



The New Jersey

SALute

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Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of New Jersey
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***SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE NEW JERSEY
DETACHMENT OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN
LEGION!***

TO ALL OUR VETERANS...THANK YOU!

In This Issue...

A Message by Commander Mark Natale.

We hit the 35% Membership goal!

A Message from National Commander Christopher Carlton.

BE THE ONE Information.

Details on the 2022 PACT ACT.

A Visit by ALA National President Vickie Koutz.

Around the State.

Veterans' Day Activities.

Many photos feature our Detachment and Squadrons in action.

For God and Country,

Gary S. Crawford PC Sq 346, Adjutant Monmouth County Exec Committee, Editor *SALute*

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The Commander's Message



Hello everyone, I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving.

As we get closer to the Holidays, remember to do buddy checks throughout our Legion Family and see how our Family is doing. You can have a great impact on someone just by saying hello.

Our Membership is moving forward. We hit the target the 35% target date on November 9. We continue to keep growing and working hard to hit our goal of 10,000 Members.

Great job by everyone.

Let's remember the theme (Challenge). Challenge ourselves. Support each other. Push each other to be better. Keep all of us working hard to support our great Veterans, our children and youth, and our communities.

I want to wish everyone in our American Legion Family *Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.*

Looking forward to continuing the great work we all do. We are *Team Challenge!*

For God And Country

Mark Natale, Commander,
Sons of the American Legion Detachment of New Jersey

We are **TEAM CHALLENGE** –

Cohesiveness-Honor-Achieve- Leadership-Learning-Education-Navigation-Goals-Encouragement

Reminder: Dues are due by Dec 31. Renew today!

Congratulations!

*To the Detachment of NJ, we hit the 35% target date (9-Nov) for Membership.
Great job by all. Let's keep working hard to hit our goal of 10,000 Members this year for NJ.
We got this! ... Team Challenge ...  ... Commander Mark Natale*



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

November 10, 2022

TO: NATIONAL OFFICERS, DETACHMENT COMMANDERS & ADJUTANTS
FROM: ANTHONY W. WRIGHT (PA), NATIONAL ADJUTANT
SUBJECT: 35% - MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATE

"CONGRATULATIONS"

Thank you for all your efforts so far this membership year. Our standings as of our 35% membership target date (11-09-2022) are posted below:

2023 Membership Goal:	367,798
Total Membership:	125,211
Percentage Of Goal:	34.04%
2023 Renewal Rate:	30.05%
Detachments Making Goal:	35

Alabama	Georgia	Louisiana	New Jersey	South Carolina
Alaska	Hawaii	Maryland	North Carolina	South Dakota
Colorado	Idaho	Mexico	North Dakota	Tennessee
Connecticut	Illinois	Mississippi	Oklahoma	Texas
Delaware	Indiana	Missouri	Oregon	Vermont
Florida	Iowa	Montana	Puerto Rico	Wisconsin
France	Kansas	Nebraska	Rhode Island	Wyoming

GREAT JOB!!

Many detachments should achieve this membership goal soon!

Next scheduled renewal notice mailed: **February 24, 2023** 2ND OF 3

Next membership target date: **December 14, 2022** 45%

RENEWAL IS THE KEY TO MEMBERSHIP SUCCESS
MEMBERSHIP IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
BE THE ONE
OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER

P.O. BOX 1055, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206-1055 WWW.LEGION.ORG/SONS P: 317-630-1205 F: 317-630-1413

Let's set our goals high this year

Greetings, Sons of The American Legion,

It has already been a busy and productive time since my election as your SAL National Commander at the 50th SAL National Convention in Milwaukee. I look forward to seeing you during my travels.

I want to take a moment to share with you some of my goals for this year.

Membership. Membership is, of course, a priority every year. We would like to reach 103 percent membership by the end of the year. A key to reaching that goal is by focusing on our renewals. I believe that many of our members want to be involved and active; they just don't know how. We need to find out what those inactive members are interested in, what they are good at and give them a job to do. By helping them feel productive and included in the great work we do, we can help ensure that they will renew their membership and spread the word to other potential members.

