



# SALUTE

A Detachment of Kansas Newsletter

**Date: July 2025**



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## Message from the Detachment Commander

HELLO KANSAS SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION!!!

July is hot and rolling, and the 2026 membership cards are already here! "Get One for the Legion" is underway for you, my fellow S.A.L. members. Get out there and recruit a veteran... or ten! The Detachment wants to give you a polo. There is more information on this exciting new initiative on the flyer and submission form included in this newsletter.



I have decided that my Commander's project for this year will be the Cadet Law program. The S.A.L. has always and will always be big supporters of the youth programs within the Legion family, as we understand that the kids are our future. The program has been struggling financially for a few years, and they are considering increasing the fee for kids to attend. I would like to try to prevent that from happening. I am asking that each squadron and district do some kind of fundraiser to benefit the program. It would be great if we could raise between \$1 and \$3 per S.A.L. member. When your squadron does something in support of the project please send me an email (det.cmdr.ks@gmail.com) and tell me about it, I would love to brag on you in a future SALute! Please Write your checks to : **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**.

The Department Homecoming is just around the corner. George, Anndi, and I are looking forward to seeing everyone at Overland Park Post 370. Squadron 370 will actually be preparing the food, they always do an excellent job and it is only \$15! The flyer is included in this newsletter as well.

Thank you to those that attended Legion College in Concordia. We had some great training, and I want to thank everyone that helped put it all together. I hope to see many more of you there next year. This a great tool that the Legion helps us provide, and if you don't go you are really missing out.

I'm honored to be serving as your Detachment Commander. If I can ever help in any way, don't hesitate to reach out, again my email is [det.cmdr.ks@gmail.com](mailto:det.cmdr.ks@gmail.com).

For God and Country,

Matthew Krupco

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### **Message from the Detachment Vice Commander**

#### **Renew or Join Today – Let's Make 2025 Our Best SAL Year Yet!**

Dear Sons of the American Legion Family,

The new membership year begins July 1, 2025, and we're ready to make it one to remember!

Whether you're a current member, a returning one, or thinking about joining for the first time, now is the perfect time to be part of something bigger. As the son or grandson of a U.S. military veteran, you're eligible to join our proud tradition of service, support, and patriotism.





The Sons of the American Legion is more than a membership—it's a mission. Together, we:

- Support veterans and their families
- Volunteer in our communities
- Organize events and raise funds for vital causes
- Carry forward the legacy of those who served

Let's also get our current members renewed. A quick check-in or friendly reminder can bring someone back into the fold. Let's reach out, reconnect, and build momentum!

Make this your moment to renew, reengage, and recruit. Visit our national website at [americanlegion.org](http://americanlegion.org) to renew or sign up—and don't forget to check in with your local post as well.

Thank you for your dedication to our veterans and to each other. Let's make 2025 our strongest year yet!

For God and Country,  
Michael Weber  
Vice Commander, Detachment of Kansas  
Sons of the American Legion  
 [spidercreek220@gmail.com](mailto:spidercreek220@gmail.com)  
 620-430-0651

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### Message from the Detachment Adjutant

Greetings, Kansas Sons!

**This month, I'm urging everyone to support the *Service Dogs Assisting Veterans (SAVES)* Act. Here's more information on it, from the American Legion Advocacy Alert:**



Too many veterans are left without the critical support they need to recover from the visible and invisible wounds of war. For those living with physical disabilities, PTSD, or other service-connected conditions, the lack of access to trained service dogs represents a major gap in care. It's time to close that gap.

*SAVES Act* aims to correct this by taking the following actions:

- Establish a five-year pilot program at the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide grants to nonprofit organizations that train and place service dogs with eligible veterans.
- Cover the cost of service dog training tailored to the veteran's specific needs.
- Provide veterinary insurance to ensure lifelong care and well-being for these highly trained service animals.

The American Legion supports this important legislation through Resolution No. 134, our commitment to the use of service dogs as a complementary treatment for veterans with physical injuries and mental health conditions.

Service dogs don't just help veterans navigate the world—they give them back their independence. They provide stability, confidence, and a renewed sense of safety.

But we can't do it without you.

