



The New Jersey

SALute

Official Publication of the Detachment of New Jersey, Sons of the American Legion

Volume 60, Issue 6

June 2024

Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of New Jersey
171 Jersey St., Bld 5, 2nd Floor,

Trenton NJ 08611 www.NJSAL.org

Commander	Keith Barnes
Vice Commander	Richard Hodum
Vice Commander	William Murphy
Vice Commander	Charles Taylor II
Vice Commander	(vacant)
Vice Commander	(vacant)
Adjutant	PNVC/PDC Thomas Marsden
Ass't Adjutant	DEC Russell Myers
Finance Officer	PDC C. David Page
Chaplain	PDC Matthew Thalasinis
Judge Advocate	PNVC/PDC Gary Nelson
Historian	PDC Nicholas Wingler
Nat Exec Comm	PDC Robert Phillips Jr
Alt Nat Exec Comm	PDC Henry Hasselhan
Sgt-at-Arms	Darryl Cunningham
Sgt-at-Arms Emeritus	Anthony Liberatore
SAL Chairman	Anthony Gladden
SAL Committee Liaison	Sophia Dmoch
SAL Committee	Michael Smith



NEVER FORGET OUR POW/MIAs AND THOSE WHO HAVE FALLEN

In This Issue...

From The Editor	Pg 2
TEN. MILLION. DOLLARS	Pg 3
ALA Request	Pg 4
Last Survivor of USS Arizona Passes	Pg 4
Commander's Message	Pg 5
Best Beard	Pg 6
Snapshots	Pg 8
Commander Bishop's Dinner	Pg 12
Commander Barnes' Dinner	Pg 13
One Busy May	Pg 14
Decorating The Graves	Pg 15
SAL College	Pg 18
Installations	Pg 18
Poppies	Pg 19
Memorial Day Around NJ	Pg 20
Traveling Vietnam Wall	Pg 21
Can You Help? Care Packages	Pg 22
Zeppo Marx In WW2 Effort	Pg 23
A Discovery in Bordentown	Pg 24
Coming Events	Pg 25
Contributors	Pg 26

You're Never Alone – Call 9-8-8 - Option 1

For God and Country,

Gary S. Crawford PC, Commander Neptune Sq 346,
Adjutant Monmouth County Exec Committee, Editor
SALute

njSALute@gmail.com

From the Editor:

A Special Election Issue of **The NJ SALute** is also being published. The candidates have all submitted their photos and bios, with their endorsements registered from their Posts and Squadrons.

The national SAL newsletter **The Millennium** is now online and published monthly. Current and back issues: www.legion.org/sons/newsletters

New Website: Leonia Sgt. Clendenon S Newell Post 1: www.alpost1nj.org.

One of the busiest Squadrons in NJ, click here to see what Belleville Squadron 105 is up to: www.facebook.com/SAL105NJ

Decorating the graves this year for Memorial Day? Please tally the flags placed and let NEC Bob Phillips know at bpjrsal@gmail.com Don't forget pictures for **The SALute**. The **Flying Flags for Heroes** project is still ongoing. "One Million Flags placed on Veteran graves throughout the USA!"

In a related story, flags placed at Mount Prospect Cemetery in Neptune by SAL 346 members were missing from Veterans' graves. Only about 25 or so, these were mysteriously removed from the same graves as the year before. **SALute** Editor and SAL Sq 346 Commander Gary Crawford appeared on News12NJ and in other media outlets to show the vandalism. After investigation by Neptune Twp Police and others, the possibility that four-legged residents of the cemetery may have had a hand – or paw - in the crime. A fox den was spotted nearby, and the cemetery is also home to ground hogs, squirrels, chipmunks, deer, and other critters, so the theft of the flags may be animal-related, but the clean removal of the flags from the wooden sticks still seems suspicious. The jury is still out on the cause of the missing flags. If nothing else, the publicity helped to remind the public of what Memorial Day is all about.



Condolences to:

D1VP Lisa Natale and PDC Mark Natale on the passing of Lisa's mother.

NEC/PDC Bob Phillips Jr. on the passing of his mother.

In Memoriam: Past Department Commander Raymond Zawacki, who entered Post Everlasting on May 7. He served in many capacities at Edison Post 324 as well as the Department of NJ.

In Memoriam: Henry "Harry" Lynch, 99 year old World War Two Veteran, Past Commander of Neptune Post 346, on May 18. Harry served as Grand Marshall of the Neptune Twp Memorial Day Parade in 2023.

Ten. Million. Dollars!



Sons of The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Committee Chairman Mark Nave speaks during the spring 2024 National Executive Committee meetings.

At the 2022 SAL Spring Meetings, SAL Child Welfare Foundation Committee chairman Mark Nave praised the SAL for reaching \$9 million in donations to CWF and set the next goal.

“We’re ‘fine at nine,’ but now it’s time to reach ‘the perfect 10,’” he said.

Mission accomplished!

The SAL this month reached **\$10 million** in donations to CWF since 1988, continuing as the program’s largest donor.

