



# Nassau County Legionnaire



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## Commander's Report

Well we started off the month by taking a trip to Albany and visiting a number of Nassau Legislators to push for some key legislation that supports veterans. Speaking of legislation, all Posts should be writing their Legislators and ask them to support State Senate Bill S-1628, this bill will include veteran's Posts with libraries and fire departments so that we can be considered for State funding to rehabilitate the Post buildings, apparently there is a \$385 million pot of money available for this purpose but we can't apply unless the bill gets passed.

We attended the United Veterans Organization Installation dinner at the Seaford Post. The staff & I were invited and attended the County Auxiliary meeting at the Robert Van Cott Post. We assisted the Malverne Post's St. Patrick's Day lunch for the St. Albans VA veterans who enjoyed the day out and entertainment at the Post.

Law & Order Chairman Ron Sabo and I attended the Manhasset, Malverne, and Howard Van Wagner Post Law & Order night ceremonies, all were done up very nicely. In encourage ALL Posts to consider taking on this activity to recognize for the outstanding work done by our emergency responders, it is not that difficult or expensive, contact Ron Sabo if you are interested in doing one. Vice Commander Guarneri, PCC Grande and I visited the Island Park Post #1039 and they made a sizeable donation to the LI Veteran's Home so they could buy a swallowing machine - way to go!

We attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division and 1<sup>st</sup> Division Caucus' and congratulate those Posts that DID attend these meetings; unfortunately the number of no shows far exceeded those in attendance. Remember, this is your organization, it is run by and

for you, if you don't make an effort to attend these functions you are giving up your right to say who and how the organization runs. The next major event is the County Convention in June, remember to send in your delegate & alternates list and then attend.

The Department Headquarters has asked all Counties to gather information to assist the Homeland Security Committee in developing a database to assist during time of disaster. The County will be sending out a questionnaire so that we can consolidate the information and forward it to Department, please complete and return it as soon as you receive it.

Before closing, All Commanders - PLEASE get your Membership Officers and reach out to those members who have not paid their dues yet. A letter, phone call or visit (or all 3) to those who are tardy must be your next step. If they don't want to renew ask them WHY, maybe it is something simple that can be addressed to get them back. A majority of the Posts in Nassau County are making a meteoric run to be the worst in the State, we slid back from 46<sup>th</sup> place to 50<sup>th</sup> place out of 62 Counties in the State. Only 4 Posts (7%) have reached the required 95% renewal mark - we are doing a disservice to veterans if we don't get them to renew.

For God, Country and the American Legion.

Commander John J. Hassett

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## NATIONAL CEMETERY REPORT

Bill Harms, PCC

WE HAVE A NEW DIRECTOR AT L.I. NATIONAL CEMETERY RODERICK "TONY" THOMAS, HE WAS HERE BEFORE AS AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR.

DURING THE CONVERSATION WITH HIM HE INFORMED US THAT THEY ARE CONSIDERING COLUMBARIUMS FOR THE ASHES OF VETERANS AND SPOUSES AT ST. ALBANS. WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS PROJECT BUT WE WILL INFORM YOU AS WE GET THE UPDATED INFORMATION.

## TROOP/FAMILY SUPPORT

Reginald Butt, Jr., PCC

I received a call from a Massapequa Park woman who works at the Carman's Road BOCES. The kids collected items for the troops but could not afford to send them,. She had three (3) boxes which I meet her and took the boxes and shipped them out the next day. I told her if she has any more or needs help to give me a call.

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### BOYS STATE PROGRAM

REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

This Year's Boys State will run from 26 June 2015 (Friday) until 02 July 2015 (Thursday) at SUNY Morrisville. The Friday start is due to July 4<sup>th</sup> falling on Saturday making the holiday to be observed on Thursday 3 July. The cost of Boys State is set at \$450.00. A letter has been sent to each Post Commander and hopefully it has been given to the Post Boys State Chairman. The letter gives information on Boys State and contains an enclosure to be given to the boy(s) selected by the post to attend Boys State. This enclosure tells them how to get on the internet and what must be done in the application process. The completed application must be in my hands by 15 April 2015. If any candidate has trouble with the online process they should call me immediately. The Posts should forward the Boys State fee(s) to me ASAP. Remember, you must interview the boy(s) and if you need help please contact me. I have received checks covering 27 boys and promises for another 20 boys. Nassau County has been assigned a goal of 50 boys. If you cannot sponsor a boy consider making a donation which can be used to sponsor additional boy(s).

