

# The Greenlawn Bugle ♦ Post 1244

♦ New York State American Legion Best Paper 2008 ♦

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## Upcoming Events

- **April 8 / Monthly Meeting & Election of Officers**
- **April 25 / USS Intrepid Trip**
- **May 1 / Suffolk County Homeless Veterans Stand Down**
- **May 3 / Loyalty Day Parade**
- **May 13 / Monthly Meeting & Installation of Officers**
- **May 24 / Town of Huntington Memorial Day Wreath Ceremony**
- **May 25 / Greenlawn Memorial Day Parade & Post Cookout**

Visit Our Web Site for More Details

[www.Post1244.org](http://www.Post1244.org)

## "Greenlawn Post 1244 to Form Auxiliary Unit"

Post Commander Bob Santo has announced that an American Legion Auxiliary Unit is in the process of being organized for Post 1244. This effort is being directed by Frances Hubbs, wife of Legionnaire Charles Hubbs.

The American Legion Auxiliary is the largest patriotic women's service organization in the world, with nearly 1 million members. Affiliated with The American Legion, the Auxiliary is a veterans' service organization with members in nearly 10,000 American communities. The organization sponsors volunteer programs on the national and local levels, serving veterans, their families and their communities.

The services of the American Legion Auxiliary directly and indirectly touch the lives of all Americans. With the philosophy of "Service, not Self," the American Legion Auxiliary develops a strong spirit of volunteerism in its members, who have joined together in the fellowship of giving to others.

Few people realize that:

- The Auxiliary and the Legion are often centers for community and civic activities in America, and provide a focal point for citizens' involvement.
- The Auxiliary raises more than \$18 million every year and reinvests those funds in VA medical centers and community programs.
- Thousands of hours are devoted to crime prevention programs, instructing children, the elderly and the general public on safety, crime prevention and protection within the community.
- Auxiliary volunteers form the backbone of assistance in the 171 VA Medical Centers. They not only provide diversion and entertainment for patients, but

assist the hospital staff in physical and psychological therapy, clerical and many other duties that would otherwise cost American taxpayers millions of dollars.

- The Auxiliary deals with issues such as drug and alcohol abuse, missing and abused children, teen suicide and teen pregnancy. Its services touch the lives of all Americans directly or indirectly.
- More than 20 nationwide programs receive support and financial aid from the American Legion Auxiliary.

Eligibility:

- A woman who is eligible for membership in The American Legion is also eligible to join the American Legion Auxiliary.
- The mother, wife, daughter, sister, granddaughter, great-granddaughter, or grandmother of members of The American Legion, and deceased veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during the listed war eras.
- Step relatives are also eligible.

If you are interested in learning more about The American Legion Auxiliary Greenlawn Unit, please contact Fran Hubbs at 631-423-1176



## Vice Commander's Call to Members

A *very funny* thing has happened to our Post —It seems that every time the Dept or National generates a contest for something, the Greenlawn Post "wins", or "shows".

A County Commander once remarked that he used to come to install the Officers and found only six men in attendance. Now he comes and there are 30!

He used to hear of our dire financial circumstances, barely able to pay our bills and now there are

"healthy" numbers in our accounts, and he marvels that it happened in just a few short years.

He knew of our Post being barely active; but now sees us at every affair ... well known ... and well represented.

We have an award winning newsletter, our Greenlawn BUGLE! We have won the membership award for the third straight year!

We started a Sons Squadron, a Legion Riders wing and we are about to start an Auxiliary.

This is one great Post, the fastest growing Post and we are showing the way now to the County and the State, thanks to all of you!

*Pretty funny, huh?*

Hope to see you soon, bring a veteran friend! They will be right at home.

*Dennis*



Vice Commander Dennis Madden

## "VETTE FOR A VET" *by Charles Armstrong*

In 1979, almost 30 years ago (WOW) I found myself about to leave my hometown of Philadelphia and move to Rockford, Illinois, for a career enhancement.

Of course in the process of giving up my sales territory for an office position I also had to relinquish my company car. About to become a new guy, in a new town, I decided to give myself a new image and come in on a big horse - a Corvette.

