



# *The Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Wyoming*

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*"For God and Country"*

02/04/12

Subject: SAL Detachment Update.

Dear Squadron Officers and Members,

I would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on the SAL, Detachment of Wyoming activities.

During our Mid-Winter Conference we had several guest including; Terry Miller out of Gillette, Bob Wright spoke on Americanism, Dwight Null for VA&R, Charlie Keith spoke on membership and our National Mid-West Vice Commander Danny Smith thanked us for the invitation. Also during our weekend Conference we paid respects to one of our own, Alexander Frye; with a moment of silence during Saturday's conference and a picture of him in place for the weekend events. We had 7 out of our 16 Squadrons represented during the weekend; with 19 delegates in attendance. I'm also happy to announce that we now have a new Detachment Chaplin; Sam Black out of Worland has graciously accepted the position, thank you Sam for you services during the weekend's events. Your DEC committee men and officers held their meetings and covered the following material:

Mid-West National Vice Commander Danny Smith conveyed greetings from National Commander James Roberts and his commitment to our Veterans. He discussed the programs supporting veteran's needs. He also discussed that he would like to see our membership reach 350,000 nationally for the year. He would like to have our Blue Cap members work together and gives them thanks for all they do. Commander Rob Pherson also discussed our new VAVS rep in Sheridan, Conrad Namdvet and the need to have a SAL representative in our local Cheyenne VA Hospital. Danny reported that the SALs have donated over five million dollars in donations to the Child Welfare Foundation to date. He discussed the importance of date of birth on membership cards for insurance actuarial purposes.

Christmas in July was discussed and plans for it are underway. X-mass in July will be held at the Veterans home in Buffalo on July 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011. As a project, Ira would like us to try and set up a Porte potty down by the pond and discussion is underway for the possibly of other projects like a doc or two. Friday night we will have dinner at the Post, Saturday a fishing tournament along with a hot lunch provided by Carol & the Women's' Auxiliary of Gillette and a dinner on Saturday night provided by Nels Loffgan back at the Z-Bar motel. The Z-Bar motel can be reached by the following information, their web site: <http://www.zbarmotel.com/> Phone # 1-307-684-5535, speak with Terri or Mike. I have already reserved 10 rooms, you can book yours by calling them direct or by going to their web site and reserve it online, reserve yours before June 9<sup>th</sup>.

NEC Swanny discussed revisions to the SAL Constitution and Bylaws; he has volunteered to handle this task; we will have further discussion and vote upon the issues at our summer convention. He also discussed that the SAL have an application for drode phones if needed. Our National Convention will be held in Indianapolis August 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. The Sons have a new web page for any of your needs, it is: <http://www.legion.org/sons>

Again discussion was held regarding the Spinoza Bear project and presented to the membership that the program was no longer being supported by the American Legion because the manufacturing company has been unable to provide the necessary customer support. Squadron's are still free to support the projects on their own and can donate any bears already purchased.

To date our Sons membership stands at 798 members or a little over 64.8%. We need to work on our membership including turning in your monthly transmittals' and going after those renewals. Renewals are down to 73.3 % compared to 98.3% last year. If you have your SAL 2012 membership cards at your home post for those members who haven't come in or made contact in awhile to renew, maybe your officers can get together and send a brief letter along with their card asking them to renew membership.

Under the Good of the Order during the conference, Wyoming Detachment membership voted to donate \$500 each to the Department Commander & Department Presidents projects; \$1000.00 to our CWF program and \$500.00 to the American Legion Emergency fund.

I want to personally thank you all for your support, dedication and all the hard work that you do; I continue to look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Robert Pherson  
SAL Detachment Commander  
For God & Country  
"From Small Acorns Mighty Oak Trees Do Grow"