



SOUNDOFF

January-February 2015

George P. Vanderveer
Post 129 American Legion
(Established 1919)
2025 Church Road
Toms River, NJ 08753

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

While we still have plenty of cold weather ahead of us, your American Legion is already planning for the spring. This has been a busy holiday season with numerous events. There have been several vendors' fairs, as well as many private events in the banquet hall. The SAL has "stepped up to the plate" with several events that have generated funds for the Legion. The most recent was the First Annual Army/Navy game in the banquet hall. The kitchen provided the food and even brought their Hot Dog cart into the hall to provide some additional atmosphere. It's amazing how many hot dogs you can eat when there included in the price. A good time was had by all with Army supporters on one side and Navy on the other. There was some very good-natured jousting amongst participants. It appears that this will become an annual event due to the response. Two of our members, an Auxiliary member and a SAL member each won a 55-inch television in the raffle.

December is always a busy time at our Post with several Christmas Parties, both in house and private. Thanks to the Auxiliary for decorating the tree in the canteen as well as the huge tree in the banquet hall, which has been decorated for the POW/MIA, tree lighting. This somber remembrance is well attended and serves as a reminder for all of us to continue to strive for accountability.

There is the Children's Christmas Party as well as Breakfast with Santa. That "Famous Santa" from last year will be making his special guest appearance. He has asked that only children sit on his lap this year.

Our New Years Eve Celebration has once again sold out early. As a reminder to all, tickets go on sale the beginning of November and are generally sold out the first week in December. In the future, rather than be disappointed-don't wait to the last minute. The True Tones will provide music.

Last month, you will remember I welcomed Michael Speary, our

new Executive Chef. I forgot to mention that Michael came to us from the Toms River Country Club and he continues to strive for perfection in the kitchen. By now, most of you have had the opportunity to enjoy his culinary expertise. We have consistently received compliments. Also, at this time I would like to welcome Kristy Mackown as our new Banquet Manager. Kristy is a paralegal as well as a certified wedding planner. She has already shown her skills with regards to decorating and customer service and has been actively soliciting new business for our banquet hall. Many
(continued page10)

Congratulations to the US Chamber of Commerce, The American Legion, ESGR, other local NJ partners, the employers and service providers that planned, managed and supported our 21st New Jersey Hiring Our Heroes job fair at Post 129 in Toms River, NJ.
(Bob Looby (FACEBOOK) posting)

Commander Rich Gato accepting an award from ESGR NJ Chairman for Hiring Our Heroes.



10 22 2014

RIDERS MESSAGE

By the time this edition of SOUNDOFF will be out, the holiday seasons will be over. I personally hope that everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year. With the weather changing the Riders had very little riding, but did participate with the Thanksgiving Turkey Dinners for Veterans that was done again at our Post. I know the Riders that participate truly enjoy these Veterans coming from all over the state for this event. It brings back the TRUE meaning of what we have to be thankful for. Every Thanksgiving, every Christmas, and even the New Year celebration that we partake can only be had by the freedom that we share on behalf of these brave men and women. These Veterans thank us for bringing them here for the day, but when you see them it brings true joy to know that we can give back to them for only a short time the appreciation that they deserve.

On a sad note the Riders participated in an escort for former SAL Commander Ron Cloos. Ron fought a long and brave fight with cancer only to lose close to the holiday season. Ron will be remembered as not only a friend, but a man that cared dearly for American Legion Post 129.

Al Gashler, who heads our committee for the Heroes' Walk project, has worked extremely hard to finalize the laying of the stones for the young men that the Riders escorted back to Ocean County for their final journey. The committee has found a builder that will finish the project and we are accepting \$125.00 fees for paving stones within the memorial. The stones must be Veterans of the Post or fathers, grandfathers or



Riders assemble for the Toms River Veterans Day parade
November 11, 2014

spouses. This will help pay for the project as well as honor the Veterans and family Veterans of our post.

For God & Country,
Art Brown
President ALR 129

I hope all had a fine holiday season and wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year.



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PUBLISHED...

...6 times per year and mailed to 2300 members.

DEADLINE...

...for the next issue (March-April) is February 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.

CALENDAR...

...send your events for the calendar to Bob Scheiderman at:
knottoday@verizon.net

ADVERTISING...

