



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

My Fellow Sons,

To paraphrase Col. Sherman Potter's toast from a New Year's Eve episode of M.A.S.H., "Here's to the New Year, may she be better than the old one, and may we all be able to meet in person before she's over."

Frustration and disappointment don't even begin to tell you what I am feeling as I write this article. I received text message from a valued member of our Detachment who said, "I am the leader of the Detachment during the roughest times we have seen since he has been a member. Don't let them get into your head, there will always be naysayers." I really needed to hear that!

Moving forward, as you may already know, the Mid-Winter Conference has been rescheduled for the weekend of March 12-14, 2021.

Some Districts may have their Spring Conferences scheduled for that weekend. You may want to reschedule those because your attendance at Mid-Winter is imperative because we will have a lot to discuss. Some items for discussion will be membership and [MySAL](#), (how to use Zoom calls), attendance at meetings on **all** levels of the Detachment, (what has been and can be done to engage members to remain active), donations and fundraising, (virtual raffles and public events).

This is the time to get started on yearly reports, don't wait until the last week to fill out your CSR. The spreadsheet allows you to enter time and monies reported all year long and gives you current totals as you need them. Time to start thinking who your 2021-2022 officers (OCF) will be. Do you have an active slate of officers, including your Advisor? Are you training your replacements? We owe it to our Veterans and ourselves to keep the Sons of The American Legion a valuable program within the American Legion Family.

I have been informed more than once that The American Legion is a 501-(C)-19 and non-political. I find it somewhat troubling that comments made about "Defund the Police" and "Disband ICE" do not fall under the National Security Pillar and that comments regarding 'election fraud' or sharing comments made by a member of Congress against what this organization should be standing for does not fall under Americanism. This is not anything that I will ever discuss in public while representing you, but just know that this Country is in trouble and has been for longer than this current situation has existed.

Finally, I want to thank those of you who have offered support through these unprecedented times and to those who only call or email when they want something...

Bernie Kessler, Commander
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Alt. National Executive Committeeman
Steve Honigfort
Immediate Past Commander
PDC Dale Anderson, II

PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor



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

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

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

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

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



First-Vice Commander



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

Greetings fellow Sons,

2020, the year of the COVID-19 pandemic part II. I won't bother to repeat the first three paragraphs of my October report listing the issues of dealing with the pandemic.

The fourth paragraph brought the hope of getting some semblance of normalcy of getting back to our posts, actual not virtual meetings.

Well, here we are again.

Through it all you guys managed to hit the goal of 45%, way to go Ohio! We still have zeros to contend with, it's not easy under the circumstances.

We all have to do the best we can, the vaccines seem to be coming.

Continue to pray for those affected by the virus.

For God and Country,

Doug Hancock,
First Vice-Commander

Second-Vice Commander



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

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all my Legion Family. As of now we are \$400.00 to the good on our Raffle for NEF with the Smokers. The pandemic has made it hard for us this year with our efforts in meeting our goals.

Please make sure to bring any tickets you have with you to the Midwinter Conference in March so they may be put into the drawing that will occur at close of our meeting on Saturday. Also, if the pandemic causes us to have to cancel our Conference, I have spoken with PDC Dan Finnell and will do our drawings during the intermission of the PDC Raffle. Please get tickets to me before March 13, 2021 so they can be entered in the drawing. You may mail to my home address as well.

Please keep checking in with the Department website for Midwinter Conference updates in the event that it would be postponed or canceled.

My prayers go out to all the members during this pandemic. I truly hope for safety of all our members.

Dennis Albright,
Second Vice-Commander

From the Chaplain



Dave Dilts,
Second Vice-Commander
SAL2ndvice@ohiolegion.com
davidleedilts@hotmail.com

Gentlemen,

Hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving and Christmas. I know this has been a trying time for The American Legion Family, especially for us to keep the doors open on our Post. We are all praying for this to end soon, so we can return to our normal activities.

Looking into the new year, we have a lot of ideas ahead. starting with our Mid-winter Conference.

Always pray for our men and women who are serving and have served our great nation. Always remember if we all come together, we can become one big family and make our American Legion Family a great success.

For God and Country
Full Steam Ahead
#SALSTRONG

Dave Dilts, Chaplain
davidleedilts@hotmail.com
740-319-1255



Adjutant's Update



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

Squadron Paperwork – Not Cleared Status. We've made big strides since the last newsletter – we are down to **four** squadrons who need to complete their 2021 Officer Certification Form and 2020 Consolidated Squadron Report obligations.

Here are the current details of the squadrons with a work left to do in this area. (All other districts are clear.)

Dist.	No 2021 OCF	No 2020 CSR
1	135, 143	135, 143
10	423, 684	423, 684

Again, I am asking the officers of these districts to contact these squadrons and try to get the information needed. At a minimum, if you get confirmation from them that they are keeping their previous officers in place and have nothing to report for activity please email that to me. I'll pass it along to Department Headquarters to get them cleared and have their 2021 cards shipped immediately.

