



Nassau County Legionnaire



Volume 89

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No. 7

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Commander's Message

I hope you all had a happy and healthy holiday. On Saturday, November 23rd I attended a meeting on the National Commander's Dinner meeting at the New City Post with Steve McManus, County Treasurer. We received tickets for ten tables. The dinner for the National Commander will be held at Antun's Restaurant in Middle Village, NY, on Friday, April 11th. Steve McManus our County Treasurer will be sending out a mailing in January with further details. On Monday, November 25th I went out to the Northport VA to help the American Legion Auxiliary wrap gifts for the veterans and on Tuesday, November 26th I attended the Winter Stand Down at the Freeport Armory. On Saturday, November 30th I attended the "Adopt a Soldier" program conducted at the Glen Cove Library, by the Children's Librarian, Anna Dunlop. The students from the Glen Cove area wrap gifts that are sent to the military overseas. On December 2nd I attended an Oratorical Contest held at the Levittown Post, on Wednesday, December 4th at the Malverne Post and on Friday, December 6th I attended another Oratorical Contest at the Elmont Post. On Sunday, December 8th I attended a meeting of the Lawrence/Cedarhurst Post. On Wednesday, December 11th I attended a ceremony at the ROC Fitness Center in East Rockaway. At this ceremony Chris Levy, a veteran who lost both legs while in combat in Iraq, was given a high tech wheelchair. The ROC Fitness Center in East Rockaway raised \$14,000 to purchase the wheelchair. On Thursday, December 12th I attended the 90th Anniversary of the American Legion Auxiliary which was held at the County Executive Building in Mineola. On Tuesday, December 17th I appeared on LIU Post radio station. The program was called Senior Moments and dealt with what older people do in their retirement. I spoke about my role as the Nassau County American Legion Commander. On Wednesday, December 18th I attended a press conference at the VFW Post in Albertson. Congressman Steve Israel and the Korean Ambassador gave out forty medals to , who were involved in the Korean War.

We have a number of important activities that I would like to bring to your attention. At 7 pm on Friday January 3rd we will be having the finals of the Nassau County American Legion Oratorical Contest. In early January our County Treasurer and Chairman of the National Commander's Dinner, Steve McManus will be sending out information about the Dinner. Just make a note that the dinner will be held on Friday, April 11th at Antun's. On January 15th I will be speaking at the Glen Head/Glenwood Landing Business Association. The topic for my presentation will be: What is the American Legion and how it helps our returning Vets. I will also be attending the Mid-Winter Conference of the American Legion at the Desmond in Albany from January 24th to the 26th. On February 2nd we will be holding the Four Chaplains' Ceremony at the Church of St. Mary, 110 Bryant Avenue, Roslyn Harbor, NY. The ceremony will begin at 2 PM. Our Chaplain, Ralph Casey will be sending out further information in the beginning of January.

Angelo I. Grande, Commander

1st Division

Good Evening My Fellow Legionaries,

I hope everyone had a great holiday. As of this month's meeting I still have some County Directory books, if you have not received your books please let me know. I had some issues trying to get ahold of some of the posts so I put the directories in your post's mailbox. We need more of the first division to attend the county meetings since the outcome has been a light for this division. Also, please contact your elected officials and let them know how you feel about the "attack" on veteran's retirement being cut. I cannot believe we would pay another 50 Million dollars for a transportation HUB in Maryland that is over budget by 200 million dollars and has been under construction for the past 17 years. Please get on top of your members to get their membership in or they will be faced with the increase that is due to go in effect on January 1, 2014. With that said, I hope everyone will have a healthy and prosperous new year. Have a great New Year.

Joseph Brunner, 1st Division Vice Commander

3rd Division Report Activities / Participation:

Post Commanders in 3rd Division who have good connections with their local High Schools are invited to identify High School Sophomores or Juniors who want to create a Filmed Interview of a WWII Vet in their Family or the Post. We will submit a letter for Participating Students (the entire Production Team) to their Church and School supporting their Filmed Interview as Community Service Hours. Also for each Interview the Interviewer and principle Film Maker will be presented a Certificate accepting their work into the "Liberator Series" founded by Kirsten Mohammed. Students participation in the "Liberator Series" could be included in their College Application.

During December, 3rd Division Post Visitations will continue. If you have not had your Post's Visitation confirmed for December thru February please contact 3rd Div. Adjutant, Willibe Wilson Jr. (676-1263).

