



SOUNDOFF

November-December 2022

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

George P. Vanderveer Post 129 American Legion

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

Brothers and Sisters, we have many dates and activities coming up in the next two months.

November 11th, Veterans Day, we will be marching in the annual parade downtown. The parade starts at 9:30 a.m. so let us all participate in this year's parade to show people this is what we do.

November 28th we will be having a Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser for an injured Marine, Saverio Lardiere, in the Hall 5:00 to 8:00.

December 31st, New Years Eve party 8:00 to 1:00. It will be \$55.00 per person, Pasta station, Hors d' oeuvres, coffee and cake, breakfast sandwich as you leave, OC Gold (Juke Box Gold) will be the band.

Let us all come and have a ball, hope to see you there.

In closing I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. God Bless America.

Pete Chafatelli—Commander

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

I hope that this issue of our SOUNDOFF finds our Legion Family in good spirits and health. The leaves are changing and before we know it the holidays are right around the corner. As you know our 2023 membership year started on July 1st and our goal for this year is 1650. As of October 15th, we are at 927 at 56.18% of our goal. We need to be at 65% by November 11th, Veterans Day. Thank you to all the Early Birds that have sent in their dues.

As the holidays get closer our membership slows down, I am asking all our Legionnaires to please send in their dues. We need all the help that we can get to continue to make our goals and to help support all the great programs that the American Legion does for its Veterans, their Family Members, and the Community where we live.

The NEF provides nonrepayable grants of up to \$3,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for posts on a case-by-case basis. Overhead for the program is paid through Membership Dues. Meaning that 100% of donated money goes to funding grants. With the recent devastation of Hurricane IAN in Florida and up the east coast we need your help. Please send in your Dues. We have seen the horrific damage caused by Superstorm Sandy a

decade ago and how the American Legion assistance made a difference to so many people. Through your support, we can make that difference.

I am asking our Legion Family to continue to reach out to our fellow legionnaires to see if they are okay and if they need any help or just to give them words of encouragement during these trying times. It is called Buddy Check and it is what we do. Veterans taking care of Veterans and their Families.

As the National Commander Vincent "Jim" Troiola stated, 'as the military issues change, so does The American Legion.' While the Legion continues to celebrate its past, it does by also marching toward an evolving future, discovering ways to stay relevant and add even greater value to the lives of younger Veterans. One thing that has not changed is the Legions dedication to addressing the toughest challenges facing Veterans and their families. Veteran Suicide may be the biggest challenge yet, but anyone can "Be the One" to help save just One Veteran.

Let us all pledge to "Be the One" Stay Safe, be Well and as a Legion Family we can accomplish great things. Remember, Membership is the Lifeblood of The American Legion.

For God and Country

Rich Godfrey

Department of New Jersey

Membership Chairman

PDVC

Post 129 Riders present a check to Commander Chafatelli at the October 3, 2022 general meeting in support of the Post.



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

WEBSITE: <https://alpost129.org/>

CHAPLAINS MESSAGE

Brothers and Sisters

As we enter this holiday season we prepare as families and friends to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner, Christmas dinner and the sharing of gifts. Time together making memories. I am praying that your thoughts will go to the men and woman, the warriors, who will be standing watch over our country around the world so you can enjoy the holidays.

I personally know what this is like, for four consecutive years I was deployed from September to March and did not have the opportunity to be home for the holidays. Well, that tradition continues for our warrior's station at Joint Base M.D.L. but we/you can make a difference. I have been advised by the Commander Chafatelli that we will still be collecting food for the Food Warrior Project. Please see the bin labeled for 'MDL donations,' in the Post lobby.

I am writing this on Saturday October 15, and I just returned from our State DEC meeting in Trenton, I waited this long to write as I was advised after a Zoom Call Meeting of the Revised Legion Committee that there were going to be announcements made at the meeting today. I wanted to be able to share them with you.

The Food Warrior Project has been picked up by Past Department Command and National Executive Committeeman Berley Hanna Jr and is now a State Project! To that end he has asked that every county and Post send him the name of one of their members to be the contact person to promote the program for both food and financial donations. I have been added as a Food Insecurity Consultant to the National Homeless Program managed by Past

Department Commander Robert Lobby.

