

Sons Of The American Legion—Detachment of Virginia



FOCUS



Volume 9, Issue 2 July 2018

Detachment Officers

- Detachment Commander – Willie Morgan
- Detachment Vice Commander— Jeff Lee
- Detachment Vice Commander— Victor Graulau
- Detachment Vice Commander— Fred Vaccarella
- Detachment NEC—Linwood Moore
- Detachment Alt-NEC— Richard Pregnell
- 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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Sons Convened Annual Convention

It is that time of year for the Detachment of Virginia to hold its Annual Detachment Convention. The Sons held their session on Saturday from 12:30 to 4pm in the Colvin I & II room.

At our session we will recognize the accomplishments of our Squadrons and our Blue Cap Members. We will present the Detachment Awards for the Small, Medium, and Large Squadrons for Americanism, Children and Youth, and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation. We will also present awards for Membership and recognize the Son Of The Year. We will also present the Detachment Scholarship Award.

We would like to have as many SAL Members in attendance at this convention. This is the 100th Annual Convention of the American



Dulles Washington Hilton is the hosting hotel for the American Legion 100th Annual Convention. Sons will hold their Convention on Saturday.

Legion Department of Virginia. This will be an historic weekend for the organization.

We will also elect and install new officers for the upcoming 2018—19 year. The upcoming year will be an exciting year as we support the American Legion in its Centennial

Year. The Department of Virginia will have its own Brett Reistad as American Legion National Commander after election in August.

The Detachment of Virginia will be supporting Clint Bolt, candidate for SAL National Commander. Stay tuned for an exciting year!

About This Issue

This will be the final issue for the 2017—18 year. This will be a look back over the past year.

We will provide some preliminary numbers for the past year and try to recognize those Squadrons and Blue Cap members for going

Above and beyond the call of duty during the year.

The upcoming year proves to be an exciting year as we support the American Legion in its Centennial Year.

The Detachment will be

Actively working to support our Candidate for SAL National Commander, Clint Bolt. We are going to need everyone's help to make this possible. The first issue talked a lot about Mr. Bolt. Its "All Hands On Deck" for the year ahead!

Commander's Corner—Willie Morgan



Detachment Commander Willie Morgan and Department Commander Tommy Lee at the Department Convention in July.

This has been a very exciting year as your Detachment Commander. Since last July when the show started, it has never been a dull moment. It is quite an honor to be chosen by my peers to represent the state of Virginia. I would like to thank every member of the Sons of the

American Legion in the Commonwealth of Virginia for your support. I have learned so much in the last year and have been blessed to be able to travel not only across the great state of Virginia, but Indiana, Nevada and North Carolina, too.

A special thanks to all the Squadrons who invited me to participate in events and ceremonies at their Post. Always treating me with the utmost kindness and outstanding hospitality. Thanks to all my Detachment Officers and my staff without you, none of this would be possible. I would also like to thank Department of Virginia Auxiliary President Cheryl Shine and American Legion Department of Virginia Commander Tommy Lee for setting such great examples of pride and professionalism and always making me com-



Detachment Commander Willie Morgan and the 2017-18 Detachment Officers at the Department Convention in July.

fortable at the many events that we attended together.

My Commanders project was JDRF which stands for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, I was diagnosed with type-2 diabetes in 2016. This is near and dear to my heart. With the help of

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Adjutant's Blog—Summer 2018

Thank you to all of our Squadrons and members for all of their volunteer work and donations for this year. We had over 30 Consolidated Reports turned in for the 2017—18 year. The Detachment Convention this month will recognize all of our accomplishments this year.

Our membership numbers are higher than last year at this time. We still need to work on sending any 2018 memberships you may have. It is still not too late.

If your Squadron has not turned in their officer's list for the 2018—19 year, please turn it in to Department Headquarters, as soon as possible. We will not be sending out Membership Cards until the list is received.

We need to get off to a fast start for the upcoming year. This will be a busy year for the Detachment as we support our candidate, Clint Bolt for SAL National Commander.

