



Outlook

VA&R Reports

From den/maxx us <denmaxxus@yahoo.com>

Date Thu 5/1/2025 11:29 AM

To Kevin Winkelmann <KNWINK@msn.com>

Good morning,

This for the newsletter.

Gentlemen, as the July Convention draws nearer please have all of your VA&R info compiled for me. I appreciate all the time and effort the Squadrons put in to help our Veterans. Hope to see you in July



Business Ink, Co.

SQN 573 45 HRS PASSING OUT THANKSGIVING DINNERS

SQN 208 10 HRS ASSISTING IN PASSING OUT THANKSGIVING DINNERS

SQN 573 & 208 6 HRS ASSISTING VETS WITH CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOPPING @ KILLAM VA HOSPITAL
ASSISTING 4 AIA DEPARTMENTS

SQN 283 & 208 FEEDING VETERANS & 1ST RESPONDERS

283 120 HRS THANKSGIVING DINNERS

208 10 HRS

SQN 618 SERVED MEALS TO VETERANS & 1ST RESPONDERS
ON SEPT 11, 2025 - 45 HRS

PREPARED & SERVED THANKSGIVING DINNERS
55 HRS

SQN 208 SERVED THANKSGIVING DINNERS W/ OUR AIA
30 HRS

SERVED CHRISTMAS DINNERS W/ LEGION
30 HRS

30 HRS PASSED OUT CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO VETS
W/ OUR AIA & LEGIONNAIRES TO
THE VA & LOCAL NURSING HOMES

SQN 447 100 HRS ASSISTING FOOD PANTRY

500 HRS OF GRASS CUTTING & LANDSCAPE WORK

Business Ink, Co.

10214 N-IH35 • Austin, TX 78753

866.364.1268 • 512.650.2012 Fax



Business Ink, Co.

SQN 430 \$500 FOR FOOD & 1,000 HOURS IN
MORAL PROP & SERVING VETS

SQN 179 60 HRS WORKING @ RENAISSANCE ~~FARM~~
COOKING & SERVING TO RAISE FAIR
FUNDS FOR LOCAL VETS

SQN 122 60 HRS ASSISTING VETERANS
3,000 COMMUNITY

Business Ink, Co.

10214 N-IH35 • Austin, TX 78753

866.364.1268 • 512.650.2012 Fax

Veterans Children's Fund Proposal

I would like to see the Detachment take on a fund raising effort to help our current National Commander with his program.

I propose that the Detachment of Texas make a one-time donation to this program. Squadrons can fund raise, donate or whatever means they want to do to raise

funds. Money will be sent to the *DETACHMENT ADJUTANT, RICHARD WINBERMAN*. The awards will be for small, medium, large squadron. The check will be given to Commander Navarette in July. Let's show our support.

VCF Donation Proposal

I would like to propose that the Detachment donate to the National Commander's program of Veterans Childrens Fund. Funds will be collected and held until a one time donation is given at the July Convention. Squadrons can raise funds as they see fit. Possibly a friendly competition for fund raising. Small, medium, large squadron plaques could be given. I believe Texas should be involved as a matter of principle. Let's show our support.



Veterans & Children Foundation

A foundation of hope



P.O. Box 361210
Indianapolis, IN 46236-1210
(317) 630-1200
legion.org

Follow The American Legion online:

legion.org/facebook
[@AmericanLegion](https://twitter.com/AmericanLegion)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Stock# 25-010 Artwork# 291ACY0522

Safe and secure contributions can be made online at legion.org/donate. If you need to mail your contribution use the form below.

DONATION FORM

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____
Phone _____ ☐ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Work
Email _____

Make Checks Payable to: The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation

☐ I want to make a one-time donation ☐ I want to make this a recurring donation for the next 12-months. CREDIT CARD ONLY
☐ Paying by Check (enclosed) ☐ Paying by Credit Card (see below – MC/VISA/DISCOVER/AMEX)

Donation
Amount \$ _____

Credit Card # _____
Exp. Date: ____/____/____ 3-digit Security Code (on back of card) _____

Mail this form with your check or credit card information to:

The American Legion
Veterans & Children Foundation
PO Box 361210
Indianapolis, IN 46236-1210

Questions? Call (877) 534-4668 or email customerservice@legion.org

Signature Required for Credit Card _____

NOTE: When the recurring donation is processed, a confirmation notice will be sent to the email address provided above.

AMERICAN LEGION

VETERANS & CHILDREN FOUNDATION LAUNCHED

Funds will help needy military families and disabled veterans.