"Be the One." I am proud to support the "Be the One" campaign. We all know that suicide and mental health are key issues our veterans must face daily. We want to destigmatize asking for mental health support and create opportunity for those with mental health issues to speak freely and get the support they need. Our veterans shouldn't fear the consequences of asking for help.

To "Be the One" means to ask a veteran and their family how they are doing. To "Be the One" means to listen when a veteran or their family needs to talk. To "Be the One" means to reach out when a veteran or their family are struggling. We all need to "Be the One."

Veterans & Children Foundation. American Legion National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola has set a goal to raise \$2 million for the Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF) this year. I want the Sons of The American Legion to be the biggest contributor to his goal. We can reiterate to The American Legion that, when we put our minds together and work together, we can accomplish great things.

Be the One!

With passion and purpose.

Sincerely,

Christopher Carlton
Sons of The American Legion
National Commander

"Purpose is why we journey; passion is the flame that lights the way."

The American Legion Department of New Jersey

BE THE ONE Campaign

The American Legion, Dept. of NJ, is diving to greater depths in support of the ***Be the One*** campaign, initiated by 2021-2022 National Commander Paul E. Dillard. **NJ Dept. Commander Steven Fisher** kicked off the first quarter of his leadership year with an awareness campaign and a plea to NJ Legionnaires to lead by example.

The ***Be the One*** campaign is a direct message to American Legion members, Veterans and the public to reach out to Veterans to see how they are doing. "We must make an impact in our communities to minimize the number of suicides by Veterans. One suicide is too many," he said.

Fisher is being proactive by pledging to directly contact NJ Legionnaires and other Veterans living in the state. He is making phone calls, sending emails, texting messages and creating public service announcements to directly contact all Veterans who reside in NJ, and he is asking fellow NJ Legionnaires and Veterans to do the same.

The NJ American Legion ***Be the One*** campaign would like all Members who have served and who are currently serving in the US Armed Services to reach out to their Comrades. One phone call, text message, email or in-person communication can make all of the difference in a Veteran's life. It could mean life or death.

The ***Be the One*** campaign asks you to ***Be the One*** to: - Ask Veterans in your life how they are doing. - Listen when a Veteran needs to talk. - Reach out when a Veteran is struggling.

For more information on The American Legion ***Be the One*** campaign, visit www.legion.org/betheone.



BE THE ONE
To help end veteran suicide



Scan or visit betheone.org



PACT ACT & GULF WAR, POST-9/11 ERA VETERANS

The PACT Act, signed into law August 10, 2022, expands health care eligibility to several groups of Veterans who may not have been eligible before.

Veterans who participated in a **toxic exposure risk activity** (as defined by law) while serving on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training.

Veterans assigned to a duty station in (including airspace above) certain locations during specific periods of time on or after:

- August 2, 1990**, in Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, or United Arab Emirates
- September 11, 2001**, in Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Uzbekistan, or Yemen, or any other country determined relevant by VA.

Veterans who deployed in support of:

- Operation Enduring Freedom
- Operation Freedom's Sentinel
- Operation Inherent Resolve
- Operation New Dawn
- Resolute Support Mission

SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD: Veterans who served on active duty in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Persian Gulf War or in combat against a hostile force during a period of hostilities after November 11, 1998, and who were discharged or released between September 11, 2001, and October 1, 2013, may enroll in VA health care between October 1, 2022 and October 1, 2023.

Family members or dependents of a deceased Veteran may qualify for various VA benefits due to the additional disabilities defined in the PACT Act if they meet eligibility requirements. More information for survivors is available online at va.gov/PACT.

4 EASY WAYS TO APPLY FOR VA HEALTH CARE

- Apply online at va.gov/health-care/apply/
- Call the toll-free hotline at 877-222-8387 Mon - Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. ET
- Mail a completed, signed Application for health benefits (VA Form 10-108Z)
- Bring a completed, signed VA Form 10-108Z to the nearest VA Medical Center or clinic.

