

**Sons of  
The  
American  
Legion**



For God and Country

**DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS**  
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**Phil Stander**  
Detachment Commander

# "THE DRIVE IS ALIVE"

Fellow Son's

I pray this mailing finds you all safe and healthy. I want to thank everyone who attended the recent DEC, either in person or via Zoom. The Zoom portion of the meeting went very well. Thank you Adjutant Jeff Van Horn and Asst. Adjutant Eugene Gort for monitoring and organizing it. For those that attended by Zoom if you have any suggestions on how we can make the experience better please let me know your thoughts. Although we have high hopes that will not be necessary in the future.

With restrictions still in place fundraising is a challenge. The American Legion Programs depend on our donations to continue. I have seen many creative and clever ideas on raising funds safely during these difficult times. Drive through dinner pickup, Drive through donation drop-offs. Parking lot live bands done like a drive inn theatre. Even outdoor bingo. Please share your ideas with our PR chairman Eugene Gort.

As with all organizations motivating members to volunteer is always a challenge. So how can we create that motivation? To start all Squadrons should have a new member welcome program. By that many squadrons will sign up a new member, collect their dues and it ends there, The senior vice, or willing assistant, should reach out to all new members and invite them to a meeting. Then when they attend introduce them and give them a tour of the post. During the meeting upcoming activities should be covered and volunteer opportunities explained. If we can work to make new members and existing members see the need for participation the pool of volunteers will increase.

Please continue to do your Buddy Checks. Keep members informed as to what is going on. Check that they have what they need and are staying safe.

With a good "Can Do" attitude we can "Celebrate the Past and Awaken our Future" while keeping "The Drive Alive"

Thank You for all that you do.