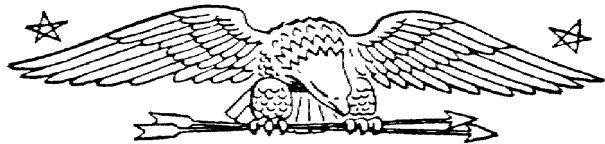
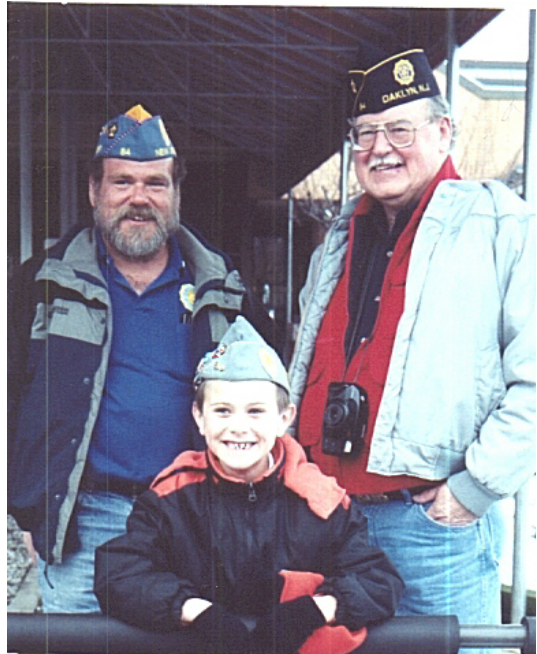




# THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

EDITOR: THOMAS MARSDEN; ASSOCIATE EDITOR: EDWARD MARSDEN



## DATES TO REMEMBER

For God and Country Service, Lakehurst.....2/2/03  
 Washington Conference.....3/2-5/03  
 Legion College, Sea Girt..... 3/22 /03  
 Aux. President's Testimonial.....4/5/03  
 Det.Commander's Testimonial, Seaside Hts.....4/13/03  
 Dept. Commander's Testimonial.....4/26/03  
 Informational Conference, Cherry Hill.....4/25-27/03

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINE

All articles for the next issue are due no later than February 28, 2003.

## CHILD WELFARE

The Detachment of New Jersey has under its umbrella 7 counties, 149 squadrons, and 4147 Sons. Remember 100 percent of your CWF contributions go to helping children. The American Legion takes care of overhead costs. All contributions are tax deductible.

The 2001 American Legion Child Welfare annual report of donors shows the Detachment of New Jersey as a Heritage Circle Benefactor (\$5,000+). Its Children First Gift Club includes Sq. 338 as Guardian (\$1,000+), and Sq. 166, 346, and 390 as Caretaker (\$500-\$749). Ed Marsden is listed as a Foundation Partner (\$250-\$499) and Carl Alber, Michael Arner, Mark Cermele, Pat. Marsden, and Edward McCluskey are Century Club (\$250-\$499) members. <sup>tm</sup>

## SAL COLLEGE

Jim Noble

This year's SAL College will be held March 22, 2003, at the Sea Girt State Police Academy. Along with the basic course, New Jersey is offering an advanced one open to members who completed basics at a prior session.

The application form for both courses is being mailed to all squadrons. It is also available on the Detachment website [www.njsal.org](http://www.njsal.org). The cost for each course is \$40. Enrollment is limited to 50 students per course.

We will be having as a guest, William Sparwasser (MD). Mr. Sparwasser serves as National's Chairman of the Member Training and Development Committee.

## SON OF THE YEAR

Jim Noble

The Son of the Year Award is the highest honor a Son can receive from the detachment. The application for the 2003 has been updated and is being mailed to all squadrons. This application is also available on-line at the Detachment website [www.njsal.org](http://www.njsal.org).

The winner of the award will have his photo posted on the detachment website and an article on him put in the SALute. He will receive a 2003 Son of the Year pin and plaque.

## CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

A long overdue rewrite of the existing SAL Constitution and Bylaws was in the works. The passing of its chair, Ray Miller, slowed things temporarily. Now Carl Alber has taken over the position so everything should be starting up again. Any member, squadron, or county who would like to attend committee meetings is welcome. Check the detachment website for exact times and places of meetings. They are open to every Son—not just committee. Instead of complaining about what others do and don't do, be there to help get things done properly. <sup>em</sup>

## COLOR GUARD

Jim Noble

Traditionally, the winning color guard makes several appearances on behalf of detachment during the following administrative year.

In recognition of this, the Past Detachment Commanders Club is donating a Guidon flag to the SAL Color Guard champions of the Wildwood convention parade.

The SAL emblem will be embroidered on the center. The state SAL colors of gold and the words "State Champions" will be on top; a light blue and "New Jersey Color Guard-2003" will be on the bottom.

## SALE ON CLOCKS

A limited number of patriotic timepieces--clocks decorated with an eagle and the flag of the U. S. A--are available for sale at a cost of \$5 apiece. Proceeds from their sales help children. <sup>em</sup>

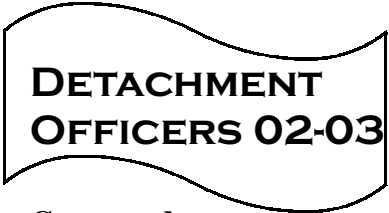
## MEMBERSHIP

Nick Wingler

Membership is growing at a steady rate. Bergen County is an example for other counties to follow. A new squadron, Rutherford 67, is up and running. Another squadron, Cresskill 21, has been reinstated. As of 12/31/02, the SAL in New Jersey number is 4,147.







**DETACHMENT  
OFFICERS 02-03**

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**Chaplain:**  
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**COMMANDER’S MESSAGE**

Dear Comrades:  
Regarding the state of the detachment--we are into the third year of a new millen-nium. The chaos and confusion of Y2K never happened.

Since 2000, the Legion Family has included us in more public gatherings and activi-ties. While we may not be on the receiving line at convention because we are a program, we’ve been at the galas and dinners. We’ve also been on the podium speaking at the public events.

Our communications are improving. For five straight years now, our newspaper *The SALute* has been mailed out regularly on schedule. It went from two issues under Mike Arner, to four issues under Nick Wingler. Then during the last two years it under Tom Mars-den (editor-in-chief ), it has published six bimonthly issues.

Our internet is up and running. I know that I have personally asked Carl and Mike to put all my messages on the web. That way those of you who miss a copy of the paper still have a way to access it in a timely fashion. My hope is that they will set it up for archives so the SAL has assess to its history in New Jersey. The last three years have brought strides in membership. 7076, 7149, and 7625 show the Sons growing in number and again and again over the top.

Plans for the Children’s Miracle Network are ongoing. Wildwood will host another Boardwalk Marathon for this CY/CW program. I myself got to visit the Toms River site of Children’s Hospital. My own nephew Chris, who is developmentally disabled, received Early Intervention then braces through CMN. Many physically and mentally handicapped children could never reach their potential, their fulfillment without the aid of CMN.

Because I want to show support for CMN, I asked President Maggie if the Sons could join with the auxiliary in its project. Frightened, helpless youngsters presented with Disney toys from tax deductible dollars forget some of the pain and aren’t as lonely. Please help work magic. Donations and contributions are coming in very slowly. I need every county, every squadron, and every individual who can to get involved.

Commander Billy Mack and President Maggie McMahon have been great. They have put a lot of planning and effort in for the children and vets. They have welcomed us at High Point, the Auxiliary Birthday, the Tree Lighting, the National President’s Visit. They have visited with us at the POW-MIA Watchfire. They are a testimonial themselves of how Americans can give back.

The Child Welfare drives that my brother Edward chose as his official projects (2000 and 2001) were successes. My father’s bald head and face brought humor to the 2000 con-vention and money into the coffers. Donations continued to rise in 2001. Then 2002 brought in almost \$1 per member. Now, it’s 2003, and Chairman Arner has pulled out all stops so that we break our goal. Wait until you see what is in the works!

My brother Ed’s ongoing illness has kept the family nearer to home. We’ve all had our turns being there for him. Ed has been active in detachment since 1992. With time and healing, may he find his way back to the organization. For the present he is on sick call.

I still have a lot of counties to officially visit. I’ll do my best.  
9-11-2001 brought America together. Today we are a country at war against terror-ists and terrorism everywhere. Our members must join together for the common good. We are one body, one whole. U. S. history shows that wars destroy. As we join together for the good of the membership, we must think of everyone’s best interests--not one area over an-other.

Sgt.-at-Arms Colotone, thank you for the homemade goodies you baked for our holi-day meeting at the Mariott.

National Auxiliary President Bailey, National Vice President East Matthews, and National Vice Commander East Mark Smith, thank you all for your leadership, interest, and support. With people like you around, it is a pleasure to be a commander.

For God and Country,  
Lukasz A. Marsden  
Detachment of New Jersey  
2002-2003

**SAL Honors Veterans**

Ed Seely  
Men have no greater honor than the respect of their peers unless, of course, it is that of their sons. I would like to tell you about mine, the Sons of the Ameri-can Legion Squadron 253.

