



SOUND OFF



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Commander - James T. Randle July 2021 Editor - Dan Roper

COMMANDER'S REPORT

by Cmdr. James Randle

Hello! Hope all is well. I am happy to say that the Legion Family is opening.

Flagging graves at Holy Rood was done by Auxiliary Members and Legionnaires with Chairman PC Jack Afonso and Bob Valentine who keeps the records. Participating were Aux. President Christine Horvath and husband Steve, Barbara Afonso, PC Frank Busa, John Incremona, Andy Del Vecchio, Peter and Joan Antonicelli, Sandra Lee, Marilyn Bauman, Susan Otto, Vivian Campanella, Carol Maltese, Paul Marsh, Jeanne Occhiogrosso and myself. Norm Jardine flagged graves at another cemetery.

Our Everlasting Service in the south parking lot and parade were well attended. PC Frank Busa thanked all participating: Color Guard was Bob Valentine, Peter Antonicelli and PC John Lawless and the Firing Squad was Bill Lorusso, Ray Cross and Brian Gayson.

Boy Scout Troop 45 from Mineola finished painting chair rails and painted the walls in the Legion Room. Bob Mitchell chairman for Boy Scouts has been our representative. Now Legionnaire William Kempner will be new Chairman for the Scouts. Thank you, Bill, for stepping up.

At our General Meeting there was 24 legionnaires attending including Ed Steck. Not at the meeting was Don Sassano who said hello. Fred Santopetro, 104 will be at 105 in September and was honored at the Islander game Thursday night (photos next page).

A former Williston Park resident and Vietnam War casualty Carmine Macedonio will be honored by the Village who will hold a ceremony naming a street after Carmine on Saturday July 3 at 10:00 am at the corner of Pembroke Street and Willis Avenue.

Check Dates to Remember

The Village Williston Park Fire Department will have a parade on Monday July 5 at 9:30am starting at Syracuse and Broad Street.

Honor America

Commander James T. Randle

DATES TO REMEMBER

- July 3 Saturday Street-naming ceremony for former WP resident and Vietnam War casualty Carmine Macedonio 10am at the corner of Pembroke Street/ Willis Avenue.
- July 4 Sunday Independence Day - Fly your Flag
- July 5 Monday Williston Park Parade kicking off promptly at 9:30am
- July 5 Monday Executive meeting 7:30pm
- July 15 Thursday General Meeting 7:30pm
- July 22 Thursday Annual Pool Appreciation Night 6pm, bring your own refreshments
- July 25 Sunday Parents'Day
- July 27 Tuesday End of Korean War (1953)
- July No Auxiliary Meeting
- August 1 Sunday Air Force Day
- August 4 Coast Guard Birthday
- August 9 Monday Executive Meeting 7:30 pm
- August 19 Thursday General Meeting 7:30pm
- August 21 Saturday Senior Citizens Day

FLAGGING OF GRAVES AT THE VARIOUS CEMETERIES

- Holy Rood - Co-ord Jack & Barbara Afonso (see Commander's Report for list of members who participated)
- St. John's & Calvary - Norm & Barry Jardine
- St. Mary's - Frank Busa
- St. Charles - Rudy Jonak
- New Montefiore - Eric Spinner
- Maple Grove - Joe Dwyer
- St. Margaret - Bob & Ruth Valentine
- Pine Lawn Memorial - Need volunteers for 2022
- Nassau Knolls - Jack Afonso
- Bronx & St. Mary's Yonkers - Bob & Mary Robesch

Next General Meeting - - Thursday July 15, 2020 at 7:30PM

POST 144 REMEMBERS ON MEMORIAL DAY



Commander Randle addresses attendees at the Memorial Day ceremony. (See the text from his speech below)

“From the American Revolution to our current operation against terrorism, one million American men and women have made the Supreme sacrifice while serving in wars and conflicts. We honor all of them-not just those with the highest medals of the heroes who fought in the most famous battles.

They all died so we can continue to cherish the things that we love-freedom, country and family.

That is why we are gathered here on Memorial Day ... to honor the memory of our fallen warriors who have given everything for their country. We are also reminded on this day in each generation, brave men and women will always step forward to take the oath of allegiance as members of America's armed forces willing to fight, and if necessary, die for the sake of freedom. As legionnaires, we are pledged the Preamble of our organization's constitution to ‘Preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars...’ ”



Mayor Ehrbar honoring our vets at Williston Park Village ceremony

ISLANDERS HONOR FRED SANTOPETRO

Fred Santopetro has been a long-time member of Post 144 and post members have celebrated many birthdays with Fred. But this year was like no other. Just recently Fred was honored by no other than the New York Islanders who helped him celebrate his 105th birthday at Nassau Coliseum here on Long Island.

