



THE SOURCE



Well Hello Everyone. Last month I talked about Posts reopening and things slowly getting back to normal. Since then I'm getting word that some Posts are closing or closed. My own Post closed because of Covid. The rest of the year is not only going to be tough, but unpredictable. Let's keep a positive attitude and remember why we're here. Our main goal is to help Veterans, their families, and our communities.

Since I have been involved in this Organization, the Detachment has won numerous National awards for the millions and millions of dollars we have donated to various charities. The only way to continue this is by working our membership.

Remember the 3 R's. Renew, Reinstate, and Recruit.

Without increasing our membership the Organization will slowly go away. We have worked way too hard for that to happen.

Membership-wise, the Department has the Detachment at 55.41% on 11-25 and National has us at 56.10% on 11-30. It doesn't matter which one you read, you all are kicking butt in membership!. On behalf of the Detachment I would like to thank each and every one of you for your hard work on membership.

As much as I hate to say there is not much traveling or visitations going on right now. Events that have been held over and over again for many years are being cancelled. It's been way to long since we all have seen each other and I miss seeing everyone. We will get back to normal eventually.

Not much else to report until things change. Keep your head up and think positively.

For God and Country,
Tom Klinger
Detachment Commander



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2020-2021 Membership Target Dates:

| | | |
|-------------------|--------|------------------|
| September 3, 2020 | 10% | CONGRATULATIONS! |
| October 8, 2020 | 25% | CONGRATULATIONS! |
| November 12, 2020 | 35% | CONGRATULATIONS! |
| December 3, 2020 | 45% | CONGRATULATIONS! |
| January 14, 2021 | 60% | |
| February 4, 2021 | 75% | |
| March 4, 2021 | 80% | |
| April 14, 2021 | 90% | |
| May 6, 2021 | 100% | |
| June 16, 2021 | 20,750 | Commander's Goal |
| Delegate Cut-off | | |



This month's article will not be that long. I would usually start this month out about our Past Fall Conference. However, we all know it has been postponed by the Covid 19 Virus. When will we return to normal? Only God knows that answer. In the mean time we must continue to work our programs to the best of our abilities! there is so much need in the world today, and the Son's have always stepped up to the plate and delivered! I know you will do your best to help those in need!

My apologies for the lack of communication the past few weeks. My work load has increased as we head into our busy time of the year. As a Citrus producer and packer, we are doing our part to help those in need with our Food Bank Programs and Farm to Table box programs. There really has not been too much to share or publish. Our Membership Chairman John has been keeping everyone abreast of our Membership. I am really pleased that we have reached every goal to date.

There was talk of possibly having a Conference sometime in January. With the continued spread of Covid 19, I believe we need to forego that idea. However, I am working to set up a zoom or Conference call in January with the Detachment Executive Committee. At that time we will discuss the possibility of a meeting in February. Our foremost intent is that we want to make sure everyone is safe and stays healthy. I will be getting some input on this from the Commander's Advisory Committee and the Committee on Committee's. Remember the primary directive is to keep everyone healthy and safe.

In closing, on behalf of my Family and I, we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Prayers for a better 2021!! Stay SAFE and enjoy your Family!

Regards,

Ed Sheubrooks

Detachment Adjutant





Greetings Membership Team!

“CONGRATULATIONS” to everyone on reaching our first three membership goals (10%, 25%, & 35%). As of this November 11th, 2020 the Detachment is at 50.32% with our 45% goal being December 3rd, 2020. With this said, you guys have blown that out of the water. You guys are the best. Keep up the hard work!! Let us make another “BIG SPLASH” for Commander Klinger give him another all-time high.

With our membership year moving along the Detachment is 188 Squadrons strong. We had several new Squadrons and several Squadrons that were reinstated; we still have more room for growth within the Detachment. I challenge every District Commander and his staff to reach out to your Legion District Commander and ask about interest from Posts without a Squadron.

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| Delegate Cut-off | | |

As our membership year moves along, I will continue to ask the Area, District, and Vice Commanders to look over their membership reports. We have a lot of ZERO's that need to be addressed. As of our November 12th, 2020 report we have 30 ZERO Squadrons. We must make improvements in this area. Get on the phone, send those emails, attend meetings, and have those conversations about what the issues are and let them know we are here to help. We must communicate with these Squadrons. These issues will not just go away by themselves. I would also ask each of you to work with the Squadrons that make their 100% early. These Squadrons have historically not submitted any more membership once they hit that goal. WHY? For the Detachment to continue to grow we must ALWAYS be recruiting NEW members while retaining our current members. Let's watch this during this membership year.

MySAL is a wonderful tool for all Squadrons to use. Once it is set up you can submit your membership, complete address changes along with other functions. It is an extremely easy process. Go to the Detachment website www.floridasons.org and find the MySAL icon. Click on the icon, print the instructions and application, fill out the application and follow the instructions. Only the Squadron Adjutant will be given the access by National. Therefore, the Squadron must have submitted a Squadron Officer Report form, or they will have to submit one before access will be granted. It is an easy process if we have done our jobs. As of our November 12th, 2020 membership report we have 62 Squadrons that have been reported to me using MySAL. As great as that is that is only 32.62% of our Squadrons. This number must increase as the National organization will sometime soon be going completely electronic. We need to be ready for that transition. Get with your Post Officers and get the guidance on getting signed up. We will get this done.

Your Squadron administration manuals should have arrived; if not you can download a copy of the Administration manual online at www.floridasons.org under the administration tab. Look at the target dates and get them in the hands of our Squadrons. They need to know what is expected and understand that is especially important that we reach these targets. Membership is our life-line.

We need to have better contact information for all members. Correct records including Phone numbers, email addresses, and up to date mailing addresses are vital and COVID-19 showed us why that is important. Let's be proactive and put a plan in place and execute it so that we will have many more better-informed members.

(Continued on page 4)

Membership (continued)

(Continued from page 3)

We need to continue to always stay focused on our membership. We all need to remember the 3 “R’s” (Renew, Reinstatement, & Recruit). “RENEW” our current members, “REINSTATE” our AWOL members, and “RECRUIT” new members in order to continue to grow your Squadron, the Detachment and our National organization. It is a process, so let us work the process.

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I strongly believe that we all can say we need to have better contact information for all members. Phone numbers, email addresses, and up to date mailing addresses are vital pieces of information. COVID-19 showed us why that is important. So let’s be proactive and put a plan in place and execute it; by doing this we will have much better-informed members.

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SPLASH II (The Sequel) is underway, and we need to keep our pools cleaned and treated. District Commanders you must take the lead as a lifeguard and give them the needed swimming instructions. Each Squadron, each District, and each Area play a big part to our success with membership. WE MUST COMMUNICATE and COMMUNICATE REGULARLY with each Squadron. Let them know you are available and willing to help. Go to their meetings with positive information, conduct training classes that they may need to help them with MySAL and our Google-Group mailing list. Communication will be an excessively big topic this year. We must make improvements in our communications.

Commander Klinger and I are looking forward to with a lot of expectations for a GREAT 2020-2021 MEMBERSHIP YEAR.

Each Squadron is responsible for their membership. When they are not taking care of their membership it becomes our problem. Communicate with them and ask them if they need help with anything, please ask. District and Detachment Officers are a phone call away and are always willing to help.

LETS MAKE A BIG SPLASH!!





Greetings Detachment of Florida,

Hope this article finds everyone safe and healthy. Hope that you, your families, and friends had a wonderful Thanksgiving Day. Post homes have opened back up, schools are opening, people are going back to work, restaurants are opening which is all great. Please continue to be safe and follow the State guidelines of masks, social distancing, large gathers just to name a few.

Christmas is just around the corner and I know each of you and your families are in preparation of this wonderful holiday. This is the time of year that our children look forward to with those eyes of surprise. With all we have that we have experienced the past several months, take the time to make this year's Christmas even better for our children. They have missed so much and need things to be positive. Merry Christmas from my house to yours

PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS OF YOUR POST COMMANDER!

