A Message From
The President

MG Joseph P. O’Leary (Ret)

To Promote the Espirit de Corps and Fraternity of the Signal Corps

The annual Christmas Party sponsored the 101st ESB Signal Battalion was held at two locations this year, simultaneously. On 1 Dec, between 1000 and 1400 hrs over 200 family members including many children of the deployed soldiers of the 101st ESB. At the same time the deployed soldiers assembled somewhere in Afghanistan. Activities at both sites were relayed by SKYPE internet. In Yonkers a large screen hanging on the wall of the Armory provided an excellent view of the soldiers and provided the families an early christmas gift. As befits a good signal organization the signal got through - Loud and Clear; and the 101st tradition of the Annual Christmas party continues, hopefully 2013 will see us all together to celebrate.

It was a wonderful day for the 101st Soldiers and their families. It was all made possible through the efforts of the 101st ESB Rear Detachment and the New York State family support group, notably SFC Frank DiBatista. He was formerly a 101st Soldier, now retired, worked tirelessly in securing funds, food, and beverages, and donations to support the gathering. The Police Athletic League, (PAL) present owners of the building graciously welcomed the 101st families into their facility and made everything available to them. The armory was decorated for the day and many activities for the children were provided, including face painting, storytelling, fun houses and of course a visit from Santa Claus. Hot Food and beverages, coffee and cookies were also available, all at no cost to family members.

Many Liberty Chapters members attended to share the day with friends and families. The Veterans Affairs Office from Yonkers were represented and a former Mayor of Yonkers John Spencer, an infantry Platoon Leader in Viet Nam, spent some time with us. All indications are that the 101st is doing well and will probably return sometime next summer after completing a successful mission.
As we celebrate the holiday seasons, we would like to thank you the Liberty Chapter members and all the friends of the Battalion for your tremendous support to our soldiers, and wish you a wonderful holiday season, full of peace, joy and love. We feel the love and support even with the great distance between us.

Your soldiers are doing great work across Afghanistan. We have 101st ESB soldiers across the entire country providing communications support to all different types of units. I'm tremendously proud of them and their hard work. They are making a difference.

During the last few months, The Battalion has been extremely busy in the conduct of our mission. One part is the training of our soldiers for future missions. We run a Signal University for soldiers across the entire theater. We have certified 92 soldiers in the following courses Security +, A+, Net + and CCNA. Our Signal University has trained 661 soldiers in the following courses, Security +, A+, Net +, CCNA, IT Network, CISCO routing, Advance routing, VOIP, Fiber, Blue Force Tracker, IMO, TACLAN, Tactical Radios and SNAP terminal training.

We have also started a LEEP program. This program is called the Lightning Warrior Employment and Education Program (LEEP). This program helps soldiers find employment and educational opportunities for when we redeploy home. Many of our soldiers are taking advantage of the educational and Signal University opportunities to build additional skill sets that will make them more marketable.

If you get an opportunity please take a look at our BN and Company Newsletters posted on the Liberty Chapter Site at www.nysignal.org

From the 101st ESB Family to yours, thank you for your enduring support, Wishing you a safe and joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Lightning Warriors
COL Dreisbach