



“The Pride”

Detachment of Maryland

www.mdsal.org

Editor: Bill Matoska
Co-Editor: Bill Hill

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Commander’s Corner

I've been busy since the last newsletter and will take this opportunity to high light some of the activities. I and National Commander Gibbs and PDC Hall had the opportunity to present Maryland Special Olympics with a \$15,000 check to help support the bowling tournament our great organization sponsors each year. Commander Gibbs and the Legion family took the chili plunge into the Chesapeake Bay to raise even more money for Special Olympics. Detachment officers and I had the opportunity to represent the Detachment of Maryland at the Washington Conference. We spent the day visiting memorials like the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Vietnam Memorial and Memorial of Iwo Jima. I was honored to present the wreath at the Vietnam Memorial.

Visiting veterans’ hospitals, attending receptions, spending an evening with The American Legion Auxiliary National President and an enjoyable evening with the National Commander of The American Legion. It was a great opportunity and I really enjoy the friendship and having the opportunity to talk about our great Maryland team. I was able to attend a few of the 100th Anniversary of The American Legion celebrations. Joining in the celebrations and giving thanks to our veterans on behalf of our members is something I will hold close for years to come.

I would like to thank Post 135 American Legion family for hosting the drawdown for the Commanders Project, the George Grossnickle Memorial Scholarship for Boys State. Once again, their hard work payed off with a good crowd, lots of energy and raising good funds.

I want to recognize my First Vice Commander, Bob Manzo, for his hard work on membership this year, he is doing an outstanding job! I would also like to thank Vice Commanders Larry Ford and Mark Fayer and my Project Chairman Bill Yeagy for their outstanding service this year. It takes a team to attend all the invitations received and it is possible because of this them, thank you.

God bless you and God bless America!

“Sons of The American Legion Empowering Our Future Leaders”

Jim Alexander
Commander
Detachment of Maryland
Sons of The American Legion

Adjutant’s Corner

D.E.C. : The next Detachment Executive Committee Meeting will be called to order by Commander Alexander, on April 14, 2019 at 1:00 P.M.

The meeting is being hosted at Glen Burnie Post 40, located at 500 5th Ave., Glen Burnie, MD 21061.

Spring Training Session:

The following Detachment Executive Committee Meeting will include Training at the post, prior to the meeting. We will review Consolidated Reports and how to complete them. Bring your finance reports, meeting minutes and questions. We’re positive there’s not a question about the Consolidated Report that you can ask, that can’t be answered. Try and stump the trainer!!

Charlestown Casino & Track:

We are planning a bus trip to the Charlestown Casino & Horse Racing Track on April 20th as a fund raiser for Commander Jim’s Project, “The George Grossnickle Scholarship Fund”. The cost is \$40 per person and will leave from two locations the Carney Park & Ride and from Post #332. A flyer with all of the details is on the Detachment web site. If interested see me or PDC Hullihen at the April DEC meeting.

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

(Continued from page 1)

Chaplin's Corner

Please keep those recovering at home in our prayers.



Let us not forget to finish the course we have begun. Let us keep in our memories the passing of our comrades.

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

In His Service,

William Yeagy

Detachment Chaplin

E-mail me at; bizybill@hotmail.com

Mining for Membership !

Greetings Miners,



The DMD Mines are still recovering that precious Membership Gold. The 80% goal date of March 13th has passed, and I am proud to report that Maryland stands at 87.931%; outstanding work by all the miners throughout the state. We are approaching 90% of our National goal with about 4 weeks left to the 90% cutoff date of April 10; I am sure by the time we get to the April 14th DEC we will have surpassed that mark. Let me thank you all for the outstanding job being done to support the Membership program and keeping Maryland in the top 10 Nationally, it all starts at the grassroots and you have been doing the job for Detachment and your Squadrons. I give you all a big Right-Hand Salute!

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

- 1-South Eastern Shore District- 97% of Goal
- 1-North Eastern Shore District- 96% of Goal
- 3-Western Maryland District- 92% of Goal
- 4-Southern Maryland District- 89% of Goal
- 5-Northern Central District- 86% of Goal
- 6-Mountain District- 84% of Goal
- 7-Baltimore District- 78% of Goal

6 District Mines achieved the March 13 Goal of 80% of the quota due. I am

pleased to say that 3 Districts are already ahead of schedule on the April 10th Goal of 90%.

