

## American Legion turns 105 on March 15

The American Legion | March 4, 2024



The American Legion is turning 105 on Friday, March 15 – the day in 1919 when the first American Legion caucus, held by members of the American Expeditionary Force, convened in Paris.

Each year, Legion posts across the country hold events – public, private or both – to commemorate this anniversary. Posts are encouraged to upload recaps and photos of their birthday celebrations (and other community activities) to [legiontown.org](https://legiontown.org).

A 105th birthday speech has been drafted by the Legion's Media and Communications staff as a way for Legionnaires to emphasize what the

Legion represents, both to themselves and to the community at large. They are not meant to be recited verbatim; members are encouraged to amend them to taste and audience. The speech can be downloaded [here](#).

As The American Legion prepares to celebrate its birthday, a perfect way to celebrate is to make Buddy Checks. The American Legion's Buddy Check program initially started for posts to conduct them twice a year – the week of American Legion Birthday and Veterans Day. Since the program has demonstrated success, posts conduct them year-round.

Buddy Checks are an opportunity to ask your members and other veterans about their wellbeing and how the post can support them. To get started, check out [the resources available](#) to assist in performing Buddy Checks, or download our toolkit [here](#). And share your Buddy Check stories on [legiontown.org](https://legiontown.org).

# Round-Up

**Donald "JR" Hall, Jr. (MD)** National Commander  
**Robert L. Bristo (MN)** Central National Vice-Commander  
**John R. Cook (NH)** Northeast National Vice-Commander  
**Terry A. Harris (KS)** Midwest National Vice-Commander  
**Linwood A. Moore (VA)** Southeast National Vice-Commander  
**James R. Fischer (CA)** Western National Vice-Commander

**Christopher Carlton (IN)**  
Immediate Past National Commander

**Joseph Navarrete (NM)**  
Leading Candidate for National Commander

**William Clancy III (NY)**  
Trailing Candidate for National Commander

*Round-Up* is a publication designed to disseminate information related to Sons of The American Legion and the American Legion Family and is published weekly and distributed each Sunday.

*Round-Up* is a collection of information procured from various resources to stay better informed on happenings within The American Legion Family, and of other related topics of interest, and makes no claims or guarantees about the accuracy or currency of the contents of this publication, and expressly disclaims liability for errors and omissions.

**SUBMITTING ARTICLES:** All submissions are to be made electronically to [jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com](mailto:jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com). If you need assistance, please send an email to same.

**All information must be submitted by noon each Friday.**

[PNVC Jeff Vrabel, Sr.](#), Editor  
[Rusty Myers](#), Contributor  
[Lou Michaels](#), Contributor

**FOLLOW US:**



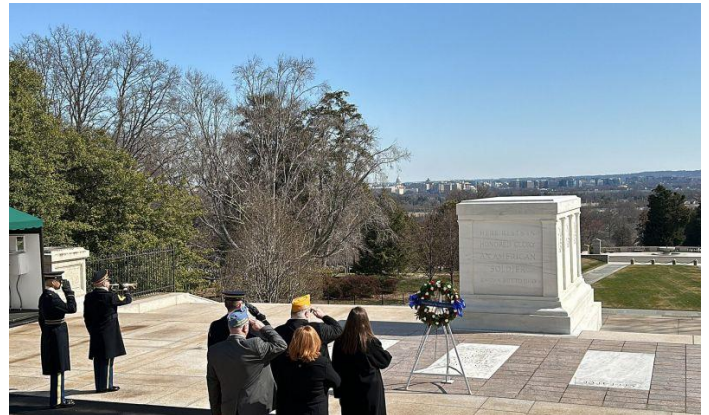
## Donald "JR" Hall, Jr.

National Commander

### A time of honoring and reflection

March, 2024

As we gathered in the lobby of the Washington Hilton with all the wreaths [for the many detachments to lay at the memorials in honor of their family's service](#), I asked that everyone remember their "Why" and reflect on why they are a Son and who their membership honors. Then we left as a group of over 180 to pay tribute as a Legion Family together.



As I sat by myself briefly to gather my thoughts at the Tomb of The Unknown Soldier, before laying our wreath to represent the Sons of The American Legion and my grandfather's service, my thought was, "What an honor to represent my family and our organization." I was so honored to share this with my wife Margie by my side and friends sharing the special moment; I cannot explain that feeling. To be there and honor the service of so many of our men and women that sacrificed for our country. I ask myself, what made me worthy of such a great act? I can't answer that question, but I will thank every member of the Sons that helped me get to this position.

This day was not a day to go through the motions, but a day to remember why we do this every year. Honoring our families, our country's patriots and heroes is exactly why we are there, and why we come back every year to reflect and be thankful for all that our armed forces have done to make America the great country it is today.

The many wreaths that were placed at the Vietnam, Korean and World War II memorials were all symbols of a Legion Family that appreciates and remembers the service and sacrifices made by so many. What a

proud moment to lead our group carrying wreaths through many that watched and wondered why. Those that watched and listened to us pray, reflect, and give thanks might have learned something. We hope they understand that the Sons of The American Legion and the entire Legion Family still honor and respect our country's heroes.

We must never forget all the conflicts and wars that made us who we are.

We must continue to honor and remember the sacrifices of so many.

Never forget your why, and always represent your why.

God Bless The USA!

Representing More Than Me,

*Donald L. "JR" Hall Jr., National Commander  
Sons of The American Legion*



## From the Editor

Believe it or not, the National Executive Committee Spring meetings are only a few short weeks away. Between now and then, there are two national membership target dates: March 13 (80%) and April 10 (90%).

What will your detachment's totals be on April 11? Will you have met these two goals? Will anyone else be quota? I think that there will be many that hit the target, and I am very confident that we will have a good number of quota detachments. And it's all because of YOUR hard work. Keep it up!

Don't forget if you want to have something included in this newsletter, just send it to me, and it will be

published. If you send pictures, please identify the event and who is in the pictures.

Thanks for your continued support!

**Honor the Veteran Who Made You Eligible.**

**RENEW TODAY!**

Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor

[jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com](mailto:jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com) | [Team Vrabel](#)

click a button below for more information



## Robert L. Bristo

Central National Vice-Commander

REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

Second Wednesday Quarterly

September 13, 2023 | December 13, 2023

March 13, 2024 | June 12, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 930 6046 3298 | Passcode: 140 802

Hey Central Region!



As we prepare to "Spring Forward" an hour this evening, I would like you to pay special attention to SAL National Commander Hall's message. He asks each of us to remember and reflect on our "Why?" Why we

joined, Why we do what we do, and Why it matters. As you go back through our SAL history you see the "Whys" over and over again. At the 38th SAL National Convention held in Louisville in 2009, Past SAL National Commander Tommie Cisna served

under a slogan of **“SONS - Serving Our Nations Soldiers!”** One of Tommie's guests at that convention was the 2009 Miss America Katie Stam who herself had a slogan of **“Passion for Service”** to show that volunteering is something that anybody can do. That year the Sons exceeded the \$4 Million dollar mark in fundraising for the CWF and donated \$1,245,504 in cash and 252,055 in services under VA & R alone. Yet another **“Why”** for the SAL as we finished that year with another record high in membership reaching 335,848 members!

**“You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending!” - C. S. Lewis**

My friends, we are still moving forward having approved 1.48% since my last report, but things are slowing down. Yes, we are at 88.39% as a region, and yes that is only 11.61% away from 100% but we need to finish what we started! **Just because it is taking time doesn't mean it's not happening!** We can do this! Just remember it is astonishing how long it takes to finish something you are not always working on! **Robin Sharma, author, and leadership expert said “Sarting is good. Finishing strong is Epic!”** We need to push on and finish strong! **We will Be EPIC!**

Attached you will also find new and revised Blue Brigade and Recruiter of the year forms. Please continue to send in those IRA forms as well!

Now for our numbers...

We currently stand at 114,653 members, a mere 15,058 members away from our goal! **The largest gain in this report belongs to the Detachment of West Virginia who posted a 5.55% increase pushing them into the 80% category with 48 other Detachments in the country.** Minnesota climbed up 2.69% followed by Indiana (1.42%), Ohio (1.41%), Wisconsin (1.34%) and Michigan (1.16%). The region was closed out with Illinois gaining .88% and Kentucky with .58%!

We are back in 2nd place in the region just 1.67% behind the Southeast Region and in a constant tug-of-war ahead of the Northeast Region by .11% and the Midwest Region by 1.32%!

**So, let's go, Central Region!** We need to turn the next page and continue to move forward toward our goal! **We need to be sure our name is placed in this year's book of success!** Remember we cannot

start the next chapter of our mission if we keep re-reading the last one!

**“I'm the ONE, You're the ONE, BE the ONE!”**

For the Commander, **“Believe and Succeed”**

*Butch Ray, Central Region Membership Chairman*

---

## John R. Cook

Northeast National Vice-Commander

---

REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

THIRD Wednesday Quarterly

September 20, 2023 | December 20, 2023

March 20, 2024 | June 19, 2024

7:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 980 7046 7820 | Passcode: 469 153

---

## James R. Fischer

Western National Vice-Commander

---

REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

THIRD Wednesday Quarterly

September 20, 2023 | December 20, 2023

March 20, 2024 | June 19, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 964 2285 1563 | Passcode: 433 552

What's up Westside?

Membership empowers individuals to make a difference, to have an impact on their community and the world. Just want to thank you all for making difference and lets push membership so we can make a huge impact!

It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed. Thanks again for everything you do for this great organization.

For God and Country,

*Dan Ashley,*

*Western Region Membership Chairman*

---

## Terry A. Harris

Midwest National Vice-Commander

---

### REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

Fourth Wednesday Quarterly

September 27, 2023 | December 27, 2023

March 27, 2024 | June 26, 2024

7:00 p.m. Mountain | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 924 0402 2733 | Passcode: 371 685

---

## Linwood A. Moore

Southeast National Vice-Commander

---

### REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

First Wednesday Quarterly

September 6, 2023 | December 6, 2023

March 6, 2024 | June 5, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 945 1723 1230 | Passcode: 58543

---

We are over the 80% mark by 6.82% two weeks early.  
Let's keep up the great work everyone.

