



**LAMM LIGHTS Newsletter for July 2024**  
**Website: <http://americanlegionpost622.com> 716-204-2516**  
**962 Wehrle Drive, Williamsville NY 14221**

# Special Expanded Issue

## Commanders Message



Commander Phil

Hi everyone,

Well summer is here already to enjoy with your family and friends. Please be careful if you are doing any type of yardwork due to the extreme temperatures that we have been having lately. Try to do a little at a time making sure that you rest up in between and have plenty of water.

Our next Executive committee meeting is set for Saturday, July 13th at 10:00 AM with the Membership to follow at 11:00 AM. There will be a wonderful car show sponsored by Clutch Artist on Sunday July 14th '24. (please see newsletter for the hours) If you have some free time that day, we could use some help with this event. The first meeting of the Erie County Executive Committee of the American Legion will be Thursday July 25th in the Lamm Post Grove at 7:00 PM. Have a great month and stay safe.

It is that time of year when the American Legion dues notices for the 2025 Membership are mailed out. National headquarters raised the dues this year, but we at the George F. Lamm Post decided not to raise our members dues this year, keeping the same renewal amount from last year. This does mean that the Lamm Post will have less funds to work with, but we felt that helping our current members would be more beneficial.

For God and Country,

Commander Phil



Post member Chuck Herschlag was amongst the honored veterans for the latest Mission flight to Washington D.C. The following is an article about that trip and the experiences shared . It was written by Chuck's Granddaughter (and Trip Guardian) **Courtney Hourihan**.

**On Flag Day**, I was honored to accompany my grandfather, Charles Herschlag, on Mission #17 with the Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight. What used to be a jampacked, less than 24-hour event has now turned into a (still jampacked) 2-day event to D.C. to visit many of the memorials for our fallen heroes. My goal in going with Grandpa was two-fold – to spend more time with him learning of his memories, but also to show him just how much of a hero he is, and not just to me!

(Continued on page 2)



Mission #17  
 June 14 - 15, 2024





We started our trip meeting as a group in the local UAW parking lot on Wehrle Drive. Forty veterans, their guardians, medical staff, dedicated media personnel, and a small BNHF delegation were escorted by local law enforcement officers and Patriot Guard, with their flags billowing in the wind to the Buffalo Niagara International Airport to depart for Baltimore. At the airport, we were greeted by the Amherst Police honor guard, and more volunteers with well wishes and support to send us off with the sounds of patriotic music after a heartfelt salute to the Star-Spangled Banner.

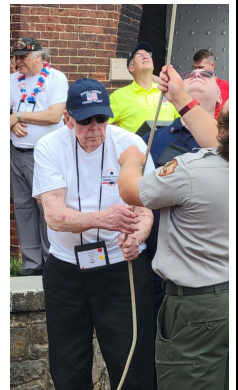
An uneventful and short flight later, there was much excitement, jubilation, and exuberant hand waving as we disembarked to a warm welcome by the Town Crier, fellow travelers, and Baltimore Honor Flight Volunteers. The Town Crier escorted our group out of the airport ringing his bell, and announcing to all that honored veterans were in their presence. We split in half to our designated bus to claim our seats for our trip and meet our Honor Flight Tour guides, Andy, and Mark. Andy was our guide, and she is a WNY native from Strykersville, NY!



Our first stop was at Ft. McHenry, where Francis Scott Key wrote his beloved poem, on our way out of Maryland. We were treated to a short movie of no more than 10 minutes on the history of the fort, the flag, Francis Scott Key, and the impact of the Battle of Baltimore in September 1814. As the movie ends, the screen lifts and all you see out the window is the large flag that now flies over Ft. McHenry. A room filled with other tourists all rose as our veterans all got up from their chairs to salute that flag as the Star-Spangled Banner played once again. It was a moving moment, that words cannot convey, even as I feel the goosebumps rise on my arm writing this. Seeing small children stand to mimic our veterans and honor the flag was breathtaking! After the movie, the vets gathered around the Fort tour guide,

Jerry, as he spouted additional cool facts about the history of our flag. Under Jerry's guidance, the veterans and half of the guardians unfolded a replica of the original flag standing guard of the Fort in 1814 that was made of wool with dimensions of 30 feet by 42 feet with 15 stars and 15 stripes. Jerry made sure to end his educational speech with the reminder, "The last two words to the National Anthem are not "play ball!"

We were given the chance as a group to go to the battlement parade grounds where there is a current 30'x42' flag flying. Our own Lamm Post and Korean Conflict veteran, **Chuck Herschlag**, was honored as the first from our tour group to raise a flag on the side arm of the Fort's main staff. For those that have not seen a 30'x42' flag up close, seeing a 'normal' size flag one would raise at home (approx. 3'x5') sure can make one feel so small!

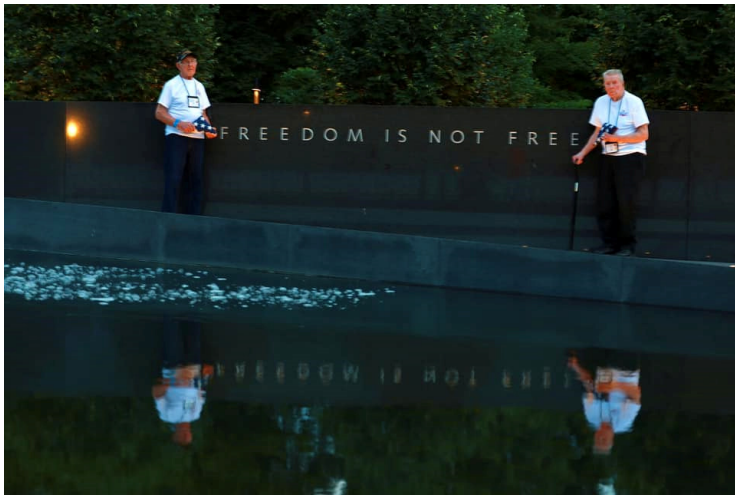


From Ft. McHenry we went to claim our hotel rooms for the night, but we were not in our rooms long. We were off to dinner in the hotel's catering hall where more storytelling and reminiscing happened with fellow veterans and friends/family. Upon completion of the meal, we had Mail Call. So many letters from home made it to our veterans in surprise, but the biggest surprise for Grandpa that night was being presented with the flag he raised at Ft. McHenry!



After dinner, we were off for night tours at the National Mall. As most of our group were Vietnam vets, this was the first stop. Grandpa and I were curious enough to stick around to see the group photo taken and make our way to the wall for a walk-by then a stop at the Vietnam Women's Memorial where a huge pile of hair ties was left by a group of nursing students visiting.

(Continued on page 3)



We then made our way to the Korean War Memorial, which in the dusk with the lighting, was breathtaking! This is where Grandpa and I walked most of that evening, talking about nothing and everything. But, to his honor, Grandpa still does not speak about what he did in the service as he was ASA or Army Security Agency. He still keeps those secrets top secret! Upon completion of our reflection, we made our way back to the bus at a slow pace, as Grandpa was shaking hands with a multitude of teenagers thanking him for his service. (Insert sobs here as it was so moving to see 3 boys of 14 or 15 break away from the group to be the first to approach Grandpa. Of course, no one wanted to be left out and that 3 turned into almost 50 before we got to the bus!) With rain curtailing our plans to see the memorial

at the Pentagon, we returned to the hotel to rejuvenate for Day 2 – early wakeup as breakfast is at 6:45 am!

While I was learning new things about Grandpa, he definitely learned something about me... I am NOT a morning person! He woke nice and early, me... The only reason I didn't need an alarm was because he was there with me, yet quiet as a mouse he still scared me when I opened my eyes! (No worries, no harm done. I promised both my mom and uncle I would bring him back safe, in one piece ☐ I should also mention that I am pretty sure Grandpa learned that I am not to be the one in charge of his wheelchair should he ever need one... but again, no worries! He stayed upright both times!) Washed, dressed, packed, and ready to go we start the day out on the bus by 7:45 am where we depart for Arlington National Cemetery.



Our trip to Arlington included time with our distinguished guest for the day, U.S. Navy Commander Stevie Greenway. Our destination, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier for the changing of the guard as well as the placement of a wreath. Before the ceremony, there was time to take group shots and honor those buried nearby, including the most decorated veteran, Lieutenant Audie Murphy.

