



THE SOURCE



TOM KLINGER
DETACHMENT COMMANDER

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M*A*S*H

MAKING ALL SOLDIERS HEROES
MAKING AMAZING STUFF HAPPEN

It's been a few months since the Source has been published, so let's get back on track and keep the COMMUNICATION going. I hope you all are doing well and working hard on your membership. All installations are over and all the new Officers are settling into their jobs.

I had the honor of attending a memorial service for Past Squadron Commander Kenny McCall at Post 138. He was a great person and will be missed by many.

On August 23 we were off to Minneapolis for National Convention. The Detachment of Florida and Past Commander Wildrick won many awards and accolades. Convention ended with the election of Greg "Doc" Gibbs of New York as our National Commander.

On Sept 8th I was at Post 323 for a golf tournament to benefit Fisher House. Thanks to Steve Gordon, Ray Leventhal, Christian Rapp, and everyone else that worked very hard on putting together a great time. Everyone had fun and Fisher House received some money.

On Sept. 22nd I attended a very moving and touching Memorial Service for Past Detachment Commander and a very dear friend Kirk Miller. The entire family at Post 275 in Dunedin worked hard and did an outstanding job hosting the service.

I attended the 16th District meeting on Sept. 29th at Post 252. Following the Meeting was the 16th District picnic. As always in the 16th, the turnout for the event was great.

On October 12th I was off to Indianapolis for the Fall NEC Meeting and Commanders class. The class was very informative and interesting. Thanks to Bill Kelly and JJ for their help and guidance. Next time you all take me there please let's do it when it's warm!

On November 1st, we gathered in Orlando for Fall Conference. I believe everything went very smoothly for all the obstacles we had with the aftermath of Hurricane Michael. There were many Officers and Squadron Members who could not attend due to the hurricane hitting areas in which they live or work. The Conference was enjoyed by everyone that I have talked to that attended.

On November 17th I attended the 11th District Meeting at Post 271 in Tequesta. Following the meeting we visited Posts 47, and 141. That evening my wife and I attended the 9th District Ball at Post 222. The food and entertainment were fantastic. Special thanks to Paul Stawicki, Richard Smith, and Anthony Lombardi for their great hospitality and playing tour guide.

I hope everyone had a safe and great Thanksgiving.

Thank You for all you do and for what you do. Until next time.

For God and Country,

Tom Klinger, Commander
Detachment of Florida
Sons of the American Legion



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M*A*S*H

MAKING ALL SOLDIERS HEROES WHILE MAKING AMAZING STUFF HAPPEN

2018-2019 Membership Target Dates:

September 6th 2018	10%	Congratulations!
October 4th, 2018	25%	Congratulations!
November 1st, 2018	35%	Congratulations!
December 6th, 2018	45%	Let's Make This Happen!
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



Greetings Membership Team,

Now that the Holiday Season is here, and Thanksgiving is over, Martha and I want to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Now on to membership. This time of year, normally very slow as we have the transition of our out of state members return for the summer. We all need to continue to watch our membership and make sure that the transmittals continue, and our targets are met. We met every target last year and we are off to a great start reaching our first three (3) targets this year. **Our next target of 45% is December 6th, 2018.**

As of our November 11th report the Detachment was at 39.21% with a renewal rate of 29.43%. We had three (3) Districts at or over the 45% target with no areas at target as of that report. We only transmitted 304 cards for that report. The transmittals were a little low and we need to make sure your Squadrons are up on the target dates and transmitting their cards, even if it is only one (1) card. Do not hold cards. As you can see, we have work to do during our Holiday Season to stay on track with reaching our targets.

We still have several (0) zero Squadrons and I know you are working on them. I am working with and have been working with Squadron 296 in Destin for several weeks to get them back to charter strength. They are very excited and have lots of plans for future growth on Squadron 296. I also worked with Squadron 166 Homosassa in getting some issues at Headquarters on their membership count. With all this said, I really wish that all the District Commanders and their staff make contact and keep contact with there Squadrons. We do not need this to kind of issues to be out there involving our Squadrons. You are the eyes and ears of the Detachment.

Lets all continue to push membership and let's keep our string together for reaching our targets. I know you will continue your hard work and I know that we will again have a very successful year with your hard work and dedication.

45% Target – December 6th, 2018

“Making All Soldiers Hero's” while “Making Amazing Stuff Happen”

Respectfully,

John Jennings, Membership Chariman
Detachment of Florida
Sons of the American Legion



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Commander Klinger's Membership Goal: 20,000

Hello Sons!
 It is my great honor to be serving once again as your Public Relations Chairman.

At our 15th Annual Fall Conference held in Orlando November 2-4, 2018, our Public Relations Chairman, Christian M Rapp had the honor to present three “Snapshots of Service” Awards to Jim Steele and Walter Rasco of Squadron 137 Jacksonville.

The winning pictures (shown below) were of Squadron 137’s Bugler, Jim Steele. The three awards were 1st Place: VA&R, 2nd Place VA&R and 2nd Place Americanism.

This is the first time that the Detachment of Florida has won this award.

Bugler Jim Steele was also featured on legion-town.org.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.legiontown.org/sonsmembership/5233/jacksonville-fla-squadron-137-taps-bugler>



1st Place VA&R



2nd Place Americanism



2nd Place VA&R



Upcoming Events

SAL Organizational Course

The Detachment of Florida's Membership Training and Development Committee will be presenting a captivating view of the history of the Sons of the American Legion during the Organizational Course.

When: Saturday January 19, 2019 from 8:00am to 4:00pm

Where: American Legion Post 80, St. Cloud
1019 Pennsylvania Ave, St. Cloud, FL 34769

Registration: <https://goo.gl/forms/DQT4WwaYLBf2Bc122>

Abstract: The course is made up of 8 units that will cover many things relating to the Sons of The American Legion. Items that will be covered include a video history of The American Legion an overview of the history of the Sons of The American Legion and the accomplishments of the Florida Sons. Additional units will cover the responsibilities of Squadron Officers, an over view of running a Squadron Meeting, programs supported by the Sons, membership and the Sons reporting requirements. We will end the day with a roundtable question & answer session.



DETACHMENT COMMANDER KLINGER'S HOMECOMING

APRIL 6, 2019

TICKETS

\$30 EACH

INCLUDES DINNER & COMMEMORATIVE T-SHIRT

COCKTAIL HOUR: 5:00PM
PRIME RIB DINNER: 6:00PM

MUSIC BY  **Be Bouncer entertainment**

PAYMENT

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DISTRICT 13
MAIL CHECKS TO STEVE GORDON
1925 BANANA ST | PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33980
REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE:
[HTTPS://HOMECOMING.FLORIDASONS.ORG](https://homecoming.floridasons.org)
MUST REGISTER BY MARCH 15, 2019

HOTEL INFO

QUALITY INN
1320 BUSINESS WAY
LEHIGH ACRES, FL 33936
(239) 369-2121
\$79.99 + TAX PER NIGHT
GROUP CODE:
AMERICAN LEGION
ROOM CUT OFF DATE: MARCH 5, 2019
STAY OVERNIGHT AND JOIN US FOR THE DISTRICT 13 PICNIC AT POST 323!



DRESS CODE:
LEGION CASUAL OR
COME DRESSED AS YOUR
FAVORITE M*A*S*H CHARACTER!

LOCATION:
AMERICAN LEGION POST 323
1124 ASHLAR AVENUE
LEHIGH ACRES, FL
(239) 369-3178

M*A*S*H
MAKING ALL SOLDIERS HEROES
WHILE
MAKING AWESOME STUFF HAPPEN

PROCEEDS BENEFIT
FISHER HOUSE



Having an Event? Let the Detachment of Florida Help!

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)
- The Detachment of Florida's Facebook page (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'.

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida

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***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

Or e-mail us at floridasons@legionmail.org

Scan the QR Code below to
visit our website



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.