

“God Bless our Servicemen and Women and America.”



The Bugle



NEWSLETTER OF MERRICK POST NO. 1282
AMERICAN LEGION

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ISSUE 1

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I wish all our members, their families and our friends a HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2022. Hopefully this new strain of Covid will be the last and will be quickly brought under control.

During the last quarter of 2021 our Post started to return to some normalcy. In October we participated in the MERRICK STREET FAIR. The Merrick Chamber of Commerce did an excellent job by having all their members assigned to spaces in the middle of Merrick Avenue and all other vendors and participants assigned to spaces along the curbs. The “Avenue” was packed not only with vendors, but with very generous Merokeans and visitors. Our Post was in our usual spot, in front of the former Capital One Bank. Harry Gribbin and Joe Ambrosino brought the canopy, tables, chairs etc. back and forth from the Post. John Murphy, Jim O’Neill, Rich Mecabe, Larry Levy, Eugene Lowenberg, Larry Falciccho, Frank Pedagno, and new member Ed Moore handed out American flags and pens and accepted donations which will be used to benefit veterans. Rick Ambrosino, Phil Passaro, new member James Moore and his son Brandon were a few of our members who stopped by to offer us encouragement. Many elected officials also stopped by our “booth” including Town of Hempstead Supervisor Donald X. Clavin Jr., Councilman Christopher Carini and Nassau County Legislator Steve Rhodes.

Members of the Freeport-Merrick VFW Post, including Bill Seidenstein’s WWII Jeep, joined us at our Veterans Day Ceremony at the Merrick’s Veterans Memorial Park. Boy Scouts mostly from Troop 351 plus a few scouts from Troop 123 also participated in our ceremony. On November 7, 2021, we had our religious Veterans Day Service with our American Legion Auxiliary Merrick Unit No 1282 at Cure of Ars Roman Catholic Church. That same Sunday, I was fortunate to attend with our grandson, a Veterans Day service at the Lazarus United Church of Christ, in Lineboro, Maryland. They had a display of military uniforms, pictures, certificates and discharge papers from WWII thru the present; all belonging to church members and their families. After the congregation of more than 100 was seated, the Boy Scouts marched in carrying the flags, followed by about 20 veterans. Pastor Rodney Gross began the service by singing our country’s national anthem. During the church service each veteran was given a gift box containing a “cross and American flag pin” and a “GOD BLESS AMERICA” challenge coin. One of the church’s Lay Leaders and a former Marine, Tom Becker, told me that he was happy that his plans for this ceremony finally happened. SEMPER FI Tom!

(Commander’s Corner continued on page 3)

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

**2021-2022
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	Eugene E. Lowenberg	
Service Officer	John R. Weber	516-426-3682

Trustees Richard A. Mecabe Jr., James W. O'Neill (PC)
Kenneth J. Braun (PC), Joseph T. Ambrosino, Lawrence Levy

Merrick Street Fair 2021



In the picture from left to right, post members: Rich Mecabe, Frank Pedagno, Harry Gribbin, Joe Ambrosino and Jim O'Neill (PC) were at the Merrick Street Fair on Sunday, October 24, 2021. The Post members in this picture and many more Post members were at this event, giving out American Flags and Post pens to the patrons at this event and received donations from these patrons for veteran causes.

Commander's Corner (continued)

Nassau County American Legion reported that 453 veterans were helped at the November 23, 2021, Winter Stand down held at the Freeport Armory. They also reported that there were two candidates at the Nassau County Oratorical Scholarship Contest. Second Vice Commander Frank Pedagno worked diligently with Calhoun High School for this contest, but no one applied. Our plans for Merrick Post's Holiday Dinner had to be canceled when several of our Auxiliary Unit members and one Post member and his entire family came down with Covid a few days after Veterans Day. THANK YOU to All of you who took part in Wreaths across America by purchasing and/or placing them on the graves of veterans, which took place on Saturday, December 18, 2021, at the Long Island National Cemetery in Farmingdale, New York. I hope that all Post and Auxiliary members and their families had a wonderful and healthy Christmas Holiday.

Next Year, 2022, gives us 365 new days to hope and plan! Frank Pedagno is working with both Calhoun high school and Grace Christian Academy to find candidates who will qualify for the 2022 Boys State Program, which will have live participation again. The Nassau County's Annual Military Ball/Commanders Night will be on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from noon until 5 PM, at Leonard's, in Great Neck. Cost is \$35 each for Post member and \$35 for each spouse (the Post will pay an additional \$35 for each). **Make your reservations NOW!** Past Commander Jim O'Neill and First vice Commander Rich Mecabe has volunteered to plan and run the Law and Order Ceremony. February 24, 2022, is the Nassau County's First Division Caucus where each Post votes for their choice of a candidate from our Division, and who will run for each Nassau County Officer position. Other items in the works include the possibility of having a St Patrick's Day party and **we are DEFINITELY having a MEMORIAL DAY PARADE! LOOK OUT 2022! HERE WE COME!**

Robert E. Dishman, Post Commander

Wreaths across America 2021



Wreaths across America chairperson, Toni Uberti (far right) with her family placing the wreaths on the graves of veterans at the Long Island National Cemetery in Farmingdale, New York on Saturday, December 18, 2021.

Post and Auxiliary Installation of Officers for the 2021-2022 American Legion Fiscal Year



Installation of Post Officers for the 2021-2022 American Legion fiscal year. In the picture from left to right, post members: Frank Pedagno, Joe Ambrosino, Eugene Lowenberg, Jim O'Neill (PC), Harry Gribbin, Larry Levy, Rich Mecabe, Robert Dishman and in the back of picture is post member Ken Braun (PC). This event took place on May 25, 2021, at our Post Meeting.



Installation of American Legion Auxiliary Merrick Unit #1282 Officers on June 15, 2021, for the 2021-2022 American Legion Auxiliary fiscal year. In the picture from left to right, Auxiliary members: Roseanne Garbarino, Betty Tucker, Kathleen Stuck, Sharon Williams, Palma Fasano, Pat Tropea, Toni Uberti, Florence Hoffman (PP) and Laura Lahood.

Merrick Post No. 1282 Veterans Day Ceremony 2021



The showing of the colors of American Legion Merrick Post No. 1282, Freeport/Merrick VFW #1310 and Boy Scout Troop #351 at the Veterans Day Ceremony 2021. This took place at the Merrick's Veteran Memorial Park during the singing of the National Anthem at the Veterans Day Ceremony.



The ringing of the bell 11 times by 3rd Vice Commander Larry Levy (left) represents the 11th hour, 11th day and 11th month of the end of hostilities of World War One in 1918.

Merrick Post No. 1282 Veterans Day Ceremony 2021 (Continued)



American Legion, Merrick Post No. 1282 members, at the Veterans Day Ceremony 2021, at the Merrick's Veteran Memorial Park.

Veterans Day Mass for Veterans at the Cure of Ars R.C. Church



In the picture from left to right: Past Commander John Murphy (PC), Post Historian Eugene E. Lowenberg, Father Daniel Opoku-Mensah, Monsignor Frank J. Cadwell, Sergeant at Arms Joseph T. Ambrosino and Second vice Commander Frank D. Pedagno, outside the church of Cure of Ars, on Sunday, November 7, 2021, after the 11:30 a.m. mass for the Veterans.

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Chaplain Report

Post members Dino W. DeGasperi and Salvatore J. Totaro have reported to Post Everlasting.

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

Dates to Remember 2020

JAN.	11	POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM
FEB.	8	POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM
MAR.	8	POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM

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 April 19, 2022.