



# SALUTE

September 2021

## A Detachment of Kansas Newsletter

Greetings Team Kansas,

Greetings from Phoenix, Az. The 49<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention for the Sons of The American Legion has come to a close with the election of our new National Commander, Michael Fox from California. Our Midwest National Vice Commander is Juan Torres from Texas. If you have never experienced a National Convention I would highly recommend talking with us about going next year. You will have a great time, make new friends and get to see other places around the Country.

The Department Homecoming was a couple of weeks ago and it was great to see so many faces. Hopefully a lot of you can make it to Abilene for the Vice Commanders Homecoming. If any of the District Commanders would like for Vice Commander Gallentine or myself to come to your Homecomings, get ahold of as soon as possible so we can get it on our calendars.

Now just a little about membership. First and foremost, to be able to set an example, all of your Squadron Officers should have paid their dues by now. Make certain they get transmitted and get rid of your Squadron's "Goose-egg". Next check on your Squadron's elder members or those that may be home bound to collect their dues. You may find they might need some assistance, and if so be sure to take care of them. Not only are you working membership but also conducting a "Buddy Check". Then...encourage your dual members to renew. Be sure to thank them for their membership in the S.A.L.

**BUDDY CHECKS.** We are always talking about membership because without it we cannot exist. But for a minute let's talk more about Buddy Checks. Have you thought about why that 20 year member that hasn't paid yet or been to a meeting for the past 3 to 4 months. We are going through some troubling times with Covid back on the rise, the loss of our Military in Afghanistan and people out of work. When someone starts to worry about these situations they look for other ways out. Suicide has always been a concern for our Veterans but even young adults can sometimes think that it is a way out. I am challenging everyone to contact at least one either S.A.L., Auxiliary or Legion member that you haven't seen within the past month just to see how they are doing and if you can do anything for them.

I was asked to come to a Squadron to give them some training. Just a reminder that there is all kinds of training out there. Check out the training that's on our Detachment Website or even National's site. If you don't see what you are looking for contact me, Vice Commander Jim Gallentine, or Adjutant Terry. I have always believed that you should never quit learning. I'm still learning myself. Everyone should take The American Legion "Basic Training" Course. It's available on-line at [www.legion.org/alei](http://www.legion.org/alei). For our younger S.A.L. members "The Five Point Program of Service" is as follows: Patriotism, Citizenship, Discipline, Leadership and Legionism. It can be found on-line at [www.legion.org/sons/publications](http://www.legion.org/sons/publications). I challenge each and every one of you to learn more about them.

In closing, keep working on your membership, keeping up on the reports and keep a record of everything for the Consolidated Squadron Reports. I know that I saw a lot of happenings over the past year but the reporting wasn't showing all of it. In closing I look forward to seeing everyone on the road.

**James Snyder**

Sons of The American Legion

Commander, Detachment of Kansas 2021-22

[jjaws111@aol.com](mailto:jjaws111@aol.com)

# Notes from the Detachment Vice-Commander And Membership Chairman

Greetings Team Kansas,

Membership is a central theme, and one important step in success is having a good contact list of members – and if you are a District officer - a list of Squadron contacts. Admittedly it takes effort to make this happen. Keep your Squadron's membership data current when you are renewing and sending in memberships – you can do that on the paper cards, or online. Every year, updated officer lists are to be sent to the state – this is important for communication at the Squadron, District and Detachment levels. In conversations with District officers lately this has been a common issue that makes membership management more difficult.

Now is the time of year that many Posts have membership drives including dinners and such. Keep a list of your members that have not renewed for 2020-21 year and be prepared to get them renewed when you see them. Be ready to renew memberships at every event!

We still have time to renew memberships for the 2020-21 year. We have over 450 memberships left to reach our 100% goal - please contact those members who have not renewed for last year - don't let them slip thru the cracks! If you need a list of members that have not renewed, please contact Adjutant Terry Harris, Commander James Snyder, Michelle Johnston, or myself. We have until the end of the year to get those members renewed. Direct contact generally works the best – most of the time a member will renew when asked. It is important that we take care of our members!

It is important to keep good talent, and develop that talent into future leaders of our organization. Leadership development and planned leadership succession in our organization is vital to our future. Recognize those members and get them engaged in the leadership and growth of your Squadron.

Adjutants - timely turn-in of memberships to Topeka is important - every two weeks, and more if necessary. Please note that the renewal of a member is not officially completed until it is turned in to the state for processing!

