

'An absolute tragedy'

The American Legion | January 29, 2024



At-Tanf Garrison, just 12 miles from Tower 22.
U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. William Howard

Three U.S. servicemembers were killed — and at least 30 wounded — in an aerial drone attack Sunday night in northeast Jordan near the Syria border. This marks the first time U.S. troops were killed by enemy fire in the Mideast since the start of the Gaza War.

American Legion National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer condemned the attack, which is believed to have been carried out by Iran-backed militant groups operating in Syria and Iraq.

“We are in mourning for these American heroes, three servicemembers who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country,” Seehafer said. “It is an absolute tragedy, and we grieve with their families. We call upon Congress and the Department of Defense to do more to ensure that our deployed troops are equipped appropriately to protect them from future attacks.”

Jordan is a key ally of the United States and has played a vital role in cooperating with the U.S. military. For example, American troops have trained Jordanian soldiers and partnered with them on various exercises and operations.

“This act of aggression should not deter our resolve to protect U.S. interests at home and abroad,” Seehafer said. “In fact, it should embolden us to honor the memories of the servicemembers we lost. We must remain steadfast to bring about peace in the Mideast through any means necessary.”

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

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Donald "JR" Hall, Jr.

National Commander

Representing More Than Me,

*Donald L. "JR" Hall Jr., National Commander
Sons of The American Legion*

REPRESENTING

More

THAN ME

From the Editor

Food For Thought...

Over the years, I have heard people say, or have read things that were written that made me wonder where it came from. I'm sure that some of you have had the same questions pop-up in your head, but never got the answer. Maybe someone can help answer these questions?



What is this "ladies" or "women's" auxiliary everyone keeps talking about? The American Legion Family has no such affiliate to my knowledge. We need to call the organization by its proper name, The American Legion Auxiliary.

It is now even more important since ALA's membership is now open to females and males.

What's a "sal?" I thought we were Sons. I think Sal could be short for Salvatore. Is he a member?

Why do Squadrons hold cards? I was trained many years ago that when a member pays his dues, you immediately send them to Detachment headquarters, or now submit them via MySAL. Holding cards could cost Squadrons and Districts in the long run.

What are “table officers?” In other organizations, our elected officials are simply referred to as Officers. Hmmm.

What’s with the rhythmic clapping during meetings? As a sports official at many levels, I am around many crowds. I have spoken at many events in front of large audiences. I have not heard this anywhere else. Anyone know the origins of this ovation?



Where’s all the kids?

Every Squadron has members who are under the age of 18. Why don’t we see more of them at the Mid-Winter Conference or National and Detachment Conventions?

I know that meetings can be boring for younger people, but how else will they learn about our amazing organization?

Where’s the event? Too often I see flyers, email announcements, social media announcements asking folks to attend their functions. Many do not list the address or the town. They simply say something like, “Event at Squadron XX.” For someone who may want to attend from out of town, how will they know where to go?

I pay my dues in the spring. Who came up with that? It is unheard-of to wait so long. In other organizations I am a member of, one in particular, we have a 30-day window to get our dues paid. If we decide to pay after the 30-days, there is a hefty late fee. What’s the deal?

\$
**KEEP
CALM
AND
PAY YOUR
DUES**

All in favor... I have heard leaders of meetings say the following: “All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed same sign.” Here’s the question, if voting AYE is in favor of a motion, and we say, “opposed same sign,” is everyone voting in favor of the question? I believe it’s the Ayes and Nos or the Yeas and Nays. Just asking. Maybe Roberts knows.



Since I mentioned officiating earlier, let’s bring some of what I learned there into the Sons. We are always told, “Speak the language so everyone understands each other.” This is a

vital part to the success of a sports official. If players, coaches, and officials all use the same terminology to describe something, everyone ends up on the same page.

When we work for The American Legion Family, we need to do the same. Let’s make a concerted effort to say American Legion Auxiliary, Sons, and to use the words that are part of the organization. If we do, there will be less of a communication breakdown.

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

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VRABEL


Central Region Extravaganza
Columbus, Ohio
April 9 - 7, 2024

Remembering the Greatest Generation

Raymond Treyens



Raymond “Ray” Treyens age 100 passed away Monday, January 29, 2024.

He was born March 27, 1923, in Columbus, Ohio to Clifford Raymond and Lucy Milburn Treyens. After graduating from Cincinnati’s Withrow High School in 1941, Ray enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, serving proudly as an Arial Gunner in the 376th Heavy Bomber Group in the European Theater in World War II. He continued his military service for six more years in the Air Force Reserve.

Ray graduated from The Ohio State University with a B.S. in Journalism and worked more than 38 years as a Retail Advertising Sales Representative for the

Columbus Dispatch. He met the love of his life, Juanita “Jean” Chapman, at OSU and married her in 1949. They were married nearly 68 years.

Ray enjoyed more than 50 years of community at Shady Lane Presbyterian Church, where he served as a Session member. Beginning in retirement until 10 days before his passing, Ray met weekly over breakfast with long-time friends. He was a devoted husband, wonderful father to James C. and Clifford R. Treyens, and beloved grandfather to Marc and Sam Treyens. Ray was preceded in death by wife Jean and sister Patricia Spencer.

In addition to his sons and grandchildren, Ray is survived by his cherished cat, Squeaky.

Funeral service Thursday, February 1, 2024, 4:00 PM EVANS FUNERAL HOME 4171 E. Livingston Ave. where friends may call from 2 PM until time of service. Rev. Dr. Jane Maynard officiating. Interment Friday, February 2, 2024, 12:00 Noon Green Lawn Cemetery. www.evansfuneralhome.net.

Posted online on January 30, 2024. Published in Columbus Dispatch.

Joseph J Capparuccini



Joseph John Capparuccini, of Columbus, passed away peacefully on January 30, 2024. Joe was born on February 2, 1926 in Columbus, Ohio to Dalinda & John Capparuccini. He was in the Army and served in the 4th Armored Division while stationed in Germany and Czechoslovakia during WWII. Joe then worked for Huttig Sash & Door Company for 47 years. He was the longest tenured person in company history. Joe was a mentor to many and even earned the nickname of “Mr. Huttig.” His legacy will always be remembered.

He met his wife Jean during a night out with friends. They fell in love and were married on August 16, 1952 in Columbus. In total, they were together for over 76 years. They had two beautiful children, John and Jo Anna. He took pride in providing for his family. Joe was a son, brother, husband, father, uncle, grandfather and friend.

He was always so proud of his only two grandchildren, Joseph and Madison. Whether it was family dinners or school events, he was always there. He never knew

a stranger and made friends everywhere he went. He was an avid golfer at Riviera Country Club and a member of the Guild Athletic Club, Flytown Club and Sons of Italy.

Joe is preceded in death by his parents, his wife Jean Capparuccini, and son John Capparuccini.

Joe is survived by his daughter Jo Anna (Dennis) Lyberger; grandchildren Joseph Lyberger (Hanna Latshaw) and Madison (Andrew Little); nieces, nephew, and extended family.

Family will receive friends from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday, February 5, 2024 at Schoedinger Worthington; 6699 N High St. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on February 6, 2024 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 893 Hamlet Street, Columbus, OH 43201 with entombment to follow at St. Joseph Cemetery, Lockbourne.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Joe to Mount Carmel Hospice. Please visit www.schoedinger.com to leave memories and condolences to Joe’s family.

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

“Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose!” - Author Unknown

We, the members of the Central Region, are the very definition of Commitment! We continue to push ourselves even when no one is looking. We are all working towards a common goal and that is to continue to serve the Veterans and Children of our communities! I can think of no better way to honor those veterans from whom we have each received our eligibility to join the great Sons of The American Legion! **We rise, we succeed, by lifting others!**

Please continue to send in your IRA applications and continue to push on retainage. We need to capture all of last year's members to achieve our goal!

Did you know that there is a benefit to the volunteer work we do? Volunteering has been proven to reduce stress, combat depression, keep you mentally stimulated, and provide a sense of purpose! In fact, the more you volunteer the more benefits you'll experience! **The giving of our time in the SAL is a simple way to help our vets and improve our own health and happiness!**

My friends, it's not what we do, it's why we do it! We **WILL** reach our goals! Don't think about what can happen in a month. Don't think about what can happen in a year. Just focus on the 24 hours in front of you and do what you can do to get us closer to where we want to be! **Remember It is not how we start... But how we finish. FINISH STRONG!**

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

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

Butch Ray, Central Region Membership Chairman

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?

Working hard feels good. Of course, it's exhausting and stressful and causes you to miss a party or two, but at the end of the day it is so rewarding. One of the best feelings in the world is when you know that luck didn't play a role in your success. Doing the work eliminates the need for luck. Thank you for all the hard work you do.

Thank you to all who were able to attend Wild Willy's Western Rendezvous. What a great time and it was awesome to hang out with all of you.

Hard work will always beat talent when talent doesn't work hard. You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great. Thank you for all the special things you do.

The Westside report. We improved by 3.92%, currently at 74.91% total from last report. We are now 5th in the nation and right behind Midwest Region by 3.92%. Our next goal is to be at 75% by 02/14/24. Amazing job Hawaii at 99.17%, Oregon at 83.51%, Arizona at 78.31%, Montana at 77.64% and New Mexico 76.55%, for already achieving this goal. Coming on in a big way is Idaho at 74.36%, California at 73.93%, Utah at 73.26%, Wyoming at 72.92%, Latin America at 72.73%, Alaska at 71.67%, Colorado at 70.33%, Washington at 70.10%, Nevada at 68.22% and Philip-pines at 55.70%.

If everything was perfect, you would never learn and you would never grow. Thanks again for everything you do for this great organization.

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 6, 2024 | June 5, 2024

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

Meeting ID: 945 1723 1230 | Passcode: 58543

Southeast Region still #1 with 10 Detachments have already reached the 75% goal or better. The other two are knocking on the door. But we still need to buckle down the other 4 Regions are closing in on us. Congratulations everyone just like I was told last year don't look back just keep your focus straight ahead.

Thank you all for the hard work.

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.

Be the One a focus for Maine Legion Family

The American Legion | January 31, 2024

As Maine American Legion Auxiliary president from 2022 to 2023, Debra Rumery's project was "You Will Never Walk Alone," a veteran suicide prevention and suicide awareness program. The project raised more than \$60,000 for the psychiatric ward and suicide prevention outreach program at the Togus VA Medical Center in Augusta, Maine.

After her tenure ended, Rumery saw the current American Legion Family national leadership – National Commander Daniel Seehafer, Auxiliary National President Lisa Williamson and Sons of The American Legion National Commander Donald L. "JR" Hall – were continuing to make the Legion's [Be the One](#) veteran suicide prevention program their top priority. And she wanted to make sure that continued in her state as well.



Legionnaire Julie Flynn, American Legion Auxiliary member Debra Rumery and Legionnaire Jennifer Kimble recently provided Be the One and VA S.A.V.E. Training to fellow Maine Legion Family members.

Facebook photo

"I just knew our members needed to know that this wasn't something that I was only going to talk about for one year," said Rumery, who now serves as Maine's Alternate National Executive Committeeman and is a member of Unit 86 in Gray. "I was not going to stop talking about it. It was important for the whole (Legion Family) to know there is training out there, and I'd be willing to do the training for them."

That led Rumery to collaborate with Maine Legion Family leadership for a free Be the One training session on Jan. 27 at department headquarters. The session also [included VA S.A.V.E. Training](#), which Rumery already had taken. Rumery provided the training alongside Maine Legionnaires Julie Flynn (Post 86) and Jennifer Kimble (Roderick-Crosby Post 28 in Farmington).

The trio delivered the S.A.V.E. Training, but Rumery said they wanted to offer more to those who braved the weather to attend the session. "We didn't want our members to travel all the way to department headquarters, which is a long way for a lot of people, for just 17 minutes (of training)," she said. "So, we elaborated on the VA S.A.V.E. We talked about the mission of Dan, Lisa, and Don, and how The American Legion is going to have this mission to help destigmatize our veterans asking for mental health support."

"We also added empathetic listening. I really believe that that was a huge part of this training: giving our members the tools to actually listen to a veteran when they're in mental health crisis. Not to dismiss them. The right things to say to them. Make sure that the empathetic listening feels like (the veteran) is being listened to, which I think, a lot of times, veterans don't feel that way."

Rumery said 18 Legion Family members attended the training. “It was the perfect amount of people because I felt like they felt comfortable being able to share their own experiences and feel safe in that environment,” she said. “I’m not quite sure if they were in a larger environment ... if they would have been as transparent as they were. It worked out really, really great.”

