

# The Source

Monthly Newsletter for the Detachment of Florida  
February 2012 - Volume 19 Issue 06



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 5 - Four Chaplains Sunday
- Feb 8 - 75% Membership Target
- Feb 14 - Valentine's Day
- Feb 20 - President's Day
- Mar 3 - Northern Area Ball - Post 155 Crystal River
- Mar 11 - 85% Membership Target
- Mar 16-18 - National Commander's Homecoming - Lakeland
- Mar 31 - 6th Annual Hospice Poker Run - Post 155 Crystal River

## Commander's Column

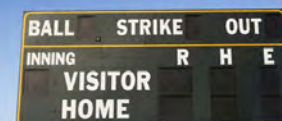
Bill Kelly, Detachment Commander ([detcommander@floridalegion.org](mailto:detcommander@floridalegion.org))



With Spring right around the corner the Detachment is rounding 3rd base on their way Home. At this writing we are currently at 77.042% and a little less than 90 feet away from our 100% goal. I want to tell everyone how proud I am of all your hard work this year, and let you all know that with one more swing of the bat we can drive that run home.

We all know that we can do it. Our National Post Card mailing should be out now, let's contact those members who haven't renewed. Maybe they just need someone to ask them to renew.

How many Squadron Members have Registered with their local Veterans' Medical Center as a VAVS Representative? Don't know how or where? Contact Detachment Chaplain Herb Swoop he'll show you how.



Now we need to start working on telling the Detachment & the Department about all your hard work this year. HOW DO WE DO THAT? We start now by totaling all our hours of service, all that VAVS time, all those miles traveled, all that money raised and donated. If we get started now, come the beginning of May all we need do to total up the last month or two, fill out the report and get it in the mail to our Detachment Adjutant Ed Sheubrooks by May 16th 2012. Don't Forget! Don't let all your Members and your Squadron's hard work not get reported. Besides, there is no excuse for not sending in a Consolidated Squadron Report. It's Your Job that you have sworn to do. Never done it? Don't know how? Call your District Commander. He will help, but he can't help if he doesn't know. Just like with membership, JUST ASK. They will be more than happy to help, so let's get started on the reports, NOW.

My travels in January will take me to the Southwest Area 13th District for the Southwest Area Ball. A big thanks to Detachment Vice Commander Ron Lechner & 13th District Commander Steve Gordon and all the Legion Family in the SW Area for a great time they showed us. February travel will include being a Honored Guest at the 5th District Four Chaplain Service at Post 129. We will also be traveling to the Southern Area for the Southern Area Ball, if you're in the area come on out and see us. Last but not least, don't forget to get your tickets for our own SAL National Commander's Homecoming March 17. There are only a limited number of tickets. Info is available on the website.

Finally, Let's all try to work together, get along, for the Good of Our Florida Legion Family. Always remember to keep our Troops and Veterans in your Prayers. *Proudly Serving Those Who Served*



# Adjutant's Corner

Ed Sheubrooks, Detachment Adjutant ([detadjutant@floridalegion.org](mailto:detadjutant@floridalegion.org))



Gentlemen,  
Membership is steadily coming in. As of the January

19th Membership report, we are at 10,705 members, or 77.042%. We are running about 2%, or 600 members ahead of last year. That's the GREAT news! The GOOD NEWS is that we are down to only two "GOOSE EGG SQUADRONS"! Last year at this time we had nine of the GOOSE EGG Squadrons. The bad news is that we still have four Squadrons under Charter strength. I know that by next month you will have these over Charter. As Detachment Commander Kelly stated, we are rounding third base and heading for the Home Stretch.

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. We also have the National Commanders Homecoming in March. 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. 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 during the Fall Conference, we have moved the Convention up two

weeks. This means that the deadline for completing the year end reports has changed as well. The new deadline is May 15th for completion of the reports. We will have a reminder mailing again in April for these reports. The National Consolidated Squadron Report form will be mailed to you as well. We should have these to us by March to mail out 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 make your reservations for the Convention as soon as possible. There is a cost break for early reservations. The Convention will be held June 8 – 10, 2012. We will again have the opening session on Friday afternoon. More information will be in the next Source issue.

