



900 US troops deploying to Middle East to support Israel, add stability, Pentagon says

Doug G. Ware/Stars and Stripes | October 27, 2023



USAF photo

Almost 1,000 American troops have received orders to deploy to the Middle East to support Israel in its conflict with Hamas and provide stability in the region, the Pentagon said Thursday.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin decided several days ago to put 2,000 troops on pre-deployment orders to prepare for possible missions in the Middle East. On Thursday, the Pentagon said some of those orders have been activated.

“Approximately 900 troops have ... deployed or are in the process of deploying,” said Air Force Brig. Gen Pat Ryder, the Pentagon’s top spokesman. “These include forces that have been on prepare-to-deploy orders, and which are deploying from the continental United States.”

Ryder said the deploying troops are part of existing plans that were previously announced to send a Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense battery from Fort Bliss, Texas, and Patriot batteries from Fort Sill, Okla. Patriot and Avenger batteries are also being sent from Fort Liberty, N.C., and Associated Air Defense headquarters elements from Fort Bliss and Fort Cavazos, Texas.

THAAD is an air defense system that can intercept short-, medium- and long-range ballistic missiles with radar and shoot them down. Patriot and Avenger systems work in a similar way.

Ryder declined to say specifically where the deploying U.S. forces are going.

“I can confirm they are not going to Israel,” he said. “They are intended to support regional deterrence efforts and further bolster U.S. force protection capabilities.”

The Pentagon said the number of U.S. service members who have pre-deployment orders might fluctuate depending on what is needed in the region, which has seen a severe increase of violence since Hamas militants on Oct. 7 broke through a border fence between Gaza and Israel and killed hundreds of Israeli civilians. Israel’s military has been carrying out airstrikes on Gaza in retaliation, which have killed scores of Palestinian civilians.

Ryder said the Pentagon is also sending two Iron Dome batteries to Israel. Iron Dome is a sophisticated air-defense system that tracks incoming enemy rockets and knocks them out of the sky. Since the Oct. 7 attack, Israel has intercepted dozens of rockets using Iron Dome batteries.

The two batteries had been assigned to the Army at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., but will now be transferred to Israel. The Pentagon has said previously that it’s been sending Iron Dome interceptors to Israel.

see TROOPS page 11

Round-Up

Donald "JR" Hall, Jr. (MD) *National Commander*
Robert L. Bristo (MN) *Central National Vice-Commander*
John R. Cook (NH) *Northeast National Vice-Commander*
Terry A. Harris (KS) *Midwest National Vice-Commander*
Linwood A. Moore (VA) *Southeast National Vice-Commander*
James R. Fischer (CA) *Western National Vice-Commander*

Christopher Carlton (IN)
Immediate Past National Commander

Joseph Navarrete (NM)
Leading Candidate for National Commander

William Clancy III (NY)
Trailing Candidate for National Commander

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

Round-Up is a collection of information procured from various resources to stay better informed on happenings within The American Legion Family, and of other related topics of interest, and makes no claims or guarantees about the accuracy or currency of the contents of this publication, and expressly disclaims liability for errors and omissions.

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



Donald "JR" Hall, Jr.
National Commander

Representing More Than Me

From the Editor

After many years of waiting, there will be a new national newsletter from the national organization. This new publication was approved after the 2023 Fall National Meetings in Indianapolis.

The newsletter will be emailed to members monthly and will be printable via its PDF format.

Please look out for the new newsletter, and don't be shy about submitting content for publication!

Honor the Veteran Who Made You Eligible.

RENEW TODAY!

Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

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

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

John Alvin Bergmann



John Alvin Bergmann, 102, of Upper Arlington, Ohio, departed his earthly home surrounded by his loving family on Friday, May 12, 2023 to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, on July 6, 1920, he was the son of Rose (Nelson) Bergmann Hultberg and John Charles Bergmann; and Godson of Lillian (Bergmann) and Alvin John Appel. He graduated from South Hills High School and the University of Pittsburgh, majoring in accounting and mathematics. In 1941, he was recruited by President Roosevelt's staff to serve in the army as a German and Japanese code breaker. John traveled the world and worked as a liaison between the American codebreakers and Bletchley Park. After his honorable discharge in 1945, he created a home in Pittsburgh with his wife, Lois, and their twin daughters and started his career in the coal mining industry. The family relocated to Columbus, Ohio where his third daughter was born and found their lifelong home in Upper Arlington.

Retiring early from South-East Coal Sales Company in 1983, he spent the next 15 years of his life by his wife's side taking care of her during her battle with Parkinson's disease. He dedicated every moment to Lois and kept her home surrounded by family until her passing in 1998. After her passing, John joined the Upper Arlington Senior Center where he met other Veterans and became the chair of the Veteran's Discussion Group for 15 years. He served on the senior advisory council and participated in the Tremont school Lunch Buddies program. Every day he would have lunch at the senior center, welcoming new members and helping them get adjusted. His lunch table, known as the Bergmann Round Table, exists to this day. John's passion in life was traveling across the Columbus area visiting middle and high schools sharing his experiences as a World War II code breaker and mentoring the future generations.

In 2019, he earned the Ford Oval of Honor for outstanding military service and served as a Grand Marshal in the Columbus 4th of July parade. After representing the military as a WWII vet for decades in the Upper Arlington parade, he was named Grand Marshal in 2022. With a theme of Stars, Stripes, and Trailblazers, it was an honorable way to celebrate his 102nd birthday. In his life, John was also a H.S. cheerleader, Eagle Scout, Scoutmaster, 2-year president of the band parent boosters, member of the Disabled American Veterans, Life member of The American Legion Post #442, Parkinson's Society advocate, Honorable Kentucky Colonel, Upper Arlington Senior Citizen Award winner, past member of the Athletic Club, 65 year member of the F. & A. M. lodge #684, Shriner of Aladdin Shriners of Ohio 1963-1996, founding member of Bower Hill Community Church, Pittsburgh Pa., Deacon Covenant Presbyterian Church, Upper Arlington, Ohio, and member of Full Gospel Businessmen. John was more than a military hero, husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was a friend to all. He loved to meet new people, learn about them, and share stories. His kindness and interest in others were always on display.

John was preceded in death by the love of his life and wife of 55 years, Lois Elizabeth (Klein) Bergmann. He is survived by his three daughters; Candace (Dr. James) Finn of Powell, Ohio, Sandra (Jack) Stoller of Upper Arlington, Ohio, and Kimberly (Dr. James) Elkovitch of Auburn, New York. Grandchildren J.J. (Lisa) Finn of Powell, Ohio, Kerrie (Ian) Donahue of Barrington, Rhode Island. Dr. Jeffrey (Dawn) Finn of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, Tricia (Dave) Kershner of Upper Arlington, Ohio, and Jason Finn of Powell, Ohio. Forever cherished and remembered by his nine great-grandchildren, Jonathan (Haley) and Beth Finn, Megan, and Brian Donahue; Jeffrey, Brennan and Aislinn Finn, Molly and Kate Kershner; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends. His memory will be cherished by all that knew him.

All are welcome to join the Bergmann family for a Memorial Service with United States Army Military Honors on Saturday, November 4th at 2:00 pm at SCHOEDINGER NORTHWEST, 1740 Zollinger Road, Upper Arlington, Ohio with Pastor Chris Martin officiating. Immediately following the service, a Celebration of Life Reception will be held until 5:00 pm to share stories of John's remarkable and wonderful life. A live stream link is provided if you are unable to attend.

John's ashes will be interred with his wife's in the Jefferson Memorial Cemetery Mausoleum in Pittsburgh, Pa. after his memorial service. In lieu of flowers,

memorial donations may be made to Motts Military Museum, Inc., South Hamilton Road, Groveport, OH 43125.

Please visit www.schoedinger.com to share memories and condolences.

Robert L. Bristo

Central National Vice-Commander

REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

Second Wednesday Quarterly

September 13, 2023 | December 13, 2023

March 13, 2024 | June 12, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 930 6046 3298 | Passcode: 140 802

Hey, let's have some fun with Math!

Dr. Seuss once said..."**Sometimes the questions are complicated, and the answers are simple**".

My PhD chemist daughter uses math every day. She says it's **Fun!** Trust me, I looked at my check-book, **MATH** is not Fun, but it can be funny. Let me explain...

The National Goal for the 2023-2024 membership is 382,111 members. The goal for the Central Region is 129,711 members. That means that when you do the MATH, **the Central Region represents and is responsible for 33% of the goal for the SAL! WOW!** Our eight (8) detachments make up a full 1/3 of the SAL. What an Honor and what a burden! For the central Region to gain 10% in membership, we need to turn in over 12,000 cards.

To put that in perspective, combined the Western, Southeast, and Midwest regions only have to come up with 4,900, 3,400, and 2,500 members respectively! That's only 10,900 cards! **See I told you the MATH is not FUN!** It could be worse however as the Northeast Region will need over 14,000 cards turned in to earn their 10% increase.

Remember this, **MATH gives us hope that every problem has a solution!** Our solution is one that the SAL is **VERY good at**, and that is getting new members and setting All-time highs 96% of the time!

Dr. Seuss also said... **"You have to be Odd to be Number One!**

Central Region LET'S BE ODD!!!

My comrades, life is like a math equation. **In order to gain the most, you have to know how to convert negatives into positives!**

For the Commander, **"Believe and Succeed"**

Butch Ray, Central Region Membership Chairman

"I'm the ONE, You're the ONE, BE the ONE!"

John R. Cook

Northeast National Vice-Commander

REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

THIRD Wednesday Quarterly

September 20, 2023 | December 20, 2023

March 20, 2024 | June 19, 2024

7:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 980 7046 7820 | Passcode: 469 153

James R. Fischer

Western National Vice-Commander

REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

THIRD Wednesday Quarterly

September 20, 2023 | December 20, 2023

March 20, 2024 | June 19, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 964 2285 1563 | Passcode: 433 552

What's up Westside!

BE THE ONE

Be the One! Be the One who doesn't take the little things others do for granted. Be the One who hears "I need you" behind their friends" I'm good." Be the One for those who works to be the best One they can be-the One who's not defined by others judgement. To the world, you may be one person, but to the one person, you are the world. Be the One!

**“One Team, One Goal, One Heart, One Soul.
Be the One!”**

Respectfully For God and Country,

Dan Ashley, Western Region Membership Chairman

Terry A. Harris

Midwest National Vice-Commander

REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

Fourth Wednesday Quarterly

September 27, 2023 | December 27, 2023

March 27, 2024 | June 26, 2024

7:00 p.m. Mountain | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 924 0402 2733 | Passcode: 371 685

Many years ago, there was a military family that lived in California. Looking for something that the family could do together, Dad found the American Legion. The family talked about this organization and found that this was the organization that they wanted to participate in. Mom was a veteran of the Korean War era. Dad was active duty and had served since 1943. The family lived in the Fort Ord, California area and was the typical military family.

Mom and Dad made the trek to Prundale, California Post #593 to check it out and see if it was for them. After attending a meeting and talking with some of the members, it was time to pay dues and join. Remember when I said do something as a family? There was no place for the 8 year old son at the Legion Post. So, Dad spoke with the post leadership about starting a Sons of The American Legion Squadron. After doing the necessary paperwork and lining up members, the Squadron was formed.

The Squadron started out with 32 members. If you haven't guessed, this is how I got involved in the SAL. It was something for the entire family. My first office was on the Executive Committee of the Squadron. Ok, now to my point. Are we trying to get the young people involved? Maybe if we recruited them, then Mom or Dad or maybe both would want to be part of the American Legion Family. Once you got them, keep them engaged. Show them how important a new member is to the organization.

How many members have you had walk out the back door and you didn't even realize they were gone? I've

been watching my own Squadron. We just keep recycling officers. Why aren't we bringing the young members along? We don't want to throw them to the wolves, but we do want them to slowly learn.

Remember, we won't be around forever and the future is those youngsters that you went and recruited. We must mentor. Teach them what you have learned. Let them know that we all have made mistakes on the way to learning. Let's get out there and work on our future.

The future is tomorrow and that's not that far away.

“Be The One” and “Remember your Buddy Checks.”

Terry Harris, National Vice-Commander Midwest

“Representing More Than Me”

Linwood A. Moore

Southeast National Vice-Commander

REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

First Wednesday Quarterly

September 6, 2023 | December 6, 2023

March 26 2024 | June 5, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 945 1723 1230 | Passcode: 58543

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.

How to Be the One for homeless veterans

The American Legion | October 26, 2023

The American Legion welcomed retired U.S. Marine Sgt. Maj. Dr. Patrick McClellan for its October virtual Training Tuesday session, “Be the One: Helping Our Homeless Veterans.” McClellan provided ways American Legion posts can assist homeless veterans through social support, housing, employment, and treatment.

[Listen to the recording here.](#)

In his opening remarks, McClellan said, “I’m going to be discussing [Be the One](#), but it may not be from the context of what you’re familiar with. Most of the time we hear Be the One in the realm of suicide awareness prevention. Be the One can also be part of helping our homeless veterans and connecting our veterans to the resources that are available locally to you.

“We need to capture them (homeless veterans) into our post. Whether this is trying to find out how you can sign them up to become members of the post to help them and guide them to get them back to where they need to be to be productive citizens. This is kind of really the touch point of Be the One as a post and as the Legion. This provides actual tangible results because you get to see it right before your eyes and you get to put an actual person and the name and the face together and say, ‘This is where they were. This is where they’re going to be at. This is where they are now.’ That’s something that is very fulfilling and that’s why I have personally dedicated my life to continue to serve my veteran community.”

In his presentation, McClellan provided guidance on how to:

- Understand how no two homeless veterans and their needs are the same.
- Get the veteran into treatment, whether they are eligible for VA assistance or not, and ensure the veteran is able to get to the treatment provided.
- Find shelter, including overcoming barriers to locate housing for homeless veterans.
- Help the veteran gain employment.
- Advocate for homeless veterans at the state and federal level.

The next Training Tuesday will be Nov. 28 at 7 p.m. Information on the topic and link to join will be available at legion.org/training/training-tuesdays.