OCT - 2018

Described as “a renewed commitment to the future,” the American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation was established Wednesday to advance the organization’s continuous efforts to assist disabled veterans and military parents in need for decades to come.

The American Legion’s National Executive Committee approved a move to have the 1925-established American Legion Endowment Fund do business under a name that more accurately reflects its mission and kicked off an immediate drive to refuel its coffers with a \$25 million fundraising goal. Tax-deductible contributions to The American Legion Veterans & Children’s Foundation can be made by visiting www.legion.org/donate.

“Consider it as Endowment Fund 2.0 – but with a much more descriptive name,” American Legion National Commander Brett Reistad said in his opening remarks Wednesday. “It will renew our commitment to children by delivering Temporary Financial Assistance to those in need. It will provide expert assistance for service officers to help veterans and their families.”

American Legion Charities, a nonprofit trust fund that directs donations to programs and services of the organization, presented a \$500,000 check to the Veterans & Children Foundation Wednesday to get the campaign underway. Following that, hats and helmets were passed across the NEC room, generating another \$2,415. The Department of Massachusetts added to the campaign with a \$5,000 donation.

All contributions to The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation flow directly to the organization’s Temporary Financial Assistance program and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation efforts, primarily training for American Legion service officers who work tirelessly to help veterans and families understand their health-care benefits, education and employment opportunities.

Between 2012 and 2016, the Temporary Financial Assistance program awarded \$4.2 million in cash grants – an average of over \$842,000 per year – to military and veteran families with minor children at home that have encountered unexpected financial crises. Families facing homelessness, hunger or loss of utilities in their homes have been assisted by the fund. In 2017, 933 minor children of 443 veterans received \$588,434 in cash grants, including 68 children of 31 veterans whose lives were rocked by hurricanes and floods.

And across the country, more than 3,000 accredited American Legion service officers are continuously working on behalf of some 700,000 veterans and their families at any one time. Service officers provide expert, free-of-charge assistance through the VA benefits process, including appeals, and connect veterans with other benefits and opportunities due to them as veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.

In recent years, the American Legion Endowment Fund has only been able to cover portions of Temporary Financial Assistance and disabled veterans support needs as the global war on terrorism continues to add years to the longest armed conflict in U.S. history.

The American Legion Endowment Fund was built from a \$5 million fundraising campaign in 1924 – \$71 million in today’s dollars - conducted by National Commander James A. Drain at a time when American Legion membership was less than half of what is today. The purpose of the fund was twofold, as it will continue to be: to help military and veteran families in need and to provide needed assistance to former servicemembers navigating the complexities of government benefits and opportunities.



Veterans & Children Foundation

1. The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF) delivers needed aid for military and veteran parents who face unexpected financial hardships that threaten the stability of their homes. These one-time Temporary Financial Assistance grants are used to cover housing, utilities, food and other basic needs for families with minor children at home.

2. The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation also trains the organization's department and post-level accredited veteran service officers who are continuously working more than 750,000 benefits claims for disabled veterans and their families, free of charge.

Your Gift Makes a Difference in the Lives of Men and Women Who Have Sworn to Protect Our Nation and Their Children.

Safe, secure, tax-deductible contributions can be made online at: legion.org/donate

For military and veteran families in urgent need

For disabled veterans and their loved ones

The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation is

A FOUNDATION OF HOPE



About The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation

The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation was established in 1925 as the American Legion Endowment Fund. Since then, the donation-driven fund has helped millions of disabled veterans and military/veteran families facing unexpected, threatening challenges. The foundation is a separate tax-deductible nonprofit 501(c)3 organization with a dedicated board of directors and national steering committee. It was renamed The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation in 2019 to better reflect those it serves.

About The American Legion

The American Legion is the nation's largest veterans service organization. Founded by World War I veterans in 1919, it has grown to include all who have honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces since Dec. 7, 1941, veterans and active-duty men and women alike. The American Legion Family consists of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American and American Legion Riders. The combined membership of those groups exceeds 3 million.

The American Legion works every day in Washington D.C., across the country and around the world on behalf of veterans, U.S. military personnel, young people and patriotic communities. Through "individual obligation to community, state and nation," The American Legion is committed to fulfill the words of its official motto:

"When Courtney (VanZanten) became our Legion veteran service officer, it was just the difference between night and day. She'd fill out the papers, she knew what questions to ask. She worked very hard on my behalf."



Rodney Smith, a Brown Water Navy vet from the Vietnam War

"The American Legion's Temporary Financial Assistance grant establishes hope in someone ... We are extremely thankful and ... couldn't have been blessed more by getting into The American Legion and look forward to our future within the organization."

