



Nassau County Legionnaire



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No. 2

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COMMANDERS REPORT

William Harms - 795-3678

Being this is my first message, as your County Commander, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Posts and their members for their support, in electing the members of my staff and me, for the legion year 2007-2008. We are here to work for you.

As I had mentioned at our installation, I have a big pair of shoes to fill From the time that our first County Commander. Leonard Sullivan, took the oath of office, in 1919 until the present, this Committee has created and maintained many great traditions, along with an integrity that is second to none. It is my job, along with my staff, to ensure that the integrity and traditions continue.

Congratulations go out to the following newly elected Officers: Department Commander, William "Bill" Burnett, Tenth District Commander, Denis McEneaney, and to our own newly elected Department Vice Commander John Cook. We wish them well.

Remember that the membership dues for 2007-2008 are now due, and it is every ones job, not just the Membership Officers, to get the job done and obtain the goals of each and every Post. Imagine how this County could grow in members to the American Legion if each and every member signed up just one new member. "LET'S MAKE NASSAU COUNTY AMERICAN LEGION GREAT IN 2007-2008"

FIRST DIVISION REPORT

Gus Lanzo, Commander, 678-3392

I am setting up my Post visitation list and I will be in contact with all the Post's in the First Division. Should anyone need assistance, please feel free to call me at:

516 - 678 - 3393

SECOND DIVISION REPORT

Andy Booth, Commander 731-6421

All the membership cards have been distributed to the Post's and I will be contacting the Commanders in each Post to offer my help or assistance.

I will be setting up the Division meetings as required and I hope to see more of our Posts participate in the Programs.

I am open to all suggestions and I hope to help bring back the Division to the best in Nassau County.

THIRD DIVISION REPORT

Joseph Glovack, Commander 465-2056

As the newly elected member of the Nassau County Committee I will do my best to get the job done. I will contact all the Posts in the Third Division to offer my help. I will be contacting all the membership chairmen in each post for up to date reports.

Thanks again for your vote of confidence in me in electing me the Third Division Commander.

VETS REHAB PROGRAM FOR 2007 - 2008

FRANK COLON Jr., CHAIRMAN - 435-7066
STU McKINNEY, CO-CHAIRMAN

THE REHAB PROGRAM FOR THIS LEGION YEAR WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE COUNTY BOARD AT THE NEXT COUNTY MEETING. I WILL RESCHEDULE ALL THE POSTS SO THAT THERE ARE AT LEAST 3 POSTS THAT I KNOW WILL ATTEND EACH SESSION.

THE NEW LISTING WILL BE IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE COUNTY LEGIONNAIRE.

IF YOUR POST CAN ATTEND BRING A CHECK FOR \$50.00. BUT IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND MAKE THE CHECK FOR \$100.00.

WE NOW BUY ALL SUPPLIES WHOLESALE AND PACK BAGS OF ITEMS THAT ARE REQUESTED FOR THE VETS AT NORTHPORT.

"SUPPORT OUR TROOPS"

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Arlene Howard, PCC , Chairperson

Another year is upon us and I am once again asking you to donate to this very gratifying program. The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. A fund established by the American Legion to make sure that the children of our active duty military personnel killed in action after 9/11-01 will have a chance to go on to college.

Please contribute to this worthy cause. As always I only ask for \$1.00 from each member. Please send in your donations. Checks should be made out to the Nassau County Committee and earmarked for the Legacy Scholarship Fund.

Please send them to me: Arlene Howard,
42 Jersey Street, Hicksville, N.Y. 11801-2435

Thank you. God Bless America !!

Memorial Library

William Davison, Chairman

Once again Commander Bill has asked me to be the Chairman of the James MacLean Memorial Library.

Our challenge for this new Legion year is to have all posts and Units, who have not contributed in the past, and for those who have been so generous to please continue to support this most worthwhile program. What better way to honor the memory of Legion or Auxiliary member then by sending a contribution to purchase a book for our collection.

Our total contributions for the year 2006 - 2007 was \$ 3,695.00.

New forms are on their way in two weeks, to make that contribution easier and more direct.

REHAB & TROOP SUPPLIES

WE ARE STARTING A NEW YEAR AND SUPPLIES ARE LOW. IF YOU HAVE ANY ITEMS FOR US BRING THEM TO THE COUNTY MEETING. OR SEND A CHECK SO THAT WE CAN PURCHASE NEEDED ITEMS.