# BE THE ONE

If you're a veteran in crisis or concerned about one, contact the Veterans Crisis Line to receive 24/7 confidential support. Dial 988 then Press 1, chat online at [VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat](https://VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat) or text 838255.

---

## National Commissions and Committees

---

Chairmen wishing to have reports published should email them to [jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com](mailto:jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com) to be included. All meeting information subject to change.

---

---

## Americanism Commission

---

Chris Casey, Chairman

Third Monday Bi-Monthly

October 16, 2023 | December 18, 2023

February 19, 2024 | April 15, 2024

June 17, 2024 | August 19, 2024

7:30 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 935 4066 0918 | Passcode: 571 659

---

## Century Committee

---

Joe Gladden, Chairman

Second Tuesday Bi-Monthly

October 10, 2023 | December 12, 2023

March 13, 2024 | April 9, 2024

June 11, 2024 | August 13, 2024

7:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 919 4714 3789 | Passcode: 241 429

---

---

## Child Welfare Foundation Committee

---

Mark Nave, Chairman

Third Tuesday Bi-Monthly

September 21, 2023 | November 16, 2023

January 18, 2024 | March 21, 2024

May 16, 2024 | July 18, 2024

7:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 984 7031 4786 | Passcode: 780 858

---



---

## Children & Youth Committee

---

Joseph Lohman, Chairman  
Second Monday Bi-Monthly

September 11, 2023 | November 13, 2023  
January 8, 2024 | March 11, 2024  
May 13, 2024 | July 8, 2024

7:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 951 1622 6587 | Passcode: 799 095

---

## Finance Commission

---

William G. Hill, Chairman  
Third Thursday as scheduled

September 21, 2023 | February 15, 2024  
April 18, 2024 | July 18, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 966 1733 0121 | Passcode: 463 702

---

## Internal Affairs Commission

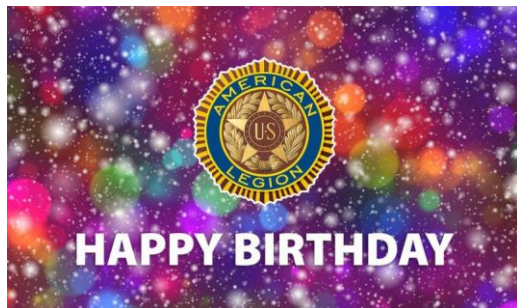
---

Christopher Michel, Chairman  
Fourth Thursday Bi-Monthly

October 26, 2023 | December 28, 2023  
February 22, 2024 | April 25, 2024  
June 27, 2024 | August 22, 2024

6:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 932 2650 4089 | Passcode: 725 519



---

## Legislative Commission

---

Blair Miles, Chairman  
Second Thursday Bi-Monthly

October 12, 2023 | December 14, 2023  
February 8, 2024 | April 11, 2024  
June 13, 2024 | August 8, 2024

7:30 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 937 1376 7924 | Passcode: 172 912



### National Commander Seehafer to testify before Congress March 13

The American Legion | March 4, 2024

American Legion National Commander Daniel Seehafer will testify before a joint session of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs March 13 in the nation's capital. Tune in at 10 a.m. ET [here](#) to watch a live stream of the testimony.

National Commander Seehafer is expected to touch on issues such as the Legion's [Be the One](#) veteran suicide prevention program and how both committees can assist that effort, the importance of Buddy Checks, the need to criminally punish unaccredited companies that prey on veterans and their families by charging exorbitant fees for services on claims, and improvements to the military's Transition Assistance Program.

Following his oral testimony, Seehafer will engage in a question-and-answer session with members of the committees.

---

## Member Training & Development Committee

---

Michael Cotton, Chairman  
First Monday Bi-Monthly

September 4, 2023 | November 6, 2023  
January 1, 2024 | March 4, 2024  
May 6, 2024 | July 1, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 957 9605 2218 | Passcode: 528 704

---

## Membership & Squadron Activities Committee

---

Daryl VerStreate Jr., Chairman  
Third Tuesday Bi-Monthly

September 19 2023 | November 21, 2023  
January 16, 2024 | March 19, 2024  
May 21, 2024 | July 16, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 989 3388 3350 | Passcode: 546 900

---

The current SAL membership report can be accessed on the national website at [www.legion.org/membership/standings](http://www.legion.org/membership/standings).

**SAL Online Renewal** - members can login and renew direct via [www.myLegion.org](http://www.myLegion.org) or quick renew by clicking here [SAL Online Renewal](#).

**SAL New Member Kit** is now online and ready for purchase. [New Member Kit \(SAL\) - American Legion Flag & Emblem](#).

---

## New options for 1st-time SAL Blue Brigade Award recipients

The American Legion | March 8, 2024

First-time recipients of the SAL Blue Brigade Award will now have an option on which jacket they wish to receive to mark their efforts.

The revised SAL Blue Brigade Award Certification Form is available at [Legion.org/sons/publications](http://Legion.org/sons/publications) or directly by clicking [here](#). The award is presented to SAL members who enroll 30 or more new members into the SAL by July 31.

First-time recruiters will be able to select a three-season fleece jacket or lightweight soft shell jacket for their Blue Brigade Award. All jackets are custom made and embroidered with the recruiter's name and membership year.

---

## National Convention Committee

---

Christopher Byrd, Chairman  
Second Tuesday Bi-Monthly

September 12 2023 | November 14, 2023  
January 9, 2024 | March 12, 2024  
May 14, 2024 | July 19, 2024

7:30 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 953 4866 3402 | Passcode: 670 002

---

## Public & Media Communications Committee

---

Kevin Chaplin, Chairman  
Fourth Tuesday Bi-Monthly

October 24, 2023, | December 26, 2023  
February 27, 2024 | April 23, 2024  
June 25, 2024 | August 27, 2024

7:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 914 4414 8114 | Passcode: 977 759

---

If you would like to view the Digital Dispatch content visit [www.legion.org/dispatch](http://www.legion.org/dispatch) or you can subscribe to the monthly Digital Dispatch newsletter by visiting [www.legion.org/newsletters](http://www.legion.org/newsletters), click on "Dispatch" where you will be directed to [www.myLegion.org](http://www.myLegion.org) where members will sign in to subscribe. For questions about Dispatch stories, email [Dispatch@legion.org](mailto:Dispatch@legion.org).

---

---

# Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

---

Bruno Williamson, Chairman  
Second Monday Bi-Monthly

November 29, 2023 | December 11, 2023

February 12, 2024 | April 8, 2024

June 10, 2024 | August 12, 2024

8:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 971 3717 7471 | Passcode: 712 824

## House approves long-delayed funding for VA and military construction as shutdown nears

Svetlana Shkolnikova | March 7, 2023

The House approved a \$460 billion spending package on Wednesday to fund the Department of Veterans Affairs and five other federal agencies through the fall, signing off on a long overdue budget for veteran health programs and military construction.



Carlos Bongioanni/Stars and Stripes

Lawmakers voted 339-85 in favor of six spending bills after months of drawn-out negotiations between the Republican-led House and Democrat-led Senate that nearly shut down the government multiple times since the start of fiscal 2024 on Oct. 1.

The series of bills needs to pass the Senate by Friday to avoid a partial government shutdown. The VA legislation contains almost none of the divisive policy mandates House Republicans had approved last year in their version of the bill, including a proposed ban

on the VA offering abortions in cases of rape or incest or when the life of the mother is at risk.

Other policies removed during bipartisan negotiations would have prohibited gender-affirming care for transgender veterans and the display of pride flags at VA facilities.

“This legislation does not have everything either side may have wanted but I am pleased that many of the extreme cuts and policies proposed by House Republicans were excluded,” said Rep. Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut, the top Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee. “House Democrats rejected outright their archaic restrictions on women’s reproductive health care.”

Republicans were able to achieve one notable victory, however. A provision in the VA bill will bar the department from automatically reporting veterans who are found incapable of handling their own finances to a federal gun background check system that could block firearm ownership.

The policy was instituted by the VA to help prevent veteran suicides, most of which involve a gun. The VA would need a court order to report a veteran under language inserted by Republicans but also championed by some Democrats.

“No veteran should lose their constitutional right to bear arms simply because they need help managing their finances, and if they are a danger to themselves or others, a judge should make that decision — not a VA bureaucrat,” said Rep. Mike Bost, R-Ill., chairman of the House Veterans’ Affairs Committee.

Rep. Mark Takano of California, the committee’s top Democrat, refused to support the spending bill solely because of the gun ownership provision. He said veterans who are deemed incapable of managing their income typically have serious mental health conditions such as schizophrenia and dementia and should not be able to buy a firearm.

“I have fought to prevent the scourge of veteran suicide so why on earth would this Congress cede one more important safeguard against a veteran’s death?” he said Wednesday in a floor speech. “I personally cannot.”

Funding for various VA programs, including suicide prevention, makes up a significant portion of the spending package.



Lawmakers touted increased investments in mental health and substance abuse programs for veterans, health care specifically for women veterans, and services for homeless veterans. More than 550,000 veterans were diagnosed with a substance abuse disorder in 2022 and the number of homeless veterans exceeded 35,000 during a homelessness survey in January.

“We held strong on our commitment to veterans,” said Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, D-Fla.

The bill also boosts spending on construction projects in the military, funding the design and construction of more than a dozen barracks and the renovation and construction of National Guard and Reserve facilities. Congress still needs to approve fiscal 2024 appropriations for the Defense Department and five other agencies before their funding expires on March 22. The delay in the funding process means lawmakers will still be working on the 2024 budget as the White House releases its 2025 budget request on Monday.

