



# Leadership Update

June 2025

---

The latest news, views, and announcements



Joseph Navarrete  
National Commander

As we come to the close of May and enter June, I want to take a moment to reflect on a month filled with activity, purpose, and remembrance.

We successfully held our **Spring National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting**, where important discussions and decisions were made to guide our work moving forward. I'm grateful to all who participated and contributed their insights.

The month of May also allowed me to **visit several Detachments**. These visits are always a highlight—they allow us to connect directly with our members, hear about the incredible work happening at the local level, and share in the camaraderie that defines our organization.

A special highlight was attending the **National Oratorical Finals**, where we witnessed some of the brightest young minds in the country demonstrate their passion for the Constitution and public speaking. Their poise and patriotism remind us of the importance of nurturing the next generation of leaders.

Finally, I was honored to participate in **Memorial Day observances in Washington, D.C.**, paying tribute to the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. It was a solemn and humbling experience—one that reaffirms our commitment to honoring all who have served.

Looking ahead, **June promises to be equally engaging**, as my travel schedule will take me to several **Detachment Conventions**. These gatherings are a valuable opportunity to hear directly from our members, share updates from the national level, and support the important work being done in local communities. I look forward to connecting with many of you and continuing to strengthen our organization together.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our mission. As we look ahead to the summer months, let us carry this momentum forward in service to our communities, our veterans, and our nation.



Anthony Wright  
National Adjutant

### **The Importance of the Consolidated Squadron Report**

Each year, Sons of The American Legion squadrons around the world dedicate countless hours to service, fundraising, and positively impacting the lives of veterans, their families, and children. These efforts are a vital part of our mission and deserve to be recognized and celebrated.

To ensure that every hour of service and every achievement is properly acknowledged, it is essential that all squadrons, districts, and detachments accurately and thoroughly complete the **Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR)** form. This report is more than just a summary—it is a vital record of the dedication, hard work, and commitment of our members.

Beyond serving as a historical record, the CSR plays a key role in determining eligibility for awards presented at the National Convention. By carefully documenting all activities and accomplishments, squadrons can significantly increase their chances of receiving national recognition for their outstanding contributions.

Let's make sure that every effort is counted. Submit a complete and detailed Consolidated Squadron Report and help shine a light on the incredible impact our members make each year.

## Chairmen Spotlight



Jeff Trout  
Veterans and Children Foundation  
Ad-Hoc Chairman

**The VCF Ad-Hoc Committee is committed to supporting Commander Navarrete's goal of raising \$500,000 for The American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation (VCF). As part of our mission to increase awareness and contributions, we are also focused on accurately tracking all donations made by The Sons of The American Legion.**

**To ensure transparency and accountability, the committee is creating a tracking spreadsheet to record:**

- **Total donation amounts**
- **The source of each donation (Detachment, District, Squadron, etc.)**

**We kindly ask for your help in this effort. If you've made any donations to the VCF from June 1, 2024, to the present, please send that information to the committee as soon as possible.**

**Going forward, we ask that you report donations either at the end of each month or as they are made, up until the cutoff date of May 31, 2025.**

**This information will allow us to accurately reflect the support of the Sons and demonstrate our collective effort toward reaching the \$500,000 goal.**

**Donation Submission Link:** Donations can be made online at:

<https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Give/Donate-Online/Donate-Now?CashProductId=134419>

## Reporting Donations:

Please send your donation details (amount, date, and unit name) to the VCF Ad-Hoc Committee at [jefftrout65@gmail.com](mailto:jefftrout65@gmail.com).

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our veterans, military families, and children.



Mark Nave  
Child Well-Being Foundation Chairman

Since 1988, the Sons of The American Legion have proudly championed fundraising efforts for the Children's Well-Being Foundation. Through dedication, compassion, and relentless hard work, we've become leaders in supporting this incredible cause. From auctions and raffles to community events, we've raised substantial funds to help children in need—and every dollar has made a difference.

Our mission is clear: to create a brighter future for countless children. With each contribution, we're not only offering support but also sending a message of hope and care. It's truly heartwarming to witness the impact of our collective efforts.

With the May 31 donation deadline, our donations will be calculated in the coming weeks, marking an exciting and crucial time. I'm deeply grateful to all the generous individuals who have already donated, and I'm inspired by the energy and support from our community. Let's keep the momentum going and make this our most successful year yet.

Thank you to everyone who has donated, spread the word, and stood by our side. Together, we can finish strong and continue making a lasting impact on the lives of children.

Let's cross that finish line—stronger, united, and full of heart.

# Spring National Executive Committee Recap

As of May 1, 2025, we have a total reported membership of 375,378 which is 93.55% of our 100% target of 401,263 members. We have also renewed 83.72% of our 2024 members.

Again, this year, we remain a strong supporter of the Child Well-Being Foundation, raising \$229,086 as of April 17, 2025 for 57.7% (\$0.58 per member) of our goal. During the National Executive Committee meeting this past weekend an additional amount of \$38,804 was donated to the Foundation, with more coming prior to May 31st. The total, after the donations this weekend, is \$267,890.

Twenty-two (22) members attended MyLegion training on Saturday. This session focused on the Squadron level. National Committee and Commission Chairmen attended a leadership workshop on Friday. Training courses and mentoring from our current leaders provides our members with the knowledge that will better our dedication to the purposes and programs of The American Legion. The SAL is continuing its assistance to The American Legion through donations to the National Emergency Fund. We have donated \$63,465 to the NEF according to the latest report. Additionally, during the National Executive Committee meeting this past weekend \$8,819 was donated for a total of \$72,284.

Our organization is also supporting the Veterans and Children Foundation (VCF) and we have donated \$65,609 as of March 31, 2025. This weekend we collected \$18,957, so the total to date is \$84,566.

In addition to the donations for CWF, NEF, and VCF, our members presented the following donations: \$500 to COTA, Operation Comfort Warrior for \$7,264.

The donations received this weekend totaled \$74,344. The donations came from various Detachments, Districts, and Squadrons from across the country.

We all know that this mission is not just about money, it's about making a real difference in the lives of those who have sacrificed for us. As Sons of The American Legion, we stand firm in that commitment, and I know we will rise to meet the challenges ahead.

Our membership continues to grow as we hope to pass the 400,000 mark this year. Our members are providing support to our Nation's veterans. Our work in assisting veterans in the local VA Medical Centers and Hospitals continues to grow and will remain the top priority of the Sons of The American Legion. Members in every Detachment have been actively supporting all the programs of The American Legion, such as "Be the One", homeless veterans assistance, Boys State, Junior Shooting Sports, Oratorical Contest, and scouting. Our growth is a sign of the strength and unity we share in this great organization, and it reflects the impact we are making



We are proud to announce that the 53rd National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion will take place August 22–24, 2025, in Tampa, Florida. This important annual event is a time to celebrate our shared accomplishments, honor excellence, and prepare for the future of our organization.

Over the course of the convention, we'll hear final reports from our National Officers and Chairmen, present awards recognizing outstanding service, and engage in important discussions and training sessions that will shape the year ahead.

---

## Schedule of Events

### Friday, August 22

- *Detachment Commander's Training*
- *Pre-Convention National Executive Committee Meeting*

### Friday–Sunday, August 22–24

- *National Convention*

### Sunday, August 24

- *Post-Convention National Executive Committee Meeting*

### Monday, August 25

- *Transition Meeting*  
(For National Officers, Commission & Committee Chairmen only)

---

This is an exciting time for the Sons of The American Legion. We look forward to coming together in fellowship, service, and patriotism as we continue our mission of honoring our veterans and serving our communities.

Thank you for your dedication—and we'll see you in Tampa!

**For updates and details, stay connected with your Detachment leadership or visit our national website.**