The 2022 membership drive is here, and all Squadron Adjutants should have received their membership packets. If you have not received them, please contact Adjutant Terry Harris, Commander James Snyder, Michelle Johnston, or myself. Now is the time to get a head-start on membership for 2022 – getting that done early saves headaches later on. If you have ideas and want to help us drive membership forward, please contact me at [jim.gallentine@gmail.com](mailto:jim.gallentine@gmail.com). Together we can make things happen.

Also, The National Convention has just concluded - there are videos of these events on YouTube and Facebook. If you did not attend, I encourage you look online at this exciting and important event!

***Jim Gallentine***

Sons of The American Legion

Vice-Commander, Detachment of Kansas 2021-2022

[jim.gallentine@gmail.com](mailto:jim.gallentine@gmail.com)

# Detachment Adjutant's Notes:

## **2021 and 2022 Membership:**

We still have time to renew last year's memberships and meet our goals that have been set by National. We are still over 400 members short. Let's not let these members lose a valuable tool that can only help our veterans and communities. Have you given these members a call? Have you tried making a personal visit? Show them how much they are wanted and needed at your Squadron. Your Squadron should have received your new membership packets? Ask your membership person and get your 2022 dues paid. Then be sure they are transmitted to Headquarters...let's get rid of your Squadrons' "goose-egg"...!! If you have any questions at all, please contact me. I will be more than happy to help solve any membership issues.

## **Paperwork:**

Hopefully we are getting closer to being able to eliminate some paperwork. Granted, the roll-out of the new mysal.org hasn't been the smoothest but National is working day and night to get it right. We are still needing your Squadron Data Reports (SDR's). Please do not take a picture of the form and text or email that to me. Please scan the form and email to my address. We don't want to send in something that's not very readable into National. If they can't read it, it won't be entered and then you won't be able to use mysal.org. If you don't have the ability to scan, just drop them in the mail. If that's not feasible, then call me. We can fill these out over the phone. This is going to be a great tool for each and every one of us and is very important to get this done as quickly as possible.

## **Up-Coming:**

Do you want to get involved? Watch your addition of the SALute newsletter to get the times and dates of the upcoming Homecomings. The Vice Commander's Homecoming honoring Department Vice Commander Jeremy Ehart, Auxiliary Vice President Marcia Cottrell and Detachment Vice Commander Jim Gallentine will be on October 16, 2021 at the Grey Hound Hall Of Fame in Abilene! Hope to see everyone there. Everyone is invited. Also, don't forget your District Homecomings. Please S.A.L. members, take the time to attend these events. Get to know your District Leaders. It will only help you in the long run.

## **POW/MIA Recognition Day:**

On September 17, 2021 most Posts will hold some kind of POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony. Be certain your Squadron participates in this solemn event. We must never forget our nation's POW/MIA troops.

## **American Legion National Commander Paul Dillard:**

Newly elected American Legion National Commander Paul Dillard will be visiting the Department of Kansas on the east side of the state September 19 - September 23, 2021. Details of his visit and itinerary are being finalized now. Let's make sure there are S.A.L. Caps visible at each of his stops. Remember, we are a Legion Family. The Tour Itinerary will be posted once it is available.

- **Do you visit our Detachment Website? [www.salkansas.org](http://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.

If you have questions or comments feel free to contact me.

## ***Terry Harris***

Adjutant, Detachment of Kansas  
Det.adj.ks@gmail.com



**Eisenhower Pilgrimage** has been cancelled this year.

**The HOMECOMING** for Department Vice Commander Jeremy Ehart,  
S.A.L. Detachment Vice Commander Jim Gallentine,  
and Department Auxiliary Vice President Marcia Cottrell  
**Will be held** on October 16, 2021 at the Greyhound Hall of Fame  
which is directly adjacent to the Eisenhower Memorial in Abilene  
at 12:00 PM.

Cost of the luncheon is \$15.00 and catered by Joe Snuffy's.  
Reservations are to be sent to Jeremy Ehart, 10601 W. Snokomo Rd.,  
Hutchinson, Ks 67502.

**DEADLINE** for reservations is October 8, 2021.

# 2022 Membership

*Yes...It's that time of the year.*  
***Renewal Time...for All of US..!!***



All Squadrons have been mailed their 2022 Membership Packets.