2021 Mid-Winter Conference – RESCHEDULED to March! Due to COVID-19 and the uncertainty of the pandemic at the beginning of the new year, Ohio's Legion Family leadership team has decided to **reschedule the Mid-Winter Conference to the weekend of MARCH 12-14, 2021.**

The Mid-Winter Detachment Executive Committee meeting will convene at 7:00 pm at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North – Worthington Hotel, 6500 Doubletree Ave., Columbus, OH 43229 on Friday, March 12th. 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 a.m. on Saturday, March 14 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 Midwinter Conference" rate (\$99.00 / night plus tax). [You can also use the group code "AME" to get our block rate.] **Do not go through Department Headquarters for this meeting.** The deadline to call is Thursday, February 25th, but I strongly advise you not to wait that long. The hotel fills up quickly for our 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.

Leadership for Next Year...In closing, if you are thinking about running for an office next year or submitting your name for consideration as a commission or committee member you must fill out the appropriate recommendation form (available from the Detachment website, <http://www.ohiolegion.com>). 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 SAL-NEC@OhioLegion.com before January 15 2020 to be considered.

Proud Possessor
of a Priceless Heritage,

Scott Thornton, Adjutant

National Executive Committeeman



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

Happy New Year Everyone,

The holidays will be over by the time you read this message. I hope everyone had the chance to enjoy the holidays with the changes that have needed to be made. I wish for each of you a happy and prosperous new year with good health.

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 22-23 in Columbus. If you want to serve the detachment or national 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. 22nd. Forms are online at www.OhioLegion.Org or contact me.

I encourage you to learn the programs at the detachment level and national level 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 changes and new ideas from other squadrons. Sometimes the most important point is the friendships that are formed at these meetings.

I hope some of you are working on bids for the 2023 Detachment Convention. These bids aren't due until our Convention in Toledo in May, but it is important to work on them now.

Hope to see many of you at our Mid-Winter in Columbus. Don't forget to

get your tickets for the Past Detachment Commander's reverse raffle held on Saturday night, Jan. 23.

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

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

Alternate National Executive Committeeman



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

Fellow SAL Members,

With the Christmas Season we think of all those no longer with us. Let's remember them all and for everything they have done for us. With that we need to remember all of Veterans Home bound because of illness or because of the COVID situation we are faced with. They did so much for us so we may live free and enjoy our lives to the best of our abilities. A card or a friendly phone call will go a long way to break their boredom and maybe give them a smile.

With the COVID outbreak many things have been done virtually on the National level. A few items have been brought up to keep the wheels turning. Not many visits due to cancellations, but our National officers have done good to keep us informed. With Spring there may be light at the end of the tunnel, a possible vaccine and warmer weather will hopefully flatten the COVID virus and allow us some sort of normal activities to return.

As far as public relations, I continue to remind all of you to put on a good face and work with others to advance all of our causes. Remind fellow members of upcoming events as they may have become distant because of our current situation of nothing going on. Communication is the key to involve fellow members and getting them involved now and in the future. We need to keep things moving in a positive direction and remember negativity will get

us nowhere, so let's GET-R-DONE for 2021.

Best Wishes!

For God and Country,

*PDC Steve Honigfort, ANEC
Public Relations Chairman*

From the Editor



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

With this edition of *The Ohio SALute*, we see a new year upon us, with new plans, new hopes, and new ideas for the coming year.

I would propose a New Year's Resolution to everyone reading this article. Take a few minutes every quarter and submit an article, photo, announcement, or anything else that you would like to share.

Everyone in our Detachment contributes in one way or another. Let's recognize our members and publicize their hard work!

When submitting information, please identify the people in the picture, what the event is, and where & when it took place. Brief articles are always welcome and appreciated.

If you can, it is always a great idea to print a copy of *The SALute* to show Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, Riders, and anyone else you want to brag to. Let's toot our own horn!

Keep up the good work and continue ***Serving Those Who Served...Full Steam Ahead!***

Proud Possessor
of a Priceless Heritage,

PDC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

Editor's Note: Some articles in this edition were submitted prior to the announcement that the 2021 Midwinter Conference was postponed.

Around hio

District 4

Fourth District Visits Cincinnati VAMC on Veterans Day

Even through these recent times of COVID-19, the 4th District is still serving our veterans. As in past years, 4th District members delivered pizza for the residents of the Cincinnati VA CLC unit on Veterans Day. Along with the pizza, Busken Bakery cookies were donated by Forcht Bank for dessert. Also, "American Flag" pins were given to the residents. This event is just part of our VA & R projects that the Squadrons in the 4th District have done for several years on Veterans Day.

We received a big thank you from Voluntary Service at the Cincinnati VA and the veterans on their day in spite of the barriers each of us are facing in these difficult times.



l to r. Charles W. Castle, 4th District Commander; Eileen Higgins, Cincinnati VA CLC Coordinator; Domino's Pizza Representative; Ron Wissman, 4th District Adjutant and VA & R Chairman; Denny Lahey, 4th District Sgt at Arms.

Fourth District Members Support "Companion Pet Program"

4th District S.A.L. members rallied together to support the Companion Pet Program at the Cincinnati VAMC. The new program gives robotic pets to veterans of the CLC unit as well as residents suffering with PTSD and those in the Hospice units.

