



SOUND OFF



Published Monthly by Williston Post 144 - American Legion
Commander - James T. Randle September 2020 Editor - Dan Roper

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Commander James Randle

Another month has begun and, unfortunately, we are still not together. I hope in September we will have an Executive Board meeting on Monday, September 7, with trustees and hope we will also have a General Membership meeting on Thursday, September 17.

Second Vice Commander Bob Guastella asked for a clean up the Post on July 22. Several Legionnaires volunteered. Thanks to Bob Myron, John Incremona, Frank Busa, Ray Cross, Bob and Ruth Valentine, Rich Cinotti and me. All who help keep the post in tip-top condition are always appreciated. Tables and chairs were cleaned.

In July, the Nassau County American Legion Children & Youth planned a Baby Shower Drive-by to fulfill the needs of our local military families. Thanks to the contribution from our post and Children and Youth Chairperson Frank and Mary Ann Busa, these needs have been met. The families have received diapers, wipes, many sizes of baby clothes, gift cards and even monetary donations. This alleviates many worries from some of our members of the military so that their critical missions can continue.

Once again our post members have stepped forward to help our military families. They have shown the true spirit of the American Legion Family. A special thanks to Dawn Samuel, Children & Youth Chairperson Nassau County American Legion for her hard work.

Winners of our raffle fund raiser were: Thomas Granger of one thousand dollars, Tom Rumore of five hundred dollars and Peter and Eileen O'Malley of two hundred and fifty dollars.

Staying in place 2020 -2021 are The American Legion National Commander, James w "Bill" Oxford, Department Commander of New York, Mike McDermott Tenth District Commander, Paul Schottenhamel and Nassau County Commander, Al Ficalora.

When the post re-opens and can have parties again, we will be needing a Bar Chairmen and Bar Tenders. We are hoping for a few volunteers.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 1 Tuesday	Operation New Dawn & Iraq begins in 2011
September 2 Wednesday	Victory over Japan 1945, V.J.Day
September 7 Monday	Labor Day
September 7 Monday	Executive Meeting 7:00 pm
September 13 Sunday	Grandparents Day
September 16 Wednesday	American Legion Day
September 17 Thursday	General Meeting 7:00 pm
September 18 Friday	Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sunset
September 18 Friday	USA Air Force Birthday
September 18 Friday	Pow/Mia Recognition Day "Never Forget "
September 21 Monday	Autumn Begins
September 27 Sunday	Yom Kippur
September 28 Monday	Gold Star Mother Day

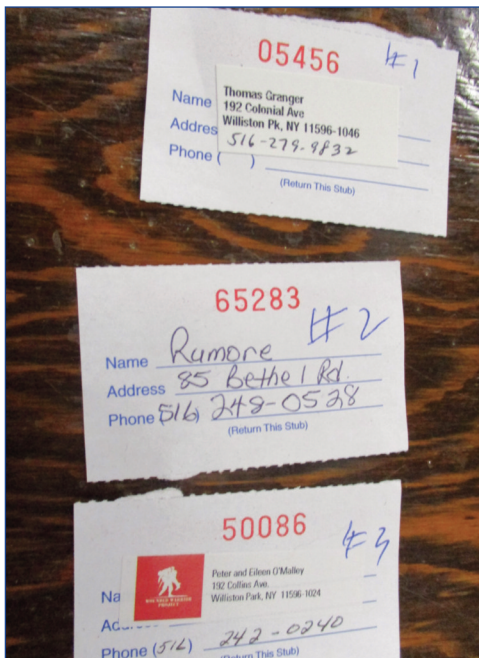
NASSAU COUNTY AMERICAN LEGION CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAM IN ACTION.....



Several volunteers joined NC Children & Youth Chairman Dawn Samuel (above, left) in a successful drive for baby goods that were donated and delivered to the Garden City Marine Reserve Center last month. Happy to say Post 144 under the direction of Frank and Mary Ann Busa were very generous and did their part. (see page 4 for additional pics)

Next General Meeting - September 17 (tentative) - Will Make Robo Call

And the Winner Is.....



Congratulations to our lucky winners of the Post 144 Fund Drive! They are Thomas Granger (first prize of \$1,000), Tom Rumore (second prize of \$500) and Pete and Eileen O'Malley (third prize of \$250).

Please enjoy a visit to our website at willistonpost144.org to view the video of the raffle drawing.

You will be informed by way of a Robo Call of the next General Membership meeting. We are hoping for September 17th.

OPENING GUIDELINES FOR POST BAR AND FOOD SERVICE

(Letter to our post dated July)

Dear Legionnaires,

First, I would like to wish you a Happy 4th of July.

As you know, we have already covered the opening of Post Meetings and the continued closure of Hall Rentals. I would like to go over, again, the **OPENING GUIDELINES FOR POST BARS AND FOOD SERVICES**. It is as follows:

- 1) Bartenders must be masked, wear rubber gloves, when serving drinks.
- 2) Members will be required to wear a mask before entering bar area.
- 3) Members must maintain the 6 feet social distancing guideline.
- 4) Drinks will not be served directly from the bar area. Members must be seated away from the bar, and orders must be taken and served by waitresses or hostesses.

