



“The Pride”

Detachment of Maryland

Editor: Bill Matoska
Co-Editor: Bill Hill

www.mdsal.org

Volume 2021/2022: Issue 4
Spring Issue - April 09, 2022

Commander’s Corner

Greetings everyone,

Well spring is here, and the Detachment’s membership is springing right up. Currently the detachment is at 84.63% of our goal. We are ahead of the March 9th target of 80%, keep up the good work.

The National Commander, Mike Fox and his fiancée, Crystal were in town and joined us for the weekend. On our way to Ocean City a group of us stopped at two cemeteries to place Flags at Veterans graves. This is Mikes project, “Flying Flags for Heroes”.

The splash at the Grand Hotel was a success for raising funds for our Special Olympics. A lot of members and their families participated, including National SAL Commander Mike Fox.

The mid-winter training has come and gone. Thanks to everyone that came, I hope you had a good time and met some new members. The drawdown was a big success.

On February 27th myself and 9 others from the Detachment of Maryland joined National Commander Fox and 16 other Detachments in Washington DC to honor our veterans by placing wreaths at several monuments. Then we went and placed flags on graves

for National Commander Fox’s project.

April is children and youth month, think about doing something for the children and youth in your community. Let everyone know how the Legion supports not just our veterans but our future as well.

April also brings the start of the region receptions; I look forward to seeing everyone as I attend each one. I would like to thank everyone for the support of my project this year, so far, we have sent Casey Cares almost 400 movie/pizza night packages. Thanks to squadron 96 Brunswick, the latest to hold a fundraiser for the project. They held a bar bingo on March 23rd. As the end of the year approaches please remember that the

Detachment needs you to fill out your consolidated report forms, the new SDR form and your squadron certification forms. All are needed and important.

Yours in Service,
Mark T Fayer Sr.
Detachment Commander

“Sons Continuing the Tradition of Caring”

Below: Detachment Commander Mark Fayer presents donations from the Detachment of Maryland for his Project—Veteran and Childrens Foundation and NEF to American National Commander Paul Dillard at the Department of Maryland’s Commander’s Banquet on March 12th at Towson Post 22



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Spring D.E.C.: The next Detachment Executive Committee Meeting will be called to order by Commander Fayer, on April 09, 2022 at 1:00 P.M.

The meeting is being hosted at Dundalk Post 38, 3300 Dundalk Ave, Baltimore, MD 21222

Commander's Project "Casey Cares"

Fellow Sons,

It has been a fantastic year for our Casey Cares Movie Night Project. We have distributed over five hundred Movie Night boxes, and this is due to your generosity. We are entering the final stretch and still need your support. Please send your donation today, every dollar collected goes to buy the supplies for the Movie Night packages. And the families are so appreciative of receiving these boxes, they really do make life of these critically ill children better, if just for one night.

As a reminder, the packages include Pizza Gift Cards, gift cards for movie rentals, popcorn and popcorn holders, candy, pajamas and an insulated tote bag with SAL logo and the project slogan, "Sons Continuing the Tradition of Caring." These packages cost approximately \$120 dollars each, and we have a fundraising goal of \$60,000. We need your help in reaching this goal, brightening a child's life, and helping them to forget their illnesses.

Make checks out to the Detachment of Maryland, please **do not send direct contributions to Casey Cares**, as we cannot use those monies for the project.

Mail your donations to:

Detachment of Maryland

3115 Orchard Lane

Parkville, MD 21234

We have an extremely limited supply of project T-Shirts remaining, I will be bringing them to the DEC on April 9th.

The Detachment Commanders Project Drawdown was on March 5th in Perryville. As always, the event is a rousing success and a fun time. Thanks to all who purchased tickets and donated to this worthy cause. Mt heartfelt thanks to the members of Susquehanna Squadron, Post and Auxiliary 135, for your tireless commitment to making this event a success. The kids thank you!

We still have for Squadrons who wish to hold a fundraiser for the project, you can contact me by email at bmanzo1085@yahoo.com. We would be happy to support and advertise this event.

Thank you for your consideration and support for this worthwhile cause.

"Sons Continuing the Tradition of Caring"

Bob Manzo- PDC
Project Chairman

Cooking up Membership

Fire up the grills to "Cook Up The Membership"!

I would like to congratulate Eastern Shore Region for not having any goose eggs. the other 2 Regions have goose eggs. Region Commanders please help these squadrons get rid of their goose eggs. I also want to congratulate all four Regions for reaching and surpassing the 80% goal for March 9, 2022. I knew you could do it! The next big goal is 90% by April 13, 2022. Eastern Shore Region has already reached that goal. Congratulations! Maryland is #13 in line for membership, in the nation with 13,146 members at 84.63%

The statistics as of March 4, 2022 for the Regions is as follows:

1. Eastern Shore Region - 92.659%
2,941 members
2. Western Maryland Region - 89.583%
5,134 members
3. Northern Central Region - 87.806%
2,722 members
4. Southern Maryland Region - 85.964%
2,603 members

Region Commanders you need to come up with better recipes to retain previous membership, to get new membership and by all means get rid of any goose eggs in your region.

If you need any help with membership, please feel free to contact me. I still



have "Larry's To Go Bag" (membership bags), if you need some membership utensils to "Cook Up Membership". Let's have a smorgasbord and turn in a lot of membership!

Yours in Service,
Larry Ford
Membership Chairmen
1st Vice Commander

Americanism Report

Yes, we had a more traditional winter this year, but spring is fast approaching. That said, we are down to the last 3 months of our administrative 21-22 calendar year. There is still time to work our Americanism programs. Remember to reach out to your local community and see where you or your Squadron could be of help? Any time or monetary donations are important and should be included in your Consolidated Reports.

Flag replacement is a vital part of our Americanism program this year.

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As you drive around your neighborhoods take note of any worn flags that need to be replaced. Memorial Day will be here before you know it... if possible, maybe your Squadron can arrange to go to local cemetery and place flags on graves of Veterans. Let's make our Detachment shine as we help our National Commander reach his goal of 1 million flags placed on Veteran's graves.

The National Emergency Fund and Boys State are very busy this year and need volunteers and donations. I want to thank you, the "Blue Cap" members because we couldn't do this without you!

Yours in Service,

Joe Weik
Americanism Chairman

THE BOYS STATE UPDATE REPORT:

Gentlemen,

This the last article before Maryland Boys State takes place. At the last Department Executive Committee meeting of The American Legion, Department of Maryland on February 27 2022, it was reported by the Director of Boys State that 46 boys had applied to the program. This is ALARMING. When the Department of Maryland last held Boys State in person in 2019, the program had 90 boys applied by that year's winter DEC. I am asking all, Sons of The American Legion squadron's to help their local posts, in recruiting those boys that want to be in the most respected and selective educational program of government instruction for high school students. I know, you know neighbor's, family, and friends that have boys that are juniors in high school, so recruit those boys. This is a week that will change their life and here at Boys State there is ZERO unemployment. Every boy has a job

whether it be elected or by appointment.

The squadron's can also help their post by sponsoring a few of these boys. The cost is \$350.00 dollars this year to sponsor and the squadron's can report that on their squadron consolidated report. Squadron's get those fundraisers going to help this program.

Maryland's Boys State is conducted annually on Father's Day weekend and runs through the following Saturday. This year's program will be held at McDaniel College in Westminster MD. The dates are the 19th through the 25th of June 2022. Those boys that the posts select must or will successfully completed their junior year of high school by the beginning of Boys State. Also, don't forget about those boys who attend parochial school or who are home schooled. Get the word out that, the Department of Maryland Boys State is seeking those young men that want a better understanding of local, county, state, and federal government.

Also don't forget about Maryland's, The American Legion Auxiliary that sponsor a similar program for young ladies called Girls State. Usually this program is conducted the same week as Boys State. Please contact your local Auxiliary unit to help them seek out those young ladies and help support them.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to call me.

Dennis J. Renehan
Committee Chairman
Boys State Staff
CIC Fort City

National Emergency Fund:

As we get down to the end of another fiscal year, we check our fundraising efforts and make our contributions to the various Legion programs.

