



ROUND-UP

A weekly digest of happenings in the Sons of The American Legion

Next Goal

80%

March 15, 2023

Volume 4 | Number 24 | Issue 175 | March 5, 2023

Troiola to Congress: Apply 'Pact' to stop suicides

[John Raughter](#) | March 1, 2023

Calling for Congress to apply the same urgency toward stopping veteran suicide as it did toward passage of the PACT Act last year, National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola laid out [The American Legion's legislative priorities](#) before a joint session of the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs committees Wednesday morning.

After [praising Congress for passing the landmark legislation](#) which opened benefits to millions of veterans exposed to environmental toxins, Troiola reminded lawmakers about the words associated with the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act.

"Pact, 'promise' and 'honor' are terms we must also urgently apply to the epidemic of veteran suicide," Troiola said. "The American Legion's 'Be the One' initiative, which raises awareness nationally about the problem and seeks to destigmatize asking for help, is our organization's highest priority today. To us, suicide prevention is a pact we share with our friends and comrades of military service, a promise from each of us in The American Legion to 'Be the One' to save at least one other veteran from suicide."

Sen. Maggie Hassan, D-N.H., praised The American Legion for its work in stopping suicides. "Peer support programs encourage veterans to reach out and connect with one another proactively, which improves veterans mental health and reduce the risk of suicide," she said. "The American Legion recognized the importance of these programs when it created the Buddy Check program in 2019."

Sen. Angus King, I-Maine, called on the Department of Defense to take a greater role in preventing suicide among transitioning veterans. "The Pentagon should put as much time, money and effort into the transition out as they do in the recruiting in...the data shows us that the first two or three years after separation are the danger period."

Another priority that The American Legion has long advocated is the elimination of the disabled veterans tax, also known as concurrent receipt. Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont, promised to reintroduce the Major Richard Star Act, which would eliminate the tax for more than 50,000 military retirees with combat-related injuries. Tester was also praised by King for his leadership in passing the PACT Act.

"The PACT Act would not have passed without Jon Tester," King said of Tester, who serves as the chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Exorbitant legal fees charged in connection with the Camp LeJeune Justice Act drew a strong response from Sen. Dan Sullivan, R-Alaska, who sponsored Legion-supported legislation to cap what lawyers can charge.

"You've got the trial lawyers of America who are working to rip off the veterans and families of sick Marines," Sullivan said. "My bill is a choice between taking care of sick Marines and their families or enriching trial lawyers." Sullivan called advertising by predatory law firms "disgusting."

During his opening statement, Troiola pointed out that The American Legion provides assistance for such claims "free of charge."

Women's healthcare was also addressed at the hearing. "We do believe VA is moving forward, however more needs to be done," said Autrey James, chairman of The American Legion Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission. "There are barriers to gender-specific high-quality care (to) include not being identified as a veteran, not being recognized as a veteran by VA employees, lack of awareness and understanding of VA healthcare benefits and the perceptions that VA is an all-male healthcare system."

see TROIOLA page 3



ROUND-UP

National Commander

Chris Carlton (IN)

National Vice-Commander Central Region

David Mennel (MI)

National Vice-Commander Eastern Region

Ernie LaBerge (MA)

National Vice-Commander Midwestern Region

Michael Kirschner (CO)

National Vice-Commander Southern Region

Ron Roberts (MS)

National Vice-Commander Western Region

Jack Youngs (ID)

Immediate Past National Commander

Michael Fox (CA)

Leading Candidate

Don "J.R." Hall (MD)

Trailing Candidate

Joseph Navarrete (NM)

Round-Up is a publication designed to disseminate information related to Sons of The American Legion and the American Legion Family. It is published weekly and distributed each Sunday.

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

PNVC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

All information must be submitted by noon each Friday



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

www.legion.org/membership/standings



**RENEW
ONLINE
TODAY**



**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL**

TARGET DATE

March 15, 2023



CHRIS CARLTON

NATIONAL COMMANDER

2022 – 2023



Chris Carlton, National Commander
Sons of The American Legion

**"Purpose is why we journey;
passion is the flame that lights the way."**

**PURPOSE
PASSION**



DAVID MENNEL
NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER
CENTRAL REGION
2022 – 2023

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

Third Thursday of Each Month
 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time
 (720) 527-5854 | 202 4742#



ERNIE LABERGE
NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER
EASTERN REGION
2022 – 2023

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

Fourth Tuesday of Each Month
 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time
 (605) 313-4388 | 346 8542#



MICHAEL KIRSCHNER
NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER
MIDWEST REGION
2022 – 2023

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

First Tuesday of Each Month
 7:00 p.m. Mountain Time
 (605) 313-5379 | 830 520



RON ROBERTS
NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER
SOUTHERN REGION
2022 – 2023

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

Second Tuesday of Each Month
 7:00 p.m. Central
 (945) 218-0044 | 472 0682



JACK YOUNGS
NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER
WESTERN REGION
2022 – 2023

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

Fourth Wednesday of Each Month
 7:00 p.m. Mountain Time
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)
 Meeting ID: 847 2013 6661 | 697 464

We have to address that and the way to address that is through training. We have to make sure that VA is properly training those who come in contact with our women veterans to ensure that they are being treated with the same care and dignity as any other veteran who enters the system.”

Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs Rep. Mike Bost, R-ILL., welcomed The American Legion’s large presence in the Capitol. “The men and women of The American Legion are the greatest advocates here in D.C. and across the country. You know better than anyone else that the veterans community has earned a system that works for them.”

BE THE ONE



Preventing suicide, caring for veterans top VA secretary’s objectives

[Henry Howard](#) | February 28, 2023

American Legion member Casey Nash illustrates the organization’s commitment to its [Be the One mission](#), as VA Secretary Denis McDonough pointed out.

Nash is the 1st district commander in the Department of Georgia. She earned combat action badges and received a Purple Heart after deploying several times post 9/11.

She is also a survivor of a suicide attempt. [Her experience](#) led her to “Be the One” to give back to others, including creating an awareness event last fall aimed at reducing the rate of veteran suicide.

“Casey credits the community she discovered through The American Legion with helping her recover, with helping her find a sense of purpose again, with helping her live,” McDonough said in his speech to American Legion Family members during its 63rd Washington Conference on Feb. 28. “Today, she’s building that community for dozens of other veterans in her area, sharing stories and supporting one another in the moments when it matters the most.”

The secretary embraced the Legion as a partner in pursuing the same goals: reducing the rate of veteran suicide, providing the highest standard of health care for veterans and more.

“We all have to be there for veterans when it matters most, especially in times of crisis,” he said. “Two years ago, we failed a veteran — Major Ian Fishback — because we didn’t carefully coordinate our response to his needs across federal, state and county systems.”

That experience prompted a year-long project among VA’s Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, VISN 10 and Michigan state authorities.

“We’re better positioned to ensure that a vet isn’t responsible for managing complex governmental bureaucracies,” he said. “We’re responsible. We have to do that, for all veterans.”

Outlining five steps to quell the suicide rate, McDonough said, “Vets need and deserve suicide prevention solutions that meet them where they are, rather than taking a one-size-fits-all approach.”