CELL PHONE COLLECTION PROGRAM

REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

We are now sending the Cell Phones to ECO-CELL and they then send us the money for our fund raisers. The first week in July they forwarded me a check for \$24.50 which was raised by a young man in Virginia for the American Legion as his Eagle Scout program. When National dropped out the E-Mailed me and then sent me the check for our program. Currently I have 49 cell phones to ship out. We are also accepting all the accessories, E.I. head sets, chargers, extra batteries. Bring them in to the county meeting or if you have a large amount I will come to you to get them.

SUPPORT FOR TROOPS ON ACTIVE DUTY

REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

There has been no activity for a little while as the unit I was sending items to should be returning shortly. I am looking for another unit to support. If any knows of a service person in Iraq or Afghanistan please contact me with the name and address and I will send items to them. As soon as I get another unit I will let all the posts know who they are and their address. I have been in contact with the South Elmont Republican Club who are collecting items and they will give them to me to send to Iraq and/or Afghanistan.

WINAL REHAB REPORT

Arlene Howard, PCC, Chairperson

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, October 3, 2007 - 10:00AM to 3:00PM.

The 5th Annual Celebrating Women Program at the Northport VA Medical Center. Theme this year will be Born to be FREE!!! Sponsored by Northport V AMC and the Women's Veterans Care Counsel.

The Women's Wellness Center at Northport V AMC is proud to announce and welcome Dr. Jill Thompson, Gynecologist. Dr. Thompson's Gynecology Clinic will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM for both days. The Thursday afternoon Gynecology Clinic is also available. In addition to her clinic, Dr. Thompson will be performing gynecology surgical procedures for women at the DV A Medical Center, Northport. Please do not hesitate to call the office at (631) 544-5314 if you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment.

And don't forget to call up and make that mammography appointment. Same phone # as above.

BOYS STATE PROGRAM
REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

I submitted a list of 37 delegates to THE Department Headquarters. When the bus departed on 24 June 2007 there were only 34 boys on it. One boy dropped out due to medical reasons and I suggested to the sponsor not to ask for the money back. The other two boys I forwarded to the sponsoring posts copies of the "Letter of Commitment" that the boys and one of their parents signed. Those posts are contacting the boys and the parents to get the money back. I met the bus on return and all the boys had many good comments and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. One boy who had called me and I went to his home to interview him. I had gotten money from East Rockaway post and used that to sponsor this young man. He came from Garden City and attended Garden City High School. His city Counselor from Boys State had nothing but great praise for this young man. He was selected to be in the final group for the SAMSUNG SCHOLARSHIP. One boy from the 50 different Boys State is selected then five boys from that 50 will get a \$25,000 scholarship. Each boy is guaranteed \$1,000 dollars. The boys name is Colin Quinn.

I also received some E-Mails and letters thanking me and the American Legion for sending them to Boys' State.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND
Anthony Milito, Jr. - Chairman

Last year we did a good job of giving thanks to the Posts that donated we raised \$2595.00 so let's can do more this year. This fund can only grow with all our help, so please do your part and send in your contribution. So let's continue giving the largest donation you can so we can show that Nassau County is the Empire County.

Make your checks payable to Nassau County American Legion and earmark it NEF and send it to this Chairman at 3521 Island Road, Wantagh, New York 11793-3336.

NASSAU COUNTY DIRECTORY
Ken Cadieux, PCC - Chairman

The Nassau County Directory is coming together very slowly. If your Post has not yet sent in the White Directory Sheet Please do so as quickly as possible. If you information is not received by September 14th your Post will be listed but all the information will be blank. The County Legionnaire News Letter will also be sent to last years Officers. So get your White sheets into me and if you are taking an Ad please enclose it with the White Sheet. We hope to distribute the new directories at the September meeting..

Legionnaire of the Year (LOTY)
Joseph P. Slattery Jr., PCC, Chairman

he National Legionnaire of the Year Program was created to recognize our Post members for their dedication at the Post Level.

Our County Program will enhance and build on the Post Level and be the basis for the County Level Recognition Program during the annual County Convention in June.2008. You must be a past or present Post Level Honoree to be nominated for the County Level Honor.

I'm asking each Post Commander to appoint a LOTY chairperson to write up their Post selected Honoree so they can be nominated (one per Post) for the County Level Program. With over 50 Posts in Nassau County we will be able to elevate this important program to the level it needs to be.

This Recognition Program is a fitting way to honor and recognize our dedicated Legionnaires who work tirelessly and many behind the scenes to keep our Posts and County programs together. They work with our Veterans, Communities and Programs. The County Level Honoree will go onto the District Level Program. Start the new Legion year off by collecting and writing up your Post members contributions so your Post can make a selection during the month of MARCH. National Emblem sales, sells a beautiful pin for your Post Honorees. Order it now.