We hope to see you at Detachment Convention and Legion College in August.

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—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**



Membership By The Numbers—2018

Squadrons 100% and over

Eastern Region— Squadron 159 (102.17%), Squadron 5 (100%), Squadron 327 (106.21%), Squadron 75 (100%), Squadron 368 (121.88%), Squadron 49 (100%), Squadron 120 (170%), Squadron 146 (106.67%), Squadron 284 (106.67%), Squadron 55 (112.5%), Squadron 148 (109%).

Northern Region- Squadron 126 (110%), Squadron 21 (102.61%), Squadron 199 (103.75%), Squadron 10 (104.23%), Squadron 34 (122.86%), Squadron 290 (101.49%), Squadron 130 (114.29%), Squadron 139 (100%), Squadron 176 (108.82%), Squadron 177 (100%), Squadron 1976 (100%).

Western Region- Squadron 99 (130%), Squadron 1097 (100%), Squadron 7 (102.5%), Squadron 93 (115.38%).

Squadrons 90% and over - Squadron 25, Squadron 48, Squadron 2, Squadron 1, Squadron 144, Squadron 74, Squadron 53, Squadron 77, Squadron 293, Squadron 85, Squadron 180, Squadron 270, Squadron 8, Squadron 79, Squadron 164, Squadron 16, and Squadron 274.

Squadrons 80% and over—Squadron 56, Squadron 280, Squadron 67, Squadron 215, Squadron 72, Squadron 330, Squadron 162, and Squadron 217.

Above information, as of the June 27, Detachment Membership Report.

Congratulations one and all on all of your hard work this year!!

And The Winners Are-2018 Year

Americanism	Small	Squadron 320 (Spotsylvania)
	Medium	Squadron 1976 (Annandale)
	Large	Squadron 284 (Colonial Heights)
Children & Youth	Small	Squadron 320 (Spotsylvania)
	Medium	Squadron 67 (Hampton)
	Large	Squadron 284 (Colonial Heights)
VA & R	Small	Squadron 104 (Appomattox)
	Medium	Squadron 67 (Hampton)
	Large	Squadron 327 (Norfolk)

Congratulations one and all on your accomplishments!!!

SAL National Commander, Danny Smith European Visit

Fellow Members,

I was honored to be able to represent the Sons of The American Legion at the many events during the visit to Germany and France, most notably representing you at the many Memorials throughout France. Included in these Memorials were Douaumont Ossuary, the Paratrooper Memorial, the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach, National Guard Memorial, Ranger Memorial at Point Du Hoc, Lafayette Escadrille and France Post 1 Mausoleum. It truly was a humbling experience and I assure you many prayers of gratitude were said on your behalf.

Included in the visitation were briefings with most of the military commands stationed in Germany and I would like to share some information which was gathered at the military installations. It is felt that you should be aware of this information and share it with others within the organization. The information contained herein is my opinion and does not necessarily represent the opinion of The American Legion, but rather my observations and my personal reflections:

America's Military presence and readiness in Europe is in good hands, with top notch men and women standing ready to do whatever is necessary to defend Eastern Europe and countries in Africa, if called to action. We must continue to lobby our elected representatives to ensure that these men and women have the resources necessary to conduct the missions they are assigned. This includes state of the art weapons, materials and equipment, and quite possibly the buildup of the number of troops available within a threatened or unstable areas. Know that the men and women serving this country are continually training and preparing to defend our allies in Eastern Europe. Along with this our military continues to confront terroristic threats in Africa and the Middle East, although the latter may not be handled directly by the command stationed in Germany.

Our visitation included stops at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and Ramstein Air Force Base, who work hand in hand with the transportation and treatment of our men and women wounded in action. The Medical Center is a state of the art facility where military personnel and their families receive primary care, emergency treatment and surgery for battle wounds. It was reassuring to see this facility, which rivals many in the private sector. One cause for concern, which was discussed with the hospital and Ramstein command was the distance and time factor from areas within the African Continent. As conflicts in Africa continue to escalate we surely will see an increased need for emergency treatment and surgery for battlefield wounds. Time is of the essence when dealing with catastrophic wounds and medical transport flights can be 14 hours plus from regions within Central Africa.

