

# BLUE CAP NEWS



Sons of The American Legion — Detachment of Arizona

Volume 9, Issue 3 — June / July 2018

## From the Commander... Greetings Sons!!!

WOW! I am so damn PROUD of our Detachment. Membership is our lifeline to stay afloat. It is what makes our programs great, keeps our squadrons alive and provides for our charities that we support. Without Membership, we would not exist.

With this year's memberships, our SONS did GREAT! Your tireless efforts and due-diligence have paid off! I commend all of you for a job well done!

Convention is coming! It sure would

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**Sons of  
The  
American  
Legion**

**Detachment of Arizona**

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Phoenix, AZ. 85015-3799

Phone: 480•239•2844

E-mail: [saladjutant@azlegion.org](mailto:saladjutant@azlegion.org)

National Website: [www.sal.legion.org](http://www.sal.legion.org)

Website: [www.AZsal.org](http://www.AZsal.org)

be great to see YOU at this year's convention which is being held at a brand-new resort, The Wild Horse Resort in Phoenix. A representative from your squadron will be given your new membership cards at this year's convention, but only after they have handed in a copy of your Squadron Officers Report Form, a copy of your Consolidated Squadron Report and a copy of your squadron's updated By-Laws. Also, if you have a squadron flag, bring it and post it proudly in the meeting room along with the other squadron flags.

At the beginning of the year, I announced my Commanders Project for the year as the Arizona Fisher House (TUCSON). This was a 2-part project, #1 to make the Arizona Fisher House our priority local charity and create a simplified process for squadron donations, making sure that our donated funds are channeled and utilized here in Arizona. #2 to design and construct a "Reflection Fountain-Pool" in the court yard of the house to allow those families of veterans using the house, to have a place of tranquility to sit and reflect.

With YOUR help, we have accomplished part 1 with the creation of CHAMP Foundation (Charities Helping American Military Patriots),

and legal non-profit organization that is registered with the state of Arizona Corporate Commission. Thanks to YOU, CHAMP is working very well for the Arizona Fisher House. A detailed report from CHAMP will be given at this year's convention in June.



**Matthew Griffis**

Part 2, the "Reflection Fountain-Pool" is currently in the planning stages. A contractor, who happens to be a proud member of Squadron 52 in Sierra Vista, will be submitting blue prints for approval by the VA Hospital Administration. Once the design and concept are approved, the project will begin, hopefully have completion by the end of August 2018. We will need to raise money for this project, approximately \$8000.00. This project will reflect our appreciation to those that have served and will honor our "PROUD POSSESSORS OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE".

In closing, I am honored and proud to be a part of our great organization and thank each of you for this opportunity to have been your Detachment Commander.

**For God and Country...let's do this!**

**Matthew Griffis, Detachment Commander**  
**SALazCMDR@gmail.com or 520•289•5113**

## Another animal story from brother Jim...

Greetings again fellow Sons. As your Chaplain I should maintain a position of neutrality and political correctness. It occurred to me that in a past edition I relayed a story about elephants – the symbol used by the Republican Party. To eliminate the possibility that such reference is seen as favoritism, this edition contains a story about a donkey – the symbol used by the Democratic Party.

**With that being said, a life lesson or two is buried within this commonsense wisdom for each of us.....just saying!!!!!!**

### SMART ASS

One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally, he decided the animal was old, and the well needed to be covered up anyway; it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey.

He invited all his neighbors to come over and help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone's amazement he quieted down.



A few shovelfuls later, the farmer finally looked down the well. He was astonished at what he saw. With each shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up. As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and happily trotted off!

Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well is to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is a steppingstone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping, never giving up! **Shake it off and take a step up.**

**Remember the five simple rules to be happy:**

**Free your heart from hatred - Forgive.**

**Free your mind from worries - Most never happen.**

**Live simply and appreciate what you have.**

**Give more.**

**Expect less.**

NOW...Enough of that...The donkey later came back and bit the farmer who had tried to bury him. The gash from the bite got infected and the farmer eventually died in agony from septic shock.

**MORAL FROM TODAY'S LESSON:**

*"When you do something wrong, and try to cover your ass, it always comes back to bite you."*



## Area B message...

As our day's have come and gone throughout the year we have been through a few times that slow us down.

The time has come for us to come together and take care of our family.

The American Legion is an Organization that we all belong and believe in.



Tom Lucas

Our Membership is very important in keeping this legacy working. Please get your membership in on time. We have a lot of Squadrons with great numbers and a few that aren't doing so well.

Please reach out to our officers so that we may help you. We are here to serve you as a member.

We are at almost 100% but we need help to make this happen. Please reach out and get our numbers up. I know you can do this.

**For God and Country,  
Thomas W. Lucas II  
Detachment Vice Commander, Area B  
602-538-6523 or by email: tttbucket@msn.com**

## Tomorrows calendar is disappearing into the past...FAST!

Hello Sons,

Here it is, the final article for this administration. This month's article will be brief because you have all done such an outstanding job this year. You have inspired others, donated generously with your time and with your wallets. And then there's membership...

I am struggling to find the words (*all of you know how seldom THAT happens!*) to express my sincerest gratitude and the feeling of awe that I have for each and every one of you! WOW! Commander Griffis, all 3 Vice Commanders, and myself have encouraged you to get your membership turned in. And have you ever!!

As I write this, **we are in 8th place in the Nation, FIRST place in the Western Region**, and only a couple of hundred members away from 100%! I cannot remember a time when we have gone so far, so early! Everyone at the Squadron level deserves a tip of the hat for stepping up their game and processing the transmittals in a timely manner. Great job! I am again bursting with pride to be a member of this Detachment. Every time I think you've gone as far as you can, you prove me wrong and go even further. Thank you, and keep up what you're doing! Don't forget, with membership the year doesn't end at convention. We will continue to accept members for this year until December 31, 2018.

In closing, I want to again express my heartfelt gratitude for the commitment and work you have put forth this year. I am humbled by your efforts and consider myself lucky to be a part of your membership team. Whoever your membership chairman is next year, whether it's me or someone else, is in for quite a ride. You guys can do anything you set your mind to. I personally think you should be looking to hit the magic 10,000 member mark. You know you can do it, I know you can do it, we just need to prove to the rest of the country that we CAN do it! Keep it rolling guys and I'll see you at convention!

**For God and Country,  
Joe Roberts, PDC, Membership Chairman**

## Follow-up on Camp Out 2018...

At our Campout in April we all had a great time. Some of the children and adults had a fun time at the ponds fishing.

Others were hanging around the camping area playing games and just enjoying the chance to be outdoors playing.

I really would like to thank all of the people that stepped up to help with all of the hard work that went on in the Kitchen area this year. There are just too many to name them all and you know who you are.

*Great job all of you and Thank You!*

Please keep your eye's open for more camp sites out in your neck of the woods that we may be able you use in the coming

years. Remember that we require a lot of space and some close places to put up some of our guest's. Please let me know.

I also want to thank The Cottonwood Post for all that they did this year.

**For God and Country,  
Thomas W. Lucas II, Campout Chairman  
Dan Ashley, Assistant Camp Out Chairman**

*Squadron Commanders: Remember to bring your Per Capita checks for voting*

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DETACHMENT OF ARIZONA**

31-May-18

<b>Squadron Per Capita to Vote</b>		<b>Last Year</b>	<b>2018 to Date</b>	<b>2018 Goal</b>	<b>% of Goal</b>
\$6	SQ 4	66	61	69	88.41%
\$6	SQ 7	43	33	45	73.33%
\$6	SQ 9	38	44	40	110.00%
\$6	SQ 11	70	79	74	106.76%
\$11	SQ 24	156	189	164	115.24%
\$6	SQ 28	35	48	37	129.73%
\$6	SQ 32	83	79	87	90.80%
\$11	SQ 36	201	180	211	85.31%
\$6	SQ 52	79	63	83	75.90%
\$6	SQ 54	26	29	27	107.41%
\$6	SQ 59	35	49	37	132.43%
\$11	SQ 66	371	390	390	100.00%
\$6	SQ 68	37	37	39	94.87%
\$6	SQ 95	33	29	35	82.86%
\$11	SQ 109	223	228	234	97.44%
\$11	SQ 131	197	226	207	109.18%
\$6	SQ 132	26	21	27	77.78%
\$6	SQ 133	16	19	17	111.76%
<b>Area A Totals</b>		<b>1735</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>1823</b>	<b>98.96%</b>