The Count down has begun. More to follow next month..

NATIONAL CEMETERY REPORT
Ken Cadieux, Representative

The County Representatives at the County Meeting held on Friday, July 27, 2007 gave me permission to solicit donations for the NEW IRAQ Veterans Memorial Garden to be placed between the two shelters at Long Island National Cemetery in Farmingdale.

It will be a 40 by 40 foot area with flowers & shrubs and four stone benches. Once constructed it will be maintained by the Master Gardeners of Cornell University free of charge.

The cost of the flowers & shrubs & the four benches will be around \$7,500.00. We need to raise \$1,900.00 to get one corner of the Garden Dedicated to the American Legion.

The target date for completion is Veterans Day 2007 and all are invited to attend the dedication.

If you or your Post would like to help us to complete this project with a donation. Please make all checks payable to: LINC MO and send to me;

Ken Cadieux
121 Powell Avenue,
Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11570
Tele: 516-536-3796

History

Roger Eastman

Does your post have a Post Historian? If Not, why not?

From the Officer's Guide: "Ever remember that without the recorded history of [this post], its policies and accomplishments will be a blank to the ones who come after we are gone."

We are in a new Legion year, and I hope that post historians have been appointed in all posts. If this position in your post is still vacant, make sure that it is filled promptly, for now is the time to start gathering information for your histories, either narrative or pictorial. You will find information on the preparation of post histories in the Officers Guide that has been issued to each post. Spend some time to review this material and decide which type history you want to prepare. You may decide to do both.

Election of new officers and their installation offer much material for the post historian. Publication of events in local newspapers, photographs, programs, etc., are prime examples of material that can be used. Events should be in chronological order when placed in a scrapbook. Photographs should include the names of those involved, and they should be listed from left to right. If material is taken from a newspaper, the name of the newspaper and the date of publication should be included.

The number of entries in the history contest this year was disappointing. With over 50 posts in Nassau County we should have a greater showing.

There will also be a newsletter contest again this year. For those posts that participate, each one should submit a copy of two separate issues that were published during the year.

As the year progresses more information will be included on these two contests

VAMC Billing Issues

Confused about your VA Medical Center statement? According to a VA press release, "Trained and Friendly" VA Health Revenue Center staff in Topeka, KS will assist you with you billing questions. Call 1-888-440-9587.

Patriot Express Loans for Veterans

Contact John A. Narciso, Business Advisor (and Navy Vet) at the NYS Small Business Development Center at Farmingdale State College for information on the new SBA Patriot Express Initiative. Loans with the lowest interest rates available are made for veterans, active duty members eligible for TAP, Reservists and National Guard members. The loans can be used for start up, expansion, equipment purchases, working capital, inventory or commercial real estate. Contact John at 631-370-8891 or at john.narciso@farmingdale.edu/sbdc.

PTSD News

According to a story in June 4 issue of the Marine Times DOD is now reporting that 40% of our combat veterans are reporting mental health concerns. The Nassau County Mental Health Association is proposing a Veterans Mental Health Alliance to bring together private mental health providers, VA facilities, veterans' leaders, active duty and reserve organizations and local government officials to understand the scope of the local problem and to make sure that the veterans get the right help at the right time. Sounds like a good idea.

Locally we have support from the Long Island Vet Center 631-661-3930, VA Medical Center 631-261-4400, Rosen Family Wellness Center (LIJ) 516-562-3260, Peninsula Counseling Center 516-569-6600.

Veteran Runners

There may not be many Veterans News readers that enjoy a good 26.3.mile run now an then as I do, but most of you should consider entering the Marine Corps 9/11 Run/Walk being held on September 9, 2007 beginning at 9:00AM at the Blydenburg Suffolk County Park in Hauppauge, NY. This 5K (about 3 miles) run/walk will fund a sterling silver engraved serving tray from Tiffany and Co. listing all the names of the service men/women killed in action from Long Island since 9/11. The tray will be placed on the USS New York a Navy Combat Ship built in part from steel from the World Trade Center.



OCEANSIDE
COMMANDER
LINDA PETRIZZI
(L) ATTENDS
THE AMERICAN
LEGION
COLLEGE

VETERANS NEWS - ED AULMAN, SERVICE OFFICER

HEROES

Dorine Kenney whose son Jacob S. Fletcher was killed in Iraq, established the Jacob's Light Foundation in January 2004. Since then this Not-for-Profit organization has sent 86,500 pounds of items, letters and personally requested necessities to American Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. Her organization has also been cited in the Congressional Record. For information contact: www.jacobsprogram.org or 631-332-2867.

The Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind, Headquartered in Smithtown, NY has created a free program for service dogs for amputees from the War in Iraq/Afghanistan and other wars. CEO Wells Jones said the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind has been providing guide dogs, free of charge, to wounded Soldiers since it was founded in 1946. Contact 1-866-VETDOGS or www.guidedog.org/vetdogs.htm.

Fred S. Sganga, Executive Director Long Island State Veterans Home Stony Brook is a hero again for navigating the transfer of 30 Adult Day Care Slots from St. Albans to Stony Brook. This will enable the Suffolk-based Veterans Home to open a Day Care facility for veterans with Alzheimers in Nassau County.

Joel Girsky, President of Jaco Electronics who is hosting a big BBQ for our returning veterans this summer.

Air Traffic Controllers Disabled Vets Training

The VA's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment offices are accepting applications for Air Traffic Controller and technicians installing air traffic equipment. Disabled veterans should apply for Voc Rehab at the veterans Service Agency or by looking in to www.vetsuccess.gov.

Distinguished Service to Veterans Award

County Executive Thomas R. Suozzi will be presenting the Nassau County Distinguished Service to Veterans Medal on August 4, 2007 to Past American Legion County Commander Robert Tom Riordan; United Veterans Organization President LTC Joseph Reale (USA Ret.); Vietnam Veterans Association Chapter 82 President Carl Johnson; Jewish War Veterans Homeless Veterans Advocate Larry Sklar; and VFW Commander Frank Maltese. The medals will be presented at the Salute to Veterans Concert starring Gary Pucket and the USO Troupe of Metropolitan NY at the Harry Chapin Lakeside Theatre in Eisenhower Park at 6:45PM. Also planning to be at the Salute will be the Merchant Marine Academy cannon squad, The Classic Car Club of Metropolitan New York and the Long Island Military Vehicle Club.

GI Bill Gap

In some parts of this great land the \$38,000 GI Bill benefit for education will pay for a lot of college expense if not all. Living expenses, however are not covered as they were after World War II. On Long Island that \$38,000 will get the veteran about half way through Hofstra or Adelphi. To save money, some veterans will start their education at Nassau Community College. The GI Bill funds go a lot farther at Stony Brook University and SUNY Farmingdale as well.

Most veterans today are applying for the GI Bill on line directly to the VA, often while they are still on active duty. That is a good idea but don't forget to talk to a County Service Officer, because he or she can help you apply for extra money available from New York State and provide information about scholarships for veterans.

New York Career Fair

Military.com is sponsoring a Career Fair Tuesday, August 28, 2007 from 11:00 AM-3:00PM at the Radisson Martinique on Broadway Hotel 49 West 32nd Street, NY, NY 10001. To pre-register and get more information go to www.military.com/careerfairs, search New York Career Fair, select "Careers", select "August 28, 2007".

Burn Center Foundation

Friends of the Burn Center Foundation Committee will host a benefit on August 18, 2007 5-10PM at the Sunrise Detachment Marine Corps League Club House and Beer Garden 99 Iwo Jima Blvd (New York Ave.) Massapequa, NY. Golden Lancers Drum and Bugle Corps, Big Daddy's Cajun Style Cookout and DJ Chris Patti are featured. Call 516-314-8653 for tickets.

Veterans Employment Resource

USAJOBS is the official job site for the federal government and has a new section for veterans. For information go to www.usajobs.opm.gov.



PETER HOLOWECKI CHAIRED THE MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP HELD AT THE WILLISTON POST 144.

Convention Awards & Trophies

James T. Randle, Chairman

FINAL REPORT FOR 2006 - 2007

TWO PLAQUES WERE ORDERED FOR THE REHAB COMMITTEE- FRANK COLON CHMN

TWO FOR EDUCATION & SCHOLARSHIP HARRY RANSOM, CHAIRMAN

THREE FOR THE HISTORIAN ROGER EASTMAN, CHAIRMAN.

ALL PLAQUES WERE MADE BY "OLYMPIC AWARDS" 92 SOUTH LONG BEACH ROAD, ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY. TOTAL COST TWO HUNDERED NINETY FOUR DOLLARS.



PAST DEPARTMENT FANG WONG, OUR NEW STATE COMMANDER WILLIAM H. BARNET AND JR PAST STATE COMMANDER JIM CASEY ATTENDED THE WORKSHOP.



