



SOUND OFF



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Commander - James T. Randle June 2024 Editor Dan Roper

COMMANDER'S REPORT

by Commander James Randle

For over one hundred years the Preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion stated our commitment to "preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all Great Wars." On Memorial Day we assemble to show our gratitude for the protections that are given to us. As Americans, we should all remember that freedom isn't free. It's only possible because our fallen heroes have paid a high price. A price paid which enables us to have ceremonies and observances like this in our communities cross our great Country.

May has been a busy month. On Saturday, May 4th we provided Scout Troop 201's Scout Mick Chao with space in our south parking lot for a clothing drive. Eighty-five bags were picked up. Nice work Nick!

The Blood Drive was on Tuesday May 7th. The blood center set up the post's Legion Room. Thirty-two units were collected.

On Thursday May 9th I took my wife Ellen "Nassau County Chaplain" to Massapequa Post 1066 for Nassau County Auxiliary memorial service for all auxiliary unit members lost this year.

We had our Post General Meeting on Thursday, May 16, with twenty legionnaires and eight Auxiliary members.

We also went to Auxiliary General Meeting Installation of unit for 2024-2025 officers. See Auxiliary Report.

Saturday, May 25, we set up the post for Nassau County Girls State orientation. Ellen Randle is Williston 144 Chairperson. High School Junior Emilin George will be going to SUNY Brockport.

Sunday, May 26th. I went to the UVO Memorial Service at Eisenhower Park. Members of the post attended the Memorial Service with Eric Spinner as Nassau County Chaplain.

On Monday we conducted the sixty eighth annual Post
(continued on next page)

DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 6 Thursday D-Day Invasion of Normandy (1944)
- June 8 Saturday Nassau County Committee Convention at Massapequa Post 1066
- June 9 Sunday Nassau County Committee Installation of Officers 2024-2025 at Leonard's Palazzo
- June 10 Monday Executive Meeting 7:00pm
- June 12 Wednesday Women Veterans Day
- June 12 Wednesday Merchant Marines Birthday
- June 14 Friday Flag Day
- June 14 Friday Army Birthday
- June 16 Sunday Father's Day
- June 18 Tuesday Auxiliary Unit General Meeting 7:00pm
- June 19 Wednesday Juneteenth
- June 20 Thursday General Meeting Installation of Post Officers 2024-2025
- June 21 Friday Summer Begins
- June 23 Sunday Coast Guard Reserve Birthday
- June 25 Tuesday Korean War Begins (1950)
- June 27 Thursday PTSD Awareness Day



Our thanks to PC Frank Busa and Legionnaire Bill Kempner who gave blood during our recent drive.

Next General Meeting - - Thursday, June 20th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Commander's Report *(continued from previous page)*

Everlasting Memorial Day Service. The post's departed comrades were Past Commander Donato Sassano, Rosario Campo, Frank Falcone, Jack Holt, Nat Infuma, Paul Lecci, Eugene McCoy, John Randall, Edwin Steck, and Francis O'Hea.

On Thursday, May 30, PC Frank Busa, Chairperson for Boys State, and I went to Glenwood Landing Post 336 for orientation. Our post is sending two boys, Ryan C. Lambard and James T. Iannone. The boys go to SUNY Morrisville.

Having been your Commander for four years, I was asked by incoming Commander Eric Spinner to do the *Dates to Remember* for the "Sound Off". I will also be a trustee. And I will represent the post at Nassau County meetings, serve as post historian, county historian, and 10th District historian.

AUXILIARY REPORT FOR MAY, 2024

*Mary Ann Busa
Children and Youth Chairman*

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

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

A member donated \$5.00 to Shriners Research Hospital.

A member donated to Holy Trinity in Hicksville for Children, Food Clothing, School Supplies.

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

A member donated diapers, toys clothing to Momma's House.

Brian from "Toys of Hope" came to my home to pick up donations of toys, clothing. The donations were from Unit 144.

Our special friends dance was 4/21/2024. We had 100 special people attend this dance also their aides came. All had a good time. Plants were given out when the dance ended.

I want to thank Eric for his music. He does such a good job and the people keep dancing and dancing. Thanks Eric.

I also want to thank the members of Unit 144 for their help for Children and Youth each month. The children and youth program would not be a success without the members of Unit 144. Thanks so much.

PRAYER FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Presented by Chaplain Eric Spinner on Memorial Day

As we assemble here in the sight of God, we remember and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice in all wars in defense of our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as stated by our Founding Fathers. Let us have our picnics, our BBQs, and all the other events that now take place on this weekend that marks the unofficial start of Summer, but let all remember the true meaning of Memorial Day.

