



“The Pride”

Detachment of Maryland

Editor: Bill Matoska
Co-Editor: Bill Hill

www.mdsal.org

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Spring Issue - May 17, 2020

Commander's Corner

Greetings Fellow Sons,

At this time of uncertainty over the COVID-19 virus, many events and meetings have been cancelled or postponed. Although this may be disappointing, please remember that as advancements are made on the medical front, we will return to normal again. Our country is made of resilient people, we have faced crisis repeatedly in our history and by pulling together we have overcome each one. I feel this will be no exception, so keep a positive attitude, look out for one another and take heed to the precautions being given by the medical community.

Now is the time to reach out to your membership through “Buddy Check” calls. This is not meant as a renewal tool, but rather a real act of caring for each other. If there are older Squadron members or veterans that require assistance and you can aid them, please consider doing so. Sometimes just a quick call to ask how they are doing may be enough, sometimes they may need real help.

1st Vice Commander Mark Fayer and myself congratulate all the Squadrons for doing an outstanding job with membership, as of the time I am writing this article we stand at 88.22% of the National goal and 91% of the Department goal. Keep climbing that ladder as we reach for 100% membership.

Even though District Receptions and meetings are being cancelled, your donations in support of my Commanders Project, which is veteran centered, are important. We are accepting donations for the project throughout the year. All donation checks should be made out to: Detachment of Maryland and earmarked Commanders Project. Donations are encouraged to be presented at a DEC meeting, or can be mailed to:

Detachment of Maryland
3115 Orchard Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21234.

Please be advised that our DEC Meeting scheduled for May 17th at Disney-Bell Post No. 66 and our Detachment Convention at Hunt Valley scheduled for June 26-28, 2020 is canceled. Of course, depending on the situation over the summer months a final DEC Meeting may be scheduled. We will advise the DEC of any changes. As of this notification our Detachment Convention is re-scheduled for September 26, 2020 extending this administrative year until the adjournment of this convention.

Stay healthy, stay positive and stay the course.

“Generations of Service to Our Veterans”

Yours in Service,
Bob Manzo
Detachment Commander
Sons of The American Legion

Adjutant's Corner

National & Department Update:

Due to the emergency actions enacted by both the Federal and State Governments to combat the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus the following actions were taken. The National Executive Committee Meeting scheduled for May-2020 and the National Convention scheduled in August-2020 are both canceled and will not be re-scheduled. All National Officers, Commission & Committee Chairmen and members are to stay in their respective positions for the 2020-2021 administrative year. The Department of Maryland has also canceled their Executive Committee Meeting scheduled for May-2020 along with The Annual Convention in Ocean City, Maryland scheduled for July-2020 and is to be re-scheduled in September-2020 at a time and location to be determined.

D.E.C. : The Detachment Executive Committee Meeting scheduled for May 17, 2020 is **Canceled.**

Detachment Convention: The Detachment Convention at the Hunt Valley Delta Marriott Hotel and Conference Center scheduled for June 26-28, 2020 is **Canceled** and is now **Re-scheduled.** The 47th

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Annual Convention of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Maryland will take place on September 26, 2020. The location will be at the Department of Maryland-Southern Maryland District Youth Camp located at 9201 Surratts Road, Cheltenham, MD 20623. Unlike past conventions this will be a one day event regarding nominations, elections, and all business including awards.

D.E.C. Mailing: All Squadron Adjutants will receive in conjunction with this publication of the Pride a hard copy of both the 47th Annual Detachment Convention and Ad Sales Packages along with your Squadron Consolidated Report Form. The only exception to this mailing is with the Southeastern Shore District where under their direction District Commander Leon Miller and PDC Ray Edwards will distribute at their District Meeting or deliver directly to the squadrons. We know everyone is being challenged by not being able to gather but try to adhere to the mailing deadlines for registration to the convention and events. Remember, business can still be conducted electronically or by a means of teleconferencing.

