

SOUNDOFF

March-April 2019



George P. Vanderveer Post 129 American Legion (established 1919) —A Centennial Post

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

I attended the January 8th caucus, along with several members of our Post, to show our support for our own Rich Godfrey in his run for Department Vice Commander. Rich was elected for this Post, congratulations Rich.

Past Commanders, Warren Barney and Bob Scheiderman and I, attended two Eagle Scout Court of Honors held on January 15th and February 10th to honor several Eagle Scouts and present them with a Medal of Merit and Eagle representing what the Eagle Scouts stand for.

On January 28th, Laura Bailey and I went to Walnut Street Elementary School to present the coloring contest awards and certificates to six very deserving chil-

dren.

I want to thank everyone who attending the ceremony on February 3rd for the Four Chaplains.

ary 3rd for the Four Chaplains.

Also, on February 3rd, we had a nice turn out for the NFL Super Bowl, thank you all who came out and supported your Post. A good time was had by all who attended.

On February 9th the S.A.L. hosted a small gathering for the S.A.L. National Vice Commander, Michael Cotton and S.A.L. Department Commander, Jeffrey Hicks.

By the time of this publication, the S.A.L. would have had their annual comedy show, if you missed it, there is always next year. On February 17th, my wife and I will have attended the first annual chili cookoff at the Barnegat Post.

The Auxiliary has a few events coming up, more on that in the

Auxiliary President's message.

Spring is coming and the Bunker Bar will be opening soon. I want to wish everyone a Happy Easter and Passover. Keep in mind, if you reserved a room for Wildwood, final payment is due by April 1st.

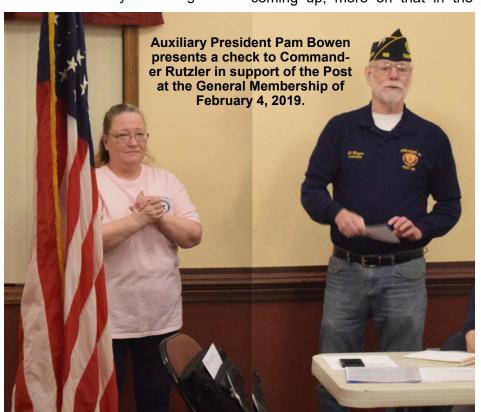
For God and Country Ed Rutzler Commander

HOPERalph Wolf Financial Officer



Emily Dickinson once wrote: "Hope is that thing with feathers that perches in the soul and sings the tune without the words and never stops...Never stops at all."

Most veterans don't seek assistance for PTSD for several reasons and many wait several years from the onset of symptoms before seeking assistance and treatment. They wait it out to see if it will get better or don't even realize that there is something wrong as they adapt to the dysfunction. Often it may take the continued loss of jobs or a couple of failed marriages until the veteran realizes that they need to address what may be causing all the chaos in their life. This is also true for older veterans as the critical period following their separation from service was missed because of a lack of understanding and resources for PTSD. The American Psychiatric Association did not even recognize PTSD until 1980, and even then, it was controversial.



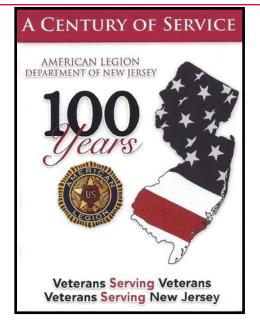
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TEAM 100 LEGION MEMBERSHIP

Dear American Legion Members In checking our roster I noticed that there are still many members that haven't paid their dues for 2019. I did want to let you know that we are counting very much on your continuing as a member of our Post. You are very important to us. If we are to accomplish the many tasks facing The American Legion both at home and in Washington to help our Veterans and their Families as well as the Community we live in, we need your help.

As we enter our 100th year and start a New Century of Service to the Community, State and Nation please help us carry our Legacy forward. Veterans Serving Veterans, Veterans Serving New Jersey.

Please let me know if there is some service that our Post or at the Department level can provide for you or if there is any reason



that has kept you from renewing your Membership. Please contact me at rig548@comcast.net or 732 -604-8326, The American Legion needs your support Remember Membership is the life blood of The American Legion.

For God and Country Rich Godfrey Department of New Jersey Membership Chairman

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Do you ever wonder why things happen to you and not your next-door neighbor? You seem to have all the "BAD" luck while it would appear that your neighbor and in fact your friends too have all "GOOD" luck.

First, luck doesn't have anything to do with it although I would believe a lot of us would beg to differ with me on that one. My own daughters tell me that if I didn't have bad luck, I wouldn't have any. There we go, more fuel for the fire.

In scripture it says in the new testament in Matthew, Mark and Luke that if we want to follow Jesus we should "Take up our cross" paraphrased. A cross is referring to a not so easy road ahead and

being that it is mentioned so many times in scripture it is evident we All have a cross to bear. I say that to simply say that the things that are happening to us in our lives aren't uncommon to man however we may see them as such. You and I will never know what our neighbor next door goes through behind closed doors or trying to get to sleep at night and the nightmares they face unless they open to us. Sometimes if we open to an individual, they in turn will do the same however this is not always so. You know So... I told you So... So. and So...

This So-ing circle never seems to accomplish much and a lot of us stretch our earlobes to hear more of it. How wise is that? We probably would get a lot of different takes on that one...I do it because...etc. Etc. and the list goes

on. I also want to remind us that the Bible says "He who is without sin cast the first stone" ... I'm not in any shape myself to throw stones...

This is where the word for this issue comes in....WISDOM as referred to in the dictionary is firstly a noun...It's the quality of having experience, knowledge and good judgment; the quality of being wise Well that is quite the definition. They explain that Wise is in the word and then go on to talk about attributes such as good judgement. That is all well and good however how do we get to that point without some or many perhaps failures or attempts gone bad, downhill or OH NO... Are you laughing yet? I am. You see none no not one of us is perfect in fact we are far from it. learned that the dictionary leaves out the most important part of WISDOM. There is not only the word WISE in there but also the word DOM more commonly referred to as DUMB...Now your laughing. Good. You see I have found that in order to become wise in life, I have had to be dumb on numerous occasions and still manage to mess it up at times yet.

So, my brothers and sisters in looking at this today let's challenge ourselves to learn from our past failures and realize we all have a cross to bear and then most importantly...

REACH OUT TO OUR FELLOW VETERANS IN NEED

Until next time, I remain the Learning Chaplain...
Tom Kraszewski



GEORGE P. VANDERVEER POST 129 - ELECTION RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1. Nominating Committee Formed At The January General Meeting
- 2. Nominations Accepted At The Following Meetings

January Regular Meeting
February General Meeting
February General Meeting
February E-Board Meeting
March General Meeting
March E-Board Meeting

3. Member Must Be Present To Accept or Decline The Nomination

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICERS

- Commander-(2) Years Of Prior Service As, Vice Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer Or Any Combination
 Completion Of Legion College Basic And Advanced Course And Or Online Course
- 2. Vice Commander-One Year In Prior Service As Above And Chairman Of Standing Committee
 Or Special Committee
- 3. All Other Positions Require (2) Years Of Membership In Good Standing

POST OFFICERS REQUIRED TO BE ON THE BALLOT

- (1) (1) Commander
- (2) (4) Vice Commanders
- (3) (9) Trustees
- (4) (1) Finance Officer

- (5) (1) Historian
- (6) (1) Chaplain
- (7) (1) Sergeant At Arms

APPOINTED OFFICERS

- 1. Adjutant
- 2. Service Officer

3. Judge Advocate

ELECTION NIGHT WILL BE THE APRIL GENERAL MEETING

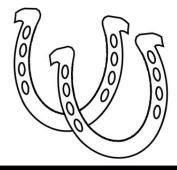
- 1. All Nominees are requested to be present on election night
- 2. Prior To Distribution Of The Ballot The Adjutant Will Cast One Vote Of All Uncontested Positions
- 3. If There Are Any Positions Available The Night Of The Elections There Will Be NO Nominations From The Floor
- 4. Nominations For Vacant Positions Will Be Taken At The Next E-Board Meeting And The May General Meeting And Will Be Voted On At The May Meeting.
- 5. Voting Will Be By Paper Ballot, You Must Be Present To Vote And There Will Be No Proxy Votes

THERE WILL BE NO DISCUSSION, CHANGE, OR MODIFICATIONS OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS THE NIGHT OF THE <u>ELECTION</u>

See a horseshoe pick it up, all day long you'll have good luck!



