



THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

EDITOR: THOMAS E. MARSDEN; ASSOCIATE EDITOR: EDWARD MARSDEN

Gathering of the Eastern Region

Greetings to the Eastern Region,

It's that time again where we get together and share our success stories. This year we shall continue to share information within our region that makes us so great. We have many members of the region on many of the commissions and committees out at National. I am going to be calling on all those commission and committee members to share with us in the East as much information as possible.

This year we will be meeting in the Detachment of Pennsylvania. Our host post is: American Legion Post 810, 9151 Old Newtown Road, Philadelphia, PA 19115 (phone 215-969-9437).

I look forward to seeing you on February 7, 2004, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Thanks for your continued hard work and support!

Bill Sparwasser
National Vice Commander
Eastern Region

CWF Donations Benefit Variety

(The American Legion Dispatch)

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation has awarded \$338,700 to 13 nonprofit organizations. The following is a listing of some of the 2004 grants awarded:

Advocates for Youth of Washington, D. C.
American Humane
Birth Defect Research for Children Inc.
Coordinating Action for Children's Health
Connect for Kids National Foster Care
Every Child Inc.
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Kartini Foundation
Mercy Medical Airlift
National Children's Cancer Society
PICU Action Group

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation has been making grants for 49 years. Members of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion contribute the majority of money for the foundation. All donations to the foundation go directly to supporting grants.

Legion Ceremony Honor Soldiers

Shore Boro Post 351, Seaside Heights, held its 13th annual POW-MIA tree-lighting ceremony. 51 red ribbons for the Jerseyans still missing from Vietnam, a white bow for those from Korea, a pink one for WWII, a green one for WWI, a green one with a red stripe for a soldier missing in the first Gulf War, a red, white, and blue one for those still missing from 9-11, and a blue one for those from the Cold War decorated the tree.

Legionnaire Chuck Robbins, a Vietnam vet, paid tribute to those who didn't come back as he reminded everyone, "There are a lot of families whose fathers and brothers are still missing in action from war, and the families still don't know what happened to them. This is always an important issue for us. The families want to know what happened."

Vice Cmdr. Nelson represented the SAL. tm

SAL Leadership College

At press time an article from Chairman Noble was unavailable. Trenton did mail out applications and the information that follows.

The SAL will hold its annual Leadership College, both basic and advanced, on Saturday, April 24 at National Guard Training Center, Sea Girt. Registration begins at 8:00 A. M. and sessions at 9:00 A. M. Enrollment in each course is limited to 50 students. A registration fee of \$40 must accompany each completed application. Deadline is April 1 with no substitution after April 15.

While the Basic Course is open to all members--either first time attendees or students who have previously attended the Leadership course--only students who have previously attended the SAL Basic Course will be accepted into the Advanced Course. Note: If there are less than 15 students registered, the Advanced Course will be cancelled. tm

Membership

As National Commander Warnken has said, "Together we will build a better tomorrow." For 2003, New Jersey climbed to 8,139, its all time high. For the current year, New Jersey is at 64.9% of the target goal and has 5,297 Sons are enrolled. Keep up renewing and recruiting, harvesting for a stronger future. tm



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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Are we making a statement that none was received?



Ocean County Commander Matt Beida and County Vice Commander Don Earley hold the POW/MIA flag as County Vic Commander Dave Haring explains its meaning.

Editor Tom Marsden, upon receiving the First Place New Jersey American Legion Press Association Award Plaque for 2002-2003's SALute, shares the happy moment with PDC Neal Newlin.



CWF Chairman Mike Arner, accepting a donation from Bergen County DEC Ted Steltmann announces the New Jersey SAL, has \$7,201.00 to date from all Child Welfare donations. Well done!



SAL Committee Vice Chairman Tom McHugh presents Commander's Project Chairman Jay Gillman with a check at a recent Detachment meeting.



REMINDER

Whenever and wherever you shop, target those places that support America, its soldiers, its veterans.



Detachment Commander's Project

John N. Gillman

The Detachment Commander's Project has taken off with donations from the project pins. There have also been many donations throughout the state from squadrons, posts, and units. Currently the project total stands at over \$9,600. Although this is a great number for a short period of time, we are still short of our goal. This only accounts for roughly half of the first part of Commander Hehl's project.