...business card advertising accepted for 6 issues (1 year).

Single card \$75.00. Double card \$140.00.

Other sizes available upon request.

ON LINE AT...

<http://soundoffalpost129.wix.com/soundoff>

LEGION RIDERS POST 129



2025 Church Rd, Toms River, NJ, 08753-1410
Phone: (732) 255-1560 Website: alrpost129.com

Art Brown
President

Rich Gato
Vice President

Bob Joerg
Treasurer

Joe Reiher
Sgt. at Arms

Al Gashler
Secretary

Mike Schaffer
Chaplain

Road Captains

Ray Miller
Mike Schaffer
Mike Perry
Bob Hoehn

Dear American Legion Member:

We are counting on you to help make our Hero's Walk Project a success!!

Most of the American Legion family is aware of the project that our Rider group started with our June 1st 2014 presentation of the granite stones representing our Ocean County residents that gave the ultimate sacrifice since September 11th 2001. The Riders of American Legion Post 129 escorted these five heroes' from Delaware to their final resting place back in Ocean County. Many of these fine men had their repass at our post. Within the coming months our project will become a reality. An architectural drawing was done and a construction company has been contacted. To offset the project, as well as allowing members and their family members to be recognized for their service to our nation we are selling paving stones for a price of \$125.00. These stones will recognize the name of the service member and branch of service of either our Legionnaires, our fathers or grandfathers of SAL members or the service member of our Ladies Auxiliary. These stones will be permanent fixtures to be placed within the setting of the monument.

-- Please make all checks or money orders to American Legion Riders Post 129.

Sincerely,

Art Brown
President

Example

Name Joesph Smith Rank Ensign Branch of Service Navy ERA WWII

Return with check or money order to American Legion Riders 129

Name _____ Rank _____ Branch of Service Army ERA _____

Navy

Marines

Air Force

Coast Guard

Merchant Marines

(Circle appropriate)

SAL MESSAGE

Well here we are getting ready for the Christmas Holidays. We have a lot of events coming up. Don't forget, December 13th, is our first Army/Navy football game. There are plenty of tickets left. Beer and food are included in the \$25 ticket and there is cash bar available as well. There will be plenty of giveaways and two large screen HD TV's will be raffled off. Raffle tickets are going fast so hurry and get yours.

On December 20th, at 7pm, we are hosting our annual POW/MIA Christmas Tree lighting. This will be a solemn ceremony. We are hoping for a good turnout for this special event.

Also, don't forget about our annual New Year's Eve party. Tickets are going very fast and this event has always been a sell out for as long as I can remember.

Looking forward into 2015, one of our many events will include the annual Valentine's Day dance. More details will follow after the first of the year.

As of January 1st, make sure your dues in the amount of \$20 for 18 and older and \$15 for under 18, are up to date. SAL dues are one of the biggest things that keep us afloat. So please turn in your dues by January 1st.

Thank you to all who supported our 50/50 and the lucky winner of \$1000 was one of our own auxiliary women.

Finally, I would like to wish

AMERICAN LEGION - POST 129 PRESENTS
Niagara Falls & Toronto

**** You Must Bring a Valid U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card for this Tour**

INCREDIBLE PRICE INCLUDES:

- ◆ Motorcoach transportation
- ◆ 4 nights lodging
- ◆ 8 meals: 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners
- ◆ Guided Tours of Niagara Falls & Toronto
- ◆ A Journey to The Falls on a "Hornblower Niagara Cruise"
- ◆ Gaming at Fallsview Casino
- ◆ A visit to Niagara-on-the-Lake & Queen Victoria Park
- ◆ A visit to Casa Loma; Canada's most magnificent castle
- ◆ and much more

\$499 *

5 DAYS 4 NIGHTS

PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

(Mon - Fri)

June

22 - 26, 2015

Departure: Legion Post, 2025 Church Rd, Toms River, NJ @ 8 am

Day 1: Depart your group's location in a spacious, video and restroom equipped motorcoach as you head for your destination: captivating, awe-inspiring Niagara Falls! This evening, you will have Dinner and check into your Niagara Falls area hotel for a four night stay.

