



Round-Up

The Membership Newsletter of
Sons of The American Legion
Central Region

Volume 1 – Issue 3 – November 24, 2019

RENEW!



RENEW!

RENEW!

National Target Date
December 11, 2019
45%

Membership Update

Gentlemen,

I want to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving. Please take time to give thanks for our blessings, our family & friends, our Veterans, and our GREAT NATION.

As we look at our membership report, we can see growth and an increase in numbers. We should not be satisfied. We should want to get as many members renewed as possible as we continue to recruit new members.

As we all know, our next target date is 45% on December 11. Should we be satisfied with this date? Should we “hope” that we reach that goal? To me, the answer is NO! We should be hitting numbers in the 60s and 70s. Let’s not just settle for the National Target Dates in the Central Region.

Let’s be leaders. Let’s throw out the National Target Dates and set our own. **Let’s hit 60% by New Year’s Eve.** This is a huge challenge and will change the way we operate at the Detachment, District, County, and Squadron level, but I know we can do it. All we need to do is pick up the phone, go visit, let our members that we are collecting dues at the Post Canteen, at functions and events, reminding them of how important they are to the organization. We must recognize them, remember them, and include everyone in our Squadrons.

continued page 2

Detachment Standings AS OF NOVEMBER 22

DET	GOAL	ACTUAL	%
WI	3,477	2,202	58.814%
IA	4,375	2,204	50.377%
IL	14,546	7,038	48.384%
MN	11,748	5,059	43.063%
OH	31,133	11,667	37.475%
IN	39,364	14,024	35.626%
MI	24,083	6,481	26.611%
MO	3,705	996	26.883%
TOTALS	132,698	49,671	37.432%

National Standings AS OF NOVEMBER 22

REGION	GOAL	ACTUAL	%
Southern	42,763	18,279	42.745%
Midwest	30,366	11,985	39.468%
Western	26,395	9,870	37.393%
Central	132,698	49,671	37.432%
Eastern	146,273	36,146	23.893%
TOTALS	378,495	125,951	33.277%

Sound crazy? Sure does. They will say that no region can reach 60% that fast. I disagree. There's only one way to find out. To challenge ourselves. To get out there and pound the pavement. To get dues submitted immediately, whether through the mail or on MySAL. It will take a little more work, but I know we can do it. It will also mean that we need to get rid of all the zeros across the region. Personally, contact your Squadrons who have no members paid and ask them why. If they need help, provide it. If they have questions, answer them. If you need assistance, please ask, as we are ALL here to help!

Ever think of paying a family member's dues for them as a gift? It is that time of year.

Finally, I must congratulate the Detachments of Wisconsin (58.814%), Iowa (50.377%) and Illinois (48.384%) for surpassing the December 11 Target Date of 45%. Keep up the AWESOME work!!!

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,



Jeff Vrabel, Sr.
Sons of The American Legion
National Membership Committee
Central Region
jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com



Commander Bolt's Goals

Please remember as you travel and promote the Sons of The American Legion to promote National Commander Clint Bolt's goals for Membership and all Legion Charities.

- 🌟 RECRUIT, RETAIN, AND REINSTATE to reach 400,000 members
- 🌟 Renewal rate above 95%
- 🌟 Obtain 105% in membership by National Convention in Louisville, KY
- 🌟 Recognize our achievements
- 🌟 Child Welfare Foundation \$500,000
- 🌟 National Emergency Fund \$100,000
- 🌟 Soldiers Wish \$100,000
- 🌟 Legacy Scholarship \$100,000
- 🌟 Veterans & Children's Fund \$100,000
- 🌟 Operation Comfort Warriors \$100,000

Important Links

[National Membership Report](#)

[National Membership Target Dates](#)

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

[Blue Brigade Award](#)

[Blue Brigade Fifth Consecutive Year Award](#)

[MYSAL](#)

[Vice-Commander Pfeiffer](#)



#SALSTRONG

**NATIONAL TARGET DATE
December 11, 2019
45%**



Gents,

Over the past year, I have been trying to understand why the SAL membership goal is so hard to track, and it remains to be a moving target. Because of the way SAL membership has been done in the past, I received numerous complaints from adjutants who process and post membership in their departments. Membership goals like a budget should be set the year previous. The goal should be fair, show growth, and be attainable. The goal should not shift from week to week. The membership Chairman and I have discussed this at length and devised what we think is workable and attainable based on the consistent growth the SAL has had over the last 21 years.

The membership report emailed out today (11/22/19) will list what your detachment's goal is for the year; it will not shift or change. It will be up to the detachments to divvy it up and pass goals down to the squadrons if they so choose.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

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

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____ Date _____

Name _____ (First) _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) Recruited by _____ (Initial) _____ (Last)

Address _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

E-mail Address _____ Telephone _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No _____, Dept. of _____

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


(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.

Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant)

00-001 (2013)



RECEIPT

Date _____

Received of _____

For God and Country _____

\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in

Squadron _____, Detachment of _____

By _____

NALMA members,

As promised in our previous communication, we will inform you of information as we receive confirmed information. Communicating unconfirmed information causes confusion, distrust, and only leads to more discord.



During the first week of November, National Judge Advocate Kevin Bartlett informally conveyed to some members of NALMA and former members of NALPA that “neither press association is going to be authorized” to use The American Legion trademarked name; and instead, “encourage states to have their own association.” In addition, the national judge advocate was informed by the Media and Communications division that it will handle the processing of media passes, provide training, and ‘reconfigure, reformat and streamline’ the awards contest to make it better. He also mentioned that from “the standpoint of the national organization as a whole, there was no intention of having, in this building or anywhere to have any type of association.”

So as of November 14, 2019, via certified official letter sent via USPS addressed to National American Legion Media Association, Inc. (NALMA) dated November 6, 2019 from the office of National Adjutant Daniel Wheeler of The American Legion states that it is invoking its right to rescind the trademark license agreement signed back on July 7, 2019. The media association has 90 days to cease operations using The American Legion trademarked name and is required to dissolve the incorporation with the Secretary of State of Indiana. NALMA, Inc. is complying with this directive.

What this means to you as a member of NALMA: The media card that you received in the last few months with NALMA on it, beginning in August is **VOID**. With the closure of NALMA, Inc., your card is **no longer valid** since it will not be associated with the existing incorporated organization that issued it in Indiana. National American Legion Media Association, Inc. will be closed.

Any member who joined National American Legion Media Association, Inc. via [The American Legion's NALMA online portal \(www.legion.org/nalma\)](http://www.legion.org/nalma) since August 23, 2019 can direct any and all questions, inquiries, refunds,

etc. to Deputy Director of Media & Communications of The American Legion, [Henry Howard](mailto:hhoward@legion.org) at: hhoward@legion.org.

The funds you paid to National American Legion Media Association, Inc. for your membership dues collected through the online gateway were never transferred into NALMA Inc.'s bank account, the legal recipient of those funds. Those members received their new NALMA membership card and any ancillary items that were ordered from NALMA, Inc. NALMA, Inc., however, **did not** get the monies you paid for your membership card and or accessories. National headquarters has your monies and has yet to release it after repeated attempts to their finance division to transfer the money to NALMA, Inc.

For those who **paid by cash or check only** prior to, during, and immediately after the 101st national American Legion convention in Indianapolis, you can contact Executive Director Stephen Shuga at: ed19nalma@gmail.com to request your membership refund only. Any ancillary items and postage, if paid, are nonrefundable. Your membership refund check will be sent directly to you and once received, please cash it or deposit it immediately.

Please email your refund request **no later than December 15, 2019** along with a current mailing address. Due to the upcoming holidays, US postal services will be busy and may take longer to deliver your mail. Please submit your requests early to ensure there is sufficient time for mail to be received, your check deposited, and cleared through the banks. The NALMA, Inc. bank account for your check to clear will be **CLOSED on January 15, 2020**.

The **NALMA, Inc. PO Box 720158 is closed**. Any mail sent there will be “Return to Sender” by the US Post office. As we rapidly begin the dissolution process, we will keep you informed as often and as best as we can. Thank you for your patience these past few months.

Warm regards,

Stephen Shuga
Executive Director, NALMA, Inc.



Mandatory Changes to SAL Preamble and SAL Constitution

November 19, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO:

National Sons of the American Legion Commander,
Clint Bolt
National Sons of the American Legion Adjutant,
Anthony Wright
Internal Affairs SAL Sub-committee Chairman,
George West
National Sons of the American Legion Officers

FROM:

Robert E. Newman, Chairman, Internal Affairs
Commission

SUBJECT:

Mandatory Changes to SAL Preamble and SAL
Constitution

The National Adjutant and the National Judge Advocate has directed National Headquarters staff and program directors to immediately screen, edit, and update all publications that are impacted by the Legion Act and the change to the American Legion Preamble. The staff is on a tight timeline to meet the printing deadline for the 2020 distribution, these changes have to take place immediately. Ken George, The Sons of The American Legion Liaison on the national staff, is charged to review the Sons of The American program publications and make the appropriate changes to the Sons of the American Legion Preamble and membership eligibility criteria in all publications.

This year 2019, marked some remarkable changes to The American Legion and, as a result, have a direct impact on the Sons of The American Legion. At The American Legion Fall Meetings October 16-17, 2019, Resolution 1 was submitted, reviewed, and approved by the Internal Affairs Commission and the National Executive Committee. Upon the approval of Resolution 1, it authorized the changing of the 5th sentence of The American Legion's Preamble; *"To preserve the memories and incidences of our associations in the Great Wars."* *"The Great Wars" has been stricken from the Preamble, and it now reads "To preserve the memories and incidences of our associations in all wars."* The SAL preamble has *"The Great Wars"* in the first and fourth sentences. The first sentence, *"Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of the Great Wars,"* and the fourth sentence: *"to preserve the memories of our former*

members and the associations of our forefathers in the Great Wars." In both sentences, *"The Great Wars"* must be removed and replaced with *"All Wars."*

Additional changes made this year was the expansion of membership eligibility from the "LEGION Act" that was passed by the 116th Congress. Instead of eight periods of membership eligibility, there are now only two. Those periods are, World War I April 6, 1917- November 11, 1918, and December 7, 1941, to date. For The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion, this greatly expands the membership eligibility potential and also requires the Son's membership application to be changed. Currently it states: *"All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I, World War II, and Korean War, the Vietnam War, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, and the Persian Gulf War, during the delimiting periods set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion."* The new verbiage should be as follows: *"All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I, and December 7, 1941, to date, as set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion."*

I am asking the Sons of the American Legion to also publish these changes to all detachments so these changes get to the membership as soon as possible so we are in compliance with the direction of the National Organization.

If you so choose as a matter of general housekeeping of the SAL constitution and bylaws, you can put forth resolutions at the 2020 Spring Meetings for historical purposes. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ken George at 317-630-1376 or kgeorge@legion.org.



Robert E. Newman, Chairman
Internal Affairs Commission