



## ROUND-UP

A weekly digest of happenings  
in the Sons of The American Legion

Next Goal

# 100%

May 17, 2023

Volume 4 | Number 32 | Issue 183 | April 30, 2023

# Army Apache helicopter collision kills 3 soldiers, injures another in Alaska

Wyatt Olson/Stars and Stripes | April 28, 2023



Patrick Sullivan/U.S. Air Force

Three soldiers were killed and another injured when two AH-64 Apache helicopters collided and crashed Thursday near Healy, Alaska, according to the Army.

The helicopters belonged to the 1st Attack Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment at Fort Wainwright, and were returning from a training mission, the Army said in a news release.

Two soldiers were declared dead at the scene and a third died en route to Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, where the fourth soldier is being treated for injuries, the release said.

The names of the soldiers who died are being withheld until 24 hours after next of kin have been notified, the Army said.

“This is an incredible loss for these soldiers’ families, their fellow soldiers, and for the division,” Maj. Gen. Brian Eifler, commander of the 11th Airborne Division, said in the release. “Our hearts and prayers go out to

their families, friends and loved ones, and we are making the full resources of the Army available to support them.”

The collision will be investigated by a team from the Army Combat Readiness Center, Fort Novosel, Ala., the Army said.

Healy is about 250 miles north of Anchorage, 110 miles south of Fairbanks and close to the entrance of Denali National Park and Preserve.

The incident follows the March 29 crash of two Army Black Hawk helicopters during a training flight near Fort Campbell, Ky., that took the lives of nine soldiers. The 101st Airborne Division aircraft collided in midair during a nighttime flight and went down in a field in Kentucky, Army investigators said in a preliminary report.

On Feb. 15, two veteran Tennessee Army National Guard pilots were killed when the UH-60 Black Hawk they were flying crashed during a training flight near Huntsville, Ala.

Earlier this year in Alaska, two soldiers were slightly injured when their Apache helicopter rolled over at the state’s Talkeetna airport.

According to the preliminary report on the Kentucky crash, an average of seven Class A flight mishaps a year have occurred since 2018. During the same span, an average of five soldiers have been killed per year in on-duty flight accidents.

A Class A mishap is one that creates substantial property damage or causes death or serious permanent injury.



# ROUND-UP

National Commander

**Chris Carlton (IN)**

National Vice-Commander Central Region

**David Mennel (MI)**

National Vice-Commander Eastern Region

**Ernie LaBerge (MA)**

National Vice-Commander Midwest Region

**Michael Kirschner (CO)**

National Vice-Commander Southern Region

**Ron Roberts (MS)**

National Vice-Commander Western Region

**Jack Youngs (ID)**

Immediate Past National Commander

**Michael Fox (CA)**

Leading Candidate

**Don "J.R." Hall (MD)**

Trailing Candidate

**Joseph Navarrete (NM)**

**Round-Up** is a publication designed to disseminate information related to Sons of The American Legion and the American Legion Family. It is published weekly and distributed each Sunday.

**SUBMITTING ARTICLES:** All submissions are to be made electronically to [jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com](mailto: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



The current SAL membership report can be accessed on the national website at

[www.legion.org/membership/standings](http://www.legion.org/membership/standings)



## RENEW ONLINE TODAY



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

## TARGET DATE

**April 19, 2023**



## CHRIS CARLTON

### NATIONAL COMMANDER

**2022 – 2023**



**Chris Carlton, National Commander  
Sons of The American Legion**

**“Purpose is why we journey;  
passion is the flame that lights the way.”**

# PURPOSE PASSION



**DAVID MENNEL**  
**NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER**  
**CENTRAL REGION**  
**2022 – 2023**

**MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING**

Third Thursday of Each Month  
8:00 p.m. Eastern Time  
(720) 527-5854 | 202 4742#



**JACK YOUNGS**  
**NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER**  
**WESTERN REGION**  
**2022 – 2023**

**MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING**

Fourth Wednesday of Each Month  
7:00 p.m. Mountain Time  
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
Meeting ID: 847 2013 6661 | 697 464

You have astounded me with your DEDICATION, PROFESSIONALISM, AND “WILL DO” ATTITUDE.

Here are the facts in the numbers:

**2023:**

27 April goal: 25,822 actual: 24,771 percent of goal: 95.93% renewals nationally only: 83.88%

**2022:**

28 April goal: 24,414 actual: 22,576 percent of goal: 92.47% renewals nationally only: 83.29%

Increase over last year: +1408 in our goal actual: +2195 percent of goal: +3.46% renewals nationally only: +0.59%

We have gained a lot in the last 2 weeks and the numbers above are the proof in the pudding.

Let's keep rocking the boat and making everything we do count, ESPECIALLY GETTING THOSE RENEWALS, WE CAN'T LET NEW MEMBERS COME IN THE FRONT, AND NOT HAVE ANYONE STOPPING OUR CURRENT MEMBERS FROM ESCAPING OUT THE BACK DOOR.

WITH THE MINDS WE HAVE IN OUR ORGANIZATION, SURELY, WE CAN COME UP WITH A STOP LOSS SOLUTION!!!

I will tell you I don't have the ability to have an answer for you, but I know for a fact that we have approximately 352,996 members right now and collectively with all of these minds we can surely find the solution or solutions.

Thank you for all you do for God and Country. May God bless you, your families, the SAL, and the United States of America.



**ERNIE LABERGE**  
**NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER**  
**EASTERN REGION**  
**2022 – 2023**

**MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING**

Fourth Tuesday of Each Month  
7:00 p.m. Eastern Time  
(605) 313-4388 | 346 8542#



**MICHAEL KIRSCHNER**  
**NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER**  
**MIDWEST REGION**  
**2022 – 2023**

**MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING**

First Tuesday of Each Month  
7:00 p.m. Mountain Time  
(605) 313-5379 | 830 520



**RON ROBERTS**  
**NATIONAL VICE-COMMANDER**  
**SOUTHERN REGION**  
**2022 – 2023**

**MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING**

Second Tuesday of Each Month  
7:00 p.m. Central  
(945) 218-0044 | 472 0682

National Vice Commander Roberts is asking anyone who may pictures of him during his travels and activities during the 2022 – 2023 year to please send them to him.

Thank you!



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# 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](https://VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat) or text 838255.

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## Remembering the Greatest Generation

To honor a World War II Veteran,  
please send information to [jeffvabelsr@gmail.com](mailto:jeffvabelsr@gmail.com)

### Ken Potts, one of last USS Arizona survivors, dies at 102

Audrey McAvoy, AP | April 23, 2023



In this photo provided by the U.S. Marine Corps, former U.S. Navy coxswain Howard "Ken" Potts attends the Freedom Bell Opening Ceremony and Bell Ringing at USS Bowfin Submarine Museum & Park on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Dec. 6, 2016.

Lance Cpl. Robert Sweet/U.S. Marine Corps via AP

HONOLULU — Ken Potts, one of the last two remaining [survivors of the USS Arizona battleship](#), which sank during the [1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor](#), has died. He was 102.

Howard Kenton Potts died Friday at the home in Provo, Utah, that he shared with his wife of 66 years, according to Randy Stratton, whose late father, Donald Stratton, was Potts' Arizona shipmate and close friend.

Stratton said Potts "had all his marbles" but lately was having a hard time getting out of bed. When Stratton spoke to Potts on his birthday, April 15, he was happy to have made it to 102.

"But he knew that his body was kind of shutting down on him, and he was just hoping that he could get better but (it) turned out not," Stratton said.

Potts was born and raised in Honey Bend, Illinois, and enlisted in the Navy in 1939.

He was working as a crane operator shuttling supplies to the Arizona the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, when the Pearl Harbor attack happened, according to [a 2021 article by the Utah National Guard](#).

In a [2020 oral history interview with the American Veterans Center](#), Potts said a loudspeaker ordered sailors back to their ships so he got on a boat.

"When I got back to Pearl Harbor, the whole harbor was afire," He said in the interview. "The oil had leaked out and caught on fire and was burning."

Dozens of ships either sank, capsized, or were damaged in the bombing of the Hawaii naval base, which catapulted the U.S. into World War II.

Sailors were tossed or forced to jump into the oily muck below, and Potts and his fellow sailors pulled some to safety in their boat.

The Arizona sank just nine minutes after being bombed, and its 1,177 dead account for nearly half the servicemen killed in the attack. Today the battleship still sits where it sank eight decades ago, with more than 900 dead entombed inside.

Potts recalled decades later that some people were still giving orders in the midst of the attack but there was also a lot of chaos. He carried his memories of the attack over the course of his long life.

"Even after I got out of the Navy, out in the open, and heard a siren, I'd shake," he said.

Stratton noted that the only remaining survivor from the Arizona is now [Lou Conter, who is 101](#) and living in California.

"This is history. It's going away," Stratton said, adding: "And once (Conter is) gone, who tells all their stories?" Several dozen Arizona survivors [have had their ashes interred on the sunken battleship](#) so they could join



their shipmates, but Potts didn't want that, according to Stratton.

"He said he got off once, he's not going to go back on board again," he said.

Stratton said many Arizona survivors shared a similar dry sense of humor. That included his own father, who was severely burned in the attack and also did not want to return to the ship as ashes in an urn.

"I've been cremated once. I'm not going to be cremated twice," Donald Stratton joked, according to the younger Stratton, before [his death in 2020 at age 97](#). "They had that all throughout their lives. They had the sense of humor, and they knew sooner or later they would pass," Randy Stratton said. "Our job now is to keep their memories alive."

Potts is survived by his wife, Doris. Information on other survivors was not immediately available.

According to past Department of Wisconsin Commander Al Richards, a member of Post 355, "Due to the massive destruction and the number of dead, very few remains from the battle were identified. The local Romanians buried what remains they could recover. It wasn't until after the war that many unidentified remains were sent to the Ardennes American Cemetery near Liège, Belgium."

Harms' name was listed on the Wall of Honor at the Florence American Cemetery in Italy, but it wasn't until the early 2000s that the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) exhumed and tested unidentified remains at Ardennes. With the help of a DNA sample from Harms' only surviving sister, the DPAA informed the Harms family last August that an identification had been made. Laura Harms Murphy had passed away in 2020 at 99 but had expressed a wish that her brother's remains be returned to Grafton.

Harms was not just a name on Post 355's wall. Richards remembers, "At my first meeting, LeRoy Paulin was elected post commander. Like many other members at the time, LeRoy was a World War II veteran. He was also a friend of Roy Harms and his family. LeRoy kept in touch with the family even when they started to move away from Grafton. He was responsible for gathering information and pictures of Lt. Harms' crew and creating a display at the post. Unfortunately, LeRoy, like most of our World War II veterans, is no longer with us. Our current post commander, Ken Kasprzak, has done a good job of picking up the torch and keeping in touch with the surviving Harms family members, especially Roy's sister, who was very supportive of our post. Other family members have come back and visited the post in the past."

Roy Harms' homecoming is set for May 6 at the Woodlawn Cemetery in Grafton. He will be interred alongside his parents at a noon ceremony with full military honors. Post 355 will participate in the ceremony and host an open house afterwards.



Lt. Roy Harms (upper left) and his service history hold pride of place at Post 355.

Photo via Al Richards

## Lt. Harms is coming home

The American Legion | April 21, 2023

American Legion Post 355 in Grafton, Wis., received its initial charter in 1933 and took as its namesake Cpl. Fred Rose, a local World War I soldier who died of pneumonia in England in September 1918 and was buried there. In 1946 Post 355 renamed itself Rose-Harms to honor Lt. Roy Harms, the first Grafton resident to die in World War II, who perished in an August 1943 bombing raid of refineries near Ploiești, Romania, as a member of the Army Air Corps. But unlike Rose, for decades the Harms family – and Grafton – lacked closure through final identification of Harms' remains.

## Bishop Gilbert I. Sheldon



The Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio's third bishop, Gilbert I. Sheldon, died April 24, 2023, at the age of 96. Bishop Sheldon served as a bishop for 26 years, 16 as an auxiliary in Cleveland and 10 as diocesan bishop in Steubenville.

Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton

said, “Bishop Sheldon personified a shepherd’s generosity and compassionate heart. His love for the people of God was evident in his travels throughout the diocese as he shared the good news of Jesus Christ. As his episcopal motto illustrated, he was strong in the faith.”

Bishop Sheldon was born Sept. 20, 1926, in Cleveland, one of 12 children of the late Ignatius P. and Stephanie J. Olszewski Sheldon. He is survived by his sisters, Susan (Hans) Gossler of Munster, Indiana and Nancy A. Sheldon of Rocky River, Ohio.

He received his early education in Cleveland and enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Force, as an aviation cadet, upon graduation from high school in 1944.

Bishop Sheldon then went on to receive degrees from John Carroll University and St. Mary Seminary, both in Cleveland, and the Ohio Consortium of Seminaries, Columbus, Ohio. In addition, Bishop Sheldon has been awarded honorary degrees from Wheeling Jesuit University, Wheeling, West Virginia, and Franciscan University of Steubenville.

He was ordained to the priesthood Feb. 28, 1953, by Diocese of Cleveland Archbishop Edward F. Hoban.