Your Post Commander has been given direction by the Department of Florida Headquarters

I made this same statement last month. As we continue to grow our needs will be ever changing and we must be prepared for these changes. Our National Organization is working toward an all-digital future, and this is not too far away. We need to prepare now and be ready for the future, now is the time to get those changes done and be ready for the future. We must:

- Improve the education of our Officers, our Chairmen and our Members
- Improve the use of MySAL.org by properly training our Squadron officers
 - Gain access with the application form online. Your Post leadership must approve this.
 - Use of MySAL.org is predicated on a current [Squadron Officer report](#). Ensure your information is up-to-date and submitted to the Detachment.
- Improve Squadron reporting
 - Fillable forms are available at the [Detachment Website](#).
- Improve Communication
 - Gather email addresses for Squadron members
 - Gather email addresses for Squadrons
 - Ensure that postal mailing addresses are correct
 - Ensure that phone numbers for members are correct

It should be very clear that MySAL is an important and vital tool for all Squadrons.

The Source is the official Detachment of Florida Newsletter, published each month of each service year—this is a wholly underutilized tool that every Squadron should be leveraging to their benefit. It is NOT just a place for Detachment Officers, Chairs of Committees and Commissions and District Officers. Every Squadron or District Officer are welcome to submit articles of interest, promote events in their areas and tout the great works that we as Sons of the American Legion perform every day. Articles can be submitted through our [website](#). Let's spread the word to everyone about these great works. The more information we supply, the better it will be for membership. Recognize those that work hard for our Veterans, their families and our communities.

(Continued on page 6)

Internal Affairs (continued)

(Continued from page 5)

I will publish this with every Internal Affairs article I submit. Please read and memorized 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. I keep this in my article because I think it is something very meaningfully for you as a member and us a Veteran Organization.

PLEASE NOTICE THE CHANGES TO OUR PREAMBLE. These changes were done by a resolution approved by the National Executive Committee after the Legion Act was passed. All literature is being updated and will be made available when changes are all completed.

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

PROUD POSSESSORS OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE, WE MALE DESCENDANTS OF VETERANS OF ALL 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 All 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.
-

As our 2020-2021 year is underway and our 2019-2020 year has become our history, let us take time to reflect on the good things that you, your Squadron, and the Detachment have done this past year. Let us also begin thinking about what we can do to make this year even better - not for us, but for our Veterans, Children & Youth, Communities, and our Post homes.

If you haven't already, please sign up for our Goggle Groups mailing list. This is how we get information out to the entire Detachment. [Simply click here and enter your email address to subscribe.](#)

Always remember that our Detachment is only as strong as our membership. We need to continue to recruit, reinstate, and renew if we want to continue to grow. Through education, training & development, and communication we will become stronger as a Detachment.



Hello Sons! I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. We definitely have great things to be thankful for!

First of all, as a District, we should all be thankful for the amazing turn out and support from the Mighty 13th District for the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans and Challenge 22 Ruck Walk event in Charlotte County held November 19th-22nd.

Our entire 13th District Family not only came in support of the event but so many volunteered to help. I would like to personally thank the dedication and hard work of not only District Commander Moore, Department Chaplain Barry Roberts, Department VA&R Chair Larry Roberts (no relation :-)) ,

PDC Jim Ramos, Department 3rd Vice Michael "Gambler" Raymond but the countless volunteers of American Legion Posts 103 and 110. Despite the COVID Craziiness, we had a FANTASTIC turnout for the week-end. As of this writing, Commander Moore has informed me that even though there is one check and a couple of invoices outstanding, we should be able to donate over \$4,000 to the Challenge 22 cause! **OUT-STANDING!**

If your Squadron would still like to donate, you can mail your donation to Commander Moore. Make all checks payable to American Legion District 13. The address you can send them to is:

American Legion District 13
3004 15th St SW
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

Another thing I am thankful for is YOU and your Membership Numbers. Despite the current times, membership dues are rolling in for most of our squadrons. As of 11/25/20, District 13 stands at 52.22%!