U.S. Marine Corps veteran **Walter Culberson**, whose family received a Temporary Financial Assistance grant to pay utilities until he got a new job after the COVID-19 pandemic put him out of work in April 2020.

TFA has distributed nearly \$2 million in cash grants since 2017.



VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA



Veterans & Children Foundation

A foundation of hope

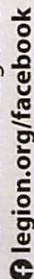


P.O. Box 361210
Indianapolis, IN 46236-1210

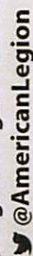
(317) 630-1200



Follow The American Legion online:



legion.org/facebook



@AmericanLegion

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Safe and secure contributions can be made online at legion.org/donate. If you need to mail your contribution use the form below.

DONATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Phone _____ ☐ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Work

Email _____

Make Checks Payable to: The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation

☐ I want to make a one-time donation ☐ I want to make this a recurring donation for the next 12-months. CREDIT CARD ONLY

☐ Paying by Check (enclosed) ☐ Paying by Credit Card (see below – MC/VISA/DISCOVER/AMEX)

Donation
Amount \$ _____

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date: ____/____/____ 3-digit Security Code (on back of card) _____

Mail this form with your check or credit card information to:

The American Legion
Veterans & Children Foundation
PO Box 361210
Indianapolis, IN 46236-1210

**Questions? Call (877) 534-4668 or email
customerservice@legion.org**

Signature Required for Credit Card _____

NOTE: When the recurring donation is processed, a confirmation notice will be sent to the email address provided above.

An American flag is draped vertically along the left side of the advertisement, partially overlapping a dark, textured background.

\$1 PER MEMBER IS ALL IT TAKES

TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE
LIVES OF VETERANS AND THEIR
FAMILIES

THE AMERICAN LEGION VETERANS & CHILDREN
FOUNDATION FEEDS AND HOUSES CHILDREN
OF MILITARY PERSONNEL AND VETERANS
FACING URGENT, UNEXPECTED HARDSHIPS. IT
PREVENTS EVICTION, KEEPS THE POWER ON
AND FULFILLS BASIC NEEDS TO HOLD A FAMILY
TOGETHER THROUGH DIFFICULT TIMES.



LEGION.ORG/VCF

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND
TO DONATE



Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF)

A foundation of hope providing financial resources for the organization's Temporary Financial Assistance Program and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation support, including training for accredited service officers.

Highlights of the Veterans & Children Foundation:

- In **2019**, the American Legion Endowment Fund began doing business as the American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation to more clearly state who benefits from tax-deductible donations.
- **\$17.9 million** is the amount in American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants awarded since 1926 to assist military and qualified veteran families with minor children, who are facing unexpected financial emergencies that threaten the stability of their home.
- **11,161** is the number of children whose homes were stabilized with the help from American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants over the last decade.
- **\$30 million** is the approximate amount in cash grants issued from The American Legion Endowment Fund and Veterans & Children Foundation for veterans and their children in need since 1925.
- **\$64.4 billion** is the amount in VA disability secured for veterans since 2020 by American Legion service officers.
- More than **3,000** trained American Legion service officers provide VA benefits representation and other forms of assistance to some **750,000** veterans at any time, all the time, free of charge.

SONS OF THE
 **AMERICAN**
LEGION

\$1 PER MEMBER.

It's not a goal, it's our mission.

Support the VCF!

More information can be found by visiting legion.org/vcf

SAL VCF donations for the period
07/01/24 - 04/30/25

Detachment	VCF Donations	VCF Funds
Alabama	0	\$0.00
Alaska	0	\$0.00
Arizona	4	\$2,517.00
Arkansas	3	\$225.00
California	1	\$20.00
Colorado	1	\$395.00
Connecticut	9	\$1,320.00
Delaware	0	\$0.00
Dist of Col	0	\$0.00
Florida	3	\$3,050.00
France	0	\$0.00
Georgia	1	\$400.00
Hawaii	3	\$65.00
Idaho	0	\$0.00
Illinois	4	\$1,600.00
Indiana	13	\$2,020.00
Iowa	8	\$4,760.00
Kansas	10	\$250.00
Kentucky	0	\$0.00
Latin America	2	\$175.00
Louisiana	3	\$1,425.00
Maine	0	\$0.00
Maryland	8	\$19,050.00
Massachusetts	1	\$1,000.00
Michigan	2	\$1,500.00
Minnesota	0	\$0.00
Mississippi	1	\$716.73
Missouri	0	\$0.00
Montana	0	\$0.00
Nebraska	5	\$1,365.00
Nevada	0	\$0.00
New Hampshire	1	\$10.00
New Jersey	3	\$195.00
New Mexico	3	\$1,450.00
New York	11	\$2,325.00
North Carolina	1	\$500.00
North Dakota	1	\$50.00
Ohio	5	\$2,170.00
Oklahoma	1	\$1,000.00
Oregon	5	\$2,150.00
Pennsylvania	2	\$100.00
Philippines	0	\$0.00
Puerto Rico	0	\$0.00
Rhode Island	0	\$0.00
South Carolina	0	\$0.00
South Dakota	1	\$9,100.00
Tennessee	2	\$550.00
Texas	4	\$1,100.00
Utah	1	\$25.00
Vermont	2	\$270.00
Virginia	6	\$2,125.00
Washington	5	\$1,960.00
West Virginia	0	\$0.00
Wisconsin	3	\$145.00
Wyoming	0	\$0.00
Total	139	\$67,078.73

VCF DONATION
CUTOFF DATE IS 5/31/25
FOR 2025 DONATIONS

AMERICAN LEGION LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The legislative committee met on Friday January 17, 2024. The following members were in attendance: Kevin Johnson Chairman, Jesse Richardson 2nd District Commander, Milton Chatham Past Detachment Commander.

VA HEALTHCARE MODERNIZATION The biggest issue in the VA is the implementation of the new electronic health record modernization program(EHRM). VA has experienced difficulties as the EHRM has progressed. Some of the differences had to do with software. Along with inexperienced instructors providing training to VA staff.VA made improvements on these identified issues. As the EHRM roll-out is set to resume in 2024, The American Legion continues to call congress to provide oversight and to hold VA and other relevant parties accountable for the implementation and functioning of the EHR.

PACT ACT IMPLIMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT Since the implementation of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins(PACT)Act,VA has screened more than 5 million veterans for toxic exposure.The average time complete a PACT ACT claim is about 157 days.ly is imperative that the VA fully leverage the resources made available to the PACT ACT to assist in the continued modernization of Veteran Benefits Administration(VBA)information technology systems as well as the hiring of additional employees to ensure the claims are adjudicated in a timely manner. The American Legion urges Congress to provide the necessary oversight and funding to insure VA has resources to properly implement this legislation.

MILITARY QUALITY OF LIFE The U.S. military's greatest resource are service members and their families. Without the highly qualified and committed men and women, even the most sophisticated weaponry will not provide the deterrence necessary to defend our nation. Factors contributing to the quality of life include proper compensation,appropriate housing,quality health care,reasonably priced commissaries,and access to childcare services. The American Legion urges Congress to pass legislation to expand access to affordable childcare,increase appropriations for military construction projects(including barracks and family housing and insuring timely access to mental health care.

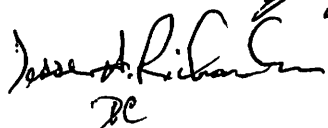
Kevin Johnson SQUADRON 817 Beaumont
Kcjdagman@aol.com


IMPROVING THE MILITARY TAP

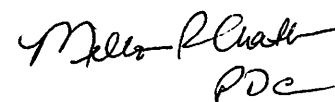
American Legion urges Congress to direct the modernization of the Transition Assistance Program(TAP)delivery using technology and performance data to insure the DOD delivers a successful program. The creation of a mobile application, providing the service members with an extensive toolkit of on-demand transition related content would improve participation and increase benefit of transition resources available. Delivering effective transition assistance will ensure a veterans proper a veterans proper reintegration from active duty to civilian life and reduce negative experiences. Improved TAP instructions will support our service members in finding education,employment and entrepreneurship opportunities and send successful citizens back to our communities.

GUARD & RESERVE GI BILL PARITY National Guard and reserve members are being deprived of education benefits that active duty service members enjoy,despite completing the same duties. According to the current law,National Guard and Reserve service members only accrue GI Bill entitlements only when called to active duty. Under federal orders. When Guard and Reserve service member are activated under state orders, they do not accrued eligibility for Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits like their active duty counter parts do. The American Legion believes that everyday in uniform counts and urges Congress to recognize the service of Guard and Reserves as eligible for the GI Bill.

PROTECT THE AMERICAN FLAG The American Legion urges Congress to approve an amendment to the US Constitution that would allow Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the U.S. Flag. Additionally,The American Legion urges Congress to pass the Flag Code Modernization Act of 2021 and to amend the U.S. Flag Code to codify common patriotic customs and practices as described in The American Legion Resolution #19: Flag Code Amendment.

 Jesse H. Richardson
DC

 Kenneth M. Charr
chair

 Melvin R. Charr
PDC

**INTERNET REPORT
DETACHMENT OF TEXAS
MID WINTER DEC
JANUARY 18, 2025**

We still have a few Officers and Committee Chairmen who have not provided a picture for the web site. Get with the Historian and get a picture taken for the website or email us a picture of yourself in a coat and tie for the website. It is important for members to know who their leaders are.

We have two sites for you to use to get information you may need about the Sons of The American Legion and The Detachment of Texas.

You can visit it by the link on our main web site <http://saltexas.org>. Here you will find forms, membership information, coming events, news from around the state and from the national organization, minutes from meetings and more.

If you use Facebook, you can visit our page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/SALTEXAS> or by searching for the "Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Texas" while in Facebook.

If your squadron or District has a Facebook Page. please let us know and follow the Detachment of Texas. If you view a post on the Detachment page, please like the post to help our visibility.

When your squadron plans an event, we request you send your event flyer by email. Preferably the one created on a computer and not pictures of printed flyers. This makes posting easier and better looking. Please also send pictures or videos of your events. Email us via the link on the website. If sending pictures please send the original picture, please do not resize.

Lastly, at the request of Past Detachment Commander and Trailing Candidate for National Commander Skelley, we asked the membership to populate the Legacy page on the Web Site. This page was intended to be a repository of our parents/grandparents whose service entitled us to our membership in The Sons of The American Legion. We added a few new pictures since the Fall DEC, please

work to get this page a place that we are proud to show the Nation once Thom gets elected.

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help your internet presence.

Gary Winters,
Internet Chairman

PUBLIC RELATIONS MET JANUARY 18TH 11:20

PRESENT WERE

ACTING CHAIRMAN WOLF LAUGHING SQDN 283

DISTRICT 19 COMMANDER HERB FISH

FRANKY ENGLUTT SQDN 283

GARY WINTERS ^{SQDN 283} WAS EXCUSED

DISCUSSED PUTTING TOGETHER 25 POINT CHECKLIST

FOR FAST, FREE, EASY, OR CHEAP WAYS TO INCREASE

A SQUADRON'S COMMUNITY FOOTPRINT AND IMPROVE PUBLIC RELATIONS

TXALPA - TEXAS AMERICAN LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION
AWARDS AVAILABLE FOR ARTICLES ABOUT YOUR SQUADRON'S ACTIVITIES

MARKETING + MEDIA AWARDS SUBMISSIONS NEEDED
TXLEGION.ORG FOR REQUIREMENTS

KNOW INFORMATION FROM YOUR SQUADRON'S CSR.
THE BEST TALKING POINT TO POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS CAN BE
JUST LETTING THEM KNOW THE IMPACT YOUR LEGION FAMILY
HAS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:40

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
WOLF LAUGHING SQDN 283

01-17-2025

Marketing committee met today,
those present were Bill Kuehner
Tracy Wood and myself.

We are selling the new
Carolina Blue polo shirts and the
Campaign T-shirts for Thom Steley.

We now are able to take
credit cards. There will be a \$1.95
charge per shirt and 50¢ charge on
pins and \$1.95 on caps.

\$590 has been turned in since
2024 Fall DEC.

For God & Country
Ry Hunt

SAL Finance Committee Meeting

2025 Mid-Winter DEC

The SAL Finance Committee Meeting commenced at 4:00 PM on Saturday, January 18th, 2025. Attendees:

Chairman Ken Dorsett
Henry Creach
Kevin Winkelmann
Jon Kingston
David Blair
Steve Slaughter

We discussed the following items:

- Pay the budgeted \$1000 for the American Legion Scholarship MVP winner
- Pay the budgeted \$1000 to Thom Skelley's National Campaign account
- Make a \$500 donation to Bill Clancy's campaign fund from National Representative Expensive. This is a planned budget item.
- We will pay for 2 wreaths at the Washington Conference plus tram fees and box lunches for the Texas delegation
- We will wave Detachment Convention Registration for Squadron Commanders
- We will pay Wolf Laughing a call-in as acting Public Relations Chairman

We voted to approve each of the previous items

Henry Creech moved to donate \$1000 to aid California Fire Recovery. Ken Dorsett seconded. This will replace the budgeted \$500 ~~NEF~~ donation. The other \$500 will come from other unused funds. The motion passed unanimously.

Having no other business, we adjourned at 4:35 PM.