



GERARD SAMBETS

★ DETACHMENT COMMANDER ★
COMMANDER@FLORIDASONS.ORG



VOLUNTEER
EDUCATE
TRAIN
SUPPORT

REMEMBER ALWAYS VETERANS FIRST

Wow! This Commander is very happy!

Membership is really great, but we still have a way to go to reach the goal of 22,250. We're currently at 18,971 and climbing! Only 3,279 to go, let's make it happen and I know you will. Great job with new members but remember, renewals are the key to our success.

I hope you are aware of the History of the Sons, we as a group do tremendous work in our communities and we reach out and support many charities with donations, but the general public is unaware of the good that we do. Every Squadron should have a Historian; this Sons member should be recording the activities of the Squadron. They should also be sharing this information with the community and other Squadrons. We all should be sending our pictures to Snapshots of Service, for Squadrons engaged in activities that represent the four pillars: Americanism, Children and Youth, National Security, and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation.

If you read the emails sent from Commander Carlton you will notice that Sebastian Squadron # 189 was in the article because they raised over \$7,000 from community fund-raising efforts.

Congratulations to Peter Puzzo and his Squadron for their efforts on the POW/MIA Memorial. They are being recognized nationally because they submitted the snapshots and story. For more info on where to send the videos or pictures, please contact Adjutant Christian Rapp for the details.

Another thing we should do is join TAL Voters Voice! Let your Legislators and Congressmen know about issues involving veterans. Speak up and let your voice be heard. There are over 20,000 Voices that can sway how they vote! Be the One, make a difference!

Finally, thanks to Squadron 155, Crystal River, for their hospitality shown to myself and Erin at the Valentine's Day dinner and dance. It was well attended, and they raised money for their charity.

Next up is Northern area # 383 at the end of March. Please let me know when your event is, and I will try to be there.

KEEP DOING WHAT YOU DO BEST,

Commander Gerard Sambets
Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of Florida



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2022-2023 Membership Target Dates:

September 1, 2022	10%	16.01% Congratulations!
October 6, 2022	25%	25.94% Congratulations!
November 10, 2022	35%	41.32% Congratulations!
December 1, 2022	45%	52.72% Congratulations!
January 12, 2023	60%	75.28% Congratulations!
February 9, 2023	75%	85.08% Congratulations!
March 9, 2023 *	85%	Let's shoot for 90%!!
April 13, 2023	90%	
May 4, 2023	100%	
June 1, 2023 **	22,250	Commander's Goal

* Legion Birthday

** Delegate Cut-Off



CHRISTIAN M RAPP

★ DETACHMENT ADJUTANT ★
ADJUTANT@FLORIDASONS.ORG



Hello Sons!

Our crazy rollercoaster of a year is almost to an end. In three short months (June 15-18), we will be meeting in Orlando at the Hilton Lake Buena Vista for our Annual Convention. If you haven't booked rooms yet, you may be too late to get the Legion rate. CALL TODAY! Here's the info: Rooms are \$140 plus tax for a standard guest room. Cut-off date for reserving rooms is **May 15, 2023**. I would advise you to **call to book your rooms**. The number to call is **1-800-782-4414**.

END OF YEAR DOCUMENTS AND REPORTING

All Squadrons and District Commanders will be receiving the end of the year packets via snail mail this month. We've revised some the forms in the packet to make it easier for you to complete them. **EVERY FORM IN THE PACKET IS AVAILABLE ONLINE**. You can fill them out online and email them in instead of mailing them. Each form has a deadline. Please look at each form carefully and submit them before the deadline.

If you need help with your year-end reporting, please do not hesitate to reach out to your District or Area Commanders. I am also available my email or phone to answer any of your questions.