Three similar training sessions at department headquarters are planned, while Rumery said requests are being taken to travel to posts and deliver the training in person. She added that as Be the One has continued to grow since its inception in 2022, “People really started wanting more information. ‘What can we do to help?’ ‘How can we learn more?’ At the end of the training, we gave out resource packets to every single person that came, so they can go back to their post/unit/squadron/Riders chapter, whatever the case may be, so they can share the information.

“We didn’t want this to just be the 18 people that were there. We wanted them to share this mission as well.”



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Round-Up sponsors*

**Juan Cruz Rodriguez,
Department of Puerto Rico**

*You will
Never regret
being kind*



New Hampshire Legionnaire brings Be the One awareness to department’s Mid-Winter Conference

The American Legion | January 30, 2024

New Hampshire Legionnaire Myron Crossley served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1988 to 1992. Since then, he’s watched too many of his fellow veterans die by their own hands. That’s why The American Legion’s [Be the One](#) program to end veteran suicide resonates so strongly with Crossley – and why he chose to give a presentation to the New Hampshire American Legion Family’s recent Mid-Winter Conference.

The commander of Post 47 in Rollinsford and the District 3 senior vice commander said it’s crucial to the Legion’s national Be the One efforts that the proper training and materials are made available at every level of the organization.

“I thought it was important that I get involved in cutting veteran suicide down ... and set an example to Legion leadership at the post level, the district level and the department level,” he said. “If you don’t give them the tools and the resources to try to make a difference, then how can we ask them to make a difference?”

Crossley said last year he was asked by Department Commander Leo Paquin to reinvigorate the state’s Legion College program, which Crossley said had fallen to the wayside during the pandemic. That gave Crossley the opportunity to attend the National American Legion College in November. After attending and returning home, Crossley was asked to provide a training session for the department’s Mid-Winter Conference Jan. 27 in Rochester.

He chose Be the One, a program he’s also asked to make his specialty as an instructor at the department’s Legion College, because of personal connections. “It’s a vitally important program to me,” he said. “I’ve lost

a number of friends to veteran suicide over the past 30 years, but more importantly, in the past year I've lost a number of very close associates and friends to veteran suicide."

Crossley provided a slideshow that he said consisted of links to resources and mechanisms to combat veteran suicide while promoting Be the One "for senior leadership, as well as the general membership, within The American Legion."

Crossley has been endorsed for and is running for New Hampshire vice commander for 2024-2025. He said he began seeking more responsibility with the Legion after the organization started Be the One in 2022.

"It actually reinvigorated my interest in becoming an integral part of The American Legion," he said. "The face and the climate of the Legion is changing. We're trying to attract a younger veteran-based community to try to offset attrition through age. And I think the younger generation of veterans is struggling with veteran suicides more prominently, maybe, than older veterans. I say that, but I think it's always been an issue, but now it's getting some recognition publicly that it's ok to not be ok."

"I think that's why it's so important: If I can make a difference in one other person's life, I've succeeded. I can't save them all, and I know that, but I can try to make a difference in one person's life."

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Facebook photo

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National Commissions and Committees

Chairmen wishing to have reports published should email them to jeffvrabelsr@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



DEVOTION TO MUTUAL HELPFULNESS

Century Committee

Joe Gladden, Chairman

Second Tuesday Bi-Monthly

October 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 18, 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

Suicide prevention, safeguarding veterans benefits among Legion's 2024 legislative agenda

The American Legion | February 2, 2024

Ahead of The American Legion's Washington Conference, taking place Feb. 25-28, the Legion has released its legislative agenda for the second session of the 118th Congress.

Among the priorities on the agenda:

- **Suicide prevention and mental health.** Suicide remains a top issue in the veteran community. The suicide rate among veterans is nearly double that of civilian counterparts. It is imperative that we simultaneously destigmatize mental health assistance, while increasing access. The American Legion encourages Congress to robustly fund VA's suicide prevention outreach budget and peer support programs. We encourage all Americans to "Be the One" who is willing, ready, and able to have a difficult conversation about suicide and other mental health issues. Legislation supported by The American Legion include PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program (H.R. 2768) and VA Zero Suicide Demonstration Act (H.R. 1639).
- **Alternative treatments.** Data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) shows that in 2021, approximately 2.8 million veterans experienced an illicit drug or alcohol use disorder, with 92.4 percent not receiving treatment. More must be done to ensure veterans have access to the effective treatments they desire. This includes expanding research and access into alternative treatments and emerging therapies. Legislation supported by The American Legion includes TBI and PTSD Treatment Act (H.R. 105).
- **VA healthcare modernization.** The biggest issue in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Healthcare Modernization is the implementation of the new electronic health record modernization program (EHRM). VA has experienced difficulties as the EHRM rollout has progressed. Some issues identified were the differences in the training software compared to end-user software, along with inexperienced instructors providing the training to VA staff. VA made improvements on these identified issues. As the EHRM rollout is set to resume in 2024, The American Legion continues to call on Congress to provide oversight and to hold VA and other relevant parties accountable for the implementation and functioning of the EHR system. Legislation supported by The American Legion includes The Department of Veterans Affairs Electronic Health Record Modernization Improvement Act (H.R. 592).

- **PACT Act implementation and oversight.** Since the implementation of Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act, VA has screened more than 5 million veterans for toxic exposure. The average time to complete a PACT Act-related claim is 157 days. It is imperative that VA fully leverage the resources made available in the PACT Act to assist in the continued modernization of Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) information technology systems as well as the hiring of additional employees to ensure claims are adjudicated in a timely manner. The American Legion urges Congress to provide the necessary oversight and funding to ensure VA has the resources to properly implement this legislation.
- **Safeguard veterans benefits.** Veterans are facing a growing threat from exploitative entities aiming to capitalize on the benefits rightfully earned through military service. These predatory actors range from claims companies charging exorbitant fees to lawyers seeking sizable portions of VA disability benefit payments. The American Legion urges Congress to pass legislation to restore criminal penalties for persons or companies that represent or charge veterans fees to file; prepare or prosecute initial VA claims without VA accreditation; and to oppose any legislation that would allow unaccredited parties to become legal representatives without completing the accreditation process. The American Legion's advocacy role remains focused on safeguarding the well-deserved benefits of those who have served. Legislation supported by The American Legion includes Veterans Benefits Improvement Act (H.R. 1530).



Other legislative priorities include concurrent receipt, the GI Bill, military quality of life and more.

Download the complete legislative agenda [here](#). For more details on the Washington Conference, click [here](#).

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 VerStrete 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.](#)



**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

October 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

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



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

Veterans claims assistance, outreach coming to Sacramento area

The American Legion | January 29, 2024

The American Legion Department of California is staging a veterans outreach and post revitalization effort Feb. 2-4 in the Sacramento Valley area. Veterans who attend will be able to learn about American Legion programs and advocacy and receive assistance with their Department of Veterans Affairs-related benefits claims.

The effort will take place from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. all three days at Yolo American Legion Post 77, 523 Bush Street, Woodland. An accredited American Legion service officer will be available to assist veterans and their families with VA claims at no cost and answer other questions related to benefits.

The path to addiction recovery

The American Legion | January 30, 2024

Marshall Bahr, a former Army Ranger medic, is the special guest on this week's episode of The American Legion [Tango Alpha Lima podcast](#), co-hosted by Ashley Gutermuth and Stacy Pearsall.

Bahr, a physician, is the founder of [Lead The Way Recovery](#), an Ohio-based addiction treatment program for veterans. He knows the struggle of addiction, as he worked through demons following his combat tours. Part of the issue, he said, was veterans who would not admit vulnerability or ask for help.



"I wanted to be willing to be a face for that, to be willing to expose myself, my past, to be a champion and an advocate

for others,” he said. “The reality is that a lot of the stuff can be preventable if we identify it early on. A patient-centered practice for veterans that is run by veterans is going to help identify the problem and see it treated faster than we have seen previously.”

Part of the problem is the military culture, says Bahr, who deployed five times to Iraq and Afghanistan. He went on more than 500 combat missions.

“You work hard, you party hard,” he said. “You go on deployment and come back and let loose. You go binge drinking on weekends. And it was accepted, very masculine to do.”



There are chemical addictions and behavioral ones. Some veterans also cope with their PTSD by throwing themselves into other pursuits like work or working out, for example. That’s called sublimation — a positive defense mechanism in which someone chooses to channel strong emotions and feelings into an appropriate activity. But that is also a risky behavior.

“The problem is when it comes to excess, and you get to workaholicism or workout addiction, dieting addiction, body image addiction,” he said. “These are all things we sometimes see more prevalent in the veteran community.”

That’s where his Lead The Way Recovery comes into play. The organization’s mission is deeply rooted in his experiences. It’s dedicated to helping those who are battling substance abuse and mental health issues. The approach is tailored to address the specific needs of patients, integrating evidence-based treatment methods.

“We want to be at the forefront of addiction recovery, we want to lead the change for evidence-based practices, innovative treatments and a deep sense of empathy for all patients suffering from addiction,” he explained.

Additionally, Gutermuth and Pearsall also:

- Shoot down another mistruth in “Troll Patrol.” Foreign-born veterans who served in the U.S. military are eligible for membership in The American Legion.
- Discuss why the government is storing more than 1.5 billion pounds of cheese in Missouri.
- Talk about “Psychic Warrior,” a new book about the CIA’s secret Stargate program.
- Ask what movie tech the Pentagon should invest in.

Check out this week’s episode, which is among more than 220 Tango Alpha Lima podcasts available [in both audio and video formats here](#). You can also download episodes on Apple Podcasts, Google Play, or other major podcast-hosting sites. The video version is available at [the Legion’s YouTube channel](#).

Reframed SWS visits make shining debut

[Henry Howard](#) | January 31, 2024



Veterans offered a range of observations, praise and questions related to care at the James Haley VA Medical Center in Tampa during an American Legion System Worth Saving (SWS) town hall Jan. 29.

In the past, the town hall was the first opportunity for American Legion representatives to have conversations about care at a particular VA. The Tampa visit was the first to incorporate a subtle but vital change. In the weeks preceding the town hall, American Legion volunteers and staff members conducted nine virtual meetings with VA representatives to get a better understanding of the facility’s successes, challenges and more.

American Legion Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission Chairman Autrey James, who was among those attending the virtual meetings, presided over the town hall, hosted by Legion Post 5.

“Now we are following up with an in-person visit in Florida,” he said. “The idea is that we have already got a lot more information and we can be more focused on the different and unique aspects of this VA facility. For example, it gives us more time to spend on the ground with the polytrauma team there.”

Topics raised during the town hall included specialty care visits, community care, wait times for appointments, shelters for homeless women veterans, long

commutes to appointments and more. In Florida and other states, VA has alleviated long travel to VA centers by covering Uber rides for veterans through the [VHA-Uber Health Connect initiative](#).

“We want to make sure VA is our No. 1 care system for veterans,” James said. “System Worth Saving is a unique program. We have this cooperative effort with the VA. The Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission — that’s what our whole mission is, to make sure we have cooperation with the VA.”

The information gathered from the virtual exchanges, town hall and subsequent meetings with VA executives, clinicians and others will be compiled into a report to be shared with members of Congress, VA, and others.

“One of the things I want to hear from the VA staff is what they need from Congress,” said James, noting that he will accompany the American Legion national commander when he presents the Legion’s priorities to Congress in March.

During the town hall, American Legion officials, VA staff and others addressed issues and questions raised by veterans related to their health-care experiences at the Tampa VA. Another addition to the SWS visit was having a claims representative at the town hall to assist veterans. Representing the Legion were Philip Du, deputy director of Benefits and Claims, and Marty Callaghan, veterans disability claims specialist, while VA also provided patient advocates.

Army veteran Carlos Gill, the second vice commander at Post 5, coordinated the event. He is also the VAVS representative for the Tampa VA, where he gets his health care.

“I love it,” he said. “The care at the VA is awesome. I would suggest that all veterans in our area and those that come from different states also go to the VA because the facilities are very above par.”

Alan Cohen, National VA&R Commission vice chairman, explained why it’s so important for such a visit to take place in Florida, where 1.6 million veterans live.

“It’s important for the VA here in Florida to understand that we partner with them, encourage and do everything we possibly can to support their efforts for taking care of veterans,” said Cohen, department VA&R chairman and a member of Post 321 in Cooper City, Fla. “So, when we meet with clinicians and

administrators, we try to impress that we are the good guys, and we are on their side.”

Another benefit of these visits is that the Legion can pass along successful initiatives from one VA to another one. Cohen was quick to point out an example.

“The polytrauma unit here at James Haley hospital is second to none in this country,” he said. “The work they do there is just absolutely stunning.”

