

“God Bless our Servicemen and Women and America.”



The Bugle

NEWSLETTER OF MERRICK POST NO. 1282
AMERICAN LEGION

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Commander's Corner



Well it's April and I hope that the warm weather gets here soon. Merrick Post has been busy during the first quarter of the year. Since our February meeting fell on Valentine's Day, we held it on January 31, 2023 instead. Several Post and Auxiliary members attended the Military Ball/Commanders Night and had a great time on February 18, 2023. I must thank our Adjutant, Harry Gribbin, for filling the Commanders spot during the pageant that night as I was on a family vacation.

In March, Post member Eugene Crovella, received a certificate from the American Legion National Headquarters for his 50 years of continuous membership. A St. Patrick's Day Party was hosted by our Auxiliary for our Post members and their wives on March 19, 2023. Both the comradery and the food were excellent, especially after so many months of covid restrictions. The isolation from the lockdowns really had a negative effect on people. This morning I saw my neighbor talking to her cat! It was obvious that she actually thought the cat could understand her! I promptly went into my house, told my dogs and we all had a good laugh.

Six first responders were honored during our Law and Order Day on March 26, 2023. Credit for the outstanding ceremony goes to Rick Ambrosino, Jim O'Neill and Larry Levy, plus the many Legion and Auxiliary members who helped set up and clean up afterwards. American Legion representatives in attendance included 10th District Commander Frank Colon Jr., Nassau County Commander Joseph Scarola and his officers Dawn Samuel, Kerry Englander, Sean Hood, Eric Spinner, Tom Basacchi and Mary Norris.

Looking forward, dates have been set for the National Commanders Dinner (April 14, 2023), our fund raising event at the gas station (May 6, 7, 13, 20, 21, 27, 28), our Memorial Day Parade (May 29, 2023), and the Nassau County Convention and Dinner (June 3, 2023).

Finally, please send a copy of your DD-214 to our Post and also let your family know where you keep it. This separation document contains information normally needed to verify military service for benefits, retirement, employment, and membership in veteran organizations.

Robert E. Dishman, Post Commander

**MERRICK POST NO. 1282
AMERICAN LEGION
160 WEST MERRICK ROAD
MERRICK, NY 11566
516-521-6989**

**2022-2023
American Legion Merrick Post 1282 Officers**

Commander	Robert E. Dishman	516-378-2939
First Vice Commander	Richard A. Mecabe Jr.	917-499-6626
Second Vice Commander	Frank D. Pedagno	516-771-4294
Third Vice Commander	Lawrence Levy	
Adjutant	Harold K. Gribbin	
Treasurer	Michael S. Elliott	
Chaplain	James W. O'Neill, PC	516-623-6735
Sergeant at Arms	Joseph T. Ambrosino	
Judge Advocate	Kenneth J. Braun, PC	
Historian	Edward Moore	
Service Officer	John R. Weber	516-426-3682
Trustee	Richard A. Mecabe Jr.	
Trustee	James W. O'Neill, PC	
Trustee	Kenneth J. Braun, PC	
Trustee	Joseph T. Ambrosino	
Trustee	Lawrence P. Levy	

**2022-2023
American Legion Auxiliary Merrick Unit 1282 Officers**

President	Laura LaHood
First Vice President	Kathleen Stuck
Second Vice President	Patricia Tropea
Historian	Kathleen Stuck
Recording Secretary	Palma Fasano
Corresponding Secretary	Palma Fasano
Treasurer and Membership	Sharon Williams
Chaplain	Betty Tucker
Sergeant At Arms	Roseanne Garbarino
Executive Board	Florence Hoffman, PP
	Betty Tucker
	Toni Uberti

Nominations and Elections

In compliance with Article X, Section 2, of Merrick Post No. 1282, The American Legion By-Laws, Ninth Revision, December 20, 2022, requires written prior notice. Please be advised that nominations for Post Officers, Executive Board and one Trustee shall be nominated at the regular April General Membership meeting. Every member in good standing is eligible. Elections will be held at the regular May General Membership meeting.

Kenneth J. Braun, PC, Post Judge Advocate

Gas Station Fundraiser 2023 for the Post

For the month of May 2023, Post members will gather at the BP service station on Saturday and Sunday, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, except Sunday, May 14, 2023, which is Mother's Day, to give out American Flags and Post Pens to the customers of this service station for a donation to help veterans. Post members are urged to help out and participate by giving out the flags and pens for this worthy cause. We use the proceeds to assist fellow veterans, hospitalized veterans, active service persons, and for post activities in our community. BP service station is located at 329 Merrick Avenue, North Merrick. **Veterans should drop by this event to find out why they should join the American Legion. American Legion, Merrick Post No. 1282, is actively looking for new members to join our Post.**

Joseph T. Ambrosino, Sergeant At Arms, Post Member
Robert E. Dishman, Post Commander

Philip L. Williams Memorial Scholarship

Merrick Post No. 1282 will be awarding a Philip L. Williams Memorial Scholarship to a deserving high school senior who best exemplifies the qualities of Philip L. Williams. Phil's core values were focused on Strong Morals: Patriotism, Family Values, Community Service and a strong Work Ethic. Phil was an inspiration because he took every opportunity to exhibit and incorporates these morals in his life. He made a difference to his fellow veterans, his co-workers, as well as his family and friends by reminding us to integrate these beliefs into everyday life.

The Williams Family wishes to find a senior who is committed to these same values and has a determination for making a difference. Donations for this Fund can be made out to American Legion Merrick Post No. 1282, earmarked Philip L. Williams Memorial Scholarship Fund and sent to:

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1282, 160 West Merrick Road, Merrick, New York 11566
Attention: Sharon Williams

All high school seniors who are interested in applying and need further details on the \$1000 Philip L. Williams Memorial Scholarship given out in May of 2023, please send a request to plwmemorialscholarship@gmail.com.

Dear Merokians,

We again will have the privilege to host the Merrick's Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday, May 29, 2023. We wish to invite You, Your Church, School, Club and Organization to participate with us in the Parade and/or Ceremony.

Marchers will gather at 8:45 a.m. that day on Veterans (Broadcast) Plaza, between Merrick and Brooklyn Avenues. The Parade will start at 9:30 a.m. and proceed North on Merrick Avenue to our Veterans Monument at Lee Avenue, where we will conduct our ceremony.

The parade and ceremony will be held rain or shine!!!

A parade participation form is enclosed and we ask that you favor us with a reply by Monday, May 8, 2023. Thank you.

2023 Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

Yes, we will attend the Merrick Memorial Day Parade &/or Ceremony on Monday, May 29, 2023

No, I/we be unable to attend this year's event

Individual _____

Group _____

Contact Person _____ Phone # _____

Contact Email address _____

Est. # marching _____ Vehicles* _____ Floats _____

Does your organization have its own band/musical corps? Yes _____ No _____

Placing of a wreath at the ceremony? Yes _____ No _____

Please mail your response to:

**Merrick Post No. 1282, American Legion
160 West Merrick Road, Merrick, N.Y. 11566**

**Robert E. Dishman, Post Commander
Richard M. Ambrosino, Memorial Day Chairman**

Information on Merrick's Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony 2023



Merrick Post No. 1282, American Legion, again will host the Merrick's Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday, May 29, 2023. Post Members and Veterans are asked to form at Merrick Avenue and Veterans (Broadcast) Plaza at 8:45 a.m. We shall start the parade at 9:30 a.m. and plan to start the ceremony at the Merrick's Veteran Memorial Park at about 10:45 a.m. We will have cars for those who cannot march. Invites to parade participants have been sent out to Merricks Churches, Synagogues, Schools, Clubs, Organizations, Fire Departments and Politicians. The parade and ceremony will be held rain or shine!!!

Post staff member, Richard M. Ambrosino, will chair this event.

Pat Tuosto's Holiday Party for our Post Veterans



On Thursday, January 5, 2022, Pat Tuosto, proprietor of Pat's Farms Garden Center, invited Veterans from Merrick Post 1282, American Legion to a Holiday luncheon. The luncheon was held at the galleria on 328 Post Avenue, Westbury N.Y. In attendance at this luncheon was Pat Tutoso and his three guests (Robert Alweis (Architect/Engineer for Pat's Farms Garden Center), Eric Famiglietti and Steve Whitman), Sons of American Legion member Rick Ambrosino, and the Post members in attendance were: Ken Braun (PC), Joe Ambrosino, Larry Falcicchio, John Murphy (PC), Harry Gribbin, Jim O'Neill (PC) and Ed Rajecki. Thank you, Pat Tuosto for your generous hospitality, a great time was had by all who attended this event.

