



The Sons of the American Legion
Turner-Brandon Squadron 7
1760 Turner Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756-6247

Winter 2022 Essay Contest

Subjects: How my ancestor served in the US Military, or
How my neighbor (or friend) served in the US Military.

PRIZES

1ST Prize \$300.00
2nd Prize \$200.00
3rd Prize \$100.00

Who may enter: Students at Clearwater High School, grades 9-12 for the 2021/2022 school year.
Membership is not required. No entry fees.

Contest Rules

Essay entry must include:

A Title page with subject, date written, student's name, address, and grade. Each subsequent page must include the student's name in the upper right-hand corner and a page number at the bottom center of the page.

Ancestor may be a parent, grandparent, or any ancestor. Step and adopted ancestors are permitted, as are other relatives and friends and/or acquaintances.

The essay shall be at least 200 but no more than 500 words in length, not counting title, heading and page numbering. The essay may be either typed or handwritten in ink on 8 ½" x 11" paper or on plain white paper or regular theme paper with 1-inch margins. No decorative borders, pictures, or other graphics. If typed or printed, a 12- or 13-point **Times** or **Courier** typeface **MUST** be used. For reference, this document is 8 ½" by 11", 1-inch margins, and uses only "Times New Roman" and "Courier New" typefaces. The use of **bold**, underline, *and/or italics* for effect is acceptable. Emailed Entries must be in Microsoft® Word, Adobe® PDF, or Rich Text Format.

Partisan politics will disqualify an entry.

Essays may be submitted by email or USPS mail

S.A.L. Squadron 7

Sons@alpost7clwr.org

Essay Contest

1760 Turner St.

Clearwater, FL 33756-6247

Deadlines: Entries **MUST** be received by **February 4th, 2022**. Entries will be judged, and prizes presented on February 13th, 2022. The Deadlines may be extended at the sole discretion of the **S.A.L. Executive Board** if less than 10 entries are received by the current deadline.

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BASIS FOR JUDGING		
	Points	Total
1. Content		50
A. Originality & Presentation	25	
B. Relation to Topic	15	
C. Essay must be factual	10	
2. Organization of Subject Matter		30
A. Unity (avoid Irrelevant matter)	10	
B. Emphasis (good proportion & arrangement of Parts)	10	
C. Coherence (clearness)	10	30
3. Correct Usage		
A. Choice of words (free from overused expressions)	10	20
B. Effective Sentences (correct grammar, spelling, punctuation and neatness)	10	
TOTAL		100

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What is The Sons of The American Legion?

The Sons of The American Legion was created in 1932 as an organization within The American Legion. The S.A.L. 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.

Their main mission is to sponsor programs that its parent organization, The American Legion, does to improve veterans' communities, such as scholarships, veterans help programs (i.e. ending veterans' homelessness), and youth sports. They also promote national security, patriotism, and devotion to veterans.

The Preamble to the Constitution of The Sons of The American legion

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of all 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 associations of our members and our forefathers in all Wars;
- to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State and Nation;
- to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
- 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.



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What is The American Legion?

The American Legion is the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization aimed at advocating patriotism across the U.S. through diverse programs. The American Legion's mission statement, as adopted by the National Executive Committee in October 2020, is:

To enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness. The American Legion's vision statement is "The American Legion: Veterans Strengthening America."

For any qualified individual who is interested in joining, they must submit a completed application with the annual dues for Clearwater Post 7, along with proof of eligibility.

Annual Dues for 2022

The American Legion:	\$45.00
Auxiliary Unit 7	\$32.00
S.A.L. Squadron 7	\$25.00 (age 18 and over)
	\$12.00 (age 17 and under)

THERE IS NO AGE REQUIREMENT TO JOIN THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, HOWEVER A PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST SIGN THE APPLICATION FORM FOR THOSE APPLICANTS WHO ARE UNDER 18.

MEMBERSHIP IS NOT REQUIRED TO ENTER THE ESSAY CONTEST.