

Greetings Sons of The American Legion,

We are coming up to the final hole in our game of golf this year. I would like to **THANK** all of the Squadrons, Districts & Detachments in our organization for all that you are doing for our Veterans. At the National level, we have promoted only 10 of the many programs out there for our Nation's Heroes past and present. Keep up the hard work for our Veterans whether it is through these 10 programs or a grass roots program of your own.

In the course of this year, I have had the opportunity to sit in a few of The American Legion's VAR meetings and I have noticed that the Sons work more of the Rehabilitation side which is fantastic. This year, we are holding bowling tournaments, having walk-a-thons, raising money for service dogs, promoting the Creative Arts Festival, Heroes to Hometown and the U.S.O. We continue to make everyone aware of our Homeless Veterans, the Missing in America Project and the Suicide Hot line and lastly our National Commander's 2 VAR projects: the National Veterans Assistance Day (NVAD) and Fisher House.

We also continue to look for representatives or deputies at our Nation's V.A. Medical Centers. We not only need reps/deps but volunteers (VAVS) at the hospitals or outpatient clinics (CBOC's).

We all know how easy it is to write a check for a donation; but taking time to physically help or visit our Nations Heroes is beyond priceless. Whether it is sponsoring a bingo at a Medical Center, doing some work at a Fisher House, sponsoring a Veteran for the Creative Arts Festival; doing some work in the veteran's home or just sitting and talking is more even more valuable but not necessarily easy.

Lastly, over the last 7 seven years the Sons Nationally have donated almost \$15 million dollars to VA&R alone. This an incredible number and it is with only 20% or less reporting. I ask YOU, if you have not done a consolidated report form, there is still a little time to get it to National. Just imagine what our numbers would be if we reported 50% or better.

“TOGETHER MAKING A DIFFERENCE”

BRUNO “T” WILLIAOMSON

VAR CHAIRMAN