Day 2: Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before you begin a Guided Tour of the Niagara Falls area. Visit an engineering marvel, the Welland Shipping Canal and beautiful Queen Victoria Park – home of one of the world's largest Floral Clocks. You'll have Dinner this evening at a local restaurant.

Day 3: Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before departing for a Guided Tour of the beautiful cosmopolitan city of Toronto, Ontario. You will also visit Toronto's majestic castle estate – Casa Loma! Later, you will dine at a local restaurant.

Day 4: Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before enjoying one of Niagara's most popular and breath-taking attractions, a boat ride on a "Hornblower Niagara Cruise." Sail near the base of the Horseshoe Falls and enjoy a truly awe-inspiring view of the mighty Niagara. Then, you'll take a tour of historical Niagara-on-the-Lake, one of the prettiest towns in Canada and full of 19th century charm. Later, enjoy Dinner and a visit to exciting Fallsview Casino and get in some gaming action before returning to your hotel.

Day 5: Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before departing for home... a perfect time to chat with your friends about all the fun things you've done, the great sights you've seen and where your next group trip will take you!

ADD PEACE OF MIND TO YOUR TRIP...
With the Travel Confidence Protection Plan if you have to unexpectedly cancel or cut your plans short. See back for details...

\$75 Due Upon Signing. *Price per person, based on double occupancy. Add \$159 for single occupancy.
Final Payment Due: 4/15/2015

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

Darlene Scheiderman @ (732) 341-7462

everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

For God & Country,
Robert Joerg
Commander
SAL Squadron 129



AMERICAN LEGION LEADERSHIP COLLEGE

Revised dates have been released. Dates are now May 8, 9, 10, 2015 held at the National Guard Training Center, Sea Girt, New Jersey.

Military Service Record DD 214 request: www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/
Customer Service Staff: 314-801-0800

CHAPLAINS MESSAGE

23rd psalm

The Lord is my Shepherd -----

that's a Relationship!

I shall not want -----

that's Supply!

He maketh me to lie down in
green pastures ----

that's Rest!

He leadeth me beside the still wa-
ters -----

that's Refreshment!

He restoreth my soul ----

that's Healing!

He leadeth me in the paths of
righteousness ----

that's Guidance!

For His name's sake -----

that's Purpose!

Yea, though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death ----

that's Testing!

I will fear no evil -----

that's Protection!

For Thou art with me -----

that's Faithfulness!

Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me -

that's Discipline!

Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies --
-

that's Hope!

Thou annointest my head with oil -

that's Consecration!

My cup runneth over -----

that's Abundance!

Surely goodness and mercy shall
follow me all the days of my life---

that's Blessing!

And I will dwell in the house of the
Lord -----

that's Security!

Forever -----

that's Eternity!



CANNON RESTORATION

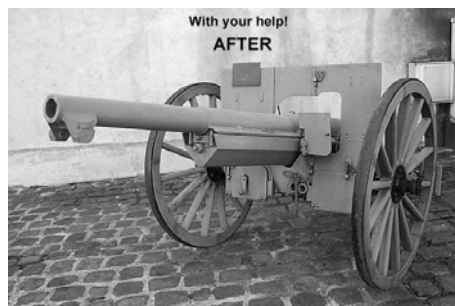
Just a few words to update the membership on the progress of our WWI cannon (Phenia). Phenica is George P. Vanderveer's mother's name. Most cannons of that period had a woman's name. I greatly appreciate all who have helped and donated in support of this grand piece of history.



As you are reading this, the wagon wheels are being made by a restoration wagon wheel specialist. They will be 52" tall to support the cannon's 2,600lbs. weight. A deposit was given to get them started, so fundraising continues. We have K-Welding making the armor plates, which are missing, to give the cannon a finished look.

The "fund jar" is still being passed around the canteen. Also, t-shirts are available at the bar to show your support (\$12.00 donation). The wheels of progress are turning and I intend to have "her" ready for Memorial Day.

Many thanks,
John Lynam



MEMBERS ARE URGED TO REGISTER THEIR DISCHARGE PAPERS

Toms River—Veterans who record their military discharge papers (Form DD-214) with the Ocean County Clerk's Office are now entitled to a free photo ID card, according to the county government. "As we recognize the more than 60,000 veterans calling Ocean County home, I want to encourage each of them to use this service," said Ocean County Clerk Scott Colabella. "Any Ocean County veteran may bring their original DD-214 discharge papers to any of the three locations of the Ocean County Clerk's Office," he said.