Fred Nielsen, Vice Commander

Chaplains Report

"Save the Day"
Four Chaplains Ceremony
February 2nd 2014 2 pm
St Mary's Catholic Church
110 Bryant Ave
Roslyn NY 11576

"Come Support The County"

Chaplain, Ralph R Casey

Americanism:

For this Americanism Year, I am introducing the Commander's "Patriot Award", the County Americanism Award to be presented at the County Level. Post Commanders and Americanism Chairmen, I need your Contact Information. Please email me at brother2fredn47@hotmail.com or Div. Adjutant Willibe Wilson Jr., at wilpluspea@gmail.com.

County Membership Report

This Is an important reminder to all post commanders and membership officers in all posts.

When you send in your next transmittals, be sure that \$5.00 is added for each dues paid.

Effective Jan. 1st, 2014 dues go up \$5.00 for each member not paid for 2014.

Congratulations to Victor Murtha Post 972, Joe Murphy Post 1957, and Mineola Memorial Post 349 for reaching 100% for 2014, good job guys County membership is at 77.24% with 119 new members. with Massapequa Post 1066 leading the way with 14 new members. Our goal for Jan. 10, 2014 is 80% , 26 posts have reached that already. To the other 28 post its time to send out letters. make phone calls let get our membership in . Our goal is 100% for 2014. Membership is the life blood of our organization

Frank Neal

Nassau County Membership Officer

Children & Youth:

We would like to Thank Hempstead Post #390 as the second Post to send in an early Check supporting our 2014 "Spring Fling". Your timeliness is greatly appreciated.

Willibe and I have begun our initial work to identify the location of our 2014 "Spring Fling" for the Children of SRO Family Services. Watch in this Legionnaire Space for further developments.

BOYS STATE PROGRAM

REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

This Year's Boys State will run from 27 June 2014 (Friday) until 03 July 2014 (Thursday). The Friday start is due to the Regents Exams being given up till the 25th of June, school ends on 27 June. I have booked the two buses (two – one way trips) with an increase this year of only \$25 each trip. The cost of Boys State will be set at the Mid-Winter Conference but I feel there will be an increase. If no increase is passed the fee will be \$450.00 but I will hold that until after the Mid-Winter Conference. The Post Chairman should be contacting the schools and setting up interviews, then, once we have the okay to proceed they will be ready to complete the application process.

New Property Tax Exemption for Veterans.

Date: Thursday, January 02, 2014 12:01 PM

1919-2014

To All:

I just received from Higher-up's at town hall, information in regards to Veterans Property Tax Exemption.

It seems, that the Governor signed into law, that Veteran's are now eligible for Property Tax Exemption for School Tax's.

For the VETERANS PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION for School Tax, it must be APPROVED by the Local School Boards, and then it takes effect.

If you hear any veterans asking about it, tell them to contact there local School Boards, Each School Board must approve the exemption.

The bill number S1199 and was combined with A565; was signed into law on Dec 18 2013.

Regards,
Richard G. Gales Jr.

Town of Hempstead Veterans Councilor
Hempstead Town Hall
1 Washington Ave
Hempstead NY 11550 (516) 812-3506
(516) 393-0085 (Fax) RGales@ToHmail.org



SURVEY MAN

WHY ARE SO MANY
POSTS NOT REPRESENTED
AT COUNTY MEETINGS ?

WHY DO POSTS APPOINT
REPRESENTATIVES WHO
DO NOT ATTEND MEETINGS ?

WHY IS IT THAT THEIR ARE MORE VETERANS
AVAILABLE TO JOIN THE AMERICAN LEGION
BUT WE ARE UNABLE TO MAKE OUR QUOTA ?

WHY ARE THER SO FEW WOMEN VETERANS
IN THE LEGION, DO WE ASK THEM TO JOIN?

WHY DON'T WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?

NASSAU COUNTY AMERICAN

LEGION

SIXTH ANNUAL

MILITARY BALL

POST COMMANDER'S NIGHT

LEONARD'S "LA DOLCE VITA"

555 Northern Boulevard

Great Neck, New York 11021

Saturday, February 22, 2014

Cocktails 12:00 PM * Dinner 1:00 PM

Donation \$67.00 - Per Person

Cut-off Date is February 1, 2014

Frank Colon Jr., PCC

MIL/BALL, CMDR's Night, Chairman

CELL PHONE COLLECTION PROGRAM

REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

I received a check for our last shipment, it was for \$82.35. The check has been forwarded to the County Treasurer. I have asked that the check be split between the NEF and the Legacy Memorial Scholarship Funds. I have approximate 30 cell phones, shipment cannot be made until there is at least 50 cell phones.

