



# THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY



EDITOR: THOMAS E. MARSDEN; ASSOCIATE EDITOR: EDWARD MARSDEN

## Constitution, By-Laws, and Resolutions

The original S. A. L. document was accepted at the 1972 Detachment Convention in Clayton. Revisions were adopted at the 1984 Convention in Keansburg. Further changes and amendments were approved at the 1994 Convention in Wildwood.

At the February 28 meeting in Neptune, Chairman Jay Gillman, Vice-chair Mike Arner, and those in attendance finalized a new document. A copy of it will be sent at least 60 days prior to Convention to every New Jersey squadron that has a correct mailing address on file in Trenton.

Take time to read it; a lot of work went into it. Consider it as a whole; think about the additions and changes. Don't decide by just one thing. Be in Wildwood June 11 to vote on this *Constitution* and its separate *Policies and Procedures*.

## Detachment Commander's Project

Jay N. Gillman

The Detachment Commander's Project has gone over the \$10,000.00 mark! But let's not stop there. Commander Hehl would like to see the total get to the \$20,000.00 mark by the end of the year. In recent weeks, donations for the project pin have dipped slightly. But I am sure that with a little effort, more donations can be obtained for this worthy cause.

I would like to take a moment to thank every person who has contributed to the Commander's Project as well as to all of the posts, units, and squadrons. I am sure our veterans are proud of what we have achieved. And as always, keep up the good work.

## VA&R

Frank Jiosi

Once again I would like to thank all the Legion Family volunteers who helped out at the Paramus, Menlo Park, and Lyons VA&R parties. They were tremendous successes.

As of yet Veterans Haven has not been scheduled; however, the East Orange VA&R Party has been set for 2:00 P. M., Saturday, April 17, 2004 in Ward 12SB. Anyone willing to volunteer, please show up a half hour early.

## Child Welfare

Mike Arner

Well, the year is drawing to a close and we have raised just over \$7,000 for 2003-2004. We are hoping to get over the \$10,000 mark by May 25, the mailing deadline. By the time you read this article, you should have received your April Showers wall donation cards.

If any squadron would like to donate, you can send your checks to me Mike Arner, 44 Florence Avenue, Leonardo, N. J. 07737. Last year we raised over \$14,000. I would like to see that again, so once again let's step to the plate and hit a home run for CWF.

I would like to thank all the squadrons that have contributed thus so far.

## The Editor's Desk

Recently a member e-mailed me claiming that in the past he submitted several articles that were not published. I once said, "To this date, the paper has published every article submitted (by deadline)." The statement remains true.

I apologize for any inadvertent mistakes. Please contact me by fax (732-255-4091) or e-mail (saltom@usa.net) if you feel there is any problem with the paper.

Remember that we have only four pages. More than once the question about printing reports came up on Detachment floor. Repeatedly I responded, "At the present time lack of writers makes it impossible for the Salute to publish anything except finished articles." Things have not changed so I cannot change this policy.

All material to be included in the SALute must be timely. It is the reason why, on occasion, an article must be edited, reformatted, or even dropped. It is why there is a deadline.

THANK YOU Kent, Carl, Jim, Jay, Sean, Mike, Joe, Frank, Ed, Luc, and Pat. for helping me! Look for the next issue in Wildwood, June 11 at the SAL Convention. <sup>TM</sup>

## Membership

Recruiting and renewing build members. As of February 27, 2004, New Jersey has 6,897 paid Sons. Good work in making those goals. Membership is everyone's responsibility. <sup>TM</sup>



## DETACHMENT OFFICERS 03-04

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## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Membership, Membership, Membership, we are 3 months into 2004. National sets target dates every month. Jan. was 60% Feb. was 75% we made these, good job! The next one March 10 is 80% I know we made this one, then April 7 is 90 %. Each one takes us closer to July's target of 105%. We did it last year with 8112 members, what about this year 9000 or 10,000? Do not hold onto membership cards turn them in as soon as possible. Get out and get your members that haven't paid their 2004 dues. These guys are the ones that should be on top of your list right now. Send them a late notice or a letter telling them what they're missing out on. Remind them that after Feb 1st they are delinquent and don't have any privileges. These members are the ones we need back. National calls them renewals, at the end of last year we retained 89.52% of our members from the previous year. That means we lost 795 members from the year before. Right now over 30% of our members have not signed back up, **where are they?** If you can get new members there are awards to be had. For a person who gets 30 new members is the blue brigade award or 7 new members they will get a national membership pin. Without our members we can't do anything. In New Jersey there are over 3 million veterans. Do you think that any of them have sons (and are they members)? The American Legion in New Jersey has over 78,000 members, do they have sons or grandsons? We all must work hard on this, it is the only way we can achieve our goals. I know you heard it before but membership is everybody's job.

Programs, programs, programs, they're about our veterans, our children or Americanism. I know that one or more of these programs has a special interest with you or your Squadron. You don't have to do them all just the ones that your members like, the ones your members can have fun with, the ones that you believe in, the ones that hit close to your heart.. We have so many to chose from it make's it hard. What ever you do please keep track of it at the end of the year there will be report forms to fill out. Keep track of man-hours, money and other donations. The state and national want to know what we are doing. This helps The American Legion with their lobbying efforts in congress and our state legislature. With our 8000 members and 150 Squadrons we can make a difference.