The first phase will be fifty-four 8000 BTU air conditioners to be installed at Veteran's Haven. For a \$200 donation, Cmdr. Hehl will have a nameplate with an inscription of the donor placed on the unit.

Commander Hehl and I hope to see continued support of such a worthy cause and, as always, thank you. Keep up the good work.

VA&R

Frank Jiosi

My name is Frank Jiosi. I'm appointed VA&R Chairman for the SAL Detachment of N. J. I would like to thank those who came out to Paramus Veterans Home on January 11 and Menlo Park Veterans Home on January 18 for the bingo/pizza parties.

The next one will be the Vineland Veterans Home Bingo/Pizza Party at 1:30 P. M., Saturday, March 13, 2004. Scheduling for the sites of East Orange, Lyons, and Veterans Haven has not yet been determined.

Anyone willing to assist at parties, please show up an hour early to help with whatever needs to be done.

Testimonial to Honor Commander

Camden County Sons of The American Legion and Oakland-Beetlewood Squadron 84 extend a cordial invitation to Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Sons, family, and friends to attend a testimonial dinner honoring Kent R. Hehl, New Jersey Detachment Commander 2003-2004.

On Sunday, April 18, Brooklawn Memorial Post 72 (located at Railroad Avenue and Lake Drive, Brooklawn, N. J. 08030) will "host the roast". A buffet dinner and music will follow a 3:00--4:00 P. M. social hour. The price is \$25 per person with reservations mandatory and no tickets sold at the door. The deadline is April 9.

For information or arrangements, contact Sean Howarth at 856-456-8729. tm

In Memoriam

The Sons of the American Legion mourn the passing of their friend and strong supporter Anne Gunya, mother of Cmdr. John Gunya, Sq. 19, Bayonne. Please remember her in your prayers. tm



Constitution and Bylaws

John N. Gillman

Progress has been made on the proposed revision of the Constitution and By-Laws. Currently there are two articles of sections under discussion. Once these two areas have been addressed, a draft of all revisions can be written and submitted for review on Detachment floor. There will be a meeting 10:00 A. M. February 28 at Post 346, Neptune.

Website Update

Carl Alber, Jr.

We are continuing our updates to the Detachment website (www.njsal.org). Officers and committee chairmen are currently able to enter information directly on to their own pages, which allows the information to get to you more quickly. They also have an 'njsal.org' e-mail address,

The e-mail list for information is growing very slowly. Currently, we have only seven or eight members signed up for e-mailed information from Detachment. If more don't sign up for this service, we may not implement it. If you are interested in being on this list, please sign up via the form on the Contacts page. This list is a way to send out an updated calendar of events and other information to members of Detachment on a regular basis and would be accessible to officers.

Young Citizen's Award

James Lightcap

I would like to let you know that the Detachment of New Jersey has an award for that outstanding male or female who has served the community unselfishly, volunteered time, or has done something extra special for others. Please enter that person. He or she is a winner already so let's help recognize him or her.

This person must be or junior/senior high school age but not older than 17. He/she cannot be a member of the Legion Family; however, the post, squadron, or unit must sponsor him/her.

Last year NO applications were submitted for this award. If you have any questions or need an application, please contact me by e-mailing me at jdlightcap@msn.com or calling me at (856) 845-9010. Please find that special young person, so we can present this award in 2004.

I have sent applications to all squadron commanders. Completed applications must be sent to me no later than April 1. Address them to:

James Lightcap
758 Chestnut Avenue
Woodbury Heights, N. J. 080097

Get Well

Wishes for speedy recoveries to cardiac patients Aux. Pres. Newlin now at home and husband Don recovering from a triple bypass. tm

Adjutant's Corner

Carl Alber, Jr.

I hope all had a pleasant holiday season with their friends and family.

I continue to remind everyone that mailings from Trenton come only if the Trenton office has your officer forms. They will not send out your squadron or county information unless you have filled it out and sent it in.

