



SOUND OFF



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

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Commander James Randle

This is the first week of Autumn.

The 9/11 Williston Park memorial read the names of the men and women lost on that day. The Williston Post honor guard was Vic Werbkay, PC John Lawless, First Vice Bob Valentine and VFW and Legionnaire Peter Antonicelli with Commander and Historian James Randle.

The Williston Park Street Fair was 9/17. Our post was there with PC John Lawless, Bill Lorusso, PC Bob Guastella, Tom Rumore, Ray Cross, Bob Myron, Rich Cinotti and Commander. The people help supported the post as small United States flags were given out. The VFW had Commander Frank Busa, Dan Roper, Peter Antonicelli, Hank Brech, Walter Stern, and Bill Kempner.

The Department of New York Joint Visitation was 9/14. Timothy Collmer Department Commander, Karen St. Hilare Department President, and Detachment Commander Peter J. DeAngelis, Jr. were honored at a dinner at the Coral House. Commander and Ellen Randle and our Legionnaire of the Year, Eric Spinner and his wife Roseann and Christine Horvath Unit President and Steve Horvath attended. Early in the day we had breakfast at Holiday Inn then on to The Cradle of Aviation Museum in Uniondale, where a Legendary F-14 Tomcat made its permanent home after months of restoration. This is the last American F-14 to fly. It was constructed in 1992 and retired in 2006. The plane, the last F-14 Super Tomcat in U.S. Navy service, now occupies the museum's F-14 Tomcat Plaza. From there we went to the Veterans BBQ at Eisenhower Park.

Pow/Mia Recognition Day was Friday September 15. Myself, Eric Spinner and Tom Rumore attended. Our Post and County Chaplain Eric Spinner offered an invocation.

United Veterans Organization News is still on Cablevision Channel 20 at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday and on Channel 115 at 8:00 a.m. YouTube.com also has it. Just type in Veterans News UVO Nassau County. Post 144 Chaplain Eric Spinner is also the co-host of the program.

Letter from Nassau County.

Operation Comfort Warriors is a program run by the American Legion and dedicated to meeting the needs of our wounded veterans, whether ill or injured while serving our country. This program supplies items or recreational

DATES TO REMEMBER

- October 7 Saturday Operation Enduring Freedom Begins (2001)
- October 9 Monday Executive Meeting 7:00 pm
- October 9 Monday Indigenous People 's Day
- October 9 Monday Columbus Day (observed)
- October 13 Friday U.S.Navy Birthday Established (1775)
- October 10 Tuesday Flu Shots (see page 3 for info.)
- October 17 Tuesday Operation Inherent Resolve Begins (2014)
- October 17 Tuesday Auxiliary Unit Meeting 7:00 pm
- October 19 Thursday General Meeting 7:30 pm
- October 23 Monday Beirut Bombing (1983)
- October 23 Monday Grenada Invasion Begins (1983)
- October 25 Wednesday Operation Urgent Fury Grenada
- October 24 Tuesday United Nation Day
- October 27 Friday Navy Day
- October 31 Tuesday Halloween

experiences not supplied by the government or by our assistance for those veterans transitioning from military to civilian life. One hundred percent of donations received are used to help veterans in U.S. military hospitals and warrior transitions units. Funds from this program help assist in the rehabilitation and provide recreation or socialization experiences during recovery. Examples of what this program provides include loose fitting sweatsuits for those suffering from burns, recreational outings to amusement parks, and sports equipment for adaptive therapy programs. Other items donated to this program include dartboards and ping pong table sets. All funds donated will be used for our veterans in Nassau County,

Since the war on terrorism began, countless American troops have been injured, sickened and hospitalized. Operation Comfort Warrior is successful because of the many individuals, Legion posts, Auxiliary units, and Sons that have donated to their program.

Frank Neal Past County Commander chairman hopes the post will see fit to support this program. Checks be made payable to Nassau County American Legion, earmarked Operation Comfort Warriors, and mailed to Frank Neal at 295 Crowell Street, Hempstead, NY 11550. You can also call 516 375-2139.

Next General Meeting - - Thursday, October 19th, 2023 at 7:30 P.M.

DON'T MISS THE PARTY

Why sit at home when you can attend a great party? That's right!!! Children and Youth Chairman Frank Busa has announced that he, along with our great Auxiliary, are bringing back the Post 144 "Special Friends" program.

The kickoff party will be a Halloween Party and all Legion and Auxiliary members are welcome to join in the festivities. If you haven't attended one of our "Friends" parties, then you are in for a special treat.

Many thanks to Mary Ann Busa and all of the Auxiliary who always make a special effort to treat our guests like royalty. Couldn't do it without them.



MEMBERSHIP

by Bob Valentine

Sixty-one (61) members have yet to pay their 2024 dues (\$45). Do not miss out on the "Early Bird" drawing. If your name is picked, your 2024 dues will be returned. Dues must be received by Veterans Day, November 11, 2023. Online, cash or check. Let's keep Post 144 solvent.

POW/MIA NIGHT VIGIL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2023



Introduction and Greeting Len Goldstein from Marine Corps League and Invocation by Chaplain Eric Spinner of Post 144

AUXILIARY NEWS FOR SEPTEMBER, 2023

Mary Ann Busa, Chairperson, PCP

June to September, 2023 a member donated \$48.00 to St. Joseph Indian School.

