Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of the Great Wars, associate ourselves together as "Sons of The American Legion" for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the association of our members and our forefathers in the Great Wars - to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State and Nation, to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses; to make right the master to make right the master of might- to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy, to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

The American Legion
American Legion Auxiliary
Sons of The American Legion
The American Legion Riders
Sons of The American Legion (SAL)

All male descendants, adopted sons and stepsons of members of The American Legion, along with male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Lebanon/Grenada, Panama, the Gulf War or the war on terrorism during the delimiting periods set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, are eligible for membership in Sons of The American Legion.

Since SAL eligibility begins at date of birth, a squadron’s activities and programs should be determined by age groupings of eligible members, the apparent needs of young eligibles, the community’s need for programs and activities that could be provided by SAL, and the capabilities of those serving as SAL leaders and advisers.

New members should be initiated with full ceremony. A member’s first impression is often the most lasting. Also, distribute copies of the SAL Squadron Handbook available when initiating new candidates. Two copies per squadron – one for the squadron commander, one for the squadron adjutant – are available from the department. Purchase additional copies from Emblem Sales at 888-453-4466 or online at emblem.legion.org.

The Sons of The American Legion was created in 1932 as an organization within The American Legion. The SAL is made up of boys and men of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the United States military and became eligible for membership in The American Legion. Together, members of the Legion, Auxiliary and the SAL make up what is known as The Legion Family. All three organizations place high importance on preserving our American traditions and values, improving the quality of life for our nation's children, caring for veterans and their families, and perhaps most importantly, teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship.

Sons focus on much more than just membership. At all levels, Sons support The American Legion in promoting a wide variety of programs. Sons assist their posts in other activities such as Veterans programs, Veterans Administration home and hospital volunteerism, Children Youth projects, and fund raising. In just the past ten years, Sons have raised more than a million dollars for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Members volunteered over 170,000 hours in 2000 in Veterans Hospitals throughout the country and raised over $700,000 that went directly to VA hospitals and VA homes for a variety of items including TVs, radios, medical equipment, and clothing for the patients.
The SAL cap, sometimes referred to as a member's cover, should be worn at all SAL and Legion Family functions. Different colored caps, or covers, denote different administrative levels throughout the Sons: The French blue with red, white and blue piping cap is worn by a Squadron member or officer. The French blue with white piping County officer. The French blue bottom with piping and white top District officer. The French blue with piping and gold top Detachment officer. The Solid gold with piping National officer.