

Bernard L. Tobin Post 128 – Aberdeen, MD

44 N. PARKE STREET

AMERICAN LEGION



News

MARCH/APRIL 2017

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Greetings All,

Winter has yet to hit us with its full force, and the constant up and down in temperatures is taking its toll on everyone's health. I am sure we will get through this, and enjoy a wonderful spring.

Wow, January is over. As you may know, we had some plumbing problems, and we chose to shut down the canteen to attack the issues. So with the bar in the hall open for business, we commenced to digging up the floor in the canteen. LONG story short, 2 weeks and 1 day later, we reopened! Plumbing fixed, and a brand new look for the canteen. We painted, and replaced the carpet, as well as put a new tile floor in the bar area, and men's room. Also in January, we had a team of us go down to Sandy Point Beach for the Polar Bear plunge. Even though it was warmer this year (not by much), it was plenty cold.

February brought the final push for the Annual Bull Roast, and we are hoping for a huge success. Tickets were sold out by the end of the first week of February. We planned well out for a successful, and fun event.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings Ladies,

Winter weather is supposed to be here but so far we've been fortunate, "No Real Snowstorms". Instead we've been experiencing spring-like weather. Let's hope this continues through March.

Just a few things to report. On January 27th, five Auxiliary members and three Legionnaires from Post 128 participated in the Polar Bear Plunge for the Special Olympics. Thank you to all who sponsored us.

Bingo with the Veterans at Perry Point continues to be a blessing to the men as well as our faithful Auxiliary Ladies who help them play.

On April 22nd our Unit along with the Northern Central District will be sponsoring an all night "BINGO" as a fundraiser. For only \$25 paid in advance you will receive 50 plus games of Bingo and a dinner. Tickets at the door will be \$30. Extra bingo games, pull-offs, special money boards, door prizes and snacks will also be offered. This will be a great night of fun, fellowship and maybe for you some extra money. We need your support to make this fundraiser a "BIG" success.

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from the

Adjutant's Desk



Dear Comrades,

Wow what a month January was, we had holes in the floor and piles of dirt all over the canteen. Thanks to the many volunteers that helped with the digging painting and moving stuff. We were able to move back into the CANTEEN the first week of February. This was a very expensive undertaking and without the help of the Sons and Members, the hit that the general fund would have been massive.

The post is behind on dues for this time of the year. To keep the membership numbers up so Andy can get his award for 100 membership! If nothing else, we all need to try to recruit at least one new member so we would be in good shape. Remember that membership counts not only for the post but all the way to the national level. The higher the membership,

the louder the voice of the legion is in the halls of Congress. Sadly we have had a number of members join Post Everlasting, they will be missed.

The Friday night dinners are catching on, come on out and give them a try.

The Boy Scouts went camping at Broad Creek Scout Reservations Camp Spencer for Operation Icicle the last week of January. They worked on cooking and scout craft. Better them than me!

We have finished sending out the 25, 50, and 60 year continuous membership certificates and pins until next year. So, keep up your membership so you can receive a certificate and a pin in the near future.

Yours in Legion service,

Adjutant Bob Hanson

Assistant Adjutant Dennis Laliberte

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

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We have several different types of events coming up for fund raising, as well as some events that are about thanking people. First off, the Department of Defense established a Vietnam War Commemoration group, in which our post has joined. We will be hosting a dinner April 29th at 6pm to thank all of those who served in Vietnam era. You must sign up to come to this event, there is no cost. We will have certificates for all Veterans of this era. Call the post, or stop by to get on the list. The American Legion is starting a one year celebration, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the American Legion. With this effort, they are raffling off a Centennial Pistol, Colt 45 cal. 1911. Very pretty firearm, tickets are available at the legion, \$5 each, or 5 for \$20.

Another event we are assisting with, Aberdeen Proving Ground is celebrating 100 years as well. They are erecting a memorial for all workers who were killed in service to APG over the last 100 years. This memorial is going to be in the park just across the street from the Legion. May 3rd is the dedication ceremony for the memorial, and we will be serving a luncheon to all in attendance. We will need volunteers to help with the luncheon.