This service may be obtained at the Ocean County Clerk's office which is located at the Ocean County Courthouse, 118 Washington St., Toms River. Or, the Southern Service Center at, 179 Main St., in Stafford. The Courthouse and Southern Service Center are open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The County Connection at the Ocean County Mall, 1201 Hooper Ave., Toms River is open 7 days per week. Veterans' may also call the County Clerk's office at 732-929-2018 or go online at www.oceancountyclerk.com for additional information.

Reprinted From Town Highlights, APPress
(Bob Scheiderman)



.....every Thursday. Doors open
at 5 PM—play starts at 7 PM.

**Progressive
Refreshments served
50/50 - Mystery Prizes**

AUXILIARY MESSAGE

First I want to thank all who helped with the Veteran Turkey Dinner. Everyone had a wonderful time. For those of you who could not attend the following is a report on the event. The dinner was attended by 138 Veterans and staff from 8 nursing homes local and statewide. Homes in attendance were Lyons, Vineland, Menlo Park, Crystal Lake, Bey Lea, Hampton Ridge, Rose Garden and Chelsea House. They were given flags and escorted by members of the Legion Riders, SAL and Legionnaires to their tables. The veterans were treated to a traditional turkey dinner served by Post family members. There was entertainment provided by Always Entertaining, Elite Dance Troop, and Shamrock and Thistle Pipe band. Department President Juli Jandik and department officers were in attendance also State Commander Mike Wilson and his wife Susan, Ocean County Commander Ed McBride, and Ocean County President Dyana Williams. There was a raffle conducted and veterans won baseball caps and T

shirts. The veterans were presented with goody bags upon leaving which had donations from the Knitting Belles, J&J, Red Cross, BlueClaws and several members donated toiletries and the Unit purchased articles, including Christmas stockings and poinsettia for their rooms.

I did follow-up calls to the homes and the responses were they all had fun and enjoyed the meal and the entertainment especially the dance troop and everyone is looking forward to next year.

On Sunday November 29, 2014 the Auxiliary hosted a Vendor Craft Fair. There were approximately 45 vendors participating and also poinsettia were available for purchase. Chairman Laurinda Miller and her committee did a wonderful job. Thank you Laurinda.

In December there was the Breakfast with Santa for children of the Post a great time was had by all and Chairman Patricia Corbin and her committee did a great job. Thank you Pat.

On Friday, February 13, 2015 the Auxiliary will be hosting a Psy-

chic Fair for further information contact Dolores Laib at 732-206-1162.

For God and Country
Jane Keeley



A VETERANS' DAY GREETING

Post 129 received an envelope full of Veterans' Day messages from 8th graders in Mr. John Krupp's American History class at the Dwight David Eisenhower Middle School, Freehold NJ. The following is the one that was chosen by several of our members as the—

"Best of the Batch"

*"Dear U. S. Navy,
Some people in this world don't realize how spoiled they are. The U. S. Navy and other corps do so much to help this country, and they can't comprehend that! Well, I tell them to "BE THANKFUL!!!" you do so much for this country it's unreal. Thank You*

From, Sarah

Eisenhower Middle School"

Bob Scheiderman: The naval connection is strictly coincidental.



Veterans Thanksgiving Dinner-Auxiliary Volunteers

WHY I'M A S.A.L.

People ask me why I'm so dedicated to our veterans, being that I was unable to serve our country in our military. It's because of reasons I had no control over. I chose to serve our country by supporting our veterans in the Sons of the American Legion.

My grandfather, Milton David Haring, served in the Army during WWI. My father, Harry David Haring, served in WWII in the merchant Marines as a Seaman/Cook. My brother, Robert David Haring, served our country and

was accidentally killed while serving in the Navy in the 1950's.

Irving Ostuw, my uncle on my mother's side of the family, served in WWII. As you can see with all that was written about him how proud I am of him. This is why I belong to the S.A.L. Not only because of my family members who served, but for ALL who served and made so many sacrifices in their lives. And those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms and our way of life. So if you feel about your family members who served this country the way I do and, if you're eligible to become an S.A.L., please do so.

