

Sons Of The American Legion—Detachment of Virginia



FOCUS



Volume 4, Issue 3 July 2013

Detachment Officers

- Detachment Commander –A.D. Carter, III
- Detachment Vice Commander— Doug Ferrell
- Detachment Vice Commander— Dellie Suiter
- Detachment Vice Commander— J.R. Dye
- Detachment NEC—Steve Gower
- Detachment Alt-NEC— Linwood Moore
- Detachment Adjutant—Scott Williams
- Detachment Finance Officer—HB Hall, Jr.
- Detachment Chaplain—Robert Wilson
- Detachment Historian—Clarence Fenner
- Detachment Sgt At Arms—Mike Butler
- Detachment Judge Advocate— Elton Morgan, Jr.

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Sons Donate \$450K to Child Welfare Foundation

The Sons Of the American Legion raised \$453,599.07 for the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation this year. The Detachments of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Arizona, Illinois, Florida, Colorado, California, Indiana, New York, Virginia, Michigan, and New Jersey all contributed \$10,000 or more for the 2012-13 year. Ohio had the top honor for donating \$51,738.17. Through our efforts., we will again provide grants from the Child Welfare Foundation in October 2013.

So how does this grant process work and how are the recipients chosen? First, organizations who are dedicated to providing for the welfare of all children can apply for a grant or grants through the American

Legion Child Welfare Foundation. The Grant applications are available on the Child Welfare Foundation website at www.cwf-inc.org. Once all of the applications are received, the Board narrows the number of applications to around 50 or so of those who fit well with the mission of the organization. Those 50 Grants are sent to various groups -The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons Of The American Legion and others to request their recommendations. Those groups select their finalists and those are turned in to the Board for the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation to select the recipients for the given year.

The recipients are announced after the Fall NEC in October of each



year.

This year, over \$734,000 in grants were awarded. The American Academy of Pediatrics was awarded a grant of \$12,180, Childhood Leukemia Foundation was awarded a grant of \$60,000, Children's Organ Transplant Association was awarded a grant of \$43,050, CureSearch For Children's Cancer was awarded a grant of \$25,500, Darkness to Light was

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PDC Jeff Evans—Candidate For National Vice Commander



Past Detachment Com-

mander, Jeff Evans(327) is a candidate for National Vice Commander-Southern Region for the 2014-15 year. PDC Evans has served as Squadron Vice Commander, Squadron Commander, Detachment Vice Com-

mander, Detachment Commander, Alt. NEC, NEC, National CMN Committee, and Vice Chairman of the National Legislative Commission.

We wish you all the best - PDC Jeff Evans!!

Commander's Corner

Detachment Commander, A.D. Carter, III

"A Knock Out Year"

The Last Round

It's the twelfth and final round. I would like to thank everyone for their hard work that it took to get us here. We have managed to charter two new Squadrons, we honored our Detachment by Recognizing our youngest Squadron Commander, we watched our own Clint Bolt and Jeff Evans become standouts at the National Level, and increased our numbers at the Detachment level by adding 20 NEW Sons of the American Legion. This is when we bite down on our mouthpieces and go for the gold. There is no tomorrow we either win or go home. The judges are tallying up all of our consolidated reports to see if there were any omissions on the part of the judges. They are reviewing the video tapes to

see if they missed anything. All of the score cards are in, all of the Vice commanders are checking their mileage sheets and counting their Piggy Banks. Department is using a fine toothed comb to determine if what they are seeing is in fact correct.

"Ladies and Gentlemen", From the Blue corner, we have a Majority Decision, the Winner by a T.K.O. The Detachment of Virginia "Sons of the American Legion"... "Our Cut Man" A.D.Carter says that the first part of this fight we were feeling them out to see what they were going to bring us, maybe something we haven't seen before or a right hand lead. But we have been in many scrapes; I think we have seen a lot of different looks in this game. So we started coming out with a bunch of 3's and 4's and Five of our It

was then that I knew that we could WIN this thing... As for the future, this is My last fight, I will go into Retirement, but I will still be at ringside pulling for Our new Kid on the Block, at 184 Lbs. (Cruiser Weight) Doug Ferrell from Danville, Virginia. With a Record of 21-0. He is a scrappy young fighter with a lot of energy, smooth moves, and he is very determined to win.. everything in 2013-2014 . Again, I thank you for the honor and privilege to have been of service to you.



Adjutant's Blog—Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams

We are about to finish this year and prepare for another new and exciting year ahead.

We received over 20 Consolidated Report Forms this year from around the Detachment. Thanks to all of the Squadrons who turned a Consolidated Report Form this year.

The new Detachment Website is

now up and running. This is a work in process. Please visit the new website at www.vasons.org. Also, if you are on Facebook, please like us at Sons Of The American Legion—Detachment Of Virginia.

We want to thank everyone for all of their efforts this year in support of all of our programs.

American Legion Leadership Col-

lege will be August 9 through 11 at the Holiday Inn Koger Center in Midlothian. Registration remains \$65 and rooms are \$103.96(incl tax) per night. We look forward to having as many SAL Members at Legion College as possible.

We look forward to seeing you at our State Convention in July!

Membership Minute—Membership Chairman, Scott Williams

We made great progress since the Spring Conference in Membership for this year. We met our National Membership Target of 4,370 Members this year. As of this moment, we are 2 members short of making our Detachment goal of 4,500 members.



We have over thirty five Squadrons who achieved 100% or higher in membership this year. Congratulations and thank you all for all you have done to help our Detachment meet its goals this year.

