



SALUTE

April 2021

A Detachment of Kansas Newsletter

Greetings Team Kansas,

With just a few days left in March, we have achieved the 80% membership goal although we were a week late of the actual day of the goal. The next goal of 90% is coming up on April 14 and we'll have to pick up the pace of renewals to achieve it. District officers need to concentrate their efforts on the Squadrons that are behind the pace. Renewals are down from this time last year by around 250 members and new members are down around 12. We continue to lose too many members from non-renewals which should be the easiest membership to get.

District conventions are upon us with the month of April being the busiest. All of the Districts are holding their conventions live this year. Please follow the social distancing and mask requirements as you attend. We need to have good attendance and participation in the conventions. Your vote will only count with your presence so I encourage you to be active in the process of choosing good leadership to manage your Districts. My plan is to be at District 3,5,6 and 4 for their conventions and look forward to seeing fellow Sons and Legion Family.

Until next month, *Thank You* for all you do for our Veterans and their families. You do make a difference in their lives through your good work. Please keep working membership, especially renewals, The Legion Family can't exist without members. Stay safe and healthy.

Tom Wallsmith

Sons of The American Legion
Commander, Detachment of Kansas 2020-21
wacuma2016@gmail.com

Notes from the Detachment Vice-Commander And Membership Chairman

Greetings Team Kansas,

Good job on making our quota for March. We were a week late but we hung in there to get the job done. Our next deadline is April 14 for 90%. We Can Do It! Congratulations to Troy, KC 213 and Kingman for turning in transmittals. Just a reminder if your Squadron is not at 100% then Please don't give up. We are getting into the District Conventions from now till the end of April. Just a reminder to turn your new Officer's list after you elect your new District Officers. As the Squadrons are holding their Elections, be sure to get your new Officers list in also. Last year we received some that were not completely filled out. This is the means that the Detachment uses to get ahold of the Squadrons for sending out membership cards and other correspondences. Thanks again for all that you do and if there is anything myself or the other Detachment Officers can do don't hesitate to ask.

Stay safe and healthy...!!

James Snyder

Sons of the American Legion
Vice-Commander, Detachment of Kansas 2020-2021
jjaws111@aol.com

Detachment Adjutant's Notes:

2021 Membership:

Thank you Team Kansas for all of your hard work on membership this year. We still have a ways to go but with your hard work we will get there. The most recent membership report tells us that in our 9 districts our membership numbers are from 79% to 89% with 1st District leading the way. I realize that it has been a very tough year and it has been most difficult to get together for meetings and being together. With many of our Legion Posts being closed, I do realize how difficult it has been to get members of your Squadron to renew. There is still time. Go Get Em'.

Consolidated Squadron Reports:

The Consolidated Squadron Reports (CSR) have been mailed to all Kansas Squadrons. All Squadrons have volunteer hours or donations that can be recorded. These reports aren't for bragging rights, they are used to show Congress the difference The American Legion Family makes in our communities nationwide.

Please take the time to complete yours and submit it to Detachment Adjutant Terry Harris:

Terry Harris , 1222 Toles Ave. , Larned, Ks. 67550

If you have any questions about completing the Consolidated Squadron Report contact:

Terry Harris det.adj.ks@gmail.com , Gerald Hammerschmidt gammers@eaglecom.net , or Don Culver dlculver@swbell.net.

Up-Coming:

Do you want to get involved? Here is your chance. Take a look at the schedule enclosed and see when and where your District convention is. Being a District officer is a great way to become more involved in helping to make this organization better. We need strong leaders that can help us grow and carry on the mission of The American Legion. If you have any questions, please contact your District officers, or contact me and I will get you in contact with them. I hope to see many of you at the District conventions that I am able to attend.

Squadron Data Report (SDR)

Do you want the ability to renew online? It's coming. By filling out the Squadron Data Report you will be able to do so after July 1, 2021. We have been asking for this for many years and now it is upon us. Please don't hesitate to contact myself, Don Culver dlculver@swbell.net, Commander Tom wacuma2016@gmail.com, or Vice Commander James Snyder jjaws111@aol.com.

- **Do you visit our Detachment Website? www.salkansas.org**
- **Do you visit the Detachment Facebook Page? <https://www.facebook.com/kansassal/>**
- ***Has your Squadron submitted its new Officers list to Headquarters ??***
The blank form is in this issue of the SALute.

As always, if I can be of help feel free to contact me.

Terry Harris
Adjutant, Detachment of Kansas
det.adj.ks@gmail.com

"GOOSE-EGG" SQUADRONS

As of January 1

The below listed "Goose-egg" Squadrons
are no longer Squadrons in "good standing"
and their Charters are at risk of suspension or cancellation.

