



THE SOURCE



TOM KLINGER
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
COMMANDER
DETCOMMANDER@LEGIONMAIL.ORG



Well Hello Everyone. I hope you and your loved ones are doing great. All the Districts and Squadrons are off to having a fantastic year in fundraising and supporting the Four Pillars. We joined this organization not only to honor our Fathers or Grandfathers, but to support our Veterans and their families. So let's have fun, make money, and give it away. Believe me all your hard work and dedication does not unnoticed. Thank you.

Let's go to membership. The Detachment started off good and we made our first two target dates. The next target is 45% coming in on December 11th. Let's push for renewals and reinstatements so we can make our 25th consecutive all-time high in membership. As of this writing we have 38 Squadrons showing zero for membership. At least the Squadron Officers should have paid their dues. Send the cards in you are not supposed to hold them.

By the time the Detachment receives this edition of the Source, Fall Conference will have come and gone. I would like to thank those who attended.

The Central Area and Squadron 148 held an Organizational Course on Oct. 19th. The Organizational Course is a history of the Sons of the American Legion and is truly worth the time to attend. The Membership Training

and Development Committee works very hard to put these classes together. Any Area or District that would like to host a class please contact Jim Roberts or JJ. It's a very informative and worthwhile class. Thank you JJ and Bill Kelly for being the instructors at 148.

I travelled to Indianapolis on Oct. 11th for the NEC Meeting and Commander's Class. It was discussed that online renewals are close to being available. More on that will be coming out as it is finalized.

It was my honor to attend the celebration of life for Department of Florida Baseball Chairman and Post 323 Commander Andy Burkett on October 20th at Post 323. The turnout was amazing and shows how much this man will be missed. Andy we all Love You.

Be good and take care. Until next time!

For God and Country,
Tom Klinger, Detachment
Commander



Inside This Issue

From the Detachment Commander	1
From the Detachment Adjutant	2
From the Membership Chairman	3
From the Internal Affairs Chairman	4-5
Commissions and Committees Update	6-7
From the Editor of The Source	8
Upcoming Events	9-10
Are Your Dues Paid?	11

2019-2020 Membership Target Dates:

September 1, 2019	15%	Congratulations! 15.959%
October 9, 2019	25%	Congratulations! 30.10%
November 14, 2019	35%	
December 11, 2019	45%	
January 15, 2020	60%	
February 12, 2020	75%	
March 11, 2020	80%	Legion Birthday
April 8, 2020	90%	
May 13, 2020	100%	
June 11, 2020	20,500	Commander's Goal Delegate Cut-Off



By the time that this edition is published the Fall Conference will have concluded with lots of information shared, lots of work done, friendships renewed and new friends made. My thanks to all of those who made the trip to Orlando to attend our conference.

With the conference behind us now we focus on the rest of the year. A couple of things we are working on. First, we are again working on the Squadron Directory. We extended the deadline to September 30th to submit Squadron Officer Reports to see what we would get in an effort to compile the directory this year. We received a fair amount so we are going to publish a directory this month. This will only be available electronically and it will not be posted to the website.

There have been a lot of questions about the reports not being available on our website. Last year, I moved and as a result I had an address change. The reports on the website had my old address and the reports sent to each Squadron had my new address. We did not want to risk having reports getting lost in the mail so we took them down and they have been down ever since. So secondly, we are looking over all of the reports in their current state and updating them to make sure they are ready for you all to begin submitting your year-end reports. Additionally, we are going to make sure that each report is fillable in a pdf document. This will allow you to fill it out, print it, get signatures and submit them.

As a reminder, the administration of your respective Squadrons is very important. We are responsible to complete all of the reports required of us at various times of the year, in our case, mostly done annually. Now is the time to make sure that you are recording your activities so you can file accurate year end reports. Please pay attention to the deadlines on our reports it is important. We will talk more about reporting later in the year, but want to get the conversation started now.

As we are getting closer to the holidays, I want to take the time to wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving.

Until next month!!!!

Jim Roberts | Detachment Adjutant





Greetings Detachment of Florida Membership Team,

With Fall Conference just completed, we have work to do. Our October 24th, 2019 membership report had the Detachment at 32.273% with our 35% target November 11th, 2019. Our renewal rate for the Detachment is 23.93%. We still have many ZERO Squadrons that need the attention of the District Officers and membership teams.