2019 Horseshoe League now forming. Meeting and Tournament Wednesday, May 15 Call Michael Dolan at 908-902-4117



SAL MESSAGE

Greetings all! So glad we are coming out of the winter weather and heading towards spring. We have been keeping busy within our squadron.

Starting in January, we started our officers nominations which go through March with elections being held in April. Keep in mind, any SAL member can run for an officers position. You just need a nomination. I would love to see people step up and want to get involved. Our meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm, so please show up and participate. On February 9th, we had the honor and privilege of hosting the National SAL Vice Commander Mike Cotten from Delaware Squadron 28. It was a great reception and meet and greet and he was very impressed with our post and squadron. So I'm real happy about that. It's not too often we get a National SAL officer at our post.

On February 16th, we held our 3rd annual Valentine's Day Comedy Show which was a great time and a great success. If you haven't attended one of these, you should consider attending in the future. Such a good time.

As far upcoming events, we have our Pig Roast coming up on Saturday, May 25th. Last year was our first one and it was a major success and we are looking forward to this event. There will be more to come once our committee gets together. I would also like to thank the Post, Auxiliary and Legion Riders for all the support and help at our events.

Finally, yes you guessed it, membership. We are doing well with membership but we need to keep pushing. If you haven't renewed or are behind, please contact us so we can work with you to get renewed. If you know anyone that is eligible to sign up for the SAL, please let us know and we will be happy to get them signed

up. Membership keeps us alive! We are the largest squadron in the state and would like to keep it that way and exceed our number from last year and help Detachment (state) membership hit the goal of 10,000 members, which would be incredible! Thank you for everyone that has helped us out and I look forward to seeing some new faces at meetings and our events.

For God & Country,

Rocky Lucia Commander Squadron 129



SAL DETACHMENT MEMBERSHIP

Hello Gentlemen,

There is no bad news, as far as membership, only good news! Today, 2/11/2019, as I am writing this article, our Detachment Membership stands at 75%+, with one week to reach our 75% membertarget date. January 2019, we reached our 60% target date, and February 2019 I feel very good that with one week to go, we will achieve our target. Please continue to send in your membership dues. DON'T HOLD ON TO THEM! We have goals to achieve.

This is the 100th anniversary of the American Legion and our Detachments goal is to get 10,000 members this year. Let our veterans know that we have their backs and support as a growing organization. We need to be aggressive in signing up new members and retaining current members. We must reach out to all sons of all veterans who have served our country in our military. "Our hero's", and their families, let them know how welcome they are to become part of our American Legion family. Get them to become members of our great organization, and the benefits of being a member. We need membership and new ideas, we are not political, we are here for our veterans.

As of December 31st, 2018, all non-paid members are delinquent. February 1st, 2019 all unpaid members will be Suspended! They will lose the right to vote, run for office, having a say pertaining to complaints, and most American Legion Post's will not honor you at their Canteen (BAR) and they shouldn't. Talk to your Post Commander, and the Bar Chairman, have them make sure that all in the Canteen show their 2019 membership cards to the bartender before they serve them any drinks.

Think of this! God forbid, if we have a National Disaster in our area, all those who haven't paid their dues will be considered not in good standing and will not benefit from our N.E.F. (National Emergency Fund).

So, get out there, be aggressive, be relentless, help our organization to stay strong in membership so we can better help our veterans and the American Legion Programs. A special thank you Rocky Lucia and my Squadrons Membership Chairman Mel Aballo for reaching our target dates, and keeping Squadron 129 number one in membership in our Great State of N.J. Thank you!

N.J. S.A.L. Detachment Membership Chairman David (DUKE) Haring Cell - 732-597-2604

AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Greetings Auxiliary!

Our up and coming events are in full gear and we are looking forward too many helping hands.

At this writing we have had our Psychic Fair and it was a great success!! Many faces that were seen were excited by their readings as well as the Aura of paintings they had received. Congratulations to Tara and her committee for an enjoyable evening.

