



THE GREENLAWN BUGLE

American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244

June 2015

Volume 9 Issue 2

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Coming Events

July 8

Post Meeting
8:00 pm

August 9

LI Ducks Game
5:05 pm

August 12

Post Meeting
8:00 pm

August 27

Fireman's Fair Parade
7:00 pm

Monthly Meetings
8:00 pm

St. Joseph Council K of C
24 Boulevard Ave .
Greenlawn
2nd Wednesday
of each month

A Rededication for a Civil War Veteran

On June 22, 2013, in a magnificent ceremony conducted by Missing In America Project and American Legion Post 1244, 42 Veterans and spouses of Veterans were interred at Long Island National Cemetery. Their ashes were placed in the newly erected Columbaria. Two of those Veterans fought in the Civil War and had waited nearly a hundred years for someone to discover and acknowledge them. The respect and honor due them would come as a matter of the covenant they made with the Grand Army of the Potomac. This was done with all due ceremony at the time. Both of these Civil War soldiers were members of the Garibaldi Guards.

Several months later, our Jewish genealogist Leonard Holtz, who is also a cantor, discovered, in his research, that Lt. Emanuel Lederer, one of those Civil War Veterans, was Jewish.



Roderick Wallace, left, receives the burial flag of his great-grandfather Lt. Emanuel Lederer from John Caldarelli.

MIAP, with the able support of American Legion Post 1244 and our ever resourceful Leonard Holtz, had their hands on the reins, and come what may, this team would handle it, come rain or shine.



MIAP Chairman John Caldarelli addresses the assembly. Rear: Garibaldi Guard reenactors of the 39th New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment

The Missing in America Project planned a rededication for Lt. Lederer. M.I.A.P. would see that our veteran was interred with a proper Jewish service. Leonard Holtz continued to research Lt. Lederer's roots and our genealogist, Ms. Ann Marie Martin, went in search of any living relatives. M.I.A.P.'s volunteer Rabbi Michael Trachtenberg was notified, and as always, stepped up. The Jewish Veteran groups, as well as the American Legion, were notified. The appointed day arrived. The tent was up, the chairs were out, and the podium with table was in its proper place.

Ms. Martin and Mr. Holz had located Lt. Lederer's great granddaughter, Ms. Jean Narversen and great-grandson, Mr. Roderick Wallace. This was a magnificent piece of genealogical work. To record the ceremony, retired Post Commander Bob Santo and Sean Verma of MIAP took videos and photos. Mr. Verma came up from Virginia to do the photo shoot. Behind the podium stood three reenactors from the 39th New York

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A Rededication for a Civil War Veteran

(Continued from page 1)

Infantry Regiment of the Garibaldi Guards in full uniform. The ceremony began with my introduction. Suddenly, a flight of WWII A-6 Texan trainers arrived overhead, by coincidence, with a rousing fly-over. Rabbi Trachtenberg then began the Jewish ritual with the stirring "El Male Rachamim" in English. It is a prayer of comfort about the soul ascending to the Garden of Eden or Paradise.

Mr. Holtz went on with a very interesting historic eulogy that captured the era of Lt. Lederer's war time experience. Next Mr. Roderick Wallace, great-grandson of Lt. Lederer spoke of his great-grandfather with reverence and love. Mr. Wallace also mentioned the descendants of Lt. Lederer and their accomplishments.

Rabbi Trachtenberg then gave a recital of the "Kaddish" in Hebrew. All the Jewish veterans stood and recited it with the Rabbi. For a brief moment in time we were transported to another time and place in

the dim past. I then recited the poem "I am a Veteran", written by Rabbi Swerdlow, the Northport Medical Center's Chaplain.

The last act to be fulfilled was the opening of Lt. Lederer's niche and place a small bag of soil from Israel to accompany Lt. Lederer for eternity.