SAL National Commander Don “JR” Hall broke the news with a post on his personal Facebook page: “How about them Sons!!!”

“We had a goal to raise \$407,000 this year to reach the \$10 million mark for the years of work,” Hall wrote. “Congrats to all of our membership that has had fundraisers, bought CWF merchandise and worked hard to get to and exceed the goal.”

Hall added, “Thanks to every blue cap member that made donations over the years.”

The CWF program year officially runs through May 31, so final donation numbers aren’t known yet. Departments, posts, detachments, and squadrons that donate and want to receive credit for the 2023-2024 program year should ensure all donations are received at American Legion National Headquarters no later than Friday, May 31. Donations also can be made online at legion.org/donate. Donations support grants to youth-serving nonprofits that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children.



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION



From ALA National:

We have a special request from one of our overseas commissaries: They need coupons!

This is a great opportunity to get members involved in working the mission of National Security, especially those members who may be homebound.

Below are some helpful tips and the contact information on where to send the coupons:

1. Only Manufacturer's Coupons may be used. This can include coupons for food, non-food items like hygiene or cleaning supplies, baby items such as diapers, and pet supplies. The commissary is unable to accept store coupons, restaurant coupons or internet coupons.

2. Cut out the coupons. Please do not send sheets of unclipped coupons.

3. Overseas Commissaries are permitted to accept expired manufacturer coupons up to 6 months past the expiration date. Be sure to consider the time it will take to mail the coupons and for the commissary to sort.

4. Try and sort the coupons before mailing: separate the expired (or soon to expire) from the non-expired. Then separate and group together by type: Food, Non-food, baby & children, and pets.

5. Send the coupons to the below address:

Yokosuka Commissary
PSC 473 BOX 33
FPO AP 96349

In Memoriam: **Lou Conter**, the last survivor of the Battleship Arizona at Pearl Harbor:

Louis Anthony Conter (September 13, 1921 – April 1, 2024) was an American naval officer who was a lieutenant commander and naval aviator in the United States Navy. At the time of his death, he was the last living survivor of the sinking of the USS *Arizona* during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The *Arizona* sank in nine minutes, taking the lives of 1,177 of her crew. Her 334 surviving crew struggled to escape the burning ruins, of which Conter saved several by pulling them out of the water into his lifeboat before rowing to shore. Following the attack, Conter spent several weeks helping to put out fires and recovering the bodies of the fallen.

After his retirement from the Navy, Conter pursued a career as a real estate developer in California. Conter published a book about his life titled *The Lou Conter Story* in 2021; he turned 100 the same year. Conter was also a member of the Knights of Columbus. Following the death of Ken Potts in April 2023, Conter became the last known survivor of the sinking of the USS *Arizona*. He died from congestive heart failure at his home in Grass Valley, California, on April 1, 2024, at the age of 102.

Read the whole story at: https://en.wikipedia/wiki/Lou_Conter



Continuing the legacy: The Sons of The American Legion 50th Anniversary (1932-1982)



Great online museum of the History of the Sons of the American Legion
<https://legionmuseum.omeka.net/exhibits/show/sons-of-the-american-legion/introduction>

Commander's Message:



I would like to thank the entire American Legion Family for supporting me throughout my year of being your Detachment Commander for the year of 2023-2024.

It has truly been an honor and a blessing to oversee such a great organization as the Sons of the American Legion.

I'm thrilled to announce I am over the \$19,000 amount out of the \$20,000 mark I set for the Paramus Veterans Home outdoor playground for our Veterans.

In closing, I would like to give a special thanks to 3 People who have been there all year for me.

Commander Larry Bishop, ALA Department President Sharon Knight, and my lady Denise Beckham.

*For God and Country,
Keith Barnes
Detachment Commander 2023-2024*



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION



AMERICAN
LEGION
BE THE ONE

© Copyright May/June 2024. The *NJ SALute* is published electronically several times a year, and is the official publication by and for the Detachment of New Jersey, Sons of the American Legion. All rights reserved. Excerpts may be used with permission of the publisher. Forwarding in its entirety to interested parties is permitted and encouraged. Contributed photos and articles may be sent to the editor at (email) njSALute@gmail.com, or by USPS mail to *NJ SALute* Editor, c/o American Legion Post 346, 21 Gully Road, Neptune NJ 07753. www.njsal.org/salute Gary Crawford PC, Editor.

As featured in the Special Election Issue, here are the results of the Best Beard Contest:

CWF Best Beard Contest

The beards are in, the votes are in and tallied and the money has been collected. Thanks to everyone who participated and donated to our "Best Beard Contest" for the Child Welfare Foundation. (CWF). Especially all of you who lent us your fuzzy faces for the cause. See the accompanying "Best Beard" list with the votes in parentheses.

The winner is John Koczon whose beard was entered in memoriam by Squadron 348 from Brick. John was a Past Commander and one of the founding fathers of our Squadron. Unfortunately we lost him about a year and a half ago. John epitomized beard. It seemed he could grow one in a week and it was always in proportion. The Beard Contest was a way we could honor him and raise some money for a good cause.

