



The New Jersey

SALute

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Special Election Edition

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Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of New Jersey
171 Jersey St., Bld 5, 2nd Floor,
Trenton NJ 08611
www.NJSAL.org

Commander	Henry F. Hasselhan
Vice Commander	Keith Barnes
Vice Commander	Richard Hodum
Vice Commander	Mark Natale
Vice Commander	Steve Sangemino
Vice Commander	Gregory Shaffer
Adjutant	PNVC Thomas Marsden
Finance Officer	PDC C. David Page
Chaplain	PDC Matthew Thalasio
Judge Advocate	PDC John "Jay" Gillman
Historian	PDC Nicholas Wingler
Nat Exec Comm	PDC Len Free
Alt Nat Exec Comm	PDC Robert Phillips Jr
Sgt-at-Arms	Darryl Cunningham
SAL Chairman	Anthony Gladden



Inside...

This *Special Election Edition* of the ***SALute*** features the leading candidates for the 2022-2023 elected offices of Detachment Commander, Detachment Finance Officer, five (5) Detachment Vice Commanders, a 2-year National Executive Committeeman (NEC), and a 2-year Alternate National Executive Committeeman (ANEC).

Each candidate has been endorsed by his respective Squadron and has submitted a short biography and photo and is featured in this edition.

Nominations will remain open until the day of the elections at the 2022 Convention.

Our best wishes and a "Job Well Done!" to our outgoing 2021-2022 Officers; Department Commander Daniel Dunn, Department President Jane Babli, and our own Detachment Commander Henry F. Hasselhan.

We are fortunate to be able to meet at Convention once again after the pandemic of the last couple of years. But that doesn't mean we can let our guard down. Keep those buddy checks ongoing.

For God and Country,

Gary S. Crawford PC Sq 346, Editor ***SALute***

njSALute@gmail.com

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The Leading Candidates for the 2022-2023 New Jersey American Legion Family



Mark Natale for Detachment Commander
Colleen Breen-Lopez for Department President
Steven Fisher for Department Commander

Congratulations on a job well done!

Officers of the New Jersey American Legion Family for 2021-2022



Henry F. Hasselhan, Detachment Commander
Jane Babli, Department President
Daniel Dunn, Department Commander

And a big thank you to those many appointed Officers and Committee Chairmen.



*The Leading Candidate for Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander
2022-2023*

Mark Natale



Mark and his wife Lisa Waldron Natale have devoted so much of their lives to Leonardo Post, SAL, and Unit 338, as well as the American Legion Family of New Jersey.

I, Mark Natale, have been a Member of Squadron 338 in Leonardo for 8 years, qualifying through my father, Joseph Natale Jr., serving in the United States Air Force 1961-65. I served as Squadron Jr. Vice Commander for 2 years, Squadron Commander for 3 years, Detachment Vice Commander for 4 years and Chairman of the CWF for 3 years. On the Squadron level I have helped with Squadron and Post events as well as worked hard recruiting new Members to the Legion Family of Post 338. On the Detachment level I have served on committees including The Child Welfare Foundation, the National Emergency Fund and the Special Olympics committees. I'm proud of my hard work on raising money for these great programs.

I am running for Detachment Commander for the coming year 2022-2023 and would like the support of the Detachment. As Commander, I would strive to have the Officers and Chairmen to perform their duties and better inform the Members about the Detachment of New Jersey. I look to provide an example of leadership to our Chairmen and Officers and our Membership by challenging each one to charge one another and support each of them to make one cohesive unit - one great team - a true brotherhood that will take the Sons higher and farther than they have been. The journey continues in helping and serving our veterans and community, as well as our children and staying true to our principles of this great organization.

For God and Country,
Mark Natale
Vice Commander, Detachment of NJ

Leading Elected Candidates for 2022-2023

For (1) Commander:

Mark Natale, Squadron 338 Leonardo, Monmouth County

For (1) Finance Officer:

C. David Page, Squadron 455 New Egypt, Ocean County

For (5 one-year terms) Vice Commanders:

Keith Barnes, Squadron 58, Englewood, Bergen County

Richard Hodum, Squadron 166 Lakewood, Ocean County

William Murphy, Squadron 348 Brick, Ocean County

Stephen Sangemino, Squadron 105 Belleville, Essex County

Open

*Note: Nominations are **still open** until the day of elections at the 2022 Detachment Convention*

For (1 two-year term) National Executive Committeeman (NEC)

Robert Phillips Jr., Squadron 262 Audubon, Camden County

For (1 two-year term) Alternate National Executive Committeeman (ANEC)

Henry F. Hasselhan, Squadron 311 Atco, Camden County

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For Detachment Finance Officer

C. David Page



Dave Page is currently the 2021-2022 Detachment Finance Officer and is running for re-election. He is a member of New Egypt Squadron 455 – Ocean County – and has served as Detachment Commander for 2017-2018 and was awarded the prestigious *Son of the Year*.

