



THE SALUTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

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

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ADJUTANT'S CORNER

John N. Gillman

With the Convention fast approaching, four forms were sent out by the Department and the Detachment. These are important forms that need to be filled out and returned to the correct people as soon as possible.

The first form was the Consolidated Report Form. The second was the Convention Delegate Report Form that had to be sent to Bill Breen. The third was the Son of the Year Form that went to Dean Stakyns. Deadlines for these forms are now past.

The last one is the Officer Report Form (green this year). It must be sent to Department as soon as possible. Without this form on file in the office, no mailings whatsoever including the SALute, the Detachment newspaper, will be sent out.

You can contact me at 246 Jefferson Avenue, Magnolia, NJ 08049. Hope to see you all at Convention!

WAYS AND MEANS

Joseph Korba

The new detachment pins as well as other Sons of the American Legion items will be available soon. I will be contact the detachment officers when they are available. Items will be available at the convention or you can contact Joe Korba at joemargate@aol.com or 609-529-2996. Thank you for your past support. Please help sell these items as the funds raised go into our operation account.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Amel Balega, Scholarship Chairman

The winner of the 2009 \$3,500 Ernie Wilson Scholarship is Geordie C. Folinas. Geordie is a first year member of Squadron 346. His work in creating a memorial park in Spring Lake Heights to honor those who served is a example of his dedication and spirit of volunteerism. This year he helped his squadron with membership, attended Basic SAL College, and was first runner up statewide in the Legion Oratorical Contest.

VETERANS HOME HONORS FRANK JIOSI, JR.

Joseph A. Korba, VC

I had the honor of representing Frank Jiosi Jr. and the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of New Jersey as Frank, along with The Department and Auxiliary, was honored by The New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home in Vineland for Project of the Year 2008 (see picture, page 3). Many local politicians and VA representatives from the State of New Jersey attended the luncheon and ceremony held in Vineland on April 17.

The Commander's Project 2007-2008 was a greenhouse for the residents to utilize. This was part of the Legion Family Commanders Project during Frank's year as Detachment Commander. I salute Frank for what he has done and continues to do for veteran's facilities all over the state.

MEMBERSHIP

Dave "Duke" Haring, Membership Chairman

As of May 29, 2009, our membership stands at 8,678. That is about 97.4% of last year's total of 8,908, still down 230 members. New Jersey has 161 squadrons out of which 18 are suspended and 56 are at or above 100%. Squadrons, please send your membership cards to Trenton. Do not hold on to them. We must bring our membership over 2008's total.

Of our 21 counties only seven have gone over the top so far--Atlantic, Bergen, Essex, Gloucester, Salem, Somerset, and Ocean which includes Sq. 129 Toms River. It has the largest membership in New Jersey ever. Perhaps other squadron membership chairmen should take lessons and tips from them. Then New Jersey could be #1 in the nation in membership. The job takes dedication, commitment, and promoting the S. A. L. always.

I have said it many times over. Membership is the life blood of our organization. We need the per capita. We need you as a Son to show your commitment and involvement to our veterans and to our great nation.



Detachment Officers 08-09

CANDIDATE FOR NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER EAST

JAMES A. NOBLE

(submitted by James A. Noble)

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Patrick Gallagher
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Joe Korba
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Adjutant:

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Chaplain:

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Historian:

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Sgt-at-Arms:

Kermit Riley
Joseph Ruggerio
Edward Downs

Asst. Sgt-at-Arms:

Matt Bieda
Thomas Gray

NEC:

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Kent Hehl
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Jim is a charter/life member of Squadron 19, Bayonne New Jersey. His eligibility is through his father, who was a U. S. Navy machinist's Mate Third Class and served during World War II in the Pacific. On August 25, 1990, Jim married his lovely bride Debra Young, who served as Auxiliary Department President 2005- 2006. They are both very involved with the Legion Family.

Jim's commitment to the Sons of The American Legion has been ongoing for sixteen years. He has served as his squadron's first commander as well as many other positions, presently as Judge Advocate. On January 8, 2008, Bayonne Post 19 Legionnaires asked Jim to start and lead the American Legion Riders. He was voted Legion Riders Director, a position he presently holds.

In 1995-1996, he held the position of Detachment Historian; in 1996-1997, Detachment Vice Commander; 1997-1998 Detachment Commander; 1998-2000 Alternate National Executive Committeeman; and 2000-2004 National Executive Committeeman. He also served as Detachment Judge Advocate in 2002-2004. There he has served on many committees including VA&R Chairman, SAL College Chairman, and five year Commission Chairman of Internal Affairs.

At the 2007 State Convention, Jim received the Detachment Commander's Award for his commitment and dedication to The Sons of The American Legion. He is a graduate of the 2007 National Management Institute.

Jim was a detachment commander key in starting three committees: (1) The Detachment Web site to get information on detachment officers and committees out to squadrons throughout the State of New Jersey; (2) County Level SAL within the State; and (3) SAL College for squadron members to learn about programs of the American Legion Family along with the correct manner of conducting Squadron meetings.

