



*CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.
DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY
192 Sandford Street
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901*

March, 2018

Bishop Protector Higgins, Msgr. Coyle, National Commander Kowalski, National Board Members, Past National Commanders, Past National Chaplains and Fellow Department Commanders:

As we move into the spring of 2018, the Department of New Jersey continues to make the Catholic War Veterans a more recognizable presence in the veterans' community of New Jersey.

The Department is now a fully functioning member of the Veterans' Executive Legislative Affairs Committee (VELAC). As such, we meet quarterly to discuss pending State legislation which may affect the Veterans' community. Additionally, the group presented a letter of concerns to then Governor-Elect Murphy in December and met with the Governor within ten days of his inauguration. Both as a group and as the Catholic War Veterans - Department of New Jersey, we will continue to communicate with the Governor's office, as well as, other agencies to ensure that our organization does not become a step-child of the veterans' population in the State.

Fortunately, we continue to work with a local veterans' charity (organized and funded by one of our posts) to provide the Veterans' Memorial Home at Menlo Park,

Veterans' Haven North, the Archdiocese for the Military Services, the Diocese of Metuchen Apostolate for Military and Veteran Families, the Chapel of the Four Chaplains, and active duty personnel at Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst with additional funding to enhance their commitment to our Brothers and Sisters (commissary cards for Thanksgiving and Christmas, children's Christmas Party). We have also sponsored a number of multiply disabled children from the Joint Base with the opportunity to attend summer camp.

Since membership is a priority, we continue to work with the establishment of a new Post in the western area of the Department. With the assistance of a former Navy Chaplain, now Pastor, we have procured a suitable meeting location and have started recruitment in neighboring parishes. Additionally, we have committed to participation in a job/information fair at Joint Base MDL and information fairs at two other locations. The Department continues to place advertisements in the Diocesan newspaper which covers the central portion of the State. We hope to expand our outreach to the other dioceses in the coming year.

The annual Mass in memory of Fr. John P. Washington and the Chaplains of the U.S.A.T. Dorchester took place on February 4, 2018. It marked the 75th Anniversary of the tragedy. Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the Archdiocese of the Military Services was principal celebrant of the Mass. Members of CWV Post #1612 and CWV Post #1710 provided the Honor Guard led by our own Frank Perrucci. Representatives of many Veterans' organizations were in attendance and as Department Commander, I was privileged to lead my brothers and sisters into St. Stephen's Church for the Mass.

With the impending sale of our National Headquarters building in Alexandria, Virginia, some of our Brothers from the Jewish War Veterans, Department of New Jersey suggested that our National Office contact their National Office with the possibility of sharing office space in the JWV Building on R Street, NW in the District of Columbia. This information was forwarded to our National Commander for his decision and action.

Our 82nd Department Convention will take place in June. The location has been determined, but details are still being finalized.

Finally, because of a number of medical issues, both personal and family related, I have not been able to attend the past few National events. For that, I apologize, but can only hope that in the future that situation will change.

As a Department, we will encourage our Posts, through their Commanders, to continue and expand their patriotic, membership, fraternal and ecumenical activities. Working as a team, the Department of New Jersey will become a true force for Veterans and their families.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony J. Moskal

LTC (Ret) Anthony J. Moskal, Ph.D.
Commander
Department of New Jersey