DETACHMENT OF NEW YORK
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

2018-2019
Program Accomplishments Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Volunteer Hours</th>
<th>Monetary Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMERICANISM</td>
<td>35,796</td>
<td>$195,077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH</td>
<td>11,261</td>
<td>$114,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA &amp; R</td>
<td>21,876</td>
<td>$131,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER/INT. AFFAIRS</td>
<td>44,307</td>
<td>$134,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAND TOTAL</td>
<td>113,240</td>
<td>$575,817</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Value of Volunteer Hours at National Average $2,610,182
- Grand Total of Monetary Support from Detachment $575,817
- TOTAL IMPACT Sons of The American Legion 2018-2019 $3,185,999
My Fellow Sons,

Thank you for the opportunity to lead our organization. It is truly an honor and I look forward to having a great year with the Detachment. I have a very basic approach as to how we, as Sons, can set ourselves above and beyond our previous expectations and goals.

My word for you to remember is “Key”. We are Sons of the American Legion because of a family member, or members, who joined the military to defend our country during times of conflict or war. We, as Sons, are representatives of these veterans who have served and made us proud. We are the Key to open doors to help in the growth of our organization and the American Legion.

The first door is Membership. We are the Key to opening that door by renewing our membership, recruiting new members, and retaining our current members. Our strength, as an organization, depends on a strong and active membership. We cannot hope to open other important doors without going through this one first.

The next door is Accountability. We are the Key because of the time we spend volunteering representing our organization and the American Legion Family. The volunteer hours that we put in at our Posts and other places adds up to a significant number when converted to Dollar$. These numbers are sent to the American Legion to be presented to our government. We should be tracking these hours, maybe on a monthly basis, then recording the totals on the Consolidated Service Form (CSR) in April. The present conversion amount is $25 per hour. If you want to be impressed, multiply your volunteer hours by the dollar amount. These reported numbers are “gold” for the American Legion.

The next door is Support of Legion Programs. We are the Key because we are a program of the American Legion and we should be actively supporting our fellow programs. Some of these programs are: Boys State, Legion Baseball, Legion Riders, Child Welfare Foundation (CWF), National Emergency Fund (NEF), American Legion Veterans and Children Fund, Oratorical Contest, Legion Shooting, Walk-A-Thons, Operation Comfort Warrior, and a variety of Scholarship programs. Our support can be either by volunteering or by financial means. Our support is very necessary to keep these programs going.

The final door I want to mention is Communication. We have heard previous Commanders talk about communicating. If you are doing an event, get the information out to the public. We have a variety of ways to do this, e.g., posters, signs in front of the Post, social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), a newspaper listing in community events, as well as, the finest webmaster in the Sons organization. We are the Key because if we do not communicate, no one will know the efforts that are being put forth by our organization.

I am not a fan of comparisons to other detachments, but I feel the Detachment of New York is the best in the country. I think that by all of us being the Key to successfully opening these doors, we can prove that we are. Remember that “You Are The Key”.

For God, Country, Our Veterans, and our Organization,

Dennis George, Detachment Commander
Fellow Members,

The Sons of The American Legion just completed their 48th Annual National Convention in Indianapolis, IN a few weeks ago. Our Detachment registered all of its 62 delegates, with 36 in attendance, and 6 guests. Clint Bolt from Virginia was elected as our National Commander. Gary Nelson (NJ) was elected National Vice Commander for the Eastern Region.

The National dues increase was overwhelmingly approved. This raises dues from the current $2/member to $5/member starting with the 2021 Membership Year. The Detachment of New York Color Guard (Seeley B. Parish Squadron 457) won the Clyde Stillwell Award for best Color Guard. As a result of that honor, they retrieved the colors at the close of the Convention. Our Detachment received the Garland F. Murphy, Jr. Award for the largest donation to CWF. We also received the Regional Award and the $1/Member Certificate. We received a 90% Membership Renewal Certificate. We received the Harry W. Colmery Legacy Award for the highest monetary donation to the Endowment Fund. Antwerp Squadron 916 won the Atwood-Beyea-York Award for best Squadron in its Americanism activities.