The real winner here though is the Child Welfare Foundation. We raised \$3,005 with this contest. For the first year, I am very satisfied with those results. This coming year I want to expand on this. Perhaps have a contest at individual Posts with pictures on a donation can. People can make donations throughout the year and you can pick the Best Beard in your Post. I am open to all suggestions.

All together we raised over \$6,000 for CWF so far this year. We raised \$2,400 by having a Family Feud Nite at our Post 348 in Brick. I like to do different things to raise money so if anyone has any ideas send them my way. I certainly will give them consideration.

I want to thank everyone who has donated and helped in any way for raising funds for CWF.

Bill "Murph" Murphy - Detachment Vice Commander
CWF Chairman



Pfft! Amateurs.

Detachment of New Jersey



CWF Best Beard List

Bill Noone, Post 348 (150)



Tom Marsden, Sq. 348 (84) Henry Hasselhan III, Sq. 311(50)



Rusty Myer, Sq. 105 (50)



Chris Scherzinger, Sq. 321 (5) Bernie Kofcoet, Sq/Post 68 (10)



**John Koczon Sq. 348 IN MEMORIAM
Winner (200)**

Easter and Spring Activities Around the State



National Vietnam War Veterans Day – Welcome Home Ceremony, 29-March.
American Legion Tatem-Shields Post 17 - Collingswood, NJ



(Left) Breakfast With The Bunny at Atco Post 311, 30-Mar. PDP Jane Babli, the Bunny, Emma Hasselhan and three SAL generations of Henrys. (Center) Keansburg SAL / ALA 273 Family Breakfast on 30-Mar. (Right) PDC Nick Wingler (166) and WOBM Sue Moll at the Pt. Pleasant Easter Parade, 30-Mar.

Camden County Legion Family at Vet Haven South Luncheon 30-Mar:



(Left) The crew at Vet Haven South in Hammonton - the Legion Family from Camden County and Posts 86 Oaklyn, 262 Audubon, 286 Pine Hill, and 311 Atco. (Right) Camden County Chaplain Marty Widmer gives the invocation.



(Left) Chow line with Mike Babli and Marty Widmer serving. (Center) Henry 4th, Henry 5th, Jane Babli (back) Harry Da Hat, ANEC Henry 3rd Hasselhan, and PDP Colleen Breen-Lopez slingin' the hash. (Right) Camden County SAL Commander Charles Ross and ShannonLee Widmer. (Almost 100 more pictures on the American Legion Department of NJ's Facebook page.)



(Left) Thank you to everyone that came out 1-April for the Camden County American Legion Resolution "22" Committee. Thank you to Ocean County American Legion SAL and Burlington County SAL for joining us!!

Thank you to George Scott for an enlightening presentation. Our next meeting is Monday, 6-May, 7pm at American Legion Post 286 in Pine Hill.

(Right) I got a call the other day from an elderly couple both physically disabled. I was asked we can assist in replacing a flag. Both are struggling economically also. The husband is a Korean War veteran

Not more than an hour later two Members were at the home. It turns out the flagpole also needed some repairs. Within a week it was fixed and Ol' Glory Is flying high. Ty Home Depot for donating a new flag. A huge thank you to Rich and Gerry for assisting this patriot family. I am proud and honored to be the Commander of such a great post!

This is who we are at 232 🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸 Steven Furrule, Commander



(Left) Essex County Meeting Night at Belleville Post 299 1-April, which will reactivate its Squadron shortly.

(Right) Grave Decoration season has begun. Picking up over 2000 flags for seven cemeteries from Monmouth County Veterans Services are SAL PDC Patrick Gallagher, Ass't Director Veterans Services Ken Brenzel, and **SALute** Editor and Sq 346 Commander Gary Crawford. Neptune Post 346 Family does this annually, as well as their Color Guard firing rifle salutes over Veterans' graves in ten cemeteries in time for Memorial Day. .

Don't forget to let NEC Bob Phillips know how many flags you place this year. Email Bob: bjrsal@gmail.com



The SAL Detachment of NJ Children and Youth Commission, along with Girl Scout Troops 20122 and 20462 and a young Son from Belleville Sq 105, Jake Myers, dropped off 305 boxes of Thin Mints, Trefoils, and all of the favorite Girl Scout cookies to our Veterans at the Lyons and East Orange VA hospitals today.(3-April)

And boy did it rain. The kids gave up a day in their spring break to do a good thing, supporting two of the pillars of the national organization ... Veterans Affairs and Children and Youth.

Since December, we raised around \$1,800 from the Legion Family and donors from throughout NJ making "life a little sweeter" for our VA residents.

Thank you to all who donated. The Scouts were told that "you guys sure are popular down here!"

(This event was featured on NEWS12NJ on 3-May.)





(Left) For a few years now, the Squadron Commander has handed out SAL Challenge Coins to members in recognition of their hard work and dedication. You just don't get the coin, you have to earn it.

