

SOUNDOFF

September-October 2015

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

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

As summer comes to a screeching halt, our Post immediately shifts gears and prepares for the fall season. There is never a lapse of coverage at our Post home. The past few months has seen our picnic grove bursting at the seams with activity. The picnic grove hosted BBQ's for Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day. All of these events were well attended and included good food and live entertainment. Also, thanks for a nice turnout for the Blue Claws Baseball Game, honoring the American Legion. The Bunker Bar has been a hot spot of activity all summer. The Legion Riders held their main fundraiser in the grove with an attendance of over 400.

This is the second year that the Riders have implemented a "Bike/ Cruise Night" on the first Tuesday of the month. We had live entertainment by "Who are those guys?" and "Simply Three". Although the weather was not very cooperative on a few of those nights, the end result produced a positive cash flow. Thanks to Judy Kapp for her assistance with Bike/Cruise night. There were also several outside rentals of the picnic area.

While the President of the Riders, Art Brown was in Sturgis, South Dakota with a contingent of our Riders, Al Gashler presented a check to our Post for \$6,000. This donation was as a result of our Poker Run in June. The Riders will also be presenting a check to

Vet Work in Lacy for their continued good work that they do with our Veterans.

We had approximately 30 Riders participate in Brick's Post 348's Poker Run on Sunday, August 16th. 100 miles through the countryside. Good food, good band and great camaraderie but very hot in the 90's.

The Pavilion, you ask? I have reviewed our amended application and it has been submitted to the EPA for their review. Thank you to Frank Baer and Paul Wynek for their assistance in this matter.

We have had some great entertainment in the canteen this year. In addition to our regularly re-

quested bands, we continually are seeking new groups to try out. If you have seen/heard of a new group that is reasonably priced, get me their card and I will attend one of their gigs to review them.

As Past Commander Ray Miller has said a few times, we are the largest Post in the State but did you know we are the largest veteran's organization in the country and perhaps the world with 2.4 million members. The Legion American continues to have huge political clout.

It is everyone's responsibility to "recruit and retain" members. See Past Commander Rich Godfrey if you know of any potential members.

A new study shows that more then a quarter million Vietnam Veterans still suffer from Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and a third are living with depression as well. Learn more about PTSD including treatment and self help options. *The National Center for PTSD* also has information about where you can go to get help. Check them out on line or see your Service Officer Mike Kelly.

(continued page 7)



US Army Master Sergeant John Budenas of the NJ Air National Guard and Post 129 member presents a US flag to Commander Rich Gato. The flag was flown in honor of Post 129 in support of 'Operation Inherent Resolve' on 15 March 2015. It was flown during a COMBAT SORTIE aboard an Air Force A-10C Warthog assigned to the 163rd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, Ahmed Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait. Pilot: Captain Dan "Beats" Shriver Call sign: Hawg 62 Mission #:13661.

AUXILIARY MESSAGE

Our Unit is off and running. Committee Chairperson's were ratified at the June 15th meeting.

Hospitality - Vivian Leyda Membership - Laurinda Miller Adopt-a-Vet - Bernice Cloos Americanism - Paula Harpe Children & Youth -

Pamela Bowen

Community Service -

Maryann Cameron

Constitution & By Laws -

Jeannie Robbins

Dark Horse - Chris McArdle Education - Dolores Laib Girl State - Mary Nolan Gold Star Mother -

Paula Carollan

Leadership - Dolores Laib Legislative - Tara Goldstein Memorials - Jane Keeley Music - Peggy Robins National Security -

Patricia Corbin

Past Pres. Parley - Jane Keeley Poppy Awareness -

roppy Awareness -

Dotty Abercrombie (Distributor) -

Poppy (Distributor) -

Donna Schwartz

Poppy Song/Poster/Ms. Poppy Corsage/ Poem/Wreath/ Centerpiece—Mariann Zito POW/MIA/USG - Vivian Leyda Sunshine - June Young/Judy VA+R/Field Service -

Jane Keeley

Ways and Means -

Paula Harpe, Carol Rutzler, Bernice Cloos, Dolores Laib, Laurinda Miller, Pamela Bowen

The Units first fundraiser, The Fall Flea Market, is scheduled for September 13. ALL UNIT MEMBERS can assist with this event. Donations of bottled water, canned soda, napkins, plates, plastic ware, snacks, etc. will be accepted. Our second fundraiser, the Craft/Vendor fair is scheduled for No-

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY 2025 Church Road, Toms River, NJ

FALL FLEA MARKET
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

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 CAROL @ 732-978-0716

OR

PAULA @ 732-773-1962

vember 28.

