



# Locomotive

The Membership Newsletter of  
Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of Massachusetts

Volume 2 - Issue 1 - August 6, 2020

## 2019-2020 Membership

**5186 - 92.74%**

**105% Target Missed**

**RECRUIT!**

**RETAIN!**

**REINSTATE!**

105% or Greater

**District 7**

**WHO'S NEXT?**

## 2020 - 2021 Membership Cards Have Been Distributed

The 2020-2021 membership cards were distributed to the District representatives on July 11, 2020. The Detachment District representatives can be found [here](#)

If your squadron has not received the new cards, please contact your District Representative. Your District Representative is a vital member of the membership team and the designated point-of-contact will work with you fully. The Detachment membership goals for 2021 **will be 5,593 members.**

Although, the new cards have been distributed, we must continue to work renewals for the 2019-2020 membership year. Keep in mind, that the per capita has increased and that all membership must include the new rate of \$ 12. for both 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 membership submittals.

Congratulations to Cherry Valley Squadron 443 and to United Forces Squadron 351. Cherry Valley Squadron 443 increased their membership by 40 members in the 2019-2020 membership year and Cherry Valley Squadron 443 was the recipient of the 2020 Willard J. Timcoe Membership Award. The United Force Squadron 351 (Holyoke) was the recipient of the Largest New Squadron Award in 2020. The Detachment Awards for the 2019-2020 program year can be found [here](#).



Left: Bob MacKay of Post 351 accepts the Detachment Largest New Squadron Award from Department Commander Jodie Pajak and Detachment Membership Chairman Gene Theroux

## Detachment of Massachusetts Membership District Standings as of July 31st, 2020

Dist	GOAL	ACTUAL	%
1	191	181	94.76%
2	292	272	93.15%
3	442	366	82.80%
4	982	936	95.32%
5	1,299	1233	94.92%
6	859	774	90.10%
7	121	131	108.26%
8	443	433	97.74%
9	250	245	98.00%
10	676	606	89.64%
297 CH	14	9	64.29%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5569</b>	<b>5186</b>	<b>93.12%</b>

## National Standings by Region as of August 3, 2020

(Eastern Region) Gary P. Nelson (NJ)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Percent
FRANCE	251	260	103.586
MARYLAND	16,496	15,625	94.720
VERMONT	3,950	3,734	94.532
PENNSYLVANIA	63,257	58,796	92.948
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>	<b>5,592</b>	<b>5,186</b>	<b>92.740</b>
CONNECTICUT	1,812	1,678	92.605
DELAWARE	2,321	2,131	91.814
NEW YORK	30,557	27,734	90.762
NEW JERSEY	9,972	8,950	89.751
WEST VIRGINIA	2,601	2,262	86.967
NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,325	5,497	86.909
MAINE	2,662	2,292	86.101
RHODE ISLAND	301	246	81.728
DIST OF COL	176	123	69.886
<b>Totals</b>	<b>146,273</b>	<b>134,514</b>	<b>91.961</b>

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Please continue to work and submit remaining membership for 2019-2020 for those unpaid members as you begin working membership for the 2020-2021 membership year. Reminder, the per capita is now \$ 12.00 per member.

A significant number of additional Squadrons have begun using MySAL to accomplish membership transmittals. While were at it, let's see how many more Squadrons we can get enrolled in MySAL. Once the Squadron and Post Officers see how easy, efficient, and hassle-free it truly is, they will spread the word. This will continue and we will see a much timelier submission of our membership nationally. Once we accomplish this, our goals *will be much more easily* met. Using MySAL reduces overhead and time.

*Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,*



Gene H. Theroux  
Vice Commander  
Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of Massachusetts  
Membership Chairman  
e-mail: membership@salmass.org  
www.salmass.org

## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



# MySAL

### MEMBERSHIP DATABASE

# RECRUIT!

# RETAIN!

# REINSTATE!



## Membership Committee Call

6:00 PM MST

**Call in # (515) 604-9644 Access Code:  
889133**

Online Meeting

<http://join.freeconferencecall.com/jrnavarr>

The National Membership Committee holds its monthly Conference Calls on the third Tuesday of each month. It is important that we get the message out to as many Membership Chairmen as possible. Please share this with your District and Squadron leadership and ask them to join us.

