



Pre-Submitted District Reports

Fall D.E.C. Meeting

Sons of the American Legion – Detachment of New York

November 10, 2017

District 2

Commander Michael P. Rodriguez

July 29, 2017 – Kings County Sons of the American Legion and Kings County American Legion jointly sponsored a Child Welfare and Children and Youth Fund Raiser, Small turn out, but, the split was \$ 925.00 each.

August was a preparation month for upcoming events, Oratorical Contests Boys State Etc.

September 11, 2017- did a meet & greeted with the newly elected American Legion Family Department heads during their visitation, I could not attend the Tour of Greenwood Cemetery (because of work) but, was able to attend the ending of a Bar-B-Q sponsored by Joseph and Marie SantaCroce and held at their home.

District 3

Commander William Baker

I am sorry I am unable to attend the Fall DEC meeting due to work and previously scheduled family obligations. I have asked that my report here be read and placed in the minutes in my absence.

I am continuing to stress membership and that the urgent need to have active membership. I am also stressing to our members the importance of self-promotion. We cannot expect to succeed in our endeavors unless we get people to understand who and what we are. I continue to be amazed by the numbers of people who have never heard of the Sons of the American Legion. On top of that I have found where our own members do not realize the various programs the Sons are involved in. I, sadly was one of these people up until a couple years ago. I did not realize how in depth the Sons were in Veteran's affairs and rehabilitation and Children Welfare to name just two.

A few of my counties and Squadrons have reported their activities since convention.

- In Albany County
 - the Joseph E. Zaloga Sons Squadron #1520 is preparing for the 2018 Walk-A-Thon and various fundraisers for Veteran and Community projects.
- In Rensselaer County
 - The Gerald O'Neil Squadron #1683 is getting ready for Toys for Tots as well as Fundraisers to provide transportation for Veterans to travel to Washington DC to visit their memorials as well as raising money for various community projects. Attending veteran events. A few members of Squadron #1683 also belong to Rolling Thunder whose purpose is rallying for the POW/MIA issue, Their mission is to educate, facilitate, and never forget.
 - My own Squadron; Melvin Roads Squadron #1231 is once again continuing with my personal project of collecting gently used and new clothes for our homeless and less fortunate Veterans (and their families) as well as working with various Job Fairs to help find them possible work placement. We will also be holding events to raise money for community projects and the 2018 Walk-A-Thon.
- Ulster County Squadrons continue to hold fundraisers and boot drives.

With Veterans Day comes continued support to our Posts and members. We will be participating in numerous parades and ceremonies throughout the 3rd District.

As a proud Husband, Father, Son, Grandson and Great Grandson of Veterans I am honored to be a part of the Sons of the American Legion and the American Family. I am humbled every day when I see all the great work that you all do. As most people know my personal ambition is to eradicate the situation of homelessness in our Veteran community and we are getting the numbers down, but we still have a way to go. According to the VA there are currently 39,471 homeless veterans in the United States. This number is down 50% from 2015 and this was made possible with the help of everyone in this room and this great organization. I personally will not rest until that number is down to 0. Once again, I thank you for giving me the platform to move forward with this and I hope to one day stand in front of you and say we did it, because No Veteran Should Be Without a Place to Call Home.

Finally, I would like to bring to everyone's attention the latest Facebook Page for the Detachment. It is the Detachment of New York; SAL – Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. If you are having an event for our Veterans or would like something posted, please email me at melvinroads1231@nycap.rr.com and I will post your information. Once again, we need to promote what we are doing for our veterans and our communities and social media places a vast audience at our disposal.

District 4

Commander James Williams

District 5

Commander Dennis George

- Congratulations to the 5th District Sons for finishing the 2016-17 membership year at 100.58%, the only District @ 100% by the National Convention. We now have 7059 members – Outstanding!
- Attended Oneida County Sons meeting, at Western Post 1846, on Sept. 17, 2017. Donated \$100 to the Commander's Project – NEF.
- Attended Oriskany Squadron 1448 meeting on Sept. 20, 2017. Donations of \$185 for the NEF – Commander Clancy's Project and \$145 for the CWF were voted on and approved.
- Acted as Chaplain for a Memorial Service for Geoffrey R. Rayner, a Legionnaire from Oriskany Legion 1448.
- Participated and donated items for the American Auction for the Chicken Barbecue supporting Doc Gibbs, put on by the Oneida County Sons, on Sept. 30, 2017.
- Attended Department visitations from September 30 – October 5 (Herkimer, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, Jefferson, and Lewis Counties)
- Personal donation of \$100 to Commander Clancy's Project – NEF
- 5th District Sons donated \$100 to Commander Clancy's Project – NEF

District 6
Commander Anthony Grigas

District 7
Commander Jerry Toepper

On July 27th I represented the Sons of The American Legion at a ceremony put on by the Korean War Veterans Association. It was a commemoration of the end of the Korean War. I was presented with a Rose of Sharon the symbol of that conflict.

August 30th the Seventh District Sons were present at the American Legion Auxiliary Fall Conference. A report was given about the Sons activities for this upcoming year. The Commander's project for Honor Flight was lightly touched on.

September 10th was the first meeting of the Seventh District. A report was given to the Legion of our events for the upcoming year and the Commander's Project. The District also voted to donate \$600 towards the NEF and encouraged all squadrons to make donations of their own. The National Commander's Visitation was discussed and officers were encouraged to go. Forms for the event were present for those interested.

On September 23rd the Canandaigua VA Medical Center held a Welcome Home event along with the Canandaigua Squadron 256. The day had food, refreshments, music, children activities, various information and resource booths. The next day the 24th was the Seventh District Field Day held at the Bath VA Medical Center. It was a day of games, food, refreshments and activities. Seventh District Officers worked along with Seventh District Auxiliary Officers.

Membership is starting off slow. The 7th District as of the time of this report is below the Sept. 13th ,10% mark at about 5%. We are in 7th place in the Detachment with 261 of our 5270. It is our plan to reach out to our troubled squadrons sooner than we have in the past. Will offer encouragement, assistance or help that they might need in hope for a more positive year.

District 8
Commander Dale Kane

Honor Guard services Detail

5/27/17	Belmont	2Hours
6/6/17	Wellsville	2 Hours
6/7/17	Wellsville	2 Hours
6/8/17	Wellsville	2 Hours
6/24/17	Wellsville	2 Hours
7/7/17	Wellsville	2 Hours
7/27/17	Wellsville	2.5 Hours
7/27/17	Wellsville	2.5 Hours
10/20/17	Belmont	2.5 Hours
10/20/17	Angelica	2.5 Hours

5/29/17	Memorial Day. Belmont	4 Hours
6/14/17	Flag Gay Genesee Valley School	2 Hours
6/14/17	Flag Day Retirement Ceremony	2 Hours
8/12/17	Present Flags Bath VA, Belmont A.L.	1 Hour
1/20-22/17	Mid-Winter Conference, Albany	
5/21/17	Boys State Dinner at Morrison Hayes Post 702	
July 2017	Department Convention Syracuse	
10/1/17	8 th District Conference at Morrison Hayes Post 702	
10/13/17	National Commander Visitation, Sanborn	

District 9

Commander Michael Armistead

The 9th District most recently met on October 21st at Post 1682 in New City, Rockland County. Turnout was a bit lighter than normal but even so, four of the five counties in the district were represented. We were honored to have Past Detachment Commander Gerry Ketchum and Leading Candidate Jim Coates who drove 6 hours down from the 7th district as guests at the meeting.

The district is still working on a plan to assist in some way with Wreaths Across America to help decorate the graves at the West Point Cemetery this holiday season. Also discussed was a possible district-wide participation in the 2018 Walk A Thon. Several squadrons are also conducting fundraisers for the Commanders Project and the district is asking the squadrons to possibly pool their donations and present them collectively from the district.

Membership in the 9th is doing well, and the Ninth has been holding steady in the top 4 since the beginning of the new dues year. We are also very happy to announce that Squadron 310 from Nyack in Rockland County has reformed and reactivated their charter that was long dormant.

District 10

Commander James Connolly

The 10th District Sons are moving along well. We need to build up our County, before we can have a strong district.

We had a great turnout in Suffolk and Nassau Counties for the Department Visitations. We are working on membership and trying to get other squadrons to support each other in fundraisers.

We are hoping to have a district meeting soon.