



THE SOURCE



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Well Hello Everyone. I hope everyone and their families are doing well. Remember to follow the guidelines as not to spread this awful virus. 6 feet apart and wash your hands. The state wide lock down is easing up a little bit and hopefully things will be back to normal in the near future. If you have not heard the National Executive Committee has voted to cancel National Convention in August. Times are difficult but we still need to work on fundraising, membership, and year end reports.

Let's go to membership. The Detachment is working on their 25th consecutive all time high in membership. As of this writing we are about 97%. **Please do not hold membership cards.** Send them in even if you only have one. Make a habit of sending the cards in every Monday or whatever day of the week works for you. We all know in these trying times it's tough to work your membership, but think outside the box and get creative.

Even though Convention has been canceled we still have to send in the year end reports. These reports tell us who is to receive the awards the Detachment gives out every year, and the Department submits them to Congress every year. If you need help filling them out please call your District Officers. They are there to help you.

Until things return to normal, remember buddy checks. Give those members you used to see all the time a call or an email. If the Squadron Officers each called 5 or 6 members think of the good will that would do. The members would feel wanted and appreciated. They would feel proud to be a member. A little recognition goes a long way.

In closing, thank you for what you do and all you do.

Until next time. Be good and take care

For God and Country,

Tom Klinger

Detachment Commander



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TOGETHER
WE CAN
AND WILL
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

2019-2020 Membership Target Dates:

September 1, 2019	15%	Congratulations! 15.96%
October 9, 2019	25%	Congratulations! 30.10%
November 14, 2019	35%	Congratulations!
December 11, 2019	45%	Congratulations! 55.61%
January 15, 2020	60%	Congratulations! 73.57%
February 12, 2020	75%	Congratulations! 84.63%
March 11, 2020	80%	Congratulations! 91.42%
April 8, 2020	90%	Congratulations! 94.10%
May 13, 2020	100%	So Close! - 96.31%
June 11, 2020	20,500	Commander's Goal Delegate Cut-Off



Well, it has been a crazy couple of months and we are still not out of the woods yet with respect to the Coronavirus. As a result of this virus, we have had to cancel conventions, conferences, meetings and etc. Nothing in our history prepares us for issues such as this to arise, but we must do what we can to overcome this obstacle that has been put in our path.

Your Detachment Leadership have taken the necessary actions to insure that we can continue to conduct the business of the organization at the State and District Levels. The Detachment Executive Committee voted and approved a resolution to extend the term of the current officers and members of the Detachment Executive Committee for another year. Those officers can choose to continue to serve or they have the option to resign if they wish to do so. We will have some vacancies and they will be filled by appointment of the Detachment Commander and ratified by the Detachment Executive Committee when we meet after the beginning of the new administrative year.

We have provided guidance to each of the Squadrons, through the Area & District Commanders, with regards to Squadron elections. These are recommendations only and not the rule of law folks. We recommend working with your Post to see what actions they are taking and then work with the Squadron Leadership to take the appropriate actions.

As we progress down the road, things will happen. They may not happen quickly, but they will happen, and we need to listen what is being said and be cautious of rumors and innuendo. Neither of which serve us well. I have seen a lot of things on the internet and some of the things that people distribute as fact, when it is not. Please do not be sucked into the trap of just sending information out because it was shared or posted by someone else on Social Media. Due some research on it and if you can't verify it...don't share it. Partisan politics is running rampant and that is fine, but please remember that as leaders of our organization it is important to remember that the Sons of The American Legion is a non-partisan organization and we as an organization do not take a side of the aisle. So we would ask our Squadrons not to post partisan political items on any of their social media platforms.

This is a real opportunity to focus on membership renewals. The ability to retain our membership from year to year is our biggest membership problem. We have the ability to do something good to retain our members and show that we can support our membership. We only have to use our imagination. So take some time and reach out to your members and do a "Buddy Check", see how they are doing during this time and get ready for the new administrative year which is quickly approaching.

