



The Greenlawn Bugle

American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244

June 2014
Volume 8 Issue 2

◆ New York American Legion Press Association Best Paper Award 2012 and 2013

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Upcoming Events

Post Brunch

Sunday July 6, 10:45 am
Nocello's Restaurant
843 Ft. Salonga Rd.
Northport

Huntington Manor Firemans Fair

Post Membership Booth.
Tuesday July 15—Saturday
July 19

Monthly Meetings

8:00 pm

St. Joseph Council K of C

Wednesday, July 9
Wednesday, August 13
Wednesday, September 10



Photo by Adria Marlowe

Memorial Day 2014

Over forty members of our Legion Family took part in this year's Greenlawn Memorial Day Parade, sponsored by the Greenlawn Fire Department. Post 1244 Legionnaires, Sons, Auxiliary and Riders marched and rode in memory of all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in our nation's wars.

Stepping off at precisely 9:00 am on a cool, overcast Memorial Day, we were warmly greeted by the people of Greenlawn. We were joined by a number of our elected officials, among whom were Assemblymen Andrew Raia and Chad Lupinacci, County Legislator Dr. William Spencer and Councilman Mark Cuthbertson.

The ceremony, was conducted by the Greenlawn Fire Department and was inspirational as always. It included the reading of Thirty-One Profound Words by Albert Statton III, SFC, US Army, Retired, a former GLFD member and a new member of our post. (His speech can be found on page 10 of this issue.)

As is our custom, our Post wreath is placed at the base of the Greenlawn Monument by the Commander and a Legionnaire who served during WW II or Korea. This year, Cmdr. Santo chose for this year's honor, Korean War veteran and former Navy Seabee Carl Hecker. Carl has been a member of the American Legion for over 30 years and is a steadfast member of our Post.

Along with members of the Greenlawn Fire Department and the American Legion gathered at the monument were a great many members of civic groups, scouting organizations and members of the community. It was heartening to see so many wreaths placed by children of the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

That afternoon, in the picnic area behind the Knights of Columbus, over 100 Legionnaires, Sons, Auxiliary and family members converged at the site of

(Continued on page 5)

Our Monthly meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 pm, Knights of Columbus, 24 Boulevard Ave. Greenlawn. Come early and get to know us! For more information call: 631-673-8704 or Email: Post1244@verizon.net



BOY'S & GIRLS STATE – 2014



11 Delegates To Boys & Girls State in 2014

This year we have enlarged our involvement considerably, and have our first ever Girl's State delegates. Our Post was able to offer the opportunity to participate in the American Legion's Boy's State & Girl's State educational programs to eleven exceptional high school juniors. This was due in part to the generous contributions from many of the local businesses, organizations, and Town Councilwomen.

It has been our ongoing goal to continue expanding our Post's involvement by making this unique summer-time experience available to as many local students as possible. Students attending this year are from four different high schools: Harborfields, Walt Whitman, Half Hollow Hills East and Chaminade high schools.

Upon arrival at their respective campuses (SUNY Morrisville for the boys, and SUNY Brockport for the girls) at the end of June, each 'delegate' is assigned to a mythical political party. They then have the opportunity



L-R: Boys State Chairman Charlie Armstrong, Katherine Ryan delegate,, Lauren Majid delegate, Legionnaire Donna Boyle and Harborfields HS Principal Dr. Rory Manning.

to run for an elected office or become an appointed official. It includes party caucuses and conventions, development of platforms, and operation of government units. The 'delegates' get to form and operate their own government. They even pass laws.

The educational program is designed to mirror the structure and operation of the state government. This will help to insure that we will have an educated populace that understands and appreciates our American democratic republic, and help assure it is strong and survives for future generations.

Let's see what we can accomplish next year!

Charlie Armstrong

A Listing of Donors to our Boys & Girls State program can be found on page 9.