With your support and participation the Unit will continue to reach our principal goals of community service, children and youth, veteran support and Americanism. Please feel free to contact Patricia Corbin (Unit President) at (732) 349-9241 for info on any project mentioned in this article.

For God and Country Patricia Corbin, Unit President

(Adventure is the spice of life)





American Legion Post 129 Annual Mike J. Carlino Memorial Golf Tournament

Bey Lea Golf Course
N.Bay Ave Toms River NJ



Wednesday, September 9th, 2015

Rain Date Wednesday, September 16, 2015
Proceeds to benefit Veterans and Active Duty Military

4 Man Teams - Shotgun Start - Best Ball Format Buffet at American Legion Post 129 to Follow Includes:Tap Beer & Soft Drinks - Cash Bar for Mixed Drinks Door Prizes - 50/50 - Raffles Awards For: Top Team - Longest Drive - Hole in One



Please Make Checks Payable to:
American Legion Post 129
2025 Church Road, Toms River, NJ 08753
Info Contact John Loiacono 732-278-3933
\$90.00 pp Includes Golf Fees and Cart

12:00 Noon Sign Up - 1:00 PM Shotgun Start

Team Contact	Phone
Player 1	
Player 2	
Player 3	
Player 4	

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Another year has gone by and once again we begin a new Membership drive for 2016. Shortly you will receive your 2016 renewal from National. Please return your renewal A.S.A.P. with payment and bottom portion to the address shown.

I wish to thank all the Unit 129 members for their full support, and for making the 2015 Membership drive a huge success. I could not have done it without you!

We took 5 awards at Convention which is a testament to our dedication and perseverance.

Let's make 2016 another successful year.

You are "Keeping Us Strong" Laurinda Miller

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BINGO

.....every Thursday. Doors open at 5 PM—play starts at 7 PM. Progressive Refreshments served 50/50 - Mystery Prizes

RIDERS MESSAGE

The summer has been good for our Riders. We had our June fundraiser with great weather and a nice showing. The Riders were able to raise \$6,000.00 to donate to Vetworks of Lacey Twp. plus an additional \$6,000.00 to our American Legion Post. This kind of work can only be done with the help of a fantastic group of members, as well as assistance from Mike Kelly and the bar staff along with Jim Smith and Ryan's catering.

The group has also done some riding this year. A nice group started out visiting Morgantown Pa. American Legion Riders BBQ early in the season. A group followed up with a trip to Tennessee and tail of the dragon led by Mike Perry. Our next trip was just up the road to welcome Lakewood American Legion Post with their new rider group.

Just recently a group returned from Sturgis South Dakota for the 75th annual Biker Rally. weather was beautiful and the members that were there for the first time seemed to really enjoy the ride. Trust me the ones that were there before enjoyed it just as much. On this trip we were especially well treated by American Legion Post of both Sturgis and Rapid City South Dakota post. We did return with license plates from both places.

Still have several more weeks of summer riding with Brick Post 348 on our to-do list for their Poker Run.

