONDAY, MAY 30, 2011  
EXERCISE AT THE MOUND**

DEDICATION

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Global War on Terror  
20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of Kuwait  
70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Attack on Pearl Harbor  
160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Start of the Civil War

INTRODUCTION

Joseph Fischetti  
Commander, Laurence W. Gay Post #55

MEMORIAL PRAYER

Rev. Elea Kemler,  
Pastor, First Parish Church

FLORAL DECORATIONS

REVOLUTIONARY WAR  
MEXICAN WAR  
SPANISH / AMERICAN WAR  
WORLD WAR II  
VIET NAM  
PANAMA  
SOMALIA  
AFGHANISTAN

WAR OF 1812  
CIVIL WAR  
WORLD WAR I  
KOREA  
LEBANON / GRENADA  
DESERT STORM  
THE BALKANS  
IRAQ

MEMORIAL ADDRESS

Lt. Col. John Bruggeman  
Inspector-Instructor, 25<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment

RIFLE VOLLEY SALUTE

Groton Minutemen Company

TAPS

Groton Marching Band and Chowder Society

NATIONAL ANTHEM  
AND  
GOD BLESS AMERICA

Granite Statesmen Barbershop Chorus

**ORDER OF MARCH  
GROTON MEMORIAL DAY PARADE**

**30 MAY 2011**



1. **GROTON POLICE CHIEF**  
Chief Palma
2. **GROTON DUNSTABLE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BAND**  
Tim Savoy, Director
3. **U.S. MARINE CORPS COLOR GUARD** [sign #1]
4. **GROTON AMERICAN LEGION POST # 55** [sign #2]  
Joseph Fischetti, Commander
5. **OTHER VETERANS** [sign #3]
6. **VETERANS IN CARS**  
David Elliot, Coordinator
7. **GROTON MINUTEMEN COMPANY** [sign #8]  
George Brouillette, Acting President
8. **STATE AND TOWN OFFICIALS** [signs #5 to 7]  
Groton Board of Selectmen
9. **BOY SCOUT TROOPS** [signs #9 to #12]
10. **CUB SCOUT PACKS** [signs #13 to #18]
11. **GIRL SCOUT TROOPS** [Cadettes, Juniors, Brownies, Dasies] [signs #20 to #30]  
Judy Durling, Coordinator
12. **GROTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY** [sign #32]
13. **GROTON PEACE BOOK** [sign #34]
10. **GROTON MARCHING BAND AND CHOWDER SOCIETY** [signs #36 to #39]
11. **GROTON FIRE DEPARTMENT** [sign #40]  
Chief Bosselait
12. **FIRE TRUCK**  
Groton Fire Department



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30 May 2011

**MEMORIAL DAY PARADE  
2011 PARADE ROUTE**

The parade will form on School Street facing southwest and proceed out to Main Street, turn left, and stop SURROUNDING the common at the Firemen's Memorial. A brief ceremony will be conducted before continuing easterly to Hollis Street. The parade will then turn left onto Hollis Street and proceed north to stop in front of Legion Hall, occupying BOTH the Legion Hall driveway AND Hollis Street. A ceremony will be conducted by the Groton Minuteman Company at the Old Burial Ground, honoring veterans of the Revolutionary War.

The parade will then reform on Hollis Street and School Street and proceed north on Hollis Street to the Sawyer Memorial Common where Martins Pond Road intersects with Hollis Street, and stop SURROUNDING the common. A brief ceremony will be held, honoring the Korean War and Viet Nam War veterans.

Upon completion of the special ceremony, the parade will proceed north on Hollis Street, marching to Groton Cemetery at the convergence of Chicopee Row, Longley Road, and Blossom Lane.

At the cemetery, a special ceremony "Exercise at the Mound" will be conducted, honoring veterans of several wars.

Following the ceremony in the cemetery, the parade will form at the cemetery entrance and proceed south on Hollis Street, turn right onto School Street, and turn left to pass in front of Legion Hall. The parade will then disband behind Legion Hall.

Refreshments will be served by the Laurence W. Gay Post #55 Auxiliary and representatives of other participating groups.