Important reminder, the cut-off date for Detachment Membership Awards is May 31st. All memberships must be in by that date to be included in the Department Report for awards. The National organization counts all 2019 renewals up to the end of the calendar year, so keep sending in 2019 dues along with next year's 2020 dues. We are hoping that the mix-up that occurred in Indianapolis is avoided this year with membership cards. We are planning on distributing cards and rosters at the Detachment Convention in Hunt Valley, June 21-23. Remember, you must submit your Delegate fees as well as your Squadron Certification Forms. The formula for computing delegate fees is included in your Convention Packet.

The final National Renewal notice is being sent out April 1st (seriously) this is a good opportunity to follow up this mailing with your non-renewed members with a personal call to get them to renew for 2019. There is still plenty of time to mine that hard to get Membership Gold, let's keep Mining for Members!

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

Americanism Report

As the year passes us by with our Detachment moving forward in all programs supporting Americanism. Our success will be through the continued support we provide to our *Community, State, and Nation*. You can reach out to a local organization and just ask what we can do to help. Like supporting local blood drives where the blood banks are low due to the natural disasters we are having. Check to see if any flags have fallen at the cemeteries or in need of replacement. The Fisher House cookout is April 13th. Volunteers are needed. If you can attend please contact Joe Lohman @ (301)275-4887.

For God and Country

Bill Yeagy
Americanism Chairman
bizybill@hotmail.com

Boys State

We are about a month away from application cutoff date of 15 April 2019. We are at 132 strong and the work is paying off. Please make another push for these young men to attend. The numbers are almost exactly as last year, but a lot of Posts

will wait until after the cutoff date. I have to say this is a bad practice. It allows the parent another reason or excuse why their son wants to cancel late, because their boy started late and it isn't fair to them, etc, etc. So, tell them to get their application in on time and then the Posts can start sending in their money between April 15th and May 15th. Squadrons let your Boys State Chairperson know this.

The distribution among the boys is great, 20 counties out of 23. We currently have one from DC, two from Belgium, one from Germany, and two that their parents are stationed in Northern Virginia. The Department of Maryland is missing 3 counties and a city. The counties missing are Dorchester, Kent, Somerset, and the City of Baltimore. I know there are young men in these counties and city that want to attend. Also, talk about the Maryland Girls State Program. Please keep recruiting the BEST STUDENTS in MARYLAND for all of The American Legion programs.

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

National Emergency Fund:

Since 1989 the American Legion National Emergency Fund has given over \$8 Million in assistance to those comrades in need. The recent fires in California, floods in the south and the current tornado disasters in Alabama have emphasized the ongoing need for contributions.

Please do your part. We are only asking for 50 cents a member to help reach our goal of \$8000. Help ensure that monies are available to help those in need. One of them could be you.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

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

Eligibility

1. Eligibility open to Legionnaires and Sons of The American Legion members (up to \$3,000) Legion Posts (up to \$10,000).
2. Applicant must have been displaced from their primary residence due to a declared natural disaster and provide proof of out-of-pocket expenses. Not meant to replace or repair items, only to meet most immediate needs (i.e., temporary housing, food, water, clothing, diapers, etc.)
3. Does not cover insurance compensation or monetary losses from a business, structures on your property (barns, tool sheds, etc.,) equipment or vehicles.

Membership must be active at time of disaster and the time of application.

Application requirements

1. Application must be received within 90 days of disaster.
2. Disaster must be a "declared" natural disaster for Legion Family members. -
3. Supporting data (photos, receipts, repair estimates, etc.) should be included if at all possible or statements (testimony) from post/district/department officers attesting to damages.
4. Only one grant per household.

Post grants must derive from a declared natural disaster and substantiating documentation must provide that The American Legion post will cease to perform the duties and activities in the community due to losses sustained.

To donate, visit www.legion.org/donate.

For God and Country

Bill Stem PDC/NEF Chairman

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

The Detachment held their annual (rescheduled from fall) cookout at the Bethesda Fisher House on April 13.

