



The New Jersey

SALute

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Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of New Jersey
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| Vice Commander | Richard Hodum |
| Vice Commander | William Murphy |
| Vice Commander | Stephen Sangemino |
| Vice Commander | (Open) |
| Adjutant | PDC Carl Alber Jr |
| Finance Officer | PDC C. David Page |
| Chaplain | Charles Taylor II |
| Judge Advocate | PDC Michael Arner |
| Historian | Wil Fetherman |
| Nat Exec Comm | PDC Robert Phillips Jr |
| Alt Nat Exec Comm | PDC Henry Hasselhan |
| Sgt-at-Arms | Darryl Cunningham |
| Sgt-at-Arms Emeritus | Anthony Liberatore |
| SAL Chairman | Anthony Gladden |
| SALute Editor | Gary S. Crawford |



Membership Card Update: The cards are now issued and in the hands of your Squadron Adjutant. Please renew your 2023 Membership, either in person at your Squadron, or snail mail it in. Please do not send renewals to the State and National offices. Stop by your Post and see what you can do to help.

Inside...

This spring and summer have been quite busy. Many photos are featured of our Detachment and Squadrons in action in this larger-than-usual (30 pages!) edition of the SALute.

Congratulations to our 2022-2023 Officers and Committee Chairmen. We wish them the best of luck and promise to give them a hand to do the best job they can.

Some of our new Officers and Committee Chairs have yet to update their information on our Detachment website: www.njsal.org. Please bring your information up to date so we know your current projects and as well as contact information.

We were 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, Adjutant Monmouth County Exec Committee, Editor ***SALute***

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The Commander's Message



Greetings, my fellow S.A.L Brothers!

It's been a great few months for us all.

I've been attending a lot of great events, spending time with Legion Family and our communities working hard to push the programs to help our great Veterans and children and youth.

Memorial services and events run by the Detachment have been very special and meaningful.

Detachment Committees and Chairmen and all the Officers have been doing a great job!!! I can't stress that enough.

Membership got off to a slow start due to issues with National, but it's time to work very hard on Membership. It's our lifeline!

The Membership goal for the Detachment this year is 10,000. We have been close in the past. Let's finally get there! We got this!

Remember the theme (CHALLENGE)

Let's challenge, support, and push each other to new heights to accomplish our goals. Keep up the great work.

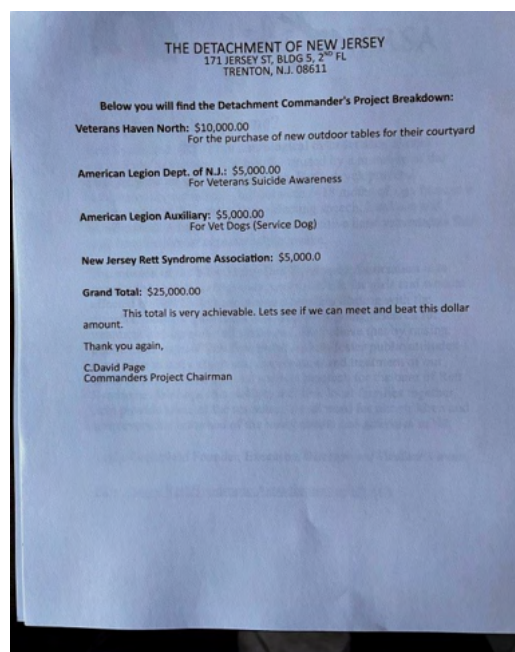
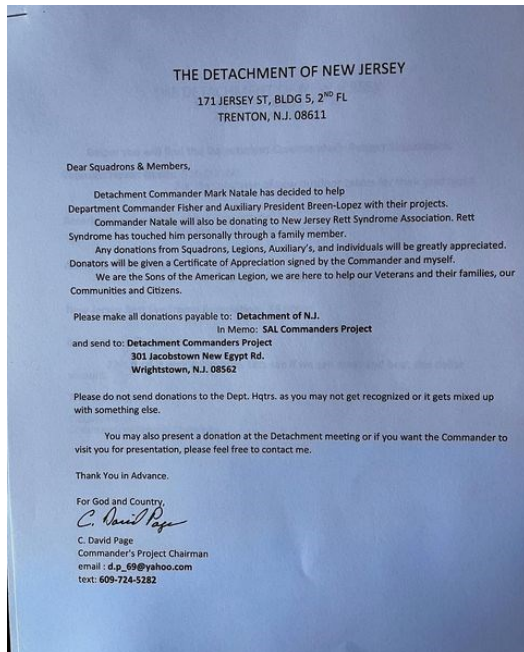
For God And Country

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

The Commander's Project:



What is RETT Syndrome?

Rett Syndrome (RTT) is a neurological disorder seen exclusively in females. It is usually caused by a mutation of the MECP2 gene on the X chromosome. Early developmental milestones appear normal, but between 6-18 months of age, there is a regression in skills, particularly affecting speech, hand use, and coordination. A hallmark of RTT is repetitive hand movements that may become almost constant while awake.

