



Greater New York – Statue of Liberty Chapter Association of the United States Army

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AUSA National Conference 2007

by Phil Nater

The Greater New York – Statue of Liberty Chapter once again made an indelible mark at the Annual AUSA Conference. Garnering virtually every award, the chapter continued to demonstrate its commitment to Soldiers, Family and Army Civilians by its presence. Thanks to the support of the membership we have continued to maintain our membership in the esteemed Presidents Club for sustained membership for the past 66 months. This honor allows the Chapter to receive an additional 5 hotel rooms at military rate at the annual conference.

Continued support at the Annual AUSA Conference and Exhibition this past October 2007, is a hallmark of this chapter's high priority in staying abreast of the issues that affect the Army and the Army Family. While attending the opening ceremony, Mr. Robert W. Rodriguez, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (M7RA) who is also a Board of Advisor Member introduced Dominic Morelli, COL, Ret. Felix (Phil). Nater, CSM, Ret. and General Joseph Taluto, Army National Guard Commander and Board of Advisor to his boss Mr. Ronald J. James, Assistant Secretary of the Army(Manpower and Reserves Affairs).

Mr. Rodriguez created an opportunity for our Chapter President and Executive Director of ESGR along with General Taluto and Mr. Nater, Former New York City Area Chair for ESGR to discuss some relevant issues affecting both organizations and our ability to take care of Soldiers and their Families. Mr. James was impressed that one chapter could own the dedication he sensed in our Greater New York – Statue of Liberty Chapter and implored us to not loose the energy.

Attending this year's AUSA Annual Meeting is another opportunity to see the AUSA and the Army Leadership come together to provide for each other through a variety of collaborative professional development opportunities. The vendor and exhibit displays continue to capture the

Soldier's imaginations and demonstrated a keen partnership with the Warrior and the Commander's intent. To those who have never attended this conference, we strongly suggest you plan to make this a part of your 2008 activities. You will leave fulfilled, confident and proud of AUSA and your ARMY. The synergy we felt captured the ARMY Strong message.