Boys State Post 1244

- Michael Panettieri - Harborfields High School
- Todd Sammis - Harborfields High School
- Eli Slamowitz - Harborfields High School
- Lawrence Lesser - Harborfields High School
- Sean Della - Walt Whitman High School
- Nolan Borg - Half Hollow Hills East H.S.
- Eitan Golan - Half Hollow Hills East H.S.
- Michael Brunetti - Chaminade High School
- Thomas Weglarz - Chaminade High School

Girls State Post 1244

- Katherine Ryan - Harborfields High School
- Lauren Majid - Harborfields High School

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631-754-9488 Rentals / Membership**



**24 BOULEVARD AVENUE
GREENLAWN, NY 11740**



Greenlawn Auxiliary Unit 1244

There will not be an Auxiliary Column this month.
Unit President Fran Hubbs is recovering from a serious operation.
We wish Fran a swift and complete recovery and that she will be back to the wonderful work
that Fran and her team have been doing on behalf of our veterans.

Get Well Fran!



Community Spotlight on:

America's VetDogs Veteran's K9 Corps



Founded in 2003 by The Guide Dog Foundation, America's VetDogs is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit-organization that serves the needs of disabled veterans from all eras and active duty personnel. VetDogs is the premier assistance dog school serving disabled veterans; they train and place guide dogs with veterans who are blind; service dogs for those with other physical disabilities; physical and occupational therapy dogs to work with amputees in military and VA hospitals. They trained the first-ever combat stress control dogs that were deployed in-theater.

All America's VetDogs services are provided at no cost to those who have honorably served. In 2013, *America's VetDogs became one of only two assistance dog schools in the United States to be accredited by the International Guide Dog Federation and Assistance Dogs International.* (The Guide Dog Foundation was the first.)



The CPL Bill at America's VetDogs for a photo shoot last month. Cmdr. Bob Santo and Sgt at Arms Charlie Armstrong are 2nd and 3rd from the left. Post 1244 Legionnaire and Manager of the VetDogs Service Dog program Ken Kirsch, fourth from the left. Christine McDonald Corporate Development and VSO Manager is at far right.

For More Information or to Donate to America's VetDogs:

America's VetDogs
371 East Jericho Turnpike
Smithtown, NY 11787-2976
Phone: 1-631-930-9090
info@vetdogs.org
www.vetdogs.org



Missing In America Project Activity Reports

MIAP and Greenlawn Post 1244 regularly conduct honors services for veterans who have died with no known next of kin. We work with the NYC Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs and Dignity Memorial Funeral Homes to be sure that all veterans receive the honors to which their service entitles them.

William Winchell Thursday April 3, 2014 Calverton National Cemetery

10 years ago our Marine was killed by a subway train in the New York underground, at the 57th street station in Manhattan. At that time, the Authorities could not gather any information about Mr. Winchell. Subsequently Mr. Winchell was interred on Hart Island's Potters Field.

Recently the Medical Examiner gleaned enough information to realized that Mr. Winchell was a veteran. This resulted in the exhumation of Mr. Winchell, which then triggered notification of MIAP, and Dignity Memorial. Normally this would be the end of the story, however, there was some mix up with Mr. Winchell's name which resulted in four scheduled interments being delayed. However, MIAP, and Dignity Memorial make a formidable team, and our Marine was to have his day of honor and respect by his fellow veterans. So it came to pass on a glorious spring day in April, Suffolk County American Legionnaires paid tribute to a fellow veteran who waited patiently to be found.

American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244 was there as always in their support of MIAP, as was the American Legion Riders and, as always, their flag line. The sun was out warming our service, the birds flew about, as if to join in our final closure, and all of the group filed past the casket with a final salute.

Mr. Winchell had finally had his day.

Carl Dobrin Thursday May 15, 2014 Calverton National Cemetery

Missing in America Project's functions are fairly consistent. However, every now and then, up jumps the devil. An oddity, a curve ball challenges the stalwart MIAP team member's flexibilities. At first we are in a bit of a quandary. Not because the difference is of any great difficulty, but merely because it's different. A basic rule to start with is: never give the wolf bigger teeth than it actually has. Most times, the problem is analogous to a frisky puppy.

On May 14, 2014, I received a call from Calverton National Cemetery. The Cemetery's assistant director was inquiring if I intended to give the service for tomorrow's interment of abandoned veteran Carl Dobrin. I told her I wasn't planning to, as I was not aware of any interments. She informed me that there was and it was from MOVA, (The Mayors Office of Veterans Affairs). She had assumed that because I do those interments, that I would do this one, however I informed her that I do the ones that come from Dignity Memorial Funeral Homes. She said this was a sad occasion and that no one would be there.