A closing thought for us to ponder concerning the players of this story is the fact that we had three great-grandchildren of the Civil War Garibaldi Guards assembled in one place at one time. They represented two Civil War soldiers from the same outfit, who served at the same time. Jean Narversen, Roderick Wallace, great-grandchildren of Lt. Emanuel Lederer and Leonard Holtz, great-grandson of Herman Holtz. Almost a hundred years went by, while these Veterans patiently waited for their eternal peace.

John Caldarelli
Chairman Post 1244
Missing In America Project

The Missing In America Project "It's The Right Thing To Do"

The purpose of the MIA Project is to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed cremated remains of American veterans through the joint efforts of private, state and federal organizations. To provide honor and respect to those who have served this country by securing a final resting place for these forgotten heroes.



If you are interested in joining our team, please contact John Caldarelli at 631-261-3807 or e mail John at JCaldarelli@optonline.net



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 weekly E Newsletter list. We will let you know of Post news of interest, activities and events you may wish to take part in. 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! (And you can unsubscribe at any time.)



www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionGreenlawnPost1244

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 – 2015

THE WEEK THAT SHAPES A LIFETIME



Once again we have an excellent group of students from three of our local high schools preparing for their departure to Boy's and Girl's State this year. In fact, the thirteen (13) students represent the largest group Post 1244 has been able to sponsor to date. This is due primarily to the great support we continue to receive from the local associations, business community, town council, and local elected officials.



A few years ago, we were able to send just two deserving students, this year it is thirteen. Hopefully, we will be able to continue this growth tradition and be in a position to include students from additional local high schools next year.

We need your help and support to assure this success continues!

Charlie Armstrong

Post Chairman, Boys and Girls State

Post 1244 Boys and Girls State Delegates 2015

Girls State

Harborfields High School

Abigail Wax

Walt Whitman High School

Taylor Fox

Boys State

Harborfields High School

Alec Ascione

Hunter Cuthbertson

Patrick Finn

Erik Hansen

Trevor Jones

Ryan Lanner

Chad Terc

James Tully

Boys State

St. Anthony's High School

Austin Nguyen

Nikko Genoese

Walt Whitman High School

David Grey

Boys and Girls State Donors 2015

These Local Businesses, Organizations and Individuals Make our Boys and Girls State Program Possible

American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1244

American Legion Riders Chapter 1244

Allstate Insurance - Ronald Szabo & Thomas Kidby

ASA All State Abstract

Susan Berland, Councilwoman

Broadway Auto Parts

Bullfrog Communications

Eugene Cook, Councilman

Mark Cuthbertson, Councilman

Tracey Edwards, Councilwoman

Greenlawn Cleaners

Greenlawn Hardware

Greenlawn Service Inc.

Grooming on Broadway

Healy's Inn

Huntington Colonial Travel Agency

Huntington Moose Lodge 318

Raymond Ingersall

Kanter & Levenberg PC, CPA's

Kelly, Sackman, Spollen and Upton, Law Offices

KMS Consulting

M.A. Connell Funeral Home

Mid Village Pharmacy / Greenlawn Pharmacy

Northport / Centerport Lions Club

Roselle French Cleaners

S&S Chemical

Turley, Redmond, Rosasco & Rosasco, LLP

Village Auto Body

Michael Williams, Post 1244 Chaplain

2015 Flight Experience Raffle Winners Gain a WWII Experience

Our May 13th Monthly Meeting saw not only our first change of command in ten years, but also the drawing of our lucky two winners of a flight experience on The Yankee Lady B17G Flying Fortress.

After the installation of officers for the 2015-2016 Legion Year, Past Commander Bob Santo called for the youngest Post member present to draw the lucky tickets.

Our Post Service Officer Sean Lyons was encouraged to step forward and reach into the customary giant salad bowl and draw the winning tickets.

The first name to be drawn was Joe Hilo who bought his winning ticket from an old friend of the Post and new Post 1244 member, George Pastor. Joe took his flight on Sunday, May 24th as his young family looked on.

