

Bernie Kessler, Commander
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Ohio

My Fellow Sons,

If you attended the recent Mid-Winter Conference, you have already heard this, but most bears repeating.

There has not been much travel that I can report on since many Districts are meeting virtually, if at all. The National Legislative conference in early March went virtual, as will the Spring NEC in May. I did get to the 10th District meeting in Orrville, along with Chaplain Dilts and our wives. I also was invited to speak at the 14 District.

I don't see you as members. I see you as potential. I approach this organization with enormous respect.

I am absolutely convinced that the Sons of The American Legion contains numbers of intelligent, engaged members who are hungry for information and inspiration. Our brand is our identity. It's our reputation, our promise. It's how the public recognizes us. It defines who we are — a community of volunteers serving veterans, military, and their families. I hope I am seeing members who play by the rules, who are working hard to raise their families, to strengthen their communities and Legion Family, to do the right thing and to enthusiastically enjoy life in the process. As members, I hope you are proud to be counted among those who believe in God, the Constitution, American ideals, morality, individual excellence, and personal responsibility. We cite this when we recite our Preamble.

The greatest accomplishment I have seen is the hard work you have done and continue to do with membership. Hitting national target dates and having a 'Blue Jug' winner this year, while many Squadrons are not able to hold meetings is a testament to your perseverance.

The Detachment of Ohio requires a lot of manpower. Having over 300 Squadrons means we need over 300 Commanders. With 2 Vice Commanders, an Adjutant, Chap-

lain, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Finance, we are talking 1500 educated and inspired members. We always say, "Train your replacement!" Sometimes members need to be approached and urged to run for an office. This is true in small Squadrons where many members have already served as an officer. Leadership should be anticipated and planned. Present officers should be on the lookout for future leaders, and members showing ability and interest should be encouraged to positively affect our organization. You want an active Legion Family where members enjoy themselves and are proud to belong. If they enjoy belonging to The American Legion Family, they are more likely to want their friends to belong also.

The American Legion recently turned 102 and while society has changed since 1919, the Legion's core mission of serving veterans, active military and communities has never wavered. That is what they do. They do it very well. We are here to support veterans, and, for the most part, we do it very well. The list of what The American Legion supports goes on and on. I would say 90 percent of our focus is veterans, but we support a lot of community projects. It's not always just about veterans. Many posts are always doing something to raise money to help those in need. You are a connection with the community, and you will always be relevant. The American Legion stands for something that will never grow old or go out of date — patriotism, and love of country.

see **KESSLER** page 2

US Postage

The Ohio SALute
PO Box 8007 • 60 Big Run Road
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Official Publication of the Ohio Sons of The American Legion

The Ohio SALute

Is an Official Publication of
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Ohio
60 Big Run Road | Post Office Box 8007
Delaware, Ohio 43015
Phone (740) 362-7478
Fax (740) 362-1429

membership@ohiolegion.com
www.ohiolegion.com

Commander
Bernie Kessler
First Vice-Commander
Doug Hancock
Second Vice-Commander
Dennis Albright
Chaplain
Dave Dilts
Adjutant
Scott Thornton
National Executive Committeeman
Bill "Buster" Sutterlin
Alt. National Executive Committeeman
Steve Honigfort
Immediate Past Commander
PDC Dale Anderson, II

PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor



The Ohio SALute is published 4 times per year.

ADVERTISING: Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. Advertising published on behalf of any individual or organization does not necessarily constitute endorsement nor reflect the policy of *The Ohio SALute*. Advertising requests may be submitted to saladjutant@ohiolegion.com.

SUBMITTING ARTICLES: All submissions are to be made electronically to sal-news@ohiolegion.com. If you need assistance, please send an email to same. All articles must be submitted in accordance with the following schedule:

SUMMER EDITION for July, August, September due no later than June 14

FALL EDITION for October, November, December due no later than September 11

WINTER EDITION for January, February, March due no later than December 7

SPRING EDITION for April, May, June due no later than March 17



KESSLER continued from page 1

If you understand the importance of the power of ideas, you will also understand that the possibilities for action and involvement are as unlimited as well-informed, optimistic members of our organization make them. Before you can sell a product, you have to have a good product, something people want and value. Do you have it within your Legion Family?

Bernie Kessler, Commander
SALCommander@ohiolegion.com
kesslerbernie@gmail.com



First-Vice Commander



Doug Hancock,
First Vice-Commander
SAL1stvice@ohiolegion.com
douglash21@aol.com

Greetings fellow Sons,

It was great to see all of you who attended the Midwinter Conference. We were finally able to begin putting the year of the pandemic behind us and move forward. Hopefully, restrictions will begin to fade into the past.

Everything is set for our upcoming Detachment Convention in Perrysburg May 14 – 16. Unfortunately, events originally planned for 2020 have to be canceled, and we are looking at other options.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all there.

For God and Country,

Doug Hancock,
First Vice-Commander

Second-Vice Commander



Dennis Albright,
First Vice-Commander
SAL1stvice@ohiolegion.com
qubert71@yahoo.com
1778 Liberty Hill Road
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Hello to all my fellow Legion Family Members!

It was great seeing and associating with everyone in person again at Midwinter Conference. While COVID-19 did delay our fundraising capabilities, it did not stop the raffle from being successful. We earned \$1,300.00 for the National Emergency Fund. The winners of the raffle were:

- *Grand Prize*
Pit Boss Smoker Sandy Grooms
7th District Auxiliary President
- *Second Place*
Smoke Hollow Smoker
Beverly Squadron 389
- *Third Place*
Urban Meyer Print
Shawn Bryant
Manchester 325

Congratulations to all the winners and we, the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio, would like to thank everyone who supported our Charity Raffle for the National Emergency Fund.

Our Summer Convention is coming up soon; hope to see everyone in Perrysburg. While we may not have time for another big raffle, I mentioned at our meeting that if at least one Squadron in each District could hold a 50/50 of 100 tickets at \$5.00 each, it would generate \$250.00 for Child Welfare Foundation and \$250.00 for the winner. If each District turns in one of these, it will bring in \$3,500.00 for the CWF.

Everyone continue be safe and we will see you soon at the Detachment Convention.

For God and Country,

Dennis Albright,
Second Vice-Commander

From the Chaplain



Dave Dilts,
Second Vice-Commander
SAL2ndvice@ohiolegion.com
davidleedilts@hotmail.com
(740) 319-1255

Gentlemen,

We were glad to see people out at Mid-Winter conference. We had a pretty good turnout. I hope things will start to turn around and be in our favor so we can have our convention in Perrysburg in May. I'm asking all District chaplains who are going to be at convention for their help with the memorial service or participate any way they can. If you are interested, please contact me with any questions. As always, we are here to assist our Veterans any way we can.

For God and Country, we all stand as one brotherhood and work together as a team.



