



SALUTE

March 2020

A Detachment of Kansas Newsletter

Greetings Team Kansas,

Can you believe it's already March? What activities is your Squadron planning for this spring? Don't forget about all the upcoming District conventions. That is a great time for you to get involved in your District. Districts are always looking for good people that have an interest. I am going to try to make as many District conventions as possible. They are all really spread out this year, but I will do my best to get to many of them. I hope to see many of you there. I am always interested in meeting our membership and sharing ideas of what makes your Squadron successful.

My wife and I had a great time at the Valentines dinner at Sterling Post #128. We have been to a few events at this Post and are never disappointed. They do a great job. My steak couldn't have been cooked any better. I've really not been to a dinner at an American Legion Post that wasn't excellent.

Does your membership card say 2020? If it doesn't, you are no longer a member in good standing. If you had LIT insurance, you no longer have said insurance. You no longer have the benefits of The American Legion and all of the things it offers. We don't want to lose you. See your Squadron Adjutant today and get back on board. It will soon be time to start our membership drive for our 2020-2021 member year. Please don't forget the dues increase that was voted on and approved last year.

Don't forget to hold your Squadron Elections. Once they are complete please send in who your new officers are. There is a page of this SALute that is for listing those officers. Please fill that page out as complete as possible. We can't contact you if we have no contact information.

There are a lot of events and activities getting ready to happen all around the state. Please, check the Detachment Website www.salkansas.org for an updated calendar and try and attend some of these events. Also, the Detachment Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/kansassal>. Also, there is a Facebook page that is for the posting of future events. This page is a great way to see what events may be near you. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/489671671839471/>. Stop by these pages and let us know what you think. Chris Krueger again is doing a great job on our Web Page.

Hope to see each of you at some of these events coming up.

Until Next Time "Always Remember the Mission"

Terry Harris

Commander, Detachment of Kansas 2019-2020

Flstfi_2005@hotmail.com

Notes from the Detachment Vice-Commander And Membership Chairman

Greetings Team Kansas,

This membership year is speeding by very quickly. There are only 4 months left and just 3 months to our Detachment Convention. The District Conventions are starting in March and wind up in April. Please attend and participate in your District Conventions, your input is needed and you need to represent your local Squadron's so your voices can be heard. My observation over the past 9 years is that most District conventions attract at best 50% attendance from Squadron level and many times just barely meeting 30%. Remember there are decisions being made at these Conventions which affect all of us as members, wouldn't you prefer to participate in them? All of this applies to our Detachment Convention also but with a greater level of participation needed.

Our membership numbers continue to grow weekly but have slowed as in the past during the winter. We're meeting National goals even exceeding by a few percentage points but as we all know the goals are steadily increasing and with the slow down it gets harder to reach them. Presently the Kansas Detachment has a renewal rate of 75.58%. We normally end up at around 87% by the end of the year. Way too much turnover, this needs to become an item of discussion at every Squadron meeting along with membership in general. Total membership is at 81.68% recognized by National which puts us beyond the goal of 80% due on March 11. Out of 9 Districts, 5 have met or exceeded the 80% goal prior to March, 11. District 3 only needs 8, District 1, 43, District 6, 55, District 9, 57. District 5 at this time has 101.55 % membership, Congratulation for setting an example for all of us. Your hard work is much appreciated.

In summary I want to thank all of you for your efforts on membership. As I've pointed out in past musings, I believe we make the membership drive a harder task than it needs to be by not implementing the many tools available through all levels of Leadership. Lack of communication and lack of contact information to communicate though magnify the failure of many good efforts.

Until next time, keep working membership, especially renewals and continue to provide the wonderful support and help you give our Veterans and their families along with all you do for your local communities.

