

Vetera**N** Journal

"Serving Those Who Served"
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
DECEMBER 2007



Push for WWII Memorial

DCVA's Message

Dear Veterans,

At the start of a new year most folks look back at how the past year went, look forward on what they want to do in the coming 12 months and maybe make a resolution or two.

For the department three projects started in 2007 will be front and center in DMAVA's activities in the coming year.

First, the plan to utilize the \$1 million dollars added to our current budget by Governor Jon S. Corzine to address the needs of returning Global War on Terrorism veterans will be finalized and brought to fruition.

Then there was the additional money provided by the Governor to expand the Veterans Haven transitional housing program in Winslow Township. In 2008 we are working to get the final pieces in place to begin adding 37 additional beds to help even more homeless veterans.

In 2008 we will finish the study started in the fall addressing the issue of providing home health care for our New Jersey veterans. We are working with the Department of Health and Senior Services and this report will be sent to the state legislature.

There is another item that veterans can lend a hand with in 2008 and that would be supporting the nearly 3,000 New Jersey Army National Guard Soldiers deploying in June. This deployment of the 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in support of the Global War on Terrorism will be the largest New Jersey Guard deployment since World War II. This deployment will affect Citizen-Soldiers and their families in every county of this state. We will need your support to send off the troops and then take care of the home front heroes, the families, in the 12 months that the Soldiers will be away.

Now that was the look back and view forward, now here is my resolution, a resolution shared by Governor Corzine and Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General.

We need to raise the money necessary to build the World War II Memorial in 2008.

This should be the resolution of every one of the nearly 545,000 veterans living in the Garden State.

The Governor wants to celebrate Veterans Day 2008 at the memorial across from the Statehouse in Trenton. We need every veteran to support this memorial, not only with donations, but more importantly with your influence.

We need you to ask your family, friends and neighbors to contribute. We need businesses small and large to step up and if you have any connections with national companies that are headquartered in this state, we need those CEO's, CFO's or foundations to make a commitment to honor our World War II veterans.

Ladies and Gentlemen this is our special mission for 2008, to build this lasting tribute to our World War II Comrades, so future generations will realize and remember the dedication and sacrifice they made to preserve the freedom and liberty we continue to enjoy. They deserve so much more, can we offer less?

Thank you for the support I know will be forthcoming and may everyone have a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.




Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs Col. (retired) Stephen Abel (left) discusses veterans issues with Vincent Hoffman (center) and Joseph Manghisi.



Jon S. Corzine

Governor

Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth

The Adjutant General

Col. Stephen G. Abel, USA (RET)

Deputy Commissioner for
Veterans Affairs

Lt. Col. James Garcia

Public Affairs Officer

Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen

Layout/Photographer

Kryn P. Westhoven

Staff Writer/Photographer

Staff Sgt. Barbara Harbison

Staff Writer/Photographer

The **VeteranNJ** Journal is an official publication of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and is intended to serve New Jersey's veterans, their families, friends and concerned individuals and groups. All correspondence should be sent to: Veteran Journal Editor, NJDMAVA/PA, PO Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340.

Cover Photo

Governor Jon S. Corzine discusses the importance in supporting the New Jersey World War II Memorial during the Nov. 12 fundraiser at Drumthwacket. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.

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Message from the Governor

Dear Veterans,

On Veterans Day this year, we celebrated the heroes of our country with the traditional pomp and circumstance and expressions of heartfelt appreciation befitting their honorable service. But this Veterans Day marked still another year without the dedication of a World War II Memorial in New Jersey. I want you to know that I am working to ensure the dedication of this long-awaited and much deserved tangible expression of our respect and gratitude by November, 2008.

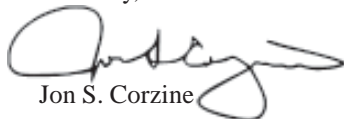
Of the approximately 545,000 veterans who live in our state, nearly 30 percent served in World War II. That is about twice the average percentage of other states; and after their service on the battlefield, these men and women returned home to rebuild their careers and families, and helped transform America into a symbol of freedom and democracy for people all over the world.

Sixty years later, their service - your service - is honored by that freedom this nation cherishes so dearly. Notwithstanding the pledges and the hard work of so many of you, that service is not yet recognized by an appropriate monument in our state. They deserve to see this memorial finished within their lifetime, and I have pledged that this will happen during my administration. With so much that our World War II veterans have given to us, this is the least that we can give to them; and it is the best we can give to our children and grandchildren as an example of the kind of love of country and community that sustains and enhances us through generations.

With the help of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Office of the Secretary of State, we have expanded the membership of the World War II Memorial Commission and appointed new members to accelerate our fundraising efforts. Recently members of the commission and I held a reception at the Governor's Mansion to help raise funds. I am happy to report that more than 100 people attended and we were able to secure a significant number of new donors.

While we're having success finding new donors, we still have a way to go to reach our goal. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who have already given, especially the World War II Veterans, and encourage those of you who may not yet have been able to contribute. I realize many of you are living on fixed incomes, and your donations, whether they be \$5, \$10, \$25 or more, exemplify the same self-sacrifice that you have shown in wars past. Rest assured, we're working as fast as we can and I hope to report back with good news soon.

Sincerely,



Jon S. Corzine
Governor



Governor Jon S. Corzine (right) poses for photo with DHM Design team member Robert Smith during the Nov. 12 World War II Memorial fundraiser held at Drumthwacket - the Governor's mansion. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.

WWII MEMORIAL TAKES SHAPE



DHM Design, the firm awarded the design of the New Jersey World War II Memorial at Veterans Park in Trenton, recently released a series of computer generated images (CGI) of the memorial. Above, is an aerial





perspective of the entire memorial. Below, left to right, are the water walls, the Lone Soldier statue and the Battlefield Marker; next are the amphitheater and the story walls, and finally Lady Victory in the plaza.



GOVERNOR HONORS VETERANS

New Jersey Governor Jon S. Corzine shakes hands with some of New Jersey's newest veterans, Soldiers from the 250th Brigade Support Battalion, before giving the keynote speech at the Veteran's Day Memorial ceremony at the Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Cemetery.

The ceremony took place on Sunday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. on the patio of the chapel.