The detachment has been backing CWF (child welfare foundation) for years. This year donations have been slow coming in. But April is CWF month and I know we will be showered with donations. For the first time this year we are backing CMN (children's miracle network) with this program you can designate what hospital the donations will go to. Also we have been backing the Special Olympics. All of these are excellent children & youth programs.

For our veterans the detachment will have parties at each of the facilities in New Jersey. We have one VAWS volunteer at Lyons hospital we need one at East Orange. We can have more than one at these facilities. I would also like to see a representative at each of the state facilities. Please contact the VA&R chairman or myself if you know of anyone interested or someone who already goes to one of the places regularly.

Americanism, we have a young citizens award (no one has applied for this year, a disappointment for the chairman and myself), a scholarship, and an essay contest. The five star program is working in at least 2 squadrons Sq# 253 and Sq# 370 congratulations well done. The ten ideals I have no word on this or how to make it happen, if anyone has done this program please let me know.

My commander's project for the year has been better than I could have imagined. With the support of all the Squadrons, Posts and Units from all over New Jersey. At this point we have gone over \$15000. The air conditioners are on order for Veterans Haven and I am moving on with the other veterans facilities. I wish to thank all of you for the support you have shown for you veterans of New Jersey.

child welfare

"April Showers Bring  
May Flowers"



CWF

Foundation Month  
April 2004



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Designed By: Frank Norcross Squadron 338 Leonardo, NJ

## For Your Consideration

(Ocean County Observer, Jan. 17, 2004)

The leadership in the New Jersey General Assembly on Monday failed to stand up for our military men and women who are engaged in the war on terrorism both at home and abroad.

After passing in the Senate, Assembly Speaker Albio Sires ignored the requests of the veterans' community to schedule S-1920 for a vote in his chamber. then, in a parliamentary maneuver, Assembly Majority Leader Joe Roberts moved to suspend the rules that would have enabled the bill's sponsor to bring it on the floor under the order of the day or as an emergency measure. That essentially killed any chance of moving this initiative, which would have expanded veterans benefits and civil service hiring preference to our military heroes; like those who are providing security for us at home, being fired on in the Philippines and those wounded in the Pentagon attack of Sept. 11, 2001.

The state of New Jersey, from the governor on down, gave up on veterans.

I can say, without fear of contradiction, that the 210th state legislative session, which just ended, has not been very friendly to veterans. In fact, it can be classified as hostile. Many bills have been ignored or delayed. Most initiatives have taken over a year into this session to be introduced. Very few throughout the administration and that Legislature have been out in front and vocal for veterans these past two years.

Communication with the veterans' community has been poor at best. As we tried to move bills through the legislative process, there have been many roadblocks put in our path and a lot of fingerpointing, but no reason for inaction. Promises have been broken; questions dodged. It has become more evident as time goes by that the governor is only taking advice from a close relative and not those who really understand the issues.

This Legislature has been more interested in political one-upsmanship and concerned with which party or person will get the credit than in taking care of the veterans of this state. We have been caught in the middle and used as a political football. You would think that when one's military service is complete, the battle would be over. Not so in New Jersey. This is the worst I've ever seen it. Veterans and military issues used to enjoy bipartisan support.

We, in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, along with the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Jewish Wars Veterans, Military Officers Association of America and many other concerned veterans of this state, will not give up on our men and women in uniform who are serving in remote corners of the globe supporting operations and prosecuting the war just because their feet don't touch the sands of Afghanistan or Iraq.

Whether they're in the combat zone, guarding the bridges, tunnels, airports, military bases or nuclear power plants at home, or working around the clock in Germany, Turkey and Italy providing critical support for the war effort, we know they deserve and are entitled to all of New Jersey's veterans' benefits.

It is important to remember that the dynamics of this war are different from any other conflict this nation has been engaged in. It is truly global and we will continue to make a global effort in the 211th state legislative session to support our troops.

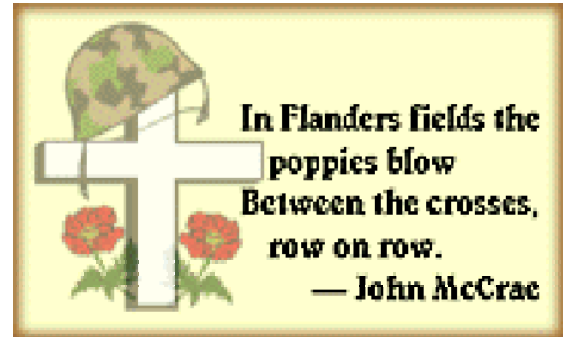
For, if we don't, who will?

Michael H. Wysong

Legislative Director

New Jersey Veterans of Foreign Wars

New Jersey Veterans Service



## They Are Our Heroes

Luc Marsden

Nowadays few Americans know the meanings and traditions of Memorial Day. Records show the first official one was celebrated May 5, 1866, in Waterloo, New York, as a springtime tribute for those who died while serving their nation. It was a simple civil war remembrance with prayers and hymns that over the years evolved into ceremonies marked with poppies, gravesite flowers, flags, parades, and memorial speeches. It was meant to testify to present and coming generations that we have not forgotten the cost of a free and undivided republic.

