



# SOUND OFF



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Commander - James T. Randle March 2023 Editor - Dan Roper

## COMMANDER'S REPORT

Commander James Randle

Welcome to March. Spring is coming!

The vision every American Legion post must focus on is service to the veteran, to their families and to communities as their number one priority. Legion officers at every level must lead the way in reinforcing this vision. We must have goals to fulfill our vision of service. A mission statement should be in place that includes these goals and spells out a direction of where we and The American Legion stand at every level. We must be aware at all times of our image and how others perceive us and our work in the community. We must remain the champions of service to our veterans and their communities. Everyone in a American Legion leadership position must set an example for all members to follow. So, let's all "Be the One."

At the Nassau County Convention, the membership voted to increase the County per capita fee from \$1.50 to \$2.50. Our membership at the General Meeting voted not to raise our dues. Our dues are \$45.00, of which \$36.00 are now sent up to cover the National, Department and Nassau County per capita. After July 1, 2023, we will have to send to the Department \$37.00 for each member. The Post keeps \$8.00.

First meeting for our Memorial Day Service was a good meeting. PC Frank Busa is the chairman. It was attended by Mayor Paul Ehrbar, Ruth and Bob Valentine, 2nd Vice Commander Bob Guastella, Trustees PC Jack Afonso, Ray Cross, Bill Lorusso, Eric Spinner and me.

The National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola of New York will be visiting the downstate area on Friday, April 14, 2023. A testimonial dinner will be tendered in his honor at Antun's Restaurant, 96-43 Springfield Blvd, Queens Village, N.Y. from 7:00 PM to midnight. The cost of the dinner is \$70.00 per person. Contact County Adjutant Sean Hood, ticket chair, and make check payable to "Nassau County American Legion." Mark your check as "National Commander Dinner" and mail to Sean Hood, Nassau County Adjutant, 524 West Chester Avenue, Long Beach, N.Y. 11561 by March 24, 2023.

*continued on next page*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 3 Friday Star Spangled Banner Made U.S. National Anthem (1931)
- March 5 Sunday Navy Seabees Birthday
- March 6 Monday Executive Meeting 7:00 pm
- March 6 Monday Purim Begins at Sunset
- March 12 Sunday Daylight Savings Time Begins
- March 12 Girl Scout of USA Founded (1912)
- March 13 Monday K9 Veterans Day
- March 15 Wednesday The American Legion Birthday  
March 15-17 1919
- March 15 Wednesday National Social Workers
- March 16 Thursday General Meeting 7:30 pm
- March 17 Friday St. Patrick's Day
- March 18 Saturday St. Joseph's Day
- March 19 Sunday Operation Iraqi Freedom Begins (3003)
- March 19 Sunday Tuskegee Airmen Squadron Formed (1941)
- March 20 Monday Spring Begins
- March 21 Tuesday Auxiliary Unit Meeting 7:00 pm
- March 22 Wednesday Ramadan Start at Sundown
- March 24 Friday Nassau County Committee Meeting  
Rockville Center 7:30 pm
- March 25 Saturday National Medal of Honor Day
- March 29 Wednesday Vietnam Veterans Day
- March 30 Thursday National Doctor Day
- April 10 Monday Executive Board

**Mark Your Calendars  
Save the Date!!!**

**BLOOD DRIVE  
at Williston Post 144  
American Legion**



**Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Next General Meeting - - Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:30PM**

## Commander's Report (continued)

Post 144 is looking into purchasing a defibrillation AED with Legionnaire's Bill Lorusso, PC Jack Afonso, and Ray Cross investigating the matter.