By all counts, the adjusted approach was off to a good start.

“Success would look like we would be much more in tandem with the entire staff at James Haley hospital, that they view us as partners and that they know we are not here for any adversarial reasons,” Cohen said. “If that is the big takeaway at the end of the week, I would consider it a success.”

Additional visits this year are planned for Phoenix, Chicago, and other cities.



VA announces \$5M in special needs grant funding for transitional supportive housing for homeless veterans

The American Legion | February 2, 2024

Today, as a part of ongoing efforts to end veteran homelessness, the Department of Veterans Affairs [published a Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for approximately \$5 million in grants per year (for up to two years) to help veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

The funds are available through VA’s [Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem](#) Program, which offers financial assistance to eligible community organizations that provide veterans with transitional housing and case management — including connecting eligible

veterans to VA benefits, community-based services, and permanent housing. These special needs grants support homeless veterans who are women, elderly, terminally ill, chronically mentally ill, or who have care of minor dependents.

Earlier this week, VA announced that it permanently housed 46,552 homeless veterans in 2023 — surpassing the calendar year goal to house 38,000 veterans by 22.5%. Thanks in part to these efforts, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness has fallen by 4% since early 2020 and by more than 52% since 2010.

“We won’t rest until every veteran has the safe, stable home that they deserve,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “These grants will allow VA — alongside community organizations — to help provide housing and wraparound services to more homeless and at-risk Veterans.”

[Only the 16 existing special need grantees](#) are eligible to apply. Awards will fund two years of operations starting fiscal year 2025 on Oct. 1, 2024, and ending Sept. 30, 2026. Grant applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time on April 15, 2024.

[View the special need NOFO](#), and [learn more about GPD](#) or email GPDGrants@va.gov. For more information about VA’s comprehensive efforts to end Veteran homelessness visit [VA.gov/homeless](https://va.gov/homeless).

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



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

Legion Family donates Girl Scout Cookies

Rusty Myers | January 28, 2024

Belleville, NJ – The Girl Scouts posted on Twitter in December 2018 that “Money can’t buy you happiness, but it can buy you several cases of Girl Scout cookies - and that’s kind of the same thing” ... and you know what, they are absolutely right

The American Legion Family of Post 105 in Belleville, which is made up of the American Legion’s veterans, the Sons of the American Legion (SAL), and the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA), donated this year 250 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies to our troops abroad and to our veterans in VA facilities at home. What started with a \$96 donation of cookies from the SAL in 2019 has exploded into a collective \$1,500 donation from the entire Legion Family of Belleville this year.

It’s about “Making our vets’ day a little sweeter,” as the “Cookie for Vets” program run by the state-level SAL says.

Through donations to Girl Scout Troops 20122 of Nutley and the Daisies of Troop 81250, the Legion Family will be sending \$850 of cookies to the serviceman around the world through the “donate cookies” option on the all-to-familiar cookie sheets, plus an additional \$650 to give to our veterans who are short or long-term residents of the VA facilities at Lyons and East Orange.

The Girl Scouts say that “Every package is filled with leadership and life lessons,” and in this case, that lesson is to say thanks to those who serve and have served this county in uniform. Last year, Troop 20122 scout Brinley Sullivan summed up the importance of giving cookies to our heroes last year by saying that “...delivering cookies made me feel like I was giving back ... A token of thanks.”

The serviceman overseas and around the world receive their cookies by a partnership between the Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey (GSHNJ) and Operation Jersey Cares, where they distribute what the GSHNJ calls “our collected Gifts of Caring.” All donations of cookies will go to U.S. military troops and veterans, with the cookies being included in care packages sent abroad. Said one SPC John Shackelford of the 325th



Combat Support Hospital (CSH) via the Operation Jersey Cares website, “Your care packages seem to come at the right time when soldiers are in need. We are so grateful that we not forgotten.” And the US Navy isn’t left out either – deliveries have made their way to ships like the USS Iwo Jima in the past.



SAL Squadron 105 Commander Steve Sangemino, Grace Myers, Girl Scout Troop 20122 of Nutley, ALA Unit 105 President MaryAnn Slaughter, Abigail Myers, Girl Scout Troop 20462 of Nutley, American Legion Post 105 Commander Joe Cobianni.

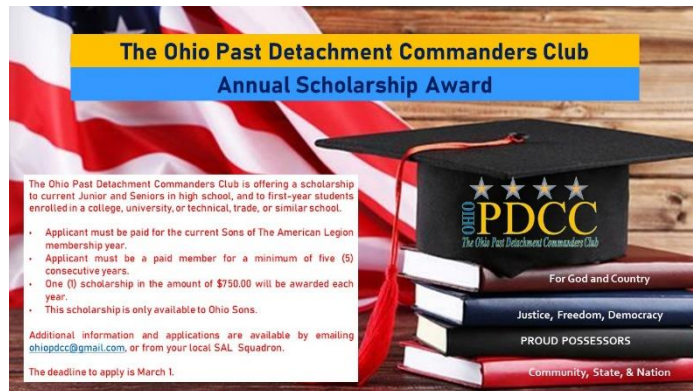
Sons of American Legion Post 105

A portion of the donation also goes to the state-level SAL Detachment of NJ Children and Youth program “Cookies for Vets,” where the cookies are bought through the Girls Scouts, and delivered to the two NJ VA hospitals by the scouts themselves along with young Sons. Last year, in its second year, \$2,200 of cookies made their way to our veterans seeking medical treatment at the two federal campuses in Lyons and East Orange. The drop-off is scheduled for April, which is American Legion Children and Youth Month. Girl Scouts Abigail and Grace Myers of Nutley went to Post 105 to sell cookies as well– where many of the folks there donated even more boxes to send overseas. The hope is that each bite of a Samoa or a Thin Mint cookie reminds these serviceman and veterans of how much the American Legion Family and Girl Scouts appreciates their service and sacrifice.

OPDCC scholarship deadline is March 1

[Lori McNelly](#), Portsmouth Daily Times | January 30, 2024

To encourage membership in the Ohio Sons of the American Legion, the Ohio Past Detachment Commanders Club offers another benefit to signing up sons and grandsons early.



During the 2022 membership year, the OPDCC offered and gave out their very first OPDCC scholarship, which will become an annual tradition. Eligibility requirements include the applicant must be a paid-up 2023 Sons Member of a Squadron in Detachment of Ohio and must have a minimum of five consecutive years of membership.

The OPDCC scholarship is offered to Ohio SAL members who are currently junior or senior high school students and to first-year students enrolled in a college, university, technical, trade, or similar school the year after high school graduation.

Additional information and a copy of the application can be obtained from any Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Ohio Past Commander or by emailing your name and squadron number to OhioOPDCC@gmail.com.

Applications are being accepted through March 1.

Apply for the 2024 American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year award

The American Legion | January 30, 2024

The 2024 American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year application is online for eligible applicants to apply. [Download the application.](#)

For American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year eligibility, the nominee must be:

- Either a registered active member of a Boy Scouts of America unit that is chartered to an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit, or Sons of The American Legion squadron; or
- A registered active member of any chartered Boy Scouts of America unit and have a parent or grandparent possessing up-to-date membership in The American Legion or Sons of The American

Legion or American Legion Auxiliary, and in the case of a recently deceased member, their membership for the year immediately prior to the current year may be used.

The nominees must also have:

- Received the Eagle Scout Award.
- Received a Scouts BSA or Venturer Religious Emblem.
- Demonstrated practical citizenship in church, school, Scouting and community.
- Reached their 15th birthday and be enrolled in high school at the time of selection.
- Applied through the American Legion department (state) in which their Scout unit is chartered.
- Current BSA membership.



Applicants that have questions or need additional information about their application, or the application process, should contact their respective American Legion department (state) headquarters. Department contact information is [online here](#).

An applicant's nomination packet must be received by their respective American Legion department headquarters no later than March 1, 2024. Award information is available at legion.org/scouting. Departments must select and certify their department's top nominee to American Legion National Headquarters no later than April 1, 2024.

The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year winner will be announced in May. The recipient will receive a \$10,000 scholarship. Three runner-up scholarship awards will be granted in the amount of \$2,500 each.



AMERICAN
LEGION
RIDERS



AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY



Lisa Williamson,
National President
The American Legion Auxiliary



CRE24

Central Region Extravaganza

Columbus, Ohio
April 5 - 7, 2024

Registration is now OPEN for **CRE24**. If you would like to attend, please email jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com. You must provide your name, detachment, email address, and cell number. **Registration is limited to 50 attendees.**

The event will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2024 at the Embassy Suites Columbus Airport. There will be events planned for both Friday and Saturday evenings, as well as a great day of training and educational opportunities.

If you would like to be a presenter, or have a topic you would like covered, please send an email to jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com.

Hotel reservations must be made directly with Embassy Suites Columbus Airport. Click [here](#) for hotel information. The deadline to make hotel reservations is March 6, 2024.

Please keep an eye out for more information, and we hope to see you in Columbus!

We are still accepting donations from squadrons, districts, and detachments to help offset the expenses of CRE24. If you would like to help, please email jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com for details.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

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

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

Address _____ (First) _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

E-mail Address _____ Telephone _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

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

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

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

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

Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant) _____

00-001 (2013)

RECEIPT

Date _____

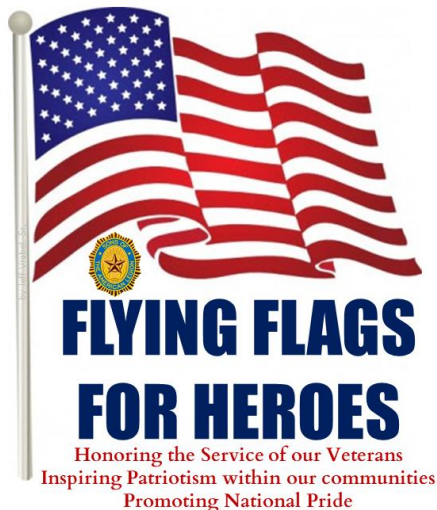
Received of _____

For God and Country _____

\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in

Squadron _____, Detachment of _____

By _____



Walk In Our Boots 5k

WHEN: April 20th 2024 8AM – 12PM

WHERE: Gahanna Veterans Memorial Park by Big Walnut Creek at Creekside

WHAT: Community Participation To Support Local Homeless Veterans

The Gahanna American Legion Post 797 is getting ready for our second annual "Walk In Our Boots 5K" where 100% of all proceeds are used to provide non-perishable food for the emergency food pantry, clothing, toiletries, and other necessities for local Veterans transitioning from homelessness to living in their own special apartment. We've partnered with National Church Residences who runs Livingston Commons on Livingston ave just east of James rd in Columbus. This is a 100 unit facility and currently has 92 once homeless men and women veteran residents. NCR is preparing to build another 100 unit facility which means twice as many residents will eventually need our help.

We are asking the Gahanna community to sign up and support our efforts to get as many local homeless veterans off the street and into proper living facilities. The community answered last year and we raised close to \$2000 and were able to help maintain an emergency food pantry. Help us make a difference in a homeless veteran's life and sign yourself up, sign up a team, sign up your neighborhood.

Because No Veteran Should be Homeless.

Entry fee is \$20 per person.

For more information call or email

Crystal Cockerell 1st Vice Commander cockerellcrystal@gmail.com

Tom Kneeland Finance Officer tom@tomkneeland.com [614] 383-8185

Signup after February 15th <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Gahanna/WalkInOurBoots>



CHARLES E. MURRAY
AMERICAN LEGION
POST 186
12091 Cortez Blvd
Brooksville, FL 34613-7350

CHILI COOK OFF



1st Annual Chili Cook-Off

Sunday February 4, 2024

**Bring your homemade Chili to the Legion by
12:30**

Judging starts at 1PM

Come with your chili or be a judge.

All are welcome

Free to enter and Free to eat!!!