On June 11, 1976, he was ordained a bishop by Bishop, and later Cardinal, James A. Hickey. As an auxiliary bishop for the Cleveland Diocese, Bishop Sheldon was the vicar, Marriage and Family Concerns; vicar, Summit County; and vicar, Southern Region.

On April 2, 1992, he was installed as the bishop of the Diocese of Steubenville. During that time, he served on U.S. bishops’ committees for Latin America, Administration, National Advisory Council, Missions and Nominations, as well as a board member of the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus.

Visitation for Bishop Sheldon will be held at Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, May 1, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.; vigil service is scheduled for 7 p.m. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m., May 2, at Holy Rosary Church. Burial will take place following Mass.



## NATIONAL COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

### Advisory Committee Joe Mayne (MN), Chairman

### Americanism Commission

**Chris Casey (NE), Chairman**

Fourth Thursday of Bi-monthly  
7:30 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom meeting](#)  
Meeting ID: 956 9846 2868 | 840 830  
(877) 853-5257

May 6, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.  
Sheraton Indianapolis Circle West - LL  
during the SAL National Spring Meetings

July 27



**FLYING FLAGS  
FOR HEROES**  
www.flyingflagsforheroes.com

**As of April 28, 2023, 16,496  
flags have been placed  
and reported to  
honor our veterans  
since September 1, 2022**

### Indiana youth wins National Oratorical Contest

[Cameran Richardson](#) | April 23, 2023

Haley Bock of Indianapolis hadn’t checked her phone following The American Legion’s 84th National High School Oratorical Contest finals Sunday morning. But she knows the “family chat group is probably blowing up right now” as she won the national contest and a \$25,000 scholarship.

When Bock heard her name called on stage as the national champion, she felt “an incredible amount of gratitude. I kind of got teary-eyed up there. I felt very thankful for the competitors who competed with me, just that they were showing up and I got to meet them and spend that time with them. And for The American Legion in making this opportunity possible and for the veterans who have sacrificed and who have listened to me and who enjoy listening to me. And just grateful to God. It was a humbling moment.”

Second-place finish and a \$22,500 scholarship was awarded to Ian Chung of Vestal, N.Y., and third-place finish and a \$20,000 scholarship was awarded to Emma Johnson of Powell, Wyo.



**YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP  
MATTERS**

Bock, a homeschool senior, has committed to Patrick Henry College in Virginia this fall where the scholarship earned for her first-place finish will help ease the financial burden, she said. This “is another reason I’m so grateful to The American Legion, that they’re willing to give what they have, what they have been blessed with by this country to other people and try to lift them up as well.”

For her winning oration, “The Black Hole of American Democracy: American Territories are Where Voting Rights Vanish,” Bock speaks on the over four million U.S. citizens in the American territories of Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands who are denied their right to vote because of the Insular Cases. As she wrote, “because of the Insular Cases, citizens in the territories exist in what a dissenting justice called ‘the disembodied shade’ of ‘limbo’ status. Existing, but not heard from. Present but not represented. Four million Americans all live in an alternate dimension of disenfranchisement.”

With her prepared oration, Bock said she “wanted to encourage young people my age and other Americans, and veterans in The American Legion to investigate issues like that and to try to use their voice to speak for others who don’t maybe have the platform that they do.”

Speaking before an audience isn’t new to Bock who also participates in other speech and debate leagues. However, she noted to compete in the Legion’s oratorical contest that “you don’t have to compete in a speech and debate league to harness your speaking skills. It comes down to being in my family room with my mom every Saturday and working for hours, going over the speeches again and again. If you’re willing to make that time commitment, you’ll be strengthening your skills and ultimately getting the benefits of the oratorical contest.”

The oratorical contest has been a family American Legion participation program among Bock and two of her brothers. It’s because of what it has taught the siblings. “It has taught me so much, especially about veterans in my state and in the country,” Bock said. “I have veterans in my family but to hear their stories and just seeing how much they care about me simply because of the country I was born into because the title of being an American, it’s a really bonding thing for these veterans because of the call to duty they have taken on themselves to defined us. It has also given me skills and knowledge that are unmatched by any other form of education I have gone through and just a platform where they listen and respect what I’m saying, and really want to learn from me.”

Bock emerged in the National Oratorical Contest, held in Indianapolis at the Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, from a competitive field of 49 high school orators who won their respective American Legion department Oratorical Contest. Throughout the weekend’s competition, the contestants presented a rehearsed eight- to 10-minute oration on an aspect of the Constitution in front of judges, as well as a three- to five-minute speech on an assigned topic discourse — a phase of the Constitution selected from its Articles and Sections.

The assigned topic for the finals was Amendment XVI: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration. Bock said she was happy to present on this because “I felt like my first presentation I was really loud, and I might have come across a little aggressive so I was really glad I could soften up for the second speech.” When creating the assigned topic, Bock’s advice to future oratorical contestants is to listen to what your peers are talking about, read through the Constitution and Federalists papers and ask questions in your history classes — “Why is that law this way? Or how did our country become this way? I think that will spark interest and maybe lead to a path for your presentation.”

As the national oratorical champion, Bock is invited to attend the 104th National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., in late August for a special recognition.

Bock is grateful to American Legion Post 3 for sponsoring her to compete in the oratorical contest. “Thank you so much. Thank you for your sacrifice in years past and thank you for your sacrifice you’re making every year to help these students and to help myself,” Bock said. “Thank you to my post and my district specifically for being that family and that support. Thank you to the whole American Legion. Thank you for creating this opportunity.”

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## **New U.S. flag social media graphics for promotion**

The American Legion | April 25, 2023

In the weeks leading up to Flag Day, June 14, a new set of social media graphics is available for you to promote.

Produced as part of the “Rally Around the Flag” campaign by The American Legion and the Citizens Flag Alliance, the Voices of Our Flag series include individual, downloadable graphics that can be shared on



Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. The flag quotes are from veterans, Legion leadership, presidents, Olympians, and many others.

For example, one graphic includes this inspiring flag statement from Alvin Owsley, a World War I combat veteran and the fifth national commander of The American Legion:

“It is not so much the flag of our fathers as it is the flag of our children, and all of our children’s children yet unborn. It is the flag of tomorrow. It is the flag of yourself and of all your neighbors.”



Steven Sobel/The American Legion

Download the Voices of Our Flag social media graphics at [legion.org/flag/resources](https://legion.org/flag/resources).

Also, the Rally Around the Flag and Know Your Code series of social media graphics can still be downloaded and shared in the weeks heading into Flag Day. These graphics feature historical notes, fun facts, and voices from history about Old Glory, and U.S. Flag Code facts.

Learn more about the U.S. flag at [legion.org/flag](https://legion.org/flag). And share your story about the flag on [Legiontown.org](https://Legiontown.org) under the heading “Rally Around the Flag.”

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## Century Committee CENTCOM

**Jeff Vrabel, Sr. (OH), Chairman**

Second Thursday of Each Month

7:00 p.m. Eastern Time | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 974 1352 0429 | 473 385

(877) 853-5257

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## Child Welfare Foundation Committee

**Mark Nave (PA), Chairman**

Third Wednesday of Each Month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 989 9129 8443 | 967 563

(877) 853-5257

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## Children & Youth Committee

**James A. Noble (NJ), Chairman**

Second Wednesday of Each Month

7:30 p.m. Eastern Time | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 934 1509 0014 | 403 800

(877) 853-5257

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## Finance Commission

**William G. Hill (MD), Chairman**

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time | [Join Zoom meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 957 1342 7326 | 44846

(877) 853-5257

May 6 (NEC) | July 13

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## Internal Affairs Commission

**William Clancy, III (NY), Chairman**

First Thursday of Each Month

6:00 p.m. Eastern Time | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 917 1243 8217 | 914 458

(877) 853-5257

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## Legislative Commission

**Thomas G. Deal (MD), Chairman**

Third Thursday of ODD Months

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## Member Training and Development Committee

**Mike Monserud (IA), Chairman**

First Monday of Each Month

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

Meeting ID: 918 2414 1981 | 777 490

(877) 853-5258

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YOUR  
ONLY  
LIMIT  
IS YOU

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## Membership Committee

**Thom Skelley (TX), Chairman**

Third Tuesday of Each Month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

(605) 472-5756 | 771 7294

The current SAL membership report can be accessed on the national website at [www.legion.org/membership/standings](http://www.legion.org/membership/standings).

**SAL Online Renewal** - members can login and renew direct via [www.myLegion.org](http://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](#).

Additional membership information appears later in this edition.

We now have at least ONE DETACHMENT in each region already over the 100% threshold. Our renewal percentage is slowing increasing, but the question is...why does it have to? Why aren't we at well above 90% by now? How many of our brothers are no longer eligible for National Emergency Foundation funds, Temporary Financial Aid or the many other benefits and discounts that come with membership in the Sons? How many can no longer participate in fundraisers or Squadron meetings because they are no longer a member in good standing?

This is **YOUR** program. These are **YOUR** friends and family. Are you invested enough in the SAL to reach out to one of your brothers and at least ask why they have not renewed?

MEMBERSHIP IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

### Triple Nickel Award Criteria

The National Membership Committee would like to remind Detachment leaders of the prestigious TRIPLE NICKEL AWARD criteria as taken directly from SAL Resolution NEC 1-F09 (Fall 2009).

The Detachment will attain all of the following membership targets by July 1<sup>st</sup> of the current membership year:

- Five (5) new Charters (with transmitted membership)
- 105% Membership over the previous year
- 85% Renewal Rate

Please review the 2022 official end of the year membership report to determine how many members you would need to qualify. Simply multiply your Detachment's final, December 31 total by 105%.

Keep in mind that this number will not be the same as your 2023 Detachment goal. Detachment goals for the succeeding year are set using the 105% target date report from National HQ.

**GOOD LUCK!!**

### The Triple Nickel

*To win The Triple Nickel  
Detachments must complete  
the following by July 1*

- Have 105% Quota
- Charter 5 new Squadrons
- Have an 85% Renewal Rate



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

*Proud Possessors of a Priceless Heritage*

by All Trademark

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## National Convention Committee

**Christopher Byrd (NC), Chairman**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 961 5391 3982 | 690 337

(877) 853-5257

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## National Executive Committee Liaison Committee

**Jim Stewart (NV), Chairman**

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## National Vice-Commander Selection Committee

**James Hartman (MD), Co-Chairman**

**David Stephens (IN), Co-Chairman**

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## Public and Media Communications Commission

**Kevin Chaplin (VA), Chairman**

Fourth Tuesday of Each Month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 963 1528 2340 | 075 079

(877) 853-5257

If you would like to view the **Digital Dispatch** content visit [www.legion.org/dispatch](http://www.legion.org/dispatch) or you can subscribe to the monthly Digital Dispatch newsletter by visiting [www.legion.org/newsletters](http://www.legion.org/newsletters), click on "Dispatch" where you will be directed to [www.myLegion.org](http://www.myLegion.org) where members will sign in to subscribe. For questions about Dispatch stories, email [Dispatch@legion.org](mailto:Dispatch@legion.org).

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## Subcommittee on Resolutions

Ned Fox (CA), Chairman

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## Subcommittee on National Appointments

Donald Allisot, Jr. (ME), Chairman

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## Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

Seth A. Rippe (NE), Chairman

Fourth Monday of Each Month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 941 4100 3972 | 378 079

(646) 931-3860

### ‘These veterans ... should have a respectable resting place’

The American Legion | April 25, 2023

The Spanish American War Veterans Lot in Boston’s Mount Hope Cemetery holds the graves of some 300 veterans, including four Medal of Honor recipients in Daniel Campbell, Leonard Chadwick, Henry Hendrickson, and William Spicer.

On April 19, members of the Legion Family spent part of their day cleaning the headstones of those veterans and others in the cemetery and placing flags at the graves.

“All these stones behind me are going to be cleaned and treated with appropriate chemicals so they’ll continue to clean and brighten, and after they’re done, we’re going to flag this beautiful section and honor these veterans,” said Gene Theroux, commander of the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Massachusetts.

“It’s all about good citizenship, and I think what we’re doing here today is a fine example of good citizenship,” Theroux added.

The volunteers used D/2 to clean the headstones and received guidance from Marc Omerod, the owner of Monument Preservation Restoration, on how to properly reset toppled headstones.

“These veterans have already served us, some of them have paid the ultimate price. In order to honor them, they should have a respectable resting place,” Omerod said.

Past Department of Massachusetts Commander Milton Lashus regularly visits the cemetery to visit the graves of his parents, Alton and Victorine, and was on hand to see those headstones being cleaned.

“I think it’s important to recognize those veterans that are interred here at Mount Hope Cemetery,” Lashus said.

Restoring and maintaining veterans’ graves across the state of Massachusetts has been a passion project for Theroux, a dual member of The American Legion and the SAL.

“It’s important to know history and know something about these folks and what their service and sacrifice is, and most importantly, you’ve heard the expression, ‘if you don’t know history, history will repeat itself.’ We can’t correct the wrongs that were made years ago, but perhaps by knowing history, we can prevent or mitigate some of those mistakes that have been made,” Theroux said.