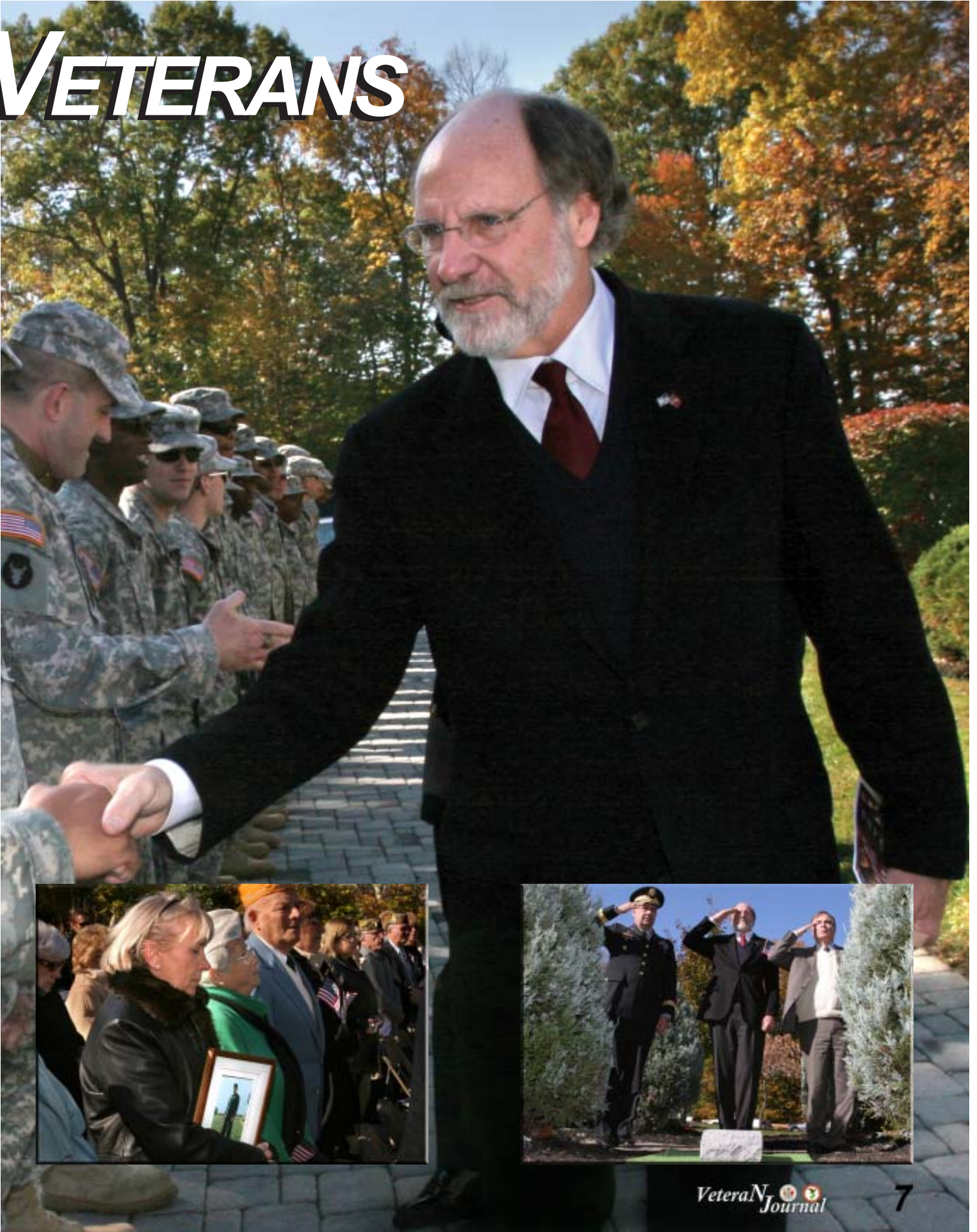
The Veterans Day ceremony honored New Jersey veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces. The ceremony included a flag retirement service, wherein the ashes of 2,000 flags were entombed.

The Veterans Memorial Cemetery is New Jersey's sole state-operated veterans' cemetery. Dedicated in 1986, it is funded jointly by state and federal dollars and is under the management of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. Doyle Cemetery is the busiest state veteran cemetery in the nation, averaging 2,750 interments each year.

For more information on the cemetery, go to www.state.nj.us/military/cemetery/index.html.



