

TOM KLINGER

DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA COMMANDER

Detcommander@legionmail.org







Well Hello Everyone. I hope everyone's Thanksgiving was safe and enjoyable. I would like to thank each and every one of you for making the December 11th membership target date ahead of schedule. As of this writing we are at 47.44%. The first of the year is approaching and the 2019 membership cards will not be honored. Renewals should be picking up so we can make the next target date of 60% on January 15th. Keep up the good work. You guys amaze me daily.

I extend a Thank You to everyone who attended Fall Conference. If you did not attend Commander Rick Johnson, Gambler, and Jerry Brandt all received crew cuts. Thanks to the unbelievable donations made to COTA. Nov. 23rd. at Post 275 a roast was held for Commander Rick Johnson. At that event it was decided that if \$10,000.00 dollars is raised by my Homecoming I will be receiving a Mohawk haircut at convention. Not sure how Commander Rick talked me into it.

Fall Conference is over and NOW is the time to send in your endorsements for a Detachment Office. If you're thinking about it or have wanted to but afraid - just do it. The Detachment needs you and needs new officers to carry on this great tradition. Some of the current Officers are getting older and would like

to take a break. If being a Detachment Officer has ever crossed your mind go for it.

Not much to report on travels this month. It's the Holiday Season and it's tough to juggle between family and the Legion. The time with family usually wins. I leave for Jacksonville on the 6th. for a Pearl Harbor Event at Mayport Fleet Reserve.

Be good and take care. Until next time!

For God and Country,

Tom Klinger, Detachment Commander





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2019-2020 Membership Target Dates:

September 1, 2019	15%	Congratulations! 15.959%
October 9, 2019	25%	Congratulations! 30.10%
November 14, 2019	35%	Congratulations!
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

I first want to say that I hope that you had a great Thanksgiving Holiday with your family and friends. As we indicated last month, the Detachment was able to publish a directory for those Squadrons that submitted their officers report with the required information. This is not posted on the website and it was distributed electronically. If you did not get a copy please contact your District Commander as they also have an electronic copy of this information.

The Detachment Webmaster is now in the process of taking the Detachment Report Forms and converting them to be fillable. Once this has been completed, we will get these posted to the website.

The MySAL Portal is now available to process membership. Our Detachment was selected as one of a few to pilot this new process. If you do not have access to MySAL you need to request access. You can download the request from by going to this link -

https://www.members.legion.org/images/mylegion/otherpdfs/mysal.pdf National will verify your information with the Department. However, this is only possible of you have submitted an officers report. You can get assistance in processing membership through MySAL from your Post Adjutant or the National Helpdesk. Please understand that the National Helpdesk will only work with the Squadron Adjutant that is on file with them and Department via the submitted officers report.

Please keep up the work that you are doing as it the work that makes us all successful.

I want to personally wish each of you a Merry Christmas and wish you all the best for the upcoming New Year.

Until next month!!!!!

Jim Roberts | Detachment Adjutant

Jones Had Robert Coll





Greeting Membership Team,

With Fall Conference completed our year is well underway; we now have our task assignments from Commander Klinger. Our November 23rd, 2019 membership report had the Detachment at 45.21% with our 45% target December 11th, 2019. Our renewal rate for the Detachment is 32.92%. We still have 22 ZERO Squadrons that need the attention of the District Officers and membership teams. Other issues that I am going to watch 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, but after some investigating found the problem to be at

Headquarters with the membership transmittal changing to the SAL portal. I do know that all Posts and Squadrons can now transmit membership via the SAL portal. Talk to your Post Commander or Adjutant to get on board with the new process. It does help with the report and will in time make it much easier to get your membership done.

The Detachment target numbers shown 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. You will hear more about this at Convention or other means of communication when we know of all the changes that are to take place.

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.

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2019-2020 Membership Target Dates:



Fall Conference is now behind us and the 2019-2020 year is officially underway. We had a very well attended Conference with lots of great work completed along with lots of information to be past along to our members.

We once again had discussions about our members not knowing who to contact for questions and concerns. We have got to get this right. Our web site has all the Commission/Committee chairman and all 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 an 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.

