



THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY
 EDITOR: THOMAS E. MARSDEN; ASSOCIATE EDITOR: PATRICIA MARSDEN

WWW.NJSALUTE.ORG

A CALL FOR HELP TO OUR SONS

Elected officers, appointed officers, DEC's, PDC's, squadron representatives, and country representatives we need all of you to be in attendance at Trenton S. A. L. meetings. The next one is Saturday, April 5, 2008 at 9:45 A. M. in the War Memorial Building, Trenton. We need your expertise and input in preparing the slate for the 2008 Wildwood Convention. We also need your support of the SALute.

The Sgt.-at-Arms will be checking 2008 membership cards at meetings. By the recent A. L. guidelines, you may well have to be turned away without one. If you've lost it get a replacement. If you need to pay dues, please do so. Detachment needs every one of its members eligible and active. tm

LEGION ISSUES PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Every Sons of the American Legion squadron and county in New Jersey should be aware of procedural changes approved by Department at its December 1, 2007 meeting.

(1) Only SAL members, SAL committee members, the Department Commander and his/her guests, and invited Legionnaires may attend detachment meetings.

(2) Any meeting other than the officially scheduled ones must be approved by the chairman.

(3) Distribution of minutes must be approved by the chairman.

(4) All candidates for elected office must give the Department proof of eligibility and squadron, post, and county endorsements then forward them for final approval to the chairman.

(5) All elected and appointed offices must be approved by the chairman who will then bring them to the DEC's for final approval.

(6) All delegates to national convention and all appointments to the national organization must be approved by the chairman .tm

WE SADLY REPORT

We mourn the passing of Candy Howarth, Department Auxiliary Historian. The Legion Family has lost a kind, devout, and loving member. Heartfelt condolences to husband, Past Department Commander Ted Howarth, and son, Past Detachment Commander Sean Howarth. Remember her in your prayers. pm



NVCE HOMECOMING SET

Legion Family, SAL National Vice Commander Thomas Marsden cordially invites you, his family and friends, to celebrate with him at his official homecoming. The weekend of March 7-9, 2008, will be a busy one for the Committee to Elect NVCDNJ.

7:00 P. M. Friday, Post 348 Brick will open its doors to national, state, and local attendees for a Meet and Greet. 8:00 A. M. Saturday, guests will board buses for a tour of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. That evening there will be a cocktail hour at 6:00 P. M. followed by an all you can eat dinner-dance at the Quality Inn, Route 37 Toms River (cost \$35). Sunday morning one of the nearby local posts will host an a la carte breakfast for guests. gathering for their goodbyes.

If you haven't gotten your information packet from Trenton in a recent mailing, please contact Pat. Marsden at Pat.navymom@gmail.com or call her at 732-255-5939. You are free to participate in whatever you wish. All dinner reservations must be paid in advance no later than March 1. Reservations for rooms must be made prior to February 9 through the hotel (732-341-2400). Make your reservations early. pm

THE EDITOR'S DESK

I am proud that the SALute has reported facts objectively and its editorials have supported American Legion policies, programs, and the Legion Family. Nothing has ever been censored. The purpose has always been to keep the membership fully informed. Now with my assistant editor not being approved to attend meetings to get timely news for story lines, I see no way of the paper continuing. Without someone there to write, the paper effectively is shut down.

In the last five years the SALute garnered five first place NJALPA awards and five more awards for its articles. It also captured a third place national award for excellence. It was a good run up--until now. But I just can't do it alone. Any suggestions?

The njsalute.org website will continue to serve as an archive for the Detachment newspaper from 2001 to the present. Many squadrons still do not get mailings from Trenton so check it out.



DETACHMENT OFFICERS 07-08

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**COMMANDER'S MESSAGE**

The holidays have passed and the new year has begun. I hope everybody's celebrations were fun and safe. Now let's get back to work.

By the time you read this the first Legion Family Idol program should be completed. I want to thank Auxiliary Unit 415 Saddle Brook for hosting this event in Bergen County at Post 147 Elmwood Park. This fundraiser helped Department Commander Frank Callandrillo and Department President Dolores Gonzalez raise monies for six veterans facilities in New Jersey.

On December 8, 2007, I attended the POW/MIA Tree Lighting at Post 351 Seaside Heights. Our Detachment supports all efforts to "Bring them home." From there I visited Post 415 Saddle Brook's benefit Christmas show. The event raised over \$10,000 for Savannah Voorhies. God bless all those who came thorough in this little child's time of need.