For God and Country
Full Steam Ahead
#SALSTRONG

Dave Dilts, Chaplain

Adjutant's Update



Scott Thornton, Adjutant
2133 Sunset Creek Drive
Toledo, Ohio 43615
SALAdjutant@ohiolegion.com

Squadron and District Officer Elections. Welcome to Spring and election season for the Sons of The American Legion! It's time to be thinking about who will lead your squadrons, districts, and the detachment for the year 2021-2022. Please remember that your new squadron and district officers are required to be elected and **certified to Detachment Headquarters by May 1st**. Links for the combined squadron and district certification form (PDF, XLS

and online) are available from the "Other SAL Forms" section of the Forms page on the department website, www.ohiolegion.com.

New district officers should also use the links in the "Cap Order Forms" section of the Membership area on the same page to order their new uniform cap and name tag. Squadron officers may order their own caps and name tags from Emblem Sales at National Headquarters directly.

Consolidated Squadron Reports. Along with the 2022 Officer Certification Forms, your squadron **must complete a 2021 Consolidated Squadron Report Form**. This is the form you need to use to document all your activities, programs, donations, etc. for the 2020-2021 administrative year. Please take a few minutes to tally your hours and the monies involved in support of Sons of The American Legion programs.

District Adjutants should also file a report for their district's activities independent of the squadrons in their boundaries.

The Microsoft Excel version of the report is available from the department website to help you get everything right. Enter your data in the yellow fields on the "Details" sheet to have the report form filled in automatically. Just print three (3) copies of the completed report once you're finished.

Please note that National is no longer printing paper reports. They are encouraging everyone to use a fillable PDF file or the squadron's mySAL portal.

Whichever way you choose to create the report, you need to file two (2) paper forms with the department as your official, submitted copies.

Not every squadron or district will have information for every item, so just report what you have done, whether it's a little or a lot. At a minimum, fill in the squadron summary details at the top and send it to HQ.

Please note: Prior Year and Current Year do not mean 2020 and 2021! We

want your paid membership counts for last year (final) and this year (to date).

The form calls for using the period from June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021. Note that if your squadron wishes to be considered for the Commander's Program Award, your report and all donations must be received at Detachment HQ by May 1.

NOTE: Squadrons will not receive their 2022 membership cards until both the 2022 Squadron Officer Certification (SOC) Form AND the 2021 Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR) Form have been submitted to Department Headquarters. BOTH forms are due by May 1!

2021 Detachment Convention – May 14-16. The call and related files for the 57th Annual Detachment Convention have been published on the website – see the Detachment Convention page under the Events link. We will be at the Hilton Garden Inn Toledo/Perrysburg, hosted by District 1.

ATTENDEE REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT DETACHMENT HEADQUARTERS BY MAY 7! This is not a postmark date. No registrations will be accepted after that except to register guests.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY WITH THE HOTEL BY APRIL 13! Call (419) 873-0700 and refer to the Sons of The American Legion Convention to get the agreed room rate.

Anyone wishing to be selected as a delegate to the National Convention in Phoenix, AZ should be in attendance at the Detachment Convention. District Commanders should prepare their delegate lists in the order they wish to nominate their members.

2023 Detachment Convention Plans. The Department Convention Committee has asked the Detachment to consider joining the Legion and Auxiliary as the Ohio Legion Family for our conventions beginning in 2023.

see THORNTON page 4

Your Detachment Executive Committee voted at the Mid-Winter D.E.C. meeting to continue with an independent convention at this time. This means that we will be reviewing bids to host the 2023 convention at this year's Detachment Convention in May. Please submit all bid packages to either NEC Bill "Buster" Sutterlin or me before the opening session on Friday night.

See you all in Perrysburg!

Proud Possessor
of a Priceless Heritage,

Scott Thornton, Adjutant

National Executive Committeeman



PDC Bill "Buster" Sutterlin,
National
Executive Committeeman
SALNEC@ohiolegion.org
brs257@zoominternet.net

I was told about a project that is being done for the veterans at the Cincinnati VA Hospital. The Fourth District Squadrons participated in a project called "Joy For All". I have asked Donna Ray to come forward to tell you about this project. Donna Ray is the Auxiliary Cincinnati VA Representative and Past Department President.



"Joy for All" is about a therapeutic, robotic cat. The Joy for All

Companion pet cats look, feel, and sound like real cats. But they're so much more than soft fur, soothing purrs, and pleasant meows. These cats respond to petting, hugging, and motion much like the real ones you know and love, but don't require any special care or feeding. This personally rich experience can bring joy and comfort to aged loved ones without any vet bills to worry about.

- Built-in sensors respond to motion and touch.
- Realistic, soft fur looks and feels like a real cat.
- Cat-like movements and sounds.

The Ohio SALute

Since 2015, *The Ohio SALute* has been an online publication. Since that time, many members have asked how to obtain a printed copy. In order to receive a printed copy, please complete the form below. A list will be compiled by the Editor and forwarded to Detachment Headquarters, and hard-copy editions will be sent out. This program is intended for members who do not have internet access or may not be computer savvy. Please print legibly.

Name _____

Address _____

Please mail completed form to:

The Ohio SALute
PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor
2222 Birch Bark Trail
Grove City, Ohio 43123-8512

- VibraPurr sounds and feels like real purring.
- Batteries included (4 1.5 C Alkaline batteries).

These robotic cats have been very successful at VA Hospitals and Clinics, and Squadrons are encouraged to look into donating one to a facility in their area.

*PDC Bill Sutterlin, NEC
Committee on Committees
Convention Screening Chairman*

Alternate National Executive Committeeman



PDC Steve Honigfort,
Alternate National
Executive Committeeman
SALANEC@ohiolegion.org
shonigfort@yahoo.com

Fellow SAL Members,

We just finished the Midwinter Conference after a long break due to COVID-19. There were some new faces there, which was great to see. Unfortunately, there also were some missing. We all need to reach out and persuade some of our members to return to activities and get back into the

fold. I know that the long break we had made everyone get used to the idea of staying home. Invite new and old members to join us in making our organization one of the best by attending events that are scheduled. Together, we can have some fun again.

With convention getting close, find the time, if you will, to invite members to attend and get acquainted with the Detachment of Ohio Sons of The American Legion. We have a great hotel with many things to do in the area within the Great First District. The hotel assures us that they take great care of the facility and it would make for a great weekend.

Public relations can mean many things. How you want to take it, from mending fences to just informing members, reaching out to the general public, and events to bring awareness to the American Legion Family. There are many out there who still do not realize all that we as an organization accomplish. Provide the information and more and more individuals will understand and that will increase numbers across the board in attendance at events, increase membership,

and increase monies needed for our many causes. "Together let's get 'er done"

For God and Country,

PDC Steve Honigfort, ANEC
Public Relations Chairman

From the Editor



PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor
The Ohio Salute
jeffvrabel@sbcglobal.net
SALNews@ohiolegion.com
"Serving Those Who Served...
Full Steam Ahead"
MEDIA ALLIANCE

HELLO OHIO!

I hope each of you are staying safe and healthy as things begin to open up. It's been a long time coming!

