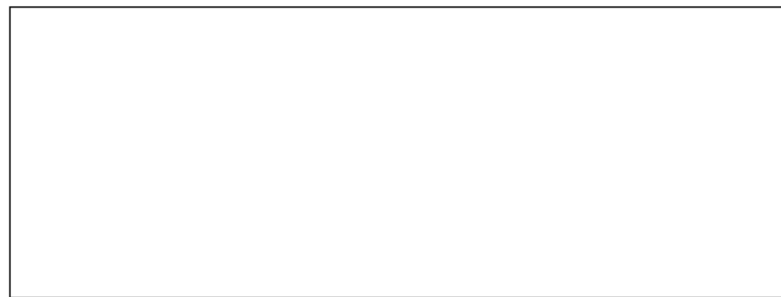




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American Legion
1532 Martin Ave
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002-2060



July 15, 2018—October 15, 2018



Post 372

1532 Martin Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
856-665-3889

www.ALCH372.com

Commander's Message



I never thought that I would be writing here, but what do you know, I'm here. I guess we should never say never because all of a sudden, we are eating our words. Well, this is the beginning of another year for the American Legion, 100 years and still going strong. Post 372 had a very interesting year and without the assistance of the ladies Aux, the SAL's and the Riders we would not have ever made it on our own. Thanks goes out to all of you.

I would also like to thank the Cherry Hill Police Department, they are always there to lend a hand. They have a tough and stressful job with all that is going on in our country today, and they do not get the thanks they deserve. The next time you see an officer, tell them thank you, I'm sure you will feel great doing this and you will help that officer have a better day.

August, September and October are upon us and it's time to enjoy the well-deserved summer. July and August are months that nothing much

happens here, just the normal every day activity. However, in September not only does school start, but we start a lot of things at the post for everyone.

On September 15th the SAL's will once again host their outstanding Family Day at the Legion. Good food, great friends and a lot of fun for everyone. Come out and join in the celebration, I'm sure if this is your first year here it definitely won't be your last. Check for details inside this newsletter.

September 21st is the 24th Annual Stand Down at the Cherry Hill Army National Guard armory. For those not aware, this provides service to homeless veterans along with shelter, meals, clothing, medical attention and even haircuts. This is all accomplished with volunteers effort, sign up and help out with this excellent cause. You won't be disappointed. You can check their web site out at www.standdownsouthjersey.org

September 21st is also POW/MIA Recognition Day. We will be having a Ceremony honoring our POW/MIA's at the Legion at 7pm. Please come out and join us in remembering them. Let's not forget.

The Cherry Hill PBA will once again be hosting a Veterans Dinner in October. Stay tuned for complete details.

The Riders will be having a Pig Roast on October 13th. Check for details inside the newsletter.

Last, but not least, is membership. We are all part of the membership department, our applications fit right into your wallet. When you happen to come across a veteran talk about joining, we need some of the younger generation to help out at the Post. All of our present members should come to a meeting once in a while and give us some ideas as to make Post 372 shine brighter than it is. With that I'm looking forward to seeing and talking with you at Post 372.

If you are not signed up on the American Legion Post 372, please do so at www.alch372.com so you are informed of news and events that don't make it in the quarterly newsletter.

For God and Country
Joe Merimonde
Commander



www.alch372.com

POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

Please join us Friday, September 21st at 7pm at American Legion Post 372 as we recognize our POW/MIA's. It's a time to honor our missing service members.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day will be observed on Friday, Sept. 15, 2017. This annual event honors our

missing service members and their families, and highlights the government's commitment to account for them. Across the country, local POW/MIA ceremonies are encouraged throughout POW/MIA Recognition Week, culminating with countless events and the national

ceremony in Washington, DC, on Recognition Day. Support for these missing Americans and their families is deeply felt.

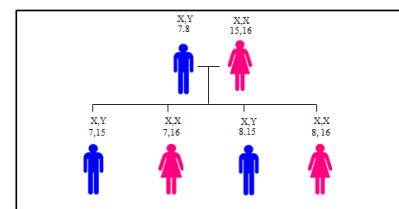
America's POW/MIAs should be honored and recognized, rather than memorialized, with the focus on continuing commitment to account as fully as possible for those still missing. Strong, united support by the American people is crucial to achieving concrete answers.

Please visit the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency website at <http://www.dpaa.mil/> for a wealth of information on what's going on with our POW/MIAs.

The DPAA recently launched an online space for sharing updates, content and new information with families of personnel who are unaccounted for called "FamWeb".

You will also find information on recently identified remains and numbers/names of those that remain missing.