National Commissions and Committees

Chairmen wishing to have reports published should email them to jeffvablers@gmail.com to be included. All meeting information subject to change.

Americanism Commission

Chris Casey (NE), Chairman

Third Monday Bi-Monthly

October 16, 2023 | December 18, 2023

February 19, 2024 | April 15, 2024

June 17, 2024 | August 19, 2024

7:30 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 935 4066 0918 | Passcode: 571 659

Century Committee

Joe Gladden (MD), Chairman

Second Tuesday Bi-Monthly

November 10, 2023 | December 12, 2023

March 13, 2024 | April 9, 2024

June 11, 2024 | August 13, 2024

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

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 919 4714 3789 | Passcode: 241 429

Child Welfare Foundation Committee

Mark Nave (PA), Chairman

Third Tuesday Bi-Monthly

September 21, 2023 | November 16, 2023

January 18, 2024 | March 21, 2024

May 16, 2024 | July 18, 2024

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

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 984 7031 4786 | Passcode: 780 858



Children & Youth Committee

Joseph Lohman (MD), Chairman

Second Monday Bi-Monthly

September 11, 2023 | November 13, 2023

January 8, 2024 | March 11, 2024

May 13, 2024 | July 8, 2024

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

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 951 1622 6587 | Passcode: 799 095

Finance Commission

William G. Hill (MD), Chairman

Third Thursday as scheduled

September 21, 2023 | February 15, 2024

April 10, 2024 | July 18, 2024

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

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 966 1733 0121 | Passcode: 463 702

Internal Affairs Commission

William Clancy III (NY), Chairman

Fourth Thursday Bi-Monthly

October 26, 2023 | December 28, 2023

February 22, 2024 | April 25, 2024

June 27, 2024 | August 22, 2024

6:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 932 2650 4089 | Passcode: 725 519



Legislative Commission

Blair Miles (AL), Chairman

Second Thursday Bi-Monthly

October 12, 2023 | December 14, 2023

February 8, 2024 | April 11, 2024

June 13, 2024 | August 8, 2024

7:30 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 937 1376 7924 | Passcode: 172 912

Member Training & Development Committee

Michael Cotton (DE), Chairman

First Monday Bi-Monthly

September 4, 2023 | November 6, 2023

January 1, 2024 | March 4, 2024

May 6, 2024 | July 1, 2024

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

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 957 9605 2218 | Passcode: 528 704

Membership Committee

Daryl VerStreate Jr. (NY), Chairman

Third Tuesday Bi-Monthly

September 19, 2023 | November 21, 2023

January 16, 2024 | March 19, 2024

May 21, 2024 | July 16, 2024

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

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 989 3388 3350 | Passcode: 546 900

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.

2023 SAL Membership Info as of 10/26/2023

Total Actual Membership	378,621
Percentage of Goal	102.94%
Renewal Percentage	88.89%
Detachments at 100%	43



**RENEW
ONLINE
TODAY**



National Convention Committee

Christopher Byrd (NC), Chairman

Second Tuesday Bi-Monthly

September 12 2023 | November 14, 2023

January 9, 2024 | March 12, 2024

May 14, 2024 | July 19, 2024

7:30 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 953 4866 3402 | Passcode: 670 002

Public & Media Communications Committee

Kevin Chaplin (VA), Chairman

Fourth Tuesday Bi-Monthly

November 24, 2023, | December 26, 2023

February 27, 2024 | April 23, 2024

June 25, 2024 | August 27, 2024

7:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 914 4414 8114 | Passcode: 977 759

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Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

Bruno Williamson (IL), Chairman

Second Monday Bi-Monthly

November 29, 2023 | December 11, 2023

February 12, 2024 | April 8, 2024

June 10, 2024 | August 12, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 971 3717 7471 | Passcode: 712 824

Groundbreaking ceremony held for South Youngstown veteran's home

Veteran's Haven, a program of Family & Community Services, is set to begin construction on a container home project at West Warren Avenue and Hillman Street by the end of the year.

[Alex Kamczyc, WFMJ](#) | October 10, 2023

City officials and developers gathered to break ground for on a new development aimed at helping homeless veterans in the area.

The \$1.2 million project is expected to be finished by October 2024.

Once completed, the 5,400 square foot facility will offer various Veterans Association services to help homeless veterans get back on their feet. This includes mental health services and programs to get them integrated back into the work force.

The facility will accommodate 14 veterans of various genders and sexual orientations with a private bedroom and bathroom.

According to a news release from Family & Community Services, the facility was made possible through \$600,000 of capital funding from The Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Program, \$150,000 of ARPA funding from The Mahoning County Board of Commissioners, and \$100,000 from the City of Youngstown-Ward One.

Additionally, the Family & Community Services has launched an adopt-a-room program for donors to participate in the creation of the facility.



In attendance were Mahoning County Commissioners Carol Rimedio-Righetti, David Ditzler, and Anthony Traficanti (OH SQ 15) and City of Youngstown Councilman Julius Oliver.

Veterans Employment & Education Commission

Jim Coates (NY), Chairman

Third Tuesday Bi-Monthly

November 19, 2023 | December 21, 2023

February 15, 2024 | April 18, 2024

June 20, 2024 | August 15, 2024

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

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 989 2627 5747 | Passcode: 26060



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION



AMERICAN
LEGION
RIDERS



AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY



**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**



Lisa Williamson,
National President
The American Legion Auxiliary

Sports

ALWS champs staying in state to visit World Series

The American Legion | October 25, 2023

The Texas Rangers won't be the only team from the Lone Star State at Globe Life Field in Arlington, Texas, on Saturday.

Players and coaches from the 2023 American Legion World Series champions from League City (Texas) Post 554 will be guests of Major League Baseball at Game 2 of the 119th World Series. Post 554 [became the first ALWS champions from the state of Texas](#) with a 1-0 win over Lincoln (Neb.) Post 3 in August in Shelby, N.C.



Tyler Robinson of League City, TX. Post 554 during Game 15 of the 2023 American Legion World Series at Veterans Field at Keeter Stadium in Shelby, N.C., on Tuesday, August 15.

Chet Strange/The American Legion

Earlier in the day, League City players and coaches are scheduled to participate in a Play Ball event at the Texas Rangers MLB Youth Academy. Play Ball is a committed effort to spark widespread participation in all forms of baseball activities among all age groups, especially youth.

The Rangers are seeking their first World Series title in the franchise's third appearance, and first since 2011. Among their key players is 2023 American Legion Baseball Graduate of the Year Corey Seager (Post 115/Kannapolis, N.C.). He's batting .333 with 3 home runs and 6 RBIs this postseason.

Texas will face the Arizona Diamondbacks, who rallied from a 2-0 series deficit to Philadelphia to win the National League Championship Series. This will be Arizona's second World Series appearance; the

Diamondbacks won the 2001 title in just their fourth year of existence.

Diamondbacks closer Paul Sewald, [who played for the 2008 ALWS champions from Las Vegas](#), has six saves during this year's playoffs — just one shy of tying the record for most saves in a single postseason.

