



# THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

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

## SON OF THE YEAR

Edward Marsden, Chairman

The Detachment of New Jersey is again accepting nominations for the 2007 Son of the Year. Nominations are open to all Sons regardless of age. Every nominee should be in good standing with his squadron, with his dues paid up to date. He should exhibit knowledge of the ideals and principles of the SAL and have knowledge of the American Legion and SAL programs. He should be active within the Legion Family. Any nominee may have been previously nominated.

Nominations must come from the nominee's home squadron with all paperwork attested to by both the post and squadron. The home squadron can only certify the application for one Son of the Year candidate yearly. The application should specify how many volunteer hours have been logged and only what personal expenses and/or donations the Son has taken from his own pocket. The application must include a detailed explanation of the nominees qualifications and achievements and the eligibility paperwork (DD214) of whomever he is eligible under. Incomplete applications will be disqualified automatically.

The application should specify exactly what the Son has done for the Legion Family within only the 2006-2007 year. No other period of time will be considered. The volunteer work must have been done without any financial reward whatsoever--pay, tips, etc.

The deadline for all applications is May 1, 2007. The American Legion is sending applications to every squadron with the next mailing. The winner will be announced at the Sons' convention.

## THOSE WHEELS KEPT GOING ON

Pat Ruggiero, father of Detachment Sgt.-at-Arms Joe Ruggiero, experienced torrential rains, hailstorms, and three days of 110<sup>+</sup> weather in his five day Legion Riders cross-country motorcycle trek. He garnered over \$10,000 in pledges for the Legacy Fund.<sup>pm</sup>

## BITS & PIECES

NJSAL congratulates Carolyn Koveleski, new Auxiliary National Chaplain....SAL membership for 2006 is 9,062; for 2007, 3,139....Sean McCormack has resigned as SAL Adviser....John Messenger takes over as Passaic SAL DEC....VC Jim Lightcap is working with Cumberland on a county organization....Chaplain Rodriguez asks Sons mark *Chaplain* on e-mail....Vineland VA Home's phone number is 856-405-4213.

## SAL LEGION COLLEGE

Kent R. Hehl, Chairman

The SAL College had a good turnout last year with seventeen in the advanced and twenty in the basic. This year we would like to do a little better. We have made improvements in both programs and are dedicated in giving you the most information possible to help you and your squadron.

This year college will be Saturday, April 21, 2007, at Sea Girt starting at 9:00 A. M. These courses are open to any SAL member in good standing (dues paid) as well as any American Legion member interested. You must take the basic program before the advanced. This year the American Legion basic course will be open to SAL members who have completed both SAL Basic and Advanced with the authorization of the post commander.

## MEMBERSHIP

Dave "Duke" Haring, Chairman

Hello, SAL's:

Our detachment met our target date for October at 28% paid members. Bergen County had the largest paid (507 members) at 50%. Ocean and Passaic are also at 50%. Our next target date is November 15. We have to do better than 35% statewide.

Squadrons #171 Bergen, #526 Burlington, and #229 Union County, you're the first squadrons to go over the top in membership this year. Congratulations to all in your efforts. Keep doing a great job.

At this time I would like to say we're doing pretty good. I'd like to thank Frank Jiosi, James Lightcap, Amel Balega, William Schimminger, Patrick Gallagher, our DVC's for promoting membership in their designated counties. Great job!

One of our biggest problems is retaining members. I hear there is something in the works that would allow the SAL's to become Paid Up For Life. That would be a great remedy to retain members. Ask your SAL County DEC's or DVC's for information.

Don't forget our goal this year is 10,500. We must meet last year's goal of 9,010 by April, 2007. There are still 65 squadrons that did not send anything as of October. Get those cards in to Detachment. Don't hold on to them.



