

MCON meshes military culture, festive celebration

The American Legion | October 27, 2023



The American Legion is a founding partner of MCON, which debuts over Veterans Day weekend in Las Vegas.

Just what is MCON?

It's a bit of Comicon, Shot Show and military culture all wrapped up into a festival-like atmosphere that brings the military community together for an epic celebration. [The first MCON](#) will be held Nov. 10-12 at the Expo World Market Center in Las Vegas.

American Legion member Waco Hoover is among the founders of MCON. Hoover oversees the strategy for the Be the One initiative, which will have a prominent spot at the event.

"This is the start of creating something that will be the pre-eminent event celebrating military culture each year," Hoover says. "It's really exciting to merge the legacy of a 104-year-old organization with the promise of creating something to engage the younger generation of America's veterans."

Each day will feature various speakers, physical activities, and other experiences for today's veterans, servicemembers and their families. One session will feature a panel discussion focused on The American Legion's [Be the One mission](#) to reduce the number of veterans who die by suicide.

Other scheduled speakers include:

- Chris Earl, a Marine Corps veteran, and CEO of Regiment Gaming will give a presentation on gaming, community, and mental health.
- American Legion Be the One podcast host and Marine Corps veteran Amy Forsythe and Army veteran Phyllis Wilson, president of the Women's Military Memorial, will discuss "Women at War: Why it Matters."
- Sebastian Junger, author of "Tribe" and an award-winning documentary filmmaker, will give a presentation entitled "Coming Back from War."
- Dr. Tiffany Tajiri, Air Force veteran and founder of Freedom Rhythm, will discuss emerging research and findings in human performance with epigenetics.
- A presentation on therapeutics features Red-Dot CEO Michal Bumann; Dr. Mark Seelig, a lead therapist trainer at the Usona Institute and Transcend Therapeutics; and Coast Guard veteran Ryan Scalmanini. They will discuss how veterans and first responder psychedelic medicine groups are creating communities.

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

As you read last week, the national organization has a new monthly, printable newsletter, called *The Millennium*. The first edition was sent out as part of an email with related SAL information. If you have not received *The Millennium*, you can view it [here](#).

In order for this new publication to be successful, it will take work from a lot of people, including national elected and appointed officers, as well as commission and committee chairmen. Here is the schedule that has been requested for information to be submitted:

The national commander will have the opportunity to contribute as often or infrequently as desired. The commander's schedule may dictate when reports can be made.

National vice-commanders will report as follows:

- Northeast each September and March
- Western each October and April
- Midwest each November and May
- Southeastern each December and June
- Central each January and July

Commissions and committees will make reports in opposite months throughout the administrative year, with commissions reporting in odd months, and committees in even months.

Subcommittees, ad hoc committees, and special committees will report at least two (2) times per administrative year at their convenience and as information warrants.

The national adjutant, national chaplain, national historian, national sergeant-at-arms, national parliamentarian, etc. will report at least two (2) times per administrative year at their convenience and as information warrants.

All submissions must be received by noon on the twentieth of each month.

The new national newsletter will have a wider distribution than *Round-Up* has and will provide information not only from the national level but will include a section for younger members and information on what our squadrons are doing in their communities.

Please support our new newsletter, *The Millennium*, by sending your information to [the editor](#).

Honor the Veteran Who Made You Eligible.

RENEW TODAY!

Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

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

click a button below for more information



*Thank you to our
Round-Up sponsors*

Juan Cruz Rodriguez, Department of Puerto Rico



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

So, what did Betty the horse dress up as on Halloween??? - - - a nightmare! (Yes, I'm here all week!)

What can feel like a nightmare? Working membership of course. We are getting to that stage in the year when membership turn in slows down and gets harder to collect. We are all getting ready for the upcoming holidays and yes, Membership **IS** work! You must keep at it!

Confucious said, "**The man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones**" Membership is no different. Small gains every day **WILL** lead to great success! Nationally we are running approximately 25,000 members ahead of where we were last year at this same time. Let's keep our momentum going and get to all of our goal dates that much faster! If you look at past winners of our recruitment awards, how did they earn those? Were they just handing them out? No! **The man on the top of the mountain didn't fall there**, he had to walk and earn every step along the way. That is what we must continue to do for our membership! **Keep up with our Buddy Checks and keep those cards coming in!**

(Pssst... The more cards we get turned in, the less you'll see my dad jokes! **What do you call a Witch at the Beach?? - - - A Sand-Witch!** lol, I crack myself up!)

Keep the cards coming my brothers! You only have three choices, **Give Up, Give In, or Give it your ALL you've Got!**

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!

"People often say that motivation doesn't last. Well, neither does bathing—that's why we recommend it daily" Zig Ziglar. Thank you Zig for the quote and a big thank you to the Western Region for all your efforts and everything you do. Truly can't thank you enough.

The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary.

Start by doing what is necessary. Then do what is possible and suddenly you are doing the Impossible!

BOOM!

I hope everyone is having a great week and will have a better weekend. Western region improved by 1.48% currently at 31.22% total from last report. Awesome job in a couple days all! We are currently 4th in the nation and right behind Central Region by 1.25%. Our goal is to be at 35% by 11/15/23, we have two more weeks. Great job to the detachments who are already there. Hawaii at 70.00%, Montana at 48.95%, Idaho at 47.19%, Utah at 43.04%, Nevada at 42.12%, Oregon at 38.27%, Wyoming at 37.42% and California at

35.17%. Coming on strong is Latin America at 30.30%, Colorado at 29.30%, Alaska at 26.90%, Washington at 25.50%, Arizona at 24.37%, New Mexico at 19.91%, and Philippines at 3.80%.

Membership is not about belonging to a group, but about being a part of something greater than yourself.

Thanks again for all you do for this great organization.

"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

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



**NOVEMBER IS
NATIONAL
RENEWAL
MONTH
RENEW TODAY!**

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.

Missouri Legionnaires make Be the One a regular occurrence during annual meetings

The American Legion | November 2, 2023

In the past few years, The American Legion Department of Missouri has provided suicide-prevention training during both its Fall and Spring Conferences, and its department convention. And momentum for the training has picked up as The American Legion has made its [Be the One](#) veteran suicide awareness program its top priority.

The department recently completed another round of training during its Fall Conference in Jefferson City, teaming with the Missouri Department of Mental Health's [Missouri Veterans Suicide Prevention Team](#) to do so.

Department of Missouri Adjutant Lowry Finley-Jackson was able to attend the training for the first time and came away impressed.



Department Adjutant Lowry Finley-Jackson and Kansas National Executive Committeeman Dan Wiley at Missouri's Fall Conference.

"It was really good," Finley-Jackson said of the training. "And at future conventions, instead of doing this as a stand-alone class, we're going to do it in front of the entire body. We're going to have (Missouri Department of Mental Health Veterans Services

Director) Jon Sabala come out and do the training first thing in the morning on that Friday of the convention, so that anyone who is there will get the training."

Participants in the training are taught to recognize the warning signs of suicide, as well as how to offer help and get help for those who may be contemplating taking their own life. The training is open to the public, not just members of The American Legion.

But the training isn't just available to those who attend any of the department's three major meetings. "We offer (suicide-prevention) classes at each of our conferences and our convention," Finley-Jackson. "And then the guys from the Department of Mental Health will go out to American Legion posts ... and provide training there."

Finley-Jackson also noted the Missouri American Legion and other veteran service organizations, state agencies and the Missouri National Guard have teamed with the Missouri Department of Mental Health on Buddy Check 22 Day. Legislation was passed in the state in August 2020 establishing the 22nd day of each month as "Buddy Check 22 Day" to promote education and awareness of the problems of suicide facing military personnel.

And Finley-Jackson said Sabala has begun incorporating the Legion's Be the One program into his talking points during the training, "that the national American Legion is already on top of this with Be the One." And she feels that Missouri Legionnaires have become even more engaged in being proactive in suicide prevention since Be the One was launched.

"They want to prevent any suicide they can, they really do," she said. "We've had a few people within our department that have experienced it. They're leading the charge to get this done."

