

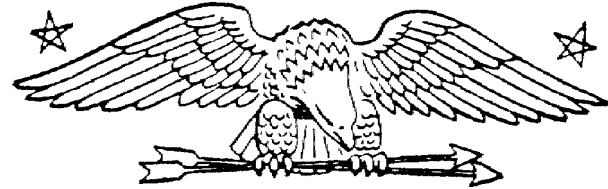
WEBSITE

by Carl Albern

The Detachment website is being updated regularly to give as much information as possible about what is going on in Detachment. Recently a Squadron Events page has been added so that any squadron can submit information about upcoming events and let those in Detachment know about what it is doing. This may help draw attendance to the event from squadrons from around the state.

The webmasters met and discussed more additions to the site including contact information for state and national congressmen and listings of legislative issues effecting the Legion Family.

Please remember that as a member of the Detachment of New Jersey, this is YOUR website, and we provide information to everyone to show what the Legion Family is about and what we do. If you have any ideas about what you would like to see added to the website, contact the webmasters through the Contacts page and tell them about it. They are always willing to add information that furthers the goals of the Detachment and helps squadrons with their events.



EVENTS

**DATES/
TIMES**

CONTACT

Washington Conference	March 10-13	James Noble
Legion Birthday	March 15-17	
Lyons VA&R	TBA	
Auxiliary President's Testimonial, Lucien's Manor, Berlin	March 23, 6:00 P.M.	
Easter	March 31	
Detachment Meeting, War Memorial Building, Trenton	April 6, 9:45 A.M.	Thomas Marsden
National Commander's Homecoming, Boston, Massachusetts	April 12-14	
S.A.L. Leadership College, Sea Girt	April 13, 8:45 A.M.	James Noble
National Leadership Informational Conference, Hilton, Cherry Hill	April 19-21	
Department Commander's Testimonial, Adam Todd Inn, Byram	April 20, 5:00 P.M.	
Spring N.E.C., Indianapolis, Indiana	May 3-5	James Noble
Mother's Day	May 12	
Memorial Day	May 27	
Memorial Services, Locustwood Memorial Park, Camden County	June 2	
S.A.L. Convention, Convention Center, Wildwood	June 14, 11:00 A.M.	Thomas Marsden
Father's Day	June 16	
Memorial Services, High Point State Park, Sussex County	June 30	

NEWSPAPER DEADLINE

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



THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

EDITOR: TOM MARSDEN; ASSOCIATE EDITOR: EDWARD MARSDEN

CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK

by Luc Marsden

Legion Family efforts in affiliated across the United States last year raised more than \$3,000,000 for the non-profit The Children's Miracle Network organization. These donations helped 14,000,000 kids. Past National Auxiliary President Kristine West, Past National S. A. L. Commander Kevin Winkelman, and the National American Legion Adjutant Robert Sponagle tell us, We marched a million miles for freedom, now let's walk a few miracle miles for kids.

The giving of the gift of life to a child is a great cause. Pediatric staffs in 170 local CMN-affiliated hospitals need specialized pharmaceuticals and equipment to provide lifecare for life-threatening injuries, birth defects, cancer, and numerous other ailments. Please help fund programs and research. Help miracles happen. If you physically can't get out yourself, pledge someone. Support the Boardwalk Walkathon.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

by Luc Marsden

The Special Olympics started in 1968. Now 210,000 individuals with physical challenges participate locally, statewide, and nationally. One million plus are involved at the international level.

Each athlete may compete only in one of the 26 summer and winter sports scheduled. The participant is required to have at least eight weeks program training. To ensure fair competition, the youth will be placed in an event by an age, gender, and ability divisioning system.

Still upcoming are softball, table tennis, bocce then New Jersey's Summer Games, hosted by the College of New Jersey, Ewing, Friday-Sunday, May 31-June 2.

Being part of the Olympics build physical fitness, skills, courage, joy, friendship and camaraderie. It is a safe, enriching experience. Volunteer your help.

If you have any questions call Special Olympics New Jersey Volunteers at 609-734-8400 or 1-800-650-7665, Ext. 33.

THE ADJUTANT'S CORNER

I recently had the pleasure to spend some time with our National S. A. L. Commander Cliff Smith (Mass.) at the Maryland Dinner and again later in D. C. With every detachment across America committing itself to help, his goals--260,000 Membership, Child Welfare \$260,000, National Emergency Fund \$50,000, WW II Memorial \$50,000, Children's Miracle Network \$100,000, and Salvation Army Veterans Center Commander's Project \$50,00--can be attained.

Cliff wants the states to communicate and get more information out to local squadrons. There are 5,205 ones chartered in the United States, yet only 8% of them report. He wants everyone to report all activities. This will strengthen the Legion Family bond for Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons.

He has promised New Jersey to officially visit our convention in Wildwood this year. Hope you can get out to greet him and learn from a man who truly has a Focus on the Future!

MEMBERSHIP

Of 55 detachments, New Jersey currently ranks #42 Our state has 5,719 Sons enrolled--almost 72% of National's end of year target number. France tops the list with Mexico, Puerto Rico, and D. C. at the bottom. Remember not to forget resigning members when you're trying for new ones.

SAL LEGION COLLEGE

Be there April 13 in Sea Girt to find out more for yourself about the S. A. L. Chairman Jim Noble promises that the sessions will be both enjoyable and informative. The venue will differ from past ones--no mock or note-taking meetings. National Vice-Commander Don Alsott, Maine, will be guest speaker.

COMMANDER'S PROJECT

A contract for the closed-circuit broadcast system for East Orange Vets is in the works. Veterans Haven Project nears completion. Kent Hehl is planning a party for its vets.



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CHILD WELFARE

by Michael Arner

I am happy to say that the letters sent out to the squadrons have produced some donations. I would like to thank the Squadrons that donated. So far the biggest contributor is Squadron 346 from Neptune which has contributed \$650.00. Well done, guys. On the Detachment web site you can find a list of all who have contributed. So far this year we have raised \$3,003.40. Let's break last year's totals. We are well on our way.

The Child Welfare Committee would like to thank the members who have sent in or presented personal donations. I know they come from the heart.

We are now going into the second phase. I will be drafting a letter to send to some of the major companies located here in New Jersey in hopes that they may contribute as well. With this please do not stop promoting the CWF in and around your communities, and ask your local merchants if they would like to contribute. If you need any information on CWF, please contact me. I can be reached at 732-291-9286 home, 201-522-2502 cell, or *mikea165@comcast.net*.

Once again, thanks to all who have pushed for CWF this year.

DETACHMENT COMMANDER MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow SAL Members and friends,

Let me start by saying what a year this has been for me I have totally enjoyed serving as the 40th Detachment Commander of this great state. I need to thank many people who have not only helped me in my year as commander but in my earlier years when I served this great Detachment. Let me start with my wonderful wife Shea, she has put up with a lot over this past year and she is a blessing to me for putting up with me and trying to understand. Thank you to Squadron 263 Carteret for being there in the beginning, To my current Squadron members of Lakewood 166 you men have helped to make this all possible for me and I will never forget all that was made possible by your willing to stand and support me and all the time and effort you have all put in. My post and Unit also get my deepest thanks for their understanding and support. To the Ocean County Executive Committee Of the Sons, Auxiliary, and Legion Thank you all for endorsing me and believing in me.

This year would not have been possible with out the support and effort of every one of my officers you have all done a wonderful job I thank you and salute you all. My Vice Commanders. Special Thanks goes to Vice Commander Lukasz Marsden for always filling in for me when I was unable to be there, he is a true leader and will one day lead the Sons Successfully. My Adjutant Tom. My Sgt - at - Arms Kermit, Dean, and Amel. My NEC Jim and ANEC Neil. Judge Advocate Ray. Historian Ed. Chaplain Jim. To every one of my Chairman thank you all for your year of service you have all helped make the sons an effective part of the Legion Family yet again.

My term has been filled with a lot of teamwork. From the get go we started as a Legion family raising funds for new beds in Veterans Haven and now for a closed circuit TV system in East Orange. It was great to see the Sons respond to my request in helping out for these very important projects. We are not fully finished with the Project so please keep the donations coming. I would also like to thank Every Squadron who has also helped raise funds for child welfare; we may be heading for another record year, to date we have collected over \$3,000 and still have 3 months to go. Great Job Mike.

