



# SOUNDOFF

January-February 2018



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

## COMMANDERS MESSAGE

Grace and peace brothers and sisters.

We have made it through the holidays and I hope that everyone shared their joy with others less fortunate because that should be the true holiday spirit.

We are entering silly season, the nomination and election of Post, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders officers. Not much going on at the Post but it is a time to reflect on past accomplishments and future goals. I came to 129 through transfer to this post approximately 7 years ago. I came to be a Rider. I was working full time and was looking for a place for friendship and comradeship and I found it here at 129.

I was asked by Rich Gato, the Post Commander, to be the Post

Chaplain, my first, and my most treasured position. While getting more involved I discovered that there were things going on at the Post that I thought I might be able to contribute to with my 40 years of management experience. I was right. I was approached to be a Vice Commander, there were tasks I had to complete, one being Legion College, but with perseverance, and help from supporters I achieved that goal. I was then asked to run for Commander, again some more education and duties which I accomplished and was nominated and elected Commander of Post 129. I knew there was still stuff to be done and ran and was elected for a second term. Some of our accomplishments at the post during my tenure are as follows: Removal of the paid position of finance officer and removal of the paid position of house manager. We have a budget, installation of money management tools, check requests, bookkeeper, quick books,

and consolidation of bank accounts. Improving the insurance at the property at a lower cost. Bartenders on payroll and covered by workman's comp insurance. More involvement in the community, Greater Toms River Chamber of Commerce, Habitat for Humanity, People Pantry, Salvation Army and Ocean County Military Support Commission. Getting the DEP to let us leave up the bunker bar and the garage and getting the necessary permits to install the pavilion, if we choose to do that. Closing two open lawsuits.

Being charged by the membership to be Commander, I have always strived to do the right thing for the Post. Doing the right thing was sometimes controversial, but we got most of it done.

The 100<sup>th</sup> convention is fast approaching and there is a committee working on a spectacular convention weekend. We are also looking to run a bus trip down for the parade and celebration on Saturday June 9, 2018. Please let us know if you are interested as we will need at least 50 folks to make the trip a success.

I love this place, I love the American Legion and I love my brothers and sisters. Whoever the next commander may be, him or her, will have my full support. It has been an amazing run. I hope that 100 years from now Post 129 will still be leading the way in directing, supporting and fulfilling the needs of our veteran population.



Auxiliary Unit 129 President Pam Bowen presents a check to Commander Schaffer at the General Membership meeting of December 4 in support of the Post.

(continued page 2)

## COMMANDERS MESSAGE

(from page 1)

In an effort to still contribute to the Legion I have been asked and have accepted the position of Department Chaplain. Being chaplain is my true real calling. My goal as Department Chaplain will be to bring back the American Legion Ritual team to posts across the state. These teams are the brothers and sisters whom bring final closure to the life of a warrior. It is the most important thing we can do to honor our fallen comrades.

As Chaplain and Commander, I have participated in 100+ rituals and it has been my joy to do so. It is 15 minutes out of your life to consecrate the life of another, a small price to pay. You are "on call" and may have to miss a family gathering, a night at the movies, or an outing with friends, but the joy and love you see in the eyes of the family members can never be duplicated.

We have done rituals when there have only been 2 family members at a WWII warrior funeral. We show up with 8 members. There are no other friends or family left to celebrate their lives. Those are the ones that are the most touching, as without us the warrior would have never been honored for their service. We are always looking for team members. Please see me or Past Post Commander Robert Schiederman for information.

Loving you all,

Michael



## LEGION MEMBERSHIP

I wanted to thank all the members that have sent in there 2018 Dues so far. Your support helps keep us a strong voice on Capitol Hill to address Veterans issues and to keep the VA doing the right things for our Veterans. Just a reminder, our Membership Year starts on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2017. All members should have their Dues paid no later than February 1<sup>st</sup> 2018.

Article X, Section 7 of our Bylaws States:

A member whose dues for the current year that have not been paid on or before January 1<sup>st</sup>. shall be classified as delinquent. If His or Her dues are paid on or before February 1<sup>st</sup>. they will be automatically reinstated. If any member is still delinquent after February 1<sup>st</sup>. Membership shall be suspended from all privileges. If a member is still under such suspension on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Of such year, their Membership in The American Legion shall be forfeited. A member so suspended or whose membership has been forfeited may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by vote of the post and payment of current dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs. Provided, however, that The National Department may wave the provisions hereof, upon payment of dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs, with reference to former members who have been prevented from paying dues due to Active Military Service.