We are working now on the Gift Auction as well as the Spring Flea Market. If you would like to come and help volunteer or have new items that you are not using put them together in a basket for the gift auction and contact Lisa Mayer the Chair for the gift auction.

Jacqueline McDyer is the Chair for the Spring Flea Market if you are looking to clean out your closet this would be a good opportunity for you.

Do you know of any young ladies who are Juniors in High School and have an interest in State Government? Then they should come on out and see what our program of Girls State is all about. Every year in June the girls from around the State meet at Georgian Court College and create their own community and see how Government works in their prospective offices. If you have any questions on this program, please feel free to contact Mary Nolan who the Chair for this committee is.

Our nomination committee has been working diligently on the nominations for the upcoming New Year. Please remember that when you come to the meetings and for the elections you MUST have your CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CARD with you.

As you all can see we have quite a few events coming that will help our Unit to help our Veterans and our community. So please come out and support our events meet some new people and make new friends.

Remember to say a BIG THANK YOU to our VETERANS! Without them we would not be able to enjoy our freedoms like we do today!

For God & Country Pam Bowen Unit President



Attention: Post 129 Family – Our Auxiliary is having its annual Gift Auction on April 7th at 12PM. Please consider donating a brandnew item/basket/monetary donation to help make this event a success. Also, please consider attending it and bring a friend too! We need your support! Any questions, please contact Lisa Mayer @ 732-364-2912. Thank you for your time and attention.

For God and Country Lisa Mayer 1st VP and Gift Auction Co-Chairman



AUXILIARY GIFT AUCTION

George P. Vanderveer Post 129 2025 Church Road Toms River, NJ 08753





SUNDAY
APRIL 7, 2019
12pm-5pm
!!!MARK YOUR CALENDERS!!!
\$10.00 Entry Fee
LOTS OF GREAT GIFTS, FOOD & 50/50
((No outside food))
MUST BE 18 OR OLDER TO BID

Bigger than ever! Many great prizes, something for EVERYONE! Come on out-SUPPORT our Auxiliary & have a good time too!



RIDERS MESSAGE

Writing this edition SOUNDOFF has mixed emotions for me. I have been President of our Legion Riders for the past 9 years and will not be seeking reelection for this upcoming year, I am proud to have been able to serve our post and the numerous commanders that have it. Great men and women that have served with me over the years on the executive board. I would like to thank you all, because without your help and assistance we could never have accomplished the things that we have been able to do. It would be easy to say that the memorial built



American Legion Auxiliary

2025 Church Road, Toms River, NJ

Spring Flea Market

Saturday April 13, 2019 9:00am-3:00pm

Inside Space-----\$20

(Table provided)

Outside Space-----\$10

(Must bring your own tables)

Payment in advance is required to Hold your space!!!!!!!!
Food available for Purchase........

For more information contact Jacqueline @732-330-8748

in our picnic ground was the most gratifying moment of my Presidency, but that honor goes to being able to lead my group on escorting these five HEROES home from Dover Air Force base on their final journey. I only hope and pray that whoever follows me never has to do that assignment.

Now as far as Rider news, I am announcing that the Riders were asked to change our BBQ date because of the closeness to Memorial Day and the Wildwood Convention. It seemed to cause a bit of a problem with all three events coming so near to each other. Our Annual BBQ will now be held on Sunday July 28th. We are in the early stages of preparation for this but hope to see you all there for this worthy cause. I know I will be there supporting our new Executive Board and especially our new President.

As of our February meeting nominations of officers will be starting, with elections in April. I know that the Rider tradition of Honor and Dedication to Post 129 will continue.

For God & Country, Art Brown



Tin Can Sailors meet at Post 129 on the 3RD Wednesday at 12 noon.



HOPE

(continued from page 1)

Today, veterans hesitate to reach out for help for so many reasons. Here is a list of the most common reasons why they wait.

No one will understand.
This is just the way it is.
It's not that bad.
If I give it the time it will get better.
I'm all alone in this.
They will judge me.
Who do I call?
Nothing is wrong.

