



# Round-Up



The Newsletter of Sons of The American Legion Central Region

Volume 2 – Issue 61 – December 27, 2020

# Thank You!

Gentlemen,

Congratulations Central Region for your accomplishments during this crazy 2020. You stepped up and did everything possible to **Recruit, Retain, and Reinstate** members. You raised funds to assist The American Legion Family. You met virtually to continue the work of Sons of The American Legion. Your hard work shows your dedication to our organization and our veterans. Please carry your spirit of **“Serving those who served..full steam ahead”** into 2021. Thank you for all you do!

Since we’re talking about 2021, have you made any SAL New Year’s Resolutions? What will you do to continue what you started?

For me, I want to do a better job in helping renew members. This is a key to growing our organization. If we don’t work hard on renewals, we won’t grow. Let’s all try to do this in 2021.

I also want to be a better recruiter. Our organization always needs to have new perspectives, new ideas, new ways of accomplishing our goals. BY recruiting new members, paired with our enhanced renewal efforts, we will grow, have fresh ideas, and help shape the future leaders of our organization.

So, what are your 2021 SAL New Year’s Resolutions? Will you make any? **Who’s next?**

While were thinking about 2021, I would like to ask every Squadron that is not doing so to take a look at using [MySAL](#). This tool is a perfect way to help change our membership culture. MySAL info can be found by clicking [here](#).

For years, members asked for a way to make transmittals easier. Members wanted things to be easier. They asked for the National organization to

do this, and it did. Now it is our obligation to at least give it a try and see its functionality and ease of use. Once you look, you will be convinced that it is the way to go. **Who’s next?**

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas filled with family, love, and made memories to last a lifetime. Please enjoy this week as we prepare for 2021. Have a very safe and Happy New Year’s Eve and enjoy the beginning of the New Year!

Please let me or NVC Doc Pfeiffer know if you need help with something, and we will do what we can.

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,



#SALSTRONG

**Jeff Vrabel, Sr.**  
Central Region Chairman  
Sons of The American Legion  
National Membership Committee  
[jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com](mailto:jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com)

**Serving Those Who Served...  
Full Steam Ahead**



Gentlemen,



I am wishing everyone a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Please do not forget those less fortunate or in need this Holiday season and above all remember all of our troops that are deployed and not able to be with their loved

ones.

*Richard "Doc" Pfeiffer,  
National Vice-Commander Central*

***Serving Those Who Served...  
Full Steam Ahead***

***Proud Possessors  
of a Priceless Heritage***

**2021  
National Target Date  
January 21, 2021**

**60%**



## **Central Region Conference Call**

Third Thursday of each month  
7:30 p.m. Eastern Time  
Call In # (774) 220-4000  
Access Code 04423

<b>Sons of The American Legion Membership Application</b>	
Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____ Date _____	
Name _____ Recruited by _____ <small>(First) (Initial) (Last) (Initial) (Last)</small>	
Address _____ <small>(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)</small>	
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 _____	
Eligibility certified by _____	
<small>(Post Adjutant) 00-001 (2013)</small>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RECEIPT</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Date _____ Received of _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>For God and Country</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Squadron _____ Detachment of _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">By _____</p>	

## 2021 Membership Report

2020 - 2021 MEMBERSHIP				12/21/20
Region	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent
Southern	42,775	25,235	17,540	58.99%
Midwest	30,377	15,716	14,661	51.74%
Central	132,706	66,791	65,915	50.33%
Western	26,405	12,853	13,552	48.68%
Eastern	146,287	63,900	82,387	43.68%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>378,550</b>	<b>184,495</b>	<b>194,055</b>	<b>48.74%</b>

Membership ahead/behind prior year date (6,340)

Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent
1 Wisconsin * ^ ~ ? !	3,745	2,589	1,156	69.13%
2 Iowa * ^ ~ ? !	4,376	2,871	1,505	65.61%
3 Illinois * ^ ~ ?	14,547	8,085	6,462	55.58%
6 Minnesota ^ ~ ?	11,749	6,374	5,375	54.25%
5 Ohio ~ ?	31,134	15,985	15,149	51.34%
4 Indiana * ^ ~ ?	39,365	19,450	19,915	49.41%
7 Missouri	3,706	1,547	2,159	41.74%
8 Michigan	24,084	9,917	14,167	41.18%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>132,706</b>	<b>66,818</b>	<b>65,888</b>	<b>50.35%</b>

