A Message from the Detachment Commander

My Fellow Sons, a few weeks ago, Bill Towns wrote an opening paragraph regarding our membership. He opened with this statement, “As we wake up this morning, go to and read the latest SAL and AL membership reports and Cleared lists for Officers forms and Consolidated Reports a couple of items will JUMP OUT and SLAP YOU right in the pride.”

While we are slowly getting Squadrons cleared, it has taken way too long! “If you belong to one of these squadrons please follow up as you will not receive your membership cards until these forms are received and filed.” Consider this for next year...these forms are not difficult and take very little time before, during, or after a March or April meeting.

Now that the Detachment of Ohio has the ability to process memberships online, we need Squadrons to join the ‘mySAL.org’ website. There can and will be training available for those who ask. You have no real idea how easy this will be for your Squadron. I am sure Adjutant Scott Thornton will address this later in this newsletter.

I read a report from the Children and Youth Conference this past September 21. Here are a couple points from that report from Chairman Bill Clancy (NY).

“Challenge every squadron to host an event that supports an American Legion children and youth program, such as the Child Welfare Foundation or Temporary Financial Assistance program, or other programs supported by The American Legion and SAL such as the Special Olympics, Children’s Organ Transplant Association, etc. Squadrons are to publicize the event in their local media and get inactive squadrons to participate. “Why? Because if you do something for kids it builds excitement. If you build excitement, it helps our organization grow.”

He and SAL National Commander Clint Bolt hope the outcome of these events creates more squadron excitement, gets kids into their local posts along with their parents who may be American Legion Family eligible, boosts the American Legion Family image and increases donations.
“Most importantly, the more kids that we have come through our doors, touch our programs, they will be inspired to a life of service to community, state and nation.” “If we build our children and youth activities, we’re not only helping kids, but we’ll be helping ourselves,” Clancy said in his final remarks. “We’ll help growth across the entire American Legion Family and determine a bright future ahead.”

While things are not happening as I had hoped so far this year, I remain optimistic with the hope that you will step up at Mid-Winter and Detachment Convention with great reports that we should be reading about now and upcoming events. I guess it falls on me to be sending out personal emails to the Chairman and District Officers with my concerns. With us being grown men, I assumed we knew how to do what needed done.

I am doing one last push for photos at the Fall DEC on October 19th for my calendar project. If you have any, bring them on a thumb drive so that I may download them on to my laptop. I believe this calendar will be a great tool for Squadrons.

In conclusion, Nancy and I hope to see you over the holidays and if you have an upcoming event, drop me an email and see if it works in my schedule.

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
First Vice-Commander

Membership. As of September 29, Ohio was in 28th place at 16.5%. Not the best but not the worst. District Commanders and First Vice-Commanders, let’s get the word out to your Squadrons to get those cards in. There are still a few squadrons that still haven’t sent in Consolidated reports. At a meeting at one of Squadrons I found out from the advisor that the Legion sent the reports. Obviously, there has been some miscommunication that needs to be corrected. We need to back check if the Legion’s has been sent; could this be the problem?

Hooves. In the past few months we’ve had three weekend retreats. Two mixed groups and one for female veterans. Our reach has extended, with veterans from Florida, California, Wisconsin, Tennessee, and around Ohio. I’ve had the opportunity to spend time with many of them and made some new friends. Once again, I want to thank my Legion family for your continued support. Many lives have been changed and families reunited with your help. HOOVES will have a new listing on the Legion website with access to our website coming soon.

I’m looking forward to the visits I have in the coming months.

For God and Country,

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

Second Vice-Commander

Good day everyone.

Hope we are all doing our part for the State raffle. As of now the raffle is paid for and anything turned in now till October 19, the day of the drawing, is all profit.

The second raffle will be announced the day of the drawing and the drawing for it will be at the closing of the Summer Convention which will Sunday May 17.

Dennis Albright, First Vice-Commander
SAL2ndvice@OhioLegion.com
gubert71@yahoo.com

From The Chaplain

Wow! Where did the summer go? I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer.

The Detachment of Ohio Delegates have returned from National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana filled with information to bring back to your Districts and Squadrons.

I’m looking forward to traveling throughout the Detachment visiting the Districts and see how they are moving forward this membership year.

Please remember our military personnel deployed and stateside protecting this great country. Please remember our veterans and SAL brothers that are shut in and can’t move around very well.

If you have any request for me to send cards out, please contact me. I hope Commander Kessler and Detachment have a successful year.

Dave Dilts, Chaplain
(740) 455-2187 – home
(740) 319-1255 – cell
SALChaplain@OhioLegion.com
DavidLeeDilts@Hotmail.com
Adjutant’s Notes

Squadron Paperwork – Not Cleared Status
The first target date for the 2020 membership drive was August 1. All Squadrons should have filed their 2020 Officer Certification form and their 2019 Consolidated Report form. Most achieved this goal, but several have not. Here are the current details of the Squadrons with a little work left to do in this area.

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Congratulations to Districts 12 and 13 for being clear! For everyone else, please do your best to get these items handled.

2019 National Convention
The 48th Annual Convention of the SAL is now over, and we have a new National Commander; Clint Bolt of Catlett, VA. Richard “Doc” Pfeiffer of Angola, IN is the new National Vice-Commander for the Central Region.

Five members from Ohio have been appointed to serve on national commissions and committees this year:

- Finance – ANEC Steve Honigfort
- Legislative – CDR Bernie Kessler
- CWF – PDC Jon Coakley, II
- Membership - PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr.
- Cmdr’s Advisory – PNC Bob McBride

PDC Vrabel’s appointment comes in advance of 2020-2021 when he will be the Central Region’s National Vice-Commander.

Congratulations to all on continuing to serve the organization and represent Ohio at the national level!