Our second winner, Julia Stark Fried purchased her ticket from our top seller Charlie Armstrong. She gave the ticket to Tom Ronayne our Suffolk County Director of Veterans Services who chose a WWII Veteran to take the flight. We thank everyone who participated in our



Lucky winner Joe Hilo prepares to board the B17G "Yankee Lady" for his flight in the historic old aircraft.

annual Flight Experience Fundraiser. Your participation and generosity make possible all the programs benefitting our veterans and their families as well as the children and youth of our community.

Annual Post Cookout: A Great Success

A Picture Worth a Thousand Words



Missing In America Project

Post Burial Report



Lawrence Noble
April 8, 2015
Calverton Cemetery

Mr. Leonard Noble was an Army Veteran who served in Viet Nam. He also was homeless.

It turned out to be another back-log day at the cemetery because of the past few days of inclement weather, once again, in that northeast leg of Long Island, the North Fork. On the way out to the cemetery we passed a funeral procession over a mile long. It was cold, raw, and windy, and our group had to wait for the honor guard to finish with the funerals before us. No one complained. Everyone stood their ground patiently waiting for our service to begin. The wind whipped through the funeral pavilion ravaging all who stood in it's way. There is no other way to say it.

Calverton National Cemetery is located in the coldest part of Long Island at this time of the year. This part of the Island has the most open land available, therefore the best place for expansion of the cemetery. This is the only National Cemetery on Long Island that can accept full remains. Long Island National Cemetery is now full.

When we bury two to four abandoned veterans a month this time of the year, we must endure the commute, and the weather. Funerals of abandoned veterans are always thought provoking, Where would they be if it were not for organizations like M.I.A.P? Who would speak for them? Who would stand up and honor them? For now these questions are answered, but who can we count on tomorrow? Let there always be a Missing in America project for all our Veteran's tomorrows.

John Caldarelli
Chairman Post 1244
Missing In America Project

Community Spotlight - Cub Scout Pack 877



Cub Scout Pack 877, based in Greenlawn, prepared for Memorial Day, this year, by some cleanup surrounding the Greenlawn Monument and by planting flags along the three walkways leading up to the monument.

As they planted the flags, the boys learned about the freedoms we have and the respect deserved by all members of our Armed Forces, especially those who have made the supreme sacrifice which this park and its monument represents.

Cubmaster Robert Butler was deployed multiple times in Afghanistan during his seven years of service as an officer in the United States Army. On June 10, we were proud to award Cub Scout Pack 877 our Certificate of Appreciation for their work - reminding all of the true meaning of Memorial Day.



L-R Sgt. at Arms Charlie Armstrong, Commander Dennis Madden and Cubmaster Robert Butler with a few of Pack 877's scouts.



In Memoriam
Frances Hubbs
June 21, 2015
Auxiliary President 2009-2015





Sail Ahead: Healing Wounded Veterans Through Sailing

On June 26th, at least 8 Veterans and staff of the Northport VA Medical Center will set sail on the waters of Oyster Bay and Long Island Sound, courtesy of the Duclay family and their “**Sail Ahead**” program. At least 6 sailboats will be ready to take them on a four hour sailing adventure. This will be their first outing with the VA, and surely will not be the last.

Since 2013, Brothers Kilian Duclay and Sean Duclay, with the enthusiastic support of their family, friends and Oakcliff Sailing Center, have dedicated themselves and their expertise in sailing to provide effective therapy for traumatized American veterans. From comfortable day long trips in the summer to intense racing in harsh freezing cold conditions in the winter, sailing brings mental relief to our veterans.

The immersion into an environment where everybody's work counts and a collective will is applied to survive has two effects: while it cleanses the mind it also shows that expertise developed in combat can be applied with success towards competitive sailing.

Even though at times it can be seen as extreme, this sailing activity is not dangerous! Taking veterans sailing provides an often new and definitively liberating experience. Veterans are exposed to new sounds, new feelings, new or renewed social interaction and new kinds of challenges. Learning to sail and being supported by others while on a sailboat in the middle of the ocean exposes our veterans to positive and constructive stress. It forces each veteran to work with other unfamiliar veterans to make a team that gets the boat moving! The veterans returning from sailing trips are energized, eager to return and relish the mental freedom intense sailing provides.