Despite outreach efforts by many organizations, asking for help remains the most difficult step to take for someone with PTSD. Not knowing what to expect is high on the list of their anxieties.

So, if you know someone with PTSD and they are not currently in treatment let them know that they are not alone. That isolation does not help. That PTSD is Chronic. Explain that it may get worse before it gets better and that their loved ones suffer too. Let them know that there are many treatments and programs available and encourage them to take the next step. Most importantly let them know there is HOPE!

FINANCES

The budget committee has finished the mid-year budget review and has reported that we are on budget overall and that we expect to finish the fiscal year under budget. Our short term and long-term strategic plan are almost completed and will be presented to you prior to the end of our fiscal year.



THANK YOU, CHILDREN & YOUTH DONORS

Post 129 would like and recognize these additional Children & Youth Donors. Their names have been added to our 2018-2019 Donor list on our Web Site (alpost129.org.). We also have corrected some mistakes that we made. The corrections are listed below with our apologies.

PLATINIUM CLUB MEMBER (\$250 to \$499)

BILL STRALLOW

GOLD CLUB MEMBER (\$100 to \$249)

LAWRENCE ABATE DAVID & PATRICIA CORBIN EDWARD DALY THOMAS F. KELAHER
MIKE & LINDA KILMURRAY
RAY & LAURINDA MILLER

WALTER & PATRICIA GREENE R.J. RIC ALBERT J. STAHL

NE R.J. RICHARDS (EPA Financial)

SILVER CLUB MEMBER (\$50 to \$99)

JACK LAMPMAN JOHN MARENO PAÚL MANGOLD

BRONZE MEMBER (\$25 to \$49)

SHERI CARR RALPH & GAIL MORANZ VICTOR DAMATO GERRY & EILEEN MULLIGAN JAMES HOGAN FRED MORGAN ROBERT MAURO GREGORY PURNELL ELIZABETH A. METELSKI CINDY ROGAN LOUIS VITOLO

DONORS (\$24 OR LESS) LINDA M. MAUEL



MARCH: From the Roman god of war, Mars

Birthstone

March 2019

Aquamarine

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A kind word is like a Spring Day				B I N G O 7 25 44 57 62 15 22 40 50 70 11 30 555 46 74 2 28 37 55 68 10 27 39 59 75	1	2
3	4 General Mtg. 7:00PM	5	6	7 BINGO	8 Income Tax 1913	9
10 Daylight Savings	11 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM	12	13 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	BINGO	15 Legion 100TH Bir Beware the Ides Of March	16 thday Celebration
St. Patrick's Day All day Party in the Canteen	18 Board/Trustee Mtg. 7:00PM	19 Start of Operation Iraqi Freedom 2003	20 Vernal Equinox O Full Worm Moon	BINGO	22	Jukebox Legends in the Hall
24	25 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	26 MERICAN	27	28 BINGO	29	30

The American Legion is founded March 15, 1919, at the American Club near Place de la Concorde in Paris, France, by members of the **American** expeditionary Forces and chartered on September 16, 1919, by Congress. And we proudly promote "**Americanism**"

CANTEEN ENTE	ERTAINMENT
FRIDAY MARCH 1 ST	JOHNNY & THE DECADES
SATURDAY MARCH 2 ND	THE LENNY DAVIS BAND
FRIDAY MARCH 8 TH	STEP ASIDE
SATURDAY MARCH 9 TH &	GEORGE RIZZI THE JERSEY HORNS
FRIDAY. MARCH 15 TH	THE CROSSTONES

SATURDAY MARCH 16 TH	STRICTLY 60'S
FRIDAY MARCH 22 ND	NFINITY
SATURDAY. MARCH 23 RD	BOB KULIK
MARCH 23 RD THE JUK I APPEARING IN TH	EBOOK LEGENDS HE BANQUET HALL (see flyer)
FRIDAY MARCH 29 TH THE SI	UMMER PROJECT
SATURDAY MARCH 30TH THE HA	ALF BROTHERS

BE SURE TO CHECK FOR LAST MINUTE CHANGES AND/OR CANCELLATIONS. UPDATED LISTS ARE POSTED ON THE BULLETEN BOARD IN THE CANTEEN

