



THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

EDITOR: THOMAS E. MARSDEN; ASSOCIATE EDITOR: PATRICIA MARSDEN
WWW.NJSALUTE.ORG

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

James Lightcap, Commission Chairman

I would like to thank everyone for supporting the Active Duty Spinoza Bear program. Your generous donations enabled the Detachment to purchase 26 bears for the children of our Armed Forces men and women. Your donations were greatly appreciated.

I am asking for your help again this year. With your support, the Detachment's goal is to purchase bears over and above the number of them purchases in 2006. Please help. Your checks made payable to "Spinoza Bear Program" should be sent to me, James Lightcap, at 758 Chestnut Avenue, Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097.

Again, thank you for your generous donations in 2006 to the Spinoza Bear Foundation and C&Y.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Steven J. Rodriguez, Chairman

I would like to personally thank all the individuals, posts, units, and squadrons who made donations last year. I am already taking donations for this year. Anyone who donates will be posted on the website <http://www.myspace.com/sal365>. I am looking forward to a fantastic year and would like to thank everyone in advance for his generosity.

SON OF THE YEAR

Edward T. Marsden, Chairman

Since the award's inception, there have been more nominees than recipients. That is how it rightly should be. Let's face it. Judging is tough and sometimes the competition is close. It surprises me that no squadron has ever chosen to re-nominate one of its own. Every nominee so far has deserved to be recognized, but the simple fact is each year there can be only one winner.

More squadrons should be nominating their members for Son of the Year. Their applications should reflect only their favorite Son's current accomplishments; anything else will be disregarded. Start thinking about 2006-2007, who your squadron leaders and workers are, who deserves to be recognized for his efforts furthering the Legion Family.

Wouldn't it be great if every one of our 150 squadrons took the time to recognize one of their own? Please contact me with your thoughts and ideas.

LETTER TO MY COUNTIES

I'm Frank Jiosi, Detachment Vice Commander. I'd like to say some things about the SAL. Let's start by getting into membership. We have to retain our members and enroll new ones to reach our 10,000 member goal. So, if you need help, get in touch with me by e-mail avejiosi@njsal.org or phone 201-939-4401.

VA&R is a committee that continues to grow by leaps and bounds. The VA&R Committee will visit all facilities in the course of this coming year. Dates will be forthcoming. Please come on out and help at our ward parties. Again, don't be afraid to contact me if your squadron needs anything or help.

For God and Country,
Frank Jiosi, Jr.

LEGION'S NATIONAL COMMANDER VISITS

New Jersey's Legion Family was honored when American Legion National Commander Tom Bock visited posts in Ocean, Morris, and Bergen Counties August 12 prior to attending National Vice Commander Jimmy Hall's Homecoming.

Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons alike came out to meet a true leader and American who believes in the Blue Cap, National Security, full funding of the VA budget, Children and Youth programs, and Americanism. He gave everyone a lot to think about. Those listening to him were truly inspired. pm

REBATE PERIOD EXTENDED

Lincoln-Mercury has continued its Legion Family discount through 2006. It will give a \$400 discount on any new Lincoln or Mercury purchase as well as a \$100 donation to the American Legacy Scholarship Fund. The fund provides money for the education of children whose parents were killed on active duty on or after 9/11. Visit www.mercuryvehicles.com/legion for more information. pm

WE MUST PERSEVERE

A new federal law passed by Congress and signed by President Bush transfers ownership of the Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial to the U. S. government. National Commander Bock calls this "a victory for common sense". Expect more litigation. pm



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DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Comrades,

We are almost half way through the 2006-2007 term, and things are going well. I have traveled to different squadrons around the state and observed some of their inner workings. I have seen the leadership that commanders and officers have in running their respective squadrons as well as the hard workers within them. I am hoping this continues. It would be great if other squadrons started to participate more at their post homes.

On September 15, I attended the POW-MIA Watchfire. The storm that raged that night did not deter SAL members from attending. I must say that even though the beach was gone, Chairman T. Marsden did a great job. Legion Commander Robbins helped us out by getting Post 351 for a ceremony for our POW-MIA's. The next day I attended another POW-MIA service and parade sponsored by the Auxiliary in Wharton. The speakers there that day really moved me.

This year the Sons, Legion, and Auxiliary have three joint projects. One is to build a monument to our fallen service men and women, victims in the War on Terrorism. The next is to help our veterans by purchasing leather reclining chairs for Alzheimer patients at the Paramus Home. The last is to purchase outdoor furniture for the newly built courtyard in the Vineland Facility.

If you would like to donate to this three-fold project, you can send your donations to: Matt Davis, 53 Nautilus Drive, Leonardo, NJ 07737. Mark it "ATTN: Detachment Commander's Project".