(Right) At our meeting, SAL's Bill Chivil and Kyle Brady were presented coins. Good job and well deserved!

Also, on 8-April, the SAL 105 Officers for the 2024-25 administrative year were nominated and elected.

Commander: Steve Sangemino * 1st Vice: James Elmore * 2nd Vice: Vinnie Ferriole * 3rd Vice: Ricky Vlasakakis

Adjutant: Rusty Myers * Finance Officer: Rusty Myers

Congratulations to all! Appointments were confirmed shortly after.



Henry Jr and I stopped in the American Legion near our resort in Lincoln NH on 8-April. I have to say, the warm welcome that was extended to us was greatly appreciated. We met the current Commander and a Past Commander who took time to talk to both of us about their Post. Henry James even showed off his challenge coin and collected some money for CWF. He was also given a post license plate to commemorate his visit. Thanks again for your hospitality! - Henry P. Hasselhan, Atco Sq 311.



On 25-April, 13 year old Holden Liso, is a member of the Rochelle Park Sons of the American Legion Squadron 170. He is also the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader in the Rochelle Park Boy Scouts Troop 114. Post 170 sponsors his troop.

The ALA Unit 170's Historian and the Charter Organization Rep of Rochelle Park Boy Scouts Troop 114 asked Holden to lead his troop in planting the seeds you sent ALA president, Patti Diaz. Holden chose to plant them in seedling pots so we can distribute them to two local Bergen Bounty beekeepers our Legion Family knows well.



Residents at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Paramus observe the solar eclipse, 8-April.
(📷 photo credit: Lakisha Williams-Edwards)

Department Commander Larry Bishop's Testimonial



(Left) Bergen County SAL Commander Mark Stahl. (Right) Keith, Denise Beckham, Charles Taylor II



April 14. Keith at Larry Dinner, Mark Stahl, Sharon Knight at Graycliff, Moonachie



Detachment Commander Keith Barnes, Aux President Sharon Knight, and Department Commander Larry Bishop

Detachment Commander Keith Barnes' Testimonial



(Left) Keith's Dinner Flyer. (Center) Lenny Free and Denise Beckham escort Keith. (Right) Can't have a party without cake.



(Left) They came, they saw, they ate. (Center) The Head Table. (Right) Carl Alber, Rich Hodum, and Bill Murphy.

New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Exciting news to share! With the opening of an office at the Township of Union Senior Center, we now have an NJDMAVA Veterans Service Office in every county!



One Busy May: County Conventions, Installations, SAL College, NEC Meeting in Indianapolis, Cemetery Flag Placings, and a Little of Everything Else!



(Left) At Mystic Island 493, Ocean County Commander Jeff Kleinow, Keith Barnes, and Toms River Sq 129 Commander Rocky Lucia, (Center) w/ Charles Andy Jackson, (Right) with Robert Noriko of Lakewood Sq 166, all donating to Commander Keith's project at the Ocean County SAL Convention.



(Left) ANEC Henry F Hasselhan presented checks on behalf of The Ocean County Sons of The American Legion at the Spring NEC Meeting in Indianapolis on 5-May. \$600 for CWF and \$700 for the NEF. Great job Ocean County on raising a record high donation from the Ocean County Executive Committee. (Center L) The New Jersey Crew at Rathskeller in Indianapolis. LtoR Mark Natale, Tom Marsden, Keith Barnes, Gary Nelson, Rusty Myers, Lisa Natale, Charline Gladden, Dawn Vaccaro Burger, Henry Hasselhan, Carl Albern Jr., and Jeff Hicks. (Center R) Keith Barnes and Gary Nelson at the Slippery Noodle in Indy with Smithe. (Right) PDC Mark Natale, DEC Rusty Myers, and PDC Carl Albern at SAL-UNIV.

(2-3 MAY 2024) – INDIANAPOLIS, IN – A group of twelve members of the Sons of the American Legion (SAL) from across the country – including one from Belleville and one from Brick NJ - participated in the pilot program “SAL-U”, or SAL University, during the first week of May at the National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting in Indianapolis. The goal of the week was to train the leaders of tomorrow, and students at the leadership conference were from New Jersey to California, and from Wisconsin to Arizona.



Included in the “SAL-UNIV” group were NJ NPVC / Detachment Adjutant Tom Marsden, Brick Sq 348 (sitting at right) and Assistant Adjutant / DEC Rusty Myers, Belleville Sq 105 (standing 4th from right)

Please note: I received so many great pictures of flag placings and Memorial Day events, but so many never included caption info as far as who the people were. In the interest of the deadline, I published the pics as I received them, as I didn't have time to chase down the information. In the future, please include names with the pictures. People like to be recognized for their good work.
– Thank you – The Editor

Decorating the Graves:



I'm so proud of our Post's Legion Family, Legionnaires, Auxiliary & Sons of the Legion. We had an amazing turnout to place about 750 flags at 2 of our town's Cemeteries. Thanks all who could help. Way to GO Hopewell 339!