District 1: Topeka 001, Hiawatha

District 2: Kansas City 188

District 3: Cherokee

District 4: ***ZERO Goose-eggs !!***

District 5: Andover

District 6: ***ZERO Goose-eggs !!***

District 7: Isabel

District 8: ***ZERO Goose-eggs !!***

District 9: ***ZERO Goose-eggs !!***

Per Headquarters 3-31-2021

We need YOU...

Your membership is important...

Please Transmit Today...!!

**CALL FOR ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF KANSAS**

The Annual Detachment Convention of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Kansas, is hereby called, and in conformity with the action of the Detachment Executive Committee, fixing the time and place of this Convention, **Saturday, May 15, 2021, at the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, 420 SE 6th Street, Topeka, Kansas, beginning at 10:00 a.m.**

The Convention is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before it.

Representation at the Convention shall be by Squadrons, and in accordance with the provisions of the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws.

“Each Squadron shall have representation at the Detachment Convention on the basis of two delegates from each Squadron composed of ten members, and one additional delegate for each additional ten members or major fraction thereof, whose current dues have been received at Department Headquarters thirty (30) days prior to Detachment Convention, and to one alternate for each delegate.” All Delegates and Alternates must be duly registered for the Convention.

In addition to the above, Past Detachment Commanders are delegates at large to the Detachment Convention, with vote, whose vote shall be exercised with their respective Squadron, provided they are registered for the Convention and present on the convention floor.

Each Squadron is entitled to elect a number of alternates equal to the number of delegates to which such Squadron is entitled. Alternates will have the power to vote only in the absence of their Squadron’s delegates.

A meeting of the Detachment Executive Committee is hereby called and will be held at the close of the Detachment Convention,

All Detachment Officers, Committee Chairmen, & District Commanders are expected to attend the Detachment Convention.

S.A.L. Registration will be available from 1pm to 6pm, Friday, May 14, and Saturday, May 15, 2021 from 7:30am – 12pm in the Ramada Hotel.

Be sure to tell them you are a S.A.L. Delegate when you register.

**Until told otherwise COVID safety protocols must be observed ...
please comply and “mask-up”**

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Kansas Annual Convention, Saturday May 15, 2021

The American Legion Department of Kansas will conduct its annual convention May 14-16, 2021 in Topeka, Kansas.

The Ramada Hotel and Conference Center, 420 SE 6th Street, in Topeka will serve as the site of the Annual Convention of The American Legion Department of Kansas.

Joining the Legion in Convention will be the American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion who will hold their own independent Conventions in addition to two joint sessions involving all three groups.

Now is the time to make housing reservations by calling the Ramada toll free at 1-800-432-2424. Be sure to tell them you are with The American Legion.

The Convention is expected to feature a number of speakers including:

- American Legion National Vice Commander Bruce C. Feuerbach (IA)
- S.A.L. National Vice Commander Chris Cook (OK)

The Department Convention will conclude on Sunday with a Joint Memorial Service followed by the election of American Legion Department Officers for the 2021-2022 membership year.

The S.A.L. Convention will call to order at 10:00 AM Saturday, May 15.
All S.A.L. members are encouraged to attend the Detachment Convention as a delegate, alternate, or guest.



The American Legion Family

Department Convention to Feature Child Welfare Foundation Buffet Dinner

This year's Department Convention will again feature a dinner as a means to raise funds for the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. The dinner will be held Saturday evening, May 15 from 6:30 until 8:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom of the Ramada Hotel, 420 SE 6th St. in Topeka.

Meal choice includes: Chicken Florentine with buttered fettuccine or Pork Roast with roasted potatoes. A tossed garden salad with choice of dressing, honey glazed carrots, rolls and butter, tiramisu, water, iced tea, or coffee service. Cost is \$35 per person and reservations must be received no later than Monday, May 3 in order for the Ramada to adequately prepare enough food. **You must indicate Entrée preferences below.**

The purpose of the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation is: "To contribute to the physical, mental emotional and spiritual needs of children and youth through the dissemination of knowledge about new and innovative organizations and their programs." "To make wider, more effective use of the knowledge already possessed by well-established organizations to the end that such information will benefit youth and be more adequately used by society."

The foundation has made four grants to organizations in Kansas including two to Department Headquarters which funded the production of over five million "Don't Do Drugs Make it Your Rule" bookmark rulers with the Pledge of Allegiance on the opposite side of the drug message.

To make reservations for the Saturday, May 15 dinner please complete and return the coupon below to Department Headquarters, 1314 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, Kansas 66612. Reservations must arrive by May 3; or telephone your reservations to 785-232-9315. Payment is due no later than May 3 without exception!

