



FOCUS



Volume 8, Issue 3 July 2017

Detachment Officers

- Detachment Commander – Johnny Baker
- Detachment Vice Commander—Willie Morgan
- Detachment Vice Commander—Victor Graulau
- Detachment Vice Commander—Jeff Lee
- Detachment NEC—Linwood Moore
- Detachment Alt-NEC– Robert Borkovich
- Detachment Adjutant—Scott Williams
- Detachment Finance Officer—Jeff Evans
- Detachment Chaplain–Robert Wilson Sr.
- Detachment Historian–Richard Pregnall
- Detachment Sgt At Arms–James Logan
- Detachment Judge Advocate–Steve Gower

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Operation Comfort Warriors Supported by the Sons

Operation Comfort Warriors continues to get more support from the Sons with every passing day. To date, the Detachment of Virginia donated \$9,225 to Operation Comfort Warriors for the 2016—17 year. Squadron 327 lead the way by donating almost \$7,000 to Operation Comfort Warriors. Most of this was raised at a Veterans Day Fishing Tournament in November in Avon, North Carolina. Squadron 327 also held an event in Nags Head in May to spread awareness of the Operation Comfort Warrior program.

There are many out there who may not know that much about Operation Comfort Warrior or why they should donate to it instead of other Veteran support programs.



Operation Comfort Warriors is a program dedicated to meeting the needs of wounded, injured or ill military personnel by providing them with comfort items not usually supplied by the government. OCW ensures that patients at U.S.

military hospitals and warrior transition units are given items like sweat suits, DVDs, puzzles, electronic devices, books, calling cards and more. OCW also provides larger items such as ping pong tables, entertainment centers, computers, kayaks and other recreational goods for use by

Con't on page 6

About This Issue

This issue will be the final issue for the 2016—17 year.

This will issue will be a snapshot of the year we completed as a Detachment.

We will take an in depth look at Operation Comfort Warriors.

As the National Convention nears, we will also look at the Legacy Ride as a lot of Sons participate in the Legacy Run as members of the American Legion Riders. The Legacy Run raises a lot of money for the Legacy Scholarship fund.

Our Commander will share his final thoughts on his year as Commander.

We will provide a snapshot of the CSRs for this year through July 8. We will also include photos from the year we just completed.

Commander's Corner—Johnny Baker



Detachment Commander Baker introducing his officers at the State Convention.

My fellow SAL members we have reached the end of the 2016-2017 year. I would first like to thank each member of the Detachment of Virginia for allowing me the opportunity to be your commander for this year. I have had a wonderful time visiting the Squadrons who invited me to

to participate in these events and the opportunity to install new officers at Squadrons. The commanders project this year was Saint Jude's Children's Research Hospital. I am pleased to say that the Detachment and Squadrons raised \$2500.00 for the hospital. I would like to say thank you for all of those who donated to the project.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our Convention at Dulles. As my year comes to a close I am also looking forward to continuing to serve the Detachment in anyway the new Commander needs me to participate.

Again thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be your Commander. Please if you have any Questions for me please contact me at nx62065@hotmail.com.



Det Cdr Johnny Baker, Det Vice Cdr Victor Graulau, Det Sgt At Arm, James Logan, and Maggie Smith at Fall Conference raising Funds for the Commander's Project, St. Jude's.

Adjutant's Blog—July 2017

We had a strong year this year. As of July 8 we had 39 consolidated Reports turned in. That is over 50% reporting. Thanks to all of those Squadrons turning in Consolidated Reports, so far this year. We will show preliminary Detachment Results, as of July 8 at the end of this issue.

We received 44 Officer Lists for the 2017-18 year. If you have not turned yours in, please do so, as soon as possible so your Squadron can get their 2017-18 Cards. This information is necessary for our Detachment Directory and for our Detachment Officers to contact our Squadrons throughout the year. This also helps us send out important Detachment Information throughout the year.

We are hoping to have great representation at the State Convention coming up in a few days. We will be presenting membership awards, detachment awards, and recognition of our Son of

The Year Award, and holding elections for 2017-18.