The schedule for the World Series (all games at 8 p.m. ET on Fox, schedule subject to change):

- Game 1: Arizona at Texas, Oct. 27
- Game 2: Arizona at Texas, Oct. 28
- Game 3: Texas at Arizona, Oct. 30
- Game 4: Texas at Arizona, Oct. 31
- Game 5: Texas at Arizona, Nov. 1, if necessary
- Game 6: Arizona at Texas, Nov. 3, if necessary
- Game 7: Arizona at Texas, Nov. 4, if necessary

Vietnam Women's Memorial to mark 30th anniversary

[Jeff Stoffer](#) | October 25, 2023

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the dedication of the Vietnam Women's Memorial in Washington, D.C., a weekend of events will honor the 265,000 women veterans – military and civilian – who served during the Vietnam era.

Hosted by Eastern National in coordination with the Vietnam Women's Memorial Advisory Group, the National Park Service and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, programs will include a candlelight ceremony at 6 p.m. on Nov. 10 and a storytelling program at 10 a.m. on Veterans Day. The weekend will culminate in a 1 p.m. ceremony on Veterans Day at the memorial, where the annual Observance at the Wall will be dedicated to the anniversary.

The keynote speaker will be Diane Carlson Evans, chair of the Vietnam Women's Memorial Advisory Group and founder of the Vietnam Women's Memorial. A former Army combat nurse and Vietnam War veteran, she led a 10-year mission to build the memorial on the National Mall – the first in the nation's capital to recognize the military service of women, as well as the patriotic service of civilian women. In 2021, Carlson Evans [received](#) The American Legion's Distinguished Service Medal for her decades of veteran advocacy. She is a life member of Lewis & Clark Post 2 in Helena, Mont.



The Vietnam Women's Memorial in Washington, D.C., in 2014.
Lucas Carter

Anniversary events are open to the public and will be held at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The candle-light and storytelling programs will take place at the Vietnam Women's Memorial statue, 300 feet from the Wall. To learn more about the memorial and coverage of the anniversary celebration, visit vietnamwomens-memorial.org. To learn more about Carlson Evans' efforts to build the memorial, visit dianecarlson-evans.com.



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION



TROOPS continued from page 1

U.S. military bases throughout the Middle East continue to see drone and missile attacks from militant groups. Since Oct. 17, there have been 16 missile or drone attacks on American bases – 12 in Iraq and 4 in Syria, where U.S. and coalition forces are fighting terrorist groups such as the Islamic State, Ryder said. The number of attacks was 13 on Tuesday.

One of the latest attacks occurred Thursday at an air base in Erbil in northern Iraq. Ryder said the attack caused no injuries and no significant property damage.

The Pentagon has not identified the groups behind the attacks but has said the militants are supported by Iran and are effectively Iranian proxy groups. The attacks caused almost two dozen injuries in the two countries, Ryder said, including 15 who received some form of traumatic brain injury.

"In all cases, members returned to duty," he said.





Gift of Membership 2023

Dear Post _____ Adjutant:

It has been brought to my attention that Legionnaire _____ a member of post _____ is unable to pay their 2023 dues. As this member is a valuable asset I _____ would like to give them the Gift of Membership.



Gift of Membership 2023

Dear Legionnaire _____

You are special. You served your country with honor and are a valued member of American Legion Post _____. To ensure your continued support (I/We) have paid your 2023 dues to thank you for everything you have done on behalf of The American Legion for the Community, State and Nation.

Have a great Holiday Season and see you around the Post soon.

_____ provided by NVC Linwood Moore

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____ Date _____
Name _____ (First) _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____ Recruited by _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____
Address _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____
E-mail Address _____ Telephone _____
Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____
(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. _____, Dept. of _____
OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____
(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____
I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.
Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)
Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant) 00-001 (2013)



RECEIPT

Date _____
Received of _____

For God and Country

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Edwin Robert Haag, III



Edwin Robert "Bob" Haag, III, age 78, of Breese, Illinois, passed away on Monday, October 23, 2023, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, surrounded by his loving family.

Bob was born on April 15, 1945, in Breese, the son of the late Dorothy (nee Isaak) and Edwin Robert "Bob" Haag, II. On July 11, 1964, he married Earlene Faitz at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lebanon.

In addition to his parents, Bob was preceded in death by his wife, Earlene Haag on February 9, 2021, his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Earl and Lillian (nee Koehler) Faitz, his sister-in-law, Judy Haag, and his brother-in-law, Richard Haukapp.

Bob is survived by his children, Dana (Duane) Timmermann of Breese, DeAnn (Dr. Greg) Boivin of Belleville, Rob (Dana) Haag of Trenton, Aaron (Theresa) Haag of Pocahontas, Dorae (Mark) Horenkamp of Chicago, Mike Haag of Breese, Nick (Kelly) Haag of Breese, and Mark (Natalie) Haag of Breese; grandchildren, Brandon (Jourdan) Timmermann, Bianca (Eric) Bergman, Bryton (Kara) Timmermann, Matthew (JaiLin) Boivin, Bradley (fiancée Alexandria Miller) Boivin, Blake Haag, Abigail (friend Trevor Gerdes) Haag, Cameron (friend Meg Poettker) Haag, Emma (friend Rob Harmon) Haag, Jackson (friend Marissa Markus) Haag, Ellie Horenkamp, Sam Horenkamp, Bobby Horenkamp, Finley Haag, Cal Haag, Marlie Haag, Max Haag, Nora Haag, and Henry Haag; seven great-grandchildren, Lillian, Leighton, Griffin, and Grayson Timmermann, Adah and Rush Bergman, and Wrenley Timmermann; siblings, Chip (Barb) Haag of Breese, and Rena (Dominic) Sabatino of Lebanon; sister-in-law, Darlene Haukapp of Summerfield; and nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Bob was very well known in the community and was the former owner and operator of Haag Insurance Agency in Breese. He was a member of St. Dominic Catholic Church, Breese Sons of the American Legion (SAL) 252, and Breese Knights of Columbus Council 2869. Bob had a zest for life, enjoying golf, bowling, family card games, crocheting, and savoring a Miller Lite. He cherished moments socializing with friends at South Side Tavern, and he had a passion for singing, especially when participating in plays and musicals for the Clinton County Showcase, church choir, or karaoke.

Above all, Bob was known for his unwavering dedication to his family. He found immense joy in attending his grandchildren's sporting and school events as well as family vacations. One of his favorite traditions was spending time with them every May at the Carlyle Lake cabins. He was also a former baseball and basketball coach for his sons and was a long-time member of the Mater Dei Football Chain Gang, as well as an honorary coach at the Mater Dei Holiday Tournament.

Memorial Mass will be Monday, October 30, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Dominic Catholic Church in Breese with Fr. Patrick Peter presiding. Interment will follow at St. Dominic/St. Augustine Cemetery, Breese.

Visitation will be Sunday, October 29, 2023 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. and again on Monday, October 30, 2023 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at Moss Funeral Home in Breese.

In lieu of flowers, plants, and other gifts, memorials may be made to Breese American Legion Sons of the American Legion (SAL) 252 or to the charity of the donor's choice and will be received at the visitation or by mail, Moss Funeral Home, 535 N. 5th St. Breese, IL 62230, who is serving the family.

Expressions of sympathy can be sent to the family at www.mossfuneralhome.com.

