



ROUND-UP

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

Next Goal

100%

May 17, 2023

Volume 4 | Number 33 | Issue 184 | May 7, 2023

Legion leadership to meet in Indianapolis for Spring Meetings

The American Legion | May 4, 2023



Members of The American Legion's National Executive Committee (NEC), along with American Legion commission and committee members, will convene in Indianapolis for the organization's annual Spring Meetings.

Members of the various commissions and committees will meet at the Sheraton City Centre Hotel in downtown Indianapolis this weekend to prepare reports that will be delivered to the NEC May 10-11. The NEC will meet in the NEC Room at National

Headquarters to review the reports and vote on resolutions.

American Legion National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola will address the NEC on Wednesday, May 10 at 9 a.m. Eastern. Watch his remarks live on the Legion's [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#).

At the close of Spring Meetings on Thursday, May 11, the following will be announced:

- 2023 American Legion Legacy Scholarship recipients
- 2023 American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year and runners-up
- American Legion Child Welfare Foundation recipients



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 Midwest 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 jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com. If you need assistance, please send an email to same.

All information must be submitted by noon each Friday.

PNVC [Jeff Vrabel, Sr.](#), Editor

[Rusty Myers](#), Contributor

[Lou Michaels](#), Contributor



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**

May 17, 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

BE THE ONE

If you're a veteran in crisis or concerned about one, contact the Veterans Crisis Line to receive 24/7 confidential support. Dial 988 then Press 1, chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat or text 838255.



Nick Arnett photo

Legion staff provides benefits assistance while sharing 'Be the One' initiative

The American Legion | My 2, 2023

From April 24-29, more than 30,000 fire service professionals descended on Indianapolis for the annual FDIC International, North America's leading firefighter conference. And also present at the conference were American Legion national staff, who manned a booth promoting the Legion's "Be the One" suicide-prevention initiative while providing information on Legion programs and assistance with benefits claims for veterans in attendance.

Erin Bossen, a Member Engagement & Training Coordinator in the Legion's Internal Affairs & Membership Division, said that during the three days the Legion's booth was at the conference, she and other national staff engaged with around 100 individuals.

"During the conference, we focused on informing fire chiefs and upcoming leaders about (the Legion's Fire-fighter of the Year and EMT of the Year) awards, which are available at local American Legion posts," Bossen said. "We also discussed various events, such as American Legion Family Day and Training Tuesdays, with the American Legion members we met. Furthermore,

we introduced our 'Be The One' campaign, and over half of the attendees expressed interest in participating."

Bossen said during the conference her group learned of a Michigan fire station that co-hosts a Firefighter's Ball with their American Legion post, and also met a son who was looking for a way to honor his father. Bossen said he was made aware of the Sons of The American Legion and plans to join.

"Lastly, we met a family that had thought about joining the American Legion Family but needed more information on how to do so," Bossen said. "We were able to provide them with the necessary information and answer their questions."

Steven M. Voller, a Veterans Disability Claims & Appeals Specialist based out of Indianapolis, stayed busy at the booth over the three days, interacting with firefighters who are veterans, and firefighters who have veterans they work with or in their family.

"We provided at least 75 business cards to veterans and non-veterans that were interested in obtaining information or assistance from VSOs (veteran service officers) in their state/county," Voller said. "We provided guidance and information on who to contact in their area as needed. We provided my card if they needed additional information or had questions in the future. "I provided one-on-one counseling/information to 10 veterans that took documents with them, eight of which are going to work with their local VSOs in their home state/county. Two of the 10 veterans returned the completed forms, and I will be assisting them personally. I am following up with them this week. Overall, I think it was a very successful engagement from the VSO perspective."

"It's not fair. That's my baby;" mom, students speak out after 15-year-old dies by suicide.

Isabelle Hanson | May 3, 2023

LOGAN, Ohio (WSYX) — 15-year-old Brice Butcher, a sophomore at Logan High School, died by suicide earlier this week after his mom said he was bullied.

"It's not fair," said Karianna Butcher. "That's my baby."

Butcher said her son spoke out against bullying to protect his friends. Then he became a victim of bullying himself.

"My kid deserved better than this," she said. "He was a good kid. He had a good heart. He deserved so much better."



May 3, 2023. Logan High School students stand in solidarity for Brice Butcher, who died by suicide.

WSYX

According to Butcher, there was an incident at a park last week, and she noticed a change in her son after that.

"He told me he got jumped," she said. "I check out he didn't have any serious injuries, but he had a goose egg on his head. He had bruising on his waist. He was beat."

Butcher said she had a close relationship with Brice and his brother. Their father died when they were young due to a heart condition.

She says Brice hid his struggles well.

"I didn't know that he was being bullied like he was," she said. "I'm getting messages now from students saying, 'I've never seen a kid be bullied so bad.'"

Now, Logan High School students are standing together for their friend. They got together at a park on Wednesday and called for change.

"If bullying has gotten this far, where people really want it take their own lives, then obviously it needs to change," said Kaitlyn Meade, a 7th-grader.

The students said they want school leaders to take bullying more seriously and enforce district rules.

"If we all stand together, if we all fight for what we truly believe in, we can get anything done," said Austin Carter, an 11th-grade student at Logan High School. "You can't stop an army, especially an army of dedicated students like this."

"The students in this district have had enough," said Butcher. "It's time for something to change."

Butcher said she wants people to know her son's story. "My kid was a good kid. He had a future," she said. "Everybody that ever met him or knew him or that was even around him has talked about his smile, has talked about how he made a positive impact on them."

She encourages other parents to trust their guts about their children, even if they think they're okay. She said she's open to talking to other parents to help them.

"I don't ever want this to happen to another kid," she said. "I don't ever want another parent to feel this. I miss my baby."

ABC6/FOX28 asked the Logan-Hocking School District superintendent about bullying issues and the district's enforcement of rules. He said the district handles bullying claims and addresses them. He also referred us to the online handbook. We reached out with more questions and are waiting for a response.

A statement sent this evening reads, "We are listening to the concerns of our students."

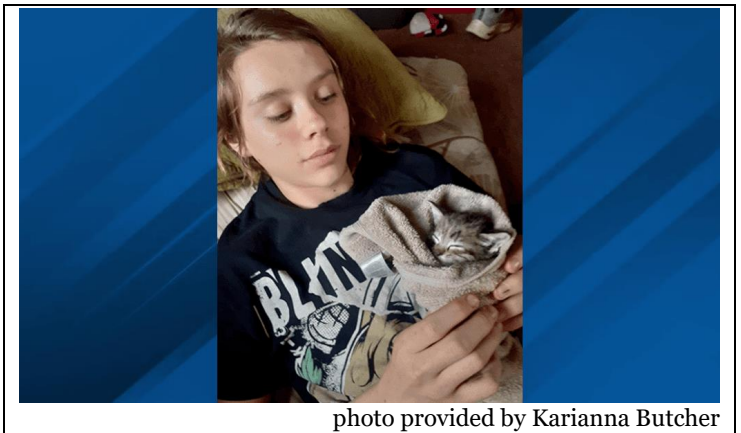


photo provided by Karianna Butcher

Remembering the Greatest Generation

To honor a World War II Veteran,
please send information to jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com



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

July 27



FLYING FLAGS
FOR HEROES
www.flyingflagsforheroes.com

As of May 4, 2023, **16,496**
flags have been placed
and reported to
honor our veterans
since **September 1, 2022**



photo provided by Karianna Butcher

Century Committee CENTCOM

Jeff Vrabel, Sr. (OH), Chairman

Second Thursday of Each Month

7:00 p.m. Eastern Time | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

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

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

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

8:00 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.

SAL Online Renewal - members can login and renew direct via www.myLegion.org or quick renew by clicking here [SAL Online Renewal](#).

SAL New Member Kit is now online and ready for purchase. [New Member Kit \(SAL\) - American Legion Flag & Emblem](#).

