



# *“The Pride”*

Detachment of Maryland

Editor: Bill Matoska  
Co-Editor: Bill Hill

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

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Fall Issue - December 20, 2020

## Commander’s Corner

Greetings Fellow Sons,

Well it’s a new year, and let’s all hope we return to a sense of normalcy sooner than later. Our 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention was well attended, and I believe we accomplished our mission. I would like to thank my officers, chairman and District Commanders who served with me last year for your dedication and I look forward to serving the coming year. I also want thank all who supported the Commanders project last year. We raised \$53,000 and were able to meet all our goals and project donations. Thanks!

This year our project is in support of local charitable programs that may have been hit hard by COVID-19. The one project I want to focus on for the Detachment as a whole is the “Catch-A-Lift” Program. This was one of my focal points last year and under these challenging times they need our help desperately. One can not put into words the appreciation the veterans have after this program touches their lives in a positive and uplifting manner. This is a project that I know we can get behind once again. The other aspect of my project is where you are direct participants in determining who we donate to. Bobby Miller Jr of Squadron 40 has taken on the Project Chairman

position and will be bringing you updates and coordinating our fundraising activities for the year. We have T-Shirts available for a \$20 donation to the project, these shirts are grey and feature the slogan “Sons Stronger Together” with the SAL Emblem. Reminder, if you send a check to a local charity that meets our project guidelines and would like to have this counted for the project, make sure to send a photocopy of your check to Adjutant Matoska, without a check copy we can not give your Squadron the credit you deserve.

All donation checks should be made out to: **Detachment of Maryland** and earmarked **Commanders Project**. Donations are encouraged to be presented at a DEC meeting, or can be mailed to:

**Detachment of Maryland**  
**3115 Orchard Avenue**  
**Baltimore, MD 21234.**

Veterans Day is fast upon us, please remember why we are members and participate in your Posts Veterans Day events. Reach out to a Veteran that may need some help getting around or needs something done around the house. This is a great way to thank them for their service! Remember Pearl Harbor Day, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Our Mid-Winter Conference and DEC takes place January 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Training will be held on the next block of Legion Basic Training on the 30<sup>th</sup> followed by our Children Youth Draw Down. Both events are at the Grand and the meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> is also at the Grand. There will be a room code for the Grand Hotel, this information will be relayed to all.

Remember to send flyers of your events to Bear so he can post them on the website, get the word out and you may see some new faces at your events.

The next DEC meeting is December 12<sup>th</sup> at Hampstead Post 200. This meeting begins at 1 PM and under the new state COVID-19 guidelines, this will be a virtual meeting for our general membership. Information as to how to log on and view the DEC meeting will be available on the Detachment web site.

Finally, I wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

**“Sons Stronger Together”**

Yours in Service,

Bob Manzo

Detachment Commander

Sons of The American Legion

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(Continued from page 1)*

## Adjutant's Corner

**Fall D.E.C.:** The next Detachment Executive Committee Meeting will be called to order by Commander Manzo, on December 12, 2020 at 1:00 P.M. and will be a virtual meeting for all members unless you receive an invitation to attend in person by myself. The new state guidelines will only permit a gathering not to exceed 25 people. The meeting is being hosted at Hampstead Post 200, located at 4600 Legion Lane, Hampstead, MD 21074.

### Winter DEC & Training Session:

Note: All events for this weekend will be held at **The Grand Hotel** in Ocean City, Maryland.

The Mid-Winter Detachment Executive Committee Meeting will be held at The Grand Hotel on January 31st which also includes; Mid-Term Squadron Officers Training and The Children & Youth Draw Down on January 30, 2021. All of these events will take place in the ballroom on the fourth floor to allow for safe distancing.

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

There will be a Chinese Auction at the Draw Down event that needs everyone's help and support. All of the proceeds realized from this auction are earmarked for the George Grossnickle Memorial Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Committee needs items donated to auction off for this event. If you, your squadron or district can donate to this most worthy cause, please bring to the December DEC Meeting. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. The first

recipient of a \$2000 grant from this program will be awarded in April 2021 for the fall semester in 2021. Please be advised that special hotel rates have been arranged with the Grand Hotel and reservations are available at this time, so please contact them and ask for the SAL rates. Of course all of this is contingent upon the current regulations in place.