50/50 Drawing

JAMES W. SULLIVAN SQUADRON 733
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
BETTSVILLE, OHIO

GUN RAFFLE

Saturday, March 16, 2024

Door opens at 5pm - Drawing starts at 6pm

Henry Golden Boy 22LR
Savage 93R17 pkg 17HMR wood
Ruger Am. 450 Bushmaster FDE
Savage 110 Apex w/scope
Beretta 92FS 9mm

Springfield Hellcat 9mm
Ruger American 350 Legend 60 Wild
Tristar Setter o/u 12 or 20ga
Beretta A300 Ultima 12ga semi syn
Smith & Wesson Sport II 5.56

For every 90 tickets sold after 900 another gun will be added
Each ticket may win one or more guns

Need not be present to win

Food - side raffles - prizes

Donation - \$10

Must be 21 and have ticket to enter

FINDLAY AMERICAN LEGION STEAK FRY SATURDAY MAY 18TH

DINNER 6-8

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 8-11

\$22.00/PERSON RSVP BY 5/1

10oz. RIBEYE STEAK
LOADED BAKED POTATO
MIXED VEGETABLES
SIDE SALAD
DINNER ROLL



DEAN MAG VOCALS
CASH BAR
SHUTTLE TO/FROM
HOTEL
CASH BAR

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND, PLEASE RSVP AND PAY BY 5/1/2024

FILL OUT AND DETACH HERE. TICKETS WILL BE MAILED TO YOU

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

HEAD COUNT _____ AMT. ENCLOSED _____ (\$22.00 X HEAD COUNT)

MAIL TO: FINDLAY AMERICAN LEGION QUESTIONS?
ATTN: STEAK FRY 419-422-0552
120 W FRONT ST
FINDLAY, OH 45840



Post 615
174 South Fourth Street
Waynesville, Oh

Open to
the public

BREAKFAST
is served!

FEBRUARY 24TH 9-12

Adults \$10 a plate or \$15 all you can eat!
Kids 10 and under \$5

Biscuits, gravy, pancakes, eggs, sausage and bacon
Coffee, milk & orange juice



**3rd Annual Car
Show & Open House**

AMERICAN LEGION POST 28

May 11, 2024 11AM - 3PM

17934 LIMING LANE, TRIANGLE, VA 22172



Cars, Trucks & Motorcycles



JOIN US FOR MUSIC, FOOD & DRINKS, GAMES, & RAFFLES

\$25 ENTRANCE FEE

RAIN DATE: JUNE 1, 2024



Squadron Everlasting

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

Jimmy Liggett Jr.



Jimmy Howard Liggett, Jr., born January 5, 1952 in Fort Wayne, Indiana, passed away on January 22, 2024 at the age of 72 at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana. He was surrounded by his loving family.

Mr. Liggett was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana to Jimmy H., Sr., and Betty Jean Liggett on January 5, 1952. He attended Fort Wayne Northside High School, class of 1970. He worked in Allen and Monroe Counties in real estate, operated a funeral home, and drove delivery and dump trucks. In October 1971, Jimmy married Jacquelyn Ann Johnston, also of Fort Wayne. In 2009, the couple moved to Monroe County, to make a home near family, including granddaughter Fiona.

In life, Jimmy was a member of the Sons of the American Legion and loved woodworking, reading, bible study, smoking the perfect brisket and cooking for his family. He had recently completed custom pantry shelves with his son Chris, which have yet to be painted.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Jacquelyn (née Johnston), sons Matthew (Marie Liu) of Santa Rosa, CA, Christopher (Susan), granddaughters Emma Fischer (Marissa Cavanaugh) and Fiona, sister Cherie King of Sebring, FL, and several nieces and nephews. Jimmy was preceded in death by his parents.

A private graveside service was held for family in Bloomington on Friday, January 26, 2024.

Services have been entrusted to Allen Funeral Home & Crematory. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allen-cares.com.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Friends of the

Monroe County Public Library, or the American Cancer Society.

Posted online on January 26, 2024. Published in The Herald Times.

Edward "Daisey" Day



Edward L. "Daisey" Day, 77, of St. Clairsville, Ohio, passed away peacefully January 27, 2024, at his home surrounded by his family.

He was born January 15, 1947, in Bellaire, Ohio, a son of the late Alfred L. Day and Marguerite Jeffers Day.

Ed was a good husband, father, and grandfather. He was a retired coal miner and enjoyed bowling, golfing, and following Nascar. He was a 50-year member of Weyer Lodge #541 F. & A.M. in Centerville, a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Steubenville, the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #2541 in St. Clairsville, the Foresters in Lansing, and the Sons of the American Legion in Glencoe.

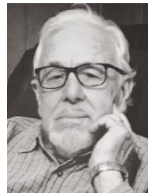
In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Rose-lynn Day and a brother-in-law, Jack Hupp.

Ed is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Kay Pinkston Day; two sons, Jim (Tanya) Pinkston and Brent (Diane) Pinkston; a sister, Regina Hupp; a brother, Charles (Anita) Day; six grandchildren, Tyler (Marissa) Pinkston, Travis (Courtney) Pinkston, Darian (Tyler) Pinkston Clark, Carina (Nikko Arroz) Pinkston, Bryan (Vivica) Bannan and Allyson Bannan; 4 great grandchildren, Jameson, Paisley, Easton, and Brayah; nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will be received on Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., with Masonic Service at 7:45 p.m., at the Toothman Funeral Home in St. Clairsville, Ohio, where services will be held on Thursday at 11 a.m. with Rev. Dave St. Aubin officiating. The burial will follow in Holly Memorial Gardens in Pleasant Grove.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Thoburn United Methodist Church Agape Fund, Box 4, St. Clairsville, OH 43950.

Dennis Weimer



Dennis D. Weimer, 82, of New Holstein passed away peacefully on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024 at Sharon S. Richardson Community Hospice in Sheboygan Falls.

Dennis was born Aug. 27, 1941 in New Holstein, son of the late David and Alice (Wagner) Weimer of New Holstein. He graduated from New Holstein High School in 1960. Dennis married Pamela (Vincent) Munson March 29, 2003 in Green Valley, Arizona. Dennis was previously married to Lonni (Ische) Weimer from March 1962 until her death in 2001.

Dennis and Lonni moved from Milwaukee back to the rural New Holstein area in the early 1970s. While Dennis worked for the Xerox company at the time, his love for the outdoors and his remarkable artistic abilities called him to start Chapel Hill Landscaping, a family business that proudly served the greater New Holstein area for many years. In his spare time, Dennis put his artistic abilities and eyes to work through his many paintings, wildlife carvings and other creative artifacts, many of which made their way to family, friends, and local businesses to display in their homes and establishments. Dennis taught master classes in art and painting at Lakeshore Technical College in Cleveland and at Green Valley Recreation center in Green Valley, Arizona.

Dennis's love for the outdoors and American and old west history brought about his desire for traveling and camping. Through the years he visited and toured many National Parks and explored the Lewis and Clark Trail and the battlefields of the Civil War on numerous occasions. He especially enjoyed his winters at his villa in Green Valley, as well as his adventures to many of Arizona's ghost towns. Many of these travels and explorations were done aboard his Harley-Davidson 100th Anniversary model motorcycle.

Most notable was Dennis's love for God, his family, and the United States of America. Dennis was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in New Holstein and Lutheran Church of the Risen Savior in Green Valley. He was also a member of

the Green Valley Post 131 Sons of the American Legion.

Survivors include his wife, Pamela; his four children, Sergeant (Ret.) Daniel (Debra) Weimer of Glendale, Arizona; Matt (Elizabeth) Weimer of Marco Island, Florida; Jennifer (Tim) Schaid of Verona; and Amanda Weimer of Los Angeles, California; three stepchildren, Jason (Jennifer) Munson of New London, Joshua (Julie) Munson of Manitowoc and Lucas Munson of Manitowoc; grandchildren, Brian (fiancée' Brittane) Weimer, Tina (Dustin) Carmichael, Nicole Weimer, Brittney Weimer, Carson (Carina) Weimer, Connor Weimer, Callum Weimer, Nicholas (Valerie) Schaid, Elise (Andy) Anhalt, Kelsey (Alex) Kirwan, Elijah Noworatzky, Mackenzie Munson, Zachary Munson, Kylee Munson and Jonathan Munson; and 13 great-grandchildren.

He is further survived by his sister, Bonnie (Jim) Junkans of Green Bay.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Lonni; a brother, Richard (the late Janette) Weimer of Milwaukee; and a sister, DeLane (the late Peter) Carini of Franklin.

Services will be at 11 on Friday, Feb. 9 at Zion Lutheran Church, 1702 Vanburen St. New Holstein, with the Rev. Azor Cigelske officiating. Friends may call at Zion Lutheran Church on Friday, Feb. 9 from 9 until 10:45.

The family would like to thank the Sharon S. Richardson Community Hospice team for their care and compassion the last six months; especially Kristin Shepherd, Chris Schmidt, Kaitlyn Blatz, Chaplain Kevin Spaeth and Chaplain Joe Zenk. Special thanks also go to Dennis's caregiver, Laurel Sherry, Pastor Azor Cigelski and the prayer warriors of Zion Lutheran Church. For further details, please contact Sippel Funeral Home in New Holstein at 920-898-4300 or visit www.sippelfuneralhome.net.

Randolph G. Morrison Sr.



GLENFIELD, New York (WWNY) - Randolph G. "Randy" Morrison Sr., 77, of Chases Lake Road, passed away Sunday afternoon, January 28, 2024 at Lewis County Health System Hospital.

The funeral will be at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 2, 2024 at Ise-neker Funeral Home, Inc. with

Deacon Ron Gingerich officiating. A luncheon at the Lowville Fire Department will immediately follow the funeral, all are welcome. Any food donations may be taken directly to the fire hall beginning at 11:00 a.m. Calling hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 2, 2024 prior to the funeral service, at the funeral home. Spring burial will be in Lowville Rural Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Lowville Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 81, Lowville, NY 13367; or Lewis County Humane Society, P.O. Box 682, Lowville, NY 13367.

Randy is survived by his wife of nearly 20 years, Jane; his children and their spouses, Randy G. Jr. and Sue Morrison of Gouverneur; James M. Morrison of Danville, VA; Stephen J. Morrison of Lowville; Amanda M. Sullivan and her companion Rob West, of Glenfield; Sara F. and Josh Clark of Lowville; two step-children, Jessica Busch Johndrow and her husband Louis Johndrow of LaFargeville; Daniel Busch II of Castorland; 18 grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren and two on the way; his siblings Robert and Dee Morrison of Beaver Falls; Linda Nagy of Brantingham; Carol and Everette Haggerty of Denmark; Kenny and Elaine Morrison of Lowville; Carl and Karen Morrison of Martinsburg; Margie and Steve Birchenough of Houseville; Kay and Tom Wolff of Belfort; Richard and Patti Morrison of Harrisville; Scott Manzer of Lowville; nieces, nephews and cousins. He is predeceased by a sister, Lorna Manzer.

Randy was born in Lowville, NY on March 12, 1946, the oldest child of the late Elmer F. and Marjorie I. Ortlieb Morrison. He attended country school on the West Road in Martinsburg and graduated from Lowville Academy in 1964. Randy began working for Climax Manufacturing, Castorland. On June 26, 1965, he married Francis L. Adams at Martinsburg United Methodist Church. They were married nearly 30 years when Francis passed away on February 7, 1995. On December 12, 2004, Randy married Jane Ashcroft Busch at their home in Watson. Randy retired from Climax Manufacturing in Lowville as a truck driver after 44 years with the company. He was a longtime member of Lowville Volunteer Fire Department, and a member of Lowville Sons of the American Legion Post #162. Randy bowled with the Lowville Upholstery bowling team for many years. He was a little league coach when his boys played and long after. Randy enjoyed hunting & fishing, spending time at

"Camp Moto," socializing with family and friends and doing jig saw puzzles.

Condolences may be shared with Randy's family at www.isenekerfuneralhome.com.

Elwood Mohawk, Jr.



Elwood Mohawk, Jr. age 66, of Gowanda passed away unexpectedly Monday evening, January 29, 2024 at Bertrand Chaffee Hospital in Springville. He was born in Gowanda into the Turtle Clan on April 2, 1957, the son of Elwood Sr. and Ellen "Ellie" (John) Mohawk.

Elwood retired in 2017 as a steamfitter from the Plumber and Steamfitters Local 22 in Buffalo. Before working for Local 395, he had 30+ years with the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union.

Elwood was a life member of the James Cruden VFW Post 5007 Auxiliary and was a Son with the American Legion Post 409, both of Gowanda.

Survivors include his wife, Kathleen (Vance) Mohawk; two sons, Elwood "Bradley" (Heather) Mohawk and Andrew Mohawk of Gowanda; a grandson, Karson Mohawk of Gowanda; three sisters, Sharon (Elmer John) Mohawk of Irving, LouAnn and Susan Mohawk of Gowanda; along with three nieces and a nephew. Elwood was preceded in death by his parents.

Friends may call at the Schindler Funeral Home, 44 Center Street in Gowanda from 2:00-5:00 PM on Friday, February 2, with a prayer at 5:00 PM.

If desired, memorials may be made to local charity of one's choice.

David Harvey McIntyre Sr.



