



SOUND OFF



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Commander - Eric Spinner October 2024 Editor Dan Roper

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Commander Eric Spinner

As we move forward into Autumn, we will once again become quite active with patriotic events, and other events related to our Legion family and those in the community whom we support. Although my primary responsibility is as your post commander, I am quite active with other groups and have attended many functions in addition to our post events.

Legion events included our Dept. of NY Visitation on 9 Sept when our state officers from Legion, Sons and Auxiliary spent the day with us at breakfast, the Cradle of Aviation and Firefighters Museum and the Nassau County Veterans Memorial at Eisenhower Park. That evening, we all celebrated with a wonderful dinner at Massapequa Post 1066.

It was an honor to attend the 9/11 ceremony at our own Kelleher Field with our Post 144 Color Guard and our Town of N. Hempstead and Williston Park officials.

On 14 Sept, I attended the dedication of New Hyde Park's new memorial at Memorial Field, an Eagle Scout project from one of their Scouts. We still have some amazing youth! That evening, I had the privilege of attending the Sons & Daughters of Italy Gift of Sight luncheon at Verdi's.

Proud of my fellow Post members who assisted at the Williston Street Fair on 15 Sept. Well done!

Assemblyman Ed Ra's Veterans Portrait Project at Notre Dame School on 19 Sept was fun. It's nice to interact with our youth in patriotic projects.

It was an honor to serve as Chaplain at the UVO POW/MIA Ceremony at Eisenhower Park on 20 Sept. Unfortunately, attendance was not what it should have been, but the ceremony was quite moving.

I also have the honor of being part of the staff of UVO Veterans News Long Island. We taped our monthly program on 23 September. We're even on YouTube!

Keep informed- read your *Sound Off* and check our Willistonpost144.org website and Facebook page.

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 2	Wednesday	Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sunset
October 6	Sunday	National Assistant Day
October 7	Monday	Operation Enduring Freedom Begins (2001)
October 7	Monday	Executive Meeting 7:00 p.m.
October 10	Thursday	Senior Flu Shot 9 to 1 Call 516-571-2661
October 13	Sunday	Navy Birthday
October 14	Monday	Columbus Day
October 15	Tuesday	Auxiliary Unit General Meeting 7:00 p.m.
October 17	Thursday	Post General Meeting 7:30 p.m.
October 17	Thursday	Operation Inherent Resolve Begins (2014)
October 23	Wednesday	Beirut Bombing (1983)
October 25	Friday	Nassau County Committee Meeting
October 25	Friday	Operation Urgent Fury Grenada Invasion Begins (1983)
October 26	Saturday	Nassau County Legislative Breakfast at Massapequa Post 1066 9:30 a.m.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Michael J. Snow

Albertson

US Army - Vietnam Era

23 year member of American Legion

Transfer from Post 1, Albany

James G. Murphy

Westbury, NY

USN (CUNM1)

Lebanon/Grenada

General Meeting – Thursday, October 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Executive Meeting - Monday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH
by Chairperson Mary and Busa

A member donated \$48 to Saint Joseph Indian school. The school provides for 200 Lakota Sioux children each year.

A member donated \$20 to Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital.

A member donated \$200 in clothing to big Brothers, Big Sisters of Long Island.

A member donated \$20 to *Boys Town*.

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

We have a date set for the *Special Friends Dance*. October 20, 2024. Commander Eric Spinner is kind enough to do the music for us and Dan Roper is going to make up the flyers and I will send them out soon.



HALLOWEEN
PARTY INVITATION
WILLISTON PARK AMERICAN LEGION
730 WILLIS AVENUE, WILLISTON PARK, NY
SUNDAY OCTOBER 20TH
12 PM - 4 PM
PLEASE RSVP TO MARY ANN BUSA
ALAMARYANBUSAGMAIL.COM
OR 516-741-0493
COSTUMES
OPTIONAL
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STAY SAFE.....GET THE SHOT

October 10, 9 a. m. to 1 p.m.

Call 516-571-2661 for an Appointment

WILLISTON PARK 9-11 CEREMONY



Representatives of the Town of North Hempstead, Village of Williston Park and Williston Park Fire Department



Post Commander Spinner with John Lawless, Bill Lorusso, Peter Antonicelli and Frank Busa



Legion and Auxiliary members Sue Otto, Bob Mitchell, Sally Mitchell, Rita Hesse and Margo Bores



Vick Werkbaj, Tom Rumore and Bob Langenbach

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

Hi everyone and welcome back. We had our first meeting on September 17 for the upcoming year. President Christine Horvath presided over the meeting welcoming everyone back after what seemed like a very short and hot summer.

