



The Greenlawn Bugle

The Newsletter of American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244

June 2021

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Volume 15 Issue 2

Memorial Day 2021



Greenlawn Post 1244 Is Back!

Thanks to the relaxing of COVID 19 restrictions, and Greenlawn Fire Department's great decision to put together a last-minute parade, we were able to properly commemorate Memorial Day. The parade was abbreviated, but there were more than enough Greenlawn citizens along the route to make it a very special occasion as always.

The parade began at Fenwick St. and Broadway and ended at the Greenlawn Memorial. Wreaths were presented, "Taps" was sounded and our war dead were fittingly honored. Greenlawn Post 1244 showed up in strength and everyone was glad to be able to gather once more without masks and distancing.

Beginning on June 9, we resumed regular, in-person meetings at the St. Joseph Council Knights of Columbus at 8 pm every 2nd Wednesday of each month. Our next meeting is July 14. We're looking forward to seeing you all once again. Come visit with us!

Boys and Girls State 2021-2022

Many times over the years that we have been participating in the Boy's & Girl's State programs, we have heard them referred to as "summer camp." As the students that have attended the programs can assure you, these are nothing like summer camp (they just happen to occur during the summer). It is an intense daily schedule beginning early in the morning and extending late into the evening. The process begins from scratch to build a functioning city, county, and state government. Below is what would be a typical day at the in-person curriculum:

6:00 am	Reveille, physical fitness (PT)
Before 8:00 am	Raise Flag – counties rotate
6:45 am	Breakfast – daily eating order rotates by city and delegate
8:15 am	Individual County & City Counselors meet with their Marines
8:30 – 9:30 am	Special elections – city election for state senators, assemblymen, commissioners on sustainability & economic development, county sheriffs and state police
9:45 am	Assembly Seminar (seated) Color Guard (counties rotate) Scripture Reading (counties rotate)
After Assembly	Select Boy's State police (1 from each county) and elect county sheriff (1 from each county), stay in Rec Hall for "Oath of Office" and instruction
11:45 am	Lunch – daily eating order rotates by city and delegate Yearbook pictures as scheduled by county appointment
12:30 – 2:00 pm	City elections for remaining city offices County caucus to elect party chairman, assistant party chairman and appoint one member to the party convention rules committee and one member to the party platform committee from each county, and elect other party convention officials
After City Caucus	State police & sheriff's school of instruction, report to Boy's State HQ, drill instruction as needed
3:30 pm	County party chairman, assistant chairman and county clerk meet with state counselors Members of the party platform and party rules committee will meet with state counselors (Rec Hall)
4:00 pm	Athletics as scheduled Band rehearsal Commissioners of sustainability & economic development meet in Headquarters room
5:15 pm	Dinner – daily eating order rotates by city and delegate
Before 6:00 pm	Lower Flag (counties rotate) County caucus before and after dinner to select candidates for state party offices
7:00 – 10:00 pm	State party conventions – Session 1 Federalists – even - blue (Rec Hall) Nationalists – odd – gold (Hamilton Hall)
10:15 pm	Return to rooms
10:30 PM	Lights out

As you can see, the days are extremely full. This is just an example of one of the day's schedules. The daily schedule runs each day from 6:00 am until 10:30 PM. So, NO, it is definitely NOT a summer camp! This year the classes are being held virtually, and the delegates will get the same opportunities to participate and get a working knowledge of how our state government should operate.

Newly Elected Post 1244 Officers Installed



Newly re-elected Post 1244 Commander Donna Boyle addresses the membership as Suffolk County Commander Roby Johnson looks on.

On June 9, a team from the Suffolk County American Legion installed our newly elected officers for the 2021-2022 Legion Year. The team members were Suffolk County Commander Roby Johnson and County Past Commanders Jim Beecher, Mike Pankowski, Tom Wagner, Robert Smith, Tom Bergin and Bill Farley

Pizza and refreshments followed the ceremony.

Our Officers for 2021-2022 are:

Commander - Donna Boyle
1st Vice Commander - Ken Hinsch
2nd Vice Commander - Fred Tuccillo
3rd Vice Commander - Steve Scinta
Adjutant - Ed Hayde

Finance Officer and Historian - Bob Santo
Chaplain - John Carr
Judge Advocate - Hal Dieterle
Sgt. at Arms - Charlie Armstrong
Service Officer - Michelle Martin

Thanks go to all our newly elected and re-elected officers. Without your willingness to devote many hours to our post and its members, as well as all our veterans, we would cease to be the great veterans organization we have become.

