



THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

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WWW.NJSALUTE.ORG

WATCHFIRE

Comrades:

I wish I could have been among you at our state convention, but I couldn't get the duty leave. My request for time for the national convention is in, so I am planning to see many of you there. I've also submitted my paperwork for our 15th Annual Watchfire. As vice-chairman of the committee, I want to be there to help our Detachment honor the servicemen who haven't as yet made it back home.

As a sailor I can tell you that your support of this program makes a big difference to the morale of America's servicemen. I'm looking forward to seeing you anytime from dusk to dawn POW-MIA Recognition Day, Friday, September 15 at the Boardwalk and Hering Avenue, Seaside Heights.

There is no cost to attend. Anything you can bring or donate is welcome; however, what we really need is YOU. Wouldn't it be great if every one of our 150+ squadrons and 11 counties sent at least one rep?

For further information, contact POW/MIA Chairman Thomas E. Marsden. See "The Editor's Desk" for his address and website information.

For God and Country,
Lukasz A. Marsden, PDC

TO ALL SQUADRONS AND COUNTIES

I want to take this time to thank you for voting for me as vice commander of the Detachment of New Jersey. I have a lot of new ideas to work with Mike Arner, our newly elected commander. As a vice commander, I'd like to attend a county meeting and also visit each squadron in my counties. You can reach me at 856-782-4995 or e-mail me at wgs0517@comcast.net.

For God and Country,
William Schimminger, DVC

RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS

Steven Rodriguez, Chaplain

First, let's start off by thanking everyone who helped me get elected. Then, to the man who ran against me, Brett Stadler, thanks for the competition and best of luck in all of your future aspirations both within and outside the S. A. L.

My prayers and best wishes go out to all our men and women who are fighting for their freedom, and their families. Keep the faith.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

I'm happy to say that 2005-2006 has been a good one. We have raised \$1,600 for the year. My thanks go out to everyone who helped. It is not too early to send in your donations to Special Olympics. You can send them to me Steven Rodriguez, 110 Anderson Av., Fairview, N.J. 07022.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Courtyard by Marriot at 130 West-400 South in Salt Lake City will house the Legion Family. The S. A. L. convention begins August 25. Its delegation of PDC's and officers includes Carl Albern, Michael Arner, Kenneth Esposito, Kent Hehl, Edward Marsden, Lukasz Marsden, Thomas Marsden, and James Noble. tm

ONE VOTE REALLY MADE THE DIFFERENCE

The amendment against flag desecration failed by one vote. The CFA promises to continue to lobby to protect Old Glory. As you go to the polls, consider the voting record of New Jersey's senators in Washington. Sen. Menendez (D) voted yes while Sen. Lautenberg (D) voted no. Which politician represents your views? pm

LOCAL POW/MIA IDENTIFIED

JPAC has identified the remains of nine WWII airmen found in New Guinea and returned them to their families. Among them is U. S. Army Air Force Cpl. John A. DeCarlo of Newark, N. J. He is now buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery. tm

THE EDITOR'S DESK

What you do OR do not do is what makes the paper. Please send your articles and photos by snail mail (151 Queen Ann Road, Brick, N. J. 08723) or e-mail (saltom@usa.net). Deadlines for 2006-2007 are August 31, October 31, December 31, February 28, April 30, and June 30 without exception.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership as of June 30, 2006, stands at 8,841. The end of the year total for last year was 9,140. We're doing great on bringing new members in to the SAL. As figures show, what we need to do more of is to get more members to renew. pm



DETACHMENT OFFICERS 06-07

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Sgt-at-Arms:

Kermit Riley
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 Joseph Colontone
 Dave Haring

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DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Comrades:

I would like to thank all who attended our convention this year. I commend you on your selections of officers for the 2006–2007 year. I am looking forward to working with the counties and squadrons this year to make our organization stronger through membership and unity.