## Consolidated Squadron Report

The Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR) is every Squadrons way to show our Local Communities, our State, and our Nation what we do as members of The Sons of The American Legion here in Massachusetts. We provide a tremendous amount of support to our Veterans, to our children, and to a multitude of Charities in terms of dollars donated and hours volunteered but we tend to not let the public know all the great things we do as SAL members.

**From the received CSRs, the Annual Detachment Achievements report is compiled.**

The 2020 Detachment Accomplishments can be viewed [here](#)



# Bolt: Still much for SAL members to do in 2020

by SAL National Commander Clint D. Bolt

July 14, 2020

We are now transitioning to our new year but there is much left to do for 2020. Right now, there are 57,433 members that have not renewed for 2020. We need to reach out to them and let them know how important they are to us and if there is anything The Sons of The American Legion can do for them.

- Continue with Buddy Checks; they have proven to be our best form of staying in touch with our veterans and the Sons membership. When the posts closed, so many were shut off of social interaction and the support system that they came to depend on. Reaching out is the best way to gauge the level of help that is needed by the veterans and the Sons.
- This pandemic has had an impact on the amount of money raised for Legion Charities. It's important that we do all we can to keep the Legion toolbox ready to go when called on. When a natural disaster strikes, the NEF is there, ready to assist. If the children of a veteran are faced with losing their home due to lack of money for rent, it's the Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program that is there to help. Our Child Welfare Foundation (CWF) grants are important to help with the betterment of all our children. The Legacy Scholarship ensures that the children of our fallen servicemembers will be able to get a college education. Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW) is there to assist our wounded warriors with the non-essential items not provided for by the DOD or the transition units.
- Our Member Training and Development Committee is working hard to provide training for commanders and adjutants, NMI and NEC men. When these become available online, take

Advantage of them. With so many conventions and conferences not happening. These will be the best way to prepare all the new leaders we will be needing one year from now.

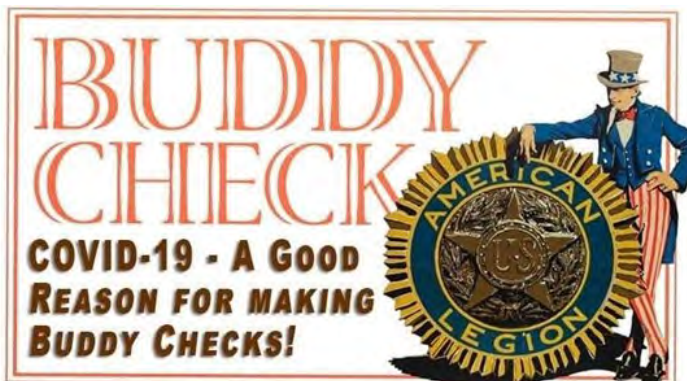
- Keep sharing your “[Snapshots of Service](#)”. Your snapshots give us all examples of how we too can press on and serve our veterans, Sons, and communities.
- Keep “Making a Difference”; with your help and God’s, I am certain we will all get through this together.



“Serving Thos Who Served... Full Steam Ahead”

Clint Bolt, National Commander  
Sons of The American Legion

<b>National Commander Clint Bolt's Goal</b>
<b>National Convention August 30, 2020</b>
<b>105%</b>



## Important Links

[Detachment Membership Report](#)

[National Membership Target Dates](#)

[2019-2020 Individual Recruitment Award form](#)

[Blue Brigade Award](#)

[Blue Brigade Fifth Consecutive Year Award](#)

[Detachment Consolidated Squadron Report Info](#)

[MYSAL](#)

[Detachment Commander Laberge](#)

[Detachment Adjutant Cliff Smith](#)



## 75th Anniversary of the End of WW II

This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of World War II. The Victory in Europe (VE-Day) is May 8<sup>th</sup> and the Victory in Japan (VJ-Day) is August 15<sup>th</sup>. Millions of American men and women served in World War II.