Show them that you have their backs.

I would like to congratulate S.A.L. Commander Bobby Joerg, and Rocky Lucia, Squadron 129 Membership Chairman, for their effort and commitment on keeping Squadron 129, Detachment of New Jersey, the largest membership in the history of New Jersey, and one of the largest memberships in our nation. Keep up the great work.

Thank You,

For God and Country

N.J. Detachment Membership Chairman

David "Duke" Milton Haring, Sr.

(One of three articles originally published)

From a newspaper article dated February 17, 1945:

"Captain Irving Ostuw, one of Passaic's most decorated fliers is en route home from England after completing 110 missions as pilot of a P47 Thunderbolt Fighter. He has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with nineteen Oak Leaf Clusters, a total of 21 awards.

Capt. Ostuw, husband of Elizabeth Ostuw, has served overseas with the Ninth Air Force since December, 1943. Prior to entering the service, Capt. Ostuw was manager of O. Jay Spread Co., Calhoun, Georgia."

To sum up: Irving Ostuw graduated from the Army Air Corps Flying Schools and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in May of 1944. He flew 135 combat missions in two tours of combat with the 368th. Fighting Group in Europe, and at the end of World War II, he was a Captain and Operations Officer of the 396th. Fighter Squadron. He was decorated with the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross with 3 Clusters, and the Air Medal with 24 Clusters.

POST EVERLASTING



John Mapletoft, 87, US Navy, WWII

Frank Dascoli, 75, US Navy, Korean War

Winifred Ruebchle, 92, USMC, WWII

Warren Handley, 87, USMC, WWII, Korea

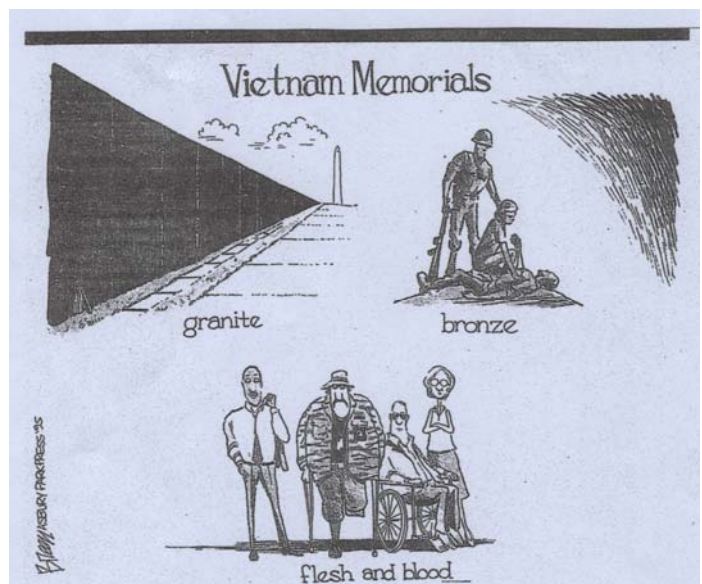
Ruth Schill, 96, US Navy, WWII

Conrad Coulston Jr., 70, US Army

Charles Darrar, 83, USAF, Korean War

David Morris, 61, US Army, Vietnam War

Bob Scheiderman, Ritual Chairman



(Submitted by Bob Scheiderman)

An Evening of
Comedy & Magic

Featuring:



Patrick Bean



Joanne Syrigonakis



George Gee

Saturday February 28

Doors Open 6:30pm Food 7:00pm Showtime 8:00pm

Location: American Legion Post 129 (Banquet Hall)
 Address: 2025 Church Road Toms River, NJ 08753
 Tickets: \$25.00 (Food Included with Ticket)

Cash Bar will be Available

To Purchase Tickets Call 732-551-2819 or 732-569-2803
 or go to
<http://legion-comedy-magic.eventbrite.com>




MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP

As another year begins I am asking our members to please send in their 2015 dues, the reason for this is obvious.

"Membership is the lifeblood of The American Legion"

Without members there would be no Legion programs, we would have no voice on Capitol Hill. Without members, there would be no accomplishments in assistance and support to veterans, their families, the communi-

ty, state and nation. But The American Legion has recorded consistent accomplishments for veterans and their families since 1919. We can't do this alone your dues makes this possible.

It is often emphasized, "It's not the price you pay to belong, but the price you paid to be eligible to belong" The American Legion Membership Card gives our members access to nearly 14,000 Legion Posts worldwide and guarantees that our members will always have a fellow veteran nearby.

But more important are the intangible benefits of membership, the ones you can't put a dollar value to – the lifelong friendships that develop from

being actively involved with others and most importantly, the self-satisfaction of knowing that just by being a member we are helping others less fortunate than ourselves.

Please support your post and send in your dues. We need your help to support and maintain all the good things that make us who we are "VETERANS STILL SERVING AMERICA!"

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 ORGANIZATION OF VETERANS. WITH YOU AND THE HELP OF OTHERS A 100% MEMBERSHIP GOAL CAN BE ACHIEVED! ANY MEMBERS THAT ARE STRUGGLING WITH MONTH TO MONTH BILLS AND NEED SOME ASSISTANCE WITH PAYING YOUR MEMBERSHIP, I CAN HELP. CALL ME @ 732-604-8326 OR EMAIL ME AT rjg548@comcast.net

For God and Country
 Rich Godfrey
 Membership Chairman

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Thank you Auxiliary ladies who have been so prompt in sending in your 2015 dues before the end of the year. Greatly Appreciated! Please remit any unpaid dues A.S.A.P before National sends out a second notice to you. Unit # 129 has been growing each month with new members and may I add, with juniors as well. If you have a hardship of any kind please reach out to me, I may be able to help. 732-506-0160

You are "Keepin' Us Strong".

Respectively yours,
 Laurinda Miller
 Membership Chair

CANTEEN NEWS

Eric Inauen

The cold weather is upon us, and has caused many of us to take to the indoors. Fortunately, for the Canteen at Post 129, many of you have decided to spend some indoor time with us. The word has gotten out. Post 129 is the best place to be, for keeping warm, enjoying good friends, eating good food and downing your favorite beverage. Whether you are here for one of our many hall events, listening to our Rock N' Roll Bands on Friday Night, singing Karaoke with our DJ's on Saturday Night, watching your favorite NFL Team on Sunday or just listening to the sounds of our ever popular Juke Box, it is always a good time.

Our New Year's Eve Party was sold out in early December. The True Tones are back, and always put on a great show. New Year's Chairperson Mary Del Nero did a fantastic job in organizing the Event.

Next up Valentine's Day. Our annual Valentine's Day Party will be hosted by our SAL in the Hall, on Saturday, February 14, from 7 to 11PM. Tickets are \$25, and will go on sale in the Canteen in January. If you missed out on our New Year's Party because you waited too long to buy tickets, you will want to buy your tickets early in January so you won't miss out on the fun.

FUNDRAISER: Post 129 is having a fundraiser for Duke Haring and his wife Cookie, on Saturday, February 21, from 7 to 11PM. Duke is one of our bartenders, who you will always see on Saturday and Sunday, working at the Canteen. All bartenders are volunteering. Duke and Cookie were involved in a motorcycle accident a few months ago. Since that time, they have accrued many medical bills that were not covered by their medical insurance. We are asking the Post 129 Family to turnout big time, and support Duke and Cookie in their time of need. Tickets for the event are \$20, and will



**Sons of The American Legion
Squadron #129**

Valentine's Day Dinner Dance

**Saturday, February 14th, 2014
7PM - 11PM**

**\$25 per person
Includes: Great Food, Soft Drinks
Coffee and Dessert**

**Cash Bar Available
Live Entertainment**

For more information contact:

Rocky Lucia
rplucia@verizon.net
917.417.4818
or
Bob Joerg
bobjoerg@gmail.com
908.403.0816



be on sale in the Canteen. All the other bartenders, Warren, Wendy, Bernice, Robin, Lisa, Lori, Joe, Dave, Susanne and the Bar Committee thank you in advance for your generous support.