As the weather is starting to get warmer, get out and support your local little leagues or other youth sports programs! Many areas are in need of community clean ups and remember that many of our older veterans need assistance with maintaining their yards.

Look into volunteering at your Post with maintaining shrubs, flower beds and ground maintenance. A spring cleanup project is always needed.

Show your local community or city how active the squadron is by volunteering or cleaning up after city sponsored or neighborhood related events.

The community will see your active participation and support in keeping it clean. For additional information regarding Community Affairs, please contact me.

Joe Lohman
Community Affairs
Chairman



Five-Star Program:

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

Flag Replacement:

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

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

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

You may reach me at saljerry@comcast.net for any questions you may have.

Jerry Saunders Sr.
Flag Replacement Program
Chairman

CHILDREN & YOUTH CORNER

Can you believe another SAL year is coming to an end where has the time gone? Just because the year is ending doesn't mean that you must stop donating to the programs that support our children & youth programs all year long.

Casey Cares supports critically ill children and their families all year with items like movie nights, family get a way for a weekend, birthday cards and gifts, dinners etc. If you are looking to donate some end of year funds here is a good. You can do cash, gift cards, movie passes, and even pajamas.

Special Olympics Maryland is another great way to help the youth around the state. We are the major sponsor for the state bowling championship, and we sponsor other events that these athletes would not be able to participate in without help. These participants have some pretty good skills.

To get a triple bang for your buck, consider donating to Laps of Love which will take place at our convention in June. If you do your donation will go to Casey Cares, Special Olympics Maryland and the Child Welfare Foundation. All three organizations take great care of our children and youth.

After making your contributions don't forget to record the information on your consolidated report form so that you and the state can get credit for it. If you need help with your report, there will be a class at the next DEC meeting on 14 April 2019 at Post 40 in Glen Burnie.

Don't forget to sell your Special Olympics bowling raffle tickets and return them to Mark Fayer Sr. PO Box 245 Perryville, MD 21903.

(Continued from page 3)

Thank you for your support to the children and youth programs.

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

Casey Cares Newsletter

How Can You Help?

Make a gift to Casey Cares, either through their website, by check, over the phone.

Run a supply drive for Casey Cares. By collecting items from their wish list.

Wish list includes things like gift cards, pajamas and tickets for sporting events, concerts and local attractions.

Run a pajama collection drive. Their goal is to give over 6000 pairs of PJs' this year. Their biggest need is two-piece pajamas for Casey Cares kids (adult and infant-sized pajamas are always their biggest need).

Please consider and continue supporting their program.

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

Boy Scouts

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

Tom Clavell
Chairman Boy Scouts Committee

DOUGLAS HENLEY MEMORIAL

LAPS OF LOVE

Hello to All Once Again,

It is coming to that time again to plan for the Doug Henley Memorial Laps of Love. This year the event will be held Saturday June 22nd at Oregon Ridge Park. We are looking for Squadrons, Units, Post, businesses and people to be sponsors for this year's event.

A \$200.00 sponsor will get your organization listed on the back of the t-shirts that all participants that raise at least \$75.00 a week prior gets at the event. As you know the money that is raised every year goes to support three great Children and Youth Charities. Special Olympics of Maryland, Casey Cares and Child Welfare Foundation, all three receive donation because of this annual event. Please help us to help the children by giving to this great event.

You can sign up online at sallapsoflove.com or email JR Hall for more information at dhall1967@verizon.net. You can also register the day of the event however we cannot get those doing that a t-shirt. Signing up online gives you a chance to have friends and family members sponsor you and help you raise money. Registration will start at Oregon Ridge approximately at 4:00. We hope to again have some athletes of Special Olympics of Maryland and families from Casey Cares onsite for the event. Hope to hear from you soon.

Helping our Children helps us All

JR Hall (PDC)
Chairman

Legislative Alert!

