

# THE GREENLAWN BUGLE

# American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244

eptember 2015

Volume 9 Issue 3

#### **Features Boys & Girls State** Missing In America 1 and 4 Sail Ahead 6 **American Legion** 7 Riders **Just For Laughs Operation Paperback** You Earned It 10 **Vice Commanders** 11 Call Commander's 12 Corner **Final Salute** 12 **Our Supporters** 13-16

#### **Coming Events**

September 25 **Homeless Veteran Stand Down** 

October 10-11 Long Island Fall Festival 11 am - 6 pm

October 11 **Columbus Day Parade** 12:30 pm

November 11 **Veterans Day Ceremony** 11:00 am

**Monthly Meetings** 8:00 pm St. Joseph Council K of C 24 Boulevard Ave. Greenlawn 2nd Wednesday of each month

# **Final Closure**

In a world filled with uncertainty, bad luck, daunting odds, and low probabilities, people usually give up before they start toward a goal that has the above labels attached to it. However some don't; some just luck insisted on putting in its own two dig in harder. This is a tale about such a group, a family to be exact. The family, though of different names, all have the blood of the Csanadi family flowing through them. A family obligation, to the living, though unspoken, remains in death. This then is the basis for our story. Above all else, this is a story about love. It is also about character, loyalty, integrity, and perseverance.

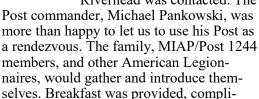
It all started 25 years ago, when the Csanadi family lost contact with one of their own, Cpl. George Paul Csanadi, United States Marine Corps. The Csanadi family sought in vain for their beloved kin. Time was not kind to them, but fate was. One cannot fathom the frustration and sadness through those years. The loneliness

rests, it sleeps, but it never dies.

Then one day fate caressed their memory and love blossomed again. Perseverance kept the family at its quest and cents. John Csanadi, the brother of our Marine, was searching the internet for his Father's name when he came upon his brother's name. John shared this news with his sister, Theresa. They then traced the source to the Missing in America Project at American Legion Post1244 in Greenlawn, New York. After all these years of unrewarded diligence and frustration, heaven made amends, and allowed the sun to break through the clouds. With renewed hope and confidence, brother and sister pursued the source to its logical end. After a long and trying ordeal, they felt their brother George finally saying hello to them after all the separated years.

They contacted the Post Commander of American Legion Post 1244 in Greenlawn,

> Bob Santo, who assured them that their brother George was indeed buried at Calverton National Cemetery. This email to the post commander was the beginning of giving fate a helping hand in doing the right thing. The commander called the Post Chairman for the Missing in America Project, John Caldarelli. They immediately started the actions necessary for a belated reunion between brother and siblings. Post 273 in Riverhead was contacted. The



Family of George Scanadi at Calverton National Cemetery June 14, 2015

and despair in the hopes of finding your loved one. The Csanadi's did not forget their memories, they did not sever their bond, they did not betray their values, nor did they break their silent oath. Their memory stayed the course, for within that memory was love, and love never dies. It

(Continued on page 2)

#### **Final Closure**

(Continued from page 1)

ments of Post 1244. Approximately twenty relatives, adults and children, showed up. They came from as far away as Wisconsin, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Westchester County, and Long Island. To gather a family from all those locations is surely a difficult needle to thread, but thread it they did. They were a family of ethnic diversity, which truly made them the classic American family. From the plains of Hungary to the shores of America, the Csanadi family came and worked and served their newly adopted homeland and were assimilated, adding their strength and values to our great country.

A ceremony was held at the Riverhead Post, because we erroneously thought that Calverton Cemetery did not set up the tent and chairs. MIAP representative, John Caldarelli said the eulogy and Post Commander Bob Santo told an anecdote about the day of Cpl. Csanadi's interment in Calverton's National Cemetery. On that bitterly cold day in January of 2014, most of the American Legionnaires had to travel anywhere from 40 to 60 miles, as the Cemetery is on the eastern end of Long Island. For the motorcycle escorts it was particularly daunting. For Post 1244's riders it was done, as usual, with style and panache.