As our Squadrons begin to plan fundraisers and events, it's time to start planning how you will handle your public relations and communications for the coming year.

If you have someone who loves to take pictures, ask him to come to your events, take pictures, and forward them to your Squadron Historian and to me. Also ask him to identify everyone in the pictures. If possible, a few sentences about the event will be very helpful. I understand that this person may not be a reporter, but a few sentences should be fairly simple. It's that easy, one bird, two stones.

The next edition of *The Ohio SALute* will be after the Detachment Convention. We will have new Officers, new Commission & Committee Chairmen, and new District Commanders.

Each of you should make every effort to get an article submitted for each edition of the newsletter. EVERY edition.

If there is not much going on in your area, let us know about awards that are available, tell us how your meetings have gone; just get the message out.

Finally, I want to thank Commander Kessler, our officers, and our chairmen for a great two years. We did not plan on two terms in office, but nobody did. Remember, we are the American Legion Family. We are Proud Possessors of a Priceless Heritage!

PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

Around Ohio

District 1



Squadron 454, District 1 conducting a Blessing of the Wreaths. 105 wreaths were blessed that were distributed to 5 different cemeteries in our area. Pictured are Vice-Commander Tom Hurst, Chaplain Dale Genter, and Commander Roger Lulfs.

District 3

On Wednesday, March 17, Huber Heights Squadron 200 hosted a birthday party for the 102nd American Legion birthday. The Squadron bought the first round for all Post 200 members. Everyone attending enjoyed the festivities.



Mike Golembiewski, Jim Wyszynski, and Ken Limberg.

District 4



When the 4th District was notified about winning the "Blue Jug" membership award, and since this was only the second time that the 4th District had won the "Blue Jug," at the Winter District Executive Board meeting, District officers decided that each Squadron that achieved 75% by the January 7th target date should receive a "Blue Jug."

With some 4th District ingenuity, seventeen "Blue Jugs" were made and presented to the Squadrons at the 4th District "Brown and Blue Jug" dinner on March 27, 2021.



Charles W. Castle, 4th District Commander and Ron Wissman, 4th District Adjutant making the Blue Jugs.

PROUD POSSESSORS OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE



District 5

On Friday, February 26, 2021, the Carl A. Geiger Squadron 405 of the Sons of The American Legion held a drive through fish fry to benefit New Washington resident and fellow Sons member, Shawn Stockmaster, who is battling a serious health issue. The response to the benefit was overwhelming.



Tom Young, Luke Stockmaster, Grace Stockmaster, and Brenda Stockmaster, Tim Suver.



Tonya Fike, Jan Frazee, Auxiliary President Debbie Wechter, and S.A.L. member Terry Mason



photo courtesy Dayna Beyer

Judge Advocate Dave Brown, District Exec Committee member Robert Showalter, IPC Bernie Kessler, Finance Officer Mark Behm, Commander Tim Conway, District Chaplain Brad McQuillian, 2nd Vice Jerry Logan, District Executive Committee Member Buster Sutterlin, District Exec Committee member Ronald Osborne, District Adjutant Cary Kuhl.

District 10



American Legion Tenth District Officers Commander Larry Glasgow, First Vice-Commander Robert Rhode, Second Vice-Commander Richard Balluh, and Adjutant Holly Lewis look on as SAL Tenth District Commander Matthew Baxter gives greetings and updates to The American Legion Tenth District Conference at Newcomerstown Post 431.



District 10 SAL Advisor Ed Long giving a report to Legionnaires.



Chris Bartley 2021 Eagle Scout, and D10 S357 Member, Dan Toalston Assistant Scout Master, Eagle Scout & D10 S357 Member, Jack Zwahlen 2021 Eagle Scout, D10 S357 Member, & Squadron First Vice-Commander, and Doug Zwahlen Assistant Scout Master, Father, D10 S357 Member and Squadron 357 Commander.



Lori Zwahlen, Jack Zwahlen 2021 Eagle Scout & D10 S357 First Vice-Commander, and Doug Zwahlen, Assistant Scout Master, and D10 S357 Commander.

District 12



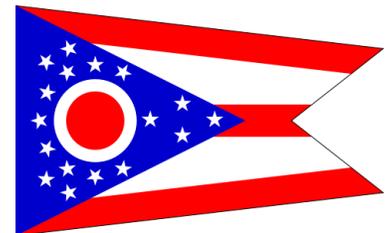
PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., PDC Joe Wylandt, and PDC Adam Jones at the 12th District Conference on March 7, 2021.

District 14



At the Medina, Ohio Ice Festival Feb. 19-21 are SAL 14th District of Ohio Officers George Niemoeller, PNC Fred Hartline Sr., David Cobb, Fred Hartline II, and Ian Carson with cold hard cash; \$1000 frozen in a block of ice.

Congratulations!





Reports of Committees & Commissions

Child Welfare Foundation



Dewey Kuhl, Chairman
cary.kuhl@gmail.com

As we recover from the pandemic, donations to CWF as you may imagine, are down. Ohio currently ranks 11th in the nation for donations at \$2436. That's about 8 cents per capita; far short of our goal of \$30,000 and a per capita of \$1.00. Nationally, the SAL stands at \$91,000 donated with Commander Bolt's stated goal being \$500,000 or about \$1.30 per capita. So, what can we do?

As we get back into our Posts, let's try to get those dinners, raffles and other fundraisers going again. A lot of times it only takes one event to raise \$1.00 per capita for a donation. If you need raffle items or items for sale, consider the "Sons for Kids" aprons that are still available, though supplies are dwindling. There has been some discussion that they next may do calendars for donations featuring the different Detachments during the months and maybe a full page for the winner of the Garland D. Murphy Jr award with tips on how they reached their lofty donation. I'm not sure how calendars will sell so try to get some aprons.

I still have CWF banks available to be placed in your canteens. I know I sound like a broken record, but they do work. After our last meeting I received two banks from Squadron 733, and I emptied the three banks at Squadron 8. Together they raised \$166.49.

It doesn't sound like much, but that does represent 54 cents per capita for the two Squadrons Ted Kohler from Marion has given me several in the

past, as well as others. They add up. Broken record is over.

Per capita banners are available through the CWF web site or a link to it through Legion.org. New this year is the fact that in order to get the banner, you must submit your donation with the banner form. Then National will send back to Detachment your donation amount so you get credit here. The catch to this is that the donation and form must be received by May 31st, 2021, the end of the CWF fiscal year to be eligible for a 2020-2021 banner. And, of course, they should receive it by May 1st to be eligible for your 2020-2021 CSR. So, keep those dates in mind.

April, of course, is Children and Youth month. Maybe a dinner or event dedicated to your favorite youth cause is possible?

Cary Kuhl, Chairman

Children's Miracle Network



Adam J. Budner, Chairman
blechabum@yahoo.com
(216) 798-9254

Despite last year's challenges and soul-searching events, an unexpected silver lining also prevailed in 2020: empathy. A trait that can be hidden, hard to find and downright delicate, but when found also has the ability to shift the path ahead.