With the start of the new administrative year new cards will be mailed out to our Squadrons soon. The National Organization voted and approved a per capita increase of \$3.00 that takes effect with the new 2021 membership cards. What does this mean for your Squadron? It means there will be an increase in the per capita that you will transmit to the Department by \$3.00.

Here is the break down of our transmittals through 2020. For each card that is transmitted the Squadron is responsible to transmit \$8.00 per card. Of that \$6.00, per card, stays in Florida for our programs and \$2.00, per card, is then transmitted, by Department, to National.

(Continued on page 3)

Adjutant's Corner (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

The new break down starting with 2021 cards is that each Squadron will now be responsible to transmit \$11.00 for each card that is transmitted to Department. Of that \$6.00, per card, stays in Florida and \$5.00, per card, is sent, by Department, to National.

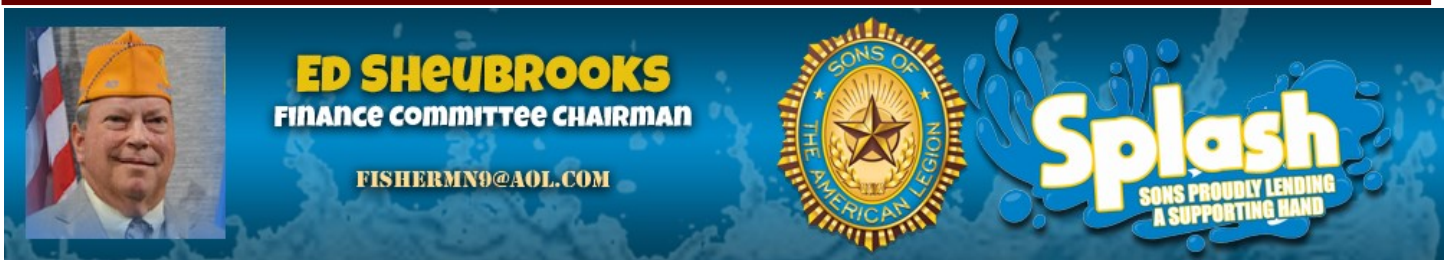
So the bottom line is that with each 2021 card, Squadrons will need to send a check for \$11.00 per card to Department when submitting their cards.

We will have more information to come on many topics over the coming months as we look down the road so please stay tuned. It is a good time to subscribe to our E-mail Group that is available through Google Groups, just go to our website at www.floridasons.org for more information and to sign up.



Jim Roberts, Adjutant

Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Florida



Since our Convention has been canceled, I have received numerous calls as to what to do with any donations that the Squadrons have raised for our various Charities prior to the Corona Virus.

Donations

If your Squadron has any donations, please make the checks payable to the actual Charity such as Special Olympics or The Child Welfare Foundation. Please do not make the checks payable to the Detachment of Florida.

Once you have cut the checks, please mail these to:

Ed Sheubrooks
800 S. Brocksmit Rd
Fort Pierce, FL 34945.

I will in turn log all the checks that I receive, and at the end of June will mail these checks to the Charities on behalf of the Detachment of Florida.

Per Capita Increase

When you receive your Squadrons 2021 Membership Cards in the mail, please remember that the National Per Capita has increased from \$2.00 per member to \$5.00 per member. With the Detachments per capita included, you will need to transmit a total of \$11.00 per member to Department. This National Dues increase was passed at the 2019 National Convention in Indianapolis. Please make sure your Squadron Finance Officer and or Membership Chairman is aware of this increase.

For God and Country,

Ed Sheubrooks, Finance Committee Chairman



Greeting Membership Team,

With all that has been going on over the past months we are continuing to make progress toward our history making opportunity - reaching our 25th consecutive all-time high in membership. As of this article the Detachment needs 499 cards to be transmitted to reach that target. With the Posts opening back up we should once again get back into a strong recovery in our membership numbers. Everyone needs to transmit every card they can. We need your support and understanding.

I strongly believe that we need to have better contact information on all our members. Phone numbers, email addresses, and up to date mailing addresses. COVID-19 showed us why that is important. We need to continue to stay focused on our membership. We all need to remember the 3 "R's" (Recruit, Reinstate, & Renew).

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Our June 4, 2020 membership report had the Detachment at 97.47% with our 105% target date June 11th, 2020. Our renewal rate for the Detachment is 81.29%.

We had been on a great pace to make Commander Klinger's goal of 20,750 by delegate cut-off until COVID-19 stopped us in our tracks. We need 499 members for your Detachment goal and 1,496 members for our Commanders goal of 20,750. With having our Post homes closed and are not continuing to work membership as we normally would, our Commander's goal is most likely not going to happen. All Squadrons must continue to work our membership if we are to make our targets. I know everyone is working hard on membership and Commander Klinger and I do thank you for that. Renewals are another issue with our growth. As noted above our renewal rate is 81.29%, with our Detachment goal being 85%. If you look at the overall numbers you will see as I see, we are missing the mark on renewals. We are losing membership every year. Why?

Squadrons will soon be receiving the 2020-2021 membership cards and hopefully our administration manual. These should be mailed to the Posts. Please check with the Post and be on the lookout for your 2020-2021 membership cards.

While we're talking about our 2021 membership, please remember that this also starts the per capita increase. With the 2021 cards you will be paying \$11.00 per capita for each member, \$6.00 to the Detachment and \$5.00 to National. The transmittal forms online should reflect that change.

Let us all continue to work hard on our membership, as I know you will and let us have something positive come out of all this negative. Let us make our next all-time high in membership.



Greetings Detachment of Florida,

With our annual Convention cancelled and or Post homes hopefully opening very soon, let's get back to work. We have all been in a vastly different time. We must continue our work as we move forward. Each Squadron still needs to complete your required reports and send them in as you normally do each year. These reports are important to the Detachment as well as the National organization. Each Squadron should have received their form packets. A lot of the forms are fillable and printable online, making it much easier to get your forms completed and sent in on time. These forms can be located on our [Detachment website](#) under the administration tab.

To use the MySAL membership portal it is imperative that your Squadron Officer report forms are completed and those get to the proper person for processing. If this form is not on file with the National organization, you cannot get access to MySAL. This is a must. Let me repeat, that you must completed and transmitted to the responsible party the completed Squadron Officers report form to get your temporary log-in information. The Squadron Adjutant will be verified with Department before access is given by National.

As we move back to reopening of Post homes, I think we would all agree that good contact information is a must for each Squadrons and their membership. A valid Squadron email is becoming especially important. We all need the ability to make communications with you, the Squadron and yes get information down to our membership. There are a lot of free email services available for your use. A Squadron that does not have a valid email address will in time lose out on so much. Each Squadron should have received a letter in your packets better explaining the need for this. Each of you should now see the importance of good contact information. We need to get this done sooner and not later.

We continue to have issues with our members not knowing who to contact for questions, answers and/or concerns especially during our current issues. We have got to get this right. Our web site has all the Detachment Officers and Commission/Committee Chairman that you may need to contact. A Detachment directory has been completed and sent to the District and Area Commanders for distribution. If you have not received one of these directories, please contact your District Commander and ask for one. Our social media platforms are a great way to keep in touch with friends, family and to advertise social events. Texting, Facebook, messenger, Face Time, etc. are not the way to contact and communicate with one another. We need to be making a phone call, sending an email to the person you need to talk to. This way if others are needed in the conversation they can be included, and you will get the information you were looking for. We must improve our communication skills

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



Internal Affairs (continued)

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

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.

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 membership. It is simple to sign up. Go to www.floridasons.org and scroll to the bottom of the first page. You will find a button asking you if you would like to sign up for the google group. Click the button, enter the information and submit. You are now signed up to receive Detachment only information and if you find you do not want if do the road, you can unsubscribe.

Always remember that our Detachment is only as strong as it's member. We need to continue to recruit, reinstate, and renew if we want to continue to grow. Let's continue to our 25th consecutive all-time high in membership.





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

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Tallahassee, FL 32301

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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 19,000 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.