



# “The Pride”

Volume 2011 Issue 4

Spring Issue April 1, 2012

Editor: Bill Matoska  
Co-Editor: Joe Gladden

## COMMANDER’S CORNER BY BUDDY MASTIN

This year is going by so quickly. I can not tell you how proud I am to be Detachment Commander as I see our members out there working so hard supporting and promoting all of the great programs of The American Legion Family and “Serving America’s Veterans Every Day”. We all had a great time at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge in January as The American Legion Family plunge team braved the cold waters of the Chesapeake as we raised money for Special Olympics. We also had a great time that weekend at the Detachment Travel Club Soiree in Ocean City. It was great to have Department Commander Smullen and Department President Rhone at the party as well as all the other Legion Family members and guests who attended, everyone had a great time. It was also great to see over 100 people at our DEC meeting that Sunday.

I am very happy to see The American Legion Family working so hard

supporting my Commander’s Project this year as we try to buy a handicapped accessible bus for Charlotte Hall Veterans Home. As of March 1st we have raised over (drum roll please) \$75,000. Wow. It is amazing what we can accomplish when we work together as a team.

## ADJUTANT’S CORNER

BY BILL MATOSKA

**D.E.C.:** The next meeting of the Detachment Executive Committee is being hosted at Damascus American Legion Post No. 171 on April 1, 2012. The D.E.C. will convene at 1:00 PM and will be preceded by Commission and Committee meetings at 12:15 PM. The post address is 10201 Lewis Drive, Damascus, Md. 20872. The post phone number is 301-253-0769.

**D.E.C. Directions:** From the Interstate (I-70), take the MD-275 exit, Exit 68, toward MD-144/Mt. Airy/Damascus. Turn left onto MD-275/Ridge Road. Continue to follow MD-275 for approximately 5.7 miles

I can not wait to see the look on their faces as we present the veterans with their new bus. Thank you to all the Posts, Units and Squadrons who have worked so hard raising money for the bus. Keep the donations coming because once we reach our goal the extra money

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and then turn right onto Corner Street, take 1st right onto Lewis Drive and the post home will be on the right.

**Convention:** Convention packages have been distributed with this edition of The Pride and is also available on the detachment web page in a pdf format for your convenience. Once again we are at The Baltimore Marriott Hunt Valley Inn at 245 Shawan Road in Hunt Valley, Md. There are two changes to our venue locations at this year’s convention. The first is our business meeting location. On Saturday, June 23,

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## MEMBERSHIP BY BILL HILL

The "Membership Cup Race" has rounded the 3<sup>rd</sup> turn of the race and is headed down the straightaway. The lead has changed several times during this race, however one thing has been consistent and that is the drive to keep our membership on track. This will be the last article before our Detachment convention, so please support your "Jockey" (District Commander) and let's bring every District across the 100% line by May 19, 2012.

**Recruit:** Always keep an application with you. As a matter of fact you should have an application for all three (3) organizations of American Legion with you at all times. Chat up the SAL in line at the grocery store or while shopping anywhere, or even at work. You would be surprised as to how many people aren't aware of what the Sons of The American Legion are about, or at the least aware of how much The American Legion does for their local community and this great country. Remind people that The American Legion and its programs (Sons of The American Legion) are more than Baseball, Bingo and Beer. We're a group of individuals who are proud of our "Priceless heritage" and we want them to feel the same pride!

**Renew:** If possible, send out post card size reminders from your squadron to those who haven't renewed and ask them to mail in their dues or drop it off by the post. A personal note is one of the best reminders/persuaders. Or if you have a list of phone numbers distribute the list amongst your membership team and make a few calls. Again the personal touch is always a great way to communicate. Also, use emails or Facebook as a reminder.

**Reinstate:** If you have a member who dropped off because of a personal situation, or if their dues were being paid by a parent or grandparent, find out what you can offer to bring them back. Now let's complete this "Membership Cup Race" with all of the Districts coming across the 100% finish line!

The current membership updates have the Detachment at 86%, which is exceeding our next membership target goal of 80% by March 14<sup>th</sup> and keeps us on "Track" to making our 100% goal by May 19, 2012 and potentially the 105% goal by July 2, 2012. We are 90 members ahead of this time last year. Outstanding job gentlemen!! Keep up the fantastic work.