The appointed National Officers from New York for 2019-2020 are: Judge Advocate Joseph Paviglianti, Assistant Adjutant Robert Avery and Assistant Sgt-at-Arms Greg Falco. As for National Commissions and Committees, David Lee continues on the Legislative Commission, Gabe Cinquegrana was re-appointed to the VA & R Commission and just this past week was appointed to the position of National VAVS Representative to the National Veterans Administration from the Sons of The American Legion, PDC William Clancy was appointed Chairman of the Children & Youth Committee, NEC John Chang was re-appointed to the Committee on Resolutions and PDC James Coates was appointed to the Veterans Employment & Education Commission. PDC Kevin Harrington was elected as National President of The American Legion Press Association. He is the first S.A.L. member to serve in this position. Kenneth Kraetzer (Squadron 135, White Plains) won first place for the Robert L. Morrill Social Media Award - Category 7-B for both Twitter and YouTube.

The September 9th National Membership Report indicates we are at 99.42% and have 29,783 members for 2019. We are short of the 100% goal by 175 members. We are in 36th place in the Nation. We are nearly 350 members ahead of last year’s total at this time. As for 2020 members, we have only transmitted 703 members dues and are at only 2.36% of goal at the 10%Target Date. We missed that goal by over 2,200 members. Let’s get the last renewals in for 2019 and get going on the 2020 year!

Squadrons are again reminded that all dues transmittals are to be mailed to the NEW Department HQ address: 1304 Park Boulevard Troy, NY 12180

A Special Note,

After serving this Detachment as the Adjutant for 20 years and as Assistant Adjutant for 2 years prior to that, I will be stepping down as Detachment Adjutant effective on September 20, 2019. My current work-load does not always allow me to be available on a daily or regular basis which is a disservice to the members. I have enjoyed serving the Detachment and I will continue to do so in different capacities.

Thank You to the Detachment of New York! Robert J. Avery, Detachment Adjutant
A new administrative year is upon us and the Americanism Commission is primed and ready to go! I would like to congratulate and welcome Gary Manzer and Doug Martin for being appointed to the Commission in July.

A brief overview of what our Commission reported at Convention is as a Detachment for Americanism programs we donated $195,077 as well as 683,993 hours. 50 boys were sponsored for Boys State and 3 girls were sponsored for Empire Girls State. 26,674 flags were purchased. Sadly this is not a complete picture as less than 1/4 of our Squadrons completed and sent in a Consolidated Report on time again this year. I realize that it may look like a daunting task to fill out this report but if you have questions please reach out to your County or District organization and they will be able to help you understand this task. Remember, that there is NO Squadron that does nothing! Winners this year for the highest level of achievements for Americanism based on submitted Consolidated Reports are as follows:

**150 Members or more:**
- 1st Place: Greece Squadron #468 – 7th District – Monroe County
- 2nd Place: Cottreall Warner Squadron #942 – 7th District – Monroe County
- 3rd Place: Mohawk Squadron #1450 – 4th District – Saratoga County

**149 Members or less:**
- 1st Place: Antwerp Squadron #916 – 5th District – Jefferson County
- 2nd Place: Melvin Rose Squadron #1231 – 3rd District – Rensselaer County
- 3rd Place: Walter T. Conley Squadron #1107 – 7th District – Cayuga County

Congratulations to this year’s winners for their hard work.

The Americanism Commission needs everybody’s help this year. We need to get the word out about our essay contests for grades 1-5 and 6-8. Entries were the low again this past year. There have been some changes made to the contests this year to try to increase participation. For grades 1-5, the prize structure has been changed to $100 going to the winner of each grade level. Also, for grades 6-8 the topic has changed to pick a topic: United States Bill of Rights, United States Declaration of Independence or United States Constitution with the prize structure remaining $300 going to the winner of all entries. The changes have been posted on the Detachment Website. Please ensure we are getting this information out to our schools as soon as possible to have the most exposure to the students and their teachers.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to me. E-mail Dalybigelow@outlook.com.

As we head into fall, let’s all foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism!
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation...Gabe Cinquegrana

It is my sincere pleasure to extend greetings from the Detachment of New York VA&R Commission, as well as my sincere gratitude for allowing me to serve as the Commission Chairman for the 2019-2020 membership year. The boots of Past Detachment Commander and VA&R Chairman Tom Kurk will be difficult to fill, but I am hopeful that he will lend his expertise and guidance to us, especially since he lives less than 5 miles from me.

