



SOUND OFF



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Commander - James T. Randle June 2022 Editor - Dan Roper

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Cmdr. James Randle

As the country begins to return to a degree of normalcy, our post was able to return to more traditional ways of honoring at our Sixty Sixth Memorial Day this year. Wreath presentation followed and taps were played to honor the memory of all our fallen comrades this past year. Christopher Anselmo, Henry Bayer, Salvatore Cillufo, George Fitting, Hugh Forde, James O'Keefe, Thomas Piper, Stephen Rooney, Fred Santopetro, Edward Schenkel and Joseph Watts. The Auxiliary Unit President Christine Horvath read the names of their lost Unit members, Rosemarie Farrar, Lillian Giordano, Josephine Jansen, Mary Maher, Carolyn Olsen, Dorothy Perry, Phyllis Renna, and Past Unit President Marion Tucker.

As a nation, we are to remember and honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. It is a somber day, but it is also a day of thanksgiving for the sacrifices made by these brave men and women. Throughout Memorial Day I hope we reflect as a nation, on the price of freedom and the many soldiers' lives lost to protect our freedom. Let us also remember the families who lost a loved one in service to our country and for those who gave so much for our freedom (I saw the movie, *The Longest Day*).

I want to thank the Herricks High School Band who performed in the parade. As the parade passed by Legionnaire Ed Steck and his wife Joan we honored them with an "eyes left."

Thanks to Frank Busa PC, Ruth and Bob Valentine, soloist Rosanne Spinner and Nassau County and Post Chaplain Eric Spinner, Jack Afonso PC, The Post Color Guard of John Lawless PC, Vic Werbkey and Peter Antonicelli VFW and Legionnaire. Also to the firing party of Bill LoRusso, Frank Busa and Cliff Allen. Thanks, Auxiliary President Christine Horvath, and members for their help in the Memorial Day service.

I want to thank all who helped flag graves for our legion family at Holy Rood Cemetery. Past Commander Jack Afonso with the help of legion family members: Arlene Burlingame, Carolyn Wilenski, Marilynn Bauman, Barbara Afonso, Vic Werbkey, Paul Marsh, Peter Antonicelli, Frank Busa, Andy Del Vecchio, Bob Guastella,

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 6	Monday	D-Day Allied Invasion of Europe (1944)
June 10	Friday	Flag Day at Meadow Drive School 9:00 am
June 14	Tuesday	U.S. Army Founded (1775)
June 14	Tuesday	Flag Day Fly Your Flag
June 16	Thursday	General Meeting 7:30 pm
June 19	Sunday	Father's Day
June 19	Sunday	Juneteenth National Independence Day
June 20	Monday	Auxiliary Unit General Meeting 7:00 pm
June 21	Tuesday	Summer Begins
June 22	Wednesday	Pledge of Allegiance Recognized By Congress (1942)
June 22	Wednesday	GI Bill Signed into Law (1944)
June 24	Friday	Nassau County Meeting
June 25	Saturday	Korean War Began (1950)
June 27	Monday	National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Day
June 30	Thursday	Post-9/11 GI Bill Signed Into Law (2008)
July 2	Saturday	U.S. Army Air Corps Established (1926)
July 4	Monday	Independence Day

Bob Langenbach, Susan Otto, Sally Mitchell, Sandy Lee, Gail Cinelli, Eileen Watts, Chris and Steve Horvath, Margo Bores and Ellen O'Brien. Names given to me by Jack Afonso. I hope we did not miss any names.

Other cemeteries where graves were flagged: St. John's Middle Village, Nassau Knolls, Mt. St. Mary's Flushing, St. Charles Farmingdale, {Bronx, St. Mary's Yonkers by Robert and Mary Robesch}, Calvary, St. Margaret, Maple Grove. The thanks go to Jack Afonso, Bob and Ruth Valentine, Norm Jardine and Rudy Jonak.

On Saturday, June 4, Eric Spinner and I attended Nassau County Committee 103rd Convention at Massapequa Post 1066, 66 Veterans Boulevard, Massapequa N.Y. 11758. New Officers were elected for 2022-2023.

- County Commander - Joseph Scarola
- 1st Vice Division Commander - Dawn Samuel
- 2nd Vice Division Commander - Kerry Englander
- 3rd Vice Division Commander - Ralph Casey
- Adjutant - Sean Hood

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Next General Meeting - - Thursday, June 16, 2022 at 7:30PM

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

While we didn't have a May meeting because of impending bad weather, I wanted to write an informational article to keep you up to date.

The following are dates to remember:

Monday, June 20th our next meeting starting at 7 PM

Installation of Officers

President - Christine Horvath

1st Vice President - Debbie Robinson

2nd Vice President - Ellen Randle

Treasurer - Marianna Vohlgemuth

Chaplain - not yet determined

Recording Secretary - Rosanne Spinner

Corresponding Secretary - Ruth Valentine

Executive Board - Marilyn Bauman, Sally Mitchell
and Sue Otto

This is also our last meeting before the summer.
Please come and enjoy refreshments after the Installation

I am very tired of hearing only tragic news on the radio and television. SO.....

I have decided to write a "Good News" article whenever I am given any from our members of the Auxiliary. My email address is: mjabauman@verizon.net. Please send me any good news you may have to print. Here is the first installment:

On May 21, Sally and Bob Mitchell's grandson, Zachary Mitchell, graduated from West Point Military Academy and was sworn in as a 2nd Lieutenant. He has been assigned to Ft. Lee, Virginia, for Officer Training and then to Eglin AFB for training as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal specialist. His younger brother, Jeffrey, will be leaving for Air Force Basic Military Training at Lackland AFB, Texas, on July 5. The tradition of military service continues. Both grandparents are very proud of these two young men, as well they should be. Thanks for your service, in advance. Good luck to both of you.

