

**Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of Maryland  
Commission & Committee  
Abbreviated Report  
Prepared for the  
Detachment of Maryland  
Executive Committee Meeting  
April 14, 2019**



***“Sons Empowering Our Future Leaders”***

## **AMERICANISM REPORT**

As the year passes us by with our Detachment moving forward in all programs supporting Americanism. Our success will be through the continued support we provide to our *Community, State, and Nation*. You can reach out to a local organization and just ask what we can do to help. Like supporting local blood drives where the blood banks are low due to the natural disasters we are having. Check to see if any flags have fallen at the cemeteries or in need of replacement. The Fisher House cookout is April 13<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed. If you can attend please contact Joe Lohman @ (301)275-4887.

***For God and Country  
Bill Yeagy  
Americanism Chairman  
bizybill@hotmail.com***

## **Legislative Report**

Washington Conference was February 24-27, 2019, with the tours of the memorials on Sunday February 24. Detachment Commander Alexander, Jonathan Alexander, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Bob Manzo, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Mark Fayer, Sally Fayer, PDC JR Hall, Eleanor Deal and I attended. There were 105 members of The American Legion Family from all across the country that attended and laid 31 wreaths around the Washington area memorials. It was truly a great day. I did attend the meetings on Monday and Tuesday. The Legislative agenda for the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress was published. The top priorities for this year are in a pamphlet on the back table. One in particular which pertains to some of you in this room is Redefine “wartime service” period and it has a Senate Bill S504. This bill would make anyone who was in service from WWI to present to be eligible for membership in The American Legion regardless of wartime status. This could help The American Legion with membership as well as the SAL. The full listing of priorities will explain basics of the priorities. I have a 28 page Point papers which explains each priority in detail which I have sent out to many and if you want a copy of it just send me an e-mail asking for Point papers and I will send it to you. All of the priorities are important. Learn about one or two items that you are interested in and then contact your representatives and talk to them about those issues. We need to help take care of our Veterans. Get involved, take action, stand up and be counted fighting for our Veterans. The American Legion website <http://www.legion.org/legislative> scroll down to LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER and go to the Take Action page. I will still send out e-mails when I get them but most of the time we need to act fast and e-mails are not the way to do business.

***Tom Deal***

Tom Deal

Legislative Chairman

Detachment of Maryland

Sons of The American Legion

## VAVS VARIETY

### Perry Point Hospital

Every year the VA sponsors several national events for the benefit of Veteran patients. One such event is the Golden Age Games, which gives senior Veterans (55 years or older) the opportunity to compete in events such as swimming, cycling, bowling and air rifles. The VA Maryland Health Care System is planning to send 20 Veteran patients to the Golden Age Games the week of June 5-10, 2019 in Anchorage, Alaska. It will cost approximately \$2,000 to cover the airfare, hotel and other costs for each Veteran participant to attend the Golden Age Games. The total cost to send all 20 Veterans patients to the 2019 Golden Age Games is \$40,000. Your generous contribution of any amount can be made by check payable to the "VA Maryland Health Care System" and earmarked in the memo section on the lower left side for the "National Games". Credit card donations are also welcome.

The Veterans need comfort items. There will be a needs list available for Perry Point Hospital, at the April 14<sup>th</sup> DEC meeting, which will be held at the Glen Burnie Post 40.

### Loch Raven Hospital

The new OPC at 5235 King Avenue, Franklin Square Professional Center is now open. There was an open house on Saturday, March 23, 2019 from 11 am until 1 pm.

If you would like to become a VAMHCS Volunteer, please contact Voluntary Services. You must be a US citizen, 14 years or older, have 2 forms of identification, pass a VA background check and dedicated to serving Veterans.

Donations can be made to the following accounts:  
Loch Raven Swing Arm TV Replacement Account 1123  
VAMD National Games Account 1050  
VAMD Holiday Account 1097

Consider holding an event for the Veterans at Loch Raven Medical Center.

### Charlotte Hall Veterans Home (CHVH)

The CHVH opened its doors on January 29, 1985 with five residents. Since then, 34 years later the CHVH has housed over 6,000 Veterans and spouses. If you would like to make a donation check out Charlotte Hall's website: [www.charhall.org](http://www.charhall.org) Copies of the Resident Wish List will be available on April 14<sup>th</sup> at the DEC meeting, held at Post 40.

Southern Maryland District continues to hold bingo at CHVH on the 3rd Monday of each month. Please consider making a donation or volunteering with the bingo. Donations and help are always welcome!

### Detachment Veterans Employment and Education (VE&E)

Chairman Bear Weinzirl is asking for your assistance in getting information out on Veterans Job Fairs, as they are being held around the State. PDC Bear suggests that you can also serve as a volunteer at these Job Fairs and reminds us that no Veteran should ever be unemployed.

### Homeless Veterans

Don't forget our Homeless Veterans after the holidays. Please donate to the Salvation Army, or any of the many Homeless Veterans' Organizations throughout the state of Maryland or your local community. The Homeless Veterans need our help all year long.

Together We Can Make A Difference! Thank you!

For God and Country  
Larry Ford  
VAVS Chairman  
[lafitd@comcast.net](mailto:lafitd@comcast.net)  
443-413-4710

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The planning of our Laps of Love is in the final stages. The event will happen at our annual convention on Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup>. This event helps Casey Cares, Special Olympics and Child Welfare Foundation. For a \$200 donation you can have your squadron's name placed on the back of the shirt, given out. For further information contact the Laps of Love chairman JR Hall.

Looks like the cold weather is moving out and warmer moving in. With that the Special Olympics athletes will be preparing for their summer games. They can always use help in many ways, if you have some spare time and would like to help contact our Special Olympics chairman Eddie Souder and he can put you in the right direction.

April is Children and Youth month and would be a great time for your squadron to pick one or more of the Legion's children and youth programs and support it. Our children and youth are our future and need to know that there is plenty of support out there for them.

Mark Fayer Sr.

C & Y Chairman

## Membership

Greetings Fellow Sons,

DMD Mining Operations are still going strong, and the members are flowing into the processing center.

As of this time, the Detachment stands at 91.08% of goal with 14,731 memberships remitted out of a goal of 16,173. We are currently at 83.24% for renewals for the year. The District Mines are hard at work bringing in all that gold and searching for new sources.

The 90% Goal Date of April 10<sup>th</sup> has come and gone, and we are now working on the May 8<sup>th</sup> 100% Goal Date. Congratulations to the Squadrons and Districts that have achieved the 90% goals...but let's keep working hard as we can't afford to miss even one gold nugget! Remember our goals are to exceed 16,173 members and achieve 90+% traditional renewals this year.

April 1 was the mailing date for the last renewal notice, now is a good time to call your non-renewals while the thought is still fresh in their minds. Step up and help your membership chairman to bring in the gold!

The cut-off for award judging is May 31<sup>st</sup>, that's 8 weeks from now...plenty of time to work those hard to reach nuggets of membership goal. Don't leave a stone unturned...we can do it!

Convention is June 21-23. We will be distributing 2020 membership cards and rosters (if National gets them out in time) at registration. Remember, you must remit your delegate fees and submit your Squadron Certification Forms (both included in the Convention Pack you should have received) to receive your 2020 cards. The formula for computing delegate fees is in the package as well. We will try to make this a seamless process, but it is much easier if you take care of these two items prior to convention.

Finally, you can still submit the forms for National Commander Gibbs member recruitment incentive for 2019. Each member who signs up 3 new members will receive the Commanders Membership Pin. The pin commemorates the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. Members who sign up 5 new members will receive the Individual Recruitment Award. This year they are issuing a pin for every 5 members you sign up. Forms are available online and can be downloaded or filled out online. The Blue Brigade is a special award for those who recruit 30 new members. Each recipient is awarded a certificate and a special Blue Brigade jacket.

I have a standing challenge to the District Commanders. I will make a \$100 donation to either the District Commanders Project or to a Children and Youth Project of their choice, to the first District that reaches 100% membership by the May 31, 2019 Cut-Off.

You've been working hard all year but there is still a job to be done, so let's go **"Mining for Members!"**

Yours in Service,  
Bob Manzo  
Membership Chairman  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander  
bmanzo1085@yahoo.com

## Website/Publications DEC Report

Glen Burnie Post 40 – 4/14/19

Good Afternoon,

Let me ask you a question. How many of you utilize our Detachment website? Those of you that didn't raise your hand, why not?

Our Detachment of Maryland website can be found at: <http://mdsal.org/> This website has been previously recognized by NALPA, the National American Legion Press Association, as one of the best in the nation and contains much information that can be of assistance to you and your Squadron..

Just a few of the items you that will find on our site are:

A message from our Detachment Commander along with info on his Commander's Project and his Commander's Challenge.

A Commission/Committee page identifying our Chairman, along with a picture and contact info for each.

A link to our Detachment of Maryland Facebook page.

A DEC page listing the Detachment Executive Committee members from each District as well as DEC guidelines and an editable DEC visitation form.

A Detachment Meeting Schedule page.

We also have a membership page containing recent updates from our Membership Chairman as well as links to Detachment membership from Department, an application for the individual recruitment award pin, printable SAL applications and instructions for obtaining a DD-214. This page also outlines the requirements for membership in the Sons as well as our Membership Target Dates.

Also available are a VAVS page, a Children & Youth page, and an Americanism page detailing the goings on of each Commission. And an Internal Affairs Commission page will be added in the near future.

There is also page dedicated to our Detachment Convention that includes the entire Convention Package and a link to the Convention Golf Tournament's registration form.

We also have a Publications and Forms page that contains many of the forms that your Squadron may need during the administrative year as well as a link to our current issue of our award winning newsletter, The Pride. Also archived on this page are all issues of The Pride published in the last 12 years.

There is an Upcoming Events page that you can use to advertise your events and fundraisers. Looking for something to do next weekend? You can also use this page to identify upcoming Legion Family happenings around our state that you may want to attend.

Want an SAL tag for your vehicle? There is a page on our site that explains how you can obtain one from the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration.

This is just some of the information that you can find on our website. We have tried to make this site your "Go To" tool for everything regarding the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Maryland.

This is YOUR website. Please utilize it! We are always looking for ways to improve this site, and any suggestions you may have towards that end, please forward them to me at [NESDSAL@aol.com](mailto:NESDSAL@aol.com).

Thank you.

***Bear***

Larry "Bear" Weinzirl

Webmaster/PDC

Detachment of Maryland

Sons of The American Legion

***Sons of The American Legion***

*Detachment of Maryland*

*Mentorship Committee Report*

*Committee Members; PNC Joe Gladden, PDC Tommy Deal, PDC Don "JR" Hall*

*The mentorship committee had its last meeting with all of the Vice Commanders in Ocean City, Maryland. First Vice Commander Manzo laid out his plan for next year to the Internal Affairs Commission and Second Vice Fayer went over his membership plan with all.*

*Past Southern Maryland District Commander Joe Lohman met with Internal Affairs and discussion was had about him being the next candidate for 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander with plans to move through the chairs to become Detachment Commander. If elected Joe will start more mentoring by the committee next year.*

*Members of the committee has travel to events, and had discussions with each of the Vice Commanders over the last months. All travel logs have been turned in and the opinion of the mentorship committee is that each of the Vice Commanders are on track to move forward at this time.*

*We have had some discussion with other future candidates and are always looking to find more members of the organization that is interested in moving forward.*

*Any that has questions can reach out to any of the members of this committee.*