



SOUND OFF



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

COMMANDER'S REPORT

By Commander James Randle

Season Greetings to Williston Post Family. Happy Holidays to all.

Veterans Day is always worth celebrating. Past American Legion Commander and VFW Commander Frank Busa did a great job on Veterans Day. Without the solemnity of Memorial Day, Veterans Day is more like Christmas for The American Legion. It's a time of celebration. It's a day when Americans everywhere should acknowledge the service of the millions of men and women who served in the U.S. Armed Forces since our nation's founding in 1776.

While war is nothing to celebrate, Veterans Day was observed on November 11, Saturday, in recognition of the 1918 armistice ending World War I. It was a day worth celebrating for many reasons, but perhaps best described 44 years later in General Douglas MacArthur's speech to cadets at the U.S. Military Academy. "The soldier above all other people prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war. But always in our ears ring the ominous words of Plato, that wisest of all philosophers: 'Only the dead have seen the end of war.'"

As much as we celebrate our veterans, instead of thanking them for their service it could be more impactful to ask them how they are doing.

We should continue to celebrate the lives of the men and women who served and are currently serving. They defended our freedom and that's what we do on Veterans Day. But too often these lives meet tragic ends. Christmases will never be the same.

Let's "Be The One." Buddy Check to support Veterans, honor their service and stop veteran suicide.

On Thursday, November, 9 2023, I attended at Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building, a Nassau County Auxiliary Committee meeting along with Past 10th President Ellen Randle, Past County President Maryann Busa. It's was Nassau County Committee's 100th Anniversary - 1923-2023. The Committee honored from our Auxiliary Unit 144 members with 40 years of service. Carolyn Wilenski, Albina Kertz, Angelina Zucaro, Marjorie Mahoney, Sally Mitchell and Susan Otto all received the recognition they truly deserved.
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DATES TO REMEMBER

December 1	Friday	Air Force Auxiliary Birthday
December 3	Sunday	Advent Begins
December 5	Tuesday	Somalia Campaign Begin (1992)
December 7	Thursday	Remembrance- Pearl Harbor Day
December 7	Thursday	Chanukah Begins at Sunset
December 8	Friday	War Declared on Japan (1941)
December 8	Friday	Immaculate Conception
December 9	Saturday	Army and Navy Game
December 11	Monday	Executive Meeting 7:00 pm
December 11	Monday	Germany and Italy Declared War on U.S. (1941)
December 13	Wednesday	National Guard Birthday
December 15	Friday	Bill of Right Day
December 15	Friday	Iraq War Ended (2011)
December 15	Friday	Chanukah Ends at Sunset
December 20	Wednesday	Operation Just Cause - Panama (1989)
December 20	Wednesday	U.S. Space Force Established (2019)
December 21	Thursday	General Meeting 7:30 PM
December 25	Monday	Merry Christmas
December 26	Tuesday	Kwanzaa
December 31	Sunday	Official End of WWII (1946)
December 31	Sunday	New Year Eve

We Had A Howling Good Time



Everyone joined the party and helped to make a great afternoon. Thanks to Dina Levanti and Sunny for helping create the fun. See the back page for the story of Veterans Day and the Viscardi School

Next General Meeting - - Thursday, December 21st, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

COMMANDER'S REPORT *(continued from page 1)*

On November 15, 22, 29 Post Happy Hour was on Wednesday 3:00pm to 5:00pm with Past Commander John Lawless and Jim Glynn. Come and enjoy the camaraderie.

Tony Catalano, 103 year young is in Glengariff Rehab 141 Dosoris Lane, Glen Cove 11542. The phone number is 1-516-980-2702.

Northport Clinics said you can be scheduled directly without contacting your VA primary care provider for Podiatry {feet} also in east Meadow one day a week 1-631 754-7978 ext. 2111. Audiology {hearing} 1-631-261-4400 ext.7381. Optometry Vision 1 631 266-6059 press option #1.

December 9, Saturday, is the Army and Navy game.



CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Chaplain Eric Spinner

The arrival of December is a special time for all. Even though it brings expectations of cold, wintry weather, it is also the season of celebration throughout the world. In what is now a very troubled world, we must all agree that things must change for the better. There was war in Eastern Europe, terror in the Middle East, and hate runs rampant in our own country. It is not a good time.

