



THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

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WWW.NJSALUTE.ORG



CHILD WELFARE

Ed Marsden

The 2006 CWF year is officially over. Donations were down in all but eight detachments. As CWF Chairman, I would like to thank all of you who donated. New Jersey collected \$9,906. And now it's time to start again. I know you believe in Child Welfare as much as I do. Please be generous.

New Jersey is clearing its RAT pads. Why? The new acronym for American Legion Child Welfare Foundation advocates is CAT (for Children's Action Team). CWF National Headquarters, Indianapolis (317-630-1202 or admin@cwf-inc.org) has application forms for individuals who want to be certifiable--no joke. \$25 and some correct information changes rodents into card-carrying, CAT pin-wearers.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Lukasz A. Marsden, PDC

As both a delegate and staff member, I was touched by Stormin' Norman. Norman C. Sullivan died April 22, 2006. He served as Department Vice Commander in 2002-2003 while I was Commander.

Norm's twenty years in Boys State helped make the program what it is. His love of God and Country really showed. He truly was an inspiration to all of us. I will always remember how the floor cheered him when he spoke out on flag burning. Donations in his memory can be sent to CWF.

BITS AND PIECES

Sen. William Frist (R-TN) has promised the Senate will vote on the CFA June 26....Sen. Lautenberg (D-NJ) opposes SJR12, the amendment to protect Old Glory....

Congratulations to Monmouth County Sq. 23 on its new charter....Welcome back Salem Sq. 297 and Atlantic Sq. 396....Best wishes to Cmdr. Joe G and Lois Nelson married April 8....

New Jersey's Legion Family will rally 2:00 P. M. Thursday, June 9 at Wildwood Convention Center to "Support Our Troops". A. L. Nat. Cmdr. Tom Bock (CL). A. L. Nat. Vice Cmdr. Jimmy Hall (NJ), S. A. L. Nat. Cmdr. Bill Sparwasser (MD), and Leading Candidate Earl Rutoffsky (MI) will be in attendance....

The CMN Walkathon will be held 7:30 A. M. Saturday, June 10, on the Boardwalk in Wildwood....Post 348 Brick, will be swinging June 17, noon til ??, as it hosts a fundraiser for the Robbins Chuckwagon. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.... tm

POW-MIA UPDATE

The remains of U. S. Army Captain John F Dugan (Roselle, N. J.) listed March 20, 1971 as missing in action in Laos have been returned. Cptn. Dugan was buried in Arlington National Cemetery April 16. May he rest in peace.

Recent Dept. of Defense cuts will hamper JPAC's field recovery operations which began in February in Laos, Cambodia, and parts of Vietnam. Americans must let the government know we demand that they bring all our POW-MIA's back home. tm

HEAVEN'S ANGELS--NOT THE OTHER ONES

National Commander Tom Bock will lead hundreds of motorcyclists taking their bikes across the Midwest, Great Plains, Rockies, and Utah desert. This 1,700 mile trek kicks off August 17 at National Headquarters, Indianapolis. It stops in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, and Wyoming before Salt Lake City's 88th National American Legion Convention.

The American Legion Riders of Indiana set up the cross-country journey rally and will collect donations for the American Legacy Scholarship program along the way for children of U. S. military personnel who since September 11, 2001 have died defending America's freedoms. For further information, contact Bill Sloan at either 317-630-1321 or wsloan@legion.org pm

MEMBERSHIP A+ AGAIN

Kenny Esposito

Once again the members, squadrons, and counties of New Jersey have come through with flying colors in membership. With everyone's hard work and dedication we have achieved our 100% target goal. The next and final goal is 105% on July 22, 2006.

Last year we came in third place in the nation in retention rate. If we continue the great jobs we are doing, we can quite possible reach first place in the nation in renewal rates this year. Anything is possible with the dedicated group of workers who are involved this year.

I would like to thank the entire Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL members who have spoken about or signed up members to our GREAT American Legion Family as we all know that Membership is the "Lifeblood" of our organization.



