

The Greenlawn Bugle ♦ Post 1244

♦ New York State American Legion Best Paper 2008 ♦

June 2009 ♦ 10th Commemorative Edition



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Upcoming Events

- **Sunday May 24 / Town of Huntington Memorial Day Wreath Ceremony**
- **Monday May 25 / Greenlawn Memorial Day Parade & Post Cookout**
- **Wednesday June 10 / Monthly Meeting**
- **Sunday June 14 / Flag Day Retirement Ceremony**
- **Wednesday July 8 / Monthly Meeting**

Visit Our Web Site for More Details

www.Post1244.org

American Legion Boys State - A Week That Shapes A Life!

Boys State is a unique summertime educational program for high school juniors. It focuses on participation and personal experience in a model state, complete with government bodies and elected public officials.

It is an American Legion program that mirrors the structure and operation of its respective state government while offering training in practical citizenship, leadership and character development.

Post 1244 Commander Bob Santo points out that the Legion believes that our American form of government can survive only with an educated citizenry. By teaching youth to understand and appreciate our democratic republic, America can remain strong and ensure our freedom for future generations.

Boys State seeks to develop leadership and pride in American citizenship; develop a full understanding of American traditions and a loyalty to the United States of America. It also seeks to arouse in the young a determination to maintain our form of government while giving birth to a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation.

Boys State allows those participating to form and operate their government without strict control or excessive supervision by the adult volunteer staff.



Three young men from Harborfields HS are going to the American Legion Boys State at SUNY in Morrisville, New York, this summer. Two alternates were also selected.

Post 1244 Adjutant Ed O'Shea and Sergeant at Arms Charlie Armstrong interviewed the five applicants and selected three; Brian Lindo, Patrick Ryan and Andrew Colamussa as the prime delegates.

O'Shea said it was a very challenging decision as to who would be delegates and who



would be alternates. There is a very good chance that other openings for the alternates may develop.

Tim Gentzlinger and Alex Boccard round out the team; we hope they all get to go! Participants are assigned to a mythical political party and will be involved with all lev-



els of government from precinct to State office. New York Boys State, as well as all the State programs, will select two outstanding participants to represent their State at the American Legion Boys Nation.

Harborfields Principal Dr. Dave Bennardo was very excited about his students being selected, and is in tune with the Boys Nation next step. Post 1244 pays all fees for orientation, tuition and transportation.

By Allen Shaw

Vice Commander Notes: Our 'BUGLE' Sounds for You!

Two years ago, at an Executive Committee meeting, it was decided that we would give a Post Newsletter a chance to bring us out to our inactive members; to let them know what is happening and about our many and varied events.

It was decided to name the vehicle the Greenlawn Bugle and Allen Schwartz would be the man to breathe life into this new endeavor.

Our Commander, Bob Santo, has steered this Post masterfully since taking the reins and our Editor, Allen

human interest stories and member pictures.

Our Bugle has been entered into a Statewide contest for Post newsletters and swept the event in our very first entry. We have heard from some of our "elder" members about their exploits during war in the "I Remember" articles and we have kept everyone abreast of the goings-on of the Post with the array of photos from each of them.

Schwartz, has done yeoman's work with the Bugle.

I am proud to be a part of this Post and I hope you will join me in a resounding ovation for all our members with this, our 10th edition of the Bugle. Bravo, to all!

Thanks, Allen, for your expertise and this product we call the Greenlawn Bugle.

Dennis



Vice Commander Dennis Madden

GREENLAWN POST 1244 ELECTED OFFICERS 2009-2010

COMMANDER

Bob Santo

1ST VICE COMMANDER & FINANCE OFFICER

Dennis Madden

2ND VICE COMMANDER

Dennis Giunta

3RD VICE COMMANDER

Kevin Farrell

ADJUTANT

Edward O'Shea

CHAPLAIN

Donald "Ducky" Hope

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Allen Schwartz

HISTORIAN

Allen Shaw

MEMBERSHIP

Dennis Madden

SERVICE OFFICER

Bob Santo

SGT. AT ARMS

Charles Armstrong

JACOB'S LIGHT FOUNDATION ACHIEVES SIGNIFICANT LANDMARK

With February's packing, local organization 'Jacob's Light Foundation' has surpassed the 250,000 pound mark of packages sent to our military overseas. This works out to over 8,000 packages, averaging about 30 pounds each, which have been sent to individual military personnel. Each of these packages includes items not readily available such as: baked beans, cereal, fresh coffee, crackers, talcum powder, snacks, bug wipes, sunscreen, peanut butter, batteries, etc. The food items make for a pleasant diversion from the culinary delights normally found in their MRE's and the other items help to make life a bit more pleasant.

Jacob's Light was founded in 2003 by Dorine Kenney as a way to keep her son's memory alive. Jacob was one of the early casualties of the War in Iraq, killed by a roadside bomb in Samarra, in November of 2003.

The volunteers come from far and wide, with two recently honored volunteers, George and Ellen Murray, who come all the way from Pennsylvania to give their help. At the February packing, Alyse Spinner, Secretary/Treasurer of the Foundation, was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a US Army Freedom team salute for outstanding contribution to the United States Army.

The volunteer packers come from many groups, including our Greenlawn Post 1244. The packaging takes place in the Brentwood American Legion hall, which the Legion provides free of charge. If you are interested in helping or wish to learn more about Jacob's Light, check out their website at www.jacobsprogram.org.
By Charles Armstrong

Post 1244 Activities Bulletin Board—10th Commemorative Edition ***February 2007—May 2009***



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

"It was with sadness that we recently stood shoulder to shoulder with Vice Commander Dennis Madden at the funeral of his brother Brian. Our deepest sympathy and love."

[www. Post 1244.org](http://www.Post1244.org)

'POST 1244: FOUNDED IN 1943 AND HONORED BY PEOPLE WHO CARE'

GREENLAWN BUGLE 10TH EDITION

It is hard to believe that it has been more than two years since we launched the first edition of *The Greenlawn Bugle*.

With the skill and leadership of our Editor-in-Chief, Allen Schwartz, our reporter and photographer, Allen Shaw and many other contributors, we have been able to tell the ongoing story of our American Legion Post. We hope that everyone who receives this newsletter, veteran or not, has gotten to know us a little better. If you know of someone who would like to receive *The Greenlawn Bugle*, please let us know.

A free publication of this quality would not have been possible without the support of our many friends in the community. We welcome donations of any amount to help offset the cost of putting our paper together. We are grateful to all our supporters and hope all of our readers will take a few moments to look at the pages at the end of the Bugle each month. Our supporters truly deserve your support.

Special thanks to Legislator Steve Stern who came to our aid before our first year was out with our first Community Support Initiative Grant and continues to support our efforts. Thank you, Steve!

We are looking forward to many more editions of *The Greenlawn Bugle* and hope our readers continue to enjoy the story of our Post.

Memorial Day 2009 We Remember... "The Fallen"



KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL

Soon the beaches will be open and the barbecues and the ball games will begin. The shouts and laughter of children will fill the backyards and parks across this beautiful Island of ours.

This Memorial Day Weekend 2009 pause a moment and reflect on the terrible cost paid by so many Americans for the freedoms we and so many others around the world enjoy.



Let us remind our children that our freedom was not and is not free. We owe a debt that we can never repay. Let us never forget.



"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

"Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning

*"We will remember them. **We will remember them.**"*

From "The Fallen"
by Laurence Binyon, 1914