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 it to me. I will be attending the Spring NEC meeting in May and will present the checks during the NEC meeting.

Until next month!



## New Detachment Officer Email Addresses

The new addresses are as follows:

Detachment Commander Bill Kelly  
[detcommander@floridalegion.org](mailto:detcommander@floridalegion.org)

Det Vice Commander West Johnnie Wilson - [detvcwest@floridalegion.org](mailto:detvcwest@floridalegion.org)

Det Vice Commander North Joe Eckenrode - [detvcnorth@floridalegion.org](mailto:detvcnorth@floridalegion.org)

Det Vice Commander East Gary Scott - [detvceast@floridalegion.org](mailto:detvceast@floridalegion.org)

Det Vice Commander Central Kirk Miller - [detvccentral@floridalegion.org](mailto:detvccentral@floridalegion.org)

Det Vice Commander SW Ron Lechner - [detvcsw@floridalegion.org](mailto:detvcsw@floridalegion.org)

Det Vice Commander South Larry Smith - [detvcsouth@floridalegion.org](mailto:detvcsouth@floridalegion.org)

National Executive Committeeman John Jennings - [detnec@floridalegion.org](mailto:detnec@floridalegion.org)

NECA Allen Holley  
[detneca@floridalegion.org](mailto:detneca@floridalegion.org)

Detachment Adjutant Ed Sheubrooks - [detadjutant@floridalegion.org](mailto:detadjutant@floridalegion.org)

Detachment Assistant Adjutant Jim Roberts - [detasstadj1@floridalegion.org](mailto:detasstadj1@floridalegion.org)

Detachment Assistant Adjutant Tim Bell - [detasstadj2@floridalegion.org](mailto:detasstadj2@floridalegion.org)

Detachment Historian Paul Micieli - [dethistorian@floridalegion.org](mailto:dethistorian@floridalegion.org)

Detachment Chaplain Herb Swoope - [detchaplain@floridalegion.org](mailto:detchaplain@floridalegion.org)

Detachment Sgt-At-Arms Mike Bowen - [detsaa@floridalegion.org](mailto:detsaa@floridalegion.org)

## 39th Annual Detachment Convention

### Renaissance Sea World Orlando

The Detachment of Florida's 39th Annual Convention will be held on June 8 – 10, 2012. We will be meeting at the Renaissance Sea World 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 8th. There is a reservations deadline of May 16th, 2012. Please make a note of this and book early. More information on the Convention will be forth coming.



## Detachment Commander's Homecoming

### Squadron 137 Jacksonville

The Detachment Commanders Homecoming will be held on April 14, 2012 at Lakeshore Post #137 in Jacksonville. Cocktail Hour will be from 4-5. Dinner from 5-6, with Presentations from 6-8. Entertainment by Sally Langwah from 8-12. The cost has not yet been determined. More information will forthcoming in the near future. Look to the web site for additional updates as well.



## National Commander's Homecoming

### Lakeland, FL

National Commander Jim Roberts Homecoming will be held March 16th and 17th, 2012 in Lakeland, Florida. There will be a dinner on Friday evening at Post #8 in Winter Haven. The actual Homecoming dinner will be held on Saturday, March 17th at the Imperial Swan Hotel in Lakeland. The dinner is limited for 300 hundred people, on a first come basis. Cost of the dinner is \$40.00 per person. Please get your tickets early. For more





## Endorsements

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

- Jim Love - Squadron 136 Pine Island

#### National Executive Committeeman

- Bill Kelly - Squadron 137 Jacksonville

#### National Executive Committeeman Alternate

- Steve Gordon - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda
- Allen Holley - Squadron 139 Tampa

