



SOUND OFF



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Commander - James T. Randle May 2024 Editor Dan Roper

COMMANDER'S REPORT

By Commander James Randle

I went with Ellen and Eric and Roseann Spinner to a testimonial dinner for National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer. It was held at Autun's in Queens Village, Friday, April 12. His message is "Be the One" to prevent veteran suicide!

Legionnaires, you can renew your VA card the month before it expires at East Meadow.

The Post Annual Blood Drive is Tuesday May 7, 1:30 to 7:30 PM. Please help. Give the gift of Life!

Williston Post Legionnaires and Auxiliary Unit worked together this past weekend, April 20-21. Auxiliary Unit ran a successful Chinese / Auction in the Legion Room. Bar tenders were Bill LaRusso and I. We hope in future we can work again as Legion Family. PC Frank and Maryann Busa had fifty-eight guests and thirty-eight staff at the Special Friends Dance in the Legion Room with DJ Eric Spinner.

Then nominations for 2024-2025 are : Commander – Eric Spinner, 1st Vice Commander – Bob Valentine, 2nd Vice Commander – PC Bob Guastella, 3rd Vice Commander PC Frank Busa, Treasurer - (bookkeeper) Bob Mitchell, Judge Advocate – open, Sgt-at-Arms – open, Adjutant – Norm Jardine, Chaplain – Bill LoRusso, Post Historian – James Randle, Corresponding Adjutant – Norm Jardine, - Trustees - PC James Randle, Ray Cross, PC Jack Afonso, Bill LaRusso, PC Bob Guastella.

The Position of Judge Advocate from Officer's Guide –The Judge Advocate supplies professional advice in the conduct of post business or to procure proper counsel. This officer is the guardian of the constitutional form of the post government. The Judge Advocate can also supply valuable assistance to other post committees and officers and should maintain contact with local government officials.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 1 Wednesday Silver Star Service Banner Day
- May 2 Thursday National Day Of Prayer
- May 5 Sunday Cinco de Mayo
- May 7 Tuesday Blood Drive at the Post from 1:30 to 7:30 PM
- May 6 Monday Executive Meeting 7:00 PM
- May 6 Monday Nurses Appreciation Day
- May 6 Monday U .S. Holocaust Day of Remembrance
- May 8 Wednesday V-E Day (1945)
- May 9 Thursday Ascension of the Lord
- May 10 Friday Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- May 11 Saturday Post to go out to VA Building #92 1:00 to 2:30 PM
- May 12 Sunday Mother's Day
- May 16 Thursday Post General Meeting 7:30 PM
- May 18 Saturday Armed Forces Day
- May 19 Sunday Pentecost Sunday
- May 21 Tuesday Auxiliary Unit General Meeting 7:00 PM
- May 24 Friday Nassau County Committee Meeting @ Rockville Center Post 303 7:30 PM
- May 26 Sunday United Veterans Organization Memorial Service at Eisenhower Park 10:00 AM
- May 27 Monday Memorial Day Post Everlasting Service @ 9:00 AM
- May 27 Monday Williston Park Memorial Day Parade at 10:00 AM



Roseann and Eric Spinner with American Legion Commander Daniel Seehafer at the National Commander's visit to our region.

Next General Meeting - - Thursday, May 18th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Commander's Report (continued from page 1)

The Judge Advocate commonly has the duty, with others, of auditing post financial accounts. This is done annually, usually before the election of officers, or more frequently at their discretion.

Bob Guastella PC is getting the building in safe shape - Sidewalk, North and South Walls, Roof. Bob Mitchell is working on the grants. Good Job Legionnaires!

I will be inviting the Auxiliary Unit to our May Meeting Thursday, May 16, at 7:30 pm.

Later this month the post will be flagging graves at Holy Rood Cemetery, Thursday May 23rd Please volunteer. Rain date is Friday, May 24th.

NEW AUXILIARY AWARD

Once again our Auxiliary Unit 144 makes us all proud. They were awarded special recognition for their outstanding community programs that they run and their programs that support veterans.

Ellen Randle and Mary Ann Busa (3rd & 4th from left) received the recognition award on behalf of the Unit.



INVITATION

All veterans have been cordially invited to attend the program presented by the students of Saint Aidan School as we all observe Memorial Day. The students will be presenting songs and patriotic readings.

If you have not attended in the past you are sure to enjoy the recognition offered by the students. Others attending are first responders and some reserve and active duty servicemen and women.

The ceremony will begin at 12:45 PM, May 22nd in the Church and refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

We hope to have a good response, so save the date and be sure to remind others. It will show our appreciation for the efforts the students put in to honor us.

Save the Date

Wednesday, May 22nd - St. Aidan Church

WELCOME

NEW AUXILIARY MEMBER

Unit 144 is especially proud of our new member, Natalia Piper. Not only is Natalia a new member of Unit 144, but is also celebrating her new American citizenship.

Best Wishes, Natalia, from everyone at American Legion Post 144.



Wednesday Happy Hour



It's always worth joining your fellow Legionnaires for a relaxing afternoon. (l. to r.) are bartender John Lawless, Bob Guastella, Jimmy Glynn, Eric Spinner, Frank Busa and John Burke. Other happy attendees not pictured.