The American Legion is calling on all members to stand with our nation's heroes once more. Contact your members of Congress and urge them to support H.R. 2605 and S.1441, the Service Dogs Assisting Veterans Act (the SAVES Act).

Together, we can ensure that no veteran is left behind—and that every veteran who needs a service dog can receive one.

Let's honor their service with the support they've earned. It's time to act.

You can play a valuable part in this effort by contacting your elected representatives via VoterVoice. You can sign up for VoterVoice alerts [here](#).

#### **Update on Action concerning Squadrons with less than 10 active members:**

Due to the ongoing issues with “goose egg” and underperforming SAL Squadrons (those with less than 10 current members), a committee was formed at Mid-Winter Forum to address the issue. The committee consists of SAL PNVC Terry Harris, SAL Commander Jim Gallentine, SAL Vice Commander Matt Krupco, SAL Master at Arms Michael Weber, SAL PNC Neal Warnken, SAL District 2 Commander (and dual member) Rick Miller, SAL National Americanism Chairman Gerald Hammerschmidt, and me. The Squadrons in question are perennially lacking in transmitting memberships and negatively impact the efforts of all the Squadrons in the Detachment that are working hard on membership.

At the Pre-Convention SAL DEC meeting May 30, it was recommended to revoke the charters of four Squadrons:

Goose Egg Squadrons				
District	Sqdn #	City	Members	Quota
1	55	Troy	0	18
3	138	Caney	0	10
7	175	Hardtner	0	10
7	414	Kingman	0	10

This recommendation was brought before the American Legion DEC meeting by Committee Chairman PNVC Terry Harris and was approved by voice vote at the meeting.

Note: Since the DEC meeting, Hardtner Sqdn 175 has submitted 10 memberships, bringing them into compliance with Detachment bylaws. Their Squadron leadership also indicated that they would transmit 2026 dues for the Squadron as soon as they receive their cards.

Action to revoke the remaining three Squadron charters will proceed. Efforts will be made to transfer the former members to other Squadrons if they are interested.

#### **Membership packets mailed:**

Membership packets for 2025-2026 were mailed from Department Headquarters in mid-June, and should have been received at your Post by the time you read this so contact your Adjutant to renew. Also, we’re still not at 100% for 2024-25, and there’s still time to get those memberships in to honor the service of your loved one.

You can also renew online, of course, by going to <https://legion.org/sal-renew> or scan this QR code:



Thanks for all you do!

Chris Krueger

Detachment Adjutant

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#### **Message from the Public Relations Committee Chairman**

July is rushing up on us. Hopefully your Legion families have wonderful plans not only for the fourth but through out the month. Attached to this month's SALute you will find a flier for the Get One For The Legion Program mentioned in last month's article. It is an awesome way to recognize the Sons in your squadron who take the time and recruit new Legionaires. As we all know new Legionaires are where new SAL members receive their eligibility and are the life blood of the Legion Family.

Also attached is the flier for the Legion Family Homecoming. Come help us celebrate the leadership of the Kansas Legion Family as we get rolling into a new year of service to community, state and nation.

July 1<sup>st</sup> is a special time as it officially starts the membership year. New plans can take shape and old friends can join with new to make the Legion a vital part of communities across our state. Please remember whether it is the Riders, Scouting, Boys State or another program, we all had a reason to join. Share that reason with your friends and neighbors and remind them what wonderful things the Legion Family accomplishes each year.

For God and Country,

Rick Miller

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](mailto: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



# AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY HOMECOMING

## HONORING:

GEORGE HONN – AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

ANNDI BOWNES – DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

MATTHEW KRUPCO – SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER

August 16, 2025

12:00PM Social, 1:00pm Lunch

American Legion Post 370

7500 W 75th St, Overland Park, KS 66204

Guest Speaker: Leading Candidate for National Commander Dan Wiley

**\$15.00 (RSVP by August 9) \$17 at the Door**

## LUNCHEON MENU:

Meatloaf or chicken, mashed potatoes, corn/green beans, salad, roll, & tea/water



Venmo



Cash App



PayPal



Zelle

-or-

Make checks payable to Matthew Krupco and mail to 510 E Main St., Blue Mound, KS 66010

-----Please cut and mail-----

Name	Meatloaf	Chicken

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_