



# NEWS, NOTES

FIRST IN THE NATION WINNER OF THE TRIPLE NICKLE!

SUMMER ISSUE

## CALL TO DETACHMENT CONVENTION

Calling all Squadron to Coralville Iowa for the 2014 Detachment Convention on July 12, 2014 at the Marriott Coralville Hotel & Conference Center; 300 E 9th Street; Coralville, IA 52241; if you are looking for a room call (319) 688-4000 with the room rate being \$99 plus taxes and fees. If the Marriott is full the overflow hotel is the Holiday Inn Coralville; 1220 1st Avenue; Coralville, IA 52241; (319) 351-5049 with the room there being \$104 plus taxes and fees.

This years convention we will be ratifying the 2014-2015 budget, approving the attendees to National Convention in Charlotte

North Carolina, continuing work on creation of Districts in the Detachment, Squadron reports and discussing how to get more training out to our Squadrons.

With it being Convention it is time to elect new officers; all positions but National Executive Committeeman will be open. As of press time the Adjutant has only received endorsements for Detachment Commander, and Alternate National Executive Committeeman. Nominations will be accept from the floor during the meeting.

Meeting will begin at 9:00 AM with registration taking



Marriott Coralville Hotel & Conference Center

place during the Legion's registration hours, watch the next Legionnaire for registration times. If you have other items you wish to have the Detachment discuss please send them to Adjutant Brian Kessler at [kesslerb@mchsi.com](mailto:kesslerb@mchsi.com).

The Detachment DEC will meet immediately following the Convention to approve the Commander's Appointments and Assign District Mentors.

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- \$10.00 registration fee at Detachment Convention.
- 247 members from receiving 4th Triple Nickel.
- National Convention registration due by June 15.
- Consolidated Squadron Reports are due June 24.
- Michael Sypherd Sr. announces candidacy for Detachment Commander.

## SQUADRON CONSOLIDATED REPORT DUE!!

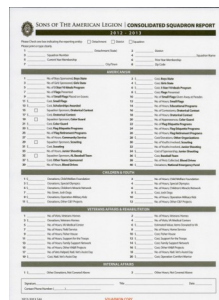
Adjutant's have you gotten a copy of your Squadron Consolidated Report to your post and then into the Detachment?

These reports are due by June 24th , 2014.

If you are not sure if you have sent it in, or know you

did but want to make sure we received it go to [www.bobboomer.com](http://www.bobboomer.com) and click on the Squadron Status tab, then click on Consolidate Squadron Reports to see if you are a hero or a zero. You can also get a spreadsheet to help you keep track of your hours at

that website too



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## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Mike Blanchard  
Detachment  
Commander

Hello all. At the time I am writing this article we are 36 cards away from 100% and 247 away from our (your) fourth Triple Nickel. I am confident that you Blue Cappers out there will come thru.

This year's Consolidated Squadron Report are in your Squadron Adjutant's hands, please make sure that's filled out and send it in. How many people in your Squadron are volunteer fire and rescue,

ambulance, or even City Council? These are just a few examples of Community service. We all know that with this report, we help the National Legion Commander, when he goes to Congress to lobby for Veteran benefits. How better for all of us, as Sons of the American Legion to stand by their side with HONOR and PRIDE. This is why I am a proud member to Honor my Father, so please fill out this report. And

remember that this is not a CONTEST; it's our report card to the American Legion.

Your new 2015 membership cards, again, will be headed to your Adjutant, toward the end of June or the first of July. If you do not get them, call HQ to find out why. More than likely someone did not send in an Officers report, it is part of our rules no officers report no

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## DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION

Currently listed as delegates to the National Convention in Charlotte North Carolina: Mike Blanchard, Mike Sypherd, Richard Young, Bob Rosenboom, Jim Valentine, Bobby Jackson, James Dean and Leroy Shadduck. Listed as alternate delegates are: Stan Elliot and Jim Peterson.

According to our membership, if we reach

our goal we can have 11 delegates and alternates to the convention; currently we have 8 and 2.