In our local community we find camaraderie and good people. Yes, we see incidents of hate cropping up periodically in the news, but here in Nassau County it remains relatively peaceful and we are thankful to have community leaders who work hand in hand with our representative government to keep things safe.

As December approaches, we welcome Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights which dates back thousands of years to when the Israelites triumphed over the Maccabees, and the oil for the oil lamps in the temple which was enough for one night lasted eight days. We also look forward to the celebration of Christmas as Christians remember the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, also more than 2,000 years ago.

As we celebrate all these miracles, maybe we remember the values brought forward by these Judeo-Christian teachings and attempt to live as God would have us live in brotherhood and peace. Let us do this and at the same time pray that the world will follow suit.

Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas to all, and may we be granted a healthy and happy New Year.

Welcome New Member

Aaron Kalani

New Hyde Park

USN - On Active Duty

(Thanks to Bill Kempner for Recruiting)

AND THE WINNERS ARE.....

Winners were picked at the General Membership Meeting on Thursday, November 16. Chairman PC Jack Afonso with the help of Trustee Ray Cross and Commander James Randle picked the winners. There were 15 Legionnaires at the meeting.

Congratulations to.....

\$1000.00 Winner - Hamilton R., Hawthorne Street in Williston Park, NY.

\$500.00 Winner - Michael J.& Kimberley, Hillvale Road, Albertson, NY

\$250.00 Winner - John A. Borst, Sherman Avenue, Williston Park NY 😊

Note: At the next General Meeting we have sandwiches from Dominic.

Early Bird Winner

*Congratulations to
47 Year Member*

George Lee of Westbury

George will have his dues refunded.



Congratulations to Sally Mitchell and Sue Otto on their proclamation from County Executive Bruce Blakeman for over 40 years of service. Sally's certificate is shown above as an example

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

Our November 21st meeting was presided over by Ellen Randle in the absence of Christine Horvath (vacationing in Florida).

Mary Ann Busa, Chair of Children and Youth, thanked everyone for the donations of children's items to be distributed to various organizations.

Ruth Valentine presented Certificates of Appreciation in recognition of outstanding service to the 2023 Education Programs to the following: Marilyn Bauman, Maryann Busa, Gail Cinelli, Helen Niemann and Rosanne Spinner. Rosanne presented the same to Ruth Valentine. A photo is in this edition of the *Sound Off*.

Sue Otto and Sally Mitchell received a Proclamation from Nassau County Executive, Bruce Blakeman for over forty (40) years of service to the American Legion Auxiliary. Congratulations!! Look for the photo.

Ellen Randle, Girls State Chair, reported that it has been decided that the girls will NOT be taking a bus upstate to attend Girls State. The parents will have to drive them up.

Don't forget to bring baskets (empty or full) in January for the Chinese Auction which will be in April. There will be letters for you to bring to local merchants for donations of gifts for this event.

Pat LoRusso, National Security Chair, is still collecting items for our women in the military. For additional information please call Pat at: 516.747.6176.

Marilynn Bauman, VA&R Chair, thanked everyone for the items received for the Veterans at the L.I. State Veterans Home. A trip to the home is planned for Monday, November 27th.

Our next meeting, starting at 7 PM will be on Tuesday, December 19, at which we will have our gift exchange. If you want to participate, please bring a wrapped gift, valued at \$10.00 with your name on it so the recipient can thank you.

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. We will be enjoying pizza as we shop.

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



Congratulations to Marilyn Bauman, Mary Ann Busa, Gail Cinelli, Helen Niemann, Rosanne Spinner and Ruth Valentine. All of these Auxiliary members were awarded these well-deserved Certificates of Appreciation. Marilyn's certificate is shown above as a sample.



Sue Otto and Sally Mitchell pose with the Certificates of Appreciation awarded by County Executive Bruce Blakeman

Happening Around the Post

Henry Viscardi School has always reached out and been supportive of the veteran community. Again this year the students invited the local veterans and veteran organizations to their campus to honor them and help celebrate Veterans Day. During our wonderful visit the students held a parade and loudly cheered and waved to all. They held signs with pictures of their veteran friends and family members while waving flags. Most veterans probably have never experienced a reception like that.

Thanks to all of our friends at Viscardi for being such patriots and welcoming us to the school.



Henry Viscardi students on parade on their Albertson campus.



Viscardi student carries the flag for Veterans Day

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