The robotic companion pets help the residents deal through the tough times that each of them is facing. They help them deal with their daily stress from any illness but also help them cope with not being able to have family members visit because of the COVID-19 virus.

Currently the Veterans Administration does not support this new program through funding. It is only supported by donations from other groups. The 4th District and several of its Squadrons are one of the organizations that have stepped forward with donations.

Costs for each companion pet is \$150.00. A total of 18 pets were donated to the program. Along with the 4th District, Squadrons 69, 72, 138, 199, 513, 554, and 615 supported this program.

Award Given to S.A.L. Junior Member

S.A.L. Junior Member Aiden Duncan was presented the American Legion Auxiliary "Good Deed Award". Aiden is currently the 4th District Asst. Sgt at Arms and a member of Squadron 484. At the recent S.A.L. 4th District Fall Conference, Donna Ray Past Auxiliary Sate President and Cincinnati VAMC VAVS representative spoke about the new robotic Companion Pet Program. The program is supported by donations from organizations and Aiden asked his Grandmother how he could help the veterans. They came up with the idea for Aiden to sell candy bars at meetings and 4th district events. Aiden was able to raise \$300.00 for the purchase of two companion pets. This brought the total of 20 companion pets that were donated by the S.A.L. 4th District members. It goes to show where the heart of a 10-year-old S.A.L. Junior Member is.



l to r, Denny Lahey, 4th District Sgt.- at-Arms; Charles W. Castle, 4th District Commander; Ron Wissman, 4th District Adjutant; Aiden Duncan, 4th District Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms and Donna Ray, Cincinnati VAVS Representative.

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,

*Charles W. Castle, Commander
SAL 4th District
(h)513-232-5648
(c)513-284-7478*

District 5



Squadron 257 Commander, Tim Rush, presenting our 15th Annual Scholarship check to Jayden Miles at our August 2020 meeting. Jayden is a Pre-Med student at Ohio University.



District 8

The American Legion Post 476 met in Wilkesville Park along with The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 476 and Sons of The American Legion Squadron 476 to participate in a Veterans Day ceremony.



l. to r. – Ernest Jones, Shannon Adkins, Kristin Smother, Mike Justice, Josh Adkins, Derek Hartman, and Don Savage.

District 9

Squadron 15 raising funds to support playground in memory of slain toddler



Sons of The American Legion Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 in Poland, Ohio is collecting funds on behalf of The Ohio American Legion Family to present to David Sweeney, the father of Rowan Sweeney, who was murdered at the age of 4.

A memorial playground is being constructed in young Rowan's honor. These funds will go towards the playground and will be presented to Mr. Sweeney in the near future.

We are hoping anybody able to attend to present it are able. To date, we have collected over \$700.00.

If you would like help, please make checks payable and send to:

The Ohio SALute

The Ohio SALute

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

Name _____

Address _____

Please mail completed form to:

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



Sons of The American Legion
Mahoning Valley Squadron 15
44 Centennial Drive
Poland, Ohio 44514-1706

Visit Rowan's Memorial Park website below:

www.rowansmemorialpark.com

Information about this unfortunate event can be found below:

www.vindy.com/search/rowan/page/4/



PDC Bill Towns

District 10

Don V. Cross Squadron 357 of the Tenth District Ohio Sons of The American Legion, preparing Veteran's Day activity bags for Veterans currently receiving care at Minerva Rehabilitation Center and The Arbors at Minerva.



**PROUD POSSESSORS
OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE**

District 12

On Saturday, November 7, 2020, Sons of The American Legion Don Gentile Squadron 532 rededicated Clime Cemetery in Columbus, Ohio.

 **Historic** 

Clime Cemetery

— ★ ★ ★ —

Located along busy Clime Road in southwest Columbus, this cemetery was hard to spot unless you knew where to look. The cemetery dated back to at least 1840 with some of the area's earliest pioneers buried there. Adam Alkire and Conrad Clime are two examples. Alkire and Clime helped establish the area and both have roads named for them. Civil War Veteran William Huddleston of the 176th Ohio Volunteer Infantry is also buried here.

The cemetery's fence, erected in 1989 as part of a Boy Scout project, was partially knocked over, and had completely vanished by 2006. There are some tombstones knocked over, either due to weathering or vandalism. A road improvement project took place in that widened Clime Road and added sidewalks, making the cemetery much more visible. A small pull-off was also installed, allowing easier access to the cemetery. As of 2015, Clime Cemetery seemed to be regularly mowed and well taken care of.

In more recent times, the cemetery fell into disrepair again, and the grass was cut less frequently, trees had died but still stood, and work was needed to bring this historic cemetery back.

In June 2020, Past Squadron 532 Commander Jeff Waugh wanted to renovate this cemetery. He asked his Squadron for help, which led to this rededication today. Under the leadership of Commander Rocky Searles, Squadron 532 got the project started by adopting the cemetery and making a five-hundred-dollar donation.



Don Gentile Squadron 532 Chaplain Jeff Goble playing Taps at the rededication of Clime Cemetery in Columbus, Ohio.