I would like to thank Commander Chafatelli and all that have supported this program for the last year and a half. Thank you all for the food and the donations and I pray that your support will continue. The need is greater than ever, and I know your support has made a difference in the lives of our warrior families. If you would like to donate, make out the check to:

M.S.A. FOOD WARRORS

please mail a check to:

New Jersey Military Support Alliance, PO BOX 5421 Toms River

New Jersey 08754-2421

THANKING YOU IN ADVANCE
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

"I want to thank the Legion Riders from Post 129 for their amazing donation of \$4000.00 to the Food Warriors Project. Brothers and Sisters THANK YOU!"

Legion College will be the weekend of April 28,29,30 at the Sea Girt Training facility, I know that some of our members were shut out last year. PLEASE get your application in ASAP.

There has been a lot of infor-



50/50 RAFFLE

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
UNIT 129

ONLY 100 TICKETS
SOLD

PRICE \$100.00

TO BE DRAWN DEC. 11, 2022 1PM

AT POST 129 CANTEEN

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT AUXILIARY
MISSIONS AND PROGRAMS

PRIZE WILL BE 50% OF TOTAL
TICKETS SOLD

TO PURCHASE TICKETS ASK BARTENDER OR
CALL

BERNICE 732-664-1837

PATRICIA 732-349-9241

THEY CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED MON &
WED. BETWEEN 2 AND 4PM AT POST

ID# 107-07-19672

RL# 9412



mation on the television concerning the Camp Lejeune tainted water compensation issues, PLEASE, IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT ME ASAP BEFORE YOU FILE A CLAIM AS YOU MAY LOSE YOUR BENEFITS. THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO ARE LOOKING TO STEAL YOUR MONEY!

HAVE A SAFE AND JOYUS HOLIDAY SEASON, REMEMBER THOSE LESS FORTUNATE

MICHAEL SCHAFFER

Post & Department Chaplain

RIDERS MESSAGE

Hello American Legion Family

Our Summertime events have now come to a close with a very successful September Bike/Car Show. DJ Louie did an amazing job with providing entertainment. There were several awesome looking cars and motorcycles in attendance to receive Trophies which were a great hit.

I want to thank EVERYONE for their help and support allowing the Riders an opportunity to enjoy a very successful year. Also, I wish to thank those that helped at the last minute to do a Fall clean-up of the Grove and Memorial.

A Special Thank you from the Riders goes to William Opp for is dedication and perseverance in re-

placing the malfunctioning lighting located in our Veterans Memorial. Great Job! Thanks Bill.

Also, I want to thank Dan from Robert Ott Landscaping for sealing and maintaining our Pavers and Lighting located in the Veterans Memorial. Awesome Dan. Thank you!

On October 9th the Post 129 Riders were joined with Riders from Post 348, The Blue Knights XV, The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, along with other motorcycle riders from the area totaling 26 Motorcycles to lead several cars, Fire Trucks & Police cars to wish Roman Charkowski a Post 129 Legion Member, WWII Veteran, a 100th Birthday Drive By only to stop and sing a very HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Roman!

Riders are saddling up to attend the Toms River Veterans Day Parade held on November 11, 2022, followed by a Veterans Memorial Service at Post 129.

+++++ Check times with local calendars +++++

NEVER FORGET! Christmas Tree Lighting Memorial on December 3, 2022. Always a Special Memorial to our POW/MIAs.

Mark your calendars for the Army/Navy Game on December 10, 2022, hosted by the Sons of the American Legion Post 129. Always a day full of camaraderie.

Everyone Be Well, Be Safe. Enjoy your Holidays, Friends & Family.

For God and Country
God Bless All.

Cliff Johnson—Director
American Legion Riders
Post 129.

Roman Charkowski's 100th Birthday Celebration



SAL MESSAGE

Greetings Comrades,

Here we are at the end of 2022. How time flies! It's been a tough year with some losses and personal anguish for many, but life goes on! Our squadron is still running strong. We are into our new membership year and coming out of a great season. We had a very successful pig roast and tailgate party so all is running well and we'll look forward going into the winter months.

We have our annual **POW/MIA Tree Lighting Ceremony** coming up on December 3rd and our an-



nual **Army/Navy game coming up on December 10th.** These are always very important events for us. Please look at your email for more info to come! We will continue to do what it takes to support our great Post in everything they do. We are also planning our annual Comedy Show in February like we always do, so stay tuned for that.