Presently Jim is the Director of Operations for Internal Intelligence Service, a Security and Investigations Firm, based in Newark, New Jersey. He started working for the firm in 1996 as a security officer and rose up through the ranks and to captain. As a former Hudson County, N. J. Corrections Officer, Jim has been the taught the skills of dealing with people and their problems.

Jim also volunteers his time as one of the founding members of the Bayonne Fire Canteen, where he has been chief since 2001. When 9-11-01 was unfolding, Jim was called upon by the Bayonne Fire Department to setup two rehab locations. One was at the base of the Bayonne Bridge for stranded motorists; the other was at the Staten Island Ferry where over 750 emergency personnel were served. Jim and all members of the Bayonne Fire Canteen have been widely recognized with many awards for their services during and in the aftermath of 911. Both Jim and Debbie were awarded the National American Legion Auxiliary Showcase Award at the Washington Awareness Assembly in 2002.

In 2008, Jim was recognized by the Knights of Columbus as Volunteer of the Year in Bayonne, where he received proclamations from city, county and state officials. Jim also serves on the International Fire Buffs Association in the 9th Region as one of the Quad Chiefs.

As a Life Members of the Parent Chapter of The Knights of Fire Motorcycle Club, Jim has held the Positions of Treasurer, Vice President and is currently Sgt. Of Arms, Road Captain, and By-Laws Committee. The KOF MC is a fire and emergency service club which make charitable donations for children and emergency personnel.

Jim would like to represent the Sons of The American Legion as National Vice Commander, Eastern Region, promoting the programs to help our veterans, children, and communities.

Bayonne Squadron 19, Bayonne Post 19, Hudson County SAL Executive Committee, and the Hudson County American Legion Executive Committee have all endorsed Jim as candidate for the high office of National Vice Commander East.



Dates to Remember

Boys State, Rider University
High Point
National Convention, Louisville, KY

June 21-26, 2009
June 28, 2009
August 21-23, 2009

JUNE 30, 2009 NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE

THOMAS E. "TOMMIE" CISNA SAL NATIONAL COMMANDER



Tommie Cisna is a resident of Mattoon, Illinois, and has been married to his wife Kathy for 23 years. Tommie joined the Sons of The American Legion 25 years ago and is a member of the Lawrence Riddle Squadron #88 in Mattoon. In addition, Tommie's wife is an active member of The American Legion Auxiliary.

Tommie's eligibility in the Sons of The American Legion is through his father, I. Edward Cisna, who served in the Air Force during the Korean Conflict. Tommie's sister, Patty, and her daughters, Sarah and Rose, are also members of The American Legion Auxiliary.

Tommie graduated from Mattoon High School in 1977 and also attended Southern Illinois University and Lake Land College. He is employed as a Shop Manager at L. T. & E. Inc. in Arcola, Illinois.

Tommie's involvement in the American Legion began when he was a young boy. He would meet his Dad, a postal carrier, at the post office after work and walk across the street the American Legion Post for a cool beverage. During junior and senior high school, Tommie played the trumpet and was often called upon by the American Legion and the VFW to play "Taps" at military funerals. After his marriage to Kathy in 1985 they both became active in the American Legion Family.

All of the programs of the Sons of the American Legion are important to Tommie. Over the years he has taught Flag Etiquette to grade schools and to the Boy Scouts. He has volunteered to distribute poppies and volunteered at the Illiana Veterans' Hospital for their Super Bingos and Christmas Gift Wrap. The Children's Miracle Network has a special place in Tommie's heart as Kathy was admitted to the St. John's Children's Miracle Network Hospital upon the stillborn birth of their daughter.

Other fraternal organizations have played a part in Tommie's life. As a member of the Boy Scouts of America Tommie achieved the rank of Eagle Scout with Bronze Palm and was awarded the Ad Altari Dei (God and Country Medal). He is also a member of the Mattoon Council #1057 of the Knights of Columbus and a Life Member of the Patriots Marching Color Guard.

The American Legion Family is a large part of Tommie's life. Lawrence Riddle Post, Unit & Squadron #88, The Detachment of Illinois, The American Legion Department of Illinois, and the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Illinois have endorsed Tommie Cisna for the office of National Commander of The Sons of The American Legion.

CANDIDATE FOR VICE COMMANDER JOE KORBA

It is with great pride and honor I seek a third term as Vice Commander for the Detachment of New Jersey. I currently am responsible for Atlantic, Cape May, Burlington, and Mercer Counties. Additionally I am Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and serve as the SAL representative on the Convention Committee.

Everyone that I have met over my past two terms as Vice Commander shares one common bond. We all want to see the Detachment of New Jersey grow in its programs and help our youth, service personnel, and veterans. Nothing gives the feeling that one gets visiting any of our veteran's facilities and seeing how much the residents appreciate what we do.

I also serve as Squadron Financial Officer and Adjutant for Squadron #352 in Somers Point. My father served in Navy during World War II, and there is not one function that I attend that I don't think about my father and what I do in his memory.

