

# The Source



Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of Florida

Member Florida American Legion Press Association



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Editors Ed Sheubrooks  
Jim Roberts

## Commander's Column

Detachment Commander Michael Dooley (flcmdr@gmail.com)



Welcome to "Florida Cracker Trail Rodeo Days!" As many of you have heard, that is our membership theme for this year. You will see your officers carrying their horses and badges. I think we can have fun with this while we are meeting our membership goals.

Congratulations and sincere appreciation to all of the new officers that volunteered to give a year of service to our organization. We have just finished a fantastic year and with your help will do even more this year.

Congratulations to Michael "Doc" Bowen, our SAL member of the year.

Doc and the 16th District Posse did an outstanding job last year and they have already hit the ground running this

year.

I am in the process of planning my schedule for this year. If you have an event or function that you like for me to attend or if you have a certain date that you

would like for me to make my visit to your district please let me know as soon as possible.

After convention our first stop was at Mulberry, squadron 72 for installation. We were also

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## Adjutant's Corner

Detachment Adjutant Ed Sheubrooks (fladjutant@gmail.com)



The Detachment Convention is behind us, and what a Convention it was! It was very productive and well

attended from all Squadrons around the Detachment. We had 550 registered Delegates and Alternates, with attendance at the meetings of over 300 delegates. One of the speakers comment was that "He thought he was addressing the National Convention of the Sons" from the turnout. This speaks very well for the

Detachment and for you the members of this GREAT ORGANIZATION! The Convention concluded with the reelection of Michael Dooley as Detachment Commander for 2010-2011. A complete list of the new Detachment Officers is published in the issue of The Source.

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### Dates of interest:

- August 25 - Detachment 20% Membership Target
- August 27-30 - National Convention - Milwaukee, WI
- September 4 - Campaign Dinner & Dance - Post 139 Tampa
- September 11 - Patriot's Day
- September 12 - 13th District Meeting - Squadron 274 Ft Myers Beach
- September 30 - Detachment 40% Membership Target

*(Continued Commander's Column from page 1)*

able to be in the 4th of July parade in Safety Harbor. The Legion Family really worked hard on this and it is appreciated by the community. People stood in the rain to support it. We have also attended many of the installations in the Southwestern Area.

Ed Sheubrooks and I were able to attend the Legion retreat this past weekend. Commander Al and President Irma are pleased by the way the Legion Family pulled together last year and want to continue the relationship. We can accomplish so much more if we work together.



*(Continued Adjutant's Corner from page 1)*

We continue to be very successful in our programs. It was very evident in Membership with another All Time High of 13,173 members. We had a total of 96 year-end reports submitted. In addition, we had 90 National CSR forms submitted. This was a record reporting year. I personally wish to THANK everyone that submitted the reports. From the reports submitted, a total of \$408,421.00 was donated to various programs and over 147,773 man hours were recorded. This includes the following that was donated on the Convention floor. \$28,600.00 for the Children's Miracle Network. \$15,735.00 for the National Child Welfare Foundation. \$2,400.00 for the Florida Children and Youth Fund, and a record year for Florida Special Olympics of over \$26,000.00. A special thanks to Squadron #304 for the donation of \$8,500.00 to Children's Miracle Network. A hearty JOB WELL DONE to all Squadrons!

The Detachment Roster is in the works. Several Squadrons still have not submitted their Squadron Officer Report forms. The District and Area Commanders received a list of these Squadrons at the Convention and will be following up with the various Squadrons during installation of Officers. We have set a deadline of August 15, 2010 for this information to be submitted. After this date we will be going to print with the Detachment Roster. Without this information on file at Department Headquarters, your Squadron will not receive any information from the Detachment. I had several members complain at the Convention that they never received any information from the Detachment. It is not my fault that we do not have your information on file. I cannot complete the required forms for you. It only takes a few minutes. If you are not certain if you have submitted this report, send me an e-mail and I will let you know.

By now all Squadrons should have received their membership cards for 2011. The cards were handed out at Convention. Some were mailed out prior to the Convention. Any cards not picked up at the Convention have been mailed. If you still have not yet received them, please contact Irene at Department Headquarters.

In closing, I wish to thank Detachment Commander Dooley and the Detachment Executive Committee for reappointing me to serve as your Detachment Adjutant. This starts my 29th year as your Detachment Adjutant. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions to help improve the Detachment, please let me know and we will look into them. Until next month!!

# Special Olympics

Detachment Special Olympics Chairman, Stanley Viergutz (Bonstan1jags@aol.com)



Thanks so much to each squadron that donated to Special Olympics this past year. The S.A.L. was once again #1. We raised more than the Legion & Auxiliary combined. We also have a great start on this year. Over \$26,000.00 was donated by the S.A.L. at the convention to start off the 2010-2011 year. We also have the NASCAR raffle going. At the Fall Conference ONE person will win the entire drivers side of the #56 NAPA Sprint Cup Car autographed by the driver Martin Truex Jr.

