



# THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

EDITOR: TOM MARSDEN; ASSOCIATE EDITOR: EDWARD MARSDEN; ASSISTANT EDITOR: CARL ALBERN, JR.

## MILITARY RECORDS FOUND

The Veterans Administration has found 20th Century Army paperwork from 1912 to 1960 and Air Force paperwork from 1947 to 1964. Copies of 10,000,000 military records destroyed in a 1973 fire are now available. Contact Veterans Personnel Records, St. Louis, Missouri 63132 to research documents.

## WHO IS NEW JERSEY'S YOUNG CITIZEN?

We want to know. The Detachment of New Jersey has an award for him or her. Do you know somebody that has worked in the community, volunteered time, or done something extraordinary to help others? This boy or girl of high school age cannot be a member of The Legion Family; however, a Squadron, Post, or Unit of The Legion Family must sponsor him/her. The young citizen selected will receive a beautiful eagle, symbol of American spirit, and a \$100 United States savings bond. For more information contact: Kent Hehl at 856-228-1043 or E-mail at kehehl@aol.com.

## NATIONAL EMBLEM SALES

With shopping at home being today's fashion, Sons' official merchandise is now on line at <http://emblem.legion.org>. Although every catalog item is not available on the internet, the most popular ones including decals, patches, tacks, handbooks, ties, caps, flags, awards and accessories, can be ordered 24 hours a day. Check the site out.

## OPEN INVITATION

The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of New Jersey invites all to join them in their Tenth Annual POW-MIA Watchfire, Dusk Friday, October 12 to Dawn Saturday, October 13 on the beach by Heiring Avenue and the Boardwalk, Seaside Heights.

## VA&R PARTIES

**Vineland** - Saturday, November 17, 1:30 to 4:00

**Paramus** - Saturday, December 1, 2:00 to 3:30

**Menlo Park** - Saturday, January 19, 2:00 to 3:30

**East Orange** - Saturday, February 16, 2:00 to 3:30

**Lyons** - Look for upcoming information!

Gift ideas for Christmas are needed. Any other ideas or suggestions will be appreciated. Please contact Kent Hehl at 856-228-1043 or by E-mail kehehl@aol.com.

## LEGION FAMILY PROJECT

Veteran's Haven, Ancora, N. J. is geared to rehabilitate veterans. Only one other program out West is similar. The selection process demands entrants be drugfree. Once enrolled, participants get counseling and vocational training for up to two years. When released, their success rate is 70%

When the facility was given space eight years ago, it housed only eight vets. Expansion made that number grow to present full capacity of 52. Residents are not bedridden.

The beds there are fifty years old. Commander McCole, President Griffiths, and S.A.L. Commander Wingler seek help and financial support from the whole Legion Family. Replacement will cost \$292 apiece.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The Detachment of New Jersey as of year end, records membership in the Sons of the American Legion at 6,931 down from last year's figure of 7,108.

If every squadron would turn in membership applications when new Sons enroll, we would be over the top state-wide. Squadrons who save forms for the next enrollment, please help New Jersey out. Send them in as



# DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Fellow Sons

As this year has now officially started and we have begun our work, I would like to say thank you to those that always work so hard to put the sons name in good standing.

I would like to thank the High Point committee, for allowing me to sit at the head table for their banquet before the services at the monument. For me this was an honor and something I will always remember.

As the first meeting of the detachment is behind us, I want to advise all of you that the committee chairs are working hard and getting the job done. We now have dates for visits to all the VA homes in New Jersey. The first being on November 17 at Vineland for a bowling party and on December 1 at Paramus for our yearly Veterans Christmas party. Thank you Kent Hehl for doing a wonderful job. The remaining dates will be published at a latter date. I would also like to let you know the Detachment has formed a new committee to honor a son of the year. I wish to thank Jim Noble for stepping forward and tacking on this committee with Ed Marsden as his vice chair. More info and requirements will be available at a latter date. Hopefully we will present the first honoree at convention in June.

