Sons + Legion programs = winners!

Membership
Hartline Award (Detach w most new squadrons)
Pennsylvania - Mississippi - California - Illinois - Florida

Houghton Award (greatest % increase in membership)
Category 1 - Utah
Category 2 - Oregon
Category 3 - Iowa
Category 4 - Arizona
Category 5 - Florida

Highest Renewal Percentage by Region
East - France Slush - Louisiana - South Dakota
Central - Minnesota - West - Utah

National’s Largest Squadron
- Newport Harbor, CA Squadron 291 (1,751 members)

First in Each Region to Reach 100%
- East - District Columbia
- South - Mississippi - West - Nevada
- Central - Minnesota - Midwest - Oklahoma

Triple Nickel Award
- Florida
- Mississippi

Americanism
Abelohl/Beyer/York Memorial Award
Detachment - Georgia
District - District 9 - Georgia
Squadron - John B. Handle Squadron 89, Vestal, NY

National Emergency Fund
Squadron - John B. Handle Squadron 89, Vestal, NY

Color Guard (Stillwell Award)
Detachment of California 12th District

Awards / from Page 3

Community Service
Scrapbook Winners
Squadron - La Plata, MD Squadron 82
Detachment - South Carolina

Historian
History Book Award
Squadron - Lady Lake, FL Squadron 347
District - District 6 - Florida
Detachment - Kansas

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
Charles B. Rigalby Award (Volunteer of the Year)
Robert Filippi - Parkville, MD Squadron 183

Commander’s Legacy Scholarship Awards
 Largest Donation - Maryland
South - Florida
Central - Illinois
Midwest - Nebraska
West - Oregon

Color Guard (Stillwell Award)
Detachment of California 12th District

American Legion Family

High flying Collier elected

Every National Commander of the Sons can expect to travel extensively during his year in office. But newly-elected Commander Kevin Collier, whose home is Anchorage, Alaska, has to fly five and a half hours just to arrive in Minneapolis -- and then fly on to whatever continental destination lies ahead.

A 31 year Honorary Life Member of the S.A.L., Kevin’s eligibility flows from his grandfather, a veteran of World War I. In his private life, Kevin works as Patient Services Supervisor for Food & Nutrition Services at Children’s Miracle Network hospital in Anchorage, Alaska, has to fly five and a half hours just to arrive in Minneapolis -- and then fly on to whatever continental destination lies ahead.

A 31 year Honorary Life Member of the S.A.L., Kevin’s eligibility flows from his grandfather, a veteran of World War I. In his private life, Kevin works as Patient Services Supervisor for Food & Nutrition Services at Children’s Miracle Network hospitals.

Kevin Collier was elected Commander of the Sons at its 2015 National Convention in Baltimore. He has been a member of the Sons of the American Legion since 1990 and is a life member of the American Legion.

Collier was born in Augusta, Georgia, and moved to Minnesota when he was seven years old. He attended the University of Minnesota and later earned a Master’s degree in Public Health Administration from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Collier has been a member of the American Legion since 1990 and is a life member of the American Legion. He was elected to the National Executive Committee in 2011 and served as the National Adjutant in 2013.

Collier is a decorated veteran with 23 years of active duty service in the Air Force Reserve and currently serves with the rank of Colonel. He has served in various capacities, including Commander of the 305th Air Mobility Wing, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, and Commander of the 514th Air Mobility Operations Group, Fort McPherson, Georgia.

Collier was elected Commander of the Sons at its 2015 National Convention in Baltimore. He has been a member of the Sons of the American Legion since 1990 and is a life member of the American Legion.

Collier was born in Augusta, Georgia, and moved to Minnesota when he was seven years old. He attended the University of Minnesota and later earned a Master’s degree in Public Health Administration from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Collier has been a member of the American Legion since 1990 and is a life member of the American Legion. He was elected to the National Executive Committee in 2011 and served as the National Adjutant in 2013.

Collier is a decorated veteran with 23 years of active duty service in the Air Force Reserve and currently serves with the rank of Colonel. He has served in various capacities, including Commander of the 305th Air Mobility Wing, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, and Commander of the 514th Air Mobility Operations Group, Fort McPherson, Georgia.
Visitors to the S.A.L. Convention

Friday and Saturday saw many visitors appear before delegates to the 44th National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion. Some of the faces were new. Some were familiar smiles of many years of friendship. All took turns offering words of thanks and congratulations.

Soon after the Sons’ convention got underway, leaders of The American Legion Auxiliary were welcomed to the stage starting with Graci Huddleston (1), who is completing her year as Honorary National Junior President. Mary “Dubbie” Buck (2) and his wife, Debbie, that included a personalized quilt. National Commander Moss traded gifts with National Commander Mike Helm and achieving goals that support the heart of almost all Legion programs. Other important speakers who visited on Friday and Saturday included a couple men who are likely to find themselves at the helm of The American Legion soon. Leading National Commander candidates Dale Barnett (6) and Charles Schmidt (7) talked of future plans to include more involvement by all Legion Family members. Past National Commander Jake Comer (8), making his 28th consecutive appearance at the S.A.L. National Convention, talked of how the decision to involve Sons in Legion fund raising efforts more than a generation ago may have had humble beginnings, but grew by millions of dollars since. National Commander Moss traded gifts with National Commander Mike Helm and his wife, Debbie, that included a personalized quilt.

On Friday, American Legion Past National Commander Dan Dellinger started a new tradition of recognizing Sons for their outstanding fund raising efforts on behalf of The Legion’s Endowment Fund. Commander Moss made the fund a priority for the first time and more than $35,000 was raised. The first-ever James A. Drain Founder’s Award was presented to the Detachment of Nevada for turning in the largest per capita in the country. Then the Detachment of Florida was awarded the first-ever Harry W. Colmery Legacy Award for the largest amount of money turned in by any Detachment.

Leading National Commander candidates Dale Barnett (6) and Charles Schmidt (7) talked of future plans to include more involvement by all Legion Family members. Past National Commander Jake Comer (8), making his 28th consecutive appearance at the S.A.L. National Convention, talked of how the decision to involve Sons in Legion fund raising efforts more than a generation ago may have had humble beginnings, but grew by millions of dollars since. National Commander Moss traded gifts with National Commander Mike Helm and his wife, Debbie, that included a personalized quilt.

On Friday, American Legion Past National Commander Dan Dellinger started a new tradition of recognizing Sons for their outstanding fund raising efforts on behalf of The Legion’s Endowment Fund. Commander Moss made the fund a priority for the first time and more than $35,000 was raised. The first-ever James A. Drain Founder’s Award was presented to the Detachment of Nevada for turning in the largest per capita in the country. Then the Detachment of Florida was awarded the first-ever Harry W. Colmery Legacy Award for the largest amount of money turned in by any Detachment.

Three special awards bestowed at Baltimore

Commander Moss called three special people to the platform Friday. Bob Brown and Ronnie Grist were recognized for their incredibly unselfish actions last May. They left the N.E.C. meetings early, flew home to Georgia, drove to Colorado, picked up Past Sons National Commander J.R. Stillwell - who’d been severely injured in an auto accident - and drove him to his cousin’s home in Louisiana to recuperate. Commander Moss presented both of them with special recognitions.

Three special awards bestowed at Baltimore

Commander Moss called three special people to the platform Friday. Bob Brown and Ronnie Grist were recognized for their incredibly unselfish actions last May. They left the N.E.C. meetings early, flew home to Georgia, drove to Colorado, picked up Past Sons National Commander J.R. Stillwell - who’d been severely injured in an auto accident - and drove him to his cousin’s home in Louisiana to recuperate. Commander Moss presented both of them with special recognitions.

Flying / from Page 1

Every Day.” Some of his chief goals this year will include, a 90 percent membership renewal rate and a push to have 400,000 members signed up by May 1. He’ll be challenging Sons to raise 50 cents per member for the National Emergency Fund ($200,000). He’ll also continue a relatively new trend inside the S.A.L. to raise money for The Legion’s Endowment Fund, which provides money for temporary financial assistance for the minor children of veterans who are in need and also provides money to help train Service Officers throughout the country. Commander Kevin’s Endowment Fund goal will be 25 cents per member ($100,000 total). Of course, he’ll also continue to raise money for the Child Welfare Foundation and see how close the S.A.L. can come to raising $600,000 and boosting its all-time level of giving to $7 million for CWF (“Wouldn’t it be a little piece of heaven when we reach seven?”). On the administrative side, Collier plans to provide squads with tools to help them do a better job of filling out the Consolidated Squadron Report Form.

(left) There’s a good reason why membership in the S.A.L. continues to grow. Chris Figueroa, a member of San Antonio, TX American Legion Post 2 spoke to S.A.L. delegates on Friday about ways in which Sons might be eligible to participate in USAA products and services. When he mentioned his own grandfather’s military service, he was quickly handed an S.A.L. membership application and, before leaving the stage, became the S.A.L.’s newest dual member. All you have to do is ask!

(left) On Saturday, convention proceedings slowed considerably during debates surrounding several proposed resolutions and various amendments that were offered up. When one particular voice vote on an amendment was too close to call, National Commander gave Detachments a five minutes recess to caucus, then National Adjutant Brian O’Hearme took the podium and conducted a roll call of Detachments. A healthy democracy can sometimes be messy.