



ROUND-UP

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

Next Goal

105%

July 26, 2023

Volume 4 | Number 35 | Issue 186 | May 21, 2023

Honor those who ensured our freedom this Memorial Day

May 16, 2023

Greetings, Sons of The American Legion,



We'll soon be commemorating our veterans who paid the ultimate price and gave their lives for our freedom with Memorial Day activities across this great nation.

Since the Revolutionary War, more than one million

men and women have given their last full measure of devotion for America. I trust that you all will take time over the Memorial Day weekend to honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice to ensure our freedom.

The American Legion has created [a suggested speech](#) for use during Memorial Day events. I would encourage you to tailor those remarks to your own squadron or detachment event.

And please share recaps and photos of your Memorial Day celebrations at [Legion-town.org](#). As Sons of The American Legion, we should be proud of all our efforts to support and honor our veterans and communities.

Likewise, if you're participating in a [Flying Flags for Heroes](#) event over Memorial Day weekend, don't forget to include those efforts

on that website and include the information on the Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR).

Record membership within reach

I want to note our tremendous membership success. As of May 11, 16 detachments have reached their 100 percent membership goal. And the SAL as a whole was at 97.5 percent.

In 2019, the SAL hit an all-time high with 375,540 members. As of May 11, we have 358,585 members. Let's set a new membership record!

As you know, since January 2nd, 2023, we have had the ability to renew online, and we have had over 2,200 people renew already. This can be accomplished through your individual myLegion account or through the quick renewal page [legion.org/SAL-renew](#).

Be the One!

With passion and purpose.

Christopher Carlton, National Commander
Sons of The American Legion

BE THE ONE



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 DELEGATE STRENGTH

TARGET DATE

July 26, 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

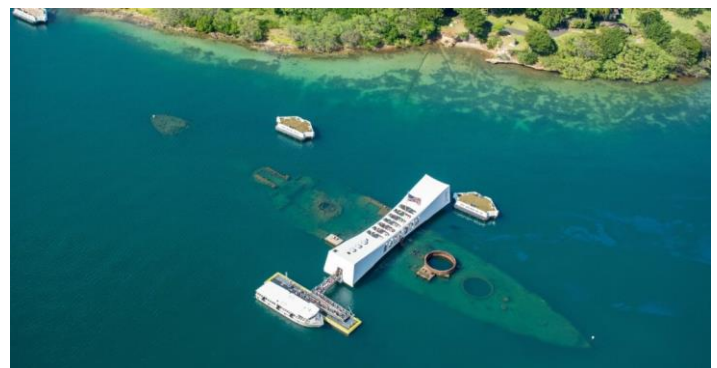
Fourth Wednesday of Each Month
7:00 p.m. Mountain Time
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 847 2013 6661 | 697 464

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.

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 18, 2023, **20,893**
flags have been placed
and reported to
honor our veterans
since September 1, 2022

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

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](#)

Meeting ID: 991 2070 0860 | 092 260

(877) 853-5257

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 HEADQUARTERS SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

May 18, 2023

TO: National Officers, Detachment Commanders and Adjutants
FROM: Anthony W. Wright (PA), National Adjutant
SUBJECT: **100%** - Membership Target Date

"CONGRATULATIONS"

Thank you for all your efforts so far this membership year. Our standings as of our **100%** membership target date (5-17-2023) are posted below:

2023 Membership Goal:	367,798
Total Membership:	361,225
Percentage Of Goal:	98.21%
2023 Renewal Rate:	85.41%
Detachments Making Goal:	20

ARIZONA	MEXICO	RHODE ISLAND
COLORADO	MICHIGAN	SOUTH CAROLINA
DELAWARE	NEVADA	SOUTH DAKOTA
FLORIDA	OKLAHOMA	VIRGINIA
GEORGIA	OREGON	WEST VIRGINIA
HAWAII	PHILIPPINES	WISCONSIN
MARYLAND	PUERTO RICO	

GREAT JOB!!

Next scheduled renewal notice to be mailed: **MAY 26, 2023** (3RD OF 3)

Next membership target date: **JULY 26, 2023** **100%**

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

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.

National Snapshots of Service Contest



Categories

- Americanism
- VA&R
- Children & Youth
- National Security

Sons of The American Legion squadrons are encouraged to enter the annual Snapshots of Service photo contest to promote the Sons' programs.

Submitted photos must represent one of the Four Pillars: Americanism, Children and Youth, National Security, or Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. Members must be wearing SAL caps or apparel, the photo must be in JPG or TIFF format.

Submission forms are available at
www.legion.org/sons/publications

Send your photos to
sons.public.media+snapshots@gmail.com



Videos of Service Contest



1. Record a video showing SAL members promoting the following categories

- American Legion Program Support
- Membership and Recruitment
- Community Engagement

2. Post to any of your social media platforms

3. Send us a link to your published video to sons.public.media+videos@gmail.com

Rules and submission forms are available at
www.legion.org/sons/publications

Sons of The American Legion National Public & Media Communications Commission

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

Group developing Veterans Memorial Park

Bob Cox, [Journal Review](#) | May 16, 2023



Five of the six Veterans Memorial Park board members gather Monday for a photo announcing the creation of the new park.

Bob Cox/Journal Review

Two weeks ago, the Veterans Memorial Park received the new organization's nonprofit designation. There has been little dust settled since organizers announced the proposed construction of a park just south of the Byron Cox American Legion Post on South Washington Street.

Members of the nonprofit board, the Crawfordsville-Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and other community members came together Monday for a ceremonial ribbon cutting for the project, which will honor all veterans.

The idea of constructing a park to honor veterans started with board member Bill Durbin. He was visiting Fairmount five years ago and saw the city's impressive display and brought the idea back to Montgomery County. The idea caught the attention of several

veterans, and a committee was formed to turn the idea into a reality.

"I was in Fairmount for the Jimmy Dean Festival and drove by their American Legion and noticed this veterans memorial park," Durbin said. "Fairmount's park is very nice, and I immediately thought we might want to do something like that in Crawfordsville."

Durbin and others, including Mike Spencer, Mark Eustler, Marc Gable, Bob Carstensen and Kevin Cobb have formed a local board to oversee the plans. Initially, the group wanted to use the Army Static Display Program (Tacom), which distributes condemned or obsolete Army equipment for static display purposes. But the men soon realized it would take a while to get a donated item, so they decided to start the project with private donations.

"We thought we could get some things from Tacom, and the Legion applied," Durbin said. "We qualify for equipment for display, but we were told it could be six or seven years for them to have something to send us. We are in line, but we don't know when we will get anything from them. We didn't want to wait any longer, so we are raising private donations."

Plans for the park include a restored 1969 Huey helicopter used in the Viet Nam Conflict as a centerpiece for the park. There also will be nine flags, including all six military branches. The flags will be displayed around a 30-foot circle made of 7,000 bricks surrounding a six-foot granite marker. Local painter Flip Walters will create a patriotic-themed mural on the storage shed at the rear of the property.

