



Mo. S.A.L. News

Summer 2009
Volume 3 Issue 1



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From Your Commander

I would like to begin by informing every one of my commander's project for this year: the Child Welfare Foundation. I am requesting that every squadron donate \$1.50 per member. If all the squadrons do this we will have raised over \$4000.00 to donate. My goal is for the Detachment to raise \$5000.00 in donations including what every squadron donates. I personally see this as an achievable goal for us with the knowledge that we have so many fine squadrons out there. If your squadrons can donate please forward all the donations to our Chairman John Gollaher. He will see that each donation is recognized. Who knows? Our NEC Man may get to read your squadron's name in front of the National Organization.

Next, I would like to request that each squadron send at least 1 representative to each of the 3 meetings that the Detachment holds every year. It is in these meetings that the whole state gets to voice their opinion on how the Detachment is run. It is the voice of every squadron that allows our Detachment to consistently grow and become stronger in all the activities that help us support our Veterans. Last but not least, let's not forget membership. Now is the time to start your membership campaign. If anyone needs assistance please feel free to contact myself or our Senior Vice Commander Bill Basey. You should be able to find all the Chairman and Officer Information in this news article.

In closing, let's all get out and make our great organization a strong voice for our veterans.

For God and Country,
John Sansoucie
Detachment Commander.

When an American says that he loves his country, he means not only that he loves the New England hills, the prairies glistening in the sun, the wide and rising plains, the great mountains, and the sea. He means that he loves an inner air, an inner light in which freedom lives and in which a man can draw the breath of self-respect.

Adlai Stevenson

From Your Sr. Vice Commander

With the beginning of a new year we need to work hard on membership. Membership is where all our growth starts. Without membership we will not have the men to work on our many projects across the state, we will not have the money to help all the charities we help and we will not be able to objective our main goals of helping the Legion, Veterans and The men and women now serving.

When we think about membership don't forget the Legion and the Auxiliary. If you meet someone that is eligible for the Legion or Auxiliary help them get signed up. We are a family and the best way to succeeded is to work together.

Another way to help with membership is to identify Posts the need squadrons there a lot of posts in the state of Missouri that do not have Sons of the American Legion squadrons. I you find any of your neighboring posts that are interested please let one of the state officers know and we will help them get a charter.

If we all work together we can make this a great year for the Sons of the American Legion in the state of Missouri.

At the end of this newsletter you will find a Scholarship application Please see that a copy gets to any Sons of the American Legion member that is going to school. I f they are not a member check their eligibility and sign them up so they can apply.

Bill Basey

From Your Western Vice Commander

It was good to see those of you who made it to Department Convention. I hope the summer has been good to all. We have a few Posts who have requested information on starting and revitalizing Squadrons. I will get back with them after National in Louisville.

If I can help your Squadron or Post let me know. Your Detachment Officers are here to help. Contact us and tell us how we can assist your Squadron/Post to grow.

Until next time God bless the American Legion Family, God bless our troops and God bless the United States of America.

Dick Sanford

Sons of the American Legion State Fall Conference 2009 October 24th 8:30 am. Capitol Plaza Hotel and Convention Center 415 W. McCarty Jefferson City, MO 65101

Membership Target Dates

2009-2010

☐ 10% Membership Target	☐ September 9, 2009
☐ 25% Membership Target	☐ October 14, 2009
☐ 35% Membership Target	☐ November 17, 2009
☐ 45% Membership Target	☐ December 9, 2009
☐ 60% Membership Target	☐ January 13, 2010
☐ 75% Membership Target	☐ February 10, 2010
☐ 80% Membership Target	☐ March 10, 2010
☐ 90% Membership Target	☐ April 14, 2010
☐ 100% Membership Target	☐ May 12, 2010

From Your National Executive Committeeman

We are off again, starting a new membership year and seeing how many goals we can break from years gone past, whew!!! That's not you? Let me ask, if you and I don't take care of our Veterans when they have been so diligent to take care of our freedoms, then who will. We cannot wait for the government to do it, that really isn't their job or purpose. Whether or not it is the National, State or City government, they have a full slate of objectives and responsibilities to take care of.

Don't get me wrong that by no means implies you should not be writing your government reps and telling them why you elected them, making sure our needs are taken care of. There are many things the representatives can help us with for our veterans and their families, but that is mostly to make sure there are no legal road blocks for us to do the caring of them. So let's make sure we understand, *"Forever remember that the cardinal purposes of Sons of The American Legion are the care of the dependents of those who answered the final call and of those who are suffering from disease and want; rightful education of the children of our country, and devoted service to the community, state and nation."* The job of our representative of government is to make sure we are allowed to do that.

We have a National convention just around the corner, although I am not allowed to discuss it, I believe there will be some great news coming out of it, specifically for the Sons and their families as well as the Legion Family as a whole.