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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

It was a great honor and privilege to serve you as your Detachment Commander and I thank you for that opportunity. From the beginning visitations at Boys State, High Point to the final days of my year, I cannot thank you enough for "SALing into The Future" with me.

As I reflect back over the year, I can remember in the beginning that I wanted our Detachment to do something special for the Children's Miracle Network as I wanted to help the "Quality of Life" issues for those children at our two New Jersey hospitals located in Toms River and Mountainside, a program that we have already been involved within helping the medical challenges that our children face today that include cancer, trauma, heart, lung, muscular diseases, birth defects, Aids and many other health-related issues enjoy their stay while confined.

Then Hurricane Katrina struck our Gulf states shortly after the year began. Thousands of victims were caught in this storm that has wrought immeasurable loss of life and destruction of epic proportions, and the magnitude even to this day is still unfolding. We changed our direction, not totally forgetting the CMN, but focused our main direction to helping those who need us then for emergency needs. The Auxiliary announced that they were having a collection point for much needed items and you, the members of the SAL, at a moment notice assisted in collecting water bottles, diapers, cereal breakfast bars, etc. and assisted and assisted in sending two large truck loads to the south. You, the members of the SAL assisted in the National Emergency Fund in helping the victims of Hurricane Katrina and Rita, where the Department of New Jersey stated they would raise close to \$70,000 and with your assistance The American Legion Family has almost doubled that amount.

Our Program Chairmen have carried out their duties and continued the programs of the Sons of The American Legion like Child Welfare, Special Olympics, and the other programs that assist with helping Veterans and their families, and remembering those who are still serving as well as those who have not returned, this was with your help. Thank you.

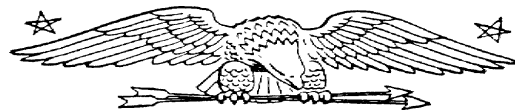
Our organization continues to grow, and growth is needed to carry out these programs. We welcome aboard Cline-McAnney Squadron #396 in Brigantine and welcome back Brown-Moore Squadron #297 in Pennsville. We must continue to bring new members into our organization if we are to carry out our missions, because membership is the key to success in any Squadron. Our organization has had a continued growth since 1994 going from 5,430 members to more than 9,095. Thank you to the Membership Team which is everyone's responsibility.

I thank each and every one of the Officers of The Detachment of New Jersey for their outstanding dedication and service to the Detachment. You have served the organization with distinction and to be congratulated for a job well done.

The Sons cannot thank the Staff at Legion Headquarters under the direction of Ray Zawacki enough for all their courtesies and help in carrying out our programs. To Ray, Arlene, Mary Lou, Lois, Patti, and Arianne, we truly thank you.

Finally, to the members of the Brooklawn Memorial American Legion Family, I owe you everything. Your dedication and loyalty to me and my family will never be forgotten. You have been there whenever I needed you, through the good times as well as the bad, you stuck by me. Everyone should have what I have here at Post, Unit and Squadron #72. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

For God and Country
Sean Howarth
Detachment Commander



DATES TO REMEMBER

Memorial Service at Locustwood	June 4
State Convention, Wildwood	June 9
Boys State, Ryder College, Laurenceville	June 18-23
Memorial Service at Highpoint	June 25

NATIONAL COMMANDER RECOGNIZED

Extensive travel over the last eight months has kept Cmdr. Bill on the go. Delayed returning from the CMN Champions gathering in Orlando, he rendezvoused with his guests at Baltimore's Inner Harbor on March 18. After a Duck Tour and dinner waterside, it was on to Post #148 Essex for a packed house homecoming celebration.

PNC's, officers, and representatives from too many states to list, gave tribute after tribute to a man dedicated to doing, and the irony of it all was that he gave tribute to his guests. New Jersey's delegation included A. L. National Vice Commander Jimmy Hall and Sons Tom Marsden, Carl Albern, Mike Arner, Gary Nelson, and Pat Gallagher.

