

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

I would imagine that many of us never gave much thought to what the future would hold as we grew up, we were focused on the present or reflecting on yesterday. We never gave much consideration to what tomorrow would hold or planned too far in advance, we were focused on our immediate needs and not so much on the future. As we mature we start thinking about tomorrow, when will I be able to retire, will I be healthy, and how many good years do I have left. Since you have been reading this time has ticked away, what was the future a minute ago has quickly turned into the present and will soon be the past. Our future, our tomorrow, will be upon us in the blink of an eye. That is why we must continually look to the future and plan well ahead of where we are today. Things are different from what they were when many of us grew up in the 50's, 60's and 70's. What was viewed as Science Fiction has now become Science Fact and it seems that technology changes quicker than we can absorb the change.

If we are to keep up with technology and the changing world, we too as an organization must change to keep up, or be placed on a shelf with other antiquated items. Not that antiques are useless, antiques are rare and valuable items, one of a kind and handcrafted, just like our organization. Therefore to keep from being placed on a shelf to collect dust, we must show our value to the world. We must show them the beauty and purpose of our rare, handcrafted organization, always mindful of the changes that are upon us and adapting to an ever changing world.

Our Strategic Initiatives Planning committee is striving to keep up and place our organization in a position where we can meet opportunities head on. No one wants to be classified as outdated or old and neither do we as an organization. We need to stay fresh, new and attractive to our members and potential members. You accomplish this by planning ahead and looking to the future.

As I look to the future I see a vibrant, enthusiastic organization, consisting of dedicated male descendants of Veterans of the Great Wars. Surely our parents and grandparents are as proud of us and our service to the Sons of The American Legion, as we are of them and their service to our Country.

Respectfully,  
Danny Smith, National Commander  
Sons of The American Legion