APRIL: From the Greek goddess of love, Aphrodite

Birthstone

April 2019

Diamond

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Everything is funny, as long as it's happening to someone else! Will Rogers	1 General Mtg. 7:00PM April Fool's Day	2	3	8	5 ■ New Moon	6
7 Auxiliary Gift Auction 12-5 PM	8 Legion Aux. 7:00PM	9	10 SAL Mgt. 7:00PM	11	12	13 Auxiliary Spring Flea Market 9 AM—3 PM
14 Palm Sunday	15 Board/Trustee Mtg. 7:00PM	16	17	18 N	19 Good Friday Passover Begins	20
	TAX DAY		W. C.		O Full Pink Moon	
21 Easter Sunday	22 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM Earth Day	23 MERICAN	24	25 GO \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	Arbor Day	27 Passover Ends
28	29	30 1975 Vietnam War ends		EVERY NITE SHOULD BE BINGO NIGHT!!!		

April 4, 1933, Near midnitht the dirigible USS AKRON crashed into the ocean off Barnegat Light, 73 sailors perished. The three survivors, Lt. Cmdr. Wiley, Moody Erwin and Richard Deal. Among the dead was Rear Admiral William Moffett, the first chief of the Bureau of Navy Aeronautics

$C\Delta N$	TFFN	FNTE	-RTAI	NMENT
			-17171	

FRIDAY APRIL 5TH

SATURDAY APRIL 6TH

COUNTRY MILE

NEW BAND

FRIDAY APRIL. 12TH WILD ROSE

SATURDAY APRIL 13TH STRICTLY 60'S

FRIDAY APRIL 19TH THE JIM DELRE BAND

SATURDAY APRIL 20TH **LEON TRENT** (Formerly of the Famous WATERFRONT Band First Time Appearance At Post 129)

FRIDAY APRIL 26TH **BOB KULIK** Former Recording Artist with The Happenings

SATURDAY APRIL 27TH **KARAKOE** Featuring Barbara Petrizzo

BE SURE TO CHECK FOR LAST MINUTE CHANGES AND/OR CANCELLATIONS. UPDATED LISTS ARE POSTED ON THE BULLETEN BOARD IN THE CANTEEN

CANTEEN NEWS

Eric Inauen

Spring is just a few weeks away, and we are hoping that the warmer weather will follow. The Bunker Bar Crowd is getting ready for another banner year. The Post is in the process of making improvements to the Bunker. What are they? We're not telling. The only way to find out is to take a walk down to the Bunker and find out for yourself.

Volunteers have been signing up to help with the improvements and to assist with Varmint Patrols. The patrols will be talked about later.

SAINT PATTY'S DAY CANTEEN PARTY: Because of last year's SRO success, the Canteen will be hosting its 2nd annual St. Patrick's Day Party in the Canteen, on Sunday, March 17th, all day long. Mike Speary from Ryan's Catering has come up with a special St. Patty's Day menu. Our drink specials will include Irish Coffee, a Nutty Irishman, Guinness Cans and others.

Live entertainment, The Powertones, starting at 2PM. The Shamrock & Thistle Pipe and Drum Band will also be making an appearance.

Rich Gato has booked the famous "Jukebox Legends." There will be a dinner-show in the hall on Saturday, March 23rd, from 6 to 10PM. Tickets are \$45 and include dinner and the show. On the menu is Penne Vodka, Chicken Francaise, NY Sirloin, Seafood Alfredo, Potatoes and Veggies served buffet style.

NEW-NEW-NEW-----NFL DRAFT DAY PARTY: This will be another first for the Canteen. We have so many of these, it is hard to keep track, but some how we manage. On Saturday, April 26th, from 2 to 6PM will be hosting our first NFL Draft Party in the Canteen. This is the third and final day of the draft when the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Rounds are selected.

There will be pint "draft" specials on "draft" day. Domestic draft pints will be \$1.50 just as they were during the NFL Season. There will be an special NFL Football Menu, including \$0.50 wings of orders of 6 and 10. Different drink specials will be offered for each of the 4 rounds. Wear a game jersey (numbers on front and back and player name on the back) and receive a Canteen surprise.