We have many events planned, the SAL is running the Shop with a Cop now, and are planning a dance as a fund raiser in June. NASCAR is kicking off, and everyone is looking forward to the races. We are trying some new DJ's for Karaoke on Friday night, and actually had a really good time playing Family Feud. So the 2nd and the 4th Fridays we will start at 7p with Family Feud, and go until about 8p, then we will start Karaoke.

2017 is going to be a great year for the Legion and Our Post! We are drawing in a younger crowd, and slowly teaching them that this is their American Legion. So after we are all too tired to keep it going, they will pick up the reins and continue on. It is our job to ensure we leave a good thriving Legion, in the capable hands of those to carry it forward.

Hope to see you around the Post, we have food every Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Come down and socialize with everyone, make new friends.

Yours in service,

Andy Powell, Commander

1st Vice Commander's Message



Greetings Legionnaires, American Legion Auxiliary (ALA), Sons of the American Legion (SAL), American Legion Riders (ALR), and family members. As we look forward to 2017, I would like to thank everyone who has helped to make Bernard L. Tobin a post where everyone is welcome.

We are well on our way to meeting our membership goal of 100% for 2017, and as of 20 February 2017 we are over 76% for the year. That being said, we are still hoping to exceed our membership goal by reaching over 500 members in 2017. However, this cannot be accomplished without your support. If you know of any member that has not renewed their membership, please remind them to do so.

Our post is one of the pillars of our community. Here we teach children to respect the U.S. flag and provide color guards and escorts for funerals and community events. We sponsor Little League baseball, Boy Scout and Cub Scout troops and have connected with veterans and their families by providing Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) in difficult times.

We at The American Legion are vital in the effort to continue serving our veterans. Our camaraderie and array of programs are second to none; however, if we don't continue to grow our membership, the Legion's influence will be greatly diminished. A smaller Legion means a smaller veteran footprint within our community. A smaller footprint reduces the opportunity to provide mentorship for our youth about worthy values, citizenship, and patriotism. It also diminishes our ability to provide assistance to our veterans.

Before the Gulf War, 9/11, and wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, our Legion membership was 3,013,189 strong. However, since this time our membership has declined. This is why we must make it our mission to sign up every eligible veteran we can reach – not necessarily for reward or recognition, but because they've earned the privilege to be part of our family.

My challenge to every Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL member is to recruit one new member this year. It's up to us to leave our Legion bigger and better than we found it, and to hand its great responsibility and purpose off to a new generation that, first and foremost, must be asked to join.

This is as simple as asking people you know or striking up a conversation with someone you see wearing military uniform or apparel. The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. Our organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives. Your membership gives you and your family practical discounts that can easily save you many times the cost of your annual membership dues. Your membership helps support Department Service Officers nationwide who assist veterans in preparing claims and obtaining their full military healthcare benefits through the VA.

Welcome New Members!

Welcome aboard to our newest Post Members:

Isaiah S. Jones, Jared J. Welsh, Tyree S. Lewis,
Dylan R. McKee, Martin R. Fritze, Timmy Bullock,
Joseph Whisman, and Elias Rosa-Rodriguez

New SAL Members: Kevin F. Simpson, Evan R. Quinn,
and Mark Laubner

Welcome to the Post!

Thank you all for supporting Post 128!

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1st Vice Commander's Message

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Lastly, since the inception of the American Legion Legacy Scholarship in 2001 following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the American Legion has offered its support to the children of fallen service members through this scholarship. Beginning with the 2017 award year, the American Legion expanded the scholarship to include the children of VA-rated, post-9/11 veterans with a disability of 50 percent or higher. Bernard L. Tobin Post 128 remains committed to honoring the memory and service of our fallen and disabled comrades by ensuring their children are afforded the best possible educational opportunities.

So, as we prepare for the the 12th Annual American Legion Scholarship Run, I would like to reach out to each of you with the hope that you will help this year's American Legion Legacy Scholarship reach new goals. If you would like to donate or purchase one of our beautiful coins for a \$10.00 donation, please contact Riders Director Richard Beckwell or me.



