



Well Hello Everyone. I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. I can't say I'm sorry to see 2020 go away. It was a year we'll all remember. Let's hope and pray 2021 gets us back to normal whatever the new normal will be. I'm still hearing about some Post closings and events being cancelled. With the vaccines coming out hopefully that will change and we can get back to what we do best. Have fun, make money, and give it away.

Moving on to membership the Department has the Detachment at 64.98% and National has us listed at 66.25%. Either way you all have done a great job working membership. February 4th is the 75% target date. We have some work to do, but I feel confident you all will make it. Remember to continue with the Buddy Checks. If each Squadron member took 4 or 5 names it would only take you an hour and you would make some people you haven't seen in a while feel needed.

Our Convention is only 6 months away. If you want to run for a Detachment office please get your endorsement in. This includes District Commanders and Vice Commanders. Let's see some new faces in these positions. If you're not sure you're ready to run for an office do it any way. The rest of the Detachment Officers are here to help you.

Until we get back to normal keep your head held high and remember why we're here. Hopefully I'll see you all down the road somewhere. Thank You for all you do and what you do.

Until next time be good and take care

For God and Country,
Tom Klinger
Detachment Commander



Inside This Issue

From the Detachment Commander	1
Adjutant's Corner	2
From the Membership Chairman	3
From the Internal Affairs Chairman	5
From the Northern Area Commander	7
From the Editor of The Source	8
Officer Endorsements	9
Upcoming Events	11
Are your Dues paid?	13

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%	CONGRATULATIONS!
February 4, 2021	75%	WE GOT THIS!!!
March 4, 2021	80%	
April 14, 2021	90%	
May 6, 2021	100%	
June 16, 2021	20,750	Commander's Goal
Delegate Cut-off		



Gentlemen,

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

With the New Year, I hope the Corona Virus plays out and we can get back to doing what we do!

Have fun, raise some money and give it away! I know there are many people in this Country that are struggling to make ends meet. That includes the various Charities that we, as Sons donate to and help out with volunteer hours as well.

We need to be able to conduct our meetings and Fund Raisers without the risk to our members and our communities! We must make sure that the needs of our Veterans are being met and our Posts and Squadrons remain as strong as possible. But how do we do this without risking the health of our members? I don't have that answer, but maybe when the vaccine is available to more people, and the virus numbers start going down we can once again do what we do best!

I know it's early, but we must start thinking about elections of Squadron, District and Detachment Officers. I am sure by the time Convention rolls around in July, we will be able to meet and hold elections even if it is limited capacity. I don't know what this would actually look like at this time, but I can envision meeting with limited representation from each Squadron and with the Detachment Executive Committee. I will be getting with the Commanders Advisory Committee and the Committee on Committees to start a contingency plan if we cannot meet as usual for Convention.

Year End Reports are so very important to our survival and that of The American Legion as well. The Legion National Commander every year reports to Congress what the American Legion has done within our Communities. The Son's numbers get added into these figures that he gives to Congress. Last year the Detachment had a combined total of 210,109 man hours and raised over \$1,647,380.00 for various Programs. That was only 89 of our Squadrons reporting. Imagine what we could do with 100% reporting....!!!

Until next month, stay safe and Healthy!!!

Ed Sheubrooks,
Detachment Adjutant





Greeting Membership Team,

Hope that everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. "CONGRATULATIONS" to everyone on reaching our first four membership goals (10%, 25%, 35%, and 45%). As of December 17th, 2020, the Detachment is at 63.13%. Given that our 60% goal is January 14th, 2021, 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 along with his goal of 20,750 members. We can do this, and we need to make up the lost ground from last year. Let us make this a priority in our membership campaign to give it all we can toward that goal of 20,750 members.

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.

I have been asking and will continue to ask the Area, District, and Vice Commanders to look over their membership report. We have a lot of ZEROs 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 as the issues will not just go away. 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 the rest of the year. WHY? For the Detachment to continue to grow we must ALWAYS be recruiting NEW members while retaining our current members. Let us watch this during this membership year.

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 to continue to grow your Squadron, the Detachment and our National organization. It is a process, so let us work the process.