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WILLISTON POST 144

BLOOD DRIVE

TUESDAY MAY 12

TIME 2 - 8

ALL LEGIONNAIRE FAMILY WELCOME

COUNTY POST NEAR WILLISTON POST

CARLE PLACE

MANHASSET

MINEOLA MEMORIAL

FLORAL PARK

NEW HYDE PARK ERNIE PYLE

## GRAVE FLAGGING PATCHES

We wish to thank the following posts and individuals for their kind donation to pay for the patches given to the children and others for the flagging of 287,000 graves at L.I. National Cemetery in Farmingdale. Each year we appeal to you for donations to help pay for them. The cost is \$2,050.00.

Baldwin Post 246

Rockville Centre

Charles Wagner

1st Marine Assn

Malverne Auxiliary

Joseph Reale, PCC

James Randle

DAV (Nassau/Suffolk)

AMVETS

Cpl. G Benicert, Jr VFW

Merrick Post 1282

Aviators Post

Quentin Rosevelt

Robt F. Garrison VFW

Plainview Post 1812

Lynbrook Post

Carl Place Post

Western Nassau MCL

Dr. Carol Hassett

Nassau County A.L.

Polish Legion A.Vets

Sunrise Det. MCL

East Meadow Post

Williston Post 144

Nassau 40/8

Joe Oliveri

Malverne Post 44

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### CELL PHONE COLLECTION PROGRAM

REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

Received a check for \$47.00 from the recycling center and I have asked the Treasurer to split it between the NEF and Legacy Memorial Scholarship funds, \$23.50 each. At present I have 21 cell phones plus whatever I pick up tonight. We must have 50 cell phones before we can ship, with the recycling center supplying the shipping for UPS.

The recycling program has expanded and it now includes these items:

cell phones

iPods and MP3 Players

handheld game systems

GPS handheld units

cell phone accessories

laptop computers

E-readers

portable hard drives

Keep collecting any of the above, bring them to the County meeting or if you have a large amount call me to arrange a drop off or pick up.

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### MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

DON'T TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT YOUR DELINQUENT MEMBER EVER RECEIVE HIS DUES RENEWAL NOTICE - CALL THEM TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE AWARE!

## HILL DAY IN ALBANY MARCH 1-3, 2015



Nassau Delegates visit the Assembly on Hill Day. (L-R) Bill Ost, John Hassett, Angelo Grande, Steve McManus, Ken Cadieux, Chairman of Veterans Committee Michael Den Decker. (Front) Andy Booth and Assemble woman Michelle Schimel.



Nassau Team saves a place for Ken Cadieux who is taking the picture



Nassau Delegation with Assemblyman Saladino



Nassau Team and Auxiliary Members with Assemblymen in the Plaza.



Nassau Delegation with Assemblyman McDonough

All the Nassau Legislators Offices were Visited and the Nassau Delegation was escorted on to the Senate Floor and Photographed with our Nassau Senators.

Many topics were covered among which were: School Taxes, The gap in the Cold War Vets coverage, The creation of State Veterans Cemeteries, Support for the treatment of PTSD and TBI Veterans by the use of Hyperbaric Chamber Treatment.

It was a very productive Hill Day !

## PROTOCOL COMMITTEE

REGINALD BUTT, JR., CHAIRMAN

This has been presented before but I feel it should be presented again.

### FLAG ETIQUETTE:

Our Nations Colors are one of the most revered symbols for Legionnaires. We must pay proper respect to the Flag whenever it is encountered. As we approach the Flag or as it approaches us, it is appropriate to render a salute. If under cover (wearing the Legion Cap), a hand salute is given. If not wearing the Legion Cap, recognize the Flag by placing the right hand over the heart. The following are general guidelines.