Sowers Lawn Care was hired to do the initial clean-up, removing limbs and branches, weeds, trimming, and mowed the lawn. At the time, the plan was to continue to cut back overgrowth around the perimeter, and to install a new picket fence, flagpole, and benches, and to keep the cemetery properly maintained in the respectful manner that this historic cemetery deserves.

Mr. Waugh worked with Brian Sowers and Boy Scout Troop #275 on the project, and today we can see the fruits of their labor.

Eagle Scout Candidates Jordan Alt and Riley Duncan worked on the project, providing a paver patio with a bench and flagpole and a new fence to line the cemetery.

The Don Gentile Post 532 Honor Guard participated in the ceremony, with the Franklin County Sheriff's Of-

fice providing traffic control and security. The Franklin County Engineer's Office was also involved with research into the cemetery.



Riley Duncan, Past Sq. 532 Commander Jeff Waugh, and Jordan Alt at Historic Clime Cemetery.



OHIO

Reports of Committees & Commissions

Child Welfare Foundation



Dewey Kuhl, Chairman
cary.kuhl@gmail.com

The CWF has announced 17 grants for 2021 totaling \$740,889.

Many of the causes are the same as previous years, with different recipients. For 2021 the CWF will support the areas of Autism education, Braille books for the blind, medical transportation to treatments, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, adoption assistance, Spina Bifida education, counseling of dependents of military personnel, Boy's Town national hotline, and a glossary of terms related to Schwachman-Diamond Syndrome.

We will also be supporting the usual American Legion endeavors in the areas of Youth Scholarships and Temporary Financial Assistance.

Ohio is off the zero in donations, so far, with \$220 being reported.

That's good enough for a tie for 22nd with Minnesota. Our goal, once again this year, is for \$1.00 per capita or about \$30,000. Last year we were pretty thoroughly messed up by Covid-19, and it looks like it's going to get bad, again, this winter. Hopefully, the lessons we learned last year will translate into better results this year. I love announcing donations received at our meetings, but if the meeting is cancelled, I still want the donation to go in. Consider direct mailing your donations to Delaware or Indianapolis. I have direct mail envelopes if needed.

I still have CWF piggy banks. The banner order form for 2021 is available at the CWF web site. Apparently new this year, you must send in the form AND your donation equal or greater to \$1.00 per capita in the same envelope in order to get the banner. The "Sons for Kids" aprons are still available through the American Legion. Suggested donation for each is \$20 plus maybe a little something extra to cover shipping.

We have also received, from National, three CWF awards that we were to have gotten at the cancelled National Convention.

For donations to CWF during the 2019-2020 year the winners are:

- Children First Gift Club – Guardian level – Squadron 615 Waynesville
- Children First Gift Club – Guardian level – 5th District
- Heritage Circle Gift Club – Benefactor level – Detachment of Ohio

Children's Miracle Network



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

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 are able to help with this mission. 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. And, if your squadron is holding a fundraiser for CMN, please get the information to me so that I can pass it on to our membership.

COVID-19 has certainly changed many things in 2020. Fundraising has been challenging for all of us. However, there are ways you and your members can help CMN when you are out and about in your communities.

Many CMN partners are holding "Round-Up" campaigns to help with the current coin shortage as well as helping local CMN hospitals. Inquire about rounding up at your local ACE Hardware, Circle K, Panda Express, Rite Aid and Speedway.

I found this on the CMN website, and since it is about a Children's Miracle Network Hospital right here in Ohio, I thought I would share.

COVID-19 can't stop some of our most merry partners from bringing holiday cheer to the patients at Dayton Children's. This year may be throwing us curve ball after curve ball, but the 384,000 kids that come through our doors can still rely on this special community partner for support. Of course, this year looked different, but on Friday, December 4th, the kids at Dayton Children's still each enjoyed a present generously donated by their Walmart friends. Though they didn't get a visit, they felt the love. Like we've been saying from the start, kids can't wait for a pandemic to be over. They need support more than ever and Dayton Children's is so grateful for Walmart's commitment to the kids in the Dayton region. On top of the holiday gift donations, they supply book bags and back to school items for our patients each fall. Dayton Children's also relies on fundraising from Walmart and Sam's Club for the equipment and technology necessary to provide our patients with the care they need.

For God and Country,

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



**Children's
Miracle Network
Hospitals®**

Helping Local Kids

Legislative Update



PDC Craig Smith, Chairman
craigsmith1958@gmail.com

Congressman Davidson introduced H. R. 8484 Ensuring Survivors Benefits During COVID-19 Act of 2020. It requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to obtain a medical opinion when a veteran with a service-connected disability dies from COVID-19, and to determine whether their service-connected disability was the principal or contributory cause of death. The intention is to ensure the veteran's families receive survivor benefits.

Senate Amendment 1972 in the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) would add bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, and parkinsonism to the list of agent orange presumptive diseases. Each of these diseases has been linked to agent-to-agent orange by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.



The Washington Conference is being held virtually this year.

PDC Craig Smith, Chairman



Special Olympics



PDC Adam Jones, Chairman
glimmer_man72@yahoo.com

Greetings,

I everyone had a very Merry Christmas and want to wish you a Happy New Year!