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For Detachment Vice Commander 2022-2023

Keith Barnes



I joined the Sons of the American Legion (SAL) thirty-four years ago to honor my grandfather Levi Phues, who was an Army veteran. I am a proud member of Squadron 58 of Bergen County. Since joining the SAL I have held the following titles: Squadron 58 Commander (6 years), Bergen County Commander of the Sons of the American Legion (3 years), and New Jersey Detachment Vice Commander (2 years).

As Detachment Vice Commander, I am responsible for overseeing Squadrons in Bergen, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren County.

In my roles as Detachment Vice Commander or Bergen County Commander or Squadron 58 Commander, my duties include installing Squadrons, and ensuring they are adhering to policies and procedures. In addition, I represent the Detachment of New Jersey, SAL, and Squadron 58 at various functions, such as dinners, picnics, parades, and funerals.

In my role, my main objective is to support our veterans.

For God and Country,

Keith Barnes

For Detachment Vice Commander 2022-2023

Richard Hodum



My name is Richard Hodum. I gained my eligibility to the Sons of The American Legion through my father, Carl Hodum, who was a Korean War Veteran. He was a 60-year Member of Joseph M. Lane Post 136, Lodi NJ, when he passed away in 2015. My family all belonged as well.

I moved to Nevada for 18 years, then came back to New Jersey and rejoined The Sons Detachment of New Jersey in Ocean County, where I have been a member for 10 years. I have held positions in Squadron 166 Lakewood; Squadron Commander for 6 years, Finance Officer for 2 years and Membership Chairman for 2 years.

I have also held positions in Ocean County; D.E.C for 5 years and Sergeant-at-Arms for 2 years. I have also been POW/MIA Chairman 2020-2021 and I will also be POW/MIA Chairman this year.

I am currently the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of New Jersey Vice Commander and if re-elected will be my second term.

For God and Country,
Richard Hodum
Vice Commander, Detachment of NJ

For Detachment Vice Commander 2022-2023

William Murphy



“Murph” is a member of Brick Squadron 348 is currently the Ocean County Detachment Executive Committeeman (DEC) and is a Past Squadron 348 and Past Ocean County Commander. He served as the POW / MIA Committee and Young Citizen Award Committee Chairs.



Four of the leading candidates at the Memorial Day Ceremonies at the Gen. Doyle Cemetery. L to R: Rich Hodum (for Vice Commander), Henry Hasselhan (for ANEC), Bob Phillips (for NEC), and Bill Murphy (for Vice Commander). Commander's Aide young Henry will no doubt be a candidate soon.

For Detachment Vice Commander 2022-2023

Stephen Sangemino



Steve Sangemino is running for his fourth term as Detachment Vice Commander. Currently his District comprises of Essex, Union, Hudson, and Somerset Counties.

Steve has been a member of the SAL since 2013, and was one of the original Members involved in the reactivation of Belleville Squadron 105 after it went inactive for twenty years. He was recently re-elected as Squadron Commander for his fifth term, where under his leadership over four years the Squadron went from 28 members to 97 members, and became one of the most active Squadrons in New Jersey. SAL 105, under his direction, donated almost \$20,000 to charity over the past year, despite COVID, and has been responsible for thousands of dollars in multiple Post improvement projects over the past few years.

At the 2021 convention, Steve received the prestigious Son of the Year Award, in recognition of his work in the SAL. He also serves on the Child Welfare Fund (CWF) Committee, spearheading this past year's "Night of Comedy" at his home post in Belleville, netting thousands of dollars for the program.

Steve is a member of the Sons through the service of his father, Jim, who was a WWII Army Veteran of the Normandy landings. His father passed away in 1989.

Prior to his retirement in 2012, Steve spent 10 years in historical restoration working for Precision Restoration as Vice President in Charge of Sales. Before that, he worked as a carpenter. In his spare time, his passion was being a little league baseball coach from 1978-2001, with Project Pride in Newark. His experience working with kids playing ball was one of the driving forces of Squadron 105 sponsoring the Belleville 14U USABL traveling baseball team for the past two years.

Steve looks forward to continuing to make a contribution to the SAL at the Detachment level again in the coming year.

Candidate for National Executive Committeeman 2022-2024 (NEC)

Robert E. Phillips Jr.



My eligibility is through my father P.D.C. Robert E. Phillips Sr. U.S. Army. I have been a Member of the Sons of The American Legion for 16 years and have attended both Basic and Advanced courses of The American Legion SAL College. In 2013, I completed The American Legion Chaplain course. In 2016 through 2018, I completed the National Management Institute course. This is a three-year commitment held during the National Executive Committeeman meetings in Indianapolis.

I am a Charter member of Murray-Troutt Squadron 262, Audubon, serving as the first Commander. I have filled many rolls within our Squadron such as Finance Officer, Adjutant, and Judge Advocate. I have participated in fundraisers, memorial services, and I am a member of our Color Guard.

On the County level, I have held the positions of Chaplain, D.E.C., First Vice Commander, and Commander for the years 2012-2014. As Commander of Camden County Committee, we successfully raised money to purchase room size refrigerators for each room at Veterans Haven South.

