



# THE SOURCE



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DETACHMENT COMMANDER

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

MAKING ALL SOLDIERS HEROES  
MAKING AMAZING STUFF HAPPEN

WELL HELLO EVERYONE. I hope all is well everybody. Let's start with a big Thank You. The Detachment has made its 24th consecutive all-time high in membership. As of this writing the Detachment is at 101.66%. Delegate cutoff is June 13th and we're short 557 members to hit the goal of 20,000 members. We still have about two weeks to make a final push on membership. Send the cards in even if you only have one. Do not hold them.

The month of May started with a trip to Indianapolis for the Spring NEC meeting and I had the privilege of being invited to attend National Management Institute One Class. It was an honor to attend as there are only 20 students chosen to participate each year.

Districts are holding their District Constitutional Conferences in May and June and Squadrons are holding their elections for new Officers. A huge welcome and 'thank you' to all of the first time Officers. Please get involved and have fun doing your job. Hopefully in the future you can move up the ladder. Remember to fill out the Officer Report Forms and

mail it in. That's the way the Detachment gets the info to communicate with the Squadrons.

With the service year coming to an end, I want to say Thank-you. Traveling around the state, meeting so many new members, and seeing what you all do makes me proud to be a member of the greatest Detachment there is. All of your hard work and support has made the year fly by.

I hope to see each and every one of you at Convention. 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%	Congratulations!
April 4th, 2019	90%	Congratulations!
May 9th, 2019	100%	97.70% So Close!
<b>AWESOME JOB!!</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>As of May 18th 2019!!</b>
June 27th, 2019	20,000	Detachment Convention



Well team, we are in the final stretch of this administrative year. As I indicated last month, I am in my busiest part of the year and it has shown. I am currently going through the reports that you all have been submitting and also putting everything together for the next year. Whew!!! Thank you to all that have submitted your Squadron Year End Reports. These are important to submit to us, so please make sure that you submit them as soon as possible.

I want to thank each of you for all that you are doing to support this year's program. Membership is doing really well as we did attain 100% and another All-Time-High. My Congratulations to you all for your hard work on this. Do not sit on your membership just because we are at the end of the year. Please keep sending in those that have signed up.

District Commanders this is the last couple of weeks to hold your District Constitutional Conferences. As a District Commanders, **YOU ARE REQUIRED** to hold a District Constitutional Conference. This conference is to meet and elect new District Officers for the coming year. We want to go into Convention with a full slate of Elected District Commanders. Please remember that you do not have to hold your Conference in conjunction with The American Legion's. Sometimes there is not enough space or time to fit all meetings into one. I would encourage that you try and hold it at the same time and place if possible.

There has been a schedule change for the upcoming convention and it is published in this edition of The Source, it will be published to the website and distributed to our email lists. We will be holding a Q&A session on Thursday June 27 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm during the convention and this is open to all members of The American Legion Family to attend. Please let your delegates know to attend as it should be a very informative session.

This will be my last article as your Adjutant for this administrative year and I want to thank Commander Klinger for appointing me to serve this year. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve all of you this year. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the convention.

In Honor of Those Who Served and Those Still Serving

Jim Roberts | Detachment Adjutant





Greetings Membership Team,

As of our June 6th, 2019 membership report the Detachment was at 102.02%. Congratulations to all of you who have worked so hard to get to this point. I'm very happy to report that this means we've hit our 24th Consecutive All Time High in membership. GREAT JOB!!

WOW, what a good year we have had. Don't sit on your hands as we still have work to do before Convention. We still need to reach Commander Klinger's goal of 20,000 members. I know that you guys are up to challenges, so here it is. We need 454 members by Convention, so lets make those calls and work on the Squadrons that are still in the hospital. Get the doctors to them and see if we can get them well before convention. Let's do this and turn a good year into a great year for Commander Klinger.

As of this report we have a new District leader at 106.28% and congratulations goes to District 13 Commander Tom Burns and his team. It is going to be a nail biter to see who lands in 1st place by the time we get to convention as Districts 6 and 11 are fighting for 2nd and 3rd place.

Congratulations to Southwestern Area Commander Christian Rapp. The SW Area is at 104.78% and currently leading the pack.

We are 454 members away from Commander Klinger's goal of 20,000. Let's keep pushing and working membership to show Commander Klinger that when we're given a task, we will accomplish it! Let's make this happen for our Commander and make our Convention even better than it will be.

We have "Made Amazing Stuff Happen" all year long. Let's remember the three "R", Reinstate, Renew, and Recruit. Let them know what our goals and targets are and ask them if they need our help. We are here for them.

I am continuing to ask that anyone that receives our google distribution to talk to your Squadrons, your Districts or Areas and get them involved. The information sent is important to them and it is for them. The link to sign up is [www.floridasons.org](http://www.floridasons.org), find the signup button on the home page and get signed up. This is only going to make our Detachment communications better and to make each Squadron stronger.

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.

**Congratulations on doing a fantastic job this year!**

Respectfully,

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



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### 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](mailto: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

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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.

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## Detachment of Florida — Election of Squadron and District Officers

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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.

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## Detachment of Florida — Delegate Cut-Off

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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](http://www.floridasons.org). Bring this form with you to the Convention. Make all checks payable to The American Legion, Department of Florida.

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## Detachment of Florida — Year End Reports

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It is that time of year again to start working on completing your Squadron Year-end reports. The Department/Detachment has put out a mailing to each Squadron with all of the reports needed to submit along with where and by when to submit them.