As everyone knows most everything has been cancelled. The need for funds and donations continues to be important. I ask you to make your donation and mail your donation to Department Headquarters.

Thank you and remember that the price of liberty is eternal vigilance.

God Bless,

PDC Adam Jones, Chairman

Judge Advocate



Bill Towns, Judge Advocate
docbill@neo.rr.com
SALJudgeAdvocate@ohiolegion.com

If We Don't Tell Them, How Will They Know?

Your Member Training and Development Committee is looking forward to and gearing up for the 2022 membership year. We are currently scheduling officer training sessions, so Officers know the What, When How, and Why things are required for Detachment and National Forms to be completed. This session is for the new and prospective District and Squadron Officers as well as a refresher for current Officers. As forms and rules have changed so must we.

District Commanders may request a session to be held right after their District meetings or on a separate day that squadrons are invited to attend. Squadron Officers who would like to have their members trained and would be willing to invite other nearby

Squadron Officers to attend can also host a training session. The 1½ to 2-hour session is designed to give you the information on what Awards are available to your members. What forms are required before May 1st of each year and how to do them. When you can expect your 2022 membership cards and how to process them efficiently. Tips and tricks to get members to renew early so you can spend time working the S.A.L. Programs instead of chasing down paperwork and renewals.

Dates are being accepted for March and April right now. Contact Detachment Judge Advocate Bill Towns at docbill@neo.rr.com for more information or to schedule a session.

*PDC Bill Towns, Judge Advocate
 Chairman, Member Development
 and Training*

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____ Date _____
 Name (First) (Initial) (Last) Recruited by _____ (Initial) (Last)
 Address (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)
 Telephone _____
 E-mail Address _____
 Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____
 (a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. _____, Dept. of _____
 OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____
 (c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____
 I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.
 Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)
 Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant) 00-001 (2013)

RECEIPT

Date _____
 Received of _____
For God and Country _____
 \$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in
 Squadron _____, Detachment of _____
 By _____

National Membership Update

SAL recruiter award forms available online

The American Legion
NOV 28, 2020

The 2021 Individual Recruitment Award and the 2021 Blue Brigade Award submission forms have been posted to the Sons of The American Legion website.



The National Membership Committee offers the Individual Recruitment Award for those members recruiting five new members into the Sons of The American Legion within a membership year. This pin is suitable to wear upon your cover or lapel. A new member is defined as any eligible Son joining for the 2021 membership year who was not a member of the Sons of The American Legion during the 2020 membership year. Transfers or renewals do not count as new members. The submission form for the Individual Recruitment Award is available by clicking [here](#).

The Blue Brigade Recruiter Award recognizes SAL members who enroll 30 or more new members in a membership year; reactivated members do not count.

The submission form for the Blue Brigade Recruiter Award is available by clicking [here](#).

The forms are also included in this edition. Did you get yours yet? **Who's next?**

For those Squadrons not using [MySAL](#), why not? This is one of the best tools we have. It provides nearly instant updates to membership, reduces mailing costs, has multiple reports that are useful to Adjutants and Membership Chairmen, and discontinues the need to write a check to

Detachment every time you have membership to process. Transmittals are not only a few clicks away.

As of November 25, 2020, only 88 Squadrons have taken advantage of [MySAL](#). We need more Squadrons to this tool, as it is not the wave of the future, it is the wave of the present. Don't be afraid of the technology. It is safe, secure, and timely.

When using [MySAL](#), make sure to do your transmittals once you receive the member's dues. A good rule of thumb is to make your submission on at least a weekly basis. **Who's next?**

For those Squadrons not using [MySAL](#), please remember that **we do not hold cards**. Once a member pays his dues, it must be processed and forwarded to Detachment headquarters right away. These mailings should also be done on at least a weekly basis.



No matter which way a Squadron handles its membership transmissions, it is important that we conduct our Buddy Checks. Reach out to the members that haven't paid for 2021 and find out why. If he needs help, offer to do what you can. Especially during this global pandemic, our membership needs to know we care about them, how important they are to the organization, and remind them why they joined, and that they are **proud possessors**.

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





Come out and join The Ohio Past Detachment Commanders for an evening of Fun, Food and Prizes

The Ohio Past Detachment Commanders Club Raffle held annually in January on the weekend of the Ohio American Legion Mid-Winter Conference has been rescheduled to Saturday, March 13, 2021 to coincide with the date change of the conference. Keep your tickets as those already purchased will be honored that evening.

For those who have not yet received a ticket, or if you would like additional chances, tickets are available from most Ohio Past Detachment Commanders. The top prize of \$1,000.00 is guaranteed and you do not have to be present to win. The final four will have a choice to continue or split the top prize.

All funds raised go to support Programs and Charities partnered with the Ohio Sons of The American Legion. Thank you to all which have and continue to support the OPDCC Raffle.

For more information on The Ohio Past Detachment Commanders Club, or to have a Past Detachment Commander as a speaker for your next function contact OPDCC President Dan Finnell at dfinnell1972@gmail.com or Secretary Bill Towns at docbill@neo.rr.com.