A member submitted a good deed application to the Dept. ALA for High School Senior Michael Dore. ALA national will send the *Good Deed Award* for Michael's generosity which will be presented at an ALA meeting.

A member helped to pack school supplies which will be donated to the children of the Marines.

Pat O'Brien from Manhasset Unit donated toys. Another member donated a baby monitor. Brian from *Toys of Hope* came to my home to pick up the donations.

CONGRATULATIONS BOYS STATERS



Thanks to Jaime Chua, Michael Chao and Aidan Lin for representing our post. We are proud of the fine job you did.

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

Our first meeting of the 2023-24 year was held on Tuesday, September 19, at 7 p.m.

President Christine Horvath presided over the meeting. After the Pledge to Our Flag, a service was held for two of our departed members, Grace Klvana and Patricia Massa. Please remember their families as they grieve their family member.

It was reported that our booth at the Williston Street Fair on the 17th was very successful. Some people are still asking if we are going to bake, which we don't intend to because of Board of Health regulations, and our profits are such that going with chances on prizes were more profitable. So, it's not too early to consider donating an item for next year's fair or making a suggestion for a prize.

Girls State Chair, Ellen Randle, informed us that our candidates will be joining us at the October meeting to tell us of their experiences upstate this year. Also, Michael Dore will be present to receive an award for helping the Veterans at Northport VA Hospital.

On Friday, November 3rd there will be a *Thank You to Our Veterans* lunch at Clinton Martin Park. Please inform your veteran about this and make a reservation by calling Town of North Hempstead at 311.

Mary Ann Busa, Chair Children and Youth, informed us that we will once again have a "Special Friends" dance on Sunday, October 15, from 12:30 - 4:00. Needed will be sandwiches and desserts for our guests. Please let Mary Ann know what you will be able to bring. 516.741.0493.

Once again we had a scholarship winner from our Unit, Mitchel Balzar who won the 10th District scholarship of \$1,000.00. In speaking with Dianne Karl, Education Chair, she said she thinks she's been doing this for 10 years and our Unit has had 12 winners. Donna DiBello delivered Dianne's report in her absence.

Pat LoRusso, National Security Chair, is once again requesting items for our women in the military. Here's a list: feminine products (unscented whenever possible) small packs of napkins/tampons, female versions of body wash, lotion, razors, moisturizer, deodorant, hair detangler, mouth wash, Q-tips, Chapsticks and foot powder. Also needed are: sunscreen, AA & AAA batteries, gum, beef jerky and Slim Jims, hard candy, breath mints, protein bar/granola bars, individual packages of cookies/crackers, hand sanitizer, nuts (NO PEANUTS), dried fruits in resealable containers, laundry pods and Visa & MC gift cards (\$25 value). Call Pat for any additional items: 516.747.6176.

If during your fall cleaning you happen to come across something that is fairly new or gently used, please consider bringing it to our January Auction meeting.

Membership letters should have been received by

now in the mail. You can mail them back to Debbie Robinson or bring it to the next meeting.

Speaking of Debbie, she did a wonderful job of setting up a table at the Street Fair explaining just what the Auxiliary does for the community, etc. Thank you so much for your hard work, Debbie. Much appreciated.

Marilynn Bauman, VA&R Chair, is requesting donations of adult coloring books, colored pencils, markers or crayons, hats, scarves or gloves, lap robes (especially from those of our members who know how to crochet) and new Christmas Cards to be brought out to the L.I. State Veterans Home, Stony Brook in November. Thank you in advance.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 17, starting at 7:00 PM.

Please see a photo of the awards that our Unit received.

Here are the Chairs for same: Americanism - Ellen Randle; Emergency Fund - Sue Otto; Chaplain - Margo Bores; Children & Youth - MaryAnn Busa; Community Svc. - Gail Cinelli; Constitution & Bylaws - Ellen Randle; Education - Dianne Karl; Empire Girls State - Ellen Randle; Leadership - Christine Horvath; Legislative - Rita Hesse; Membership - Debbie Robinson; National Security - Pat LoRusso; Poppy - Sally Mitchell; Public Relations - Marilyn Bauman; VA&R - Marilyn Bauman. Warrior's Family Assistance - I'm sorry but I don't know who chairs this program. Please inform me so I can include it in the next *Sound Off*. Thanks.

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



Auxiliary Certificate of Recognition. Good job ladies!!

Reminder
Flu Shots on October 10th
from 9a.m. to 1p.m. at Post 144
Call 516.571.2661 to schedule an appointment

AROUND THE POST



Post members enjoy the Nassau County Veterans Service Agency BBQ at Eisenhower Park...Tom Rumore, Commander James Randle, (sitting) Anthony Cathony-102 years young, John Incremona, Peter Tartaglione and Eric Spinner



Unit 144 members at breakfast for the recent Department of NY visit (l. to r.) Past 10th District Auxiliary President Ellen Randle, Nassau Auxiliary President Kathleen Murphy, Roseann Spinner, Sergeant-at-Arms for Nassau County, Carol Hassett 10th District Vice President, Department President Karen St. Hilaire and Nassau County Auxiliary 2nd Vice President Morgan Avila

Check out our website at willistonpost144.org
to see a **full color copy** of the *Sound Off*



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