



The Greenlawn Bugle

September 2018

The Newsletter of American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244

Volume 12 Issue 3

75th Anniversary

Founded March 15, 1943

Post Events

**Post 1244 Brunch
September 30
10:30 am**

Enjoy a Sunday morning meal with the Brunch Bunch. Nocello Restaurant. \$23 PP. A delightful variety of delicacies and a chance to get to know your fellow Legion Family members.

**Long Island Fall Festival
October 6 and 7
11 am- 6 pm**

We will have a membership, information and outreach booth.

**Women Veterans
Memorial Dedication
October 13, 11 am**
Calverton National Cemetery

**Veterans Day Ceremony
November 11
11 am**

Join us for a brief ceremony celebrating Veterans Day at Greenlawn Memorial Park. We will be joined by our neighboring Legion posts plus many community groups, scouts and citizens.

Monthly Meetings

St. Joseph Council K of C
24 Boulevard Ave. Greenlawn
The 2nd Wednesday of each month at 8:00 pm
New or potential members always welcome!

Boys State and Girls State Program 2018 Looking to Our Future

The American Legion played the leading role in drafting and passing the "GI Bill." Its primary activity is working for the interests of veterans and active duty service personnel on such things as benefits, pensions, and health care.

One of the key elements of the American Legion is "Americanism." To this end, our Legion post sponsors a number of programs that look to address the future of our country and its form of government. Among them are Boy's State and Girl's State, Veterans in the Classroom, High School Oratorical Contests, Scouting, and scholarships.

The Boy's State and Girl's State programs were founded in the mid-1930's to counter Young Pioneer Camps, which was the name of a Soviet youth program that made inroads in the United States. Boy's State and Girl's State are leadership action programs whose objective is citizenship training in a democratic form of government.

The students selected from the junior class of their high school learn the structure of the government of the state in which it is held, via a two party (but non-

(Continued on page 2)



Co-Chairmen Charlie Armstrong and Ed O'Shea flank the 14 students who came to our August meeting to describe their "Week That Changes a Lifetime." The students (l-r) Carlos Godoy, Matthew Miller, and Luke Weiner of Harborfields HS; Andrew Harrigan, John Dugan, Kevin McKenna, Raj Shah, John Poplawski, and Parker Keller of Walt Whitman HS; and Henry Cartwright of Huntington HS. The girls (l-r) Caitlin Eivers of Harborfields HS, and Gabrielle Safian of Walt Whitman HS.



New York American Legion Press Association's Best Paper Award
2009-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017-2018

National American Legion Press Association's First Place Award 2018



Boys and Girls State (Continued from page 1)

partisan) system, from the city, county, and state organization level. Two students from each state are then selected to attend Boy’s or Girl’s Nation to further learn the process of our federal government.

Post 1244’s first foray into Boy’s State was in 2009, with two students from Harborfields High School. We followed with Girl’s State in 2014.

As we learned more about the program and spoke to students upon their return, it became apparent just how important this program was at “looking to our future.”

Our limiting factor, as is always the case, was funding to cover the tuition for additional students. For the next few years, we worked exclusively with Harborfields and solicited funding for the additional students from the local businesses up and down Broadway in Greenlawn. A door to growth opened to us when the principal of Harborfields, Dr. Dave Bennardo, accepted a position as Superintendent of the South Huntington Schools. This gave us the ‘in’ we needed to begin working with the students of Walt Whitman High School. Of course, we once again had to look for new sources of funding to take care of these students.

Our opportunity at Huntington High School came through Mr. Joe Leavy, Chair of Humanities and a Scout-

master of a local troop. We met while providing a Flag Etiquette class for his troop. Again, more students created the need for more fund raising.

Who knew “looking to our future” that Boy’s State alumni Samuel Alito would become a Supreme Court Justice, that Neil Armstrong would walk on the moon, that Tom Brokaw would anchor NBC Nightly News, that Bill Clinton would become president, that Tim Cook would become Chief Executive of Apple, that Roger Ebert would become a film critic, and that George Pataki would become governor of New York. The list goes on.

Nationwide, over 20,000 students participate in the Boy’s State and Girl’s State programs annually, with about 1,300 from New York, and over 100 from Suffolk County. “Looking to our future,” we can only anticipate what roles the current alumni will play.

In 2018, we sponsored a total of 20 students. For the 2019 program (our 11th year), we will have sponsored more than 100 students in total. We will continue doing our small part at “looking to our future” for our country, and our children and grandchildren!

Charlie Armstrong

Service Officer Report - “You Earned It!”

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR VETERANS

New York state has three different property tax exemptions that are based on your military service, with additional benefits based upon degree of service-connected disability.

- 1.The Alternative Veterans' Exemption - for veterans who served during wartime or received an expeditionary medal.
- 2.The Cold War Veterans' Exemption - for veterans who served during the Cold War period (1945 – 1991).
- 3.The Eligible Funds Exemption - for property that a veteran buys with pension, bonus, or insurance funds. Check with your city or county for more information. Qualifying surviving spouses may file for

benefit based on their spouse's service. Exemption applies to local and county property taxes.

Sincerely,

Michelle Martin,
Post 1244 Service Officer

Benefits Coordinator
Supportive Services for Veteran Families
Services for the UnderServed
600 Albany Avenue
Amityville, NY 11701
Mmartin@sus.org



ST. JOSEPH COUNCIL #4810 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
631-754-9488 Rentals / Membership

Our newly refurbished hall is available for all your special occasions.
Call now and reserve! 631-754-9488

Missing In America Project

**Paul Rene Vallante, US Army
Calverton National Cemetery
June 21, 2018**

On June 21, Korean War Era Veteran Paul Rene Vallante was given full military honors for his service in the United States Army between 1954 and 1956. Approximately 22 attendees participated in the solemn ceremony.

Suffolk County Chaplain Tom Bergin opened the ceremony with a heartfelt invocation. Taps was then played by Post 1244 Bugler Bob Slingo. As Taps was completed, the Army Honor Guard folded and presented Veteran Vallante's casket flag to Legionnaire Slingo.

I then offered a eulogy and included the poem "We Will Find You," dedicated to all of our missing and yet to be found. Chaplain Bergin added some commentary and closed our ceremony by offering his benediction. As we approached Veteran Vallante's casket to pay our final respects, a sense of closure could be felt. Once again, one of our brothers-in-arms was respectfully laid to rest.

**Charlie Tritto
Post 1244 Chaplain
Missing In America Post 1244 Team**

**John J. Robinson, US Army
Calverton National Cemetery
August 9, 2018**

We assembled, this day, to remember and bear witness to the interment of John J. Robinson, a Vietnam War Veteran, who served with honor in U.S. Army during the turbulent 1960's. These were difficult years for our country and especially difficult for those of us in uniform both overseas and at home. We were misunderstood by some and, even worse, disrespected and spat on by others. John passed away just one month ago.

John was 68 and alone. Although he passed with no family at his side, each of the 21 attendees at today's honors welcomed him home and rendered slow salutes as we offered our final goodbyes.

Suffolk County Chaplain Tom Bergin opened the ceremony with a heartfelt Invocation. Taps followed. As Taps was completed, the Army Honor Guard folded and presented Veteran Robinson's casket flag to Greenlawn Post 1244 Legionnaire Hal Dieterle. We recognized Hal for his ongoing dedication to our Post 1244 MIAP Team, and his volunteer work at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Northport, NY.

Then I offered a eulogy and dedicated the poem "Day Is Done" to Veteran Robinson and the many other



Presentation of casket flag to Legionnaire and Post 1244 MIAP Team member Hal Dieterle.

forgotten American veterans that have been found and remembered over the years by the MIAP. Chaplain Bergin then added a poignant commentary and closed our ceremony by offering his benediction.

**Charlie Tritto
Post 1244 Chaplain
Missing In America Post 1244 Team**



Post Decals Are Now Available

Display your pride as a member of American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244. These long lasting vinyl decals can be displayed on your rear windshield. They are available for \$6 at our monthly meetings or just e mail us at Post1244@verizon.net to order yours.



Vietnam: First Person Account

“First Salvo” by Lenny Salvo

During basic training at Fort Dix, a Captain looked at my last name and said: “Son, with a name like that the Army has one place for you - in the artillery.” With that being said, I was sent to Fort Sill and trained on all the artillery pieces - 105, 155, 8-inch, and 175.

In Vietnam, I made the rank of Spec-4 and became the assistant gunner. My job was to set the tube at the proper deflection and elevation, as given to us by the Fire Direction Center. It was an honor for me to fire the first 175 round in Vietnam. *The Stars and Stripes* newspaper wrote it up as... “Salvo fires the first salvo in Vietnam.”



On Nov. 19, 1965, Specialist Fourth Class Len Salvo pulled the lanyard on the first 175 mm artillery round fired in Vietnam.

Huntington World War II Wall Re-Opened

The Huntington Veterans Advisory Board has announced that it is accepting new names to be added to the Huntington WWII Monument at Town Hall in veterans Plaza.

To be eligible, a veteran must have been a resident of the Town of Huntington anytime in their lifetime for a minimum of six months and have served anytime from December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946.

For an application or more information, call Carol Rocco at 631-351-3012



Welcoming Committee Formed

We are pleased to announce the formation of our Post 1244 Welcoming Committee.

Our team consists of *Vinnie Crimando, Charlie Messina, Ken Carlson, Hal Dieterle, Tony Braccia, George Barbaro, Cathy Mattes, Fred Tuccillo and Charlie Tritto.*

Our mission is simple: welcome new members into our post, and make them feel comfortable in their new surroundings.

Each new member will be contacted by one of our team members and greeted as they walk through the doors

to their first meeting. A “Welcome Packet” filled with valuable information will be provided to help familiarize them with our post. Although the welcome process begins with our team, we can’t do it alone.

Only with your help can this new process be successful. Please help to make our newest members feel like part of our post.

Fred Tuccillo and Charlie Tritto, Co-Chairmen

Did You Know?

Did you know that the American Legion Riders recently helped raise nearly \$1.26 million for scholarships for children of fallen military and disabled veterans on the American Legion Legacy Run 2018.

SailAhead - Healing Wounded Veterans Through Sailing



What could possibly bring together 40 sailboats, 5 power boats, 125 veterans, 78 family members and guests, and over 100 sailboat crewmembers out onto Northport Harbor on a warm Long Island summer day?

It is the need to spread awareness of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) which has affected many thousands of veterans and which has led to an epidemic of suicides by veterans of all war eras. Some studies have estimated that an average of 22 veterans take their own lives each day.

SailAhead's 4th annual "Let's Take a Veteran Sailing" event at Centerport Yacht Club was an emotional reminder of the toll that veteran suicide is taking, not only on the victims, but on their surviving family, comrades and friends.

This year's event was dedicated to Matthew Adam Wilson, 75th Ranger Division, 2nd Battalion, who ended his

life last September at the age of 36. Matt was represented by several friends who had served with him.

An important goal of SailAhead is to make sure that the surviving families know that they are not forgotten.

This year, SailAhead has partnered with Army Week Association for a friendly regatta, conducted a "Let's Take a Veteran Sailing" event in Tacoma, Washington, sailings at Babylon Yacht Club, South Bay Cruisers and regular sailings with veterans aboard the Oyster Sloop Priscilla.

In coming weeks, SailAhead will be participating in the Clagget / Oakcliff Match Race for handicapped sailors. We hope to be making use of our Hunter 38 "Stargazer" to take small groups of veterans for some afternoon sailings.

We hope that 2019 will bring us more opportunities to serve our veterans and their families.



Matt Wilson

American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244 is proud to have partnered with SailAhead since 2015. Together, we have helped spread awareness of veteran suicide, honor the victims of suicide and their surviving families and offer healing experiences to veterans suffering from PTSD.

Post 1244's Future Home Update

The renovation of the former New York State Armory on 5th Street in Huntington Station has hit a "snag."

The building, which is to become the James E. Conte Community Center' will include the future home of American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244.

In December, 2016, the architectural firm DCAK-MSA Architectural and Engineering was selected by the Town to create plans to renovate the Armory into a community center at a cost not to exceed \$603,000. The contract covered conceptual design, permitting, contract documents, construction, inspecting, and monitoring.

In May, the firm submitted a supplemental fee request, asking for an additional \$850,000, raising their total design fee to \$1.453 million.

There were other problems with the conceptual plans that raised the total cost of the project to \$14.2 million, versus the anticipated budget of \$10 million.

On August 7, the Town Board unanimously approved a



Artists Rendering of Planned James E. Conte Community Center

resolution to revoke the agreement with DCAK-MSA and sign an agreement with BBS Architects, Landscape Architects and Engineers.

The Armory was acquired by the Town from New York State in 2012. It is going to be a large scale eco-friendly community and recreation center.

The Sons of The American Legion



Sons of The American Legion Squadron 1244 conducted another fundraiser on September 15 at the Big H Shopping Center . Paul Shields, Brian Madden and I raised \$349.41 in less than 3 hours to provide hospitalized veterans with toiletry, and other personal care items.

The hospital does not provide these for their patients. We urge you to come out and join us in raising funds to help our veterans in need.

We are planning to make a \$500 donation to Operation Enduring Care soon, and are hoping to generate matching donations from a non-profit that the post is in discussions with. We will also be supporting America's VetDogs with a donation.

Many of our Sons are also members of our *American Legion Riders Chapter 1244*. Not only do they

participate in hundreds of ALR missions each year, but these dedicated men participate on our Sons squadron 1244 as well. I cannot thank Bruce and his fellow Legion Riders enough for their support.

Membership in Sons Squadron 1244 is a privilege afforded to only a limited number of men. Because of this, we urge all current members to find a way to participate in some way.

We belong to the Sons of The American Legion in order to honor our fathers' and grandfathers' service. It is in their name that we work to help our veterans and their families in their time of need.

Tony Braccia

Commander, Sons of The American Legion
Greenlawn Squadron 1244
tonyb24@optonline.net

American Legion Auxiliary



The American Legion Unit 1244 Ladies Auxiliary is currently involved in our membership drive. With new leadership, it is our mission to include as many members as possible to continue our work.

We are busy planning our craft fair as well as a pancake breakfast so that we may raise ample funds for our post. Many thanks to our senior members who have been so vital in keeping our Ladies Auxiliary an enduring success. We would also like to welcome our newest member - Donna Blanco.

American Legion Riders



The following letter was read at the 100th American Legion National Convention by Bob Sussan chairman of the National Legion Riders

Advisory Committee and Legacy Run Chief Road Captain:

‘I'd like to kick off our donations with a few excerpts from a letter I received. And I think this says it all. (Accompanying this letter was a check for \$1,000).

‘To Bob and the rest of the American Legion Family:

I want to thank each and everyone for all you do. My name is Bruce Blanco I'm a Gold Star dad. My son Michael Blanco was in the Marines and this was his dream since early school. He graduated early to join and shortly became Lance Corporal Michael E Blanco, US Marine.

Michael died February 15, 2010. Honestly, I did not know how to deal with the loss of my son, who everyone referred to as my ‘little me.’ Days after Michael's death, I retired as a police officer to take care of my family, since I



**Bob Sussan - Chairman
National Legion Riders
Advisory Committee**

was mentally getting worse just sitting around the house.

I thought about all that Michael had done in his short time on earth and, in some way, I wanted to continue what he was doing. I joined the American Legion and the American Legion Riders.

Today, I'm the Director of the American Legion Riders Post 1244 and also Suffolk County Chairman for the Riders.

What a great group of men and women we have - including Veterans, Sons, Auxiliary and supporters. In all of our spare time, we try to raise money for our veterans in need as well as the children of our fallen. Enclosed is our check for \$1,000 for the Legacy Run. I wish I was along beside you on the ride. God bless each and every person on this ride. Ride safe and remember - there is an angel riding alongside of you for all you do for others.

Much love from my family to yours,

**Bruce Blanco, Director American Legion Riders
Chapter 1244, Greenlawn New York ‘**

Greenlawn Bugle Receives National Honors

We are proud to announce that *The Greenlawn Bugle* has been honored by the National American Legion Press Association with the first prize Jack R. C. Cann Award for publications of posts with under 250 members.

Accepting the award for Editor Bob Santo at the 2018 American Legion National Convention in Minneapolis was Suffolk County Commander Mike Pankowski.

We were also honored with the Robert L. Morrill Award, second place, for our Post 1244 Facebook page.

We have always recognized that for us to reach as many potential members as possible, we have to have an “all of the above” strategy. Our website, Facebook page and Twitter account are all part of that outreach strategy.

Many thanks are due to all who have contributed their thoughts, ideas and experiences to our newsletter. You have made it a pleasure to report on our very exceptional American Legion post over these last 11 years of the Greenlawn Bugle’s existence. To be honest, there has never been a time when there wasn’t a lot of great things happening at our post!



Suffolk County Commander Mike Pankowski accepts the Jack R.C. Cann award from NALPA President Mark Sutton on behalf of Post 1244.

Operation Enduring Care

We are currently in the process of planning for our fiscal year 2018-2019 campaign to support the needs of our most vulnerable population of veterans in the Community Living Centers (CLC’s) at the Northport VA Medical Center.

This year, we purchased and delivered twenty five 32” flat screen TV’s to the hospice patients in building 8. We understand that this building will eventually be entirely devoted to hospice care as well as respite care for those who are nearing the end of life.

In addition to supplying personal comfort and care items not supplied to the patients by the VA, we will be seeking to provide some special needs furniture for the units. These would provide some level of comfort for the veteran’s visitors who would like to spend time with their loved ones.

Of course, as soon as the United Veterans Beacon

House Homeless Shelter is reopened, we hope to provide the residents there with lots of personal care items and non-perishable food as we have done in years past. We are hoping their doors will open soon.

At this time, we are seeking only monetary donations to allow us some flexibility on meeting whatever needs we determine need to be fulfilled.

Donations can be sent to:

American Legion Post 1244
PO Box 238
Greenlawn, NY 11740

Checks Payable to: “American Legion Post 1244”

Memo Line: “Operation Enduring Care”

Did You Know?

The American Legion etched a permanent place in history in 1944. That year, Legionnaires ushered into law the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act – better known as the GI Bill. Since then, millions of veterans have received free or discounted higher education benefits. So effective was the GI Bill, it is often credited for spurring more than 50 years of economic prosperity across the nation.

Women Veterans Memorial at Calverton



SAVE THE DATE!

**UNVEILING CEREMONY OF THE WOMEN VETERANS MEMORIAL
HONORING ALL MILITARY SERVICE WOMEN
CALVERTON NATIONAL CEMETERY**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2018

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Sponsored by

VA |  U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

NYC Veterans

 **Dignity**[®]
MEMORIAL

 LIFE WELL CELEBRATED™

Two years ago, American Legion Post 1244 was approached by representatives of U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Calverton National Cemetery, Dignity Memorial Funeral Homes and New York City Department of Veterans Services (NYC Veterans). We were asked to help in the planning of a Women Veterans Memorial to be installed at Calverton National Cemetery.

The idea of a memorial to honor all women veterans who have served our country since its beginning was suggested by retired Brig. Gen. Loree Sutton, Commissioner at New York City Department of Veterans Services.

Almost two years later, after much planning, consulting and negotiating of red tape, the dedication has been scheduled for Saturday, October 13, 2018.

Some 3 million women have served in defense of our nation, since its beginning nearly 250 years ago.

Women now make up 20 percent of new recruits, 15 percent of the active-duty force and 18 percent of the

reserve and National Guard. Almost 280,000 women have served in Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn. More than 2 million veterans — about 9 percent of the total veteran population of 21 million — are women.

Female service members and veterans who pioneered the battle field for today's service women must be honored for their service to our country at a time when women had not yet had been granted the right to vote.

Among the honored guests who will be speaking at this event will be American Legion Past National Commander Denise Rohan, who has just completed her term in office. She is the first woman elected as national commander of the American Legion.

The West Point Band is scheduled to perform for this ceremony.

We hope that many of you can join us for this important occasion.

A Moment With Chaplain Charlie



I began volunteering at the Northport VA Medical Center several years ago. The following are my earliest....“Thoughts of a VA Volunteer.”

There was a diverse group of patients scattered throughout the pavilion of the VA Medical Center in Northport, NY. The weathered baseball caps that dotted the room left no doubt as to who these people were: “WWII Veteran,” “United States Marine Corps,” “Korean Veteran,” “US Army,” “Vietnam Veteran,” “US Air Force,” “Desert Storm”.....

Whatever the embroidery, these souls were all members of a select group of Americans. They were veterans. Whatever their station in life outside this complex, in here, they all shared a common, unbreakable bond that each would cherish to the end.

It was my first day as a VA volunteer escort. As I entered the Escort Service office it was apparent that, at 67, I was one of the youngest in the room. Like me, most of my co-workers were also veterans. Over the next few weeks, I shadowed them and learned the ropes. Our mission was to shuttle patients between clinics within the massive complex either by wheelchair or stretcher. We became their companions if only for a few moments, our brief friendships ending at their assigned clinic.

I’ve had the privilege of assisting veterans from World War II through Iraq and Afghanistan. Most memorable were those from our Greatest Generation. Now in their 90’s, frail yet proud, they spoke of bygone days, as we waited for an elevator or made our way through the tunnels. They recounted times when they were young and strong and served in faraway places with strange sounding names. Though their words came up through their throats, their eyes told the real stories.

All veterans, but especially those with the scars of war should serve as role models to the rest of us. They possess character traits that were once the norm throughout our land but sadly, may no longer be. They still believe that a handshake trumps a contract, that sacrifice builds character, that courtesy and respect have a place in society, and that working toward the greater good is more important than gaining individual benefit. Perhaps most importantly, they expect nothing they have not earned.

As escorts, we are often thanked by our veterans for the assistance we provide. Ironically, it is we that owe each of them a debt of gratitude for their service to this great nation of ours. We can all learn from the good men and women within the walls of the Northport, VA Medical Center and VA hospitals like it throughout the country. They are, literally, a dying breed. May God bless them all.

Chaplain Charlie Tritto

Become a Volunteer at the Northport VAMC

Each year, over 75,000 volunteers give more than 11 million hours in service to America’s Veterans. It is impossible to calculate the amount of caring and sharing that these VAVS volunteers provide to Veteran patients.

VAVS volunteers are a priceless asset to the Nation’s Veterans and to the Department of Veterans Affairs. You may assist Veteran patients by augmenting staff with end of life care programs, foster care, community-based volunteer programs, hospital wards, nursing homes and Veteran outreach centers.

For an Application Contact Jennifer Pohl
Email: Jennifer.Poh,2@va.gov

Please include your full name and contact phone number.



American Legion Scholarships

Parents and Grandparents. You may be surprised to learn that the American Legion Family (Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and American Legion Riders) offers a number of scholarships and other resources to assist young people in their pursuit of higher education. There are opportunities for everyone, including relatives of wartime veterans and participants in Legion programs. For a summary of each scholarship and links to details and applications please see this link:

www.suffolkcountylegion.org/scholarships



Michael Blanco Street Dedication

July 1st was a normal summer Sunday morning. The word had gone out a few days earlier that, on this day, a section of Wichard Blvd. in Commack would be renamed in honor of the late L. Cpl. Michael Blanco. Michael was the son of American Legion Riders Chapter 1244 President Bruce Blanco and his wife, Donna.

It was expected to be a low key event, a ceremony to honor the service and memory of a 19 year old Marine, whose experiences in the military had affected him so much that, in 2010, he took his own life.

As the 10:00 am hour approached, the streets began to fill with hundreds of veterans, bikers and other citizens from all over Long Island as well as officials from the Town of Smithtown. Two fire department ladder trucks unfurled a giant American flag in Michael's honor.

We learned from Michael's parents, and others, that he was not only a patriotic young American, but one who, as a young boy showed a desire to be of service to those in need, showing compassion to his less fortunate schoolmates.

Now, on the street where he grew up, his name will never be forgotten. This ceremony marked the first time



that a community in Suffolk County has memorialized a serviceman who lost his life due to PTSD. It is estimated that, every day, approximately 20 veterans commit suicide.

We hope that commemorations like this will help to remove the stigma of PTSD and related veteran suicides so that no more of our finest sons and daughters are lost to this tragic epidemic.

Vice Commander's Call to Members



As your membership chairperson, I applaud the formation of our new Welcoming Committee.

They will assimilate new members and transfers into our Post to make their experience worthwhile and informative.

Last year we were able to recruit 19 new members so the Committee has a formidable task. But this is our future

growth. This year, although only a few short months to date, we have already recruited 10 new members !

Paid membership stands at 60 % of our roster. Once again, we implore those who have not yet paid their Legion dues, to do so as quickly as possible either by check or on-line.

A reminder to those who have not yet paid that your dues were due July 1st.

You know you're old when:

1. You get exhausted playing chess
2. Sit in a rocking chair and can't get it started
3. Your fingers cramp scrolling down a website to find the year you were born.
4. Dialing long distance wears you out.

Richard Russana

Welcome To Our Newest American Legion Members!

The American Legion:

Jeff Ballantyne

Frank Capodacqua

Anthony Caruso

David Erazo

Matt Geller

Wyatt Peabody

Kenneth L. Phillips Sr.

Karen Saffari

It's a Boy!!!

Congratulations to proud parents Sal and Nicole Abbate as well as delighted grandparents Bruce and Donna Blanco on the arrival of Vince Michael Abbate on August 24.

Vince joins his Big Sister Kristiana and Big Brother Gino Abbate at right.



Vince Michael Abbate



The Commander's Corner



Can you believe that summer is already over for 2018? Neither can I. When we were younger and in school, summer seemed to last forever. Nowadays, it truly seems to be only Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day and then poof ... its gone!

My goodness. Where did it go?

Well, that being said, here we are beginning the new fiscal year for the Legion and we are already two months in. Are your dues paid yet? Mine are. It was simple to do online. You only need your member number (from your last membership card) and a credit card. Go online to www.legion.org/renew and get that done, please.

Fall has officially begun and we are off to a good start for 2019. The booth at the Greenlawn Fireman's Fair was of great benefit as we picked up three new members and transferred a Post 1 member to Post 1244. Did you volunteer for that duty? If so, thanks for your efforts and well done ! We have many more opportunities coming to give us a hand with several outdoor events quickly approaching.

Our Sons Squadron will be holding another fundraiser this coming Saturday and when it finishes up, they'll have some serious funds with which to make some veteran's lives a little nicer. They will soon decide just how to make that happen.

Our Post Brunch will happen on September 30. It brings our Post together as a family for a wonderful

breakfast with lots of treats for individual tastes. I hope you join us. If not, please do make the next one.

The Huntington Fall Festival begins on Columbus Day weekend and we will have a table there to move the rest of our remaining poppies and take some donations, as well as searching the crowd for potential members.

You have a chance to watch some real "experts" at this and then become one yourself. Many veterans have waited a long time, merely to be asked to become a member of a veteran's organization and we are there to facilitate that membership. In doing so, we can help them reconnect with their pride of service and help them to share their pride with others. Volunteer a few hours to give us a hand with this if you can. It's time well spent.

Our Veteran's Day ceremony, of course, will take place Sunday, Nov 11th at 11 o'clock sharp, followed immediately by our annual lunch at Applebee's restaurant here in Commack. I'm sure we'll be seeing you for that one. Remember, though the entrée is free, our drinks are paid so we tell each participant that this lunch will be \$10 per person to cover the drinks and the tips for the staff.

Soon thereafter is our Holiday Party, this time being held at the Woodbury Country Club. You'll certainly see more about it in the coming eNews broadcasts and hear about it at our monthly meetings. Remember, this is a family event.

Thanks for being a member of this Post. We have made our mark around town and in the community. Buckle up, troops. We have another busy season before we come indoors for the winter months.

Dennis Madden



If you have E Mail service and are not receiving Our weekly **E Bulletin** from us, we invite you to let us add you to our list. We will let you know of Post 1244 news of interest, and activities and events you may wish to take part in. **No chain letters, political messages or jokes.** Only **"The News You Can Use."** **And you can unsubscribe at any time!**

Just send an email to: [Post 1244@verizon.net](mailto:Post1244@verizon.net) . We'll do the rest .

The Greenlawn Bugle: Editor, Publisher, Writer, Photographer and Reporter Bob Santo

Contributing Writers: Charlie Armstrong, Bruce Blanco, Dennis Madden,

Michelle Martin, Richard Russano, Bob Santo, and Charlie Tritto.

Photos by: Nicole Abbate, Bob Santo, Charlie Tritto

Copy Editor, Envelope Labeling, Stuffing, Circulation and Morale Officer: Madelaine Santo



OUR SUPPORTERS



Chad A. Lupinacci
Supervisor
Town of Huntington



100 Main Street, Room 200,
Huntington, NY 11743
CLupinacci@huntingtonny.gov
631-351-3030



Mark Cuthbertson
Councilman
Town of Huntington



Huntington Town Hall
100 Main Street, Huntington, NY 11743
<http://HuntingtonNY.gov>
Email: MCuthbertson@HuntingtonNY.gov
(631) 351-3172 - Fax (631) 673-3379



*Thank you to our
Veterans
and their families for
serving our country.*

Councilman Eugene Cook
Town of Huntington
631-351-3174
ecook@huntingtonny.gov



Councilman Edmund J.M. Smyth, USMCR,

Veteran
Semper Fi
esmyth@huntingtonny.gov
631-351-3175



Joan Cergol
Councilwoman
Town of Huntington



100 Main Street
Huntington, NY 11743
(631) 351-3173
jcergol@huntingtonny.gov

*Proud member of
American Legion Auxiliary
Greenlawn Unit 1244*

Village Auto Body



85 Broadway
Greenlawn, NY 11740
(631) 754-8383
Fax (631) 754-8814

villageautocare.com

Anthony Cancemi
email: tony@villageautocare.com

Collision Repairs • Auto Glass • Towing • Insurance Claims Service



**The Officers and Members of
Greenlawn Volunteer Fire Department Support
American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244**

GREENLAWN HARDWARE Co. | Since Inc. | 1964

WWW.GREENLAWNHARDWARE.COM
PAINT - ELECTRICAL - PLUMBING - KEYS - GLASS
BENJAMIN MOORE PAINTS - CABOT STAINS
83 BROADWAY
GREENLAWN, NY 11740
(631) 261-0119
FAX (631) 261-9344



OUR SUPPORTERS



Andrew P. Raia
Member of Assembly
12th District
Suffolk County



75 Woodbine Ave.
Northport, NY 11768
(631)-261-4151

raiaa@assembly.state.ny.us



Steve Stern
Member of Assembly
10th District
Suffolk County



630 New York Avenue Ste. D
Huntington, NY 11743
(631) 271-8025
Fax (631) 424-5984

sterns@assembly.state.ny.us



William R. Spencer, MD
Suffolk County Legislator
18th Legislative District

15 Park Circle, Suite 209
Centerport, NY 11721
(631)854-4500
Fax (631)854-4503



Susan A. Berland, Esq.
Suffolk County Legislator
16th Legislative District
6080 Jericho Turnpike Suite 307
Commack, NY 11725
Phone: 631-854-5100
Fax: 631-854-5103
Susan.berland@suffolkcountyny.gov



We are a 501-c-3, non-profit service organization dedicated to veterans from all eras who seek relief from their Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Our organization centers on the PRRP/PTSD Residential Treatment Unit at the Veterans Administration's Medical Center in Northport, New York.

Visit our web site:

www.ptsdveteransassociation.org

We are also involved in a campaign to recognize the Liver and Blood Fluke parasites that are killing Veterans from all eras.

Visit our web site:

www.VeteranLiverFluke.com. (under construction)



**Long Island & Queens
Vitreoretinal Consultants, PC**
Locations in:
**Great Neck, Hauppauge, Elmhurst, Riverhead
and Rockville Center**
For directions and contact information:
www.longislandretina.com
Thank You, Veterans



The world's largest training organization for adults 50 and over. Courses are designed specifically for seniors and are taught by caring volunteer instructors and coaches...in our Huntington or East Yaphank Locations.

Computers- Internet - E Mail -Photoshop- Genealogy
Classroom Training -Remote Learning- Seminars

Registration and Education - Call (631) 470-6757
Development and Direct line to Slava Vero - Call (631) 470-6922
www.SeniorNetLI.org



OUR SUPPORTERS

**Huntington Tri Village
LITTLE LEAGUE / SENIOR LEAGUE**

SERVING THE
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON

AGES 5 TO 18

(631) 925-6104

“WE ARE PROUD

TO SUPPORT

OUR

AMERICAN HEROES”

UNITED STATES COLUMBARIUM CO.



**Fresh Pond Crematory
61-40 Mount Olivet Crescent
Middle Village, NY 11379
718-821-9700**

www.freshpondcrematory.com

J.P. Di Troia President

Serving the community since 1884

Cremation Chapel Services Columbarium Niches
Memorial Urns Pre-need Memorials

Call our Expert Memorial Counselors For Details

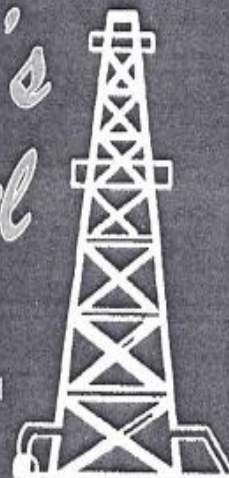


41 Commack Road Commack, NY 11725
Phone: 631-499-8600
Janine Maiorca, Vice President,
Branch Manager

775 Pulaski Rd Greenlawn, NY 11740
Phone: 631-757-6100
Maria Selvaggio, Assistant Treasurer,
Branch Manager

167 Walt Whitman Rd Huntington Station,
NY 11746
Phone: 631-547-5370
Kathleen Benoit, Vice President
Branch Manager

*Larry's
Fuel*



SINCE 1978

Family Owned & Operated

- GAS SERVICE & INSTALLATIONS
- FULL SERVICE COVERAGE
- CONTRACTS & AUTOMATIC DELIVERY AVAILABLE
- ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

**DISCOUNTED
PREMIUM GRADE NO. 2 FUEL**



631-757-8543 • 631-754-3015

Fax: 631-757-3214





OUR SUPPORTERS

Your Ad Could Be Here
Contact Us At:

Post1244@Verizon.net
For Details

www.greenlawncivic.org



The Greenlawn Civic Association
P.O. Box 332 - Greenlawn - Long Island - New York - 11740

**We join you in support of Our Troops.
We thank them for their dedicated service
and sacrifice for our Country.**



DELEA
Sod Farms
Quality Sod For Any Application

440 Elwood Rd. East Northport 11731
444 Elwood Rd., East Northport, NY 11731





Douglas Schwartz
President

Serving NYC

2200 Bellmore Ave.
Bellmore, NY 11710
office 516-826-8172
cell 516-233-7272

doug@executivelimousine.org
www.executivelimousine.org



Lydia J. Edu-Daly
Vice President
Managing Director

320 Walt Whitman Road
South Huntington, NY 11746

ledudaly@snb.com 631.421.9200 DIRECT

snb.com



Allstate
You're in good hands.

Tom Kidby Ronald Szabo
(631) 754-2500

Proudly helping protect families
from Mayhem for over 30 years!!



(631)754-2400
www.nthfh.com

NOLAN & TAYLOR-HOWE
FUNERAL HOME, INC.

FIVE LAUREL AVENUE,
NORTHPORT, NY 1768-3166



DIX HILLS
DINER-RESTAURANT

1800 E. Jericho Turnpike, Huntington, NY 11743
631.499.5899 - Fax 631.623.6131
www.mydixhillsdiner.com
Eatery - Bakery - Bar