YES, I'm proud to help Legionnaires in their time of need.

Enclosed is my donation in the amount of \$ _____.

This donation represents donations from

Squadron Post Unit Individual

and Location _____

Name _____

Full Address _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

The National Emergency Fund exists only through your donations



Please mail to:
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Ohio
60 Big Run Road, Post Office Box 8007
Delaware, Ohio 43015



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF OHIO



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

Memorandum

DATE: November 6, 2020
TO: Detachment Officers
Past Detachment Commanders
Department S.A.L. Advisory Committee Members
FROM: Scott J. Thornton, Detachment Adjutant
SUBJECT: NEC / ANEC Election – May 2021

Article VI, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Ohio specifies in part the following (emphasis added):

“The Detachment shall hold an annual Detachment Convention to elect a Detachment Commander, First and Second Vice Commanders, a Detachment Chaplain, and in even-numbered years a National Executive Committeeman and an Alternate National Executive Committeeman. Such officers shall take office and be installed immediately before the adjournment of that session of the Convention at which they are elected and shall serve until the next Convention or until their successors are elected and qualified.”

Given the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on our elected officers (extending their terms in office through the 2021 Detachment Convention), I have received inquiries as to the next election of Ohio's National Executive Committeeman and Alternate National Executive Committeeman. These offices would normally have been elected to two-year terms in May 2020 but will now not be elected until May 2021.

Specifically, the question is: will the election of our NEC and ANEC in May 2021 be for a period of two years or one?

After consulting with Detachment Judge Advocate Bill Towns, Jr., we are offering the following answer to the question.

Since our constitution specifies these two offices are for two-year terms elected in even-numbered years and they shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified, it is our opinion that we should elect the next National Executive Committeeman and Alternate National Executive Committeeman in May 2021 to one-year terms and resume the elections to two-year terms in May 2022. Otherwise, we would need to amend the constitution to switch to odd-numbered year elections.

Veterans Strengthening America

by Daniel S. Wheeler,
National Adjutant
The American Legion
DEC 07, 2020

I hope you have noticed on the cover of Dispatch and outgoing correspondence from The American Legion National Headquarters our organization's new motto: Veterans Strengthening America.

Late this past summer the National Executive Committee of The American Legion approved by an electronic mail vote, pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of the National Executive Committee, to adopt a vision, mission, values, and motto of The American Legion.

As stated in Resolution No. 5, current modern business practices have evolved since The American Legion was founded in 1919, and as leaders of this great organization it is our goal to stay abreast of such evolutions. One such business practice of an organization like The American Legion is the use of a vision and mission statement, value principles, and a motto.

The American Legion's vision statement declares our future and long-term directional goals: "The American Legion strengthens America by improving the lives of our veterans, the military and their families."

The American Legion's mission statement declares how we intend to fulfill our vision: "The American Legion strengthens our communities, states and nation with programs and services for our veterans, the military and their families."

The American Legion's value principles guide our business decisions and actions:

A VETERAN IS A VETERAN – "The American Legion embraces all current and former members of the military and endeavors to help them transition into their communities."



VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA

SELFLESS SERVICE – "The American Legion celebrates all who contribute to something larger than themselves and inspires others to serve and strengthen America."

AMERICAN VALUES AND PATRIOTISM – "The American Legion advocates for upholding and defending the U.S. Constitution, equal justice and opportunity for everyone and discrimination against no one, youth education, responsible citizenship and honoring military service by observing and participating in patriotic and memorial events."

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – "The American Legion meets the unique needs of local communities."

ADVANCING THE VISION – "The American Legion educates, mentors and leads new generations of Americans."

HONORING THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US – "The American Legion pays perpetual respect for all past military sacrifices to ensure they are never forgotten by new generations."

The American Legion's motto encapsulates the vision and mission of our organization: "Veterans Strengthening America."

The vision and mission statements, along with the value principles and motto, help define the purpose of The American Legion, align the organization's resources toward a successful future, provide clear and effective decision guidance; form part of a business's strategic planning tool and publicly communicate the message. The American Legion has clear guidance to act in these turbulent times.

With this information at hand, please use The American Legion's new motto in all internal and external correspondence with members and your community. And uphold the organization's vision and mission statement, value principles and motto.

Thank you for your service in helping The American Legion to be the largest veterans service organization where Veterans Strengthen America.



Proud Possessors
of a Priceless Heritage





2021 Individual Recruitment Award

The National Membership Committee offers an award for those members recruiting five (5) new members into the Sons of The American Legion within a membership year. This pin is suitable to wear upon your cover or lapel.

You must meet these minimum requirements to qualify:

To qualify you need to Recruit (5) new members into Sons of The American Legion.

(A new member is defined as any eligible Son joining for the 2021 membership year who was not a member of the Sons of The American Legion during the 2020 membership year).

Transfers or renewals do not count as new members.

Please make sure that the members have been processed before submission. Pins will not be mailed until they are verified in the national membership database.

This award form must be received by July 31st.