Online Squadron Membership Processing Now Available in Ohio
It’s finally happened! On September 16, Department Headquarters received notice from National Headquarters that all Squadrons in the Detachment of Ohio may utilize the online membership processing feature of their mySAL website.

This means that Ohio’s Squadrons may now submit their membership renewals, transfers, and new member details online with an electronic check transfer from their bank account to National Headquarters in the same amount you would send to Detachment Headquarters for each member. (National will transfer the Detachment per capita amount back to Delaware on a regular basis.) Until June 1, 2020 the amount will remain $7.00 per member – as of that date you will need to send $10.00 per member to reflect the increase in National per capita just approved at the Convention in Indianapolis.

This will greatly speed up the processing of membership cards for everyone, and it means that a member’s dues payment will get posted more quickly since the official recognition of current paid-up status is based upon National depositing the payment and posting it to his record.

Squadrons using the online membership processing feature will no longer need to send the left 2/3 of the membership card (the National and Detachment parts) to Detachment Headquarters. Simply complete and sign the member’s part and give it to him – you can destroy the two left-hand parts.

There are two requirements to use the online submission feature:

1. Your Squadron must be registered with a mySAL account (see the Application form in the SAL section of the Forms page on ohiolegion.com if you don’t have one).
2. Your Squadron must have its own checking or savings account for electronic transfers (or utilize the post’s account if the Squadron does not have a separate one).
We have posted an Online Membership Processing Guide to the SAL section of the Forms page on www.ohiolegion.com as well with helpful information about setting up your Squadron to submit membership batches online and walking you through the actual handling of online batches.

I encourage all squadrons to take advantage of this valuable feature.

Fall D.E.C. Meeting – October 19, 2019
The Detachment Executive Committee will meet at 10:00 am at Department Headquarters, 60 Big Run Rd., Delaware, Ohio 43015. Normal mileage reimbursement policies apply.

All elected and appointed Detachment Officers, Commission and Committee Chairmen, District Commanders, and District First Vice-Commanders are required to attend.

I would ask everyone who will be giving a report at the D.E.C. meeting to file a copy with me (electronically, if possible) to facilitate the preparation of the minutes in a timely fashion. This really makes things much easier.

Leadership for Next Year...
In closing, it’s not too early to be thinking about running for an office next year or submitting your name for consideration as a commission or committee member on the state and/or national levels. Contact National Executive Committeeman Buster Sutterlin for more information.

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,

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

National Executive Committeeman

Hello Everyone,

It has been a busy summer with this weather being great. In a couple months we’ll wish we had this weather!

I have been out and about and participated in Loudonville’s flag disposal, attended The American Legion Department of Ohio convention in Toledo, marched in Bellville’s parade and attended their Veterans’ Appreciation activities, attended Ashland’s 100th Anniversary celebration, and attended the Sons of The American Legion National Convention in Indianapolis.

There are some things I would like to share from the National Convention. The Children and Youth award in the central division went to Squadron 8 Wellington, OH. There were two awards for Child Welfare Foundation. Ohio received the awards for the Central region largest donation and the largest per capita donation by region.

The new National Commander, Clint Bolt, was installed. Central Vice-Commander Richard "Doc" Pfeiffer from IN was also installed. As a side note, Blair Miles, formerly of Wellington who now lives in AL, was installed as Vice-Commander for the Southern Region.

Those who received/serving appointments are as follows: CWF Committee Jon Coakley, Finance Commission (2020) Steve Honigfort, Membership Committee Jeff Vrabel, Sr., and Legislative Commission (2022) Bernie Kessler. Congratulations to these appointees, they will be good representatives for Ohio. It was good to see those who were able to attend the national convention.

Now is the time for you to consider if you would like to serve on a national commission/committee for the 2020-2021 year. If you have an interest in serving, please complete the form and turn it in to me by the DEC meeting on Friday night at the Mid-Winter Conference. This form can be obtained from the website or by contacting me.

Our next event will be the NEC fall conference meetings the weekend of Oct. 11 - 13, 2019.

Until the next time...

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

With the National Convention past us, we start our new membership year and our new National Officers are in place. It is a time to make new friends in our organization and work towards expanding Ohio’s influence and ideas to others. Support for our future National Vice-Commander Jeff Vrabel, Sr. is now also coming to the forefront. Jeff will need our help in his fundraising efforts to tackle all his expenses. Jeff will represent us well and gain Ohio some long overdue recognition.

Let’s work on membership to grow the Detachment Ohio. With new eligibilities in place for The American Legion, we should show an increase in new members. Signing one American Legion member could gain us several SAL members.

On the PR front, let’s show off our fundraising events to the public and other Squadrons through newsletters and newspapers, etc. Showing these different functions proves we do much to help the many, many of those in need. It also shows we are active and striving to make this world a better place, especially for our Veterans to whom we owe so much.

Patching up old friendships and “burying the hatchet” so to speak to bring back members who have become discouraged by misunderstandings that need to be put to rest. We need to work together to grow the Detachment of Ohio. No one is perfect and we all make mistakes, so let us “Get Er Done” OHIO.

For God and Country,

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

As Sons of the American Legion members, the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the American Legion and subsequently The American Legion Auxiliary has brought renewed interest and pride our organization. Be you a new member or a member since birth like all my grandsons, this year has brought National Constitutional changes which have members talking.

As of the National Convention held in Indianapolis, Indiana August 2019, now any veteran which served and honorably discharged since December 1941 is now eligible for membership in The American Legion. This change opens eligibility for the Sons of The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary also and a chance to reach deeper into our communities for new members and new ideas. Please reach out and welcome these new members and their ideas!