# DETACHMENT OFFICERS 06-07

## Commander:

Michael Arner  
[commander@njsal.org](mailto:commander@njsal.org)

## Vice Commanders:

James Lightcap  
[vcjlightcap@njsal.org](mailto:vcjlightcap@njsal.org)  
Patrick Gallagher  
[vcgallagher@njsal.org](mailto:vcgallagher@njsal.org)  
William Schimmingner  
[vcschimmingner@njsal.org](mailto:vcschimmingner@njsal.org)  
Frank Jiosi  
[vcjiosi@njsal.org](mailto:vcjiosi@njsal.org)  
Amel Balega  
[vcbalega@njsal.org](mailto:vcbalega@njsal.org)

## Adjutant:

John Gillman  
[adjutant@njsal.org](mailto:adjutant@njsal.org)

## Judge Advocate:

Thomas E. Marsden  
[ja@njsal.org](mailto:ja@njsal.org)

## Chaplain:

Steve Rodriguez  
[chaplain@njsal.org](mailto:chaplain@njsal.org)

## Historian:

Frank Norcross  
[historian@njsal.org](mailto:historian@njsal.org)

## Sgt-at-Arms:

Kermit Riley  
K.J. Esposito  
Joseph Colontone  
Dave Haring

## Asst. Sgt-at-Arms:

Thomas Gray  
Kevin Ritz  
Joseph Ruggerio

## NEC:

Carl W. Alber, Jr.  
[nec@njsal.org](mailto:nec@njsal.org)

## ANEC:

Edward T. Marsden  
[emarsden@njsal.org](mailto:emarsden@njsal.org)

WWW.NJSAL.ORG  
WWW.NJSALUTE.ORG

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Comrades,

We have now finished a quarter of the 2006-2007 year, and I am very proud to be Commander of the Detachment of New Jersey. We as a whole are doing the right thing by our veterans and the children in our communities. I have talked and seen a lot of members throughout the Detachment, and I like what I see. Most of our programs are working even though some are lagging now, but I know that in the end all will be completed. Our officers and chairmen are striving to complete the tasks at hand.

Membership is a goal at which we all must work. We must remember our target dates as they approach and send in the cards. Don't wait until you have 20 to 30; get them in sooner rather than later. It is my honor to have Duke Haring, our membership chairman, on staff. His work in promoting membership is outstanding. I myself gathered some good points from his article in the last SALute. Besides being Detachment Commander, I am presently on the membership committee of Squadron 338. I like the ideas that he puts forward, and I plan on using them in my own drives.

If you are not aware we have a candidate for National Vice Commander East 2007-2008, our own Thomas Marsden. We are hoping that squadrons can help us in supporting Mr. Marsden in this bid. It's not an easy task to move into national offices; it takes the support of our Detachment to accomplish this. We are looking for fundraisers to help Mr. Marsden with the financial burden that running for an office creates. At our last NEC meeting in Indianapolis, Tom and the Election Committee appointed Jim Noble as its chairman. If you can help by running a function for this cause, please contact Mr. Noble.

We have been holding Detachment meetings in Trenton every other month since August. They are our official meetings, and I would like to see more of you attend. They are held in the War Memorial Building. Our next meeting there will be December 16, 2006. (All meetings in Trenton start at 9:30 A. M.) We have also been holding unofficial meetings around the state to bring the Detachment to you, its members. Our last one was held in Burlington County at Post 39 Roebing on November 18, 2006. Dress at unofficial meetings is casual. Please attend any meeting you can.

I would like to congratulate PDC Gary Nelson on his appointment as Chairman of the Finance Committee, and PDC Tom Marsden and Pat Gallagher as Vice Chairmen of Boys State. Both committees are a big part of the future of the Sons of the American Legion. Our VA&R parties that are upcoming are Menlo Park, November 18 at 2:00 P. M. and Paramus, January 28 at 2:15 P. M. Please come and join us in helping OUR VETERANS. Chairman Frank Joisi and PDC Kent Hehl have done a great job with the programs that we run for them.

For updates and activities of what's going on at the Detachment level, visit our web-site [www.njsal.org](http://www.njsal.org). Carl Alber Jr is doing a good job maintaining our site.

For God and Country,  
Michael Arner  
Detachment Commander



## DATES TO REMEMBER 2006-2007 CALENDAR

POW/MIA Tree Lighting, Post 351 Seaside Hts. 7:00 P.M.	December 2
Pearl Harbor Day	December 7
Membership Target Date 45%	December 13
Detachment Meeting, Trenton	December 16
Christmas	December 25
New Year's Day	January 1
VA&R Party, East Orange, 2:00 P.M.	January 6
Membership Target Date 60%	January 10
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	January 15
VA&R Party, Paramus, 2:15 P.M.	January 28
Detachment Meeting, Trenton	February 3
Four Chaplain's Sunday	February 4



## FALL NEC CONFERENCE

Edward T. Marsden, ANEC

In attendance at the Fall NEC were Cmdr. Michael Arner, NEC Carl Alber, ANEC Edward T. Marsden, Leading Candidate for National Vice Commander East Thomas E. Marsden, VC Patrick Gallagher, and PDC's Kenneth Esposito and James Noble. While there Cmdr. Arner successfully completed the Commander's Course.