The steps are:

- VA’s daybreak challenge to build out proven new solutions developed by Americans in communities across the country. “These investments will help develop innovations that will save veterans’ lives.”
- Staff Sgt. Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grants are driving resources to local suicide prevention services.
- As part of Suicide Prevention 2.0, VA is recruiting, hiring, and training more than 100 licensed mental health providers serving veterans at high risk of suicide.
- The expansion of coverage through the COMPACT Act, which is connecting VA to new veterans who may have never used VA resources previously. “You have my commitment that we ensure that veterans receive the suicide crisis care they need when and where they need it without ever having to worry about receiving a bill.”

- The hiring of over 1,300 peer support specialists who “use their personal experiences with their own recovery to help struggling fellow veterans reconnect, find a sense of belonging, and access resources at VA and in their communities.”

McDonough credited The American Legion for its role in addressing the problem.

“Vets helping vets, long after they take off the uniform. There’s nothing better than that. There’s nothing more effective than that. And there’s no one who does that better than The American Legion.

“But suicide prevention takes all of us ... pulling together in the same direction to save lives. And with all this work, and more, saving lives is exactly what we’re going to do. And, together, we will do it.”

The secretary embraced the Legion’s commitment to providing the highest standard of health care for veterans. “Together we can solve problems with full transparency,” he said. “We are proud of our accomplishments. But we are going to be candid about our failings — candid with ourselves, with you, with veterans and with the American people. We still can, and still must, be better — and do better — for the veterans we serve.”

Veterans had more than 73 million outpatient appointments at VA in the past year, McDonough said. Additionally, there were 37 million more outpatient appointments with community care providers. Since 2020, the number of virtual visits has surpassed 23 million, an increase of 3,000%.

McDonough also pointed to another Legionnaire, Chris Earl, the founder of [Regiment Gaming](#). The community — at 20,000 strong, the largest in the nation — is for veterans, active-duty military, and their families. It engages younger veterans and helps to connect them with VA resources.

“Chris teamed up with The American Legion, collaborating in a few different ways, including wildly successful online gaming tournaments for veterans,” McDonough noted. “In this community, veterans started asking each other questions about how to use the VA for care and benefits. The camaraderie they built over video game competitions has turned into trust, and a willingness to ask tough, personal questions from virtual friends living on opposite sides of the country.”

McDonough noted the importance for VA in connecting with younger veterans. While VA’s satisfaction surveys are

mostly positive, younger veterans as a group don't trust VA as much as their older comrades.

"It's exactly the kind of mutually supportive veteran community The American Legion built 100 years ago, redesigned for the digital age," the secretary said. "It helps build trust in VA where we need it most – with younger vets who may be suspicious of VA – or heard horror stories of wait times and bureaucracy at VA. Together – the Legion and VA – can build the responsive claims process vets deserve, because I know we at VA still have a lot of work to do to meet our responsibility to veterans today."

The claims process, in fact, set a record last year with 1.7 million claims reaching decisions. However, "we're on pace to break that record this year," McDonough said.

Since the PACT Act became law last August, the overall number of claims filed has surged to more than 1 million, a 24% increase year over year.

Thus far, there have been more than 103,000 awards granted for toxic exposure claims. McDonough encouraged veterans to take these steps:

1. Enroll, if you are not already, part of VA
2. Apply for toxic exposure benefits and care right now. By applying before Aug. 10, the benefits will be back-dated to Aug. 10 of last year, when the bill was signed into law.
3. Get a toxic exposure screening at your VA medical center. Nearly 2 million veterans already have.
4. Work with an American Legion service officer on your benefits. It's a free service for all veterans.
5. Learn more about the PACT Act by visiting [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT) or calling (800) 698-2411.



NATIONAL COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Advisory Committee

Joe Mayne (MN), Chairman

Americanism Commission

Chris Casey (NE), Chairman
Fourth Thursday of Bi-monthly
7:30 p.m. Eastern

[Join Zoom meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 956 9846 2868 | 840 830 | (877) 853-5257

March 23, 2023 | May 25 | July 27



**FLYING FLAGS
FOR HEROES**
www.flyingflagsforheroes.com

As of March 3, 2023, **12,694**
flags have been placed and
reported to honor our veterans
since September 1, 2022

Century Committee (CENTCOM)

Jeff Vrabel, Sr. (OH), Chairman

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Second Thursday of Each Month
7:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Meeting ID: 974 1352 0429 | 473 385 | (877) 853-5257

Child Welfare Foundation Committee

Mark Nave (PA), Chairman

Third Wednesday of Each Month
8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 989 9129 8443 | 967 563
(877) 853-5257

Children & Youth Committee

James A. Noble (NJ), Chairman

Second Wednesday of Each Month
7:30 p.m. Eastern Time

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 934 1509 0014 | 403 800 | (877) 853-5257



Finance Commission

William G. Hill (MD), Chairman

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

[Join Zoom meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 957 1342 7326 | 44846 | (877) 853-5257

April 13 | May 6 (NEC) | July 13

Internal Affairs Commission

William Clancy, III (NY), Chairman

First Thursday of Each Month

6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 917 1243 8217 | 914 458 | (877) 853-5257

Legislative Commission

Thomas G. Deal (MD), Chairman

Third Thursday of ODD Months

7:30 p.m. Eastern Time

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Member Training and Development Committee

Mike Monserud (IA), Chairman

First Monday of Each Month

8:00 p.m. Eastern

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 918 2414 1981 | 777 490 | (877) 853-5258

Membership Committee

Thom Skelley (TX), Chairman

Third Tuesday of Each Month

7:00 p.m. Eastern Time | (605) 472-5756 | 771 7294

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

www.legion.org/membership/standings

additional membership information appears later in this edition

We now have all 5 Regions above the 80% target on March 15, and 44 of our DETACHMENTS have done the same. As we have been almost all year, we are 21,000 members ahead of this time last year. PHENOMENAL!!

Since we don't need to worry about the 80% target date, let's take a look at the April 19 target of 90%. With 47 days until that date, we need to average 350 members a day, across all 55 detachments. Doable? You better believe it!!

Is it too early to start looking at the possibility of your Detachment hitting the TRIPLE NICKLE AWARD?? Think about it!!

We are growing stronger every day. Where will we be by Charlotte? It's up to you!!