We set a goal for NEF of \$8000, our April 9th meeting will be a great time to present your donations and help us get to that goal.

Last year the NEF made over

\$200,000 in grants to 7 Posts and 95 individual Legionnaires. Your support helped make that happen.

Let's do more so the Foundation can do more. Bring your donations to the next DEC meeting or mail it to

William Matoska
Detachment Adjutant

3115 Orchard Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21234

Thank you in advance for your support.

For God and Country
Bill Stem PDC/NEF Chairman

Community Affairs:

Spring is finally here! Again, this would be a good time to help your neighbors, especially those who are elderly and may need assistance with yard work or getting supplies from the store. Keep in mind that some of the elderly may not have family in the area and we should occasionally check in on them to ensure they are ok.

Remember that many of our local food banks need to be replenished due to loss income caused by the COVID virus. I recommend checking with your local food bank before you deliver to see what restrictions they may have on the type of food they may accept.

Blood supplies are low in our community. The American Red Cross is in dire need of blood donors. If you can donate or know someone that can donate as well, then visit www.redcrossblood.org to find a donation center near you. There may also be local blood drives associated with hospitals or facilities in your region. Check with your county or local hospital to see if these programs exist in your area.

Unfortunately, the Fisher House picnic has once again been postponed for this spring due to COVID restrictions on military bases. We

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expect to have our next Detachment picnic in late summer or early fall 2022.

For additional information regarding Community Affairs, please contact Chairman Joe Lohman.

Community Affairs Chairman,

Joe Lohman
Squadron60@verizon.net

Flag Replacement:

We are approaching the end of another great year that has been difficult to some. Covid has been an issue to deal with and now having to send our Soldiers to assist NATO & Ukraine to help them save their country from their neighbor. So now it is at the utmost importance that we get up as many flags as possible to show our continued support to our veterans. It is sad times for us but sadder times for our men and women in harm's way. Flag placement/replacement is just one of our many programs expressing our support to all our veterans and the great USA.

Our National Commander would like to see flags on every veteran grave by the end of this fiscal year. You can help him to accomplish this by placing flags on a graveyard near you but before you do notify them of your choice so they can mark it done and credit you for it. Also please fill out the placement forms and get them over to The Detachment of Md to give you the proper points you deserve.

The judging for this program will remain as it has been for years. Best of luck to everyone participating in this program and any other ones for the Sons of The American Legion. God Bless everyone but mainly God Bless our Veterans and the USA.

I can be reached at
saljerry@comcast.net.

Flag Replacement Program

Chairman
Jerry Saunders, Sr.

saljerry@comcast.net.

Flying Flags for Heroes Project –

SAL National Commander's Michael Fox project this year is called Flying Flags for Heroes. His goal is to place 1 million flags on veteran's graves throughout the United States before the next SAL National Convention in August 2022.

We ask you share this information with other units within your post along with other organizations that normally place flags on our veteran graves.

At the time of this article there has been 184,742 flags placed (18 percent of goal) across our country, with an expected surge in flag placement around Memorial Day weekend.

If your squadron or post normally participates in placing flags at veteran grave sites, then all we need from you is to update the form on the website after you place the flags. The number of flags placed will automatically add towards the detachment goal. Once you go to the

website, click on the 'GET INVOLVED' tab and scroll to the bottom to enter the information regarding your flag placement event.

IMPORTANT: If you experience problems with the website or unable to update the website form with your event information, please email me your flag placement event information and I will ensure it's loaded on the website. We need to make sure every flag placed on our veteran graves is accounted towards our national goal.

I also ask that all SAL Regional Commanders ensure this information is passed to our DEC men and squadrons.

Additional information can be obtained on the project website at **flyingflagsforheroes.com**

Joe Lohman

Detachment of Maryland
Flying Flags for Hero's Chairman
Squadron60@verizon.net

Below: National SAL Commander Michael Fox with Kaden Hall of Glen Burnie Squadron 40 placing Flags at grave side honoring Maryland's departed Veterans



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CHILDREN & YOUTH CORNER

I want to start off by saying Happy Easter to our members and veterans throughout the Detachment of Maryland.