Four Chaplains Interfaith Memorial Service 2023



In the picture from left to right Pastor Benjamin Yoo of the United Methodist Church, Floral Park, Rabbi Michael Cohen of Central Synagogue-Beth Emeth, Rockville Centre, Pastor Jimmy Lalljie of the Trinity Lutheran Church, New Hyde Park and Monsignor Charles Fink of Notre Dame RC Church, New Hyde Park represented Chaplain George Fox, Chaplain Alexander Goode, Chaplain Clark Poling and Chaplain John Washington respectively at the 2023 Four Chaplains Interfaith Memorial Service.

This years' service was held on Sunday, February 5, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., at the Central Synagogue - Beth Emeth at 430 Demott Avenue in Rockville Centre, NY 11570. In attendance from our Post were members Joe Ambrosino and Jim O'Neal (PC), Auxiliary member Sharon Williams and Sons of American Legion member Rick Ambrosino.

Military Ball/Post Commanders Night 2023



On Saturday, February 18, 2023, a number of Post and Auxiliary members attended the Annual Military Ball / Post Commanders night for 2023 at Leonard's of Great Neck, which was hosted by the Nassau County American Legion. In the picture from left to right, back row: Post members: Joe Ambrosino and Jim O'Neill (PC), Harry Gribbin and Ken Braun (PC). In the picture from left to right, front row: Auxiliary Members: Laura Lahood, Palma Fasano, and Sharon Williams. Not in the picture but who also attended this event were guests: Eva Gribbin (wife of Post member Harry Gribbin), Suzanne O'Neill (wife of Jim O'Neill) and support staff member Rick Ambrosino. The food and entertainment at this event was great!!!

Auxiliary Saint Patrick's Day Party for Veterans



Post members, Auxiliary members and guests at the Auxiliary St. Patrick's Day Party for Veterans.

On Sunday, March 19, 2023, the American Legion Auxiliary hosted a Saint Patrick's Day Party for our favorite Veterans of Merrick Post 1282, American Legion. The Post was packed - thank you Rich Mecabe and Al Garbarino for setting up all those tables and chairs – and the mood was festive. Members of New York Senior America, three of whom are Auxiliary members, danced and sang and made us laugh. There was a delicious traditional Irish meal provided by Valley Caterers and many fabulous desserts prepared by Auxiliary members. A big thank you to member Isabella Uberti and her friends from the Hofstra dance team

who helped decorate the Post and who served the food with such beautiful smiles. We all had a grand ole time and went home with a lovely bit of greenery from Pat's Farms (thank you Joe Ambrosino). Thanks to all who helped out in various ways to make this event successful.

Laura Lahood, Auxiliary President.



Members of the New York Senior America Dancers



Some of the Auxiliary members who hosted the St. Patrick's Day Party for Veterans

Law and Order Day 2023



From left to right, Law and Order Chairman Jim O'Neill (PC), North Merrick Chief Ronald Higgins, Law and Order Honoree Firefighter Patrick Wright and Law and Order Co-Chairman Larry Levy at the Law & Order Day Ceremony 2023.

On Sunday, March 26, 2023, at 3:00 p.m., the members of Merrick Post No. 1282, held their annual Law and Order Day Ceremony at our Post. This ceremony honors individuals of the local police department, fire departments, and emergency medical services for their service to the communities during 2022. The Post Law and Order Chairman, James W. O'Neill (PC) and Co-Chairman, Lawrence Levy (3rd Vice Commander) helped in the award presentation to these honorees. Former Commander and Chaplain John Murphy read the Invocation and Benediction at this event. Post Commander Robert E. Dishman and Auxiliary President Laura E. Lahood spoke at this event.

