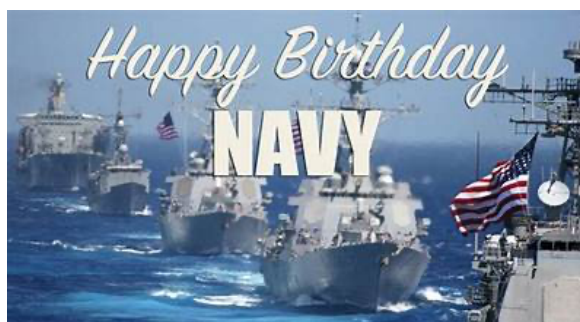




SALUTE

A Detachment of Kansas Newsletter

Date: October 2025



Message from the Detachment Commander

HELLO KANSAS SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION!!!

It's always important to give praise where praise is due. I want to say thank you to all those that helped with the State Fair booth, unfortunately I could not help this year due to work commitments. I did get to attend the Membership workshop in Lindsborg, this is the first year the event was opened up to the Auxiliary and SAL and I hope this tradition continues. Everyone I spoke to felt it was a worthwhile event, thank you to all those that organized and attended, as National Commander Dan Wiley would say we are truly "Better Together."



The Four Pillars are the heart and soul, the past, the present, and hopefully the future of the American legion; they are a passion for every active member that I know. Do you advocate for "Be The One?" If you do, you are supporting VA&R. Do you contact your local, state, and National Legislators about the needs of today's military? If so, then you are doing the good work of National Security. Do you go to your local schools and teach Flag etiquette? That is in support of Americanism. Is your post hosting a school supply drive? You are working under the Children and Youth pillar. These are some great examples of the Four pillars, but just the tip of the iceberg. I'm going to focus on two of the four pillars in this article, Children and Youth and Americanism.

Did you know the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Kansas gives 50 cents per member to the Child Wellbeing Foundation (CWF) formally Child Welfare Foundation per our constitution and bylaws?

With nearly 6000 members that makes a great contribution. Did you know that Nationally, The Sons of the American Legion has been the largest contributor to CWF with over 10 million dollars since 1988? Many Legionnaires are also eligible to belong to the Sons, are the eligible members of your sponsoring post dual members? If not please talk with them about becoming an SAL member, I would love to see this contribution grow and this is just one way to make that happen. CWF has granted over \$21 million to youth-serving nonprofits across the nation since 1954, all thanks to the generosity of the Legion family and our supporters.

Every year the Detachment Commander chooses a Commander's project to raise funds for and support. This year I decided to keep it in state and assist the Kansas Cadet Law program. Cadet Law is an amazing program co-sponsored by the Kansas Highway Patrol for high school juniors and seniors. I am challenging each Squadron, each District and the Detachment to contribute \$1 per member, which totals \$3 per member. I know this is a lofty goal, I'm hoping that this challenge will not just raise money for Cadet Law but incite members to get interested at a higher level than Squadron. If you're interested in contributing to this program, please send your checks to the Detachment of Kansas write "Commander's Project" in the memo line, and mail to the Detachment Finance Officer Mike Saindon, 312 E. Tall Tree Rd, Derby, KS 67037.

In closing, thank you for your service to this great nation through the Sons of American Legion. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Detachment Commander. We can accomplish so much more when we work together, thank you for that opportunity.

For God and Country,

Matthew Krupco

Kansas Detachment Commander

Message from the Detachment Vice Commander

Kansas Detachment Sons of The American Legion – Membership Update

As of October, our Kansas Detachment membership stands at **29.36%**, with **1,574 members renewed** and **197 new members** already on board. We're proud to report that we've **surpassed the 25% membership target** set for this period for the 2025–2026 year!

Let's keep up the momentum and continue this strong start. Your dedication and efforts are making a real difference — thank you for all you do!

Keep up the great work, Kansas SAL!

October 2025 Upcoming Events – Kansas Detachment SAL

We've got two important events this month—mark your calendars and come show your support!