Greensboro/Sumnerfield - David Harvey McIntyre, Sr., 68, affectionately known as Dave, Dad, and BaBa, passed away Sunday, January 28, 2024. He was born June 8, 1955 in Venezuela to the late Harvey Charles McIntyre and Ruth Baker McIntyre. In addition to his parents, Dave was also preceded in death by his brother, Robert McIntyre.

Dave cherished his family and is survived by his wife of 42 years, Darcy Heath McIntyre, whom he

met in Miami and enjoyed traveling the world with. Together they had two sons, David H. McIntyre II, and Jake McIntyre. In addition to his wife and sons, he is also survived by his daughter in law Rachel and grandson David "Mac" H. McIntyre III; sister Ellen Heagy and her husband Rick; brother Ralph McIntyre and his wife Mary; nieces Sydney Heagy, Kirsten (Ally) Heagy, and Kathleen McIntyre; and nephew Tom McIntyre.

Dave grew up in various countries in South America and the Caribbean before moving back to the United States and completing high school in Fredericktown, PA. He received his undergraduate degree in History from Florida International University and received his MBA from the University of Miami. Professionally, Dave did business development in Latin America and the Caribbean for over 40 years and was fluent in three languages. His recent years were dedicated to one of his most cherished roles yet - being "BaBa" to his precious grandson Mac.

Dave was passionate about his Scottish heritage and served as a board member of the Clan MacIntyre Association. He was also a member of the Sons of the American Legion and Elks Lodge #602 in Greensboro, NC. He enjoyed spending time with his family, reading, history, traveling and cooking.

Dave will be remembered affectionately by those who knew him for his humor, love of travel, wittiness, love of his country and loyalty to his family and friends.

The family is planning a private memorial service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the Amyloidosis Foundation: <https://www.amyloidosis.org/>.

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



RENEW!

If you would like to see Round-Up continue, please consider making a donation to offset expenses.

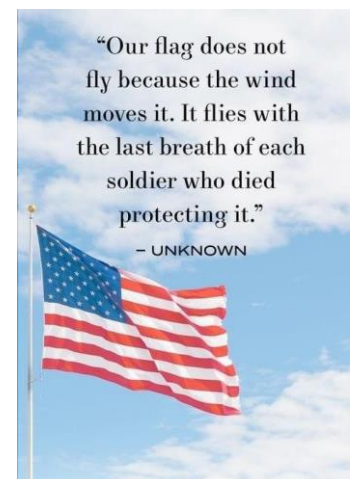
Thank you!

Jeff Vrabel Sr

@Jeff-VrabelSr



venmo



AMERICAN LEGION



Daniel J. Seehafer,
National Commander
The American Legion

Daniel J. Seehafer, National Commander
The American Legion

American Legion National Commander honors Four Chaplains in Florida

The American Legion | January 30, 2024



American Legion National Commander Seehafer, an ordained minister and former Navy chaplain, spoke during a Four Chaplains ceremony at NSU Guy

Harvey Oceanographic Center Campus in Dania Beach, Fla.

During his address, Commander Seehafer reflected on how the legacy of the chaplains who sacrificed themselves on the USS *Dorchester* during World War II have inspired servant leadership across generations.

MOH recipient Roger Donlon passes away

The American Legion | January 25, 2024



Retired Army Col. Roger Donlon, the first Medal of Honor recipient of the Vietnam War, passed away Jan. 25. He was 89.

On July 6, 1964, then-Capt. Donlon was the commanding officer at Camp Nam Dong, Vietnam, when a Viet Cong battalion launched a pre-dawn attack. During the next five hours, Donlon repeatedly exposed himself to heavy fire while defending against the enemy, moving ammunitions

and weaponry to effective positions, aiding the wounded, and rallying his men.



Throughout the battle, he was severely injured several times but persevered and insisted others receive medical attention before him. When the sun finally came up, the enemy retreated into the jungle. Donlon's bravery and leadership had resulted in the defeat of the attackers and preserving the lives of the friendly Vietnamese camp defenders and fellow Americans.

He shared his story with The American Legion [in a 2017 interview](#). "The Legion has been a touchstone for myself, my brother, my whole family," he said.

Donlon, a longtime member of American Legion Post 172 in New York, was also the first veteran of the Vietnam War to receive The American Legion's Distinguished Service Medal in 1966.

"The American Legion has chosen to make its acknowledgement by honoring a man who, to us, symbolizes all of the brave men our country has sent to Vietnam," said National Commander L. Eldon James.

Upon receiving the medal, Donlon said, "We fought to keep what we have, and sometimes I think it is equally important to share what we have."

'The greatest name in the fleet'

[Matt Grills](#) | January 29, 2024

Navy Cmdr. Matthew Arndt of USS *Indianapolis* (LCS 17) arrived home in Mayport, Fla., just in time for Christmas, after a milestone six-month deployment for the littoral combat ship.

He wasn't done traveling, though. In mid-January, Arndt – accompanied by two crewmembers, Gunner's Mate 1st Class Maan Alquran and Operations Specialist 1st Class Marq Hamby – headed to *Indianapolis*' namesake city. Over three days, they visited the Indiana War Memorial and Soldiers & Sailors Monument, participated in a public meet-and-greet at Fort Harrison Public Library, attended Gov. Eric Holcomb's State of the State address, and were recognized by the Indiana General Assembly for the "ongoing military efforts of the USS *Indianapolis* and its crew." The ship is the fourth Navy vessel to bear the city's name.

While in town, the sailors also placed a wreath at the USS *Indianapolis* CA 35 Memorial, honoring the 879 men killed when the World War II cruiser was

torpedoed and sunk July 30, 1945. Of the 316 who survived what is widely considered the Navy's worst disaster at sea, one is living.

Following a tour of American Legion National Headquarters, Arndt talked with The American Legion about the future of the Navy's littoral combat ship (LCS) program, the legacy of USS *Indianapolis* ("the greatest name in the fleet") and more.

***Indianapolis* just returned from what DoD called a "historic deployment" in the Middle East. What did your ship and crew accomplish?**

A little history about LCS – we were designed as a product of 9/11. We were fighting wars in the Middle East, a lot of swarm tactics were developed at that time by the Iranians, and these ships were designed to have a multi-mission reconfigurable platform that could operate close to shore, very fast, capable against small craft and submarines. The submarine package didn't really work out, and a mine warfare package was envisioned to be our focus. That's actually on the *Independence*-class now, and the *Freedom*-class LCS are all surface warfare variant ships, which means a lot of guns, vertically launched Hellfire Longbow missiles for small ship defense and a limited anti-air capability. So, the two theaters of operation the ship is perfect for are 5th Fleet in the Middle East and 4th Fleet doing drug interdiction ops with the Coast Guard. It's not so much blue water as it's close in, a lot of spots for us to stop for fuel and provisions, and because we can go really fast, we can chase down drug runners or fast inshore attack craft.

Our mission really was to go prove we could be deployed. As soon as we got into theater, 5th Fleet was interested in getting us involved in literally everything. Trials and tribulations, bumps in the road, but we proved we could be operationally sustainable out there, and we proved that the small crew exchange chain of command concept could actually be executed in the Middle East. More than anything, we proved that operations with LCS are effective. We had a national tasking mission that I think is still classified, but we flawlessly executed that. We proved that personnel delivery via MV-22 Ospreys onto LCS is possible. We interdicted an attempted hijacking in the Strait of Hormuz. We regularly encountered IRGCN (Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy) forces who didn't really know what to make of us. I think from a force availability standpoint, having us out there, having us different, having us visible – it was something the Iranians weren't

expecting. It was one more factor in the calculus of how they were going to act.

When the Israel-Hamas crisis kicked off, there was a big pull for the cruiser-destroyer (CRUDES) elements down to the Red Sea. That left a void in the Strait of Hormuz escort mission and the presence of mission in the Gulf, and that's what we filled. We were also there as the smaller-size ship that more closely resembles the ships for the Gulf Cooperation Council nations, so we operated in a lot of international exercises.

***Indianapolis* also participated in Digital Talon 2.0, a teaming of manned and unmanned systems. Describe that exercise.**

Digital Talon is one of the exercises we conducted with Task Force 59, which is the new kind of unmanned task force that Vice Adm. Brad Cooper has stood up out there. They brought us into a mesh network controlling all the unmanned assets: three floating assets, one flying asset and ordnance launched from one of the surface vessels that was basically a loitering munition. For the first time in the history of Task Force 59, they had an LCS as the mothership, relaying all these individual feeds to a single pane of glass back in Bahrain so they could see all these things in one spot. The force multiplication of that, it's pretty big. I think it was a big step forward in this ongoing science project going over there with maritime awareness being provided by robots. To be in the middle of that is pretty exciting.

Tell us more about *Indianapolis*' crew swap and how that works.

We're the last *Freedom*-class LCS to have the two-crew construct. The original theory behind this was to get the operational availability out of the hulls, you have to send the ships forward, and if the ship is going to have a two-year deployment order – well, you can't keep a crew deployed for two years, so you have to have crews that can go meet the ship. They're each fully proficient independently and can perform all the functions required to maintain and operate the ship. So that's what we do. About every five months we spend about a week with both crews co-located, turning over all the parts and pieces and programs, and at the end of the week the other CO takes it, and they go off and do their thing. We go back stateside and exist in an office building for a few months where we recertify on some warfare areas and get caught up on admin. And we get some down time. We're Blue Crew. The other crew is Gold Crew. That two-crew concept is coming to an end. In fact,

when we go back and take it, that's going to be the last time an exchange of command happens. We'll take it, and that's the crew. It was an interesting experiment, but it's over.

learned with LCS, by the time you get the thing you bought it's not the thing you need anymore. You're going to hear a lot of opinions about whether we need volume, quantity, or quality. It depends. It really does.

The LCS has been criticized for breakdowns, weapons failures, and ballooning costs, with some experts saying the platform didn't deliver on its promise. Is that accurate?

I think some of it's accurate. There's a lot of new unproven technology on these ships. We were the first to get SPS-80 radar, and we had a different combat system as the first LCS *Freedom*-class to get SeaRAM. There are integration issues we have encountered. Reliability wise, I think every ship class has growing pains. From the stories I've heard, there was a lot of talk around the *Arleigh Burkes* when they first came out: We needed something else, we needed something new, and now we can't get enough of them. We got over the learning curve and got them the resources they needed – the intellectual property resources, the equipment resources, the part suppliers and the manufacturers. It became this self-sustaining ecosystem to keep these ships going, which is proven out today that that's exactly what we needed.

(The LCS) don't have that yet, and I think it's due in part to confusion on the part of the organization about what do we do with them. They were built for the last war. Instead of finding missions for which they're purpose-built, we were trying to make them work for missions that already existed. LCS is very good at doing one thing at a time. The crew's very small, 75 people. I have three people on the bridge at any one time driving the ship, and one is the engineer. When we start trying to do multiple things, the entire crew ends up involved and you can tire everyone out quickly. So, I think these ships got a bad rap from the beginning because they weren't as capable as the ubiquitous *Arleigh Burke* – highly visible, highly touted. But they were never supposed to be.

The more I've dug into the history and creation of the LCS program, we got exactly what we asked for. We got exactly what we paid for. The LCS sailors of today are now charged with figuring out how to make it all work. There is no possible way to figure out how to make it all work unless you're out deploying, out operating, out breaking things and doing the things that provide you the data points that turn information into wisdom. We gained a lot of wisdom in five and a half months operating in the Middle East.



Navy Cmdr. Matthew Arndt, center, Operations Specialist 1st Class Marq Hamby, left, and Gunner's Mate 1st Class Maan Alquran of USS Indianapolis (LCS 17) visit the USS Indianapolis CA 35 Memorial on Jan. 9, during a visit to their ship's namesake city.

Photo by Matt Grills

A recent *Washington Post* op-ed argues that while America needs a bigger Navy, a more lethal one would be better. What are your thoughts on that, and how does LCS fit into that vision?

I am solidly in the camp of "It depends." I think that national defense strategy has to be clear on what we're trying to do, and that's going to dictate what we need to do it. With the rise of the near-peer competitors, I think you need both volume and lethality. It's not enough to be out there looking scary, as we've found out, but volume comes in many different forms.

Is it a bunch of smaller ships? Is it a bunch of *Arleigh Burke* destroyers that the nation can't afford to have a thousand of out there floating around? I think you need a lot of stuff, and that stuff needs to be as lethal as possible, but what that mixture looks like is heavily dependent on what the president and the nation say we need it to go do, and we really need to be clear on that.

If someone asked you 10 years ago what you thought we'd be doing 10 years from now, you never would have guessed any of the things going on, because the world always gets a vote. That's the difficulty with future fleet architecture; the things you think you'll need 10 or 12 years from now, you have to start today. That's how long it takes to go from concept to creation to capability. And a lot of times, like we

Your ship carries the name and legacy of USS *Indianapolis*. How does that history shape the crew and culture of LCS 17?

I think we have the greatest name in the fleet. It's definitely one of the most famous. For me personally, it makes me think twice about how we are represented in every aspect of what we do. I'm not going to let those guys down, the 316 who survived and the 879 who perished that day. Because we exist, they continue to be remembered. The ship itself is a floating monument to the *Indianapolis*. We've got the 500 in there, we've got CA 35 in there; all four versions of the ship are represented within that one hull.

On LCS typically we have two crews, and each crew would have their own mascot. When I came onboard as executive officer, we're on *Indianapolis*. *Indianapolis* deserves more than some mythical creature being the representation of this ship and this namesake. We dropped our mascot, and we're Indy; that's what we are. In a trophy case outside my office onboard is a newspaper from the day Japan surrendered, and in it is this little, tiny paragraph: "*Indianapolis* sunk." I see that every single day as a reminder that this is a very serious job, and we have an important duty and responsibility to make sure we are always representing those who came before us.

Why is a namesake visit like this important for you and your crew?

I think for the same reason it's important for elected representatives to have offices in their districts. You want to see the people you are representing. We see the images (of the city of Indianapolis) on board. We see the Speedway, we see the skyline, but to be able to experience it does a little bit more to weld that bond. In my 29 years of doing this, this is the most contact with a commissioning committee I've ever had on any ship I've ever been on. It's pretty special. The gratitude from the people of Indianapolis ... we walked into a restaurant, and everybody wanted to say hi to us. We don't get that in Jacksonville or Norfolk. When we come here, it gives the people we serve an opportunity to see that we're real, that we exist, and they get to see where their tax dollars are going. Is the typical Midwesterner going to travel to a fleet concentration area to see what the Navy's all about? It's much easier to bring the Navy here than it is to bring them to the Navy.

The American Legion's Be the One mission is about reducing the veteran suicide rate and destigmatizing asking for mental health support. As a ship's CO, share your thoughts

about mental health awareness, stress, and reducing the risk of suicide during and after service.

It's a concerted effort to get the message out that asking for help is a strength and not a weakness. I think we've gotten to a much better place, but we still have a long way to go. On the clinician side, there's some metamorphosis that has to happen with understanding shipboard stress, shipboard life, and shipboard requirements, but the first step is our guys have to talk to them to give them that body of knowledge and data points.

My job as a CO is to know my people, to be able to understand when something's off, to ask if they want to talk to somebody and give them the time and space and confidentiality to do that. The Navy's gotten much better about providing the resources. A lot of times it is difficult, especially on this platform; depending on who it is, if you take that person out of the game, you just lost, like, five people, because they're doing so many things all at the same time. That requires a big shift in leadership to say, "Whatever we're doing can wait, because if I don't get you healthy, I'm going to lose you and I'm going to have a gap." For guys like me, that's not the way we grew up, so there's a learning curve for us as well.

Matt Grills is managing editor of The American Legion Magazine.



Share your plans to honor veterans for Black History Month

The American Legion | February 1, 2024

February is Black History Month. Nationwide, American Legion Family members commemorate by hosting or participating in events that honor Black servicemembers and educate the public about the roles they played in military history and today.

The American Legion wants to hear how your Legion Family is celebrating Black History Month, as well as see stories and photos from veterans and their loved ones. You can share on the [Legiontown platform](#) under categories ranging from My Time in Uniform to Memories of Basic Training. These contributions honor the sacrifices of Black servicemembers such as the Buffalo Soldiers, the Harlem Hellfighters, and the Tuskegee Airmen, as well as the men and women who honorably serve their nation today.

If you are traveling during February – or any other month – consider making a stop at one of these sites to learn about the long history of Black military experience in the United States.

African American Civil War Memorial & Museum, Washington, D.C. In the historical U Street district of the nation's capital sits the museum and nearby memorial. On the memorial's Wall of Honor are inscribed the names of 209,145 U.S. Colored Troops (USCT) soldiers who fought in the war. The museum features artifacts, documents, personal stories and more. Admission is free.

African American Medal of Honor Recipients Memorial, Wilmington, Del. Since its inception, 92 Medals of Honor have been awarded to African American servicemembers or veterans. This granite memorial in Brandywine Park explains the pre-eminence of the award and lists names of recipients, along with life-size bronze figures of Civil War and World War II soldiers.

African American Military History Museum, Hattiesburg, Miss. This museum is located in the former East Sixth Street USO building at Camp Shelby, which later became a Black community center. Holdings include uniforms, flags and more. The museum also provides educational resources in history, arts, and STEM. The structure has National Historic Landmark and Mississippi Landmark status. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated.



African American Veterans Monument, Buffalo, N.Y.

African American Veterans Monument, Buffalo, N.Y. Dedicated in September 2022, this monument in Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park is described on its website as “the first of its kind to recognize the contributions of Blacks who have served and are currently serving in all six branches of the military, during war and in peace times. Black servicemembers have fought in all 12 of the United States’ military conflicts since the country’s first war, whether they enlisted voluntarily, or were drafted.”

Buffalo Soldiers National Museum, Houston. The Buffalo Soldiers are brought to life in this Midtown museum through the visual and performing arts, exhibitions, and educational programming. The museum’s website, [buffalosoldiersmuseum.org](#), links to a database of names, hometowns, and occupations.

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NATIONAL COMMANDER'S CHALLENGE			
NATIONAL FOUR PILLAR SQUADRON CRITERIA & VALIDATION FORM			
Children and Youth			
Donate \$1.00 for Squadron's membership total as of July 31, 2023 to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. <i>Please list check # and submission date:</i>			
<input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)			
Donate \$1.00 for Squadron's membership total as of July 31, 2023 to The American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors. <i>Please list check # and submission date:</i>			
<input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
Americanism			
Donate \$1.00 for Squadron's membership total as of July 31, 2023 to your home Department's American Legion Boys State Program. <i>Please list check # and submission date:</i>			
<input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
National Security			
Host a blood drive or donate \$1.00 for Squadron's membership total as of July 31, 2023 payable to the hosting organization of the blood drive. <i>Please list date blood drive held, quantity of blood donated & recipient organization and/or list check # and submission date:</i>			
<input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
Squadron Name: <input type="text"/>		Squadron No: <input type="text"/>	
Squadron Address: <input type="text"/>			
Submitted By: <input type="text"/>		Title: <input type="text"/>	
Return Application to Thomas Deal, 1434 Clayton Street, Perryville, MD 21903 (email) tom.deal@verizon.net			

2024 SAL Membership Report: February 1, 2024

#	DETACHMENT	2024 DET. YEAR END GOAL	NEEDED TO MEET 75% TARGET 2/14/2024	2024 ACTUAL MBRSHP	% OF YEAR END GOAL	2024 RENEWAL %
1	HAWAII	120	-29	119	99.17%	97.48
2	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,611	-335	1,543	95.78%	82.24
3	FRANCE	168	-29	155	92.26%	81.93
4	NORTH DAKOTA	1,075	-184	990	92.09%	83.02
5	WISCONSIN	4,398	-696	3,994	90.81%	81.57
6	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,570	-199	1,376	87.64%	74.37
7	FLORIDA	23,066	-2,784	20,083	87.07%	73.34
8	LOUISIANA	1,821	-158	1,524	83.69%	77.26
9	OREGON	1,534	-131	1,281	83.51%	68.76
10	RHODE ISLAND	348	-29	290	83.33%	71.84
11	ILLINOIS	13,716	-1,140	11,427	83.31%	77.32
12	IOWA	4,914	-405	4,090	83.23%	76.33
13	MARYLAND	16,803	-1,256	13,858	82.47%	75.42
14	MINNESOTA	11,435	-733	9,309	81.41%	75.60
15	MICHIGAN	26,236	-1,659	21,336	81.32%	73.20
16	OHIO	31,690	-1,995	25,762	81.29%	74.99
17	CONNECTICUT	1,865	-110	1,509	80.91%	70.63
18	PENNSYLVANIA	62,746	-3,696	50,755	80.89%	75.43
19	NORTH CAROLINA	2,770	-158	2,235	80.69%	67.08
20	VERMONT	3,920	-208	3,148	80.31%	75.03
21	ALABAMA	2,100	-111	1,686	80.29%	69.57
22	GEORGIA	4,887	-255	3,920	80.21%	70.55
23	NEW YORK	30,663	-1,563	24,560	80.10%	73.51
24	VIRGINIA	4,367	-195	3,470	79.46%	69.29
25	NEBRASKA	6,992	-304	5,548	79.35%	75.92
26	INDIANA	37,244	-1,484	29,417	78.98%	73.36
27	MISSISSIPPI	736	-29	581	78.94%	68.77
28	ARIZONA	8,595	-285	6,731	78.31%	65.45
29	PUERTO RICO	156	-5	122	78.21%	73.20
30	MONTANA	1,091	-29	847	77.64%	73.00
31	NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,027	-135	4,655	77.24%	68.74
32	DELAWARE	2,596	-53	2,000	77.04%	69.00
33	TENNESSEE	1,792	-30	1,374	76.67%	64.85
34	NEW MEXICO	1,582	-25	1,211	76.55%	60.24
35	IDAHO	659	4	490	74.36%	56.97
36	KANSAS	6,055	58	4,483	74.04%	68.41
37	CALIFORNIA	11,292	121	8,348	73.93%	64.07
38	MASSACHUSETTS	5,432	65	4,009	73.80%	67.03
39	DIST OF COL	91	1	67	73.63%	68.18
40	MAINE	2,757	42	2,026	73.49%	65.04
41	ARKANSAS	406	7	298	73.40%	58.37
42	UTAH	460	8	337	73.26%	65.55
43	TEXAS	5,783	101	4,236	73.25%	63.18
44	MISSOURI	3,337	59	2,444	73.24%	65.40
45	WYOMING	1,248	26	910	72.92%	65.17
46	LATIN AMERICA	33	1	24	72.73%	34.38
47	NEW JERSEY	9,662	268	6,979	72.23%	64.40
48	WEST VIRGINIA	2,593	78	1,867	72.00%	63.09
49	ALASKA	1,740	58	1,247	71.67%	59.58
50	COLORADO	2,952	138	2,076	70.33%	60.62
51	WASHINGTON	2,682	132	1,880	70.10%	56.39
52	NEVADA	387	26	264	68.22%	58.73
53	OKLAHOMA	1,430	138	935	65.38%	52.70
54	KENTUCKY	2,399	231	1,568	65.36%	56.03
55	PHILIPPINES	79	15	44	55.70%	53.16
Grand Totals:		382,111	-18,855	305,438	79.93%	72.25

2024 SAL Regional Breakdown

Western Region - James R. Fischer, Sr. (CA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
HAWAII	120	119	99.17%
OREGON	1,534	1,281	83.51%
ARIZONA	8,595	6,731	78.31%
MONTANA	1,091	847	77.64%
NEW MEXICO	1,582	1,211	76.55%
IDAHO	659	490	74.36%
CALIFORNIA	11,292	8,348	73.93%
UTAH	460	337	73.26%
WYOMING	1,248	910	72.92%
LATIN AMERICA	33	24	72.73%
ALASKA	1,740	1,247	71.67%
COLORADO	2,952	2,076	70.33%
WASHINGTON	2,682	1,880	70.10%
NEVADA	387	264	68.22%
PHILIPPINES	79	44	55.70%
Totals:	34,454	25,809	74.91%

Southeast Region - Linwood A. Moore (VA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,570	1,376	87.64%
FLORIDA	23,066	20,083	87.07%
LOUISIANA	1,821	1,524	83.69%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,770	2,235	80.69%
ALABAMA	2,100	1,686	80.29%
GEORGIA	4,887	3,920	80.21%
VIRGINIA	4,367	3,470	79.46%
MISSISSIPPI	736	581	78.94%
PUERTO RICO	156	122	78.21%
TENNESSEE	1,792	1,374	76.67%
ARKANSAS	406	298	73.40%
TEXAS	5,783	4,236	73.25%
Totals:	49,454	40,905	82.71%

Midwest Region - Terry A. Harris (KS)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,611	1,543	95.78%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,075	990	92.09%
IOWA	4,914	4,090	83.23%
NEBRASKA	6,992	5,548	79.35%
KANSAS	6,055	4,483	74.04%
MISSOURI	3,337	2,444	73.24%
OKLAHOMA	1,430	935	65.38%
Totals:	25,414	20,033	78.83%