If you wish to go to the SAL National Convention, you need to submit to Department by June 15th the sign-up sheets. You can find them on the Iowa Legion website [www.ialegion.org](http://www.ialegion.org) under

the National Convention tab.

The Detachment will pick up the \$25.00 registration fee for those SAL members attending the 2014 National Convention.

Delegates and alternates will be approved at the Detachment Convention in Coralville on July 12, 2014.



## DISTRICT CREATION UPDATE

At the Spring Conference the 9th District brought forth a resolution to add Districts to the Detachment Constitution. It was determined that the resolution wasn't correctly worded and needed to be redone.

During the discussion concerns were brought up about how hard it might be to

find officers for each District, and with some of the Districts not having that many

Squadrons it would be hard for those Districts to start. The questions were answered with we need this step to make it easier for Squadron officers to move to Detachment Officers, so hopefully finding officers would be easier. It was also noted we were not

forcing Districts we just wanted them to have the option to start a District.

9th District said they would rework the resolutions and resubmit them at the Detachment Convention for Detachment consideration. If accepted then it would move to the Department DEC for their approval.



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Well, tis the season, one membership year is about to end, with new on the way. Sometimes the chairmanship job is great, sometimes not so great. Thank you for all the good work done so far this year. I'm sad to say we were short 61 members for the 100% National target May 14th, the only target we've missed this year. That puts us 247 members short of our 4th Triple Nickel. Do we let the streak end? I surly hope not.

We have all the other ducks in a row, we're just short the members. We have a couple Squadrons that are short, close to half their membership from last year, that hurts us, and it tells me there are things that need to be fixed in the Post and Squadron.

Membership in the Sons of the American Legion is never about us, it's about the Veterans who made the sacrifice for our eligibility,

and all the Veterans who served before, with, and after them. With all the crap that's going on with the VA now, we need to keep our membership up, so the National Commander has the clout to make the Washington fix the mess they've made. Our Veterans deserve better, Let's work together to keep the fire hot in DC.

This is my last year as

*(Continued on page 4)*



Bob Rosenboom  
Membership  
Chairman

## SQUADRON TRAINING OPTIONS

Do you feel like you know enough? Do you feel like you are a good or great leader? Do you feel like you understand enough about the SAL to be one of it's leaders?

We all are in need of some education every so often to refresh ourselves as to what our job or mission is. The big question for the Detachment leadership is how do we do

that, how do we get that education, that refresher course out to you in the Squadrons? How do we make it easier for you to get that education, but in the process not break the bank?

This discussion really came to the fore front during the discussion of creating districts; as some of our members felt we should be

doing more education at the District than creating District's and asking for District officers. For which then lead to the discussion about who could offer this training at these meetings, what kind of training would be offered, but how do we get more and better officers for the Detachment if we don't start training at the

*(Continued on page 5)*

"HOW DO WE MAKE IT EASIER FOR YOU TO GET THAT EDUCATION, BUT IN THE PROCESS NOT BREAK THE BANK?"

## OFFICERS ELECTIONS

It is time to elect the officers that will help lead the Detachment the next year. Currently the Adjutant has on file endorsements for Detachment Commander and the Alternate National Executive Committeeman.

Even though we have endorsements for those, we can still have more than one

candidate for those offices and we don't have to have endorsements for a position, although it does help in making things run smoother. But if you are interested in any officer (Commander, Vice-Commander, Finance Officer, Sergeant-At-Arms, Chaplain, Historian or Alternate National Executive Committeeman) please have

someone come with you to the Convention and endorse you from the floor for that office. Then when elections happen you name will be listed as a candidate for that office.

If you wish to submit an endorsement please email it to the Detachment Adjutant at [kesslerb@mchsi.com](mailto:kesslerb@mchsi.com).





Richard Young  
National  
Executive  
Committeeman

## NEC REPORT

We had a great weekend in Indianapolis, I would like to start out with congratulating Bobby Jackson for finishing his first year of NMI training and Mike Sypherd Jr. for finishing his second year of NMI training. This is a three year course if anyone is interested in going to NMI please let me know or if you want more information.

On Friday night I attended the Homeland Security & Civil Preparedness

Committee meeting. At the meeting they talked about PSA's from the SAL on Homeland Security and Civil Preparedness. They also talked about trying to get each Squadron CERT training at the county level if you are interested in doing this contact your county Emergency Management person. You should be able to get their name from your local county auditor. They also discussed getting your

local Squadron ready for a disaster by going to the federal website [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov).

On Saturday morning we opened the spring NEC meeting at 8:30 AM. We heard from several guest and from John Kerestan National Sons of the American Legion Liaison. He talked to us about how important it is to get your membership turned in.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## GOOSE EGG SQUADRONS

These Squadrons still have zero's as we reach the end of the year. If your Squadron is on this list or you see a Squadron you know is who active ask where their membership is?

As of May 16, 2014

5th District: Corydon

6th District: Waukee, Melcher, Des Moines 731

7th District: Brayton, Sidney, Walnut, Lenox

9th District: Peterson, Kingsley



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE CONT.

*(Continued from page 3)*

Membership Chairman, it's time for fresh blood and thoughts, but I'm sure the quest for a bigger and better Iowa Detachment will never end.

New membership packets will be on the way to the Squadron Adjutant's mailbox

the first part of July, let's end this year, and start next year with a bang. If I were doing it any membership collected now I'd shoot to for 2 years worth, so they'll be good to go until 2015. Have a great summer, I hope to see you at Convention this July.

Bob Rosenboom  
Membership Chairman

"NEW MEMBERSHIP PACKETS WILL BE ON THE WAY TO THE SQUADRON ADJUTANT'S MAILBOX THE FIRST PART OF JULY..."

## LEADING CANDIDATE MICHAEL SPHERD

I'd like to introduce myself as the Leading Candidate for Detachment Commander. I'm Michael E. Sypherd Sr. I have held several positions at the Squadron level, and currently am the Commander of Squadron 29 Washington. At the Detachment level I have served as Chaplin, Vice Commander and I'm presently the Alt NEC.

I just completed my second year of NMI (National Management Institute) and have attended the last several years of Department Leadership School.

I have been married to my lovely wife Mary for 27 years residing in Ainsworth. We have two children Jamie Lee and husband Rob, plus Michael II and his wife Kassie. Michael served in the US Marine Corp and is an Afghanistan War Veteran.

We have five grandsons all SAL members, and one granddaughter also an Auxiliary junior member.

I get my eligibility thru my father who served from 1961 to 67 in the US Army serving two tours in Vietnam. My maternal grandfather served in the Navy during WWII, and my maternal grandmother was a WAC in WWII. And my brother Lee served in Desert Storm with the US Marine Corp.

My theme this year is "Proudly Serving Those That Served For Us". My Commanders project will be OCV (Operation Comfort Warrior).

My goals as Commander are to:

1) Strengthen the bond between the Legion Family

2) Continue to work towards the Triple Nickel

3) Strive toward 100% compliance on Officer Reports and Consolidated Reports.

4) \$1 donation for every member to Child Welfare Foundation, National Emergency Fund and Operation Comfort Warrior.

5) Strive to grow every Squadron by 1 additional member.

I look forward to the chance to serve as your Detachment Commander and the chance to work with all the wonderful members of the Detachment of Iowa.

For God and Country,  
Michael Sypherd



Michael E.  
Sypherd Sr.  
Leading Candidate for  
Detachment  
Commander

## TRAINING OPTIONS CONT.

*(Continued from page 3)*

District level?

The Detachment started looking at maybe sending Detachment Officers as the trainers to every District or selecting two officers to go to like a regional location and have three districts come to this location for training classes. The biggest hurdle there was the cost of setting up a location like that plus paying the mileage and room for the trainers.

The next discussion was giving financial support to each District or Squadron to send some members to the Detachment Leadership School at the Mid-Winter Conference. The question there becomes how do you figure a dollar amount to pay each District or Squadron so that you can figure it into a budget?