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.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION

REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

At the beginning of December I received an E-mail from Barbara Kerr, Department Secretary, which forwarded a request from National Headquarters. The Washington Office had received an inquiry if the Legion provided flags for classroom. The school located in Nassau County was a BOCES school in Westbury. I contact the individual to find out what was needed. It seems they had 35 classrooms without flags and the students wanted to say the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of each session. I checked with the County Commander and it was decided to purchase the flags for the school. The school was the Joseph M. Barry Career & Technical Education Center. I ordered 35 classroom sets and when they came in they were delivered to the school. I talked with a teacher and a couple of the students and explained how and why they should be placed in the classroom. I received a nice letter of THANKS, which I will read at the January meeting. The total cost of this good will was \$223.45.

Membership and DMS Program:

The 2014 traditional membership goal is 2,001,806. Membership as of the Dec. 9 membership report is 1,541,211 which is 77 percent of the 2014 membership goal.

DMS Program 2014:

We have currently mailed 402,000 to under-represented veterans asking them to join The American Legion. These were mailed in October. The second traditional DMS mailing began in November when nearly 1.9 million packages were mailed out.

DMS Acquires: 23,169 prospects, 46,943 expires, 70,112 total 2014 Goal - 101,500 (69.1 percent of goal)

Temporary Financial Assistance:

Americanism staff has processed 1,275 applications for Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) during 2013. As of Dec. 10, more than \$1 million (\$1,027,902) has been granted to assist 2,174 minor children of eligible veterans maintain basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter and utilities through the TFA program.

NATIONAL NEWS

BOY SCOUTS

Americanism Division staff is working on a presentation for Boy Scouts of America in which The American Legion will attempt to become the first organization whose programs would be recognized as qualifying criteria toward earning Scouting merit badges.

The Public Speaking badge would correspond with The American Legion High School Oratorical Contests. The Rifle Shooting badge would correspond with The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program. The Citizenship in the Nation badge could correspond with Boys State/Nation. The Law badge may correspond with Junior Law Cadet.

The American Legion will submit this packet to the Boy Scouts in January.

Operation Comfort Warriors

(OCW) staff is partnering with the Blue Star Moms of San Diego to assist wounded warriors at the Naval Medical Center Warrior Transition Battalion in San Diego with a Christmas dinner on Dec. 18. OCW will be providing turkey dinners with all the trimmings and an assortment of pies for dessert. The dinner is in honor of those servicemembers who are recovering from injuries or illnesses sustained while protecting America.

NOTICE NURSE'S TRAINING BALL

THE FORTY & EIGHT NURSES TRAINING BALL IS SLATED FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2014 AT THE MALVERNE POST FROM 1-5 PM. WE WILL BE GIVING SCHOLARSHIPS TO FIVE (5) NURSING STUDENTS.

WE HAVE STARTED A NEW PROGRAM FOR ANY POST WHO WISHES TO SPONSOR A NURSING STUDENT FOR A SCHOLARSHIP. IF YOUR POST WISHES MORE INFORMATION CALL FRANK COLON AT 435-7066.

FIRST PREFERENCE IS ALWAYS GIVEN TO AMERICAN LEGION AND 40/8 FAMILIES

COUNTY REHABILITATION PROGRAM

POST TEAMS SCHEDULE 2013 - 2014

TEAM # 5: JANUARY 11, 2014

LAWRENCE/CEDARHURST #339
NEW CASSEL MEMORIAL #1861
WILLIAM J. LONGUET # 101
BALDWIN #246
WILLIAM CLINTON STORY # 342

TEAM #6: FEBRUARY 8, 2014

YOUNG SIMMONS #1765
NORTH BELLMORE POST #1749
CATHEDRAL POST #1087
ROCKVILLE CENTRE #303
MANHASSET #304
AVIATORS # 743

TEAM # 7: MARCH 8, 2014

NEW HYDE PARK ERNIE PYLE #1089
ANDREW FATSCHER # 854
LYNBROOK # 335
JAMES F. BRENGEL # 456
CHARLES A. FOWLER # 160
WILLISTON # 144

TEAM # 8: APRIL 12, 2014

MINEOLA MEMORIAL # 349
LEVITTOWN #1711
FRANKLIN SQUARE # 1014
BELLMORE # 94
VICTOR MURTHA # 972
EUGENE S. SMITH # 175

CHAPLAINS REPORT

WE HAVE LOST A GOOD SUPPORTER OF OUR VETERANS PROGRAMS WITH THE PASSING OF JOSEPH PASCARELLA, THE DIRECTOR OF THE NASSAU COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY AND OUR COUNTY SERVICE OFFICER. OUR CONDOLENCES GO OUT TO HIS FAMILY.

