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Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin



[Detachment Officers](#)

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Commander Severson and the Detachment Officers wish you a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe New Year.

The 2011 Membership Reports for [December 6](#) and [December 13](#) are on our web site www.wisal.org, under [Membership Reports](#).

[Michael Lawler](#), Detachment Adjutant

*A son by birth, a member of the **SONS** by choice.*

Michael Peterson Preforms for Badger Honor Flights

National recording artist and songwriter Michael Peterson will perform at a benefit concert for the Badger Honor Flight Friday, March 11, 2011 7:00pm - 10:00pm in Verona Wisconsin, hosted by Sons of The American Legion Squadron 385, Verona

A Sons of The American Legion member, Michael Peterson is the 2008 recipient of the distinguished Bob Hope "**Spirit Of Hope**" award for his service to the nation and the servicemen and women of the Armed Forces, is loved for such million selling country music chart toppers as "**Drink, Swear, Steal & Lie**" and "**From Here To Eternity**". This multiple Grammy and CMA award nominee has moved audiences all over the globe for over a decade.

A greeting to The American Legion Family from Michael Peterson

<http://www.legion.org/news/videos/93745/michael-peterson-holiday-greeting>

<http://www.michaelpetersononline.com/music/>

It's Who We Are, video http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tnd1Jo_T-6w

<http://www.badgerhonorflight.org/>

Badger Honor Flight is a regional affiliate of the national Honor Flight Network. The purpose of the Honor Flight Network is to ensure that WWII and terminally ill veterans from any war have the opportunity to see the memorials that have been erected in their honor. The Honor Flight Network provides all amenities to the veterans, including all transportation, meals and lodging. Everything is free to the veterans because of how much they have sacrificed for this great country already. The only money veterans need is if they want to buy a souvenir for themselves.

For details on this fundraising and concert event contact Squadron Commander, Sean Patchin, sypatchin@gmail.com

If you would like to schedule Michael Peterson to perform at your Squadron fundraising event, contact

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ↻ March 20-23, 2011

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE – The sixteenth annual Washington conference will be held March 20-23, 2011, at the Renaissance Washington DC Hotel, 999 9th Street, NW, Washington DC. For those attending this year's conference, we will once again schedule a chartered bus for the laying of a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and several other memorials by National Commander David L. Dew. More information will be forthcoming from Mr. Kevin Collier, Chairman, Legislative Commission on this event and the availability of bus tickets for this event.

Public Relations

Public Relations: Is your Squadrons getting all the free press they can? Do you have a PR Chairman? He should be putting articles in the local and state papers, but not only that the things we do as Sons for our communities, our children and our Veterans should be national news and a well written article maybe picked up by the United Press Association. Remember to submit your news to the **National Update**, use photos to help convey your story; you can email Mike Pipher at mpipher@indiana.edu, use the submission form <http://www.sal.legion.org/documents/sal/pdf/adminmanual/natlupdatesubmissionform.pdf>

The November/December edition of the National Update newsletter has been processed and mailed this week. The next mailing is scheduled for March 2011. Send your news to the Editor no later than January 15, 2011.

Race 365 District standings:

January 1 2011, New Years Day is our 95% goal; Fourth District is already there, Third is with a few members, but the rest of the districts are playing catch up. With all the holiday activities going on make sure you remember to mail you membership in.

1. Fourth District 99.65%
 2. Third District 92.24%
 3. Fifth District 82.76%
 4. Eleventh District 72.06%
 5. Tenth District 66.48%
 6. Sixth District 66.13%
 7. First District 63.25%
 8. Twelfth District 59.15%
 9. Ninth District 54.75%
 10. Seventh District 52.29%
 11. Second District 45.89%
 12. Eighth District 42.71%
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National Vice Commander Central

Patrick Gryskiewicz



<http://www.sal.legion.org/officers/officers.html>

National Vice Commander

[Patrick Gryskiewicz](#)

Merrill, WI

Season Greetings from your National Vice Commander

CWF: Donations are coming in and the central region is in 4th place with Missouri leading, good job!

