



The Ohio SALute

An Official Publication of
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Ohio
January 2020 – Volume 24, Issue 1

www.ohiolegion.com

Kessler Calls for Squadrons to Get off Zero



My Fellow Sons and members of our American Legion Family,

Nancy and I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas season with your family and friends. Nancy and I had a few new experiences that we hope to continue in future. How many of you did “Buddy Checks” or visited Veterans facilities around your area? We hope that your vision for 2020 is to be better than you were in 2019.

A lot has happened since our last issue, but one thing that remains are ‘zero’ Squadrons! Now is the time to print that delinquent list and hand deliver it to your Post Commander and Canteen manager. It has always been every member’s responsibility to recruit and retain members...and to pay your own in a timely fashion. The next National renewal notice will be sent on or about January 8, 2020. To those in charge of your Squadron’s cards, have you transmitted all the memberships you have?

A few items that require your attention that may be repeated in this issue from the National Headquarters are these: We now have a set Detachment quota going forward. It is a 2% increase over the 30,523 that became our final number for 2019. Our new 2020 Detachment quota is 31,133, an increase of 610. Should we worry about that number? My thought is, “The work has been done. We have already surpassed that number. We need to retain the members we have. Work on the renewals, but always sell the Sons to potential members.”

Another issue...The SAL preamble has “The Great Wars” in the first and fourth sentences. The first sentence, “Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of the Great Wars,” and the fourth sentence: “to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our forefathers in the Great Wars.” In both sentences, “The Great Wars” must be removed and replaced with “All Wars.”

Additional changes made this year was the expansion of membership eligibility from the “LEGION Act” that was passed by the 116th Congress. Instead of eight periods of membership eligibility, there are now only two. Those periods are, World War I April 6, 2017- November 11, 1918, and December 7, 1941, to date.

see KESSLER page 3

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF



HIO

DETACHMENT HEADQUARTERS: 60 BIG RUN ROAD, DELAWARE, OHIO 43015-8007
PHONE: 740-362-7478 | FAX: 740-362-1429 | EMAIL: LEGION@OHIOLEGION.COM

Memorandum

DATE: December 5, 2019

TO: Detachment Officers
District Commanders
District First Vice Commanders
District Adjutants
Detachment Commission and Committee Chairmen
Past Detachment Commanders
Department S.A.L. Advisory Committee Members

FROM: Scott J. Thornton, Detachment Adjutant

SUBJECT: Detachment Mid-Winter Conference Call – Friday-Saturday, January 24-25, 2020

Pursuant to Article V, Section 8, of the Constitution of the Detachment of Ohio of the Sons of The American Legion, the Detachment Commander hereby calls for the annual Mid-Winter Conference of the Detachment of Ohio of the Sons of The American Legion to be held January 24-25, 2020 in Columbus, Ohio. The conference shall be conducted at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North – Worthington Hotel at 6500 Doubletree Avenue.

The Detachment Executive Committee (D.E.C.) shall meet at **7:00 pm** on Friday, with the general session called to order at 9:00 am on Saturday. The conference is called to receive the reports of the Detachment Officers and Commission / Committee Chairmen and to conduct any business necessary at the time. A tentative agenda is included with this memo. The conference should adjourn around 2:00 pm on Saturday. Please make your travel plans accordingly if you are not staying Saturday night. *Attire is Legion casual for the D.E.C. meeting on Friday and coat and tie for the Saturday session. All elected and appointed Detachment Officers are expected to wear coat and tie at all meetings.*

Any resolutions to be considered by the D.E.C. should be filed in writing with the Detachment Adjutant and Judge Advocate by Tuesday, January 14, 2020. All Detachment Officers and Commission / Committee Chairmen are asked to file either an electronic (preferred) or written copy of their report with the Adjutant to assist with preparing the minutes in a timely fashion.

*Attendees are responsible for making their own housing arrangements. The Crowne Plaza's phone number is (614) 885-1885, option 2. Be sure to ask for the American Legion Winter Conference rate. The **deadline** to make your reservation is **Thursday, January 9, 2020.***

All certified Detachment Executive Committee members, with the exception of those Past Detachment Commanders who do not currently serve in an elected or appointed position, are entitled to a housing and mileage reimbursement to/from Columbus. Only those members who actually drive are entitled to reimbursement – if you ride with someone else you are not entitled. **In all cases, reimbursement will only be made upon filing an Official Detachment Travel Expense Report with Mike Kennedy, Department S.A.L. Liaison.**



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Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio
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Delaware, Ohio 43015
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PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

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

Mike Kennedy, Department SAL Liaison
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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 salnews@ohiolegion.com. If you need assistance, please send an email to same. All articles must be submitted in accordance with the following schedule:

2019 SUMMER EDITION for July, August, September
Due no later than June 14, 2019

2019 FALL EDITION for October, November, December
Due no later than September 13, 2019

2020 WINTER EDITION for January, February, March
Due no later than Friday, December 13, 2019

2020 SPRING EDITION for April, May, June
Due no later than March 13, 2019

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For The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion, this greatly expands the membership eligibility potential and also requires the Sons membership application to be changed.

Finally, at the 2019 National Convention, Resolution 5 was rejected by the convention body regarding membership eligibility. After much discussion and research with The American Legion leadership, it was determined that “step-sons” would be allowed to remain in the SAL and continue to join the SAL with no restrictions. It is the hope of our organization that this provides the clarity for your issues and concerns.



Remember, remain, retain, renew and recruit as many members as possible to help The American Legion Family.

Sincerely,

Bernie Kessler, Detachment Commander
SALCommander@OhioLegion.com
kesslerbernie@gmail.com

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for March 28, 2020**



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START EARNING TRAVELER POINTS WITH CHOICE PRIVILEGES

First Vice-Commander



Well, it looks like winter is upon us in Ohio. I hope you all had had a blessed Christmas and hoping for a prosperous New Year.

As of December 11, Ohio hit our target at 45.368%. Good job guys. Keep up the good work. As many of us know, it can be difficult to deal with those end of the year zeros. Most of them in my District are the rural areas that don't have a lot going on until the crops are in. Hopefully they will be taken care of before January 1.

I'm looking forward to my District visits in 2020, my meeting January 5, District 3 Conference January 12, District 11 Conference March 8, and District 5 Convention April 18. Contact me with any other invitations for the year.



I WANT YOU TO RENEW!!!

Hooves. We've had a successful year with our weekend retreats, some coed, some female Veterans only. A woman who works through the VA was responsible for recommending a few of them. As I've mentioned before, we've had veterans from around the country. I've had the opportunity to meet many of them as they arrive and see the positive changes after going through the program. HOOVES works!

Something new working with us is a program called WARRIOR ECHO. We're matching our veterans with at-risk youth. Congressman Andy Barr successfully proposed to include Equine Therapy to Veterans Suicide Prevention Bill to VA approval therapy. Hopefully, this

will pass, offering a larger number of our veterans access to a proven option.

Again, thank you for your continuing support in the past years. The need is great, the life-saving results are amazing!

