



SOUNDOFF

November-December 2017



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

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

Brothers and Sisters,

We are coming into the holiday season and we must continue to remember the less fortunate of the community. The Auxiliary do an amazing job visiting nursing homes, putting together packages for veterans, and of course, during this season there is the Veterans Thanksgiving Dinner. A personal high for me and for the Post.

As we sit down to a Thanksgiving or Christmas meal with family and friends there will be many who will not. Our donations to the food pantry have slowed down. Please see it in your heart to make a donation when you come to the Post. If you come on Friday and Saturday nights make the "cover charge" be some food for others.

We have a blood drive coming up on November 29th. The need

for blood donations never changes and with the number of natural disasters this year the need is greater than ever. If you can give please call and make a reservation.

Brothers and Sisters is not just about us, we must service the community.

The next couple of months will be packed with things to do and even some opportunities for some volunteerism to help here at the Post.

Saturday, November 11th, Veteran's Day, at 11:00 AM there will be our annual Veterans Day ceremony at the flag pole. Followed by a ceremony at the veteran's memorial in the grove that will be celebrated by the Boy Scouts.

Sunday, November 12th, Big Band Night with Bob Kulik, the Joey Katz orchestra and a family style pasta dinner all for \$30.00 per person. This a great fundraising opportunity as the event is being sponsored by Ryan's Catering and is 100% profit for ticket sales. Please join us for a great after-

noon and support the Post.

Monday, November 13th, is the annual Veterans Day parade. Assembly is at 0830 behind the Office Lounge with the parade kicking off at 0930. Please join us for this celebration of US! Transportation will be supplied for those who cannot walk the route.

Tuesday, November 14th, we will be hosting a Greater Toms River Chamber of Commerce Meet and Greet in the hall.

Wednesday, November 15th, the Post is being awarded by the Salvation Army as the Community Service Organization of the Year.

Sunday, November 19th, is the annual Auxiliary Veteran's Thanksgiving Dinner. Support is always needed and welcome for this event.

Sunday, November 25th, is the annual Auxiliary Craft Fair.

Saturday, December 2nd, is the Annual POW/MIA Christmas Tree Lighting run by the Sons of the Legion. Please come out to support an amazing night of comradeship for our missing brothers and sisters.

Sunday, December 1st, is the second annual Gold Star Children Christmas Party again sponsored by TD Bank. We can always use a little help. Please see the Commander.

Last, but certainly not least, is New Year's Eve in the Hall. A night not to be missed and again managed by Mrs. Maryellen DelNero. Details to follow.

September and October were wonderful. We had two combined executive board meetings, and had some great bike nights. Rich Gato held a spectacular amateur night event in the hall and we should all be looking forward to the next (continued page 6)



N.F.L. FOOTBALL



**IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG CODE
IN SUPPORT OF ACTIVE DUTY AROUND THE WORLD
AND VETERANS ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

**WE WILL NOT BE SHOWING FOOTBALL IN THE POST
UNTIL THE N.F.L. CURES THE ISSUE OF PLAYERS AND OWNERS
DISRESPECTING THE FLAG AND THE NATIONAL ANTHEM**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING
WE WILL STILL BE OFFERING DISCOUNTED ITEMS AT THE BAR
FOR THOSE WHO WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE POST**

**WE WILL BE ENJOYING THE NASCAR PLAYOFFS
AND BASEBALL PLAYOFFS**

AUXILIARY NEWS

As the Summer time comes to an end we must remember the last bit of fun we had here at the Post celebrating the nice weather and the functions we participated in.

I attended Bike Night in August which was also a Fundraiser for the Run for the Fallen that was an immense success! The Auxiliary helped by selling the shirts for the Run. There was a Gift Auction held to help raise money and our own Pat Corbin won a basket! There was a bus trip to Brooklyn, NY and it was a very good time had by all. The Auxiliary had an opportunity to attend a Leadership Workshop and it was very informative. The Post's Labor Day picnic was a fun time had by all! Excellent job to all who participated in making the day a fun filled enjoyable time. The POW/MIA Watch Fire was in Seaside and many people attended the somber remembrance of those still missing and unaccounted for. Let us ever be remindful of their service to us all.

