

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)



Hats off to Western Area Ramrod (area commander), Roy Smith for corralling his cowpokes and doggies into first place with 79.65%. Congratulations to District 1 Commander, Dave Miller, of the "Bar 1 Ranch" with 82.22%. South Port Squadron 375 has rounded up members for an amaz-

ing 375%. What a race.... Good Work Gentlemen.

The first lady and I spent a quiet and relaxing week end at home to ring in the New Year then we were off to the 15th District. Al Holley and his wife Jeanne were wonderful hosts. We started our visit having dinner with the squadron at Riverview on Friday. Special thanks to Riverview for your generosity and hospitality. We were very pleased that NEC John Jennings and his wife Martha were able to join us. Saturday Tampa 139 hosted a very successful

fund raiser for the Jim Roberts Campaign. Before the evening was over the Candidate and his family got on stage and "sang for their supper". I am sure the video will turn up soon. Sunday morning we had breakfast with Squadron 138 Port Tampa City.

I cannot thank all of you enough that volunteered to help the Auxiliary with their Winter Fest. When the ladies called for help I was proud to tell them that 27 of you were willing to drive to Plant City to help park

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Dates of interest:

- February 9 - Detachment 75% Membership Target
- February 12 - 16th District Poker Run for Jim Roberts Campaign - Squadron 273 Madeira Beach
- February 26 - 24th Annual Hoedown - Squadron 79 New Port Richey
- February 26 - National Commander's Homecoming - Texas
- March 11 - Detachment 85% Membership Target
- March 13-15 - The American Legion Birthday
- March 20-23 - Washington Conference - Washington, DC

Adjutant's Corner

Detachment Adjutant Ed Sheubrooks (fladjutant@gmail.com)



Membership is steadily coming in. As of the January 20th Membership report, we are at 10,009

members, or 75.941%. We are running just a little ahead of last year. That's the good news! The bad is the fact that we still have "GOOSE EGG SQUADRONS"! Nine Squadrons to be exact and six Squadrons still under Charter Strength. Come on guys get with the program. This is February already. In just four short months, we will

be ending the year. Its time to saddle your horses and Cowboy Up! If you are holding membership that has been paid, then you are in violation of the Detachment Constitution. This could lead to having your Charter pulled. Certainly

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(Continued Commander's Column from page 1)

cars, sell tickets and help with security. Special thanks to Jim Love for the use of his motor home for the trip. After the Winter Fest Jim got me home in time to attend the Southwestern Area Ball at my home post in Fort Myers.

We will be heading to Oneco this weekend to celebrate the post's birthday and visit with the squadrons in the 8th district. The following weekend we will be in Venice to help the squadron with a fund raiser for J.W. Ferguson who is battling cancer.

Please remember your membership goals. We still have a long way to go if we are to make another all time high this year. "Get those doggies moving." I know you can do it.



(Continued Adjutant's Corner from page 1)

we do not want this to happen, so if there is a problem that we can help with, please let us know. We are here to help you.

The next several months will be busy within the Detachment. We have Area Balls going on now, and will have the Detachment Commanders Homecoming in April. Constitutional Conferences are being planned as well. District Commanders please get with your Legion District Commander to plan on having a meeting and elections at the Constitutional Conference. As I have stated in the past, we do not have to meet at the same date and time as the Legion, but with gas prices rising again, it makes sense to. If you wish to have a Training Seminar at your Conference, please let me know and we will get it scheduled. The more we educate our members the smoother our Organization runs!

As discussed at the workshop during the Fall Conference, we will have the National Consolidated Squadron Report form again to complete this year, in addition to the ones required by the Detachment. We will be mailing these forms, along with the Detachment forms to your Squadron sometime in April. Please use this time to gather your information together for completing these forms. It is so much easier to have a monthly log of your activities and volunteers put together, then when it comes time to complete the required reports, you will have the information easily available to you. No National Awards will be awarded using any other form other than the National CSR Form. You must complete the National Consolidated Report Form to have any of your Squadrons work counted. Time will go by quickly so stay on top of your reports.

Please note that the cut-off for donations for the Child Welfare Foundation is approaching. The cut-off is May 31st into National Headquarters. It must be there on this date to be credited for this year. If your Squadron has a donation mail checks made out to the "Child Welfare Foundation" to me. I will be attending the Spring NEC meeting at the end of April and will present the checks during the NEC meeting. Until next month!

Detachment Convention

The Detachment of Florida's 38th Annual Convention will be held on June 24th – 26th, 2011. We will be meeting at the Caribe Royale Resort in Orlando. The Resort is very nice and should be enjoyed by all. Please make your reservations early. We will be starting the Convention meetings on Friday, June 24th. There is a Special Discount in place until March 31, 2011 see the flyer on our website. Please make a note of this and book early to save money. More information on the Convention will be forth coming.

Endorsements for Office

The following endorsements for District and Detachment office have been submitted. Any member wishing to run for a District or Detachment Office must send a letter of endorsement to the Detachment Adjutant. This letter must be signed by the Squadron Commander and Adjutant or the Post Commander and Adjutant.

