



SOUNDOFF

January-February 2017



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

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

Michael Schaffer

About a year ago a friend asked me one day over breakfast. "How do you do it you've had some awful stuff happen to you over the years, but you're still so cheerful. What gives?" Why are you optimistic, anyway?

Optimism comes from the Latin word *optimus*, meaning "best," which describes how an optimistic person is always looking for the best in any situation and expecting good things to happen. Optimism is the tendency to believe, expect or hope that things will turn out well. Even if something bad happens.

Being an optimist or a pessimist boils down to the way you talk to yourself. Optimists believe that their own actions result in positive things happening, that they are responsible for their own happiness, and that they can expect more good things to happen in the future. Optimists don't blame themselves when bad things happen. They view bad events as results of something outside of themselves.

Because of their thought processes, optimists have much brighter futures. A bad circumstance or event is taken in stride, viewed as a temporary setback—not a permanent way of life. Even if something bad happens today, a positive thinker believes that good things will come again in the future.

Optimists tend to share several other positive characteristics that increase overall happiness and promote **health**, while reducing depression and chronic stress. They think about, reflect on, and emphasize the **good** things in life. They are grateful and thankful for all their blessings. They don't complain when something bad happens. They feel that nothing can hold them back from achieving success and reaching their goals. They believe in abundance. They are confident that the world offers plenty of opportunities for everyone to succeed.

Optimism is a skill of emotional intelligence, which translates to greater success in life. Life is too short to be miserable, so start turning your thinking around!

(continued page 2)



Blue and Gold Star Families Memorial Markers

'Honoring Those Who Have Served Our Country'

The Blue Star Memorial Program honors all men and women that serve in the United States Armed Services. This program began with the planting of 8,000 Dogwood trees by the New Jersey Council of Garden Clubs in 1944 as a living memorial to veterans of World War II. In 1945 the National Council of State Garden clubs adopted this program and began a Blue Star Highway system that covers thousands of miles across the Continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii. A large metal Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker was placed at appropriate locations along the way. The Blue Star became an icon in World War II and was seen on flags and banners in homes for sons and daughters away at war, and in churches and businesses. This program has been active all through the years to the present, a fitting tribute to our Armed Forces and especially now.

(Editor: Route 37 is the fourth Blue Star Highway in New Jersey)
National Garden Clubs, website
(Bob Scheiderman)

Saturday, November 5th: Post 129 Commander Mike Schaffer presented the dedication speech at the new 'Blue Star Highway Memorial Marker', Route 37 at Winding River Park. Pictured with Commander Mike, Lois Johan, NJDOT; Laura Fragapane, Garden Club of Toms River; Toms River Mayor, Tom Kelaher; Ocean County Freeholder, Ginny Haines and Toms River Councilman, Kevin Geoghegan.

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

(from page 1)

You never want to look back and say "I wish I had done that, I wish I had gone there, I wish I had helped more" I am so optimistic about our future because of what we, THE FAMILY, have accomplished this past 6 months

This is a condensed list of some of those successes.

We Had 14 total members, including The Sons, attend Legion College.

We sent 8 young men to Boys

State. We sent 5 young women to Girls State.

Our Riders participated in 4 Mission of Honor Ceremony Escorts.

We participated in the Ocean County College Commencement Ceremony and a rededication of the Ocean County College Veteran's Memorial.

We hosted a Fund Raiser and participated in the installation and dedication of a New Blue Star Memorial Highway Monument.

We participated in a Memorial Day Dedication Service for Fallen Warriors/Residents who passed over the last year from WWII at for the Green Island Community Cen-

ter.

The Riders held the dedication of our Warriors Walk in our Picnic Grove. This was attended by over 400 people including 38 Gold Star Family Members from Ocean County.

We made A presentation at the Seabrook Community Center to a 70 year member, Ms Phyllis Reid was a WW2 aircraft mechanic.

20 Riders participated in Beat Cancer Poker Run from 166-455.

150 members and guests attended the Fourth Of July Picnic.

25 Riders participated in the Normandy Beach Fourth Of July Celebration.

We held 5 "bike nights" that were attended by over 250 people each night with food and live entertainment.

We held a "Paint Party" fund raiser for The People's Pantry.

The Auxiliary held their Annual Veteran's Picnic that was attended by 50 residents of local nursing homes.

We held the first Boots To Re-boots Seminar for veterans who are operating their own small business or are looking to start their own business.