After many years of trying to find a place in the Legion Family for the Male Spouse of a veteran to honor his spouses service, The American Legion Auxiliary changed one word in their National Constitution. By Changing the word "wife" to Spouse of a veteran, we can now welcome the male spouse of a veteran into The American Legion Auxiliary, and the Legion Family.

(Just a personal note on the Auxiliary change) We have always recognized and honored the Dual Member. Whether it be a woman Legionnaire also serving the Auxiliary or a Male Legionnaire honoring his parents service as Sons Member, we now have Male veterans Honoring the Spouses service by joining the American Legion Auxiliary. With the inclusion of The Sons of The American Legion and The AL Riders we should see an increase of Triple Members, and who will be the first Quad Member? Meaning a member which qualifies as a Legionnaire, Honors the spouses’ service as an Auxiliary member, Honors the parents service as a Sons Member, and the love of riding and adventure as an American Legion Rider! And who is going to design the Pin?

Another notable change we will need to be ready for is the National Dues increase form the Sons of The American Legion.
A continued from page 6

Starting June 1, 2020 all squadrons will be required to submit and additional $3.00 when membership is transmitted. In Ohio that will mean that for each member you will be charged $10.00 a member for detachment and national per capita plus whatever your district per capita is.

These changes will require all squadrons and districts to examine their Constitution and Bylaws. Membership Eligibility and Dues Articles in particular. While there also look over your Annual Meeting section and be sure that you are compliant with the Detachment of Ohio’s May 1st deadline for the reporting of the years Consolidated Report Form and the Officers Certification Form. These forms are NOT OPTIONAL, and you WILL NOT RECEIVE your squadrons membership cards until they are both filed. Be sure to have your newly revised Constitution and Bylaws reviewed by the Detachment Judge Advocate.

These and other resolutions are submitted and voted on by Post, Squadron, and Unit Members just like you. I encourage you to learn more about your organization and help form the next 100 years by attending an upcoming District, State, and / or National Meeting.

Thanks for all you do!

PDC Bill Towns, Judge Advocate
docbill@neo.rr.com
SALuditeAdvocate@OhioLegion.com

AMERICANISM COMMISSION
Luther Liggett Jr., Chairman
LLiggett@Columbus.RR.com

Buckeye Boys State

Hello!

My name is John Vrzal, and I have served the American Legion Buckeye Boys State program as a counselor for 8 Years. Shortly before the end of this year’s program, Cmdr. Kessler was gracious enough to put my name forward to serve as his Buckeye Boys State Chairman and was subsequently confirmed at the Summer DEC meeting. Additionally, I serve as the 1st Vice Commander and Boys State Recruiting Chairman of Squadron 725. For those of you who don’t know, Squadron 725 consists entirely of past and present Boys State counselors who are dedicated to assisting the American Legion in producing the best program possible for the delegates.

The 2019 American Legion Buckeye Boys State program has left us with several successes to celebrate and with a few opportunities for growth. I am happy to report that the Sons have reached new heights in terms of level of support. This includes an increased presence at the program by SAL Members, as well as, new records in SAL sponsored delegates to Boys State. I wish to thank each one of you who assisted the program this year on behalf of the delegates. I know how much they truly appreciate everything you do for them. It is a pleasure to see that these young men are given an opportunity to develop crucial leadership skills and lifelong friendships.

I firmly believe that SAL members can provide vital assistance creating further growth of the program. As many of you may have heard, attendance at the program has fallen since last year. This is not due to a lack of financial support; it is an opportunity for greater recruitment. Delegates in recent years have become inundated with opportunities in sports camps, organizational camps, and college prep courses. At the same time, Post contacts with schools are moving on or retiring. This has left us with a situation in which funding has exceeded the number of delegates who attended, even after exhausting our list of alternates. I believe the SAL can be instrumental in recruiting a greater number of delegates and alternates for Boys State by re-establishing a Boys State partnership with the post, squadron, and local schools. This will be our fundamental goal over the next year, and I invite you to join us in ensuring that as many young men as possible can experience the program!

If this seems like an insurmountable task, please know that it absolutely can and in fact will be accomplished! I have seen it in my own Squadron which has grown from sending two or three delegates to sending ten last year and fifteen for 2020. If you are at a post that has been looking for a way to become more involved with Boys State, but is having trouble with how to get started, we are here to help!
In an effort to make establishing a Boys State partnership a little easier; we have generated sample materials, letters introducing the program to local schools, etc. which are readily available.

Additionally, Squadron 725 Cmdr. Stephan Oechsle (So104402@ohio.edu) and myself are always available for advice on how to get started, how to increase participation, or even how to volunteer at the program.

If you or your Squadron would like to be more involved in the Boys State Program, please reach out to us!

John Vrzal, Chairman
(419) 930-7775
VrzalJD@MiamiOH.edu

Legislative Update

Hi!

With the passing of the bill so that more Veterans can join The American Legion and get benefits, let’s push hard and sign them up!

PDC Craig Smith, Chairman
craigsmith1958@gmail.com

Charitable Electronic Gaming Update
Contact Legislators NOW!
Hearings will begin soon.

Ohio House Bill 282 would permit charitable electronic instant bingo at Ohio’s veterans posts. But the legislation faces opposition from those who don’t want to see vets have their own electronic gaming system.

Veterans need to contact their Ohio House members and urge their support for House Bill 282.

If you are receiving this email, you are a veteran or friend of a veteran and your voice needs to be heard.

