



SOUND OFF

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Commander - James T. Randle August 2022 Editor - Dan Roper



COMMANDER'S REPORT

Commander James Randle

Hello to all Legion Family, I hope all is well.

On July 4 the winning names for the post fundraiser were picked. The winners were.... 1st place Richard Santopetro (\$1,000), 2nd place Mr. & Mrs. John Morley and 3rd place was John Zedf. Names were picked by Jack Afonso and Bob Guastella PC. Thanks all for the support for Williston Post 144.

The new Department Commander is David R. Riley Sr. for 2022-2023. Dave has served in many leadership roles at the post, county, district, state and national levels.

After receiving his honorable discharge from the U.S Air Force, where he served with the Security Police from 1978 to 1982, Dave embarked on his career with the New York State Department of Correctional Services. Now retired, David is devoting his full attention to veterans and veterans' service. The breadth of his experience stretches from Post and County Commander to District as Vice Commander, Department Membership Chairman, Department Law-and-Order Chairman, and beyond. He has served as vice dean of the Legion College of New York, the National Department American Legion College, and as consultant to the National Membership and Post Activities Committee.

On Thursday evening September 15, 2022, the Nassau County American Legion Family will be honoring the Department Commander, The Department Auxiliary President, and Department Detachment Commander with a Testimonial Dinner and Dance. The Testimonial Dinner will be our way of showing that Nassau County is the Empire County of the Empire State. It will take place at Edwin Welch Jr. Post 1132, 2301 Penatiquit Avenue, Seaford, New York. Festivities will begin at 6:30 pm buffet dinner, beer, wine and soda cash bar. The donation to this affair is \$60.00 per person.

On the national scene, the 2022 National Convention will be held in Milwaukee.

Williston Park Pool is open to all Legionnaires and Auxiliary on August 11, Thursday, 5:00 PM.

The Membership Meeting for the 10th District is Saturday, August 20th, at Rockville Centre Post 303, 197 Maple Avenue.

DATES TO REMEMBER

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|--|
| August 4 | Thursday | U.S. Coast Guard Established {1790} |
| August 6 | Saturday | Salute to the Veterans at Eisenhower Park at Park field #6 6:00 PM |
| August 7 | Sunday | Purple Heart Medal Established (1782) |
| August 7 | Sunday | Vietnam War Began {1964} |
| August 8 | Monday | Executive Meeting 7:00 PM |
| August 11 | Thursday | Williston Park Pool open to all Legionnaires and Auxiliary 6:00 PM |
| August 14 | Sunday | Japan Surrendered Ending WWII (1945) |
| August 16 | Tuesday | National Airborne Day |
| August 18 | Thursday | General Meeting 7:30 PM |
| August 19 | Friday | Nassau County Committee Meeting at Rockville Center Post 303 7:30 PM |
| August 20 | Saturday | Membership Meeting at Rockville Center Post 303 8:30 AM |
| Auxiliary Unit No Meeting in August | | |

I sent a thank you letter and donation to the Herricks Marching Band for the band participation in the Williston Park Memorial Day parade

Jack Afonso PC needs veterans to give their oral history service information to help Grace Pizzardi on her project from Troop 1316 for The Girl Scout Gold Award.

Funday Monday will be held on August 1. It will be a Elvis and Frank Sinatra tribute.

Funday Monday August 8 Marty G & The "G" Men

Funday Monday August 15 the Beatles Tribute Band

The last Funday Monday is August 22, also Salute to Troops, Quatrain Barbershop Quartet and vintage car show.

Remember

**Legion Family Are Invited Guests
on August 11 at Williston Park Pool
Bring Your Own Food and Drinks**

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Joseph V. Donovan of Williston Park
Cold War - Vietnam ERA Veteran USMC

Next General Meeting - - Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 7:30PM

NOW THIS IS POST 144 ANCIENT HISTORY

Always fun to look back on the history of Post 144 and revisit a few old friends. How good is your memory?????

To start out.....if you remember this you are really one of our senior historians!!!



For those younger Legionnaires and Auxiliary members, this was the post building before it was set on fire and burned down. Of course, most of us are only familiar with today's building which is the building as it was rebuilt.



How about this guy? Recognize the World War II uniform? He was well-known around Post 144 and known for being our most senior member. Much to our sadness, he recently passed away, but certainly will never be forgotten.

Below is a much more recent photo of him (on the left in the photo) with one of his best friends who was also a member of the "greatest generation."



(photo left) Fred Santopetro is with Navy vet and Legionnaire Mike Frisoli, another beloved Legionnaire of Post 144

THE AMERICAN LEGION: A BRIEF HISTORY OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH FOR LEGIONNAIRES AND AUXILIARY

The American Legion urged support for Boy Scouts of America as the organization's first youth program supported by resolution in November 1919. Williston Post 144 supports troop 200, 201 and Troop 45 in their Eagle Honor Program. Legionnaire Bill Kempner is our chairman for Boy Scouts.