If you know someone that has a family member that is still POW/MIA, please encourage them to contact the DPAA to submit DNA. They may have their loved



ones remains, but are unable to identify them if no one in the family has ever submitted DNA.

**NOBLE MISSION,
GLOBAL EFFORT**

Join us at American Legion Post 372 on Friday,
September 21st at 7pm for our POW/MIA

National POW/MIA Recognition Day
September 21, 2018

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American Legion Post 372

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Annual Flag Retirement Ceremony

The weather was picture perfect for our annual Flag Retirement Ceremony held in the firepit by the Picnic Grove on June 11th.

Commander Joe Merimonde was Master of Ceremonies and Chaplain John Murphy did the Invocation.

We were honored to have special guest, Brig Gen John DiNapoli (ret) attend and say a few words as well.

He is also a Trustee with our American Legion Post 372

Boy Scout Troop 70 of Cherry Hill and the Cherry Hill Police Department came out in force and did an outstanding job of showing respect for our flag.

American Legion Post 372 presented the Boy Scouts and the Cherry Hill Police Department with

Certificates of Appreciation for their continued support of this annual ceremony.

We had a great showing of members come out for the ceremony as well—every year brings more and more!

The Ceremony was followed by a Pizza Party held in the Hall. A great ending to honoring our nations flag.



American Legion Post 372 Announces Sponsorship Packages

Established in 1952, American Legion Post 372 of Cherry Hill has been helping and supporting our veterans and active military in the community for over 60 years!

From honoring our fallen veterans on Memorial Day, to providing scholarships, sponsoring Legion Baseball High School Team and Boys/Girls State Programs, hosting veterans resource fairs, to wel-

coming home active military, and much more in between, we are always busy keeping up with our mission!

We are excited to announce that we have started a Sponsorship Program that will not only help us, but also help promote our local community businesses, such as yours!

With 5 levels of sponsorship available, there is something to fit everyone's budget!

The American Legion Post 372 of Cherry Hill NJ is a 501c 19 non-profit veterans organization devoted to helping our active military and veterans.

Your sponsorship/donation is tax deductible!

For complete information, visit our website at www.alch372.com or contact Sue Quinn-Morris at 856-495-7270

9/11 Remembrance at Cherry Hill Fire Department



This year will mark the 17th Anniversary of the day America was attacked in New York City, Pennsylvania and Washington DC.

It is a day I believe we all remember exactly what we were doing and where we were at the time of it.

Our nation's heroes suffered unspeakable losses of their brothers and sisters, not to mention the unaccounted number of those that still suffer the physical and mental aftermath of that day and clean up.

In 2011 the Cherry Hill Fire Department acquired a 3-foot long piece of steel from the World Trade

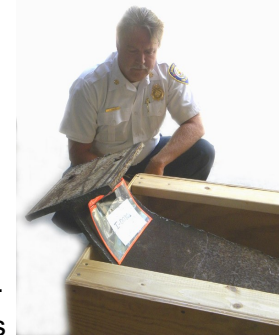
Center's North Tower. The WTC steel is now prominently displayed in the memorial located at the Markkess Rd station.

Every year the Cherry Hill Fire Department holds a Remembrance Ceremony at the 9/11 Memorial at 8:30am.

Please join American Legion members at the

Ceremony as we pay respects to all those that lost their lives that day protecting our homeland.

Lest we forget their sacrifices.



New Jersey RUN for the FALLEN

New Jersey Run for the Fallen is a organization of runners whose mission is clear and simple: To run one mile for every New Jersey service member killed in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and New Dawn.

The last Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday of September, they run across New Jersey to raise awareness for the lives of those who

fought and died, to rejuvenate their memories and keep their spirits alive, to support organizations that aid the families of

those killed, and to aid in the healing process for the native New Jersey residents whose lives have been affected by the war.

Each KIA has a Run Marker where family and friends may gather while the runners come by and pay homage to their life and sacrifice.

Join Legion members on September 20th to honor our fallen heroes. As in the past, we will meet at the Legion

and proceed to the shore points to stand at the markers of our 4 Cherry Hill KIA's—Greg Dalessio, John Spahr, Jeremy Kane and Kenneth Smith.

Please check our website or sign up on our email list to receive more details as we get closer to the date.

They shall never be forgotten.



Helping Our Homeless Veterans

Longtime Legionnaire member (25yrs+), Jim Maher, runs the Annual Stand Down of South Jersey at the Cherry Hill Armory.