4 EASY WAYS TO GET STARTED WITH CLAIMS

- Learn more at va.gov/health-care/how-to-file-claims/
- Visit a VA Regional Office va.gov/health-care/offices.asp
- Call the benefits hotline (for specific questions) at 1-800-827-1000
- Work with an accredited VSO va.gov/health-care/vso/accredited/index.asp

Learn more and sign up at va.gov/PACT
Download the VA Health and Benefits App
Call us at 1-800-MYVA111 (1-800-698-3411)
Find a VA at va.gov/find-locations/

2022 PACT ACT: UNDERSTANDING HEALTH CARE ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS

PACT ACT OVERVIEW

What is the PACT Act? Why is it important?
The PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. **This law helps us provide generations of Veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve.**
The Act (1) expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era, and (2) expands eligibility for benefits for Veterans exposed to toxic substances.

What does the acronym, PACT, stand for?
Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022.


When does the law go into effect?
While some provisions take effect at different times, VA considers the presumptive conditions established in the PACT Act to be applicable on the date the PACT Act was signed into law (August 10, 2022). **All Veterans and survivors who believe they may be entitled to benefits are encouraged to apply today.**

What are the PACT Act key components?

- The Act **expands and extends eligibility for VA health care** for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era.
- VA will improve the **decision-making process** for determining what medical conditions will be considered for presumptive status.
- Every enrolled Veteran will receive an initial **toxic exposure screening** and a follow-up screening at least every five years. Veterans who are not enrolled, but who are eligible to enroll, will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.
- VA health care staff and claims processors will receive **toxic exposure-related education and training**.
- The Act requires **research studies** on mortality of Veterans who served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War, Post-9/11 Veteran health trends, and Veteran cancer rates.
- The Act will help VA **build a stronger, more skilled workforce** to meet the growing demand for benefits and services.
- The Act authorizes **31 new facilities** across the country, providing greater access to VA health care.

What is Toxic Exposure?
As a general matter, there are several types of possible exposures or hazards Veterans may have experienced during their military service, including:

- AIR POLLUTANTS:** Burn pits, oil well fires, sulfur fire, sand, dust, and particulates
- CHEMICALS:** Agent Orange or other herbicides, burn pits, Camp Lejeune water supplies, pesticides, depleted uranium, chromium, or industrial solvents
- RADIATION:** Nuclear weapons testing, x-rays, or depleted uranium
- WARFARE AGENTS:** Chemical warfare agents, nerve agents, mustard gas, herbicide tests, and storage
- OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS:** Asbestos, lead, fuels, industrial solvents, radiation, vibration, noise, special paint on military vehicles, and some coolants or insulating fluids



Detachment News:

At the Detachment meeting held on 1-October at Post 87 in Woodbridge, there were no applications from anyone to fill the vacant fifth Vice Commander position. In the meantime, the four current Vice Commanders will each take a County normally assigned to that open position. The Counties in question are Hunterdon, Mercer, Sussex, and Warren.

The Vice Commanders and the counties they now cover: Keith Barnes (Sq 58) Middlesex, Mercer, Sussex, and Warren; Richard Hodum (Sq 166) Burlington, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Ocean; William Murphy (Sq 348) Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, and Salem; Stephen Sangemino (Sq 105) Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Monmouth, and Passaic.

The fifth Office of Vice Commander remains open. Any Son in good standing wishing to be considered for the Office should contact Detachment Adjutant Carl Alber Jr. (346) at albern@njsal.org for details.

As of 30-September-2022, the Detachment Membership stands at 9189 Members. We are so close to our goal of 10,000. Squadrons should step up their recruitment efforts, and of course follow up on renewals. And don't forget buddy checks. Give a call, an email, a text, or stop by and see how they're doing. You just might BE THE ONE.

There's a possibility of a BE THE ONE Committee and classes. It's now reported to be 23 A DAY we're losing due to preventable suicide. Need help? Easy number to remember: 9-8-8.

A new SAL emblem is in the works, to go along with the Legion's new logo. Anyone using the copyrighted emblems is required to contact www.legion.org/emblem.request and fill out the form before using any of the Legion Family emblems.