On November 9, 2002, in honor of Veterans Day, these men under the leadership of their commander, Larry Becker, planned and carried out a testimonial brunch in honor of their fathers and other veterans. This was not an ordinary event.

The event included a speech by the squadron com-mander in recognition of all that is owed to veterans of our great country. It left you as a veteran felling a sense of pride like every time you hear the “Star Spangled Banner”. Attending veterans also gave individual accounts of their service encounters.

Many veterans from every branch of service, ac-tive and retired, attended. State Commander William Mack and veterans from Menlo Park Home were there as well.

Prior to serving the brunch, the POW-MIA Re-membrance Service was performed. This was a solemn reminder of just how lucky some of us are. When it was over, Department Commander Mack, Post Commander Robyn Van Cleaf, and I were called forward and presented with copies of the surrenders of Germany and Japan.

This event truly moved all who attended, and I am proud to call Squadron 253 my sons.

**SONS SUPPORT CMDR. MACK’S PLANS**

Department Commander Mack has asked the Le-gion Family to help buy a wheelchair bus for Menlo Park. The cost of the vehicle which will be used to transport dis-abled veterans is \$100,000. Already individuals have do-nated over \$70,000. With New Jersey’s Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons membership joined together, it can be ordered and ready for convention.

Supporting our parent organizations is the right thing to do. Cmdr. Billy asks each one of us to do what-ever we can. There are a lot of other project ideas possible to complete. If everyone worked together and gave some time and a couple of bucks, the power of sheer numbers would bring gains to them all projects. tm

**EASTERN AREA GATHERING**

Susquehanna, Maryland, December 13-15, 2002 brought representatives from Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia together. National Vice Commander East Mark Smith hosted the gathering. Representing our state were NEC Noble, Adjutant Marsden, PDC Phillips, and Committee Chairs Albern and Arner.

In the morning 50 participants toured the U. S. Army Ordnance Museum at the Aberdeen Proving Ground. Then it was on to sharing insights, goals, and later even getting a chance to see programs like VA&R in action. tm

**THE ADJUTANT’S CORNER**

The Postal Service has returned many envelopes to both the Commander and me marked “Insufficient Ad-dress”, “No Such Number”, and “Address Unknown”. De-tachment needs correct information for these S. A. L. Squad-rons including: #8, 59, 232, 249, 313, 321, 357, 456. Please take the time to contact me so I can complete my files.

**THE EDITOR’S DESK**

Ed Marsden  
I’m out of the hospital now and on the mend. When things get tough, it’s good to know that you have friends there for you along the way.

I’d like to say thank you for the visits of comrades Chuck Robbins, Jim Noble, Mike Arner, Carl Albern, and Rich Phillips as well as those of five Marsden Sons, e-mail from Chris Cerullo and Bill Sparwasser, get well wishes from Nick Wingler, cards from Squadrons 84, 91, 351, phone calls by Ted Howarth, Neal Newlin, the Biedas, Ray Zawacki, and the prayers of the Eastern Area.

I will be back; meanwhile the SALute’s Editor-in-Chief, Tom, has things covered and on schedule. It would be a big help if some of you sent in articles on detachment, county, and squadron doings. To this date, the paper has published every article submitted.

**DETACHMENT TESTIMONIAL**

A testimonial dinner for SAL Commander Luc Marsden has been set for Sunday, April 13, 2003 at Shore Boro Post 351, Seaside Heights, N. J. There will be a cash bar with cocktails set for 4:30 P. M. followed by a catered sit-down prime rib dinner at 6:00.

The cost of each dinner is \$25. Please get your res-ervations, boosters, and advertisements in as early as possi-ble. The deadline is March 31. No tickets will be sold at the door.

The evening promises to be entertaining. Danny McCole will roast the Duke with the Sons’ PDC’s along for the ride. Contact the adjutant for further info. em

**JOSH DOGS**

The Detachment Adjutant is taking orders for Josh dogs. The stuffed animals help lonely, frightened children deal with routine illness. A donation from every \$35 sale goes to the Children’s Miracle Network. em

**SPINOZA**

Critically ill children need a companion to confide in. Serious, sometimes terminal medical problems make it hard for little ones to have someone there just to talk to. En-ter Spinoza, the buddy bear.

If you know any youngster, ages 3 to 16, who is fac-ing serious or terminal medical problems, please contact Ed Marsden, our Ambassador to the Spinoza Bear Program. em