Click [here](#) to see the video.

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### More than 500,000 PACT Act claims already filed with VA

The American Legion | April 26, 2023

Today, VA announced that veterans and their survivors have filed more than 500,000 claims for toxic exposure-related benefits under the [PACT Act](#) since President Biden signed it into law on August 10, 2022. To date, VA has awarded more than \$1 billion in earned benefits to veterans and survivors who filed PACT Act-related claims.

VA also announced that more than 3 million veterans have received VA’s new [toxic exposure screenings](#) since President Biden signed the PACT Act into law, with approximately 42% reporting a concern of exposure. More than 215,000 veterans have enrolled



in VA health care during that timeframe, a 15% increase from the same timeframe the year before.

In April, VA also processed its millionth disability compensation and pension claim during fiscal year 2023, putting VA on pace to process a record number of veteran claims for the third year in a row. Thanks to aggressive hiring and modernization efforts, VA processed a record number of veteran claims in 2021, exceeded that in 2022, and is on track to exceed it again in 2023. In total, VA has delivered more than \$65 billion in earned compensation benefits to veterans during fiscal year 2023.

The PACT Act is the biggest expansion of veteran health care and benefits in generations. VA encourages all eligible Veterans and survivors to [file a claim](#) – or [submit their intent to file a claim](#) – for PACT Act-related benefits now. Most veterans who do so before August 10 will have their benefits, if granted, backdated to August 10, 2022, the day that President Biden signed the bill into law.

“Thanks to President Biden, the millions of veterans who fought our wars for the past 30 years – who breathed in debris from sandstorms, fumes from burning trash, and more while overseas – are now taken care of for the conditions that followed them home from war,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “We’re proud that 500,000+ veterans and survivors have applied for their hard-earned benefits to date, but we won’t rest until every veteran and every survivor gets the VA health care and benefits, they deserve.”

VA is delivering health care and benefits at record rates partly due to a dramatic increase in hiring. The Veterans Health Administration welcomed 27,181 new hires in the first six months of the fiscal year, the highest hiring level in the history of VA for that timeframe. The Veterans Benefits Administration’s total workforce grew by 2,040 employees in the first six months of the fiscal year – the highest growth rate in the past 15 years.

For more information on VA’s implementation of the PACT Act, visit the [PACT Act Dashboard](#). VA is publishing this dashboard every other Friday to document the implementation of this legislation and showcase its impact on veterans and survivors. The next dashboard, which will reflect the 500,000 PACT Act claim milestone and the 3 million toxic exposure screenings milestone, will publish on April 28.

Veterans and survivors can apply or learn more about the PACT Act by visiting [VA.gov/PACT](#) or by calling 1-800-MYVA411.

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## Veterans Employment & Education Commission

**Jim Coates (NY), Chairman**

Third Wednesday of Each Month

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 935 4405 3884 | 786 114

(877) 853-5257

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## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



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13<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Benefit

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# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

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A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans,  
Military, and their Families



**Vickie Koutz, National President  
The American Legion Auxiliary**

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## Sports

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### **Marcus Armstrong to represent American Legion, 'Be the One' in Alabama this weekend**

The American Legion | April 27, 2023

Two weeks after an eighth-place showing in the No. 11 American Legion Honda during the Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach, Chip Ganassi Racing's Marcus Armstrong will again feature the Legion's "[Be the One](#)" livery during this weekend's NTT INDYCAR Series race.

Armstrong will join two other CGR drivers with American Legion branding in the 90-lap, 207-mile Children's of Alabama Indy Grand Prix at Barber Motorsports Park in Trussville.

At Long Beach, Armstrong moved into the top 10 on Lap 27 and stayed within that grouping the remainder of the race. Combined with a 11th-place finish in the season-opening Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, Armstrong currently sits in first place among INDYCAR rookies in the points standing.



"Barber is a very cool track and quite similar to some European circuits that I have raced at in the past; fast and flowing, cambered corners," Armstrong said via CGR media. "We tested there last month, and it went quite well. I think the conditions will be different, but everything is in order to do a good job this weekend. We're still building momentum; it's still only my third INDYCAR race. There's still a lot to learn but I feel that this is the perfect track to go to next."

Armstrong will join CGR teammates Marcus Ericsson and Alex Palou in Alabama – both of whom will have American Legion branding on their cars. Ericsson won the NTT INDYCAR SERIES opener and currently sits atop the series point standings, while Palou is in third place after two top-five finishes so far.

CGR developmental driver Kyffin Simpson also will represent The American Legion this weekend when he competes in the INDY NXT by Firestone Grand Prix of Alabama. Simpson made his CGR debut during the INDY NXT by Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, where he drove the No 21 car to a 10th-place finish.

Barber Motorsports Park's 2.3-mile permanent road course has 17 flowing turns and features 80 feet of elevation change that challenge drivers and engineers. A 45-foot-wide racing ribbon also makes it imperative for patience while setting up overtaking opportunities.

The weekend broadcast schedule (all times ET):

- Friday, April 28 – NTT INDYCAR SERIES Practice 1, 3:40-4:55 p.m., Peacock.

- Saturday, April 29 – NTT INDYCAR SERIES Practice 2, noon-1 p.m., Peacock; NTT INDYCAR SERIES qualifications, 3-4:15 p.m., Peacock.
- Sunday, April 30 – NTT INDYCAR SERIES warmup, noon-12:30 p.m., Peacock; INDY NXT race, 12:55-2 p.m., Peacock; NTT INDYCAR SERIES race, 3-6 p.m., NBC and Peacock.

## Two Things to Look for at Barber (via INDYCAR)

1. **Another young first-time winner?** Romain Grosjean could spoil the fun, but the odds point to the NTT INDYCAR SERIES' next first-time winner to join Kyle Kirkwood in the under-25 club. Both David Malukas (21) and Christian Lundgaard (21) already have come close to winning in their young careers, and both are showing indications of a second-year breakthrough along the lines of Alex Palou, Pato O'Ward, Rinus VeeKay and Scott McLaughlin in recent seasons. Marcus Armstrong (22) has impressed in his first two starts with Chip Ganassi Racing, and Armstrong's former roommate, Callum Ilott (24), also has knocked on the door of a first podium.
2. **Dixon needs a Barber:** It can be argued that Scott Dixon is the most successful NTT INDYCAR SERIES driver in Barber Motorsports Park history, yet he doesn't have a win to show for it. Who wouldn't take Dixon's stat line at the 17-turn, 2.38-mile permanent road course? Nine podium finishes in 12 races, six times a race runner-up. That's impressive by any measure. As for reaching the top step of the podium in Birmingham, Alabama, Josef Newgarden has been the track's recent master, winning three of the past seven races. Team Penske teammate Will Power (No. 12 Verizon 5G Chevrolet) has won two races. Power is a four-time NTT P1 Award winner at Barber, part of the record 68 poles he has scored in his career.

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## Catch American Legion Baseball on all platforms

**Follow American Legion Baseball during the regular season and tournament play.**

Subscribe to the Dugout. A monthly e-newsletter that features stories about American Legion Baseball alumni, program news and alerts for deadlines. Additional issues during tournament play provides scores, stats and schedules. [CLICK HERE TO SUBSCRIBE](#)





**Visit the websites.** The American Legion Baseball hub provides news, team resources and updates.

[www.legion.org/baseball](http://www.legion.org/baseball)

The American Legion World Series page provides news, updates, and information for about The American Legion World Series and related celebrations and activities in and around Shelby, N.C. for teams, visitors, and volunteers. [americanlegion-worldseries.com](http://americanlegion-worldseries.com)

**Download the Mobile App.** Available through both the Apple Store and Google Play, The American Legion World Series mobile app features live scoring, a complete World Series schedule, news and headlines, stats, photos, weather updates, ticket information, travel resources and access to purchase merchandise.

[DOWNLOAD FROM THE APPLE STORE](#)

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### Social Media

- American Legion Baseball on Twitter [@Legion-Baseball](#)
- The American Legion on Twitter [@AmericanLegion](#)
- American Legion World Series on Twitter [@ALWS\\_Shelby](#)
- The American Legion on Instagram [@TheAmericanLegion](#)
- American Legion Baseball on Facebook [@Official-AmericanLegionBaseball](#)
- The American Legion on Facebook [@americanlegionhq](#)
- American Legion World Series on Facebook [@AmericanLegionWorldSeries](#)
- American Legion Baseball on YouTube [@AmericanLegionHQ](#)

On all platforms use #ALWS23 to search, follow or create posts about The American Legion World Series

**Watch Games.** Watch the American Legion World Series on ESPN3 and then ESPNU.



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## 2023 American Legion Baseball Scholarship nomination form available

The American Legion | April 12, 2023

Applications are available online for the 2023 American Legion Baseball Scholarship. The fillable nomination form is available [here](#).

Team managers and head coaches of post-affiliated American Legion Baseball teams must submit nominations for the American Legion Baseball Scholarship by July 15.

The American Legion awards between \$22,000 and \$25,000 in scholarships to deserving baseball players each year. Each Department Baseball Committee may select a player from its department to receive this scholarship. The American Legion will award several scholarships each year depending on the number of applicants and interest earned from the trust fund.

Any team manager or head coach of an American Legion post-affiliated team may nominate a player for consideration of this award. The scholarship application, letters of recommendation and certification form must be completed, postmarked, and mailed to the department headquarters no later than July 15. Three letters of testimony must be attached to the nomination form.

Department Baseball Scholarship winners receive \$500. Each certified Department Baseball scholarship winner shall be considered for The American Legion All-Academic Team sponsored by Diamond Sports.

Eight players selected by a scholarship selection committee at The American Legion World Series will receive an additional \$2,500 scholarship. A ninth player, selected as the most outstanding member of the All-Academic Team, will be awarded an additional \$5,000 scholarship.

All-Academic Team winners will retain their \$500 scholarship from their department.

Scholarship recipients will be eligible to receive their scholarships immediately upon graduation from an accredited high school. Scholarship winners must utilize the total award within eight years of their graduation date, excluding active military time.

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## Squadron Everlasting

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to have a member's information listed here, please send to [jef-fvrabelsr@gmail.com](mailto:jef-fvrabelsr@gmail.com)

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### Michael E. Hexamer



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Michael Edward Hexamer, 76, Cicero, on April 22, 2023.

Mike was born to Francis and Eileen Hexamer on November 26, 1946, in Anderson, Ind. He grew up in a loving family and learned the value of hard work from a young age. After graduating from Anderson High School in 1965, he joined the Army National Guard and, after completing his service, worked for Nicholson File. He was a firefighter and EMT with the City of Anderson Fire Department for 33 years and was an officer of the Union for many years. During those same years, he worked for Busby Drilling and Laibe Supply. He finished his career at Preferred Pump, where he was an engineer and actively consulted until March of this year.

Mike had a zest for life and enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. He loved living on Morse Reservoir, spending summers boating, skiing, and relaxing with his wife, Joanie, and their children and grandchildren. He had a love for cars, particularly Corvettes, and was a Charter member of the Anderson Corvette Association, a member of the National Council of Corvette Clubs, and actively served and participated throughout his life. He was a member of the Sons of The American Legion Squadron 341 in Cicero. When his son, Mike, was younger, he coached the infamous Busby Drillers and Cicero's All-Star Little League teams. He was handy and industrious, able to fix just about anything and invent new tools and mechanical technologies, including the variable frequency drive used by Preferred Pump.

Mike and Joanie raised a loving family, and he was a wonderful father and grandfather, always putting his family first and making sure they knew how much he loved them. Mike had a fun-loving and social personality and was known for his storytelling and sense of humor. Mike's passing is a significant loss to his family and friends. His legacy of hard work, dedication and love for life will continue to inspire those who knew him.

Mike is survived by his loving wife, Joanie; children, Laura (DeWayne) Johnson, Marnie (Matt) Winders and Mike (Emily) Hexamer; grandchildren, Jamie Hower, Kayla (Eduardo) Duarte, Shane Hower, Alexandra Hower, Colton Johnson, Elizabeth Winders, Max Winders, Ella Hexamer, Mila Hexamer, and Lyla Hexamer; great-grandchildren, Sage Keogh, Kenny O'Dell, Aurora and Lucien Duarte; siblings, John (Vicky) Hexamer and Rose (Conwill) Parks; along with several nieces and nephews.

The public viewing will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. on April 30, 2023, at Hartley Funeral Home, Cicero Chapel, 209 W. Jackson St., with the service from 3 to 4 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to Alternative's Inc. ([alternativesdv.org](http://alternativesdv.org)) in Anderson.

Condolences can be made at [hartyfuneralhomes.com](http://hartyfuneralhomes.com).

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### Charles Glabowicz



Charles 'Chuck' Glabowicz, 81, of Gurnee, IL, formerly of Monterey, CA, passed away Thursday, April 13, 2023, with his loving family by his side.