National Convention is upon us and although I will not be able to attend, wish the entire delegation from New Jersey well as they cast our ballots to elect a new National Commander, Vice Commander East and Chaplin. For those of you who don't know our own Ed Marsden is the leading candidate for Chaplin. I wish him well and hopefully by the time you read this it will be congratulations, Ed is a hard working son and will excel in this position I'm sure. We also have two Ladies from the Auxiliary who are seeking National office this year Elise Bally who is running for National President 2002 – 2003 is seeking National first vice president and Loral Mathews is seeking National Vice President East 2001 –2002 best wishes to them as we as sons know they will achieve there goals.

I would like to thank Monmouth county for including me in there annual testimonial dinner. The food and program where wonderful. I look forward to visiting other counties for testimonials. In the past legion family dinners started with Ocean County then Monmouth and now Hunterdon all having Legion Family Testimonial dinners and that is a wonderful thing to see. I can only hope that the remaining 4 counties that are formed start to honor their commanders as those that have come before them. We are still looking to form new counties throughout this detachment. If your county wishes to start a committee, and you need help, feel free to contact us with any Questions or Dates you may wish to have us present to help you get started. I have 5 Vice Commanders who are always willing to do what is needed to help the organization reach more.

My calendar is starting to fill and it looks as if this year will be a busy but fun year for the Detachment Officers and myself. I have received promises from many counties for official visits and ask that they follow throw with dates and times as soon as possible so I can put them on my calendar as well as notify the Detachment officers in the area so they may also attend.

As always don't forget Child welfare and please don't forget My Commanders project to help the Homeless veterans of Veterans haven.

For God and Country  
Fly with wings of glory  
Nicholas J. Wingler  
Detachment Commander 2001 - 2002

**DETACHMENT  
OFFICERS 2001**

**Commander:**

Nicholas J. Wingler  
*Nicksal@optonline.com*

**Vice Commanders:**

Lukasz A. Marsden  
*Ctycomdr0102@hotmail.com*  
Kent Hehl  
*Kehehl@aol.com*  
Sean Howarth  
*Sne4722694@aol.com*  
Gregory Stone

Russ Maillard

*Halfbreed143@yahoo.com*

**Adjutant:**

Thomas E. Marsden  
*Saltom@usa.net*

**Judge Advocate:**

Raymond K. Miller

**Chaplain:**

James K. Lightcap  
*Sal133lightcap@hotmail.com*

**Historian:**

Edward T. Marsden  
*Fordzilla@hotmail.com*

**Sgt-at-Arms:**

Kermit Reilly  
Amel Balega  
*Abalega@aol.com*  
Dean Staknys  
*Deanobrovo39@aol.com*

**NEC:**

James A. Noble  
*Njsalnec@aol.com*

**ANEC:**

Neal Newlin  
*Bnewlin@sprynet.com*

**WWW.NJSAL.COM**

## CHILD WELFARE NEEDS OUR HELP

*By Michael Arner*

As this years Co-Chairman for Child Welfare, I have some ideas that should help raise much needed funds for this program. After talking to some of our members at Squadron 338, we came up with the ***Kids for Kids Program*** that will bring in Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Brownies, and Cub Scouts of our area. This idea could be spread out through the state.

The Kids for Kids Program is basically a combined walk, scooter, and rideathon. Each participant chooses his/her event. The "athon" is for 5 miles. Anyone who wants to could join us for this event. Smaller children could go as long or short as they want.

Our S.A.L. will provide transportation to anyone who needs to stop and return to the start/finish line. Every Squadron or County can run an event and help establish this state as a leading contributor to the Child Welfare Foundation.

We have approached the S.A.L. Monmouth County Executive Committee to coordinate this out throughout Monmouth County on the same day.

If any Squadron or County would like my assistance on running a program like this one or any other type of program for Child Welfare, contact me anytime. I can be reached by E-mail at [mikea41@aol.com](mailto:mikea41@aol.com), phone (732) 291-9286 or cell phone (201) 522-2502. I also can be reach at work (973) 589-2329 Ext. 670.

If anyone has any other ideas please contact me.



One of the wreaths placed at Carranza Memorial

## TWO NATIONS REMEMBER EMILIO CARRANZA

*By Carl Albern, Jr.*

Seventy-three years ago, members of American Legion Post 11 in Mount Holly embarked on a solemn journey to recover the body of Mexican aviator, Capt. Emilio Carranza. Carranza, likened to Charles Lindbergh, was returning to Mexico on a cross-country, good will flight in inclement weather when his plane crashed into the Pine Barrens of New Jersey in July of 1928.