PLEASE NOTE: *The Squadron Officers Report (SOR) will be included in the packet. This form must be submitted IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOUR ELECTIONS. Once your elections are completed, send the form to Bekki Tibbs at Department (address is on the form). DO NOT SEND THIS WITH YOUR END OF YEAR PAPERWORK.*

ENDORSEMENTS FOR OFFICE

Endorsements for Office are still coming in. There is still time to submit yours. If you would like to serve as an Area Commander, District or District Vice Commander or even a Detachment Officer, now is the time to get your endorsement in. The requirements for submitting your endorsement can be found on the Detachment Website at <https://floridasons.org/detachment-officer-endorsements/>. If you look at this page, you can see the endorsements sent in already. If you would like to run for office, even if someone else is, please submit your endorsement to me (email: adjutant@floridasons.org).

CONVENTION TRAINING CLASSES

I am working with our MT&D Chairman, Raymond Leventhal, to revise some of the training classes. If there is something you feel we should provide training on at Convention, please let me or Ray know. Ray's email is MTD@floridasons.org

MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Commander Sambets is the one who selects the Sons of The American Legion member of the year. If you have a member from your Squadron that you feel deserves this award, please contact Commander Sambets and let him know. You'll need to provide something in writing for the Commander to review. You can email your information to Commander Sambets at commander@floridasons.org.

SQUADRON DATA REPORTS (SDRs)

I am still missing many of the SDR reports. I have asked for these every month since becoming Adjutant. We need these submitted **ASAP**. As both JJ and I have said before, these reports inform National the amount to collect for dues with the online system. If National does not have this information, they will only collect the \$11 per capita. This means your Squadron will have to chase down the difference from your members that pay online. It only takes a few minutes. Complete the form and send it to me today.

That's it for now! Until next time, keep up the good work! Thanks for all you do for our Veterans and Children!

For God and Country,

Christian M Rapp

Detachment Adjutant

Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Florida



JOHN JENNINGS

★ MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN ★

MEMBERSHIP@FLORIDASONS.ORG



Membership Team,

I am so proud to be a part of the Detachment of Florida! You guys just continue to do great thing and our membership is just on fire.

As of our February 16th, 2022, membership report we have recruited 3,209 new members and renewed 15,378 members for a total of 18,587 with these numbers the Detachment was standing at 86.37%. You guys are blowing the socks off the 80% target which is not until March 9th. What a great job by all! Lets all continue our efforts and give the Legion a wonderful Birthday present with a large membership percentage number. The sky is the limit, lets go big by March 9th --- 95% let's GO!

We have always said we do a great job signing up new members let's work to find a way to reinstate our old members! If we had renewed 18,587 members and recruited 3,209 members, just look at the difference in the numbers overall (21,796). Interesting to say the least! Is this possible? Yes, it is! We just need to do a much better job with renewal and reinstatements. But we can do it!

We have worked hard, and we now only have 3 ZERO Squadrons. I know that you are working on these and will get them corrected shortly. We do have another issue we need to address as we move toward Convention. We have 10 Squadrons as of this article that are below Squadron strength. We need to get the Squadrons up to STRENGTH and this number is 10. Let's get this done!

As we continue to work through our membership year let's all remember the three 3 R's of membership. *Reinstate – Renew – Recruit*. This would be a great Squadron meeting topic to discuss the meaning of each word and the value it brings to the Squadron. Just what do these three simple words mean to you and your Squadron.

Online membership renewal is available and as I understand it is working OK. The ones unable to do online membership is due to you not following the instruction of the Detachment. The Detachment has been communicating this for months and months it is now here. If you have not completed your REQUIRED SDR FORM, you might need to think about getting it completed and completed NOW. Detachment Adjutant Rapp has asked for everyone to send a copy to him of the transmittal for filing and verifications. Remember, THIS IS AN ANNUAL REQUIREMENT, that means this form needs to be completed and sent to National and a copy sent to our Detachment Adjutant every year. You might be running YOUR DUES PAYMENT down if YOUR SDR FORMS have not been completed and submitted to National. THINK!!!!