The South Jersey Stand Down has been held annually since September 1996. Originally a three-day event, the Stand Down was hosted at Fort Dix New Jersey. After a decision was made to hold a one-day event, it was relocated

to the Army National Guard Armory in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Primary support (provisions of the structure, grounds and utilities) is provided by the NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

The Stand Down of South Jersey provides services to homeless veterans along with shelter, meals, clothing, and medical attention. This annual

event is an entirely volunteer effort, organized within Camden County and New Jersey communities, bringing service providers together such as the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialists, Local Veterans Employment representatives, various veterans service organizations, military personnel, civic leaders, and a variety of other organizations. Since 1996 this event has served as a catalyst that enables homeless veterans to re-enter mainstream society.

The 22nd Annual Stand Down of South Jersey will be held on September 21, 2018.

If you can volunteer some time that morning, please go to <http://www.standdownsouthjersey.org/volunteer/> to register .

If you can help with a donation, please make checks payable to Stand Down of SJ and mail to Stand Down of South Jersey, POBox 2612 Cherry Hill, NJ 08034. Stand Down of South Jersey is a 501 (c) (3) charity. Should you have any questions, contact standdownsj@gmail.com



STAND DOWN 2018

PROOF OF SERVICE REQUIRED, VETERANS ONLY

SERVING HOMELESS VETERANS

FRIDAY, SEPT. 21, 2018

8:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

CHERRY HILL NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY
GROVE ST & PARK BLVD
CHERRY HILL, NJ 08002

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Pre-registration and transportation arrangements call: 1-888-8NJ-VETS (1-888-865-8387), then press #1

www.standdownsouthjersey.org

A Legion Tradition—With Some New Faces!

Locustwood and Beyond

In May, for as many years as we can remember, the American Legion members have been flagging the veterans graves at Locustwood – this year was no different in that our members were once again busy flagging our veterans graves – and once again, we had some additional help!

Although we usually flag Lo-



custwood the weekend before Memorial Day, we did it early this year due to some conflicts in dates. On May 6th, American Legion General Members, SAL's and Auxiliary members were joined by volunteers from the Cherry Hill Police Department, Jewish Family Services and other Cherry Hill community groups and residents – to help with the flagging at Locustwood Cemetery.

Colestown Cemetery –

Meanwhile, at Colestown Cemetery, some Legion members, helped Camden County Veterans Affairs and the Boy Scouts, with flagging the veterans graves there.

Colestown Cemetery is very rich in history, with many civil war veterans, including a Medal of Honor recipient! It really provides a great history and learning experience for our youth.

Memorial Day Services

The day began with a somber service in front of the flagpole at the American Legion Post 372 at 9:30am, followed by services at Locustwood Cemetery. Members, friends and families came out in force to honor and remember our deceased veterans.



Some members also attended the Cherry Hill Township Memorial Day Services, which began at 11am. It was a wonderful ceremony honoring our veterans.

NJ American Legion Statewide Services –

On June 3rd, Legion members from all over NJ came from far and wide to participate in the 84th Annual NJ American Legion Statewide



Services at Locustwood.

84 years ago, Locustwood Cemetery donated over 400 grave plots to the American Legion—in appreciation of their generosity, an annual parade and memorial ceremony are held at the Cemetery.

After the parade/ceremony, holding with tradition, the Cherry Hill American Legion provided a delicious buffet for all. A packed house !



As usual, it was a great time and great opportunity to mingle, and share news with our fellow Legion members from all over the state.



Also, a special thanks to all the members that were able to come out to collect / pick up all the flags from Locustwood Cemetery on June 7th.

It was a great turnout and we were able to get it done within 3 hours and that included going through the flags, separating the ones ready for retirement and storing away the good ones!

Great job volunteers and lets strive for the same turnout next year.

American Legion Jersey Boys State

A Week That Shapes the Future

American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS) is a mythical fifty-first state organized and administered for citizenship training purposes under the auspices of The American Legion, Department of New Jersey.

It educates our youth in the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. Boys State endeavors to provide a foundation for understanding self-government, a rational approach toward the solution of public questions, and a live faith in the ideals and processes of democracy. The program of training and instruction consists of extending the boy-citizen's acquaintance with the background of American ideals, expanding his knowledge of the underlying principles of government organization, and by means of active participation in the government of Boys State helps him to set up constructive ideals toward all phases of representative government.



tors were elected and announced, exams were completed, graduation certificates were handed out, awards were presented, and families, statesmen, and staff members enjoyed lunch together. Before the graduation ceremony, ALJBS hosted Family Day. Over 3,000 statesmen, their families and friends, Legionnaires, and staff members ate and took part in a final Retreat ceremony. Family Day, now in its 16th year, is sponsored by the New Jersey Boys State Foundation and provides a unique opportunity for statesmen, their parents, and their friends to meet and interact with the friends

they've made during the weeklong ALJBS program as well as the volunteer staff of ALJBS.

