



Sons of The American Legion Newsletter

Department of Michigan

July 2007 Issue

Michigan-Central Region Commander Tom Getz

S.A.L. National Membership Committee, Thomas W. Wigmore (MA) Chairman

New Contact for the Sons of The American Legion's Newsletter

Articles are to be send to: misalnews@wowway.com / Mail to: 609 W. 13 Mile Road, MI 48073



Detachment of Michigan
S.A.L. Commander,
Andre Svacha
2007-2008



Thank you for electing me to the high office of Detachment Commander of Michigan. My theme this year will be "The year of the G.I. Joe / G.I. Jane". Our veterans are important, please remember them in your daily activities.

When you are having events this year with your Squadrons, Posts, Units and/or Districts, I would like to participate, please mail a written invitation to my house at 7900 North Road, Burtchvill, MI. 48059. I would like to attend as many events as possible. If I am unable to attend, another Officer will represent the Detachment.

For The Good of the Sons
Andre Svacha
Sons of the American Legion
Detachment Commander

P.S. If you haven't already done so, please send in your officer's list to Detachment Headquarters in order to receive your 2008 membership cards.

General Information:

212 N. Verlinden Avenue, Lansing, MI 48915 / Office: 517-371-4720 or FAX 517-371-2401

2007-2008 Commanders:

MI State Commander: Andre Svacha	(Squadron 351 / 7 th District)	810-327-0161
Zone 1 Commander: Gregory Price	(Squadron 396 / 16 th District)	313-550-0857
Zone 2 Commander: Danny Gleason	(Squadron 51 / 4 th District)	616-913-9525
Zone 3 Commander: Dave Mennel	(Squadron 233 / 18 th District)	810-343-9494
Zone 4 Commander: Fred Ruttkofsky	(Squadron 300 / 9 th District)	231-229-3528
Zone 5 Commander: Dwaine Verville	(Squadron 17 / 12 th District)	906-265-9848

Contact your commander's if you have any questions and they will be glad to help you out.

2007-2008 Officers

Adjutant: Sanford Lipman	248-542-3187
Asst. Adjutant: Jeremy Bell	313-366-6904
Chaplain/ VA&R / Emergency Relief Fund: Rodney Tolbert	269-637-9173
Finance Officer/ Budget: Chris Dohnal	231-894-5532
Historian: Rick Knapp, Jr.	616-389-9649
Asst. Historian: Fred Brining	248-544-2689
Sgt.-At-Arms: Danny Poole	248-640-6971
Asst. Sgt.-At-Arms: Kevin Svacha	810-327-0161
Judge Advocate / Constitution & By-Laws: Skipper Townes	616-835-7895
PDC # 1 Randy D. Jackson	248-890-6396
PDC # 2 / Alternate N.E.C Ron Wyatt	248-340-0385
PDC # 3 / Dan Tyack	248-887-1723
N.E.C.: Roger Rockhold	989-539-0649
Legislative: Roger Dees	248-887-1723

Committee Chairs:

Americanism / Awards & Trophies: Russell Merlington	616-696-1832
Boys State & Youth Career Law Enforcement: Mike Holley	517-381-1977
Child Welfare / Service Officer: John Kailunas	231-652-7001
Make-A-Wish: Danny Poole	810-667-9121
Rainbow Connection: Roger Dees	248-887-1723
Public Relations: Greg Price	313-550-0857
Publications: Randy D. Jackson EMAIL: misalnews@wowway.com	248-589-9024
Son of the Year: Pat Pustay	616-681-9317
Pins Sales: John Gusway	248-544-3356
Upper Peninsula Membership: Dennis Larson	906-779-5513
Upper Peninsula Chairman: Dwaine Verville	see Zone # 5 inf.
Education & Leadership: Joe Radiger III	248-763-2987
Community Service: Andre Svacha II	810-327-0161
Reconnect: Jack Helminski	734-340-4430
S.A.L. Department Advisor:	

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1st Zone Commander, Greg Price

2nd Zone Commander Danny Gleason

Greetings,
My name is Danny Gleason your newly elected 2nd Zone Commander. I am a 17year member of the Sons of The American Legion having worked my way up the chairs at Squadron and District levels. I will be contacting and meeting with my district commanders in the very near future to discuss my plans as well as yours for the coming year. I would like to see the 2nd zone on the top of the heap. I will do everything possible to attend your functions or special events. Please feel free to contact me at, commanderdan@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 1-269-697-8388.



For God & Country
Danny Gleason

3rd Zone Commander, Dave Mennel

4th Zone Commander, Fred Ruttkofsky

5th Zone Commander, Dwaine Verville

Serving as Zone 5 Commander the past several years has been a good time. From starting new squadrons, encouraging squadrons to send in membership, to going on the Mid-Winter Tour, I have met many new friends and visited many others.

I have been a member of Alfred Branchini Squadron #17 in Iron River for 19 years. Our squadron puts up and maintains all the street flags in our town. We also try to send a boy to Boys State yearly. We help the post at their functions along with other organizations in our community.

I have been married to Sue for 34 years, who was UPAA District President and have 3 children, all legion family members.

I am looking forward to serving as Zone 5 Commander this year and I am hoping all squadrons in the state will get their membership in early so we Zone Commanders will not have to hound the squadrons.



Dwaine Verville

Detachment Adjutant, Sandy Lipman

Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Michigan

Donations made to Charities since June 1 2007

Make A Wish Foundation:

Detachment of Mi. \$1000.00

Squadron 375 \$100.00

Kim Lipman \$103.00

Squadron 216 \$200.00

Squadron 245 \$500.00

Squadron 14 \$100.00

Squadron 233 \$500.00

Squadron 143 \$100.00

Squadron 108 \$1,000.00

Fisher House:

Detachment of Mi. \$500.00

Squadron 550 \$3200.00

Detachment of Mi. \$1000.00

Rainbow Connection of Michigan

Squadron 233 \$50.00

Squadron 245 \$500.00

Detachment of Mi. \$1000.00

VA&R

Detachment of Michigan \$500.00

Desert Angel Project

Detachment of Mi. \$1000.00

Hero's to Hometowns

Squadron 300 \$250.00

Detachment of Mi. \$500.00

Passed the hat at Detachment Convention and membership attending donates \$476.00

Kim Lipman \$206.00

CWF:

Kim Lipman \$103.00

Squadron 550 \$500.00

Squadron 216 \$3,740.00

Squadron 300 Jordan Gott 12 years old \$185.50

Stitt Squadron \$200.00



Squadron 404 \$35.00 Roger Rockhold
 16th District SAL 50/50 \$43.00
 Detachment of Mi. \$1000.00

U.S. Armed Forces Lap Blanket Project: Each Blanket goes to a returning injured Veteran at home or in the hospitals. \$1000.00

Michigan Veterans Foundation, Shelter and Rehabilitation Facility
 Detachment of Mi. \$1000.00

National Emergency Fund:
 Detachment of Mi. \$1000.00

Spinoza Bear Project:
 Detachment of Michigan 5 bears to be distributed one in each zone cost approximately \$160.00 per bear

Legacy Scholarship Fund:
 Detachment of Mi. \$500.00

Junior Aux. Presidents Project:
 Detachment of Mi. \$50.00

Detachment Chaplain, Rodney Tolbert

Hello, I am a 14 year SAL member at Post 49 South Haven Past squadron Chaplain, Past Squadron 1st Vice, Present Squadron Commander, Past 4th District Chaplain, Past 4th District 2nd Vice Present, 4th District 1st Vice, Past Detachment Asst. Sergeant At Arms, Present Detachment Chaplain, I am Looking Forward to Serving the Detachment of Michigan. Please call me at any time.

For God and Country
 Rodney Tolbert



PDC 1 & Publication Chairman, Randy Jackson

If you have anything for the next newsletter please send it to me via e-mail to: misalnews@wowway.com or snail mail to: Randy D. Jackson, 609 West 13 Mile Road, Royal Oak Michigan, 48073-2408. The due date for the next articles is August 15th.



PDC 2, Alternate NEC and Homeland Security, Ronald Wyatt



First, I would like to extend my congratulations to all of the new SAL Detachment officers and committeemen. I am sure that you will do a great job of representing our great state of Michigan. Also, it was an honor for me to help take care of our National SAL Commander Earl Ruttkofsky, Central Region Vice Commander Tom Getz, Leading Candidate for National SAL Commander Ray Gheil and Mark his campaign chairman. I am sure that good things will be said about Michigan's hospitality.

Second, The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary convention was held in Dearborn. I attended our meetings along with some of the American Legion and Auxiliary general sessions. It was an honor for me to escort Past Department President Sandra Knapp down the aisle twice. Once, as she was the honored Past President, and then again at the memorial service on Sunday morning. Again, I was honored to escort Commander Jackson's daughter (Airman First Class) as the SAL was presented to both The American Legion and the Auxiliary conventions.

Lastly, the Homeland Security committee is a new position. I haven't received any information from the National organization yet, but, will keep the squadrons and officers in Michigan informed as information becomes available.

PDC 3 Daniel Tyack

Legislative & Rainbow Connection Chairman Roger Dees

Boys State & Youth Career Law Enforcement, Mike Holley

Public Relations Chairman, Greg Price

Make-a-wish Chairman: Danny Poole

Greetings from your Detachment Make-A-Wish Chairman, (once again). The Detachment of Michigan, through your Squadron's efforts, came through at the end during our Annual convention in June although we were still approximately 30% down from where we had been, with some prior record setting years.

Please, with your annual Make-A-Wish fundraisers this summer, send your donations through the Detachment (to me) allowing yourself to receive the proper recognition. This also allows the Detachment of Michigan to show it's magnificent support of one of the Nation's leading children's programs. Important Reminder: be sure to make your checks out to **Make-A-Wish of Michigan** so that your donations stay within our state.

For Make-A-Wish information, special event forms or pins for sale, contact:

Make-A-Wish Chairman, Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Michigan

Danny J. Poole, 3219 Newark Road, Attica, MI 48412, (810) 667-9121 or (248) 310-1923.



N. E. C. Roger Rockhold

If you need Membership information, please call the

Membership Secretary Barb at 517-371-4720 ext 24 or

e-mail her at member@michiganlegion.org



Community Service, Andre Svacha II

The Community Service Committee evaluates and recommends community-oriented programs that the Sons of The American Legion should sponsor and participate in. Community Service activities give the Sons of The American Legion the ability to get involved in their local communities. They also oversee the annual Community Service Scrapbook contest” “Some suggested programs are blood drives, Boy Scouts, adopt-a-highway programs, community food drives, working within the schools and many more. Getting out into your community is very important.

National Department: 2006-2007

Legion Commander: Paul Morin
 Auxiliary President: JoAnn Cronin
 S.A.L. Commander: Earl Ruttkofsky (Beverly)

Department of Michigan: 2007-2008

Legion Commander: Mike Williams
 Auxiliary President: Deb Meskill
 S.A.L. Commander: Andre Svacha

06 – 07 S.A.L. MEMBERSHIP		
Report as of 06/12/2007		
Department of Michigan		
Zone # 1	Gregory R. Price	1,263
Zone # 2	Pat Pustay	8,000
Zone # 3	Andre Svacha	5,127
Zone # 4	Fred Ruttkofsky	3,011
Zone # 5	Dwaine Verville	<u>1,436</u>
Totals:		<u>18,837</u>

American Legion Department of Michigan - Calendar of Events:

Event: 2007	Date:	City:	Hotel:	Base rate:
Fall Conference	Sept. 14 - 17	Harbor Springs	Boyne Highlands	\$ n/a
National Conv.	Aug.	RENO, NV	PepperMill Resort & Casino	\$ n/a

S.A.L. Convention 2008
Sons of The American Legion
June 6th, 7th & 8th 2008

Hotel Information:

The Main hotel is the Northpoint Inn in Mackinaw City. Ask for Tracy, Ref S.A.L.
 \$69 + tax per night. Phone # 1 (800) 576-2842 Or 1 (231) 436-9812.
 Hospitality Room requests will be charged extra. Contact hotel for further info.

Meetings will be held at the Ice Arena. Shuttle transportation will be provided.

The water view side of the hotel is mostly booked. Make your reservations as soon as possible.

You are responsible for your own room reservations.

