

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF COLORADO
HOME OF THE PAST SAL NATIONAL COMMANDER
MIKE MOSS**



Proud Possessors of a Priceless Heritage

Colorado Sons Electronic Update

Online at www.salcolorado.org



An unofficial publication of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Colorado

2012-2013

TRIPLE NICKEL DETACHMENT



Volume 8 Issue 1

December 2021

Electronic Update Reboot

Recognizing that communication is a vital key to the success of any organization, upon request of the Detachment leadership, we are rebooting the Detachment of Colorado Electronic Update. This publication is not intended to express the official position of the SAL Detachment of Colorado, The American Legion Department of Colorado or their respective National Organizations. It is a forum to share educational materials and information about events and happenings within the Detachment and National Organization of the Sons of The American Legion. Detachment Officers, Squadrons and individual members of the Sons of The American Legion are invited and encouraged to share information about programs and events relevant to the mission of the Sons of the American Legion. Email your write-up and pictures you wish to have published to: mark.kilstrom@comcast.net. This publication is compiled and published as a volunteer service by Mark Kilstrom.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

As we enter this holiday season, many of us may not feel the joy and celebration that normally comes with this time of year. Some of us have lost loved ones, some have lost jobs and even more due do the pandemic. However, with the season and the spirituality that it brings, may it also bring some joy and hope of better days to come. Lets remember those less fortunate that ourselves and remember that with faith, hope and love we shall prevail, and please remember to show love towards each other.

TIME TO REBOOT COLORADO

The Covid 19 pandemic which hit the United States of America about two years ago created a server drawdown in our activities as a Veterans Service Organization, and in some Posts, a virtual stoppage of all activities.

A lot of information, guidelines, directives and even mandates were proclaimed with varying levels of restrictions depending upon ones' city, county and state. Many of these readouts changed frequently throughout the pandemic. There was; no need to buy or wear a mask, everyone should wear a mask, masks should only be worn indoors, mask should be worn at all times, masks don't really provide any protection, you should wear two masks, you should wear three masks, the vaccine isn't

safe or effective, get the vaccine; don't get the vaccine, you must get the vaccine, you can still get and spread the virus even if you get the vaccine, etc., etc. Regardless of what side of the matter you may stand on, we must all agree that there was a lot of contradicting information that left most of us confused, bitter, divided, scared and even angry.

One thing we know for sure is that all of our lives were affected and disrupted. As a result of shutdowns and lockdowns, many of us suffered financial difficulties and coupled with mandated closures of various businesses, our lives were turned upside down. Many American Legion Post shut there doors, some remain closed which had dramatic af-

fects on our programs and activities. All of these events had a devastating impact on The American Legion and associated organization such as the Sons of The American Legion. The pandemic and related factors dramatically impacted our membership and our ability to support the various programs and organizations that have come to rely on our generosity.

Lets take a look. Our membership in 2010 was at 2,630 and steadily increased (with a couple slight dips) through 2018 when we hit our all time high of 3,245, nearly a 25% increase and along that journey we achieved the envious distinction of becoming a Triple Nickle Detachment. That's reaching 105% of the previ-

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Flying Flags for Heroes



At the 2021 Nation Convention of the Sons of The American Legion, newly elected SAL National Commander, Michael Fox announced his Service Project of Flying Flags for Heroes. The objective of the project to ensure that veterans who have transferred to the Post Everlasting are not forgotten. To accomplish this objective, he has set a goal of placing 1,000,000 flags on the grave sites of those veterans who have passed on. Accomplishing this goal will take the commitment of each De-

tachment and therefore, Commander Fox has requested each Detachment appoint a member to lead the effort in their State and make a commitment to the number of flags they pledge to place. In concert with this project, Commander Fox has designated a National Chairman to coordinate the efforts throughout the various Detachments. The Commander, Detachment of Colorado has appointed past National Historian and past Detachment Commander Mark Kilstrom to lead

the efforts for Colorado. Mark laid out his plan at the DEC meeting held on November 20th at American Legion Post 1985 in Firestone. Colorado has committed to 5,280 flags. The cost of the "Made in America" grave side flags will cost about \$900.00. Mark has sent letters to the various American Legion Post Commanders within the Department of Colorado requesting donations to cover the cost of the flags. Mark is asking the various Squad-