If your Squadron would like tickets to sell call me at (904) 704-2871. All money goes to Special Olympics and your Squadron gets credit for every dollar you raise toward the Special Olympics Plaques awarded at the Convention each year. Thanks again and keep up the great work!



## Membership Happenings

Detachment Membership Chairman, Jim Roberts (jim.robertsfl@gmail.com)



The 2010 - 2011 Membership year is underway! We have saddled up and are going for that "GOLD BUCKLE". Our goal this year is 13,750 members and 10 newly Chartered Squadrons within the Detachment.

I am going to rely on everyone to keep the momentum from last year moving this year. We are truly successful when we all work together to make our goals. Remember the 3R's for a successful Membership – Renew, Recruit and Reinstate.

We must really concentrate on the most important one of the 3R's, and that is RENEWALS. Each year we only renew about 82% of our previous years total membership. 82% of 13,173 members is 10,801 members that we retained. This is a loss of 2,371 members. Yet, we continue to meet our goals and ALL TIME HIGHS! How do we achieve this, by signing up new members. Just think about this, if we retained the 2,371 members that did not renew, and signed up that number in new members, we would easily be over 15,500 members. We are only asking for 13,750. It is time to COWBOY UP fellas. So let's get out there and WIN for Membership!



## Fall Conference

The sixth annual Fall Conference will be held on November 19 - 21, 2010 at the Wyndham Orlando Resort on International Drive in Orlando. This is the same Hotel as last year, and is centrally located with plenty of restaurants. All Detachment meetings will be on Saturday, November 20th. We will have a Detachment Executive Committee meeting in the morning, followed by the Committee and Commission meetings. We will then start the general session. The afternoon session will be a training session. The complete schedule is not yet formatted. Please see the next issue of The Source for more information. Please make your plans to attend.

# 38th Annual Detachment Convention Update

## 2010 - 2011 Detachment of Florida Officers

Detachment Commander - Mike Dooley (Sqd 38)	Detachment Adjutant - Ed Sheubrooks (Sqd 40)
Detachment Assistant Adjutant - Jim Roberts (Sqd 4)	Detachment Assistant Adjutant - Tim Bell (Sqd 4)
National Executive Committeeman - John Jennings (Sqd 72)	National Executive Committeeman Alternate - Allen Holley (Sqd 139)
Detachment Vice Commander West - Roy Smith (Sqd 193)	Detachment Vice Commander North - Bill Kelly (Sqd 137)
Detachment Vice Commander Central - Butch Jackson (Sqd 72)	Detachment Vice Commander East - Gary Scott (Sqd 359)
Detachment Vice Commander Southwest - Jim Love (Sqd 136)	Detachment Vice Commander South - Ryan Hiott (Sqd 180)
Detachment Chaplain - Herb Swoope (Sqd 148)	Detachment Historian - Paul Micieli (Sqd 305)
Detachment Judge Advocate - Chris Fisher (Sqd 285)	Detachment Sgt-At-Arms - Mike Bowen (Sqd 119)

## AWARD WINNERS

Convention was not only to elect new Officers and renew old friendships, but to reward those who have worked hard for the Detachment. We would like to recognize those winners for the 2009 - 2010 year.

**MEMBERSHIP:** 1st 100% Squadron – Apopka #87 - 1st 100# District: Category I – District #4, Category II – District #7, Category III – District #6 & Category IV – District #16 - 1st 100% Area – Central Area - **Largest Squadron** – Madeira Beach #273 (628 Members) - **Charles McEvilly Memorial Largest % Increase:** 10–100 Members – Beverly Hills #237 & 101–1000 Members – Dunedin #275

**REPORTS:** **Don Halliday Memorial – Best Year End Report:** Winner – Lake Placid #25, 1st Runner Up – Riverview #148, 2nd Runner Up – Boynton Beach #164 - **Mark Mast Memorial Americanism Report:** Winner – Winter Haven #8, 1st Runner Up – Riverview #148, 2nd Runner Up – Jacksonville #283 - **CHILDREN & YOUTH:** Winner – Jacksonville #283, 1st Runner Up – Lake Shore #137, 2nd Runner Up – Riverview #148 - **Greeley Paine Memorial – Top Contributor Special Olympics:** Winner – Jacksonville #283, 1st Runner Up – Lynn Haven #356, 2nd Runner Up – Dunedin #275 - **Jim Mitchell Memorial – Top Contributor CMN:** Winner – Dania #304, 1st Runner Up – Jacksonville #283, 2nd Runner Up – Dunedin #275

**Albert J. Farhforth Memorial SAL Member of the Year** – Michael “Doc” Bowen, Squadron #119

# Jim Roberts National Commander Campaign

Campaign Chairman, Ed Sheubrooks (fishermn9@aol.com)



I wish to personally thank everyone for their donations to Jim's Campaign at the past Department Convention. We had over \$17,000.00 in donations received that weekend. We are still raising funds as the cost of the campaign should be around \$65,000.00.

We have a few fund raisers going on at this time. The first and foremost is a Raffle that will be drawn at the Fall Conference. Donations are \$5.00 per ticket. 1st Prize is \$1,000.00. There are only 5,000 tickets for this drawing. In addition, we have TEAM ROBERTS shirts for sale at a cost of \$15.00 per shirt. Anyone looking for shirts or Raffle tickets can contact me for them.

There are two Fund Raising events scheduled at the present time. The first one will be held on September 4th, 2010 at Tampa Post #139. This will be a Dinner and Dance, 50/50 Raffles and a SILENT Auction. Cost of the dinner is \$10.00 per person. All proceeds will go to the Campaign. Tickets will be sold on advance Sales only. Please contact Past Department Commander Dave DeLong at Post #139. His phone number is (813) 839-6740.

The second event will be held on October 2, 2010. The 13th District SAL will be hosting a Steak Dinner at Punta Gorda Post #103. The dinner will start at noon until whenever! Dinner will consist of an 8oz Sirloin Steak, baked potato, baked beans and a roll for \$10.00 per person. There will be live entertainment as well as 50/50 Raffles and a Basket of Cheer. Anyone needing a hotel reservation can contact Rebecca Williams at the Best Western Waterfront in Punta Gorda. The number is (800) 525-1022 or (941) 639-3928. Cost of the rooms are \$59.99 per night plus tax. Please use the tracking code – SAL when making your reservations. For more information contact 13th District Commander Steve Gordon at (941) 629-4035, or sgordon67@embarqmail.com.



*Department President Mary Kelly-Perkins visits the Sons Convention*

## Convention Pictures



*Department Commander Phil Hearlson visits the Sons Convention*



*Past National Commander Jake Comer (MA) visits the Sons Convention*



*SAL National Vice Commander Clint Bolt (VA) addresses delegates*



*NEC John Jennings & Commander Mike Dooley Cutting up on Stage*

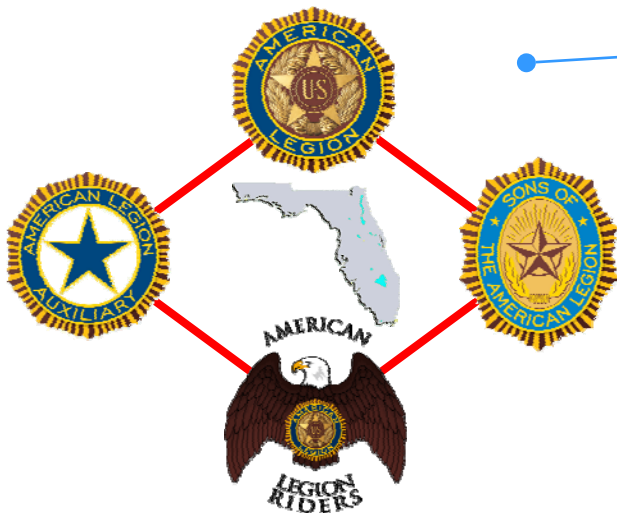


*Florida SAL Member of The Year Michael "DOC" Bowen*

Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of Florida

"In Honor of Those Who Served"

### The Florida American Legion Family



The Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion created in 1932.

The Florida Sons of The American Legion with over 13,000 members this year has donated over \$408,000 & over 147,000 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.floridalegion.org/sons](http://www.floridalegion.org/sons)

Or e-mail us at [floridasons@gmail.com](mailto:floridasons@gmail.com)

## Source Articles

The SOURCE is your Newsletter. Send us your newsworthy articles and we will print them. Area Commanders and District Commanders should be submitting an article each month! Please send all articles to Ed Sheubrooks. You may e-mail the articles to [Fishermn9@aol.com](mailto:Fishermn9@aol.com), or fax them to 772-460-1559. **All submission must be received by the 10th of the month so we can go to print by the 15th.**

We are looking for your input and help to keep this newsletter going. We are looking for articles from the Area Commanders, or District Commanders. Let us know what is happening in your Area or District and we will inform the rest of the Detachment. It could increase attendance at your functions and or meetings!!!!



Campaign Committee for Jim Roberts still needs help with fundraising efforts to support the campaign fund. We are asking The American Legion Family for their help with fundraising efforts. Any SAL Squadron, Legion Post, Auxiliary Unit or Riders Chapter can hold a fundraiser, just let the Campaign Committee know so we can get Jim to attend if he is available. Email us at [robertsforcommander@gmail.com](mailto:robertsforcommander@gmail.com). Contributions can be sent to Campaign Treasurer Ed Sheubrooks at 800 S Brocksmith Rd, Ft Pierce, FL 34945. Make checks payable to: **Jim Roberts for National Commander Campaign.**

For more information - please visit the Campaign website at:

[www.floridalegion.org/sons/campaign/campaign.htm](http://www.floridalegion.org/sons/campaign/campaign.htm)