Attended the POW/MIA Chair Installation at the Blue Claws Stadium.

We hosted our Labor Day Picnic.

We managed the funeral for an abandoned veteran, Captain John Pryor.

We held a 9-11 Ceremony.

10 Riders participated in the Union Beach 9-11 Fundraisers for scholarships for families of fallen first responders.

A wonderful multiday trip to Boston.

10 Riders participated in the Gold Star Mothers 1 Year Anniversary Celebration at the Vietnam Memorial and the Post presented a wreath.

We Participated In The Watch Fire In Seaside Height.

A bus trip to a Yankee game.

We participated in the First American Legion Centennial Fund-raiser.

Did You Know?



**Community Hope, dba Hope for Veterans,
is now serving**

**Burlington and Ocean Counties in NJ
saving veterans from homelessness!**



Help is only a phone call away!

Call the SSVF Referral Hotline at

1-855-483-8466

or email

SSVF@NJ211.org



Held a two day Training Seminar and (Sora) Tests for recently rotated vets looking for jobs in security.

Held 3 days of Post Revitalization with representatives from national.

We held The Run For The Fallen Dinner. We had 200+ participated. On Sunday The 25th we participated in the closing ceremonies at the Vietnam Memorial for The Run For The Fallen and Presented a check for \$1,250.00.

A bus trip to an Army football game at West Point.

We participated in 5 Eagle Scout court of honor ceremonies.

We hosted a D.A.V. Craft Fair.

We hosted the Blue Knights Annual Fundraiser and Poker Run.

The Riders attended the Annual VetWorks "Thank You" Breakfast and we made a \$5,000.00 Donation.

We hosted for Congressman McArthur an event honoring WWII veterans.

We participated in the Jackson Township 9th Annual Wounded Veteran Event.

We hosted the annual Shamrock and Thistle Pipe Band Fund Raiser.

We hosted the annual DAV Fundraiser and Country Jamboree.

We hosted the Halloween Party for Big Brothers And Big Sisters Of Toms River 120 Children.

We held our annual Halloween Costume Party.

We hosted 2 Veteran's Administration Town Hall meetings.

We held (2) Veteran's Day Ceremonies at the Post. We attended the dedication of the "Protectors Of Freedom Monument". We attended the annual Veterans Day Parade.

We participated in the Cystic Fibrosis Toy Run with the Blue Knights.

We held our annual Veteran's Thanksgiving Dinner 100+ Veterans.

We held our annual POW/MIA Christmas tree lighting.

We held our annual Army/Navy game gathering in the canteen.

We held our first annual Gold

Star Family Holiday Party.

We SOLD OUT our Night with Sinatra show.

We SOLD OUT our annual New Year's Eve Gala.



Bingo and Ritual Committees Need Help!

The Bingo committee operates at the Post each Thursday evening, and is chaired by Vice. Cdr. Ralph Moranz, Ralph's guys are in need of additional workers to help run the games. Our bingo program is a vital source of revenue for Post 129 and Ralph needs more help. He feels that if we can gather enough volunteers, he can rotate the committee members and perhaps workers may help out at the games twice a month. The games run from 5 to 10pm each Thursday evening.

"If we get the volunteers!"
Ralph Moranz, Chairman

Ritual Committee

Many of our members are probably unaware of a little known legion committee; 'Rituals'. Our Ritual Team performs the "American Legion Ritual" at our local funeral homes for our deceased members and any veterans' family that requests our service. Our local funeral homes are familiar with our service and notify us of a family's request, sometimes at a moment's notice, the team must be available. In the past we have done two in one day and another in the evening. We perform primarily in the vicinity of Toms River. Although, in the past, we have traveled out of town. At the present time we are operating with a crew of 6 members. And, as with any committee the more available the fewer back to back rituals one needs to perform. Some memorization is required.

Bob Scheiderman, Chairman
Members Who Wish To Help Your Post Please contact the Post at:

a.l.tomsriver129@gmail.com

Bob Scheiderman



POW/MIA chair installation at Applebees in Brick.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Winter greetings to all!

The Units Programs are going extremely well. Our chairman are exceptional individuals dedicated to the purpose of our A.L.A. organization.

The Veteran Thanksgiving Dinner Social (supported by Poppy funds) was another successful project. Ninety-six veterans were treated to a home cooked turkey meal with all the trimmings. The Legion, Auxiliary, S.A.L., and the Legion Riders, proved once again what being a family is all about. Jane Keely, VA&R Chairman, arranged and organized the event, with the support of the Post 129

family.

