February 2026

Blue Cap News

Detachment Conference Call at 7 P.M. on Tuesday, March 10, 2026

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

azsal.org

🇺🇸 Americanism in Action 🇺🇸

March has been designated across Arizona as **Americanism & Patriotism Month** for the **Sons of the American Legion**, and there could not be a more fitting time to reflect on who we are and why we serve.

Americanism is more than ceremony. It is more than standing for the flag or reciting the Pledge. It is action. It is service. It is commitment to something greater than ourselves.

As members of the **The American Legion** Family, we uphold one of the Four Pillars of the Legion — Americanism — by strengthening respect for our flag, our Constitution, our veterans, and our communities. We carry forward the legacy of those who wore the uniform by living lives worthy of their sacrifice.

March also marks the birthday of The American Legion, founded March 15, 1919. For more than a century, the Legion has stood as the nation's largest veterans service organization, advocating for veterans, defending the Constitution, promoting strong national security, and investing in America's youth. As Sons, we are entrusted with preserving and advancing that legacy for generations to come.

This month, I challenge every Squadron across Arizona to make Americanism visible:

- 🇺🇸 Host a flag education or retirement ceremony
- 🎂 Celebrate the Legion's birthday with your Post and Legion Family
- 🎖️ Honor our Vietnam veterans in observance of Vietnam Veterans Day
- 🤝 Complete a community service project that reflects our values
- 🧒🏫 Engage youth in civic education and patriotic responsibility

Patriotism is not passive. It is participation. It is mentoring the next generation. It is showing up for veterans. It is keeping our traditions alive in a world that often forgets their meaning.

March is an opportunity to remember that we are not simply a support organization — we are leaders. We are mentors. We are standard bearers of the Legion Family mission. Whether through youth programs, community outreach, or direct veteran support, every act of service reinforces the foundation of our Republic.

Let this month be one where our Squadrons do not just talk about Americanism — we demonstrate it.

Together, let us lead with purpose, serve with pride, and stand firmly for God and Country.

Wild Willy's Western Rendezvous: Brotherhood, Training & Purpose in Action

Each January, Sons from across the Western Region saddle up and make the trek to Las Vegas, Nevada, for Wild Willy's Western Rendezvous, an unofficial but eagerly anticipated event that brings together members of the Sons of The American Legion Western Region for fellowship, leadership development, and renewed commitment to service.

Now in its 12th year, Wild Willy's Western Rendezvous isn't just another weekend in the desert — it's a gathering with heart and mission. Hosted at the Tuscany Suites in Las Vegas, SAL members come together to strengthen the bonds that tie our detachment family together, share best practices, and grow as leaders within our organization.

The Rendezvous offers more than camaraderie: it's a chance to learn. Training sessions at past events have focused on key programs and tools that help Squadrons be more effective back home, from Americanism initiatives to membership development and leadership skills. This blend of education and engagement empowers attendees to return to their communities with fresh ideas and renewed enthusiasm.

But the spirit of Wild Willy's goes beyond training. It's about the relationships built around the table, the stories shared in hallways and meeting rooms, and the shared belief that service to veterans, youth, and community matters deeply. Sons who have taken part in past Rendezvous often speak of the trip as a highlight of their SAL year — a time to reconnect with old friends and make new ones who share a passion for the Legion Family mission.

Whether gathering for a planned workshop or simply enjoying the fellowship, Wild Willy's Western Rendezvous reinforces what we stand for: service, loyalty, and commitment to country and community. It's a reminder that no matter where we come from, we're stronger when we come together.

🌐 A New Look for Our Voice: AZSAL.org Gets a Powerful Upgrade

We're excited to announce that **Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona** is launching **a newly revamped and improved website at *azsal.org*** — and it's coming soon!

The new site is being rebuilt from the ground up to better serve Squadrons, families, and Sons members across the state. While the old site served us well, it didn't always make it easy to find what you were looking for — like Squadron forms, events, membership info, or Americanism resources. The updated version will bring a fresh, modern look along with improved navigation and functionality that will help us all stay connected and better informed.

🔎 **What's Coming**
🎯 **Cleaner layout** — information easier to find
🗓️ **Upcoming events & calendars** — all in one place
📄 **Squadron forms & downloads** — organized and up to date
📣 **News & announcements** — including Detachment and Squadron stories
📬 **Email subscription options** — so you never miss important updates
…and more features designed to support your Squadron's work and your service to veterans and community.

This website refresh isn't just cosmetic — it's part of our commitment to strengthen communication and engagement across Arizona. Whether you're a Squadron commander looking for forms, a member interested in Americanism programs, or someone wanting to connect with Sons activity across the state, the new site will be a go-to resource.

Stay tuned for the official launch announcement. Once it goes live, make sure to bookmark **azsal.org** and check back often — your Detachment leaders will continue to post valuable resources and updates there.

Americanism

Uniform Cap Etiquette

Did you Know?

- The left side (emblem side) of cap is reserved only for the Legion emblem, city, county, district, or state lettering.
- If desired, the following items must be placed on the right side of the cap:
  - Additional lettering, restricted to either the name of a Post or to an officer title, such as Past Commander
  - Cap insignias or badges / pins for past or present officers
  - Consecutive membership insignia, membership stars, and /or authorized Legion or military service decorations
- Names or nicknames of individual members cannot be used on caps.
- A member is considered to be in uniform if wearing an official Legion uniform cap. Therefore is not proper to wear the cap while eating a meal at an official Legion or civic luncheon or dinner.
- The Legion uniform cap should be worn by its members only when in attendance at official Legion meetings or ceremonies or as official guests at patriotic or other civil functions or by individual when officially representing The American Legion on public occasions.
- The cap should be worn in a place of worship only by the Guard of Honor, Color Guard, and Commander of same while in marching order or standing guard. When returned to and seated in pews, the cap should be removed.
- When at a funeral, the cap should be held over the heart as one approaches the casket and s not at any time worn in a place of worship (except by the Guard of Honor, Color Guard, or Commander of same while in marching order or standing guard.) At the graveside, the cap should be held in the right hand over the heart during the entire service. In cod and inclement weather, the cap should not be worn.
- In Legion meetings the cap should be worn except during moments of the Pledge of Allegiance, prayer, and when standing in silent reverence in memory of departed comrades, when the cap should be held with the right hand over the heart.
- Any time the cap is placed on a table, it should be placed with the emblem side up.
- When the cap is in a clip on a belt, the back of the hat should be in the clip with the emblem side facing out and at the bottom.

Jim Borgman
Americanism Chairman

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.

Jim Borgman,
Detachment Chaplain

Editor's Desk

📣 From the Editor's Desk – Blue Cap News

As we move through another busy month, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for the continued pride, dedication, and service you bring to the Sons of the American Legion. Your commitment to Americanism, veterans support, youth programs, and community involvement truly reflects the values our organization stands for.

This month has been a great reminder that even small efforts—attending meetings, volunteering at events, supporting local schools, or simply lending a hand—make a meaningful impact. Every flag raised, ceremony supported, and youth encouraged strengthens our mission and honors those who have served before us.

I encourage everyone to stay engaged, share ideas, and invite others to join us. Together, we continue to build strong communities while preserving the principles of patriotism and service that define the Blue Cap legacy.

Thank you for all that you do—your dedication does not go unnoticed.

Together, we keep the spirit of the Sons of the American Legion strong.

Got an event or something to promote? Submit an advertisement for the Blue Cap News with just a $5 (per month) donation to the Commander's charity — COTA (Children's Organ Transplant Association).

Send donations (made payable to SAL COTA FUND) to:

Detachment Adjutant
4701 North 19th Avenue, Suite #200
Phoenix, Arizona 85015
(make sure you put your Squadron on the memo)

Submit your stories or ad info to:
✉ bluecap@azlegion.org

Let's keep the SAL spirit strong and share your stories with the whole Detachment!

Stay blue-capped and proud,
John "Radar" Meyer
— The Editor
The Blue Cap News

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF ARIZONA
SAL CAMPOUT
2026
COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA
APRIL 10-12, 2026
DEAD HORSE RANCH STATE PARK
For information or reservations, contact:
saladjutant@azlegion.org

RIDING SIDE BY SIDE WITH COTA

Children's Organ Transplant Association

2025 POLARIS RZR 1000 WITH TRAILER

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Join the Son's of the American Legion Arizona in supporting COTA to help remove the financial barriers to life-saving transplants for children in Arizona

APRIL 12, 2026 DRAWING

$30 TICKET OR 4/$100

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