The “Flying Flags for Heroes” program instituted by Past National Commander Michael Fox, planned to place a million Flags on the graves of Veterans, far exceeded that goal. NEC Bob Phillips Jr. (262) reported 1.835 million Flags were placed nationwide. Let’s keep this going for this year.

An American Legion Family Day is in the works for April 2023.

Also in April, 28-29-30 to be specific, Legion and SAL College will be held at Sea Girt. Details and forms will be sent out in January.

NEC Bob Phillips Jr. (262) presented a \$100 check to Commander Mark Natale toward his Commander’s Project. The check was from the Auxiliary Unit 262 from Audubon.

PDC Bob Bascou (371) stated that an American Legion Baseball Committee should be established ASAP and this worthwhile program be restarted.

DEC Rusty Myers (105) spoke of his own son’s involvement in the Ten Ideals Program and we should establish more of these on a local Squadron basis, jointly with the Junior Auxiliary.

Members who are handling publicity and other communications for the Legion Family are encouraged to go to The American Legion Media Alliance (TALMA) for information. www.legion.org/TALMA.

The next Detachment meeting is planned to be held on 3-Dec-2022 at the War Memorial in Trenton.

Any news worth sharing with the Members should be emailed to the *SALute*: njSALute@gmail.com



At the Detachment meeting, NEC Bob Phillips Jr. (standing, right) presents a \$100 check to Commander Mark Natale from the Audubon ALA Unit 262 toward his Commander’s Project. Looking on at rear are (LtoR) Acting Judge Advocate Jay Gillman, VC Bill Murphy, and Adjutant Carl Alber Jr.



Past Commander's Retirement Party:

Past Detachment Commander Michael Arner was feted at a retirement party on 1-October at Leonardo Post 338. Several Detachment Officers and Chairmen were in attendance, including PDCs Bob Phillips, Gary Nelson, Amel Belaga, Lenny Free, Bob Bascou, and Carl Albern Jr., as well as Chaplain Charles Taylor and Sgt-at-Arms Darryl Cunningham, Josh Seib, Steve Rodriguez, Gary Crawford, and Commander Mark Natale and his wife ALA Department Chaplain Lisa Natale. A nice turnout of friends and family filled the hall and enjoyed great food, intoxicants, and entertainment.

Congratulations, Mike!



Mike Arner and Carl Albern share a serious moment. Of course, the serious moment didn't last very long.



Mike was subjected to being part of "Paradise by the Dashboard Light". Department President Colleen Breen-Lopez stopped by to wish Mike well. Mike still serves as Detachment Judge Advocate.

Around the State:

The Belleville Post 105 Family took a quick walk down the street to Essex Cigar Shop on 4-Oct to drop off a \$1,500 check to James Babai from Gail's Angels Foundation. At the September picnic, SAL Fundraising Chairman Vinnie Ferriole raised \$500 in donations and raffle for this amazing charity. Post and SAL 105 matched the funds making it a \$1,500 donation.

Last year, a cancer survivor himself, SAL Vinnie Ferriole wanted to give back by running a cancer fundraiser. Since then, we plan on doing this each year at the picnic. This goes a long way in fulfilling our role as an organization rooted in service and advocacy.



Left photo: LtoR: Allen Garth (Post 105), Vinnie Ferriole (SAL 105 Cancer Fundraising Chairman), Lisa Bocchino, James Babai (President Gail's Angels Foundation), Rusty Myers (SAL 105 Adjutant), Joe Cobianchi (Post 105 Commander), James Elsmore (SAL 105 1st Vice). Right photo: James Babai and Lisa Bocchino display signatures.



Commander Mark Natale attending the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial Foundation Annual Gala. With United States Air Force General Bannister, 5-Oct, at Eagle Oaks Golf & Country Club in Farmingdale, and Mark and Lisa with the Camden County Legion Family.

Leadership has nothing to do with having power over someone; it's about using your influence to inspire and empower your people to achieve the impossible.

New Jersey American Legion Leadership College.



Always on the move, Belleville Legion 105 Family march in Belleville's Columbus Day Parade on 9-October.