Being part of the world's largest veteran's organization in the world is not as easy as it may seem. It takes a lot of work by a lot of VOLUNTEERS to keep it alive.

We need to continue to keep our membership rosters up and especially making sure we build up 100% renewal rates from all our existing members. The easiest way to do that is to first ask someone why they joined, and then build on that aspect. Of course if they just joined because grandpa signed them up then you need to find a cause they are interested in, and then let them be a part of that project. Don't try to cram through everything you may personally know about the Legion at them, listen to what they have to say and find their nook in our organization. If you have problems understanding this, get with myself or any Detachment Officer and we will be glad to help you and them. Bring them to a state conference, so they can meet others in other Squadrons, this may spark an idea you or they had not thought of.

From Your National Executive Committeeman (cont.)

It all starts with the basics, each of you need to go out and support your Post in all the programs it is involved with, start some of your own and make an impact on your community right there in your back yard. Then write us and let us know what kind of impact you have made.

Remember we are here because the veterans of our nation served our country to protect our freedoms. We, as the Legion family, have an awesome position to show the nation, state and community how everyone can help keep our values strong.

We have the ability to keep Americanism alive, and make sure the true meaning of the Constitution of the United States is never forgotten. Now we need to help protect their rights and privileges. Keep in touch with your political leaders, and let them know what you and your family believe in. Belief is important, and one way to maintain belief in you is to always speak the truth.

Still serving America's veterans and their families
Joe Monti,
National Executive Committeeman
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Missouri

Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. It's important to the person who serves as well as the recipient. It's the way in which we ourselves grow and develop.

Dr. Dorothy I. Height, president and CEO of the NCNW

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Editor Sr. Vice Commander Bill Basey

From the world wars of Europe to the jungles of the Far East, from the deserts of the Middle East to the African continent, and even here in our own hemisphere, our veterans have made the world a better place and America the great country we are today.

[John Hoeven](#)

**News from your
squadron could be here.
Please send in news of
your Squadron's
projects.**

**Please
Duplicate
This News
Letter and
Distribute To
All Members of
Your
Squadron and
Legion Post**

VA&R Report

Operation Comfort Warriors:

By American Legion National Commander David K. Rehbein, American Legion Auxiliary National President Desiree' A. Stoy, and Sons of the American Legion National Commander Tommie Cisna

We need your help. Most importantly they need you. They are our warriors, our guardians, our protectors. They are liberators, peacekeepers and nation-builders. They are our neighbors, friends and family members. They are the men and women of the United States Armed Forces. And now they are hurting.

The American Legion family is calling this effort Operation Comfort Warriors. - Contributing is effortless. No trips to the post office or packaging of comfort items are needed. We will handle all of that. You can use your credit card to make an online donation at www.legion.org/ocw or you can mail a check to Operation Comfort Warriors, PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Fisher House

Fisher House construction started in May at J.B. A donation to the Fisher House serves our military and their families in times of need. Providing shelter and support during medical crises, Fisher House's many "homes away from home" provide a comforting environment to injured service members, veterans, retirees and their families. While a loved one is undergoing medical treatment in an unfamiliar town, city or state, the offer of a welcoming refuge to help families stay close together is appreciated by the brave men and women who serve our nation with valor.

Become a hero to someone special by contributing to the Fisher House today. For more information, call toll-free (888) 294-8560 or visit www.fisherhouse.org. The Sons of the American Legion support the fundraising efforts of the Fisher House, visit www.sal.legion.org for more information.

**Jay Marsden
VA &R CHAIRMAN**

National Convention highlights

Well probably one of the most impressive sights I've ever seen was watching 200 or so motorcycles coming down the street to an American Legion Post after many days of riding and collecting money for The American Legion Legacy Foundation. It was not only impressive, but rather loud, good work Legion Riders.

We had many guests on the first day of meetings ranging from the leading and second leading Candidates for National Commander of The American Legion, to the National Jr Auxiliary President Kaylee Horan, the National Auxiliary President Desire Stoy, National Adjutant Dan Wheeler, of course the National Commander Dave Rehbein, along with several other distinguished visitors. All who visited commented on how proud they are of us and how proud we should be of each other being part of a nearly 4 million member family. They all urged us to keep up the things we do.

The end of the first day concluded with Dennis Boland President of The Child Welfare Foundation, continuing to give us accolades and presented several awards to those who gave the most time and money to the CWF. He also presented a pin for Commander Tommie for being the organization with the largest donations to the CWF.

Then the next day is when all the reports started. First however, we had our Memorial Service, by Rich Baldessari, which was followed by a preliminary Credentials Report by Harold Thompson. We then heard from Membership Chairman Mike Moss who awarded several states and every region with the appropriate commendations for the job the accomplishments in their area.

Jeff Frain shared with us that we reached our \$4,000,000 plus goal of total donations to the CWF by donating over \$343,000 this year. The Detachment of Ohio was the biggest contributor this year with over \$50,000 just this year.

