



Nassau County Legionnaire



Volume 89

SEPTEMBER 2013

No. 3

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Commander's Message

It seems like a short time since our last meeting on July 26th. After the last month's county meeting, the staff and I decided that we had to shorten the length of the County Meetings. Last month our meeting was longer than usual. We had a speaker from the Vet Dog Foundation and it was more than two months since the May meeting. We also had a detailed reading of the county budget. I have asked our Treasurer Steve McManus to give each speaker a five (5) minute limit. If you have a report, please don't read it, just highlight what's in your report. I will request all outside speakers to keep it to less than ten (10) minutes.

We had another busy month. On Sunday, July 28th I attended a wreath ceremony at the Korean War Memorial in Massapequa Park to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice. The color guard consisted of John Hassett, Adjutant; Bill Ost, Sgt. at Arms; Freddie Nielsen, 3rd Division Vice-Commander and Steve McManus, Treasurer. On Sunday, August 3rd, together with the county color guard I attended the "Salute to Veterans Tribute at the Chapin Theatre at Eisenhower Park. I also attended a press conference on Friday, August 9th to announce new legislation that mandates that all County Service Officers be certified within a three year period of time. Andy Booth, PCC started this campaign to get this legislation passed. Reggie Butt, Jr. is the Chairman of the Legislation Committee and will lead the delegation to Hill Day. On Sunday, August 11th we had a blessing of the Staff at the Church of St. Mary in Roslyn, NY. Rev. John McCartney, the Pastor officiated at the ceremony. On Wednesday, August 14th I attended a Veterans Job FAIR at the Farmingdale Reserve Center in Farmingdale. On Thursday, August 15th I attended a signing of the book, "The Mother of Normandy", by the author Jeff Stoffer at the Glen Cove Diner. Jeff Stoffer is also the editor of the American Legion Magazine. Mr. Stoffer has been commissioned to write a biography of Teddy Roosevelt Jr., the founder of the American Legion.

We are back on track with the Vet Dog Program. We can sponsor a Vet Dog for \$6,000 and received assurance that the dog would be given to a Vet. We can give the dog a middle name. You can send your donations to: Bill Urianek, 335, Emory Road, Mineola, NY 11501 or drop off your donation at the County Meeting. Bill said that you can also bring your empty deposit bottles or cans to the County Meetings.

We have also started our "Flags over Nassau Program". We are ready to send out about four Citations to Commercial establishments, who are flying a distinctive American Flag over their property. Freddie Nielsen our 3rd Division Vice-Commander will be sending out the Citations. Eric Spinner our Public Relations Chairman will be developing a DVD showing the flags. He will be using patriotic music in the background.

I will be away at the American Legion National Convention, in Houston, Texas from August 22nd to August 29th. Our 1st Division Vice - Commander, Joe Brunner will be in charge during my absence. If you have any questions, you may call Joe at 516-546-3233 in my absence.



**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS !
COME ON OUT
AND MEET
OUR NEW DE-
PARTMENT
COMMANDER
NOVEMBER 9,
2013
SEE INFO ON
PAGE 4**

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND

The Hurricane season is upon us. There are flash floods in Colorado and fires in California. Natural disasters never take a break and neither does the National Emergency Fund. Since 1989, the fund has disbursed in excess of \$8,000,000 to Legion families and posts. Nearly \$1,000,000 of that amount was given in the past year to victims of the Oklahoma tornado and Super Storm Sandy.

In the next week, I will be sending a letter to all of the posts, Past commanders and County staff asking that you all include a donation to the NEF as part of your budget for 2014. Last year we were able to donate in excess of \$4,000 to the fund, let's do even better this year.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Bob Robesch, PCC, Chairman NEF

HISTORIANS REPORT

OPEN LETTER TO ALL POST COMMANDERS

PLEASE GIVE YOUR POST HISTORIAN MY NAME:

JAMES RANDLE, COUNTY HISTORIAN

PHONE NUMBER 270-3876

HAVE THEM CALL ME AND I CAN HELP YOU WITH YOUR POST'S HISTORY BOOK.

LAST YEAR WE HAD A FIRST TIME HISTORIAN FROM MERRICK POST 1282, KEN BRAN WHO TOOK SECOND PLACE AT DEPARTMENT FOR HIS POST SCRAPBOOK.

3rd Division Report

In September 3rd Division Post Visitations will resume. If you have not had your Post's Visitation confirmed for September and believe you are scheduled, please contact 3rd Div. Adjutant, Willibe Wilson Jr. (676-1263). I will be joined in many of my Visitations by 3rd Div. Membership Chairman, Greg Faling, and the Adjutant, Willibe Wilson

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.