Yours In Service,

Bill Matoska

Detachment Adjutant

matoskaw@yahoo.com

443-710-9664

## Commander's Project

“Sons Stronger Together”

What a great slogan for a great group of individuals in our Detachment and all over. The last year has been a challenge for so many, and Commander Manzo, knows that together we will overcome it all and rise up stronger than ever. This year for his project he wants the Squadrons to give to Legion programs along with programs in your community to help them bounce back from this past year.

There are many programs to pick through and if you need any help reach out and we will help you.

Catch A Lift, Maryland Special Olympics, Scouts, and many others that we have supported for years all fall under what the Commander wants you to do. We will share more information at our next DEC.

Anyone still needing to purchase this year's Commanders t-shirt just reach out and let us know and we will try to get to you. I am proud to serve this year as the project chairman; and will be happy to assist you in getting shirts and

getting answers to any questions that you may have.

Please send me an email with your request to [bdigital262@yahoo.com](mailto:bdigital262@yahoo.com) or call me at 443-986-3493, if I do not have the answer you are looking for I will try to get it for you.

Sons Stronger Together,

Bobby Miller II

Project Chairman

**FARMING FOR  
MEMBERSHIP  
OR MEMBERS**



A new year, a new theme, and a new chance to reach our membership goal. The membership goal this year will be 16,000 members, that is 12 more than we ended with last year. So far, we have been ahead of the goal dates set by National. See the dates on the closing page of the Pride.

Each district commander will be given a straw hat to take with them and at the DEC meeting a shovel with the position the district is in at that time. The district in 7th place will receive a small shovel.

I will give a \$50.00 donation to the commander's project in the name of the first district to reach 3-star status and a \$100.00 donation for the first district reaching 4-star status.

Each squadron should look at [mysal.org](http://mysal.org) and consider using this to pay their membership dues. It makes things easier and takes out the middleman in the process of submitting your members.

Yours in Service,  
Mark Fayer, Sr.

Membership Chairmen

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander

*(Continued on page 3)*

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## Americanism Report

I hope everyone and their families are well and staying safe during these crazy times! It is good to see the Posts opening up again with the Sons getting back to business. As usual, we will again be concentrating on Boys State, NEF, Scouting, Flag Replacement, Flag Etiquette, and Community Affairs. With your support I know we will have another successful year.

As we hit the "Reset" button and start another Legion Year... remember to track your hours and donations. We have many tools available to help us record dates, times, and monetary donations that will make the Consolidated Report easier and more accurate. It is never too early to start working on the end of the year reports.

And finally, remember to say "Thank You" to a Veteran. I wish all our Veterans a Happy Veterans Day on Wednesday November 11, 2020.

Yours in Service,

Joe Weik

*Americanism Chairman*

## THE BOYS STATE UPDATE REPORT:

Due to the pandemic there was no Boys State Committee or Staff meeting or the Boys State Staff crab feast. The program was not held due to the pandemic.

The dates for the 2021 Maryland Boys State program usually start on Father's Day and ends the following Saturday after their graduation ceremony. As of this article being written there has been no word on the dates for it to be held or where it will be held. As information is available it will be provided to your American Legion Post officers for communicating.

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

### National Emergency Fund:

The 2020 Atlantic hurricane season has been the second-most active on record, with 25 named storms already and the season not officially over until Nov. 30.

A record 10 of those named storms have made landfall in the United States — most recently Hurricane Delta, which made landfall near Creole, La., on Oct. 9. Delta was the fourth hurricane to strike Louisiana this year, tying a record.

In the aftermath of these storms and other natural disasters, The American Legion's National Emergency Fund (NEF) is available to American Legion and Sons of The American Legion members, and Legion posts, affected by declared natural disasters.

I know we are in difficult times and donations may be hard to come by, but the need is great and the pain real. This year I am asking if each Squadron can donate 25 cents per member or more. If we can raise over \$4,000, we can at least match last year.

Thank you in advance for your support.