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BLAST FROM THE PAST

As we reboot the *Colorado Sons Electronic Update*, and as mentioned earlier, reboot the Detachment, I think it might be beneficial to reflect back to where we were. In this issue, and perhaps in issues to come, I will include an article or two from previous issues of years past. The following article appeared in the December 2014 (Volume 6 Issue 3). It is as relevant now as it was then, maybe even more so as we as an organization, reboot from the pandemic that brought our organization to a virtual standstill. Please note that currently I do not serve as the Detachment Adjutant, however at the time of initial publication, I was serving in that capacity.

Squadron and Post Relationships

By Mark Kilstrom, Detachment Adjutant.

Periodically, I get questions from various Post and Squadron Officers around the State asking about the relationship between the Post and the Squadron, and what obligations the Squadron has to the Post. Most often they revolve around Squadron Finances and what obligation the Squadron has to report their financial activities to the Post. The Squadron is a program of the post and does not carry it's own national or state tax ID number or EIN. As a program of the Post the Squadron uses the Post tax ID numbers. A few years ago Department Adjutant Pat Smith wrote about the relationship between the Squadron and Post as part of a training seminar. I thought it worth while to revisit what Pat had to say, so here it is:

Contributed by Department Adjutant Pat Smith

During recent training events the question came up about the relationship of the SAL to The American Legion. The SAL is a "program" of the Legion and each individual post must agree to sponsor a charter at the post level. The charters are issued by the National Organization and are called "Squadrons." The SAL has a state level program called the "Detachment" sponsored by the Department Headquarters. While the squadrons can operate independently of the Legion they are still the

responsibility of the Legion Post leadership. The post leadership should be used only as an advisor to the SAL and should not try to run or dictate the SAL activities and events. They do an excellent job of supporting our Legion programs. At the Department level the SAL keeps their own checking and savings accounts with signatures of their officers and with the Department Finance Officer as signatory on those accounts also. Their financials are submitted to the Department annually and are filled with the Department's 990 income tax form as income and expenses to the Department. This should work the same way at the post level. The SAL has no district organization. A smooth operating SAL is a real asset to a Post. The question arose as to the legality of SAL members serving on a Executive Committee of the Post. There are two parts to the answer. First an Executive Committee of the Post should be organized solely for the operation and management of the American Legion programs. The post constitution and by-laws should designate the members of this committee but it should include the Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer and Judge Advocate and other officers of the post as determined by the membership. This committee should conduct American Legion business only. Only paid up, bona fide, members of the Legion can sit on the Post Executive

Committee. As to the SAL's participation in this post executive committee, the SAL cannot be a voting member of this committee, since they are charged with determining the policies of the American Legion and policy decisions made at the post executive committee could be passed on to the department and national levels by resolution. Second, if the post operates a club or bar facility, an entirely separate board of directors should be designated to operate and manage that business. The Commander, Adjutant and Finance Officers should be a member of this board of directors, with other members as designated and elected by the post membership. If the post membership desires, both the SAL and Auxiliary can occupy voting seats on the Club Board of Directors (call it what you want, Executive Committee for the club, Board of Directors for the club, Trustees, Club Operation Committee, etc.). The decisions made there can only affect the operation of the bar and club business, not of the Legion since the American Legion does not legally recognize a club or bar operation.

REBOOTING COLORADO

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ous years membership, chartering five new Squadrons and have at least an 85% renewal rate within one membership year, that being 2013. Contrasting our 2018 of 3245 members with our 2020 membership of 2,891 and 2021 membership of 2,348, granted we still have about a month left as of this publication date, but that represents nearly a 28% drop since that all time high just 3 short years ago.

Understanding that the pandemic is largely to blame, but now as our nation begins to open up, it's time to begin our reboot. It is understandable that many still have serious and valid concerns about the virus, but we need to start getting back on track doing the things we do best, "**Adopt in Letter and Spirit All of the Great Principles for which The American Legion Stands.**" And that requires a strong membership base.

Lets reach out to those members who have not

renewed due to the pandemic and **reboot our relationship with them.** Invite them back, and remind them of why they became a member back when they joined. Make them understand that they are an important element of the organization. Ask them to get reinvolved and help out.

Squadron Leadership should have contact information for your members, phone number, email or physical mailing address. Any type of contact is better than none. Sometimes all someone needs is to be asked, or invited back in.

The Detachment and the National Organization realize that years of continuous service is important to many of our members and that the pandemic brought financial hardship to many of our members and membership dues to an organization that couldn't function was probably a low priority. So as a reach out tool, the National Organization is allowing members who did not renew in 2020 due to

the pandemic to keep there years of continuing service if they renew for 2021. So if they had 18 years as of 2019, and did not renew in 2020, they can pay 2021 dues and stay at 18 years of continuous service. You can reach out to the Detachment Adjutant on how to report these renewals so they don't loose credit for prior years of service.

We hear it all the time, membership is the backbone of the organization. It may sound like a broken record, but it's as true a fact as that the sun rises in the east, and the Rocky Mountains are a special place created by God Almighty.

Let's reach out to those who have not renewed in 2020 and 2021 and remind them of why they were members and what we are about and how important they are to fulfilling our mission. Our communities and favored organizations depend upon us for support. And we need our membership to fulfill the mission.

Flying Flags for Heroes

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rons within the Detachment of Colorado to provide a contact person and form a team of squadron members as needed to coordinate with local cemetery administrators to identify the grave sites of veterans buried at their cemetery and coordinate a date for the placement

of flags. Mark would like each squadron contact to reach out to him for further guidance and planning. Please provide your contact persons information to Mark either by email at mark.kilstrom@comcast.net or by phone at (719) 640-6692. Once the flags have been ordered they will be mailed to Mark and he will further provide them to the Squadron contact. Once Squadron events are set up,

provide Mark with the name of the cemetery, the date, number of flags and submit pictures to Mark by email. For further information about the project, feel free to reach out to Mark. This flag placing event should be separate from such events traditionally held on Memorial Day or Veterans Day.

Legislative Wins for The Legion

From The American Legion Legislative update , December, 17, 2021

The Senate passed a defense spending bill on Dec. 15, advancing the \$768 billion Fiscal Year 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to the president's desk for final approval. The defense budget includes significant wins for The American Legion's legislative agenda and the nation's veterans.

"There are a number of important initiatives in the NDAA that The American Legion supports," American Legion National Commander Paul E. Dillard said. "First, no military servicemember will receive a dishonorable discharge solely on the basis of COVID-19 vaccine refusal. While we are supportive of the vaccines, we do not believe a veteran's military service should be characterized as 'dishonorable' simply because he or she disagrees"

GWOT Memorial, another one of The American Legion's top legislative priorities included in the defense spending bill is the establishment of a Global War on Terrorism Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

There is funding for the Troops for Teachers program. The American Legion lobbied lawmakers to include the program in the defense spending bill after it was abruptly defunded as part of the Defense-Wide Review when DoD opted to realign program resources to

higher priority programs. The program was designed to assist transitioning servicemembers and veterans to begin careers as educators in K-12 public, charter and Bureau of Indian Affairs schools. DoD reported the program placed over 21,000 veteran teachers in classrooms over the course of 27 years.

The legislation also makes strides in fighting military sexual assault. The NDAA included changes to protect servicemembers from sexual assault. While The American Legion supports the approved changes, it believes more work is needed to overhaul the military justice system amid the epidemic of sexual assault and harassment in the armed forces.

An American Legion-backed effort to preserve memorials dedicated to chaplains at Arlington National Cemetery was also included in the NDAA. We are also pleased that this law makes it easier to preserve and update Arlington National Cemetery memorials to military chaplains.

The Afghanistan War Commission Act of 2021 creates a nonpartisan, independent commission that would conduct a comprehensive examination of the war in Afghanistan. The commission will examine every aspect of the war, according to the bill's text,

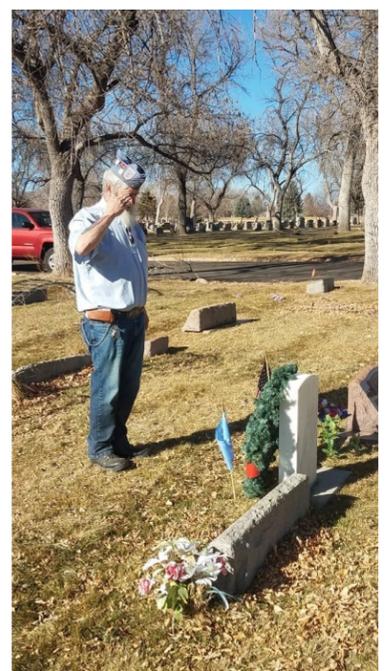
including the political and strategic decisions that transformed a military mission into a nation-building campaign resulting in 20 years of involvement in Afghanistan.

Other matters impacting veterans in the NDAA include the observance of National Atomic Veterans Day, a study on incidences of breast cancer among members of the armed forces serving on active duty, and expanding the scope of Department of Veterans Affairs open burn pit registry to include burn pits in Egypt and Syria.

Congress passed Legion-supported legislation to extend GI Bill protections for student veterans still forced into remote classes by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, ensuring they'll receive full benefits until next summer. The move is expected to affect about 57,000 students currently enrolled in degree programs, according to Veterans Affairs data. The Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee sent 25 bills to the floor Wednesday by voice vote. Up for debate were bills related to improving veterans' experience and access to health services through the Department of Veterans Affairs, including legislation to improve access to care for rural veterans, process claims for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and improve veterans' health facilities,

Squadron 5 Kicks Off Flying Flags for Heroes

Pfc Floyd K Lindstrom Squadron 5 in Colorado Springs kicked off the Detachment of Colorado's Flying Flags for Heroes program on December 17th by placing flags at the final resting place of 441 veterans at Evergreen Cemetery. Local news coverage was provided by The Gazette Telegraph in Colorado Spring.



LOCAL&STATE

Unemployment rate falls

More Coloradans return to work for the fifth consecutive month, but hospitality struggles

General to grads: Become involved

District 11 dissolves its equity leadership

Flags for the fallen



Home-repair program to help keep seniors in their home longer

Advertisement for Empty Stocking Fund and other community events.

Awards Banquet Recognition

Americanism

Based upon information provided in the annual Squadron Activity Reports, the following Squadrons were awarded Certificates of Meritorious Service in support of Americanism programs.

Squadron 2 Pueblo,
 Squadron 4 Fort Collins,
 Squadron 5 Colorado Springs,
 Squadron 13 Canon City,
 Squadron 17 Edgewater,
 Squadron 38 Fountain,
 Squadron 39 Manitou Springs,
 Squadron 54 Gunnison,
 Squadron 58 Broomfield,
 Squadron 66 Akron,
 Squadron 70 Johnstown,
 Squadron 103 Littleton,
 Squadron 111 Louisville,
 Squadron 170 Westcliff,
 Squadron 178 Lakewood,
 Squadron 206 Aurora,
 Squadron 207 Pueblo West,
 Squadron 209 Colorado Springs,
 Squadron 2001 Evergreen

The Joe D Roe Americanism Award for the most outstanding Squadron supporting Americanism was presented to Squadron 209 in Colorado Springs and Squadron 103 Littleton

Children & Youth

The Following Squadrons we presented Certificates of Appreciation for their activities in supporting children in their communities:

Squadron 2 Pueblo,
 Squadron 4 Fort Colins,
 Squadron 5 Colorado Springs,
 Squadron 17 Edgewater
 Squadron 18 Greeley,
 Squadron 21 Golden,
 Squadron 32 Longmont,
 Squadron 38 Fountain,
 Squadron 39 Manitou Springs,
 Squadron 54 Gunnison,
 Squadron 103 Littleton,
 Squadron 111 Louisville
 Squadron 178 Lakewood
 Squadron 209 Colorado Springs
 The Woodrow Mudge Jr. Memorial

Award for Children & Youth was presented to Squadron 103 of Littleton and Squadron 111 in Louisville for their outstanding dedication and achievement in supporting this pillar of The American Legion.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

For their support of veterans, the following Squadrons were presented Certificates of Achievement:

Squadron 2 Pueblo,
 Squadron 4 Fort Collins,
 Squadron 5 Colorado Springs,
 Squadron 21 Golden,
 Squadron 23 Aurora,
 Squadron 32 Longmont,
 Squadron 39 Manitou Springs,
 Squadron 54 Gunnison,
 Squadron 58 Broomfield,
 Squadron 66 Akron,
 Squadron 70 Johnstown
 Squadron 87 Denver,
 Squadron 103 Littleton,
 Squadron 178 Lakewood,
 Squadron 207 Pueblo West,
 Squadron 209 Colorado Springs

The Woodrow L Mudge Sr Memorial Award for Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation was awarded jointly to Squadrons 70 of Johnstown and 207 in Pueblo West for there contribution to this vital pillar of The American Legion.

Membership

For achieving the goal of 100% membership, the following Squadrons were presented Certificates of Achievement:

Squadron 2 Pueblo,
 Squadron 4 Fort Collins,
 Squadron 13 Canon City,
 Squadron 21 Golden,
 Squadron 22 Northglenn,
 Squadron 38 Fountain,
 Squadron 58 Broomfield,
 Squadron 70 Johnstown,
 Squadron 73 Montrose,
 Squadron 101 Denver,
 Squadron 103 Littleton,
 Squadron 111 Louisville,
 Squadron 113 Alamosa,
 Squadron 151 Commerce City

Squadron 2008 Falcon.

The Joseph Bokan Memorial Award for largest percentage in membership growth was awarded to the following Squadrons.:

Level 1 (Squadrons with 25 members or less) Squadron 2008 of Falcon with 148.15%

Level 2 (25 –75 members) Squadron 111 of Louisville with 106.21%

Level 3 (>75 members) Squadron 2 in Pueblo with 107.92%

Honorable mention went to Squadron 4 in Fort Collins for achieving 101.55%, Squadron 21 in Golden at 104.33%, Squadron 22 Northglenn at 104.51% and 38 in Fountain at 106.31%

The Terry Kelley Memorial Award for largest Squadron was presented to Squadron 32 in Longmont with 341 members.

Membership renewal certificates were presented to the following Squadrons for achieving an 85% renewal:

2 - Pueblo,
 4 Fort Collins,
 13 Canon City,
 20 Sterling,
 21 Golden,
 22 Northglenn
 38 - Fountain,
 58 Broomfield,
 62 Craig,
 66 Akron,
 70 Johnstown,
 73 Montrose,
 87 Denver,
 101Denver,
 103 Littleton,
 111 Louisville,
 113Alamosa,
 160 Byers,
 161 Arvada,
 170 Westcliff,
 178 Lakewood,
 200 Grand Junction,
 206 Aurora,
 1985 Firestone,
 1992 Aurora,
 2001Evergreen
 2008 Falcon

Willian D. Abbey Jr Memorial Award
 Largest Percentage Renewal Rate was

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Awards Banquet Recognition

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awarded to the following Squadrons:

Level 1 (<25 members), Squadron 113 Alamosa and Squadron 2001, each with 166.67%*

Level 2 (> 25 <75 members) Akron Squadron 66, 100%

Level 3 (> 75 members) Squadron 2, Pueblo 100%

Honorable Mention; Squadron 21, Golden 98.75%.

*these squadrons had members that did not renew in 2020, but renewed in 2021 that kept continuous years membership therefore counting as 2020 members not previously reported. Showing those squadrons as more that 100% renewals for 2021 was the only to account for that.

National Awards

National Awards presented to the Detachment presented at the National Convention in Phoenix, AZ:

2019-2020 National SAL CWF Certificate of Recognition for achieving & exceeding \$2.00 Per-Capita .

2019-2020 excellence award top ten Detachment in Per-Capita giving.

2019-2020 James a. Drain TAL Veterans & Children Foundation' #1 detachment Per-Capita donations

2019-2020 National SAL CWF Certificate of Achievement for highest donation for the Midwest Region

2019-2020 National SAL CWF Per-Capita award the highest Per-Capita in the Midwest Region.

2019-2020 Harry W. Colmery Legacy award for outstanding support to TAL Veterans Children Foundation as the # 1 Detachment in total contributions in support of TAL Children & Youth & Veterans Affairs and & Rehabilitation program

2020-2021 James A. Drain TAL Veterans & Children Foundation as the #1 Detachment Per-Capita in donations.

2020-2021 CWF, Children First Gift Club Guardian Squadron 211

2020-2021 Harry W. Colmery Legacy award for outstanding support to TAL Veterans & Children foundation as top Detachment in total contributions in support of TAL Children & youth & Veterans Affairs & rehabilitation pro-

gram.

Special Presentations

Detachment Mom: Lauri Kuntz
Keenesburg unit 180



Dual Member of the Year 2020-2021:
William Easton, Squadron 5 Colorado Spring



Richard P Kendell Memorial Award:
Most Outstanding Detachment Member
2020-2021: Thomas Benigni, Squadron 4, Fort Collins

Commanders' Note

Any of our members that are participating with wreaths across America should get pictures and add flags so or Flying Flags for Hero's numbers go up,

As we concentrate on membership numbers. Keep in mind that every male is a protentional member, after all if they look through their family tree they will find a veteran.

I know our Colorado Detachment can and will do way more than meet the goals set before us by National. we will pass them. Keep up the good work and remember We Honor all who walked before us.

Robert E Jones
Detachment Commander

Words from The Senior-Vice Commander

Gentlemen

This will be the first of several installments concerning membership and how we can "reboot" to pre Covid status and beyond. A huge Thank You to Mark Kilstrom for resurrecting his newsletter enhancing our much-needed communication!

At Squadron 1, my Commander and I are going to divide up the member list (among willing participants) and make a Holiday buddy check call to the guys. We will not be pressing for dues or donations at this time. It will just be a call making sure the men know we have their best interests at heart. An invite to come on down to the Post is highly suggested as handshakes and pats on the back are the stuff that bond this awesome group of men!

That's all for this first edition relating to membership in our newsletter. I will have another membership suggestion in the next printing. Please feel free to send your ideas to me at any of my contacts listed below.

For God and Country, Wallie

Wallie Weld
Sr. Vice Commander
Membership Chair
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Colorado
303.995.1739
wrrmac24@msn.com

What This Is, Why This Matters

The following is from Kenneth George, SAL National Liaison

“The goal to go live with SAL online renewals is January 1, 2022. After January 1st **any squadron that has not reported their per capita to national will be responsible for collecting their own dues from the member.** This is an all-or-nothing deal. Once SAL online renewal is active, it is active for every squadron whether they have reported their per capita or not. Squadrons that have not filled an SDR, or their per capita is not recorded, please complete an SDR form and send it to the address listed at the bottom of the instruction page. I appreciate your help and let's get this done for the benefit of our members.”

You can send the SDR to the Detachment Adjutant or directly to National via the fillable form or mail to the address or email at the bottom of the instruction page.

see next page for instructions on completing this form.



ANNUAL SQUADRON DATA REPORT (SDR)

20 _ Membership Year

Detachment _____ District/County _____ Squadron # _____

CHANGES (or) CORRECTIONS

Please type or print in ink and forward to your Detachment and National Headquarters

1) Squadron's Home (Physical) Address: _____
(Street address, city, state and zip code) _____

2) Squadron's Mailing Address: _____
If different than physical address _____

3) Squadron's Dues Mailing Address: _____
If different than physical address _____

Note: If the above address contains a member's name or is being sent to a member's home address as the contact, please provide the member's ID#.

4) Annual Squadron Dues for 20 22 Regular member _____ Dual member _____
Junior member _____ Max. age _____ Effective Date _____
Month / Day / Year

Note: Include all district and county per capita the squadron will be responsible for paying.

5) Squadron Telephone Number: _____
Note: DO NOT use personal phone numbers of members

6) Squadron Fax Number: _____

7) Squadron Email Address: _____

8) Squadron Internet Website: _____

9) Squadron Facebook Page: _____

10) Squadron Meeting Day & Time: _____

Squadron Adjutant or Commander Signature

Date

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Complete and return this form to your Detachment and National Headquarters no later than April 15th. Failure to meet this deadline may prohibit your members from renewing their membership online through mysal.org and cause Renewal Notices to be mailed with incorrect information.

