

THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

EDITOR: THOMAS E. MARSDEN; ASSOCIATE EDITOR: EDWARD MARSDEN
WWW.NJSALUTE.ORG

CHILD WELFARE, ANOTHER HIGH

Michael Arner, CWF Chairman

I am proud to announce that as of May 1, we have reached \$13,350 for CWF with another \$500 promised. By the time you read this article, we will have surpassed our goal of \$15,000. We would like to thank all who have made the CWF program work so see in our Detachment.

I would like to take the opportunity to inform the membership that this is my final year as chairman. I am leaving this position by choice to pursue other endeavors within our organization. It is time for new and exciting people to step up and carry on this program. I know that the new commander for 2005-2006 will select a person who will perform above all expectations.

In the last four years we have raised over \$48,000 for an average of \$12,208 per year. What an outstanding job by this Detachment! Keep the contributions coming. Let's start the new chairman out on the right foot.

LEGION FAMILY WALKS FOR CMN

Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons will take to the Boardwalk, 7:00 A. M. Saturday, June 11 to raise money for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Nationally, CMN Hospitals devote 60% of services to children younger than six and 25% to newborns. They treat (source: The American Legion Dispatch, April 15, 2005)

98% of all children needing heart or lung transplants

88% of all children with cancer

76% of all children with cystic fibrosis

90% of all children with sickle cell anemia

72% of all children with pediatric AIDS.

EDITOR'S DESK

I'm proud to have been your editor these last three years and will continue to do so as long as I am needed. I thank the SALute's Chairman Ed Marsden, Mike Arner, Joe Colontone, Ken Esposito, Pat Gallagher, Sean Howarth, Frank Jiosi, Jim Lightcap, Luc Marsden, and Steve Rodriguez for their articles this year. I want to recognize my wife Pat. for helping. I hope more squadrons, counties, detachment officers, and PDC's submit something in the upcoming year.

2004-2005 VA&R

Frank Jiosi, Jr., VA&R Chairman

This has been one of the best years the VA&R Committee has had in years. With the help of PDC Kent Hehl the program has made tremendous strides with a bright and fruitful future in the continuing effort of helping veterans at the six facilities the committee visit throughout the year.

This year we visited Paramus, Menlo Park, Lyons VA, East Orange, and Vineland with a ward VA&R party set at Veterans Haven for 2:00 P. M. Sunday, July 17, 2005. It will be a barbecue for our younger vets. Anybody in the Legion Family is welcomed to attend and help out. Donations are being accepted. Please let either Chairman Frank Jiosi or Kent Hehl know by phone or e-mail.

I would like to thank all the Legion Family members who donated their time. There are too many to mention. I would also like to thank Commander Gary Nelson for dressing as Santa Claus at the Paramus Christmas Party and all the Detachment officers who attended and volunteered their time.

Finally, a really special thank you goes out to Fat John's Barbecue in Lyndhurst for the delicious chicken and ribs that were prepared for the East Orange vets on Saturday, March 26, 2005. The owner went out of his way to do this for the Detachment, and it appreciates what he has done. The certificate Fat John's received shortly after the ward party on behalf of the Detachment of New Jersey's S. A. L. says it all.

As the committee looks forward to next year, I hope the VA&R program continues to grow. Wouldn't it be great for the committee to branch out and visit more VA homes and hospitals throughout the state?

CONGRATULATIONS BRICK

#348 Brick's efforts have carried its Legion Family to #1 post, unit, and squadron in numbers. Their volunteer work, efforts in Americanism, and service to veterans have helped their community. Good job, well done. Em

MEMBERSHIP

The Eastern Region as of May 17 leads the United States in membership with 104,877 or 98.12% of goal. Our home state came in with 8,458 just five short of 100%. We need 433 more to make the July 20 end of the year national target. Please get those enrollment forms out and in. pm



DETACHMENT OFFICERS 04-05

Commander:

Gary Nelson
commander@njsal.org

Vice Commanders:

Joseph Colontone
vccolontone@njsal.org
Sean Howarth
vchowarth@njsal.org
Spike Abrams
vcabrams@njsal.org
Frank Jiosi
vcjiosi@njsal.org
James K. Lightcap
vclightcap@njsal.org

Adjutant:

Carl W. Albern , Jr.
adjutant@njsal.org

Judge Advocate:

Thomas E. Marsden
ja@njsal.org

Chaplain:

John Gillman
chaplain@njsal.org

Historian:

Michael Burhart
historian@njsal.org

Sgt-at-Arms:

Kermit Riley
Brett Stadtler
Bill Schimminger
Rainer Soto

Asst. Sgt-at-Arms:

K.J. Esposito
Kevin Ritz

NEC:

Thomas E. Marsden
nec@njsal.org

ANEC:

Carl W. Albern , Jr.
anec@njsal.org

WWW.NJSAL.ORG
WWW.NJSALUTE.ORG

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

As this year comes to an end, we have a lot to be thankful for. We had all time highs in Membership, Child Welfare, Special Olympics, and the Detachment Commander's Project. We worked as a great team, all striving for the same goal.

This year the American Legion Family was brought together even closer with the help of American Legion Commander Jim Vialard and Auxiliary President Penny Kraus. From the most southern part of New Jersey to High Point, more and more counties, posts, units, and squadrons were working together as an American Legion Family team. I would like to thank Jim and Penny for this support as well as the support they both gave to S. A. L.

To all the Detachment Officers, Committee Chairmen, and members on the committees, to the counties that invited me throughout the year, to the posts, units, and squadrons that were the backbone of this year, to the Past Detachment Commanders for their ear and advice, and to the families of the members who sacrifice time from their loved ones, and to anyone else I might have forgotten--I say, "Thank you."

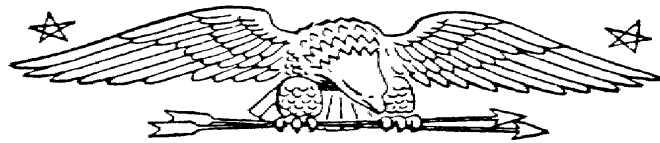
Our job is not over yet. We still have some official visits, Veterans Haven, the purchasing of equipment for the Detachment Commander's Project and its presentation, and, of course, our National Convention in Hawaii in August.

I hope to see a lot more of you for the rest of my term as Commander. I would like to congratulate the incoming officers for 2005-2006. Please show them the same great support as you did me.

If anyone should like to contact me now or in the future, I am willing to help out anyone I can. I can be reached at 201-943-6500 (office) or 2021-370-1365 (cell).

For God and Country,

Gary P. Nelson
DetachmentCommander



DATES TO REMEMBER

Locustwood Memorial Service	June 5
SAL Convention, Wildwood	June 10
Flag Day	June 14
Father's Day	June 19
Boys State	June 19-24
High Point Memorial Service	June 26
Independence Day	July 4
National Convention, Hawaii	August 19-25
Labor Day	September 5
Fall N.E.C.	October 1-2
First 2006 Membership target 10%	September 14

FRANK JIOSI, JR.

CANDIDATE FOR VICE COMMANDER

I have truly enjoyed my year (2004-2005) as S. A. L. Detachment Vice Commander working with Joe Colontone, Sean Howarth, Spike Abrams, and James Lightcap, the other vice commanders. We have enjoyed a few good laughs together while still managing to get our jobs done as well.

I would like to thank S. A. L. Detachment Commander Gary Nelson for the privilege of working with him throughout the year. It was a pleasure chairing the VA&R Committee for you. I truly had an enjoyable time working to help the veterans. I plan to do even more for them next year.

I have been to many meetings, fundraisers, breakfasts, and other functions of the American Legion Family. At each different function I attended, I met many great people and saw great things being done for the American Legion Family.

I am running for S. A. L. Detachment Vice Commander 2005-2006. I would like to thank all the S. A. L., Legionnaire, and Auxiliary members who helped me throughout this year. I look forward to the continued support of all Legion Family members throughout next year.