---

## Veterans Employment & Education Commission

---

Jim Coates, Chairman  
Third Tuesday Bi-Monthly

November 19, 2023 | December 21, 2023  
February 15, 2024 | April 18, 2024  
June 20, 2024 | August 15, 2024

7:00 p.m. Eastern | [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
(877) 853-5257

Meeting ID: 989 2627 5747 | Passcode: 26060

*Thank you to our  
Round-Up sponsors*

**Juan Cruz Rodriguez,  
Department of Puerto Rico**



**SONS OF THE  
AMERICAN  
LEGION**

### Michigan Sons of The American Legion raise funds for the Vietnam Moving wall

[Mining Journal Staff](#) | March 6, 2024

WHITE PINE – Upper Peninsula 5th Zone Sons of the Michigan American Legion met at their Winter meeting and presented a check for \$6,500.00 dollars to the Moving Wall located in Whitepine, Michigan.

State Sons Commander John Beeman was in attendance to present the Check to John Devitt and Aaron and Lisa Gray Chairman of the Moving wall. This money was raised by PDC Victor Fisher as his Major Project.

Members of a White Pine organization have toured the country for 32 years with half-size replicas of the Washington, DC Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Aaron and Lisa Gray, of White Pine, have been hauling The Moving Wall to communities around the United States for the past several years.

They will head out again May 14 and return home in November. Another driver takes second replica to other sites during the same time frame. And their work doesn't end there. “*We redo panels when we're home in the winter,*” Lisa said, referring to the silk-screening necessary to keep the panels looking good. Along with sprucing up damaged panels, Aaron takes reservations for future stops about a year in advance. Severely damaged panels have to be sent to an aluminum fabricator. In the end, a more than 250-foot wall will be all ready to be set up again – at 90- to 125-degree angles – like the original.

While it costs \$5,000 to get the wall, donations come in at the sites. “Donations are a big part of our financial help,” Lisa said. With all the travel come many new friends and a lot of good and bad surprises. Often the large trucks that haul the wall break down, but the couple always finds a way around any setbacks. “The wall's never missed a spot,” Lisa said. “No matter what it takes, we get the wall there.” Sometimes help comes when they least expect it.”

“You don't stop,” Arron added. “I just think of all the people who want the wall.”

If all else fails, the organization's founder John Devitt, of Ontonagon County, will rescue drivers who break down while touring with the wall, or find someone to help.

Inside the organization's building near the White Pine mine are floor-to-ceiling piles of boxes of memorabilia several feet thick, that the group has collected over the years. "Every year we collect more," Lisa said. The wall's 50,000-plus names represent Vietnam casualties from 1959 to 1975. The wall was in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia from Nov. 1, 1955 to the fall of Saigon April 30, 1975.

Devitt attended the 1982 dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and National Salute to Vietnam Veterans. He wanted to share the experience with those unable to visit the Washington memorial. Devitt had been an Army helicopter gunner in the 1st Air Cavalry from 1967 to 1969. In the Tet offensive of 1968, his helicopter was shot down three times and crashed a fourth time when the engine failed.

Devitt, Norris Shears, Gerry Haver, and other Vietnam veteran volunteers built The Moving Wall, which was displayed for the first time in 1984. Two Moving Walls now travel the states, spending almost a week at each site. Any organization or group of individuals that want the Moving Wall can visit the wall website at [themovingwall.org](http://themovingwall.org) for more information but should be forewarned. "It takes a lot of volunteers; at least 10 to set up and take down," Lisa said.

## Sons of the American Legion donates to Guitars for Vets, Honor Flight

[Daily News Staff](#) | March 7, 2024

WEST BEND — The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 36 announced recently that they have made donations to both Guitars for Vets and the Honor Flight.

According to the release, they donated \$500 to Guitars for Vets.

"Guitars for Vets (G4V) instruct disabled veterans on how to play the guitar. After a successful completion of the lessons the veteran receives a guitar from G4V," said the release. "The contributions are used towards that guitar. Guitars and donations are always welcome."

Additionally, the Sons of the American Legion also donated \$200 to the West Bend Veterans of Foreign

Wars (VFW) for their fundraiser for the Honor Flight, which was held on February 24.



Jeff Pueck receives a check for \$500 from Sons of the American Legion Squadron 36 Commander Steve Rhode.

Photo courtesy of Jeffrey Schwitz



The Sons of the American Legion donated \$200 to the VFW fundraiser for the Honor Flight on Feb. 24. From left, back row: Randy Zemel, Howard Hadley, Sons of American Legion 1st Vice commander Jeff Schwitz, Donna Kleinmaus, Dennis Ziebell, David Runge and Tony Mohr; and front row: John Kleinmaus and Mike Henner.

Photo courtesy of Jeffrey Schwitz





**AMERICAN  
LEGION  
AUXILIARY**



Lisa Williamson,  
National President  
The American Legion Auxiliary



# BIRTHDAY WORDSEARCH

G	M	M	T	D	T	E	K	A	C	N	U
T	A	O	O	Z	C	W	R	M	O	N	D
E	A	M	K	D	G	C	X	E	Y	I	J
I	I	H	E	E	U	L	L	Z	K	K	B
S	N	M	A	S	M	D	X	T	Y	A	F
T	G	C	V	S	N	U	K	M	L	M	W
N	F	X	J	A	M	P	T	O	E	U	K
E	N	J	C	U	E	Z	O	S	N	P	S
S	Y	D	S	Q	Q	N	R	M	O	E	C
E	I	I	Y	D	N	A	C	E	W	C	A
R	C	K	S	U	R	P	R	I	S	E	R
P	U	N	H	H	J	N	Y	Y	X	I	D

- BALLOON
- FUN
- GAMES
- CANDY
- CAKE
- CANDLE
- CARD
- HAT
- COSTUME
- SURPRISE
- MUSIC
- PRESENTS

### Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

Detachment of \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron No. \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Recruited by \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Initial) (Last) (Initial) (Last)

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran through whom eligibility is established \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No \_\_\_\_\_, Dept. of \_\_\_\_\_

OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as annual membership dues.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by \_\_\_\_\_ (Post Adjutant)

00-001 (2013)



### RECEIPT

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Received of \_\_\_\_\_

**For God and Country**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment of dues for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ in

Squadron \_\_\_\_\_, Detachment of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_





**Central Region Extravaganza**  
Columbus, Ohio  
April 5 - 7, 2024

# REGISTRATION CLOSING SOON

Registration is now OPEN for **CRE24**. If you would like to attend, please email [jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com](mailto:jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com). You must provide your name, detachment, email address, and cell number. **Registration is limited to 50 attendees.**

The event will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2024 at the Embassy Suites Columbus Airport. There will be events planned for both Friday and Saturday evenings, as well as a great day of training and educational opportunities.

If you would like to be a presenter, or have a topic you would like covered, please send an email to [jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com](mailto:jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com).

Hotel reservations must be made directly with Embassy Suites Columbus Airport. Click [here](#) for hotel information.

We hope to see you in Columbus!

We are still accepting donations from squadrons, districts, and detachments to help offset the expenses of CRE24. If you would like to help, please email [jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com](mailto:jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com) for details.

Thank you in advance for your support!

## Tentative Agenda for CRE24

### Friday, April 5, 2024

Embassy Suites complimentary Manager Reception

### Saturday, April 6, 2024

Embassy Suites complimentary  
Made-to-Order Breakfast

The Pebble in the Pond  
Obtaining Discharge Documents  
Children & Youth 201: Beyond the Basics

Lunch provided by our sponsors

Communicating for Results  
Resolutions the Legion Way  
Membership – The Multi-Year Program  
& Membership Roundtable

Embassy Suites complimentary Manager Reception

Trip to American Legion Don Gentile Post 532  
Columbus' Famous City Barbeque Dinner  
provided by Post 532  
Karaoke provided by Squadron 532 – tentative  
Transportation provided by V.A.T. Incorporated

### Sunday, April 7, 2024

Embassy Suites complimentary  
Made-to-Order Breakfast



# Squadron Everlasting

to have a member's information listed here, please send to [jeffrabels@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrabels@gmail.com)

## Norbert H. "Nub" Ruen

CONTINENTAL – Norbert H. "Nub" Ruen, 88, of Continental, passed away at 12:15 a.m. on Sunday, March 3, 2024 at Brookview Healthcare Center, Defiance. He was born April 11, 1935, in Deshler to the late Anthony A. and Mary E. (Breece) Ruen. On August 5, 1978, he married Norma Jean Steel, who preceded him in death on November 13, 2022.



Norbert is survived by three stepchildren: Gary (Mary) Brown of Holgate, Dennis (Penny) Brown of FL and Deb (John) Seely of Montpelier; six grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren; a brother, Jim Ruen; and many nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, Clarence "Peewee" (Connie) Schreiber.

Norbert loved his hometown and was the former manager for the Ruen-Etter Trailer Court, Continental. He was a member of the Sons of the American Legion, Continental. Norbert was a hardworking man, who helped raise three kids when he didn't have to. He always made sure there was food for his kids and pets to love, especially ponies and puppies. He loved camping, trapping, playing cards, but most of all, he loved pull tickets. Norbert fought through some major health issues, making us call him the "comeback kid." He loved his family, brothers, sister, mother, and stepfather immensely. He was especially close to his nieces, Toni Jones, and Roxie Knipp, who were by his side through his last days. He will be missed by many. Fly high, Dad, we love you.

Funeral service will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at HEITMEYER FUNERAL HOME, Continental with Pastor Terry Porter officiating. Burial will be at a later date at Riverside Cemetery, Defiance. Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 11 a.m.

until the time of service at the funeral home.

Memorial donations may be made to Continental American Legion or a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be expressed at [www.heitmeyerfuneralhome.com](http://www.heitmeyerfuneralhome.com).

## Douglas Chester Sensel



Douglas Chester Sensel, age 73, of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., died on Friday, March 1, 2024 at Hospice of the Panhandle Inpatient Care Facility in Kearneysville, W.Va.

Born May 28, 1950 in Hagerstown, Md., he was the son of the late Chester Jacob and Dana Maris Repp Sensel.

He was a 1968 graduate of Hancock High School, earned an associate degree from Hagerstown Junior College and was a 1970 graduate of Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science.

During the 1940's and early 1950's, his paternal grandfather had owned and operated his family's funeral home in Dillsburg, Pa. Doug began his career in funeral service under the direct supervision of Howard Grove at the Grove Funeral Home in Hancock. In 1972, he relocated to the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and worked with the Wilhelm Funeral Home in Suitland, Md, and then was associated with Robert A. Pumphrey Funeral Homes in Bethesda and Rockville, Md. During the early 1980's, Doug worked with the Donald M. Stein Hebrew Memorial Funeral Home in Takoma Park, Md., learning about Jewish funeral customs. Prior to moving to Berkeley Springs, he worked with Joseph Gawler's Sons, "funeral directors to the presidents," in Washington, D.C., both in the at-need and pre-need areas of their business.

Douglas and his wife, Ellen bought and have owned and operated Helsley-Johnson Funeral Home and Cremation Center since January 1, 1992.

He was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Berkeley Springs and was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, having served as the Junior Warden, the Senior Warden, and numerous terms on the Vestry. He was a community activist in that his memberships include DeFord Lodge #88 A.F. & A.M., the Berkeley Springs Lions Club, the Berkeley Springs-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce, Alderton-Dawson Squadron #60 Sons of the American Legion, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics Council #117, Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #1483, Mountain State Cruisers, the Morgan County Historical & Genealogical Society, the Morgan Arts Council, Friends of the Morgan County Library, the Humane Society of Morgan County, the Morgan County Chapter of the American Red Cross, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church Knights of Columbus Council #12191 and was named to the Apple Butter Festival Hall of Fame. For many years, Doug has served as Treasurer of the Cacapon Resort State Park Foundation. Doug has held various offices and served on the board of directors of many of these organizations.

Doug loved antiquing, real estate investing and spending some leisure time at the Ocean City, Md. beaches.

Doug is survived by his wife of 35 years, Ellen Fulton Sensel at home, two sisters, Debra Ann Sensel of Reston, Va., and Pamela Kay Whiteside Trumpower of Hancock, two nieces, Meredith Moria Whiteside Hendershot of Warfordsburg and Amy Brooke Whiteside Damoulakis of Urbana, Md., two great nephews, John Damoulakis and Paul Hendershot and one great niece, Dana Damoulakis.

Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 8, 2024 at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 67 Liberty Street, Berkeley Springs, W.Va. with Rev. Fr. Bill Kuchinsky as celebrant. Private interment will be in St. Thomas Church Cemetery in Hancock. Family will receive friends from 2-7 p.m. on Thursday, March 7, 2024 at Helsley-Johnson Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 95 Union Street, Berkeley Springs, W.Va., where a rosary will be recited at 7 p.m.

Online condolences may be expressed at [www.helsleyjohnsonfh.com](http://www.helsleyjohnsonfh.com).

## Kerry D. Heichelbech



Kerry D. Heichelbech, 63, of Jasper, passed away at 12:05 a.m. on Monday, March 4, 2024, at The Waters of Huntingburg in Huntingburg.

Kerry was born in Washington, Ind., on June 11, 1960, to Lawrence and Rosemary (Ahrens) Heichelbech.

He married Susan Grierson in Dubois County on June 21, 2002.

He was a 1978 graduate of Jasper High School.

He had previously worked at TOSCO Oil Refinery in Benicia, California, worked security at the Holiday Inn in Jasper, and most recently at Jasper Desk.

Kerry was a chaplain for the Sons of the American Legion and the American Legion Post #147 and was a member of the Marine Corps League.

He was very active in his faith, was an avid Minnesota Vikings fan, and enjoyed fishing, singing, karaoke, and spending time with family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Susie Heichelbech of Jasper; two sons, Nathan (Stephanie) Heichelbech of Indianapolis and Steve (Stephanie) Grierson of Jasper; four grandchildren, Elliana, Jessica, Kryssia and Zander; one sister, Cheryl Heichelbech of Paoli; and three brothers, Larry Heichelbech of Jasper, Kenneth "Hank" Heichelbech of Jasper, and Gary (Bonnie) Heichelbech of Lexington, S.C.

Preceding him in death are his parents, his niece and goddaughter, Bridget Brinkman, and one half-sister, Delores Hall.

A prayer service for Kerry D. Heichelbech will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 9, 2024, at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper, Indiana. Private burial will be at a later date.

A memorial visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. until the 11:00 a.m. prayer service time at the funeral home on Saturday.

Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com).

---

## Larry Lynch



Larry Dean Lynch, 65, of New Washington, passed away Saturday, March 2, 2024, at Norwalk Memorial Home.

He was born Sept. 14, 1958, in Willard, to Arther Ivan and Vivan (Whipp) Lynch. Larry worked for many years at Janesville Products and for the past 17 years at ArcelorMittal until his retirement in 2023. He was a member of Sons of the American Legion in New Washington, and he enjoyed playing golf, watching football, and was an intense Ohio State fan. Larry had an infectious laugh and loved spending time with family and friends.

He is survived by a sister, Linda (Hascell) Stumbo of Norwalk; brothers, Gary Lynch of Spartanburg, South Carolina, and Terry Lynch of Plymouth; and nieces and nephews, Karen (Kevin) Krupp of Norwalk, Sheina (Mark) Adelman of Norwalk, Leslie (Nick) Meyer of Norwalk, Gary (Natasha) Lynch Jr. of Mansfield, and Tina Kieffer of Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents; nephew, Kevin Kieffer; infant twin nieces, Alma, and Alva Stumbo; and sister-in-law, Thelma Lynch.

Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Friday, March 8, 2024, at Secor Funeral Home, Plymouth. Larry's funeral will be 1 p.m. Saturday, March 9, 2024, at the funeral home with Rick Stumbo officiating. Burial will follow at Maple Grove Cemetery, New Haven. Visitors to Larry's visitation and funeral are encouraged to wear Ohio State apparel.

Memorial contributions may be made to Southern Care Hospice.

Online condolences may be made to Larry's family by visiting [www.secorfuneralhomes.com](http://www.secorfuneralhomes.com).

Published by Norwalk Reflector on Mar. 4, 2024.

To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](#).

---

## Jeremy Ryan Buchanan



Jeremy Ryan Buchanan of Louisville, Illinois, was born Wednesday, February 28, 1979, and passed away on his 45th birthday, Wednesday, February 28,

2024, at Deaconess Midtown Hospital in Evansville, Indiana.

Jeremy's mother, LaDonna Goodman of Louisville, survives him. His father, Roger Buchanan, preceded him in passing.

Jeremy was often seen behind the bar at the Flora Eagles, VFW, and American Legion. He was a member of the Sons of American Legion Post 14 in Flora and active in the Flora Legion Riders, joining his fellow members in coming together to show support for those who served our country both past and present. Besides bartending, his working days included driving a truck for Rod Franklin Oil and also hauling asphalt, water, and millings for road projects. Jeremy's free time was all about his love of riding motorcycles, relaxing by the fire with a drink in hand, fishing, attending demolition derbies and rodeos, and cherishing the moments spent with his family and friends. He had attended North Clay High School. Jeremy's dedication to the simple things—family, friends, and the pursuit of happiness—forever remains in the memories of those he leaves behind.

Jeremy's loving family who survive him includes his partner in love: Robin Dulaney; Jeremy's daughter: Liberty Ryanne Buchanan, and her son, Jeremy's grandson: Maverick Brothers; Jeremy's son: Larkin Ryan Buchanan; Robin's daughter, Cheyenne; and Jeremy's mother. He is also survived by his siblings: Gena (David) Eade, Joni Green, Larry (Michelle) Meares, Dakota James, and Nathan Buchanan; as well as several aunts and uncles, cousins, and nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father; paternal grandparents: Shirley Brown and Vernon Buchanan; maternal grandparents: Robert and Imogene Goodman; and his very close friend: Chad Kuhlig.

Jeremy's life will be celebrated during a ceremony beginning at 1 p.m. Monday, March 4, 2024, at Frank & Bright Funeral Home in Flora. Burial will follow in Orchard Hill Cemetery in Louisville. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Memorial donations are suggested to a love fund to assist with expenses, and these will be accepted through the funeral home. To share a condolence or memory, visit: [by clicking here](#).

---

## Joseph Lee "Joe" Beatty



Joseph Lee "Joe" Beatty, 65, of Junction City, Kansas was lifted to his heavenly Father on Wednesday, January 17, 2024. Cremation has taken place.

Joseph Lee Beatty was born January 18, 1958, to CSM (Ret.) Samuel Junior Beatty and Virginia Lee Beatty in Hannibal, Missouri.

Joe was a busy and well-known man around Junction City. He was a carpenter for many years working in Geary County and contract work on Fort Riley. He also worked in the body shop at Jim Clark Chevrolet. A career that led him to opening and owning a body shop in Junction City. Joe's meticulous eye for detail was seen in both careers he chose.

Joe will always be remembered for his constant and infectious smile and laughter. When not busy working, Joe enjoyed music, fishing, playing cards and entertaining his many friends and family members at a barbecue. Joe was continually active in the community as the Vice Commander of The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 45 and a member of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles.

Joseph is survived by his mother, Virginia Beatty of Junction City; daughter, Brandie Danner; grandson, Bobby Beatty, Jr.; two brothers, George, and Mark Beatty of Junction City; one sister, Virginia (Beatty) Roberts; two nieces, Megan, and Chelsea; nephew, Shawn Roberts; countless friends and extended family.

Joe is preceded in death by his father, Samuel Beatty, son, Bobby Beatty, Sr., and wife, Vickie J. Downey.

