



THE SOURCE



TOM KLINGER
DETACHMENT COMMANDER

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M*A*S*H

MAKING ALL SOLDIERS HEROES
MAKING AMAZING STUFF HAPPEN

WELL HELLO EVERYONE. I hope everyone and their families are doing well. We missed our 60% and our 70% target dates. We have an 80% target date on March 14th. As of this writing the Detachment is at 79.04%. This is a good start to make the 80% date. Squadrons please do not hold your transmittals send them in weekly. The Detachment is working on their 24th consecutive all-time high. National sent out renewal cards and members received them during the last week in February. In this year's theme of Making all Soldiers Hero's let's not let our members go AWOL.

Starting the First of February and continuing until convention is the busy season for the Legion Family. The Area Balls, Area picnics, The Homecomings, all the Charity picnics and golf tournaments, and individual Post celebrations for the 100th year Birthday are happening. Look on the web sites to find out more and please make these functions if possible. Just because the picnic or ball is outside your District doesn't mean you can't attend. Travel to other Areas and Districts to meet new people and maybe learn a new fund raiser or function you can bring back to your District or Post.

The month of February for my wife and I started at Post 347 on the 2nd. The Post Commander invited us for a dinner with the Legion National Commander Brett Reistad. The Department Commander and President were in attendance along with many city, county, and state elected officials. Thank you post 347 and Commander Al for a wonderful time.

On Feb. 9th we were off to Post 117 Palm Bay for Department Commander Dianne's Homecoming.

The event was well attended and very well put together. I would like to thank PDC Paul Martell for inviting us to sit at his table. Commander Boland it has been an honor and a pleasure serving with you this year. Thank-you.

On Feb 12th Mike "Doc" Bowen and I attended an award ceremony at Post 103 Punta Gorda. The Squadron had 6 members who received the National pins for membership. I was very proud to present these pins to them. Congrats to Stan Borowy, John Negri, George Stern II, George Stern III, Joe Valenson, and Ron Lechner.

[\(Commander's Photo Gallery\)](#)

On Feb. 23rd I attended a Mardi Gras Night at Post 125 Gulfport. This was a very well organized event. I apologize to the Post and Squadron for leaving early, but I had a prior commitment. If you have an event and would like a Detachment Officer to attend Please ask. See you at the Eastern Area Ball. Until next time.

Thank you for all you do and what you do.

For God and Country,
Tom Klinger, Detachment Commander



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2018-2019 Membership Target Dates:

September 6th 2018	10%	Congratulations!
October 4th, 2018	25%	Congratulations!
November 1st, 2018	35%	Congratulations!
December 6th, 2018	45%	Congratulations!
January 3rd, 2019	60%	57.64% - Missed
February 7th, 2019	75%	74.71% - Missed
March 14th, 2019	85%	LEGION BIRTHDAY 100%!
April 4th, 2019	90%	
May 9th, 2019	100%	
June 13th, 2019	20,000	Detachment Convention

Commander Klinger's Membership Goal: 20,000



This month we are preparing to mass mail, all of the report forms that you will need to complete the year-end reports. These reports will be mailed to all Squadrons beginning at the end of March. These forms are also in the Administrative Manual that you received with the membership cards at the last Convention. Please take the time to complete the forms and mail them to me no later than June 1, 2019. I must reiterate again this year, there is no need to send the forms registered mail. Regular mail is fine. The main Post Office is about twenty minutes from my house, so it's a forty-minute round trip to pick up these packets. I cannot do this on my lunch hour, and the Post Office is closed after 5:00 pm. So again, please send to me by regular mail. By way of this article, I am notifying you that I will have an address change as I am in the process of moving over the next few weeks. The new address will be reflected on the reports that are mailed. I am not putting the address out just yet, as there are still things in work on my end before that happens.

The District Constitutional Conferences should already be in the planning stages. All SAL District Commanders are required hold and are responsible for setting up their Constitutional Conference meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to elect a new District Commander and District Vice Commander for the following year, and conduct business of the District that has been properly presented. It is not appropriate for a District to hold their elections at the Detachment Convention. So all District elections must be held in accordance with Article IX, Section 8 of the Detachment Constitution, which states, "there shall be held in each District a District Constitutional Conference not more than sixty (60) nor less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the Detachment Convention." This means that your elections must be completed before the convention.

You do not have to schedule your conference at the same time as the Legion's; however, it is a good idea to set it up at the same location so you can have any dual members participate. For a list of the scheduled Legion District Conferences, you can go to the Florida Legion Website at floridalegion.org. Once your District Constitutional date is set, send us an e-mail at floridasonsofthelegion@legionmail.org and let us know the location and date. This way we will be able to publish the information and put on the Detachment Website.

The 47th Annual Detachment Convention is scheduled for June 27, to June 30, 2019. We will be meeting at the Marriott Orlando World Center in Orlando. The Resort is very nice and should be enjoyed by all. Please make your reservations early. Registration will open at 1:00pm on Thursday, July 5th. There is a hotel reservations deadline and that is June 1, 2019. Please make a note of this and book early. A tentative schedule is being worked on and will be published next month. Until next month!

Jim Roberts | Detachment Adjutant



Greetings Membership Team,

As of our February 21st, 2019 membership report the Detachment was at 79.01%. We have 5 Zero ("0") Squadron's. We had 48 Squadron's at or over the 100% target, 58 Squadron's were at or over the 80% target, 7 District's and 2 Area's. We had 78 Squadron's not at target and that is 42.39% of the Detachment total Squadron's. Congratulations to all the Squadrons and District that reached our 75% target early. Great job by you guys, but the bad news is we missed our 75% target. That was 2 in a row! We are 4,006 members away from our 100% number, but the big issue is those members have no benefits currently. We need those members. Some Squadrons are waiting on there out of state members to return in order to get there membership up. I get that and do understand. Membership within the Detachment is very slow coming in. I am asking that anyone that receives our google distribution to talk to your Squadron's, your District's or Area's and get them involved. The information sent is important to them and it is for them.

The link to sign up is <https://www.floridasons.org/>. This is only going to make our Detachment communications better and to make each Squadron stronger.

As you can see, we need to continue to work membership as I know you will. Our 80% Target is right around the corner and it will be here before we know it. Our 80% target date is March 14th. Do not take if for granted that it will take care of itself. We missed our 70% target and that is the second target missed in 14 target dates, going back to start of last year. We do not need to miss any others. The numbers will tell the story. We need to stay in contact with the Squadron's in your District's and offer them any help they may need. Note: Out of sight, out of mind. It may also help to communicate to your Legion District Commander and/or the Post Commanders. Let's remember the three "R", Reinstatement, Renew, and Recruit. Let's them know what our goals and targets are and ask them if they need our help. We are here for them.

I will continue to send our weekly membership reports to not only our Detachment Goggle distribution group, but I have included all the American Legion Post Commanders and Adjutants that are on the Departments distribution list. I am asking for the help of the Post Commanders and Adjutants to stay in touch with their Squadrons and give them help when and where possible. I have had some communication with some of the Legion and Post Officers and does seem to be working in some cases.

80% Target – March 14th, 2019

That is just a few weeks away!!!!

Respectfully,

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



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Commander Klinger's Membership Goal: 20,000

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida

February 1, 2019

Members of the Florida Sons of The American Legion,

The Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida is searching for a few good men.

Both Tim Bell and Ray Leventhal have announced that they will not be seeking reappointment as Detachment Assistant Adjutants and will be resigning effective at the close of this next Detachment Convention. Both Tim and Ray have served this Detachment professionally, with honor, integrity and dignity and I am sad to see them go. While we wish them both the very best, we must begin the process of searching for their replacements.

The Detachment Assistant Adjutants have many responsibilities in supporting the Detachment Adjutant and the Detachment of Florida. Much of the work done by these gentlemen usually go on behind the scenes and are only really out-front during meetings. The Detachment Adjutant along with the Assistant Adjutants are charged with the effective administration of the Detachment. This includes compiling reports each year, working with the Detachment Commander and the Executive Committee to conduct business between meetings of the Detachment, management of convention registration, putting together the Detachment Newsletter, handling the correspondence for the Detachment and other administrative duties as required.

Please understand that this position is an appointed position subject to the approval of the Detachment Executive Committee. However, there is a process of selection that will occur by committee to receive documentation, conduct interviews and present a candidate or candidates to the Detachment Commander and the Detachment Executive Committee for approval and appointment.

The ideal candidate should be willing to serve in an administrative position within the Detachment. These positions are considered staff positions, which means that the Adjutant Team remain above board in matters pertaining to organization. The Assistant Adjutants are not members of the Executive Committee and they do not carry a vote.

Because the Assistant Adjutants position can be a multi-year appointment, it is important that a candidate not be seeking a higher office within the Detachment of Florida. Seeking a higher office could take away from the responsibilities of the incumbent and cause the Detachment to search for another person to fill a vacancy.

In order to be considered for this position the member must be a member of the Sons of The American Legion, in good standing and be a member of a Squadron within the Detachment of Florida. The Detachment is seeking an individual with good, administrative, leadership, and customer service skills. The member should also be proficient with the use of Microsoft Office Products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint etc.) Additionally, the candidate must be flexible as things change often and must be quick to adapt.

If this sounds like something that you would be interested in doing, we would like to hear from you. Please submit your resume to detaaresume@legionmail.org no later than 11:59pm on May 1, 2019 for committee consideration.

Honoring Those Who Served and Those Who Serve,



James K. Roberts III, Detachment Adjutant

Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Florida

Detachment of Florida — Call to Detachment Convention

The 47th Annual Convention of the SAL, Detachment of Florida is hereby called for in compliance with Article V, Section 2 of the Detachment Constitution.

PURPOSE: The convention is called for the electing of Officers, receiving reports and for the transaction of such business which may be properly brought before it.

REPRESENTATION: Representation shall be in compliance with the provisions of Article V, Section 4 of the Detachment Constitution and other sections that may be applicable. A registration fee of \$5.00 will be paid to the Detachment Convention Headquarters for each delegate and alternate registered.

IMPORTANT INFO: Voting strength of Squadrons shall be determined by the membership paid into Department Headquarters by the close of business on June 13, 2019. Forms for the certification of delegates and alternates are in the administrative manual. In accordance with Article XI, Section 8 of the Detachment (Department) Constitution that reads as follows: "No Squadron (Post) with past due accounts owing to the Department and unsettled before convening of the Annual Detachment (Department) Convention shall be entitled to seat their Squadron (Post) delegation in that Convention." As a program of The American Legion any Squadron that owes funds to the Department will cause their sponsoring Post to not to be seated during The American Legion convention as well.

Detachment of Florida — Election of Squadron and District Officers

In accordance with the Detachment of Florida Constitution, Article IX District Organization, Section 8 and Article X Squadron Organization, Section 13. All Squadrons and District Officers must be elected annually and certified to the Detachment and Department Adjutants not more than 60 days nor less than 10 days prior to the opening of the Annual Detachment Convention. The election of Squadron and District Officers this year must be held between Monday, April 29, 2019 and Tuesday, June 18, 2019.

Detachment of Florida — Delegate Cut-Off

Delegate cut-off for Squadron voting for the Convention is June 13, 2019 at the close of business at Department Headquarters. A registration fee of \$5.00 per delegate and alternate is hereby established. Squadrons will be allowed to cast votes on registered delegates only. For example, if your squadron has four votes and only registered two, then your Squadron may only cast the two delegate votes that have been registered. Delegate At-Large votes must be registered in order for those At-Large Delegates to vote. Forms for registration are in your Administrative Manual and on our website at www.floridasons.org. Bring this form with you to the Convention. Make all checks payable to The American Legion, Department of Florida.



Endorsements for Office

It is the policy of the Detachment of Florida that no endorsement be posted prior to the Annual Fall Conference. The Detachment of Florida provides this information for the benefit of our membership. The addition of endorsement information does not indicate support for an individual candidate by the Detachment of Florida.

In order for an endorsement to be posted to the Detachment Newsletter "The Source" or the Detachment Website, an endorsement letter must meet the following requirements.

1. Each endorsement letter must come from a Florida Squadron or Post and must be signed by the Squadron Commander and Squadron Adjutant, or the Post Commander and Post Adjutant or any combination of these.
 - The letter must be on Squadron or Post letterhead and include the date that the Squadron or Post made the endorsement and that the membership approved said endorsement.
 - This letter should contain information explaining why the individual should be considered for the office he is seeking and a narrative of positions held to show his leadership potential.
2. Endorsements will only be accepted for the elected Detachment Officers, District Commanders as follows:
 - Detachment Commander, Detachment Vice Commanders, National Executive Committeeman, National Executive Committeeman Alternate, Detachment Historian, Detachment Chaplain, Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms and the District Commanders

Endorsement letters must be submitted, in writing, to the Detachment Adjutant as follows with the required signatures (in the format listed above).

1. Endorsement letters can be sent via the US Postal Service to the Detachment Adjutant Jim Roberts - 1112 South Magnolia Drive - Apt S106, Tallahassee, FL 32301.
2. Endorsement letters can be scanned and sent by e-mail to the Detachment at florida-sons@legionmail.org. Scanned documents are required to be in an Adobe Portable Document Format (.pdf) and must have all of the original signatures as required and be of good quality.