Newcomer Jacqueline McDyer had another successful flea Market fundraiser in September. (she is the niece of Carol and Ed Rutzler)

The Fall Craft and Vendor Fair, chaired by Laurinda Miller, brought many shoppers into a bustle of activity and excitement.

Auxiliary members assisted the S.A.L. Squadron 129 with their Annual POW/MIA Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 3, 2016. This is an event that every member should attend. This is what our organization is all about.

The annual Christmas Party for children of 129 members will be held on Sunday, December 18,

2016. Scheduled activities include: arts-n-crafts, music/dancing, and Santa. I'm sure it will be successful also.

So you see, Unit 129 is busy carrying out the Aims and Purposes of the A.L.A. Join us as we continue to make a difference in our community and nation.

UP COMING EVENTS:

Psychic Fair

Friday, February 17, 2017

Gift Auction

Sunday, April 9, 2017

Next meeting, January 9, 2017,
7PM Main Hall

For God and Country
Patricia Corbin
Unit President 2015-2017



PATRIOTIC QUIZ NO. 6

1. What President of the United States became a confederate Congressman and died holding that office?
2. What State used as a constitution for nearly sixty years after the close of the Revolutionary War the royal charter granted it when it was an English colony?
3. Under what circumstances were two British soldiers condemned by an American jury to be branded in the hand?
4. Who were the Mugwumps?
5. What State's population is closest to the average of the forty-eight states?

Answers to Quiz No. 5
(from Nov/Dec issue)

Questions 1-5

Abraham Lincoln

Reprinted from 'The American Legion Weekly' 1925
(Bob Scheiderman)

AMERICAN LEGION - POST 129 PRESENTS

Washington, DC - Our Nation's Capital

INCREDIBLE PRICE INCLUDES:

- ◆ Motorcoach transportation
- ◆ 3 nights lodging
- ◆ 6 meals: 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners
- ◆ Guided Tour of Washington, DC
- ◆ Our Tours feature the WW II Memorial, Capitol Hill, Embassy Row, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Smithsonian, the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, and more!
- ◆ Evening Guided Memorial and Monuments Tour
- ◆ A Full Day visit to the Smithsonian Institution
- ◆ For more pictures, video and information visit: www.GroupTrips.com/AmericanLegionPost129

\$485 *

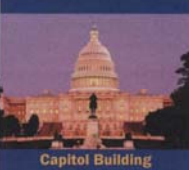
4 DAYS 3 NIGHTS

PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY


(Fri - Mon)

May

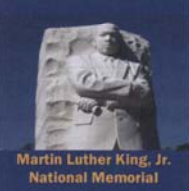
5 - 8, 2017




Capitol Building



World War II Memorial



Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial



Iwo Jima Monument

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: Washington, D.C. our National Capital! Upon arrival enjoy a visit to the incredible Smithsonian Institution. Afterwards, enjoy Dinner at a local restaurant before checking into your Washington, D.C. area hotel for three nights.

Day 2: After Continental Breakfast, you will enjoy a Full Day visit to the Smithsonian Institution. Later, you will enjoy Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 3: Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before enjoying a full-day Guided Tour of Washington, D.C. Some of the awe-inspiring sights on this fantastic tour include the U.S. Capitol, the White House, Embassy Row, and the National Archives. During the day, you will enjoy a drive through Georgetown and tour more of the Nation's Memorials including the WWII Memorial. This evening, enjoy Dinner at a local restaurant before continuing on your guided Memorial Tour.

Day 4: Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before checking out of your hotel. Today's Guided Tour includes such poignant and inspirational sights as Arlington National Cemetery, including the Tomb of the Unknowns, and Kennedy Graves, as well as the Iwo Jima Memorial. Later, depart for home with memories of a great trip!

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 \$105 for single occupancy.

Final Payment Due: 2/26/2017

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

Darlene Scheiderman @ (732) 341-7462

129 RIDERS REPORT

AL GASHLER

Before you knew it, here it is December and the Holidays are upon us. Again! Wow! Where did spring, summer and fall 2016 go? By the time you read this, January/February doldrums will be in full swing. We should all be looking forward to spring 2017. Before we close the books on 2016, I would like to thank my brother and sister riders for their efforts in making our events so successful. I include every member of our ALR 129 organization. Each in your own way, have made us greater than the sum of our parts. Hats off to all.