A service will be Friday, March 22, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. at Fairview Cemetery officiated by Pastor Will Ravenstein. Following the service at 1:00 p.m., the family and The Sons of the American Legion invite everyone to a Celebration of Life honoring Joe at the American Legion Post 45, 201 E. 4th Street, Junction City, Kansas.

---

## Wayne Carter



Wayne Eugene Carter, 71, of Meshoppen, formerly of the Laceyville area, passed away on Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 28, 2024, at the Allied Services Hospice in Scranton, where he had been taken earlier in the day.

Born on April 25, 1952 in Sayre, he was the son of the late Harry W. Carter, who passed away on July 3, 1988, and the late Doris M. Long Carter, who passed away on Feb. 27, 2010. Growing up in Transue, Wayne attended the Elk Lake High School and later graduated from the Wyalusing Valley High School with the Class of 1970.

After high school, Wayne was employed at Taylor Beef in Wyalusing, and for many years he worked in building construction with Roger Canfield. In his later years, he was employed as a quarryman, working for Denny Newhart and later for Tim McGavin.

Wayne was a member of the Goodwill Fire Company in Laceyville, the Elk Lake American Legion, a member of the Sons of the American Legion (SAL) and the Meshoppen Rod and Gun Club. Throughout the years, he enjoyed playing softball for many area teams, and always loved his time that he got to go hunting and fishing.

For many years, Wayne enjoyed his yearly fishing trips to Canada with his friends. He was always willing to help with many of the chicken barbecues at the Rod and Gun Club, the American Legions, and the Meshoppen Fire Company, as well as the Goodwill Fire Company.

Surviving are his long-time companion, Jane Price of Meshoppen; his children, Steven Wayne Carter of Laceyville, Lee Michael Carter of Lawton, Heather M. Carter of Laceyville, Jason Alan Carter of Laceyville and William Harry Carter of Harrisburg, as well as nine grandchildren, Payton Carter, Landon Carter, Kennedy Carter, Brandon Carter (Johnicca Stroyk), Logan Carter, Lindsay Carter, Jameson Carter, Alyssa Carter, and Reese Carter, and two great-grandchildren, Serenity Carter and Brady Carter. He is also survived by his sister, Marjory Harvey of Elk Lake, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

---

# RENEW!

---

Beside his parents, he was also preceded in death by his brother-in-law, Walter "Steve" Harvey.

Memorial services will be announced at a later date at the convenience of the family. Interment will be in the Jersey Hill Cemetery. Arrangements were made through the Sheldon Funeral Home, 459 Main Street, Laceyville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Online condolences may be made at [www.SheldonFuneralHomes.com](http://www.SheldonFuneralHomes.com).



**If you would like to see Round-Up continue, please consider making a donation to offset expenses.**

*Thank you!*

Jeff Vrabel Sr  
@Jeff-VrabelSr



**venmo**

## Nominate a Veteran Today

The Dayton Dragons are very excited to be reaching out for nominations for the Dragons Veteran Salute Program presented by CareSource Military & Veterans.

All season long, this special program honors local Miami Valley's deserving and outstanding veterans by sharing their service stories during Dayton Dragons games.

By telling their stories, fans not only gain a deeper understanding and sense of gratitude for what these men and women have done for us, but also inspire a future generation to lead and serve this great country. Each veteran honored is greeted with a standing ovation from a sold-out crowd of more than 8,000 fans. They also get to enjoy a one-of-a-kind ballpark experience with their family including in-game recognition, a luxury suite, food and beverage, special gifts, and more!

Your nomination could result in recognizing a veteran you know in a HUGE way! If you have a veteran you'd like to nominate, visit [www.daytondragons.com/veteransalute](http://www.daytondragons.com/veteransalute), where you can learn more about the program and fill out the form to nominate your veteran(s).

Please feel free to pass this information along and/or include it in newsletters, announcements, etc. We'd love to learn about our area veterans!

Thank you,



Kaylie Marshall | Manager of Corporate Partnerships  
Day Air Ballpark | 220 N. Patterson Blvd. | Dayton, OH 45402  
Office: 937-228-2287 ext. 108 | Fax: 937-228-2284

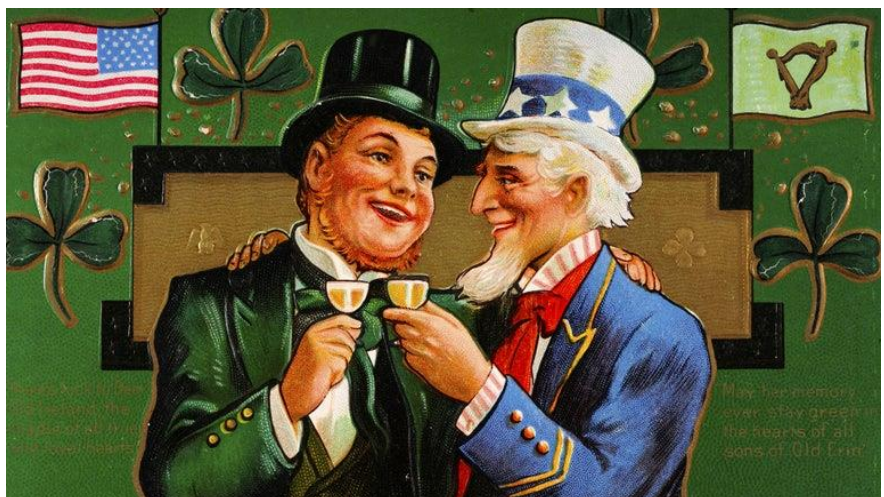


[DAYTONDRAGONS.com](http://DAYTONDRAGONS.com)

### DRAGONS TICKETS

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE FROM GROUP PACKAGES TO FAMILY CLUB OR BUSINESS CLUB SEASON TICKETS!

ASK ME OR CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE



# AMERICAN LEGION



Daniel J. Seehafer,  
National Commander  
The American Legion

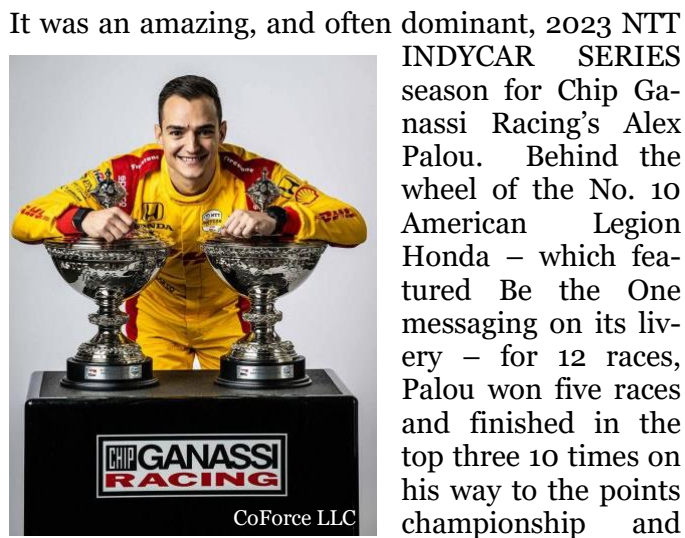
Daniel J. Seehafer, National Commander  
The American Legion



## Sports

### Palou looking to repeat both on-track success and raising veteran suicide awareness

The American Legion | March 6, 2024



the Astor Cup. He clinched the championship with one race remaining – the first driver to do so since 2007.

Palou's primary sponsor on the No. 10 Honda will be DHL this year, but he will still carry The American Legion name on his car. The two-time INDYCAR SERIES champ spoke with American Legion Social Media Manager Steven B. Brooks before the season about representing veterans and Be the One, what it's like being a defending series champ and a big life change that happened in the offseason.

#### Steven B. Brooks: What has fatherhood been like?

**Alex Palou:** Busy. Very busy. Lots of work, but it's been a great experience, honestly. It's been something I never thought I would enjoy that much or that I would have the emotions that I discovered. It's been a super-fun experience ... and we were lucky enough to plan it for the offseason and I've been able to experience every single moment. To have so many activities to do and so much work to do with the baby, it's been fun.

#### Question: This is the second time you've been the defending INDYCAR SERIES champ. Do you learn anything from that first year of being defending champ that you can maybe use preparing for this year?

**Palou:** You always learn. I don't think I learned a lot about how to defend a title because in INDYCAR it's so tough. I don't think we lost the opportunity to defend the title (in 2022) because of something we did. It was probably just because we weren't in our best conditions on the track with myself, the speed that I had and issues we had off-track. But you always learn. You always know you can improve here or there, especially driving-wise. There's always room for more to be closer to what could be a perfect lap. During the offseason you need to work a lot on how you can improve and which areas you can improve. I know I'm better than last year. The thing is, are we going to be better than everybody else, or has everybody else made a step or not.

#### Question: Is there added pressure coming off that title, especially with the way you won it: able to clinch it earlier than any driver had in years?

**Palou:** Depends on how you look at it. If you don't win five races and are on the podium 10 times, is that a failure or not? I don't look at that that way. I look



at it that INDYCAR is tough, and you never know if somebody else is going to have something different each season. That's what we did from 2022 to 2023. The team was the same, my crew was the same, I was the same. But we just overall made a big step and suddenly found everything we needed to win the championship for the second time. So, I don't feel more pressure, but I do feel we have the opportunity to repeat what we did because we know what we're capable of. We can always improve it, but if we do the same, I'm pretty sure we'll be fighting for the season (championship) again.

**Question: Looking back, what was it like last year interacting with so many veterans, hearing their stories, and seeing their joy and their pride in what you were doing and what Chip Ganassi Racing was doing out on the track?**

**Palou:** It was amazing. I would say that 2023 was the best season, with the results we got on the track, but also everybody that I got the opportunity to meet. I think the veterans that were visiting us during the race weekends ... I would see them before the race, and then I would see them again in Victory Circle. It's like perfect, right? There were some who were INDYCAR fans but never thought they'd be able to be inside a team, but also be in Victory Lane. On social media you hear a lot of people thanking the team and The American Legion for what we do. But it's not same as when you see one person, one veteran, that thanks you in person. You see the emotion, that creates even more energy to do more and to try to help more people. Hopefully, we can continue to do that.