I wish that there is a way to go back and do it all again, not because I would do it different but because it was an honor and privilege to serve as your commander and if ever given the chance would do it all over again. I would like to show gratitude to two more very important people Mr. William Breen and Mr. Ted Howarth these men are always willing to give of themselves for the sons and are very big supporters thank you for your commitment to the Sons this past year. My term is not at an end yet but this is the final issue to me mailed douring my term so in a way it is an end but not fully I still have 3 and ½ months left of my term and look forward to every day. I hope every one can join us for the state convention in Wild Wood in June there will be a lot of contested offices for the 2002-2003 year so please be sure to register all of your delegates and cast your votes make up your mind by who you think will lead this Detachment well in the coming year. Not by what other people say or want you to do but by your own decision and stand by your choice to make your vote count.

In closing, I would just like to say I could not have served with a Better Department Commander Dan McCole or President Sue Griffith it was always an honor to be with you booth as a legion family.

May God Bless America and Fly With Wing Of Glory.

Nicholas J. Wingler
Detachment Commander
2001 - 2002

THE FOUR CHAPLAINS

by Ed Marsden,
SAL National Chaplain

Legion Family Members:

How would each of you choose who to help if you were surrounded by hundreds dying and could help only one? Would you look who wore a cross? A star? Would you act purely, ethically, and minister to others or would you save yourself?

On February 3, 1943, 902 men were onboard the sinking USAT Dorchester in the North Atlantic. Four of them would become part of America's history. They were four chaplains, the four chaplains we honor at For God and Country services throughout the United States..

In chaos and panic, Reverends Fox and Poling, Father Washington, and Rabbi Goode calmed the frightened, tended the wounded, guided the disoriented. They prayed for the dying and encouraged the living.

Fox, Poling, Washington, and Goode did not merely preach courage; they lived it. When there were no more life preservers to give out, each of these heroes took of his own and gave it to the next man in line without checking if that man was a Christian, Catholic, or Jew. It was a spiritual act that transcended religious differences.

As the Dorchester sank, the four chaplains knelt down, arms linked, huddled together, heads bowed, praying to one God. Their universal love of man united them. How gallant, noble, and heroic they were!

We must all live our lives as they did--for our brothers, with courage and determination, in faith. As Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons serve for God and Country, let the example of the four chaplains inspire us all.

HELP THE CHILDREN

by Ed Marsden

There are a lot of worthy causes out there. The generosity of people to the Twin Towers Fund, the Salvation Army, the Commander's Project, etc., has been overwhelming. However, please let's not forget Child Welfare now that it is no longer our official one.

During my two years as commander, Jersey's S. A. L. recorded the highest Child Welfare Fund contributions ever. Figures for the first half of our state's year show \$754.40 collected, the proceeds from the 2001 Convention. Since then \$2,248.92 more has been collected for CWF.

We can top last year. We all need to push squadrons and counties to attain the goal of \$1 for every member. Get those donations in to Co-Chairmen Mike Arner (S) and Neal Newlin (N).

THANKS TO OUR WRITERS

Recently a man e-mailed the commander his ideas. We as editors need to be contacted too. Please share your input and skills with us so we can build a better paper—edition by edition, one year to the next. We need you to help The SALute improve.

SAL TESTIMONIAL

by Carl Albern

Members of the Legion Family gathered in Lakewood on February 23 to honor Nick Wingler as the fortieth detachment commander for New Jersey. Department Commander Daniel McCole and Department President Sue Griffiths were on hand at the Italian buffet dinner to speak about what Nick has accomplished during his year in office.

In attendance were officers of the SAL from Bergen, Camden, Gloucester, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Passaic counties as well as SAL Vice-Chairman and Past Department Commander Ted Howarth.

Members of the Legion and Auxiliary of Ocean County presented Nick with gifts and words of praise for his term in office. Squadron 166 presented Nick with an Honorary Life Membership in the squadron for the work he has done in Ocean County and the Detachment. The Past Detachment Commanders presented Nick with a "pine box" coffin, requiring him to bring it with him to Wildwood in June, and proceeded to roast Nick for several minutes.

Following the PDC presentation, Nick gave a speech thanking those who helped him during the year. He thanked the Detachment officers for their work and presented his Commander's pin to all those in attendance.