Washington Conference was February 24-27, 2019, with the tours of the memorials on Sunday February 24. Detachment Commander Alexander, Jonathan Alexander, 1st Vice Bob Manzo, 2nd Vice Mark Fayer, Sally Fayer, PDC JR Hall, Eleanor Deal and I attended. There were 105 members of The American Legion Family from all across the country that attended and laid 31 wreaths around the Washington area memorials. It was truly a great day. I did attend the meetings on Monday and Tuesday. The Legislative agenda for the 116th Congress was published. Here are the top priorities for this year: Redefine "wartime service" period; Support VA's suicide-prevention efforts; Implement,

oversee new laws; Fully fund a superior national defense; Improve health care for women veterans; Reclassify cannabis for medical research; Programs to end veteran homelessness; Re-employment rights for veterans; Access to business capital via GI Bill; Citizenship for honorable service; Repeal unfair VA offsets; Protect the American flag and Expand Agent Orange benefits.

These are the top priorities and much more information on each is available at the meeting or send me an e-mail for the full agenda and 28 page Point papers. 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 fighting for our Veterans.

The American Legion website <http://www.legion.org/legislative> scroll down to LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER and go to the Take Action page. I will still send out e-mails when I get them but most of the time we need to act fast and e-mails are not the way to do business.

For God and Country

Tom Deal (PDC)
Legislative Chairman
tom.deal@verizon.net

VAVS Variety

Perry Point Hospital

Every year the VA sponsors several national events for the benefit of Veteran patients. One such event is the Golden Age Games, which gives senior Veterans (55 years or older) the opportunity to compete in events such as swimming, cycling, bowling and air rifles. The VA Maryland Health Care System is planning to send 20 Veteran patients to the Golden Age Games the week of June 5-10, 2019 in Anchorage, Alaska. It will cost approximately \$2,000 to cover the airfare, hotel and other costs for each Veteran participant to attend the Golden Age Games. The total cost to send all 20 Veterans patients to the 2019 Golden Age Games is \$40,000. Your generous contribution of any amount can be made by check payable to the "VA Maryland Health Care System" and earmarked in the memo section on the lower left side for the "National Games". Credit card donations are also welcome.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 4)

The Veterans need comfort items. There will be a needs list available for Perry Point Hospital, at the April 14th DEC meeting, which will be held at the Glen Burnie Post 40.

Loch Raven Hospital

The new OPC at 5235 King Avenue, Franklin Square Professional Center is now open. There was an open house on Saturday, March 23, 2019 from 11 am until 1 pm.

If you would like to become a VAMHCS Volunteer, please contact Voluntary Services. You must be a US citizen, 14 years or older, have 2 forms of identification, pass a VA background check and dedicated to serving Veterans.

Donations can be made to the following accounts:

Loch Raven Swing Arm TV Replacement Account 1123

VAMD National Games Account 1050

VAMD Holiday Account 1097

Consider holding an event for the Veterans at Loch Raven Medical Center.

Detachment Veterans Employment and Education (VE&E)

Chairman Bear Weinzirl is asking for your assistance in getting information out on Veterans Job Fairs, as they are being held around the State. PDC Bear suggests that you can also serve as a volunteer at these Job Fairs and reminds us that no Veteran should ever be unemployed.

Homeless Veterans

Don't forget our Homeless Veterans after the holidays. Please donate to the Salvation Army, or any of the many Homeless Veterans' Organizations throughout the state of Maryland or your local community. The Homeless Veterans need our help all year long.

Together We Can Make A Difference!
Thank you!

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

Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

"the only Veterans Home in the state"

The CHVH opened on January 29, 1985, with five residents. In the 34 years since, the CHVH has been home to more than 6,000 veterans and spouses. The CHVH is the only Veterans Home in the state of Maryland and has residents from all over the state. If you would like to make a donation, check out the website, www.charhall.org.

Copies of the Resident Wish List will be available at the April 14 Spring DEC meeting at Post 40.

The Southern Maryland District continues to hold a bingo at the CHVH on the third Monday of each month. Two hundred dollars are given out to residents at each bingo. The bingos hand out \$2,400 a year, so please consider making a donation.

If you are interested in volunteering your time, give me a call or just show up at the CHVH multi-purpose room on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30. Additional help is always welcome.

To make a monetary donation, send checks to SMD Finance Officer, 2 Main St., Laurel, MD 20707, with a copy to Detachment Adjutant Matoska.