We were honored to be able to host boys from Cherry Hill West High School, Cherry Hill East High School and Camden Catholic High School. Below is a list of results;

Fabian, Luke from Cherry Hill (Post #372) was in City #13.

Garemore, Timothy from Cherry Hill (Post #79) was in City #9.

Lado, Nathan from Cherry Hill (Post #372) was in City #17.

Laufgraben, Jacob from Cherry Hill (Post #372) was in City #2.

Freeholder McBride, Thomas from Cherry Hill (Post #372) was in City #11.

Rhodes, Aidan from Cherry Hill (Post #372) was in City #11.

Robinson, Craig from Cherry Hill (Post #372) was in City #11.

Sagedy, Andrew from Cherry Hill (Post #372) was in City #8.

Senator Semon, Lucas from Cherry Hill (Post #372) was in City #12.

Shalit, Ari from Cherry Hill (Post #372) was in City #13.

Assemblyman Tillinger, Harel from Cherry Hill (Post #372) was in City #17.

For more information about the program visit www.aljbs.org



This year, it was held from June 18th—23rd at Rutgers. Our Legion Post 372 was able to send 18 boys to the program.

We congratulate all the winners and all the statesmen for completing the 2018 ALJBS Session!

An eventful graduation on Friday capped a successful week at American Legion Jersey Boys State, the 73rd session in the program's history. Boys Nation Sena-

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(No furniture/food)



Location: American Legion, 1532 Martin Ave, Cherry Hill, NJ - behind CH West High School/JFK Hospital

Your donations help benefit the Cherry Hill American Legion Veterans programs.



Cherry Hill National Night Out is Tuesday, August 7th from 6-8:30pm at the Cherry Hill Municipal Complex.

Come spend time with us and our community for a night of FREE family fun.

Sign in at the Cherry Hill Police tent to make sure your children, grade 12 and under, get a raffle ticket for a chance to win a bike, helmet and other great outdoor activity gear!



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Legion Riders

PIG ROAST

Saturday, OCTOBER 13th * 2pm-6pm

Rain or Shine

Donation \$20 per person

Live Music by Bartender Bobby!

Lots of Food * Beer * Soda * Water

Chinese Auction * 50/50 Raffle

Door Prizes * \$10 Raffle Tickets Available

\$10 Raffle Tickets - Only 200 tickets being sold!

1st Place \$750, 2nd Place \$250, 3rd Place \$75

(need not be present to win)

Event & Raffle Tickets Avail @ Legion or email frankandrea1957@gmail.com or heatherandrea1962@gmail.com

Location: American Legion Post 372, 1532 Martin Ave, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002 * www.alch372.com



Message from the SAL Commander



Well summer is in full swing now and I hope everyone is enjoying this season. It's that time of year where we often take vacations and spend time with our family and friends. I personally have always found the summer to be simply magical because maybe it's a trip down to the shore or just a nice night out possibly even at the legion that can leave an everlasting memory for years to come.

It's been a busy time here at Post 372. We flagged both Locustwood and Colestown Cemeteries. Memorial Day ushered in a new mission for us as we welcomed the newly formed SAL Honor Guard and add-

ed them to the service in remembering our veterans on such an important day. The 83rd Annual Statewide Service at Locustwood was largely attended and with the support of the Legion Family we were able to host a successful social gathering immediately following the service. The American Legion Convention in Wildwood was well represented by us and was a great time to mingle with fellow Legion members throughout our state. In partnership with Boy Scout Troop #70 and Cherry Hill PD the annual flag retirement ceremony was performed and provided a background on our nation's emblem for freedom and democracy.

Family Day has been scheduled for September 15th 2018. The SALs will have Family Day Meetings on July

18th, August 15th, and September 12th to plan for this event. All are welcome to attend the meetings to share ideas and help with this. If you can't attend the meetings but would like to help or have input on this please feel free to contact me.

I am so happy to be serving our post in this role and welcome feedback on how to serve you better. I genuinely feel that our post can't exist without its members and its common call to help care for our veterans. Remember to enjoy your summer and please come back on September 19th to attend the SAL Monthly Meeting.

For God and Country,
Joshua A. Seib
SAL Commander Post 372

MESSAGE from Riders Director



As the 2018-19 riding year begins, we would like to congratulate our new officers and thank those that have been an intricate part of the riders over the past years. We would like to thank our outgoing Director, Art Schneider for all his hard work this past year, and working so diligently to get our by-laws passed and approved, and now as our new road captain, we know he will continue his dedication to keep our riders safe.

