

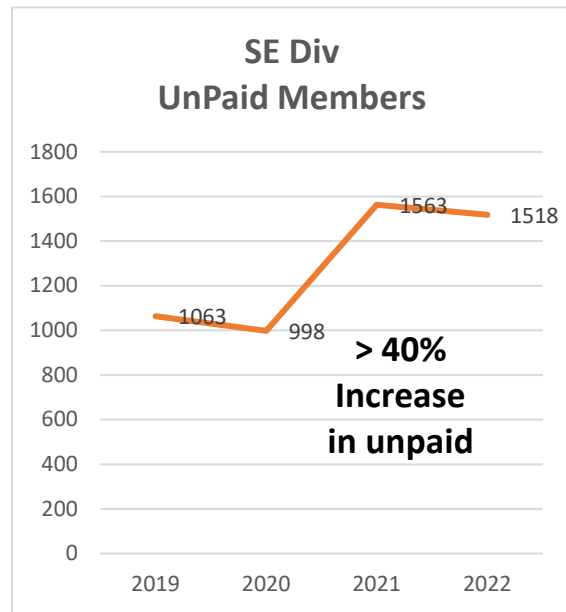
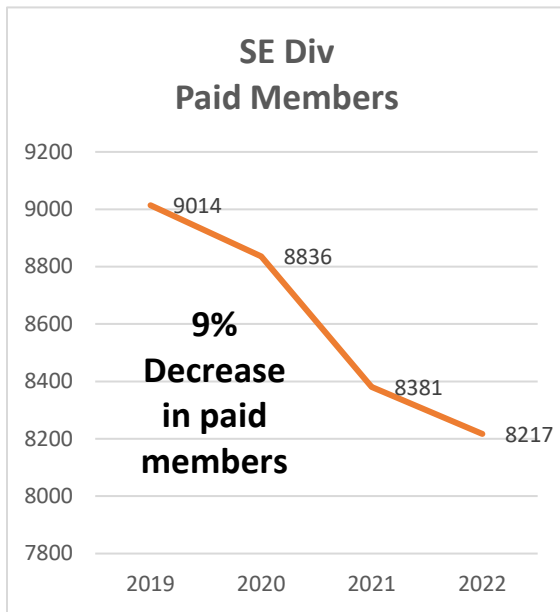
# Southeast Division Report

August 1, 2022

To: National Commandant, Johnny Baker  
From: NVC, Southeast Division, Jerry Holt  
Subject: Annual Report of the Division

## MEMBERSHIP

Like many of the other Divisions, our major challenge is in recruiting and retention. The two following graphs depict the problem we're facing, but don't clearly identify the underlying cause.



We are either losing members who try us for one or two years, then drop out, or we're just not being aggressive enough in using our rosters to pursue dues collections. Several Departments in the Division are addressing the issue by promoting Paid Life Membership. While there may be some downside effects to the League because of the loss of the annuity stream of annual dues from members as we increase the PLM count, this fallout is largely offset by the apparent loss of dues we seem to be currently experiencing. We will be looking more deeply into this 'unpaid dues' issue to see how we can better address the problem.

## **HONOR GUARD**

At least two of our Departments were recently called upon to provide high-profile funeral details. Fortunately, both were able to respond and received high praise for their response and professionalism. That capability doesn't exist in many of our locations, however. Whether it's because of age, interest, finances or priorities, it's an area where we need to ramp up our game. Fortunately, we do respond regularly – especially if it's a Marine funeral service – when we're asked to post an Honor Guard at the casket during a wake or memorial service. It's where we're asked to provide a bugler and a rifle detail that we struggle.

The League Library has an excellent Policy and Procedures manual for Honor Guard units within the League. To the extent that one of the reasons we don't have more Honor Guard units throughout the League is related to finance, we've posted a document on the Southeast Division website that was used in support of getting legislation passed which provides a stipend to Certified VSO Honor Guard units whenever they provide an Honor Guard detail at a veteran's funeral or memorial service. The document provides the fundamentals of the business case and references to payments by other states, and was used to convince legislators of the value of these active units. You can find the document at [www.sediv.org](http://www.sediv.org) and look in the column on the left for Honor Guard Stipend.

## **PARTICIPATION CHART FOLLOWS**



# SOUTHEAST DIVISION

## DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

From: 09/2021

To: 07/2022

<b>DETACHMENTS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>COMPLIANCE</b>	<b>AL</b>	<b>FL</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>LA</b>	<b>MS</b>	<b>SC</b>	<b>TN</b>	<b>TTL</b>
Detachments With								
Fewer than 15 Members	1	1	-	0	0	1	2	5
Delinquent ROI	1	2	-	0	0	2	0	5
Delinquent 990 Filing	0	6	-	0	0	1	0	7
Delinquent Secretary of State Filing	0	3	-	0	0	4	0	7
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>								
	<b>AL</b>	<b>FL</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>LA</b>	<b>MS</b>	<b>SC</b>	<b>TN</b>	<b>TTL</b>
Detachments Participating In								
Rifle / Pistol Matches	2	1	-	0	1	0	1	5
No. of Events	10	1	-	0	0	0	2	13
With Honor Guard / Honor Guard	4	3	-	4	2	6	4	23
No. of Funeral Events	42	13	-	72	3	4	71	205
No. of Color Guard Events	3	37	-	6	0	7	10	63
Community Service Hours Performed	61,675	2,200	-	9,464	91	7,074	5,397	85,901
<b>SUPPORTS</b>								
	<b>AL</b>	<b>FL</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>LA</b>	<b>MS</b>	<b>SC</b>	<b>TN</b>	<b>TTL</b>
Detachments That Support								
Young Marine Unit	1	4	-	2	0	4	1	12
Youth Physical Fitness Program	2	0	-	0	0	0	0	2
M4L Coordinator	13	9	-	11	0	13	2	48
Eagle Scout Awards Presented	0	16	-	102	0	15	211	344
Toys For Tots								
Detachments Supporting Another Org.	6	5	-	5	3	7	2	28
Detachments Operating As T4T Coordinator	6	5	-	4	2	11	4	32



# SOUTHEAST DIVISION

## DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

- AL ● None.
- FL ● Many of our Detachments have volunteer hours that have been reported through VAVS program. Those hours are not on this report. DOF has issued policy on use of social media and will forward to SE/National upon request.
- GA ● None.
- LA ● Added one new Detachment and have completed charter and have completed charter application on another. Goal is 15 units by August 2023.
- MS ● The Department Commandant is the chairman of the YANKY 72 and on the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary held the memorial ceremony. The weekend of July 10, 2022 brought over 60 family members to the Mississippi Delta as they joined the community in remembering the 15 Marines and 1 Navy Corpsman that lost their lives 5 years before. On July 10, 2017, a Marine KC-130 aircraft crashed into the soybean fields near Itta Bena, Mississippi carrying 16 heroes that were headed to a training mission in Arizona. This year marked the 5th ceremony that honored the men aboard YANKY 72 and was held at the YANKY 72 Memorial located on Hwy 82 in Itta Bena, MS. The event is put on every year by the Mississippi Marine Corps League in joint efforts with the local search and rescue crews and the surrounding communities. The ceremony consisted of changing of the flags, reading of the names, and a time of prayer and encouragement by a local pastor.
- SC ● 1 Detachment has 10 members, 2<sup>nd</sup> has 16 members (Detachment with 10 members is voluntarily turning in charter, working with Commandant to work on recruiting to hopefully prevent Detachment folding.
- We have one Detachment that has not submitted their ROI, we are working with them, they have not been as involved at the Department and have taken an attitude of "we're old, we don't have to follow the rules". Two new members are transferring in to the Detachment and are working with me to get them back up to speed and in compliance.
- Would like to see SC increase the number of shooting events, one large challenge is finding good locations that follow the requirements of the National SOP.
- We would also like to encourage additional involvement in funeral details / color guards. I think additional training in regard to requirements for Honor Guard / Color Guards could help with this. Letting Detachments know that they can be involved with something as simple as a flag detail is a good first step.
- We are building a stronger Department-wide T4T Program through new coordinators attending the training in 2022 for this year's program.
- Three new Detachments are in preliminary works with a goal of bringing them to fruition before the end of 2023 FY.
- SC is hosting the 2023 Division Conference; we are hoping for great attendance and involvement from all the Departments in our Division. Our Host hotel is working with us and we are looking forward to an awesome event.
- The Department is working on a new officer training program that we are looking to implement at the next Department Convention with information to help potential leaders know what is expected from them and hopefully encourage new leaders to step up to positions.
- TN ● None.