



# Nassau County Legionnaire



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## Commander's Message

February 1<sup>st</sup> I attended the 10<sup>th</sup> District Oratorical Contest at the Elmont Library. On February 2<sup>nd</sup> I conducted the Four Chaplains Ceremony at St. Mary's Church in Roslyn, on February 3<sup>rd</sup> the Nassau County American Legion, the Young-Simmons Post #1765 and the Glen Cove Post #76 donated \$700 to the "Any Soldier Program" at the Glen Cove Library. Local area students package toiletry items that are sent to soldiers overseas. On February 9<sup>th</sup>, I attended the graduation of the Vet Dogs at the Vet Dog Foundation in Smithtown. February 21<sup>st</sup>, Andy Booth, PCC, John Hassett, Adjutant, Frank Neal, County Membership Officer and I attended a meeting at the office of Assemblyman, Michael Benedetto, chairman of the Assembly Veterans' Affairs Committee. We discussed upcoming Legislation affecting Veterans. On February 22<sup>nd</sup> I attended the Commanders' Military Ball at Leonard's of Great Neck.

1<sup>st</sup> Division Caucus will be held at the Malverne Post #44 at 8 pm on March 10<sup>rd</sup>.

2<sup>nd</sup> Division Caucus will be held at the Levittown Post #1711 at 6:30 pm on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

3<sup>rd</sup> Division Caucus at the Glenwood Landing Post #336 at 8 pm on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

March 11<sup>th</sup> will be the 10<sup>th</sup> District Meeting at the Continental Post #1482 in Forest Hills. March 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Reggie Butt, Jr., PCC, Legislative Chairman will lead the Nassau County Delegation to Hill Day. Please see Bill Ost, PCC or John Hassett, Adjutant for further information on Hill Day.

Don't forget to call those delinquent members, who have not paid their dues and remember to send in your donations for the Vet Dog Program. We want to do all we can for our disabled Vets.

Remember on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 am, we will have a Training Session for all Post Commanders at the Malverne Post #44, further details to follow.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Division

Joseph Brunner, Division Commander

I just heard another winter storm is heading our way, I am wondering did the groundhog decide to get back at us for keeping him penned in? The 1<sup>st</sup> Division caucus is schedule for Monday March 3, 2014 at 730 at Malverne Post 44, A reschedule date of Wednesday March 5, 2014 at 730 pm in case this storm is bad. Please submit your delegate and alternate list to the County Adjutant as soon as possible. We will accept your list the night of the caucus up until 730 pm start time. As of tonight I only have three post with their list turned in. We are falling behind in membership we need to be more aggressive in getting these people paid; I know your membership officers can due this even in this bad weather. We had a great showing of posts for the Military Ball and I hope that the commanders and their members had a great time. I know I did. Hofstra University Law School will be having a free legal advice for veterans in March. I am awaiting for the flyer to arrival.

## 3rd DIVISION REPORT

FREDIE NIELSEN

Post Visitation:

During March, 3rd Division Post Visitations will continue. If you have not had your Post's Visitation confirmed for March thru May and wish to have a visit please contact 3rd Div. Adjutant, Willibe Wilson Jr. (676-1263).

Division Caucus:

I wish to thank the Commander and Legionnaires of the Glenwood Landing Post 336 for their willingness to host the 3rd Division Caucus on Wednesday, March 12 at 8:00, Address -190, Glen Head Rd, Glen Head, NY 11545 Phone 671-3137. Our Caucus Letter is out to 3rd Division Commanders, and all Past County Commanders as are our Teller Letters. We look forward to meeting the Candidates for County Office you will have nominated. Please re-member to get your Delegate Letters in to the Adjutant before the Bell is rung starting the Caucus. Thank You.

## Children & Youth:

Willibe and I are pleased to inform you that the location of our 2014 "Spring Fling" for the Children of SCO Family Services is set at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church like last year and we have a tentative date of 12 April for this important event. Since we have to get those Event Bills paid, please get your checks in to us right away. Our letter pertaining to this program was mailed today.