Additional membership information appears later in this edition.

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

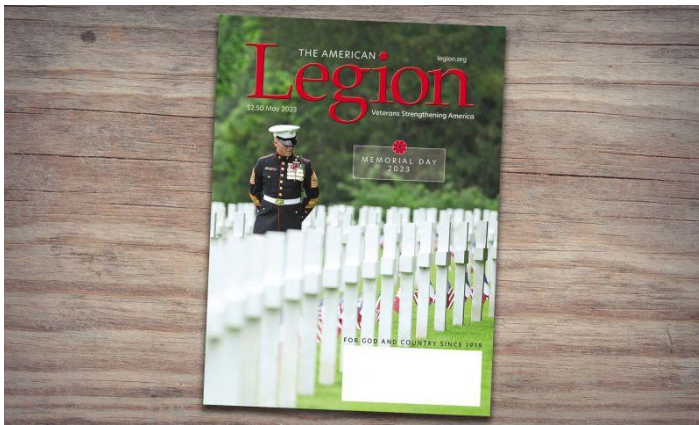
Kevin Chaplin (VA), Chairman

Fourth Tuesday of Each Month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

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

If you would like to view the **Digital Dispatch** content visit www.legion.org/dispatch or you can subscribe to the monthly Digital Dispatch newsletter by visiting www.legion.org/newsletters, click on "Dispatch" where you will be directed to www.myLegion.org where members will sign in to subscribe. For questions about Dispatch stories, email Dispatch@legion.org.



ABMC turns 100, America's misinformation problem and more in May magazine

The American Legion | May 1, 2023

Don't miss the May issue of *The American Legion Magazine*, with features on the "misinformation age," the centennial of the American Battle Monuments Commission and more. The clickable digi-mag is available through [MyLegion.org](https://www.mylegion.org).

- In "The Misinformation Age," Alan Greenblatt explores how social media and Americans' growing distrust in institutions are fueling the spread of false claims. Other eras of U.S. history, including the Gilded Age and the 1920s, resembled our own in some ways, "with political polarization and new forms of media emerging – such as radio and tabloids – that blurred the line between fact and opinion," he writes. "What's happening today that hasn't happened much before, however, is disagreement about basic facts, including scientific findings, data and statistics." Plus, a look at free speech and the internet, our eroding trust in experts and calls for media literacy instruction.
- American Battle Monuments Commission Secretary Charles Djou says the agency's centennial is an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to honoring the nation's fallen – and educate the next generation of stewards. "We live by Pershing's promise in fulfilling our ABMC mission: that 'time will not dim the glory of their deeds,'" he writes. "I am honored The American Legion takes this charge as seriously as we do."
- INDYCAR's Alex Palou, driver of the No. 10 American Legion car, talks about his goals this season and the Legion's Be the One message of veteran suicide prevention. "I have one championship, and that just created a hunger for more," he says. "But the thing that comes first is the Indianapolis 500. I need to win that race."

- Evolving technology is making it possible to remember America's fallen like never before, National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola writes. From the [National World WWI Memorial Virtual Explorer mobile app](#) to interactive displays at overseas cemeteries and other sacred sites, digital developments are giving educators "dynamic, interesting and well-researched tools to show new generations the stories, deeper meanings and reasons we bestow honor at Memorial Day, no matter where we are."

Members can click [here](#) to access the digital magazine. To join The American Legion and enjoy monthly digital issues of *The American Legion Magazine*, visit [legion.org/join](https://www.legion.org/join).

Subcommittee on Resolutions

Ned Fox (CA), Chairman

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



Alabama post donates \$12,133 to help veterans needing a service dog

The American Legion | April 27, 2023

American Legion Post 133 in Millbrook, Ala., presented its second generous contribution to Service Dogs Alabama – \$12,133. Local veteran Darrell Wilson and his service dog Bunny were at the presentation

April 20. He is the “recipient of all the hard work and efforts of Post 133 (Legion Family) members,” said Post Commander Bobby Boswell.

Service Dogs Alabama provides medical and psychiatric service dogs to children, adults, and veterans with disabilities. The organization also provides intervention facility dogs for schools, youth facilities and courtrooms.

The first donation Post 133 donated in support of Service Dogs Alabama was over \$10,000. The significant contributions have been made possible from raffles, a 50/50, food drives, T-shirt sales and a motorcycle ride by the Legion Riders chapter.

“All year long we are raising money with different events,” Boswell said. “It’s to help our veterans who are in need of service dogs. We know how expensive they are, and it’s one cause that we really believe in that is very important to help our veterans.”

Boswell said the reason Post 133 has been able to raise over \$25,000 for Service Dogs Alabama is because the members work as a family.

“I have saying, ‘One team, one family, for many missions, God and country.’ That’s the Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, and our Riders. When it comes to this, we’re one family on a mission.” \$12,133. Local veteran Darrell Wilson and his service dog Bunny were at the presentation April 20. He is the “recipient of all the hard work and efforts of Post 133 (Legion Family) members,” said Post Commander Bobby Boswell.

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



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- Children & Youth Programs
- To help those in need
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- To be part of the world's largest volunteer veterans' organization
- Camaraderie

Honor the Veteran Who
Made You Eligible
JOIN TODAY!

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



PROUD POSSESSORS OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE

Sons of the American Legion raise \$8,500 at bowling tourney to support veterans' causes

Washington County Daily News | May 3, 2023



A crowd gathered at Pioneer Bowl in Richfield for The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 522's 1st Annual 9-Pin Tap Bowling Tournament on April 29.

Chris Vesche/Sons of the American Legion Squadron 522

Richfield, WI – Sons of the American Legion Squadron 522 held their 1st Annual 9-Pin Tap Bowling Tournament at Pioneer Bowl in Richfield on April 29 to benefit veterans' causes.

The tournament attracted a full house with 96 bowlers, along with friends and family who attended to cheer on bowlers and support the cause, according to 522 Squadron Commander Chris Vesche.

Bowlers and guests participated in 50/50 raffles, meat raffles and basket raffles, all of which made for a fun

afternoon of camaraderie and sportsmanship, according to Vesche.

"Thanks to everyone's support, after expenses, the event cleared over \$8,500," said Vesche.

Squadron 522 extended its thanks to all of the lane sponsors, Pioneer Bowl, and all of those who came out to make the bowling tournament a success.

"Because of the benevolence and generosity of our community, we will be able to make an even larger impact on local veterans causes than the year before," said Vesche. "We look forward to seeing everyone again next year."



A bowler goes for a strike at Pioneer Bowl in Richfield for The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 522's 1st Annual 9-Pin Tap Bowling Tournament on Saturday.

Chris Vesche/Sons of the American Legion Squadron 522

Sons of the American Legion Squadron 522 is based in Hubertus.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

MAY
is
MOTORCYCLE
Awareness Month



LOOK TWICE
SAVE A LIFE.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans,
Military, and their Families



**Vickie Koutz, National President
The American Legion Auxiliary**



Sports



Ganassi Racing brings home four top-11 finishes in Alabama

The American Legion | May 1, 2023

All four Chip Ganassi Racing (CGR) drivers finished in the top 11 in Sunday's Children's of Alabama Indy Grand Prix at Barber Motorsports Park, including three that included American Legion branding.

Alex Palou scored his third top-finish with a third place showing Sunday, while teammate Marcus Ericsson was 10th. Ericsson maintained his top spot in the NTT INDYCAR SERIES points standings, while Palou stayed in third place.

Meanwhile, INDYCAR rookie Marcus Armstrong – driving the No. 11 American Legion Honda – overcome adversity during qualifications to finish 11th in the race. Armstrong originally qualified 14th for the race, but INDYCAR race control docked him his two fastest laps for interfering on Christian Lundgaard after both drivers had exited the pits to run their final couple laps of the session on alternate tires.

That dropped Armstrong to 26th in the starting grid, but he was able to make up 15 spots during the race, [earning him the race's "Biggest Mover" award](#). With his finish, Armstrong maintained his top spot in INDYCAR's rookie standings, holding a 15-point lead over Agustin Canapino.

"Race was great, car was great, we made our way forward," Armstrong said via CGR media. "I enjoyed it. The car was really good. We didn't have to adjust much throughout the race."

Driving the No. 10 Ridgeline Lubricants Honda, which featured American Legion [“Be the One”](#) messaging, Palou consistently ran in the top five all day.

"Finished P5, which is not a bad result," Palou said. "It wasn't a perfect day. Had to save a lot of fuel and we went on a two-stop strategy. It wasn't the best, but we tried because it's what we thought was the best heading into the race. The No.10 Ridgeline Lubricants car has been amazing all weekend. The crew did an amazing job on the pit stops. It's awesome to be back here in Alabama and I cannot wait for the month of May."

Ericsson maintained his series points lead with a 10-place showing in the No. 8 Huski Chocolate Honda. "It was a tough race, I would say," Ericsson said. "(Tenth) was not what we wanted but it was still a solid day for us and still in the points lead going into the month of May which feels great, so I'm looking forward to that." CGR teammate Scott Dixon finished seventh Sunday, which saw Scott McLaughlin take the checkered flag. The entire INDYCAR SERIES next heads to Indianapolis for the month of May, which will include the GMR Grand Prix May 13 and the Indianapolis 500 on May 28 – both at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.



Country singer Chris Lane to headline 7th Inning Stretch Festival

The American Legion | April 29, 2023

Country artist Chris Lane will headline the free concert at the ninth annual [7th Inning Stretch Festival](#) on Aug. 5 in Shelby, N.C. The festival takes place the Saturday before the American Legion World Series each year in Shelby, the permanent home of American Legion Baseball's championship tournament.

Lane turned to a music career after injuries ended his dreams of playing professional baseball.

Greytan James will open the Saturday night concert at 7 p.m. James was ranked one of the best guitarists in

the world under 21 by Guitar Center Magazine's Brotherhood of the Guitar 100 in 2018.

"We believe we've hit another home run with this entertainment lineup," said Eddie Holbrook, chairman of the local ALWS committee. "When we say thanks to the community for its support of the ALWS, we say it in a big way."

The free festival, which opens at 3 p.m. on Aug. 5 in Uptown Shelby, is a way of thanking the community for their support of the ALWS before the series itself begins on Aug. 10. Eight Legion Baseball regional champions will compete in pool play Aug. 10-13, with the top two finishers in each pool advancing to the Aug. 14 semifinals. The championship game of the 96th ALWS is scheduled for Aug. 15.

JOKE OF THE DAY



■ An eight-year-old girl went to the office with her father on "Take Your Child To Work Day."

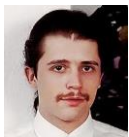
As they were walking around the office, the young girl started crying and getting very cranky. Her father asked her what was wrong.

As his co-workers gathered around, she sobbed loudly; "Daddy, where are all the clowns that you said you worked with?"

Squadron Everlasting

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

Daniel Coughtry



Norfolk, NE — Memorial services for Daniel W. “Dan” Coughtry, 49, Norfolk, will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 5, at Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk. The Rev. Randy Rasmussen will officiate. No burial is planned at this time. Honors will be conducted by the American Legion Riders.

Daniel Coughtry died Monday, April 3, 2023, at his residence in Norfolk.

Dan was born on Dec. 7, 1973, in Norfolk to Lester and Lois (Chapman) Coughtry. He attended grade school in Madison and Madison High School. After high school, Dan lived in Norfolk and worked at Burger King, McDonalds and later the Dollar Tree.

Dan enjoyed playing computer games, watching movies, and collecting comic books. Dan was a member of Sons of The American Legion and American Legion Riders.

Survivors include his father, Lester Coughtry of Norfolk, and his brother, David Coughtry of Sumter, S.C.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Lois Coughtry.

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.stonacekfuneral-chapel.com.

Martin William “Bill” Hammerstein, Jr.



Bill Hammerstein, the only child of the late Martin William Hammerstein Sr. and Esther Dunbar Hammerstein, passed away on Saturday April 29th at Hampton Manor under the care of Hospice of Lenawee.

Bill was born September 4, 1941, in Monroe, MI. He was a 1959 graduate of Bedford High School, where he was inducted into the Hall of Fame for his athletic accomplishments. He received his bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University and master's

degree from Eastern Michigan University.

On September 3, 1960 Bill married Mary Angela Keane at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church in Temperance, MI. Both the Hammerstein and Keane families were charter members of Mt. Carmel Church.

Bill was a teacher and varsity track and cross country coach along with JV basketball coach at Delton Kellogg high school in Delton, MI., Adrian High School in Adrian, MI, and Mohawk High School in Sycamore, OH. He was also previously employed by Aermotor Pump Co., Roberts Pump & Supply and Pipe Supply Co. Bill opened his own business, MH Pump & Supply in 1991.

In addition to his wife Mary, Bill is survived by his children, Angela (Bob) Verner of Adrian, Julie Forney of Show Low, AZ, Sally (Niek) van het Kaar of Lexington, KY, and Kim (Rex) Martin of Adrian; grandchildren, Justin (Jami) Verner, Ashley (Shaun) O'Brien, Westly (Danielle) Verner and Logan (Jamie) Verner, Jennifer (Paul) Long, Michael (Trish) Forney, Jacob Forney, Chrystal (Jon) Ables, Ryan (Marissa) Martin, Dylan (Korinna) Martin; and twenty great grandchildren.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; son-in-law, Ralph Forney; two grandsons, William Forney, and Travis Martin; and his grandmother, Myrtie Dunbar.

Bill was a member of BPOE Elks Lodge 53 in Toledo, OH, Adrian Eagles Aerie 2371, Moose Lodge 1034, Sons of The American Legion Post 97, Michigan Ground Water Association and National Ground Water Association.

A memorial Mass will be offered at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, 506 N. Union St., Tecumseh, MI, by Reverend Father Daniel Wheeler on Thursday, May 4, 2023, at 12 p.m. Visitation for family and friends will be in the church one hour before Mass at 11 a.m. A luncheon will be served in the parish hall after Mass.

Bill chose to be cremated. Interment of the cremains will be at Toledo Memorial Park Chapel of Memories. There will be a committal service at the cemetery for those who wish to attend.

Bill also requested that any remembrances be in the form of a donation to the scholarship fund at the college or university of your choice and/or Hospice of

Lenawee. Envelopes will be available at the church.

Thomas E. Himes



Thomas E. Himes passed away March 20, 2023, enjoying his snowbird tin can in sunny Palmetto, Florida.

Tom was born September 16, 1947, in Youngstown to parents Robert Joel Himes and Millicent Mraz Rohrer.

He was a 1965 graduate of Columbiana High School, enlisting in the Army in 1966, spent his service time in Alaska, honorably discharged 1969. He attended YSU, and later joined his father at Himes Tax Service. Tom retired in September of 2015. He was a member of Jerusalem Lutheran Church, serving as Deacon and Treasurer.

Tom was a life member of the Benjamin Firestone Post #290 American Legion. He served 26 years as Treasurer, one year as Commander and many years as trustee. He served as Headquarter Chairman of the Columbiana Street Fair for many years. He was also a member of Sons of The American Legion and The Forty and Eight. He was a life member of the Historical Society of Columbiana and Fairfield Township. He was the recipient of President Obama's Volunteer Service Award.

He had many hobbies, a talented woodworker, gardener, and hot wheels/matchbox collector, enjoying full size corvettes. Tom enjoyed good beer, friends, genealogy, WW2, and Vietnam nonfiction. His woodworking skills were put to good use in 1995 with the building of Firestone Funland.

One of his most enjoyable moments of retirement was brewing “Taxmantom” with family and the boys of Birdfish. He and Deb retired to winters in Florida, walking the beach, swimming in the Gulf, shooting pool, genealogy, reading, entertaining and craft breweries.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Deborah Firestone-Himes; sons, Michael (Lita) and Adam; granddaughters, Jessica and Kayley; sister, Mariellen (Phil) Steiner; sister-in-law, Becky Mentzer-Himes; brother-in-law, Willie Burbick; stepsisters, Linda (Charles) Cope and Barbara (Alfred) Farand; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Grandma Winnie and brother, Jeffrey Himes.

Deborah and family are especially grateful for the support group of close neighbors, in Tom's decision to remain in Florida, Roger Anderson, Greg & Willie Burbick, Peg & Bruce Brewster, Karen & Rick Devenport, Linda & Randy Musser, Ellen Ross & Ruth Rice.

Services will be held Saturday, May 6, 2023, at 11 a.m. at the Warrick-Kummer-Rettig Funeral Home, Columbiana with Pastor Cyndi Midlick of the 1st Methodist Church and military honors by Post #290 Honor Guard. Calling hours will be held one hour prior to the services on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Interment to be in Columbiana Cemetery at a later date.

The family asks in lieu of flowers, a contribution to “Fix the Sticks” be made in his memory. Checks should be made out to the “City of Columbiana” Fix the Sticks in the memo line, c/o 28 W. Friend St. Columbiana, OH 44408.

Tom's family requests no suits to be worn at the services and welcomes color.

Family and friends may view this obituary and send condolences at www.familycareservices.com.

James Rebb, Jr.



Carthage, NY — James “Spanky” Rebb, Jr., 60, of 222 State St., Carthage, died peacefully May 2, 2023, at his home.

Born Nov. 2, 1962, in Lowville, a son of the late James A. Rebb, Sr. and Mary E. (Swem) Rebb, he graduated from Carthage Central High School with the Class of 1984.

Spanky was a member of Sons of the American Legion, a benevolent member of the West Carthage Fire Department & the Hornets drill team. He was awarded fireman of the year.

He is survived by a brother, Edmund Rebb and his companion, Sue Trombley, a sister, Valerie Rebb Compo, Carthage; sisters-in-law, Charlotte Rebb, Carthage; Tammey Rebb, Natural Bridge; and several nieces and nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews, along with many special cousins.

He was predeceased by his parents, and brother, John W. “Rebby” Rebb.

James enjoyed bowling and DIRT track racing. He loved to ride along with Terry Groff and his tow truck. A Celebration of Life will be held 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, at

the West Carthage Fire Department.

Per his wishes, there will be no public calling hours or service.

A private burial will be held by his family. He will be laid to rest alongside his mother in the St. James Catholic Cemetery in Carthage, NY. The family is being cared for by Lundy Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Inc., located at 500 State Street in Carthage, NY 13619.

To leave a message of sympathy for Mr. Rebb's family please visit www.lundyfuneralhome.com and sign the tribute wall.

William P. Bartlow, Jr.



William P. "Bill" Bartlow, Jr., 53, formerly of Mount Joy, currently residing at Elizabethtown Nursing and Rehabilitation, passed away on Thursday, April 27, 2023 at Lancaster General Hospital. Born in Williamsport, PA, he was the son of the late William P. Sr. and Christine M. (Young) Bartlow. He was also preceded in death by his two brothers, James P., and Timothy B. Bartlow.

Bill was a graduate of Elizabethtown Area High School class of 1987. He was a member of Glad Tidings Assembly of God, the Bainbridge Fire Department, and Sons of the American Legion, Elizabethtown Squadron 329. An avid Penn State and Philadelphia Eagles Fan, he enjoyed model cars, Indian artifacts, and playing bingo.

There will be no formal services. Bill will be laid to rest with his family in the Muncy Cemetery, Muncy, PA. To send an online condolence, please visit www.sheetzfuneralhome.com

Rodger Lyle Henke

Rodger Lyle Henke of Beaver Crossing, passed away in Milford, NE, on April 27, 2023.

Visitations will be on Monday, May 1, 2023, from 1:00–5:00 p.m. at the Lauber Funeral Home in Milford, NE, with visitations to continue from 6:00–8:00 p.m. at the Beaver Crossing United Methodist Church. Funeral Services will be held Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at the Beaver Crossing United Methodist Church. Interment at the Beaver Crossing Cemetery.

Family suggests memorials to Beaver Crossing Fire and Rescue, Sons of the American Legion, United Methodist Church.

Lauber Funeral and Cremation Services in charge of arrangements.

Michael J. Wesley



Perrysburg, NY – Michael J. Wesley, 75, of Perrysburg, NY passed away Wednesday April 26, 2023 at Mercy Hospital in Buffalo, NY.

He was born March 16, 1948 in Buffalo, NY the son of the late Florian and Jane (Bak) Wesley.

On June 30, 1973 he married the former Suzanne Beers who survives.

Mr. Wesley was a Stationary Engineer for the City of Buffalo, an Inspector and investigator for CNA Insurance and owned and operated Wesley Excavation in Perrysburg, NY.

He was a Life Member of the NRA, Life Member of Safari Club International, Life Member of SCOPE, member of St. Joseph's RC Church and Sons of The American Legion in Gowanda, NY. He was a very active outdoorsman and he and his wife have hunted all over the world including many trips over seas. He also was active in Conservation and also enjoyed arranging dinners and fund raisers for Veterans.

Besides his loving wife of nearly 50 years, he is survived by 2 sisters Judy Osterstruck of South Dayton, NY and Margaret Davis of Versailles, NY and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by a sister Patricia Lillie-Nephew.

Friends may call at the Mentley Funeral Home Inc. 105 East Main Street in Gowanda, NY on Sunday April 30, 2023 from 1-4pm.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be said on Monday May 1, 2023 at 11 am from St. Joseph's RC Church in Gowanda, NY.

Burial will be in Versailles Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Gowanda Ambulance.

James Allen Worthy



James Allen Worthy, 68, Mount Union died unexpectedly Wednesday, April 26, 2023.

Born March 12, 1955, in Huntingdon, he was the son of Freda Grace

(Boozel) and the late Harvey Leo Worthy.

He is survived by his mother; companion, Diana Waite; children, James Worthy Jr. and wife, Michelle, and Brandy Peterson and husband, Pete; grandchildren, Emily, Bethany, Austin, Jackson, Rance, Tre, Marshawn, Kieara, Morgan and Hunter; brothers, Ronald Worthy and Mark Worthy; sisters, Sandra Fazenbaker, Donna Lightner, and Jenny Spennati; six great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces; nephews; cousins; and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father; niece Pam Fazenbaker; nephew, Cole Spennati, and family; and sister, Kathy Worthy. James was a former employee at Henkel's and McCoy.

He was a member of the VFW and Sons of The American Legion Squadron 107 and the Mill Creek Fire Hall.

James enjoyed hunting, fishing, racing, football and tinkering on things. Most of all, he loved being with family and friends.

Family and friends will be received from 6-9 p.m. Monday, May 1, at the Heath-Anderson Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 61 E. Shirley St., Mount Union.

A celebration of life will be held later at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made directly to the funeral home at the address above. Condolences may be made at AndersonFamilyFuneralHomes.com and www.huntingdondailynews.com.

Clare A. Shotwell



Clare Austin Shotwell, age 85, of Greenville, passed away early Thursday morning, April 27, 2023 at his home under the loving care of his family and Spectrum Health Hospice following a brief illness.

The son of Hoyt & Alice Marie (Kitchen) Shotwell, he was born on August 31, 1937 in Otisco Township near Belding. His father, Hoyt, died from acute appendicitis when Clare was just six months old and after his mother remarried in 1938, he gained a second father, Norris Leonard Jury.

Clare began his nearly 40-year career with the Federal-Mogul Corporation as an hourly employee, later

moving into a supervisory position, and retiring from the engineering department in 1994. For many years, he also owned and operated Shotwell's Western Store.

A lifelong outdoorsman, Clare enjoyed hunting and fishing, riding motorcycles (especially his Harley-Davidson's), was an excellent dancer, and will long be remembered as the "rock" of his family. He was a long-time member of the Sons of The American Legion at the Ray I. Booth American Legion Post 101 in Greenville, where he was a founding member of the American Legion Riders chapter, and had also been a member of the Moose and Eagles lodges.

He was preceded in death by his father, Hoyt Shotwell in 1937; his step-father, N. Leonard Jury in 2001; his mother, Marie Jury in 2015; a brother, Duane Shotwell; and two sisters, Karen Hart-Pringle and Caroline Ann Zeigler. Surviving are his two children, Beth Ann Shotwell of Canadian Lake, and Steven & Linda Shotwell of Langston; three grandchildren, Rachele & Josh Croy, Austin & Anna Shotwell, all of Greenville, and Kirby Shotwell of Byron Center; four great-grandchildren, Rylie Croy, Jaxson Croy, Wyatt Shotwell, and Quinn Shotwell; a great-great granddaughter, Blakely Clare Croy; a brother and sister-in-law, Eugene & Vickie Jury, of Greenville; a sister and two brothers-in-law, Charlene & Scott Feehan of New Philadelphia, Ohio and Tom Pringle of Greenville; his "lady friend" and companion, Becky Lord of Greenville; and many, many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Instead of flowers, Clare would have appreciated contributions in his memory to either the Sons of The American Legion or the American Legion Riders.

To send a message of sympathy to the family, sign Clare's online guest book, or to share a favorite memory, please visit: www.MichiganCremation.com. Cremation arrangements are entrusted to To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](http://SympathyStore.com).





FROM THE EDITOR

What a great weekend in Indianapolis doing the work of Sons of The American Legion. Great information was presented, ideas shared, and an overall successful Meeting of the National Executive Committee.

Look for additional information in the coming weeks.

***Honor the Veteran Who Made You Eligible.
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Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com | [Team Vrabel](#)

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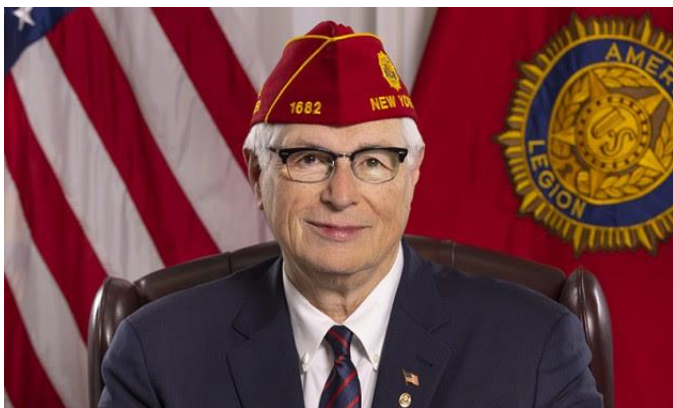
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The American Legion



Amber Speer/U.S. Navy

Reports of sexual assaults increased in Navy, Air Force and Marines in 2022; Army saw decline

Doug Ware/Stars and Stripes | April 28, 2023

The latest assessment by the Defense Department of sexual assaults in the military shows only a slight increase in incidents across the armed forces in 2022, with the Army reporting a decline in assaults.

The Pentagon on Thursday released its Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military, which shows a roughly 1% increase in overall reports of sexual assaults in fiscal 2022. Eight months ago, the military's 2021 report showed a 13% increase across the entire force.

However, defense officials contend an increase of sexual assault reports is a positive step toward addressing the problem.

"We are encouraged to see greater reporting because it means that our sexual assault victims are getting the care and advocacy they need," said Elizabeth Foster, director of the Office of Force Resiliency for the under-secretary of defense for personnel and readiness. "And it creates opportunities for accountability through the military justice process."

There were 8,942 reports of sexual assault across the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps in 2022, according to the report. Of those, almost 7,400 came from troops who said the assault occurred during military service, which is also a slight increase from last year.

The military-wide increase in reports for 2022 would have been greater if not for the Army's decrease in reported sexual assaults. The Pentagon data show reported incidents among Army soldiers last year was down 9% compared to 2021, when the service saw a massive 26% rise in reported assaults.

Meanwhile, reported assaults in the other three services were up. The Air Force saw the greatest increase in 2022 — 13% — while the Navy had a 9% increase in reports and the Marine Corps a 3.6% rise. In 2021, the Navy also saw a 9% increase in reports, while the Air Force and Marine Corps each saw rises of roughly 2%. The Pentagon tracks sexual assaults using two metrics — the prevalence rate and the reporting rate. The reporting rate is the figure outlined by Thursday’s assessment. The prevalence rate is an estimate of how many sexual assaults occurred in the military, which is derived from a separate report the Pentagon releases every two years. Officials said the prevalence report is a more accurate picture of how many sexual assaults are occurring in the military because the reporting is confidential.

The military’s most recent prevalence report, issued last year, showed an estimated number of 36,000 reports of unwanted sexual contact.

“This is a really high-level snapshot of the significant work that is underway at the department,” Foster said of Thursday’s report. “We know [change] isn’t going to happen overnight. If we could flip a switch and make this change instantly, we would, but we know this is going to take some time.”

The issue of sexual assaults in the armed forces has been a serious problem for several years as reports have risen and various military efforts have been drawn up to counter the upward trend. Congress has repeatedly complained about the rising numbers of assaults and has asked the Pentagon to get to the bottom of the issue. Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, last year called the problem of sexual assaults in the military a “scourge.” The Pentagon said this year’s report partly focuses on implementing dozens of recommendations from the Independent Review Commission — a panel set up by Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin two years ago to “drive meaningful change in how the armed forces prevent, respond to and ensure accountability for sexual assault and sexual harassment.”

Of the 82 recommendations that the group issued in its 2021 study, the Pentagon said it has implemented 21 of them, including development of a “dedicated prevention workforce” and introducing programs that allow victims to take more time off and receive additional support services. Another effort underway will create the Offices of Special Trial Counsel by the end of this year.

The Offices of Special Trial Counsel in each service will be comprised of independent prosecutors. Instead of

relying on military commanders to manage prosecutions, the independent prosecutors will now handle sexual assault cases. The idea is to remove command influences and biases from the legal process and restore troops’ faith that military justice is fair, evidence-based, and impartial, according to the report.

Congress has given the Pentagon \$479 million this year to implement the commission’s recommendations, and the military’s 2024 budget proposal asks for \$636 million to do so next year, defense officials said. “That’s hugely significant because that really put a huge monetary investment behind the program,” Foster said. “Which is, frankly, something that has been missing.”

Thursday’s report also stipulates commanders had enough evidence to take disciplinary actions in roughly 2,100 sexual assault cases under military jurisdiction in 2022. About 1,500 warranted a sexual assault charge and almost 40% of those were referred for courts-martial. The data states about 75% of the sexual assault court-martials last year ended in a conviction. Next year’s sexual assault report will once again include prevalence estimates from the Pentagon’s confidential survey and an update on how the military is complying with the remaining 61 commission recommendations.

“Our national military strategy depends upon a lethal, resilient, and agile joint force,” Nate Galbreath, acting director of the Pentagon’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office. “Our initiatives this year empowered leaders to identify threats to readiness and restore the health of both their units and service members impacted by sexual assault and other misconduct. We are on track to make the reforms and investments necessary to counter sexual assault in the military.”

New RMD rules for 2023

Jim Miller/via Crescendo | April 25, 2023

[LEARN HOW YOUR PLANNED GIFT CAN HELP THE AMERICAN LEGION](#)

What are the new rules on required minimum distributions from IRAs and 401(k)s? I will be 72 this year and want to be clear on what I am required to do.

Under the SECURE 2.0 Act signed into law in December 2022, there are several new rules that affect required minimum distributions (RMDs) from traditional Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), 401(k)s and other tax-deferred retirement accounts. These changes, which build on the SECURE Act of 2019, are a benefit to retirees because they increase the RMD age

and lower the penalty for failing to take a withdrawal. Here is what you should know.

New RMD Rules As of Jan. 1, 2023, the SECURE 2.0 Act increased the age for starting RMDs from 72 to 73. This is applicable to individuals turning 72 on or after Jan. 1. In 2033, the starting age increases again to 75. This change means that if you turn 72 in or after 2023, you can delay your RMDs one more year, allowing the funds in these accounts to grow tax-free for longer.

At 73, you must start taking annual RMDs from the tax-deferred retirement accounts you own – traditional IRAs, SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs, 401(k)s, 403(b)s and 457(b)s – and pay taxes on those withdrawals. Distributions are taxed as ordinary income based on your tax bracket.

There are, however, a few exceptions to the RMD requirement. Owners of Roth IRAs are not required to take a distribution unless it is inherited. Beginning in 2024, Roth RMDs will not be required for any Roth IRAs.

Furthermore, if you participate in a workplace retirement plan, work beyond 73 and do not own 5% or more of the company, you can delay RMDs from a workplace retirement plan until the year you retire. However, if you have other non-work-related accounts, such as a traditional IRA or a 401(k) from a previous employer, you are still required to take RMDs from those accounts after 73, even if you are still working.

Deadlines and Penalties Generally, you must take your distribution every year by Dec. 31 in order to avoid penalties. You can choose to delay taking your first distribution until April 1 of the year following the year you turn 73. Be cautious when delaying the first distribution, as it may push you into a higher tax bracket since the next distribution is to be made by Dec. 31 of the same year.

Also, note that while you can always withdraw more than the required amount, you should not take less than the required amount. If you do not take out the minimum, you will be assessed with a 25% penalty (lowered from 50%) on the amount that you failed to withdraw, along with the income tax you owe on it. This penalty drops to 10% if you take the necessary RMD by the end of the second year following the year it was due. Account owners should consult with their tax professionals for the required tax forms to be filed for the years in which the RMDs were required but not taken.

Distribution Amounts Your RMD is calculated by dividing your tax-deferred retirement account balance as of Dec. 31 of the previous year by an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) estimate of your life expectancy. A special rule applies if your spouse is the beneficiary and is more than 10 years younger than you.

IRA withdrawals must be calculated for each IRA you own, but you can withdraw the money from any IRA or combination of IRAs. 403(b) account totals may also be combined with IRAs for RMDs taken from any account or combination of accounts.

With 401(k) and 457(b) plans, however, you must calculate the RMD for each plan and withdraw the appropriate amount from each account. To calculate your RMD, you can use the worksheets on the IRS [website](#); click on "Required Minimum Distributions." Alternatively, contact your IRA custodian or retirement-plan administrator, who can do the calculations for you.

For more information, see the "Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements" ([publication 590-B](#)).

"Savvy Living" is written by Jim Miller, a regular contributor to NBC's "Today Show." The column, and others like it, is available to read via The American Legion's Planned Giving program, a way of establishing your legacy of support for the organization while providing for your current financial needs. Learn more about the process, and the variety of charitable programs you can benefit, at legion.org/plannedgiving. Clicking on "Learn more" will bring up an "E-newsletter" button, where you can sign up for regular information from Planed Giving.

"I was ecstatic; local veteran receives new scooter after being ran over

Natalie Comer | May 4, 2023

COLUMBUS, Ohio (WSYX) — Columbus Police, Byers Auto Group and the Starfish Assignment teamed up to help a veteran in need after he was the victim of a crime.

Local Marine veteran Terry Childs was involved in an altercation with a driver last month that left his scooter beyond repair.

Childs said a driver stalked him all the way around a Walmart parking lot before running him over and destroying his scooter, which he relies on for basic life needs.



Columbus Police, Byers Auto Group and the Starfish Assignment teamed up and donated a scooter to local Marine veteran Terry Childs on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, after he was involved in an altercation with a driver last month that left his scooter beyond repair.

WSYK

He received his brand-new scooter on Wednesday and says he's thankful.

"I was ecstatic. I was elated," said Childs. "I could hardly sleep last night. I was anticipating today. I didn't know it was going to be all this. I'm so blessed to have all of you folks out here."

Even with everything going on in this world, Child says there are still a lot of good people out there.



Legion Family Day brings community awareness to Wisconsin post

[Cameran Richardson](#) | May 2, 2023

About a week ago, Roy White received a letter from The American Legion National Headquarters notifying him of his eligibility to join the organization under the LEGION Act. He remembered reading in the newspaper that his local American Legion Frank Kresen Post 24 in Lake Geneva, Wis., was holding an open house. On April 29, White walked into the post to learn more about the organization and to join.

"I want to serve and be part of a veteran's group," said White, who is thankful for the [passing of the LEGION Act](#) that opened eligibility in the organization for millions of veterans.

Post 24 held an open house last Saturday in support of Resolution No. 7: American Legion Family Day. The resolution established an American Legion Family Day to be observed annually on the last Saturday of April where posts are encouraged to open their doors to members of their community for the day to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Legionnaires, Sons of The American Legion members, Legion Riders, and American Legion Auxiliary.

"We have never done an open house before, so Resolution 7 was the spark for that," said Post 24 Adjutant Bob Miller. "We were like, 'we have to do it.' People have seen the building coming for fish fries and fundraisers but not a real formal come in, learn about the post history, learn what our Legion Family does, learn that we are more than just a veteran's group. Yes, we help veterans and support local veterans, but we also support the community at large."

Post 24 was chartered in 1919 and is named after the only Lake Geneva resident to be killed in World War I. The post home is a schoolhouse that was built in 1887.

This is where community and Legion Family members stepped inside for a free lunch of hot dogs, chips, desserts, coffee, lemonade, and camaraderie.

“It’s important to let the community know that the Legion isn’t strictly for veterans,” Post 24 Commander Troy Hibbard said. “The Legion is for the veteran’s family, children, but also the community at large that veterans can be a positive influence in all community events. I would hope that they see an active and engaged core group of people and also understand that the Legion is here to help whatever it is they’re trying to do.”

Throughout the post, displays were set up to show what the Post 24 Legion Family does. A table had three large cardboard flyers for each entity that listed how they help veterans, youth, families, and the community, along with “Why You Should Belong” membership brochures, a one-page takeaway sheet on significant dates in American Legion history, and another takeaway sheet that lists the Department of Wisconsin’s overall impact.

“We want the community to see what we do,” said Auxiliary Unit 24 President Debra Black.

On another display table was a posterboard filled with photos of Post 24’s Legion Family engaged in community events and flyers of Wisconsin Legion youth programs such as Legion Baseball, Legion Softball, oratorical contest, Junior Shooting Sports, Youth Government Day, and Law Enforcement Career Academy.

“Our biggest thing (for Legion Family Day) is just community awareness and letting everybody know that we’re here and what we do,” said Sons of The American Legion Squadron 24 Commander Dan Jegerski. “It’s more awareness of who the members are, where they served and what they did and what they do now. And for the community to figure out some ways they can get involved and help out as well.”

Frank and Kim Tonkovich moved to Lake Geneva two years ago and have attended fish fries at Post 24. They came to the open house to join the Legion Family in support of their two boys who both served in the Army. Their sons are why “we feel strongly about (joining),” Kim said.

Another mission of American Legion Family Day was to bring awareness to the organization’s [“Be the One” initiative](#) to reduce the rate of veteran suicide.

“We wanted ‘Be the One’ to be part of the spotlight,” Miller said. A “Be the One” poster was displayed on a

table with a 988-crisis line wallet card to take away, a “Be the One” brochure handout and other local assistance materials. Miller downloaded a [Be the One customizable brochure](#) and personalized it to the local area by listing resources where veterans can get help. “It was very easy to do,” Miller added. “The best part was us being able to localize it so we could specifically help veterans in our community.”

Post 24 is only four members away from reaching 100% membership for the 2023 membership year. The American Legion Family Day at the post was a reminder for all those who walked in the door of the camaraderie the Legion Family provides and the continuation of service available.

“A huge part of getting out of the military is a sense of feeling lost or displaced,” said Hibbard, 39, an Army veteran of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. “Having a group of people where you can walk into a room and not have to say anything or explain yourself and have them understand you on a more personal level, even if they don’t know you, I think is huge.”

Memorial Day Ceremony & Wreath Presentation

May 29, 2023
4:00 pm — 5:00 pm
Korean War Veterans Memorial
10 Daniel French Dr SW
Washington, DC, 20002

The Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation will host a ceremony and wreath presentation at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on Memorial Day, to honor all who served and made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom.

If you are a Korean War Veteran, or know of one, who would like to attend the Memorial Day Commemoration at the Memorial, please [email](#) us now!

We hope you’ll join us on May 29 at the Korean War Veterans Memorial! Details to follow soon.



07/01/23



JOHN R. COOK

Candidate for SAL
National Vice Commander

2023 – 2024

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2023 SAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT AS OF: MAY 4, 2023

#	DETACHMENT	2023 DET. YEAR END GOAL	NEEDED TO MEET 100% TARGET 5/17/2023	2023 ACTUAL MBRSHP	% OF YEAR END GOAL	2023 RENEWAL %
1	HAWAII	77	-19	96	124.68%	100.00
2	PUERTO RICO	123	-29	152	123.58%	85.95
3	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,362	-181	1,543	113.29%	89.11
4	GEORGIA	4,490	-230	4,720	105.12%	87.03
5	MEXICO	31	-1	32	103.23%	51.61
6	WEST VIRGINIA	2,362	-56	2,418	102.37%	82.98
7	OREGON	1,414	-28	1,442	101.98%	78.69
8	FLORIDA	21,519	-416	21,935	101.93%	81.64
9	MICHIGAN	24,271	-342	24,613	101.41%	87.70
10	RHODE ISLAND	336	-2	338	100.60%	85.45
11	PHILIPPINES	70	0	70	100.00%	100.00
12	DELAWARE	2,430	1	2,429	99.96%	83.80
13	VIRGINIA	4,109	15	4,094	99.63%	82.91
14	COLORADO	2,729	22	2,707	99.19%	82.42
15	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,473	13	1,460	99.12%	82.82
16	WISCONSIN	4,187	43	4,144	98.97%	84.17
17	MARYLAND	16,058	184	15,874	98.85%	87.42
18	ARIZONA	8,004	119	7,885	98.51%	77.18
19	OHIO	30,636	504	30,132	98.35%	88.78
20	NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,677	102	5,575	98.20%	84.62
21	FRANCE	158	3	155	98.10%	87.82
22	MAINE	2,617	84	2,533	96.79%	82.97
23	PENNSYLVANIA	60,803	1,983	58,820	96.74%	87.44
24	VERMONT	3,818	129	3,689	96.62%	86.44
25	CALIFORNIA	10,714	421	10,293	96.07%	78.56
26	ILLINOIS	13,398	596	12,802	95.55%	85.08
27	OKLAHOMA	1,348	60	1,288	95.55%	74.20
28	ALASKA	1,608	73	1,535	95.46%	74.59
29	NEW MEXICO	1,483	68	1,415	95.41%	75.31
30	NEW YORK	29,864	1,409	28,455	95.28%	85.77
31	NEW JERSEY	9,386	447	8,939	95.24%	83.46
32	LOUISIANA	1,790	87	1,703	95.14%	83.66
33	TENNESSEE	1,718	84	1,634	95.11%	75.87
34	IDAHO	644	32	612	95.03%	75.88
35	KANSAS	5,919	299	5,620	94.95%	83.87
36	INDIANA	36,387	1,847	34,540	94.92%	85.51
37	TEXAS	5,569	289	5,280	94.81%	75.36
38	WASHINGTON	2,485	134	2,351	94.61%	73.55
39	ALABAMA	2,066	115	1,951	94.43%	79.38
40	MISSISSIPPI	722	41	681	94.32%	77.47
41	IOWA	4,857	286	4,571	94.11%	82.26
42	NEBRASKA	7,015	416	6,599	94.07%	88.71
43	MASSACHUSETTS	5,442	339	5,103	93.77%	81.59
44	NORTH CAROLINA	2,727	173	2,554	93.66%	75.53
45	CONNECTICUT	1,867	119	1,748	93.63%	82.09
46	MISSOURI	3,219	210	3,009	93.48%	79.80
47	MONTANA	1,108	75	1,033	93.23%	85.56
48	NORTH DAKOTA	1,056	73	983	93.09%	81.44
49	MINNESOTA	11,378	826	10,552	92.74%	83.64
50	NEVADA	357	26	331	92.72%	68.13
51	WYOMING	1,298	160	1,138	87.67%	76.34
52	ARKANSAS	447	74	373	83.45%	69.39
53	KENTUCKY	2,609	444	2,165	82.98%	69.27
54	UTAH	449	105	344	76.61%	61.71
55	DIST OF COL	114	32	82	71.93%	56.64
Grand Totals:		367,798	11,258	356,540	96.94%	84.55

2023 SAL REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

WESTERN REGION - JACK A. YOUNGS (ID)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
HAWAII	77	96	124.68%
OREGON	1,414	1,442	101.98%
PHILIPPINES	70	70	100.00%
ARIZONA	8,004	7,885	98.51%
CALIFORNIA	10,714	10,293	96.07%
ALASKA	1,608	1,535	95.46%
IDAHO	644	612	95.03%
WASHINGTON	2,485	2,351	94.61%
NEVADA	357	331	92.72%
UTAH	449	344	76.61%
Totals:	25,822	24,959	96.66%

MIDWEST REGION - MICHAEL L. KIRSCHNER (CO)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,362	1,543	113.29%
MEXICO	31	32	103.23%
COLORADO	2,729	2,707	99.19%
OKLAHOMA	1,348	1,288	95.55%
NEW MEXICO	1,483	1,415	95.41%
KANSAS	5,919	5,620	94.95%
TEXAS	5,569	5,280	94.81%
NEBRASKA	7,015	6,599	94.07%
MONTANA	1,108	1,033	93.23%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,056	983	93.09%
WYOMING	1,298	1,138	87.67%
Totals:	28,918	27,638	95.57%

CENTRAL REGION - DAVID J. MENNEL (MI)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
MICHIGAN	24,271	24,613	101.41%
WISCONSIN	4,187	4,144	98.97%
OHIO	30,636	30,132	98.35%
ILLINOIS	13,398	12,802	95.55%
INDIANA	36,387	34,540	94.92%
IOWA	4,857	4,571	94.11%
MISSOURI	3,219	3,009	93.48%
MINNESOTA	11,378	10,552	92.74%
Totals:	128,333	124,363	96.91%

EASTERN REGION - ERNEST E. LABERGE (MA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
WEST VIRGINIA	2,362	2,418	102.37%
RHODE ISLAND	336	338	100.60%
DELAWARE	2,430	2,429	99.96%
MARYLAND	16,058	15,874	98.85%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,677	5,575	98.20%
FRANCE	158	155	98.10%
MAINE	2,617	2,533	96.79%
PENNSYLVANIA	60,803	58,820	96.74%
VERMONT	3,818	3,689	96.62%
NEW YORK	29,864	28,455	95.28%
NEW JERSEY	9,386	8,939	95.24%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,442	5,103	93.77%
CONNECTICUT	1,867	1,748	93.63%
DIST OF COL	114	82	71.93%
Totals:	140,932	136,158	96.61%

SOUTHERN REGION - RONALD E. ROBERTS (MS)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
PUERTO RICO	123	152	123.58%
GEORGIA	4,490	4,720	105.12%
FLORIDA	21,519	21,935	101.93%
VIRGINIA	4,109	4,094	99.63%
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,473	1,460	99.12%
LOUISIANA	1,790	1,703	95.14%
TENNESSEE	1,718	1,634	95.11%
ALABAMA	2,066	1,951	94.43%
MISSISSIPPI	722	681	94.32%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,727	2,554	93.66%
ARKANSAS	447	373	83.45%
KENTUCKY	2,609	2,165	82.98%
Totals:	43,793	43,422	99.15%

05/04/23		NATIONAL Christopher Carlton (IN), National Commander				
Region	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Quota Date
Southern 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	43,793	43,422	(371)	99.15%	283	
Central 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	128,333	124,363	(3,970)	96.91%	1,175	
Western 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	25,822	24,959	(863)	96.66%	94	
Eastern 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	140,932	136,158	(4,774)	96.61%	611	
Midwest 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	28,918	27,638	(1,280)	95.57%	119	
TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	367,798	356,540	(11,258)	96.94%	2,282	



05/04/23		CENTRAL REGION David Mennell (MI), National Vice-Commander							
Detachment		Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
Michigan 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q		24,271	24,613	342	101.41%	120			04/27/23
Wisconsin 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		4,187	4,144	(43)	98.97%	33			
Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		30,636	30,132	(504)	98.35%	358			
Illinois 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8		13,398	12,802	(596)	95.55%	125			
Indiana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		36,387	34,540	(1,847)	94.92%	374			
Iowa 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		4,857	4,571	(286)	94.11%	20			
Missouri 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		3,219	3,009	(210)	93.48%	2			
Minnesota 5, 6, 7, 8		11,378	10,552	(826)	92.74%	143			
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		128,333	124,363	(3,970)	96.91%	1,175			

05/04/23		WESTERN REGION 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	96	19	124.68%	-			10/10/22
2	Oregon 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	1,414	1,442	28	101.98%	1			04/17/23
3	Phillippines 8, 9	70	70	-	100.00%	-			04/10/23
4	Arizona 5, 6, 7, 8	8,004	7,885	(119)	98.51%	21			
5	California 1, 5, 6, 7, 8	10,714	10,293	(421)	96.07%	62			
6	Alaska 3, 6, 8	1,608	1,535	(73)	95.46%	-			
7	Idaho 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8	644	612	(32)	95.03%	-			
8	Washington 7, 8	2,485	2,351	(134)	94.61%	6			
9	Nevada 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	357	331	(26)	92.72%	-			
10	Utah 5	449	344	(105)	76.61%	4			
TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		25,822	24,959	(863)	96.66%	94			

05/04/23		SOUTHERN REGION 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	152	29	123.58%	5			03/02/23
2	Georgia 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	4,490	4,720	230	105.12%	113			04/19/23
3	Florida 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	21,519	21,935	416	101.93%	130			04/24/23
4	Virginia 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4,109	4,094	(15)	99.63%	10			
5	South Carolina 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,473	1,460	(13)	99.12%	6			
6	Louisiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,790	1,703	(87)	95.14%	9			
7	Tennessee 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8	1,718	1,634	(84)	95.11%	-			
8	Alabama 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,066	1,951	(115)	94.43%	4			
9	Mississippi 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	722	981	259	135.87%	301			
10	North Carolina 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,727	2,554	(173)	93.66%	3			
11	Arkansas 1	447	373	(74)	83.45%	-			
12	Kentucky	2,609	2,165	(444)	82.98%	2			
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		43,793	43,722	(71)	99.84%	578			

05/04/23		MIDWEST REGION Michael Kirschner (CO), National Vice-Commander						
Detachment		Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	Quota Date
1	South Dakota 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q, 10	1,362	1,543	181	113.29%	9		02/09/23
2	Mexico 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	31	32	1	103.23%	-		03/13/23
3	Colorado 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,729	2,707	(22)	99.19%	27		
4	Oklahoma 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,348	1,288	(60)	95.55%	5		
5	New Mexico 8	1,483	1,415	(68)	95.41%	132		
6	Kansas 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	5,919	5,620	(299)	94.95%	13		
7	Texas 1, 3, 4, 5, 8	5,569	5,280	(289)	94.81%	21		
8	Nebraska 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	7,015	6,599	(416)	94.07%	2		
9	Montana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,108	1,033	(75)	93.23%	54		
10	North Dakota 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8	1,056	983	(73)	93.09%	4		
11	Wyoming 1, 4, 5, 6	1,298	1,138	(160)	87.67%	-		
TOTALS 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		28,918	27,638	(1,280)	95.57%	258		

05/04/23		EASTERN REGION Ernie LaBerge (MA) National Vice-Commander						
Detachment		Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	Quota Date
1	West Virginia 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	2,362	2,418	56	102.37%	17		04/17/23
2	Rhode Island 4, 5, 7	336	338	2	100.60%	13		
3	Delaware 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,430	2,429	(1)	99.96%	13		
4	Maryland 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	16,058	15,874	(184)	98.85%	64		
5	New Hampshire 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	5,677	5,575	(102)	98.20%	31		
6	France 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	158	155	(3)	98.10%	-		
7	Maine 5, 6, 7, 8	2,617	2,533	(84)	96.79%	-		
8	Pennsylvania 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	60,803	58,820	(1,983)	96.74%	189		
9	Vermont 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	3,818	3,689	(129)	96.62%	50		
10	New York 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	29,864	28,455	(1,409)	95.28%	40		
11	New Jersey 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	9,386	8,939	(447)	95.24%	181		
12	Massachusetts 4, 6, 7, 8	5,442	5,103	(339)	93.77%	11		
13	Connecticut 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,867	1,748	(119)	93.63%	2		
14	Dist. of Columbia	114	82	(32)	71.93%	-		
TOTALS 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		140,932	136,158	(4,774)	96.61%	611		

05/04/23		2023 SUPER SIX STANDINGS						
Detachment		Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	Quota Date
1	Florida 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	21,519	21,935	416	101.93%	130	81.64%	04/24/23
2	Michigan 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	24,271	24,613	342	101.41%	120	87.70%	04/27/23
3	Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	30,636	30,132	(504)	98.35%	358	88.78%	19
4	Pennsylvania 5, 6, 7, 8	60,803	58,820	(1,983)	96.74%	189	87.44%	23
5	New York 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	29,864	28,455	(1,409)	95.28%	40	85.77%	30
6	Indiana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	36,387	34,540	(1,847)	94.92%	374	85.51%	36
TOTALS		203,480	198,495	(4,985)	97.55%	1,211		

National Totals 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	367,798	356,540	(11,258)	96.94%	2,282	84.55%	
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Q Quota

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





American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

"Dedicated to the betterment of all children"

100% Per Capita Banner Program

Request Form

2022 – 2023

Each American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit, Sons of The American Legion squadron, American Legion Riders chapter or Eight and Forty salon donating at least one dollar for each member during the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation's award year (1 June - 31 May) may receive a beautiful banner/streamer.

To qualify for the 2022-2023 year a post, unit, squadron, riders, or salon must donate one dollar per member based upon its official membership total from their national organization as of June 1, 2022. The post, unit, squadron, riders, or salon has from June 1, 2022, to May 31, 2023, to submit this form, **along with the donation**, to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

Post, unit, squadron, riders, or salon name

Address

City

State

Zip

Post, unit, squadron, or salon membership total as of June 1, 2022:

Total enclosed: \$

Banner Request Form

Send completed form to:

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

PO Box 1055

Indianapolis, IN 46206

ALL REQUEST FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY May 31, 2023