**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**

2023 SAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT AS OF: MARCH 2, 2023

#	DETACHMENT	2023 DET. YEAR END GOAL	NEEDED TO MEET 80% TARGET 3/15/2023	2023 ACTUAL MBSHP	% OF YEAR END GOAL	2023 RENEWAL %
1	HAWAII	77	-25	87	112.99%	94.74
2	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,362	-343	1,433	105.21%	84.52
3	PUERTO RICO	123	-25	123	100.00%	66.39
4	FRANCE	158	-26	152	96.20%	85.90
5	FLORIDA	21,519	-2,189	19,404	90.17%	73.76
6	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,473	-140	1,318	89.48%	75.65
7	DELAWARE	2,430	-229	2,173	89.42%	76.61
8	WEST VIRGINIA	2,362	-218	2,108	89.25%	74.05
9	MARYLAND	16,058	-1,481	14,327	89.22%	80.48
10	GEORGIA	4,490	-404	3,996	89.00%	75.54
11	NORTH DAKOTA	1,056	-92	937	88.73%	77.89
12	OHIO	30,636	-2,565	27,074	88.37%	81.29
13	WISCONSIN	4,187	-336	3,686	88.03%	77.06
14	OREGON	1,414	-110	1,241	87.77%	69.27
15	VIRGINIA	4,109	-313	3,600	87.61%	75.29
16	KANSAS	5,919	-448	5,183	87.57%	78.32
17	TENNESSEE	1,718	-125	1,499	87.25%	70.70
18	NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,677	-406	4,948	87.16%	76.94
19	VERMONT	3,818	-273	3,327	87.14%	79.24
20	NEBRASKA	7,015	-491	6,103	87.00%	82.80
21	LOUISIANA	1,790	-125	1,557	86.98%	78.18
22	PENNSYLVANIA	60,803	-4,239	52,881	86.97%	80.03
23	ILLINOIS	13,398	-900	11,618	86.71%	78.26
24	MICHIGAN	24,271	-1,562	20,979	86.44%	76.44
25	MISSOURI	3,219	-190	2,765	85.90%	75.72
26	NEVADA	357	-20	306	85.71%	66.02
27	NORTH CAROLINA	2,727	-146	2,328	85.37%	70.28
28	IOWA	4,857	-259	4,145	85.34%	74.99
29	RHODE ISLAND	336	-16	285	84.82%	73.03
30	COLORADO	2,729	-130	2,313	84.76%	72.44
31	ALABAMA	2,066	-88	1,741	84.27%	72.30
32	IDAHO	644	-26	541	84.01%	68.31
33	INDIANA	36,387	-1,434	30,544	83.94%	76.86
34	WASHINGTON	2,485	-72	2,060	82.90%	65.35
35	ARIZONA	8,004	-216	6,619	82.70%	66.16
36	NEW YORK	29,864	-779	24,670	82.61%	75.54
37	OKLAHOMA	1,348	-35	1,113	82.57%	65.83
38	MISSISSIPPI	722	-17	595	82.41%	70.80
39	NEW JERSEY	9,386	-175	7,684	81.87%	72.91
40	MONTANA	1,108	-16	902	81.41%	75.23
41	CONNECTICUT	1,867	-23	1,517	81.25%	72.52
42	MINNESOTA	11,378	-120	9,222	81.05%	74.25
43	MEXICO	31	0	25	80.65%	38.71
44	ALASKA	1,608	0	1,286	79.98%	64.07
45	MAINE	2,617	13	2,081	79.52%	68.60
46	CALIFORNIA	10,714	54	8,517	79.49%	66.54
47	MASSACHUSETTS	5,442	37	4,317	79.33%	70.13
48	WYOMING	1,298	36	1,002	77.20%	67.84
49	TEXAS	5,569	172	4,283	76.91%	63.22
50	NEW MEXICO	1,483	62	1,124	75.79%	61.20
51	UTAH	449	43	316	70.38%	58.81
52	KENTUCKY	2,609	441	1,646	63.09%	54.24
53	ARKANSAS	447	81	277	61.97%	51.93
54	DIST OF COL	114	25	66	57.89%	46.02
55	PHILIPPINES	70	21	35	50.00%	48.53
Grand Totals:		367,798	-19,841	314,079	85.39%	75.93

2023 SAL REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

WESTERN REGION - JACK A. YOUNGS (ID)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
HAWAII	77	87	112.99%
OREGON	1,414	1,241	87.77%
NEVADA	357	306	85.71%
IDAHO	644	541	84.01%
WASHINGTON	2,485	2,080	82.90%
ARIZONA	8,004	6,619	82.70%
ALASKA	1,608	1,286	79.98%
CALIFORNIA	10,714	8,517	79.49%
UTAH	449	316	70.38%
PHILIPPINES	70	35	50.00%
Totals:	25,822	21,008	81.36%

MIDWEST REGION - MICHAEL L. KIRSCHNER (CO)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,362	1,433	105.21%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,056	937	88.73%
KANSAS	5,919	5,183	87.57%
NEBRASKA	7,015	6,103	87.00%
COLORADO	2,729	2,313	84.76%
OKLAHOMA	1,348	1,113	82.57%
MONTANA	1,108	902	81.41%
MEXICO	31	25	80.65%
WYOMING	1,298	1,002	77.20%
TEXAS	5,569	4,283	76.91%
NEW MEXICO	1,483	1,124	75.79%
Totals:	28,918	24,418	84.44%

CENTRAL REGION - DAVID J. MENNEL (MI)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
OHIO	30,636	27,074	88.37%
WISCONSIN	4,187	3,686	88.03%
ILLINOIS	13,398	11,618	86.71%
MICHIGAN	24,271	20,979	86.44%
MISSOURI	3,219	2,765	85.90%
IOWA	4,857	4,145	85.34%
INDIANA	36,387	30,544	83.94%
MINNESOTA	11,378	9,222	81.05%
Totals:	128,333	110,033	85.74%

EASTERN REGION - ERNEST E. LABERGE (MA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
FRANCE	158	152	96.20%
DELAWARE	2,430	2,173	89.42%
WEST VIRGINIA	2,362	2,108	89.25%
MARYLAND	16,058	14,327	89.22%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,877	4,948	84.19%
VERMONT	3,816	3,327	87.14%
PENNSYLVANIA	60,803	52,881	86.97%
RHODE ISLAND	336	285	84.82%
NEW YORK	29,964	24,670	82.31%
NEW JERSEY	9,396	7,684	81.87%
CONNECTICUT	1,867	1,517	81.25%
MAINE	2,617	2,081	79.52%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,442	4,317	79.33%
DIST OF COL	114	66	57.89%
Totals:	140,932	120,536	85.53%

SOUTHERN REGION - RONALD E. ROBERTS (MS)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
PUERTO RICO	123	123	100.00%
FLORIDA	21,519	19,404	90.17%
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,473	1,318	89.48%
GEORGIA	4,490	3,996	89.00%
VIRGINIA	4,109	3,600	87.61%
TENNESSEE	1,718	1,499	87.25%
LOUISIANA	1,790	1,557	86.98%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,727	2,328	85.37%
ALABAMA	2,066	1,741	84.27%
MISSISSIPPI	722	595	82.41%
KENTUCKY	2,609	1,646	63.09%
ARKANSAS	447	277	61.97%
Totals:	43,793	38,084	86.96%

Subcommittee on National Appointments

Donald Allisot, Jr. (ME), Chairman

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

Seth A. Rippe (NE), Chairman

Fourth Monday of Each Month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 941 4100 3972 | 378 079 | (646) 931-3860

Veterans Employment & Education Commission

Jim Coates (NY), Chairman

Third Wednesday of Each Month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 935 4405 3884 | 786 114 | (877) 853-5257

National Convention Committee

Christopher Byrd (NC), Chairman

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 961 5391 3982 | 690 337 | (877) 853-5257

National Executive Committee Liaison Committee

Jim Stewart (NV), Chairman

National Vice-Commander Selection Committee

James Hartman (MD), Co-Chairman

David Stephens (IN), Co-Chairman

Public and Media Communications Commission

Kevin Chaplin (VA), Chairman

Fourth Tuesday of Each Month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 963 1528 2340 | 075 079 | (877) 853-5257

Subcommittee on Resolutions

Ned Fox (CA), Chairman



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



**PROUD POSSESSORS
OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE**

Sons, Legion Family lay wreaths at Tomb of Unknown and memorials during Washington Conference

The American Legion | February 27, 2023

An annual tradition in conjunction with The American Legion's Washington Conference sees the Sons of The American Legion lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

On Sunday, as he laid the wreath, SAL National Commander Christopher Carlton was saying a prayer "for all our servicemen and women and the families that lost (loved ones)." "Taking that minute to remember ... all those that have passed, all those that are buried here in Arlington, it's a great honor and privilege," Carlton said.