VETERANS





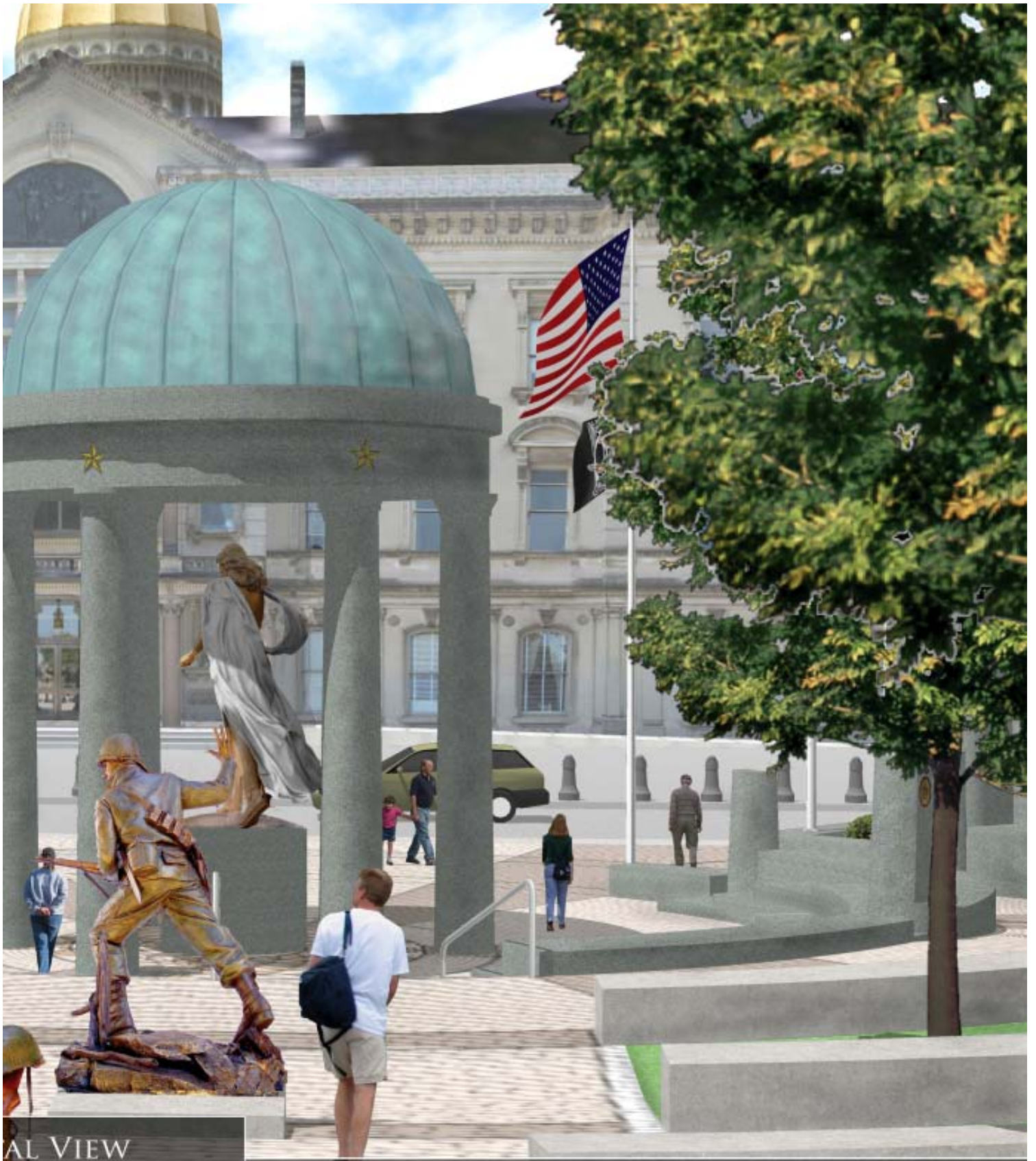
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WORLD WAR II

AT VETERA

STATE OF NE





AL VIEW

II MEMORIAL

ANS PARK
NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

DHM DESIGN
11/12/2007

Stand Down 2007

Story and photos by Kryn Westhoven, NJDMAVA/PA



The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs again this year partnered with county, state and federal agencies to support the volunteer Stand Down Committees in South and North Jersey.

On Sept. 21 the Cherry Hill Armory hosted the Stand Down as Pfc. Dennis Ryan (top left photo) of the 328th Military Police Company, located at the armory, helps attach a plastic wrist band on a homeless veteran before he receives donated outerwear. A South Jersey Stand Down Committee volunteer (second photo from top) assists a veteran in selecting a pair of glasses at one of the stations.



