



FOCUS



Volume 11, Issue 1 March 2020

Detachment Officers

- Detachment Commander –Fred Vaccarella
- Detachment Vice Commander—Victor Graulau
- Detachment Vice Commander—Joe Gallagher
- Detachment Vice Commander—David Boggs
- Detachment NEC—Linwood Moore
- Detachment Alt-NEC– Willie Morgan
- Detachment Adjutant—Scott Williams
- Detachment Ass't Adjutant—Kevin Chaplin
- Detachment Finance Officer—Jeff Evans
- Detachment Chaplain—Robert Wilson, Sr.
- Detachment Sgt At Arms-James Logan
- Detachment Judge Advocate-Steve Gower
- Detachment Historian—Dellie Suiter

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SAL National Commander, Clint Bolt, Visits Detachment Meetings

SAL National Commander, Clint Bolt was a guest of the Sons Detachment Fall Conference in October 2019. Commander Bolt shared his goals for the Sons during his year as Sons National Commander.

Commander Bolt's eligibility for Sons Membership is through his Grandfather, Kennard 'KC; Bolt. He served honorably in the Navy in World War II stationed in Norfolk, Virginia.

Commander Bolt shared his membership goal for the year to be at 105% Membership or 400,000 members. With the passage of the Legion Act, there will be a lot of Sons eligible for membership.

For the Child Welfare Foundation, his goal is \$500,000.



Last year, \$427,000 was raised for Child Welfare Foundation with \$811,000 in grants being awarded.

The Endowment Fund was hit hard last year by the Coast Guard during the Government Shutdown. The American Legion wants to raise \$25 million over the next seven years.

Commander Bolt's goal

For Operation Comfort Warriors is \$100,000. The annual PBR Fishing Tournament in Avon, North Carolina was cancelled due to a Nor 'Easter that struck the East Coast of the US. This single fundraiser held by Norfolk Squadron 327 usually raises \$10, 000 for OCW. Commander Bolt is asking for Squadrons to step up and donate extra to this vital program this year supporting our Veterans.

Reps and Deputy Reps are needed at the VA Hospitals. Currently, there are 31 Reps across the country for the Sons. A minimum of 25 Reps are needed for the Sons to maintain our seat on the VAVS Advisory Board. Commander Bolt said that more Sons Reps and Deputy Reps are needed. **Continued on page 5**

About This Issue

This will be the first issue of the 2019-20 year. This issue will be more of a mid year issue of The Focus. We will look at SAL National Commander Bolt's Goals and where he is at the mid point of his year as National Commander.

We will talk about some of the newer programs of the American Legion and where some of the needs are this year.

We will continue with our activity for our Junior Members as we try to promote

That part of the Sons program. Our Junior Members are the future of our organization.

We will need to briefly talk about reporting as we need to work toward the 100% goal for reporting for our Detachment.

Commander's Corner—Fred Vaccarella - 'Focus 2020'



Installation of Detachment Officers at the 2019 Detachment Convention.



Newly elected Detachment Commander, Fred Vaccarella addresses the 17th District Fall Conference.

Salutations and best wishes to all the Sons of the American Legion in the Detachment of Virginia.

I cannot express how proud and humbled I am to be representing all of you as your Detachment .

Commander as I travel throughout the State.

I joined 13 years ago. Our barber told my brother and I that we should join the Sons of the American Legion because it was a safe place to socialize. There was no fighting, yelling or chaotic behavior. My brother is a Doctor and I'm almost 70 so neither of us needed a rough place to socialize.

I found out because of good mentorship and example, how great the American Legion is and what it does for our veterans, their families, and our communities across the USA and worldwide. For example, we have American Legions in Mexico, Puerto Rico, France and China just to name a few places. The Legion was founded in 1919 and voted in by Congress and

the Legion is the World's largest Veterans Service Organization.

It has a presence in Congress.

The Sons came along in 1932 as a program of the Legion to help our WWI Veterans **Continued on page 3**

Adjutant's Blog—March 2020

We are a little more than half way through the 2019—20 Administrative Year. Congratulations and thanks to SAL National Commander Bolt for serving as SAL National Commander for the 2019 - 20 year. Commander Bolt is having a great year serving our great organization. We hope that you will continue to support Commander Clint through your donations to the Legion Programs and your volunteer hours this year.