As of this publication, the Detachment of Virginia is 10th in the Nation in Membership, third in the Southern Region, with a renewal rate of 87.51%. If your Squadron receives any renewals, please turn them in.

We are going golfing this year!!

Child Welfare Donations—con't

Awarded a grant of \$45,486, Diabetes Education and Camping Association was awarded a grant of \$40,000, Huntington's Disease Society of America was awarded a grant of \$30,000, Immune Deficiency Foundation was awarded a grant of \$48,500, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation was awarded a grant of \$39,500, Mercy Flight Southeast, Inc. was awarded a grant of \$17,394, National Autism Association was awarded a grant of \$58,000, National Center for Learning Disabilities was awarded a grant of \$45,000, National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association was awarded a grant of \$40,000, National Exchange Club Foundation was awarded a grant of \$24,530, National Marfan Association was awarded a

Grant of \$25,000, Our Military Kids was awarded a grant of \$60,000, Spina Bifida Association was awarded a grant of \$45,000, SuperSibs! was awarded a grant of \$16,210, The National Children's Cancer Society was awarded a grant of \$15,870, and US Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation was awarded a grant of \$43,000.

Our Military Kids, which received a \$60,000 Grant, is from Virginia. Their grant was for a project called 'Strengthening the Our Military Kids Brand'. This grant will produce and distribute a public service announcement and conduct a PR campaign. The Sons Of The American Legion sponsored this grant.

The Sons Of The American Legion

Either sponsored or co-sponsored ten of the grants awarded this year. Over the past several years, the Sons Of The American Legion in Virginia have donated at least \$10,000 per year.

Every dollar donated goes directly to the children through these grants.

How can your Squadron help this vital program? Donate \$1 per member through the 100% Per Capita Program. Take some CWF Piggy Banks back to your Squadron and ask your members to donate. Hold a Fundraiser in the month of April during Children and Youth month.

This is our Hallmark program.-
Scott Williams

Squadron Everlasting

Richard Kraus(176)-July 2012, Mark White(176)-September 2012, Thomas Williams(67)-July 2012, William Randell(67)-July 2012, Taylor Terry(67)-July 2012, Bruce J. Reid(67)-July 2012, Carl H. Fisher(68)-July 2012, Larry W. Ritchie (72)-July 2012, Claude D. Cash(274) -July 2012, Robert L. Fox(25)-September 2012, Richard M. Good Jr.(284)-September 2012, James C. Mills(162)-October 2012, Kevin E. Rhodes(53)-June 2012, Richard Stegeman(74)-November 2012, Donald C. McLaughlin(2)-January 2013, Ricky Tuck(16)-January 2013, Jeffrey R. Lockhart, Jr.(146)-January 2013, George D. Feldpusch(162)-January 2013, Robert Leisher(293)-January 2013, Kenny Sisson(320)-January 2013, Harold Runft(320), January 2013., Robert L. Thein – May 2013, Terry D. Meadows-April 2013, Robin R. Lindquist-March 2013, Michael D. Hutchins-April 2013, John A. Mattos-April 2013,

Lewis P. Register(79), and Lloyd T. Allen(79).

Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers over their passing. If you have any Squadron Member who has passed, please email the information to SonsVA-DetADJ@yahoo.com.



Leadership College 'Developing Future Officers'

Each year, The Sons Of The American Legion holds a Leadership College in conjunction with the American Legion Leadership College, in August. Legion College for 2013 will be held at the Holiday Inn Koger Center in Midlothian. The registration fee will be \$65 again this year.

This is a great opportunity for those who are new members of the Sons Of The American Legion and newly elected Squadron Officers to learn more about our organization and its programs. We will go into greater depth about our programs, such as Americanism, Children and Youth, and Veterans Affairs and Re-

Habilitation, and Membership. We do this in an informal setting and invite those in the class to ask a lot of questions. It is also a great forum to share ideas and help our Detachment grow.

At our Legion College session last year, we had a guest speaker talk about Homeland Security and Civil Preparedness. We will try to do something like that again this year. As we mentioned earlier in this issue, Homeland Security is a new and up and coming Committee within the organization.

We look forward to seeing you at Legion College in August. *Scott Williams, Legion College Director*



Detachment Activities



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 one of our Detachment Vice Commanders-J.R. Dye (Northern Region), Dellie Suiter (Eastern Region), Doug Farrell (Western Region) or the Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams. We would be glad to help you in any way to get a Squadron

ERRATA

In Volume 4, Issue 2—the article about the Battle of Fredericksburg, the date of the founding of Memorial Day should have read **1868**. We apologize for any confusion created by this error.



‘It’s not what we do, it’s who we are!’ - *Michael Peterson*

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.

Help Wanted!

The Detachment is looking for an Assistant Detachment Adjutant. We are looking for someone to help compile, maintain, and distribute the Detachment Directory in Microsoft Access or another Database program.

If interested, please contact Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams at 571 236-4831(Cell), 703 771-4046(Home), or by email at SonsVADetADJ@yahoo.com.

WANTED!!

Interested in serving at the Detachment Level? Want to learn more about the programs The Sons Of The American Legion supports? We are looking for Sons Members to serve on our Detachment Americanism, Children and Youth, VA & R, and Homeland Security Committees. If interested, please contact Detachment Commander, AD Carter, Detachment NEC, Steve Gower, or Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams.

Sons Of The American Legion Detachment of Virginia

“The Focus”

Articles and information contributed by: Detachment Commander A.D. Carter, Josie Patrick (Department Headquarters), Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams, **Photographs provided by:** Detachment Historian Clarence Fenner, and Scott Williams.

Edited By: Scott Williams