Detachment Officer Endorsements

Detachment Commander	
Office of Detachment Vice Commander	
Western Area	
Northern Area	<u>Brian Carter (120, Holly Hill)</u>
Eastern Area	<u>Richard Duncan (247, Lady Lake)</u>
Central Area	
Southwestern Area	<u>Ernest Sheffield (266, Sarasota)</u>
Southern Area	
National Executive Committeeman	<u>John Jennings (71, Lake Wales)</u>
National Executive Committeeman Alternate	
Detachment Chaplain	
Detachment Historian	
Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms	

District Commander & Vice Commander Endorsements

District	District Commander Endorsements	District Vice Commander Endorsements
1		<u>Robert Farley (240, Pensacola)</u>
2	<u>Kent Smith (82, Carabelle)</u>	
3		
4		
5		
6	<u>George Worton (347, Lady Lake)</u>	<u>Dennis Kirsch (80, St. Cloud)</u>
7		
8	<u>Jim Edwards (69, Avon Park)</u>	
9		
10		
11		
12		
13	<u>Christian M. Rapp (323, Lehigh Acres)</u>	<u>Stanley Borowy (103, Punta Gorda)</u> <u>Michael Nigbor (136, St. James City)</u>
14		
15		
16		
17		

Detachment Commander's Photo Gallery



Commander Klinger at Squadron 103 (Punta Gorda) presenting National Membership Pins.
(Pictured Left to Right: Comander Tom Klinger, Stan Borowy, George Stern III, John Negri, Ron Lechner, George Stern II, Joe Valenson)



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA *Family*

CHILDREN & YOUTH
★ HELP US GIVE SMILES ★



GOLF TOURNAMENT

We are excited to announce we
will be hosting a golf tournament at:

Harbor Hills Country Club
6538 Lake Griffin Rd. Lady Lake, FL
32159 on Saturday, April 27, 2019

To raise money for our Department's
Children & Youth Programs

Shotgun – 1:00pm
Longest Drive Contest
Hole-in-one Contest
Closest to Pin Contest
Prizes & Raffle!

We encourage you to tell friends and family
to join us!

- Cost - \$75.00 per golfer
- Silver Hole Sponsor - \$100.00
- Gold Hole Sponsor - \$250.00
Includes sign on hole
- Donate a gift to be a raffle prize

**Cut-off date for sponsorships and gift
submissions is April 18, 2019**

Send all checks to Sons of The American
Legion Squadron 347
PO Box 1534 Lady Lake, FL 32158
Attn: Children & Youth Golf Tournament

**After the Tournament, Join us for an Italian dinner, raffles, 50/50
and family fun at American Legion Post 347!**

(699 W. Lady Lake Blvd. Lady Lake, FL 32159)

Hotel: The Waterfront Inn
1105 Lakeshore Drive, The Villages, FL 32162
To make a reservation call the hotel directly at 800-592-0774
Ask for the American Legion Group Rate!

DETACHMENT COMMANDER LINGER'S HOMECOMING
APRIL 6, 2019

TICKETS
\$30 EACH
INCLUDES DINNER & COMMEMORATIVE T-SHIRT

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

MUSIC BY BOUNCER entertainment

MENT
PAYABLE TO: THE AMERICAN LEGION DISTRICT 13
MAIL CHECKS TO STEVE GORDON
1925 BANANA STREET, CHARLOTTE, FL 33980
REGISTER 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 OUT OFF DATE: MARCH 15, 2019
STAY OVERNIGHT AND JOIN US FOR THE DISTRICT LUNCHEON AT POST 323!

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

M*A*S*H
MAKING ALL SOLDIERS HEROES
MAKING AVOIDANCE STUFF HAPPEN

PROCEEDS BENEFIT FISHER HOUSE

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



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY





Come Join Us As We Go

“ALL IN!”

at



Department President Michele's
Homecoming

Tickets: \$30.00
Cocktail Hour
5:00 p.m.

SATURDAY
APRIL 13, 2019

AMERICAN LEGION POST 347
699 W Lady Lake Blvd, Lady Lake, FL 32159

For more info contact:
Bill Walsh
(352) 259-0080 or 352-454-8318

I'm **“All In”** for the President's Homecoming!

Name _____ Phone: _____

of Tickets _____ x \$30.00 each = Total Due \$ _____

Tuscany Chicken: _____

Beef Medallions: _____

Send check payable to: Bill Walsh

1732 Madero Drive

Lady Lake, FL 32159

(Prepaid Tickets will be Available for Pickup at the Door)



HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

Each member has access to many benefits including the National Emergency Fund if a natural disaster should occur. However, your dues have to be current at the National Organization for you to be eligible for this and many other benefits.

Remember, your dues also help support Squadron Programs, the Child Welfare Foundation, National Emergency Fund, Operation Comfort Warriors, Fisher House and many more.

Without your support we cannot continue to support the great programs of the American Legion Family. Please follow up with your Squadron Membership Chairman to pay your dues and ensure they are transmitted for the current year.

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

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
Internet: 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

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.