There will be numerous commemorative events held throughout the country including events in Washington, D.C. and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

The Victory in Europe events are available at:

<https://www.75thwwiicommemoration.org/victory-in-europe/dc-events>

\*\*Note: The Washington, D.C. Dates have been **Rescheduled** from May 6-10 to September 24-27.

The Victory in the Pacific events are available at:

<https://www.75thwwiicommemoration.org/victory-in-the-pacific/hawaii-events>

## Detachment Sweatshirts Available

Limited Sizes Available (Large, X-Large and 2X-Large)

\$ 30 each



# #SALSTRONG



## National Membership Update

Joseph Navarrete  
National Membership Chairman

During this unprecedented time we have been faced with several challenges. The Sons of The American Legion has always taken pride in recognizing their accomplishments, some times we forget to give that much deserved pat on the back, however we never forget our main mission of serving the needs of our veterans and their families.

**Because of all the closures and shut downs from Covid-19 we have decided to extend the dead- line for the Individual Recruitment and Blue Brigade Awards. The new deadline will be August 31st.**

Remember that recognizing our achievements is one of our goals for the year, let's make sure to make a final push and do all we can to recognize those members for all their recruitment efforts.

Thank you for your time and all you do for the Sons.



[2020 Individual Recruitment Award Form](#)

[2020 Blue Brigade Award Form](#)

## Ken's Corner



As most of you are aware, a national dues increase was put into effect beginning July 1, 2020, for the Sons of The American Legion. You may have observed when your squadron submits an electronic mySAL.org transmittal for renewal years 2020, 2019, 2018, etc. you were being charged \$5 a member, not \$2. Unfortunately, due to an ongoing software change, this cannot be corrected until January 1, 2021. If you are still renewing members for 2020 and later, please use a paper transmittal form. Again, this is for members renewing for 2020 and later. If you're renewing members for 2020, use the [mySAL.org](http://mySAL.org) online transmittal process.

To alleviate confusion, the online transmittal process through myLegion/mySAL will only work for processing 2021 dues at \$5/member. Effective January 1, 2021, the National Per Capita of \$7/member will apply to all dues payments regardless of the membership year being paid. At that time, you will be able to use [mysal.org](http://mysal.org) for all membership years.

I am working with the finance division to determine the best course of action for refunding or crediting the difference paid for 2020 and later members. I anticipate a solution by the end of the week, and I will put out an updated message. Thank you for your understanding and patience. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

*Ken A. George*

Member Engagement Coordinator  
National SAL & ALR Liaison

NALC Alumni – Class of 2016  
Phone 317.630.1376

Fax 317.655.1509

[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

## Veterans Strengthening America



**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
VETERANS • DEFENSE • AMERICANISM • YOUTH



## Around the Detachment - Westfield Squadron 124



Aaron Muldrew of Westfield Squadron 124, graduated from Westfield High School on Saturday, August 1st, 2020. Aaron Muldrew, graduated **2nd out of 296** students in the senior class (Salutatorian).

Aaron was selected as the 2020 recipient of the Westfield Squadron 124 Thomas J. Abernathy Memorial

Scholarship. Thomas J. Abernathy (1895-1982) graduated from Harvard University in 1917, was a pilot in the Great War (WW I) who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Croix de Guerre. Abernathy later served as the Principal of Westfield High School and the Superintendent of Westfield Public Schools. Abernathy served in the U.S. Army during WW II in the rank of LtCol.

