



Sons of the American Legion  
**Fifth District**  
Detachment of New York



Shawn M. Mills  
District Commander

Chris Burtch  
District Adjutant

October 29, 2020

After Mid-Winter Conference, I had one District meeting in February and 2 Oswego County meetings, before the Covid-19 pandemic occurred. All of my visitations, The National Commander's Visitation, and many other events were canceled.

During the pandemic, my post had a chicken barbeque (take out only) once a month. It was a good way to "keep us afloat". In August, the 5<sup>th</sup> District SAL and the 5<sup>th</sup> District Legion had organizational meetings at my post. Oswego County meetings started back up the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month, starting September 15<sup>th</sup>. I attended the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> District Membership workshop, on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. The Detachment Membership Chairman, Daryl Verstrate and The Leading Candidate for Detachment Commander for 2021-2022, David Lee were in attendance.

On Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, I held my first District meeting for this year, in Lewis County, at Lowville American Legion Post #162. Good attendance for the meeting. Detachment Commander Dennis George and Detachment Adjutant Ray Jarvis were in attendance. Very productive meeting.

I have attended one meeting for The National Commander's Visitation, out of two meetings. There are more meetings, to prepare for this big event. All information has been decided on.

On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, I attended The Department Commander's Visitation for the 5<sup>th</sup> District. The event was at The Stanwix Men's and Veteran's Club, in Rome. Cocktail hour was from 5:00-6:00 p.m. Program and dinner started at 6:00 p.m. Social distancing and masks were in affect for all of these functions.

I would like to personally thank Detachment Adjutant Ray Jarvis, for filling in as my Adjutant.

As a voting member of the DEC, I make a motion to accept my report.

For the good of the Sons of The American Legion,

Shawn M. Mills  
Fifth District SAL Commander

## District 7

September 20<sup>th</sup> was the first meeting of the Seventh District. The Commanders goals for the year were outlined including a goal of recruiting 50 new members this year along with 100% retention as well as a goal of 100% submission of the Consolidated Reports next spring. Another point was made was with this past year being so challenging, encouragement was made that all at the District and County levels to focus this coming year on rebuilding Membership and Bank Accounts at the local Squadrons, Posts and Units. Most have taken a huge hit since March and will need our undivided attention the next nine months.

For my Project this year, 7<sup>th</sup> District President Terri and I are partnering this year with the American Legion Auxiliary program under the Juniors called the Patch Program. It is designed for the Junior ALA AND the Young Sons. They earn patches like they might in Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, and the patches focus on American Legion Family programs like Americanism, Community Service, VA & R, etc. They may earn these patches individually or as a group. They do not have to have an active SAL or Junior ALA group, but just need a Senior SAL or Senior ALA member sign off. We thought this might be a way for both of us to promote gaining new young Sons and Jr ALA members. The patches are earned through June 1st. We are planning to have a ceremony at our Spring Conf/Convention or 7th District Homecoming to recognize all the patches earned by all our kids.

Membership is starting slow for us this year. It is our plan to reach out to our Squadrons and offer encouragement, assistance or help that they might need in hope for a positive year.

Respectively Submitted,

James  Daly

Commander  
Seventh District



Ronald Kuczenski  
8<sup>th</sup> District Commander  
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Good morning or afternoon as the case may be.

2020 will go down as a memorable year, unfortunately not in a positive sense. There has been tremendous amount of suffering, physically and mentally for our veterans, military personnel, our organization and the general public. We have had to learn how to find different methods to enable us to carry on our duties. We are all hoping that 2021 will see a return to a new normalcy.

#### Membership:

The last report I have for 2019/2020 membership listed the 8<sup>th</sup> District membership at 5077 members, 90.42% and 2nd place in Detachment. For the new membership year things are starting slow. The 8<sup>th</sup> District is at 450 members, 7.98% as of October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> place in the Detachment. I will be sending out my fall mailing letter. That has always caused a jump in membership.

#### Activities:

Since this spring with the onset of the Virus. Most activities were cancelled. I did participate in a Memorial service and firing squad visits to local cemeteries to honor our veterans no Memorial. On the first Sunday in October I traveled to Dunkirk Memorial Post 62 for a District meeting. Unfortunate most of my staff was unable to attend and we were unable to have an official meeting. I was at least able to obtain information for the Commanders' visitation luncheon in LeRoy at the next District meeting. Unfortunately due to the Virus the annual Wreath laying in Batavia had to be cancelled.