Communities came together in solidarity; progressive conversations are leading to overdue changes and charitable giving increased by 7% in the first six months of 2020.

Love's Travel Stops and Miracle Network Dance Marathons continue to take place across the country. Miami University of Ohio, Xavier University, THE Ohio State University to name a few, have already scheduled their Dance Marathons. These would be an easy way to donate to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

Remember the CMN Corporate Partners such as Costco, Panda Express, Speedway and Dairy Queen. You can donate your change at these locations throughout the year to help CMN.

As always, you can send your donations to American Legion Department of Ohio. MAKE SURE TO EARMARK the check SAL/CMN in the Memo line.

Thank you to the 13th District for their generous donation to CMN.

Thank you for your Time!

For God and Country,

Adam J. Budner, Chairman

Legislative Update



PDC Craig Smith, Chairman
craigsmith1958@gmail.com

Committee Chair Rep. Takans said in the coming year they must work to account for service members toxic exposures during their military service. The reconciliation recommendations of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs would appropriate \$17 Billion to the Department of Veterans Affairs for health care, job training, and administrative purposes.

In total enacting the legislation would decrease direct spending by \$16.6 billion over the 2021-2030 period.

PDC Craig Smith, Chairman



Special Olympics



**PDC Adam Jones,
Chairman**
glimmer_man72@yahoo.com

Greetings,

The American Legion voted to disband the Special Olympics Committee and officially make it a program to fall under the Children & Youth Committee.

Department Commander Roger Friend presented a check to Special Olympics Ohio for \$10,000. The American Legion Family will continue to support the athletes and programs of Special Olympics.

I also spoke with Megan Modene who is the Athlete Leadership & Volunteer Manager for Special Olympics Ohio and she let me know that athletes are doing things locally but not on a State level. The Summer Games of Special Olympics have been cancelled at The Ohio State University's Jesse Owens Stadium.

There is a new Director of the Law Enforcement Torch Run and his name is Brandon Long. Brandon is an officer with the Hilliard Police Department. His email address is blong@hilliardohio.gov. We are working to bringing the Torch Run to Portsmouth. My friend Officer Chris Dixon with the Portsmouth Police Department is the liaison.

Please keep Special Olympics in mind for donations at the upcoming Detachment Convention in Perrysburg in May 14-16. I thank Detachment Commander Bernie Kessler for opportunity to serve the Detachment and I look forward to helping incoming Detachment Commander Doug Hancock in any capacity.

Thank you!

God Bless,

PDC Adam Jones, Chairman

*The Price of Liberty
is Eternal Vigilance*

Veterans Affairs Commission



**PNVC Dan Sagraves,
Chairman**
dansagraves@twc.com

We are all well aware that this past year until now has not been normal for our support of veteran programs at our various VA facilities and Fisher Houses. We are still able to serve veterans in other ways. I have reports from around the state of SAL members still doing the work. I want to share one such story.

I am told of Colton Conway, 12 Ashland SAL Squadron 88 and his sister an Alivia an Auxiliary Junior. Colton and Alivia are the children of SAL and Legionnaire Derrek Conway. They are the grandchildren of Fifth District SAL Commander Tim Conway and American Legion Fifth District First Vice-Commander Ronald E. Dull.

Their father is an active military member, and during deployment the children decorated their home, driveway, and lined their street with American flags to welcome home their dad from an 18-month deployment to Kuwait.

The young man was guest speaker at Veterans Day at his school. He spoke about his dad's deployment in Kuwait. He has also placed American flags at the Veterans Memorial in downtown Ashland for Memorial Day. For all of his efforts he was honored by Ashland Mayor Matt Miller for his work for the veterans.



Colton, Alivia, and Mom Kayla greet Derek home from his deployment.

Adult members should look at what these young folks have done. Do you do the same?

I have spoken with a VA official and once again the as of now the annual grave decorating ceremonies at the National Cemeteries will be canceled again this year. I'll update if this changes.



I WANT YOU!!!

As proud possessors of a priceless heritage, our mission to our veterans is clear. The Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission (V.A. & R) starts, sponsors, and participates in programs and services that enhance the lives of our veterans and their families.

Through our efforts we must work to help those who need assistance to restore them to a normal functioning life. Be it physically, mentally, socially, or vocationally. The Sons of The American Legion needs more volunteers to participate in activities or other work at the VA medical facilities in Ohio. We need to have our members that live near VA facilities step up and become full time volunteers.

It is so simple to do. When the facilities open again after the pandemic, go to the VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) office, and fill out a volunteer application. When your application is processed you can then ask them what jobs are available.

see SAGRAVES page 9

We need to have volunteers that can put in a day or two a week. More if you are able. It is our duty as SAL members to do this. I am looking forward to the day when I receive reports from the VA offices telling me how much our efforts have increased.

PNVN Dan Sagraves, Chairman

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee



Robert Showalter,
North Chairman
roshow2850@yahoo.com

I do not have much to report. The Sandusky Ohio Veterans' Home is closed to visitors. I did go up and donated peanuts from my Squadron. Had to leave them on an outside table. Was told they take them and quarantine them for a few days. Then they were passed out to the residents.

The OVH is not taking any new residents. Was told that Sandusky OVH is only at half capacity, and 88 people are on the waiting list to get in. I heard that they will be taking new resident soon.

For God and Country,
Robert Showalter, North Chairman



Gerry Palmer,
South Chairman
gerpalm60@gmail.com

There is not much going on in the south region, but there is a lot of going on at the VA in Chillicothe. They are closing a lot of buildings there due to being old. The hospital is not accepting new patients or admitting.

If the veterans are in serious condition, they are being taken to Dayton or Wright-Patt, some going as far as Michigan.

The senators and congressmen do not like it. I have been on zoom calls with them, and they are afraid it is going to be closed.

The director is behind bulletproof glass and will not talk to anyone, it is by a text when she answers. They say by 2023 there will be a decision made to permanently close.

Eyes of Freedom will be coming to Chillicothe in May 8, with students at the All-Veterans Memorial talking about each one.

For God and Country,
Gerry Palmer, South Chairman



The Past Detachment Commanders Club would like to give special thanks to Don Gentile Squadron and Post 532 for hosting our annual Past Detachment Commanders Reverse Raffle. The canteen staff and members made for a great evening of fun and comradery.

A very heartfelt thank you goes out to all who donated and helped to make this event a success again this year. We also want to acknowledge the Past Commanders, their family members, and others which worked this event. Your efforts and support allow your Ohio Past Detachment Commanders to continue to support and give back to programs sponsored by the American Legion Family.

Congratulations to all the side drawing winners and the three reverse raffle winners that split the \$1,000.00.

One of the most sought-after items in the raffle was this beautiful hand-made American flag. Tickets sold out within five minutes.



photo by PDC Adam Jones
PDC Jeff Vrabel with Jeff "Chief" Szakovits of Don Gentile Squadron 532 in Columbus. Chief was the winner of the wooden American Flag.

Here's the backstory on the flag; Michael Bell is a US Army disabled Veteran, has been married to his wife Pamela for 30 years, and has 2 Children. Mr. Bell served in the 1st Infantry Division from 1987 - 1989 at Ft. Riley Kansas, and the 2nd Infantry division from 1989 - 1990 at Camp Casey Korea. Mr. Bell's MOS was 13 Bravo Field Artillery.

Since Mr. Bell's discharge from the US Army, he has been involved in the community in various Veteran and Non-Veteran organizations. He is currently serving as the President of the Autism Project of Southern Ohio and 2nd Vice-Commander of AMVETS Post 2352, Portsmouth. He has served as 1st Vice-Commander of The American Legion Post 471 in Portsmouth and is also a lifetime member of DAV Peerless 10 in Portsmouth.

He currently spends his time coaching baseball, basketball, and bowling to children with disabilities in the Portsmouth, Ohio area. He also enjoys building wooden American flags in his free time. He started building wooden flags during the Coronavirus pandemic and has sold over 100 so far.

Many of these flags have been shipped throughout the United States as far west as Kansas. He enjoys building these custom, made-to-order American flags to help with his PTSD Therapy.



As of March 12, 2021, Mr. Bell became unemployed after working several years in the media advertising realm and now is focused on building flags and selling. He makes numerous different flags such as Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, but he also has built firefighter, police, and other personal flags.

He also gives the customer the option to put name, rank, personal messages, etc. on the flags to make them more personable. Mr. Bell is currently taking orders on his personal Facebook page, but he is looking forward to opening a business Facebook page in the near future. He is currently working on building custom wooden casket flag cases as well.

If anyone is interested for further information they may contact him on [Facebook](#) under Michael Bell, South Shore Kentucky, by text at (740)821-5950 or by email at sskentucky@yahoo.com.

Mike always says "These flags are a labor of love. I am not a professional wood crafter, and the flags are not perfect, but as a disabled veteran, neither am I. There is so much love that goes with each and every flag, and I pray that it brings a smile to the receiving person's face."

My Final Farewell



It has been my distinct pleasure to serve you and the mission of The American Legion. I am tremendously blessed to have met and worked alongside leaders like you and the Department HQ team. I hope that my time at the Department HQ added much value to the organization and the team.

My only wish is that I could have assisted in accomplishing more for this

organization and the veteran community-at-large.

No matter what my future holds, The American Legion will always be a part of my identity. Thank you all for allowing me to serve this organization.

May God be with you as you lead this great organization into a more promising future.

Respectfully,

Jermaine Ferguson
Membership, Legislative, VHA,
& National Security Coordinator
The American Legion
Department of Ohio
C: 740-815-0765
60 Big Run Road
Delaware, OH 43015
www.ohiolegion.com

National Membership Update



As everyone should know, National Commander Clint Bolt has asked the membership to meet the goals he set when he assumed office. As a reminder, those goals are:

- Recruit, retain, and reinstate to reach 400,000 members.
- Renewal rate above 95%
- Obtain 105% in membership by the National Convention in Phoenix, AZ.

Ensuring that our members are renewed is the biggest key to our membership program and its ultimate success. It is April. Everyone should be renewed, but as we all know, we have many members who have not done so thus far. We need to call them and ask why.

We cannot say that COVID-19 is the problem because many Squadrons and Detachments have reached quota. While I realize the pandemic has had

a drastic effect on everything, including our membership numbers, we have to be creative and find ways to keep our members interested in our organization. With many more restrictions being lifted in Ohio, we may see increased events at our Posts and by our Squadrons. Make sure to include those who have not renewed, and make sure they still feel like they are part of the American Legion Family.

Thank you for your hard work, as we continue **Serving those who served...full steam ahead!**

Jeff Vrabel, Sr.,
Central Region Chairman
National Membership Committee



Here's how to get started. The American Legion's second annual 100 Miles for Hope has been expanded for 2021. There are two ways to register and participate. In order to allow participants to track their activities and encourage others to fundraise, we are using an app from a company called Kilter. For those who do not have a smartphone or do not care about tracking their activities, they may [register via this page on Emblem Sales](#). From that page, regardless of which way you register, you may also purchase your choice of commemorative gear that benefits the Veterans & Children Foundation.

HOW TO REGISTER VIA KILTER

1. On your smartphone or tablet, go to the App Store to search for Kilter. Then download the free **Kilter app** and create an account. (Please understand that Kilter allows only one participant per account. If you want to register multiple family members, they will need to have separate accounts.)
2. Go to the **EVENTS** tab. Before April 1, The American Legion's 100 Miles for Hope will be found under the **PAID** tab. As of April 1, it will be under the **LIVE** tab.
3. Select event, click **JOIN** and pay your \$20 entry fee.
4. On the app, view **MY EVENTS** to confirm registration.

(NOTE: Alternatively, you can visit kilterrewards.com to create your account. Afterward, you receive an automatic confirmation email with step-by-step instructions on how to use the app.)

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1. Complete daily wellness activities of at least a half-hour and accumulate points. You can complete up to three wellness activities each day that count toward your total. There are more than 40 different activities to choose from. And if your activity isn't represented on the app, you can create a manual activity that will count. Also, there are ways to receive bonus points! Check the app to find out how.
2. [Click this link](#) to learn more about how to track your efforts, see a list of activities, and how to add manual ones.

HOW TO HELP VETERANS & CHILDREN FOUNDATION

1. After registering, head over to Emblem Sales to view a collection of **commemorative 100 Miles for Hope merchandise** that you can purchase to support the V&CF. This year, we have new tech shirts, sweatshirts, baseball caps, a pin, a patch for Legion

Riders and a challenge coin. All proceeds go directly toward the foundation.

2. Use the app's individual donation tool to encourage friends and family to support your personal wellness goal as well as the V&CF with a donation.



The American Legion Family



New MyLegion.org site overview

The American Legion
MAR 08, 2021

The American Legion is excited to roll out a new version of MyLegion.org. The new version will be more user-friendly, allowing all activity to be done in one web application. Officers will not have to manage multiple logins.

MyLegion.org is a website designed for American Legion and Sons of The American Legion members to manage their membership information and to access member-only discounts. The American Legion and Sons officer side of MyLegion.org includes additional access to post and squadron membership electronic rosters, reports, membership processing tools and officer resources.

When the new MyLegion.org website goes live April 1, all accounts will be member accounts – this includes American Legion and Sons of The American Legion members. Currently, registered MyLegion.org users are asked to re-register their member account in preparation. This re-registration process does not apply to officer MyLegion.org accounts. All officer accounts will continue to log in

with their current credentials until the new MyLegion.org site goes live.

My Account. On the new MyLegion.org user face, there will be a "My Account" tab. Registered members will click on it to display their membership profile and have the ability to print their membership card, make edits to their name, home address, phone number, email, war era, branch of service and communication preferences. A picture can also be added.

My Groups. A "My Groups" tab is available by default to administrative officers of the group. Groups are defined as: posts, squadrons, counties, and districts. Administrative officers are both adjutant and commander. My Groups is the administrative side of MyLegion.org. It includes access to membership information, rosters, reports, membership processing and other membership resources. A new feature will allow the administrative officer to assign a member permission to access the Group Profile. Only members of the group can be provided permission with full or restrictive access.

Group Member Information. Officers will be able to search for a specific member without navigating through the roster with additional search options. Member information includes member status, ID number, contact information, demographics, and military service. New features allow entry of emergency contact information and a photo upload option.

Group Online membership processing. This area will have familiar business practices. In the "Process Membership" tab, a post transmittal will display a summary that includes transmittal status, number of membership cards, and per capita allocations. The transmittal page allows you to renew members, add new members and transfer members into your post. Please note that online transfers can only be included if the member is also renewing current dues.

Recruit for the entire American Legion Family

The American Legion
MAR 08, 2021

A message from your Membership & Post Activities Chairman Jay Bowen.

“We should be constantly recruiting for the entire American Legion Family every time we are talking with a veteran or a family member of a veteran! When talking with our younger veterans and family members, they are more likely to want to do things together rather than apart. And we are much stronger as a Legion Family unit than we are individually.

“The Legion Family is devoted to help our fellow veterans and their family, educate our youth, advocate for a strong National Security, and be on the front lines showing our love of country through our Americanism spirit. And because of this, we can better support our four pillars when doing it together. We welcome, and encourage, Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Sons members to recruit for the entire American Legion Family!”



Sons of The American Legion
Sons, let's support
100 Miles for Hope again

The success of the inaugural 100 Miles for Hope challenge in 2020 has prompted a bigger, better version in 2021.

I'm proud that the Sons of The American Legion helped the Legion Family raise approximately \$150,000 last year for the American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation. Now, I'm urging SAL members nationwide to step up again and help reach the goal set by American Legion National Commander James "Bill" Oxford for this year's 100 Miles for Hope, in doubling the donations for V&CF.

*Clint D. Bolt, National Commander
Sons of The American Legion*

National Commander Clint Bolt's 2020 – 2021 Goals

Please remember as you travel and promote the Sons of The American Legion and National Commander Clint Bolt's goals for Membership and all Legion Charities.

- **RECRUIT, RETAIN, AND REINSTATE** to reach **400,000** members
- Renewal rate above 95%
- Obtain 105% in membership by National Convention in Phoenix, AZ
- Recognize our achievements
- Child Welfare Foundation \$500,000
- National Emergency Fund \$100,000
- Soldiers Wish \$100,000
- Legacy Scholarship \$100,000
- Veterans & Children's Fund \$100,000
- Operation Comfort Warriors \$100,000

*Serving Those Who Served...
Full Steam Ahead*



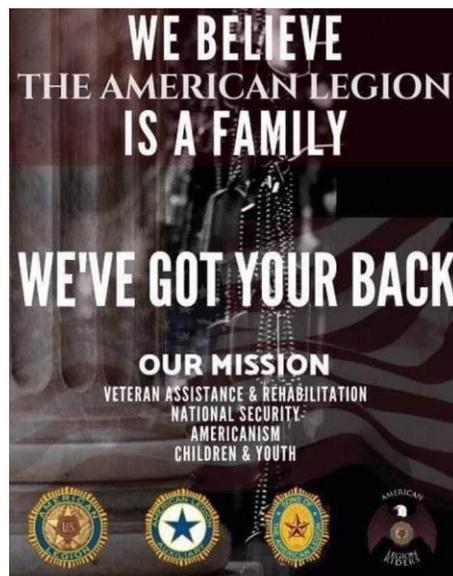
**DOES YOUR MEMBERSHIP
CARD SHOW 2020?**

If so, your 2020 membership card is EXPIRED and no longer valid. Please pay your Sons of The American Legion dues today to support your Squadron and The American Legion Family

If your membership card doesn't look like this then you need to RENEW TODAY!!!



**SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED
FULL STEAM AHEAD**



Meet the Candidates



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
JEFF VRABEL, SR.
FOR NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER

TIM CONWAY
CANDIDATE FOR
DETACHMENT CHAPLAIN

My name is Tim Conway, and I am running for the High Office of Detachment Chaplain.

I have been a member of the Sons of the American Legion for 38 years, all in Squadron 257 in Loudonville.

I have served in many offices in the Squadron and District levels and have been Chairman for different Commission's at the Detachment level.

I have the support of the American Legion 257 Squadron 257, American Legion 5th District and the 5th District Sons of the American Legion.

I am asking for your vote at the State Convention in May.

★ ELECT ★

ADAM JONES
Alternate National
Executive Committeeman
Detachment of Ohio

Endorsed by Squadron 23 and the Seventh District

- ELIGIBILITY**
 Proud son of Glenn Phillip Jones
 United States Marine Corps
 Vietnam 1960 – 1963
- MEMBERSHIP**
 20 year Sons of The American Legion member
 James Merritt Squadron 142 in Waverly
 James Dickey Squadron 23 in Portsmouth
- EXPERIENCE**
Detachment
 Commander 2008 – 2009
 First Vice Commander
 Second Vice Commander
 Chaplain
 Assistant Sgt.-At-Arms
 Earl Cox Detachment Member of the Year 2004
 POW-MIA Chairman
 Buckeye Boys State Chairman
 Special Olympics Chairman
- Seventh District**
 Commander
 Second Vice Commander
- Squadron 142**
 Commander
 Chaplain
 Adjutant
 Public Relations Officer
- BACKGROUND**
 Vietnam Veterans of America Associate Member
 South Shore, KY Chapter 1006
- Master Mason
 Waverly Orient Masonic Lodge 321
- Former Board Member
 Scioto-Northwest Local Schools
- Treasurer
 Roy Rogers Festival
- WHY I'M RUNNING**
 Elected positions should be contested and not just be "someone's turn." I believe I have the experience and the time dedicated in pursuing the High Office of Alternate National Executive Committeeman.

2022 - 2024

MAHONING VALLEY SQUADRON 15
 SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
 POLAND, OH

JEFF VRABEL, JR.
 for
 Detachment of Ohio
 Chaplain
 2021 – 2022

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Member of Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 since 1999
- Ninth District Commander
- Past Ninth District Adjutant
- Past Detachment Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
- 2016 Youth Citizen of the Year from United Veterans Council of Youngstown
- 2017 Detachment of Ohio Earl Cox Outstanding Member of the Year
- Squadron 15 Memorial Day Processional Parade & Memorial Ceremonies Co-Chairman since 2015
- Squadron 15 Color Guard Commander
- Lead 2019 – 2020 Post 15 Family Revitalization recruiting over forty new members

A Vision for the Future

VOTE

VRABEL
 SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

STEVE HONIGFORT
CANDIDATE FOR NATIONAL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN 2022-2024

Fellow SAL Members,

I would like to announce my candidacy for National Executive Committeeman for the Detachment of Ohio (2021-2022).