Peer-to-peer program helps Oklahoma post Be the One in its community

The American Legion | October 31, 2023

Oklahoma Legionnaire George Shafer has been in a dark place before, one so dark he contemplated taking his own life.

But he did not, and now the U.S. Army retiree is spreading the message of The American Legion's Be the One mission in his community through a new peer-support program.

The chaplain at Lebron Post 58 in the small city of Guthrie, Shafer is heading up the post's peer-to-peer (P2P) support program that happens the first and third Monday of each month and could expand to even more often in 2024.

Shafer draws on his own experience when trying to help others who may be headed in the same direction as he once was.



"I'm a veteran with PTSD, and I suffered my own suicidal episode 10 years ago," Shafer said. "Thankfully, my wife came home, she found me. I spent two months in treatment. I've experienced the stigma and experienced the process of recovery. I'm now 10 years clean and sober, drugs and alcohol."

"I almost was one of the (daily veteran suicides). And that has been a passion of mine. Having the opportunity to pursue that passion is what really led me to my own participation (in Post 58's program)."

Shafer said the post already was looking for a way to implement Be the One into the post's programs. A meeting with the Legion's top officer at the time and then the election of a new one helped cement their plan.

"Collectively as the officers of the post, we had been putting our heads together to do something for our community to offset the national suicide rate," Shafer said. "For about three or four months we were in the planning stage trying to incorporate the national Be the One campaign. When Commander Troiola came into town, we were able to run it past him and got some input from him on it. And when (current National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer) took over, and he doubled down on Be the One, that's when we made the connection and said, 'OK, this is going to be around for a bit. Why don't we make this our post effort for the Be the One campaign?'"

The first P2P session started in September. A committee oversees the P2P program, which has been attended by eight to 10 veterans on average. Shafer said all veterans are welcome, whether they are members of the post or not.

The program is centered around peer-to-peer support, with Shafer serving as the moderator. "I will have a topic in mind," Shafer said. "We start off, we introduce one another, I say a little spiel about whatever was on my heart that week. And then from that point, the group takes it from there, and it goes off into some really personal stuff."

"Initially when we started the program, it was once a month. The consensus from the group was needed more often than once a month. We've gone to twice a month now, with hopes after the end of the calendar year to go to once a week."

Shafer said the P2P program has created a ripple within both the participants and the post. "The feedback for the individuals that participate in the group has been far greater than I anticipated," he said. "And it has sparked a fire in a lot of our members. We've gotten tons of input and tons of interest. It's been a passion project for our officers and our members at our post."

Post 58 Adjutant Kim Vincent praised Shafer for his part in the program, saying, "George is an asset to our post, and we are very fortunate and blessed to have his expertise and experience in this area."

National Commissions and Committees

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

Americanism Commission

Chris Casey, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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

Christopher Michel, 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, 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

2024 IS NOW
SONS OF THE
 **AMERICAN**
LEGION
RENEW TODAY!!!

Member Training & Development Committee

Michael Cotton, 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 & Squadron Activities Committee

Daryl VerStreate Jr., 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](#).

2023 SAL Membership Info

as of 11/02/2023

Total Actual Membership	378,798
Percentage of goal	102.99%
Renewal Percentage	88.92%
Detachments at 100%	43



**RENEW
ONLINE
TODAY**

National Convention Committee

Christopher Byrd, 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, 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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Larry Taylor's daring Cobra rescue, convention coverage and more in November magazine

The American Legion | November 1, 2023

The November issue of *The American Legion Magazine* is now online, with a full recap of the Legion's 104th National Convention, and features on Medal of Honor recipient Larry Taylor, Alex Palou's spectacular INDYCAR season in the No. 10 American Legion Honda and declining ASVAB scores' effect on military recruitment. The clickable digi-mag is available through [MyLegion.org](https://mylegion.org).

- Vietnam War Army veteran Ralph Hill tells how his long-range reconnaissance patrol (LRP) team, surrounded by North Vietnamese forces, was saved from certain death by Cobra helicopter pilot Larry Taylor the night of June 18, 1968. In September, Taylor received the Medal of Honor for his daring rescue, and is the third recipient of the nation's most prestigious military decoration from American Legion Post 14 in Chattanooga, Tenn. "He's always had a kind of 'aw shucks' attitude about it, but what he did was above and beyond the call of duty, and certainly at the risk of his own life," Hill says.
- In "Tested," Steve Beynon explains how declining academic performance nationwide is adding to the military's difficulty filling the ranks. "Roughly a decade ago, two-thirds of applicants could pass the ASVAB; now it's about one-third," he writes. "With the Army, roughly 70% of all applicants drop out of the enlistment process around the time they take a practice ASVAB, service data shows."
- Read and [watch](#) highlights from the Legion's 104th National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., including a personal and powerful fireside chat about veteran suicide prevention, the inaugural Be the One symposium, a Q&A with Yankees legend and Legion "Good Guy" Bobby Richardson, a record-breaking Legacy Run, remarks from distinguished military and government officials, award winners and much more.
- Winning his second INDYCAR championship in three years, Chip Ganassi Racing's Alex Palou is proud to race for a cause with The American Legion and its Be the One mission. "I think we're raising awareness of the issue (of veteran suicide)," says Palou, who drove the No. 10 American



Legion Honda in 12 races. "It all starts by asking our veterans if they need help. You can be the one to save a veteran's life today."

Members can click [here](#) to access the digital magazine.

To join The American Legion and enjoy monthly digital issues of *The American Legion Magazine*, visit legion.org/join.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

Bruno Williamson, 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

Vets Town Hall being held at National Veterans Memorial and Museum on Nov. 10

[WSYX staff](#) | November 2, 2023

COLUMBUS, Ohio (WSYX) — Journalist and filmmaker Sebastian Junger and the [National Veterans Memorial and Museum](#) are holding a town hall for everyone to hear the experiences of service members as Veterans Day nears.

Junger, author of several books including *Tribe* and director of the documentary *Restrepo*, founded Vets Town Hall as a way for service members to connect with each other and be heard by each other and the community.

The non-political event allows veterans of any era who served in any capacity to speak before their community.

Those interested in speaking can [learn more here](#). The event is free to attend, and snacks will be provided. Vets Town Hall starts at 10 a.m. on Nov. 10.

Later that day at 6 p.m., Junger will speak more about his time as a war correspondent embedded with U.S. troops in Afghanistan as well as covering the aftermath of war and returning home.



Tickets are \$25-\$45. [Learn more here.](#)

[On Veterans Day](#), Jay Anderson, U.S. Navy Veteran, and chief operating officer at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, will speak at the NVMM's ceremony at 11 a.m.

The [event is free for everyone and will be streamed online](#). Admission will also be free that day.

VA launches \$1 million AI tech competition to reduce health-care worker burnout

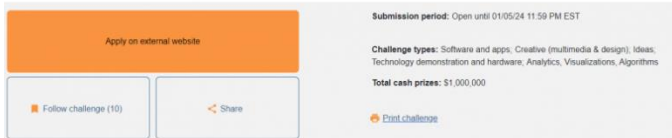
The American Legion | October 31, 2023

The Department of Veterans Affairs has launched an Artificial Intelligence Tech Sprint encouraging innovators across America to create AI-enabled tools to reduce burnout among health-care workers. The winning solutions will help clinicians take notes during medical appointments and/or integrate patients' medical records, with the winning teams receiving \$1 million in total prizes.



AI Tech Sprint for Documenting VA Clinical Encounters and Integrating Community Care Data

Collaborate to enhance patient experience and reduce healthcare worker burden via AI tools



Reducing burnout among health care workers is a top priority for VA, especially at a time when VA is delivering more care and more benefits to more Veterans

than ever before. This effort is a part of [President Biden's new executive order on Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence](#) and VA's efforts to use [trustworthy AI solutions](#) to improve health care and benefits for veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors.

"AI solutions can help us reduce the time that clinicians spend on non-clinical work, which will get our teams doing more of what they love most: caring for Veterans," said VA Under Secretary for Health Sherree Elnahal. "This effort will reduce burnout among our clinicians and improve veteran health care at the same time."