Respectfully,

Tom Wallsmith

Sons of the American Legion

Vice-Commander, Detachment of Kansas 2019-2020

wacuma2016@gmail.com

Detachment Adjutant's Notes:

Membership:

2020 MEMBERSHIP ... "Goose-Egg" Squadrons

Unfortunately there are still 7 Squadrons that have not made a membership transmittal for the 2020 Membership year. Any "Goose-egg" Squadron effective January 1 became a Squadron "not on good standing" both with the Detachment and the National Organization as their members, or those handling membership at the Squadron, have let all their memberships expire. Please do not put your Squadron at risk of having its Charter suspended, or even cancelled, simply because someone did not transmit the membership dues your members paid in good faith. If your Squadron is on the "Goose-egg" list, please ask the person handling membership at your Squadron to make a membership transmittal immediately, unless the Post has decided to turn in the S.A.L. Charter for their Post.

Congratulations to District 5 for achieving 100%..!!!! Well done gentlemen..!!

Department/Detachment Convention:

This year's Department/ Detachment Convention will be held at the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, 420 SE 6th Street, in Topeka, May 15-17, 2020. The S.A.L. Convention will be held Saturday, May 16, 2020. The S.A.L. is invited to the Department Joint Opening Session Saturday morning at 8:00 AM and then will be dismissed about 9:30 to attend the S.A.L. Convention. The "Call to Order" for the S.A.L. Convention will be at 10:00 AM. All Squadrons are encouraged to send delegates to the annual Convention and be part of choosing the Detachment leadership for the 2020-2021 year. Registration desk for all delegates will be right outside the main ballroom of the hotel. Be certain you identify yourself as a S.A.L. delegate. If you fail to register you will not be allowed on the Convention floor.

Consolidated Squadron Reports will be mailed to all Squadrons in the next couple of weeks. Be certain your Squadron completes one and returns it to:

Don Culver , 225 S. Willow Dr., Derby, Ks 67037

All Squadrons have something they can report..!! Donations...volunteer hours, etc. More on this in next month's SALute.

Have you checked out our new website? www.salkansas.org

Let us know what you would like to see posted and we'll see what we can do.

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

Don Culver

Adjutant, Detachment of Kansas

dlculver@swbell.net

"GOOSE-EGG" SQUADRONS

Here it is March, month 9 in the new membership year,
And these Squadrons have not transmitted any membership...zero, zip, nada.

As of January 1
the below listed "Goose-Egg" Squadrons
are no longer be Squadrons in "good standing"
and their Charters are at risk of suspension or cancellation.

District 1: Hanover, Troy

District 2: KC Armourdale

District 3: Columbus

District 4: *Zero Goose-eggs*

District 5: Andover, Whitewater

District 6: Kensington

District 7: *Zero Goose-eggs*

District 8: *Zero Goose-eggs*

District 9: *Zero Goose-eggs*

Per Headquarters 1-28-2020

We Need You ...
Your Membership is Important...
Transmit TODAY ... !!

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 Don Culver.**

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

National Dues Increase

At the Sons of The American Legion National Convention on August 24, 2019 in Indianapolis the delegates to the National Convention voted to increase national dues effective with the 2021 membership year (June 2020). This is the first increase in national dues since 1982.

In anticipation of this the delegates of the state convention of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Kansas, voted to increase state dues at its Detachment Convention on May 18, 2019 in Hutchinson. The dues increase was subsequently approved by the Kansas Department Executive Committee at their meeting on June 1, 2019 in Concordia.

Currently each Kansas Squadron transmits \$10 per paid member to Headquarters in Topeka. Effective with the 2021 membership year (June 2020) that amount will increase to \$20 per paid member.

While many Squadrons may have to raise their member's dues next year to afford the increase in transmittal fee it should be remembered that the transmittal fee is still much less than what the Post sends to Topeka for each Veterans membership.

Any questions regarding the increase should be directed to Detachment Commander Terry Harris or Detachment Adjutant Don Culver.



S.A.L. District Officer Contacts

Got a question...?? Need a contact in your District...??

