



“The Pride”

Detachment of Maryland

Editor: Bill Matoska
Co-Editor: Bill Hill

www.mdsal.org

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Commander’s Corner

Guys, hope everything has been going well. I need to report that so far donations have been coming in for the Boys Scouts and I really appreciate that, please keep them coming in. My chairman Joe Weik is doing a great job so far. Thanks Joe. If you have any events that you want me or Joe to attend, please let us know and we will do our best to get there. We will be giving out raffles tickets at our meeting in January for a new Kayak along with a paddle and a life jacket. Tickets will be \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00 with all proceeds going to the commander’s project. Keep in mind we still have t shirts for sale. My goal is to get as many scouts to be able to attend Broad creek in the summer for a 2 week stay. What a great experience this would be for them. They say they can build character and become better leaders in life. Hence our logo helping scouts become leaders. At this point I am hoping to have at least 1 troop from each District to go there. We are basing this on each troop having from 10 to 15 scouts in each troop. We could send up to 105 kids to this camp. Let’s see what we can do, with a little hard work maybe even more. We have decided to continue the Commander’s challenge this year and we will give plaques for the **Persian Gulf Wars**. Tom Deal has stepped up and decided to be our chairman for this project. Thanks Tom. Also keep in mind for the Winter meeting in OC. We also will be doing the plunge on Friday the

26th at noon, we will be plunging as part of the Military Plunge, so please go on the Special Olympics website and sponsor me or one of the others on the American Legion team. Then on Saturday we will have the Squadron Officer training in the Grand Hotel around 10 am. Please attend, what a wealth of knowledge that comes out of there. Then at American Legion post 166 we will be having a MD. Special Olympics draw down, tickets are **\$40.00** each it admits 2 people, see Bob Manzo, Mark Fayer. Jim Alexander for tickets and I believe PDC Ray Edwards has tickets for the SESD guys. This begins around 3 pm. Keep in mind we will be having a hospitality room on Friday and Saturday at the Grand Hotel, room opens around 8 pm. Subject to change. On Sunday we will hold our mid-winter DEC meeting at post 166 at noon. Some of our guest are SAL National Commander Danny Smith, Department Commander of the American Legion, Jim Marchinke, Department President Alta Glotfelty, and Boys Scout Leader Dan Ksiazek. Hope to have a full house. I will see you all very soon.

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

Adjutant’s Corner

D.E.C. : The next Detachment Executive Committee Meeting will be called to order by Commander Hullihen, on January 28, 2018 at 12:00 P.M.

The meeting is being hosted at Synepuxent 166, located at 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, MD 21842.

Winter DEC & Training Session:

The following Detachment Executive Committee Meeting will include Mid-Term Squadron Officers Training at The Grand Hotel and Special Olympics Maryland Draw Down @ Post 166 January 27th, 2018

For Draw Down tickets or general information, please contact First Vice Commander Jim Alexander or Second Vice Commander Bob Manzo.

Convention, Ad Sales and Report Form packages will be available at this DEC meeting for distribution. Any squadron not present these packages will be mailed to the squadron adjutant on record in the Blue Book. This information will be available on the Detachment web site.

Yours In Service,
Bill Matoska
Detachment Adjutant
matoskaw@yahoo.com
443-710-9664

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Commander's Project

Boy Scouts of America

Commander Dave Hullihen's Project this year is the Boy Scouts of America and his theme is "Sons Helping Scouts Become Leaders".

The goal of Dave's project is to divide the monies raised between the three main Scouting Councils that cover the State of Maryland and our 7 Districts of the Detachment of Maryland. Broad Creek, in Hartford County, is one of the State's largest camps and hosts + 22,000 Scouts each year.

They are asking for assistance with repairs and upgrades to their existing shooting range as well as other camp improvements. Money will also be set aside to help cover "Camperships" for this year and hopefully years to come.

Several Squadrons in the SMD got together on October 21, 2017 at Post #7 for our Annual Chuck Wagon Cook-off. We had 5 Squadrons and 6 entrees... The judges voted one of the entrees from Squadron 7 to be the winner (But all were excellent!).

Everyone had a great time and we raised \$1265.00 for the Commander's Project. The checks will be presented at the mid-winter in OC.

If you have and events planned, please contact me or Commander Dave and one of us will try to attend. We also have a Kayak Raffle going with proceeds to go the Boys Scouts. I will have tickets available in OC.

We still have T-Shirts available, but the larger sizes are running low. We did get some Small and Child sizes for the younger guys.

I Hope everyone had a Great Holiday and Wish you and your families a Happy New Year.

"Sons Helping Scouts Become Leaders"

Yours in Service,

Joe Weik

Project Chairman

Trucking for Membership!

Attention all truckers and members of the Sons of The American Legion.

I hope everyone made it home safe to spend time with their families and friends for the holidays. Everyone worked hard and put a lot of miles on their trucks delivering 2017 and 2018 membership.



It's been challenging so far, this year but together our goals are being reached.

Now a new year is starting and that means new challenges and opportunities to deliver more memberships, so get back on the road and pick up speed to get our next milestone.

Call your distribution centers and remind everybody if they haven't paid their dues they're going to lose out on a lot of American Legion benefits and also remind them with their money goes towards helping our veterans and all the programs associated with American Legion.

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

Americanism Report

Americanism

Commander Hullihen has picked the Boys Scouts as his project and Joe Weik will be serving as his chairman. The project is set up to do some good things for the Boy Scouts this year. See the project chairman's report for more details.

Boys State is a great program that helps our high school young men to learn more about government and how it works on the local, county and state level. The program will be held at McDaniel College again this year. If anyone is interested in being a counselor or for more information on Boys State, feel free to contact our

chairman Dennis Renehan.

Flag replacement should be every member of our country's duty, however as you drive around you see many flags that need to be replaced. I hope each of the squadrons are taking time to work on this easy project of replacing worn, faded or torn flags in your community. The flag is the best symbol of our country; we need to make sure we take care of this precious flag. Make sure you keep record and turn them into the Detachment for our end of the year award.

The Detachment of Maryland promotes everyone to get out and be involved with your community, volunteer organizations all over need your help. We at the Detachment provide support to Fisher House each year helping veterans and their families as they go through treatment at medical centers and hospitals. Bill Yeagy did an excellent job of setting up our annual cookout. Thank everyone for their support of this great event.

The National Emergency Fund (NEF) is a Legion program that is set up to help all American Legion Family Members when needed for emergencies that have happened. Many members across the nation have received benefits after flooding, tornadoes and other natural disasters. Help us to keep the funds available by supporting this great cause. Contact NEF chairman PDC Bill Stem for more information.

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

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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

Happy New Year to the Detachment of Maryland Sons of The American Legion members. We are halfway through the year and heading towards the finish of another great year. Now is the time to gear up and support another worthwhile American Legion program, Boys State. This is the best program the American Legion has. Also, the Commander of the Department of Maryland has made this his Commanders Project. So let's help this program grow and prosper.

This program is where the boys become part of the program by participating in their city, electing their mayor and city officials. Moving on, the boys elect a Governor and state officials. Finally, they elect two representatives and two alternates to attend Boys Nation held in Washington D.C. in July. There is 100 percent voter turnout and ZERO unemployment in this state.

Cost to sponsor a boy to this great program is still \$300.00. Now is the time for squadrons to raise money for this great program. Hold a raffle, a dinner, place a jar in the lounge collecting change. Also you can go into your business community and ask for donations.

Ask your Post Commander if they have appointed a Boys State Chairperson. The Boys State Chairperson is the liaison between the post and the schools. All applications are done on line now and due by the middle of May. The link can be reached by going to www.mdlegion.org/boysstate and clicking on the "Apply Today" button. The post is still responsible for the program and keeping in touch with the boys. Remember that the boys must have finished their eleventh grade and will be in the twelfth grade when school starts again in September.

If you have any questions about Boys State, you can call, email or text me.

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

National Emergency Fund:

It seems the disasters keep coming. Not only did we have the multiple hurricanes, now we have the devastating fires out west. Each of these cause havoc on our legion brothers and their posts.

Over the past months the Legion has given out over 100 grants to individuals in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. They have also given out 3 Major grants to posts, 2 in Texas and 1 in Florida. This could be only made possible by the generosity of our Legion Family making contributions to the N.E.F.

I am asking again for all Squadrons to dig deep to continue to help. Those of you that have made a commitment, thank you. The Legion has extended the deadline for those in need to apply, to February 1st, 2018.

Please keep those that these disasters have affected in your prayers.

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 in the community due to losses sustained.

Yours in Service,
Bill Stem (PDC)
NEF Chairperson

CHILDREN & YOUTH CORNER

Happy New Year to all,

I hope you had a wonderful holiday and are rested for 2018. The holiday season is a time of reflection and celebration. We gather with family and friends and give thanks for what we have. Also, it is a time when we look to those less fortunate and do what we can to help them have a memorable experience as well. I see many of you step up to provide toys, clothing and food to various schools, shelters and other civic minded groups. It makes you feel good to do these charitable acts, but don't limit them to just the holidays. I want to suggest that each of us look out into our communities and see what difference we can make for at risk citizens, especially our most vulnerable, our children. The support you can give whether monetary or in kind can go a long way toward easing the burden of parents and lifting a child who needs the support they may not receive otherwise.

The Special Olympics of Maryland is a long-supported program of the Detachment of Maryland. The Annual Bowling Tournament, which the Detachment hosts has just been successfully completed. The Ocean City Drawdown on January 27 helps top fund that tournament as well as the Special Olympics Raffle tickets, which should have been distributed by your District DEC reps or Commanders. This raffle is drawn at the Annual Detachment Convention in June so you have plenty of time to sell those tickets. I would suggest that tickets stubs be returned with a check made payable to Detachment of Maryland and mailed to me, my address is in the Blue Book. We will take the stubs and money up to the date of the drawing, June 24 at the Convention. Also, the Special Olympic Winter Games will be held from February 25 to the 27th at Whitetail in Mercersburg

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PA. Volunteers are needed to help us support this program.

We also need donations for other programs that we support like Casey Cares and the Child Welfare Foundation so The American Legion can issue grants to needy families to help their children. So once again let's continue to support our Children and Youth projects this year

Children & Youth Chairman
Bob Manzo

Special Olympics— Maryland

On Friday, January 23rd, plan to join us for the Military Plunge. If for some reason you can't make it, we'll plunge for you, and the donations you've collected will still go to a very worthy cause.

If you want to join the Legion Family, then please do the following:

Go to- plungemd.org
Click- Police Plunge "Register"
Click- Join a Team
Enter- American Legion Family Team
Click- Join
Choose options and enter info

Please make an effort to visit one of these events to see the fruits of our labors.

Better yet, plan to volunteer, go to SOMD.ORG and register

Other upcoming events include The Winter Conference in Ocean City, January 23-25. Included in the weekend of fun are Fridays Polar Bear Plunge on January 23rd and Saturdays Draw-Down benefitting Special Olympics

The Doug Henley Memorial Laps of Love will be convention weekend and signing up for this event is a great way you can help Special Olympics of Maryland along with other children and youth programs. Sign up yourself or make a team. Sponsorship for the event start at \$200.00 and will get the sponsors name listed on the back of the shirts given to participants raising over \$75.00.

So, "Get your hands out of your pockets and reach into your friend's pockets". Show them the great feeling we all get from helping the wonderful athletes of Special Olympics

Maryland

Helping others makes your Heart feel good,

Eddie Souder ~ Chairman
eddie.souder@verizon.net
301-706-3960

Casey Cares Newsletter

Casey Cares is providing smiles and joy to more than 900 families alone in the Mid-Atlantic and parts of the Midwest. They are reaching out to increasingly more critically ill kids. They need our support more than ever.

Our commitment helps them provide little and lasting memories to critically ill children and their families. Sometimes the best medicine is a break from doctor's appointments. This could be a night at home with a movie and a pizza, a pair of new pajamas, a seat at a ball game, or tickets to a concert. Little things can mean everything.

Please think about hosting a fundraiser or making a monetary donation.

Please find in your hearts to donate soon.

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

DOUGLAS HENLEY MEMORIAL

LAPS OF LOVE

Hello Once Again,

As we are half way through our year we all know the next 6 months will be here and gone before you know it. We will again be having our Doug Henley Memorial Laps of Love at convention. Plans are underway, and we should have the Laps of Love website up for you to register on by March. Ask folks in your post or at your work to join your team or sponsor you. It is never too early to start.

Again, this year your Squadron, home Post or unit ALA unit could be a sponsor for \$200.00. That will get your name on the back of the t shirts that will be given out to anyone that raises over \$75.00 by June 15 and has it turned in online or to

me. We hope that everyone will help us raise money for Special Olympics of Maryland, Casey Cares and CWF by participating or sponsoring this great event.

For information contact me at dhall1967@verizon.net

Hope to See you there,

JR Hall
Chairman

Legislative Alert!

The Washington Conference will be February 25-28, 2018. The wreath laying tours will be on Sunday February 25. National Commander Danny Smith will lay a wreath at the tomb of The Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery at 9:15 am. He will also be accompanied by members of the Sons and Legion family members to lay wreaths at both the Korean War Veterans Memorial and the World War II Memorial. Members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion, friends and families will attend and show respect for the sacrifices made by our Nation's military in the defense of liberty and freedom. We have added a second bus for the tours this year due to the increasing numbers of Legion Family Members attending. If you would like to attend let me know.

The web site for all to take a look at: www.congress.gov. The information is sometimes overwhelming however it is easily accessible and you can find any current legislation. I will still send out e-mails when I get them. Everyone needs to contact their representatives and express the need to keep taking care of our veterans. Let them know we are supporting the military and our veterans. 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.

For God and Country

Tom Deal
Legislative Chairman
tom.deal@verizon.net

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VAVS Variety

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. I hope you had a chance to visit a veteran during the holidays. Now is the time to remember them, as the holidays are over and all the gift giving, visits and parties are over. This can be the loneliest time for our veterans. Let's try to keep visiting and having events for them in these cold months. They cannot get out as much during the winter months.

A number of events are scheduled throughout the State of Maryland. Charlotte Hall Veterans Home has a "Wish List" for the veterans. You can donate these items that are listed on their website www.charhall.org. Southern Maryland District holds bingo the third Monday of each month for the veterans at CHVH. Also, there are "Wish Lists" for the other VA Centers. All donations are appreciated!

On January 1, 2018 Loch Raven VA CLC will be known as Loch Raven VA Medical Center. This is an upgrade due to the additional departments they have added over the years. This means additional budget funds. Good news all around.

Together We Can Make A Difference!

Yours in service,

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

Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

"the only Veterans Home in the state"

If you are interested in donating to the CHVH, a "Wish List" is available on the website, www.charhall.org. The biggest needs at this time include body wash, mouthwash, deodorant, and shoes. Donations should be accompanied by a Donation Form which can be found at www.charhall.org/donations.htm.

Please note that they

CANNOT ACCEPT the following:

- USED walkers, wheelchairs, shower chairs, bathroom chairs, scooters
- Books and Magazines (regardless of condition)
- USED/Soiled clothing (All clothing items, shoes and accessories must be "NEW")
- Hotel/Travel size toiletries
- VHS tapes, used TV's or electronic equipment (computers, radios, etc)

Home baked goods

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 contact PDC Buddy Mastin or myself. Additional help is always welcome. To make a monetary donation, send checks to SMD Finance Officer Al Rhodes at P.O. Box 56521, Virginia Beach, VA 23456, with a copy to Detachment Adjutant Bill Matoska. Remember, the CHVH is the only Veterans Home in the state.

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.

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

Maryland Center for Veteran's Training & Education (MCVET)

Their mission is to provide homeless veterans and other veterans in need with comprehensive services that will enable them to rejoin their communities as productive citizens.

Here are the five distinct programs within The Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training (MCVET)

- ◆ Day Drop-In Program
 - ◆ Emergency Program (13 weeks)
 - ◆ Transitional Housing Program (up to two years)
 - ◆ Follow-up Program, and 80 Single Room Occupancy apartments (SRO).
- A natural progression will be to go from the Day Drop-in Program, to the Emergency Program, to the Transitional Housing Program, to the SRO.

If you would like to know more about how you or your squadron, post, unit or ALR is able to help support this program, please do not hesitate to contact me.

For God and Country,
Bill Hill
MCVET
Detachment Liaison

EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION COMMISSION

"Remember"

"How your Squadron help?" By assigning members of your Squadron to your own VE&E Commission/Committee to assist us in getting this info out to your local Veterans that can benefit from it.

"Where to find this information and how we can get it out to the Veterans?" By going online and finding local job fairs and benefits available in your state. Then by taking this info, as well as info received from National or Detachment, and placing it on your Squadron/Post websites and Facebook pages as well as in your newsletters. Also by printing it out and posting it on your Post's bulletin board and in other locations around your community where local Veterans will see it. You can also request that your Post e-mail this info out to their members. Be creative with your distribution.

When you leave the military, the biggest question is **"What's next?"** Your Squadron can help with the answer to this question by providing this information to our Veterans. Please assist us in making this new Sons of The American Legion Commission a successful one nationwide while assisting the "Heroes" who have kept America and everyone in it free and safe.

Larry "Bear" Weinzirl

National VE&E Chairman

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Chaplin's Corner

Remember...We are God's People (Children of God) and that comes with the protection of God and his blessings. As our glory, the Lord gives us honor and dignity. He encourages us through his Holy Spirit. As our Deliverer, he gives us peace in times of chaos!

Prayer (Let Us Pray Together)

Father God, How I love you and your word. Thank you for being my Protector, Defender and our Deliverer! Give me wisdom as I seek to do your will each day.
This is for your glory.
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!

However this time, we will hold the Convention at the DoubleTree, by Hilton. This was our guest hotel last year. All meetings and convention registration will be at the hotel.

That's right, we're hitting another big milestone this year, and we want you to be there. You've had plenty of advance notice, the hotel has plenty of rooms, and Laurel Post 60 is one of the best American Legion host in the state, so what's your excuse for not attending. Nothing.... So, let's start to discuss who within your squadron is attending. My recommendation is at a minimum your Squadron Commander, Vice Commanders and your Legion Advisor.

Come out and see fellow "Proud possessors of a Priceless Heritage" from across our great state and share in the overall pride and experience of one of the best SAL Conventions across the country.

Details for the DoubleTree hotel, bowling and other events will be detailed in the Convention Packages, which will be available at the upcoming DEC meeting in Ocean City and will be updated on our website www.mdsal.org.

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

For God and Country,
Bill Hill
Chairman

Southern Pride

Since my last article I have had the opportunity to visit 6 Posts/Squadrons. I would like to thank Clinton Post 259 for hosting our Annual Draw Down on December 2, 2017 and Damascus Post 171 for hosting our Fall District Meeting the following day on December 3, 2017. Our Annual Draw down was another great success thanks to our "Traveling Kitchen Crew". A Special thanks goes out to Jerry Darnell, Jackie & Tom Eloshway, Trish & Tommy Bryant, Joe Lohman, Mike Obremski, and Buddy Mastin.

I am happy to report that we are doing very well with Membership. We are currently in 3rd Place at 63.96% which is already ahead of the January 18, 2018 goal of 60%. Great job! We also have our first 3-Star Squadron... Congratulations to Damascus 171 for being 3rd in the Detachment. But we are 118 members behind where we were this time last year so there is room for improvement. Also, we still have two squadrons with "Goose Eggs" ... please do not hold membership as the 2018 Year is NOW and for you to be in good standing and participate in Post events you must have your 2018 Membership

Card.

Don't forget that we have the 2018 Polar Bear Plunge right around the corner on January 26th and the Mid-Winter Training and DEC in O.C. MD on January 27th and 28th. Hope to see you there.

Our Annual Shrimp and Beef Feast will be held on April 14, 2018 at Howard L. Turner Post #276 in Severn Maryland. Flyers and tickets will be available shortly so see your assigned DEC or SMD officer for tickets. (Time and Cost will be on the flyers once everything is finalized)

Our Winter SMD meeting will be held on February 11, 2018 at Rockville Post #86 starting at 1pm. All Squadrons should have their Commander or his assigned representative in attendance. Please invite your Squadron Advisor or Post Commander as well. Have a Great 2018 and I look forward to working with everyone in the New Year.

Yours in Service,

Joe Weik

Southern Maryland
District Commander

Northern Central News

I want to wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year. Northern Central as of January 1, 2018, is in 2nd place in membership. Everyone please keep up the good work on getting your dues turned in. It won't be long before the Northern Central District Rally awards ceremony is held. The rally is scheduled for Friday, February 23rd at Rosedale Post 180. You will have an opportunity to achieve award status but you need to get those renewals into Department. Now is the time to make calls, send emails and knock on doors to get those unpaid members back in the fold. As of January 1, members who have not paid their 2018 dues are considered

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delinquent, and as of February 1 they are not considered members in good standing, let's not let this happen! Be proactive and keep them in the squadron!

As stated in the previous Pride newsletter, the Northern Central District project this year is Boy Scouts of America, this is in support of Commander Hullihens project, also Boys Scouts of America. Dave wants to raise enough money to be able to send deserving Scouts to camp who may otherwise not be able to attend. Please help us to support Dave in this endeavor.

I would like to thank the officers and members of Joseph L. Davis Squadron 47 for stepping up to host our December meeting. Due to a scheduling conflict and quite frankly a communication failure on my part, the original squadron was unable to host the meeting. Squadron 47 handled the request on short notice and put together a fine meeting and social afterwards.

January 26 will be the date of the annual Polar Bear Plunge, I am plunging with the Legion Family Team, you can go online to the Special Olympics and donate to support this great event. Following the plunge, we are heading to OC for the mid-winter training and DEC. On Saturday afternoon, a Drawdown will be held at the American Legion to support the Special Olympic Bowling Tournament which the Detachment proudly supports. This is a fun day, and tickets are available for purchase. One ticket admits two and includes a meal, beer and soda and a chance to win \$1000!

The annual pool tournament will be held on Sunday February 25, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at Rodgers House Tavern in Havre de Grace. Pool stick raffle tickets are available. Contact Jerry Saunders at Squadron # 39 at 443- 807-1131 for pool sign up and raffle tickets.

Our next Northern Central meeting will be held on February 11, 2018 at Dundalk Post 38 at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting after February will be on April 8, 2018 at Harford Post 39 at 1:00 p.m. Please try to attend these meetings, we appreciate input and support from each NCD Squadron.

Squadrons, if you need my assistance at any time please call me at 410-952-6471.

Yours in Service,

Bob Manzo
NCD Commander

North Eastern Shore Times

Hello Comrades,

Hope you all had a wonderful holiday. I would like to congratulate all of the squadrons of the NESD for their commitment to membership we are at 79.51% and hats off to sqd.228 as they are 4 star great job guys.

Upcoming events:

1. Benedict Andrews sqd.296
Wildlife dinner Feb.17th beginning at 4-9
Donation 30.00 per person price includes dinner, sides, draft beer, water and soda

2. Detachment Draw Down – hosted at
Susquehanna Post 135, Perryville MD
March 3rd, 2018

Rooms are available at the days inn
61 Heather lane
Perryville MD 21903
75.60 per night Sons of the American Legion
discount rate
Phone #-410-642-2866

Happy New Year
Commander FREDDIE Taylor

Commander: N.E.S.D.

NEC Update!

I bring you greetings from our 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.

National Commander Danny will be attending our winter DEC down at the Ocean please plan on attending. Detachment Officers will be taking Commander Danny to the Polar Bear Plunge for MD Special Olympics and then they will be heading down to Ocean City for weekend festivities. Please plan on coming down and meeting National Commander Danny.

National Commander Danny Smith's Homecoming will be held in Nebraska at the Courtyard by Marriott and the La Vista Conference Center on Friday April 13th and 14th 2018. Information on homecoming is on the National website.

National Vice Commander Ken Warner is very proud of Maryland for reaching and passing the membership goals set by National. We stand at 56.580% and in 21st Nationally and 3rd in the East. Membership in the East is coming in slow but we also have the biggest membership in the Nation. Maryland's renewal rate stands at 90.18% for 2017 and 52.26% for the 2018 membership years.

National Vice Commander Ken Warner will be having our Unofficial Eastern Region get together on March 23-25, 2018 in Chambersburg PA.

Future dates to remember;

Washington Conference (2018)
February 25-28, 2018
Spring NEC & National Management
Institute Training May 5-6, 2018
SAL Veterans Assistance Day (VA&R)
May 19, 2018
American Legion Boys Nation
Washington DC 2018 July 20-28, 2018
American Legion Baseball World Series
– North Carolina August 16-23,
2018 National Convention –
Minneapolis, MN – 2018 August 24-26,
2018

Yours in Service,

Andy Dadds

Nat'l Executive Committeeman (NEC)



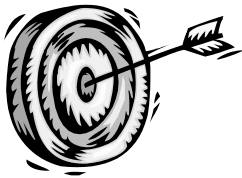
“Sons Helping Scouts Become Leaders”

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



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

Detachment of Maryland Meeting Schedule 2017—2018

Mid-Term Squadron Officers Training at The Grand Hotel

Special Olympics Maryland Draw Down @ Post 166

January 27th, 2018

Winter D.E.C. Meeting & Training Session

January 28th, 2018 / Synepuxent Post 166 @ 12pm

Detachment Commander's Project Drawdown

March 3rd, 2018 / Susquehanna Post 135 @ 6pm

Spring D.E.C. Meeting

April 15th, 2018 / Harry White-Wilmer Post 82 @ 1pm

45th Annual Detachment Convention

June 22nd to 24th, 2018

DoubleTree by Hilton

15101 Sweitzer Ln, Laurel, MD 20707