On January 16, 2008, I visited Ocean County. The dinner-meeting was held at Post 493 Mystic Island. I'd like to thank the Ocean County SAL officers for their warm hospitality. Keep up the great job, Ocean.

Due to Department changes at the last detachment meeting, we welcome Kent Hehl into the office of judge advocate. Good luck, Kent. We are proud of you. A special message to previous Judge Advocate Kenneth Esposito, Sr., PDC: I thank you for all your hard work. You are a true gentleman to say the least. Thank you for being a friend to me and giving me your confidence and opinions. Please come around, Kenny. We still want you around.

There are issues with the IRS concerning some squadrons exceeding 25% of post membership. This is nothing for every squadron to worry about. Keep doing what you are doing. The American Legion is working on this. Membership is doing well. We are making our goals.

Squadron officer reports are due in Trenton. If you need forms, contact the Detachment and we will send you them. Please get them mailed in. Also, check the website www.njsal.org for more information and links to other sites, committee reports, and my Commander's Message.

Some of the upcoming events in the works include:

Legion Family Idol Fundraiser (contact Project Chairman Lenny Free)

February and April Detachment meetings in Trenton

March 7-9 Homecoming Weekend for N. V. C. E. Tom Marsden
(contact Chairman Jim Noble for details)

April 12 Detachment Commander's Testimonial (forms being mailed)

In closing, I ask you to pray for our troops overseas keeping our freedom. Go see the vets at the six veterans facilities and spend some time with them. God bless America.

For God and Country,
Frank Jiosi, Jr.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

State Meeting, Trenton
Four Chaplains, Lakehurst
Presidents Day

Homecoming National Vice Commander East
American Legion Birthday
Easter

Washington Conference
State Meeting, Trenton
SAL Spring NEC, Indianapolis

February 2, 2008
February 3, 2008
February 18, 2008
March 7-9, 2008
March 15, 2008
March 23, 2008
March 30-April 2, 2008
April 5, 2008
May 2-4, 2008

FEBRUARY 29, 2008 NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE

VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

Dave "Duke" Haring

Well, I'm back from my cruise. I returned back to the U. S. A. from Central America on December 2. I am happy to be back home. I realize more and more just how fortunate we are to be U. S. citizens. The living conditions in Costa Rico, Mexico, and Panama are terrible. On the banana plantations, natives who are lucky enough to work, are paid \$16 a day for a twelve hour day. If there is no work, then there is no pay! Houses have dirt floors and people sleep on benches. After 5:00 P. M. there is no electric. People must use car batteries for lighting their homes.

In early December I attended Past National Chaplain and Past Auxiliary President Caroline Kovaleski's farewell dinner at Post 455 New Egypt. On January 5, I attended a farewell party for Chuck Robbins, Jr. at Post 351 Seaside Heights. Little Chuck, the son of Past Department Commander Chuck Robbins, has been a SAL member for many years. He enlisted in the U. S. Air Force and is in basic training. His induction will next month in San Antonio. We thank him for serving.

I transferred my membership to Squadron 129 Toms River. I'm very happy there. Their membership is skyrocketing through the roof. They support the whole Legion Family--Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Sons. I realize that we as a program of the American Legion have no rights just privileges. We are a vital part of the Legion Family. We work and serve doing as much as we can do as volunteers for the good of veterans in our communities, state, and nation.

Nevertheless I am disturbed by the news that Ken Esposito was removed as Detachment Judge Advocate and that no guests not even our SALute Assistant Editor, writer Pat. Marsden, may attend our detachment meetings. I just hope this isn't the end of the SALute. The paper has been a great way for getting the word out throughout the state about American Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL functions.

SAL COLLEGE

Kent Hehl

SAL College this year will be Saturday, April 18 at Sea Girt, N. J. Two one day courses will be offered, a basic course designed for anyone who would like to know about our organization from top to bottom and an advanced course designed to help members get programs rolling in their squadrons as well as to exchange ideas with members of other squadrons throughout the state.