For God and Country

Bill Stem PDC/NEF Chairman

**If you need assistance, please contact...**

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

### Community Affairs:

Unfortunately we are still unable to have our annual Fisher House Picnic due to COVID-19. I can assure you that once the restrictions are lifted, we will be back making lunch for the families of our injured veterans.

Detachment Commander Manzo has asked that we give back to our communities during this pandemic. Whether is volunteering at a local nonprofit or simply helping a neighbor in need, it's important that we work together and assist our local families with the holidays around the corner.

Now that we are in the fall season, take a few hours out of your schedule to assist a veteran by raking leaves or cleaning up their yard. You can also help any of your elder or disabled neighbors with any work that is needed around their house or yard. They will appreciate your assistance towards making their lives easier.

I know many of us have business schedules, and volunteering time may not be an option. A good number of local not-for-profit organizations such as food banks or clothing drives are in need of nonperishable food or winter coats. Your squadron can also make a cash donation if needed.

I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and I asked that you take a few hours out of your schedule to help a person in need around your local community.

Community Affairs Chairman,

Joe Lohman  
[Squadron60@verizon.net](mailto:Squadron60@verizon.net)

### Five-Star Program:

The Five-Star award program is for all members of The Sons of The American Legion who show dedication and knowledge in the Five-

*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Continued from page 3)*

Point program of service consisting of the following: Patriotism, Citizenship, Discipline, Leadership and Legionism.

If you would like additional information, please contact PNC Bill Sparwasser.

### **Flag Replacement:**

As we begin another year, we encourage all Squadrons to continue to participate in this program to honor our Military (Past and Present) and our great Country. The rules will remain the same as last year. Continue your support. Forms for all programs as well as the Detachment's schedule for the year 2020-2021 can be found at [mdsal.org](http://mdsal.org). At this time, we are not sure on the awards for this year but will update you as soon as we do.

Think about what you can do to help your Post as well, like purchasing flags for Veteran Holidays, flags for gravesite ceremonies etc. Make sure you keep proper records for the end of the year.

We are looking forward to another great year with a lot of activities throughout the State. Be safe in your travels and you should always wear protective gloves when placing or replacing flags.

Any questions I can be reached at [saljerry@comcast.net](mailto:saljerry@comcast.net) or at 443-807-1131.

Jerry Saunders Sr.

Chairman

Flag Replacement Program

## **CHILDREN & YOUTH CORNER**

I am looking forward to a great year serving as your Children and Youth Chairman for 2020-2021 under the guidance of Commander Manzo.

Remember that our children are our greatest resource and with the help of every member we can make this a banner year helping the children of our community. Every Squadron should pick at least one, if not more, Children and Youth program that they can and will support throughout the year.

If you have any questions or ideas about our Children and Youth programs, please contact me or the appropriate Committee Chair. I am looking forward to working with this year's team of guys and providing you with as much information as possible about the Children and Youth programs.

Yours in Service,

Children & Youth Chairman  
Larry Ford

[lafld@comcast.net](mailto:lafld@comcast.net)

443-413-4710

## **Casey Cares Newsletter**

One It has been a tough year for all. Hopefully, we can get back on track with our fund raising. At the Casey Cares Foundation their programs were never on hold. During this pandemic, their families need support now more than ever.

Our donations help in so many ways. We can provide the homebound children with movie and pizza at home. Also provides a sick child a birthday gift. These are just a couple of things and there is so many more our donations help.

Please at your next meeting make some plans for any kind of donation to the Casey Cares Foundation. You can log onto [CaseyCares.org](http://CaseyCares.org) for more info on how you can help.

Robert Keys (Bob)

Chairman-Casey Cares

Cell 443-756-1152

[keysrak@Verizon.net](mailto:keysrak@Verizon.net)

## **Toys For Tots**

This year is going to be a very challenging year for some of our Tots. I am asking for all our squadrons throughout the Detachment to please dig down deep and help make this year a success for our kids at Christmas. I'm sure that some of our SAL members have been hit with hard times themselves and understand it isn't going to be easy for all, but there are many out there that are blessed so I am asking those of you that can to please bring an unwrapped toy to our next DEC meeting held on Saturday December 12th at the Hampstead American Legion Post #200 so we can help make this year a great one for Toy's for Tot's. Monetary donations are also acceptable, and I will make sure that the donation will be distributed where needed the most. Let us bring happiness to children at Christmas!