He was born June 2, 1941, and lived in Waukegan before moving to California, residing there for most of his life, recently moving to Gurnee to be closer to family. He attended St. Bartholomew and Jackson Elementary Schools and graduated from Waukegan Township High School in 1959. A strong athlete, excelling in football, wrestling, and field, he was proud to be on the Waukegan Wrestling Team that won the 1958 state championship. As a proud Bulldog (Jersey #46) his football team fought hard to win the 1957 championship. He loved the action & competition in sports, the camaraderie of fans & players. He tackled the hardships of life, carrying the traits of a good athlete throughout his life. A lifelong fan of the Bears & Cubs, he would wear their insignias to California events.

A fan of golf, he volunteered at the Pebble Beach Monterey Golf Tournaments for many years. Receiving several scholarships offers after high school, he chose to attend Lake Forest College, playing football (Jersey #44) and majoring in business administration. One frigid morning while waiting for a train to Chicago, he vowed not to spend the next 30 years in the cold. He moved with his new family to

California and began a career in auto sales.

His business acumen, high energy, and people personality led to innumerable promotions & awards. Chuck was a man who loved listening to and sharing life stories with people he met.

He was active in service-based organizations including Sons of The American Legion and The Moose, but his passion was for the Monterey Elks Lodge because of their community service. He joined the Lodge in 1994, was voted Exalted Ruler 1998 -1999, and initiated many new programs. A strong man, he loved working with his hands, whether pouring concrete, setting tile, or sawing beams. He liked the challenge "No task too big". Hard work & problem solving brought him satisfaction. Leisure to him was watching games and working puzzles. Chuck was always working on puzzles! A Patriot, he loved the United States with a passion and shared that passion with his family, traveling to many sites and National Parks.

He is survived by his wife Cynthia Laster; children, Lynn & Charles Glabowicz, their mother, Margaret Howe; stepfather, John Looney; sister, Charlene (Blais) & brother-in-law, Ray Paulson; nephews, Robert & John Blais; many cousins, family & friends; and his special love, Baby the cat.

He is preceded in death by his father Charles K Glabowicz; mother, Irene (Glabowicz) Looney; brother-in-law, George Blais; wife, Linda Burgess; wife, Doris O'Brien; and many wonderful aunts, uncles & cousins.

Visitation will be from 4 pm - 7 pm on Friday, April 28, at Gurnee Salata Funeral Home, 4190 Old Grand Ave, Gurnee, IL 60031. Funeral Mass, officiated by Fr. Xamie Reyes, begins at 12 pm on Saturday, April 29, at St. Dismas Church (Little Flower Parish), 2600 Sunset Ave, Waukegan, IL 60085. Interment follows Mass at Ascension Cemetery in Libertyville, IL.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in memory of Charles 'Chuck' Glabowicz to Friends of Gurnee American Legion, Inc, P.O. Box 8011, Gurnee, IL, 60031.

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

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### Anthony E. Sexton

Anthony E. Sexton, age 80, of Cold Spring, NY, died peacefully on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at NY Presbyterian / Hudson Valley

Hospital in Cortlandt Manor. He was born on October 5, 1942, in Manhattan, New York, the son of the late James and Theresa (O'Keefe) Sexton.

A graduate from Dewitt Clinton High School, Anthony enlisted in the Marine Corps. Prior to his honorable discharge from the armed forces, Anthony obtained the rank of Sergeant. His continued sense of duty led him to pursue a Police Science Degree at Baruch College and a career in law enforcement with the New York Police Department. During his distinguished service, he was awarded three Meritorious Achievement Awards and Letters of Commendation for his efforts and excellent performance. While on duty, Anthony met the love of his life when she stopped him to ask for directions. They remained happily married until her passing in 2016. Upon his retirement with the New York Police Department, Anthony began a second career spanning 33 years with Consumer Reports non-profit organization, in Yonkers NY. Anthony was most proud of the time he spent serving his community. He held the position Quartermaster at the American Legion, former Financial Secretary of the North Highland Engine Company No. 1, Life Member of the Hudson Valley 10-14 Association, and former Assistant Leader Sons of the American Legion (1971- 1974). He held these positions and memberships with the same sense of duty, integrity, and honor in which he led his life.

Anthony had a profound devotion to his family, friends, and community. His presence touched the lives of all he encountered. He will be remembered for his strength resilience, kindness, sense of humor and his commitment to his faith.

Anthony is predeceased by his wife Patricia Sexton and brother Robert Sexton; survived by his daughter Kristina (Richard) Sexton, his son Keith (Jennie) Sexton, all from Cold Spring; his brothers John (Kathy) Sexton of Wayne, New Jersey, Peter Sexton of Hopewell Junction, NY; Gerard (Rita) Sexton of Fishkill, NY and his sisters Theresa (Tony) Petrucci of Harrington Park, NJ, Geraldine (John) Vanderpool, Cohasset, MA. Four grandchildren Thomas, Brian, William, and Elizabeth also survive.

Friends called at the Clinton Funeral Home, Corner of Parrott and Pine Streets. (21 Parrott St.) Cold Spring, NY 10516, on Monday, April 24th from 4 to 7 PM. In Lieu of Flowers donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. A Mass of Christian

Burial was held at 10am, Tuesday, April 24th, at St. Mary Mother of the Church, 106 Jackson Avenue, Fishkill, NY 12524. Funeral arrangements are in the care of the Clinton Funeral Home, Cold Spring.

## Edward Moorhouse



ALBION -Edward J. "Buzzy" Moorhouse, 58, of Albion, Indiana, passed away on Saturday, April 22, 2023, in the presence of his family.

Born on Feb. 26, 1965, in Kendallville, Indiana, he was a son of Edward H. and Becky (Keister) Moorhouse.

He was a 1983 graduate of Central Noble High School and ITT Fort Wayne, with a degree in Automotive Technology.

Buzzy then followed his dream and opened "Quality Repair", which he ran from 1989 until 2018. He was also owner of EMI Rentals at 7th Street Park.

Well-known in the area, he was often asked about car problems and how to fix things. Buzzy was known for his wit and enjoying life to the fullest. He truly didn't know a stranger, and was always willing to lend a hand. He was an avid GTO enthusiast, and enjoyed working on his '65 tri-power GTO, that he was restoring.

He was a member of Sons of the American Legion, Albion Squadron 246.

Buzzy is survived by his son, Brit E. (Reagan Hines) Moorhouse; daughter, Natalie (Brock) Smolek; wife, Tammy (Rimmel) Moorhouse; mother, Becky Moorhouse; grandsons, River Moorhouse and Walker Moorhouse, and grandson, baby boy Smolek, soon to arrive; and sisters, LeAnn Gray and Paula Rush. Also surviving are many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Edward H. Moorhouse.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 5 p.m., on Friday, April 28, 2023, at Harper Funeral Homes, 771 Trail Ridge Road, Albion, with visitation from 2 p.m., until service time.

Pastor Bret Frymier will officiate.

Contributions in Buzzy's memory may be directed to Albion American Legion Post 246.

To sign the online guestbook, visit [www.harperfuneralhomes.com](http://www.harperfuneralhomes.com).

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

## Raymond M. Driskel



Raymond M. "Demon" Driskel, 65, Ebensburg, died unexpectedly Wednesday in West Virginia.

He was born in Colver, the son of the late Russell and Regina "Jean" (Hite) Driskel.

Surviving are his significant other, Diane Roudybush Lee; her children: Dalton and Marissa Lee, Beth (Don) Mento, Jessica (John) Eckenrode, Russell (Melissa) and Ryan (Gabbi Martin); mother of his children, Patricia Jo (Hall) Driskel; his grandchildren: Mason, Bryce, Sadie, James and Kade; siblings: Lois Duman, Joyce (Bill) Krug, Mick (Mary) Driskel, Jane Ann (Bruce) Schlosser and Ernie (Carol) Driskel; a sister-in-law, JoAnna Driskel; a special nephew, Sean Moran; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousin, aunts and uncles. He was preceded in death by a brother, Rick; an infant brother, Glenn; and a nephew, Jared.

Ray worked for Hite Coal Yard and previously owned Ray's Excavating. He also worked for Cooney Bros. Coal Co. and was a member of Local 66 Operator's Union. He was a member of the Gallitzin and Cresson Italian Clubs, Sons of The American Legion, Loretto and a social member of Sankertown VFW.

He enjoyed 4-H, hunting, riding his Harley, spending time in the barn and running heavy equipment.

Friends will be received from 2 to 8 p.m. today, April 24, 2023, at Gibbons Funeral Home, 301 Church St., Gallitzin. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at the Basilica of St. Michael Church, Loretto, the Rev. Malachi Van Tassell, celebrant. Committal will be in St. Patrick Cemetery, Gallitzin.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to 5 Star 4-H's Club, 401 Candlelight Drive, Suite 220, Ebensburg, PA 15931.

## Junior Van Burton

Junior Van Burton, 64 of North Vernon, Indiana, formerly of Edinburg, Indiana, passed away April 25, 2023 at his residence. He was born October 11, 1958 in Columbus, Indiana. He was the son of Van

Burton and Elizabeth (Burton) Campbell.

He is survived by his girlfriend, Sharron Kimbler of North Vernon, Indiana, daughters, Jennifer Burton of North Vernon, Indiana and Jamie (Eric) Casto of Franklin, Indiana, grandchildren, Elizabeth Torres of Ogilville, Indiana, Johnathon Meier (Trystan Horden) of Columbus, Indiana, Nicholas Meier (Sean Stogsdill) of North Vernon, Indiana, Ashton Thomas (Jeff Richards) of Madison, Indiana, Tyler Thomas (Julie Burnhart) of Taylorsville, Indiana, Justin Burton (Mindy Satterfield) of Hope, Indiana, Zander Casto of Franklin, Indiana, and Ethan Brown of Florida, 10 great-granddaughters, 3 great-grandsons, brothers, Jimmy (Marilyn) Burton of Edinburg, Indiana, Jackie Ray Burton of Taylorsville, Indiana, and Jerry Burton of Franklin, Indiana, and sisters, Judy Coy of Edinburg, Indiana and Julie Ford of Franklin, Indiana.

He was preceded in death by his parents, stepfather, Walter Campbell, son, Jarvis Burton, and brothers, James Wesley Burton, Jeffery Lynn Burton, and Johnny M. Burton.

Junior Van was a member of Sons of The American Legion in Edinburg. He retired from Arvin Industries in Franklin after 25 years. He spent all of his life taking care of his 2 kids. He enjoyed going to car shows, especially muscle cars, festivals, fishing, mushroom hunting, relaxing at home, and spending time with his girlfriend.

A funeral service will be conducted by Reverend Randy Denton at 3:00 PM on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at Who-So-Ever-Will Community Church in Edinburg, Indiana. Calling will be from 11:00 AM until time of service. Burial will be at Rest Haven Cemetery in Edinburg.

Arrangements made by Eskew-Eaton Funeral Home in Edinburg, Indiana.

## Richard "Pudgy" Cass



Claremont, NH - Richard "Pudgy" Cass, 76 a lifetime resident of Claremont, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family on Monday, April 24, 2023. Pudgy was born on August 19, 1946 to William and Anna Cass. He graduated from St. Mary's Catholic School in 1964. After high school, he studied mechanical engineering at Claremont Vocational Technical College. He

went on to work and retired from that field.

After a short retirement, Pudgy began working as a dispatcher at Golden Cross Ambulance. The 15 years he spent there were his favorite of his working years. He loved the work, the people, and contributing to the community. He was a lifetime member of Sons of The American Legion.

Pudgy married the love of his life Dona, in 1978. They enjoyed spending quality time together. Their favorite activity was taking long drives through the New England countryside, exploring nature, and trying local restaurants.

The greatest joy of Pudgy's life was his family. Pudgy and Dona had 5 children together. The family has many happy memories. Some of the most cherished memories include long nights at Claremont Speedway, annual family vacations, and Sunday dinners at their home. He adored his grandchildren, and there was nothing he loved more than supporting them in their passions. Many hours were spent on the sidelines or in the bleachers. They will miss their Bampi and his guidance, but they know he is with them in everything that they do. Pudgy was a dedicated and well-loved friend. There was nothing he wouldn't do for the people he loved. Some of his strongest friendships were built through the sport of racing. You could find him most weekends at the racetrack. His love for racing was inherited by his sons and grandchildren.

Pudgy is survived by his wife Dona, as well as his 5 children, Brandi Cass-Chambers and her husband Rick Chambers, Wendi Belisle and her husband Greg Belisle, Travis Cass, Pete Cass and his wife Stephanie Cass, and Candi Cass and her husband Timothy Teeter. He was a beloved Bampi to his 9 grandchildren: CJ Gosselin, Hannah Carpenter, Kelsey and Luke Belisle, Emma, Anna, Allison, and Owen Cass, and Aiden Teeter. He had one great granddaughter, Caroline Carpenter. Pudgy and his family were very appreciative of the care he received while at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

Visiting hours will be held at the Stringer Funeral Home, 146 Broad Street in Claremont, NH on Sunday afternoon April 30th from 1 to 4 PM with a prayer service at 3:30 PM. A reception will follow at the American Legion Post 29 on Broad Street.

To view an online memorial or send a private message of condolence, visit [www.stringerfh.com](http://www.stringerfh.com).