Other issues that I am going to be watching closely are Squadrons that reach 100% and have no other reported membership for the balance of the year. We must recruit new members into ALL Squadrons if we are to grow and you guys are the best at recruiting. I know everyone is working hard on membership and Commander Klinger and I do thank you for that.

Our last report really did not look good as far as numbers. While I'm not real sure what happened, I am checking with Department to see if we are having an issue at Headquarters. I do know that some changes have taken place since Irene Graham has retired. I will be investigating the issues as I have had many communications regarding Squadrons that stated that they had transmitted membership. More to come on the issue.

The Detachment target numbers are displayed on this page. You can see that the next three targets are close together and we will have a membership increase of 25% in those three target dates (November, December, & January). During this time, we also have our Holiday season. What I am getting to, is we need to be really staying on top of membership as this time will fly by.

Working membership this year has been very interesting with the passing of the Legion Act and some changes that are being done at the National level. Those of you who attended Fall Conference have heard about some of these changes. We'll make any further changes known as they become available.

All Squadrons need to get signed up and approved for MySAL and start using it. It is going to become a very valuable tool for your Squadron membership.

Until next month, safe travels and lets make a BIG SPLASH for Commander Klinger.

2019-2020 Membership Target Dates:

September 1, 2019	15%	Congratulations! 15.959%
October 9, 2019	25%	Congratulations! 30.10%
November 14, 2019	35%	
December 11, 2019	45%	
January 15, 2020	60%	
February 12, 2020	75%	
March 11, 2020	80%	Legion Birthday
April 8, 2020	90%	
May 13, 2020	100%	
June 11, 2020	20,500	Commander's Goal Delegate Cut-Off





Greetings, everyone. I hope this finds everyone doing well. We have lost some great members in the last few weeks and my thoughts and prayers go out to the families and friends of the great people and members of The American Legion Family.

Hopefully everyone made it to our Fall Conference where lots of business was conducted. I will have more detail on that with the next source article.

We are still having issues with members not knowing who to call for what. We have got to get this right. Our website has a listing of all Commission & Committee chairman and all of the officers that would need to be contacted. Texting, Facebook, Messenger, Face Time are not the way to contact and communicate with one another. We need to be making a phone call or sending a email to the person you are taking to. This way if others are needed in the conversation they can be included, and you will get the information you were looking for. Let's all tighten up on our communication skills.

Now on to an important issue. With the passing of the "LEGION ACT" there are going to be lots of verbiage changes within the Sons of The American Legion manuals, membership applications, membership eligibility requirements, requirements of Detachment Officers, Committee & Commission members just to name a few. Lots of stuff is being discussed without the correct information to pass on to our membership. This has got to stop! Almost all of the changes will require passing a resolution to make them official. These resolutions must be brought to the floor of the Fall Conference or our annual Convention. Others will require an administrative change. None of the things the Legion has passed influences us until "WE" vote on and except a resolution for that change or changes. Everyone will be informed when the time comes, and we have gotten our information from National. Until that time comes, it is business as usual without the unnecessary conversations and statements.

The Member Training & Development Committee needs your help: WE NEED INSTRUCTORS. Please provide me a resume of your instruction capabilities. We must get this done and it needs to happen now. We only have 3-4 instructors and we need your help. If you have the background or think you are interested, please get your resume to me and I will pass the information on to Chairman Roberts.

Member Benefits

As a program of the American Legion, members of the Sons are entitled to many benefits that are provided to Legionnaires. Some of the benefits available include discounts on insurance, auto rental, and travel and lodging. Other benefits include discounts at Office Depot/Office Max. Sons members are also eligible for The Legion Insurance Trust and the National Emergency Fund.

Programs

The Sons of the American Legion has a broad range of programs for Family, Youth, Community and National Affairs. With over 27 different programs, we've got you covered from the baseball diamond to our nation's borders. Additionally, we make a difference not only within our local communities, but nationwide as an organization.

Please use our website as it is full of information. It is just one of many tools to help you help your Detachment, District, and most importantly your Squadron.