There has been several Special Olympics events throughout the state of Maryland. Please refer to Special Olympics chair Eddie Souder's article for detail information regarding past and upcoming SOMD events.

We are still looking for donations to the Child Welfare Foundation. Contributions assist with the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual welfare of children in the United States. Contributions of any amount would help our children in need.

The Laps of Love event is scheduled to take place at our next Detachment Convention in Hunt Valley. Please refer to Laps of Love Chair Bobby Miller's article for detail information regarding event registration or being a sponsor for this fundraiser. We thank you for your support of C&Y projects throughout the

Joe Lohman
2nd Vice Commander
Squadron60@verizon.net

Casey Cares Newsletter

As you all know by now the Commander's project slogan is "Sons Continuing the tradition of Caring", with distributing Movie Nigh packages. The fun raising goal is \$60,000.00. Please send your donations today to the Detachment of Maryland.

These packages will provide a child with a pick-me-up during chemo and a family that needs a night of fun and positive memories. The packages cost around \$120.00 each.

Your donations will make a

difference in the life of a critically ill child. Please send in your donations as soon as possible.

Thank you everyone that has contributed.

Thank you for all your support.

Chairman-Casey Cares

Robert Keys (Bob)
keysrak@verizon.net

DOUGLAS HENLEY MEMORIAL

LAPS OF LOVE

The 2022 Doug Henley Memorial Laps of Love will take place at this years convention at Delta Hotel in Hunt Valley on June 18th during the detachment cookout and youth all-star games. If you are unable to attend the convention this year please consider sponsoring a participant or the event. For just a \$200.00 donation you can get your Post, Squadron, Unit or business on the t-shirt that all of our walkers get for raising \$75.00.

So, while you are planning your budgets and donations think about helping these three programs, Special Olympics, Casey Cares and CWF by donating to the Laps of Love.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me and I will do my best to help you. We are currently working to get the website up and running and expect it to be ready on April 1st, so everyone can start signing up to participate or donate to this great program. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Bobby Miller II
443-986-3493
bdigital262@yahoo.com

Special Olympics— Maryland

The Maryland Bowling Tournament in December was a huge success, and The Detachment was properly

recognized as the Presenting Sponsor.

Another great Winter Games is behind us as well. On February 27 & 28 Whitetail Resort hosted the event. Over 100 athletes competed in various downhill and snowshoe competitions. This year, along with myself and Charlie Turner from Laurel 60, Vice Commander Joe Lohman and his wife Josie made their way onto the mountain to experience the feeling of being a part of such a rewarding production. We joined SOMD staff, volunteers from around the state, coaches, and family in an effort to make it a memorable experience for the athletes who have been training for months to be ready.

Although most bears are hibernating, The SOMD Polar Bear is out and about and Making Waves. The Plunge, originally scheduled for late February, goes off on March 24/25. The American Legion Family is welcomed again this year to join the Military/Law Enforcement Plunge at noon on Friday. You'll want to be on the beach at Sandy Point by 11:30 to hear announcements, etc. Even if you're reading this after the Plunge has happened, its not too late to collect donations or just plan early to join us next year.

Spring Basketball at College Park MD is also the weekend of the Plunge if you want to be warm.

More soon on Summer Games. June 17-19

My best to all,
Eddie Souder
Special Olympics Chairman
eddie.souder@verizon.net

Legislative Alert!

This year the Washington Conference was virtual, however The Sons of The American Legion still had the Wreath Laying Ceremony as

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in the past. This year the wreath laying took place on February 27, 2022. National Commander Fox did lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, at World War II Memorial and at Vietnam War memorial. Then we proceeded to Glenwood Cemetery and placed flags on veteran's graves in accordance with Commander Fox's project Flying Flags for Heroes. There was 17 Detachments and 66 American Legion Family members that participated. Detachment Commander Fayer placed a Wreath at WWII Memorial this year with 10 members from Maryland. The Legislative Priorities were published I have sent an e-mail out including them. I will also be asking again for everyone to contact your senators and congressmen to support The American Legion priorities.