A very nice crowd attended Neptune SAL 346's Beefsteak and Comedy Night on 14-Oct. Plenty of filet mignon was on the menu, with fries, salad, and dessert, along with three comedians. Various Officers from around the state attended, including Wayne Post 174 Commander Mike Smith, PDCs Carl Alber Jr., Jeff Hicks, Patrick Gallagher, Monmouth County DEC Wil Fetherman, Monmouth County Commander Mary Jo Burkhard, ALA Monmouth County President MC Boyle, PDP Doreen Gallagher, along with Tony and Charline Gladden, Commander Mark Natale and ALA Dept. Chaplain Lisa Natale, plus Post 346 Family Members and the public.



Burlington County Legion Family Info Table. LtoR: Dual Member Fonnle Reagan Post/Sq 294 Pemberton, Burlington County Commander Russ Franks Post 294, PCP Mary Schafle Unit 11 Mt. Holly, PDC and Burlington County Finance Officer Jeff Hicks SAL Sq 526, Southampton.



Left: SAL Detachment Officers at the Trenton War Memorial, 12-Oct. LtoR: Detachment Commander Mark Natale, PDC/NEC Bob Phillips Jr., PDC/ANEC Henry Hasselhan, VC Bill Murphy, and VC Rich Hodum.
Right: Commander Mark Natale speaks about his Commander's Project.



NJ National Guard Military Review, Sea Girt NJ, 16-Oct. Commander Mark Natale with ALA Dept Chaplain Lisa Natale, with Department Commander Steve Fisher (L) and immediate Dept PDC Dan Dunn. Dept DEC Berley Hanna in red cap.



Standdown at VFW 1026, Hammonton, on 21-Oct. PDC/ANEC Henry Hasselhan was there to help along with Past Dept President Jane Babli and the Ladies from Auxiliary Unit 262.



A Flag Retirement was held at Edison Father & Son Post 435 on 22-Oct. Thank you to all who came to show their respect for our nation's flag. A special thanks goes to our SAL for putting the event together.



(Left) Bob and Pat Faust prepare for the annual SAL Halloween Beefsteak at Lincoln Park Post 279. (Right) A little food, a little liquid refreshment, some live music, and a little dancing at 279 on 29-Oct.



(Left) The Ladies from Post 129 Legion Family in the Halloween Parade in Toms River 31-Oct. (Right) Thank you to the Ocean County Sons of the American Legion for the continued support for Veterans. This is the second year VA&R donated monies for Veterans to get haircuts for Veterans Day at Barnegat Nursing and Rehab Center, and then Seacrest Nursing and Rehab. It is very much appreciated by the recipients! Ocean County SAL Vice Commander Jeff Kleinow presents the check to the staff on 3-Nov.



(Left) Hopewell Post and Squadron 339 Rifle Squad, and (Right) Ready for Veterans Day.



American Legion Post 105 was recognized on 9-Nov for their work for our veterans and in the community by the Essex County Board of Commissioners at their Veterans Recognition Day. This being a group as opposed to an individual being recognized is rare. The 105 Family was also honored to be the recipient of commendations from the State Legislature and 11th District Congressman Mikie Sherill.



On Nov 15, Belleville Post and Squadron 105 received the Veterans Honor Award from the Suburban Essex Chamber of Commerce. Squadron 105 Comdr and Detachment Vice Comdr Steve Sangemino says a few words.



(Left) On 8-Nov, Detachment Commander Mark Natale thanks Commander Phil Ganz and Union Beach Squadron 321 with their generous donation of \$1000 toward the State Commander's Project, which will go a long way help our Veterans and children. (Right) Henry Hasselhan (the 5th) manned his lemonade stand during the ALA's Annual Walk-A-Thon on 5-Nov to help raise money for the Legion's Child Welfare Foundation (CWF). Past Department President Jane Babli assists Henry, a 3rd generation SAL Member from Atco Squadron 311, at the Waterford event.



“Let these faded Flags of our Country be retired and destroyed with respectful and honorable rites”.
Post and Squadron 105 held an Unserviceable Flag Ceremony on this 40-degree Sunday morning, destroying perhaps 3,000 flags which have flown at houses, public buildings, and over the graves of our veterans.

