

# THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

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WWW.NJSALUTE.ORG



## NEF

The National Emergency Fund has \$5,000 post grants and \$1,500 individual grant applications available to those hard hit in the disaster wrought by Hurricane Katrina. They are available only to Legion Family members. Since National Headquarters is managing the program, no administrative costs are taken out. The grants are a short term means to help get fellow comrades back on their feet. So far \$1,100,000 has been dispersed.

NEF is one of Cmdr. Howarth's official projects. Counties, squadrons, and members contributing, must designate on the memo portion of the check what funds go to this worthy cause. Of course, donations can also be made directly to the NEF on line at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org). Earmark them as *SONS*. Please be generous with your donations. <sup>tm</sup>

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Greetings to the Detachment of New Jersey:

I recently received an invite to Special Olympics New Jersey in the mail. I wish I could go, but I have to be here 24-7--so I am counting on you to volunteer in my place. Visit the [www.sonj.org](http://www.sonj.org) website or contact the volunteer manager at 609-896-8000 for details.

League, Sectional, and Chapter competitions include events in soccer, volleyball, cycling, equestrian, golf, roller skating, floor hockey, downhill and cross-country skiing, skating, bowling, MATP, softball, powerlifting, artistic and rhythmic gymnastics.

For God and Country,  
PDC Luc Marsden

## POW-MIA TREE LIGHTING

The 15th Annual American Legion POW-MIA Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on December 3 at 7:00 P. M. at Shore Boro Post 351, Seaside Heights. America must never forget her veterans still not home. In this time of war, what better way to show support for our soldiers than join with the Legion Family to remember! Let the message ring out:

Prisoners of war; missing in action--  
Our almost forgotten heroes  
Weary, wanting to be free back home;  
Mothers' and fathers' sacrificed ones--  
Inmates caged by mind or body,  
Abandoned to enemies in foreign lands.

These veterans are the men and women who fought for you & me.

They are our country's tragedy, our government's shame.

Remember America's victims.

Strive for their return. <sup>pm</sup>

## SPINOZA SPECIAL PACKAGE

Jim Lightcap, C&Y Chairman

Thus year my project for the Children and Youth Committee concentrates on the children of our servicemen and women who have been called on the secure *our* freedom.

Donations are being taken for Spinoza Special Package for Children of Active Duty Members. The package includes the Spinoza Bear, a library of nine tapes, a 36 page "Help for Kids" workbook to help children understand their feelings about war, a heart-shaped cloisonné pin with stars and stripes, and a Daddy or Mommy, You're My Hero" story-book.

These bears will be distributed to young children who have a parent deployed. The cost for the Military Package Bear is \$170. Other packages are also available.

## BITS AND PIECES

August 31 ended the 2005 fiscal year. Per capita is now \$5 for new members, renewals, and those paying back dues....The CWF Rat Pad Fundraiser continues....Lincoln-Mercury's partnership with the Legion in the American Legacy Scholarship has been extended through December 31, 2005.

Officially joining National's Child Welfare Foundation Committee is Mike Arner, Community Service is Carl Alber, and National Security/Homeland Security is Tom Marsden....Support our Armed Forces on active duty everywhere. Send e-cards and holiday greetings to our military.

Congratulations to Dave Bagatelle, the new Boys State Director....A speedy recovery to PDC Berly Hanna.... Get well wishes to Vice-Commander Joe Colotone who has been under the weather....Condolences to Vice-Commander Gilman on the death of his father and Sgt.-at-Arms Rodriguez on death of his sister Vicki Garcia. <sup>pm</sup>

## MEMBERSHIP

As of November 16, New Jersey had only 2,913 paid members. The membership missed the 35% November Target Date by 252. Please get those cards in. Look at all the Detachment accomplished last year. New Jersey can do it when we all work together. <sup>pm</sup>



## DETACHMENT OFFICERS 05-06

**Commander:**

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**Vice Commanders:**

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**Historian:**

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**Sgt-at-Arms:**

Kermit Riley  
Brett Stadtler  
Kevin Ritz

**Asst. Sgt-at-Arms:**

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Robert Hehl

**NEC:**

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**ANEC:**

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### COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Recently I received a memo from Jim Roberts, National Membership Chairman, telling the Detachment Commanders that "We Came Close," as we achieved 22.1% in membership for the target date of October 13, 2005. The actual target was 25% membership and 22 Detachments made that goal. We were number 28 with 20.78% of the goal. We only needed 379 members to reach the October 13 date.

Our next membership target date is November 16, 2005, which will be our 35% membership target. Every member of The Sons of The American Legion is a member of the membership team. The SAL has and will be involved in many programs for Veterans and their families, Scholarships and programs that benefit our community, state and nation, and our membership must grow.

This years' theme is "SALing into the Future." Just as it takes wind to fill the sails, it takes membership to run the programs. We must continue to increase our numbers as membership is the lifeblood of any organization.

During the first week-end of October I had the pleasure of attending the Detachment Commander's Instructional Institute. It was a great program, one that has been attended by all PDC's. It is a full day of instruction that includes everything one needs to know about the National Organization and all of our programs. I know, like the past mentors of the SAL, I will benefit from this instructional weekend and help this organization prosper.

As mentioned before, in the beginning of the year the project for the Detachment was focused on "Children's Miracle Network" and to help the "quality of life" for the children at the two New Jersey hospitals located in Toms River and Mountainside. The plans are still there to do this. We have contacted the administration and have asked what the Sons of The American Legion can purchase, but to date this item has not been specified in exactly what they want us to do, but we are going to do something. Ideas such as a computer for the patients to keep in contact with loved ones, etc., and we are still looking for ideas.

