The Monmouth Regional Chamber of Commerce (MRCC) Women In Business (WIB) held their monthly meeting at iPlay America in Freehold, NJ. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was Ms Jackie Berman, VP Social Media. Fourteen MRCC members, including Ms Ivy Jacot, WIB Chair, and Mr David Salkin, MRCC Executive Director attended to network and discuss WIB business. Jackie passed out flyers for the upcoming Monmouth Chapter events.

To honor the United States Military, the Lakewood BlueClaws hosted its “Military Appreciation Night”. Partnering with OceanFirst Bank, the BlueClaws issued complimentary tickets to all local Military personnel, both Veterans and Active Duty, who attended the game. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter were COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, President; Mrs Ellie Smith, Secretary with her husband COL (R) Tony Smith and Mr Charles Seal, Newsletter Editor and Vietnam Era Veteran. The BlueClaws hosted a Troop Supply and Care Package Drive in conjunction with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local-400 of Wall, NJ where fans were encouraged to donate razors, snacks, baby wipes, shampoo, soap, non-chocolate candies and sweets, sun block, lip balm, writing utensils, silly string, deodorant, tissues, Q-tips, white socks, batteries, insect repellent and flashlights. Other activities included a special BlueClaws jersey auction, “Thirsty Thursday in the Biergarten” with dollar Coors & Coors Light drafts, Ken Griffey Sr Autograph Signing and Post-Game Fireworks. A large crowd showed up, but unfortunately the game was called due to thunder, lightning and rain.
At the invitation of Brigadier General Robert S Cooley Jr, Commander of the 353rd Civil Affairs Command, AUSA Monmouth Chapter President COL (R) Samuel Fuoco attended the 304th Civil Affairs Brigade Change of Command Ceremony at Doughboy Field, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ. During the official Change of Command Ceremony, BG Robert S Cooley Jr passed the colors of the 304th Civil Affairs Brigade from the outgoing Commander, COL (P) Jeffrey M Farris, to the incoming Commander, COL Timothy P Hughes. The passing of colors ensures that the unit and its Soldiers are never without official leadership, a continuation of loyalty and trust and an allegiance of the Soldiers to their unit’s Commander.

More than 75 attended to witness the Change of Command Ceremony. The Sequence of Events included Formation of Troops, Arrival of the Official Party, National Anthem, Invocation, Welcome, Passing of the Guidon (Unit Colors), Remarks by BG Cooley Jr, Outgoing Commander’s Remarks by COL (P) Farris, Incoming Commander’s Remarks by COL Hughes, Benediction, Army Song and Departure of the Official Party. Following the Ceremony, a reception, with refreshments was held in the Timmerman Conference Center.

The 304th Civil Affairs Brigade (the Liberty Brigade) conducts mission command, training of foreign security forces, deployment/deployment and civil affairs operations within the US Army Africa and US Africa Command area of responsibility to support civil-military operational requirements. It provides trained, equipped and proficient Soldiers for mobilization in support of worldwide contingency operations.

COL Hughes enlisted in the US Army July 1987 as an Electronic Warfare Specialist. In May 1993, he graduated from the United States Military Academy and received his commission as an Aviation officer. He continued active duty service in Germany and deployed twice to Bosnia-Herzegovina. He completed active duty service with 18th Aviation Brigade, Fort Bragg, NC and transferred to the New Jersey Army National Guard in 2000. In 2004, he deployed to Iraq with the 42nd Infantry Division. He continued to serve in increasing roles of responsibility and completed his National Guard service as Commander of the 1-224th Aviation Regiment. In 2007, he transferred to the US Army Reserve with deployments to Afghanistan and East Africa. Prior to his selection for Brigade Command, he served as a Senior Research Fellow for the Joint Special Operations University located at MacDill Air Force Base, FL. COL Hughes holds a Bachelor of Science in Russian, French and Systems Engineering and a Masters of Arts in International Relations Conflict Resolution. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Senior Aviator Badge, Parachutist Badge and Air Assault Badge. In his civilian career, COL Hughes is an International Program Manager for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency based in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He is married to Karyn Hughes with two children, Catherine and Brendan, and currently reside in Goshen, NY.
The Howell Chamber of Commerce hosted its first Business Exposition in Howell, NJ at the Lanes Mill Marketplace in the former Barnes & Noble store. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was Ms Jackie Berman, VP of Social Media & Independent Associate of IDShield/LegalShield. Participating with Display/Information tables were over 75 local businesses including several Howell Township Service organizations. Visitors enjoyed the DJ entertainment, vendor demonstrations, giveaways, the opportunity to meet and shop local businesses and the chance to win door prizes and a special grand prize – 20 tickets in a catered luxury suite for a Lakewood BlueClaws baseball game. Admission to the Expo was free and for $5.00 attendees could participate in the “Taste of Howell” food tasting from local restaurants. Ms Berman visited every table and discussed the opportunities of becoming a Community Partner with the AUSA Monmouth Chapter, sponsorship to the Chapter’s upcoming events and distributed event Flyers.
Matawan-Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce “Happy Hour Meet & Greet”
July 16, 2019

The Matawan-Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce hosted a “Happy Hour Meet & Greet” at Bart’s Restaurant in Matawan, NJ. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was Ms Jackie Berman, VP of Social Media. Among the more than 75 attendees were Mr Jeffrey Pantelas, President of the Matawan-Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce, NJ Senator Samuel Thompson representing New Jersey’s 12th Legislative District and Ms Anna Mayer, President/Director/Administrator of the Eatontown Industrial Parks Association (EIPA) & Monmouth Chapter Community Partner. All guests enjoyed the drink & appetizer specials and the networking opportunities. Ms Berman handed out upcoming Monmouth Chapter event flyers and discussed the benefits of becoming AUSA individual & Community Partner members with interested attendees.

Monmouth County Sheriff’s Veteran Service Council (VSC) Meeting
July 17, 2019

The Monmouth County Sheriff’s Office hosted its Jul 2019 quarterly Monmouth County Sheriff’s Veteran Service Council (VSC) Meeting at the Monmouth County Sheriff’s Office Meeting Room, Freehold, NJ. Representing the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, President. Welcoming remarks were provided by the Monmouth County Sheriff, Shaun Golden. The featured speaker was Ms Christine Giordano-Hanlon, the Monmouth County Clerk who presented the many Veterans programs and initiatives offered by Monmouth County Clerk’s Office. This was followed by a Roundtable Discussion of the community outreach efforts to enhance the much needed services to Veterans by the representatives from various Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs).