Dave Tatman

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

WARRIORS STANDING STRONG, INC.

It is my pleasure to formally announce a new organization that will support veterans and their family in so many ways. We are finalizing our website and it will be up and running very soon. Our web address is www.wssinc.org

We are planning our first fundraiser (Crab Feast) to be held on September 7, 2019 at the Hurlock American Legion. We are selling raffle tickets on an 1860 replica Henry 44 rifle and a hand made black walnut shadow box that will be given away at the crab Feast on September 7, 2019. Any questions, please contact me or any of our board members. Donations can be sent to the Hurlock American Legion, earmark "Warriors Standing Strong, Inc.". We

thank everyone for their support and look forward to helping our nation's warriors. God Bless.

Sincerely,
Ray Edwards
President
Warrior Standing Strong, Inc.
(410) 215-9354
ray@wssinc.org

Commander's Project

"Boys State"

The Annual Commanders drawdown was held at Susquehanna Post 135, in Perryville and was another great success. A big thank you goes out to all who attended. Also, the volunteers from the American Legion, SAL, and Auxiliary made for an enjoyable evening. Last but not least the kitchen staff who put on a great dinner. The night was full of the enthusiasm betting on the races. The cake wheel was also a popular game of the night.

All monies raised will go to Commander Jim's Project "Annual George O. Grossnickle Scholarship Fund"

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

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

"Sons of The American Legion Empowering Our Future Leaders"

Yours in Service,

Bill Yeagy
Project Chairman

Time and Place

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Committee

Convention Update:

Convention packets for the 46th Annual Convention were distributed at the January 27th Detachment Meeting and have been sent to each Squadron by Adjutant Matoska and his crew. If your Squadron has not received the packet you can contact Adjutant Matoska or myself and we'll be happy to get this information to you. The Convention is being held on June 21, 22 & 23, 2019 at Delta Hotels-Marriott in Hunt Valley, MD 21031. Their phone number is 410-785-7000.

Rooms will be available for \$119.00, plus 14% tax per night (King-Double). Rooms are available on Request. All squadrons and/or individuals are responsible for making their own reservations directly with the hotel. Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. (NO EXCEPTIONS), check out time is noon. The cutoff date to guarantee a room within our reserved block is May 21, 2019. Payment must be received by the hotel no later than May 21, 2019. Use group code: "Sons of The American Legion" when making reservations.

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 **May 24, 2019**. The squadron delegate registration must be in by this date to guarantee Convention Packets and printed badging. Registration for events such as the bowling, kornhole and horseshoes will have the fees double after this date. The cutoff for Ad Sales to be turned in is **May 17th**.

The Robert "Hoss" Neal Memorial golf tournament will be played at the Fox Hollow Golf Course and cutoff for registering is also **May 24th**. If you have any questions about this event or registration for it please contact Joe Gladden, Golf Chairman at joegladd123@aol.com

NOTE: All squadrons must register and pay the Detachment for their eligible delegate strength to the Convention, in accordance with the membership cutoff, also May 31st.

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**, an Elected **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 2019–2020 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.

We are going back to Oregon Ridge State Park for the superstar's activities, as well as our Horseshoe and Korkhole 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

The officers of the NESD would like to thank everyone that supported our annual 30-day raffle fundraiser, with your help the event was a success. Thanks to all that sold tickets.

Looks like the SESD has decided to dig deep as they have taken first place in membership for now. We have done a great job so far and I know we will keep the good work going and not let them stay ahead of us for to long. Congratulations to squadrons 18, 77, 135, and 246 for making three star and to squadrons 228 and 296 for reaching four star as of the March 15th 2019 membership report.

The next DEC meeting is April 14th at Post 40 in Glen Burnie. There will be a class on filling out the consolidated report forms that are due each year. If you could use help with the form this is a good time to get it. Come early for the meeting and attend the class.

The next NESD meeting will be June 9 at 10:30 am at Post 296 in Queenstown.

