

“God Bless our Servicemen and Women and America.”



The Bugle



NEWSLETTER OF MERRICK POST NO. 1282
AMERICAN LEGION

VOL. 13

April 2021

ISSUE 3

Editor: Richard M. Ambrosino

Website: merrickpost1282.org

Email: amlegionpost1282@gmail.com



Another three months have passed and COVID-19 still has us in its strangle-hold; no Post meetings and no County meetings for the months of January, February, and March, and none scheduled for the immediate future.

On January 4, 2021, Joe and Rick Ambrosino and I worked on the snow blower which had been sitting in the shed since Mike Kersch had donated to our Post before he moved to Florida. Although Mike had it serviced just before he donated it to us, it had been sitting unused for almost two years, and the gasoline in the tank was stale. With a couple of sprays of ether we finally got it started. Rick needed and used it to clean the walk ways after the several recent snow storms, but it still needs some adjusting as it continues to stall. We plan on looking to find and solve this problem as soon as it gets warmer. Maybe even having it serviced if we can't solve this problem ourselves.

Unbeknownst to us, until we read it in the February 25, 2021, issue of the Merrick Herald, our oldest member, Andrew J. Conlin died on 2/7/2021. I had the pleasure of meeting him a few days before his 100th birthday which was on 8/12/2019, when I went to his home to invite him to Merrick Post's Veterans Barbecue. Unfortunately for us, his family had planned his 100th birthday celebration for that same afternoon. During that visit he told me about his service in the Army during World War II, and also about his 35 years as a NYC police officer. He also told me that he was still driving, "but I'm not driving to Chicago, just locally." Undisclosed sources told me that he was still driving at 101.

U.S. Navy Reserve Captain Robert Hughes, Jewish War Veterans Post members Gary Glick, Mel Cohen, and Steve Steinbaum joined forces with Merrick Post members, Ken Braun, Jim O'Neill, Al Garbarino, Eugene St. John, Rick Ambrosino and I at Montefiore Cemetery on the cold Sunday afternoon of February 21, 2021, for a graveside service for Army Veteran Richard Schultz. Richard was a Purple Heart Vietnam Veteran, a member of Granito-Smith Post 1296, American Legion, my son's father-in-law, and also great friend to my wife and me. Rich became a member of Granito-Smith Post 1296, which is in New Brighton, Staten Island through his co-workers at the New York Daily News. Although members from the Granito-Smith Post 1296 were unable to attend the funeral, they sent a bronze A.L. grave marker and a thank you note, which appears elsewhere in this issue.

(Commander's Corner continued on page 3)

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

**2020-2021
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	Alfred F. Garbarino	516-297-7270
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	Eugene E. Lowenberg	
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	Eugene F. St. John	
Trustee	Joseph T. Ambrosino	
Trustee	Barbara Byrne	

**2020-2021
American Legion Auxiliary Merrick Unit 1282 Officers**

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

Commander's Corner (continued)

Our second oldest member, Colonel Charles P. Kerns, died on 3/1/2021, just three months short of his 101st birthday. During World War II, he served at the Port of Le Harvre, France as an Army Cargo Operations Officer. He was a graduate of both the U.S. Army Command and Staff College and the US Army Transportation School. He also completed the National Security Management Course conducted by the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. In 1974 he was the recipient of the U.S. Army Commendation Medal. As a reservist, he was on the West Point Selection Committee. After 36 years of service and attendance at the Army War College, he retired as a full Colonel on 5/29/1980. Locally he served as Chief and also Fire Commissioner of the North Merrick Fire District. On St. Patrick's Day 2021, Merrick Post members John Murphy, Eugene Lowenberg, Harry Gribbin, Joseph Ambrosino, Al Garbarino, Eugene St. John, Jim O'Neill, Rick Ambrosino and I provided an American Legion Funeral Service for his family and friends.

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS: Please let your family and friends know that a **FREE** American Legion Funeral Service is available to **ALL** our members if desired. Also there are certain benefits available even when you are **NOT** buried in a National Cemetery. **We wish you all a long, long life,** but please have someone notify our Post upon your death.

As of now, the Annual Nassau County American Legion Convention, held the first Saturday in June (6/5/2021), will be at the Massapequa Post at 9:00 a.m. Attendance is limited to Nassau County Officers and Post Commanders **ONLY, due to COVID Restrictions.** The Installation Dinner will be that evening at Leonard's, in Great Neck and is available to all by ticket purchase.

My THANKS to all our members who make themselves available, it makes Merrick Post No. 1282, stand out and the public aware that the American Legion exists! THANK YOU to the Saraceni family for the generous contribution to our Post, which fulfilled Louie's wish. THANKS to Jim O'Neill who can turn two paragraphs into a two and a half page eulogy.