(Left) Saddle Brook Post 415 Flag Crew. (Right) Belleville 105 crew at St. Peter's Church.



Cherry Hill Post 372, along with the VFW, Scouts, and County Officials decorated several cemeteries in their area.



(Left) PDC Patrick Gallagher (His hat can be seen from space). (Center) **SALute** Editor and Sq 346 Comdr Gary Crawford at Mt. Prospect Cemetery in Neptune. (Right) Sq 346's handiwork on Route 18 in Wall NJ. The Neptune 346 crew decorates graves in seven area cemeteries every year.



(Left) SAL 346 Member Murphy Izquierdo (Crawford's grandson) finishing up Mt. Prospect Cemetery in Neptune. (Right) 346's crew at Glendola Cemetery in Wall NJ. The Legion Family along with Girl Scouts knocked out two adjacent cemeteries in an hour, some 700 flags! Seven cemeteries were decorated, totalling almost 1800 flags! Also decorated were the WW2 Veteran Memorial sign on Rt 18 and the Memorial Park in Shark River Hills in Neptune. (Not pictured is the crew placing flags at St. Anne's Cemetery in Wall, Hamilton and St. George Greek Cemeteries in Neptune, and Wayside Cemetery in Ocean Twp, along with two small once-abandoned graveyards.

(Editor's note: Crawford and his grandson Murphy replaced the 25 missing [stolen?] flags at Mt. Prospect Cemetery. News12NJ ran a segment on the missing flags and the Neptune Twp Police investigated the incident)



(Left) Missing flags at Mt Prospect. (Center) News12NJ cameraman Greg and reporter Jim Murdoch recording the news segment. (Right) Murphy Izquierdo replacing the missing flags.



(Left) Clark Post 328 and Montclair Post 251 teamed up to place 1400 flags at Fairmount Cemetery in Newark. (Right) GAR Badge in a Belleville cemetery. The Capt Henry Vreeland Post 15 of the Grand Army of the Republic was started on 11Mar1910 and closed / suspended on 9-December1925. Like the American Legion, there were many GAR posts through the state and nation, an organization benefitting the Union Veterans of the Civil War.



Clark Post 328 Family presents the Colors, a sea of flags, and the flag crew.



Neptune Post 266 Family and Neptune HS ROTC decorated Monmouth Memorial Park on 25May. The Veteran Section "Sea of Flags" is most impressive and worth a trip to see in Tinton Falls, Monmouth County.



(Left) Freehold Post 54 Family, Scouts, and townspeople don't fool around when it comes to decorating graves. (Right) Towaco / Montville UMC has the crew out placing flags.

Legion / SAL College at Sea Girt:



SAL College at Sea Girt. (Left) Some of the Basic students. (Center) The Advanced Studies Class. (Right) Instructors Mike Arner, Carl Albern, Vic Murry, and Detachment Commander Keith Barnes.



The graduates of the 2024 Basic Course of SAL College.

Installations:



Essex County SAL Installation, at Belleville Post 105, by Commander Keith Barnes.



(Left) Wayne Sq 174 Installation 9May. (Center) Rocky Lucia, Past Commander of Toms River Sq 129, is installed as Ocean County SAL Commander by DEC Tony Gladden at Post 455. (Right) Chaplain Carl Slaughter, Commander Steve Sangemino, 1st Vice James Elsmore, 3rd Vice Ricky Vlasakakis, and Adjutant Rusty Myers are installed at Belleville Sq 105 for 2024-2025.



PDC Jeff Hicks of Southampton Sq 526, took a step up from serving as National Assistant Adjutant to National Chaplain. Congratulations Jeff!

Many Posts, Squadrons, and Units will hold their installation ceremonies after Convention. The next issue will feature their pictures. Congratulations to all incoming Officers!

Poppies:



(Left) DEC, 346 Commander, and Dual Member Wil Fetherman mans the Poppy Table at the Belmar/Wall ShopRite. (L Center) Post 372's SAL Joe Flynn, ALA Kim Flynn, Commander Joe "Grizz" Merimonde, and ALA Pres Ray Hawk at Tractor Supply in Cherry Hill. (R Center) Farmingdale Post 178's Poppy Table. (Right) Ken Ackerman PC/Incoming Adjutant of Nutley Sq 70's Poppy display.

The artillery shells that churned up the soil and maimed and killed soldiers in World War One, brought not only Clostridia, the deadly bacteria to the surface, but also encouraged the proliferation and growth of the dormant poppy seeds that later in their beauty, bloomed in profusion on the barren, scarred land, even in the cemeteries

Across northern France and Flanders (northern Belgium), the brutal clashes between Allied and Central Powers soldiers tore up fields and forests, tearing up trees and plants and wreaking havoc on the soil beneath. But in the warm early spring of 1915, bright red flowers began peeking through the battle-scarred land: Papaver rhoeas, known variously as the Flanders poppy, corn poppy, red poppy and corn rose.