Organizers hope to have all the brick paid for by donations. For \$100 per brick, any resident, business, or organization can purchase a brick and have three lines engraved in the brick in honor of any veteran. The brick will be black. There will be special white bricks for any veteran who was killed in action, missing in action or a prisoner of war.

In just two weeks, the board has raised \$20,000 for the project, which is estimated to cost \$120,000. The price includes construction and maintenance of the property.

"This is a perpetual memorial, and we will continue to add more displays as we have them," Cobb said. "We are asking anyone who has an item that we could display to contact us."

Board members also want the memorial to help educate generations to come about the men and women who have served their country in the armed services.

The Veterans Memorial Park is not directly associated with the local Legion. However, the Legion men and women have a keen interest in the park and will do what it can. The Sons of the American Legion has already donated to the project.

"This is not the board's park or the Legion's park," Cobb said. "It is the people's park."

The Huey helicopter will be ordered soon. It will be painted with a shark's mouth on it similar to one a member of the local color guard served on in Viet Nam. It is estimated Phase 1 of the park, which includes the flag display and Huey helicopter, will be completed in the summer of 2024.



TO CONTRIBUTE: Make a check out to Veterans Memorial Park and mail to P.O. Box 804, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. For more information, email www.veterans.memorial.47933@gmail.com.

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



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



**PROUD POSSESSORS
OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE**

30 years of membership

[The Journal](#) | May 12, 2023



The New Ulm Sons of the American Legion annually recognize their members who have achieved 30 consecutive years of membership, and did this again on May 10. Pictured at the Brown County Veterans Memorial are, from left: Dennis Leppla-SAL member, Tom Rathman-SAL member and Brat Stand Chair, Vern Kitzburger-2nd Vice, Ron Marquardt-SAL 30-year member, Jim Bartels-1st Vice and 30-year member, and Scott Ries-SAL Commander. Not Pictured, Brian Thies--SAL 30-year member. The New Ulm Sons of American Legion-Squadron 132, is in its 52nd year.



**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**

Gladstone's August Mattson Sons of The American Legion Honors Bill Germain for Continuous Membership

Bill Germain of the Gladstone August Mattson Squadron 71 of Sons of The American Legion was recently honored for 45 years of continuous Membership by Squadron 71 Commander Randy Bruntjens.

"Clearly, reaching this milestone is a very special occasion" commented Commander Bruntjens. "It is also a very special occasion for the local Squadron since it is a testimony of his loyalty to Sons of The American Legion over the years. "Bill is a valued member, having served as Commander and various offices in the Squadron." "His continued contribution is vital for the Sons to continue to be successful in helping our fellow Legionnaires and Veterans." According to Bruntjens "The Sons is the best program the Legion ever established as we take care of all other programs the Legion sponsors." "We are here because of the veterans, so let's help a veteran whenever we can."

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.



Commander Randy Bruntjens and 45-year member Bill Germai.
submitted photo

 **AMERICAN
LEGION
RIDERS**

 **AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY**

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



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



Sports

Don't miss the deadline for Legion Baseball team registration

The American Legion | May 15, 2023

Registration for the 2023 American Legion Baseball season is open at baseball.legion.org.

Teams registered after May 15 may be subject to a department late fee through the final deadline of June 1. Please note that each American Legion department may set an earlier deadline for registration.

To learn more about your specific department's state fees and deadlines, [contact your department chairman](#).

As part of the education and training requirements of Public Law 115-126, the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017, all coaches, managers, and volunteer staff members must complete the Abuse Awareness course either through Protect Youth Sports or USA Baseball. All coaches, managers and volunteer staff members must also have a completed and passed background check. Click [here](#) to download the American Legion Baseball Risk Management Guidebook.



Regional sites set for 2024, '25 American Legion Baseball seasons

The American Legion | May 16, 2023

Regional sites for the 2024 and 2025 American Legion Baseball seasons have been set after The American Legion's National Executive Committee adopted

a [resolution](#) selecting the eight sites at the 2023 Spring Meetings.

The sites are:

Region 1	Manchester, NH 2024 Shrewsbury, MA 2025
Region 2	Ridge, MD 2024 – 2025
Region 3	Asheboro, NC 2024 – 2025
Region 4	Washington, MO 2024 – 2025
Region 5	Weaton, IL 2024 – 2025
Region 6	West Fargo, ND 2024 – 2025
Region 7	Billings, MT 2024 – 2025
Region 8	Fairfield CA 2024 – 2025

Dates for the regionals will be Aug. 7-11, 2024, and Aug. 6-10, 2025.

2023 postseason

The 2023 regionals will be Aug. 2-6 at the following locations:

Region 1: Shrewsbury, Mass.
Region 2: Morgantown, W. Va.
Region 3: Asheboro, N.C.
Region 4: Pelham, Ala.
Region 5: Midland, Mich.
Region 6: Rapid City, S.D.
Region 7: Gillette, Wyo.
Region 8: Fairfield, Calif.

The eight regional winners will advance to the 96th American Legion World Series in Shelby, N.C., Aug. 10-15.

Palou, Ericsson now focused on Indy 500

The American Legion | May 16, 2023

The month of May in Indianapolis is in full swing at Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS), with practice this week leading up to this weekend's qualification for the May 28 Indianapolis 500. But for The American Legion, things really were kickstarted last weekend, [thanks to a dominant effort by Chip Ganassi Racing \(CGR\) and Alex Palou](#).

Driving the No. 10 American Legion Honda featuring the “Be the One” initiative, Palou won the GMR Grand Prix on IMS’s road course by nearly 17 seconds, the largest margin of any INDYCAR victory this season. Palou and the rest of CGR’s drivers now are shifting their focus toward the Indy 500, won last year by Ganassi driver Marcus Ericsson. Palou will drive The American Legion livery again in the 500, while Ericsson’s No. 8 Huski Chocolate Honda also will carry American Legion branding.

This Friday, the fastest speeds of the month will be on display when each car will receive a turbocharger boost to reach the speeds they will run during Armed Forces Qualifying, which will take place Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday, the 12 fastest qualifiers will compete for a spot in the Firestone Fast 6, which will determine the first two rows of the Indy 500 starting grid.

Click [here](#) for the complete schedule at IMS for the remainder of the month.



Palou currently sits atop the INDYCAR SERIES, thanks to last week’s win and three previous top-five finishes, while Ericsson is in third place and won the season opener in St. Petersburg.

Palou, who finished second in the Indy 500 in 2021, led 52 of 85 laps in the GMR Grand Prix and heads into the INDYCAR SERIES’ biggest race with confidence. In his two previous Indy 500s driving for CGR, Palou has qualified in the first two rows while leading 35 laps in 2021 and 47 in 2022.

“I’m feeling pretty good for the Indianapolis 500,” Palou said via CGR media. “We’ve been really fast the past two years. I think we just need to try to get the strategy right, get more confident in traffic and just get a clean day. We have the championship lead, which feels amazing, and we need to keep it and go for the Indianapolis 500, as well.”

Ericsson is gunning to become the first back-to-back Indy 500 winner since 2002. If he does so, he’ll earn a bonus of \$420,000 courtesy of BorgWarner, the namesake of the Indy 500 trophy.

"The Month of May is here, and I can't wait for everything, honestly," Ericsson said. "It's going to be amazing and I'm looking forward to be here competing as the defending champion. It's an exciting month ahead. Let's do it."

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

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

Name _____ Recruited by _____

(First) (Initial) (Last) (Initial) (Last)

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

E-mail Address _____ Telephone _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

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

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

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____


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

Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant)

00-001 (2013)

RECEIPT

 Date _____

Received of _____

For God and Country _____

\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in _____

Squadron _____, Detachment of _____

By _____

Squadron Everlasting

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

Sons of The American Legion mourns loss of member



Barge "Peter" Stoios stands with his daughter Jacquie, on right, with her friend at a makeshift prom in Alpharetta's Providence Square neighborhood in 2020. Peter, an Alpharetta resident, died in a car accident May 6.

MILTON, Ga. — Barge "Peter" Stoios, Sons of the American Legion Post 201 member and former Fulton County Schools bus driver, died in a car accident May 6.

Police responded to the call at around 10:51 p.m. that night, and upon arrival, determined Stoios had been ejected after attempting to negotiate a curve in his 1990 Mazda Miata on Birmingham Highway. According to the police report, a preliminary investigation indicated his vehicle left the roadway, struck a power pole, and spun off the roadway.

A [GoFundMe page](#) has been set up for Peter's memorial expenses, with \$3,490 a \$5,000 goal raised. According to the page, he leaves behind two daughters, Sophia and Jacquelyn. Any leftover money will go toward the cost of their trip to Australia, Peter's home country, to spread the ashes.

"He was the most loving father one could hope for and will be missed terribly," Sophia said.

A Celebration of Life will be held for Peter Sunday, May 21 at 3 p.m. at the American Legion Post 201 on Wills Road.

Richard A. Nance



Richard A. Nance, age 77, passed away at 6:30 PM Saturday, May 6, 2023, surrounded by his family.

Private family services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please consider making donations to the Richland County Human Society or the First Presbyterian Church, both of Olney, Illinois. Arrangements are under the care of the Meyer Funeral Home in Olney, Illinois. The obituary can be viewed, and condolences left [by clicking here](#).

Richard was born on May 16, 1945, in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, the son of Elvis and Retha (Peneton) Nance. He married Paula Ruth on May 28, 1977, in Belvidere, Illinois. Richard owned and operated Nance Contractor Service for over 50 years. He was a perfectionist in whatever he did and was known for professionalism. Richard was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Olney. He was also a former member of the Eagles, Elks, and Sons of the American Legion. Richard loved to spend time with his family, friends, and his fur babies. He was always willing to lend a hand to those in need.

Richard is survived by: Wife of 45 years — Paula E. Nance of Olney, Illinois; Son — Richard A. "Ricky" (Tamera) Nance, II of Benton, Kentucky; Daughter — Randi A. (Michael) Hahn of Olney, Illinois; 2 Grandchildren — Kristopher Nance and Elizabeth Hahn; Sister-in-law — Sandra L. Nelson of Belvidere, Illinois; Brother-in-law — James B. Lynch of Olney, Illinois; Brother-in-law — Fred Lynch of Olney, Illinois; Nephews — Bryan Lynch, Jason Lynch, Larry Nelson, Michael Rooker and David Chance; Nieces — Beth Rives, Debbie Nelson, Cindy Kasnoff, Kathryn Suresle, Anna Hyland and Jennifer Wright and Jennifer Meese; Several great nieces and nephews; Beloved kitties — Haley and Kaley.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents, father and mother-in-law James and Eileen A. Ruth, brother-in-law William E. Lawson and sister-in-law Sonia Jean (Sunny) Lynch.

Richard was a fighter and battled metastatic prostate cancer for the last 29 months. The family would like to say "Thank You" to Dr. Saba and his nurses and Carle Hospice.

Paul K. McGrath

Paul K. McGrath beloved son of the late Peter Raymond Sr. and Anna McGrath; loving companion of Chrissy Cummins; dearest father of Thomas (Jamie) and Terry (Missy) McGrath; devoted grandfather of Christian, Ian, Quinn, Aaron and Ryanne; dear stepfather of John Brown; cherished brother of Florence (the late Lloyd) Douglas, William (Mary), Harry (the late Faye), Terrence and the late Peter Raymond Jr. (Joan), Mary Gertrude (Avis Davis), James (Mary Kate), Thomas, John, Patrick (Mary) and Anna Bride Dermody; dear brother-in-law of Charlene McGrath and Ron Dermody; proud uncle of many nieces and nephews.

Paul was a proud member of Heat & Frost Insulators Local 17 and Tinley Park Sons of The American Legion Squadron 615.

Visitation Tuesday 3-8 P.M. Funeral Wednesday 9:15 A.M. from Lawn Funeral Home 17909 S 94th Ave Tinley Park IL 60487 to St. Elizabeth Seton Church Mass 10:00 A.M. Interment Good Shepherd Cemetery (708) 532-3100.

Sign Guest Book at legacy.suntimes.com

Edward A. Healy Jr.

Seneca Falls, NY — Edward A. "Buddy" Healy, Jr., 74, lifelong resident of Seneca Falls, passed away after a brief illness, on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at Geneva General Hospital with his siblings by his side.

A Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday, (May 16) at 11 a.m. at Doran Funeral Home, 4 East Bayard St., Seneca Falls. Burial will follow at St. Columbkille Cemetery. Donations in memory may be made to a [charity of one's choice](#).

Ed was born in Munich, Germany, the son of the late Edward and Helen (Boyle) Healy, Sr. Ed was raised in Seneca Falls and graduated from Mynderse Academy, Class of 1967. He worked for Goulds Pumps for many years and retired after a career spanning several decades. He was a social member of the SMS, auxiliary member of the Cyrus Garnsey VFW Post 1323, member of the Sons of The American Legion through Kirk Casey American Legion Post 366, and member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Auburn.

Ed lived a good life and enjoyed the camaraderie of his friends. He will be missed by his family and friends alike. He loved to golf and has

owned several Corvettes over the years. You could always count on Ed for a good conversation over a cold beer.

Ed is survived by his brother, John of Seneca Falls; sisters, Mary Healy of Seneca Falls and Christine McGuane of Marcellus; niece, Molly McGuane; nephew, Patrick McGuane; as well as many close friends.

Ed was predeceased by his father, Edward Sr. in 2014; mother, Helen (Boyle) in 2000; brother, Patrick in 1982, and sisters, Eileen Healy in 2013 and Maureen Healy in 2011.

To leave online condolences, messages for the family, or find additional information, please visit DoranFuneralHome.com.

To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](https://SympathyStore.com).

Michael A. Bennett



Dayton, OH — Michael A. Bennett, 69, of Iron Mountain, passed away on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023, at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton,

OH.

Mike was born Jan. 18th, 1954, in Marquette, MI, son of James J. and M. Virginia (Carlson) Bennett. After graduating from Marquette High School in 1972 he attended Northern Michigan University. On Sept. 9th, 1977, he married Diane Dupras, in Marquette. He was a Marquette firefighter and EMT from 1976-1980. His career as a Marquette Firefighter ended after sustaining life threatening injuries in an auto accident, which through the grace of God, he was able to overcome. After moving to Iron Mountain in 1986, Mike took a position at the Quinnesec Paper Mill as a safety/security officer and EMT where he worked until retiring in 2016. Mike was a member of Knights of Columbus, Sons of The American Legion, and Saint Mary & Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Iron Mountain. Mike worked endlessly managing the Knights of Columbus Hall and Wednesday night bingo. He spent many years as Grand Knight and was very involved in many volunteer projects. Mike was an intense Notre Dame football fan and also loved watching the Green Bay Packers.

Mike's true passion was spending time at the family camp on Lake Superior and honoring his father by keeping camp traditions alive. He enjoyed fishing, playing music and spending time with family at camp and around the campfire.

Most of all, he enjoyed watching his grandkids' sporting events and spent many hours attending their hockey, soccer, softball, dance competitions/recitals and just spending time with his kids and grandkids. Mike was a compassionate and loving husband, father, Papa, and most of all, a devout Catholic.

He is survived by his wife, Diane; two sons, Michael J. (Renee) Bennett of Andover, MN and John (Shanna) Bennett of Marquette; a daughter, Kelsie (Spencer) Rohr of Lebanon, OH; a brother, Tim (Dianne) Bennett of Marquette; three sisters, Cindy (Pete) Beairl of Laona, WI, Mary Bennett of Marquette, and Margaret (Gary) Gustafson of Marquette; and eight grandchildren, Brooke, Brett and Brianna Bennett, Claire and Finn Bennett, Harper, Bennett and Oaklee Rohr and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Mike was preceded in death by a brother, Shawn Bennett.

Visitation will be held from 9:30am to 12:30 p.m. (Central Time) on Thursday, May 18th at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home. The rosary will be recited at 12:15 pm at the funeral home. The funeral mass will follow at 1:00 pm at St. Mary & St. Joseph Catholic Church in Iron Mountain. Fr. Janusz Romanek will offer the Mass of Christian Burial. Burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery in Marquette on Friday, May 19th, at noon.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Mike's memory may be made to the Dickinson County Right to Life.

Pallbearers will be John Korhonen, Dave Bishop, Chris Rexses, Pat Maraccini, Bob Boyle, and Gary Gustafson.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Michael A. Bennett online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the arrangements.

Michael F. Whitaker



Michael F. Whitaker, 68, of Windsor, NY, passed away on Sun. May 14, 2023 after complications from a recent stroke. Mike is survived by his mother, Edith Iversen and siblings Cheryl Whitaker, Diane Kilmer, Dona Eckert, Jeffrey Carpenter, Brian Carpenter, Lavonne Button, William Carpenter, Jerry Carpenter, Jamie

Whitaker, Arlu Whitaker and Calvin Whitaker, son Eric Whitaker, grandson Jack Whitaker, his Winsor Acres Farm Family, close friends Steve & Zach Dwyer, and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his father, William Whitaker.

Memorial Services will be held at the Osterhoudt-Madden Funeral Home 69-71 Maple Street Harpursville on Thurs. at 6:30 p.m. The family will receive friends at the Osterhoudt-Madden Funeral Home on Thurs. from 5 to 6:30 p.m. prior to service. Donations may be made to Sons of The American Legion Harpursville Squadron 1596 760 Welton Street Harpursville, NY 13787.

Online condolences may be made at: www.omaddenfh.com.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Michael F. Whitaker, please visit our floral store.

To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](http://SympathyStore.com).



OH Sq 15 mourns loss of Advisor John M. Kopcsos



John M. Kopcsos, 74, passed away Monday morning, May 15, 2023, at Mercy Health-St. Elizabeth Health Center in Youngstown.

John Michael was born November 18, 1948 in Youngstown, Ohio, a son of the late John and Katherine Vlosich Kopcsos.

John, a graduate of Cardinal Mooney High School, Class of 1967, went on to attend Youngstown State University. In 1969, John decided to leave college and enlist in the United States Navy. He proudly served during the Vietnam War, as

an electrician on the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt (CVA-42). In 1972, he was honorably discharged with the rank of EM3 and went on to serve at the Naval Reserve Manpower Center in Bainbridge, Maryland until December 22, 1974.

John was employed at Youngstown Sheet & Tube until its closing, followed by Sawhill Tubular, and later, AK Steel in Sharon, Pennsylvania. After 30 years of service, he retired in 2002.

For over 10 years, John enjoyed coaching softball for the Poland Community Baseball Association, Inc. An avid outdoorsman, John, at the age of 12, learned to appreciate the sport of hunting. He was an active conservationist, a hunter safety instructor, and life member and area representative of Whitetails Unlimited. John was also a former member and past president of the Lowellville Rod and Gun Club and a member of the Mahoning Valley Gun Collectors. John was a 20-year member of American Legion Mahoning Valley Post 15 in Poland, where he served as the Advisor to Sons of The American Legion Mahoning Valley Squadron 15 for many years.

John enjoyed numerous trips to Las Vegas and family vacations to Disney World. He loved his family and was happiest when he was with them. He will be fondly remembered for his dry sense of humor, fun-loving nature, and his generosity, especially to his daughters.

John leaves his wife of over 44 years, the former Claire Melillo, whom he married August 26, 1978; and two daughters, Christina Lynn Kopcsos of Struthers, and Alisha Ann (Dr. David) Benson of Saint Marys, Ohio. John also leaves numerous cousins who were like siblings to him.

John's family will receive friends Sunday, May 21, 2023, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Monday, May 22, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. at the Cunningham-Becker Funeral Home in Poland.

A funeral service will follow Monday, at 11:00 a.m. with Deacon Paul Lisko officiating. Interment with military honors will follow at Riverside Cemetery in Poland.



TAPS

Day is done,
gone the sun.
From the lakes,
from the hills,
from the skies.
All is well, safely
rest.
God is nigh.





FROM THE EDITOR

Congratulations to all of our QUOTA DETACHMENTS! Your hard work has paid off, and I want to personally thank you for your efforts.

Let's see how many more can reach quota, and don't forget about the 105% target on July 26.

***Honor the Veteran Who Made You Eligible.
Renew Today!***

Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

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

click a button for more information



AMERICAN LEGION



Armed Forces Day honors warriors and peacekeepers

May 17, 2023

Dear American Legion Family members and friends,

The American Legion's commitment to "preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars" is without question. It is explicitly stated in the Preamble to our organization's constitution and recited by our members at every official American Legion meeting.

The third Saturday in May is set aside not just to honor those who served in war, but the men and women who comprise the greatest military on the planet. The first Armed Forces Day was announced on Aug. 31, 1949, by American Legion Past National Commander Louis Johnson, who was serving as the secretary of defense at the time.

There are other days in which we honor our military. Memorial Day is when we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for this country. Veterans Day is when we honor all veterans, regardless of where and when they served. Armed Forces Day marks what President Truman called "readiness for any eventuality."

It is significant that Armed Forces Day was observed after the horrors of World War II and prior to our entry into Korea. It recognized that there are always dangers and sacrifices involved with military service and that

America should always be appreciative of those defending our freedom in both war and peace.

Some members of the Armed Forces don't really feel that Veterans Day is for them. I have to confess that when I was in the Navy, I thought of myself as more of a sailor than a veteran. I couldn't have been more wrong. The American Legion believes that you are a veteran from the day you report to basic training. It is why you are eligible to join our organization from day one. It is also when you start following orders from your military superiors and delivering on your oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies."

So, while there is more than one day to acknowledge veterans, Armed Forces Day is the time to honor our military, whether members are on the battlefield or in bootcamp.

The American Legion has always recognized that a strong national defense is vital to the prevention of war. It is why the founders of The American Legion included defense as one of our organization's four pillars.

Gen. Omar Bradley described the need for a strong military in 1951. "Real security," he said, "lies in the prevention of war – and today that hope can come only through adequate preparedness."

Simply put, you cannot have true security without an outstanding Armed Forces. In this capacity, the United States is truly blessed. Let's remember that on May 20.

Vincent "Jim" Troiola, National Commander
The American Legion

Spring Meetings resolutions on Digital Archive

The American Legion | May 15, 2023

The 25 resolutions approved by the American Legion National Executive Committee at the 2023 Spring Meetings in May are now available on the [Digital Archive](#). They cover veterans' health care, national security, children and youth, and more. See the full list [here](#).

The archive includes all current Legion resolutions, as well as national meeting digests and reports, issues of *The American Legion Magazine* and other publications, and much more.

Memorial Day Wreath Lay Ceremony

Monday, May 29th, 2023 @ 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Pine Grove Chapel
<http://post191.com>



American Legion Gold Star Post 191, American Legion Auxiliary Gold Star Unit 191, Sons of the American Legion Gold Star Squadron, and Gold Star 191 Legion Riders host a Memorial Day Program and Wreath Laying Ceremony. Refreshments at Post 191 following the ceremony, at 801 Prospect Road, Mount Airy. All are invited to attend and honor those who have fallen in the service of our nation.

Get your FREE "Be The One" lapel pin!



BE THE ONE

The American Legion has designated the first day of every month to be "Be The One" Day."

We're calling on all American Legion Family members to proudly wear a "Be The One" item on the first of every month to demonstrate their unwavering commitment to saving the lives of our deserving veterans and active duty servicemembers, and to signal to others that they are available to help.

Place an order between **May 18th to Memorial Day, May**

29th, 2023 at [American Legion Emblem Sales](#), and you'll receive one free Be The One lapel pin so that you can help amplify this important mission

[ORDER NOW](#)

Legion post's namesake comes home after 80 years

[Cameran Richardson](#) | May 17, 2023

The night before his mission to bomb oil refineries around Ploiesti, Romania, U.S. Army Air Force 2nd Lt. Pharis E. Weekley was told to pack his B-4 bag and write a letter home. The mission he was preparing for later became known as "Black Sunday" as it was one of the greatest losses for the USAAF in World War II. Pharis, 21, wrote his final letter home that read, in part, "Mother, when you see the newspapers and you read about the Ploesti raid, just know that I'm right there with them."

On Aug. 1, 1943, Weekley was a navigator in the nose of a B-24 Liberator nicknamed "Lady Jane" that set out on one of the largest air raids named Operation Title Wave. His plane was shot down by enemy anti-aircraft. And his remains went unaccounted for.

Until now.

After nearly 80 years, 2nd Lt. Pharis E. Weekley's remains were identified and brought home.

Four generations of Weekley's family welcomed him home to Florida, including his 94-year-old sister Marva Weekley-Turner, as well as his brothers and sisters in arms, The American Legion.

A celebration of life was held for Weekley on Saturday, May 13, at his Legion post namesake – the Dana-Howard-Weekley American Legion Post 130 in LaBelle, Fla. "To have one of our namesakes actually accounted for is pretty humbling. I can't imagine my child not coming home. I can't imagine that feeling of not knowing," said Post 130 Commander Myra Johnson, who has a 21-year-old daughter. "I was excited that there's finally some closure for everybody. Not just the family but for even our post. Everybody in the post was just so excited to be able to say, he's home. So we wanted to make sure that we honored the family, we honored his sacrifice."

Weekley-Turner and her family were escorted by Legion Riders from American Legion Post 69 in Avon Park, Fla., where she and her family live, to Post 130 in LaBelle.

Seeing the Legion Riders and other Post 69 members lined up outside Post 69 brought tears to Weekley-Turner. Her daughter and Weekley's niece, Cathy Albritton, said, "We thought we were the only ones that cared. We had no idea it was any bigger than us until we met (Post 69 Commander) Larry Roberts. We learned so quickly that The American Legion is our extended family. That they are there for us; for anything we need. They are the most wonderful, caring people. They have taught me this is how we treat our own. He's our brother, and we do not leave him behind ... 80 years later, he is not left behind."

Weekley-Turner had the option to have her brother buried at Arlington National Cemetery or sent home. After seeing the outpour of support from The American Legion and community members, "I'm happy that I said, 'Send him home.'"

The Legion Riders all had a patch on their vests that was a photo of Weekley with the inscription, "Welcome Home Weekley! 80 Years Never Forgotten." Challenge coins also were made and handed to his family.

Roberts said that the family didn't know the magnitude of services The American Legion can provide, "and what we wanted to provide. We will never leave a fallen comrade. This gentleman has been missing for 80 years; we're not going to leave him behind. That's one of my brothers. And finally, one of my brothers is home."

At 10 a.m. last Saturday, kickstands went up and the police-led hour-long escort was underway. Along the route, people stood outside businesses to wave American flags and show their respect, and yellow ribbons were tied to trees and a banner that read "Welcome Home 2nd Lt. Pharis E. Weekley" hung between fire-truck ladders outside Post 25.

"We could not believe there would be so many people. It makes us see how many people are patriotic and how many people are thankful for our freedom," Weekley-Turner said. "It makes us realize that we all are patriotic."

Turner, Albritton, Wesley (Turner's son), two granddaughters and two great-grandchildren arrived to Post 130 before noon along with hundreds of Legion Riders. The post was packed with Legion Family and community members there to meet the family, enjoy a free lunch, see photos and newspaper clippings of Weekley and to celebrate "Pharis as the son, brother, the person who was willing to give his life for his country," Johnson said.

Before the war. In high school, Weekley wanted to join the football team but his mother, Naomi Weekley, was worried he would get hurt. So unbeknownst to his mother, Weekley joined the boxing team. She soon found out when he came home with a busted lip. He too was an Eagle Scout and a gifted singer, often singing for the second wife of Thomas Edison at her tea parties.

Following the war, an Army chaplain wrote the family saying that Weekley would be greatly missed because he always led the singing during services. His favorite song was “My Task” which will be sung at his funeral service May 20 by his great niece, Brittany.

After graduating from Fort Myers High School in 1940, Weekley attended college at the University of Florida. When war broke out, he left college to serve.

“He said, ‘We just got to get this war won. We’ve got to get it behind us. And the only way is for us to volunteer, join, fight, and get this war over with,’” Turner said about her brother. Before his deployment overseas, she received a final gift from him. She was just 14 years old. But it is one that she has and still wears to this day – a gold bracelet and necklace. “I’ve always treasured it because it was a gift from him,” she said.

Missing in action. The news of Weekley missing in action came via a Western Telegram that his father had to retrieve from the local drugstore in downtown LaBelle. Then the second telegram came declaring him killed but still unaccounted for. But with a mother’s love unmatched, Naomi held on to hope that her son would return home.

The Weekleys owned a furniture store downtown where the Greyhound bus station was. “My mother, whenever the Greyhound bus would come in, she told me, ‘I could not help but go to the front door and watch people get off of the bus and just maybe this is not true, maybe Pharis will get off of that bus,’” Turner shared. “It was hard. It was hard.”

Weekley had turned 21 a few weeks before his final mission. His remains were buried as unknown in the Hero Section of the Civilian and Military Cemetery of Bolovan, Ploiesti, then moved to the Ardennes American Cemetery and Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery in Belgium where they remained until 2017.

Even though she was never able to see her son come home, Naomi kept a scrapbook of his entire life that has been passed down. “My grandmother kept everything. Every letter he sent (while in war), every letter she sent. Everything in the newspaper; everything

about Pharis Weekley was in this scrapbook,” Albritton said. “That’s how the story of him went through the generations. We have two grandsons with us today (at the Post 130 celebration of life). So we will continue to talk about the last few days with them. As long as we keep talking about it, they’re going to remember it. And this will be a generational story.”

The homecoming. Turner and her younger brother, Dallas, gave their DNA to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in 2014. “They called me and said, ‘We don’t leave anybody behind’ ... but I didn’t expect this to happen,” Turner said. “It’s just overwhelming that we’re able to bring him back.”

The DPAA began exhuming remains from the Operation Tidal Wave mission in 2017. And on July 12, 2022, the remains of U.S. Army Air Force 2nd Lt. Pharis E. Weekley were identified.

The DPAA called Albritton to tell her the news and that they felt she should share it with her mother. She went to her mother’s house, told her to sit down, and shared that her brother had been found. “As soon as I told her, a flood of emotions came over her. She couldn’t believe it. She cried and cried. If it wasn’t for the efforts of the DPAA, none of this would be happening.”

Weekley’s remains were flown into Orlando airport on Friday, May 12. Eight American Legion Riders from Post 69 and 130 were there with the family to welcome the flag-draped casket and to then meet up with a larger contingent of Riders to escort Weekley and his family through Avon Park to the funeral home.

It was closure for Marva. “Particularly, seeing the casket come off the plane,” she said through tears. “I can’t even express ... there’s no way I can express and to thank our government for continuing to look for all the boys.”

Weekley will be buried in Avon Park on May 20 beside his mother and father.

American Legion Riders and Legion Family members will again be at the funeral service to show their support.

“The American Legion has provided the most amazing support and love and comfort,” Albritton said. “I knew they did a lot for our community and for different organizations in our community, always been aware because of the great work they do. But this side ... this side.”

A form of that comfort came in the way of 90-year-old Post 69 Chaplain Ann Farrell, who put her arm around Turner as prayer was said over her brother's casket and before the Legion Riders departed Post 69 Saturday morning.

"It's really just such an honor for me at my age, I've never had anything like this happen before. It's a one in a lifetime experience," said Farrell, a Korean War era veteran. "I think this is something that they will treasure forever."

Roberts added, "It's what we do. That's what The American Legion does."



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2023 SAL 100% TARGET DATE REPORT AS OF: MAY 17, 2023

#	DETACHMENT	2023 DET. YEAR END GOAL	NEEDED TO MEET 100% TARGET 5/17/2023	2023 ACTUAL MBRSHIP	% OF YEAR END GOAL	2023 RENEWAL %
1	HAWAII	77	-28	105	136.36%	100.00
2	PUERTO RICO	123	-29	152	123.58%	95.08
3	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,362	-200	1,562	114.68%	89.19
4	GEORGIA	4,490	-272	4,762	106.06%	87.66
5	OREGON	1,414	-63	1,477	104.46%	79.50
6	WEST VIRGINIA	2,362	-105	2,467	104.45%	84.42
7	MEXICO	31	-1	32	103.23%	51.61
8	FLORIDA	21,519	-663	22,182	103.08%	82.16
9	MICHIGAN	24,271	-628	24,899	102.59%	88.36
10	ARIZONA	8,004	-164	8,168	102.05%	79.70
11	OKLAHOMA	1,348	-22	1,370	101.63%	78.77
12	COLORADO	2,729	-34	2,763	101.25%	83.38
13	DELAWARE	2,430	-20	2,450	100.82%	84.21
14	VIRGINIA	4,109	-25	4,134	100.61%	83.38
15	RHODE ISLAND	336	-2	338	100.60%	85.45
16	NEVADA	357	-2	359	100.56%	75.55
17	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,473	-7	1,480	100.48%	83.97
18	MARYLAND	16,058	-11	16,069	100.07%	88.17
19	WISCONSIN	4,187	-2	4,189	100.05%	85.51
20	PHILIPPINES	70	0	70	100.00%	100.00
21	FRANCE	158	1	157	99.37%	89.10
22	NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,677	37	5,640	99.35%	85.33
23	OHIO	30,636	361	30,275	98.82%	89.18
24	CALIFORNIA	10,714	206	10,508	98.08%	79.94
25	PENNSYLVANIA	60,803	1,269	59,534	97.91%	88.24
26	VERMONT	3,818	109	3,709	97.15%	86.86
27	NEW YORK	29,864	910	28,954	96.95%	86.95
28	ILLINOIS	13,398	413	12,985	96.92%	86.13
29	MAINE	2,617	83	2,534	96.83%	82.94
30	TEXAS	5,569	184	5,385	96.70%	76.56
31	MISSISSIPPI	722	24	698	96.68%	79.40
32	INDIANA	36,387	1,277	35,110	96.49%	86.60
33	KANSAS	5,919	210	5,709	96.45%	84.83
34	IDAHO	644	23	621	96.43%	76.65
35	WASHINGTON	2,485	90	2,395	96.38%	74.35
36	ALASKA	1,608	60	1,548	96.27%	74.95
37	LOUISIANA	1,790	70	1,720	96.09%	84.45
38	NEW MEXICO	1,483	58	1,425	96.09%	75.58
39	MISSOURI	3,219	129	3,090	95.99%	81.69
40	NEW JERSEY	9,386	405	8,981	95.69%	83.71
41	ALABAMA	2,066	92	1,974	95.55%	80.62
42	TENNESSEE	1,718	78	1,640	95.46%	76.54
43	IOWA	4,857	242	4,615	95.02%	82.90
44	NEBRASKA	7,015	363	6,652	94.83%	89.37
45	MASSACHUSETTS	5,442	305	5,137	94.40%	82.08
46	CONNECTICUT	1,867	105	1,762	94.38%	82.62
47	NORTH CAROLINA	2,727	158	2,569	94.21%	75.90
48	NORTH DAKOTA	1,056	64	992	93.94%	81.66
49	MINNESOTA	11,378	721	10,657	93.66%	84.25
50	MONTANA	1,108	72	1,036	93.50%	85.83
51	WYOMING	1,298	123	1,175	90.52%	78.70
52	ARKANSAS	447	69	378	84.56%	70.29
53	UTAH	449	71	378	84.19%	68.71
54	KENTUCKY	2,609	437	2,172	83.25%	69.31
55	DIST OF COL	114	32	82	71.93%	56.64
Grand Totals:		367,798	6,573	361,225	98.21%	85.41

2023 SAL REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

WESTERN REGION - JACK A. YOUNGS (ID)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
HAWAII	77	105	136.36%
OREGON	1,414	1,477	104.46%
ARIZONA	8,004	8,168	102.05%
NEVADA	357	359	100.56%
PHILIPPINES	70	70	100.00%
CALIFORNIA	10,714	10,508	98.08%
IDAHO	644	621	96.43%
WASHINGTON	2,485	2,395	96.38%
ALASKA	1,608	1,548	96.27%
UTAH	449	378	84.19%
Totals:	25,822	25,629	99.25%

MIDWEST REGION - MICHAEL L. KIRSCHNER (CO)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,362	1,562	114.68%
MEXICO	31	32	103.23%
OKLAHOMA	1,348	1,370	101.63%
COLORADO	2,729	2,763	101.25%
TEXAS	5,569	5,385	96.70%
KANSAS	5,919	5,709	96.45%
NEW MEXICO	1,483	1,425	96.09%
NEBRASKA	7,015	6,652	94.83%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,056	992	93.94%
MONTANA	1,108	1,036	93.50%
WYOMING	1,298	1,175	90.52%
Totals:	28,918	28,101	97.17%

CENTRAL REGION - DAVID J. MENNEL (MI)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
MICHIGAN	24,271	24,899	102.59%
WISCONSIN	4,187	4,189	100.05%
OHIO	30,636	30,275	98.82%
ILLINOIS	13,398	12,985	96.92%
INDIANA	36,387	35,110	96.49%
MISSOURI	3,219	3,090	95.99%
IOWA	4,857	4,615	95.02%
MINNESOTA	11,378	10,657	93.66%
Totals:	128,333	125,820	98.04%

EASTERN REGION - ERNEST E. LABERGE (MA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
WEST VIRGINIA	2,362	2,467	104.45%
DELAWARE	2,430	2,450	100.82%
RHODE ISLAND	336	338	100.60%
MARYLAND	16,058	16,069	100.07%
FRANCE	158	157	99.37%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,677	5,640	99.35%
PENNSYLVANIA	60,803	59,534	97.91%
VERMONT	3,818	3,709	97.15%
NEW YORK	29,864	28,954	96.95%
MAINE	2,617	2,534	96.83%
NEW JERSEY	9,386	8,981	95.69%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,442	5,137	94.40%
CONNECTICUT	1,867	1,762	94.38%
DIST OF COL	114	82	71.93%
Totals:	140,932	137,814	97.79%

SOUTHERN REGION - RONALD E. ROBERTS (MS)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
PUERTO RICO	123	152	123.58%
GEORGIA	4,490	4,762	106.06%
FLORIDA	21,519	22,182	103.08%
VIRGINIA	4,109	4,134	100.61%
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,473	1,480	100.48%
MISSISSIPPI	722	698	96.68%
LOUISIANA	1,790	1,720	96.09%
ALABAMA	2,066	1,974	95.55%
TENNESSEE	1,718	1,640	95.46%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,727	2,569	94.21%
ARKANSAS	447	378	84.56%
KENTUCKY	2,609	2,172	83.25%
Totals:	43,793	43,861	100.16%

05/17/23		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, 9, Q	43,793	43,861	68	100.16%	82	05/17/23
Western 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	25,822	25,629	(193)	99.25%	43	
Central 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	128,333	125,820	(2,513)	98.04%	338	
Eastern 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	140,932	137,814	(3,118)	97.79%	315	
Midwest 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	28,918	28,101	(817)	97.17%	41	
TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	367,798	361,225	(6,573)	98.21%	819	



05/17/23	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	24,899	628	102.59%	47	88.36%	9	04/27/23
Wisconsin 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	4,187	4,189	2	100.05%	16	85.51%	19	05/17/23
Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	30,636	30,275	(361)	98.82%	8	89.18%	23	
Illinois 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8	13,398	12,985	(413)	96.92%	81	86.13%	28	
Indiana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	36,387	35,110	(1,277)	96.49%	81	86.60%	32	
Missouri 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	3,219	3,090	(129)	95.99%	19	81.69%	39	
Iowa 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4,857	4,615	(242)	95.02%	4	82.90%	43	
Minnesota 5, 6, 7, 8	11,378	10,657	(721)	93.66%	82	84.25%	49	
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	128,333	125,820	(2,513)	98.04%	338			

05/17/23		WESTERN REGION Jack Youngs (ID) National Vice-Commander							
Detachment		Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
Hawaii 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q, 10		77	105	28	136.36%	1	100.00%	1	10/10/22
Oregon 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q		1,414	1,477	63	104.46%	19	79.50%	5	04/17/23
Arizona 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q		8,004	8,168	164	102.05%	4	79.70%	10	05/15/23
Nevada 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q		357	359	2	100.56%	-	75.55%	16	05/08/23
Phillippines 8, 9		70	70	-	100.00%	-	100.00%	20	04/10/23
California 1, 5, 6, 7, 8		10,714	10,508	(206)	98.08%	16	79.94%	24	
Idaho 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8		644	621	(23)	96.43%	1	76.65%	34	
Washington 7, 8		2,485	2,395	(90)	96.38%	1	74.35%	35	
Alaska 3, 6, 8		1,608	1,548	(60)	96.27%	-	74.95%	36	
Utah 5		449	378	(71)	84.19%	1	68.71%	53	
TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		25,822	25,629	(193)	99.25%	43			

05/17/23		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%	-	95.08%	2	03/02/23
2	Georgia 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q, 10	4,490	4,762	272	106.06%	-	87.66%	4	04/19/23
3	Florida 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	21,519	22,182	663	103.08%	60	82.16%	8	04/24/23
4	Virginia 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	4,109	4,134	25	100.61%	10	83.38%	14	05/08/23
5	South Carolina 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,473	1,480	7	100.48%	-	83.97%	17	05/15/23
6	Mississippi 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	722	698	(24)	96.68%	1	79.40%	31	
7	Louisiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,790	1,720	(70)	96.09%	3	84.45%	37	
8	Alabama 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,066	1,974	(92)	95.55%	6	80.62%	41	
9	Tennessee 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8	1,718	1,640	(78)	95.46%	-	76.54%	42	
10	North Carolina 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,727	2,569	(158)	94.21%	1	75.90%	47	
11	Arkansas 1	447	378	(69)	84.56%	-	70.29%	52	
12	Kentucky	2,609	2,172	(437)	83.25%	1	69.31%	54	
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q		43,793	43,861	68	100.16%	82			05/17/23

05/17/23		MIDWEST REGION 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	1,562	200	114.68%	-	89.19%	3	02/09/23
2 Mexico 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	31	32	1	103.23%	-	51.61%	7	03/13/23
3 Oklahoma 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,348	1,370	22	101.63%	-	78.77%	11	05/11/23
4 Colorado 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	2,729	2,763	34	101.25%	8	83.38%	12	05/15/23
5 Texas 1, 3, 4, 5, 8	5,569	5,385	(184)	96.70%	12	76.56%	30	
6 Kansas 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	5,919	5,709	(210)	96.45%	14	84.83%	33	
7 New Mexico 8	1,483	1,425	(58)	96.09%	-	75.58%	38	
8 Nebraska 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	7,015	6,652	(363)	94.83%	-	89.37%	44	
9 North Dakota 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8	1,056	992	(64)	93.94%	-	81.66%	48	
10 Montana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,108	1,036	(72)	93.50%	-	85.83%	50	
11 Wyoming 1, 4, 5, 6	1,298	1,175	(123)	90.52%	7	78.70%	51	
TOTALS 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	28,918	28,101	(817)	97.17%	41			

05/17/23		EASTERN REGION Ernie LaBerge (MA) National Vice-Commander						
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1 West Virginia 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	2,362	2,467	105	104.45%	-	84.42%	6	04/17/23
2 Delaware 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,430	2,450	20	100.82%	2	84.21%	13	05/08/23
3 Rhode Island 4, 5, 7	336	338	2	100.60%	-	85.45%	15	05/08/23
4 Maryland 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	16,058	16,069	11	100.07%	26	88.17%	18	05/17/23
5 France 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	158	157	(1)	99.37%	-	89.10%	21	
6 New Hampshire 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	5,677	5,640	(37)	99.35%	16	85.33%	22	
7 Pennsylvania 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	60,803	59,534	(1,269)	97.91%	199	88.24%	25	
8 Vermont 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	3,818	3,709	(109)	97.15%	-	86.86%	26	
9 New York 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	29,864	28,954	(910)	96.95%	61	86.95%	27	
10 Maine 5, 6, 7, 8	2,617	2,534	(83)	96.83%	-	82.94%	29	
11 New Jersey 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	9,386	8,981	(405)	95.69%	1	83.71%	40	
12 Massachusetts 4, 6, 7, 8	5,442	5,137	(305)	94.40%	10	82.08%	45	
13 Connecticut 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,867	1,762	(105)	94.38%	-	82.62%	46	
14 Dist. of Columbia	114	82	(32)	71.93%	-	56.64%	55	
TOTALS 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	140,932	137,814	(3,118)	97.79%	315			

05/15/23		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, 9, Q	21,519	22,182	663	103.08%	60	82.16%	8	04/24/23
2 Michigan 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	24,271	24,899	628	102.59%	47	88.36%	9	04/27/23
3 Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	30,636	30,275	(361)	98.82%	8	89.18%	23	
4 Pennsylvania 5, 6, 7, 8	60,803	59,534	(1,269)	97.91%	199	88.24%	25	
5 New York 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	29,864	28,954	(910)	96.95%	61	86.95%	27	
6 Indiana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	36,387	35,110	(1,277)	96.49%	81	86.60%	32	
TOTALS	203,480	200,954	(2,526)	98.76%	456			

National Totals 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	367,798	361,225	(6,573)	98.21%	819	85.41%		
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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 07/26/23 goal of 105%



**2022-2023 Consolidated Squadron Report as
of May 18, 2023**

Detachment	No. of Squadron	CSR submitted	CSR%
NEVADA	16	5	31.3%
OREGON	34	8	23.5%
DELAWARE	14	3	21.4%
TENNESSEE	46	9	19.6%
SOUTH DAKOTA	41	8	19.5%
FLORIDA	188	26	13.8%
OHIO	307	37	12.1%
MONTANA	51	6	11.8%
ARIZONA	78	7	9.0%
MARYLAND	102	9	8.8%
NORTH CAROLINA	72	6	8.3%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	62	5	8.1%
KENTUCKY	77	6	7.8%
IDAHO	26	2	7.7%
SOUTH CAROLINA	27	2	7.4%
ALABAMA	68	5	7.4%
INDIANA	294	18	6.1%
WEST VIRGINIA	49	3	6.1%
GEORGIA	119	7	5.9%
UTAH	42	2	4.8%
MISSISSIPPI	44	2	4.5%
VIRGINIA	88	4	4.5%
OKLAHOMA	96	4	4.2%
WISCONSIN	124	5	4.0%
WYOMING	25	1	4.0%
CALIFORNIA	210	8	3.8%
KANSAS	128	4	3.1%
NEW MEXICO	34	1	2.9%
MICHIGAN	207	6	2.9%
NEW JERSEY	211	6	2.8%
IOWA	151	4	2.6%
PENNSYLVANIA	466	12	2.6%
NEBRASKA	161	4	2.5%
NORTH DAKOTA	45	1	2.2%
NEW YORK	581	12	2.1%
CONNECTICUT	50	1	2.0%
TEXAS	253	5	2.0%
COLORADO	63	1	1.6%
MAINE	72	1	1.4%
LOUISIANA	73	1	1.4%
MINNESOTA	267	2	0.7%
ILLINOIS	283	2	0.7%
MASSACHUSETTS	196	1	0.5%
ALASKA	22	0	0.0%
ARKANSAS	29	0	0.0%
DISTRICT OF COL	3	0	0.0%
FRANCE	11	0	0.0%
HAWAII	11	0	0.0%
MEXICO	5	0	0.0%
MISSOURI	118	0	0.0%
PHILIPPINES	5	0	0.0%
PUERTO RICO	6	0	0.0%
RHODE ISLAND	12	0	0.0%
VERMONT	35	0	0.0%
WASHINGTON	71	0	0.0%
Total	5869	262	4.5%



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