Happy Holidays to everyone,  
Toys for Tots Chairman  
Tom Clavell

## **Special Olympics— Maryland**

The comments below are an extract of a message from Maryland Special Olympics, website..

Dear Supporter,  
As we celebrate our 50th Anniversary we're launching our Experience Inclusion campaign, which will extend for the years to come, with the goal of raising \$10 million in new revenue while simultaneously delivering 150,000 "inclusion experiences" through the end of 2023. The Experience Inclusion campaign will support efforts to fulfill our vision of having 20,000 athletes training and competing by 2025. Over the last seven years, your investment in

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4)*

our program has transformed the lives of our athletes and helped us grow participation by 32% — up 2,145 athletes from 6,571 to 8,716. While COVID-19 has limited the scope of our programming, we remain committed to reaching our athletes who participate free of charge, and your support is critical to sustaining current programs while also supporting new initiatives. The Experience Inclusion campaign is designed to transform lives and communities throughout Maryland by engaging individuals without intellectual disabilities with our athletes through meaningful interactive experiences. These experiences include sport-related opportunities like volunteering as coaches, event management team members, and day of competition personnel. Additionally, individuals can participate as Unified® Sports teammates. Special events like our Virtual Torch Run, Over the Edge, Corporate Plunge Teams, Maryland Plunge Teams, and business team building sessions (sales meetings, all staff meetings, c-suite team meetings, etc.). If you are interested in scheduling an Inclusion Experience, please head to our new website page and fill out the request form.

Finally, you will be pleased to hear that our athletes are slowly, safely returning to practice. Since mid-July, we have had 258 athletes return to practice in groups of 10 or less to train in track and field, golf cycling, bocce, distance running, kayaking, soccer, flag football, and tennis. While we will not have state-level, large group competitions this fall, we will have a number of competitions this fall starting with a golf tournament on September 19th. Additional competitions will be held through October 17th. These will be our first competitions since COVID-19 brought our programs to an abrupt halt in March.

On behalf of all of our athletes, families, coaches, and volunteers, thank you for making a difference in their lives. Through sport, you are helping create a world where opportunity is not limited

by disability.

Sincerely,  
James C. Schmutz  
President & CEO

The Polar Bear Plunge is part of Maryland's history. For the past 25 years, thousands of plungers have jumped into the icy waters of the Chesapeake Bay all in support of Special Olympics Maryland. Your dedication to our 8,716 athletes is impactful and has created countless inclusion experiences across the state of Maryland.

**We are excited to say that the 2021 Polar Bear Plunge will go on!**

Help us reach our goal of \$3 million this year and register for the 2021 Plunge, today!

See you soon,

Eddie Souder ~ Chairman

eddie.souder@verizon.net

301-706-3960

## **Boy Scouts**

Well here we go off to another year and I never get tired of talking about the scouts. We all know the scouts can always use funds for various projects that they are always trying to create for the scouts. So as always, I am asking you all to don't forget our scouts. Please find a way put the scouts in your budget for this year.

On the home front I went to the southern Maryland youth camp to look at the air rifle range we donated to during my year and it looks great. We will soon be getting the plaque for the area that Mr. Brown said he would install for us. So, thank you for that. There were scout and range masters there and were very impressed and gave Our SAL a great big thank you for the range.

There was a little money left over in

which they are going to take and have a shed built right by the range to store all the equipment used for the range. As soon as plaque is complete, I will let everyone know. As for the range in Broad Creek still no word from them. Again, thank you ahead for any donations.

Thank you,

PDC Dave Hullihen

Chairman Boy Scouts Committee

## **DOUGLAS HENLEY MEMORIAL**

### **LAPS OF LOVE**

Thank You For Your Support!!

To all the Squadrons, Units, Post, Sponsors and participants. I would like to Thank everyone that made this year's Doug Henley Memorial Laps of Love another success. Over \$7,000.00 dollars was raised before we ever even stepped on Ocean City's Boardwalk.

That means Special Olympics of Maryland, Child Welfare Foundation and Casey Cares all will get donations from our Detachment based on the money raised. How much better can you feel then knowing you have helped our Children and Youth Programs?