Memorial Day Around the State



Freehold Post 54. As part of the Freehold Memorial Day Parade 150th Anniversary celebration weekend, this was a reenactment of the Grand Army of the Republic Service at the grave site of Captain James W. Conover, U.S. Army who died from a wound received at the Battle of Monocacy, Maryland in 1864. Photo Credit: Kathy Beams



(Left) Warren Post 293. (Center) What a way to chaffeur your Grand Marshall! Post 293. (Right) Post 184 Wildwood



(Left) At Post 346 in Neptune, **SALute** Editor Gary Crawford opens the ceremony with a prayer with Vice Commander Heath Bertini. (Center) 346's Color Guard awaits orders to fire. (Right) PDC Carl Albern Jr plays TAPS. The 346 Family later marched in the annual Memorial Day parade in Neptune and Ocean Grove, co-sponsored by VFW Post 1333 and Legion Posts 266 and 346.



Remember Their Names and They Shall Never Die



(Left) Neptune 346's Color Guard at the Neptune Ocean Grove parade. (Center) Stanley Dubroff, 97-year-old WW2 Veteran, Grand Marshall of the Neptune Parade. (Right) Nutley Sons of the American Legion Sq. 70 L to R Nutley Sons of the American Squadron 70 Adjutant Ken Ackerman With Nutley Military and Veteran's Affairs Officer Daniel Jacoby On Memorial Day Parade Route 2024. Should have put the weights on the banner!



Saddle Brook Post 415 Family's Memorial Day Service

The Traveling Vietnam Wall visits East Brunswick

VFW Memorial Post 133, in coordination with the Township of East Brunswick, announced that the American Veterans Traveling Tribute (AVTT) would be coming to East Brunswick Community Arts Center from May 23 through May 27, 2024.

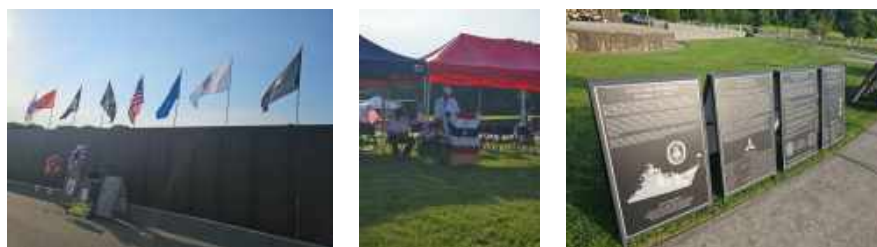
The AVTT Traveling Vietnam Wall is an 80% replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. The Wall contains the names of U.S. Military personnel who lost their lives in the Vietnam War. Accompanying the Wall will be Cost of Freedom tributes to every U.S. military action since World War I.

An honor escort was scheduled for Wednesday, May 22 to welcome the Wall as it arrived at the East Brunswick's Community Arts Center.

An opening ceremony was held on Thursday, May 23, at 10:00am. Following the ceremony, the Wall was open to visitors beginning Thursday, May 23, through Memorial Day, May 27.

East Brunswick Township hosted its annual Memorial Day Observance at the Wall on Sunday, May 26 at 10:00AM to commemorate U.S. Military personnel who gave their lives in service to their country.

The American Veterans Traveling Tribute is an independent organization, committed to travel the U.S. to honor and remember those who served, and pay tribute to those who gave all in service. Built in 1998, AVTT's Traveling Vietnam Wall is the largest replica Wall traveling the U.S. It provides those who are not able to visit the memorial in Washington D.C. with the opportunity to honor and pay tribute to those who served in the Vietnam War.

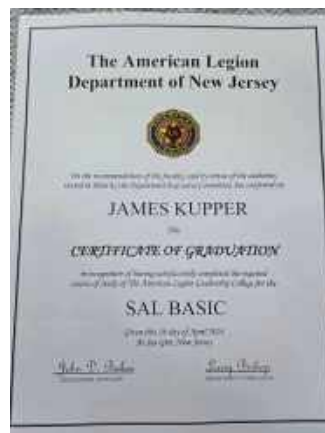
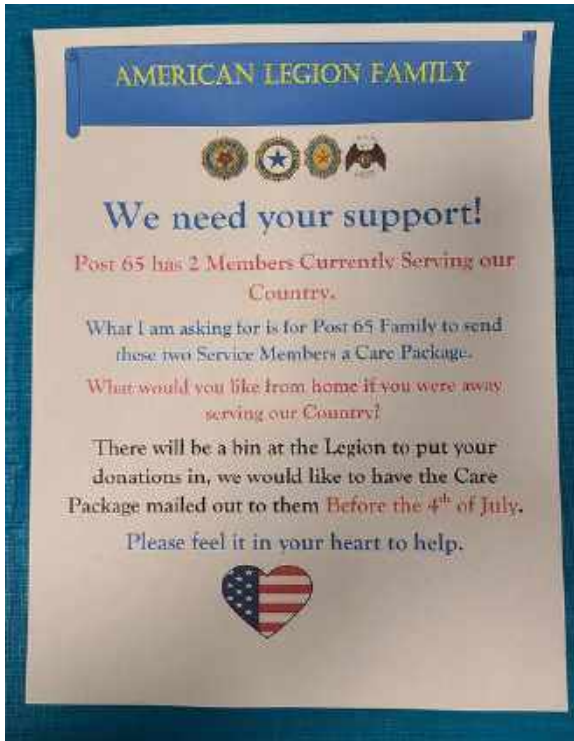


(Center) Department Commander Larry Bishop speaks to the attendees

More photos on The American Legion Dept of NJ Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/LegionDeptNJ>

Can You Help?

