



Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Nebraska News Letter

Member of N.A.L.P.A.
Sons 2010 Membership = 4,513
Goal for March is 4,542 = 80%
Goal for April is 5,111 = 90%

Editor: Harold E. Thompson, Jr.
Sons 2009 Membership = 5,695
29 Short for March 8 goal
598 Short for April 12 goal

Volume 12, Issue 2

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

March & April 2010

COMMANDER Frederickson NOTES

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Greetings to all members of The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Nebraska.

As we begin the 2010 year, we have now officially crossed the halfway point in the 2009-2010 membership year. So how is the Detachment of Nebraska doing so far? A national membership report dated January 13, 2010 shows Nebraska ranked 17th, with 3,739 memberships turned in for 65.851%. In the Midwest Region Nebraska is ranked 3rd out of 11 Detachment in the region. The Detachment has hit the last 3 target dates, but there is still a long way to go. Squadron Commanders, get your memberships turned in as soon as your members renew. If they haven't renewed yet, get out and get those renewals. Remember that until memberships are received at National Headquarters, your Squadron members are considered delinquent and they will not be eligible to receive assistance from the

National Emergency Fund. In a recent report by National Membership Chairman Mike Moss (CO.) Nebraska was listed as one of only 6 Detachment on track to receive the "Triple Nickel" award. So what do we need to do to close the deal? We need to charter 5 new Squadrons within the 2009-2010 year. We need to achieve an 85% retention rate (of current members). And the big one, we need to hit a 105% membership percentage by July 31, 2010. Can this be done? I believe so, but all members of The Sons of The American Legion across Nebraska need to get behind this effort. Get those members renewed that always seem to drag in at the very end, recruit those friends of yours that say they will join but never seem to do so. And if you know a former member who has let his membership lapse, go visit with him, find out why he has not renewed, and encourage him to reconsider. The Sons support the many worthwhile programs of The American Legion and do many good things for our Communities, State, our Veteran's and America.

So what else is going on? The Mid Winter Workshop was held recently in

(Notes Continued on page 3)

SR. VICE COMMANDER REPORT BY DAVID KAMENSKE

Hi fellow Sons members.

As you can tell winter is defiantly here. With winter and the cold comes the mid winter conference. It was held in Norfolk this year.

I will give you the highlights of the conference. Friday night we had the DEC meeting. Weather was so bad we had to recess until more members could get to Norfolk. We finally did get more bodies and business was handled.

Danny Smith presented a work shop on speaking. We divided in to groups and collaborated on different subjects. Then one member from each group talked about the subject. In all the exercise has fun and informative. I ran over how to fill out member cards and there processing.

As thanks for everyone's participation, Commander Karl asked for all to go out in sub-zero temps for a picture in front of a big snow drift. The picture is on the new web site.

Yes, we now have a new web presents. The old site will be no longer and a new site has been set up at: www.nabraskasal.org

Please, help get the word out! You may ask how I can help do that?

Here are some of the ways:

1. Put www.nebraskasal.org on all posters, flyers, you business cards, and any communication that you send.
2. Send in your events and posters/flyers to be put on the web site
3. Tell the Commander what your Squadrons are doing and what they have done, so it can go on the web

4. Get your members to send in picture of themselves and their fathers or grandfather that made them eligible for the Sons of The American Legion, for the Page of Honor

Take a look at the new web site. Click on the Calendar link on the left. We are updating it with information from all the squadrons in the Detachment of Nebraska.

We would like to have your Squadrons meeting date, time, and where to add to the Detachment Calendar. Please send your events in and we will advertise for you free. Don't forget your flyers and posters too. For now you can send all web information to sons@nebraskasal.org and It will get put on the calendar.

Membership is coming in slow and we still have some Squadrons that have not turned in any memberships to the Detachment. You know who you are. Let's get those cards in to head quarters.

I would like to see each member bring a picture of there father or grand father that made them eligible for the Sons of The American Legion. We would like to put them on a wall of honor at Summer Convention in Columbus. So now is the time to find your pictures.

If I can be of any help to your squadron, or district please do not hesitate to contact me. I'm here to work for you – for with out you – the Sons would not be what it is today.

For the betterment of the Sons



COMMANDER REPORT FREDERICKSON

continuities

Norfolk. As you can imagine the weather did put a damper on things. But for those members who attended, the Sons had an outstanding workshop. I want to thank everyone who attended and the speakers who did a great job. Also the Detachment of Nebraska has a new website, nebraskasal.org. Check it out! It is much more user friendly, easy to navigate, and most importantly is being handle by Senior Vice Commander Dave Kamenske. If you have any news, pictures, events your Squadron is involved with, get the information to him and it will get online. Look for his article in this newsletter for more information on how to contact him. We are also involved in a contest challenge with the Detachment of Kansas called the "Membership Border War". What is this? Again membership is key here. This is based on three criteria, again retention percentage, renewal percentage and new members signed up. This challenge will run until the last national membership report based on information on July 31, 2010. Can we do this? Again if all members on the Sons in Nebraska get on board. I have checked out the Kansas website, and Kansas Detachment Commander Randy Bland is pushing hard to "Beat Nebraska!" Let's step up and show what Nebraska is capable of this year!

If you have read any of my previous newsletters, you are aware that The Child Welfare Foundation (CWF) is a program that we here in Nebraska need to become more involved with. Nationally, this is the #1 program supported by the Sons. So I am expecting all Squadrons to make sure to donate to the CWF this year at \$1.00 per member. The CWF is a wonderful program started by The American Legion in 1954 and 100% of all donated monies are given out in grants with no administrative costs taken out of the donations! You can find more information on the national American Legion website at www.Legion.org under the "What We Do" toolbar. Or feel free to call me at 402-659-9260 for information also.

To all Squadron Commanders and Adjutants. This year there is going to be a big push to return the

"Consolidated Squadron Report." These will be mailed out around April 1, 2010. What is it? This is a 1 page form that asks you to report your Squadron activities for the last year. Volunteer time, money donated, color guard, Boys State, Legion baseball, community service, Veteran's service, these are a few of the items that are listed. Heres the deal. No Squadron is involved in everything they are asked to report on. But, every Squadron in Nebraska does something unique, something that sets them apart. Last year the Nebraska American Legion was 7 reports short of 100%. That is approximately 355 reports tuned in. By comparison, last year the Sons turned in 44 out of 118 Squadrons. The reports are then done onto a Detachment Consolidated Report and sent to Department Headquarters and National Headquarters to be used to show Congress all the good things that The American Legion Family does. So your Squadron gives out one scholarship per year, puts flags on Veteran's headstones for Memorial Day, no matter how small, routine or insignificant please report it. As it was mentioned earlier, this is a 1, I repeat 1 page form. Phone calls will be made to every Squadron across Nebraska as soon as we know the reports have been mailed and this year we are expecting a 100% return rate. Squadron Commanders and Adjutants, you have been put on notice! Don't forget! The members of the Detachment Membership team will be calling you with a "friendly" reminder to get these reports filled out and mailed back to Lincoln absolutely no later than May 31, 2010. Didn't get one? Not to worry, the Consolidated Report Form can be downloaded and printed off the Sons National website. As Danny Smith says "No Excuses!"

District Conventions will begin here in Nebraska in February and run thru the end of March. Check the dates and go attend your District Convention. The Sons are encouraged to attend, so let your American Legion members that you are concerned, involved and interested in what they are doing. I can assure you they will be glad to see you there.

In closing please remember in your thoughts and prayers all the brave men and women who are in harms way to protect our freedom. And, make sure to thanks those Veteran's who have given of themselves so we can live in the "Land of the free, BECAUSE of the brave."

ALT. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN Report By FRANCIS L. VAIL

As we begin a new year I must remind all Squadrons officers that all of your membership that you have collected should have been mailed to Detachment Headquarters. If you are holding any membership these members are considerate delinquent. If your Squadron hasn't mailed any membership into Detachment Headquarters your Squadron is considerate delinquent, and your Squadron has no voting rights and your members have no benefits. It's the responsible of all Squadron Commanders and Adjutants to make sure all their membership is mailed to Detachment Headquarters on a timely matter. Remember that the 2010 membership year started January 1st and ends December 31st. To the Squadron Commanders and Adjutants who have mailed membership in I thank you. Remember membership is the life

blood of our organization and without membership we can't exist. If you want to know where you stand in membership go to our web page www.nebraskasal.org. then click the membership link.

There are a number of us who have become friends with officers from the Detachment of Kansas. So we have come up with a friendly membership challenge which is called the {Membership Border War.} Again, this is a membership based challenge focused on 3 criteria, membership percentage on July 31, 2010, number of new members recruited, and retention percentage. There is going to be a traveling trophy awarded the winner each year. A few final details are being worked out. Let all get behind Commander Karl and win this trophy.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

NEED RECIPE FOR THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY COOKBOOK

To The American Legion Family:

The American Legion Auxiliary is in the process of gathering recipes to be included in the new "American Legion Family" cookbook. The deadline for submitting your recipes is April 1st. I want The American Legion and the Sons of the American Legion to be included in this cookbook. Do you have a favorite recipe you like? or make? Please make sure to including your name, the Post or Squadron town and number.

There are several ways to submit your recipes:

(1) Send to Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary, Department Headquarters; PO Box 5227,
Lincoln, NE 69505

(2) Use the website "typensave.com". Group Login: "alacookbook"; password "ala90". Click on "Add Recipe" on the left side of the page and enter your recipe in the box that pops up.

(3) Send recipes to me at dhatfield@atcjet.net

If you need help or have any questions, you can email me or call me at 308 324-3696.

Remember, the deadline is **April 1st!!**

Please send those recipes **NOW!!**

Donna Hatfield, Cookbook Chairman



MID WINTER CONVENTION



They are from left to right West Vice Commander Chris L. Jenkins, Commander Karl Frederickson, East Vice Commander Scott E Burke, Asst Adjutant Danny Smith, Sr. Vice Commander David Kamenske, Alt NECman Francis L. Vail, Adjutant Harold E. Thompson, Jr. and Chairman of Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation William A. Bowman .