What additional activities I will be able to attend is dependent on the status of the Virus. I'm hoping for the release of a vaccine before years end to salvage 2021 but that is in doubt.

This concludes my report  
God Bless America and Our Troops

Respectfully submitted

**Ronald Kuczenski,**  
Commander 8<sup>th</sup> District

9<sup>th</sup> District Commanders Report  
Fall 2020

Commander Michael Jacobs

Membership numbers for the 9<sup>th</sup> District currently are at 28% so far and with some effort we are hoping to achieve the 35% the November goal. We have several squadrons that are doing a great job with renewals and yet there are many that will be following up with to get the dues in.

Across the District many of our squadrons are doing whatever they can to help their posts stay open during this time. Several of our squadrons are also helping if only in limited ways due to the restrictions with local efforts to assist not just our veterans but our local communities, too. Many of our posts have suffered losses of life due to COVID and we also lost a squadron commander in Rockland County.

Some squadrons are beginning to hold in-person meetings again as the restrictions have eased in our area, but it is still very difficult to accomplish as many of our post homes in the 9<sup>th</sup> are located in very small buildings where proper and compliant social distancing is very difficult at best. Many members are still reluctant to gather for a meeting at this point as well, and I understand their concerns. We will be working on holding an online District meeting in the very near future and I am hoping that we will have some much-needed participation even from squadrons we don't often hear from.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Jacobs, Commander

Detachment of New York, 9<sup>th</sup> District

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of New York Fall conference  
report via Zoom Nov 1st 2020

Joseph Hall

2nd District Commander

Good day fellows officers and members

I hope this report finds you all well during this terrible situation we are in with  
this pandemic

My area has been shut down since March 2020 so I do not have much to  
report due to most Post and our VA hospital are still closed or operating on  
CDC recommended guidelines.

I still continue to keep membership my #1 priority in my area I stay in touch  
with squadrons

Make all necessary phone calls when needed Hoping to see you all soon  
under better conditions

Joseph Hall

2nd District Commander

Fall DEC Report  
2020

The Squadrons of the Fabulous 4<sup>th</sup> District have been helping their Post in many ways to help make it through this Pandemic. We had a District Meeting back in August to close out last year. With the weather and the Pandemic, we only had 2 meetings for the year. We had our first meeting of year on October 10<sup>th</sup> in Amsterdam at Post 701. The plan will be to continue to support Post as we move forward.

For God and Country Herman Downer, Jr District

Commander

October 28,2020

Fall DEC Report for Districts 5&6 by State Detachment Vice Commander Wayne C. Ainslie, Dear Detachment Commander Dennis, and fellow SONS members,

The year of 2020 will be one that none of us will never forget and we will be talking about it for years to come.

I hope everyone weathered the storm and are doing ok at the time of this report. My thoughts and prayers go out to any Legion Family members who lost love ones to this terrible virus. Legions are slowly coming back to life around the Districts and it was great to see Dept Commander Mike, Dept President Linda, and our very own Detachment Commander Dennis a few weeks ago at the 6<sup>th</sup> District Visitation Lunching (or as they were calling it the 6<sup>TH</sup> District Leadership Workshop).

The 6<sup>th</sup> District held a meeting on Sept. 13,2020 at Post 443 in Elmira which I was able to attend Many things were discussed manly how we can help out our Legion Family but mostly how we can Help out our Veteran's in this year from #####. One way is if your Squadron has the funds to Donate To your local Veteran's Home and or any programs that benefit any and all Veteran's God knows They need it and will continue to need it until we are over this.

There is not much to talk about when it comes to the membership numbers for both the 6<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Districts I sure and I truly hope that their numbers will pick up as the Squadrons start to hold Meetings.

In closing I encourage all you SONS to step up to the so called plate any do all that you can do to Support your Post they are all suffering the most and unfortunately many of them will never Open there doors again which is very very sad because they all are a very important part of the City's and Town's around this State of our's.

God Bless The United States of America and God Bless The American Legion and the Legion Family. For God and Country,

Wayne C

Detachment of New York 1/9 Vice Commanders Report  
Fall 2020 Joseph Guidice, Jr.

