



ROUND-UP

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

**WE ARE
ALL TIME
HIGH!**

Volume 4 | Number 47 | Issue 198 | August 13, 2023

Looking back with gratitude

August 7, 2023



Greetings, Sons of The American Legion.

In just a few weeks, we'll be in Charlotte, N.C., for the 51st National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion.

It will be a bittersweet weekend for me. We'll celebrate an outstanding year of achievements, in membership renewal and growth, as well as our ever vigilant support of our veterans and their families through our charitable contributions and the vital Be The One program.

That's the sweet part.

But the convention will also mark the end of my year as your National Commander. It has been my honor to serve you in that role.

I want to take a moment of personal privilege to thank you all for your support and hospitality as I've traveled across the nation — and even to Europe — to represent and serve the Sons of The American Legion. I've been impressed to see the “boots on the ground” efforts of our squadrons and detachments across our country.

Travel has not always been easy, and it's been difficult to be away from home so much. But when I look back on my year as your National Commander, I won't remember the challenges. I'll reflect fondly on all the good I have seen.

My heartfelt thanks and best wishes to all of you. My utmost support to our next National Commander.

Thank you, God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

Be the One!

With passion and purpose,

Christopher Carlton,
National Commander
Sons of The American Legion



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, and is published weekly and distributed each Sunday.

Round-Up is a collection of information procured from various resources to stay better informed on happenings within The American Legion Family, and of other related topics of interest, and makes no claims or guarantees about the accuracy or currency of the contents of this publication, and expressly disclaims liability for errors and omissions.

SUBMITTING ARTICLES: All submissions are to be made electronically to jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com. If you need assistance, please send an email to same.

All information must be submitted by noon each Friday.

PNVC [Jeff Vrabel, Sr.](#), Editor

[Rusty Myers](#), Contributor

[Lou Michaels](#), Contributor



The current SAL membership report can be accessed on the national website at www.legion.org/membership/standings



**RENEW
ONLINE
TODAY**



**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL
DELEGATE
STRENGTH**

TARGET DATE

July 26, 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**



FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you to everyone who continues to support our publication. We could not do it without you.

Please make sure that we finish strong headed into the National Convention. Please Buddy Check our delinquent members, and ask if they need help with their dues, and if they do, let's help them. Our members are important, and too often we forget to tell them that.

Work hard over the next two weeks, and let's get to 105%!

Honor the Veteran Who Made You Eligible. Renew Today!

Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

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

[click a button for more information](#)



♦ ♦ ♦ TEAM ♦ ♦ ♦

VRABEL



Central Region Extravaganza

Columbus, Ohio
April 5 - 7, 2024

Remembering the Greatest Generation

To honor a World War II Veteran, please send information to jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com



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#

Gentlemen,

The Central Region, along with the Eastern, Southern, Midwest, and Western have accomplished the greatest task of all times. They have continued to stay the course of trying and doing just that. Reaching the ALL TIME HIGH was an important achievement leading to many more successful accomplishments for our Squadrons, Districts, Zones, and Detachments. "BELIEVE AND SUCCEED" is a major ingredient producing great results. Look at where we are today in our standings now. Where will it be by Convention time?

We have continued to do our "BUDDY CHECKS" and OUR "BE THE ONE." We have shown how #SAL-STRONG is in our ability to raise donations to our programs.

The Central Region Detachment of MICHIGAN is in 11th place at 107.21%. The Detachments of WISCONSIN, MISSOURI, OHIO, and ILLINOIS have a way to go to get to that 105%. The Detachments of IOWA and INDIANA could inevitably make it to 100% by convention time, with the Detachment of MINNESOTA closing in 2.05%.

Continue to RECRUIT-RENEW-REINSTATE .

Robert L Bristo
Central Region Membership Chairman



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



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



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



As of August 13, 2023,
1,014,824
 flags have been placed
 and reported to
 honor our veterans
 since September 1, 2022

**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

**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

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

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

BE THE ONE

If you're a veteran in crisis or concerned about one, contact the Veterans Crisis Line to receive 24/7 confidential support. Dial 988 then Press 1, chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat or text 838255.

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

Legislative Commission

Thomas G. Deal (MD), Chairman

Third Thursday of ODD Months

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

Meeting ID: 991 2070 0860 | 092 260

(877) 853-5257

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

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.

SAL Online Renewal - members can login and renew direct via www.myLegion.org or quick renew by clicking here [SAL Online Renewal](#).

SAL New Member Kit is now online and ready for purchase. [New Member Kit \(SAL\) - American Legion Flag & Emblem](#).

Additional membership information appears later in this edition.

[How to use the Online Transmittal Process](#)

You know, it's funny. Even though you shoot for the moon and miss, you are still amongst the **STARS!!** We may not ARRIVE AT 105, but this membership year has been historic. Records set, some shattered and of course...ALL TIME HIGH!!

375,743 MEMBERS STRONG and GROWING!! You worked for this. You made the phone calls; you sent the emails; you did the Buddy Checks; you deserve the credit. There is no "US" without "YOU" and YOU are the **STARS!!**

National Convention Committee

Christopher Byrd (NC), Chairman

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 961 5391 3982 | 690 337

(877) 853-5257

National Executive Committee Liaison Committee

Jim Stewart (NV), Chairman

National Vice-Commander Selection Committee

James Hartman (MD), Co-Chairman

David Stephens (IN), Co-Chairman

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 or you can subscribe to the monthly Digital Dispatch newsletter by visiting www.legion.org/newsletters, click on "Dispatch" where you will be directed to www.myLegion.org where members will sign in to subscribe. For questions about Dispatch stories, email Dispatch@legion.org.

Save the date: media training, luncheon Aug. 28

August 8, 2023 | The American Legion

Save the date! The American Legion will host an in-person and virtual Media Training Workshop, along with a special awards luncheon, at the 104th National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., on Monday, Aug. 28. A prize drawing will be held for in-person attendees of the workshop and luncheon.

All convention attendees are welcomed to attend the workshop and awards luncheon. [Registration is required for the luncheon](#).

MEDIA TRAINING WORKSHOP. The Media Training Workshop will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center, Room 212, Sections A-B, Meeting Level, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern time with a two-hour break (11 a.m. to 1 p.m.) for the awards

luncheon. The live stream of the workshop will pause during the break and resume at 1 p.m. In-person registration for the Media Training Workshop is available [here](#). For virtual participants, the workshop will be streamed live on the Legion's Facebook page at [facebook.com/americanlegionhq](https://www.facebook.com/americanlegionhq).

During the training, panelists will discuss how to:

- Create Be the One bracelet to promote the Legion's suicide prevention initiative
- Download the VA's PTSD Coach app and use it
- Start a podcast
- Create QR codes for recruiting new members or fundraising efforts
- Improve photography skills
- Design a newsletter and increase open rates
- Get print and web advertising in post, district, or department newsletters
- Ask the right interview questions

AWARDS LUNCHEON. On Aug. 28 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., The American Legion will recognize the [2023 American Legion Media Alliance \(TALMA\) contest winners](#) with a special awards luncheon. During the luncheon, TALMA awards will be presented to contest winners in attendance and representatives from Charlotte and New Orleans, site of the 105th national convention, will speak.

The luncheon is free for the 2023 TALMA award recipients. For others and guests, the price is \$20.

Register: Visit legion.org/talma/banquet to register. Deadline to register for the luncheon is Thursday, Aug. 17. TALMA contest winners attending the luncheon do need to register.