We met the 80% Membership goal ahead of the target date. We still need to push hard on getting those renewals in for this year. Additionally, if you have recruited new members, please don't forget the Detachment Award for recruiting three new members or the National Award for recruiting five or more members.

Consolidated Report Forms were handed out at the Spring Conference, If you were not at the Spring Conference, you will be receiving yours via

mail. Please complete the form and send back to Detachment early May. If you need help, please let us know. We are here to help and it is our desire to have 100% reporting this year to support Commander Clint.

We are going to leave the contact information that was included in the last issue of the focus in this space. If your Squadron has any questions, please feel free to contact one of our Past Detachment Commanders. If we can assist, please let us know.

Here are some of those Past Detachment Commanders and their email addresses. Linwood Moore—NEC (woodman989@Aol.com), Bob Borkovich—Past Det. Cdr.,

(vapittfan959@yahoo.com), Jeff Evans, Detachment Finance Officer (vacobblers@cox.net), Steve Gower—Detachment Judge Advocate (stevegover@cox.net). Scott Williams—Detachment Adjutant (SonsVADetADJ@comcast.net), and Clint Bolt—Detachment Scholarship Chairman (sonscdbolt@aol.com). We are here to serve and to help in any way possible. We all want the same things. We want our organization to be successful and for all of our Blue Cappers to be successful in their support of our programs. So, please feel free to reach out to any of our Past Detachment Commanders for assistance. **Scott Williams—Detachment Adjutant**



Commander's Corner con't

Cont. from page 2 and their spouses that were getting elderly after the “War to end all wars”. Well afterwards WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan et al ensued.

It says in our preamble that we honor our Forefathers. But the reality is that we have many contemporary military men and women that have served or are currently serving that are Veterans as well. Every day is Veterans day.

I have been blessed to be able to go to VA hospitals, hand feed food and drink to spinal trauma patients, volunteer hours, raise money for OCW, CWF, NEF, local Police Departments and schools, Boy and Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls State, JROTC, Fisher House. I've been able to go to nursing homes, McDonald House, Fisher house, retreats for Veterans that have come back from battle, been able to put flags on Veterans graves. I have been pleased by the many smiles of gratitude. This makes me feel like I am finally doing something good in life. I am giving back to some of those that have sacrificed so much for us and our Country.

Well enough of this.

I entreat all of you to help us remain strong in Virginia. Help by getting the renewals and by recruiting new members. It is also very important for us to mentor our new members and to give them something to do that they feel like they are interested in doing that supports our cause as Sons of the American Legion. I challenge you all to find out why “that” older member chose not to renew.

Virginia has 208 Legion Posts with a total of 39633 members in 2019. The Sons have only 71 Squadrons with a 2019 membership of 4194.

We need to find out what we can do to better our standings. For the first time in over 30 years we have a SAL National Commander, Mr. Clint Bolt. We owe it to him to shine. All eyes are upon us.

We need to brag to the community about all that we do and give back to our military and communities.

Be proud of what you do. Nothing done is too little. The Consolidated Squadron Reports are so so important. They are not a report meant to chastise or belittle. Some squadrons are small. Some are in very rural areas. Some have no VA facilities nearby. We do not judge squadrons by what they can't do. Please turn in your CSRs. Collectively the man hours and donations are presented to National and the cumulative effect helps the Legion wield strength in Congress and all the other bureaucracies like the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Detachment 2019 Convention Pictures



Various Detachment Convention Photos—Detachment Scholarship Award Winner, Squadron Award Winners and Donations, Candidate , Officer Elections, presentation of Son of the Year Award—photos by Det. Ass't Adjutant, Kevin Chaplin.

American Legion History—100 Years of Service Part II



Here is the next installment in the rich 100 Year History of the American Legion. We are going to look at key dates and events in the next several decades.

1920s

August 9, 1921 - The Legion's efforts result in the creation of the U.S. Veterans Bureau, forerunner of the Veterans Administration. Today, the Legion continues to lobby for adequate funding to cover medical, disability, education and other benefits for veterans.

June 15, 1923 -The first "Flag Code" is drafted during a Legion conference in Washington. Congress adopts the code in 1942. Today, the Legion is at the forefront of efforts to pass a constitutional amendment to protect the U.S. flag from physical desecration.

July 17, 1925-The Legion creates the American Legion Baseball program. Today, more than 50 percent of Major League Baseball players are graduates of the program. About 82,000 youths play on Legion-sponsored teams each year.

1930s

September 1932 - The Sons of The American Legion is officially recognized during the 1932 National Convention in Portland, Oregon.

June 23, 1935 -The first American Legion Boys State convenes in Springfield, Ill., to help youths gain an understanding of the structure and operation of the federal government. The first Boys Nation, bringing together youth leadership from all the Boys State programs, convenes in 1946. Today, more than 19,500 young men participate in Boys State, and 98 in Boys Nation, from 49 of the 50 states.

June 1, 1938 - The final round of the Legion's first annual National High School Oratorical Contest is conducted in Norman, Okla. Today, more than 3,400 high-school students from around the country compete annually in the contest, which promotes a greater understanding of the U.S. Constitution. Winners receive thousands of dollars in college scholarships.

National Convention Photos



Various photos from the 2019 National Convention in Indianapolis. Left to right top row election and Installation of SAL National Commander, Clint Bolt. Installation of SAL National Vice Commanders. Virginia Legion Family Delegation. Photos by Scott Williams.

Commander's Corner—Concl from Page 3

This publication is aptly called the "Focus" and the new year is 2020. We go to the eye doctor to get 20/20 vision.

Let's follow these two signs, Focus and 2020 and make this year one that goes down in the history books of the SAL. I am proud of all of you for what you do.

For God and Country, Fred Vaccarella

Commander Bolt—Continued from Page 1

Commander Bolt said that there are 6,100 Squadrons where 1,100 turned in CSRs last year. His goal for this year is to have 3,000 turned in this year. More CSRs are needed from the Squadrons.

He encouraged the Sons to acknowledge the American Legion Auxiliary's 100th Birthday this year.

Commander Bolt encouraged our younger members to get involved in the Flag Retirement program by collecting torn and tattered flags. This is a great initiative for our younger members. They need the recognition for supporting this. He also said that this year will be the second year that there will be a Children's room at the National Convention.

So, where are we now, a little more than half way through the year?

From the Sons of The American Legion Website—SAL National Commander, Clint Bolt provided an update on his goals for the 2019 - 20 year.

Chief among Bolt's goals has been to increase Sons membership. "Membership for us this year is job one," he said at the Legion's national convention in Indianapolis last August, when he announced a goal of 400,000 Sons members this year.

Sons membership as of Dec. 31 was 375,540, an increase of 4,520 members from 2018.

The LEGION Act signed into law last July expanded membership for both The American Legion and the Sons by extending eligibility periods for veterans, and subsequently for males of all ages whose parents or grandparents served honorably in the U.S. military since Dec. 7, 1941.

Bolt said at National Convention, "We must help the Legion recruit these new veterans and their families, and more importantly, welcome them to our ranks."

He encouraged NECmen from across the nation to promote the Sons organization, and what assistance the Sons provide to The American Legion and local posts in their departments when he spoke at the Fall NEC Meetings.

Bolt noted that "more than half the posts in (The American Legion) do not have squadrons."

As of June 30, there were 6,158 Sons squadrons among 12,624 Legion posts (48.8 percent).

Among Bolt's other goals for his term as commander:

Continue to support the Legion's charitable programs, Operation Comfort Warriors, Legacy Scholarship Fund, Soldiers Wish, National Emergency Fund, and the Veterans & Children's Foundation. With an emphasis on the Veterans & Children's Foundation, he asked that we help restore the monies used to help our Coast Guardsmen out during the government shutdown and to help The American Legion in their long term goal of \$25 million.

1. Child Welfare Foundation. "Our goal this year is \$500,000. This is our marquee program. The Sons have been the largest contributor every year since the 1980's, we have exceeded this goal twice before." **Continued Page 6**



Commander Bolt—Continued from Page 5

2. Maintaining membership on the VA Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee is paramount. “This membership requires that we maintain a minimum of 25 reps at our VA hospitals. The Sons have been too close to the minimum number. So, along with our Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission, we have established a goal of 50 certified reps by National Convention in Louisville.