The SCO Children look forward to this as one of the few Activities that get them off the Campus. We thank you so much for your advocacy on their behalf. Ms. Shelley Feldman Director of the Recreation Department reminds us that for those who will have cameras please be very careful to only photograph Legion Members and never the Children. Thanks.

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## MILITARY BALL/POST COMMANDERS NITE

I will tell you that we passed last years total of attendees. With this in mind I hope that this County will continue to attend and enjoy themselves at "The Empire County of The Empire State".

The financial report will be submitted next month because I am still awaiting some bills to come in along with some checks.

Again, I want to thank Anthony Paternostro, PCC for all his support along with a visitor from North Carolina Joe Reale, PCC, and the entire County Staff. It's all a team effort to make events happen, a job well done.

Frank Colon, Jr. Chairman

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## MEMORIAL LIBRARY REPORT

TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM WE WERE HAVING WITH THE DONATIONS TO THE MEMORIAL LIBRARY WE ARE NOW REQUESTING ALL DONORS TO SEND THEIR DONATIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN BILL DAVISON WHO WILL RECORD THEM AND THEN DELIVER THEM TO HOFSTRA. PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS TO THE JAMES MCLEAN MEMORIAL COLLECTION AND SENT TO BILL AT:

276 THORN STREET  
OCEANSIDE, NY 11570

THIS COLLECTION IS TOO VALUABLE TO STUDENTS TO ALLOW IT TO LOSE OUR SUPPORT. SEND YOUR CHECK TODAY!

## REHABILITATION REPORT

Mary Norris, Co-Chair

### Participants - Team #6:

N Bellmore Post      Young Simmons Post  
Cathedral Post      Rockville Centre Post  
Boy Scout Troup 577 who handed out Valentines to the residence on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

We had an extremely good turnout from the Posts scheduled and the Boy Scout Troop's involvement. The more volunteers we have, the more excitement there seems to be in the room.

The next date for Nassau County American Legion "Day at the Races" is Saturday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. The following Posts are reminded to be out at building 92, Northport at 1:30pm:

### Team #7

Andrew Fatscher Post      Charles A. Fowler Post  
Lynbrook Post      James F. Brengel Post  
Manhasset Post      New Hyde Park Ernie Pyle  
Williston Post

A reminder phone call will be made to each Post the Wednesday before Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. Post are asked to bring a \$50 check to off-set operating cost with them on the 8<sup>th</sup>. If a Post is not attending, send a check for \$100 to the County. Checks are to be made out to Nassau County American Legion and on memo line mark "Rehab/Day at the Races".

I spoke with Chris Egor, the Recreation Specialist who helps us get our program up and running, about having a magician or comedian perform between the races. She said it a great idea, just keep it clean!

A number of letters have gone out to comedy clubs on Long Island and magicians listed in the yellow pages, asking for them to volunteer their time once a month. While we're waiting for responses, perhaps one of our Legion Colleagues knows of talent that we can speak with and get that person to share their talent with the patients out at Building 92.

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## AMERICANISM

"Patriot Award"

For this Americanism Year, I am introducing the Commander's "Patriot Award", the County Americanism Award to be presented at the County Level. Watch your mail for my Letter on this to check your Post's eligibility Post Commanders and Americanism Chairmen, I need your Contact Information.. Please email me at

[brother2fredn47@hotmail.com](mailto:brother2fredn47@hotmail.com) or Div. Adjutant Willibe

## NASSAU COUNTY HISTORIAN

JAMEST. RANDLE

TO ALL HISTORIANS OF NASSAU COUNTY YOUR POST HISTORY BOOK, POST NARRATIVE AND SCRAPBOOK HISTORY FOR 2013-2014 MUST BE FINISHED BY FRIDAY MAY, 23 FOR COUNTY GENERAL MEETING AT PLAINVIEW POST 1812. THE BOOKS WILL BE JUDGED AT THAT TIME AND AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN OUT AT COUNTY CONVENTION FRIDAY, JUNE 6 2014 AT LEVITTOWN HALL.

IF YOU CAN MAKE THE MEETING WITH YOUR BOOK, OR YOUR COUNTY POST DELEGATE CAN BRING IT TO THE MEETING. THE BOOK WILL BE SENT BACK AFTER JUDGING THE WINNING BOOK WILL GO ON TO DEPARTMENT CONVENTION IN ALBANY JULY 17, 18, 19. BOOK WILL BE JUDGE ON JULY 17 AT DEPARTMENT CONVENTION. I WOULD LIKE TO MEET YOU AT THE COUNTY MEETING.

YOU CAN CALL ME I CAN ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT PUTTING YOUR POST HISTORY, POST NARRATIVE AND OR SCRAPBOOK TOGETHER. JUST GIVE ME A CALL.

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### Law and Order Report

On February 27, 2014, I attended the Malvern's Post #44 Law and Order Night. Once again the Post did an outstanding job. I'd like to thank the Commander and the Post for their kind invitation.

In the up and coming weeks, I will be attending The Manhasset Post and The Merrick Post for their Law and Order Programs. This will be a total of five programs to date for this year.

If there are any Post wishing to have this program and need help or information, please contact me. I am here to assist in anyway.

To all Law and Order chairmen, please fill out the form I gave you so I ,can fill in The 1& District information and we can then get it into Department. I can not do this without you help. As of the last few years Queens and Suffolk have not run this program. So we must let Department know that Nassau County is still caring the torch for The Law and Order Program for the 1& District.

This is such a wonderful way to recognize the individuals that stand out and to honor them with this program.

Thank you again for all you do in your community.

Ron Sabo, Law and Order Chairman

## ORATORICAL REPORT

The 1st place winner of American Legion Nassau County Oratorical is Jaclyn Schess and the 2nd place winner is Kaeli Groenet.

Jaclyn is a senior at Syossett High School. She is representing Eugene S. Smith Post 175. This is Jaclyn's 3rd year competing in this competition. She also is a member of her school's forensics speech, debate team and president of her school's model congress delegation. Jaclyn has also been accepted into Yale University.

Kaeli Groenet is a senior at Sewanahaka High School. She is representing Elmont Post 1033. She is the chairman of the social concerns committee at the Lutheran Church of Elmont, where she is also a member of the choir. Kaeli is also president of both the Drama Club and the Musical at her school. She hopes to one day go into Medicine.

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### BOYS STATE

REGGIE BUTT, CHAIRMAN

The web site is up and running. Fee for Boys State is \$450 per boy. Nassau County has a quota of 50 this year. Boys State runs from Friday 27 June 2014 to Thursday 3 July 2014. I have the information packets available and when you give me a check you will receive a packet for each boy you are sponsoring. If you can not get a boy from your locale schools but still want to sponsor one or two or three get me a check I have candidates that I will interview and completed all the paper wor. I just need the check for the fee. All completed application must be in to me by 30 April 2014.

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### SCOUTING REPORT

Charles G. Mills, Chairman

The Nassau County and 10th District Eagle Scout of the Year is Timothy P. Messmer of Troop 577, sponsored by North Bellmore Post 1749.

I have one candidate each for adult leader of the year, unit of the year, and the Eileen Ferguson Award (Venturer, Sea Scout, Explorer, or Disabled Scout).