This sprint is just one aspect of VA's comprehensive efforts to reduce burnout among health care workers. Last year, VA launched the [Reduce Employee Burnout and Optimize Organizational Thriving](#) (REBOOT) initiative to address major factors contributing to burnout and to promote wellbeing among employees. Additionally, VA is hiring employees at [record rates](#) to ensure that health care workers have the support they need. These efforts have led to a 20% decrease in turnover rate among Veterans Health Administration employees from 2022 to 2023.

Proposals for the AI Tech Sprint should seek to address one or more of the two focus areas: speech-to-text solutions for use in medical appointments, and document processing to reduce the time needed to integrate non-VA medical records into patients' VA record.

Innovators interested in applying for the AI Tech Sprint can do so on the [AI Tech Sprint website](#).

Veterans Employment & Education Commission

Jim Coates, 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



Lisa Williamson,
National President
The American Legion Auxiliary

Sports



Seager adds 2nd World Series MVP to trophy case

The American Legion | November 2, 2023

Corey Seager's timely hits earned him World Series MVP honors as the Texas Rangers won their first championship — and put him in some rare territory when it comes to American Legion Baseball alumni.

Seager became just the third World Series MVP — and first since 1968 — to win that award in the same year he was recognized as [American Legion Baseball Graduate of the Year](#). Seager, who played American Legion Baseball for Post 115 in Kannapolis, N.C., officially received the Graduate of the Year Award before the Rangers' game against the Los Angeles Angels on Aug. 16. That was the day after League City (Texas) Post 554 [became the first team from Texas](#) to ever win the American Legion World Series.

Most of that League City team was [also on hand](#) for what turned out to be the Rangers' only loss of the 2023 World Series, a 9-1 Arizona Diamondbacks victory.

Seager joins Frank Robinson (Post 237/Pleasanton, Calif.) and Mickey Lolich (Post 102/Portland, Ore.) as major leaguers to win Graduate of the Year and World Series MVP in the same calendar year. Robinson was World Series MVP in 1966 as he led Baltimore to a sweep of the Dodgers, while Lolich was World Series MVP in 1968 as the last pitcher with three complete games in a World Series, helping Detroit rally from a 3-1 series deficit to win the title.

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

This is Seager's second World Series MVP after winning it with the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2020. He's just the fourth player to win multiple World Series MVP awards and just the second to do so with different teams.

Hall of Famers Sandy Koufax, Bob Gibson and Reggie Jackson also each won two World Series MVP awards — Koufax with the Dodgers in 1963 and 1965, Gibson with the Cardinals in 1964 and 1967, and Jackson with the A's in 1973 and the Yankees in 1977.

Gibson (Omaha, Neb.) and Jackson (Pennsylvania) also played Legion Baseball.

Seager finished the 2023 World Series batting .286 (6-of-21) with three home runs, a double, three walks, six RBIs and six runs scored. His two-run home run in the bottom of the ninth inning tied Game 1, which Texas went on to win in extra innings, and he hit another two-run homer in the Rangers' 3-1 win in Game 3.

And in the Game 5 clincher, Seager broke up Zac Gallen's no-hitter with a leadoff single in the seventh inning and scored the game's first run on a single by Mitch Garver as Texas closed out the series with a 5-0 win.

Seager is also a Gold Glove Award finalist; those winners will be announced Nov. 5. He's also a Silver Slugger Award finalist; winners will be announced Nov. 9.

Air Force looking to clinch Commander-in-Chief's Trophy

John Chuhran | November 3, 2023

Rarely does a college football game in the middle of the season mean everything, but Saturday's contest between the Air Force and Army is an exception.

A victory by Air Force in the matchup at Empower Field at Mile High (2:30 p.m. ET, CBS Sports Network) would secure a second consecutive Commander-In-Chief's (CIC) Trophy for the Falcons (8-0 and ranked 17th in both the USA Today coaches' poll and the Associated Press media poll), who defeated Navy 17-6 on Oct. 21.

A win by Army (2-6) would put the Black Knights in position to claim the trophy for the next year, if they can also defeat Navy on Dec. 9. In the event of a three-way tie, the Air Force would retain the trophy.

Since the CIC Trophy was created in 1972, the Air Force has won it 21 times, followed by Navy (16) and Army (9). There have been 5 ties.

The game was scheduled for the Denver facility instead of Falcons Stadium in Colorado Springs, which is undergoing renovation with seating now limited to about 38,000 fans.

If the Air Force can run the table, the Falcons would be the first service academy team to go undefeated since the 1949 squad from West Point that went 9-0.

"These games against the (other) service academies are just so intense," said Air Force head coach Troy Calhoun, now in his 17th year leading the Falcons. "Because we use similar offenses, they tend to be really close games. So, there's some things in practice we try to resemble – where guys align, certain route combinations. But there are other things, like certain moves they may have as ball carriers, that you can't replicate. You have to see those things in a game to get a good sense of how they play. That's hard to produce in practice.

"In a much bigger picture, I think the feelings of respect that comes to the forefront in these games is seen in why we have service academies. You don't get that feeling when you play anybody else."

If the Falcons win, it will probably be because of the run. The Falcons again have the top rushing attack in the country (300.4 yards per game) and the second-best rushing defense, yielding only 65.8 ypg. Falcons' RB Emmanuel Michel leads the team with 696 rushing yards and nine rushing TDs.



The grind-it-out running game has also helped Air Force to top the nation in time of possession – 34:31 per game. Senior quarterback Zac Larrier has combined cool, poised leadership with balanced and accurate athleticism (533 yards rushing, 651 yards passing) to direct the Falcons' attack.

"In the last few years, they've changed some rules (primarily about cut blocking)," Calhoun said, "so we altered our approach. For a long time, we relied heavily on zone runs, interior gap-blocking schemes, so it's made us change some things on the perimeter. Army's really, really talented. You look at their skill positions and see how many points they scored at San Antonio (a 37-29 Army win over UTSA on Sept. 15) against a really, really strong program there, that's quite the indicator. They had the lead against Boston College and Syracuse at the Dome, well, that just shows you how capable they are."

Army is rebuilding and has placed a greater emphasis on passing (averaging 132.6 ypg) and using a shotgun alignment than in the past. In last week's 21-14 loss to Massachusetts, the Black Knights started four freshmen on offense: quarterback Champ Harris, fullback Kayne Udoh (who has rushed for 308 yards over the last 3 games), center Brady Small and wide receiver Tobi Olawole.

“It’s a great rivalry and it’s always been a really tough fight,” said Army head coach Jeff Monken. “Going back to 2016, they’ve been really close football games – mostly one-score games. Every one of these academy games are like that – close, hard-fought battles.

“Air Force is a great football team. They’re just so impressive with how well they run the ball and how well they stop the run. They have a lot of good senior players and that’s what they do – they find a way to win. Our players are fired up, their players are fired up and that’s what makes it such a great rivalry. We’re going to have to play really well and minimize our mistakes if we’re going to give ourselves a chance to win.”

ALWS champs share love of baseball with Dallas youth

[Andy Proffet](#) | October 30, 2023

Noah Ferraro has worked at baseball camps before. But for him and his teammates from the 2023 American Legion World Series champions, their participation in a Play Ball event in Dallas on Oct. 28 was a special experience.

“I remember when I was a kid, I didn’t really have these events,” Ferraro said. “Baseball is a beautiful sport; I wish I had it when I was their age. I think it’s really beneficial to them.”

The ALWS champs from League City (Tex.) Post 554 and others, including several former major league players, visited the Texas Rangers Youth Academy to work with a group of seven- to 10-year-olds from around the area. The [Play Ball](#) clinic is aimed at increasing participation in baseball.

“Mostly just been having fun (with the kids), playing some T-ball, but I think they’re starting to understand the fact that they need to hustle, above all else that’s what it is,” Ferraro said. “I think we’re teaching hustle and heart; I think that’s a good thing to learn.”

“I’ve been walking around watching the boys and they’re interacting with the younger kids; it’s something for them to give back to the community and letting them work with kids younger than them and having that knowledge to pass on. It’s great, I love it. Enjoying everything I’m seeing in there,” said League City coach Ronnie Oliver.