“Now, at the midway point of our year, we stand at 37 certified with a few more that are in the certification pipeline.”

3. Challenge all squadrons to find ways to engage younger members. There are opportunities for them to collect unserviceable flags and participate in flag retirement ceremonies, to complete the five star and 10 ideals program. “At National Convention, the Americanism Commission and the Children & Youth Committee will host our second youth room so we can build on including our younger members by providing them with fun activities that include education.”

Bolt added, “The national vice commanders, committees and commissions and all ‘blue cappers’ are working hard to make this the biggest year ever for the Sons of The American Legion.”

Veterans & Children Foundation—A Foundation of Hope

Since its creation in 1925, The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation has delivered over \$30 million in financial assistance for disabled veterans, military families and young people who lost parents in service to our nation. Income from the foundation investments is used to fund Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation programs and Temporary Financial Assistance, which provides funds to minor children of active duty or American Legion members.

In 1924, newly elected American Legion National Commander James A. Drain undertook a massive fundraising challenge. His goal was \$5 million – equivalent to \$71 million in today’s dollars. The purpose was twofold: to fund service officer training and provide free assistance for disabled veterans and to extend a financial safety net for needy military and veteran families with children. Born of this twofold purpose was The American Legion Endowment Fund.

Since then, The American Legion Endowment Fund has given over \$30 million in vital assistance to tens of thousands of veterans, members of the U.S. armed forces and their families.

That is why it is essential that The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation – a new name for timeless, life-changing assistance – is recharged, and promoted not simply as a fundraiser but also as an awareness builder to show what The American Legion means to veterans, troops and children.

Donations are accepted online through the American Legion Website at <https://www.members.legion.org/tal/donatenow>

From the American Legion Website

April—Children & Youth Month

In 1938, April was formally designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month) and has continued on an annual basis. During this special time, we urge each of you to show your community that The American Legion Family is dedicated to America’s youth.

Following the observance of Children & Youth Month, the Children & Youth chairmen need to turn their attention to the annual reporting of expenditures and activities. Be sure you have an accurate record of all money spent for the benefit of children and youth by your post/unit during the current year, as well as the number of children who received services and assistance. Shortly after the first of the year,

Commander Bolt’s Call to Action

Let’s do our SAL National Commander Proud. May 31, 2020 is the deadline for Child Welfare Foundation Donations. With April being Children and Youth Month, please consider planning a Fundraiser to benefit the Child Welfare Foundation. Please remember that the monies we raise for Child Welfare Foundation come back to our local communities.

As previously mentioned in this issue, Commander Bolt’s CWF goal is \$500,000. Please consider that donation that can be brought to the Spring NEC Meetings in Indianapolis in May or send the donation into the Child Welfare Foundation by May 31. If your Squadron sends a check directly into the Child Welfare Foundation, please note your Squadron Name and Number on the Memo line of the check. Thanks for your support!!