The Ohio House Finance Committee will have hearings on HB 282 likely in October. It is important that you contact your legislators before hearings begin...so they know VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 282!
GAMING continued from page 8

- Gary Scherer, District 92, 614-644-7928
  rep92@ohiohouse.gov
- Jack Cera, District 96, 614-466-3735,
  rep96@ohiohouse.gov
- Jamie Callender, District 61, 614-644-6074
  rep61@ohiohouse.gov
- Jay Edwards, District 94, 614-466-2158
  rep94@ohiohouse.gov
- Jim Butler, District 41, 614-644-6008
  rep41@ohiohouse.gov
- Jim Hoops, District 81, 614-466-3760,
  rep81@ohiohouse.gov
- John Patterson, District 99, 614-466-1405
  rep99@ohiohouse.gov
- John Rogers, District 60, 614-466-7251
  rep60@ohiohouse.gov
- Jon Cross, District 83, 614-466-3819
  rep83@ohiohouse.gov
- Louis Blessing III, District 29, 614-466-9091
  rep29@ohiohouse.gov
- Mark Romanchuk, District 2, 614-466-5802
  rep02@ohiohouse.gov
- Michael J. O’Brien, District 64, 614-466-5358
  rep64@ohiohouse.gov
- Michael Skindell, District 13, 614-466-5921
  rep13@ohiohouse.gov
- P. Scott Lipps, District 62, 614-644-6023
  rep62@ohiohouse.gov
- Paula Hicks-Hudson, District 44, 614-466-1401
  rep44@ohiohouse.gov
- Phil Plummer, District 40, 614-644-8051
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- Rick Carfagna, District 68, 614-466-1431
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- Rick Perales, District 73, 614-644-6020
  rep73@ohiohouse.gov
- Sara Carruthers, District 51, 614-644-6721
  rep51@ohiohouse.gov
- Scott Oelslager, District 48, 614-752-2438
  rep48@ohiohouse.gov
- Shane Wilkin, District 91, 614-466-3506
  rep91@ohiohouse.gov
- Stephanie Howse, District 11, 614-466-1414
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- Stephen Hambley, District 69, 614-466-8140
  rep69@ohiohouse.gov
- Thomas West, District 49, 614-466-8030
  rep49@ohiohouse.gov
- Tracy Richardson, District 86, 614-466-8147
  rep86@ohiohouse.gov

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- Speaker of the House - Larry Householder
  District 72, 614-466-2500
  rep72@ohiohouse.gov
- Speaker Pro Tempore - Jim Butler
  District 41, 614-644-6008
  rep41@ohiohouse.gov
- Majority Floor Leader - Bill Seitz
  District 30, 614-466-8258
  rep30@ohiohouse.gov
- Assistant Majority Floor Leader - Anthony DeVitis
  District 36, 614-466-1790
  rep36@ohiohouse.gov
- Majority Whip - Jay Edwards, District 94
  614-466-2158, rep94@ohiohouse.gov
- Assistant Majority Whip - Laura Lanese, District 23
  614-466-9690, rep23@ohiohouse.gov
- Minority Leader - Emilla Strong Sykes
  District 34, 614-466-3100
  rep34@ohiohouse.gov
- Assistant Minority Leader - Kristin Boggs, District 18,
  614-466-1896, rep18@ohiohouse.gov
- Minority Whip - Paula Hicks-Hudson, District 44,
  614-466-1401, rep44@ohiohouse.gov
- Assistant Minority Whip - Richard Brown, District 20,
  614-644-6002, rep20@ohiohouse.gov

HOUSE VETERANS CAUCUS

- Laura Lanese, District 23, 614-466-9690,
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- Jim Butler, District 41, 614-644-6008,
  rep41@ohiohouse.gov
- Adam Miller, District 17, 614-644-6005,
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- Haraz N. Ghanbari, District 3, 614-466-8104,
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- Rick Perales, District 73, 614-644-6020,
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- Michael Sheehy, District 46, 614-466-1418,
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- Scott Wiggam, District 1, 614-466-1474,
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- Lisa Sobecki, District 45, 614-644-6017,
  rep45@ohiohouse.gov

see GAMING page 10
CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMISSION

Being new to this position I continue to gain knowledge about the position of Chairman of the Children & Youth Commission. There are three funds beneath the C & Y Commission, and I have three competent chairmen for each. They are Dewey Kuhl for the Child Welfare Fund; Adam Jones for the Special Olympics and Adam Budner I have good faith that they will take care of the responsibilities to their positions so that they and their funds will prosper.

I recently attended the National Children & Youth Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. It was a very informative conference and I gained some valuable insight about the C & Y from the origins of the program as to what it is all about and to whom it all can serve. While I was at the conference there was two presentations from groups that had received funding from the Child Welfare Fund I am very pleased to report that the funds from CWF are being used in a very positive way and the children impacted really gain from the program that they are involved in. I would like to thank the screening committee for the CWF grants that they are doing a good job in dispersing the funds to worthy groups and projects.

In closing I would like to remind all that although there are many funds that we need to keep up with our donations please remember our Children & Youth as a big part of your donation dollars.

Thank You
Bruce Forshey, Chairman
bruce.forshey@gmail.com

Child Welfare Foundation

The Detachment of Ohio was kept busy during the Children and Youth portion of the recent National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion in Indianapolis. Delegation Chairman Dale Anderson II and I went on stage four times to accept awards for Ohio.

see CWF page 11
The Detachment received two awards for our per capita giving to CWF. My own Squadron 8 in Wellington received an award for total donations to Children & Youth in the Central region. (Nice job guys!) And finally, Dale and I presented a ceremonial $1,000,000 check as an acknowledgment of Ohio passing one million dollars in donations to CWF. It was received with mixed reactions, but I think they got the message that Ohio is number one!

The Child Welfare Foundation is currently evaluating applications for grants for 2020. They should announce their selections by mid-October. Hopefully, I will have the results for our next DEC meeting and the next Salute.

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

Child Welfare Foundation President Dennis Boland (FL) and National Vice-Commander Central Matt Christie (IL) present Commander Dale Anderson (OH) a Certificate of appreciation in recognition of the Detachment of Ohio’s donation putting the national Sons total donations at over Eight Million Dollars for CWF.
Children’s Miracle Network

Greetings,

Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals treat over 15 million children each year for every disease and condition imaginable. The Children’s Miracle Network raises funds and awareness for CMN Hospitals across the country. Six of these hospitals are right here in the state of Ohio. Funds that are raised are kept in the communities they are raised in to help with hospital stays, research, and equipment.

In the coming months, you can donate to the CMN Hospital in your community in a variety of ways.

During the month of October, purchase a Miracle Balloon at Great Clips and receive a $2 coupon for use at your next visit. During November and December, you can round up the change when you visit your local Ace Hardware store and those donations will go to your local CMN Hospital.

One of the CMN Partners is Miracle Network Dance Marathon www.dancemarathon.childrensmiraclenetworkhospitals.org. They have donated over $34.5 million to CMN in 2019. You can donate to a local dance marathon by visiting their website and finding a college or K-12 school that is participating. The following dance marathons are happening in Ohio – Cardinal Mooney High School (Youngstown) Oct. 13; University of Findlay Nov. 2; Capital University Nov. 9; University of Cincinnati Nov. 16 and Wright State University Nov. 16.

If your Squadron, Post, or 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

PDC Adam Jones, Chairman
glimmer_man72@yahoo.com

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

As proud possessors of a priceless heritage our mission to our Veterans is clear. The Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission (VA&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. This is the mission statement of the national VA&R Commission. We must do our best here in Ohio to follow this statement. I am often asked “what can I do?” To begin with, you can go to the national website (legion.org) and find the Sons of The American Legion under the “About” tab. From there find the committees and commissions area. It has the document I am getting this information from. It is called the VA&R 2019-2020 Mission Plan. It is full of great information to guide you to a successful VA&R program.

I am looking forward to working again this year with Gerry Palmer, Robert Showalter, and Robert Carson. I am sure they will be bringing good information about our Veteran’s programs as they have in the past.

Finally, after a few issues were worked out we have now been fully recognized in the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) program with accredited representatives and deputy representatives. I will be working with our new representatives for training soon.

Keep up the good work you do as we strive to serve those who served for us.

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

see VA&R page 13

The Ohio Salute – July 2019
VA&R NORTH REPORT
Robert Showalter, VA&R North Chairman
roshow2850@yahoo.com
(419) 307-1259

VA&R SOUTH REPORT
Hi everyone! Happy fall to everyone!

A few things are going on down south today. We had Chillicothe, Ross County Stand down at our city park. Our totals are down some from last year. There’s a lot of people that won’t come to let us help them. VITI & RCVC served food for everyone. Some gave away toothbrushes, toothpaste, and mouthwash. We had big tent for clothes (churches, and other people donated them). I didn’t get to walk around but we had about 30 vendors there.

I finally got my certification from Washington, DC for VAVS at the VA, so now I’m legal. LOL.

Not much more to say, so see you at the DEC meeting

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,

As we have a new membership year well underway, we must remember to let people know what we are doing and what we have done to promote the Sons of The American Legion and The American Legion Family. As a reminder, all Officers and Commission/Committee Chairmen should be submitting articles in a timely manner for inclusion in this publication. District Commanders are also encouraged to submit information regarding events, fundraisers, etc. that occur within their respective Districts. You will have to ask the Squadrons to send to you, or to send directly to SALNews@ohio.egion.org, copying you on the email.

“I didn’t know I was supposed to send something in” is not a valid excuse. The deadlines were announced at the Post-Convention DEC, and they are listed in the newsletter. Let’s make sure that we continue to make this the best publication in the entire organization, as well as the best in the entire American Legion Family!

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

If you have questions, please feel free to contact either Mr. Kennedy or me, and we will provide you answers.

The newsletter will continue to be posted on both the Detachment website and the Detachment Facebook page. We would also like to start emailing the publication, so look for that in the future.

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,

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

The Ohio SALute – July 2019
American Legion Family members set up and recruited new members at the Toledo Air Show in July.

The Vietnam Moving Wall visited Wellington, Ohio on July 11-15, 2019. The opening ceremony with left Jerry Logan and right Carey “Dewey” Kuhl looking on after they and many others assisted in the set-up of the wall. Wellington Squadron #8 and Amherst Squadron #118 were among the sponsors of The Moving Wall.

Submitted by PDC Buster Sutterlin, D-5 Sq. 257

Marching in the Bellville 4th of July parade is L - R Commander Bernie Kessler, NEC Buster Sutterlin, Mark Behm D-5 Finance Officer, and D-5 Commander Time Conway.

Submitted by PDC Buster Sutterlin, D-5 Sq. 257
The Ohio SALute – July 2019

Officers who brought greetings to The American Legion Auxiliary at the Department Convention. L to R PDC Bill “Buster” Sutterlin, NEC; Doug Hancock, 1st Vice Commander; IPDC Dale Anderson, II; and Bernie Kessler, Detachment Commander.

Submitted by PDC Buster Sutterlin, D-5 Sq. 257

At the Bellville Veterans’ Appreciation events on 7/4/19 there was a group of Past Detachment Commanders in attendance. L - R Bill “Buster” Sutterlin (2004-05), Rob Brewer (2007-08), Richard Pohl (1990-91), and Craig Smith (1991-92).

Submitted by PDC Buster Sutterlin, D-5 Sq. 257

The 24th Annual John Taylor Memorial SAL 5th District Golf Scramble was held on Saturday, September 28. The event was hosted by Squadron 83 Sandusky and was played at nearby Woussett Golf Course. 80 members of the American Legion Family from the Fighting Fifth District and around Ohio were in attendance on a beautiful early fall day that didn't see rain until the last groups were coming off the course.