These are the Guidelines from New York State, and the "powers that be" in the chain of command, and must be complied with. These are not my requirements.

I will keep you updated and informed with any changes on the NY State Guidelines, and what is required with the opening up of Phase 4 and what it entails. Stay safe, and stay well.

For God and Country,

Alfred Ficalora

Commander Nassau County American Legion

Reminder

No Time to Let Your Guard Down

(Don't dodge one bullet and get hit by another)

Let's All Plan to be Healthy Together!

Plan for a Flu Shot Again This Year

Dates to Be Announced

**ST. AIDAN PARISH OUTREACH
THANKS WILLISTON AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY UNIT 144**

Greetings from American Legion Auxiliary Williston Unit 144! No one would disagree that we've all experienced an eye-opener this past spring with the onset of "sheltering in place", shortage of staples/food that we've taken for granted, employment challenges, unexpected illness, and the list goes on. For those in need who rely on the goodness of others, this time has been NO less trying, to say the least.

As we soon enter the fall season, a new school season will be upon our children. Part of our mission as American Legion Auxiliary members is for the youth in the community. For the past seven years, Unit 144 Education Chairperson, Dianne Karl, has been the liaison between our 144 Unit and Parish Outreach conducted by St. Aidan's Parish Social Ministry. The Parish Outreach provides donated goods/services to the local parish and neighboring community, as well as their sister school, St. John's in Brooklyn.

Up to this time, Dianne has coordinated a "school supplies collection drive" from her sister American Legion Auxiliary unit members during the spring through early summer period. Unit members' generosity has brought an average of \$800-900 worth of school supplies yearly. In addition, Williston Unit 144 purchases backpacks which are donated annually as well to the Parish Outreach.

However, in these challenging times of cancelled meetings since March 2020, there has been a need to adjust Unit 144's usual plans – being ever mindful of the ongoing need. Therefore, Williston Unit 144 has recently donated sixteen gift cards to Parish Outreach (mentioned above) which was warmly acknowledged by Parish Social Ministry Director, Rosemarie Cavallaro, as follows:

"Ladies,... on behalf of our families who receive help through Social Ministry, words cannot express the gratitude we have for your very generous donation of sixteen Visa Cards...During these most difficult times, how blessed is our Church to have organizations like yours to go above and beyond to make sure that those in need do not go without."

The American Legion Auxiliary is about to complete its 101st year in the spirit of 'Service, not Self', to support the American Legion, and honor the sacrifices by those who serve. We advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security. Eligibility for membership has broadened! As of August 2019, membership in the American Legion Auxiliary, which up to that time had been an all-female organization, has been expanded to include ALL spouses (female or male) of U.S. veterans and service members who meet the

American Legion eligibility requirements, i.e. married to an active or honorably-discharged veteran who is a member of the American Legion. This amendment makes the American Legion Auxiliary the largest and most inclusive volunteer organization supporting our veterans, and children and youth. To sum it up, eligibility in the American Legion Auxiliary includes the following relations to the veteran: mother, daughter, sister, grandmother, granddaughter, self-female veterans who have served, and now male or female spouses.

If you are interested in joining our Williston Unit 144, visit our website: www.WillistonPost144.org and click "Auxiliary" in the menu.

Rosanne Spinner, Secretary
American Legion Auxiliary
Williston Unit 144
Williston Park, New York

**BLOOD CENTER IN DIRE NEED
OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

(Letter to our post dated August 17th)

We need your help - Before COVID-19, blood drives hosted by organizations like yours made up about 75% of the region's incoming blood supply, with more than 550 blood drives per month. Currently we only have 120 blood drives scheduled in September and are in desperate need of more. Please consider hosting a blood drive.

If you cannot host a blood drive in your organization, you can still help us by encouraging your employees/members to make appointments to donate at one of our 19 donor centers across New York and New Jersey or any of our current community blood drives by calling 1-800-933-2566 or visiting nybc.org.

Your account manager, Michele McCaffrey, is ready to assist you and can be reached at mmccaffrey@nybc.org.

We are taking extra precautions to help prevent spread of COVID-19. NYBC staff are practicing health self-assessments prior to presenting at work. As always, people are not eligible to donate if they are experiencing a cold, sore throat, respiratory infection or flu-like symptoms. Additional information on donor eligibility and COVID-19 precautions is available [here](#).

Please see the press release below and feel free to share.

Kind Regards,
Tina Kovolisky
Assistant Director Donor Recruitment
New York Blood Center
(516) 478-5017 - Office (516) 903-5057 - Mobile

BABY SHOWER PICS *(continued from page 1)*



Nassau County Children and Youth Program is proud of our successful drive.



Just some of our hard-working volunteers.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**WILLISTON POST 144 - AMERICAN LEGION
PO BOX 1
WILLISTON PARK, NEW YORK 11596**

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Williston Park, NY
11596
Permit No. 3