The Legion also established an enduring relationship in 1921 with the National Education Association to support a program of education adequate to meet the needs of the 20th century which will make all, native or foreign-born, good American citizens. Eric Spinner the Post Chaplain is a past high school teacher. He is the Nassau County American Legion Scholarship chairperson

Launched American Legion Baseball in 1925 to promote citizenship through sportsmanship, a program that would grow to field thousands of teams over the century. Williston Post 144 support Little League team and provides a color guard for Little League parade in April.

Created and operated a National Oratorical Contest. Beginning in 1938, continuing today, that requires high school-age orators to speak on the U.S. Constitution. Post 144 notified the high schools of Herricks, Mineola, and Chaminade about this contest.

Established a national network of child-support field representatives in the 1920's and operated orphanages throughout the country to assist kids who needed stable homes and mentorship.

Formed the Child Welfare Foundation in 1954 to provide grants to support organizations and agencies that assist young people facing challenges not of their making.

Provided thousands of scholarships for high school students seeking college education. With Williston Post 144's Children and Youth chairman Maryann Busa, Past Auxiliary County President and Frank Busa, Past Commander, each year help students with awards.

Launched an ongoing program in 1926 that recognizes with School Award Medals young people for their character, service, and citizenship.

Was chosen by Samsung Corp. in 1995 to administer a \$5 million fund to provide scholarships for Boys State or Girl State Participants who are descendants of U.S. wartime veterans.

Established an American Legion Legacy Scholarship in 2001 that provides college funds for children of military personnel killed or 50 percent or more disabled.

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

Our last meeting of the 2021-2022 year was on June 20, 2022. President Christine Horvath presided.

The meeting was primarily about the Installation of Officers. The Officers are as follows:

President - Christine Horvath
1st Vice President - Debbie Robinson
2nd Vice President - Ellen Randle
Treasurer - Marianna Wohlgenuth
Chaplain - not yet filled
Recording Secretary - Rosanne Spinner
Corresponding Secretary - Ruth Valentine
Executive Board - Marilyn Bauman, Mary Ann Busa, Sandra Lee, Sally Mitchell and Sue Otto

We are also looking for a person who would be the Historian for the Unit. Please think about this over the summer.

Mary Ann Busa, Chair of Children and Youth, reported that the baby items received at the April meeting were distributed to Momma's House, Toys of Hope and SCO in Huntington. Thanks again for the items.



Dianne Karl with Citizenship Award recipient Frances Campbell of St. Aidan's School

off. It was suggested that we have something that a family could use and maybe something for a man (air popper - hedge trimmer) Any and all suggestions will be considered. Please let Chris know so that it can be purchased in time for the fair. (248.4103) Thanks.

Sally Mitchell, Poppy Chair, reported that the donations for the poppies went very well. After expenses, we still had over \$1,300.00.

As far as Camp Corral is concerned, Rosanne Spinner reported that we will be able to send 3 young children to a week's stay at camp because of our fund raiser and the generosity of individuals. Way to go!!!

Don't forget to send me any "Good News" for the next

Sound Off article. mjabauman@verizon.net or 516.747.3983. So much bad news, let's keep our spirits up with some good news.

Please look for the next meeting date as I'm not sure if it will continue with Mondays or go back to Tuesdays in September. Info to follow when I receive word.

Have a wonderful summer - stay safe and healthy.

GOD BLESS AMERICA, OUR VETERANS
AND OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

NEW AUXILIARY OFFICERS



Sandy Lee, Executive Committee; Mary Ann Busa, Executive Committee; Sue Otto, Executive Committee; Rosanne Spinner, Recording Secretary; Ellen Randle, 2nd V.P.; Christine Horvath, President, Marilyn Bauman, Executive Committee; Marianna Wohlgenuth, Treasurer; Sally Mitchell, Executive Committee; Ruth Valentine, Corresponding Secretary.



Not only does he take the minutes at our general membership meetings, but he also carries a pretty good tune. Here, our post vocalist, Norm Jardine, shares a handshake with Maestro Lou Panniculi of the Nassau Symphony Pops Orchestra. Legionnaire Jardine opened the concert at Eisenhower Park Lakeside Theater on July 15 with the National Anthem.

JULY 4TH PARADE



(l. to r.) Assemblyman Ed Ra, Williston Park Mayor Paul Ehrbar, Nassau Cty. Executive Bruce Blakeman join Commander Randle to observe Independence Day



Tough guys (and gal).....long walks in the hot sun are the specialty of these marchers



Our Color Guard, always ready to serve..... John Lawless, Vic Werbkay and VFW Commander Frank Busa



Ed Steck.....out to cheer on the marchers

AND THE WINNERS ARE.....

**Richard Santopetro
Williston Park, NY**

**Mr. & Mrs. John Morley
Williston Park, NY**

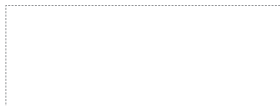
**John Zepf
Williston Park, NY**

Congrats to the winners of our fundraiser. All were Williston Park residents.

RETURN OF FUNDAYS....



Funday Monday?? Join the Commander and Auxiliary member Ellen Randle and other Legionnaires and Auxiliary at N. Hempstead (Bar Beach) for Fundays (See Commander's Report for dates).



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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