Carlton and approximately 150 other members of the American Legion Family also laid wreaths at the Vietnam and World War II memorials at the National Mall.

Detachment of Michigan assistant sergeant of arms Seth Fisher placed a wreath at Michigan's section of the World War II memorial with his father, Detachment Commander Victor Fisher. Seth Fisher said it meant a lot to do that.

"It's generational," Seth Fisher said. "I hope to do that in my future too so I can continue to support the vets from generation to generation."

Martin Widmer of Squadron 262 in Audubon, N.J., said the day was "overwhelming."

"There's a lot of feelings, especially when you have relatives on those walls," Widmer said.



For photos from the 2023 Washington Conference, please click [here](#) or scan the QR code



Sons of the American Legion Help Fill the Food Pantry

John Pickard, Detachment of Michigan

The Gladstone Michigan August Mattson Squad #71 of the Sons of the American Legion have made a \$200 Donation to the Gladstone St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry.

According to the Squad Commander Randy Bruntjens, "Our Group was looking for a great way to give back to the Community and thought this donation in February when the shelves are a little bit lower was the best time to help the pantry with their needs and their hope to re-stock the shelves." "This is the time in the middle of Winter when the need is the greatest."



Squadron 71 Commander Randy Bruntjens, Gladstone Food Pantry Assistant Manager Mary Knoch, and Squadron 71 Adjutant Steve Viau.

The Sons of the American Legion was founded for preserving the American Legion Traditions and programs while improving the quality of life for our nation's children, caring for veterans and their families, and teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship. The Sons of the American Detachment of Michigan

represents over 28,000 members in the State and 23 local squadrons in the Upper Peninsula.

members clean up their homes. Post 152 also has an SAL Squadron and an Auxiliary, with a Military Cemetery beside the Post



Squadron 138 members Sgt.-at -Arms Chad Huff, 1st Vice Darrel Vaughn, Commander Lee Calihan, Adjutant Clay Calihan, and Dave Calihan.

Sons assist Kentucky flood victims

Ron Wissman, Detachment of Ohio

SAL Squadron 138 Hamilton, Ohio mission was to collect donations and money for the aftermath of the floods that devastated Southeastern Kentucky. They contacted Douglas Day American Legion Post 152 in Whitesburg, KY. to see how they could help the Post that was helping Legion members and residences of Whitesburg.



Squadron 138 members presenting a check to American Legion Post 152 in Whitesburg, KY in the amount of \$3,000 for the aftermath from the floods.

They raised \$3,000 for Legion Post 152 to help their Post members were in need. They also took over \$2,000 worth of cleaning supplies and stayed all weekend, helping Legion

Delaware Sons make donation to help special needs children

Mike Cotton, Detachment of Delaware

Sons of American Legion Squadron 24 of Dagsboro, DE Commander Tom McCausland, Financial Officer Ed Evans, and Sargent at Arms Ed Thompson stopped by Howard T. Ennis school and Donated \$3,000 for new communication devices for the children. I know it was for a good cause, but it truly touched our hearts to see the smiles on the kids and staff faces as they were so appreciative. We look forward to working with them in the future! A special thanks to Principal Melissa Kansak and Family support Liaison Chris Budesheim!



Howard T. Ennis Educational Services are provided to all students (preschool through 21 years old) with significant disabilities, within the Indian River School District, and sending districts that demonstrate a need for highly specialized educational support. Special education services are provided by trained and experienced teachers, therapists, nurses, and para-educators under the leadership of a coordinating team of administrators.



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Vickie Koutz, National President
The American Legion Auxiliary

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SPORTS



A behind the scenes portrait of Chip Ganassi Racing Driver Alex Palou during a video production for Chip Ganassi Racing Production Day at Chip Ganassi Racing Headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind., on Wednesday, January 11.

Photo by Hilary Ott /The American Legion

Alex Palou looking to expand 'Be the One' reach while setting sights on Indy 500

[Steven B. Brooks](#) | March 2, 2023

The 2023 INDYCAR SERIES gets underway this weekend with the [Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg](#) in Florida. The American Legion and Chip Ganassi Racing (CGR) are again partnering this season, with CGR's drivers featuring American Legion branding through the year.

This weekend, 2021 INDYCAR SERIES champ Alex Palou will be driving the No. 10 American Legion "Be the One" livery, sharing with millions of racing fans the Legion's suicide-prevention initiative.

Earlier this year, Palou sat down with American Legion Social Media Manager Steven B. Brooks to talk about the upcoming season, including his goals and what it's like to share the Legion's "Be the One" on his livery throughout the season.

The American Legion: You've driven The American Legion car a handful of times during the two previous seasons. Now that's going to be expanded this season, with the focus on "Be the One." What does it mean to you to have that livery and be representing The American Legion when you're out on the track in car?

Alex Palou: For me, especially, I feel honored. I think the progress we've had with the relationship, we started with two races in 2021, and then a lot more races in 2022, and now in 2023 being the primary (sponsor) in the car, it gives us the opportunity to put in more work and try to get to more people. Last year, when we started with the 'Be the One' campaign, it was pretty motivational for a guy that not only represents a company or a sponsor but can represent more people and try to directly help people. It's been special, and I can't wait to try to put in more work and try to help more people.

Question: You've been able to meet with members of The American Legion at various races throughout the past two years. What has that interaction meant, being able to actually look into the eyes of the people you're representing on the car, and how much are you looking forward to doing that this season?

Palou: When you can represent a group, and you can meet them and interact more with them, it makes it more special and more satisfying. You can see the work that you're putting in and all the team...and meet The American Legion members that are pushing for you. When I meet people at the racetracks, some veterans, they come and I show the car and we talk a little bit about the race, that's when I really get the interaction with them. It's quite good and quite satisfying when you can meet the people that you are helping and the people you are working with.

Question: INDYCAR has a large and diverse audience. How important is it to get that "Be the One" message out about the number of veteran suicides that are happening daily and what someone can do at the local level to help?

Palou: When you hear the actual (veteran suicide) numbers from each day, it's quite brutal. We're just trying to help people to help people. Because that's the way that it can improve a lot, if each one can help even one person, if we all do that, we can help a lot of persons. I think the 'Be the One' campaign worked a lot last year and was easy to understand for people and what you can actually do as an individual.

Question: How does it feel that you're one of the ones sharing that message and providing that education, and possibly making a difference in the life of a veteran?

Palou: I think I'm lucky to have that voice. It could be that you want to have that voice, but you can't reach people. I'm lucky to be in the position I am, to be able to go to some events, to some races, do a lot of interviews ... and try to help. If I can help one person, that will mean a lot more

than everything else in life. I think with the relationship we have now with The American Legion and INDY and Ganassi, we're helping and we're reaching a lot of people.