Cub Scouts from Pack 141 Nutley, and Girl Scouts from Troop 20122 and 20126 participated in the ceremony as well, after Commander Joe spoke to them about the importance of retiring our flags with dignity.



On October 22, Linden American Legion Post 102 hosted a fundraiser breakfast to benefit Linden VFW Post 1397 that lost its building in a fire on 27-July. Another example of Veterans’ organizations working together.

Ocean County S.A.L. 's 25th Anniversary:



The SAL from the Great County of Ocean celebrated their 25th Anniversary 12-Nov at New Egypt Post 455.



Top right: PDC Nick Wingler, Detachment Vice Commander Bill Murphy, and County Vice Commander Lee Dickson. Bottom left: PNVC Tom Marsden, DVC Bill Murphy, and PDC Dave Page. Bottom right: Nick Wingler, County Chaplain Steve Lance, and Rich Hodum..



BE THE ONE
To help end veteran suicide



Scan or visit betheone.org

Veterans' Day Snapshots:



Saddle Brook Post 415



Little Ferry Post 310



Linden Post 102



(Left) Mark with Peter J. DeAngelis, leading candidate for NY Detachment Commander for 2022-2023 at the NYC Veterans Day Parade. (Right) Mark later took a vacation to South Carolina and visited Little River Post 186 where he donated \$200 to SAL Commander Jason Yodice, who in turn donated \$100 to Mark's Commander's Project.



(Left) The New Jersey crew prepares to board the bus at Woodbridge Post 87 to NYC to march in the Veterans Day Parade with the American Legion Dept. of New York. Comdr Mark and PDC Carl Alber Jr. represented the SAL. (Right) The combined marching unit of NJ and NY Departments from the NYC Veterans Day Parade.



SALute editor Gary Crawford and Post 346 Commander John Warhurst place wreath at Neptune Memorial Park on 6-Nov. On 11-Nov, Comdr Warhurst addresses the audience at Neptune Post 346's Veterans Day ceremony as the Color Guard looks on after placing the colors.



Belleville Post and Squadron 105 marched in Belleville's Veterans Day Parade. Post Commander Joe Cobianni addresses the attendees.

ALA National President Vickie Koutz's Official Visit to New Jersey:



(Left) National President Vickie Koutz addresses the audience at the NJ Vietnam Memorial and Museum on 5-Nov. (Right) New Jersey ALA President Colleen Breen-Lopez welcomes Ms. Koutz and says a few words.



(Left) Detachment Vice Commander Rich Hodum represents the SAL (Right) Lifesize statues help to tell the story. The Memorial and the Museum are a must-see, and easily accessible from Garden State Parkway Exit 116.



A meet & greet and reception was held afterward at Keyport Post 23. (Left) SAL Detachment Vice Commander Rich Hodum, National ALA President Vickie Koutz, Detachment Comdr Mark Natale, **SALute** Editor Gary Crawford, and PDC Carl Alber Jr. Vic Murray (Post 266) in the back worked as DJ. (Right) NJ ALA President Colleen Breen-Lopez, National President Vickie, and Detachment Comdr Mark Natale.

Lone Civil War Veteran's Grave at the side of the Garden State Parkway



(From NJ.com and Weird NJ)

If you're heading southbound on the Garden State Parkway, at around mile marker 6.1, look for the grave of Noah Cherry, and African American Civil War veteran who was born in North Carolina 1831 and died in New Jersey in 1907.

A reader named Terry told us that Mr. Cherry might be the same person as Earnest A. Cherry, who was a farmer and founding landowner in Whitesboro, a planned "Negrotown" that was founded in 1900. Whitesboro itself was named after one of its founders, George White, a Reconstruction Congressman from North Carolina who sold shares in the planned community to other African Americans, mostly from North Carolina and Virginia.

But Noah might just be Noah, as a December 16, 1973 article in a local newspaper claimed. According to the article, Noah was a former slave, and a private in Company H. 36th Regiment of the U.S. Colored Volunteers during the Civil War. The reporter tracked down a woman who was related to Mrs. Wiley Jane Williams, "a distant relative of Cherry's who knew him during his last years." Mrs. Williams had written a recollection of Cherry that tells so much about the man buried beside the Parkway.