**There has been an address change for the Detachment Adjutant and it is as follows:**

**Jim Roberts, Detachment Adjutant  
2691 Mt. Pleasant Rd.  
Quincy, FL 32352-6325**

## Detachment of Florida — Convention Hotel Update

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The main venue, the **World Center Marriott**, is now completely sold out. We hope you have already made your reservations, but if not, we do have two overflow hotels very close to the main venue:

The **Caribe Royale Orlando** is offering their standard rooms for \$139 plus tax, per night and villas for \$314 plus tax, per night. To **book now**, call **(888) 258-7501**, and be sure to ask for **The American Legion, Department of Florida room block**. A mandatory \$12.50 resort fee per night is also required. All reservations require a non-refundable first night room and tax deposit, which MUST be paid by credit card.

**Buena Vista Suites** is offering their standard rooms for \$129 plus tax, per night and villas for \$304 plus tax, per night. To **book now**, call **(800) 537-7737**, and be sure to ask for **The American Legion, Department of Florida room block**. A mandatory \$14.95 resort fee per night is also required. All reservations require a non-refundable first night room and tax deposit, which MUST be paid by credit card.

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## 47<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION SCHEDULE

*This schedule is tentative and subject to change without notice*

**June 27 - 30, 2019**

### Thursday, June 27, 2019

1:00pm to 4:00pm  
2:00pm to 4:00pm

Delegate Registration – Outside Meeting Hall – Crystal H  
SAL Open Forum and Question & Answer Session – Crystal H

### Friday, June 28, 2019

8:00am to 12:00pm  
10:00am to 11:00am  
11:00am to 12:00pm

Delegate Registration – Outside of Meeting Hall – Crystal H  
Pre-Convention Detachment Executive Committee Meeting – Crystal H  
Detachment Convention Opening General Session – Crystal H

- General Business
- Detachment Officer Reports

12:00pm to 1:00pm  
1:00pm to 2:00pm  
1:00pm to 4:00pm  
2:00pm to 4:00pm

Recess for Lunch (On Your Own)  
Commission and Committee Meetings – Crystal H  
Delegate Registration – Outside Meeting Hall – Crystal H  
Detachment Convention General Session – Crystal H

- Guest Speakers
  - Convention Commission and Committee Reports
- SAL Past Commander's Club Meeting – Crystal H

4:00pm to 5:00pm

### Saturday, June 29, 2019

7:30am to 12:00pm  
8:00am to 12:00pm

Delegate Registration – Outside Convention Meeting Hall – Crystal H  
Detachment Convention General Session – Crystal H

- Memorial Service
- General Business
- Commission and Committee Reports

12:00pm to 1:15pm  
1:15pm to 3:00pm

Recess for Lunch (On Your Own)  
Detachment Convention General Session – Crystal H

- Completion of Commission and Committee Reports
- Keynote Speaker
- Area Caucuses

- Election of Detachment Officers
- Ratification of District Commanders and District Vice Commanders
- Installation of Detachment Officers, District Commanders and District Vice Commanders

3:00pm to 3:30pm  
3:30pm to 4:30pm

Post-Convention Detachment Executive Committee – Crystal H  
Ambassador's Course – Crystal H  
*(All Detachment Officers, District Commanders, District Vice Commanders and Commission & Committee Chairmen)*

### Sunday, June 30, 2019

8:00am to 9:00am

Joint Religious Service

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## 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](mailto: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	<a href="#"><u>Tom Klinger (7, Clearwater)</u></a>
<b>Office of Detachment Vice Commander</b>	
Western Area	
Northern Area	<a href="#"><u>Brian Carter (120, Holly Hill)</u></a>
Eastern Area	<a href="#"><u>Richard Duncan (247, Lady Lake)</u></a>
Central Area	<a href="#"><u>Gerard Sambets (275, Dunedin)</u></a>
Southwestern Area	<a href="#"><u>Ernest Sheffield (266, Sarasota)</u></a>
Southern Area	
National Executive Committeeman	<a href="#"><u>John Jennings (71, Lake Wales)</u></a>
National Executive Committeeman Alternate	<a href="#"><u>William Kelly (137, Jacksonville)</u></a>
Detachment Chaplain	
Detachment Historian	
Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms	<a href="#"><u>George Steger (238, Safety Harbor)</u></a>

## District Commander & Vice Commander Endorsements

District	District Commander Endorsements	District Vice Commander Endorsements
1	<a href="#"><u>Robert Farley (240, Pensacola)</u></a>	
2	<a href="#"><u>Kent Smith (82, Carabelle)</u></a>	
3		
4	<a href="#"><u>John T Bennett (284, Belleview)</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Timothy Susskind (155, Crystal River)</u></a>
5		
6	<a href="#"><u>George Worton (347, Lady Lake)</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Dennis Kirsch (80, St. Cloud)</u></a>
7		
8	<a href="#"><u>Jim Edwards (69, Avon Park)</u></a>	
9	<a href="#"><u>Christopher Holder (92, Hollywood)</u></a>	
10		
11		
12	<a href="#"><u>Randy Chilcott (117, Palm Bay)</u></a>	
13	<a href="#"><u>Christian M. Rapp (323, Lehigh Acres)</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Michael Nigbor (136, St. James City)</u></a>
14		
15		
16	<a href="#"><u>Richard J Cummings (238, Safety Harbor)</u></a>	
17		



## 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.

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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).