When observing parades, there are often several units carrying our Nations Colors. As the Flag approaches (approximately 20-30 feet away) render the appropriate salute, holding the salute until the Colors pass. When participating in a parade, as the marching unit approaches stationary Colors, the unit leader should call "eyes right" or "eyes left" (according to the flag location) and order a hand salute until the unit passes the Colors.

At outdoor American Legion functions where the Colors are flying, a hand salute is rendered at the beginning and conclusion of the function. A hand salute is rendered during the hoisting and lowering of Colors, as applicable.

During indoor functions, when our Nation's Colors are to be posted, a hand salute is ordered by the Master of Ceremonies while the Colors are being posted at the beginning of the function and when they are retired at the end of the function. During indoor functions while the Colors are already posted, Legionnaires should render an appropriate salute when exiting and re-entering the meeting room. This should be done at the center of the room or, if that is not practical, at the point closest to the exit while still in view of the flag. Travel to and from the head table should be done around the end opposite the Nation's Colors. This is important for those called to the podium, to speak or to receive awards or recognition. Never pass between the Colors and the Commanders station.

## Membership Report

Welcome to Spring, As I stated in last month's report the following post still have not submitted any transmittals, some since September of 2014. The list of post with no transmittals in at least few months are listed below.

Also now we have a PUFL issue. Remember you received a check from Albany for those members who are PUFLs, and you are required to send \$1.50 per PUFL to Nassau County American Legion. Again this list has been update on March 25, 2014. If you sent in a transmittal, it takes about 2 weeks to post. Remember just because you mailed it in to the State does not mean it was entered. This month's list with the last transmittal date are as follows:

J. Franklin Bell 12/09/2014,  
Island Park 10/24/2014,  
Bellmore 12/05/2014,  
Lawrence- Cedarhurst 10/17/2014,  
Roosevelt Memorial NO TRANSMITTALS.  
Franklin Square 09/01/2014,  
James F Brengel 12/09/2014,  
Mineola 12/01/2014,  
Plainview 12/22/2014,  
New Cassel Memorial 11/18/2014,  
Glen Cove 09/09/2014,  
Archie McCord 11/06/2014.

*POST COMMANDERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP*

Let's get the membership renewals in. Remember if I don't have the copy of your post's transmittals I cannot call Department and find out why your numbers are not changing.

Joseph Brunner  
Membership Officer

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## AWARDS

OUR OWN JAMES RANDLE TOOK A SECOND PLACE AWARD FROM DEPARTMENT AND A FIRST PLACE FOR HIS 10TH DISTRICT HISTORY BOOK. CAHRLES G. MILLS ALSO WON A FIRST PLACE PLAQUE FOR HIS POST HISTORY BOOK.

## REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Mary Norris, Co-Chair

### Recap of “Day at the Races”

For March, we test drove one of the new State Horse Racing Association DVDs. As there was no “starting line-up list” at the beginning of each race, the Race Sheets had a few minor mistakes. However, all patients went away having had a great afternoon, enjoyed the snack, a bag of chips and received a comfort bag.

We want to thank Westbury Post #101 and Commander & Mrs. Wirth for bringing out the personal care items, Books, playing cards, and Puzzles that will be turned over to Kenney Cadieux. A large quantity of crotched lap blankets were also handed out. A certificate will be mailed to Post 101 so that they may present it to Ms. Rose. I’ve been informed she is legally blind and crotched all of the blankets.

We also want to recognize the Explorer’s Post 577 for all their assistance with bringing the patients to and from our activity and helping serve refreshments.

For the month of April’s “Day at the Races” which as is the 11th of the month, the following Post are on the schedule to come out to building 92, Northport at 1:30pm:

### Team #8

Aviators #743

Howard Van Wagner # 962

James F. Brengel # 456

Baldwin # 1051

North Bellmore # 1749

Oceanside Memorial # 1246

Roosevelt Memorial

Any Post who hasn’t come out when scheduled this year, you’re invited to help out at our last opportunity being the 9th of May. Postcards to be mailed to ALL Post as reminders for these last two months.

We ask that Post Commanders to check the Monthly “Legionnaire” Newsletter and review the monthly schedule for their Post’s scheduled date out at Building 92.

As always, to help off-set operating costs, Posts are asked to bring a \$50 check with them on. If a Post is not able to attend, send a check for \$100 to the County, made out to Nassau County American Legion and on memo line mark “Rehab/Day at the Races”.

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PLEASE REMEMBER TO COLLECT ITEMS FOR THE VETERANS “GOODY BAGS” THAT WE GIVE EVERYONE AT THE DAY AT THE RACES. WE ARE SHORT ON THE ITEMS WE NEED. WE ARE ALSO COLLECTING ITEMS FOR THE JULY HOMELESS VETERANS STANDDOWN. LIGHTLY USED OR NEW CLOTHES AND SHOES OR SNEAKERS. LOOK IN YOUR CLOSETS AND FIND THAT SHIRT OR PAIR OF PANTS OR BELT OR ITEM YOU RECEIVED FOR THE HOLIDAYS THAT YOU CAN’T WEAR. TOYS FOR THIR KIDS, GAMES, PUZZLES, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ALL ARE NEEDED.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Ken, the members of the Post feel that we are not getting the recognition we deserve for the work that we have been doing, and have done over the past several years. More than likely this is because I/we don't get you the information you need in a timely manner. I am positive it is not because we are a very small Post situated at the bottom of Nassau County in the middle of the water where you have to have a specific reason to find us because we are "off the main road" on the way from Oceanside to Long Beach. We were even forgotten by the media during Hurricane Sandy because they didn't know that we existed.

That being said, following is a list of the things that we have done over the past several years for which we think we deserve some sort of recognition within the our great organization:

For the past 50 + years we have hosted the vets from Northport and St.Albans VA hospitals for an annual Luncheon complete with homemade food, music and entertainment, games and the like. If there is any food remaining it is loaded on the bus to take back to those men & women who could not attend.

For the past three years we have donated \$7,500.00 per year, for three scholarships, to the Jimi Gubeli Foundation. This is a local foundation established in memory of Jimi Gubeli, the son of one of our members.

We donated \$18,000.00 to Vet Dogs to sponsor three dogs for deserving Vets.

We have supported Boys State every year, whether or not we had a boy of our own.

We have donated two buses to the DVA for the transport of our Veterans to and from the hospital and doctors appointments. Approximately \$80,000.00

This past year alone we have donated \$25,000.00 each to the DVA, the Nassau County American Legion and the American Legion, Department of New York. These donations were made with no strings attached save for the fact that we wanted the money to go directly to the aid of deserving Vets.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR (cont)

We are also making a donation to the L.I. State Veterans Home.

And lastly, it is our intention to donate \$25,000 to the National Commander, at the dinner in his

We are not looking for a pat on the back, or a plaque, or the like, only for our work to be acknowledged and recognized by our own members honor.

Annually, for over 60 years, the Post has organized and officiated at the Memorial Day Parade held in our Village, the Village of Island Park, and it has been my pleasure to be personally involved, for at least the past 15 years, in organizing and Emceeing this event

John F. Marino, Finance Officer  
& Past Post Commander  
Island Park American Legion Post 1029

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## COUNTY HISTORIAN

JAMES T. RANDLE

THE END OF THE LEGION YEAR IS FAST APPROACHING AND THAT MEANS THAT IT IS TIME TO HAVE YOUR POST HISTORY BOOK OR POST NARRATIVE FINISHED.

TO POST COMMANDERS AND DELEGATES GO BACK TO YOUR POST HISTORIAN GIVE THEM MY PHONE NUMBER 516 270-3876. I NEED TO KNOW IF HE OR SHE WILL BE DOING A POST BOOK THIS YEAR. THE HISTORY BOOK OR POST NARRATIVE BECAUSE IT HAS TO BE IN BY THE MAY COUNTY MEETING ON MAY 22 2015 YOUR POST BOOK WILL BE JUDGED AND AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN OUT AT THE NASSAU COUNTY CONVENTION JUNE 5 6.