These are dedicated Sons of The American Legion members that made it to the Mid-Year Conference through snow drift and one lane roads. The picture was take out side of the hotel by one of the 9' snow drift. Their was also duel members present were busy with other jobs at the time we took the picture. The Heroes table was very nice and we paid respected to our father, Grandfather who we were able to joint the Sons of The American Legion under. Their will be Heroes table at Detachment Convention so please bring a picture, who you joint the sons under to the Detachment convention.

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation 100% Per Capita Banner Program

The Child Welfare Foundation has initiated a new incentive program for the award year 2009-2010. Each Post, Unit, & Squadron donating a least **one dollar** for each member during the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation's award year will receive a beautiful banner/streamer. The banner/streamer is suitable for display in your meeting room or it may be attached to your organization colors. This is base off your membership as of June 1, 2009. The program year is June 1, 2009 to May 31, 2010. There will be a form to fill out when you send your check in to receive the award.

The Detachment Goal for 2009-2010 is set at \$5,500.00 dollars. We only have \$203.20 in so far. Let get on this project and meet our goal that is less than a \$1.00 per member. Let's have a big turn in so we can present that at the Spring NEC meeting on May 1, 2010. Send Your check to Detachment Adjutant by April 26 so he can take them, with him for the meeting. The Detachment has donated \$250.00 for this year, that will bring us up to \$453.20.

Make the Check Payable to Child Welfare Foundation.

ADJUTANT NOTES BY HAROLD E. THOMPSON, JR.

I would like to thank the Duel members that help with the registration table at the Mid Year Conference. It was very much appreciated since some of the members were unable to attend because of the weather.

We will be send out the Consolidate Squadron Reports forms make sure to use the 2009-2010 year form, if you have any old ones throw them away. There are changes each year to the form. Please read the instructions sheet that come with the form.

The Date to be return by June 9, 2010 to The Detachment Adjutant.

Detachment Adjutant
P.O. Box 22
Wayne, NE 68787

Also the Cut off for the Delegate Strength for the Detachment convention will be May 12, 2010.

Detachment Convention will be held at The New World Inn at Columbus, NE June 25 to 27, 2010.

FUTURE DATES

March	6	District 4 at Gering District 9 at Eustis
	7	District 5 at Paxton
	8	Target Dates for 80% to Detachment Headquarter
	13	District 12 at Utica
	14	District 6 at Gibbon Daylight Saving Time Begins District 7 at Columbus
	20	District 3 at Decatur
	21	District 2 at Albion
	27	District 1 at Chadron
	28	Palm Sunday
	April	4
12		Target Date for 90% to Detachment Headquarter
26		Child Welfare Donation in to Detachment Adjutant
April to May	30-2	Spring NEC meeting at National
June	25-27	Detachment Convention at New World Inn, Columbus, NE.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

April 17, 2010

I would like articles from the Detachment Commander, Sr. Vice Commander and Area Commander. National Executive Committeeman, Alt. NECman and the Committee Chairman's. If you send email please put in the subject line SAL. If any of the Squadron have up coming event they would like other squadron to know about send them to Adjutant Thompson by the deadline dates. If you have pictures. I will try to scan them into the newsletter.

Send your articles to:
Harold E. Thompson, JR.
P.O. Box 22
Wayne, NE. 68787
Email thomp@q.com
PH: 402-374-3446
Fax 402-375-2116
Attn: HAROLD

The articles are from all the Squadrons from across the state of Nebraska . Also included are National, and State American Legion Articles. The objective of this news paper is to keep all the Squadrons informed about Past, Current and up-coming events at the Squadron level, State Level and National level. This news paper belongs to all the members of the Detachment of Nebraska Sons of The American Legion.

DETACHMENT OF NEBRASKA OFFICERS FOR 2009 - 2010 YEAR

Commander	Karl Frederickson	Americanism	Randall W. Busch
SR. Commander	David Kamenske	Children & Youth / Community Affairs	Donald L. Suchy
East Area Vice Commander	Scott E. Burke	Membership	Kevin Gilliam
West Area Vice Commander	Chris L. Jenkins	Public Relations	Michael Hatfield
Chaplain	Seth A. Rippe	Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation	William Bowman
Adjutant	Harold E. Thompson, JR.	Constitution & Bylaws	Michael D. Helm
Asst. Adjutant	Danny J. Smith	Legislative	W. Joseph Seipel
Historian	Adam W. Schmid	Finance	Lawrence J. Clancy
Finance Officer	Richard J. Vasina		
Judge Advocate	Danny J. Smith		
Sergeant at Arms	Jacob A. Helm	American Legion S.A.L. Liaison Officer	James R. Kearns
Asst. Sergeant at Arms	Tim G. Voss	American Legion Department S. A. L. Advisor	Burdette Burkhart
NECman	David L. Rippe	Sons of The American Legion	
Alt NECman	Francis L. Vail	Detachment of Nebraska	
PDC 2006-2008	Francis L. Vail	P. O. Box 5205	
PDC 2004-2006	James R. Kearns	Lincoln , NE. 68505-0205	
PDC 2002-2004	Daniel D. Dolezal	PH: 402-464-6338	