



# SOUNDOFF

March-April 2017



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

This is for information only and will be presented to the membership for discussion.

We are proposing a change to the bylaws:

## Current wording:

### Article IV Nominating Committee

#### Section 2

Nominations may be opened from the floor up to and including the general meeting in April. At that time nominations, may be opened from the floor by a 2/3 vote.

#### Change:

Nominations will close at the Executive Board Meeting in March.

This will leave 6 opportunities for nominations. This will need to be approved by the membership and will not go into effect until the 2018 elections.

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Michael Schaffer

Brothers and Sisters:

I was working on my commander's message and in doing so trying to express myself in the need for more involvement by our membership in events and programs. I was struggling and then I received the following from Trustee, Mr. Ralf Wolf. I thanked him for this and asked if I could use it for my commander's message.

## Leave No Man or Woman Behind

*"No one has ever become poor by giving" Anne Frank*

At the February general membership meeting at Post 129 on Church Road in Toms River, I was lucky enough to be in attendance when Commander Michael Schaffer began a discussion centered on the topic of expectations and volunteerism. It was one of the most outstanding, honest and frank directives from a Commander that I have heard in recent memory.

We were about to begin nominations for the executive team and the trustees when Commander Schaffer asked the Judge Advocate for a moment to address the membership. Here is what he said:

***"If you are going to elect me again as Commander then there is something you should know before accepting a nomination. I, as Commander, will expect that each of you participate in the business of the Post and not just sign up to have your name on a letter head."***

Commander Schaffer was completely clear; if anyone wanted to become a trustee or an officer under him, he was going to expect that they participate. (It was kind of being voluntold.)

His statement took me, as I am sure it took many in attendance by surprise. It was something that needed to be said, a line in the sand if you will. Commander Schaffer went on to talk about the number of active volunteers at the Post as compared to the total number of Veterans that belong to the Post. In my opinion the number of active volunteers is shameful. Post 129 has over 1600 members and you can count on only a fraction of the membership to help out.

Commander Schaffer's state-

ment got me thinking about our Military Creed "Nemo Reside" which translates into "leave no comrade behind". Or, better said, why are you not helping your brothers or sisters who are in need? Is ignoring their plight a violation of the essential promise we made to each other that we would not abandon our fellow comrades in their time of need? I don't remember any timeline being put on our pledge. I don't recall saying that if we were not in battle that all bets were off. And as a matter of fact, in my world, a pledge is a pledge and a comrade is a comrade forever.

So I say to you, the 44,000 + veterans here in Ocean County, to the veterans who can still endure, who are ambulatory and who are of means, where the hell are you? Why are you not at the door of the Commander's office asking how you can help your fellow comrades? Why have you not lent a hand since rotating out? You are needed and keeping your promise is expected.

If you were in battle and your fellow comrade was wounded, you would do everything you could to help him or her out of danger. So what makes being a civilian any different? A few weeks ago, a young family came to the Post who had just been evicted from their home. With no money, no food and no place to live they were asking for help for themselves and their two children. So I ask you, should we turn our backs on them? Do we not have a responsibility to our fellow man to offer safe harbor especially to those who put their lives on the line for us and our country?

(continued page 3)

## AUXILIARY NEWS

Spring Greetings to all!

Our Units Children and Youth programs continue to be an inspiration to our community and state.

We have made two direct donations to the Children's Specialized Hospital in Toms River. This facility is in the Children's Miracle Network program sponsored by the A.L.A. Department of New Jersey (Unit President Patricia Corbin is the NJ Dept. Chairman) Through our can-tab drive five overnight stays for families of ill children were provided at the Ronald McDonald House in Long Branch.

The food banks of Ocean and Monmouth counties have received several donations this fiscal year. Also, monetary donations were made to C.O.T.A., POAC Autism Services and the A.L.A. Dept. of NJ for April Showers, Child Welfare Foundation, CMN and Special Olympics (PCP and Unit member Dolores Laib is the NJ Dept. Chairman).