For God and Country,
Art Brown





Past Department Vice-Commander Dave Corbin is presented with a Department Officer flag set by Commander Rich Gato and Past Post Commander/Adjutant Bob Scheiderman in recognition of Dave's successful year as Department of New Jersey Vice-Commander 2014-2015

CANNON LANDING PROJECT AND VETS MEMORIAL

Al Kopec

At the August Membership meeting I announced that efforts to establish a permanent landing in the front of the Post property for our

restored WW1 1917 cannon are in progress. This landing and historic display should bring attention to the Post, connect to and complement longer term plans for the AL Post 129 Veteran's Memorial. A mark out for existing underground utilities has been completed. Dan Rush of FWH engineers will subsequently assisting with consultation. This is to assure plans for the proposed landing and for the continuation of plans and design for the

Veteran's Memorial (already initiated by Bob Blair and Post members so as to honor and for remembrance of those who have served), will keep moving along to realization.

Volunteers for a committee were solicited and six members have signed in for that committee. There is already an artist conception of the Veteran's Memorial and a copy of the brochure can be obtained from Bob Blair along with information as to how a loved one can be remembered at the Memorial. If you have any experience in design, site work, etc., and wish to join the planning committee please contact Al Kopec at 732-330-1488 or alckop@yahoo.com and hop aboard.



The official birthday of the United States Air Force is 18 September 1947

It was a momentous event that over six decades later has demonstrated the achievement of an Air Force second-to-none, yet the Air Force's history and heritage goes back a lot further.

From the time that the US military purchased its first aircraft in 1909 up to 1947, the US Air Force did not exist as a separate and independent military service organization. It went through a series of designations: 1909, Aeronautical Section, Signal Corps; 1914, Aviation Section, Signal Corps; 1918, US Army Air Service; 1926, United States Army Air Corps, 1941, United States Army Air Forces.

World War II illustrated the value of airpower and the need to change the basic organization of the US Military Forces. The result was the creation of a single Department of Defense with a strong Joint Chiefs of Staff with Army, Navy and Air Force chiefs. In 1947 President Truman sign the 'National Security Act' which established this new defense organization and along with it the crea-



tion of the US Air Force as an independent service equal to the US Army and US Navy.

Through the years history has shown the wisdom one foresight of the creation of a separate Air Force. The US Air Force emerged quickly from its cradle and began to create its own history and heritage.

www.military.com (submitted by Bob Schiederman)



High Flight

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth And danced the skies on laughter -silvered wings Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth of sun-split clouds, — and done a hundred things

You have not dreamed of wheeled and soared and swung. High in the sunlit silence.

Hov'ring there, I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung My eager craft through footless halls of air....

Up, up the long, delirious,
burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept
heights with easy grace
Where never lark nor even eagle
flew—

And, while with silent lifting mind l've trod

The high untrespassed sanctity of space,

Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

John Gillespie Magee, Jr

(submitted by Bob Scheiderman)

LEGION MEMBERSHIP

At this time I would like to thank all the early birds for sending in your dues. This helps us get a head start on continuing to fund our programs that help our veterans, there families and the community. We are facing a dues increase from national in January so I am asking our membership to please send in your dues before the January deadline otherwise the post will be assessed another \$5.00 per member. Thank you in advance for helping us stay ahead.

We had a great 2015 going over the top with membership. We are now 1665 strong "veterans still serving America". By keeping are membership numbers up we will continue to have a strong voice in Washington and on Capitol Hill to address the needs of our veter

ans. Remember, membership is the life blood of this great organization.

Membership is key to keep our programs going so please reach out to your friends, neighbors, coworkers and family members and recent veterans that are returning home and encourage them to join this great organization of veterans.

Thank you for ensuring that the American Legion remains the most powerful voice in America on behalf of veterans, service members their families, and communities across the nation.

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 e-mail me at rjg548@comcast.net For God and Country Rich Godfrey Ocean County Membership Chairman



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

PUBLISHED...

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

DEADLINE...

...for the next issue (November-December) is October 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

WEB: http://americanlegionpost129.webs.com/

FACEBOOK: American Legion Post 129 Toms River NJ



End of the Season Bash!

Join us to celebrate the end of a great season!

Date: October 24th
Time: 1pm - 5pm
\$15 per person

Great Food \$1.50 Draft Beers

Live entertainment by "Who Are Those Guys"

Bash will be in outside picnic area or inside depending on weather.