Thomas A. Glatfelter



Thomas Alan Glatfelter of Glen Rock died at his home on Saturday, October 21.

Tom was the youngest of six children, and was born on February 8, 1950, to the late Raymond and Iva (Thoman) Glatfelter.

He was the devoted husband to Lois (Mergenthaler) Glatfelter for 55 years.

Tom was a member of the Austin L. Grove Sons of the American Legion of Glen Rock. During baseball season he could be found cheering on the Glen Rock team. He was also an avid fan of the Penn State Nittany Lions and the Pittsburgh Penguins.

To those who knew him best, he was "Tommy G.". He loved to laugh and spend time with his family and friends. He enjoyed fishing for flounder at the Delaware beaches and hunting ducks with his faithful Labrador, Gretchen.

He is predeceased by a sister Shirley Alwood, and brother Barry Glatfelter. He is survived by brothers Lamar Glatfelter, Timothy Glatfelter, and Stanley Glatfelter.

He is also survived by his daughter Leslie (Glatfelter) Calkins and husband Charles Calkins of York; and grandson Benjamin Lehman and partner CJ Nocera of Pittsburgh.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Austin L. Grove American Legion Post #403, 4035 Manchester St. Glen Rock, 17327 or the Glen Rock Athletic Association, Attn: Dan Rogers, Treasurer, 1976 Caple Road, Finksburg, MD 21048.

Services will be private. Online condolences may be made at www.geiple.com.

Joseph R. Bondra



Joseph Robert Bondra, 75, of New Kensington, died Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023, in Armstrong Care Center, Kittanning. He was

born Feb. 29, 1948, in New Kensington, to the late Joseph Emil and Olga Borris Bondra, and was a lifelong resident of the local area. Mr.

Bondra worked as a steelworker for U.S. Steel, as a coal miner for Har-mar Coal Co., and had also worked in construction. He was a member of St. Margaret Mary Roman Catholic Church, the Arnold American Legion, the Sons of the American Legion, the New Kensington F.O. Eagles, Arnold No. 2, and a life member of the 7th Street Sportsman's Club. He enjoyed music, deejaying, golf, billiards, horse-shoes and was an avid fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Penguins and Pirates. He was also a skilled artist and did artwork for several clubs and businesses. He is survived by his daughter, Renea (Larry) Klukaszewski, of Upper Burrell; son, Jason Bondra (Camilla Hendrych), of South Hills; five grandchildren, Jacob (Emily) Klukaszewski, Sarah (Nicholas) Pattock, Nicholas Klukaszewski, Cody Hendrych-Bondra and River Hendrych-Bondra; and great-granddaughter, Ruth Pattock.

Friends will be received from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at THE RUSIEWICZ OF LOWER BURRELL FUNERAL HOME, 3124 Leechburg Road at Alder Street, where prayers of transfer will be said at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, followed by Christian funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Margaret Mary Church.

Burial will follow in Union Cemetery, Arnold. The 7th Street Sportsman's Club will conduct a service at 7 p.m. Friday in the funeral home www.RusiewiczFH.com.

Published by The Valley News Dispatch on Oct. 26, 2023.

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

RENEW



AMERICAN LEGION



Daniel J. Seehafer,
National Commander
The American Legion

Our gravest threat since World War II

October 25, 2023

Dear American Legion Family members and friends,

America is facing its most significant threats since World War II.

That isn't simple conjecture, or a political talking point. Multiple ongoing crises — compounded by the brutal Hamas terrorist attack against innocent men, women, and children in their Israeli homes — bear this out.

While we continue to pray for Israel and especially for our fellow Americans who have lost their lives or are still being held hostage by terrorists, it's become increasingly clear that the world requires leadership to prevent these crises from spiraling into a world war. Among the threats:

- **The heartbreaking crisis in Israel created by Hamas terrorists.** More than 30 Americans have been killed. American hostages are still fighting for their freedom. And let us not forget the innocent Israeli lives lost in the most barbaric and reprehensible of circumstances.
- **The role of Iran and Hezbollah.** Iran's role in the Hamas terrorist attack is somewhat unclear but there are likely ties. Hezbollah, a stronger and more dangerous terrorist group than Hamas, is funded by Iran. The implications of Hezbollah and other terrorist organizations becoming more engaged in the war is extremely troubling as it could spread into a larger conflict. "Iran is supporting Russia in Ukraine, and it's supporting Hamas and other terrorist groups in the region," [President Biden said last week](#).
- **The targeting of U.S. troops.** Anti-American sentiments and threats are growing in the Middle

East just as there is an increase in U.S. troops in harm's way abroad.

- **[The Russia-China alliance.](#)** Russian President Vladimir Putin recently met with Chinese President Xi Jinping to further strengthen their anti-America alliance. In a new [Foreign Affairs article](#), former Defense Secretary Robert Gates argues that both leaders believe America and other big democracies "are past their prime and have entered an irreversible decline." It doesn't take a defense expert to understand that when enemies sniff a weakness, they attack.
- **The uncertainty of North Korea.** Kim Jong Un, the volatile leader of North Korea, often orders testing of long-range, nuclear-capable missiles. Consider this from the article by Gates: in just two years, Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea combined will have twice as many nuclear weapons as America.



Let me be clear: we are not in the business of fear mongering. America remains the safest nation on earth, and we have your service to thank for that.

While the United States plays an important role in deterring the next world war, America needs steadfast leadership from its elected representatives in Washington, D.C., to ensure our nation's security from overseas threats.

These volatile situations are coalescing at a time when our Congress is engaged in politics over working for the good of the nation. The failure of the U.S. House to elect its speaker and the potential for a government shutdown in a matter of weeks is deeply troubling. It is imperative that the House of Representatives immediately push aside politics and elect a speaker so they may act against these threats.

Let's be steadfast in our support for America. Lend our voices to the chorus of those voicing support for our military. Call on Congress to lead, not squabble. And, most of all, join me in praying for the safety of our servicemembers — and their families — who are defending our nation as this cacophony of alarm bells grows even louder.

Legionnaires make the call during Buddy Check Week

The American Legion | October 24, 2023

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) first [National Buddy Check Week](#) kicked off Oct. 16 and ran five days, during which veterans were encouraged by VA to reach out to 10 fellow veterans.

The week was based on The American Legion's [Buddy Check program](#) started in 2019, which has resulted in well over 1 million veterans being checked on by members of the Legion Family. So, it's of little surprise how busy members of the Legion were during Buddy Check Week.

Paid-Up-For-Life member and six-time Gold Brigadier Mary Jane Fisher, a member of American Legion Post 149 in Escondido, Calif., and an administrator of the American Legion Friends Facebook group, reported members of the group made more than 2,600 phone calls over the course of the week. Fisher herself made 150 of those.

"I utilized past rosters and the Messenger calling feature," Fisher said. "The most common response was from individuals who were glad to receive the call. As I asked about their concerns and how their family was doing, many veterans stated they were concerned about living paycheck to paycheck. Example conversations where they had mounting credit card debt and felt like they needed relief. Several (were) concerned about being at risk of being homeless.

"The majority stated they had been denied service-connected conditions and need help with navigating the claims process. The second-highest concern was the lack of service officers available to help them. The third concern was the overall lack of healthcare for the rural communities, and fourth concern was they wished Buddy Checks would happen more often as they feel alone and no support."

