



ROCCO CIRIGLIANO

DETACHMENT COMMANDER

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REHABILITATE
ACCLIMATE
COMPENSATE
EDUCATE

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION - DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA

THE SOURCE

Greetings Team

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving Holiday with Family and Friends. We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

It was my honor to have the National Commander in attendance. Commander Joseph Navarreté's dedication to the American Legion is unwavering. Their family values of honor, love, and respect for God and country are deeply ingrained, and they strive to instill these in each family member. They are a proud "Legion Family." His father, Tony, continues to serve the Legion as Department and Detachment Adjutant for the State of New Mexico. His mother, Rita, is a Past National President (2009-2010) of the American Legion Auxiliary. His brother, Steven, is a long time member of Squadron #72 and Director of the New Mexico Boys State program.

Fall Conference is now behind us, and the 2024-2025 year is in full swing. Keep up the good work on Membership. Remember if you have a problem please contact Chairman Paul Stawicki. Can anyone catch the Southern Area, or the 9th District?

We had great classes presented by Membership Training and Development. Once again, a big thank you to Pete Puzzo, Chairman Management Training & Development (MT&D) and all the Commission/Committee Chairs for their presentations.

The Internal Affairs Commission Chairman, John Jennings, talked about leadership and communications. Discussions took place about our members not knowing who to contact regarding questions and concerns. Our web site has all the Commission/Committee chairs and all the officers that would need to be contacted. Texting, Facebook, messenger, Face Time are not the ways to contact and communicate with one another. Making a phone call or sending an email to the appropriate person is the way to go. This way, if others are needed in the conversation they can be included, and you will get the information you were looking for. Also, please follow the chain of command. A clarifying discussion also took place on the Squadron Data Report, Consolidated Squadron Reports, and the Officers Information Report. Mr. Jennings will have a lot more on those reports in the future.

This past month I attended the Grand Reopening of Post 303, Bonita Springs, thank you to Southwestern Area Vice Commander Michael Nigbor and the entire Post for their hospitality. I also visited Post 123, Sanibel, the Commander and the people were great, and they plan their full reopen in January. Treasure Island Squadron Commander Greg Tong took me on a tour of their Post 158. The Post was devastated by the hurricanes, rebuilding will be a lengthy process. I attended their Squadron Meeting, which was held at Post 125, Gulfport, family helping family in time of need. Squadron Commander Paul Micelli, Post 305 St Petersburg Beach invited me to visit his Post where we discussed all the good thing they are doing.

I would like to take this time to thank everyone for allowing me to serve as your Commander. As I travel throughout our great state and visit Squadrons/Posts I am totally impressed as to the great work you do. Our communities are better places in which to live, our Posts are better places to

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2024-2025 Membership Target Dates:

September 5, 2024	10%
October 10, 2024	25%
November 7, 2024	35%
December 5, 2024	45%
January 9, 2025	60%
February 6, 2025	75%
March 6, 2025*	80%
April 3, 2025	90%
May 1, 2025	100%
May 29, 2025**	105%

* Legion Birthday (March 13th) ** Delegate Cut-Off

(Detachment Commander Continued)

Visit because of the services you provide our veterans, their families, and the efforts on behalf of the children.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO

For God and Country,

Rocky Cirigliano

Detachment Commander

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida



Hello Sons!

The Holiday Season is upon us. Not only do we have a chance to spend time with our family and friends, but we get to reconnect with our Seasonal Residents. It's a time where we all start hosting events and fundraisers – please make sure you are sharing them with us so we can let the entire Detachment know!

FALL CONFERENCE

We've just completed our 21st Annual Fall Conference. I would like to thank all who helped when called upon to make it a great success. Thank you goes out to Pete Puzzo and your Member Training & Development (MT&D) team, as well as all of the Committee and Commission Chairmen, for imparting your knowledge during the training session on Friday. The minutes from our Fall Conference will be distributed shortly after the New Year begins. Next year's Fall Conference will be held November 21 – 23, 2025 in the same location. (The Caribe Royale Orlando). Make sure to put this on your calendars today.

53rd ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION

For those that like to book their rooms early, our 53rd Annual Detachment Convention will be held June 12th – 15th, 2025 at the Hilton Lake Buena Vista. Rooms may not be available just yet, but it doesn't hurt to have the information now, as rooms for Convention usually go fast. If you would like to call the hotel and check if rooms are available, the phone number is (800)-782-4414. Make sure to ask for the American Legion Rate. **PRO TIP:** Save this number in your phone as the following Convention will also be held there.



END OF YEAR REPORTING

We've mentioned this a few times already and it was also mentioned briefly at Fall Conference. Your Adjutant Team is working on ways to streamline and make the reporting season easier on us all. A few of the reports may be changing slightly. We will be holding a meeting in January to discuss our game plan. As soon as we have something concrete, we will be sure to relay it to you.

ENDORSEMENTS FOR OFFICE

Now that we are halfway through our service year, we will be accepting endorsements for office for the 2025-2026 Service Year. If you are considering running for a Detachment Officer Position, or a District Commander/Vice Commander position you may now submit your endorsement. All endorsements will be posted on our website at <https://floridasons.org/detachment-officer-endorsements/>, as well as be published in 'The Source' as they come in. There is a format that all endorsements should follow:

(Detachment Adjutant Continued)

- All endorsements must be on Post/Squadron letterhead and must have **two** signatures.
- Signatures can be any combination of Post or Squadron Commander and Post or Squadron Adjutant.
- **YOU CANNOT SIGN YOUR OWN ENDORSEMENT** if you currently hold one of these positions.

USAGE OF ACRONYMS

Internal Affairs Chairman John Jennings talked about this at Fall Conference. I felt that it is worth repeating. In today's world, especially in business, there are many acronyms that get thrown around. We have many in our organization such as SDR, SOR and CSR. While acronyms may seem handy, this 'alphabet soup' is often very confusing – even for those who have used the acronyms for years. We as leaders should reduce the usage of acronyms. This will make things clearer to others and help keep us all on the same page. If you use acronyms, try to get in the habit of spelling out what they mean and then referencing the acronym afterwards (see what I did above for the acronym 'MT&D').

NEW SQUADRON PAPERWORK

Over the last three years, we've been adding new squadrons on a regular basis – this is a good thing. All of the information you need to start a new squadron has been on the national website until the recent website redesign. I've added this paperwork to **OUR** website to make it easier for you to find. If you are looking to start a new squadron in your area or district, you can go to <https://floridasons.org/detachment-report-forms/> and find all of the paperwork you need. Look for the red heading. **NOTE:** new squadron paperwork must be sent to **THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA** and not to me. Their address can be found on the floridalegion.org website.