If you haven't done so, please sign up for VoterVOICE, www.votervoice.net/americanlegion/home Do it TODAY! Do not delay, its easy, and VERY important for each of us to get involved and support our veterans. This is one simple request. As always if you need help, feel free to call or email me.

Tom Deal (PDC)
Legislative Chairman
tom.deal@verizon.net

VAVS Variety

Greetings Son Members, as we continue our journey through these trying times remember our veterans still need our assistance. As a member of the Sons of The American Legion we can help in the rehabilitation of our veterans. For example, many Son members help in completing chores for veterans who need assistance around their homes.

Other members volunteer at VA hospitals and VA facilities helping with various activities. If you would like to volunteer contact your VAVS representative at the facility near you. VAVS volunteers have no age restriction- anyone can help. Contact the chief of voluntary services and refer to reference number SOAL 303.

SAL representatives:
Tom Deal.... Perry Point Veterans Center
Sq 135 Perryville 443-206-0402
Tom.deal@verizon.net

Robert Filippi.... Loch Raven VA Facility
SQ 183 Parkville 443-928-5573
kassbob@aol.com

Dave Tatman.... Charlotte Hall Veterans Home
SQ 82 LaPlata MD. 301-752-8273
Tatman_david@comcast

Rodney Helmer.... Cambridge Clinic
SQ 243 Hurlock MD. 443-521-7559
b_rsigs@yahoo.com

These are our Detachment Reps for Veterans Affairs. They will know the Contact info for each veteran's facility.

Its time to donate and help our veterans. If your Squadron Is planning a event let me know. So in closing remember our Vets.

VAVS Chairman

Bill Yeagy
2nd Vice Commander

Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

"the only Veterans Home in the state"

At last, things are beginning to return to normal at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home.

Visitors are allowed in, groups of residents are attending functions off the campus, and tours are available.

The first Southern Maryland Region bingo since the pandemic started

was held on March 18. The SMR bingos will be held on the third Monday of each month. Two hundred dollars are given out to residents at each bingo. If you are interested in volunteering your time, give me a call. Additional help is always welcome. To make a monetary donation, send checks to SMD Finance Officer, 2 Main St., Laurel, MD 20707, with a copy to Detachment Adjutant Matoska.

A group of residents are scheduled to attend the Squadron 82 sponsored fish fry on March 18. ”



If you would like to make a donation, check out the website, www.charhall.org. Wish lists and donation forms will be available at each Detachment meeting.

For God and Country,
Dave Tatman,

CHVH Representative
tatman_david@comcast.net

Loch Raven Medical Center

Does your Squadron volunteer at a VA Medical Center? If not consider your options. It can be ongoing or as needed. Contact Voluntary Service at the VA to see what's available.

Contact the VA at 410-605-7000 and ask to be contacted to your closest VA Center and ask to be connected to the Voluntary Service Office. Some suggestions would be having an affair around some holiday (4th of July, Veterans Day, or the Salute to Veteran Patients which is in February), then there could be sending items on the facilities need list which is always changing. You could ask your Squadron members to donate these items.

This is the latest Needs list at Loch Raven:

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Body Lotion, Body Wash, Men's slippers, various sizes and forever stamps.

Contact Susan Kern @443-252-0821 for more details.

Currently group activities like those above are not available due to Covid but at some point they will start again.

Stay Healthy

Bob Filippi
Loch Raven Rep

Chaplin's Corner

Hello to All,

As we are fast approaching convention in June and the time when we will honor and pay respect to our departed comrades at Squadron Everlasting, I ask that all Squadrons be sure to have the names of all your members that have moved on to life everlasting submitted to Department by end of April. I will be pulling down all the names of those comrades at the beginning of May and finish preparing the Detachment of Maryland Squadron Everlasting Ceremony so we may be able to bid our final farewell.

Much has been done within the Detachment of Maryland in your support of the Commanders Project for Casey Cares and showing the true example of the Four Pillars of the Legion; Americanism, Children & Youth, National Security, and Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation. Each and every one of you should hold your head up high as you all made a difference. The year is not quite over though so I ask that you still continue to do what you do in your support. Remember nothing is easy and your hard work will help someone in need and the selfless sacrifice of service to others is a real true gift that all of us can share.

Immortal King, we praise you that our work for you goes on. We thank you that you make us wise, you bring

joy to our hearts, and light to our eyes. We thank you for what we have learned and the time we have spent together. Thank you for teaching and leading us and for the mutual encouragement we have received from each other. Make us fruitful in the work you have given us to do. Amen.

For God and Country,
Detachment Chaplin

Michael Obremski
usnavyBB62@gmail.com

Time and Place Committee

~ 49th Annual Convention ~

Each notification within the "Time and Place Committee", which outlines the location, date and times for the convention, are considered "Official Announcements" to all eligible members in good standing within the Detachment of Maryland. Therefore, you have been advised if you are reading this article.

Now with that said, let the planning begin. Each squadron should begin to look at their accomplishments to-date, so they may capture them on their "Consolidated Report Form", along with determining who is attending as a delegate from their squadron.

NOTE: All squadrons must register and pay the Detachment for their eligible delegate strength to the Convention, in accordance with the membership cutoff, also May 27th.

Delegate Allowance: Article V – Legislative Body

Section 3. -- In the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Maryland Convention, each Squadron in good standing with at least ten (10) active members shall be entitled to one (1) delegate and one additional delegate for each additional twenty-five (25) members.

Reminder, that a "Delegate at Large from your Squadron is only a member who is either a; **Region Commander, Detachment Officer or a Past Detachment Commander.**

Each squadron is required to pay for their "**full delegate fees**" in order to receive their "delegate credentials, as well as "new" membership cards. Additional conditions are outlined below for each as well. "**No Exceptions**" to the conditions outlined below.

Conditions to receive convention delegate credentials:

Convention delegate registration form completed and submitted

Printed with name & squadron, the delegate registration must be submitted by May 27, 2022.

Convention delegate fees paid for all required delegates, which is \$30/per delegate.

The distribution of each squadrons delegate badges and convention books must be signed for by an appropriate representative of the squadron. The signatory must clearly print and sign their name as to insure we're able to verify the recipient if any questions occur.

Conditions to receive Membership Cards:

Convention delegate fees paid for all required delegates.

Squadron Certification form of the corresponding new administrative year completed.

Squadron Data Request form required by National for the new administrative year completed.

Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR) for the current administrative year completed.

The distribution of each set of membership cards, must be signed for by an appropriate representative of the squadron. The signatory must clearly print and sign their name as to insure we're able to verify the recipient if any questions occur.

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If you have any questions, recommendations or general suggestions about OUR convention, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Yours in Service,

Bill Hill
Convention Chairman

Northern Central Region

It seems everyone is adjusting well to the new alignment of the regions. Right now, Northern Central Region is sitting at 3rd position, hopefully not for long. Good job to the squadrons sending in memberships and please continue to do so. We would not be where and who we are without you. Congratulations to Dundalk and Brooklyn-Curtis Bay Squadrons for making 4 star. Also, congratulations to Mahool-Potts, Slate Ridge, Parkville and Northeastern Squadrons for making 3 star. I would like for every one of our squadrons in the region to be 4 star. Good job to the DEC men for keeping their squadrons informed on what's going on in the region and the Detachment. Don't forget about earning the Five Star and Ten Ideals Awards. It's another way to learn about our great organization and have some fun at the same time. If interested reach out to PDC JR Hall. Last, but not least, Northern Central Region proudly endorses Larry Alan Ford for Detachment Commander for the 2022-2023 year. He has done a great job as 1st Vice Commander, "Cooking for Membership." It's a recipe that is working well with a lot of great flavors. He will do well as Detachment Commander.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Spring DEC Meeting on Saturday, April 9th at Dundalk Post 38.

For God and Country and Serving Our Veterans.

Nathaniel Russell
Northern Central Region Vice
Commander

Western Maryland Region

Time sure does fly by. Hard to believe we're in the final months of the administrative year under the newly formed Region. We've had a slow start in membership, but that's turned around after the first of the year and we're now sitting in 2nd place, which isn't bad considering the overall size of the WMR is over 6000 members. We do have one goose egg remaining, which is Squadron 24, at Farraday Post 24, but I am confident we'll be able to get their membership turned in and this goose egg removed before our last meeting.

Reminder that Consolidated Reports are a key way for everyone to show the state and nation what your squadron and our Region has done throughout the year. So, if you have any questions, let me know and I will be more than happy to ride out and guide you through it. Or bring them to our next meeting.

Notification that we will also hold elections for the Regional Commander, Vice Commander and DEC members at the next meeting. As of right now, we're challenged to fill these positions, so if you're interested, please attend the meeting.

Our next Region meeting is May 15th, 2022 at Kumps Dam near Emmitsburg, MD. The meeting will start at 1PM.

Attendance has been down a little bit, so please send at least one representative from your Squadron and I'm looking forward to seeing you all there.

Yours in Service to Legion Programs,

Bill Hill
WMR Commander

Cell: 301-928-1411
Hill1062@MSN.COM

Eastern Shore Region

I hope this letter finds all in great health. Please keep the prayers going for Bear's wife in her rehab time. Was glad to see Commander English back out from his surgery.

Right hand salute to the Region for remaining in first place with our

dues, 90.8% and the great work done by the following Squadrons, Squadron #246 100%, Squadron #194 99.2%, Squadron #296 99.2%, Squadron #15 80%. Keep up the great work.

We would like to congratulate Squadron #296 for their huge success with their Wild Game Dinner.

A reminder to all Commanders and Squadron Adjutants to make sure your yearly reports are completed and sent in. 1st Vice Commander Larry Ford told us that the Detachment membership has 12,212 paid members and was currently at 81.25% of our goal.

Bill Hill Convention Chairman advised that the 49th Annual Convention will be held on June 17-19, 2022. He reminded all that the Convention information must be in Bill Matoska's hands no later than May 27, 2022 if you want credentials etc.

Commanders challenge chairman, Karl Kibler asked that all Squadron's consider stepping up to this challenge. To date, 8 Squadrons have completed the requirements.

The Spring Regional meeting will be held on April 3, 2022 at Benedict A. Andrew #296 at 12:00 PM.

The next DEC meeting will be held on April 09, 2022 at Post #38, 3300 Dundalk Ave, Baltimore, MD 21222. The meeting will start at 1:00 PM.

Please keep in mind your Convention registration, membership awards and consolidated report forms need to be submitted to Bill Matoska by May 27, 2022. I suggest that you mail these reports on Monday May 16, 2022.

"When we all join in, we rise together"

"Sons Continuing the Tradition of Caring"

Buster Blackiston,
Commander:
Eastern Shore Region
Sons of The American Legion
410-708-6541
roundtop729@atlanticbb.net

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NEC Update!

As most of you know we just had the National Commander Mike Fox here for our winter DEC here in OC in February 2022 and we helped make his visit a success by placing over 600 flags for his program, which is "Flying Flags For Hero's". I thank everyone involved in doing so.

In talking to him and Crystal they had a blast and look forward to returning to Maryland sometime down the road.

Please continue to place flags onto the veterans' graves and be sure to record it either by cameras or recorders or just make sure you go onto the Flying Flags For Hero's website and let them know how many and where it took place. I would like to take the time to thank everyone for showing our National Commander the great hospitality that we here in Maryland always do.

Our next NEC meeting is coming up April 29th thru May 1st, 2022. There is a lot to be learned there and whatever that is we will bring this back to you.

Once again, we are going to Indy this spring and are looking forward to a great weekend. Beyond the NEC meeting, this is a chance to learn all types of things about the SAL from different perspectives across our organization. From membership to many different ways to have fundraisers. To many different ideas about how to recruit and retain membership. I look forward to this trip every time for those exact reasons. We do our best to bring back to you, the blue cap members every detail and every bit of information to make things easier and better for all.

We have the dates for the Eastern Regional Gathering coming up May 20th to May 22 in Maine. We also have the date for the National Convention which is to be held in August in Milwaukee Wisconsin; it starts August 25th and goes to September 2nd of 2022. This is where Mr. JR Hall will be announced as the leading candidate for National

Commander. Looking forward to that announcement and congrats to JR. I would like to thank you all for allowing me to be your NEC for these past few years. It has been a rewarding experience and one I will never forget.