She went on to explain that this veteran had retired from the Army and had participated in two wars, the Korean and Viet Nam Wars. He was in the Army from 1950 to 1974. I informed her in no uncertain terms, that regardless of our commitment to Dignity Memorial, MIAP would be honored to perform the service. I further explained that MIAP would not ignore any veteran, much less one that had served in two wars.

That night was our monthly Post meeting, and the funeral was the next day. My post commander, Bob Santo had already put the funeral announcement out to the County membership. He also suggested that that I bring it up at our meeting, which I did. The next day at Calverton, there were six Post 1244 members and another Post Commander, Michael Pankowski, from Riverhead Post 273. I was so grateful and proud that my Legion brothers, were there on such short notice. Unique was the six-soldier honor guard, a live Taps player and a live rifle volley. This last facet of the service was because Veteran Corbin had retired form the Army. MIAP had turned a potentially sad moment into a proud one. As the Bard would say, "All's well that ends well".

Final Closure

What does "final closure" really mean? When the "Missing in America Project" conducts services for our abandoned veterans, there is an implication of final closure. We bury them with honor, dignity and respect. When we release white doves at the end of the service, we again imply final closure. The doves will lead our departed loved ones to their final resting place. When the family says goodbye at the grave site, or when we salute the coffin, or touch it, we are going through final closure,

But, is that really final closure? Does it mean that we have done our duty, and need not concern ourselves any longer with the departed? Well, I would venture a guess that for most, that will be final closure. However, what of the remaining few, who don't have final closure, in such an efficient quick manner, what if they can't say goodbye?

Missing in America Project hunts high and low for abandoned veterans' cremains. A compelling sense of duty urges us on. Do we wish or, need to have a ritual for the ceremony? Or does the ritual legitimize the ceremony and symbolize the meaning of what it is to be an American? Are these veterans an image of worth? They represent who we are. When we honor them, we also subtly honor ourselves as a People, and as a Nation.

When we say goodbye to a loved one, depending on the love that one had, our emotions run the gamut from sorry loss, to inconsolable grief. We will be confronted with well meaning people and their need to console us. If their efforts help, then fine, but they rarely

do. I would work to change my prospective, however. Grieving, seems necessary but it should not become a new way of life. How wonderful if we could have a final closure that is not the finality that death implies, but one that allows us in our memories to keep our loved one always close and cherished in our hearts. Every time we see a child smile, every time we get hit with a snow ball, and cannot not find where it came from, every time the Spring breaks through, every time the stars come out at night and wink at you, every time the Sun bids you goodnight with a dazzling display of color, these and a thousand more times, your loved one is saying hello, good morning, or good night, that they are alright, and wanted to see how you were, and to send their love.

Love like energy can never be destroyed, the flesh may wither and decay and turn to dust, but love will endure. Someday the scientists will find something more than Dark Energy out in the universe. They will find trillions of molecules of love, and they will be intertwined with all the love we had for our departed.

In the final analysis, we must all pay our final debt, and have closure with life. It is the way of the world. Nature gave us our shot, a chance at the brass ring, what we did with that chance, will remain for another day's tale.

John Caldarelli

Chairman Post 1244
Missing In America Project

Memorial Day 2014 *(Continued from page 1)*

the biggest cookout we have ever had. We had expected a pretty good crowd, though, so we were ready! Many thanks to Bob Moreback for stepping up and handling the duties at the grill with Tom Freeman assisting. There were enough hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken for everyone along with lots of ice cold refreshments. As always, the ladies of the Auxiliary came through with plenty of salads and desserts.

We were delighted that Councilwoman Tracey Edwards was able to stop by at the cookout for a visit!

Many thanks to all who helped, especially the ladies of the Auxiliary and the Legionnaires who helped with the shopping and setup and those who provided the ice and let us borrow their coolers. Thanks, as well, to those who helped with the cleanup. Many hands made light work. Special thanks to **Crescent Packing Corp.** and **Manor Provisions** for their generous donations of food, and a very special thanks to **St. Joseph Council, Knights of Columbus** for extending their hospitality to us once again.

American Legion Riders Post 1244



Missing in America Project (MIAP)-Calverton Mission

Under rainy conditions, Wednesday, May 28, ALR's President Serge Dei, Vice President Bruce Blanco, Treasurer Chris Argento, Historian Bob Glanzman, Joe Spinelli and Vic Ramondetta escorted 11 buses filled with NYC family members and relatives to their loved one's gravesite.

Since 2011 Dignity Memorial has been responsible for identifying, burying, and honoring 84 'unclaimed' veterans at Calverton National Cemetery. Donald Miller had not seen his brother Thomas in 30 years after the two drifted apart. Both brothers served in the Korean War. Finally he was able to locate his missing brother through information provided by Dignity Memorials deceased 'homeless' veterans locator site. "Thomas Miller is no longer homeless, he has family now," said Donald Miller.

Representatives from the Local, NYC, and State government, and veteran organizations, welcomed the families and friends, offered prayers and words of consolation, and made oral presentations remembering the deceased veterans' valued service to our country. By *Divine Intervention* the rain ceased and permitted the ceremony services to continue without interruption.

The Memorial Committee must be recognized and commended for their distinctive, planned detailed activities and outstanding veteran service this day. A reading of the 84 'homeless' deceased veterans was consummately executed by John Caldarelli and Serge Dei; Service Prayers were offered; releasing of 84 balloons; **Volley Salute** (see insert) the serene, eloquent and mesmerizing Echo-Taps softened the hardened heart; and ceremoniously, the Colors were retired.

This 'honor mission' was made possible through the sponsorship of Dignity Memorial Funeral Homes and the Missing in America Project, John Caldarelli Chairman, and the continuous support of Calverton National Cemetery and its director Michael Picerno.

Once lost.....but now found.....and always remembered! Amen.



John Caldarelli, Post 1244 MIAP Chairman and Serge Dei Post 1244 ALR President reading the names of the 84 unclaimed veterans brought to Calverton by Dignity Memorial since 2011.

History of the Rifle Volley

When a squad of soldiers fires THREE VOLLEYS over a grave, they are bidding their dead comrade farewell, in accordance with customs dating back to Roman Times. At Roman funerals it was customary to call the departed THREE times by name, which concluded the funeral ceremony.

When firearms were introduced in the theatre of war, THREE VOLLEYS was sounded to halt the fighting, and remove the dead from the battlefield. Once each army had removed their dead from the battlefield it would fire THREE VOLLEYS to indicate that the dead were removed, and they were ready to continue the fight.

Written by: Chris Argento, RD, CEC
RVN 66-67 US Army 39th Combat Engrs

Channel 12 News: see American Legion Riders Post 1244

<http://longisland.news12.com/news/homeless-veterans-honored-at-calverton-national-cemetery-1.8237206>

Veterans Center Added to Harborfields Public Library

Harborfields Public Library has established a new Veterans Center. The center provides books, pamphlets and brochures, announcements of upcoming programs and workshops, job fairs, and other helpful information for our veterans. Veterans or family members of veteran should stop by the Reference Room and a librarian will be happy to help you find information and reading material.

The Center, which was suggested by Outreach Coordinator Susan Matthews, is being developed into a first-class resource for veterans in our community by Susan Holden, Adult Services.

On a recent visit, two books, spanning the generations between World War II and today's Global War on Terror were on display.

The first was **"Full of Heart"** the story of J.R. Martinez, a 19 year old Army private who was severely wounded by an anti-tank mine in Iraq, resulting in severe injuries and burns on his face and more than one-third of his body. The story of his recovery and his indomitable spirit has made him an inspiration to countless fans. He has become a motivational speaker and was winner of season thirteen "Dancing With the Stars."

The other was **"To Hell and Back"** a WWII



memoir by Audie Murphy. Rejected by both the marines and paratroopers because he was too short, Murphy eventually found a home with the infantry. He fought through campaigns in Sicily, Italy, France, and Germany. Although still under twenty-one years old on V-E Day, he was credited with having killed, captured, or wounded 240 Germans. He emerged from the war as America's most decorated soldier, having received twenty-one medals, including our highest military decoration, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Veterans are welcome to stop by and visit the center. Suggestions for additional titles and materials are welcomed.

