



The Greenlawn Bugle

American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244

December 2012

Volume 6 Issue 4

◆ Winner of American Legion New York State Best Paper Award 2012

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Upcoming Events

- **Oratorical Contest.**
Saturday, January 5.
Babylon Post 94, 9 am.
- **Bowling Tournament.**
Sunday, February 24,
Larkfield Lanes, East
Northport. 12 pm
- **St. Patrick's Day Parade**
Sunday, March 10, 2 pm

Monthly Meetings:

- Wednesday, Jan.9, 8 pm
- Wednesday, Feb 13, 8 pm
- Wednesday, Mar 13, 8pm

Visit Our Website

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

Veterans Day Observed at Greenlawn Monument

In what seems like the first time in memory, Veterans Day was marked by sunshine and warm temperatures, giving us all a break from the cleaning up of our storm-ravaged community. Added to that, our ceremony was on a Sunday morning, making possible a larger than usual gathering of veterans and ordinary citizens to mark our special day at the Greenlawn Memorial Park Monument.

Thanks to Greenlawn's Girl Scout Cadette Troop 3733, the assembly area was cleared of tree limbs, mud and debris. For the second year in a row, the girls have adopted this park as a tribute to the veterans of the community. We applaud their work!

After the Pledge of Allegiance, and an invocation by Father Peter Kaczmarek of St. Francis of Assisi, the ceremony was opened by 2012 Commack Idol finalist Courtney Gallagher's stirring rendition of our National Anthem.

We were honored by a visit from Legislator William Spencer who addressed the gathering. We were also happy to be joined by former Marine Mike Mayette, his wife Cindy and Mike's service dog "Maya." Mike and Cindy are from Messina, New York and were visiting Greenlawn when they learned of



Courtney Gallagher sings the National Anthem our ceremony. Last week, Mike officially joined our Post!

Memorial Wreaths were placed at the monument by Legionnaire Gil Harris and Auxiliary President Fran Hubbs.

A closing "God Bless America" by Leona Schwartz, had us all singing along.

Special thanks to Adam Schild of **Pro Audio LI Entertainment** for providing the musical accompaniment.

Having worked up a pretty good appetite, we all went to Applebees in Commack for our annual Veterans Day luncheon, with entrees, once again, provided free to all veterans by the restaurant chain.

We are all looking forward to Veterans Day 2013!



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

VA Police Officer Terry Livingston Honored

The military salute is not simply an honor exchanged. It is a privileged gesture of respect, trust and comradeship among soldiers. The salute is a recognition of each other's commitment, abilities, and professionalism.

From time to time, many of us have been honored to receive a sharp, military salute from one of the police officers at the entrance to the Northport VA Medical Center. The subject of this officer and his rendered salute was brought up at a meeting of our Executive Committee one night by Third Vice Commander Kevin Farrell. Just who was this tall, mustachioed officer with that smart hand salute? We all agreed that whoever he was, he deserved to be recognized for the exceptional manner in which he greeted our veterans entering the facility. We are sure that he had, many times, brightened up the day for veterans on their way to be treated for their injuries and illnesses.

Kevin soon learned that the officer was Terry Livingston, a Vietnam combat veteran himself. We made plans to honor Terry as well as all the members of the VA Police Force at Northport.

On November 15, in the office of VA Medical Center Director Philip Moschitta, Post 1244 presented a certifi-



L-R: 3rd Vice Commander Kevin Farrell, Post Judge Advocate Tom Freeman, Medical Center Director Phillip Moschitta, P.O. Terry Livingston, Police Chief Nicholas Squicciarini, Commander Bob Santo and Associate Director Maria Favale.

cate of recognition to Officer Livingston as well as a certificate of appreciation to Police Chief Nicholas Squicciarini and the Northport VA Police Department for the fine work they do every day, protecting and serving the hundreds of patients, visitors and staff at the Northport VA Medical Center.

Sweats For Vets

Once again, Our Post has contributed dozens of sweat suits to the Northport VA Medical Center, to be given to patients throughout the facility as needed. Bob Santo, Donna Boyle and Joe Pipia did the shopping for the sweat suits, which were packed up and delivered by Bob and Joe on December 13th.

Jennifer Pohl, Voluntary Service Assistant was delighted to receive the 40 brand new sweat suits, which will be made available to any patient needing them. They are especially welcomed by patients going home to visit family.

We hope to continue this mission every year. The funds for this program are raised with our Poppy Drive which we conduct each May.



L-R: Bob Santo, Post Commander,; Joe Pipia, Sons Member and Jennifer Pohl, Voluntary Service Assistant

Columbus Day Parade and Fall Festival

Proving, once again, that our Legionnaires are not afraid of a little wet weather, we fielded a fine color guard for the annual Long Island Columbus Day Parade on October 7th.

While the crowds were naturally a bit thin, nothing would dampen our enthusiasm.

The theme of this year's parade, sponsored by the Order of Sons of Italy, was "A Tribute to Wounded Warriors." USMC Captain James Byler was co-Grand Marshall with Bernadette Castro, former NYS Parks Commissioner.

The rainy weather also caused us to "Strike our Tent" a day early at the Long Island Fall Festival in Heckscher Park. Many thanks to all who participated on this wet and chilly weekend.



Active Duty Legionnaires



Post 1244 Legionnaire Cpl. Sean Lynch, USMC, standing 2nd from the left, in the white hat” with members of his Mobile Team

A growing cadre of Post 1244 members are presently serving our country on active duty at locations throughout the world. Marine Cpl. Sean Lynch, shown above, at an “undisclosed location,” is one of these proud veterans. We are glad to have them as fellow legionnaires and look forward to welcoming each and every one on their return home.

We invite service members, currently on active duty, serving the United States honorably, anywhere in the world to become a member of The American Legion. If you are an active duty service member or know of one who should belong to the American Legion, please contact our Membership Chairman, Dennis Madden at 516-523-9391 or e mail him at dam9245@optonline.net.

Pearl Harbor Remembered

Post 1244 joined with scores of other Veterans groups from Long Island to "Remember Pearl Harbor" on December 7th, the 71st Anniversary of the “Day That Will Live in Infamy.”

Sponsored by the Long Island Air Force Association at the American Air Power Museum hangar at Republic Airport, five survivors of the Japanese Attack, were presented with awards at the ceremony,

71 American Beauty red roses were blessed with sea water from Pearl Harbor along with one white rose, commemorating those who perished in the September 11th attack on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania . The roses were flown by the Skytypers in WW II era training aircraft and dropped at the Statue of Liberty at the same moment that the bombs and torpedoes fell on Pearl Harbor in a sneak attack in 1941.

The tradition of dropping the Roses began in 1970 when Joseph Hydrusko, a hero of the attack, dropped the Roses to honor his fallen comrades.

Post 1244 was also well represented at ceremonies on



Jeff Clyman, President of American Airpower Museum Addresses the gathering. Pearl Harbor Survivors seated in front L-R: Richard Abeles, Gerald Barbosa, Bernard Berner, Seymour Blutt, Michael Montelione

December 2nd at Long Island National Cemetery. Dozens of Veterans groups assembled and marched to the dedication area. Wreaths were placed and a Marine Corp rifle squad saluted all those who perished at Pearl Harbor.

Allen Shaw

MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT



It was my very distinct honor to accompany our MIAP Chairman, John Caldarelli, one recent Saturday afternoon, to the U. S. Columbarium Co., Fresh Pond Crematory in Middle Village, NY, to witness the presentation of a Certificate of Recognition to John.

John is working with the Crematorium to identify the cremains of 1200 individuals to determine if there are any veterans among them. As the Crematorium has been in existence since 1884, it is suspected that many of the cremains are, in fact, those of veterans. It has already been determined that two of the cremains are those of Civil War veterans, and some 70 others are veterans of other wars, with several hundred names still to be researched.

John estimates that as many as 100 veterans cremains may be among those being held for identification at the facility.

The Missing In America Project national organization has provided several genealogists to assist our Post volunteers in the research necessary to validate the veteran status of the remains.

John has already presided at the burial of 20 veterans in January of 2011 at Calverton National Cemetery, and 63 veterans in May of this year at Long Island National cemetery. In addition, he has presided at the burials of others numbering from one to six at other venues



around NY and NJ. He performs this task with no compensation from any group or organization, on his own time and at his own expense.

A photo of John appears here, receiving his award from Mr. J. P.(Joe) DiTroia, President of the U.S. Columbarium, Co. facility, which is recognized as a full service cemetery. Mr. DiTroia was kind enough to arrange for this presentation on the same day as their Memorial Tree Lighting ceremony in order that the community was in attendance to hear more about what John and his group do for these forgotten veterans and their remains.