I began the search for the perfect car, a white, four-speed, 1975, convertible; after a few weeks of looking, I made my purchase - a great black, automatic, coupe (???), but at least it was a 1975 model..

My new home was in a small sub-division on the

outskirts of Rockford surrounded by cornfields and by I-80.

When I moved in, I picked up the keys to the house from a neighbor who was watching it for the realtor. I went to her door and she said "Oh, you're the bachelor with the black Corvette" and simply handed me the keys and closed the door (only conversation we ever had).

So much for the new image! This friendly neighbor had no idea that at the time I was engaged to be married.

For a number of years this Corvette was my trustworthy daily vehicle. It got me through some nasty winters in the mid-west while I lived in Rockford, then later Chicago, with temperatures getting down as low as -26. Later moves got me to Dallas, with nasty summer temperatures

as high as +112; then on to St. Petersburg, Florida, with much humidity and salt air. Through all of this, not once did the Corvette ever strand me on the highway.

Here on Long Island, I joined the local Corvette clubs and have been participating in their shows.

The car has been lucky enough to win a number of trophy's in the stock, street driven, un-restored category. It is now very pampered and garaged.

I hope to have it for another 30 years, and just as important I hope to still be agile enough to get in and out of it during that time!



NORTHPORT VA MEDICAL CENTRE CAR SHOW AUG. 08

## Post 1244 Activities Bulletin Board—Are you POSTED?



## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greenlawn Post 1244

Suffolk County, New York

Post Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 8:00pm  
Knights of Columbus Hall, 24 Boulevard Avenue

Phone: 631-673-8704

Email: Post1244@Verizon.net



**Bob Santo , Commander**

### County Legislator Delivers for the Post

On behalf of Post 1244 we express our continued appreciation to Legislator Steven Stern for the 2009 Community Support Initiative Grant. This grant is key to our continued publication and distribution of the Greenlawn Bugle. Thank You Legislator Stern!

[www. Post 1244.org](http://www.Post1244.org)

## 'FOUNDED IN 1943 AND HONORED BY PEOPLE WHO CARE'

### The Founding of The American Legion

"This year we celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday of The American Legion."

When a group of World War I veterans organized The American Legion in March 1919, its foundation of service and advocacy supported four solid pillars - a strong national defense, Americanism, support for veterans and mentoring our youth.

Our founders had no way of knowing that their group would one day become the largest and most influential veterans organization in the world. Its influence is evident every time a veteran applies for a VA mortgage, GI Bill education benefits or disability compensation. It is evident every year when a new group of American Legion Boys Nation participants meet with the President of the United States.

Our influence can be seen in the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame, where many of the greatest ballplayers can be counted as veterans of American Legion Baseball. The American Legion has supported the Boy Scouts of America since 1919 and today charters 2,700 Scouting units with more than 73,000 young men and women.

The American Legion's influence can be found in the wards of Walter Reed and numerous other military hospitals that have received assistance through The American Legion family's Operation Comfort Warriors campaign.

We championed the preeminent study of the effects of Agent Orange on our Vietnam veterans; supported the construction of the Vietnam War Memorial, raising \$1 million —more than any organization, and were major fund raisers for the national World War II and Korean War Memorials.

This is our legacy as Legionnaires, and we must continue to build upon these wonderful accomplishments. Our Post's activities will reflect what the American Legion has become in the ninety years since its founding, a place for America's Heroes!!

## IN HONOR OF GEORGE HENRY



◆ 1922-2009 ◆

I really didn't know George Henry very long...I have only been a member of the American Legion for a few years...while George has been an active member of the American Legion for over 56 years!

## " WE REMEMBER..."

And while I didn't know George Henry very long...it was clear he had a love for his country and his fellow Veterans.

He seemed to wear so many hats in our Post ... I had trouble keeping up with all he knew and reported on ... he seemed to be involved in so many Veteran related activities ... council this, meeting that, representative so and so ... who was this man?

And so as the editor of the fledgling Greenlawn Bugle I approached George and asked if he would like to write an article. By next meeting he handed me two beautifully handwritten articles on Veteran benefits, and named his column 'LISTEN VETERAN'! I 'shoved' him in an oversized Post 1244 sweatshirt, took his picture, and a new columnist was born.

**I wish I had known George Henry longer !**

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