The mission of *New Jersey Rett Syndrome Association* is to contribute towards an improved quality of life for girls and women affected by Rett Syndrome, support families dealing with the disorder, increase awareness, and support ongoing research for treatment and cure of Rett Syndrome. We believe that by raising public awareness of Rett Syndrome we can foster public attitudes conducive to early diagnosis, intervention and treatment of our children as we encourage and support research for the cure of Rett Syndrome. We hope this website will link local families together, help provide some of the resources we all need for our children, and keep everyone informed of the many events and activities in New Jersey.

Leslie Greenfield, Founder, Executive Director, and Heather's Mom.

New Jersey Rett Syndrome Association (njrsa.org)



The American Legion Hails Senate for Passing Honoring our PACT Act

WASHINGTON (August 2, 2022) – The head of the nation’s largest veterans organization praised the Senate for its passage of legislation that will provide comprehensive benefits to veterans suffering from conditions linked to toxic exposure during their time in the U.S. Armed Forces. A previous version passed on June 16 but had to be reconsidered due to parliamentary objections to a technical provision.

“Tonight, the U.S. Senate passed historic legislation that will make a difference in the lives of millions of veterans,” American Legion National Commander Paul E. Dillard said. “After some unusual delays for a bill that is largely identical to what passed on June 16, a bipartisan majority of senators voted in favor of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act. This act will save lives and offer health care and benefits for those exposed to the poisons of war while serving our country. It would not have passed without the tireless efforts of our American Legion Family and friends who contacted lawmakers and encouraged them to do right by America’s veterans. We look forward to President Biden signing the PACT Act expeditiously.”

The Honoring Our PACT Act, which had already passed in the House of Representatives, will provide health care for millions of veterans who were exposed to contaminants emanating from open-air burn pits. It establishes presumptions of service connection for 23 respiratory illnesses and cancers linked to burn pits and other hazards. It will also provide additional resources and staff to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The American Legion is dedicated to the motto of “Veterans Strengthening America.” Chartered by Congress in 1919, The American Legion is committed to mentoring youth and sponsoring wholesome community programs, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting a strong national security and continued devotion to service members and veterans. Legionnaires in more than 12,500 posts across the nation and regions overseas serve their communities with a devotion to mutual helpfulness.



American Legion National Commander Paul E. Dillard, who worked to make the PACT Bill a reality.



The term “burn pit” has been used relating to many of the illnesses suffered by Veterans. Behind Lt. Dan (from the film *Forrest Gump*) is a burn pit, where waste of every kind was dumped into a pit, doused with diesel fuel, and burned, an accepted practice at the time.



A Visit From the National Commander:



(Left) National Commander Paul E. Dillard visits Woodbridge Post 87 on 1-August. Left to right are PDC Dan Dunn, SAL Essex County DEC Rusty Myers, Commander Dillard, PVC Jack Dunne, and Belleville Squadron 105 Commander and Detachment Vice Commander Steve Sangemino.



(Right) Detachment Commander Mark Natale, Monmouth DEC Wil Fetherman, ALA Monmouth County President MC Boyle, ALA Past Department President Doreen Gallagher, Commander Dillard, ALA Department Chaplain Lisa Natale, and Freehold Post 54 Commander Ken Pulchlopek.



Commander Paul and Commander Mark Natale



Toms River Post 129 readies for Comdr Paul

Commander Dillard made it a point to visit as many Posts as he could, as well as visiting the Battleship New Jersey in Camden.



Comdr Paul mans the guns on the Battleship New Jersey. "Cut me off in traffic, will ya?"



PVC Jack Dunne, PDC Dan Dunn, Comdr Paul, and Tony Gladden at Post 129, 3-August.



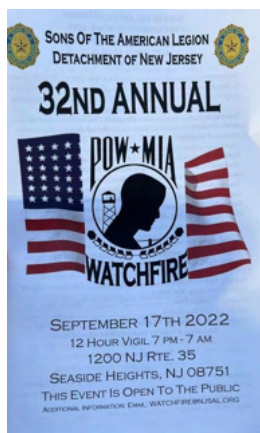
The gang's all here. Commander Dillard's visit to Brick Post 348.

Commander Dillard was to attend a meet & greet at Union Beach Post 321, but was called back to Washington DC for the signing of the PACT Bill that he and so many in the Legion Family worked so hard to be signed into law.

32nd Annual Watchfire, 17-18 Sept 2022:



Dave Page lights the Watchfire.



Some of those attending the ceremony.



(Left) Chaplain Charles Taylor II gives the prayer. (Center) Commander Mark Natale gives opening words. (Right) Lenny Free leads the singing of The National Anthem.



(Left) The Gazebo. (Center) The Wreaths and Flags. (Right) Rich Hodum prepares the Table.



(Left) Commander Mark Natale prepares to retire a Flag. (Center) PDC Carl Albern Jr. blows TAPS. (Right) Immediate Past Commander Henry Hasselhan says a few words.