Pictured left to right in the front row are Sheriff Shaun Golden; Ms Selma Morris, Executive Assistant, Monmouth County Sheriff's Office; Ms Christine Giordano-Hanlon and COL (R) Samuel Fuoco along with staff members and VSO representatives.
Beacon of LIFE Center becomes a Monmouth Chapter AUSA Community Partner

On July 17, 2019, at the invitation of the Beacon of LIFE Center’s Director of Marketing, Ms Michelle Buccheri, and Veterans Coordinator & Enrollment Specialist, LTC (R) John Edward Occhipinti, AUSA Monmouth Chapter President COL (R) Samuel Fuoco and Chapter Newsletter Editor Mr Charles Seal visited the Center in Oceanport, NJ to discuss the benefits and opportunities for Beacon of Life to become a Community Partner of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter. COL (R) Fuoco presented the history and structure of AUSA and the Monmouth Chapter’s Mission “Voice for the Army – Support for the Soldier”, with handouts, and explained how this mission is supported by four Pillars of Success (fundraising, community awareness, Soldier support and community education). In turn, the structure and mission of the Beacon of LIFE Center was presented which was followed by a facility tour led by LTC (R) Occhipinti. The Beacon of LIFE Center attendees were provided with AUSA brochures and a Community Partner membership application.

On August 2, 2019, COL (R) Fuoco and Mr Seal returned to the Beacon of LIFE Center to acknowledge their Community Partner Membership with a Community Partner Plaque and Certificate Presentation Ceremony. Participating in the ceremony from the Beacon of LIFE Center were Ms Michelle Buccheri, Director of Marketing; Ms Angela Ashley, Regional Director and LTC (R) John Edward Occhipinti, Veterans Coordinator & Enrollment Specialist.

The Beacon of LIFE Center is a Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Center that provides the best solution for fragile elderly people who require nursing home level of care, but can continue to live in their own home and thus avoid live-in nursing home care. PACE is a program under Medicare/Medicaid through which participants receive all needed health care, including primary care and specialist physician services (other than emergency services), from the PACE organization or from an entity authorized by the PACE organization. Beacon of LIFE’s mission is to provide the most up to date healthcare and social service choices for seniors living in Monmouth County. Eligibility requirements are age 55 or older, require nursing home level of care, able to live safely in the community with the help of PACE services and live in Monmouth County, NJ. The PACE Model is centered on the belief that it is better for the well-being of seniors with chronic care needs and their families to live in their own homes.

Pictured in the Beacon of Life Center picture below, left to right are LTC (R) John Occhipinti, COL (R) Samuel Fuoco and Ms Lauresha B-Covin, Beacon of LIFE’s Receptionist.
The Monmouth Regional Chamber of Commerce (MRCC) hosted its 2019 Beacon of Excellence Awards Dinner at the Addison Park, Keyport, NJ to honor individuals who have made outstanding contributions to their community through their service, leadership and achievements that have resulted in a significant community enrichment. The event attracted over 200 attendees. Representing the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, President.

The event opened with a Cocktail hour which was followed by the Welcoming Address from Mr David M Salkin, MRCC Executive Director. The program continued with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Buffet Dinner. Ms Bernice Lopez, MRCC President, then provided Introductions and Recognition of Sponsors and Committee members which was followed by the Presentation of Awards.

**Pictured left to right in the Group Photo** are Mrs Geraldine Viggiani, Psychotherapist and Owner of Lotus Blossom Psychotherapy (AUSA Monmouth Chapter Community Partner); Mr Mark Viggiani, Sales Associate, Gloria Nilson & Co Real Estate; COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, AUSA Monmouth Chapter President and Ms Bonnie Preston, CIC, Senior Account Executive at Conover Beyer Associates, Inc.

The following Honorees received Awards: **Beacon of Hope Award** - Hazlet’s Hope Network (Laura O’Hara & Philip Michael O’Hara); **Businesswoman Leadership Award** - DonnaLyn Giegerich of DLG Consulting; **Young Professional of the Year Award** - Danielle Bagdzinski of Cg Tax, Audit & Advisory; **Non-Profit Organization of the Year Award** - RAIN Foundation (Patti Dickens & Anthony Petruzzi); **Business Ambassador of the Year Award** - Dr David Stout of Brookdale Community College; **President’s Award** - Cliff Moore of Economic Development Consulting Services, LLC; **Corporate Good Neighbor Award** - Holly Schult of BCB Bank; **Beacon of Light Award** - New Jersey American Water (Justin Cheptra); **Public Servant of the Year Award** - Tom Arnone, Monmouth County Freeholder Director.

Tour of the 254th Regional Training Institute (RTI)  
*July 18, 2019*

At the invitation of COL Ronald Deloatch, Commander, 254th Regiment (Combat Arms), NJ Army National Guard (NJARNG), AUSA Monmouth Chapter President COL (R) Samuel Fuoco and Chapter Newsletter Editor Mr Charles Seal visited the NJARNG’s Regional Training Institute (RTI) in Sea Girt, NJ. COL Deloatch provided a tour of the RTI facility that included the offices of the 254th leadership, auditorium, classrooms and the 70 room Billeting Facility equipped with refrigerators, microwaves, Direct TV, WIFI, fitness center and laundry rooms.

During 16-22 July, the 254th RTI hosted the National Guard Bureau’s 2019 Intermediate Training Workshop (ITW). This workshop brought together over 200 G-3 (general staff of operations) personnel from all 50 states plus the territories of Guam, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia to discuss future training and validate monies forecasted for training. The 254th Regiment trains Soldiers in response to the Army’s current needs and Operational Environment (OE) and provides administrative, logistical, resource management and operational support, as required, to accomplish the mission to safely train the Army Warrior.

**Pictured left to right** are COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, President of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter; COL Ronald Deloatch, Commander, 254th Regiment (Combat Arms); CSM Paula Cantara, 254th CSM; MAJ Kenneth Wuerker, 254th S3 and MAJ Rene Roa, 254th Regional Training Site-Maintenance Commander.

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Monmouth University’s Coming Home Project  
*July 27, 2019*

As part of Monmouth University’s “Coming Home Project” it’s Office of Veterans Services and School of Social Work co-sponsored a Monmouth County Veterans Information and Resources Clinic at Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ. Hosting the event were Senator Vin Gopal, Assemblywoman Joann Downey and Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling from the Office of the New Jersey State Legislature, 11th District in Ocean, NJ. The objective of the Clinic was to provide support for returning Military personnel (Career, Reservist, and National Guard), Veterans and their families by assisting them in identifying and securing Service related entitlements.

At the invitation of Mr Michael Callahan, the Veteran’s Services Coordinator and Project Coordinator of The Coming Home Project, the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was represented by Mr Charles Seal, Newsletter Editor and LTC (R) Joseph Bucco, Jr, Chapter Board Member. Also attending were BG Jemal J Beale, The Adjutant General (TAG) of NJ; COL Argelo Capolupo, Senior Transition Manager, NJ Army National Guard and MAJ Anthony Salvini, NJ Department of Military And Veterans Affairs (DMAVA). Staffing the welcome and sign in table were Ms Kathryn Balitos and Mr Jason Maldonado.