Question: You've had a pretty impressive two-year run, winning the INDYCAR SERIES championship two years ago and finishing fifth last year. What are the goals this year, as an individual driver and as part of the team?

Palou: Win. We were successful in 2021, we were really successful in the beginning of 2022, but we were unable to maximize everything. We would get a lot of podiums but no wins until the end of the season. That hurts you a lot, because the difference between winning and finishing second or third is brutal. We've got some things together for this year, we've got some more experience, we've got a lot of confidence and a group of guys we're working with that are really, really strong. I feel confident to go out and win the Indy 500 and win the (series) championship. Obviously, I have one championship, but that just created a hunger for more. But the thing that comes first is the Indianapolis 500. It's the biggest race of our season and of motorsport racing, and I need to win that race."



CoForce photo

Palou to drive No. 10 American Legion Honda to kickoff INDYCAR SERIES

The American Legion | March 2, 2023

The 2023 NTT INDYCAR Series season kicks off this weekend, and The American Legion's "[Be the One](#)" suicide-prevention will be on full display on the track.

Chip Ganassi Racing's Alex Palou, the 2021 series champ, will be driving the No. 10 American Legion Honda that features "Be the One" branding in the Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg. Palou finished fifth in last year's series post standings in finished second behind Scott McLaughlin last year in the St. Petersburg Race.

The Firestone Grand Prix is 100 laps, with the 1.8-mile course featuring 14 turns and incorporating streets of downtown St. Petersburg and a section of runway of Albert Whitted Airport. After the long frontstretch, there's a tight right-hander into Turn 1 and then a quick left-hand turn. Plenty of drivers have gotten into trouble in these two turns over the years. There are two other long straights with heavy braking zones that afford opportunities to overtake.

This weekend's broadcast schedule:

- Friday, March 3 – practice 3–4:15 p.m. ET, Peacock.
- Saturday, March 4 – practice 10–11 a.m., Peacock; qualifications 2:15–3:30 p.m., Peacock.
- Saturday, March 5 – warmup 9–9:30 a.m., Peacock; NXT race 9:50–11:05 a.m., Peacock; NTT INDYCAR SERIES race, noon–2:30 p.m., NBC and Peacock.

For more information the Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, click [here](#).

Three Things to Look for at St. Petersburg (via INDYCAR)

1. Can anyone dethrone the kings? Chip Ganassi Racing and Team Penske have won the past 10 titles with Scott Dixon, Will Power and Josef Newgarden combining for eight of them. So, who breaks the streak? It's best to look Arrow McLaren, where Alexander Rossi (No. 7 Arrow McLaren Chevrolet), Felix Rosenqvist (No. 6 Arrow McLaren Chevrolet) and Pato O'Ward (No. 5 Arrow McLaren Chevrolet) are employed, or Andretti Autosport's Colton Herta (No. 26 Gainbridge Honda). Those four drivers were the highest-placed drivers in the championship who didn't drive for Team Penske or Chip Ganassi in 2022. Herta, O'Ward and Rossi are the only three in that group to find victory last season.
2. Power Plays Poles at Will. Will Power is the greatest qualifier in modern INDYCAR SERIES history, as his 68 career poles are the all-time series record. The tale of Power's qualifying success can best be told through the Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, where he has won nine of the last 13 poles. The only drivers to score a pole in the last 10 years in St. Petersburg not named Will Power are Takuma Sato in 2014, Robert Wickens in 2018, Colton Herta in 2021 and Scott McLaughlin last season. In total, Team Penske has won the pole position in 11 of the past 16 St. Petersburg races. Power has scored at least one pole position in each season since 2009, including five NTT P1 Awards last year. It's a sure bet that the reigning series champion will add to his record this season, and don't be surprised if it starts during NTT P1 Award qualifying Saturday afternoon.

3. Dixon Seeks His First Win on the Streets of St. Petersburg. Who wouldn't take Scott Dixon's resume as an NTT INDYCAR SERIES driver? He has six NTT INDYCAR SERIES championships, which trails only the seven INDYCAR SERIES titles collected by A.J. Foyt. His 53 wins rank second on the all-time INDYCAR SERIES victory list, behind Foyt's 67, but Dixon has never won at St. Petersburg. Still, he has been successful on the streets of the Florida Gulf Coast city. Dixon has four runner-up finishes at the circuit and has an average finish of 7.88 in his 18 previous starts. He has finished in the top 10 in his last seven starts.



Texas Rangers shortstop Corey Seager named 2023 Legion Baseball Graduate of the Year

The American Legion | February 22, 2023

Texas Rangers shortstop Corey Seager has been selected as the 2023 American Legion Baseball Graduate of the Year. Seager played Legion Baseball for Post 115 in Kannapolis, N.C.

Scheduling of the official award presentation is still in the works.

Seager is a three-time All-Star who in 2020 [became just the eighth player](#) — and third American Legion Baseball alumnus — to earn League Championship Series and World Series MVP honors in the same season when he helped lead the Los Angeles Dodgers to the seventh title in franchise history and first since 1988.

In the 2020 NLCS, Seager set series records with five home runs and 11 RBIs as the Dodgers rallied from a 3-1 deficit to defeat the Atlanta Braves. Seager then hit .400 with two home runs, five RBIs and seven runs scored as Los Angeles beat Tampa Bay in six games in the World Series.

In December 2021, after seven seasons with the Dodgers, Seager signed a 10-year, \$325 million contract with the Texas Rangers — the largest contract in franchise history. He hit a career-high 33 home runs — albeit with a career-low .245 batting average — in his first season with the Rangers.

In addition to his postseason and All-Star honors, Seager has been National League Rookie of the Year, a two-time Silver Slugger Award winner and All-MLB Second Team.

About the American Legion Baseball Graduate of the Year Award. Each year The American Legion honors a former American Legion Baseball player who is currently playing in the Major Leagues for his character, leadership, playing abilities and community service. Individuals are recommended by their respective post.

Recipients of the award:

2023: Corey Seager (Post 115, Kannapolis, N.C.)
2022: Brandon Woodruff (Post 49, Tupelo, Miss.)
2021: Jacob deGrom (Post 3, Deland, Fla.)
2020: no award
2019: Neil Walker (Post 548, Gibsonia, Pa.)
2018: Brian Duensing (Post 374, Omaha, Neb.)
2017: Brian Dozier (Post 49, Tupelo, Miss.)
2016: Cliff Lee (Benton, Ark.)
2015: Alex Gordon (Post 3, Lincoln, Neb.)
2014: Michael Cuddyer (Post 280, Chesapeake, Va.)
2013: Chad Billingsley (Post 300, Napoleon, Ohio)
2012: Mark Ellis (Post 22, Rapid City, S.D.)
2011: Corey Hart (Kentucky)
2010: Brandon Inge (Lynchburg, Va.)
2009: Lyle Overbay (Post 15, Centralia, Wash.)
2008: Justin Verlander (Post 201, Powhatan, Va.)
2007: Chris Carpenter (Post 79, Manchester, N.H.)
2006: Albert Pujols (Post 340, Independence, Mo.)
2005: Scott Rolen (Jasper, Ind.)
2004: Darin Erstad (Jamestown, N.D.)
2003: Jeff Bagwell (Post 75, Middletown, Conn.)
2002: Luis Gonzalez (Post 248, Tampa, Fla.)
2001: Todd Stottlemire (Washington)
2000: Chipper Jones (Post 6, Deland, Fla.)
1999: Steve Finley (Post 31, Paducah, Ky.)
1998: Tony Gwynn (Post 27, Long Beach, Calif.)
1997: Mo Vaughn (Norwalk, Conn.)
1996: Paul Molitor (St. Paul, Minn.)
1995: Bob Tewksbury (New Hampshire)
1994: Greg Maddux (Post 8, Las Vegas, Nev.)
1993: Bill Swift (Portland, Maine)
1992: Terry Steinbach (New Ulm, Minn.)
1991: Sid Bream (Carlisle, Pa.)
1990: Harold Reynolds (Post 11, Corvallis, Ore.)

