

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)



CONGRATULATIONS and sincere appreciation to all of you.....Detachment has exceeded it's 100% and achieved **ANOTHER ALL TIME HIGH FOR SIXTEEN YEARS IN A ROW**. There is a lot grayer in my hair the last couple of weeks but you were able to meet the challenge. There are many things you want to be

as Detachment Commander but the one thing you do not want to be is "the first Commander to ruin this record!" I got the opportunity to brag about you in Fort Pierce this past week-end. We attended the Department Commander's Homecoming and I was able to tell them what you had achieved again this year. Remember that nothing happens on a Detachment level that does not start on a squadron level. The most important cap in this organization is the blue one. That is where all of

the work is done.

This will be my last article and I want to take the opportunity to tell you how proud I am of all that you have done this year. It has been my honor to have worked with all of you during the last two years. I have been able to watch so many of you learn and grow and get more involved. There are some really great leaders coming up and I can hardly wait to see what you will accomplish.

Donna and I want to thank

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Adjutant's Corner

Detachment Adjutant Ed Sheubrooks (fladjutant@gmail.com)



Wow, the last article in this Administrative year, I can hardly believe how fast the year has gone by and what

we have accomplished. We hit our 100% in Membership on May 12th, and our 16th Consecutive "ALL TIME HIGH". As Detachment Commander Mike Dooley stated, it is you, the "BLUE CAP" members that do the work. You are to be congratulated for it! Speaking of Detachment Commander Mike Dooley, I just wanted to say what a

pleasure it has been working with you the past two years. You have done a fantastic job! My hat is off to you my friend!

Our programs continue to grow in every aspect, and our relationship with The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary continues to grow as well.

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Dates of interest:

- May 28 - 16th District Constitutional Conference - Squadron 125 Gulfport
- May 30 - Memorial Day
- June 1 - Hurricane Season Begins
- June 4 - 13th District Constitutional Conference - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda
- June 5 - 9th District Constitutional Conference - Squadron 180 Plantation
- June 5 - 17th District Constitutional Conference - Squadron 6 Deland
- June 14 - Flag Day
- June 19 - Father's Day
- June 24-26 Detachment Convention - Orlando

(Continued Commander's Corner from page 1)

all of you for the hospitality and generosity you have shown to us as we visited your areas. We have formed some wonderful friendships throughout the Legion family and cannot tell you how grateful we are. We are taking unforgettable memories with us. We hope to see all of you at Convention.

Cowboy



Up!!!!!!

(Continued Adjutant's Corner from page 1)

Commander Al, Commander Mike, and President Irma have traveled and attended several functions together! A true showing of what the "LEGION FAMILY" can do!

In just one short month, we will gather for our annual Detachment Convention. It is during this time that we will conduct year-end business, make donations to our various programs, and elect new Detachment Officers to lead us in the upcoming year. With the success that we have enjoyed over the past years, we must continue to elect qualified and dedicated members to prominent positions. If we do not succeed in doing this, then our membership and programs will be impeded. The success of next year programs is dependent on the election of competent Officers, not just on the District and Detachment, but in the Squadrons as well.

I hope that everyone has been reading their Source the past few months. We will once again have our opening session on Friday afternoon. This will take place right after the Pre Detachment Executive Committee meeting. The Committees and Commissions will meet on Friday afternoon as well. With the opening on Friday, we should have a larger audience of members for the Committees and Commissions. This should also allow us enough time to actually work the Committees and Commissions without being under a time table. The Chairmen will still give their reports and collect donations on Saturday morning.

I have started receiving year-end reports in the mail from several Squadrons. My many thanks to all that have submitted so far. For those of you that have not yet completed your reports, please do so today! It only takes a few minutes of your time. From these reports, we compile our figures for The American Legion on what we have accomplished during the year. In addition, there are several Awards that your Squadron could win. The winners are chosen from the year-end reports. Please remember that even if there was "NO ACTIVITY" at your Squadron last year, note this on the reports and submit them. Please do not forget the National Consolidated Squadron Report form as well.

As in the past, we will be accepting donations for our various programs on the Convention floor. If your Squadron has a donation and will not be able to attend the Convention, please send the checks to me prior to the Convention and I will present them on your behalf. Florida Special Olympics is dependent on our donations. So is the Children's Miracle Network, and The Florida Children and Youth Fund. You have always answered the call, and I am sure you will not let us down this year. Have a safe trip to the Convention, and I will see you in Orlando!

Calling All Past Detachment Commanders

We are asking that all Past Detachment Commanders attend the upcoming Detachment Convention in June. We will be having a Special Presentation to all of you! Please e-mail Detachment Adjutant Ed Sheubrooks at fishermn9@aol.com if you will be attending!

Special Olympics

Stanley Viergutz, Detachment Special Olympics Chairman



Thank you to all the Squadrons that donated to Special Olympics this past year. I don't have the final figures yet, but I will have them at the Convention. I think it will be another record year. For those of you that have tickets and ticket stubs for the Race Car Drivers Suit, please bring them with you to the Convention. Do not mail them to me. Also please bring your donations for Special Olympics to the convention in June. Thanks in advance and I'll see you in a few weeks.

Children's Miracle Network

Stan Weyman, Detachment Special Olympics Chairman (amirate@aol.com)



That time of the year has returned upon us again. The annual plea for donations for the Children's Miracle Network and the All Children's Hospitals. When you come to the Convention in June, please bring your donations, with you. Let's make this a banner year and support all our Charities to the utmost. If anyone has any questions about donations, please contact me at amirate@aol.com or 941-773-3869.