### Post Sick List

Andy DelVecchio

Norm Jardine will have a hip replacement on May 1

Don't forget your "Buddy Check"

The American Legion Emergency Fund (NEF) is one of the best examples of "Veterans helping Veterans" though the American Legion. Since October of 1989, the NEF program has provided more than \$10 Million in direct financial assistance to Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and SAL members and posts. All contributions made to this fund are distributed directly to Legion family members in need. Please make check payable to Nassau County American Legion and enter the words "National Emergency Fund" on the remark line. Mail donations to: Pasquale Alesia, PCC 155 Locust Street Valley Stream, N.Y. 11581

Boy Scout Troop 201 presents a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, March 26, 2023, 8am – Noon at the Albertson Fire House, 100 I. U. Willets Road, Albertson, NY 11507. Come and Support our Boy Scout Troop 201 and Bill Kempner. Proceeds of the breakfast and bake sale will support their high-adventure trip to Philmont, NM.

## MILITARY BALL / COMMANDERS' NIGHT

The Military Ball / Commanders' Night is a celebration that has its roots going back to 1931. Historically the social evening began as just "The Military Ball" 92 years ago but was transformed to add "Commanders' Night" about 15 years ago. Its purpose is to honor commanders and Legion members and to gather socially in order to further strengthen the ties between posts and the county.

The affair was held at Leonard's of Great Neck and County Commander Joseph Scarola headed the night presenting the traditional County Commander award pins to each commander as they entered the venue.

Honored guests were Commander Frank Colon Jr., 10th District Commander and Commander Paul Schottenhamel, Department Vice Commander.

Our thanks to Post 144 Commander James Randle who represented Post 144 and made a personal donation to the National Emergency Fund on behalf of the post.

*(see photos on back page)*



*County Commander Scarola's award pin given to each post commander.*

## AUXILIARY NEWS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH FEBRUARY, 2023

*Mary Ann Busa Chairperson, PCP*

A member donated \$24.00 to St. Joseph Indian School. Donated \$20.00 to Father Flanagan's Boys Town for food for hungry children.

A member donated \$50.00 to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

A member donated \$15.00 to Boys Town, \$10.00 to Cal Farley Ranch, \$15.00 to St. Joseph Indian School, \$15.00 Toys for Tots, \$15.00 to St. Labre Indian School.

A member donated \$35.00 to Fountain House, \$25 to Boys Town, \$20.00 to St. Jude.

A member donated \$21.00 to St. Jude Children's Hospital. A member donated \$50.00 to St. Jude Children's Hospital. A member donated \$50.00 to Shriners Research Hospital.



*Commander James Randle  
and the Legionnaires of  
American Legion Post 144  
cordially extend an invitation  
to the members of the  
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 144  
to attend our  
General Membership Meeting  
on  
April 20, 7.30pm  
Refreshments will be served*

## NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

Our February 21st meeting was presided over by Ellen Randle in the absence of President Christine Horvath. If you missed this meeting, you missed out on sour cream chocolate chip cake. Very tasty. Thanks to Ellen for baking.

Emergency Chair Sue Otto was once again visiting her daughter in Utah. However, there is still time to send in a donation for this worthy cause. It can be brought to our March meeting if you so desire.

Margo Bores, Chaplain and Wellness Ambassador, spoke about hearing loss and also the Women's Initiative on balance.

Education Chair Dianne Karl announced that she had received five scholarship applications from 1 student and three more are downloading the forms. All applications have to be in by the end of February so they can be checked and sent to County and then to Department.

Dianne also reminded us that the food collection for Henry Viscardi School is an ongoing project.

Dianne will also start collecting school supplies in March. Items needed: cloth zippered pencil cases (no plastic), Elmer's glue 4 oz., glue sticks, crayons 24 & 48 ct., pencils, small pencil sharpeners, blue and/or black pens, colored pencils, highlighters, large erasers, 6" & 12" rulers with standard and metric markings, markers, scissors (pointed), construction paper, spiral notebooks (1, 3, & 5 subjects), 3x5" index cards. (516.746.2625 for additional information)

Ellen Randle, Girls State Chair, reported that Madilyn Silverman and Betsy Baranello, both from Herricks High will be our candidates for Girls State. We will be sending one and the Rotary has graciously offered to sponsor a girl. Thanks you Rotary of the Willistons.

