

Fellow Sons of The American Legion,

Today is Wednesday, July 1st, 2026, and we are just three days away from the most historic Independence Day of our lifetimes: America's 250th birthday. As Sons of The American Legion members, our heritage is directly intertwined with the defense of the liberty born in 1776. With massive crowds gathering across the Southeast Region this weekend, we must capitalize on this patriotic momentum (wear your SAL attire).

As we count down to the 4th, I am calling on all Southeast Squadrons to focus on these critical actions:

- **Finish the USA 250 Challenge Strong:** We have until Saturday, July 4th, to wrap up our 250 Challenge. Log your final milestones and help us reach the \$150,000 fundraising goal for the Veterans & Children Foundation.
- **Document Our Presence:** Capture photos of your celebrations. Submit your coverage to the SAL Media and Communications Commission or Rusty Myers, the SAL Millennium newsletter editor.
- **Be the One:** Holiday weekends can bring hidden challenges for veterans. Amid the celebrations, make it a priority to check in on local heroes to ensure they have the mental health support they need.
- **Holiday Recruitment:** Set up tables at community events. This weekend is prime time to engage military families and recruit new members.

Thank you for your tireless dedication to our mission. It has been the privilege & honor of a lifetime to serve as your National Vice Commander. Let's lead the nation by example as we honor 250 years of American liberty. Have a safe, proud, and historic Independence Day weekend!

For God and Country, **Bryan Hine NVC (SE) Sons of The American Legion**