If you know of a squadron that isn't receiving the regular mailings, have them contact Trish and request an officers sheet to send in. You can send a copy to me if you wish, but it's not necessary. County forms, however, should be sent to me so that your county will receive minutes from the Detachment in the mail or electronically. I would also like to remind all officers and committee chairmen to make sure that I have updated address information.

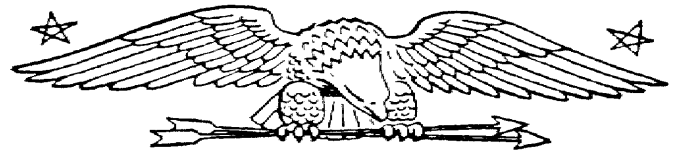
I've been working to cut the costs associated with running the Detachment, including sending out minutes electronically. Those interested in participating in this program should fill out an opt-in sheet with their information. This provides a record that you wish to receive the minutes in this manner. All members of the Detachment are entitled to receive the minutes of the Detachment, but to mail it out to each individual member is cost prohibitive.

As a member of the Detachment, you can receive them if you fill out the opt-in sheet and mail it to me. The form can be downloaded from the website. There are benefits to receiving them electronically, as they get to you faster, the PDF file is tagged by sections (Committee Reports, Officer Reports, New Business, etc.), and you can do a text search on them.

Please remember to send any correspondence that needs to be acted on to my home address, as I will be able to get to it more quickly. I remind all officers that sending in their reports to me electronically will allow them to be incorporated into the minutes much more easily, and they will be searchable as scanned documents are not.

SAL TRIVIA

Answers for December issue: (1) chartered 156 - suspended 11 = active 145; (2) October 8, 118, current 8,139; (3) Ernest Wilson III; (4) Ernest Wilson, Jr.; (5) 1932 in Portland, Oregon; (6) patriotism, citizenship, discipline, leadership, legionism (1 ea.); (7) patriotism, health, knowledge, training, honor, faith, helpfulness, courtesy, reverence, citizenship (1 ea.); (8) SAL, Boy Scouts, Boys State, Junior Shooting Sports, Legion College, Legion Baseball, Oratorical (5 max.); (9) The Sons of The American Legion; (10) Child Welfare Foundation; (11) 53; (12) East, South, Central, Midwest, West (1 ea.); (13) Neal Warnken, Kansas; (14) Indianapolis, Indiana; (15) Nashville, Tennessee; (16) blue, blue/white, blue/gold, gold



DATES TO REMEMBER

Four Chaplains' Sunday, Lakehurst.....Feb. 1
Detachment Meeting, Trenton.....Feb. 7
Presidents Day.....Feb. 16
Washington Conference.....March 7-10
American Legion Birthday.....March 15-17
Detachment Meeting, Trenton.....April 3
Dept. Pres. Newlin Testimonial.....April 3
Easter.....April 11
Detach. Cmdr. Hehl Testimonial.....April 18
Dept. Cmdr. Behr Testimonial.....April 24
SAL Spring NEC.....May 1-2

Special Olympics

February 8-9 brings floor hockey to the Morristown Armory. February 9-10 brings alpine and cross country skiing to Mountain Creek, Vernon and figure and speed skating to the Mennem Sports arena, Morristown. Check the SONJ Website for updates: www.sonj.org em

The Editor's Desk

Tom Marsden

The job of a good newspaper is to inform, educate, and entertain. Its publication should be on schedule; its news timely. It should report all news fully and fairly. It should also interest the reader.

Many Sons still do not have computers and access to the internet. Their squadrons and their counties rely on the information the paper provides. Let's not let a valuable communication tool be wasted.

Why aren't committee chairs sending articles? Some grumble the paper has nothing on counties or squadrons. Others mumble there is no coverage of detachment events. Try this solution: Detractors, write an article, submit a picture, draw something.

Think back to what it was like in 2000 before Cmdr. Ed Marsden appointed a committee to get the SALute up and running again. There have been a lot of improvements since then--increase in issues, fixed scheduling, printing, format, photography, and composition.

The SALute is not my paper—it's the membership's. Keep it going. Don't just say that you can't write and pass the buck. How about helping out?

It is the soldier, not the reporter,
Who gives us freedom of the press.
It is the soldier, not the poet,
Who gives us freedom of speech.

--Author Unknown

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 29, 2004.