We had the privilege to visit and tour Wiesbaden (American) High School in Wiesbaden Germany, a DoDEA school, which was one of the highlights of the trip. It was nice to see that the dependents of our military personnel are being provided with top notch educational opportunities. The one concern of many that we talked to was the post high school educational opportunities. Specifically, in what state is the student considered a resident back here in the United States. We all know that non-resident tuition for college education can be astronomical, the question is how do the dependents of our military personal, stationed overseas, fit in to the structure of state residency. This is a good topic to discuss with your state legislators when visiting with them on other veterans issues, encourage them to pass legislation allowing resident status college tuition for the dependents of our military personnel stationed overseas.

The trip was truly an educational experience and reinforces the fact that we must continually maintain vigilance related to military funding across the board, be it in support of the personnel or dependants. We must continue to lobby on their behalf, ensuring that our military and their families are provided the materials and services needed to succeed.

Respectfully

Danny Smith

SAL National Commander

Editor's note—it is important to note that Virginia has its Candidate for SAL National Commander, Clint Bolt. While Mr. Bolt will be serving as SAL National Commander, he will be going to Europe to represent the SAL at the D-Day ceremonies. The article above will give our members an idea of what Mr. Bolt will experience while serving as National Commander for the SAL.

Detachment Year In Pictures



Detachment of Virginia Delegation attending the 2017 National Convention in Reno, Nevada.



2017 Detachment Son Of The Year Award presented to George Dimirack of Squadron 284. George Dimirack, Steve Gower, Detachment Judge Advocate, and Detachment Commander, Johnny Baker.



In the two photos above—Fall Conference in Virginia Beach—October 2017.



2017 Department Convention Opening Session with detachment Commander, Johnny Baker.



Sons 2017 Detachment Convention.



SAL 327/PBR OCV Fundraiser November 2017. Over \$5,000 was raised for OCV.



2017 Detachment Award Winner, Patrick Sansone with his father, Detachment Commander, Johnny Baker, and Scholarship Chairman, Clint Bolt.



2017 Detachment Election and Installation of officers. First photo, PNVC, Jeff Evans installs the newly elected Detachment Officers. Middle photo—Joyce Baker places PDC Pin on PDC, PDC Johnny Baker. Bottom photo, Det. Cdr. Willie Morgan Installation.



SAL 284 Boston Butts Fundraiser to support Clint Bolt Candidate for SAL National Commander. November 2017.

Spotlight on Americanism—The Right Direction-Boys State

When I learned of the 2018 Department of Illinois Oratorical Contest 1st place winner I knew I had heard his name before, Patrick Kilcullen. Patrick's older brother, Thomas Kilcullen, won 1st place honors in the 2015 Department Oratorical Contest and he then went on to become a Citizen at Illinois Premier Boys State. Those two events instilled some goals in Thomas and he then went on for the next two years to volunteer as a City Counselor at Boys State.

While in his Citizen year at Boys State Thomas or "TJ" as he is better known, took 1st place in that Oratorical Contest as well, and 1st place in the Essay Contest. TJ's goal for that year was to be elected as Governor and to go on to Boys Nation. He did not attain, the Governors position and he lost his bid for Senator and Mayor, but that certainly didn't slow him down a bit. TJ was elected to both the City and County Clerk positions for which he spent tireless hours in preparation to submit complete and accurate minutes of those meetings strictly in accordance with the written guidelines. TJ also led his County's Lobbying and Quiz Bowl teams. These things and so much more, earned him the Staff Selection of "Model Citizen" and an invitation to Boys Nation. In total TJ won 4 scholarships and he maxed out at \$5,000 toward his college education. While at Boys Nation, TJ was particularly moved when he visited Arlington National Cemetery and the Viet Nam wall where he learned first-hand the cost of service our Nations heroes have paid so that we may remain a free Nation.