Membership Happenings

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



Well...well, another month on the Florida Cracker Trail has shown that we have what it takes to **COWBOY UP**. Our May 12th membership report put us over 100% and gave us our **16th Con-secutive ALL TIME HIGH** in membership. YEE HAW!!! This is a great goal to make and because of all of you we have made it. The thanks goes to you all.

We still have one more target to get and that is 13,500 members before the delegate cut-off this month. The current report that I have shows us very close to this target...13,420 members close.

This means we only need 80 more members to make it.

Make your Detachment Leadership proud, let make that final push to get us over the top of Commander Mike's goal of 13,500. We can do it...I know that we can because we have done it before.

My personal thanks to all of our members statewide, because without you we would not be able to make our goals and keep Florida on top in the Southern Region.

Commander and President's Convention Banquet

"A Poolside Celebration!" Friday, June 24, 2011 from 6:00pm-10:00pm

Summer Buffet to include: BBQ Chicken and Ribs with Baked Beans, Corn on the Cob, Baked Potato Bar, Cole Slaw and Macaroni Salad, Cornbread and an assortment of pies! \$25.00 per person.

Entertainment By: "COVER TO COVER"

Enjoy singing, comedy, skits...a night of fun and a real musical adventure!

Casual Wear and Flip Flops are Welcome! For more information contact Mary at Department Headquarters.

Delegate Cut-Off

Delegate cut-off for Squadron voting for the Convention is June 14, 2011 at the close of business at Department Headquarters. A registration fee of \$5.00 per delegate and alternate is hereby established. Squadrons will be allowed to cast votes on registered delegates and registered At-Large delegates only. If your Squadron has four votes and only registered two, then your Squadron may only cast the two delegate votes that have been registered. Forms for registration are in your Administrative Manual. **Bring this with you to the Convention.** Make all checks payable to The American Legion, Department of Florida.

Detachment Convention Schedule

The 39th Annual Detachment Convention will be held on June 24th – 26th, 2011 in Orlando, Florida. We will be meeting at the Caribe Royale Resort at 8101 World Center Drive. The following is the Tentative Agenda. This is subject to change.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF OPENING! WE WILL AGAIN OPEN THE GENERAL SESSION OF FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2011.

Thursday, June 23, 2011

- 1:00pm – 4:00pm Registration (Department Headquarters Site)

Friday, June 24, 2011

- 8:00 am – 12:00pm Registration (Department Headquarters Site)
- 12:30 pm – 1:15pm Pre Detachment Executive Committee Meeting
- 1:30pm – 4:00pm Opening Session - Officer Reports - Guest Speakers - Detachment Convention Committee and Commission Meetings
- 4:00pm – 5:00pm Past Commander Club Meeting

Saturday, June 25, 2011

- 7:30am – 12:00pm Registration (Outside of Meeting Hall)
- 8:00am – Memorial Service - Committee and Commission Reports - Past Detachment Commander Special Presentation - General Business - Keynote Speaker National Vice Commander Camille LeJune (LA) - Area Caucuses
- 11:30am – 1:15pm Lunch
- 1:15pm – Election of Detachment Officers - Installation of Officers
- 2:00pm – Post Detachment Executive Committee Meeting
- 2:30pm – 4:00pm New Officer Orientation and Membership Program Overview

Sunday, June 26, 2011

- Joint Memorial Service

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

- John Jennings - Squadron 72 Mulberry

National Executive Committeeman Alternate

- Allen Holley - Squadron 139 Tampa

Detachment Vice Commanders

- Northern Area
 - Joe Eckenrode - Squadron 120 Holly Hill
- Central Area
 - Kirk Miller - Squadron 275 Dunedin
- Southwestern Area
 - Ron Lechner - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda
- Southern Area
 - Larry Smith - Squadron 64 Okeechobee

Detachment Chaplain

- Stanley Weyman - Squadron 24 Bradenton
- Ron Van Wie Sr. - Squadron 252 Seminole
- Herbert Swoope - Squadron 148 Riverview

Detachment Sgt-At-Arms

- Mike "Doc" Bowen - Squadron 119 Largo
-



DISTRICT COMMANDERS & VICE COMMANDERS

8th District Commander

- John R. Dunn - Squadron 312 Oneco
- Tom Bochniak - Squadron 25 Lake Placid

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

17th District Commander

- Thomas Coe - Squadron 285 Edgewater

13th District Vice Commander

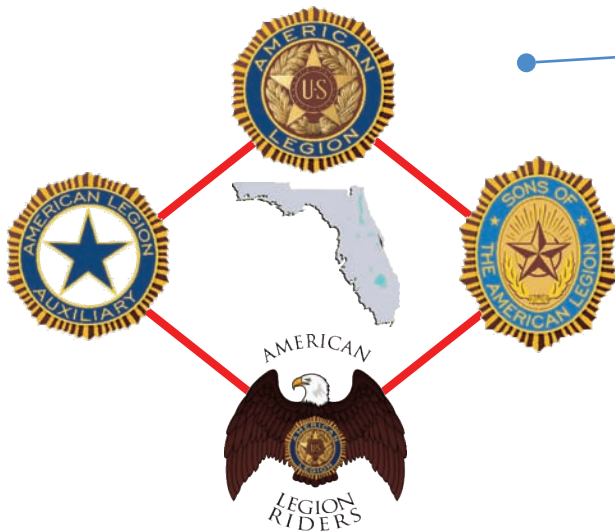
- Jeff Decechis - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda



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