Operation Enduring Care

We are fortunate to be in a reduction of the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 Crisis. Restrictions are being reduced as the virus appears to be declining.

For us, members of The American Legion, our mission on so many fronts continue. Our mission to comfort and assist our fellow veterans in need is now an essential obligation. So many smaller charities, soup kitchens and collections have declined or simply stopped.

“Operation Enduring Care,” has become a beacon of help amidst the storm this virus has created. Since January 2021, non-perishable food items have been provided to “Operation Hope” program of Island Harvest, over 12,000 plastic and paper goods as well as care packages to the Beacon House shelter on the Northport VA Medical Center grounds.

We are also very honored that “Operation Enduring Care” has been asked to contribute to **Housing Urban Development-Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)** through the Northport VA Medical Center. This program assists our veterans transitioning to houses in our communities throughout Long Island. This is a source of great pride. It shows that our collection has meaning, substance and a deep real purpose. It also means there are new avenues to help those in need over a broader base.

Our mission to assist those in need is sure, steady and purposeful. We thank all of you for your contributions and support.

Monetary donations in any amount are especially welcome.

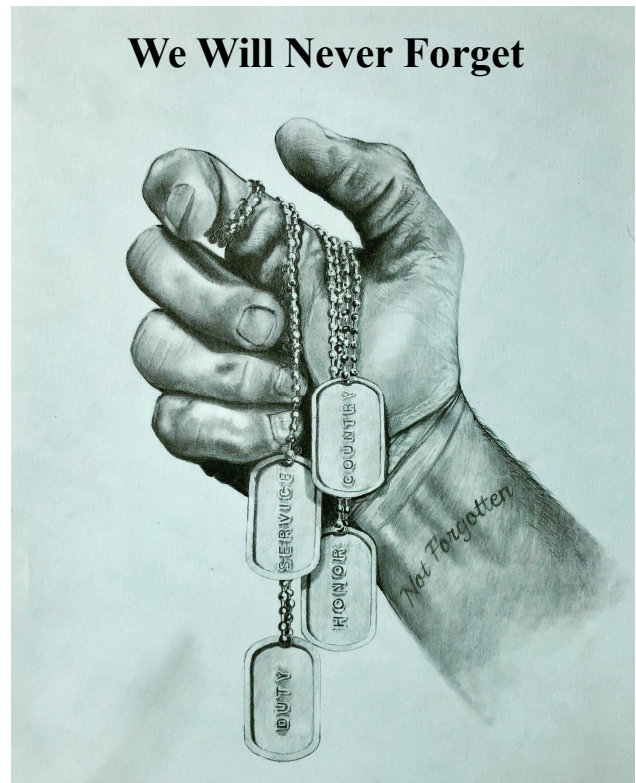
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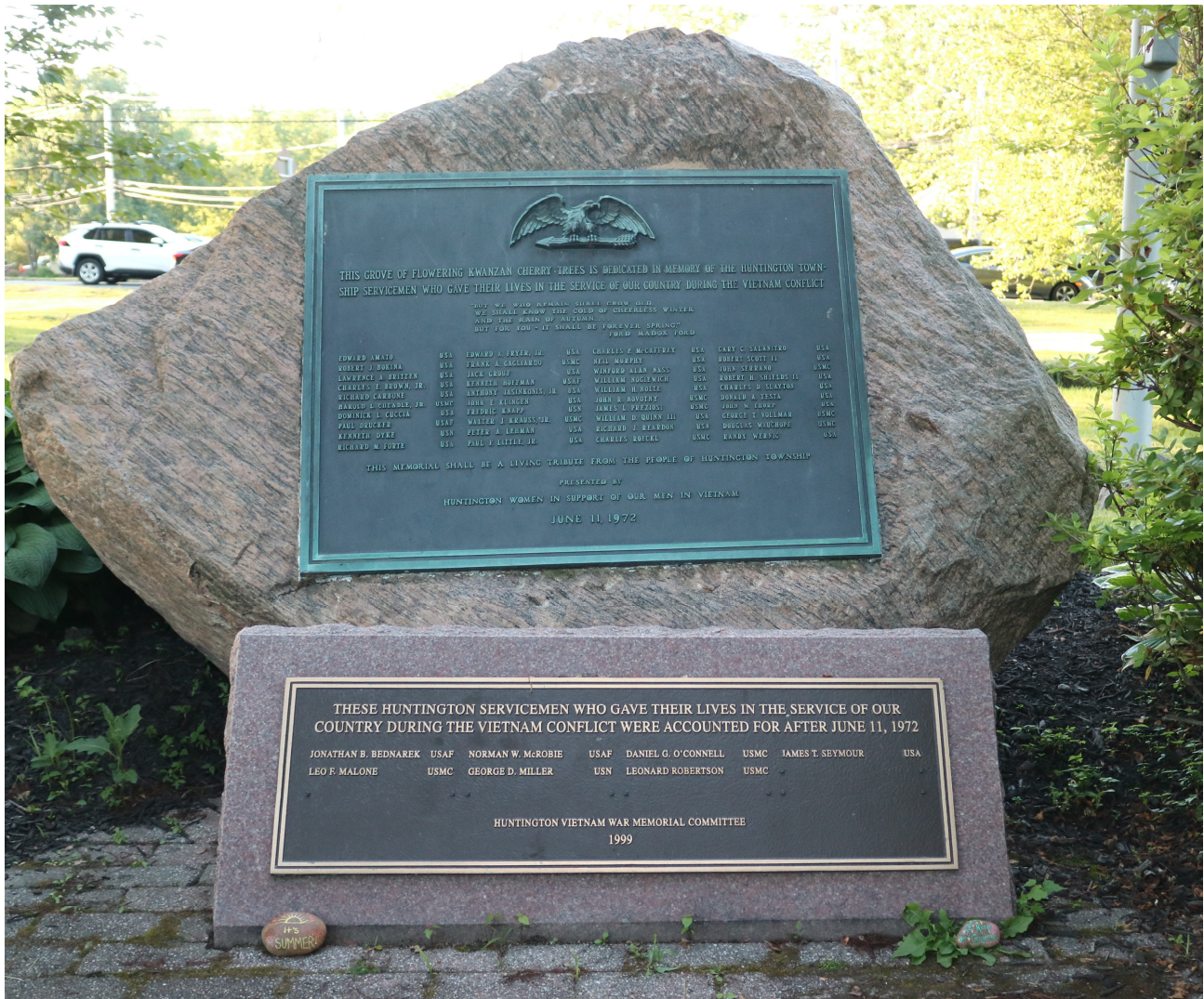
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**Operation Enduring Care Information Display
Harborfields Public Library**

Plans to Mark 50th Anniversary of Vietnam Memorial



During the Vietnam War, a group of Huntington mothers, daughters, sisters, wives and girlfriends joined together in order to support the Huntington men who left to serve our country. These women formed the organization: "Huntington Women In Support of Our Men In Vietnam."

They sent many letters and packages to the men during their service in Vietnam.

On June 11, 1972 a memorial was unveiled in Huntington's Village Green Park to honor 40 men of Huntington who lost their lives serving in Vietnam. A Kwanzan cherry tree was planted representing each man. In 1999, an additional plaque was added to honor 7 men who died after the 1972 dedication.

Plans are underway to commemorate the dedication of the memorial, in honor of the men from Huntington who lost their lives during that war and the women who supported them. Events may include ceremonies, a concert, a breakfast, a Vietnam Wall replica and others. The commemoration in 2022 will be timed to take place during the same time period as the original June 11 dedication.

This will be an important event for all our Vietnam Veterans. We will keep you up to date as details are finalized.



Help For Homeless Or At-Risk Veterans

In addition to being an American Legion veteran, and Post 1244 Service Officer, I also serve as the Entitlements Specialist for S:US (Services for the Underserved) (SSVF – Veteran’s Division).

S:US’ Veterans Division is a grant from the VA that allows us to assist homeless or at-risk homeless veterans.

We assist veterans in many capacities. Our goal is to get (or keep), the veteran housed by providing numerous services and benefits to assist with their sustainability.

We can provide:

- Rental arrears
- Rental payments
- Broker’s fees and security deposit
- Employment Assistance (resumes, job leads, interview workshops)
- Benefits assistance (Social Security disability, VA and Public Assistance claims)
- Help with utilities
- Car repairs
- Connecting veterans with mental health support.

To be eligible for our program, the following guidelines must be met:

- Veterans with active duty from all eras who were discharged with any status other than Dishonorable
- Current or former members of the National Guard or Reserves **who were called up for active duty**
- Income below 50% the Area Median Income (reduced services) or 30% below the Area Median Income (full services).
- Homeless or are in the process of eviction.