I thank each and every one of you for allowing me to serve as vice commander. It has been a learning and growing experience. Hopefully with your support, I will be able to take my experience and serve another term.

BITS AND PIECES

The dedication of Cmdr. Robbins, Cmdr. Arner, and Pres. Fabian's 2006-2007 project scheduled for Memorial Day weekend was delayed. Weather conditions in New Hampshire halted granite deliveries. The anticipated rescheduling will be in the summer.

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

Paul E. Zimorowski, Sr.

On March 4, 2009, Burlington County S. A. L. Outgoing Commander Paul E. Zimarowski, Sr. presented his 2008-2009 officers Five Star awards for their support and dedicated service. This "New Kids on the Block" county was formed just two years ago.

Getting awards were Barry Patriarca, Second Vice; Jeff Hicks; Paul E. Zimarowski, Sr., Commander; Doc Stockton, Adjutant; Kevin Mathis, Finance; Toby Houseworth, Sgt.-at-Arms; Kevin Houseworth.



Vice Commander Joe Korba and NEC Dolores Gonzalez at veterans home in Vinland

CANDIDATE FOR COMMANDER

JOHN N. (JAY) GILLMAN

Jay has been a member of the Sons of the American Legion for eleven years. He gained his eligibility through his father John P. Gillman who served in the Korean War. Jay has served Squadron #370 as chairman in many committees that include Sick Call and Relief, Constitution and By-Laws, and Veterans Rehabilitation. The Constitution and By-Laws for Squadron #370 were written while he was chairman of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. He has also participated in many fund raising events for the Legion Family of Post #370. Jay has worked his way up the chairs to where he has served as Squadron Commander for the years 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2005-2006.

On the county level Jay has served the Sons of the American Legion Camden County Committee as Chaplain, Senior Vice-Commander, Commander and is presently serving as Adjutant. Jay has also served as chairman of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee when the original Constitution and By-Laws for Camden County were written.

On the detachment level, Jay has served as Sergeant-at-Arms, Chaplain, and Detachment Vice-Commander where he helped Squadron #115, Beverly, and Squadron #286, Pine Hill, reorganize. Jay also helped in the formation of Squadron #262, Audubon. He is currently serving as the Detachment Adjutant, an office he has held for three years. Jay has also served as chairman of Religious Emphasis, the Detachment Commander's Project, and Constitution and By-Laws when the By-Laws were rewritten in 2006-2007.

Jay has been married to his wife Jane for sixteen years. They are currently living in Magnolia where Jay has been a lifelong resident.

If elected to the office of Detachment Commander, Jay will continue the promotion of membership growth, SAL program participation, making visitations throughout the state, and the continued care of our Veterans and their families. These are a must and a priority for the continued growth and prosperity of the Detachment of New Jersey.

CMN UPDATE

Bob Caudell, Deputy Director Children & Youth
(Indianapolis, March 11, 2009)

Children's Miracle Network's Director of Corporate Development called this week to apologize for their miscommunication earlier this year and to acknowledge that The American Legion remains a valued corporate sponsor in the partnership that began in 1998.

Supporting Children's Miracle Network hospitals in their efforts to provide quality health care to all children is the right thing to do and is a natural for The American Legion. Over the past decade, The American Legion family has raised over \$20 million dollars in support of hospitalized children, but The Legion and Children's Miracle Network believe the best is yet to come in.



Jay Gillman



Jim Lightcap

CANDIDATE FOR COMMANDER JAMES LIGHTCAP

I am a thirty year member of Squadron 133 eligible under my father Walter Lightcap, who served in the United States Navy during WWII. I have served most offices within my squadron. I am currently serving my second term as Gloucester County Commander after holding several chairs in the county.

After being involved with the Detachment of New Jersey for seven years and holding the offices of chaplain for one year, vice commander for four years, and a committee chairman for a year, I am running for Detachment Commander 2009-2010.

As Children and Youth Chairman, I have been highly successful raising money for both Josh Dogs and Spinoza Bears. I have also participated in the Polar Bear Plunge for the past five years helping my squadron raise several thousand dollars for Special Olympics. You can see children are near and dear to my heart, so I will be concentrating on the children of New Jersey for my Commander's Project.

I believe with my knowledge of and commitment to the S. A. L. that I have the ability to promote and execute the committees and projects of the Detachment of New Jersey.

THE EDITOR'S DESK

I regret that we could not print a special edition convention newspaper. Candidates for only two of the seven offices on which you will vote chose to submit articles. The vote you cast decides the future of Detachment. Back room politics has no place in an election. You need to know yourself about who the people you vote for are and what they have accomplished for the SAL and the Legion Family not only this year but in the past.

I would like to thank associate editor Pat. Marsden for her help and Norm Marlin for his support as well as Detachment officers Amel Balega, Steve Catina, Jay Gillman, Duke Haring, Joe Korba, Rob Lasky, PDC's Mike Arner, Frank Jiosi, Ed Marsden, Luc Marsden, Jim Noble, and members Toby Houseworth, Bryan Lysenko, Ron Wolfenden, and Paul Zimarowski for submitting articles this year.