Eisenhower Pilgrimage

 Date: October 15, 2025

 Location: Eisenhower Presidential Library, Abilene, KS

Join us as we honor General Dwight D. Eisenhower with our annual pilgrimage — a proud tradition of remembrance and respect.

Department Vice Commander's Homecoming

 Date: October 15, 2025

 Location: Greyhound Hall of Fame Museum, Abilene, KS

Celebrate and recognize the service of our Department Vice Commander. Fellowship, reflection, and camaraderie await — don't miss it!

Detachment Vice Commander

Michael Weber

620-430-0651

spidercreek220@gmail.com

Message from the Detachment Adjutant

Greetings, Kansas Sons!

On 24 Sep Brenda and I attended National Commander Dan K Wiley's visit to Hutchinson Post 68 to conclude his official visit to home state of Kansas. Over 50 members of the Kansas American Legion Family attended and enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by the Post 68 staff.



In his remarks Commander Wiley mentioned three topics that we all should be committed to:

- For all of us to continue our commitment to Be The One:
 - Today, the No. 1 issue facing the veteran community is suicide. The mission of The American Legion's Be The One initiative is to reduce the rate of veteran suicide. We're actively working on lessening the stigma associated with mental health treatment and empowering everyone to take appropriate action when a veteran or service member may be at risk — one life at a time.
 - Whether you're a veteran or the friend or family member of a veteran, you can **Be The One** by going to legion.org/BeTheOne.
- Signing up for the USA250 Challenge at legion.org/usa250. The American Legion is honoring the nation's 250th birthday with a commitment to embracing physical activity, supporting mental health and serving its communities. The **USA 250 Challenge** encourages American Legion Family members, other veterans and all Americans to participate, and even raise additional money to support our disabled veterans and families in need through The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation.
 - The year-long initiative offers three categories — fitness, mental wellness and community service — in order to engage more American Legion Family members and others to participate.

- Participants may engage in one, two or all three activities as an individual or as part of a team like an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit, Sons of The American Legion squadron and/or an American Legion Riders/Cruisers chapter.
- Redoubling our efforts to get the **Major Richard Star Act** passed. Here's more information on the Act:
 - **The American Legion strongly supports the latest effort to eliminate the unjust offset that penalizes thousands of combat-injured veterans.** On July 22, a critical step was taken when Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Mike Crapo (R-Idaho), and Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) announced their intent to file the text of the *Major Richard Star Act* as an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2026 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).
 - This long-overdue reform—backed by The American Legion and more than 60 other military and veteran organizations—would ensure that combat-injured retirees can receive both their Department of Defense retirement pay and the disability compensation earned through their sacrifices. Current law reduces retirement pay by the exact amount of VA disability compensation received, a policy that punishes wounded veterans for their service and injury. We call this what it is: a “wounded veteran tax,” and it must end.
 - As of July 22, 2025 the amendment had already secured 31 Senate sponsors. The standalone bill has overwhelming bipartisan support, with 294 cosponsors in the House and 76 in the Senate—more than enough to pass if brought to a floor vote.
 - The American Legion urges Congress to do right by our nation's combat-wounded heroes and pass this amendment without delay. These veterans have already paid more than their fair share.
 - You can visit legion.org/action to help support this vital legislation. Commander Wiley noted that Kansas was 2nd in the nation in emails sent to their legislators through VoterVoice – so keep up the good work and encourage others to join us!

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

Chris Krueger

Detachment Adjutant

Message from Master at Arms Jeff Kerns

Greetings,

Just a reminder of our "Get One for the Legion "program. Brought to you from Terry Harris. As an S.A.L. member if you recruit an eligible American Legion member to the legion, you will get a free colorful polo. The detachment is selling hat pins with run Toto run to help raise money to buy these polos. So don't forget to get your stylish pen for your hat or jacket and help make a difference, by adding another member for the Legion! Thanks for all you do.

Detachment Master at Arms

Jeff Kerns

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:	
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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