With the passing of the "LEGION ACT" there have been lots of verbiage changes within The American Legion. With these change The Sons of The American Legion will also have lots of changes to be made to our manuals, membership applications, membership eligibility requirements, requirements of Detachment Officers, Committee/Commission members just to name a few. Lots of stuff has been discussed without the correct information to pass on to our membership. This has got to stop! Most all the changes may require a resolution to make the changes, these resolutions must be brought to the floor of the Fall Conference or our annual Convention. None of the things the Legion has passed influences us until "WE" vote on and adopt a resolution for each particular change. Some of the changes may require a resolution, some may be an administration 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.

As we mentioned during the Fall Conference, we are now able to process membership through the MySAL Web Portal. Instructions on how to process membership using the portal have been distributed and needs to reach all Squadrons. Please review the information and understand how this is to work. If your Squadron is not using MySAL, you need to request access. National needs to verify the information you provide so, ensure that your Squadron has submitted an officer's report form prior to requesting access. The Squadron Adjutant is the only one that will be granted access provided information is on file. 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.

(Continued on page 5)

Internal Affairs (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

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.

Please download and read the documents in these links. They will assist your Squadron in setting up MySAL for transmittal submissions.

- Guide to Squadron Transmittals (MySAL)
- Legion Access to SAL 'Process Membership' Feature

Please read and memorize the preamble to our Constitution. Read each line and stop for just a minute and reflect on the words. These works 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! This would also be a great training opportunity at each Squadron meeting.

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.





Hello Sons!

Your PR team has been busy since Fall Conference! We've added a few requested items to the floridasons.org website. The first of which is a way for EVERYONE (Detachment Officers, Area Commanders, District Commanders and regular members) to submit an article for "The Source". If you have an article to submit, simply navigate to https://floridasons.org/the-source-source-article-submission-form/ and fill out the form and upload your article. Accepted article formats are .doc, docx and .rtf. Your submission goes directly to our editor, Ray Leventhal and myself. There is also a banner on the homepage you can click on that will take you to this page.

** SOURCE ARTICLES ARE DUE BY THE 23rd OF EACH MONTH **

A second addition to the website is a page that lists each district's schedule of district meetings. You can view that page by navigating to https://floridasons.org/district-meetings-page/. On this page you'll find the current list of submitted district meetings. You also have the ability to submit your district meetings on this page. Currently, the only meetings listed are those for districts 5, 8, 9, 13 & 15. Thank you to those District Commanders who have submitted their meeting dates. I encourage you all that haven't submitted their dates to do so as soon as possible. By listing these in one place, it will allow all members of our Detachment to see when your meetings are and, quite possibly, attend your meetings if they are traveling through your area.

One final addition to the site is the, reactivation of the DCC Meetings page, which can be found at https://floridasons.org/district-constitutional-conferences/. Please use this page to submit your District Constitutional Conferences. This will allow your Area Commanders and others to see when your DCC is being held and attend. The only DCCs listed currently are **Districts 5,8,13 & 15**. Again, District Commanders, please submit your DCC schedule as soon as possible.

All of the above listed pages can be found on the main menu under the "MEETINGS" tab.

Lastly, I would like to thank those who are submitting your events through the website. The use of the event submission form is continuing to grow, which is fantastic! Remember it doesn't just have to be a Sons event that you are submitting – it can be anything from a Post Family event to an Area Event. All events submitted are added to the Detachment Calendar, Facebook Page and Website for EVERYONE to see. Now that our Winter Residents are returning, I know there will be an increase in the events held. PLEASE submit your event through the website at https://floridasons.org/event-submission-form/.

One final note, the **FORMS** section of the website will be back online soon. We are working to make all of the forms Fillable PDFs. This will mean that you'll be able to access the form, fill in the blanks and then submit it without getting writer's cramp! We'll notify you as soon as the forms are back online.

Thanks for all you do, and keep up the great work that you do for our veterans, children and our communities!

For God and Country,

Christian M Rapp

Public Relations Chairman 2019-2020

Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Florida



Hello Detachment of Florida!

My name is Brian Carter, and I am the Northern Area Vice Commander. I would like to wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas, and a safe New Year. We have just completed our Fall Conference with more information and drive to make this Detachment grow. So keep working your programs and membership turning it in often. Make a set day once a week to send your cards in whether its 1 or 21. If a member does not have his membership for the current year turned in to National they are not eligible for the benefits they so deserve as members.

