

The Greenlawn Bugle ♦ Post 1244

March 2008

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Upcoming Events

- ♦ **March 9** St. Patrick's Day Parade
- ♦ **March 12** Post 1244 Meeting / *Nomination of Officers*
- ♦ **March 15** Kirkup Museum
- ♦ **March 25** Jacob's Light
- ♦ **April 9** Post 1244 Meeting / *Election of Officers*
- ♦ **April 12** Post Fund Raiser
- ♦ **May 7** Post 1244 Meeting / *Installation of Officers*

Visit Our Web Site for More Details

www.Post1244.org

Harborfields High School Students Honor Veterans



American Legion Post 1244 showed up in force at the Junior Statesmen of America chapter Veterans' Appreciation Day at Greenlawn's Harborfields High School on Friday, February 1st.

Ten Post 1244 members arrived to warm greetings by about sixty, bright, alert and intelligent young students interested in our stories and pictures. We supplied plenty of both, and shared along the way.

The Harborfields High School Junior Statesmen of America chapter, counseled and directed by Patty Taylor, strive to learn statesmanship by engaging in political discussions.

The group cultivates democratic leadership skills by challenging one another to think critically and to advocate their own

positions, develop respect for others opposing views and to rise above self interest to promote the public good.

Joining Legion Post 1244 were members of VFW Post 1469, Huntington. Representing Post 1244 were Commander Bob Santo, Vice Commander Dennis Madden, Adjutant Allen Schwartz and members Bill Polakos, Donald Lammers, Charles Hubbs, Michael Bonchonski, Earle Emmons, James Kelly and Al Shaw, post photographer.

Not only were the students interested in us, but we were just as excited to hear their goals. A bounty of food was at the table and the coffee never ran out. In short, it was a great day for all involved—

THANKS PATTY & STUDENTS!



Greenlawn Bugle, Our New Look

Since its inauguration on February 7, 2007 the Greenlawn Bugle has become the fastest growing newsletter on the planet—well at least in Suffolk County! Seriously, I hope you will enjoy our new look

and format. Our grant from Suffolk County allowed us to buy some new equipment and software. The 'boys' in production are very happy! →→



Vice Commander's Call to Members

It is my pleasure to have this opportunity to reach out to all of our members on a regular basis in our Greenlawn Bugle newsletter.

Our intent is to offer the most rewarding and interesting programs, and to use the Bugle to make you aware of all that our Post has to offer you and your family.

We are very pleased that we have come this far in so short a time, and it is because more and more of our members are

coming out to our events. We can help you attend, too, if you will just call us. We'll come and get you and return you home as well, from our meetings or special events.

You served your country and you deserve the recognition that comes from that service.

Like "Enterprise", we'll come to you!

Perhaps you know of another veteran, near or far, who might like to join. Let me know and I'll contact

them and try my best to bring them into the brotherhood.

Their service is "honorable", and they "too" deserve to be recognized. With your help, I can make it happen!

In the meantime, watch for our list of upcoming events and come on out and join us all.

You will be missed if you don't, and thrilled if you do!



Vice Commander Dennis Madden

Post 1244 "Pride In Service Photo Album "

Our Post is in the process of assembling a photo album of our honored members, and a bit of their military history. Portrait pictures will be taken at our regular meetings, and a data form will be available for the history piece.

We would also love to have a picture that was taken during your active service period.

So open up that old "trunk" and look through those "special" photos! Let's have some fun and perhaps ignite some fond memories. Bring

some pictures to the meeting for "show and tell".

The project is planned to be completed by mid-summer, so there is plenty of time. Allen Shaw will be the Project Manager; more information will follow.

*So open up that
old "trunk" and
look through
those "special"
photos!*

Going...Going...Ready for Immediate Delivery!

The Vice Commander has done it again; a great deal on a custom Post 1244 sweatshirt or tee shirt with a full front Veteran Forever..., as shown on the right. Each shirt is top quality in 'Snow White' color with Post 1244 Greenlawn, NY lettered on the left sleeve for the tee shirt, and the upper back on the sweatshirt. **Great complement to your post cap!**

The tee shirts are \$10 in sizes L,XL and \$13 in 2XL, while the sweatshirts are \$16 in sizes M,L,XL and \$19 in 2XL. We have quite a few available, although they went pretty fast at our February meeting.