So many questions kept coming up, with very little answers, so it was decided to

table the discussion till Convention and have some figures put together on traveling costs, but also ask you the Squadron leadership what you think. How would you like to see the Detachment help educate you and help you to foster and mentor leaders for your Squadron and ultimately for the Districts and Detachment levels. Please bring you ideas to Convention in Coralville or email them to Commander mech.blanchard@live.com or to the Adjutant kesslerb@mchsi.com.

“ASK THE SQUADRON LEADERSHIP WHAT YOU THINK. HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE DETACHMENT HELP EDUCATE YOU AND HELP YOU TO FOSTER AND MENTOR LEADERS FOR YOUR SQUADRON”



## COMMANDERS MESSAGE CONT.

*(Continued from page 2)*

membership cards.

After Membership, the last big paperwork thing of the year is Squadron Officers report. If you do not send it in, you will not get your membership cards for the following year, we must know where to send them. When you fill this report PLEASE use a used phone number, if there is a problem you can be contacted, or the Commander may call and ask to make a Squadron visit, that is part of the Commanders job.

Take a look at the Commanders website ([www.bobbboomer.com/](http://www.bobbboomer.com/)) There is a host of information to be found there, like a list of your Detachment Officers,

check to make sure your membership you sent in has reached HQ, and if you do this there are other related things there you can look at and ask for. One more thing I'd like to say about Membership, it's not just one person, it is every Sons, Legion, and Auxiliary responsibility we can all work to one GOAL. We all know that membership is the lifeblood of this great organization. If all work membership, then no one gets BURNED out, and we all gain.

I would like to welcome our new Squadrons this year Cedar Falls, Mount Vernon, Crawfordsville, Sioux City 64, and Highland Park. It would be nice if everyone could send Congratulations

and welcome to our new Squadrons. This is the last article as Detachment Commander, and I will tell you all, it has been a HONOR to be your Commander these last two years. Meeting everyone that I never would have had the chance to meet. See all the great things that all of you do to include, dinners and breakfasts, the work that you BLUE CAPPERS do for your Posts. From Annie, and I, thank all of you for the hospitality.

And always remember if you have a question look to the website ([www.bobbboomer.com/](http://www.bobbboomer.com/)) get our phone numbers and ask away. Stand BY Their SIDE WITH HONOR and PRIDE.

Commander Mike Blanchard

“FROM ANNIE,  
AND I, THANK  
ALL OF YOU FOR  
THE  
HOSPITALITY. “

## NEC REPORT CONT.

*(Continued from page 4)*

On Saturday morning I attended the Legislative Commission meeting. They asked each state to get their legislative chairman on the state email list from the capital of each state to watch for bills that would affect veterans and then pass the information down to the local Squadron Commanders to call their state legislatures. They also talked about Washington Conference and asked Detachments that are

going to lay a wreath that they notified National so they can get on the bus. Next year if you are not going to lay a wreath you will have to find your own transportation. The wreath laying ceremony will be February 22, 2015 at the Washington Conference. Also they talked about the demographics of Congress in Washington DC, veterans used to make up 50% of Congress now it is only 8-12%. This is why we need to work even harder to protect veteran's rights.

I would like each Squadron to get their membership turned in and make donations to the CWF and NEF.

[www.mySAL.org](http://www.mySAL.org) every squadron should be getting signed up for this in the future this is the sight your Squadron will get information from national headquarters and information about your membership.

Richard Young NEC  
Detachment of Iowa

“DEMOGRAPHICS  
OF CONGRESS IN  
WASHINGTON  
DC, VETERANS  
USED TO MAKE  
UP 50% OF  
CONGRESS NOW  
IT IS ONLY 8-  
12%. “

**THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED EVERY YEAR BY SEPTEMBER 15, IN ORDER FOR THE SQUADRON TO RECEIVE NEXT YEARS MEMBERSHIP CARDS. DOESN'T MATTER IF OFFICERS CHANGE OR NOT; FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED!!**

- 1) Squadron's number.
- 2) Location of Squadron.
- 3) County where Squadron resides.
- 4) District where Squadron resides.
- 5) The current membership year.
- 6) Commander's information.
  - a. Name. **REQUIRED**
  - b. Current telephone number. **REQUIRED**
  - c. Current mailing address. **REQUIRED**
  - d. Current city of residence. **REQUIRED**
  - e. Current state of residence. **REQUIRED**
  - f. Current zip code of residence. **REQUIRED**
  - g. Current email address. **REQUIRED**
- 7) Adjutant's information. *See no. 6 for sections a-g. Email address is required for Adjutant.*
- 8) Finance Officer's information. *See no. 6 for sections a-f.*
- 9) Post SAL Advisor's information. *See no. 6 for sections a-g. Email address is required for Adviser.*
- 10) Executive Committee Meeting information.
  - a. Day of the week.
  - b. Time of day.
- 11) Regular Meeting Information
  - a. Day of the week.
  - b. Time of day.
- 12) Amount of Squadron Dues per member. Please list dues for members over 18 or 21, members under 18 or 21 and dual members.
- 13) Telephone number for the Post/Squadron only.
- 14) Physical location of Post/Squadron.
- 15) City in which Post/Squadron resides.
- 16) State in which Post/Squadron resides.
- 17) Zip Code in which Post/Squadron resides.


SQUADRON # 1 CITY 2 COUNTY 3 DISTRICT 4

**SQUADRON OFFICERS** YEAR 5

 BE SURE TO PRINT WITH PEN. (BLUE OR BLACK)

PLEASE FILL OUT EVEN IF OFFICERS ARE THE SAME AS LAST YEARS.

Please use complete MAILING ADDRESS (R.R., STREET or P.O. BOX).

 MAIL ALL COPIES TO IOWA DEPARTMENT, 720 LYON STREET, DES MOINES, 50309. FORM TO BE TURNED IN BY SEPTEMBER 15,

COMMANDER 6a Tel. (     ) 6b

Address 6c city 6d st. 6e zip 6f

6g

ADJUTANT 7a Tel. (     ) 7b

Address 7c city 7d st. 7e zip 7f

7g

FINANCE OFFICER 8a Tel. (     ) 8b

Address 8c city 8d st. 8e zip 8f

POST SAL ADVISOR 9a Tel. (     ) 9b

Address 9c city 9d st. 9e zip 9f

9g

List day or days regular meetings are held each month.

10a Time 10b

11a Time 11b

Amount of Squadron Dues \$ 12

PERMANENT SQUADRON MAILING ADDRESS Tel. (     ) 13

Address 14 city 15 st. 16 zip 17

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DETACHMENT OF IOWA

720 Lyon St.  
Des Moines, IA 50309



WE'RE ON THE WEB:

[WWW.IALEGION.ORG/SAL](http://WWW.IALEGION.ORG/SAL) OR  
[WWW.BOBBOOMER.COM](http://WWW.BOBBOOMER.COM)

FIRST IN THE NATION TO WIN THE  
TRIPLE NICKLE AWARD

## MISSING OFFICERS REPORTS

As of May 21, 2014 these Squadrons have not turned in Squadron Officers reports for 2013-2014 to the Detachment, hence they will not receive their 2014-2015 Membership cards tell they do.

District 1:

Bennett  
Iowa City

District 2:

Bettendorf  
Lisbon  
Springville

District 3:

Belle Plaine  
Garwin  
La Porte City  
Reinbeck

Shellsburg

District 4:

Charles City  
Decorah

District 5:

Allerton  
Corydon  
Creston

District 6:

Des Moines 731  
Indianola  
Melcher  
Perry  
Roland  
Story City  
Urbandale  
Waukee

District 7:

Brayton  
Greenfield  
Lenox  
Sidney  
Walnut

District 8:

Webster City

District 9:

Ashton  
Brunsville  
Kingsley



**I want your  
Officers  
Report!**