SQUADRON DATA REPORT INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions

Throughout the year, it is necessary for National to contact squadrons regarding membership renewals, awards, and general communications. In addition, National receives daily requests for post and squadron information from members and potential new members or others who are looking for information about The American Legion at the local level. Maintaining your squadron's current information with National Headquarters has become more important than ever.

Completing an annual Squadron Data Report (SDR) is necessary to inform your Detachment & National Headquarters of pertinent information regarding your squadron and, most importantly, membership renewal information. Complete an annual SDR even if your squadron information has not changed. Any information that has changed can be indicated by checking either the "CHANGE OR CORRECTION" boxes.

Squadron information will be maintained with National's records and published on the legion.org and mysal.org websites and through the "Post Locator" feature. Members who are traveling or have moved, or simply want to transfer, frequently refer to the Post Locator for assistance.

Remember to inform your Detachment & National Headquarters any time a change is made throughout the year.

Each question for the SDR requires specific information. Each question requires the following:

- 1) Enter the actual physical location of the squadron's location.
- 2) Enter the mailing address of the squadron (if different than the physical address). This should be the address where the squadron receives all mail and parcels.
- 3) Enter the dues mailing address that is to appear on the membership renewal notices. It may or may not be the same as the regular mailing or physical address of the squadron.
- 4) Write the dues amount each member pays for the current membership year. If your dues are changing, write the effective date of the new rate. Unless noted otherwise, an effective date of July 1st will be entered to coincide with the first renewal notice of the new membership year. Indicate your junior and dual dues rates, include the maximum age the junior rate is valid, i.e., 18, 19, 20, 21 years of age, etc. All district and or county per capita should be included in the annual squadron dues. The squadron will be responsible for paying any local district or county per capita dues directly.
- 5) Enter the business telephone number of the squadron. (Do not use a personal phone number of a member.)
- 6) Enter the fax telephone number of the squadron, if applicable.
- 7) Enter the squadron email address, if applicable. Enter the email address that is regularly monitored.
- 8) Enter the URL of the squadron website, if applicable.
- 9) Enter the name of the squadron Facebook page, if applicable.
- 10) Enter the date and time of your regularly scheduled squadron meeting. (Ex: 2nd Wednesday @ 7:00pm)

The Annual Squadron Data Report must be signed at the bottom of the page by the Squadron Adjutant or Commander. Unsigned reports will be returned for an authorized signature.

The Annual Squadron Data Report must be forwarded to your Detachment & National Headquarters no later than April 15th in order for squadron information to be processed in time for the first renewal notice.

If there is a subsequent change in the squadron's contact information or a change in the dues amount, the squadron must notify their Detachment & National Headquarters immediately. National Headquarters will not be responsible for reporting incorrect information if the proper notification was not received or if notification was not received in advance of the established deadlines.

NOTICE TO DEPARTMENTS & DETACHMENTS: All annual SDRs must be received at National by April 15th in order to be processed prior to printing the first renewal notices. Please forward as quickly as possible to IT/Data Services after receipt from the squadron; this will help ease processing at National.

MAIL: THE AMERICAN LEGION
ATTN: IT/DATA SERVICES
PO BOX 1954
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206

SCAN & EMAIL: dsforms@legion.org

It's important to know that if the SDR is not received by National, and a member renews on line, he will only be charged National dues of \$5.00 and Detachment dues of \$7.00. The \$7.00 will be returned to the Detachment, but there will be no funds to return to the Squadron. Then the Squadron will have to ask the member for his Squadron dues to get his card. You can see where this could lead. This online renewal for the SAL is new, but it can work well, if National receives the Squadron Data Report. Without it, it can be a dumpster fire.

American Legion Riders

The American Legion Riders perform many functions supporting the Four Pillars of The American Legion and are great ambassadors to the communities where they live. It's important to remember that to be eligible for membership in the ALR, they must first be members of The American Legion, Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion. Keep in mind that dues to the primary organization must also be paid on an annual basis or be a paid up for life member.