I have been a member of Sons of The American Legion for 43-years and have held the offices of ANEC (5 yrs.), National Finance Committee (10 yrs.), Detachment Commander 2011-2012, as well as Detachment Vice-Commander, Chaplain, Adjutant, Assistant Adjutant, Americanism Chairman, POW*MIA Chairman, Special Olympics Chairman, and Public Relations Chairman. I have held all offices in the First District and in Ottawa Squadron 63.

My eligibility is through my father, Robert Honigfort, a Korean War Veteran.

I have strived to represent the Detachment of Ohio for many years and would like to continue do so. I am proud of what we stand for, and for what my father and the Veterans of this country have done for us.

With that, I would like to thank you in advance for your support. Thank you!

Detachment of Ohio Gets License Plate



On Saturday, March 13, 2021, Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles Registrar Charles L. Norman attended the Detachment of Ohio Midwinter Conference and made a big announcement. He told those in attendance that Ohio's SAL plate was available for purchase and thanked everyone for their hard work for veterans.

The project began with PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr. contacting the Don Manning of the Ohio House of Representatives about legislation to establish the plates. Mr. Manning, a member of Mahoning Valley Post 15 in Poland was excited to help and jumped on board to get this done. The legislation was submitted, committee hearings were held, and testimony heard. Everything was on track to pass the bill. Unfortunately, the legislation stalled last March due to COVID-19, and the untimely passing of Rep. Manning on March 20, 2020.

PDC Vrabel contacted the new State Representative, Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 member Al Cutrona to help complete the process. On October 20, 2020, the Ohio Senate adopted Senate Bill 163, and the license plate was created. After work with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, the plate went on sale March 5, 2021. Proceeds from the sale of the license plates goes to the Ohio Past Detachment Commanders Club and will be used to support donations to the many programs the club supports.



photo by Matthew Baxter
Ohio BMV Registrar Charles L. Norman and PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr. with Ohio's new Sons of The American Legion license plate.



photo by Matthew Baxter
Detachment of Ohio Commander Bernie Kessler, National Assistant Adjutant Scott Thornton, and Detachment of Ohio Judge Advocate Bill Towns look on as Ohio BMV Registrar Charles L. Norman makes the official announcement of Ohio's Sons of The American Legion license plate.



photo by PDC Bill Towns
Department of Ohio and dual member Roger Friend chuckles as PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr. discusses the license plate program with the Department DEC on March 14, 2021. Commander Friend was laughing due to Vrabel holding up a large sample plate "...for those in the back" to be able to see.

showing them off, we will increase sales. Photos can be sent to jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com. Thanks!



Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____ Date _____

Name (First) (Initial) (Last) Recruited by (Initial) (Last)

Address (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

E-mail Address _____ Telephone _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established
(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. _____ Dept. of _____
(b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____
(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.

Eligibility certified by _____ Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)

06-001 (2013)

RECEIPT

Date _____
Received of _____

For God and Country

\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in
Squadron _____, Detachment of _____
By _____

As you order and receive your new Ohio Sons of The American Legion license plate, please take a picture and send it to me for use in future editions of *The Ohio SALute*, as well as other publications, promotional materials, and on social media. We want to see everyone's plates, and hope that by



We Need Your Help!!!

The Ohio Past Detachment Commanders' Club has worked with the Ohio General Assembly to establish a special license plate to help with fundraising and to get our organization's emblem on the roads in front of thousands of people.

The "**Ohio Sons of The American Legion**" special license plate is now available through your local BMV Deputy Registrar, or at www.bmv.ohio.gov and www.oplates.com.

State law allows for a portion of the special license plate fee to be earmarked for the benefit of the sponsoring organization to support its programs. OPDCC will receive \$10.00 from the sale of each special license plate to support various programs it supports, and other initiatives to promote Sons of The American Legion.

Since OPDCC is registered as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization with the IRS, a portion of the special license plate fee may be deductible from your federal taxes.

Please share this flyer with your members, co-workers, family, and other supporters of Sons of The American Legion. Ask them to buy the special license plate to demonstrate their support and commitment to our organization. Your support of this initiative helps OPDCC's campaign to support the many programs of The American Legion Family.



www.ohiolegion.com/sal

About Sons of The American Legion

The Sons of The American Legion was created in 1932 as an organization within The American Legion that exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires. The S.A.L. is made up of males of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the U.S. military and became eligible for membership in The American Legion.

Together, members of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion comprise The Legion Family. All three organizations place high importance on preserving our American traditions and values, improving the quality of life for our nation's children, caring for veterans and their families, and perhaps most importantly, teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship.

For more information, visit www.legion.org/sons



MySAL – Squadron Sign Up Form

The American Legion National Headquarters has designed a FREE and secure internet site to assist Squadron Adjutants in their day-to-day membership processing duties. This site serves as a direct portal from the local squadron to National Headquarters' membership system.

Features include:

- + View and Edit squadron membership
- + Generate reports
- + Reports available in CSV file format allowing users to work with the data in other applications such as Microsoft Excel and Access
- + Squadron Inquiry
- + Consolidated Squadron Report
- + Process Membership

Fill out this form and mail or fax to us to register. Please type or print.

Yes! We would like to sign up for MySAL Officers Portal:

State _____ Squadron Number _____

Contact Information: *Does not have to be Squadron Adjutant. The information below indicates who to call with any questions and where to send correspondence and registration instructions once authorization to release data is received from the state headquarters.*

Contact Name: _____

ID#: _____ Phone #: _____

E-mail **(required)** _____



Signature *required*, must be Squadron Adjutant _____

Member ID# _____

Printed Name: _____



Signature *required*, must be Post Adjutant _____

Member ID# _____

Printed Name: _____

**Mail To: The American Legion IT Division
Product Support Specialist
5745 Lee Road, Indianapolis, IN 46216
Fax: 317-860-3130 Phone: 800-433-3318**

Scan completed form with signature and email to : mylegion@legion.org

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF



57th Annual Detachment Convention Call

The 57th Annual Convention of the Detachment of Ohio of the Sons of The American will be hosted by District 1 on Friday-Sunday, May 14-16, 2021.

The Convention site is: Hilton Garden Inn Toledo/Perrysburg
6165 Levis Commons Blvd., Perrysburg, OH 43551
(419) 873-0700
<http://toledoperrysburg.hgi.com>

Delegate Registrations - Deadline: Friday, May 7, 2021, at Department Headquarters

All registrations for Convention Delegates, Alternates, and Advisors **MUST** be received at Department Headquarters by **May 7, 2021**. There will be no Convention registrations accepted after this date, nor will any be taken at the Convention except for Guests/Visitors. All registrations must be on the proper form and the registration fee is \$5.00 per person, to be included with the registration form.