Although there will be NO PARADE, **we will still have our MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY at 10:00 a.m. at The Merrick's Veterans Park on Monday 5/31/2021. Please join us!** (Current COVID-19 restrictions will apply). Other important dates are: 5/6/2021 National Day of Prayer; **5/9/2021 MOTHER'S DAY;** 5/15/2021 Armed Forces Day; **6/14/2021 FLAG DAY;** and **6/20/2021 FATHER'S DAY.**

Robert E Dishman, Post Commander

Merrick Post No. 1282, American Legion, members would like to thank Nassau County Executive Laura Curran and Nassau County Legislator Thomas McKeivitt (13th District) for the Valentine Day cards from students through the sponsoring of the Valentines for Veterans Program. The artistry and the writings in the cards were great. Thanks again.

Nominations and Elections

In compliance with Article X, Section 2, of Merrick Post No. 1282, The American Legion By-Laws, Seventh Revision, December 17, 2018, 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

Information on Merrick's Memorial Day Ceremony 2021

**THE MERRICK'S
MEMORIAL DAY
OBSERVANCE**



Merrick Post No. 1282, American Legion, will host the Merrick's Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 31, 2021. Post members and Auxiliary members will meet at Merrick's Veteran Memorial Park at 10:00 a.m. for a 10:30 a.m. ceremony. Covid-19 restrictions will apply, please bring your own chair at this event.

The ceremony will be held rain or shine!!!

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

2021 Americanism Award for a Calhoun Senior

Merrick Post No 1282, American Legion, will again present an Award for Americanism to a deserving graduating Senior from Calhoun High School. The award consists of a medal and a \$500 scholarship check and will be presented on Tuesday, May 25, 2021. A decision has not yet been made on whether the award will be presented in person or virtually.

Frank D. Pedagno, Second Vice Commander

Chaplain Report

Post member Andrew J. Conlin and Charles P. Kerns have reported to Post Everlasting.

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

Thank you letter from Grantio-Smith Post 1296, American Legion

Grantio-Smith Post 1296, American Legion
125 Alter Avenue
New Brighton, Staten Island, NY 10304

Dear Commander Robert Dishman,

We want to thank you and your members for doing the graveside service for our member Richard Schultz. My dad, our Commander, had hip surgery recently and was unable to make it to Rich's service. Both my dad and I worked for many years at the New York Daily News with Rich and had great times and lots of fun. Our Post sent an American Legion grave marker to his family. To you and your members, again, thank you and be safe,

Anthony J. Navarino, SAL Commander and Charles Navarino, Post Commander

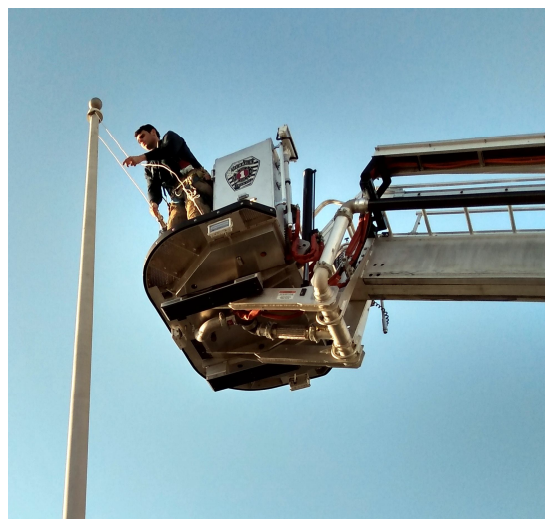
The Re-stringing of the Post Flag Pole

On Thursday, March 11, 2021, members of the Merrick Hook & Ladder Fire Department restrung the flag pole at our Post, in order to fly the American Flag and POW MIA Flag once again from our flag pole. Thank you to the members of the Merrick Hook and Ladder Fire Department from the Members of Merrick Post No. 1282, American Legion. Here are few pics.



Merrick Hook and Ladder Fire Department Truck #11

A member of Merrick Hook and Ladder Fire Department restringing the Post flag pole



Some of the members of Merrick Hook and Ladder Fire Department posing for a picture with Post member Joe Ambrosino (fifth person in from the left of picture).

Nassau County Veterans Service Agency's "Vet Mart"



Food Pantry Coordinator, Christine Sohmer, for the Nassau County Veterans Service Agency Veterans Food Pantry (i.e. Vet Mart)



In the picture, from left to right, 1st Vice President Kathleen Stuck and her son Bryan Stuck delivering food items to the Vet Pantry in East Meadow, New York.