## David R. Dunn



David R. Dunn, 73, of Moores Hill passed away Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at St. Elizabeth Edgewood Hospice. David was born on Monday, December 26, 1949 in Batesville; son of Russell and Rosemary (Powell) Dunn. David married his wife Marcia Dunn, and she preceded him in 2015. David worked as a builder and carpenter for Charles Butler Construction Company. David was a member of Sons of The American Legion Post 209 in Moores Hill. David enjoyed fishing, hunting, and was in the band "Country Drifters" as a guitarist and singer.

David will be missed by his daughters Angela (Hank) Little of Moores Hill and Tisha Owens of Lawrenceburg; brothers Roger Dunn of Aurora and Randy Dunn of Dillsboro; 5 grandchildren; and 6 great-grandchildren.

David was preceded in death by his parents Russell and Rosemary Dunn and brother Daryl Dunn.

A memorial service will be held at 1:00 PM, Saturday, May 13, 2023, at Trinity Christian Center: 18687 Pribble Rd., Lawrenceburg, IN, 47025. Memorials may be given in honor of David to the Sons of American Legion Post 209 in Moores Hill.

Sibbett-Moore Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements: PO Box 156, Moores Hill, IN, 47031, (812) 744-3280.

Please visit our website at [www.sibbettmoore.com](http://www.sibbettmoore.com) to share your condolences and memories of David.



### Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

Detachment of \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron No. \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Recruited by \_\_\_\_\_

(First) (Initial) (Last) (Initial) (Last)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran through whom eligibility is established \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

(By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by \_\_\_\_\_ (Post Adjutant) 00-001 (2013)

### RECEIPT

Date Received of \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment of dues for 20 \_\_\_\_\_

Squadron \_\_\_\_\_ Detachment of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

For God and Country

**Kitchen Hours**  
Mon-12-2 Sat-Burgers  
Tues 12-7 - Wed 12-7  
Thur 12-7 - Fri 12-7  
Sun 4:30 - 7

May 2023



**AMERICAN LEGION  
POST 25**

1490 US 27 N  
Lake Placid, FL 33852  
863-465-0975

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Every Sunday Chips Ahoy—3 pm	Every Monday Chips Ahoy—3 pm \$2 Bloody Marys \$1 Drafts Darts—6 pm	Every Tuesday Chips Ahoy—3 pm SAL Bingo—6:30 pm Euchre—1 pm \$1 Draft—\$3 Margaritas	Every Wednesday Ship-Captain-Crew 6 pm	Every Thursday Poker—1 pm Chips Ahoy—3 pm	Every Friday Chips Ahoy—1 pm Vonnies' Drink Special 11-4	Every Saturday Chips Ahoy—1 pm Texas Hold'em—1:30 pm \$2 Bloody Marys
7 Chef's Choice Jay & Lora 5-8 pm	8 Aux Mtg - 5 pm E Board Mtg - 6 pm Gen. Mtg - 7 pm	9 TACO TUESDAY	10 Wings Steak Night Cowboy 5-8 pm	11 Create a Pizza 4:30-7 pm	12 Prime Rib Fish Fry Lee Allcorn 6-9 pm	13 Car Show 9-12 Saturday Burgers
14 Chef's Choice A Lil' Mixed Up 5-8 pm	15	16 TACO TUESDAY	17 Wings Steak Night Tom Hanson 5-8 pm	18 Create a Pizza 4:30-7 pm	19 Prime Rib Fish Fry Memories Dance 6-9 pm	20 Mega Sounz Karaoke 5 pm Saturday Burgers
21 Chef's Choice Cowboy 5-8 pm	22	23 TACO TUESDAY	24 Wings Steak Night Pete Ruano 5-8 pm	25 Create a Pizza 4:30-7 pm	26 Prime Rib Fish Fry Jay 6-9 pm	27 Corvette Show 11-2 Saturday Burgers
28 Kitchen CLOSED Memorial Day Weekend— NO Music	29	30 TACO TUESDAY	31 Wings Steak Night Memories Dance 5-8 pm	COMMANDER'S LETTER →		





## FROM THE EDITOR

Congratulations to the Detachment of Michigan for reaching quota. Another detachment's hard work has paid off, and your efforts are appreciated. Keep up the great work and don't stop until you get that Triple Nickle.

As many of us prepare to head to Indianapolis for the National Spring Meetings, we must all remember that it's time to get required documents submitted. Every squadron must submit a Squadron Data Form, Officer Certification Form, and Consolidated Squadron Report. These forms do not take long to complete and submit, and are mandatory.

Please do your part and submit your required paperwork right away. Thanks!

Have a great week!

***Honor the Veteran Who Made You Eligible.  
Renew Today!***

Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

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

[click a button for more information](#)



**Central Region Extravaganza**  
Columbus, Ohio

On Friday, April 21, attendees began arriving in Columbus for the First Annual Central Region Extravaganza. A total of thirty-nine participated in the event, including five past national commanders. Seven detachments were represented.

On Friday, after everyone was checked in, attendees enjoyed fellowship at the Embassy Suites Manager's Reception, then headed to American Legion Southway Post 144 for dinner and karaoke. Visitors were impressed with the Post and how much property there was. There were also quite a few good singers in the group.



Saturday came early, and after complimentary breakfast, registration opened at 8:00 a.m., with the conference was opened at 8:45 a.m. by host Jeff Vrabel, Sr. Detachment of Ohio Chaplain Jeff Vrabel, Jr. offered prayer, and the Detachment of Illinois' Phil Stander led the Pledge of Allegiance. There as a moment of silence for our Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action, for fellow Sons who have reported to the Squadron Everlasting, and in recognition of the sacrifices of our great country.

Stacia Naquin and Dr. Amberlee Prater, both non-members of the American Legion Family, provided two outstanding presentations, and both mentioned how impressed they were with the hard work that our organization does for veterans and children, and were very thankful to have been invited. Naquin was given an American Legion Auxiliary membership application, and we look forward to her joining our Family.

CRE23 sponsors provided a delicious pork chop dinner with apple pie, and door prizes were handed out throughout the day. There was also a 50/50 raffle to support the conference. The conference wrapped up at around 5:00 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., attendees departed for American Legion Don Gentile Post 532 fir a great dinner from Columbus' Famous City Barbeque, provided by Post 532. Entertainment for the evening was Central Ohio's Own MIXED TAPE live in concert.

Once again, guests were impressed with the Post, and loved the large property, lake, pavilions, and banquet hall. Many supported Post 532 by purchasing tickets and in the gaming casinos.

Presenters included:

- **Chuck Castle (OH)**  
*Keeping Members Involved*



- **Cindy Masowick (OH), Louise Smerk (OH), & Renee Kohl (OH)**  
*Building an Effective Youth Program*
- **Joe Mayne (MN)**  
*Public Speaking*
- **Jeff Vrabel, Jr. (OH)**  
*Honoring Veterans in Health Care Facilities*
- **Stacia Naquin,**  
*Co-Anchor, WSYX & WTTE, Columbus, OH*  
*Being a Military Kid & Working with the Media*
- **Joe Paviglianti (NY)**  
*Servant Leadership*
- **Dr. Amberle Prater, PhD., LPCC-S**  
*Nationwide Childrens Hospital*  
*Columbus, OH*  
*Be the One – Suicide: Knowing the Signs, Prevention, & Support*



Sponsors included:

- SAL Detachment of Ohio
- SAL Detachment of Illinois
- SAL Detachment of Minnesota
- AL Department of Ohio
- AL Post 532, Columbus, OH
- SAL Squadron 532, Columbus, OH
- Sal Squadron 15, Poland, OH
- Embassy Suites Airport, Columbus, OH
- VAT Transportation
- Experience Columbus
- Mary Vrabel, Realtor®
- Mixed Tape



Ohio's Chuck Castle during his presentation.







OH ALA President Cindy Masowick, OH ALA 14D President Renee Kohl, and OH ALA 2VP Louise Smerk.



PNC Joe Mayne discussing Public Speaking.



Ohio's Jeff Vrael, Jr.





Stacia Naquin, Co-Author at WSYX & WTTE in Columbus discussing what it's like to be a military kid and how to work with the media.



Dr. Amberle Prater, PhD, LPCC-S of Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, with her presentation Be the One – Suicide: Knowing the Signs, Prevention, & Support.



(f) PNC Tommie Cisna, PNC Doug Bible, PNC Joe Paviglianti.  
(r) PNC Joe Mayne, Stacia Naquin, PNC John Dietz.

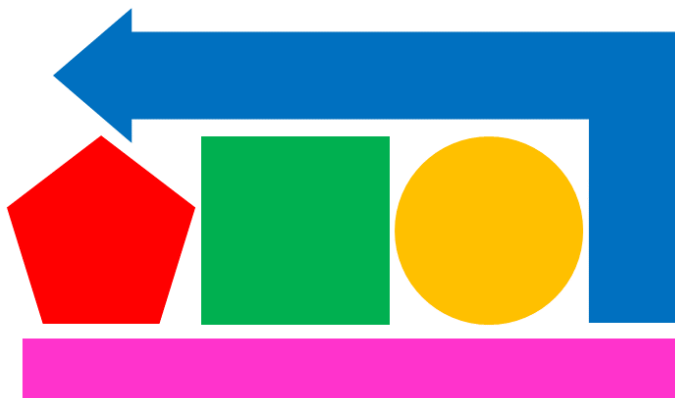


Guests and Staff at Don Gentile Post 532.



PNC Joe Paviglianti and his Servant Leadership presentation.





## Jeff's meet; temporary officers selected

During the Central Region Extravaganza, a Meeting of the Jeffs was held. During the meeting, Jeffs discussed the purpose, goals, and mission of this new group, and talked about events and operations.

Temporary officers were selected, and Jeff holds all positions for now. Any other Jeffs wanting to learn more can email [jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com](mailto:jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com). An informal gathering of the Jeffs will take place during the National Spring Meetings next weekend.

If you're a Jeff, you won't want to miss it.



## Vet Centers as a mental health solution

April 26, 2023

Dear American Legion Family members and friends,

Are you aware of the critical services provided by Vet Centers?

Eligible veterans and their families receive vital counseling and readjustment services from Vet Centers. Oftentimes, these veterans live in rural areas far from a VA medical facility.

In fact, Vet Centers also have mobile units. These make it possible to offer services even closer to where veterans live as well as dispatching the mobile units to certain areas where the need is the greatest.

Currently there are more than 300 Vet Centers, but that number will be increasing this spring, allowing even more veterans and their family members to be served. A recent American Legion [Tango Alpha Lima podcast episode](#) welcomed Army National Guard veteran Mike Fisher who is now the chief readjustment counseling officer for the organization. He covered a lot of ground — similar to Vet Centers — taking about their services, eligibility criteria, expansion and more.

He also sees the value in working with American Legion posts to deliver these services in rural areas.

HONOR THE VETERAN WHO PAID  
THE PRICE FOR YOUR ELIGIBILITY

RENEW TODAY!







“We send out staff to provide services in (outlying) communities,” he said. “It could be borrowing space from a local American Legion location where we have

a confidential counseling space where we provide services for that community.”

The American Legion is a strong supporter of Vet Centers. Several years ago, we supported the Vet Center Eligibility Expansion Act.

Starting in 2022, [the act expanded eligibility](#) for readjustment counseling and related mental health services through Vet Centers to certain members of the Coast Guard, National Guard and reserves.

While we applaud VA for its strategic growth of Vet Centers, there also is room for more advancements. Notably, as a way to combat the rate of veterans who die by suicide.

That is why The American Legion is calling on Congress to support the funding, implementation and continued expansion of VA and community-based mental health services through Vet Centers.

Vincent “Jim” Troiola, National Commander  
The American Legion

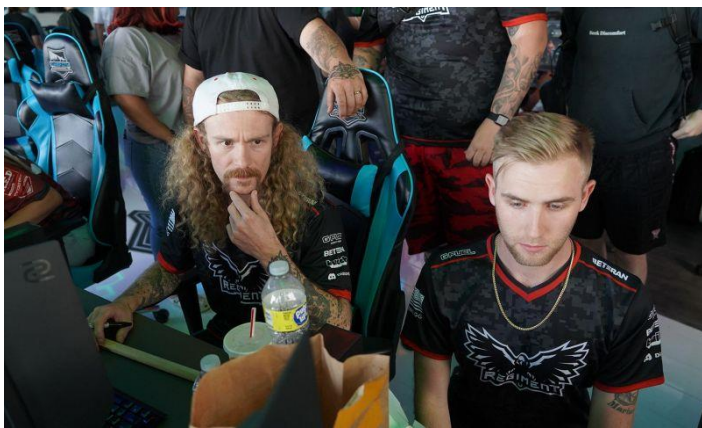


Photo by Jeric Wilhelmsen

## Minnesota Legion post hosting in-person gaming tournament

The American Legion | April 20, 2023

During what he called a “rough” stretch in his life, U.S. Army veteran Ian Hollifield was connected with Regiment Gaming, then just a fledgling group but now the nation’s largest military and veteran gaming community.