Aaron's achievements are remarkable. For example, as a member of Boy Scout Troop 821, he earned the Eagle Scout Merit Badge and the Order of the Arrow. He was a member of the National Honor Society for three years (2018-2020). He was a member of the Westfield High School Band, the varsity captain for the Indoor & Outdoor track teams as well as the Cross Country teams. Aaron's hobbies include playing the piano, ultimate frisbee, hiking, camping and reading. Aaron will be attending Northeastern University in September and will be a Mechanical Engineering major. Aaron's professional goal is to work for a space-related company, such as NASA or SpaceX.



Troop 821 Eagle Scout Court of Honor  
January 10, 2020

Christian Muldrew, Aaron Muldrew and Gene Theroux

### Preserving History

Gene Theroux of Westfield Squadron 124 has been working in a number of cemeteries in the greater Westfield community for the last three years. Over these last three years, he has cleaned well over 600 monuments, headstones, markers and footstones. In addition, Gene has repaired a number of fragmented headstones as well as resetting, plumbing, and the documentation of work into a database.

Theroux averages over 40 hours a week in the field at one or more of 12 cemeteries. He has written two Community Preservation Act submissions for projects in the Southwick Old Cemetery and both submissions had been approved in the last two fiscal years in the total of \$ 80,000 for the two projects. The Westfield Squadron 124 has sponsored several volunteer clean-up days over the last two years at Westfield's Pine Hill Cemetery.



Above Photos: The first two (top) are of the family monument and headstones of Civil War veteran Corporal George R. Pendleton. Bottom let is the cleaned monument, Pendleton family headstones and of WW I & WW II veteran Owen Kirkland Smith. Bottom right: Theroux cleaning an art treasure.

Theroux believes that we have a responsibility to preserve history and ensure the legacy of those who contributed and sacrificed carries forward for future generations to learn from and to appreciate.



# THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Name \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date of Birth)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ (Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (ZIP)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone) \_\_\_\_\_ (Email) \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female \_\_\_\_\_ (Post #) \_\_\_\_\_ (Dues)  
(Gender)

I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.

**Please check appropriate eligibility era and branch of service below:**

- Global War on Terror
- Gulf War
- Panama
- Lebanon/Grenada
- Vietnam
- Korea
- WWII
- Other Conflicts
- U.S. Army
- U.S. Navy
- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Marines
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Merchant Marines (WWII only)

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Recruiter \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed application to The American Legion National Headquarters, Attn: Internal Affairs. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. For current department/state address, go to [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org).**

ALA 08/2016

## DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Received From \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Dues

Recruiter's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_



# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Detachment of \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron No. \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ Recruited by \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ (Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (ZIP) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone)

Veteran through whom eligibility is established \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. \_\_\_\_\_ Department of \_\_\_\_\_

OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran \_\_\_\_\_

Has Applicant previously been a member of the SAL? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Transmit \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ annual membership dues

Signed By Applicant (or Parent) \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility certified by \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed application to Sons of The American Legion department/state headquarters. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. For current detachment address, go to The American Legion department/state headquarters, or visit [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org).**

ALA 12/2013

## DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Received From \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Dues

Squadron No. \_\_\_\_\_

Department of \_\_\_\_\_



# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



### APPLICANT INFORMATION

### ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Unit # and Location (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth (Required)  Birth - 17  18 and over

Have you been a member previously?  Yes  No (If yes, fill in below, if known.)

Previous Unit City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ ALA ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Eligible Through—Name of Veteran (Female Veterans: List Your Own Name) \_\_\_\_\_

If Living: \_\_\_\_\_ American Legion Member ID # \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Deceased (If veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military records.)

#### Veteran Served:

WWI (4/6/1917-11/11/1918)

Anytime After 12/7/1941 (check all that apply):

- Global War on Terror
- Gulf War
- Panama
- Lebanon/Grenada
- Vietnam
- Korea
- WWII
- Other Conflicts

#### Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:

- Male Spouse
- Grandmother
- Daughter
- Female Spouse
- Sister
- Granddaughter
- Mother
- Self

#### To Be Completed By The American Legion Post Adjutant/Officer

I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.

Post Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

ALA 09/2016

## DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Received From \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Dues

Recruiter's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_