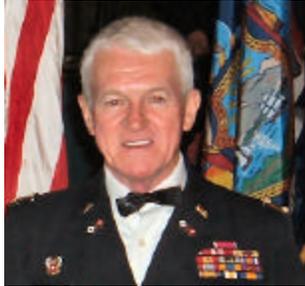




# LIBERTY CHAPTER



## A Message From The President MG Joseph P. O'Leary (Ret)



On Saturday 2 Dec 06, the 101st Sig Bn hosted their second annual holiday ball at the Polish Center in Yonkers, almost 200 soldiers, family members, retirees, and Liberty Chapter members were in attendance for a most enjoyable evening of good food, dancing, and socializing. MG Vince Lanna, former commander of the 101st and later commander of the 42ID attended with his wife, Florence. MG Bob Rose, former commander of the 187th Sig Bde and later NYARNG commander was also present

Two former CSM's of the 101st Sig Bn, Edward Liebspach and Ed D'Anna also joined in the celebration. New York State CSM Bob Vanpelt who served with the 187th Sig Bde, & his wife Debbie also enjoyed the festivities.

I was impressed by the number of junior enlisted soldiers present at the dinner and by many retired soldiers who attended. The retirees included veterans from WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, Iraq and Afghanistan. It was an ideal time and place for the old and the new army to get acquainted. LTC Kilmartin and his party committee are to be commended for the planning & execution of the Signal Ball. During the festivities, as President of the Liberty Chapter, I had the pleasure of awarding the Silver Order of Mercury to COL Ferg Foley. The Award issued by the national SCRA at FT Gordon, GA. recognized the many accomplishments and contributions to the Signal Corps by COL Foley and was well deserved.

LTC Tom Kilmartin has been assigned to Command the 101st Sig Bn replacing LTC Jackie Russell. The Liberty Chapter congratulates LTC Kilmartin and wish him and the Battalion the best of luck in the future.

Note that the April meeting of the Liberty Chapter has been changed to Saturday 14 Apr 1400 hrs at Camp Smith. The 101st is drilling on that weekend. April is our annual meeting and in accordance with our by-laws, we will conduct our election of officers.

## SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

**Monday  
8 Jan 07  
1930 Hrs  
Orangeburg  
Armory**

**Saturday  
14 Apr 2007  
1500 Hrs  
Camp Smith  
Annual  
Elections &  
Food Buffett**

**Monday  
9 Jul 2007  
1930 Hrs  
Yonkers  
Armory**

**Thursday  
22 Oct 2007  
1930 Hrs  
Polish C.C.  
Yonkers, NY**

**ANNUAL DUES  
ARE  
\$12.00 E6 & Up  
\$2.00 E-1 to E-5  
Due in April  
Each Year  
Check Your  
Mailing Label  
In Apr 07 for  
Expiration Date**



## Upcoming Events

The 101st Sig Bn will conduct a ceremonial change of command on 14 Apr 07 at Camp Smith parade field at 1330 hrs for outgoing Commander LTC Jackie Russell and incoming Commander LTC Thomas Kilmartin. Liberty Chapter members are invited & encouraged to attend the ceremony.

The Military Association of New York (MANY) conference will be held at the Sagamore, Lake George, NY on 20 to 22 April 07.

The National Guard association (NGAUS) conference will be held in San Juan, Puerto Rico on 24-27 August 07

Below are several photos from the 101st Sig Bn holiday formal. To see more pictures go to our web site at [www.nysignal.org](http://www.nysignal.org)



## 101st Signal Battalion

Article by: LTC Thomas J. Kilmartin, Commander



### LIBERTY CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Joseph P. O'Leary  
VICE PRES : Edward D'Anna  
TREASURER: Carlos Rodriguez  
AWARDS: Paul Suchanyc  
MEMBERSHIP: Matt Bayless  
EVENTS: George Desimone  
SECRETARY: Frank Letizia

Visit our Web Site at  
**[www.nysignal.org](http://www.nysignal.org)**

The e-mail address is:  
[nysignal@nysignal.org](mailto:nysignal@nysignal.org)

If you are not receiving  
e-mail notices, please  
update your e-mail address.

The Liberty Chapter newsletter will  
be published 4 times a year prior  
to each scheduled meeting.  
Contributions, comments and  
suggestions should be e-mailed to:  
[psuchanyc@yahoo.com](mailto:psuchanyc@yahoo.com) or to  
[nysignal@nysignal.org](mailto:nysignal@nysignal.org) All Address  
corrections should also be  
forwarded to the above address.

**Liberty Chapter  
Signal Regiment Assn  
State Armory, Quincy Place  
Yonkers, New York 10701**



I am proud and honored to have been selected as the 101st Signal Battalion Commander and delighted to be back in the battalion after a short three month period in the Joint Forces Headquarters. I am ready for the challenges ahead and mindful that this past year was a highly successful one. The best news is we are at 81 percent of authorized strength, the fastest growing unit in New York and on target to meet the projected strength goals for 2007. The many accomplishments of 2006 were the result of the exemplary leadership and vision of the outgoing Commander, LTC Jacqueline L. Russell. She deserves our praise and heartfelt thanks for a job well done and our best wishes in her new career challenge.