Winners on the day were the Squadron 83 team of Todd Kauffman, Jeff Lewis, David Lewis and Ryan Griggs, who cruised the 18-hole layout with a 12 under score of 58 and earned 3 of the 4 outstanding skins on the leader board. Winning a scorecard playoff for second place was the team of Joe Hughes, Randal Adkins, Larry Collins and Mark Conger, also from host Squadron 83, with a score of 60.

Be sure to mark your calendars for September 26th, 2020, when the 25th Annual John Taylor Memorial Golf Scramble will be celebrated by the SAL 5th District!

The Squadron 83, Sandusky, team of Todd Kauffman, Jeff Lewis, David Lewis and Ryan Griggs, took home the championship of the 24th Annual John Taylor Memorial SAL 5th District Golf Scramble on September 28th.

Seventh District

Detachment First Vice-Commander Doug Hancock, PDC Adam Jones, and Detachment Second Vice-Commander Dennis Albright at attended the Seventh District Conference in August at Circleville American Legion Post 134.
On Saturday, September 7, Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 held its First Annual Car & Bike Show at the War Memorial Building Post 15 Home. Area band, “The Locals” provided the entertainment, Squadron 15 members cooked on the grill, and a great time was had by all. Special thanks to everyone who attended, and we are looking forward to having you joins us next year.

Ninth District Commander Jeff Vrabel, Jr. and Detachment Chaplain Dave Dilts during the invocation.

On Sunday, September 8, Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 hosted the Dynamic Ninth District Fall Conference. Detachment Chaplain was the guest speaker, and a very informative meeting was held. During the meeting, Past Department Commander and Squadron 700 member Jim Campbell was presented two awards from the Squadron 15 Car & Bike Show. Commander Campbell won the Oldest Bike and Cleanest Bike awards. Commander Vrabel was also presented new headwear and a fine notebook for use during his term as District Commander by Chaplain Dilts.

Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 member Kenneth Vrabel participated in the 9/11 Memorial Ceremonies at First Responders Park in Hilliard, Ohio.

Ninth District Commander Jeff Vrabel, Jr. and Detachment Chaplain Dave Dilts during the invocation.
The Ohio Salute – July 2019

Tenth District

AMERICAN LEGION
DON V. CROSS
POST 357
MINERVA, OHIO

Don V. Cross Squadron 357 Adjutant Bill Towns presents the Minerva Family Fun Day Prize winner, Michelle Arroyo, a $50.00 Kishman’s IGA Gift Card.

Along with a chance for gift card, Squadron 357 distributed pens, pencils, Pledge Activity Books, US Flags, stickers and treats along with American Legion Family Brochures, all packed neatly in an American Legion Child Welfare Foundation bag to families with students going back to school.

IMPORTANT VETERANS UPDATE
July 19, 2019
New State Budget is Beneficial to Ohio Veterans

COLUMBUS – With the approving signature of Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, House Bill 166 became law yesterday (July 18, 2019) and signaled the onset of the state’s general operating budget for FY 2020-21.

“I am proud that this budget will significantly impact the lives of Ohioans through its unprecedented investments,” said Governor DeWine. “It lays the groundwork for a better Ohio for generations to come. This budget will lead to healthier children, stronger families, safer communities, an enhanced workforce, and a more prosperous Ohio, while also providing significant tax relief for every Ohio taxpayer and regulatory relief for Ohio businesses.”

The budget – which was approved with bipartisan support by both the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate – also positively impacts Ohio’s veterans, especially those who reside in the Ohio Veterans Homes in Sandusky and Georgetown. Both Homes are operated by the Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS).

In the newly approved budget, funding for the Veterans Homes will increase from about $29.3 million to more than $41.4 million in FY 2020 and up to $45.4 million in FY 2021, which represents a two-year increase of more than $28 million.

Over the past decade, the Ohio Veterans Homes have taken on rising operating costs and a litany of new federal regulations. The increased funding for the Veterans Homes received consistent support during the five-month budget process from legislators and staff alike.

“With every dollar spent, two federal dollars from VA or other sources are pulled into Ohio, making it a solid investment for the taxpayers,” said ODVS Director Debrah Ashenhurst. “Every penny invested into the Veterans Homes goes toward care for our men and women of service, and fulfilling a state’s promise to those informed, injured and aging heroes of Ohio.”

The budget also includes increases of $37,214 for the Veterans Bonus administrative fund and $10,000 for the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in the new biennium as well as an additional $217,438 spread across the state’s 13 recognized veteran service organizations for service work.

Also of note, a $100,000 increase was added in during Senate deliberations, which will go directly to Save a Warrior foundation – an organization that addresses issues related to Post Traumatic Stress.

see BUDGET page 18
“Ohio veterans served selflessly at home, abroad, and in our communities. Ohio’s new budget demonstrates our enduring commitment to veterans and provides the Department of Veterans Services the resources to continue to serve the nearly 800,000 former service members who live in Ohio, especially the residents of the Ohio Veterans Homes,” Director Ashenhurst said. “The vast majority of the resources approved for our department go to the care of our wartime veterans. Ohio has supported the veterans of every American conflict since the Civil War. Care has changed, but our commitment has never wavered.

“The Ohio Department of Veterans Services is motivated by the leadership and vision of Gov. Mike DeWine and Lt. Gov. Husted. We are grateful for the commitment of Speaker Householder and President Obhof, and the vital support of the entire General Assembly. We are resolved to use Ohioans’ tax dollars wisely as we continue to serve those who have served.”

The state also greenlighted a $3-million transcranial magnetic stimulation pilot program that Mental Health and Addiction Services (MHAS) will operate in conjunction with ODVS. Additionally, MHAS is authorized to spend up to $500,000 in each fiscal year to support suicide prevention efforts through a study that focuses on suicide rates in Ohio.

The budget requires the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education to collaborate with ODVS to develop veterans’ preference guidelines for institutions of higher learning.

The Ohio Senate also noted earlier today that the new operating budget, “increases funding for various veterans’ organizations, including innovative programs focused on groundbreaking research for brain trauma and other mental health concerns.”

Other Language Involving Veterans
The budget also:

- renames the Ohio War Orphans Scholarship to the Ohio War Orphans and Severely Disabled Veterans' Children Scholarship. That program allows for $975,850 to be allocated in FY 2020 to the Ashland University Military and Veterans Resource Center Project.
- requires that $250,000 of the transferred cash from the GRF to the Legal Aide Fund in each fiscal year to be distributed by the Ohio Access to Justice Founda-

About the Ohio Veterans Homes
In 1888, the citizens of Ohio established a home for Ohio's honorably discharged Civil War veterans who, due to disease, wounds or other causes, were unable to earn a living. On Nov. 19 of that year, the first 17 men were admitted to the Ohio Soldiers and Sailors Home, known today as the Ohio Veterans Home. In 2003, the state’s mission expanded with the opening of the Georgetown Home in Brown County.

Together, the two Homes, provide care for more than 800 veterans, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. OVH residents currently range in age from 46 to 101.

For media relations or to schedule an interview, contact:

Jeff Rapp, Chief Communications Officer
Ohio Department of Veterans Services
Jeffrey.Rapp@dvs.ohio.gov
614.728.0235

“The Trusted Voice for Veterans”
77 South High Street
7th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

614 | 644.0898
614 | 728.9498 F
www.OhioVets.gov
Convention Screening

Hello Everyone,

Now is the time to start gathering information if you would like to host the 2022 Detachment Convention. While this information doesn’t have to be submitted until May, it is good to start planning. Time seems to fly by so fast. Have a great fall!

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
PDC Bill Towns, Chairman
docbill@neo.rr.com
saljudgeadvocate@ohiolegion.com

So You Want To Become a Leader.
Many of you have seen speakers, attended meetings, classes, or rally’s and said, I can do that, but I’m afraid or don’t know how. One of the first things a leader MUST do is to educate themselves. This needs to be done at the most basic grassroots level, in terms of the SAL. This means at your squadron level, as these are your formative years. You pay your dues here. Finding your PASSION. Passion takes time and work. It takes that little voice pushing you forward. Educate yourself on the many aspects of our organization. You need to get on committees and maybe lead some of those committees, Then, become a force in the committee’s success. This means following thru with finalizing the results, reporting to your squadron, post, district and detachment. This is the power of reporting. Thus, building a reputation of dependability. This holds true in every office you should hold. This does not mean being a success on one project, winning a reward at the detachment and then decide to run for an office.

Now, after learning the basics. You can refine your skills, within the offices of your squadron. This is part of the long road to accountability. Holding your membership to a higher standard. Recognizing your membership for THEIR work and accomplishments. Start learning that their trust in you, means a lot to your future support. YOU, report to your Post, not just the numbers, but what and who helped make it a success. Report to your district and state with all info that is required. You now are building your name. NEXT attend your district meeting and listen, take notes and volunteer when needed. Your district will want to get to know you, because of your actions and reporting. Follow up with your squadron. You are now becoming a teacher and helping develop your squadrons’ reputation as leader into district. After a while in district, conversations will develop about future leadership for the district, so will you be ready to step up. Your reputation will proceed you, so be careful. This will be a tipping point for many. Are you a party guy that is easy to find because you always in the bar, drinking! Being social meaning promoting your image. The way people see you. Do they want to be your supporter, someone who packs an image of success? Be nonpolitical, non-sexist, equal opportunity type of person. Know the boundaries, know your opinions and actions are being rated and you do not even know it.

Now that you are navigating your district, you should be attending detachment meetings, being involved at conventions with committees and chairs. But always, bring all info back to your district so that the info trickles down to your squadrons including your own. Be careful not to become a mister know it all. Remember you are a teacher. So, trust that your leaders will follow thru. You need to support them. If you have built the proper connections at Detachment. You may have been approached about what your future plans may be. It is now when a lot of personal soul searching begins.

What do I do, am I ready, will I make a difference? All questions each of us have asked ourselves. If you have been paying attention, you are creating a face. A face within our organization. We, as past officers all have made mistakes, and this article is designed help you navigate those mistakes. The very first thing you must do is to sit with your wife and family, and have some very serious conversations about time, commitment, and finances you may need commit to. Understand that above all, SAL is a hobby, not your life, and without your family support, you will fail. No one will blame you if you bow out or step back. Once your family is on board, how does your job fit in? Please understand this impact. Get squadrons input, and what is their level of support. Once your squadron has committed, draw up a resolution submit it to the Post and Auxiliary, asking for their support and ask for a resolution from the Post.

see LEADER page 20
LEADER continued from page 18

Have the adjutant to draft a resolution for the Detachment to approve. Next, dress the part. You are now a professional so look the part. Get rid of all those pins on your lapel. Get clothes and jackets that are clean, lint free, button up those collars and wear ties tied correctly with clean shoes not tennis shoes. Understand, your president does not have a dozen pins on his lapel. He is neat and projects a business image. You and your message are what is important. Next, have a message, and present it with facts and PASSION. When campaigning, go everywhere. Be the new face of the organization. Don’t be shy about telling your story. Telling your highlights. Remember, you didn’t travel hours to say hi. Hit your highlights. Remember you didn’t travel hours to say hi. Win them over. Be passionate! Let them see how much passion you have. Take time to listen. When you sit with them, take notes, showing your concern for their concerns will show your compassion. Recognize their accomplishments. Remember, you never know who is watching. There are many more aspects of being a good leader, but to be great leader, takes work, preparation and most of all PASSION.