This year the North Jersey Stand Down was held on Oct. 21 at the John F. Kennedy Pool and Recreation Center in Newark, a new location for the event. Newark Mayor Cory Booker arranged to provide the city building and stopped by to talk to the homeless veterans. Veterans Service Organization members were out in force running the various stations on the gym floor. Past commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9015 William Hunter (bottom left photo) assists a veteran with paperwork and American Legion Department of N.J. Executive Committeeman Roland Boone (bottom right photo) hands out duffel bags..

The Army and Air National Guard assisted with both Stand Downs as Soldiers cooked and provided logistics support while 177th Fighter Wing and 108th Air Refueling Wing medical personnel were on hand to help with the health screenings.

The Stand Downs provide homeless veterans with access to healthcare, mental health screening, substance abuse counseling, social services availability, religious counseling, a hot meal, a haircut and winter clothing. The goal of the program is to bring a wide range of resources together in one location so the veteran can access the various available services and be able to recognize that the community is concerned and committed to bring these services to them.



Vets leaders briefed

By Gary Englert, DCVA-DVS; photos by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA

On Sept. 16, Col. (retired) Stephen G. Abel, Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs hosted a “Commander’s Call” in the theater at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt.

The bi-annual meetings are designed to bring together the senior leadership of the state’s major veterans’ organizations on issues of mutual concern. The late summer gathering preceded the Annual Governor’s Military Review, which was then held on the Parade Field at the Training Center.

Following a continental breakfast, the assembly was treated to a presentation by Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General of New Jersey, who spoke on his recent trips to visit New Jersey National Guardsmen serving abroad. Maj. Gen. Rieth’s slide presentations focused on New Jersey’s Citizen Soldiers and Airmen deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the New Jersey National Guard’s relationship



George Lisicki, National Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, discusses issues with state veterans commanders.

with Albania, as it prepares to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Following the presentation, Maj. Gen. Rieth presented a Purple Heart to Pat Casanova, for injuries sustained during his combat service during World War II.

The morning’s briefings concluded with George Lisicki, the recently in-

stalled National Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Following Lisicki’s remarks, the attendees enjoyed the pomp and ceremony of the Military Review.