COMMANDER'S ATTENDANCE AT YOUR EVENTS

If you are holding an event that you would like Commander Cirigliano to attend, please send him an invitation. This allows the Commander to put the event on his schedule and plan his travels. It also helps for him to keep a record of his travels and accomplishments for the year. You can email the commander at commander@floridasons.org.

This also applies to Squadron Meetings. The Detachment Commander, just like your Area and District Commanders, need to be invited – they are not supposed to simply show up and surprise you for a meeting. Make sure you are inviting your leaders to your events and other functions!

That's all for now. Please let me and your Detachment Adjutant Staff know if you need anything. We are here to make YOU successful!

I hope you all have a truly Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

For God and Country,

Christian M Rapp

Detachment of Florida Adjutant



Gentlemen,



The Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida celebrated its 2024 Fall Conference in Orlando Florida Caribe Royale Resort November 22 & 23 2024. If you were not there you missed an important experience.

Our Member Training & Development Committee Chaired by Pete Puzzo and his instructors put on a training session of The American Legion and Sons of The American Legion Programs Overview. Great Job.

Commander Rocky, his Adjutant Christian, Staff, organized an outstanding Conference. While the Officers, Commission, and Committee Chairman provided Officer & Committee reports to our members who attended and kept everyone updated with the going ons of The Detachment of Florida.

Commander Rocky, PDC Gerard and The American Legion **Child Well Being Foundation** new President Dennis Boland presented the awards that were accepted on behalf of The Detachment of Florida, & Florida Squadrons at the National Convention. They also presented the Squadron's with their 2024 Membership Awards to all the deserving.

The highlight of the Conference was the National Visitation and guest speaker for The Sons of The American Legion National

NEC Continued)

Visitation and guest speaker for The Sons of The American Legion National Commander Joseph Navarrete from New Mexico who praised the Detachment of Florida for all their hard work and accomplishments. I would like to thank our membership for providing a fantastic welcome greeting to our National Commander. Well Done.

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and wish all of you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year! See you next year.

William D Kelly, Jr
Detachment of Florida National Executive Committeeman



Gentlemen,

I want to thank everyone who was able to attend the 21st Annual Fall Conference. I was proud to be able to speak with you all and award all the Squadrons who reached the 35% Goal. Additionally, assisting in giving some late but well-deserved Detachment Awards from last year to Commander Gerard Sambets and Madera Beach for being the largest Squadron in the Sons of The American Legion. Well Done Everyone! Congratulations Detachment of Florida Sons of The American Legion.

At the time of writing this article, we have made all 4 goals this year and are well on our way to reaching our 50% Goal. I trust that the ongoing weekly Reports are becoming clearer for everyone. The R.A.C.E. for Veterans Theme has been time-consuming, occasionally, but has been a great way to show how well we are doing. Please don't forget to give the Membership Committee your feedback on your Squadron's progress as well as concerns you have. We are here to help.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Paul Stawicki

Membership Chairman
Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida

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YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS



Greetings fellow Sons!

It was great to see so many friends and reacquaint with all of you during our recent Fall Conference. For those who could not attend, you missed a vibrant training session hosted by your MT&D Chairman Pete Puzzo and a very robust general session.

Once again I had the honor of representing the Detachment of Florida during our Sunday Service, which seems to be better attended each time we meet in Orlando. The Sunday Service has become my favorite part of both Fall Conference and our Annual Convention and I'm blessed to share the Chaplaincy with my dear brother American Legion Department of Florida Chaplain Barry Roberts, and my new friend and beloved sister, American Legion Auxiliary Chaplain Karen Marks.

I urge all who attend our semi-annual meetings to spend Sunday morning with us in honoring our Veterans, our Veteran Supporters and, of course, our Lord God before heading home at the close of our gatherings. Sharing the room with the faithful, enjoying the fellowship of fellow believers through prayer and music is a beautiful ending to a stressful and busy weekend doing the business of our respective organizations.

During the service, I had an opportunity to mention an event that I attended at Post 192, Ft. Myers, which touched me deeply. Post 192 is having a wonderful resurgence, and their Suicide Awareness and Prevention Symposium is only one of the things that proves that they are not only coming back, but doing so with a passion for what we, as members of the American Legion Family, stand for.

Should any of you have a chance to visit District 13, please let me know and we'll show you a District that has been rebuilding after devastating storms, only to reach new heights in resolve and membership. I firmly believe that it is due to the overwhelming faith we share and the focus on the American Legion's Four Pillars that has helped all who were touched by Irma, Ian, Helene and Milton not only survive, but thrive.

My fellow Sons and others who take the time to read The Source, I offer you the blessings of the One True God, the Creator of the Universe, and pray you feel his undying and unwavering love in all you do, every minute of your lives.

I am honored to serve as the Detachment Chaplain, and as always, I am available to anyone who may need a friendly ear, good conversation, a joke or just a warm hello.

For God and Country,

Ray Leventhal
Chaplain, Detachment of Florida
chaplain@floridasons.org
561 801 5822





MICHAEL NIGBOR

SOUTHWESTERN AREA COMMANDER
VCSW@FLORIDASONS.ORG



Greetings from the Southwestern Area!

Hello to you all. We had a fantastic fall conference and I truly hope you were all there to enjoy the training that was offered by our wonderful, dedicated instructors. There is a lot of time, thought and energy put into this event and we thank those volunteers immensely for their efforts.

Wow, where did the year go. It was so wonderful to see so many getting back to their homes and posts after rebuilding after Hurricane Ian, and then, "Bam"... we get hit again from Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Please try to help those that are still rebuilding after they have been affected by these horrific storms. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers as well as those among us that are fighting serious health issues. We are The American Family and need to be there for each other.

I had the pleasure of attending the District 16 Sons Fall Picnic at Post 125. The event was to benefit their charity, "Hero to a Child" and to support Post 158, Treasure Island and Post 273 Madeira Beach. These posts were decimated due to the flood waters from the hurricanes and are still closed for repairs. S.A.L. Commander Gary Sanderson and his crew put on a wonderful event and S.A.L. Commander Paulie Micieli showed his drumming talents with the band. Detachment Commander Rocky Cirigliano was a big winner and donated one of his prizes back for another round of donations.

Now, on to membership. Starting January 1st, everyone needs to show a current 2025 membership card to be able to be served beverages at the canteen. This is still a difficult time for many. Start calling your members to see how they are doing. Let them know they are more than a number and that you care about them. If they are having difficulties, offer to pay their membership and welcome them to come to the post to pick it up, otherwise mail it. A lot of our members have been displaced so this is also a good time to update their information.

Thank you for all you do. The membership numbers have been looking great. Just remember, we are all in this together. There is no "I" in team. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to myself or any of the Detachment Team.