Pat Lorusso, National Security Chair, reported that she sent packages to our women serving in the military, 21 ½ pounds of items. Following is the list of items needed: feminine products (unscented, whenever possible). small packs of napkins and tampons, female versions of body wash, lotion, razors, body wash, moisturizer, deodorant, hair de-tangler, shampoo, conditioner, dry shampoo. Small bottles of mouthwash, Q-tips, Chapsticks and foot powder. The troops can also use: sunscreen, AA & AAA batteries, gum, beef jerky and Slim Jims, hard candy, breath mints, protein bars/granola bars, individual packages of cookies/crackers, hand sanitizer, nuts (NO PEANUTS), dried fruits in resealable containers, laundry pods, and Visa & M/C gift cards (\$25 value). Please NO CDs, DVDs, or tapes. Thank you in advance.

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR MEETINGS WILL ONCE AGAIN BE ON THE 3RD TUESDAY OF EACH

MONTH. That being said, our next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 21st starting at 7:00 PM. It will be our White Elephant meeting. Please bring in only new and gently used items for sale.

Mark your calendars: Saturday, April 15, 2023 Bottle Bingo, 2 - 5 PM. Admission is \$15 which includes a bingo board and one set of specials together with snacks, coffee, tea and dessert. Win Bingo and get a bottle of Red or a bottle of White. Please reserve your spot with Ellen Randle 516.270.6941 by April 10.

Want to get a head start - April is Children & Youth Month. Maryann Busa, Chair, will be collecting baby items for the April Baby Shower.

Items for the Veterans Home, Stony Brook, can be brought in March and April. Adult coloring books, colored pencils, crayons, new jigsaw puzzles, Find A Word Books, decks of cards. Anyone who crochets can make a lap robe (34" x 34") which would be wonderful.

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers: Membership Chair, Debbie Robinson whose husband passed away around the time of our meeting.

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



### BOTTLE BINGO

SPONSORED BY AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY WILLISTON 144

730 WILLIS AVENUE, WILLISTON PARK

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 2023

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

DONATION OF \$15.00 INCLUDES

1 BINGO BOARD AND ONE SET OF SPECIALS,

SNACKS, COFFEE, TEA AND CAKE

COME PLAY BINGO WITH US AND HAVE SOME

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE PROGRAMS WE DO FOR THE COMMUNITY  
BENEFITTING VETERANS AND CHILDREN

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE WITH

ELLEN RANDLE, 516-270-6941

106 ROSE LANE, NEW HYDE PARK, NY 11040

BY APRIL 10, 2023

OUR BUILDING IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

Bottle of Red, Bottle of White, Let's see What You Win Tonight!!!!!!



## HAPPENING AROUND THE POST



Helping to honor the Four Chaplains during our service were (l. to r.) Pastor Benjamin Yoo, of United Methodist Church, Floral Park, Rabbi Michael Cohn, Central Synagogue- Beth Emeth, Rockville Centre, Pastor Jimmy Lalljie, Trinity Lutheran Church, New Hyde Park and Msgr. Charles Fink, Notre Dame Church, New Hyde Park.



Nassau County Chaplain Eric Spinner with Rosanne Spinner. Eric conducted the Four Chaplains Program again this year while Rosanne sang.



Four Chaplains Ceremony (back) Ruth and Bob Valentine (front row) Commander James Randle, Ellen Randle, Maryanne Busa and PC Frank Busa



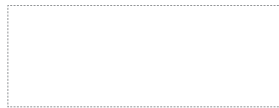
(l. to r.) Rosann and Eric Spinner, PC Frank Busa, Bob and Sally Mitchell and Commander James and Ellen Randle at the Military Ball.



Nassau County Commander Joseph Scarola with Commander James Randle at "Post Commanders' Night"



Color Guard for "Post Commanders' Night" Bob Mitchell, Commander James Randle, PC Frank Busa



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