For God and Country,

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

Second Vice-Commander



Let us start by taking the time congratulate everyone who help with the Henry Rifle Raffle. We brought in \$1,500 from this raffle. The 3 Fisher House locations in Ohio will be receiving \$500.00 each. The winner of the Raffle was Chris

Lance from Eighth District and the winning ticket was sold by Matt Hoisington. Mr. Lance informed me this was his first winning raffle ticket he had ever purchased and pledged to continue to help support the SAL Raffles in the future.



Our next raffle will be 2 digital electric smokers and an Urban Meyer commemorative print. The proceeds from this Raffle will go to the Commander Kessler's Project this year; The National Emergency Fund (NEF). The Grand Prize is a Pit Boss Copperhead 3 Series Digital Electric Smoker. This smoker is also Smartphone App friendly with both Droid and Apple.

The Second Place in the Drawing is a Smoke Hollow Digital Electric Smoker. The Third Place Drawing is the Urban Meyer Commemorative Print. Tickets will be \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00.

Gentlemen please remember that Commander Kessler and Commander Friend have wager of who can raise the most funds for the NEF, so let's make sure we sell several raffle tickets to help Commander Kessler and the SAL raise the funds to come out on top.

see ALBRIGHT page 5

ALBRIGHT continued from page 4

Also, if you write a check for the raffle tickets please make the check out to me, Dennis Albright. You may mail tickets and checks to my home address 1778 Liberty Hill Rd, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

District Commanders, if you have not received your tickets by the time you read this article please contact me to make sure they were sent to the correct location and I will make sure to get more out to you if needed. If you run out of tickets and want more let me know as well so we may get more out to you.

Dennis Albright, First Vice-Commander

SAL2ndvice@OhioLegion.com

gubert71@yahoo.com

A Message from the Chaplain



I hope everyone had a great a Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and wish you a Happy New Year.

As we are in the new year, please remember our Veterans who are serving and have served this great country of ours. Looking forward to seeing each one of you at Mid-

Winter conference. No matter how many times you come, you can always learn about our Detachment, Squadrons, and to meet people and exchange ideas.

Always remember if you need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to me for all your needs. Please remember the members who are no longer with us for the Squadron Everlasting. Send the requests for the Memorial Service at Detachment Convention in May to Scott Thornton or me.

Dave Dilts, Chaplain

(740) 455-2187 – home

(740) 319-1255 – cell

SALChaplain@OhioLegion.com

DavidLeeDilts@Hotmail.com



Adjutant's Notes



Mid-Winter Conference – January 24-25, 2020.

The Mid-Winter Detachment Executive Committee meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North – Worthington Hotel, 6500 Doubletree Ave., Columbus, OH 43229 on Friday, January 24,

2020. All elected and appointed Detachment Officers, Commission and Committee Chairmen, District Commanders and District First Vice-Commanders are required to attend. Dress is Legion-casual except for Detachment Officers.

The Detachment Mid-Winter Conference will begin at 9:00 am on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at the Crowne Plaza. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. This is a great opportunity to hear the reports of all our state commission and committee chairmen directly and ask questions about the programs they are leading. Dress is coat and tie for everyone, please.

REMINDER: Housing reservations for the Mid-Winter Conference must be made by calling the hotel directly at (614) 885-1885, option 2, and asking for the "American Legion Conference" rate (\$98.00 / night plus tax). Do not go through Department Headquarters for this meeting. The deadline to call is Thursday, January 9, 2020, but I strongly advise you not to wait that long. The hotel fills up quickly for that weekend and many members will not be able to get into the Legion's room block. Call early!

The Past Detachment Commanders Club will be hosting their annual Reverse Raffle at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday after the Mid-Winter Conference. Tickets are \$10.00 each—contact any of the PDCs if you would like to buy some. Winners do not need to be present to claim their prize, but it is a good event to attend.

2020-2021 Commission/Committee Appointments.

Anyone interested in being considered for an appointment to serve on one of the Detachment or National Commissions or Committees must fill out the appropriate recommendation form (available from the Detachment website, <http://www.ohiolegion.com>).

see THORNTON page 7

THORNTON continued from page 6

Click on the "Forms" link at the top of the page, then scroll down the page to the SAL section in the middle. Send your completed form(s) to Ohio's NEC, Bill "Buster" Sutterlin at SALNEC@OhioLegion.com before January 10, 2020 to be considered.

Please keep our men and women in uniform in your prayers during this holiday season. On behalf of the Detachment of Ohio, I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,

Scott J. Thornton, Adjutant
Mobile – (419) 467-4659
SALAdjutant@OhioLegion.com

National Executive Committeeman



Happy New Year Everyone!

I hope everyone had the chance to enjoy the holidays with family and friends. I wish for each of you a happy and prosperous new year. Now is the time to think about what you want to accomplish this year. What do you want to spend your time doing? Our Mid-Winter Conference is January 24-25 in Columbus. If you want to serve the Detachment or the national organization in a leadership role, whether it be as an officer or on a committee/commission, you need to submit a form to me before the start of the DEC meeting on Friday, Jan. 24, 2020. Forms are available online at www.ohiolegion.org or by contacting me.

I encourage you to learn the programs at the Detachment and National levels before proceeding to an office. It takes commitment and accepting responsibility to serve in these leadership roles. There are a lot of you out there in the Detachment that would make good leaders, but you have to step forward to achieve the knowledge to do so.

It is important to stay active by attending Squadron, District, Detachment and National meetings to keep up with the changes. There are changes to the Sons eligibility due to the passage of The Legion Act. Also, the

preamble has been updated to reflect these changes. Please refer to Bill Town's article for more details.

I hope some of you are working on bids for the 2022 Detachment Convention. These bids aren't due until our Convention in Toledo in May, but it is important to work on them now.



On a personal note, I attended the dedication of the Gold Star Families Memorial in Mansfield on November 18. This was a community project with many organizations, including The American Legion, participating.



I also attended a Pearl Harbor Day ceremony at Post 211 in Avon Lake on December 7. It was the first one held at that Post and it was a good service. After the service, a Navy mess meal of bean soup and cornbread was served.

I hope to see many of you at Mid-Winter in Columbus. Don't forget to get your tickets for the Past Detachment Commander's reverse raffle.

Thank you for all you do for Service Members, Veterans, and the SAL.

PDC Bill "Buster" Sutterlin,
National Executive Committeeman
950 Township Road 2506
Perrysville, Ohio 44864
(419) 651-2409
SALNEC@OhioLegion.com
brs257@zoominternet.net





Alternate

National Executive Committeeman



To My Fellow SAL Members,

With the Christmas Season we think of Family and Friends, also we need to remember all our country's armed forces away from home. A small care package or note sent to them is a great gesture to remind them

we care and hope for their safe return. Anytime throughout the year it is a great idea, especially at this time after Christmas, as home can be a faraway place for our men and women in uniform.

Wintertime brings a lull in activity as we tend to hibernate with the cold weather, but we need to work on our continued contact with the membership and jump start the information hotline. Getting more individuals involved in all activities of your Squadron and the Legion post will help in most to boost membership, fundraisers, etc.