Dennis Madden

MIAP Mass Interment Planned for Spring 2013

It is expected that the 100 veterans number from U.S. Columbarium Co. will be realized sometime this spring. The anticipated ceremony at Long Island National Cemetery for the interment will follow when the target number becomes a reality. This mission by MIAP and the Suffolk County American Legion represented by Greenlawn American Legion Post 1244, will involve a host of dedicated volunteers. NYC's Mayors Office of Veterans Affairs will also provide volunteers for this endeavor. It is anticipated to be the largest mass burial of abandoned veterans that has ever been conducted in the United States.

John Caldarelli

VA Volunteers Needed

The Northport VA Medical Center depends on the good will of our benefactors and volunteers who wish to give something back to America's heroes.

Volunteers provide many important functions throughout the Medical Center and help make our patients' stay more enjoyable. Volunteers can perform a number of services, and a volunteer's talents are closely matched with one of our many assignments.

To volunteer, call or visit the Northport VA Medical Center Voluntary Service Office. We will be happy to receive your application or discuss how you can help us in our mission to provide comfort and care to America's veterans.

Call: Richard Kitson
Voluntary Service Officer
Building 9, 1st. Floor

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



Army Specialist Jacob S. Fletcher A True American Hero

Dedication ceremonies held Thursday, December 6, 2012 re-named County Road 34 between Village

Line Road and Route 231 in Babylon “Specialist Jacob Samuel Fletcher Avenue”, in memory and honor of Army Specialist Jacob S. Fletcher, 173rd Airborne Brigade, who paid the supreme sacrifice in defense of freedom.

Serge Dei, Vic Ramondetta, Bruce Blanco; Tom McAuliffe; Kevin Rielly and Bob Glanzman proudly represented the American Legion and American Legion Riders (ALR) Post # 1244 Greenlawn, NY at this hallowed ceremony. Jacob Fletcher, USA, was raised in Babylon Village and graduated from Babylon High School. At the age of 27, Jacob joined the Army in response to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Jacob made the ultimate sacrifice for our great nation on Highway 1, Samarra, Iraq, November 13, 2003, 11 days short of his 29th birthday.

Every soldier knows the psychological value of ‘mail call’, and how “no word from home” will impact his/her morale. While in-country, Jacob, caring so deeply for his fellow troops, asked his mother, Dorine Kenney to send care packages and letters of support to servicemen and women who did not have family support. What greater love can be expressed for his fellow brothers and sisters! For Jacob’s 29th birthday, eleven days after his death, Dorine sent the first box of what was to become the legacy of Jacob’s Light Foundation. Dorine founded “Jacob’s Light Foundation,” and continues Jacob’s wish to comfort and support our selfless, brave American heroes. She does so in her son’s honor and loving memory, sending 10,000 pounds of supplies each month to our brave men and women protecting our freedom overseas.

With strength and honor our ALR’s stood tall in loving memory of a true American hero this day! Jacob answered the call of duty and in the most dangerous conditions and through the most challenging circumstances, and not just duty to country but of his fellow servicemen and women. ALR’s have had the distinct honor this day to support Jacob’s mother, Dorine Kenney, who continues her beloved son’s legacy through service to others.

The ALR are grateful to have participated in the ceremonies which keep Jacob’s desire to serve vibrantly glowing. Gold Star mother Dorine Kenney said, “It means so much to me to have a street named for Jacob to keep his memory alive.”



L-R: Bob Glanzman, Kevin Rielly, Vic Ramondetta, Serge Dei, Dorine Kenney, Bruce Blanco, Tom McAuliff

Jacob’s Light Mission Statement

Our mission is to send American deployed military troops the necessities and comforts of home. We focus on troops without family support and those who do not have access to amenities. We strive to give our troops the support and supplies they need while creating a lifeline to them from the United States.

Volunteer and Support Our Troops

Through the generous help of donors, sponsors and volunteers, Jacob's Light Foundation reaches a monthly goal of sending up to 10,000 pounds of supplies to our deployed military servicemen and women stationed in Afghanistan and Iraq, well over 500,000 pounds to date have reached our troops!

Once a month, volunteers, 16+ years of age, gather to carefully pack boxes with troop necessities: toiletries, food, reading and writing materials, socks, phone cards, bug repellent, batteries, sunscreen, etc. Special items and treats are included for the holidays, as well as seasonal articles. Letters of support and encouragement, in addition to letters and pictures from children, are also enclosed in the packages. In between the monthly packings, supplies are purchased and organized by volunteers for the next packing. Everyone is invited to participate on the last Tuesday evening of each month packing 275 individual boxes, each containing 30 to 40 pounds of needed supplies in a tremendous warehouse in Ronkonkoma. A large American Flag hangs down from the high

(Continued on page 6)

FORESTS OF STONE

Scattered throughout this great country and in many foreign lands are countless Forests of Stone. Some are perfectly aligned, delicately manicured and carefully guarded. Visited at times as a courtesy or for official inspections; at other times by somber faced friends and relatives of the precious remains lying beneath the sod of these hallowed forests. Others stand alone in private cemeteries, forgotten, covered with weeds, unkempt and unvisited.