Front



Back

These Gold Star Challenge Coins represent what the Legion Family is all about, which is assisting those who need our help to make a better life for themselves. Our goal once again is to represent our post by donating the sales of this Challenge Coin in the form of a check to the Legacy Scholarship Fund at the 2017 National Convention in Reno, Nevada.

We can only be successful if we have your support, so please plan on joining us to make American Legion Bernard L. Tobin Post 128 better than ever. If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact me via cell at (706) 631-0190 or email at:

1stvicecommander@aberndeenpost128.org.

We are truly looking forward to working with you in 2017!

Thank you.

David Heredia, Jr., 1st Vice Commander



Karaoke

Every Friday Night

Starts at 8 pm until 12 am
in the Post Lounge
Come out and join the Fun!
Sing along with the oldies!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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We are also working on making 100% in our membership. If you haven't paid your dues of \$25 for 2017 please send it into the Auxiliary Unit 128, 44 N Parke St. Aberdeen 21001.

Finally I'm looking forward to working with all the ladies by supporting our Veterans, the Legion, and the Community in the upcoming months.

Let's Do This Together!

Linda Geigan, President
443-829-4320



Addition to Auxiliary Newsletter:

It is with deep regret that I inform you of the passing of our Auxiliary member, friend and Past President Ziggy Virgus. She will be dearly missed, as she was a dedicated, involved member for over 30 years. May she rest in peace.

Linda Geigan, President
443-829-4320



Perry Point Bingo Veterans

Bingo with the Veterans at Perry Point continues to be a blessing to the men as well as our faithful Auxiliary Ladies who help them play. Post 128 conducts bingo on the 1st Wednesday of every month between 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm, and if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact Linda Geigan at 443-829-4320.

Friday Night Dinners only \$9!

All dinners come with sides!

- 1st Friday each month will be our burger (with sides) night
 - 2nd Friday is "Home Cooking Night" dinner by the SAL
 - 3rd Friday is as always our Fish Fry dinner
 - 4th Friday the Ladies will be doing an Italian dinner
 - On months with 5 Fridays, the Boy Scouts will host a dinner
- New kitchen hours will be 5-8pm

A Word From the Chaplain



Greetings in the Name of the Lord,
Food For Thought: How To Be Happy

Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious Joy. (1Peter 1:8)

Happy is the person who not only sings, but feels God's Eye is on the Sparrow, and know He watches over me. (C. C. Colton)
A Classic Devotion From R. A. Torrey

The text tells us that the way to obtain this "inexpressible and glorious joy", the way to be inexpressibly happy at all times and under all circumstances, is just by believing in the unseen Jesus Christ. What does it mean to believe in Jesus Christ? There is no mystery at all about that. It's simply means to put confidence in Jesus Christ to be what He claims to be and what He offered Himself to be to us, to put confidence in Him as the one who died in our place; to put confidence in Him as the one who was raised from the dead and who now has "all power" in Heaven and on Earth; and therefore is able to keep us day by day, and give us victory over sin; and to put confidence in Him as our absolute Lord and Master, and therefore to surrender our thoughts and wills and lives entirely to His control; and worship and adore him. It is wonderful the joy that comes to him to who thus believes in Jesus Christ. But one must really believe in Jesus Christ to have this Joy.

Lord, I know that trusting you completely will bring me fullness of Joy. Teach me to rely on You. Amen
God bless you all,

Rev. W. Lewis Geigan, Chaplain

Sick Call & Post Everlasting

POST SICK CALL

Jerry Sexton Don Crites
Lew Geigan

SAL SICK CALL

None

UNIT SICK CALL

Ruth Romanuk



Our heart felt wishes for a speedy recovery are with you!

POST EVERLASTING

Kenneth (Skip) Lathrop John D Myers
Robert J. Kemp Clarence M. Keithley

SQUADRON EVERLASTING

None

UNIT EVERLASTING

Barbara Stone Sigrid (Ziggy) Vigus

Life brings tears, smiles, and memories. The tears dry, the smiles fade, but the memories live on forever!