Now start thinking about next year, we hope to have it back in June as we get back to normal and raise even more for the programs. If you were not a sponsor this year plan on being one next year. Just have a 50/50 a night or two at your post and use that money to help our programs. If you need any help or have any questions just reach out and I will help you in any way I can.

Thanks Again For All Your Help.

Serving Those That Served,

Don "JR" Hall (PDC)

*(Continued on page 6)*

*(Continued from page 5)*

## Legislative Alert!

This was a very important election year and I hope you all exercised your right to vote and encouraged others to as well. Get involved, take action, stand up and be counted, fight for our Veterans. Maryland senators are Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen. Maryland congressmen are by districts and you can find your representative at congress.gov then enter your address and it will show you your representative. Then click on their name and it will bring you to another screen where you can request a meeting, send an e-mail to them, request a flag or a tour, agency help and constituent services. Try it out and send them an e-mail. More information on legislative issues and to sign up for legislative alerts on the National web site at: <http://www.legion.org/legislative>. I am also asking you to sign up for alerts you will receive and be able to respond from your phone. It is Voter Voice and the sign up site is: <https://www.voterve.net/AmericanLegion/home>.

The Legislative commission is a very important part of Sons of The America Legion. At Washington Conference in March the Legislative agenda for the 116th Congress, second session was published. The priorities were distributed. The top priorities for this year: Toxic exposures and burn pits; Health care for women veterans; Support VA's Suicide-prevention efforts; Reaffirm commitment to our allies; Fully fund a superior national defense; Pay the Coast Guard; Implement, oversee recent laws; Protect the GI Bill; Help end veteran homelessness; Support for Gold Star families and Protect the American Flag. I can send you a copy of the agenda and point papers which goes into much more detail,

just e-mail me and I will send it to you. I am asking each of you to learn about one or two items that you are interested in and then contact your representatives and talk to them about those issues. We need to help take care of our Veterans. 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.

Tom Deal (PDC)

Legislative Chairman

[tom.deal@verizon.net](mailto:tom.deal@verizon.net)

## VAVS Variety

Happy belated Veterans Day!!!!

A note from the Perry Point service specialist Brandi Sima has informed us that our holding pattern continues with volunteers returning to campus and we still do not have a timeline for when that might happen.

We are looking at virtual opportunities, including the phone buddy program, which has been well received by Veterans. Thank you to those who are making a difference by keeping Veterans company, even if only over the phone. Other options are connecting with the units for interactions via Webex (a public forum similar to Zoom, but approved by VA for use) or sending in recorded content...if you're interested in possibly doing something (film a nature walk to share, play a piano or other instrument from home, do an art class), please let us know. You can contact Brandi at [brandi.sima@va.gov](mailto:brandi.sima@va.gov).

If you haven't checked it out already, we have a new means for communication with us and other VAMHCS Voluntary Service staff and volunteers. A private Facebook page has been created. You can find it here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/vamhcsvolunteers>. This is

for current, active VA Maryland Health Care System volunteers only. There will be 3 questions you need to answer about your volunteer status when you first sign on. After your current status is verified you will be approved to be a member. This is a VAMHCS wide volunteer site, so you may find some familiar faces from Perry Point as well as folks from Baltimore and Loch Raven. Quite a few of you have signed up and posted, so thank you and we hope you will enjoy this new platform for communication! There are pictures and a video posted of our drive thru awards ceremony... and we thank those of you who have added your own comments and pictures!

If you have not joined the group yet, but would still like to see some pictures from the drive thru awards ceremony, check out this video done by Ming in our Community Outreach office who graciously attended to take pictures during the event. <https://youtu.be/wUyJa4ziN4o> Heroes Haven held their annual hunt week in October and the event was very successful. There was 4 new veterans that recently joined the program and 10 Alumni veterans returned for this annual event. All members that joined the program this year are all from the State of Maryland.

Unfortunately as with many other fund raisers this year, Heroes Haven was forced to cancel their annual crab feast due to COVID-19. If you are interested to donating to the program, check out their Face Book page at 'Heroes Haven, Inc.'

## Loch Raven Medical Center

General VA news relating to COVID 19. The latest information from the VA on the return of volunteers is that until the VA goes into Phase 3 of their Moving Forward program and that a vaccine is available to the volunteers, volunteers will not go back until at least next year, possibly in the spring.

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Continued from page 6)

Don't forget to get your flu shot and stay healthy.

To help the residents at the Loch Raven VA celebrate Veterans Day, the Detachment and Maryland and Parkville Squadron #183 have procured a variety of books from Legion Emblem Sales for distribution to all of the residents in support of a virtual celebration.

Bob Filippi—Liaison

## Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

*"the only Veterans Home in the state"*

In order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and protect the residents and staff, the CHVH continues the precaution of limiting activities outside and within the facility.

Residents will not be attending dinners and other functions outside the Home and visitors/volunteers will be limited. The Southern Maryland District monthly bingos will resume as soon as these precautions are lifted.

As of the report on Friday, October 23, no new cases of Covid-19 were reported. Overall, the CHVH is reporting 211 cases of COVID-19 and 51 deaths among the residents and 103 cases of COVID-19 among the staff.

The CHVH is the only Veterans Home in the state of Maryland. Even though the Home has cancelled all activities, donations are still needed. If you would like to make a donation to the CHVH, check out the website, [www.charhall.org](http://www.charhall.org).

For God and Country,

Dave Tatman

CHVH Representative

[tatman\\_david@comcast.net](mailto:tatman_david@comcast.net)

301-645-1537

## Warrior's Standing Strong, Inc.

It is safe to say, 2020 was not the best year for any organization. WSS will be establishing a new agenda for 2021. We will resume our planning in January 2021. It is our wish that we will continue to be supported for all the wonderful things we do for our Veterans. We hope

and pray everyone continues with good health. There are a few with family members who have health issues. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers throughout the Holiday season. God Bless everyone and continues to wash your hands!

Ray Edwards

President

Warriors Standing Strong, Inc.

(410) 215-9354

[rayjred@verizon.net](mailto:rayjred@verizon.net)

I want to thank everyone for their continued efforts supporting our veterans during these challenging times. Despite the restrictions, the Sons of The American Legion have developed innovative and unique ways to assist our veterans.

VAVS Chairman

Joe Lohman

3rd Vice Commander

[Squadron60@verizon.net](mailto:Squadron60@verizon.net)

## Chaplin's Corner

I first wish to say "Thank You" to Past Detachment Chaplain Bill Yeagy for a job well done. " BRAVO ZULU " I have big shoes to fill.

We start this new 2020-2021 year slightly better off but we must all remember we are still in the midst of COVID-19 Pandemic. Every one of us needs to take care of ourselves, our family and friends. I wish to remind everyone that we are all in this together and no one should

stand alone during this time. If there is something you need, ask for help. By following Detachment Commander Manzo's slogan for this year, we will continue to be, " Son's Stronger Together".

A friend of mine passed over a small note of encouragement to me that I wish to share with you.

Charlie Chaplain Lived 88 years and he left us 4 statements:

1. Nothing is forever in this world, even our problems.
2. I love to walk in the rain because no one can see my tears.
3. The most lost day in life is the day we don't laugh.
4. Six of the best doctors in the world are:

Sun - Rest - Exercise - Diet - Self Respect - Friends

--Keep them in all stages of your life and enjoy a healthy life.

If you see the moon, you will see the beauty of God...

If you see the sun, you will see the power of God...

If you see a mirror, you will see God's best creation. So, believe it.

Life is just a journey! So, live today!

Tomorrow may not be.

Please remember to forward me the names of those who are sick or those who have passed.

For God and Country,  
Detachment Chaplain

Michael Obremski

[usnavyBB62@gmail.com](mailto:usnavyBB62@gmail.com)





*(Continued from page 7)*

## Time and Place Committee

Our 48th Annual Convention planning is under way.

Well the best laid plans have us going back to Hunt Valley!! You may begin contacting them today to place your reservations.

Mention Sons of The American Legion when you contact them.

The details for all of the events taking place during the convention weekend, such as; Horseshoe, Kornhole, Bowling, Golf and Superstar events will be detailed in the convention packages being distributed shortly after the new year and will be updated on our website [www.mdsal.org](http://www.mdsal.org).

Looking for ideas and volunteers to support our junior members. We traditionally have a pizza party on Friday Night along with SAL training for the older juniors and activities for the younger ones, but we run short on volunteers and new ideas. If you have ideas, or are able to help during the convention weekend, please reach out to me or Bill Stem. No one will be turned away and we're always looking for new ideas.

Looking forward to another great convention!

For God and Country,

Bill Hill

Chairman

## Western Maryland Tribune

Greetings WMD,

So far this year it's been a little tough trying to get together with everyone due to the pandemic. I hope everyone is well and adapting. I am working on scheduling meetings that can accommodate these trying times in order to continue to communication what is going on in our detachment and district. The next meeting that I have scheduled is for Sunday December 6th at Post #239 in Cascade Md. @ 1:00 pm. Please try to attend, we have had very low attendance in the past and need all the support we can get.

The WMD has the largest membership in the state and we are currently in seventh place for membership! We need to do better so please let's keep working hard, I know we can do better. Last year our WMD came in second with our membership but I truly believe we can do better and come in first this year, but we need everyone on board.

Is all our squadron's working on transmittals for membership? If not, you really need to make a point to attend this next meeting so we can get you up to date and firsthand information on how you can do membership through electronic filing. I added my phone number (410-598-3168) and email address ([clavell276@gamil.com](mailto:clavell276@gamil.com)) in the last Pride, and no one responded so I can only assume that everyone is up to date on everything. Again, if not please attend the December meeting in Cascade Maryland for more details/information.

I am currently working on getting the "2021" meeting place and date and hopefully will have the details to pass on for the next Pride article.

Have A Safe and Happy Holiday Season

Thank you,  
WMD Commander,  
Tom Clavell

## Northern Central News

First Things First,

I would like to thank Reisterstown squadron 116 for hosting my first NCD meeting as District commander.

Northern Central District as of this article is holding first place in membership in the Detachment. Let us keep up the good work. Talk to your members not paid yet and get their dues in. It will not be long before the NCD rally. You will have an opportunity to achieve awards, but you need to get those renewals in. Remember we must work to achieve 100%.

As the holidays are approaching, I hope each legion family member thinks of a Deployed, sick or wounded veteran unable to be home and celebrate with their family. Sending holiday wishes in a greeting card can lift the spirits at this time.

Finally, Toys for Tots! This program is a pet of mine. I have been involved in supporting Toys for Tots since my time in the Marines. Just one new unwrapped toy can make a difference in a child's holiday. Let us start a collection effort in each squadron to make a boy and girl happy this holiday season.

Yours in Service,

NCD Commander  
Bill Yeagy  
443-619-8797

## South Eastern Shore District

We are in slow motion in our district. With Covid-19 and several members having underlined health issues, we will reduce the number of our meetings until we are in the clear. We have several fundraisers from last year that have been carried over. We have a beautiful set of Korn Hole boards and a wagon of cheer, both to be given away at this year's convention.

There are wonderful events throughout our district supporting Veterans this year. Please keep those Veterans serving overseas and around the world, in our thoughts and prayers this holiday season. Let us not forget those who are in hospitals and who are home recovering from injuries and illnesses, both physical and mental. From the members of The South Eastern Shore District,

Please have a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving. Please try and help those in need. The Christmas Season

*(Continued on page 9)*



*(Continued from page 8)*

will be here shortly after. Have a Blessed Christmas Holiday and let's pray the New year will be happier, safer and brighter. Keep washing your hands!

Leon Miller  
 Commander  
 South Eastern Shore District  
 (443) 3559-4506

**NEC Update!**

To All,

First off let me thank you all for electing me as your NEC at our convention. I promise only one thing and that is to do the best job that I possibly can. On the same day that our convention in Ocean City was held, we had a virtual NEC meeting with the National Commander and other officers being in Indiana with very much success.

There were several resolutions discussed and reports from each Commission. One item to note is that all National officers are keeping their same positions for the administrative year 2020-2021. During the meeting we were greeted by the National American Legion Commander and the National American Legion Aux President, bringing us greetings and wishing the SAL great success for next year.

Let me Thank our past NEC Jeff Seiler for his help and guidance as his alt last year. Looking forward to a new year.

For more information about our organization from a National view, please go to [www.legion.org/sons](http://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 Legion.

Yours in Service,  
 Dave Hullihen (PDC)  
 Nat'l Executive Committeeman (NEC)

**Commander's Challenge**

All, Detachment Commander Bob Manzo and the Detachment Vice-Commanders have issued a Challenge this year and continues for the next two years concluding with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention. I want to explain how

every Squadron or District can meet the challenge. Commander Manzo's project is "Supporting Our Citizen Soldiers" and his motto is **"Sons Stronger Together"**.

The goal is to continue to raise awareness for the Four Pillars of The American Legion. And to those who do not know they are:  
*VA&R, Children and Youth, Americanism, and National Security.*

*The challenge is fairly simple, Americanism, Children & Youth and the VA&R portions of the Four Pillars requires a monetary donation of \$1 per member based on your respective squadron's previous year's membership at the designated cut-off date for each pillar made payable to the Detachment of Maryland There will be a requirement of at least a \$50 minimum donation with a \$250 maximum donation toward each pillar depending on your squadron membership, i.e., if your squadron has 60 members you will make a donation totaling \$180-\$60 for each pillar.*

*National Security: Squadrons will Honor a Police Officer or Fire Fighter in your area for their service to the community. One entry per Squadron. One winner will be chosen from each District and sent to Detachment where one winner will be selected for Police Officer/Fire Fighter of the Year and presented at Detachment convention in June. The winner will receive the Dave Barr Memorial Trophy:*

Plain and Simple:

1. Americanism: Donation based upon squadron membership.
2. V A&R: Donation based upon squadron membership.
3. C & Y: Donation based upon squadron membership.

4. National Security: Submit a Police Officer/Firefighter of the year.

The four pillars are what The American Legion is based upon, and we need to make sure we are doing our part to teach more about these four pillars. For each Squadron, District, or others meeting the Commanders Challenge they will be honored by receiving 2 gratis tickets to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala. After completing the challenge in year two, an additional 2 gratis tickets to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala will be rewarded and then after year three and for completing the challenge for three consecutive years an additional four (4) tickets for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala will be awarded resulting in the potential reward for meeting the Commander's Challenge of 8 tickets for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala. When you have met the requirements of the Challenge for all four pillars you will need to verify completion with Chairman, Karl Kibler. Do not wait until the end of the year to validate, when you have completed the challenge send in the information and you be notified you have met the challenge. Posts and Auxiliary Units may also participate in the "Commander's Challenge" utilizing the same criteria and receive the same awards.

*On behalf of Commander Manzo and the Vice-Commanders, I want to Thank You for participating in the "Commanders Challenge"*

*Yours in Service,*

*Karl Kibler*

*Email: homer51@comcast.net  
 410-829-9317*



“Sons Stronger Together”

3115 Orchard Avenue Baltimore, MD 21234

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

Follow us on Facebook:

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Maryland



**2021 Membership Target Date:**

<b>SEPTEMBER 10, 2020</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>OCTOBER 15, 2020</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 19, 2020</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>DECEMBER 9, 2020</b>	<b>45%</b>
JANUARY 21, 2021	60%
FEBRUARY 10, 2021	75%
MARCH 10, 2021	80%
APRIL 14, 2021	90%
MAY 12, 2021	100%
*JULY 28, 2021	105%

\*\* Delegate Strength Target Date

**Detachment of Maryland Meeting Schedule 2020—2021**

**Fall D.E.C. Meeting**

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 (Saturday) / Hampstead Post 200 @ 1pm

**All events for this week will be at The Grand Hotel**

**Mid-Term Squadron Officers Training**

**Special Olympics Maryland—Draw Down**

January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Winter D.E.C. Meeting**

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 @ 11am

**Detachment Commander's Project Drawdown**

March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 / Susquehanna Post 135 @ 6pm

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

April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 / Charlotte Hall Veterans Home @ 1pm

**48th Annual Detachment Convention**

June 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Delta Hotels-Marriott

Hunt Valley, MD 21031