One of the best days was after (winning the Indy 500 pole), we went to the American Legion post by the Speedway, and everybody was so excited that they got the opportunity to see The American Legion getting the pole at the Indy 500. It was cool.

**Question: Representing the Be the One mission last year, how rewarding was it to be able to elevate that mission, elevate the issue with veteran suicides, on that platform you excel on and share it with millions?**

**Palou:** It goes beyond racing. It's very cool to race and to win races. It's one of the best things in life. But to help people goes beyond. It's something, as well, that's close to being a father, that you didn't know what you were going to feel. But when you help people, and you see their emotions in people, it's the best thing. It's more than winning a race. I

think we're raising more and more awareness each race weekend, and hopefully we can keep on building Be the One.

## 2023 ALWS runner-up looking for return trip to Shelby

Richard Walker | March 5, 2024

Lincoln (Neb.) East Post 3 baseball coach Mychal Lanik loves everything about the American Legion World Series in Shelby, N.C.

He's coached in the event four times, last year as the hard-luck loser to League City (Tex.) Post 554 in the championship game.

"I have a special place in my heart for Keeter Stadium," Lanik said of the venue that has hosted the ALWS 13 times since 2008. "I was a 24-year-old assistant coach when I first went there and there's just something about it.

"You look around at night and see the crowd and the banners on the fence and you realize it's just a special place. I know it has a special place in my heart." All that's left for Lanik to do is to win a title as he was an assistant for Omaha (Neb.) Creighton Prep Post 1 in 2017 when it also finished runner-up, as well as being a Creighton Prep assistant for fourth-place (2012) and fifth-place (2015) finishes in two other trips.

"When you start out in the summer, the goal is to play as long as you can," said Lanik, who was a seven-year Creighton Prep Legion assistant before becoming Lincoln East's head coach in 2019. "It's definitely one of those things that takes a lot of breaks and things to go right.



The Lincoln, NE. Post 3 team celebrates after winning Game 11 of The 2023 American Legion World Series at Veterans Field at Keeter Stadium in Shelby, N.C., on Sunday, August 13.  
Chet Strange/The American Legion

“And in Nebraska, the depth of Legion baseball is really, really good.”

As a state, Nebraska has won one ALWS (in 1939), had three runner-up finishes (1965, 2017 and 2023) and sent 23 teams to the ALWS including 11 since 2000.

Also head coach at Lincoln East High School, Lanik knows both his high school and American Legion Baseball teams will have targets on their backs this year as the high school team won the city of Lincoln’s first state title since 1977 and the Legion championship was Post 3’s first title-winner since 2006.

“We’ll have a lot of guys back,” Lanik said. “I expect about 10 or 11 guys from that team last year to play Legion ball this summer. Some of our main guys will be off playing in college leagues and that’s some of our main hitters for sure.

“But we’ll have some pitching back and we’ll have some tough kids back and we’ll give our best shot.”

Post 3’s two 2023 all-ALWS selections — first baseman A.J. Evasco and utility selection Garrett Springer — will be playing college summer league baseball but three of the top pitchers from the 2023 ALWS run are returning.

Carter Mick was a two-time hard luck loser in the ALWS, including the 1-0 loss to League City. Other returning pitchers are Paul Shorridge and Chase Nelson, who pitched Lincoln to wins over Brooklawn, N.J., and Cedar Rapids, Iowa, respectively, in the 2023 ALWS.

Other key returnees are starting second baseman Kai Burkey, center fielder Mason Gaines and left fielder Owen Laessig.

And while Lanik already knew about the ALWS experience from his previous visits, he says his team didn’t fully grasp its significance until they returned home.

“In the moment, we were just trying to figure out who we would play, get scouting done and keep the boys loose and rested,” Lanik said. “When it got over and we travelled home and got back to school, it really kind of settled in the kind of run we just went on and the amount of people that we reached.

“There were so many watch parties back home and welcome parties when we got back. It was a pretty surreal experience. Plus, my players have told me

the World Series in Shelby was the best baseball experience of their life. So, it’s cool to be a part of that journey with them and be a part of something they’ll never forget.”

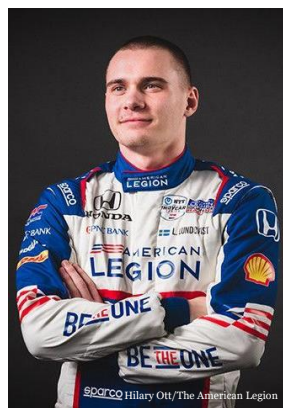
Lanik’s team will start its 2024 American Legion Baseball season in late May.

“Nebraska is super tough,” Lanik said. “We didn’t even win our area last year. We lost to Lincoln (Union Bank) Pius. But because Nebraska gets two (regional) representatives (due to more than 100 teams), we ended up getting in our state tournament and qualified that way.

“So getting out of Nebraska is a challenge and that’s why I think you see so many Nebraska teams make it to the World Series.”

## Representing Be the One in INDYCAR a ‘win-win’ for Linus Lundqvist

[Steven B. Brooks](#) | March 4, 2024



Linus Lundqvist isn’t just good in a racing car. He’s also handy with barbershop tools of the trade.

The driver of the No. 8 American Legion Honda for Chip Ganassi Racing (CGR) for most of the 2024 NTT INDYCAR SERIES season, Lundqvist joined the team in August after finishing third in the 2021 INDY NXT

points race and then winning the championship by 92 points a year later. He also got behind the wheel for three INDYCAR races last season for Meyer Shank Racing, posting the fastest lap time in two of the three races.

The 24-year-old Lundqvist talked with American Legion Social Media Manager Steven B. Brooks about the opportunity to drive for CGR, representing The American Legion and Be the One, and how he hasn’t paid for a haircut in years.

**Steven B. Brooks: What does it feel like getting an opportunity with Chip Ganassi Racing: a team that has drivers in contention every year not just in races, but in the INDYCAR SERIES season championship hunt? And what’s it like being able to work**

**alongside the CGR drivers, including two – Scott Dixon and Alex Palou – with multiple series championships?**

**Linus Lundqvist:** This is very much a dream come true to be able to first race in INDYCAR, but then to do it with a team like Chip Ganassi Racing, it's incredible. And to race alongside drivers like Alex Palou and Scott Dixon, there's no other place you'd want to be as a rookie. The ability to have those guys as my teammates ... and learn from them, it's invaluable. And hopefully, we'll be up there one day fighting for wins, because at the end of the day that's what we're here to do. But I know it's going to be a steep learning curve here at the beginning, and I'm going to be like a sponge and just absorb as much information as I can from the guys and girls on the team, but also from the other drivers.

**Question: You had a lot of success in the INDY NXT series. Can you draw from that experience, and from getting out on the track for a few INDYCAR races last year, racing for CGR this season?**

**Lundqvist:** Yes, absolutely. Every year that you're doing racing you learn something. I've been fortunate enough to have won races and championships in the past. And I want to believe that's one of the reasons why Chip (Ganassi) hired me at the end of the day. We know that he likes winners. And that's kind of why I'm here as well: to continue to fight for wins and championships. And the (INDYCAR) races last year, those were crucial for me. That opened the door and, I think, turned a lot of heads, and gave me the opportunity to sit in this position where I am right now. I'm going to try to draw from all the experience that I have to create some good results here in this and the following seasons to come.

**Question: You're going to be driving The American Legion No. 8 Honda, which represents all of the veterans in the Legion and the American Legion Family. But in doing so, you're also representing veterans across the nation. What does it feel like to be able to represent that group?**

**Lundqvist:** I'm incredibly honored to be running The American Legion car, I think for two reasons. First, obviously it has in terms of racing history a lot of success. The car, the livery has won races, won championships. But I think the bigger picture is that you're part of something bigger here. You're not just racing. You're actually a small piece in the big puzzle, which is that at the end of the day to try to save lives. So, to get more involved, and understand and

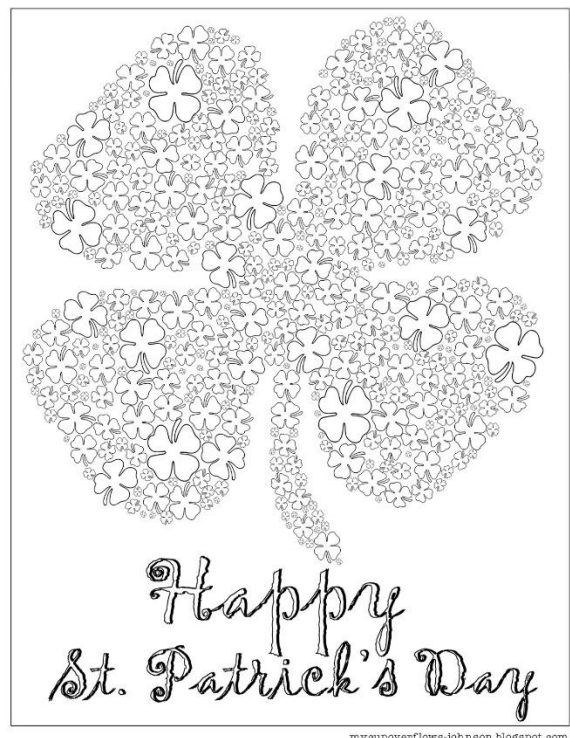
get to know the veteran community more and more has been incredible. There's a feeling of being a part of something bigger than yourself and bigger than racing, which I'm incredibly honored to be a part of.