District 1

Commander:	Kyle Scheitler	kascheitler@gmail.com
Vice Commander:	Keith Meyerhoff	keithwmeyerhoff@gmail.com
Adjutant:	Phillip Mueller	phillip.s.mueller@gmail.com

District 2

Commander:	Chris Hicks	royalsfan1980@gmail.com
Vice Commander:	Matthew Krupco	nflmwk@hotmail.com
Adjutant:	Troy Shields	troyshields1@hotmail.com

District 3

Commander:	Russell Caulkins	BigRuss67337@yahoo.com
Vice Commander:	Ronnie Rommel	ronnie.rommel72@gmail.com
Adjutant:	Jimmie Trenary	jimmietrenary1968@kanokla.net

District 4

Commander:	Randy Porter	bightmeagain2@yahoo.com
Vice Commander:	John Trotter	johnet3@gmail.com
Adjutant:	Harvey Eccles	hecclles@yahoo.com

District 5

Commander:	Brian Simpson	simpsy408@gmail.com
Vice Commander:	Steve Zimmerman	szmowing482@gmail.com
Adjutant:	Don Culver	dlculver@swbell.net

District 6

Commander:	L. Reilly	barlrangus@ruraltel.net
Vice Commander:	Andy Phelps	lazyaqtr@wilsoncom.us
Adjutant:	Damon Christensen	damoncc@nckcn.com

District 7

Commander:	Brent McInnis	mcinnisbrent1@gmail.com
Vice Commander:	Gerald Postlewaite	jpost21@cox.net
Adjutant:	Chris Krueger	chrisk153@gmail.com

District 8

Commander:	John Hall	jwh121@yahoo.com
Vice Commander:	Joshua Ledbetter	redneckjm83@gmail.com
Adjutant:	Larry "Pete" Hall	dr_tr_outlaw@yahoo.com

District 9

Commander:	Scott Hartzog	sthartzog@hotmail.com
Vice Commander:	Jim Gallentine	jim.gallentine@gmail.com
Adjutant:	Tom Wallsmith	wacuma2016@gmail.com

Contact your District Officers and ask how you can get involved..!!!

Upcoming Events/Dates:

July 1, 2019

- *Updated 2019-2020 Squadron Officer lists were due to Headquarters in Topeka*

March 14, 2020

- Department Oratorical Contest
- Manhattan Post 17 ... Doors are secured at 9 AM

March 20-22, 2020

- District 3 Convention ... Arkansas City

March 21, 2020

- District 2 Convention ... Lawrence

March 28, 2020

- District 5 Convention ... Wellington
- District 7 Convention ... Great Bend

April 4, 2020

- District 6 Convention ... Concordia
- District 8 Convention ... Garden City
- District 9 Convention ... Colby

April 18, 2020

- District 1 Convention ... Marysville
- District 4 Convention ... Manhattan

May 1-3, 2020

- S.A.L Spring NEC Meeting and NMI Training Classes ... Indianapolis

May 15-17, 2020

- Department Convention ... Topeka ... Ramada Inn ... 420 SE 6th Street, Topeka
- S.A.L. will meet Saturday, May 16, 2020 immediately following the Joint Opening Session

June 11-14, 2020

- Kansas Legacy Run, beginning in Great Bend and ending in Abilene, traveling almost 900 miles to raise funds for The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund

July 1, 2020

- *Updated 2020-2021 Squadron Officer lists were due to Headquarters in Topeka*

August 28-Sept. 3, 2020

- The American Legion National Convention ... Louisville, Ky
- S.A.L. National Convention Aug. 28-30

October 10-11, 2020

- S.A.L. Fall NEC Meeting and Detachment Commanders Forum ... Indianapolis

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 16, 2020 in Topeka. All Squadrons should complete the Squadron Officers Report Form and forward to Headquarters in Topeka... even if there a no changes from last year.!! The 2020-2021 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. Something new: 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. If you would like a Detachment Officer to attend please contact me and we'll arrange for someone to be there.



THIS SHEET DUE TO HEADQUARTERS BY JULY 1

2020-2021 S.A.L. SQUADRON OFFICERS LIST

THE OFFICERS OF _____ 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**

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>
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Future National Conventions

Louisville, KY	August 28-September 3, 2020
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 not, your membership has expired.

Please be sure to renew your dues...

Then be sure it gets transmitted to Topeka.



We need you as part of Team Kansas...!!!