Fisher said she suggested multiple resources to those with needs while vowing to call them back and "inviting them to contact me anytime for resources and information."

Throughout the week, Legionnaires posted on social media updates on their Buddy Check efforts, as well as having received calls from a fellow veteran. Department of Utah Commander [Ninzel Rasmuson](#) noted, "I received a text message out of the blue from a new Legionnaire friend I met last week at Fall Meetings. The Buddy Check text began as, 'BUDDY CHECK, Sister!!!

I hope all is well with you and family and you made it back safely.' It meant so much to me that a peer had reached out to me to make sure I was ok and safe. Buddy Checks matter!"

Amanda Jones, commander of American Legion Post 30 in Alaska, posted photos of her 5-year-old daughter, American Legion Auxiliary Junior member Charlee, wearing an American Legion Be the One t-shirt and shared, "It's Buddy Check week and we are embracing it as a family!! Charlee has called 3 veterans to see how they're doing and lifted their spirits. Every ONE can make a difference. Be the ONE."

[Lou Neubecker](#), a PUFL member of Post 99 and Sons of The American Legion Squadron 99 in Seaside, Ore., made 25 former Legionnaires. "They were happy to receive my call, and several of them said they were gonna rejoin," Neubecker wrote on Facebook.

Past Department of Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Historian Tsi Sim Mar, a member of Unit 535 in Bellville, Ohio, and an administrator on the American Legion Friends group, also made Buddy Checks. "The response from our veterans was well received," she wrote. "Most of them were surprised to get the call. They had a chance to talk about what they are doing, how they are feeling, and what we could do for them. It was surely well worth it for sure."

Former American Legion Legislative associate Advait Thampi made 22 Buddy Checks during the week, while American Legion Department of South Dakota Commander Courtney Steffen made 13 and also shared valuable Buddy Check info on Facebook, including links to both the Legion's and VA's Buddy Checks resources, and a link to veteran service officers in her state.

And on Legiontown, [past Department of Connecticut Commander and current Department Service Officer K. Robert Lewis shared](#) that Vincent Melesko, a member of Turner-Tinker Post 128 in Niantic, reached out to every member of the post recently, providing those who needed it contact info for an American Legion service officer.

"For World War II, Korea, and Vietnam veteran members he called three times. If no answer, Vinny turned to email and snail mail," Lewis wrote. "He contacted each with a message: 'I'm contacting you to see if you or your family are OK and if there is anything the Niantic American Legion can assist you or your family with. Your fellow Legionnaires are always here for you.'"

And at American Legion Post 113 in Meridian, Idaho – [which implemented a daily Buddy Check program in September](#) – Legionnaires manned the phones daily for four hours to check on their fellow veterans.

“(The Buddy Check) was instituted to be able to find veterans that are having problems and maybe need some assistance that we can help them with,” Post 113 Chaplain and First Vice Commander Dan Pruett said. “We want to call and be able to see that everything’s OK. Most of the interactions we have with them is they’re doing fine, and that’s great. Occasionally we get someone that needs help, and we certainly have the resources to be able to help them.

“To me, as a veteran that has had a lot of (health) problems ... there was a time when I needed something. I was glad to see (The American Legion) reached out and they were so good. They would do anything to help me. And so, it means a lot to me to be able to return that to these people we call.”

Legion Family members who performed Buddy Checks last week are urged to share their efforts at www.legiontown.org in the Buddy Checks section.

Chinese fighter jet nearly collides with US bomber over South China Sea

Wyatt Olson/Stars and Stripes | October 27, 2023

A Chinese fighter jet flew within 10 feet of a U.S. bomber over the South China Sea on Tuesday, an “unsafe and “unprofessional” maneuver made all the riskier because it happened at night, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command said in a news release Thursday.

The pilot of the J-11 fighter executed the “unsafe intercept” with a U.S. Air Force B-52 Stratofortress that was conducting routine operations in international airspace over the South China Sea, according to the release.

“During the nighttime intercept, the [Chinese] pilot flew in an unsafe and unprofessional manner, demonstrated poor airmanship by closing with uncontrolled excessive speed, flying below, in front of, and within 10 feet of the B-52, putting both aircraft in danger of collision,” the release said.

In such darkness and low visibility, it is possible the Chinese pilot could not assess how near his aircraft was to the bomber, according to the release.

“We are concerned this pilot was unaware of how close he came to causing a collision,” INDOPACOM said.

The flight route taken by the B-52 was not included in the release, but an undisclosed number of Stratofortresses deployed within the past week to Guam for a routine bomber task force mission.

Tuesday’s intercept was conducted “in a manner contrary to international air safety rules and norms,” the release said. “Military aircraft, when intentionally approaching another, shall operate with professional airmanship and give due regard for the safety of other aircraft.”

The near miss is the latest in a sharp increase in risky behavior by Chinese pilots in the South China Sea, over which Beijing maintains broad claims of sovereignty that are disputed by neighboring nations.

On Oct. 17, the Pentagon released declassified images and videos depicting some of the roughly 180 incidents involving reckless maneuvers by Chinese pilots over the past two years.

“All [this is to try] to interfere in the ability of U.S. forces to operate safely in places where we and every country in the world have every right to be under international law,” Ely Ratner, the Pentagon’s assistant secretary of defense for Indo-Pacific security affairs, told reporters.

In response to the Pentagon’s disclosures, China’s Ministry of National Defense on Wednesday released video purporting to show the U.S. Navy guided-missile destroyer USS Ralph Johnson diverting its course to cross in front of a Chinese warship in the South China Sea on Aug. 19.

“This video proves that it is the US side that is making provocations, taking risks and muddling the water,” Senior Col. Wu Qian, spokesperson for the defense ministry, said at a news conference in Beijing.

“We have much similar video evidence, but I won’t show them today because of time constraints,” he said. INDOPACOM said in its release that the U.S. will continue to “fly, sail, and operate — safely and responsibly — wherever international laws allow.”

“The U.S. Indo-Pacific Command Joint Force remains dedicated to a free and open Indo-Pacific region, and we expect all countries in the Indo-Pacific to operate in international airspace safely and in accordance with international law,” the release said.

