



Round-Up

A Newsletter of Sons of The American Legion



Volume 3 – Issue 145 – August 11, 2022

US ‘will not abandon’ its commitment to Taiwan, Pelosi says in Taipei



Alex Wilson and Seth Robson/Stars and Stripes
August 3, 2022

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi pledged her commitment to Taiwan on Wednesday as Chinese ships and aircraft ramped up their military activity in response to her visit.

Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen presented Pelosi the Order of Propitious Clouds with Special Grand Cordons award, during a livestreamed ceremony that morning.

“Now more than ever America’s solidarity with Taiwan is crucial,” said Pelosi, who departed Taiwan on Wednesday evening for South Korea. “Today our delegation, of which I’m very proud of, came to Taiwan to make it unequivocally clear we will not abandon our commitment to Taiwan, and we are proud of our enduring friendship.”

China held live-fire military exercises Saturday off its coast opposite Taiwan after warning Pelosi to cancel her visit. Ahead of her arrival on Tuesday

night, Chinese aircraft and warships brushed up against the median line in the Taiwan Strait, an unofficial dividing line, according to Reuters.

Also, after her arrival, China’s Eastern Theater Command announced drills would take place near the Taiwan Strait starting late Tuesday. These included long-range live-fire and conventional missile launches, the official China Military website reported.

Chinese J-20 stealth fighters took off from an airfield that evening to participate in the drills, the official Global Times reported Wednesday.

This map released by China’s People’s Liberation Army shows six zones around Taiwan where extensive military drills are scheduled to take place Thursday, Aug. 4, 2022, to Sunday, Aug. 7, 2022. (People’s Liberation Army) China also announced a series of naval exercises, to include live-fire drills, slated to run from Thursday to Sunday that will effectively surround the self-governing island, according to a Tuesday report from China’s state-run Xinhua News Agency.

China’s planned exercises effectively “amount to a sea and air blockade,” a Taiwan National Defense Ministry official told reporters after Pelosi’s ceremony with Tsai, according to the Washington Post. The drills show that China seeks “a cross-strait resolution by force instead of peaceful means,” the ministry tweeted Wednesday.

see TAIWAN page 24



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AMERICAN LEGION

A Publication of Sons of The American Legion

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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](#)



Take action for veterans who need us

August 3, 2022

Dear American Legion Family and Friends,

The American Legion Legislative Commission sent an urgent action notice last Friday by email, calling on recipients to demand that the Senate stay in Washington and pass the PACT Act. Within 24 hours, more than 9,000 emails hit the inboxes of U.S. senators from this American Legion call to action.

[This advocacy played a critical role as the Senate approved the PACT Act on Aug. 2](#), ushering in critical health-care benefits for millions of veterans affected by toxic exposure.

[The Grassroots Advocacy Center](#) – formerly known as the Legislative Action Center – is an excellent way to make The American Legion’s voice heard in Washington. The platform allows you to easily find legislation of interest, identify elected officials by ZIP Code and send your message. I strongly urge all our members and friends to sign up to receive legislative alerts on that site so you can stay up to speed on our congressional priorities.

Bills and positions we support by resolutions can be found on the [Legislative Agenda page of the national website](#). These priorities are updated with each new session of Congress and form the foundation of The American Legion’s annual testimony to the joint



session of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs.

Also, important to know is that the Legislative staff in Washington is always actively testifying and submitting statements for the record to Congress on issues ranging from improved GI Bill benefits parity for National Guard and Reserve personnel to ensuring quality representation of veterans in the VA benefits claims process. [Those testimonies, including videos where available, can be found here.](#)

The battle to achieve fair health-care services and disability benefits for veterans suffering from toxic exposure to burn pits, Agent Orange, contaminated water on base, atomic radiation and other substances has been a tough one at times this summer. And little matters more to the veterans we serve – and to elected representatives who have the power to help them – than your voice.

I urge everyone in the American Legion Family to take the time to understand our legislative priorities, sign up for Grassroots Action Center alerts and make your voices heard. We have proven through history, and continue to do so today, that we can improve the lives of all who have honorably served our country in the U.S. Armed Forces.

This is one very direct way we show what we mean by...Veterans Strengthening America.

*Paul E. Dillard, National Commander
The American Legion*

Membership matters in The American Legion

Paul E. Dillard, National Commander | August 8, 2022

Membership in The American Legion is our voice on Capitol Hill when we fight for legislation that provides the best care and benefits for our veterans as seen with the passing of the PACT Act; it's our voice in addressing and preventing veteran suicide through the Legion's Be The One campaign; and it's our voice in creating future leaders through our programs like Boys State and Boys Nation, American Legion Baseball, oratorical and shooting sports. I visited the young men and women at Boys Nation in Washington, D.C., and the Junior 3-Position Air Rifle Championship in Colorado. You see how our programs change them; they mold their life. As members of The American Legion, we are creating future leaders.

Membership matters. And to grow this great organization, it takes us going to where the veterans are for recruiting efforts.

For example, members of the Marketing Committee at Post 90 in Cape Coral, Fla., recruited 27 new members into the post for 2022. The committee staffed a booth at trade shows and festivals in Cape Coral to recruit new members, and attended Cape Coral Bike Night to promote the Legion Riders program. "This tactic has earned the Marketing Committee a substantial list of leads and evidence that trade shows turned out to be a vital step toward attracting veterans to our post and our programs," said Post 90 Public Relations Officer Ted Clark.

Membership strength will ensure no veteran is left behind. I am proud that I awarded my "No Veteran Left Behind" membership excellence pin to 1,366 Legionnaires who obtained three new members into The American Legion for 2022. As we embark on 2023 membership year, I urge you to keep the membership matters momentum going for us to see growth.

We are Veterans Strengthening America.



MEETINGS AND REPORTS OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

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

The 50th Convention Commemoration Committee has created a 50th Convention Challenge Coin. This challenge coin will be given to each person attending out 50th Convention Banquet taking place on Saturday afternoon, August 27.

For those attending the banquet we will make available additional challenges coins for sale first at a cost of \$10.00 each. Following the banquet, we will make the remaining challenges coins available at the convention until they are gone. We are anticipating having around 1,000 coins available for resale.

These coins will make a great keepsake for members back home or could be used as a fundraiser if marked up and resold again. All proceeds from the sale of this coin by the National organization will be going to the Veterans and Children Foundation.

The challenge coins can be purchased by cash or by checks payable to: "The American Legion."



- Sons for Kids Dog Tag Pin \$10
- Sons for Kids Padfolio \$25
- CWF Purple polo shirt
- CWF Black camp shirt
- CWF backpacks
- 10 quilts donated by the Detachments of Kansas and Wisconsin will be raffled off during the convention.

Prices will be obtained on the polo shirt, camp shirt, and CWF backpacks.

Continue the great work gentlemen!

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:

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>

Gentlemen,

Fundraising takes no time off and the Sons of The American Legion is a testament to that. Let's continue to raise funds for our nation's youth.

For those coming to the National Convention in Milwaukee, please stop the CWF Booth and purchase some new merchandise. Some of the items will be:

Children & Youth Committee

James A. Noble (NJ), Chairman

Second Monday of each month

7:30 p.m. Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85189484607?pwd=M TkvTo9XYkdvZ1MoeW5RTHg4dW94QT09>

Meeting ID: 851 8948 4607

Passcode: xZztq6

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

Subcommittee on National Appointments

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 August 10, 2022

1,831,290

Flags have been placed and reported to honor our veterans

since September 1, 2021

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#

Here is an update from the SAL National Legislative Commission.

SAL Legislative Goals for 2021-2022: **Goals in Bold**

1. **Benchmark number of Detachments that don't have a Legislative Commission.**
 - a. 2020-2021 10 Detachments listed a Detachment Legislative Commission Chairman
 - b. 2021-2022 18 Detachment currently have Legislative Chairman on record
2. **Send Letter out to the Detachments to create a Legislative Commission.**
 - a. Email letter went out beginning of administrative year asking for Detachment Legislative Chairmen for each Detachment. Emails were sent to Detachment Commanders and NEC.
3. **Track increase from Benchmark and report.**
 - a. 2020-2021 10 Detachment Legislative Chairmen listed
 - b. 2021-2022 Currently 14 Detachment Legislative Chairmen listed
4. **Increase submissions to 20 for the George B. Evans Veterans Advocate of the Year Award.**
 - a. Below is what has been turned in last 3 years. A jump to 20 submissions seems to be out of reach but we tried.
 - b. E-mails were sent to all National Officers, Detachment Commanders, Detachment Adjutants, and Detachment Legislative Chairmen
 - c. 2019-2020, 1 submission
 - d. 2020-2021, 4 submissions
 - e. 2021-2022, 5 submissions

5. **Increase SAL participation in the Washington Conference and plan another event**

- a. February 2020 29 Detachments participated 109 American Legion Family members attended.
- b. February 2022 Washington Conference was cancelled for in person meeting for 2022, however SAL The Legislative Commission still planned and had a Wreath Laying Ceremony attending WWII, Vietnam, and Arlington Tomb of Unknown Soldier memorials. 17 Detachments participated with 70 American Legion Family members attended.