The return of the Signal Battalion in September 2004 would not have been possible without the unified voice and support of the Signal Corps Regimental Association (SCRA) and New York State's own Liberty Chapter. SCRA is a private, nonprofit organization that provides an opportunity for all Active, Reserve, and National Guard, Officers, Warrant Officers, Enlisted Members and Civilians, as well as any former members of the Signal Corps to aid in preserving for posterity the proud heritage of the U.S. Army Signal Corps Regiment, and Signal units throughout the world. Through direct financial support, the association enhances the educational and recreational value of the Signal Regiment and thus ensures the lessons of history and proud traditions of the Signal Regiment, including the 101st Signal Battalion, are not forgotten.

As a life member of the Signal Corps Regimental Association (SCRA) and member of New York State's local signal association, the "Liberty Chapter", I have been able to draw on the experience and expertise of both active and retired enlisted, NCO's and Officers in a collegial environment based on professionalism and sense of duty to our Nation, State and local community. It is the camaraderie and shared experiences that make membership in the Liberty Chapter an important responsibility for our senior and junior enlisted and officers.

In keeping the spirit of building teamwork and new relationships, I have coordinated with our Headquarters to conduct a ceremonial change of command on Saturday, April 14th at Camp Smith Training Site, taking advantage of anticipated good weather and our current training plan. I have also invited the Liberty Chapter to hold its spring meeting on site following the ceremony. I challenge current active duty Liberty Chapter Members to join me in sponsoring a new member and invite them to join us in continuing a great tradition of fellowship and mutual support.

This coming year will be one of our most challenging, as we prepare for the transformation of the 101st Signal Battalion into an Integrated Theater Signal Battalion (ITSB), ready to join our brothers and sisters in the Global War On Terrorism at home or abroad. I consider myself blessed and proud to be the Commander of this battalion at this time in history. I am equally proud of my Liberty Chapter Membership. I look forward to working with all Liberty Chapter Members in the effort to enhance and improve this great organization and preserve our rich history for future generations.

### MEMBER'S NEWS ITEMS



LTC Jackie Russell outgoing commander of the 101 Sig Bn was presented a plaque from the battalion staff, and COL (Ret) Fergal Foley was awarded the Silver Order Of Mercury by MG (Ret) Joseph Oleary, Liberty Chapter President, during the battalions annual holiday party on 2 Dec 06.



Statue of Liberty Chapter President COL. Dominic Morelli, Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Mutual of America, Mr. Manfred Altstadt, and Bob Vormittag, President, VAI

AUSA Corporate Dinner Bob Vormittag, Vice President of Corporate Affairs, Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Greater New York Statue of Liberty Chapter was the Master of Ceremony at the Chapter's 2006 Corporate Appreciation Dinner and Reception, Wednesday, November 29th in New York, NY. Co-officiating with Bob were Immediate Past President CSM Felix "Phil" Nater of Nater Associates, Ltd., and Chapter President COL Dominic Morelli of Capacity Benefits Group, Inc., who offered relevant and appropriate comments about the valued role our Corporate Members play as members of the Association of the United States Army. Each believed that their membership served to spread the Army Spirit by their affiliation.

The Dinner, which was hosted by Corporate Sponsor Mutual of America for the third straight year, featured guest speaker Ivan Obolensky, Chairman and CEO of Soldiers', Sailors', Marines' and Airmen's Club, Inc., who has opened his organization to wounded soldiers. Miss USO 2006 Stacie Wells, SSG Gigi Theocharides and Sergeant Louis Licalzi provided musical entertainment. Vietnam Medal-of-Honor recipient and writer COL Jack Jacobs was on hand to discuss his book, Medal of Honor: Portraits of Valor Beyond the Call of Duty, in which he profiles the life stories of 116 living Medal-of-Honor recipients. COL Peter Langenus, Past President, introduced Mr. Manfred Altstadt, Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Mutual of America and assisted in the presentation of the Corporate Membership Award and Appreciation gifts. Special thanks were given to General Frank Ombres for working with Union Local 731, who donated \$1,000 to the chapter.

The dinner is held each year to thank the Chapter Corporate Members for their support and to encourage new membership. This year's Members who have four or more years of membership were honored with a recognition reward. The Members are local businesses, local community groups, veteran's organizations and large corporations who's support helps to keep America's Army strong, which was represented in this year's theme "Army Strong." Businesses and the military community work together through local chapters like the Statue of Liberty Chapter to help the Soldiers and their families.

AUSA is a private, nonprofit, professional and educational association of over 101,000 individuals, businesses, military and organizational members strong: Soldiers, Officers, NCO's, Active, Reserve, Guard, Army Civilians, Retirees, ROTC Dates and representatives from other Services. Visit <http://www.ausa.org> for more information.