Care Packages from Metuchen Post 65.



(Left) Dylan Sullivan, SAL 99 Kearney, displays his National Honor Society certificate. (Center) James Kupper's Certificate of Graduation from SAL Basic. He is the incoming Commander of Woodbridge Squadron 87. (Right) Jim Carter, Awarded Son of the Year from Stetser-Lamartine Blackwood Squadron 281.

Zeppo Marx in the war effort during World War II



(Left) The Marx Brother in 1931. (Top to Bottom) Leonard (Chico), Arthur (Harpo), Julius (Groucho), and Herbert (Zeppo). Milton (Gummo) not pictured. (Right) The five Marx Brothers on “Tonight! America After Dark” television program, 18-Feb-1957. L to R: Harpo, Zeppo, Chico, Groucho, and Gummo.

According to Marc Eliot's 2005 Cary Grant biography:

After playing small parts in the first five Marx Brothers movies, Herbert (Zeppo) felt his talent wasn't being used to its full extent and left the act to join Milton (Gummo) as an agent. Zeppo had great mechanical skills and was largely responsible for keeping the Marx family car running. He later owned a company that machined parts for the war effort during World War II, Marman Products Co. of Inglewood, California, later known as the Aeroquip Company. This company produced a motorcycle, called the **Marman Twin**, and the **Marman clamps** used to hold the "Fat Man" atomic bomb inside the B-29 bomber Bockscar. He invented and obtained several patents for a wristwatch that monitored the pulse rate of cardiac patients and gave off an alarm if the heartbeat became irregular, and a therapeutic pad for delivering moist heat to a patient.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marman_Twin <https://burnsstainless.com/blogs/articles-1/the-wild-history-of-the-v-band-clamp>

Proud Possessors of a Priceless Heritage...

We male descendants of veterans of the Great Wars, associate ourselves together as “Sons of The American Legion” for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order, to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in all Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

A Discovery in Bordentown:



We often like to remind you that Bordentown has a rich history, if you just look for it. However, we did not expect to find this World War II era machine gun bullet while digging gravel near the railroad line in Bordentown!

It's no April Fool, this is a genuine .50 caliber shell that likely fell from a freight car while being transported along the Camden and Amboy railroad and over the decades was buried by gravel.

Its markings indicate that it was made at an ammunition plant in St Louis, MO, and was likely on its way to the South Amboy terminus, the only terminal of the Port of New York and New Jersey that allowed the unloading of large quantities of commercial explosives from freight cars.

From South Amboy, crates of ammunition were loaded onto barges in Raritan Bay, headed for military bases across the country. Once again reminding us how vital the railroad has been in our country's history.

Found not far from the Bordentown City Veteran's Memorial, it is also a sobering reminder of the sacrifices veterans over the years have made for our freedoms. Today in particular, marks 79 years since the start of the Battle of Okinawa, the bloodiest battle of the Pacific War and the last major battle of World War II.

Today and every day, we thank our veterans for their service - the world would be a very different place without their courage, strength and dedication to keeping us safe.

(Note: The bullet was turned over to the Bordentown City police department as live ammunition has the risk of being unstable or explosive). [#bordentownhistory](#) [#bordentownhistoricalsociety](#) American Legion Post 26, Bordentown NJ

SPECIAL-NEEDS KIDS BARBECUE
 Sept. 7, 2024 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
 SPONSORED BY: The American Legion Family
"All Donations Greatly Appreciated"
 For \$250.00 Donation you will get your name or Organization on a shirt.
 If you want to help contact: Mark Wingler
 Cell 732-538-8707 Email: markwingler@gmail.com
 Held at: Family PA
TO BE HELD AT: VFW 8867
 373 ADAMSTON ROAD BRICK NJ 08723

AMERICAN LEGION BE THE ONE
END HOMELESSNESS FOR NJ VETERANS
 The Committee of Affordable Housing For All Risk and Homeless Veterans
 IN PART WITH THE HELP OF:
 The Foundation for Sustainable Veterans Housing
NEEDS PROPERTIES IN SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY!
 LAND • VACANT BUILDINGS • A.L. POSTS • GOVERNMENT OWNED • FARMLAND
 CONTACT:
 Jim Scanlon, Chairman
 Affordable Housing for all Risk • Veterans Housing
 National Committee of Homelessness
 111 JIM YAK • JIM@JIMYAK.COM