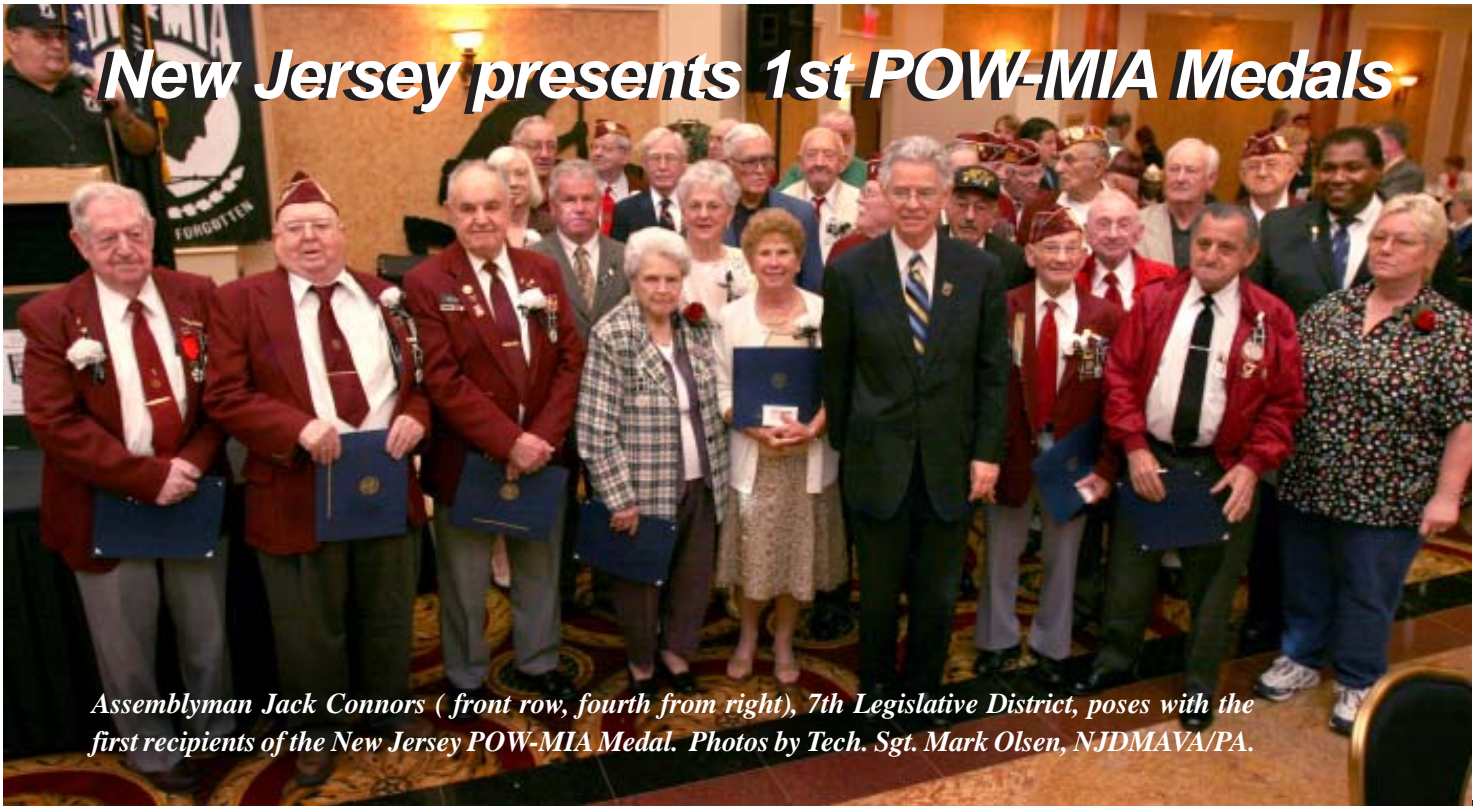


Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth (left) presents Pat Casanova the Purple Heart.



Elizabeth Christopherson, Executive Director of New Jersey Network, gave a presentation on the network’s veterans’ history project, which is in support of Ken Burns’ “The War”.

New Jersey presents 1st POW-MIA Medals



Assemblyman Jack Connors (front row, fourth from right), 7th Legislative District, poses with the first recipients of the New Jersey POW-MIA Medal. Photos by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.

On Friday, Sept. 21, 2007, the first presentations of the New Jersey's POW-MIA Medal were made to 28 veterans who were former prisoners of war, or to family members of those listed as missing in action.

The first recipient was posthumously awarded by Brig. Gen. Frank Carlini, Assemblyman Jack Connors and other dignitaries to Army Sergeant Clifford Alling and received by his wife Angela.

The occasion was the Sixth Annual POW-MIA Remembrance Day Breakfast, held at The Merion in Cinnaminson and sponsored by Connors who chairs the Assembly's Committee on Veterans Affairs. More than 600 people attended the event. The state's newest award was designed by Associate Professor Hannah Ueno-Olsen, of the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.



Army Sgt. Charles Balaza (left), was the first living recipient of the New Jersey POW-MIA Medal from Brig. Gen. Frank Carlini.



Medal designer Associate Professor Hannah Ueno-Olsen (left) is thanked by a medal recipient.

VETERANS NEWS & VIEWS

VA to build new cemetery near Washington's Crossing

WASHINGTON--The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Dolington Land LP, a subsidiary of real estate developer Toll Brothers Inc. and the owner of a 205-acre site in Bucks County, Pa., near Washington's Crossing Historic Park, have signed an "offer to sell" agreement under which VA will purchase for \$10.5 million the site for the construction of a new national cemetery.