On August 15 at Glen Cove Diner we hosted American Legion Magazine Editor, Jeff Stoffer, author of "Mother Of Normandy" for a Book Signing. We were very pleased to have Friends and Family come to have their copy of "The Mother Of Normandy" autographed by the Author, in particular those that were signed "in memoriam". County Staff and Committee Chairmen, Auxiliary Staff, and Members of the Howard A. Van Wagner Post 962 who have known Jeff for years greeted him. We were assisted in our Book signing by Kaye and Jaime of Operation Democracy in setting up, designing our Event Poster and running the Book Signing. Jeff is very excited about our Americanism Project promoting awareness of "D" Day through the sponsored placement of the "Mother Of Normandy" Collection. This Project also serves as an excellent community relationship builder and fund raiser for Posts, the County and the Auxiliary.

He is also well aware of our initiative to recognize Locust Valley Veteran Advocate Kaye Wenninger through the Mme. Simone Renaud National Americanism Award and will help in every way he can.

“LEGISLATIVE REPORT”

REGINALD BUTT

The bill that Andy Booth worked so hard on was signed by the Governor two weeks ago. There was a Press release with Assemblywoman Schimel and Senator Martens and it was well attended by the American Legion. The bill is “Accreditation of Directors of County and City Veterans’ service Agencies”. The Federal Legislatures are on their summer break and Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy is on leave while she undergoes treatment for lung cancer.

The Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for October 6, 2013 at the Williston Post #144. Letters will be sent out next week to all the Posts, Past County Commander and invited Guests. We will also invite the Federal Senators and Congressmen/woman, the State Senators and Assemblymen/women. The price is the same as last year \$20 and there will be a raffle of a basket of cheer and individual bottles.

CELL PHONE COLLECTION PROGRAM REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

I shipped out 86 cellphones last week. I am awaiting the breakdown from the Recycling Plant. Ken Cadieux was given 146 cellphones and with what I will pick up tonight I will ship them out on Monday or Tuesday. When I receive the check from the recycling center I will ask the Treasurer to split it between the NEF and the Legacy Memorial Scholarship.

I stated before the recycling program has expanded and it now includes these items:

cell phones	cell phone accessories
iPods and MP3 Players	handheld game systems
GPS handheld units	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.

Children & Youth:

Children and Youth Committee Leadership is conducting early dialogue with Ms. O’Brien, American Legion Auxiliary President and her Children & Youth Chairwoman, Ms. Brunner in the development of a County wide, joint Children & Youth Initiative for the entire American Legion Family, Sponsored Pin Wheel Gardens. More on that later.

AMERICAN LEGION - DIRECTORY

WE HAVE A SLOW RESPONSE FROM THE POSTS FOR THE INFORMATION FOR THE 2013 - 2014 COUNTY LEGION DIRECTORY. WE STILL HAVE 23 POSTS WHO HAVE NOT SUBMITTED THEIR POST INFORMATION OR AD FOR THIS DIRECTORY. WE SET A DEADLINE OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2013 SO THAT WE COULD GET IT PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY THE SEPTEMBER COUNTY MEETING.

IF YOUR POST HAS NOT YET SUBMITTED THE INFORMATION REQUESTED YOU WILL BE CONTACTED BY YOUR DIVISION COMMANDER TO FIND OUT IF THERE IS ANY PROBLEM.

JUST A REMINDER THAT YOUR POST CHARTER REQUIRES THAT YOU HAVE YOUR OFFICERS AND CONTACT PERSONS NAMES ON FILE WITH THE COUNTY AND DEPARTMENT. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD CAUSE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF YOUR CHARTER.

I KNOW THAT POSTS SEND IN THE “PINK & WHITES TO THE COUNTY ADJUTANT BUT THAT INFORMATION IS NOT THE INFORMATION REQUESTED FOR THE DIRECTORY. ON THAT FORM YOU LIST EVERY OFFICER. ON THE DIRECTORY FORM WE ONLY NEED THE COMMANDER, ADJUTANT AND COUNTY REP AND ALTERNATE COUNTY REP ALONG WITH THEIR ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS. THAT INFORMATION GOES IN THE DIRECTORY.

Department Commander's Visit

Frank Colon Jr., PCC, Chairman

To date I have received one bio from Edward Welch Jr. Post 1132. The closing date for bios is August 19th, 2013. The tentative schedule is for breakfast at the diner across from the Source Mall on Old Country Road, then a tour of Veteran's Plaza at Eisenhower Park, a tour at the Cradle of Aviation Museum, and a carousel ride. Dinner will follow at 7 PM at a Post TBA. Letters will be sent out for tickets. Come and enjoy this event with our Dept. Commander and guests.

Rehab

Frank Colon Jr., PCC, Chairman,
Mary Norris, Co-Chairman

Out 1st visit to bldg. 92 at the Northport V.A. Hospital will be on September 14th, 2013, at 1:00PM. Team #1 is scheduled to participate. If your post cannot attend, please contact me at 516-766-6563. Donations are \$50.00 for attending, \$100.00 if you cannot attend. Come and support our Veterans.

