



SALUTE

A Detachment of Kansas Newsletter

Date: February 2025



Message from the Detachment Commander

Greetings Kansas Sons of the American Legion!

Will you Be The One?

SAL National Commander Joseph Navarrete has stated that it our most sacred responsibility to look out for each other and our fellow veterans. I agree and support this 100%.

The mission of the Be the One initiative is to reduce the rate of veteran suicide. This program is 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.

There is a wealth of resources for the Be the One program. Take a look at these websites:

<https://www.legion.org/advocacy/be-the-one>

<https://www.legion.org/advocacy/be-the-one/about-be-the-one>



Will you Be The One? It's as simple as a phone call. Make a phone call **today** and make a difference in someone's life.

Jim Gallentine

Detachment of Kansas Commander

Message from the Detachment Vice Commander

HELLO KANSAS SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION!!!!

Did you know that the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation that was started in 1954 has had a name change? It is now the American Legion Child Well-being Foundation. This was done to reflect the foundation's purpose of meeting the overall needs of the whole child including their physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Since 1988 the Sons of the American Legion have donated over 10 million dollars and are the largest donor to the foundation. A squadron making a donation to this worthwhile foundation of a dollar per member will qualify them to earn a CWF per capita banner and it they meet one of four requirements of the "Four Pillar Squadron" challenge. The CWF per capita Banner Order Form 2024-2025 is included in this SALute for your convenience.



The next National Membership goal is 75% by February 12th. Kansas is at 72% and seems to have slowed down with our transmittals. I know you are all still working on membership, don't give up, instead keep up the good work. It would be fantastic if all our squadrons were on the list below!

Congratulations to the following squadrons for reaching 100% membership!

Fort Scott #25	Kansas City #213	Blue Mound #279
Cherokee #35	Lyndon #125	Whitewater #65
Derby-Haysville #408	Ellsworth #174	Dorrance #334
McCraken #59	Medicine Lodge #69	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, remember, 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

620-224-7355

mwksal@outlook.com

Message from the Detachment Adjutant

Greetings, Kansas Sons!

Squadron Data Reports

This is an annual form that must be submitted to National. It ensures that your Squadron will receive its share of a member's dues when they renew online. The form has an April 15 deadline at National. The SDR form will be sent to your home post soon and is customized for your Squadron. It can be mailed to National at:

THE AMERICAN LEGION

ATTN: IT/MEMBER SUPPORT SERVICES

P.O. BOX 1954

INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206

It can also be scanned and emailed to National at PostSqdnUpdates@legion.org

Instructions for completing the form can be found on the SAL Kansas website at this [link](#).



Current Legislation to support:

With a new administration and a new Congress in Washington, there is a renewed opportunity for the American Legion Family to have an impact on pending legislation that benefits our Veterans and Active Duty military. You can play a valuable part in this effort by contacting your elected representatives via VoterVoice. You can sign up for VoterVoice alerts [here](#).

Major Richard Star Act:

We need your support to ensure the Major Richard Star Act has support in the House and Senate!

Currently, combat-injured veterans face a reduction in their retirement pay for every dollar of disability compensation they receive. The Major Richard Star Act aims to rectify this by allowing combat-injured veterans to receive both their earned retirement pay and disability compensation without offset.

Your action in advancing this crucial legislation is essential and greatly appreciated. Contact your legislator today!

Thanks for all you do!

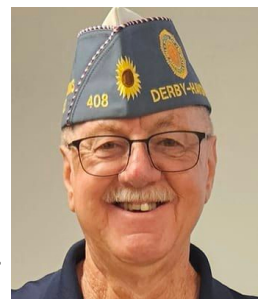
Chris Krueger

Detachment Adjutant

Message from the Detachment Finance Officer**S.A.L. Detachment of Kansas Scholarships**

Did you know every year the Detachment of Kansas gives out 5, five hundred dollars scholarships and 1, one thousand dollars scholarships.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? 1. The applicant should be an average or better student scholastically. 2. High School seniors, undergraduate college students, and adults holding High School Diplomas and/or College credits who are enrolled or intend to enroll in an approved Junior College, College, University or Trade School located in the state of Kansas will be considered. 3. The applicant must be the son, daughter, grandson, or granddaughter of a member of the Kansas Sons of the American Legion or a member of the Kansas Sons of the American Legion for the past three (3) consecutive years. (Please attach copy of current year's membership card of the member from whom eligibility is derived.) SAL member who is a US citizen is eligible to apply. 4. The applicant may obtain eligibility through a deceased member whose membership was paid up in The Sons of the American Legion in the year of death. (Please attach certification from Squadron Adjutant.)



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 supporting documents and information in a single envelope deliverable by the USPS. 3. Copy of current membership card in the Kansas Sons of the American Legion or Adjutant's certification.

Please share this information!

2024-2025 Legislative Committees

January 15, 2025 Michael Saindon of the Sons of the American Legion attended Governor Laura Kelly's State of the State speech and met with Kansas Legislators to discuss the upcoming session. The purpose of the meeting was to emphasize to the legislators the items that are very important to our veterans.

You need to get to know your state representative, find your state representative at:

https://kslegislature.gov/li/b2025_26/chamber/house/roster/

Mike Saindon

Scholarship Charman

Programs of The American Legion

Veteran Homeless Outreach

The American Legion supports the efforts of public and private sector agencies and organizations that aid homeless veterans and their families. Additionally, the Legion supports legislative proposals to provide medical, rehabilitative and employment assistance to homeless veterans and their families.

The Legion recognizes that aiding homeless veterans requires a sustained coordinated effort, which should provide secure housing and nutritious meals; essential physical health care, substance abuse aftercare and mental-health counseling; as well as personal development and empowerment. Homeless veterans also need job assessment, training and placement assistance. The ultimate goal is total self-management for the homeless veteran.

The American Legion has stepped up its support for homeless veterans, coordinating a [Homeless Veterans Task Force](#) among its departments to augment homeless service providers and fill in the gaps where no assistance programs are available. All departments have a Homeless Veterans Task Force chairperson and an Employment chairperson who are capable of providing assistance to any homeless or financially destitute veteran who contacts them. The

two chairpersons also can coordinate activities with posts in their departments to aid homeless veterans and their families and prevent future homelessness among veterans.

For all inquiries on veteran homelessness and Legion outreach efforts, contact:

Veterans Employment and Education Division

[Send E-mail\(Opens in a new window\)](#)

(202) 263-2996

Your Kansas Contact is the following:

Kansas

Pat Culver

pculver2@swbell.net

Thank you for all you do to support the Legion and Sons programs for each of the four pillars. In the next four issues I will try to highlight one of the pillars. This month is National Security. Michael Saindon let us know how important it is to get to know your Kansas Delegates, but the American Legion is also strongly involved with our politicians in Washington DC as well. This month a contingent will be going to talk to our representatives and senators from across the country about issues that affect our service members, veterans and national security at large. You don't have to make that flight to help.

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 Feb 25 Due date for most Department or Detachment Scholarships

<https://kansaslegion.org/scholarships>

February District Oratorical Contests check <https://kansaslegion.org/201-2>

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