Right now the Eastern Area is at the bottom in Membership even though New Jersey made its goal before the target date. Everyone needs to work on recruiting and retaining. 2006-2007 National appointments include Michael Arner (Child Welfare), Carl Alber (Community Service), Thomas Marsden (National Security) and Kenneth Esposito and James Noble (Paid Up for Life).

The current thrust of the Sons is CWF whose goal is still \$1 per member and NEF whose goal is \$.25 per member. The SAL supports the VA Creative Arts Festival, Soldiers4Soldiers, the Fisher House Foundation, and the Josh Program which is different from CMN.

The SAL is promoting the upcoming 75th Anniversary, which will be celebrated in Reno. The 75th Anniversary Committee is planning a historical exhibit, a luncheon, a photograph display, and more. Commemorative pins are available at \$4.00 each. Go to [www.sal.legion.org](http://www.sal.legion.org) for the latest information.

National Commander Ruttkofsky wants the SAL to get back to basics and support our vets during this "Year of Vets". He believes every Son is an equal member regardless of age.

## FLORENCE HONORS ITS SONS

Toby Houseworth



Last August in a small ceremony attended by the committee, family, and friends, brothers John and Joseph Babula were the first deceased members of S. A. L. Squadron 194, Florence, to receive grave markers.

## 2006-2007 CWF GRANTS

### Ed Marsden, CWF Chairman

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation awarded 16 non-profit organizations a total of \$410,569 in various grants. The Sons of the American Legion can be proud that they, as CWF's biggest contributor, last year donated \$220,938.60 of this amount.

#### Recipients are:

- Birth Defect Research for Children, Inc. (Orlando, FL)--  
"Birth Defect Prevention Initiative"
- Child Development Resources (Norge, VA)--  
"Giving Children Their Best Chance"
- Children Awaiting Parents, Inc. (Rochester, NY)--  
"The CAR Book - Enhanced"
- Children's Organ Transplant Assoc. (Bloomington, IN)--  
"COTA Volunteer Resources: Web and Media Fundraising Tools"
- Diabetes Camping Assoc. (Huntsville, AL)--  
"Diabetes Camp Survival: A Guide to Help Start or Enhance Programs for Children with Diabetes"
- Huntington's Disease Society of America, Inc. (New York, NY)--  
"Juvenile Huntington's Disease Handbook"
- International Institute for Alcohol Awareness (Alexandria, VA)--  
"Teens Drink, You Lose."
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (New York, NY)--  
"You Can't Catch Diabetes from a Friend."
- National Association of Students against Violence Everywhere (Raleigh, NC)--  
"Youth Voices...Grown Up Choices!"
- National Autism Assoc. (Nixa, Missouri)--  
"NAA Autism Outreach"
- National Exchange Club Foundation (Toledo, OH)--  
"National Shaken Baby Syndrome Campaign"
- National Marfan Foundation, Inc. (Port Washington, NY)--  
"Children's Educational Storybook"
- National Meningitis Assoc. (Manetta, GA)--  
"Helping to Educate and Lead the Public on Meningitis Education"
- Our Military Kids, Inc. (McLean, VA)--  
"Our Military Kids Informational Materials"
- Toledo Children's Hospital (Toledo, OH)--  
"Injury Prevention Booklet for Children with Special Health Care Needs"
- Women of Substance Ministries, Inc. (Lindenhurst, NY)--  
"Development and Distribution of Background Check Hand books"

## THE EDITOR'S DESK

On October 29, I attended the American Legion Press Club of New Jersey Awards Dinner where ALPCNJ appointed me webmaster. Our Detachment newspaper took two awards--First Place Newspaper and Norma Brigiadoro Memorial Award Honorable Mention for the editorial "Remember Our Troops".

The goal of our staff is getting the current news out while it is still new and timely not old and forgotten. I assure the readers that mistakes are never deliberate.





The Detachment of New Jersey  
Extend Its Best Wishes  
To The Legion Family, Our Veterans,  
and  
Our Armed Forces Overseas and at Home



## Seasons Greetings

*Cmdr. Arner,  
The PDC's,  
& 2006-2007's Executive Board*

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS DECEMBER 31, 2006.**