

SOUNDOFF

November-December 2019



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

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

I would like to start by thanking everyone who attended the Run for the Fallen. Other events that the American Legion Family showed their support for were Island Heights Sailfest, the 29th annual POW/MIA Watchfire in Seaside Heights, Brick Post 348 Pig Roast and C.O.T.A. fundraiser.

Events in the future will include a Blood Drive on Nov 5th.

We will be having our Halloween Party in the Canteen on Saturday, October 26th and prizes will be offered for best costumes in several categories.

Our Veteran's Day Parade will be Nov 11th, we will meet at 9:00 AM at the Office Lounge. The parade steps off at 9:30 AM.

Also our annual POW/MIA tree lighting will be Saturday, December 7th.

The Auxiliary will be having their annual Children's Christmas party on December 15th.

More about these events under the messages from the S.A.L Commander and the Auxiliary President.

I would like to take this time to wish everyone a Happy Thanks-giving and a very Merry Christmas.

For God and Country Ed Rutzler, Commander



American Legion Post 129 Family Presents the Annual POW/MIA Christmas Tree Lighting

A Solemn Ceremony

Saturday, December 7th, 2019 7pm - 11pm

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

For More Information, contact: Rocky Lucia at <u>rplucia@verizon.net</u> or 917*4* 17.4818



Members are always welcome and wanted to march in the Toms River Veterans Day Parade. Please come out to support your Post and all those who served.

FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/groups/post129/

WEBSITE: https://alpost129.org/

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

Brothers and sisters,

I am going to try and report monthly on some of the activities that the Post is involved with that is impacting our engagement with the community. We participate in many programs that quite frankly no one hears about and I believe we need to change the perception of who we are in the eyes of the community.

We assisted a number of Veterans and Veterans wives with information, and financial needs

I met with representatives of the Harrogate Retirement Community and they have asked me to make a presentation on November 12 on the significance of veteran's day.

I attended an introduction luncheon at the Robins Nest restaurant in Mt Holly, where I had interaction with all of the new base and wing commanders for McGuire, Dix, Lakehurst.

I hosted a luncheon of representatives from Ocean County College to discuss our further commitment to the veteran students. We have supplied the following to the college veterans center, a complete set of standard services flags including the American flag and the Pow/MIA flag, poles and bases for all. A dormitory refrigerator and the Auxiliary have set up a small pantry with quick to go items, thank you!

We had our Victory Garden Dedication with representatives from the Township, the board of Chosen Freeholders, the Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation, the Ocean County Military Support Commission, and MDL.

I attended the August D.E.C. Meeting at the Trenton War Memorial

We attended the meet and greet luncheon for the new Department Commander at his home Post 12 in Summerville

We sent a delegation to the national convention.

We hosted an AIR Force Stand down in our picnic grove hosting 200 airmen and woman from MDL to talk about suicide prevention, with representatives from various organizations to discuss options and their personal journeys through life suffering with PTSD.

I was invited and attended the National Chaplains Conference in Indianapolis and was a presenter at the Friday night session.

We had Riders participate in the Funeral Services for Mr. Hopeton Galloway at General Doyle Cemetery with an escort and I provided the funeral ritual.

The Riders participated in the Run For The Fallen by manning stops and providing as escort through Toms River on Saturday and we hosted the runners for dinner on Saturday night. On Sunday I provided the Benediction at the Vietnam Memorial at the conclusion of the run.

The Riders participated in the Silverton Fire Company Fall Fest and Poker Run

The Riders participated in the Frost on the Pumpkin run sponsored by the Blue Knights

I participated in the Governor's "Commanders Call" a review of the New Jersey National Guard at Sea Girt on October 19-20 and provided the invocation and benediction.

We had our 100 anniversary Gala.

I attended the October D.E.C. Meeting at the Trenton War Memorial.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

We received an invitation to participate in the Ocean County College Fall Harvest fest, this will be supporting local food banks

Veterans day parade

I have been asked to make a presentation to the Harrogate Retirement Community on November 12th on the American Legion and Veterans day (if you would like to attend please let me know ASAP)

I have been asked to make a presentation to the Riverpointe Community on November 16th on the America Legion and Veterans' day (if you would like to attend please let me know ASAP)

The Auxiliary will be hosting their annual Veterans Thanksgiving Dinner.