In addition to the Post 554 players, those helping with the clinic included other youth baseball players and former major leaguers Nick Swisher, Dexter Fowler,

Michael Bourn, Dellin Betances and Derek Holland, as well as former softball star Jennie Finch.

With the event taking place in Texas in conjunction with the World Series, the experience took on added importance to the Post 554 team.

“I think it’s really beneficial to show everybody how we run here in Texas. We care about others, we love each other. I think that gets overshadowed a lot,” Ferraro said. “I’m glad we can show people we support each other very much.”

A handful of players were unable to make the trip because of college baseball obligations. But those who were able to come appreciated the opportunity to reunite.

“It’s been real good the last day and a half that these boys have been able to get back together, rehash a little bit of what went on and enjoy each other’s company. One thing we really like and develop in our program is, 10 years from now, 20 years from now, these boys will be together ... they become friends for life, and it shows,” Oliver said.

The team rode a bus from League City to their hotel in Arlington on Friday, an experience Ferraro appreciated.

“It’s just so calm and chill; we don’t even have to talk to each other. We’re all together. ... We’ve got each other’s back no matter what,” he said.

The team also attended Saturday night’s Game 2 of the World Series as guests of Major League Baseball and were recognized on the scoreboard after the sixth inning of Arizona’s 9-1 win over the Texas Rangers.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



TROOPS continued from page 1

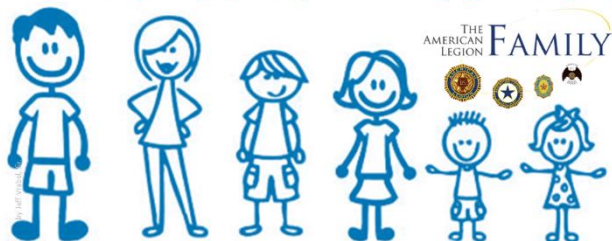
U.S. military bases throughout the Middle East continue to see drone and missile attacks from militant groups. Since Oct. 17, there have been 16 missile or drone attacks on American bases – 12 in Iraq and 4 in Syria, where U.S. and coalition forces are fighting terrorist groups such as the Islamic State,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

OUR FAMILY IS PART OF THE FAMILY!



Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

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

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

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

E-mail Address _____ Telephone _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

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

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

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

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

Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant)

00-001 (2013)

RECEIPT

Date _____

Received of _____

For God and Country _____

\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in

Squadron _____, Detachment of _____

By _____



Squadron Everlasting

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

Gerald Wayne Kirby



Gerald Wayne "Butch" Kirby, 70, passed away unexpectedly at his home in Ekin, Ind., on Monday afternoon, October 23, 2023. Born November 18, 1952, in Tipton, Ind., he was the son of the late Donald Paul Kirby and Betty Jane (Mossburg) Kirby-Egler.

He was a 1971 graduate of Sheridan High School and had wonderful memories from his years in their FFA program.

There was no one quite like Butch Kirby. A lifetime farmer and the driving force behind Kirby Farms, Inc., Butch lived his life doing what he loved. Farming was in his blood. He loved getting out in the fields, but the pride and joy of his operation was his herd of buffalo. Raising them was definitely a labor of love and seeing people stopping alongside the road to watch them out in the pasture never got old.

Farming wasn't his only love. A Harley man through and through, there was never a bad time to go for a ride. Butch always looked forward to his trips out to Sturgis and never missed a chance to go on a benefit ride. He was a charter member of the Cicero American Legion Riders, as well as a member of the Cicero Post 341 Sons of the American Legion and Legion Auxiliary. He enjoyed following NASCAR and loved it when a race was close enough for him to get to the track. Watching on TV was fun, but being right there in the middle of things was how he preferred it.

Butch was a gentle giant who never met a stranger. He was always willing to help those in need and would gladly give anybody the shirt off his back (although the sleeves would probably have been torn off). A jokester at heart, Butch could find the humor in just about any situation, and more than likely, a good story or two to go along with it.

Family was everything to Butch, and if you were in his circle, you were family, too. He did things his way, and on his terms, and brought as many people as he could along for the ride.

Butch is survived by his daughters, Brooke Amber Kirby of Arcadia, and Gwynne Nicole Kirby of Noblesville; his grandson, Zachary Alon Wayne Kirby; nieces, Mindi Cheek (Travis) of Frankfort and Michelle Ramsey (Brett) of Reynolds; nephew, Brant West (Paige) of Lebanon; and his brother-in-law, Phillip R. West of Lebanon.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Donald Paul Kirby, and Betty Jane (Mossburg) Kirby-Egler; brother, Ronald Allen Kirby; and his sister, Juanita West.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, November 3, 2023, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th St., Sheridan. Burial will follow at Crown View Cemetery in Sheridan. Pastor Jody Brown will be officiating. Visitation will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, November 2, 2023, at Kercheval Funeral Home.

Condolences: kerchevalfuneralhome.com.

Michael John Cleveland



BELMONT — Michael John Cleveland, 52, of Baron Drive, died unexpectedly on Friday, Oct. 27, 2023, at Concord Hospital-Laconia.

Michael was born on July 1, 1971, in Laconia, the son of William Cleveland and Patricia (Moulton) Cleveland. He graduated from Laconia High School in 1989 and resided in the Lakes Region most of his life.

Mike was currently employed at the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council in Concord as a maintenance mechanic. He also worked alongside his brother Chris at CAC Construction and Madeira USA several years prior. Mike was a member of the Laconia Elks Lodge and the Sons of the American Legion Post 1. Passionate about the outdoors, Mike enjoyed fishing, golf, billiards, trips to the

ocean, north to Pittsburg and Jeep rides with Sadi and Kobe.

Mikey will forever be remembered as a wonderful, smart, kind, loving son with a big heart. He had and made so many great friends along the way and was always very close to his family.

Thank God for all the precious memories and great times we have had with him. He will be in our hearts forever.

Mike is survived by his loving wife, Sadi-lyn (Shumway) Cleveland and their spoiled German Shepard, Kobe. In addition to his parents, Patricia, and Bill Cleveland, he also leaves behind his brother, Chris Cleveland and his fiancée, Shannon Day; nephew, Tyler Cleveland; niece, Kayla Bertolino (John) and great-nephew Elijah; aunt, Donna Lacoste; uncles, Gary Moulton and Ted Moulton Jr.; and many cousins. He was predeceased by his uncle, Danny Moulton, and grandfather, Ted Moulton, whom he was very close with.

Calling hours will be held on Friday, Nov. 3, 2023, from 3 to 5 p.m., in the Carriage House at Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia, with a funeral service following at 5 p.m. also at the funeral home.

A celebration of life will continue after the service at the Laconia Elks Lodge, 17 Sugarbush Lane, Gilford, where there will be time for stories and refreshments.

Burial will be held on a later date at Park Cemetery, West Main Street, Tilton.

In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated in Mike's name to Darbster Rescue in Chichester, darbsterfoundation.com/donate, or to the NH Humane Society, P.O. Box 572, Laconia, NH 03247, as he had such a love for dogs.

Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home and Cremation Services/603Cremations.com, Laconia, is assisting the family with arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial, visit wilkinson-beane.com.



Martin Wayne Campbell



Martin "Marty" Wayne Campbell, 70, of Bellaire, Ohio, passed away peacefully on Sunday, Octo-

ber 29, 2023, at Meadows of Cadiz (formerly Carriage Inn) having Alzheimer's/Dementia for many years. Marty was born September 15, 1953, in Bellaire, Ohio, son of the late Lawrence "Crickeye" and Minnie (Williams) Campbell.

He attended Bellaire High School, graduating with the class of 1971. He was a retired Coalminer with Consol No. 4 mine and a member of the United Mine Workers Union. Marty was also a member of the Sons of the American Legion, Post 52, the V.F.W. Auxiliary #626, Bellaire, OH.