2024 SAL Membership Report as of: October 26, 2023

#	DETACHMENT	2024 DET. YEAR END GOAL	NEEDED TO MEET 35% TARGET 11/15/2023	2024 ACTUAL MBRSHP	% OF YEAR END GOAL	2024 RENEWAL %
1	HAWAII	120	-42	84	70.00%	63.87
2	FRANCE	168	-49	108	64.29%	58.18
3	LOUISIANA	1,821	-449	1,086	59.64%	55.00
4	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,611	-338	902	55.99%	48.79
5	WISCONSIN	4,398	-883	2,422	55.07%	50.31
6	GEORGIA	4,887	-945	2,655	54.33%	48.66
7	PUERTO RICO	156	-22	77	49.36%	47.71
8	IDAHO	659	-75	306	46.43%	36.53
9	ILLINOIS	13,716	-1,331	6,132	44.71%	42.67
10	NORTH DAKOTA	1,075	-101	477	44.37%	39.28
11	NORTH CAROLINA	2,770	-260	1,229	44.37%	36.91
12	ALABAMA	2,100	-174	909	43.29%	37.36
13	UTAH	460	-36	197	42.83%	40.72
14	IOWA	4,914	-325	2,045	41.62%	39.14
15	MISSISSIPPI	736	-48	306	41.58%	39.03
16	MONTANA	1,091	-59	441	40.42%	37.50
17	ARKANSAS	406	-9	151	37.19%	28.29
18	WYOMING	1,248	-18	455	36.46%	32.36
19	OREGON	1,534	-16	553	36.05%	28.28
20	FLORIDA	23,066	-138	8,211	35.60%	28.48
21	OKLAHOMA	1,430	-7	507	35.45%	29.70
22	NEVADA	387	-2	137	35.40%	29.01
23	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,570	15	535	34.08%	25.64
24	TEXAS	5,783	69	1,955	33.81%	29.83
25	TENNESSEE	1,792	25	602	33.59%	28.45
26	MINNESOTA	11,435	189	3,813	33.34%	31.03
27	VIRGINIA	4,367	72	1,456	33.34%	27.58
28	MARYLAND	16,803	333	5,548	33.02%	29.26
29	KANSAS	6,055	141	1,978	32.67%	30.03
30	CALIFORNIA	11,292	350	3,602	31.90%	27.20
31	NEBRASKA	6,992	279	2,168	31.01%	29.65
32	MISSOURI	3,337	148	1,020	30.57%	26.45
33	INDIANA	37,244	1,743	11,292	30.32%	27.47
34	LATIN AMERICA	33	2	10	30.30%	12.50
35	VERMONT	3,920	201	1,171	29.87%	27.29
36	CONNECTICUT	1,865	96	557	29.87%	25.33
37	RHODE ISLAND	348	20	102	29.31%	25.00
38	MASSACHUSETTS	5,432	314	1,587	29.22%	26.23
39	NEW JERSEY	9,662	606	2,776	28.73%	25.63
40	NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,027	452	1,657	27.49%	24.95
41	COLORADO	2,952	229	804	27.24%	23.25
42	KENTUCKY	2,399	188	652	27.18%	22.97
43	NEW YORK	30,663	2,535	8,197	26.73%	24.11
44	OHIO	31,690	2,713	8,379	26.44%	23.73
45	ALASKA	1,740	157	452	25.98%	20.59
46	DELAWARE	2,596	269	640	24.65%	19.18
47	MICHIGAN	26,236	2,845	6,338	24.16%	20.17
48	ARIZONA	8,595	1,017	1,991	23.16%	17.98
49	WASHINGTON	2,682	331	608	22.67%	16.57
50	NEW MEXICO	1,582	239	315	19.91%	14.51
51	PENNSYLVANIA	62,746	10,154	11,807	18.82%	16.48
52	WEST VIRGINIA	2,593	425	483	18.63%	14.56
53	MAINE	2,757	741	224	8.12%	6.34
54	PHILIPPINES	79	25	3	3.80%	2.53
55	DIST OF COL	91	30	2	2.20%	1.14
Grand Totals:		382,111	21,625	112,114	29.34%	25.81

2024 SAL Regional Breakdown

Western Region - James R. Fischer, Sr. (CA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
HAWAII	120	84	70.00%
IDAHO	659	306	46.43%
UTAH	460	197	42.83%
MONTANA	1,091	441	40.42%
WYOMING	1,248	455	36.46%
OREGON	1,534	553	36.05%
NEVADA	387	137	35.40%
CALIFORNIA	11,292	3,602	31.90%
LATIN AMERICA	33	10	30.30%
COLORADO	2,952	804	27.24%
ALASKA	1,740	452	25.98%
ARIZONA	8,595	1,991	23.16%
WASHINGTON	2,682	608	22.67%
NEW MEXICO	1,582	315	19.91%
PHILIPPINES	79	3	3.80%
Totals:	34,454	9,958	28.90%

Southeast Region - Linwood A. Moore (VA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
LOUISIANA	1,821	1,086	59.64%
GEORGIA	4,887	2,655	54.33%
PUERTO RICO	156	77	49.36%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,770	1,229	44.37%
ALABAMA	2,100	909	43.29%
MISSISSIPPI	736	306	41.58%
ARKANSAS	406	151	37.19%
FLORIDA	23,066	8,211	35.60%
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,570	535	34.08%
TEXAS	5,783	1,955	33.81%
TENNESSEE	1,792	602	33.59%
VIRGINIA	4,367	1,456	33.34%
Totals:	49,454	19,172	38.77%

Midwest Region - Terry A. Harris (KS)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,611	902	55.99%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,075	477	44.37%
IOWA	4,914	2,045	41.62%
OKLAHOMA	1,430	507	35.45%
KANSAS	6,055	1,978	32.67%
NEBRASKA	6,992	2,168	31.01%
MISSOURI	3,337	1,020	30.57%
Totals:	25,414	9,097	35.80%

Northeast Region - John R. Cook (NH)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
FRANCE	168	108	64.29%
MARYLAND	16,803	5,548	33.02%
VERMONT	3,920	1,171	29.87%
CONNECTICUT	1,865	557	29.87%
RHODE ISLAND	348	102	29.31%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,432	1,587	29.22%
NEW JERSEY	9,662	2,776	28.73%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,027	1,657	27.49%
NEW YORK	30,663	8,197	26.73%
DELAWARE	2,596	640	24.65%
PENNSYLVANIA	62,746	11,807	18.82%
MAINE	2,757	224	8.12%
DIST OF COL	91	2	2.20%
Totals:	143,078	34,376	24.03%

Central Region - Robert L. Bristo (MN)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
WISCONSIN	4,398	2,422	55.07%
ILLINOIS	13,716	6,132	44.71%
MINNESOTA	11,435	3,813	33.34%
INDIANA	37,244	11,292	30.32%
KENTUCKY	2,399	652	27.18%
OHIO	31,690	8,379	26.44%
MICHIGAN	26,236	6,338	24.16%
WEST VIRGINIA	2,593	483	18.63%
Totals:	129,711	39,511	30.46%

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10/26/23		NATIONAL Donald "JR" Hall, Jr. (MD) National Commander						
	Region	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Quota Date	105% Date
1	Southeast 1, 2, 3	49,454	19,172	(30,282)	38.77%	622		
2	Midwest 1, 2, 3	25,414	9,097	(16,317)	35.80%	520		
3	Central 1, 2	129,711	39,511	(90,200)	30.46%	1,456		
4	Western 1, 2	34,454	9,958	(24,496)	28.90%	442		
5	Northeast 1	143,078	34,376	(108,702)	24.03%	2,014		
TOTALS 1, 2		382,111	112,114	(269,997)	29.34%	5,054		

10/26/23		CENTRAL REGION Robert L. Bristo (MN) National Vice-Commander								
	Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date
1	Wisconsin 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	4,398	2,422	(1,976)	55.07%	150	5	50.31%		
2	Illinois 1, 2, 3	13,716	6,132	(7,584)	44.71%	152	9	42.67%		
3	Minnesota 1, 2	11,435	3,813	(7,622)	33.34%	270	26	31.03%		
4	Indiana 1, 2	37,244	11,292	(25,952)	30.32%	400	33	27.47%		
5	Kentucky 1	2,399	652	(1,747)	27.18%	86	42	22.97%		
6	Ohio 1	31,690	8,379	(23,311)	26.44%	143	44	23.73%		
7	Michigan 1	26,236	6,338	(19,898)	24.16%	253	47	20.17%		
8	West Virginia 1	2,593	483	(2,110)	18.63%	2	52	14.56%		
TOTALS 1, 2		129,711	39,511	(90,200)	30.46%	1,456				

10/26/23		WESTERN REGION James A. Fischer Sr. (CA) National Vice-Commander								
	Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date
1	Hawaii 1, 2, 3, 5	120	84	(36)	70.00%	-	1	63.87%		
2	Idaho 1, 2, 3, 4	659	306	(353)	46.43%	1	8	36.53%		
3	Utah 1, 2, 3	460	197	(263)	42.83%	-	13	40.72%		
4	Montana 1, 2, 3	1,091	441	(650)	40.42%	-	16	37.50%		
5	Wyoming 1, 2, 3	1,248	455	(793)	36.46%	8	18	32.38%		
6	Oregon 1, 2, 3	1,534	553	(981)	36.05%	34	19	28.28%		
7	Nevada 1, 2, 3	387	137	(250)	35.40%	14	22	29.01%		
8	California 1, 2	11,292	3,602	(7,690)	31.90%	141	30	27.20%		
9	Latin America	33	10	(23)	30.30%	-	34	12.50%		
10	Colorado 1	2,952	804	(2,148)	27.24%	21	41	23.25%		
11	Alaska	1,740	452	(1,288)	25.98%	10	45	20.59%		
12	Arizona 1	8,595	1,991	(6,604)	23.16%	109	48	17.98%		
13	Washington	2,682	608	(2,074)	22.67%	29	49	16.57%		
14	New Mexico	1,582	315	(1,267)	19.91%	75	50	14.51%		
15	Philippines	79	3	(76)	3.80%	-	54	2.53%		
TOTALS 1, 2		34,454	9,958	(24,496)	28.90%	442				

10/26/23		SOUTHEAST REGION Linwood A. Moore (VA) National Vice-Commander								
	Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date
1	Louisiana 1, 2, 3, 4	1,821	1,086	(735)	59.64%	74	3	55.00%		
2	Georgia 1, 2, 3, 4	4,887	2,655	(2,232)	54.33%	(1)	6	48.66%		
3	Puerto Rico 1, 2, 3, 4	156	77	(79)	49.36%	-	7	47.71%		
4	North Carolina 1, 2, 3	2,770	1,229	(1,541)	44.37%	36	11	36.91%		
5	Alabama 1, 2, 3	2,100	909	(1,191)	43.29%	10	12	37.36%		
6	Mississippi 1, 2, 3	736	306	(430)	41.58%	-	15	39.03%		
7	Arkansas 1, 2, 3	406	151	(255)	37.19%	28	17	28.29%		
8	Florida 1, 2, 3	23,066	8,211	(14,855)	35.60%	295	20	28.48%		
9	South Carolina 1, 2	1,570	535	(1,035)	34.08%	23	23	25.64%		
10	Texas 1, 2	5,783	1,955	(3,828)	33.81%	51	24	29.83%		
12	Tennessee 1, 2	1,792	602	(1,190)	33.59%	32	25	28.45%		
13	Virginia 1, 2	4,367	1,456	(2,911)	33.34%	74	27	27.58%		
TOTALS 1, 2, 3		49,454	19,172	(30,282)	38.77%	622				

10/26/23		MIDWEST REGION Terry A. Harris (KS) National Vice-Commander								
	Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date
1	South Dakota 1, 2, 3, 4	1,611	902	(709)	55.99%	17	4	48.79%		
2	North Dakota 1, 2, 3	1,075	477	(598)	44.37%	34	10	39.28%		
3	Iowa 1, 2, 3	4,914	2,045	(2,869)	41.62%	87	14	39.14%		
4	Oklahoma 1, 2, 3	1,430	507	(923)	35.45%	51	21	29.70%		
5	Kansas 1, 2	6,055	1,978	(4,077)	32.67%	76	29	30.03%		
6	Nebraska 1, 2	6,992	2,168	(4,824)	31.01%	208	31	29.65%		
7	Missouri 1, 2	3,337	1,020	(2,317)	30.57%	47	32	26.45%		
TOTALS 1, 2, 3		25,414	9,097	(16,317)	35.80%	520				

10/26/23		NORTHEAST REGION John R. Cook (NH) National Vice-Commander								
	Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date
1	France 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	168	108	(60)	64.29%	(3)	2	58.18%		
2	Maryland 1, 2	16,803	5,548	(11,255)	33.02%	345	28	29.26%		
3	Vermont 1, 2	3,920	1,171	(2,749)	29.87%	96	35	27.29%		
4	Connecticut 1, 2	1,865	557	(1,308)	29.87%	-	36	25.33%		
5	Rhode Island 1, 2	348	102	(246)	29.31%	-	37	25.00%		
6	Massachusetts 1	5,432	1,587	(3,845)	29.22%	144	38	26.23%		
7	New Jersey 1, 2	9,662	2,776	(6,886)	28.73%	21	39	25.63%		
8	New Hampshire 1, 2	6,027	1,657	(4,370)	27.49%	72	40	24.95%		
9	New York 1	30,663	8,197	(22,466)	26.73%	287	43	24.11%		
10	Delaware 1	2,596	640	(1,956)	24.65%	27	46	19.18%		
11	Pennsylvania	62,746	11,807	(50,939)	18.82%	1,025	51	16.48%		
12	Maine	2,757	224	(2,533)	8.12%	-	53	6.34%		
13	Dist. of Columbia	91	2	(89)	2.20%	-	55	1.14%		
TOTALS 1		143,078	34,376	(108,702)	24.03%	2,014				

10/28/23		2023 SUPER SIX STANDINGS								
	Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date
1	Florida 1, 2, 3	23,066	8,211	(14,855)	35.60%	295	20	28.48%		
2	Indiana 1, 2	37,244	11,292	(25,952)	30.32%	400	33	27.47%		
3	New York 1	30,663	8,197	(22,466)	26.73%	287	43	24.11%		
4	Ohio 1	31,690	8,379	(23,311)	26.44%	143	44	23.73%		
5	Michigan 1	26,236	6,338	(19,898)	24.16%	253	47	20.17%		
6	Pennsylvania	62,746	11,807	(50,939)	18.82%	1,025	51	16.48%		
TOTALS		211,645	54,224	(157,421)	25.62%	2,403				

National Totals 1, 2	382,111	112,114	(269,997)	29.34%	5,054		25.81%		
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2024 National Membership Target Dates			
1 September 13, 2023	10%	6 ♥ February 14, 2024 ♥	75%
2 October 18, 2023	25%	7 March 13, 2024	80%
3 November 15, 2023	35%	8 April 10, 2024	90%
4 December 13, 2023	45%	9 May 15, 2024	100%
5 January 18, 2024	60%	10 July 24, (DSTG)	105%