As always, the Canteen opens at 11AM daily. Closing depends on the day of the week and the amount of people in the bar. The Canteen has Pool on Monday Nights, Shuffle Board on Tuesday Nights and Darts on Wednesday Nights. We have nine (9) bears on tap including Bud, Bud Lite, Coors Lite, Miller Lite, Yuengling, Micholob Ultra, Sam Adams Boston Lager, Sam Adams Winter, and Bud's Victory Bierfest. Our Bottled beers

consist of Coors Lite, Miller Lite, Bud, Bud Lite, Micholob Ultra, Stella, Becks, Heineken & Heineken Lite, and Corona & Corona Lite. Our non-alcoholic beers consist of Coors Lite and Kaliper.

The Canteen's NFL Sunday Specials will continue through Super Sunday. Half priced food specials and \$1.50 domestic draft pints will still be in effect. Look for our great giveaways on Super Bowl Sunday. Remember, when you support Post 129, you support the best Post in the USA.



COMMANDERS MESSAGE

(from page 1)

of the new bookings were a direct result of her contacts and pursuing new business. She pays attention to detail. Once again, welcome Kristy.

With regards to entertainment in the Canteen, we are always looking for reasonable, good entertainment for Saturday nights. Contact me with the names of any bands, preferably that you have heard. Our Fridays are already pretty booked, however we will be bringing an old favorite back, The Mango's on February

6th & March 6th. Come on out and welcome them back.

Just a brief update on our picnic grove. We are still working on the Pavilion and although we have received township approval, we are waiting for clearance from the DEP. The conversion from propane to natural gas in the BBQ area is almost complete and our members are already talking it up about the bunker bar.

The monument planned for the picnic grove is in full swing. Most will remember that the granite stones were unveiled at the Riders Poker Run/Family Day last June. The stones were cut and engraved by Gary Leasor and donated to the Post. Gary was

our guest of honor and acknowledged and received a plaque at the Riders Christmas Party. The actual monument where the stones will sit has been put out to bid and the committee is close to making a choice. The monument has been moved to the west side of the walkway so as to not disturb any trees. An engraved paver walk will pay for the cost of the monument. (See additional information in this newsletter)

Our downstairs has been freshly painted with a neutral color scheme as well as chair rail moldings. New ceiling tiles and a dehumidifier have been installed. This was done with a multi-purpose in mind. First and foremost, it provides a nicer, ecstatically pleasing environment for the variety of meetings that are held there. In addition, we often have small outside groups that need a smaller venue for meetings etc. and the banquet hall is just too big. Rather than turn them away we are now able to provide them a nice clean room for such an event. Remember, every person that comes into our facility is a potential member, volunteer or customer. Welcome everyone.

P.T.S.D.

Not All Wounds Are Visible

Rich Gato
Commander



Psychic Fair

Friday, February 13, 2015

6 p.m. ~ 10 p.m.



**\$20.00 per
15 Minute Readings**

Featuring:

Kasandra

Harold

Marie

Carol

Robin

(Medium) Maxine

(Medium) Laura

(Medium) Margaret

For More Info Call

Dolores

732-206-1162

(Walk-ins' Welcomed)

'All Proceeds Benefits our Veterans'

**American Legion Auxiliary
2025 Church Road, Toms River, NJ**

ORATORICAL CONTEST

Held on Wednesday, February 17 at the Post. Commander Rich Gato (left), Vice Commander and Contest Administrator Nat Amaedo (right) with contestants. These students were presented with their medals after the contest. They will be at the next general membership meeting to receive their contest prizes.







Each student had a 8 to 10 minute prepared talk about the Constitution of The United States. They were then given a subject, of which they did not know what it was going to be about, to talk for 3 to 5 minutes. In this case about the Sixth Amendment.

January: From the Roman God Janus who was pictured with two heads, thus able to see the past and the future.