He enjoyed golfing, hunting, fishing and boating on his houseboat at Piedmont Lake and was a member of the Hazelwood Boat Club. He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Larry E. and Debra Campbell of Bellaire; nieces, Lisa (Joe) Martin of Bellaire and Jacqueline (David) Pascoe of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada; Nephew Ron (Tamara) Helms of Jacobsburg; and great nephew, Theodore (Kelsey Cottrell) Cost of Laurelville, Ohio; and great nieces, Jackie (Cody) Caldwell of Warwood; and Megan (James Wiggins) Helms of Jacobsburg; six great nieces and nephews and many Aunts and cousins from a loving family.

Family will receive friends on Friday from 2:00pm until time of service at 7:00pm at Grisell Funeral Home, 400-33rd St., Bellaire, OH. Interment will be held at the convenience of the family.

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

Funeral services provided by: [Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory - Bellaire](http://GrisellFuneralHome&Crematory-Bellaire)
400 33rd Street
Bellaire, OH 43906

George Peach



George R. Peach, 72, a loving husband of 49 years, passed away Sunday, Oct. 29, 2023, in the Weirton Medical Center ER in Weirton, WV.

George was born Jan. 7, 1951 in Salem, OH, son of the late Dean and Virginia (McCourt) Peach Foresh.

George's memberships include the Amsterdam VFW, former Toronto VFW, Sons of the American Legion in Toronto, and the Toronto Eagles. He loved to camp and has spent the last 35 years at Austin Lake. George was a Pittsburgh Steeler, Pirate, Penguin and OSU Buckeye fan. He also loved to golf and karaoke.

In addition to his parents, George was preceded in death by two brothers, John, and Joe, two sisters, Jean and Linda, and stepfather, Joe Foresh.

George leaves behind his wife, Cindy (Wiley) Peach whom he married Aug. 16, 1974; two daughters, Christina Peach (partner Kelly Yamada) of VA, and Brandi Peach (Ryan Lemley) and bonus daughter, Tiffany Chitester both of Toronto; twin brother, Jerry Peach (Cathy Frame) and sisters-in-law, Sheila Peach both of Toronto and Lorraine Peach of Roswell, NM; three grandsons, Brendon Smith-Peach, Jackson Murphy and Kayden Keenan, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Visitation will be held Thursday, Nov. 2 from 3 pm to 7 pm at the J.E. Foster Funeral Home in Toronto. George's funeral service will follow at 7 pm with Rev. Susan Clegg officiating, and his burial will be held at the convenience of the family. www.jefosterfh.com.

Calvin L. Farney



Lowville, New York (WWNY) - Calvin L. Farney, 75, died Saturday morning, October

28th, with his family at his side, at University Hospital, where he had been a patient since last week.

Cal was born on March 1, 1948 in Lowville, the son of the late Harold J. and Ellen E. (Effley) Farney where he graduated from Lowville Academy and Central School, Class of 1966. He married Susan F. Call on February 4, 1967 at St. Peter's Catholic Church. After high school, he worked for Eastman Kodak, while there he attended Monroe Community College. He also owned and operated Cal's Mobil gas station in Plattsburgh. Cal retired after 25 years of service from Lewis County Highway Department in 2013. He and Sue made

their home on Shady Avenue, Sue died on October 13, 2022.

Surviving are his three sons, James E. (Vicki) Farney; David B. (Bridgette) Farney; Harold J. (Kari Winship) Farney; his eleven grandchildren, Kirstin, Sarah, Jennifer, Christopher, Ellen, Robert, Aiden, Dawson, Brookelynn, Juliana, and Sullivan; his two great granddaughters, Saydee and Jaide; his sister, Kay E. Garfield; his brother-in-law, James Murphy; and his sister-in-law, Jean A. Call.

Cal is predeceased by his sister, Mary Ellen Murphy, his brothers-in-law, Herbert E. Jr., and Michael A. Call.

He was a communicant of St. Peter's Catholic Church, long time Lewis County CSEA President, member of Lewis County Marine Corps League, "Farney Hall" Detachment #754, member Beaver River Memorial Post #1663, where he was past Commander of Sons of the Legion, 5th District Past Commander, Sons of American Legion, life member of Lowville B.P.O.E. Lodge #1605, and Lowville volunteer driver for Disabled American Veterans, past Volunteer Fireman for Ridge Culver F.D. and South Plattsburgh F.D.

He and Sue loved spending time at their Sperryville camp, he was a 20 year member of Burnt Creek Hunting Club.

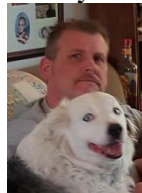
A funeral Mass will be said on Friday, November 3, 2023 at 12:00 P.M. at St. Peter's Catholic Church with Rev. Severinus Torwoe, Pastoral Vicar, officiating.

Calling hours for family and friends will be on Thursday, November 2nd, from 5 to 7:00 P.M. at Sundquist Funeral Home, where the Elks will conduct a service at 4:45 P.M.

A private burial will be in Apostolic Christian Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to: Lewis County Marine Corps League, Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 164, Lowville, NY 13367. On-line condolences of sympathy may be made to: www.sundquist.com

Jeremy "JD" Daniel



Jeremy "JD" Daniel, age 51, of Grand Rapids, formerly of Alma, passed away Sunday, October 29, 2023. JD was born May 14, 1972, in Alma, the son of Jay and

Bodisa "Disa" (Davis) Daniel. He was a truck driver, transporting lights and sound equipment for big name artists. JD was a member of A.B.A.T.E. and the Sons of the American Legion. He had a love for all things music: playing, teaching, and listening. JD enjoyed riding motorcycles, doing yard work, making others laugh and was known as an extreme perfectionist.

He is survived by his daughter Amber Daniel, mother Disa Alspaugh, longtime girlfriend Kim Swanson, siblings Bridget (Mike) Noyes, Jimm Daniel, Wendy (Jeff) Hubers, Curt (Meredith) Alspaugh, Dannon (Corey) Alspaugh and many nieces and nephews. JD was preceded in death by his father Jay, stepfather Denny Alspaugh, special cousin Tim Davis and favorite dog Sully.

A celebration of life service will be held Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 1 pm at the Lux-Moody-Wolfel Funeral Home, Alma. Visitation will be held Tuesday from 12 pm until time of service at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Daniel Family c/o Disa Alspaugh. To view JD's obituary or to leave a condolence for the family please visit www.luxfuneralhomes.com.

Published by Morning Sun on Oct. 31, 2023.

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

James Lee Gardner



It is with great sadness that we announce the recent passing of James Lee Gardner, 66, of Rising Sun, Maryland. His final moments were spent peacefully surrounded by family.

Known for his love of motorcycles, fishing and a dedicated member of the Post 194 Sons of the American Legion and Legion Riders. James, fondly known as Jim to friends, Jimmy to family, and Grampy to his three beloved grandchildren, was born to William (Bill) and Janice (Forsythe) Gardner on July 7, 1957 in Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

Jim is survived by his daughter, Rita Gardner Curran, and her husband Ryan, of Parkton, Maryland, cherished grandson's, Will, Colin and Trevor, his companion, Joann Ross of Oxford, PA, and his sister, Marie E. Gardner of Ellsworth, ME. Jim is preceded in death by his parents, Bill, Janice and two

brothers, David Gardner, and William (Bill) Gardner.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Sons of the American Legion in memory of Jim.

Sons of the American Legion Mason Dixon Post 194, 338 East Main Street, Rising Sun, MD 21911

Posted online on October 30, 2023

Published in *The News Journal*.

Paul Schmid

Paul Allen Schmid, 55, of East Stroudsburg, died Tuesday evening, October 17, 2023, at St. Luke's Hospital - Monroe Campus in Bartonsville. He was the loving and caring husband of Melonie A. (Snyder) Schmid with whom he shared thirty years of marriage. Born on February 9, 1968 in Abington Township, he was a son of the late Paul A. and Patricia K. (Lilley) Schmid and lived in Monroe County for most of his life. He was a 1986 graduate of Notre Dame Jr./Sr High School in East Stroudsburg and a 1990 graduate of DeSales University in Allentown. Paul owned and operated Paul A. Schmid Contracting, working alongside his wife Melonie. He was a poll worker for Middle Smithfield Township and was a member of the Sons of the American Legion in Lady Lake, FL.