Those squadrons would like either any of my officers or me to visit their post home, please contact me by phone at 732-977-2993 or by e-mail mikeal65@comcast.net.

For God and Country,
Michael Arner
Detachment Comander



DATES TO REMEMBER 2006-2007 CALENDAR

Detachment Meeting, Trenton	October 21
Veterans Day	November 11
Membership Target Date 35%	November 15
VA&R Party, Menlo Park	November 18
Thanksgiving	November 23
Pearl Harbor Day	December 7
Membership Target Date 45%	December 13
Detachment Meeting, Trenton	December 16
Christmas	December 25
New Year's Day	January 1
Off Station Ward Party, Post 139, Lynhurst	January 4
Membership Target Date 60%	January 10
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	January 15
Detachment Meeting, Trenton	February 3
Four Chaplain's Sunday	February 4
Membership Target Date 75%	February 14
President's Day	February 19
Washington Conference	March 4-7
Membership Target Date 80%	March 14
American Legion Birthday	March 15-17
Easter	April 8
Membership Target Date 90%	April 11
Detachment Meeting, Trenton	April 14
SAL Spring NEC	May 5-6

THEY FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

Edward T. Marsden, Past National Chaplain

A Sons of the American Legion. Memorial Service was held on August 25, 2006, in Salt Lake City, Utah for its deceased members across the nation. New Jersey members deceased as of June, 2006, include:

Richard Ackerman	Thomas Kulsar, Jr.
Owen Atwood	Dennis Leduc
John D. Babula	Joseph A. Marino
Walter Barthwick	John McCann
Tony Caroltenuto	Liam McClelland
Kevin Covery	Victor Mead
Anthony G. Coscia	John P. Meehan
Henry Cowan, Jr.	Robert J. Miller
Daniel Derose	James R. Nelson
John J. Dettellis	Darrin J. Ortiz
Daniel Donato	James F. Pallotta
Jonathan H. Doughty	Richard Polito
Michael J. Dovohue	Jack M. Pruitt, Jr.
Richard J. Duerr	William E. Rutter
Harald J. Ford	Carmine L. Scuvone
Peter P. Gedvilas, Jr.	Jerry Spirito
Wayne Goldt	Drew A. Stella
Thomas E. Hayman, Jr.	Richard Struble
Irvin R. Hazard, Jr.	William J. Taylor
Brian G. Herman	Herbert E. Tozer
Bill Hight	Dominick A. Volpone, Jr.
Keith W. Johnson	Robert R. Wagner, Jr.
Keith B. Kovach	Robert B. Wright

CHILD WELFARE

Edward T. Marsden, Chairman

Detachment, Counties, Squadrons, help me promote Child Welfare. Let's work to get those dollars flowing in. If you need any help putting together a fundraiser, just e-mail me and I'll do everything I can.

CWF's new poster helps promote the program's goals. "\$3 Million Is Just the Beginning" celebrates the National SAL reaching the \$3,000,000 mark in 2006. The poster and companion flyer will be able to be downloaded then printed in either color or black and white at a later date. Check www.sal.legion.org/comm.htm#cwc.



THE WATCHFIRE THAT ALMOST WASN'T

Thomas E. Marsden, Chairman

Friday, September 25, regional storms with 8-11 feet of cascading runoff made Ocean County roads impassible while submerging low areas. Local authorities closed roads as earth under blacktop eroded, buildings were hit by lightning, power was out, vehicles were stalled. For a while it looked as if the 15th Annual Detachment Watchfire was about to be canceled.

With no beach access, the Watchfire Committee personally called or stopped at nearby posts, the Elks, the VFW. Nothing was open or available. Then Shore Boro came through and allowed the Detachment to relocate the POW-MIA Recognition Day ceremony then and there.

Even though the Legion Family around the state had been advised to stay home, people still came out. Legion Commander Robbins and SAL Commander Arner welcomed everyone as the hall slowly filled. Visible was Vice-chairman Luc Marsden who despite the rain had made it in from San Diego. Vice-chairman Ed Marsden was out in the kitchen cooking up a storm.

PDC's Nelson, Hehl, and Esposito were in attendance as were Sgt-at-Arms KJ Esposito and Tom Gray. Vice Commanders Swimminger and Balega made appearances. Chaplain Rodriguez was there too. Regret and disappointment in not having the Watchfire on the beach were soothed by Post 351's hospitality. Fellowship, co-operation, and camaraderie really showed as we worked side by side.

To Post 351, to Commander Robbins, to the Detachment officers, to Ocean County, to the Legion Family, to Tom and Nancy Engkilterra, a heartfelt thank you. You made #15 reality. Because of your efforts, I can still say no watchfire has ever been canceled or postponed. Next year, hopefully, the angels won't cry!