WE need to get focused and submitted our REQUIRED SDR (Squadron Data Report) form **ANNUALLY**. This is no longer an option to submit and must be submitted to National no later than MAY 1st of EACH YEAR BY EACH SQUADRON.

The instructions after the form have been completed. 1st-Save a copy for your Squadron's files. 2nd - email your submission to our [Detachment Adjutant Christian Rapp](#). Adjutant Rapp will batch submit to the National IT Department as required, keeping records of those submissions which will hold the National IT Department accountable for correct or incorrect postings. We will get this resolved with your help and understanding. The form is available on our [website](#).

We are also looking into WHOSE signature will be or need to be on the authorized signature line of the PRINTABLE CARDS. The authorized person on the printable cards is Anthony Wright our SAL National Adjutant.

Another form that is very important to the operation and success of the Detachment is the Squadron Office Report form. It is also available online. If not done, the Detachment has no easy way of contacting you or your Squadron. Please get this completed as it is an important tool for our communication to you the Squadrons and for you to communicate to

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** Delegate Cut-Off

(Continued on page 4)

Membership (continued)

(Continued from page 3)

your membership. Why would you not want to communicate to your membership?

For our membership campaign to be a great success, we must work it each and every day. Membership is not a part time job – it is a full time job and it requires WORK. When a Squadron reaches the 100% goal and does not move from that 100%, what does that tell you? I watch this, and I hope all of you will also.

Membership numbers should always be moving in a positive way and never standing still. If a Squadron is to grow it must add new members if they and the Detachment are to grow. We have plenty of resources in Florida and we must reach out to them if the Detachment is to grow.

- Detachment 28th consecutive all time high is 21,094. Let's go to work.
- Commanders Goal is – 22,250- We can do this-Lets make it happen!



YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS



WILLIAM D KELLY, JR

★ NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN ★

NEC@FLORIDASONS.ORG



COMMUNICATION

PDC Carter preached all 2021-2022 that we need to Communicate Better. We, your Advisory Committee have been asking for years why we don't call one another, and why we don't email one another? Do we, not very often or at all? I can't tell you how many emails I send that are not replied to. Are we Lazy? Are we Rude? Do We Just Not Give A Damn? Maybe, but at Conference and Convention, everyone wants to stand up and volunteer and express their opinion, that's easy, but to think of, formulate, and write a reply, or call someone, that's much harder. Rude not really. I believe most of us are good people. LAZY, maybe, and most likely. Is everyone aware that most of our email services have an automatic reply, button or if not hit reply and type in thanks, so the sender knows you received it and may have read it, as long as it's not on the google list you're OK.

Chain of Command

Squadron Commanders Should call/email your District CDRs with questions. Not the Detachment Commander or other officers. District Commanders, you should be calling/emailing each of your Squadrons EVERY MONTH. If they raise a question you are unsure of and have said "I'll Find Out" You should be calling your Detachment Vice Commander for your Area. Not the Detachment Commander or other officers. Detachment Vice CDRs should be calling each of your District CDRs EVERY MONTH. If the Detachment Vice Commander is unsure it is his responsibility to call the Detachment Adjutant or Detachment Officers. WHY? Because we have a Chain of Command. Squadron, District, Detachment, National, and everyone learns from the answers to others' questions. If you are not following the chain of command you are disrespecting your superior officer. If you are answering questions that should be answered by a lower-ranking officer you're also part of the problem. If you were in the military or not, it means charges may be preferred. Another reason to follow the chain it keeps others in the loop. I Can't tell you how many calls over the years I have gotten and when I ask does your District CDR, DVC, know, they respond "No I just thought I would call you". It doesn't or shouldn't work that way FOLLOW THE CHAIN OF COMMAND, please.

Source Articles

Why are we not seeing articles from Detachment Officers? While I have seen a few Detachment Vice Commanders articles, a few District CDRs articles, and even fewer from Commission and Committee. Why? Nothing to say, Lazy, or just don't want to do the job you were elected or appointed to do. DO YOUR JOB!

National

The Detachment of Florida, the SIXTH largest Detachment in the National organization is underrepresented on National Commissions and Committees. I would like every Detachment Commission and Committee Chairman to consider a nomination by your Detachment to a National Commission or Committee for the years 2024-2025. We need a few good men.

BASIC TRAINING is offered by our National organization. Every Sons of The American Legion member needs to take it. Haven't taken it in THREE YEARS you need a refresher. WHY? Things Change. IT'S FREE, No Charge.

<https://www.legion.org/basictraining>



The American Legion Voter Voice



Be The One



WILLIAM D KELLY, JR

★ **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN** ★

NEC@FLORIDASONS.ORG



Legislative Commission—Washington Conference

The American Legion gathers at the Washington Hilton for the Veterans lobbying and The Legislative Commission, and other TAL Commissions meetings including National Security, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, and Finance meet for their mid-winter meetings every year at the end of February.

The Sons of The American Legion National Legislative Commission each year organizes a bus trip to memorialize veterans at monuments in Washington DC on Sunday the 1st day of the conference. We gather early Sunday morning just inside the lower level of the Hilton with over 30 wreaths. 3 wreaths for our National Commander to present. (see photos) One at Arlington National Cemetery's Tomb of the Unknown, one at the Vietnam Memorial Wall, and one at the World War II Memorial. There are very few things in life more stirring, than standing at the highest point in Arlington National Cemetery, the Tomb of the Unknown overlooking our Nation's Capital witnessing this solemn ceremony. Sons of The American Legion National Commander Chris Carlton along with his wife and 2 young members from the New York delegation presenting our wreath at the Tomb. This year we had three busloads of over 160 American Legion Family members attended. This year two of our FL. Legionnaires attended with us, Jim Bowers and Larry Roberts who are also dual members and we are always looking for more of our Department of Florida Family to accompany us. Start making plans to attend next year's trip. Yes, it is an expensive weekend, but it is important to show support and unity for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Our Detachment of Florida wreath was placed at the Vietnam Memorial Wall for all our Florida Veterans who were called to duty and those who paid the ultimate price for our country. We return to the Hilton after a 6-hour trip around Washington.

The next day Monday begins with TAL Legislative Commission Chairman LaCoursiere's call to order which I attend for almost 4 hours. TAL is still pushing Voters Voice and Florida was the top Department in Legislative Contacts and that was because you loaded the QR code, registered, and contacted our Legislators. The Sons of The American Legion National Liaison Mook put on a luncheon for the SAL attendees which was quite unexpected. Later on in the afternoon, the entire Florida Delegation attended TAL "Know Before You Go" this highlights the Legislative Agenda to be discussed the next day with our Legislators.

Tuesday starts very early with the Commander's Call where CDR Troiola introduced speakers from both the Senate and the House of Representatives from both sides of the aisle. At this meeting, The Department of Florida CDR Butts, & PDC Brandt received The National Legislative Commission Advocacy Award for the most Congressional Contacts in 2022. While the contacts are uncategorized, I believe you the SAL Detachment of Florida were responsible for a large percentage because of our use of the QR code at Conference and in the Source.

Thank you and please continue to register and contact our National Legislators regarding the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins Act (PACT Act) wouldn't have passed without your contacts.

Later that afternoon PNC Clarence Hill and I visited Florida Sr. Senator Marco Rubio's Office and spoke with his Veteran's Legislative Aide Ryan Rasin because the Senator was at the Senate Intelligence Committee meeting. Ryan was quite well-versed as we went over The American Legion Legislative Agenda with him. When we finished, we asked Senator Rubio's aide to make sure to thank the Senator for addressing the Department of Florida Convention and for his support of the PACT Act and The American Legion Legislative Agenda.