Soldiers risk everything for freedom and democracy. In times of peace as well as in times of war, they serve to guarantee principals that make us one nation. Their glory does not arise from blood; their triumph does not derive from fight. It arises, instead, from their valor, honor, and selflessness.

We gather on Memorial Day to remember those who gave their lives in all wars--from the American Revolution to today's war against terrorism. They were comrades. They are our heroes. Let us honor them accordingly. As Americans let each of us give a moment of respect and remembrance at 3:00 P. M. local time this and every Memorial Day.





## Washington Conference

P. Marsden

From all over the U. S. A., the Legion Family came together in Washington, D. C. March 7-11. Members of the Detachment of New Jersey were Kent Hehl, Robert Hehl, and Tom Marsden.

The purpose of the gathering is to reach out to federal legislators and solicit help for God, country, veterans, and veterans' families with flag-protection and the Pledge of Allegiance as top concerns.

Each of New Jersey's 8,000+ SAL members should contact his federal lawmakers--both in senate and congress--to let them know how Sons stand and how important their votes are. For the same reasons, everyone should contact state lawmakers at home.

Below is a current list for contact information both in New Jersey and Washington of New Jersey's federal lawmakers:

Jon Corzine (D), 973-645-3030

1 Gateway Ctr., Fl. 11, Newark, NJ 07102

Frank Lautenberg (D), 973-639-8700

1 Gateway Ctr., S. 102, Newark, NJ 07102

While on DC, the address of these senators is Senate Office Bldgs., Washington, DC 20510.

District 1--Robert Andrews (D), 856-546-5100

5006-A White Horse Pk., Haddon Hts., NJ 08035

District 2--Frank LoBiondo (D), 609-625-5008

5914 Main St., S. 103, Mays Landing, NJ 08330

District 3--H. James Saxton (R), 609-261-5800

100 High St., Mount Holly, NJ 08060

District 4--Christopher Smith (R), 609-585-7878

1540 Kuser Rd., S. A-9, Hamilton, NJ 08619

District 5--Scott Garrett (R), 201-712-0330

Bergen Co. Office, 210 Rt. 4 E, Paramus, NJ 07652

District 6--Frank Pallone (D), 732-571-1140

504 Broadway, Long Branch, NJ 07740

District 7--Michael Ferguson (R), 908-757-7835

792 Chimney Rock Rd., S. E, Martinsville, NJ 08836

District 8--William Pascrell (D), 973-523-5152

200 Federal Pl., S. 500, Paterson, NJ 07505

District 9-- Steven Rothman (D), 201-646-08008

25 Main St., Hackensack, NJ 07601

District 10--Donald Payne (D), 973-645-3213

Martin Luther King Courthouse & Federal Bldg.

50 Walnut St., Rm. 1016, Newark, NJ 07102

District 11--Rodney Frelinghuysen (R), 973-984-0711

30 Schuyler Pl., Fl. 2, Morristown, NJ 07960

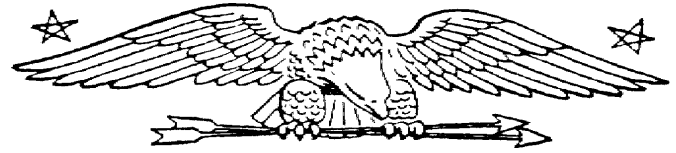
District 12--Rush Holt (D), 609-750-9365

50 Washington Rd., Princeton Junction, NJ 08550

District 13--Robert Menendez (D), 201-222-2828

911 Bergen Av., Fl 2, Jersey City, NJ 07306

While in Dc, the address of these congressmen is House of Representatives Office Bldgs., Washington, DC 20515.



## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Detachment Meeting , Trenton.....	April 3
Dept. Pres. Newlin Testimonial.....	April 3
Easter.....	April 11
Det. Cmdr. Hehl Testimonial.....	April 18
Dept. Cmdr. Behr Testimonial.....	April 24
SAL College .....	April 24
SAL Spring NEC.....	May 1-2
Leadership Training, Grantville, PA.....	May 14-15
Memorial Day.....	May 31
Locustwood Memorial Service.....	June 6
SAL Convention, Wildwood, 10:00 A. M.....	June 11

## WWII Vets Memorialized

Sean Howarth

On May 29, the American Legion will have a National Day of Remembrance to honor the 16 million American men and women who served. The Sons of the American Legion have been invited to participate in the ceremonies.

There will be a program on the Battleship New Jersey or its waterfront lasting approx. an hour. A roped off area will be set up for viewing the televised dedication of the WWII Monument in Washington, D. C.



SAL Cmdr. Hehl at For God and Country Service



SAL JA Marsden, Thomas P. Cadmus (MI) Leading Candidate for National Commander, Pres. Newlin, SAL Cmdr. Aide Hehl, AL Cmdr. Behr, and SAL Cmdr. Hehl

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS APRIL 30, 2004.**