For me personally, nothing will ever top the ribbon cutting ceremony for our Heroes Walk memorial. All the emotional juices were flowing that day. I felt such pride in our group for all we accomplished together. All of us honoring our fallen heroes and their families. Thank you for that opportunity.

Wrap that together with the financial success of the Country/Western BBQ that enabled us to make substantial contributions to our Post and to Vetwork. That to me exemplifies the hard work and team effort of our group. Mark Sunday, June 4th 2017 on your calendar for our second annual BBQ.

I would be remiss if I did not mention how all the American Legion Post 129 entities: AL/ Auxiliary/ SAL have adopted the Heroes Walk memorial as their own and contributed to enhancing and beautifying the memorial. It is heartwarming and humbling that what started out so small has become a focal point of our Post. Special thanks to the leadership of Art Brown, Rich Gato, Mike Schaffer, Patricia Corbin and Bob Joerg for making this a reality.

There will be a moratorium on paver sales until spring time while we address expansion issues.

Speaking of successes, our Post 129 ALR took first place at the NJ American Legion parade. We got the trophy right away. The \$500.00 first place prize check finally arrived in mid-November. Thank you Commander Mike for expediting that process. Evidently, an illness to one of the members of the state organization contributed to the delay.

Another of our successes, was our second Tuesday of the month Cruise/Bike nights. We held one from May thru October with great financial results, both from our admission fees and the increased ringing of the Bunker Bar cash register. The addition of entertainment in the form of the Brother SAL band was instrumental (pun intended) in the increased revenue. We are planning on running the Cruise/Bike nights again in

2017. Hopefully, the pavilion will be in place in the picnic grove to further enhance the Cruise/Bike night experience.

Successful participation in the Memorial Day, NJ AL Convention parade, July 4th Normandy Beach, and Veterans Day parade were staples on our calendar followed by participation in Poker Runs throughout the state in support of veterans or children's charities. Informal breakfast and lunch rides with our buddies, solitary rides to clear the cobwebs and destination rides with various groups made for an enjoyable and fulfilling riding season.

The good Lord willing, I look forward to working, riding and participating in all of the above in 2017 with you. Much love to all my brother and sister riders of ALR Post 129. God bless you!



POST EVERLASTING



Alex Rosetti, 90, US Navy, WWII
 Barbara J. Stone, 92, US Navy, WWII
 Henry Hofstetter, Member Post 129
 Robert Ferris, US Army, Korea
 David R. Mason, 72, US Army, Vietnam
 James Brady, 90, US Army, WWII
 Albert Roulette, 81, USMC, Korea
 Paul Weischelfelder, 80, USMC, Korea
 George Brew Sr., 82, USMC, Korea
 Andrew Suebert, 93, US Army, WWII
 Korea, Vietnam
 William Klein, 84, US Army, Korea

Bob Scheiderman, Ritual Chairman

MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP

As we start another year I hope everyone had a joyous and blessed holiday season and as we start a new year that everyone has a safe and healthy new year.

I wanted to thank all the members that have sent in their 2017 dues so far, your support helps keep us strong. Just a reminder, our membership year starts on July 1st. All members should have their dues paid by February 1st

Don't forget the commanders challenge as we start this year. I'm sure that there is someone out there that could use \$500.00 to help pay off holiday bills and at the same time help us grow membership in the state of New Jersey

The state commander is rolling out a new incentive called The Commanders Challenge. Any legion member that signs up three new members by March 31, 2017 will be entered into a drawing for \$500.00 which will be drawn at the Department of New Jersey meeting in April. To be able to participate in the challenge your dues must be paid up for 2017.

The Post Commander is putting out his own challenge. Any member that signs up three new members will go into a drawing for dinner for two at our Canteen. So let's grow our membership and maybe put some cash in your pocket and maybe a great meal at the post canteen as well. Please send in completed membership forms with a copy of your DD-214 and current dues \$45.00 to the Post, Attn: Membership Chairman. All forms must be turned in by March 31, 2017, no later. Good luck to all.

By keeping our membership

numbers up, we will continue to have a strong voice in Washington and on capitol hill to address the needs of our veterans. As you know membership is the life blood of this great organization.

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



'Back To God Service'
February 5, 2017 at 2:00PM

Each year the American Legion Department of New Jersey presents the American Legion 'Back to God' service at the Cathedral of the Air in Lakehurst.