SAL MESSAGE

Boy this year is flying by! We are at the end of the summer and heading into fall and winter. For the SAL, we have a few events coming up. We are looking into doing an end of the season bash towards the end of October.

Also, we have a couple of raffles coming up. We are going to be raffling off a 55 inch TV at \$10 a ticket and only 200 tickets will be sold. We will be doing a 50-50 raffle as well for \$5 and only 300 tickets will be sold. Both raffles will be going off on December 12th at the Army Navy game in the canteen. We will be putting out a halftime buffet for the game and \$1.50 draft beers. December 5th will be the annual POW/MIA Christmas tree lighting. Hope to see everyone come out and support that great event.

The 2016 membership cards are in and dues can now be paid for your 2016 membership. Check out our new website at www.salpost129.com. With the addition of online payment on our website, you can now renew online! We are coming into our busy season now so I hope we can get a lot of support from the membership.

For God and Country, Bob Joerg Squadron 129 Commander



COMMANDERS MESSAGE

(from page 1)

A special thank you to the Auxiliary for hosting a BBQ for our area veterans from the local nursing homes. All had a good time as they left with their gifts. Thanks to Bobby Joerg for his continued help around the Post.

This years Township Halloween Parade is scheduled for Saturday, October 31st, therefore our Post will celebrate with a Halloween Costume Party on Friday night, the 30th. Music will be provided by the *Crosstones*. Prizes will be awarded for the best costume. There will be 3 categories (Best Male, Best Female and Best Couple). Our Halloween parties have gotten bigger every year, and the costumes have gotten more elaborate.

K-Mart Pharmacy will be at our Post for immunizations on Monday September 14th between the hours of 2 and 6 pm. The cost will be covered for Medicare patients as well as most approved insurance plans. Remember last year's epidemic-Get immunized now and please remember to wash your hands frequently.

And as always, call me with any questions or concerns-

Rich Gato Commander Post 129 732-330-2430

P.T.S.D. REMEMBER, NOT ALL WOUNDS ARE VISIBLE



Legion Auxiliary Treats Local Nursing Home Veterans to a Picnic!

Patricia Corbin, Unit 129 President.

On Friday July 31st our Legion Auxiliary in association with our SAL and American Legion Riders treated a group of elderly veterans' to a picnic in 'Kaczynski Grove.'

Twenty-two veterans' enjoyed an outdoor feast of burgers, hot dogs, potato and macaroni salad, with all the trimmings and yellow squash from our 'Victory Garden'. With liquid refreshments of soda

and iced tea, and, as a topper icecold watermelon and blueberries, with an extra added attraction of BOMB-POPS! Red-White and Blue, of course!

Upon their departure our vets received a service connected T-Shirt, as they loaded onto the buses and returned to their Chelsea, Tallwoods and Hampton Ridge homes.

Sixteen Ladies Auxiliary, Post 129 and SAL members assisted with the affair. Many thanks to Jane Keeley, Unit 129 VA&R chairperson. Mike Kelly Post 129 VA&R chairman, Bob Jeorg SAL Commander and Al Gashler Post 129 Riders.



Judy Masella and Lorraine Wunder help WWII Veteran Tom Tambura, 94, board the Chelsea transportation

POST EVERLASTING



John Genna, 69, US Army, Vietnam Bill Lauer, 96, US Army, WWII Carl Hiller, 93, US Navy WWII Barbara Lyons, 92, US Navy, WWII

Bob Scheiderman, Ritual Chairman

SEPTEMBER: From the latin word for "seven," since it was the seventh month of the Roman year.

Birthstone

September 2015

Sapphire

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
If our Air Forces are never used, the have reached their finest goal.		1	2 VJ-Day	3 B	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8 General Mtg. 7:00PM	9 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	10	Patriot Day	12
13 Grand Parents Day Fall Flea Market	14 Auxiliary Meeting	15	16	17 N	18 United States Air Force 68 Years	19
20	21 Board Mtg. 7:00PM	22	23 Autumn Begins	G 0	25	26 SAL Summer BBQ 1-5PM
27 Gold Star Mother's Day Full Harvest Moon	28 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	County Mtg. 8PM Jackson	30 Gold Star Mother's Day			As a child my family's menu consisted of two choices: Take it or Leave it

United States Air Force, the largest and most technologically advanced air force in the world, 18 September 1947.

SEPTEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

Friday September 4th The Crosstones Saturday September 5th **New Group** The Dukes Of Doo-Wop

Sunday September 6

Annual Post 129 Labor Day Picnic / BBQ



Friday September 11th The True Tones Saturday September 12th Jersey Girls *Karaoke* Friday September 18th "Who R U Guys" Saturday September 19th **New Band** Chaz Depaolo Trio

Friday September 25th The Dee Cee's
Saturday September 26th Phil Cenecola
From The Streethearts



OCTOBER: From the latin word for "eight," since it was the eighth month of the Roman year.

Birthstone

October 2015

Opal

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
without a respectable NAVY? Alas America!			It was absolutely involuntary. They sank my boat! JFK	five!!	2	3
4	5 General Mtg. Auxiliary Mtg. 7:00PM	6	7	8 BINGO'S!!	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day	United States Navy 239 Years	14 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	FOLKS!!	16 Cuban Missile Crisis Begins 1962	17
18	Board Mtg. 7:00PM	20	21	LIVE IT UP!!	23	24
25 Auxiliary "Autumn Fun For Kids"	26 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	27 County Mtg Post 455 Full Hunters Moon	28	29 Hurricane Sandy 2012	30	31 Halloween

United States Navy: Originated as the Continental Navy, established by congress, 13 October 1775.

OCTOBER ENTERTAINMENT

Friday October 2nd The C Saturday October 3rd Brian

The Crosstones Brian Smallwood

Friday October 9th The Glenn Lykes Band Saturday October 10th Jersey Girls **Karaoke**

Friday October 16th The Dee Cee's Saturday October 17th Lou Abbato

Friday October 23rd The True Tones Saturday October 24th Phil Cenecola From 'The Street Hearts"



Friday October 30th

Halloween Costume Party With The "Crosstones"

Cash Prizes
Best Male



Best Female

Best Couple



Saturday October 31st

Jeff Lakata

CANTEEN NEWS

Eric Inauen

Another Post 129 Summer has flown by, but not without Members & Guests having great times at the Canteen.

Some Members stop by for the live entertainment on Friday & Saturday nights (provided by Commander Rich Gato). On Monday nights, some come for our various monthly meetings, or to shoot pool for free with their friends. Tuesday nights it is shuffle board. Some Members come on Wednesday nights for darts.

Many Members and Guests stop by for the great food offered by Ryan's Catering seven days a week, at reasonable prices. Ryan's Catering is still running their 2 for \$20 Saturday Night Specials. It includes 2 appetizers, 2 entrees and a shared dessert for \$20. We don't know how our chef, Mike Speary, does it, and we don't want to know. Good job Mike!

Our loyal Bunker Bar Crowd has embraced our expanded schedule. We open at 4PM on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday Nights at 4PM. Wednesday Night is Horse Shoe Night, and the crowds seem to get bigger each week. We open at 1PM on Saturday, and Noon on Sunday.



Speaking of Sundays! Are you ready for some Football? The NFL Season is here, and with that

comes \$1.50 Domestic Draft Pints, and Ryan's Catering's discounted NFL food specials.

GIVEAWAYS: All Members and Guests get a free ticket when they enter the Canteen, on Sunday. At the end of each quarter, we pull a ticket. If your number is picked, you win one of our many giveaways. So eat, drink and enjoy watching the game on our 6 HD TV's.

The Canteen continues to have 9 beers on tap. If draft beer is not your pleasure, we have Coors Lite, Miller Lite, Bud, Bud Light, Micholob Ultra, Becks, Stella, Heineken & Heineken Lite and Corona & Corona Lite in bottles. Down at the Bunker, we have Coors Lite, Miller Lite, Bud and Yuengling on tap, and Bud Light and Micholob Ultra in cans.

will be held on Sunday, September 6th, from Noon to 5PM (rain date, Monday). Tickets are \$15. Purchase your tickets at the Canteen before September 6th, and get a free beverage coupon at the door. Purchasing your tickets in advance, helps us with our food count, which keeps our costs down.