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

Our April 16th meeting was presided over by President Christine Horvath. Christine reported that she had approximately 85 small and 7 - 8 large baskets at her home for the Chinese Auction on April 27. We also received 22 - 23 gift cards. There should be a good showing as we have just over 100 reservations.

Margo, Wellness Ambassador - showed us how to prevent carpal tunnel syndrome, make a fist, arm extended and move hand up and down. Vertigo - sit on the edge of the bed and lean from side to side or bend head down to chest and then up again. Sciatica - sit on bed or chair and cross legs at a 90 degree angle with leg crossed over opposite thigh.

Children & Youth Chair, Mary Ann Busa reminded everyone of the upcoming Special Friends Dance. Sandwiches and desserts will be needed. She also thanked everyone who brought in Items for the baby shower.

Gail Cinelli, Community Service Chair, reported that in the last quarter there were 17 volunteers and donations were valued at \$3,345.48. Nice going, gals.

Dianne Karl, Education Chair, reported that she received 5 completed scholarships which were submitted to County. The Viscardi School is very thankful for any food donations. It was decided that we would forgo collecting school supplies this year and just present 10/ \$25.00 cards from either Target or Walmart to St. Aidan's for distribution to the students that need them.

Pat Lorusso, National Security, will be sending out a box to the women in the military.

The Post will be having a Blood Drive on Tuesday, May 7th 1:30 - 7:00 PM. If you can donate, please come down to do so. Thank you in advance.

On Thursday, May 23, the Post and Auxiliary will meet at Holy Rood Cemetery to flag graves of former members. Meet at the cemetery at 9 AM. Rain date - Friday, 5/24.

On Friday, May 24th, Henry Viscardi School will be hosting a Veterans Recognition at 10:15 - 12 noon in the gym. Post and Auxiliary members invited.

The Everlasting Service will be on Monday, May 27th (Memorial Day) in the rear of the Post starting at 9 AM after which will be the Parade through the Village. We will have four members to recognize.

Ellen Randle, Girls State Chair, unfortunately has not received any names of candidates for this year's Girl State. The parents having to drive their daughter upstate may be the reason. Ellen also reminded everyone to fly your flags for Memorial Day, if not, every day.

Rita Hesse, Legislation Chair, reported on 2 bills: HR 1413 Expanding America's National Cemeteries Act of 2023 - to safe guard the crucial benefit of full military honors & burial of our fallen Heros. 3.815/HR 1572 - "American Legion urging Congress to create a

Congressional Gold Medal for the "Hello Girls of WW I." The Hello Girls played a vital role in Army communication - but have been forgotten. It would be nice for the families of these women to be recognized. Last sessions bills passed in the House but now sit in Congress awaiting to be passed.

Marilynn Bauman, VA&R Chair, thanked everyone who brought in items for the Veterans at L.I. State Veterans Home, Stony Brook, NY

Next month's meeting, Tuesday, May 21st, will be our Installation. All officers and Executive Board Members are requested to wear blue slacks and white top. Hat, if you have one. The roster remains the same.

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

THINGS TO REMEMBER

ONGOING - ITEMS FOR THE WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

BLOOD DRIVE - MAY 7TH - POST 1:30 - 7

THURSDAY MAY 23RD - FLAGGING GRAVES
HOLY ROOD CEMETERY 9AM

FRIDAY, MAY 24TH - VETERANS RECOGNITION
HENRY VISCARDI SCHOOL 10:15 AM

MONDAY, MAY 27TH MEMORIAL DAY - EVERLASTING
SERVICE 9 AM WITH PARADE FOLLOWING

NEXT MEETING, TUESDAY, MAY 21ST
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS, 7 PM

AUXILIARY REPORT FOR APRIL, 2024.

Mary Ann Busa Children and Youth Chairperson

A member donated \$12.00 to Sr. Joseph Indian School. Provides for 200 Lakota Sioux children each year.

A member donated baby clothes for children and youth month.

A member attended Navy Cadet Military Ball.

Two members attended Navy Cadet Military ball. Also they cooked for the cadets.

A member donated \$19.00 to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

A member donated \$5.00 to Shriners Children's Hospital.

A member donated to Holy Trinity in Hicksville for children. Food, school supplies.

A member donated clothing to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island.

I want to thank all the Auxiliary members for their help. The children and youth program would not be a success with the help of auxiliary members.

HAPPENING AROUND THE POST



*(Above) Legionnaire Bob Guastella displays his vintage Mustang at the April 28th car show at the post.
(Photo rt.) Sally Mitchell and Ruth Valentine display their poppy board at the car show*



Legionnaire Bob Valentine and PC Frank Busa help our guests do the limbo.



(Below) Mary Ann Busa and Ellen Randle helping out at Special Friends Dance



Rosanne Spinner and guest at the Spring Gala

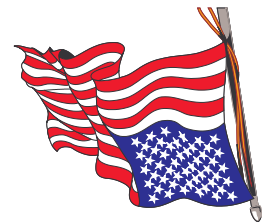


Ruth Valentine, Chris Horvath and Sandy Lee. The scrumptious cookies were in high demand.

May 7th Blood Drive

At Post 144 from 1:30pm to 7:30pm

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**WILLISTON POST 144 - AMERICAN LEGION
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WILLISTON PARK, NY 11596**

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