Hollifield, a member of Osseo-Maple Grove American Legion Post 172 in Osseo, Minn., would go on to join Regiment, though not as an active gamer. “I started paying more and more attention to Regiment,” he said, “not really involved in the community online so much, but just kind of looking at their news articles.”

Then Hollifield reached out to Regiment founder and U.S. Marine Corps veteran Chris Earl, [who started Regiment in 2020](#) to assist both himself and fellow veterans in their transition from the military to their civilian lives.

“I just asked him, ‘Do you guys ever go to Legion posts and hold post tournaments?’” Hollifield said. “I’m relatively new to The American Legion. Internally, in my head, I’m like, ‘What can I do to potentially drive a younger force, younger people to our Legion.’ I go into this Regiment group and go into a chatroom where there’s a bunch of kids, just (BSing) and being together as veterans, I thought that might be a good way.

“So, I just asked (Earl), and he said, ‘Funny you say that, because we’re going to the national convention.’” [For three days during the 2022 American Legion National Convention](#), Regiment members had gaming stations set up in the Wisconsin Center, allowing them to interact with Legionnaires, who in turn learned more about gaming. Meanwhile, Hollifield had the answer he needed, and he took his idea to Post 172’s executive board, of which he is a member.

With an OK from the board, Hollifield helped organize what will be the first American Legion post-hosted Regiment Gaming tournament. On June 10, the post will host a \$5,000 2v2 Call of Duty Charity LAN (Local Area Network) tournament. The \$5,000 prize pool was provided by Post 172 and will be donated to Stack Up, which has worked with The American Legion to provide [gaming equipment](#) and [tournaments](#) to active-duty military personnel.

“I think it’s an amazing opportunity to bring in a younger demographic of veterans, specifically post-9/11 veterans,” said Earl, a member of the American Legion Department of California. “Everyone plays video games at this point. Between the ages of 18 and probably like 28, they all have something in common. And nine out of 10 times they’re a gamer.”

Post 172 Second Vice Commander James Hultgren, who will take over as post commander this summer, said he’s always willing to try something to benefit the post. A member of the Department of Minnesota’s Media & Communications Committee, he said this

tournament has potential to do exactly what Hollifield is hoping it can.

“It’s something we’ve never done. You can do all your main types of fundraising, steak fries and things like that,” said Hultgren, an Operation Iraqi Freedom U.S. Army veteran. “But (gamers) are this generation of vets. When I was in Korea Xbox came out, and so (the game) Halo was pretty big. We sit around the day room and play the games. And as it became more popular and more available for everybody to afford as we moved up in rank, then we could buy the next game. It was our after-hours, hanging out with everybody. Gaming is a part of our lives.

“It’s a way that’s going to bring some more people together that might not (come to the post). And being at the post, it’s another event that’s here and they can see the rest of the (post). Where people can come to play a game, but they realize, ‘Wow, you have this facility.’ Our marketing and fliers, right when you walk into the building, tell you everything you need to know about this post. The way it’s set up you can learn so much about the post in five minutes.”

The tournament is open to active-duty military, veterans, and their dependents. Team and spectator passes for the tournament are free and can be found [here](#).

There’s no deadline to sign up for the tournament, and Earl expects to see some gamers come to the post the day of the tournament to sign up. “We’ll have time (June 10) to finalize teams,” he said. “It’s pretty easy, just because it’s a (two-player vs. two-player tournament), rather than a 4v4. If it was a 4v4 we’d operate this a little differently, with a cut-off (date).”

For Hollifield, 42, being able to connect the post with Regiment could have a ripple effect. “I think one of the ways we can bring in younger people is by doing things younger people want to do,” he said. “If it all pans out it’s great – not just for our post, but for The American Legion as a whole. It could potentially change some things.”

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## How to choose an assisted living facility

Jim Miller/via Crescendo | April 11, 2023



[LEARN HOW YOUR  
PLANNED GIFT CAN  
HELP THE AMERICAN  
LEGION](#)

*What is the best way to go about choosing an assisted living facility for my parent? Their health has declined to the point that living at home is not an option anymore, but they are not quite ready for a nursing home.*

If your parent needs help with things like bathing, dressing, preparing meals, managing medications, or just getting around, an assisted living facility is definitely a good option to consider. Assisted living facilities are residential communities that offer different levels of health- or personal-care services for seniors who want or need help with daily living.

There are nearly 29,000 assisted living communities (also called board and care, supportive-care, or residential-care facilities) in the United States today, some of which are part of a retirement community or nursing home. Most facilities have anywhere between 10 and 100 suites, varying in size from a single room to a full apartment. Some even offer special memory care units for residents with dementia.

To help you choose a good assisted living facility for your parent, here are some steps to follow.

**Make a list.** There are several sources you can turn to for referrals to top assisted living communities in your area, such as your parent's doctor or a nearby hospital-discharge planner, friends or neighbors who have had a loved one in assisted living, or you can do your own online search.

**Do some research.** To research the communities on your list, call a long-term care ombudsman. This is a government official who investigates long-term care facility complaints and advocates for residents and their families. This person can help you find the latest health inspection reports on specific assisted living facilities and can tell you which ones have had complaints or other problems in the past.

**Call the facilities.** Once you have identified a few good assisted living facilities, call them to see if they have any vacancies, what they charge and if they provide the types of services your parent needs.

**Tour your top choices.** During your visit, take notice of a few key factors the facility has to offer. Is it homey and inviting? Does the staff seem responsive and kind to its residents? Also, be sure to taste the food and talk to the residents and their family members, if available. It is also a good idea to visit several times at different times of the day and different days of the week to get a broader perspective.



On your facility visit, get a copy of the admissions contract and the residence rules that outline the fees (and any extra charges), services and residents' rights, and explanations for when a resident might be asked to leave because their condition has worsened, or they require more care than the facility can provide. Additionally, find out their staff turnover rate, COVID infection-control procedures, and if and when medical professionals are on site.

**How to pay.** Monthly costs for assisted living range anywhere from \$3,000 to \$6,000 or more, depending on where you live, the facility you choose, and the services provided. Since Medicare does not cover assisted living, most residents pay out of pocket from their own personal funds, and some have long-term care insurance policies.

If your parent has limited financial resources and cannot afford this, most states now have Medicaid waiver programs that help pay for assisted living. If your parent is a veteran, they may be able to get funds through the VA Aid and Attendance benefit. To find out about these programs, ask the assisted living facility director, or contact the local Medicaid office at [Medicaid.gov](https://www.medicaid.gov) or the regional VA benefit office at 800-827-1000.

*“Savvy Living” is written by Jim Miller, a regular contributor to NBC’s “Today Show.” The column, and others like it, is available to read via The American Legion’s Planned Giving program, a way of establishing your legacy of support for the organization while providing for your current financial needs. Learn more about the process, and the variety of charitable programs you can benefit, at [legion.org/plannedgiving](https://legion.org/plannedgiving). Clicking on “Learn more” will bring up an “E-newsletter” button, where you can sign up for regular information from Planned Giving.*

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## Reminder to Boys State and Girls State delegates: apply for higher learning scholarship

The American Legion | April 25, 2023

American Legion Boys State and Auxiliary Girls State programs will kick off at the end of May. If you are a high school junior who will be attending a Boys State or Girls State program this summer, you may be eligible for the Samsung American Legion Scholarship.

The [Samsung American Legion Scholarship](https://legion.org/samsung) is available for high school juniors who participate in the current session of American Legion Boys State or Auxiliary Girls State and are a direct descendant (or legally adopted child) of a U.S. military veteran who served

honorably on active duty during a period of war (April 6, 1917-Nov. 11, 1918; or Dec. 7, 1941, until a date as determined by Congress).

The 2023 Samsung American Legion Scholarship application is online; [apply here](https://legion.org/samsung).

All applications must be submitted using the online application system. Scholarship applicants must complete and submit their online application prior to 11:59 p.m. (local time) of Day 1 of their respective American Legion Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program.

The scholarship awards up to \$10,000 for undergraduate studies (e.g., room and board, tuition, and books). Each applicant is selected according to his or her involvement in school and community activities, academic record, and financial need.

A Boys and Girls State participant from each state is selected as a finalist for the Samsung American Legion Scholarship. During the American Legion’s Fall Meetings in October 2023, the Committee on Youth Education will select the scholarship winners. All scholarship recipients will be notified of their award.



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## Share your Memorial Day plans with us

The American Legion | April 27, 2023

From Legionnaires taking part in a ceremony at the birthplace of Memorial Day, to events in Washington, D.C., and a big welcome-home to veterans in Florida, it was once again a busy Memorial Day Weekend for American Legion Family members in 2022.

Across the nation, Legion Family members led Memorial Day observances, including traditional ceremonies at the posts, visits to area cemeteries to honor the veterans buried there, conducting parades and staging motorcycle rides.



As American Legion Family members plan for Memorial Day 2023, please keep us in mind. Let us know how you are planning on observing this sacred holiday. Email [sbrooks@legion.org](mailto:sbrooks@legion.org) with details about your plans. We may feature your efforts in our national media channels.

Also, American Legion posts are encouraged to upload recaps and photos of their Memorial Day celebrations and other community activities to [Legiontown.org](https://legiontown.org).

And a reminder that an American Legion Memorial Day speech for 2023 is available for American Legion departments, districts, and posts to use for Memorial Day events.

[The speech is available here](#) and is not meant to be recited verbatim; members are greatly encouraged to amend it to taste and audience.

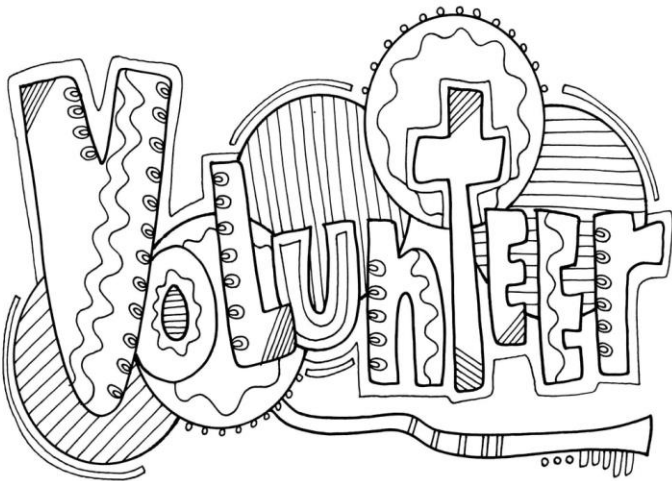


### United States

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Alabama	Arkansas	California	Colorado	Connecticut	Delaware
Florida	Georgia	Hawaii	Idaho	Illinois	Indiana
Iowa	Kansas	Kentucky	Louisiana	Maine	Maryland
Massachusetts	Michigan	Minnesota	Mississippi	Missouri	Montana
Nebraska	Nevada	New Hampshire	New Jersey	New Mexico	New York
North Carolina	North Dakota	Ohio	Oklahoma	Oregon	Pennsylvania
Rhode Island	South Carolina	South Dakota	Tennessee	Texas	Utah
Vermont	Washington	West Virginia	Wisconsin	Wyoming	

Doodle Art Alley ©



07/01/23



**JOHN R. COOK**

Candidate for SAL  
National Vice Commander

2023 – 2024

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# 2023 SAL 90% TARGET DATE REPORT AS OF: APRIL 19, 2023