Message from American Legion Riders



On February 2nd, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow and it was prognosticated that there will be six more weeks of winter. Staten Island Chuck did not see his shadow and declared that, in a what was said to be a warming message to New Yorkers, that spring was just six weeks away. Okay, March 20th it is.

With the return of warmer weather, we riders have dreams turning that key and just going somewhere.

April will be the perceived start for our riding season. Not for all, but for the hardest and boldest of our members. On April 15th, we are holding a "Blessing of the Bikes" followed by a short "Get the cobwebs out" ride and provide us a chance to catch up with old friends, meet new friends, and just get out of the house. It doesn't matter where we go, it just matters that we do it with friends and that everyone does it safely. After all, it is the trip that is important, not necessarily the destination.

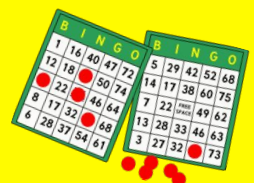
I predict that - like those loveable rodents (Punxsutawney Phil is one, all be it a rather large one) around the globe - on March 20th, our riders' brains will begin to awake from our winter solace and make the trip to the garage to urge the beast that lies there-in to emerge from the cave and re-enter the world.

Viewing the steed that lies before them, the urge to sit on the saddle, astride the engine, with hands firmly gripping the handle bars, becomes overwhelming. However, before that desire to "start-her-up" for a short ride, I would like to suggest that you take the time to check the machine over. I would like suggest the use of the T-CLOCS check list because it is easy to follow, thorough, and makes sure that your ride is safe to venture out on.

If you are a Legion family member who rides a Motorcycle or Trike (600cc's or larger) and would like to get more information as to who we are and what we do, send me an email at rsbeckwell@verizon.net. We meet every fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M.

Richard Beckwell, ALR128 Director

Bingo!



COME AND JOIN THE FUN!!!
Sunday Bingo — starts at 6:30 pm
Thursday Bingo — starts at 6:00 pm
Kitchen Open 5-9 pm on Bingo Nights!

Membership Milestones!

American Legion "Length of Service" certificates/pins:

70 Years - Alfred Petrogallo

60 Years - William E Day, Nelson E Nobel, and
Floyd Wadsworth

50 Years - Barry Baker, Stephen Coleman, Benjamin Ham,
John Lindecamp, Donald Lowe, Joseph McDeshen, John Wolf,
James Anderson, and Joseph Ferraro

25 Years - Wilfried Adams, Ross Allen, Roger Barrett, Frank
Biedrzycki, William, J Boylan, Vincent Carney, Ror Cole, Carroll
Cook, Barry Decker, Jeffrey Deel, Aurther Elliott, Curtis Ewing,
Charles Forster, James Givans, Nick Guerra, Eugene Hamm,
Thomas Hardy, Thomas Hayden Sr, John Heavener, Edward
Illick, Donald Johnson, Roger Jorgenson, John Lopes, Frederick
Mark, John Myers, Charles Poplett, Stanley Shaw, Michael
Snyder, Michael Sparks, John Spencer Sr, Kenneth Thompson,
Kenneth Trees, James Turek, Robert Weis, and Bonnie White

Congratulations to all and thank you for your service!

The Bull and Oyster Roast is a Sellout!

Thank you to all of those that sold and or purchased tickets to our Annual Bull and Oyster Roast. Tickets have been sold out! Bill's Seafood will be catering for us this year and it looks like it will be a fun time for all. As always, music will be provided by Andy Powell and the wheels of chance will be spinning their magic. The menu looks outstanding and there will be plenty of oysters for everybody! I hope you got your tickets early!



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY,
DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND NORTHERN
CENTRAL DISTRICT FUNDRAISER

April 22, 2017

50 games of Bingo

Special 50/50 Game & other specials

Dinner included

Snacks available – kitchen open until 9 p.m.

Doors open at 3 p.m. Bingo starts at 5 p.m.