This year we will bring some of the Detachment meetings to outside Trenton. The August, October, December, February, and April meetings will be held in Trenton at the War Memorial Building. The others in July, September, November, January, and March will move from county to county. Check the website at www.njsal.org for each listing as it becomes available.

I am available to all members who need me. If you would like for my staff or me to attend your meetings or functions, do not hesitate to call. This year I have a Chief-of-Staff, Kenneth Esposito, who will coordinate my appointments. You can call him at 973-219-8234. I am looking forward to meeting all of you.

This year I am hoping to raise our membership to over 10,500 members. Looking at the last few years, we seem to go over the top as a Detachment; however, our retention rate is middle of the road. We need to retain our members as we add new members. If you need help, our Membership Chairman, Dave Haring, is willing to help you. Membership retention is the key to having a successful squadron.

Our donations for CWF were off last year. I hope we can rebound and get that \$20,000.00 this year. Our Chairman, Ed Marsden, has some good ideas. You will be hearing from him soon.

This year's Commander's Project will be done in conjunction with the project of the American Legion Commander Chuck Robbins and Auxiliary President Shirley Fabian. It is to build a memorial for our veterans lost in the War on Terror. I am depending on you, the members, to support me in accomplishing this task. More information will follow in letter from me.

I am proud to inform the membership that we have a candidate for National Vice Commander East for the year 2007–2008. He is Tom Marsden. He is a dedicated member of our organization who needs our support in his bid for this office.

In closing, call, write, or e-mail me for anything you need. I am here to serve you. I can be reached at 732-977-2993 (cell phone), 44 Florence Avenue, Leonardo, NJ 07737 (U. S. mail), and mikea165@comcast.net (e-mail).

For God and Country,
 Michael Arner, Cmdr.



Tom Marsden,
 2006 Son of the Year



Our Legion Family—A. L. Cmdr. Robbins,
 Aux. Pres. Fabian, S. A.L. Cmdr. Arner



Ed Marsden, "It's the best
 parade I ever marched in."

DATES TO REMEMBER

Detachment Meeting, Trenton	August 19
National Convention, Salt Lake	August 25-27
Detachment Watchfire, Seaside	September 15

DETACHMENT OFFICERS & APPOINTMENTS

A delegate strength of 703 from 58 New Jersey squadrons voted in Commander Michael Arner and Vice Commanders Amel Balega (Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Warren) Patrick Gallagher (Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset), Frank Jiosi (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Union), James Lightcap (Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem), and William Schimminger (Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Ocean); Steve Rodriguez, Chaplain; Carl Alber, Jr., NEC; and Edward Marsden, ANEC.

The membership approved resolutions that establish a finance committee, procedures for vouchers, aligning commissions and committees with the national organization, the term of office for NEC and ANEC, and mailing convention rules. It rejected a resolution requiring telephone information.

The floor approved the appointments of John Gillman, Adjutant; Thomas Marsden, Judge Advocate; Frank Norcross, Historian; Kermit Reilly, Joseph Colontone, KJ Esposito, and Dave Haring, Sgts.-at-Arms; and Thomas Gray, Kevin Ritz, and Joseph Ruggerio, Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms; and Kenneth Esposito, Chief of Staff.

In the post-convention reorganization meeting, Cmdr. Arner named as commission & committee chairs:

Veterans Serv. & Rehabilitation--Frank Jiosi
Hospital Parties--Frank Jiosi
Christmas Parties & VAVS--Frank Jiosi
Americanism--George Abrams
Community Affairs--Amel Balega
Flag History/Dedication--KJ Esposito
Color Guard--George Abrams
Drug & Alcohol Prevention--TBA
POW/MIA--Thomas E. Marsden
Religious Emphasis--Steve Rodriguez
Son of the Year--Edward T. Marsden
Children & Youth--James Lightcap
Child Welfare--Edward T. Marsden
Essay Contest--James Stromberg
Josh Dog/Spinoza Bear--James Lightcap
Special Olympics--Steve Rodriguez
Young Citizen's Award--TBA
Internal Affairs--James Noble
Commander's Advisory--All PDC's
Commander's Project--Matt Davis
Constitution & Bylaws--Carl Alber, Jr.
Convention--Patrick Gallagher
Scholarship--Joseph Colontone
Internet--Carl Alber, Jr.
Legislative--James Noble
Membership--Duke Haring
Public Relations--Amel Balega
Resolutions--Carl Alber, Jr.
Legion College--Kent Hehl
SALute--Thomas E. Marsden
Ways & Means--Matt Davis