" Don't Quit "

" Reset "

" Restart "

" Refocus "

For God and Country,

Michael Nigbor

Detachment of Florida Southwestern Area Vice Commander





MICHAEL "TANK" SHERMAN

CENTRAL AREA COMMANDER
VCCENTRAL@FLORIDASONS.ORG



Greetings from the Central Area!

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! November was a busy month across the Central Area. District 7 kicked things off with their District meeting on November 2nd in Lakeland. The turnout was small, but Commander Heier and his team are still working the mission supporting our veterans. I was supposed to attend the 15th District's meeting the following weekend, but it had to be rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts.

I got to do something different this year for Veteran's Day. My family and I travelled down to the Southwestern Area to Bonita Springs. The City of Bonita Springs and their Veteran's Advisory Council put on a beautiful ceremony honoring our veterans, including a moving speech by the keynote speaker, U.S. Army Lt. General (retired) H. Steven Blum. After the ceremony, I was excited to attend Post 303's grand reopening, more than 2 years after they were devastated by Hurricane Ian. It was an amazing celebration of the resilience of the Legion family, and I really enjoyed the camaraderie of Legion family members from all over the state.

The following weekend I took a nice ride out to Squadron 72's annual fall festival in Mulberry. They had the traveling Vietnam Memorial wall set up along with a memorial wall for our fallen heroes in the Global War on Terrorism. My kids enjoyed the bounce house they had set up and I really enjoyed walking around the car show looking at some beautiful vehicles. I was proud to be in attendance after the car show when Squadron 72 presented the Mulberry High School JROTC with a new trailer to help them transport their gear to different events. It was so amazing to see them supporting their community like that! After the presentation, I made my way back into the 15th District to Squadron 152's Smokin' Saturday event. The Sons there smoked some delicious meats, and I enjoyed hanging out with them during the afternoon.

Fall Conference was the next event in my travels. I said it last month, but it really does feel like a family reunion. It was great seeing everyone there. The Membership Training and Development Committee put on a well-attended training session Friday and the Detachment Executive Committee meeting and General Sessions took place Saturday. Lot of knowledge was passed and awards given. If you're reading this and have never attended Fall Conference or Convention, I highly recommend you book a trip when the next one comes around. It's not just for the "higher ups." Every member of the Sons would benefit from attending. You also never know who might show up there. I had the honor of meeting our National Commander, Joseph Navarrete from the Detachment of New Mexico during Fall Conference.

Thanksgiving morning was cold, but that didn't stop two of our Squadrons from getting up early to fry some turkeys for their communities. I had the tremendous pleasure of joining both Squadron 275 in Dunedin and Squadron 238 in Safety Harbor over the course of the morning to fry up over 250 turkeys. This was Squadron 275's 37th annual turkey fry and Squadron 238's 7th annual turkey fry. I'm honored to be associated with such a dedicated group of individuals.

To close out the month, I went out to Squadron 8 in Winter Haven for their 2nd annual Car and Bike Show. It was a small turnout on a very chilly morning, but they had some beautiful vehicles, and it was great catching up with some of the Squadron members there. Afterwards, I made my way out to the Annual 16th District Picnic at Post 125 in Gulfport. Most of the Squadrons in the 16th District were represented and both the Detachment Commander and Detachment Vice Commander for the Southwestern Area were in attendance. It was a great afternoon of fellowship with a lot of money raised for the 16th District Commander's Charity, "Hero to a Child."

Now, November is over, and so is the 2024 hurricane season. We still have a long way to go before the building is usable, but some normalcy is returning to my home post in Port Tampa, Post 138. Our Auxiliary has been hosting parking lot parties, and we recently got our tiki bar and back deck reopened on Fridays and Saturdays. It's been great being able to be there again (when I'm not traveling!) and enjoying our famous sunsets.

I've mentioned this in the last two months' articles, but please remember, there is a National Emergency Fund (NEF) that can be utilized if you need help. It's open to Legionnaires and Sons of The American Legion members (up to \$3,000) and Legion Posts (up to \$10,000). If you need assistance, there are a couple events this month across the Central Area where you can get help completing your NEF application.

(Vice Commander Central Continued)

Monday, December 9th, 2024, 9a – 4pm, Post 111 (6918 N Florida Ave, Tampa, FL 33604)
Sunday, December 15th, 204, 12pm – 4pm, Post 8 (300 Avenue M NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881)

Visit <https://www.legion.org/get-involved/community-programs/national-emergency-fund> for more details.

As always, please let me know what events your Squadron or District has going on and I will try to attend if I'm able!

From the Sherman family to yours, Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and I hope everyone has a safe and Happy New Year!

For God and County,

Michael "Tank" Sherman Jr.
Detachment Vice Commander for the Central Area



Merry Christmas from the Shermans!



National SAL Commander Joseph Navarrette and VC Central Sherman at Fall Conference





Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Eastern Area!

I would like to start out by saying great job Eastern Area for already meeting or exceeding our 45% goal ahead of time. Keep up the good work!

It was nice seeing everyone at Fall Conference and as always a good time was had by all. On Veterans Day I attended squadron 394 annual Veterans Day Ceremony me and district 12 vice Commander Gary Raymond where on the grill cooking lots of hamburgers and hot dogs for everyone attending.

We have reached our 45% target, now at fall conference we were challenged by Southern Area vice Commander Michael Mathias to pass him. Being the team owner of the Eastern Area race team I am asking my crew chiefs and race teams not to take a pit stop and step on the gas and get the Eastern Area into first place.

Remember our next target day is January 9th to be at 60%.

If you would like me to attend any meetings or events let me know.

For God and Country,
 Randy Chilcott
 Detachment Vice Commander for the Eastern Area



Greetings from the 6th District!

First, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Hope you had a Great Thanksgiving and enjoyed your time with family and friends. Let's continue to remember those who were devastated by the recent storms and keep them in your thoughts and prayers. May comfort and blessings be with you through this tough time.



I was excited to see everyone at the Fall Conference. I am very pleased to announce that District 6 was able to get the Golden Gavel back from District 12. We are at 53.38% and District 12 is close behind at 48.97%. We must keep the pedal to the metal if we want to keep the Golden Gavel at Convention in 6 months. That said, Congratulations to Andy Campbell at District 12 for putting up some great numbers. It is all about membership and for us it is a win-win, situation. With the Detachment goal at 35%, we are both well above that. The next goal is Dec 5th at 45%. So, we are ahead of the curve so far.

I also look forward to seeing you all at the next District 6 meeting at **Post 35 Mount Dora at 9:00 AM on December 7th.** (Pearl Harbor Day) I hope many of you will be able to attend. Let me know if there's something you would like me to include in the meeting agenda.

My Squadron visits are going great, and I would love to attend your meeting or just come for a visit, please let me know.

In closing, it's my honor to represent District 6 this year. Please feel free to reach out to me at: **district6@floridasons.org** or for any needs you may have.