Several things All Squadrons should be doing now:

1. Collect 2022 renewal dues from your Squadron Officers
2. At your Squadron meeting collect 2022 dues from those in attendance
3. Make a 2022 Membership Transmittal to Topeka
4. Do the above this month and let's see if we can eliminate all "Goose-eggs" by October 1
5. Continue to reach out to those members that did not renew last year (2021)...
  - *It's never too Late ...!!*
  - *Collect their dues for 2021 and 2022.*
  - *Let them know we need them as members*
  - *Be sure to Thank Them for renewing.*



**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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.salkansas.org) under the Membership Tab**

# S.A.L. District Officer Contacts

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

## **District 1**

|                 |              |                       |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Commander:      | Jeff Kerns   | blkcldkerns@yahoo.com |
| Vice Commander: | RC Harmon    | rcssskjjj@gmail.com   |
| Adjutant:       | James Snyder | jjaws111@aol.com      |

## **District 2**

|                 |                |                          |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Commander:      | Matthew Krupco | mwksal@outlook.com       |
| Vice Commander: | Chris Hicks    | royalsfan1980@gmail.com  |
| Adjutant:       | Troy Shields   | troyshields1@hotmail.com |

## **District 3**

|                 |                |                               |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Commander:      | Ronnie Rommel  | ronnie.rommel72@gmail.com     |
| Vice Commander: | Chris Perkins  | perkinschrisw@johndeere.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 | heccles@yahoo.com       |

## **District 5**

|                 |               |                            |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Commander:      | Brian Simpson | simpsy408@gmail.com        |
| Vice Commander: | Bryan LaCount | bryanlacountusmc@yahoo.com |
| Adjutant:       | Don Culver    | dlculver@swbell.net        |

## **District 6**

|                 |                   |                       |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Commander:      | Andy Phelps       | lazyaqtr@wilsoncom.us |
| Vice Commander: | Jason McIntire    | jasonmcintire@cox.net |
| Adjutant:       | Damon Christensen | damoncc@nckcn.com     |

## **District 7**

|                 |               |                          |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Commander:      | Rick Munsch   | rdmunsch@gmail.com       |
| Vice Commander: | Blake Ridgel  | blake.ridgel41@gmail.com |
| Adjutant:       | Chris Krueger | chrisk153@gmail.com      |

## **District 8**

|                 |               |                            |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Commander:      | Michael Weber | spidercreek220@gmail.com   |
| Vice Commander: | Dan Stacy     | dstacy.am.legion@gmail.com |
| Adjutant:       | Ty Weber      | tyweber810@gamil.com       |

## **District 9**

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

## **District 10**

|                 |                 |                               |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Commander:      | Mark Wessel     | mwessel.alr21@gmail.com       |
| Vice Commander: | Keith Meyerhoff | keithwmeyerhoff@gmail.com     |
| Adjutant:       | Brett Ohlsen    | brett.ohlsenbackhoe@yahoo.com |

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

# Upcoming Events/Dates:

## July 1, 2021

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

## September 10-19, 2021

- Kansas State Fair ... Hutchinson Fairgrounds

## September 18, 2021

- State ALR Rally ... Wichita Post #256

## September 19 - 23, 2021

- American Legion National Commander Paul Dillard touring Kansas

## September 25, 2021

- Department Golf Tournament... Great Life Golf & Fitness at Shawnee Country Club in Topeka
- For info contact Lonnie Cook 785-286-2134 or email [kickaron01@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kickaron01@sbcglobal.net)

## October 16, 2021

- Department Vice-Commander Joint Homecoming Luncheon ... Abilene
  - o Greyhound Hall of Fame ... across street from Eisenhower complex
  - o RSVP to Jeremy Ehart ... \$15 per person ... RSVP deadline is October 8, 2021

## November 11, 2021

- Veterans Day

## November 20, 2021

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

## December 4, 2021

- Department Christmas Party Luncheon... Winfield Post #10

## December 11, 2021

- Operation North Pole ... Ft. Riley

## January 28-30, 2022

- Mid-Winter Forum ... Salina Post #62



# 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:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Always fill out return address**

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

Revised June 2020

# Communication Tools:

- Detachment of Kansas web site: [www.salkansas.org](http://www.salkansas.org)
  - Detachment of Kansas Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/kansassal>
  - S.A.L. National web site: [www.legion.org/sons](http://www.legion.org/sons)
  - S.A.L. National Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/americanlegionsons>
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## Future National Conventions

|                 |                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 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          |
| Tampa Bay, FLA  | August 22-28, 2025          |
| Louisville, KY  | August 28-September 3, 2026 |

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*Please be sure to renew your membership...*

*We need YOU as part of Team Kansas...!!*