Wellness Ambassador, Margo Bores, gave us some things to do. Place 2 fingers over the eye brows, pull to the sides, the same two fingers on the cheek and make circles, next to the bone on the jaw and behind the ears at the base of the skull. All areas - make circles. Pat the cheeks (no blush needed after this). Place hands on back near waist and rub. There were many more - I'll cover them next time.

It has been decided that we will NOT have the Grocery Bingo in November. It has been shelved until maybe March of 2025. We hope to have a joint fundraiser with the Post.

Don't forget your donation of toiletries for the women serving in the service.

Gail Cinelli wants to know what Community Service you have done for her report. You can sign her paper at the next meeting.

Be on the lookout for Sue Otto's letter about the Emergency Fund which comes out in January.

Dianne Karl, Education Chair, is requesting that each member donate 1 or 2 cans of food or paper goods for the Henry Viscardi School. She and Helen will deliver them to the school when they have a good supply. They are very low on supplies for the families and would appreciate any help we can give them.

Dues are due - they remain at \$30.00 per person. Please mail them to Marianna Wohlgemuth 39 Spruce Lane, NHP, 10040.

If you haven't sent in your chances yet., they can be sent to Christine Horvath, 206 Arlington St., Mineola, NY 11501-2001.

Our ALA Girls State candidate, Emily George, will be joining up next meeting to inform us of her experience.

Gail Cinelli and Sue Otto have arranged a luncheon for us to be held at Casa di Fratelli Restaurant, 477 Old Country Rd., Westbury, NY, on Friday, October 18 at 12:30 for the cost of \$30.00 per person (cash only). We will get: appetizer, entrée and dessert, plus coffee, tea and soft drinks. Tips and tax are included. Reservations by

Friday, October 11. Money can be brought to next meeting. Please call Gail Cinelli at 516.997.6513 or Sue Otto at 516.248.0218 for additional info.

Rita Hesse, Legislative Chair, reported on HR 7543 Guard and Reserve GI Bill. The National Guard and Reserves protect our borders and state capitals. They support local law enforcement and serve in combat. Of late they have been called upon to confront unique challenges, leaving their families and employers for lengthy periods of time. Even though they have all contributed this, they are often denied the benefit of the G I Bill. HR 7543 is crucial to rectifying this inequity. It proposes to count every day spent on weekend drills, annual training, attending military school, participating in an exercise to responding to a disaster toward G I Bill eligibility. The American Legion firmly believes that every day in uniform counts. They are alongside their Active Duty counterparts and deserve the same G I Bill eligibility. Please contact your Congressman and encourage them to pass the Guard and Reserve G I Bill Parity Act HR 7543.

Mary Ann Busa, Children and Youth chairperson gave us the date for the next Special Friends Dance - Sunday, October 20, 12-4 with set up at 11:30. It was decided that we should make jelly sandwiches as some attendees are vegan and cold cuts have come under scrutiny as of late. They are many different types and we should have a nice variety. (grape jelly, jam, strawberry, peach, etc.)

Marilynn Bauman, VA&R Chair is requesting donations for the L. I. State Veterans Home of: hats, scarves, gloves, adult coloring books with colored pencils or crayons, puzzle books, new Christmas cards for them to send to family members, First Class stamps (any amount) note pads, lap robes (36" square), Walmart gift cards (any amount) being brought to the October meeting for delivery in November (Veteran's Month). Thank you in advance.

Post 144 is going out to Northport Veterans Hospital on Saturday, October 12, at 11:30. More information can be obtained from Commander Eric Spinner at 516.328.2367.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 7 PM.

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

AROUND THE POST



Commander Eric Spinner, PC Bob Guastella, PC Jack Afonso and Bill Lorusso distribute American flags.

Williston Street Fair

Thank you to these Legionnaires for a very successful fundraising effort at the street fair: Commander Eric Spinner, PC John Lawless, PC Bob Guastella, Ray Cross, Tom Rumore, Bob Myron, PC James Randle, PC Jack Afonso and Bill Lorusso.



VFW Commander Frank Busa, Peter Antonicelli and Bob Langenbach distribute traditional VFW poppies. (not in photo: Bill Kempner, Dan Roper

willistonpost144.org on the web or **WILLISTON POST144** on FACEBOOK

For the latest Post 144 information

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