In the next two years, TJ has continued to serve at Boys State as a City Counselor and after his senior year in High School, TJ was offered and accepted an appointment to West Point where he is about to finish his sophomore year. Once in West Point, TJ instantly found some friends he met while at Boys Nation and who he considers to be friends for life. TJ will continue to serve as a City Counselor when his schedule permits. He is on the West Point Debate Team as well as a member of a Chess Club and, if West Point is selected this year, TJ may represent the US as a Student Ambassador in a student exchange program with France.

I had conversation with TJ and his mother to learn more about this young man and the family he comes from. TJ told me that his immediate plans are to graduate from West Point, receive his commission and be ready to serve wherever he is stationed. He has plans to enroll in Law School, continue to serve in the military and become a JAG lawyer. When asked if he had political aspirations TJ advised that was not a priority or part of his long-range plans, but down the road he might enjoy a position, perhaps on a local level, where he could contribute and serve his community; key word – serve. When asked if his time spent at Boys State as a Citizen was a "week that shapes a life time", TJ said that was a gross understatement. When asked what his number one take-away was, he stated it was self-confidence and the responsibility to serve as the legionnaires from Boys State have, and still continue to serve our Nation and the youth of our Nation. He told me that a life-lesson he learned at Boys State was understanding his own skill set and exploiting his strengths, not his desires.

As mentioned, when I heard the name Kilcullen I started to make inquiries followed by interviews, in the first statement I heard about the name Kilcullen, the question was asked -what made him choose that the path he is on? TJ responded by stating that he appreciated the values and patriotic spirit he felt from the Legion programs he experienced and wanted to continue down that road. In my interview with TJ, he stated that was a very accurate statement. In an exchange I had with his County Counselor, a most telling comment was "He is exceptional across just about every dimension."

It's rather obvious from my conversations with both his Mom and with TJ that his patriotism runs deep. TJ told me that a major influence in his life came early to him from one of his Grandfathers who proudly served in WWI and after, became a Police Officer and a Fireman; he served his country and he served community.

Finally, I asked TJ if his brother Patrick, who won 1st place honors at the Department Oratorical contest in his Freshman year had future plans for Boys State, he clearly told me that Patrick better enroll in Boys State or he'd kick his rear-end!

I wanted to share this "feel good" story with my Legion Family members because I believe this young American has taken the leads from the great programs of the American Legion and I for one am very proud to be a part of an organization that can influence and direct the path of such a dedicated young adult; he is now and destined to continue to be one outstanding American. What a future is in front of him! Isn't the path this young man is on exactly what we strive for with our programs? **Jim Borgman, Vice Chairman, SAL National Americanism Commission.**

Editor's Note - It is important to note that the Detachment of Virginia has 3 Past Detachment Commanders serving as Boys State Counselors. PDCS Linwood Moore and Bob Borkovich have both served over ten years each as Boys State Counselors. PDC Fargo Wells has served over 30 years as a Boys State Counselor and is in the Boys State Hall of Fame and has served three years as Boys State Counselor in the District of Columbia Boys State Program.



Junior Law Cadet Program



The Junior Law Cadet program was introduced during the 1985 National Convention under Resolution 59. Most departments host its program at a law enforcement training center with city, county, state and federal law enforcement officers conducting the physical fitness and classroom education training. Cadets will learn officer survival techniques, defensive tactics, firearms safety, precision driving, law enforcement technology, accident and criminal investigation, and more. This program teaches trust, confidence, strength, and how to work together as a team. Their mantra for the week is Teaching, Learning, Experiencing, Respecting, Empowering, Trusting, and Enjoying.

The program is available to male and female high school students who have completed their junior year of high school and are in good academic standing. They should be of good moral character and possess a desire to learn more about the law enforcement profession.

While this valuable program may very well encourage those who might have a desire to pursue a career in law enforcement, it is not the sole intent for the youth attending this program. The Department of Illinois for instance feels that those youths who do not seem to have vocational or scholastic direction may benefit the most from this program. It is their desire to recruit the average youth representing all communities and cultural backgrounds in the State in an effort to rekindle in their youth the fading respect for persons empowered with the responsibility of enforcing the law at all levels of government. Finally, it is their desire that each youthful participant shall return to their community with a clearer understanding of the police and their problems.