#	DETACHMENT	2023 DET. YEAR END GOAL	NEEDED TO MEET 90% TARGET 4/19/2023	2023 ACTUAL MBRSHHP	% OF YEAR END GOAL	2023 RENEWAL %
1	HAWAII	77	-26	95	123.38%	100.00
2	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,362	-297	1,523	111.82%	88.15
3	PUERTO RICO	123	-20	131	106.50%	85.95
4	MEXICO	31	-4	32	103.23%	51.61
5	WEST VIRGINIA	2,362	-272	2,398	101.52%	82.52
6	OREGON	1,414	-148	1,421	100.50%	77.79
7	GEORGIA	4,490	-456	4,497	100.16%	83.69
8	PHILIPPINES	70	-7	70	100.00%	100.00
9	FLORIDA	21,519	-2,150	21,517	99.99%	80.49
10	MICHIGAN	24,271	-2,080	23,924	98.57%	85.85
11	FRANCE	158	-13	155	98.10%	87.82
12	DELAWARE	2,430	-195	2,382	98.02%	82.53
13	WISCONSIN	4,187	-302	4,070	97.21%	83.10
14	MARYLAND	16,058	-1,129	15,581	97.03%	86.32
15	VIRGINIA	4,109	-285	3,983	96.93%	81.82
16	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,473	-101	1,427	96.88%	81.59
17	ARIZONA	8,004	-546	7,750	96.83%	76.13
18	OHIO	30,636	-1,910	29,482	96.23%	87.26
19	COLORADO	2,729	-164	2,620	96.01%	80.34
20	RHODE ISLAND	336	-19	321	95.54%	81.52
21	PENNSYLVANIA	60,803	-3,137	57,860	95.16%	86.30
22	TENNESSEE	1,718	-81	1,627	94.70%	75.63
23	MAINE	2,617	-123	2,478	94.69%	81.35
24	VERMONT	3,818	-169	3,605	94.42%	84.95
25	NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,677	-245	5,354	94.31%	81.80
26	ILLINOIS	13,398	-568	12,626	94.24%	84.10
27	KANSAS	5,919	-224	5,551	93.78%	82.98
28	WASHINGTON	2,485	-93	2,329	93.72%	72.98
29	CALIFORNIA	10,714	-371	10,014	93.47%	77.03
30	NEBRASKA	7,015	-243	6,556	93.46%	88.18
31	MISSISSIPPI	722	-24	674	93.35%	77.20
32	CONNECTICUT	1,867	-60	1,740	93.20%	81.87
33	LOUISIANA	1,790	-55	1,666	93.07%	82.31
34	IDAHO	644	-19	599	93.01%	74.35
35	IOWA	4,857	-146	4,517	93.00%	81.45
36	NEW YORK	29,864	-890	27,768	92.98%	84.05
37	INDIANA	36,387	-1,070	33,818	92.94%	84.05
38	NORTH CAROLINA	2,727	-78	2,532	92.85%	75.00
39	OKLAHOMA	1,348	-36	1,249	92.66%	73.07
40	NORTH DAKOTA	1,056	-26	976	92.42%	80.97
41	NEW MEXICO	1,483	-31	1,366	92.11%	73.25
42	ALASKA	1,608	-34	1,481	92.10%	72.87
43	MONTANA	1,108	-23	1,020	92.06%	85.28
44	MISSOURI	3,219	-63	2,960	91.95%	79.05
45	ALABAMA	2,066	-40	1,899	91.92%	77.49
46	MASSACHUSETTS	5,442	-98	4,996	91.80%	80.15
47	NEVADA	357	-6	327	91.60%	68.13
48	MINNESOTA	11,378	-87	10,327	90.76%	82.16
49	NEW JERSEY	9,386	-70	8,517	90.74%	79.94
50	TEXAS	5,569	19	4,993	89.66%	72.04
51	WYOMING	1,298	49	1,119	86.21%	75.42
52	ARKANSAS	447	48	354	79.19%	66.67
53	KENTUCKY	2,609	328	2,020	77.42%	65.18
54	UTAH	449	64	340	75.72%	61.05
55	DIST OF COL	114	24	79	69.30%	56.64
Grand Totals:		367,798	-17,698	348,716	94.81%	83.09



## 2023 SAL REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

WESTERN REGION - JACK A. YOUNGS (ID)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
HAWAII	77	95	123.38%
OREGON	1,414	1,421	100.50%
PHILIPPINES	70	70	100.00%
ARIZONA	8,004	7,750	96.83%
WASHINGTON	2,485	2,329	93.72%
CALIFORNIA	10,714	10,014	93.47%
IDAHO	644	599	93.01%
ALASKA	1,608	1,481	92.10%
NEVADA	357	327	91.60%
UTAH	449	340	75.72%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>25,822</b>	<b>24,426</b>	<b>94.59%</b>

MIDWEST REGION - MICHAEL L. KIRSCHNER (CO)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,362	1,523	111.82%
MEXICO	31	32	103.23%
COLORADO	2,729	2,620	96.01%
KANSAS	5,919	5,551	93.78%
NEBRASKA	7,015	6,556	93.46%
OKLAHOMA	1,348	1,249	92.66%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,056	976	92.42%
NEW MEXICO	1,483	1,366	92.11%
MONTANA	1,108	1,020	92.06%
TEXAS	5,569	4,993	89.66%
WYOMING	1,298	1,119	86.21%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>28,918</b>	<b>27,005</b>	<b>93.38%</b>

CENTRAL REGION - DAVID J. MENNEL (MI)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
MICHIGAN	24,271	23,924	98.57%
WISCONSIN	4,187	4,070	97.21%
OHIO	30,636	29,482	96.23%
ILLINOIS	13,398	12,626	94.24%
IOWA	4,857	4,517	93.00%
INDIANA	36,387	33,818	92.94%
MISSOURI	3,219	2,960	91.95%
MINNESOTA	11,378	10,327	90.76%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>128,333</b>	<b>121,724</b>	<b>94.85%</b>

EASTERN REGION - ERNEST E. LABERGE (MA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
WEST VIRGINIA	2,362	2,398	101.52%
FRANCE	158	155	98.10%
DELAWARE	2,430	2,382	98.02%
MARYLAND	16,058	15,581	97.03%
RHODE ISLAND	336	321	95.54%
PENNSYLVANIA	60,803	57,860	95.16%
MAINE	2,617	2,478	94.69%
VERMONT	3,818	3,605	94.42%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,677	5,354	94.31%
CONNECTICUT	1,867	1,740	93.20%
NEW YORK	29,864	27,768	92.98%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,442	4,996	91.80%
NEW JERSEY	9,386	8,517	90.74%
DIST OF COL	114	79	69.30%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>140,932</b>	<b>133,234</b>	<b>94.54%</b>

SOUTHERN REGION - RONALD E. ROBERTS (MS)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
PUERTO RICO	123	131	106.50%
GEORGIA	4,490	4,497	100.16%
FLORIDA	21,519	21,517	99.99%
VIRGINIA	4,109	3,983	96.93%
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,473	1,427	96.88%
TENNESSEE	1,718	1,627	94.70%
MISSISSIPPI	722	674	93.35%
LOUISIANA	1,790	1,666	93.07%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,727	2,532	92.85%
ALABAMA	2,066	1,899	91.92%
ARKANSAS	447	354	79.19%
KENTUCKY	2,609	2,020	77.42%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>43,793</b>	<b>42,327</b>	<b>96.65%</b>

04/27/23		NATIONAL   Christopher Carlton (IN), National Commander				
Region	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Quota Date
1 Southern 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	43,793	42,962	(831)	98.10%	455	
2 Western 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	25,822	24,771	(1,051)	95.93%	179	
3 Eastern 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	140,932	135,098	(5,834)	95.86%	1,384	
4 Central 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	128,333	122,813	(5,520)	95.70%	471	
5 Midwest 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	28,918	27,352	(1,566)	94.58%	201	
TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	367,798	352,996	(14,802)	95.98%	2,690	



04/27/23		CENTRAL REGION   David Mennell (MI), National Vice-Commander						
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1 Michigan 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	24,271	24,327	56	100.23%	193	86.97%	9	04/27/23
2 Wisconsin 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4,187	4,105	(82)	98.04%	31	83.67%	15	
3 Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	30,636	29,738	(898)	97.07%	57	87.81%	19	
4 Illinois 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8	13,398	12,675	(723)	94.60%	23	84.31%	32	
5 Indiana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	36,387	34,076	(2,311)	93.65%	130	84.57%	38	
6 Iowa 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4,857	4,546	(311)	93.60%	6	81.81%	39	
7 Missouri 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	3,219	3,002	(217)	93.26%	29	79.65%	43	
8 Minnesota 5, 6, 7, 8	11,378	10,344	(1,034)	90.91%	2	82.25%	50	
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	128,333	122,813	(5,520)	95.70%	471			

04/27/23		WESTERN REGION   Jack Youngs (ID) National Vice-Commander						
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1 Hawaii 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q, 10	77	95	18	123.38%	-	100.00%	1	10/10/22
2 Oregon 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	1,414	1,434	20	101.41%	10	78.41%	7	04/17/23
3 Philippines 8, 9	70	70	-	100.00%	-	100.00%	10	04/10/23
4 Arizona 5, 6, 7, 8	8,004	7,817	(187)	97.66%	25	76.69%	17	
5 California 1, 5, 6, 7, 8	10,714	10,205	(509)	95.25%	133	78.25%	24	
6 Alaska 3, 6, 8	1,608	1,530	(78)	95.15%	5	74.64%	25	
7 Idaho 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8	644	612	(32)	95.03%	2	75.88%	26	
8 Washington 7, 8	2,485	2,338	(147)	94.08%	2	73.22%	34	
9 Nevada 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	357	330	(27)	92.44%	2	68.13%	48	
10 Utah 5	449	340	(109)	75.72%	-	61.05%	54	
TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	25,822	24,771	(1,051)	95.93%	179			

04/27/23		SOUTHERN REGION   Ron Roberts (MS), National Vice-Commander						
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1 Puerto Rico 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	123	131	8	106.50%	-	85.95%	4	03/02/23
2 Georgia 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	4,490	4,584	94	102.09%	67	84.79%	5	04/19/23
3 Florida 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	21,519	21,744	225	101.05%	142	81.11%	8	04/24/23
4 South Carolina 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,473	1,451	(22)	98.51%	22	82.33%	12	
5 Virginia 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4,109	4,030	(79)	98.08%	18	82.20%	14	
6 Tennessee 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8	1,718	1,632	(86)	94.99%	5	75.75%	27	
7 Louisiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,790	1,694	(96)	94.64%	67	83.38%	31	
8 Mississippi 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	722	680	(42)	94.18%	6	74.47%	33	
9 Alabama 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,066	1,933	(133)	93.56%	3	78.85%	40	
10 North Carolina 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,727	2,548	(179)	93.44%	6	75.38%	41	
11 Arkansas 1	447	373	(74)	83.45%	19	69.39%	52	
12 Kentucky	2,609	2,162	(447)	82.87%		69.19%	53	
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	43,793	42,962	(831)	98.10%	355			

04/27/23		MIDWEST REGION   Michael Kirschner (CO), National Vice-Commander						
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1 South Dakota 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q, 10	1,362	1,531	169	112.41%	8	88.60%	2	02/09/23
2 Mexico 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	31	32	1	103.23%	-	51.61%	4	03/13/23
3 Colorado 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,729	2,622	(107)	96.08%	1	80.34%	23	
4 Kansas 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	5,919	5,606	(313)	94.71%	32	83.70%	30	
5 Oklahoma 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,348	1,267	(81)	93.99%	2	73.22%	35	
6 Nebraska 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	7,015	6,591	(424)	93.96%	10	88.60%	36	
7 New Mexico 8	1,483	1,390	(93)	93.73%	1	74.31%	37	
8 Texas 1, 3, 4, 5, 8	5,569	5,190	(379)	93.19%	145	74.19%	45	
9 North Dakota 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8	1,056	979	(77)	92.71%	2	81.25%	47	
10 Montana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,108	1,020	(88)	92.06%	-	85.28%	49	
11 Wyoming 1, 4, 5, 6	1,298	1,124	(174)	86.59%	-	75.73%	51	
<b>TOTALS 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8</b>	<b>28,918</b>	<b>27,352</b>	<b>(1,566)</b>	<b>94.58%</b>	<b>193</b>			

04/27/23		EASTERN REGION   Ernie LaBerge (MA) National Vice-Commander						
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1 West Virginia 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	2,362	2,401	39	101.65%	-	82.56%	6	04/17/23
2 Delaware 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,430	2,405	(25)	98.97%	14	83.19%	11	
3 France 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	158	155	(3)	98.10%	-	87.82%	13	
4 Maryland 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	16,058	15,717	(341)	97.88%	60	86.74%	16	
5 New Hampshire 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	5,677	5,533	(144)	97.46%	97	84.20%	18	
6 Maine 5, 6, 7, 8	2,617	2,533	(84)	96.79%	55	82.97%	20	
7 Rhode Island 4, 5, 7	336	325	(11)	96.73%	4	82.12%	21	
8 Pennsylvania 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	60,803	58,423	(2,380)	96.09%	402	86.92%	22	
9 New York 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	29,864	28,351	(1,513)	94.93%	461	85.57%	28	
10 Vermont 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	3,818	3,623	(195)	94.89%	6	85.24%	29	
11 New Jersey 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	9,386	8,754	(632)	93.27%	231	81.81%	42	
12 Connecticut 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,867	1,740	(127)	93.20%	-	81.82%	44	
13 Massachusetts 4, 6, 7, 8	5,442	5,056	(386)	92.91%	51	80.90%	46	
14 Dist. of Columbia	114	82	(32)	71.93%	3	56.64%	55	
<b>TOTALS 4, 5, 6, 7, 8</b>	<b>140,932</b>	<b>135,098</b>	<b>(5,834)</b>	<b>95.86%</b>	<b>1,384</b>			

04/27/23		2023 SUPER SIX STANDINGS						
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date
1 Florida 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	21,519	21,744	225	101.05%	142	81.11%	8	04/24/23
2 Michigan 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	24,271	24,327	56	100.23%	193	86.97%	9	04/27/23
3 Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	30,636	29,738	(898)	97.07%	57	87.81%	19	
4 Pennsylvania 5, 6, 7, 8	60,803	58,423	(2,380)	96.09%	402	86.92%	22	
5 New York 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	29,864	28,351	(1,513)	94.93%	461	85.57%	28	
6 Indiana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	36,387	34,076	(2,311)	93.65%	130	84.57%	38	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>203,480</b>	<b>196,659</b>	<b>(6,821)</b>	<b>96.65%</b>	<b>1,385</b>			

<b>National Totals 4, 5, 6, 7, 8</b>	<b>367,798</b>	<b>352,996</b>	<b>(14,802)</b>	<b>95.98%</b>	<b>4,280</b>	<b>83.88%</b>		
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#### Q Quota