The therapy is similar in concept to veterans going to work with horses or being exposed to stressful environment where they can show success.



L-R: Kilian Duclay, father Thierry Duclay and very our own Post 1244 sailors Frank Ostroff and George Barbaro.

Simply put, sailing is positively one of the best therapies for many.

American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244 is supporting and partnering with “Sail Ahead” to be sure that any Veteran who can benefit from the sailing experience will have the opportunity to do so. We will be looking for volunteers to assist in these outings and veterans who can benefit from the experience.

On Saturday, August 22nd, Sail Ahead will conduct its very first annual event named “Let’s Take A Veteran Sailing.” The plan is to recruit as many sailboats and veterans as we can and team them up to sail on the Sound that day. We hope for a large turnout of boats and veterans. An all Women Veteran outing is in the planning stage as well.

We will be updating you on the details of these and other events as they are finalized.

Greenlawn Bugle Honored with Best Paper Award



The New York American Legion Press Association has awarded “The Greenlawn Bugle” a First Place in it’s Best Paper Contest for 2015. The “Bugle” has won this honor for four consecutive years in a row!

This would not have be possible without the stellar contributions of our Legion Family members who take the time to recount all

of the activities and programs of which we are so proud: American Legion Auxiliary, American Legion Riders, MIAP, Boys and Girls State and Service Officer. Of course, our Commander and 1st Vice contribute as well.

Of course, without our great members, there wouldn’t be much to write about. So, everybody - take a bow!!!!

Bob Santo

American Legion Riders

STILL SERVING...STILL RIDING



Greenlawn ALR to Make Pony Express 'Donation Run' to Baltimore, Aug. 23-26

Since January 1, 2015 ALR Post 1244 has completed more than 65 Veteran Missions thanks to the unconditional commitment to serve Veteran needs as exemplified by the tireless efforts of the ALR Executive Board and Riders.

Memorial Day found 20 Riders strong completing four (4) missions in just one day: Fundraiser; 2 Parades; and Bald Hill Reading of The Names. The spirit to serve veterans is contagious, and each week finds ALR traveling to additional venues participating in multiple missions serving our veteran community. Many missions require the ALR travel at its own expense to Calverton & LI National Cemeteries and to witness the agony and emotional suffering of the families paying last respects for their beloved heroes. Silently we stand tall to honor his/her service with the same reserved strength and courage our Veterans demonstrated each day of service to keep freedom free....."Greater love hath no man than this; that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13)Amen. Freedom is so very expensive. May God bring comfort and solace to every Gold Star Mother, Father, and each Sibling. As an unfortunate consequence

of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and the global war on terror, many children of our active-duty military personnel are now members of single-parent families. We, the American Legion Riders, are raising scholarship funds to ensure that higher education will be a reality for these families. But we need your help.

It is estimated that over 11,000 children have lost a parent in the wars overseas. That number continues to grow each day. The Legion is actively working to ensure that all those children who want a post-secondary education will be provided one. **Just how much is needed to be raised?** Obviously, the more money the fund has, the more interest it will accrue for scholarships. If there was enough money in the principal, full college scholarships could be awarded each year. Unfortunately, that day is far off. It is thought that eventually a minimum of \$20 million will be needed to meet the expected need for scholarships. After donations are tallied, \$6.5 million may be funded by year's end 2015.....maybe!?

National Staff and volunteers on the American Legion Riders Advisory Committee have announced the official

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Wall of Wars Commemoration Ceremony Northport VA - May 23, 2015

(L - R) Joe Spinelli; George Barbaro; Dennis Giunta - Past Director; Bob Glanzman - Historian; Mike Williams - Chaplain; Bruce Blanco - President; Herb Walker; Chris Argento - Treasurer.

Greenlawn ALR to Make Pony Express 'Donation Run' to Baltimore, Aug. 23-26

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route for the 2015 American Legion Legacy Run, a fundraiser for the American Legion Legacy Scholarship.

The American Legion Legacy Run will travel the open roads and highways along some of the most scenic areas of the United States. Portions will include the Ohio River, historic towns and cities, farmlands, two-lane roads and interstate, and beautiful plains, hills and rivers of Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. Highlights of Legacy Run 2015 include shorter days, shorter legs, several stops at military and veteran memorials, wreath laying ceremonies (each day), meals at American Legion posts, a return visit to Stoystown, PA and the Flight 93 Memorial, and a three-hour layover at Gettysburg National Battlefield.

On Memorial Day, American Legion Riders Post 1244 set up a fund raising tent at the Dunkin Donuts in Greenlawn and raised \$500 to be donated to the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. Another generous \$500 in matching funds was donated by Post 1244 and raised the ALR scholarship fund to \$1000. These funds will be delivered via a "Pony Express" donation run to Baltimore August 23-26.

Honorable mention with deep appreciation and sincere thankfulness goes out to our generous supporters, loyal Greenlawn residents and Post 1244, a community at-large, who are always mindful of veteran's issues.

In 2014, the 96th Annual American Legion National Convention raised a record \$1 million for the Legacy Fund. We hope to exceed that amount this year!

Nine annual Legacy Runs have now raised a total of \$5 million for the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund.

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

How Can I Donate?

**You may send your check payable to:
The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund
700 N Pennsylvania Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

Just For Laughs

That's It!

A general noticed one of his soldiers behaving oddly. The soldier would pick up any piece of paper he found, frown and say, "That's not it" and put it down again.

This went on for some time, until the general arranged to have the soldier psychologically tested.

The psychologist concluded that the soldier was deranged, and wrote out his discharge from the Army.

The soldier picked it up, smiled and said, "That's it !!!!"



Memorial Day 2015

The day began at 9:00 am when we stepped off to lead the Greenlawn Memorial Day Parade from West Maple Rd. down Broadway to the Greenlawn Monument. This year our Suffolk County Police escort arrived on time. As always, the crowds lining the parade route were vocal in their shouts of appreciation for the Veterans. Our ranks were led by our new



Commander Madden and Past Commander Santo assist WWII Veteran Dominick Gargiulo in presenting our memorial wreath.

Commander Dennis Madden and 1st Vice Commander Allen Schwartz. Our color guard was the largest we've ever had, with at least four riflemen, and three flag bearers.

Arriving at the Greenlawn Monument, our flag bearers took up position on either side of the monument as all the other marchers and color guards arrives and



assembled on the plaza. The three walks to the monument had been lined with small flags placed the week before by the Cub Scouts of Greenlawn Pack 877.

After the opening prayer by the Fire Department Chaplain, the presentation of wreaths was conducted. First was American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244. Commander Dennis Madden and past Commander Bob Santo assisted WWII Veteran Dominick Gargiulo in placing our wreath at the foot of the War Memorial. Auxiliary Members Sandy Bohn and Madelaine Santo presented the Auxiliary wreath. There followed many more wreaths from the Fire Department and many civic organizations of Greenlawn. A three rifle volley, echo taps and the Chaplain's benediction followed.

It was a fine ceremony of remembrance and gratitude for those who gave their lives so that we can continue to celebrate our Memorial Day each year.

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 paperback 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.

Many thanks to Donna and Joe for all their efforts! Contact Donna at 39DPIP@Gmail.com or call Cmdr. Bob Santo at 516-458-7881.

Veterans Discounts



"What are my benefits?"

As a Suffolk County Veteran Service Officer, I hear this question almost daily. Although this question is very broad it is a very valid question for some veterans. The

most simple answer to this question is that being a veteran in this nation is a benefit in itself. Having had the opportunity to serve your country honorably deserves many entitlements. The question that should be asked is: How can my benefits fit into my lifestyle? Below are a few agencies that issue a discount card in New York State.

Lifetime Liberty Pass

The Lifetime Liberty Pass permits qualified New York State veterans with disabilities discounted use of state parks, historic sites, and recreational facilities operated by the Office Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (State Parks) and the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Once issued, the Lifetime Liberty Pass will never have to be renewed!

The Lifetime Liberty Pass benefits includes free vehicle entry to state parks and DEC-operated day-use areas, as well as numerous state boat launch sites, historic sites, arboretums and park preserves; free golf at 28 State Park golf courses; free swimming pool entrance at 36 State Park pools, and discounted camping and cabin rentals at all 119 State Park and DEC campgrounds. To qualify for the pass, the veteran must be a resident of New York State and provide State Parks with written certification from the United States Veterans Administration or the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs that the applicant is a war veteran with a 40% or greater service connected disability as certified by the United States Veterans Administration, or who has at any time been awarded by the Federal government an allowance towards the purchase of an automobile or who is eligible for such an award.

Note: New York State veterans with disabilities who currently hold a valid Access Pass may continue to use their pass for its duration. Prior to expiration, the passholder will need to submit their Lifetime Liberty application, VA documentation, a 2" x 2" picture and a copy of their valid NYS driver's license or non-driver ID. Individual Lifetime Liberty Pass. To apply for the Lifetime Liberty Pass, veterans should submit a Lifetime Liberty

Pass Application, and indicate they are a Veteran using the Veterans Administration/Veterans Affairs certification. They will be issued their own distinctive Lifetime Liberty Pass.

Green Key Card

Card required to access automated/internet golf & camping reservation system. Identifies holder (except Non Resident card) as a Suffolk County resident and insures reduced fees for park activities.

Resident Green Key \$24.00; Sr. Citizen Green Key (60 and over) \$11.00; Handicap/Volunteer Fire/EMT Personnel/Auxiliary Police/CERT Green Key \$11.00; Jr. Green Key (17 yrs. and under) \$11.00

Replacement Green Key \$5.00

*Tourist Reservation Key (valid one year from purchase date) *Sold at W. Sayville Operations Office Only* \$40.00

Veteran Green Key \$11.00

Disabled Veteran Green Key FREE

Active Military Exempt Green Key FREE

Suffolk County Veterans Discount Card

This program provides Veterans discounts at local businesses. The discounts are determined by each business and their application need to be approved by Suffolk County Veterans Service Agency.

For a list of participating businesses see the Discount Program link at www.suffolkcountyny.gov/veterans/discountprogram.aspx

In order to obtain your Veteran discount, you will need a Suffolk County Residential Veteran ID card.

If you do not have an ID card, please bring your DD214 and your Driver License to our office at the H. Lee Dennison Building, 100 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788 or Riverhead County Center, 300 Center Drive, Riverhead, New York 11901. You can also call us at 631-853-8387 if you have any questions.

Sean Lyons

**Service Officer, American Legion Post 1244
Veterans Service Officer, Suffolk County Veterans
Service Agency 631-853-VETS**

Vice Commander's Call to Members



"What's in your wallet?"

Each and every day we are offered opportunities to apply for membership. Phrases like, "membership has its privilege" or "life's better when we're connected", sound so warm, so friendly and so helpful. However, there is almost always one key missing ingredient, face to face contact with people!

I was waiting for a meeting to start one evening and sort of lamenting out loud about how my new refrigerator would not quite fit under my kitchen cabinet. I had daringly removed the cabinet...with my wife holding up one end...cut the cabinet down in size and remounted it. My only salvation was to 'true the doors' to cover my otherwise marginal carpentry. A gentlemen sitting next to me heard my plight and suggested I talk to Mike across the room; he was great with wood stuff.

I walked across the room and introduced myself to Mike, and after a few moments he smiled and suggested I drop over to his shop (in the garage) and bring the two doors. And that's how I met Michael Bonchonsky, WWII Veteran and member of Greenlawn Post 1244...carpenter extraordinaire!

Mike remade my doors perfectly and no one was the

wiser regarding my work...he was gracious and amazing. He wanted nothing in return other than a little conversation. I did however retouch an early military photo of him...write an article for our newsletter about Mike the WWII Veteran entitled, "Air Force, But Not A Pilot", and at each meeting I would tell him about the new compliments my wife and I had received regarding the beautiful Mike Bonchonsky Doors.

For the almost 100 of us that recently attended the wonderful celebration of our retiring Post Commander Bob Santo, it was hard not be struck by the joyous mood of the event. There is no doubt the event itself was the catalyst, but table after table you saw people talking, exchanging, sharing and genuinely enjoying their time together...and hugging as they left.

So phrases like, "membership has its privilege" or "life's better when we're connected", have real meaning when someone asks, "What's in your wallet?" and you say, "My Post 1244 American Legion Card...Brother!"

I look forward to a great year...not only of membership...but of face to face contact!

COME ON DOWN!

Allen Schwartz

*1st Vice Commander
Memberships Chairman*

Welcome - New Members!

Joanne Gray
Keith Gunsel
Philip Ludwig

George McKnight
George Pastor
George Sheehan



The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text.

Veterans and their loved ones can call **1-800-273-8255** and **Press 1**, chat online, or send a text message to **838255** to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Support for deaf and hard of hearing individuals is available.

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



24 Boulevard Avenue
Greenlawn, NY 11740

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



THE COMMANDER'S CORNER

Thank you all for your votes of confidence as I take on the job of Commander of this Post. We

certainly have come a long way since 2005 with Bob Santo as Commander and I know that I can count on you all to help me continue with his programs and efforts.

Another year is about to begin for this Post and there are many plans in store for activities within the community while the weather is cooperating. Watch the website and our Post Calendar for updates. Our new Activities Chairman, Frank Ostroff, has shown he is up to the job with his first Post BBQ and now we will get on to perhaps a Holiday Party outside of the Post. Stay tuned for details as the committee prepares a plan. We will definitely have yet another Brunch and the timing is probably about Sept or Oct. Details to follow.

While we have many of the same faces on the Executive Committee, one is new to this group. Our 3rd Vice Commander, Jerry Jacobus, will bring a new perspective to help us draw from the younger veteran "pool" that seems to shy away from our organization.

We're working on that problem all the time. We need to get the word out that this is not an old man's drinking club, but a bona fide veteran's organization whose entire mission is to help our brother and sister veterans at every possible opportunity. I hope you'll join us and engage others when the opportunity presents itself.

I will have Bob's ear for the next year and will use his counsel wisely. OUR Post, has been and is the one recognized far and wide for its successes while others stumble and wither. This is an organization that works with programs that genuinely help and draw more to the group. Our Legionnaires, our Ladies Auxiliary and our Riders are all thriving.

We will address our Sons with a good, thorough review of its members, in search of a core that will become active and assist the Post in its activities. We have let it linger these last few years, but now is the time. If your son or grandson is not a member, why not consider having them join, or, sponsor their membership. Right now, WE'RE looking for a few good men and women!!

Dennis Madden



Final Salute

William J. Boyd

May 19, 2015

United States Army World War II



Thank You!

I want to thank everyone who participated in all the planning and work that went into my Commander's Retirement Party and to all who attended and contributed in any way. To say that I was surprised would be an understatement. It was a delightful event and I am so grateful for all the good wishes and gifts. It was a special treat to see so many of our Legion Family members, my family, friends and elected officials all in one place. I hope you all had a great time, I can assure you that I did. I will remember that day for many, many years to come.

Bob Santo, Past Post Commander

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 Past Commander Bob Santo at 516-458-7881

The Greenlawn Bugle: Editor and Production Manager, Bob Santo

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Contributing Writers: Chris Argento, Charlie Armstrong, John Caldarelli, Fran Hubbs, Sean Lyons, Dennis Madden, Allen Schwartz

Proofreading, Photography, Envelope Labeling, Stuffing and Circulation and Morale Officer: 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
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