If you are uncertain whether you meet our guidelines, please contact me! I will connect you with our intake personnel who will review your case; and if we are unable to help, we will provide other resources from other organizations that will be able to assist you.

Sincerely,

Michelle Martin
Entitlements Specialist
Long Island Division
600 Albany Avenue
Amityville, NY 11701
(Cell) 646-937-2940
(Fax) 855-232-8285
(Email) mmartin@sus.org

Walt Whitman High School Military Appreciation Breakfast



In an annual event,, students at Walt Whitman who have decided to join the Armed Forces upon graduation, were honored by the South Huntington School District.

At this year's event on June 7, officers from American Legion Post 1244 were in attendance, as always, to extend our congratulations and gratitude for these young men volunteering to serve in the military.

Their names from the left are: Matthew Jimenez

Bonilla (Marines), Terence Carduner (Air Force), Deshawn Small (Marines), Kelvin Sanchez Torres (Marines), and Daniel Kamer (Marines).

The two missing are Jude Conway (Air Force) and Nicholas Salas (Navy).

Present from Greenlawn Post 1244 are 2nd Vice Cmdr. Fred Tuccillo, 1st Vice Cmdr. Carlo Giordano, Sgt. at Arms Charlie Armstrong and Judge Advocate Hal Dieterle.

Post 1244 Website Receives National Honors



Our American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244 website, was awarded a first prize in the 2021 contest of The American Legion Media Alliance. Judges elected our entry in the **Website - Posts up to 249** members category.

Our website can be reached at www.post1244.org. Please have a look. We are always looking for ways to improve the website and suggestions are always welcome. Our website is just one of the ways we seek to reach out to our veterans as well as the community at large.

A Final Salute

Jerry H. Weiss
March 27, 2021

United States Marine Corps



Charles Dellasalla
March 31, 2021

United States Army



John H. Johnsen
April 8, 2021

United States Army



George J. Pastor
May 4, 2021

United States Army



John P. Meusel
June 24, 2021

United States Army



Their sense of duty continues to preserve our past, safeguard our present and sustain our future.

Memories of Long Island State Veterans Home

During the years 1993-1997 while I was a student at SUNY Stony Brook I volunteered at the LISVH. I primarily worked as a pastoral care volunteer transporting veterans to Sunday Mass.

Father Kohli was the celebrant at that period of time. People of all faiths would attend Sunday Mass as it was not only a religious function but it was also a social gathering allowing the residents a feeling of community. I have very fond memories of these times spent at the Veterans Home. It allowed me the opportunity to spend time with our nation's heroes.



The home, then and now, addresses all aspects of a veteran's life including their spiritual growth.

Mary Flatley

Memorial Day at Long Swamp Cemetery



In a brief ceremony at 3:00 pm on Memorial Day, members of Post 1244 remembered our first American veterans, those who made possible everything we now take for granted. Long Swamp Cemetery is a long-neglected historic burial place in Huntington Station. Interred there are three Revolutionary War veterans: Private Scudder Carl (1758-1842), Sergeant John Carll (1741-1822) and Private Joseph Ireland (1764 -1841).

For the past ten years, its upkeep has been an ongoing project of Greenlawn Post 1244 and especially of Legionnaire Ed Hayde and his wife Debbie.

Water Bottle Contest Winner



Post Chaplain John Carr was the winner of our “Guess the Weight Water Bottle Contest.”

The bottle and its contents were weighed at Village Animal Hospital, Jericho, NY on June 9. The weight was 143.2 Lbs.

Thanks to all who participated, and special thanks to Teri Fay who donated the bottle and its contests to the Post.



Cmdr. Donna Boyle and Sgt at Arms Charlie Armstrong at the weighing of the water bottle.



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American Legion Riders



May has come to an end. This month I want to recognize Joe Spinelli and George Barbaro who were both presented with plaques for all they do for our veterans. And that is a lot! It takes dedication for all they do and these men have it.

On Memorial Day, the Riders of Post 1244 started our morning early. We set up our spot in front of Dunkin Donuts. I am not sure what happened, but the coffee drinkers did not come out that morning. The Riders of Post 1244 were there in force, which made for a really nice morning.



From there, the Greenlawn Memorial Day Parade began and ended with the wreath ceremony at the park. After the Greenlawn ceremony, our Riders headed to Kings Park and supported the American Legion Post during their Memorial Day ceremony. Kings Park was happy to see the Riders as we came into town.