Northeast Region - John R. Cook (NH)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
FRANCE	168	155	92.26%
RHODE ISLAND	348	290	83.33%
MARYLAND	16,803	13,858	82.47%
CONNECTICUT	1,865	1,509	80.91%
PENNSYLVANIA	62,746	50,755	80.89%
VERMONT	3,920	3,148	80.31%
NEW YORK	30,663	24,560	80.10%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,027	4,655	77.24%
DELAWARE	2,596	2,000	77.04%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,432	4,009	73.80%
DIST OF COL	91	67	73.63%
MAINE	2,757	2,026	73.49%
NEW JERSEY	9,662	6,979	72.23%
Totals:	143,078	114,011	79.68%

Central Region - Robert L. Bristo (MN)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
WISCONSIN	4,398	3,994	90.81%
ILLINOIS	13,716	11,427	83.31%
MINNESOTA	11,435	9,309	81.41%
MICHIGAN	26,236	21,336	81.32%
OHIO	31,690	25,762	81.29%
INDIANA	37,244	29,417	78.98%
WEST VIRGINIA	2,593	1,867	72.00%
KENTUCKY	2,399	1,568	65.36%
Totals:	129,711	104,680	80.70%

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MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

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02/01/24		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, 4, 5, 6, 7	49,454	40,905	(8,549)	82.71%	384		
2	Central 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	129,711	104,680	(25,031)	80.70%	1,775		
3	Northeast 1, 4, 5, 6	143,078	114,011	(29,067)	79.68%	1,193		
4	Midwest 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	25,414	20,033	(5,381)	78.83%	309		
5	Western 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	34,454	25,809	(8,645)	74.91%	375		
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		382,111	305,438	(76,673)	79.93%	4,036		

SONS OF THE
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LEGION

MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL
TARGET DATE
February 14, 2024



02/01/24		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, 6, 7, 8	4,398	3,994	(404)	90.81%	3	5	81.57%		
2	Illinois 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7	13,716	11,427	(2,289)	83.31%	161	11	77.32%		
3	Minnesota 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	11,435	9,309	(2,126)	81.41%	168	14	75.60%		
4	Michigan 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	26,236	21,336	(4,900)	81.32%	408	15	73.20%		
5	Ohio 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	31,690	25,762	(5,928)	81.29%	480	16	74.99%		
6	Indiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	37,244	29,417	(7,827)	78.98%	351	26	73.36%		
7	West Virginia 1, 5	2,593	1,867	(726)	72.00%	175	48	63.09%		
8	Kentucky 1, 4	2,399	1,568	(831)	65.36%	29	54	56.03%		
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		129,711	104,680	(25,031)	80.70%	1,775				

02/01/24		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, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	120	119	(1)	99.17%	(10)	1	87.48%		
2	Oregon 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,534	1,281	(253)	83.51%	9	9	68.76%		
3	Arizona 1, 4, 5, 6	8,595	6,731	(1,864)	78.31%	120	28	65.45%		
4	Montana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	1,091	847	(244)	77.64%	-	30	73.00%		
5	New Mexico 5, 6	1,582	1,211	(371)	76.55%	55	34	60.24%		
6	Idaho 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	659	490	(169)	74.36%	1	35	56.97%		
7	California 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	11,292	8,348	(2,944)	73.93%	90	37	64.07%		
8	Utah 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	460	337	(123)	73.26%	10	42	65.55%		
9	Wyoming 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1,248	910	(338)	72.92%	4	45	65.17%		
10	Latin America 4	33	24	(9)	72.73%	-	46	34.38%		
11	Alaska 3	1,740	1,247	(493)	71.67%	38	49	59.58%		
12	Colorado 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	2,952	2,076	(876)	70.33%	9	50	60.62%		
13	Washington 4, 5	2,682	1,880	(802)	70.10%	43	51	56.39%		
14	Nevada 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	387	264	(123)	68.22%	6	52	58.73%		
15	Philippines	79	44	(35)	55.70%	-	55	53.16%		
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5		34,454	25,809	(8,645)	74.91%	375				

02/01/24		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	South Carolina 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7	1,570	1,376	(194)	87.64%	7	6	74.37%		
2	Florida 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	23,066	20,083	(2,983)	87.07%	166	7	73.34%		
3	Louisiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,821	1,524	(297)	83.69%	14	8	77.26%		
4	North Carolina 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	2,770	2,235	(535)	80.69%	27	19	67.08%		
5	Alabama 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	2,100	1,686	(414)	80.29%	9	21	69.57%		
6	Georgia 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	4,887	3,920	(967)	80.21%	4	22	70.55%		
7	Virginia 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	4,367	3,470	(897)	79.46%	41	24	69.29%		
8	Mississippi 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	736	581	(155)	78.94%	11	27	68.77%		
9	Puerto Rico 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	156	122	(34)	78.21%	-	29	73.20%		
10	Tennessee 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1,792	1,374	(418)	76.67%	44	33	64.85%		
12	Arkansas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	406	298	(108)	73.40%	5	41	58.37%		
13	Texas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	5,783	4,236	(1,547)	73.25%	56	43	63.18%		
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		49,454	40,905	(8,549)	82.71%	211				

02/01/24		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, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,611	1,543	(68)	95.78%	12	2	82.24%		
2 North Dakota 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,075	990	(85)	92.09%	-	4	83.02%		
3 Iowa 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	4,914	4,090	(824)	83.23%	123	12	76.33%		
4 Nebraska 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	6,992	5,548	(1,444)	79.35%	146	25	75.92%		
5 Kansas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	6,055	4,483	(1,572)	74.04%	23	36	68.41%		
6 Missouri 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	3,337	2,444	(893)	73.24%	1	44	65.40%		
7 Oklahoma 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1,430	935	(495)	65.38%	4	53	52.70%		
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	25,414	20,033	(5,381)	78.83%	305				

02/01/24		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, 6, 7, 8	168	155	(13)	92.26%	-	3	81.93%		
2 Rhode Island 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	348	290	(58)	83.33%	-	10	71.84%		
3 Maryland 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	16,803	13,858	(2,945)	82.47%	150	13	75.42%		
4 Connecticut 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,865	1,509	(356)	80.91%	13	17	70.63%		
5 Pennsylvania 4, 5, 6, 7	62,746	50,755	(11,991)	80.89%	536	18	75.43%		
6 Vermont 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	3,920	3,148	(772)	80.31%	52	20	75.03%		
7 New York 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	30,663	24,560	(6,103)	80.10%	109	23	73.51%		
8 New Hampshire 1, 2, 4, 5, 6	6,027	4,655	(1,372)	77.24%	40	31	68.74%		
9 Delaware 1, 4, 5, 6	2,596	2,000	(596)	77.04%	3	32	69.00%		
10 Massachusetts 1, 3, 4, 5	5,432	4,009	(1,423)	73.80%	212	38	67.03%		
11 Dist. of Columbia 4	91	67	(24)	73.63%	-	39	68.18%		
12 Maine 5	2,757	2,026	(731)	73.49%	42	40	65.04%		
13 New Jersey 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	9,662	6,979	(2,683)	72.23%	36	47	64.40%		
TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6	143,078	114,011	(29,067)	79.68%	1,193				

02/01/24		2024 SUPER SIX STANDINGS							
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date
1 Florida 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	23,066	20,083	(2,983)	87.07%	166	7	73.34%		
2 Michigan 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	26,236	21,336	(4,900)	81.32%	408	15	73.20%		
3 Ohio 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	31,690	25,762	(5,928)	81.29%	480	16	74.99%		
4 Pennsylvania 4, 5, 6, 7	62,746	50,755	(11,991)	80.89%	626	18	75.43%		
5 New York 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	30,663	24,560	(6,103)	80.10%	109	23	73.51%		
6 Indiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	37,244	29,417	(7,827)	78.98%	351	26	73.36%		
TOTALS	211,645	171,913	(39,732)	81.23%	2,140				

National Totals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	382,111	305,438	(76,673)	79.93%	4,036		72.25%		
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02/01/24		2024 LEADERSHIP STANDINGS							
Detachment	Det	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date
1 Commander Hall	Maryland	16,803	13,858	(2,945)	82.47%	13	75.42%		
2 Vice-Commander Bristo	Minnesota	11,435	9,309	(2,126)	81.41%	14	75.60%		
3 Trailing Candidate Clancy	New York	30,663	24,560	(6,103)	80.10%	23	73.51%		
4 Vice-Commander Moore	Virginia	4,367	3,470	(897)	79.46%	24	69.29%		
5 Vice-Commander Cook	New Hampshire	6,027	4,655	(1,372)	77.24%	31	68.74%		
6 Leading Candidate Navaratte	New Mexico	1,582	1,211	(371)	76.55%	34	60.24%		
7 Vice-Commander Harris	Kansas	6,055	4,483	(1,572)	74.04%	36	68.41%		
8 Vice-Commander Fischer	California	11,292	8,348	(2,944)	73.93%	37	64.07%		



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, 2024 (DSTG)	105%



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION (CWF)
DONATIONS REPORT**