Under the guidance of the Unit C&Y Chairman Pamela Bowen the annual children's Christmas Party was another successful endeavor. The new format enabled the Post to retain their usual monetary donation towards the party. The committee, (Auxiliary, Post and SAL Members) provided four hours of non-stop entertainment for the children. The Winter Wonderland theme started with snowflakes and ended with a sundae bar donated by KOHRS Ice Cream Parlor in Silverton. Great job everyone.

One of the Unit's largest fundraisers is being held on Sunday, April 9, 2017. Chairman Bernice Cloos and her crew have been working hard for this event. Gift Auctions are fun. Bring your friends, bells and whistles, and have a great afternoon together.

May is Poppy Drive month. Chairman Dot Abercrombie is looking forward to another great

year. VA&R Chairman Jane Keely shared the joy also. Funds from last year's Poppy Drive provided one hundred fifty meals for our guests from various VA homes throughout the state. Again, the Post was able to retain their usual monetary donation towards this project.

Spring Flea Market is on Sunday April 23, 2017. Jacqueline Dyer is the chairman. This is a wonderful opportunity to unclutter your castle. Spaces are available indoors and outside.

Nominations for 2017-2018 Unit Officers are now open. With your support and involvement, the Unit will continue to move forward. Nominee Chairman Bernice Cloos would be more than happy to explain the chairs to anyone who

voices an interest.

The American Legion Auxiliary National President, Mary E. Davis, will visit New Jersey March 10-11, 2017. For more info visit the A.L.A. website or contact the Unit 129 President.

Our next Unit meeting is March 13, 2017, 7 PM.

For God and Country  
Patricia Corbin  
2015-2017 Unit President



## AUXILIARY ANNUAL GIFT AUCTION



**APRIL 9, 2017  
NOON TILL 5PM**

**ADMISSION \$8.00 PER PERSON**

**AMERICAN LEGION  
GEORGE P. VANDERVEER POST 129  
2025 CHURCH RD. TOMS RIVER, NJ 08753**

**JOIN IN THE FUN! SURPRISE MYSTERY BOARD  
GREAT PRIZES, GRAND PRIZE 50 INCH COLOR TV  
THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE  
FOOD AVAILABLE AT AUCTION, NO OUTSIDE  
FOOD TO BE BROUGHT IN.**

***NO ONE UNDER 18***

## Leave No Man or Woman Behind

(from page 1)

What many do not understand is that the resources used to help our comrades in need come from the many activities that are conducted at the Post. The profits from these events are converted, not only to help fund the house but are dedicated to helping our brothers and sisters who are in need.

So, while you may be comfortable sitting on the sofa and ignoring the need in our community, others are out there facing the reality and lending a hand. I encourage you to get up, get out and do something. Helping others is a fundamental part of humanity and

believe it or not, helping others feels good and can help you live longer.

My thanks to Commander Schaffer for reminding us that the first pillar of the American Legion is to help our fellow vets.

Just my thoughts.

Ralph E. Wolff, Trustee

Lets look at the numbers.

In Ocean County we have one of the largest contingencies of Veterans in the state numbering over 44,000. Post 129 has the largest membership of any post in the state of New Jersey numbering over 1,600 which is less than 4% of the total veteran population.

## PATRIOTIC QUIZ NO. 7

1. Who said: "There never was a good war or a bad peace"?
2. What European ruler fled to the United States for asylum and remained more than twenty-five years?
3. In what election did a President fail of a unanimous electoral poll by a single vote, and why was he not accorded that vote?
4. What great American author published his first book anonymously while he was serving under an assumed name as a private soldier in a peacetime United States Army?
5. How did the expression "repairing political fences" originate?

### Answers to Quiz No. 6

(from Jan/Feb 2017 SOUNDOFF)

1. John Tyler, tenth President of the United States, was elected a Congressman from Virginia in the Confederate Congress and died in office, January 17, 1862
2. Rhode Island used its colonial charter, granted by Charles II of England in 1663, as a state constitution until 1842.
3. Following the Boston Massacre (March 5, 1770), in which four citizens were killed and several wounded in a street affray with a party of British troops, the troops concerned were arrested and tried on a charge of murder. All were acquitted of that charge by a jury drawn from Boston and vicinity, but two were found guilty of manslaughter and branded in the hand.
4. The Mugwumps were those Republican voters who in the election of 1884 bolted the party after Blaine was nominated, and supported Cleveland. Since that time the term has come to mean simply a voter who is independent in politics.

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

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY 2025 Church Road, Toms River, NJ

### SPRING FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2017

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

INSIDE SPACE \$20.00  
(table provided)

OUTSIDE SPACE \$10.00  
(must bring own table)

PAYMENT IN ADVANCE IS REQUIRED  
TO HOLD YOUR SPACE

FOOD AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

JACQUELINE @ 732-330-8748





## RIDERS NEWS

Al Gashler  
Secretary

As I write this, I am wondering where everyone is planning on riding this season. What new and interesting places will our adventurous crew go to this year? How far will they ride? How many days, weeks or months will they be gone? Coast to coast, border to border, iron butt, which will they choose?

We will kick-off the season once again with a Bike Blessing in April. The event was very well attended last year. Our expectation is for the same or greater participation this year. And, you cannot beat the price-FREE breakfast sandwiches, orange juice and coffee.

May 9th will be our first Bike/Cruise night, \$5 admission, 6-9 p.m. featuring the outstanding SAL Brothers Band. Myrtle Beach Bike Week is May 12th- 21st.

Memorial Day weekend is the 29th annual Rolling Thunder-Ride to the Wall sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans of America who are still riding to call attention to fact that there has yet to be a full accounting of the POW/MIA's. I will be there for my 21st year, along with Carmella Avon, Gary Stansbury, Dan Heulitt and hundreds of thousands of our closest friends.

## Horseshoe League Forming



Michael Dolan will again be starting the Post 129 Horseshoe League with the first meeting to be held on the third Wednesday in May (May 18) at the Bunker Bar. Thanks to the Boy Scouts we have new horseshoe pits!

June 5-10 is Americade in Lake George, NY. followed by the 94th Bike Week in Laconia, NH at Weirs Beach on Lake Winnepesaukee. Both events offer spectacular riding, vendors, and eye-popping scenery.

Ride Mt. Washington in New Hampshire if you dare. Squeeze in the AL Convention Parade in Wildwood, NJ on June 10th. Also in June is our second annual Country Western BBQ on Sunday the fourth followed by our second bike night of the season on June 13th.

July brings Independence Day and the Normandy Beach ride. July 11th is our third Bike/Cruise night.

The first week of August brings the 77th annual Sturgis Race and Rally week in Sturgis, SD and surrounding towns, cities, and states. Custer State Park, Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse mountain, and the Badlands are just a few of places to see and visit. The Devils Tower, Aladdin and Heulett in Wyoming add to the places to be visited and enjoyed. Just thought you might want to know; Aladdin is for sale for \$1.5m. Those are the big-name events.

Fill in June, July and August week-ends with Poker Runs, Benefit Runs, breakfast rides, lunch rides, visits to friends, 129 second Tuesday Bike nights and mental health rides to round out the summer riding season. Add in spur of the moment rides to wherever. That makes for an interesting, busy, fun-filled riding season.

So, let's start thinking about getting our bikes ready for the season. Everyone's routine is different but usually includes oil and filter changes, fluid fill ups, battery checking or replacement, tire tread and air pressure measuring or tire replacement, brakes, lights, etc. Whether you do it yourself, your buddy does it or you take it to a dealer makes no difference. The objective is to have our chariots safe, ready and reliable when the warmer weather occurs. Hopefully, that will happen in late March or early April. I am looking forward to another season of motorcycle riding. I hope you are too.



## THE NATIONAL VETERANS DAY POSTER CONTEST NOW UNDER WAY

Each year the VA's National Veterans Outreach Office, in conjunction with the Veterans Day National Committee, publishes a commemorative [Veterans Day poster](#). The poster is selected from artwork submitted by artists nationwide and is distributed to VA facilities, military installations around the world across cities and town in our nation. It also serves as the cover of the official program for the Veterans Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery.

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/34903/calling-artist-national-veterans-day-poster-contest-now-way/>



## SAL MESSAGE

Well, it's that time again for the SOUNDOFF. I would like to thank everyone that came out and supported our first comedy show. It was a great success and we look forward to doing it again next year. As we move along into spring, we are having officer nominations in February, March and April. April will be the election of the officers. So please come out and support our squadron. Your voice is always welcome and appreciated.

SAL College is coming up in April. If anyone is interested, this is a great way to learn about how the SAL runs. It starts with basic, then advanced and if you so desire, you can attend Legion College as well.

Finally, and most important, is membership. If you have not renewed your 2017 dues, you cannot come into the canteen nor attend any legion events. So please, catch up your dues and keep Squadron 129 number one in NJ for membership. You can mail in your dues, come to the post and pay or go to [www.salpost129.com](http://www.salpost129.com) to pay your dues.

Thank you for everyone's participation and we continue to make our Squadron better and better during the year.

For God & Country,

Bob Joerg  
Commander  
SAL Squadron 129



**AMERICAN LEGION POST 129**

**Saint Patrick's Day Celebration**

**Friday March 17<sup>th</sup> In The Canteen**

**Irish Buffet And Music In The Hall With**

**Chris Daniels And The Proof**

**7:00pm To 11:00pm**

**\$35.00/Per Person**

**Irish Buffet, Beer And Soda**

**Reserve Your Seat Or Your Table Now**

**Tickets Available At The Bar Everyday**

**In The Kitchen On Mon-Wed-Fri**

**Everyone's Irish  
On March 17<sup>th</sup>.**



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



**Tin Can Sailors meet at Post 129 the 3rd Wednesday at 12 Noon.**



## CANTEEN NEWS

Eric Inauen

As we anxiously wait for the beginning of Spring, we can only hope that the snows are long gone. Even with the cold weather, it has not deterred any of our Members and their guests from coming to the Canteen, and having a great time.

**SOLD OUT:** Our past three events have been Sold Out. Whether it was December's Sinatra Night, New Year's Eve or February's Comedy Night, you needed to buy your tickets well in advance.

**SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARTY:** Get your tickets now! This year Saint Patrick's Day falls on a Friday, and that's when we will be



holding our party. It makes it easy to save the date. Get ready for a great time on Friday, March 17th, from 7 to 11PM. Tickets are \$35 each, and are on

sale in the Canteen. Your ticket price includes free domestic draft beer and a buffet featuring corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and more. You will also want to check out our drinks specials. Entertainment will be provided by Chris Daniels and the Proof, along with The Shamrock & Thistle Pipes and Drums.

**Wearin' O' Green:** There will be a prize for the best dressed costume.

April's big event will be **THE JERSEY FOUR**, who will be doing a tribute to Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. You can't see Jersey Boys anymore on Broadway, since the show was cancelled in January, so this is the next best thing.

Again, save the date. This event is a dinner and the show. The Jersey Four will be here on Saturday, April 22nd. Tickets are \$50 each. Dinner is from 6 to 7:30 PM. The Show starts at **8PM**. Tickets go on sale March 18th. You can see or call Kristy for the dinner options at 732-864-5519 after March 19th. Tickets will be available while they last, on Monday & Wednesday from 10AM to **5 PM**, and Friday until 10PM.

In the Canteen, Rich Gato, our entertainment chairman, continues to amaze us by booking the most popular bands and singers monthly. Every now and then, he will introduce a new band. The latest group, "Let's Be Frank," drove in all the way from Staten Island. The reason why they came here is You, our Members and Guests. You are a great audience, and the groups know it. Rich also tries to vary the types of entertainment. For example, the 2nd Saturday of every month is Karaoke Night with Jersey Girl. Rich has also brought in country bands on occasions.

### AMERICAN LEGION POST 129

#### PRESENTS

## THE JERSEY FOUR

TRIBUTE TO FRANKIE VALLI AND THE FOUR SEASONS

SATURDAY APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup> IN THE HALL

DINNER 6:00-7:30

SHOW AT 8:00PM

PERFORMING ALL THE BIG HITS: SHERRY, WALK LIKE A MAN, DAWN, LETS HANG ON, RAG DOLL, BIG GIRLS DON'T CRY, CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF OF YOU, GREASE, OH WHAT A NIGHT AND MANY MORE!



TICKETS GO ON SALE FRIDAY MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>

\$50.00 PER PERSON

TICKETS AVAILABLE M-W 10AM TO 5PM---FRIDAY TILL 10

SEE OR CALL KRISTY FOR DINNER OPTIONS

AT 732 864 5519 AFTER MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup>!!



**LADIES' NIGHT: THURSDAY NIGHT** is Ladies' Night. All drinks are as close to half price as possible. So, Ladies, if you're planning a night out with the girls, stop by the canteen on Thursday Night for some good food and beverage. There's talk that Rich Gato may book a singer or piano player (pianist) for Thursday evenings.



As in the past, we will be opening the Bunker Bar at the end of April, weather permitting. Trustee Mike Dolan, the Bunker Representative, has been requesting an ASAP Bunker Opening. We will try our best. Good news: we have upgraded the bar stools and high top tables.

**WELCOME:** Bar Chairman Mike Kelly has named Bob Joerg to be a member of the Bar Committee. For the past few months Bob has been volunteering daily to help keep the Canteen running as a first-class operation. Bob stated that while sitting at the bar, he never realized the amount of work and effort it takes to keep our operation smoothly.

It does take a lot of man hours to run the Canteen. To some, it

may seem to be a thankless job. To the Bar Committee, it is the satisfaction and pride they take, in running the best American Legion Bar in the State.

The Bar Committee is basically Command and Logistics. The Operations side belongs to our Bartenders. We can't say enough about the job that Duke, Warren, Robin, Lisa, Lori, Gabriela, Danielle, Andrea and Joe Kelly do. Without them, it would not work. Thanks again.

**OUR OPERATION:** The Canteen hours remain the same. We open at 11AM, 7 days a week. Closing time will vary by the number of Members in the bar, weather, etc. On Friday and Saturday Nights, last call is at midnight, and closing time is 12:30AM.

**KITCHEN OPERATION:** Our Kitchen, which is run by Ryan's Catering, is open at 11AM and closes at **8PM**. On Fridays and Saturdays, the kitchen closes at **9PM**. We have received numerous compliments on the quality of our food and our prices. Ryan's Catering's chef, Mike Speary, along with Kristy and their staff always do a fantastic job.

Recently, a few out of state Legionnaires, who were training in Lakehurst stopped by. They said they had traveled to a lot of American Legion Posts throughout the country. They then said, by far, Post 129 was the best American Legion Post they had ever seen. So, when we say, that "**when you support Post 129, you support the best Post in the USA,**" we really mean it.



## AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewal has been a huge success so far for 2017. Making goal for National has been holding for 5 years in a row. We as Auxiliary members made this happen. Can we do it again?

Renewal notices for a second reminder were sent out in January. Phone calls will be made as a third reminder in a few weeks. Unpaid dues for 2017 should be in no later than April 1, 2017. Also, we have 2016 memberships not being paid. This will result in a double payment being two years. If you are unsure, please call me @ 732-272-7552.

Several membership cards have been returned for incorrect addresses. If you have moved you should contact the Auxiliary of any changes such as address, phone # and e-mails.

Recruiting makes the Auxiliary grow. Who do you know? A few ideas such as daughters, granddaughters and friends.

All your support is greatly appreciated, Thank-You. You are "Keeping us Strong"

For God and Country  
Laurinda Miller  
Membership Chairman



\* \* \* \* \*

## B I N G O . . .

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

Progressive, refreshments served, 50/50, mystery prizes.

*March: From the Roman god of war, Mars*

Birthstone

March 2017

Aquamarine

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A countryman between two lawyers is like a fish between two cats. Ben Franklin			1 	2 <b>\$BINGO\$</b>	3	4
5	6 Legion General Mtg. 7:00PM	7 	8 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	9 <b>!BINGO!</b>	10	11
12 Begin daylight Savings time  ○ Full Worm Moon	13 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM	14 	15  Beware the Ides of March	16 <b>\$BINGO\$</b>	17  <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18
19	20 Legion Board Mtg. 7:00PM  First Day of Spring	21	22	23 <b>\$BINGO?</b>	24	25
26 	27 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM  ● New Moon	28 County Mtg. Dept. Cdr. Visit Post 129	29	30 <b>BINGO</b>	31	Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city. <small>George Burns</small>

United States Military Academy at West Point was established, 1802. In 1870 the first African-American was admitted into the US Military Academy, and in 1976 the first female cadets. The academy has an enrollment of more than 4,000 students.

## MARCH ENTERTAINMENT

Friday March 3rd

**Bob Kulick** from "The Happenings"

Saturday March 4th

**"Lets Be Frank"** \*New Band\*

Friday March 10th

**The Sure Cats**

Saturday March 11th Our Own **Brother SAL** Band

"You Know Them-They Know You"



Friday March 17th

St. Patrick's Day

**Chris Daniels & The Proof** in the Banquet Hall For Our St. Pat's Annual Party along with The Shamrock & Thistle Pipes & Drums

**Phil Cenicola** from the Streethearts in the Canteen  
Saturday March 18th

**Jersey Girls** \*Karaoke\*

Friday March 24th

**Johnny "D" & The Decades**

Back by Popular Demand

Saturday March 25th

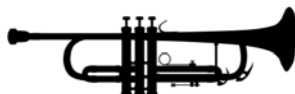
**Phil Cenicola** from The Streethearts

Friday March 31st

**George Rizzi & "The Horns"**

\*\*\*Don't Miss This Exciting Band\*\*\*

Back



By Popular Demand

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




*April: From the Greek goddess of love, Aphrodite*

Birthstone

April 2017

Diamond

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
The first of April is the day we remember what we are the other 364 days of the year. Mark Twain						1  All Fools Day
2  <b>Gift Auction</b> Noon—5 PM	3 General Mtg. 7:00PM	4 	5	6  <b>B</b>	7  Salt Works at Shelter Cove destroyed by British 1778	8
9 	10 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM  <b>Passover</b>	11 County Mtg. Lakewood Post 166 O Full Pink Moon	12 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	13  <b>I</b>	14  <b>Good Friday</b>	15
16  <b>Easter Sunday</b>	17 Board/Trustee Mtg. 7:00PM  Patriots' Day	18 <b>TAX DAY</b>  Doolittle's Raid on Tokyo.	19	20  <b>N</b>	21	22  Earth Day
23  <b>Flea Market</b> 9 AM—3 PM	24 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	25 	26 Administrative Professionals Day ● New Moon	27  <b>G—O</b> <b>\$\$\$\$\$\$\$</b>	28  <b>Arbor Day</b>	29 ----- 30

The **Doolittle Tokyo Raiders** was a group of eighty men who flew into history on April 18, 1942. They were all volunteers and this was a very dangerous mission. Sixteen B-25 bombers took off from the deck on the USS Hornet, led by Col. Jimmy Doolittle.

## APRIL ENTERTAINMENT

Saturday April 1      **The Dee Cee's**

Friday April 7      **Infinity**  
Saturday April 8      **Brother SAL**

Friday April 14      **Who Are You Guys**  
Saturday April 15      **Tony Delandro**

Friday April 21      **Summer Project**  
Saturday April 22      **TBD**  
In the CANTEEN



Saturday April 22

**THE JERSEY FOUR®**  
A TRIBUTE TO FRANKIE VALLI AND THE  
FOUR SEASONS

**Concert and Dinner Show in the Hall**

Friday April 28      **The Mango's**  
Saturday April 29      **Phil Cenicola**  
From The Street Hearts

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

## LEGION MEMBERSHIP

Dear American Legion Member,

In checking our roster I noticed that there are still many members that haven't paid their dues for 2017. I did want to let you know that we are counting very much on your continuing as a member of our Post. You are very important to us and if we are to accomplish the many tasks facing The American Legion both at home and in Washington to help our Veterans and their Families as well as the Community we live in, we need your help.

Please let me know if there is some service that our Post or at the Department level can provide for you or if there is any reason that has kept you from renewing your Membership. Please contact me at [rjg548@comcast.net](mailto:rjg548@comcast.net) or 732-604-8326. The American Legion needs your support

Don't forget the Department of New Jersey Commanders Challenge. Any member that signs up 3 new members by March 31, 2017 will go into a drawing for \$500.00 to be drawn at the Trenton meeting on April 8, 2017. To be able to participate in the challenge your 2017 dues must be paid up to date. The Post Commander is also putting out his own challenge. Any Post member that signs up 3 New Members will go into a Drawing for Dinner for two in 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. All applications must be turned in by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017, no later Good Luck to All. Remember, membership is the life blood of The American Legion.

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

**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](http://www.GroupTrips.com/AmericanLegionPost129)

**\$485 \***

**4 DAYS 3 NIGHTS**

PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

**(Fri - Mon)**

**May**

**5 - 8, 2017**

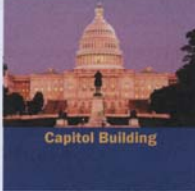

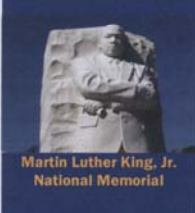

**Departure: Legion Post, 2025 Church Rd, Toms River, NJ @ 8 am**

**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!

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## POST EVERLASTING



Joseph Otero, 91, USMC, WWII, Korean War  
 Frank Wladich, 88, US Navy, WWII  
 James Basciano, 91, US Army, WWII  
 'Teddy' Figula, 68, US Navy, Vietnam War  
 Joe Gorini, 69, US Navy, Vietnam War

Bob Scheiderman, Ritual Chairman

## **ONE AMERICAN'S CREDO**

I am an American. I am the son of an immigrant who served in World War II.

I am a veteran. I served in Vietnam. I am an American.

If I had been old enough, I would have served in Korea. If I had been born and were old enough, I would have served in World War II. I am an American.

I am the father of a Desert Storm veteran. If I were younger, I would have served in Desert Storm. I am an American.

I am the grandfather of an Afghanistan era veteran. If I were still a kid, I would be serving in Afghanistan. I am An American.

I am a not a Democrat; I am not a Republican; I am not an Independent. I am an American.

I am not a Conservative; I am not a Liberal. I am an American.

I exercise my sacred right to vote in every election. I am an American.

I believe in the Constitution of the United States of America. I believe in the Bill of Rights. I revere the Flag of the United States of America and the heroes who fought and died under it. I hold sacred the Statue of Liberty. I am an American.

I am a Patriot. I am an American.

I am brother to the Red Man and share his reverence for this land. I am an American.

I am brother to the Black Man and share his fight for equality and freedom. I am an American.

I am brother to the Yellow Man and share in his age-old search for inner peace. I am an American.

I do not protest ... I steadfastly adhere to my duty. I am an American.

I do not participate in marches ... I march in Parades to honor those who came before me. I am an American.

I constantly strive to bring honor to myself, my family, my brothers in arms, my community, my state, my flag, my country and my God. I am an American.

I and my fellows who adhere to similar creeds may be dinosaurs walking the path to extinction. If so, then it is a shame, for America, great as it is, harbors the promise to become far better than it ever was. So, I have the courage to proudly declare:

## **I AM AN AMERICAN!**

*Roger P. Grenier*





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*God Bless Our Troops!!!*

*God Bless America!!!*

# SOUNDOFF:

**PUBLISHED....** 6 times per year and mailed to more than 2500 members.

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