On a separate note, one of our members Peter McLeod, grandson of legionnaire Ken Benner, has enlisted in the Marine Corp and is going through basic at Par-

ris Island. Let's wish him the best and pray for him. He will be serving 5 years in the Corp.

2023 membership cards are in. If you haven't already, please renew and enlist any new eligible members to our great squadron. You can pay at the post, via US mail or online, which is most convenient, at www.salpost129.com. Please keep our membership coming in as it's the lifeblood of our organization.

I would like to

wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

God bless everyone and I hope to see you all soon.

For God & Country,

Rocky Lucia
Commander, Squadron 129



Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair



40 + Vendors

SAT. NOVEMBER 26, 2022

10 AM TO 3 PM

HOSTED BY:

**THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 129
2025 CHURCH ROAD, TOMS RIVER, NJ**

First 200 Shoppers with a purchase receives a free tote



**American Legion
Post 129
Annual Children's Christmas
Party**

Sunday 18 DEC 2022 | 12PM-3PM

Limited to 25 Children Per Age Group
(AGES: Infants to 3; 4 to 6; 7 to 9)
Two Adults Per Family **MUST** be a legion family member
with a current card

Admission: \$5.00 per adult
Sign up Sheet at the Bar. Cut off Date is Dec 8

**PRESENTS FOR ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
NO EXCEPTIONS**

AUXILIARY MESSAGE

We are ending the hot days of summer and going into the cooler days of fall. We are going forward with our Fund raiser of the 50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS and it looks like it is going very smoothly. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket, please contact Bernice Cloos or Patricia Corbin for tickets.

As the fall is here, we are also getting ready for some of our wintertime projects, such as our Children's Christmas Party, for infor-

mation on this fun and exciting time please contact our Children & Youth chairperson Danielle DiBenedetto for information on this event.

If you have not yet paid your dues the deadline for the early bird special is approaching fast so if you want to be an early bird, please pay your \$30.00 dues. If you pay them after November 11th, you will be paying \$35.00. For more on this please contact Carol Rutzler our Membership chairman.

It is important to check up on

each other to make sure they are aware we are here for them and encourage them to come to a meeting which is the **SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH** ask if they need a ride and you can help them out. Getting more people attending our meetings may have more volunteers for our functions and more camaraderie.

We have some exciting plans for the upcoming year and hope you come out and help support them to make them a huge success.

For God & Country
Pam Bowen
Unit President

Buddy Check

Looking
out for
each
other



Veterans of New Jersey

Daylight Saving Time 2022
began Sunday, March 13



ends Sunday, November 6

CANTEEN NEWS

Eric Inaeun

Fall is now going into Winter as the months fly by. The time to enjoy yourself is now, and what better way to enjoy yourself? How about stopping by your American Legion for Lunch, Dinner, Sunday NFL games, Shuffleboard, Corn Hole or our Friday and Saturday Entertainment?

Remember, Ryan's Catering offers Lunch and Dinner Tuesday through Sunday and Lunch on Monday until 2PM. Ryan's also offers their Saturday Night Specials which include two salads, two entrees (you can mix and match) and a shared dessert for just \$25. Ryan's, also, offers a discounted Football Menu on Sunday for the NFL Games.

SHUFFLEBOARD is now in full swing on Tuesday Nights. It has become so popular, that Mike Feimer will be starting up a second shuffleboard league the second (2nd) week of January for players that missed the cut-off to join this year. Players, who could not in 2021, will have first shot in January.

Cornhole is played on Wednesday Nights in the Hall. Dale Hugo is always looking for players, so stop by and talk to Dale or Shea, our Wednesday Night Bartender.

You always know it is October because Danielle puts up her Halloween Décor. Christmas gets even better with Lori and our other bartenders getting involved. You will not get to see it unless you stop by with your friends. Remember, Legionnaires can sign in nine (9) guests, Auxiliary Members and SAL Members can sign in one. So, you can bring your relatives, friends, and neighbors as long as they sign the guest book.

NFL SUNDAYS: We do not want to jinx anyone, but all our local NFL teams are doing well. The Giant-Packer London, England Game was packed here in the Canteen. The breakfast sandwiches and platters, along with Bloody Mary and Mimosa Specials were a huge hit. More fans have been showing up on Sundays to root for their favorite teams.

