

“God Bless our Servicemen and Women and America.”



# The Bugle

NEWSLETTER OF MERRICK POST NO. 1282  
AMERICAN LEGION

VOL. 16

July 2023

ISSUE 1

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## Commander's Corner



Well it's July 5, 2023, and the warm weather is definitely here. At our April meeting, our Post Officers decided to stay in their present positions, meaning that I will be serving as Post Commander for a fifth year. During the past 4 years, each and every officer was active, and diligently fulfilled their respective duties, making my job as Commander much easier.

Our first vice Commander Rich Mecabe goes door to door to recruit new members. Our second vice Commander Frank Pedagano, heads the Boy's State Committee, and presents our \$500 Calhoun High School Scholarship Award and our many Americanism Awards to all our local schools. Larry Levy jumped into the third vice Commander Position when Al Garbarino felt that he would be spending more time in South Carolina. Although our Adjutant, Harry Gribbin, has been taking the minutes of our meetings for many years, it is nowhere as long as Mike Elliot, who seems to have been our Treasurer forever. Past Commander Jim O'Neill will continue to be our Chaplain for his fifth year. He has a unique ability to take a 4 to 5 line obituary and turn it into a 2 to 3 page eulogy. Also as a former police officer, he also successfully chairs our Law and Order Ceremony. Past Commander Ken Braun is continuing as our Judge Advocate to make certain that we operate "by the book". Sergeant at Arms Joe Ambrosino takes care of our building, supplies and incoming mail. Newer member, Ed Moore took over as Historian when Eugene Lowenberg passed away in April 2022. Unfortunately the position of Service Officer is vacant, as John Weber reported to Post Everlasting on June 17, 2023. John was known throughout Nassau and Suffolk Counties for his musical abilities, and played at many American Legion functions and arranged several trips for Merrick Post members to Long Island Ducks baseball games.

Not only do I THANK each of our officers for their conscientious work and cooperation, I LOOK FORWARD to continue working with them! **I also THANK EACH AND EVERY MEMBER FOR KEEPING THEIR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT!** We understand that every member can't be active, but your continued membership supports the American Legion's efforts to keep our local VA facilities here on Long Island active and up-to-date. The government spends the money where the bodies are! From your \$40 dues, our Post keeps \$3, and the \$37 balance goes to the National, State and County levels of the American Legion.

(Continued on page 3)

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

**2023-2024  
American Legion Merrick Post No.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 P. 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		
Trustee	Alfred F. Garbarino	
Trustee	Lawrence P. Levy	
Trustee	Richard A. Mecabe Jr.	
Trustee	James W. O'Neill, PC	
Trustee	Harold K. Gribbin	

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**2023-2024  
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	Pat Cancela
	Connie Stress
	Toni Uberti

## Commander's Corner (continued)

I must also thank Rick Ambrosino who is our administrative assistant, past Commander John Murphy, Barbara Byrne, Mike Cassella, Larry Falcicchio, Al Gabarino, Tom Garvey, Chris Hoelzer, Pete Holmstedt, Richard Jaeger, Mike Kersch, Phil Nathan, Bill O'Brien, Phil Passaro, Ed Rajecki, Saul Roth, Joe Santillo, Bill & Steve Seidenstein, Gene St. John, Ken Williams, and many others for their active participation over the years.

**We are currently looking for a new tenant as Merrick Dance is moving to a new facility on Sunrise Highway in August.**

Finally, please send a copy of your DD-214 to our Post and also let your family know where you keep the original. 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

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## National Commander's Visit 2023



On Friday, April 14, 2023, Post members (in picture from left to right): Robert Dishman, Kenneth Braun (PC) and John Murphy (PC) attended the National Commander's Visit/Dinner in honor of Vincent J. Troiola at the Antun's Restaurant in Springfield Gardens, Queens, New York. The food and comradery were great at this event.



## Installation of Post Officers 2023 -2024



On Monday, May 9, 2023, the Post conducted its installation of Officers for the 2023-2024 American Legion Fiscal Year. In the picture from left to right, post members: Second vice Commander Frank D. Pedagno, Sergeant At Arms Joseph T. Ambrosino, Third vice Commander Lawrence Levy, Post Advocate Kenneth J. Braun (PC) (back), Post Commander Robert E. Dishman, First vice Commander Richard A. Mecabe Jr., Service Officer John R. Weber, Post Chaplain James W. O'Neill (PC), Post Adjutant Harold K. Gribbin, and Post Treasurer Michael S. Elliot.

Note: Historian Ed Moore was not present, when the picture was taken. Service Officer John R. Weber reported to Post Everlasting.

## B P Service Station Fundraiser to help Veterans



In the picture above, from left to right, are Post members: Larry Levy, Frank Pedagno, Ken Braun (PC), Jim O'Neill (PC), Bob Dishman and Joe Ambrosino. This picture was taken on Saturday, May 13, 2023.

During the four weekends in May of 2023, Post members gave out American Flags and Post Pens. Donations for veterans were voluntary for the patrons who came in for gas at the B P service station, and these patrons were very generous in their donations. We thank these patrons for their generosity.

## Upcoming Birthdays

### July Birthdays

Thomas Garvey	July 2, 2022
Richard Murphy	July 2, 2022
Edward Rajecki	July 7, 2022
Lawrence Levy	July 8, 2022
Robert Ryan	July 8, 2022
James O'Neill, PC	July 13, 2022
Francis Schilt	July 23, 2022
Edward Moore	July 28, 2022

### August Birthdays

William O'Brien	August 9, 2022
Richard Francis	August 14, 2022
Oreste Tropea	August 17, 2022

### September Birthdays

Michael Elliot	September 6, 2022
Frank Pedagno	September 10, 2022
Barbara Byrne	September 21, 2022
Angelo Anatra	September 30, 2022

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.

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## Chaplain Report

Post member John R. Weber has reported to Post Everlasting.

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

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## Phillip L. Williams Memorial Scholarship 2023 Award Winner

The recipient of the 2023 Phillip L. Williams Memorial Scholarship is Julianna Belbol from Sanford H. Calhoun High School.

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## Post members at the North Merrick Field of Flags 2023



Group picture at the North Merrick Field of Flags event at the Harold D. Fayette Elementary School, the picture above includes American Legion Merrick Post #1282 members, Superintendent of schools Dr. Cynthia Seniuik and members of local the Cub Scout and Girl Scout organizations in our area. This event took place on, Thursday, May 18, 2023.

On Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. Four post members attended the Harold D. Fayette Elementary School's North Merrick Field of Flags Ceremony. The master of Ceremonies was Superintendent of Schools Dr. Cynthia Seniuik. The music was provided by Andrew Brunson and the Districtwide Marching Band. The Harold D. Fayette Student Council spoke at this event and proceeds from the Field of Flags event went to K9's for Warriors. K9's for Warriors is a national organization dedicated to providing trained Service Dogs to disabled military veterans. Many local politicians were in attendance namely Hon. Thomas McKeivitt and Hon. David G. McDonough. The post members who attended this event were Bob Dishman, Jim O'Neill (PC), Larry Levy and Joe Ambrosino.

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## Americanism Awards 2023

The Merrick Post No. 1282, American Legion, presented Americanism Awards to 10 local school children. Each student received a certificate and a medal for their accomplishments.

Those recognized were:

Lara Krell	Birch School
Daniel Yanpolski	Camp Avenue Elementary School
Bryce Finkelstein	Chatterton School
Stephen Ferrante	Harold D. Fayette School
Thomas Keane	Levy Lakeside School
Nicholas Ippoliti	Merrick Ave. Middle School
Callie Lodge	Merrick Ave. Middle School
Nathaniel Odell	Old Mill Rd. School
Brian McGoldrick	St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton School
Hayden Okonowitz	Sanford H. Calhoun School

**Frank D. Pedagno, Americanism Chairman**



## MERRICK'S MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND CEREMONY 2023



Merrick PAL Soccer at the Merrick's Memorial Day Parade on May 29, 2023



Sport teams at the Merrick's Memorial Day Parade.



Post members at the staging area of the Merrick's Memorial Day Parade.



The Merrick / Freeport VFW #1310 jeep at the Merrick's Memorial Day Parade



## MERRICK'S MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND CEREMONY 2023 (CONTINUED)



On 5/28/2023, Boy Scout Troop #351 members and their parents helped set up barricades at the beginning of the Memorial Day Parade route which was by Merrick Avenue and Broadcast Plaza and by the end of the parade, which was the Merrick's Veteran Memorial Park. Thank you all your hard work setting up and breaking down the barricades for this event. In this picture are members of Boy Scout Troop #351 and their parents getting goofy for a picture at the Merrick's Veteran Memorial Park.



Members of the Merrick Avenue Middle School band heading up (in front of the Merrick Fire Department) at the Merrick's Memorial Day Parade



Members at the Merrick Fire Department at the Merrick's Memorial Day Parade

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The American Legion  
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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 September 19, 2023.

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## Dates to Remember

<b>JUL.</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM</b>
<b>AUG.</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM</b>
<b>SEP.</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM</b>
<b>OCT.</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>POST EXECUTIVE MEETING AT 7:45 PM POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 8:00 PM</b>