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### NATIONAL COMMANDERS DINNER

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014

ANTUNS RESTAURANT, QUEENS VILLAGE

TICKETS \$65.00 - CUT OFF DATE 3/25/14

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NASSAU COUNTY

AND EAR MARK N.C. DINNER

SEE STEVE McMANUS FOR TICKETS

National Emergency Fund

Robert A. Robesch PCC

“LEGISLATIVE REPORT”

REGINALD BUTT, CHAIRMAN

Winter is not over yet and the entire country has suffered through some of the most severe weather in recent history. The tremendous amount of snow and ice is guaranteed to create major flooding in many locations, perhaps even here on Long Island. The National /Emergency fund stands ready to assist every Legionnaire and post who may suffer a loss. I call your attention to the numerous articles posted on the Legion’s National website which detail several cases where members of the legion Family have been helped in the aftermath of hurricanes, wild fires, tornadoes and floods.

So far this year, the generous legionnaires and posts of our county have donated \$4,185 to the fund. I am confident that by the end of June we will have a significantly higher number. During the months of December and January, I have received several more checks. Many thanks to the following posts: Hempstead, Elmont, Glenwood Landing, New Hyde Park Ernie Pyle, Williston and the Seniors group at St. Pius. So far this year we have received donations from twenty two posts, four past county commanders ,one staff member and two outside supporters.

Additional donations may be sent to my attention at 94 Netherwood Drive, Albertson, NY 11507 checks should be payable to the Nassau County American Legion earmarked NEF.

Thank you all very much and have a greatest St. Patrick’s Day.

TROPHIES AND AWARDS

THE PLAQUES TO BE GIVEN OUT AT THE 96<sup>TH</sup> NASSAU COUNTY CONVENTION FRIDAY JUNE 6, AND 7 AT LEVITTOWN HALL, I MUST KNOW BY MAY SUNDAY 18 CALL ME. THE CHAIRMANS OF REHABILITATION,PUBLICITY, SCOUTING, SCHOLARSHIP, LAW AND ORDER, LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR AND HISTORIAN IN THE PAST HAS ASKED FOR PLAQUES. THE CHAIRMANS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SPELLING. CALL ME. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR PHONE NUMBER SO I CAN CONTACT YOU WITH ANY QUESTION.

JAMES T. RANDLE 516 270 3876  
106 ROSE LANE NEW HYDE PARK NY 11040

NY State law allowing school tax reduction for veterans:

Veteran’s School Tax Exemption – by now most of you should know about the New York State’s recently amended Real Property Tax Law that allows eligible veterans the opportunity to receive a partial exemption from their school taxes. It will take some time for the school districts to notify the various townships involved and agree to the procedures on verifying eligibility and processing the exemptions. Some school boards have passed the resolution, still others have not addressed the issue yet. Here is the basic information about the law. If you qualify your assessment will be lowered, therefore lowering your taxes. The basic exemption for qualifying residential property allows for an exemption of up to 15% of the primary residences assessed value of the property not to exceed the lesser of \$12,000 or the product of \$12,000 and the latest equalization rate if the property is owned by a veteran, spouse of a veterans or the not remarried surviving spouse of a veteran. Additionally, if service was in a combat zone, the veteran may receive an additional 10% exemption based on the assessed value not to exceed the lesser \$8,000 or the product of \$8,000 and the latest equalization rate. In conjunction with a service related injury, the exemption could be increased to 50% of the assessed value of the primary residence not to exceed the lesser of \$40,000 or the product of \$40,000 and the latest equalization rate. These levels of exemption are the default amounts under the law based on calculations and require one public meeting by the Board of Education and the passage of the default resolution by March 1, 2014 for the inclusion in the 2014-2015 year. If the Board of Education wished to implement higher exemptions than additional action would be needed separate from the default resolution.

LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR REPORT

I am truly UNDERWHELMED at the lack of responses received. To date, I have only FOUR nominations.

The cut off date is 1 March - I will, of course, accept additional nominations at the County Meeting on Friday 28 February. I will also accept nominations up to 2400 hrs, Saturday 1 March.