Lastly, please consider Legion College in August. We had a great program last year with a lot of new Sons members attending for the first time. It will be at the same location in Richmond/Midlothian in August 2017.

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—Alternate NEC

(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 anyway 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**



Remember—First Target Date for 2017-18 is September 6.

The Year in Review: 2016—17



Squadron 284 Fundraiser. From Linwood Moore—'I would like to thank everyone that supported our spaghetti dinner to night at the American Legion in Colonial Heights . We raised a little over 2400.00 dollars for two special women tonight. The Special Olympic children and some of the Colonial Heights Police Dept. That helped support us thank everyone one of you . Linwood Moore The Sons of The American Legion Squad. 284 we just keep giving back to our community . '

From Roger Santini -'No Shots No Nibbles for Mya and the entire Santini family want to say THANK-YOU to all involved in the Sons of the American squad# 284 Spaghetti Dinner. It was very humbling to see such wonderful people coming together.....

doing something to make a difference for two families.....not because they had to it or were told to do it or stood to gain something from it.....but... because they saw an opportunity to help someone in need was the only reason they needed. The love and support received from those who bought and took the time out of their busy lives to spend the evening with us was truly amazing. Again, THANK-YOU so much to all involved !!!! The Santini family is truly honored to be around such great people!!! '



Sons Legion College 2016-various photos including SAL Director, Steve Gower; Instructor, Scott Williams; and Detachment Commander, Johnny Baker; Department Leadership - Dept Cdr., Dave Stein, Dept Pres., Sallie Rossman, and Det Cdr., Johnny Baker; Dept Cdr Stein talks to Sons session about his goals for the year; Dept Pres., Rossman talks to the Sons Class about her project for the year.



Squadron 327 Fish Fry Fundraiser to benefit VA & R programs with Squad Cdr, Fred Vaccarella, Det Fin Offi., Jeff Evans, and Nat'l VA & R Chairman, Clint Bolt.

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Legion College | Aug 11 to 13, 2017 |
| SAL National Convention | Aug 18 to 20, 2017 |
| Fall Conference | Oct 20 to 22, 2017 |
| Spring Conference | Mar 9 to 11, 2018 |

Please remember to turn in your 2017—18 Officers List as soon as possible to get your 2017—18 Membership Cards! Thank You!!

The Year in Review: 2016—17



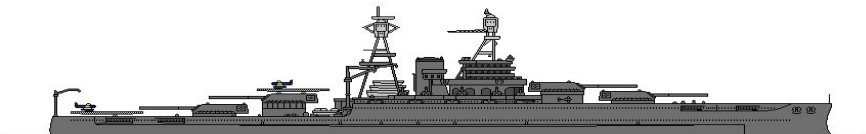
Squadron 284 cooks out for American Legion Riders 6th Annual Rally.



2016 National SAL Convention— Left side—SAL Nat'l. VA & R Chairman, Clint Bolt gives the final report and presents National VA & R Awards. Left Bottom and above— SAL Detachment Members in the National Convention Parade.



Fall NEC— Detachment Commander, Johnny Baker presented with his Commander's School Certificate by SAL National Commander, Jeff Frain. SAL Detachment leadership at Fall NEC supporting Candidate for National Commander, Brett Reistad. SAL Members Steve Gower, Clint Bolt, Kevin Chaplin, Clint Bolt, and Scott Williams.



Detachment of Virginia Wants You!!!

We want you!! Yes, we want you! While we are looking for members to grow our Detachment, we need members from our Squadrons to step up and serve at the Detachment Level. So, where is the help needed?

Help is needed in two areas. One, we need Squadron Members to serve on various Detachment Committees. And two, we need people to serve as various Detachment Officers.

Lets look at the Detachment Committees first. We would like to have our Detachment Committees have at least three people on each committee. Detachment Committees include Americanism, Children and Youth, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Child Welfare Foundation and Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, Public Relations, Information Technology, and Membership.

We would like for each Committee Member communicate to the Squadrons they are assigned the various programs under their Committee. For example, if you were on Americanism, you should be focusing on Boys State, Girls State, Flag Education, National Emergency Fund to name a few. We would also like for a prospective Committee Member to be able to call various Squadrons in a given region to find out what activities they are doing to support Americanism programs.

We would like for our Committee Chairman and Committee Members to have access to a computer and the internet. From time to time a Committee Member may need to do some online research on programs within your Committee.

As a Committee Chairman, you will need to give reports at our Fall and Spring Conferences. The best Committee Report would be one that would promote and inform the membership on some of the programs on your Committee. At some point, we would like to have the Chairman, with assistance from his Committee members, submit an article for The Focus spotlighting some of the programs of your Committee.



It is a tremendous honor for your Squadron to have a Squadron Member serve at the Detachment Level, in any capacity.

The second area, where our Detachment needs Squadron Members to serve at the Detachment Level, are Detachment Officers. Our Detachment Officers where we need help are Detachment Sgt. At Arms, Detachment Historian, Detachment Assistant Adjutant, and Detachment Vice Commander(s)(3).

Detachment Sgt At Arms and Detachment Historian are good places for people to get in at the Detachment Level. This is a great level to see how things operate at the Detachment Level.

For Detachment Vice Commander, we would like for individuals to commit to three years. Two years as Detachment Vice Commander and one year as Detachment Commander. If you do well and are interested, you could serve in a position at the National Level.

For prospective Detachment Vice Commander candidates, in addition to committing three years, two as Vice Commander and one as Detachment Commander, here are some requirements for serving as Detachment Vice Commander. For the Detachment Vice Commander to move up to Detachment Commander we would like for him to have served as a Squadron Commander for one year.

We would like for the prospective candidate to have a steady job with some disposable income to cover expenses until they are reimbursed.

The candidate needs to look the part and be able to address the Legion Family in large group settings. This will help overcome the fear of speaking in front of large groups. When attending meetings, conferences, and conventions, you would be expected to be dressed in a coat and tie.

We would like the person to have a computer with basic computer skills. They need to be able to send and receive emails. They will also need to be able to coordinate and hold regular Conference Calls in their regions.

Lastly, we would like the person to have a cell phone and they would need to return calls and messages in a timely manner.

If you are interested in serving on a Committee or as a Detachment Officer, please feel free to contact Judge Advocate, Steve Gower (stevegower@cox.net), Clint Bolt (sonscdbolt@aol.com), or Scott Williams (sonsvadetadj@comcast.net).

We really are in need of help in all of these areas. We are a detachment of over 4,000 members and should be able to have people serving in these various positions. It is a very rich and rewarding experience to serve at this level. **Scott Williams Detachment Adjutant**



Fall Conference attendees at the Saturday session of the 2016 Fall Conference.

Membership...By The Numbers 2016-17 Year

Northern Region	93.72%
Western Region	89.77%
Eastern Region	87.03%
Renewal Rate	81.27%

Squadrons 100% and Higher: Squadron 146 (106.17%), Squadron 1 (105.26%), Squadron 233 (116.67%), Squadron 284 (104.76%), Squadron 55 (110%), Squadron 74 (107.37%), Squadron 156 (120%), Squadron 157 (104%), Squadron 166 (184.62%), Squadron 28 (104%), Squadron 72 (103.92%), Squadron 290 (100%), Squadron 293 (100%), Squadron 364 (116.67%), Squadron 85 (100%), Squadron 130 (118.75%), Squadron 176 (112.5%), Squadron 177 (102.54%), Squadron 29 (100%), Squadron 164 (100%), Squadron 3 (100%), Squadron 93 (260%), and Squadron 217 (118.18%).

Squadrons 90 to 100%: Squadron 48 (90%), Squadron 67 (96.91%), Squadron 368 (96.55%), Squadron 148 (94%), Squadron 215 (93.75%), Squadron 21 (93.28%), Squadron 77 (97.30%), Squadron 10 (92.36%), Squadron 330 (92.31%), Squadron 270 (97.5%), Squadron 1976 (98.10%), Squadron 8 (91.58%), Squadron 1097 (90.15%), Squadron 7 (97.5%), and Squadron 274 (90.57%).