Membership in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Districts has been a challenge for the new dues year. In looking at the reports, I see that even squadrons that are traditionally strong are struggling to get 2021 dues in, and many are still having difficulty with 2020 renewals. I am certain that much of this is due to simple lack of contact because of COVID restrictions. The combination of the National dues increase and the change of address for mailing in dues is also still a factor as many squadrons have told me that they sent their dues into the old Albany address. We also seem to be having a problem with the Officer Certification process. This summer and fall I received numerous phone calls about new membership cards. In most cases when I asked if an OCF was sent in, and to what address it was sent in to, I got the wrong answers. Another issue is incomplete information on the OCF. We as vice commanders and district officers cannot help but be frustrated when trying to contact squadron officers and find that we have incomplete information on file. I have some ideas on how to address this issue that I will share with the Commander, Adjutant, and the respective committee chairs at a later time.

While our entire state and the Detachment have been hit hard by the pandemic, I am sad to say that nowhere has been hit harder than the downstate regions. Districts 1 & 9 which comprises the lower Hudson Valley and parts of NYC and of course 2 & 10 which make up the remainder of NYC and Long Island have been devastated by this pandemic and many of us have lost family members, close friends and neighbors. The economic damage to our areas has been disastrous. Through all of this, the Legion Family has done its best to stay strong and help provide for its members and its communities. I know that many of our squadrons in 1 & 9 are out there doing everything they can despite the conditions to stay on our mission. I am proud to be a part of that.

In closing, I would like to also mention that our much-anticipated convention that was scheduled for this summer in Westchester County has been moved and Westchester will host the convention in a couple years. While I'm sure that everyone in the area is disappointed we look forward to welcoming everyone at the later date.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Guidice,  
Jr. Vice  
Commander (1/9)  
Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of New York



Detachment of New York Sons of the American Legion  
Report from Peter J.DeAngelis Vice Commander of Districts 2 & 10 Presubmitted on  
10/27/2020

Hello to all

I hope everyone is do well during this pandemic. I know most squadrons in the North country and western New York as well as Central New York have almost gone back to regular life, having meetings and cookouts and doing fundraisers. But here in New York City we are still under strict CDC guidelines which means most of our posts have been closed since March. So without having a post to do our fundraising it has been tough to raise money. But we continue to call each other to make sure we are OK and if we need anything, Our vets always come first.

I continue to monitor our membership progress and will make phone calls and help out where needed. The 2021 year has started and I see dues transmittals have already started coming in across my area and I'm sure the good work will continue. In Kings county we've already started our toys for tots campaign. Collection boxes will be placed where we can.

Unfortunately we will be unable to have our grand finale Toys for Tots party this year that was scheduled for Saturday December 12. We will only be having a social distance collection that day by our Marines in Brooklyn stationed at Floyd Bennett Field. As some of you have already noticed I have moved to Sullivan County New York permanently but will continue to stay a member of my squadron 1636. I will continue to be the adjutant and membership chairman. We are planning our first meeting since the pandemic started. It will be on Thursday November 19th following a legionnaires meeting. In closing I just want to express how much I miss my Sons of the American Legion family and hoping to see you all soon

Peter DeAngelis  
Vice Commander 2 & 10



Son's Of the  
American Legion  
10th District

Proudly serving Queens,  
Nassau and Suffolk counties!

## 10TH DISTRICT REPORT

01.27.19

Joseph Belanger 10th  
District Commander

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I am pleased to say there was a lot of growth in our ranks this year and some losses as we all know too well. Unfortunately the virus has caused us all to have membership issues. Lots of posts are used to giving out cards in person. Sometimes that is their only way they have to reach a person

I will suggest that our members take advantage of paying dues online!

I would like to acknowledge Joseph Kovarik with a 119.05% goal. They have a total of 24 new members. Admits the crazy there is some good to be said thankfully!

As for membership we will reach out as best as we can. Hopefully we can get a district meeting on zoom soon.

A few of my executives and myself attended legionnaires district meetings. We are hoping through further cooperation we can together keep the amazing growth we have seen.

[Sonsofthelegionli.com](http://Sonsofthelegionli.com)

Lastly we have had our district website up and running for two months now with amazing success in its early stages. Users can login, submit events and or articles to be viewed district wide. All information submitted automatically gets posted on all our social media outlets but also sends out a generated monthly newsletter. This website is scalable and duplicatable. If anyone would like help setting up a site for themselves feel free to contact me and we can get things rolling. Email [Sal10thdistrict@gmail.com](mailto:Sal10thdistrict@gmail.com)