Again, push the PR as many of us do great things for our Post Homes and Communities. Let the public know what we do, why we do it, and what it was done for. There are still too many people out there that do not realize all the benefits the American Legion Family provides for their areas.

My father was a proud American Legion member, and I am honored to carry on his memory, as well you should be also of your parents or grandparents. I remember some of the last words my Dad said to me, "Don't let them forget what we did." I will carry on my Dad's wishes and hope you all will do the same.

For God and Country,

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

Judge Advocate



NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE AND SAL CONSTITUTION CHANGES

The recent changes in The Sons of The American Legion National Constitution voted on at the 48th Annual National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana automatically changes your Squadron and/or District Constitution and Bylaws.

Mandatory Changes to SAL Preamble and SAL Constitution. The National Adjutant and the National Judge Advocate have directed National Headquarters staff and program directors to immediately screen, edit, and update all publications that are impacted by the Legion Act and the change to The American Legion Preamble. The staff is on a tight timeline to meet the printing deadline for the 2020 distribution, these changes have to take place immediately. Ken George, The Sons of The American Legion National Liaison, is charged to review the Sons of The American program publications and make the appropriate changes to the Sons of the American Legion Preamble and membership eligibility criteria in all publications.

This year, 2019 marked some remarkable changes to The American Legion and, as a result, have a direct impact on the Sons of The American Legion. At The American Legion Fall Meetings October 16-17, 2019, Resolution 1 was submitted, reviewed, and approved by the Internal Affairs Commission and the National Executive Committee. Upon the approval of Resolution 1, it authorized the changing of the 5th sentence of The American Legion's Preamble; "To preserve the memories and incidences of our associations in the Great Wars." "The Great Wars" has been stricken from the Preamble, and it now reads "To preserve the memories and incidences of our associations in all wars." The SAL preamble has "The Great Wars" in the first and fourth sentences. The first sentence, "Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of the Great Wars," and the fourth sentence: "to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our forefathers in the Great Wars." In both sentences, "The Great Wars" must be removed and replaced with "All Wars."

see TOWNS page 8

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Additional changes made this year was the expansion of membership eligibility from the "LEGION Act" that was passed by the 116th Congress. Instead of eight periods of membership eligibility, there are now only two.

Those periods are, World War I April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918, and December 7, 1941, to date. For The American Legion and Sons of The American Legion, this greatly expands the membership eligibility potential and requires the Son's membership application to be changed. Currently it states: "All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I, World War II, and Korean War, the Vietnam War, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, and the Persian Gulf War, during the delimiting periods set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion." The new verbiage should be as follows: "All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I, and December 7, 1941, to date, as set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion."

*Robert E. Newman, Chairman
Internal Affairs Commission*

Somewhere in your Squadron and/or District Constitution and Bylaws you should see "AMENDMENTS, Section 1. This Constitution is adopted, subject to the provision of the National Constitution and the Detachment Constitution of which this Squadron is a subordinate member. Any amendment to the National or Detachment Constitutions which is in conflict with any provision hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution. to the extent of such conflict."

If your Squadron and/or District Constitution and Bylaws have recently been reviewed and approved you do not have to resubmit them to me for review, just make the above changes that were made at the national convention.

It should also be noted that the National Sons of The American Legion voted in a \$3.00 dues increase for all SAL Members starting July 2020. Depending how you have membership dues worded in your Constitution and Bylaws you may have to adjust your Squadron dues. To avoid issues come next membership year, REVIEW YOUR CONSTITUTION NOW! If your membership must vote in a dues increase start the process now so as your members can be notified well in advance of your constitutional changes which will need to be voted on.

If you have any questions or concerns over these changes, please contact me.

PDC Bill Towns, Judge Advocate

docbill@neo.rr.com

SALJudteAdvocate@OhioLegion.com

AMERICANISM COMMISSION

Luther Liggett Jr., Chairman

LLiggett@Columbus.RR.com

 American Legion
Buckeye Boys State

John Vrzal, Chairman

(419) 930-7775

VrzalJD@MiamiOH.edu

Legislative Update

Hi all!



The Legion Act that was passed by the 116th Congress changed membership eligibility to two periods now. They are from World War 1 – April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918 and Dec 7th to the present.

The US House Committee on Veterans Affairs Chairman Mark Takans announced a new compromise that will amend legislation to address veteran suicide. Chairman Takans' amendment to HR 3495; the Well-being for Veterans Act introduced by Rep Bergman and Rep Houlihan, will utilize a public health approach that helps connect veterans with existing community resources in an effort to provide key services before a veteran reaches a point of crises .

PDC Craig Smith, Chairman

craigsmith1958@gmail.com

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On November 13, 2019, Mahoning Valley Post 15 member and Ohio State Representative member Don Manning introduced House Bill 411, "A BILL to amend section 4501.21 and to enact section 4503.581 of the Revised Code to create the "Ohio Sons of The American Legion" license plate.

PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr. worked with Rep. Manning to get this bill created. Once the bill is passed, Ohioans will have the opportunity to purchase these license plates for an additional, nominal fee.

PDC Vrabel is also working on the creation of a license plate for The American Legion and the Department of Ohio.

On December 10, 2019, PDC Vrabel testified before the Ohio House Transportation and Public Safety Committee, speaking in favor of HB 411. Following his testimony and questions & answers, Committee Chairman Rep. Doug Green asked what the committee's pleasure was with regard to the HB 411. A motion was made that HB 411 be favorably reported and recommended passage. With a 14-0 vote in favor, the bill passed. On to the full House!



Oratorical

Rocky Searles, Chairman
rocky.searles@centurylink.com

POW★MIA



Fellow comrades,

In November a proposal passed without objection in the House, that federal buildings and national war memorials will now fly the POW/MIA flag alongside the American flag throughout the year. This is designed to help highlight the continued sacrifice of military families

whose loved ones are still unaccounted for overseas, estimated at about 82,000. There is progress on recovery of the missing, but it is still a daunting task. Officials from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting agency have identified more than 200 missing service members this fiscal year.

The daily display of the POW/MIA flag at all prominent federal properties now serves as a daily reminder that these heroes and their families are forever etched in our DNA. The flag has been flown at numerous federal properties over the years but typically only on special occasions and holidays.

In addition, the display of the flag will be required at every major U.S. military installation, every national cemetery, and numerous high-profile war-related sites like the World War II Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

December 7 was the anniversary of PEARL HARBOR DAY. As of this year, there are still several missing soldiers from that day. From the USS OKLAHOMA; unaccounted for 152, from the USS WEST VIRGINIA; unaccounted for 17, and from the USS CALIFORNIA: unaccounted for 20

The POW/MIA Accounting Agency has done a commendable job at the recovery of our soldiers. If you would like more information, visit www.dpaa.mil or on Facebook POW/MIA Accounting agency.

Matt Hoisington, Chairman
mattoffroad@gmail.com



On Friday, November 1, 2019 Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 dedicated a POW★MIA Chair of Honor at Poland Seminary High School Dave Pavlansky Field prior to the Poland Bulldogs vs. Struthers Wildcats football game. The Chair of Honor was

donated by the Detachment of Ohio.