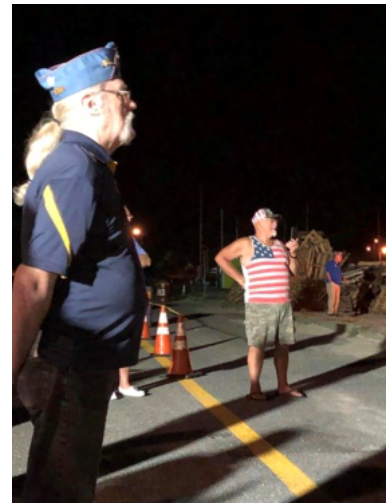
Department Commander Steve Fisher explains the POW/MIA Flag as Detachment Commander Mark Natale and Department President Colleen Breen-Lopez show the features Steve is explaining.



(Left) PDC and Ocean County Commander Tom Marsden receives a proclamation from Seaside Heights in honor of the 30+ years the Watchfire has been held in town. (Right) Tony Gladden salutes the Wreath he has just placed as Rich Hodum looks on.



(Left) SAL PDCs Lenny Free, NEC Bob Phillips Jr., ANEC Henry Hasselhan, PNVC Gary Nelson, and Commander Mark Natale. (Right) The table is set but the chair is empty, awaiting our POWs' return.



(Left) Ken Pulchlopek, Comdr Freehold Post 54, photobombs PDC Dan Dunn, Dept Comdr Steve Fisher, and Detachment Comdr Mark Natale. (Center) Mutt & Jeff, er... NEC Bob Phillips and PDP Doreen Gallagher. (Right) The editor somehow got his picture in this Watchfire gallery.

*This Watchfire is dedicated to the brave men and women who sacrificed their freedom in the service of our country. In honor of all former American Prisoners of War, those still missing, and those Americans who may still be held prisoner: **YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN.***

POW/MIA WATCHFIRE COMMITTEE:

Richard Hodum, POW / MIA Committee Chairman

C. David Page, William Murphy, Patrick Gallagher, Tony Clapsy, Carl Albern Jr.

From the Editor: On a personal note, this means a lot to me and my family. My father-in-law, my wife's father, suffered as a Prisoner of War at the hands of the North Koreans for three years. Thankfully he was liberated and came home to raise his four children.

The editor wishes to thank those who contributed photos of the Watchfire for this edition of the *SALute*: Doreen and Patrick Gallagher, Tom and Pat Marsden, Nick Wingler, Colleen Breen-Lopez, Mark and Lisa Natale, and Dawn Vaccaro Burger.



POW / MIA Ceremony at Neptune Post 346, 16-Sept-2022:



(Left) DEC Wil Fetherman opens the ceremony. (Center) Honor Guard from the MAST School at Sandy Hook displays the POW / MIA Flag. (Right) Acting Chaplain Gary Crawford offers the prayer.



MAST Honor Guard place covers at each setting.

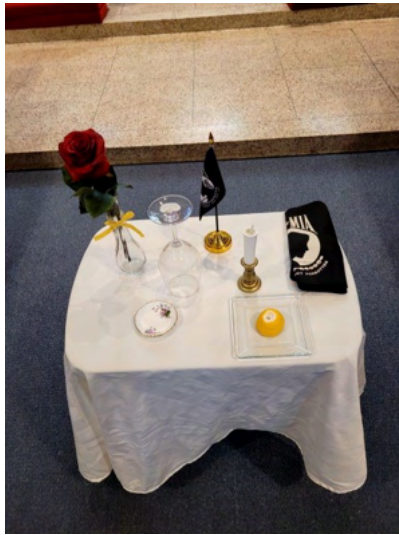


Six covers at the empty chairs.



Neptune Committeeman Robert Lane addresses the audience.

POW / MIA Ceremony at Merchantville Grace Episcopal Church 16-Sept-2022:



Scout Troop 119 and Grigg Post 68 of Merchantville held a POW/MIA Ceremony at Grace Episcopal Church of Merchantville. A service was held inside the church and then continued outside as the Flags were raised and TAPS played.



At the Milwaukee Convention, 26-29 August-2022:



2022 Convention, Milwaukee, 26-29 Aug. LtoR: Jim Noble, Henry Hasselhan 4th, Lenny Free, Patrick Gallagher, Tom Marsden, Henry Hasselhan 3rd, Jeff Hicks, Mike Arner, Carl Alber, Detachment Commander Mark Natale, Gary Nelson, Bob Bascou, and Bob Phillips. That's Henry Hasselhan 5th in the "0". Except for Mark Natale and Henrys 4th and 5th, all are Past NJ Detachment Commanders. An excellent representation of our state.



Congratulations to 2022-23 SAL National Commander Christopher Carlton and National Vice Commanders Ernest Laberge, Ronald Roberts, David Mennel, Michael Kirschner and Jack Youngs!



(Left) National Commander Christopher Carlton addresses attendees as outgoing SAL National Commander Michael Fox looks on. (Right) Incoming 2022-2023 SAL National Commander Christopher Carlton, Legion National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola and ALA National President Vickie Koutz.



Comdr's Aide Henry Hasselhan (5th) presents coins to National Commander Michael Fox.