Name _____ Post/Unit/Squadron _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Number of dinners to be reserved at \$35.00 each _____

Entrée preference: Pork Roast _____ Chicken Florentine _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of _____

I cannot attend the dinner but am enclosing my tax deductible donation of _____

CONSOLIDATED SQUADRON REPORT (CSR)

National Headquarters has changed the distribution of the Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR) blank forms this year because the return rate of the 3 page paper CSRs did not justify the cost of printing and shipping them. Last year, only 800 paper forms were returned out of 6,400 sent out nationally **which is unfortunate as it is one of the most important documents a Squadron can complete.**

The data gathered from these reports is combined with that of other Squadrons and compiled into a single report used by The American Legion, which is subsequently sent to Congress. This report is to show Congress the difference/impact our American Legion Family makes in our communities.

Although not every Squadron is able to participate in all aspects of Americanism, Children and Youth and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, the key is to report all that the Squadron has accomplished during the current membership year. Counties, Districts and Detachments are also urged to submit a CSR.

The report is a single page and is simple to complete. **After filling out the form the Squadron should keep a copy for its file and then forward the form to Detachment Adjutant Terry Harris no later than July 1, 2021.** Adjutant Harris will then forward all copies he receives to National Headquarters to be received no later July 16, 2021.

The CSR is the basis by which the National Awards under the programs of Americanism, Children and Youth, and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation are determined each year.

CONSOLIDATED SQUADRON REPORTS:

The one page S.A.L. Consolidated Squadron Report forms for 2020-2021 have been mailed to all Kansas Squadrons. Department Headquarters in Topeka mailed them out the week of 3-16-21. Every Squadron is encouraged to record their volunteer hours and donations on the CSR form.

The cut-off date for receipt of these forms at National is July 16, 2021. No reports will be accepted after that date as the final report will be published for all Sons of The American Legion nation-wide. Every member of the S.A.L. in Kansas does something good ... please REPORT IT using the CSR form.

Please Note: Keep a copy for your Squadron file and mail the other copy as noted below:

Kansas Squadrons and Districts should mail their completed forms to:

Detachment Adjutant Terry Harris no later than July 1, 2021.

Terry Harris, 1222 Toles Ave., Larned, Kansas 67550

Each year only about 1/3 of our Kansas Squadrons turn in completed Consolidated Squadron Report Forms ... Please insure YOUR Squadron submits a completed CSR form this year!!

What your Squadron has done this year IS IMPORTANT !!!

Should you need a copy of the CSR form contact Terry Harris or Don Culver and one will be sent to you.

Squadron Elections

It's just about that time of year again for all Squadrons to elect their Officers for the upcoming year. Article VII, Section 5, of the Detachment of Kansas By-Laws specifies that Squadrons will conduct annual elections and those elections shall be held during a regular meeting not more than 60 days or less than 15 days prior to the Detachment Convention, and said officers shall be installed prior to the Detachment Convention. This year's Detachment Convention will be held on Saturday, May 15, 2021 in Topeka. All Squadrons should complete the Squadron Officers Report Form and forward to Headquarters in Topeka... even if there are no changes from last year!! The 2021-2022 SQUADRON OFFICER Form is enclosed in this month's SALute for your use. Please insure your Squadron completes and sends this form to Headquarters. It is due to Topeka by July 1, same as every year. A place on the form has been added for the e-mail address of your officers. Please be sure to complete this line(s) also. Take the time to complete this form following your Squadron elections and forward to Headquarters ... Do Not leave it in your briefcase. Fill it out and send it in. Very Simple. It is difficult to communicate if we can't get ahold of you.

S.A.L. District Conventions/Elections

March and April are the months for all Districts to conduct their District Conventions. Sons of The American Legion Districts are expected to conduct their District Conventions and elections the same weekend as their American Legion District Convention. Please make certain you submit your new S.A.L. District Officers listing to Headquarters immediately following your convention/elections.



THIS SHEET DUE TO HEADQUARTERS BY JULY 1

2021-2022 S.A.L. SQUADRON OFFICERS LIST

THE OFFICERS OF (City)_____ SQUADRON #_____ DISTRICT #_____

**MAKE SURE EACH OFFICERS NAME, COMPLETE ADDRESS,
PHONE NUMBER and E-MAIL IS COMPLETED**

COMMANDER: Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

FIRST VICE-CMDR: Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

SECOND VICE-CMDR: Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

ADJUTANT: Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

FINANCE OFFICER: Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

CHAPLAIN: Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

SGT.-AT-ARMS: Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

HISTORIAN: Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

AMERICAN LEGION ADVISOR: Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

MEETING DATE & TIME _____
ANNUAL DUES _____

SQUADRON'S PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____

WE'VE HAD COMPLAINTS ABOUT DETACHMENT MAILINGS NOT BEING RECEIVED OR SENT TO THE WRONG PERSON. BY RETURNING THIS FORM WE WILL HAVE THE CORRECT INFORMATION FOR OUR RECORDS.

PLEASE FILL OUT AFTER YOUR ELECTIONS OF NEW OFFICERS AT THAT MEETING AND FORWARD THIS FORM TO HEADQUARTERS

All Squadrons in the Detachment of KANSAS can now process membership online

This feature utilizes electronic payment methods via MySAL.org, and eliminates the need for Squadron Officers to send the National and Detachment portion of the (3-part) membership cards and paper-checks to the Department/Detachment Headquarters office.

If you are currently a MySAL.org user, just select the "Process Membership" option in the left-menu. The attached instructions should help you navigate through this new feature.

If you are NOT a MySAL.org user, go to www.MySAL.org and sign-up by completing the "Squadron Authorization Form". Please print the attachment(s) for instructions and more details.

If you experience any problems or issues, Customer Support can be reached by calling 1-800-433-3318 or by email: MyLegion@Legion.org.

Justin McKay
The American Legion
MyLegion Department Services, IT



THE AMERICAN LEGION
VETERANS • DEFENSE • AMERICANISM • YOUTH

NOTE:

Individuals CANNOT process or renew on-line at this time, ONLY Squadrons.

If you have any questions please contact our Department Membership Secretary Michelle at 785-232-9315, or Detachment Adjutant Terry Harris.

Also,

Squadron On-Line Transmittals are an optional feature and not mandatory at this time.

Additional info /instructions can be found on our web page www.salkansas.org under the Membership Tab

Upcoming Events/Dates:

May 14-16, 2021

- Department Convention ... Ramada Hotel, 420 SE 6th St., Topeka

June 4-6, 2021

- American Legion Leadership College ... ~~Concordia~~ *location TBD*

June 10-13, 2021

- Kansas Legacy Run ... info avail on ALR website www.kansasalr.com

July 1, 2021

- *Updated 2021-2022 Squadron Officer lists are due to Headquarters in Topeka*

November 20, 2021

- Big Red 1 Turkey Run ... Ft. Riley

December 11, 2021

- Operation North Pole ... Ft. Riley

2021 Kansas District Conventions:

March 20, 2021

- District 9 ... Oberlin

March 26-28, 2021

- District 3 ... Winfield

March 27, 2021

- District 2 ... Lenexa

April 10, 2021

- District 5 ... McPherson

April 10, 2021

- District 7 ... Great Bend

April 17, 2021

- District 6 ... Concordia

April 17-18, 2021

- Distict 8 ... Garden City

April 24, 2021

- District 1 ... Topeka #400

April 24, 2021

- District 4 ... Leonardville

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DUES TRANSMITTAL

_____ **Squadron #** _____

_____, **Kansas**

Date _____

To: Department Finance Officer, The American Legion
1314 S.W. Topeka Blvd., Topeka, Kansas 66612-1886

Dues for 20_____ _____ New and _____ Renewal Members @ **20.00** \$ _____

Add shortage from previous transmittal _____

Less credit from previous transmittal _____

Total Amount Transmitted by Check # _____ \$ _____

Squadron Officer

LETTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Squadron Officer, Sons of The American Legion.
_____, 20_____
_____, Kansas

This will acknowledge receipt of your Dues Transmittal of _____, 20_____
containing \$ _____ as National and Department Dues for _____ New and _____ Renewal
members of your Squadron, together with _____ "Detachment Record Cards". Your total
Squadron membership is now _____ . Check # _____

Thank You,

RETURN ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO:

Michelle Johnston, Membership Secretary
membership@kansaslegion.org
785-232-9315

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Always fill out return address

Communication Tools:

- Detachment of Kansas web site: www.salkansas.org
- Detachment of Kansas Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/kansassal>
- S.A.L. National web site: www.legion.org/sons
- S.A.L. National Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/americanlegionsons>

Future National Conventions

Louisville, KY ~~August 28-September 3, 2020~~ CANCELLED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS
Phoenix, AZ August 27-September 2, 2021
Milwaukee, WI August 26-September 1, 2022
Charlotte, NC August 25-31, 2023
New Orleans, LA August 23-29, 2024

Does your membership card say *2020* on it...?

If it does, your membership has expired !!

It's time to renew your membership !!

Please be sure to renew your dues...

Then be sure it gets transmitted to Topeka.



We Need You As Part Of Team Kansas ..!!