Our next appointment was with Florida's 4th Congressional District newly elected Representative Aaron Bean. PNC Hill knew Representative Bean from his son at TAL Dept. of FL. Boys State and I had met Representative Bean in Tallahassee as a FL. State Legislator several years ago. PNC Hill took the lead, and we went point by point of the TAL Agenda including Mental Health & Suicide Prevention, VA Modernization, PACT Implementation and Oversight, Protection of Veterans from Predators specifically the Camp LeJeune lawsuits, Parity for the Guard & Reserves, Pay for the Coast Guard and Protecting the American Flag. We thanked Representative Bean and he volunteered to speak at any of our TAL Posts in the future.

Wednesday is the day that The American Legion National Commander Vincent J "Jim" Troiola's Testimony before the joint session of the House and Senate Committees on



The American Legion Voter Voice
(Continued on page 7)

Legislative Committee—Washington Conference Report (continued)

(Continued from page 6)

Veteran Affairs. This is where all your hard work as a Son of The American Legion which you contributed to the \$98 Million dollar total of goods, time, and cash from last year was reported to Congress. Please remember that in the next few months why you should be filling out your Detachment of Florida Consolidated Squadron Report (CSI) where it will be reported next year. Don't let all your and your Squadron's hard go unreported.

I hope this gives everyone a better understanding of our American Legion, Washington Conference, and our Program the Sons of The American Legion. My advice to everyone is to get involved with your SAL Squadron and make the Sons of The American Legion even better.



L to R: Jim Bowers, Bill Kelly, Larry Roberts



L to R: PNC Clarence Hill, Representative Aaron Bean, NEC Bill Kelly



L to R: Sgt-of-the-Guard, SAL National Commander Chris Carlton, his wife Veronica Carlton, 2 Jr. Members from the Detachment of NY



L to R: Larry Roberts, National Commander Chris Carlton, NEC Bill Kelly, Jim Bowers.
Preparing for the bus trip.



Children and Youth Month Is April – Plan Ahead!

Activities for April 2023 Dept of Florida C & Y Picnic

- Date - April 15, 2023
- Place - Post 323, Lehigh Acres, FL.
- Time - 11:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Lunch - BBQ Ribs and Brats by Outcasts with sides. Noon to 3:00 pm. \$5.00 per person
- Entertainment - Noon to 3:00 pm by Christian Rapp, in the tiki bar
- Adult games of skill - Noon to 3:00 pm, in yard around tiki bar.
- Baskets, Grill and 50/50 raffles on display in main building all day long.
- Lee County Sherriff's Ice Cream Response Team will provide free ice cream to all present, 3:00 pm
- All raffle, games of skill and 50/50 winners announced at 4:00 pm.

Activities For May

- May 13 Squadron 347 is sponsoring a Golf Outing at Harbor Hills Country Club for Child Welfare Foundation.
- Prizes include:
- Hole in One – Golf Cart
- Longest Drive - Men & Ladies
- Closest to the Pin – Men & Ladies
- First, Second and Third place Teams
- Sponsorships, prizes and donations is expended to exceed to over \$13,000

**Children and Youth Challenge Coins Available for \$5.00 Donation
Call Tom Soeder to get yours – 410-707-2331**

The event fliers will be found in the Special Events section of this edition of 'The Source'



MICHAEL NIGBOR

★ 13TH DISTRICT COMMANDER ★
DISTRICT13@FLORIDASONS.ORG



Greetings from District 13,

This is an exciting time of the year. Nominations and elections are coming up. Talk with your members and offer them support if they wish to step up to a new position. As I have always been told by my mentors, mentor yourself out of a job. Thank your members for coming to your meetings, working activities at the post, and helping the other families with their events. A little heartfelt gratitude goes along way and means a lot to those dedicated volunteers.