After Commander Santo finish the anecdote, we concluded the ceremony. We all then left for the cemetery. The entourage of cars was escorted by our American Legion Riders, with all due safety to the entourage. We arrived at the cemetery and then we slowly made our way to the gravesite. Earlier that day, Commander Santo had gone to the gravesite and placed an American Flag there, so we would could readily locate it. This precluded hunting for the tombstone amid the thousand that were before us. Upon arrival at the vicinity of the grave site, we observed that the tent and chairs had been set up for the family by the cemetery staff. They were directly in front of the grave site three rows out. Upon first meeting with Theresa Csanadi Palasota, a bouquet of a dozen beautiful pink long stem roses was presented to her by MIAP's team member, Frank Ostroff, compliments of MIAP. Theresa broke the bouquet, and gave out all the roses to all Cpl. Csanadi's kin folk, they then placed them on the grave site. The grieving, the emotion, the sorrow was all evident during this belated moment of final closure.

The Legionnaires circulated among the relatives, who spoke of many things; of childhood recollections, of years gone by without George, of constantly thinking about where he was. Was he alright? Did he need them? The emotion of these memories, and many we can't define, were moving across their faces like the changing view of a kaleidoscope. When it appeared that the moment of final closure was over, a sense of reluctance prevailed about them. To leave him, after all these years of absence, was a difficult moment to face.

Since the human species began, love based on need of your blood about you, has been written into our genome, that without it, we would have never survived as a species. Finally, we all started to depart. As I turned, I heard a flutter of wings, then I thought I saw a white feather float to the ground. What it was I cannot say, for it may only have been in my whimsical mind. My last view of the family was some of the Csanadi family lingering at the grave site. In closing, one has to bless the Csanadi family for possessing all those virtues we were all meant to have.

John Caldarelli Chairman Post 1244 Missing In America Project

# Crimson Coaching Expert, Caring, Experienced Tutoring for Students Aged 4-adult



Dr. Dominique Padurano (Harvard '93), founder of Crimson Coaching, has helped hundreds of students reach their academic potential at elite universities and high schools, such

as Horace Mann and Scarsdale. Dr. P. holds 4 NYS teaching licenses, a Master's in Education and Ph.D. in History; she and her colleagues work in person or online with students on any academic subject, all standardized tests and college applications. A certified yoga teacher, Dr. P. also specializes in empowering students to overcome test anxiety.

Visit crimsoncoaching.com, call 718-514-0387, or email info@crimsoncoaching.com to set up a complimentary consultation about your child's needs.

# 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

# **BOY'S & GIRLS STATE - 2015**

#### THE WEEK THAT SHAPES A LIFETIME

### Successful Completion of 2015 Boy's and Girl's State



The American Legion's 2015 Boy's and Girl's State programs are now a part of the history of Post 1244. The thirteen young men and women that were selected, representing three local high schools, have successfully completed the programs, and are now moving on to their final year of high school.



A number of these students have already visited the Post to tell us what they thought of the programs they just completed and what it meant to them. In the coming months, we look forward to hearing from all of them at our upcoming Post meetings.

We are confident that the Boy's and Girl's State programs are a game changer and make a positive difference in these young student's lives. It gives them the opportunity to see how government is supposed to work, and the opportunity to participate in the process. The programs provide training in practical citizenship, leadership and character development that will be beneficial to them as they move on to college and their careers. These students are the future of the United States of America, and they will help ensure the freedom of future generations.

Because we have seen the results of what these programs mean to the students that have already participated, we look forward to beginning the process all over again for the 2016 programs. Speaking to the principals and guidance counselors of the various high schools so they can provide us with the names of potential candidates; reaching out to local businesses and organizations for financial support so we can make the programs available to as many qualified candidates as possible; and, interviewing and making selections for the 2016 programs. Seeing the results is a great source of satisfaction.

Charlie Armstrong

Post Chairman, Boys and Girls State

# **Boys and Girls State Students Speak Out About Their Experience**

"I just finished up my week at Girls State and wanted to thank you for the opportunity to attend such an incredible program. This week really solidified my drive to pursue a career in politics and motivated me to consider running for office or going into speechwriting someday. As an elected member of the Homeland Security committee, I also gained a passion for the field of national security. My committee and I drafted bills focusing on terrorism and immigration, and I felt as though I really gained an understanding into the ins-and-outs of our government.