He was the proud father of Nathan P. Schmid of East Stroudsburg. In addition to his wife and son, surviving are a niece, Isabella Snyder; a nephew, Chase Snyder; and his mother-in-law, Noreen Snyder of Stroudsburg.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, William; a sister, Kathleen, and a sister-in-law, Courtney Snyder. His life will be celebrated on Thursday, October 26th, at the William H. Clark Funeral Home, 1003 Main Street, Stroudsburg with visitation beginning at 2:30PM followed by a prayer service and time of sharing at 4:00PM.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Legion or the [American Cancer Society](http://AmericanCancerSociety.org).

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

RENEW

AMERICAN LEGION



Daniel J. Seehafer,
National Commander
The American Legion

Task Force Movement: more than a job program

November 1, 2023

Dear American Legion Family members and friends,

For many years, The American Legion has worked to help transitioning military personnel convert their ex-



periences in uniform into credits to help them move quickly and effectively into civilian careers that require special licenses and credentials.

Many of those civilian careers are in serious need of qualified professionals. That need grew painfully clear during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in such areas as commercial truck driving and nursing.

The American Legion is proud to have a place on the steering committee of [Task Force Movement](#), a White House initiative that unites key stakeholders from industry, education, labor, government and the military to help our nation fulfill two key objectives:

- Get the U.S. economy rolling again in areas of need that, if not adequately staffed, pose national security and public health threats.
- Help transitioning military personnel and veterans get into career fields that make the most of their training and can put them in jobs that pay well, offer good benefits, and fulfill important purposes, all of which contribute substantially to good mental health and well-being.

Last August, during the 104th American Legion National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., [the committee met and announced an important new area of emphasis – health care](#). Look for new developments on that front in the months ahead. Task Force Movement was launched in April 2022 to speed up and ease the

process for veterans to work in the commercial trucking industry, which now has some 80,000 vacancies. Five months later, [TFM added cybersecurity to its targeted industries](#), where some 70,000 jobs are available in government and perhaps 10 times that in the private sector.

The program proved successful in its first year, providing scholarships, apprenticeships and education waivers for veterans who had already proven their skills while in uniform. It's no easy endeavor to make this happen because different states and different industries in those states have different requirements to achieve certification. TFM has been working tirelessly with multiple stakeholders to break down barriers for veterans who are ready now to step into these careers in an economy starved for well-trained and capable employees who care about fulfilling important needs in the nation they swore with their lives to protect and defend.

By adding health care to its portfolio, TFM addresses a need The American Legion has listed among its highest priorities for the Department of Veterans Affairs over the last decade – recruiting and retaining qualified health-care professionals, particularly nurses. The shortage of health-care professionals in the nation right now is estimated at nearly 2 million, so everyone in that industry is competing for talent, more of which is desperately needed.

To keep making progress, TFM looks to continue building its roster of partners from industry, government, education, charitable foundations that want to support the initiative and the veterans community. Online registration forms to get involved are available on the TFM website at taskforcemovement.org.

Most important, all stakeholders – including The American Legion – have a responsibility to close these labor gaps because understaffed hospitals, idled trucks and online vulnerabilities do not simply represent economic inconvenience; they threaten our national security.

Legion, Coast Guard clean up after hurricane

The American Legion | October 30, 2023

During the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Waesche's visit to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, 50 members of its crew and members of the local American Legion Post 12 conducted clean-up efforts at a park on Oct. 17. The clean-up included removal of trash, debris and fallen trees

caused by the aftermath of Hurricane Lidia, which made landfall less than a week earlier.



Photo courtesy of American Legion Post 12 Commander Jesse Cole Rivera

“I asked (Capt. Robert Mohr of the USCGC Waesche) if he could spare 10 to 12 volunteers to help with the Hurricane Lidia clean-up effort,” said Post 12 Commander Jesse Cole Rivera. “Twelve hours later he emailed me back that 50-plus crew members of the USCGC Waesche had volunteered to take part in the humanitarian mission I was organizing, and that they would be ready to go almost immediately after arriving in port.”

Rivera coordinated transportation needs for the Coastguardsmen from the ship to the park, and he and his wife, Liliana, put together bags of snacks for the volunteers. Following the clean-up, Post 12 hosted dinner for the Waesche crew at a local Irish pub.

“Waesche’s crew appreciated the opportunity to support a community that frequently hosts U.S. Coast Guard (ships) for port breaks during patrols,” said Mohr to the Banderas News. “We heard about the impacts from Hurricane Lidia, and the crew was extremely eager to lend a helping hand. I would also like to thank The American Legion and the City of Puerto Vallarta representatives who made us feel very welcome throughout our stay in Puerto Vallarta.”

Mohr and several of the Coastguardsmen gave Legionnaires a tour of the Waesche. Afterward, Rivera organized a game of volleyball between the captain and his crew, as well as with other sailors and Marines stationed at the Mexican Navy’s 12th Naval Zone. “Playing volleyball has become somewhat of a tradition when our ships make port here,” Rivera said. “Our post started the tradition a few months ago, and the folks on the ship and at the base always seem to enjoy it, so we intend to keep that tradition going. But don’t ask me who won!”

Senate confirms 1st female leader of Navy, new Air Force top general and Marine Corps 2nd-in-command

Svetlana Shkolnikova/Stars and Stripes | November 3, 2023

The Senate on Thursday voted to confirm the first woman to lead the Navy and serve on the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a new top general for the Air Force and an assistant Marine Corps commandant as anger intensified over [a Republican senator’s monthslong hold on military promotions](#).

Adm. Lisa Franchetti was approved as chief of naval operations in a 95-1 vote after serving in the position for months on an acting basis while also performing the duties of her former role as vice chief. Sen. Roger Marshall, R-Kan., a former Army captain, was the only senator to oppose Franchetti’s promotion.

“At every step of her career, Admiral Franchetti has been a trailblazer and a team builder who focuses on the mission, leads by example and gets the job done,” said Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. “She is an inspiration to many and someone who will always put the security of our nation, and all who defend it, first.”

Her historic appointment marked the second time since February that the Senate has individually confirmed senior military nominees affected by a nine-month hold on appointments and promotions by Sen. Tommy Tuberville, R-Ala.

Gen. David Allvin was approved as Air Force chief of staff in a 95-1 vote, with Marshall again voting no. Allvin also had been serving a dual role of acting chief of staff of the service as well as vice chief due to the logjam created by Tuberville’s hold. Allvin’s predecessor, [Gen. Charles “CQ” Brown, was promoted to chairman of the Joint Chiefs](#) in September.

Senators unanimously voted, 86-0, to approve Lt. Gen. Christopher Mahoney for promotion to four-star general and appointment as Marine Corps assistant commandant. He was nominated for the service’s second-highest job in July.

The promotion of the three senior officers took on new urgency this week after [Gen. Eric Smith, the Marine Corps commandant, reportedly suffered a cardiac arrest](#) on Sunday. Tuberville’s hold, an act of protest against the Pentagon’s abortion access policy, had left the service’s second-in-command position empty.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said Smith's hospitalization coupled with Israel's war in Gaza has created a crisis. He long resisted holding individual votes on nominees, which are normally approved in large batches, but made an exception in September to fill three seats on the Joint Chiefs.

He again moved to break with standard procedure this week after Tuberville and other Republicans tried to force floor votes on Mahoney, Franchetti and Allvin. "Patience is wearing thin on both sides of the aisle over the senator's actions," Schumer said Thursday.

Frustration with Tuberville's hold publicly spilled into the Republican ranks on Wednesday night as [several Republican senators attempted to bring forward the nominations](#) of 61 of the nearly 400 impacted officers. Each request was shot down by Tuberville, though he has repeatedly said he would not stand in the way of individual votes on nominees.

Tuberville offered no explanation for his refusals, visibly angering his fellow Republicans as they spent four hours attempting to break through the blockade.