It has been very uplifting, as I travel around District 13 and District 8, to hear so many people talking about the 4 pillars. Americanism comes up often. With all the time we have been spending with each other, cleaning up after the hurricane and delivering supplies where needed, the gratitude and camaraderie has brought so many of us together, showing we truly are a family. American Legion Strong.

I will remind everyone again about doing your "Buddy Checks". You don't know what it means to a person to hear from you. To know they are more than a number. To know they are cared about. When you are working on your memberships, remember to get phone numbers and email addresses. Especially around your neighborhood, stop and lend a helping hand.

I hope to see everyone at the District 13 meeting on March 12th at Post 38 in Fort Myers. Then try to attend the District 13 picnic on March 25th at Post 136. There are so many other events going on, try to send some of your members to support the other squadrons. We are all in this together.

If you are interested in joining the District Staff, please get in touch with us. [Myself](#), [Detachment Adjutant Rapp](#), or [Detachment Chaplain Ray Leventhal](#) are all here to help you. We are looking for dedicated, motivated people that have some time to take this successful team into the next service term. As always, thank you for all you do to make The Sons of The American Legion the best they can be.

"You haven't learned how to live, until you have learned how to give "

For God and Country,

Mike Nigbor
District 13 Commander
Detachment of Florida



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION - DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA

SPOTLIGHT

The Source Spotlight is meant to feature events hosted by Squadrons throughout the Detachment who demonstrate ways in which we Sons of the American Legion work with and for our Veterans, our Communities and our great Nation. Once again, this month, The Source Spotlight shines on Squadron 189 in Sebastian, Florida. [Ed]

The following is a reprint of an article published In the *Sebastian Daily* on 27 February 2023, written by [Andy Hodges](#) [Ed]

American Legion Post 189 Unveils POW Monument in Sebastian

A new POW/MIA monument was unveiled Sunday at Riverview Park in Sebastian, Florida. Sebastian Squad 189 of Sons of the American Legion [raised the funds](#) for the dedication.

Past Commander Peter Puzzo spoke about the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action monument.

"Today, we specifically honor those heroes and Patriots," said Puzzo. "We keep their memories alive until they are all brought home."

Other officials at the ceremony were Sebastian Mayor Fred Jones, County Commissioner Laura Moss, Sebastian Police Chief Dan Acosta, Rob Medina (representing Congressman Bill Posey), Legion Post Commander Rick Feldhann, Squadron 189 Commander John Kinlen, VFW Commander Gary Shaw, and County Commissioner Joe Flescher.

Puzzo said the brass stars on the Prisoner of War/Mission in Action monument are melted-down brass made from the grommets of American flags retrieved after they were retired from service.

"Thereby showing that our flag never dies," said Puzzo.

In 2014, the idea to bring a stone monument honoring those of POW/MIA was from Puzzo, funded through local donations.

Since WWI, more than 82,000 Americans are still unaccounted for from wars and conflicts.

"The third Friday of September is designated as POW/MIA remembrance day. April 9th is considered POW/MIA family day. On both those days, we will place a solar light in front of this monument so that it shines for that whole evening," Puzzo said.

The [POW/MIA monument](#) is located at Riverview Park (east of the splash pad) next to the American Flag.

For more information, visit the [Squadron 189 Sons of The American Legion Facebook page](#).

The photo gallery from this event will follow this page. [Ed]



Squadron 189—POW MIA Monument Dedication—Photo Gallery



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 Christian Rapp – 215 Greenwood Ave, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936-1452.
2. Endorsement letters can be scanned and sent by e-mail to the Detachment Adjutant at adjutant@floridasons.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	<u>Gerard Sambets (275, Dunedin)</u>
Office of Detachment Vice Commander	
Western Area	
Northern Area	<u>Gerald Kaufman (383, Oldtown)</u>
Eastern Area	
Central Area	<u>Richard Cummings (238, Safety Harbor)</u>
Southwestern Area	<u>Michael Nigbor (303, Bonita Springs)</u>
Southern Area	
National Executive Committeeman	<u>William D Kelly Jr (137, Jacksonville)</u>
National Executive Committeeman Alternate	<u>Tom Klinger (119 Largo)</u>
Detachment Chaplain	<u>Raymond S. Leventhal (323, Lehigh Acres)</u>
Detachment Historian	
Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms	