At the American Legion Auxiliary, Merrick Unit 1282 General Meeting in January 2021, members voted to spend \$300 to support the Nassau County Veterans Service Agency's "Vet Mart", which is a veterans food pantry located at Nassau County Medical Center, Building Q in East Meadow, New York. Our 1st Vice President Kathleen Stuck contacted the coordinator to ask what items were most needed. She went shopping, assisted by her son, Bryan Stuck, and delivered the much appreciated donations.

Laura Lahood, Auxiliary President

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 incorporate 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 in May 2021 please send a request to plwmemorialscholarship@gmail.com.

(516) 379-4141

ANGELA COLLINS, D.M.D.
GENERAL DENTISTRY

OFFICE HOURS
BY APPOINTMENT

2000 MERRICK AVENUE
MERRICK, NEW YORK 11566



**BAGELMAN
DELIMAN**
223-7031
Fax # 623-BAGEL
84 Merrick Ave., Merrick FREE
CATERING (2 blocks North of Sunrise Hwy.) DELIVERY

My Hero
Established 1970

HERO'S • SALADS • CATERING

*Hot
& Cold*



3'to 6'

516-785-9226

1005 Jerusalem Avenue
N. Merrick, NY 11566

2039 MERRICK AVENUE
MERRICK, N.Y. 11566

TEL. (516) 378-0303
www.nfwalkerfh.com

N.F. WALKER, INC.
FUNERAL HOME

JAMES F. GAVIGAN
MANAGER

WAYNE C. BAXTER
THADDEUS W. BAXTER
DANFORD S. BAXTER

- Complete Installations
- Spring Start-Ups
- Winterizing

NYS CERTIFIED
BACKFLOW TESTER

JOSEPH RAMO, INC.
Irrigation

SPRINKLER SYSTEM
SERVICE & REPAIRS

JOSEPH RAMO
Tel: (516) 867-2950



Tel: 516-481-5525
Fax: 516-481-1264

Pat's Farms
RETAIL/WHOLE SUPERMARKET
"THE BEST FOR LESS"

Pasquale Tuosto
President

1142 Merrick Ave.
N. Merrick NY 11566



Merrick Post No. 1282
**AMERICAN
LEGION**
Veterans
Advertise with us!!!



Gene Judd
**ISLAND
GREENERY**
516-785-0349
NURSERY

2036 Bellmore Avenue
Bellmore, NY 11710-5602
www.islandgreenery.net

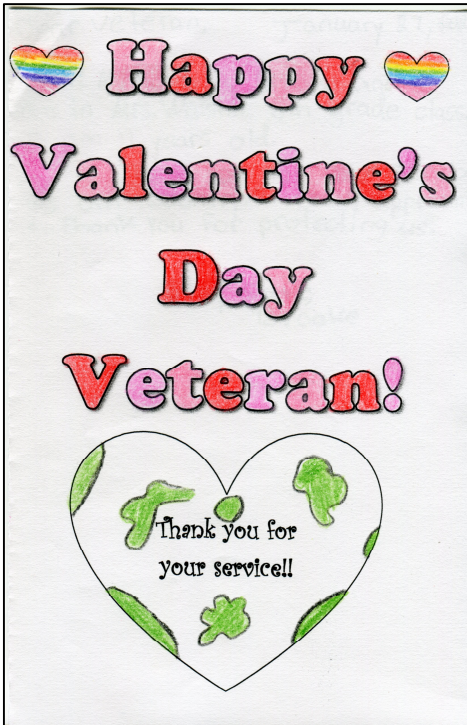
Tel: (516) 785-0349
gene@islandgreenery.net

Nursery • Maintenance • Masonry

Merrick Post No. 1282
The American Legion
160 West Merrick Road
Merrick, N.Y. 11566-4232

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MERRICK, N.Y. 11566
PERMIT # 21



Hello Veterans. I want you to know how lucky I feel to live in this country. I feel loved, safe and most important free. And I feel like this because of you guys.

Thank you so much for all of your service. I know that it must have been hard or is hard to be away from your family during the holidays. And I am so thankful for you guys keeping our country safe

Valentine's Day is meant to be filled with love and I want you to know that I love and support you. And will always appreciate all of your service. Stay safe.

Dear U.S. Veteran, I appreciate the service you've done for our country. You love this country so much, that you fought to protect it. You are very loved and special. You are brave, tough, fierce, strong and loving. Well, stay safe and stay brave! P.S my goal was to warm your heart, you've warmed mine. Happy Valentine's Day!

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 22, 2021.