Order yours on-line by sending an email to Dennis at: dam9245@optonline.net or by phone @ 516-523-9391. Operators are standing by. Pick up your order at the next event or for a few \$\$ we will ship it. A Post 1244 shirt, copy of the Bugle — it just doesn't get any better!



It's All In The Numbers



What do these numbers mean to you?

1244 ♦ 1776 ♦ 1941 ♦ 411 ♦ 60

Our world is full of numbers; good numbers, funny numbers, bad numbers, odd numbers, even numbers, BIG and **small** numbers, numbers we remember and some we don't. How about these numbers:

- 3 million hours of community service
- \$4 million in scholarships
- 85,000 pints of blood
- 27,000 flag presentations
- \$5.4 million in cash/goods benefiting 272,000 young people
- 2 million hours of volunteer service at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities

During the membership year 2006-2007, of 8,188 posts reporting, Legionnaires '*made these numbers*'. *WHAT A TEAM!!!*

SERVING OUR COUNTRY EVERY WAY WE CAN

"Sons" Receive Letter Of Commendation

Commander Anthony Corrente, Squadron 1244, received a letter of congratulations from Detachment Vice Commander, Paul C. Peach of Districts 2 & 10 for reaching target membership of 100%.

Vice Commander Peach

wrote "...congratulations on this achievement and setting a great example for the rest of the District and our Organization".

In his remarks at the recent post meeting, Tony commented it was really a team effort from our Com-

mander, Vice Commander and member Sons like Hal Stillway of the Squadron.

The Sons was initiated in February of 2007 and now has 15 descendant members.

CONGRATULATIONS SONS



Huntington Town Officials Sworn In ♦ Veterans Organizations Present Colors



On January 2 at Half Hollow Hills High School-West, Councilwomen Glenda Jackson and Susan Berland, Town Clerk Jo-Ann Raia and Receiver of Taxes, Ester Bivona took their oaths of office following the results of the recent election.

American Legion Post 1244 was included in a large contingent of Veterans Groups Presenting the Colors. Commander Bob Santo presented the American Flag, Adjutant Allen Schwartz carried the Post flag and Allen Shaw, Post 1244 Photographer, recorded the event for history

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Major John Bivona, son of Ester Bivona and Judge Bivona, who later presented Supervisor Frank Petrone with a U.S. flag that was flown over John's unit while serving in Iraq.

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

We are on the web,
www.Post1244.org

'FOUNDED IN 1943 AND HONORED BY PEOPLE WHO CARE'

As we begin a new year for our Post let us keep in mind the American Legion's vision for a strong America:

- ◆ A Strong National Security
- ◆ Taking Care of Veterans
- ◆ Mentoring Youth
- ◆ Promoting Patriotism and Honor

When someone asks you about the American Legion, you can point with pride to this vision. It explains exactly who we are, what we do, and what has made us the largest and most successful veterans organization in the world, almost 3 million strong.

Remember, while we are a veterans service organization, our service doesn't stop there. We can all take pride in our Post's diverse achievements. But there is much to do. At our meetings, I can sense the pride you all have in our Post.

I am challenging you to do more in the coming year; help us spread the word and increase our numbers. The mission is our priority, and membership is our lifeblood. I look forward to great accomplishments In 2008! Warmest regards,

BOB

NTDS TEAM USS INDEPENDENCE CV-62

"I REMEMBER..." sharing some personal moments



40 years ago this April I was married, and just six days after I said "I Do", I stepped aboard the USS Independence CV-62, saluted, and 'Requested Permission' to come aboard. Our carrier was the Admiral's Flag Ship, and we were headed for the Mediterranean for a 10 - month deployment, a long one.

My memories of that time and my marriage to my wife Leona, still shine brightly.

I would have to admit though, that since my association with Greenlawn Post 1244 and its members, I have reached back more frequently to my Navy days.

In view of my background in computer technology at NSA and the Navy's need for technicians, I entered with the advanced rank of First Class Petty Officer, E-6. In most cases it would take 8 to 12 years to earn that level, not just 6 weeks, and while I was long on technical skills, I was short on Navy tradition and protocol. As senior

'man' , at 22, I was immediately put in charge of 82 enlisted men, my first supervisory role ever!

I assumed the role from a 2nd Class Petty Officer, who commented, "that while I might have it technically, I knew little about the Navy"! This 'bond' between us would develop, allowing our ship to have the highest equipment up-time of the fleet. Now on my 2nd day.....

My name is Allen Schwartz, the sailor on the left - I wrote and approve of this article!