At the Sons of The American Legion National Convention, those who worked on the Ten Ideals Program were honored. The youth taking part all passed the Program. All received recognition on stage on 28Aug.

Coins for CWF

By Henry P. Hasselhan (4th) Waterford Twp. SAL Sq 311:

It is hard to get an active 5-year-old boy to focus on something for more than a couple minutes unless it involved some form of electronics, or at least in the case of one particular 5-year-old.

When my father, Henry F. Hasselhan (Henry the 3rd), was nominated for Detachment Commander for the NJ Sons of the American Legion, he chose to ask his grandson, Henry James (Henry the 5th), to serve as his Commander's Aide. I had my concerns, knowing how active and sometimes hard to focus my son is.

To my surprise, and everyone else's pleasure, Henry James not only participated, but he became an attraction at almost every event he attended. He attended several events at Veterans Haven South, where he played cornhole with Vets during their annual pig roast and helped hand out Easter candy when the Legion Family served Easter lunch. Henry travelled to Washington DC for the Washington Conference where he met National Commander Michael Fox and attended several memorials and wreath layings. He met Governor Phil Murphy, and Brigadier General Lisa Hou, during the annual Governors Review of the NJ National Guard. He also attended Memorial Day services at Brigadier General William C. Doyle Military Cemetery where he again met Governor Murphy and Brigadier General Hou.

During his tenure as Commander's Aide, these three events helped to shape Henry James' legacy. First, after the Governors review, I shared some of the photos I took with one of my employees at work, CSM Joseph Leighton, who is an active member of the Delaware National Guard. He was impressed with Henry James enough to gift him his personal challenge coin. Second, Commander Fox was generous enough to gift Henry his personal challenge coin during his Washington visit. Finally, when he met the Governor Murphy and the Brigadier General for the second time on Memorial Day, they both gifted him their personal challenge coins as well.

These four coins started a sort of obsession with Henry, and EVERY Legion event he attended he took these coins with him. Not one, not two, but all his coins he collected so far. He loved to show off his coins, and this led to several Legionnaires teaching him the 'right way' to show off his challenge coins, by slapping them down as a challenge. He learned about how coins showing rank worked and his Governor's coin (Commander in Chief for the NJ National Guard) soon became his favorite.

Fast forward to my father's end of term testimonial dinner. Henry James as usual had his coins, and at some point, was encouraged to challenge out-going Department of NJ Commander Daniel Dunn. Henry's coin won the challenge, and Commander Dunn used the opportunity to give Henry a mission.

He gave Henry \$20 for CWF and told him to see how many people he could challenge that day. At the end of the day, he had raised \$250 for CWF with his challenge coins. Mission Accomplished!

This past August, my father, my son, and I had the honor of representing NJ by attending the Sons of the American Legion's 50th National Convention in Milwaukee. Working with the National Children and Youth Committee we were able to present on stage the \$250 directly to National Commander Fox and tell Henry's story. The rest of the weekend Henry James was stopped for pictures, presented with new challenge coins, and in some cases challenged by Sons from all over the country.

I am proud to say that Henry is continuing with his challenge coins and has raised over \$450 dollars for CWF since he walked off stage. His goal for 2022-2023 is to raise at least \$1000, which he intends to present at next year's National Convention.

Last Event as Detachment Commander

Henry F Hasselhan, NJ Detachment Commander 2021-2022

The last official event as Detachment Commander was to represent the Detachment of New Jersey as Convention Chairman in Milwaukee Wisconsin. Myself with 13 other SAL members, and 2 guests represented the Detachment at the 50th Convention of the Sons of the American Legion.

It was a busy weekend with meetings, dinners, and events being held from Thursday August 26th thru August 29th . The Detachment was awarded Certificates of Recognition for Over \$1.00 Per Capita for CWF. Also a certificate of appreciation was awarded for achieving over 100% of our goal for Flying Flags For Heroes. We also received 2 awards for Snapshots of Service, Squadron 105 Belleville for Veterans Affairs, and Squadron 311 Waterford Twp. For Children and Youth. Congratulations to both Squadrons as only 3 awards were awarded and NJ Squadrons took 2.

Day 1 Started on Friday with registration, a trip thru emblem sales, the first meeting session, and a presentation to the National Commander by the New Jersey Commanders Aide Henry Hasselhan 5th for \$250.00 that he collected for CWF. After numerous reports and presentations, we adjourned. 25 members of the NJ American Legion Family met and had dinner together at a local restaurant.

Day 2 on Saturday we started with the continuation of the general Convention Session, and Henry 5th

attended the National Children and Youth Academy. Henry the 4th assisted James Noble and his committee to help with the training. After the General Session a 50th convention dinner was attended by most of the Delegation and guests. Here we met Joe Piscopo, a fellow SAL Member recently inducted into the Sons.

Day 3 on Sunday opened with a memorial service remembering our SAL members that passed during the 2021-2022 year. More reports and presentations led up to the awarding of the Children and Youth Academy certificate and the ribbon for the 10 Ideals to the attendees of the Academy. The last order of business to come before the Convention was the Election of new Officers. Elections were held with the new Commander being Chris Carlton from Squadron 495 in Indianapolis. We also elected Ernest Laberge from Massachusetts as the Eastern Area Vice Commander. Convention was closed after swearing in new officers.