Birthstone

January 2015

Garnet

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
The constitution only gives people the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it yourself! Ben Franklin				1 Happy New Years Day NO BINGO	2 CANTEEN Smallwood Brothers	3 CANTEEN Lisa & Joey
4 Full Wolf Moon	5 General & Legion Auxiliary Mtg. 7:00PM	6	7 Millard Fillmore 1800	8  Elvis Presley 1935	9 CANTEEN Lunar Park	10 CANTEEN Jersey Girls
11	12	13	14 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	15 	16 CANTEEN The True Tones	17 CANTEEN "Kyle"
18	19 Board Mtg. 7:00PM ML King Day	20	21	22 	23 CANTEEN The Crosstones Pueblo Incident 1968	24 CANTEEN Jersey Girls
25	26 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	27	28	29 	30 CANTEEN The Dee Cee's	31 CANTEEN Lisa & Joey

21 January 1954: The USS Nautilus, first nuclear powered submarine was launched at Groton Connecticut.

MARINE VET WRAPS UP 50-STATE GOLF GOAL

Marine Veteran Dennis Grail's passion for golf led him from 214 feet below sea level at Furnace Creek Golf Course in Death Valley, California — the lowest course in the world — to 9,600 feet up at Breckenridge Golf Course in Colorado. He recently reached his goal of golfing in all 50 states at a course that held a lot of meaning for the Vietnam vet-turned-local sports editor in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Grail said he was inspired after talking with a colleague who had played at 600 courses, which made Grail realize he had played at 250 courses and in 34 states — only 16 away from making all 50. When it came time to decide which course would complete his bucket list, he thought it made sense to choose one in the last state to join the union — the Kaneohe Klipper Golf Course on Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

From Military Times:
Bob Scheiderman







FEBRUARY: From the latin word "to smoke" since it was the Roman month for purification

Birthstone

February 2015

Amethyst

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 General & Legion Auxiliary Mtg. 7:00PM	3	4	5  Ground Hog Day	6 CANTEEN The Mangos Full Snow Moon	7 CANTEEN Smallwood Brothers
8 Four Chaplains Sunday	9	10	11 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	12  Lincoln's Birthday	13 Psychic Fair	14 SAL Valentine's Day Dinner/Dance 7PM—11PM
15	16 President's Day Washington's Birthday	17 Board Mtg. 7:00PM	18 Ash Wednesday	19 	20 CANTEEN The Crosstones	21 CANTEEN Lisa & Joey
22 F. W. Woolworth Chain, Started, 1879	23 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	24	25	26 	27 CANTEEN The Dee Cee's	28 Comedy & Magic In the Hall
CANTEEN February 13 The True Tones		CANTEEN February 14 Jersey Girls		CANTEEN February 28 Jersey Girls		"If you are too big to do little things, you are probably too little to do big things." Anon.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Rich Gato

A new segment called "BEHIND THE SCENES" will now be a featured article in the SOUNDOFF. Each edition of the SOUNDOFF will feature a particular group or individual who is instrumental or goes beyond the call of duty or exemplifies what an American Legion Legionnaire is all about.



From left to right Bobby "Ace" Cannon, Mike Kelly and Frank DelNero. I always knew there was more going on in that bar office then meets the eye.



Dave (right) is smiling because he's leaving for Florida for the winter.

Eric (left) is smiling because Dave is leaving for Florida for the winter.

In reality, the canteen has increased productivity and is operating very well. These are the brains behind that success. Stop shaking your head

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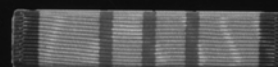
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January Canteen Entertainment

Friday January 2nd **The Smallwood Brothers**
Saturday January 3rd **Lisa & Joey** **Karaoke**

Friday January 9th **Lunar Park**
Saturday January 10th **Jersey Girls** **Karaoke**

Friday January 16th **The True Tones**
Saturday January 17th **"Kyle"** *Karaoke*

Friday January 23rd **The Crosstones**
Saturday January 24th **Jersey Girls** **Karaoke**

Friday January 30th **The Dee Cee's**
Saturday January 31st **Lisa & Joey** **Karaoke**



February Canteen Entertainment

Friday February 6th **The Mango's**
Saturday February 7th **Smallwood Brothers**

Friday February 13th **The True Tones**
Saturday February 14th **Jersey Girls** **Karaoke**

Valentines Day Dance
In The Banquet Hall
The True Tones
Tickets At The Bar
(see page 9 for details)



Friday February 20th **The Crosstones**
Saturday February 21st **Lisa & Joey** **Karaoke**

Friday February 27th **The Dee Cee's**
Saturday February 28th **Jersey Girls** **Karaoke**

Fundraiser for Duke Saturday February 21st
Details available on the Post bulletin Board
and at the Canteen