Both of these courses are getting better each year so, maybe, you might want to retake one of them. The forms will be mailed out in January, and the deadline for registration is March 28. Members will be required to have an up to date card and wear the SAL cover. There is also a few openings in both the American Legion Basic Course and the Chaplain Course. For more information, please contact me directly at 609-685-6171 or e-mail me at kehehl@aol.com

2008 CWF GRANTS AT A GLANCE

Ed Marsden, CWF Vice Chairman

Where did your money go? The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation awarded 19 nonprofit organizations a total of \$535,700. The recipients are:

- AL Children's Home, Ponca City, OK—"AL Children's Home National Awareness Initiative"
- American Humane Assn., Englewood, CO—"Exploring Differential Response"
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of McHenry County, Inc., McHenry County, IL—"Mentoring Answer Book"
- Childhood Leukemia Foundation, Brick, NJ—"Hope Binders"
- Children's Hunger Alliance, Columbus, OH—"CARES Project"
- Family & Children's Services, Minneapolis, MN—"Family Strengths Toolkit"
- Give Kids the World, Kissimmee, FL—"Dream & Go Guides: Handbooks for Happiness"
- Kids in Danger, Chicago, IL—"Safe from the Start"
- Mercy Medical Airlift, Virginia Beach, VA—"Child Health Program"
- National Ability Center, Park City, UT—"Summer Camp Brochures"
- National Autism Center, Randolph, MA—"Implementing Evidence based Educational Interventions for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders in School Settings"
- National Exercise Trainers Assoc., Minneapolis, MN—"Fitness for Today's Youth"
- National Exchange Club Foundation, Toledo, OH—"Believe in the Blue Campaign"
- National Indian Child Welfare Assn., Portland, OR—"Ensuring the Seventh Generation: Youth Suicide Prevention Toolkit"
- National Marfan Foundation, Port Washington, NY—"Marfan Teen Space"
- Our Military Kids, Inc., McLean, VA—"Our Military Kids Informational Materials Phase II"
- TechMission, Dorchester, MA—"Safe Families"
- ZERO TO THREE, Washington, DC—"Coming Together around Military Families"

BITS AND PIECES

The 2007-2008 SAL Chairman is Franklin R. Sickel....The American Legion has placed Kent Hehl in the position of Detachment Judge Advocate....PDC Mike Arner, Sq. 326 Leonardo, is historian for SALNVCE Tom Marsden. Check out his saleast.org website for what is going on in the East. tm

CHILD WELFARE

Mike Arner, Chairman

As of January 7, the New Jersey SAL has sent \$5,580 in to CWF. Based on last year's membership that's \$.62 for each Son. We are at 54.9% of National's \$10,155 goal for us. We know we can do much better. France leads in per capita with 150%, and Pennsylvania is ahead of us with \$6,553 in donations. Please send your contributions to Mike Arner. Thanks.

MEMBERSHIP

As of January 9, New Jersey had 5,117 members. We did not come close enough to make the 60% goal. 75% target date is February 13. Squadrons should work on getting renewals and enrolling new members. Recruit and retain. pm

ADJUTANT'S CORNER

John N. Gillman

Happy New Year, Fellow SAL Members! I hope your holidays were filled with joy.

At the December 1, 2007 Department meeting, the Legion approved a recommendation requiring all candidates for elected or appointed office to submit proof of eligibility for membership in the SAL by January 25, 2007. Candidates running for detachment office are also required to furnish letters of endorsement from their squadrons, American Legion post, and county committee of the American Legion. It is also a good idea to have an endorsement from the SAL County Committee if there is one.

On another note, 89 squadrons are as of the new year still are missing Squadron Officers Report Forms. Please complete them because the Department will not send out anything without them. Without this form on record, you will receive neither the mailings nor the great publication, the award-winning SALute. So hurry and get those forms in!

A TIME FOR GIVING

Debe Free

Post 415 Saddle Brook Auxiliary and SAL hosted a benefit on December 8 for eleven year old Savannah Voorhees, born two months prematurely with cerebral palsy. Our members jumped to her aid when insurance would not cover a special stroller, formula for her feeding tube, and orthotics for her legs and feet.

Countless helpers, elves, and 180 people filled Post 147 Elmwood Park for the show put together by Tony Alfred, Evelyn Rue, Joe Skipper, Kelly Katic, Lenny Free, David Shadow Love, Wendy Mackay, Jim Espaillant, Mike Nahay, Robin and Bob Elder, Debe Free and Theresa Gail Mickens. The \$10,377 proceeds will really help Savannah and her family.

We thank everyone especially the Legion Families of Rochelle Park, Totowa, Little Ferry, Carlstadt, Elmwood Park, and Englewood for their support. We are still accepting donations. Send them to the Ladies Auxiliary, c/o Debe Free, 35 River Edge Road, Bergenfield, NJ 07621.



Legion Family Collecting Members in New Hampshire

TRAVELING THE EAST

Photos by
Michael Arner, SALNVCE Historian

Pennsylvania Helps Its Homeless Vets