Leading the way in membership is Vice Commander Nigbor's Squadron (136 St James City) at 68.25% with my very own Squadron (323 in BEAUTIFUL Downtown Lehigh Acres) at 64.75%! Our December 3rd goal is 45% and our January 14th goal is 60%.

We still have TWO zero Squadrons. I will not call them out in this article, as they know who they are. Commander Nigbor and I will be making phone calls/visitations to lend assistance. **This is the month we all should be getting renewals, as dues expire on the 31st.**

The last thing I am thankful for is that we are all able to start having events to raise money for our Post Homes and our charities. I would like to attend your events. As you are planning events for the new year, please send me your event information. I will put it out to not only the District Email and Facebook Page, but I will get it out on all of the Detachment outlets as well. Event attendance is still down for most of us, so if I can help get your events more attendance I will!

Until next time, Have a very Merry Christmas and may we all have a much better and happier New Year!

For God and Country,

Christian M Rapp
13th District Commander 2020-2021
Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of Florida



Hello, Sons! I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

As we wind down this crazy year and plan for the New Year, I'd like to remind you of 3 tools you have available at absolutely NO COST to you and you Squadron. These tools will help you communicate better throughout your Districts, Areas and the Detachment. What are these tools? These tools are your Detachment Officers and your Public Relations Committee!

- **TOOL #1: The Detachment of Florida Website**

We have worked hard over the past year and a half to make our website easier for you to use and provide information on your Events, District Meetings and more. The latest membership reports, editions of "The Source", administrative documents, manuals, Detachment Officer/Committeemen contact information and more are right at your fingertips! Although most of us are able to have events right now, attendance is still down. One way to perhaps boost your attendance is to have the Detachment promote your event and get the word out through all of our various outlets. Please consider submitting your event information, including District Meetings/Training/Post Family Events, through our website. You can use the event submission form at <https://floridasons.org/event-submission-form/>

- **TOOL #2: The Detachment Mailing List**

While we are still getting new subscribers, we still have a very small portion of our 19,559 members signed up to receive our Detachment communications. In fact, as of this writing we only have 349 members signed up to receive communication that's only 1.78% of our membership! If you've been to a Convention or Conference, you've heard Membership Chairman John Jennings say that it is important that all Squadrons make a move to the digital age, as paper communications are being phased out by the National organization. I would encourage all reading this (that means you're one of the subscribed members!) to share this with your Squadron's membership and encourage them to sign up to receive Detachment Communications. To join our email group, simply send an email to florida-sons-subscribe@googlegroups.com

- **TOOL #3: mysal.org**

Again, if you've been to a Convention or Conference, you've heard Membership Chairman John Jennings say that it is important that all Squadrons make a move start processing their membership through the mySAL.org portal. Here's a very good possibility that in 2021, this will be your only way to process membership transmittals. It is super easy to use once you have it set up. It takes less than a minute to process a renewal. If you haven't signed up of mySAL.org yet (why wouldn't you??) simply go to www.mysal.org and click on the REGISTER button. You will first have to complete an Authorization Form that Post Leadership will need to assist you with. It's simple, it's easy, and it's FREE

We have more tools available, but these are the most important ones to get familiar with as we go into the New Year.

Finally, I'd like to remind you that as we look into going into the New Year and you are planning to run for a District Commander/District Vice Commander/Area Commander or a Detachment Officer Position – after you have your Squadron's Endorsement, you'll need to submit an endorsement letter with a signature from Post and Squadron Leadership. You can email them through the contact page of our website or directly to Adjutant Sheubrooks at floridasons@legionmail.org.

Until next time, Have a very Merry Christmas and may we all have a much better and happier New Year!

For God and Country,
Christian M Rapp
13th District Commander 2020-2021
Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Florida

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 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/> 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.

Now more than ever it is important that we use all means available to us to remain connected and in communication. The Source is **your newsletter** and is intended to serve all we do as Sons of the American Legion. If you know anyone, in or out of the American Legion family, who could be inspired by what we do, ask them to subscribe.