Yours in Service,

Dave Hullihen (PDC)
National Executive Committeeman
daveh.195@yahoo.com

JR's Journey- The Road To Charlotte

The campaign for JR Hall to be the next National Commander from Maryland continues its journey to Charlotte, NC in August of 2023. While JR has been traveling around Maryland to raise funds and see old friends, you have been busy supporting his campaign. We just completed the February 2022 Pic 3 Calendar. With over 700 of the possible 1,000 calendars sold at \$10.00 each, I am proud to report that we raised almost \$5,000.00 after paying many winners during the month. Thanks to all of you that purchased and sold these calendars.

At the Mid-Winter Conference in Ocean City, we rolled out the next fundraiser for JR, the Caribbean Cruise Raffle. For a \$5.00 chance the winner and a guest will sail with us on the JR's Journey Cruise out of Baltimore on the Carnival Legend on April 16-23, 2023. We will be sending out 10 tickets to each squadron and are asking you to sell or purchase these tickets. The tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. We are also extending a special opportunity to each squadron, unit or post. If you sell \$300.00 worth of tickets, then you can keep half the money and donate it to the charity of your choice. This is a great way to offer a really cool prize without having to worry about paying for the prize. Simply sell tickets and we take care of the rest. If interested, reach out to me and I will send you as many tickets as you want. The drawing will take place at our Fall DEC meeting in November 2022.

If you're not feeling lucky and simply want to book a room on the cruise, reach out to our travel agent, LuAnn at 443-618-4403 and she will give you all the details. The great thing is that the cruise does not have to be fully paid until January of 2023. Make a \$500.00 deposit, select your cabin and make payments on it until you are paid off. Come join JR, myself, and many others on what I know will be a great week at sea and in the Caribbean.

At our Detachment Convention in June 2022, we will be starting the Gun Raffle. JR has designed a beautiful Big Henry "Big Boy 45" Riffle. It's been engraved military branches and other American symbols. Tickets for this the gun are \$5.00 each or five for \$20.00.

Another way you can help is by donating directly to the Campaign. We have been blessed to have several donations come in already from around the state and from all branches of The American Legion Family. These donations should be made payable to the National Support Fund and sent to Tom Deal 1434 Clayton Street Perryville, MD 21903-2534.

Let's show JR that we care and support him. Over the next 15 months, I call on you to "Step Up To The Challenge" and make JR's Journey a success.

United In Service

Joe Gladden

National Campaign Chairman
Past National Commander
2013-2014
Joegladd123@aol.com

Public Relations Advisory

We want to brag about you!

If you are hosting an event, or have had a successful one which you just want to brag about, please send an outline, flyer, or brochure. Please send all articles to:

Bill Hill (PDC)

Email: Hill1062@MSN.COM



“Sons Continuing the Tradition of Caring”

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Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Maryland



Detachment of Maryland Meeting Schedule 2021—2022

2022 Membership Target Date:

SEPTEMBER 9, 2021	10%
OCTOBER 14, 2021	25%
NOVEMBER 10, 2021	35%
DECEMBER 8, 2021	45%
JANUARY 20, 2022	60%
FEBRUARY 9, 2022	75%
MARCH 9, 2022	80%
APRIL 13, 2022	90%
MAY 11, 2022	100%
*JULY 28, 2022	105%

** Delegate Strength Target Date

Spring D.E.C. Meeting

April 09, 2022 / Dundalk Post 38 @ 1pm

National Ececutive Committee Meeting

April 28-May 1,2022/Indianapolis, IN

Eastern Regional Gathering & Homecoming

May 21, 2022/Bath, Maine

49th Annual Detachment Convention

June 17th to 19th, 2022

Delta Hotels-Marriott

Hunt Valley, MD 21031

50th Annual National Convention

August 26-28, 2022/Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Fall D.E. C. Meeting

September 10, 2022/Laurel Post #60 @ 1pm

Detachment Annual Campout

September 30-October 2, 2022/Southern MD Youth Camp