THE ONLY HISTPRIANS I HAVE LISTED FROM POSTS ARE:

JAMES T. RANDLE -WILLISTON POST 144  
CURT SKEETE - UNIONDALE POST 1487  
CHUCK ULRICH - N H PARK E PYLE POST 1089  
ANTHONY E. MEROLLE - E MEADOW POST  
SAM ZAKIAN - CARLE PLACE POST  
1718  
EUGENE E. LOWENBERG - MERRICK 1282

**REHAB REPORT**

Mary Norris, Co-Chair

**Team #8 - April 12, 2015**

AVIATORS # 743  
HOWARD VAN WAGNER #962  
JAMES F. BRENGEL # 456  
NORTH BELLMORE POST  
OCEANSIDE MEMORIAL # 1246  
ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL # 1051

**Team # 9 – May 9, 2015**

CARLE PLACE # 1718  
CHARLES A. FOWLER # 160  
EDWIN WELCH, JR. # 1132  
J. FRANKLIN BELL #81  
LAWRENCE/CEDARHURST #339

IF YOUR POST CAN NOT MAKE YOUR SCHEDULED DATE, CONTACT CO-CHAIRPERSON MARY NORRIS AT CELL # 287-3569 OR # 740-7422. ALSO, PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A \$50 CHECK TO OFF-SET OPERATING COST. IF NOT ATTENDING, SEND A CHECK FOR \$100 TO COUNTY.

**ITEMS NEEDED FOR REHAB & VETS**

**CLOTHING**

SOX  
T-SHIRTS  
HATS  
COATS  
SWEATERS  
GLOVES  
PANTS  
JACKETS  
UNDERWEAR

**HEALTH**

TOOTH PASTE  
TOOTH BRUSHES  
SHAVE CREAM  
RAZORS  
FLOSS  
CHAP STICK  
SUNTAN LOTION  
COMBS  
CREAM RINSE  
BODY LOTIONS  
BABY WIPES  
FEMALE ITEMS

**WRITING**

PENS  
PENCILS  
PADS  
LETTER PAPER  
GREETING CARDS  
ENVELOPES  
STAMPS(NEW)

**MISC**

PLAYING CARDS  
GAMES  
PUZZLES  
PUZZLE BOOKS  
TABS  
EYE GLASSES  
HEARING AIDS  
MUSIC TAPES  
CD's  
DVD MOVIES  
BATTERIES

PHONE CARDS

**ITEMS FOR FAMILY SUPPORT (FAMILIES OF TROOPS OVERSEAS)**

NON PERISHABLE FOODS  
TOYS CHILDRENS CLOTHES  
GAMES SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

PLUS ANY OF THE ITEMS LISTED ABOVE. WE ALSO SUPPLY SEVERAL VETERANS HOUSES, SEVERAL HOMELESS VETERANS SHELTERS, VETERANS AT THE HOLLY PATERSON HOME AND THRU BEACON HOUSE WE GET HOUSEHOLD ITEMS FOR OUR VETERANS. NEED MORE INFO ? CALL FRANK COLON.



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



**OR CURRENT RESIDENT**

### DATES TO REMEMBER

APR	5	HAPPY EASTER TO ALL !		
	11	ORATORICAL QUARTER & SEMI FINALS INDIANAPOLIS		
	12	NATIONAL FINALS - INDIANAPOLIS		
	17	NATIONAL COMMANDERS VISIT/DINNER ANTONS QUEENS	7:00 PM	
		TICKETS \$65.00 P.P.		
24		COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - MALVERNE POST	7:30 PM	
		COUNTY MEETING (10TH DISTRICT VISITATION)	8:00 PM	
MAY	10	MOTHERS DAY - REMEMBER MOM !		
	16	ARMED FORCES DAY - FLY YOUR FLAG !		
	22		COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - MALVERNE POST	7:30 PM
			COUNTY MEETING (10TH DISTRICT VISITATION)	8:00 PM
	24	MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES AT EISENHOWER PARK	10:30 AM	
	24	MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES AT LONG ISLAND NATIONAL CEMETERY IN FARMINGDALE	2:00 PM	
31	NURSES TRAINING BALL - MALVERNE POST 44	1:00 PM		
JUNE	5	NASSAU COUNTY CONVENTION LEVITTOWN HALL	8:00 PM	
	6	COUNTY CONVENTION - ELECTION OF OFFICERS	8:00 AM	