District Commander & Vice Commander Endorsements

District	District Commander Endorsements	District Vice Commander Endorsements
1		
2		
3		
4	<u>Timothy Susskind (155, Crystal River)</u>	<u>Steven McKim (77, Inverness)</u>
5		
6		
7		
8		
9	<u>Martin Kraemer (310 Hallandale)</u>	
11		
12	<u>John Kinlen (189 Sebastian)</u>	<u>Andy Campbell (117 Palm Bay)</u>
13	<u>Sean Wing (90, Cape Coral)</u>	
14		
15		
16		<u>Karl N Fest (252, Seminole)</u>
17		



RAY LEVENTHAL

★ EDITOR OF "THE SOURCE" ★
THESOURCE@FLORIDASONS.ORG



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!



Be The One is SAL
National Commander's
Slogan.

Be The One Who Helps!

Be The One

Use this code to sign up
for the American Legion
Voter Voice.



AL Voter Voice



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION - DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA



THE SOURCE

**Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of Florida
Limited Edition 50th Anniversary
Commemorative Challenge Coin**



Order Form

Your Name _____
Your Phone _____
Your Email _____
Your Address _____
City/State/Zip _____

**Only 1,000 of these coins will be created to commemorate this auspicious event.
Reserve YOUR collector's item commemorative coin today!**

I am ordering _____ 50th Anniversary Commemorative Challenge Coins, at \$10 ea.

**Include this form and your check, payable to SAL Detachment of Florida, for
\$10/coin and send to:**

**Ed Sheubrooks
Finance Committee Chairman
800 S Brocksmith Rd
Ft Pierce, FL 34945**

Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Florida

**Coins are still available. Get a piece of history and help
your Detachment at the same time.
Order your coins today!**

Girls State Fundraiser

**3 nights at Department
Convention**

Convention registration fee

**Two (2) tickets for the
Commander's Dinner**

\$5.00/ticket or 5 for \$20.00
available at <https://alaflstore.org>

**After your order confirmation, you will
receive a separate email from
Department with your ticket numbers.**

Drawing March 18, 2023*

***winner can be a member of the
Auxiliary, Legion, or Sons**

All proceeds benefit ALA Florida Girls State Program

"TWO IN ONE: LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!"

PRESIDENT'S & COMMANDER'S SHARED HOMECOMING

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 (NO JOKE!)

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 7
1760 TURNER STREET
CLEARWATER, FL 33756**



COCKTAILS 6PM - DINNER 7PM ATTIRE: LEGION COLORFUL - LEGION CASUAL

IN LIEU OF GIFTS, PLEASE DONATE TO OUR CHARITIES!



GARY SINISE
★ FOUNDATION ★



USA PATRIOTS
SERVING BEYOND THE UNIFORM

NEARBY HOTELS



FAIRFIELD INN CLEARWATER	727-724-6223
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES	727-797-6300
ECONO LODGE INN & SUITES	727-446-8007
CLARION INN & SUITES	727-799-1181
COMFORT SUITES CLEARWATER-DUNEDIN	727-390-5884



TICKET INFO

GERARD SAMBETS	\$35
29250 US HWY 19 LOT 142	SINGLE
CLEARWATER FL 33761	
MEMO: HOMECOMING	\$65
VENMO: @ERIN-CROSS-10	DOUBLE

BBQ DINNER

**RIBS, CHICKEN,
PULLED
PORK
AND SIDES**



FOR MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT ERIN AT ERINLCROSS@AOL.COM