In the late 1920s, Legionnaire Gill Robb Wilson of Trenton, conceived the idea of the Cathedral of the Air. In 1929 the project was unanimously approved and adopted at the Annual Convention of the American Legion, Department of New Jersey. On March 2, 1929, the President of the United States signed the Enabling Act, approving the erection of the memorial chapel on government property and its presentation to the Navy Department upon completion.

Plans were developed under the leadership of Post commander Herman H. Blizzard of Audubon, New Jersey, who met with Chaplain William W. Edel at the Naval Air Station, Lakehurst.

A nonsectarian chapel was envisioned to be erected as a tribute to self-sacrifice and devoted service on the part of aviators, living and dead, military and civilian, who faithfully exemplified those traits.

The American Legion, State of New Jersey, sent out a call for

funds to each of its members in more than 400 Post and Ladies Auxiliary Units throughout the state, the Legionnaires called on men, women and school children in various communities, as well as service personnel at the Naval Air Station, Lakehurst. More than 60,000 persons contributed an average of \$1.00. Including some memorial donations, a total of \$75,000 was raised. This was at a time when people were suffering from the Great Depression.

Paul Philippe Cret, the famous architect and designer of churches and memorials, drew up plans in a modified Gothic style, corresponding in general appearance with the great cathedrals in the section of France where American troops fought in two World Wars. Cret's associate John Harbeson, managed the project and supervised construction. Edwin E Hollenbach submitted an incredibly low bid of \$60,000. Hollenbach, active in the American Legion at the State level, assumed his share of the sacrifice, barely making his costs of construction.

A path through the woods was cleared to reach the spot, and on June 26, 1932, ground was broken. The cornerstone was laid in place by the late Secretary of the Navy, Charles F Adams, on November 6, 1932. The cathedral was completed in 1933. However, due to the Depression, the cut-back of personnel and the curtailment of activities at Lakehurst, further work on the interior was halted.

In 1939, an increase of all the armed forces brought greater activity to Lakehurst. Lieutenant Commander James Claypool, USNR, was permanently assigned as Chaplain. Renewal of interest in the completion of the Cathedral grew. The American Legion Cathedral Association resumed efforts to place pews and other necessary furnishings in the Cathedral. By February 16, 1941, the interior of the cathedral was complete enough to hold divine ser-

vices in the Cathedral.

Because of a lack of interior furnishings and its forest setting, the Cathedral on some circles had been known as the "Cathedral of the Wilderness". January 29, 1942 marked the date of the dedication ceremony for the installation of a new organ. An old, second-hand reed organ was replaced by a Hammond electric organ, which was purchased through a work project authorized by the Bureau of Aeronautics. By Sunday, June 18, 1942 the temporary seating had been installed, along with an altar, pulpit, lectern, the Hammond electric organ, chimes (these may be seen on the nave aisle wall to

the left of window No. 3), with an amplifying sound system. On that date, a special worship service marked the Cathedral, in its peaceful pine and cedar setting, as truly the Cathedral of the Air. Even at that time, the Cathedral was considered to be the most beautiful naval chapel.

Submitted by: Chaplain, Al Gashler

Courtesy: Lakehurst Historical Society



SAL MESSAGE

Well time is moving right along and our Squadron has been doing a lot of great things. We had our annual POW/MIA Tree Lighting Ceremony, which was phenomenal. I would like to thank everyone that stepped up and helped with the ceremony. Thank you to the Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Legion Riders and the S.A.L. This event requires a lot of planning and organizing but the American Legion is a family and when we have to get down and get it together, we do a great job.

Our Army Navy game was very successful and I hope everyone had a good time.

Moving on, Saturday, February 11th we will be having a comedy show. The fee will be \$20 to get in for the show and we will be having a 2 for \$22 dinner menu being served along a cash bar. The kitchen will close around 8pm and then the show will start. During the show, we will have servers coming around to take drink orders. This is something new we are doing this year to change it up from the traditional Valentine's Day Dance. So I hope everyone will come out and support us and have a great time.