[The 2021 Recruitment Award application is available and can be accessed by clicking here.](#) When completed and sent, it gives the recipient an opportunity to be properly recognized for their work in helping to grow our organization. The pins are genuinely nice. Just to let you know, we are in the South Region and Jason Roberts is the go-to person and his contact information is on the form.

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. The only issue at this time 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 December 17th, 2020 membership report we have 76 Squadrons that have been

(Continued on page 4)

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%	CONGRATULATIONS!
February 4, 2021	75%	WE GOT THIS!!
March 4, 2021	80%	
April 14, 2021	90%	
May 6, 2021	100%	
June 16, 2021	20,750	Commander's Goal
Delegate Cut-off		

Membership (continued)

(Continued from page 3)

reported to me using MySAL. As great as that is, this number represents only 37.23% of our Squadrons within the Detachment. This number must increase and once again I am tasking the Area and District Staff to work this issue. The National organization will be going completely electronic in the very near future. 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.

The Squadron Administration Manual is a great resource and all Squadrons should have at least one available. 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. Phone numbers, email addresses, and up to date mailing addresses. COVID-19 showed us why that is important. So, let us be proactive and put a plan in place and execute it, by doing this we will have much better-informed members.

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 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 on using MySAL and subscribing to our email list. Communication will be an very big topic this year. We must make improvements in our communications.

Commander Klinger and I are looking forward to a GREAT 20-21 MEMBERSHIP YEAR.

Each Squadron is responsible for their membership. But when they are not taking care of their membership it now becomes our problem. Communicate with them and ask them if they need help with anything, please ask. We are an email or phone call away.

LET'S MAKE A BIG SPLASH!!!!

LETS MAKE A BIG SPLASH!!





Greetings Detachment of Florida,

A NEW YEAR is here and with everything new we have new challenges ahead of us. I sincerely hope that everyone had a very Merry Christmas and that your New Year started off wonderfully. The year 2020 will most likely be near the top of the list of most difficult years in history. I can say that it was the most stressful in my 68 years.

Hopefully 2021 will bring us back together as a family so we can renew our friendships and make new ones. I currently do not have any information involving our upcoming Convention. I am sure Adjutant Sheubrooks will communicate this information as soon as he gets information.

There are some things each Squadron should start working on after the first of the year: Nomination & Election of new Officers

- Squadron Officers Report form (a requirement)
- Detachment and National Consolidated Report forms
- ...and any other activity reports that your Squadron has done during the year.

Here are some examples of things Squadrons can report on:

- Work hours at the Post Home
- Money donated to the Post Home
- Help with dinners or activities other than the Squadron activities.

Of course, Squadron activities are generally fundraisers for a program and should be in that program report. Of course, this is just a sampling. You should report on all the great things we do.

Back onto communications. Does your Squadron have an email account? If not, why? In these times communication is especially important to maintain good communication with our members. Talk with your Post Commander or Adjutant and discuss using their computer if the Squadron does not have one. Perhaps you could have a fundraiser and purchase one for the family.

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

(Continued on page 6)

Internal Affairs (continued)

(Continued from page 5)

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. 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.

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. 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.](#)



Happy New Year from the Northern Area, I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a safe New Year's Eve. Another year has passed and what a year it has been. From the closing of our Posts, the new fashion of masks, and not being able to visit veterans, family or friends. I hope everyone is adhering to the safety guidelines and staying healthy through these ever changing times. There is light at the end of the tunnel, and great strides are being made to get us back on track. I hope to see all of you soon.

As we enter this New Year let us not forget the focus of this organization, our long standing support to the community, state, and Nation - most importantly our Veterans. In these trying times now more than ever we need to do our part. Right now our Veterans homes and hospitals are filled with veterans and children missing a hand to hold or shoulder to lean on because no family or friends can visit them in their time of need. We need to find ways to lift their spirits and show our support. We can send cards or letters with positive messages, make a donation to the activity funds of a veteran's home. In our communities, go out and show our good name. Find families or charities helping families in need, and ask, what can we do to help? Maybe do a food drive or supply them with the necessities they may be in need of the most right now. The smallest thing can make a big difference in someone's life, especially in these troubled times.