We are excited to welcome some new riders, and having as many members

come out and support our events. Please mark your calendar for Saturday October 13th, as we are planning a Pig Roast to be held at the legion from 2-6pm. Event tickets and raffle tickets will be available soon for purchase at the canteen. Our very own "Bob the Bartender" will provide the music. We anticipate a great event to raise money for our veteran's causes. If you are interested in helping out during our event or donating a raffle basket, please reach out to me at frankandre-a1957@gmail.com. Donations are greatly appreciated!

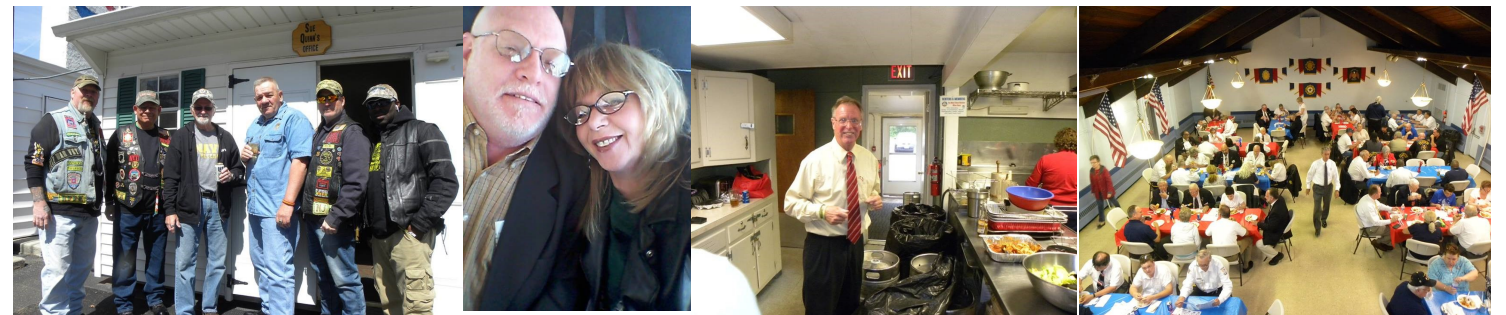
We are in full swing of the riding season, so please check your bike for safety issues and older helmets that may need to be replaced this year. Safety is always our main goal!

Please check the legion website (www.alch372.com) as well as Patriot Connection for all upcoming events.

Our regularly scheduled meetings are every 4th Monday of the month starting at 7pm.

Thank you and safe riding!

Frank Andrea
Director, ALR Post 372



MESSAGE from Auxiliary President



Hope all of you are enjoying what is left of the summer. A few of us attended the Legion Convention in Wildwood this year. Hopefully next year we can have more auxiliary members attend. This is where we are recognized for all of the hours and events we have you sent to Terri Cosgrove. They do make a difference. Please continue to send in those hours if you haven't already.

Post 372 was awarded a plaque for our social media publications.....Big shout out to SUE QUINN for making that happen. All of her hard work on Facebook, Patriot Connections, the

Legion website and the Scoop has been recognized ... Thank you Sue for all your hard work for our Post.

Our cooler raffle we held in May was won by Charlie Alberti. - Congrats Charlie!!!! (and thanks to all who purchased a ticket)

The auxiliary will be holding another dance/social coming in February. We hope it will be just as successful as our last one. Tickets sold out fast so keep an eye out for more info to come

I would like to congratulate all our new incoming auxiliary officers for the 2018-2019 year. Lynn Collings - president
Sandra Kraft - Vice President
Cindy Nims - 2nd Vice president and membership

Carol Hendricks - Treasurer
Michelle Derer - Secretary
Helen Henry - Chaplain & Sunshine Sergeant at Arms - Marianne Steinhagen.

Also a congrats to all the new incoming officers in the SAL's and Legionnaires.

Our Auxiliary meetings are held the 1st Monday of the month starting in September. Since Labor day will be falling on the 1st Monday in September, our meeting will be held September 10th at 7 pm.

We could use your help and ideas. Please try to participate if you can.

For God and Country,
Lynn Collings
Auxiliary President

American Legion Post 372 Annual

FAMILY DAY

September 15th, 2018

1pm - 6pm (Rain or Shine)

DJ, Food, Fun & Games, 50/50, Raffle,
Roast Pig, Clams, Hamburger, Hotdogs,
Salads and Corn on the Cob

In Advance; \$20/pp - \$35/couple - At Door; \$20/pp

American Legion Post 372, 1532 Martin Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ * 856-665-3889