He was one of the men, she wrote, "Who marched with General Sherman to the sea." He first arrived in Whitesboro from North Carolina in 1903, built a small frame house on Main Street, and sent for his family. He helped Mrs. Williams' father with hog butchering and he loved to sing in a "clear baritone voice," especially a hymn by Issac Watts that he'd sing to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne."

He once almost died from mistakenly inhaling turpentine, and for a few hours actually appeared dead, but he revived, much to the happiness of everyone. And there's a supernatural story attached to his real death in 1907, as Mrs. Williams wrote:

One night Uncle Noah heard a loud sound at his door...(but) whatever it was...had left and was going through the darkness across the field in a great whirlwind and was shouting so loudly that it was deafening, "Lazarus Laws, Lazarus Laws, Lazarus Laws, Lazarus Laws!" It was a mournful, wailing, unearthly sound. Noah Cherry didn't know what to make of it, but that night, Mr. Lazarus Laws died. Soon after, both Cherry and the man who lived in the house the shouting thing was traveling toward died.

Noah Cherry was buried in the "old graveyard" and his body and that of a few others stayed there until 1955, when construction on the Parkway intruded and the graves were moved. The newspaper story mentions the presence of a second gravestone belonging to General S. Askew and one for another Askew family member, but those were gone in 1973 and definitely not there today, though the grave of Noah Cherry still is.

Lyndhurst American Legion Post 138 maintains the grave and places flags there each year.

Support your local Legion Family – Post, Squadron, and Unit

HURRICANE RELIEF

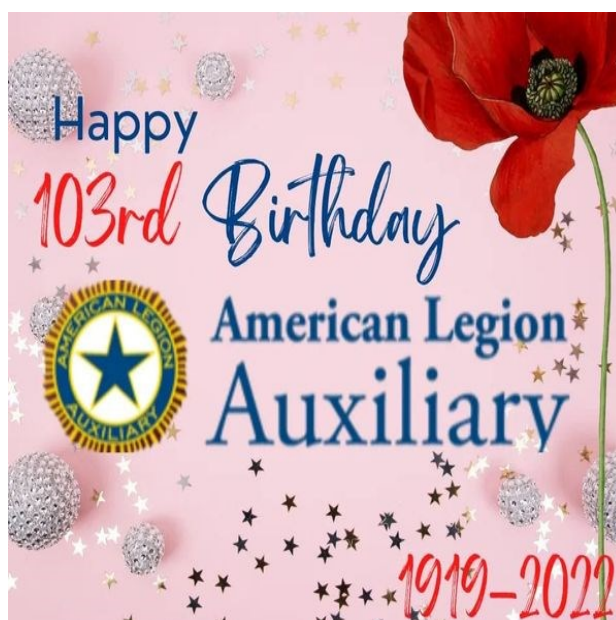
Hightstown Post 148 is planning to transport needed supplies to benefit those hit hard in Fort Myers FL.
Items needed: Bottled Water, Any Non-Perishable Food, Personal Hygiene Essentials, Toiletries, Cleaning Supplies,
Paper Products, Clothing, Pet Food, Bedding Items...

Post 148 will be collecting items for delivery, leaving for Fort Myers FL on 7-December 2022.

For drop-off information, contact Hightstown Post 148. Commander Doug Herrin 732-616-4848.