Andrew Bauman, Marilyn's oldest grandson, graduated in 2020 and you know what was going on then. No graduation ceremony until this May when Marist College decided it was the right thing to do and honor the graduating class. Andrew, received his B.S in Information Technology/Systems Management and his M.S. in Information Systems Management & Business Analytics, all in 4 ½ years. As I write this he is on his way to Boston, moving back there from Philly.

Scott Bauman, Andrew's brother, also graduated this year, 5/15 from the University of New Haven, CT (in 3 years) with a B.S in Criminal Justice. Scott has many interests: he is an EMT (will be at a Boy Scout Camp upstate this summer as last), a barista, and has his own photography business. Next on the list is to go back to

school for science courses with the intention on becoming a Physician's Assistant. More studying for Scott, but we are certain that he will attain this also. He's a great young man.

One of our own, Gail Cinelli, was honored by the Town of North Hempstead from the Carle Place Senior Citizens for Senior of the Year. Gail heads the Arts & Craft group guiding Seniors through holiday projects all year round. Post-pandemic, Gail hosted a beautiful Christmas Holiday Fair on behalf of the Seniors which was open to the community. She has served as President of the N.C. Legal Secretaries Organization, taught adult ed to aspiring legal secretaries, presented seminars at the N. C. Bar Association, is presently President of the Italian Genealogy Group, serves on the Williston Park Historical Committee, a member of the Town of N. Hempstead's Project Independence Blankets of Love, and of course is our Community Service Chairperson. What a great gal! Congratulations on all these achievements.

That's all the news that's fit to print so far. Watch for more next month.

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



Gail Cinelli received Senior of the Year Recognition at Harbor Links in Poor Washington from the Town of North Hempstead nominated by Carle Place Senior Citizens.

COMMANDER'S REPORT *(cont. from page 1)*

Treasurer-Anthony Paternostro PCC

Appointments – Membership officer Gregory Faling

Chaplain – Eric Spinner

Historian James T. Randle

Sergeant-at-arms Steven McManus PCC

The formal Installation of Officers was held on Sunday afternoon, June 5, 2022 at Leonard's Palazzo, 555 Northern Boulevard, Great Neck, from 12 noon to 5:00 P.M. and was attended by James and Ellen Randle, Christine and Steve Horvath, and Eric and Rosanne Spinner.

WILLISTON AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 144'S HERO: NEW HYDE PARK DINER

On Saturday, May 21, 2022 (Armed Forces Day), New Hyde Park Diner (160 Hillside Ave., New Hyde Park, NY 11040) was happy to participate, once again, in "Dining for a Cause." All who came and dined that day between 12 noon and 5 PM were greeted at the door by several Williston American Legion Auxiliary Unit 144 members, (a member of Garden City Unit 265 also pitched in), who gave them a valuable coupon: the coupon, once submitted by the customers to their waiters, resulted in 20% of their tab being donated to Camp Corral, a camp for the children of our wounded, ill, injured or fallen military heroes.

The parking lots were quickly filled all day long, and the waiters gladly donned "Camp Corral" hats which were provided by the ladies, courtesy of Camp Corral. It was a great afternoon of good food, at a diner with a "big heart." Kudos to Kenny



Fund Raising for Camp Corral at the New Hyde Park Diner, Saturday, May 21st is Donna Armieri (from William Bradford Turner Unit 265 Garden City), Rita Hesse, Marilynn Bauman, Rosanne Spinner (organizer of fund raiser) and President Christine Horvath from Williston Unit 144. Camp Corral is a camp for children of wounded, disabled, or fallen military.



Rosanne Spinner awards a much-deserved Certificate of Appreciation to Kenny Thoma, the owner of the Diner.

Thoma, owner of the New Hyde Park Diner, for his outstanding

generosity in participating in this event. The diner donated a total of \$1000 that afternoon, 100% of which will go to Camp Corral for the children. It was also touching to see that monetary donations for Camp Corral were made to the Auxiliary ladies in the vestibule as customers came to eat, which was totally unexpected. In addition to the diner's generosity, and customers' donations, various American Legion Auxiliary units throughout the county made donations for an additional \$1,016 – as of this writing...and donations are still on the way!! Several ALA members

throughout Nassau County also came to dine that day which also supported the cause.

We applaud New Hyde Park Diner and the Long Island community who donated to our "Dining for a Cause" fundraiser supporting Camp Corral, which provides a camping experience for like-minded children, the youngest among us who, by their sacrifice, are ALSO serving our country.

Auxiliary members in the vestibule received several comments from happy customers stating "New Hyde Park Diner is now my go-to diner for a great meal and great service." Bravo to Kenny Thoma and the New Hyde Park Diner! God bless America!

In Service not self,

Rosanne Spinner, member
Williston Unit 144
American Legion Auxiliary

"A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military and their Families"
#TogetherWeServe
www.WillistonPost.org



Thanks to all of the members of the New Hyde Park Diner staff who helped to make our fundraiser a big success!!! It is a great restaurant with great food and is always filled with smiling faces of the wonderful staff.

TRADITIONAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE RETURNS



The post was pleased that we could fully observe Memorial Day again. Commander Randle presides with membership and local officials also in attendance.



Jennifer Miller and Bob Valentine place the names of deceased Auxiliary members into the brazier



Color Guard John Lawless PC, Vic Werbkey, Peter Antonicelli

This year Post 144 was able to return to the traditional Memorial Day services that were suspended due to the Covid epidemic. Many of our long-term friends and supporters attended our Post Everlasting service as we read the names of Legionnaires and Auxiliary members who had passed.

Also great to see was the return of the parade, band and ceremonies held at the Williston Park Village Hall, at the Williston Park Firehouse and East Williston Village Green.



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