We still offer a discounted football food menu and Coors Lite, Miller Lite, Bud, Bud Lite, Mich Ultra, Yeungling and Pabst. Pint Drafts are only \$2.00.

This year the POW/MIA Tree Lighting will be held in the Hall on Saturday, December 3rd, at 7PM, in the Hall.

The **Army-Navy Game** will be held on Saturday, December 10th, in the Canteen. The Game starts at 3PM. This is an SAL (Sons of the American Legion) fundraiser. There will a 50-50, NFL Jerseys and other prizes raffled off. This is always a great time. So, come on out and support the SAL and root for your favorite team.

New Year's Eve: We will be holding our New Year's Eve Party this year. We have JUKEBOX GOLD providing the entertainment. The festivities start at 8PM and end at 1AM. Tickets are \$55 and there will be a CASH Bar. This is not a Dinner. There will be a pasta station and tons of hors d'oeuvres. Coffee and dessert will be served at the end of the night, along with a pork roll egg & cheese sandwich to take home. This is a semi-formal event. Sorry guys, no shorts, or flip flops. For tickets and reservations contact our bartenders during the day. Tickets will NOT be sold at the door on New Year's Eve.

We would be remiss if we did not mention our great team of

bartenders. They are the ones that make the Canteen, Hall Bar, and the Bunker Bar a success. THANK YOU: Robin, Lori, Danielle, Shea, Rocky, Carol Ann, Donna, Joe, Rob & Jessica for the work you do for the Post.

NOTICE: THE POST WILL BE CLOSED ON THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS.

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



American Legion Winter Corn Hole

2022-2023 Season

Starting November 16, 2022

If you are interested in playing, you can call Dale at 732-977-5174. If no answer please leave your name and number.

Looking to start the season the third week of November (November 16). Games start at 6 p.m. every Wednesday night except the second Wednesday of each month in the hall.

Would like to have a random draw league instead of teams. No commitment to a full season needed. Everyone that shows up will play. \$5.00 per person to play. Money given to first and second place each night.

George P. Vanderveer American Legion Family
Invite All To Attend The

12th Annual
**POW/MIA Christmas Tree
Lighting Ceremony**

Saturday Dec. 3rd, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

*A Solemn Ceremony Honoring and Remembering
Our Nations and New Jersey's
Prisoners of War / Missing in Action / From All Wars*



George P. Vanderveer American Legion Post 129
2025 Church Rd., Toms River, New Jersey

For Info Contact Rocky Lucia rplucia@verizon.net (917) 417-4818



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



**Ocean County
Memorial Chapter 24
of the DAV meet at
Post 129 the 2nd
Wednesday of the**



**FUNDRAISER
SPAGHETTI DINNER**



NOVEMBER 28, 2022 5 P.M. TO 8 P.M. \$10 P/P

For USMC, Post 129 member, Saverio Lardiere. Saverio was in a motorcycle accident and needs help to support his family during rehabilitation. In the Post Hall with all proceeds to go to this Marine. Donations can be made at the following site:

<https://www.givesendgo.com/Saverio>

November 2022						
◀ Oct 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 CHANGE YOUR CLOCK CHANGE YOUR BATTERY		1	2	3	4	5
6 Daylight Savings Time Ends	7 General Meeting 7 p.m.	8 	9 SAL Meeting 7 p.m.	10 U.S. Marine Corps Established (1775)	11 Veterans Day 	12
13	14 Auxiliary Meeting 7.m.	15 	16 	17 	18	19
20	21 Board/ Trustee Meeting 7 p.m.	22 	23	24 Thanksgiving Day 	25	26 Craft & Vendor Fair 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
27	28 Riders Meeting 7 p.m.	29 	30	BINGO Every Thursday Except Thanksgiving Day		

NOVEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH

JJ & RENEE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

OFF-R-RockerZ

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

STRICTLY 60s

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH

WILD ROSE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH

DJ LOUIE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH

JUKEBOX GOLD

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH

POWERTONES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH

RB EXPRESS

Entertainment is scheduled from 7 to 10 p.m.
Time, Venue, and band subject to change.