Pearl Harbor ceremony will be held on December 7th at Huddy Park (torpedo side)

Sons of the American Legion will hold their Annual POW/MIA Christmas tree lighting.

We will be hosting for our 4th year a Gold Star Children's Christmas party (looking for someone to play Santa!!!)

The Legion Rider Christmas Party.

New Year's Eve party.

Michael Schaffer Service Officer

CHILDREN & YOUTH ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

The 2020 campaign letter will be in the mail soon. Please watch for it and support the Post 129 4th pillar of The America Legion, 'Children & Youth'. Your past generosity has helped many of organizations in our community and we look forward to your support in the future. The American Legion, still serving America and the community we live in.

MEMBERSHIP

KEY TO OUR SUCCESS

With The Legion Act now signed into law thousands of honorably discharged veterans who have served since December 7, 1941 may now join The American Legion. Meaning military veterans who served in what was previously considered periods of peacetime between wars are now eligible for membership.

Here are a few things that you should know about the legion act.

Question: What's the impact on veterans who were not eligible for The American Legion membership?

Answer: Veterans who were honorably discharged but whose service did not fall into the previous defined war eras may now join The American Legion immediately. To do so, eligible members may sign up at their local post or www.legion.org.

Question: I am among the veterans who were not allowed to join, so why do you want me now?

Answer: The American Legion founding fathers believed, "a veteran is a veteran" an axiom that has held true throughout the organization's more than a century of service. Some veterans were ineligible to join because of war eras that were defined by congress. The recent bill passage and President Trumps signature changed that.

Question: How does this affect membership for departments, districts and posts?

Answer: This change opens up The American Legion membership to thousands more veterans who likely live in your communities. So now the catch, we need to get the word out and promote membership and let everyone in your community know about the Legion Act. Let's put New Jersey over the top this year. Anyone needing more information on the Legion Act can text me or call me.

Rich Godfrey
Department of New Jersey
Membership Chairman
rjg548@comcast.net
732-604-8326

BINGO workers always welcome.

Come join the team



AUXILIARY MESSAGE

Autumn has finally arrived. Our Auxiliary Members have been busy over the past few months attending our Rider's Run For The Fallen Benefit, August 20, our SAL Detachment of NJ Watch Fire, September 21, The Run for The Fallen, September 28, and our ALA Department of NJ POW/MIA Tribute, September 5. The weather was perfect for our Auxiliary's Fall Flea Market too. Thanks to those who came out to support it



Thanks to our Post 129 Family,

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 129 PRESENTS

HOLIDAY CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR

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Tulle Wreaths

SEA GLASS ART

K9 Products

Make it Snappy Jewelry

Color Street

40+ CRAFTSMAN AND VENDORS!!!

First 200 Shoppers with a Purchase receive a FREE Tote Bag courtesy of Kearney Bank

> Saturday, November 30, 2019 10 AM to 3 PM American Legion Post # 129 2025 Church Rd., Toms River, NJ

our annual School Supply Drive was a success. We were able to purchase 60 Back Packs and fill each one with lots of school supplies. We delivered the Back Packs to 5 of our local schools for Children in Need.

Upcoming Events for our Auxiliary include: Our annual Veteran's Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday September 11 at 12pm. That is always a wonderful way to volunteer your time & spend the day with some of our nursing home Veterans. On Saturday, September 30 at 10am to 3pm, we will have our annual Craft & Vendor Fair. Please consider attending & supporting this Event. Our Children's Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December15. Details will be available in the Canteen.

Please remember to pay your annual Membership Dues (checks should be made payable to ALA Unit 129). Lastly, our Auxiliary is celebrating 100 years! So please consider being part of this awe-some celebration by volunteering/attending/supporting any of our Events & Programs.

Wishing you and your families a Blessed Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy & Healthy New Year.

For God and Country, Lisa A. Mayer Unit 129 President

American Legion Riders Post 129

Well the end of our Bike Nights has come. Thank you for everyone who has supported the efforts of the Riders. We have had a great year and were able to make several donations to our worthy causes.

We made a sizable donation to the American Legion Legacy with our July BBQ funds.

We also made a sizable donation to The Run for the Fallen from our August Bike Night proceeds. And lastly, we also donated to our Post with funds from our Bike Nights.

Our Riders have escorted members to their final resting places and have helped to ease the pain of family and friends.

Our Riders were asked to Escort for The Run for The Fallen this year and we were very proud to do so.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my E Board members Bob Hoehn, Jim Everett, Cliff Johnson, Tom Diviccaro, Mike Dorick and our Past President Art Brown. Thank You all for helping to make our Riders group the success it is.

I would also like to thank our members for supporting us to do the things that we do to help our Veteran Brothers and Sisters.

God Bless you all and keep the shiny side up!

For God & Country Pete Chafatelli President



POST EVERLASTING



John Castellano, 75, US Air Force, Vietnam Wayne Garn, 70, USAF, Vietnam Charles Crescenz, 71, USMC, Vietnam John Colson, 77, US Navy, Vietnam Ramon Valentin, 98, WWII, US Army "Rest In Peace, Comrades"

Bob Scheiderman Ritual Chairman



SAL MESSAGE

As fall winds down and winter comes upon us, we are keeping busy in our Squadron. We are working on our upcoming events and are very excited to get them going.

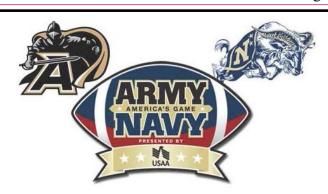
The first event will be our annual POW/MIA Tree Lighting on Saturday, December 7th. This is always a fantastic event and we are looking forward to working with our legion family and inviting other legion families to attend. Please see the flyer for details.

The following week on Saturday the 14th is the Army Navy football game in the canteen. This event is always a blast and it's a lot of fun seeing people wearing their "colors" and going back and forth. It's a true legion event! Please see the flyer for details.

In the coming month or so, we will be planning our annual Valentine's Day Comedy Show. Another great and fun event. More to come on that event.

Our constant focus is on membership. We are working hard to get new members and renew our existing members. If you know someone eligible to join or you have a friend or family member that hasn't renewed yet, please get them to us and we'll take care of them right away. Finally, I would like to take this time to wish everyone and their families a very Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy new year!

Rocky Lucia Commander SAL Squadron 129



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

Saturday, December 14, 2019 3PM Kickoff *** NO CHARGE ***

The Game will be viewed in the Canteen

Gift Raffles

50/50 and Super 50/50 Raffles

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

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



On September 3, 2019, at the General Membership meeting, SAL Commander Rocky Lucia and the members of the SAL Executive Board presented the Post with a check in support of Post 129.





Ralph Wolff Finance Officer



Happy Holidays Everyone

The Veterans Support Committee met at the post on October 19th. This meeting was the first since our organizational meeting back in May. Our vision is to cultivate a community of healthy veterans and to raise the awareness of veteran issues both locally and nationally. The Veterans Committee's mission is to advocate for veterans in our community on health, wellness, jobs, transitioning and isolation.

The committee is made up of many different individuals and affiliations based here in Ocean County. Here are just a few: Ocean County Military Support Committee, American Legion Post 129, Ocean County College, Rolling Thunder, Caregivers Volunteers, JBMDL Chaplain, and Congressman Kim's Office along with many concerned individuals.

The discussion centered around the ever growing number of active duty and veteran suicides nationally and locally and what, as a small committee, we can do to help reduce the number of deaths in our area. It was decided that raising the awareness of the number of suicides should be our first course of action. We are currently working on the many platforms and verbiage to be used.

Other action items include a seminar to be presented by Chaplain Lt. Alexander from JBMDL called a Safe Class. The first class is about recognition and awareness and the second class to be held is about prevention. Also included for consideration is a Resiliency BBQ partnering with the TR Elks along with supporting

various forms of PTSD therapy such as horse therapy, horticultural therapy and video gaming therapy.

Victory Garden:

On Sunday October 13th, the Victory Garden was officially closed for the season. We harvested three 5 gallon buckets of green tomatoes, melons, peppers, parsley and basil. Hopefully on the menu will be fried green tomatoes this week. Thank you to all who volunteered to work the garden.



Finances:

Our finances are on track with our budget thanks to the Canteen, Gaming, Bingo and Hall Rentals. Last week the strategic planning committee met to discuss a roadmap for the post going forward for the next three years.



Bus Leaves at 9:15 am sharp ~ Departs at 4:30 pm Tickets \$30.00 - \$25.00 back in slots (Only 56 seats available)

Contacts

Patricia Corbine 732-349-9241 or Laurinda Miller 732-272-7552

American Legion Post #129 2025 Church Road, Toms River, NJ November: From the latin word for "ninth," since it was the ninth month of the Roman year.

Birthstone

November 2019

Citrine

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		"GOOD NIGHT CHESTY WHEREVER YOU ARE" Uknown			1 All Saints' Day	2
Daylite Savings	4 General Mtg. 7:00PM	5 Election Day !VOTE! Early/Often	6	7 BINGO	8	9
10 STUDENT OF THE LEGISLAND OF THE STUDENT OF THE S	11 VETERANS DAY Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM	O Full Beaver Moon INDIAN SUMMER	13 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	OGNIB??	15	16
17 Auxiliary Veterans Dinner 11AM - 4PM	18 Board/ Trustee Mtg. 7:00PM	19	20	21 BINGO	22	23
24 MERICAN REGIONS	25 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	26 ● New Moon	27	28 TURKEY DAY ! NO BINGO!	29	30 Auxiliary Craft/Vendor Fair 10AM - 3PM

The Marine Corp was founded to serve as an infantry unit aboard naval vessels and was responsible for the security of the ship and its crew by conducting offensive and defensive combat during boarding actions and defending the ship's officers and from mutiny.

NOVEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1ST THE BLACK TIES

DON'T MISS THIS NEW BAND

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2ND **OPEN MIC/ KARAOKE** WITH
PERFORMANCES BY OUR OWN
BARBARA PETRIZZO

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8TH WILD ROSE

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9TH THE LENNY DAVIS BAND

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15TH NFINITY

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16TH THE CROSSTONES

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22ND JOHNNY D AND THE DECADES

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23RD THE HALF BROTHERS

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29TH STRICTLY 60'S

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30TH BOB KULK

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

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

Birthstone

December 2019

Topaz

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 General Mtg. 7:00PM	3	4	5	6	7 POW-MIA Christmas Tree Lighting 7:00PM
8 Flanders Field Published 1915	9 Ladies Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM	10	11 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	12 O Full Cold Moon	13 Atlantic City Bus Trip	14 Navy — Army Game 1500 Hrs.
15 Children's Christmas Party Noon - 4PM	16 Board/Trustees Mtg. 7:00PM	17	18	19 Beware the Pogonip	20	21 1st Day of Winter
22 MERICAN	23 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	● New Moon Eclipse	27	End of Operation Enduring Freedom 2014
29	30	31 New Years Eve	My New Years resolution is to take all the Christmas lites down by Easter.		'Auld lang syne' "Times Fondly Bemembered"	There has been only one Chrisrmas—the rest are Anniversaries.

The National Guard, the oldest of the Armed Forces of the United States and one of the nation's longest enduring institutions, celebrates its 383rd birthday. The guard traces is history back to the earliest English colonies'.

DECEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH WILD ROSE SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH PERFECT BLEND *NEW BAND*

POW/MIA TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY IN THE BANQUET HALL 7PM

FRIDAY DECEMBER 13TH TRIPLE PLAY SATURDAY DECEMBER 14TH

ARMY/NAVY GAME

FOLLOWED BY THE BROTHER SAL BAND

FRIDAY DECEMBER 20TH THE SURE CATS SATURDAY DECEMBER 21ST

THE BLACK TIES

FRIDAY DECEMBER 27TH STRICTLY 60'S SATURDAY DECEMBER 28TH BOB KULIK

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31
NEW YEARS EVE PARTY
IN THE BANQUET HALL
STRICTLY 60'S



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

As this year flies by and the colder weather sets in, the busiest Post in the State gets even busier. The Post could never handle the action if we did not have a group of outstanding volunteers that step up and put in the effort needed to make this Post the best. They are Legionnaire Members, Auxiliary Members, Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Members and our Riders. There are individuals that talk a good game, but these Members play a good game.

With that in mind, a special thanks goes out to Ken Benner, who power washed everything including the Memorial, porches, sidewalks, dumpsters, PJ's cane and even the parking lot. It took him over a week.

On top of that, our outstanding bartenders, Warren, Robin, Lisa, Lori, Danielle, Joe, Shea, Nancy, Elena, Robert and Gina are the best at serving our Members and their Guests their favorite beverages.

Some readers may think that from the sound of things, that the Post does not need any extra

10.16.2019 10:15

help. That would be WRONG, and I did not mean to create that impression. The Post is always looking for Members who are willing to donate their time to keep the Post moving forward. If you are interested, stop by anytime in the morning and talk to the Commander or any of the other volunteers.

VETERANS' DAY: This year Veterans' Day is on Monday. The Post encourages all those who are able, to march in the parade down Main Street, in Toms River. Marchers will be meeting in the parking lot of the Office Lounge located at Route 37 East and Main Street, at 9AM (0900 hrs.). As usual their will be a buffet at the Post after the parade.

POW CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING: Our annual POW/MIA Christmas Tree Lighting Service will be held in the Hall, on Saturday, December 7th (Pearl Harbor Day), at 7PM.

ARMY-NAVY FOOTBALL

GAME: The annual Army-Navy Game will be played on Saturday, December 14, at 3PM. The game will be played on all TV's in the Canteen, on Saturday afternoon. Domestic Draft Pints will be \$1.50 and our NFL Football Menu will

be in effect before and during the game. The SAL, who organizes the Event, will be raffling off a Road Bicycle (worth \$300), and other items along with a 50-50. Our Band, the Brother SAL, will be performing after the game. So, wear your colors, get there early, root for your favorite team and enjoy the fun.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY:

Unbelievable, our biggest Gala Event of the year is right around the corner. This year December 31st is on a Tuesday. The Event runs from 8PM until 1AM. Entertainment is by Strictly 60's. As usual, there will be hot & cold hors d'oeurves along with Special Appetizer Stations. Our delicious hot dinner will be served buffet style. Tickets are \$85 per person, which is the same price as last year.

BUNKER NEWS UPDATE:

It appears the varmint leaders are having trouble controlling a splinter rebel faction. A footlocker, that housed corn hole bags, was gnawed into and the corn hole bags destroyed. Through our squirrelly interpreters, we were advised that varmint leadership would bring this faction into line.



After hours of searching for 'Long Tail' to no avail the trackers take a break in the Canteen

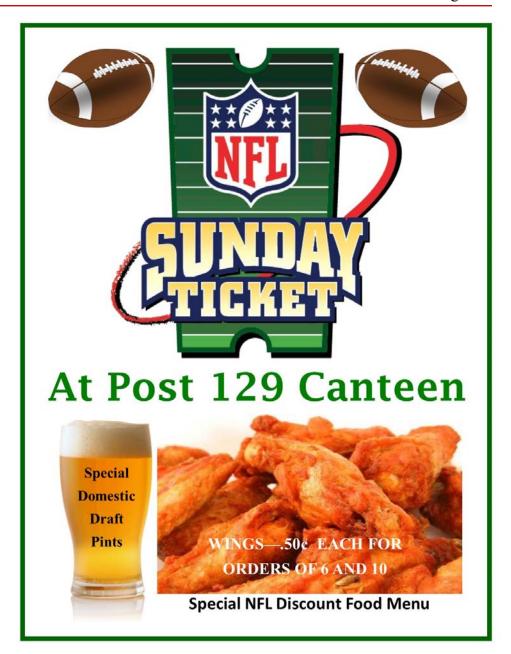
Bunker regulars have reported seeing the 6 foot squirrel known as "long tail," lurking in the woods behind the fence on two occasions. Bar Committee Intelligence asked for tracking volunteers to investigate (see photo). The fact that two of the volunteer trackers were Navy men, were put into question by some of our retired Marines, Seals, Airborne, Rangers and Special Forces.

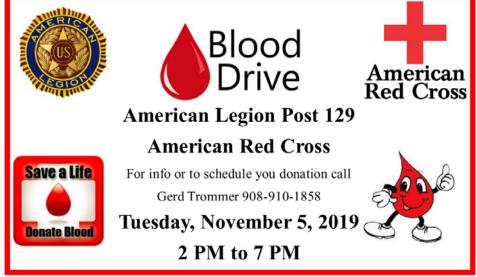
Mike "the painter" Dolan, a Navy man advised that the Navy had trackers. On Aircraft Carriers trackers would track the skid marks of wheels on the flight deck. On his Ship in the laundry, where he was in charge, he had a tracker who checked skid marks in personal items for abnormalities. When asked how an individual with this talent was selected, Mike stated that you needed a nose for it. You needed to be able to sniff out anything that was irregular.

This only occurred one time, and the ship was put on Alert. The tracker could not determine if the marks were human or alien. The items were bagged and sent up the chain of command to the Captain, who in turn had them flown to "Area 51." There, our greatest scientific minds would make the final decision. Mike seemed to think that a sailor ingested fabric softener instead of stool softener. Fact of Fiction? You decide. Additional reports to follow.

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









Denise Holterman:

My entry for the fourth annual Scarecrow Walk in Toms River, "American Legion People," in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Legion. Get a ballot in the library lobby and vote for #12! You can see by the picture that we are on the corner of Courthouse Lane and Washington Street, in front of the library and the old church. I made an American Legion Guy AND an Auxiliary Lady and I sewed their hands together to symbolize how the two organizations work hand in hand to help our veterans. When I was making him, his arm flew up and I realized he wanted to salute, LOL! So I sewed his hand into a salute. After the Halloween season is over, I'm donating them to the Legion to be official mascots.





SHARE YOUR NAVY STORY FREE INTERVIEWS

The United States Navy Memorial will be sending film crews to interview members of your association. Our hope is to honor the membership of the

Tin Can Sailors of New Jersey - NJ DESRON 2 Phoenix Squadron by showcasing the interviews of the members of the Association on the United States Navy Memorial Stories of Service website and archive. The interviews will be available for you, your family, friends, students, Veterans, and more to view and learn about the history of the Tin Can Sailors of New Jersey - NJ DESRON 2 Phoenix Squadron.

These interviews will be placed in the Navy Log and archived by the United States Navy Memorial.

Interviews will be conducted TBA 12/1 12/8 12/14 or 12/15



Sample interview questions:

- -When did you join the service?
- -Where were you sent for boot camp?
- -Where were you sent after boot camp?
- -What was your job aboard ship?
- -What was your most memorable experience?

Our mission: Our mission is to interview, record, and archive the accounts of our Nation's Veterans who served within the Sea Services. These accounts are vital to our nation's history and it is our mission to archive the stories of our Veterans so that we can preserve our nation's past.

To view the Navy Memorial archive, please visit: http://navylog.navymemorial.org/stories-of-service







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

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





Support Those
Who Support Us





PUBLISHED 6 times per year

DEADLINE for the next issue (January-February 2020)

is December 15. **SUBMISSIONS** can be e-mailed to:

soundoff.al.post129@outlook.com

or via U.S. mail to:

Al Harbord, 1038 Audubon Drive,

Toms River, NJ 08753.

EVENTS send your events for the calendar to Bob

Scheiderman at: knottoday@verizon.net

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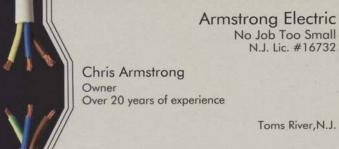


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