Participants with Information and Display tables included Ms Maria Bennett, Ms Sylvie St Pierre and Ms Michelle Benloss from the Affordable Housing Alliance (AHA); Mr Andrew Tucker from the NJ Department of Law & Public Safety; Ms Alicia Williams from South Jersey Legal Services; Mr Thomas Bacigalupo from NJ Vet2Vet; Mr William Madigan from Soldier On; Ms Debbie Bottomley from the Monmouth County Office of Veterans Services, Mr Victor Finamore, Housing Recovery Specialist and LTC (R) Joseph Bucco, Jr from DMAVA. Other participating Veteran support organizations included the Cohen Veteran Network, the Monmouth County Clerk’s Office, the Monmouth County One Stop Career Center, the NJ Motor Vehicle Commission, NJ Shares and the Veteran’s Administration Newark Regional Office.
The Coming Home Project was conceived in 2008 by the School of Social Work at Monmouth University to recognize and prepare social work students and community practitioners to meet the needs of returning Career, Reservist, and National Guard Military personnel and their families. Tools used to “Help you to help Military families” include organizational consulting, staff training, a best practices inventory, research on Veterans and Military families, community assessments and Grant writing for Veterans Services.
The Monmouth County Park System and the Monmouth County 4-H Association held their 44th Annual Monmouth County Fair at the East Freehold Showgrounds, Freehold, NJ during 24-28 July 2019. Attending on July 28, 2019 from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was Mr Charles Seal, Newsletter Editor. The Fair featured, 2 Show Rings, a Petting Farm, Entertainment Stage, Rides & Games, tents (Monmouth County Park System, Living History, Agricultural, Home & Garden, Bwana Jim's Wildlife, 4-H and Dining), 24 food vendors, 54 vendor/exhibitors and 4 bands. The US Army Recruiting Center in the Chadwick Square Mall, Freehold, NJ (1 of 38 recruiting centers of the US Army Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Battalion, a Monmouth Chapter Community Partner), participated with a display/information booth. Staffing the booth were SFC Amitram Mahadeo and SFC Alfredo Hudson.

The Monmouth Regional Chamber of Commerce (MRCC) hosted a Happy Hour Networking Cruise aboard the Charter Boat MARINER docked at the Atlantic Highlands Marina, Atlantic Highlands, NJ. Over 25 MRCC members embarked for a three hour Sightseeing Cruise along the beautiful Navesink River and into Sandy Hook Bay while enjoying the delicious refreshments and cash bar. The MARINER’s wooden construction with natural wooden decks provided a gentle and stable ride conducive to a comfortable and leisurely networking cruise. Representing the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, President.

Pictured in the MRCC Group Photo left to right are MRCC Members Mr Mario Da Cunha, Owner of Mario Marcal Studios LLC; Ms Anna Mayer, President/Administrator of the Eatontown Industrial Parks Association (EIPA); Sherilyn Przelomski, MRCC Executive Board member and Owner & Founder of Business Enhancement Services & Training Consulting, LLC; Ms Holly Schult, MRCC Board member and Branch Manager of Business Development, BCB Community Bank; COL (R) Samuel Fuoco; Mrs Geraldine Viggiani, Psychotherapist and Owner of Lotus Blossom Psychotherapy (AUSA Monmouth Chapter Community Partner) and Ms Bonnie Preston, CIC, Senior Account Executive at Conover Beyer Associates, Inc.
At the invitation of LTC Keith D Bryant, Commander of the US Army Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Battalion, AUSA Monmouth Chapter President COL (R) Samuel Fuoco and Chapter Treasurer Mr Sean Keating attended the Change of Command Ceremony of the US Army Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Battalion at their Headquarters Building 688, Naval Air Engineering Station (NAES), Lakehurst, NJ on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL). During the official Change of Command Ceremony, COL John M Cushing, Commander of the 1st US Army Recruiting Brigade, passed the colors of the US Army Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Battalion from the outgoing Commander, LTC Keith D Bryant, to the incoming Commander, LTC Brendan P Toolan. The passing of colors ensures that the unit and its Soldiers are never without official leadership, a continuation of loyalty and trust and an allegiance of the Soldiers to their unit’s Commander.

More than 125 attended to witness the Change of Command Ceremony. The Sequence of Events included Greetings, Entrance of the Official Party, National Anthem, Invocation, Presentation of Gifts, Passing of Colors, Commander’s Remarks, Benediction, the Army Song and Departure of the Official Party. The Ceremony was followed by Organization Day for members of the US Army Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Battalion Members, their families and guests. Included were a BBQ, Live Band, 20+ local Organizational Display/Information/Vendor Tables and Children Activities complete with Fun, Games and a Bounce House.

The Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Battalion is one of the eight battalions that make-up the 1st US Army Recruiting Brigade located at Fort Meade, Maryland. It was formally known as the Philadelphia Recruiting Battalion and was located in Philadelphia, PA. In September 1997, the Philadelphia Recruiting Battalion was re-designated as the Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Battalion and relocated from the US Customs Building in Philadelphia, PA, to the Naval Air Engineering Station (NAES), Lakehurst, NJ. After several realignments, the battalion solidified its recruiting region to cover the entire state of New Jersey and the greater Philadelphia area.
At the invitation of COL Ronald Deloatch, Commander, 254th Regiment (Combat Arms), Ms Susan DiVila, NJ State AUSA President and former AUSA Monmouth Chapter President attended the 254th Regiment Officer Candidate School (OCS) Class #62 Commissioning Ceremony at the NJ Army National Guard’s (NJARNG) Training Center, Sea Girt, NJ. Sixteen (16) Officer Candidates of Class #62 received their 2nd Lieutenant bars after completing more than a year of rigorous training at the NJARNG OCS administered by the 254th Regiment (CA). BG Jemal J Beale, The Adjutant General (TAG) of NJ, administered the Oath of Office to the 16 newest NJARNG Officers and then assisted with the pinning of the epaulets bearing the 2nd Lieutenant “gold bars” onto their shoulders. Ms Susan DiVila presented the AUSA Monmouth Chapter Distinguished Graduate Plaque to Officer Candidate Thomas J Fontana III. COL (R) Dennis Dougherty, AUSA First Region President, Presented the AUSA First Region Patriot Service Award to Officer Candidate Patel.

The 254th Regiment (CA) trains National Guard Soldiers in response to the Army’s current needs and Operational Environment (OE) and provides administrative, logistical, resource management and operational support, as required, to accomplish the mission to safely train the Army Warrior.

The NJARNG traces its roots to the 1668 Militia Act passed by the first New Jersey General Assembly meeting in Elizabethtown, now Elizabeth, NJ. This Act required able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60 to serve in the local militia. Since then, the Citizen-Soldiers of the NJARNG have defended the homeland and fought our nation’s wars. The versatility of the NJARNG enables its troops to respond to domestic emergencies, combat missions, counter-drug efforts, reconstruction missions and more with speed, strength and efficiency. Whether the call is coming from New Jersey’s Governor or directly from the President of the United States, Guard Soldiers are always ready and always there. Soldiers in the NJARNG traditionally serve one weekend a month and perform a two week annual training in order to prepare for these vital missions.
The Greater Monmouth Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA), a AUSA Monmouth Chapter Community Partner, hosted a Happy Hour at “The Marina”, Oceanport, NJ. Among the more than 30 attendees was Ms Donna Petro, former AFCEA Greater Monmouth Chapter President & current Senior Business Development Manager at Xyntek Inc. Donna welcomed attendees to join the AFCEA Board, AFCEA members, Sponsors and Friends for a purely Social “Happy Hour”. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter were Ms Jackie Berman, VP of Social Media and Board Member LTC (R) Richard Gaudio with his wife Laurel. The event was FREE. Complimentary appetizers were served with a Happy Hour priced cash bar. Jackie, Rich and Laurel spoke to many of the attendees about the work and activities of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter to include discussions and invitations to the Chapter’s upcoming events.

Monmouth Regional Chamber of Commerce (MRCC) “Perkolator” Breakfast
August 14, 2019

The All Seasons Restaurant & Diner, Eatontown, NJ, a Community Partner of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter, hosted the weekly Monmouth Regional Chamber of Commerce (MRCC) “Perkolator” Breakfast. Each MRCC member provided a brief summary of their business. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was Mr Charles Seal, Newsletter Editor who presented the AUSA 30 second “elevator” briefing that highlights the AUSA Mission “Voice for the Army-Support for the Soldier”. Mr Seal also promoted the Monmouth Chapter’s Upcoming Events: Comedy Night on 09/18/2019, Eatontown Veterans Day Parade & Golf Tournament on 11/10/2019 and the Gingerbread Ball & Gingerbread House Contest on 12/07/2019 – all to benefit the Chapter’s Service Dog Initiative and to support the Fisher House Foundation.

Monmouth Chapter Community Partners in attendance were Mr Victor Iannelli, Founder & President of Capital Financial Solutions Inc; Ms Edith Legg, Assistant Vice President & Branch Manager, Investors Bank, Ms Geraldine Viggiani, Psychotherapist and Owner of Lotus Blossom Psychotherapy, Ms Carrie Kuczkowski, Marketing & Business Development, The Connection, Inc.

The Guest Speaker was Mr George Gremminger, Owner & President, The Connection, Inc. His topic was “Security Awareness - protecting your business from the inevitable”. Cybercriminals target end users who are the employees connected to the World via the company's computer system. Studies have shown that 95% of All Data Breaches are caused by human error and quick, relevant, and continuous training throughout employee's tenure with a company are the best way to arm end users to become an organization's first line of cyber-defense.
CNBA & EIPA Annual End of Summer “Business Card Exchange”

August 20, 2019

The Colts Neck Business Association (CNBA) together with the Eatontown Industrial Park Association (EIPA), a AUSA Monmouth Chapter Community Partner, hosted an excellent business networking opportunity with their traditional end of the summer Business Card Exchange at the beautiful Trump National Golf Course in Colts Neck, NJ. The back patio was the venue for over 400 guests enjoying the hors d’oeuvres and cocktails while taking in the beautiful lake view with the American Flag flying high above. The Green Leaf Pet Resort of Ocean, located in Oakhurst, NJ, was the main sponsor for the event and networking was enjoyed long after the beautiful sunset. The guests were enthusiastic participants of the 50/50 raffle and one lucky winner went home with the “Grand Basket Giveaway”, compliments of the Green Leaf Pet Resort of Ocean.

Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter were Ms Jackie Berman, VP of Social Media and Board Member LTC (R) Richard Gaudio with his wife Laurel. Opening & Welcome remarks were given by Ms Anna Mayer, EIPA President/Director/Administrator. Jackie, Rich and Laurel spoke to many of the attendees about the work and activities of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter to include discussions and invitations to the Chapter’s upcoming events.

Pictured in the Green Leaf Pet Resort Photo left to right are Mr Vito Cardinale, Founder & President of Cardinale Enterprises; Mr Michael Elsey, Green Leaf Pet Resort Training Coordinator & Customer Relations Specialist and Mr Glen Dalakian, CNBA President. Pictured in the Group Photo left to right are Mr Glen Dalakian, CNBA President; Mr Gerry P Scharfenberger, PhD, Monmouth County Freeholder; Mr Frank Rizzuto, Colts Neck Deputy Mayor; Mr Patrick Impreveduto, Monmouth County Freeholder; Mr Mike Viola, Colts Neck Committeeman; Mr JP Bartolomeo, Colts Neck Committeeman and Mr Dino Nicoletta, CNBA Vice President.
Monmouth Regional Chamber of Commerce (MRCC) Softball Tournament

August 21, 2019

The Monmouth Regional Chamber of Commerce (MRCC) hosted its annual Softball Tournament sponsored by the Lakewood BlueClaws at First Energy Park, Lakewood, NJ. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was Mr Charles Seal, Newsletter Editor. The following companies fielded a softball team: Cg Tax, Audit & Advisory; Investors Bank; LomurroLaw Trial Lawyers and New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG). All players received a commemorative jersey with the company logo on the front. Two softball fields were positioned in the First Energy Park outfield. After 4 games, the LomurroLaw Trial Lawyers outlasted the second place Investors Bank with a final score of 9 to 7 to take home the trophy. A dinner buffet of hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, mac & cheese, salads, beverages and a cash bar was set up in the 3rd base area. Although rain threatened, the enthusiasm and excitement from the players and spectators could not be watered down.
EIPA 22nd Annual Day at the Races
August 23, 2019

The Eatontown Industrial Parks Association (EIPA), an AUSA Monmouth Chapter Community Partner, sponsored its 22nd Annual Day at the Races at the Monmouth Park Racetrack’s Clubhouse Rooftop Patio Terrace in Oceanport, NJ. This year EIPA was joined by the following co-sponsors: Monmouth Chapter of the Association of the US Army (AUSA), Colts Neck Business Association (CNBA), Jersey Shore Chamber of Commerce (JSCC) and the Greater Long Branch Chamber of Commerce (GLBCC). The attendance topped 125 which made for a great networking opportunity and fun experience.

Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter were COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, President; Ms Jackie Berman, VP Social Media; Ms Cynthia Wallace, VP Awards; Mr Charles Seal, Newsletter Editor; LTC (R) Richard Gaudio, Board Member; Ms Yvonne Bova, Board Member and guest LTC (R) John Edward Occhipinti, AUSA member. Other organization executive members attending were Ms Anna Mayer, EIPA President; Mr Glen Dalakian, CNBA President; Ms Allison Wilson, JSCC President, Ms Nancy Kleiberg, GLBCC Executive Director and Ms Susan Collin, GLBCC Assistant Director.

The venue included a premium luncheon buffet, cash bar at Happy Hour prices, para-mutuel betting windows and a roaming photographer. All attendees, winners and losers alike, had an enjoyable experience at this American racetrack for thoroughbred horse racing.

The Jewish Home for Rehabilitation & Nursing held a complimentary Happy Hour complete with cocktails, light fare & cheer to celebrate the opening of its newly-constructed facility in Freehold, NJ which is under the new ownership of Marquis Health Services. Representing the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was Mr Charles Seal, Newsletter Editor. Representatives from Marquis Health Services included Mr David Karfunkel, Regional Director of Operations; Mr Michael Smith, Division President and Ms Jennifer Herzog, VP of Marketing & Business Development. Over 75 attendees gathered to view the new facility and celebrate its opening including Raquel Schindel, The Jewish Home Director of Admissions.

The Jewish Home for Rehabilitation & Nursing is New Jersey’s only Distinctly Jewish Rehabilitation & Nursing Center. Its mission is to cater to the needs of the area’s Jewish population. It provides the most comprehensive suite of rehabilitation therapies and skilled nursing care with physician oversight. The deluxe, newly-constructed facility provides Glat kosher dining, recreational and therapeutic activities, on-site synagogue, spacious private & semi-private rooms, extensive rehab gym and overnight accommodations for visitors. In addition, the facility accommodates permanent residents who receive the full complement of nursing and health services.
The Garden State Chapter of the Association of Old Crows (AOC) hosted a Boat Ride and Luncheon aboard the River Belle docked in the Broadway Basin on the Manasquan River, Point Pleasant Beach, NJ. Over 100 passengers embarked for a Sightseeing Cruise along the beautiful calm inland waters of the Manasquan River, Point Pleasant Canal and Barnegat Bay while enjoying a buffet lunch with a cash bar. Representing the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was Mr Charles Seal, Newsletter Editor. The AOC party consisted of COL (R) Myles Murphy (USAF), former President; Mr John Cervini, VP of Programs with wife Cheri; Mr Guy Albanese, Finance, Communications and Community Awareness with wife Carolyn and Ms Mari Kovach, Secretary.

Ms Jackie Berman, VP of Social Media, AUSA Monmouth Chapter and Comedian Mike Marino were interviewed live, on air, by Tommy Gros of the “Tommy G” show on 1450WCTC Talk Radio, “The Voice of Central NJ”, during the 4 PM hour. Jackie and Mike promoted the AUSA Monmouth Chapter Comedy Night, starring Mike Marino, that occurred on September 18, 2019 to Benefit the Chapter’s Service Dog Initiative. Jackie introduced the listeners to AUSA’s mission of “Voice for Army-Support for the Soldier” with an overview of the Monmouth Chapter’s functions and activities. Tommy G continued to announce the Comedy Night Show daily on 1450WCTC Talk Radio during his 3 to 6 PM Show, Monday thru Friday, until September 18, 2019.

According to Talkers Magazine, known as “The Bible of Talk Radio”, Tommy G made their list of the “Top 250 Talk Show Hosts” in the nation numerous years in a row. He is a singer, song writer and entertainer and has written and produced song parodies and comedy bits that were played on hundreds of radio stations and shows.
At the invitation of Mr Justin Lotano, President of the Colts Neck Lions Club, COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, President of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter, attended their monthly meeting at Huddy’s Inn, Colts Neck, NJ as the Guest Speaker. COL (R) Fuoco presented the Monmouth Chapter Mission “Voice for the Army-Support for the Soldier” briefing, with handouts, which is supported by four Pillars: Fundraising, Community Awareness, Soldier Support and Community Education. Also discussed were the Chapter’s upcoming events and flyers were available for the 30+ attendees. The Colts Neck Lions Club membership agreed to donate the proceeds from their upcoming Halloween Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser to the AUSA Monmouth Chapter’s Service Dog Initiative to provide a Service Dog to a Monmouth County Veteran. In addition, the membership agreed to become a Monmouth Chapter Community Partner.

Pictured left to right in the Group Picture with COL (R) Samuel Fuoco (center) are Colts Neck Lions Club Members Mr Andy Lotano, Ms Dana Cirincione, Mr Mark Viggiani, Ms Martha Leonhardt, Mr Justin Lotano and Mr Scott Stanford.
Monmouth County’s 9/11 Memorial Ceremony

September 11, 2019

The Monmouth County Park System hosted Monmouth County’s annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony on September 11, 2019 at the Mount Mitchell Memorial Site, Mount Mitchell Scenic Overlook, Highlands, NJ. This Memorial is a tribute to the 147 men and women (born, raised, or residing in Monmouth County) who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Representing the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was Mr Jan Moren, Chapter Board Member. The colors were posted by the Monmouth County Sheriff’s Office Honor Guard with Sheriff Shaun Golden leading the Pledge of Allegiance for the 50+ attendees. Welcoming and introductory remarks were provided by Ms Lillian G Burry, Monmouth County Freeholder Deputy Director and Monmouth County Park System Liaison. Additional remarks were provided by Mr Thomas A Arnone, Monmouth County Freeholder Director.

The 9/11 Memorial Bell was rung 7 times in remembrance of the 2 twin tower strikes, the 2 twin tower subsequent collapses, the West Block Pentagon strike, its subsequent collapse and the United Airlines Flight 93 crash near Shanksville, PA. Music was provided by the Pipes and Drums of the Atlantic Watch based in Red Bank, NJ with the singing of Ms Gabby Cinque, singer, songwriter and pianist. The program closed with the presentation of flowers, the raising of the flag and the playing of taps.

The 12 acre Mount Mitchell Scenic Overlook, at 266 feet above sea level, is the highest natural elevation on the Atlantic seaboard (excluding islands) and provides beautiful views of Sandy Hook, Sandy Hook Bay, Raritan Bay and the New York Skyline. The path leading to the Memorial, the “9/11 Memorial Timeline Walkway”, chronicles the three hour time span of the tragic morning of September 11, 2001. That day 2973 innocent lives, 147 from Monmouth County, NJ, were lost in what is now known as the most devastating attack on American soil. A table of black granite lists the names, ages, and towns of those 147 individuals. At the center, a light stone sculpture by local artist Franco Minervini of an eagle “ascends to a better world”. The eagle has in its grasp a beam from the World Trade Center.
AUSA Monmouth Chapter President COL (R) Samuel Fuoco attended a meeting with Ms Nadia Garay, Practice Manager for the Central Jersey Urgent Care facility in Eatontown, NJ to discuss the benefits and mutual support opportunities for Central Jersey Urgent Care to become a Community Partner of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter. COL (R) Fuoco presented the history and structure of AUSA and the Monmouth Chapter’s Mission “Voice for the Army – Support for the Soldier”, with handouts, and explained how this mission is supported by four Pillars of Success (fundraising, community awareness, Soldier support and community education).

Central Jersey Urgent Care is a US Department of Veterans Affairs Authorized Veterans Urgent Care Provider. Their Board Certified Physicians are seasoned practitioners who offer a steady hand and knowledge that comes from years of experience in emergency and urgent care. The state-of-the-art facility, complete with on-site X-Ray and Lab, provides fast and exceptional medical care in a convenient, efficient and compassionate setting and treats all non-life threatening medical conditions in Children and Adults of All Ages.

The Lt. Dennis W Zilinski II Memorial Fund, AUSA Monmouth Chapter Community Partner, hosted its 11th Annual “A Toast to Dennis - A Night of Remembrance” Fundraiser Gala at the Eagle Oaks Country Club, Farmingdale, NJ. First Lieutenant Dennis W Zilinski II died in Iraq on November 19, 2005 by a roadside bomb during combat operations while serving in the United States Army with the 101st Airborne Division.

This Gala celebrated the life and memory of 1Lt. Dennis W Zilinski II, as well as honored all Veterans and Active Duty Soldiers in attendance. The goal of the Zilinski Memorial Fund is to support and improve the morale and welfare of members of the United States Armed Forces and their families, provide scholarships that invest in the future of high school students who embody the leadership qualities and community spirit as Dennis did. The Memorial Fund was created and founded in 2006 to honor local hero and Distinguished West Point Graduate 1Lt. Dennis W Zilinski II by his parents Dennis and Marion Zilinski.

Funds raised from the Gala will be used to support Veterans that suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and other other life altering injuries. Funds raised will also support deployed servicemen/women and their families throughout the world to include the severely wounded, Military working dogs and recreation/rehabilitation those deployed. One of the main accomplishments, to date, is the sponsorship of over 87 Service Dogs for Wounded Warriors that suffer from PTSD and TBI at an average cost of $15,000 per dog. This is just one of the many projects that this all volunteer organization has undertaken.

The Program included Cocktails, Welcome and Introductory remarks from Dennis and Marion Zilinski, Plated Dinner, Recognition of Wounded Warriors with their Service Dogs, both live and silent auctions, dancing and entertainment for 394 participants. The AUSA Monmouth Chapter provided funding for the Program Advertisement and Ticket Reservations. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was President COL (R) Samuel Fuoco with spouse Frances.
Pictured left to right in the Group Picture are Ms Melissa Garrison, A Toast to Dennis Committee Member; Mr Michael Dowens, President of Unbroken Warriors; COL (R) Samuel Fuoco; Mrs. Christine Dowens, VP of Unbroken Warriors and Service Dog Emery.
“Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair”
September 14, 2019

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks & Forestry held their “Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair” at the Monmouth Battlefield State Park, Manalapan, NJ. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, President who manned the AUSA Monmouth Chapter Display/Information Table exhibiting AUSA brochures, Army Magazines, pens and other give-away items and AUSA Community Partner and Individual Membership applications. Five new AUSA Individual Membership applications were initiated.

The Jerseys State History Fair is the only statewide event where visitors can experience five centuries of NJ’s history in one place featuring period games, exhibits, living history demonstrations, tours, food, music and more. It started in 2004 as a celebratory event marking the 100th anniversary of NJ’s State Historic Sites. 2019 marks the Fair’s 15th anniversary. Its goal is to engage the public in discovering NJ’s history in a fun and enjoyable manner.

The Garden State’s historic contributions to the nation were highlighted. As one of the original 13 colonies, New Jersey is a strong part of the fabric of American history and important for the next generation to remember and celebrate the pivotal roles that NJ has played in both the birth and growth of our nation. Monmouth Battlefield, the site of one of the most pivotal battles of the American Revolution, with its rolling farmland and hedgerows was a fitting backdrop for this year’s Historic Fair. Exhibitors and re-enactors came from across the state as well as from Maryland, Connecticut, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New York.

More that 120 exhibitors represented the Historical Military & Civilian Timeline of the 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st Centuries providing hundreds of visitors the opportunity to experience what life was like throughout the important stages in New Jersey’s history. They joined in on old time games, helped plow a field and watched a 19th century-style baseball game with period uniforms, equipment and rules. Participants visited the “Save Ellis Island” booth to take the same test given to immigrants at Ellis Island. Actors interpreted and portrayed historical figures.
**Guest Speaker at the Freehold Rotary Club Monthly Meeting**  
*September 17, 2019*

At the invitation of Ms Norma Alicea, President of the Freehold Rotary Club, COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, President of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter, attended their monthly meeting at the American Hotel, Freehold, NJ as the Guest Speaker. COL (R) Fuoco presented the Monmouth Chapter Mission “Voice for the Army-Support for the Soldier” briefing, with handouts, which is supported by four Pillars: Fundraising, Community Awareness, Soldier Support and Community Education. Also discussed were the Chapter’s upcoming events and flyers were available for the 25+ attendees. Pictured left to right are Ms Norma Alicea, COL (R) Samuel Fuoco and Ms Deirdre Spiropoulos, Co-Founder & President of Impact 100 Jersey Coast.

**COMEDY NIGHT WITH COMEDIAN MIKE MARINO**  
*September 18, 2019*

The AUSA Monmouth Chapter hosted “Comedy Night with Comedian Mike Marino” at the Saint John Vianney High School (SJVHHS) Auditorium in Holmdel, NJ. The proceeds to Benefit our Service Dog Initiative. This year’s Beneficiary is former Army SGT William Madigan, a Monmouth County native and resident and Case Manager for Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF).

Headliner, Mike Marino, and Guest Comedy Peer, Pam DeButts, presented a very enjoyable show of entertainment and laughter for all attendees. Mike Marino, affectionately known to millions of his fans worldwide as New Jersey's Bad Boy, is one of the most loved comedians of our times. He has performed in every major comedy club, theatre, casino and event center from New York to Los Angeles and around the world. Mike has also shared the stage with some of the biggest names in the business. In the Fall of 2008, he was inducted into the NJ Comedy Hall of Fame and in 2015 received the USO Bob Hope Comedy Award for his many performances for the Military.

A Special THANKYOU goes out from The Monmouth Chapter to Mr Steven DiMezza, Principal of Saint John Vianney High School and the Support Staff and our Sponsors: Steve Marchi of All Occasion Limousine LLC in Keansburg, NJ; Neil Slattery Plumbing Heating & Cooling LLC in Brick, Spring Lake & Manasquan, NJ; Vin Gopal Civic Association in Central NJ; Garces|Grabler|LeBrocq (GGL) in New Brunswick, NJ; ShowerMan Shower Store in Manalapan, NJ and Sean T Keating of Rosso Financial Group in Sea Girt, NJ.