On-hand for the dedication was Department of Ohio Commander Roger Friend, who was honored by the referees by asking him to meet the captains from both teams and to toss the coin prior to the game.

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Members from various Squadrons and Posts from across the state came to participate in the dedication, where the entire stadium stood silent as The Colors were presented, Rifle Salute, Taps played by Poland Bulldog Marching Band Trumpeters, and the National Anthem as the United States Flag and a new POW★MIA flag raised. Players from both teams wear a POW★MIA sticker on their helmets, provided by Squadron 15.



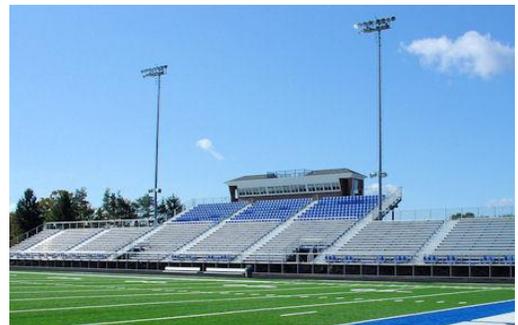
Since World War II, over 82,000 American military service members are unaccounted for from service in our major Wars and Conflicts. They may be still lying on the battlefield, or they may be in the hands of our enemies. We don't know, they are Unaccounted-For. Their remains have not been recovered; their whereabouts are unknown. These American heroes are Prisoners of War (POW) or Missing in Action (MIA).



Sons of The American Legion Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 and the Detachment of Ohio remain steadfast and will never rest in its commitment to the goal of achieving the fullest possible accounting for all U.S. Military personnel and designated civilian personnel missing and unaccounted for who served during these wars and conflicts. The dedication of a POW★MIA Chair of Honor is to remember these military heroes who have not returned.



The Chair of Honor is dedicated as a solemn reminder of our obligation to always remember the sacrifices made to defend our nation by those brave men and women in the service of our Country. The Chair of Honor is to remain perpetually empty to help people remember that even though our soldiers, sailors, and airmen are not here, there is still a space for them. This **single black chair** brings awareness to our Nation's leaders to bring home our Prisoners of War and those Missing In Action, and that they have not been forgotten. Sons of The American Legion want to make others aware of Prisoners of War and Missing in Action and of the loss and pain suffered by their respective family members. Sons of The American Legion Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 and the Poland Local School District are committed to making sure they will never be forgotten.



CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMISSION

Bruce Forshey, Chairman
bruce.forshey@gmail.com

Child Welfare Foundation

American Legion
Child Welfare Foundation



The CWF board of directors met in Indianapolis and decided to award 22 grants totaling \$811,282 to nonprofits for 2020.

In 2020, the CWF is going to be anti-cancer and anti-autism. We're for adoption and the transportation of children to distant hospitals and facilities. We like children's hospitals doing organ transplants, and we definitely dislike missing children and the exploitation of them. We're going to help put braille books and materials into the hands of blind children.

And, once again, we're going to give some American Legion programs a hand. The Oratorical Contest, Boy's Nation, Girl's Nation, Scouting, Junior Shooting Sports, American Legion Baseball and others will receive scholarship money. Temporary Financial Assistance will also benefit.

One grant recipient has some local roots. The Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation of Columbus, Ohio is dedicated to the protection of hunting, fishing, and trapping opportunities across the country. They get involved in state legislatures, the US Congress, the courts, and the ballot box. They were awarded \$20,000 for their "Heritage Hunting and Fishing Project." This grant will expose 5,000 youth to hands on training and real-life outdoor experience in hunting and fishing, while teaching them safety and wildlife conservation. This grant will also create online educational videos.

The Detachment of Ohio made a small donation to CWF at the NEC meeting last October to get us "off the 0", and I see someone else submitted some money, but we still have plenty of work to do. Our goal for this year remains at \$1.00 per capita. I have piggy banks and direct mail envelopes if anyone needs them.

Hoping you and yours has/had a safe and Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years!

Cary "Dewey" Kuhl, Chairman
(440) 839-2487
cary.kuhl@gmail.com

Children's Miracle Network

Greetings,



Children's Miracle Network Hospitals raise funds and awareness for 170 children's hospitals across the country. Along with the many fundraising partners and programs, they work the mission to save and improve the lives of as many children as possible.

Caring for our children is very costly. And sometimes, not everything is covered by insurance or families do not have insurance. This is where WE can help. During this season of gifting and giving, keep the 6 CMN Hospitals throughout the State of Ohio in mind. When you or your Squadron are sending out your year-end donations, keep your local Children's Miracle Network Hospital in mind. It's not too late!

A couple other ways to donate to CMN – Discover Card members can donate their Cashback Bonus to CMN Hospitals. When doing your holiday shopping at Nordstrom's you can donate at the register or purchase a giving tag. All that shopping can make you hungry so stop by Panda Express and round up your purchase or purchase a Coca-Cola product and 1% of gross sales will be donated to CMN Hospitals. You also still have time to round-up your purchase at Ace Hardware as well.

Whether or not you are able to donate at this time of the year, keep all these families in your thoughts and lift them in prayer because many of them may not be celebrating and it may be a stressful time for them.

If your Squadron, Post, or Auxiliary Unit has a CMN fundraiser, please forward the information to me so that I can attend if I am available and so that I can share the details and your accomplishments.

For God and Country,

Adam Budner, Chairman
30220 Cannon Road
Solon, Ohio 44139
blechabum@yahoo.com
(216) 798-9254



Special Olympics



Greetings gentlemen,

I want to thank Commander Kessler for opportunity to once again serve the Detachment as Special Olympics Chairman.

Here is a list of all the Polar Plunges with the links to their websites. You can also view them all here: <https://sooh.org/2020-polar-plunges/>.

- January 18 – Mosquito Lake
www.MosquitoLakePolarPlunge.org
- January 25 – Sandusky
www.SanduskyPolarPlunge.org
- February 1 – Cincinnati
www.GreaterCincinnatiPlunge.com
- February 8 – Columbus Polar Plunge
www.ColumbusPolarPlunge.org
- February 15 – Caesar Creek
www.CaesarCreekPolarPlunge.org
- February 29 – Cleveland
www.ClevelandPolarPlunge.com
- March 7 – Grand Lake St. Mary's
www.GLSMPolarPlunge.org
- March 14 – Indian Lake
www.IndianLakePolarPlunge.org

I spoke with Megan Modene. The following is her contact information. Please contact her if you are interested in volunteer opportunities.

Megan Modene
Athlete Leadership and Volunteer Manager
Special Olympics Ohio
3303 Winchester Pike
Columbus, OH 43232
614-239-7050
mmodene@sooh.org
www.SOOH.org

Special
Olympics
Ohio



I will be asking for donations to Special Olympics Ohio on behalf of the Detachment at the Mid-Winter Conference in January. I am working on bringing the Torch

Run of the Summer Games to Portsmouth as one of the host cities. I will once again be taking part in the Scioto County Hardwood Heroes basketball game representing the Detachment of Ohio in Portsmouth this coming March.

PDC Adam Jones, Chairman
glimmer_man72@yahoo.com

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMISSION

While I am writing this, we are getting ready to celebrate the Christmas holidays. This will probably be published after Christmas, so I just want to take time to say thank you to all who support the Gifts For Yanks program. The money donated to this program is used to purchase gifts for hospitalized veterans. I want to especially thank those of you who went to the hospitals and Veterans homes to deliver the gifts. I also want to recognize Post #23 in Portsmouth for their annual nursing home Veterans party held at the Post. This is what the VA&R program is all about.

As I mentioned in my last article, we now have Veterans Affairs Representatives assigned to all the VA Medical Centers. On the weekend of Mid-Winter Conference in January, I am going to conduct a brief session on what the VAVS organization does and what is the responsibility of the representatives. Anyone can sit in on this. Just look for me Friday night for details. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in January.

PNVC, PDC Dan Sgraves, Chairman
dansgraves@twc.com

VA&R NORTH REPORT

OVH Sandusky. The 5th District SAL will host a pizza/bingo event the Saturday before Easter, April 11, 2020. Squadron Bettsville 733 is still donating peanuts. We put them in the Members lounge for all to enjoy.

The Greater Cleveland Fisher House. For 15 years, Fisher House Foundation has worked hard to maintain a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. "It is a privilege to serve military and veterans' families, and we are proud to do so in a fiscally responsible manner." – Ken Fisher, Chairman & CEO.

see NORTH page 13

NORTH continued from page 12

Effective March 1, 2019, The Greater Cleveland Fisher House will have a new mailing address:

The Greater Cleveland Fisher House
P. O. Box 1852
Cleveland, OH

Flag City Honor Flight (Findlay, Ohio). On September 24, 2019, 60 Veterans traveled to Washington, DC. They have now sent over 1,000 Veterans and are working on the next thousand. It now cost over \$1,000 for each Veteran and the Veteran pays nothing. The trips are all funded by donations. The address to donate is Flag City Honor Flight P.O. Box 885 Findlay, OH 45839.

Gold Star Families Memorial. There was a groundbreaking ceremony in Perrysburg, Ohio on October 18, 2019. Woody Williams, 96, is the lone surviving Medal of Honor recipient from World War II. In recent years, his mission has been to help raise money for Gold Star Family monuments around the country. He was present and helped with the groundbreaking.

Robert Showalter, VA&R North Chairman
roshow2850@yahoo.com
(419) 307-1259

VA&R SOUTH REPORT



I have been busy here in the south. I had a VAVS meeting met the new Assistant Director, and they are trying a new kind of therapy using drums and hitting them. The VA put on the Veterans Day parade with the help of the Ross

County Veterans Council. It was a very busy day where we cooked 450 hotdogs for the Veterans, bands, and people watching the parade. I also visited an addition 8 Veterans from Adena Hospice that are home bound. They all enjoyed, and we gave them a small wooden flag and a bucket full of assorted items. We have been working with Volunteer Services, and Squadron 62 bought canteen books for all the people that live at the VA.



Gerald Palmer, VA&R South Chairman
gerpalm60@gmail.com

Veterans Employment & Education Committee

Robert Carson, Chair
carsonrobert1957@gmail.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION

ANEC Steve Honigfort, Chairman
shonigfort@yahoo.com

From the Editor



Gentlemen,

I hope that everyone had a very enjoyable Thanksgiving and Christmas, and want to wish you a very happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

We are getting great feedback from across the nation on our newsletter. Let's keep up the great work and make *The Ohio SALute* the greatest Sons publication in the organization!!!

Over the years, I have heard people say, or have read things that were written that made me wonder where it came from. I'm sure that some of you have had the same questions pop-up in your head, but never got the answer. Maybe someone can help answer these questions?

see VRABEL page 14

VRABEL continued from page 13

What is this "ladies" or "women's" auxiliary everyone keeps talking about? The American Legion Family has no such affiliate to my knowledge. We need to call the organization by its proper name; The American Legion Auxiliary. It is now even more important since ALA's membership is now open to females and males.

What's a "sal?" I thought we were Sons. I think Sal could be short for Salvatore. Is he a member?

Why do Squadrons hold cards? I was trained many years ago that when a member pays his dues, you send them to Detachment headquarters. Holding cards could cost Squadrons and Districts in

What are "table officers?" In other organizations, our elected officials are simply referred to as Officers. Hmmm.

What's with the rhythmic clapping during meetings? As a sports official at many levels, I am around many crowds. I have spoken at many events in front of large audiences. I have not heard this anywhere else. Anyone know the origins of this ovation?

Where's all the kids? Every Squadron has members who are under the age of 18. Why don't we see more of them at the Mid-Winter Conference or Detachment Convention? I know that meetings can be boring for younger people, but how else will they learn about our amazing organization?

Where's the event? Too often I see flyers, email announcements, social media announcements asking folks to attend their functions. Many do not list the address or the town. They simply say something like, "Event at Squadron XX." For someone who may want to attend from out of town, how will they know where to go?

I pay my dues in the spring. Who came up with that? It is unheard-of to wait so long. In other organizations I am a member of, one in particular, we have a 30-day window to get our dues paid. If we decide to pay after the 30-days, there is a hefty late fee. What's the deal?

All in favor... I have heard leaders of meetings say the following; "All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed same sign." Here's the question, if voting AYE is in favor of a motion, and we say, "opposed same sign," is everyone voting in favor of the question? I believe it's the Ayes and Nos or the Yeas and Nays. Just asking.

Since I mentioned officiating earlier, let's bring some of what I learned there into the Sons. We are always told, "Speak the language so everyone understands each other." This is a vital part to the success of a sports official. If players, coaches, and officials all use the same terminology to describe something, everyone ends up on the same page.

When we work for The American Legion Family, we need to do the same. Let's make a concerted effort to say American Legion Auxiliary, Sons, and to use the words that are part of the organization. If we do, there will be less of a communication breakdown, and more people will be on the same page.



Since 2015, *The Ohio SALute* has been on 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 at Detachment Headquarters and hardcopy editions will be mailed out. This program is intended for members who do not have internet access or are not computer savvy.

Name _____
 Address _____

Please complete this form and mail to:
 Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio
 60 Big Run Road
 Delaware, Ohio 43015
 ATTN: Mike Kennedy

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,

PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor
The Ohio SALute
jeffvrabel@sbcglobal.net
SALNews@ohiolegion.com

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

#SALSTRONG



THE AMERICAN LEGION
National Headquarters

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 10, 2019
TO: American Legion Leadership
FROM: Daniel S. Wheeler, National Adjutant
RE: National Press Association – Past, Present & Future

It is critical for The American Legion to effectively communicate its messaging, priorities and other relevant information to our nearly 2 million members. As a grassroots organization, we count on our members to not only shape The American Legion but to promote the amazing community service activities they perform in their communities across this great nation of ours.

For many years, the National American Legion Press Association (NALPA) has been a group that has attempted to provide the resources and support of its members who are American Legion Family members charged with promoting their post at the local level.

However, last summer it was discovered that NALPA had been operating without proper financial accountability. There were issues with their State of New York based bank that NALPA had been using as NALPA did not have an EIN on file, nor was there any method to add or remove signatories on their banking account.

Following this year's National Convention, additional research determined that there was no resolution binding The American Legion to NALPA nor any other similar press association. A National Executive Committee resolution, No. 44, dated May 3-4, 1961, rescinded a prior relationship with NALPA and no additional resolution was ever pursued seeking to overturn this resolution.

Due to this banking situation, no supporting resolution and the subsequent trademark issues The American Legion immediately ceased involvement with NALPA.

As NALPA was being shuttered, a new organization arose named the National American Legion Media Association (NALMA), which purported to be a replacement for NALPA, but with new leadership.

After a brief NALMA operating period it was determined that it was in the best interest of all parties involved that The American Legion is not going to pursue a relationship with any current or former organizations along these lines. Instead, The American Legion is going to lead these efforts.

After studying the issue carefully, I have asked Media & Communications Chairman Walter Ivie for his commission to work with the Media & Communications Division on creating a modern approach that would enable American Legion Family members to effectively promote their posts. Chairman Ivie will be coordinating these efforts promptly and will be communicating next steps with American Legion leadership, former NALPA members, department press associations and others. The new approach will also be open for and communicated with American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion members, who were eligible under the NALPA guidelines.

Details are still being worked out, but all Legion Family members will be eligible to join the new group. They will continue to receive membership benefits including a press card, a reformatted annual contest, training, resources and more.

Thank you for your continued patience, understanding and support of American Legion programs.

Around OHIO

Fourth District



Past Fourth District Commanders Ron Wissman, Bob Ray and Charles W. Castle.

On Friday, December 6, Fourth District Commanders participated in handing out Christmas gifts to homebound veterans at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center. Veterans received a gift, had lunch, and were greeted by Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Seventh District



PDC Adam Jones served as Master of Ceremonies at the American Legion Post 142 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner on Saturday, December 7, 2019.



Past Department Chaplain John Barnhart, Past Waverly 142 Post Commander Don Edler, PDC Adam Jones, and Jayden Jones both Squadron 23.

Eighth District

RED BOWS FOR VETERANS is a project by the Lawrence N. Helber Squadron 78 from Logan, Ohio to place red bows on the graves of Veterans around Hocking County for the Holiday season.

With the help of several local and veteran-minded groups, 3,000 red bows were placed in 13 cemeteries in the county. One of the groups, Stages Family, Inc. made a donation for the bows to be put together by a local flower shop. Darlene Savly and Susan Black of *Flowers by Darlene* made the bows in under four weeks' time for the project.

see **AROUND OHIO** page 16

AROUND OHIO continued from page 15

This became a community project when local Brownie Troop 8755 and Out of Boat Ministries group came in to help with the larger cemeteries, along with the Logan Fire Department's Explorer Post and the Knights of Columbus. Bows will be removed in Mid-January.



Oak Grove Cemetery in Logan



Fairview Cemetery outside of Rockbridge



Old Logan Cemetery in Logan



Ex-U.S. Marine Rusty Hartley and his wife Denise help with placing bows on graves.

Submitted By: Phillip N. Lightfoot, Eighth District Adjutant and Squadron 78 Commander

Ninth District



Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 members Phillip Vrabel (front) and Kenneth Vrabel (back) with Post Paschall Post 164 member Neil Olekowitz. The two Sons colored Veterans Day cards and distributed them to Veterans at Southway Post 144, Paschall Post 164, and Don Gentile Post 532 on Veterans Day.



Activities



On Sunday, December 15, members of Don Gentile Squadron 532 and Unit 532 in Columbus and Mahoning Valley Squadron in Poland met at Post 532 to color Christmas cards for Veterans. The cards were distributed at Post 532 on Friday, December 20, 2019.



Detachment JA Bill Towns joined Department Officers Brad Teas, John Murphy and others at the Carl V Stokes VA Medical Center for The Gifts for Yanks distribution Thursday, December 19, 2019.

RECRUIT! RETAIN! REINSTATE!

Convention Screening

NEC Bill "Buster" Sutterlin, Chairman
(419) 651-2409

SALNEC@OhioLegion.com
brs257@zoominternet.net

Finance Report

PDC Lenny Talmage, Chairman
ltalmage2007@gmail.com

Member Development and Training

Don't You Quit!

While having a quick bite at the food court of a local mall I watched a young boy, possibly 5 or 6 years old. He seemed intrigued by the escalators which were carrying shoppers up and down to the different floors of shops. Soon with no one watching he stepped up on the down staircase and tried to climb it. He made it up about 5 steps before a group riding down forced him to retreat. Undeterred he ran at it again this time making it about halfway before again being blocked and having to ride back down. He had been defeated twice but did not quit. His little legs were tired, but he went at the escalator a third time climbing, climbing, climbing, and finally wearing out he stopped to rest. Which you guessed it landed him back at the bottom. Dejected he walked over and sat down I presume with his family which had not seen his adventure. After a brief moment he caught me looking at him. Me still smiling because I could feel he needed one. I winked and nodded at him. Then without a thought he jumped to his feet and ran back to the escalator. This time his journey was unobstructed, his legs rested, and he did not quit! As he jumped off at the top of the escalator he turned and raised his arms in triumph! I applauded him and his grin turned to a full-blown smile.

Whether you want to climb a staircase, a mountain, or just make quota; set a goal, have a plan, make sure others know and support your goals, and Don't You Quit!

PDC Bill Towns, Chairman

docbill@neo.rr.com

saljudgeadvocate@ohiolegion.com

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



MySAL

MEMBERSHIP DATABASE



DETACHMENT EMAIL ADDRESSES

- SALCommander@OhioLegion.com
- SAL1stVice@OhioLegion.com
- SAL2ndVice@OhioLegion.com
- SALChaplain@OhioLegion.com
- SALNEC@OhioLegion.com
- SALANEC@OhioLegion.com
- SALAdjutant@OhioLegion.com
- SALJudgeAdvocate@OhioLegion.com
- SALHistorian@OhioLegion.com
(for photos and newspaper clippings)
- SALNews@OhioLegion.com
(for submissions to The Ohio SALute)



Activities for our Jr. Members

Ask our Jr. members to color these patriotic pictures and display them at your Post. They can also cut them out and give to anyone they'd like to.



Name _____

Don't Forget!
 Daylight-Saving Time begins on the second Sunday in March!

Move your clock ahead one hour at 2am!

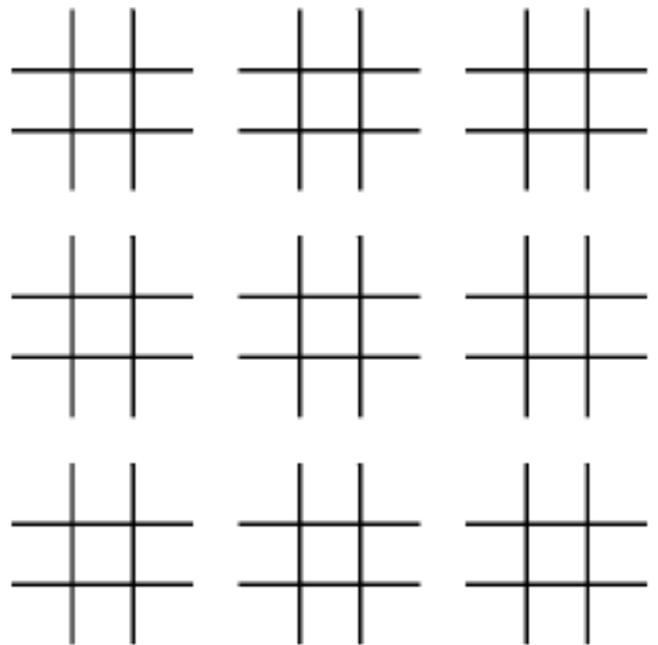
Remember:
 "SPRING" Forward--
 "FALL" Behind!

© 2010 H-Howes for www.printables4kids.com

Name _____



Name _____



Detachment Word Search #2

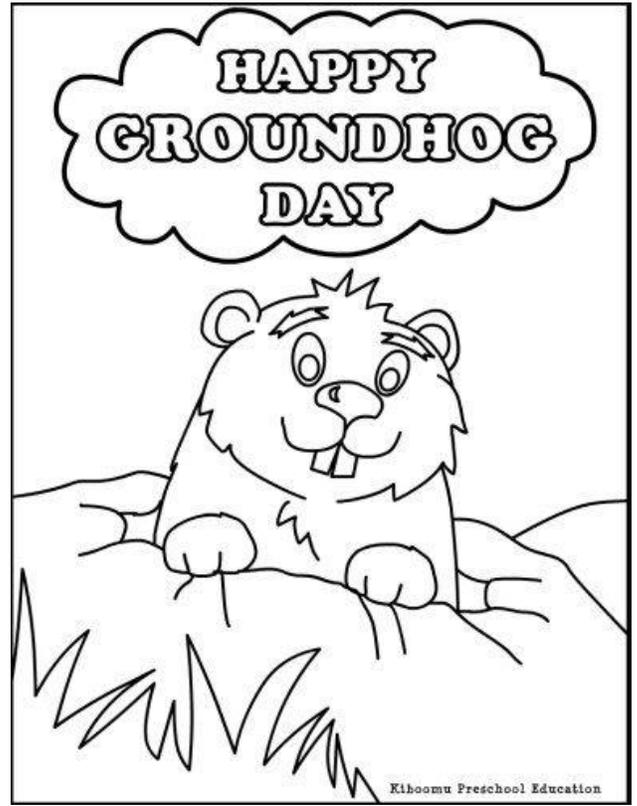
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C	T	D	N	H	O	M	E	C	O	M	I	N	G
A	L	T	N	E	M	H	C	A	T	E	D	V	A
A	A	D	F	S	N	A	R	E	T	E	V	F	V
E	I	A	D	J	U	T	A	N	T	S	C	L	O
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Y	R	A	I	L	I	X	U	A	E	O	M	A	E
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- CONVENTION
- RETAIN
- VETERANS
- RIDERS
- FLAG
- AHEAD
- HOMECOMING
- DETACHMENT
- FUTURE
- EMBLEM
- STEAM
- FULL
- VOLUNTEER
- RECRUIT
- SONS
- ADJUTANT
- AUXILIARY
- FAMILY
- SUPPORT
- PROUD

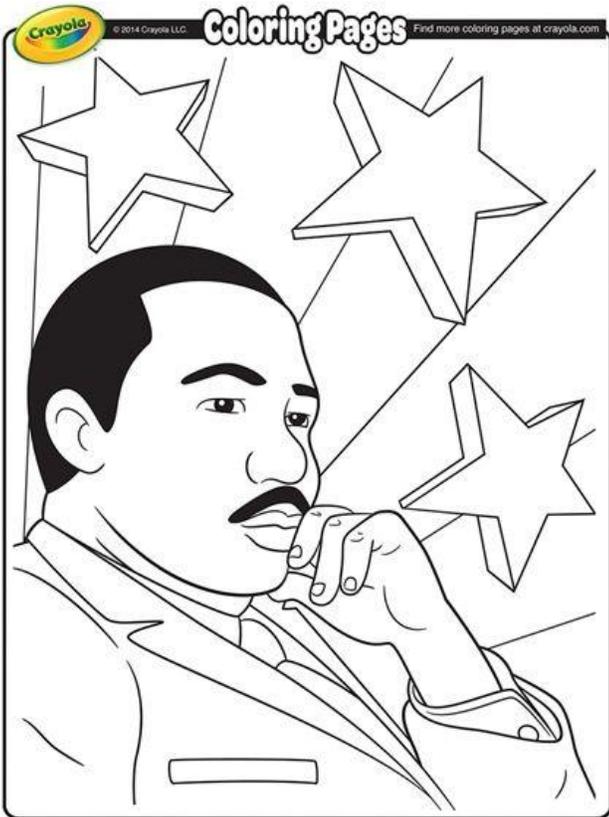




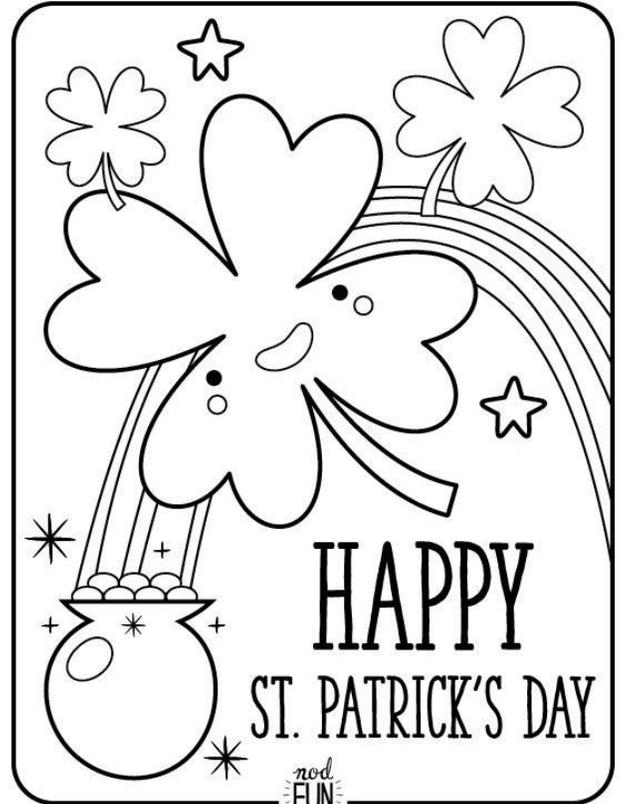
Name _____



Name _____



Name _____



Name _____

Always Be Prepared To Get A New Member



THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ (First) _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____ (Phone) _____

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

(Membership ID# Former Member) _____ (Email) _____ (Post #) _____ (Date)

Please check:

WWI (4/6)

WWII (12/31/18 - 9/2/45)

Korea (6/25/50 - 1/31/55)

Vietnam (1/1/68 - 5/7/75)

Lebanon (8/24/82 - 7/31/84)

Panama (12/7/41 - 12/31/46 - Only Eligibility)

Gulf War (9/11/01 - 3/11/03)

LEGION ACT NOTICE
Due to the July 30, 2015, signing of the Let Everyone Get Involved with Opportunities for National Service - The LEGION ACT - eligibility for membership in The American Legion has been changed from the former seven war eras to two:
1. April 6, 1917 - Nov. 11, 1918
2. Dec. 7, 1941 - current
All other restrictions and limitations remain.
This document is in the process of being updated to reflect this change. When the updates are approved an electronic PDF will be posted at www.legion.org/legionactmaterials

Branch of service below:
Army
Navy
Air Force
Marines
Coast Guard
Merchant Marines (12/7/41-12/31/46 - Only Eligibility)

I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.

Signed By Applicant _____ Name of Recruiter _____

Mail completed application to The American Legion National Headquarters, Attn: Internal Affairs. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. For current department address, go to www.legion.org.

ALA 12/2013



DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date _____

Received From _____

\$ _____ for 20 _____ Dues

Recruiter's Name _____

Recruiter's Signature _____

Recruiter's Phone # _____



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date _____

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____

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

Address _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____ (Phone) _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. _____ Department of _____

OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

Has applicant previously been a member of the SAL? _____ Where? _____

I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion and apply for membership.

Email Address _____ Transmit \$ _____ for 20 _____ annual membership dues

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

Mail completed application to Sons of The American Legion department/state headquarters. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. For current detachment address, go to The American Legion department/state headquarters, or visit www.legion.org.

ALA 12/2013



DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date _____

Received From _____

\$ _____ for 20 _____ Dues

Squadron No. _____

Department of _____



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name _____ (First) _____ (M.I.) _____ (Last)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____ Unit # and Location _____

Date of Birth (Required) _____ Birth - 17 18 and over

Have you been a member previously? Yes No

Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18) _____ Date _____

Mail completed application to American Legion Auxiliary department/state headquarters. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. For current department address go to: www.ALforVeterans.org/contact/state_headquarters. Dues include a yearly non-refundable allocation of \$3.40 for American Legion Auxiliary magazine. **Membership pending approval of application.**

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligible through / name of veteran (if living, must be American Legion member) Living Deceased

American Legion Member ID Number _____

Veteran's American Legion Post Name _____ Post # _____ City _____ State _____

Veteran's service:

WWI (4/6)

Merchant Marine (12/7/41-12/31/46)

Vietnam (1/1/68 - 5/7/75)

Panama (12/7/41 - 12/31/46 - Only Eligibility)

War/War on Terrorism (9/11/01 - 3/11/03)

Applicant's relationship to the veteran:

Mother Wife Daughter Sister

Grandmother Granddaughter Great-granddaughter Self

I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.

Post Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification _____ Date _____

ALA 12/2013



DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date _____

Received From _____

\$ _____ for 20 _____ Dues

Recruiter's Name _____

Recruiter's Signature _____

Recruiter's Phone # _____

Mandatory Changes to SAL Preamble and SAL Constitution

November 19, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO:

National Sons of the American Legion Commander,
Clint Bolt

National Sons of the American Legion Adjutant,
Anthony Wright

Internal Affairs SAL Sub-committee Chairman,
George West

National Sons of the American Legion Officers

FROM:

Robert E. Newman, Chairman, Internal Affairs
Commission

SUBJECT:

Mandatory Changes to SAL Preamble and SAL
Constitution

The National Adjutant and the National Judge Advocate has directed National Headquarters staff and program directors to immediately screen, edit, and update all publications that are impacted by the Legion Act and the change to the American Legion Preamble. The staff is on a tight timeline to meet the printing deadline for the 2020 distribution, these changes have to take place immediately. Ken George, The Sons of The American Legion Liaison on the national staff, is charged to review the Sons of The American Legion program publications and make the appropriate changes to the Sons of the American Legion Preamble and membership eligibility criteria in all publications.

This year 2019, marked some remarkable changes to The American Legion and, as a result, have a direct impact on the Sons of The American Legion. At The American Legion Fall Meetings October 16-17, 2019, Resolution 1 was submitted, reviewed, and approved by the Internal Affairs Commission and the National Executive Committee. Upon the approval of Resolution 1, it authorized the changing of the 5th sentence of The American Legion's Preamble; *"To preserve the memories and incidences of our associations in the Great Wars."* *"The Great Wars" has been stricken from the Preamble, and it now reads "To preserve the memories and incidences of our associations in all wars."* The SAL preamble has *"The Great Wars"* in the first and fourth sentences. The first sentence, *"Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants*

of veterans of the Great Wars," and the fourth sentence: *"to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our forefathers in the Great Wars."* In both sentences, *"The Great Wars"* must be removed and replaced with *"All Wars."*

Additional changes made this year was the expansion of membership eligibility from the "LEGION Act" that was passed by the 116th Congress. Instead of eight periods of membership eligibility, there are now only two. Those periods are, World War I April 6, 1917- November 11, 1918, and December 7, 1941, to date. For The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion, this greatly expands the membership eligibility potential and also requires the Son's membership application to be changed. Currently it states: *"All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I, World War II, and Korean War, the Vietnam War, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, and the Persian Gulf War, during the delimiting periods set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion."* The new verbiage should be as follows: *"All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I, and December 7, 1941, to date, as set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion."*

I am asking the Sons of the American Legion to also publish these changes to all detachments, so these changes get to the membership as soon as possible so we are in compliance with the direction of the National Organization.

If you so choose as a matter of general housekeeping of the SAL constitution and bylaws, you can put forth resolutions at the 2020 Spring Meetings for historical purposes. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ken George at 317-630-1376 or kgeorge@legion.org.



Robert E. Newman, Chairman
Internal Affairs Commission



Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Ohio

May Detachment Raffle

Winner to be drawn May 17, 2017



GRAND PRIZE



**Pit Boss Copperhead Series
3 Digital
Electric Smoker**

Can be operated by phone using iOS or Android app.

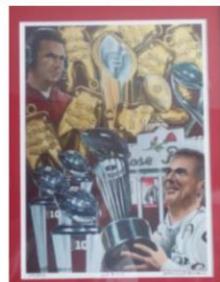
SECOND PRIZE



**Smoke Hollow
Digital Electric Smoker**



THIRD PRIZE



**Urban Myer
Commemorative Print**

**S.A.L. Detachment of Ohio
Grand Prize**

Pit Boss Digital Electric Smoker
2nd Place

Smoke Hollow Digital Electric Smoker
3rd Place

Urban Meyer Commemorative Print
Drawing May 17, 2020



Need not be present to win
\$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00



NEED A TICKET?



Cut out this ticket, write your name
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Since 1919
HIO
Gifts for Yanks



Members of Squadron 200 and Squadron 613 from District 3 with their families on Christmas morning 2019 at the Dayton VA hospital.



Sons from across the state visited with and distributed gifts to veterans at the Chillicothe VA hospital on Christmas Day, December 25, 2019. Post 62 hosted a breakfast for the volunteers afterwards, where over \$10,000 was raised for the Gifts for the Yanks program.

Proud Possessors of a
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