Walking through these Forests of Stone, where each white granite marker stands in mute testimony to a life sacrificed or served to ensure our liberty and freedom, is sobering. Each stone stands at the head of a patriot, blind to race, color or creed, reminding each visitor of the cost of freedom and the sacrifice that each citizen must be willing and prepared to face in order to perpetuate this freedom.

Solitude and peace surrounds these sons and daughters of America who now lie still in death. Many had lives cut short in an ultimate display of honor to secure our heritage for those that follow. Fallen on the field of battle in long forgotten wars in unfamiliar foreign places. Fathers and mothers of children who will never be born and will never enjoy those rights for which they died. Others served faithfully but by chance and the Grace of God, were spared the fate of their fallen brothers and sisters. Sometimes taken for granted in life, they must now be respected in death.

These Forests of Stone have stood as silent sentinels over our military dead since the first markers were carved by hand so many years ago. Weathering grace-



fully the ravages of wind and rain. Permanent reminders to those who enjoy the milk and honey of America that there will come a time when the call will be sounded to follow their lead; when the greedy and power-hungry of this world will cause the thunder of war to rattle across this great nation. Patiently these Forests of Stone wait, to eventually receive the honored remains of patriots yet unborn.

Pay homage to those who lie here and in private cemeteries across the nation. Seldom visited, seldom thanked, seldom remembered. Remember also those 125,000 sons and daughters lying at peace in twenty-four Forests of Stone on foreign soil; and those who lie in unmarked graves on battlefields and jungle floors throughout the world, for they bravely answered the call and paid the price of freedom.

They ask nothing of us. To them we owe everything.

Larry Dunn, USN Ret.
Vietnam Veteran
March 8, 2001

Jacob Fletcher *(Continued from page 5)*

ceiling and a poster-sized photograph of Jacob graces the wall, inspiring volunteers. Each box can reach up to ten service members. Jacob's Light Foundation impacts thousands of soldiers each and every month.

The packages packed and sent first go to the troops who do not receive mail from home and for soldiers whose families cannot afford to send boxes to their loved ones. Packages are also sent to soldiers stationed in forward operating bases in the remotest war zones that do not have access to basic amenities.

Get Involved

If you would like to participate and volunteer your time in any of these activities, please email us at: dorine@jacobsprogram.org or call: (631) 576-7294.

Jacob's Light Foundation is an active organization that is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of American soldiers overseas. To effectively fulfill our mission, they rely on our committed sponsors, supporters and volunteers.

Jacob's Light Foundation always welcomes additional help. Monetary donations, are accepted, but there are many, many ways that you can help us show our troops how much we care.

Get involved and make a difference to our troops!

We can volunteer to pack care packages, we can encourage business owners to become corporate sponsors of Jacob's Light Foundation, we can organize a group to write letters to our soldiers...we can...be volunteers.

Submitted by,
Chris Argento, ALR Post #1244
66-67 RVN, USA 39th Combat Engineers

American Legion Auxiliary



The end of fall certainly came in like a lion with Sandy. For most of us it was a mere inconvenience, but for so many it is still a nightmare. So this Holiday Season we will count our blessings and perhaps, in some way, help those who still need help.

We now look forward to being able to support our Veteran Programs for the Christmas Holiday. Once again we donated gift cards to the Women's Wellness Center at Northport VA Hospital. In speaking to the Director she felt this time we could help the out-patients who are in need because of Sandy's damage. We also are proud that we could give monetary donations to the Suffolk County Veterans Coalition and to the Suffolk County United Veterans. We are able to give because of the support and dedication of our members. Even though we are few in number, it does not stop our Auxiliary from giving their all when we have a Fund Raiser or the Poppy Program to raise the funds needed.

As part of membership growth our Auxiliary attended the Greenlawn Pickle Festival on Sept. 22, 2012 with the Post members as an effort to recruit new members.

On November 28, 2012, I had the privilege of volunteering at the Northport Veterans Hospital for a very special program. This program is for Veterans who are patients in the Northport VA Hospital. Joan Klopfa is the Gift Shop Chairman who requests donations throughout the year from the Auxiliary Units and American Legion Posts in Nassau County, these donations enable Joan to

buy a variety of gifts which are donated for this Gift Shop Program. The gifts are placed on carts and brought up to the floor units. Each gift chosen is gift wrapped with a card then again wrapped for mailings to a loved one designated by the patient. The Northport Post Office picks up the gifts to be mailed. All this work is done by volunteers. What a wonderful way to help our Veterans. I must tell you that I volunteer a lot but for me that day, I came away with such a good feeling knowing I had helped a Veteran in some small way enjoy the giving at Christmas.

Perhaps Suffolk County Posts and Auxiliary Units could do a similar Program in the near future.

For our Annual Fundraiser for 2013, we will have a 50/50 Raffle instead of the Dance. Tickets will be made up to be distributed and sold over a few months period. The First Prize ticket will be pulled at the Annual Memorial Day Picnic at Post 1244 with additional Gift Baskets to be drawn. We hope to have the support of the Post members, all our Auxiliary members and friends to make this endeavor a successful one so that our Auxiliary can continue their Veteran Programs.

On behalf of myself, officers and members. I want to wish everyone a Blessed Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a New Year filled with Peace for the world and remember to pray for the safety of all the men and women in the Armed Services

May all our homeless Veterans have warm shelter and food to eat during this Holiday Season.

Fran Hubbs, President

Huntington Manor Fire Department Assists Flag Retirement

On November 10, Post 1244 joined with the Huntington Manor Fire Department in retiring over 500 worn and tattered American Flags at the department headquarters in Huntington Station. Boy Scouts from Troop 228 also took part.

Since 2007, our Post has conducted an aggressive campaign, led by 2nd Vice Commander Dennis Giunta and Sgt. at Arms Charlie Armstrong to collect and retire used flags from throughout the community. Our "Old Glory" Flag Deposit Box has spent time in nearly every library and public school in the Town of Huntington.

We have been partnering with the Greenlawn Fire Department each June to burn the flags at their Headquarters on Boulevard Avenue. Since we have been collecting nearly 1,000 flags each year, however, we decided we needed an additional day each year. We will now retire flags in June at the Greenlawn FD and November at the Huntington Manor FD.



“You Earned It”

by Donna Boyle, Post Service Officer

According to the 2012 U.S. Census brief, the Veteran population age 65 or older is over 12.4 million. These Veterans served in conflicts from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, through the Persian Gulf War. Veterans are eligible for a wide-variety of benefits. These VA benefits include

Disability Compensation	Home Loans
Pension	Insurance
Education and Training	Burial
Health Care	

Targeted VA Benefits for Older Veterans

Two VA programs provide certain older Veterans with an additional monetary amount if they are eligible for or receiving a VA Pension benefit.

Aid and Attendance (A&A) is an increased monthly pension amount paid if you meet one of the conditions below:



- Need help performing daily functions, which may include bathing, eating or dressing
- Are bedridden
- Are a patient in a nursing home
- Your eyesight is limited to a corrected 5/200 visual acuity or less in both eyes; or concentric contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less

Housebound is an increased monthly pension amount paid if you are substantially confined to your immediate premises because of a permanent disability.

How to Apply

The specific VA benefit or program web page will provide tailored information about how to apply for a particular benefit or program. Generally, service members, Veterans, and families can apply for VA benefits using one of the methods below.

- Apply online using ebenefits.va.gov, OR
- Work with an accredited Agent OR
- Go to a VA regional office and have a VA employee assist you.



MyHealthVet

My HealthVet is the VA's Personal Health Record. It was designed for Veterans, active duty Servicemembers, their dependents and caregivers. My HealthVet helps you partner with your health care team. It provides you opportunities and tools to make informed decisions.

You can view VA appointments and check lab results. The most popular feature is still online prescription refills. You can also view your prescription history. If you have an upgraded account, you may also send a non-urgent Secure Message to participating members of your VA health care team. Secure Messaging is safe and secure, because the messages you send and receive are all kept within My HealthVet. For more information see: www.myhealth.va.gov





Vice Commander's Call to Members

Ah, the holiday season is upon us and thoughts turn to family and friends and decorated trees and piles of gifts and feasts beyond belief. The season's "smell" is in the clean, crisp air and its wonder can be seen in the faces of shoppers everywhere. This is, truly, a magical time of year indeed.