On the Detachment level, I have served as Historian, Chaplain, Vice Commander, and Commander for the year 2015-2016. I am completing the fourth year as Alternate National Executive Committeeman. I served as the Finance Chairman for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 administrative years. I have been the co-chairman and chairman of the Mentoring Committee. Currently I am the Membership Chairman.

I am a Charter Member of Stetser-LaMartine Chapter 281 American Legion Riders and have served as Sergeant-at-Arms for one year, and Secretary for two years.

I like to thank our Officers for a job well done and look forward to collaborating with our Officers elected for the administrative year 2022-2023.

Thank you for your consideration in electing me as your National Executive Committeeman.

For God and Country,
Robert E. Phillips Jr.
ANEC Detachment of New Jersey

Candidate For Alternate National Executive Committeeman 2022-2024 (ANEC)

Henry F. Hasselhan



*As my Dad would say "**Semper Fidelis**" ("Always Faithful")*

Henry gained his eligibility for the Sons of the American Legion through his father, Sgt. Henry M Hasselhan USMC, who served in Korea, with the First Marine Division during the Korean War.

Henry has been a member of Waterford Township, Squadron 311, for 18 years.

At the Squadron level he was persuaded to reactivate Squadron 311 and has served as Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, and Membership Chairman.

At the County level, he served as Sergeant-at-Arms, Americanism Chairman, Vice Commander, and as Commander 2017-2019, for Camden County. He is currently serving as Camden County Finance Officer.

His first position for the Detachment of New Jersey was Assistant Sgt-at-Arms, then 5 years as Vice Commander. He has served as Commission Chairman for the Employment, Homeless, and Education Commission (VEH&E), and the SAL Liaison to the American Legion Dept. of NJ VEH&E. He has served on public relations and media committees, and he currently sits on the planning committee for the Atlantic City Stand Down.

Henry has completed SAL College Basic, and Advanced, National Management Institute 1 and 2, National Commanders Class, and the American Legion Extension Institute. He has also participated in Boots to Business programs, along with numerous Job Fairs and Stand Downs across the State of New Jersey. He has attended many conferences on VEH&E, while at National Executive Committee meetings and Washington Conference. Henry has also been a Delegate at the National Convention for 4 years and has helped judge the History Book contests.

Good afternoon ,

As we look to gather at cemeteries, monuments, and parks all over the country, march in parades in cities big and small from Hawaii to Virginia, North Dakota to Texas, we do these things to honor the loyalty and bravery of our fallen in this noble calling - military service. While this day is typically spent recalling the valor of men and women who died in combat, we must never forget those quiet professionals who answered that noble calling to serve the people of the United States in peacetime as well. The history of our Nation and those who serve can be summed up in a short and simple, yet fitting phrase... they are ordinary people who by virtue of their service and sacrifice are extraordinary.

Our Commander's project, Flying Flags for Heroes, aims at placing 1 million flags on the graves of our Nation's Heroes, honoring the service of our Veterans, inspiring patriotism, and promoting national pride.



We need your help in achieving that goal, please visit our website and share your event with us, add the number of flags you placed and post your photos.

www.flyingflagsforheroes.com

"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God such men lived." – Dr. Martin Luther King



Save the date for Henry's and Jane's Testimonial Dinner

	THE DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY & THE SONS of THE AMERICAN LEGION	
<i>Extends A "Cordial Invitation" to All Auxiliary Members, SAL's, Legionaries & Friends To Attend the</i>		
<u>TESTIMONIAL DINNER</u>		
- HONORING -		
<i>Jane Bobli</i> DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT		<i>Henry F. Hasselhan</i> SAL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
Elizabeth's Ballroom 419 Highland Blvd. Gloucester, New Jersey 08030		
COCKTAILS: 2:00 - 4:00 P.M. 4:00-6:00 P.M. CASH BAR		BUFFET DINNER, DESSERT TABLE
DONATION - \$50.00 <u>Saturday June 25, 2022</u> 2p.m. to 6p.m.		
RESERVATIONS MANDATORY		
Dinner Reservations Must Be Received No Later Than Monday, June 13 2022		
<i>No Tickets Will Be Sold at the Door</i>		

PLEASE DETACH AND MAIL RESERVATION REQUEST WITH CHECK TO:		
Patricia Grimmig 108 Counts Court Marlton, NJ Phone: 856-983-0397		
Please make checks payable to: <i>American Legion Auxiliary Camden County Commit</i> ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND		
\$ _____ COVERING _____ RESERVATION (S) FOR DINNER		
Name _____		
County _____ Post/unit/squad _____		
Name _____		
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(LIST ADDITIONAL RESERVATIONS ON LOWER BACK OF THIS PAGE IF NECESSARY)		

TWENTY-TWO VETERAN SUICIDES EACH DAY ARE
TWENTY-TWO TOO MANY



Help Is Out There!

If you or someone you know is considering suicide, please contact the national Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255), text “STRENGTH” to the Crisis Text Line at 741-741 or go to www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

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The Preamble to the Constitution of the Sons of the American Legion

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of all Wars, associate ourselves together as “**Sons of The American Legion**” for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in all Wars; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship, by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit, all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country; inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State and Nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship, by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit, all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