The Riders of Post 1244 are known to support our Veterans and that is what we do.

I want to give a huge thank you to my daughter Nicole, my wife, Donna and the grandkids. On Friday, Nicole had the kids set up a Lemonade stand in front of the house. She had lemonade, iced tea, cupcakes, cookies, pretzels, flags. Just a little of everything.



Gino, Kristiana and Vince

The kids made signs for Memorial Day that all donations were going to the American Legion Riders of Post 1244. Well, word spread and let me just say the support was AMAZING!

Thank You Nicole for all you do!

Bruce Blanco

Director, Legion Riders Chapter 1244

631-745-9330

ride4mike@gmail.com



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Vice Commander's Call to Members



On May 22, 2021 the county held its 2nd Annual Suffolk County Veterans Drive-Thru Resource Event at the H. Lee Dennison Building North Parking Lot. The day was beautiful and the turn-out was good, with close to 100

Veterans attending from all branches of service.

The event was established to provide resources to help our brothers and sisters in need. A wide variety of resources were provided by the sponsors of this event, ranging from legal services, spiritual support and mental health, and physical needs such as clothing and consumer staples.

American Legion Post 1244 was represented by Ken Hinsch and his team from Covanta, which provided socks and underwear to those attending the event. During the course of the day, County Executive Steve Bellone and County Legislator Susan Berland stopped by to greet the veterans attending the event, and thank them for their service. They also took the



time to thank all of the volunteers that participated in making this event a success, despite restrictions brought about by COVID-19. We are looking forward to an even better event next year.

Ken Hinsch

**1st Vice Commander
Membership Chairman**

KenHinsch@hotmail.com

Time To Renew

It's time to renew your American Legion membership for another year.

You — we — can make a difference. Your membership provides vital support to local veterans services, legislative lobbying efforts, and outreach in our local community.

The renewal process begins in July for the upcoming membership year. Renewal notices are sent out in July, October, January, March and May

Renewals give allow us to keep our services functioning, no matter how circumstances change. While new members help us expand our outreach and allow us to serve more people who need our help. Secure, convenient online membership renewal can be completed online at www.legion.org/renew.



All honorably discharged veterans who have served since Dec. 7, 1941, are now eligible to join The American Legion and can do so safely and easily.

Renew online at www.legion.org/renew

The Commander's Corner



We are back, both your Post and America.

It is a real pleasure to see everyone's smile and even a frown or too. I missed the smiles of those people who assisted me this last year.

You have a new executive committee and they are all excited to serve you and other Veterans. Please join me in wishing them well and thanking them for stepping up. We are now hosting in-person meetings and other events so stop in and join us at a meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Operation Enduring Care received a grant recently, from the Suffolk County Marathon to assist in the

accomplishment of its mission. Special thanks to Bob Santo and Al Statton for all their work on the application.

The summer weather encourages outdoor activities so go out and re-introduce yourself to your neighbors. Maybe you and they will be able to solve all the world's problems over your fence.

If not, you might find after last year that you enjoy everyone's company more.

Donna Boyle
Post Commander
631-942-2156
39dpip@gmail.com

Thank You Sponsors!

The Greenlawn Bugle is made possible by its many sponsors. See pages 13 through 16. When you see a sponsor, please be sure to let them know how much we appreciate their support!



The Greenlawn Bugle

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For Posts Under 249 Members

National American Legion Press Association First Place Award 2018;
Second Place Award 2019

New York American Legion Press Association's Best Paper Award
2009-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017-2018-2019



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and their families for
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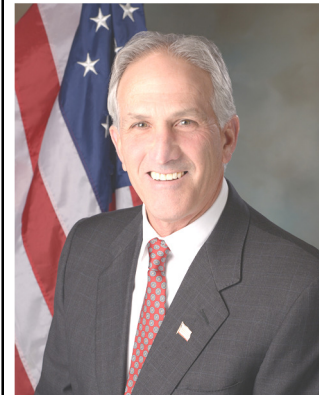


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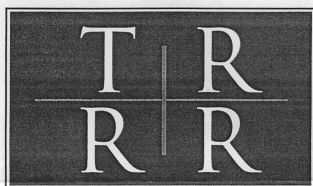
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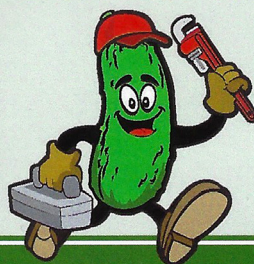
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