While all this is happening, however, our calendar year closes out and snuffs out the very thing our Post has come to be known for; winner of the annual Membership Award. While it is certain that we will, once again, add to the ranks of our Post, the Award is for achieving 100% of our membership RENEWAL by the end of the calendar year. We must have all this paperwork processed here and then IN Albany before the 15th of Dec to allow them time to process it. It really isn't much fun as the dates are flying past. Since we're working on our 8th Award, it has a way of raising the "pucker factor" exponentially.

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I'm certain, as is the case every year, that it is the intention of each of us to renew. Some need more reminding than others, but, hey, its December. I need your dues for 2013 already !!!



I would be remiss if I didn't also remind you to engage ANY other veteran you happen to meet, pass, come in contact with, etc. Thank them for their service, as always, then simply ask "what Post do you belong to"? The conversation should lead, as you retrieve your application from your wallet, to membership in OUR Post and the benefits they will certainly derive from such a wise move. Let your very own pride in membership spring forth and the rest will be most positive, I'm certain !

In keeping with the spirit, let me wish all our members, readers and advertisers the best of this wonderful season. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and the happiest and healthiest New Year to us all. It is my honor to be associated with you all.

Dennis Madden

Welcome New Members!

American Legion:

Bruce Beasley
Christian Boccone
Alan Bombria
Colleen Hart
Michael Mayette

Jim Pentecost
Len Salvo
David Schoombs
John Sonser
Ed Wamsley

Sons of The American Legion:

Bruce Blanco
Daniel Leary
Joseph Spinelli

County Bowling Tournament

Bowling chairman Ray Bohn has announced that the Suffolk County Bowling Tournament will be held at 12:00 PM on Sunday, February 24, 2013 at Larkfield Lanes. Anyone interested in bowling for Post 1244 should contact Ray at 631-744-4694.



Help us Stay In Touch with You

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 us an e mail to: Post1244@verizon.net (and we'll do the rest!)



www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionGreenlawnPost1244



Commander's Corner

At this time of year, it is a custom for many of us to look back at the year just ending and reflect on where we have come from and where we are heading. It's also a good time to reflect on how are Post is doing.

Our Post has just crossed into the 200 plus member range, something I could only imagine seven years ago, when Dennis Madden and I took the reins of a Post that had only 83 members.

It would be tempting to think that we did this all alone, but the reality is that we have been very fortunate to have found, along the way, some very talented men and women to help us. Or rather, maybe they found something special in our Post and decided to stay and help.

I'd like to think we have built a post that attracts and retains new members by making it clear that we exist to help each and every veteran, their families and the communities they live in. We are still "in the service" as much now as we ever were, only our service is now back home, and not in some far away country.

We attract new members by simply reaching out to them. In person and eyeball to eyeball. Every veteran we meet is a potential new member. We know that a special bond exists between veterans who have served America here at home as well as in the fields of Europe, the jungles of Southeast Asia, and the deserts and mountains of the Middle East and Southwest Asia. And every one of our members "is on the membership committee."

I hope that you will all join me in continuing to build on our past successes and let us know when you feel we have come up short. I invite every member to become involved in the activities of the Post, whether by participating in a committee, joining us for a local event or day trip, or attending a meeting when time permits. Regardless of your level of involvement, please know that you are always valued as a member and fellow veteran.

Thank you for the support you have given to the Post, it's officers and committee chairmen and your fellow members.

On behalf of the leadership of Post 1244, I wish you all a wonderful holiday season, Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah, and a Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

Bob Santo

Taps Has Sounded

Michael Bonchonsky, U.S. Army Air Force. October 28, 2012



American Legion Pride

We have had a great reaction to our Greenlawn Post 1244 Auto Decals (exterior) that you can attach to your car. We recommend that you place it on the lower left part of your rear windshield. They are 4" X 5" and are very durable. Show your pride in our American Legion Post! Decals can be ordered by sending a check for \$6.00 each to American Legion Post 1244 c/o PO Box 238, Greenlawn NY 11740.



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

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East Northport Chamber of Commerce

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American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244**

Eugene Cook

Councilman



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631-351-3174

ecook@huntingtonny.gov

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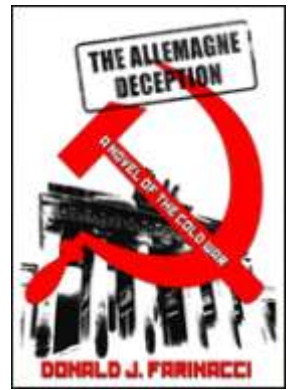
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