



SOUND OFF



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Commander - James T. Randle February 2023 Editor - Dan Roper

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Commander James Randle

Though Post Boy Scout Chairman Bill Kempner was not able to attend the Scout presentation, he did get the award certificates with the help of Ruth Valentine. Thank you Ruth. You saved the day. Good Citizenship Medals will be given out at a meeting. Bob Mitchell and I went Troop 201, Eagle Scout Court of Honor on Saturday, January 7, at the Albertson Firehouse. On Sunday, January 8, we went on to another Eagle Scout Court of Honor at Mineola High School for Troop 45.

There were 15 Legionnaires at the General Meeting. I want to thank the Islamic prayer group who rented the Post Room for the meal they sent us that meeting.

Thanks to Legionnaires who help set up and break down for Bob Guastella.

I attended the 10th District meeting on January 24 and Nassau County Committee January 27.

Bob Mitchell is working on liquor license renewal.

Boys' State 2023 will be held from Sunday, June 25 through Friday June 30 at SUNY Morrisville State College in Morrisville, New York. The buses will depart from the American Legion Post #336 in Glen Head. The Post membership voted to send 2 boys. The Post Chairman is 3rd Vice Commander Frank Busa. The Fee for 2023 will be \$400 per participant plus \$200 bus fee.

Legionnaires' the post needs you to step up for all officers and trustees open positions for 2023 - 2024.

Annual Military Ball /Post Commander Night Saturday, February 18th, at the Leonard's Palazzo, 555 Northern Boulevard, Great Neck, N.Y. from 12:00 pm to 5:00; \$75.00 per person.

National Commander is Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola a life member of the America Legion Post 1682 in Rockland County, N.Y. He served in the U.S. Navy and Navy Reserves from 1969 to 1974. He completed a tour aboard the USS Nitro, an auxiliary ammunition ship with the Sixth Fleet. He was honorably discharged as a boatswain's mate third class. He is also a member of The American Legion Squadron 1682 based on the Word War II service of Jim's father. He announced his program to recognize American Legion Posts that help with that effort.

You will see the V.E.T.S. acronym a lot this year; It stands for Veterans, Education, Teamwork and Sponsor.

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 1	Wednesday	National Freedom Day
February 2	Thursday	Groundhog Day
February 3	Friday	Four Chaplains Day
February 5	Sunday	Nassau County Four Chaplains at Central Synagogue - Beth Emeth 430 DeMott Avenue, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11570 any Question Call Eric Spinner 516 369-5313
February 6	Monday	Executive Meeting 7:00 pm
February 8	Wednesday	Boy Scouts of America Founded (1910)
February 12	Sunday	Lincoln's Birthday
February 14	Tuesday 14	Valentine's Day
February 15	Wednesday	Sinking of The U.S.S. Maine (1898)
February 16	Thursday	General Meeting 7:30pm
February 20	Monday	Presidents' Day Washington's Birthday Day (Observed)
February 21	Tuesday	Auxiliary Meeting 700pm
February 21	Tuesday	Mardi Gras
February 22	Wednesday	Washington's Birthday
February 22	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday
February 23	Thursday	Iwo Jima Flag Raised (1945)
February 24	Friday	Nassau County Committee Meeting 7:30 Rockville Center
February 27	Monday	Battle of Java Sea (1942)
February 28	Tuesday	End of Operation Desert Storm (1991)

It's how we build a stronger and larger American Legion. We are The American Legion, the voice of veterans since 1919. Commander Troiola said as long as American has veterans, there will always be an American Legion.

The American Legion lost assistance with benefits and programs provided this year and we lost help on Boys' State and Girl State fund to the SUNY collages.

Legionnaires, please, if you get sick or go into the hospital, make sure you have a loved one give Chaplain Eric Spinner a call 516 369 5313 or contact Commander Randle at 516 270 3876 or 516 724 4667.

In March Ellen and I will be going on vacation for eleven days.

The Auxiliary will be invited to April 20th Thursday 7:30pm.

Next General Meeting - - Thursday, February 16th, 2023 at 7:30PM

LEGIONNAIRE / ADJUTANT / ACTOR???

All of us have always known that our Adjutant, Norm Jardine, is a talented singer. He has performed frequently for Post 144, several Long Island orchestras and at many Nassau County Legion functions. But did you know he has also been called upon to take a part in an upcoming musical performance at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Academy? Could this be the start of something big? Do I detect an Academy Award?

All are invited to attend to see Norm play the role of a Marine lieutenant who is the husband of the lead actress. The setting is southeast Asia during World War II.

From all of us "Break a Leg, Norm."

A NEW MUSICAL !!!



Marion Greenwood was a painter, lithographer, mosaicist, fresco, and mural painter from New York, N.Y.

'The Forgotten Artist'

Saturday March 25, 2023, 8pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Academy
111-10 115th Street, S. Ozone Park, Queens
Suggested Donation \$10

****Special invitation to Alumni of the School****
5:00 Mass in Church, Mixer after in gym, followed by Show
More info: 718-843-4184

**February Auxiliary Meeting
will be on
Tuesday 21, 7:00pm**

**For God and Country
James Randle
Commander**

PEARL HARBOR 81ST ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY

On December 7th Bob and Ruth Valentine attended the 81st Anniversary Observance of the bombing of Pearl Harbor at the Air Power Museum in Farmingdale. Recognizing eighteen (ages from 93 to 102) World War II veterans including our own Tony Catalano (102) was the highlight in the program. These heroes were presented with certificates and proper praises by the Air Force Association and local dignitaries.

About 200 veterans and family members were in attendance representing the many veterans' organizations. Because of the inclement weather the Memorial Ceremony was held inside the hanger and the "Dropping of the Roses" over the Statue of Liberty would not take place until the morning of December 8th by the Skytypers.

The Memorial Ceremony was covered by NEWS 12 and shown on the evening of December 7th.

Editor's note: Pearl Harbor ceremonies are held every year on Long Island or within traveling distance from Post 144. All Legionnaires are urged to attend at least once.

**Free Flu and Covid Shots
Northport VA Medical Center
Building 200**

LOWE'S GETS IT RIGHT!!!

Some businesses are veteran-friendly. And Lowe's is just one of them. They offer a generous discount to all vets and seem to just know how to treat us right.



**Always Nice to Know
You Are Appreciated!!!**

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

This is just an informational article, because it was decided not to have a January meeting.

Our next meeting will be on TUESDAY, February 21, starting at 7:00 PM.

As mentioned in prior Auxiliary "Sound off" articles, the following can be brought to any meeting for our Service women:

Feminine products (unscented, whenever possible), small packs of napkins and tampons. Female versions of body wash, lotion, razors, face wash, moisturizer, deodorant, hair de-tangler, shampoo, conditioner, dry shampoo. Small bottles of mouthwash, Q-tips, Chapsticks and foot powder. The troops can also use: sunscreen, AA & AAA batteries, gum, beef jerky and Slim Jims, hard candy, breath mints, protein bars/granola bars, individual packages of cookies/crackers, hand sanitizer, nuts (NO peanuts), dried fruits in resealable containers, laundry pods, and Visa and M/C gift cards (\$25 value). Please NO CDs, DVDs or tapes.

Thank you to all who brought items to the December meeting. Let's have enough for another package to be sent from items brought in February.

Please come to our February meeting where more information should be available for the Wine Bottle Bingo in the spring.

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

AMERICAN LEGION SUPPORTING VETERANS

Because of the concerning number of veteran suicides the American Legion has been increasing their efforts to publicize the help that is available. Please make note of the phone number below should you know a veteran who might be in need.



**For Immediate Assistance Call:
988 and press 1**

or chat online at www.veteranscrisisline.net

AUXILIARY NEWS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH JANUARY, 2023

Mary Ann Busa Chairperson, PCP

A member donated \$12.00 to Se. Joseph Indian School.

A member donated \$21.00 to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

A member donated \$50.00 to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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A member donated clothing for children. My doll club also donated dolls. I distributed these items to SCO Family Services in Huntington. SCO is always grateful for all our donations.

I want to thank again all the members of ALA unit 144 for their support. The children and youth program would not be a success if it was not for your help.

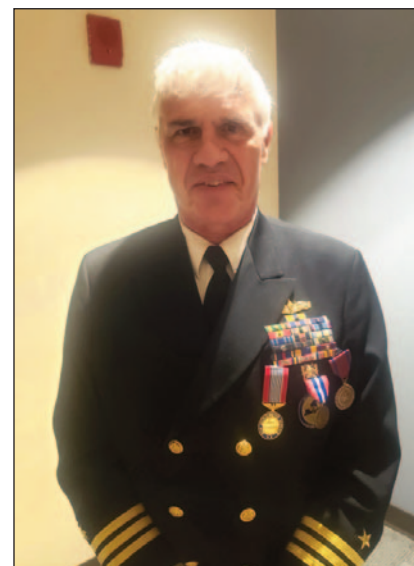
NAVAL COMMANDER AND POST 144 LEGIONNAIRE RETIRES

On January 20, 2023, our own Commander Bill Kempner, NYNM, USN RET, formally retired from the New York Naval Militia at HQ, New York Naval Militia, Latham, NY after a total of 50.5 years of Regular, Reserve and Guard (New York Naval Militia is administered by New York National Guard).

He was awarded the NYS



Ensignia of the
New York Naval Militia



Medal for Meritorious Service, the New York State Medal of Merit and a Fourth Award of the NYS Long and Faithful Service Medal by RDML Lawrence Weill, Commander, NYNM. Bill was piped over the side with six sideboys as per Navy custom and was asked to stay for a celebration luncheon.

Bill is a Vietnam Era Veteran, a Desert Storm Veteran and a Global War on Terror Veteran, having served as a WTC 9/11/01 Responder. Bravo Zulu.

POST 144 SUPPORTS NEW EAGLE SCOUTS AT AWARDS CEREMONY



Troop 201 color guard present the colors at Albertson Firehouse



(l. to r.) Commander James Randle, Michael C. Baranello, Aidan Joneleit, Ryan Trai Doan, Constantine E. Koutsoftas and Legionnaire Bob Mitchell

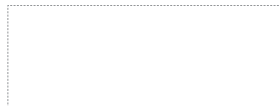
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Troop 45 American Flag display at Eagle Ceremony



(l. to r.) Scouts GianLuca Berganza, Aeden Amatulli, Aidan Cooke, Legionnaire Bob Mitchell, Commander James Randle, Luke Randazzo, Cameron Mahmood, Jack Franz



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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