Originally known as Decoration Day following the Civil War, we now remember our fallen back to the American Revolution. Our gathering today is a tradition among veterans and patriotic Americans, and it reminds us of those who did not return from battle. They are interred in countless locations around the world where their graves are tended to with care and respect.

Today we will say many of their names aloud, and others will be remembered silently, and they will continue to live in our hearts. May our expressions here today be felt by their souls which surround us, and may God smile down upon them and give them eternal peace as we bear witness to their lives.

Amen



Unit 144 members march proudly with Mayor and Mrs. Ehrbar and their grandchild



Auxiliary members Joan Antonicelli and Ruth Valentine join Legionnaire Bob Valentine in placing the wreaths

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

Our May 21st meeting was presided over by President Christine Horvath.

Christine reported that our Chinese Auction was a huge success with approximately 106 present. Everyone who helped was thanked.

Mary Ann Busa, Children & Youth, reported that the Special Friends dance the day after the auction had 100 friends + aides. Plants were given out upon departure. Eric Spinner, Post member, provided the DJ music for them to enjoy.

At the Post's Everlasting Service on Memorial Day, the Auxiliary will remember Rita Grinsell, Eleanore Paris, Grace Glvana and Marge Mahoney. We will also remember Frances Sabo and Josephine D'Amici who we were not made aware of their passings.

Education Chair, Dianne Karl reported that five applications for scholarships were filed. Results should be in by late June. Please continue to bring in food for the Henry Viscardi School. Thank you.

Ellen Randle, Girls State Chair, reported that we will indeed have a candidate from Sewanhaka High, Emily George. She's very excited and will be coming to a meeting in the fall.

Rita Hesse, Legislation Chair, reported on the Veterans Justice Commission which is a briefing on military transitions, meeting on chaplain retirement issues. "Modern Day Marine Convention" in May with a Congressional Breakfast where the staff meeting with various Congressional staff to advocate for bills that the Legion support for the 118th Congress working to get the bi-partisan support necessary for successful votes. Some hearings upcoming in Congress during April and May: Testimonies on pharmaceuticals to service members, Navy and Marine Corps budgets.

The Armed Services Committee testimony on worldwide threats and the Review of Dept. of Veterans Affairs Budget.

The Williston Street Fair will be on Sunday, September 15th. We still need scratch off tickets for our Lottery Board. Please bring some to next meeting. Thanks.

During the meeting we had our Installation of Officers:

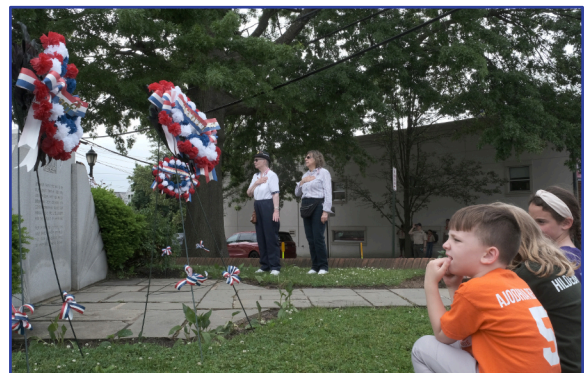
President -	Christine Horvath
1st V.P. -	
2nd V.P. (Co V.P.) -	Ellen Randle & Debbie Robertson
Treasurer -	Marianna Wohlgenuth
Chaplain -	Margo Bores
Recording Secy -	Rosanne Spinner
Corresponding Secy -	Ruth Valentine
Executive Board -	Marilynn Bauman Mary Ann Busa, Gail Cinelli Sandra Lee, Sally Mitchell and Sue Otto.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 18th. This is the final meeting for the 2023/24 year. Hope to see you there.

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



Unit members at the May Legion Meeting



Unit members Joan Antonicelli and Ruth Valentine placed the wreaths on Memorial Day

HAPPENING AROUND THE POST



Joan Dukes and Norm Jardine with Tom Rumore at the UVO Memorial Day Ceremony at Eisenhower Park



Commander Randle with Scout Mick Chao of Troop 201 (see Cmdr. Report)



Ellen Randle of Unit 144 swore in the new officers of Unit 144 (see p.3 for names)



Pastor Adrian McHugh joined Tom Rumore and Bob and Ruth Valentine at the St. Aidan Memorial Day program



Just look for a chow line and you will find a Legionnaire. St. Aidan Memorial Day program



St. Aidan principal Julie O'Connell with Hank Brech having refreshments after the wonderful student Memorial Day program.

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