Subscription is easy and free. Simply join the [Detachment of Florida Mailing List](#).

The Source can only continue to be a viable and vital tool with your help.

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

I wish a blessed, peaceful and healthy Holiday Season to you all and wish and pray that our next year will bring us all back to a normal, connected and thankful existence.

Respectfully,



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA

THE SOURCE



I'm writing this article Thanksgiving Week so I'm hoping everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday. It's hard to feel thankful with the pandemic but think about our Veterans who have all the same problems we have and then all their problems incurred from military service. Think about the children at All Children's Hospital who are unable to see some of their family members in person because of the pandemic. While 2020 has been difficult for all of us, if you and your family aren't sick and still have jobs, then maybe you have something to be thankful for.

I want to thank Commander Tom, Adjutant Ed, NEC JJ, and all the Detachment Officers, Squadron Officers and last but not least all our members who despite difficult times made Florida proud again. Have a Very Merry Christmas, a Safe and Happy New Year and a Safe Holiday Season.

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



Detachment Officer Endorsements

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Detachment Commander | Brian Carter (120, Holly Hill) |
| Office of Detachment Vice Commander | |
| Western Area | |
| Northern Area | |
| Eastern Area | |
| Central Area | |
| Southwestern Area | |
| Southern Area | |
| National Executive Committeeman | |
| National Executive Committeeman Alternate | |
| Detachment Chaplain | |
| Detachment Historian | James Reed (1, Titusville) |
| Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms | |

District Commander & Vice Commander Endorsements

| District | District Commander Endorsements | District Vice Commander Endorsements |
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Hello from the Eastern Area

Congratulations to the Squadrons and Districts from the Eastern Area upon attaining first place in the Detachment for membership. Keep up the good work.

The Sixth District will be holding their Quarterly meeting on December 12, 2020 at Post 80, St. Cloud check-in time 8:30am. Also, on December 12, 2020 Post 243, Oviedo will be hosting their first annual Army/Navy Games, and picnic, starting at 11:00am. The cornhole tournament starts at noon.
<https://oviedolegion.org/calendar-1>

The Twelfth District will be holding their quarterly meeting on December 12, 2020 at Post 40, Fort Pierce, check-in time 9:00am. In addition, the Twelfth District Legion Riders will hold their quarterly meeting on December 5, 2020, at Post 359, 9:00am.

Please check-in with these respective Posts to verify the events will in fact take place in this time of uncertainty with Covid.

Hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving and Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

I would like to thank everyone for all you do.

Rocky Cirigliano
Vice Commander-East
Detachment of Florida

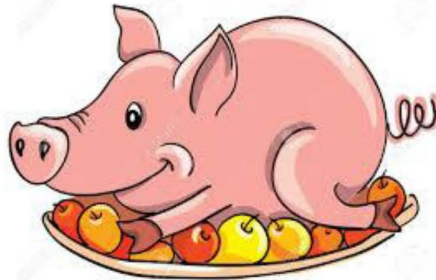


SQUADRON 142

4TH ANNUAL PIG ROAST!!

171 SW Second St, Pompano Beach, FL

954 942 2448



DATE: SATURDAY JANUARY 9TH

TIME: NOON – 4pm

DONATION: \$15.00

Tickets available at the bar

GREAT FOOD, MUSIC & RAFFLES!! COME OUT AND ENJOY THE DAY!!



RICKS FAMOUS

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS

Served with salad and garlic bread



DATE: Sunday December 20th

TIME: 3pm – 5pm • Donation: \$15.00

FOOD, MUSIC & RAFFLES!!

171 SW Second St, Pompano Beach, FL

954 942 2448



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 Ed Sheubrooks
800 S. Brocksmith Road
Fort Pierce, FL 34945
adjutant@floridasons.org

Detachment E-mail: floridasons@legionmail.org
Internet: www.floridasons.org

The Florida Sons of The American Legion with over 185 Squadrons and nearly 20,000 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

Source Articles

Scan the QR Code below to
visit our website



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 Editor by the 23rd of every month.**

The official way to submit articles for publication in The Source is to simply click here.