\$25.00 IN ADVANCE OR **\$30.00** AT DOOR

sponsored by Bernard L. Tobin Unit #128

44 N. Parke St
Aberdeen, MD 21001

For tickets call:

Sharon Holter at 410-877 4210

Linda Geigan at 443-829-4320



**American Legion Riders
Bernard L Tobin Post 128**

44 N. Parke Street
Aberdeen, MD 21001

Blessing of the Bikes April 15, 2017

Rain/Snow Date April 22

Check <https://www.facebook.com/Post128/> for updates



Blessing 11:00 AM then a 60 Mile Ride
to get the cobwebs out.



**ALL BIKES AND RIDERS WELCOME!
NO COST TO ATTEND**

Donations accepted for the Legacy Scholarship fund

Kickoff the new riding season, meet local riders, and enjoy a ride.

For more information contact:
Rich at "rsbeckwell@verizon.net"
Dave at "dheredia005@comcast.net"

"BE SAFE AND ENJOY THE RIDE IN 2017!"



Our Next Generation

The next generation Legion Family! Got to love these young people! And they're always there when you need them!

Boy Scout Troop 820

Boy Scout Troop 820 is looking for scouts ages 11-17 and
Cub Scout Pack 820 is looking for boys 1st -5th grade.

Any questions feel free to call me at [443-206-0671](tel:443-206-0671)

Thanks,

Katie Laliberte



Post 128 attends a sendoff for America's heroes

On Sunday, January 29th, 2017, nearly 200 Maryland Army National Guard members tearfully said goodbye to their loved ones as they prepared for a nine-month deployment to the Middle East. And standing side-by-side with them were American Legion Family members who came to show their support and provide reassurance that The American Legion will meet the needs of their families during their deployment and upon their return home.



David Johnson, American Legion Department of Maryland Second Vice Commander salutes the troops as busses drive the Army National Guard 29th Combat Aviation Brigade away from their families and friends during the deployment Ceremony at the MG Warren D. Hodges Armory Building located in the U.S. Army Aberdeen Proving Grounds-Edgewood Area. The Brigade will be deployed for nine-months in the Middle East.

For many of the soldiers and their families, it's their second deployment with the 29th Combat Aviation Brigade since 2012, then under the command of Col. Dave Carey, a member of Post 39.

"We leaned on the Legion on our past deployment for the departing and returning ceremony. The Legion being there this time, they really stepped up and said, 'We are behind you all the way and if your family has problems while you're gone here's how to reach us,'" Carey said.

But for other soldiers of the unit, it's their first deployment and not only are families being left behind, but civilian jobs as

well. That's why the Legion's presence at the deployment ceremony was a reminder to all that "The American Legion as a whole will be there for their families through our Family Support Network", said David Johnson, a Past Aberdeen Post 128 Commander. "The American Legion wants to help the ones deploying stay focused on their mission and stay safe."



"By me being there with my wife (Debra) and my fellow Legionnaires, I felt that it allowed me to let them know that 'Hey, we've been there, we know what you're going through, and we're here for you and your family,'" said David Heredia, a Legion Rider and 1st Vice Commander of Post 128 in Aberdeen. "We let them know that the American Legion is here to support not only them but their families."



"It was sad that these soldiers are going to be missing their families, but on a positive note, I saw the community come out to support these soldiers, including their employers," said Debra Heredia, a member of Aberdeen Auxiliary Unit 128. "It was such an inspiring experience to see these soldiers, who have given their time and their commitment and basically are allowing their lives to be risked to make sure the rest of us Americans, who are here back at home, are safe."

"It's nice for them to know that others have been where they are and are willing to come out and continue to support them. And to remind them if they need a family support group, American Legion posts are everywhere."

KEY DATES

March 2017

Mar 4.....Annual Bull & Oyster Roast, 3-7 pm
 Mar 6.....SAL Meeting, 7 pm
 Mar 13.....Unit Meeting, 7 pm
 Mar 17.....Fish Fry, 5:30-9 pm
 Mar 18.....Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner, 4-8 pm
 Mar 20.....Post Meeting, 7 pm
 Mar 25.....Chaplain Class & Seminar 11 am – 2 pm
 Mar 26.....Extension Institute Course, 1 pm
 Mar 27.....ALR Meeting, 7 pm

April 2017

Apr 3.....SAL Meeting, 7 pm
 Apr 10.....Unit Meeting, 7 pm
 Apr 15.....ALR Blessing of the Bikes, 11 am
 Apr 17.....Post Meeting, 7 pm
 Apr 21.....Fish Fry, 5:30-9 pm
 Apr 22.....Northern Central District Bingo, 3 pm - ?
 Apr 24.....ALR Meeting, 7 pm
 Apr 29.....Vietnam Veteran's Dinner, 6-9 pm

For a complete listing of all our upcoming events, check our web
 Calendar Page at: <http://aberdeenpost128.org/calendar.html>

If you would like to receive our newsletter by mail,
 please send a letter to: **American Legion Post 128,**
44 N. Parke St., Aberdeen, MD, 21001
 or call the Post at: **410-272-9822.**

SAL 128 OFFICERS • 2016-2017

Meetings – 1st Monday Every Month – 7:00 pm

Commander.....Jerry Lacey
 1st Vice Commander.....Kyle Lacey
 2nd Vice Commander.....Richard Brinney
 3rd Vice Commander.....Richard Bruno
 Adjutant.....Randy Conlon
 Finance Officer.....Michael Lindecamp
 Chaplain.....Michael Humphreys
 Historian.....Gary Gedom
 Sgt-at-Arms.....Sean Foley
 Advisor.....James Osborne

Club Steward.....Andy Powell.....(410) 272-9822
 Newsletter Editor.....Sonny Barnhouse.....(410) 459-0485
 Post Email.....post128@aberdeenpost128.org
 Commander's Email.....commander@aberdeenpost128.org
 1st Vice Email.....1stvicecommander@aberdeenpost128.org
 POST 128 WEBSITE.....<http://www.aberdeenpost128.org>
 FACEBOOK PAGE.....<https://www.facebook.com/Post128>
 or search for: American Legion Bernard L. Tobin Post 128

POST 128 OFFICERS • 2016-2017

Meetings – 3rd Monday Every Month – 7:00 pm

Commander.....Andy Powell
 1st Vice Commander.....David Heredia Jr.
 2nd Vice Commander.....Kenneth Lathrop
 3rd Vice Commander.....Sonny Barnhouse
 Adjutant.....Robert Hanson
 Finance Officer.....Robert Hanson
 Chaplain.....Lewis Geigan
 Judge Advocate.....Richard Beckwell
 Historian.....Vacant
 Service Officer.....Joseph Frye
 Sgt-at-Arms.....Richard Davis
 Dept. Exec. Committee.....Lewis Geigan
 Club Steward.....Andy Powell

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jim Osborne Chad Prutko Bruce Gedom
 All Past Commanders

UNIT 128 OFFICERS • 2016-2017

Meetings – 2nd Monday Every Month – 7:00 pm

President.....Linda Geigan
 1st Vice President.....Connie Johnson
 2nd Vice President.....Kim Webb
 Secretary.....Deborah Heredia
 Treasurer.....Joyce Steininger
 Historian.....Janet Peightal
 Chaplain.....Connie Martin
 Sgt-at-Arms.....Janet Peightal
 Color Bearers.....Anna Sissum, Elizabeth Hewitt

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kim Webb Sigrid Vigus Jean Jacobs
 All Past Presidents

ALR 128 OFFICERS • 2016-2017

Meetings – 4th Monday Every Month – 7:00 pm

Director.....Richard Beckwell
 Assistant Director.....David Heredia Jr.
 Secretary.....Debbie Heredia
 Treasurer.....Susan Beckwell
 Sgt-at-Arms.....Richard Davis
 Road Captain.....Vacant

Newsletter Award

We are extremely proud to announce
 that Bernard L. Tobin Post 128 Newsletter
 has been selected to receive the American
 Legion Department of Maryland "Best
 Website and Newsletter" Award for 2016.
 Thank you to all those that contribute to
 this Newsletter. This honor belongs to you!