1989: Alan Trammell (San Diego, Calif.)
 1988: Roger Clemens (Spring Woods, Ohio)
 1987: Don Mattingly (Evansville, Ind.)
 1986: Dale Murphy (Portland, Ore.)
 1985: Jeff Reardon (Dalton, Mass.)
 1984: Ryne Sandberg (Spokane, Wash.)
 1983: Andre Thornton (Phoenixville, Pa.)
 1982: Jim Sundberg (Galesburg, Ill.)
 1981: Gary Carter (Fullerton, Calif.)
 1980: George Brett (El Segundo, Calif.)
 1979: Mike Flanagan (Post 2, Manchester, N.H.)
 1978: Ron Guidry (Lafayette, La.)
 1977: Dave Winfield (Post 606, St. Paul, Minn.)
 1976: Rick Monday (Post 123, Santa Monica, Calif.)
 1975: Carlton Fisk (Post 37, Bellows Falls, Vt.)
 1974: Wilbur Wood (Post 99, Watertown, Mass.)
 1973: Johnny Bench (Anadarko, Okla.)
 1972: Al Kaline (Baltimore, Md.)
 1971: Steve Carlton (Miami, Fla.)
 1970: Dave McNally (Post 4, Billings, Mont.)
 1969: Harmon Killebrew (Payette, Idaho)
 1968: Mickey Lolich (Post 102, Portland, Ore.)
 1967: Carl Yastrzemski (Bridgehampton, N.Y.)
 1966: Frank Robinson (Post 237, Pleasanton, Calif.)
 1965: Eddie Fisher (Oklahoma)
 1964: Brooks Robinson (Post 1, North Little Rock, Ark.)
 1963: Warren Spahn (Buffalo, N.Y.)
 1962: Bobby Richardson (Sumter, S.C.)
 1961: Stan Musial (Donora, Pa.)
 1960: Ted Williams (San Diego, Calif.)
 1958: Sherm Lollar (Arkansas)

SQUADRON EVERLASTING

to have a member's information listed here,
 please send to jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com



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Central Region Extravaganza

2023 marks the first year that a gathering of members in the Central Region is officially taking place. Taking place the weekend of April 21 – 23, 2023CREI has a jam-packed line-up of great presenters and speakers. Attendees will learn, participate, have fun, and most importantly, come together to further the mission of the American Legion Family.

The Embassy Suites Airport in Columbus, Ohio is the location of the Extravaganza, and an evening of fun is planned for Saturday night, as there are tentative plans to visit American Legion Posts in the area.

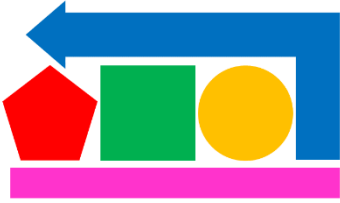
Attendance is open to Sons, as well as to Legionnaires and members of the American Legion Auxiliary.

The event flyer appears later in this edition.

To register, please email jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com. Please register early, as there is a limit of fifty participants, and spots are filling up fast. Hotel reservations must be made directly with the hotel.

The line-up of speakers will be published in the next few weeks.

Meeting of the Jeffs



There will be a Meeting of the Jeffs on Saturday, April 22, 2023 during the Central Region Extravaganza.

All Jeffs planning to attend the meeting must email jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com.

Jeffs do not need to attend the conference to attend this very important meeting.



Vincent "Jim" Troiola, National Commander
The American Legion



Tester: You live up to promises you make to veterans

[Steven B. Brooks](#) | February 28, 2023

Looking ahead to this session of Congress, Sen. Jon Tester had strong words regarding cutting the federal budget when it comes to caring for the nation's veterans.

Addressing The American Legion during the organization's Washington Conference on Feb. 28, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs said the U.S. government cannot renege on a pact it made with those who've worn the nation's uniform.

"Some folks who serve in Congress ... want to roll back the budget. But they roll back the budget, they roll back funding for our veterans," he said. "Don't let them tell you anything different. That's a bad idea. I know about fiscal discipline. But when you make promises to people who served this country, you live up to those promises. We will get that done."

Tester also spoke about a piece of pending legislation fully supported by The American Legion: the [Major Richard Star Act](#). The legislation would allow veterans who are medically retired due to injuries sustained in combat to receive their retirement pay without forfeiting their disability compensation.

"We're going to be working on that, and with your support ... we'll see that baby across the finish line, too," Tester said. "Democracy works when people speak up and make sure their opinions are heard, and The American Legion is right there when making sure that democracy works."

Ensuring the Department of Veterans Affairs has the capacity to treat all veterans also is a priority for Tester. "The VA needs to step up and make sure they have the doctors, the nurses, and the facilities, but we need to give them the ability to make sure that happens, and that old facilities go away. We've got a number of bills to do that that I'm pushing

on, bipartisan in nature in the United States Senate that we're going to be working on to get done."

Tester said those inside the Beltway, and many others, don't understand the challenges faced by rural veterans. That is why American Legion support was so critical for one specific piece of legislation.

"That's why I am particularly proud that last year we had the largest expansion of VA healthcare ever in this country in a bill known as the PACT Act," he said. "It is a bill that every veteran service organization in this country was their No. 1 priority. Yet it is a bill that never would have passed if not for you. I am here to say to you, thank you. Your voice was heard, and we ended up passing a very important piece of legislation that impacts probably the majority of your members."



National commander addresses legislative priorities for new Congress

The American Legion | February 28, 2023

American Legion National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola applauded legislative victories for veterans in the 117th Congress in his opening remarks to members of the Legion Family Feb. 28 at the Washington Conference during the Commander's Call.

"One of our biggest agenda items last year was the PACT Act. Because of your hard work it passed," said Troiola of the legislation, which will allow more than 3.5 million toxic-exposed veterans eligible for VA benefits.

Another piece of significant legislation passed was the Buddy Check Week Act that requires VA to implement a national buddy check week, mirroring the Legion's Buddy Check program. "It's a great step toward creating meaningful suicide prevention measures."

That led Troiola to voice the Legion's [Be the One](#) initiative to reduce veteran suicide by destigmatizing the need for veterans to ask for help and encourage everyone to "Be the One" to ask if a veteran is OK.

"We need to push for the expansion of counseling and innovative, evidence-based, complementary and alternative medicine," Troiola said. "We must remind our senators, representatives and their staff that they have no higher calling than the care and well-being of our veterans, our active military and their families."

Legion Family members will visit with their respective representatives and senators following the Commander's Call to [voice the Legion's legislative priorities](#) for the 118th Congress, 1st Session. Troiola highlighted a few of those priorities.

Protect and improve the GI Bill. Higher education, vocational training and home ownership are benefits earned through service and sacrifice. "Yet, reservists and National Guardsmen are often deprived of these benefits. We must urge Congress to honor their service by granting them parity in the awarding of GI Bill benefits."

Respect the U.S. flag. "It means amending the U.S. Constitution to allow Congress to once again claim the right to protect the flag from desecration. The flag used to cover the caskets of our fallen military heroes."

Protect veterans from predatory actors. There are law firms "that are overcharging veterans after they had already been exposed to contaminated drinking water. We urge Congress to impose a cap on legal services provided in association with the Camp Lejeune Justice Act."

Advocate for citizenship for military service. "It is unjust to deport veterans who served honorably and have expressed a willingness to fight and die for this country."

Ensure the Coast Guard is paid. "This means paying the U.S. Coast Guard, uninterrupted, during any future government shutdowns."

"Thank you all for being here today to advocate in our nation's capital on behalf of our fellow veterans and service-members," Troiola said. "Our American Legion Family is strong. We have four solid pillars – National Defense, Veterans, Youth and Americanism. All of these offer opportunities to grow and serve our community. All of these can be used to build an even more powerful and yes, better, American Legion."

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Sue Yourst Frank



STRUTHERS, Ohio — Sue Yourst Frank, 96, passed away peacefully, Monday morning, Feb. 27, 2023, at the Inn at Glenellen, with her family by her side.

Sue was born Nov. 27, 1926, in Youngstown, a daughter of the late Elias Marunczak and Mary Bodnar

Marunczak, and raised her family in Struthers.

Sue was a 1944 graduate of South High School and joined the United States Cadet Nurse Corps, an accelerated nursing program for women to help alleviate the nursing shortage during World War II. Sue studied nursing at the St. Francis School of Nursing in Columbus and, as a part of her studies, spent six months on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Browning, Mont. before returning to Ohio for graduation in 1947. Sue then studied anesthesia at the School of Anesthesia in St. Elizabeth Hospital. She was a member of the first graduating class and was the third student to graduate in 1948.

She worked as a certified registered nurse anesthetist for Bell Park Anesthesia Associates in Youngstown, working in both St. Elizabeth Youngstown Hospital and Trumbull Memorial Hospital for many years, and also did freelance work for several oral surgeons and ear, nose, and throat specialists in the area before retiring in 1988.

Mrs. Frank was a member of St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church in Austintown and sang in the church choir.

She had an unwavering faith and a love for her family that was beyond compare. She counted her blessings daily and refused to see anything but the good in others. She was a shining example of a life well-lived and will be deeply missed, but her memory and spirit will live in our hearts forever.

Sue leaves to cherish her memory, her daughter, Susan (Dr. Pat) Thomas of Lake Milton; her son, Greg (Paula) Yourst of Ortonville, Mich.; two granddaughters, Jessica (T.J.) Hughes and Andrea (Nick) Nolting; two grandsons, Sgt. Collin Ward (Capt. Brianna Lung DDS) and Spencer Ward; six great-grandchildren, Addison, Jackson, Owen, Ainsley, Noah and Neve; a daughter-in-law, Linda Yourst of Hubbard, two stepsons, Jack (Stephanie) Frank and Gary (Linda) Frank; four step-grandchildren, Nicholas and Natalie Frank, Ann (Curtis) Lloyd and Rachel (Flavio) Aiken, and their children. Sue also leaves many nieces, nephews, and extended family members; and her beloved granddog, Libby.

Her first husband, Nick Yourst, whom she married in 1951, passed away in 1993. Her second husband, John S. Frank, whom she married in 1999, passed away in 2017. A son, Nick Yourst; and a sister, Helen Kozlow, also preceded Sue in death.

Private interment will take place at a later date in Poland Riverside Cemetery.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kinnick Funeral Home in Youngstown. Visit www.kinnickfuneralhome.com to view and share this obituary and to send condolences to Sue's family.

Adeline Parise



STRUTHERS, Ohio – Adeline Parise, 92, of Struthers, passed away Wednesday morning, February 22, 2023, at Hospice House in Poland. Adeline was born on November 2, 1930, in Rolette, North Dakota, the daughter of the late Clere and Vesper Lewis.

She was a graduate of Rolette High School and was the last surviving band member of the WACs (Women's Army Corps) in which she served from 1949- 1952.

Adeline married her husband, Sylvester Parise, on December 29, 1952, until he passed away in May of 2003.

Adeline was a homemaker and loved to bake, cook, and garden. Adeline's favorite things in life were her faith, her family and reading a good book.

She was a parishioner of St. Charles Borromeo Parish Catholic Church for many years.

Adeline was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Sylvester; her sister, Laurene Carlson and her brother, Jackson Lewis.

Adeline will be greatly missed by her son, Keith Parise of Struthers, Ohio; grandson, Matthew (Carma) Parise; granddaughter, Sebrina (Steven) Barnhouse; five great-grandchildren, Ethan, Evan, Emma, George, and Nicholas; sister, Genevieve Paulson; beloved niece, Nina Paulson; dear friend, Leslie Marcinano; many nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

Family and friends are encouraged to offer prayers for the family and support via phone call, text, email or may visit the Book of Memories at www.rossifunerals.com.

To [send flowers](#) to the family or [plant a tree](#) in memory of Adeline Parise, please visit our Heartfelt Sympathies Store.



Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

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

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

Address _____ (First) _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____

_____ (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 _____

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For God and Country _____

\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in

Squadron _____, Detachment of _____

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Saturday evening visit local American Legion Posts

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Keeping Members Involved | Building an Effective Youth Program
Honoring Veterans in Health Care Facilities | Servant Leadership
Public Speaking | Being a Military Child | Working with the Media
Be The One - Suicide: Knowing the Signs, Prevention, & Support

Meeting of the Jeffs

For more information and to reserve your spot at the conference,
please contact Jeff Vrabel Sr. | jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com
hotel reservations own your own

Local Attractions





03/02/23		2023 NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS					
	Region	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Quota Date
1	Southern 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	43,793	38,084	(5,709)	86.96%	531	
2	Central 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	128,333	110,033	(18,300)	85.74%	2,306	
3	Eastern 4, 5, 6, 7	140,932	120,536	(20,396)	85.53%	2,210	
4	Midwest 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	28,918	24,418	(4,500)	84.44%	474	
5	Western 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	25,822	21,008	(4,814)	81.36%	362	
TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7		367,798	314,079	(53,719)	85.39%	5,883	

03/02/23		2023 CENTRAL REGION STANDINGS David Mennell (MI), National Vice-Commander							
Detachment		Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1	Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	30,636	27,074	(3,562)	88.37%	559	81.29%	12	
2	Wisconsin 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	4,187	3,686	(501)	88.03%	42	77.06%	13	
3	Illinois 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7	13,398	11,618	(1,780)	86.71%	152	78.26%	23	
4	Michigan 4, 5, 6, 7	24,271	20,979	(3,292)	86.44%	787	76.44%	24	
5	Missouri 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	3,219	2,765	(454)	85.90%	6	75.72%	25	
6	Iowa 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	4,857	4,145	(712)	85.34%	91	74.99%	28	
7	Indiana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	36,387	30,544	(5,843)	83.94%	442	76.86%	33	
8	Minnesota 5, 6, 7	11,378	9,222	(2,156)	81.05%	227	74.25%	42	
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		128,333	110,033	(18,300)	85.74%	2,306			

	03/02/23	2023 WESTERN REGION STANDINGS Jack Youngs (ID) National Vice-Commander							
	Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1	Hawaii 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q, 10	77	87	10	112.99%	-	94.74%	1	10/10/22
2	Oregon 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,414	1,241	(173)	87.77%	20	69.27%	14	
3	Nevada 4, 5, 6, 7	357	306	(51)	85.71%	1	66.02%	26	
4	Idaho 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	644	541	(103)	84.01%	70	68.31%	32	
5	Washington 7	2,485	2,060	(425)	82.90%	12	65.35%	34	
6	Arizona 5, 6, 7	8,004	6,619	(1,385)	82.70%	101	66.16%	35	
7	Alaska 3, 6	1,608	1,286	(322)	79.98%	-	64.07%	44	
8	California 1, 5, 6	10,714	8,517	(2,197)	79.49%	220	66.54%	46	
9	Utah 5	449	316	(133)	70.38%	7	58.81%	51	
10	Phillippines	70	35	(35)	50.00%	-	48.53%	55	
	TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	25,822	21,008	(4,814)	81.36%	431			

	03/02/23	2023 SOUTHERN REGION STANDINGS Ron Roberts (MS), National Vice-Commander							
	Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1	Puerto Rico 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	123	123	-	100.00%	17	66.39%	3	03/02/23
2	Florida 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	21,519	19,404	(2,115)	90.17%	270	73.76%	5	
3	South Carolina 4, 5, 6, 7	1,473	1,318	(155)	89.48%	12	75.65%	6	
4	Georgia 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	4,490	3,996	(494)	89.00%	7	75.54%	10	
5	Virginia 4, 5, 6, 7	4,109	3,600	(509)	87.61%	99	75.29%	15	
6	Tennessee 1, 3, 4, 5, 6	1,718	1,499	(219)	87.25%	37	70.70%	17	
7	Louisiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,790	1,557	(233)	86.98%	17	78.18%	21	
8	North Carolina 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	2,727	2,328	(399)	85.37%	46	70.28%	27	
9	Alabama 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	2,066	1,741	(325)	84.27%	11	72.30%	31	
10	Mississippi 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	722	595	(127)	82.41%	(1)	70.80%	38	
11	Kentucky	2,609	1,646	(963)	63.09%	14	54.24%	52	
12	Arkansas 1	447	277	(170)	61.97%	2	51.93%	53	
	TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	43,793	38,084	(5,709)	86.96%	514			

03/02/23		2023 MIDWEST REGION STANDINGS Michael Kirschner (CO), National Vice-Commander							
Detachment		Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1	South Dakota 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q, 10	1,362	1,433	71	105.21%	4	84.52%	2	02/09/23
2	North Dakota 1, 3, 4, 5, 7	1,056	937	(119)	88.73%	14	77.89%	11	
3	Kansas 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	5,919	5,183	(736)	87.57%	93	78.32%	16	
4	Nebraska 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7,015	6,103	(912)	87.00%	185	82.80%	20	
5	Colorado 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	2,729	2,313	(416)	84.76%	90	72.44%	30	
6	Oklahoma 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,348	1,113	(235)	82.57%	1	65.83%	37	
7	Montana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,108	902	(206)	81.41%	16	75.23%	40	
8	Mexico 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	31	25	(6)	80.65%	-	38.71%	43	
9	Wyoming 1, 4, 5, 6	1,298	1,002	(296)	77.20%	10	67.84%	48	
10	Texas 1, 3, 4, 5	5,569	4,283	(1,286)	76.91%	59	63.22%	49	
11	New Mexico	1,483	1,124	(359)	75.79%	2	61.20%	50	
TOTALS 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		28,918	24,418	(4,500)	84.44%	470			

03/02/23		2023 EASTERN REGION STANDINGS Ernie LaBerge (MA) National Vice-Commander							
Detachment		Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1	France 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	158	152	(6)	96.20%	2	85.90%	4	
2	Delaware 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	2,430	2,173	(257)	89.42%	29	76.61%	7	
3	West Virginia 4, 5, 6, 7	2,362	2,108	(254)	89.25%	152	74.05%	8	
4	Maryland 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	16,058	14,327	(1,731)	89.22%	197	80.48%	9	
5	New Hampshire 4, 5, 6, 7	5,677	4,948	(729)	87.16%	69	76.94%	18	
6	Vermont 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	3,818	3,327	(491)	87.14%	47	79.24%	19	
7	Pennsylvania 4, 5, 6, 7	60,803	52,881	(7,922)	86.97%	791	80.03%	22	
8	Rhode Island 4, 5, 7	336	285	(51)	84.82%	1	73.03%	29	
9	New York 4, 5, 6, 7	29,864	24,670	(5,194)	82.61%	587	75.54%	36	
10	New Jersey 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	9,386	7,684	(1,702)	81.87%	232	72.91%	39	
11	Connecticut 4, 5, 6, 7	1,867	1,517	(350)	81.25%	43	72.52%	41	
12	Maine 5, 6	2,617	2,081	(536)	79.52%	4	68.60%	45	
13	Massachusetts 4, 6	5,442	4,317	(1,125)	79.33%	55	70.13%	47	
14	Dist. of Columbia	114	66	(48)	57.89%	1	46.02%	54	
TOTALS 4, 5, 6, 7		140,932	120,536	(20,396)	85.53%	2,210			

03/02/23		2023 SUPER SIX STANDINGS							
Detachment		Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1	Florida 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	21,519	19,404	(2,115)	90.17%	270	73.76%	5	
2	Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	30,636	27,074	(3,562)	88.37%	559	81.29%	12	
3	Pennsylvania 5, 6, 7	60,803	52,881	(7,922)	86.97%	791	80.03%	22	
4	Michigan 4, 5, 6, 7	24,271	20,979	(3,292)	86.44%	787	76.44%	24	
5	Indiana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	36,387	30,544	(5,843)	83.94%	442	76.86%	33	
6	New York 4, 5, 6	29,864	24,670	(5,194)	82.61%	587	75.54%	36	
TOTALS		203,480	175,552	(27,928)	86.27%	3,436			

National Totals 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	367,798	314,079	(53,719)	85.39%	5,883	75.93%		
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Q Quota

1 Met 09/14/22 goal of 10%	6 Met 02/15/23 goal of 75%
2 Met 10/13/22 goal of 25%	7 Met 03/15/23 goal of 80%
3 Met 11/09/22 goal of 35%	8 Met 04/19/23 goal of 90%
4 Met 12/14/22 goal of 45%	9 Met 05/17/23 goal of 100%
5 Met 01/19/23 goal of 60%	10 Met 07/16/23 goal of 105%