There are currently 17 American Legion Departments that conduct a week-long Junior Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program in partnership with their state police or highway patrol academy. A few of the department's program titles vary in wording, such as "Student Trooper Program," "State Police Youth Week," "Law Enforcement Academy," etc. But they all have the same mission of educating youth about law enforcement, providing a day-in-the-life of a trooper in training, and instilling a newfound respect for law officials, *Jim Borgman, Vice Chairman, SAL National Americanism Commission and Legion.org*

In Memoriam—SAL PNC Chuck Belles



Charles Robert "Chuck" Belles passed away February 17 2018 peacefully with his family around him. Chuck was born in Washington Iowa September 30, 1946, one of two children of Charles Lewis Belles and Frances Ruth Belles, both deceased. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Carol Ferguson Embrey Belles, and a sister, Linda Belles of Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Chuck was a very proud step-

father of 4: Roger Lee Embrey and his wife Holly; Brian Keith Embrey, Michael Wade Embrey, all of Stafford, Virginia, and Clayton Ferguson Embrey and his wife, Megan, of Maryland. Chuck's pride and joy was his grandson, Aiden Lee Embrey; He has two sons, Gary Belles and his son, Beau, of Connecticut and Chad Belles, who currently lives in South America and his children, Jonah and Mia. He is survived also by sisters and brothers-in-law who he considered friends and family.

Chuck was a man of many interests and talents. He retired from Lockheed Martin/IBM

Commander's Corner—con't from page 2

friends and my American Legion family we raised over \$2000.00. Our SAL National Commander Danny Smith made a donation to my Commanders project also. On 28 October 2017, joined by Detachment Vice Commander Fred Vaccarella, we walked in a two-mile walkathon for my Commander project. It was a great walk with my Detachment brother. I would like to thank everyone who made a contribution to my Commander's project and a special thanks to Vice Commander Vaccarella from the bottom of my heart.

The year has been an awesome year and membership which is the driving force of the American Legion family is almost at a 100 %.

I would like to thank our Membership Chairmen PDC Johnny Baker and my Vice Commanders Victor Graulau (North) Jeff Lee (West) Fred Vaccarella (East).

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as your Detachment Commander and am looking forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming American Legion Department Convention. I will continue to support this Detachment by any means necessary. We have a great future ahead of us with new leaders at every level and the national spotlight will be on Virginia.

As I complete my tenure as your Detachment Commander, I reflect back on my brother PDC Elton Morgan JR, who has gone on to Squadron Everlasting. I have been totally blessed to

have a brother who was a great role model to many. He was a school teacher and a born leader. He had compassion and love for people like no other. That is where my drive and determination to serve comes from. "One Band One Sound" **Detachment Commander, Willie B. Morgan**



Det Cdr Morgan NMI 1 Graduation with SAL National Commander, Danny Smith.

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 2017 Legion College was held at the Doubletree Hotel in Midlothian from August 11 to 13.

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

The 2017 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.

The 2017 SAL Legion College will be August 3 to 5 in Midlothian, Virginia. If you have not signed up, please do so. The deadline has passed but registrations are still being taken. Meals for Saturday will be on your own at this point. PNC Dan Dellinger has registered for the SAL Track this year. Please plan to attend as we really would like to have a strong SAL attendance at this year's SAL College.



Photo Left—Leading Candidate for American Legion National Commander, Brett Reistad addresses the Sons Session. Top photos Sons Legion College Class and Dept Cdr Tommy Lee addressing the Sons class.