BITS AND PIECES

PDC Gary Nelson, Sq. 365, has been selected as Chairman of the Finance Committee....A new committee, Boys State, has been added to the Children and Youth Commission. Patrick Gallagher, Sq. 346, and Thomas E. Marsden, Sq. 166, have been appointed as vice-chairmen.

2006 Membership stands at 8,992, and 2007 at 1,966. Squadrons, get those enrollment forms in.... Counties and Squadrons, be sure to get your information forms in to the Legion office and Adjutant Gillman. pm

THE EDITOR'S DESK

Right now the SALute is still being done by a local printer. Its estimate for color pages are well beyond the budget. Someone I deal with printed the photo page for me as a one time deal at just the cost of paper and ink. If you didn't get the chance to join us in Utah or at the Watchfire, these pictures show you what you missed. Enjoy this inset; it's a special bonus.



MEMBERSHIP

Hello, to all male descendants of veterans who fought in any of the great wars of our country and to those who served in our military forces during the appropriate years designated. The Sons of the American Legion. Membership!!! Membership!!! Membership!!! We need your membership.

Our goal this year for the Detachment of New Jersey is 10,500 members. We can do it. Nothing less is acceptable to me as Detachment Membership Chairman. We are losing too many members due to the lack of new forwarding addresses, parents and grandparents who usually pay their sons and grandsons dues dying off, etc.

What we need to do is promote membership at our legion, auxiliary, and squadron levels, at post events and parties, with people who rent the halls. At every event, get the membership chairman or the adjutant get permission to speak for 2-5 minutes about promoting the SAL membership. Set up a table with applications so that when people come in, someone hands them an SAL application.

While sending out renewals to the membership, put an application in the envelope and ask your members to sign up other SAL members. Sign up people at your work place. Ask the post commander for permission to speak at one of the general meetings to promote dual membership. Membership is our life blood. We need the per capita. Strength is in numbers.

Someday, and I hope someday soon, many SAL members will finally be eligible to become American Legion members because the dates they were in the military presently make them unable to join and be a part of the American Legion organization. We must speak out to our congressmen and to our senators who make the decisions in Washington, D. C.

We need and must show a large membership that stands behind Carl Albern, our NEC, and Tom Marsden, hopefully our Northeastern Region SAL NVC.

This year is the year of our veterans. Cmdr. Arner announced that at the Wildwood Convention. This is our main priority as a SAL, our veterans. I'm proud to be a Son. It's the least I can do to show my gratitude to veterans for the sacrifices they made, for our freedoms, and for our way of life.

Everyone, explain to new members the benefits there are in being a Son, a member of the Legion Family. Most posts have canteens where members can drink at reasonable cost. Hall rentals are discounted for members. Being part of an event, being a volunteer at the post can be educational and exciting.

Be positive towards membership; reach out to young ones. Get little ones involved in setting up the hall, serving food, and cleaning up after the parties. Let them know how thankful being a member can be.

Who knows? A lot of talk is that the Jersey shore is due to get hit by a hurricane like KATRINA which hit the Gulf states in 2005. Total destruction. People lost their lives, their homes, members of their families, pets, their life savings. They had nothing. Everything was destroyed.

We as a Legion Family were there for them even before FEMA. The American Legion played a big role in relief for thousands of people who belonged to the American Legion Family. Legion members, auxiliary members, and the SAL with proper forms filled and filed, through the NEF received checks for \$1,500.

Just think this could happen to you and me. This is just to remind people that the American Legion beside the SAL has many programs members are entitled to use. They include discounts on car rentals, hotels, vacations, airfare, cruise ships, prescriptions, eye glasses, etc.

We must succeed in this membership drive. If a squadron can manage it, offer new members membership for the first year for only the \$5 per capita fee with the next year normal dues of whatever the squadron charges. Just get people to become legitimate members.

Let's go ahead with this year's schedule. Get membership cards in to Detachment. Don't hold on to them. Remember the \$5 per capita for each member. Support Mike Arner, our SAL state commander, and his officers. Thank you.

For God and Country,
Dave "Duke" Haring, Membership Chair
at Dukedave@AOL.COM
&
James Ventimiglia, Asst. Chair
at jventi@AOL.COM

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application	
Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____	Birth Date _____ Date _____
Name _____ (First) (Initial) (Last)	Recruited by _____ (Initial) (Last)
Address _____ (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)	
E-mail Address _____	Telephone _____
Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____	
(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No _____, Dept. of _____	
OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____	
(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____	
I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.	
Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)	
Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant)	00-001 (2003)

RECEIPT	Date _____	Received of _____
	\$ _____	in payment of dues for 20 _____ in _____
For God and Country	Squadron _____	Detachment of _____
	By _____	

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS OCTOBER 31, 2006.