"We have done the best we can to honor the request of a fellow senator that these nominations be brought to the floor and voted on individually," said Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, who is a retired Army officer. "I really respect men of their word. I do not respect men who do not honor their word."

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., stormed off the Senate floor after confronting Tuberville over the extraordinary length of his hold and his decision to punish military personnel for a policy decision made by civilians. "No matter whether you believe it or not, Sen. Tuberville, this is doing great damage to our military," Graham said. "I don't say that lightly. I've been trying to work with you for nine months."

Republicans said they would return to the floor to put forward more nominees, but Democrats are pushing for a temporary resolution that would allow the chamber to group most military promotions into a single vote.

On Thursday, senators continued their attack on Tuberville's hold while voicing support for Franchetti, Allvin and Mahoney and vouching for their experience. "These are some of the finest leaders our nation has to offer, and America is stronger because of their service and their sacrifice," Reed said.

Franchetti was commissioned into the Navy in 1985 and became a career surface warfare officer, commanding ships, squadrons, carrier strike groups and fleets. She served as commander of the U.S. Sixth Fleet from 2018 to 2020 and was appointed as the Navy's second highest-ranking officer in 2022.

She is only the second female four-star admiral in the Navy's nearly 250-year history.

"I know she'll continue her outstanding work as she breaks barriers for the Navy and for women everywhere," said Sen. Tom Carper, D-Del.

Allvin is taking over the Air Force's top position after helping lead the service's modernization as vice chief and serving with the Joint Chiefs as its director for strategy, plans and policy.

He graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1986 and has logged more than 4,600 flight hours as a command pilot, including 100 hours in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

"This is a gentleman, an officer, who has been in combat and who knows the rigors and demands of combat and like Admiral Franchetti, places his mission and his Air Force members ahead of any personal ambition," said Reed.

The confirmation of Franchetti and Allvin means all members of the Joint Chiefs are Senate-confirmed for the first time since the summer.



Mahoney's confirmation will allow him to step in to serve as Marine Corps commandant while Smith's health recovers. Mahoney previously served as deputy commandant for programs and resources and had racked up 5,000 hours of flight time as a Marine fighter pilot.

"He has led with distinction and with diligence and again, with selfless service to his Marines and to the nation," Reed said.

2024 SAL Membership Report as of: November 2, 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	-51	110	65.48%	58.79
3	LOUISIANA	1,821	-450	1,087	59.69%	55.03
4	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,611	-382	946	58.72%	51.40
5	WISCONSIN	4,398	-951	2,490	56.62%	51.61
6	GEORGIA	4,887	-973	2,683	54.90%	49.09
7	MISSISSIPPI	736	-114	372	50.54%	47.45
8	PUERTO RICO	156	-22	77	49.36%	47.71
9	MONTANA	1,091	-152	534	48.95%	45.99
10	ILLINOIS	13,716	-1,736	6,537	47.66%	45.44
11	IDAHO	659	-80	311	47.19%	36.99
12	NORTH CAROLINA	2,770	-295	1,264	45.63%	37.47
13	NORTH DAKOTA	1,075	-103	479	44.56%	39.37
14	ALABAMA	2,100	-197	932	44.38%	38.23
15	IOWA	4,914	-447	2,167	44.10%	41.52
16	UTAH	460	-37	198	43.04%	40.72
17	NEVADA	387	-28	163	42.12%	35.53
18	ARKANSAS	406	-29	171	42.12%	32.75
19	OKLAHOMA	1,430	-64	564	39.44%	31.43
20	OREGON	1,534	-50	587	38.27%	29.35
21	FLORIDA	23,066	-565	8,638	37.45%	30.02
22	WYOMING	1,248	-30	467	37.42%	32.93
23	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,570	-34	583	37.13%	28.58
24	TEXAS	5,783	-69	2,093	36.19%	31.78
25	MARYLAND	16,803	-150	6,031	35.89%	31.94
26	CALIFORNIA	11,292	-19	3,971	35.17%	30.03
27	VIRGINIA	4,367	-5	1,533	35.10%	29.09
28	TENNESSEE	1,792	1	626	34.93%	29.57
29	KANSAS	6,055	52	2,067	34.14%	31.39
30	MINNESOTA	11,435	108	3,894	34.05%	31.62
31	NEBRASKA	6,992	106	2,341	33.48%	32.05
32	NEW YORK	30,663	854	9,878	32.21%	29.14
33	INDIANA	37,244	1,134	11,901	31.95%	28.98
34	VERMONT	3,920	138	1,234	31.48%	28.83
35	MISSOURI	3,337	123	1,045	31.32%	26.98
36	CONNECTICUT	1,865	85	568	30.46%	25.82
37	LATIN AMERICA	33	2	10	30.30%	12.50
38	NEW JERSEY	9,662	455	2,927	30.29%	27.08
39	NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,027	285	1,824	30.26%	27.40
40	MASSACHUSETTS	5,432	271	1,630	30.01%	26.82
41	RHODE ISLAND	348	20	102	29.31%	24.93
42	COLORADO	2,952	168	865	29.30%	24.85
43	OHIO	31,690	1,908	9,184	28.98%	26.00
44	KENTUCKY	2,399	168	672	28.01%	23.81
45	ALASKA	1,740	141	468	26.90%	21.22
46	DELAWARE	2,596	224	685	26.39%	20.55
47	MICHIGAN	26,236	2,316	6,867	26.17%	22.05
48	WASHINGTON	2,682	255	684	25.50%	18.58
49	ARIZONA	8,595	913	2,095	24.37%	19.01
50	WEST VIRGINIA	2,593	333	575	22.18%	17.61
51	PENNSYLVANIA	62,746	8,825	13,136	20.94%	18.49
52	NEW MEXICO	1,582	239	315	19.91%	14.51
53	MAINE	2,757	722	243	8.81%	7.04
54	PHILIPPINES	79	25	3	3.80%	2.53
55	DIST OF COL	91	30	2	2.20%	1.14
Grand Totals:		382,111	12,826	120,913	31.64%	27.88

2024 SAL Regional Breakdown

Western Region - James R. Fischer, Sr. (CA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
HAWAII	120	84	70.00%
MONTANA	1,091	534	48.95%
IDAHO	659	311	47.19%
UTAH	460	198	43.04%
NEVADA	387	163	42.12%
OREGON	1,534	587	38.27%
WYOMING	1,248	467	37.42%
CALIFORNIA	11,292	3,971	35.17%
LATIN AMERICA	33	10	30.30%
COLORADO	2,952	865	29.30%
ALASKA	1,740	468	26.90%
WASHINGTON	2,682	684	25.50%
ARIZONA	8,595	2,095	24.37%
NEW MEXICO	1,582	315	19.91%
PHILIPPINES	79	3	3.80%
Totals:	34,454	10,755	31.22%

Southeast Region - Linwood A. Moore (VA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
LOUISIANA	1,821	1,087	59.69%
GEORGIA	4,887	2,683	54.90%
MISSISSIPPI	736	372	50.54%
PUERTO RICO	156	77	49.36%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,770	1,264	45.63%
ALABAMA	2,100	932	44.38%
ARKANSAS	406	171	42.12%
FLORIDA	23,066	8,638	37.45%
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,570	583	37.13%
TEXAS	5,783	2,093	36.19%
VIRGINIA	4,367	1,533	35.10%
TENNESSEE	1,792	626	34.93%
Totals:	49,454	20,059	40.56%

Midwest Region - Terry A. Harris (KS)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,611	946	58.72%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,075	479	44.56%
IOWA	4,914	2,167	44.10%
OKLAHOMA	1,430	564	39.44%
KANSAS	6,055	2,067	34.14%
NEBRASKA	6,992	2,341	33.48%
MISSOURI	3,337	1,045	31.32%
Totals:	25,414	9,609	37.81%

Northeast Region - John R. Cook (NH)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
FRANCE	168	110	65.48%
MARYLAND	16,803	6,031	35.89%
NEW YORK	30,663	9,878	32.21%
VERMONT	3,920	1,234	31.48%
CONNECTICUT	1,865	568	30.46%
NEW JERSEY	9,662	2,927	30.29%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,027	1,824	30.26%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,432	1,630	30.01%
RHODE ISLAND	348	102	29.31%
DELAWARE	2,596	685	26.39%
PENNSYLVANIA	62,746	13,136	20.94%
MAINE	2,757	243	8.81%
DIST OF COL	91	2	2.20%
Totals:	143,078	38,370	26.82%

Central Region - Robert L. Bristo (MN)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
WISCONSIN	4,398	2,490	56.62%
ILLINOIS	13,716	6,537	47.66%
MINNESOTA	11,435	3,894	34.05%
INDIANA	37,244	11,901	31.95%
OHIO	31,690	9,184	28.98%
KENTUCKY	2,399	672	28.01%
MICHIGAN	26,236	6,867	26.17%
WEST VIRGINIA	2,593	575	22.18%
Totals:	129,711	42,120	32.47%

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11/02/23	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	20,059	(29,395)	40.56%	542		
2 Midwest 1, 2, 3	25,414	9,609	(15,805)	37.81%	384		
3 Central 1, 2	129,711	42,120	(87,591)	32.47%	1,927		
4 Western 1, 2	34,454	10,755	(23,699)	31.22%	509		
5 Northeast 1	143,078	38,370	(104,708)	26.82%	3,092		
TOTALS 1, 2	382,111	120,913	(261,198)	31.64%	6,454		

11/02/23	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	2,490	(1,908)	56.62%	46	5	56.62%		
2 Illinois 1, 2, 3	13,716	6,537	(7,179)	47.66%	394	10	45.44%		
3 Minnesota 1, 2	11,435	3,894	(7,541)	34.05%	61	30	31.62%		
4 Indiana 1, 2	37,244	11,901	(25,343)	31.95%	383	33	28.98%		
5 Ohio 1	31,690	9,184	(22,506)	28.98%	635	43	26.00%		
6 Kentucky 1	2,399	672	(1,727)	28.01%	14	44	23.81%		
7 Michigan 1	26,236	6,867	(19,369)	26.17%	302	47	22.05%		
8 West Virginia 1	2,593	575	(2,018)	22.18%	92	50	17.61%		
TOTALS 1, 2	129,711	42,120	(87,591)	32.47%	1,927				

11/02/23	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	70.00%		
2 Montana 1, 2, 3, 4	1,091	534	(557)	48.95%	32	9	45.99%		
3 Idaho 1, 2, 3, 4	659	311	(348)	47.19%	4	11	36.99%		
4 Utah 1, 2, 3	460	198	(262)	43.04%	1	16	40.72%		
5 Nevada 1, 2, 3	387	163	(224)	42.12%	26	17	35.53%		
6 Oregon 1, 2, 3	1,534	587	(947)	38.27%	28	20	29.35%		
7 Wyoming 1, 2, 3	1,248	467	(781)	37.42%	3	22	32.93%		
8 California 1, 2, 3	11,292	3,971	(7,321)	35.17%	287	26	30.03%		
9 Latin America	33	10	(23)	30.30%	-	37	12.50%		
10 Colorado 1	2,952	865	(2,087)	29.30%	1	42	24.85%		
11 Alaska	1,740	468	(1,272)	26.90%	11	45	21.22%		
12 Washington	2,682	684	(1,998)	25.50%	39	48	18.58%		
13 Arizona 1	8,595	2,095	(6,500)	24.37%	77	49	19.01%		
14 New Mexico	1,582	315	(1,267)	19.91%	-	52	14.51%		
15 Philippines	79	3	(76)	3.80%	-	54	2.53%		
TOTALS 1, 2	34,454	10,755	(23,699)	31.22%	509				

11/02/23	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	1,087	(734)	59.69%	1	3	55.03%		
2 Georgia 1, 2, 3, 4	4,887	2,683	(2,204)	54.90%	10	6	49.09%		
3 Mississippi 1, 2, 3	736	372	(364)	50.54%	66	7	47.45%		
4 Puerto Rico 1, 2, 3, 4	156	77	(79)	49.36%	-	8	47.71%		
5 North Carolina 1, 2, 3	2,770	1,264	(1,506)	45.63%	22	12	37.47%		
6 Alabama 1, 2, 3	2,100	932	(1,168)	44.38%	11	14	38.23%		
7 Arkansas 1, 2, 3	406	171	(235)	42.12%	12	18	32.75%		
8 Florida 1, 2, 3	23,066	8,638	(14,428)	37.45%	249	21	30.02%		
9 South Carolina 1, 2, 3	1,570	583	(987)	37.13%	18	23	28.58%		
10 Texas 1, 2, 3	5,783	2,093	(3,690)	36.19%	79	24	31.78%		
12 Virginia 1, 2, 3	4,367	1,533	(2,834)	35.10%	59	27	29.09%		
13 Tennessee 1, 2	1,792	626	(1,166)	34.93%	15	28	29.57%		
TOTALS 1, 2, 3	49,454	20,059	(29,395)	40.56%	542				

11/02/23	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	946	(665)	58.72%	37	4	51.40%		
2 North Dakota 1, 2, 3	1,075	479	(596)	44.56%	-	13	39.37%		
3 Iowa 1, 2, 3	4,914	2,167	(2,747)	44.10%	79	15	41.52%		
4 Oklahoma 1, 2, 3	1,430	564	(866)	39.44%	57	19	31.43%		
5 Kansas 1, 2	6,055	2,067	(3,988)	34.14%	71	29	31.39%		
6 Nebraska 1, 2	6,992	2,341	(4,651)	33.48%	115	31	32.05%		
7 Missouri 1, 2	3,337	1,045	(2,292)	31.32%	25	35	26.98%		
TOTALS 1, 2, 3	25,414	9,609	(15,805)	37.81%	384				

11/02/23	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	110	(58)	65.48%	1	2	58.79%		
2 Maryland 1, 2, 3	16,803	6,031	(10,772)	35.89%	370	25	31.94%		
3 New York 1	30,663	9,878	(20,785)	32.21%	1,401	32	29.14%		
4 Vermont 1, 2	3,920	1,234	(2,686)	31.48%	47	34	28.83%		
5 Connecticut 1, 2	1,865	568	(1,297)	30.46%	3	36	25.82%		
6 New Jersey 1, 2	9,662	2,927	(6,735)	30.29%	127	38	27.08%		
7 New Hampshire 1, 2	6,027	1,824	(4,203)	30.26%	88	39	27.40%		
8 Massachusetts 1	5,432	1,630	(3,802)	30.01%	29	40	26.82%		
9 Rhode Island 1, 2	348	102	(246)	29.31%	-	41	24.93%		
10 Delaware 1	2,596	685	(1,911)	26.39%	37	46	20.55%		
11 Pennsylvania	62,746	13,136	(49,610)	20.94%	977	51	18.49%		
12 Maine	2,757	243	(2,514)	8.81%	12	53	7.04%		
13 Dist. of Columbia	91	2	(89)	2.20%	-	55	1.14%		
TOTALS 1	143,078	38,370	(104,708)	26.82%	3,092				

11/02/23	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	8,638	(14,428)	37.45%	249	21	30.02%		
2 New York 1	30,663	9,878	(20,785)	32.21%	1,401	32	29.14%		
3 Indiana 1, 2	37,244	11,901	(25,343)	31.95%	383	33	28.98%		
4 Ohio 1	31,690	9,184	(22,506)	28.98%	635	43	26.00%		
5 Michigan 1	26,236	6,867	(19,369)	26.17%	302	47	22.05%		
6 Pennsylvania	62,746	13,136	(49,610)	20.94%	977	51	18.49%		
TOTALS	211,645	59,604	(152,041)	28.16%	3,947				

National Totals 1, 2	382,111	120,913	(261,198)	31.64%	6,454		27.88%		
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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%



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2023 – 2024

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 2023-2024 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, 2023. The post, unit, squadron, riders, or salon has from June 1, 2023, to May 31, 2024, 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, 2023:

Total enclosed: \$

Banner Request Form

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PO Box 1055

Indianapolis, IN 46206

ALL REQUEST FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY May 31, 2024