Sign up on our website for the Goggle mail distribution where we send information out to our members.

(Continued on page 5)

Internal Affairs (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

Below is your homework. Please read and memorized our preamble to our Constitution. Read each line and stop for just a minute and let the words soak in. These words are powerful and should have great meaning to us all. Think about what each line is saying. It is why we do what we do!

PROUD POSSESSORS OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE, WE MALE DESCENDANTS OF VETERANS OF THE GREAT WARS, ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER AS “SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION” FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;
- to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism;
- to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in the Great Wars;
- to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;
- to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses;
- to make right the master of might;
- to promote peace and good will on earth;
- to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
- to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness;
- to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands;
- and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.



Commissions and Committees Update

Special Olympics – Randy Chilcott, Chairman

Wow what a great start to our Special Olympics year. I have traveled to some posts and learned some new ways of supporting the Olympians. I have also had the honor of meeting several of them. At every event I found the American Legion Family working together for this great cause. My last stop before fall conference was at post 117 where the squadron put on a luau fund raiser, even with bad weather they raised over a \$1000.00. As we move forward, I project we will top last year.

The Special Olympics relies mostly on private resources to meet its annual budget. And for the past 30 years, The Sons of the American Legion has been a proud and valuable supporter of the Special Olympics by hosting a variety of fundraisers. Cash donations can be made by sending your tax-deductible donation payable to;

Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Florida Special Olympics

Mail to:

Sons of the American Legion

Detachment of Florida

1912A Lee Road

Orlando, FL 32810

Randy Chilcott, Chairman

Children & Youth Commission – Tom Soeder

This Month Les Miller, the Department Chairman Announced the Golf Outing which will be held on April 25th at IMG Academy Golf Club, located at 4350 El Conquistador Pkwy in Bradenton, FL. There will be a shot-gun start at 9:00. More information is available on the 'Events' page of this edition of The Source.

Squadron Activities Committee – George Worton

The Squadron Activities Committee will put together an outline on how we grade the Consolidated Report for Squadrons. We will focus on the completeness of the requested data and how we grade the content. It is important to understand what we are looking at to reach the desired goal. This can be shared with the Area and District Commanders so they will be in a position to share it with their Squadron's. We also are looking at using this to get better participation of the Squadrons in submitting their reports.

We also are looking at ways to share successful programs to retain/increase membership, increase fund-raising, and to how squadrons can perform Veteran, Children and Youth, and Community activities to reach out to our communities. Some Squadrons may not have the resources to donate money but have the ability to donate time and effort to many worthy organizations that provide positive impact for our communities. We have a few members of the Committee but are looking for some new members, if you can bring your ideas to assist our mission we welcome you!

Community Affairs Committee – George Aichele

As we head into November and the beginning of the Holiday season, remember there are so many opportunities for your squadron to be active in your community. Of course, we have Veterans Day activities, parades, picnics, etc. but lets not forget our veterans in local nursing homes and hospitals. Many of these heroes may have no family to visit. Think what it would mean to some of these men and women to receive a visit from your squadron. Maybe even have a Veterans Day Party at one of the local facilities.

Make sure these American heroes are not forgotten. Thanksgiving is also a great time to help in the community. Many organizations, churches, etc. have Thanksgiving for the less fortunate in our communities. These can be a great way to help out our communities and volunteer. As a Past National Commander once said when asked what the Sons of the American Legion did, "We have fun, raise money and then we give it away"! Lets all try to remember this as we go about our community.

(Continued on page 7)

Commissions and Committees Update (continued)

(Continued from page 6)

Constitution and By-Laws, Ed Sheubrooks, Chairman

With the Legion Act, there are a lot of changes that have happened, and will continue to happen. Of course the most important one is the changing of the Eligibility dates for The American Legion. When this was signed into Law by President Trump, it not only changed the Eligibility Dates for The Legion, but as a PROGRAM of The American Legion, it also changed the date for the Sons as well. This was voted on and approved at the past National Convention.