DETACHMENT OFFICERS

Detachment Commander

- William D (Bill) Kelly - Squadron 137 Jacksonville

National Executive Committeeman Alternate

- Allen Holley - Squadron 139 Tampa

Detachment Vice Commanders

- Central Area
 - Kirk Miller - Squadron 275 Dunedin
- Southwestern Area
 - Ron Lechner - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda

Detachment Chaplain

- Stanley Weyman - Squadron 24 Bradenton
- Ron Van Wie Sr. - Squadron 252 Seminole

Detachment Sgt-At-Arms

- Mike "Doc" Bowen - Squadron 119 Largo

DISTRICT COMMANDERS & VICE COMMANDERS

8th District Commander

- John R. Dunn - Squadron 312 Oneco

13th District Commander

- Steve Gordon - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda

15th District Commander

- John D. Craig - Squadron 139 Tampa

16th District Commander

- Tom Klinger - Squadron 7 Clearwater

13th District Vice Commander

- Jeff Decechis - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda



Candidate for National Commander Campaign Update

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



Just a short update on the Campaign. Jim made his first official visit as the Leading Candidate to the Detachment of Louisiana on the weekend of January 14th. Next up is Colorado and Kansas! Thanks to all who have worked so hard to make this possible for Jim. Safe travels on the road Jim!!!

More information on Jim's travels can be found on his blog at <http://jimrobertsfl.blogspot.com>.

Detachment Commander's Homecoming

Sons of The American Legion Squadron 7 in Clearwater will be hosting this year's Homecoming for Detachment Commander Michael Dooley. The Homecoming event will take place on Saturday, April 2, 2011 at American Legion Post 7 located at 1760 Turner Street in Clearwater

Social Hour 5pm, Dinner 6pm followed by Commander's Roast and Entertainment. Games, Prizes, Raffles, Silent Auction. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and the theme is western / rodeo and the dress is casual rodeo dress. So get out your cowboy hats and boots for a great time in Clearwater. The flyer with this issue of *The Source* has more information.

Detachment Membership Update

Jim Roberts, Detachment Membership Chairman



Well everyone, what can I say but - YEE HAW - RIDE EM COWBOYS!!!!

Have you looked at the latest National report as of February 8 the Detachment of Florida has again met another National Target ahead of time and makes us 6th in the Nation in Membership and in 2nd place within the Southern Region - Only Louisiana is in front of us, so lets put on some pressure. All I can say is WAY TO GO!!!

We really need to work on our renewals. We have only renewed about 8,643 members or 65.05% of our total membership so far this year. Gentlemen, we only have a few months left to work on stopping this slide. National mailed a renewal notice to anyone that has not paid their 2011 dues last week. I would encourage you to follow-up and send a renewal notice from your Squadron to get a better return of your unpaid members.

We still have a lot of work to do - there are still Squadrons with GOOSE EGGS and some that are under charter strength and they need to get their membership in ASAP. District and Area Commanders get out there to see if they need our help to get their membership in.

Have a great ride!!! Until next time - keep your horse at a trot and make sure you have plenty of supplies to keep your membership coming in.

Cowboy



Up!!!!!!



**Detachment Commander
Michael Dooley's Homecoming
April 2, 2011**

American Legion Post 7
1760 Turner Street Clearwater, Florida 33756
727-442-5293

Social Hour 5pm, Dinner 6pm followed by Commander's Roast
and Entertainment. Games, Prizes, Raffles, Silent Auction

Choice of:

Slow Roasted Garlic Pepper Prime Rib of Beef
Pepper Crusted Pork Loin with Cranberry Apple Demi Glace
Sautéed Breast of Chicken with Marsala Wine Sauce

Tickets \$25.00 Casual Rodeo Dress

Accommodations at Hampton Inn
21030 US 19N
Clearwater, Florida 33765
727-797-8173

Group name American Legion \$75.00 all Suites
Cut off date **3-26-11**. Rate is guaranteed until 4-2-11 but not
availability

Hot breakfast bar and wireless internet included
Post 7 is providing shuttle service to hotel

**PLEASE MAKE DINNER RESERVATION NO LATER THAN
MARCH 19, 2011**

Program Ads

FULL PAGE	\$40.00
½ PAGE	\$20.00
BUSINESS CARD	\$15.00

COMMENTS

Send pictures and comments by email to donna022@aol.com

Please send checks for tickets and ads made payable to:

Tom Klinger
1412 1st Street SW
Largo, Florida 33770
727-776-8932

_____Prime Rib

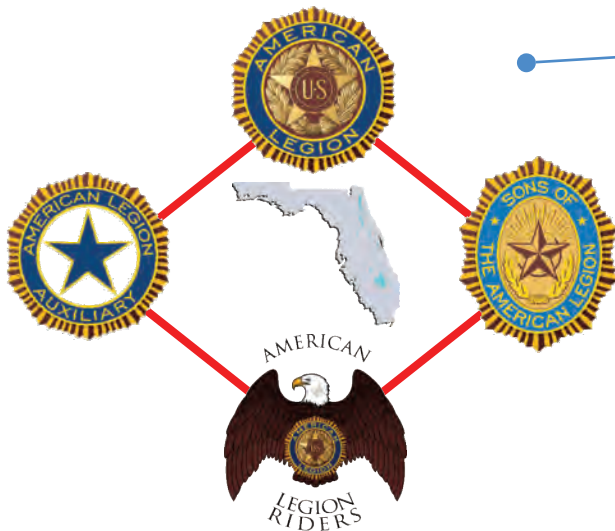
_____Chicken

_____Pork

*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

Or e-mail us at floridasons@gmail.com

Source Articles

We are looking for your input into the Detachment's News Letter. We have space available for the District Commanders and Area Commanders to submit an article. We can also publish an upcoming event happening in your Squadron. **All articles must be to the Editor by the 10th of each month. We now go to print on the 15th of each month.** Articles can be sent via e-mail to Fishermn9@aol.com or faxed to (772) 460-1559.

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. 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