**Question: Does it feel a little bit different representing a cause, with the cause being Be the One and veteran suicide prevention and awareness, rather than maybe just a regular sponsorship?**

**Lundqvist:** One hundred percent. And if anything, it motivates you even higher, because you know you're representing not a product, but you're representing something bigger – something that at the end of the day fights to save lives. If anything, it's going to make me work even harder trying to represent The American Legion at the front of the races and trying to bring as much attention to it as we can by winning races. For me, it's a win-win, in the sense that it's extra motivation, but also, I'm incredibly honored and proud to be part of this community and hopefully play a small part in this.

**Question: Tell us something we don't know about you?**

**Lundqvist:** My favorite food is sushi. My favorite TV series of all time is "Band of Brothers." My favorite movie of all time is "Schindler's List." I can juggle. Also, I cut my own hair, and I've done that the past four years.



## 2024 SAL Membership Report: March 7, 2024

#	DETACHMENT	2024 DET. YEAR END GOAL	NEEDED TO MEET 80% TARGET 3/13/2024	2024 ACTUAL MBRSHIP	% OF YEAR END GOAL	2024 RENEWAL %
1	HAWAII	120	-35	131	109.17%	89.92
2	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,611	-361	1,650	102.42%	85.59
3	PUERTO RICO	156	-34	159	101.92%	96.08
4	WISCONSIN	4,398	-732	4,250	96.63%	84.84
5	FRANCE	168	-27	161	95.83%	83.73
6	NORTH DAKOTA	1,075	-162	1,022	95.07%	85.03
7	FLORIDA	23,066	-3,396	21,849	94.72%	78.36
8	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,570	-226	1,482	94.39%	78.60
9	NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,027	-689	5,511	91.44%	80.33
10	OREGON	1,534	-165	1,392	90.74%	74.50
11	IOWA	4,914	-515	4,446	90.48%	82.40
12	CONNECTICUT	1,865	-189	1,681	90.13%	78.42
13	ILLINOIS	13,716	-1,362	12,335	89.93%	82.91
14	MARYLAND	16,803	-1,659	15,101	89.87%	81.22
15	ARIZONA	8,595	-840	7,716	89.77%	73.97
16	OHIO	31,690	-3,045	28,397	89.61%	82.13
17	MICHIGAN	26,236	-2,339	23,328	88.92%	79.08
18	NEW YORK	30,663	-2,721	27,251	88.87%	80.89
19	PENNSYLVANIA	62,746	-5,482	55,679	88.74%	82.07
20	RHODE ISLAND	348	-30	308	88.51%	74.93
21	MINNESOTA	11,435	-972	10,120	88.50%	81.52
22	NEBRASKA	6,992	-532	6,126	87.61%	82.97
23	NEW MEXICO	1,582	-116	1,382	87.36%	68.12
24	INDIANA	37,244	-2,602	32,397	86.99%	79.88
25	VERMONT	3,920	-262	3,398	86.68%	80.29
26	LOUISIANA	1,821	-118	1,575	86.49%	79.20
27	TENNESSEE	1,792	-113	1,547	86.33%	71.22
28	VIRGINIA	4,367	-275	3,769	86.31%	74.03
29	NORTH CAROLINA	2,770	-145	2,361	85.23%	70.24
30	GEORGIA	4,887	-251	4,161	85.14%	73.92
31	ALABAMA	2,100	-106	1,786	85.05%	73.02
32	NEW JERSEY	9,662	-480	8,210	84.97%	75.56
33	MISSISSIPPI	736	-36	625	84.92%	72.78
34	TEXAS	5,783	-262	4,888	84.52%	71.91
35	KANSAS	6,055	-247	5,091	84.08%	76.91
36	WEST VIRGINIA	2,593	-105	2,179	84.03%	73.49
37	WYOMING	1,248	-45	1,043	83.57%	74.00
38	DIST OF COL	91	-3	76	83.52%	76.14
39	DELAWARE	2,596	-86	2,163	83.32%	73.66
40	IDAHO	659	-22	549	83.31%	62.93
41	ALASKA	1,740	-52	1,444	82.99%	68.09
42	MAINE	2,757	-78	2,284	82.84%	73.25
43	MASSACHUSETTS	5,432	-147	4,493	82.71%	74.25
44	WASHINGTON	2,682	-67	2,213	82.51%	65.36
45	COLORADO	2,952	-67	2,429	82.28%	70.26
46	ARKANSAS	406	-9	334	82.27%	65.85
47	MISSOURI	3,337	-71	2,741	82.14%	72.95
48	CALIFORNIA	11,292	-227	9,261	82.01%	70.02
49	MONTANA	1,091	-8	881	80.75%	75.63
50	UTAH	460	5	363	78.91%	67.11
51	LATIN AMERICA	33	1	25	75.76%	37.50
52	OKLAHOMA	1,430	91	1,053	73.64%	60.06
53	NEVADA	387	31	279	72.09%	60.96
54	KENTUCKY	2,399	272	1,647	68.65%	58.21
55	PHILIPPINES	79	18	45	56.96%	54.43
<b>Grand Totals:</b>		<b>382,111</b>	<b>-31,098</b>	<b>336,787</b>	<b>88.14%</b>	<b>78.84</b>

## 2024 SAL Regional Breakdown

Western Region - James R. Fischer, Sr. (CA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
HAWAII	120	131	109.17%
OREGON	1,534	1,392	90.74%
ARIZONA	8,595	7,716	89.77%
NEW MEXICO	1,582	1,382	87.36%
WYOMING	1,248	1,043	83.57%
IDAHO	659	549	83.31%
ALASKA	1,740	1,444	82.99%
WASHINGTON	2,682	2,213	82.51%
COLORADO	2,952	2,429	82.28%
CALIFORNIA	11,292	9,261	82.01%
MONTANA	1,091	881	80.75%
UTAH	460	363	78.91%
LATIN AMERICA	33	25	75.76%
NEVADA	387	279	72.09%
PHILIPPINES	79	45	56.96%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>34,454</b>	<b>29,153</b>	<b>84.61%</b>

Midwest Region - Terry A. Harris (KS)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,611	1,650	102.42%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,075	1,022	95.07%
IOWA	4,914	4,446	90.48%
NEBRASKA	6,992	6,126	87.61%
KANSAS	6,055	5,091	84.08%
MISSOURI	3,337	2,741	82.14%
OKLAHOMA	1,430	1,053	73.64%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>25,414</b>	<b>22,129</b>	<b>87.07%</b>

Northeast Region - John R. Cook (NH)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
FRANCE	168	161	95.83%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,027	5,511	91.44%
CONNECTICUT	1,865	1,681	90.13%
MARYLAND	16,803	15,101	89.87%
NEW YORK	30,663	27,251	88.87%
PENNSYLVANIA	62,746	55,679	88.74%
RHODE ISLAND	348	308	88.51%
VERMONT	3,920	3,398	86.68%
NEW JERSEY	9,662	8,210	84.97%
DIST OF COL	91	76	83.52%
DELAWARE	2,596	2,163	83.32%
MAINE	2,757	2,284	82.84%
MASSACHUSETTS	5,432	4,493	82.71%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>143,078</b>	<b>126,316</b>	<b>88.28%</b>

Southeast Region - Linwood A. Moore (VA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
PUERTO RICO	156	159	101.92%
FLORIDA	23,066	21,849	94.72%
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,570	1,482	94.39%
LOUISIANA	1,821	1,575	86.49%
TENNESSEE	1,792	1,547	86.33%
VIRGINIA	4,367	3,769	86.31%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,770	2,361	85.23%
GEORGIA	4,887	4,161	85.14%
ALABAMA	2,100	1,786	85.05%
MISSISSIPPI	736	625	84.92%
TEXAS	5,783	4,888	84.52%
ARKANSAS	406	334	82.27%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>49,454</b>	<b>44,536</b>	<b>90.06%</b>

Central Region - Robert L. Bristo (MN)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	% of Goal
WISCONSIN	4,398	4,250	96.63%
ILLINOIS	13,716	12,335	89.93%
OHIO	31,690	28,397	89.61%
MICHIGAN	26,236	23,328	88.92%
MINNESOTA	11,435	10,120	88.50%
INDIANA	37,244	32,397	86.99%
WEST VIRGINIA	2,593	2,179	84.03%
KENTUCKY	2,399	1,647	68.65%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>129,711</b>	<b>114,653</b>	<b>88.39%</b>

SAVE PAPER.  
SAVE POSTAGE.  
SAVE TIME.



www.legion.org/SAL-renew

QUICKLY AND EASILY RENEW ONLINE  
**MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**



03/07/24		NATIONAL   Donald "JR" Hall, Jr. (MD)   National Commander						
Region	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	Quota Date	105% Date	
1 Southeast 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	49,454	44,536	(4,918)	90.06%	309			
2 Central 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	129,711	114,653	(15,058)	88.39%	1,137			
3 Northeast 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	143,078	126,316	(16,762)	88.28%	800			
4 Midwest 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	25,414	22,129	(3,285)	87.07%	157			
5 Western 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	34,454	29,153	(5,301)	84.61%	241			
<b>TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7</b>	<b>382,111</b>	<b>336,787</b>	<b>(45,324)</b>	<b>88.14%</b>	<b>2,644</b>			

SONS OF THE  
AMERICAN  
**LEGION**

MEMBERSHIP  
RENEWAL  
TARGET DATE  
March 13, 2024



03/07/24		CENTRAL REGION   Robert L. Bristo (MN)   National Vice-Commander							
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date
1 Wisconsin 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4,398	4,250	(148)	96.63%	29	4	84.84%		
2 Illinois 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7	13,716	12,335	(1,381)	89.93%	108	13	82.91%		
3 Ohio 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	31,690	28,397	(3,293)	89.61%	385	16	82.13%		
4 Michigan 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	26,236	23,328	(2,908)	88.92%	178	17	79.08%		
5 Minnesota 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	11,435	10,120	(1,315)	88.50%	122	21	81.52%		
6 Indiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	37,244	32,397	(4,847)	86.99%	305	24	79.88%		
7 West Virginia 1, 5, 6, 7	2,593	2,179	(414)	84.03%	4	36	73.49%		
8 Kentucky 1, 4	2,399	1,647	(752)	68.65%	6	54	58.21%		
<b>TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7</b>	<b>129,711</b>	<b>114,653</b>	<b>(15,058)</b>	<b>88.39%</b>	<b>1,137</b>				

