



SOUND OFF



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

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Commander James Randle

American Legion Family, please check on *Dates to Remember* to keep up with the latest activities.

October was a busy month. On October 10, the post opened to help the community with giving out 117 Flu shots. I want to thank Nassau County Clerk Maureen O'Connell, RN, and her nurses and the Auxiliary members Rita Hesse, Ruth Valentine, Marilyn Bauman and Sandy Lee. They greeted and helped with forms for the people to fill out. Bob and Ruth Valentine set up the Legion Room and coffee and tea. Bagels came from Harry's Hilltop Deli and were delicious with the help from Williston Park Chamber of Commerce.

Maureen asks that I inform our membership of an important service that is available in her office to veterans. She is as the county clerk and her office records and secures veterans discharge paper (DD-214) free of charge so that veterans and their families may obtain a certified copy (legally equivalent to the original) of these vital records should the need arise. Veterans are invited to come and record their discharge papers conveniently and close to home.

On October 19 at our General Meeting, we had 22 legionnaires! I was happy to see that number of legionnaires at that meeting. We discussed about going back to Wednesday Happy Hour. It was voted unanimously to raise our dues from \$45.00 to \$50.00 for 2024-2025.

The Dates to Remember: November 8th, Wednesday, Church of Saint Aidan in the church 12:45 pm students will observe Veterans Day; November 9th, Thursday, at Henry Viscardi School students will honor Veterans and on Veterans Day PC and VFW Commander Frank Busa has asked us to assemble at Williston Park Town Hall to observe Veterans Day at 10:30 am start at 10:45 am.

On October 15, for the first time in three years we combined with the Auxiliary to have our "Special Friends" dance. Over 100 friends and staff were served. Thanks to Eric Spinner who was our DJ and all the Auxiliary members who made sandwiches and cupcakes. A good time was had by all.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- November 7 Tuesday Election Day Don't forget to Vote.
- November 8 Wednesday Church of Saint Aidan Observe Veterans Day in the Church 12:45 p.m.
- November 9 Thursday Henry Viscardi School Observe Veterans Day 10:00 am.
- November 9 Thursday Fall of the Berlin Wall (1989)
- November 10 Friday American Legion Auxiliary Birthday (1919)
- November 10 Friday Marine Corps Birthday
- November 11 Saturday Observe Veterans Day at Williston Park Town Hall 10:30 am.
- November 11 Saturday World War I Armistice (1918) Veterans Day
- November 16 Thursday General Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- November 17 Friday Nassau Cty. Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- November 19 Sunday Gettysburg Address (1863)
- November 21 Tuesday Grenada Campaign Ended (1983)
- November 23 Thursday Thanksgiving Day
- November 23 Thursday US Women's Coast Guard Reserve (SPAR's) Birthday
- November 24 Friday Black Friday
- November 27 Monday Cyber Monday

WELCOME NEW MEMBER



Arthur S. Catania, From Garden City Park, US ARMY.....Transfer from Post 1 in Albany

Next General Meeting - - Thursday, November 16th, 2023 at 7:30 P.M.

WHAT A SPOOKTACULAR PARTY!!!!!!!

On October 15th Post 144 once again sponsored our “Special Friends” Halloween Party and we were really rockin’ and rollin’ thanks to Children and Youth Chairman Frank Busa and Mary Ann Busa who decided to bring back one of our most successful community contributions.



Clown Rosanne Spinner with unidentified monster

Frank and Mary Ann did not do all of this alone of course. Eric Spinner helped liven up the party by serving as our DJ and the ever-dedicated Auxiliary members did a fantastic job organizing and serving our guests so that our day was a rousing success.

Guests from group residences as far away as Centereach attended the party. I guess the word got out and nobody can resist attending a good party. We packed in well over 100 individuals and all of our guests really enjoyed the festivities.

Thanks also to Dean at City Line Florist, 1640 Hillside Avenue, New Hyde Park, who donated potted plants so that each ghost and goblin had a memory of the friends they have in the American Legion.

Chairman Frank Busa hopes to continue the current “Friends” program, so all of our Legionnaires and Auxiliary members will have the opportunity to join the fun. Hope to see you there next time.



Eric Spinner....Thanks go out to our DJ for the great job. He kept ‘em dancing!!



(l. tor.) Rosanne Spinner, Debbie Robinson, Nellie Matthews, Sally Mitchell, Christine Horvath, Marilyn Bauman, Donna DiBello, Sandra Lee, Susan, Otto, (seated) Mary Ann Busa, Ruth Valentine, Ellen Randle



Mary Ann Busa poses with her astronaut son

And We Also Had



A BOOtiful cake

POST 144 RECOGNIZING YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS



Post 144 is always eager to recognize youthful achievements. In a recent ceremony two young students were recognized for their outstanding efforts in supporting veterans and for serving their community. Girls State Representative, Elizabeth (Betsy) Baranello and Eagle Scout Michael Dore received awards and proclamations in honor of their service. (See also “News from the Auxiliary on next page).

(photo left) Paul Ehrlich, Chief of Staff for Senator Jack Martins, Assemblywoman Gina Sillitti, 16th District (north), Elizabeth Baranello, Michael Dore and Assemblyman Edward Ra, 16th District Assemblyman, (south).

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

Our October meeting was presided over by President Christine Horvath. We had a very busy meeting as you will read.

First, the young man that contacted the Lakeville Estates Civic Assoc. about helping Veterans at Northport Veterans facility was present with his parents. He used his own money to purchase items for the Pysch unit at Northport. He was awarded numerous awards from Ed Ra, 16th District Assemblyman, (South) and Gina Sillitti, Assemblywoman 16th District (North), and Paul Ehrlich, Chief of Staff for Senator Jack M. Martins. Pictures for same somewhere in the Sound Off.

Also present was our Girl State Representative, Elizabeth (Betsy) Baranello who informed us that she didn't know much about Political Science before attending Girls State and since doing so can understand more in current events. She also is keeping in touch with the counselors and had a great deal of fun. Betsy also received a citation from the Assemblyman and Assemblywoman.

Two very impressive young people!!

The collecting of items for our women in the military is an ongoing request. Please refer to the past article for items needed. If you need to speak to Pat LoRusso about the items needed, please call 516.747.6176. Thank you.

MaryAnn Busa, Children & Youth Chair, reported that the Special Friends Dance went better than expected. There were 102 in attendance. We hope to hold the next one upstairs as there will be more room.

MaryAnn also requested items for the children for Christmas. Needed: toys, clothing, diapers. Please bring items to our November meeting for delivery in December.

Margo Bores, Wellness Ambassador, instructed us in eye exercises. Hand outstretched in front of you, bring finger into nose all the while eyes are following your finger. Then follow out to right and left and up and down, all bringing finger to nose. (without turning head)

Marilynn Bauman, VA&R Chair thanked everyone for the items brought in for Stony Brook Veterans Home.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 21, starting at 7:00 PM.

Please remember to bring or mail in your membership dues for this year.

December is our Holiday meeting at which, if you are interested and want to participate, we will be having our Grab Bag. Please bring the item, valued at \$10.00, wrapped with your name on it so the recipient can thank you.

In January we will once again have our New and Gently Used items for sale. We will also have pizza while you are shopping.

Scratch Off tickets and prizes, baskets (empty or filled) are needed for our Street Fair and Chinese Auction,

respectively. These items can also be brought to the meetings after the holidays. Thank you.

DATES AND ITEMS TO REMEMBER:

Veterans Day Recognition - Henry Viscardi School, Thursday, November 9 at 10 AM

Next meeting - Tuesday, November 21, 7 PM

Christmas items for Children & Youth
tems for our Women in the Military

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

AUXILIARY NEWS FOR OCTOBER, 2023

Mary Ann Busa, Chairperson, PCP

A member donated \$20.00 for Boys Town to help them purchase food. A member donated \$10.00 to the VFW for the folders they received.

A member donated \$12.00 to St. Joseph Indian School. Provides housing for 200 Lakota Sioux Children each year. Contacted City Line Florist New Hyde Park donated 50 plants for Special Friends Dance. Donated Sugar Free cookies also a plate of Halloween cookies for special friends dance. Helped set up and clean up for the dance.

A member sent out invitations to the Special Friends Dance. Helped set up and clean up. Brought sandwiches and cookies.

The groups homes from AHRC came to the party. These homes sent Thank you notes to me on my computer thanking us for inviting them to the party. They enjoyed it so much and are looking forward to another dance.

I want to thank Eric Spinner for the music he was out DJ and did such a good job. I also want to thank Dan Roper for making the flyer and helping me with other items for the party. I also want to thank all the ALA members for their help. Without the help of the members c/y would not be a success.

Next month at the November meeting I will be collecting toys, clothes, diapers, etc. To be donated to Toys of Hope, St. Christopher Ottolie and Momma's House. I will deliver them before Christmas.

POST FUNDRAISER

The post fund drive is nearing the drawing date which is Veterans day . The total prize money is \$1750.

Thank to all how return the their tickets and to those who haven't please do so. You have to be in it to Win. Again thank you to all.

FLU SHOTS 2023



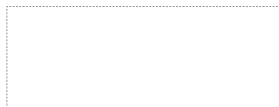
Post 144 is very fortunate to have so many great volunteers to help make our Senior Flu Shot Day go so smoothly. Once again we performed a service to the community of Williston Park and many of the residents complimented us on the great job we did.



From the moment you stepped in the door residents were greeted with smiling faces. Thanks Rita Hess, Ruth Valentine, Marilyn Bauman and Sandy Lee.



Always supportive and helpful, County Clerk Maureen O'Connell and Assemblyman Edward Ra with Commander James Randle



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