Louise M. McCann, Program Chair



## COUNTY REHABILITATION PROGRAM

### POST TEAMS SCHEDULE 2013 - 2014

#### 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

### 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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 was set at the Mid-Winter Conference and there was not increase this year. An increase will be made next year and the year after. The cost to the posts is \$450, \$350 to the Department and \$100 for the bus transportation. The web site for the boys to submit the application and copy all the other forms is up and running. The letter to all the posts has been mailed and information packets are available. Post Chairman should be contacting the schools and setting up interviews, then when you select our delegates they can proceed to complete the application process. The post should interview each boy not the school. The school only recommends the boys to be interviewed by the post. When you give me a check I will give you the information packet(s). All completed application must be turned in to me by 30 April, do not wait get started now.

## CELL PHONE COLLECTION PROGRAM

REGINALD BUTT, JR. PCC

A shipment of cell phones (approx. 75) plus 2 Lab Top Computers has been sent to the recycling center. The check will be sent to us in about 30 to 45 days, when it comes in the treasurer will be directed to split it between the NEF and The Legacy Scholarship Programs.

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.

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of February 27, 2014, Nassau County membership is 85.24% paid members. We have 149 new members this year. There is still work to be done as we need 941 more members to reach 100%.

Below are the Posts, by division, that are below 85%:

#### 1st division

Bellmore Post # 948	Roosevelt Memorial # 1051
Baldwin Post # 246	Malverne Post # 44
Merrick Post # 1282	Oceanside Memorial # 1246
Lynbrook Post # 335	

#### 2nd Division

N. Bellmore Post # 1749	Hempstead Post # 390
Floral Park Post # 334	Wm. Bradford Turner # 265
Wm. Clinton Story # 342	E Meadow Memorial # 1082

#### 3rd Division

Charles Fowler Jr. Post # 160	Archie McCord Post # 86
New Cassel Mem Post # 1861	

To All Membership officers: Its time to start making phone calls and sending out letters to those valued members who haven't paid their dues.

Frank Neal, Membership Officer

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 - 2014

<b>MARCH</b>	2	40/8 NURSES TRAINING BALL - MALVERNE POST	1 - 5 PM
	5	ASH WEDNESDAY	
	9	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS - REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS	
	10	1st DIVISION CAUCUS - MALVERNE POST 44	7:30 PM
	11	10t DISTRICT MEETING - CONTENNETAL POST QUEENS	8:00 PM
	16	HILL DAY IN ALBANY	
	17	ST PATRICKS DAY - WEAR YOUR GREEN!	
	17-18	HILL DAY IN ALBANY	
	19	START OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM - 2003	
	21	THIRD DIVISION CAUCUS - GLENWOOD LANDING POST	7:00 PM
	23-24	AMERICAN LEGION 95 TH, BIRTHDAY-	
	24	2nd DIVISION CAUCUS - LEVITTOWN POST	6:30 PM
	28	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - PLAINVIEW POST 7:00 PM	7:15 PM
		COUNTY MEETING - (10TH DISTRICT VISITATION) 8:00 PM	8:00 PM
<b>APRIL</b>	10	AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY BIRTHDAY - 1919	
	11	NATIONAL COMMANDERS VISIT/DINNER ANTUN'S RESTURANT	8:00 PM
	13	PALM SUNDAY	
	14	PASSOVER BEGINS	
	20	EASTER	
	25	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - PLAINVIEW POST	7:15 PM
	COUNTY MEETING	8:00 PM	
<b>MAY</b>	8	VE DAY - FLY YOUR FLAG 1	
	11	MOTHERS DAY - REMEMBER MOM!	
	17	ARMED FORCES DAY - FLY YOUR FLAG!	
	23	COUNTY ADVISORY MEETING - PLAINVIEW POST	7:15 PM
		COUNTY MEETING	8:00 PM
	25	MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES AT EISENHOWER PARK	10:30 AM
25	MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES - L.I. NATIONAL CEMETERY	2:30 PM	