



SALUTE

A Detachment of Kansas Newsletter

Date: March 2025



Message from the Detachment Commander

Greetings Kansas Sons of the American Legion!

This is a busy time of year with district conventions just around the corner. As we go about our work, always remember what we are all about. The American Legion Four Pillars gives focus to our great organization - Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. We are strong when the entire American Legion family works together for our common principles!

Buddy Checks and Be The One are so very important. Have you called someone today? Have you followed up on a member that may need someone to talk to? We are family, and heart-felt phone call could make a big difference in someone's life. **You** can Be The One who makes that difference!

This month's SALute has many great articles from our SAL leadership. Please take time to check out this month's publication!

Jim Gallentine

Detachment of Kansas Commander



Message from the Detachment Vice Commander

HELLO KANSAS SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION!!!!

It is hard to believe that it is February 28th and I have all the windows open in my house. Especially when it was -12 a little over a week ago.

National's Squadron Commander of the Year award entry deadline is approaching fast. The requirements of this prestigious award are the following:



- Be a member in good standing.
- Hold the office of Squadron Commander at the time of nomination
- Demonstrate Leadership through action and involvement in squadron activities that benefit his community.
- Must obtain 100% squadron membership or better by March 15th (American Legion Birthday)

If you feel your Squadron Commander meets these requirements, please email the following information to the Detachment Adjutant at det.adj.ks@gmail.com no later than March 20th to be considered for the Kansas Nomination for the National award.

- Nominee Name, contact information, member ID, and cover size
- Squadron Name and number
- Number of events participated in, total volunteer hours, total money raised/donated by the commander while participating in the squadron activities that benefit your community requirement.
- A description of the activities (who, what, when, where) include pictures

It has been a while since Kansas has been able to nominate a Commander for this award, I hope we can change that this year.

The next National Membership goal is 80% by March 12th. Kansas is at 80% on February 28! I know you are all still working on membership, don't give up, you are all doing an amazing job! It would be fantastic if all our squadrons were on the list below!

Congratulations to the following squadrons for reaching 100% membership!

Atchison #6

Perry #142

Silver Lake #160

Fort Scott #25

Kansas City #213

Blue Mound #279

Cherokee #35	Lyndon #125	Whitewater #65
Marquette #253	Derby-Haysville #408	Kensington #166
Ellsworth #174	Dorrance #334	McCracken #59
Medicine Lodge #69	Burdett #280	Hoisington #286
Garden City #9	Dodge City #47	Sublette #205
Frankfort #181	Linn #237	

Remember the 2025 membership drive continues until the end of June. We still have time to reach out to those members that haven't renewed, No Member Left Behind! Don't sit on new members, sign them up today for 2025, just let them know that the 2026 membership drive will start in July and ask them to renew early for their second continuous year.

Your Detachment Vice-Commander

Matthew Krupco

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Message from the Detachment Adjutant

Greetings, Kansas Sons!

Supporting American Legion Family Day

The American Legion National Executive Committee passed [Resolution No. 7, American Legion Family Day](#) at its Fall Meeting in October 2022. The resolution established an American Legion Family Day to be observed annually on the last Saturday of April.

This year for Legion Family Day on April 26, posts are encouraged to open their doors to members of their community for the day to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Legionnaires, Sons of The American Legion members, Legion Riders and American Legion Auxiliary, and to bring awareness to the organization's ["Be the One" initiative](#) to reduce the rate of veteran suicide.



I'm extremely proud of my home Argonne Post 180 for hosting its first Family Day last year. We hosted the public from 10-2 and offered many fun activities for children, including face painting, balloon animals and treats. The Great Bend Police and Fire Departments were in attendance to provide Ident-A-Kid packets for parents. Lunch was provided for attendees, and information on a wide variety of American Legion, Auxiliary and SAL programs such as Cadet Law, Boys/Girls State, Oratorical, and Flag Etiquette. Information on membership in the American Legion Family was provided as well.

We look forward to hosting our 2nd Annual Family Day on April 26, 2025. I encourage all of you to consider hosting one at your post as well. I'd be happy to share what we're doing!

Did you know?

Breaking The Colors:

Once the colors are posted and the meeting starts, there is an invisible line that exists between the two flags at either end of the Commander's table. No one or thing can pass over this line out of respect. This invisible line is "Hallowed Ground." During a meeting, you should not step between or pass things across this area for any reason. The area between the two flags is considered a symbol of the ones who fell in fighting for our sacred cause. *(Adapted from the Feb 2025 Millenium, which is available for download at <https://salkansas.org>.)*

Thanks for all you do!

Chris Krueger

Detachment Adjutant

Thank you for all you do to support the Legion and Sons programs for each of the four pillars. This issue I will try to highlight the pillar of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. Some of your Legion Family went to Washington DC to speak to our national legislators about this very topic. The Legion and the Sons have spearheaded the GI Bill, the Pact Act and other incredible initiatives in the past. We can't stop as every veteran deserves to be given the services some of them so desperately need. You can "Be the One" and reach out to a veteran in need, you can volunteer at one of our great VA hospitals or clinics across the state, and I am sure your posts and squadrons have a number of other ways to help those who have borne the battle.

Let your voice be heard on veterans initiatives as well. Go to <https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>, sign up and you can receive information on how to contact your legislators and advocate for change today.

Rick Miller

UPCOMING EVENTS or Deadlines

15 Mar 25 – Department Oratorical Contest Topeka Post 400

31 Mar 25 Due date for Cadet Law Applications

30 Apr 25 Due date for Boys State Applications

30 May-1 Jun 25 Department/Detachment Convention

6 Jun-9 Jun 25 Kansas ALLC

District Conventions

District I

Atchison Post 6, April 5

District II

Overland Park Post 370, March 22

District III

Arkansas City Post 18, March 21-23

District IV

Emporia Post 5, March 22

District V

McPherson Post 24, March 29

District VI

Russell Post 99, March 26

District VII

Ellenwood Post 320, March 30

District VIII

Dodge City Post 47, April 12

District IX

Hays Post 173, April 12

District X

Seneca Post 21, April 26

District XI

Manhattan Post 17, April 5