



# *“The Pride”*

Detachment of Maryland

Editor: Bill Matoska  
Co-Editor: Bill Hill

[www.mdsal.org](http://www.mdsal.org)

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Winter Issue - January 27, 2019

## **Commander’s Corner**

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a happy New Years with family and friends. I was able to spend time with my family, something my wife and I value and missed. Quick visits or missed holiday's is the down side, we are proud of our son for serving our great Country in the Navy but there is nothing like having them home.

It’s hard to believe that half my year is behind me, it’s flying by and I am enjoying each time I get to represent the Detachment. Since the last article the Vice Commander's and I had the opportunity to represent the Sons of The American Legion at the Special Olympics of Maryland Regional bowling tournaments in Glen Burnie and the State Finals in Gaithersburg, a very rewarding experience.

I also attended along with other Detachment members the joint American Legion Family Christmas Party a great time had by all.

Thinking ahead we have a lot of exciting things coming up in the first part of 2019. The Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge, the Special Olympics Drawdown and our DEC midwinter meeting in Ocean City, all happening the weekend of January 25 thru 27. The Detachment is honored to have our National Commander, Doc Gibbs in attendance that weekend.

I would like to thank our 1st Vice Commander Bob Manzo for his outstanding job in membership, keep up the great work it’s paying off. Keep the pics and shovels moving we need 100 percent in membership. Thanks to my project chairman Bill Yeagy for doing an outstanding job for getting the word out on the George Grossnickle Scholarship Fund for Boys State. Please keep the donations coming in so we can keep the scholarship going for many, many years. God bless you and God bless America!

“Sons of The American Legion Empowering Our Future Leaders”

Jim Alexander

Commander  
Detachment of Maryland  
Sons of The American Legion

## **Adjutant’s Corner**

**D.E.C. :** The next Detachment Executive Committee Meeting will be called to order by Commander Alexander, on Sunday, January 27, 2019 at 12:00 P.M.

The meeting is being hosted at Synepuxent Post No. 166, located at 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, MD 21842.

## **2019 MSP Polar Bear Plunge:**

Our weekend begins on Friday, January 25th, with the Sons of The American Legion supporting Special Olympic Maryland and The American Legion Team with sponsors and plungers going into the frigid waters of the Chesapeake Bay at Sandy Point State Park. Detachment Commander Jim Alexander will be accompanied by National S.A.L. Commander Greg “Doc” Gibbs leading the Legion Team into the bay. All participants and guests are requested to meet at the tent just off the parking lot with The American Legion logo on it at 11:15 AM. Everyone will be in position on the beach at 11:45 AM for the Detachment of Maryland presentation of the sponsorship check for the Special Olympics Maryland Annual Bowling Tournament in the amount of \$15,000.00. Then at noon everyone will proceed to the waters of the Chesapeake. At the conclusion of the plunge, National Commander Gibbs will be escorted to the Grand Hotel in Ocean City. It’s not too late to register or go on line and sponsor on of our brave plungers. Every donation regardless of size can make a difference in the life of an athlete.

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*(Continued from page 1)***Winter Squadron Adjutant & Commander Training Session:**

The following Detachment Executive Committee Meeting will include Mid-Term Squadron Officers Training at The Grand Hotel. All training will take place on the 4th floor of the Grand Hotel in Room Grand 1. This year the Detachment of Maryland is introducing a new Training Session for all members that hold a leadership position or have the desire for such in the future. This training is being called MALT (Maryland Advanced Leadership Training). The premise behind MALT is to train our membership and give them the administrative tools to be successful executives or managers within the Sons of The American Legion. Some of the areas of concern include problem solving, planning, scheduling, how to establish goals & objectives and the ability to initiate forms of measurement to ascertain the progress or success of your initiative. PNC Sparwasser will facilitate this session which will begin at 9:30 AM.

The second training session is scheduled to begin at 12:30 PM which is the Squadron Adjutants and Commanders Training and is being facilitated by PNC Gannon and PNC Gladden. Your instructors will identify all of the administrative responsibilities within a squadron and review the various forms that are required to be turned in each year. If unable to attend please send in your questions with someone in attendance. With your help, at the completion of the training we want to post on the Detachment web site a Frequently Asked Questions section for the convenience of all our

membership.

**Draw Down Event:**

The Special Olympics Maryland Draw Down sponsored by the Past Detachment Commanders of Maryland will take place @ Post 166 on the afternoon of January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 beginning at 3:00 PM. Remember, all of the proceeds from this event are earmarked for the Special Olympics Maryland Annual Bowling Tournament. The Detachment of Maryland is a primary sponsor which has enabled this tournament's success and the athletes and their families express their sincere gratitude each year recognizing our Detachment Commander at the host locations.

For Draw Down tickets or general information, please contact the Vice Commanders.

**Hospitality Room @ the Ocean:**

There will be a Hospitality Room at the Grand Hotel in Room 827 on Friday evening from 7:00 PM until midnight and on Saturday evening from 7:30 PM until midnight which will be open to all members of the Legion Family. This is a great opportunity to socialize with our comrades from around the state and learn from each other from their successes back at their home squadrons. A special thank you to Past Commander Ray Edwards for all of his hard work facilitating this room and to the Detachment Vice-Commanders for sponsoring this room monetarily.

Yours In Service,

Bill Matoska  
Detachment Adjutant  
matoskaw@yahoo.com  
443-710-9664

**Chaplin's Corner***Eternal Love*

I walk along a shimmering beach,  
Leaving footprints in the sand.

Though all alone, I walk with faith

That my Lord will hold  
my hand.

Seagulls float on the  
updraft breeze

With effortless strength and power.

God's love is like that every day...

No matter the plight, the place or  
The hour.

I pause to watch the surf, crash gently  
On the pristine shore.

Eternal is the awesome power...

God's love is even more.

I hope everyone had a Blessed  
Christmas!

Please let me know if anybody is sick  
Or has passed away.

In His Service,

William Yeagy

Detachment Chaplin

E-mail me at; [bizybill@hotmail.com](mailto:bizybill@hotmail.com)

**Mining for Membership !**

Greetings Miners,

The Detachment Mining Operations have been humming along, but we are reaching the point where those nuggets are going to be harder to dig up. So, let's not wait for the close of the mining season to work on those hard to reach members and

late renewals. You know the members who hold off until the spring to pay their dues and now is the time to get them into the ore bucket! Remember, if you aren't paid up to date for 2019 by the end of January you are considered delinquent, don't be delinquent! Your

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squadron needs your dues to help with all the donations and programs they support. National Commander Gibbs will be visiting with us at the January DEC in Ocean City, let's show him how the Maryland Sons get the job done!

As of this time, the following is the current year, membership standings:

- 1-NESD- 74.37% of Goal
- 2-NCD- 65.89% of Goal
- 3-SMD- 64.94% of Goal
- 4-SESD- 64.59% of Goal
- 5-WMD- 69.79% of Goal
- 6-Baltimore- 55.69% of Goal
- 7-MTD- 50.62% of Goal

6 of 7 District Mines achieved the December 12 Goal of 45% of the quota due. I am pleased to say that 5 Districts are already ahead of schedule on the January 17th Goal of 60%.

A reminder, National Commander Gibbs has announced his new 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 and is 24K Gold plated. 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. If you recruit the most members nationwide you can receive special recognition as Recruiter of the Year.

So, put on your miner's helmet, grab a shovel and pick and get busy Mining for Members!

Yours in Service,  
Bob Manzo  
Membership Chairmen  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander/CMO

## 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.

I hope everyone had a Very Merry Christmas.

*For God and Country*

*Bill Yeagy  
Americanism Chairman  
bizybill@hotmail.com*

## Boys State

Greetings, I hope all of you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Here's the latest from The American Legion, Department of Maryland. As of 27 December 2018, the Boys State program had 49 applications and climbing. As of 30 November, the Department had only 24, so you see the applicants are signing up. The Department didn't have this many application by the end of January 2018. This year it was decided to send the info out to the schools in November and it looks like it has gotten some early results.

The distribution is great as well, so far there are 19 counties out of 24, along with 1 from the District of Columbia. The counties with the most so far are Harford and Montgomery leading the way with 7 and 8 respectively. Continue to work on recruiting the best students in MD for our program.

If the Post Boys State Chairperson would like more contact information, please send a request to [boysstate@mdlegion.org](mailto:boysstate@mdlegion.org). Again, this year there is an orientation packet posted on the website. Posts or the Post Boys State Chairperson can use this to help understand the program and inform the parents/students. PLEASE DO NOT



UNDERSELL THE DEMANDS OF THIS PROGRAM.

Also, a big change to this year's packet is the addition of a financial responsibility for late cancellation form that the parents must download, sign, and then upload to the application. This is due to students cancelling within 30 days of the program for no reason at all and this is unfair to the Posts that sponsor the students. If a student cancels within 30 days and is not for an emergency, then the Department can provide the Post with the form signed by the parents, so the Post can attempt to recoup their tuition if the Post feels it is appropriate.

If there are any questions, please reach out to me at 410-330-3003 or Russell Meyers Jr, at 410-752-1405 chairman of the Boys State Committee for the Department.

Dennis J. Renehan  
Committee Chairman  
Boys State Staff  
Fort City CIC  
[dawgtrucker@yahoo.com](mailto:dawgtrucker@yahoo.com)  
410-330-3003

## National Emergency Fund:

Hope everyone had a safe and merry Christmas and a happy New Year. May it continue the whole year.

Some members did not this past year. The National Emergency Fund handed out over \$238,000 to those in need from January to November. This is why it is important to give to the NEF, because you never know when tragedy is going to strike. It could be your neighbor, your Post or even yourself that could be the victim of fire, hurricane, or flood.

So please, as we start this new year, let's give to the NEF. Our goal is \$8000 or approximately 50 cents a member.

## Eligibility

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

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2. 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.)

3. 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**

1. Application must be received within 90 days of disaster.

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

3. 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.

4. 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.

Since Jan. 1, 2018, the NEF has provided more than \$166,000 in grants. These grants are made possible by donations to the fund. To donate, visit [www.legion.org/donate](http://www.legion.org/donate).

For God and Country

Bill Stem PDC

NEF Chairman

### **COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:**

As a reminder, we're working with Bethesda Fisher House to reschedule the cookout that was postponed in October due to bad weather. We are hoping to reschedule the event in early spring.

Although most of our recent weather has been rain, snow is sure to come this winter. This would be a good time to help your neighbors, especially those who are elderly that need assistance with snow removal 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 this to ensure they are ok. . For additional information please contact me.

Joe Lohman  
Community Affairs Chairman

### **Five-Star Program:**

PNC Bill Sparwasser does an outstanding job on teaching our 5 Star and 10 Ideals program at convention. He and his team will come to your district and teach when set up ahead to do so. If you are interested reach out to PNC Sparwasser and plan a program to succeed.

### **Flag Replacement:**

The Detachment continues to sponsor an award to the top squadron for flag replacement. Make sure you track your efforts and keep a record of the replaced Flags. Make sure that the size of the replaced flag is indicated on the replacement form (3x5 flags counts as 5 points, and smaller

flags count as 1 point). Replacement forms can be downloaded at [mdsal.org/](http://mdsal.org/). Also, forms will be available at the next DEC Meeting

It is Important to get out there and replace torn/faded flags when possible. This program shows respect to our country and to our veterans.

You may reach me at [saljerry@comcast.net](mailto:saljerry@comcast.net) for any questions you may have.

Jerry Saunders Sr.  
Flag Replacement Program  
Chairman

### **CHILDREN & YOUTH CORNER**

I hope that everyone had a good holiday. Now that the holiday is over, we should not forget the children that need our help all year. It will soon be time to take to the cold waters of the Chesapeake Bay to help Special Olympics. The Legion family will have a team to see how cold the water really is. This team could use your support. This can be done by either donating to one or more of those that are jumping, or you can register and jump yourself. The plunge will take place on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019. This is a great way to help support the 7,782 Special Olympics Maryland athletes. If you are interested in donating or plunging, go to [www.plungemd.com](http://www.plungemd.com) and look for the American Legion Family Team.

Do you like to ski or snowboard? Some of the Special Olympic athletes do and would like for you to come and watch how well they do. The winter games are coming to whitetail ski resort on February 24<sup>th</sup> thru 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The detachment helps to support this event and if you can spare some time, I am sure you will be rewarded with some big smiles and hugs. Volunteers are always needed to help. This event was canceled last year because of lack of snow. The coaches and athletes are really looking forward to making up for the lost year. Anyone interested can contact our Special Olympics chairman Eddie Souder.

Yours in Service,  
Children & Youth Chairman  
Mark Fayer, Sr.

### **Casey Cares Newsletter**

Thank you to all Squadrons that have donated to the Casey Cares Foundation. All donations provide on-going support to more than 32,000 program participants. Our support also makes smile possible for being treated at 100 top children's hospital.

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It is a great feeling knowing providing moments of joy is what we can do to help families through the battle of their lives

Please consider and continue supporting their program. If anyone wishes to schedule a speaker at one of your meetings you can email Dawn@CaseyCaresFoundation.org or call their office at 443-568-0064.

Robert Keys (Bob)  
Chairman-Casey Cares  
Cell 443-756-1152  
keysrak@Verizon.net

## **Special Olympics— Maryland**

By the time most of you read this, another Polar Bear Plunge will be in the books. Along with The SAL Winter Conference.

Looking forward, Winter Games is the next state level competition for Special Olympics and as in past years, The American Legion Family will play a significant role in the success of this event.

Competition dates are Sunday thru Tuesday, February 24-26 at WhiteTail Shi Resort. Please consider joining us.

See you soon,  
Eddie Souder ~ Chairman  
eddie.souder@verizon.net  
301-706-3960

## **Boy Scouts**

Support your local Boy Scout troop by letting them help you and your post they will be more than glad to help with your post projects just contact your local troop they have been a big help at our post contact them today and get your big or small projects done they will be very glad to help it just takes a phone call have a great New year.

Tom Clavell  
Chairman Boy Scouts Committee

## **Toys For Tots**

I wanted to start off by saying Happy New Year! Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the Toys 4 Tots program this year. We gathered Toys at the November DEC meeting in Queenstown. We also had members of the Marine Corp. League there to deliver the toys to the distribution areas. It was a very successful year once again for the Children at the Holidays. I am looking forward to all of the upcoming events with the Detachment and looking forward to helping out with the other Children & Youth Programs! See you all in Ocean City!!

Robert Hill  
Chairman  
Toy for Tots

## **DOUGLAS HENLEY MEMORIAL LAPS OF LOVE**

Planning for 2019 Doug Henley Memorial Laps of Love has begun and we are working out the details on how we will continue this great event at Oregon Ridge this coming year at our convention on Saturday. By the time of our mid-winter meeting in Ocean City we should have all the plans taken care of and ready to share with you. You can save the date now for June 22nd, which is the Saturday during our Detachment Convention.

One of the things you could do is start planning on your side and looking for sponsors. Not just for your but for the event. Remember every Squadron, Post, or Unit will have their names put on the back of the t-shirts that goes out to all of our participants. The cost of that is just \$200.00. All money that is raised still goes to three great programs, Special Olympics of Maryland, Child Welfare Found, and Casey Cares. As you know all of these programs always are in need of help, so they can do more for the many athletes, children, and families. If you have any question feel free to email me at dhall1967@verizon.net .

Hope to hear from you soon. Remember our children are our future.

JR Hall (PDC)  
Chairman

## **Legislative Alert!**

Washington Conference is February 24-27, 2019, with the tours of the memorials on Sunday February 24. Commander Alexander and several Detachment officers will attend the tours. We need to support The American Legion by doing what we should and that is talking about Veterans benefits and issues to our representatives and congressmen. The partial government shutdown was not a good thing for the country and we need to stress to our representatives that they need to work together for the good of the country and stop bipartisan politics. Get to know who they are in your local districts and ask what they are doing about our Veterans and their needs. 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.

For God and Country

Tom Deal (PDC)  
Legislative Chairman  
[tom.deal@verizon.net](mailto:tom.deal@verizon.net)

## **VAVS Variety**

The Holidays are over and now is the time to get back to work on the American Legion Family programs supporting our veterans that are our priceless heritage. Some Squadrons have the financial capabilities to support more than one VA&R program, but every Squadron should be supporting at least one VA&R program. We have many programs including Fisher House, our VA Centers, etc. that your Squadron can support. Check our Detachment website for more information.

We are working on more visits for the rest of the year to other Veterans hospital and centers. I'm looking forward to seeing and learning more

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about all that is being done for our Veterans and how the Sons of The American Legion can help. Remember, as you are making plans for the rest of the year please include a visit to a veteran's home. We can make a difference. Please consider donating now to the Veterans Centers, Hospitals, Homes and Veteran programs. Together, we can make a difference.

For God and Country  
Larry Ford  
VAVS Chairman  
lafld@comcast.net  
443-413-4710

## Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

*"the only Veterans Home in the state"*

The CHVH Service Organization Liaison Committee (SOLC) sponsored Christmas Ice Cream Social was held on December 15 from 2 – 4 PM in the Multi-purpose room. Entertainment was provided Dave Perry and each of the 65 residents who attended received a Christmas card with \$5 inside. Ed Tatman and I were among the volunteers who helped serve the residents. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:30. 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.

Dave Tatman  
CHVH Representative  
tatman\_david@comcast.net  
301-645-1537

## Maryland Homeless Veteran's

Okay, now that the Holiday Season is over, let's don't just start counting down to Christmas 2019 (which by the way is 332 days away), let's keep the inspiration of giving in our heart.

I'd like to ask you to please pass this great feeling along to "OUR" "Homeless Veterans! Donate to the Salvation Army, or any of the many homeless veterans' organizations throughout Maryland or your community. If you know of a specific organization, please share, so I may pass the information along.

Something to think about tonight when you go to bed in whatever humble dwelling that you live in.

**Any given night** in 2017 -

Homelessness Statistics for **Maryland**

Veterans Experiencing Homelessness **536**  
(**source**) **United States Interagency Council on Homelessness**

Salvation Army

The Salvation army offers homeless and housing services to veterans (and all people in need) in the form of group homes, emergency shelters, and transitional living centers, they provide food and lodging for varying amounts of time depending on need. They also provide education services, counseling help, and vocation assistance.

For more information for yourself or a friend, you'll be able to find specific program information by contacting your **local Salvation Army Corps Community Center.**

Bill Hill (PNVC/PDC)  
Champion for Ending Veteran's being Homeless!

## **Commander's Project**

### "Boys State"

As we get closer to our Annual Commanders drawdown being held at Perryville Post 135, we are hoping for a sellout, so be sure to get your

tickets as soon as possible.

Tickets are \$40.00 and only 150 will be sold. You have the chance to win \$1000.00 and other games will be available such as Wheel of Fortune, cake wheel, this is fun for everyone. All monies raised will go to Commanders Jim Project "Annual George O. Grossnickel Scholarship Fund"

Our goal is to raise the highest level of monetary donations to carry out his legacy many years to come. Two boys who have graduated from Boys State and are looking to go to college will receive this award.

I know we are living in a challenging time to get donations as it has in the past. So, I ask you to make an extra effort to help us raise money for this worthy endeavor. We ask if any donations to be turned in at the Detachment meeting in Ocean City, The Drawdown. But it doesn't stop there the Convention in June we will be striving to collect donations to reach our goals. So, join in and do whatever you can to help us raise money.

"Sons of The American Legion Empowering Our Future Leaders"

Yours in Service,

Bill Yeagy  
Project Chairman

## **Detachment Convention & Time and Place Committee**

Our 46th Annual Convention planning is under way.

Heading back to Hunt Valley!! You may begin contacting them today to place your reservations. Mentions Sons of The American Legion when you contact them. The cost per night is \$119.00 plus 14% tax.

The details for all of the events taking place during the convention weekend, such as; Horseshoe, Kornhole, Bowling, Golf and Superstar events will be detailed in the convention packages

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being distributed at the Winter DEC meeting and will be updated on our website [www.mdsal.org](http://www.mdsal.org).

Looking for ideas and support for our junior members. We traditionally have a pizza party on Friday Night along with SAL training for the older juniors and activities for the younger ones, but we run short on volunteers and new ideas. If you have ideas, or are able to help during the convention weekend, please reach out to me, PNC Bill Sparwasser or Detachment 1st Vice Bob Manzo. No one will be turned away and we're always looking for new ideas. Along with the Convention Package, the Ad Sales & Report Form Packages will also be available at the January DEC Meeting and for the first time the Squadron Consolidated Report Forms have been received from National and will be available for distribution as well.

Looking forward to another great convention!

For God and Country,  
Bill Hill  
Chairman

## North Eastern Shore Times

I would like to say thank you to each of the NESD squadrons making sure that membership keeps coming in. Congratulations on keeping us in first place for the last couple weeks. It's hard to stay keep up that pace, but you have done it.

At our December meeting we collected pajamas for Casey Cares. Thank you to each squadron that helped with pj's or money. They were turned in and we had 62 pairs and \$100. Great job.

The NESD is doing a 30-day raffle in the month of January 2019. Tickets are \$5 each and the winning number will be from the evening Maryland lottery drawing. There are still some tickets left, if interested contact Mark Fayer or Thomas Deal. Thank you to all that have supported us already.

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 squadron 296

will be holding their Annual Wildlife Dinner from 4 till 8 PM. If interested or for more information, contact the squadron.

On March 2, 2019 Squadron 135 will host the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Detachment Draw Down for Commander Jim Alexander's project, Boys State Scholarship. Tickets are \$40 and admits 2 for the event, dinner and limited open bar for the evening.

Hope everyone had a good holiday and look forward to seeing all at the mid-winter conference in Ocean City.

Mark Fayer Sr  
NESD Commander

## Southern Pride

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years. It is now time to get back to work supporting the great programs of The American Legion family. Let's start with membership. SMD is in 3<sup>rd</sup> place which we can work on and move up. We are less than 1 percentage point out of 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Thank you to our great SMD membership team headed by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Gary Shupe for all their hard work. Thank you to everyone who supported our SMD District Draw Down.

We raised over \$4000 for our programs. Our next District meeting is Sunday February 10<sup>th</sup> at Cissel – Saxon Post 41 at 1pm. Hope to see you there. Our SMD Shrimp Feast is coming up on April 27<sup>th</sup> at Howard L. Turner Post 276. Please save the date. Please join our Facebook page, Sons of The American Legion Southern Maryland District. We post all our upcoming meetings and events on this page. Your Squadron is welcome to post events on this page also. Please remember we are still looking for monetary donations to host monthly bingo at Charlotte Hall Veterans home. The veterans love it and have a great time. Let's get out there and keep working the great programs of The American Legion Family.

Serving America's Veterans Every Day  
Buddy Mastin  
SMD Commander

## Western Maryland Tribune

Membership is starting to improve in the District and we are delivering the ore to the Detachment in large chunks. There is still a lot of renewals yet to be mined, and the mother lode is getting close.

I am involved with the planning of the District Reception for the Department Heads and the Detachment Commander, Jim Alexander. The District Reception will be held on April 13, 2019, at Post #31 in Westminster. I hope to have more information at the next issue of the "Pride".

Yours in Service,  
Bob Trueblood

## Public Relations Advisory

### ***We want to brag about you!***

If you are hosting an event, and want to get the word out, just send us an art ready version (jpg, pdf, or word.doc) and we'll make sure it gets placed on our Detachment Website [[www.MDSAL.org](http://www.MDSAL.org)] After a successful event if you just want to brag about it and you'd like to share the details and don't mind it being published in our Pride, please send an outline. It may be about either what's taking place or what has taken place. Provide some details around what the event may be supporting, such as a Draw Down to raise funds for a scholarship program, or a Dance to support the Detachment Commanders Project and an event, which may be purely held in your community to support a local program such as a food bank, or children's clothing drive. We'll do our best to publish them on the Detachment website in advance of the event and we'll help get the word out to the Detachment and Legion Family.

Please send all articles to: (with contact info of the submitter in case there are questions)

Bill Hill (PDC)  
Email: [Hill1062@MSN.COM](mailto:Hill1062@MSN.COM)



"Sons of The American Legion Empowering Our Future Leaders"

3115 Orchard Avenue Baltimore, MD 21234

We're On The Web Visit Us At [www.mdsal.org](http://www.mdsal.org)

Follow us on Facebook:

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Maryland



**2019 Membership Target Date:**

- September 12, 2018 - 10%**
- October 11, 2018 - 25%**
- November 15, 2018 - 35%**
- December 12, 2018 - 45%**
- January 17, 2019 - 60%**
- February 13, 2019 - 75%
- March 13, 2019 - 80%
- April 10, 2019 - 90%
- May 8, 2019 - 100%
- \*\* July 24, 2019 - 105%

\*\* Delegate Strength Target Date

**Detachment of Maryland Meeting Schedule 2018—2019**

**Mid-Term Squadron Officers Training** at The Grand Hotel

**Special Olympics Maryland** Draw Down @ Post 166

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Winter D.E.C. Meeting & Training Session**

January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 / Synepuxent Post 166 @ 12pm

**Detachment Commander's Project Drawdown**

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 / Susquehanna Post 135 @ 6pm

**Spring D.E.C. Meeting**

April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 / Glen Burnie Post 40 @ 1pm

**46th Annual Detachment Convention**

June 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

Delta Hotels-Marriott  
Hunt Valley, MD 21031