#### Detachment Vice Commanders

##### Southwestern Area

- Ron Lechner - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda

##### Central Area

- Kirk Miller - Squadron 275 Dunedin

#### Detachment Historian

- Paul Micieli - Squadron 305 St Petersburg Beach

#### Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms

- Mike "Doc" Bowen - Squadron 119 Largo

### DISTRICT COMMANDERS & VICE COMMANDERS

#### 13th District Commander

- Steve Gordon - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda

#### 13th District Vice Commander

- Jeff Dececchis - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda

#### 15th District Commander

- John Craig - Squadron 139 Tampa

#### 16th District Vice Commander

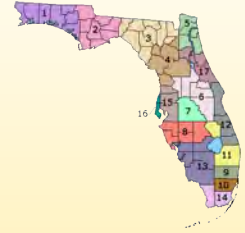
Paul Micieli - Squadron 305 St Petersburg Beach





### Area Conferences

If any Area Commander is scheduling an Area Conference, please let us know. This would be the perfect time to conduct that Training Seminar.



### District Happenings

Please let us know what is happening within your Districts do that we can share it with everyone!

## SOURCE ARTICLES

This is your newsletter. We are looking for input and information from the Districts and Area's to print. Please send all articles to Ed Sheubrooks by the 10th of every month. We go to print on the 15th. Articles can be e-mailed to [Fishermn9@aol.com](mailto:Fishermn9@aol.com) or [detadjutant@floridalegion.org](mailto:detadjutant@floridalegion.org).



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sons-of-the-American-Legion-Detachment-of-Florida/90401483803>

# The Source

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 13,500 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)

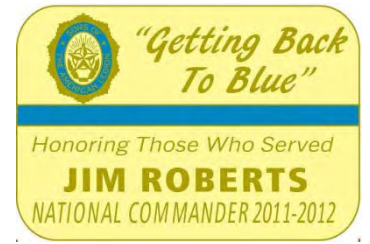




# **James Roberts III**

## **National Commander's Homecoming**

**When: March 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012**  
**Where: Lakeland, Florida**



**"Come join us in a wonderful weekend of fun and great food"**

"Make your reservation now and lets all recognize Jim for a job well done"

The event will be hosted by the Detachment of Florida. The event will be two (2) days Friday and Saturday. There will be lots to do to keep you entertained. Please refer to the attached pages for all your reservation information. Contact John Jennings with questions (Cell-863-425-0036) or email (jjennings22@tampabay.rr.com).

### **\*\*Event Agenda\*\***

#### **Friday – March 16<sup>th</sup>**

- Italian Dinner being held at American Legion Post 8 in Winter Haven on Friday evening March 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Saturday – March 17<sup>th</sup>**

- Trip to the Hard Rock Casino
- We will be showing off Florida:
  - Air Boat Tour
  - Swamp Buggy Tour
  - Horse Trail Ride
- Shopping Trip
- Post Visits
  - James's Home Post – Post 4 Lakeland
  - Post 72 Mulberry
- Dinner and Program
  - Social 6:00 PM
  - Dinner 7:00 PM
    - Entertainment Downstairs after Dinner and Program

**HOTEL INFORMATION:**



*The Imperial Swan Hotel & Suites Conference Center is proud to welcome Detachment of Florida Son of the American Legion James Roberts National Commander Homecoming.-Room Rates \$89.00 standard- \$99.00 Junior Suite- \$109.00 King Suite Includes Hot Breakfast Buffet.*

*~Our Services Include~*

- *Standard Oversized Rooms*



- *Jr. 2 room Queen Suite*



- *Junior & King 3 room suites*
- *Wi-Fi Internet Access Available*
- *Complimentary use of Business Center*
- *Banquet & Meeting Rooms*
- *Complimentary use of Lifestyle Family Fitness Center*
- *Imperial Swan Restaurant & lounge*
- *Outdoor Screened in Pool*
- *In-Room Movies & Games on Demand*
- *20% off at Denny's located 1 block south*
- *Covered Parking Garage*
- *Valet Laundry Service*