Recruiter Information

Name _____ Member ID# _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Full Squadron Name/Number _____ Detachment _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Unless specified different, the pin will be sent to the above address

New Member Information

#1 Full Name _____ Membership ID # _____

#2 Full Name _____ Membership ID # _____

#3 Full Name _____ Membership ID # _____

#4 Full Name _____ Membership ID # _____

#5 Full Name _____ Membership ID # _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO: (Regional Membership Chairman)

East - Richard Huntley, Jr. (ME) dickie_huntley@hotmail.com 38 Whale Cove Rd., Machiasport, ME 04655

South - Jason Roberts (GA) robertsjason215@gmail.com 215 Oak Hollow Ct., White, GA 30184

Central - Jeffrey Vrabel, Sr. (OH) jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com 2222 Birch Bark Tri., Grove City, OH 43123

Midwest - Juan Torres (TX) juanrtorres10@hotmail.com 10828 Sycamore Dr. S, La Porte, TX 77571

West - Leslie "Jim" Stewart (NV) controller@bordertowncasinonv.com 664 Sheffield Ct., Sparks, NV 89431



**Sons Of The American Legion
New Member "BLUE BRIGADE" Recruiter Award
2021 Certification Form**

DETACHMENT ADJUTANT: Retain copy for your records

SUBMIT THIS FORM TO NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS (Prior to July 31st)

By Mail:	By Email:	By Fax:
BLUE BRIGADE AWARD	sal@legion.org	(317) 630-1413
C/O National SAL		
P.O. Box 1055	Phone #:	
Indianapolis, IN 46206	(317) 630-1205	

The following S.A.L. member in the Detachment of _____ has enrolled 30 or more **NEW MEMBERS** into the Sons of The American Legion by **July 31st. (Reactivated members do not count)**

Cutoff: 30 days prior to the S.A.L. National Convention

This S.A.L. "Blue Brigade" award will be my:

- A. First S.A.L. "Blue Brigade" Award
- B. Other (i.e. Consecutive years in a row) _____

*Consecutive year awardee receives a SAL "Blue Brigade" Certificate and Chevron

(PLEASE ENSURE PRINTED FORMS ARE LEGIBLE...)

(Please Select Jacket Size)

Size: (S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL 5XL)

NAME _____ SQUADRON NO. _____

ADDRESS _____ EMAIL _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Member ID# _____

PHONE: (____) _____ Number of **NEW MEMBERS** enrolled (minimum 30) _____

Deliver to Recruiter Deliver to Squadron

USE ATTACHED NEW MEMBER LISTING FORM

*Please make sure that all new members listed have been processed and have been assigned a unique 9-digit ID# before submission. The award form cannot be processed or verified until all new members are listed in the national membership database.

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
CERTIFICATION FORM
NEW MEMBER LISTING**

#	9-Digit Member ID#	First & Last Name	Detachment	Squadron Number
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
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28				
29				
30				

Department Adjutant (signature)

Detachment Adjutant (signature)

Date

Date

USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY



American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

"Dedicated to the betterment of all children"

100% Per Capita Banner Program

Request Form

2020 – 2021

Each American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit, Sons of The American Legion squadron, or Eight and Forty salon donating at least one dollar for each member during the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation's award year (1 June - 31 May) may receive a beautiful banner/streamer.

To qualify for the 2020-2021 year a post, unit, squadron, or salon must donate one dollar per member based upon its official membership total from their national organization as of June 1, 2020. The post, unit, squadron, or salon has from June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021 to submit this form, **along with the donation**, to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

Post, unit, squadron, or salon name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Post, unit, squadron, or salon membership total as of June 1, 2020: _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Banner Request Form

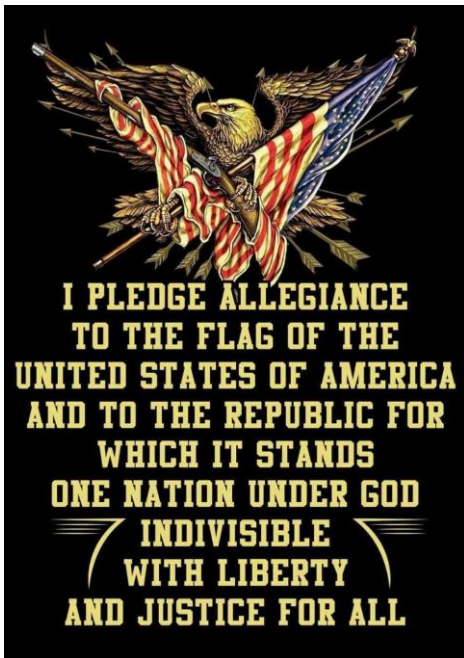
Send completed form to:

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

PO Box 1055

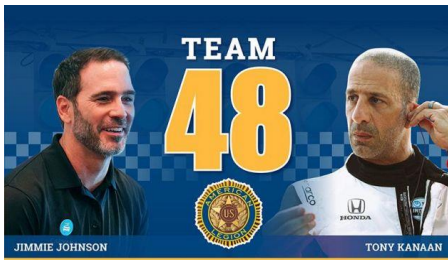
Indianapolis, IN 46206

ALL REQUEST FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY May 31, 2021



Legion, Chip Ganassi enter multi-year IndyCar alliance

The American Legion
DEC 01, 2020



The American Legion and Chip Ganassi Racing (CGR) today announced a multi-year sponsorship agreement for the No. 48 Honda in the NTT IndyCar Series. Seven-time NASCAR Cup Series Champion Jimmie Johnson will drive the street and road courses while former Indianapolis 500 winner and Series Champion Tony Kanaan will handle the ovals.