Thank you again for this opportunity! Moving forward, I would love to get involved in our Post of the American Legion in whatever way I can. I hope you have a great summer!"

Sincerely, Taylor Fox, Girls State Walt Whitman High School

"Yesterday I returned from Boys State and I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend such an influential program. I had such an amazing time last week. The program was superb, and I will never forget the impression it has left on me.

I recall that you had asked that I come to a Legion meeting to discuss my experience, and I will gladly do so, just keep me posted.

Again, thank you so much. This would not be possible without your help."

Sincerely, David Grey, Boys State Walt Whitman High School

# **Missing In America Project**

### **Post Burial Report**



#### Phillip Ross, United States Army Edward Sizer, United States Air Force July 23, 2015

Calverton National Cemetery

The weather this day was simply glorious, the clouds were like big fluffy cotton balls, the blue sky was so clear, you could see to Paris. The Hamptons traffic was only a minor annoyance. The sun warmed us with it's presence. We were blessed with a beautiful day.

As we rode East we came upon the funeral entourage, two hearse's with an eight cycle escort, four in the rear and three in the front with the ride Captain in the lead. Our American Legion riders were as always, a proud and commanding escort. Pride coursed through me as I watched them professionally guide the hearses to their destination. Their manner spoke of the respect they held for their charge.

Our Veterans this day were both Vietnam Warriors, one from the Army, the other from the Air Force. Both were of African American descent abandoned by fate and circumstance. However, as long as there is a MIAP in America, their will always be a family waiting for them.

I feel a moment of gratitude is appropriate at this time, which, sometimes seems to elude me. Thank you MIAP for being there, thank you Dignity Memorial for your generosity, thank you Calverton National Cemetery for being so accommodating.

Thank you Suffolk County American Legion for your support, and last ,but not least, American Legion Post 1244 of Greenlawn, N.Y. for all the things small and large that you do.

John Caldarelli Chairman Post 1244 Missing In America Project

#### A Letter From the Grandson of Lt. Emmanuel Lederer

On May 28, 2015. Missing In America Project and Greenlawn American Legion Post 1244 conducted a rededication of the cremated remains of Lt. Emmanuel Lederer, in the Jewish tradition.

To: John Caldarelli Northport, NY

I am extending my thank you to you and to the people of the Missing in America Project for first locating and then rededicating my Great Grandfathers cremains that were unclaimed for 96 years. My gratitude also goes out to Leonard Holtzwho became aware of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Emanuel Lederer, also Anne Marie Martin who did the genealogical research and to you for helping organizing the original event June 2013; however, the care and dedication of Missing in America Project does not end there.

Because I did not respond to Anne Marie Martin's initial inquiry in a timely manner, the fact that my Great Grandfather was a Jewish veteran of the Civil War was not known at that time. The Missing in America Project did what it does when necessary, go

back and honor the veteran in the proper manner.

When I arrived at the Long Island National Cemetery, with my sister Jean and wife Susan, I did not know what to expect. After meeting some of the individual members of Missing in America Project, I began to listen to their conversations. They were not discussing sports or immediate family matters, but which event or events of remembrance they attended or took part in.

It was then that I realized that Missing in America Project is not an organization but a family. I then looked out on the field of grave stones of our military veterans and thought about them. I thought how many of our men and women answer our countries call to arms, some returning home and some laid to rest in a foreign country where they fell fighting. Those who return may return to a normal life, while some continue to battle unseen wounds received as a result of serving. We will never know what events may lead to a veteran being forgotten, or marginalized by society, which unfortunately happens. It is these veterans that Missing in America Project seeks out and once found the veterans remains are taken and given the proper

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#### Letter from Lt. Lederer's Grandson