Location: Westin Charlotte, Harris, Second Floor
Menu: a buffet of Carolina BBQ, five cheese baked mac, quinoa salad, coleslaw, sweet potato salad, dessert and more.

Subcommittee on Resolutions

Ned Fox (CA), Chairman

Subcommittee on National Appointments

Donald Allisot, Jr. (ME), Chairman

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

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

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION





This picture shows the presentation of new set of corn hole boards and set of bags to Perrypoint VA Medical Center in Perrypoint, MD. These Boards were handmade and donated by SAL Squadron Commander John Jones and donated by SAL Squadron 135. Pictured Squadron 135 Commander John Jones, Recreation Therapist Dana Harris, and Squadron Adjutant Tom Deal pictured.

photo courtesy Tom Deal



Minnesota's new Detachment Commander, John Weiss, at his first detachment meeting held recently.

photo courtesy Lou Michaels, Contributor



Attica Sons of The American Legion Squadron #260 donated \$1,000 and tabs to Ronald McDonald House of North West Ohio. photo provided

Vietnam War vets honored with lapel pins

Honors those serving active duty in Armed Forces from Nov. 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975

[Mary Ann Greier, The Salem News](#) | August 8, 2023

To learn more about the Vietnam War commemoration, visit the website at vietnamwar50th.com.

Leetonia, OH — Thanks from a grateful nation — that's the heartfelt message delivered Sunday to a dozen area Vietnam veterans honored with Vietnam Veteran commemorative pins during a ceremony Sunday.

"They came home feeling hurt; hopefully this will take some of the hurt away," Norm Kegelmyer said.

Kegelmyer serves as adjutant of the Sons of the American Legion at the Joe Williams American Legion Post 131 in Leetonia, which hosted the commemoration, along with members of the Mahoning Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution who oversaw the pinning ceremony.

"We're very passionate about our veterans and their service to our country. It's important to us. We are

so appreciative and thankful for their service,” Mahoning Chapter DAR Regent Kim Bland said.



Vietnam War veterans honored Sunday in Leetonia with the Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin include: front from left, Heidi Knopp, Salem, U.S. Army; Tim Bradford, Salem, U.S. Army; Wes Crothers, Lisbon, U.S. Army; Jim Ammon, Chardon, U.S. Army; and Brian Stewart, Leetonia, U.S. Air Force; back from left, Ray Heddleson, Leetonia, U.S. Navy; Bill Heston, Salem, U.S. Navy; Bill Grimm, Leetonia, U.S. Army; Bill Billet, Leetonia, U.S. Air Force; Tim Carroll, Leetonia, U.S. Navy Seabees; Roy Pariso, Columbiana, U.S. Army; and Allen Dickens, East Palestine, U.S. Air Force. photo by Mary Ann Greier

The pinning ceremony was part of the United States of America Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration that was launched by President Barack Obama on Memorial Day 2012 and continuing through Veterans Day 2025 to partner with local governments, private organizations and communities for ceremonies recognizing Vietnam War veterans.



The Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin honors living United States veterans who served active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces anytime and anywhere from Nov. 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975. photo by Mary Ann Greier

In his proclamation, he described the commemoration as a “13-year program to honor and give thanks to a generation of proud Americans who saw our country through one of the most challenging missions we have ever faced. While no words will ever be fully worthy of their service, nor any honor truly befitting their sacrifice, let us remember that it is never too late to pay tribute to the men and women who answered the call of duty with courage and valor.”

On one side of the Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin, there’s an eagle head representing courage, honor and dedicated service to the nation, the blue circle matches the canton of the American flag and represents vigilance, perseverance and justice, the laurel wreath stands for victory, integrity and strength, the stripes behind the eagle represent the American flag, and the six stars represent the six allies who served, sacrificed and fought along one another, including United States of America, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Republic of Korea and Thailand. Embossed on the back is the message “A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You,” meant to be close to the wearer’s heart.

The pin honors living United States veterans who served active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces anytime and anywhere from Nov. 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975.

During the local ceremony, the following veterans were pinned with the Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin: Heidi Knopp, Salem, U.S. Army; Tim Bradford, Salem, U.S. Army; Wes Crothers, Lisbon, U.S. Army; Jim Ammon, Chardon, U.S. Army; Brian Stewart, Leetonia, U.S. Air Force; Ray Heddleson, Leetonia, U.S. Navy; Bill Heston, Salem, U.S. Navy; Bill Grimm, Leetonia, U.S. Army; Bill Billet, Leetonia, U.S. Air Force; Tim Carroll, Leetonia, U.S. Navy Seabees; Roy Pariso, Columbiana, U.S. Army; and Allen Dickens, East Palestine, U.S. Air Force.

“It’s nice to be recognized for service in Vietnam,” Bill Heston said.



U.S. Air Force Vietnam veteran Allen Dickens of East Palestine smiles as Mahoning Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution member Rebecca Fife pins him with the Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin during a Vietnam War commemoration pinning ceremony at the Joe Williams American Legion Post 131 in Leetonia Sunday. photo by Mary Ann Greier

The U.S. Navy veteran was in Vietnam in 1967 and has continued his public service as a Salem Township trustee, as has his fellow trustee and Vietnam veteran Ray Heddleson, who served in the U.S. Navy.

Bill Grimm served in Vietnam in 1970 and 1971 with the U.S. Army. When asked what he thought about the honor, he said “I think it’s nice.

His wife, Bonnie, past president of the American Legion Post 131 Ladies Auxiliary, created a Vietnam War display using information memorabilia about the war and memorabilia from American Legion members, including her husband’s combat boots, dog tags and hat. The memorabilia from the members who were there in Vietnam — she said “*that’s the part that is most important to me. I thank God for their safe return.*”

Those who didn’t come home were honored also with items in the display. There’s a framed rubbing from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. of the name Daniel S. Ferry, the Leetonia native son and U.S. Army PFC who was killed in action on Sept. 3, 1966. A framed photograph shows the gravestone for Congressional Medal of Honor recipient U.S. Marine PFC Ralph E. Dias, who’s buried at Oakdale Cemetery outside Leetonia. He was killed on Nov. 12, 1969.

weren’t given the respect or support when they came back,” she said.

Her T-shirt clearly displayed her love for her husband. It read: Vietnam Veterans Wife, Most people never meet their heroes, I married mine.

Also assisting the DAR members in the pinning ceremony was John Wilson, commander of Leetonia American Legion Post 131.

“I love it. This is what this club is about, recognizing our veterans. We still have a lot of Vietnam veterans with us. They’re still vital to us and we try to be vital to them,” Wilson said.

Danny Fire, commander of the Sons of the American Legion at the Joe Williams American Legion Post 131 in Leetonia, served as master of ceremonies.

“I think it’s great. Long overdue to honor these guys, what a more fitting tribute than on the 50th anniversary,” he said.

Bland had been contacted by Kegelmeyer about doing an event in Leetonia and Kegelmeyer approached the membership with the idea. This was the first such event in Leetonia. Efforts are being made statewide and nationwide to pin as many Vietnam veterans as possible.

In 2017, the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act was passed, designating March 29 as National Vietnam Veterans Day.



Tammy Vadino, left, and Helena Vadino visit the Vietnam War remembrance display at Leetonia American Legion Post 131. Tammy is the daughter and Helena the granddaughter of Vietnam veteran Tim Carroll who received the Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin during a ceremony Sunday.

Photo by Mary Ann Greier

Bonnie Grimm shared her thoughts about the Vietnam veterans finally getting their due.

“It’s about time. The political chaos at the time was so devastating to the men who were fighting. They



Vietnam veteran Tim Carroll, U.S. Navy Seabees, of Leetonia accepts congratulations from Della Evans, a member of the Mahoning Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, during a pinning ceremony at American Legion Post 131 in Leetonia for Vietnam veterans.

photo by Mary Ann Greier



SONS OF THE
**AMERICAN
 LEGION**
 Don Gentile Squadron 532
 Columbus, Ohio



GUN RAFFLE

Smith & Wesson Sport II 5.56 AR15
 or Store Credit of Equal Value at



Tickets \$5.00 each

Winning ticket will be drawn Saturday, September 23, 2023

For Tickers or More Information
 contact Commander Rocky Searles at rockysearles@gmail.com

MUST BE 21 YEARS OF AGE TO PURCHASE | Winner need not be present to win

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

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



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

**We're heading to Charlotte soon for
 ALA's biggest event!**



Final preparations are underway for the ALA's 102nd National Convention in Charlotte, N.C.! To help you prepare to join us, you can find convention information on our [website](#), including hotel and transportation details, the agenda, States Dinner, and more!



We know you'll be sharing photos on your social media!

Tag us @ALAforsVeterans and use the hashtags

#AuxCon23 and #AmericanLegionAuxiliary.



For those of you who can't make it but want to interact with general session happenings, follow our livestream at www.ALAforVeterans.org and social media [@ALAforsVeterans](https://www.instagram.com/ALAforsVeterans).



Attend pre-convention meetings from the comfort of your home!

Do you currently serve as an ALA committee chair or help with one of our programs? Be sure to attend our virtual pre-convention committee meetings Aug. 9-22. Any member, at any level, can attend these meetings, but not everyone can vote. Purpose of these meetings: to transact business pertinent to individual committees such as announcement of award recipients, consideration of assigned resolutions and/or amendments to Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules; to review program accomplishments; and to provide representatives an opportunity to exchange ideas.

[Find the meeting you're interested in and register!](#)

** The Credentials, Rules, Resolutions, and Constitution & Bylaws pre-convention committee meetings will be held in person on Saturday, Aug. 26, in the Charlotte Convention Center.



Attention, Junior members! You can design the next ALA Junior T-shirt

Calling all ALA Juniors ages 8-17! Do you love attending our national Junior meetings? Do you love the fabulous T-shirts you receive at these events? Now is your chance to design the next ALA Junior T-shirt! Submissions must be received by Aug. 31 at 5 p.m. Eastern.

Instructions and contest rules can be [found here](#).

ALA Girls Nation 2023 wrap-up



A week of debating bills, touring Washington, D.C., meeting senators, creating lifelong friendships, and much more! Ninety-three students attended this year's ALA Girls Nation. Ysabella Olsen from Missouri was elected 2023 ALA Girls Nation president, and Ashland Ross from Alabama was elected national vice president.

For a look back at the week, visit [@ALAGirlsNation](https://www.instagram.com/ALAGirlsNation) on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)! Also, check out the November issue of *Auxiliary* magazine for even more coverage.

2023-2024 ALA Mission Training & National Junior Meetings



- Central Division
- Cincinnati, Ohio - Nov. 4, 2023
- Eastern Division
- Providence, Rhode Island - Nov. 4, 2023
- Western Division
- Las Vegas, Nevada - Jan. 27, 2024
- Northwestern Division
- Lincoln, Nebraska - Feb. 3, 2024
- Southern Division
- Nashville, Tennessee - Feb. 3, 2024

Registration opens soon!

States Dinner Silent Auction

The States Dinner Silent Auction will take place on August 30 at the ALA National Convention. All proceeds will benefit the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation. Bidding will be online, so even if you can't attend in person, you can still be a winner.

Place your bids here:
www.charityauctionstoday.com/auctions/ALAF-37091
 or scan the QR code.

Scan here to bid:



Packages include:

- Session with Parliamentarian
- Editorial Spot in *Auxiliary Magazine*
- Vacation with AFVC and Delta Airlines
- R. Riveter Poppy Otto Tote
- Many more!

Donors Include:



Good to know



The ALA Junior membership patch has been updated to match the new ALA branding. It was time to restock, so the new order included the ALA word mark logo. American

Legion Auxiliary Junior members and young Sons of The American Legion members can be active participants of the ALA Patch Program. [Log in to learn more](#) about the program and the list of activities youth can do to earn patches.

A great marketing resource. Hosting a back-to-school event? Do you have a booth at a local festival? Spread the word about the American Legion Auxiliary by handing out coloring books. You can [order](#) or [download](#) ALA-themed coloring books from our website. These easy-to-use publications are a great way to spread awareness of the ALA and our important mission to families in your community.



[American Legion Auxiliary 2024 dues are now available to pay.](#) Renew your annual membership dues in three easy ways: by phone, online, or mail. Go to www.ALAforVeterans.org, call (317) 569-4570, or mail in your renewal notice.

Increase your knowledge of the ALA quickly and conveniently! The ALA Academy is an easy way for all ALA members to learn about topics related to serving our mission. The Academy includes recordings of previously held live webinars and self-paced courses. Get started today! Log in with your member ID at www.ALAforVeterans.org/ALA-Academy.

APPLY TODAY!

Auxiliary Emergency Fund Grants Available!

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency assistance to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have endured a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or other personal crisis.

You do **NOT** need unit or department approval to apply. Apply directly at www.ALAforVeterans.org/AEF.



On the ALA Blog

[Dress in style for National Convention in ALA-branded apparel](#)



The American Legion Auxiliary National Convention is right around the corner, so we asked National President Vickie Koutz to create a capsule collection from our Lands' End Business ALA storefront for all your convention wardrobe needs. This

Q3 GRANT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Congratulations!

Veterans Creative Arts Festival

- Colorado Unit 2 - \$2,500
- Tennessee Unit 47 - \$2,500
- New York Unit 120 - \$2,500

If your Auxiliary unit, district/county or department is hosting a local Veterans Creative Arts Festival, the ALA Foundation wants to help! Apply for a grant today at www.ALAFoundation.org/grants.



collection has everything from a 3-in-1 coat to a classic polo shirt, so you'll be cozy inside and outside of the convention hall. Lands' End Business is your one-stop shop for high-quality clothing and merchandise that can be customized with the ALA logo. You can also get apparel and accessories with the ALA Foundation logo. Everything in the custom ALA/ALAF storefront is made to last and designed to keep you comfortable and looking your best. Check out the blog to find your next branded attire!



[Navy veteran hopes to inspire others to participate in creative arts festival](#)

Veterans across the country are busy competing at their local Veterans Creative Arts Festival, hoping for a chance to make it to the national event in 2024 in Denver. In honor of the local Festivals taking place, we are throwing it back to the 2023 national Festival and taking a closer look at one of the attending veterans, Kyle Higginbotham.

Save the date!

- Aug. 10-15** – American Legion Baseball World Series
- Aug. 14** – Navajo Code Talkers Day
- Aug. 20-24** – American Legion Legacy Run
- Aug. 25-31** – ALA’s 102nd National Convention in Charlotte, N.C.



Quote of the month

The most important piece of advice I can give male ALA members is don't hide in the background. Auxiliary units love to work the mission — step up and be part of that work. Offer to help at events and during programs. It can be a little intimidating being the only male in a room of female Auxiliary members, but what those members want more than anything is someone to help and be useful."

— John Tester, Vermont

Legion Family News

Help others by donating blood at convention

The American Legion will host a Red Cross blood drive during its 104th National Convention in Charlotte, N.C. The drive will be conducted on Friday, Aug. 25, and Monday, Aug. 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day, in Hall B of the Charlotte Convention Center. Hall B is serving as the exhibit hall at convention. [Learn more and sign up here.](#)

Enjoy baseball and football in Charlotte

Attendees at National Convention in Charlotte will have two opportunities to watch area sports teams in action.

American Legion Family Baseball Night at Truist Field — a 10-minute walk from the Charlotte Convention Center — is Saturday, Aug. 26, when the Minor League Baseball Charlotte Knights take on the Memphis Redbirds. The first pitch is at 7:04 p.m. Tickets are \$16; the purchase deadline is Aug. 21 at 11:59 p.m. EDT.

The NFL's Carolina Panthers are offering discount tickets to their pre-season game against the Detroit Lions on Friday, Aug. 25, at Bank of America Stadium — a 12-minute walk from the convention center. Kickoff is at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30.41.

[Learn more about both events.](#)

ALA Membership

Where does your department stand in Auxiliary membership? [Click here to log in and view the latest reports.](#)

Legion Family Merchandise

Show your support by buying from American Legion Flag & Emblem Sales.

[Shop now](#)

The American Legion Legislative Center

The ALA supports the legislative agenda of The American Legion.

[Get involved.](#)

In the spirit of *Service Not Self*, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support [The American Legion](#) and honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace, and security.

Sports

Air rifle coach sends ninth athlete to Legion program

The American Legion | August 10, 2023

Michael Dechy brought his ninth athlete to participate in The American Legion's Junior 3-Position Air Rifle Championship in Colorado Springs, Colo., last month. The Legionnaire and retired Marine master sergeant is an instructor for the Freeport (Ill.) High School NJROTC and has been teaching air rifle for 16 years. A few of his athletes have placed in the Legion's Junior 3-Position Air Rifle Championship – Emma Thompson was the 2016 sporter winner and Gabriel Palmero was the 2015 runner-up in sporter.

“NJROTC is a leadership, patriotism, and citizenship program. That's what we're trying to build. We get the kids civic-minded,” Dechy said. “We have a really

good program. We work hard, the kids (about 105 cadets) practice a couple times a week.”



Retired Marine Master Sgt. Michael Dechy and 2016 American Legion Junior 3-Position Air Rifle sporter champion Emma Thompson of Illinois.

The American Legion spoke with Dechy about his why to teaching youth marksmanship and his continuous participation in The American Legion program.

The American Legion: What does air rifle teach young athletes that you like?

Dechy: (Air rifle) teaches them a little bit of hardship – they have to work to get anything, they have to work hard to improve. They have to apply the five fundamentals of marksmanship (aiming, breath control, hold control, trigger control and follow-through), have personal discipline and personal self-control. That's one of the best things is safety, accuracy, and discipline. Those are the three words I have on a banner in our range.

Safety is number one. Accuracy because everything in life requires accuracy. Discipline, we make sure they're controlling their sugar intake, water intake to stay hydrated. Just take care of themselves.

Question: Why do you continue to have your athletes participate in The American Legion's air rifle program?

Dechy: We like The American Legion program because first off it gives the kids another opportunity to compete and because we've gotten so many kids into this, the kids look forward to competing because they really want to get in. The kids (who participate) go back and say 'hey, we stayed in a five-star hotel.' Again, we come from a very poor community. Some of these kids have never traveled before. One year I brought three kids and of the three kids, two had never been on a plane. They get to come here and see a five-star event, a nice banquet. And what I like about

The American Legion is that everybody affiliated with The American Legion is a polished, mature individual that sets a great example for the kids. It also validates everything that we're teaching them; they get to see it not just from me.

The opportunity for the kids to actually get this far, they go back and tell everyone what it's all about. Then those young kids are like, 'I'm going to go next year and do everything I can.' So it helps them to focus. Emma Thompson is a great proof of source. (Thompson graduated from the University of Illinois and is now attending flight school in Pensacola, Fla., as a U.S. Navy officer. Dechy helped commission her on May 18, 2023.)

And then there's Gabriel. That kid is off the charts. He used his money from (The American Legion Junior 3-Position Air Rifle Championships) to get an aviation certificate at Rockford College. Now he works for John Deere, and he does all the GreenStar satellite communication with the tractors. He got married last year; he's going to have a baby. He has a great job. Participating in The American Legion program, sorry I'm getting choked up, helped him.

The American Legion provides a pathway for these kids to see a sophisticated system that is full of checks and balances and accuracy and making sure that everyone is fair and playing by the rules. It's an integrity-based program. A polished, professional environment, with integrity, accuracy, and self-discipline.



2024 IS NOW
SONS OF THE

AMERICAN
LEGION
RENEW TODAY!!!

DEVOTION TO MUTUAL HELPFULNESS

By Jeff Vrebal, Sr.

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

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

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

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

Email Address _____ Telephone _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

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

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

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

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

Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant)

00-001 (2013)



RECEIPT

Date _____

Received of _____

\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in

Squadron _____, Detachment of _____

By _____

2024 Detachment Membership Goals

Alabama	2,100
Alaska	1,740
Arizona	8,595
Arkansas	406
California	11,292
Colorado	2,952
Connecticut	1,865
Delaware	2,596
District of Columbia	91
Florida	23,066
France	168
Georgia	4,887
Hawaii	120
Idaho	659
Illinois	13,716
Indiana	37,244
Iowa	4,914
Kansas	6,055
Kentucky	2,399
Louisiana	1,821
Maine	2,757
Maryland	16,803
Massachusetts	5,432
Mexico	33
Michigan	26,236
Minnesota	11,435
Mississippi	736
Missouri	3,337
Montana	1,091
Nebraska	6,992
Nevada	387
New Hampshire	6,027
New Jersey	9,662
New Mexico	1,582
New York	30,663
North Carolina	2,770
North Dakota	1,075
Ohio	31,690
Oklahoma	1,430
Oregon	1,534
Pennsylvania	62,746
Phillipines	79
Puerto Rico	156
Rhode Island	348
South Carolina	1,570
South Dakota	1,611
Tennessee	1,792
Texas	5,783
Utah	460
Vermont	3,920
Virginia	4,367
Washintgon	2,682
West Virginia	2,593
Wisconsin	4,398
Wyoming	1,248

TOTALS 382,111

Who's ready to win this sweet machine???



Sons of The American Legion Detachment of South Dakota is selling chances to win this BadBoy Bandit 750 Side by Side.

Tickets are \$50 each, with only 500 tickets to be sold.

The drawing will be held June 21st, 2024 at the State Convention in Pierre.

Get your tickets by contacting:

**Shane (605) 366-9793
Wyatt (605) 830-5430
Dewey (605) 261-2621
Casey (605) 530-3168**

A Venmo account has also been set up

Sons of the American Legion Side by Side Raffle	001	SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION - DETACHMENT OF SD	001
BAD BOY BANDIT 750			
Drawing will be held at the State Legion Convention in Pierre, June 21st, 2024.			
Name _____		\$50/TICKET ONLY 500 TICKETS SOLD	
Address _____		PROVIDED BY <i>Badger Oil, Inc.</i>	
Phone _____		Must be 18 to enter. Winner responsible for sales tax, vehicle registration fees, and doc fees.	