Ongoing: Fisher House Foundation 50/50, drawing 31-Dec. Belleville SAL Sq 105.
Ongoing: Food Drive for the Troops at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Brick Post 348.
Ongoing: Bingo Sundays, New Egypt Post 455.
Starting Nov 20: Christmas Tree Sales, Wayne Post 174.
Starting Nov 25: Christmas Tree Sales, Rockaway Post & SAL 344.
Nov 28: Spaghetti Fundraiser for Saverio Lardieri, Toms River Post 129.
Fri & Sat thru Dec: Dinner Specials and Entertainment, Toms River Post 129.
Sat thru Dec: Dinner Specials, Neptune Post 346.
Dec 1: Blood Drive, Blackwood Post 281.
Dec 2-20: Toys-For-Tots Collection, Rochelle Park Post 170.
Dec 2: Holiday Christmas Party (RSVP Nov 25), Barnegat Post 232.
Dec 3: Christmas Minis Picture with Santa Fundraiser, Woodbridge Post 87.
Dec 3: POW / MIA Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, Toms River Post 129.
Dec 3: Lori T is Back! Englishtown Post 434.
Dec 3: NJ Dept of ALA Exec Board Meeting, Luncheon, & Birthday Celebration, Neptune Unit, Post 346.
Dec 3: Leathernecks Nation MC Toys-For-Tots Collection, Neptune Post 346.
Dec 4: Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony, Somers Point Beach, Legion Riders Somers Point Post 352.
Dec 4: Jr. Aux Bake Sale Fundraiser and SAL Breakfast, New Egypt Post 455.
Dec 4 and every other Sunday thru Mar 5, 2023: Breakfast, Mystic Island Post 493.
Dec 7: "Pearl Harbor: A Day Of Infamy" presentation. www.infoage.org Wall Twp (former Camp Evans)
Dec 7: Ceramic Paint Night, ALA Totowa Unit, Post 227.
Dec 7: Chicken Marsala Dinner, ALA West Milford Unit, Post 289.
Thru Dec 9: Toys-For-Tots Toy Collection, Wayne Post 174.
Dec 10: Toys-For-Tots Christmas Party, Freehold Post 54.
Dec 10: Annual Family Christmas Party, Legion Riders Chapter 174, Wayne Post 174.
Dec 10: Annual Taste of Soul, ALA Unit Burlington, Post 336.
Dec 10: Community Children's Pancake Breakfast w/ Santa, ALA Unit New Egypt, Post 455.
Dec 11: Holiday Sip & Paint, ALA Unit 171 & Unit 206, Westwood Post 206.
Dec 11: Children's Christmas Party, Barnegat Post 232.
Dec 11: Monmouth County Legion Family Holiday Party, Neptune Post 346.
Thru Dec 14: Toys Dropoff, Linden Post 105 with VFW 1397.
Thru Dec 14: Holiday Toy Drive for Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Brick Post 348.
Thru Dec 15: Toy Drive, ALA Unit, West Milford Post 289.
Thru Dec 15: Share the Warmth for Madonna House – Hats, Gloves, etc. ALA Neptune Unit, Post 346.
Thru Dec 16: Food Drive, Belvidere SAL Sq 131.
Thru Dec 16: Toys-For-Tots, M-W-Th-F 2-4. Lodi Post 136.
Dec 16: Roast Beef Dinner, Leonardo Post 338.
Dec 16: Post Christmas Party, Mega 50/50 Raffle Drawing, Mystic Island Post 493.
Dec 17: Wreaths Across America. www.wreathsacrossamerica.org
Dec 17: Breakfast with Santa, ALA Unit West Milford Post 289.
Dec 22: Merryoke, Neptune Post 266.
Jan 14, 2023: Dept Membership Training Seminar, Wayne Post 174.





Have you recruited five new members to the Sons of The American Legion during the 2022-2023 membership year who have not previously held SAL membership in a previous membership year?

If you have, then you are eligible for award of the 2022-2023 Individual Recruitment Award pin. The Adobe Acrobat fillable form for award of the 2022-2023 Award pin is available at:

<https://www.legion.org/.../2022-2023%20SAL%20IRA%20Award...>

A documentary on Vietnam Veteran Frank Romeo's "Walk Across New York" to raise awareness of PTSD, as seen on PBS: www.walkwithfrankfilm.com. The organization behind it is: www.walkwithfrank.org.

Korea Defense Veterans Association: www.kdva.org (Open to Vets, Family, and Friends)

Family Friendly Things To Do:

www.njmilitiamuseum.org Sea Girt Camp and Lawrenceville locations.

www.infoage.org at Camp Evans in Wall Twp., Military Technology and History, Veterans' Wall of Honor, Military Vehicles, Communications and Computer History, so much more.

www.njvvmf.org NJ Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Museum, GSP Exit 116 at the Arts Center.

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