The schedule of meetings at the War Memorial Building, Trenton is set for 9:45 A. M. August 19, October 21, December 16, 2006, and February 3, April 14, 2007 with the convention held June 8, 2007 in Wildwood. pm

CONVENTION SPOTLIGHT

The Detachment of New Jersey hosted its convention at the Wildwood Convention Hall on June 9. Dignitaries in attendance included National SAL Commander Sparwasser and Leading National SAL Commander Candidate Ruttkofsky. Tom Engleterra, Regional Coordinator of the National POW/MIA League of Families, was the keynote speaker.

New Jersey is honored to have Mike Arner (CWF), Carl Alber (Community Relations), Ken Esposito (Paid Up For Life), and Tom Marsden (National Security) at national. We can look with pride to accomplishments like donating \$9,906 to CWF, \$1,670 to Special Olympics, \$1,335 to the National Emergency Fund, \$875 to the Children's Miracle Network, and 25 Spinoza Bears to children of deployed military.

Cmdr. Arner promises to be busy bringing the meetings to the membership. On the months that meetings are not held in Trenton, meetings will be held around the state to build membership. The first is scheduled for July 8 at Post 175 Rockden.

This year CWF Committee established a rotating award to be given to the squadron contributing most. As the trophy cup was passed around, the floor donated \$500+ in the name of departed comrade Stormin' Norman Sullivan. The platinum award named for PDC Ray Miller (deceased) has the name of its first winner Sq. 338, Leonardo engraved on it.

Other CWF award recipients were:

Gold--Sq. 113, Frenchtown
Silver--Sq. 346, Neptune
Bronze--Sq. 175 Rockden
Cornerstone Award--Thomas E. Marsden

Other award winners (by category) were:

<u>Americanism</u>	<u>Children & Youth</u>
1st--Sq. 338, Leonardo	1st--Sq. 120 Lambertville
2nd--Sq. 338, Leonardo	2nd--Sq. 4, Vineland
3rd--Sq. 153, Park Ridge	3rd--Sq. 346, Neptune
<u>Membership--Category A</u>	<u>Membership-Category B</u>
1st--Sq. 170, Roselle Park	Sq. 143, Highlands
2nd--Sq. 72, Brooklawn	Sq. 306, Middlesex) tie
	Sq. 25, Milltown)
3rd--Sq. 371, Gibbsboro	Sq. 91, Wharton
<u>Membership--Category C</u>	
1st-- Sq. 118, Secaucus	
2nd-- Sq. 57, Bergen	
3rd-- Sq. 91, Wharton	
<u>VA&R</u>	<u>Essay Contest</u>
1st--Sq. 348, Brick	1st--Stephanie Lagura
2nd--Sq. 4, Vineland	2nd--David Gurlach
3rd--Sq. 338, Leonardo	3rd--Christian Martinez
<u>SAL Color Guard Competition</u> --Sq. 133, Gloucester	
<u>Scrapbooks</u> --(County) Ocean: (Squadron) #372, Cherry Hill	
<u>Son of the Year</u> --Thomas E. Marsden	
<u>Young Citizen's Award</u> --Shannon Davis pm	

DD-214'S

Veterans and next of kin of deceased military personal can access military records on line (<http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>).



FIVE YEARS AGO



Twin Towers,
World Trade Center,
International landmark,
New York City.

Terrorist strikes,
Osama bin laden,
Wanton death and destruction,
Evil incarnate.

REMEMBER
September 11, 2001.

LEST WE FORGET.

P. Marsden

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS AUGUST 31, 2006.