As we enter our 100<sup>th</sup>. Year of Veterans Still Serving America. We need your support. So please send in your dues. We cannot do

this alone. We need your help to Support all the great programs that the American Legion run to Support our Veterans, their Families and the Community in which we live. And by keeping our membership numbers up we will continue to have a strong voice in Washington and on Capital Hill to address the needs of our Veterans. As you know Membership is the Life Blood of this Great Organization. Remember 2019 will be our 100<sup>th</sup>. Anniversary Lets stay strong for the next 100 Years

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

## SAL MESSAGE

Happy New Year everyone! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas. Here we are in 2018 and as 2017 came to a close, our squadron ended the year on a high note with a couple nice, successful events. On December 2nd we had our 7th annual POW/MIA Tree Lighting ceremony. This was a very nice night and well attended. On December 9th we had our annual Army Navy football game event. What a fun day and a fantastic crowd. I would like to thank everyone throughout the year who helped us out with our events. As we ring in 2018, I would love to see a lot of new members who normally don't go to meetings or attend events to step up. Even if you show at one event or a meeting or two, you can see what our squadron does and how everyone's contribution is important and helpful. We will be looking to run more events this year than normal and do whatever we can do to

<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/newexemptionveterans.shtml>

The preceding link will lead you to the New Jersey Taxation website page for Veterans that are now eligible to receive a \$3000.00 tax credit for New Jersey.

(via Ralph Wolff—Thank you)

help raise funds for our Post and the veterans. On February 10th, we will be having our annual Valentine's Day event. We will be doing a comedy show again since it was very successful last year. Please come out and support our squadron and if you can, volunteer your time and help us out.

Since it's a new year, you need to have your 2018 membership cards on hand. The 2017 cards are no longer valid. We are doing well with membership renewals so far, but have a long way to go to hit our number from last year. So please, renew your dues and if you know someone eligible to join, please let's get them signed up. Many members don't realize they have family members and relatives that are eligible to join. So, if you have any questions or know

someone who you would like to have join, please contact us and we'll be happy to get them on board. It's critical to gain new members as well as retain our existing members. You can renew at the post, via mail or online at [www.salpost129.com](http://www.salpost129.com).

Once again, Happy New Year and let's make 2018 our best year yet!

For God & Country,  
Rocky Lucia  
Commander  
SAL Squadron 129



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

## **Valentine's Day Comedy Show**

**Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
7:00 PM**

**\$20 per person for comedy show**

**Presented by Ginger Ninja Productions**

For more information contact:

Rocky Lucia  
[rplucia@verizon.net](mailto:rplucia@verizon.net)  
917.417.4818



## **RIDERS MESSAGE**

Dear Brothers & Sisters

Obviously riding motorcycles is a rare event this time of the year. We do get out to escort Mission of Honor if the weather is not extremely bad. Mission of Honor is such a worthy event that we try to be supportive with both attendance as well as financial donations from time to time.

Many of you may know I am not having the best of years again this year. I have had heart bypass surgery and complications to that surgery led to an additional surgery. I am home recovering and everyday a little stronger. I did miss our Rider Christmas Party and the Army Navy football game, two events that are very important to me every year.

Before you know it 2018 will be upon us with election of officers, our scheduling of "Bike Night" events and of course our annual fund-raising BBQ.

On behalf of my fellow Riders I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a healthy and safe New Year. For God & Country,  
Art Brown



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

**Tin Can Sailors**





## **WHY YOU NEED TO THINK LIKE A CFO**



Ralph Wolff, Finance Officer

In the corporate environment, you can leave financials to someone else, but not in the non-profit world. Everyone from the Commander to the Trustees to the Executive Team down to each individual member needs to think like a Chief Financial Officer. Our Post lives or dies based on cash flow, so the more we can fine tune our activities the better our cash flow.

And while the Commander and the rest of the leadership of the Post are focusing on sustainable growth all members can help to maintain a positive cash flow.

## **So what is Cash Flow?**

Cash flow is the money that is moving in and out of the Post each month. Although it does seem sometimes that cash flow only goes one way- out- it does flow both ways.

### **Cash In:**

Cash is coming in from the bar, the hall and from pull-tabs and donations from the Auxiliary, Riders and SAL and a cluster of people and organizations who are benevolent to our mission.

### **Cash Out:**

Cash that is going out of the Post in the form of payment for expenses, like the mortgage, utilities, upkeep and upgrades.