Our tasks will be many this year, and I look forward to the insight and ideas of our Commission members, and their hard work. Our Commission this year includes David Bishop, William Baker, Diman Smith, Robert Cox, and Dale Kane. I thank them all for serving, and look forward to accomplishing much this year together.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation quite often gets “pigeon-holed” into the heading of providing hours and dollars to VA facilities and Veterans at those facilities. Yes, that is a function of VA&R, but there is so much more to it than that. The vast majority of Veterans are not at VA facilities, and they need our help as well. There is much to done at our VA facilities, but also in our community: Assistance for those being deployed, and aid as well for their families; Help and appreciation for those that are currently active duty and those returning home from deployment; How about a lift for spouses and children, and members of Family Readiness Groups, who are struggling while their family member is away; What about help for Homeless Veterans and those struggling to fit in; Let’s not forget those Veterans who have lost their way, may be suicidal, and need to find their way to benefits and services of the VA; Some may need help with employment, education, or learning how to be a success.

We hope that in the year ahead we can lay out a strategy to better identify the needs of Veterans, and provide suggestions for everyone to fill those needs. Perhaps we can outline programs that Squadrons and SAL members can organize and participate in to help with the needs that are so prevalent. Yes, we will still talk during the year about our annual Walk-A-Thon, Fisher Houses, etc., but we hope to also talk to you about specific things you can do for our patriots across the State, and in your Community.

Last year, Detachment members provided 21,876 hours of service under the VA&R service category, and $131,709 in contributions. Great work, but we can do more. Stay tuned for more, and we look forward to working with all of you this year.

Gabe Cinquegrana, VA&R Commission Chairman

Public Relations...Joe Guidice

As the new Chairman of the Detachment of New York Public Relations Commission, I would first like to thank the Detachment for their appointment to this position, and secondly look forward to working together during the coming year with our Commission Members and past Chairman Gabe Cinquegrana. I know we have a strong foundation in place, and with the help of all will continue to place the name of the Sons of The American Legion in places it has never been before.

An immediate objective of Public Relations will be to develop a plan to increase the use and usefulness of the Public Relations table at the Mid-Winter Conference in January. It has served us well over the years, assisting Squadrons with needed forms and the latest in reading material, as well as providing a great source of information and feedback to other American Legion Family members in helping to understand the Sons and what we are capable of doing.

But we may be limited this coming year in the availability of printed material to share at the table, so we will be looking at alternative ways to portray our message and be of assistance to the Legion Family. In this endeavor we may be using alternate methods to provide our message and conduct our business. In this endeavor we may be “tweaking” our message and expanding our focus to incorporate more of the needs of Legion Members. In this endeavor we may be asking for the assistance of the people in our own organization at the table, that have the greatest wealth of experience and knowledge.

We will discuss this more at the Fall DEC Meeting, but will be looking for our leaders, whether they be current Officers, Past Commanders, Advisors, and current District and Vice Commanders, to assist. We are all part of the same team!!

Joe Guidice, Public Relations Commission Chairman
In August Sons of the American Legion RADIO covered the March Back from Cadet Basic Training, producing a video with 124,000 page views on YouTube. Later traveled to Norfolk, VA to cover retirement ceremony for longtime radio guest Fleet Master Chief Raymond Kemp and covered Atlantic City Air-show interviewing a Royal Air Force Officer.

SALRADIO was invited to travel to Indianapolis for National Convention setting up Facebook Live for several sessions, interviewing SAL National Commander Greg Doc Gibbs and the convention parade.

At the National American Legion Press Association, SALRADIO received two awards named for Robert Morrill for telling stories of veterans on YouTube and Twitter.

August started 12th season of Army football coverage with of practice home game vs Rice and epic road trip to Michigan setting up Facebook Live for Michigan Band National Anthem and halftime show honoring veterans.

Ken Kraetzer for SALRADIO, Squadron 135 White Plains, NY.
Detachment Convention, July 2019
Detachment Convention, July 2019
National Convention, August 2019

THE HARRY W. COLMERY LEGACY AWARD
Presented by the American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation
to the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of New York
for the program year 2018 – 2019

In recognition of its Outstanding Support to the American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation and designation as the number one detachment in total contributions received in support of The American Legion’s Children & Youth and Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation program.

President
“Dedicated to Serving Veterans and Their Children”

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AWARD 2019
DETACHMENT OF NEW YORK
For achieving and exceeding over 90% in membership renewals for the Sons of The American Legion in 2018-2019.
Your untiring efforts and dedication has brought great credit to your Detachment and the Sons of The American Legion.

Given this 24th day of August 2019 in the city of Indianapolis, Indiana.

National Commander
Anthony W. Wright
POW/MIA Vigil
Friday, September 21st - 6:30 PM
through Saturday, September 21st - 9:00 PM
Babylon Town Hall
200 East Main Street
Lindenhurst, NY 11757
Hosted by Babylon Supervisor Bob Febio
Legion Post 1634, Sgt. John Sardiello.

Legion Post 1634, Sgt. John Sardiello, participated at the Saint Anthony feast in West Babylon Long Island, distributing more Poppies and being of service to the Community.

Poppy distribution was the order of business recently being performed by members Joe Regina and Peter Wolk from Post 1634 Sgt. John Sardiello.

Congratulations to all Squadrons in the Detachment of New York, who received awards at the Detachment Convention in July in Buffalo (See Below). You are all the true definition of “Squadrons in Action”.

Share The Pride-Build the Pride

Convention Awards 2019-Buffalo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Americanism</th>
<th>Cayuga Co.</th>
<th>District 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 150 members:</td>
<td>Rensselaer Co.</td>
<td>District 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Place: Walter T. Conley Squadron #1107</td>
<td>Jefferson Co.</td>
<td>District 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place: Melvin Roads Squadron #1231</td>
<td>Saratoga Co.</td>
<td>District 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Place: Antwerp Squadron #916</td>
<td>Monroe Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 150 members:</td>
<td>Saratoga Co.</td>
<td>District 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place: Mohawk Squadron #1450</td>
<td>Monroe Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place: Cottrell-Warner Squadron #942</td>
<td>Monroe Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Place: Greece Squadron #468</td>
<td>Monroe Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children &amp; Youth</td>
<td>Broome Co.</td>
<td>District 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 150 members:</td>
<td>Kings Co.</td>
<td>District 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place: George F. Johnson Squadron #1700</td>
<td>Clinton Co.</td>
<td>District 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place: Windsor Terrace Squadron #1175</td>
<td>Monroe Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Place: Montgomery Squadron #912</td>
<td>Ontario Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 150 members:</td>
<td>Ontario Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place: Chili Squadron #1830</td>
<td>Monroe Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place: Seeley B. Parish Squadron #457</td>
<td>Monroe Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Place: Mohawk Squadron #1450</td>
<td>Saratoga Co.</td>
<td>District 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA &amp; R</td>
<td>Onondaga Co.</td>
<td>District 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 150 members:</td>
<td>Rensselaer Co.</td>
<td>District 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place: Oneida Squadron #196</td>
<td>Kings Co.</td>
<td>District 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place: Windsor Terrace Squadron #1175</td>
<td>Rensselaer Co.</td>
<td>District 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Place: Melvin Roads Squadron #1231</td>
<td>Oneida Co.</td>
<td>District 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 150 members:</td>
<td>Oneida Co.</td>
<td>District 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place: New Hartford Squadron #1376</td>
<td>Monroe Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place: Chili Squadron #1830</td>
<td>Ontario Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Place: Seeley B. Parish Squadron #457</td>
<td>Ontario Co.</td>
<td>District 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles B. Rigsby:</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Membership
Recruiter of the Year: NONE

Largest Squadron:
3rd Place: Charles E. Wescott Squadron #173
1st Place: James Harvey Spire Squadron #787
2nd Place: New Hartford Squadron #1376

Most new members:
3rd Place: Samuel L. Derby Squadron #556
2nd Place: Lowville Memorial Squadron #1827
1st Place: James Harvey Spire Squadron #787

Highest percent increase over prior year (Under 300):
3rd Place: Hugh-Lynch Squadron #737
2nd Place: Downtown Squadron #64
1st Place: Fred Eiler Squadron #1447

Highest percent increase over prior year (Over 300):
3rd Place: None
2nd Place: None
1st Place: James Harvey Spire Squadron #787