While this was less than previous year, the turnout was enormous due to Washington Conference being cancelled.

We also had added another event. After the wreath laying ceremonies were concluded, Flying Flags for Hero's event was held at Greenwood Cemetery in Washington DC with members placing flags on graves of Veterans in that cemetery to promote SAL National Commander Fox's Project this year.

You have been with us on our campaign to pass the Honoring our PACT Act through multiple twists and turns that grabbed the attention of the entire nation. Last night the battle was finally won, with the Senate passing the legislation by a vote of 86-11.

"Tonight, the U.S. Senate passed historic legislation that will make a difference in the lives of millions of veterans," American Legion National Commander Paul E. Dillard said. *"After some unusual delays for a bill that is largely identical to what passed on June 16, a bipartisan majority of senators voted in favor of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act. This act will save lives and offer health care and benefits for those exposed to the poisons of war while serving our country."*

Commander Dillard pointed out that the Legion's grassroots advocacy helped ensure the bill's approval.

"It would not have passed without the tireless efforts of our American Legion Family and friends who contacted lawmakers and encouraged them to do right by America's veterans. We look forward to President Biden signing the PACT Act expeditiously."

At a time when members of the Senate were considering abandoning the bill, you were part of the Legion's advocacy drive that ultimately sent over **34,700** messages to the Senate demanding they stay in session until the bill passed- and they complied.

Thank you for joining me on this campaign, and I ask that you keep your eye out for future "ALERT" messages from the Legion. See you in our future battles

Respectfully,

Lawrence Montreuil, Director
National Legislative Division
The American Legion National Headquarters

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 771 7294#



The current SAL membership report can be accessed on the national website at

www.legion.org/membership/standings

2022 SAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT AS OF: AUGUST 9, 2022

#	DETACHMENT	2022 DET. YEAR END GOAL	NEEDED TO MEET 105% TARGET 12/31/2022	2022 ACTUAL MBSP.	% OF YEAR END GOAL	2022 RENEWAL %
1	HAWAII	49	-24	75	153.06%	100.00
2	PUERTO RICO	88	-29	121	137.50%	100.00
3	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,052	-247	1,352	128.52%	91.67
4	DIST OF COL	92	-15	112	121.74%	89.89
5	WASHINGTON	2,086	-292	2,482	118.98%	91.13
6	NEW MEXICO	1,261	-145	1,469	116.49%	86.50
7	MEXICO	26	-3	30	115.38%	68.00
8	NORTH DAKOTA	916	-84	1,046	114.19%	99.66
9	MICHIGAN	21,985	-979	24,063	109.45%	91.79
10	DELAWARE	2,229	-67	2,407	107.99%	92.19
11	WEST VIRGINIA	2,183	-49	2,341	107.24%	88.12
12	NEVADA	334	-5	356	106.59%	87.54
13	OREGON	1,317	-20	1,403	106.53%	85.35
14	MASSACHUSETTS	5,074	-61	5,389	106.21%	91.12
15	WISCONSIN	3,914	-40	4,150	106.03%	93.93
16	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,382	-11	1,462	105.79%	87.14
17	VERMONT	3,576	-25	3,780	105.70%	91.16
18	IOWA	4,571	-15	4,815	105.34%	95.19
19	NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,336	18	5,585	104.67%	89.07
20	IDAHO	606	3	633	104.46%	86.02
21	RHODE ISLAND	316	3	329	104.11%	80.97
22	MAINE	2,482	25	2,581	103.99%	91.35
23	ARIZONA	7,566	90	7,854	103.81%	83.29
24	PHILIPPINES	66	1	68	103.03%	98.46
25	NORTH CAROLINA	2,619	68	2,682	102.41%	82.26
26	GEORGIA	4,316	131	4,401	101.97%	84.12
27	COLORADO	2,632	82	2,682	101.90%	83.72
28	FLORIDA	20,745	644	21,138	101.89%	83.80
29	CALIFORNIA	10,338	326	10,529	101.85%	85.97
30	MARYLAND	15,533	535	15,775	101.56%	91.14
31	PENNSYLVANIA	58,902	2,219	59,628	101.23%	91.16
32	ALASKA	1,560	61	1,577	101.09%	78.97
33	TEXAS	5,425	225	5,471	100.85%	82.53
34	MINNESOTA	11,091	486	11,160	100.62%	89.98
35	VIRGINIA	4,023	186	4,038	100.37%	85.57
36	ALABAMA	2,020	94	2,027	100.35%	81.82
37	NEW YORK	29,246	1,396	29,312	100.23%	89.48
38	CONNECTICUT	1,820	94	1,817	99.84%	84.90
39	OHIO	29,948	1,688	29,755	99.36%	90.23
40	TENNESSEE	1,681	96	1,669	99.29%	77.49
41	NEW JERSEY	9,211	543	9,129	99.11%	87.49
42	WYOMING	1,273	76	1,261	99.06%	78.36
43	NEBRASKA	6,959	486	6,821	98.02%	92.08
44	MISSOURI	3,211	241	3,131	97.51%	84.63
45	INDIANA	36,657	2,995	35,495	96.83%	88.21
46	LOUISIANA	1,808	160	1,738	96.13%	85.35
47	KENTUCKY	2,648	247	2,533	95.66%	77.89
48	ILLINOIS	13,602	1,273	13,009	95.64%	87.61
49	OKLAHOMA	1,380	140	1,309	94.86%	78.24
50	ARKANSAS	468	51	440	94.02%	76.57
51	MONTANA	1,160	140	1,078	92.93%	86.23
52	KANSAS	6,424	998	5,747	89.46%	81.48
53	UTAH	492	81	436	88.62%	75.31
54	MISSISSIPPI	795	134	701	88.18%	60.29
55	FRANCE	233	92	153	65.67%	64.89
Grand Totals:		356,725	14,016	360,545	101.07%	88.48

Membership goals for 2023 were set based on the following, using the 2022 105% delegate strength target date report as of July 28, 2022:

- Detachments at 105% or more of their 2022 goal = 1% increase
- Detachments at 100% to 104.99% = 2% increase

- Detachments below 100% = 3% increase

Note: Some Foreign Detachments may be exempt from the process due to size

2023 Detachment Membership Goals	
Alabama	2,066
Alaska	1,608
Arizona	8,004
Arkansas	447
California	10,714
Colorado	2,729
Connecticut	1,867
Delaware	2,430
District of Columbia	114
Florida	21,519
France	158
Georgia	4,490
Hawaii	77
Idaho	644
Illinois	13,398
Indiana	36,387
Iowa	4,857
Kansas	5,919
Kentucky	2,609
Louisiana	1,790
Maine	2,617
Maryland	16,058
Massachusetts	5,442
Mexico	31
Michigan	24,271
Minnesota	11,378
Mississippi	722
Missouri	3,219
Montana	1,108
Nebraska	7,015
Nevada	357
New Hampshire	5,677
New Jersey	9,386
New Mexico	1,483
New York	29,864
North Carolina	2,727
North Dakota	1,056
Ohio	30,636
Oklahoma	1,348
Oregon	1,414
Pennsylvania	60,803
Phillipines	70
Puerto Rico	123
Rhode Island	336
South Carolina	1,473
South Dakota	1,362
Tennessee	1,718
Texas	5,569
Utah	449
Vermont	3,818
Virginia	4,109
Washintgon	2,485
West Virginia	2,362
Wisconsin	4,187
Wyoming	1,298
TOTALS	367,798



Membership revitalization best practices

The American Legion | August 3, 3022

American Legion post and district revitalization efforts provide an opportunity for members currently residing in a department headquarters post to transfer into a post in or near their community. It's also an opportunity to sign up new members and check on fellow veterans.

Revitalization efforts can be held at a post or community space where post, district and department leadership are in attendance. During the National Membership Workshop in Indianapolis July 29, attendees heard best practices for conducting a post and district revitalization from Department of Idaho Adjutant Abe Abrahamson.