"This is a key step forward in bringing a national shrine to veterans in southeastern Pennsylvania," said VA's Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs William F. Tuerk. "Building this cemetery is a priority for VA, and we are pleased to be moving forward with our plans."

With this step taken, VA expects to complete the formal purchase of the property by March 2008. Once the purchase is finalized and the cemetery design is complete, initial construction will begin in mid 2008.

Burials at the new national cemetery, which will serve more than 580,000 veterans and their families who live in the area, are expected to begin in late 2008. Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, the nearest open national cemetery in Penn-

sylvania, is 120 miles from the site of the new cemetery.

Veterans with a discharge other than dishonorable, their spouses and dependent children are eligible for burial in a national cemetery. Other burial benefits for eligible veterans include a burial flag, a Presidential Memorial Certificate and a government headstone or marker – even if they are not buried in a national cemetery.

VA clarifies policy on flag folding recitations

WASHINGTON--To ensure burial services at the 125 national cemeteries operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs reflect the wishes of veterans and their families, VA officials have clarified the Department's policy about recitations made while the U.S. flag is folded at the gravesite of a veteran.

"A family may request the recitation of words to accompany the meaningful presentation of the American flag as we honor the dedication and sacrifice of their loved ones," said William F. Tuerk, VA's Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs.

The Veterans Administration clarification for national cemeteries includes

the following:

- Volunteer honor guards are authorized to read the so-called "13-fold" flag recitation or any comparable script.
- Survivors of the deceased may provide material and request it be read by the volunteer honor guards.
- Volunteer honor guards will accept requests for recitations that reflect any or no religious traditions.



The new president of the New Jersey State Funeral Directors Association (NJSFDA) Daniel R. Simone Jr. (left) accepts an American Flag from Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Denson, Assistant State Coordinator, New Jersey Honor Guard Program during the Service of Remembrance ceremony at the NJSFDA Convention for fallen funeral directors and veterans.

2008 NJDMAVA VETERANS OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

SCHEDULE

January 8, 9 Woodbridge Center

February 5-7 Moorestown Mall

March 3*, 4, 5 Paramus Park Shopping Center

April 1-3 Voorhees Town Center

May 6*, 7, 8 Ocean County Mall

June 5-6, "Elks" Convention

June 11-13, "American Legion" Convention

June 18-20, "VFW" Convention Wildwood Convention Center

July 8-10 Cherry Hill Mall

Kiosk hours 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

* Asterisk indicates medal presentation ceremonies at 10:30 a.m.



Fundraiser held at Drumthwacket

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA



Veteran's group leaders admire the new computer generated images of the New Jersey WWII Memorial. The fundraiser generated more than \$25,000 in donations. More than 120 donors gathered at Drumthwacket - the Governor's Mansion on Nov. 12.



Photo left: Lieutenant Colonels Michael Lyons (left) and Roch Switlik (right) pose for a photo with Governor Jon S. Corzine (second from left) and Joe Piscopo (second from right). Bottom left: Former Governor and World War II veteran Brendan T. Byrne, flanked by Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General of New Jersey and Col. (retired) Stephen G. Abel, Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs. Below: (L-R) Gary Englert, Col. (retired) Stephen G. Abel pose with DHM Design team members Denise George and Robert Smith along KSM Design member Carl Kellerman.



"SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED"

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS VETERANS SERVICE OFFICES

Atlantic/Cape May

Christopher Wambach, VSO
Lonna Remsen, Sec.
1601 Atlantic Ave.
7th Fl.
Atlantic City 08401
609-441-3060/3061
Fax: 609-441-3899

Bergen

Robert Maulano, VSO
Luz Isip, Sec.
125 State St.
Suite 109
Hackensack 07601-5435
201-996-8050/8051
Fax: 201-996-8009

Burlington

Charles Piscopo, VSO
Bernadette Whitman, Sec.
555 High St.
Suite 6A
Mt. Holly 08060
609-518-2273/2274
Fax: 609-518-2275