Promptly at 9 am, the changing of the guard ceremony starts. Silence was all around; the only sound heard was the guards' heels and the person breathing next to you. The wreath was advanced by a set of 4 brothers on our trip, the Chester brothers, for placement. After our time at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, we headed to our busses, where the Sgt of the Guard came aboard to personally thank the veterans for their service, as he, too, has a connection to WNY as a native of Belfast, NY. We learned he

would be home in two weeks for his wedding - not sure who invited who, but he told our veterans free beer for anyone that showed up. I wonder if any of our more southern friends got there?

We continued our tour by heading to The United States Marine Corps Memorial. The giant depiction of the iconic flag raising on Iwo Jima during WWII sits atop a pedestal etched with every battle the Marines have participated in.

We then headed to the Air Force Memorial on the opposite side of the 640-acre cemetery. Grandpa got off the bus here specifically to get a picture to send to his grandson, an Air Force veteran. The three spires shoot skyward from the ground in a replication of the twisting bomb burst maneuver that the Thunderbirds aerial demonstration team performs.

The memorial is designed to replicate a landing strip complete with taxiways. A larger-than-life Honor Guard stands on constant vigil.



Returning to the National Mall, we traveled to the World War II Memorial. We were welcomed by another enthusiastic group of Honor flight Volunteers and General Patton (or at least a reasonable likeness thereof.) Tourists at the memorial joined in welcoming and shaking hands, thanking the veterans as they went by. Grandpa told me he had been to this memorial before, at its dedication in May 2004 when he was NY Department Commander. He did ask to have his picture taken by the NY pillar this trip but also made sure to make it over to his home state's pillar, Nebraska before we made our way back to the bus.



Our last stop before trekking back to Baltimore to fly home was to the US Navy Museum. A statue of the Lone Sailor overlooks a relief map of the world while a fountain churns with water collected from all the world's oceans.

Another short, uneventful flight and we were home at the Buffalo Niagara International Airport. We were greeted at the gate and escorted through to the arrivals door by the Amherst Police Honor Guard as well as the Buffalo Pipe and Drum Corps. This walk was probably the most emotional part for me as Grandpa stated, 'Maybe I did do something important for the war effort.' Yes, Grandpa, you so very much did. Without your service in D.C., you never would have met the love of your life, Mary Lou, and I would not be me. I am so proud of who I am and what I do because of what you taught me and helped raise me. Thank you, Grandpa, for allowing me the honor of being your guardian for this trip!

Along with those groups mentioned above that were at the Airport Homecoming, there were hundreds of the returning Veterans family, friend and others supporters welcoming all of the Hero's back to Western New York. Chuck Herschlag also had a huge family there to welcome him back home. The Lamm Post Facebook page was Live, broadcasting this great event. As of this writing, there have been over 5,000 view of this video on the Post's face book page.





Mail Call for all of the honored Veterans



**Tile Pharmacy** 1031 Cleveland Dr.  
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**Sinclair Pharmacy** 75 North Main St  
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716-786-2350

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**Cys Elma Pharmacy** 2317 Bowen Rd.  
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716-652-3920

**Kenmore RX Center** 2818 Delaware  
Rd. Kenmore, NY  
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**Family Medical Pharmacy** 120  
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Rutowski Pharmacies are a locally owned group of six New York State accredited pharmacies dedicated to offering professional healthcare services to members of our community.

#### What We Do:

- Medication dispensing
- Medication organization (pill packs)
- Medication and device education
- Immunization (flu shot)
- Compounding
- Institutional services

### Institutional Service

**Flu Shot Clinics:** We provide onsite immunization service for employers, schools, helath care facilities, and groups.

**Medication Organization:** We provide medication organization services to individual patients as well as health care facilities such as nursing homes. We can tailor our services to fit any institution's needs. Our standard offerings include pill pack and blister cards.

**Medication dispensing:** We are able to provide medication dispensing services to an inpatient facility such as nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, groups homes, etc. This includes delivery services and medication review if required.

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Sgt-At-Arms	Don Helminiak	716-668-2905
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Corp. President	Paul Shea	716-906-9257
1st Asst. Chaplin		
Post Manor Number		716-204-2516

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Rick Herrmann	716-243-5348
David Shia	716-907-2329
Duane Swirgos	716-830-0435

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1st Vice	Theresa English	Unlisted
Secretary	Susana Colon	716-491-2429
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Our services are available for home and business owners throughout Buffalo and Western New York. We pay special attention to environmental factors and regulations with each service we provide. These effective services rely on the latest technologies and updated methods. Our technicians are all New York State DEC-certified and continue to stay up-to-date with the latest techniques and changes to state regulations so we can provide the absolute best services.



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*Anthony P. Amigone Sr.*



US Army Veteran  
Korean War  
52 year member  
of Lamm Post  
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**Veterans Crisis Line**  
DIAL 988 then **PRESS 1**

If you're in crisis, call the new Veterans Crisis Line number:  
**Dial 988 then Press 1.**

CLUTCH ARTISTS PRESENT



**AUTORAMA**

At The George F. Lamm Post 962 Wehrle Dr.

Music by DJ CHANNELL  
Johnathan Rogers SR



Breakfast and lunch provided for sale by The George F. Lamm Post

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1 best of show

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**Reservists and National Guard**  
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**RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF SUICIDE RISK**

- Thinking about hurting or killing yourself
- Looking for ways to kill yourself
- Talking about death, dying or suicide
- Self-destructive behavior such as drug abuse, weapons, etc.
- Hopelessness, feeling like there's no way out
- Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, mood swings
- Feeling like there is no reason to live
- Rage or anger
- Engaging in risky activities without thinking
- Increasing alcohol or drug abuse
- Withdrawing from family and friends

**The presence of these signs requires immediate attention.** **Call us if you experience any of these warning signs.**

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs © 2/17 VHA



# Ship N' Shore Annual Fundraiser



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Thursday, August 22, 2024**  
**5:30 PM – 8:30 PM**

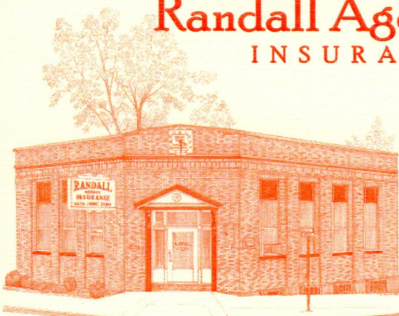
Ship N' Shore is the Buffalo Naval & Military Park's biggest event of the year! Join us at 5:30 PM on Thursday, August 22 for a fun and memorable evening of food, drinks, and live music on the Buffalo Waterfront.

Guests will enjoy delicious food and beverages from some of the best establishments in Buffalo, listen to live music entertainment, participate in our basket raffle, silent auction, and 50/50 raffle to benefit the Naval Park, and enjoy the beautiful outdoor setting of our magnificent grounds and monuments garden.

Each ticket purchased helps the Naval Park maintain our ships, artifacts, museum, and grounds, which all support our mission to Honor, Educate, Inspire, and Preserve.

Questions? Please contact the Buffalo Naval Park at [courtney@buffalonaivalpark.org](mailto:courtney@buffalonaivalpark.org) or call 716-847-1773, ext. 27.

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In the Grove



Show 12 to 4 PM

Trophies at 3 PM

Sunday July 14th Registration Open 9 AM

## Department Convention

The 106th Department of New York Convention will be held the week of July 15-19, 2024, in Niagara Falls.



# The George F. Lamm Post Thanks

## Anthony Anigone Senior



### For His Continuous Contributions to our Post

"ALL THAT IS NECESSARY FOR THE TRIUMPH OF EVIL IS FOR GOOD MEN TO DO NOTHING"



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The Officers & Members of the Elevator Constructors Local 14  
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# July 2024

We need YOU!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 	5	6
7 <i>Grove Party</i>	8	9 <i>Elevator Union Grove 5-10</i>	10	11	12 <i>Grove Party</i>	13 <i>Membership Meeting 11am</i>
14 <i>Clutch Artist Car Show 8-3 Grove</i> 	15 <i>Republicans—Grove</i>	16	17	18	19	20 <i>Grove Party Manor - Celebration of Life</i>
21 <i>Grove— Grad Party</i>	22 <i>Grove Picnic</i>	23	24	25	26	27 <i>Grove Party</i>
28 <i>Lounge Party</i>	29	30	31			

## George F. Lamm Post Members Meeting



The next meeting will be  
Saturday July 13th  
Meeting 11 AM

**Please Support Your Post**