Think of cash flow as a picture of your own checking account. If

more money is coming in that is going out, you are in a positive cash flow position and you will have enough to pay your bills. If more cash is going out than coming in, you are in danger of being overdrawn.

## **So why is cash flow so important?**

The SBA (Small Business Administration) says that inadequate cash reserves are the top reason that most businesses fail. While the budget is our guide we need to manage the cash flow and ensure that each month it remains positive.

## **How can you help?**

The fastest way for our Post to become financially secure and self-sustaining is for everyone to help find creative ways to fund activities and to promote our Hall to the non-member public. Did you know that the Hall is available during the week for business meetings and seminars? Our goal should be to have the Hall rented every weekend and only by spreading the word to your friends and family can we hope to fulfill this mission.

There are many ways that you as a member can help maintain positive cash flow. One fun way is to attend the many functions that your Post has to offer like the New Year's Party or the St. Pat's Day party. Other ways are a bit more subtle like reducing the cost of maintenance by picking up debris that you may notice in places like the parking lot or the head. Being careful not to damage the property of the post and volunteering for projects that will save the Post labor expenses. Each of one of our membership has a responsibility to support your Post so that we can continue to do the good work for our veterans and the community we live in. Without

the Post many would suffer.

## **Now about the finances!**

We are cautiously optimistic. Our budget is due for a midyear review in January and if need-be we will adjust the budget at that time to reflect our current position. After the budget review, priorities will be set for the many upgrade projects and general maintenance expenses that have been identified and need to be addressed.

We are still in the hunt for a bank who will give us a long term mortgage at a reasonable rate. We have targeted the end of January to choose the winning bank.

Remember to keep thinking like a CFO!

## **Patriotic Quiz No. 10**

1) What noted American fought in a United States army against England, was governor of two states at the beginning and end, respectively, of his political career, and in between lived as a member of an Indian tribe, became commander-in chief of a foreign republic, and a United States Senator?

2) Who said, and on what occasion, "God reigns, and the Government at Washington still lives"?

3) What was a sooner?

4) Who delivered the "Oration of the Day" when Lincoln spoke his immortal words at Gettysburg?

5) Who gave the order, "If anyone attempts to haul down the American Flag, shoot him on the spot," and under what circumstances?

(reprinted from American Legion Magazine—1925)

Bob Scheiderman

ANSWERS ON PAGE 12

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 129'S CHILDREN & YOUTH**

Of the four pillars of the American Legion, pillar number four is where we can make the largest impact locally. It is the Children and Youth Pillar. The American Legion's Children and Youth Pillar is guided by three main objectives: strengthen the family unit, support organizations that help children in need, and provide communities with well-rounded programs that will provide hope and opportunity for young people facing difficult challenges.

Our community has experienced a dramatic increase in the need for support of this, our 4th Pillar, Children and Youth. The George P. Vanderveer Post 129, your Post, is working to increase our ability to meet this expanding need, here in Toms River, by getting more involved with programs that support, educate and care for the children of Toms River. We are already working with the Children's Organ Transplant Assn. (COTA), Legion Baseball, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Boys State, Girls State, the People's Pantry, Easter Seals, the H.S. Oratorical Contest, Children's Coloring Contest and many other programs.

We would like to start a "Children's Campaign" that would help us to expand our support for our youth. Our goal is to raise \$25,000.00; this would be a separate budget line item dedicated just for these special projects. Just imagine all the children that we can help, and every dollar you give to fund this important campaign stays right here in your local community.

**FOUNDING MEMBER STATUS EXTENDED.** Since our fiscal year ends on June 30th, Post 129 has extended your eligibility to become a Founding Member of our inaugural Children and Youth campaign. As a Founding Member, your name will be listed as such in our SOUNDOFF and our Legion Website to acknowledge your support of the children.

No donations are too small. For your convenience you can donate by check (Payable to A. L. Post 129 Children & Youth), or with the use of PayPal. If everyone contributes, we can achieve our goal of \$25,000.00 and significantly impact the Children and Youth Pillar for our Post and our community. Remember, Post 129 is a 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization, and your donation is 100% tax deductible. **Please, Do Not send Cash through the mail.**

***Thank you in advance for your continuing support of the American Legion and for your belief in building a better future for our children.***

Michael Schaffer  
Post 129 Commander

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Name (Print)\_\_\_\_\_ Membership #Number\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Diamond Club Member----- \$500.00  | <input type="radio"/> Silver Club Member----- \$50.00 |
| <input type="radio"/> Platinum Club Member----- \$250.00 | <input type="radio"/> Bronze Club Member----- \$25.00 |
| <input type="radio"/> Gold Club Member----- \$100.00     |   |

**Ways to Donate**

Check \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_ On Line @ ALPOST129.org

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a gift in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ All donations are tax deductible.

## CANTEEN NEWS

Rich Godfrey  
Eric Inaeun

HAPPY NEW YEAR! All the bartenders and the members of the bar staff would like to wish our Post 129 Members a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Our New Year's Eve Gala is always our best event of the year, and this year was no exception. Our Banquet Manager, Kristy, along with Chairperson Mary Del Nero and her volunteer staff made the Hall look like a Hotel Ballroom. Ryan's Catering's, Chef Mike Speary's hors d'oeuvres during our cocktail hour were outstanding as usual, along with the excellent dinner served by his staff. Our band, Let's Be Frank, performed



here for the first time on New Year's Eve, and put on a great show. The feedback was that everyone had a great night.

Our next event, is the SAL Comedy Night. It was so successful last year, that they are bringing it back. The Comedy Night will be



on Saturday, February 10th, 2018, at 7PM. Tickets are \$20. There will be a cash bar with snacks at the tables. This is the main fundraiser for the SAL, and like last year, they are looking for a good turnout. Rocky Lucia and the SAL Members do a fantastic job supporting the Post. So, get ready to laugh your tails off, while supporting the SAL.

Rich Gato, our entertainment czar, continues to do a great job bringing in new talent and booking your favorite bands. These names include The Shore Cats, Dee and Steve, Wild Rose, Infinity, The Powertones Trio, Strictly 60's, the Kokomos, Let's B Frank, A Touch

Of Class, Brain Smallwood, and our own SAL band, Brother SAL. On Friday, January 12th, for all you country fans, 40 North will be performing.

The Hard Working Trustee, Mike "the Painter" Dolan has started a Corn Hole Competition on



Wednesday Nights. He has had a great response. So, if you are free on Wednesday, come on over to the Canteen, test your skill and have a lot of fun.

On Sundays we are still offering \$1.50 domestic draft beers, and discounted bar menus. Hope-

fully in the future, when the NFL stops disgracing our Flag, Anthem and our Veterans, Post 129 will start showing the NFL Games again.

As always, the Canteen opens at 11AM daily. Closing times vary depending on the day of the week, and the amount of people in the bar. Our beers and drinks are served by our professional bartenders, Duke, Warren, Robin, Lori, Lisa, Danielle, Shea, Nancy and Joe. The entire Bar Committee would like to thank them for the tremendous job they do, day in and day out throughout the year.

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



## POST EVERLASTING



John 'Jack' Cortese, 82, US Army, Korean War

Sullivan Tedesco, 74, US Navy, Vietnam War

Robert Urie, 94, US Army, WWII

Brian Pretty, Senior Chief, US Coast Guard

Kenneth Buys, 66, US Army

Cpl. Daniel Baldassare, USMC

James Parks, 86, US Air Force Korean War

David Olney, 62, US Army, Vietnam War

Bob Scheiderman, Ritual Chairman





## THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

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[www.njamericanlegion.org](http://www.njamericanlegion.org)

November 28, 2017



Comrades:

Our Governor-Elect, Phil Murphy, has indicated that he plans to split the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMAVA) into two separate entities. The Military side will include the Army and Air National Guard. The Veterans side will include the three Veterans Homes (Menlo Park, Paramus, and Vineland), Veterans Haven North and South, along with General William C. Doyle Cemetery.

In our opinion, this is not only a wasteful move, but unnecessary. Over the years, DMAVA has proven to be not only efficient, but a model to be recognized across the nation. To form another branch of government, at the Cabinet level, is just creating more bureaucracy and patronage. **This is something we do not need!**

I urge every Legionnaire, Auxiliary member, and SAL member to contact his or her State Assemblyman and State Senator and **tell them to stop this atrocious proposal!**

For God and Country,

DARRYL J. REID

Department Commander


*An Organization of Wartime Veterans in Service to America...*

*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 2018

Garnet

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MANY PEOPLE LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEW YEAR FOR A NEW START ON OLD HABITS!	1 Happy New Year's Day  O Full Wolf Moon	2 General Mtg. 7:00PM	3 	4 <b><u>B</u></b>	5	6
7 	8 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM  1935 Elvis Presley	9 	10 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	11 <b><u>I</u></b>	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Birthday Board Mtg. 7 PM	16 Persian Gulf War Begins (1991)  ● New Moon	17 Cathedral of the Air Rededication 7:00PM	18 <b><u>N</u></b>	19	20
21 	22 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	23  1968 USS Pueblo	24	25 <b><u>G-O</u></b>	26	27 Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord (1973)
28 U.S.—Vietnam Cease Fire (1973)	29	30	31  O Full Old Moon			Keep a thing for 7 years and you will find a use for it.