Q = Quota

\* Met 09/10/20 goal of 10% # Met 02/10/21 goal of 75%

^ Met 10/15/20 goal of 25% % Met 03/10/21 goal of 80%

~ Met 11/12/20 goal of 35% \$ Met 04/14/21 goal of 90%

? Met 12/09/20 goal of 45% ( Met 05/12/21 goal of 100%

! Met 01/21/21 goal of 60% ) Met 07/28/21 goal of 105%

Red Division				
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent of Region
Iowa	4,376	2,871	1,505	4.30%
Wisconsin	3,745	2,589	1,156	3.87%
Missouri	3,706	1,547	2,159	2.32%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11,827</b>	<b>7,007</b>	<b>4,820</b>	<b>10.49%</b>

White Division				
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent of Region
Illinois	14,547	8,085	6,462	12.10%
Minnesota	11,749	6,374	5,375	9.54%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>26,296</b>	<b>14,459</b>	<b>11,837</b>	<b>21.64%</b>

Blue Division				
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent of Region
Indiana	39,365	19,450	19,915	29.11%
Ohio	31,134	15,985	15,176	23.88%
Michigan	24,084	9,917	14,167	14.84%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>94,583</b>	<b>45,325</b>	<b>49,258</b>	<b>67.83%</b>

COVER PHOTO:  
Christmas wreath  
[www.christmasforest.com](http://www.christmasforest.com)

## 2021 Renewal Report

2020-2021 RENEWALS			12/21/20
Region	2020 Total	2021 Renewed	Renewal Percentage
Southern	43,172	21,830	50.57%
Midwest	28,701	13,740	47.87%
Central	127,010	59,961	47.21%
Western	25,852	11,096	42.92%
Eastern	138,361	57,867	41.82%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>363,096</b>	<b>164,494</b>	<b>45.30%</b>

Detachment	2020 Total	2021 Renewed	Renewal Percentage
1 Iowa	4,642	2,698	58.12%
2 Wisconsin	3,974	2,325	58.51%
3 Illinois	14,509	7,678	52.92%
4 Minnesota	11,094	5,994	54.03%
5 Ohio	29,817	14,152	47.46%
6 Indiana	36,522	17,103	46.83%
7 Missouri	3,175	1,445	45.51%
8 Michigan	23,277	8,566	36.80%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>127,010</b>	<b>59,961</b>	<b>47.21%</b>

Red Division			
Detachment	2020 Total	2021 Renewed	Percent of Region
Iowa	4,642	2,698	4.50%
Wisconsin	3,974	2,325	3.88%
Missouri	3,175	1,445	2.41%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11,791</b>	<b>6,468</b>	<b>10.79%</b>

White Division			
Detachment	2020 Total	2021 Renewed	Percent of Region
Illinois	14,509	7,678	12.80%
Minnesota	11,094	5,994	10.00%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>25,603</b>	<b>13,672</b>	<b>22.80%</b>

Blue Division			
Detachment	2020 Total	2021 Renewed	Percent of Region
Indiana	36,522	17,103	28.52%
Ohio	29,817	14,512	24.20%
Michigan	23,277	8,566	14.29%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>89,616</b>	<b>40,181</b>	<b>67.01%</b>

## WASHINGTON CONFERENCE GOES VIRTUAL

SENT ON BEHALF OF THE SONS OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
NATIONAL ADJUTANT  
ANTHONY WRIGHT

Below is a message sent to all Legionnaires from The American Legion National Adjutant Daniel S. Wheeler regarding the 2021 Washington DC conference. This memo will also include the Sons of The American Legion. Due to COVID 19 restrictions and our members' safety, DC SAL activities are canceled, and any involvement will be minimal. Information will be forwarded as it is confirmed. If you have any questions, please direct them to National SAL Liaison Ken George.

To: All Legion Leadership  
From: National Adjutant Dan Wheeler

The National Commander has decided that a virtual 2021 Washington Conference will be held.

- The Finance, Legislative, National Security, VA&R, and VE&E Commissions will conduct business via Zoom on either February 28, March 1, or March 2, depending on each chairman's availability. These virtual meetings are now being planned, and additional information will be shared with commission members as it becomes available.
- In the first week of March, a virtual "Know Before You Go" session will be conducted. We will request proposed invitee data from department adjutants, the American Legion Auxiliary, and the SAL.
- Each department will let us know who they have designated to virtually "Storm the Hill." This will be conducted by email, phone, and any other appropriate communication.
- We have requested March 4 as the date of the National Commander's testimony, but that has not been confirmed. Most likely, the National Commander and chairmen of the "Washington DC" commissions will be assembled in DC, either on The Hill or virtually in our DC office. The Auxiliary National President and the Sons National Commander will be invited to attend in person. This will be a closed event; no audience members will be al-

lowed. However, the testimony will be live-streamed, and each department will receive notification of how to access that when it is finalized.

This is all we know for now -- we will send more information as it becomes available. Thank you.

*By Direction,*

*Ken A. George*

Member Engagement Coordinator  
National SAL & ALR Liaison  
NALC Alumni – Class of 2016  
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Fax (317) 655.1509  
Email [kgeorge@legion.org](mailto:kgeorge@legion.org)  
*Veterans Strengthening America*

### National Commander Clint Bolt's 2020-2021 Goals

*Please remember as you travel and promote the Sons of The American Legion and 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 Phoenix, AZ*
- *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*

***Serving Those Who Served...  
Full Steam Ahead***



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## Americanism Commission Conference Call

First Thursday bi-monthly  
January, March, May, July  
8:00 p.m. Eastern Time  
Call In # (515) 606-5134  
Access Code: 451074

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## Child Welfare Foundation Committee Call

Third Wednesday of each month  
8:00 p.m.  
Call in # (605) 472-5332  
Access Code: 808417

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## Legislative Commission Call

First Thursday bi-monthly  
February, April, June, 7 August  
7:00 p.m.  
Call in # (712) 775-7031  
Access Code: 988284103

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## Membership Committee Conference Call

Third Tuesday of each month  
6:00 p.m. Mountain time  
Call in # (515) 604-9644  
Access Code: 889133

<http://join.freeconferencecall.com/jrnavarr>

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## Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Conference Call

Fourth Monday of each month  
7:00 p.m. Central Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/6354565336?pwd=aEJLdDB5RFFJSVZRY3pCYXg5Zm9zUT09>

Meeting ID: 635 456 5336  
Passcode: 596328

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## Veterans Employment & Education Commission Conference Call

Third Wednesday of each month  
8:00 p.m. Eastern time  
Call In # (605) 313-4111  
Access Code: 893821

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*Merry  
Christmas*  
& **HAPPY NEW YEAR**



## IN Sq. 42 drive benefits families

SAL Squadron 42 in Floyd's Knobs, Indiana (8<sup>th</sup> District) collected food, gifts, and money for 40 families. Also 16 gift certificates for 16 Veterans at Liberty Place Veterans Facility.

Squadron 42 this every year and it just keeps getting bigger and better.



## 2020 Detachment Membership Standings as of Dec. 21, 2020

DET	GOAL	ACTUAL	%
IA Q1 🏆	4,375	4,642	106.103
WI Q2	3,744	3,977	106.413
IL	14,546	14,509	99.746
MI	24,083	23,277	96.653
OH	31,133	29,817	95.773
MN	11,748	11,094	94.433
IN	39,364	36,522	92.780
MO	3,705	3,175	85.695
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>132,698</b>	<b>127,010</b>	<b>95.714</b>

Q = QUOTA – CONGRATULATIONS!!!

🏆 = All Time High

## 2020 National Membership Standings as of Dec. 21, 2020

REGION	GOAL	ACTUAL	%
Southern Q	42,763	43,172	100.956
Western	26,395	25,852	97.943
Central	132,698	127,010	95.714
Midwest	30,366	28,701	94.517
Eastern	146,273	138,361	94.591
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>378,495</b>	<b>363,096</b>	<b>95.932</b>

Q = QUOTA – CONGRATULATIONS!!!

-12,349 ahead of last year

## 2020 Detachment Renewal Rates as of Dec. 21, 2020

DET	2019	RENEWED	%
IA	4,452	4,133	92.83
IL	14,431	13,348	92.50
OH	30,456	27,532	90.40
WI	3,945	3,512	89.02
MN	11,565	10,210	88.28
MI	24,126	21,179	87.78
IN	38,876	33,257	85.55
MO	3,485	2,873	82.44
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>131,336</b>	<b>116,044</b>	<b>88.36</b>

## 2020 National Renewal Rates as of Dec. 21, 2020

REGION	2019	RENEWED	%
Central	131,336	116,044	88.36
Eastern	144,870	127,030	87.69
Southern	42,877	36,863	85.97
Midwest	29,926	25,288	84.50
Western	26,531	21,640	81.56
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>375,540</b>	<b>326,865</b>	<b>87.04</b>



Dear American Legion Family Members  
and Friends,

This is a holiday season like none other. The COVID-19 pandemic has taken more than 320,000 Americans from their loved ones and sickened 18 million more. It has interrupted our daily lives and foisted social-distancing regulations upon us in order to stop the spread from worsening. These important measures have often led to isolation and loneliness for veterans and their families.

Yet, there is hope.

Vaccines are now being administered. While it will take most of 2021 to inoculate the majority of Americans, this scientific advancement has immense potential.

And, of course, the celebrations of Christmas, Hanukkah and the new year stir feelings of hope, rebirth, and joy. After a tumultuous 2020, we could all use a fresh start.

Personally, I have found hope on a daily basis as I have read and heard about how American Legion posts are going above and beyond to serve their communities this year. There are countless stories about how posts are providing food to community members in need, performing Buddy Checks to connect with at-risk veterans, organizing safe blood donation drives, celebrating milestones in veterans' lives and so much more.

Don't forget that at this time of the year depression sinks in for many, including veterans who find themselves alone. With the pandemic limiting travel and visitation at this time of celebration, there will likely be many more veterans who are isolated at the holidays. This is an excellent opportunity for American Legion members to reach out and [perform Buddy Checks](#) with these veterans. A simple phone call will go a long way in brightening a veteran's day. [A helpful Buddy Check kit can be downloaded here.](#)

Perhaps emboldened by the season of giving, American Legion members are continuing to serve their communities. I've noticed [a steady flow of ter-](#)

[rific examples](#) that continued this past weekend, including:

- In Albany, Ore., [members of Post 10](#) stood in the rain for three hours handing out Christmas presents to 1,350 children under the age of 12.
- In Somerville, N.J., [American Legion Post 12 helped place 1,500 wreaths](#) on veterans' gravesites as part of Wreaths Across America day on Dec. 19.
- Other posts also participated, including Post 278 in the Department of Maryland, [where Nikki Randolph and other members delivered the "ultimate honor."](#)
- In the mountains of Arizona, American Legion Post 86 in Heber-Overgaard conducted its [annual remembrance event](#).
- And across the nation, [American Legion Family members joined in the commemoration](#).

I'd encourage you to share how your post is serving your community during the holidays, or as we continue to fight COVID-19. [Visit legiontown.org](#) to share these wonderful stories.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your selfless service that improves the lives of veterans, children, their families, and the communities in which they live.

In this unique time in our lives, I wish you and your loved ones good health, a very Merry Christmas, a belated Happy Hanukkah, and a bright New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James W. 'Bill' Oxford".

Bill Oxford,  
American Legion National Commander



**VETERANS**  
**STRENGTHENING AMERICA**

# Merry Christmas!



We put together our own spin on the 12 Days of Christmas this year with the 12 Days of Christmas, MN American Legion Style. We hope you enjoy it! Simply [click here](#) or the button below to read some of our favorite MN American Legion stories from 2020.

If you have questions about the MN American Legion or would like to explore joining/re-joining, please [click here!](#)

Merry Christmas!

**[12 Days of Christmas MN American Legion Style](#)**