Building #5, 2ND Floor 171 JERSEY STREET TRENTON, N. J. 08611 APRIL, 2018

TO: DEPT. OFFICERS, PAST DEPT. COMMANDERS, DEPT. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMEN, POST COMMANDERS, AND COUNTY COMMANDERS

<u>LOCUSTWOOD STATEWIDE MEMORIAL SERVICE - DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY</u> <u>DATE - SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 2018 - 1:30 P.M.</u>

The Eighty - Third Annual Department Memorial Service of The American Legion, Department of New Jersey will be held at the Locustwood Memorial Park (Legion Section), 1500 Route 70 West, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002.

PARADE FORMATION TIME - 1:30 P.M. PARADE TIME - 2:00 P.M.

The services will proceed according to our scheduled program. In the event of inclement weather, there will be erected four large tents for use. The parade will be eliminated, the services will be conducted and there is no postponement date.

It is the custom to hold a short parade of ½ mile before our actual ceremonies, starting at the Main Entrance on Cooper Landing Road. The parade formation will be inside the cemetery.

Department Vice Commanders will be in charge of each Section. All Counties will form alphabetically. County Commanders will head their own County with County, Posts, Units, Color Guards, Musical Units, Legionnaires, Members of the Auxiliary, SAL, and Jr. Auxiliary.

Department Vice Commander Joseph Bisbing will be Marshal, assisted by Department Vice Commanders William Fetherman, Dan Channel, Larry Bishop and Richard DiBuono.

FORMATION OF THE PARADE WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

FIRST SECTION

William Stokes Bonsal Blues Band Post 133, Legion Police Color Guard, Stetser-Lamartine Post 281 Firing Squad, George P. Vanderveer Post 129 Ritual Team, Department Officers - in charge will be Department Vice Commander Joseph Bisbing.

SECOND SECTION

Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Camden and Cape May_Counties - in charge will be Department Vice Commander Richard DiBuono.

THIRD SECTION

Cumberland, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson and Hunterdon Counties - in charge will be Department Vice Commander Dan Channel.
FOURTH SECTION

Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris and Ocean Counties - in charge will be Department Vice Commander William Fetherman.

FIFTH SECTION

Passaic, Salem, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren Counties - in charge will be Department Vice Commander Larry J. Bishop.

The parade route is from (B) to (C). Immediately after the parade, all Color Guards will place their Colors into the racks, with the exception of the Department Color Guards of the Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion, who will advance their Department Colors. Racks are located to the left and right of the Reviewing Stand. Department Master-at-Arms Arnold Vicidomini will be in charge of the Colors.

All County Commanders will be seated with County Presidents.

At the retirement of the Colors, the Department Color Bearers will retire their Colors, followed by the remaining Color Guard Units who will retire their Colors after the Services are completed.

The Firing Squad will be stationed at the Legion Memorial Plot (D) as Guard of Honor throughout the Services.

The burial ground was dedicated to The American Legion, Department of New Jersey by the Locustwood Memorial Park Association for the resting place of deceased Legionnaires and spouses. It is called by many - "The New Jersey Arlington."

In paying tribute to our deceased Legionnaires, the services will be brief, but impressive. Selections will be played by the William Stokes Bonsal Blues Post 133 Band.

Department Commander Darryl J. Reid and Department President Debe Free will place the first Floral Tributes, jointly, along with Gold Star Mother Diane Drummond, each County Commander and County President, the Sons of The American Legion, the Junior Auxiliary and the Nam Knights. Locustwood Memorial Committee Chairman Steven Fisher and Vice Chairman Tom Adams will be in charge of arrangement of the Floral Tributes.

Please publicize this Memorial Service throughout your Post, County and local newspapers as we need larger attendance than we have had in the past.

Due to heavy traffic conditions on Route 70, we are urging that all cars be parked in the cemetery as outlined on the map below. Members of the LEGION POLICE COMMITTEE will be on duty with full instructions as to your parking facilities. For parade formation use Office Entrance (A) and leave Entrance (B).

NOTE: All units who desire to change uniforms before and/or after the services are invited to use Post 372's headquarters. The Post Home will be open for your convenience after 11:00 a.m. Post Home telephone # is (856) 665-3889. Directions to the Post Home: leaving cemetery - turn right on Route 70, go to the third street, FULTON AVE. (Cherry Hill Dodge), turn right on Fulton Ave. to dead-end, turn right to Post Home.

STEVEN FISHER, Chairman THOMAS ADAMS, Vice-Chairman Locustwood Memorial Committee