Post Convention meeting was convened to swear in new NECs and ANECs and to approve appointees of the new Commander. At this time NEC Robert Phillips Jr and ANEC Henry F Hasselhan were sworn in. After a roll call vote for the appointees was approved, with the exception of the Parliamentarian, as he was already a Vice Commander. The position was left unfilled at that time.

This evening some of the American Legion Family attended a traditional Oktoberfest at the Milwaukee War Memorial Building.



(Left) Inducted recently into Woodstock IL SAL Squadron 412, comedian, actor, and SNL alum Joe Piscopo addresses the crowd. "I'm here to honor my father", the NJ native said. (Center) The Legion sponsored Indy race car. (Right) Indy car driver Jimmie Johnson is inducted into the SAL and pledges \$1.5 million to the Legion as race team owner Chip Garacci, Legion National Commander Paul Dillard, and SAL National Commander Michael Fox look on.

Convention News:

Joseph Paviglianti's "Audacious Goal"

Joseph Paviglianti admitted it is an "audacious" goal: 1 million Members of the Sons of The American Legion by the program's 100th anniversary in 2032.

But he also expressed optimism that it's a goal that can be achieved when he spoke about it during Saturday's general session of the 50th SAL National Convention at Milwaukee's Miller High Life Theater.

"We can be at a million Members within 10 years if we plan accordingly and we look at how we do it sincerely and seriously and honestly," said Paviglianti, speaking in his role as chair of the SAL Century Committee.

"Are you with me in getting to that audacious goal of 1 million members?" he asked to resounding applause. "It is possible."

The current SAL membership is 361,587.

The goal may come, but it will do so without Paviglianti in as active a role. After 43 years in national office with the SAL, rising from Assistant Adjutant to Adjutant to National Judge Advocate, Paviglianti announced that this convention would be his last as the SAL's top legal counsel as well as his last as chair of the Century Committee.

"We have changed our constitution and bylaws, for the better, and come into alignment with those of The American Legion. That is a very good thing; it keeps everything clean, it keeps everything tight, it keeps everything organized," Paviglianti said. It also eliminates the SAL National Judge Advocate position as The American Legion National Judge Advocate assumes those responsibilities.

"I have absolute confidence and great optimism about the future, where the Sons of The American Legion is going," Paviglianti said.

That's in part due to the strategic plan the SAL Century Committee has been working on since being established a year ago. Paviglianti compared the process to a marathon, not a sprint.

"I ask all of us to be a little patient" as the plan is developed, he said.

"We are in a multi-phased process of developing and gathering data on what exactly we want our organization to be as we move into our next century," Paviglianti said.

In the wake of Paviglianti's retirement, a resolution adopted unanimously by the SAL bestowed upon him the rank of Honorary Past National Commander. He's the third SAL Member to receive that honor after Pat Shea, an endorsed candidate for the office of National Commander who passed away unexpectedly 19 months before that election, and Brian O'Hearne, who served as a National Vice Commander and Assistant Adjutant before serving as National Adjutant from 1999 to 2017.

A stream of SAL Past National Commanders seconded the resolution to make Paviglianti an Honorary Past National Commander on Saturday.

"I failed as Judge Advocate, because part of the role as Judge Advocate is to see all resolutions that come through and make sure they have some sort of properness. I obviously screwed up on this one," Paviglianti joked.

"I am extraordinarily humbled and embarrassed by what was just bestowed upon me, and I use the word 'embarrassed' because I do what I've done for the organization because I love the organization. I wish my dad were here to celebrate with me, celebrate with us ... I wish my wife were here because she also knew of my love of the organization. I have nothing but the greatest degree of appreciation to each and every one of you."

Flying Flags for Heroes. Tim Aboudara Sr., the national chair of SAL National Commander Michael Fox's service project, Flying Flags for Heroes, gave an update on the project.

"At the end of March, we were just under 250,000 flag placements," Aboudara said. But some innovative activities and buy-in from the entire Legion Family helped shatter Fox's goal of 1 million flags placed on veterans' graves at local cemeteries.

"As of today, we have placed just over 1.835 million flags at the gravesites," Aboudara said.

Fox said, "Flying Flags for Heroes was about getting our message out, getting outside of our four walls, getting back in the communities where the American Legion Family dominated in the 60s and the 70s and into the 80s. We can't be complacent; we have to continue to strive for greatness."

Guest speakers. In addition to committee reports, the SAL heard from a number of guest speakers at Saturday's general session, including PNC Jake Comer; American Legion Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel; Saturday Night Live alumnus and SAL member [Joe Piscopo](#); and youth champions Emma Noble (National Oratorical Contest champion), Dylan Owens (2021 American Legion Baseball All-Academic Team captain), Christopher Adam (National Eagle Scout of the Year), Tamarus Darby Jr. (Boys Nation President) and Samantha Zermeno (Junior 3-Position Air Rifle Sporter champion).