For you first time readers: The Canteen opens 11AM daily. Ryan's Catering offers hot and cold lunch and dinner menus 7 days a week. We are the only American Legion Post in the State that provides this. Credit cards are accepted for Bar Tabs only. Members are required to show their up-to-date membership cards to the Bartender or Doorman and are required to sign in their guests into the guest book.

We have live entertainment every Friday and Saturday Night starting at 7PM. On Friday and Saturday Nights last call is midnight and closing time is at 12:30AM. Closing times during the week vary based on the weather, the amount of Members in the bar, etc.

When we are open, you will be served drinks by our professional bartending staff. There are no "ham and egg" bartenders in the Canteen. Warren, Robin, Lisa, Lori, Danielle, Joe, Shea, Nancy and Chuck are always happy to serve you. They will advise you of our drink specials which are posted around the bar. We change our Specials every two weeks.

THURSDAY NIGHT IS LADY'S NIGHT: Drinks for the ladies are as close to half price as possible. This dos NOT include drink specials.

Each year we try to open our



'Varmint Vigilantes' in camouflage, with high tech weapons and sporting night vision.

Bunker Bar in April. This always depends on the weather. Our Horseshoe and cornhole leagues start up as soon as the warm weather sets in. If you are interested, contact Trustee Mike Dolan or talk to one of the bartenders for information. Horseshoes are played on Wednesday Night. Corn Hole is played on Thursday Night which is also Lady's Night. If we get the demand, we will be expanding corn hole to Monday Nights.

BUNKER BAR UPDATE: After one of our Member's dog was sprayed last November by a skunk that had allied itself with the Squirrels and Chipmunks, the Post's Top Brass became angry. The Commander sent out a Squad on a search and destroy mission into the EVA (Enemy Varmint Area).

Upon return, the Commander asked the Squad Leader, "how many confirmed kills?" The Squad Leader stated, "57." The Commander then said, "no, really." The Squad Leader responded, "none, but we found a dead squirrel on a fallen tree branch. More importantly, Commander, a dispatch pouch with dispatches was found strapped around the varmint."

The dispatches were rushed to Bar Committee Intelligence, who had just finished installing their new logo, "We're Smart, Not Like People Say" (Fredo, Godfather 2). After studying the tiny dispatches under a magnifying glass, Intelligence has learned that the dispatches were written in squirrel code. Vice Commander PJ offered us the use of his Captain Video Decoder Ring which he wears all the time in case of such emergencies. We thanked him, but told him that the dispatches were written in American Squirrel, so his ring could not help us.

Trustee Mike "the Painter" Dolan advised Intelligence that he knows a few Members who are definitely squirrely and have been known to speak in their native tongue after imbibing a few beverages. A Member of the Bar Committee (who asked not to be named) requested money from petty cash to purchase drinks to speed up the decoders in their decryption of the dispatches. He was emphatically denied.

Mike requested 5 copies of the dispatches. Fortunately, I found an operational HP copier in my granddaughter's doll house and was able to make the mini copies using a toothpick and tweezers.

Bar Committee Intelligence would like to thank world renowned photographer and editor, AI "Fred" Harbord, for risking his life when taking the photos shown in the SOUNDOFF. These photos are of great importance in showing us the varmint vigilante's advanced weapon technology. The photo also illustrates a Varmint held RPG that can fire three rounds in rapid succession.

Also, we were led to believe that the varmints only had a squirrel airborne division. The photos clearly show that they have joined forces with owls, giving them an air force. Therefore, we will be issuing our volunteer guards Roy Rogers and Dale Evans cap guns to protect our horse shoe and

corn hole players during the season. The safety of our Members continues to be our top priority.

We are urging all Post 129 Members not to panic and change their way of life because of the vicious varmint corn hole bean bag attack. We are asking that you eat the same Legion Food and don't change your drink, unless you find a better one on special. We will no longer if offering "pink squirrels" or "grasshoppers" until a peace agreement has been reached.

We will be requesting permission from the Executive Board to send Al's surveillance photos to Nat Geo Wild. Nat Geo Wild has led us to believe that owls only eat squirrels. Obviously, they were wrong. After the usual "tabling's" and "points of order" we feel The Executive Board should grant us permission by some time next year.