We know most of the charities we support each year have been hit hard. Special Olympics, Children and Youth, Boy Scouts, and our schools. These children are the future and their education is vital to all of us. Ask your local school district what basic needs they may need help with. From paper and pens to sanitizer, cleaning supplies, and even masks. If we all help just a little what a difference it could make to a child.

Saying all that, we need the membership to achieve all of this. We as members have an obligation to our veterans, this organization, and ourselves to fulfill in every way the principles and purposes of the Sons of the American Legion.

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

At this time unpaid members are only delinquent and you have time to catch up. Please visit your Squadron or mail in those dues and help to make another 100% year for the Detachment of Florida.

To the Northern Area districts, Great job!!! As of 12/13/2020 3 out of the 4 Districts are in the top 5. A BIG Congratulations to the 3rd district on the success of your membership, as of right now you are the top district. However we are not done yet, we need to keep pushing forward to meet that 100% goal.

Thank you to our Parent organization, The American Legion, for your Honor, your courage, and the sacrifices that you gave so that we may be free.

It's not what you paid to be a member it's what you paid to be eligible

Remember, Honor, and Teach

Northern Area Vice Commander
Brian Carter



From the Editor

All 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 and involvement.

In an effort to provide the easiest access to important forms and information, we've compiled this quick reference list of links for you:

- [Detachment of Florida Website](#)
- [Squadron Administration Manual](#)
- [All Squadron Report Forms](#)
- [Squadron Membership Report](#)
- [District Membership Report](#)
- [Detachment Officer Endorsements](#)
- [Detachment Email List Subscription](#)
- [Article Submission Form for The Source](#)
- [Event Submission Form — Promote Your Event\(s\) to the entire Detachment](#)

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

Happy New Year to you all. I continue to wish and pray that this year will bring us all back to a normal, connected and thankful existence.

Respectfully,

Ray Leventhal • Editor, 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 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	Christian Rapp (323, Lehigh Acres)
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
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13	Michael Nigbor (136, St James City)	
14		
15		
16		
17		



CAR & TRUCK Show



Sons of the American Legion, Squadron #138

Saturday, February 13, 2021

12 noon - 4 pm/Open to the Public

✓ Be a Sponsor Put
your company's logo or
loved one's name on the
back of the Car/Truck T-
Shirt for only \$100.00.
Sponsors get one free:
Show Entry, T-Shirt,
Meal, & Raffle Ticket.

- Great Trophies • 50/60s DJ Music
- Food for Sale • Raffles • 50/50

ENTRY REGISTRATION FEES: \$15 in-advance; \$20 day-of-event

(no rain checks, encourage entrants to arrive early to select your parking spot)

all entrants receive 1 free meal, 1 raffle ticket & voting ballot

(see your bartender for registration forms)

All proceeds benefit Veteran & Children Charities

American Legion Post 138--Pavilion Area
5535 W. Prescott St. Tampa, FL • (813) 839-5119
For more information, call Larry Begy (813)767-1197

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 323

Rickey A Lee, Sr **SUPER SUNDAY EVENT** **TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH PUBLIC WELCOME!

Car & Bike Show

REGISTRATION \$10

JUDGING AT 1:30PM

PRIZES AWARDED AT 3:00PM



OPEN TO ALL CLASSES



TOURNAMENT RUN BY CORNHOLE USA

REGISTRATION \$20 PER TEAM
BRING YOUR OWN PARTNER

**** NO TWO PROS ON A TEAM ****

REG TIME: 10AM | START: 11AM

100% PAYOUT!

TEAMS GIVEN WINGS AT 9AM
WINGS MUST BE PREPARED ONSITE
WINGS JUDGED AT 1:30PM

PRIZES 1ST, 2ND, 3RD & PEOPLE'S CHOICE

TEAMS MUST REGISTER BY **JANUARY 31**



PRIZES: 1ST: \$100 | 2ND: \$60 | 3RD: \$40

WE'LL HAVE RAFFLES, SILENT AUCTIONS, A POT LUCK BUFFET AND, OF COURSE, THE BIG GAME!
100% OF PROCEEDS BENEFITS SPECIAL OLYMPICS FLORIDA

AMERICAN LEGION POST 323
1124 ASHLAR AVENUE | LEHIGH ACRES, FL 33936



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.