The "Post It" Cartoon

On behalf of the artistic team of Post 1244 Legionnaire Allen Schwartz and Marianne Savage (ARS/MS), we are pleased to provide our first cartoon for **The Greenlawn Bugle**.

In our never-ending quest to bring home a Pulitzer prize to our Post 1244 newsletter, we have enlisted (no pun intended) the talents of Allen his colleague Marianne.

We look forward to seeing what mischief the team comes up with in the next **Greenlawn Bugle**. We would love to hear what you think about "POST IT." Please send comments to Post1244@verizon.net.

If anyone has an idea as to what we should name our anonymous Legionnaire, please send it to the above e mail address. We promise to give your suggestion the consideration it may (or may not) deserve.

The Editors



You Can Help

Northport Veterans Residence Center Food Drive

Post 1244 member Al Statton has brought to our attention that the **Northport Residence Center** at the VA is in need of help. The recent stand down has left their food pantry depleted. The Northport Veterans Residence located in Building 11 at the Northport VA medical Center provides a transitional housing facility for homeless male and female veterans. The program serves veterans who are eligible for, and possibly in need of, health care and other veteran specific services. Assists veterans in re-establishing their independence and improving the quality of their lives. Provides case management, training in daily living skills, recovery groups, and housing. The home is operated by The Salvation Army.

We are collecting donations of food for the residents as well as for their food pantry which is available for any veteran in need of assistance. The Food Pantry can use nutritious, non-perishable foods such as:



FEED THE HUNGRY

Ground Coffee (Cans)
Individually Packaged Snacks
Pasta, Noodles, Rice
Spaghetti Sauce
Canned Vegetables

Meals in a Can (Stew, Chili, Soup)
Canned Fruit
Canned Tuna, Meat
Canned Soups
Cup of Soup Mixes

Please bring donations to the next few meetings. We will see that all food donations are delivered to the Veterans Residence Center. You may also drop off food donations at Cmdr. Santo's house. Please call ahead (516-458-7881) for directions and to arrange a day and a time. My house is at 16 Todd Court, Huntington Station, just east of the Walt Whitman Mall.



Operation Paperback

Under the direction of Legionnaire Donna Boyle, our Post has been partnering with **Operation Paperback**, sending hundreds of books to active duty military around the world since April, 2012. Operation Paperback is a non-profit organization that collects gently used books nationwide and sends them to American troops overseas, as well as veterans and military families here at home. Since 1999, they have shipped over 1.9 million books to locations around the globe.

Our service members and their families make sacrifices every day for our country. It takes so little to let them know that they are appreciated. When you donate to Operation Paperback, you will let America's military know that you appreciate their service and their sacrifices.

We will accept paperbacks as long as they are in good condition at any of our meeting nights. If you are unable to bring them to one of our meetings, please let us know and we will make arrangements to pick them up or receive them from you at another time.

Contact Donna at 39DPIP@Gmail.com or call Cmdr. Bob Santo at 516-458-7881.

Happenings

The Generous Contributions of the Following Local Businesses and Individuals have made our 2014 Boys & Girls State Program

AllState Insurance Co.	Grooming on Broadway, LLC
Susan Berland, Councilwoman	Huntington Colonial Travel Agency
Broadway Auto Parts	Kelly, Sackman, Spollen and Upton, Law Offices
Bullfrog Communications, Inc	KMS Consulting
Tracey Edwards, Councilwoman	Mid-Village Pharmacy
Fab Finds Limited	Moir & Saltz, LLP Attorneys at Law
Greenlawn-Centerport Historical Society	Off Broadway Bar
Antique Fair contributions	Roselle French Cleaners
Greenlawn Cleaners	S & S Chemical
Greenlawn Hardware	Village Auto Body
Greenlawn Service	Volmer Adair Agency Insurance
Grey Meers Pub	

New Greenlawn Bugle Supporters

We are proud to acknowledge, with this issue, the following new Supporters of The Greenlawn Bugle:

Hilaire Nursing and Rehab

9 Hilaire Drive, Huntington, NY 11743

Phone: 631-427-0254

and

M.A. Connell Funeral Home

934 New York Ave. Huntington Station, NY 11746

Phone: 631-427-1123



Welcome Home!

**Legionnaire Sean Lynch,
USMC**

3 Iraq Tours

8 Afghanistan Tours

Thirty One Profound Words

The summer season is here. We will see the happy faces of many individuals and families that will celebrate the season. Celebrations for the end of school. Graduation and the start of the futures that can be chosen. Sounds of music might fill the air as well as laughter. It is good, it means that the dream and promises of our forefathers has been kept.

We must remember that all of this joy and freedom is the result of a promise of 31 carefully chosen words. A promise that has been consecrated by 3.5 million American servicemen and servicewomen during our country's 237 years of existence. The promise spoken in just 5 profound lines, tells the world that the dream of freedom, liberty and pursuit of happiness will not die!

Our ongoing promise is a living monument to those that have given their all. Each line and word paid in full measure most dearly by sacrifice. The 31 words?

The 31 words are just 5 lines arranged in the following manner:

I pledge Allegiance to the flag,

This line consecrated by those that gave their lives in now so familiar places such as Concord, The Battle of White Plains, Battle of Trenton, War of 1812.

of the United States of America

The American Civil War, in places such as Gettysburg, Bull Run, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Harper's Ferry. Brother fought brother, to solidify the Union and give full meaning to the lines that follow.

and to the Republic for which it stands,

one nation under God, indivisible

These words were again tested during World War One, in places such as the Somme, Ramadi, and Belleau Wood. World War Two in Pearl Harbor, Midway on the beach of Normandy, plains of France and the Battle Of The Bulge. Korea at the Chosin Reservoir, Heartbreak Ridge and White Horse.

with Liberty and Justice for all.

The sacrifices of the Viet Nam War service members in battles such as Khe Sanh, Bon Sanh, "The Iron Triangle". Operation Desert Storm, War on Terrorism in places such as Iraq and Afghanistan. I would also reverently add the many victims of the three events on 9/11.

When we recite the Pledge of Allegiance, it must be with pride for so many have given what is so precious. We must recite it with reverence in memory of the many that have given so much. We must also recite it with gratitude for the many that have served and do serve to protect the promise.

We must never forget the gifts of freedom passed down over the many generations. May God grant everlasting peace to our sleeping warriors. May a grateful Nation never forget the price, the gift and the Pledge given to us by our forefathers. Today and always, may God continue to bless America!

Written by Albert Statton III, SFC, US Army Retired.



Vice Commander's Call to Members

... and we're OFF !! Another fair weather season is at hand, troops. Lots of outdoor activities for the

Post to be involved in and too numerous to mention here. Pay close attention to our Weekend E-Newsletters for latest in "What's Happening" and join us when you can. Hope you were with us at the BBQ. Your presence is always a gift to us and to your Post. Thanks for sharing.

We managed to finish out our 2014 year with 246 members, having started the year with only 185 and having lost 5 to the Post Everlasting. I have three Veterans that I am "schmoozing" who live all in one small enclave, (my daughter's cul de sac) in Peachtree City, Georgia. I'm hoping that we will be welcoming them as members in our next issue of the Bugle in September. Stay tuned and see how successful I've been during the summer months getting them "in the boat"! I'd like to be sure that each of YOU is fully versed in membership as well and helping me in our quest to make this one of the largest Posts in the downstate area. It really doesn't take much effort and "most" of the ingredients are already supplied by the veteran! Their favorite military cap is a dead giveaway, or a jacket or a tattoo may do it,

but something will "give them away". Once you engage him or her in conversation by thanking them for their service, follow it up with "what Post do you belong to"? If they don't, tell them about yours. If they DO belong, ask them about their Post and then tell them about YOURS and see if they'd like to transfer IN. Lots of folks have done that, you know ... one of them a Commander of another Post who just finished his term and transferred IN to ours !! (We have BUILT a reputation, you know. Use it!)



Our Commander, Bob Santo, has announced that he will serve this "last year" of his ten years as Commander and then retire, so to speak. We can help make this a banner year for his tenure by all putting our shoulders into this membership drive. Can I count on you to do your part? Just engage a Veteran at any point in their day and at any location and say "THANKS"! That's all its going to take, but make sure you have a Membership blank with you to seal the deal. I have blanks available at EVERY Post meeting, so get yours next time. Thanks in advance for your efforts.

Dennis Madden

Welcome To Our Newest Members!

Joseph DeSomma Jr., Filmore Frank, John Fottrell, Ricky Samuel and Albert Statton III

Your Post Needs Your Help

As you may know, we are in the midst of our 2014 Fundraising Raffle. We are selling chances to be one of two winners of a ride on a WW II bomber on Labor Day Weekend this year. Choose from a B-17 or B-24.

If you have not yet returned your tickets with a donation, please remember we rely on this fundraiser for much of our expenses. Many members have found it is very easy to sell their tickets to family and friends. It is also a great opportunity to tell them what your post is doing! Why not show them your copy of the Greenlawn Bugle and offer them the opportunity to contribute to a local organization that is doing great things.

Bob Santo

Help us Stay In Touch with You. We need your Email address.



If you have E Mail service and are not receiving E Mails from us on a regular basis, we invite you to let us add you to our E Mail broadcast system. We will let you know of Post news of interest, activities and events you may wish to take part in. Our promise: no chain letters, political messages or jokes. Only "The News You Can Use." Just send an e mail to: **Post1244@verizon.net** (and we'll do the rest!)



COMMANDERS CORNER

Thank You For Your Service

We have all heard the above expression, perhaps directed at us, when someone realizes that we are a veteran. I never really know what to say. “Your welcome” sounds a little weak.

What is really important is that those of us who are a part of the American Legion are still “Serving.” It is what we did in the armed forces and what we still do. Service defines us as Legionnaires just as it defined us as Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coastguardsmen.

Bob Santo

I am proud to be part of a Post that serves our veterans, our community and the children and youth who are our future. I hope that each of our members feels the same way.

I invite those of you who are blessed with some free time, to participate in the activities of the Post. There is something here for everyone. If we are missing something that you would like to become involved in, please let us know what that is. If you are unable, at this time, to participate, please help us by renewing your membership, pitch in when we ask for your help, and above all, let us know how we can be of service to you.

I was having a conversation, recently, with a Legionnaire from another Post, who stated, flatly, that you did not really have a Post unless you also had a Post Home. I had to gently remind him that while our Post has grown by over 150 members in the past 9 years, his Post had declined by at least that many, despite having a big Post building and a bar that has seen better times. Sadly, that building, and many others like it, is empty of Legionnaires most of the time, now. Maybe it was a victim of a lack of attention to “service.”

Let’s always remember why the American Legion was formed over 95 years ago: “SERVICE”

Bob Santo



A Final Salute

Paul K. Gibbon. May 2, 2014
U.S. Navy, Korea

George J. Hartman. May 19, 2014
U.S. Army Air Forces, WW II

George E. Joseph. April 26, 2014
U.S. Army, WW II



The Greenlawn Bugle is a quarterly publication of American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244, Inc. For information on how you can support the Greenlawn Bugle and our Post, please contact Commander Bob Santo at 516-458-7881
Our mailing address is PO Box 238, Greenlawn, NY 11740

*The Greenlawn Bugle: Editor and Production Manager, Bob Santo
Contributing Writers: Chris Argento, Charlie Armstrong, John Caldarelli, Dennis Madden, Fran Hubbs,
Envelope Stuffing and Circulation: Bob and Madelaine Santo*



OUR SUPPORTERS

*Best wishes to
American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244
Thank You for your Continued Service*



U.S. Representative Steve Israel
3rd District, New York



534 Broad Hollow Road, Suite 302
Melville, NY 11747
Phone: (631) 777-7391

Sign up for E-News Updates from Rep. Steve Israel:
<http://israel.house.gov>



*Thank you to our Veterans
and their families for
serving our country.*
Councilman Eugene Cook
Town of Huntington
631-351-3174
ecook@huntingtonny.gov

Pro Audio LI ENTERTAINMENT

Block Parties | Fund Raisers
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Chairman, Veterans and Seniors Committee
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