Detachment of Maryland Spring Draw Down:

It is now apparent that the Detachment was fortunate to hold the Annual Commander's Project Fundraiser on February 29th which was once again hosted by the entire Legion Family of Susquehanna Post No. 135 in Perryville. This is the 14th consecutive year that this event has been held and everyone of these events has been hosted by Perryville. This year's event netted \$11,900.00 even not counting outside donations that is a new record which was previously held by PDC Ray Edwards' year held during the 11th Annual event which was \$11,320.00. I believe the donations from the Manzo Family members present put Commander Bob over the top this

year. Notable donations in addition to the net amount totaled \$4,900.00; from Squadron #135—\$500, Unit #135—\$1000, Squadron #200—\$3600, Jessica Manzo—\$400 and \$100 each from Susan Manzo, Lester Trusheim, Mike & Donna Ches and Unit #183. Congratulations to Commander Bob and on behalf of the entire Detachment of Maryland we could not say Thank You enough to the Susquehanna Squadron and entire Legion Family for making this fundraiser the best of the best.

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

Membership !

Well we are getting close to two things. The end of our membership year and hitting our membership goal. Everyone has been doing a good job of keeping the membership up front. The detachment is at 80 % renewal rate, which is first in the East Region as of March 9th. We continue to stay ahead of the goals set by national. We only need 1346 members to reach 100%.

As of April 17th, here is how each district stands.

1st NESD at 100.6%
2nd WMD at 95.1%
3rd NCD at 92.9%
4th SESD at 91.8%
5th Mountain at 91.3%
6th SMD at 88.3%
7th Baltimore at 62.1%



The detachment is at 94.2%. The next goal is May 13, 2020 at 90% let's see if everyone can hit our target by that date. Remember the first district to reach 3 star will have a donation to the commander's project by me in their name.

Mark T. Fayer, Sr
Membership Chairmen
1st Vice Commander

Americanism Report

It's hard to believe the year is almost over. I want to thank Commander Manzo for having confidence in me to serve as Detachment

Americanism chair for another year. I also would like to thank each sub-committee chair for their hard work and dedication towards the Americanism program.

Although we had a mild winter, spring is around the corner. Soon the squadrons will need to prepare the year end consolidated reports. This is your chance to demonstrate all your accomplishments over the last year. For those that still want to make donations to the Americanism programs, now is the time.

Also make sure you tally all your volunteer hours so your squadron will receive credit for their generosity at convention.

Once again, the Americanism team would like to thank each of you for your continued support.

Yours in Service,
William Yeagy
bizybill@hotmail.com
443-619-8797

Boys State

As of this writing the Department of Maryland's Boys State is 23 applicants behind what the Department had last year at this time. At present we have 107 applicants in the pipeline. I am concerned about the numbers that are applying being down.

The distribution is getting better 20 counties out of 23 are represented thus far. The program is missing students from Caroline, Garrett, Kent, and Somerset counties. Let's go Sons and get those students from these counties signed up and committed to going to the best program The American Legion has to offer.

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Remember to consider the best students in Maryland for our programs. Remember to always talk about Girls State as well. If you don't have an Auxiliary Unit, then your Post can sponsor the young lady and young boy to both programs so we can fill both of these programs to capacity this year.

The Director of Maryland Boys State has sent out a message to all applicants on the MD Boys State 2020 group page on Facebook updating our program and the contingency plans for COVID-19 response. I and the rest of the Staff of Boys State wish that everyone remains safe and healthy during this crisis.

Thank you,
Dennis Renehan
Boys State Chairman
CIC Fort City
410-330-3003
dawgtrucker@yahoo.com

Boy Scouts

As we go into another year, we realize how much our Boy Scouts can use our help. They too are having problems, which is why we need to step up and help anyway we can. It still takes \$475.00 per child to send to camp for 2 weeks, which is a small amount compared to a regular vacation. They learn so much in that small amount of time and I think it is money well spent.

No timetable has been set for the dedication of the plaque for Broad Creek except sometime in the spring, hopefully this COVID-19 virus will be over so we can all get together for this. We are still waiting for the youth camp to finish so we can get that dedication done also. In the meantime, I will get going on getting the plaque. But for now, please continue to donate to the scouts.

Thanks

Chairman

PDC, Dave Hullihen

National Emergency Fund:

Last month a tornado hit Nashville, Tenn., resulting so far in the death of at least 24 people. According to the AP, the tornado that struck after midnight "shredded more than 140 buildings and buried people in piles of rubble and wrecked basements. The storms moved so quickly that many people in their path could not flee to safer areas."

It's events like this that The American Legion is here to help through its National Emergency Fund.

NEF grants are available for American Legion and Sons of the American Legion members in good standing, as well as Legion posts, who have been impacted by natural disasters. Eligible individuals can receive grants of up to \$3,000, and posts can receive up to \$10,000. Since the NEF's inception, nearly \$9 million has been provided in financial assistance.

Last year, the NEF distributed nearly \$90,000 in grants. This year, more than \$17,000 has been distributed so far.

"The tornado in Nashville serves as a reminder that The American Legion stands ready to help Legionnaires, Sons of The American Legion members and posts that have been affected by natural disasters like a tornado," said American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford. "Our fellow veterans and their families need us now and will continue to need us in the immediate aftermath of such tragedies. While we may not be there physically to help comfort our fellow veterans affected, we can support them through our generosity by donating to the NEF."

Here in Maryland we are asking each Squadron to donate 50 cents a member to help with this cause. Our goal is \$8,000, because you never

know when this could be you.

For God and Country

Bill Stem PDC and NEF Chairman

If you need assistance please contact...

**WWW.LEGION.ORG/
EMERGENCY/APPLY**

Flag Replacement

Now That we are in the second half of another great year, I wish everyone that participated in this program this year good luck on winning one of the two awards which will be given out at our Convention in June. At the moment the awards have not been decided yet, but they are in the process and quite sure you will appreciate what is decided.

So, as the year is getting closer to the end you must continue to work hard in placing our flag. Remember 3x5 flags are 5 points and smaller ones are 1 point. If you need more forms, they can be downloaded from our website. mdsal.org. All your support is to honor our Veteran's and our great country.

Jerry Saunders Sr.
Program Chairman

Community Affairs:

In the past under community services I would write about helping neighbors with yard work and cleaning up during this time of the year. However, with the ongoing COVID-19 situation, we need to take time and reflect on how this pandemic is affecting our personal lives and our surrounding community.

This pandemic has effected all us on in one way or another. In some cases its boredom or the inability to visit your favorite restaurant, then there are employees who are out of work; along with financial hardship for the small business where they were employed. Of course the worst case would be those individuals that became sick from the virus; especially patients 65 and older or has an

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underlying medical condition.

So during this crisis if you feel you need to get out of the house, call your neighbors that may be at high risk and see if they need extra medications or supplies. A trip to the grocery store would be exceptional beneficial since they need to say away from crowds. It's the small things that we can do to help save a life.

I wish everyone a safe and healthy spring during this pandemic.

Community Affairs Chairman
Joe Lohman
Squadron60@verizon.net

CHILDREN & YOUTH CORNER

It's almost time for Spring, to get things warming up around here, but with Spring coming, it also signals the ending of another Legion year for consolidated reports. Have you made all your donations? Have you tracked all your hours that you volunteered? I'd bet there is a couple more donations possibly you can make. Let me give you a thought, if you are sitting around your post and there is a nice crowd why not grab a roll of tickets and sell a quick 50/50 for a program. Maybe one you were not able to fit in your normal budget, maybe one you want to give more to. There is no such thing as a donation too small. Think of trying this or something else to make a donation here at years end from your Squadron or Post.

Our Children and Youth Commission has had a wonderful year so far and I hope to finish up strong. In December we had another great year for Toys for Tots. Do not forget Laps of Love, which will be held at our Annual Convention in Hunt Valley. Please sign up or sponsor somebody today. Laps of Love

sponsors Special Olympics, Casey Cares and Child Welfare Foundation.

Don't forget the Special Olympics Raffle Tickets. This raffle helps defray the costs of Special Olympics Bowling. If you have not done so, please bring your stubs and money to our next DEC Meeting on May 17, 2020 at Post #66.

As you can see this is just some of the great work going on by your fellow members and you across this great Detachment and like I said we are not through yet. Let us all try to get one more donation in for a worthy program, before the year ends and let's make a difference in a child's life, they are our future!

Yours in Service,

Larry Ford
Detachment Children & Youth Chairman
lafld@comcast.net
443-413-4710

Special Olympics— Maryland

Last month was EPIC as many Februarys are with Special Olympics. After January's Polar Bear Plunge the excitement turned towards Winter Games at Whitetail Ski Resort. From Sunday the 24th thru Tuesday the 26th all of the efforts of Special Olympics Maryland paid off as Opening Ceremonies thru the last medal being awarded went off without a hitch.

I had the special honor of skiing in the Opening Ceremonies Parade of lights. Along with Legionnaire Bill Gantz and other volunteers and Law Enforcement, and led by our Nations Flag, we delivered the torch to the cauldron, lighting the flame that presided over the Games. Detachment First Vice, Mark Fayer, assisted an athlete in The Pledge of Allegiance to open the games.

An unexpected treat, PDC Robbie Robison and his daughter Sidney joined us Sunday and were both a

tremendous help throughout the Games.

Another plus this year was my invitation to join the Winter Games Management Team. This allowed me to be involved with planning as well as the competitions on the mountain.

The only thing that would have made it better would have been more Legion Family Volunteers. Please consider committing your time.

Unfortunately, there's nothing to report on for upcoming events as SOMD has postponed all gatherings until further notice.

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

Casey Cares Foundation

Celebrating their 20th Anniversary this year. The programs are possible because of all their donors. The programs Casey provides for their children and their families are lifting their spirits and improving their lifestyle by taking their minds off their illnesses.

This year for their 20th Anniversary they are planning on collecting 20,000 pairs of pajamas and could use everyone's help. It would be great if your Post could start a pajama drive.

If anyone is interested in monetary donations, please contact the Casey Cares foundation. They are striving for 20 donors per quarter this year.

If you would like to have some children and their families attend your fund raiser you may call Dawn at Casey Cares Foundation. She is very helpful. You may contact her at Casey Cares 443-568-0064

Robert Keys (Bob)
Chairman – Casey Cares

Cell: 443-756-1152

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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.

DOUG HENLEY MEMORIAL LAPS OF LOVE

At our next SAL Convention, we will be having our annual Laps of Love to raise money for 3 charities: Special Olympics, Casey Cares & Child Welfare Foundation

The monies that are raised are split equally between the 3 charities. Please come out and support this worthy cause during our convention this coming September 2020.

For information contact PDC JR Hall at



dhall1967@verizon.net

Legislative Alert!

The Legislative commission is very important part of The America Legion. Washington Conference was March 8-11, 2020. The Legislative agenda for the 116th Congress, second session was published. Here are the top priorities for this year: Toxic exposures and burn pits; Health care for women veterans; Support VA's Suicide-prevention efforts; Reaffirm commitment to our allies; Fully fund a superior national defense; Pay the Coast Guard; Implement, oversee recent laws; Protect the GI Bill; Help end veteran homelessness; Support for Gold Star families and Protect the American Flag. The Legislative priorities sheet

is included in this issue of the Pride with more information explaining each one. I can also send you a copy of the point papers which goes into much more detail, just e-mail me and I will send it to you, it is 22 pages. I am asking each of you to learn about one or two items that you are interested in and then contact your representatives and talk to them about those issues. We need to help take care of our Veterans. Get involved, take action, stand up and be counted, fight for our Veterans. I need you to contact your senators and congressmen and pass on these priorities. Maryland senators are Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen. Maryland congressmen are by districts and you can find your representative at House.gov then enter your zip code and it will show you your representative. Then click on their name and it will bring you to another screen where you can Request a meeting, e-mail them, request a flag or a tour, agency help and constituent services. Try it out and send them an e-mail. More information on legislative issues and to sign up for legislative alerts on the National web site at: <http://www.legion.org/legislative>. 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

The American Legion

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

for the 116th Congress
Second Session

Updated February 11, 2020

James W. "Bill" Oxford
National Commander

James Troiola
Legislative Chairman

Protecting the American flag
The American Legion strongly

believes the U.S. flag is a symbol of our nation's freedom and all that we hold in common as Americans, secured by military men and women who sacrificed so much for all citizens. That is why The American Legion continues to urge Congress to propose and approve an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would allow the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States. Our interest is not to silence those who protest perceived injustices. Americans have the right to voice their views in respectful ways. And we are not alone in this belief. The U.S. House of Representatives has routinely passed such an amendment to protect the flag. Every state has endorsed such a resolution. And surveys show that a majority of Americans still agree that the flag should be protected. The proposed flag protection amendment is no infringement on the Bill of Rights. Instead, it is an exercise in the popular sovereignty the Bill of Rights was designed to protect. (Resolution No. 303, August 2016)

The American Legion is the voice of nearly 2 million U.S. military veterans and service members. As a resolution-based organization, The American Legion's positions represent the views of its members and are based on our four pillars: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth.

VAVS Variety

There has been a lot of activity since my last report a few months ago. We are all effected by the COVID-19 virus. The recent Maryland State of Emergency and Governor Hogan's executive orders has forced many VAVS events to be cancelled. This of course was done for our safety and safety of others. If you were planning on attending an upcoming VAVS event, I recommend contacting the event organizer for information about the status of the event. In addition, the current crisis has affected our VA Medical facilities, VA home and Maryland VA cemeteries.

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At the time this article was written, all VA Medical facilities in Maryland are no longer accepting in kind donations or allowing visitors at their location. Maryland VA cemeteries are closed except for scheduled burials. I'm hoping by the time you receive this article that some of the restrictions have been lifted. As mentioned before it is recommended to check out their web sites for additional information. I am happy to report that the new grill project at Fisher House Bethesda was completed in early February. We are excited to learn that guests at the house has already used the grill and appreciate the support that we have provided them. I wish everyone a safe spring. Don't forget to check in on your older Veteran neighbors as they may need your assistance during this crisis.
VAVS Chairman

Joe Lohman
3rd Vice Commander
Squadron60@verizon.net

General Information from VAMD

VAVS meeting held on 3/17/2020 via conference call do to the current COVID 19 situation.

The following information was made available.

There will be a screening process, at all facilities, when entering.

All outside group volunteer activities have been cancelled.

All volunteers will not report for duty except transportation drivers.

For VA patients some appointments may be cancelled or rescheduled.

No donations will be accepted other than monetary.

There has been one death reported in the VAHCS due to COVID 19 on the west coast.

Many future events have been cancelled or rescheduled.

The above is due to COVID 19.

And the director of VAMDHCS, David L Robertson, will be leaving that position sometime this summer.

Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

"the only Veterans Home in the state"

Due to the potential spread of the COVID-19, the CHVH has taken the precaution of limiting activities outside and within the facility for the near future. Residents will not be attending dinners and other functions outside the Home and visitors/volunteers will be limited. The Southern Maryland District monthly bingos will resume as soon as these precautions are lifted. To make a monetary donation, send checks to SMD Finance Officer, 2 Main St., Laurel, MD 20707, with a copy to Detachment Adjutant Matoska.

The CHVH is the only Veterans Home in the state of Maryland. The CHVH has 286 skilled nursing beds and 168 assisted living beds for a total of 454 total beds. The CHVH serves veterans and their eligible spouses.

If you would like to make a donation to the CHVH, check out the website, www.charhall.org. Copies of the Resident Wish List and the CHVH Donation /Volunteer Acknowledgement Form will be available at the meeting.

Dave Tatman
CHVH Representative
tatman_david@comcast.net
301-645-1537

Loch Raven Medical Center

The Loch Raven Christmas gift bag distribution was held on December 17.

This year members of Jr ROTC from Poly, Mergenthaler and Forest Park High Schools helped with both the packing and distribution. They were

a big help and I attended both days. The bags were valued at \$ 60 each.

Bob Filippi

Loch Raven Representative

Commander's Project

We're having an amazing year so far thanks to the amazing 16,000+ members of the Detachment!! A big thank you to Susquehanna 135 Legion Family for hosting their annual Commander's Project Drawdown.

Special thank you to the Squadron 135 for once again carrying on a great tradition.

We're very close to our goal this year for our Projects, so keep the donations coming in!!

With the Posts across Maryland shut down do the COVID-19 epidemic, we understand that it's hard to have fundraisers. A reminder that we do have the Quilt Raffle tickets for sale at \$5 per ticket. And we also have the Commander's Project Raffle tickets available for \$5 per ticket also. If you are interested in getting some tickets, contact myself or Commander Manzo and we can get them sent out to you!!

Thank you for all your hard work in making this year as successful as possible, and we will hopefully see you in May at the last DEC meeting before we go to Convention in June

"Generations of Service to Our Veterans"

Robert Hill
Chairman

BigRob90@msn.com

Chaplin's Corner



(A Psalm of David.) The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

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He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

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

Amen

Please remember to contact me with illnesses and passing of comrades to Squadron Everlasting. Also make sure they are reported to headquarters.

For God and Country,

William Yeagy, Chaplin

bizybill@hotmail.com

443-619-8797

Time and Place Committee

Convention Update:

PURSUANT TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE DETACHMENT OF MARYLAND, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 2: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE DETACHMENT OF MARYLAND, TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 2020, AT THE DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND-SOUTHERN MARYLAND IDSTRIC YOUTH CAMP, CHELTENHAM, MARYLAND.

Convention packets for the 47th Annual Convention are being

distributed now.

If your Squadron has not received the packet by the May you can contact Adjutant Matoska or myself and we'll be happy to get this information to you.

Full Convention Registration Packets and complete information can be obtained on line at the Detachment website. www.mdsal.org The cutoff date this year for registrations is August 27, 2020. The squadron delegate registration must be in by this date to guarantee Convention Packets and printed badging. Registration for events such as the bowling, cornhole and horseshoes will have the fees double after this date. The cutoff for Ad Sales to be turned in is August 15th.

The Robert "Hoss" Neal Memorial golf tournament is to be determined as PNC Joe Gladden, Golf Chairman, is locating a new venue that is located in the area of the new convention site.

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

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

Reminder, that a "Delegate at Large from your Squadron is only a member who is either a; District Commander, 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 2020–2021 Squadron Certification form, which identifies your new officers. "No Exceptions" Membership cards "Will Not" be

issued, without a Squadron Cert & Fully Paid Delegate Fees.

As well as holding our business convention we also hold a mini Jr. Convention for our younger members. Each year we try to have different fun activities, to help gain the interest of these younger members in our organization and to teach them about the ideals which we hold dear.

I strongly encourage all our Squadrons to bring their young members to participate, they are our future.

The Youth Camp will also host the superstar's activities, as well as our Horseshoe and Corkhole events. We will have beverages and a cookout for all in attendance, so please make sure to register for the events and join us in another great afternoon of fun.

The members of this committee responsible for the various events have all the venues locked down and everything is set. I would like to thank each and every one of them for doing such an outstanding job on each of their responsibilities and in doing them in such a timely fashion. The members of this Detachment can look forward to another outstanding Convention again this year, due to their hard work.

Looking forward to another great convention!

For God and Country,
Bill Hill
Chairman

North Eastern Shore Times

Well looks like we have missed the snow season. Spring is here and everything is blooming, even within the SAL. Elections are coming up. As I go around the district, I hear what I have always heard "It's been okay for the last 50 years what's wrong with it now". Well times have changed; education has to change to meet the demands of new technology that is out there. Look at your newer

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and younger members, listen to them. My grandson two years ago showed me how to use face time on my cell phone. We are going in areas of finances to satisfy our need of all our programs that we give to in support of the American Legion.

One big way we can improve our knowledge is attending the SAL mid-term Squadron officers training in Ocean City Maryland every January. The instructors of this program are persons of past National Commanders and past Detachment officers. This year's attendance was over whelming. We had a very large number of American Legionnaires, Auxiliary, American Legion Riders and SAL members. The best part of this training is that it is free. It's hard to find anything of value to be free these days. Water use to be free but not now.

Right hand salute to all NESD members for their support in collecting dues. We have been and still are in first place, however we still need another drive to get dues in of members that still have not paid. Please take advantage of the SAL website, it is a great informational tool that we have. Right hand salute to Bear Weinzirl for all his hard work on the website. Please use the website to post all your upcoming events.

I remind you we are in a rapidly changing world and we must be ready to try new approaches, new ideas and new methods if we want to survive.

Right now, we are at a time of a medical issue worldwide. For our older members such as "I" remember the issues we had in the past, chicken pocks, swine flu, mercer etc. Today we need to listen to our leadership and our government including our medical professionals. We have the best in all above categories. We need to double check our Veterans, especially the ones living alone. This is why we are in the SAL and part of the Legion family.

I'm very pleased with the turnout of our members attending the North

Eastern Shore District Meetings.

Generations of Service to our Veterans

Yours in Service
Buster Blackiston
Commander NESD

SAL Preamble Update:

The American Legion changes have a direct impact on the Sons of The American Legion.

Upon the approval of Resolution 1, it authorized the changing of the 5th sentence of The American Legion's Preamble; "To preserve the memories and incidences of our associations in the Great Wars." "The Great Wars" has been stricken from the Preamble, and it now reads "To preserve the memories and incidences of our associations in all wars." The SAL preamble has "The Great Wars" in the first and fourth sentences.

The first sentence, "Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of the Great Wars," and the fourth sentence: "to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our forefathers in the Great Wars." In both sentences, "**The Great Wars**" must be removed and replaced with "**All Wars.**"

Please make note of these changes until publications are made available by the National Organization.

Bill Hill (PNVC/PDC)
Sr. Assistant Adjutant
Email: Hill1062@MSN.COM

50th Annual Convention of the Detachment of Maryland

What a great milestone for the Detachment to achieve. Fifty years of coming together from across the

state of Maryland to show our comradeship and learn how to support the various programs. Leading the way for our continued support of The American Legion and all of the programs they support, as well as a few others. We've grown a great deal since the 1st Convention, and as we move closer to the 50th Convention, which should take place in June of 2023, we want to expand on the planning efforts to make the 50th Convention memorable for everyone. One of the first things we're doing is creating a logo to be used for a pin and potentially the 50th Convention logo. To support this effort, we're asking for you to get your creative juices flowing and send us your ideas. They don't need to be overly complicated, so here are some general guidelines:

- ◆ Incorporate the SAL logo, however it may not touch any other pictures or logo.
- ◆ State the years of each convention and location, if possible.
- ◆ The 1st Convention was held at Severn Post 276.

◆ We will post the submitted concepts on our Detachment website, under 50th Convention and ask you to vote for your choice at the upcoming 47th Detachment Convention.

Please send your logo concepts to: hill1062@msn.com.

On behalf of myself and co-chairman PNC James Hartman, we look forward to seeing your ideas and if there are any questions, please let us know.

Chairmen

James Hartman (PNC/PDC) &
Bill Hill (PNVC/PNVC)



Detachment Commander Bob Manzo placed a wreath on behalf of all of the members of the Detachment of Maryland at the WWII

Memorial Maryland Monument in Washington D.C. during the Washington Conference. From left to right is PDC Tom

Deal, PDC Ray Edwards, Commander Bob Manzo, PNC Bill Matoska and Detachment First Vice Commander Mark Fayer.



“Generations of Service to Our Veterans”

3115 Orchard Avenue Baltimore, MD 21234

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Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Maryland



Detachment of Maryland Meeting Schedule 2019—2020

2020 Membership Target Date:

SEPTEMBER 11, 2019	10%
OCTOBER 9, 2019	25%
NOVEMBER 14, 2019	35%
DECEMBER 11, 2019	45%
JANUARY 15, 2020	60%
FEBRUARY 12, 2020	75%
MARCH 11, 2020	80%
APRIL 8, 2020	90%
MAY 13, 2020	100%
*JULY 29, 2020	105%

*Delegate Strength Target Date

Spring D.E.C. Meeting

Canceled

47th Annual Detachment Convention

September 26, 2020

**The Department of Maryland
Southern Maryland District Youth Camp
9201 Surratts Road
Cheltenham, MD 20623**