Camden/Gloucester

William McDonnell, VSO
Anthony D'Errico, VSO
Diane Rosci, Sec.
215 Crown Point Rd.
Suite 300
Thorofare 08086
856-853-4184/4185/4186
Fax: 856-384-3781

Essex/Union

Moise Abraham, VSO
Carolanne Guzzi, Sec.
1196 Chestnut St.
Elizabeth 07201-1053
908-820-3133/3134
Fax: 908-965-2954

Hudson

Edna Jones, VSO
Helen Banks, Sec.
438 Summit Ave.
3rd Fl, Rm. 302
Jersey City 07306-3158
201-798-7040/7051/7026
Fax: 201-798-7036

Mercer

Appt. pending, VSO
Theresa Tomecheck, Sec.
28 W. State Street, 5th fl.
PO 671, Room 514
Trenton 08625-0671
609-292-5880/5881
Fax: 609-633-6852

Middlesex/Somerset

Joseph Battito, VSO
Lillian Pacheco, Sec.
711 Jersey Ave.
2nd Fl.
New Brunswick
08901-2102
732-937-6347/6348/6349
Fax: 732-937-6417

Monmouth

Donald McNamara, VSO
Carolyn Brown, Sec.
630 Bangs Ave.
Suite 320
Asbury Park 07712-6904
732-775-7009/7005
Fax: 732-775-3612

Fort Monmouth VA Clinic
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
(Wednesday - Thursday)
732-532-4496

Ocean

Joseph Salzano, VSO
Phyllis Goffin, Sec.
James J. Howard
Outpatient Clinic
970 RT 70
Brick 08724-3550
732-840-3033/3034
Fax: 732-840-0399

Passaic

Leonard E. Johnson, VSO
Titus Osuagwu, Sec.
100 Hamilton Plaza
6th Fl.
Paterson 07505-2101
973-977-4050/4051/4556
Fax: 973-977-4464

Salem/Cumberland

William Burrows, VSO
Robert Del Percio, VSO
Catherine Raniolo, Sec.
524 Northwest Blvd.
Vineland 08360-2895
856-696-6452/6445/6451
Fax: 856-696-6499

Sussex/Morris

Bruce Stanley, VSO
5 South Park Dr.
Newton 07860-5000
973-383-4949/1363
Fax: 973-383-1272

Dover

(Wednesday)
973-366-8347

Warren/Hunterdon

Appt. pending, VSO
Lisa Szymanski, Sec.
550 A Route 57
Port Murray 07865-9482
908-689-5840/5845
Fax: 908-689-5879

Flemington

(Wednesday)
908-284-6146

VA Liaison Offices

Newark

Robert Guffanti, VSO
Joseph C. Bucco Jr., VSO
Michael Dorobis, Sec.
20 Washington Place
Newark, 07102-3174
973-297-3230
Fax: 973-648-2356

Philadelphia

David Joost, VSO
5000 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19144
215-381-3054
Fax: 215-381-3459

For information on your veterans entitlements call toll-free
1-888-8NJ-VETS, or go online to:

www.state.nj.us/military/veterans/index.html

The New Jersey World War II Memorial



The New Jersey World War II Memorial at Veterans Park (Trenton)

Today fewer and fewer Americans have a personal connection or awareness of the sacrifices and courage of New Jersey's World War II Veterans and Generation.

Time is quickly passing.

We urge you to support the New Jersey World War II Memorial through a tax-deductible contribution.

Individual Donors:

Eagle: \$1,000 and up

Falcon: \$500 - \$999

Hawk: \$100 - \$499

Osprey: \$25 - \$99

Other: \$ _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

** Indicate on check: NJ WWII Memorial*

Make check payable to: "Treasurer, State of New Jersey"

Mail to:

WWII Memorial Commission

c/o Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs-DVS

PO Box 340 Trenton, NJ 08625-0340

For more information contact (609) 530-7049

