



THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

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WWW.NJSALUTE.ORG

SON OF THE YEAR

Dean Stacknys

Applications are out for this year's Detachment Son of the Year award program, both in print form and online at the State njsal.org web site. If you know of a fellow member of your squadron who you think promotes the principles and programs of the Sons of the American Legion both within and outside his post, you are encouraged nominate him for Son of the Year. The deadline for submitting the applications is May 1, 2011.

All candidates must be in good standing with 2011 membership paid. The candidate does NOT necessarily have to be an officer. The time period for the candidate's achievements to support the application is from May 1, 2010 to May 1, 2011 only--nothing prior.

The completeness of the information provided and quality of presentation are important factors in the judging. More applications make for a better selection process. Help build interest in this award by submitting an application for your own squadron's choice for Son of the Year.

Please feel free to e-mail me at the address listed for the committee on the njsal.org web site if you have any questions.

LEGISLATIVE

Gary Nelson

People who would like more information about the American Legion's priorities on different resolutions and bills coming up in the Senate and Congress, go to www.sal.legion.org/commissions/legislative/index.htm or to the New Jersey S.A.L. web site (www.njsal.org).

Just go to the top of the page and click on links, scan down to Sons of the American Legion National Legislative Commission and click.

DETACHMENT VC REPORTS

Brett Stadler

Sq. 164 recently prevented its Fourth Annual Comedy Show. It was great to see the Legion Family pack the audience.... Now let's get out as a team work recruiting members. We need to make our set goals.

VA&R

Frank Jiosi, Jr.

I would like to thank the SAL members of New Jersey for giving me the opportunity to run this committee. It has been truly a blast visiting the veterans who gave us the freedom we enjoy today. As the year continues, the parties will continue as scheduled. Your help at the facilities brighten the day of a veteran.

First, I would like to thank Matt Bieda, Detachment Vice Commander and co-chairman of the committee, for his endless ability to entertain the veterans at the Menlo Park Veterans Home. This past November Matt once again showed he is an up and coming officer in the SAL NJ Detachment. Plus, to all the volunteers who showed up and helped out, thank you all. Next, our visit to the Paramus Veterans Home brought real smiles from the residents. Don't worry; we will never forget your efforts to keep us free. Last, February brought us to the East Orange VA Hospital for another fun filled afternoon.

Events are posted on the Detachment web site, Facebook events page. If you have any questions, contact me at frankjiosi@yahoo.com.

MEMBERSHIP

Patrick Gallagher

Hello, my fellow Sons. We are doing very well in membership, but we still need to get some more at Department Headquarters. We have seventeen squadrons that are over the top in membership with 100 %--which is great. Still we have 27 that are at zero--that's a bad thing. If your squadron needs help, let the area vice commander know so he can come down and help.

As an American Legion Family, we need to keep our members and this may help keep members and give them a reason to be more active. Getting members to pay dues ideas include sending postcards, reminder letters, and calling them on the phone. Ask around to members who know the guy. Maybe the member is having hard times and out of work. Maybe the squadron can his dues until he gets back on his feet. Let the member know that the SAL cares.



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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Hello, Comrades:

It's hard to believe that the year is almost over and we will be back in Wildwood electing a new commander. The year has flown by, but let me thank everyone for your support and assistance. As commander I can guide and oversee the detachment but without member support I can not do my job effectively. I thank every one of you for your support.

Veteran's Haven is a successful program assisting our homeless veterans. We must continue to show our support. The Commander's project to furnish Veteran's Haven has been more successfully than we ever thought. Thank you for the tremendous support you have given it. Please don't slow up. You can still donate. Every dime is greatly appreciated. There is still time to collect money and every dollar counts. Don't let our homeless veterans down. They depend on us.

Don't forget CWF and Special Olympics, both worthy programs that the Detachment has supported on the past. Please help as you can. Thank you again for all your support. Let's finish out the year strong. Keep those memberships coming in and keep our programs in your thoughts and checkbooks.

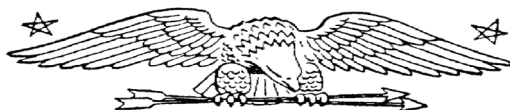
Please make sure membership renewals are being turned in. I am in the process of starting up three new squadrons and reactivating two more. If you make any contacts regarding new or re-activated squadrons, let the Detachment know so we can assist in the process.

The Department's "For God and Country" Service commemorating the 68th Anniversary of the Dorchester disaster and the heroism of the Four Chaplains was February 6. It was great to see so many Sons there in attendance.

Thank you, everyone who came out to Menlo Park, Paramus, and East Orange. The Veterans appreciate what we do for them. Please show your support for them by attending.

Please don't forget we have a national candidate this year. Jim Noble from Squadron #19 in Bayonne will be running for National Vice Commander East 2011-12. Jim has a benefit coming up on April 10. Please support him. Also, keep in mind that we are coming up on our 50th Anniversary as a Detachment. More information will be forthcoming. If you have any ideas, please share them with our officers.

CALENDAR



Dates to Remember

Detachment Meeting, Trenton	April 2, 2011
Department President's Testimonial Dinner	April 3, 2011
SAL College, Sea Girt	April 9, 2011
Membership Target 90%	April 13, 2011
Detachment Commander's Testimonial Dinner	April 16, 2011
Membership Target 100%	May 11, 2011
Department Commander's Testimonial Dinner	May 15, 2011
Locustwood Memorial Service (1:30)	June 5, 2011
Detachment Convention, Wildwood	June 10, 2011
Highpoint Memorial Service	June 26, 2011

DEADLINE FOR NEXT SALUTE IS APRIL 30, 2011

ADJUTANT'S CORNER

Jeffrey E. Hicks

Greetings Comrades.

As you are reading this edition of the SALute, the spring season has finally sprung upon us after such a harsh winter. Of course with the start of spring comes the receipt of the annual Consolidated Squadron Report Form (CSRf). These forms were mailed out in late February to early March to each of the local squadron commanders and SAL County Committee Commanders (if they are established).

I cannot emphasize enough that the CSRf are extremely important documents to the SAL organization. The Detachment of New Jersey utilizes the data that you as SAL squadron members put on the forms to decide which squadrons and county committees receive awards in Wildwood, New Jersey at its annual Detachment Convention. For the most part, each category on the CSRf has associated with it first, second, and third place awards as determined by the data collected throughout the state of New Jersey.

Last year, a whopping 17% of all squadrons in New Jersey reported their SAL activities and/or charitable giving via the CSRf. However, of those squadrons that did report, Americanism donations totaled 10,060 hours (\$25,578); Children & Youth 3,771 hours (\$6,875 not including CWF donations); and VA&R 10,000 hours (\$27,570). Now, just imagine what our numbers would look like if 83% MORE squadrons reported their figures by submitting a CSRf. The numbers would be staggering.

Furthermore, not only does the CSRf affect awards at Detachment Conventions, but it also affects National. This information is sent on to the National SAL in Indianapolis, Indiana. There they compile a National SAL report including all the information gathered from all the detachments in the nation to present to the United States Congress. Very impressive don't you think?

The more information we as a Detachment send into National SAL, the better our organization appears before them and our national political leaders in Washington, D.C.

As a friendly reminder, the deadline to submit your squadron's and/or county's CSRf for 2010-2011 is no later than Saturday, May 7, 2011 to the Detachment Adjutant. PLEASE do NOT send CSRf's to Department Headquarters in Trenton; they MUST be received by the Detachment Adjutant to be considered officially eligible and subsequently counted within the Detachment's overall tally.

Thank you for your cooperation. And please do not forget to submit your completed CSRf ASAP. It should be mailed to Mr. Jeffrey E. Hicks (Detachment of NJ Adjutant) at 152 Main St., Southampton, NJ 08088-8872.

AWARD MEMORIALIZES FALLEN BRETHREN

Rob Lasky

The McKaig-Test-Mullen SAL Squadron 455 out of New Egypt, Ocean County has announced its Squadron 455 Tirado-Popp Memorial Award, an annual award memorializing two fallen brothers. It honors two members who personified the meaning of "squadron member" who live on in their hearts.

Steven Tirado, one of the squadron's most active members, was instrumental in reviving the then inactive squadron. Due to his efforts, Squadron 455 came out of virtual "hibernation" and became active in the local community.

Steve helped start the now monthly SAL ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT Breakfast now a favorite community staple. Always at Legion functions, he proved his dedication to the Legion Family over and over. Taken at a way too young age of 44 in 2004, his legacy lives on at Post 455. The SAL Meeting Room is named after him.

Michael Popp's name or "Popp" as he was affectionately called was a more recent squadron member. In his late 60's when he joined, he enthusiastically became one of the most active members. Even in failing health, he worked at most post family functions, helping out wherever he could.

Popp was a staple at the SAL breakfasts breaking and whipping eggs and refilling the big container of orange juice. He once worked 24 hours straight at a "Relay For Life" event at the food tent. Unfortunately, he had diabetes and had to have a couple of toes removed on a Thursday before one of the squadron's Sunday breakfasts. It didn't stop him though. With only two recovery day, foot bandage and all, he was there breaking and whipping those eggs.

Popp's dedication was felt so deeply by the squadron that it nominated him for the Detachment's Son of the Year, an award he won at its 2007-08 Convention. He accepted his award in Wildwood so visibly touched that he could only muster a simple "Thank You" over the microphone. He died at the age of 72 the following summer.

Squadron 455 will bestow its Tirado--Popp Memorial Award annually at its May officer installation dinner. The recipient of this award must show the same dedication to the entire post family that the award's namesakes showed throughout their tenures. The recipient will receive a plaque, pin, and monetary award or scholarship.

DETACHMENT VC REPORTS

Duke Haring

The New Year is almost a third gone. Boy, times goes quick! I hope every squadron and every county in New Jersey is doing well. Keep up the good work in Membership, Children and Youth, and all the other programs in which we are involved. Keep in mind always that the veterans of all our Great Wars are our main priority. I am looking forward to seeing you at country and regular membership meetings.



FINANCE COMMITTEE CONFIRMED

Gary Nelson

At the December 4, 2010, Detachment meeting Finance Chairman Gary Nelson proposed that Norman Marlin (dual member S.A.L. Chairman), Thomas Marsden (PNVCE, PNEC, PDC), Kent Hehl (PDC, NEC), Joseph Korba (Det. Cmdr.), and he (PDC, ANEC) be placed on the committee.

After the Detachment floor unanimously voted approval, the American Legion approved the committee. A meeting was held in March to set up the 2011-2012 budget. All members were welcome to give input, but only the five members were allowed to vote.

If you should have any questions, feel free to call me (201) 370-1365, snail mail me at P.O. Box 2095, Cliffside Park, NJ 07010, or E-Mail me at gpnelsoncos@juno.com

THE EDITOR'S DESK

The detachment newspaper is about communications not egos. Too many officers and committee chairmen are not doing their job specifically letting the Sons know about upcoming dates, projects, events, etc. The articles in this paper are the only original ones sent me since the December 2010 issue. I do not believe nothing is going on.

Some come up to me asking why the pictures they send are not getting in. Why? This four page publication is about getting information out. It's not a tabloid. Pictures alone do not tell the story. Writers do. Furthermore, if a picture of Santa appeared in the edition due out April 1, what would you think? Appropriateness and timeliness always factor in as do deadlines.

The SAL-ute expects all submissions to be originals NOT copies of articles that have appeared elsewhere. Taking other people's words and using them is plagiarism.

DETACHMENT CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

At the February Detachment meeting, the floor named Thomas Marsden as Fiftieth Anniversary Subcommittee Chairman with all Past Detachment Commanders are members thereof. Plans are in the works for a fun-filled evening (date to be announced) celebrating a half century's accomplishments and its leaders. This event will commemorate the New Jersey SAL's service to God and Country and its commanders over the years.

Please forward any addresses, photos, and personal updates about Sons from 1962 to 2011. The committee wants its information is as comprehensive as possible. Contact information is Thomas E. Marsden, 151 Queen Ann Road Brick, N.J. 08723, email saltom@usa.net