03/07/24		WESTERN REGION   James A. Fischer Sr. (CA)   National Vice-Commander								
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date	
1 Hawaii 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	120	131	11	109.17%	10	1	89.92%	02/05/24	03/07/24	
2 Oregon 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,534	1,392	(142)	90.74%	4	10	74.50%			
3 Arizona 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	8,595	7,716	(879)	89.77%	24	15	73.97%			
4 New Mexico 5, 6, 7	1,582	1,382	(200)	87.36%	-	23	68.12%			
5 Wyoming 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,248	1,043	(205)	83.57%	1	37	74.00%			
6 Idaho 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	659	549	(110)	83.31%	8	40	62.93%			
7 Alaska 3, 7	1,740	1,444	(296)	82.99%	20	41	68.09%			
8 Washington 4, 5, 7	2,682	2,213	(469)	82.51%	25	44	65.36%			
9 Colorado 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	2,952	2,429	(523)	82.28%	65	45	70.26%			
10 California 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	11,292	9,261	(2,031)	82.01%	72	48	70.02%			
11 Montana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,091	881	(210)	80.75%	9	49	75.63%			
12 Utah 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	460	363	(97)	78.91%	-	50	67.11%			
13 Latin America 4, 6	33	25	(8)	75.76%	-	51	37.50%			
14 Nevada 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	387	279	(108)	72.09%	3	53	60.96%			
15 Philippines	79	45	(34)	56.96%	-	55	54.43%			
<b>TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7</b>	<b>34,454</b>	<b>29,153</b>	<b>(5,301)</b>	<b>84.61%</b>	<b>241</b>					

03/07/24		SOUTHEAST REGION   Linwood A. Moore (VA)   National Vice-Commander								
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date	
1 Puerto Rico 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	156	159	3	101.92%	-	3	96.08%	03/04/24		
2 Florida 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	23,066	21,849	(1,217)	94.72%	176	7	78.36%			
3 South Carolina 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,570	1,482	(88)	94.39%	2	8	78.60%			
4 Louisiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,821	1,575	(246)	86.49%	5	26	79.20%			
5 Tennessee 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,792	1,547	(245)	86.33%	8	27	71.22%			
6 Virginia 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	4,367	3,769	(598)	86.31%	43	28	74.03%			
7 North Carolina 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	2,770	2,361	(409)	85.23%	2	29	70.24%			
8 Georgia 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	4,887	4,161	(726)	85.14%	5	30	73.92%			
9 Alabama 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	2,100	1,786	(314)	85.05%	5	31	73.02%			
10 Mississippi 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	736	625	(111)	84.92%	3	33	72.78%			
11 Texas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	5,783	4,888	(895)	84.52%	54	34	71.91%			
12 Arkansas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	406	334	(72)	82.27%	6	46	65.85%			
<b>TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8</b>	<b>49,454</b>	<b>44,536</b>	<b>(4,918)</b>	<b>90.06%</b>	<b>131</b>					

03/07/24		MIDWEST REGION   Terry A. Harris (KS)   National Vice-Commander								
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date	
1 South Dakota 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	1,611	1,650	39	102.42%	3	2	85.59%	02/22/24		
2 North Dakota 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,075	1,022	(53)	95.07%	-	6	85.03%			
3 Iowa 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4,914	4,446	(468)	90.48%	25	11	82.40%			
4 Nebraska 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	6,992	6,126	(866)	87.61%	69	22	82.97%			
5 Kansas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	6,055	5,091	(964)	84.08%	41	35	76.91%			
6 Missouri 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	3,337	2,741	(596)	82.14%	10	47	72.95%			
7 Oklahoma 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1,430	1,053	(377)	73.64%	9	52	60.06%			
<b>TOTALS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7</b>	<b>25,414</b>	<b>22,129</b>	<b>(3,285)</b>	<b>87.07%</b>	<b>157</b>					

03/07/24		NORTHEAST REGION   John R. Cook (NH)   National Vice-Commander								
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date	
1 France 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	168	161	(7)	95.83%	1	5	83.73%			
2 New Hampshire 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	6,027	5,511	(516)	91.44%	38	9	80.33%			
3 Connecticut 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	1,865	1,681	(184)	90.13%	58	12	78.41%			
4 Maryland 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	16,803	15,101	(1,702)	89.87%	136	14	81.22%			
5 New York 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	30,663	27,251	(3,412)	88.87%	183	18	80.89%			
6 Pennsylvania 4, 5, 6, 7	62,746	55,679	(7,067)	88.74%	261	19	82.07%			
7 Rhode Island 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	348	308	(40)	88.51%	-	20	74.93%			
8 Vermont 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	3,920	3,398	(522)	86.68%	49	25	80.29%			
9 New Jersey 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	9,662	8,210	(1,452)	84.97%	9	32	75.56%			
10 Dist. of Columbia 4, 7	91	76	(15)	83.52%	-	38	76.14%			
11 Delaware 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	2,596	2,163	(433)	83.32%	6	39	73.66%			
12 Maine 5, 6, 7	2,757	2,284	(473)	82.84%	5	42	73.25%			
13 Massachusetts 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	5,432	4,493	(939)	82.71%	54	43	74.25%			
<b>TOTALS 1, 4, 5, 6, 7</b>	<b>143,078</b>	<b>126,316</b>	<b>(16,762)</b>	<b>88.28%</b>	<b>800</b>					

03/07/24		2024 SUPER SIX STANDINGS								
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	Increase	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date	
1 Florida 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	23,066	21,849	(1,217)	94.72%	176	7	78.36%			
2 Ohio 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	31,690	28,397	(3,293)	89.61%	385	16	82.13%			
3 Michigan 1, 4, 5, 6, 7	26,236	23,328	(2,908)	88.92%	178	17	79.08%			
4 New York 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	30,663	27,251	(3,412)	88.87%	183	18	80.89%			
5 Pennsylvania 4, 5, 6, 7	62,746	55,679	(7,067)	88.74%	261	19	82.07%			
6 Indiana 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	37,244	32,397	(4,847)	86.99%	305	24	79.88%			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>211,645</b>	<b>188,901</b>	<b>(22,744)</b>	<b>89.25%</b>	<b>1,488</b>					

<b>National Totals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7</b>	<b>382,111</b>	<b>336,787</b>	<b>(45,324)</b>	<b>88.14%</b>	<b>2,644</b>		<b>78.84%</b>		
--	----------------	----------------	-----------------	---------------	--------------	--	---------------	--	--

03/07/24		2024 LEADERSHIP STANDINGS								
Detachment	Detachment	Goal	Actual	Needed for Quota	Percent	National Rank	Renewal Rate	Quota Date	105% Date	
1 Vice-Commander Cook	New Hampshire	6,027	5,511	(516)	91.44%	9	80.33%			
2 Commander Hall	Maryland	14,965	15,101	136	100.91%	14	81.22%			
3 Trailing Candidate Clancy	New York	30,663	27,251	(3,412)	88.87%	18	80.89%			
4 Vice-Commander Bristo	Minnesota	11,435	10,120	(1,315)	88.50%	21	81.52%			
5 Leading Candidate Navaratte	New Mexico	1,582	1,382	(200)	87.36%	23	68.12%			
6 Vice-Commander Moore	Virginia	4,367	3,769	(598)	86.31%	28	74.03%			
7 Vice-Commander Harris	Kansas	6,055	5,091	(964)	84.08%	35	76.91%			
8 Vice-Commander Fischer	California	11,292	9,261	(2,031)	82.01%	48	70.02%			



2024 National Membership Target Dates			
1 September 13, 2023	10%	6 ♥ February 14, 2024 ♥	75%
2 October 18, 2023	25%	7 March 13, 2024	80%
3 November 15, 2023	35%	8 April 10, 2024	90%
4 December 13, 2023	45%	9 May 15, 2024	100%
5 January 18, 2024	60%	10 July 24, 2024 (DSTG)	105%



# 1919 Society Pledge Commitment

DONOR INFORMATION		
Donor(s)		
Address		
City	State	ZIP
Phone	Email	
Are you a member of the American Legion: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Member number

TERMS OF PLEDGE
I am supporting the 1919 Society with a pledge total of: \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Today with a single payment <input type="checkbox"/> Over the next year, beginning on (date): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Over the next _____ years, beginning on (date): _____ Please bill me <input type="checkbox"/> Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT(S)	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Check</b> - Make checks payable to: <b>American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation - 1919 Society</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Credit card</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MC <input type="checkbox"/> AmEx <input type="checkbox"/> Discover	
Credit Card Number	Exp. Date
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Planned Gifts and Stock</b> - Please contact The American Legion Office of Charitable Gifts toll free at <b>833-257-0955</b> or by email at <b>CharitableGiving@legion.org</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>	
My/Our gift will be matched by	
<input type="checkbox"/> Matching gift enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Matching gift form will be sent	

By electronically signing this 1919 Society Pledge Commitment (pledge commitment) I/we agree that this is a legally binding contract to give the amount(s) specified above to the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation, doing business as American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation (ALVCF) and the ALVCF accepts such pledge/donation. I/we agree that the terms of this pledge commitment is legally binding upon and enforceable against me/us and my/our respective successors and heirs, including without limitation, my/our estate(s) and executor(s). This pledge commitment shall be governed by and interpreted under the laws of the State of Indiana. The ALVCF is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization under the provisions of Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3). The ALVCF's federal tax identification number is 35-6039680. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Donor Signature	Date
Donor Signature	Date

**Thank you for your charitable contribution.**

**American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation**  
P.O. Box 1055  
Indianapolis, IN 46206