The following Nassau County American Legion members at this event were Nassau County Commander Joseph Scarola, Nassau County Post Adjutant Sean Hood, Nassau County Chaplain Eric Spinner, Nassau County Law and Order Chairman Tom V. Basacchi, Former Nassau County Commander and Commander of the 10th district for New York State Frank Colon Jr., 1st Division Commander Dawn Samuel and 2nd Division Commander Kerry Englander. Joe Scarola and Eric Spinner spoke at this event.

The following local officials at this event were Congressman Anthony D'Esposito (New York's 4th Congressional District – House of Representatives) New York State Senator Steven D. Rhoads (5th Senate District), South Merrick Community Civic Association member Joe Baker (representing New York State Assemblyman David G. McDonough - 14th District), Nassau County Legislator Michael J. Giangregorio (19th District), Nassau County Legislator Thomas McKeivitt (13th District), and Town of Hempstead Councilman Christopher Carini (5th District). Honorable Rhoads, Giangregorio and Carini spoke at this event. Joe Baker also spoke at this event.

The individuals honored at this ceremony were the following:

New York State Police Department

Nassau County Police Department, 1st Precinct

Nassau County Police Department, 7th Precinct
North Merrick Fire Department

Trooper Jason Aziz
Trooper Frank Casillo
Police Officer James Keane
Police Officer Nicholas Stephani
Police Officer Matthew Barbaro
Firefighter Patrick Wright

The American Legion



Certificate of Continuous Membership

Issued in grateful appreciation for faithful and dedicated allegiance to the ideals of The American Legion. Be it known that

EUGENE L CROVELLA

a longtime and dedicated member of American Legion Post 1282, Department of New York has been certified to have been a member in good standing continuously for

50
Years

And be it further known that such record of consistent loyalty to The American Legion merits the honor of being cited as an outstanding contributor to the programs of The American Legion.

In witness thereof, this testimonial of personal gratitude is given under the hand of the National Commander, and duly attested by the National Adjutant, this 15th day of March, 2023.

Attest:

National Commander
Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola

National Adjutant
Daniel S. Wheeler

Post Officer
COMMANDER

Upcoming Birthdays

April Birthdays

Steven Seidenstein	April 1, 2023
John Byrne	April 5, 2023
John Murphy, PC	April 16, 2023
William Korbel	April 19, 2023
Joseph Ambrosino	April 28, 2023

May Birthdays

William Craddock	May 1, 2023
Richard Claude	May 11, 2023
Richard Mecabe, Jr.	May 19, 2023
Howard Gottesman	May 26, 2023
Felice Passaro	May 26, 2023
Harold Gribbin	May 29, 2023
George Repetti	May 31, 2023

June Birthdays

Robert Leo	June 11, 2023
Harold Rosenfeld	June 14, 2023
Edwin Behr III	June 21, 2023
Jason Claude	June 24, 2023
Harry Crosby	June 24, 2023
Peter Louca	June 24, 2023
Raymond Moore	June 25, 2023

If your birthday is in one of these months and it is not listed above, please, call Commander Bob Dishman at 516 378-2939, as your records are incomplete.

Chaplain Report

Post member Robert J. Carnevale has reported to Post Everlasting.

James W. O'Neill (PC), Post Chaplain

American Legion Auxiliary, Merrick Unit No. 1282, member Rosemarie Halleran reported to Auxiliary Everlasting.

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Notes

Dear Reader, Merrick Post No. 1282, American Legion, is trying to form a contact e-mail list in case we have to contact you due to changes in our schedule or with important information. If you are a Post member or an organization that receives our Newsletter, please e-mail us (if you have not done so already) your e-mail address with your name or name of organization to our e-mail address listed on the front cover of this Newsletter.

In order to help pay for the costs of producing this Newsletter we will incorporate advertisements in all of our publications. Whenever possible, please patronize these local businesses that are helping to support the Legion.

Please submit or mail a copy of your DD_214 to our Post. We need these documents in case something happens to you and your loved ones need these important documents. See our mailing address on the second page of this newsletter.

The cutoff date for articles in the next Newsletter must be submitted at on June 20, 2023.

Dates to Remember

APR.	11	POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM
MAY	9	POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM
JUN.	13	POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM
JUL.	11	POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM