



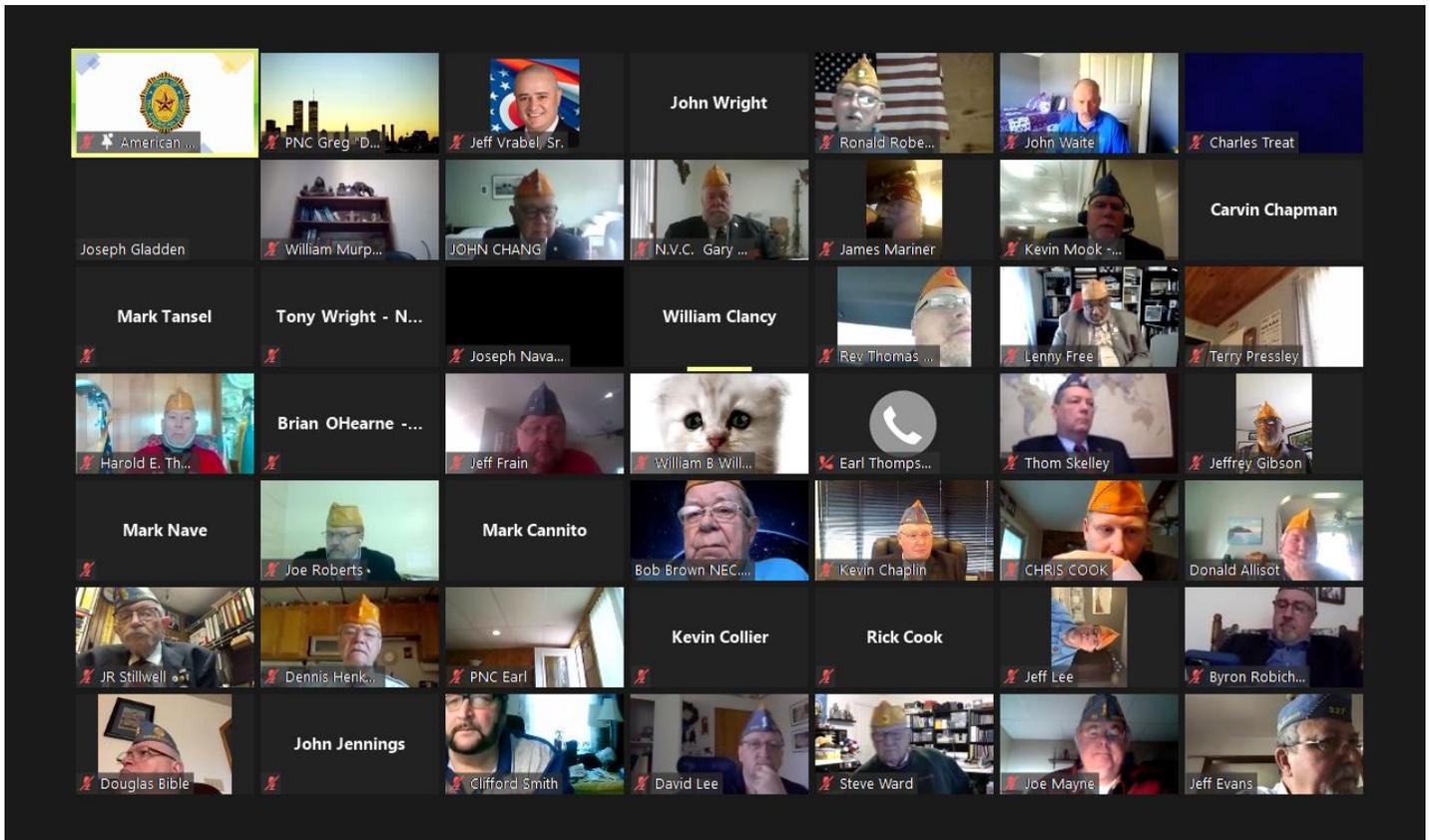
Round-Up



The Newsletter of Sons of The American Legion Central Region

Volume 2 – Issue 78 – April 25, 2021

NEC held virtually for second time



Yesterday, the National Executive Committee met virtually for the second time since the beginning of the pandemic. Many great reports were heard, and there was great and valuable information provided. Please make sure you get the minutes of the meeting from your National Executive Committeeman when they come out. It will be a great way to keep up with what's going on nationally, and how it affects you at the Squadron level.

Of note was information that National Commander Clint Bolt provided about [MySAL](#). There are still bugs in the system, and work continues to get the system where it needs to be so it can be used again. We need to be patient through this process and get right back to it when it is ready.

Please continue your membership efforts, and stress renewals. May 12 is our next National Target Date, and we all need to push hard to meet the goal of 90%. Please personally contact members who have not renewed their dues and ask them to get this taken care of. If you can, visit unpaid members and see how you can help.



BUDDY CHECK

LET THEM KNOW WE CARE!

Before we know it, it will be the start of the 2021-2022 year. Let's continue our hard work in membership, fundraising, and service as we keep **"Serving those who served...full steam ahead."**

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,




#SALSTRONG

Jeff Vrabel, Sr.
 Central Region Chairman
 Sons of The American Legion
 National Membership Committee
jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com
<https://sites.google.com/vies/teamvrabel/home>

*Serving Those Who Served...
 Full Steam Ahead*
 THE AMERICAN LEGION
 MEDIA ALLIANCE

[JOIN](#)

[DONATE](#)



Central Region Conference Call

Third Thursday of each month
 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time
 Call In # (774) 220-4000
 Access Code 04423



**2021
 National Target Date
 May 12, 2021**

90%

Revised: 4/08/2021



**2020-2021
 MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES
 SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

SEPTEMBER 10, 2020		10%
OCTOBER 15, 2020		25%
NOVEMBER 12, 2020		35%
DECEMBER 9, 2020	(New: Dec. 10, 2020)	45%
JANUARY 21, 2021		60%
FEBRUARY 10, 2021		75%
MARCH 10, 2021		80%
APRIL 14, 2021	(New: May 12, 2021)	90%
MAY 12, 2021	(New: June 9, 2021)	100%
*JULY 28, 2021		105%

*Delegate Strength Target Date

**2020-2021
 MEMBERSHIP
 YEAR**



The American Legion Family

Please click the link for information about MySAL

www.legion.org/training/trainingtuesdays



Americanism Commission

First Thursday bi-monthly
January, March, May, July
8:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Call In # (515) 606-5134
Access Code: 451074

Child Welfare Foundation Committee

Third Wednesday of each month
8:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Call in # (605) 472-5332
Access Code: 808417

Children & Youth Committee

Third Wednesday of each month
8:00 p.m.
Call in # (605) 472-5332
Access Code: 808417

Legislative Commission

First Thursday bi-monthly
February, April, June, 7 August
7:00 p.m.
Call in # (712) 775-7031
Access Code: 988284103

Membership Committee

Third Tuesday of each month
6:00 p.m. Mountain time
Call in # (515) 604-9644
Access Code: 889133
<http://join.freeconferencecall.com/jrnavarr>

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

Fourth Monday of each month
7:00 p.m. Central Time
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6354565336?pwd=STBkdUlJQlRoQTRndnJPN1hsVktHQTo9>
Meeting ID: 635 456 5336
Passcode: 405160
Call In # (646) 876-9923

Veterans Employment & Education Commission

Third Wednesday of each month
8:00 p.m. Eastern time
Call In # (605) 313-4111
Access Code: 893821



SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED
FULL STEAM AHEAD

National Commander Clint Bolt's 2020 – 2021 Goals

Please remember as you travel and promote the Sons of The American Legion and National Commander Clint Bolt's goals for Membership and all Legion Charities.

- **RECRUIT, RETAIN, AND REINSTATE** to reach **400,000** members
- Renewal rate above 95%
- Obtain 105% in membership by National Convention in Phoenix, AZ
- Recognize our achievements
- Child Welfare Foundation \$500,000
- National Emergency Fund \$100,000
- Soldiers Wish \$100,000
- Legacy Scholarship \$100,000
- Veterans & Children's Fund \$100,000
- Operation Comfort Warriors \$100,000

Serving Those Who Served...
Full Steam Ahead



PROUD POSSESSORS OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE

Purple Heart presented

by Dr. Chris Petras, SAL Squadron 28

After months of anticipation and excitement, Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI 2nd Congressional District) presented, posthumously, the Purple Heart to American Legion Post 28 namesake, Charles A. Conklin. The March 26, 2021 ceremony was held at Post 28, in Grand Haven. The ceremony opened with a presentation of the Colors by Post 28 Honor Guard members/past Post Commanders, David “Mack” Mackellar, and Garrett Veihl. Post 28 Chaplain, Duane “Smitty” Smith then gave the invocation with Commander Fonger welcoming guests, respectively. SAL Squadron 28 member and researcher, Dr. Chris Petras presented a brief bio on the life and military service of Post 28 namesake, Charles A. Conklin and how Petras’ research for a television documentary and book on the centennial history of Post 28, led to the discovery of the document resulting in Conklin’s eligibility for the Purple Heart.



SAL Squadron 28 member/Charles A. Conklin researcher, Dr. Chris Petras (r) and guest Keri share a moment with Congressman Bill Huizenga (center) in honoring Post 28 namesake, Charles A. Conklin.



After the presentation of Conklin’s life and military service, Congressman Bill Huizenga presented, on behalf of the United States, Conklin’s Purple Heart, to Post 28. As Congressman Huizenga presented the Purple Heart, an aura of honor and pride filled the room. The ceremony closed with a benediction by Chaplain Smith and retiring of the Colors.

March 26, 2021 will go down in American Legion history as the day a Post namesake,

Charles A. Conklin received his Purple Heart, 103-years later, for his bravery and ultimate sacrifice from wounds received in action.



Congressman Bill Huizenga presented, posthumously, the Purple Heart to Post 28 namesake, Charles A. Conklin on March 26, 2021.

Indiana D4 raises funds for CWF

The Sons of The American 4th District, Detachment of Indiana, held their 9th annual CWF Pig Race on March 7th at the American Legion Post 47 in Fort Wayne. Although with the restrictions from the COVID-19 issue, causing many of the Posts to either close completely for a period of time or restrict the amount of people allowed in. SAL District 4 was still able to raise \$5300.00 for the Child Welfare Foundation thanks to the generosity of the American Legion Family.

To make this a fun event, the Squadrons have different categories in which they can compete in. Not only to have bragging rights but also win a certificate to display at their Post for their efforts. Some of those categories are, but not limited to, are: Most Money in a Single Pig, Most Unusual Pig, People's Choice, Ugliest Pig, Most Money in Combined Pigs, so as you can tell, it can be a very creative fundraiser for CWF. The District is already preparing for next year with some new and creative ideas to make this event even more entertaining.

No matter your choice of charity, a little creativity, and a lot of fun, can result in some large donations!

Be safe everyone, until next time.

For God and Country!

*PDC Doug Heiser,
Detachment of Indiana*






Spanky Memorial Golf Outing

June 12th, 2021

Little Apple Golf Course, Bellville Ohio

Shotgun start at 9:00am

4 Person Team

\$200 entry fee per team

Includes skins, cart, donuts and juice at the start, hot dogs at the turn, and pork chop dinner to follow.

\$400 payout for first place

\$200 payout for second place

All proceeds will benefit the Honor Flight program for veterans

Sponsored by Sons of the American Legion Squadron #535

If you would like to put a team in or make a \$100 hole sponsor, please contact Craig Smith at 419-631-3743 or Call Bruce Hayes at 419-566-1838



American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

"Dedicated to the betterment of all children"

100% Per Capita Banner Program

Request Form

2020 – 2021

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

To qualify for the 2020-2021 year a post, unit, squadron, or salon must donate one dollar per member based upon its official membership total from their national organization as of June 1, 2020. The post, unit, squadron, or salon has from June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021 to submit this form, **along with the donation**, to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

Post, unit, squadron, or salon name _____

Address _____

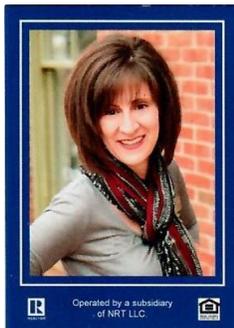
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Post, unit, squadron, or salon membership total as of June 1, 2020: _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Banner Request Form
Send completed form to:
American Legion Child Welfare Foundation
PO Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206

ALL REQUEST FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY May 31, 2021



MARY VRABEL
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(614) 871-0808 OFFICE
mary.vrabel@kingthompson.com



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Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC

Top Ten Closed Units February 2021



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



If your membership card doesn't look like this then you need to RENEW TODAY!!!

DOES YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD SHOW 2020?

If so, your 2020 membership card is EXPIRED and no longer valid. Please pay your Sons of The American Legion dues today to support your Squadron and The American Legion Family



WE WANT YOU!!!



The American Legion Family

Lake Life Embroidery and More
Custom Embroidery, Sublimation Printing &
Custom Digitizing
614-991-6490
Lakelifeembroidery@gmail.com
www.LakeLifeEmbroidery.com



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LakeLifeEmbroidery>



Wedding Services

Jeff Vrabel, Sr.
Licensed Wedding Officiant

(614) 594-3456 | (330) 565-5333
justmarriedweddingservices@gmail.com

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Who's next?



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

JEFF VRABEL, SR.

FOR NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER



June 1, 20__ to May 31, 20__

Please check one box indicating the reporting entity level: [] Detachment [] District [] Squadron

- 1 Detachment (State) 2 District
3 Squadron Number 4 Squadron Name
5 Paid-to-Date Membership Count, Current Year 6 Paid-Up Final Membership Count, Prior Year
7 City/Town 8 Zip Code

If the reporting entity is a District (or Detachment) the entity agrees that their report of dollars and hours ONLY INCLUDES those approved and expended by Officers and Members of that entity, and ARE NOT cumulative of the Squadrons (or Squadrons and Districts) that they represent. Please type or print all information clearly. For the program details below only mark lines for which you are reporting data (leave '0' values blank).

AMERICANISM

- 1 Donations, Boys State / Girls State 2 No. of Hours, Boys State / Girls State
3 Donations, 5-Star / 10-Ideals Education 4 No. of Hours, 5-Star / 10-Ideals Education
5 Donations, Flags Presented (All Sizes/Events) 6 No. of Hours, Flags Presented (All Sizes/Events)
7 N/A N/A 8 No. of Flags Presented (All Sizes/Events)
9 Donations, Flag Education Programs 10 No. of Hours, Flag Education Programs
11 Donations, Scholarships Awarded 12 No. of Hours, Other Educational Programs
13 Donations, Oratorical Contest 14 No. of Hours, Oratorical Contest
15 Donations, Color Guard 16 No. of Hours, Color Guard
17 Donations, Other Organizations 18 No. of Hours, Community Service
19 Donations, Scouting 20 No. of Hours, Scouting
21 Donations, Junior Shooting Sports 22 No. of Hours, Junior Shooting Sports
23 Donations, American Legion Baseball 24 No. of Hours, American Legion Baseball
25 Donations, Other Teams Sponsored 26 No. of Hours, Other Teams Sponsored
27 Donations, Blood Drives 28 No. of Hours, Blood Drives
29 Donations, National Emergency Fund 30 No. of Hours, National Emergency Fund
31 Donations, Legacy Scholarship Fund 32 No. of Hours, Legacy Scholarship Fund
33 Donations, Other Americanism Projects 34 No. of Hours, Other Americanism Projects

CHILDREN & YOUTH

- 1 Donations, Child Welfare Foundation 2 No. of Hours, Child Welfare Foundation
3 Donations, Special Olympics 4 No. of Hours, Special Olympics
5 Donations, Children's Miracle Network 6 No. of Hours, Children's Miracle Network
7 Donations, Ronald McDonald House 8 No. of Hours, Ronald McDonald House
9 Donations, Children's Organ Trans. Assn. 10 No. of Hours, Children's Organ Trans. Assn.
11 Donations, T.A.L. Vets. and Child. Found. 12 No. of Hours, T.A.L. Vets. and Child. Found.
13 Donations, Other C&Y Projects 14 No. of Hours, Other C&Y Projects

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

- 1 Donations, V.A. Medical Ctrs. & Facilities 2 No. of Hours, V.A. Medical Ctrs. & Facilities
3 Donations, State Veterans Facilities 4 No. of Hours, State Veterans Facilities
5 Donations, Nat'l Veterans Assist. Day 6 No. of Hours, Nat'l Veterans Assist. Day
7 Donations, Operation Comfort Warriors 8 No. of Hours, Operation Comfort Warriors
9 Donations, Fisher House 10 No. of Hours, Fisher House
11 Donations, Other VA&R Projects 12 No. of Hours, Other VA&R Projects

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

- 1 Donations, VE&E Projects 2 No. of Hours, VE&E Projects

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

- 1 Other Donations, Not Covered Above 2 Other Hours, Not Covered Above

Signature _____ Title _____ Date _____
Contact Phone Number: _____ Contact Email Address: _____

Revised: October, 2019

A fillable version of this form is available HERE.



2021 Individual Recruitment Award

The National Membership Committee offers an award for those members recruiting five (5) new members into the Sons of The American Legion within a membership year. This pin is suitable to wear upon your cover or lapel.

You must meet these minimum requirements to qualify:

To qualify you need to Recruit (5) new members into Sons of The American Legion.

(A new member is defined as any eligible Son joining for the 2021 membership year who was not a member of the Sons of The American Legion during the 2020 membership year).

Transfers or renewals do not count as new members.

Please make sure that the members have been processed before submission. Pins will not be mailed until they are verified in the national membership database.

This award form must be received by July 31st.

Recruiter Information

Name _____ Member ID# _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Full Squadron Name/Number _____ Detachment _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Unless specified different, the pin will be sent to the above address

New Member Information

#1 Full Name _____ Membership ID # _____

#2 Full Name _____ Membership ID # _____

#3 Full Name _____ Membership ID # _____

#4 Full Name _____ Membership ID # _____

#5 Full Name _____ Membership ID # _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO: (Regional Membership Chairman)

East - Richard Huntley, Jr. (ME) dickie_huntley@hotmail.com 38 Whale Cove Rd., Machiasport, ME 04655

South - Jason Roberts (GA) robertsjason215@gmail.com 215 Oak Hollow Ct., White, GA 30184

Central - Jeffrey Vrabel, Sr. (OH) jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com 2222 Birch Bark Tri., Grove City, OH 43123

Midwest - Juan Torres (TX) juantorres10@hotmail.com 10828 Sycamore Dr. S, La Porte, TX 77571

West - Leslie "Jim" Stewart (NV) controller@bordertowncasinonv.com 664 Sheffield Ct., Sparks, NV 89431

Instructions

Throughout the year, it is necessary for National to contact squadrons regarding membership renewals, awards, and general communications. In addition, National receives daily requests for post and squadron information from members and potential new members or others who are looking for information about The American Legion at the local level. Maintaining your squadron's current information with National Headquarters has become more important than ever.

Completing an annual Squadron Data Report (SDR) is necessary to inform your Detachment & National Headquarters of pertinent information regarding your squadron and, most importantly, membership renewal information. Complete an annual SDR even if your squadron information has not changed. Any information that has changed can be indicated by checking either the "CHANGE OR CORRECTION" boxes.

Squadron information will be maintained with National's records and published on the legion.org and mysal.org websites and through the "Post Locator" feature. Members who are traveling or have moved, or simply want to transfer, frequently refer to the Post Locator for assistance.

Remember to inform your Detachment & National Headquarters any time a change is made throughout the year.

Each question for the SDR requires specific information. Each question requires the following:

- 1) Enter the actual physical location of the squadron's location.
- 2) Enter the mailing address of the squadron (if different than the physical address). This should be the address where the squadron receives all mail and parcels.
- 3) Enter the dues mailing address that is to appear on the membership renewal notices. It may or may not be the same as the regular mailing or physical address of the squadron.
- 4) Write the dues amount each member pays for the current membership year. If your dues are changing, write the effective date of the new rate. Unless noted otherwise, an effective date of July 1st will be entered to coincide with the first renewal notice of the new membership year. Indicate your junior and dual dues rates, include the maximum age the junior rate is valid, i.e., 18, 19, 20, 21 years of age, etc. All district and or county per capita should be included in the annual squadron dues. The squadron will be responsible for paying any local district or county per capita dues directly.
- 5) Enter the business telephone number of the squadron. (Do not use a personal phone number of a member.)
- 6) Enter the fax telephone number of the squadron, if applicable.
- 7) Enter the squadron email address, if applicable. Enter the email address that is regularly monitored.
- 8) Enter the URL of the squadron website, if applicable.
- 9) Enter the name of the squadron Facebook page, if applicable.
- 10) Enter the date and time of your regularly scheduled squadron meeting. (Ex: 2nd Wednesday @ 7:00pm)

The Annual Squadron Data Report must be signed at the bottom of the page by the Squadron Adjutant or Commander. Unsigned reports will be returned for an authorized signature.

The Annual Squadron Data Report must be forwarded to your Detachment & National Headquarters no later than April 15th in order for squadron information to be processed in time for the first renewal notice.

If there is a subsequent change in the squadron's contact information or a change in the dues amount, the squadron must notify their Detachment & National Headquarters immediately. National Headquarters will not be responsible for reporting incorrect information if the proper notification was not received or if notification was not received in advance of the established deadlines.

NOTICE TO DEPARTMENTS & DETACHMENTS: All annual SDRs must be received at National by April 15th in order to be processed prior to printing the first renewal notices. Please forward as quickly as possible to IT/Data Services after receipt from the squadron; this will help ease processing at National.

MAIL: THE AMERICAN LEGION
ATTN: IT/DATA SERVICES
PO BOX 1954
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206

SCAN & EMAIL: dsforms@legion.org



ANNUAL SQUADRON DATA REPORT (SDR)

20 __ Membership Year

Detachment _____ District/County _____ Squadron # _____

CHANGES (or) CORRECTIONS

Please type or print in ink and forward to your Detachment and National Headquarters

1) Squadron's Home (Physical) Address: _____
(Street address, city, state and zip code) _____

2) Squadron's Mailing Address: _____
If different than physical address _____

3) Squadron's Dues Mailing Address: _____
If different than physical address _____

Note: If the above address contains a member's name or is being sent to a member's home address as the contact, please provide the member's ID#.

4) Annual Squadron Dues for 20 ____ **Regular member**
Junior member **Max. age** **Dual member**

Note: Include all district and county per capita the squadron will be responsible for paying.
Effective Date

Month / Day / Year

5) Squadron Telephone Number: _____
Note: DO NOT use personal phone numbers of members

6) Squadron Fax Number: _____

7) Squadron Email Address: _____

8) Squadron Internet Website: _____

9) Squadron Facebook Page: _____

10) Squadron Meeting Day & Time: _____

Squadron Adjutant or Commander Signature

Date

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Complete and return this form to your Detachment and National Headquarters no later than April 15th. Failure to meet this deadline may prohibit your members from renewing their membership online through mysal.org and cause Renewal Notices to be mailed with incorrect information.

A fillable version of this form is available [HERE](#).



VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA

Virtual ceremony, flag-raising mark opening of National World War I Memorial

By [Matt Grills](#)
APR 19, 2021



American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford holds a bugle that belonged to Gen. John Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces, during a private tour of the National World War I Memorial in Washington, D.C., on April 15. During the memorial's flag-raising, Master Sgt. Matthew Byrne of the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" played "To the Colors" on the historic instrument. Photo by Eric Kruszewski.

The new National World War I Memorial opened to the public this weekend, following a [live broadcast ceremony](#) and flag-raising.

The most transformative of the four major U.S. wars of the 20th century, World War I is the last to be recognized with a national memorial in Washington, D.C. Located on Pennsylvania Avenue, a block southeast of the White House, the site honors the 4.7 million people who served: men, women, citizens, immigrants, African Americans, Native Americans, Latinos, and others.

"The Great War touched nearly every American family at the time," President Joe Biden said, in a recorded message. "For too long that nationwide service has not been fully commemorated here in the nation's capital. This memorial finally will offer a chance for people to visit and reflect and remember."

American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford toured the site Thursday, calling it "a

stirring and impressive tribute to an extraordinary generation of heroes."

"They showed us, at great cost, that threats to freedom the world over must be answered," Oxford said. "They fought through to victory, then returned home to instill in their children and communities that same love of liberty."

"These are the people who started our American Legion. These are our guys and gals. Our organization has long supported construction of this memorial, and Legionnaires should be proud of what our contributions have helped build."

Hosted by actor Gary Sinise, the virtual "First Colors" program weaved a historical overview of U.S. involvement in the war, remarks from military and government officials, and music from Lee Greenwood, the 369th Experience and the cast of the musical "Hello Girls."

The broadcast culminated in a flyover by two F-22 Raptors from the 94th Fighter Squadron – a unit first organized during World War I as the 94th Aero Squadron.

Members of the 3rd Infantry Regiment (the "Old Guard") then hoisted the flag, as Master Sgt. Matthew Byrne of the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" played "To the Colors" on the personal bugle of Gen. John Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF).

The flag raised at the memorial flew over the U.S. Capitol on April 6, 2017, the 100th anniversary of the day the United States entered World War I. It went on to fly over nine American World War I cemeteries overseas, then over the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, Mo., before returning home.

Efforts to build a World War I memorial in Washington, D.C., go back more than a decade. Early on, there was talk of giving the District of Columbia War Memorial national status, but the monument bears the names of local residents who died in the war, making that option unsuitable. The National Mall was also ruled out, as it's considered a completed work of art.

In 2014, Congress approved the redevelopment of Pershing Park as a national World War I memorial. Following a design contest that drew 360 entries, the U.S. World War One Centennial Commission selected a concept by 25-year-old architect Joe

Weisharr of Arkansas that sought to combine green space and commemorative elements.

Regulatory hurdles and input from various agencies led to substantial changes, but the completed memorial succeeds in preserving the urban park setting.

“It’s in the middle of everything, but the designers have made this a magnificently serene location,” says Dan Dayton, executive director of the World War One Centennial Commission. “The memorial provides an opportunity to get away from the crowd and contemplate those who served the cause of freedom a century ago.”

Its centerpiece – a 58-foot, 38-figure bronze sculptural wall called “[The Soldier’s Journey](#),” by Sabin Howard – will be installed in 2024. The rest, however, is complete, including:

- The Belvedere, an overlook that offers a commanding view of the entire memorial, as well as interpretive panels that describe U.S. accomplishments in the war, the contributions of Americans of all backgrounds, and the war’s legacy. At its center is a medallion with the figure of winged Victory portrayed on medals awarded to members of the AEF.
- The Peace Fountain, a wall of cascading water behind the sculpture. Inscribed is a quote from artillery captain Archibald MacLeish’s poem “The Young Dead Soldiers,” which ends with the plea, “Remember us.”
- The original AEF Memorial and 8-foot bronze statue of Pershing, dedicated in the 1980s. Field glasses in hand, the general gazes at the “Soldier’s Journey” sculpture in the distance. Two 10-foot granite walls to both sides of the statue, including battle maps, have been refurbished.
- A flagstaff, on a berm inscribed with a quote from President Woodrow Wilson’s Memorial Day address at Suresnes in 1919: “*Never before have men crossed the seas to a foreign land to fight for a cause which they did not pretend was particularly their own but knew was the cause of humanity and of mankind.*”

Like Pershing Park, the memorial is a few steps below street level, giving it the same ambiance, Dayton said. Trees have been planted and others replanted, with more room for growth. And throughout the site, red poppies bloom as a symbol of remembrance.

Weisharr calls it “a memorial of the 21st century,” with technological innovations that didn’t exist when he started the project. The [Virtual Explorer app](#) brings the memorial to users, allowing them to “place” a 3D model of it anywhere: their living room, backyard, driveway, kitchen table. And at the site itself, the [Visitor Guide app](#) “will pop up different bits of information and different pieces of augmented reality as you need or want them,” he said. How big were the first tanks? How small were the first airplanes? In open spaces at the memorial, app users can “place” those, too, at full size.

Both apps include more than 50 videos on how the war changed America, from its international standing to women’s suffrage. Users can also see and hear virtual remembrances of servicemembers, submitted by families.

“What we want to do is really start telling the stories of the men and women who served,” Weisharr said. “Throughout the memorial and additional content provided through the app and website, people will be able to access these in ways they’ve never been able to before.”

Edwin Fountain, who served as vice chairman of the World War One Centennial Commission from 2014 to 2019, said he’s often asked why America needs this particular memorial.

“We need it because the war was the most consequential event of the 20th century, and you cannot understand our country or the world we live in without understanding World War I,” he said. “The debates we have today about the roles of women and African Americans and immigrants in our society, about the role of America in the world, about the proper balance of liberty and security, are but echoes of debates we had 100 years ago.”

The grandson of two World War I veterans, Fountain began advocating for the establishment of a national memorial in Washington, D.C., in 2008, along with several members of Congress: Rep. Emanuel Cleaver, D-Mo., former Rep. Ted Poe, R-Texas, Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., and former Sens. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., and Jay Rockefeller, D-N.Y.

Thanks to the “energy and commitment of a great many talented people,” including Weisharr and Howard, the nation’s capital now has a memorial to the war that put the United States on the world stage and launched the American century, Fountain said.

“Just as the names Bunker Hill and Yorktown, Shiloh and Gettysburg, Normandy, and Iwo Jima ring out in our national memory, so too should Chateau Thierry and St. Mihiel and the Meuse Argonne. Modern America’s very identity was forged during this war.”

Though the Great War crushed four empires and took the lives of 22 million people, it was not “the war to end all wars,” and set the conditions for an even more destructive conflict 20 years later, Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Mark Milley said. U.S. troops “experienced unbelievable carnage,” he added – 116,516 died, and 200,000 were wounded.

Calling the memorial “a testament to the strength of the American people,” Milley said it is “our duty to remember what they fought for and why they fought.”

Exemplifying American courage was Tennessee blacksmith Alvin York, who wrote “Don’t want to fight” on his draft card but later received the Medal of Honor for his actions in France’s Argonne Forest, where he almost singlehandedly captured or killed an entire German battalion.

Loathe as York was to go to war, he understood the stakes, said retired Col. Gerald York, his grandson. In 1942, York spoke to the 82nd “All American” Division as it reactivated for World War II. “He told them, ‘When we fought the war, we thought we had won the peace, but what we found was we just made a payment on our freedom, and now there’s another payment coming due.’”

Authorization to fly the U.S. flag over the National World War I Memorial came from new Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, who assured Americans that the National Park Service will be at the site every day, caring for it.

“As the daughter of a combat veteran, it’s not lost on me that the veterans of World War I never lived to see a memorial to their service and sacrifice here in our nation’s capital, a place where their families could share their stories and heal their grief,” she said. “Today we right that wrong. Today we remember them.”

Sandra Sinclair Pershing said her late husband, Jack, recalled childhood visits with his famous grandfather. Wherever they went, photographers followed, and people asking for autographs. Today, few know about Pershing and the troops he led.

“Some of the older people I’ve met have said, ‘Gen. Pershing? That name sounds familiar,’ or ‘Oh, there’s a Pershing Street in my town,’ but they have no idea,’ she said. “I’m so happy that we’re going to get this memorial built. These people, many of whom didn’t make it home, have had almost no recognition for what they did. This war represented all of us ... I think the general would say it’s about time.”

 [View Photo Gallery](#)

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

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

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

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

Email 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 _____

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
CWF - DONATIONS REPORT**

**AS OF: APRIL 16, 2021
PAGE 1 OF 2**

DETACHMENT	2020 Donations	2020 Membership (final)	2021 CWF Goal (final)	2021 Donations	% of Goal	Donations Per Capita
AL - ALABAMA	\$ 3,133.00	2,223	\$ 2,223.00	\$ 3,158.00	142.1%	\$ 1.42
AK - ALASKA	\$ 1,500.00	1,410	\$ 1,410.00		0.0%	\$ -
AZ - ARIZONA	\$ 14,325.00	7,514	\$ 7,514.00	\$ 9,350.00	124.4%	\$ 1.24
AR - ARKANSAS	\$ 1,690.00	506	\$ 506.00	\$ 273.00	54.0%	\$ 0.54
CA - CALIFORNIA	\$ 1,700.00	11,319	\$ 11,319.00	\$ 666.00	5.9%	\$ 0.06
CO - COLORADO	\$ 14,001.00	2,891	\$ 2,891.00	\$ 16,975.00	587.2%	\$ 5.87
CT - CONNECTICUT	\$ 1,000.00	1,719	\$ 1,719.00	\$ 2,000.00	116.3%	\$ 1.16
DE - DELAWARE	\$ 2,100.00	2,158	\$ 2,158.00	\$ 150.00	7.0%	\$ 0.07
DC - DIST OF COL		123	\$ 123.00		0.0%	\$ -
FL - FLORIDA	\$ 22,620.00	19,861	\$ 19,861.00	\$ 9,550.00	48.1%	\$ 0.48
FR - FRANCE		260	\$ 260.00	\$ 300.00	115.4%	\$ 1.15
GA - GEORGIA	\$ 5,615.00	4,748	\$ 4,748.00	\$ 2,806.50	59.1%	\$ 0.59
HI - HAWAII	\$ 330.00	50	\$ 50.00		0.0%	\$ -
ID - IDAHO	\$ 614.00	675	\$ 675.00	\$ 61.00	9.0%	\$ 0.09
IL - ILLINOIS	\$ 5,693.78	14,548	\$ 14,548.00	\$ 3,625.00	24.9%	\$ 0.25
IN - INDIANA	\$ 16,635.27	36,522	\$ 36,522.00	\$ 5,320.00	14.6%	\$ 0.15
IA - IOWA	\$ 4,421.00	4,646	\$ 4,646.00	\$ 1,945.00	41.9%	\$ 0.42
KS - KANSAS	\$ 653.52	6,388	\$ 6,388.00	\$ 252.05	3.9%	\$ 0.04
KY - KENTUCKY		2,774	\$ 2,774.00	\$ 520.00	18.7%	\$ 0.19
LA - LOUISIANA	\$ 3,270.00	2,076	\$ 2,076.00	\$ 800.00	38.5%	\$ 0.39
ME - MAINE		2,400	\$ 2,400.00		0.0%	\$ -
MD - MARYLAND	\$ 3,000.00	15,875	\$ 15,875.00	\$ 100.00	0.6%	\$ 0.01
MA - MASSACHUSETTS	\$ 5,307.50	5,308	\$ 5,308.00	\$ 5,290.00	99.7%	\$ 1.00
MX - MEXICO	\$ -	0	\$ -		0.0%	\$ -
MI - MICHIGAN	\$ 8,761.00	23,304	\$ 23,304.00	\$ 3,752.00	16.1%	\$ 0.16
MN - MINNESOTA	\$ 5,634.49	11,094	\$ 11,094.00	\$ 4,208.00	37.9%	\$ 0.38
MS - MISSISSIPPI	\$ 1,500.00	925	\$ 925.00	\$ 1,950.00	210.8%	\$ 2.11
MO - MISSOURI	\$ 1,740.00	3,175	\$ 3,175.00	\$ 690.00	21.7%	\$ 0.22
MT - MONTANA	\$ 1,500.00	1,192	\$ 1,192.00	\$ 1,500.00	125.8%	\$ 1.26
NE - NEBRASKA	\$ 9,099.16	6,799	\$ 6,799.00	\$ 3,593.00	52.8%	\$ 0.53
NV - NEVADA		413	\$ 413.00		0.0%	\$ -
NH - NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$ 340.00	5,747	\$ 5,747.00	\$ 1,483.00	25.8%	\$ 0.26
NJ - NEW JERSEY	\$ 9,944.00	9,323	\$ 9,323.00	\$ 3,217.00	34.5%	\$ 0.35
NM - NEW MEXICO	\$ 770.40	1,457	\$ 1,457.00	\$ 100.00	6.9%	\$ 0.07
NY - NEW YORK	\$ 8,703.93	29,024	\$ 29,024.00	\$ 400.00	1.4%	\$ 0.01
NC - NORTH CAROLINA	\$ 5,369.00	2,502	\$ 2,502.00	\$ 2,350.00	93.9%	\$ 0.94
ND - NORTH DAKOTA	\$ -	769	\$ 769.00	\$ 1,000.00	130.0%	\$ 1.30
OH - OHIO	\$ 14,676.00	29,817	\$ 29,817.00	\$ 2,436.00	8.2%	\$ 0.08
OK - OKLAHOMA		1,384	\$ 1,384.00		0.0%	\$ -
OR - OREGON	\$ 3,250.00	1,462	\$ 1,462.00	\$ 1,475.00	100.9%	\$ 1.01
PA - PENNSYLVANIA	\$ 31,959.96	60,197	\$ 60,197.00	\$ 9,828.50	16.3%	\$ 0.16
PI - PHILIPPINES	\$ 400.00	83	\$ 83.00	\$ 200.00	241.0%	\$ 2.41
PR - PUERTO RICO		116	\$ 116.00		0.0%	\$ -
RI - RHODE ISLAND		246	\$ 246.00	\$ 350.00	142.3%	\$ 1.42
SC - SOUTH CAROLINA	\$ 2,100.00	1,346	\$ 1,346.00	\$ 2,360.00	175.3%	\$ 1.75
SD - SOUTH DAKOTA		878	\$ 878.00	\$ 1,001.00	114.0%	\$ 1.14
TN - TENNESSEE	\$ 638.00	1,648	\$ 1,648.00	\$ 150.00	9.1%	\$ 0.09
TX - TEXAS	\$ 4,908.00	5,836	\$ 5,836.00	\$ 3,746.83	64.2%	\$ 0.64
UT - UTAH	\$ 501.00	505	\$ 505.00	\$ 275.00	54.5%	\$ 0.54
VT - VERMONT	\$ 10,289.00	3,791	\$ 3,791.00	\$ 1,500.00	39.6%	\$ 0.40
VA - VIRGINIA	\$ 14,431.64	4,454	\$ 4,454.00	\$ 1,900.00	42.7%	\$ 0.43
WA - WASHINGTON	\$ 1,188.00	2,426	\$ 2,426.00	\$ 50.00	2.1%	\$ 0.02
WV - WEST VIRGINIA	\$ 3,159.81	2,262	\$ 2,262.00	\$ 1,164.00	51.5%	\$ 0.51
WI - WISCONSIN	\$ 440.00	3,974	\$ 3,974.00	\$ 170.00	4.3%	\$ 0.04
WY - WYOMING	\$ 3,000.00	1,170	\$ 1,170.00		0.0%	\$ -
NATIONAL HQ	\$ 1,032.34	-	\$ -			
Grand Totals:	\$ 252,944.80	363,313	\$ 363,313.00	\$ 113,990.88	31.4%	\$ 0.31