Military Ball/Commander's Night

Frank Colon Jr., PCC, Chairman

On February, 22, 2014, from 12 noon until 5 PM, our event will be held at Leonard's of Great Neck, located on Northern Blvd., in Great Neck, NY. Letters will be sent to each Post and PCC at the end of November, 2013, so save this date. Last year's event was a great success. Our commander is looking forward for everyone to attend and have a wonderful time.

August Membership Report

Membership transmittals are coming in at a good pace right now. As of August 13, Nassau County is 39% received.

There are still some posts that have not sent in any membership transmittals as yet. If your post hasn't sent in any transmittals you need to send this in as soon as possible. Do not hold on to them. Dues are going up \$5.00 effective January 1, 2014. Our goal is to be 100% total by December 31, 2013. September is new membership month. So far, we have 25 new members. I would suggest that signs are placed outside your post that say "Membership Drive - New Members Welcome" or "Welcome home Afghanistan vets".

If you need membership supplies please contact me at 516-375-2139 and I will get whatever supplies you need to you.

Our motto for the membership year 2014 is: "How can I join, ask me".

Yours in Comradeship

Frank Neal

Nassau County Membership Officer



NASSAU COUNTY REHABILITATION PROGRAM
POST TEAMS SCHEDULE 2013 - 2014

TEAM # 1: SEPTEMBER 14, 2013

CHARLES WAGNER POST
QUENTIN ROOSEVELT #4
GLENWOOD LANDING #336
J. FRANKLIN BELL #81
MASSAPEQUA # 1066
CARLE PLACE # 1718

TEAM #6: FEBRUARY 8, 2014

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

TEAM #2: OCTOBER 12, 2013

PORT WASHINGTON # 509
FLORAL PARK # 334
WANTAGH # 1273
ARCHIE McCORD # 86
EDWIN WELCH, JR. # 1132
PLAINVIEW # 1812

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 # 3: NOVEMBER 9, 2013

HOWARD VAN WAGNER #962
ROBERT H. SPITTEL #1285
EAST ROCKAWAY # 958
HEMPSTEAD # 390
EAST MEADOW MEMORIAL # 1082

TEAM # 8: APRIL 12, 2014

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

TEAM #4: DECEMBER 14, 2013

NASSAU POLICE #1050
ELMONT # 1033
MALVERNE #44
MERRICK # 1282
GLEN COVE # 76
HUGH C. NEWMAN III #449

TEAM #9: MAY 10, 2014

UNIONDALE # 1487
ROBERT VAN COTT # 1139
ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL # 1051
OCEANSIDE MEMORIAL # 1246
WILLIAM BRADFORD TURNER # 265
JOE MURPHY # 1957

TEAM # 5: JANUARY 11, 2014

NEW CASSEL MEMORIAL #1861
WILLIAM J. LONGUET # 101
BALDWIN #246
WILLIAM CLINTON STORY # 342

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE YOUR SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT PLEASE CONTACT THE CHAIRMAN FRANK COLON, JR. AT 435-7066 OR CELL PHONE # 766-6563. ALSO REMEMBER YOUR CHECK FOR \$50.00 IF YOU ATTEND OR \$100.00 IF YOU DON'T.

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 2013

<u>AUGUST</u>	23-29	NATIONAL CONVENTION - HOUSTON TEXAS	
<u>SEPT</u>	2	V-J DAY - LABOR DAY - FLY YOUR FLAG	
	4	ROSH HASHANAH	
	11	PATRIOTS DAY - FLY YOUR FLAG!	
	13	YOM KIPPUR	
	20	POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY	
	21	ISLAND PARK POST ENTERTAINS VETS FROM ST ALBANS AT THE ROCKVILLE CENTRE POST AT	11:00 AM
	27	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - PLAINVIEW POST	7:15 PM
		COUNTY MEETING	8:00 PM
	29	GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY	
<u>OCTOBER</u>	6	LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST - WILLISTON POST 144	9:00 AM
	14	COLUMBUS DAY - FLY YOUR FLAG!	
	20	QUEENS LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST - O'CONNELL POST	9:00 AM
	23	10TH DISTRICT MEETING - GLENWOOD LANDING POST	8:00 PM
	25	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - PLAINVIEW POST	7:15 PM
		COUNTY MEETING	8:00 PM
<u>NOVEMBER</u>			
	3	NASSAU COUNTY VETS DAY PARADE - GARDENERS AVE LEVITTOWN 10 AM - 12 NOON FOR INFO CALL JOE PASCARELLA 572-6512	
	5	ELECTION DAY - GET OUT AND VOTE!	
	9	DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS VISIT	
	10	UVO VETERANS DAY SERVICE - EISENHOWER PARK	10:30 AM
	10	L.I. NATIONAL CEMETERY VETERANS DAY SERVICE	1:30 PM
	22	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - PLAINVIEW POST	7:15 PM
		COUNTY MEETING	8:00 PM
	28	THANKSGIVING DAY - HAPPY TURKEY DAY!	