

# The Bugle

## October 2007

### Commander's Call

Our Post's future depends on many things: relevant Post and community programs, a stable financial picture and, not least, an active and committed membership.

It's been good to see so many of our newer members willing to get involved with the many responsibilities of a strong and viable post. Our most senior members proudly kept our post going over the past 30-40 years. Will we follow in their footsteps? You bet!

There is going to be a lot of work ahead for all of us as we grow. I know we can count on many of you to step forward with the time and talent we will need.

Please let us know where we can do better and of course, all your suggestions are welcomed.

### Flag Deposit Box

Thanks to 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander Rob Scarpelli and Castle Collision, our Flag Deposit Box has received a white coat of clear coat finish. It is now in the hands of our friends at Cycle Mania for the final artistic touches. We can't wait to see what they come up with.

Plans include bringing the box (on wheels) for visits to local schools. Students will be encouraged to bring old and worn flags from home for a future ceremonial flag disposal.

We are seeking a permanent and prominent location for the box in Greenlawn.

### Legion College

Commander Bob Santo and Vice Commander Dennis Madden spent a long weekend at this year's Legion College session, conducted by The American Legion Department of New York at SUNY in upstate Morrisville. The mission of Legion College is to train effective leaders whose legacy will be the training, encouragement and support of Legionnaires who will support the purposes of The American Legion as stated in the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion.

This intensive three day course covered topics such as Leadership, Americanism, Legislation, Post Operations, Public Relations and Service Officer. We learned a great deal, not only from these courses but from our conversations with American Legion leaders at the post level from all over the state.

### Flag Retirement

In a joint ceremony, members of American Legion Post 1244 and Boys Scout Troop 32, respectfully disposed of dozens of old, worn and faded American flags. The ceremony was conducted on June 23 at Greenlawn Fire Department headquarters. It was great to see the family members of the Scouts in attendance. Thanks to Chief Scott Demarest and the members of the department for assisting us and providing a safe venue for this important function.

### Fund Raising

Our summer fund raising efforts continued into the very warm months of July through September. We held three fund raisers at various retail locations around the town as well as our first ever Post Garage Sale at the home of Bill and Carolyn Polakos on August 4.

Not only were we successful in raising funds for our Post programs, but we added several new members to our Post roster. As always, the public was friendly and generous. Many thanks to all who came out and participated!

### Fireman's Fair Parade

This year's Greenlawn Firemans Fair Parade was a great success and a lot of fun as well. The Fair is the oldest and largest in New York and featured fire departments and their trucks from all over the Town of Huntington as well as many Bag Pipe and Brass Bands. The people of Greenlawn turned out in great numbers for the parade and the fair.

16 members of the Post, including Sons of The American Legion and Legion Riders took part along with Bill's Weapons Carrier, Tony's white convertible and Legion Riders Tony Palmieri and Dennis Giunta on motorcycles.

### Labor Day Cookout

The Post sponsored our second annual Post labor Day cookout, hosted by Dennis and Ann Madden. Long time members as well as newer recruits enjoyed an afternoon of camaraderie and conversation as well as hot dogs and hamburgers and cold drinks. Doo Wop music was supplied by DJ Bill Polakos.

Next cookout will be Memorial Day 2008. Don't miss it!

### Jacob's Light Foundation

Post 1244 continues to support this worthy effort with more members showing up at the packing every month. Jacob's Light was founded by Doreen Kenney in honor of her son Jacob Fletcher who was killed in Iraq in 2003.

Its mission is to send to our military overseas necessities and comforts from home. Focusing on military members without family support from home, Jacob's Light gives them the support they need and is a lifeline from America.

Every month, supplies for the troops are purchased by or donated to the foundation. With the help of many volunteers, boxes are packed with food, toiletries, snacks, reading and writing materials, sunscreen and other necessities. Letters from the public and letters and pictures from school children are also included. Packing is done monthly at the Brentwood American Legion Post and volunteers are always needed. Financial donations can be sent to:

Jacob's Light Foundation  
116 Nadia Court  
Port Jefferson, NY 11777

Please contact Dennis Giunta at 631-754-4281 for more information.

### Veterans Day Sunday November 11

Please join us for our Veterans Day Memorial Ceremony at 11:00 a.m.  
Greenlawn Memorial Park  
Broadway and Pulaski Avenue, Greenlawn

We will gather at 10:45 a.m. at the Dunkin Donuts parking lot across the street. Our ceremony will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m.

The "Eleventh Hour of the Eleventh Day of the Eleventh Month" when the armistice ending WWI was signed in 1918.

## Newly Elected Officers 2007-2008

Commander	Bob Santo
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander and Finance Officer	Dennis Madden
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Dennis Giunta
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander	Rob Scarpelli
Adjutant	Allen Schwartz
Sgt. at Arms	Don Lammers
Judge Advocate, Historian and Service Officer	George Henry

## About our Post

Chartered on June 30, 1943, our Post's veterans served proudly in the following wartime eras:

WW II:	33%	
Korea:	29%	
Vietnam:	29%	
All others:	9%	(Includes Lebanon / Grenada, Persian Gulf War, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom)

## Meetings

Our meetings are every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at:  
St. Joseph's Council Knights of Columbus  
24 Boulevard Avenue  
Greenlawn, NY

Coffee at 7:30- meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. If you know an eligible veteran, please bring him or her along!

Meeting Dates:  
October 10  
November 14  
December 12