There are 2 important things we would like to see more of:

- 1. Communication: from the Detachment level to the Squadron and vice versa. Without communication we stand alone and that gets us nowhere. Let your Detachment know what you need and what you are doing to help make this organization grow. We as Detachment Officers can't help if we don't know the problems. The Detachment tools can help your fundraisers gain attendance by other Squadrons. Remember to submit your events to the Detachment on our website at https://floridasons.org.
- 2. Detachment officers: if anyone would like to hold an elected office, get your endorsement letter in to Detachment soon. If you would like to hold an appointed office or chair for a Commission or Committee please email our Detachment Adjutant so you may be put on the list.

The Detachment is here to help you as much as we can. All we am asking is we work together as **1 team**, **1 organization**, **1 family**.

Remember our Fallen

Honor those who serve and their families

Teach our youth the value of freedom

For God and Country,

Brian Carter, Northern Area Vice Commander





Hello Sons!

I'd like to start this article by thanking those Squadrons that are actively working their membership. At the time of this writing, we have seven Squadrons that have met or exceeded the November 14th goal of 35%. I big THANK YOU to Commander Michael Nigbor and his membership team at Squadron 136, St James City, for being at 69.31%!

We have six Squadrons at 30% or below and two Squadrons with a big ZERO. At this point in the year, your installed officers should at least have their 2020 memberships paid and submitted – remember, we must lead by example. If you need help with membership, please contact me and I will gladly come out and assist you. **OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP GOAL IS 45% by DECEMBER 11**.

A new tool that has just been launched for our Detachment is the ability to process membership online through MySAL.org. This feature utilizes electronic payment methods via MySAL.org, and eliminates the need for Squadron Officers to send the National and Detachment portion of the (3-part) membership cards and paper-checks to the Department/Detachment Headquarters office.

If your Post is already using MyLegion.org to process membership, they can walk you through the process. To access this feature, log in to MySAL.org and select the "Process Membership" option in the left menu. I have posted the instructions in our District 13 Google Group.

If you are NOT a MySAL.org user, go to www.MySAL.org and sign-up by completing the "Squadron Authorization Form"

If you experience any problems or issues, Customer Support can be reached by calling 1-800-433-3318 or by email: MyLegion@Legion.org.

Remember, our next District Meeting is at Post 323 in BEAUTIFUL Downtown Lehigh Acres on December 8th. Riders meet at 10, Sons meet at 11, Lunch is at 12, and Legion & Auxiliary meet at 1pm. Attendance from each Squadron is encouraged. Hope to see you all there!

For God and Country,

Christian M Rapp 13th District Commander 2019-2020 Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Florida



Commissions and Committees Update

Special Olympics – Randy Chilcott, Chairman

December's Special Olympics Events:

Date	Event	Venue	City
12/02/2019	Area 3 Basketball Competition	Raa Middle School	Tallahassee
12/03/2019	Miami-Dade County Basketball Competition (Team Skills)	Miami Springs High School	Miami Springs
12/03/2019	Health and Fitness Webinar Series		
12/04/2019	Pasco County Basketball Competition - Southwest - Skills	Wendall Krinn Tech	New Port Richey
12/04/2019	Pasco County Basketball Competition - Central - Skills	Land O'Lakes High School	Land O' Lakes
12/05/2019	Citrus County Basketball Competition	Crest School	Lecanto
12/06/2019 - 12/07/2019	State Bowling Championships	Boardwalk Bowl Entertainment Center	Orlando
12/06/2019	Special Event: 2020 LETR Kick-Off	The Florida Hotel and Conference Center (Florida Mall)	Orlando
12/06/2019	Fundraising Event: Skeet Shoot	Talon Range	Midway
12/07/2019	Hernando County Basketball Competition	Christian Church of the Wildwood	Weeki Wachee
12/07/2019	Seminole County Basketball Competition	Palm Springs Baptist Church	Altamonte Springs
12/07/2019	Sumter County Basketball Competition	Church of Oxford	Oxford
12/07/2019	Coaches Training School - Stand Up Paddle	Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center	Ft. Myers
12/07/2019	Fundraising Event: Polar Plunge Orlando	Aquatica	Orlando
12/07/2019	Fundraising Event: Polar Plunge Jacksonville	Adventure Landing & Shipwreck Island Waterpark	Jacksonville Beach
12/08/2019	Polk County Basketball Competitions	Florida Southern College	Lakeland
12/10/2019	Miami-Dade County Basketball Competition (3x3 and 5x5)	G. Holmes Braddock Senior High	Miami
12/13/2019	Area 6 Basketball Competition - Pee Wee and Junior	Mitchell High School	New Port Richey
12/13/2019	Area 6 Basketball Competition - Pee Wee and Junior	Seven Springs Middle School	New Port Richey
12/13/2019	Special Event: Manatee County Christmas Dinner/Dance	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church	Sarsaota
12/14/2019	Area 5 Basketball Competition	Jax Sportsplex	Jacksonville
12/14/2019	Area 6 Basketball Competition	Bardmoor YMCA	Largo
12/14/2019	Area 6 Basketball Competition - Team Skills and 3v3	Bardmoor YMCA	Largo
12/14/2019	Area 6 Basketball Competition - Teams	Cypress Creek Middle High School	Wesley Chapel
12/14/2019	Area 6 Basketball Competition - Teams	Thomas E. Weightman Middle School	Wesley Chapel
12/14/2019	Area 6 Basketball Competition - Teams	Wesley Chapel High School	Wesley Chapel
12/14/2019	Brevard County Basketball Competition	Walter Butler Community Center	Sharpes
12/14/2019	Lake County Basketball Competition	Tavares High School	Tavares
12/14/2019	Orange County Basketball Competition	Piedmont Lakes Middle School	Apopka
12/14/2019	Orange County Basketball Competition	Apopka High School	Apopka
12/14/2019	Orange County Basketball Competition	Wolf Lake Middle School	Apopka
12/14/2019	Orange County Basketball Competition	Ocoee High School	Ocoee
12/15/2019	Area 10 Basketball Competition	Nova Southeastern University, Noel P. Brown Gym	Davie
12/31/2019 - 01/01/2020	Fundraising Event: New Year's Eve Extravaganza	The Village Door at Seascape	Miramar Beach

Commissions and Committees Update (continued)

From the Special Olympics Chair (Continued from page 9)

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

To receive recognition at our convention pleases forward copies of the checks/money orders along with a letter describing the donation to:

Randy Chilcott Special Olympics Chairman Detachment of Florida 189 Veterans Dr. Palm Bay, FL 32909



From the Editor

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.

Should you prefer to submit directly by email, please email TheSource@floridasons.org.

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



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:
 - 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.
- 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.



Detachment Officer Endorsements

Detachment Commander	Brian Carter (120, Holly Hill)	
Office of Detachment Vice Commander		
Western Area		
Northern Area	Bryan Barcomb (270, Port Orange)	
Eastern Area	Randy Chilcott (117, Palm Bay)	
Central Area		
Southwestern Area		
Southern Area		
National Executive Committeeman		
National Executive Committeeman Alternate	Tom Klinger (7, Clearwater)	
Detachment Chaplain		
Detachment Historian		
Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms		

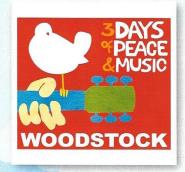
District Commander & Vice Commander Endorsements

District	District Commander Endorsements	District Vice Commander Endorsements
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13	Christian M Rapp (323, Lehigh Acres)	
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From Motown to Woodstock







THE 605
SAT-January 11, 2020

\$5.00 Entry Fee Cash Bar/Kitchen Opens 5 - 730 PM Dancing to Live 60s Music from 630-930 PM

Wear your Tye-Dyes & Bellbottoms

American Legion Post 189 807 Louisiana Ave, Sebastian, FL 32958





Upcoming Events



DINNER: BEEF TIPS WITH NOODLES

HOTEL: HAMPTON INN, 1103 US N HWY 19, CRYSTAL RIVER, FL 34429

(ROOMS: \$96/NIGHT)

Call the Hotel Directly for Reservations—352-564-6464





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





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.

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