Congratulations and Thanks to all for your efforts in Membership this year!!

The above information is based on the Department Membership Report, as of July 5, 2017.

Operation Comfort Warriors

Con't from page 1 wounded warriors in common areas.

As the war in Afghanistan winds down, U.S. military personnel are coming home where they join other recent veterans who served in Iraq. Many of these servicemembers have left the battlefield only to be faced with a new fight: a struggle to overcome the mental and physical wounds suffered during deployment. Those with traumatic brain injury (TBI) or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are returning home in unprecedented numbers. In fact, the Army has said that up to 20 percent of the men and women who served in Afghanistan or Iraq have suffered TBI.

Even as the wars conclude, those in the military still face inherent dangers while fighting the global war on terrorism, during training exercises and

while performing other dangerous duties.

While the care at many military hospitals and warrior transition units is extraordinary, The American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW) program was created to provide "nonessentials" - items that help wounded warriors' recovery but don't usually show up as a budget line on government spreadsheets.

How Does OCW Work? The Legion contacts officials at military hospitals, warrior transition units and surrounding communities, and obtains lists to determine which items are needed by wounded, injured or ill servicemembers. Once a need is identified, the items are ordered by the Legion and delivered in an expeditious manner. It's as simple as that. No red tape.

How Do Veterans Benefit From OCW? Today, wounded warriors need

need a variety of items to help in their recovery. Some patients might need loose-fitting sweat-suits to cover their healing wounds without adding pressure to burns sustained during a rocket attack. Others might need an iPod to help drown out the tinnitus that has plagued their ears since their vehicle struck an IED. Still others might need fitness equipment to rebuild strength in their muscles.





From gift cards to patients at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, to electronics for Marines at Camp Pendleton, OCW represents the Legion's expression of gratitude. These gifts will not make our wounded warriors whole again, but they do express the Legion's gratitude.



MySAL – Squadron Sign Up Form

The American Legion National Headquarters has designed a FREE and secure internet site to assist Squadron Adjutants in their day-to-day membership processing duties. This site serves as a direct portal from the local squadron to National Headquarters' membership system.

Features include:

-  View and Edit squadron membership
-  Generate reports
-  Reports available in CSV file format allowing users to work with the data in other applications such as Microsoft Excel and Access
-  Squadron Inquiry

Payment process for individual membership dues does not change. Your Squadron must continue to transmit membership cards and dues payments to your State Headquarters.

Fill out this form and mail or fax to us to register. Please type or print.

Yes! We would like to sign up for MySAL Officers Portal:

State _____ Squadron Number _____

Contact Information: Does not have to be Squadron Adjutant. The information below indicates who to call with any questions and where to send correspondence and registration instructions once authorization to release data is received from the state headquarters.

Contact Name: _____

ID#: _____ Phone #: _____

E-mail (required) _____



Signature required, must be Squadron Adjutant only

Member ID# _____

Printed Name _____



Signature required, must be Post Adjutant only

Member ID# _____

Printed Name _____

**Mail To: The American Legion IT Division
 Product Support Specialist
 5745 Lee Road, Indianapolis, IN 46216
 Fax: 317-860-3130 Phone: 800-433-3318**

Operation Comfort Warriors

Con't from page 6 The program relies on funds, which are used to purchase items for the service-members.

How Can We Help? Most military medical centers are not equipped to store large quantities of care packages. The Legion strongly prefers monetary donations so that it can expedite the purchase and delivery of items to troops.

How Can We Donate? Donations can be made online at through the American Legion Website. Checks may be mailed to: Operation Comfort Warriors
The American Legion
5 7 4 5 Lee Road
Indianapolis, IN 46216.

How To Raise Money? A fundraiser such as a motorcycle run

or a fish fry can be a great way to gather donations. A local Legion post, auxiliary unit, Sons of The American Legion squadron, Legion Riders chapter, church group or other charitable organization could assist in holding a fundraiser. Proceeds from a fundraising event can be donated to the Legion via the website or mailing address listed above.