Hearing that the captain's plane had gone down, the Mount Holly Post mobilized its members to cut a path through the underbrush to carry Carranza's body from Sandy Ridge back to Mount Holly. Once there, it was to be retrieved by representatives of the Mexican Consulate of New York. The actions of these members marked the start of an annual memorial service to remember this brave aviator from our neighbor to the south, Mexico.

Attending this year's service on July 14<sup>th</sup> were members of The American Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL, officers of the United States Armed Forces, Mexican Air Force, the Consul General of Mexico, the VFW, and the Elks as well as members of various Mexican associations from New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

This year's service was also marked by a visit from Ms. Guadalupe Carranza Del Vecchio, Emilio Carranza's only living sister. Attending the service for the first time in fifty years, she spoke to the attendees, thanking them for their attendance and continued remembrance of her brother.

There were also speeches from Arturo Carranza de la Pena, a descendant of Emilio Carranza, who is a college professor in Mexico, Colonel Jim Goodman of the USAF, Lt. Colonel Villalubos, Senior Air Attaché of the Mexican Air Force, and Department Commander Daniel McCole.

The site of the Carranza Memorial bears a stone marker that was erected by members of Post 11, and paid for through the efforts of Mexican schoolchildren. The marker is flanked by an American flag and Republic of Mexico flag, with the area around the marker displays newspaper articles reporting on the crash and death of Capt. Carranza. More information about Capt. Carranza can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://post11.org/carranza>.

**Deadline for articles to be published in the December/January issue is November 1st.**

## NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 24-26, 2001, brought representatives for a quarter million S.A.L. members together in San Antonio, Texas. The 30th National Sons of the American Legion Convention ran unopposed. In balloting, Cliff Smith (Mass.) was elected National Commander, Don Alsott (Maine), Vice Commander East, and Ed Marsden (N.J.), National Chaplain.

Things were well organized so meetings went quickly. Many areas even opted to caucus after the end of the Sons' sessions. Our state handed in \$759.00 to CWF, Wildwood Convention donations. The convention closed in time for 54 delegations to find their way to the parade route.

Leading the march were newly elected national officers for the Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons. Jersey was honored to have its own Edward Marsden out in front. NEC James Noble, ANEC Neal Newlin, Vice Commanders Sean Howarth and Lukasz Marsden, Adjutant Thomas Marsden, DEC's Ken Esposito and Carl Albern joined behind to show support.

The triple digit heat took out Luc Marsden as he was returning to the Jersey lineup. While Neal Newlin and Sean Howarth carried Elsie Bailey's banner, Jim Noble, Tom Marsden, and Carl Albern served in the Legion Family Combined Honor Guard. State Department and Auxiliary members had Ed Marsden join them as they led a 100+ delegation of Legionnaires and Unit Members.

Following the parade Department Commander Griffiths invited participants to the Four Seasons Sheraton Riverwalk for some hospitality and Mexican fare. Our Detachment should be grateful for the support that Past Commanders and Presidents have extended. The concept of the Legion Family is growing.



## THE ADJUTANT'S CORNER

The Department of New Jersey tabled Detachment's resolution to change its code of dress. The Legion wants more information on national's position.

Very few counties and squadrons have submitted paperwork. Please send me them ASAP.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATES	EVENT	CONTACT
October 5-7, 2001	Fall NEC, Indianapolis	James A. Noble
October 8, 2001	Columbus Day	
October 12-13, 2001	POW/MIA Watchfire, Seaside Hts.	Thomas E. Marsden
October 20, 2001	Detachment Meeting, Trenton	Nicholas J. Wingler
October 31, 2001	Halloween	
November 3, 2001	Hunterdon Co. Testimonial	Gregory Stone
November 3, 2001	Eastern Area Get To Gether	James A. Noble
November 6, 2001	Election Day	
November 11, 2001	Veteran's Day	
November 17, 2001	Vineland VA&R Party	Kent Hehl or Lukasz A. Marsden
November 22, 2001	Thanksgiving	