Last but not least, but very important, membership. Your 2016 membership cards will expire December 31st. So please get your dues in for 2017. Membership enables us be able to raise money for veteran's organizations and special projects, so please renew your dues.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

For God & Country
Bob Joerg - Commander
SAL Squadron 129



THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION PRESENT

COMEDY

NIGHT

Saturday Night February 11, 2017

Doors Open At 6:00pm And Dinner Served Until 7:30pm

Show starts at 8:00

Dinner + Show \$40.00/Person

Cash Bar Available

Your Host: Steve Schwarz (Gotham Comedy Club, Looney Bin Comedy Club)

Featuring: Erin Maguire (Broadway Comedy Club, Stand Up N.Y. Funny Food TV And The Game Show Network)

Head Liner: Seymour Swan: (HBO, Comedy Central, "Seymour Swan And Friends" Longest Running Comedy Show For 29 Years)



For tickets please contact

Kristy Mckown at 732 864 5519

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT VETERANS ISSUES

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

Birthstone

January 2017

Garnet

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Happy New Years Day US Navy Seals 1962	2 	3 Legion General Mtg. 7:00PM	4 	5 B	6	7
8 Battle of New Orleans 1815	9 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM Plough Monday	10 	11 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	12 I Full Wolf Moon	13	14
15	16  Martin Luther King Day	17 Legion Board Mtg. 7:00PM	18	19 N	20	21
22	23 Legion Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	24 	25	26 G - O	27 Vietnam War Ends	28
29 Prohibition began 1919	30 Tet Offensive 1968	31				The road to success is lined with many tempting parking spaces.

Eugene B. Ely, flying a Curtiss pusher, makes the first landing in a warship. He touches down on a 119-Ft.-Long wooden platform on the stern of the cruiser USS Pennsylvania, at anchor in San Fransisco Bay on January 18th.

JANUARY ENTERTAINMENT

INTRODUCING SOME NEW BANDS

FRIDAY JANUARY 6TH **JOHNNY "D" AND THE DECADES**

SATURDAY JANUARY 7TH
THE SUMMER PROJECT

FRIDAY JANUARY 13TH **BOB KULIK**
FORMERLY OF THE HAPPENINGS

SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH
GEORGE RIZZI - MUSICAL DIRECTOR
OF THE HAPPENINGS

FRIDAY JANUARY 20TH
STATEN ISLAND BAND **"NFINITY"**
SATURDAY JANUARY 21ST
OUR OWN **BROTHER SAL**

FRIDAY JANUARY 27TH
THE CROSSTONES
SATURDAY JANUARY 28TH
CELEBRATE THE CHINESE NEW YEAR
WITH **PHIL - FROM THE STREETHEARTS**











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

February: From the Latin word "to smoke," since it was the Roman month for purification.

Birthstone

February 2017

Amethyst

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2  Ground Hog Day	3	4 USO 1941
5 Four Chaplains Sunday Services 1400 Cathedral Of The Air	6 General Mtg. 7:00PM		8 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM Boy Scouts 1910	9 	10 O Full Snow Moon	11 SAL Valentine Day Dinner And Comedy Show 6PM—Until!
12 	13 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM	14  Valentines Day	15 Ocean Co. Created 1850	16 	17 Phsyic Fair 6PM—10PM	18
19	20  Presidents Day	21	22	23 	24	25
26 ● New Moon	27 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	28 				

3 February 1943: An extraordinary act of heroism occurred in the icy waters off Greenland after the US Army transport ship *Dorchester* was hit by a German torpedo and began to sink. As there were not enough life jackets, four Army chaplains gave theirs to young soldiers and went down with the ship.

FEBRUARY ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3RD

WHO ARE THOSE GUYS

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4TH

THE STREETHEARTS ENTIRE RENEWAL BAND

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10TH

NEW BAND - **LET'S BE FRANK**

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11TH

COMEDY SHOW IN THE BANQUET HALL

JERSEY GIRLS IN THE CANTEEN

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 17TH **BOB KULICK**

"FORMERLY OF THE HAPPENINGS"

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18TH
COUNTRY NIGHT IN THE BANQUET HALL
WITH **40 NORTH**
WEAR YOUR COWBOY HAT, BOOTS &
BELT BUCKLES

ALSO BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND
BRIAN SMALLWOOD IN THE CANTEEN

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24TH **THE MANGO'S**
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25TH
PHIL CENECOLA

OF THE STREETHEARTS


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



GEORGE P. VANDERVEER POST NO. 129
AMERICAN LEGION
2025 CHURCH ROAD • TOMS RIVER, N.J. 08753

7 November 2016

Anthony Gladden, Commander
The American Legion
Ocean County Executive Committee

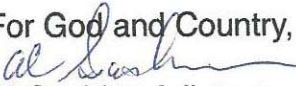
Dear Commander Gladden,

For 35 years Ray Miller has been a proud member of The George P. Vanderveer Post 129, The American legion and takes extreme pride in being a member of what he feels is the best American Legion post in the Department of New Jersey. In his travels around the state and nationally, Ray brags to others of all the good things we have accomplished and the many great things we do here at New Jersey's largest post.