Rick Riviotta, Jr.,
Past Detachment Commander

New IRS Ruling – Emblem Sales

Emblem Sales in the U.S. Supreme Court decision, South Dakota v. Wayfair in June 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states can require internet retailers to collect sales taxes, even if the merchant doesn’t have a physical presence there. Ohio has mandated, through this decision, any sales purchased online by residents of Ohio, shall require the collection of sales taxes. We will be doing an all Post mailing in October and this will be part of that information.

Due to changes in Federal and state law, American Legion Emblem Sales will begin collecting sales tax on sales made from Ohio effective 9/1/2019.

The standard Ohio state sales tax rate of 5.75%, plus any applicable local sales taxes, will be charged and added to the sales price of taxable items, including shipping charges.

All types of sales will be affected, including catalog and internet sales. Customers will need to add the standard sales tax to taxable merchandise and shipping in mail and fax orders. Emblem Sales’ systems will automatically calculate the tax on internet and phone orders.

If a customer submits an order by mail or fax that does not include sales tax as needed, Emblem Sales will have to contact the customer to obtain the additional amount before the order can be processed.

Current Ohio law only exempts the state headquarters of veterans’ organizations from paying sales tax. Should this change in the future, to avoid paying sales taxes, Posts and other local organizations will need to submit a copy of their state sales tax exemption certificate to Emblem Sales.

If your Post has an EIN and is considered “Sales Tax Exempt” by the IRS, a sales tax exemption form can be completed and sent to Department HQ and we will maintain it in your Post file and provide to National.

If you are unsure, you can visit the Ohio Taxation site (link below) and the IRS website to learn more about it and how your Post may be able to apply.

see IRS page 21

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)
IRS continued from page 20
Here is a link to the form:

https://www.tax.ohio.gov/portals/0/forms/fill-in/sales_and_use/exemption_certificates/ST_STEC_U_FI.pdf

Here are other links to the IRS site regarding tax-exempt status:


PROUD POSSESSORS
OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE,
we male descendants of veterans of the Great Wars, associate ourselves together as Sons of The American Legion for the following purposes:

• To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;
• To maintain law and order;
• To foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism;
• To preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in the Great Wars;
• To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation;
• To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
• To make right the master of might;
• To promote peace and good will on earth;
• To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
• To consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness;
• To adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands;
• And to assist in carrying on for God and Country.
CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Presented to the
American Legion
Child Welfare
Foundation
in recognition of the
Outstanding Support to the
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Ohio
2018 - 2019

“For the betterment of all Children”

In recognition of its Outstanding Support to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, and in recognition of the contribution made to the children of America during the year 2018 - 2019.
**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.

**Happy Halloween!**

![Coloring page](www.coloring-pages.info)

Name __________________________

**Thank You Veterans!**

![Coloring page](www.coloring-pages.info)

Name __________________________

**Trick or Treat**

![Coloring page](www.coloring-pages.info)

Name __________________________

**Thank You for Serving Our Country**

![Coloring page](www.coloring-pages.info)

Name __________________________
CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

Can you find all of these words in the puzzle above?

FAMILY  FEAST  LOVE
ORNAMENT  PRESENT  SANTA
STOCKING  TREE  WRAP

www.easyfreesantaletter.com

Name ___________________________
Memorandum

DATE: September 16, 2019
TO: Squadron Officers
FROM: Scott J. Thornton, Detachment Adjutant
SUBJECT: Online Squadron Membership Processing Now Available in Ohio

Memorandum

DATE: September 16, 2019
TO: Squadron Officers
FROM: Scott J. Thornton, Detachment Adjutant
SUBJECT: Online Squadron Membership Processing Now Available in Ohio

It’s finally happened! Today (09/16/19) Department Headquarters received notice from National Headquarters that all Squadrons in the Detachment of Ohio may utilize the Online Membership Processing feature of their mySAL website.

This means that Ohio’s Squadrons may now submit their membership renewals, transfers, and new member details online with an electronic check transfer from their bank account to National Headquarters in the same amount you would send to Detachment Headquarters for each member. (National will transfer the Detachment per capita amount back to Delaware on a regular basis.) Until June 1, 2020 the amount will remain $7.00 per member – as of that date you will need to send $10.00 per member to reflect the increase in National per capita just approved at the Convention in Indianapolis.

This will greatly speed up the processing of membership cards for everyone, and it means that a member’s dues payment will get posted more quickly as the official recognition of current paid-up status is based upon National de-

posting the payment and posting it to his record.

Squadrons using the online membership processing feature will no longer need to send the left 2/3 of the membership card (the National and Detachment parts) to Detachment Headquarters. Simply complete and sign the member’s part and give it to him – you can destroy the two left-hand parts.

There are two requirements to use the online submission feature:

1. Your Squadron must be registered with a mySAL account. (see the Application form in the SAL section of the Forms page on www.ohiolegion.com if you don’t have one)
2. Your Squadron must have its own checking or savings account for electronic transfers (or utilize the Post’s account if the Squadron does not have a separate one).

We are posting an Online Membership Processing Guide to the SAL section of the Forms page on www.ohiolegion.com as well with helpful information about setting up your Squadron to submit membership batches online and walking you through the actual handling of online batches.

Please share this information with all the Squadrons with which you come in contact and encourage them to take advantage of this valuable feature.

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,
Scott J. Thornton
Detachment Adjutant, Ohio
Is An Official Publication of
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Ohio
60 Big Run Road
Post Office Box 8007
Delaware, Ohio 43015

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

VETERANS DAY
REMEMBER ALL WHO SERVED

Tuesday, November 5, 2019
YOUR VOTE COUNTS

GO VOTE
NO, SERIOUSLY...GO.