Danny Roe
 6th District Commander Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida



ANDY CAMPBELL

DISTRICT 12 COMMANDER
DISTRICT12@FLORIDASONS.ORG



Greetings from the 12th District and Happy Holidays!

With the cooler temps coming in I hope everyone stays safe during the holiday season.

Lets all keep in mind the homeless folks and less fortunate people that are in your area and provide them with warm clothes and food this holiday season. Not too mention the kids in those families if you are doing and angel tree this holiday season for them.



Our District 12 meeting attendance was not that great in November and I encourage our squadrons to attend these meetings. We are looking at changing the date for our next District meeting so it doesn't interfere with the Eastern Area Ball. I will followup with an email to all of the commanders in the 12th District as to what that date will be, but we are looking at either Feb 1st or Feb 22nd.

The 12th District is doing a raffle for the Boys and Girls state buses by raffling off a beautiful quilt that was handmade by George Aichele's wife. I will be bringing this to all of the squadrons events when I can to sell these Raffle Tickets.

Hope everyone is ready for a cooler weather and the holiday season.

For God and Country,

Andy Campbell
12th District Commander
Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of Florida



WILLIAM TRAINOR

DISTRICT 1 VICE COMMANDER
DISTRICT1VC@FLORIDASONS.ORG



Greetings from 1st District!

It was a busy month for the District Commander and his Vice. They finished up the squadron visits in the Panama City area with visits to Squadrons 356, 375, and 392. Only ten more to go! The Vice Commander should have those reports to the District Commander for review soon before sending the final copies off to Detachment.

Then they followed up with the Fall Conference in Orlando. The Conference provided a unique opportunity for both to interact with officers from Detachment as well as officers from Squadron up to Area from around the State. Several reports were delivered by Detachment officers and some distinguished guests on the status of the different programs and goals from National all the way down to squadron level. Be sure to scour this edition for all the tidbits! In addition, there were opportunities to speak with subject matter experts on various subjects that should be useful in addressing the needs of District 1 Squadrons.

SQ 382

On November 17th, Squadron 382 held its 15th Annual Turkey Shoot and had an amazing turnout! We were happy to distribute a few dozen turkeys, ensuring every family that came went home with at least one to add to their Thanksgiving table.

This month Squadron 382 will be assisting our Legion Riders with the 'Ride for the Claus' and our Auxiliary with the Post Christmas Party and New Years party! We all work hard together throughout the year to ensure our veterans and communities get the support they need, so it's nice to relax and enjoy the holidays together.

We wish all of you and yours families a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

William Trainor
1st District Vice Commander Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida





Greetings from The Mighty 9th District!

I hope everyone had a Great Thanksgiving! *Since our last Newsletter:.....*



Post 304 celebrated 75 years with a cake, exceptional food, and great Fellowship.



The 9th District Commander Jim Tewes and entourage, put on an exceptional 50's Sock Hop and Dinner at Post 321 Great Fun and Excellent Food.

The 9th District Auxiliary President Dawn Krasnick and Myself attended Bonita Springs Post 303 Grand Reopening. The place was rocking so many dignitaries as well as members of the Legion family packed the post, there were prizes, raffles, the Food Trucks served exceptional food, and the bartenders were very busy, but did a great job. kudos to everyone at 303. The post is beautiful, the Entertainment was top-notch.

Traditional Marine Corps Birthday Celebration with the oldest and the Youngest Marine Cutting the Cake.



Membership, Membership..the race is going full speed..9th District is Leading the Pack.

Till next time May your Holiday Season Be bright and The New Year be Prosperous.

Sam Aloï | 9th District Vice Commander



RICK SCHUBERT

COMMANDER | SQUADRON 415
BABCOCK RANCH, FL



Reporting from Squadron 415 located in Babcock Ranch FL

We are a new squadron, chartered in April of 2024 with 10 charter members. We held officer installations on June 17th. Our first monthly meeting was held October 14th with District Commander Sean Wing assisting. Post 415 and auxiliary officers also in attendance.

We currently show 13 active members with 8 new or transfer members currently pending acceptance at State. We also have 2 completed applications with dues paid pending verification/vetting processes.

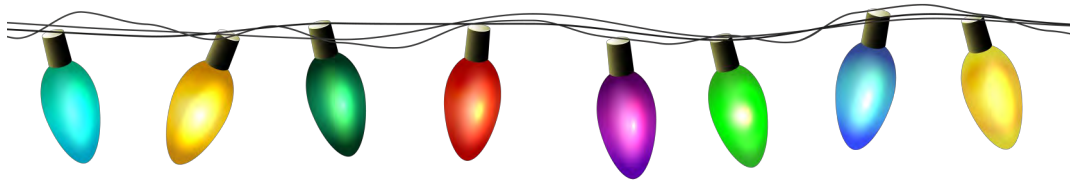
So we're growing our membership base while continuing to support the post.

December 17th is an important date for our Legion Family as we have a scheduled meeting with the developers to discuss the possibility of getting a building, a new home for the Legion Family here at Babcock Ranch.

Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Rick Schubert
Commander Squadron 415
Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida



WILLIAM D KELLY, JR

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN
LEGISLATIVE@FLORIDASONS.ORG



Please remember to register for The American Legion Legislative Commission Voters Voice using our QR code and after the 1st of the new year send your Congressman and Senator an email letting them know you are a Florida Son of The American Legion and you support Veterans Legislation.

Thank you.

William D Kelly, Jr
Legislative Commission Chairman
Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida



AL Voter Voice





Detachment of Florida,

WOW!!! What a great Fall Conference we had. If you did not attend, you missed a great Fall Conference full of great information to take back to your Districts and Squadrons.

Congratulations to Commander Cirigliano, Adjutant Christian Rapp and staff for putting together a very smooth Fall Conference. The Conference was full of great information and reports given by many Committee/Commissions Chairman. Great work by all.

The Internal Affairs Commission brought four (4) resolutions forward, with all four (4) being approved by the General membership.

- FC-24-01 – Meeting Minutes for Conference, Convention and other Calls
- FC-24-02 – Develop Resolutions Committee
- FC-24-03 – Develop Credentials Committee
- FC-24-04 – Approve Purchase of Lap Top Computers

A big congratulations to all the Committees under the Internal Affairs Commission for a great job during our 2024 Fall Conference with the reports and information given to membership.

- Member Training & Development – Chairman Pete Puzzo
- Membership – Chairman Paul Stawicki
- Commanders Advisory – Chairman John Jennings
- Constitution & By-Laws – Chairman Jim Roberts
- Finance – Chairman Ed Sheubrooks
- Convention Committee – Chairman Ed Sheubrooks

These Committees are just a small part that led to the success of the Fall Conference with great useful information. Thanks again for all you do.

Acronyms were a big topic of discussion. Why? Most of our membership do not encounter the acronyms we are using, and they will not ask what they are. We are failing them by not using full description with the acronyms until our membership understands their meaning. I as Internal Affairs Chairman and Past Detachment Commander that ask we, the Detachment of Florida, **stop USING ACRONYMS** so we do a better job of educating our membership.

COMMUNICATIONS

We continue to talk about our Detachment communications get to our Squadrons and to our membership. One way is through your Squadron email. 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. Have a fundraiser and purchase one for the family. Just an idea. All Squadrons and Squadron Officers should have an email and should be signed up to our Google group and have been receiving the Detachment communications. If you are not signed up it is simple, just go to the Detachment website (www.floridasons.org) and go toward the bottom of the first page. You will see a button and information about the Google Group. Click the button and just follow the props. You are now set up to receive information about your Detachment. Oh, we do not sell email addresses, they are safe with us. This is just one of many communication tools available to our membership.

MEMBER TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT (MT&D)

The Member Training & Development Committee put on a great class on Friday afternoon. If you missed this class, I am sure the Information will be shared with all interested. Please continue to look for information regarding the date and time of the training class, as the Member Training & Development continues to put classes information together for our membership.

(Internal Affairs Continued)

Please Contact the Detachment Member Training & Development Chairman Peter Puzzo, on your interest of hold training classes at your Squadron, in your District or Area. His contact information can be found on our website www.floridasons.com .

MEMBERSHIP

Chairman Paul Stawicki has the Drivers all in order as of Fall Conference with 138 Race Team at or over the 35% Conference target. Congratulation Chairman Stawicki and your Staff. The race to the top is on and I am sure it will be a true race battle to the top. Congratulations to all the Divers and Pit Crews for their hard work. Let's leave no one behind.

SOURCE

The "SOURCE". What is it? It is the newsletter for the Detachment of Florida that is published monthly. The only thing that I see missing are articles. Our last several newsletters did not have many articles. Why? The Source is not just for the Detachment Officers, Commission, and Committee to use. It is strongly recommended that articles of important can be and should be submitted by Squadrons. You can do this on-line at www.floridasons.org. All Officers are encouraged and should submit articles along with the Chairman of Commissions and Committees. It is a great tool to share with everyone what is happening within the Detachment, so I encourage each of you to submit articles and this is a real easy process through www.floridasons.org under the administration tab. Let us spread the word to everyone about the great things that are happening within the Detachment of Florida. All Detachment Officers, Commission and Committee Chairman should be submitting article for the Source. The more positive information we supply the better it will be for our membership growth. It will also help strengthen our members.

SQUADRON DATA REPORT FORM (SDR):

PLEASE KEEP THIS ON YOUR HIT LIST FOR THE FIRST OF THE 2025 YEAR. THE NEW 2026 FORMS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE. Any questions please contact me at IA@floridasons.org and I will be glad to discuss with you.

SQUADRON REPORTING

It is very important to both the Detachment of Florida and the National Sons of The American Legion that the proper paper work is completed EACH YEAR and ON TIME.

Items such are,

- Squadron Officer Report Forms,
- Squadron Data Report Form (SDR) is required by May of each year (you will hear more on the SDR forms upcoming).
 - Detachment Squadron Consolidated Report Form - SCR
 - National Squadrons Consolidated Report Form – SCR
 - BOTH SQUADRON CONSOLIDATED REPORT FORMS NEED TO BE COMPLETED AND TURNED IN IN A TIMELY MANNER.

All the forms can be found on our web site at www.floridasons.org

PREAMBLE

I will publish our Preamble 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. This 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 and important for you as a member and us a Veteran Organization. It is our duty, and it was the duty of all our wonderful Veterans, without them we would not be what we are today, **A FREE NATION.**



PREAMBLE TO THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONSTITUTION

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.

TOGETHER
WE CAN AND WILL
MAKE A DIFFERENCE



 AMERICAN
LEGION

BE THE ONE





PETER PUZZO

MEMBER TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT CHAIRMAN
MTD@GMAIL.COM



THE PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION EXPLAINED

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

Self-Explanatory...our US Constitution is one of the most precious things we own...every time we say the Pledge, we align ourselves with that document.

To maintain law and order;

We need to insure that our rule of law is the true engine that drives this Country.

To foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism;

By our Squadron Activities, we should be in support of this sentence...it is up to each one of us to mentor the next generation of Americans.

To preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in all wars;

Reflecting on the past and learning from it is the only real way to learn and become better prepared to deal with the future.

To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;

The word IN-KUL-KATE means to train or instill.

To combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses;

We strive to maintain a fairness & our republic's democracy against those who would seek to own power.

To make right the master of might;

That justice and what is morally right should always hold power over brute force or military strength.

To promote peace and good will on earth;

To follow & help others to follow the Golden Rule, be tolerant & patient.

To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;

To fully support the 3 foundation principles of the Sons. Fairness, the right to choose, and the will of the People.

To consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness;

To help each other within the Organization & Family as well as outside the Organization.

To adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands;

We are a Program of The American Legion & need to be mindful of the goals & policies of our parent organization.

And to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

Self-explanatory.



A DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA MEMBERSHIP TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT INFO-GRAM

“COMMITMENT”

Exactly what do we mean by the word ‘commitment’? Depending on your status in life it could take on various levels. As a child growing up, you commit to going to school, and learning all you can, commit to your baseball team by showing up and trying your best. As a Father, you commit to your Employer to show up and work your hardest, commit to your family to provide for their well-being, etc.

In reality, commitment is the same at **EVERY** level. A commitment is a pledge to move toward a structured goal.

As a Squadron Commander, you need to commit to the Pillars of our Organization. This means ‘actively’ pursuing the goals that you set for your Squadron, while pursuing the goals set for you by the District, Detachment & Headquarters. This means pushing your programs to completion. This means contacting the members who neglected to pay their dues this year. This means going to a community event wearing your Uniform Cap and appropriate attire. This means actively helping your Post, and its Families reach their goals as well.

If you say that you CAN'T, you WON'T. I can't get members to come so why try? WRONG. If you can ask 1 member why they didn't renew or couldn't attend an event, and he tells you the reason, you are following through on a commitment to your membership. If it can be fixed, FIX IT. If it can't be fixed because it is out of your control, at least look into it. Your members will catch on to YOUR activism, and hopefully, pick up some of it.

REMEMBER...commitment is keeping your pledge to move toward a structured goal. Ask yourself...if not ME, then WHO?

If we are to succeed as an Organization, our work must continue into the future. Commit to ‘mentoring’ a new member. They will pick up where you leave off one day.