**Race update:** Going into the straightaway we have a very close race with the *North Eastern Shore* in 1<sup>st</sup> place by .001% over 2<sup>nd</sup> place *South Eastern Shore* (who has lead the race for a few

months) followed by *Western Maryland* in the "Show" position; however all of the remaining district are on pace and will provide an interesting finish to this race. I am positive all of the districts will meet their 100% membership goal.

The final membership standing at the end of May 2012 will place the top three Districts in a Win, Place, or Show position. Remember this is a straight-up race towards the finish line, so keep your eyes on those membership target dates! There are no extra points for "no goose eggs" (although having none will help push you towards the finish line), no weekly or monthly points for being in the lead, and no special consideration for having the largest membership count (bragging rights for this is acceptable though).

Any District Commander who finishes the race with 100% of their membership goal will receive a customized polo shirt, with the wording "Membership Cup Race, 2011 - 2012, 100% Achievement" and, if they reach the 105% goal, the percent will be adjusted to what they achieved and printed in larger letters. District Commanders, I would like nothing more than to present seven (7) shirts at our Convention this year, so please get out there and bring in the members.

One of the best approaches to building those membership numbers is to keep the three R's (Recruit, Retain & Reinstate) of membership in mind at all times. So, I encourage every squadron member to go out and keep the three R's of membership moving and help your District Commander ride that membership horse across the finish line.

Follow the Detachment's membership target dates and current membership status on our website at [www.mdsal.org](http://www.mdsal.org), the membership track is on the left hand side. There will also be monthly updates on the Detachment of Maryland's Facebook site. If you have any question, are looking for suggestions or want some general information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Service to God and Country,  
Bill Hill  
Membership Chairman  
[Hill1062@MSN.COM](mailto:Hill1062@MSN.COM), Cell: 301-928-1411



## COMMUNITY SERVICE BY ANDY DADDS

The Detachment of Maryland will be having a picnic at the Bethesda Navy Medical Center Fisher House on April 21, 2012 starting at 11am for the families staying there while their loved ones are being treated at the Medical Center.

This is our annual picnic that we hold every year and we are looking for donations for food and volunteers to help cook and

show our support to the families and members of our Armed Forces. The food we serve and the support we show these families are why we belong to the Sons of The American Legion.

If you can help us please send me an email with a list of volunteers and amount of donations in order to provide a great picnic. There is no limit on the amount of

volunteers we can have. We may be serving approximately 80-100 guests. I will have a better head count by the next DEC. [badadds@baybroadband.net](mailto:badadds@baybroadband.net) by the April DEC

Andy Dadds  
PDC  
410-708-4144

## AMERICANISM REPORT BY JEFF SEILER

The Administrative year is almost over and soon we will be at our annual Detachment Convention. This is the time to start collecting your meeting minutes and notes in preparation for completing the consolidated reports. This is our opportunity to brag about what the "Blue Cap" members have done. Let's make this year another outstanding year. We've always been and will continue to be a Detachment that shows its great support to all the Americanism programs. Supporting Local blood drives where the blood banks are low due to the natural disasters we are having, or by supporting a scout troop. **Flag Replacement Program**, Memorial Day is right around the corner so lend a hand to place flags on veteran's graves or throughout your community as appropriate. 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. (3 x 5 flags will count as 5 points and small flags will count as 1 point) If you are looking for a Flag

retirement program/ceremony, please contact committee Chairman Chris Dadds. There will be a prize for first place for the most flags retired. **Community Affairs** Coming up on April 21<sup>st</sup> we going to Bethesda Naval Hospital to the Fisher Houses. We will provide some type of picnic for the Wounded Warriors and Fisher House residents. If you have never been to a Fisher Houses this is the perfect opportunity to come as see what they are and how we provide fellowship to the veterans and their families. Fisher house as you know is very important to the families and military by giving them a place to stay in their time of need. It is truly a home away from home. It's a warm setting for them while their love one is being treated in one of the VA hospitals. DEC. Chairman Andy Dadds PDC **Boys State** This legion program is very rewarding for those young men who are chosen to participate. Boys State is among the most respected educational programs for high school students. Participants are exposed to the rights and privileges and duties and responsibilities of

a citizen. We are encouraging each squadron to support your home post by providing any level of support necessary. Chairman Jerry Saunders Sr. **National Emergency Fund** The National Emergency Fund continues to need our help. With the continued economic challenges we face as a world, the support this program provides to so many, is greatly appreciated. Please continue your aid or our Legion family. We are asking each squadron to donate at least \$1.00 per member. I believe this is a very obtainable goal. We need to help in this time of needs where there are so many natural disasters, the fires in Texas, The flooding in the Northeast and South just to name a few. Thank you again for your continued support. Chairman Larry Griffin. Thank You to every member of the Detachment and all or our Legion Family members for supporting the programs, which fall under Americanism.

For God and Country  
Jeff Seiler  
Americanism Chairman

## SOUTHERN MARYLAND TIMES

As the summer months are upon us, we still have a lot of unfinished business. We have consolidated reports to get filled out, goals that must be reached, donations to be collected and membership to be renewed. Please remember endorsements for future officers, both Detachment and District should be sent in.

I would like to congratulate four star squadron 172 and 206, and Three Star squadron 108 and 295.

April 21-Southern Maryland District - S.A.L Shrimp feast, Laurel Post 60 contact Jim Alexander(40) Joe Lohman (60) Dave Sprucebank (40)

April 22-Southern Maryland District meeting Post 41, Cissel-Saxon 1:00 pm  
June 3-District Caucus Glen Burnie Post 40 12:00 pm  
Yours In Service,  
Dave Sprucebank  
Commander

## CASEY CARES BY ED STEININGER

As I sit here composing this letter, it seems as though winter has come and gone. Flowers are starting to poke through the ground, and some are even blooming. Others are talking of seeing robins feeding in their yards. All the signs of Spring. Yet for many people, they are spending these days in hospitals, or at home so sick from the treatments that they aren't paying attention to the weather. This is where Casey Cares steps in. They offer family outings, holiday parties, and birthday parties for these families. We as Sons of The American Legion, have been a major supporter of Casey Cares since it was founded in 2000. There are so many ways that we can support this group. Gift cards are always

accepted, tickets for events in and around our area, and even things as simple as a new pair of pajama's, in a program called Kami's Jammies. Casey Cares offers parties to hospitalized children totaling about 5 a month. A simple thing like a new soft pair of pajama's for those children, is sometimes all it takes to put a smile on their faces. When these children smile, that makes their parents smile.

As we gather on April the 1<sup>st</sup>, it would be nice if every attendee at the Detachment meeting were to bring at least one pair of pajamas to be donated to Kami's Jammies. Also, let us not forget our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual, Laps of Love, run/ walk for MD Special

Olympics, Casey Cares, and The Child Welfare Fund. This event will be held at Arch Bishop Spaulding High School in Severn MD. Please go to [sallapsoflove.com](http://sallapsoflove.com) to register or even to pledge to the runners and walkers. If you want to make a personal donation, I will be walking for Casey Cares, and am registered. Every penny counts. I hope to see many faces there that day.

Please remember to bring your donations to the DEC meeting on April 1, 2012.

Until then,  
Ed Steinger Sr  
[edwardsteininger@yahoo.com](mailto:edwardsteininger@yahoo.com)  
contact me on Facebook

## CHILDREN & YOUTH CORNER BY JR HALL

WOW it is almost Spring time and what a great year we are having.

I know that our Commanders project is making a all time high but I want everyone to remember that our children are our future and we still need to give to our Children and Youth programs. Our Chairmen have been doing a great job getting the word out and letting more people know about the programs and I hope you take time to read all the information they pass on to you here in the Pride. I want to Thank all of them for there hard work. Please dont forget to make sure you fill out your consolidated report and put every dollar you spend

and every hour you work to give your Squadron credit for the work it is doing. Which in returns give your District and Our Detachment credit for what we are all doing here in the great state of Maryland.

Don't forget our first time Children and Youth fundraiser being put on at Archbishop Spalding on April 14th 2012 called Laps of Love. Special Olympics Maryland, Casey Cares and CWF will all be benefitting from this event. If you would like to join the walk or run just go to [www.sallapsoflove.com](http://www.sallapsoflove.com) and sign up. If you can't walk or run then sponsor somebody to help us be successful at this

new event. This is a great new way we can have fun and raise money together. Again the athletes from Special Olympics will be leadin the first laps at 9:00 for runners and the families from Casey Cares will lead the walkers at 10:00. Then when we are all done we will have a special performance by the cheerleading squadron from Special Olympics Maryland at 1:00. I hope to see you all there.

Remember Our Children are Our Future  
JR Hall  
Children & Youth Commission Chairman

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT BY TOM DEAL

I continue to send out weekly e-mails with the legislative updates from The American Legion Legislative Commission. They have asked to remind ALL members of the Sons Organization to watch for discussions of Veterans Issues, we need to stand strong in support of our Country and our Veterans. Good news SB 11 the lottery bill came out of committee passed the Senate in February with a vote of 47 – 0. I will keep you informed and updated of current legislation and important issues with Veteran's issues. We all need to contact our Senators and Congressmen to

let them know where we stand on the issues. There are links on our web site to several web sites for specific information. The Washington Conference tour this year included WWII War Memorial, Vietnam Wall Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery and Women in Military Service for America Memorial. Sixty-five Sons members from across the country went on the tour with National Commander Jim Roberts as he placed a wreath at each of the memorials. Detachment Commander Buddy Mastin placed a wreath at the WWII War Memorial in memory of his father's

service. Information drop sheets were sent out on topics of major concern to the American Legion. Keep up the conversations with your Representatives and Senators; let them know our support for the Veterans legislation.

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

## VAVS VARIETY BY RAY EDWARDS

I must admit, Commander Mastin's goal to purchase a new handicap accessible bus for Charlotte Hall, was a huge project to choose. I wondered if we could raise that amount of money. It is apparent the goal has been achieved.

Donations are down this year. It's time to help some of our remaining veterans, in the State of Maryland. At this point, there have been eight donations, compared to thirty-four donations last year. It's not the amount you give; it's the thought that you gave something. I would like to see a donation of twenty-five dollars, per squadron, per location. These locations are; Perry Point Hospital, McVets, Cambridge VA, Pocomoke VA, Loch Raven, Baltimore VA and Charlotte Hall.

If we all donate to these centers, we can make a difference. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Serving Veterans and Their Families,  
Ray Edwards  
VAVS Chairman 2011/2012  
[rayjred@verizon.net](mailto:rayjred@verizon.net), (410) 215-9354

### Loch Raven VA CLC

On February 12, Susan Kern, Program Manager, Voluntary Services, spoke at the Northern Central District meeting on volunteer opportunities at Loch Raven and throughout the VA MD Health Care System. Please consider inviting a VA representative to speak at one of your meetings.

Then on February 23, the VA Loch Raven had the official unveiling of a donor plaque acknowledging those that supported the purchase of patient televisions on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Although I did not make the event I plan to see and take a picture of the plaque for the Detachment history book. Voluntary Services is always looking for new groups or individuals to get involved in activities at the facility. If interested call Barbra Swann, Voluntary Services 410-605-7000 x 5877, for more information.

Bob Filippi  
VAVS Representative  
[kassbob@aol.com](mailto:kassbob@aol.com)

## COMMANDER'S PROJECT BY BILL STEM

WOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!! That's all I can say about the outpouring of support for the Commander's Project at the last Detachment meeting in ocean city. We raised over \$20,000 in one afternoon. As of this date we have raised close to \$60,000 toward the recent goal of \$69,000. The bus is being ordered as we speak. Let's put it over the top, so Commander

Buddy can drive that bus right up to the front door of Charlotte Hall.

All monies can be sent to ...  
Bill Matoska DEC Adjutant  
3115 Orchard Ave.  
Baltimore, Md. 21234

Please put Charlotte Hall Bus in the Memo section.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Yours in Service  
Bill Stem  
Email: [wstem84809@aol.com](mailto:wstem84809@aol.com)  
Cell: 410 598-9355  
Home: 410 526-6559

## MARYLAND SPECIAL OLYMPICS BY JIM ALEXANDER

I would like to start by saying thank you to all of the plungers who participated in the Polar Bear Plunge and ones who donated. We raised over \$15,000 which helped Maryland Special Olympics bring in \$2.5 million this year. It is with great regret the 2012 Winter Games was cancelled due to current weather conditions, can you believe we wanted

snow? At all times the safety of the athletes must come first. As many of you are aware this was a qualifying year for the 2013 World Winter Games. As a means of drawing athletes for the two slots we received (alpine skiing and snowshoes) we received, we will be using the results from the 2011 Winter Games so the athletes can continue on

the quest for the gold they trained so hard for. Please check your district for volunteering opportunities; a little help goes a long way.

Our children are our future!  
Jim Alexander  
443-623-9907  
[jimalex831@verizon.net](mailto:jimalex831@verizon.net)

## CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK BY BUD SINGLETON

I want to thank all the members who have donated at our DEC meetings so far this year as well as the squadrons who have donated. I know that there are a few months left in this fiscal year for further donations and I will ask again that everyone seriously consider The CMN.

The John Hopkins Children's Center will be moving into a new 205 bed facility, set to open May 1 of this year, which will be able to house more children in need. This of course will require more operating supplies which are not covered by insurance companies. That is what our donations will help cover.

As you can see they need all the financial assistance they can get Please keep this in mind.

Respectfully  
Fulton "Bud" Singleton PDiC  
DEC Chairman CMN

## COMMANDER'S REPORT BY BUDDY MASTIN

*(Continued from page 1)*

will be used for upgrades to the bus such as better seating and dual air conditioning and possibly a gas or maintenance card. I would like to thank Susquehanna Squadron 135 for all the hard work they put into the Commanders Draw-down on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. We raised over \$15,000. Also thanks to Post and Unit 135 for all their hard work and use of the hall, great job.

Please remember, membership is the lifeblood of our organization and without it we could not do the job we do supporting all the great programs of The American Legion Family. We need to have our

membership keep growing so we can keep "Serving America's Veterans Every Day". Please pass it on to your Squadron Officers to get their members signed up or renewed and sent in as soon as possible. All Squadrons should be at 90% membership by April 11<sup>th</sup>. You can check how your Squadron is doing in membership at <http://www.mdlegion.org/SALMBRSH.pdf>

I would like to invite all Squadron Commanders and their Post Advisors to come to our Spring Detachment meeting on April 1, 2012 at 1PM at Damascus Post #171. Thank you for allowing me to serve this organization. If I can be of service to anyone one of you, please let me

know. Please visit and use our Detachment website [www.mdsal.org](http://www.mdsal.org) and our new Detachment Facebook page to see what the Sons of The American Legion are doing. I am only a phone call or e-mail away if I can be of assistance. Let's get out there, roll up our sleeves and support the programs of The American Legion Family. God Bless our Troops and Veterans and God Bless America.

Serving America's Veterans Every Day,  
Edward 'Buddy' Mastin  
Detachment Commander  
[buddymastin@hotmail.com](mailto:buddymastin@hotmail.com)

## NORTHERN CENTRAL NEWS

It's hard to believe that the year is almost over. I would like to remind everyone that there is still time to raise some money and make your donations.

My Commander's Project of some new kitchen equipment for McVets is moving along, but we are not there yet. We will

be holding a Bus Trip to Atlantic City on April 21, 2012 to raise funds for my project. The cost is \$40.00 per person and includes beer and food on the trip up and back and a lot of fun is also included. Please contact me if interested.

Our next meeting is on April 15, 2012 at

Slateridge Post 182 at 1 PM. Please plan on attending. The first round of officer nominations will take place on this day.

For God and County  
Kraig A. Dean  
kraigdean@yahoo.com  
410-440-2449

## JOE'S JOURNEY

Time sure does fly. It seems like it was just yesterday that I was attending my first National Convention in Indianapolis in 1995 and now seventeen years later I will be returning to this year's National Convention in Indianapolis as the 2nd Leading Candidate For National Commander.

We are currently just finishing up our first major fundraiser and that is the 90 Day Lottery Campaign Calendar. This was fairly successful. We sold about 640 of the 1,000 calendars. We will start selling the 2nd phase of this calendar on April 1, 2012 with a start date of August 1, 2012. If we could find 50 people to sell 20

calendars, we could easily sell the 1,000 calendars and make \$10,000.00 towards the our goal of \$75,000.00 needed for the National Campaign.

Currently, a number of squadrons are planning fundraisers: Ft. Cumberland Sq 13 is hosting a Cash Bash on May 5th, SEDS is having a Draw Down on May 12th at Hurlock Post 243, Overlea-Perry Hall Sq 130 is having a Draw Down on May 19th, Glen Burnie Sq 40 is having a dance on May 19th, Susquehanna Sq 135 is hosting a dance on June 9th and Susquehanna Post 135 is hosting a Texas Holdem on June 16th. For more information on these fundraisers or for

hosting a fundraiser, please contact JR Hall, Fundraising Chairman at 410-365-7758 or at dhall1967@verizon.net or Bear Weinzirl, National Campaign Chairman at 484-880-0320 or at nesdsal@aol.com.

I want to thank all those individuals that have volunteer to be part of my campaign team. If you would to join Joe's Journey, please let me know. All are welcome.

Thanks  
Joe Gladden  
joe@saljoe.org  
443-742-0842

## ADJUTANT'S CORNER BY BILL MATOSKA

*(Continued from page 1)*

2012, we will once again convene in the Maryland 3/4 ballrooms as in the past two years, but on Sunday, June 24, 2012, the business session will be re-convened in the Hunt Ballroom which is downstairs at the bottom of the escalator on the same level as the Hospitality Rooms. The second venue change is the location of the Superstar and Horseshoe Events. These events will be held at Towson American Legion Post No. 22 in their picnic area behind the post. Towson Post is located at 125 York Road, Towson, Md. 21204. For everyone's convenience a school bus is being chartered to shuttle everyone from the Marriott to Towson Post and then back to the Marriott at the conclusion of the events. The shuttle

will make three trips to Towson Post beginning at 3:30 PM and make three trips back to the Marriott at the conclusion of the Superstar and Horseshoe events. Once again, refreshments and hamburgers/hot dogs will be available at these events and are free of charge. The Detachment Golf Hole sponsorships pay for these events and the refreshments; your support is greatly appreciated. The sponsorship requests have already been mailed to every post and squadron under a separate mailing. Remember, all events are open to all members of the Legion Family. This year, in an effort to include more ladies in our activities, a co-ed Korn Hole competition will also be hosted at Towson Post for an entry fee of \$10.00 per couple. JR Hall will be the

chairman of this event. JR will anoint the Winning Korn Hole Couple with 2-\$25.00 Visa Cards. For those unfamiliar with this game, in simplest terms, a bean bag is tossed through the air in an effort to fall through a hole cut in a piece of plywood which is set up approximately a foot off the ground at an angle facing you. Through the hole scores 3 points and closest to the hole scores a point. Jr will have rules and sign up sheets at the delegate registration area. In conclusion, please be advised that this years room rates are \$95.00 plus 14% tax per night for all rooms (single/double) at the Marriott. Any questions or concerns can be directed to me via my e-mail address. Yours In Service,  
Bill Matoska  
bill.matoska@comcast.net

## NORTHEASTERN SHORE GAZETTE

Thanks to all who attended our District meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup> and to Post 70 in Easton for their hospitality. As of February 24<sup>th</sup> our District is in 2nd place in the state for membership with 89.69%. A right hand salute goes to our 3 Star Squadrons 21, 36, and 228 and our 4 Star Squadron 296. Please continue your push for membership, the lifeblood of our organization.

Remember, now is the time to start collecting all information for your Squadron consolidated report. Make sure that you send a copy to Bear Winzerl PO Box 578 Perryville, Md 21903.

The District reception is on April 21 at Post 36 in Chestertown. Social hour starts at 4:00 P.M. For ticket information contact Dr. Gordon Browning at 410-778-0908.

Our next North Eastern Shore District meeting will be held on June 3, 2012 at Post 296 in Queenstown at 10:30 A.M. ALL Squadrons need to be represented.

Yours in service,  
Karl B. Kibler  
North Eastern Shore District Commander  
410-829-9317 or [homer51@comcast.net](mailto:homer51@comcast.net).

## SOUTH EASTERN SHORE HERALD

Membership is the key to our success. We must continue to recruit new members. Renewing our existing members is an ongoing job, which seems to never end. We must work harder to retain those members, we have lost contact with. Congratulations to Squadron's 87, 64, 166 and 218 for achieving four-star status. As a district, we have fallen to second place with 92.75% paid members. We need 84 members to

become a four-star district.

New SESD fundraiser, Yellow calendars, for a ten dollar donation, you can win anywhere from twenty dollars upward of five-hundred dollars. Proceeds will go to benefits programs of the Sons of The American Legion. Also, South Eastern Shore District Draw Down Saturday, May 12, 2012 will be held at Hurlock American Legion Post 243. Time 6pm to

11pm. Proceeds will benefit "Joe's Journey" for National Commander. For ticket information, please contact Terry Albert (443) 783-2701.

Serving Veterans and Their Families,  
Ray Edwards  
(410) 215-9354 Cell  
[rayjred@verizon.net](mailto:rayjred@verizon.net)

## TIME AND PLACE REPORT BY BILL STEM

Due to a "snafu" by Baltimore County, we will not have Oregon Ridge for our Superstars and Horseshoes. Gratefully, Towson Post #22 has stepped up and volunteered to host those events. We are procuring shuttle buses to get everyone to the post from the hotel. Details to be forthcoming.

Looking ahead to the future, our

Detachment is always looking for different locations around the state of Maryland to host our annual convention. If you think your district might have a location suitable, please contact me for the various guidelines that are required for this event. Just a few of these requirements are: hotel with 150 rooms and a meeting room that will hold 300, a local golf course, a local bowling alley, a

local pool hall and a place to host superstars and horseshoe events.

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

## WESTERN MARYLAND TRIBUNE

Western Maryland membership is still continuing to do well. Let's keep those memberships coming in. Congratulations to the 3 star and 4 star squadrons. Western Maryland is raffling off a 42" television most squadrons should have their tickets. Please sell as many as you can. This is an important fundraiser for the District. It is time for our Squadron Commanders to get their meeting minutes and hours ready for the consolidated reports. Last year our district did not turn in too many reports. I

would love to see all 18 of our Squadrons turn in a report. If anyone needs help please do not be afraid to ask for help one call always ask any of our officers for help. My email and phone number will be at the end of this report.

Our 4<sup>th</sup> meeting is May20th held by Emmitsburg Squadron 121, the meeting will take place at Kump's Dam at 1:00 pm. If anyone needs directions please ask we will get you there. I would like to thank all the squadrons for hosting out district

meetings. I hope everyone makes an effort to attend our meetings. Please be aware that Western Maryland District does have a Facebook page where one can join and see what is going on at our local squadrons. And Please do all you can to support Buddy's Bus!

Thank you  
Jeffrey Seiler  
WMD Commander  
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“S.A.V.E.D.”

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DETACHMENT OF MARYLAND**

3115 Orchard Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21234



## NEC NEWS BY ANDY DADDS

I bring you greetings from National Commander Jim Roberts. National membership ride across the county is doing great. Many Detachments are doing well making and passing goal. Remember to Renew, Retain and Reinstate our members.

The Eastern Region under National Vice Commander Jim Noble are doing a great job on turning in membership. The East has been in fourth place with a goal of 77.297%. The Detachment of Maryland's membership is currently ahead of the March 14 target of 80% at 81.545% which places us in 14<sup>th</sup> in the Nation. We are currently in third place in the East. Our renewal rate is a little over 75% for 2012.

Here are a few frequently asked questions;

**What is the main purpose of the Sons?**

The mission of the Sons is to support veterans and their families and the

policies of our parent organization, The American Legion. Virtually everything that involves the Sons could be grouped under three areas: 1) support for veterans and their families, 2) promoting patriotism and Americanism and 3) promoting programs which benefit the youth of our country.

**Why would someone want to join the Sons?**

Different people have different reasons for belonging to organizations. For many, membership in the Sons has allowed them to become involved in American Legion programs alongside their fathers. Others belong out of respect for their parents' and grandparents' service to our country in the military. Many younger members get involved and learn valuable leadership skills involving organization, public speaking, negotiating, budgeting and fundraising skills. Membership in our organization also provides individuals with opportunities to forge lifelong friendships with people who share a

common bond.

A few dates to remember;  
April 19, 2012 Membership Target Date of 90%  
May 4-6, 2012 the Spring NEC  
May 9, 2012 Membership Target Date of 100%  
May 19, 2012 National Veterans Assistance Day  
May 25, 2012 last day for the membership reporting for reporting  
June 22-24, 2012 Detachment Convention  
July 9-13, 2012 Department Convention  
August 24-26, 2012 National Convention in Indy

Andy Dadds,  
PDC  
NEC Committeemen