**Pictured in the Group Photo** left to right are Mrs Ellie Smith, AUSA Monmouth Chapter Secretary, Mrs Kit Roache, Chapter VP Programs, COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, Chapter President; Comedian Mike Marino; former Army SGT William Madigan with Service Dog Rosie and Ms Jackie Berman, Chapter VP Social Media.
“ENDLESS SUMMER” HAPPY HOUR
September 19, 2019

The Greater Ocean Township Chamber of Commerce (GOTCC) together with the Eatontown Industrial Park Association (EIPA), a AUSA Monmouth Chapter Community Partner, hosted an “Endless Summer” Happy Hour at the Blu Grotto Beer Garden in Oceanport, NJ. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter were LTC (R) Richard Gaudio, AUSA Monmouth Chapter Board Member with spouse AUSA Chapter Member Laurel Gaudio. Also appearing was Ms Anna Mayer, EIPA President/Director/Administrator along with over 50 EIPA and GOTCC members.

The event was FREE for EIPA and GOTCC members. Complimentary water/soda and gourmet pizzas from the Blu Grotto’s authentic Italian pizza oven was provided with a Happy Hour priced cash bar. Attendees also enjoyed the live music from the Get Down Committee (GDC) Trio and the fabulous door prizes. This Networking Event provided an opportunity for the AUSA Monmouth Chapter members to participate and contribute in the local community and engage with current and potential Community Partners. Rich & Laurel Gaudio discussed the Monmouth Chapter’s work and activities with many of the attendees and offered invitations to the Chapter’s upcoming events.

Pictured in the Group Photo left to right are Mr Robert V Acerra Sr, Ocean Township Councilman; Mr Martin J Arbus, Ocean Township Attorney and former GOTCC President and Mrs Laurel Gaudio, AUSA Monmouth Chapter Member.

Annual POW/MIA Gold Star Mothers Recognition and Wreath Laying Ceremony
September 20, 2019

The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation (NJVVMF) hosted its annual POW/MIA Gold Star Mothers Recognition and Wreath Laying Ceremony at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Holmdel, NJ. Attending from the AUSA Monmouth Chapter was CSM (R) Jack Chlapowski, VP Education who presented the AUSA Monmouth Chapter Wreath during the Wreath Laying Ceremony.

The Ceremony is an annual event to honor Gold Star Mothers as well as others who have lost family members during Military Conflicts. It also serves to remember their fallen sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, fathers and mothers along with our country’s POWs and MIAs.

Mrs Sarah Taggart, Executive Director of the NJVVMF, hosted the Ceremony and Remarks were given by COL/Dr Lisa J Hou, the Deputy Adjutant General (DAG) of New Jersey. The Presentation and Retiring of the Colors were performed by the 254th Regiment Combat Arms (CA) Soldiers of the New Jersey Army National Guard (NJANG), Sea Girt, NJ Commanded by COL Ronald Deloatch.
2019 NJ Run for the Fallen
September 26 to 29, 2019

The AUSA Monmouth Chapter was very proud to support and participate in the The New Jersey Run For the Fallen (NJRFTF) to Honor the 260 New Jersey Service Men and Women who died during the many Operations waged against the Global War on Terror: Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, New Dawn, Inherent Resolve, Active Endeavor Resolute Support and Freedom’s Sentinel.

During 26-29 September 2019, Monmouth Chapter Board Members visited the Hero Marker (HM) sites for the following 12 Fallen Heroes to greet and honor family members whom were previously presented Honor and Remember Certificates and Honor and Remember Flags: HM217 SGT Trista Moretti, HM309 PFC Stephen Benish, HM310.5 WO James Casadonas, HR411 SFC Mihail Golin, HM422 SPC Carlos Gonzalez, HM423 PFC Campbell McKenna, HM430 SGT Richard Cummings, HM445 MG Harold Greene, HM451 SGT Coleman Bean, HM457 LT Dennis Zilinski, HM462 SSG David Cook and HM464 CPT James Gurbisz.

On Flag Day, June 14, 2008, a dedicated team of runners participated in the first Run for the Fallen and ran 4100 miles across America from Fort Irwin, CA to Arlington National Cemetery, one mile for every Soldier, Sailor, Airmen and Marine killed since the War on Terror was launched by the United States after the September 11 attacks against the United States in 2001. Each year since the first run across America, runners from around the world have joined Run for the Fallen in remembering our fallen. Over 50,000 participants ran over 200,000 miles in 26 states in remembrance of these heroes.

The New Jersey Run for the Fallen is an organization of Military runners and support crews whose mission is clear and simple: To run one mile for each New Jersey Service Member who died during the GWOT (Global War on Terror). Each mile of sweat and pain and each flag saluted, is to pay homage to one Service Member’s life and their family. The last Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday of September, the runners embarked on the 4 day, 190+ mile journey from Cape May, NJ to the Finish Line at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Holmdel, NJ to honor every New Jersey Service Member who died supporting the Global War on Terror. The run up the Jersey Shore is to raise awareness of the lives of those who have 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 NJ residents whose lives have been affected by the war. We refuse any political affiliation or agenda, but simply honor those who have fought, and those who have fallen under the American Flag. The Honor and Remember Flag, is a Visible Public Reminder to all Americans of the Lives Given to Preserve Freedom; and a National Symbol of Appreciation Recognizing the Sacrifice of Generations of Fallen Hero Families.

2019 NJ Run for the Fallen, Lance Corporal Jeffery S Stevenson, USMC, Hero Marker 137
September 26, 2019

As part of the 2019 NJ Run for the Fallen, COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, President of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter and Mrs Judith Tapper, former President of the Department of NJ American Gold Star Mothers Inc visited Hero Marker 137 in Avalon, NJ to honor Lance Corporal Jeffery S Stevenson, USMC and support his family. In behalf of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter, COL (R) Fuoco presented Jeffery’s parents with the AUSA Honor-And-Remember Flag and Certificate which was donated in behalf of the Monmouth Chapter. The Flag is embroidered with “LCpl Jeffery S. Stevenson – 13 Jul 2008 – Iraq”. LCpl Jeffery S Stevenson died on July 13, 2008 in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom while serving with the 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force out of Camp Pendleton, CA. He is survived by his mother and father, Karen and Joseph Solarino and his brother Senior Airman Robert L Stevenson, USAF.
2019 NJ Run for the Fallen, SGT Trista L Moretti, Hero Marker 217
September 27, 2019

As part of the 2019 NJ Run for the Fallen, Mr Paul Stevens, AUSA Monmouth Chapter Board Member, visited Hero Marker 217 at the Oceanville Volunteer Fire Company in Galloway Township, NJ to honor SGT Trista L Moretti and support the Moretti family. The Monmouth Chapter had previously presented the Moretti family with the AUSA Honor-And-Remember Flag and Certificate. SGT Moretti was deployed with the 425th Brigade, 25th Infantry Division at the Forward Operating Base Kalso near the Sunni Triangle in Nasir Lafitah, Iraq. Her unit's mission was to search for and locate IEDs – roadside bombs. At midday on June 25, 2007, following a hard night of work, the base came under an intensive mortar attack killing SGT Moretti and injuring many more. She was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Combat Action Badge. Trista was 27 years old and is survived by her father Fred, mother Judy and sister Jennifer.

SJVHS Girls Soccer Team “Served those who Served”
September 27, 2019

The NJ Veterans Memorial Home-Menlo Park, Edison, NJ, a Community Partner of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter, hosted the Girls Soccer Team of Saint John Vianney High School (SJVHS), Holmdel, NJ also a Monmouth Chapter Community Partner. These volunteer Catholic Athletes for Christ (CAC) embark on several Field Trips each year to “Serve those who Served”. The students assisted the staff in transporting elderly/disabled Veterans to and from their daily activities that included the Exercise Club and Trivia. Moreover, they were “there for the residents” treating them with dignity, respect and compassion while brightening their day. Mr Victor Guarnera, Volunteer Office Assistant, provided the Soccer Team with an overview briefing of the Memorial Home's Mission and capabilities.

This CAC Field Trip was moderated by COL (R) Samuel Fuoco, Monmouth Chapter President; Mr Justin Meehan, SJVHS Girls Soccer Coach; Mr Robert Klatt, SJVHS Girls Assistant Soccer Coach and Mr Patrick Smith, SJVHS Assistant Athletic Director.

The NJ Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park was rebuilt in 1999 on 109 acres in Middlesex County. It is a modern skilled care nursing home providing 24/7 quality healthcare. The 312-bed facility features a “Town Square” core with services and resident living areas arrayed around it. The Home’s Mission is “To honor and serve the Military Veteran, their spouses and Gold Star Parents by consistently providing the highest quality of resident directed long term care by maintaining excellence in personal services and treatment through professional collaboration, innovation and dedication; in a setting that promotes dignity and independence.” The facilities are
open to Veterans who were honorably discharged during war or peacetime services, the Veteran's spouse and to spouses and parents of members of the Military who were killed in action during a period of war (Gold Star Parent). A spouse/widow/widower must be at least 50 years of age and must have been married to the Veteran for a period of not less than 10 years.
2019 NJ Run for the Fallen, Captain Brian McNally, USMC, Hero Marker 472  
September 29, 2019

As part of the 2019 NJ Run for the Fallen, AUSA Monmouth Chapter Board President COL (R) Samuel Fuoco visited Hero Marker 472 in Holmdel, NJ to honor Captain Brian McNally, USMC and support his family. In behalf of the AUSA Monmouth Chapter, COL (R) Fuoco presented Brian’s family with the AUSA Honor-And-Remember Flag and Certificate which was donated in behalf of the Monmouth Chapter. The Flag is embroidered with “Capt Brian McNally – 20 May 2018 - USMC”. Captain Brian McNally died on May 20, 2018 in a motor vehicle accident while driving home from weekend duty with the US Marine Corps Reserves. He was an off-duty NJ State Trooper at the time of his death. While on active duty for 4 years, Brian served a tour in Afghanistan. He is survived by his mother and father, Barbara and Kevin McNally, his sister Maureen and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Pictured in HM472 A left to right are COL (R) Samuel Fuoco and parents Kevin and Barbara McNally.

Pictured in HM472 B left to right are cousin Tara Sedgwick, Barbara and Mike Breen, parents Kevin and Barbara McNally, Marie Breen, COL (R) Samuel Fuoco and NJ State Trooper Ross Soares.

NJ Run for the Fallen, SFC Mihail Golin, Hero Marker 411  
September 29, 2019

As part of the 2019 NJ Run for the Fallen, AUSA Monmouth Chapter Board Member Mr Charles Seal, Newsletter Editor, visited Hero Marker 411 in Point Pleasant Beach, NJ to honor SFC Mihail Golin and support the Golin family. The Monmouth Chapter had previously presented the Golin family with Honor and Remember Certificates and Honor and Remember Flags. Also visiting were supportive citizens and members of the Point Pleasant, NJ Elks Lodge #1698 including Mr Robert Byrnes, past Exalted Ruler & past NJ State Elks Association South East District Vice President and Mrs Amanda Wills, past Exalted Ruler. Due to health reasons, Mihail’s father, Mr David Golin, was unable to attend. SFC Golin died on January 1, 2018 from injuries sustained during small arms fire while on dismounted patrol in the Nangarhar Province of Afghanistan with the 10th Special Forces Group during Operation Resolute Support/Freedom’s Sentinel. He had previously deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and twice to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Mihail is survived by his ex-wife Katerina, daughter Vlada, father David and mother Elena.
Chapter Kick-off for a Year Long Fundraising Effort for our: Service Dog Initiative: Pairing and Caring for Our Veterans

Our 2020 Chapter Goal is $15,000 for one service dog, training and Veteran integration

Register on-line: www.ausa.org/monmouth
Volunteers Needed for Serving and Sales!
Questions? Contact Kit Roache
732-788-4005, kitroache@Verizon.net

Tricky Tray Item tickets will be available for purchase with posted values!
AUSA Community Partners Corner

Held every October, the AUSA Annual Meeting & Exposition is the largest land power exposition and professional development forum in North America. This event consists of informative and relevant presentations, panel discussions on pertinent military and national security subjects, workshops and important AUSA business meetings.

There will be dozens of professional development events, seminars and presentations during this event including:

- AUSA Innovator’s Corner
- AUSA Institute of Land Warfare (ILW) Contemporary Military Forums
- AUSA Military Family Forums
- Sergeant Major of the Army NCO and Soldier Forum
- Small Business Forum
- Warrant Officer Professional Development Seminar
- Army National Guard Seminar
- Chief, Army Reserve Seminar
- Pre-Retirement/Survivor Benefit Plan Briefing
- Numerous International Networking events
- Department of the Army Civilian Professional Development Seminar

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Over 26,000 attendees from around the world
- 600 displays in five halls located on both levels of the Walter E. Washington Convention Center
- Over 250,000 net square feet of display space
- Nine international pavilions: Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Korea, Turkey and the United Kingdom
- New AUSA Homeland Security Pavilion
- Small Business Pavilion
- Veterans Career Hiring Pavilion organized by the American Freedom Foundation
- Army Display with multiple messages set up by TRADOC
- Army Warriors Corner – Included presentations from senior personnel supporting key Army Themes
- Army Acquisition Rally Point – Occupied by ASA (ALT) personnel for meetings/visits and outreach.
- Installations, Energy & Environment (IEE) Rally Point
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