Now let's address the change to The Preamble of The American Legion. At the Fall National Executive Committee meeting, The American Legion voted to change the wording of their Constitution. This was done with a Resolution that was passed by the Legion NEC. This change does not yet reflect a change in the wording of the Sons Preamble. We need a Resolution to be passed by our NEC. This should be done at the Spring NEC meeting in May.

I know everyone has had a lot of questions on these issues. We must follow proper protocol and procedure in order to make sure we are proceeding correctly. There will be discussions on these and other topics at the Fall Conference.

From the Editor



We Want Your Articles!

As we pass the mid point of the 2019-2020 service year, I am taking this opportunity to offer a resounding 'Thank You' to all of our Detachment Officers for never failing to recognize members that consistently make a difference, not only in the Sons of the American Legion, but to our great nation.

I am honored to serve in the Sons of the American Legion and very proud of the newsletter that you all contribute to. I am making a plea to all District and Area Commanders to please let ALL of the

Squadrons to whom you report that 'The Source' is here for them and that reporting on what they do is vital to making this publication a viable and important tool for all of us.

Squadrons are urged to submit highlights of their events to The Source. Let's let the world know how the Detachment of Florida 'rocks the house' when it comes to making the words in our preamble come to life.

The Source is and will continue to be a great place to let the rest of the Detachment know about your upcoming events and your fundraising successes. Thanks to the Detachment of Florida's Public Relations Chairman Christian Rapp, it is now easier than ever to make a submission for publication in The Source.

Simply visit <https://floridasons.org/the-source-source-article-submission-form/> or send an email to TheSource@floridasons.org to submit your article. Submissions are due by the 23rd of each month, as we make every effort to publish on or near the 5th.

Thank you for what you do and for helping to keep The Source focused on what we do and who we are!

Respectfully,

Ray Leventhal • Editor, The Source

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION - DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA

THE SOURCE

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.
 - a. 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.
 - b. 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:
 - a. 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 – 2691 Mount Pleasant Rd, Quincy, FL 32352.
2. Endorsement letters can be scanned and sent by e-mail to the Detachment at floridasons@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.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 323 VETERAN'S DAY WEEKEND



&



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9TH

CORNHOLE INFO

- TOURNAMENT RUN BY **CORNHOLE NATION**
- ENTRY FEE \$20 PER TEAM (2 PEOPLE)
*** NO TWO PROS ON ONE TEAM ***
- DOUBLE ELIMINATION WITH CASH PRIZES
- REGISTRATION 11AM - BAGS FLY AT NOON!

INSIDE EVENTS INCLUDE:

SILENT AUCTION
50/50 RAFFLES
GUN RAFFLE
LIVE DJ
AND MORE!

RIB COOKOFF INFO

- ENTRY FEE \$45 PER TEAM
- EACH TEAM RECEIVES 5 RACKS OF RIBS
- TEAMS PICK UP RIBS FRI NOV 6 AT POST 323 FOR PREP

**** NO PRE COOKING ALLOWED! ****

- COOKING BEGINS SAT, NOV 9 AT 8AM
- MUST HAVE 3 RIBS READY BY 1:30PM FOR JUDGING
- RIBS AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC AFTER JUDGES RECEIVE RIBS
- PRIZES FOR 1ST, 2ND, 3RD, AND PEOPLE'S CHOICE

**** PRE-REGISTER AT POST 323 BY WED, NOV 6 ****



PERFORMANCE BY
B2 Bouncer
entertainment
AT 7:30PM

Upcoming Events

Children & Youth Golf Outing

When: Saturday April 25, 2020 — Shotgun Start 0900hrs

Where: IMG Academy Golf Club, 4350 El Conquistador Pkwy, Bradenton FL

Costs: \$75 per golfer, includes box lunch, 2 drinks on course and early dinner

Lodging: Lantern Inn & Suites, 7251 N. Tamiami Trail (14th St W), Sarasota, FL 34243, 941-355-7747

\$89 King / \$99 Two Queens

Ask for American Legion Rate, Deadline 4/10/2020

Send Checks Payable to:

Sons of The American Legion Squadron 24

Attn: C&Y Golf Tournament

2000 75th St W

Bradenton, FL 34209

Benefitting the Programs and Charities of the Florida American Legion Children & Youth Commission





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.