“We’re excited about this new relationship with The American Legion as it allows us to further the sponsorship program on the No. 48 team with Jimmie and Tony, while also representing a very important relationship with an organization dedicated to

supporting veterans,” said Chip Ganassi, team owner of Chip Ganassi Racing. “Jimmie in particular has a long-standing appreciation for the service of veterans, so it was just another reason why partnering with The American Legion on his debut in the NTT IndyCar Series made sense.”

The American Legion will be featured prominently on Johnson’s No. 48 Honda during every race in the 2021 and 2022 NTT IndyCar Series. The largest and most influential veterans service organization will also be the primary paint scheme for two races in 2021, including, “The Greatest Spectacle in Racing” the Indianapolis 500 on Memorial Day weekend. Kanaan, winner of the 2013 Indianapolis 500, will be behind the wheel for those races.

“This is truly a win-win for all involved,” said James W. “Bill” Oxford, national commander of The American Legion. “Teaming up with Chip Ganassi Racing allows The American Legion to showcase how it strengthens America every day through its programs, advocacy and support of veterans and their families. We’re looking forward to bringing that message and our mission to race fans across the country.”

The announcement comes on #GivingTuesday, a day of global giving designed to help change communities and the world. Donors can visit www.legion.org/g/48 to make a gift and help celebrate this new relationship and veterans across the country.

Johnson, who has family members who have served in the military, will make a \$10,000 donation to The American Legion. Johnson hopes his

donation will motivate fans and the public to support veterans by donating \$48 to The American Legion. The \$48 pays homage to the number 48 car that he and Kanaan will drive.

“Our family knows firsthand how important it is to recognize our veterans,” said Johnson, who’s grandfathers and brother-in-law served in the military. “It’s exciting to be partnering with The American Legion to be able to show our appreciation to veterans and to continue to raise public awareness and support for this special organization. Giving Tuesday is a great day to announce this partnership and a way for fans to show their appreciation for our veterans.”



“Sons for Kids” CWF Aprons

Sons of The American Legion “Sons for Kids” CWF aprons are available for individual or bulk purchase. The suggested donation is \$20 each. 100% of donations support grants provided by The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

CWF awards grants to non-profit organizations that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual welfare of children.

NOTE: The donation fee does not include shipping costs provided by The American Legion. Additional donations are accepted, and appreciated, for shipping.

“Sons for Kids” CWF aprons can be ordered by mail:



THE AMERICAN LEGION CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 1055
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204-1055



In the memo section of the check be sure to write the number of aprons you are requesting and include the address where to ship the aprons.

If no address is provided, the aprons will be shipped to the address listed on the check.

“Sons for Kids” CWF aprons can be ordered online at www.cwf-inc.org. Click the donate tab and list the number of aprons requested in the tribute section

All donations for the “Sons of Kids” CWF Aprons will count toward CWF awards at the end of the program year in May 2021.

If you have questions, please contact
Stacy Cope, Youth Welfare Program Manager
Americanism Division, National Headquarters
317.630.1202 or Scope@legion.org

Candidates Corner



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

JEFF VRABEL, SR.

FOR NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER

2021 - 2022

TIM CONWAY CANDIDATE FOR DETACHMENT CHAPLAIN

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

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

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

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

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



★ ELECT ★

ADAM JONES

**Alternate National
Executive Committeeman
Detachment of Ohio**



Endorsed by Squadron 23 and the Seventh District

ELIGIBILITY

Proud son of Glenn Phillip Jones
United States Marine Corps
Vietnam 1960 – 1963

MEMBERSHIP

20 year Sons of The American Legion member
James Merritt Squadron 142 in Waverly
James Dickey Squadron 23 in Portsmouth

EXPERIENCE

Detachment
Commander 2008 – 2009
First Vice Commander
Second Vice Commander
Chaplain
Assistant Sgt.-At-Arms
Earl Cox Detachment Member of the Year 2004
POW-MIA Chairman
Buckeye Boys State Chairman
Special Olympics Chairman

Seventh District

Commander
Second Vice Commander

Squadron 142

Commander
Chaplain
Adjutant
Public Relations Officer

BACKGROUND

Vietnam Veterans of America Associate Member
South Shore, KY Chapter 1006

Master Mason
Waverly Orient Masonic Lodge 321

Former Board Member
Scioto-Northwest Local Schools

Treasurer
Roy Rogers Festival

WHY I'M RUNNING

Elected positions should be contested and not just be "someone's turn." I believe I have the experience and the time dedicated in pursuing the High Office of Alternate National Executive Committeeman.

STEVE HONIGFORT CANDIDATE FOR NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN

Fellow SAL Members,

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

A Vision for the Future



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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



VOTE
VRABEL
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION