



Round-Up

A Newsletter of Sons of The American Legion



Volume 3 – Issue 133 – May 15, 2022

100% Quota Detachments Announced



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

MAY 12, 2022

TO: NATIONAL OFFICERS, DETACHMENT COMMANDERS & ADJUTANTS
FROM: ANTHONY W. WRIGHT (PA), NATIONAL ADJUTANT
SUBJECT: 100% - MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATE

“ CONGRATULATIONS ”

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS SO FAR THIS MEMBERSHIP YEAR. OUR STANDINGS AS OF OUR **100%** MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATE (5-11-2022) ARE POSTED BELOW:

2022 MEMBERSHIP GOAL:	356,725
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP:	341,878
PERCENTAGE OF GOAL:	95.84%
RENEWAL PERCENTAGE:	84.56%
DETACHMENTS MAKING GOAL:	16

DELAWARE	MAINE	NORTH DAKOTA	VERMONT
DIST OF COL	MASSACHUSETTS	PUERTO RICO	WASHINGTON
HAWAII	MICHIGAN	RHODE ISLAND	WEST VIRGINIA
IDAHO	NEW MEXICO	SOUTH DAKOTA	WISCONSIN

AMAZING JOB!!

THE REMAINING DETACHMENTS SHOULD ACHIEVE THIS MEMBERSHIP GOAL SOON!

NEXT SCHEDULED RENEWAL NOTICE MAILED:	APRIL 22, 2022	(3RD OF 3)
NEXT MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATE:	JULY 28, 2022	(105%)
	(DELEGATE STRENGTH)	

RENEWAL IS THE KEY TO MEMBERSHIP SUCCESS
MEMBERSHIP IS EVERYONE’S RESPONSIBILITY



Round-Up

A Newsletter of Sons of The American Legion



A Publication of Sons of The American Legion

National Commander

Michael Fox (CA)

National Vice-Commander Central

Jeff Vrabel, Sr. (OH)

National Vice-Commander East

Richard "Dickie" Huntley (ME)

National Vice-Commander Midwest

Juan Torres (TX)

National Vice-Commander South

Jason Roberts (GA)

National Vice-Commander West

Jim Stewart (NV)

NVC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

Round-Up is published weekly and distributed each Sunday.

SUBMITTING ARTICLES: All submissions are to be made electronically to jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com. If you need assistance, please send an email to same.

All articles must be submitted by noon each Friday.



SAL membership reports are available [here](#)

CORRECTION

Apologies to Past National Vice-Commander South Blair Miles. In last week's edition, he was misidentified as being the PNVC from the Eastern Region.

Thank you to National Chief-of-Staff Bob Brown for catching it.

#SALSTRONG

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TARGET DATE



July 28, 2022



Let's work non-renewals

The American Legion | MAY 9, 2022

Dear American Legion members,

It's exciting to know that a recent review of the 2022 membership forecast shows that The American Legion is on pace to exceed last year's totals. This would be the first time the organization has seen membership growth since 2010.

To make sure this milestone is met, The American Legion needs to renew or recruit an average of eight members per post per month between now and June

30. We can do this. It's going to take all of us working renewals.

I have a few examples to share of renewal success.

Your Membership & Post Activities Committee Chairman Jay Bowen of Colorado sent an email to a few non-renewed members from his Post 209 in Colorado Springs. His email asked them to renew now as the post is close to hitting 100% membership. He received two renewals that day.

The Department of Puerto Rico took the initiative of reaching out to its non-renewals and as a result, the department is over 103% of its membership goal. Puerto Rico is the first department to qualify for my incentive of retaining at least 90% renewal rate and hitting 103% of their membership goal. Now through Oct. 1, the Department of Puerto Rico will receive a credit of \$18.50 for each member submitted above the 103% goal. Department of Puerto Rico Adjutant Juan A. Cruz-Rodriguez said that department leadership printed the list of non-renewals from MyLegion.org and made Buddy Check calls. They too discussed the benefits of being a Legionnaire, with the big one for the department being the National Emergency Fund because of devastation caused from hurricanes and earthquakes.

Membership growth for The American Legion is in sight, and I know we can do it if we all work together. Post adjutants can download and print the non-renewal list from mylegion.org. Let non-renewals know that they can easily and safely renew online at www.legion.org/renew. And let your members know that their membership matters.

USS George Washington suicides raise alarm on Capitol Hill as defense secretary admits problem with sailor housing

Svetlana Shkolnikova/Stars and Stripes
MAY 12, 2022

House lawmakers on Wednesday raised alarm over the string of suicides on the USS George Washington and the readiness of the Navy overall as the Pentagon's top official acknowledged shortcomings with how sailors are housed on ships undergoing repairs. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin told a subpanel of the House Appropriations Committee that the Pentagon is awaiting the results of two investigations into the George Washington and figuring out how to lodge sailors in the future after [three of the ship's crew members died in less than one week](#) in April.

"Whether or not we made the right choices is left to be said," Austin said. "Certainly, there's a problem there. We've got to understand what the problem is a bit more and then we have to figure out what to do to ensure we don't have these kinds of problems in the future."

Rep. Marcy Kaptur, D-Ohio, said she was "terribly concerned" that the slow pace of ship repairs was creating a "dispirited situation" for the crews assigned to them. The George Washington has been undergoing a mid-life overhaul and refueling process at Newport News, Va., since 2017.



U.S. Navy photo

"For hundreds of sailors, they have no access to housing or a car, and they're stuck on the ship," Kaptur said. "This is really demoralizing."

Work on the George Washington was expected to end in late 2021 but will now stretch into 2023, she said. Austin attributed the delay to the coronavirus pandemic and said the repair of a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier such as the George Washington required "very, very sophisticated work."

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, accompanied by Army Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testifies Wednesday, May 11, 2022, before the House Committee on Appropriations subcommittee on defense during a hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington (Jose Luis Magana/AP)." It certainly was not anticipated that the ship would be in a repair cycle this long but nonetheless I expect the leadership to make the right decisions and I look forward to seeing what the investigations show," he said.

The Navy allowed more than 200 sailors from the carrier to move to temporary housing at another local service installation earlier this month. Austin said Navy Secretary Carlos Del Toro will meet with the ship's command on May 17.

Kaptur and several other lawmakers said they were worried the Navy was not spending enough money to improve repair backlogs, improve morale or prepare for the rising threat from China. The Pentagon's requested budget for fiscal year 2023, which begins Oct. 1, [seeks to retire 24 ships and decreases the fleet size from 298 ships](#) today to 280 by 2027.

"I am troubled by the [Department of] Defense submission on the Navy because I see it getting worse," Kaptur said. "I wanted to point a flashlight on this part of the budget and say we've got to do something ... we are not taking care of those who are in service to our country right now."

Kaptur and Rep. Tim Ryan, D-Ohio, pressed Austin to prioritize mental health services as the military grapples with rising incidents of suicides across various branches. Rep. Ken Calvert, R-Calif., questioned how the Navy can keep up with China's rapidly growing fleet.

"With no clear shipbuilding plan and only eight ships requested in the budget, I have a very big concern that we're not taking China in the South [China] Sea seriously, especially when China is building 22 ships this year," Calvert said.

Army Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the Navy carefully assessed the risks and benefits of a "divest to invest" strategy that focuses on quality rather than quantity. Rep. Betty McCollum, D-Minn., chairwoman of the subcommittee, noted much of China's fleet consists of smaller support ships.

Austin told lawmakers that the military has to counter China through multiple domains and the totality of investment in air, land, sea, space and cyber in the defense budget will meet that challenge.

"There is significant investment in a number of capabilities that are absolutely relevant to competition with China," he said.

'This is what The American Legion is'

The American Legion | MAY 11, 2022

The city of Trussville, Ala., is one of the fastest-growing areas in the Birmingham region. With that growth has come the need for expansion and renovation within Trussville City Schools (TCS).

So, when the Trussville Veterans Committee – headed by SSG MW Hosey Post 205 member Chad

Carroll in nearby Pinson – heard that as a result of additions to the schools, 90 U.S. flags were needed to place in every new classroom and staff room, it wanted to help out.

And Carroll knew where to turn to for assistance with the effort: the membership at Post 205, which agreed to purchase all 90 flags, as well as the brackets for each one.

"Our schools and our city are growing so fast," said the 31-year-old Carroll, who serves on Post 205's executive committee and is president of the Trussville Veterans Committee. "They're adding new classrooms. They just opened up a new administrative building. We said, 'Hey, with all this new stuff you're opening up, how many flags will you need to ensure there's a flag in every classroom and every office?'"



When the school system came up with the number, the veterans committee wanted to partner with Post 205 to make the flag delivery happen. The post offered to cover the costs for the project.

"We want to get out into our schools and let them know, 'Hey, this is what The American Legion is. This is what they do. These are the programs they offer,'" Carroll said. "We thought this was the best way to get our foot into the door to start going into the schools. With COVID kind of coming down, our schools just started opening up to let visitors in. We thought this would be a great way to let them know who we are."

The flags were presented May 6 at Cahaba Elementary School, delivered by Post 205 Legionnaire Brent Goodwin in his Korean War Willys Jeep with an escort from Chapter 205's American Legion Riders.

Carroll, a master sergeant in the Alabama Air National Guard, wanted to add a special touch to the flags, so he had them flown on a KC-135 refueling

mission out of the 117th Air Refueling Wing in Birmingham, which is Carroll's unit. Each member of the flight crew signed a certificate that also was presented with a picture of the plane to the school board. And Carroll and the committee also presented TCS Superintendent Dr. Patti Neill, whose father served in World War II, with a special flag to hang in their new administrative office.

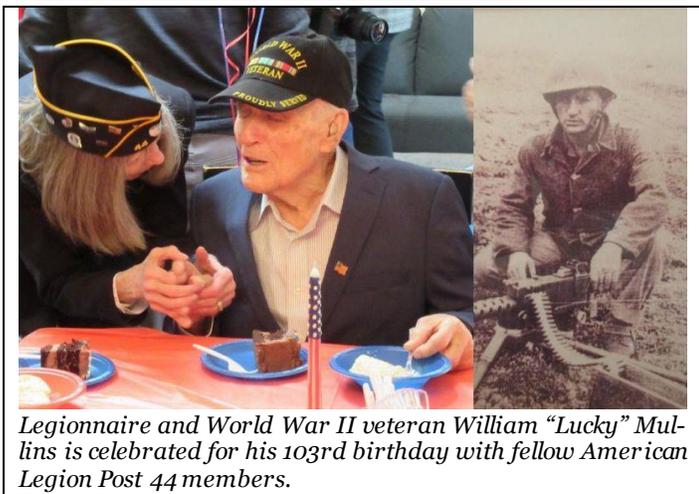
Carroll delivered remarks during the ceremony, saying, "There's a lot of stuff going on in our country right now – a lot of good things, a lot of bad things. But we're still the greatest country in the world, and that's what I want our students, our faculty, and our visitors to know. By flying that flag, we're still the land of the free. It shows our strength, our opportunity, our freedom as a country, and that's what I want our students to know when they come into the classroom."

The birthday celebration was attended by Post 44 members, including Judith Wyatt who helped organize the event, as well as Mullins' daughters, Jaylene Mullins, and Cindy Richert. The party included decorations, singing, birthday cake and ice cream. "Lucky is blind, and his hearing is impaired, but with family by his side, he thoroughly enjoyed this special day in his honor."

Mullins served in the U.S. Army from 1940-45 and is decorated with the American Defense Service Medal, Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, European African Middle Eastern Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal, Wyatt said. She shared that Mullins was a guard of about 100 German POWs during the war at a castle that overlooked the Rhine River where he would often take the prisoners to swim. "Lucky, being the guy that he is, he never lost sight of where he came from and never lost his compassion for other people. It didn't matter if they were German prisoners of war."

After the war, Mullins married his late wife of 71 years, Marvelyn, and they had four children. He volunteered at the Roseburg VA Medical Center in Oregon where he was "passionate about helping and spending time with other veterans," Wyatt said. "When asked about his life or military service, with a smile he responds, 'I have had a good life and am proud to have served my country.'"

"As the coordinator of this event, I must admit this was one of the most significant times in my life," Wyatt added. "I was truly honored to be a part of Lucky's celebration. Spending precious time with him and his family was truly an experience I will never forget. "Post 44 would like to say, 'Happy Birthday Lucky. You are our treasure, and we thank you for your service.'"



Legionnaire and World War II veteran William "Lucky" Mullins is celebrated for his 103rd birthday with fellow American Legion Post 44 members.

Legion post celebrates WWII veteran turning 103

The American Legion | MAY 12, 2022

William "Lucky" Mullins turns 103 on May 17. As the oldest living World War II veteran of American Legion Post 44 in Ridgefield, Wash., members of the post and district surprised Mullins May 4 at the assisted living facility where he resides to celebrate his birthday.

The celebration was early because Mullins will be riding in a parade as the grand marshal "in honor of his birthday and service to our great country," said Jen McDonnell, 5th District commander, who presented Mullins with a U.S. flag folded in a wooden case. "He is one of the sweetest and most honorable men you will ever meet."





MEETINGS AND REPORTS OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

**50th Convention
Commemoration Committee**
Joseph Gladden (MD), Chairman

Advisory Committee
Joe Mayne (MN), Chairman

Americanism Commission
Joseph Navarrete (NM), Chairman

Fourth Thursday of each month
7:30 p.m. Eastern | 6:30 p.m. Central
5:30 p.m. Mountain | 4:30 p.m. Pacific
Call in # (508) 924 3315
Access Code: NONE

<https://join.freeconferencecall.com/x19ct26>

Conference Call Schedule:

May 27, 2022 | June 23, 2022
July 28, 2022 | August 25, 2022

**Century Committee
(CENTCOM)**
Joe Paviglianti (NY), Chairman

**Child Welfare Foundation
Committee**

Mark Nave (PA), Chairman
Third Wednesday of each month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Call in # (605) 472-5332
Access Code: 808 417
Online Meeting ID:

<https://join.freeconferencecall.com/coolcameo>



Children & Youth Committee

James A. Noble (NJ), Chairman
Second Monday of each month
7:30 p.m. Eastern Time
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85189484607?pwd=MtkVTo9XYkdvZlMoeW5RTHg4dW94QT09>

Meeting ID: 851 8948 4607
Passcode: xZztq6

Watch the National Children & Youth
Academy promo video [HERE](#)

April is Children and Youth Month

Committee on Committees
Ron Roberts, (MS), Chairman

Finance Commission
William G. Hill (MD), Chairman



**FLYING FLAGS
FOR HEROES**

www.flyingflagsforheroes.com

*Tim Aboudara, Sr.,
National Service Project Coordinator*

**As of Saturday, 199,975 flags
have been placed and reported
to honor our veterans**

Internal Affairs Commission

William Clancy, III (NY), Chairman
Fourth Thursday of each month
6:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Call in # (605) 313-6050
Access Code: 344590

Legislative Commission
Thomas G. Deal (MD), Chairman

First Thursday of each month
7:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Call in # (267) 807-9601
Access Code 988 284 103#

Editor's note: Due to the Detachment of Ohio Convention, next week's edition of *Round-Up* may have a later distribution day.

Member Training and Development Committee

Michael Monserud (IA), Chairman

First Monday of each month

8:00 p.m. Eastern

Call in # (605) 468-8772

Access Code: 625764#

Membership Committee

Thom Skelley (TX), Chairman

Third Tuesday of each month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Call In # (605) 472-5756

Access Code 7717294



Fellow Sons of The American Legion,

Our 100% target date has finally arrived, and I am pleased to see that 16 Detachments have met or surpassed their goals. There are so many others that are on the verge of hitting 100% as well, 31 in fact that are at 90% or better.

Keep pushing. Keep doing what you are doing. Keep making phone calls and sending emails. Do your buddy checks and remind those members who have not renewed that they are more than just a number, they are our brothers. Most importantly, let us set our sights on the big prize...**105% by July 28th**.

As we begin the last leg of the race for the Chairman's Cup, congratulations to the Central Region Commanders for taking the point lead. Keep in mind that there are still points to be won. The current standings are as follows:

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP LEAGUE STANDINGS

Region	Points
Central Capitals	80
South Force	70
East Beasts	60
Midwest Monsters	45
National Gold	40
West Commanders	25

as of 05/11/22

THANK YOU ALL FOR THE HARD WORK AND DEDICATION YOU PUT FORTH EVERY DAY!

#	Detachment	2022 Det. Year End Goal	Needed to Meet 100% Target 5/11/2022	2022 Actual Mbsp.	% of Year End Goal	2022 Renewal %
1	PUERTO RICO	88	-33	121	137.50%	100.00
2	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,052	-245	1,297	123.29%	90.35
3	DIST OF COL	92	-19	111	120.65%	89.89
4	HAWAII	49	-10	59	120.41%	97.92
5	NORTH DAKOTA	916	-107	1,023	111.68%	98.65
6	WASHINGTON	2,086	-131	2,217	106.28%	81.97
7	MICHIGAN	21,985	-968	22,953	104.40%	88.37
8	RHODE ISLAND	316	-13	329	104.11%	80.97
9	MASSACHUSETTS	5,074	-123	5,197	102.42%	88.41
10	WEST VIRGINIA	2,183	-34	2,217	101.56%	84.46
11	DELAWARE	2,229	-30	2,259	101.35%	87.36
12	VERMONT	3,576	-46	3,622	101.29%	87.66
13	IDAHO	606	-7	613	101.16%	84.07
14	MAINE	2,482	-14	2,496	100.56%	88.51
15	NEW MEXICO	1,261	-7	1,268	100.56%	76.11
16	WISCONSIN	3,914	0	3,914	100.00%	89.10
17	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,382	1	1,381	99.93%	83.86
18	OREGON	1,317	6	1,311	99.54%	81.21
19	NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,336	38	5,298	99.29%	85.10
20	IOWA	4,571	72	4,499	98.42%	89.43
21	GEORGIA	4,316	91	4,225	97.89%	81.43
22	MARYLAND	15,533	342	15,191	97.80%	88.27
23	FLORIDA	20,745	475	20,270	97.71%	80.94
24	PENNSYLVANIA	58,902	1,873	57,029	96.82%	87.92
25	NORTH CAROLINA	2,619	98	2,521	96.26%	77.22
26	MEXICO	26	1	25	96.15%	60.00
27	ARIZONA	7,566	308	7,258	95.93%	77.64
28	MINNESOTA	11,091	478	10,613	95.69%	86.59
29	NEBRASKA	6,959	326	6,633	95.32%	90.21
30	NEVADA	334	16	318	95.21%	80.29
31	TENNESSEE	1,681	81	1,600	95.18%	74.42
32	OHIO	29,946	1,458	28,488	95.13%	86.82
33	CONNECTICUT	1,820	92	1,728	94.95%	81.52
34	VIRGINIA	4,023	204	3,819	94.93%	81.52
35	ALABAMA	2,020	106	1,914	94.75%	76.11
36	NEW YORK	29,246	1,617	27,629	94.47%	84.59
37	WYOMING	1,273	77	1,196	93.95%	74.38
38	NEW JERSEY	9,211	574	8,637	93.77%	83.55
39	ALASKA	1,560	98	1,462	93.72%	73.30
40	CALIFORNIA	10,338	767	9,571	92.58%	78.76
41	ILLINOIS	13,602	1,074	12,528	92.10%	84.48
42	LOUISIANA	1,808	149	1,659	91.76%	82.16
43	TEXAS	5,425	463	4,962	91.47%	75.67
44	INDIANA	36,657	3,132	33,525	91.46%	84.07
45	PHILIPPINES	66	6	60	90.91%	87.69
46	COLORADO	2,632	245	2,387	90.69%	76.49
47	MISSOURI	3,211	320	2,891	90.03%	78.42
48	OKLAHOMA	1,380	139	1,241	89.93%	76.00
49	MONTANA	1,160	147	1,013	87.33%	81.87
50	UTAH	492	72	420	85.37%	73.06
51	KANSAS	6,424	944	5,480	85.31%	78.02
52	ARKANSAS	468	73	395	84.40%	70.50
53	KENTUCKY	2,648	438	2,210	83.46%	70.35
54	MISSISSIPPI	795	150	645	81.13%	57.58
55	FRANCE	233	83	150	64.38%	64.00
Grand Totals:		356,725	14,847	341,878	95.84%	84.56

Register for the National Membership Workshop

The American Legion | MAY 11, 2022

The American Legion's 59th National Membership Workshop will be held July 28-30 in Indianapolis at the Sheraton Indianapolis City Centre Hotel.

[Register for the National Membership Workshop here.](#) Registration deadline is July 6.

Attendees will check in July 28 at the Sheraton, and the workshop begins July 29. An agenda will follow soon.

Texting: '98% open rate' membership tool

The American Legion | MAY 09, 2022

American Legion Post 145 in Peoria, Ariz., communicates to its members about post activities, membership efforts and other general news through email. But members often miss the emails due to the influx they receive in their inbox. So, Post 145 has added another communication tool that has a better open rate: texting.



“Why use it? Text messaging has a 98 percent open rate,” said Bobbie Kimelton, a Post 145 member and Arizona District 11 commander. “If you send an email the open rate for emails is less than 20 percent.”

The text messaging service that Post 145 uses is EZ Texting (www.eztexting.com), which features several plans with various price options. Kimelton shared a free one is WhatsApp (www.whatsapp.com). It can be easily downloaded through an iPhone or Android, and it provides the basic, necessary tools to communicate with your members at once. To import the phone numbers to begin sending text messages, Kimelton said that it takes about 10 minutes – post adjutants can visit MyLegion.org, download the post membership roster into an Excel spreadsheet and upload it into the selected text messaging program.

A few of the many ways Post 145 uses text messaging is to:

- Remind members to renew. The text message provides Post 145 members a direct link to the post website to renew. “We get a much better response on our dues this way,” Kimelton said.
- Send a thank you after members pay their dues/renew. This message also lets the member

know how their dues will be used, such as to support post programs.

- Send a follow-up message after making Buddy Checks. “One of my favorite things to use text messaging for is to support our Buddy Checks,” Kimelton said. “Once we’ve called our members and verified that they are well, we use the text messages to let them know about post meetings and activities they can participate in.”
- Send copies of the post’s events calendar. The post also sends photographs and videos of events that occurred.
- Send out agenda for post membership meetings. Post 145 meetings are in-person and via Zoom so the text message that is sent has a link to join the meeting virtually, as well as time and location since the post doesn’t have a home.
- Reach out to the spouses of post members who have passed away. Kimelton shared that it’s a great way “to keep in touch and be able to say ‘Hey, we are thinking of you. Do you need anything from us?’”

“There literally is an unlimited use of ways you can use this communication tool. One of the things I love about this concept (texting) is that you can utilize it for all different kinds of things from the post level all the way to your department functions.”

Text messages through the available apps can be prescheduled. If you wanted a post meeting reminder every month to go out, you can schedule it so it occurs without having to always remember to send one. And the phone number being sent is not someone’s personal one. A phone number is assigned. Through EZTexting, Post 145 has created individual groups (for Buddy Checks, post membership, four pillars, etc.) and a phone number for text messaging is assigned to those groups.

If recipients don’t want to receive the text messages, they can opt out. “In the entire time we have been doing it, we have had two people (opt out),” Kimelton said. “Everybody appreciates it because it gives them an immediate notification.”

RENEWAL SUCCESS WITH TEXTING

American Legion National Vice Commander Michael Mitrione recently visited the Department of Georgia to participate in a revitalization effort where attempts to reach expired Legionnaires were being made by phone. In response to a call that Department of Georgia Commander Mark Shreve made, he received a text that said, “Hey, can you text me that information,” Mitrione said. “So, we started texting. We put together a (uniform) message and the

response we got back in the three days we were there (was) over 400 renewals.”

Each text message included the membership number for the expired member, as well as a link to renew online. After the initial success in Georgia, Mitrione carried that over during his visits to Tennessee and North Carolina. In North Carolina, Mitrione said, “It was kind of the same results: about 150 (renewals) the first day, and I think it was well over 300 by the second day when we left. (Tennessee Adjutant) Dean Tuttle told me later that he personally had like 75.

“You send somebody a text message; they’re going to look at it. So, the response has really been amazing to me. I strongly recommend each department to use this method next year to reach out to (non-renewals and) expired members.”

National Convention Committee

Allen J. Watry (WI), Chairman

awatry@mindspring.com

Meetings held as necessary

Call in # (857) 2320159

Access Code: 962347

Public and Media Communications Commission

Mark B. McCue (MA), Chairman

Fourth Monday of Each Month

5:00 p.m. Pacific Time/9:00 p.m. Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9831747351?pwd=b3VFMmNEVkhNTElqTE5EbFQ5YUxQQT09>

Meeting ID: 983 174 7351

Passcode: SAL

Sub-Committee on Resolutions

Ned Fox (CA), Chairman

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

Seth A. Rippe (NE), Chairman

Fourth Monday of each month

7:00 p.m. Central Time/8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 845 1668 0686

Passcode: 243945

Veterans Employment & Education Commission

Chuck Treat (AZ), Chairman

Third Wednesday of Each Month

6:00 p.m. Mountain Time/8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

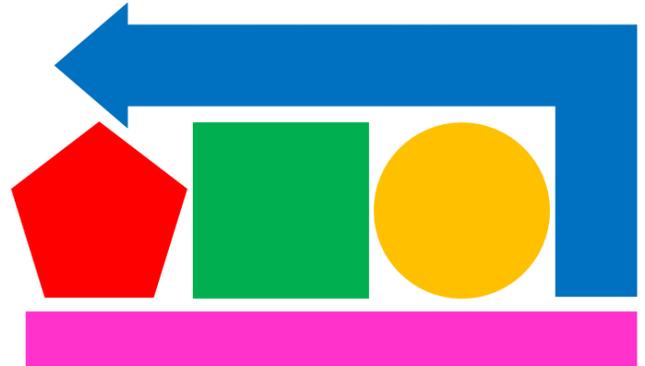
Call In # (508) 924-3315

<https://join.freeconferencecall.com/x19ct26>

May 18, 2022

June 15, 2022 | July 17, 2022

August 25, 2022



PASS THE POPPY

National Poppy Day

May 27, 2022

Learn More:
ALAforVeterans
.org/poppy



by Jeff Vrabel, Sr.



REGIONAL UPDATES



by Jeff Vrabel, Sr.



JEFF VRABEL, SR. NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER CENTRAL REGION 2021-2022

[JOIN](#)

[DONATE](#)

jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com

<https://sites.google.com/vies/teamvrabel/home>

MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALL

Third Thursday of each month

7:30 p.m. Eastern Time

<https://join.freeconferencecall.com/jeffvrabelsr>

Call In # (425) 436-6280

Access Code 464549*

The numbers are in for the May 11 Quota National Target Date, and I am happy to congratulate the Detachment of Wisconsin for making the goal. Wisconsin Sons join the Detachment of Michigan as the only quota Detachments in the Central Region. Keep up the hard work gentlemen!

The Central Region continues to trail the Southern Region for second place, and are only 0.16% ahead of the Western Region.

If we want to move up, we need to make sure we are out there doing our Buddy Checks and asking our members to renew. We must also continue to look at reinstating previous members.

As part of our Buddy Checks we need to ask some important questions; why he didn't renew, what can be changed to make the Squadron more appealing to the member, are there any unknown issues affecting his membership, and most importantly, what can the Squadron and its members do to help? By getting the answers, we can look at things from another member's perspective, and hopefully understand why a member has either not renewed or left the Squadron.

Our next National Target Date is set for July 28, 2022, where we are aiming for at least 105% of quota. Let's not wait that long! Let's show the rest of the organization that the Central Region means business when it comes to membership. We have slowed down, and now is the time to pick up speed as we head to Milwaukee and the 50th Annual Convention.

Detachment Conventions are rapidly approaching, and we need to make sure we get the message out to everyone. First, all delinquent members need to be contacted and asked to renew. Second, remind all members that we start collecting dues July 1, and that we are encouraging our members to renew their dues prior to the National Convention. With this change in mindset, culture, and philosophy, we will see a drastic change in our membership program. Will you help? **Who's next?**

The National Membership League stands show the Central Region in first place by ten points, but the race for the Chairman's Cup is still up for grabs. If we want to win the Cup, we must continue to aggressively recruit, retain, and reinstate members.

If we go out and do this, not only will we win the Cup, but we can take over first place in the national membership rankings.

We honor the veteran who made us eligible everyday by our membership in this outstanding organization. Let's make sure we reach out and remind members of that.

As was mentioned last week, **Flying Flags For Heroes** needs your help! It is vital that over the next few weeks as we decorate the graves of millions

of veterans across the country and around the world, that we register our event, report how many flags were placed, and post a picture or two of the events where Sons are placing American flags.

2022 Central Region Membership Report



If we want to reach National Commander Michael Fox's goal of at least one million flags placed, we have to report our accomplishments.

Please report your participation so we can get as accurate a number that we can. Thank you!

For more information, please visit the FFFH website at www.flyingflagsforheroes.com.

As always, if there is anything I can do to help, please let me do, and I will help how I can.

We are Sons of The American Legion.

We are #SALSTRONG!!!



Gentlemen,



I hope that everyone is doing fine and well.

I would like to start by Congratulating Wisconsin for hitting 100%. Good work.

Every Detachment is at least at 90% and growing, and we all know how hard it is to retain our members. We need to contact everyone and see if there is anyway that we may help, personally, as a Squadron, District, or Detachment.

Keep up all the Great work that everyone is doing. Let's show everyone how strong the Central Region is.

For God and Country,

David Mennel,
Central Region Membership Chairman
davidmennel@yahoo.com

2022 MEMBERSHIP					05/11/22
Region	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase
1 Eastern 6, 7, 8	136,233	131,893	4,340	96.81%	533
2 Southern 3, 4, 5, 6	42,593	40,760	1,833	95.70%	162
3 Central 4, 6, 8	124,977	119,411	5,566	95.55%	530
4 Western 4	24,414	23,289	1,125	95.39%	131
5 Midwest 3, 4	28,508	26,525	1,983	93.04%	111
TOTALS	356,725	341,878	14,847	95.84%	1,467

Membership ahead/behind prior year target date N/A

Central Region - Jeff Vrabel, Sr. (OH)						
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank
1 Michigan 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	21,985	22,953	(968)	104.40%	247	7 Q
2 Wisconsin 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	3,914	3,914	-	100.00%	7	16 Q
3 Iowa 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4,571	4,499	72	98.42%	3	20
4 Minnesota 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	11,091	10,613	478	95.69%	192	28
5 Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	29,946	28,488	1,458	95.13%	12	32
6 Illinois 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	13,602	12,528	1,074	92.10%	-	41
7 Indiana 1	36,657	33,525	3,132	91.46%	41	44
8 Missouri 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	3,211	2,891	320	90.03%	28	47
TOTALS	124,977	119,411	5,566	95.55%	530	

Q = Quota

- 1 Met 09/22/21 goal of 10%
- 2 Met 10/14/21 goal of 25%
- 3 Met 11/10/21 goal of 35%
- 4 Met 12/08/21 goal of 45%
- 5 Met 01/21/22 goal of 60%
- 6 Met 02/09/22 goal of 75% - DATE REVISED TO 02/16/22
- 7 Met 03/09/22 goal of 80%
- 8 Met 04/13/22 goal of 90%
- 9 Met 05/11/22 goal of 100%
- 10 Met 07/28/22 goal of 105%

Red Division					
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Percent of Region
Wisconsin	3,914	3,907	7	99.82%	3.27%
Iowa	4,571	4,496	75	98.36%	3.77%
Missouri	3,211	2,863	348	89.16%	2.40%
TOTALS	7,782	7,359	423	94.56%	6.16%

White Division					
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Percent of Region
Minnesota	11,091	10,421	670	93.96%	8.73%
Illinois	13,602	12,528	1,074	92.10%	10.49%
TOTALS	24,693	22,949	1,744	92.94%	19.22%

Blue Division					
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Percent of Region
Michigan	21,985	22,706	(721)	103.28%	19.01%
Ohio	29,946	28,476	1,470	95.09%	23.85%
Indiana	36,657	33,484	3,173	91.34%	28.04%
TOTALS	88,588	84,666	3,922	95.57%	70.90%

2022 Central Region Renewal Report

		05/11/22
	Detachment	Renewal %
1	Iowa	89.43%
2	Wisconsin	89.10%
3	Michigan	88.37%
4	Ohio	86.82%
5	Minnesota	86.59%
6	Illinois	84.48%
7	Indiana	84.07%
8	Missouri	78.42%
	NATIONAL	84.56%

★ UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ★
POLAND, OHIO
With Our Deepest Gratitude and Respect

93rd
MEMORIAL DAY
PROCESSION & CEREMONIES
MONDAY, MAY 30, 2022 AT 10:00 A.M.

Keynote Speaker
 Judge Anthony Donofrio
 Mahoning County
 Court of Common Pleas
 Squadron 15 Member

Chaplain of the Day
 Father Kevin Marks
 St. Michael
 Byzantine Catholic Church
 Campbell, Ohio

Pledge of Allegiance
 Bob Wilkeson

National Anthem
 Poland Seminary
 High School
 Bulldog Marching Band

Reading of the names of
 Poland residents who made
 the supreme sacrifice
 Steve Bannon
 Squadron 15 Member

American Legion Mahoning Valley Post 15 War Memorial Building
 35 Cortland Street - Poland, Ohio
 Presented By Sons of The American Legion Mahoning Valley Squadron 15



RICHARD HUNTLEY
NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER
EASTERN REGION 2021-2022

dickie_huntley@hotmail.com

MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALL

Fourth Tuesday of each month

7:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Call In # (605) 313-4388

Access Code 3468542#

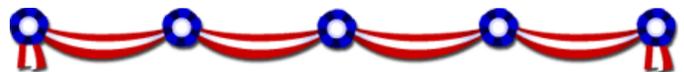
MEMORIAL DAY 2022

LEGION.ORG

AMERICAN LEGION The American Legion and SAL Round-Up
REMEMBER THAT FREEDOM IS NOT FREE.

Eastern Region - Richard "Dickie" L. Huntley, Jr. (ME)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
DIST OF COL	92	111	120.65%
RHODE ISLAND	316	329	104.11%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,074	5,197	102.42%
WEST VIRGINIA	2,183	2,217	101.56%
DELAWARE	2,229	2,259	101.35%
VERMONT	3,576	3,622	101.29%
MAINE	2,482	2,496	100.56%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,336	5,298	99.29%
MARYLAND	15,533	15,191	97.80%
PENNSYLVANIA	58,902	57,029	96.82%
CONNECTICUT	1,820	1,728	94.95%
NEW YORK	29,246	27,629	94.47%
NEW JERSEY	9,211	8,637	93.77%
FRANCE	233	150	64.38%
Totals:	136,233	131,893	96.81%

as of May 11, 2022



HONOR THE VETERAN
WHO MADE YOU ELIGIBLE

RENEW TODAY!

VRABEL

**Police Officer First Class
Jonathan Kelly named
Sons of the American Legion
First Responder of the Year**

by Charles County Sheriff's Office | May 12, 2022



The Charles County (MD) Sheriff's Office (CCSO) is pleased to announce PFC Jonathan Kelly was named the Sons of the American Legion First Responder of the Year for 2021. PFC Kelly began his career at the CCSO in 2005. In his 16-year career, he has served in the Patrol Division, Special Services Division, and the Special Operations Division. PFC Kelly was selected by the Sons of the American Legion for this prestigious award as a result of his actions in the following incident:

On May 17, 2021, while attempting to serve an arrest warrant on a wanted subject with a lengthy history of violent encounters with law enforcement, two Charles County Sheriff's Officers were shot by the wanted man. After being shot, one of the officers retreated to an upstairs bedroom and exited the house out of a second-story window, dropping into the yard of the residence. PFC Kelly, who was in a cover position, ran to assist the officer. After dragging the officer to safety, PFC Kelly applied a tourniquet to the officer's leg upon seeing the gunshot wound. To quickly get the officer to a safe location to receive medical care, PFC Kelly placed the officer on the hood of another officer's vehicle and laid on top of him to secure him. At the same time, they have driven away from the scene.

PFC Kelly's actions and decisions made during this dangerous and stressful incident stabilized the officer's injuries and facilitated his transfer to medical personnel as quickly as possible. The Charles County Sheriff's Office presented PFC Kelly with the Silver Medal of Valor for these life-saving efforts.

"PFC Kelly's actions that day were selfless, courageous, and critical to getting another officer to safety," said Sheriff Berry. "We are so proud of all of the officers and employees that showed many acts of bravery during this horrific incident. We are grateful that the Sons of the American Legion want to recognize their efforts."

Reprinted from the [Southern Maryland Chronicle](#)



JUAN TORRES
NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER
MIDWEST REGION 2021-2022

juanrtorres10@hotmail.com

MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALL

First Tuesday of Each Month
7:00 p.m. Mountain Time/8:00 p.m. Central
9:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Call in # (605) 313-5379
Access Code 830520

Midwest Region - Juan R. Torres (TX)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,052	1,297	123.29%
NORTH DAKOTA	916	1,023	111.68%
NEW MEXICO	1,261	1,268	100.56%
MEXICO	26	25	96.15%
NEBRASKA	6,959	6,633	95.32%
WYOMING	1,273	1,196	93.95%
TEXAS	5,425	4,962	91.47%
COLORADO	2,632	2,387	90.69%
OKLAHOMA	1,380	1,241	89.93%
MONTANA	1,160	1,013	87.33%
KANSAS	6,424	5,480	85.31%
Totals:	28,508	26,525	93.04%

as of May 11, 2022

Free to view
\$25 to register
Before 5/17

**Valves & Vets
Car & Bike Show**

MAY 28, 2022
9am-3pm

Sons of American Legion
post 1
1120 E. 8th st
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120

Presented by
Urban Country Entertainment

Info & Registration
918-906-3978

Benefiting
Sons of American Legion
post 1



SAL
Barber Shop
Milwaukee



JASON ROBERTS
NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER
SOUTHERN REGION 2021-2022

roberts.jason215@gmail.com

MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALL

Second Tuesday of Each Month
8:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Call In # (701) 802-5001
Access Code 4720682



**BUDDY
CHECK**

LET THEM KNOW WE CARE!



Southern Region - Jason S. Roberts (GA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
PUERTO RICO	88	121	137.50%
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,382	1,381	99.93%
GEORGIA	4,316	4,225	97.89%
FLORIDA	20,745	20,270	97.71%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,619	2,521	96.26%
TENNESSEE	1,681	1,600	95.18%
VIRGINIA	4,023	3,819	94.93%
ALABAMA	2,020	1,914	94.75%
LOUISIANA	1,808	1,659	91.76%
ARKANSAS	468	395	84.40%
KENTUCKY	2,648	2,210	83.46%
MISSISSIPPI	795	645	81.13%
Totals:	42,593	40,760	95.70%

as of May 11, 2022





JIM STEWART
NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER
WEST REGION 2021-2022

controller@bordertowncasinorv.com

MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALL

Fourth Wednesday of Each Month

6:00 p.m. Pacific Time/9:00 p.m. Eastern Time

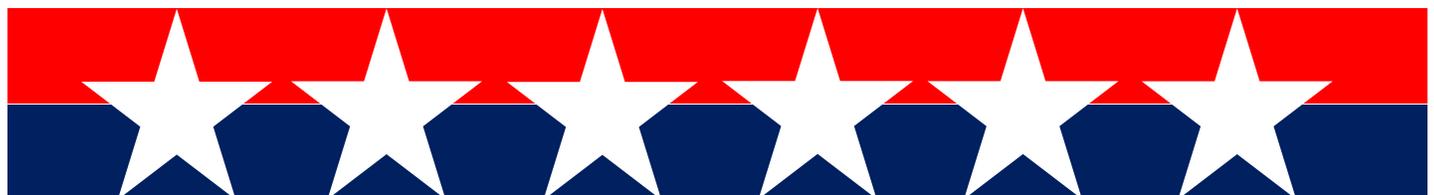
<https://zoom.us/j/96562303887?pwd=SjZJek04MHJpNjdibWptUTU0UGptZz09>

Meeting ID: 965 6230 3887

Passcode: 795541

Western Region - L. Jim Stewart (NV)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
HAWAII	49	59	120.41%
WASHINGTON	2,086	2,217	106.28%
IDAHO	606	613	101.16%
OREGON	1,317	1,311	99.54%
ARIZONA	7,566	7,258	95.93%
NEVADA	334	318	95.21%
ALASKA	1,560	1,462	93.72%
CALIFORNIA	10,338	9,571	92.58%
PHILIPPINES	66	60	90.91%
UTAH	492	420	85.37%
Totals:	24,414	23,289	95.39%

as of May 11, 2022





MICHAEL FOX
NATIONAL COMMANDER
2021-2022



Deadline to Nominate Veterans for the Hall of Fame Approaching

COLUMBUS, OH – The deadline for submitting nominations for the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame is a mere three weeks away and we want to hear from those who know former service members who are excelling and making a difference in society.

The Hall of Fame recognizes those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces and continue to contribute to our communities, state, and nation through exceptional acts of volunteerism, advocacy, professional distinction, public service, or philanthropy.

Each year, the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame inducts up to 20 veterans based on recommendations from an Executive Committee of veterans from throughout the state and approval from the Governor of Ohio.

The deadline to submit nomination forms for consideration for the 2022 class of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame is June 1. Please don't delay.

Chances are you know a veteran who continues to serve selflessly in their post-military life -- a former

service member who is going above and beyond to impact others. *(Note: The Hall of Fame also can accept nominations for those who would be inducted posthumously.)*

To be considered, the veteran must meet the following criteria:

- Be a past or current Ohio resident
- Have received an honorable discharge
- Be of good moral character

This Hall of Fame sets the standard for recognizing Ohio's veterans for accomplishments beyond their military service. In addition, it is a fitting way to say, "thank you for your service to our nation and thank you for your continued service to our communities."

Again, **the nomination deadline is June 1, 2022.** Guidelines, a sample nomination and more information are available at our [Hall of Fame Nomination page](#).

[Learn more about the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame](#) and [see the complete list of inductees](#).

Editor's Note: If you know someone from Ohio who meets these criteria, please consider making a nomination. Thanks!

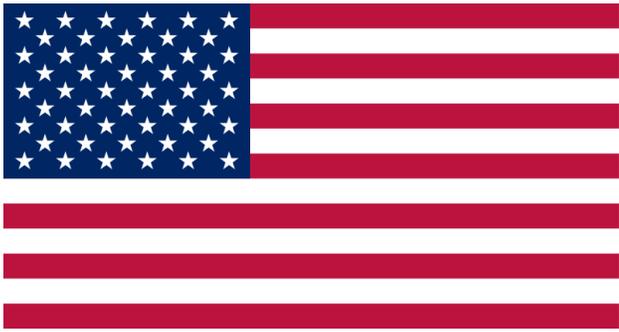
Veterans and Children Foundation Update

The American Legion Americanism Division has changed the dates of Veterans and Children Foundation (<https://www.legion.org/vcf>) contributions to be considered for awards at the national convention. The new dates are June 1 to May 31.

Therefore, all contributions must be received by May 31 to be considered.

*Anthony Wright,
National Adjutant
Sons of The American Legion*





New U.S. Flag Code social media graphics to share

The American Legion | MAY 02, 2022

A new set of social media graphics is now available to spread awareness and education about the U.S. flag.

How does the flag fly on Memorial Day? According to the U.S. Flag Code, *Title 4, Chapter 1, § 7*, “On Memorial Day the flag should be displayed at half-staff until noon only, then raised to the top of the staff.”

Produced as part of the “Rally Around the Flag” campaign by the The American Legion and the Citizens Flag Alliance, this year’s portfolio breaks U.S. Flag Code into individual, downloadable graphics that can be shared on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Download the Know Your Code graphics at legion.org/flag/resources.

Also, the [2021 Rally Around the Flag series of social media graphics](#) can still be downloaded and shared in the weeks heading into Flag Day, June 14. These graphics feature historical notes, fun facts, and voices from history about Old Glory.

Learn more about the U.S. flag at legion.org/flag. Share your story about the flag on Legiontown.org under the heading “Rally Around the Flag.”

#KNOWTHECODE



In front or behind a speaker?

When used on a speaker's platform, the flag, if displayed flat, should be displayed above and behind the speaker.

Title 4, U.S. Code, Chapter 1, § 7



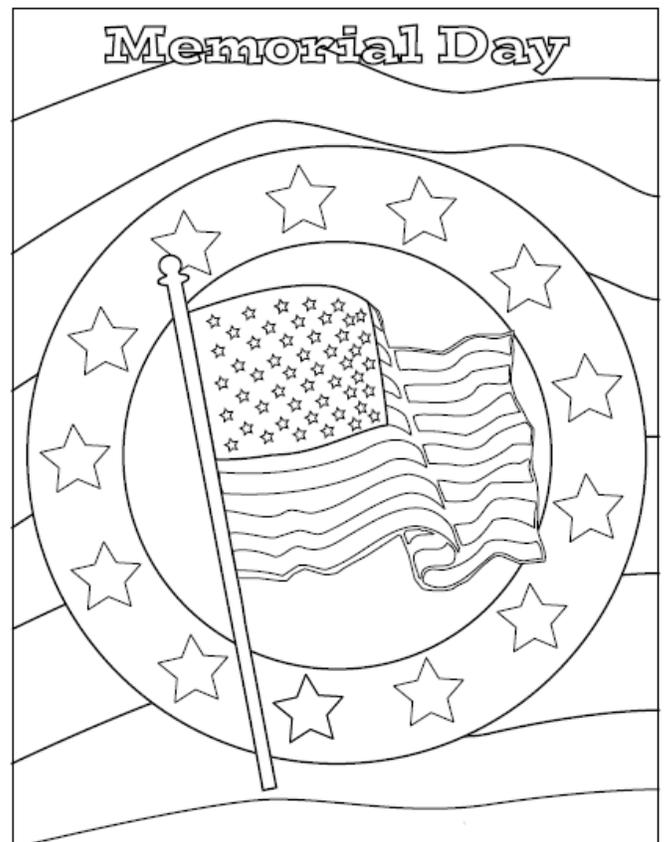
MEMORIAL DAY WORD SEARCH

T	O	E	O	R	C	O	R	E	I	L	N	C	S
L	R	S	A	Y	R	L	P	O	O	T	T	O	E
S	E	S	O	L	D	I	E	R	S	A	O	N	E
R	R	F	O	D	M	O	E	D	H	R	I	F	O
P	O	T	H	O	S	S	O	E	T	O	R	L	I
B	F	M	R	O	R	A	E	P	R	N	T	I	F
R	T	L	S	H	R	C	E	L	A	O	A	C	O
Y	O	A	O	R	O	R	A	O	C	H	P	T	C
R	U	S	L	E	S	I	T	Y	T	V	O	A	R
E	E	A	T	H	R	F	R	M	R	O	N	O	F
V	P	L	R	T	R	I	O	E	P	L	L	C	R
A	I	U	N	O	B	C	O	N	N	L	E	S	T
R	S	T	B	R	H	E	P	T	T	O	R	Y	B
B	R	E	S	B	N	C	S	H	N	T	S	O	O

BROTHERHOOD
SACRIFICE
SOLDIERS
CONFLICT
TROOPS
DEPLOYMENT
HONOR
SALUTE
PATRIOT
BRAVERY



more at teambuilding.com



© 2012 by Education World®. Created for EducationWorld.com by David L. Shackelford. Users may reproduce this worksheet for educational purposes only.

REMEMBER