- Have an American Legion service officer available to help answer veteran benefits questions or file a claim.
- Provide a free lunch. Feature this free lunch on the back of the postcards that national staff mails out prior to the revitalization that invite veterans to renew, join and learn more about The American Legion. "How many people in your community don't know what you do?" Abrahamson asked workshop attendees. "How many veterans don't know what you do? How many veterans don't know who we are? Why is this? Because we don't do a good job telling everybody how great we are. Your post needs to add free lunch (to the back of the postcards) and 'Please bring your family and come down and see us.' Invite them down to meet you. Give them a reason to come. Make it family inviting."
- Create packets of take-home materials for potential new members who attend the revitalization. The packets can include a post or department newsletter, membership application and brochures on American Legion programs.

- Go online to 411.com if there isn't a phone number on the membership roster provided during the revitalization. A phone number will often come up after typing in a name and home address.
- Identify one phone number to leave behind for members to call back if a voicemail must be left.
- Make a list of headquarters post members who couldn't be reached to call before each post meeting.
- Gather as much information as possible when filling out the Member Data Form to transfer a headquarters member into a post home – email address, branch of service, home address, etc.
- Engage the transferred members – send a post newsletter, have the post commander make a welcome phone call, and invite the member to the post for a meeting or dinner. “Your job from the day they transferred is to build value in your post,” Abrahamson said. “Because if you haven't built value in those months (before the renewal notice comes) they are not going to renew.”
- Conduct an initiation ceremony with the transferred members. “Just because they are DMS members, you can still bring them down to the post and do an initiation ceremony. I believe that's important,” Abrahamson said because as they stand before post leadership and members with their right hand raised, “what are they doing? They are making a commitment to your organization. They are making a commitment to your post.”
- Recognize all volunteers who helped with the revitalization effort. Abrahamson recommends presenting the certificates of recognition during a department convention or mid-winter conference. “Recognize your people in front of people. It does you no good to mail a certificate to somebody's house.”

Abrahamson echoed the remarks of Past National Commander Marty Conatser to Membership Workshop attendees that membership is like a sales job. “To do your sales job, you have to know what you're selling,” Abrahamson said. “You don't show up at a car dealership and say, ‘Hey, tell me about this car’ and the salesman goes ‘Yep, it has four wheels.’ He's going to tell you every single thing about that car so that you fall in love with it and buy it. The Legion is no different. You can explain to them everything about it that's great, but if you don't know the information, how can you sell it? Build the value.”

That value in The American Legion is the reason for joining, Membership and Post Activities Committee Chairman Jay Bowen said. “The reason you joined,

the reason you stay a member of The American Legion, is probably different than why I'm doing it. But that's OK. I see the value in The American Legion. You obviously see the value in The American Legion. We have got to make our veterans, our Legionnaires, our members believe and understand that there is a value in their membership. And we have to continue to push that.”

MEMBERSHIP TIPS

- Department of Arizona Membership Director Steven Sperl has a QR code on the back of his American Legion business card that takes potential members to the department's online membership application where veterans can sign up and pay dues. Sperl also puts the QR code on every membership article he writes that's featured on the Department of Arizona's website, Facebook page and Twitter account. “We need to embrace it and we need to use it,” he shared with Membership Workshop attendees during his presentation on membership recruitment.
- The business card of Department of Utah Commander Doug Case has his Post 11's address, monthly meeting day and time, American Legion national website, and website information to access military records/DD-214. “I give these out to every veteran I see,” Case said during the membership recruitment session.
- Each time a district commander in Illinois visited a post in his district, he arrived an hour early to knock on the doors of two expired members from the respective post. Conatser said that 19 of the posts in the district achieved 100% membership. “It's easy on the phone, it's easy in a letter, it's not so easy when you're standing on the front porch to say no (to joining or renewing),” Conatser said.

Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR)

We have reports from 1,456 of our 5,966 Sons of The American Legion squadrons that have submitted their data for a completion rate of 24.4%.

Congratulations to the Detachment of Vermont for obtaining 100% CSR reporting. The detachment will be recognized on stage at the national convention.

CPR and CSR reports will continue to be accepted until Sept 2, 2022.

2021-2022 Consolidated Squadron Report as of August 4, 2022

Detachment	No. of Squadron	CSR submitted	CSR%
VERMONT	36	36	100.0%
DELAWARE	14	11	78.6%
PUERTO RICO	7	5	71.4%
OHIO	317	195	61.5%
INDIANA	294	142	48.3%
NEW MEXICO	33	15	45.5%
COLORADO	58	26	44.8%
SOUTH DAKOTA	36	14	38.9%
SOUTH CAROLINA	26	10	38.5%
TENNESSEE	47	18	38.3%
ILLINOIS	277	99	35.7%
NEBRASKA	161	57	35.4%
DISTRICT OF COL	3	1	33.3%
GEORGIA	114	38	33.3%
IDAHO	40	13	32.5%
VIRGINIA	90	29	32.2%
IOWA	151	48	31.8%
NEVADA	14	4	28.6%
WISCONSIN	117	33	28.2%
CONNECTICUT	50	14	28.0%
HAWAII	11	3	27.3%
NORTH CAROLINA	72	19	26.4%
LOUISIANA	79	20	25.3%
OREGON	41	10	24.4%
MISSISSIPPI	43	10	23.3%
MARYLAND	113	26	23.0%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	63	14	22.2%
CALIFORNIA	210	44	21.0%
MAINE	72	15	20.8%
TEXAS	254	52	20.5%
MEXICO	5	1	20.0%
WYOMING	25	5	20.0%
NEW YORK	581	109	18.8%
ARIZONA	81	15	18.5%
ALABAMA	68	12	17.6%
NEW JERSEY	213	36	16.9%
WEST VIRGINIA	48	8	16.7%
NORTH DAKOTA	43	7	16.3%
KANSAS	125	19	15.2%
MASSACHUSETTS	211	31	14.7%
WASHINGTON	69	10	14.5%
FLORIDA	188	26	13.8%
ALASKA	22	3	13.6%
FRANCE	15	2	13.3%
MISSOURI	120	16	13.3%
MINNESOTA	265	32	12.1%
MONTANA	50	6	12.0%
PENNSYLVANIA	462	53	11.5%
MICHIGAN	212	23	10.8%
ARKANSAS	29	3	10.3%
UTAH	42	4	9.5%
OKLAHOMA	96	9	9.4%
KENTUCKY	79	5	6.3%
PHILIPPINES	5	0	0.0%
RHODE ISLAND	12	0	0.0%
Total	5909	1456	24.6%

Regional Breakdown as of August 4, 2022

Central	NVC Vrabel (OH)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
OHIO	317	195	61.5%
INDIANA	294	142	48.3%
ILLINOIS	277	99	35.7%
IOWA	151	48	31.8%
WISCONSIN	117	33	28.2%
MISSOURI	120	16	13.3%
MINNESOTA	265	32	12.1%
MICHIGAN	212	23	10.8%
Totals	1753	588	33.5%

Midwest	NVC Torres (TX)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
NEW MEXICO	33	15	45.5%
COLORADO	58	26	44.8%
SOUTH DAKOTA	36	14	38.9%
NEBRASKA	161	57	35.4%
TEXAS	254	52	20.5%
MEXICO	5	1	20.0%
WYOMING	25	5	20.0%
NORTH DAKOTA	43	7	16.3%
KANSAS	125	19	15.2%
MONTANA	50	6	12.0%
OKLAHOMA	96	9	9.4%
Totals	740	196	26.5%

Western	NVC Stewart (NV)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
IDAHO	40	13	32.5%
NEVADA	14	4	28.6%
HAWAII	11	3	27.3%
OREGON	41	10	24.4%
CALIFORNIA	210	44	21.0%
ARIZONA	81	15	18.5%
WASHINGTON	69	10	14.5%
ALASKA	22	3	13.6%
UTAH	42	4	9.5%
PHILIPPINES	5	0	0.0%
Totals	1614	348	21.6%

Eastern	NVC Huntley (ME)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
VERMONT	36	36	100.0%
DELAWARE	14	11	78.6%
DISTRICT OF COL	3	1	33.3%
CONNECTICUT	50	14	28.0%
MARYLAND	113	26	23.0%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	63	14	22.2%
MAINE	72	15	20.8%
NEW YORK	581	109	18.8%
NEW JERSEY	213	36	16.9%
WEST VIRGINIA	48	8	16.7%
MASSACHUSETTS	211	31	14.7%
FRANCE	15	2	13.3%
PENNSYLVANIA	462	53	11.5%
RHODE ISLAND	12	0	0.0%
Totals	1893	356	18.8%

Southern	NVC Roberts (GA)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
PUERTO RICO	7	5	71.4%
SOUTH CAROLINA	26	10	38.5%
TENNESSEE	47	18	38.3%
GEORGIA	114	38	33.3%
VIRGINIA	90	29	32.2%
NORTH CAROLINA	72	19	26.4%
LOUISIANA	79	20	25.3%
MISSISSIPPI	43	10	23.3%
ALABAMA	68	12	17.6%
FLORIDA	188	26	13.8%
ARKANSAS	29	3	10.3%
KENTUCKY	79	5	6.3%
Totals	842	195	23.2%

Comparison			
Year	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
2022	5909	1456	24.6%

National Convention Committee

Allen J. Watry (WI), Chairman

awatry@mindspring.com

Meetings held as necessary

Call in # (857) 2320159

Access Code: 962347



The Detachment of Wisconsin is looking forward to seeing everyone in Milwaukee in just under 4 weeks. We are working hard and coordinating with the National Organization to ensure everything is ready and everyone has a great Convention. Please share the following information with the people who you will have traveling to Milwaukee for the Convention. I will hit on several topics today, including what the Detachment is helping coordinate, but also including other information many people may be interested in.

- Convention Pins
 - All Delegates and Distinguished Guest will receive a Pin at no charge

- Pins for Delegates will be given out as part of the Credential Packet.
- We are asking the person who picks up the Credential Packet hand out the pins to their delegation.
- The number of pins for each Detachment will be the Delegations Strength.
- Pins for Distinguished Guests will be handed out as they are on-stage.
- Pins will also be for sale during the Convention
 - Will have a table set-up in the lobby of the Miller High Life Theater, sales will occur before/after committee meetings and Convention Session.
 - Will also have people from the Detachment of Wisconsin selling pins as they are walking around, similar to the process Arizona sold pins last year.
 - Pins will be \$5.00/each
- Friday Night Social
 - Will not have a formal meal/gathering due to all the celebration/activities for this being our 50th Convention
 - The Legion Family of Wisconsin will have a Hospitality Suite at the Drury Hotel, please consider stopping by on Friday night.
- National Children and Youth Academy
 - Unfortunately, the plans for visiting the 128th Refueling Wing fell through
 - Still have plans moving forward for the Academy, will be in a meeting room at the Miller High Life Theater
 - Includes The 10 Ideals Program and some special guests/speakers
- Do not forget to sign up to attend the 50th Convention Banquet. Invite and banquet form are attached
- All of our Meetings and Convention will be 1 block north in the Miller High Life Theater.
- The one exception is the banquet which will be in the Hilton Milwaukee City Center
- Sorry the maps may be a little blurry, a great place to find these maps, and other information is [Visit Milwaukee - VISIT Milwaukee](#)
- I have attached a bus schedule, which is subject to change. Please check this schedule if you plan on using buses, and plan accordingly.
- The Phone App for Convention is up/running and continues to be updated. I did attach an article on how to download the app...
- Continue to monitor the 2022 National Convention Web Site, which can be found at [Convention Information | The American Legion](#). This includes information regarding
 - Sunday afternoon Legion Family Social Event – Oktoberfest at the War Memorial
 - Monday Night Brewer/Pirates Baseball game
 - Hotels by Department/Detachment
 - Much more
- CWF Fundraisers
 - There will be a booth in the exhibition hall for CWF and they will be running some fundraisers at that booth.
 - The Detachment of Wisconsin has (6) handmade Patriotic Themed quilts to raffle off for CWF. Tickets will be sold at the CWF booth and/or Miller High Life Theater (still finalizing plans on this).
 - As always, please support CWF!!!!

Finally, just to answer a couple questions which have been forwarded to me:

- Motorcycle Parking – any special accommodations being set-up? I am not aware of any, please check with your Legion Riders Representative. I would also encourage you to check your hotel for anything related to motorcycles in their parking garages/lots.
- Four Corners – plans are being finalized and information to come out soon. I would suggest contacting myself or Chuck Treat in about 10 days; my understanding is the plans will be finalized by then; the initial communications will be coming out soon.

Now for some other key information to prepare for the Convention

- I have attached two maps. One is the general Milwaukee Area; one is a close up of the Convention Center District. Some key items to note
 - The SAL Office, Emblem Sales, and most Legion/Auxiliary activities will be in the Convention Center.

Public and Media Communications Commission

Mark B. McCue (MA), Chairman

Fourth Monday of Each Month

5:00 p.m. Pacific Time/8:00 p.m. Eastern Time



Dear TALMA members,

August is here and that means the [103rd National Convention](#) in Milwaukee is around the corner. I hope to see many of you there, especially at the [TALMA Media Training Workshop and the awards luncheon](#) on Monday, Aug. 29. You can attend the workshop in person or virtually. Either way, we have a great lineup of topics and panelists that will provide useful tips, resources, and information for you to promote your American Legion post.

During much of TALMA's existence, we have been meeting virtually due to the pandemic. While I understand some of you are opting for the virtual training, I look forward to engaging with those who will be in Milwaukee at the workshop and/or luncheon.

Both represent great opportunities for TALMA members and non-members to meet in person to learn valuable media training tips and share best practices while building camaraderie. If you are coming to convention, I encourage you to attend the Media Training Workshop and awards luncheon. And bring a prospective TALMA member with you! It's important for Legion Family members to see firsthand the benefit and value of TALMA membership. You can help make that happen by bringing them as your guest to the Media Training Workshop and special luncheon.

Ready to join me and fellow TALMA members on Aug. 29? Here is what you need to know.

Media training: The Media Training Workshop will be held in the Wisconsin Center, Room 102, Section D, First Floor. It will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude by 4 p.m. Central time with a two-hour

break for the TALMA awards luncheon. During the training, panelists will discuss how to:

- Start a Facebook page, advertise on it, and use Facebook to drive membership
- Develop best practices for photography skills
- Use texting to communicate with members
- Design visual content for print and online with Canva
- Host virtual meetings
- Support and promote The American Legion's Be The One campaign

As a reminder, membership renewal for TALMA is almost here. You can easily and safely renew online at www.legion.org/talma/join. Visit www.legion.org/talma/workshop to register if you will be attending the training in person. The workshop also will be streamed live at www.facebook.com/americanlegionhq.

Awards luncheon: TALMA will host a special awards luncheon that will include recognition of the contest winners, presentations by speakers and a delicious meal. The meal will be a buffet of pulled smoked chicken, shrimp and crab cakes, coleslaw, potato salad, grilled vegetables, Wisconsin cheeses, desserts and more.

The luncheon will begin at 11 a.m. at the Hilton Milwaukee, Wright Ballroom, Section C, Fourth Floor. It is free for TALMA award recipients. For others and guests, the price is \$20. Deadline to register for the luncheon is Monday, Aug. 22.

Visit www.legion.org/talma/banquet to register.

We have a great workshop and luncheon ahead of us. I look forward to seeing you there!

As a reminder, membership renewal for TALMA is almost here. You can easily and safely renew online at www.legion.org/talma/join.

*Dave Wallace, Chairman
Media and Communications Commission*

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>

The SAL National VE&E Commission met on July 28 at 8:00 p.m. Our last Economic Nuggets was received on May 16. We are not sure why they have been coming to us so sporadically and we will continue to forward the "Economic Nuggets" as we receive it.

Copies of the Tri-Fold Brochure and SOP have been forwarded to VE&E commission members for review and updating where needed. This process will begin at our August meeting on August 17. When these documents are ready, we will identify the path they must take for approval.

The commission is also working on action items identified by SONA. We understand the National Directory is not current with newly elected Detachment Commanders, along with Adjutants and Commission Members. Please forward this on as needed if changes have been made during your elections.

Our next commission conference call will be on August 17 at 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The call in # is (508) 924-3315 and no access code is needed. You are welcome to join us if you would like.

You will also find the latest Career Fair information from www.legion.org/careers and Stand Down information from www.va.gov/homeless attached to my email. If you are interested in volunteering or getting more information for any of these Stand Downs, contact one of the VA POC's (Points of Contact) listed for each Stand Down.

We have identified our Marvin Nay Award winner and that announcement will be made at National

Convention. We are looking forward to seeing you in Milwaukee.

Thank You for Everything You Do!!

*Jim Coates, Deputy Chairman
National SAL VE&E Commission*



BE THE ONE

TO **ASK** VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING.

TO **LISTEN** WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK.

TO **REACH** OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING.



Veterans Crisis Line

DIAL 988 then **PRESS 1**



MICHAEL FOX

2021 – 2022





REGIONAL UPDATES

by Jeff Vrabel, Sr.



JEFF VRABEL, SR.
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*

Congratulations to the Central Region for continuing to lead the nation in the submission of Consolidated Squadron Reports. As you know, this form, along with the Squadron Officer Certification and the Squadron Data Report are mandatory reports, and must be made annually.

If your squadron has not submitted these forms, please get them completed and turned in right away. Thanks for your help!

Membership in the Central Region continues to come in for the 2022 year. We remain in fourth place, coming in at 100.48%, which represents 125,578 members paid. Although we have met our goal, the detachments of Ohio, Missouri, Indiana, and Illinois have yet to reach quota, progress is being made. Keep up the hard work!

Please make sure to contact delinquent members and ask them to renew for 2022, and see if you can get them to do the same for 2023. If we can get our members in the habit of renewing in July, we will set a new cycle of membership, see high numbers for our squadrons, and change the mindset and culture of our membership program. Do you have your 2023 membership card? **Who's next?**

The Ohio American Legion Family was shocked to hear of the passing of Department Commander Brad Ties on Wednesday. Brad had only been commander for one month, having been elected on July 3 at the Department Convention. Not only was he a proud Legionnaire, but he was also a proud member of Sons of The American Legion.

I had the opportunity to spend time with Brad two weeks ago, as he attended Detachment of Ohio Executive Committee meeting on Saturday, July 23. We both attended the Ohio American Legion Baseball State Tournament banquet on Sunday, and attended games on Monday and Tuesday. I am happy for that time, and will remember for a long time.



Department of Ohio Commander the late Brad Ties, Department Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator Christie White, National Vice-Commander Jeff Vrabel, Sr. at the Department of Ohio State Baseball Tournament Banquet Sunday, July 24, 2022 in Lancaster, Ohio.

Brad always had a smile on his face, was there to help anyone in any way he could, and was a very dedicated and proud United States veteran. He leaves behind big shoes to fill.

Commander Teis will be greatly missed by all. Thanks for all you did for our organization Brad! You will not be forgotten.

Commander Teis' photo and bio appear later in this edition. Commander Teis' funeral was held Thursday, August 11, 2022.

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:

It has been a great year, your efforts and pride that you have shown to honor your priceless heritage is beyond words. We may not have hit 105%, but we did break the 100% goal. Keep up all the great work that you have been doing.

It has been an honor to work with all of you this year and into the future. Hope to see everyone at Milwaukee.

Even though the 2023 membership cards are out, we cannot stop asking our members who have not paid their 2022 dues to do so and renew. We need to continue to instill in our squadrons that we still need to keep up that personal touch by contacting our members and remind them that their membership helps our veterans and our organization. To honor our priceless heritage is an honor. It's the least we can do for their service to our country and for us. Keep up all the great work that all of you do.

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

Please feel free to copy and share these membership graphics



2022 Central Region Membership Report

2022 NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT						08/09/22
Region	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	
1 Western 4 Q	24,414	25,413	(999)	104.09%	32	QUOTA
2 Eastern 6, 7, 8 Q	136,233	138,338	(2,105)	101.55%	272	QUOTA
3 Southern 3, 4, 5, 6 Q	42,593	42,950	(357)	100.84%	36	QUOTA
4 Central 4, 6, 8 Q	124,977	125,578	(601)	100.48%	84	QUOTA
5 Midwest 3, 4	28,508	28,266	242	99.15%	29	
TOTALS	356,725	360,545	(3,820)	101.07%	421	QUOTA

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, 10	21,985	24,063	(2,078)	109.45%	14	9 Q
2 Wisconsin 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	3,914	4,150	(236)	106.03%	4	15 Q
3 Iowa 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	4,571	4,815	(244)	105.34%	1	18 Q
4 Minnesota 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	11,091	11,160	(69)	100.62%	-	34 Q
5 Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	29,946	29,755	191	99.36%	2	39
6 Missouri 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	3,211	3,131	80	97.51%	-	44
7 Indiana 1	36,657	35,495	1,162	96.83%	63	45
8 Illinois 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	13,602	13,009	593	95.64%	-	48
TOTALS	124,977	125,578	(601)	100.48%	84	Q

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	4,150	(236)	106.03%	3.30%
Iowa	4,571	4,815	(244)	105.34%	3.83%
Missouri	3,211	3,131	80	97.51%	2.49%
TOTALS	7,782	7,946	(164)	102.11%	6.33%

White Division					
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Percent of Region
Minnesota	11,091	11,160	(69)	100.62%	8.89%
Illinois	13,602	13,009	593	95.64%	10.36%
TOTALS	24,693	24,169	524	97.88%	19.25%

Blue Division					
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Percent of Region
Michigan	21,985	24,063	(2,078)	109.45%	19.16%
Ohio	29,946	29,755	191	99.36%	23.69%
Indiana	36,657	35,495	1,162	96.83%	28.27%
TOTALS	88,588	89,313	(725)	100.82%	71.12%

2022 Central Region Renewal Report

	Detachment	Renewal %
1	Iowa	95.19%
2	Wisconsin	93.83%
3	Michigan	91.79%
4	Ohio	90.23%
5	Minnesota	89.98%
6	Indiana	88.21%
7	Illinois	87.61%
8	Missouri	84.63%
	NATIONAL	88.48%

Sons of The American Legion



DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS
P.O. Box 2910, Bloomington, Illinois 61702-2910
2720 E. Lincoln Street, Bloomington, Illinois 61704-6010

2022 - 2023 Detachment Meeting Schedule

Training Session
Before Each DEC, 9:30 AM—11:00 AM

Membership & Squadron Activities Committee
Division and District Commanders & Sr Vice Commanders
Before Each DEC, 11:00 AM—12:00 PM

Fall DEC -- October 1, 2022, 1:00 PM

Columbia Squadron 581
375 East Locust Street
Columbia, IL 62236

618-281-5556
Hotel: Hampton Inn, Columbia, 618-281-9000

Winter DEC -- December 3, 2022, 1:00 PM

American Legion, Department of Illinois Headquarters
2720 East Lincoln Street
Bloomington, IL 61704

Hotel: Hampton Inn & Suites Bloomington-Normal, 309-452-8900

Spring DEC -- March 25, 2023, 1:00 PM

Tinley Park Squadron 615
17423 67th Court
Tinley Park, IL 60477

708-532-1737
Hotel: TBD

Detachment Commander's Homecoming—March 25, 2023, 7:00 PM

Tinley Park Squadron 615
17423 67th Court
Tinley Park, IL 60477

708-532-1737
Hotel: TBD

60th Annual Detachment Convention – July 14-16, 2023
Springfield, IL 62701

50th Annual National Convention – August 25–27, 2023
Charlotte, NC

Telephone: (309) 663-0361
Web: <http://www.II-SAL.org>

Fax: (309) 663-5783
E-Mail: adj@II-SAL.org



23rd Annual

Sons of The American Legion, Sqd 8, Wellington Ohio
2022 "Super Gun Raffle"

Saturday October 1st, 2022 9:00am-5:00pm

50 New Rifles, Shotguns, Handguns, and Crossbows

9:00 Ruger Wrangler 22LR	1:10 Stoeger Condor O/U 410 ga
9:10 Savage 93R17 EXP 17 HMR w/scope	1:20 Ruger LCP II Lite Rack 22LR
9:20 Typhoon Defence Bronze 12ga	1:30 Savage Axis II XP 22-250 Rem
9:30 Taurus G2C 9mm	1:40 S&W SD9VE 9mm
9:40 Savage Axis II Camo 350 Legend	1:50 Thompson Center Venture II 6.5 Creedmore
9:50 Stoeger STR 9mm	2:00 Mossberg 500 Field/Deer Combo 20ga
10:00 Berns Thunder 380 acp	2:10 Ruger LCP 380 acp
10:10 Sig Sauer P320 XVTAC 9mm	2:20 Sig Sauer P365 9mm w/Tactical Package
10:20 Browning Maxus II Waterfowl 12ga	2:25 Wicked Ridge M-370 Crossbow Package
10:30 Savage Axis II XP Whitetail Camo 223Rem	2:30 Winchester Super X Waterfowl Bottomland 12ga
10:40 Ruger 10/22 22LR	2:40 S&W M&P Shield EZ 380 acp
10:50 Mossberg Maverick 88 Cruiser 12ga	2:50 Legacy Citadel Boss-25 12 ga w/Flag Camo
11:00 Kimber Stainless II 45 acp	3:00 S&W M642 Centennial Airweight 38 Special
11:10 Henry H01 Classic Lever 22LR	3:10 Ruger Charger Lite 9mm
11:20 Stevens 301 Turkey Camo 410 ga	3:15 S&W SD4VE 40 &sw
11:30 Springfield Hellcat 9mm	3:20 Savage Axis II 300 Blackout
11:40 Wicked Ridge Blackhawk 360 Crossbow Plg	3:30 Kimber R7 Mako 9mm
11:50 Remington 870 Express 12ga	3:40 Browning Citori Hunter 16 ga
12:00 CVA Scout V2 444 Marlin	3:50 S&W M&P Shield 9mm w/crimson
12:10 Mossberg Patriot 450 Bushmaster	4:00 S&W M&P Shield EZ 9mm
12:20 Taurus TX22 22LR	4:10 CVA Scout V2 Takedown 45-70
12:30 Savage Axis II XP 6.5 Creedmore	4:15 Taurus M65 357 Magnum
12:40 SDS Imports Tsum 1911 AI Service 45 acp	4:25 Glock G20 Gen 4 10 mm
12:50 CVA Optima V2 Muzzleloader 50 cal	4:35 Weatherby Vanguard Tungsten Special .308 Win
1:00 S&W M&P 15 Sport II AR 5.56 nato	4:45 Henry Big Boy .357 Magnum

Grand Prize:

\$5,000 (cash or check) (To be drawn at 5:00pm)

Guns/Merchandise provided by Fin Feathers & Fur of Ashland, Ohio

Many other raffles!!! - Steaks, Hams, Bacon & Hunting Equipment

For ticket information call/visit American Legion Post 8, 518 S. Main St., Wellington OH

44090. Phone (440)-647-6334. Or call Cary "Dewey" Kuhl, (440)-935-2487 and leave message

if necessary. I will get back to you. Or carv.kuhl@gmail.com Tickets \$20 or 6 for \$100

1 Ticket required for each person attending. Hot Dogs, Ham & Bean Soup, Chili & Beverages provided.

All Door Prizes paid in cash. Every winning ticket is returned to the drum and can win multiple times. Winner need not be present.

Proceeds to benefit
American Legion Charities



Belleville's Sons meet American Legion Nation Commander in Woodbridge

Rusty Myers, Adjutant, Squadron 105 | Aug 1, 2022

BELLEVILLE, NJ – Members of the Belleville Sons of the American Legion (SAL) had the honor and opportunity to meet National Commander Paul E. Dillard of the American Legion at Woodbridge Post #87, on his official visit to the state of New Jersey in early August.



DICKIE HUNTLEY
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#



The National Commander, who oversees an organization throughout the country of over 1.8 million veterans and 370,000 members of the SAL, travels around the country each year visiting each Department, or state.

Focusing on advocating on behalf of the legislative issues facing the country which affect veterans, as commander of the largest veteran's organization in the country, the American Legion National Commander has both a presence in national politics and in the direction of the individual Posts and Squadrons throughout the country. Throughout its history, 'the Legion' has been instrumental in the passing of bills such as the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, commonly known as the "G.I. Bill", as well as support for benefits such as pensions and the Veterans Health Administration.

Paul Dillard, National Commander for 2021-2022, steps down at the National Convention in late August in Milwaukee at the end of his term. From Texas, the commander visited most recently the Department of New Jersey, with a 'meet and greet' on the visit's second day at the home post of New Jersey Department Commander Dan Dunn. In front of a group of 75 representatives from the American

EASTERN REGION - RICHARD L. HUNTLEY, JR. (ME)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
DIST OF COL	92	112	121.74%
DELAWARE	2,229	2,407	107.99%
WEST VIRGINIA	2,183	2,341	107.24%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,074	5,389	106.21%
VERMONT	3,576	3,780	105.70%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,336	5,585	104.67%
RHODE ISLAND	316	329	104.11%
MAINE	2,482	2,581	103.99%
MARYLAND	15,533	15,775	101.56%
PENNSYLVANIA	58,902	59,628	101.23%
NEW YORK	29,246	29,312	100.23%
CONNECTICUT	1,820	1,817	99.84%
NEW JERSEY	9,211	9,129	99.11%
FRANCE	233	153	65.67%
Totals:	136,233	138,338	101.55%

as of August 9, 2022



PROUD POSSESSORS
OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE

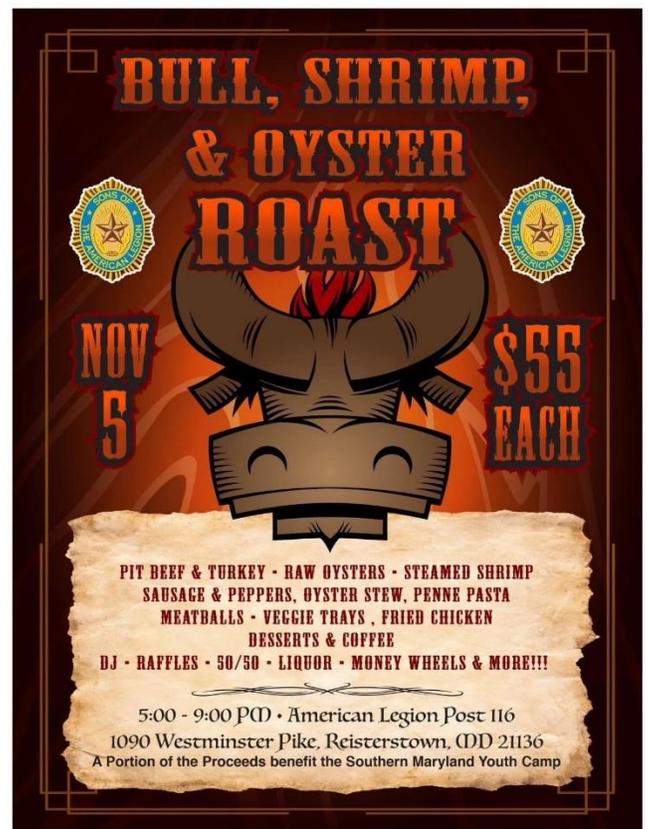
Legion Family across NJ, the National Commander spoke at Woodbridge Post 87 about topics that have been at the forefront of the organization's attention since his election. Two of the topics he discussed were veteran's suicide, and the pending passage of the PACT Act in Congress, which moved to President Biden's desk a few days later. The act expands VA health care and benefits for veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances, as well as provides generations of veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits.

SAL Detachment (state) Commander Mark Natale invited members of the Sons to the event to meet the National Commander as well. Belleville 105's own Steve Sangemino and Rusty Myers attended, shaking hands, and chatting with the National Commander about Belleville, New Jersey, and the SAL. Sangemino serves as a Detachment Vice Commander, and Myers serves as DEC, or representative, of Essex County, as well as state Children and Youth Chairman. Both are also members of Belleville Squadron 105 on Washington Ave.

Both were also given the opportunity to take a photo with the National Commander, and were presented by Dillard with his National Commander's Pin, a very prestigious badge.



SAL Essex DEC County Rusty Myers, of Belleville Squadron 105; 2021-22 National Commander Paul Dillard; and 2021-22 SAL Detachment of NJ Vice Commander Steve Sangemino, of Belleville Squadron 105.



2021-22 Department of NJ Commander Daniel Dunn; SAL Essex County DEC Rusty Myers, of Belleville Squadron 105; 2021-22 National Commander Paul Dillard; 2021-22 Department of NJ Vice Commander Jack Dunne; and 2021-22 SAL Detachment of NJ Vice Commander Steve Sangemino, of Belleville Squadron 105.



LEO LADERS SQUADRON 130



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
presents...
Beefsteak Dinner
and
Dancing Under the Stars

\$65.00 per person

Featuring:
All-You Can Eat
Sliced Filet Mignon served on Garlic Bread
French Fries, Salad, Dessert & Coffee
(Vegetarian Option Available)
Includes Beer, Wine and Soda

★ *Dancing All Night Long!!* ★
DJ MUSIC by *Big Dog Entertainment*

Saturday September 17, 2022 6:00pm - 13 midnight
Reservations in advance only. Limited to 100 persons
Leo Laders Post 130 American Legion
130 American Legion Way, Thiells, NY 10984
Call for reservations: 845-429-2112 | 845-671-9870



JUAN TORRES
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

It has been an honor serving as you National Vice-Commander Midwest. It has been great meeting many of you. It has been a great year for our region across the board. We looked good in Child Welfare Foundation donations. Thank you for all you have done.

Of course, we go to membership which we are sitting at 99.05%, still 271 short of 100%. I have come to realization that we will not have the 100% by National Convention and will be the only Region not to make it. I can say I am still proud of our accomplishments with this. Even tough COVID restrictions have lessened, there are still many who fear it. Now with the Monkey Pox issue, I hope it will not hinder our growth into the next year.

Even though we will not make goal, we still had a great year. We helped national hit 100%, which means our organization is getting its members back after the last 2 years, and we are growing.





Anthony Wayne Post #174
Sons of The American Legion
“ANNUAL PIG ROAST”

Date: Saturday September 10, 2022, 1:00pm to 5:00pm
At: Anthony Wayne Post 174 55 Mountain View Blvd.
Wayne, New Jersey 07470
Price per Ticket: \$25.00/Children under 12 Free
Includes: Pig, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Sides, Refreshments
Cash Bar and Live Music, Corn Hole, Horseshoes
Auxiliary Tricky Tray
For information contact Anthony Wayne Post #174
@ 973-694-9777
Proceeds go to help our Veterans and their families



What happens at the Pig Roast....
Stays at the Pig Roast!

Always remember that the 2021-2022 membership can still be accepted till December 31, 2022.

MIDWEST REGION - JUAN R. TORRES (TX)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,052	1,352	128.52%
NEW MEXICO	1,261	1,469	116.49%
MEXICO	26	30	115.38%
NORTH DAKOTA	916	1,046	114.19%
COLORADO	2,632	2,682	101.90%
TEXAS	5,425	5,471	100.85%
WYOMING	1,273	1,261	99.06%
NEBRASKA	6,959	6,821	98.02%
OKLAHOMA	1,380	1,309	94.86%
MONTANA	1,160	1,078	92.93%
KANSAS	6,424	5,747	89.46%
Totals:	28,508	28,266	99.15%

as of August 9, 2022



JASON ROBERTS
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



Still Serving America



Children & Youth Programs Scholarship & Financial Aid Veterans Legislation & Benefits National Security & Protection of Our Flag

Do You Qualify to be a Legion Family member

To Learn More, Contact:	Eligibility Dates
	World War I April 6, 1917 - Nov. 11, 1918
	World War II - Present Dec. 7, 1941 - Present*
* If currently serving on active duty today, you are eligible.	

Be part of the nation's largest veterans organization!

SOUTHERN REGION - JASON S. ROBERTS (GA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
PUERTO RICO	88	121	137.50%
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,382	1,462	105.79%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,619	2,682	102.41%
GEORGIA	4,316	4,401	101.97%
FLORIDA	20,745	21,138	101.89%
VIRGINIA	4,023	4,038	100.37%
ALABAMA	2,020	2,027	100.35%
TENNESSEE	1,681	1,669	99.29%
LOUISIANA	1,808	1,738	96.13%
KENTUCKY	2,648	2,533	95.66%
ARKANSAS	468	440	94.02%
MISSISSIPPI	795	701	88.18%
Totals:	42,593	42,950	100.84%

as of August 9, 2022

Sports



How to watch the American Legion World Series

The American Legion | August 5, 2022

The 95th American Legion World Series begins Thursday with eight teams vying for the championship of American Legion Baseball.

The ALWS is played annually at Veterans Field at Keeter Stadium in Shelby, N.C., the permanent home of the series since 2011.

The eight-team field is determined through eight regionals nationwide, which begin with 64 teams comprised of state champions, host teams and runners-up from states with the largest American Legion Baseball lineups.

The eight teams are divided into two divisions, the Stars division and the Stripes division, for pool play. The top two teams in each division after round-robin pool play advance to the semifinals, scheduled for Aug. 15.

The pool play games will air on ESPN3, while the semifinals and championship game will air on ESPNU. Live scoring is also available at americanlegion.sportngin.com/ or on the [American Legion Baseball app](#). And follow on social media on Twitter (@LegionBaseball), Instagram (@TheAmericanLegion) and Facebook (@OfficialAmericanLegionBaseball and @AmericanLegionWorldSeries) using the hashtag #ALWS22.



JIM STEWART
WESTERN 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	75	153.06%
WASHINGTON	2,086	2,482	118.98%
NEVADA	334	356	106.59%
OREGON	1,317	1,403	106.53%
IDAHO	606	633	104.46%
ARIZONA	7,566	7,854	103.81%
PHILIPPINES	66	68	103.03%
CALIFORNIA	10,338	10,529	101.85%
ALASKA	1,560	1,577	101.09%
UTAH	492	436	88.62%
Totals:	24,414	25,413	104.09%

as of August 9, 2022



The schedule (all times Eastern; schedule subject to change):

Aug. 11

Game 1: Great Lakes champion Midland (Mich.) Post 165 vs. Mid-Atlantic champion Chesapeake (Va.) Post 280, 10 a.m., ESPN3

Game 2: Mid-South champion Troy (Ala.) Post 70 vs. Northeast champion Shrewsbury (Mass.) Post 397, 1 p.m., ESPN3

Game 3: Southeast champion Camden (S.C.) Post 17 vs. Western champion League City (Tex.) Post 554, 4 p.m., ESPN3

Game 4: Central Plains champion Omaha (Neb.) Post 1 vs. Northwest champion Idaho Falls (Idaho) Post 56, 7:30 p.m., ESPN3

Aug. 12

Game 5: Shrewsbury (Mass.) Post 397 vs. League City (Tex.) Post 554, 4 p.m., ESPN3

Game 6: Troy (Ala.) Post 70 vs. Camden (S.C.) Post 17, 7 p.m., ESPN3

Aug. 13

Game 7: Chesapeake (Va.) Post 280 vs. Idaho Falls (Idaho) Post 56, 1 p.m., ESPN3

Game 8: Midland (Mich.) Post 165 vs. Omaha (Neb.) Post 1, 4 p.m., ESPN3

Game 9: Shrewsbury (Mass.) Post 397 vs. Camden (S.C.) Post 17, 7:30 p.m., ESPN3

Aug. 14

Game 10: Troy (Ala.) Post 70 vs. League City (Tex.) Post 554, 1 p.m., ESPN3

Game 11: Chesapeake (Va.) Post 280 vs. Omaha (Neb.) Post 1, 4 p.m., ESPN3

Game 12: Midland (Mich.) Post 165 vs. Idaho Falls (Idaho) Post 56, 7 p.m., ESPN3

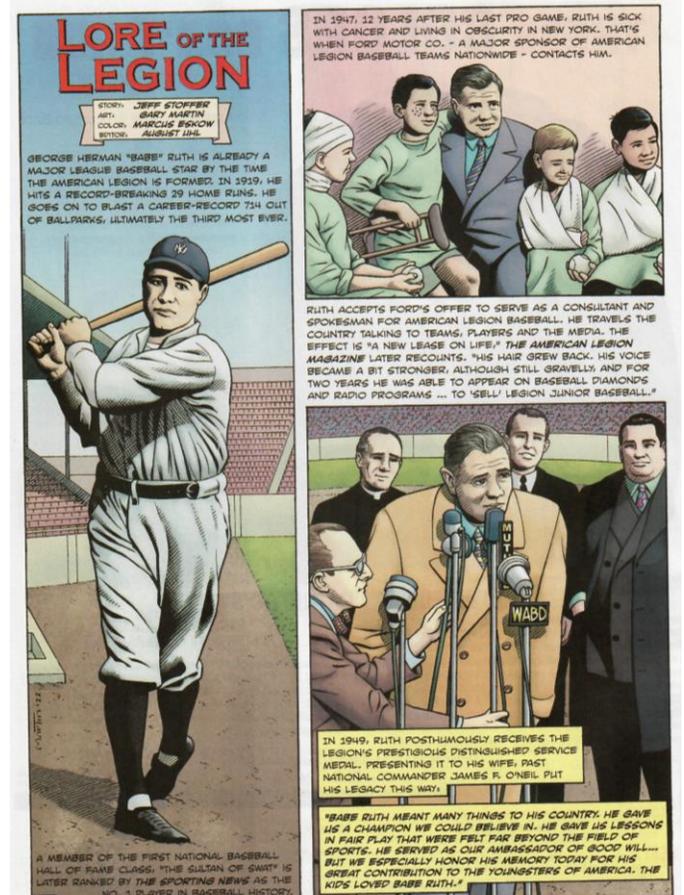
Aug. 15

Game 13: Stripes division winner vs. Stars division runner-up, 4 p.m., ESPN3

Game 14: Stars division winner vs. Stripes division runner-up, 7 p.m., ESPN3

Aug. 16

Championship game, 7 p.m., ESPN3



reprinted from The American Legion magazine | July 2022



Squadron Everlasting

Brad Teis, Commander **The American Legion Department of Ohio**



Department of Ohio Commander Brad Teis passed away Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at his home.

Brad Teis was elected to serve 2019-2020 as the Department of Ohio Second Vice-Commander on Sunday June 30, 2019 and elected to serve 2021-2022 as the Department of Ohio First Vice-Commander on Sunday July 11, 2021. He was elected to serve 2022-2023 as the Department of Ohio Commander on Sunday July 3, 2022.

Brad was a member of Canton Post 44, where he in every Post Position including Post Commander 2015-2019. Brad was also a SAL Squadron 44 member. He was on the Canton Post 44 Honor Guard.

In 2017, he was elected 10th District Second Vice-Commander and in 2018, as Frist Vice-Commander. He was instrumental in helping the 10th District achieve Quota and win the National Race-To-The-Top Award in 2017 and 2018. He then served as 10th District Commander 2018-2019 and was National Runner-up in the 2019 Race-To-The-Top Award. Brad received the Department Commanders Award and The Department Adjutants Award for 2018. He was a post awarded PUFL member.

Brad earned his eligibility by serving during the Vietnam Era in both the Navy and Army. He also served in The Ohio National Guard at the Akron-Canton Airport. He had been the 10th District Committee Chairperson for Special Olympics, and also served as a National Appointee to The Americanism Commission, and a Commissioner to Ohio Buckeye Boy's State.

He was a member of the Greater Canton Veterans Council and served on the Board of the Homes for Heroes. Mr. Teis was a co-founder of the Aultman-Woodlawn Compassionate Care Center Honor Team serving Hospice Veterans and their families in their

time of need. He had served as the 2019-2020 Vice-President of the 10th District Past Commanders Association and also served on the 10th District Task Force and Advisory Committee.

He was very active in his community where he visited veterans in area hospitals, nursing homes and Hospice venters.

He retired from The Hoover Company in 2006, after 33 years.

He was married to his best friend and wife, Roxanne, for 30 years and they have four children, Bradley Jr., Michael, Brittany, and Ryan, and have four grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are pending and will be made available as they become available.

"The one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness." – Romans 12:8

William 'Bill' Kaledas, 69 **June 6, 1953 - August 8, 2022**



Beloved husband of Diane for 22 years. Loving dad of Erik, Jessica (Ken) Young, and Samantha. Cherished papa of Luke, Margo, Emily, and Drew. Dear brother of Carol (Howard) Behr, Donna (the late Al) Spiteri, Rick (Donna), Ron (Colleen), Lenny and the late Connie. He was very dearly loved and will be deeply missed by many nieces, nephews, family member, friends and especially his beloved dog Buddy.

Bill served his community proudly as 8a council member and former mayor of Garden City, MI. He was a founding member of the American Legion Riders in 1993, serving as director from 1996 - 2005, affectionately known to them as "Polka Bill". He was a post commander of The American Legion Post 396, even acting as president of the American Legion Memorial Home Association. Bill also spent time as a Garden City Hockey Coach and a Member of the Knights of Columbus.

His presence will be truly missed not only in Garden City, but throughout.

Did you know?



Young SAL can participate in the Patch Program with your ALA Juniors!

www.ALAforVeterans.org



DUES RECEIPT
(please print)

Date _____ Received from _____
\$ _____ for 20 _____ dues
Recruiter's name _____
Recruiter's signature _____
Recruiter's phone # _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home phone _____ Cell phone _____
Email _____
Date of Birth (required) _____ / _____ / _____ Birth: 17 18 and older
Have you been a member previously? Yes No (if yes, fill in below, if known)
Previous Unit/ City/ State _____ ALA D# _____
Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian/under 18) _____ Date _____
Submit this application to the ALA unit you wish to join. If unit is unknown, contact National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 for assistance.
Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due.
Membership pending approval of application.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligible Through Name of Veteran (if living, must be American Legion member)
If Living: Living Deceased
American Legion Member ID # _____ Post # _____ City _____ State _____
Deceased (if veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military records)
Veterans served: (check all that apply)
 WWII (1917-1945) Korea (1950-1953) Vietnam Other Conflicts
 Global War on Terror Lebanon/Grenada WWII Other Conflicts
 Gulf War Korea Vietnam Other Conflicts
 Panama
Applicant's relationship to the veteran:
 Female Spouse Male Spouse Mother Sister Self
 Grandmother Sister Daughter Granddaughter
 Direct Descendant (daughter, granddaughter)
To Be Completed By The American Legion Post Adjutant/Officer
I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.
Post-Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification _____ Date _____



American Legion Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY EXPLAINED

RELATIONSHIP TO VETERAN:



- MOTHER
- DAUGHTER
- SISTER
- GRANDMOTHER
- GRANDDAUGHTER
- SELF — FEMALE VETERANS WHO HAVE SERVED
- MALE or FEMALE SPOUSE

ELIGIBILITY PERIODS: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941

TWO PATHS FOR ALA ELIGIBILITY

PATH ONE

The potential member is related to a living veteran by one of the relationships stated above and the veteran is living AND a current member of The American Legion.



If the potential member is a female veteran, she only needs to have served during the eligible time periods to be eligible for ALA membership.

PATH TWO

The potential member is related to a deceased veteran who served during the eligible time periods and was honorably discharged.



The deceased veteran did not have to be a member of The American Legion in order for the potential member to join the ALA.

For more information, visit www.ALAforVeterans.org

TAIWAN continued from page 1

“Activities around our territory are closely monitored by [the defense ministry] and will meet our appropriate responses when needed.”

Meanwhile, the U.S. Navy positioned the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan with the cruiser USS An-tietam and the destroyer USS Higgins as escorts near Taiwan, according to USNI News and Reuters.

Reuters cited an unnamed Navy source; USNI cited unnamed Defense Department sources. An unnamed Pentagon official told USNI that the ships were operating normally in the region.

Meanwhile, the USS Tripoli, an amphibious assault ship that carries F-35B Lightning II stealth fighters, steamed near Okinawa.

U.S. Indo-Pacific Command on Wednesday referred questions about its Western Pacific operations to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, which did not answer a telephone call or immediately respond to an email.

Pelosi, the third-ranking member of the U.S. government, and a five-member congressional delegation arrived in Taipei on Tuesday night. Her highly anticipated visit to Taiwan is part of an Indo-Pacific tour that also includes stops in Singapore, Malaysia, South Korea, and Japan.

In the days leading up to Pelosi’s arrival, Chinese authorities made clear that a military response of some kind could be expected.

“We are closely following the itinerary of Speaker Pelosi,” China Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying told reporters Tuesday. “And if the U.S. continues down the wrong path, we will take strong and resolute measures to protect our sovereignty and security interests.”

Beijing considers Taiwan a breakaway province that must be reunited with the mainland, by force if necessary. The U.S. government officially abides by the “One China” policy, which acknowledges Beijing’s view that it has sovereignty over Taiwan, which split from the mainland in 1949, but considers Taiwan’s status unsettled.

Assertive Chinese military activity has been taking place beyond Taiwan in the South China Sea, East China Sea and in the Pacific, said Ian Chong, an associate professor of political science at the National University of Singapore.

“There has also been a lot of military activity in Taiwan’s [air defense identification zone] for some time,” he told Stars and Stripes in an email Wednesday.

“The Pelosi visit did not cause, nor will it change,” China’s coercive military activities, Chong said.

China’s response to Pelosi’s visit may ultimately be indirect and deniable, New Zealand-based U.S. security expert Paul Buchanan said in a Wednesday email. China could potentially expel U.S. diplomats and attaches to protest the visit, but won’t go to war over it, he said.

“That does not mean that there will be no response or even no kinetic response from [China] ... perhaps another island seizure or fishing fleet confrontation that may or may not involve the U.S. and Taiwan,” he said.

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____ Date _____

Name _____ (First) _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____ Recruited by _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____

Address _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

E-mail Address _____ Telephone _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. _____, Dept. of _____

OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.

Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant)

00-001 (2013)

RECEIPT

Date _____

Received of _____

For God and Country _____

\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in

Squadron _____, Detachment of _____

By _____