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

PICNIC: Our Labor Day Picnic





ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY MONMOUTH CHAPTER

VETERANS HEALTH AND WELLNESS EXPO











Free for Veterans, Military Service Members and Families

Saturday, September 12, 2015 | 10 AM - 2 PM
Breakout Sessions Registration 9-10 AM / Pre-Registration recommended on www.ausa-monmouth.org

CentraState Medical Center, Star and Barry Tobias Ambulatory Campus, 901 West Main Street, Freehold NJ 07728

Guest Speaker: Raymond L. Zawacki, Deputy Commissioner For Veterans Affairs,
NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Multiple Breakout Sessions, Free Health Screenings, Display/Information Tables, Exhibits include: Veterans/Military | Health & Wellness | Elderly Care | Financial Planning | IED Injuries | Family Needs Supportive and Service Organizations, ESGR/H2H, Business Products/Services

Veterans /Military

PTSD

- Intro TRICARE
- OEF/OIF/OND VANJHCS
- Wounded Warrior
- Suicide Prevention
- · VANJHCS
- Vet Center
- Job Opportunities
- Domestic Violence
- · VSO

Health & Wellness

• Smoking Cessation

- Living Healthy
- CPR & First
- Nutrition
- Stress
 Management
- Women's Heart Health

Elderly Care

• Diabetes

- Caregiver Programs/ Services
- Balance & Falls
 Prevention





For More Information Contact:

AUSA Committee Co-Chair: Breakout Sessions, Display/Information Tables

Colonel Samuel Fuoco, AUS, Retired, 732-668-3417, samuelfuoco@msn.com

AUSA Committee Co-Chair: Warren Wolff, 732-857-4171, wrnwolff@aol.com

AUSA Committee Sponsorships/Exhibits: Sue DiVila, 732-598-4867, sdivila@aceelectronics.com CentraState Healthcare System: Elaine Dymyd, 732-637-6380, edymyd@centrastate.com VA NJ

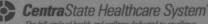
Health Care System: Frank Quadrino, 908 647-0180 x5815, frank.quadrino@va.gov

Registration: Kit Roache, 732 788-4005, kitroache@verizon.net

CentraState Medical Center: www.centrastate.com

NJ Veterans Affairs Health Care System: www.newjersey.va.gov







TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015 ALL BOSCOV'S LOCATIONS 9AM TO 11PM

25% OFF* SHOPPING PASS

This pass entitles you to 25% off* your purchases and cannot be used in conjunction with other discounts and promotions.

Present this pass at time of purchase to receive your 25%* discount.

Valid October 20, 2015 only.

*See reverse side of coupon for a list of merchandise receiving 15% and 10% Off as well as exclusions.

Plus Free Refreshments and Register To Win Prizes, including three \$500 Shopping Sprees

(Plus forty-three \$100 Shopping Sprees, one for each Boscov's Store Location)

Shopping Passes: \$5 each.
Available from your favorite non-profit.
Entire donation benefits the local non-profit organization from which you purchased this pass.





SAILOR'S SWILL (It's a Navy Thing)

~ The Old Salt spat at a passing rat, and borrowed a match from me,

Then scratched a match where his pants were tight, and spake quite fervently;

~ "I'll swear by gum, that it strikes me dumb—this kind of dang navee.

With not a sail, nor even a rail, and dog watches drinking tea.

~ 'Twas some years back that I took a crack at serving Uncle Sam.

An "taint the same—except maybe the name — as 'twere in them days, by damn!

~ We went aloft if the Old Man coughed, or if it began to blow;

And got a root from a gov-ment boot if maybe we went too slow.

~ A trick at the wheel took an arm o' steel, and lots of plain beef y'see.

But now it's did by a high school kid, and patent 'lectricitee.

