



“The Pride”

Detachment of Maryland

Editor: Bill Matoska
Co-Editor: Bill Hill

www.mdsal.org

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Commander’s Corner

To all let’s continue to support all Legion, SAL and ALA projects. It is with great sadness my year is coming to a close. I have had so much fun this year. I don’t want it to come to an end. But on a good note I would like to thank everyone who donated to my project, as of this writing I believe we are well over \$ 26,000.00 thanks to all of your support. I need to especially thank My project Chairman Joe Weik for a job well done.

The meeting in La Plata went very well and there was ton of monies donated once again to various projects. Everyone has been very busy raising money and working hard on membership, a great job by everyone.

I think everyone has been doing a great job all year so far, keep up the good work. Keep in mind we still have T shirts for sale. Just because my year is coming to an end doesn’t mean we have to stop raising money. Even though my year is coming to an end I am hoping we can continue to donate to boys scout and continue to support them for campership

program, they deserve it.

We have decided to continue the Commander’s challenge this year and we will give plaques for the **Persian Gulf Wars** at convention. Tom Deal has stepped up and decided to be our chairman for this project. Thanks Tom.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our Convention in Laurel. All meetings will be held at the Double Tree hotel all kids events will be held at Laurel Post # 60 as well as corn hole, horse shoes and of course Laps Of Love. Thanks to Laurel Post 60, it will be another great convention.

I end my year by thanking each and every person who helped along the way to make this a very memorable year for me.

Thank you and bless you all for a job well done.

“Sons Helping Scouts Become Leaders”

Dave Hullihen

Commander
Detachment of Maryland
Sons of The American Legion
daveh.195@hotmail.com

(410) 446-5496

“JR’s Journey Just Got Better”

Exciting times are head again for Maryland! So you ask...what are you talking about Joe?

Well as I previously let you know, Maryland had a candidate for National Vice Commander for the East Region and that person was our own JR Hall from Glen Burnie Squadron 40. JR was the East’s Candidate for National Vice for the year 2019-2020.

JR always being a person to “Step Up To The Challenge”, has now answered the call for the high office of National Commander for a year to be determined. With that being the case, we are going to have to also “Step Up To The Challenge” in our fundraising.

As JR’s Campaign Chairman, I am personally asking you to rise to the occasion and help JR on his journey to becoming National Commander. Over the next few months you will be hearing more about our plans to raise the funds necessary for JR to travel around this great state of Maryland and then to travel around our Nation.

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JR's Journey will be taking him around our Nation, so that they can get to know him as we do and to understand just how lucky we all will be to have JR as our National Commander.

Looking ahead, I can share that we are planning a cruise out of Baltimore on April 21, 2020. I am looking to have as many of you on this trip as we can. This will give us a week together to socialize, recharge our batteries and as important, raise funds for JR. In conjunction with the cruise, we will be holding a Cruise Raffle which will provide passage for two on the cruise with us. For more information on the cruise and the raffle, please email me at joeglad123@aol.com.

In addition to the cruise, we will be holding many other events over the next couple of years. These will include a Wagon of Cheer to be held this Fall, a gun raffle to be held next year and many other events. If your squadron or district would like to be a part of JR's Journey, please reach out to me or Tom Deal for ideas on how you can help. Tom can be reached at tom.deal@verizon.net.

Jr wants to personally thank all of you that have stepped up to help his candidacy for National Vice Commander. While that path is no longer in play, all the funds raised for that office will now be used to reach the office of National Commander. Only through your help and support will Maryland be blessed with its 7th National Commander, Don "JR" Hall.

United In Service
Joe Gladden
National Campaign Chairman for
"JR Hall For National
Commander"

Commander's Project

Boy Scouts of America

Commander Dave Hullihen' Project this year is the Boy Scouts of America. His main goal is to provide the means for scouts throughout the 7 Districts in the Detachment of Maryland to be able to attend a camping event over the next year. First, I want to thank all the Squadrons and the American Legion Family for getting behind Dave's project and making it a success.

At our April DEC Meeting Dave presented Broad Creek with a check for \$10,000.00 towards upgrading their shooting range. We have also pledged to donate another \$10,000.00 to the SMD Youth Camp to help set up a shooting range there as well. On May 10th both Dave and I were able to attend the Capitol District "Round Table" and Educational Meeting in Davidsonville. We were able to make contacts and hope to have future "Camperships" in place for our upcoming Convention.

And Yes... we still have a few T-Shirts available (Sizes are limited) and any money raised will help us reach our goal of \$30,000.00. It's been a Great Year and I look forward to seeing everyone at our Convention in Laurel June 22nd to June 24th.

"Sons Helping Scouts Become Leaders"

Yours in Service,
Joe Weik
Project Chairman



Trucking for Membership!

The ride is almost over, and it's been great journey. I enjoyed watching you work hard for the lead of this convoy to get your membership delivered; you we're determined to get 100% and meet each monthly goal. The roads been a long and lonely at times, but you guys did an outstanding job.

Congratulations to NES for being the first District to make 100% in membership, and all the other Districts over 90% and still driving hard to make 100%.

Outstanding job to all the squadrons who made 3 and 4 stars in membership.

I really appreciate all your hard work. Let's continue working hard on membership, I'm sure the next membership Chair would appreciate it because I did. Keep on trucking.

Jim Alexander
Membership Chairmen
1st Vice Commander
jimalex831@verizon.net

Americanism Report

Hard to believe the year is ending. I hope that everyone has been busy replacing the worn, faded and torn flags in your area. Every flag that you replaced should have a flag replacement form filled out, make sure that you turn those in with your end of year reports. The top 2 squadrons will receive an award at

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the convention in June. I would like to thank everyone for their work on keeping bright new red, white and blue in our towns. The selections for Boy's State will be taking place soon. I hope that each squadron was able to help make it possible for as many young men as possible to be able to have a chance to attend this event. The experience these young men get is life lasting. If you would like to help with Boy's State, please contact Dennis Renehan for more information. It seems that this year has been a bad year for disasters around the country. I hope that each squadron was able to contribute to the National Emergency Fund. By doing so you will be helping your fellow Legionaries in a time of need. The goal was to get a dollar from each member of the squadron. Remember it could be you one day that could use the help.

Yours in Service,
Mark T. Fayer Sr.
Americanism Chairman

Flag Replacement Program:

As published on the website, The Detachment of Maryland will present awards to the top two Squadrons for their support of the Flag replacement program. Same rules apply as last year, make sure that the size of the replaced flag is indicated on the replacement form (3x5 flags will count as 5 points and smaller flags will count as 1 point). Flag replacement form can be downloaded at mdsal.org/. Also, forms will be available at the next DEC Meeting.

It is very important to get out there and replace the torn/faded Flags

when possible as well as placing flags in your community where there is none but only with permission. This can be done through your Squadron or District as long as the funds permit. It will show our respect to our Country and mainly to our Veterans. If I can assist you in any way you can contact me at saljerry@comcast.net or at 443-807-1131

Jerry Saunders, Sr.
Flag Replacement Program
Chairman

Boys State

It is just over a month that this year's 2018 Department of Maryland Boys State program will begin. The application cutoff date has passed and now is the time that donation should be sent in. That donation is \$350.00 per applicant. This will be "a week that shapes a lifetime". During Boys State the method used to form their City and State governments are those used in Maryland. In Boys State we have 100% voter turnout and zero unemployment. How many of you readers know what a municipal charter is and in what place in our government does this document occupy? The Boys State program starts on Sunday June 17th (that is correct it is Father's Day) at 12 PM with registration and ends with graduation ceremony on Saturday June 23rd starting at 9 AM. This will be held at McDaniel College in Westminster Maryland. If you need information concerning Boys State, please contact me.

Dennis J. Renehan
Committee Chairman
Boys State Staff
CIC of Fort City
dawgtrucker@yahoo.com
410-330-3003

National Emergency Fund:

I would like to thank all those, squadrons and individuals, that have contributed to the N.E.F. this year. With all the disasters across the country it has been gratifying to see all of us come together to help our comrades. The work is still not done. There are still friends in need and all and any donations will be put to good use. We don't know what the future may hold, but Mother Nature can be fickle and cause all sorts of natural destruction. Keep those victims in your thoughts this coming year and continue to support the N.E.F.

Eligibility

Eligibility open to Legionnaires and Sons of The American Legion members (up to \$3,000) Legion Posts (up to \$10,000).

Applicant must have been displaced from their primary residence due to a declared natural disaster and provide proof of out-of-pocket expenses. Not meant to replace or repair items, only to meet most immediate needs (i.e., temporary housing, food, water, clothing, diapers, etc.)

Does not cover insurance compensation or monetary losses from a business, structures on your property (barns, tool sheds, etc.) equipment or vehicles.

Membership must be active at time of disaster and the time of application.

Application requirements

Application must be received within 90 days of disaster.

Disaster must be a "declared" natural disaster for Legion Family members.

Supporting data (photos, receipts, repair estimates, etc.) should be included if at all possible or statements (testimony) from post/district/department officers attesting to damages.

Only one grant per household.

Post grants must derive from a declared natural disaster and substantiating documentation must provide that The American Legion post will cease to perform the duties and activities

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in the community due to losses sustained.

Yours in Service,
Bill Stem (PDC)
NEF Chairperson

CHILDREN & YOUTH CORNER

As this year is rapidly coming to its conclusion, I want to take this time to thank everyone for a successful year. There were many Squadrons and volunteers that stepped up to make this year a success for all the Children and Youth programs we support. I especially want to thank the chairman that led the effort for the committee this year; Bob Keyes - Casey Cares, Eddie Souder - Special Olympics, JR Hall - Laps of Love, Tim Culp - Toys for Tots. Fantastic job gentleman, I very much appreciate your dedication and service to this organization. One last reminder, the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament Raffle (yellow tickets) are due back by the Convention, the drawing takes place at convention. Please help us help these deserving athletes! You can mail the ticket stubs and checks to me:

Bob Manzo
3702 Double Rock Lane
Parkville, MD 21234

Keep in mind the activities we support and mark them in your calendar so you will be prepared for the new year. Maryland Special Olympics Winter and Summer Games, Casey Cares, Children's Miracle Network and Child Welfare Foundation, this is where your support and additional volunteer are always needed. Continue to represent the SAL and encourage

other members of your Squadron to volunteer. We DO make a difference! See you in Laurel!

Children & Youth Chairman
Bob Manzo

Casey Cares Newsletter

As we are finishing up our 2017 – 2018 goals, the Casey Cares organization keeps on going. They send many thanks for all generous gifts we have donated to them this year. As always, they need our continued support. The donation the Sons of The American Legion has given them has made it possible for them to create wonderful activities and opportunities that their families can count on, Thank you to everyone for your support. You can visit the caseycarefoundation.org to stay up to date on their upcoming events to see how our donations impacts their brave kids and families. Also, on their website are so many fundraiser ideas if you would like to look and do something different for 2018 – 2019. Please start planning for the next administrative year.

Robert Keys (Bob)
Chairman – Casey Cares
Cell: 443-756-1152

DOUGLAS HENLEY MEMORIAL

LAPS OF LOVE

Spring is here and with Summer on its way we all need to get ready for the Doug Henley Memorial Laps of Love.

As many seen last year one of the new ways of helping us raise money is by sponsoring the event even if you do not plan on walking at the event. For \$200.00 you can have your Squadron, Unit or Post name on

the back of the t-shirts that the participants get if the raise 75.00 by June 10th. If you are interested in becoming one of our sponsors, please make sure you send your check into us before the June 10th deadline.

Remember this helps children for three different programs. Casey Cares, Special Olympics of Maryland, and Child Welfare Foundation all receive part of the money raised in the one-day event. So why not sign up to walk? You can go around the field as many times as you would like, maybe just once, but either way the children will benefit. You can have a sheet sent to you by emailing Dhall1967@verizon.net or signing up online at www.sallapsoflove.com. If you want to make a team it is easy to do just follow simple instructions on the site.

We hope to see everyone at the convention and on the field helping us raise money for the children. For information contact me at dhall1967@verizon.net

Kids Are our Future,
JR Hall
Chairman

Legislative Alert!

The Legislative commission is very important part of The America Legion. The Legislative agenda was presented and the priorities are as follows:

Support VA's suicide prevention efforts; Limit outsourcing, unify VA's programs; Fully fund a superior national defense as the global war on terror continues; Create lifetime electronic health record; Reclassify cannabis for medical research; Institute gender-specific health care for

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women veterans; Support those who care for wounded veterans; Defend veterans education benefits; Repeal unfair offsets that penalize disabled veterans and widows; Provide mandatory end-of-service exams for reservists; Ensure those returning from active duty retain re-employment rights; Continue funding programs to end veterans homelessness; and Protecting the American Flag. I am asking you to contact your senators and congressmen and pass on these priorities. I have more detail in a pamphlet and available on the National web site; <https://www.legion.org/legislative/>.

More information is available at: www.congress.gov. The information is sometimes overwhelming however it is easily accessible and you can find any current legislation. Using the web site above you can look up your representatives and send them e-mails or call them. Schedule a meeting with them and sit down for a few minutes and ask questions about their support for our veterans.

<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.

For God and Country
Tom Deal
Legislative Chairman
tom.deal@verizon.net

VAVS Variety

Where has the year gone. We still have a lot of work to accomplish and not much time left in this year

to get it done. Every time you turn on the news you hear about homeless Veterans living on the streets, Veterans and their families being evicted from their homes and not getting proper care in the VA hospitals; so that's why we need to continue to work hard and support our Veterans and the men and women serving are great country today. Let's get our donations in, so we can do the work to help our Veterans!

Perry Point Hospital

Perry Point could use comfort items for the Veterans. Monetary donations or items themselves are appreciated.

Loch Raven VA Hospital (LR VA)

LR VA Needs List:

*Body Pillows w/Removable/
Washable Cases
Fleece Blankets
Body Wash
Electronic Toothbrush
Coffee Cart Supplies
Snack Food (Commercially
Packaged)
Restaurant Gift Cads (Like
McDonalds)
VA Canteen Books*

Schedule a cookout or other activity Please consider donated the listed items and/or monetary donations are appreciated.

Caregiver Support Network: This is a statewide project. Learn how you can help a Veteran in your own neighborhood by spending some time with him or her. For more information contact Jessica Donnelly Voluntary Services @ 410-605-7000 x4613

We can make a difference. Please consider donating now to the Veterans Centers, Hospitals, Homes and Veteran Programs.

Together We Can Make A Difference!

Yours in service,

Larry Ford, VAVS Chairman
Email: lafltd@comcast.net
Cell Phone: 443-413-4710

Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

"the only Veterans Home in the state"

The CHVH has been proudly "Serving Those Who Served" since 1985 with a 168 bed assisted living program and a 286 bed skilled nursing program. As the only Veterans Home in the state, residents come from all over the state.

If you are interested in donating to the CHVH, a "Wish List" is available on the website, www.charhall.org. Monetary donations are always welcome. If you don't have a specific program or project in mind, donations can be made to the Veterans' Assistance Fund which assists residents as needs arise such as dental and optometry costs, Final Honors arrangements, and activities both inside and outside of the Home. Donations should be accompanied by a Donation Form which can be found at www.charhall.org/donations.htm. Copies of the donation form will also be available at the meeting.

The Southern Maryland District continues to hold a bingo at the CHVH on the third Monday of each month. Two hundred dollars are given out to residents at each bingo. The bingos hand out \$2,400 a year, so please consider making a donation. If you are interested in volunteering your time, give me a call or just show up at the CHVH multi-purpose room on the 3rd Friday of the month at 6:30. Additional help is always

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welcome. To make a monetary donation, send checks to SMD Finance Officer, 2 Main St., Laurel, MD 20707, with a copy to Detachment Adjutant Bill Matoska.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering at the CHVH, contact Ashley Radano, Director of Volunteer Services & Community Outreach, at 301884-8171 ext. 664, or via email at aradano@hmrmd.com. Last year over 22,000 volunteer hours were recorded.

For God and Country,
Dave Tatman
CHVH Representative
tatman_david@comcast.net
301-645-1537

EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION COMMISSION

The Mission Statement of the Veterans Employment and Education Commission is: "To assist The American Legion in ensuring that America's Veterans have the opportunity to provide, with honor and dignity, the economic necessities of life for themselves and their families."

When you leave the military, the biggest question is "what's next?" It's a scary job market right now, but the skills that our veterans received in the military make them highly marketable.

The American Legion sponsors dozens of "Hiring Our Heroes" job fairs each year, and their employment experts also provide tips for writing resumes, networking and making a strong impression in the interview

process. Our commission is utilizing the National Vice Commanders, Detachment Adjutants and NECs to assist us in distributing the dates and locations of these hiring fairs down to the detachments, districts and squadrons.

This is where we need your help. When you receive an email announcing a job fair near you, please print out the flier and put it up in your post and in other places where our veterans will see it. Also, place it on your websites and Facebook pages as well as in your newsletters. You can also assist by going online and doing your own search for job fairs in your area.

Please help the VE&E Commission to ensure that no veteran is ever unemployed.

Larry "Bear" Weinzirl
National VE&E Chairman

Chaplin's Corner

The Lord is my
Shepherd; I shall not
Want.
Psalm 23:1

Be humble and never Think that you are better than anyone else. "For dust you are, and unto dust you shall return.
AMEN.

Please remember to contact me with your illnesses and your passing of comrades to Squadron Everlasting.

For God and Country
William "Bill" Yeagy
Detachment Chaplain
443-619-8797
bizbill@hotmail.com

Time and Place Committee

~ 45th Annual Convention ~

We're heading back to Laurel for the 45th 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.

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; **District Commander, Elected Detachment Officer** or a **Past Detachment Commander** .

Also, each squadron is required to pay for their "full delegate fees" in order to receive their "new" membership cards, as well as submit a 2018—2019 Squadron Certification form, which identifies your new officers. "No Exceptions" Membership cards "Will Not" be issued, without a Squadron Cert & Fully Paid Delegate Fees.

If you have any questions, recommendations or general suggestions about OUR

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convention, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

For God and Country,
Bill Hill
Chairman

Southern Pride

WOW, time flies when you're having fun... Hard to believe my year as Commander is almost over. It has truly been a privilege to serve as the SAL SMD Commander again and I want to thank all the "Blue Caps" for a job well done. You are the ones that made this a successful year.

As I write this we are currently in 2nd place at 98.59%. We are 61 members ahead of where we were this time last year... again Great Job! But the race is not yet over. We need 20 members to make 3-Star and 115 members to reach our goal. We currently have four 4-Star Squadrons and thirteen 3-Star Squadrons. By now everyone has received their Consolidated Report Form... please contact me or your assigned DEC Men if you have any questions or need help filling out the report. The CRF and your Squadron Certification Form must be completed and turned in by the close of business day on May 25th for you to be eligible for awards and be able to receive your 2018-2019 Membership Cards. I hope everyone has a great summer... please be safe in your travels and I look forward to working with you again next year.

Yours in Service,
Joe Weik
Southern Maryland
District Commander

North Eastern Shore Times

I would like to congratulate all of the squadrons for the fantastic job on membership we need 14 more paid members and all of our squadrons will be at 100% as

I approach the end of serving our District as Commander and the support that you all have given me is well appreciated. Without you we would not be the District that we are, so I ask that the same support continues for our next commander.

Upcoming events:

June 10th Post 135 District meeting starting at 10:30

Thank you!
FREDDIE Taylor
Commander: N.E.S.D.

NEC Update!

I bring you greetings from our New National Commander Danny Smith from Nebraska. Commander Smith's theme this year is "**FOLLOWING THEIR FOOTSTEPS.... MAKING HISTORY**" and the membership theme is "**PIONEERING SPIRIT: COURAGE, FAITH, TEAMWORK, PERSEVERANCE**". Commander Smith is focus on all of the programs of The American Legion and focus on membership and how we can retain our membership and sign up new members.

Members of the Detachment traveled to Indy for the NEC on the weekend of May 5-6, 2018. While we were there our members sat in and participated during the various commission and committee meetings. A lot of good work was

done during these meetings. We also had two of our officers attend the NMI classes. National Vice Commander Ken Warner thank the Detachments that made and passed all goals set by National. With everyone's hard work the Eastern Region is doing great this year with more members turned in this year than last year. Now is the time to go and ask the members that have not renewed this year to renew. Sometimes all you have to do is ask and let them know what our Organization does for the Veterans and our Communities. This year at our June convention, National Vice Commander Ken Warner from PA will be our guest. Vice Commander Ken is no stranger to the Detachment of Maryland for he and his wife have been here many times. Also visiting us will be Greg "Doc" Gibbs from NY who is our Leading Candidate for National Commander of the Sons of The American Legion. Please take the time to visit with our guest and make them feel welcome. I would like to thank the members of the Detachment of Maryland for electing me as your National Executive Committeeman for the past 5 terms which adds up to 10 years. It has been a great pleasure representing you on the National level. I have been serving on the National Sub-Committee on Resolutions for the past 8 years. During that time a lot of good work has been done. Once again I thank you.

Yours In Service,
Andy Dadds
National Executive Committeeman



"Sons Helping Scouts Become Leaders"

3115 Orchard Avenue Baltimore, MD 21234

We're On The Web Visit Us At www.mdsal.org

Follow us on Facebook:

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Maryland

The Detachment of Maryland received endorsement letters
For the following individuals seeking to hold Detachment Offices

2018-2020 Administrative Years

NEC: Jeff Seiler Sq 11

Alternate NEC: Dave Hullihen Sq 195

2018-2019 Administrative Year

Commander: Jim Alexander Sq 40

First Vice Commander: Bob Manzo Sq 183

Second Vice Commander: Mark Fayer Sr. Sq 135

Third Vice Commander: Larry Ford Sq 130

Judge Advocate: Joe Gladden Sq 130

Finance Office: Karl Kibler Sq 296

Historian: Robert Filippi Sq 183

Chaplain: Drain Plummer El Sq 19

Sgt-At-Arms: Bill Yeagy Sq 130



2018 Membership Target Date:

September 13, 2017 10%

October 12, 2017 25%

November 15, 2017 35%

December 13, 2017 45%

January 18, 2018 60%

February 14, 2018 75%

March 14, 2018 80%

April 11, 2018 90%

May 9, 2018 100%

*** July 18, 2018 105%**

Delegate Strength Target Date

45th Annual Detachment Convention

June 22nd to 24th, 2018

DoubleTree by Hilton

15101 Sweitzer Ln, Laurel, MD 20707

Bowling

AMF Laurel Lanes

15013 Baltimore Ave., North, Laurel, MD 20707

Outside Activities

Cookout

Superstars, Horseshoes, Kornhole

American Legion

Laurel Post 60

2 Main Street, Laurel, MD 20707