The Run for the Fallen was on September 23rd the Auxiliary was in attendance along with members of the Post, Riders, and the SAL. The Auxiliary will be having a Trunk or Treating on October 15th here at the Post Parking lot in the back, come on out for the children and have a fun time with the kids. The Auxiliary is helping the Post with the 50/50 on Friday nights in the Canteen. Come on down to the Post for some fun, food, drink, and maybe get lucky on the 50/50!

On November 25th, the Auxiliary will be holding their Annual Craft and Vendor Fair. Come on out and support the Unit and get your jump on early Christmas shopping. If you are interested in a table or just want to help please contact Laurinda Miller.

The post is having a Sinatra Night in November. Please stop by the Post for further details.

Our membership is progressing quite well and we are working hard



to reach our GOAL for the County. Jean Robbins and her committee are doing an excellent job in working towards this goal. THANK YOU LADIES for your arduous work and commitment to a successful year! If you have any questions for the Membership contact Jean Robbins.

The Auxiliary is working towards a successful year with the Post and the SAL and the RIDERS with their projects. Let us all come out and support each other so we can all have a great and successful year!

For God and Country
Pam Bowen
President Unit 129

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Hi everyone,
Just a reminder that early bird renewal of dues are out. Response so far is very good and new members and rejoin members are responding along with transfers. Again, I would like to thank the recruiters for signing up new members. Please keep up the good work and as always; In the spirit of service, not self, for veterans.

Your auxiliary membership committee
Jean Robbins
Peggy Robbins
Pat Corbin



Chairman Sharon Stuart and Lisa Mayer along with Auxiliary members distribute backpacks at Walnut Street School.



Chairman Jane Keeley and Auxiliary members visit veterans at Hampton Ridge.



**Holiday Craft
and Vendor Fair**

**Arts
& Crafts**

THE FAIR

HOSTED BY AMERICAN LEGION

AUXILIARY UNIT # 129

Saturday, November 25, 2017

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

2025 Church Rd., Toms River, NJ

**Free shopping totes to the 1st 250 adults! 40 plus
vendors/crafters. Join us to jump start your
Holiday shopping!!!!**

Answers to Patriotic Quiz No. 9 From July- August SOUNDOFF

1. Monrovia capital of the republic of Liberia in Africa, is named for James Monroe, fifth American President.
2. The words, "They will be lions while we are lambs, but if we take the resolute part they will undoubtedly prove very meek" were spoken by General Gage, English commander when he reported in person to King George III at London, in 1774, on the temper of the colonists.
3. A Cajun is a local term applied to residents of Louisiana who are descendants of the Acadians, who were exiled from Canada in 1755. Their expulsion is romanticized in Longfellow's "Evangeline." Cajun is a corruption of the word Acadian.
4. Rhode Island has the longest official name among the states. It is "State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations."
5. Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles, U.S.A. (retired) was in charge of Jefferson Davis when the ex-president of the confederacy was confined at Fort Monroe, Virginia after the Civil War.

Reprinted from the 'American Legion' Magazine March 1925.
Answers to Quiz 10 next issue.
(Bob Scheiderman)

BINGO...

**...every Thursday. Doors
open at 5 PM. Play starts at
7 PM.**

**Progressive, 50/50
Mystery Prizes**

Refreshments



A welcome for the core runners
of the Run For The Fallen 09-23-2017 15-51

SAL DETACHMENT OF NEW JERSEY

Hello to all male descendants of veterans who fought in any of the Great Wars of our country. To those who served in our military during the appropriate years designated.

The Sons of the American Legion, Membership! Membership! Membership! We need your membership. What we need to do is promote membership at your Legion, Auxiliary, and Squadron lev-

els. Talk to people you meet about what it means to be part of the American Legion Family and what we do for our Veterans, our Community, State, and our Nation. Membership is the life blood of our organization. The money from your membership dues is used to support the American Legion Programs. Every year, to me, is the year of the Veteran. This is our main priority as an SAL, our Veterans! I'm proud to be a SAL. It's the least I can do to show my gratitude to the Veterans for the sacrifices they made

for our freedoms, for our way of life! Be positive towards membership. Reach out to our young ones and get them involved at their Post. Let them know how valuable they are to the American Legion. They are the future generation.

They need to know of our history as a Nation and to Respect the AMERICAN FLAG that so many of our military made sacrifices for. The way things are going in today's world they must know the truth, not fake news.

In an article I wrote in the SALute (a SAL Detachment newsletter) in 2006, I wrote, "who knows?". A lot of talk is that the Jersey Shore is due to get hit by a hurricane like Katrina which hit the Gulf states in 2005. Destruction. People lost their lives, they lost members of their families, pets, homes, their life savings. Everything they had was destroyed. We, The American Legion, were there for them, even before FEMA. The American Legion played a huge role in the relief for thousands of people who belonged to the American Legion Family. Legion members, Auxiliary, and SAL members in good standing, with proper forms filled, and filed through the NEF (National Emergency Fund) received checks for \$1500. Just think this can happen to you and me.

Guess what! We in New Jersey in 2012 were devastated by SUPER STORM SANDY. There was loss of lives, pets, homes, American Legion Posts along the east coast etc. Just as bad if not worse than Katrina. Again, the American Legion came through the same way they did for the people in the Gulf States, if not more. Now we're dealing with the people who were the victims of Hurricane HARVEY who lost everything and the people who live in Florida who lost everything from Hurricane IRMA. Puerto Rico being devastated by Hurricane

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AMERICAN LEGION POST 129 BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

NOVEMBER

14

TUESDAY

05:30PM - 7:30 PM


GEORGE P. VANDERVEER

AMERICAN LEGION POST 129

2025 CHURCH ROAD,

TOMS RIVER, NJ 08753

**SPONSORED &
HOSTED BY:**



GEORGE P. VANDERVEER

AMERICAN LEGION POST 129

COST: MEMBERS: DONATIONS AT THE DOOR

FUTURE MEMBERS: \$20


[HTTPS://TOMSRIVERCHAMBER.COM/CHAMBER-CALENDAR/](https://tomsriverchamber.com/chamber-calendar/)

**JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR VETERANS, ENJOY
CATERING BY RYAN'S, TOUR THE AMERICAN LEGION
HALL & LISTEN TO THE SWEET SOUNDS OF THE PIPERS**

**FOOD
PROVIDED BY:**



**ENTERTAINMENT
PROVIDED BY:**



**BEER & WINE
PROVIDED BY:**




DONATIONS FOR THE EVENING TO BENEFIT:

RUN FOR THE FALLEN

MISSION OF HONOR

VET WORKS



Maria. My heart cries for all these people, These American Legion members need our help, and through the NEF, we will be there for them.

This is why it is so important to be an American Legion member. When you have nothing left I'm sure 1500 dollars will help a little for food, etc. All that said, and there are many other incentives to be part of our Legion Family, PLEASE, GO OUT OF YOUR WAY to sign up new members, and make sure that Your membership is current. We also need Legion members to become DUAL MEMBERS, if they can, this would boost the SAL membership, and that per-capita would be used to support American Legion Programs. Only if you are eligible and can afford it.

Throughout our Nation, many charters are being formed for the American Legion Riders. This organization, American Legion Riders, I'm proud to say that I am also a member of. To become an American Legion Rider, you must be a Legion member, Auxiliary member, or a SAL member in good standing. PLEASE, get all membership cards into Department, don't send them to the old address, send them to:

The American Legion, Building #5, 2nd floor, 171 Jersey St., Trenton, New Jersey 08611

To find information or to obtain Discharge paperwork or a DD-214 for a Veteran and next of kin of Deceased military personnel for MILITARY RECORDS, GO TO (<http://vetrecs.archives.gov>) Don't forget, we must support our leading candidate for Department Commander for 2018-2019 Mr. Raymond Miller.

Thank you,

For God and Country
David (DUKE) Haring
S.A.L. Detachment of N.J
Membership Chairman
cell-732-597-2604

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



American Red Cross Blood Drive
Sponsored by
American Legion Post 129
2025 Church Road
Toms River, NJ
Wednesday, November 29th
2:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Appointments are preferred please call
Gerd (908) 910-1858
or log onto www.redcrossblood.org

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App
©2017 The American National Red Cross

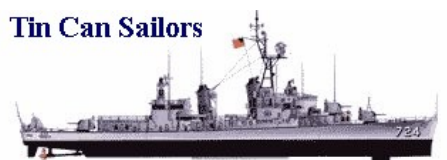


DAV Ocean County Memorial Chapter 24 meet at Post 129 the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 PM.



Meet at Post 129 3rd Wednesday at 12 noon.

Tin Can Sailors



COMMANDERS MESSAGE

(from page 1)

one. One of our members, Mr. Ralph Wolf, our finance officer was awarded for his work in the community by the Toms River Chamber of Commerce. We made our annual donation to C.O.T.A., Children's Organ Transplant Association. Our annual Halloween party was as usual a resounding success.

As usual September would not be complete without The Run for the Fallen. The American Legion Riders held a fund raiser in August that raised over \$9,000. Myself and Tom DiVicarro, my Master at Arms, had the blessing of being able to ride in support for 5 days. A truly humbling experience to see how much the Gold Star Families appreciated that their fallen warriors will never be forgotten.

Thank you for a wonderful year and let's look forward to a great 100th anniversary year.

Michael Schaffer
Commander



RIDERS MESSAGE

The fall is upon us even though we have had 80 and 90-degree days into October. Lots of fun riding and some not so fun funeral escorts. BUT all in all, a great summer of fun. I personally had a great summer riding after my motorcycle accident last year. My new Can Am as of this writing has 7,000 miles on it. I have ridden with my Rider friends to upstate New York, Vermont and to Gettysburg Pennsylvania. I know others have ridden to the Americade mo-

torcycle event also in upstate New York. The best part is we probably have at least 6 more weeks of fun riding before the real cold weather hits our area.

Our bike night program worked out very well for the bunker bar. The Brothers S.A.L. band had many people entertained on a Tuesday evening all summer long. We experimented with a "rib off" bike night in September with our Rider and BBQ chef Mike Dorick winning the 1st prize. Everyone seemed to enjoy the change from our traditional 2 hot dog nights. By the time this comes out we will have finished the bike night program for the season. We are contemplating changing up the bike nights next season each month without losing the family atmosphere.

We will be doing our best to be

supportive of other events by our American Legion family. Before you know it, Thanksgiving and Christmas will be right around the corner. Not looking forward to the winter, but if the weather stays mild I know many of our riders will be out there until snow covers the ground.

Again, I wish to thank all of the brothers and sisters of our great post for the support of our rider group during the season.

For God & Country
Art Brown
Rider President



Auxiliary Unit 129 Children's Christmas Party

December 17, 2017

From 12pm to 4pm

For Post 129 Family Members Only

Party for Ages 0-10 Child must be accompanied preferably by one adult

Sign up Sheets in Canteen !

Child Must be signed up by November 19, 2017

Deadline is November 19, 2017 No Later

Food will be provided for the children along with a gift from Santa

\$ IT'S YOUR POST \$ SWOT ANALYSIS



By Ralph E. Wolff
Financial Officer, Post 129

In any organization and specifically our American Legion, growth is essential in order to remain sustainable and to satisfy the many current and future needs of our Post and our Veterans. Nationally the American Legion has been experiencing a decline in its membership due to many of the WWII and Korean War veterans going to Post Everlasting and we are regretful of that.

Nonetheless, while many posts have lost membership, Post 129 is still the number one post in the state for membership. (Thank you Rich Godfrey) With being the largest Post in the State there is a larger responsibility to support our veterans than many smaller posts experience. More and more we see the younger veterans looking for comradeship and a post to call their Legion Home. Post 129 continuously strives to be a family friendly post.

In order to maintain our membership and to protect the future of our Post, we need the younger veterans to start to take on more leadership rolls within the organization. Our Post is not just a place where old guys sit around and drink beer. This year your Post will be taking care of our Veterans and our community to the tune of over \$75,000 in donations and events and we need you younger Veterans, Sons and Aux-

iliary to help accomplish our stated goals.

SWOT Analysis

SWOT is an acronym for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats.

- **Strengths** are the qualities that enable us to accomplish our mission.
- **Weaknesses** are the qualities that prevent us from accomplishing our mission.
- **Opportunities** are benefits that enable us to become more profitable.
- **Threats** arise when conditions in external environment jeopardize the reliability and profitability of our organization's business.

The finance committee along with the strategic planning committee has embarked on a SWOT Analysis in order to identify those areas that will affect our mission. Once the SWOT is completed we can create a Strategic Plan that will give us direction and categorize opportunities for growth over the next three years. We will also be identifying our weaknesses and creating a plan to mitigate them.

The SWOT process has begun and we invite any of our members to help us with this project. It does not require a lot of time or meetings but it does require a genuine interest in your Post and a selfless concern for helping your fellow veteran. We will be asking you to offer your perspective and ideas and this can be done via email. Warning! Desert Storm, Iraq and Afghanistan warfighters are especially needed to move our organization forward because without you the threat of not being able to complete our mission will grow exponentially. If you are interested in becoming a value to your post and fellow veterans through

this process please email me at :

ralphwolff@
jerseycoastappliance.com

SO HOW DO WE STAND FINANCIALLY?

Our current state of finances is cautiously well. We are monitoring a decline in revenue. However due to outstanding and unselfish management and good planning by the leadership, we are continuing to meet our budget, keep the lights on and accomplish our mission and plan for the future.

LEGION MEMBERSHIP

It's that time of the year again and 2018 membership dues are due by the end of December. Please send in your dues, we need your support. Our dues help us maintain the Post and help fund all the good things that we do for our Veterans, their Families and the Community.

We need your help with membership. Please reach out to your friends, neighbors, co-workers and family members and encourage them to join this great veteran's organization. Our numbers being at 1050 paid at time of the printing of this article. Our numbers last year were 1762 so we are behind last year's numbers by approximately 710 members not paid. Remember, membership is the life blood of this great organization.

For God and Country
Rich Godfrey
Membership Chairman



November: From the latin word for "ninth", since it was the ninth month of the Roman year.

Birthstone

November 2017

Citrine

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
If voting changed anything, they'd make it illegal. Anon			1	2 BINGO	3	4 Legion Aux. GIFT AUCTION 1200 O FULL BEAVER
5  Daylight Savings Ends	6 General Mtg. 7:00PM	7 Election Day VOTE !! Early/Often 	8 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	9 BINGO!!	10 	11 Veterans Day!! 
12 	13 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM	14	15 	16 OGNIB???	17	18 ● NEW MOON
19 VET'S THANKSGIVING DINNER 12-NOON	20 Board/Trustee Mtg. 7:00PM	21	22	23 TURKEY DAY! NO BINGO 	24	25
26 	27 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	28 County Meeting 1800 Post 129	29 Blood Drive 1500 At The Post	30 BINGO!!!		Food is an important part of a balanced diet.

In 1898 Jacob Myers organized the Automatic Voting Machine Company. Jacob gave the first demonstration of a voting machine in an 1892 Lockport, NY, town election.

NOVEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3RD THE SURE CATS

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4TH "NFINITY"

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 10TH WILD ROSE

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11TH
VETERANS DAY CEREMONY AT 11:00 AM
THE CROSSTONES TRIO IN THE
CANTEEN AT 7PM



SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12TH
TRIBUTE TO SINATRA
FEATURING BOB KULIK
AND JOEY KATZ 16 PIECE ORCHESTRA

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17TH STRICTLY 60'S

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18TH THE DEE CEE'S

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 24TH THE MANGO'S

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25TH
"BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND
"BRIAN SMALLWOOD"

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

December: From the Latin word for "tenth," since it was the tenth month of the Roman year.

Birthstone

December 2017

Blue Topaz

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
He who has not Christmas in his Heart will never find it under a tree.	BINGO Every Thursday			Santa Claus has the right idea -visit people once a year!	1	2 POW/MIA Tree Lighting 5-11PM
3  O Full Cold Moon	4 General Mtg. 7:00PM	5 Riders Christmas Party 5-11PM	6 	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 	9 
10 	11 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM	12 	13 National Guard 231 Years Old SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	14 	15	16 Battle of the Bulge (1944)
17	18 Board/Trustee Mtg. 7:00PM ● New Moon	19 'Beware the Pogonip'	20 	21  Winter Solstice 11:28AM	22	23
24	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28 	29	30 ----- 31 Bye-Bye 2017

"An optimist stays up to see the New Year in. A pessimist waits to make sure the old one leaves."

DECEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY DECEMBER 1ST **SUMMER PROJECT**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 2ND
"BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND"
GEORGE MARKEY WITH GUEST
APPEARANCE BY BARBARA PETRIZZO

FRIDAY DECEMBER 8TH **THE POWERTONES**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9TH **ARMY/NAVY GAME**
FOLLOWED BY
"BROTHER SAL" AT 7PM



FRIDAY DECEMBER 15TH **A TOUCH OF CLASS**
IN THE BANQUET HALL
BRIAN SMALLWOOD IN THE CANTEEN

SATURDAY DECEMBER 16TH **"STEP ASIDE"**

FRIDAY DECEMBER 22ND **GEORGE RIZZI AND
THE JERSEY HORNS**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 23RD **THE KOKOMO'S**

FRIDAY DECEMBER 29TH TBD

SATURDAY DECEMBER 30TH **"THE DEE CEE'S"**

*****NEW YEARS EVE**** LETS BE FRANK

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

CANTEEN NEWS

Rich Godfrey

Fall is here, and the Canteen is in its "All ahead Full" mode. Our Members and their guests continue to flock to the best Legion in the state for great food, great beverages, great entertainment and a great time.

Our Bunker Bar, which will be closing in early November, had another good season. The Post's horse shoe league, on Wednesday nights, had a banner season under the leadership of Trustee Mike "the painter" Dolan. Our 2nd Tuesday Bike Nights were also a huge success.

The canteen's entertainment continues to improve with different live bands on Friday and Saturday nights, 7PM to 11PM. Our Halloween Party had some of the best costumes ever.

Make sure you don't miss **DINNER WITH SINATRA** in our Banquet Hall, featuring the captivating song stylings of Bob Kulik (the lead singer of the Happenings), and the magnificent sounds of the Joey Katz Orchestra. This year's event will take place on Sunday, November 12th. Doors will open at Noon. Ryan's catering will be providing an Italian Cuisine served Family Style starting at Noon and concluding at 2PM. The show will start at 2:30PM. The tickets are \$30 per person, and includes the dinner and the show. There will be a cash bar available. For more information and reservations, call Kristy at 732-864-5519.

VETERAN'S DAYS: This year, the same as last year, we will be celebrating 2 Veterans' Days. On Saturday, November 11th, there will be a ceremony, in front of the Legion, at 11AM. There will be a free buffet in the Canteen following the ceremony. On Monday, November 13th, Post 129 will be

marching in the Veteran's Day Parade, down Main Street, in Toms River. Participants will be assembling at the Office Lounge, at 8:30AM. Step Off Time is 10AM. **SINCE OUR FLAG AND ANTHEM HAVE BEEN RECENTLY UNDER ATTACK, IT WOULD SEND A POSITIVE MESSAGE TO OUR COUNTRY, IF WE HAD A GREAT TURNOUT TO SUPPORT OUR VETERANS AND PATRIOTISM.**

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: Time to Party. Our biggest Gala of the year is right around the corner. **NEW YEAR's Eve** is on a Sunday this year. Entertainment will be provided by Lets B Frank. The event runs from 8PM to 1AM. Tickets are the same as last Year, \$85 each. Our Chairperson, Mary Ellen Del Nero, will be at the Canteen every Tuesday and Friday Night, selling tickets, you can call her cell, at 732-859-1532 after 2PM.

FALL SUNDAYS: In support of The United States Flag Code, Active Duty and Veterans across the Country, we will not be showing football in the Canteen until the NFL cures the issue of players and owners disrespecting the FLAG and the National Anthem. Thank You for your Support and Understanding. We will still be offering Discounted Food items and \$1.50 Domestic Drafts



For those who would continue to support the Post, we will be enjoying the Nascar and Baseball Playoffs. God Bless America.

S.A.L. POST 129 Presents **ARMY NAVY FOOTBALL GAME** (Who's Side are you on) Satur-

day, December 9, 2017 in our Canteen 3PM Kickoff. There will be Drink and Food Specials and \$1.50 Domestic Drafts

From the Commander to the bar staff and our great bartender's, Duke, Robin, Warren, Lori, Lisa, Danielle, Joe K, Shea, Nancy, and Cassidy would like to thank all our members and their guests for turning out and supporting this great Post. Again, Thank You for your support, your Support helps us do all the things we do for our veterans and their Families. Wishing each one of our Members and their families a Blessed Holiday Season.

A HEARTFELT STORY BEYOND CULTURAL DIVISIONS, A CALL BEYOND ANY AND ALL DIVISIONS. IT'S NOT WHAT YOUR COUNTRY CAN DO FOR YOU. IT'S WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY AND YOUR COMRADES IN NEED.

(GARY PINTO)

On July 20th I left for vacation in South Florida. On July 21st I met a Vietnam Veteran (Nelson Garcia) from Miami who is 100% disabled and a 4 time Purple Heart recipient who is extremely frustrated with the VA and how they have treated him. My friend and I took him and his wife out for dinner to a local restaurant to get him out of his house, which I discovered he almost never does anymore. His wife informed me that he has never talked about his time in the military with anyone. When Nelson arrived at the restaurant he was so excited about getting out of the house to meet a Vietnam Era veteran. He was so proud to be there he didn't want me to see him in a wheel chair, so Nelson walked with the assistance of a cane and struggled to walk from valet parking to our table. Once we met I welcomed him home and gave him



a Vietnam Veterans Pin and thanked him for his service and sacrifice to our Country. He gave me a hug, thanked me for my service and presented me with a challenge coin from the Army Special Forces Unit he served in. It was a very special moment for me and I believe it was for Nelson as well.

We all sat down and ordered our meals and began conversing with one another. The two ladies spoke to one another and Nelson and I spoke for the next couple of hours as he shared some of the most horrific encounters of his time in "Nam". Nelson's wife got emotional as she watched him open up to me like he's never done before.

Nelson also shared with me how he applied for a grant from the VA to purchase a van with a wheel chair lift, so he can get out of the house. When Nelson checked back with the VA 13 months later to inquire about the grant's status he learned that the VA lost all of his paperwork. He reapplied last year and has yet to hear about any progress regarding his application. Nelson also applied for a power chair from the VA and was told it would take months if he was eligible at all. I felt that as a Disabled Veteran, which I belong to Chapter 24 Ocean County, NJ, was compelled to reach out to a DAV chapter in Pompano Beach Florida and ask if they could help me to help Nelson. I spoke with Jerry Toomey of Chapter 133 and he said that he had 6 power chairs coming into their possession in a few days and would certainly help us out. On July 25th Jerry said that the chairs had not arrived yet, but assured me that they were on their way.