FANG WONG, OUR OWN NEWLY ELECTED DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER JOHN COOK & THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER PAY ATTENTION AS PETE SETS UP THE PROGRAM.



Homeless Vets stand-down at Hempstead Post. Agency help booths.

The vets get fed by volunteers.

there was plenty of food for all and we had a great turnout of volunteers. Thanks to all who helped make it a hugh success for our fellow veterans.



HAVE YOU VISITED THE VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PLAZA AT EISENHOWER PARK YET ?



1ST MARINE DIVISION



4TH MARINE DIVISION



77 TH INFANTRY



82ND AIRBORNE



AMERICAN LEGION
CARDINAL SPELLMAN



AMERICAN MERCHANT
MARINE



CATHOLIC WAR VETS



CHOSIN FEW



COUNTY EMPLOYEES
MEMORIAL



DISABLED VETS



DOCTORS - NURSES -
CORPSMEN



Eisenhowermem 1



GOLD STAR PARENTS



IWO JIMA SURVIVORS



JEWISH WAR VETS



JEWISH WAR VETS II



KOREAN WAR
MONUMENT



KOREAN WAR VETS



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE



MEDAL OF HONOR
RECIPIENTS



MIA-POW (BACK)



ORDER OF THE PURPLE
HEART



POLISH WAR VETS



SUB VETS STILL ON
PATROL



SUBMARINE VETS



TUSKEGEE AIRMEN



U.S. ARMED GUARD



VIET NAM



VIETNAM MONUMENT



VIETNAM VETS



VIETNAM VETS PLAQUE



VSTS MEMORIAL PARK
SIGN



WALLS OF HONOR



WW-II MONUMENT



NASSAU COUNTY LEGIONNAIRE
121 POWELL AVENUE
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11570

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MASSAPEQUA, N.Y. 11758
PERMIT #8

MEMBER

NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION
NEW YORK STATE LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION

25 Years at the Wall

The Vietnam Veterans of America is presenting the 25th Anniversary Parade in celebration of the construction of the Vietnam Memorial on Saturday, November 10, 2007. For participation in the parade contact 1-800-VVA-1316 x 151 for an application.

POW/MIA Candle Light Vigil

Nassau County Veterans Service Agency is presenting the annual POW/MIA Candle Light Vigil on Saturday, September 15, 2007 at 7:30PM at Veterans Plaza in Eisenhower Park.

NOTICE: DUE TO THE MID-WINTER CONFERENCE THE DATE FOR THE COUNTY ADVISORY AND THE COUNTY MEETING FOR JANUARY 2008 HAS BEEN MOVED FORWARD ONE WEEK TO JANUARY 15, ADVISORY & JANUARY 18TH FOR THE COUNTY MEETING.

DATES TO REMEMBER

2007

AUG	4	SAT	NASSAU COUNTY SALUTE TO VETERANS - EISENHOWER PARK 7 PM
	14	TUES	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - EDWIN WELCH JR POST 8 PM
	17	FRI	COUNTY MEETING - WILLISTON POST 144 WILLISTON 8 PM
	24-30		NATIONAL CONVENTION AT RENO NEVADA
SEPT	3	MON	LABOR DAY - FLY YOUR FLAG !
	13	13	ROSH HASHANAH
	15	SAT	NASAU COUNTY CANDLELIGHT VIGIL - EISENHOWER PARK 7:30 PM
	22	SAT	YOM KIPPUR
	25	TUES	NASSAU COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - EDWIN WELCH, JR. POST - SEAFORD 8 PM
	28	FRI	NASSAU COUNTY MEETING - WILLISTON POST 144 - 8 PM.
	29	SAT	JR PAST COMMANDERS DINNER - SEE BELOW.
OCT	8	MON	COLUMBUS DAY - FLY YOUR FLAG!
	23	TUES	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - EDWIN WELCH, JR POST SEAFORD 8 PM
	26	FRI	COUNTY MEETING AT WILLISTON POST 144 - 8 PM
	31	WED	HALLOWEEN - WATCH OUT FOR THE CHILDREN.

JR PAST COUNTY COMMANDER'S DINNER
REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

We are setting up a dinner to honor our Junior Past County Commander Robert Reahl. The dinner will be held on September 29, 2007 starting at 7:00 P.M. at the Williston Post #144, 730 Willis Ave. Williston Park, NY. There will be an open bar, roast turkey dinner with dessert. The program will start at 7:30 and dinner will be served at approximate 8:15 P.M. A letter will be coming out this coming week and the cost of the tickets will be announced in that letter. Let's show our Past Commander that he did a good job and attend this function.