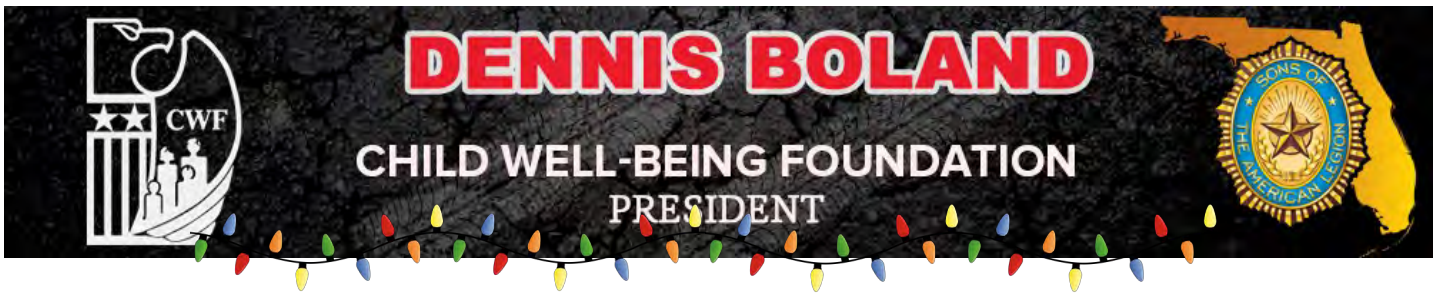
If you have a topic you would like discussed or if you would like to get a local Training Program set for your District, Area or Squadron, please contact me at 772-532-6511. Leave a message or text me and be sure to leave your name.

I hope you all have a wonderful and safe holiday season!

Peter Puzzo

Chairman Member Training & Development Committee
Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida





American Legion Child Well-Being Foundation

“CAT TALES”

Children’s Action Team Electronic Newsletter - Fall 2024

President’s Message

On behalf of the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Board of Directors, I express our deepest gratitude for your dedication to our nation’s youth. Your commitment to the Foundation is not just making a difference; it is the difference. You are not just supporters; you are integral to our success, and we thank you for your invaluable contribution to the lives of thousands of children nationwide every day.

During the October 2024 board of directors meeting, the Foundation awarded \$852,593 to Thirteen child-serving nonprofit organizations for the 2025 year. This funding will directly impact the lives of countless children, and you, our esteemed supporters, have made this possible. You will find a complete listing of these organizations and a summary of their projects within this newsletter.

Another notable outcome of the meeting was a motion to change the name of the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation to doing business as the Child Well-Being Foundation (CWF), which was seconded and passed. The negative connotation brought about the change to the name of the word welfare. The outside public was confused about CWF’s purpose, thinking it only provided financial assistance to families or organizations. Well-being is defined the same as welfare but in a more positive light. When thinking about the mission and purpose of the Foundation, it is to contribute to the betterment of children in this country through the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual welfare of children by aiding progress in the field of child well-being through research, studies, surveys, or supporting programs and activities benefiting the well-being of the children and youth.

Thank you for being a valuable member of the Children’s Action Team and for your continued support of the American Legion Child Well-Being Foundation. We truly appreciate your commitment.

Grant Updates

Florida Atlantic University, a 2023 award recipient, was granted an amended project schedule by the Board of Directors in December 2023 to run concurrent with the 2024 calendar year for their project titled “Pet Dogs, Resilience and Well-Being in Military Adolescents.”

Contributions

As of 10/25/24, donations for the June 1st, 2024, through May 31st, 2025, program year stand at \$205,789.54. The top 3 family contributors are:

- 1st - Florida - \$24,691.58
- 2nd - Massachusetts - \$24,353.40
- 3rd - Pennsylvania - \$15,479.71

100% Per Capita Banner Program

Once again, the 100% per capita banner program will be offered for the 2024 – 2025 program year. Each post, unit, squadron, chapter, or salon donating at least one dollar for each member during the American Legion Child Well-Being Foundation’s award year will receive a beautiful banner/streamer.

(Child Well-Being Foundation Continued)

To qualify, a post, unit, squadron, or salon must donate one dollar per member based on its official membership total as of June 1, 2024. The post, unit, squadron, chapter or salon has from June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025, to complete its donation to the Child Well-Being Foundation.

Banner request forms are available online or by contacting the CWF office.

If you or someone you know would like to donate to the Child Well-Being Foundation, donations can be made online by clicking this [link](#).

Dennis R. Boland (FL)

President, The American Legion Child Well-Being Foundation



★ ★ ★ FREQUENT WINNERS ★ ★ ★

WIN BIG & SUPPORT VETS

HUGE PRIZES

ENTER ONLINE
florida5050.org

AMERICAN LEGION Department of Florida

50/50 RAFFLE VETERANS

RAFFLE



GEORGE STEGER

EDITOR OF "THE SOURCE"

THESOURCE@FLORIDASONS.ORG



Gentlemen,

I apologize for the delay in publication. Unfortunately the time that I had set aside to publish got eaten up by Tropical Storm Debby. Article submission will still be by the 25rd of the month with publication being the first week of the month. Please submit your articles and event flyers so that we can continue to bring you this important information. Event flyers will run every month until the event is complete. If any of your fellow members do not get **The Source** delivered via email feel free to share it with them and encourage them to sign-up on the mailing list. 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!

For God and Country,

George Steger

NOTICE

There are several important Conference Calls Planned for the first three weeks of January. We will not publish another edition of "The Source" until February, so we can really the information that takes place. The due date for articles for the next edition is Thursday, January 23, 2025.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION - DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA



THE SOURCE



CLARENCE HILL

THE AMERICAN LEGION
PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER 2010-2011
2025 TAMPA CONVENTION CORP PRESIDENT



At Convention, I made a short presentation at a session of the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL conventions. A summary is as follows:

- 1) Department has developed a volunteer form that should be available on each organization's website. A lot will rely on the Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, SAL members and Riders volunteers to make the Convention a success, and we need members of each organization to contribute. We've had nearly twenty members submit the form. Again, the Committees are: Badges and Packets, Distinguished Guests, Memorial Service, Information/Registration and Special Events. There is a place on the form to indicate which committee you would like to serve and whether or not you'd like to be a Chairperson. I will take note now of those who would like to chair a committee, serve as the Tampa liaison or be the driver for the National Commander or the National Adjutant. We will have a meeting at the Fall Conference this year to finalize those appointments. It'll be next year before we put the rest of the team together. If you are attending the New Orleans National Convention next month, you might ask those Louisiana folks serving on the committee you are interested in.
- 2) Some Posts have indicated a desire to provide a display at the Convention. Those requests must be approved by National, Florida does not control them. Contact Bridget Robinson at brobinson@legion.org. She will process your request.
- 3) There is also a form on the National Website, legion.org, for those Posts interested in hosting a Department's party or social gathering. Bridget is also the point of contact for those requests.
- 4) Conventions are not cheap- I expect the Convention to cost \$400,000 or more, with the largest cost being the bus transportation. This year, Legislative Chairman Stu Scott worked hard to get budget money from the Legislature to help offset the transportation cost, but was unsuccessful. We will try again next year, but will need a lot of lobbying help from the grassroots making contact with their State Senators and Representatives and supporting the effort. It's not too early to make that contact.
- 5) One of the first deadlines Florida needs to meet concerns the Memorial Service. That Committee coordinates with the National Chaplain to set up the service, provide rooming arrangements that may be required and provide volunteers to assist with seating attendees. Most importantly, we need to identify well-known local groups that are willing to perform at this event. We need to provide National with a number of options by January, and National will pursue booking them. If you have any suggestions, submit them to Bruce or me.

This overview gives you an idea of the immensity of the project Florida has taken on, and how important your support and volunteering will be to its success. Hosting a National Convention is not an easy task, and every member of all the other Departments is a critic. If you can help in any way or have any ideas, please provide them. If you can volunteer in any way, we need you.

Clarence Hill
American Legion Past National Commander
2025 Tampa Convention Corporation President

2025 NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE



The Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida
2025 Tampa National Convention Committee
Chairman Bill Kelly

Committeeman Ed Sheubrooks, Jim Roberts,
Gerard Sambets, Christian Rapp & Detachment Commander Rocky Cirligiano

This is your committee for the National Convention in Tampa in August 2025. We would like all of our members to help create an emblem for pins and coins and submit them to the committee. We would like the artist drawing or rendering to include a Florida and a Tampa symbols for example, palm tree, manatee, waterfront. We would like all submissions in by November 15, 2024 and decisions to be made at Fall Conference.

Update: Since the last Detachment of Florida September Source Article we have not received **ONE** inquiry or art submission concerning the National Convention. If you have a submission, please send it today!



LARRY ROBERTS

DEPT OF FLORIDA VA ENTITLEMENTS
BENEFITS@LEGIONMAIL.ORG



Greetings, Detachment of Florida!

Consider supporting the Veterans Expo through donations or volunteer work, as all proceeds will benefit Project Vet Relief. This community event allows participating posts, units, and organizations to receive a copy of the events results for their end of the year reports. There will also be a Flag Line All Posts, Units, Squadrons and Chapters in attendance are encouraged to bring their respective banners to participate in the Flag Line.

For more information or to contribute, contact:

Larry Roberts
American Legion Department of Florida
VA Entitlements Chair
Project Vet Relief Board Member
Phone: (850)718-7773
E-mail gunhunter1966@yahoo.com

America Legion Post 69

1301 W Bell St Avon Park FL 33825

Presents

Jan 3rd, & 4th 2025 10th Annual

Veterans Expo

Your one stop for Veterans resources
Counseling and therapy resources,
Veteran jobs, health care
networking and much more
VA representatives will be
onsite for benefits

Fundraiser
All proceeds benefit Project: VetRelief
Donations accepted



Post 69
Larry Roberts
850-718-7773



Please check www.ALpost69avonpark.com
for accurate times and details



Day 1 Fri. Jan. 3rd
Traveling Memorial Wall
Escort
From 1750 Longleaf Blvd Lake Wales
FL 33859 to AL Post 69

10AM Staging (post 69)
10:15AM Sharp KSU
11:00 AM Staging (longleaf)
11:15AM Briefing
11:30AM KSU

Day 2 Sat. Jan. 4th
Veterans Expo
10am to 5pm

Veterans Suicide Awareness
Come see the Vietnam
Memorial Wall
Children's activities
Live music Food trucks
Raffle items and 50/50

PROJECT: VETRELIEF
They Fought for Us. We Fight for Them.

Legion Riders Post 69
Mike Pollock
419-549-0478



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.
 - 2) 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.
 - 3) 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:
 - 1) 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 M Rapp at 215 Greenwood Avenue, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936.
- 2) Endorsement letters can be scanned and sent by e-mail to the Detachment 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	Michael Nigbor Squadron 303 – Bonita Springs
Office of Detachment Vice Commander	
Western Area	
Northern Area	
Eastern Area	
Central Area	Michael 'Tank' Sherman Squadron 138 – Tampa
Southwestern Area	
Southern Area	
National Executive Committeeman <i>2yr Appointment</i>	William D Kelly, JR Squadron 137 – Jacksonville
Alternate National Executive Committeeman <i>2yr Appointment</i>	Gerard Sambets Squadron 275 – Dunedin
Detachment Chaplain	
Detachment Historian	Brian R Patt Squadron 158- Treasure Island
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		
14		
15	Eric Rikansrud Squadron 138 – Tampa	Victor Kelly Squadron 138 – Tampa
16		
17		



President Charlotte's Homecoming

January 18, 2025

Social Hour Begins 5pm-6pm with Hors d'Oeuvres
Buffet Dinner 6pm-7pm featuring : Chicken & Beef, Broccoli & Rice
Casserole, Scalloped Potatoes, Salad, and Assorted Desserts
Business Casual Attire

Live 70's Rock with PEGGHEDD @ 7pm

Post 80 St Cloud
1019 Pennsylvania Avenue
Saint Cloud, FL 34769

Ticket info:\$25PP/\$40 Couple
Send Checks Payable ALA Unit 80 to:
Heather Cunningham (address above)



Hotel information: Hunter Arms Hotel (1029 New York Ave) 407-891-9855
Day-Zee Inn (1221 Carolina Ave) 407-957-0668
Polynesian Inn (2900 13th Street) 407-892-2858
Budget Inn (602 13th Street) 407-892-2858

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA
VICE COMMANDERS'



**SATURDAY, JAN 25, 2025
STARTING AT 12PM**

AMERICAN LEGION POST 8

300 AVENUE M NW | WINTER HAVEN, FL 33881

TICKETS: \$20 PER PERSON
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AMERICAN LEGION CHAPTER 8

MAIL TO: JESSICA MOORE
282 ALPINE DRIVE
WINTERHAVEN, FL 33881

PROCEEDS BENEFIT

**COTA | DISASTER RELIEF
PROJECT: VETRELIEF | SPI**



DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S



HILLBILLY HOEDOWN

COME DRESSED AS A HILLBILLY!
JEANS - OVERALLS - STRAW HATS

SATURDAY APRIL 26, 2025
STARTING AT 12:00PM



RAFFLES DURING THE DAY
MAIN AUCTION 4PM
DINNER INCLUDED

ENTERTAINMENT BY
DJ DOC HOLIDAY
THE LAST CALL BAND

TICKETS:
\$30/PERSON \$50/COUPLE

CONTACT COMMANDER HAMRICK FOR TICKETS
(321) 313 - 3469
SGTHAMRICK@HOTMAIL.COM

AMERICAN LEGION POST 117
189 VETERANS DRIVE PALM BAY, FL

PROCEEDS BENEFIT
COMMANDER'S CHARITIES



SUPPORTING FLORIDA DISASTER RELIEF



SOUTHWESTERN AREA PICNIC

January 18, 2025

11 am - 5pm

2124 American Legion Drive
Arcadia, FL 34266



Competitive games - entry fee

\$10 per couple -

Trophy's for 1st, 2nd & 3rd
Baskets, 50/50, live music -
donations gladly accepted



Checks written out to

AL K Post 11

Memo - SW Area Picnic

AL K Post 11

C/O Tammie Clifton

PO Box 835

Arcadia, FL 34265



2025 Eastern Area Ball

February 8th, 2025

Post 117 Palm Bay

Cocktails at 3pm

Dinner at 5pm

Schnitzel by Chef Ray

Tickets \$30 Couples \$55

At the door \$40

Proceeds go to Commanders Charity of choice

Chris Hamrick and Rocky Cirigliano

Wear your Red Shirt



ENTERTAINMENT

BY

JIMMY D



15th ANNUAL

CAR & TRUCK Show



Sons of the American Legion, Squadron #138

Saturday, February 1, 2025

11am - 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/T-Shirts 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

(For Registration Forms, see S.A.L. Facebook or your bartender at Post on Saturdays)

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 Steve Lentz (813)435-8238

CAR/TRUCK SHOW REGISTRATION

****Information That Goes To: *S.A.L. Squadron 138*****

15th Annual S.A.L. Squadron #138 Car and Truck Show

American Legion Post #138, 5535 W. Prescott St, Tampa, FL 33616

Saturday, February 1, 2025

Showing Start: 11:00am/Trophies Awarded: 4:00pm

\$15.00 Advanced Entry Fee; \$20.00 Day Of (no rain checks)

Drop Registration Off to Bartenders at Post 138 on Saturdays until Building Re-opens

NAME (Printed): _____ Phone: _____

Circle One: CAR TRUCK OTHER

MAKE _____ MODEL _____

YEAR _____ Which Car Club Affiliated With? _____

\$ AMOUNT _____ CASH _____ OR CHECK # _____ DATE _____

CAR/TRUCK SHOW REGISTRATION

****Information That Goes To: *S.A.L. Squadron 138*****

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NAME (Printed): _____ Phone: _____

Circle One: CAR TRUCK OTHER

MAKE _____ MODEL _____

YEAR _____ Which Car Club Affiliated With? _____

\$ AMOUNT _____ CASH _____ OR CHECK # _____ DATE _____



Valentine Day Dinner With Elvis...

**Surf or Turf (Prime Rib -or- Salmon) Dinner &
Dessert**

1 Complimentary Glass of Wine or Beer

Tribute Elvis Concert by 'The Pooz'

Have Your Wedding Vows Renewed by Elvis

Saturday...February 15, 2024

Doors Open for Dinner at 6:00 PM

Cash Bar Open

Dance the evening away to...

"The Pooz"

Seating limited to 80...Advance Sales ONLY

Proceeds to fund several Sons of The American Legion Veterans Programs & Community Programs

\$35.00 Per Person

See Bartender for Tickets-Checks payable to Squad 189-SAL

Sons of The American Legion-Squad 189

807 Louisiana Avenue-Sebastian FL 32958





THE CENTRAL AREA LEADERSHIP
Presents

The Central Area
CASINO
ROYALE

~ ~
SATURDAY
MARCH 8

AT WINTER
HAVEN POST 8
COCKTAILS/GAMES AT 5:00PM
DINNER SERVICE AT 6:00PM

TICKETS:
\$45

PER PERSON
OR
\$80 PER COUPLE

Tickets include dinner and casino "cash" that can be used to play your favorite casino games.

Dress like 007 or your favorite Bond girl or villain!



Highlights:

CASINO GAMES - LIVE DJ - RAFFLES - DOOR PRIZES

PROCEEDS BENEFIT: C.O.T.A, OPERATION 300, AND OPERATION COMFORT WARRIOR

MENU: 1905 SALAD - STUFFED MUSHROOMS - BEEF TENDERLOIN - POTATOES - DESSERT -

RSVP /Make checks payable to: Michael Sherman
(813) 541-3452 - vccentral@floridasons.org
Mail to: 7519 Winging Way Dr, Tampa, FL 33615

American Legion Family at Post #347

Charity Golf Tournament

May 10, 2025



EVENT INFORMATION

Location: Broad Stripes Golf Club
11560 SE 176th Place Road
Summerfield, FL 34491

- Shotgun Scramble – Start at 8:00 AM
- Cost per Golfer - \$95
- Coffee & Breakfast snacks before golf
- Longest Drive Contests
Men & Women
- Hole-in-One Contest
Men & Women
- Hole #15 PRIZE: Golf Cart
- Closest-to-the-Pin-Men & Women
- Many Prizes & Surprises!
- Purchase Mulligans for Charity

After golf, please join us at Post 347
699 W. Lady Lake Blvd, in Lady Lake for
Lunch, Raffles, 50/50, Auctions, & More

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Bronze Hole Sponsor: \$100
- Silver Hole Sponsor: \$200
- Gold Hole Sponsor: \$300
- *Platinum Hole Sponsor: \$500-\$999
*Includes Table Space
- *Major Sponsor-\$1,000 & Up
*Includes Table Space & Foursome
- Donate Gifts for Raffle Prizes

Accepting Sponsorships & Gift Donations
NOW through April 26, 2025

Golf Foursome Registration Starts
February 1, 2025

Make all Checks payable to:

Squadron #347

Mail to: Attention: C&Y Golf Tournament
P.O. Box 1534
Lady Lake, FL 32158

The American Legion Family is Donating
All Proceeds to Benefit Children & Youth Programs



**AMERICAN LEGION POST 347
CHILDREN & YOUTH CHARITY
GOLF TOURNAMENT – May 10, 2025**

Golf Foursome Registration Starts February 1, 2025

(We Sell-Out Quick, so Don't Delay!)

Golfer (\$95) _____

Golfer (\$95) _____

Golfer (\$95) _____

Golfer (\$95) _____

Contact for the Team _____

Contact Phone # _____

Contact Email _____

Hole Sponsor:

Bronze _____ Silver _____ Gold _____ Platinum _____ Major _____

Additional Guests for Dinner at Post 347 are \$10.00 each _____

Please make checks payable to: Squadron 347

PO Box 1534, Lady Lake, FL 32158

Attention: C&Y Golf Tournament

If you have any questions, please contact:

Danny Roe – (317) 508-6465

dannyroe@prodigy.net

**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!**



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

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(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.