Comer, Daudistel and Piscopo were also guest speakers at Saturday afternoon's 50th National Convention Banquet.

The SAL National Convention concluded Sunday with the election of the next National Commander.



Flashback 50 years to August 1972, the first SAL National Convention in Chicago.

Marching LtoR: Ernie Wilson, Jim Hartman, Terry Kelley, Robert Faust, and Fred Hartline. Center: 1st Annual Convention Badge. At table LtoR: Terry Kelley, John Smolinsky, Eric Smith, Robert Faust, and Tom O'Boyle.



September 11 Ceremonies:



Belleville Ceremony. Included were Post and Squadron 105, Post 299, ALA and Squadron 70, VFW Post 493, Military Order of the Purple Heart 366, DAV Chapter 22, and AMVETS Post 26. Post 105 Commander Joe Cobianchi and 1st Vice Commander Walter Labar salute as the bugler prepares to play.



Commander Mark Natale's Sept 11 visits. (LtoR) At Lacey Elks 2518 with US Air Force General Kline, at the end of summer bash at POAC Autism Services with Tony Gladden at VFW 8867, and singing karaoke at Post 170 with Dennis Duddie, Post Commander and Department Vice Commander.



Neptune Post 346 on Sept 11. (Left) Detachment Commander Mark Natale and SAL Sq 346 member A.J. Alvarez. (Center) 346's Color Guard ready-aim-fire. (Right) Order Arms.



(Left) PDC and Detachment Adjutant Carl Alber Jr. blows TAPS. (Right) Post 346 Commander John Warhurst and Acting Chaplain Gary Crawford listen as Auxiliary President Amanda Trail addresses the audience.



A big thank you from POAC. The crew on Sept 10 at Brick VFW Post 8867: (LtoR) Colleen Breen-Lopez, Mark Natale, Tony Gladden, Steve Fisher, Nick Wingler, -, Tom Marsden, -.

Did You Know?

There is a *Sons of the American Legion* movie! Released in 1938, it details a young man's attempt to establish an SAL Squadron. A little info can be found here:

https://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sons_of_the_Legion.

Around the State:



Bill “Murph” Murphy was recently awarded Life Membership for his many years of work in the Sons. He is Past Commander of Brick Squadron 348, Past Ocean County Commander, and is currently Detachment Vice Commander. (LtoR) Kirk VonGlahn, Historian and PC Sq 348, Richard Suliga, Sq 348 Commander, Murph, PDC Tom Marsden Sq 348 Adjutant and Ocean County Commander, and Douglas Paquette, Post 348 Commander.



We regret to inform you that Fred Handy entered Squadron Everlasting over the Sep 11 weekend. Fred served as Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms.



(Left) Surprise! Party crashers at Lenny Free's 70th birthday party at Post 143 on 3-Sept. (Right) Jake Myers displays his award for obtaining the Ten Ideals Medal on 10-Sept. Jake is the first young SAL member from 105 to obtain this award. Detachment Vice Commander and Squadron 105 Commander Steve Sangemino and PDC and ANEC Henry Hasselhan flank proud dad Rusty Myers.



SAL Squadron 105 was recognized at the National Convention in Milwaukee this year as the first place recipient of the 'Snapshots of Service' Award in the area of Veterans Affairs. Young SAL Jake Myers participated in the Detachment of NJ program 'Cookies for our Vets', dropping off Girl Scout cookies to VA facilities in NJ. The photo taken by proud dad Detachment of NJ Children and Youth Chairman Rusty Myers won the award. ANEC and Past Detachment Comdr Henry Hasselhan presented the award on 10-Sept to Squadron 105 Comdr Steve Sangemino with Post 105 Comdr Joe Lobianco.



NJ Transit honors our military with ALP45 #4502



Sad news. Lake Hopatcong Post 245 suffered a fire on 26 Aug. A kitchen fire went out of control.
Donations are now being gratefully accepted to help rebuild.
Send to: American Legion Post 245, PO Box 187, Lake Hopatcong NJ 07849.



(Left) *SALute* Editor Gary Crawford and PDC Patrick Gallagher with donations for Lyons Veterans Home on 11-August. (Right) Kayla Alby, Patrick Gallagher, and Vineland Senior Therapy Program Assistant R. J. Morrison with donations for the Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland.



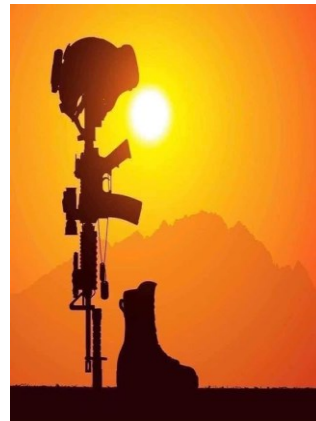
Belleville Post and Squadron 105 in the news, and their new “105 Cigar Night”, soon to be monthly.



PDC Carl Albern is sworn in as Commander of the SAL Monmouth County Executive Committee, as Gary Crawford is sworn in as MCEC Adjutant on 13-July at Neptune Post 346. Officiating are Monmouth County Legion Commander Mary Jo Burkhard and DEC Wil Fetherman.