In Old Toms River: 1896 The first officers of Toms River Fire Co. #1 elected. 1776 Petition for a new town of "Dover" submitted to the Royal Assembly. 1977 Toms River Schools musicians march in Presidential Inaugural Parade. 1941 Bishop Library dedicated.

## JANUARY ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> **SHORE CATS**  
 SATURDAY JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> **DEE & STEVE**  
 \*\*NEW GROUP-FORMERLY  
 FROM THE CLARION\*\*

FRIDAY JANUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> **40 NORTH**

**\*\*COUNTRY NIGHT\*\***

SATURDAY JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup> **"WILD ROSE"**  
 BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

FRIDAY JANUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> **THE POWERTONES**  
 SATURDAY JANUARY 20<sup>TH</sup> **TRIO**  
**STRICTLY 60'S**

FRIDAY JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> **NFINITY**  
 SATURDAY JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup> **BROTHER SAL**  
 OUR HOMETOWN BOYS



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 2018

Amethyst

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <b>BINGO</b>	2 <i>Ground Hog Day</i>	3
4 Four Chaplains Sunday Services 2PM Cathedral of the Air	5 General Mtg. 7:00PM	6 	7	8 BINGO	9	10 SAL Comedy Show
11 	12 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM	13 	14 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM <i>Valentines Day</i>	15 <b>BINGO</b> ● New Moon	16	17
18	19 Board/Trustee Mtg. 7:00PM <b>Presidents' Day</b>	20	21	22 <b>B I N G O</b>	23	24
25	26 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	27 	28			"If you are too big to do little things, you are probably too little to do big things"

During WWII, the US transport ship Dorchester, which was carrying troops to Greenland, sank after being hit by a German torpedo; only 230 survived. The "Four Chaplains" gave-up their life jackets and drowned so that others may survive.

## FEBRUARY ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup> **SUMMER PROJECT**  
 SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup> **FLOYD MURRAY**  
 \*\*NEW ACT\*\*

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup> **"THE MANGO'S"**  
 SATURDAY FEB 10<sup>TH</sup> **BRIAN SMALLWOOD**

FRIDAY FEB 16<sup>TH</sup>SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>

**JOHNNY "D" &  
THE DECADES  
TWO BROTHERS**  
 \*\*NEW BAND\*\*

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND  
 SATURDAY FEB 24<sup>TH</sup> **THE CROSSTONES**

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

## AUXILIARY MESSAGE

Well there has been quite a few things happening down here at the Post. The Unit has been very busy with several events, such as the Department President's visit in October. Then we had the Veteran's Day Service down here at the post in both the front and back with refreshments following. Then there was the dinner with Sinatra and The Meet and Greet with the Chamber of Commerce. Then our VA&R Chairperson Jane Keeley had out done herself again this past November 19th with the annual Turkey Dinner for the visiting Veterans from the homes. Every year they look forward to coming to the Post for a good time and they certainly had a good time. A big THANK YOU to Jane for all of her hard work she does for this event.

The Post family attended the POW/MIA Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 2nd with our own POW/MIA Chairperson Lisa Mayer describing the POW/MIA Flag and she had done a great job informing the audience of the POW/MIA Flag and all it stands for. Thank you to S.A.L. Commander Rocky Lucia and his Squadron for Honoring the POW/MIA's with the dignity and respect that they deserve. THANK YOU ROCKY. We had a special guest in the audience that night as well and that guest was Karyn Porempski and her husband Joe. Karyn is the National First Vice President of the Eastern Division of the ALA and I can say that she was quite impressed with our service and the Post itself. I along with Commander Schaffer, SAL, D.E.C. Doreen Gallagher, and D.E.C. Ray Miller took Karyn and her husband to see the Monument out back. Both were very



**Auxiliary members attending Veterans Day ceremonies at Post 129.**

impressed with everything they had seen and heard that night.

