January, 2022

William Merritt Hallock American Legion Post No. 155

115 Church Street, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779 www.americanlegionwilliamhallockpost155.org

Charter Members: Richard Cook, Raymond Duffield, Edward Fish, Thomas Fish Jr.,
Harold Gould, Walter Gubner, Joseph Kirk, James McDonald Jr.,
Gary McLean, Anthony Monnig, Sumner Newton, Alex Pistiotta,
G. Renwick Raynor, Harold Sorenson, Frederick Vetter, LeRoy Volgraff



Post No. 155 Meetings:

1st Tuesday of the Month – 1:00 PM
3rd Tuesday of the Month – 8:00 PM

Newsletter published and edited by: Paul Attard, Michael Lowis, Paula Attard-Lowis

Commander: Phil Levy

1st Vice Commander: Roland Frank
2nd Vice Commander: Robert Holecek
3rd Vice Commander: Joel Meyers

Judge Advocate: Raul Jimenez-Cintron

Adjutant: Roland Frank/Raul Jimenez-Cintron

Directors: Paul Attard, Tom Bissell, Michael Lowis, Ed Teller

Sergeant-at-Arms: Dominick Golio

Chaplain: Mark Herba Historian: Robert Holecek

Finance Officer: Thomas Bissell

Post Service Officer: Roland Frank

Membership: Raymond Bush

1st Vice Commander, Roland Frank: It's a new year and we still have much to do, we were left with a monumental task of getting our building back into operational shape. Thanks to the hard work of all the Post 155 members we are almost there; many of the permits, inspections, etc. that needed to be done are completed and some are still in progress. If all goes well, we should be in operational order by the spring; hopefully sooner. Stay safe, get your vaccinations and let's look forward to a great year at William Merritt Hallock American Legion Post No. 155.

2nd Vice Commander, Bob Holecek: Happy New Year! Now that we have begun a new year, I hope it will be better than last year. Due to a number of things, our Post suffered a number of setbacks this past year. In spite of these, the Post has held his own. This was due to a number of people who continue to step-up and make things happen. I think we should thank them for being key members who are the reason we continue to survive as a Post. First of these is Tom Bissell, who took over finances when a vacancy occurred. He has handled all of the problems and troubles with style. Next is Paul Attard who has continued to provide funds for the Post with his poppy and flag sales. Paul, Mike Lowis (who is Paul's son-in-law) and Paula (Paul's daughter and Mike's wife) for putting together and mailing this newsletter and shopping for and assembling the raffle baskets for our past commander/holiday party. Then there is Joel (Butch) Meyers and Fred Tartaglione; both have taken on projects and repairs to fix up the Post. They also handled setting up for the past commander/holiday party, which went off very well. Also, Roland Frank, Phil Levy and Tom Bissell for opening and closing of the Post for our tenants. Last but not least, is Ray Bush, who continues to work to bring the Post together and get things done. I THANK THEM ALL!

Tom Bissell: This past Christmas season our Post made a generous cash donation to the Long Island State Veterans' Home at Stony Brook University with the simple request that the administration use it to bring some holiday joy to its residents. For several past Christmas', Post 155 would give cash to provide a night's entertainment and give a "scratch-off" lottery ticket to each veteran resident. A number of the Post members would join with staff to assist residents (many wheel-chair bound) into the social area for the evening. Last year (Christmas, 2020), the facility was "off-limits" due to Covid. For 2021, the Post wanted to continue the tradition of the past within the constraints imposed on outside visitors. In a thank you reply from the Veterans' Home administration, it stated in part: "Your gift truly allows us to make a difference in the lives we are so honored to care for each and every day."

Paul Attard: Now that the new year has started I welcome you all back. I will start by asking you to do your part; I am trying to get everyone accounted for on our roster. If you have left our Post, please let me know at pm31rm25@live.com. If you have not paid your 2021 or 2022 dues, please do so to keep your continuous service up-to-date. It is possible that you paid your dues directly to National, if so, let us know. Please do not put this aside, I would like our roster to be correct and up-to-date. Thank you in advance. Have some good news, we had our Past Commanders/holiday party. We had 62 members/family/friends in attendance. Included in this newsletter are some photos of the event. In November, we were invited to attend the Ronkonkoma Middle School Veterans' Day Ceremony by Principal Joseph Licato. Mr. Licato, the students and the staff put on a great USO show. They entertained us with some patriotic music and they even performed a salute to all the branches of the military (having each veteran stand when there branch was being featured). They also served us a continental breakfast. Photos of the event are in this newsletter. In closing, I wish you all a safe, healthy and happy new year!

Michael Lowis: Happy and Healthy New Year 2022 to all my comrades! We had a great turnout for our past commander/holiday party; thank you to all that helped in hosting the party; a good time was had by all. Thank you to Fred Tartaglione, our webmaster, for a job well done on our new website; please check it out. We are moving in the right direction as a Post to accomplish what needs to be done; we must work together. Let's remember when we gather at our meetings that due to Covid-19 we would appreciate you wearing a mask for your safety and that of your comrades.

Contributions from our Comrades: (if anyone has information they would like included in a newsletter, please email it to Paul Attard (pm31rm25@live.com) or bring it to a meeting at the Post)

Ray Bush: The holidays are now done; I hope everyone enjoyed them. With this new year, we need to address the issues we are having as a Post. Last year we had a number of problems that arose; some could not be helped and some could have been avoided. It seems we are behind the power curve; we are always reacting to everything so we play catch up. We do not seem to be able to do things to get ahead of the things we have to do. I am hoping to set up several meetings to deal with this. I think we should make up folders of all the things that we have to do. In these folders, we can put instructions on how to do these items, including who to contact, how to contact them, where to get any paperwork needed, examples of that paperwork and instructions on how to complete them. In addition, on the front of the folders indicate when these items need to be done. The more we preplan and work on ahead of time, the less we will have to play catch up saving us time and effort being expended.

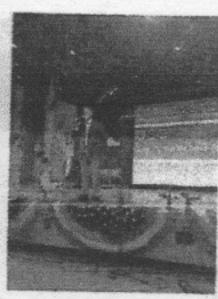
Fred Tartaglione, Webmaster (ftartag@optimum.net): To access our new website www.americanlegionwilliamhallockpost155.org open your browser on your computer or smartphone. In the search bar type in the above URL address and hit enter. The page will load and you can use the menu bar on the left side to navigate the website. Please feel free to check out the whole site and if you have any remarks, suggestions or additions please feel free to let me know.

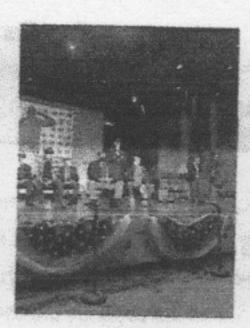
Vincent Zecca: A Disability Service Officer will be at the Selden Public Library the 1st Wednesday of each month from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM and at the Centereach Public Library the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Please bring with you your DD-214 and any disability papers you may have from the VA with you.

Post 155 Event Photos

Veteran's Day Recognition at Ronkonkoma Middle School, November, 2021

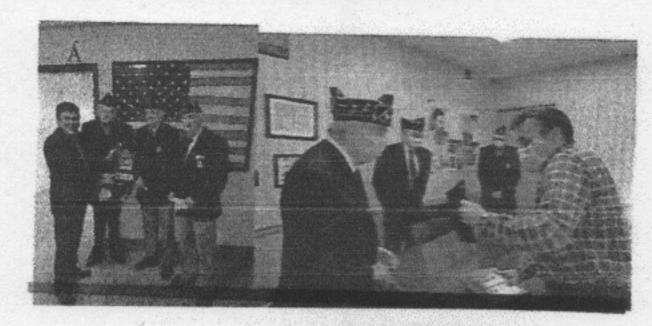


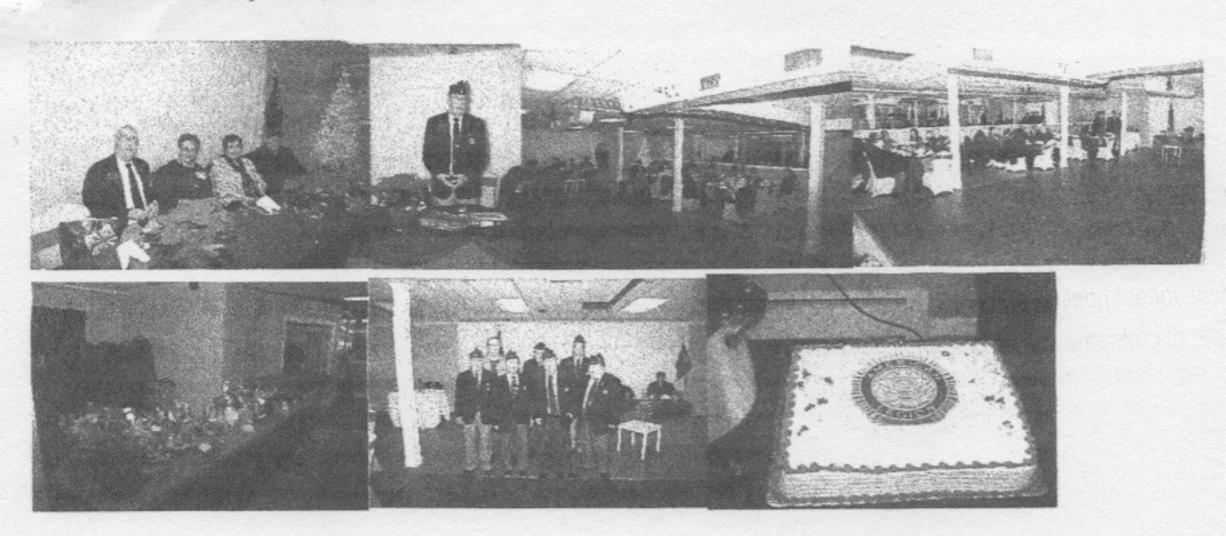






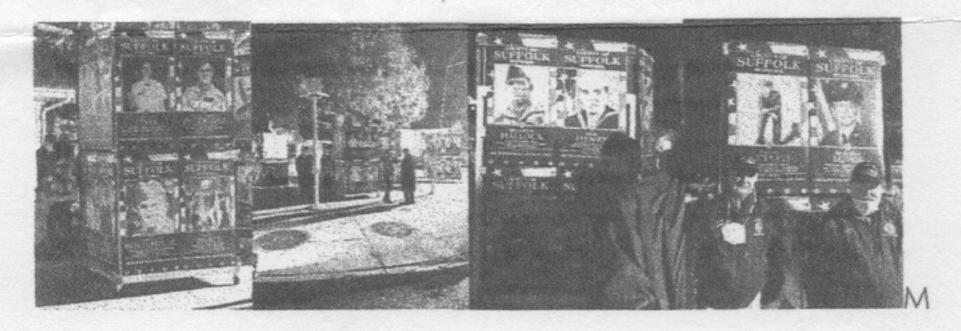
Presentation of Plaque to Mr. Licato, Principal, Ronkonkoma Middle School in appreciation for all of hard work he, his staff and students did in putting on a great "USO" show for the veterans!





Lake Ronkonkoma Heritage Association -Some of the Banners honoring our veterans; they will be displayed in town by the Heritage Association on designated holidays.

Thank you! Great Job! (The first 3 pictures are from the Lake Ronkonkoma Heritage Association's facebook page)



A LITTLE HUMOR - - - The Things I Owe My Parents (Our Place News, 8/2014)

Amazing how many memories these bring back. How wonderful it would be to hear their voices again:

- My parents taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE. "if you are going to kill each other, do it outside... I've just finished cleaning."
- 2. My parents taught me RELIGION. "You better pray that this will come out of the carpet."
- 3. My parents taught me about TIME TRAVEL. "if you don't behave yourself, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
- 4. My parents taught me LOGIC. "Because I said so, that's why."
- 5. My parents taught me MORE LOGIC. "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, don't come crying to me."
- 6. My parents taught me FORESIGHT. "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
- 7. My parents taught me IRONY. "Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."
- 8. My parents taught me about the science of OSMOSIS. "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."
- 9. My parents taught me about CONTORTIONISM. "Will you look at the dirt on the back of your neck!"
- 10. My parents taught me about STAMINA. "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."
- 11. My parents taught me about WEATHER. "This room of yours looks like a tornado went through it."
- 12. My parents taught me about HYPOCRISY. "If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"
- 13. My parents taught me the CIRCLE OF Life. "I brought you into this world, and I can take you out."
- 14. My parents taught me about BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION. "Stop acting like your father!"
- 15. MY parents taught me about ENVY. "There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you.
- 16. My parents taught me about ANTICIPATION. "Just wait until we get home."
- 17. My parents taught me about RECEIVING. "You are going to get it when you get home!"
- 18. My parents taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE. "If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way."
- 19. My parents taught me ESP. "Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"
- 20. My parents taught me HUMOR. "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."
- 21. My parents taught me HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT. "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."
- 22. My parents taught me GENETICS. "You're just like your father."
- 23. My parents taught me about my ROOTS. "Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"
- 24. My parents taught me WISDOM. "When you get to be my age, you'll understand."
- 25. My parents taught me about JUSTICE. "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you!"