During these 35 years, Ray has held all of the many post offices and chaired many committees at post 129 which culminated in his serving as Post Commander for two terms. This service and the experience he gained led him to advance at both the county and state levels which include, two years as Ocean County Commander, Department Vice-Commander and Ocean County Department Executive Committeeman and is currently serving in this position. Ray is currently chairman of the Department of New Jersey POW-MIA committee. Ray is also serving on the Department Centennial Committee and is a member of the National Security Council at the national level.

For the last two years Ray has been working extremely hard towards achieving a goal that only 98 Legionnaires have, to date, attained. That being the high office of American Legion Department Commander of the great state of New Jersey, for the membership year 2018-2019.

Therefore, the officers and membership of the American Legion Post 129 in general meeting this 7th day of November, do hereby unanimously and fully endorse Department Executive Committeeman, **Raymond Miller**, to the high office of Commander, The Department of New Jersey American Legion for the membership and centennial year 2018-2019.

For God and Country,

Al Gashler, Adjutant

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 and Saturday Nights, singing Karaoke with Jersey Girls on the 2nd Saturday of the month, 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. This is the earliest we have ever sold out this event. We believe it to be the 'Boomerang Effect.' This occurs when Members go to other places on New Year's Eve, and realize that the best deal in town was right under their noses, and come back. They also knew to buy their tickets early or they will would have to party out in the cold. Chairperson Mary Del Nero with the help of Carol Rutzler have done a great job once again. They make a hard job look easy every year.

The True Tones provided the entertainment, and put on a great show. It was the last time they performed as a group. The Post will miss the sounds of Dan Curran and the True Tones. They have performed monthly at the Canteen and at Hall Events for years. Dan plays with Brother SAL, so we will still be seeing him at the Post.

Next up is Sons of the American Legion Comedy Night. This Event



will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2017, in the Hall. Your Host will be Steve Schwarz of both the Gotham and Looney Bin Comedy Clubs, and will feature Erin Maguire (Broadway Comedy Club, Stand Up N.Y. Funny Food Food TV and the Game Show Network), and Seymour Swan (HBO Comedy Central, "Seymour Swan and Friends"). Doors open at 6PM, with dinner being served from 6 to 7:30PM. The Show starts at 8PM. Dinner + Show Tickets are \$40 each, and are on sale now. 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 laughter and the fun.

COUNTRY NIGHT featuring 40 NORTH will be in the Hall on Saturday, February 18, at 7PM. Better get there early if you want to line dance.

EVERY THURSDAY IS "LADIES NIGHT." All drinks are as close as we can get to half price for the ladies.

The Canteen's NFL Sunday Specials will continue through Super Bowl Sunday. Low price food specials and \$1.50 domestic draft pints, along with our end of quarter giveaways will remain in effect. There will be added giveaways on Super Bowl Sunday.

As always, the Canteen opens at 11AM daily. Closing depends on the day of the week and the amount of people in the bar. We have nine (9) beers on tap including Bud, Bud Lite, Coors Lite, Miller Lite, Yuengling, Micholob Ultra, Pabst, Killians Red and Shock Top. 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 Saint Paulies.

All of our beers and beverages are served by our professional and dedicated Bartenders Duke, Warren, Robin, Lisa, Lori, Danielle, Gabriella, Andrea and Joe. The entire Bar Committee would like to thank them for the tremendous job that they do day-in and day-out.

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

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AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Another year is upon us for 2017 membership renewal. If you haven't done so already now is the time to renew. Membership is very important to County, State, National and of course essential for Unit #129.

If you did not receive your renewal notice, contact me at 732-272-7552. Also, any address, e-mail or phone number changes please let know.

Recruiting makes the Auxiliary grow. Who do you know?

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy New Year!

You are "Keeping us Strong".

For God and Country,
Laurinda Miller
Membership Chairman

Psychic Fair



Friday, February 17, 2017

Gift Auction



Sunday, April 9, 2017



SOUNDOFF

January-February 2017

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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.

EVENTS...

...send your events for the calendar to Bob Scheiderman at:
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