With the holidays quickly approaching and the hustle and bustle of people traveling to see their families and enjoying the holiday season let us ever be mindful of others who look upon the holidays as a difficult time. Let us reach out a helping hand to others not just at the holiday season but all year long. Let us remember our Servicemen and women who cannot be home with their families during this holiday season. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers for a quick and safe return home. I want to wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

For God and Country,  
Pam Bowen  
Unit President



**Visit from Eastern Division National Vice President Caryn Poremskli (L) and NEC Doreen Galager (R) at POW/MIA Christmas Tree Lighting .**





## AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

To all Unit 129 members and families,

With us now being amid the holiday season we hope everyone had a blessed and joyful holiday.

A reminder to those who have not paid their dues for 2018. Your 2017 membership expires on December 31. Please contact one of our membership committee listed below for information on renewing your membership.

We sincerely wish the best to everyone in the spirit of service, not self, for veterans, God and country.

Your membership committee,  
 Jean Robbins 732-244-9197  
 Peggy Robbins 732-270-4507  
 Pat Corbin 732-349-9241



Everyone from the youngest to the oldest had a wonderful time. Santa came to give presents to all the children at the Auxiliary's Children's Christmas Party. Even the oldest members there were young at heart as the Christmas Spirit swept over the event.



Commander Schaffer attends the Auxiliary Department visit in New Egypt for a gift presentation for the President's project on October 31, 2017.



Auxiliary President Pam Bowen, Post 129 Commander Michael Schaffer and Sons of the American Legion Commander Rocky Lucia at the Veterans Day ceremony at Post 129.



## Answers to Patriotic Quiz No. 10

(from page 4)

1. Sam Houston served under Gen. Jackson in the War of 1812, was governor of Tennessee in 1827, after which he became a full-fledged member of the Cherokee Indian tribe. He joined in the war for Texan independence and became commander-in-chief in the army and President of the Republic of Texas until it was admitted as a State into the Union. He then served as U. S. Senator from Texas, from 1846 to 1859, when he was chosen Governor, serving until March 1861, when he was deposed because he refused to swear allegiance to the Confederacy.

2. Gen. James A. Garfield used the words "God reigns, and the government in Washington still lives," during an informal mass meeting in front of the Merchants Exchange, New York City, April 15, 1865, the day of President Lincoln's death.

3. When a sizable section of Oklahoma known locally as "the Cherokee strip" was thrown open for white settlement in 1893 by what is known as "The Run", Federal soldiers cleared this territory-which comprises about one-fifth of the present State-of all inhabitants and then posted a guard about the borders. At noon on September 16th the strip was declared open, and about 150,000 people on horseback, foot, and in every form of conveyance dashed from the four borders into the Strip and staked their claims. Naturally a few people had eluded the vigilance of the troops and were hidden within the Strip, they simply emerged from hiding and picked out the best claims, they were

called "sooners" and when discovered were shot without the formality of a trial.

4. Edward Everett, of Massachusetts, delivered the "Oration of the Day" at the dedication of the Gettysburg field on November 19, 1863, when Lincoln gave his immortal address, his speech lasted more than an hour. Lincoln's lasted about three minutes.

5. The order, "If anyone attempts to haul down the American Flag, shoot him on the spot" was given by John A. Dix, Acting Secretary of the Treasury, in a dispatch to the internal revenue office at New Orleans, January 29, 1861.

(reprinted from American Legion Magazine -1925)  
Bob Scheiderman

vention, but would like to participate in the celebration and parade on that Saturday. If we can get 45 committed to the bus, we will move forward with the process.

There is always an enjoyable time at the "normal" Saturday party, but this year shapes up to be outstanding. The bus would leave Post 129 at approx. 10 a.m., and return around 9 p.m. There would be light refreshments prior to leaving the Post, and a parade, music, and food, at the Post site in Wildwood.

We have run buses in the past, but this coming year is very special, with one of our very own having a chance to become New Jersey State Commander!

So, give it some thought, and make it a date to meet the rest of Post 129 in Wildwood. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Can-



## 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY BUS TRIP

American Legion members:

This June, we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of The American Legion at the Wildwood convention. We are considering running a bus trip for those that cannot attend for the whole con-

teen. If we get 45 riders by the end of January, I will reach out for the bus, and be in a better position to advise on the price. It is not a fund raiser! It's an opportunity for all to share in this historic event.

Post 129 Past Commander,  
David E. Corbin

Thanks to Michael Dolan: Sherwin Williams now gives a 15% discount to all veterans. For a complete list of the hundreds of discounts available check The American Legion National website on-line at; <https://www.legion.org/veteransbenefits/military-veteran-discounts>

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



# SOUNDOFF

January-February 2018



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

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Submissions can be e-mailed to:

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or via U.S. mail to: Al Harbord, 1038 Audubon Drive,  
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