Since June, Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita has changed the lives of thousands of members of the Legion Family throughout the gulf states. This storm has wrought immeasurable loss of life and destruction of epic proportions, the magnitude of which is still unfolding. More than 29,000 Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion live in zip codes hit by the hurricanes.

According to reports from National, the National Emergency Fund had about \$1.6 million in it before Hurricane Katrina. In just the few weeks since, 1,200 grants were approved depleting the Fund by \$1.2 million. During a normal year, about #350,000 in grants are approved. The fund was created for these types of disasters and I hope that we spent every dime of it. But when the needle points to empty, it is time to fill the tank.

I would like to make this years' project the National Emergency Fund. I realize many squadrons are already sending money to the Red Cross and the Salvation Army. The Auxiliaries have already had a drive and collected bottled water, diapers, cereal breakfast bars, etc. and have already sent these items to the Gulf states. Now it is the "OUR" turn. As mentioned, \*"we have already done great things. But we can do more. We have to do more."

National disasters can happen anywhere. It wasn't too long ago our members here in New Jersey were hit with flood waters and needed the assistance of the NEF. I, along with National Commander Sparwasser are asking you to rally your SAL members and send your contributions to Department Headquarters and put into the memo section of your check, Detachment Commander's Project. Once this money is received, these contributions will purchase what is needed at the two hospitals and we will send the remaining monies to the National Emergency Fund from The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of New Jersey. The wishes of the Squadron sending the check specifying the percentage amount for each portion of the project will be honored.

\* Quote from William L. Sparwasser, National Commander

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## 2005-2006 CWF GRANTS

Ed Marsden, CWF Chairman

At the Fall NEC, Child Welfare Chairman Arneson announced fifty grant requests have been reviewed. Proposals awaiting approval include:

- Mercy Medical Airlift--  
"Child Health Program--Inf Dissemination Upgrade"
- Institute for American Values--  
"Hardwired to Connect CD Production and Dissemination"
- Child Welfare League of America--  
"Revising, Publishing and Disseminating the CWLA National Standards for Health Care of Children and Youth in Foster Care"
- American Humane Association--  
"innovative Response to Families in Crisis"
- The MY HERO Project, Inc.--  
"The MY HERO Student Video"
- Stop It Now!--  
"Empowering Adults and Parents to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse"
- Nat. Assoc. of Students Against Violence Everywhere--  
"Youth Voices...Grown-Up Choices"
- Chadwick Center for Children and Families--  
"Disseminating Promising Practices for Preventing Child Abuse and Family Violence"
- Center on Media and Child Health (CMCH)--  
"Keeping Children Healthy and Safe in the Information Age"
- National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA)--  
"NICWA Indian Child Welfare Regional Outreach Project"
- Innovation Center for Community and Youth Development--  
"Dissemination of Roca's Proven Resources to Engage Challenged Young People"
- Toby Tire Safety--  
"Toby's Tire Child Safety Storybook"

## THE EDITOR'S DESK

At its recent 2005 Awards Banquet at Post 60, Roselle Park, the American Legion Press Association of New Jersey presented the SALute with a First Place Special Category publication award. It also awarded the SALute the Norma Brigliadoro Memorial Award for its Watchfire editorial.

This is the third consecutive year that the SAL publication has been recognized, and its staff thanks all those who made the paper what it is. The SALute gets the information to the entire 9,000+ membership, but for it to grow, it must have articles from officers and chairmen.

At the August 2002 meeting, the floor unanimously voted *yea* to Mike Arner's motion that every officer and chair each year write an article for the SALute. So, why isn't that happening?

In the six months since the state convention, (other than a Marsden) only Gary Nelson and Jim Lightcap sent articles. Other detachments list committee chairmen and record **NO ARTICLE SUBMITTED**. With the year half over, a lot of people haven't done their job yet.



Magical moments  
Eight sets of hoofs  
Red-nosed reindeer  
Riding through the sky  
Yule logs aglow

Candycane ornaments  
Holly wreaths  
Ringing bells  
Infant in a manger  
Santa Claus's sleigh  
Tinsel trees  
Mistletoe dangling o'erhead  
Angels caroling on high  
Snowflakes in the sky

May holiday memories  
Fill every heart  
With love, hope, and joy.  
Let the New Year bring  
Times of peace and good will  
Forever to all man.  
The Marsdens--one and all--  
Wish family and friends  
The best of the season.

# Tom, Ed, Luc, Pat, and Val





Mike Arner Shares a Moment with Chuck Robbins



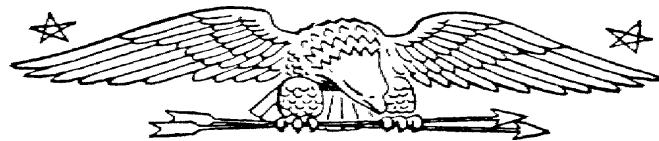
SAL Cmdr. Sean Howarth Accepts \$100 Check for His Project from Father ALPDC Ted Howarth



2005 Recipients of New Jersey's ALPC Awards



Ocean's Cmdr. Earley, Monmouth's Chaplain John Gallagher, SAL DEC Pat Gallagher, VC Mike Arner, ANEC Carl Alber, and NEC Tom Marsden Attend a Sq. 351 Fundraiser



**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Annual POW/MIA Tree Lighting           | December 3  |
| Detachment Meeting, Trenton            | December 10 |
| 2006 Membership Target 45%             | December 14 |
| Detachment Meeting, Trenton            | February 4  |
| For God and Country Service, Lakehurst | February 5  |

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS DECEMBER 31, 2005.**