At the time of this printing, our squirrely decoders have not yet deciphered the dispatches. Additional reports to follow.

Remember, when you support Post 129, you support the greatest Post in the USA.



OUR AMERICAN LEGION & ITS GENESIS October 1919 Post 129 Celebrates our Centennial Year

Bob Scheiderman

September 1919, US Army Lieutenant Clifford R. Powell, a native of Burlington County, comes through Toms River and "stirs up the boys" just back from the war to start up an American Legion Post.

On October 21st 1919, a meeting is held at the Ocean County Courthouse for the purpose of starting up a branch "Post" of the American Legion.

About 25 veterans were present as Common Pleas Judge William Howard Jeffrey presided over the meeting. He was assisted by Leo Babchin, County Chairman of Lakewood. LeRoy Grant was duly elected to be temporary secretary. Official elections were held and resulted in Carlton F. Elwell elected as Post Commander, Heulings A. Sever as post Adjutant and Nelson A. Cowdrick to the position of Post Finance Officer. After the meeting was adjourned, "VICTORY" discharge pins were distributed to those presenting discharge certificates.

Regular Post meetings were held at the "Ocean House", a restaurant/hotel on the north/west corner of Main and Water streets. Early in 1921 the appointment of a Building Committee set off a chain of events which would lead to acquiring the property at #1 Legion Court, of course at that time, the property was an empty field. Legion Court would come much later.

Several properties with Main Street frontage were for sale in Toms River. One was known as the Ocean House annex which

POST EVERLASTING



Jim Hanebury, 73, US Army, Vietnam War Gerhard Henning, 93, USN, WWII George Lissenden Jr., 88 US Army, Korea Alberto Alvidrez, 75, US Army, Vietnam Carl Breininger, 98, USMC WWII John Anderson, 83, US Army WWII George F. Jones, US Army, Vietnam War Ed Beecher, 93, US Army, WWII George Jones, 71, US Army, Vietnam War James McGlyn, 77, US Army, Vietnam War Thomas Barcelona

"Rest In Peace, Comrades"

Bob Scheiderman, Ritual Chairman

was for sale for \$13,000, however, the committee thought it was a little steep and turned down the offer. Another parcel caught the committee's eye, not far from town with 120 feet of Main Street frontage, more or less. Known as the "Potter property," which extended from the Mathew's on the north and Schwartz on the south, and east to Frog Alley, later to become Hyers Street. At a price of \$3000 the committee recommended to purchase. The Post membership had previously expressed a wish to remain in the downtown area and at the next regular meeting unanimously moved to purchase what became known as the "Potter Property".

A contract was signed and Dr. Brower donated the \$5 option fee.

Over the next two months extensions on the options were requested and granted. On March 22nd, 1920, five hundred dollars

was paid and the option was extended another 30 days. It was also necessary to appropriate \$10 to "settle the taxes up to the 1st of January 1921."

June 7th, 1920, a general meeting attended by both the membership and the ladies auxiliary, a resolution "to execute a bond and mortgage in the sum of two thousand dollars to Doloro G. Potter, covering premises on East Main Street, due and payable at 6% interest one year hence". A week later the deed was presented and a check for \$2 was drawn to record same. As a final order of business. Mrs. Geo. B. Applegate made a donation of \$77.49 and thus began the first, "American Legion Building Fund"

In the next issue of SOUNDOFF Post 129 relocates & Post 129 adopts an orphan Ocean County Memorial Chapter of the DAV meet at Post 129 the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 PM





SOUNDOFF

March-April 2019



George P. Vanderveer Post 129 American Legion (established 1919) - A Centennial Post

PUBLISHED 6 times per year

DEADLINE for the next issue (May-June 2019) is April 15.

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or via U.S. mail to: Al Harbord, 1038 Audubon Drive,

Toms River, NJ 08753.

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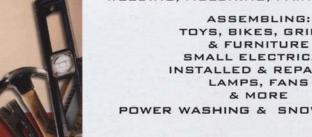




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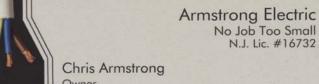


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