**Voting Per Capita Fee Paid by Check**  
Check is Payable to **“Detachment of Arizona”**

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Voting fees set for **“per capita”** fees due prior to voting at Detachment Convention

If you're Squadron has:

100 members or less, your fee is: \$6.00  
\$1.00 for the charter and \$5.00 for membership, totaling \$6.00;

101 members or more but less than 501 members, your fee is: \$11.00  
\$1.00 for the charter and \$10.00 for membership, totaling \$11.00;

501 members or more but less than 1001 members, your fee is: \$16.00  
\$1.00 for the charter and \$15.00 for membership, totaling \$16.00.

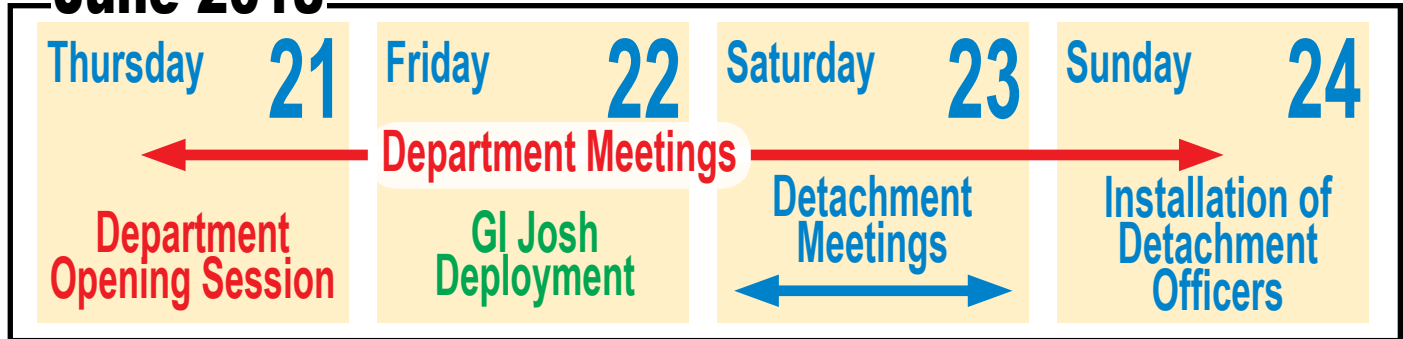
<b>Squadron Per Capita to Vote</b>		<b>Last Year</b>	<b>2018 to Date</b>	<b>2018 Goal</b>	<b>% of Goal</b>
\$11	SQ 1	218	196	229	85.59%
\$6	SQ 2	81	78	85	91.76%
\$6	SQ 5	45	59	47	125.53%
\$11	SQ 12	128	133	134	99.25%
\$6	SQ 19	79	90	83	108.43%
\$11	SQ 26	121	101	127	79.53%
\$16	SQ 27	714	737	750	98.27%
\$11	SQ 29	139	142	146	97.26%
\$11	SQ 34	210	248	221	112.22%
\$11	SQ 35	173	201	182	110.44%
\$11	SQ 39	322	322	338	95.27%
\$11	SQ 41	161	166	169	98.22%
\$11	SQ 44	131	128	138	92.75%
	SQ 46	13	8	14	57.14%
\$11	SQ 58	166	191	174	109.77%
\$11	SQ 61	128	134	134	100.00%
\$11	SQ 62	242	238	254	93.70%
\$11	SQ 65	250	267	263	101.52%
\$11	SQ 91	155	166	163	101.84%
\$6	SQ 105	80	62	84	73.81%
\$11	SQ 107	202	213	212	100.47%
\$6	SQ 117	94	74	99	74.75%
\$6	SQ 134	24	22	25	88.00%
\$6	SQ 138	63	62	66	93.94%
<b>Area B Totals</b>		<b>3939</b>	<b>4043</b>	<b>4137</b>	<b>97.73%</b>

<b>Squadron Per Capita to Vote</b>		<b>Last Year</b>	<b>2018 to Date</b>	<b>2018 Goal</b>	<b>% of Goal</b>
\$6	SQ 3	95	68	100	68.00%
\$11	SQ 6	95	100	100	100.00%
\$6	SQ 13	17	20	18	111.11%
\$6	SQ 14	50	47	53	88.68%
\$6	SQ 15	35	35	37	94.59%
\$6	SQ 22	70	67	74	90.54%
\$6	SQ 25	85	99	89	111.24%
\$6	SQ 30	13	32	14	228.57%
\$6	SQ 37	46	47	48	97.92%
\$6	SQ 40	35	53	37	143.24%
\$6	SQ 42	32	32	34	94.12%
\$6	SQ 57	32	25	34	73.53%
\$6	SQ 69	61	68	64	106.25%
\$6	SQ 78	92	89	97	91.75%
\$11	SQ 79	140	120	147	81.63%
\$11	SQ 81	186	167	195	85.64%
\$11	SQ 86	131	123	138	89.13%
\$6	SQ 87	44	51	46	110.87%
\$6	SQ 88	34	27	36	75.00%
\$6	SQ 93	87	89	91	97.80%
\$6	SQ 139	26	42	27	155.56%
<b>Area C Totals</b>		<b>1406</b>	<b>1401</b>	<b>1479</b>	<b>94.73%</b>

SQ 100	4	6	0	
<b>Arizona Totals</b>	<b>7,120</b>	<b>7,115</b>	<b>7,476</b>	<b>99.93%</b>

# The 2018 Annual Department of Arizona Convention

## June 2018



## CHAMP Foundation

# CHARITIES HELPING AMERICAN MILITARY PATRIOTS

### The Mission Statement

"*Champ*," an acronym for Charities Helping American Military Patriots and is a nonprofit organization created for the collection of donated monetary funds from the public to be used for an identified cause that supports veterans and their families.

### Our Goals

To provide a simple and convenient method of collecting and disseminating donated funds to a designated cause, event or charity that has been approved by the Board of Directors.

To maintain a transparent and honest working relationship with supporters of the foundation.

To maintain a secure handling of all proceeds that are entrusted into the foundation, ensuring that such proceeds are distributed to the designated cause, event or charity.

### Your Donation

If you would like to donate, you may mail your donation check to: CHAMP Foundation, PO Box 750, Cortaro, AZ 85652-0750

Please make your check payable to: **CHAMP Foundation**. Please remember to make a **notation on the check** for the destination charity. This will be for your records and assist us in following through with your intentions. Currently, **Fisher House located in Tucson** on the Southern Arizona Veterans Administration Healthcare Campus is the only board-approved charity.

For more information, please contact Champ Foundation by Telephone: 520•289•5113 or by e-mail: [azchampfound@gmail.com](mailto:azchampfound@gmail.com) or visit our website: [ChampFoundation.org](http://ChampFoundation.org)

### Our Objective

Public trust is of the utmost importance for the success of our mission. The foundation does not have any paid employees. All of the Board of Directors are volunteers who are dedicated to the success of the foundation core purpose.

The foundation will maintain proper records and meeting minutes according to the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Our 501(c)3 status is located on the Arizona Corporation Commission website under C.H.A.M.P. Foundation #22113237

All funds that are received, deposited and distributed will be accurately documented and recorded through the foundation's financial branch opened in the name of CHAMP Foundation in Tucson Arizona.

# Nominated Officer Data Page

PLEASE Print ALL information in Blue Boxes

2019 Membership Year [2018-2019]

Your Name

Office You are Seeking:

Yes  No Letter of recommendation received prior to nomination?

Name on your CURRENT Membership Card

Membership Number

Your Mailing Address

Your e-mail Address

Your Cell Phone Information

Squadron Number

Squadron Phone Number

Current Squadron Commander

Squadron Commander Phone Contact

Current Squadron Adjutant

Current Squadron Adjutant Phone Contact

Current Post Commander

Current Post Commander Phone Contact

Name you Prefer to have used:

Your SAL Cover Size:

Sample Letter of Endorsement by Commander on Post letterhead:

Date: 1 April 2018

From: David A.T. Argonauts, Post 100 Commander  
1234 Any St  
Yourtown, AZ 85003  
(345) 678-9012

To: Commander Griffis, Detachment of Arizona Commander  
Detachment of Arizona  
4701 N 19 Ave  
Phoenix, AZ 85015

Commander Griffis:

Benny Franklin is a member of Squadron 100 and is a member in good standing. Post 100 endorses Benny for any elected Detachment Position for which he may be nominated.

Sincerely,

*Jason A.T. Argonauts*

Jason A. T. Argonauts  
Post 100 Commander  
(345) 678-9012

American Legion Post 100  
1234 Any St  
Yourtown, AZ 85003  
(345) 678-9012



**A new letter is required each year  
from your Post Commander!  
The form above must completed  
and accompany your letter.**

Rec'd on at SAL AZ HQ:

/ / 2018

Posted and Filed by HQ:

/ / 2018



Please Print or Type this report giving complete name, mailing address, telephone and e-mail information of all Squadron Officers. Send the original to: Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, 4701 N 19th Ave, Suite 200, Phoenix, AZ 85015 or e-mail the fillable PDF to SALadjutant@AZlegion.org Please photocopy and retain for your Squadron & Post records. This form MUST be completed and certified EACH YEAR.

The following Squadron Officers were elected/appointed at a regular meeting of The Sons of The American Legion at American Legion Post \_\_\_\_\_, on the date of \_\_\_\_\_.

Officers assume their responsibilities effective (date) \_\_\_\_\_.

Regular Squadron meetings are held: \_\_\_\_\_.

Your Maximum Squadrons Dues for renewal are:

\$

**Squadron Information**

Squadron Number \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Squadron Commander**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**First Vice Commander**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Vice Commander**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Adjutant**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Finance Officer**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Judge Advocate**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Chaplain**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Historian**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Sergeant at Arms**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Post SAL Advisor**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Return to Detachment before Friday, 15 June 2018

**Officers Elected for the 2019 Membership Year**

Attested Signatures

\_\_\_\_\_  
Squadron Commander

\_\_\_\_\_  
Squadron Adjutant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona Convention 2018

**To: All Detachment Officers**      **All Squadron Commanders**  
**All Past Detachment Commanders**      **All Squadron Adjutants**  
**Detachment Committee Chairman**

**From: Matthew Griffis, Detachment Commander**  
**Charles Treat, Detachment Adjutant**

**Date: April 2, 2018**

### Official 2018 Annual Detachment Convention Meeting Call

Pursuant to Article VII, Section 1, of the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, I, Matthew Griffis, Detachment Commander, hereby call for the **Annual Detachment Convention Meeting to be held Saturday, June 23, 2018 at Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa in Chandler, AZ.** The Detachment Convention is held in accordance with the Uniform Code of Procedure and will convene at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, June 23, 2018.

### Official 2018 Detachment Executive Committee Call

The Detachment Executive Meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 23, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.** All Detachment Officers are required to be present.

### Official 2018 Detachment Organizational Meeting Call

The Detachment Executive Committee Organizational Meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 23, 2018 and will convene 15 minutes after** the close of Detachment Convention on Saturday, June 23, 2018. All Detachment Officers are required to be present.

Detachment Officers unable to attend either or both meetings must notify either the Detachment Commander, Matthew Griffis, 520•289•5113 or the Detachment Adjutant, Charles Treat, 480•239•2844 prior to the meeting date.

**Blue Cap News** is published every other month by the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona.

Squadrons are encouraged to share their success stories with the Detachment by sending stories to the *Blue Cap News*.

Please e-mail your news copy to:

[BlueCapNews@aol.com](mailto:BlueCapNews@aol.com)

**If you have an event** that you would like to promote with a flyer, please send **140 copies** of your flyer for inclusion with the newsletter mailing.

**Separately** send an e-mail with the flyer attached for inclusion with the Web edition. PDF's are requested, but we will work with you to get the word out!

Please send the flyer as an attachment to your e-mail to:

[BlueCapNews@aol.com](mailto:BlueCapNews@aol.com)

**Next Deadline:**

**July 15th, 2018**

**for the published issue:**

**August / Sept  
2018 Issue**