



# THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

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## PROJECT UPDATE

September 26 gave Commander McCole, ANEC McKiernan, President Griffiths, Commander Wingler, and NEC Noble a close hand look at the facilities of Veterans Haven. The Legion Family toured the site and saw first-hand what it can do for its vets.

As the project nears completion, Legion Commander McCole is outlining plans for Phase II, a closed circuit television system at East Orange VA&R Hospital. Be generous and support these joint projects of the Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons.

## SPINOZA

Spinoza, the buddy bear, is a friend to critically ill children. He helps them get through hard times. He is the companion that little ones can talk to and confide in. He will always listen to their fears. He has secrets to tell them too.

The detachment has a limited number of these animals available for giving. The bear is free, but what its worth is priceless. If you know any youngster, ages 2 to 10, who is facing serious or terminal medical problems, please contact Ed Marsden, Spinoza Ambassador.

## 133 HELPS

At the October 20 Trenton meeting, Sq. 133 presented Ed Marsden with the digital camera he recommended the Detachment consider. It will be an invaluable aid in putting together photographs of events for the detachment history, internet, and newspaper.

Sincere appreciation, gratitude, and much thanks to Woodbury's Sons for their continued involvement as well as thoughtfulness and generosity to the S. A. L.

## FOR THE CHILDREN

Children's Specialized Hospital, the largest pediatric hospital in the United States treating children from birth through 21 years old, has a facility in Mountain-side. Sons Ed and Luc Marsden got to see it firsthand on a visit there on October 3. The \$12,500 check that Ella Patterson, Maggie McMahan, and Patty McMahan presented with them from 2000 Walkathon pledges will be put to good use.

Please--God willing--join in at the Wildwood Boardwalk next year. Helping kids with special needs is very rewarding. Seeing the smiles, happy faces, and loving ways of tots to teens should make each of us realize our blessings. Keep the children in your hearts and prayers.

## OLD GLORY PROUDLY WAVES

It's great to see all those American flags out there flying. Sometimes it takes tragedy to rally people together. Now is the time to write congressmen and senators telling them that you want the Citizens Flag Amendment ratified.

Lets show others that we love our country and its flag. Lets stop the desecration and the burning. 5,000 have died in the war against terrorism. Stand up for America and what it means.

## 2001 HITS TOP

2001 Membership closed at \_\_\_\_\_, an all time high. Keep up the good job. For 2002, we are currently at \_\_\_\_\_. Get those cards in!

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINE

All articles for the next issue are due no later than January 1, 2002.



# DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Fellow Sons:

I trust that every one is having a wonderful year. Things are really looking up for the Detachment this year. As I said before The Detachment Officers and committee chairs are working very hard to improve our great organization. Tom Marsden now has help with the Web sight thanks to Mike Arner tacking on Web Master and Carl Albern assisting. Check the web sight soon for what I'm told is going to be bigger better and more improved, you can see the sight at [www.njsal.com](http://www.njsal.com).

National convention was a great success our new national commander Cliff Smith is working hard as well as New Jerseys own Ed Marsden (National Chaplin) who delivered a wonderful memorial service at the fall NEC meeting there wasn't a dry eye in the place as I was told.

On December 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 Am, the American Legion will hold Pearl Harbor Services on the Battle Ship New Jersey in Camden County I hope all Sons that can make it do. This should be memorable service and all that can make it should.

At this past Detachment meeting I was asked to address the Department Committee as your Detachment Commander this was special to me for I got to tell them the Sons Official project for this year is to help Comdr. McCole with his project bringing the Legion Family even closer together. So please donate and help us reach our goals to help the veterans.

I would like to thank Tom Marsden and all that showed up at the tenth annual POW – MIA Watchfire this year. Tom put on another memorable service. We got started a little late but all went well. Comdr McCole and his wife honored us with a visit as well as his Master at Arms. The weather was wonderful probably the warmest it has ever been. What more could we have asked for. A special Thank You to Sea Side Squadron 351 for getting up early and putting on a Breakfast for us After the Watchfire. The food was wonderful.

As the winter comes in and the weather gets cold, I would like to tell you some of the things the Detachment will be involved in. In November, there is Hunterton County's First Legion Family Testimonial Dinner, congratulations to them. We also are visiting Vineland VA. The National President is visiting NJ on Nov. 17. I will be attending The Auxiliary Birthday party in Dec. as well as visit Paramus VA. Attended the Department POW MIA Christmas tree Lighting Service in Sea Side on the 15<sup>th</sup> of Dec. and of curse the Detachment Meeting that Morning. This is just a small sample of what we are doing. If you can make any of the Functions please do lets be a legion family together.

I look forward to Meeting as many of you as I can this year as I have said in the past we are always at your disposal. If you need help or would like a visit or an Officer at a Function Please feel free to contact me or my Adjutant we will make sure someone gets there for you because that is what we are hear for you the blue cap members. I also look forward to visiting all of the counties so please get in touch with me with a date we can come and visit currently I only have dates for Monmouth and Ocean Counties but would like to visit them all.

For God and Country  
Fly With Wings of Glory

Nicholas J. Wingler  
Detachment Commander 2001 - 2002

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## WATCHFIRE A SUCCESS

by Carl Albern, Jr.

The Tenth Annual Detachment of New Jersey POW-MIA Watchfire was held on October 12 through 13 from 7:00 P. M. to 7:00 A. M. Each year members of the Detachment of New Jersey come together to hold a vigil for those still missing from the Great Wars.

As the evening began, a service was held and a partial list of those N. J. veterans who are missing in action was read. Taps was played and a special moment of remembrance was requested for those who are still missing from the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

POW-MIA Chairman Tom Marsden has run this service since two years after its inception ten years ago. Each year more people are made aware of the service and make the journey to the shore to attend. This year the service was attended by some 80 people including Department Commander Dan McCole, his wife, and his master-at-arms.

A special flag retirement, dedicating several flags to the memory of those lost in the Trade Center, the Pentagon, and the United and American Airline flights involved, was held later in the evening. Each flag was dedicated and retired in memorial of those to whom Tom Marsden referred as, lost in an act of war.

## THE EAGLE WEEPS

by Edward Marsden

Centuries ago freedom's martyrs built our country, and its armed forces protected its way of life. In the past two hundred twenty-four years our homeland was attacked only once. Then on September 11 dwarfing Pearl Harbor, terrorists slaughtered 5,000 Americans. Their avowed leader Osama bin Laden like other fanatics--Adolph Hitler, Charlie Manson, Jim Jackson, David Koresh, Sheik Omar Abdul Rahman--allowed life to turn to death helter skelter.

The immediate target was symbols of our civilization; the long range one, our democratic way of life. First, the terrorist assassins destroyed the Twin Towers, next attacked the Pentagon, and then crashed an airliner planned to bomb Washington. Threats of biological, chemical, and nuclear force against us loom. Deadly anthrax tampers our mail system.

But, try as foreign agents may to take our beacons of democracy down with economic and psychological hits on our homeland, they cannot succeed. It is "we the people" not monuments that make us "the land of the free and home of the brave". Let history remember all heroes violated by war. They are our inspiration and strength. In the face of liberty they became part of our legion of warriors.

In these troubled times, let all Americans respond to the call. Together we can pray, light candles, raise flags, donate, give blood, and volunteer. Despair, fear, and panic only defeat us from within. Our enemy is without. Americans, with hands and hearts joined, stand together, united in this time of tragedy.



## PDCC PICNIC

by Jim Noble

Our first annual PDCC picnic was held Saturday, September 15 at Leonardo Post #338, Monmouth County. We had a great turnout with representatives from the Sons, Legion, Auxiliary as well as family and friends there. A memorial service was held for the victims of the WTC, Pentagon, and Washington tragedies.

I would like to thank Post, Squadron, and Unit #338 for their hard work. They extended their hospitality to all. Without their assistance this affair would not have been the success it was. Special thanks to Mike Arner, Carl Albern, and Picnic Chairman Ken Esposito, Sr. for going above and beyond.

## THE ADJUTANT'S CORNER

At the October 20, Trenton meeting of the Sons, Ed Marsden presented the PDCC's with a plaque honoring them. It shows the names of New Jersey's 39 detachment commanders and their years in office. It is slated to be hung on the wall at the Legion offices.

The SAL needs every Legion Family member to support Resolution 1754, This bill clarifies Sons rights as a post family member. It protects the status of our program and our rights to participate in all post activities. Please write your elected representatives now. Mike Arner, Sq. 338, took over as webmaster at the October 20 meeting.

# LEGION FAMILY MEMBERS IN ACTION

by Jim Noble

On Tuesday, September 11, at 12:51 P. M., the New York City Fire Department requested the services of the Bayonne Fire Canteen to assist in the aftermath of the tragic WTC disaster. The Canteen was dispatched to the Staten Island Ferry Terminal where it was designated as the Rehab Center for the ferry operations. The members were called upon to serve over 750 rescue workers and support personnel.

At noon Wednesday, the Canteen was relocated to the south side of Ground Zero where they were able to get a first-hand look at the enormity of the disaster site. At 6 P. M. they were evacuated due to continuing partial building collapses.

On Sunday, September 16, the canteen was again called into service and stationed at the Homeport in Staten Island. From there it was dispatched to the Fresh Kills Landfill to assist in the rehab efforts of the many Fire, Police, FBI, and National Guard combing through mountains of ruins of the previously magnificent buildings of the World Trade Center.

In all, the members of the Bayonne Fire canteen spent a total of 60 hours assisting in the aftermath of tragedy. Chief Jim Noble commends all volunteers for their tremendous efforts on behalf of our fellow Americans. The generosity of Bayonne and its citizens continues in its fundraising efforts. Please donate as you can.

(Note: NEC Noble submitted this in response to the editor's request for an article following the Fall NEC. He, his wife Debbie, and many responding are members of Post 19's Legion Family. Due to space, it has been edited.)



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>EVENTS</b>	<b>DATES/TIMES</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>
Paramus VA&R Party	December 1, 2:00-3:30 P. M.	Kent Hehl or Lukasz Marsden
Pearl Harbor Day	December 7	Sean Howarth
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, U. S. S. New Jersey	December 9	Sean Howarth
Detachment Meeting Trenton	December 15	Nick Wingle
Shore Boro #351 POW-MIA Tree Lighting	December 15, 7:00 P. M.	Lukasz Marsden
Christmas	December 25	
New Year's Day	January 1	
Menlo Park VA&R Party	January 19, 2:00-3:30 P. M.	Kent Hehl or Lukasz Marsden
Martin Luther King Day	January 21	