I returned to NJ on August 1st and was optimistic that we would get Nelson a power chair.

On August 2nd Jerry called again to inform me that the power chairs have in fact arrived and on August 8th Rosa Payan borrowed


a pickup truck and met Jerry along with 3 others who assisted with the loading of the chair onto the truck. Later that day Rosa, with the assistance of another Vietnam Veteran (Homero) she knew delivered the chair to Nelson's home. The first thing Nelson said to Rosa is Gary here? When she replied that I wasn't he moved by her and looked outside to see for himself. He was very disappointed to discover I actually wasn't there, but quickly was distracted when he saw his new power chair that was his and not a electric scooter that was on loan to him. In no time the chair was up and running as Nelson said that

he fits in the chair perfectly and won't fall out of it like the scooter.

Nelson drove the chair around in the house and looked like a child on Christmas morning with his favorite toy. He said to Rosa that after she leaves he's going to take his power chair and himself to the Post Office just down the street.

I'm very proud that with friends and Jerry Toomey of DAV Chapter 133 that we have changed Nelson Garcia's life in a profound way.

I'm proud to have served in the U.S. Air Force and even humbled by this experience of "One Veteran helping another Veteran".



S.A.L Post 129 Presents - Army Navy Football Game
"Who's Side Are You On??"

Saturday, December 9, 2017
 3PM Kickoff
 *** NO CHARGE ***

The Game will be viewed in the Canteen

Laptop Computer will be raffled off. \$10 per ticket and only 200 will be sold.

Dell Inspiron - 8GB RAM - 1TB Hard Drive - Great, fast laptop! \$500.00 Value

50/50 Raffle - \$5 per chance - only 300 will be sold!

For more information, contact:
 Rocky Lucia - rplucia@verizon.net - 917.417.4818

Army Navy after party 7PM-11PM - Brother SAL Band in the canteen

SAL MESSAGE

As we head into the fall and winter seasons, our Squadron is into our busy season. 2018 membership is in and we are starting to get a lot of renewals, which is great. However, there is still a lot of work to do. There are many members who are behind a year or two on membership. We want you back! Please contact us and we will work with you to get caught up so you can enjoy our post as current members. Membership is vital to our existence and we are working hard to sign up new members as well as retain our existing members.

We also have a couple of events coming up. On Saturday, December 2nd is our annual POW/MIA tree lighting ceremony. This is a solemn ceremony and for those who have not attended, you are missing out on a great night. We would love to see you there. The following week, Saturday, December 9th is the SAL Army Navy game party. The game kicks off at 3pm in the canteen and it's always a great time. Wear your favorite shirt or jersey and come out and have a great time with us. We are raffling off a laptop (tickets are on sale now), we will have a 50/50 and we will also be raffling off a gift basket. This is always a fun day so please come out and support our Squadron and post and root for your favorite team.

Finally, going into the holiday season, I would like to wish everyone and their families a Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

For God & Country,
Rocky Lucia—Commander
Squadron 129




Tree Lighting Ceremony

S.A.L. Squadron 129 Presents the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

A Solemn Ceremony

Saturday, December 2nd, 2017
7pm - 11pm

American Legion Post 129
2025 Church Road, Toms River, NJ 08753

For More Information, contact:
Bob Joerg at bobjoerg@gmail.com or 908.403.0816
Or
Rocky Lucia at rplucia@verizon.net or 917.417.4818



POST EVERLASTING

Martin Moran, US Army
Charles Fernicola, 70 US Army, Vietnam War
John Butler, 90, US Army, WWII
Benedict La Rosa, 88, US Army, Korean War
Bill Scherer, 85, US Army, Korean War
Mario Signorile, 97, US Army, WWII
Carmine Gerace, 86, US Army, Korean War
John Donovan, 91, US Army, WWII
Fred Dennick, US Coast Guard

Bob Scheiderman, Ritual Chairman





Thanks to the Berkeley Lloyd Soccer Team for donating the mums around the flagpole at the Post.



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September-October 2017



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