



SALUTE

A Detachment of Kansas Newsletter

Date: October 2024

Message from the Detachment Commander

The SALute newsletter is starting again! For many years Don Culver edited and published the SALute newsletter. Don Culver's dedication and work on the SALute newsletter was a cornerstone of communication for the Detachment of Kansas.

Much effort and work by many individuals have resulted in the re-birth of the SALute newsletter. It is with pride this publication is going again!

Jim Gallentine
Detachment of Kansas Commander

Message from the Detachment Vice Commander

HELLO, KANSAS SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION!!!!

It has been about four months since we received our 2025 membership cards, and I hope your squadron membership year is rolling.

One of the things that has bothered me over the last few years is how we lose 8 to 10 percent of our existing members every year. They joined for a reason, reach out and ask them to get involved. They don't have to participate in everything if they just participate in something, it helps in making them feel like they are a part of the team.

Sometimes all it takes to keep them renewing is for someone to show they have an interest in them. Each edition of the SALute I will be sharing with you a recruitment/retention idea, I know some of you have better ideas than I do so I'm asking you to email me (mwksal@outlook.com) something you do at your squadron that works well. I will choose at least one idea to share each edition and I will give credit where credit is due.

I would like to personally invite you to the Vice Commanders' and Vice President's Family Homecoming in Abilene on October 12th . I will make sure the flyer for homecoming and for the

Eisenhower Pilgrimage is included in this SALute. It is always a good way to meet new people from across the state. I look forward to seeing you there!

#SALStrong

Detachment of Kansas Vice-Commander, Matthew Krupco

Message from the Detachment Adjutant

I'm excited for the relaunch of the SALute! We plan to bring a variety of information to you in the coming months.

Online renewal: I'm sure you've heard, but online renewal is a great way for you to renew your membership. Once renewed, you can print your membership card right from the website! Just go to <https://legion.org/sal-renew>. All you need is your membership ID and last name.

Supporting the American Legion's Legislative Agenda: There is strength in numbers and that includes membership in this great organization of ours. Membership strengthens our voice on Capitol Hill as The American Legion's legislative advocacy efforts are to protect and enhance benefits for our veterans and their families.

The impact the Legion Family has is multiplied when our members can speak in a unified voice. This is made possible through the Legislative Action Alerts, which allows us to engage Congress with one voice and one message. The American Legion's Legislative Division uses VoterVoice as its grassroots advocacy platform for connecting American Legion members and advocates with their members of Congress. VoterVoice allows The American Legion to contact every member of Congress on large, national campaigns as well as target specific members on key committees that pertain to The American Legion's legislative priorities.

It is The American Legion's voice heard on Capitol Hill that helps to pass bills that we support for our veterans and their families. Let your voice be heard on Capitol Hill by signing up for the Legion's Legislative Action Alerts here: <https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>.

Chris Krueger
Adjutant - Detachment of Kansas
Sons of The American Legion

Message from NEC Doug Evans

Hello I am Doug Evans your NEC. This column is to keep you informed about happenings at the National level of The Sons of The American Legion. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me.

This time I would like to highlight the CWF Child Welfare Foundation. Established in 1954, The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation was developed as a repository of funds from individuals who wished to contribute to the betterment of children in this country.

The SAL last May reached \$10 million in donations to CWF since 1988, continuing as the program's largest donor. SAL National Commander Don "JR" Hall broke the news with a post on his personal Facebook page: "How about them Sons!!!" Thanks to all the Squadrons and individuals who contributed. If your Squadron contributes a dollar per member, they are eligible for a 100% Per Capita Banner. The form is on the SAL Website. Donations and the form must be received by National by May 31 2025.

What does your Legion Family do to raise funds for CWF? Let us know send pictures and stories to the SALute. Till next time thank you for all you do for the CWF and the SAL.

Message from the Detachment Master at Arms

Be proud to be an SAL member in Kansas!

Did you know the idea of an organization for the sons of veterans originated with Kansas legionnaires! At the 3rd National Convention in Kansas City, Mo., in 1921. Delegates at the 12th National Convention in 1930 approved a committee headed by George Kellogg of Chicago to study the creation of an organization for the sons of Legion members.

Two years later, the 14th National Convention of The American Legion passed Resolution 456 authorizing the establishment of the Sons of The American Legion (SAL) as a non-political, non-sectarian civilian organization on Sept. 15, 1932, in Portland, Ore.

On June 6, 1933, Bruce P. Robison Squadron 133 in Indianapolis became the first chartered squadron of the Sons of The American Legion.

(Credit to Emile A. Blackmore Museum)

Jeff Kerns
Master at Arms, Detachment of Kansas

Programs of The American Legion By Terry Harris

One of the major things that The Sons of The American Legion does it promote the youth programs of The American Legion. I will use this column to try and do my best to not only promote the programs but to make sure each Squadron can also do the same. Each month I will do my best to highlight one of the programs.

The Oratorical competition starts at the district level in the Department of Kansas. Each district should promote and hold an oratorical contest in their District. There is Scholarship money paid at each level of the competition to the winner. Each of the District winners then move on to the Department Oratorical Contest. Ideally there would be 11 contestants competing for Scholarship monies at the State Level. Once a winner is determined at the State Level that individual is then expected to

represent Kansas at the National Oratorical Competition that is held at Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, Michigan.

About the Contest:

The American Legion Oratorical Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship. The program has featured numerous politicians and prominent contestants over the years, including former presidential candidate Alan Keyes, national television commentator and talk radio host Lou Dobbs, and former U.S. Vice President Mike Pence.

Young orators earn some of the most generous college scholarships available to high school students. Over \$203,500 in scholarships can be awarded each year. The overall national contest winner gets a \$25,000 scholarship. Second place takes home \$22,500, and third gets \$20,000. Each department (state) winner who is certified into and participates in the national contest's first round receives a \$2,000 scholarship. Those who advance past the first round receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship. The American Legion's National Organization awards the scholarships, which can be used at any college or university in the United States.

High school students under age 20 are eligible. Competition begins at the post level and advances to a state competition. Legion department representatives certify one winner per state to the national contest, where department winners compete against each other in two speaking rounds. The contest caps off with a final round that decides the three top finishers. Speaking subjects must be on some aspect of the U.S. Constitution, with some emphasis on the duties and obligations of citizens to our government. Speeches are eight to 10 minutes long; three- to five-minute speeches on an assigned topic also are part of the contest.

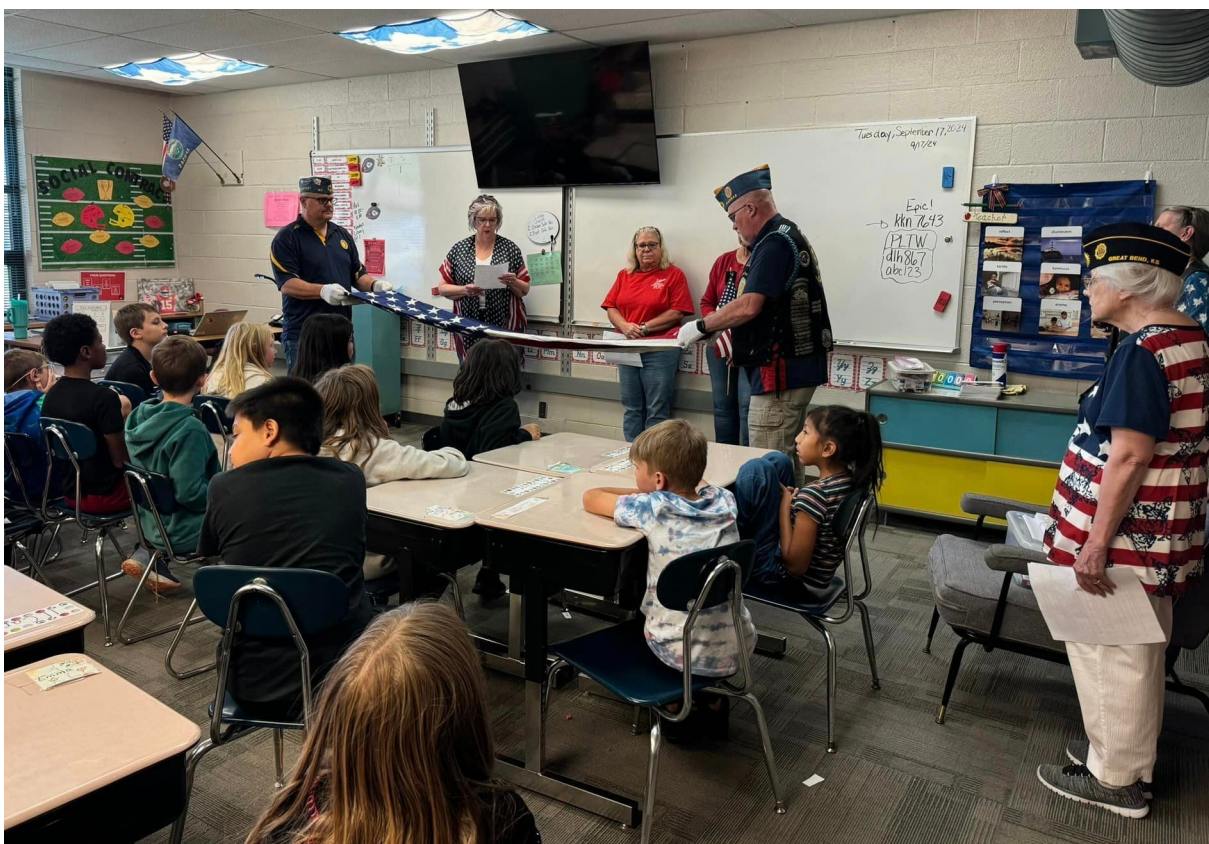
Please contact your local American Legion Post for more details.

Flag Etiquette Event at Local School

The Kansas American Legion Post 180 family visited six local grade schools to teach 4th graders about Flag Etiquette. The kids were attentive, asked good questions and were very engaged.

Thanks to Holy Family, Central Kansas Christian Academy, Jefferson, Park, Lincoln and Eisenhower schools for hosting us!

Source - Chris Krueger, SAL Squadron 180 Great Bend



Submission deadline for for the SALute is the 20th of each month.

Please email submissions to det.cmdr.ks@gmail.com

Reports

Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR)

This is due July 1st, yearly. If you have not turned in your CSR, please do so ASAP.

The form is located here: <https://salkansas.org/resources>

Squadron Data Report (SDR)

This is due April 15, yearly. If you have not turned in your SDR, please do so ASAP. The SDR is necessary to enable online transmittals.

Up-Coming Events

District Homecomings

2024-10-19 D1 Ozawkie, KS

2024-10-19 D5 Wichita, KS

2024-10-26 D9 Hoxie, KS

2024-10-26 D4 Lebo, KS

2024-11-16 D10 Marysville, KS

Department Events

2024-10-12 Eisenhower Pilgrimage- Abline, KS

2024-10-12 Detachment Vice Commander Homecoming - Abline, KS

2025-01-31 Mid-Winter Conference - Great Bend, KS

2024-11-16 Big Red Turkey Run

2024-12-14 Department Holiday Party

National Conventions:

2025-08-22 National Convention - Tampa Bay, FL

2026-08-28 National Convention - Louisville, Kentucky

2027-08-28 National Convention - Kansas City, Missouri

Websites and Resources

KS SAL Detachment Website: <https://salkansas.org/>

KS SAL Detachment Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/kansassal/>

National SAL Website: <https://legion.org/sons>

National SAL Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/americanlegionsons>

National American Legion Website: <https://www.legion.org/>

Membership Online Renewal Website: <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Renew>

KS ALR Website: <https://kansasalr.com>

SAL Kansas Detachment Officers

Commander:	Jim Gallentine	(785) 874-8727 det.cmdr.ks@gmail.com
Vice Commander:	Matt Krupco	(620) 224-7355 mwksal@outlook.com
Adjutant:	Chris Kreuger	
Finance:	Michael Saindon	
Master At Arms:	Michael Weber	
Master At Arms:	Jeff Kerns	
NEC:	Doug Evans	
ALT-NEC:	Terry Harris	
Chaplain:	Greg Thompson	
Historian:	Josiah Wakley	
Asst. Adjutant:	Gaylord Sanneman	
Judge Advocate:	Gerald Hammerschmidt	

Department SAL Committee:	Doug Hensley
Department SAL Committee:	Joseph Hulse
Department SAL Committee:	Dave Warnken
Department Advisor to the Detachment:	Dan Wiley

SAL Kansas District Officers

District 1

Commander: Jeff Kerns blkcldkerns@yahoo.com 785-559-0771 Cell
Vice Commander: Steve Christenberry 785-296-9400
Adjutant: Kevin D Funk kfunk2407@gmail.com 785-554-0193

District 2

Commander: Rick Miller salsquadron153olathe@outlook.com (931) 449-1551
Vice Commander: John Reed jdreed210@gmail.com (913) 206-5857
Adjutant: Troy Shields troyshields1@hotmail.com 913-908-3446

District 3

Commander: Ronnie Rommel ronnie.rommel72@gmail.com 620-660-5828 Cell
Vice Commander: David Williams dc58williams@outlook.com 620-432-1605 Cell
Adjutant: Jimmie Trenary 620-506-7720

District 4

Commander: Open
Vice Commander: Open
Adjutant: Open

District 5

Commander: Dan McDowell djmcdowell84@gmail.com (316) 640-7284

Vice Commander: Dale Theisen szmowing482@gmail.com (316) 832-5139
Adjutant: Mike Saindon mjsaindon@gmail.com (316) 993-6416

District 6

Commander: Kelly Pflughoeft kamep5@yahoo.com 785-531-0857
Vice Commander: Shane Haase 785-810-8185
Adjutant: Kelly Pflughoeft kamep5@yahoo.com 785-531-0857

District 7

Commander: Rick Munsch rdmunsch@gmail.com 785-432-0089 Cell
Vice Commander: Bob Deister deister211@gmail.com 620-727-7642
Adjutant: Chris Krueger

District 8

Commander: Michael Weber spidercreek220@gmail.com 620-430-0651 Cell
Vice Commander: Payton Weber Patyonweber@icloud.com 620-789-1788
Adjutant: Ty Weber tyweber510@gmail.com 980-447-3540

District 9

Commander: Monte Lewis montemegg57@gmail.com 785-269-7224 Cell
Vice Commander: James Vap sjvap@yahoo.com 785-462-3493
Adjutant: Jim Gallentine jim.gallentine@gmail.com 785-874-8727 Cell

District 10

Commander: Mark Wessel mwessel.alr21@gmail.com 785-336-2825 Cell
Vice Commander: Keith Meyerhoff keithwmeyerhoff@gmail.com 785-447-0835
Adjutant: Brett Ohlsen brett.ohlsenbackhoe@yahoo.com 785-336-2811

District 11

Commander: Randy Porter bightmeagain2@yahoo.com 309-642-3161 Cell
Vice Commander: John Trotter johnet3@gmail.com 785-280-1215
Adjutant: Jace Phillips bightmeagain2@yahoo.com 309-642-3161 Cell

**AMERICAN
LEGION**

**FAMILY
HOMECOMING**

HONORING:

**GEORGE HONN – LEGION DEPARTMENT VICE-COMMANDER
KRISTEN HENSLEY – AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT VICE-PRESIDENT
MATTHEW KRUPCO – SAL DETATCHMENT VICE-COMMANDER**

October 12, 2024

11:30am (Immediately following the Eisenhower Pilgrimage)

Greyhound Hall of Fame

407 S Buckeye Ave, Abilene, KS 67410

\$18.00 (RSVP by October 4, 2024)

LUNCHEON MENU:

**Two Beef Bierocks, Cheesy Hashbrowns, Salad, Cookies, & Tea/Water
(If you have dietary restrictions, please let us know and we will try to accommodate you.)**

For additional information or to RSVP, contact: George Honn (913) 731-5172

Use @gthonn to send money via Venmo (include a note with whom the RSVP is for)

-or-

Please Make checks Payable to George Honn and mail to 410 S Walnut St., Paola, KS 66071

-----Please cut and mail -----

Names: _____

Number of Meals _____ **Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$** _____

Post/Unit/Squadron _____