Squadron Everlasting

Please keep the families of these Squadron members in your thoughts and prayers. William Baugh (Squadron 2), Timothy Kuchta (Squadron 25), Donald Sparrow (Squadron 56), Severn Lofland (Squadron 67), Donald Lewis (Squadron 146), Charles McCall (Squadron 146), Harry Hcks (Squadron 148), Louis Hesen (Squadron 159), William Poulton (Squadron 215), Robert Lunsford (Squadron 330), Charles McKenzie (Squadron 364), Stephen Hubbard (Squadron 1097), Gibson Belcher (Squadron 2), Kenneth Hope (Squadron 2), John King (Squadron 2), Edward Black (Squadron 8), Daniel Anderson (Squadron 21), Owen Johnston (Squadron 21), PNC Charles Belles (Squadron 28), Garland White (Squadron 29), Robert Pennington (Squadron 53), John Green (Squadron 67), Earl Chenevert (Squadron 74), Raymond McCoy (Squadron 74), Frank Jenkins (Squadron 77), Paul Majors (Squadron 126), Robert Ridings (Squadron 126), Tony Butler (Squadron 130), John Reese (Squadron 146), Jimmy Wilcox (Squadron 146), James Fox (Squadron 159), Charles Thompson (Squadron 159), James Krear (Squadron 162), James Alexander (Squadron 233), John Hawkins (Squadron 284), Jerry Cook (Squadron 1097), Mark Scarce (Squadron 1097), Randy South (Squadron 1097), Charles Bainbridge (Squadron 1976), William Dodson (Squadron 1976), and Ralph Dickerson (Squadron 290)

Please provide any Sick Call or Deceased Members to Detachment Chaplain Robert Wilson, Sr (robertawilsonsr@gmail.com) and Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams (SonsVADetADJ@comcast.net)

In Memoriam—SAL PNC Chuck Belles—con't from page 7

after working as site engineer for 30 years and planned to devote his retirement to golf and fishing. He achieved a life time dream of learning to fly a small aircraft. A sudden desire to collect stamps occupied his time once golfing was no longer possible.

A great amount of Chuck's time was spent working for veterans. He was a proud member of The American Legion for over 50 years, first becoming a member in Springfield Post 176 and transferring to Post 28, Dumfries, after his marriage to Carol. He held many offices at the Post before serving at the District level as District Commander and State level as Northern Zone Vice Commander. He was a member of The Sons of The American Legion and helped Virginia re-activate its detachment before serving at the national level Chuck served as National Sons of The American Legion Commander 1989 to 1990. He joined the Potomac Region Veterans Council becoming their Chairman for 5 years and was able to achieve their hopes of building a Veterans Memorial at Quantico National Cemetery. He was also a long-time member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Marine Corps League. **Mountcastle Turch Funeral Home Obituary**

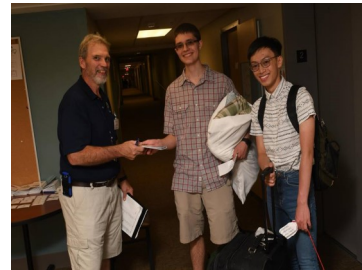
Year End Photos Continued from Page 5



Washington Conference with Detachment of Virginia and SAL National Commander, Danny Smith—February 2018 and SAL National Vice Commander, Mark Cannito.



National Commander, Denise Rohan addresses the Sons Session at the Spring Conference in Virginia Beach—March 2018.



PDC Bob Borkovich with Citizen at 2018 Virginia Boys State.



SAL 325 Installation of 2018—19 Officers—June 2018.



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 Jeff Lee, Detachment Vice Commander, Fred Vaccarella (Eastern Region), Detachment Vice Commander, Joe Gallagher (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 Legion College	August 3 to 5, 2018
SAL National Convention	August 23 to 26, 2018
Children & Youth Conference	September 21-23, 2018
Americanism Conference	September 28-29, 2018

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, Jeff Lee, NEC, Linwood Moore, Alt NEC, Richard Pregnall, 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 Willie Morgan, Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams, SAL National Commander, Danny Smith, SAL National Americanism Commission Vice Chairman, Jim Borgman, **Photographs provided by:** JDetachment Assistant Adjutant, Kevin Chaplin, Detachment Adjutant, Scott Williams, and various SAL Members from the Detachment.

Edited By: Scott Williams