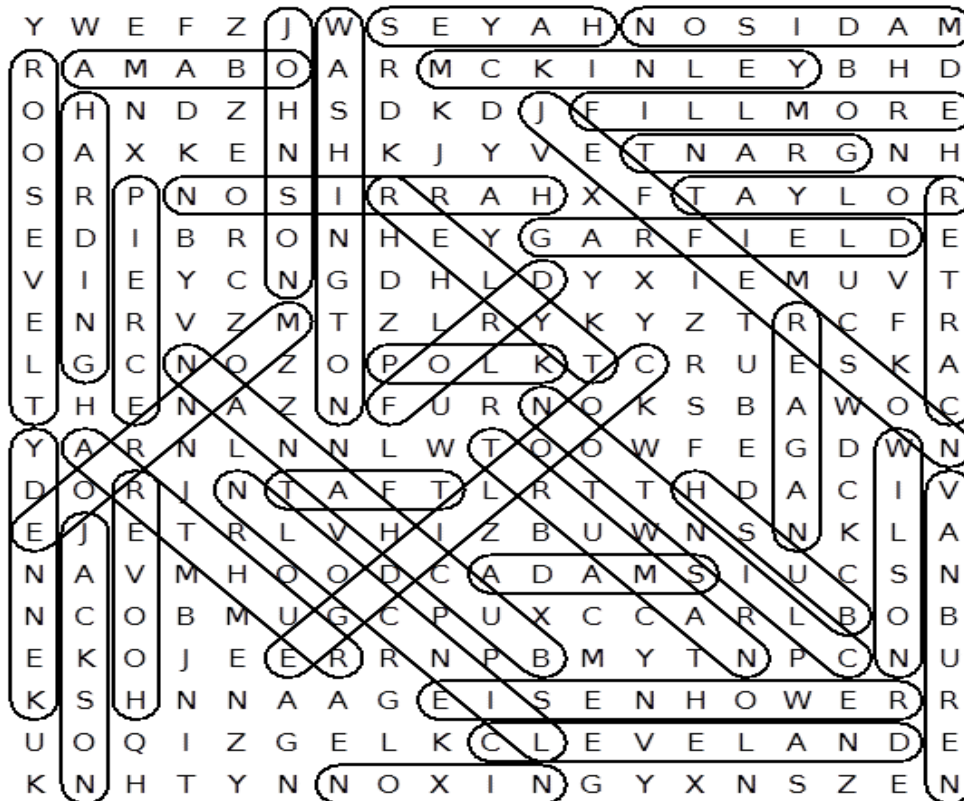


For our Junior Members

US President's Word Search Solution

US Presidents

SOLUTION



For our Junior Members
Flag Day Word Search

FLAG DAY

Word Search Puzzle



America

Betsy Ross

fifty stars

home of the brave

land of the free

Old Glory

patriotism

Pledge of Allegiance

red, white, and blue

salute

stars and stripes

"Star-Spangled Banner"

thirteen stripes

waving

Solution will be in the next issue of the Focus

The Five Star/Ten Ideals

These programs of the Sons of the American Legion go to the root of instilling true Americanism in those individuals who complete the programs. In the 5 Star Program, the five stars that are addressed demonstrate knowledge of; Patriotism – history of the flag, proper display, and proper respect to it; Citizenship – participation in community events and having a working knowledge of the qualities of a good citizen; Discipline – respect for rules and obedience to them; Leadership – principle requirement of leadership; Legionism – thoroughly understands the ritualistic work and the program of activities for the SAL.

Once the person has reviewed the criteria and researched the topics a brief exam is given. Upon successful completion, an application should be completed and submitted to the Detachment or Department for approval after which a medal demonstrating the achievement may be obtained through Emblem Sales. The 10 Ideals Program covers Patriotism, Health, Knowledge, Training, Honor, Faith, Helpfulness, Courtesy, Reverence, and Comradeship. This is a written demonstration of understanding and participation in these ten points and, as with the 5 Star Program, with Detachment or Department approval, a medal may be obtained from Emblem Sales. You don't have to go too far to find details of these programs and the exams, they are listed in the Squadron Handbook, but there is also good presentation of both programs on the Sons website, www.legion.org/sons.

Today, these programs have more importance than ever before because of the countless changes in our education system with regards to what can and what cannot be presented in the classrooms. Our overindulgence in political correctness has seen the demise in the teaching of many of these values. We cannot hope that today's educators are teaching the same things we learned in school many years ago; today we must train our youth in the importance of these values. I encourage all reading this to participate in these programs because here's the bottom line – our educators don't relay many of these values, that leaves it up to you and I and if you don't know all aspects of the programs, how are you going to encourage these values? Let do more than talk about it, let's participate and educate!

Sons of The American Legion Website

SAL National Commander Homecoming



Please join our own, SAL National Commander, Clint Bolt for a very special Homecoming celebration. The Homecoming event

Will be April 17 to 19 at the Norfolk Waterside Sheraton Hotel.

Friday night will feature a dinner, Casino, and Comedy night at American Legion Post 5. Saturday will feature the choice of 2 tours. The first choice is a tour of the Military Aviation Museum for \$79. The

Second option is a all day tour of Norfolk's Military History to include the Hague, old St. Paul's Church, MacArthur Memorial, the Battleship Wisconsin, Nauticus, and a tour of the Norfolk Naval Base.

Saturday night concludes with a Cocktail Hour and a

Dinner Banquet.