MICHAEL ARNER

CANDIDATE FOR VICE COMMANDER

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the membership. My name is Mike Arner and I am from Squadron 338 in Leonardo, which is located in Monmouth County, New Jersey. I am a member through Russell Arner, my father, who was a veteran of WWII. I have been a member for 21 years.

I have held the offices of adjutant, finance officer, and 1st vice commander. I also was commander of my squadron twice. I chair or have chaired numerous committees within my squadron.

At the county level, I have held the offices of finance officer for three years. I was elected commander for 2003-2004. I am Monmouth County's current DEC. I have chaired its CWF committee for the last five years.

At the Detachment level, I have served as vice commander for two terms and have been the Child Welfare Foundation chairman for the last four years. I also sit on its constitution & by-laws, convention, and internet committees. At the national level, I am in my first year of the National Management Institute, which is a three year program.

I am now hoping to serve you as A detachment vice commander for the coming year.

BITS AND PIECES

PDC Duane Conant is recuperating from a heart pacemaker implant....April 2005's National Update recognizes PDC Luc Marsden in its "Squadron Success Stories".... Essex and Union join the ten established counties....Tom Marsden is a member of the 2005 Boys' State staff. This will be his 5th year.

ACCOLADES FOR A TEAMMATE

Cmdr. Gary has led the Detachment to success after success in Membership, Special Olympics, Child Welfare, and his own Commander's Project. He is Jersey's Sons' answer to Canned Heat's "Fortunate Son". He truly deserves the Life Membership presented him by his squadron, #365 Fairview, for his accomplishments over the years.

It was an honor to be there at his testimonial dinner April 10 at the Holiday Inn, Saddle Brook as Legion Family, relatives, and friends helped celebrate him. The presence of two special guests--Colorado's Tom Bock, candidate for National Legion Commander, and Massachusetts's Tom Wigmore, candidate for S. A. L. Vice-commander East--shows the regard that his comrades across America hold for him.^{em}

SPRING NEC

At National's April 30-May 1 meeting in Indianapolis, delegates there approved the Soldiers for Soldiers Program Resolution along with donations of \$105,000 to CWF, \$100,000 to the National Emergency Fund, \$100,000 to the American Legacy Scholarship Fund, \$75,000 to the American Legion Endowment Fund, \$50,000 to Fisher House, and \$50,000 to the Boy Scouts of America.

The resolution to change delegate strength will be voted on in Hawaii. Let your NEC and ANEC know your feelings on this big change so they represent you.^{em}

REMEMBER OUR TROOPS

We are proud to reprint this recent letter from the Ocean County Observer, May 20, 2005. Its writer American Legion State Commander James Viard wears a dual member pin.

American will soon observe Memorial Day and our citizens will engage in various activities that have been associated with this holiday over the years.

Some view the Memorial Day Weekend as the beginning of the Jersey Shore season. Others take advantage of the sales that abound while others will kick off the summer with back yard picnics with family and friends.

Whatever we choose to do on Memorial Day we must be mindful of the fact that we have the liberty to participate in such activities because we live in the greatest democracy yet created.

During the course of history our freedom has been threatened by the evil forces of tyranny. But Americans have always held the rights of "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness" to be so precious that they are willing to die to protect them.

The true meaning of Memorial Day is to remember the men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice. They died so that we may continue to enjoy the many liberties afforded us by our Constitution and I urge all citizens to remember them on this Memorial Day.





Across:
A.L. Candidate
Tom Bock

Plaque from PDC's
A.L. Freedom Car

Jim Lightcap,
Polar Bear



Left down:
S.A.L. Candidate
Tom Wigmore

Present from
Officers

Ready for Hawaii

Life Membership
Awarded



Commander Gary
And Parents

Right down:
Detachment Offi-
cers and PDC's

S.A.L. College,
Basic Class

S.A.L. College,
Advanced Class



DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS JUNE 30, 2005.