REHABILITATION - STATUS UPDATE

FROM: Mary Norris, Co-Chair

Recap of "Day at the Races" held at Building 92, Northport - December 14, 2013 - Cancelled due to inclement weather.

Post were contacted about the cancelation and encourage to come out another 2nd Saturday between January and May 2014.

Post #449 (Hugh C. Newman)*** Cdr. Phil Strehl has rescheduled for March 8th 2014

Because the American Legion couldn't make the trip, Chris Egor, the on Staff Recreation Counselor asked to take \$50 of our coupon books; these books contain 50 cents worth of coupons that are handed out as prizes to patients during the normally scheduled Saturday "Day at the Races" to be used at the canteen. Patients spent the afternoon play Bingo Go.

The next date for Nassau County American Legion "Day at the Races" is Saturday, the 11th of January. The following Post are reminded their on schedule at building 92, Northport at 1:30pm:

Team #5 (see List inside back page)

A reminder phone call will be made to each Post the Wednesday before Saturday the 11th. Please bring a \$50 check to off-set operating cost with you on the 11th of January. If Post is not attending, send a check for \$100 to County. Checks are to be made out to Nassau County American Legion and on memo line mark "Rehab/Day at the Races."

Mary Colon, the wife of Chairperson Frank Colon. Mary purchased pink robs for the 7 female residence of Building 92. Commander Basacchi of Post 421 and Mary Norris delivered the robs to Chris Egor on Saturday the 21st of December, to hand out to the seven female residence.

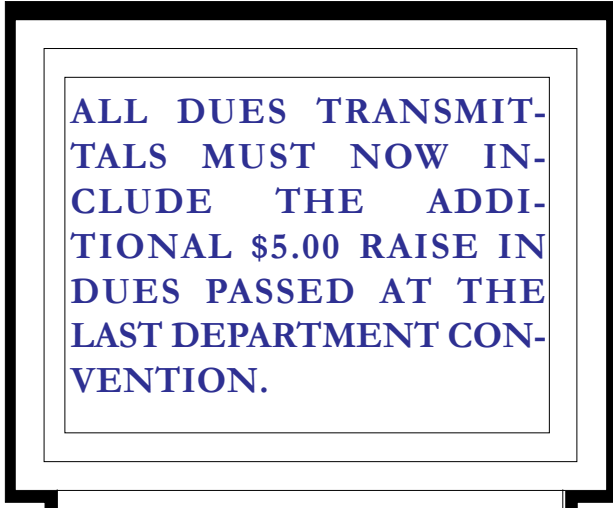
Also a special thanks to Chaplain Ted Lukasik for helping Frank Colon and Ken Cadieux fill extra bags for the residence of Building 92.

In the bags that residence receive during the January visit, County is also including knit caps and gloves.

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



ALL DUES TRANSMITTALS MUST NOW INCLUDE THE ADDITIONAL \$5.00 RAISE IN DUES PASSED AT THE LAST DEPARTMENT CONVENTION.



MEMBERSHIP



OR CURRENT RESIDENT

DATES TO REMEMBER - 2014

JANUARY 2014

1	HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!	
24-26	MID WINTER CONFERENCE - ALBANY	
31	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - PLAINVIEW POST	7:15 PM
	COUNTY MEETING	8:00 PM

FEBRUARY

2	FOUR CHAPLIANS CEREMONY - (SEE INFORMATION ON PAGE 2)	2:00 PM
22	MILITAR BALL/POST COMMANDERS NIGHT - LEONARDS GREAT NECK	1 - 5 PM
28	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - PLAINVIEW POST	7:15 PM
	COUNTY MEETING	8:00 PM

MARCH

2	40/8 NURSES TRAINING BALL - MALVERNE POST	1 - 5 PM
17-18	HILL DAY IN ALBANY	
28	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - PLAINVIEW POST 7:00 PM	7:15 PM
	COUNTY MEETING - (10TH DISTRICT VISITATION) 8:00 PM	8:00 PM

APRIL

11	NATIONAL COMMANDERS VISIT/DINNER ANTUN'S RESTURANT	8:00 PM
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SCAM NOTICE

Veterans all over the country are being called by a company posing as the VA. Company representatives are informing veterans that the pharmacy department at the VA is updating their records. Company representatives are asking veterans for their credit card information so that the VA can continue sending them their medication. This is a second time SCAM.