Rooms at the Sheraton are \$124 plus \$13 parking or \$26 valet parking. Option 1 Tour is \$79 and Option 2 is \$47; Friday night at Post 5 is \$10, and the Banquet is \$30. Deadline for registration is March 20. Registration forms are available at www.vasons.org.

'Serving those Who Served'

Detachment Communications

In an effort to improve Detachment Communications, we are using a new email tool to send email messages throughout the Detachment. To date we have almost 2,000 email addresses from Sons Members across the Detachment. The Detachment is using Mailchimp email tool to handle high volume emails. We ask that when you receive emails from the Detachment to please open them. The email tool tracks this kind of information. If you want to receive these emails, please send your email address to Kevin Chaplin, kchaplin@lexacom.net. Thanks!

Detachment Membership Reports

The Detachment weekly membership reports are available on the Detachment Website at www.vasons.org. You can also have the Detachment Weekly Membership Report emailed to you. To do this, please go to the Department Website at https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001yIKQX0yskQCMXp6xaXK1AnDjNP90_s6AZPGg7CvFrdrvKQxSdqmSZQUZWA16jIAVEAD6nfrtXxvnA9SM_oxAyKQm6MtWGHPEseOkme672i-o%3D to sign up.

Detachment of Virginia Accomplishments—2019



Detachment of Virginia 2019 Accomplishments



Americanism	
32	# of Boys sponsored at Boys State
\$ 7,670.00	Cost
17	# of Girls sponsored at Girls State
\$ 2,675.00	Cost
4	# of Squadron Color Guards
98	Total # of appearances
\$ 500.00	Cost
1253	# of Flags presented
\$ 791.85	Cost
24	Flag Education Programs
\$ 397.80	Cost
145	Hours
20	Flag Retirement Ceremonies
2,750	Flag presented (Cemeteries & Parades)
\$ 885.00	Cost
\$ 6,950.00	In Scholarships Awarded
53	Hours for Educational Programs
18,150	Community Service Hours
\$ 14,840	Community Service Donations
\$ 3,435.00	National Emergency Fund (N.E.F.)
207	# of Blood Drives
72	# of Pints Collected
3	American Legion Baseball Teams
\$ 1,920.00	Sponsorship Cost
2	Boy Scout Troops Supported
\$ 34,238.00	Sponsorship Cost
27	5 Star / 10 Ideals Program
\$ 190.00	Sponsorship Cost
\$ 82,269	Overall Total Cost of Support for Americanism Programs
19,754	Overall Service Hours for Americanism Programs

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	
764	# of Visits to Homes/Centers
2294	Hours of Service
\$ 2,469.00	Cash Donations
\$ 13,745.00	Cost of Items Donated
39	# of Veterans helped (VA Day)
1054	Hours of Service
\$ 300.00	Cost
\$ 350.00	Support the Troops
181	Service Hours
\$ 1,700.00	Fisher House - Donations
106	Hours of Service
\$ 20,496.04	Other Misc. Donations
13741	Other Misc Hours of Service

Children & Youth	
\$ 5,636.04	CWF Donations
761	CWF Hours of Service
1	# of Josh Dogs given away
\$ 2,435.00	CMN Donations
123	CMN Hours of Service
\$ 2,650.00	Special Olympics Donations
2074	Hours of Service
\$ 10,342.00	Other C&Y Projects Donations
1947	Other C&Y Projects Hours

Overall Totals of Hours & Dollars Donated from Virginia Squadrons	
\$ 156,668	Overall Cost of Donations for all Programs
44,440	Overall Service Hours for all Programs

Job Well Done Detachment of Virginia!!

Squadron Everlasting

Please keep the families of the following members in your thoughts and prayers - Steve Tucker (2), Victor Higgs (10), Tommy Triplett (21), Patrick O'Keefe (48), Robert O'Keefe (48), John Soth (50), Shirley Chadwell (53), Archie Himes (53), Leroy Lillard (53), William Jones (67), Jack Grubb (77), Kenneth Holsinger (77), Cedric Kesee (79), Dan Friel (130), Robert McInturff (139), Leroy Thompson (141), Mike Hackler (146), William Rapole (146), Guilford Renn (146), Jerry Vance (146), William Robinson (151), John Cameron (177), Richard Owen (177), Stan Verrochio (177), Andrew Cunningham (180), Jon Markley (199), Landon Shaw (199), Arnold Kimble (270), Michael Lee (274), Thomas Kifer (284), Ralph Summerson (284), Kenneth Menks (290), Roger Harner (327), John Neault (327), Siegfried Irby (1097), and James Zimbro (1976).