- *Each room includes refrigerator, full size iron and ironing board, hairdryer, & spacious work desk with dual line speaker phone*
- *Located on interior corridors*
- *Smoking, Handicap, & Adjoining rooms available*
- *Proud Partner of*



**HOTEL INFORMATION:**

- Where: Imperial Swan Hotel & Suites
- Contact: (863) 647-3000
- Reference: American Legion Roberts Homecoming
- Address: 4141 South Florida Avenue  
Lakeland, Florida 33813
- Rates:
- Standard Room----\$89.00 + Tax-(Includes Hot Breakfast Buffet)
- Junior Suite----- \$99.00 + Tax-(Includes Hot Breakfast Buffet)
- King Suite-----\$109.00 + Tax-(Includes Hot Breakfast Buffet)
  - **Please make your own room reservations**

Arriving When: Friday\_\_\_\_\_ or Saturday \_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide the below information with your RSVP:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Make all event selection Checks (except room/rooms) payable to:

***Detachment of Florida***

&

Mail to: Ed Sheubrooks

800 South Brocksmith Road

Fort Pierce, FL 34945

- **Saturday Evening Dinner: (Limited to first 300 People)**
  - Dinner Chooses (Please Check Dinner Selection/Selection)
    - Prime Rib----- \_\_\_\_\_
    - Chicken Marsala----- \_\_\_\_\_
    - Stuffed Flounder----- \_\_\_\_\_
      - Including Salad and Desert
      - Appetizers'
    - Cash Bar
  - Cost: \$40.00 ea      Number Ticket: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

## Friday Events:

- **Friday Night Dinner-Italian Special-Prepared by Post Family**
  - Where: American Legion Post 8  
Winter Haven, Florida
  - Transportation to Post 8 will leave Hotel 5:00 PM
  - Cash Bar and Entertainment
  - **Cost:** \$15.00 each    Number Ticket: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

## Saturday Events:

- *Trip to Hard Rock Casino (With \$30.00-Free Play Money) including transportation*
  - Bus schedule will be available at check in
  - **Cost:** \$25.00 each    Number Ticket: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_
- *Trip to River Ranch including transportation and lunch*
  - *Please Check (ONE) for each person*
  - Airboat Tour----- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Swamp Buggy Tour----- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Trail Ride----- \_\_\_\_\_
    - Bus schedule will be available at check in
  - **Cost:** \$45.00 each    Number Ticket: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_
- *Travel Options:*
  - Post 4
  - Post 72
  - Lakeside Village Mall – Nice Out Door
    - Bus schedule will be available at check in
  - **Cost:** \$15.00 each    Number Ticket: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Please RSVP all selections so your tickets will be available at the Imperial Swan during room registration.

If you are not planning on staying at the Imperial Swan and you are going to be driving locally we will still have your tickets in the hospitality room unless other arrangements are made.– Friday Until 4:00 PM and Saturday Until 3:30 PM

# HOMECOMING



Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of Florida 2011-2012

## Detachment Commander Bill Kelly's Homecoming

### **Weekend at Lakeshore**

Friday April 13th thru Sunday April 15, 2012

We are going to present a whole weekend for all to enjoy,  
"Proudly Serving Those Who Served"

### **Friday April 13th**

Dinner at the Post 5:30pm

### **Saturday April 14th**

Happy Hour with appetizers 4-5PM at our TIKI (weather permitting)

Dinner 5-6PM (Legion Hall)

Ceremony 6-8 PM

Entertainment 8PM-12m featuring Sally Langwah and Guests

### **Sunday April 15th**

Breakfast 8:30am-11.00am

HOTEL DISCOUNTS TBA  
S.A.L Detachment Cmdrs Homecoming  
c/o American Legion LakeShore Post 137  
5443 San Juan Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32210  
904-387-3373 Office 904.387.1581 Canteen