Squadron Everlasting

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

Rodney Allen Holdcroft



Rodney "Rod" Allen Holdcroft, 57, of Norwich, died Monday afternoon, August 7, 2023, at Genesis Hospice-Morrison House with his family by his side.

Born November 22, 1965, in Zanesville, Ohio he was a son of the late Everett Holdcroft, Jr. and Carolyn (Harding) Skabar. Rod was a 1984 graduate of Tri-Valley High School and earned his associate degree at Zane State College. He worked as a weaver for 21 years at The Longaberger Company and retired from the Muskingum County Sheriff Department. Rod was a member of the Adamsville Global Methodist Church, Malta Masonic Lodge #118, Sons of the American Legion, and Kids Hope USA. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, shooting his guns, and watching motocross. Rod was competitive at heart and lived for friendly competition at Monday Night Dart League every winter. Many would say he was an extremist to the core and down for just about anything; from riding his pit bike or flying through the sky in his Paraglider above Adamsville and Dresden.

Surviving is his wife of 34 years, Mollie (Hittle) Holdcroft, whom he married October 29, 1988; a daughter, Haleigh (Carter Paul) Holdcroft of Zanesville; a son, Haven Holdcroft of Norwich; six grandchildren, Baylie, Willow, Alaina, Ansley, Prestynn and Pierce; a brother, Bob (Becky) Holdcroft; two half siblings, Mark and Tory; five step siblings, Danny, Mike, Justin, Stacie and Phillip; step-dad, John Skabar; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Vern and Jean Hittle; brother-in-law, Matt (Lisa) Hittle; sister-in-law, Michelle (James) Lewis; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and many great friends.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his biological father, Robert Havens; a brother, Chad Holdcroft and a stepsister, Dawn Holdcroft.

Friends and family may call Friday, August 11, 2023, from 4:30pm to 9:00pm at The Dresden Chapel of Vensil & Chute Funeral Home, 714

Main Street, Dresden with Masonic Services being held by the Malta Masonic Lodge #118 at 4:20pm.

Funeral services will be held 10:00am, Saturday, August 12, 2023, at Adamsville Global Methodist Church, 8065 East Street, Adamsville, Ohio with Pastor Pamela Lashley officiating.

Rod will be laid to rest at Heaven's Gate Cemetery, Adamsville.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Genesis Hospice- Morrison House, 713 Forest Avenue, Zanesville, Ohio 43701; LifeWise Tri-Valley, P.O. Box 522, Frazesburg, Ohio 43822; or a charity of your choice.

Roger H. Norton



THOMASTON – Roger H. Norton, 82, of Thomaston, formerly of Terryville, died peacefully on Aug. 5, 2023.

Roger was the son of the late Herbert and Mary (Wothman) Norton of Terryville; husband of 59 years to Barbara (Puzacke) Norton; father to Kevin R. Norton, daughter-in-law Carolyn Norton, and proud and loving grandfather to Cameron and Colby Norton.

Roger also leaves brothers-in-law Michael and late Larry Puzacke, nephews Kyle, Charlie, Jordan and Jason and nieces Tara and Meagan. Roger was a graduate of Terryville High School and attended Central Connecticut State University. He served as a town of Plymouth police officer and sergeant for 27 years, and was a U.S. Postal Service carrier for 30 years.

After retirement, Roger served as a police commissioner for the town of Plymouth and enjoyed being a member of the Torrington Elks and Sons of the American Legion. In the late '60s, Roger initiated a "youth canteen" on Friday nights for local teens at the Terryville Town Hall sponsored by the YMCA.

Roger loved spending time with family, friends and especially adored his grandsons where he could always be seen on the bleachers and sidelines cheering them on and shared in all their accomplishments.

He loved spending time outdoors maintaining a perfectly manicured yard, clearing paths from the snow and daily walks in the neighborhood when he chatted with neighbors. Roger always looked forward to annual road trips with his friends

and celebrating holidays and birthday with family.

Roger was an avid UConn Huskies basketball fan and cheered on his beloved Red Sox.

He will be missed by his family and many friends who loved him so very much. Roger's family would like to thank the staff at Arden Courts and Brighton Hospice of Farmington for providing exceptional care and comfort during his last few months of battling dementia.

Calling hours will be at Scott Funeral Home, 169 Main St., Terryville, on Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., prayer and eulogy service immediately following, at the funeral home. Burial at St. Thomas Cemetery, Thomaston.

www.scottfuneralhomeinc.com.

Gary O. Martin



Gary Martin, 72 of Allentown, died August 2, 2023 at St Luke's Hospice in Bethlehem.

He was the son of the late Thomas O. and Alice (McNally) Martin.

He was a 1969 graduate of Watchung Hills High School in Warren, NJ.

Gary attended Rutgers University and majored in History.

He was a truck driver for over 40 years, alternating between cross country and local runs. In retirement he worked part-time for Outten Chevrolet transporting cars.

Gary enjoyed woodworking and had a shop in his basement. Gary was also an avid Philadelphia Eagles and Phillies fan! He was also a civil war buff and attended re-enactments on occasion. A member of the American Legion Post #576 where he played shuffleboard and was a past league champion. He was the treasurer for the Sons of the American Legion.

Gary was also a member of the Grover Cleveland Democratic Association in Bethlehem.

He is survived by his sister, Susan Barrett of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

There will be a celebration of life on August 13th at 2pm, at the American Legion Post #576, 1615 Sumner Ave in Allentown. All friends are welcome to attend. Donations can

be made to the American Cancer Society in honor of Gary Martin.

Published by Morning Call on Aug. 10, 2023.

To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](#).

William "Bill" G. Jones



William "Bill" G. Jones, 61, of Perryville, passed away Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at his residence.

He was born September 19, 1961 in Perryville to Grover and Doris (Hansen) Jones. He was baptized September 1961 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Friedheim.

He and Paula Lawson were married on October 4, 1986 in Minnesota. Bill was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Perryville, where he also served on the Board of Elders.

In his professional career he was Assistant Chief of Police; Assistant Fire Chief, Arson Investigator with the State Fire Marshals office, Hazardous Materials Technician, City of Perryville Emergency Management Director, he was also a paramedic and adjunct instructor for SEMO law enforcement academy. Bill was also a member of numerous organizations such as; Missouri Fire Chiefs Association, International Association of Arson Investigators, International Association of Fire Chiefs, Missouri IAAI, FFAM, Missouri Emergency Management Association, Professional Fire and Fraud Investigators Association, Ozark Firefighters Association, Kansas City Arson Task Force, Cape Girardeau Area Fire Training Library; where he was President, Missouri Peace Officers Association, and Sons of the American Legion; where he was Commander Survivors include his wife, Paula of Perryville; daughter, Amy Jones of Perryville; sister, Jamie Storey of Florida; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents, William and Vesta Hansen.

Visitation will be 3-8 pm on Friday, August 11, 2023 at Ford & Young Funeral Home in Perryville. Visitation will continue 8-9:30 am on Saturday, August 12, 2023 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Perryville.

Funeral Service will be at 10 am Saturday, August 12, 2023 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in

Perryville with the Rev. Matthew Marks and Rev. Joseph Schlie officiating.

Burial will follow at Immanuel

Lutheran Cemetery in Perryville. Memorial contributions may be given to Immanuel Lutheran Church or Crown Hospice. Online condolences may be made

at www.fordandyoungfuneralhome.com.

RENEW



Vote for Be the One to appear at SXSW

August 9, 2023

Dear American Legion Family members and friends,



The American Legion has an incredible opportunity to bring our [Be the One initiative](#) to a significant new audience to increase awareness and forge solutions.

VOTE FOR BE THE ONE

We have submitted a proposal to South by Southwest, a popular event known as SXSW that began in 1987, that merges tech companies, entertainers, educators, and other professionals. SXSW, which is attended by 300,000 people annually, is held in March in Austin, Texas. It features sessions, music and comedy showcases, film screenings, exhibitions, professional development, and networking opportunities.

SXSW prides itself on not just entertainment, but providing a forum where unexpected discoveries

happen when diverse topics and people come together. To achieve our goal of Be the One — to reduce veteran suicide — we'll need the support, wisdom, and influence of the greater community.

That's where SXSW comes in. And getting into SXSW is where you come in.

Going on right now is a Community Voting period that lasts until Aug. 20. Don't delay, help support Be the One by participating in the Community Voting now. First, [create an account here](#) and then you may [proceed to voting at this page](#). (If you run into any issues, [here's an explainer](#) with more information, including the two-step process to create an account to vote.)

SXSW will select its lineup of sessions, based on Community Voting (30%), feedback from PanelPicker evaluators (40%) and SXSW staff (40%). The selected lineup will be announced this fall.

The American Legion is committed to reducing veteran suicide. The SXSW presents an opportunity to leverage our mission with others who can expand our focus, thereby saving the lives of more veterans. That's why it's critical for you to express your support by participating in the Community Voting — [please vote here](#) by Aug. 20.

Thank you for what you do every day on behalf of our nation's veterans, servicemembers, their families and the communities in which they live.

Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola, National Commander
The American Legion



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2022-2023 Consolidated Squadron Report as
of August 10, 2023

Detachment	No. of Squadron	CSR submitted	CSR%
DELAWARE	14	14	100.0%
PUERTO RICO	6	6	100.0%
VERMONT	35	35	100.0%
WISCONSIN	125	113	90.4%
OHIO	307	217	70.7%
NEW MEXICO	34	19	55.9%
ARIZONA	78	41	52.6%
CALIFORNIA	210	106	50.5%
TENNESSEE	46	23	50.0%
ILLINOIS	284	137	48.2%
WYOMING	25	12	48.0%
IOWA	152	64	42.1%
INDIANA	294	123	41.8%
ALASKA	22	9	40.9%
GEORGIA	119	47	39.5%
MARYLAND	102	40	39.2%
IDAHO	26	10	38.5%
COLORADO	63	23	36.5%
VIRGINIA	88	32	36.4%
OREGON	34	12	35.3%
FLORIDA	190	65	34.2%
SOUTH CAROLINA	27	9	33.3%
CONNECTICUT	50	16	32.0%
SOUTH DAKOTA	41	13	31.7%
NORTH CAROLINA	73	23	31.5%
NEVADA	16	5	31.3%
ALABAMA	68	20	29.4%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	62	18	29.0%
NEW YORK	581	150	25.8%
MONTANA	51	13	25.5%
MISSISSIPPI	44	11	25.0%
TEXAS	253	60	23.7%
OKLAHOMA	96	22	22.9%
KANSAS	128	29	22.7%
PENNSYLVANIA	467	104	22.3%
LOUISIANA	73	15	20.5%
NEBRASKA	161	33	20.5%
MEXICO	5	1	20.0%
PHILIPPINES	5	1	20.0%
NEW JERSEY	211	42	19.9%
NORTH DAKOTA	46	9	19.6%
WEST VIRGINIA	49	9	18.4%
FRANCE	11	2	18.2%
HAWAII	11	2	18.2%
MISSOURI	118	18	15.3%
MASSACHUSETTS	196	28	14.3%
MAINE	72	10	13.9%
WASHINGTON	72	10	13.9%
ARKANSAS	29	4	13.8%
MICHIGAN	211	27	12.8%
MINNESOTA	267	33	12.4%
UTAH	42	4	9.5%
KENTUCKY	77	7	9.1%
DISTRICT OF COL	3	0	0.0%
RHODE ISLAND	12	0	0.0%
Total	5882	1896	32.2%

Regional Breakdown as of August 10, 2023

Central	NVC Mennel (MI)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
WISCONSIN	125	113	90.4%
OHIO	307	217	70.7%
ILLINOIS	284	137	48.2%
IOWA	152	64	42.1%
INDIANA	294	123	41.8%
MISSOURI	118	18	15.3%
MICHIGAN	211	27	12.8%
MINNESOTA	267	33	12.4%
Totals	1758	732	41.6%

Midwest	NVC Kirschner (CO)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
NEW MEXICO	34	19	55.9%
WYOMING	25	12	48.0%
COLORADO	63	23	36.5%
SOUTH DAKOTA	41	13	31.7%
MONTANA	51	13	25.5%
TEXAS	253	60	23.7%
OKLAHOMA	96	22	22.9%
KANSAS	128	29	22.7%
NEBRASKA	161	33	20.5%
MEXICO	5	1	20.0%
NORTH DAKOTA	46	9	19.6%
Totals	852	224	26.3%

Western	NVC Young (ID)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
ARIZONA	78	41	52.6%
CALIFORNIA	210	106	50.5%
ALASKA	22	9	40.9%
IDAHO	26	10	38.5%
OREGON	34	12	35.3%
NEVADA	16	5	31.3%
PHILIPPINES	5	1	20.0%
HAWAII	11	2	18.2%
WASHINGTON	72	10	13.9%
UTAH	42	4	9.5%
Totals	1804	518	28.7%

Eastern	NVC Laberge (MA)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
VERMONT	35	35	100.0%
DELAWARE	14	14	100.0%
MARYLAND	102	40	39.2%
CONNECTICUT	50	16	32.0%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	62	18	29.0%
NEW YORK	581	150	25.8%
PENNSYLVANIA	467	104	22.3%
NEW JERSEY	211	42	19.9%
WEST VIRGINIA	49	9	18.4%
FRANCE	11	2	18.2%
MASSACHUSETTS	196	28	14.3%
MAINE	72	10	13.9%
DISTRICT OF COL	3	0	0.0%
RHODE ISLAND	12	0	0.0%
Totals	1865	468	25.1%

Southern	NVC Roberts (MS)		
Detachment	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
PUERTO RICO	6	6	100.0%
TENNESSEE	46	23	50.0%
GEORGIA	119	47	39.5%
VIRGINIA	88	32	36.4%
FLORIDA	190	65	34.2%
SOUTH CAROLINA	27	9	33.3%
NORTH CAROLINA	73	23	31.5%
ALABAMA	68	20	29.4%
MISSISSIPPI	44	11	25.0%
LOUISIANA	73	15	20.5%
ARKANSAS	29	4	13.8%
KENTUCKY	77	7	9.1%
Totals	840	262	31.2%

Comparison			
Year	Sqdn	Submitted	CSR%
2022-2023	5882	1896	32.2%
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%

2023 SAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT AS OF: AUGUST 10, 2023

#	DETACHMENT	2023 DET. YEAR END GOAL	NEEDED TO MEET 105% TARGET 12/31/2023	2023 ACTUAL MBRSHIP	% OF YEAR END GOAL	2023 RENEWAL %
1	HAWAII	77	-38	119	154.55%	100.00
2	PUERTO RICO	123	-24	153	124.39%	95.08
3	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,362	-165	1,595	117.11%	90.28
4	PHILIPPINES	70	-5	78	111.43%	100.00
5	WEST VIRGINIA	2,362	-97	2,577	109.10%	87.54
6	GEORGIA	4,490	-126	4,840	107.80%	88.70
7	COLORADO	2,729	-76	2,941	107.77%	86.89
8	OREGON	1,414	-38	1,523	107.71%	81.69
9	ALASKA	1,608	-39	1,727	107.40%	82.78
10	NEVADA	357	-8	383	107.28%	80.27
11	MICHIGAN	24,271	-536	26,021	107.21%	91.78
12	WASHINGTON	2,485	-49	2,658	106.96%	80.82
13	ARIZONA	8,004	-121	8,525	106.51%	82.27
14	FLORIDA	21,519	-317	22,912	106.47%	84.47
15	NEW MEXICO	1,483	-12	1,569	105.80%	81.09
16	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,473	-10	1,557	105.70%	87.27
17	NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,677	-39	6,000	105.69%	89.52
18	VIRGINIA	4,109	-16	4,330	105.38%	86.92
19	DELAWARE	2,430	-2	2,553	105.06%	87.34
20	FRANCE	158	1	165	104.43%	94.23
21	OKLAHOMA	1,348	13	1,402	104.01%	80.20
22	MAINE	2,617	31	2,717	103.82%	87.90
23	CALIFORNIA	10,714	160	11,090	103.51%	83.43
24	MEXICO	31	1	32	103.23%	54.84
25	WISCONSIN	4,187	81	4,315	103.06%	87.01
26	NEW JERSEY	9,386	187	9,668	103.00%	88.89
27	MARYLAND	16,058	347	16,514	102.84%	90.17
28	TENNESSEE	1,718	45	1,759	102.39%	80.29
29	TEXAS	5,569	161	5,686	102.10%	80.08
30	MISSOURI	3,219	98	3,282	101.96%	85.31
31	RHODE ISLAND	336	11	342	101.79%	86.67
32	PENNSYLVANIA	60,803	2,149	61,694	101.47%	90.84
33	OHIO	30,636	1,086	31,082	101.46%	91.15
34	UTAH	449	18	453	100.89%	76.81
35	NEW YORK	29,864	1,242	30,115	100.84%	89.94
36	IDAHO	644	28	648	100.62%	79.42
37	ILLINOIS	13,398	596	13,472	100.55%	89.01
38	VERMONT	3,818	190	3,819	100.03%	89.12
39	MISSISSIPPI	722	36	722	100.00%	80.33
40	IOWA	4,857	255	4,845	99.75%	86.16
41	INDIANA	36,387	2,010	36,196	99.48%	88.81
42	KANSAS	5,919	334	5,881	99.36%	87.19
43	LOUISIANA	1,790	103	1,777	99.27%	86.19
44	NORTH DAKOTA	1,056	62	1,047	99.15%	86.48
45	ALABAMA	2,066	128	2,041	98.79%	82.91
46	NORTH CAROLINA	2,727	172	2,691	98.68%	78.42
47	MINNESOTA	11,378	802	11,145	97.95%	87.64
48	CONNECTICUT	1,867	133	1,827	97.86%	85.14
49	MASSACHUSETTS	5,442	404	5,310	97.57%	84.12
50	NEBRASKA	7,015	529	6,837	97.46%	91.49
51	MONTANA	1,108	102	1,061	95.76%	87.50
52	WYOMING	1,298	142	1,221	94.07%	81.60
53	KENTUCKY	2,609	397	2,342	89.77%	74.07
54	ARKANSAS	447	73	396	88.59%	72.23
55	DIST OF COL	114	32	88	77.19%	60.18
Grand Totals:		367,798	10,445	375,743	102.16%	88.21

2023 SAL REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

WESTERN REGION - JACK A. YOUNGS (ID)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
HAWAII	77	119	154.55%
PHILIPPINES	70	78	111.43%
OREGON	1,414	1,523	107.71%
ALASKA	1,608	1,727	107.40%
NEVADA	357	383	107.28%
WASHINGTON	2,485	2,658	106.96%
ARIZONA	8,004	8,525	106.51%
CALIFORNIA	10,714	11,090	103.51%
UTAH	449	453	100.89%
IDAHO	644	648	100.62%
Totals:	25,822	27,204	105.35%

MIDWEST REGION - MICHAEL L. KIRSCHNER (CO)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,362	1,595	117.11%
COLORADO	2,729	2,941	107.77%
NEW MEXICO	1,483	1,569	105.80%
OKLAHOMA	1,348	1,402	104.01%
MEXICO	31	32	103.23%
TEXAS	5,569	5,686	102.10%
KANSAS	5,919	5,881	99.36%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,056	1,047	99.15%
NEBRASKA	7,015	6,837	97.46%
MONTANA	1,108	1,061	95.76%
WYOMING	1,298	1,221	94.07%
Totals:	28,918	29,272	101.22%

CENTRAL REGION - DAVID J. MENNEL (MI)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
MICHIGAN	24,271	26,021	107.21%
WISCONSIN	4,187	4,315	103.06%
MISSOURI	3,219	3,282	101.96%
OHIO	30,636	31,082	101.46%
ILLINOIS	13,398	13,472	100.55%
IOWA	4,857	4,845	99.75%
INDIANA	36,387	36,196	99.48%
MINNESOTA	11,378	11,145	97.95%
Totals:	128,333	130,358	101.58%

EASTERN REGION - ERNEST E. LABERGE (MA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
WEST VIRGINIA	2,362	2,577	109.10%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,677	6,000	105.69%
DELAWARE	2,430	2,553	105.06%
FRANCE	158	165	104.43%
MAINE	2,617	2,717	103.82%
NEW JERSEY	9,386	9,668	103.00%
MARYLAND	16,058	16,514	102.84%
RHODE ISLAND	336	342	101.79%
PENNSYLVANIA	60,803	61,694	101.47%
NEW YORK	29,864	30,115	100.84%
VERMONT	3,818	3,819	100.03%
CONNECTICUT	1,867	1,827	97.86%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,442	5,310	97.57%
DIST OF COL	114	88	77.19%
Totals:	140,932	143,389	101.74%

SOUTHERN REGION - RONALD E. ROBERTS (MS)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
PUERTO RICO	123	153	124.39%
GEORGIA	4,490	4,840	107.80%
FLORIDA	21,519	22,912	106.47%
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,473	1,557	105.70%
VIRGINIA	4,109	4,330	105.38%
TENNESSEE	1,718	1,759	102.39%
MISSISSIPPI	722	722	100.00%
LOUISIANA	1,790	1,777	99.27%
ALABAMA	2,066	2,041	98.79%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,727	2,691	98.68%
KENTUCKY	2,609	2,342	89.77%
ARKANSAS	447	396	88.59%
Totals:	43,793	45,520	103.94%

08/10/23		NATIONAL Christopher Carlton (IN), National Commander					
Region	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Quota Date	
1 Western 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	25,822	27,204	1,382	105.35%	2	05/25/23	
2 Southern 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	43,793	45,520	1,727	103.94%	32	05/17/23	
3 Eastern 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	140,932	143,389	2,457	101.74%	89	06/15/23	
4 Central 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	128,333	130,358	2,025	101.58%	45	06/12/23	
5 Midwest 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	28,918	29,272	354	101.22%	12	06/22/23	
TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	367,798	375,743	7,945	102.16%	178	06/08/23	



08/08/23		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	26,017	1,746	107.19%	-			04/27/23	
2 Wisconsin 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	4,187	4,315	128	103.06%	-			05/17/23	
3 Missouri 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	3,219	3,281	62	101.93%	-			06/08/23	
4 Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	30,636	31,078	442	101.44%	-			06/12/23	
5 Illinois 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	13,398	13,468	70	100.52%	-			06/15/23	
6 Iowa 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4,857	4,844	(13)	99.73%	-				
7 Indiana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	36,387	36,196	(191)	99.48%	-				
8 Minnesota 5, 6, 7, 8	11,378	11,114	(264)	97.68%	-				
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	128,333	130,313	1,980	101.54%	-		4	06/12/23	

08/10/23		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	119	42	154.55%	-			10/10/22	
2 Phillippines 8, 9, Q	70	78	8	111.43%	-			04/10/23	
3 Oregon 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	1,414	1,523	109	107.71%	-			04/17/23	
4 Alaska 3, 6, 8, Q	1,608	1,727	119	107.40%	1			06/05/23	
5 Nevada 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	357	383	26	107.28%	-			05/08/23	
6 Washington 7, 8, Q	2,485	2,658	173	106.96%	-			06/01/23	
7 Arizona 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	8,004	8,525	521	106.51%	-			05/15/23	
8 California 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	10,714	11,090	376	103.51%	1			06/01/23	
9 Utah 5	449	453	4	100.89%	-			08/08/23	
10 Idaho 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, Q	644	648	4	100.62%	-			06/22/23	
TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	25,822	27,204	1,382	105.35%	2		1	05/29/23	

08/10/23		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	153	30	124.39%	-			03/02/23	
2 Georgia 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q, 10	4,490	4,840	350	107.80%	1			04/19/23	
3 Florida 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	21,519	22,912	1,393	106.47%	17			04/24/23	
4 South Carolina 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	1,473	1,557	84	105.70%	3			05/15/23	
5 Virginia 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	4,109	4,330	221	105.38%	2			05/08/23	
6 Tennessee 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, Q	1,718	1,759	41	102.39%	1			06/29/23	
7 Mississippi 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Q	722	722	-	100.00%	-			07/17/23	
8 Louisiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,790	1,777	(13)	99.27%	-				
9 Alabama 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,066	2,041	(25)	98.79%	-				
10 North Carolina 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,727	2,691	(36)	98.68%	-				
11 Kentucky	2,609	2,342	(267)	89.77%	7				
12 Arkansas 1	447	396	(51)	88.59%	1				
TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	43,793	45,520	1,727	103.94%	32		2	05/17/23	

08/10/23		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	1,595	233	117.11%	-			02/09/23	
2 Colorado 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	2,729	2,941	212	107.77%	-			05/15/23	
3 New Mexico 8, Q	1,483	1,569	86	105.80%	-			06/15/23	
4 Oklahoma 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	1,348	1,402	54	104.01%	-			05/11/23	
5 Mexico 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	31	32	1	103.23%	-			03/13/23	
6 Texas 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, Q	5,569	5,686	117	102.10%	8			06/15/23	
7 Kansas 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	5,919	5,881	(38)	99.36%	-				
8 North Dakota 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8	1,056	1,047	(9)	99.15%	3				
9 Nebraska 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	7,015	6,837	(178)	97.46%	1				
10 Montana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,108	1,061	(47)	95.76%	-				
11 Wyoming 1, 4, 5, 6	1,298	1,221	(77)	94.07%	-				
TOTALS 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	28,918	29,272	354	101.22%	12		5	07/24/23	

08/10/23		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	2,577	215	109.10%	-			04/17/23	
2 New Hampshire 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	5,677	6,000	323	105.69%	-			06/09/23	
3 Delaware 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2,430	2,553	123	105.06%	-			05/08/23	
4 France 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	158	165	7	104.43%	-			06/26/23	
5 Maine 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	2,617	2,717	100	103.82%	-			05/22/23	
6 New Jersey 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	9,386	9,668	282	103.00%	55			07/06/23	
7 Maryland 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	16,058	16,514	456	102.84%	4			05/17/23	
8 Rhode Island 4, 5, 7	336	342	6	101.79%	-			05/08/23	
9 Pennsylvania 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	60,803	61,694	891	101.47%	10			06/12/23	
10 New York 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	29,864	30,115	251	100.84%	2			06/29/23	
11 Vermont 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	3,818	3,819	1	100.03%	9				
12 Connecticut 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,867	1,827	(40)	97.86%	6				
13 Massachusetts 4, 6, 7, 8	5,442	5,310	(132)	97.57%	3				
14 Dist. of Columbia	114	88	(26)	77.19%	-				
TOTALS 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	140,932	143,389	2,457	101.74%	89		3	06/15/23	

08/10/23		2023 SUPER SIX STANDINGS							
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Renewal Rate	National Rank	Quota Date	
1 Michigan 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	24,271	26,021	1,750	107.21%	4	91.78%	11	04/27/23	
2 Florida 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Q	21,519	22,912	1,393	106.47%	17	84.47%	14	04/24/23	
3 Pennsylvania 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	60,803	61,694	891	101.47%	10	90.84%	32	06/12/23	
4 Ohio 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	30,636	31,082	446	101.46%	4	91.15%	33	06/12/23	
5 New York 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q	29,864	30,115	251	100.84%	2	89.94%	35	06/29/23	
6 Indiana 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	36,387	36,196	(191)	99.48%	-	88.81%	41		
TOTALS	179,209	181,999	2,790	101.56%	33				

National Totals 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Q, ATH	367,798	375,743	375,167	102.16%	180	88.21%		06/08/23
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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 07/26/23 goal of 105%





**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
51st NATIONAL CONVENTION AGENDA FLYER
CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA
AUGUST 25 - 27, 2023**

DETACHMENT COMMANDERS TRAINING

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 - HALL C2, EXHIBIT HALL - 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 - ROOM 205, SECTION A

8:30 AM INTERNAL AFFAIRS
10:00 AM MEMBERSHIP
11:30 AM FINANCE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 - ROOM 205, SECTION B

8:30 AM CHILDREN & YOUTH
10:00 AM VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION
11:30 AM CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 - ROOM 201, SECTIONS A - B

8:30 AM AMERICANISM
10:00 AM COMMUNITY SERVICE SCRAPBOOK /HISTORY BOOK CONTEST
11:30 AM LEGISLATION AND RULES

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 - HALL C2, EXHIBIT HALL, GREEN ROOM (BEHIND STAGE)

11:00 AM CREDENTIALS

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 10:00 AM PRE-CONVENTION NEC
SUNDAY, AUGUST 27 2:00 PM POST-CONVENTION NEC

NATIONAL CONVENTION GENERAL SESSIONS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 1:00 PM - OPENING
SATURDAY, AUGUST 26 9:00 AM
SUNDAY, AUGUST 27 8:00 AM

TRANSITION MEETING - ROOM 208, MEETING LEVEL

MONDAY, AUGUST 28 8:00 AM (NATIONAL OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN ONLY)

NATIONAL STAFF OFFICE - RICHARDSON BALLROOM, LEVEL 3

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
THURSDAY, AUGUST 24 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SATURDAY, AUGUST 26 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SUNDAY, AUGUST 27 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION**

BE THE ONE

As of: 7/07/2023 ** *subject to change*