



# THE SOURCE



**TOM KLINGER**  
DETACHMENT COMMANDER

DETCOMMANDER@LEGIONMAIL.ORG



**M\*A\*S\*H**

MAKING ALL SOLDIERS HEROES  
MAKING AMAZING STUFF HAPPEN

It's been just over a month since we left Orlando to attend our State Convention. I would like to thank Past Commander Wil-drick for a great and very prosperous year. He left some very tough shoes to fill. Of all the State Conventions I've been to I believe this was the smoothest run one yet. I would like to thank the first time attendees for showing up and supporting the S.A.L. We had an all time high of first timers.

The Saturday after Convention My Wife and I traveled to Post 323 for their installation. I would like to thank District Commander Burns, Area Commander Rapp, and PDC Gordon for their great hospitality and welcome.

The next day we traveled to Jacksonville for the Baseball game of the Jumbo Shrimp and the Biloxi Shuckers. After a two hour rain delay I got to go out on the field with Department 2nd. Vice Commander Jerry Brandt when he threw out the first pitch. It was a great time and we were in a great hospitality suite.

Tuesday the 17th. Detachment Asst. Adjutant Tim Bell invited us to Post 72 to install the new Squadron officers. Congrats to new Squadron Commander Erskine. I wish him a great year.

Sat. the 21st. we traveled to Post 335. The home Post of Department President DeGennaro. Had a great time and a great bunch of members. Then we went to Post 79 for installations. Thank you Past Area Commander Mark Harris and 4 time Squadron Commander Ed Thomas for all you do.

Sat. the 28th. I was honored to be asked to attend the installation at Post 305. The home Post of Detachment Historian Paul Micieli.

On Sunday the 29th we attended Post 125's installation in Gulfport. Department Commander Boland and Department NEC Boland were in attendance Thank you Squadron Commander Shay for a great time.

Just a reminder that if you want a Detachment or District Officer to attend your function, please ask us.

Until next month.

For God and Country,

Tom Klinger, Detachment Commander

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## 2018-2019 Membership Target Dates:

September 6th 2018	10%
October 4th, 2018	25%
November 1st, 2018	35%
December 6th, 2018	45%
January 3rd, 2019	60%
February 7th, 2019	75%
March 14th, 2019	85% LEGION BIRTHDAY 100%!
April 4th, 2019	90%
May 9th, 2019	100%
June 13th, 2019	***** Detachment Convention

**Commander Klinger's Membership Goal: 20,000**



The Detachment Convention is well behind us, and what a Convention it was! It was very productive and well attended from all Squadrons around the Detachment. We had attendance at the meetings of over 350 delegates. This speaks very well for the organization and for you the members of this GREAT DETACHMENT! The Convention concluded with the election of Thomas Klinger of Squadron 7 Clearwater as your Detachment Commander for 2018-2019. A complete list of the new Detachment Officers is in this issue of The Source.

We continue to be very successful in our programs. It was very evident in Membership with another All Time High of 19,000+ members. We had 121 year-end reports submitted. In addition, we had 117 National CSR forms submitted. The Detachment Year End reports submitted should have matched what was submitted for National. I hope that we can regain the number of reports next year. I personally wish to THANK everyone that submitted the reports. From the reports submitted, a total of \$1,367,304 was donated to various programs and over 465,476 man-hours were recorded. A hearty JOB WELL DONE to all of you everything you all did this year.

The Detachment Roster is in the works. Several Squadrons still have not submitted their Squadron Officer Report forms. The District and Area Commanders will be getting a list of these Squadrons very soon and will begin to follow up with those Squadrons to get the information. We have set a deadline of August 22, 2017 for this

information to be submitted. After this date, we will be going to print with the Detachment Roster. Without this information on file at Department Headquarters, your Squadron will not receive any information from the Detachment. If you have any questions or wish to check and see if a Squadron has submitted one since Convention, please contact me.

By now, all Squadrons should have received their membership cards for 2019. The cards were delivered at Convention. Department Headquarters should have mailed out any cards not picked up at the Convention. If you still have not yet received them, please contact Membership Director Irene Graham at Department Headquarters.

In closing, I wish to thank Detachment Commander Klinger and the Detachment Executive Committee for reappointing me to serve as your Detachment Adjutant for this my 3rd year. We continue to look for new and inventive ideas to make the Detachment better. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions to help improve the Detachment, please let me know and we will look into them.

Honoring All Who Serve and All Who Served,

Jim Roberts | Detachment Adjutant



The start of our 2018-2019 membership year is here, and we are off and running. The SURGEON GENERAL (Commander Klinger) has ask that all the SURGICAL ROOMS (Squadrons) get cleaned and ready. The SURGEON (Membership Chairman-JJ) the DOCTORS (District Commanders) and DOCTORS AIDES (District Vice Commanders) get ready for battle.

Our FIRST TARGET DATE of 10% is September 6th, 2018. Commander Klinger's membership target is 20,000 and I know we are going to make this as you guys are the best. Be the DOCTOR and explain the membership procedure. We need to get out of the box and think on new ways to treat our members in their membership. It is not just a card. It is being a part of the greatest Veteran organization in the world that supports or Veterans, our children, and our communities. Why did they join? They joined to honor a family member for their service to this great country. Working membership should be fun, so have some fun. I have always said "work hard, play hard", and most of all "have fun". The Detachment of Florida over the past several years has been a pace setter within the National organization and is growing and growing rapidly and it is due to all the hard work that goes on within each Squadron. We would be nothing without the "BLUE" caps and we need to always remember that it all starts "BLUE". So, let's get motivated and have some fun and continue all the great things that The Detachment of Florida does.

Commander Klinger's theme is **"Making All Soldiers Heroes" while "Making Amazing Stuff Happen"**. Take some time and reflect on what that means and ask others the same question. You might be surprised with their answers. Also explain the membership theme of "Making All Soldiers Heroes". We all know that without their sacrifices we would not be able to enjoy what we do today. Make sure to THANK THEM for what they have done. Our success and/or failure is up to each of us, so let's get to work and support our Commander's goals. The Detachment membership 100% goal is over 19,000 and we will be working toward our 24th consecutive all-time high, remembering that we are nothing without our membership. I know we can do this. Remember that Commander Klinger's membership goal is 20,000 and with all your hard work and support we can meet Commander Klinger's goal. Let's **"Make All Soldiers Heroes" while "Making Amazing Stuff Happen"**.

The Membership Committee has work to complete this year. Each of the Membership Committee members have been assigned different Districts to watch and make any needed contacts to help with possible issues with our Squadrons. Below are the Committee members, they will be in contact and they will be asking questions about your Squadrons. They will be there to help. Let them help you to help us make our goals and make the Detachment of Florida the strongest it can be.

Membership Committee Members:

- ◆ John Jennings - Chairman
- ◆ Carroll Weese
- ◆ Joe Eckenrode
- ◆ Vacant - If you are a member in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th District and are interested, please contact me.

*(Continued on page 4)*

We as a committee are going to be aggressive this year in membership and are here to support in any possible way. **DO NOT LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP BECOME AN ISSUE. BE LOOKING AND TALKING WITH YOUR SQUADRONS AND GET IT UNDER CONTROL BEFORE IT BECOMES AN ISSUE.** As I have stated before “Any Squadron having membership issues is a clear sign that a problem or problems are going on” Stay on top of it!!!

Area and District Commanders: get to know your Legion counterpart. Have you made that contact? They can help you. Remember that we are a program of The American Legion and they do want us to be successful in what we do. They will help you in a time of need.

**Important Items:**

- I need names for membership chairmen for your district. If you are not or will not be appointing a chairman, let me know who your membership point of contact is so I can pass it on to the Committee members for their use - Please email me that contact information (John Jennings - fl.johnjennings@gmail.com)
- ZERO (“0”) Squadrons will be addressed very early in the membership year. Commander Klinger and I do not believe in any Squadron not reporting membership and ZEROS are unacceptable to us both.

With all the above said, I really believe in each Officer we have this year. We can and I am sure we will meet and exceed all our goals this year.

**So, let’s get started on a great year while remembering to “Work Hard”, “Play Hard” and most of all “Have Fun”**

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## 2017-2018 Detachment Convention Award Winners

### MEMBERSHIP

<b>1ST 100% SQUADRON</b>	<b>1ST 100% DISTRICT</b>	<b>1ST 100% AREA</b>
Squadron 78 Milton	Category I - District 2 Category II - District 17 Category III - District 15 Category IV - District 12	Eastern Area
<b>LARGEST SQUADRON</b>	<b>CHUCK MCEVILY MEMORIAL LARGEST % INCREASE</b>	
Squadron 273 Madeira Beach 1,291 Members	10 to 100 Members Squadron 22 Cocoa	101 to 1000 Members Squadron 62 Stuart

### YEAR END REPORTS

<b>DON HALLIDAY MEMORIAL BEST YEAR END REPORT</b>	<b>MARK MAST MEMORIAL BEST AMERICANISM REPORT</b>	<b>CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH BEST REPORT</b>
Winner - Squadron 255 1st Runner Up - Squadron 158 2nd Runner Up - Squadron 138	Winner - Squadron 103 1st Runner Up - Squadron 323 2nd Runner Up - Squadron 238	Winner - Squadron 117 1st Runner Up - Squadron 323 2nd Runner Up - Squadron 347

#### **GREELEY PAINE MEMORIAL TOP SPECIAL OLYPICS CONTRIBUTORS**

Winner - Squadron 238  
1st Runner Up - Squadron 273 & Squadron 283  
2nd Runner Up - Squadron 252

#### **ALBERT J FARFORTH MEMORIAL S.A.L. MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

Christian M. Rapp  
Squadron 323 Lehigh Acres

## 2018-2019 Detachment of Florida Officers

<b>Detachment Commander</b>	Tom Klinger Squadron 7 Clearwater	detcommander@legionmail.org
<b>National Executive</b>	John Jennings Squadron 71 Lake Wales	detnec@legionmail.org
<b>National Executive Committeeman Alternate</b>	William Kelly Jr Squadron 137 Jacksonville	detneca@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Vice Commander Western Area</b>	Johnnie Wilson Squadron 356 Lynn Haven	detvcwest@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Vice Commander Northern Area</b>	Brian Carter Squadron 120 Holly Hill	detvcnorth@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Vice Commander Central Area</b>	Gerard Sambets Squadron 275 Dunedin	detvccentral@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Vice Commander Eastern Area</b>	Rocco Cirigliano Squadron 82 Melbourne	detvceast@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Vice Commander Southwestern Area</b>	Christian M. Rapp Squadron 323 Lehigh Acres	detvcsw@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Vice Commander Southern Area</b>	Ernest Wallace Squadron 269 Lantana	detvcsouth@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Adjutant</b>	James Roberts III Squadron 4 Lakeland	detadjutant@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Assistant Adjutant</b>	Tim Bell Squadron 72 Mulberry	detasstadj@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Assistant Adjutant</b>	Ray Leventhal Squadron 323 Lehigh Acres	detasstadj1@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Chaplain</b>	Randy Collingsworth Squadron 7 Clearwater	detchaplain@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment Historian</b>	Paul Micieli Squadron 305 St. Petersburg Beach	dethistorian@legionmail.org
<b>Detachment</b>	Ed Sheubrooks Squadron 40 Ft. Pierce	detja@legiooonmail.org
<b>Detachment Sgt-At-Arms</b>	George Steger Squadron 238 Safety Harbor	detsaa@legionmail.org
<b>Department SAL Advisor</b>	Chuck Rousseau Post 219 Fruitland Park	sal@legionmail.org



Hello Sons! It is my pleasure to be serving as the Detachment Public Relations Committee Chairman again this year. Now that most of the Installations have been completed, it is time to get down to business – the business of raising money for our charities. In order to conduct that business, we must hold events. Please use the Detachment website to submit your events. It only takes a few minutes, and it could greatly help increase your event's attendance.

You can submit your event by visiting <https://floridasons.org/event-submission-form/>. The Detachment will promote your event on our Facebook page, our Google Calendar, our website and more. **All members of the American Legion Family are encouraged to use our event submission form.** Don't forget to use the form to submit your district meetings, DCCs, and other annual events as well. Remember, our website is a valuable **FREE** tool to assist you in promoting your Squadron and the American Legion Family - please use it!

Area and District Commanders: I am working on creating Google Group mailing lists and area pages on the Detachment website for you. Please watch your email for an invitation to join the group. Once you accept the invite, I will make you the manager of the group. Please use this tool to reach out to all the Squadrons in your Area/District. Also, if you would like a Facebook page created for your District, please let me know. I will be more than happy to assist you in setting one up. Also, if you already have a Facebook page for your district, please invite me personally to like or follow your page.

For God and Country,

Christian M Rapp  
Public Relations Committee Chairman





Hello Sons! It is my pleasure to be serving as your Southwestern Area Commander this year. Unfortunately, due to work and family commitments, I was not able to attend every installation for the 8<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Districts so I will recap my message here.

First of all, I am very proud of the Southwestern Area. Our area finished the year with 103.13% in membership. Every squadron in the Great 8 except for one finished the year at or above 100%. Every Squadron in the Mighty 13<sup>th</sup>, except for two, finished the year at or above 100% as well. I am very confident that our area will accomplish even greater numbers this year. One way you can get in front of your membership goals is to send out early renewal notices. National typically sends out renewal notices in late September/early October. If you don't want the expense of creating postcards, you can always download and print out the membership renewal form on the National website at <https://www.legion.org/sons/filelib/20120918151107699.pdf>.

My other main goal as your Southwestern Area Commander is to encourage COMMUNICATION. Communication between our Squadrons and Districts is going to be what enables us to achieve better attendance at our meetings and events. In order to aid us in our communication, I have created a Google Group mailing list for both the 8<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Districts. You can sign up for both mailing lists by visiting <https://floridasons.org/sw-area/>. You can also sign up for the Detachment mailing list there. I also want to encourage support of our Squadron's events not just in our own Districts, but in each other's districts. I would like to see members in the 13<sup>th</sup> attend events in the 8<sup>th</sup> and vice versa. Please let me know when you are having events in your Squadrons and I promise I'll get the word out to the area and attend when I can. By communicating with each other and supporting each other's events, we definitely prove that "we are family".

Thank you for all you do. I'm looking forward to another fantastic year for the Southwestern Area!

For God and Country,  
Christian M Rapp  
Southwestern Area Commander

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## Errors, Corrections & Omissions

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If you find an error, content which requires a correction or an omission in any article in *The Source*, kindly email [thesource@floridasons.org](mailto:thesource@floridasons.org) so that we may give proper effect to any such error, correction or omission.

Thanks for being a part of what we do!

-Ray Leventhal, Editor





BENEFITING CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION, FINAL SALUTE, INC., & FISHER HOUSE

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2018**

### Event Information

#### Location

Copperhead Golf Club  
20910 Copperhead Dr | Lehigh Acres, FL

- 7am Reg. | 8am Shotgun Start
- \$50 per Golfer (Blind Draw Partner)
- INCL. GREEN FEES, CART, & LUNCH

#### CONTESTS FOR:

- Longest Drive | Hole-in-One
- Putting | - Closest to the Pin

#### EXTRAS:

- 50/50 Drawing
- 3 Mulligans & 1 Sandy (\$20 / team)



### HOLE SPONSORSHIPS

- Bronze Hole Sponsor **\$50**

INCLUDES HOLE SPONSOR SIGN

- Silver Hole Sponsor **\$100**

INCL. HOLE SPONSOR SIGN & ELECTRONIC ADVERTISING

- Gold Hole (Team) Sponsor **\$250**

INCL. 4 GOLFERS & SPONSOR SIGN, ELECTRONIC AND  
PRINT ADVERTISING

**ANY QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL**

**Steve Gordon: (941) 204-3258**

**Join us at Post 323 after the tournament for lunch, raffles, & more!**

### HOTEL INFORMATION

**Microtel Inn & Suites**  
**1320 Business Way**  
**Lehigh Acres, FL 33936**  
**(239) 369-2121**  
Mention American Legion Golf

### SEND / DELIVER ALL CHECKS TO:

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DISTRICT 13

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY:**

**STEVE GORDON**  
**1925 BANANA ST**  
**PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33980**

**LEE COUNTY:**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 323**  
**ATTN: CHRISTIAN RAPP**  
**124 ASHLAR AVENUE**  
**LEHIGH ACRES, FL 33936**

# Jim Burgess Memorial Poker Run September 8, 2018



Registration 9:00 am, KSU 10:00am @ Seabreeze Lounge

Seabreeze Lounge, 30625 US 19, Palm Harbor

American Legion Post 252, 11433 Park Boulevard North, Seminole

American Legion Post 138, 5535 W. Prescott Street, Tampa

Hennessy's Bar & Grille, 3980 Tampa Road, Oldsmar

American Legion Post 238, 900 Main Street, Safety Harbor

Last bike @ 4:00pm, Prizes @ 5:00pm

**\$20 per bike, additional hands \$5**  
**Best Hand \$200, Runner-up \$75,**  
**Worst Hand \$25**

**50/50**  
**Raffle items**  
**Food, drinks**

Sponsored by American Legion Riders, Chapter 238 — Funds raised to provide scholarships to Bay area students

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## Having an Event? Let the Detachment of Florida Help!

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### Attention all Sons of the American Legion

If your Squadron, Post Family, District or Area are having an event, we can help get the word out.

If you are interested in getting your event published and promoted using:

- The Detachment of Florida's Website ([floridasons.org](http://floridasons.org))
- The Detachment of Florida's Facebook page ([facebook.com/pg/FloridaSAL](https://facebook.com/pg/FloridaSAL))
- The Detachment of Florida's Newsletter, The Source

### There's only one thing you have to do: Let Us Know!

Visit the Detachment of Florida's online events calendar at

<https://floridasons.org/detachment-events-calendar/>, and click the button labeled 'Click Here To Submit Your Event'.

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#### **Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida**

Department Headquarters  
PO Box 547859  
Orlando, FL 32854  
(407) 295-2631

Detachment Adjutant James Roberts III  
1112 S. Magnolia Dr. - Apt S106  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Detachment E-mail: [floridasons@legionmail.org](mailto:floridasons@legionmail.org)  
Internet: [www.floridasons.org](http://www.floridasons.org)

***In Honor of Those Who Serve and  
Those Who Served***

*The Florida Sons of The American Legion with over 180 Squadrons and over 17,000 members this year donated hundreds of thousands of dollars and hours to the many programs of The American Legion Family.*

*For More Information about the Florida Sons of The American Legion, visit us on the Internet at:*

[www.floridasons.org](http://www.floridasons.org)

Or e-mail us at [floridasons@legionmail.org](mailto:floridasons@legionmail.org)

Scan the QR Code below to  
visit our website



[www.facebook.com/FI](http://www.facebook.com/FI)

## Source Articles

We are looking for your input and help to keep this newsletter going. We are looking for articles from the Squadrons, Districts, or Areas. Let us know what is happening in your Squadron, District & Area and we will inform the rest of the Detachment. It could increase attendance at your functions and or meetings!!!! This is your newsletter.

**Please send all articles to the Detachment by the 23rd of every month.** Articles can be e-mailed to [TheSource@floridasons.org](mailto:TheSource@floridasons.org).