Mark Fayer Sr
NESD Commander

South Eastern Shore Update

I would like to thank the members of the South Eastern Shore District who have worked hard to submit their membership on time, that has push us into first place within the State of Maryland. I'm proud that we have four top ten squadrons within the State, Boggs-Disharoon Squadron 123 is number 1, Dorchester Squadron 91 is number 2, Oliver T. Beauchamp, Jr Squadron 94 is number 3 and Wicomico Squadron 64 is number 10 in the state. I would like to congratulate Stanley Richmond (Commander and dual member) of Worcester Squadron 93 for establishing a new Squadron, being a 3-star Squadron and being 100% in

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

membership. As of the last report, the SESD is 40 members away from our yearly goal. We still have nine weeks to go. Dig in and let's dig deeper in the weeks ahead.

We have a TV raffle as well as our yearly wagon of cheer. See any member of the SESD for tickets. We are working with the North Eastern Shore District in a combined hospitality room at our convention in June. All questions can be directed to Rodney Helmer (Squadron 243) (SESD) or Freddie Taylor (Squadron 77) (NESD). This will be a great event for the entire weekend.

It has been my pleasure to serve the members of the South Eastern Shore District this year. I like to thank everyone for their support. God Bless!

Regards,
Ray Edwards (Squadron 123)
South Eastern Shore District
Commander
(410) 215-9354
rayjred@verizon.net

Western Maryland Tribune

Greetings from the Western MD. District. The year has flown by so quickly that it seems like we just elected our officers and now it is time to hold elections for the next year (2019-2020). This is the time of the year where we begin to reflect upon our accomplishments as a Squadron and as a District, as we prepare our Consolidated Report Forms.

Membership for the District began at a slow pace, placing us in last place, as we struggled to bring in ore from our membership mine. As we brought in some new mining machinery and equipment, we began to move up the production line. We are currently in 3rd place and are threatening the leaders, at this publishing. We need a last-minute effort to be able to challenge the leaders. Please remember to turn in membership, weekly, and don't hold on to them.

The Western Maryland District Reception will be held on April 13, 2019, at Carroll Post #31, with a happy hour beginning at 3:00 pm, followed by the program honoring the Department Commander and President, the Detachment Commander and Honorary Junior President, followed by dinner. If you are interested in attending, please contact me ASAP. Seating is limited.

Nominations and Elections for District Officers will be held at our last District Meeting on Saturday, May 11, 2019, at Kumps Dam starting at 1:00 pm. Kumps Dam is located in Emmitsburg, Maryland. If you would like to run for any particular office in the Western Maryland District, Sons of The American Legion, please be sure to attend this meeting.

Yours in Service,
Bob Trueblood

NEC Update!

I bring you greetings from National Commander Greg "Doc" Gibbs. With his campaign motto of "Honoring the past.....Continuing the Legacy", he truly continues to help our national organization move forward and aiding the Legion as they approach their next 100 years of service to veterans, military, and our youth.

He was honored to participate with The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary during the annual event to Pearl Harbor and in riding on the 100th Anniversary float, during the New Years Day Rose Bowl Parade.

He also extends his thank you to the entire Detachment for their gracious hospitality during his visit to Maryland during our Winter DEC in Ocean City. We extended our thanks and appreciation for his raising of funds to support the Special Olympics Polar Bear plunge and for going into the cold waters along the shore of Sandy Point State Park with our Maryland Legion Family.

Members of the Detachment will travel to Buffalo, NY at the end of April to attend National Commander Gibbs homecoming and again have a strong

showing of support from officers and members of the Detachment. We will also be attending the Spring NEC meetings in May and I will report back on the activities from those events in my next update.

For more information about our organization from a National view, please go to www.legion.org/sons and check out all of the great programs of the American Legion we support and get a glimpse into how others across the country support the Sons of The American.

Yours in Service,
Jeff Seiler
Nat'l Executive Committeeman (NEC)

Public Relations Advisory

We want to brag about you!

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

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

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



"Sons of The American Legion Empowering Our Future Leaders"

3115 Orchard Avenue Baltimore, MD 21234

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Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Maryland



2019 Membership Target Date:

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

** Delegate Strength Target Date

Detachment of Maryland Meeting Schedule 2018—2019

Spring D.E.C. Meeting

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

46th Annual Detachment Convention

June 21st to 23rd, 2019

Delta Hotels-Marriott
Hunt Valley, MD 21031