This year has been a busy one for Cmdr. Sparwasser. His goal to visit every state is almost complete. One of the stops remaining is our upcoming S. A. L. Convention. pm

AN EASTERN GATHERING

Cohasset, Mass., April 1: National Vice Commander East Tom Wigmore hosts his guests. In attendance are NEC Tom Marsden, ANEC Carl Albern, Vice Commander Mike Arner, PDC Gary Nelson, Convention Chairman Pat Gallagher.

Leading Candidate for National Vice Commander East Andy Newmann starts the weekend with a Meet the Candidate Open House. Next is a bus tour of local posts. Then comes listening and learning. Lastly, PDC Cliff Smith emcees homecoming activities. pm

AMERICAN LEGACY PROGRAM RENEWED

The American Legion Family-Lincoln Mercury partnership for 2005 raised \$118,000 for the American Legacy Scholarship Fund. That fund-raiser has been extended to 2006. Besides a \$400 discount and any current public offers, Lincoln-Mercury will donate \$100 to the fund for the education of children of U. S. servicemen killed in active duty on or since September 11, 2001. Go on line to www.mercuryvehicles.com/legion for more information. pm

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The American Legion is sponsoring the #76 Freedom car at NASCAR's Busch races and that's going to help our nations 4,000,000+ strong :Legion Family recruit more memberships. For more information, go to www.legionracing.org. All donations, purchase of racing merchandise, and sponsorships will help Team Johnson Motorsports and driver Jerick Johnson in its salute to America's veterans and military. pm

THEY ARE OUR HEROES

To quote Legion Cmdr. Joe G, "Freedom isn't free." On Memorial Day take some time to remember and pay tribute to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for this country. pm



NATIONAL CHANGES

Thomas E. Marsden, NEC

The 3/8/2004 National Commander's Advisory Policy has been rescinded and the existing committee dissolved. A three member team (immediate PNC, either Present or Incumbent NC selection, and an Internal Affairs selection) will be created. Mike Deacon (IA), Charles Gannon (MD) and Doug Bible (MN) serve in the interim.

Home detachments with no option for substitution must recommend and approve any appointment to a national commission or committee from their state. These appointments are normally made at the post-NEC following each national convention.

National policy for all Sons requires SAL national officers to wear coat and tie with red badges for official functions.

NEW JERSEY HAS NATIONAL CANDIDATE

Vice Commander Mike Arner, representing the Detachment of New Jersey, fittingly announced Tom Marsden as New Jersey's candidate (2007-2008) for S. A. L. National Vice Commander East, at the recent Ocean County Dinner. Tom is a 46 year life member of Ocean's Sq. 166. He will begin campaigning after the National Convention in Salt Lake City later this summer. Help support his run for office.

ERNIE WILSON SCHOLARSHIP

Joseph Colontone

The Ernie Wilson Scholarship this year was won by a young lady, Jenna Dorsi, who attends Keyport High School. She was sponsored by American Legion Post 23 where her father is a Trustee. Jenna will not be able to attend the convention in Wildwood since she will be taking her final exams. A plaque will be presented to her at her High School Awards Night, June 15, 2006.

This is a picture of Jenna being presented by me with a letter of acceptance.



FLAG DAY, JUNE 11



*The War on Terrorism is now in its fifth year.
The enemy without continues its attack on the U. S. A.
Don't let the enemy within our country help our foes.
America fought to gain freedom.
Its Constitution guarantees we, the people, unalienable rights.
Civil liberties are our birthright.
We citizens want*

**the American Flag protected from desecration
“under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance
our national anthem in its native tongue
English as the only official language
freedom to pray publicly
religious symbols on tombstones and grave markers
holiday displays allowing religious expression
the Veteran’s Monument Cross in Mt. Soledad, San Diego**

*** * * * ***

*Help stop the erosion of values; stand up for what our forefathers fought.
Keep the United States of America, our homeland, the land of the free and the home of
the brave.*

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS JUNE 30, 2006.