Please notify the Detachment Adjutant (SonsVADetADJ@comcast.net) and the Detachment Chaplain Robert Wilson Sr (robertwilsonsr.54@gmail.com). Of any members who have passed away. Please be sure to also update the records on MySAL as well.

Please keep these members and their families in your thoughts and prayers. Thanks!



Go to www.valegion.org to sign up for the Detachment Weekly Membership Reports.

Fall 2019 NEC Photos



Photos from the Fall 2019 NEC with SAL National Commander Clint Bolt. Photos from top left—SAL National Commander Clint Bolt convenes the Sunday session, Sunday NEC Session, Detachment of Virginia NEC Linwood Moore, Auxiliary National President Nicole Clapp, National Legislative Commission Tom Deal, and Detachment Commander School, Fred Vaccarella.



WANT TO ADD A SQUADRON?

If your post does not have a Squadron and is interested in starting up a Squadron, you need 10 members to charter a Squadron. It also needs to be approved by the sponsoring American Legion Post.

If you need more information about starting a Squadron, please feel free to contact Detachment Commander Fred Vaccarella, Detachment Vice Commander, Joe Gallagher (Eastern Region), Detachment Vice Commander, David Boggs (Western Region), Detachment Vice Commander, Victor Graulau (Northern Region), or Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams. We would be glad to help you in any way to get a Squadron started.

THE FOCUS

The Focus is the Detachment of Virginia, Sons Of The American Legion's E-Letter or newsletter . This is a great tool for our Squadrons to promote their activities and accomplishments. Every Squadron does something within the Detachment. It can be putting flags on veterans graves to a Fisher House Fundraiser to having a Squadron Member who is an Eagle Scout to a Child Welfare Foundation Fundraiser. We want to hear what your Squadron is doing.

It does not take that much time to put a simple article together for The Focus. A few of our Squadrons contributed articles to this issue. The basic points or questions the article needs to answer are as follows: 1. What was the event? Dinner, Raffle, etc. 2. Who held the event? 3. What was the event for? 4. When was the event held? 5. Where was the event held? 6. Other highlights from the event... 7. What were the results from the event? How much did you raise?

We are in REAL need of getting articles from our Squadrons on their various activities. We received over 35 Consolidated Reports this year. We know Squadrons are active. We want to hear from you!

Please send your articles to Scott Williams at SonsVADetADJ@comcast.net

Find us on 

Like us on Facebook - Sons Of The American Legion Detachment Of Virginia. We currently have 310 likes. With our membership at 4,500, we should have 450 likes on our Facebook Page. This is one great way to promote our activities and accomplishments. Please like us today to keep up with our Detachment Activities.

Founded in 1932, Sons of The American Legion exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires.

SAL members include males of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the U.S. military and were eligible for American Legion membership. Members of The American Legion, [American Legion Auxiliary](#) and Sons of The American Legion comprise the Legion family, which has a combined membership of nearly 4.2 million.

Although Sons has its own membership, the organization is not a separate entity. Rather, SAL is a program of The American Legion. Many Legionnaires hold dual membership in SAL.

Upcoming Events

SAL Nat'l Cdr Homecoming	April 17—19, 2020
Spring NEC	May 2 - 3, 2020
Department Convention	July 10—12, 2020
Legion College	July 31—Aug 2, 2020

Detachment Officers and Committee Members Needed - If you are interested in serving at the Detachment Level—either as an officer, committee chairman, or committee member, please contact Detachment Commander, Fred Vaccarella, NEC, Linwood Moore, Alt NEC, Willie Morgan, or Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams. It is a great honor to serve and represent your Squadron.



Sons Of The American Legion Detachment of Virginia

"The Focus"

Articles and information contributed by: Detachment Commander Fred Vaccarella and Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams, **Photographs provided by:** Detachment Assistant Adjutant, Kevin Chaplin, Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams, and various SAL Members from the Detachment.

Edited By: Scott Williams