Here is just one example of how Operation Comfort Warriors helps our Veterans. For the fourth consecutive year, The American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW) program covered the cost of lodging for wounded veterans attending the sixth annual Wall-eyes for Wounded Heroes Fishing Retreat hosted by the Kentucky Wounded Heroes program. The \$10,000 OCW grant allowed more than 100 wounded veterans to

stay at Little Ted's Cottages and Family Resort in Marblehead, Ohio, while enjoying a four-day fishing retreat on Lake Erie last month.

Here is another example where OCW helped Veterans in Virginia. In a sleepy corner of northern Virginia lays the thriving town of Haymarket, home of Park Valley Church where the first seeds of a mission of hope and help were sown. Members of Department of Virginia Haymarket Post 1799 applied for and were recently awarded an American Legion, Operation Comfort Warrior grant in the amount of \$10,000.00. This grant will cover the costs which includes meals, lodging and events at The Bull Run Warrior Retreat for wounded warriors and their families for 5 weeks. Every dollar donated to OCW goes back to the Veteran .

American Legion Website

Legacy Scholarship Run

With the National Convention in Reno less than two months away, our organization wraps up its current administrative year and looks to one final event to raise funds for the Legacy Scholarship—The Legacy Scholarship Run.

The Legacy Scholarship run is the largest fundraiser done by the American Legion Riders. The Legion Riders are made up of members of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and the Sons Of The American Legion.

Since 2006, Riders nationwide have participated in The American Legion Legacy Run to annually raise money for the Legacy Scholarship Fund, established to provide scholarships to children of U.S. military personnel killed since Sept. 11, 2001.

This year's Legacy Scholarship run will begin in Ft Dodge Kansas on August 12 and end at the 99th American Legion National Convention in Reno, Nevada. It's primary purpose is to raise funds for the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund.

Since the inception of The American Legion Legacy Scholarship in 2001 following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, The American Legion has offered its support to the children of fallen post-9/11 service-members through this scholarship. Beginning with the 2017 award year, The American Legion expanded the scholarship to include children of VA-rated, post-9/11 veterans with a combined disability rating of 50 percent or higher.

Fifty percent of each amount is made available for awards each year – beginning with the 2017 award year. Each award made is good for one year and may be up to \$20,000. The amount of each award is determined by the financial need of that student as determined by fiscal information provided by the applicant during the application process.

The 11th annual charity motorcycle ride, sponsored by USAA, raised \$1,155,363 for The American Legion Legacy Fund in 2016. The total amount of Legacy Scholarship money to be awarded varies based on the amount of donations received each year and the total amount of income derived from interest on the trust each year. **American Legion Website**

The Year in Review: 2016—17



National VA & R Chairman, Clint Bolt and National VE & E Vice Chairman, Jeff Evans sell raffle tickets at the OCW Fundraiser on Veterans Day in November 2016.



Squadron 327 Commander, Fred Vaccarella, and Detachment Judge Advocate, Steve Gower with participants in the OCW Veterans Day Fishing Tournament.



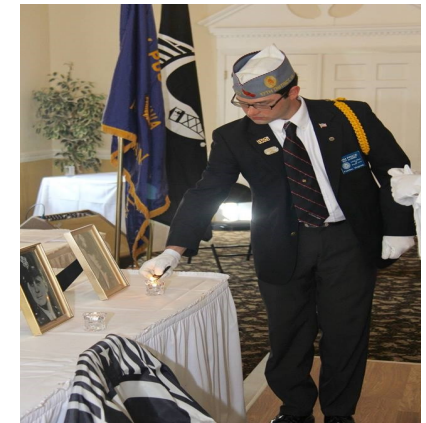
Detachment NEC Linwood Moore, Department Commander Dave Stein, and Department Auxiliary President, Sallie Rossman at Day on the Hill in Richmond.



National VE & E Vice Chairman, Jeff Evans and Squadron 327 Commander, Fred Vaccarella with a participant of the OCW Fishing Tournament.



Squadron 325 assisted American Legion Post 325 in their efforts to raise funds for Salvation Army in December 2016.



17th District SAL participation in the district's Four Chaplain's ceremony. With James Price and Walter Coon-Thurman.



Top photo—one of the fish caught in the OCW Fishing Tournament in November. Bottom photo – table with OCW give aways at the Fishing tournament.



2017 Spring Conference Photos



Detachment of Virginia held its annual Spring Conference in Virginia Beach in March 2017. In the photos above, were our Detachment Executive Committee Meeting, Friday night and our regular session Saturday afternoon. We were privileged to host SAL National Vice Commander, Bill Kelly from Florida. We turned in \$28,100 in donations at the Spring Conference.

Leadership College Our Future Leaders

Each year, The Sons Of The American Legion holds a Leadership College in conjunction with the American Legion Leadership College, in August. The 2016 Legion College was held at the Doubletree Hotel in Midlothian from August 12 to 14.

We had a full class and covered topics from Membership 'How To's', Programs, Reporting, and Ambassador's Training for Squadron Officers.

Last year's SAL Legion College was different than past years. We had several officers and committee chairman talk about programs and various aspects of leadership. We spent more time on fundraising and how to do fundraisers. The group also shared different ideas on fundraisers that their respective Squadrons do each year. We covered some of the standard topics like membership and reporting. Both of which are important

to the success of our organization.

What topics do you want us to cover at this year's Legion College? How can we make it better for our Members? What can we do to get more people to attend our Legion College. Please try to send at least one member from your squadron this year. Please email ideas to Steve Gower (SteveGower@cox.net) or Scott Williams (SonsVADetADJ@comcast.net). Mark your calendars now for 2017, August 11 to 13 in Richmond.

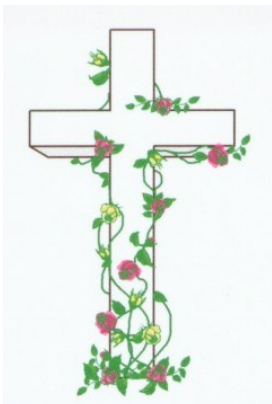


Left-Candidate for AL National Commander, Denise Rohan addresses the Sons class. Top, Sons class in session. Bottom, Detachment Commander Johnny Baker, hands a Sons graduate his Legion College Diploma.

Squadron Everlasting

Please keep the families of these Squadron members in your thoughts and prayers. Kenneth Young (Squadron 25), H R Jones (Squadron 146), Gayle Wilmoth (Squadron 1097), Kenneth Collins (Squadron 1097), Arthur Moser (Squadron 1097), Dwight Holmes (Squadron 67), Robert Faison (Squadron 2), Harry Ferrell, Jr. (Squadron 325), David Surin (Squadron 162), John Surin (Squadron 162), Dwight James (Squadron 67), Mike Hatcher (Squadron 8), Donald Sparrow (Squadron 56), Bob Hansen (Squadron 330), Robert Morris (Squadron 79), John Burgess (Squadron 2), Leaman Wilson (Squadron 28), David Shook (Squadron 177), Elton Riffie (Squadron 77), and Martin Skurski (Squadron 53), Haywood Carter (Squadron 29), Robert Richardson (Squadron 67), Chris Bodkin (Squadron 77), Everette Phelps (Squadron 104), Howard Watson (Squadron 148), Thomas Brown (Squadron 162), Harry McClellan (Squadron 199), and Clarence Cichy (Squadron 270)

If your Squadron has any members who have passed away, please email Linda Hardwick (membership@valegion.org), Scott Williams



2016—17 In Pictures



Squadron 284 held its Annual Law and Order Night recognizing the First Responders in their community. In the Picture above—George Dimirack, NEC Linwood Moore, and Squadron 284 Commander, Mike Latham.



Squadron 284 Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser in May benefiting COTA.



New National Sons brochures with Detachment of Virginia members on the covers - NEC Linwood Moore, Ass't Detachment Adjutant, Kevin Chaplin.



Sons National VA & R Chairman, Clint Bolt gives the VA & R Commission report at the Spring NEC Meeting in May in Indianapolis.



Bottom Center Picture—Squadron 293 presents \$625 donation to Boulder Crest Veterans Retreat in Bluemont. In the picture - Squadron Adjutant, Scott Williams, Sons National VA & R Chairman, Clint Bolt, Boulder Crest Executive Director, Dusty Baxley, and Squadron Commander, Dan Miller.



Squadron 162 Member, Jeremy Wallace places flag at a grave for Memorial Day.

Squadron 327 promoting OCW at a festival in Nags Head with Detachment Judge Advocate, Steve Gower, Detachment Finance Officer, Jeff Evans, Squadron Commander, Fred Vaccarella, and Squadron Members Ross Gower and Andrew Evans.



Squadron 364 Installation of Officers for 2017—18 with Squadron Commander Jack Rike.



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 Johnny Baker, Detachment Vice Commander, Willie Morgan (Eastern Region), Detachment Vice Commander, Jeff Lee (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.

****PLEASE NOTE****

Please send all email correspondence to the Detachment Adjutant at SonsVADetADJ@comcast.net. I have been told that there have been email messages sent to the Detachment Adjutant which were never received. However, we do not check the old email account—SonsVADetADJ@yahoo.com. Please do not use this email address anymore. We rarely check that email account. Thank You!!

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, Johnny Baker, NEC, Linwood Moore, Alt NEC, Robert Borkovich, 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 Johnny Baker, Linda Hardwick (Department Headquarters), Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams, **Photographs provided by:** Kevin Chaplin, Detachment NEC, Linwood Moore, Ron Hesson, Rose Moore, and various SAL Members from the Detachment.

Edited By: Scott Williams



Detachment of Virginia 2017 Accomplishments



Americanism

25	# of Boys sponsored at Boys State
\$ 10,450.00	Cost
11	# of Girls sponsored at Girls State
\$ 3,175.00	Cost
4	# of Squadron Color Guards
144	Total # of appearances
\$ 800.00	Cost
212	# of Flags presented
\$ 975.00	Cost
25	Flag Education Programs
\$ 260.00	Cost
45	Hours
313	Flag Retirement Ceremonies
2,850	Flag presented (Cemeteries & Parades)
\$ 575.00	Cost
\$ 5,850.00	In Scholarships Awarded
172	Hours for Educational Programs
16,785	Community Service Hours
\$ 16,701	Community Service Donations
\$ 3,660.00	National Emergency Fund (N.E.F.)
68	# of Blood Drives
460	# of Pints Collected
0	American Legion Baseball Teams
\$ 2,755.00	Sponsorship Cost
24	Boy Scout Troops Supported
\$ 2,950.00	Sponsorship Cost
8	5 Star / 10 Ideals Program
\$ 205.00	Sponsorship Cost
\$ 54,966	Overall Total Cost of Support for Americanism Programs
17,719	Overall Service Hours for Americanism Programs

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

5017	# of Visits to Homes/Centers
3795	Hours of Service
\$ 4,318.00	Cash Donations
\$ 6,990.00	Cost of Items Donated
214	# of Veterans helped (VA Day)
218	Hours of Service
\$ 710.00	Cost
\$ 910.00	Support the Troops
800	Service Hours
\$ 3,810.00	Fisher House - Donations
251	Hours of Service
\$ 33,298.54	Other Misc. Donations
5181	Other Misc Hours of Service

Children & Youth

\$ 16,266.00	CWF Donations
984	CWF Hours of Service
2	# of Josh Dogs given away
\$ 3,060.00	CMN Donations
283	CMN Hours of Service
\$ 10,098.00	Special Olympics Donations
1441	Hours of Service
\$ 9,630.00	Other C&Y Projects Donations
5264.5	Other C&Y Projects Hours

Overall Totals of Hours & Dollars Donated from Virginia Squadrons

\$ 164,203	Overall Cost of Donations for all Programs
40,779	Overall Service Hours for all Programs