December 2022							Jan 2023 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1 	2	3 POW/MIA Christmas Tree Lighting 7 p.m.	
4	5 General Meeting 7 p.m.	6 	7 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day 	8 	9	10 Army-Navy Game 3 p.m.	
11 	12 Auxiliary Meeting 7 m.	13 	14 SAL Meeting 7 p.m.	15 	16	17	
18 Children's Christmas Party 12—3 p.m.	19 Board/ Trustee Meeting	20 	21 	22 	23	24	
25 Christmas Day 	26 Riders Meeting 7 p.m. Kwanzaa	27 	28	29 	30	31	

DECEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

JJ & RENEE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

STEVE & DEBBIE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

WILD ROSE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

DECOY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16TH

DJ LOUIE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

SOUND MATTERS (*NEW BAND*)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

STRICTLY 60s

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH NO BAND

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30TH

POWERTONES

SATURDAY, DEC 31ST NEW YEARS EVE

JUKEBOX GOLD

AMERICAN LEGION

BE THE ONE

- Today, the #1 issue facing those who served is **veteran suicide**.
 - Let's stop talking about how many veterans we are losing and **start talking about The One we can save**.
- The stigma associated with mental health issues is a barrier to veterans seeking assistance. They fear loss of their job, think they can handle their situation themselves, or don't think others can understand their situation.
 - The American Legion is activating a national ad campaign to **destigmatize** mental health issues. Make it okay for veterans to ask for help.
- Family members may be the first to recognize the signs that their veteran needs help, but they may lack the knowledge of how to approach the situation.
 - The American Legion will increase **peer-to-peer education and resources** for local communities. (Example: Buddy Check)
- There are several innovative programs either funded by the government or private non-governmental organizations that help veterans in crisis, but they often lack funding or broad-based visibility. (Example: Digital Therapeutics, One More Day)
 - The American Legion has begun exploring ways to help these organizations amplify their efforts, in turn helping save more veterans.



**Postponed Until
April 22, 2023**

**Purchased Tickets
Will Be honored For
The April Show.**

Refunds available

988

SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE



Volunteers always welcome to help with BINGO. Contact Vice Commander Ralph Moranz.



COMMUNITY RESOURCE AND JOB FAIR NOVEMBER 5TH, 2022

TO OUR MILITARY COMMUNITY:

In response to the growing need for community connections and employment resources, please join us as we host many vendors including UPS, IBEW Local 400, Wise Snacks, NJ Department of Corrections, Earle Co, NJ State Police, Helmets to Hardhats, Vetwork, Arms 2 Artisans, Affordable Housing Alliance, Ocean Mental Health, OCEAN Inc, and more! Many potential employers are actively hiring. All Military Service Members, Veterans and their dependents are welcome to attend.

Brenda Irwin

Soldier & Family Readiness
Specialist

Cell: 609-341-6579

Email:

Brenda.L.Irwin2.civ@army.mil



Join us for a Community
Resource and Job Fair

For Service Members,
Veterans, and
Dependents

Saturday, Nov 5th, 2022

10am – 2pm

Sea Girt
National Guard
Armory
Building 35

SCAN QR CODE FOR A
COMPLETE VENDOR LIST



Ryan's Catering Saturday Night Specials



2 salads - 2 entrees (you can mix and match)

1 shared dessert

\$25.00

Post 129, Toms River, New Jersey 08753



FUNDRAISER

SPAGHETTI DINNER

NOVEMBER 28, 2022 5 P.M. TO 8 P.M. \$10 P/P

For USMC, Post 129 member, Saverio Lardiere. Saverio was in a motorcycle accident and needs help to support his family during rehabilitation. In the Post Hall with all proceeds to go to this Marine. Donations can be made at the following site:

<https://www.givesendgo.com/Saverio>



VOLUNTEER:

Yes, you too can help out at the Post and serve on a committee.
Get involved.

Medicare Questions?
Let us be your resource!



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2025 Church Road
Toms River, NJ 08753

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- PUBLISHED** 6 times per year
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soundoff.al.post129@outlook.com
or via U.S. mail to: Al Harbord, 1038 Audubon Drive,
Toms River, NJ 08753.
- ADVERTISING** business card advertising accepted for 6 issues
(1 year). Single card \$75.00 Double card \$140.00.
- ON LINE AT** <http://soundoffalpost129.wix.com/soundoff>
- DISCLAIMER** errors—my dog did it.

SUPPORT
THOSE
WHO
SUPPORT
US!



POST 129

The Law Office of Bonnie R. Peterson
John A. Peterson, Jr. (Ret. Judge Sup. Ct. NJ, Of Counsel)



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