Detachment	2023 Donations (revised-final)	2023 Membership (final)	2024 CWF Goal (current)	2024 Donations (current)	% of Goal	Donations Per Capita
AL - ALABAMA	\$ 3,399.00	2,077	\$ 2,077.00	\$ 120.00	5.8%	\$ 0.06
AK - ALASKA	\$ 1,978.00	1,767	\$ 1,767.00	\$ 50.00	2.8%	\$ 0.03
AZ - ARIZONA	\$ 46,849.00	8,625	\$ 8,625.00	\$ 55,024.00	638.0%	\$ 6.38
AR - ARKANSAS	\$ 1,460.00	405	\$ 405.00		0.0%	\$ -
CA - CALIFORNIA	\$ 4,480.56	11,362	\$ 11,362.00	\$ 1,103.00	9.7%	\$ 0.10
CO - COLORADO	\$ 26,105.20	2,985	\$ 2,985.00	\$ 4,950.00	165.8%	\$ 1.66
CT - CONNECTICUT	\$ 1,100.00	1,867	\$ 1,867.00		0.0%	\$ -
DE - DELAWARE	\$ 1,910.00	2,566	\$ 2,566.00	\$ 2,100.00	81.8%	\$ 0.82
DC - DIST OF COL	\$ -	88	\$ 88.00		0.0%	\$ -
FL - FLORIDA	\$ 41,980.00	23,326	\$ 23,326.00	\$ 15,742.00	67.5%	\$ 0.67
FR - FRANCE	\$ 400.00	166	\$ 166.00		0.0%	\$ -
GA - GEORGIA	\$ 4,004.00	4,860	\$ 4,860.00	\$ 70.00	1.4%	\$ 0.01
HI - HAWAII	\$ 830.00	119	\$ 119.00		0.0%	\$ -
ID - IDAHO	\$ 200.00	661	\$ 661.00		0.0%	\$ -
IL - ILLINOIS	\$ 11,446.72	13,561	\$ 13,561.00	\$ 3,430.00	25.3%	\$ 0.25
IN - INDIANA	\$ 26,414.31	36,477	\$ 36,477.00	\$ 1,650.00	4.5%	\$ 0.05
IA - IOWA	\$ 2,004.00	4,900	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 200.00	4.1%	\$ 0.04
KS - KANSAS	\$ 6,602.20	5,957	\$ 5,957.00	\$ 740.00	12.4%	\$ 0.12
KY - KENTUCKY	\$ 50.00	2,378	\$ 2,378.00	\$ 500.00	21.0%	\$ 0.21
LT - LATIN AMERICA (MEX)	\$ -	32	\$ 32.00	\$ 33.00	103.1%	\$ 1.03
LA - LOUISIANA	\$ 3,177.50	1,793	\$ 1,793.00	\$ 1,933.00	107.8%	\$ 1.08
ME - MAINE	\$ 3,501.00	2,757	\$ 2,757.00		0.0%	\$ -
MD - MARYLAND	\$ 5,432.00	16,708	\$ 16,708.00	\$ 2,570.00	15.4%	\$ 0.15
MA - MASSACHUSETTS	\$ 5,879.00	5,372	\$ 5,372.00	\$ 440.00	8.2%	\$ 0.08
MI - MICHIGAN	\$ 9,212.00	26,275	\$ 26,275.00	\$ 6,213.00	23.6%	\$ 0.24
MN - MINNESOTA	\$ 9,281.91	11,311	\$ 11,311.00	\$ 5,684.00	50.3%	\$ 0.50
MS - MISSISSIPPI	\$ 5,143.90	730	\$ 730.00	\$ 773.00	105.9%	\$ 1.06
MO - MISSOURI	\$ 2,153.61	3,368	\$ 3,368.00	\$ 250.00	7.4%	\$ 0.07
MT - MONTANA	\$ 1,717.00	1,071	\$ 1,071.00		0.0%	\$ -
NE - NEBRASKA	\$ 5,735.00	6,926	\$ 6,926.00	\$ 100.00	1.4%	\$ 0.01
NV - NEVADA	\$ 8,938.00	395	\$ 395.00	\$ 3,162.00	800.5%	\$ 8.01
NH - NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$ 4,376.78	6,154	\$ 6,154.00	\$ 3,034.82	49.3%	\$ 0.49
NJ - NEW JERSEY	\$ 9,105.00	9,885	\$ 9,885.00	\$ 2,863.00	29.0%	\$ 0.29
NM - NEW MEXICO	\$ 4,930.00	1,642	\$ 1,642.00	\$ 1,100.00	67.0%	\$ 0.67
NY - NEW YORK	\$ 14,281.00	30,695	\$ 30,695.00	\$ 3,616.00	11.8%	\$ 0.12
NC - NORTH CAROLINA	\$ 4,931.75	2,720	\$ 2,720.00	\$ 1,258.50	46.3%	\$ 0.46
ND - NORTH DAKOTA	\$ -	1,058	\$ 1,058.00		0.0%	\$ -
OH - OHIO	\$ 38,070.80	31,419	\$ 31,419.00	\$ 19,659.00	62.6%	\$ 0.63
OK - OKLAHOMA	\$ -	1,421	\$ 1,421.00	\$ 22.00	1.5%	\$ 0.02
OR - OREGON	\$ 3,201.00	1,541	\$ 1,541.00	\$ 1,407.00	91.3%	\$ 0.91
PA - PENNSYLVANIA	\$ 32,377.72	62,403	\$ 62,403.00	\$ 12,531.28	20.1%	\$ 0.20
PI - PHILIPPINES	\$ 175.00	78	\$ 78.00		0.0%	\$ -
PR - PUERTO RICO	\$ 185.00	153	\$ 153.00		0.0%	\$ -
RI - RHODE ISLAND	\$ 100.00	348	\$ 348.00	\$ 650.00	186.8%	\$ 1.87
SC - SOUTH CAROLINA	\$ 3,500.00	1,578	\$ 1,578.00	\$ 1,755.00	111.2%	\$ 1.11
SD - SOUTH DAKOTA	\$ 1,451.85	1,611	\$ 1,611.00		0.0%	\$ -
TN - TENNESSEE	\$ 1,693.44	1,769	\$ 1,769.00	\$ 4,461.60	252.2%	\$ 2.52
TX - TEXAS	\$ 15,669.14	5,769	\$ 5,769.00	\$ 9,350.00	162.1%	\$ 1.62
UT - UTAH	\$ 475.00	457	\$ 457.00	\$ 300.00	65.6%	\$ 0.66
VT - VERMONT	\$ 10,036.00	3,874	\$ 3,874.00	\$ 1,500.00	38.7%	\$ 0.39
VA - VIRGINIA	\$ 16,977.00	4,384	\$ 4,384.00	\$ 12,137.00	276.8%	\$ 2.77
WA - WASHINGTON	\$ 2,175.00	2,702	\$ 2,702.00	\$ 60.00	2.2%	\$ 0.02
WV - WEST VIRGINIA	\$ 4,227.25	2,603	\$ 2,603.00	\$ 3,025.00	116.2%	\$ 1.16
WI - WISCONSIN	\$ 2,385.00	4,358	\$ 4,358.00	\$ 500.00	11.5%	\$ 0.11
WY - WYOMING	\$ 8,678.00	1,236	\$ 1,236.00	\$ 650.00	52.6%	\$ 0.53
NATIONAL HQ	\$ 4,674.91		\$ -	\$ 1,498.00	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
TOTALS:	\$ 425,060.55	380,743	\$ 380,743.00	\$ 188,215.20	49.4%	\$ 0.49





SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION (CWF)
DONATIONS BY REGION



Detachment	2023 Donations (revised-final)	2023 Membership (final)	2024 CWF Goal (current)	2024 Donations (current)	% of Goal	Donations Per Capita
NORTHEAST REGION						
CT - CONNECTICUT	\$ 1,100.00	1,867	\$ 1,867.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
DE - DELAWARE	\$ 1,910.00	2,566	\$ 2,566.00	\$ 2,100.00	81.8%	\$ 0.82
DC - DIST OF COL	\$ -	88	\$ 88.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
FR - FRANCE	\$ 400.00	166	\$ 166.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
ME - MAINE	\$ 3,501.00	2,757	\$ 2,757.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
MD - MARYLAND	\$ 5,432.00	16,708	\$ 16,708.00	\$ 2,570.00	15.4%	\$ 0.15
MA - MASSACHUSETTS	\$ 5,879.00	5,372	\$ 5,372.00	\$ 440.00	8.2%	\$ 0.08
NH - NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$ 4,376.78	6,154	\$ 6,154.00	\$ 3,034.82	49.3%	\$ 0.49
NJ - NEW JERSEY	\$ 9,105.00	9,885	\$ 9,885.00	\$ 2,863.00	29.0%	\$ 0.29
NY - NEW YORK	\$ 14,281.00	30,695	\$ 30,695.00	\$ 3,616.00	11.8%	\$ 0.12
PA - PENNSYLVANIA	\$ 32,377.72	62,403	\$ 62,403.00	\$ 12,531.28	20.1%	\$ 0.20
RI - RHODE ISLAND	\$ 100.00	348	\$ 348.00	\$ 650.00	186.8%	\$ 1.87
VT - VERMONT	\$ 10,036.00	3,874	\$ 3,874.00	\$ 1,500.00	38.7%	\$ 0.39
TOTAL	\$ 88,498.50	142,883	\$ 142,883.00	\$ 29,305.10	20.5%	\$ 0.21

CENTRAL REGION						
IL - ILLINOIS	\$ 11,446.72	13,561	\$ 13,561.00	\$ 3,430.00	25.3%	\$ 0.25
IN - INDIANA	\$ 26,414.31	36,477	\$ 36,477.00	\$ 1,650.00	4.5%	\$ 0.05
KY - KENTUCKY	\$ 50.00	2,378	\$ 2,378.00	\$ 500.00	21.0%	\$ 0.21
MI - MICHIGAN	\$ 9,212.00	26,275	\$ 26,275.00	\$ 6,213.00	23.6%	\$ 0.24
MN - MINNESOTA	\$ 9,281.91	11,311	\$ 11,311.00	\$ 5,684.00	50.3%	\$ 0.50
OH - OHIO	\$ 38,070.80	31,419	\$ 31,419.00	\$ 19,659.00	62.6%	\$ 0.63
WV - WEST VIRGINIA	\$ 4,227.25	2,603	\$ 2,603.00	\$ 3,025.00	116.2%	\$ 1.16
WI - WISCONSIN	\$ 2,385.00	4,358	\$ 4,358.00	\$ 500.00	11.5%	\$ 0.11
TOTAL	\$ 101,087.99	128,382	\$ 128,382.00	\$ 40,661.00	31.7%	\$ 0.32

WESTERN REGION						
AK - ALASKA	\$ 1,978.00	1,767	\$ 1,767.00	\$ 50.00	2.8%	\$ 0.03
AZ - ARIZONA	\$ 46,849.00	8,625	\$ 8,625.00	\$ 55,024.00	638.0%	\$ 6.38
CA - CALIFORNIA	\$ 4,480.56	11,362	\$ 11,362.00	\$ 1,103.00	9.7%	\$ 0.10
CO - COLORADO	\$ 26,105.20	2,985	\$ 2,985.00	\$ 4,950.00	165.8%	\$ 1.66
HI - HAWAII	\$ 830.00	119	\$ 119.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
ID - IDAHO	\$ 200.00	661	\$ 661.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
LT - LATIN AMERICA (MX)	\$ -	32	\$ 32.00	\$ 33.00	103.1%	\$ 1.03
MT - MONTANA	\$ 1,717.00	1,071	\$ 1,071.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
NV - NEVADA	\$ 8,938.00	395	\$ 395.00	\$ 3,162.00	800.5%	\$ 8.01
NM - NEW MEXICO	\$ 4,930.00	1,642	\$ 1,642.00	\$ 1,100.00	67.0%	\$ 0.67
OR - OREGON	\$ 3,201.00	1,541	\$ 1,541.00	\$ 1,407.00	91.3%	\$ 0.91
PI - PHILIPPINES	\$ 175.00	78	\$ 78.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
UT - UTAH	\$ 475.00	457	\$ 457.00	\$ 300.00	65.6%	\$ 0.66
WA - WASHINGTON	\$ 2,175.00	2,702	\$ 2,702.00	\$ 60.00	2.2%	\$ 0.02
WY - WYOMING	\$ 8,678.00	1,236	\$ 1,236.00	\$ 650.00	52.6%	\$ 0.53
TOTAL	\$ 110,731.76	34,673	\$ 34,673.00	\$ 67,839.00	195.7%	\$ 1.96

Detachment	2023 Donations (revised-final)	2023 Membership (final)	2024 CWF Goal (current)	2024 Donations (current)	% of Goal	Donations Per Capita
SOUTHEAST REGION						
AL - ALABAMA	\$ 3,399.00	2,077	\$ 2,077.00	\$ 120.00	5.8%	\$ 0.06
AR - ARKANSAS	\$ 1,460.00	405	\$ 405.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
FL - FLORIDA	\$ 41,980.00	23,326	\$ 23,326.00	\$ 15,742.00	67.5%	\$ 0.67
GA - GEORGIA	\$ 4,004.00	4,860	\$ 4,860.00	\$ 70.00	1.4%	\$ 0.01
LA - LOUISIANA	\$ 3,177.50	1,793	\$ 1,793.00	\$ 1,933.00	107.8%	\$ 1.08
MS - MISSISSIPPI	\$ 5,143.90	730	\$ 730.00	\$ 773.00	105.9%	\$ 1.06
NC - NORTH CAROLINA	\$ 4,931.75	2,720	\$ 2,720.00	\$ 1,258.50	46.3%	\$ 0.46
PR - PUERTO RICO	\$ 185.00	153	\$ 153.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
SC - SOUTH CAROLINA	\$ 3,500.00	1,578	\$ 1,578.00	\$ 1,755.00	111.2%	\$ 1.11
TN - TENNESSEE	\$ 1,693.44	1,769	\$ 1,769.00	\$ 4,461.60	252.2%	\$ 2.52
TX - TEXAS	\$ 15,669.14	5,769	\$ 5,769.00	\$ 9,350.00	162.1%	\$ 1.62
VA - VIRGINIA	\$ 16,977.00	4,384	\$ 4,384.00	\$ 12,137.00	276.8%	\$ 2.77
TOTAL	\$ 102,120.73	49,564	\$ 49,564.00	\$ 47,600.10	96.0%	\$ 0.96

MIDWEST REGION						
IA - IOWA	\$ 2,004.00	4,900	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 200.00	4.1%	\$ 0.04
KS - KANSAS	\$ 6,602.20	5,957	\$ 5,957.00	\$ 740.00	12.4%	\$ 0.12
MO - MISSOURI	\$ 2,153.61	3,368	\$ 3,368.00	\$ 250.00	7.4%	\$ 0.07
NE - NEBRASKA	\$ 5,735.00	6,926	\$ 6,926.00	\$ 100.00	1.4%	\$ 0.01
ND - NORTH DAKOTA	\$ -	1,058	\$ 1,058.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
OK - OKLAHOMA	\$ -	1,421	\$ 1,421.00	\$ 22.00	1.5%	\$ 0.02
SD - SOUTH DAKOTA	\$ 1,451.85	1,611	\$ 1,611.00	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 17,946.66	25,241	\$ 25,241.00	\$ 1,312.00	5.2%	\$ 0.05

NATIONAL HQ:	\$ 4,674.91		\$ -	\$ 1,498.00		
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GRAND TOTALS:	\$ 425,060.55	380,743	\$ 380,743.00	\$ 188,215.20	49.4%	\$ 0.49
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SAL DONATIONS AS OF: FEBRUARY 2, 2024						
2023 SAL MEMBERSHIP AS OF: DECEMBER 31, 2023 (FINAL)						



THE AMERICAN LEGION
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION (CWF)
DONATION FORM



For the Betterment of All Children

☐ Yes! I will make a contribution to help America's children.

☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 Other Amt. \$

Please make checks payable to: "The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation"

Name

Address

City State Zip

Email Phone

Thank you so much for your contribution!

NOTE: Mail this form with your check to:

The American Legion Donation Processing
P.O. Box 1954
Indianapolis, IN 46206