~ We got our rum an' slap o' slum almost every day or so,

An' mouldy bits of ship's biskits if stores was running low.

~ Today I seed how these youngsters feed—the mess what they get each day,

An' strike me pink if I don't think I'd bin in a swell cafay.

~ It used to be that a man at sea was a sailor. It makes me bile

To see the way they cruise today with radiums, gas an 'ile.

~ An' not content to remain where meant—on top — where a ship should sail,

They go and man a sheet-iron can an' dive like a blasted whale".

~ The Old Salt spat, donned his hat, give a hitch to those pants of his.

He'd said his say—so he creaked away, all itches and rheumatiz.

~ For sailor-man, since the flood began, and Noah put to sea,

He raised his plaint —

"Ah, the Navy ain't what the Navy used to be!"

NavyTimes Letters: AT1 Ward Zimmerman

(submitted by Bob Schiederman)



August 12, 2015

Ryan's Catering @ American Legion Post 129 2025 Church Road Toms River, NJ 08754

My husband and & I (Jeff and Nicole Wells) want to express our gratitude to Ryan's Catering for ensuring our wedding that was held at the American Legion Post 129 on August 1, 2015 was absolutely PERFECT!

From the day we met with the Banquet Manager, Kristy Mackown, I knew that we were in good hands. Prior to this, we did attend a party there, so we knew that the Banquet room was beautiful and perfect for a small, intimate wedding (and that their food was incredible!) When I inquired about having our wedding there, Kristy immediately responded to my email, and met with us in person to go over what they were able to do for us. From that day, Kristy was absolutely wonderful. She was very responsive throughout the whole wedding planning process, whatever I needed, whatever time, she was there. Her and the whole Ryan's Catering staff went above and beyond my expectations, they made all of my visions (which some were a bit much to ask) come to life. Her input helped me make a lot of decisions I was in between on, much more than any other venue I have ever dealt with for parties/banquets. You do not find many private halls like this that have in-house catering that handles more than just the food. We were able to order our linens and chair covers through them, and did not have to worry about picking them up from the vendor. Kristy would go back and forth with them until it was right, which saved me a lot of time and phone calls. She even offered to make sure all of our other vendors were there on time, and dealt with them the day of the event, prior to our arrival.

The amount of personal attention you receive with Ryan's Catering is just amazing. I can't explain how overwhelmed I was when I arrived there on my wedding day. They turned the outside into a beautiful rustic scene, and made the inside banquet hall perfect to what I was visioning. All I did was bring all of our decorations a couple days prior, and during our rehearsal went over how I wanted everything with Kristy. And after that, she and the staff did everything! Every single guest I had there was in awe on how beautiful everything was.

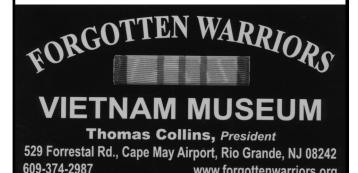
Kristy herself made sure everything from the start of our ceremony to the end of our reception ran smoothly and kept me calm (even the week leading up to the event). She personally attended to whatever our needs were, even during our private photo session she came out and served the bridal party/immediate family a champagne toast & our Hors D'oeuvres being served during our cocktail hour, and inputted ideas on photo locations.

The package we choose for our wedding was Buffet Style dinner service. The food was incredible. All of their packages can be enhanced with several items, and we picked the Nacho Bar, which everyone raved about. All of our family and friends enjoyed the food, the staff was incredible. The servers and bartenders were phenomenal, extremely professional, and courteous to all of our guests. If something was going wrong behind the scenes no one knew, because every single one of them made my wedding absolutely flawless. My husband and I, and a couple of our friends even stayed after our guests left and said what a great time THEY had!

I can't say enough words about Kristy, Ryan's Catering, and the American Legion. Our wedding was by far PER-FECT. In my opinion, Jeff and I received the wedding of our dreams, and a huge part of that credit goes to Kristy, Ryan's Catering, & The American Legion. **We will forever be grateful.**



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