Check Fred out below. He is a great Islander fan and a proud member of our post. Plus, he sure looks handsome on that Jumbotron!!!



HIDDEN TALENT TAP RECITAL



Last month Hidden Talent, a community group, put on a performance right in our own backyard and the dancers certainly did a great job.

Parents who attended sprawled on our back lawn and were delighted with the very talented youngsters.

The Legion wishes good luck to all in their future dance endeavors!!



NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

Well, it doesn't seem possible but, we had our last meeting of the 2020-2021 year on Tuesday, June 15, 2021. It was really nice to see faces as the requirements for wearing masks had changed so that all vaccinated could go maskless. Nice to see everyone smiling once again.

President Christine Horvath and Chaplain Jennifer Miller did a short service for our members who we have lost this past year: Marie Callahan, Eileen Fingerle, Mary Hall and Barbara Schmidt.

Dianne Karl, Education Chair, will continue to collect food items for the Viscardi School during the summer. Just leave them on the porch of her home, 94 McClellan Ave. (746.2625) Dianne was not in attendance, but we are happy to report that Dianne received the "Woman of Distinction" Award from the Town of North Hempstead on Wednesday, June 16th. Dianne is not only our Education Chair since 2008 collecting school supplies for St. Aidan's School, she's been a member of the Auxiliary for 13 years. Dianne also works at the Viscardi School and is collecting food items for the families of the students during this pandemic. We, as an Auxiliary family, are very proud to have her in our organization. CONGRATULATIONS, DIANNE. Great work done!!

At the moment we have 91 Senior and 5 Junior members. Membership will begin in September.

The Williston Street Fair is a go for Sunday, September 19th. Because of the pandemic, it has been decided that baking is out of the question. We need suggestions of just what we could put on our table. It has been suggested that we purchase a larger item for the public to take chances on, Play Station, TV, etc. Please give this some thought and call Ellen Randle (516.270.3876) with any and all suggestions. Our 1st meeting in September is AFTER the fair so we need your input. Thanks.

The American Legion Auxiliary Citizenship Award (and gift) went to Shannon O'Sullivan this year, presented by Dianne Karl.

The final plans for our Bottle Bingo are in the works for early November.

The Village of Williston Park is renaming a street at the corner of Pembroke and Willis Avenue on Saturday, July 3rd at 10:00 AM for Carmine Macedonio, a 19 year old who went to Vietnam in late 1970 and was killed on 12/7/70. Please be there to support his family.

The 4th of July Parade will actually be held on Monday, July 5th. We are assembling at the Post beforehand around 9 AM or at Broad & Syracuse.

This meeting was shortened because we had our Installation of Officers for 2021-2022.

The Officers are:

President - Christine Horvath
1st Vice President - Debbie Robinson
2nd Vice President - Ellen Randle
Treasurer - Ellen Randle
Chaplain - Jennifer Miller
Recording Secretary - Rosanne Spinner
Corresponding Secretary - Ruth Valentine
Executive Board - Marilyn Bauman,
MaryAnn Busa, Sally Mitchell

Following the Installation, we enjoyed sandwiches and salads.

I would be remiss if I didn't take the opportunity to thank Eric Spinner for posting this article on the Website each month. Hopefully you are visiting it to see all the news about the Post and the Auxiliary. Thank you very much for your help getting this news out to the members, Eric.

Have a great summer. Continue to stay safe and healthy. See you through the summer or at our next meeting on Tuesday, September 21, at 7:00 PM.

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



Past Auxiliary President Ellen Randle performs the swearing in ceremony



Commander Randle along with the new officers of the Auxiliary

AROUND THE POST



Thanks to Ellen Randle (above) for her participation in this year's blood drive.



Remembering our own.



Our thanks to Boy Scout Troop 45 and to James Blennau who organized the painting of the Legion Room.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

New Members 2021

Edward J. Dirrane
US Army - Korea
Albertson

Stanley Feldman
US Army - Korea
Albertson

Ray Cross
US Army - Vietnam
Williston Park

Rob Mitchell
US Army - WOT
North Bellmore

Richard M. Kiesel
US Army - Vietnam
Williston Park

New Members 2022

Charles Wohlgemuth
USAF - Vietnam
New Hyde Park

Michael Rios
USMC - WOT
Williston Park

Charles B. Lanza
US Army - Vietnam
New Hyde Park

2021 - Early Bird

Paul J. Leoci
New Port Richey, FL
20 Year Member



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