We need to get the word out to the detachments and squadrons to fill out the 100 percent per capita banner form,

http://www.sal.legion.org/documents/sal/pdf/cwf/2011cwf_percapita_letter.pdf, to get the

recognition they have earned. A **Child Welfare Foundation Survey** was mailed to your detachments, it is only a few questions, fill it out and return promptly. You should encourage your nonprofit organizations to apply for grants from CWF, it would be great to see more of the grants presented in the central region.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation: We know that you are out serving our veterans in the community, in the hospitals and Veterans Homes and providing much needed care packages to our active duty service personnel overseas.

[Read Full Article](#)

A Clear and Present Danger

Joe Gladden



[Joe Gladden](#)

Perry Hall, MD

The story below, while it happen in 2006, I truly believe it represents what our young men and women of our military are truly like. I believe this is just one example of the countless incidents that have been occurring in Iraq and Afghanistan these many years since 911.

The soldier in this story, is alive and raising his family because his comrades simply did what had to be done to save his life, potentially at a cost of losing their own lives. I used the word simply in that last sentence, but truly, it was anything but simple.

Please read the account of this story and then watch the video. You will be moved!

For God and Country,

Joe Gladden National Vice Commander East
 "Working Together, We Can Make A Difference"
 443-742-0842
 joeglad123@aol.com

The story is about Channing Moss, who was impaled by a live RPG during a Taliban ambush while on patrol. Army protocol says that medivac choppers are never to carry anyone with a live round in him. Even though they feared it could explode, the flight crew said damn the protocol and flew him to the nearest aid station. Again, protocol said that in such a case the patient is to be put in a sandbagged area away from the surgical unit, given a shot of morphine and left to wait (and die) until others are treated. Again, the medical team ignored the protocol. Here's a short video put together by the Military Times, which includes actual footage of the surgery where Dr. John Oh, a Korean immigrant who became a naturalized citizen and went to West Point, removed the live round with the help of volunteers and a member of the EOD (explosive ordinance disposal) team. Moss has undergone six operations but is doing well at home in Gainesville, GA. I think you'll find the video absolutely remarkable.

http://www.militarytimes.com/multimedia/video/rpg_surgery/

Regional & National Standings

Regional and National Standings

We are holding on at sixth in the nation and first in the central region, and Central Region has moved up a notch but only by one tenth of a percent, rally your team and get those members renewed and transmitted by the first of the year.

| (Central Region) Patrick N. Gyskiewicz (WI) | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Detachment | Goal | Actual | Percent |
| WISCONSIN | 3,198 | 2,022 | 63.227 |
| MINNESOTA | 10,835 | 6,311 | 58.246 |
| IOWA | 2,740 | 1,449 | 52.883 |
| INDIANA | 36,988 | 19,051 | 51.506 |
| MISSOURI | 3,276 | 1,653 | 50.458 |
| ILLINOIS | 15,127 | 7,453 | 49.270 |
| OHIO | 30,439 | 14,378 | 47.235 |
| MICHIGAN | 20,926 | 8,873 | 42.402 |
| Totals | 123,529 | 61,190 | 49.535 |

Retention

We are leading the Central Region in membership retention also; we are 4th in the nation based on our members renewed. We will be at 95 percent renewals once everyone gets their membership transmitted to HQ.

DETACHMENT **RENEWAL**

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| WISCONSIN | 56.47% |
| MINNESOTA | 53.27% |
| ILLINOIS | 44.68% |
| MISSOURI | 43.44% |
| OHIO | 42.73% |
| IOWA | 42.59% |
| INDIANA | 41.64% |
| MICHIGAN | 37.75% |

Commander High Honor Roll

Twenty-four squadrons over 100 percent and on Commander Seversons High Honor Roll, we need to know your secret.

| Squadron | 2010 | 2011 | Percent |
|---------------------|------|------|---------|
| 544 Twin Lakes | 10 | 28 | 280% |
| 434 Oak Creek | 21 | 35 | 167% |
| 70 Oshkosh | 16 | 19 | 119% |
| 366 Princeton | 20 | 22 | 110% |
| 84 Monroe | 12 | 13 | 108% |
| 245 Cross Plains | 108 | 115 | 106% |
| 155 Westby | 17 | 18 | 106% |
| 18 Milwaukee | 69 | 73 | 106% |
| 172 North Freedom | 24 | 25 | 104% |
| 537 Harold Todd | 52 | 54 | 104% |
| 284 Holmen | 30 | 31 | 103% |
| 11 Green Bay | 37 | 38 | 103% |
| 220 Soldiers Grove | 37 | 38 | 103% |
| 59 Stoughton | New | 34 | 100% |
| 62 Columbus | 10 | 10 | 100% |
| 63 Clintonville | 4 | 10 | 100% |
| 71 Pewaukee | 13 | 13 | 100% |
| 108 Clear Lake | 42 | 42 | 100% |
| 138 Viroqua | New | 10 | 100% |
| 180 Bay View | 48 | 48 | 100% |
| 196 Delafield | 60 | 60 | 100% |
| 313 Black Earth | 16 | 16 | 100% |
| 385 Verona | 4 | 11 | 100% |
| 444 F. D. Roosevelt | 12 | 12 | 100% |

Honor Roll

Eight squadrons are on the Honor roll, bringing us to 32 over goal. One third of our squadrons are at or above the 85 percent goal, and ready for the 95 percent by New Years target.

| Squadron | 2010 | 2011 | Percent |
|------------------|------|------|---------|
| 120 Tanner-Paull | 24 | 23 | 96% |
| 375 Mukwonago | 65 | 62 | 95% |
| 214 Darlington | 60 | 57 | 95% |
| 433 Barneveld | 35 | 32 | 91% |
| 15 Juneau | 11 | 10 | 91% |
| 150 Wausaukee | 22 | 19 | 86% |
| 333 Sun Prairie | 29 | 25 | 86% |

| | | | |
|-------------|----|----|-----|
| 157 Horicon | 28 | 24 | 86% |
|-------------|----|----|-----|

On board and Ready to Race

Forty-Three Squadrons are on the board and working towards the New Years Day 95 percent goal. Is your membership team up for the challenge?

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|-----|
| 23 Cudworth | 38 | 32 | 84% |
| 67 Lake Mills | 43 | 36 | 84% |
| 158 Maiden Rock | 38 | 31 | 82% |
| 203 Federal | 30 | 24 | 80% |
| 406 General King | 20 | 16 | 80% |
| 189 Watertown | 46 | 35 | 76% |
| 168 Glenwood City | 25 | 19 | 76% |
| 437 Mazomanie | 50 | 38 | 76% |
| 38 Appleton | 55 | 41 | 75% |
| 121 River Falls | 57 | 42 | 74% |
| 522 Hubertus | 19 | 14 | 74% |
| 547 Lublin | 47 | 34 | 72% |
| 21 Kenosha | 28 | 20 | 71% |
| 93 Tomahawk | 21 | 15 | 71% |
| 151 Madison | 21 | 15 | 71% |
| 209 Orfordville | 83 | 59 | 71% |
| 481 Madison | 99 | 70 | 71% |
| 54 Marshfield | 17 | 11 | 65% |
| 273 Grand Marsh | 17 | 11 | 65% |
| 111 Somerset | 16 | 10 | 63% |
| 501 Madison | 16 | 10 | 63% |
| 288 Cedarburg | 61 | 38 | 62% |
| 534 McFarland | 80 | 49 | 61% |
| 417 French Island | 23 | 14 | 61% |
| 449 Brookfield | 89 | 54 | 61% |
| 416 Greendale | 22 | 13 | 59% |
| 73 Neilsville | 19 | | |
| 1 Germantown | 16 | | 0% |
| 44 Wabeno | 16 | | 0% |
| 75 Fond du Lac | 26 | | 0% |
| 91 Oconomowoc | 19 | | 0% |
| 95 Delavan | 17 | | 0% |
| 115 Elroy | 17 | | 0% |
| 116 Coon Valley | 23 | | 0% |
| 129 Black River Falls | 38 | | 0% |
| 143 St. Croix Falls | 29 | | 0% |
| 271 Poynette | 50 | | 0% |
| 302 Oconto Falls | 10 | | 0% |
| 305 Johnson Creek | 19 | | 0% |
| 339 Almond | 22 | | 0% |
| 355 Grafton | 46 | | 0% |
| 387 Franklin | 18 | | 0% |
| 538 Carlton | 39 | | 0% |

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin