



“The Pride”

Volume 2010 Issue 1

Fall Issue November 14 , 2010

Editor: Bill Matoska
Co-Editor: Joe Gladden

COMMANDER’S CORNER

BY TOM DEAL

It has been a very exciting start to the year. As I have been traveling around the state at various events, I have seen you working and planning events raising money for the Wounded Warrior Project as well as many other important programs. Department Commander Mike Mooney, Department President Patti Lach and I have been promoting the Legion Family. We have signed up for the Polar Bear plunge under the American Legion Family Team and are looking forward right now to cooling off. I am inviting everyone to join us to plunge and or sponsor one or all of us. I am asking each you to work *with* me for American Legion organization, help us make a difference to the community, state and the nation. This Pride Newsletter is an introduction to our programs, officers, chairmen and committees. I am also inviting each and

everyone to our DEC meeting. Come out and see what we are talking about. Listen, learn, ask questions and see what it’s all about. Maryland has the best Sons of The

American Legion Detachment in the country. We have dedicated leaders and mentors who can answer any question and point

(Continued on page 2)

ADJUTANT’S CORNER

BY BILL MATOSKA

D.E.C.: The next meeting of the Detachment Executive Committee is on November 14, 2010 convening at 1:00 P.M. and will be preceded by the Commissions and Committee Meetings at noon. August J. Raveio Squadron #195 is hosting this meeting at the post home located at 2603 Virginia Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21227 and the post phone number is 410-789-6266. I advise everyone to research directions from their area since Post #195 is accessible from multiple interstate cross sections depending on the direction from which you travel.

Training: The Member Training & Development Committee’s presentation

at the Detachment Seminar was well received and very informative. A special thanks to Chairman, Bill Sparwasser and his team for their hard work putting this program together. As promised at the seminar the first Regional MT & D Training session will take place on December 11, 2010 beginning at 1:00 P.M. hosted at Glen Burnie American Legion No. 40. This session is open to all members with the primary focus toward the squadrons located in the Baltimore District, the Northern Central District, and the northern sector of Southern Maryland District. A special mailing to the squadrons in these areas will be forthcoming

(Continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:

Americanism Today	4
Casey Cares	7
Chaplain’s Corner	4
Children & Youth	2
Commander’s Project	5
Community Service	6
Legislative Report	3
Membership Report	2
Northern Central News	6
NEF Report	4
NESD Gazette	5
Southern MD Times	6
Time & Place	3
VAVS Variety	7
NEC Report	8

CRABBIN' FOR MEMBERSHIP BY BUDDY MASTIN

I hope that everyone is out there "Crabbin' For Membership". Make sure your traps, poles and lines are in working order and haul in those crabs (members). And remember, we even keep the small ones. The goal of each crabber (district) is to have a full pot of crabs (members). The contest to fill your pots with members will be based on percentage as posted on the last Friday of each month starting in August and ending in May. The District with the highest percentage will get 7 points, 2nd place 6 points, 3rd place 5 points, 4th place 4 points, 5th/6th/7th places 3 points each. The first crew to have zero goose eggs will get 3 bonus points. And, the first District to reach 100% will get 3 bonus points. The winning District will get a bushel of crabs. As of Oct. 1st, Southeastern Shore is in 1st place with 17 points and Northern Central is in 2nd place with 12 points. Make sure your pots and nets are in good shape and no crabs (members) get out of your pots. All Officers should be leading by example and

have already sent in their membership. All goose eggs should be gone. *Everyone please remember the three R's of membership: Recruit, Retain and Reinstate. Recruit new members, Retain the members you already have and Reinstate the members that have been gone for more than a year. You can check out where your Squadron stands with membership at <http://www.mdlegion.org/SALMBRSHIP.pdf>*

Upcoming Membership Target dates are: Nov. 17th 2010 - 35%, Dec. 8th 2010 - 45%, Jan. 20th 2011 - 60%, and Feb. 9th 2011 - 75%. We need your help to make Maryland a 4 Star Detachment this year under my watch. So, get out your traps and poles and Let's Go Crabbin' Hon.

Edward 'Buddy' Mastin
Membership Chairman
1st Vice Commander buddymastin@hotmail.com

CHILDREN & YOUTH CORNER BY KEN JENKINS

September 17th through the 19th I attended the National Children and Youth Conference at the Nation Hq. in Indianapolis sponsored by the Legion Children and Youth Commission. The mission of the Children and Youth Commission is to manage a pillar of service guided by three main objectives... 1) To strengthen the family unit. 2) To support quality organizations that provide services for children and youth 3) To provide communities with well-rounded programs that meet the physical, educational, emotional, and spiritual needs of young people

The one part of the conference that influenced me the most was the American Legion Children's Home. The Home was founded in 1928 to care for children of war veterans who died in service or, on return, could not afford to care for their sons and daughters. The Home guides the children in life lessons from ages 11 to 18. Originally there were many homes located all over the country. Unfortunately, due to expense, there is only one left in Oklahoma. This Home is no longer funded by the

American Legion but maintained by the State of Oklahoma. The State has announced it can no longer fund the Home.

It presently houses 44 youths and unless funding is found these children will be left out on the street or put into the system, which has been done already with 18 young people. If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause, please contact me.

Our next Detachment meeting will be your opportunity to contribute to the Toys-for-Tots Campaign. Please bring a new toy.

Don't forget the Polar Bear Plunge, January 29, 2011 support the Legion Family and especially support me. This will be my first time plunging.

Yours in Service

Ken Jenkins II, C&Y Chairman, kenjen007@yahoo.com, 443-204-1776

COMMANDER'S CORNER

(Continued from page 1)

you in the right direction. I am asking you to keep me informed of what you are doing. I would like to visit every Squadron although I know that is an unrealistic goal, but I will do my best to get to as many Posts as I can. I have on my calendar to

attend a District meeting in every District this year, so if you haven't seen me at yours yet, I will be there before the year is over. Always remember all of our troops in harm's way serving all over the world. God bless our service members and God bless America. *Saluting our Wounded Warriors*

Tom Deal
Commander
Detachment of Maryland
Sons of The American Legion
Cell: 443-206-0402 Home 410-642-2561
tom.deal@verizon.net

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FOUNDATION BY KEN JONES

As we start this administrative year, let us remember that not too long ago the devastation left behind by hurricanes and other natural disasters. It is hard for us to comprehend in these modern times the possibility of losing everything to this. The National Emergency Fund is set up to help Legion Family members stricken by these storms, floods, earthquakes and fires. More

than \$3 million in direct aid has been handed out since the NEF was established.

We need to encourage our posts, squadrons and auxiliaries to contribute to the NEF. If possible, try to raise and donate \$1 for each member of your squadron. Not everyone can do that, but some can even give more. Hold special Bingo nights, golf outings and other

fundraisers. Helping others to rebuild, benefits us all. If you have any donations, please bring them to any of the DEC or District meetings. Make sure those checks are made to the Detachment of Maryland, earmarked NEF.

Yours in Service
Ken Jones
NEF Chairman

TIME AND PLACE REPORT BY BILL STEM

As you know, this year's convention will again be at the Hunt Valley Marriott in Hunt Valley, Md., Baltimore County. Packets with all the details will be sent out after the first of the year.

Now we are looking for 2012. If anyone wants to have the convention in their area, please contact me for the Convention Criteria. If your selection meets the criteria we will inspect the location. If we have multiple candidates, the locations will be voted on

at the 2010 Convention by the body.

Your in Service
Bill Stem Chairman
Email: wstem84809@aol.com
Cell: 410 598-9355
Home: 410 526-6559

LEGISLATIVE REPORT BY BILL STEM

On October 13th a dinner meeting was held with State Secretary of Veteran's Affairs, Edward Chow. In attendance were Commander Deal, First Vice Buddy Mastin, VA & R Chairman J.R. Hall, and myself. The Secretary is a

firm supporter of the SAL and believes in our programs. He gave us insight into the workings of his office and State Government. He backs our push for slots for service organizations for the whole state and has offered his

assistance when appropriate. He echoed our call to "get out and vote", so do so. If this is printed after the election I hope you exercised your right.

Bill Stem Chairman

ADJUTANT'S CORNER BY BILL MATOSKA

(Continued from page 1)

encouraging their attendance.

"Honorary Life" Code: The MT & D Committee has been receiving questions regarding Life Membership for the Sons of The American Legion. Honorary life is something that can be awarded by a Squadron/Post to an individual for a specific deed or acts. He must be an existing member of the S.A.L. and eligible for membership in accordance with the established criteria as outlined in the S.A.L. National Constitution. This is only a local Squadron/Post award where authorized and is to be managed by the awarding authority. To assist in

the management for Honorary life members, a code was established by National. First, a squadron must report this information on a member data form and mark the appropriate block "Honorary Life". The record will be coded at National Headquarters. When the annual membership cards & registers are printed, a code "H" will appear on the membership register that denotes "Honorary Life", and will continue to appear on the membership register unless otherwise denoted by the awarding authority. This measure will provide a much needed service on the local squadron level as this information is sometimes lost in the transition of administrations

from year to year.

Postcard Renewal: The mailing of the S.A.L. renewal postcard has been processed and mailed on September 30th to all S.A.L. members whose record at National Headquarters shows unpaid for 2011. A follow up postcard mailing will be sent in January and in April of 2011. Just a reminder, these mailings are made in conjunction and subsequent to membership target dates which are listed on the detachment web site. Please follow these target dates closely to eliminate confusion by the members and help eliminate unnecessary postage costs.
Yours In Service, Bill Matoska

AMERICANISM REPORT BY BILL HILL

The Americanism Commission has kicked off a new year of supporting the many programs within the focus of this commission, and we look to the members of this great Detachment to help were they feel most comfortable. Our success this year will be through the continued support we provide to our Community, State and Nation. Continue to follow these articles for suggestions on what has been successful for others within the Detachment.

Yours In Service to Legion Programs,
Bill Hill, Americanism Chairman

Flag Replacement Program

The Detachment continues to sponsor an award to the top Squadron for Flag replacement. Make sure to track your efforts, and keep a record of the replaced flag as indicated on the replacement form, (3x5 flags will count as 5 points and smaller flags will count as 1 point). If you are also looking for a Flag Retirement program/ceremony, please contact committee chair.

Chairman Jim Alexander

Boys State

This Legion program is very rewarding for those young men who are chosen to participate. We are encouraging each squadron to support your home post by providing any level of support necessary. The Department of Maryland is in need of **our help** and support this year with finances. The Boys State Program is forecasting a huge deficit this year putting the program's success in jeopardy. Commander Deal is asking any squadron or district that can make a monetary donation to this most worthy program to make their check payable to the Detachment of Maryland and earmark your donation to "Maryland Boys State".

The American Legion Boys State is among the most respected and selective educational programs of government instructional program for high school students. It is a participatory where each participant becomes a part of the operation of his local county and state government. At Boys State, participants are exposed to the rights and privileges, the duties and the

responsibilities of a franchised citizen. The training is objective and practical with governments operated by the students elected to the various offices. Activities include legislative sessions, court proceedings, law enforcement presentations, assemblies, bands, chorus and recreational programs. High school juniors are selected by local American Legion Posts to attend the programs.

In Maryland, Boys State is conducted annually at McDaniel College in Westminster, MD. It typically begins on Father's Day and runs through the following Friday. To be eligible for Boys' State, a youth must be a male who has successfully completed their junior year in high school.

Squadrons can also sponsor a young man on behalf of their post home to reduce expenses associated with attending this program.

Yours in Service,
Ken Jones
410-829-9974

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER BY JEFF SEILER

Taps...

The Following person has moved on to a better place

Past Western Maryland District Commander John Shriver's Father passed away. Please keep John and his family in your prayers at this time.

Please keep the following people in your prayers for guidance on their path to recovery from their surgeries and illnesses: Squadron 141 Commander Larry Johnson is recovering from surgery, Jimmy Lawson Jr. Squadron 39 was in bad motorcycle accident and is out of Shock Trauma

and will undergo surgery on October 26th. He will be bed ridden for a couple of months. Our prayers are with



you on your path to a full recovery, Past National Commander William Sparwasser's father William Sparwasser, Follow the path to a fast and

safe recovery. Past Western Maryland District Commander Mark Smith. Our prayers are with you on your way to wellness.

Hear us, merciful Lord, In these our prayers as we ask for gift of healing and wellness, which we offer unto thee in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and thy Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen

For God and Country
Jeff Seiler

Jeffrey.seiler@yahoo.com
301-695-4439

COMMANDER'S PROJECT

BY JR HALL

First I would like to Thank everyone that has already purchased their Wounded Warrior t-shirts in a show of support for Commander Tommy's great project. As of now we have made around \$1,000.00 profit on T-shirts sales and I thank everyone who participated. I should have a few more at our DEC for anyone still interested. Now let's move on to our big money raiser. our Commanders Drawdown in Perryville on March 5, 2011. Tickets are now available and are just \$35.00 a couple with a chance to win \$1,000.00. Dinner and open bar are included along with a lot of fun for everyone. There will be lay downs, raffles, horse races and Chinese auctions to help keep you busy throughout the night. So get in touch with me or Commander Tommy and get your ticket today and ask somebody in your post to come along with you. There will be a hotel nearby available for people to get a room at for a great price. For

more information go to the Detachment website and you will find a flyer on the events tab with all the information you will need.

The Wounded Warrior Project will be honored December 5th at M&T Bank stadium as the Baltimore Ravens team up with Under Armour to pay tribute to our injured Heroes .At the game everyone



entering will receive a Ravens Towel

with the Ravens on one side and the Wounded Warrior Project Logo on the other. In attendance that night will be several Wounded Warriors to enjoy the game on behalf of the Baltimore Ravens and Under Armour.

Commander Tommy and I have set a goal of raising \$40,000.00 and I think if we all put our hearts into it we can top that number easily. I ask every Squadron to place a can or jar in your post to collect money for the project. How about asking all your members that attend your monthly meetings to just give a dollar each meeting and see how much that adds up. All these dollars will add up and when we bring them all together we can do great things, so please show your support by collecting little money that will add up to big money in the end.

Serving Our Veterans,
J.R. Hall

NORTHEASTERN SHORE GAZETTE

As of this note, our district is in 3rd place in membership, 33% of quota. As we all know, membership is the life blood of any organization and in order to grow, we must constantly be looking for new members and hold on to the current ones. A right hand salute goes to Talbot Sq. #70 with a 70% goal, Sq. #77 with 56% goal and Sq. # 296 with 53% goal. Let's all chip in and make improvements in membership.

Mark your calendars for November 28th at Post #18 in for next district meeting. If you can't make it, please send a representative in your place.

Yours in Service,

Ken Jones
NESD Commander 410-829-9974,
jkj44@aol.com

TOYS FOR TOTS

BY JONATHON ALEXANDER

At this November 14th meeting Commander Deal is asking everyone to initiate this year's Toy Drive for the Detachment of Maryland by bringing at least one new unwrapped new toy or, if your squadron wishes, make a monetary donation and make the check payable to the Detachment of Maryland, earmarked "Toys for Tots". The mission of the U.S. Marine Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new toys and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in our communities. This year your help is needed more than ever. According to a recent report from the U.S. Census Bureau, the poverty rate climbed to 14.3% in 2009—the highest level since 1994. The rise was steepest for children, with 1 in 5 residents under

18 living below the poverty line. Given these escalating statistics, providing gifts to all children living in poverty has become increasingly difficult. As poverty rates continue to rise, the Sons of The American Legion must remain steadfast in our commitment to help ensure no child in Maryland goes without a gift on Christmas. The Detachment of Maryland is known for reaching out to those less fortunate and I know with your help we will continue this noble tradition. We have requested a member of the U.S. Marine Reserve to attend this D.E.C. meeting to answer any questions we may have and to provide information for logistical support from Toys for Tots for any events you may have planned back at your squadron.

SOUTHERN MARYLAND TIMES

Well our seminar, along with our DEC seminar, was a lot of information to take in and I hope a lot of information to give out too. I encourage all Squadron Commanders to stay in touch with your DEC men and make sure you have all the information you need, and if you need more get in touch with them or myself. We want you to have what you need to succeed as a Squadron. If you are having any upcoming events make sure you get that information out there too, and send it to our webmaster on the website SMDSAL. Buddy has done a

great job with the website so don't just look at it for information about your squadron but look to see what else is going on everywhere.

We will be having our Commanders Drawdown at Post 40 in Glen Burnie on November 13th and I assure you it will be a great time. Tickets are 35.00 a couple and includes a meal and open bar from 7-8. Then there will be music and fun till the end of the night. Get in touch with your DEC men to ask about tickets or you can contact me and I will make sure you get what you need. All the money raised will help the Southern

Maryland District Sons of The American Legion promote Legion Programs. Our next meeting will be November 21st at Wheaton Post 248 at 1:00 and I hope to see everyone there. Please come and be a part of the District growing and doing as much as we can for our Veterans and all of our programs.

Please Remember our Soldiers and Veterans,

J.R. Hall

Southern Maryland District
Commander

NORTHERN CENTRAL NEWS

On September 18th we served hamburgers to the patients at Perry Point Veteran's Hospital for their annual Carnival. We had a great turn-out and the patients were very appreciative. The following day we had our District Meeting at Harford Squadron #39. We had a good crowd including our Detachment Commander, Tom Deal.

Debbie Hood, from the Ronald McDonald House, was there to

accept the check for \$4425.59. This was the final total from Past Commander Jerry Saunders' Commander's Project. Ms. Hood thanked the NCD for all the support it has shown the Ronald McDonald House over the years.

Our next event will be the Bragging' Rights Pool Tournament to be held November 28th at the Rogers House Tavern in Harve De Grace. The cost is \$10 and all are welcome. Contact

Jerry Saunders (443-807-1131) for details.

Our next NCD Meeting will be November 21st at Bernard L. Tobin, Squadron #47 in Havre De Grace. Meeting starts at 1:00 PM.

Serving Veterans In Need
Allan Walls
Commander
Northern Central District
410-256-9182

COMMUNITY SERVICE BY JEFF SEILER

On October 23, 2010, eight of us went to Andrews Air Force Base to the Fisher House. We were welcomed with open arms. There were some Wounded Warriors from Walter Reed and the Fisher House residents. We cooked for about 25 people. We prepared and cooked a Maryland style cook out. Buddy Mastin (Chef Mastin) prepared and cooked to perfection Maryland lump crab cakes that were out of this world. And in the other Corner we had our Commander Tom Deal, on the grill cooking Barb-B-O chicken until it was finger lickin good. We

had a wonderful turn out and beautiful day for this event. The Sons of The American Legion did a wonderful service to the Wounded Warriors and the Fisher House residents this day, it also happens to be "Make a Difference Day". The Sons of The American Legion definitely made a difference that day. There were several residents that have never had a crab cake; the worst part is they will never be able to have another one like the one that Buddy made. They will be spoiled for life. But it was a great day to help lift the spirits and give back to the community like we

did. Thank you Andy, Bill, Bob, Buddy, Francine, JR, & Tom for all your help making the Community Service Day at the Fisher House a great experience and a day that will be long remembered. The next Community Service day is still yet to be determined, but it will take place in the spring at Bethesda Naval Base.

Please keep in mind that this is the time for blood drives. The Blood banks are low and need to be replenished. Please plan on and if able

(Continued on page 7)

VAVS VARIETY BY JR HALL

Well we just got back from Indy where I attended the Fall VA&R Commission meeting and went over this year's programs. One of the big programs that we are asking everyone to help with is Homeless Veterans. Did you know that about one third of homeless in our country are Veterans? That is alarming to me. This is a serious issue and one we as Sons need to help where we can. Our Preamble talks about a priceless heritage, which is our Veterans and we need to help our Priceless Heritage as much as possible. This doesn't mean just by giving money when you see a homeless man or woman with a cardboard sign that says Veteran on it. And it may not even be money that you can help with. MCVETS is a great program here in Maryland that helps our homeless Veterans get

back on their feet and become productive in our community again. You can have a clothing drive at your post and give them used clothes and used shoes. You could have a food drive. They will be more than happy to accept that also, and you can give a donation to help. All of these will help to clothe, feed and house our Veterans that have fallen on hard times and with a little help could be become a productive part of the community.

I would like to Thank our Charlotte Hall rep, Buddy Mastin, for setting up the tour of Charlotte Hall last month for our Commander Tommy Deal. I would also like to Thank Buddy, his wife Fran, Bill Matoska, Commander Deal and my wife Margie, and National Vice Commander Joe Gladden for

attending. It does mean a lot to these Veterans to have a visit from somebody and for that somebody to say "Thanks for your Service". We were honored to be there on 9-11 and have one of the residents actually take us thru on the tour. Even though the veterans thanked us for coming, we surely got a lot more out of it, then they did. I encourage all of our members to take time and visit a Veteran Hospital or Center and Thank our Veterans for what they did for you and our country. Please remember Veteran's Day and try to make sure as always you Thank every Veteran for their service.

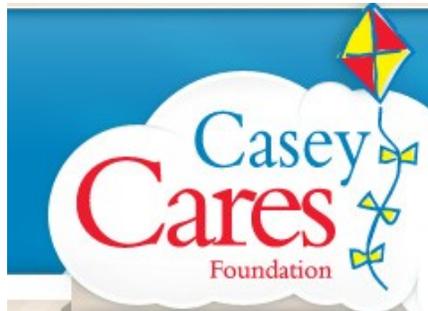
Serving our Veterans,
J.R. Hall
dhall1967@verizon.net

CASEY CARES BY DAVE HULLIHEN

We are once again asking to dig in and help support the Casey Cares Foundation once again this year, at the next DEC meeting which will be held at August J Raveio we will have a representative and a family from Casey Cares to talk about all the great things that Casey has to offer and all the wonderful things that they do. As Commander Tom said we are going to make this a children and youth meeting, as Toys For Tots will also be there, so do not forget your toys.

I was listening at the radio one Sunday and they just so happen to have someone on their from Casey Cares and as I sat and listened I realized that they reach

out all over the place to help children in their time of need. Most of these kids would not be able to do any of the things they do if not for



Casey Cares and all those who work for and give up their time to help others. I would like to take this time to thank them. There are a lot of

people behind the scenes that work very hard to make things happen. Some us may not have the time and or energy to do the things they do to get things done. So thank you. Now we may not all have the time, but somehow we always manage to come up with monies to help Casey and I am asking once again this year, let's try and surpass last year's total of over \$10,000.00. At the next meeting let's break out our wallets and checkbooks and make big donations right in front of Casey and their families. Thank you and see you at the next meeting

Dave Hullihen
Casey Cares Chairman
dave.bwh@verizon.net

COMMUNITY SERVICE BY JEFF SEILER

(Continued from page 6)

to go and donate blood. When you do this mark it down in your books

and let us know how many times you gave blood, as this goes down in our reports.

Yours in Service

Jeff Seiler
jeffrey.seiler@yahoo.com
301-695.4439

“Saluting Our Wounded Warriors”

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF MARYLAND

3115 Orchard Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21234



NEC NEWS BY ANDY DADDS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMEN

I bring you greetings from National Commander David Dew. On October 8-10, 2010 members of the Detachment on Maryland traveled to Indianapolis to attend the Fall NEC. During the weekend our members represented us by sitting in on the various commission and committee meetings that were held. Commander Tom Deal, Vice Commander Buddy Mastin, Bill Stem and our S.A.L. Commission Chairman George Grossnickle all graduated the Detachment Commanders Class.

Commander Dew's membership theme this year is the Sons of The American Legion 365, "RACING FOR MEMBERSHIP". National Vice Commander Joe Gladden is proud of the Detachment for our membership; we have surpassed the October 20th goal of 25% with a 29.915% which puts us 9th in the Nation and 1st in the Eastern Region. Unfortunately the Eastern Region is in last place. We have a renewal rate of 88.88% for 2010. But the year is not over until December 31th, you still have time to transmit your 2010 dues, we only need 1,028 members to reach another all time high.

The numbers are in from the

consolidated reports turned in for convention. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation reported 298,133 hours recorded and 15,065 visits, \$85,559 donated to Fisher House (\$40,000 from Maryland). Children & Youth reported \$888,156 in support of other C&Y programs, Special Olympics \$130,219 with a grand total for the year \$1,606,500 in donations. Americanism reported \$345,244 in scholarships, 758 boys to Boys State, 12,039 flags replaced, with a grand total of \$2,175,118 in donations. These numbers could be bigger if all of the squadrons would send in a consolidated report form.

Here are some frequently asked question received at National Headquarters.

Question: What is the purpose of the Washington Conference?

Answer: The Washington Conference is held once a year and members of all the Departments & Detachments representing the American Legion Family from around the nation meet in Washington to lobby on behalf of our Veterans, Families, Communities, States and Nation. National American Legion Commission

meetings are also held at this time. Valuable information and resources are available to the membership to take back to their Squadrons, Districts, and Detachments.

Question: Where can I find information to help me become an effective and productive veterans' advocate?

Answer: Information is available in the Legislative Handbook available through the National American Legion Legislative Commission Office. Other excellent resource tools available are the booklet How to Make a Difference Through Effective Grassroots Lobbying available through Emblem Sales and The American Legion Dispatch, a periodical publication available through the American Legion National Headquarters. The American Legion Legislative Action Center is another source of valuable information and can be found at <http://www.legion.org>.

More information can be found on the National Web site. <http://sal.legion.org>

Andy Dadds, PDC
NEC Committeemen,