Registration of attendees will be held Friday, May 14th between 7:00 and 8:00 pm and Saturday morning, May 15th between 8:00 and 9:00 am. Each attendee must register individually at the designated registration table. **This will also be the time to make any changes (i.e., Alternate becomes a Delegate) or to register any last minute Guests.**

**DO NOT CONFUSE YOUR DELEGATE REGISTRATION
WITH YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION!**

Hotel Reservations - Deadline: Sunday, April 25, 2021 through the Hotel

Those desiring housing reservations **MUST CONTACT THE HOTEL DIRECTLY** and mention they are with the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Ohio Convention (**Group Code: SOAL**) in order to receive the \$129.00 (plus 9.75% tax) per night room rate. Two nights would be \$283.16. A credit card will be required to complete the reservation. You can also use the following link:

https://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/T/TOLPBGI-SOAL-20210513/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG.

The hotel will handle reservation requests on a first-come, first-served basis. Please make sure you receive a confirmation number for your reservation.

All housing reservations MUST BE MADE WITH THE HOTEL by Sunday, April 25, 2021 since the room block must be released prior to the Convention.

Should you need to cancel your reservation, you will need to contact the hotel directly as well. Make sure to get a confirmation number for your cancellation.



Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio

60 Big Run Rd., P.O. Box 8007, Delaware, OH 43015 | 740.362.7478

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF



Program

There will be a meeting of the Detachment Executive Committee at 7:00 pm Friday evening to conclude any outstanding business for the administrative year, discuss any general convention and activities information for the weekend, and to assign delegates to serve on the various Detachment Convention committees.

The opening session of the Convention will be called to order on Saturday, May 15th at 9:00 am and will include Greetings from several state and district officers, the Introduction of Guests, committee reports, award presentations, and voting on any proposed resolutions.

The Sunday session will begin at 9:00 am and will be devoted to the election of officers and any other outstanding business. Prior to the Sunday morning session, a Memorial Service will be held commencing at 8:00 am.

PLEASE NOTE: Our Dress Code will again be enforced this year. Legion-casual attire is acceptable for the Saturday session. At the Sunday session you are required to wear a coat, dress pants, shirt, and tie. All Detachment Officers are expected to wear a coat and tie at all sessions. Detachment Commission and Committee Chairmen are expected to wear a coat and tie when delivering their reports.

Activities

See the enclosed forms for additional information.

A WORD OF CAUTION: The hotel facilities are for registered hotel guests ONLY and neither the hotels nor the Ohio American Legion will accept responsibility for the personal safety/well-being of the registered guests attending the Convention.



Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio

60 Big Run Rd., P.O. Box 8007, Delaware, OH 43015 | 740.362.7478

Instructions

Throughout the year, it is necessary for National to contact squadrons regarding membership renewals, awards, and general communications. In addition, National receives daily requests for post and squadron information from members and potential new members or others who are looking for information about The American Legion at the local level. Maintaining your squadron's current information with National Headquarters has become more important than ever.

Completing an annual Squadron Data Report (SDR) is necessary to inform your Detachment & National Headquarters of pertinent information regarding your squadron and, most importantly, membership renewal information. Complete an annual SDR even if your squadron information has not changed. Any information that has changed can be indicated by checking either the "CHANGE OR CORRECTION" boxes.

Squadron information will be maintained with National's records and published on the legion.org and mysal.org websites and through the "Post Locator" feature. Members who are traveling or have moved, or simply want to transfer, frequently refer to the Post Locator for assistance.

Remember to inform your Detachment & National Headquarters any time a change is made throughout the year.

Each question for the SDR requires specific information. Each question requires the following:

- 1) Enter the actual physical location of the squadron's location.
- 2) Enter the mailing address of the squadron (if different than the physical address). This should be the address where the squadron receives all mail and parcels.
- 3) Enter the dues mailing address that is to appear on the membership renewal notices. It may or may not be the same as the regular mailing or physical address of the squadron.
- 4) Write the dues amount each member pays for the current membership year. If your dues are changing, write the effective date of the new rate. Unless noted otherwise, an effective date of July 1st will be entered to coincide with the first renewal notice of the new membership year. Indicate your junior and dual dues rates, include the maximum age the junior rate is valid, i.e., 18, 19, 20, 21 years of age, etc. All district and or county per capita should be included in the annual squadron dues. The squadron will be responsible for paying any local district or county per capita dues directly.
- 5) Enter the business telephone number of the squadron. (Do not use a personal phone number of a member.)
- 6) Enter the fax telephone number of the squadron, if applicable.
- 7) Enter the squadron email address, if applicable. Enter the email address that is regularly monitored.
- 8) Enter the URL of the squadron website, if applicable.
- 9) Enter the name of the squadron Facebook page, if applicable.
- 10) Enter the date and time of your regularly scheduled squadron meeting. (Ex: 2nd Wednesday @ 7:00pm)

The Annual Squadron Data Report must be signed at the bottom of the page by the Squadron Adjutant or Commander. Unsigned reports will be returned for an authorized signature.

The Annual Squadron Data Report must be forwarded to your Detachment & National Headquarters no later than April 15th in order for squadron information to be processed in time for the first renewal notice.

If there is a subsequent change in the squadron's contact information or a change in the dues amount, the squadron must notify their Detachment & National Headquarters immediately. National Headquarters will not be responsible for reporting incorrect information if the proper notification was not received or if notification was not received in advance of the established deadlines.

NOTICE TO DEPARTMENTS & DETACHMENTS: All annual SDRs must be received at National by April 15th in order to be processed prior to printing the first renewal notices. Please forward as quickly as possible to IT/Data Services after receipt from the squadron; this will help ease processing at National.

MAIL: THE AMERICAN LEGION
ATTN: IT/DATA SERVICES
PO BOX 1954
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206

SCAN & EMAIL: dsforms@legion.org



ANNUAL SQUADRON DATA REPORT (SDR)

20 __ Membership Year

Detachment _____ District/County _____ Squadron # _____

CHANGES (or) CORRECTIONS

Please type or print in ink and forward to your Detachment and National Headquarters

1) Squadron's Home (Physical) Address: _____
(Street address, city, state and zip code) _____

2) Squadron's Mailing Address: _____
If different than physical address _____

3) Squadron's Dues Mailing Address: _____
If different than physical address _____

Note: If the above address contains a member's name or is being sent to a member's home address as the contact, please provide the member's ID#.

4) Annual Squadron Dues for 20 ____ **Regular member**
Junior member **Max. age** **Dual member**

Note: Include all district and county per capita the squadron will be responsible for paying.
Effective Date

Month / Day / Year

5) Squadron Telephone Number: _____
Note: DO NOT use personal phone numbers of members

6) Squadron Fax Number: _____

7) Squadron Email Address: _____

8) Squadron Internet Website: _____

9) Squadron Facebook Page: _____

10) Squadron Meeting Day & Time: _____

Squadron Adjutant or Commander Signature

Date

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Complete and return this form to your Detachment and National Headquarters no later than April 15th. Failure to meet this deadline may prohibit your members from renewing their membership online through mysal.org and cause Renewal Notices to be mailed with incorrect information.

A fillable version of this form is available [HERE](#).