Dr Randy Lange his wife Christie and Josh came to discuss the value of the Josh dog program. He and his team are developing a program to help each of us present the program to our own Squadrons or other civic minded volunteer groups.



Commander John with Josh II at the 38th National Sons of the American Legion Convention

National Convention highlights (cont.)

Internal Affairs Chairman David Dew reported on the 9 resolutions brought before the committee and filed and/or acted on. The main action taken was to make Patrick John Shea an Honorary National Commander, posthumously.

Joe Gladden Chairman of Community Services reported that his committee is going out in grand style. This committee will be absorbed in to others, mostly Americanism.

Past National American Legion Commander John Comer visited us with his yearly motivational minute. He shared his home Squadron had been a paper Squadron till about three years ago, when they asked what they can do to take the burden off of him. Since then, they have gotten on the ball and showed what a value the Squadron can be. In one day for two different years they held programs that rose over \$15,000 each day. As I have heard for over 18 years PNC Comer stated "When we hear, we forget. When we see, we remember, It is only when we do, we understand."

VA & R Chairman Bruno Williamson reported on several facets of this Commission. How they work with: Missing in America Project; Veterans Suicide hotline; USO; NEEDS program; VAVS, where we need to have more than 50 reps and associates; fisher House, as well as others.

Well today we end our Convention, but not without a few minor details, like electing new officers. Before the election, we had a visit from the National Vice President Rita Navarrato of the Auxiliary. She assured us the friendship and family ties between the Sons and the Auxiliary will continue throughout the next year and on.

Then we started with the nominations and election of the Commander, which went well making Mark Arneson our 2009-2010 National Commander. We then followed the same process with the election of our five Vice Commanders. Dennis Yheobold, who visited us in the Spring, is our new Central Zone Vice Commander. We then came to an election of National Chaplain. After an arduous roll call of nominations and seconds, we had two candidates vying for the position. After about 10 or 11 states votes, one candidate withdrew his nomination and seceded to Atwood Grandberry who is now our National Chaplain.

We then broke for the Joint National Memorial Service, which was very well presented and inspiring.

We then returned for the installation of Officers, which truly proved the State of Georgia is a Legion Family, this Mark Arneson's home state. That concluded the main business of Convention, a few housekeeping items were handled and we were dismissed.

The NEC then met to approve the other National Officers and Commission and Committee Chairman Appointments. The introduction was made by PNC Ray Giehll of the leading candidate for National Commander David Dew (TX) 2010-11 and then the second leading candidate Jim Roberts (FL), who will serve throughout the 2011-12 year. This concluded the Annual National Convention.

Still serving America's veterans and their families

Joe Monti,

National Executive Committeeman

Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Missouri

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF MISSOURI

AMERICAN LEGION
S.A.L. DETACHMENT OF MISSOURI
Po Bo x 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0179

SCHOLARSHIP FORM
\$250.00
DUE June 15, 2010

STRONG ACADEMIC RECORD AND TEST SCORES, FINANCIAL NEED, AND LEADERSHIP INVOLVEMENT. MUST ENROLL WITH A MINIMUM OF TWELVE SEMESTERS CREDIT OR ITS EQUIVALENT.

HOW ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE AMERICAN LEGION? _____
MEMBERS NAME _____/Post _____
MEMBER OF LEGION ____ AUXILIARY ____ SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ____
STUDENT'S NAME _____ M ____ F ____
ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____
EMPLOYERS: MOTHER _____ TYPE OF WORK _____
ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME _____
FATHER _____ TYPE OF WORK _____
ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME _____
NUMBER OF BROTHERS/SISTERS IN COLLEGE (NOT INCLUDING SELF) _____
HIGH SCHOOL _____ JR. HIGH _____ ELEMENTARY _____
COLLEGE PLANNING TO ATTEND _____
COST PER YEAR _____ FIELD OF STUDY _____
7TH SEMESTER CLASS RANK _____ IN A SENIOR CLASS OF _____
7TH SEMESTER CUMULATIVE GPA _____
SAT OR ACT COMPOSITE SCORE _____
LIST PART TIME/FULL TIME WORK EXPERIENCES _____
ANY UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MIGHT CLARIFY GREATER NEED: _____

BELOW LIST ALL THE ACTIVITIES AND OFFICES HELD DURING GRADES 9-12 INCLUDE ALL INVOLVEMENT AND HONORS BUT DO NOT INCLUDE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION. _____

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE HELD CONFIDENTIAL BY THE SCREENING COMMITTEE. IT IS SUGGESTED (NOT REQUIRED) THAT THE TOP TWO PAGES OR 1040 TAX FORM BE ATTACHED.

X

Student Signature

X

Parents Signature

PLEASE TO MAIL TO

William Basey
Scholarship Chairman Detachment of Missouri
407 sw 23rd St.
Blue Springs Mo. 64015