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
PRESENT

THE GOLDTONES

SAT. MARCH 18TH - 6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM



Doo Wop... to Pop
Public Welcome

TICKETS \$10.00

Available @ Bar

From 11:00am- 7:00pm

1770 E VENICE AVE, 941-485-4748

Made with PosterMyWall.com





EVENT INFORMATION:

**Location: Harbor Hills Country Club
6538 Lake Griffin Rd. Lady Lake, FL 32159**

- Shotgun Start– 8:15 AM
- Cost per Golfer – \$85.00
- * Breakfast items before golf*
- Longest Drive Contest-Men & Women
- Hole-in-One Contest-Men & Women
- Hole-in-one for golf cart Hole #16
- Closest to Pin Contest-men & Women
- Prizes and surprises
- Mulligans

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

- Bronze Hole Sponsor - \$100
- Silver Hole Sponsor – \$200.00
- Gold Hole Sponsor – \$300.00
- Platinum Sponsor - \$500.00 & up
 - * Includes Table Space+ Sponsor Sign
- Major Sponsor - \$1,000.00 & up * Includes Table Space, Sponsor Signs & 4 golfers
- Donate a gift to be used as a raffle prize

Cut-off date for sponsorships and gift submissions:

April 28th, 2023

Make all checks payable to:

Squadron 347

PO Box 1534 Lady Lake, FL 32158

ATTN: Children & Youth Golf Tournament

**After the tournament, please join us at Post 347 in Lady Lake, for lunch, raffles,
50/50, auction and more**

Hotel: TBD

THE
MIGHTY 13 DISTRICT
FUNDRAISER
"WHISKEY KEG OF BOOZE"
RAFFLE



TICKETS AVAILABLE UNTIL MAY 20TH 2023

CONTACT A POST COMMANDER, SQUADRON COMANDER OR RIDER DIRECTOR
FOR TICKETS. DON'T FORGET YOUR DISTRICT REPRESENTIVES THEY CAN GET
YOU TICKETS ALSO.

DRAWING: 3:00 PM ON MAY 20TH 2023

AFTER THE MEETING

LOCATION: D.N.MCQUEEN AMERICAN LEGION POST 103

2101 TAYLOR RD, PUNTA GORDA, FL.33950

**DISTRICT 13 WILL HOLD IT'S ANNUAL DISTRICT CONSTITUTIONAL
CONFERENCE DURING WHICH TIME ELECTIONS FOR DISTRICT OFFICER FOR
2023-2024 WILL TAKE PLACE**

ALL AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE
DRAWING



DEPARTMENT Children & Youth Picnic Fund Raiser

April 15, 2023

11 am - 5 pm

American Legion Post 323

1124 Ashlar Ave, Lehigh Acres FL

(239) 369-3178



Games, Food, Baskets, 50/50, (Military
Child's Program - by our Juniors)

Quality Inn - 1320 Business Way, Lehigh Acres FL
(239) 369-2121

Price - \$127.25. Ask for American Legion -
Dianne Boland

Wear purple in honor of the Military Child



Questions or Concerns: Dianne Boland (561) 315-0679

Sons of the American Legion Presents:

Northern Area Commander's Picnic
March 25, 2023 at 11:00am
American Legion Post 383
1297 NE 82nd Ave, Old Town, FL 32680

The entire family is invited to celebrate a successful year of the Sons of the American Legion and Northern Area consisting of Districts 3, 4, 5, and 17.

Cost: \$40 per Family and \$20 per person

For Tickets contact Gerry Kaufman Northern Area Vice Commander
352-210-6767

Come out and support Gerry Kaufman and his benefit of
PROJECT Vet RELIEF

Entertainment will consist of Doc Adams Band

Cornhole tournament, and other games will be provided for the family
along with A variety of vendors.



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/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
Christian Rapp
215 Greenwood Ave
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936-1452
adjutant@floridasons.org

The Florida Sons of The American Legion with over 185 Squadrons and over 21,000 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@floridasons.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.