The Sons of The American Legion

Volume 14 Issue VII January 2022

- **Mark your calendars for our Mid-Winter Conference in Burlington, Vt on January 21-22 at the Double Tree. Information attached to this newsletter.**
- **Please submit articles, pictures, ideas or comments for All newsletters relevant to the Sons of The American Legion activities on behalf of any of the Four Pillars are greatly appreciated. With pictures send the names of the people in the pictures if possible. Please send to: waitejohn@comcast.net**

"Now its time to move forward with all the new challenges that 2022 will have in store."

And We Welcome in 2022!!

Commander Jeremy Revell

Fellow SAL Members,

With the conclusion of 2021 happening just prior to this update I wanted to thank you all for your hard work this year. It wasn't without its challenges, but I believe we've risen to meet them. We stand well positioned to meet 2022.

Visitations will begin again just after Mid-winter conference, which is scheduled for January 21-22, I'll have a schedule prepared by then so we can hit the ground running. Things that we'll be discussing at these visits will include our upcoming Detachment programs like my Commanders Project (SSVF), The Ronald McDonald House and the Child Welfare foundation, all good programs that I hope you'll take a moment to research and consider donating to. With your help we can make a significant impact for these organizations. I look forward to lively discussion and debate.

I want to thank our Detachment team for all their good work this year without their support and engagement, information would not get out to you folks, and we wouldn't have the close-knit Detachment that we do. Special thanks to John for putting out the newsletter and all our announcements. Thanks to Brian, Marc and Lucas for all the meeting attendance, it's very comforting to have the support and outreach they provide to Squadrons. We're actively looking for people to get more involved, if you have the time and the desire please reach out to me and let me know your interest, this can be some of the most rewarding volunteer work you'll ever do.

Now its time to move forward with all the new challenges that 2022 will have in store. Lets continue our push for membership, engagement with Veterans and their families and support of our communities. Looking forward to an outstanding year in 2022.

Jeremy Revell
SAL Detachment
Commander (VT)
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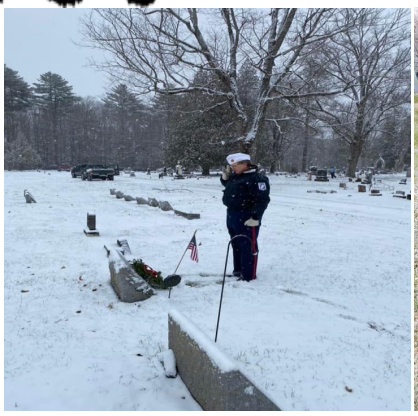
Wreaths Across America & A Christmas Ride

WREATHS across AMERICA



Wreaths Across America came to Vermont to the left our American Legion Department Commander Cathy Tester, in the center SAL Sr Vice Commander Brian Massey Jr., and to the right Southern Area Commander Marc Colety along with Bennington County Commander Joe Galli all honoring our Veterans.

Detachment Commander Revell and His American Legion Post 19 Family Christmas Ride they delivered 76 bags of goodies to Veterans & old folks homes in the Bristol 5 town area. Thanks to our members especially "Santa" Ross Brown

Always Looking For New Submissions to Newsletter

Sr. Vice Commander Brian Massey

Hi All,
Hope you all had a great New Years! Jan. 2022 is officially here!

Let's Talk Membership

So, it's the start of the new year, full of challenges, we all know that when it comes this time of year it can be difficult to gain renewals… I'm here to tell you that if we continue to do Buddy Checks with our folks, keep them involved, interact with them, as well as getting ourselves out there in the community and showing who we are and what we are about, I think you're going to see folks turn this thing around. Also remind them that it's not just a cheap drink at the bar & that it's much more!
National Report we are still holding on the East. Around 25th in the Nation, 7th in the Region. I suspect we will meet our 60% deadline by Jan.20th
It's going to take all of you folks to make that happen, so full speed ahead Team Green!

Membership Challenge: Thank you all that contributed to Dec. 2 Deadline, congrats to you all that made it in the bucket! Now our Jan. 14th hopefully Squadrons meet there 100% deadline, this is your time to shine Squadron's GO TEAM GREEN!
Also don't forget! Blue Cap Membership Challenge, it benefits both organizations (Legion & SAL) and even gives you a chance to win a little money as well!
And as always feel free on contacting AL Membership Director Dave Woodard or me if you have any questions or concerns. Let's use the tools guys!
In closing,
Guys I couldn't ask for a better Team, you all are doing very well compared to last year's numbers, my hope is when it comes time at our Convention this year in June we put Vermont back on the map for 100% again at the finish line. You can do this! We work together as one, because we are SONS!
Again I know I sound like a broken record but I can't say it enough: Thank you, thank you, thank you for all for your continued commitment to strive high for membership! & Remember **Membership is everyone's Job!**
Let's get you Squadrons at 100% this year for 2022. And if we are not having fun, then we are doing it wrong! *Thank You for all your continued support & hard work for this great organization! Will see you all at Mid-Winter Conference this month, See you all soon!*

"And again I can't say it enough but thank you, thank you, thank you for all for your continued commitment to strive high for membership! & remember **Membership is everyone's Job!"**

Brian Massey Jr.

Always please feel free to contact me if any questions or concerns.

For God, Veterans & Country
-Brian Massey Jr.
Sr. Vice-Commander
SAL Detachment of VT
**My Contact Info: Email- brian.massey.jr@gmail.com*
Phone# 802-461-5005

Northern Area Commander Lucas Herring

Happy New Year Everyone!

There was a lot less travel during the month of December, but it has been encouraging receiving phone calls and emails from those of you in the North looking to cut donation checks, put together your own membership drives and mailings and otherwise continue the work of the Sons of the American Legion. It is also great to see events like the Sunday brunches are still occurring in Northfield, Thursday meals in Waterbury, and that Barre is again open on Sundays.

I am looking forward to Midwinter Convention so we can all be in touch again in person. Check other reports for updates on membership. I'll keep this short this month but looking forward to visitations in the Spring!

As always, if you need anything, please feel free to reach out.

In Honor of All the Veterans,

Lucas J. Herring
Northern Area Commander, Detachment of Vermont
Salvtlegionpost10@gmail.com

Legislative Chairman Lucas Herring

Lucas J. Herring
Northern Area Commander
Historian
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Good Day,

The Legislature is reconvening in January. To find out who your State Senators or Representatives are, please use the following link: Find a Legislator (vermont.gov). A reminder, this year's Legislative focus is on H.185, H.146 and H.328. H.185 is one of the several bills that will be focused on related to military retirement pay and survivor benefits. H.146 is a bill related to Homestead Exemption (property tax) for disabled Veterans. Additionally, the Legion has chosen to focus on H.328/S.104 for Child Transfer Enrollment.

For the State of Vermont Legislature, if you would like to find a listing of all Bills Introduced:

All House Bills (vermont.gov)

To keep in contact with your State Representatives and Senators, please see the link below:

All Senate Bills (vermont.gov)

In Honor of All the Veterans,

Lucas J. Herring
Legislative Chairman
Detachment of Vermont
Salvtlegionpost10@gmail.com

Southern Area Commander Marc Colety

Today I just dated something using 2022 for the first time. It was the file for this newsletter article which was written a week before the official year change. It was one of those moments where you stop for a brief pause and reflect on where the time went. It does pass far faster than it seems and far faster than it should!

I am feeling a little guilty today because honestly this month I have very little to share with you on Vermont S.A.L. DEC activities. There were no scheduled visits to Squadrons and little in the way of invitations or activities to visit a Squadron or Post this month. But there is always a silver lining and it afforded a little extra time to tend to my local Squadrons needs. December is always one of those months with a renewed big push on membership, after all 2021 cards expired at the end of the month. Now, even the procrastinators have a decision to make, renew or drop out. Many times these decisions come down to how we interacted with our members throughout the year. Did we take their membership dues and that ended our contact for the year? If so, then we are likely to lose that member or at best have to chase them down for their renewal. They say most people don't leave their company, they leave a bad boss. Your Squadrons are no different than a workplace. We need to engage people and understand that not everyone is going to volunteer endless hours, but they do want to feel connected. Newsletters, email blasts, social media websites, invitations to events and even the occasional phone call to check in, all goes a long way to engaging your members. It doesn't matter if we view ourselves a good communicators or a bad one, we can all do a little better in 2022 then we did in 2021. Maybe that will help increase our renewal rates next year.

I am looking forward to our Mid-Winter Convention. It has been a while since we have been together and I always look forward to the opportunity to share and to learn from everyone. I hope to see you in Burlington on January 21st and 22nd.

Don't forget, if you or your Squadron participated in Children and Youth activities in the month of December, please drop me a line or a photo as your C&Y Chair this year I would love to see what we are all doing!

For veterans past and present.

Marc Colety
Southern Area
Vice Commander

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Wreaths Across America 2021 - Bennington, VT

Once again we placed wreaths on the graves of the veterans interred at the Bennington Veterans Home on Dec. 18th. After last years "private ceremony", it was heart warming to see the community come out again this year. Here are a few shots that include S.A.L. Bennington County Commander Joe Galli and Southern Area Commander Marc Colety at the 2021 ceremony. Every grave site received a wreath and recognition of service again this year!

SAL Advisor Bruce Paquin

Greetings Detachment Members:

As we enter The New Year, the Detachment of Vermont would like to honor all of our veterans who have served our great nation. I wish to take this opportunity to join with the Detachment in thanking all of our veterans for their service to our country. The Sons exist for the purpose of honoring our veteran's service and to give aid and support for all the great programs for which help lift up our veterans, their families, and the communities in which we live. As a dual member, I am proud of the support that the Detachment is providing to their Squadrons and to the Legion Posts. A good example of that support is Detachment Commander Revell's project for the year. He has chosen UVM Pathways Vermont Support Services for Veterans Families. This is a national initiative funded by the Department of Veterans Affairs to address homelessness among veterans. They provide support services, grants, funds, and other help to keep veterans and their families in their homes or finding a place to live. I urge all Squadrons and everyone to help Commander Revell in support for this worthy veterans program. Our Detachment revitalization team is winding up the process of making Squadron visitation. Please welcome them and participate with their visit to your post. If you would did not get a visit, or did not have any contact with the Detachment or an Officer, or just want more information on this process, please contact me for any follow up. The most immediate help you can give to your Squadron (and the Legion Family) is to assist them with their membership efforts. We are seeing a slightly better rate than the national average, but we still have a long way to go.

We need to keep membership in our forethoughts to reach our goals. Keep up the good efforts. I wish all of the Detachment members and their families a happy and safe New Year in 2022. I look forward to seeing everyone in Burlington at the Mid-Winter Conference this January.

Bruce F. Paquin
SAL Advisor
Department of Vermont

Detachment Adjutant John Waite

Happy New Year to All,

Here we go with another year and I certainly hope you all had a great holiday season with family and friends. It's now time to get back to work on our membership and continue working all the programs of The American Legion and any community programs or events your squadron may be involved with. Make certain you have Midwinter Conference on your calendar for January 22, 2022 at the Double Tree Hotel in So. Burlington Vt. Our meeting begins at 10:15. We need our members to attend so we can continue the great work we have done for many years in the Detachment of Vermont. Some things to remember

- Sign up for mylegion.org
- Check on our Veterans
- Consider a Children & Youth Project for April
- Remember to get new members involved
- Promote our Organization every time you have a chance!
- Be Proud!

2021 - 2022
Sons Of The American Legion
Membership Target Dates

September 9, 2021	10%
October 14, 2021	25%
November 10, 2021	35%
December 8, 2021	45%
January 20, 2022	60%
February 9, 2022	75%
March 9, 2022	80%
April 13, 2022	90%
May 11, 2022	100%
*July 28, 2022	105%

*Delegate Strength Target Date

2021-2022
MEMBERSHIP
YEAR

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Sons of The American Legion Preamble to the Constitution

Proud Possessors of a Priceless Heritage, we male descendants of veterans of all wars, associate ourselves together as Sons of The American Legion for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the association of our members and our Forefathers in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principals of justice, freedom, and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principals for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on **FOR GOD AND COUNTRY**.

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF VERMONT
Midwinter Conference

CALL TO ORDER

DATE:January 22, 2022

REGULAR MEETING

GENERAL MEETING CONVENES AT 10:15

AGENDA:

- Membership
- Finances
- Committee Reports
- Old Business
- Guest Speaker
- New Business

LOCATION:
Double Tree Hotel 870 Williston Rd.
S. Burlington , Vermont

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF VERMONT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CALL TO ORDER

DATE: January 22, 2022

Midwinter DEC Meeting

CONVENES AT: 9:30 A.M

AGENDA:

- Membership
- Finances
- Committee Reports
- Old Business
- New Business

LOCATION:
Double Tree Hotel
870 Williston Rd.
S. Burlington , Vermont