

May
2026

Blue Cap News



Detachment
Conference Call at
7 P.M. on Tuesday,
June 9, 2026



For the latest
information about
Sons of the
American Legion,
Detachment of
Arizona visit

azsal.org

☀️ June Brings Opportunity, Service, and Momentum for the Sons of The American Legion 🇺🇸

As we welcome the month of June, the Sons of The American Legion across Arizona continue building momentum through service, patriotism, and dedication to our veterans, communities, and youth programs. Summer is now upon us, bringing new opportunities for squadrons to engage members, support local events, and strengthen the mission of the American Legion Family.

June is often one of the busiest and most rewarding months of the year. From community fundraisers and veterans support initiatives to youth activities and Detachment preparations, SAL members statewide continue proving that service does not take a season off. 🌱☀️

This month also marks an important time of reflection as we move from Memorial Day remembrance into continued action. The memory of those who gave their lives for our nation reminds us why the work of the SAL remains so important today. Every volunteer hour, fundraiser, scholarship effort, and act of support helps preserve the values they defended.

Across Arizona, squadrons are encouraged to:

- 🤝 Recruit and mentor new members
- 📣 Promote upcoming summer activities
- 👤 Support community and youth programs
- 🏛️ Participate in American Legion Family events
- ❤️ Continue outreach to veterans and military families
- 📷 Share stories and photos from local squadron activities
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June also brings anticipation for the upcoming Detachment Convention, where members from across the state will gather to celebrate accomplishments, exchange ideas, and help shape the future of the organization. The dedication shown by squadrons throughout Arizona continues to demonstrate the strength and unity of the SAL program. ✨

As we move into the summer season, let us continue working together with pride, purpose, and commitment to service. The impact made by the Sons of The American Legion is felt in communities large and small across our state, and every member plays an important role in that success.





Thank you for everything you do for our veterans, our communities, and the future of the American Legion Family. 🇺🇸

New Digital Home for Arizona SAL Goes Live! us

The Sons of The American Legion is proud to announce the launch of its brand-new website:  AZSAL.org







Designed with members, squadrons, and supporters in mind, the new site creates a modern and centralized online hub for everything related to the Arizona SAL. From forms and reports to convention information and membership resources, the new platform helps keep Arizona Sons connected like never before.

◆ **What You'll Find on the New Website**

- ✓ Easy-to-access Detachment forms
- ✓ Officer and Squadron resources
- ✓ Membership information and eligibility details
- ✓ Event and Convention updates 
- ✓ Online reporting and submissions 
- ✓ Governing documents and policies 
- ✓ Photo galleries featuring Arizona SAL members in action 




The updated digital platform also introduces streamlined online submissions, allowing squadrons to electronically file reports and required paperwork quickly and efficiently. This improvement helps strengthen communication across the Detachment while making administrative tasks easier for local squadrons statewide.

✨ **Features Worth Exploring**

-  [Detachment Forms & Resources](#)
-  [Find a Squadron Near You](#)
-  [Convention Information](#)
-  [Detachment in Action Gallery](#)
-  [Constitution & By-Laws](#)
-  [Join the Sons of The American Legion](#)

Built for the Future

The new website represents another step forward for the Arizona SAL as it continues strengthening communication, improving accessibility, and supporting squadrons across the state. Whether you're a longtime member, a newly chartered squadron, or someone interested in joining the organization, AZSAL.org is now the digital home for the Arizona SAL family.

-  Explore the new website today.
-  Stay connected.
-  Stay informed.

🏆 Sons of the American Legion – Detachment of Arizona

🏛️ 2026 Department Convention Announcement

The Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Detachment of Arizona is preparing to stand united at the upcoming **American Legion Department of Arizona Convention**, taking place:

📅 **27 June 2026 8:00 am**

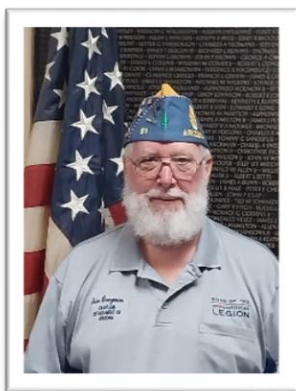
📍 **Crowne Plaza San Marcos Golf Resort**

📍 One N. San Marcos Place, Chandler, AZ 85225 us 🇺🇸

This annual gathering brings together Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, and Sons from across Arizona to conduct the official business of The American Legion Family while celebrating service, leadership, and shared purpose. 🤝💙

To register: <https://azsal.org/arizona-state-convention-2026/>





A Prayer to Release the Past and Embrace the Future



We all carry memories that pull us back—but God calls us forward. This prayer helps you release what's behind and step confidently into the hope God has prepared for your future.

Every car has a rearview mirror. This mirror allows you to see if there are cars around you so you can change lanes safely. The purpose of the mirror is for you to glance at it quickly, observe, and determine when it is safe to change lanes. The rearview mirror is small, and the windshield is large because your primary focus must be on the road ahead. You were never meant to drive forward while constantly looking in the rearview mirror. Doing that will inevitably lead you to crash. At best, you'll swerve off course; at worst, you'll cause a collision that affects not only you but those around you.

Life is very much the same way. It is easy to get stuck looking at your past to the point where you end up crashing your future. We all have things in our past that we seem unable to forget. Maybe it's the poor decision you made that cost you your marriage, your business, or even your health. The memory reel of that conversation, that missed opportunity, or that careless moment can play on a loop, stealing your present [peace](#). Sometimes it is not even a mistake you made but something that was done to you. Yet, it can have the same devastating effect. Regardless of what happened, there is something you must understand. It is in your rearview. No matter how much you lament over it, there is nothing you can do to change it, so that leaves you with two choices. You can lament, or you can learn.

If you are going to release your past and embrace your future, you must move from being a lamenter to being a learner. However, please don't think you must arrive there on your own.

The [Holy Spirit](#) can help - He is critical in helping you overcome the pain of past failures, helping you to receive the [forgiveness](#) of Christ, and to learn the lessons you need to learn from your past. He can help you view your past through the lens of God's grace, rather than your own regret.

Friends too help, they can walk with you through these seasons and be a significant source of support, prayer, and accountability. Seek friends who will speak the truth in love and who will walk with you for the duration.

Overcoming your past is not always easy, but it is possible. It is an active process that may require some effort on your part, but with God's help, it can be accomplished. **Everything God has for you is in the future. Don't allow your past to stop you from walking into it.** Remember, destiny is not something behind you but something in front of you.

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. - [Philippians 3:13-14](#)

- A devotional by [Clarence L. Haynes Jr.](#)



American Legion Baseball

The Early Days



Americanism

Baseball, hotdogs, apple pie, and Chevrolet! That's about as American as you can get, at least according to the 1975 Chevy advertisement. That's hard to argue with and the American Legion has embraced baseball since Legion Baseball was founded in 1925. Since then, American Legion Baseball has taught hundreds of thousands of young Americans the importance of sportsmanship, good health and active citizenship. Millions of young men have played Legion Baseball over the years and have seen the organization as a stepping stone to manhood and served their country or community, or played the sport at the highest level in the MLB.

The league was first proposed at an American Legion state convention in South Dakota when it was noted that the American Legion could assist in the training of young Americans through athletic games and that athletic competition teaches courage and respect for others while fostering their growth into active citizens. From that convention came an agreement to draft a resolution that was then presented at the ensuing national convention in Omaha, Nebraska and was fully supported by National Commander James Drain. The resolution read:

"RESOLVED: That The American Legion...inaugurate and conduct baseball leagues and tournaments for local championships, and that local champions determined by the competitions be given opportunity to compete in departmental, sectional and regional tournaments, and that a junior world series championship baseball series be conducted at each national convention..."

1926 saw the vision become a reality when posts in 15 states organized and sponsored teams and conducted championship tourneys. Postseason tournaments at the state and regional levels culminated with a national championship that was held in Philadelphia with a team sponsored by a New York post beat a team from Idaho. After the first year, it was learned that the format of the season was a success, but that came at a price of nearly \$50,000. In early 1928 The Legion's first donor to that expense was professional baseball and with that support the program was thriving, that is until the great depression came along in 1933 when Major League Baseball had to withdraw its support. The Legion's Americanism Chairman Dan Sowers worked very hard and again found corporate sponsors and several large newspaper companies in many major cities, keeping the program marching on, albeit with many teams being run on very limited budgets. In 1935 the MLB was able to renew its pledge which is still intact today with a \$40,000 annual contribution, which in today's budget comes to about 3 percent of the total budget.

Source – American Legion website

Arizona American Legion College: Building Tomorrow's Leaders Today



Leadership within the American Legion Family does not happen by accident. It is developed through mentorship, education, and a commitment to service. The [Arizona American Legion College](#) continues to play a vital role in preparing Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, and **Sons of The American Legion** members for the future of our organization.

Modeled after the national program established by The American Legion, the Arizona American Legion College focuses on leadership development, communication, organizational management, and a deeper understanding of the mission and programs of the American Legion Family. ([The American Legion](#))

The college provides students with an immersive learning environment where participants gain practical knowledge they can immediately take back to their posts, squadrons, districts, and communities. Through classroom instruction, team projects, discussions, and hands-on leadership exercises, attendees sharpen the skills needed to strengthen membership, promote programs, and serve veterans more effectively. ([The American Legion](#))

One of the most valuable aspects of the Arizona American Legion College is the opportunity for members of the entire American Legion Family to learn together. While priority is often given to Legionnaires, qualified members of the **Sons of The American Legion** and the American Legion Auxiliary may also participate when space is available. ([Department of Arizona](#)) This shared experience helps build stronger working relationships and reinforces the teamwork necessary for the success of our organization.

Students are encouraged to think critically about the future of the American Legion Family and explore innovative ways to engage younger veterans and new members. Topics often include servant leadership, membership growth, public speaking, media relations, program development, and organizational structure. ([The American Legion](#))

For members of the **Sons of The American Legion**, the college offers an excellent opportunity to prepare for future leadership positions at the squadron, district, and detachment levels. Graduates often return energized and inspired, bringing fresh ideas and renewed enthusiasm to their local communities.

Leadership training has always been an important part of the American Legion Family's mission. Since the original American Legion College programs began in the 1940s, these educational opportunities have helped shape generations of leaders dedicated to the Four Pillars of The American Legion: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. ([The American Legion](#))

The Arizona American Legion College continues that proud tradition by investing in the future leaders who will carry our mission forward for years to come.

Members interested in learning more about upcoming classes, applications, and program details can visit the official Arizona American Legion College website at azlegioncollege.org.



📢 From the Editor’s Desk – Blue Cap News

📄🌟 From Your Squadron to the Spotlight! 🌟📷

As we continue through 2026, the energy across the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Arizona remains strong and growing. 🇺🇸 From local Squadron service projects to statewide events, one thing is clear—our members continue to step up, stay engaged, and honor the mission of the American Legion Family in meaningful ways. 🤝🏆

With the **2026 Detachment Convention set for June 26–28 in Chandler at the Crowne Plaza San Marcos Golf Resort**, this is an important time for Squadrons to stay active, involved, and ready to take part in shaping the direction of our organization. 🏛️🧢

Every event, every meeting, and every act of service helps tell the story of who we are as Sons—and that story is still being written every day across Arizona. 🇺🇸👉

Stay involved. Stay connected. Keep serving. ❤️

📄 Submit today and be part of the story!

Submit your stories or ad info to:

✉️ bluecap@azlegion.org

Stay blue-capped and proud,

John “Radar” Meyer

— The Editor

The Blue Cap News