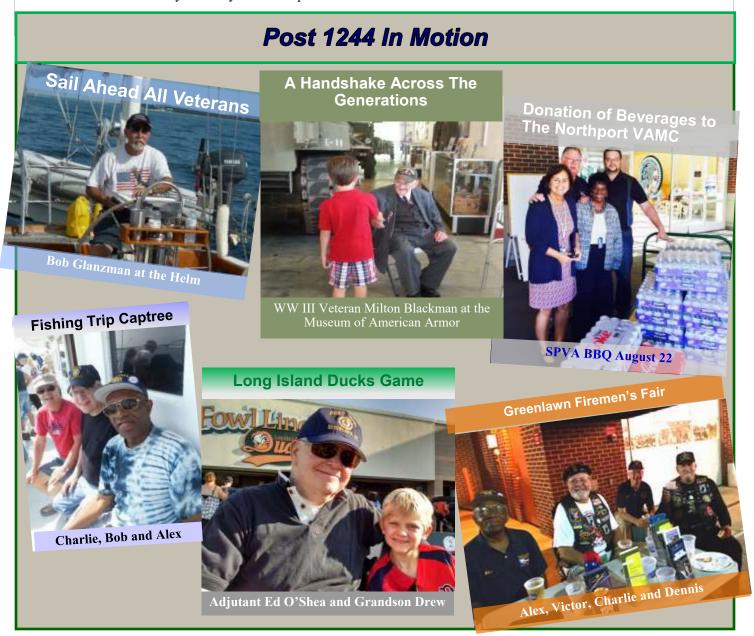
(Continued from page 4)

recognition and burial that the veteran deserves. Then it can be said, once you were lost but now have been found, welcome home to your family and rest well.

In closing I want to extend my thanks to everyone that took part in the rededication on May 28, 2015, some coming from out of state to honor my Great Grandfather.

Through you, John, to all members of Missing in America Project, thank you all for returning our Great Grandfather to his family and may he rest in peace among his military family."

Sincerely, Roderick Wallace, Brooklyn, NY June 28, 2015





# Sail Ahead: Healing Wounded Veterans Through Sailing



It has been a busy summer for Sail Ahead since our last issue of The Greenlawn Bugle. Sail Ahead is the program founded by two local brothers, Sean and Killian Duclay. Learning that an average 22 Veterans a day commit suicide. The two sailing enthusiasts realizing how therapeutic sailing was, they wanted to share the experience with Veterans experiencing the effects of their war-time service. Today, with the support of their incredible family, they have made the program a reality.

On July 22nd, for the very first time, Veterans from Northport VA Medical Center came out for a wonderful sailing experience with Sail Ahead. The nine Veterans, and their accompanying staff members, all enjoyed the experience and expressed the wish to come out with us again. The staff members from the VA, pleased with the results want to set up more sailings for next spring.

That same month, the idea to invite Veterans from all over the area to a mass sailing was born. Somehow, only four weeks later, 31 boats from Centerport Yacht Club, Northport Yacht Club and Lloyd Harbor Yacht Club as well as several others converged on Northport Harbor. They were joined by volunteer cadets from the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Launches took the eighty Veterans and family members out to the sailboats. They all enjoyed a wonderful afternoon sailing together on the waters of Long Island Sound.

A low flying helicopter buzzed each boat, taking

pictures of all the participants. Both Newsday and Channel 12 featured stories about the event.

The folks at Centerport Yacht Club provided refreshments before the sailing and treated everyone to a wonderful BBQ when we returned. They could not have been more gracious. Commodore Thomas Hering asked only that we return again next year, but in greater numbers! Everyone is looking forward to next year's sailing!

Recently, the Duclays organized an "All Women Sail" on the 127 year old oyster sloop "Priscilla." Thirteen women veterans went out for a late afternoon sail on the Great South Bay on the 66 foot vessel. The 66 foot Priscilla is the largest vessel in the small craft collection of the Long Island maritime Museum. The erans enjoyed their time at sea and are looking forward to a return visit.

There is no shortage of boats available for the Sail Ahead program. What we do need are veterans to take advantage of the opportunity to sail with us.

Post 1244 is proud to be a supporter of Sail Ahead.

### You Can Become A Skipper

Sail Ahead has embarked on a new program to train Veterans in the art of sailing. Taking charge of one of these boats is an even greater thrill than just enjoying the ride. Veterans, always up to a new challenge, are invited to become fully qualified keel boat skippers and earn your sailing certificate with a basic 30 hour training course. Interested Veterans should call Bob Santo at 516-458-7881 or e mail Post1244@Verizon.net.

### Work Begins on the James D. Conte Center

Drive down 5th Street in Huntington Station to the site of the old Huntington Armory, and you will see the unmistakable sight of work being done inside. Lots of cars are in the parking lot and people are coming and going. The long-awaited abatement of asbestos and lead paint has begun. According to A.J. Carter, Public Information Officer for the Town of Huntington, this work will take about three months. After that, the design phase can begin.

American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244 will locate our Post home there when the building has been fully renovated and becomes the James D. Conte Center. No timetable has been given for the completion of the renovation. We look forward to serving our veterans, their families and the community from our new home.

# American Legion Riders: Still Riding - Still Serving

#### **History of the American Legion Riders**



In Garden City, Mich., in 1993, Chuck "Tramp" Dare and Bill "Polka" Kaledas, commander of American Legion Post 396, shared an idea to start a motorcycle enthusiasts association within the organization. The two longtime riders wanted an environment where Legion

family members could come together to share a common love for motorcycles.

Dare and Kaledas wrote a letter to Michigan Department Adjutant Hubert Hess, sharing their idea. Hess replied that he liked the concept and wanted to pursue it. Later, he gave Kaledas and Dare instructions for managing the program at the post level. He also explained how they could be approved to use the American Legion emblem, and how to gain Membership's support and recognition. At a regular meeting, Post 396 members passed a resolution for a new program to be known as the "American Legion Riders."

Joined by 19 other founding members from their post, Dare and Kaledas were flooded with requests for information about their organization. They agreed to establish a central source for the Riders to ensure that chapters formed not as motorcycle clubs or gangs, but as Legionnaires and Auxiliary and SAL members joining to ride as Legion family.

#### **Legion Riders today**

Currently, 106,000 American Legion Riders meet in over a thousand chapters in every domestic department and in at least three foreign countries. Riders in Iowa have formed an honor guard called The Five Star Freedom Riders, and Riders in Mulvane, Kan., founded the Patriot Guard Riders to protect the sanctity of military funerals from protesters. Riders in all states have escorted military units returning home from combat tours overseas, conducted massive crosscountry fundraising events for wounded warriors from all services, and have raised millions of dollars for countless local, state and national charities. True to the Legion's grassroots tradition, each chapter manages its programs at the post level, where the best ideas are born. The Riders are part of many projects and events, including:

- •Rolling Thunder, the annual POW/MIA rally in Washington on Memorial Day weekend.
- •Annual regional rides such as Operation Wounded Warrior, sponsored by Riders in many Western states.
- •Local charity events in support of The American Legion and local communities.

- •Raising funds for VA hospitals, women and children centers, children and youth centers, schools and other facilities.
- •Sponsoring or participating in motorcycle runs to benefit numerous charities.
- •Local memorial ceremonies and community parades.
- •The American Legion Legacy Run, an annual crosscountry fundraising ride from National Headquarters in Indianapolis to the national convention city.
- •Riding to honor fallen military men and women, and to protect the sanctity of their funerals from those who would dishonor their memory.
- •Escorting military units to departure airfields and airports for combat tours overseas, and welcoming them home upon their return.

# "American Legion Riders as a National Program"

All American Legion Rider groups must be a program supported by a Post or Department of The American Legion and shall uphold the declared principles of The American Legion as well as conform to and abide by the regulations and decisions of the Department, Post or other duly constituted Department governing body.

# The ALR "Rules of the Road" of The American Legion:

- 1. All members of The American Legion Riders shall be current members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion
- All ALR members shall strive to maintain the image of The American Legion, at all times upholding The American Legion name and emblem, which symbolizes the integrity and principles of this great organization
- 3. All The ALR groups shall avoid the perception of being a "motorcycle club" or biker club"
- 4. All Members will obey the motorcycle laws of their state.

Submitted by: Chris Argento, RD, CEC RVN 66-67 US Army 39<sup>th</sup> Combat Engrs

#### **American Legion**

Rich Boily CPL John F. Collins Jr. Jose Lopez Colman Anthony Haskins Roger Kasa Craig Lanigan Christopher Nardelli Bill O'Leary Rudy Sikayun Sons of The American Legion

Richard DeCoteau Eric Lenio

**American Legion Auxiliary** 

Isabel DeCoteau

# Just For Laughs

#### Hooah!!!

### 1. Referring to or meaning anything and everything except "no". 2. What to say when at a loss for words. 3.a. Good copy. b. Roger. c. Solid copy. d. Good, e. Great, f. Message received, g. Understood, h. Acknowledged, 4.a. Glad to meet you. b. Welcome. 5. "All right!" 6.a. I don't know the answer. but I'll check on it. b. I haven't the foggiest idea. 7. I am not listening. 8. "That is enough of your drivel; sit down!" 9. Yes. 10. "You've got to be kidding me!" 11. Thank you. 12. Go to the next slide. 13. You've taken the correct action, 14. I don't know what that means, but I'm too embarrassed to ask for clarification. 15. Squared

away (He's pretty "hooah".) 16. Amen!

### The Adventures of Post 1244's CPL BILL



Tom: I took it out for a test drive this morning. Did you notice it's got a real bad shimmy at 80 mph.?

Charlie: No!

Tom: Well, I guess maybe be that's just when it's

in reverse.....

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.

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 Past Cmdr. Bob Santo at 516-458-7881.

# Remembering World War II



As we commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, it is fitting that we recall the bravery of the men of the 8th Air Force who shouldered much of the burden of the air war against Nazi Germany. Half of the U.S. Army Air Force's casualties in WW II were suffered by Eighth Air Force (more than 47,000 casualties, with more than 26,000 dead). You had a higher percentage of being killed, wounded or captured while flying in the 8th AF than if you were in the infantry in the front line.



The following is the mission log of Maurice Ashkanas, bombardier of a B-24H Liberator from the 448th Bombardment Group, 712th Bomber Squadron, Seething, England, .

The twenty-year old turret gunner in the crew was Angelo Percacciolo, on his 12th combat mission.

The mission log was provided to us by Angelo's son, Tony Percacciolo, a member of our Post 1244 Sons of The American Legion Squadron. Many thanks to Tony, and a <u>special thanks</u> to Angelo, who will be celebrating his 91st birthday on September 26th. We will always remember your brave service and sacrifice and that of all your comrades.

#### Sunday, August 6, 1944

**Combat Mission 12** 

Briefed at 0630 to hit a Rocket Torpedo Factory at Kiel, Germany. Took off at 0700 and landed at 1500. It was a long haul over the North Sea. Kiel and surrounding area was densely screened by smoke so we made a P.F.F. run and no flak came up until we were directly over the target and then all Hell came up to meet us. The sky was literally alive with bursting shells. We flew #3 off II lead PFF ship so were the first plane in from our wing. Only twelve of us went in. The other-twenty four ships were too frightened; and bombed secondary targets. The first flak burst off our left wing with perfect altitude. Then all hell broke loose. We were in the most intense flak barrage and the most accurate. For four minutes we could do nothing but pray. The flak was larger than usual, being 105 mm. Every burst was close enough so that we could see the red centers as they exploded and hear the rumble and roar of the burst. Three planes lost an engine apiece over the target. Krisel lost a waist gunner. Flak hit him in the back of the head and he was dead before hitting the floor. His navigator was hit in five places. We came home with 300 flak holes. Our plane looked like swiss cheese. Flak destroyed our #2 Supercharger, broke the hydraulic system rendering the tail turret useless and spilling the red fluid inside. Flak also broke the electrical junction box, entered the radio compass, lodged in the nose wheel; #1 engine and ripped through the wires of upper turret. Large piece of flak came up and hit Mangin's foot but was stopped by armor plate which buckled up about two inches. The entire ship shook with every burst. Jerry also threw up red flak to signal for bandits but none came. THANK GOD. We were exceedingly lucky that none of us were hit. Our squadron had four ships in fit condition to fly the next day. It was reported that an unidentified B-24 flew in our formation, radioing down our altitude, speed and course. I'll never understand how we came thru. Carried 10 at 500 lbs. Total bomb load 5,000 lbs.

# **Veterans Education and Training Benefits**



The NY State Division. of Veterans Affairs can provide you with information on your educational and disability benefits. You may qualify for educational and training benefits under the following bills:

- GI Bill and Post 9/11 GI Bill
- Montgomery GI Bill (active)
- Montgomery GI Bill (selected reserve)
- Veterans Educational Assistance Program
- Survivor's and Dependent's Educational Assistance Program (DEA)

See: http://www.gibill.va.gov/

#### Credentialing

Tests a person's competency in a particular area. Credentials provide the equivalent of a "professional badge."

The law requires credentials for various occupations. In some cases, an employer may only hire employees who have credentials, even though they are not required to by law. To find out more, go to Occupations licensed or certified.

You may already have the experience and knowledge to gain certification in your occupation. You may have no problem passing the certification or license exam.

Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support - DANTES has about 80 agreements with national certification and licensure associations. This allows DANTES test sites to administer certification and licensure exams.

#### **Education and Training Opportunities Veterans**

- Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges Opportunities for veterans who have not been able to complete a college degree due to moving.
- Troops to Teachers Information on careers in teaching.
- National Archives and Records Administration-Request military records and learn about services.

#### **Air Force Training Programs**

• Community College of the Air Force

#### **Army Training Programs**

• Army Credentialing Opportunities Online (Credentialing Opportunities OnLine -- COOL)

The NY State Division. of
Veterans Affairs can provide
you with information on

• Army Registry Transcript Service (Army/
American Council on Education Registry Transcript
System -- AARTS)

#### **Marine Corps and Navy**

• Navy/Marine Registered Transcript Service (Sailor/Marine Registry Transcript -- SMART)

Navy

• Navy Credentialing Opportunities Online (COOL)

#### **Apprenticeship Opportunities**

Joint employer and labor organizations, as well as individual employers, offer registered apprenticeship opportunities.

What is apprenticeship? It is both on-the-job training and classroom instruction. It gives you the opportunity to learn the practical and theoretical aspects of highly-skilled jobs.

#### Helmets to Hardhats

This program connects veterans to careers in construction and building. We are excited about the potential of this program to expand opportunities in careers in the skilled trades for all qualified veterans.

Who can participate in Helmets to Hardhats?

Veterans that have received Honorable Discharge from U.S. Military service, To register for Helmets to Hardhats. Visit www.HelmetstoHardhats. Or call (866) 741-6210 for assistance

Other Programs:

- ACE Guide Online Contains information on apprenticeship programs
  - United Services Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP) Apprenticeship Program

#### Find a Veteran Employment Representative

You can locate your nearest Veterans Employment Representative at:

www.labor.ny.gov/career-center-locator/

# 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



I was searching the internet for insight into the responsibilities of a Membership Chairman. The great thing about the internet is that you can find all types of information; some helpful, some informative, some right, some wrong and some quite opinionated.

You can listen to Frank Sinatra, watch a movie, check on your

favorite sports team and even plan a complete vacation. Oh, and if you are 93 years old like my Mom...you can keep in touch via email! So it was by no means a surprise to me when I found the following job description for a Membership Chair:

**Summary:** "The Membership Chair manages the annual membership renewal drive and membership recruitment, processes new and renewing member applications, and maintains accurate member records."

Wow, right on the money! Of course it didn't cover the countless hours I spend in my basement stuffing envelopes, filling out forms, and signing and mailing stuff.

And the summary also did not cover the occasional

note or letter that is in included with the renewal that makes our organization so great!

I have inserted below, in his original handwriting, a letter I received from Gerard A. Ebbets, a renewing member of our post. I was so touched by the letter that I called Gerard for a chat...and after I asked for his permission to 'post' his letter...he graciously agreed.

So once again I say 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!" And that goes for the Membership Chairman also!

Thanks Gerard for sharing your most wonderful experience with our members!

Allen Schwartz 1st Vice Commander Membenship Chairman





#### THE COMMANDER'S CORNER

Well troops, it has certainly been a busy and brief summer season for us all and now the cooler weather is about to prevail. While many of our outdoor events will

end there is still a lot to do before that happens. We have a few Town and Village events to take place while the seasonable weather remains and we hope to see you at or participating when you can. Keep abreast of all that we have planned by reviewing the Post Calendar of events at our website, <a href="https://www.post1244.org">www.post1244.org</a>.

If you haven't been to our meetings lately, you've missed the "verbal review" of many of our Boys and Girls State attendees who were gracious enough to return and give us an overview of their time with each. Boys State had 11 attendees from our Post while Girls State had two. (There are far fewer places available to us for Girls State). It truly is "a life changing experience" for each and every one of them and for many, it was their first time away from home, alone. The chaperoning provided by the U S Marines must certainly have been "less than amusing" to the youngsters, but it left an indelible impression of the military with them. Several of them have made lifelong friends and we all know how

fortunate it is to have friends like that.

We have a few things in the works that may seem unfamiliar to the Post but are all for the enjoyment of the members. While I can't say more than that right now, suffice it to say that our Fall and Winter schedules are "under construction". We've had a hiccup or two with the beginning of our year in that our 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander, Jerry Jacobus and his family were injured in a head on accident in late June and have been recuperating at home and our Post Events Chairman, Frank Ostroff, had some serious surgery and found it necessary to relinquish that job. All seem to be on the mend but the road will be long and difficult. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

So, if you have any ideas that you'd like to share, please do so with me by phone at 516-523-9391 or by email at dam9245 @optonline.net. Keep in mind that the mission of this group has been and will continue to be; VETS HELPING VETS. Hey, it's what we do! Thank you for your service to our country and for your continued service to our community, state and nation by your participation in this magnificent organization.

Dennis Madden



# Final Salute

John A. Eaton

August 24, 2015 United States Army World War II



Our unsung heroes this month are the compassionate men and women who deem it fitting to say farewell and honor a comrade who has passed away. They gather at the funeral home and pay homage to the Legionnaire and offer their sympathy to his or her family. Short prayers and readings are offered, often followed by the playing of Taps. Each member gives a final salute to our deceased brother or sister. The families are always grateful to us for not forgetting their loved one and honoring them in this way. Our Legionnaires, Sons, Auxiliary and American Legion Riders take time out of their busy schedules to come and visit for the last time. For your compassion and caring spirit, we salute you!

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 Photography - Joe Vitello, Madelaine Santo

Contributing Writers: Chris Argento, Charlie Armstrong, John Caldarelli, Sean Lyons, Dennis Madden, Allen Schwartz, Bob Santo Proofreading, Photography, Envelope Labeling, Stuffing, Circulation and Morale Officer: Madelaine Santo



Best wishes to American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244 Thank You for your Continued Service



U.S. Representative Steve Israel 3<sup>rd</sup> District, New York

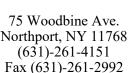


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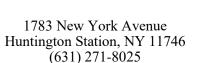
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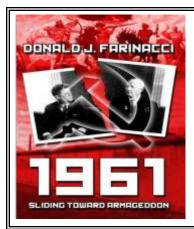
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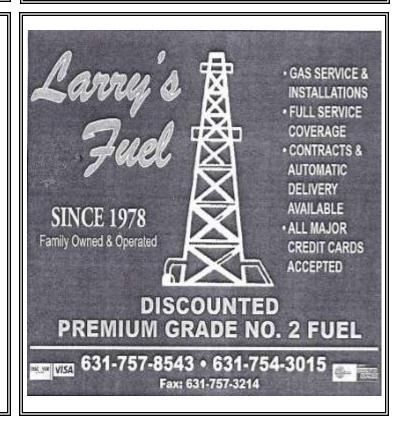
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We join you in support of Our Troops.
We thank them for their dedicated service and sacrifice for our Country.

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