(Left) SAL Detachment Commander Mark Natale at Brick Post 348 for Ocean County Legion Family Testimonial, 14-August. LtoR: Mark, Andy Jackson, Berley Hanna Jr., Ray Miller, Dan Dunn, and Jack Dunne. (Right) Department Commander Steve Fisher addresses the crowd





Detachment PDCs Henry Hasselhan, Tom Marsden, Matt Thalasinis, and Lenny Free at Brick Post 348 cookout.



2021-2022 Leaders: Henry Hasselhan, Jane Babli, Dan Dunn.



(Left) Detachment Adjutant and PDC Carl Alber Jr., ALA Chaplain Lisa Natale, and Detachment Commander Mark Natale at Neptune Post 266's 100th anniversary dinner on 29-July. (Right) Detachment Comdr Mark Natale stopped by Post 401 for their SAL Pancake Breakfast on 14-August, with Sq 401 Commander and Chief Pancake Flipper Reggie Carlson. It might be the first time a Detachment Commander has visited the Lt. John Farnkopf American Legion Post 401 in Monmouth Jct.





Post 331 Charity Dinner an Overwhelming Success

Post 331 Donation Presentation to Representatives of Cape Regional Medical Center and Foundation. (L-R) Vicki Lachman (Post 331), Jon Ready (Post 331), Jackie Noll (Medical Center Emergency Director), Adrienne Abbot (Medical Center Chief Nursing Officer), Mike Dumsha (S.A.L. Squadron 331 Commander), Tom Piratzky (Exec Dir Cape Regional Foundation), Tom McCullough (Post 331 Commander)

Each year, American Legion Post 331 of Stone Harbor, in conjunction with the Yacht Club of Stone Harbor, hosts a spaghetti dinner as a fund raiser for a designated veterans' support agency. The focus of this year's charity was the Cape Regional Medical Center in Cape May Court House which provides medical support to area veterans. The fundraiser was an overwhelming success with over 300 attendees resulting in a donation of \$5,000 to the medical center's foundation. This was the largest turnout to date for the event. Additionally, a large number of donated baskets of cheer and 50/50 tickets were raffled off to the participants. Servers from Post 331 and its Sons of the American Legion (S.A.L.) Squadron were augmented by Naval National Defense Corps Cadets from Middle Township High School. The Corps is similar to a Junior ROTC program, but must rely on donations to support their activities and uniforms. The cadets did a fabulous job and also will receive a donation from Post 331 for their support.

Important News from Chuck Robbins:

NJ Vet Leaders:

We are happy to announce our DMAVA Newsletter launches on September 14. Please subscribe at the link noted below. We thank you for disseminating this announcement to both the members of your various organizations and any other veterans you know that may want to stay informed on our happenings.

Chuck Robbins

Veterans Outreach Coordinator, NJ Department of Military & Veterans Affairs

Office: 609-530-6855, Cell: 732-921-8872

www.nj.gov/military/veterans/ Subscribe here: <https://dmava.org/>



(Left) Neptune Township recently refurbished their adjacent World War One and World War Two Monuments at the entrance to Ocean Grove and the re-dedication occurred on Sunday, 25-Sept. On hand were (LtoR) Monmouth County Commander Mary Jo Burkhard, Legion NEC Berley Hanna, Legion Dept. Commander Steve Fisher, ALA Dept. President Colleen Breen-Lopez, SAL Detachment Commander Mark Natale, Col. Walter R. Nall (US Army Ret), SAL NEC Bob Phillips Jr., and Neptune Post 346 Commander John Warhurst.
(Right) Dept Adjutant PDC Carl Alberm Jr. blows TAPS along with *SALute* Editor Gary Crawford.



Dignitaries on hand at re-dedication with WW2 Veterans Lou Parisi and Joseph Hughes seated.

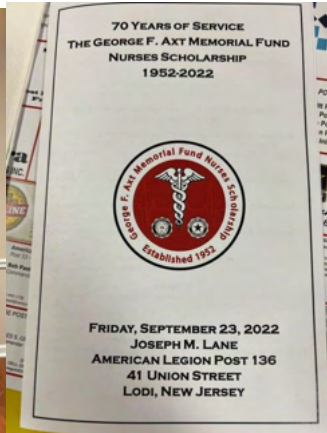


Neptune Post 346 Color Guard with SAL Members John Skislak (4th from R) and Paul Williams (2nd from R)





(Left) Detachment Adjutant and PDC Carl Alber Jr. prepares to place new cover on Bob Phillips Jr. for his new role as 2022-2024 NEC as PDC Tom Marsden places new badge on incoming ANEC PDC Henry Hasselhan. Commander Mark Natale records the moment at the Potawatomi Hotel lobby at Convention.
(Right) LtoR Past National Commander Danny Smith, PDC and ANEC Henry Hasselhan (3rd) and Past NEC Bob Brown and Past National Chief of Staff for PNC Michael Fox present Henry (5th) with an SAL Challenge Coin at the hotel lobby at the Milwaukee Convention.



Steve, Colleen, and Mark at the George Axt Fundraiser. Always a success, Post & Sq 105 Annual Picnic 18-Sept



Belleville Post and Sq 105 dropped by the other Belleville Post 299 for their picnic. An SAL Squadron is being reactivated at Post 299.

Support Your Local American Legion Family - Post, Squadron, and Unit:

Every 2nd Mon: Atlantic City Bus Trip to Resorts Casino, Neptune Post 346.
Every 2nd Tues: Clam Night, West Milford Post 289.
Every 2nd Wed: Patriotic Trivia Night, Atco Post 311.
Every 3rd Fri: What The Cluck – Wings Are Back, West Milford Post 289.
Every Wed: Rack ‘Em Up Pool Tournament, Neptune Post 266.
Every Thurs: Vets Chat & Chew, Fair Lawn Post 171.
Every Sun: Karaoke, Rochelle Park Post 170.
Oct 1: Joey Vincent Dinner Show, Lakewood Post 166.
Oct 1: Annual Pig Roast and Post Picnic, Rahway Post 5.
Oct 1: Kenny’s 16th Annual Clam Lover’s BBQ, Lyndhurst Squadron 139.
Oct 1: Auxiliary Yard Sale, West Milford Post 289.
Oct 2: Fall Fest for Vets Gift Auction, Neptune Aux Unit 346.
Oct 3: Tee Up for Vets Golf Outing, Berkshire Valley GC, Jefferson NJ, Milton Post 423.
Oct 8: 2nd Annual Meet & Greet, Burlington Aux Unit 336.
Oct 11: Vet’s Expo, Rowan College - Burlington County, Mt. Laurel.
Oct 14: Beefsteak Dinner and Comedy Night, Neptune SAL Sq 346.
Oct 14: Octoberfest with Alex Chernick, Freehold Post 54.
Oct 15: 1st Annual Cornhole Competition and Chili Cookoff, Toms River Post 129.
Oct 20: Vets Making a Difference in our Community, Union VFW 2648.
Oct 21: Vets Making a Difference in our Community, Hammonton VFW 1026.
Oct 22: Vet Alliance, Woodbridge Community Center.
Oct 22: Homemade Pie and Meat Raffle, Randolph Post 181.
Oct 26: Pig Roast & BBQ for C.O.T.A. Hightstown Post 148.
Oct 28: Friday Disco Party, Little Ferry Post 310.
Nov 3: Veterans’ Housing Symposium, Stockton University Atlantic City Campus.
Nov 5: “Murder on the Waterfront” COTA Benefit Show, Toms River Post 129.
Nov 11: VETERANS DAY
Nov 13: Veterans Day Ceremony, Audubon Post 262.
Nov 18-20: Annual American Legion Riders Toys-For-Tots Charity Run, Wayne Post 174.
Dec 10: Toys-For-Tots Christmas Party, Freehold Post 54.
Dec 17: Wreaths Across America.



Having an event? Email the info to njSALute@gmail.com Looking for event pictures and articles.

TWENTY-SIX A DAY IS TOO MANY

9 – 8 – 8

Help Is Out There!

If you or someone you know is considering suicide, please contact the national Suicide Prevention Lifeline at **9-8-8** press 1, text “STRENGTH” to the Crisis Text Line at 741-741 or go to www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

VERY IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT – Starting
Saturday, July 16 – 3-digit
number for Veterans Crisis Line
– Dial 988, press 1



The old number 1-800-273-TALK (8255) Press 1 will still be active.



BE THE ONE
To help end veteran suicide



Scan or visit betheone.org

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.



Thank you to those who have contributed to this issue.

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| SAL Detachment Commander Mark Natale, Leonardo Sq 338 | |
| ALA Department President Colleen Breen-Lopez, Totowa Unit 227 | |
| PDC Henry F. Hasselhan, Atco Sq 311 | DEC Rusty Myers, Belleville Sq 105 |
| Henry P. Hasselhan, Atco Sq 311 | PDC Daniel Dunn, Woodbridge Post 87 |
| PDC Carl W. Alber Jr., Neptune Sq 346 | Brick SAL Sq 348 |
| PDC Patrick Gallagher, Neptune Sq 346 | Mystic Island SAL Sq 493 |
| PDP Doreen Gallagher, Neptune Unit 346 | Toms River Post 129 |
| PUP Marcia Magathan, Neptune Unit 346 | Stone Harbor Post 331 |
| PDC Tom Marsden, SAL Ocean Co. | Bernie Kofoet, Merchantville Post 68 |
| Neptune Post 266 | Dawn Vaccaro Burger, Lakewood Unit 166 |
| Paul Lisnyj, Atco Post 311 | Gary Cooper, American Legion Dept of NJ |
| CP MC Boyle, Ala Monmouth Co. | woodwing.legion.org (Dillard visit photos) |
| PDC Nick Wingler, Lakewood Post 166 | American Legion Aux Dept of NJ |
| Bill Towns, Akron OH Post 291 | www.njsal.org www.legion.org |

Please email news and events to **SALute** Editor Gary Crawford at: njSALute@gmail.com

