



SALUTE

A Detachment of Kansas Newsletter

Date: February 2026



Message from the Detachment Commander

HELLO KANSAS SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION!!!

Just like that January's gone., the first month of 2026 in the books. I want to give the Dodge City Legion Family a huge thank you for doing an amazing job hosting Mid-Winter Forum. As always, the food was delicious, and the hospitality was top notch. I will talk a little more about what we learned and what was discussed in next month's SALute.

My family and I love to support local post family events whenever possible, please reach out if you have an event coming up that we can attend. The more family friendly or inviting the better, Byron is really starting to want to be involved with what we are doing these days.



I had the honor of attending the charter presentation of the Lebo Squadron and swearing in their charter officers this past month. It was a well-attended event, thank you to everyone that already has and will continue to contribute to the success of our Detachment's newest squadron. A picture of the charter being presented is below.



For God and Country,
Matthew Krupco
Kansas Detachment Commander

Message from the Detachment Vice Commander

Dear Fellow Sons

2026 stands before us as a powerful year of opportunity for The American Legion in Kansas. It is a time to renew our commitment, strengthen our posts, and inspire the next generation of Legionnaires. Together, we have the chance to grow our membership, elevate our programs, and expand our service to veterans, families, and communities across the Sunflower State.



Kansas Legionnaires have always answered the call—through leadership, service, and unity. This year challenges each of us to step forward, get involved, mentor others, and proudly share the Legion's mission. By working side by side, we can build momentum, honor our legacy, and ensure the American Legion in Kansas remains strong for years to come.

2026 isn't just another year—it's our moment to lead.

We have many programs going on the next few months from Oratoricals, Boy State, Girls State, Cadet Law. Let's reach out to local schools, students, counselors to get involved in these programs.

We also have a GET ONE FOR THE LEGION program. We need all the help from every member to realize our goals in this organization.

Your Vice Commander/membership chairman

Michael Weber
620-430-0651
spidercreek220@gmail

Membership Heroes and Zeroes

First the Cheers, thank you for all the Squadrons that have worked hard and hit at least 90% Membership by the 30 January report:

Two Districts are at 90% or above District 4 is 99.25% and District 10 is at 91.78%

Squadron	City	Percentage			
KS-0044	Holton	92.86	KS-0267	Lucas	97.30
KS-0142	Perry	113.04	KS-0059	McCracken	95.12
KS-0025	Fort Scott	108.33	KS-0069	Medicine Lodge	102.56
KS-0350	Spring Hill	100.00	KS-0241	Geneseo	102.38
KS-0385	Moran	90.63	KS-0047	Dodge City	113.89
KS-0407	Lenexa	92.31	KS-0063	Norton	108.33
KS-0018	Arkansas City	93.24	KS-173	Hays	97.50
KS-0005	Emporia	132.61	KS-0281	Logan	91.67
KS-0013	Yates Center	131.58	KS-0301	Grainfield	100.00
KS-0095	Peabody	91.43	KS-0321	Selden	100.00
KS-0125	Lyndon	127.27	KS-0351	Jennings	100.00
KS-0296	Gridley	90.91	KS-0357	Agra	100.00
KS-0323	Lebo	up and going	KS-0021	Seneca	94.03
KS-0024	McPherson	90.06	KS-0181	Frankfort	96.88
KS-0065	Whitewater	93.33	KS-0235	Greenleaf	102.50
KS-0090	Wellington	106.67	KS-0237	Linn	100.00
KS-0136	Mulvane	92.86	KS-0306	Hanover	100.00
KS-0099	Russell	94.12	KS-0012	Herington	125.00
KS-0109	Natoma	130.00	KS-0032	Alma	94.44
KS-0174	Ellsworth	100.00	KS-0039	Abilene	104.55
KS-0200	Hollyrood	100.00	KS-0121	Council Grove	110.00

And the Goose Eggs, remember if you weren't renewed by December 31st, you aren't a current member and are considered expired by both .

Squadron 94 Leavenworth
Squadron 193 Scandia
Squadron 86 Pratt
Squadron 106 Larned

Remind your members it isn't to late to get renewed, and while you are making those calls make it a BUDDY CHECK, see how they are doing.

Message from the Detachment Adjutant

Greetings, Kansas Sons!



Mid-Winter Forum:

It was great to see all of you that attended the Mid-Winter Forum in Dodge City. Events like these are a great opportunity to see how the American Legion Family operates, move our organization forward and meet fellow patriots from across the Department. Fifteen "Got One For The Legion" shirts were presented to SAL members as well:



Whether you were able to attend Mid-Winter Forum or not, I urge all Sons to attend your District Conventions and Detachment Convention. Our American Legion Family needs your voice!

District Conventions:

Here are when and where each District Convention will be held:

- District 1 - April 11 – Topeka Post 400
- District 2 - March 14 - Gardner Post 19
- District 3 – March 13-15 – Independence Post 139
- District 4 - March 14 – Hillsboro Post 366
- District 5 - March 21 - McPherson Post 24
- District 6 - April 25 - Concordia Post 76
- District 7 - March 21 - Great Bend Post 180
- District 8 – April 18 - Location TBD
- District 9 – April 18 – Bird City Post 352
- District 10 - April 25 – Frankfort Post 181
- District 11 – April 11 – Abilene Post 39

Grassroots Support:

This month, the American Legion is urging all to once again contact your elected representatives to pass The Major Richard Star Act. This legislation would ensure that combat-injured retirees can receive both

their Department of Defense retirement pay and the disability compensation earned through their sacrifices.

The American Legion appreciates all the emails you have sent so far.

Go to the [Action Center](#) to quickly email a letter of support to your members of Congress and let's maintain Kansas' nationwide lead in contacting our elected representatives.

Once again, Kansas led the way in contacting our elected representatives in Congress!:

TOP GRASSROOTS DEPARTMENTS

Kansas	211
Wisconsin	200
Tennessee	188
Florida	117
New York	110

Upcoming events:

- Department Oratorical Contest - 7 Mar 2026 - Post 4 Wichita
- National Commander's In-state Homecoming - 28 March 2026 - Post 153 Olathe
- District 1 Convention – 11 April - Topeka Post 400
- District 2 Convention – 14 March - Gardner Post 19
- District 3 Convention – 13-15 March - Independence Post 139
- District 4 Convention – 14 March - Hillsboro Post 366
- District 5 Convention – 21 March - McPherson Post 24
- District 6 Convention - 25 April- Concordia Post 76
- District 7 Convention – 21 March - Great Bend Post 180
- District 8 Convention – 18 April - Location TBD
- District 9 Convention – 18 April - Bird City Post 352
- District 10 Convention – 25 April - Frankfort Post 181
- District 11 Convention – 11 April - Abilene Post 39
- Department Convention - 29-31 May 2026 - Topeka Ramada
- Kansas American Legion Leadership College - 5-7 Jun 2026 - Concordia
- Kansas Legacy Run - 12-14 June 2026

Thanks for all you do and remember to **Be The One!**

Chris Krueger
Detachment Adjutant

Message from Finance Officer Michael Saindon,

Detachment of Kansas Members

Time is running out, and this scholarship opportunity is still within reach. There are only a few days left to submit the information needed, and everything must be turned in to the department by **February 15**. If you're feeling behind or overwhelmed, don't give up—it's not too late. This is your chance, and taking a few moments now to complete and submit the application could make a real difference. Don't let this opportunity pass you by.



Application can be downloaded from <https://salkansas.org/resources>

HOW TO APPLY 1. Applications must be received in The American Legion Headquarters, 1314 Topeka Ave., Topeka, KS 66612, by February 15. 2. All requested support documents and information in a single envelope deliverable by USPS. 3. Copy of current membership card in the Kansas Sons of the American Legion or Adjutant's certification.

Please share this information!

Mike Saindon

Scholarship Charman

Message from Rick Miller, SALute Editor

Find out when reports are due and copies to fill out at <https://salkansas.org/>.

As we are getting closer to the end of the membership year start reaching out and making sure all of your members you haven't seen in a while are doing okay.

It is also time for house cleaning, make sure you are gathering up all your accomplishments and stats to fill out the Consolidated Squadron Report, then make sure you share those numbers with the Post for their report.

And most of all start planning for the coming year. It is going to be HUGE this year was we have so many events this spring and summer:

- March 15th – American Legion Birthday
- May 25th – Memorial Day
- June 14th – Flag Day
- July 4th – 250th Birthday of the United States
- September 7th – Labor Day
- September 15th – SAL Birthday

Sons of The American Legion



Detachment of Kansas Scholarship Program

**Scan QR Codes Below To See If
You Are Eligible**

**"Udie" Grant
\$1000 Scholarship**



**Jay B. Thielen
\$500 Scholarship**





NEXT MEETING NOVEMBER 18TH

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

NOVEMBER 2025

NEXT TARGET DATE-NOVEMBER 13TH-35%

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

ABC EASY AS **123** MEMBERSHIP

1. Recruit one new member to The American Legion (Get a "I got One" shirt)
2. Recruit one new member and renew one member to the SAL. (two total) (Get our eternal gratitude!)

3. Sign up 3 for the Legion, 3 for the AL Auxiliary, 3 for the SAL (9 total) (Get a Family Three Pin)

Sons of The American Legion 2014-2025 Accomplishments				Consolidated Report Summary Published July 22, 2021
National Overall Totals				
Delegates Delegated	\$11,008,205			\$118,980,367
Delegates Transferred	7,380,011			83,010,444
Value of Other Val. Assets	\$34,79			\$40,510,114
Volunteer Hours Valued	\$0,000,000,000			\$14,500,000
Total Value/Hours Valued	\$11,008,205			\$190,494,781
PLAR				
Americanism	\$5,379,358	0,170,362	\$118,980,367	
Children & Youth	\$1,670,801	116,904	\$118,980,367	
Vets Affairs & Welfare	\$2,774,325	149,853	\$118,980,367	
Vets Empathy & Ctrts	\$1,040,000	72,307	\$118,980,367	
Total Volunteering	\$2,440,652	141,613	\$118,980,367	
Children and Youth				
SPY	\$47,140	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Special Olympics	1,127,817	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Children's Miracle Netw.	\$4,250	0,000	\$118,980,367	
McDonald's	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
McDonald's	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Domestic Open	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Domestic Open	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
YAF-Vets & Child Fund	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Other GOF Projects	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation				
WARD & Building	\$40,210	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Post New Building	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Post New Building	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Op. Center	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Other Areas	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Other Areas	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Other YAF	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Other YAF	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Other YAF	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Other YAF	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Group & Family Support	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	
Veterans Empowerment and Education				
Other Projects	\$10,000	0,000	\$118,980,367	

INDIVIDUAL RECRUITMENT AWARD (IRA)



EARN THE INDIVIDUAL RECRUITMENT AWARD AND PROUDLY DISPLAY YOUR IRA PIN ON YOUR COVER BY RECRUITING FIVE NEW MEMBERS!

VERIFICATION FORMS CAN BE FOUND BY VISITING LEGION.ORG/SONS (PUBLICATIONS & FORMS)

[CLICK HERE](#)

RENEW NOW!

2025 MEMBERSHIP
CARDS EXPIRE
DECEMBER 31ST!

SCAN
ME

LEGION.ORG/SAL-RENEW

The Sons of the American Legion,
Detachment of Kansas introduces a new program
that will benefit the entire Legion family!



Get One For The Legion!

This program rewards Sons of the American Legion members for doing the work and supporting the American Legion, while the Legion gets the new members and continues to grow their membership and stay alive and active. *And the whole American Legion Family benefits:* Every time the Legion gains a new member, chances are there are family members that are eligible to join the Auxiliary, Sons, Riders and Cruisers.

How it works: Any SAL member (regular, dual, or triple) that recruits a NEW legion member gets a polo shirt courtesy of the Detachment of Kansas. The detachment pays for the shirts and the embroidery. On one side of the shirt, it is embroidered with "Got One For The Legion Family" and on the other side it is embroidered with the SAL logo/emblem. The shirts were designated to be a bright neon color for two reasons: 1) When you know the program and see someone wearing the shirt, you know they signed up a new legion member 2) It is a great conversation starter for people unaware of the program. The shirt color will change each year, but will be a bright color to draw attention to the program.

Go to <https://salkansas.org> to download the submission form!





Get One For The Legion Submission Form



Recruiting SAL Member Name:		Membership ID #:	
Squadron #		Squadron City:	
Recruiting SAL Member Mailing Address:		Polo shirt size: S-5XL	

New Legion Member Name:		Address:	
Phone:		Email:	
Date Member was signed up:		New Membership ID#:	
Post City:		Post #	
Post Adjutant Approval - Name:		Post Adjutant Membership ID#:	
Signature:		Date:	

Detachment Adjutant signature:		Date:	
--------------------------------	--	-------	--

Email to det.adj.ks@gmail.com (preferred) or print and mail to Get One for the Legion, c/o Argonne Post 180, Box 721, Great Bend, KS 67530