- 1 Met 09/14/22 goal of 10%
- 2 Met 10/13/22 goal of 25%
- 3 Met 11/09/22 goal of 35%
- 4 Met 12/14/22 goal of 45%
- 5 Met 01/19/23 goal of 60%
- 6 Met 02/15/23 goal of 75%
- 7 Met 03/15/23 goal of 80%
- 8 Met 04/19/23 goal of 90%
- 9 Met 05/17/23 goal of 100%
- 10 Met 07/16/23 goal of 105%







# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

## 2023 SPRING NEC AGENDA

### MAY 5 - 7, 2023



### FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2023

#### COMMITTEE AND OTHER MEETING TIMES & LOCATIONS

CENTURY COMMITTEE (CENTCOM)	MICHIGAN ROOM - 21ST FL	3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION CMTE	OHIO ROOM - 21 <sup>ST</sup> FL	4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
CHILDREN & YOUTH CMTE	CIRCLE EAST - LL	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
COMMISSION & COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN	CIRCLE CENTER & WEST	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
CONVENTION CMTE	OHIO ROOM - 21 <sup>ST</sup> FL	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
MEMBER TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT	MICHIGAN ROOM - 21 <sup>ST</sup> FL	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
MEMBERSHIP CMTE	CIRCLE CENTER & WEST	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
PAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS	LIBRARY ROOM - 21 <sup>ST</sup> FL	6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
PUFL ADHOC CMTE	MERIDIAN EAST - LL	12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
SUB-COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL APPTS	MERIDIAN EAST - LL	8:00 am - 12:00 pm
SUB-COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS	MICHIGAN ROOM - 21 <sup>ST</sup> FL	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

### SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023

CHECK DISTRIBUTION	LOWER LOBBY FOYER - LL	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
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#### OPENING SESSION ( NEC ) - MERIDIAN WEST / CENTER - LL - 8:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER  
POSTING OF COLORS  
INVOCATION  
POW/MIA EMPTY CHAIR CEREMONY  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
BLUE STAR BANNER CEREMONY  
READING OF THE CALL  
ROLL CALL  
READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING  
RECOGNITION OF GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE  
GREETINGS BY NATIONAL SAL LIASION, KEVIN MOOK (MD)  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
COMMITTEE REPORTS  
RECESS

#### COMMISSION / COMMITTEE AND OTHER MEETING TIMES & LOCATIONS

AMERICANISM COMMISSION	CIRCLE WEST - LL	9:30 am - 12:00 pm
FINANCE COMMISSION	PANORAMA B - 21 <sup>ST</sup> FL	10:00 am - 11:00 am
INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION	CIRCLE CENTER - LL	10:00 am - 11:00 am
NVC SELECTION COMMITTEE	MERIDIAN EAST - LL	12:00 pm - 6:00 pm
PUBLIC & MEDIA COMM CMSN	CIRCLE WEST - LL	12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
SUB-COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL APPTS	MERIDIAN EAST - LL	8:00 am - 12:00 pm
SUB-COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS	CIRCLE CENTER - LL	11:00 pm - 12:00 pm
VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION	CIRCLE EAST - LL	10:00 am - 11:00 am
VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION	CIRCLE EAST - LL	11:00 am - 12:00 pm

**\*\* MEETING TIMES AND LOCATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**  
**REVISED: 4/14/2023**

# NATIONAL MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (NMI)

NMI - II (PANORAMA BALLROOM) / NMI - III (PANORAMA A)

START TIME - 9:30 AM - 21<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023

RELIGIOUS SERVICE - MERIDIAN WEST / CENTER - LL - 7:45 AM

GENERAL SESSION ( NEC ) - MERIDIAN WEST / CENTER - LL - 8:45 AM

RECONVENE

CALL TO ORDER

SALUTE COLORS

INVOCATION

ROLL CALL

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS:

**THE AMERICAN LEGION, NATIONAL COMMANDER, VINCENT J. TROIOLA (NY)**

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, NATIONAL PRESIDENT, VICKIE KOUTZ (IN)**

**THE AMERICAN LEGION, CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION PRESIDENT, ROBERT MORRILL (NY)**

COMMISSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS

**AMERICANISM COMMISSION** - CHRIS CASEY (NE)

- CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE - JIM NOBLE (NJ)
- CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION COMMITTEE - MARK NAVE (PA)

**CENTURY COMMITTEE (CENTCOM)** - JEFF VRABEL, SR. (OH)

**FINANCE COMMISSION** - BILL HILL (MD)

**INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION** - BILL CLANCY (NY)

- CONVENTION COMMITTEE - CHRISTOPHER BYRD (NC)
- MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - MIKE MONSERUD (IA)
- MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE - THOM SKELLEY (TX)

**LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION** - TOM DEAL (MD)

**PUBLIC AND MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION** - ROBERT HILL (MD)

**VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION** - SETH RIPPE (NE)

**VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION COMMISSION** - JAMES COATES (NY)

**SUB-COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS** - NED FOX (CA)

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

FOR THE GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

BENEDICTION

RETIREMENT OF THE COLORS

ADJOURNMENT

\*\* MEETING TIMES AND LOCATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
REVISED: 4/14/2023

**2022-2023 Consolidated Squadron Report as  
of April 26, 2023**

<b>Detachment</b>	<b>No. of Squadron</b>	<b>CSR submitted</b>	<b>CSR%</b>
NEVADA	16	5	31.3%
DELAWARE	14	2	14.3%
OREGON	42	5	11.9%
MONTANA	51	5	9.8%
TENNESSEE	47	4	8.5%
IDAHO	26	2	7.7%
SOUTH DAKOTA	41	3	7.3%
OHIO	318	22	6.9%
ALABAMA	69	3	4.3%
WYOMING	25	1	4.0%
ARIZONA	79	3	3.8%
FLORIDA	187	6	3.2%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	63	2	3.2%
KANSAS	128	4	3.1%
NORTH CAROLINA	72	2	2.8%
INDIANA	294	8	2.7%
KENTUCKY	77	2	2.6%
UTAH	42	1	2.4%
MISSISSIPPI	44	1	2.3%
OKLAHOMA	96	2	2.1%
WEST VIRGINIA	49	1	2.0%
MARYLAND	102	2	2.0%
PENNSYLVANIA	466	9	1.9%
GEORGIA	119	2	1.7%
COLORADO	61	1	1.6%
CALIFORNIA	210	3	1.4%
NEW JERSEY	210	3	1.4%
MICHIGAN	215	3	1.4%
MAINE	72	1	1.4%
IOWA	151	2	1.3%
LOUISIANA	79	1	1.3%
NEBRASKA	161	2	1.2%
NEW YORK	583	5	0.9%
MINNESOTA	267	2	0.7%
MASSACHUSETTS	211	1	0.5%
TEXAS	253	1	0.4%
ILLINOIS	284	1	0.4%
ALASKA	22	0	0.0%
ARKANSAS	29	0	0.0%
CONNECTICUT	50	0	0.0%
DISTRICT OF COL	3	0	0.0%
FRANCE	15	0	0.0%
HAWAII	11	0	0.0%
MEXICO	5	0	0.0%
MISSOURI	122	0	0.0%
NEW MEXICO	34	0	0.0%
NORTH DAKOTA	44	0	0.0%
PHILIPPINES	5	0	0.0%
PUERTO RICO	6	0	0.0%
RHODE ISLAND	12	0	0.0%
SOUTH CAROLINA	27	0	0.0%
VERMONT	35	0	0.0%
VIRGINIA	88	0	0.0%
WASHINGTON	71	0	0.0%
WISCONSIN	125	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5928</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>2.1%</b>



## Regional Breakdown as of April 26, 2023

Central	NVC Mennel (MI)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
OHIO	318	22	6.9%
INDIANA	294	8	2.7%
MICHIGAN	215	3	1.4%
IOWA	151	2	1.3%
MINNESOTA	267	2	0.7%
ILLINOIS	284	1	0.4%
WISCONSIN	125	0	0.0%
MISSOURI	122	0	0.0%
Totals	1776	38	2.1%

Midwest	NVC Kirschner (CO)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
MONTANA	51	5	9.8%
SOUTH DAKOTA	41	3	7.3%
WYOMING	25	1	4.0%
KANSAS	128	4	3.1%
OKLAHOMA	96	2	2.1%
COLORADO	61	1	1.6%
NEBRASKA	161	2	1.2%
TEXAS	253	1	0.4%
NEW MEXICO	34	0	0.0%
MEXICO	5	0	0.0%
NORTH DAKOTA	44	0	0.0%
Totals	850	19	2.2%

Western	NVC Young (ID)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
NEVADA	16	5	31.3%
OREGON	42	5	11.9%
IDAHO	26	2	7.7%
ARIZONA	79	3	3.8%
UTAH	42	1	2.4%
CALIFORNIA	210	3	1.4%
HAWAII	11	0	0.0%
WASHINGTON	71	10	0.0%
ALASKA	22	0	0.0%
PHILIPPINES	5	0	0.0%
Totals	1871	51	2.7%

Eastern	NVC Laberge (MA)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
DELAWARE	14	2	14.3%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	63	2	3.2%
WEST VIRGINIA	49	1	2.0%
MARYLAND	102	2	2.0%
PENNSYLVANIA	466	9	1.9%
NEW JERSEY	210	3	1.4%
MAINE	72	1	1.4%
NEW YORK	583	5	0.9%
MASSACHUSETTS	211	1	0.5%
VERMONT	35	0	0.0%
DISTRICT OF COL	3	0	0.0%
CONNECTICUT	50	0	0.0%
FRANCE	15	0	0.0%
RHODE ISLAND	12	0	0.0%
Totals	1885	26	1.4%

Southern	NVC Roberts (MS)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
TENNESSEE	47	4	8.5%
ALABAMA	69	3	4.3%
FLORIDA	187	6	3.2%
NORTH CAROLINA	72	2	2.8%
KENTUCKY	77	2	2.6%
MISSISSIPPI	44	1	2.3%
GEORGIA	119	2	1.7%
LOUISIANA	79	1	1.3%
PUERTO RICO	6	0	0.0%
SOUTH CAROLINA	27	0	0.0%
VIRGINIA	88	0	0.0%
ARKANSAS	29	0	0.0%
Totals	844	21	2.5%

Comparison			
Year	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
2022-2023	5928	123	2.1%
2021-2022	5827	1553	26.70%
2020-2021	6211	1163	18.72%
2019-2020	6211	1353	21.78%
2018-2019	6211	1638	26.37%
2017-2018	6211	1723	27.74%



# 2022 - 2023 SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION INDIVIDUAL RECRUITMENT AWARD



Date

(select date from drop-down menu by clicking inside the box)

Recruiter Name

Member ID#

Email Address

Phone Number

Detachment

Squadron #



MAIL TO RECRUITER



MAIL TO SQUADRON

Street Address or P.O. Box

City

State

Zip

TO QUALIFY RECRUIT FIVE (5) NEW MEMBERS INTO SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

(A NEW MEMBER IS DEFINED AS ANY ELIGIBLE SONS MEMBER JOINING FOR THE CURRENT MEMBERSHIP YEAR WHO WAS NOT A MEMBER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DURING THE PREVIOUS MEMBERSHIP YEAR.) TRANSFERS DO NOT COUNT AS NEW MEMBERS

PLEASE FORWARD THE NAMES OF NEW AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERS AND/OR AUXILIARY MEMBERS TO YOUR POST OR UNIT FOR USE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS. CONTACT YOUR STATE HEADQUARTERS FOR MORE INFORMATION [WWW.LEGION.ORG/DEPARTMENTS](http://WWW.LEGION.ORG/DEPARTMENTS)

PINS WILL NOT BE MAILED UNTIL THEY ARE VERIFIED ON THE NATIONAL DATABASE

**NOTE:**

The SAL 9-digit membership ID# must be listed for new members recruited

**THE DEADLINE TO QUALIFY FOR THIS INCENTIVE IS JUNE 30TH**

**FIRST & LAST NAME**

**MEMBER ID#**

1.	<input type="text"/>
2.	<input type="text"/>
3.	<input type="text"/>
4.	<input type="text"/>
5.	<input type="text"/>

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**SAVE & EMAIL COMPLETED FORMS TO THE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN**

**EASTERN REGION:**

JOHN COOK (NH)

(EMAIL) [COOKI46@ROADRUNNER.COM](mailto:COOKI46@ROADRUNNER.COM)

**SOUTHERN REGION:**

LINWOOD MOORE (VA)

(EMAIL) [WOODMAN989@AOL.COM](mailto:WOODMAN989@AOL.COM)

**CENTRAL REGION:**

ROBERT BRISTO (MN)

(EMAIL) [BLATZMAN4@Q.COM](mailto:BLATZMAN4@Q.COM)

**MIDWEST REGION:**

TERRY HARRIS (KS)

(EMAIL) [DET.ADJ.KS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DET.ADJ.KS@GMAIL.COM)

**WESTERN REGION:**

JAMES FISCHER (CA)

(EMAIL) [JAMESRFISCHERSR@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JAMESRFISCHERSR@GMAIL.COM)