89th Annual New Jersey AMERICAN LEGION STATEWIDE Services
 The Annual NJ Statewide American Legion Servers Kick off with a Parade at 1:30pm at Locustwood Cemetery, followed by a Ceremony with Guest Speakers including NJ American Legion Officers, E.A.L. Officers, Auxiliary Officers and others. Afterwards there is a Social Buffet at American Legion Post 372, Cherry Hill. Be sure to come out and meet members/officers from all our NJ American Legions. It is a great opportunity to mingle, share news and events with our fellow Legions.
Sunday, June 2, 2024
 1:30pm Parade/Ceremony
 Social/Food to follow at Post 372

ALL AMERICAN Blast
 SUMMER AND SPRING FUN
 TICKETS FOR THE ABOVE LEADERSHIP ONLY
 PREPAID TICKETS ONLY!
 500 ENJOY PER PERSON
 BASKET RAFFLE, 50/50, FOOD & MORE
 CONTACT: JIMMY BRONKHORST • 609-396-2121 • JIM@JIMYAK.COM

Veterans 101 1st Annual Clam Bake
 Fundraiser
 Saturday | May 25, 2024 | AT 10am-1pm
 Adult Tickets \$45 • Child \$25 (age 10 and under)
 Includes: Adult Clam, Adult Seafood, Adult Sandwich, Adult Drink, Adult Dessert
 Support Housing for Homeless and at Risk Veterans
 Clam Bake tickets are for tickets. The tickets will be available at the door. Tickets are limited. info@veterans101.com

RED Fridays
 REMEMBER EVERYONE DEPLOYED

Upcoming Events:

Every Third Thursday: Thirsty Thursday - Bike Night and Gathering, Barnegat Post 232.

June 01: All American Blast, Atco Post 311.

June 01: Air Victory Museum Field Trip, Lumberton.

June 02: Pancake Breakfast, Oaklyn SAL 84.

June 02: 89th Annual NJ American Legion Statewide Services, Locustwood Cemetery, hosted by Cherry Hill Post 372.

June 12: 1K Awareness Walk, Wildwood.

June 13-14: Annual Legion Convention and (June 15) Parade, Wildwood.

June 16-21: American Legion Jersey Boys State, Rider University.

June 22: Monthly Breakfast Family Breakfast, Pine Hill Post 286.

June 18: Annual Flag Retirement Ceremony, Neptune Post 346.

June 25: Jersey Girls State Veterans BBQ, Georgian Court Univ, Lakewood, hosted by ALA Dept of NJ.

June 30: Give Back to the Vets Car Show, Edison Post 435.

July 27: Pig Roast, Barnegat Post 232.

Sept 07: Special Needs Kids BBQ, Sponsored by American Legion Family, at VFW 8867, Brick.

Sept 14: Annual Fall Pig Roast, Wayne Post 174.

Sept 21-22: Annual Watch Fire, Seaside Heights.

*More events listed at www.njamericanlegion.org and their Facebook page facebook.com/LegionDeptNJ
Send your event information and flyers to njsalute@gmail.com and to social@njsamericanlegion.org*



Contributors:

Detachment Comdr Keith Barnes, Englewood SAL 58
DVC Charles Taylor II, Englewood SAL 58
DEC Rusty Myers, Belleville SAL 105
PDC Nick Wingler, Lakewood SAL 166
DEC Greg Shaffer, Wayne SAL 174
Comdr Steven Furrule, Barnegat Post 232
ANEC/PDC Henry F. Hasselhan, Atco SAL 311
Henry P. Hasselhan, Atco SAL 311
Comdr Mark J Marotta, Hopewell Post 339
PDC Patrick Gallagher, Neptune SAL 346
ADJ-PNVC-PDC Thomas Marsden, Brick SAL 348
DVC William Murphy, Brick SAL 348
Bernie Kofoet, Oaklyn Post/SAL 68/84
PDC Jeff Hicks, Southampton SAL 526
ShannonLee Widmer, Audubon ALA 262
Maureen Davies, Keansburg ALA 273
D2VP Trish Muller, Woodbridge ALA 87
PDVP MC Boyle, ALA Neptune 346
PDP Doreen Gallagher, ALA Neptune 346
PUP Marcia Magathan, Neptune ALA 346

Rochelle Park ALA 170
Wildwood Post / SAL 184
Warren Post / SAL 293
Cherry Hill Post / SAL 372
Saddle Brook Post / SAL 415
New Egypt SAL 455
Camden County SAL
Essex County SAL
Ocean County SAL
SAL Detachment of NJ -
Children and Youth Commission
NJ Dept. of the American Legion
ALA Dept. of NJ
Bordentown Historical Society
Neptune Twp. Veterans Memorial Park
Committee
Saddle Brook Twp.
www.legion.org/sons
www.njsal.org/
NJDMAVA

Please send articles and (jpg or png) pictures to the editor at njsalute@gmail.com

