



**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT FIRST DISTRICT
AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF OHIO**

First for a Reason!

Volume 3 Issue 5

1 May 2026



**Wisdom From the District
Commander**

Hello Fellow Legionnaires,
It's that time of year for our
Summer Conventions at both
the District and Department
levels.

2025-2026 Officers and Staff

Commander Dean Boyers 5828 San Reno Dr.
Sylvania, Ohio 43560 (419) 250-6972
468commander@gmail.com

1st Vice Commander Burnell Rau 301 N. 3rd St.
Continental, Ohio 45831
(419) 969-4705 bernrau@gmail.com

2nd Vice Jeff Hess 111 S 5th St Waterville, OH
43566-1304 (509) 995-6595
jeffhess_20@outlook.com

Adjutant Kevin Motter
516 W. Main St. Montpelier, Ohio 43543 (419) 630-
8767 motter.kb@gmail.com

Finance Russell Bohland
223 Dean Rd. Temperance, MI 48133 (734) 847-
3543 rgbcsb@buckeye-express.com

Chaplain Randy Roberts 4148 Stonehenge Dr
Sylvania, OH 43560-3425 (419) 461-7922
rproberts@nooter.com

Newsletter Articles Email to:
1stdistrictohio@gmail.com

As a reminder, the "Great" 1st District Convention will be held on Sunday, May 31 at 9:30 a.m. at Winnow-Arn American Legion Post 541, 109 S. 5th St., Continental, OH 45831.

The Department Convention will take place July 10–12, 2026 at the Toledo Glass City Convention Center (see attached flyer for details).

All Posts should elect or appoint delegates to both conventions. These meetings are where new officers are elected, important resolutions affecting the Legion are discussed and voted on and many individual, Post and District awards are presented. The District Convention Call has been mailed to all Posts. Please review it carefully, as it includes important information about the District Convention, Post award nomination forms and District activity bid forms. If you have never attended a Department Convention, this is a great year to do so. As the "Great" 1st District serves as the host District, I would like to see a strong turnout from our members to show the Department of Ohio that we truly are the best in the State. I also encourage local Posts to consider hosting a dinner or event to provide a warm welcome to our out-of-town guests during the Department Convention. It is my sincere hope that every Post in The Great First District is represented at both of these events.

v/r

Dean Boyers

Commander

The Great FIRST District

Web Site: <https://www.thegreatfirstdistrict.com>

Jayson Montgomery

[jraccmm@gmail.com](mailto:jracmm@gmail.com)

Facebook www.facebook.com/The American Legion-Great FIRST District of OHIO

Upcoming E-Boards and Conferences

District Convention

May 31st, Winnow-Arn Post 541

Convention Committees meet at 8:30 am

Convention scheduled to start at 9:30 am.

*Dress for all E-Boards and Conferences is Legion Business Casual, Uniform Cap, Legion Polo and Slacks. Dress for the District Convention is Legion Dress, Uniform Cap, Blue Blazer, Tie, Slacks.



Membership With the 1st Vice Burnie Rau

Look how time flies. It's already the end of April and Mother's Day is right around the corner. Thinking of the Legion family, celebrate our moms. We wouldn't be here without them. Memorial Day will be here very soon, as well. I'm sure many of you have ceremonies, parades, etc. Honor our deceased veterans. The monthly target date for National is May 13 th (Armed Forces Day). Post goal is set at 100%. The Great First District (as of April 22 nd) sits at 93.68%, placing us 8 th in the Department of Ohio. The Department is at 92.75% nationally (18 th Nationally). This year Department Convention is in our own District. Toledo is hosting the event downtown. It is sure to be enjoyable. Hotels will fill up fast when the flyer hits the mailbox. Go to www.OhioLegion.com get the information, call and reserve to beat the rush. Our District Convention is May 31 st at Continental American Legion Post 541. If you have any Legion or Membership questions, feel free to get in touch with me.

v/r

Burnell Rau
1st Vice Commander



Activities With the 2nd Vice Jeff Hess

250 Celebration. I am still looking for a Post to hoist this event. Adams Township Post offered to let us use their building. However, I still need people to help plan and organize the event. This event celebrates the founding of our great country. It would be a shame if we could not find a post to host this great event. In addition it is a fund raiser for the post that hosts the event. If your post would like to hold this event please let me know. Department Euchre Tournament, May 9th , 2026. The tournament will be held at Warren McIntire Post 262, 350 Randolph St. Hamler OH. Registration starts at 11 am. The tournament starts at noon. The Toledo Mudhens are having a military appreciation night on Friday May 22 nd . I have reserved 60 seats. The cost is \$14 before taxes and fees. A flyer with the QR code is attached. The District golf outing will be held on Aug 9 th at sycamore hills golf course. This event is being hosted by Bradner Post. The District gun raffle is going good. The district is raffling a Henry Arms Golden Boy American Legion Tribute Edition 22 rifle. Tickets are 1 for \$10 and 3 for \$20. If you would like to buy tickets you can contact me and I will get some to you. The District Commander also has tickets. The drawing will be held at the Department Convention on July 11th.

For God and Country,
Jeff Hess
2nd Vice Commander



Chaplain's Thoughts with Chaplain Randy Roberts

In the month of May, we find ourselves in a month that carries deep meaning for all who have served and for those who continue to serve. May brings with it National Military Appreciation Month, capping it off with Memorial Day. A sacred time to honor and remember our brothers and sisters who made the ultimate sacrifice. It's more than just a date on the calendar, it is a time when we pause, and our nation remembers as a whole to reflect on the cost of freedom and to honor those who served and gave their lives to preserve the freedoms we enjoy. As Legionnaires we play a vital role in carrying the torch of remembrance. Whether offering prayers at ceremonies, standing quietly with a grieving family, or listening to a veteran process old memories. We offer comfort and connection in moments that truly matter. May is also Mental Health Awareness Month, another reminder that our work doesn't stop with remembrance—it also includes restoration. Let's continue being available to our comrades who may be struggling silently. A kind word, a check-in call, or simply showing up can make a profound difference. All of us are ministers of hope and healing, and your role in that sacred work is more important than ever.

We as Legionnaires must be about our Father's business. Matthew 22:36-40 "the two greatest Commandments are to love God with all your heart, soul and mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself." This means we need to step out of our comfort zone and go out and connect with others, talk to them and encourage them or it may mean serving them in some way to make their life easier. This will make your life much richer and happier.



From the Desk of the Adjutant Kevin Motter

We all should have submitted our Consolidated Post Reports by now.

There are Three reports you must submit yearly to receive your membership dues cards. They are the Consolidated Post **Report (CPR)**

Post Data Report (PDR)

Post Officer Certification

These forms along with their due dates are mailed to you as the Post Adjutant or they can be found at:

www.ohiolegion.com/forms/ under the right column titled "Post Forms".

Department is using a new email address for submitting forms. Please send all forms, including those above, to this address:

forms@ohiolegion.com

*It wouldn't hurt to cc me in on your form submissions at:

1stdistrictohio@gmail.com

I can resubmit them if needed and take that problem off your back.

or mail them to:

The American Legion Dept of Ohio

60 Big Run Road

Delaware, Ohio 43015

*As a cost saving effort, **Department Hq no longer has a Post Office Box**. Use the address highlighted above when mailing.

The job of a Post or District Adjutant is not hard! You can train a Baboon to do it. The only thing necessary is a desire to see your Post or District succeed, the ability to keep track of dates and submit forms on a regular basis. That's it! The frustration comes when you must deal with individuals who are more impressed with their own title and fail to either oversee or do the above. I have mailed out Convention Calls three years in a row now and it never fails that I have four or more packets returned as the address provided by the Post is wrong. I double check with the Post Locator and if a Post doesn't receive mail at a physical

v/r
Randy Roberts
District Chaplain

location or PO Box, I mail it to the address given for where dues are sent. There are times, that too is wrong. I just sent one that was returned to the Post's email, which was wrong also. As you fill out your **Post Data Report**, PLEASE ensure you list your Post's physical address, a mailing address, a valid email address and phone number. Also make sure your current dues is correct. The Information form the PDR is what national uses to update the Post Locator, you know the place younger veterans look to find a Post near them? It is also printed on the dues notices that national mails out.

v/r
Kevin Motter
1st District Adjutant

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP STATS



The Great RRST District
Ohio American Legion
Monthly Membership Stats

Last Available Dept. Stats as of 4/22/2026

Post #	Post Name	Location	2025 Memb	2025 Quota	Plus or Minus	Current Quota %
1st Division: Wood/Ottawa Counties						
Wood County						
28	Perrysburg	Perrysburg	105	125	-20	84.00%
45	Bowling Green	Bowling Green	46	38	8	121.05%
183	Freedom	Pemberville	94	101	-7	93.07%
240	Troy-Webster	Luckey	35	32	3	109.38%
338	Albert Bowe	Bradner	155	171	-16	90.64%
441	Lybarger-Grimm	Tortolomany	94	86	8	109.30%
533	Rossford	Rossford	37	39	-2	94.87%
539	North Baltimore	North Baltimore	192	198	-6	96.97%
725	Portage Memorial	Portage	3	20	-17	15.00%
Wood County Totals:			761	810	-49	93.95%
Ottawa County						
113	Alfred G. Dodway	Port Clinton	72	81	-9	88.89%
114	John A. Fader	Oak Harbor	122	129	-7	94.57%
279	Community	Elmore	48	48	0	100.00%
324	Genoa	Genoa	106	103	3	102.91%
542	Scheible-Downing	Put-In-Bay	63	75	-12	84.00%
555	Louis Reuma	Marblehead	20	26	-6	76.92%
Ottawa County Totals:			431	462	-31	93.29%
1st Division Totals:			1192	1272	-80	93.71%
2nd Division: Hancock/Putnam/Henry Counties						
Hancock County						
3	Ralph D. C. de	Findlay	323	332	-9	97.29%
511	Mulford-Butler	McComb	27	28	-1	96.43%
Hancock County Totals:			350	360	-10	97.22%
Putnam County						
63	Kern-Slusser	Ottawa	210	210	0	100.00%
172	Diemer-Dodmeyer	Miller City	36	33	3	109.09%
287	Charles J. Wagner	Leipsic	48	55	-7	87.27%
516	Bowers-Slusser	Columbus Grove	116	120	-4	96.67%
536	Harter-Williams	Giboa	70	68	2	102.94%
541	Winnow-Arn	Continental	140	169	-29	82.84%
715	Colonel Jennings	Fort Jennings	133	136	-3	97.79%
Putnam County Totals:			753	791	-38	95.20%

Henry County

262	Warren L. McIntire	Hamler	98	109	-11	89.91%
300	Bert G. Taylor	Napoleon	328	373	-45	87.94%
316	Deshler	Deshler	58	67	-9	86.57%
332	Roberts-McMillen	McClure	59	60	-1	98.33%
340	William F. Helmke	Holgate	18	21	-3	85.71%
454	Ward L. Adams	Ridgeville Corners	106	103	3	102.91%
492	Gilbert Baughman	Liberty Center	21	26	-5	80.77%
Henry County Totals:			688	759	-71	90.65%

2nd Division Totals: 1791 1910 -119 93.77%

3rd Division: Fulton/Williams Counties**Fulton County**

143	John Dale	Fayette	37	47	-10	78.72%
265	Robinson-Gibbs	Wauseon	236	260	-24	90.77%
311	Buehler-Lauber-Weckesser	Archbold	57	68	-11	83.82%
373	A.E.E.E.W.	Delta	101	97	4	104.12%
479	Murbach-Siefert	Swanton	212	240	-28	88.33%
Fulton County Totals:			643	712	-69	90.31%

Williams County

10	J.D. Smith Memorial	Edgerton	34	42	-8	80.95%
60	Yackee-Strong Memorial	Styler	43	45	-2	95.56%
109	Montpelier	Montpelier	63	59	4	106.78%
284	Charles E. Arnold	Bryan	114	110	4	103.64%
307	Agnew-Sinnabarger	Pioneer	77	83	-6	92.77%
662	Edon	Edon	46	45	1	102.22%
669	West Unity	West Unity	65	71	-6	91.55%
Williams County Totals:			442	455	-13	97.14%

3rd Division Totals: 1085 1167 -82 92.97%

4th Division: Defiance/Paulding Counties**Defiance County**

137	Farmer	Farmer	47	47	0	100.00%
223	Hicksville	Hicksville	47	65	-18	72.31%
635	Community Memorial	Jewell	71	80	-9	88.75%
680	Ney Community	Ney	29	32	-3	90.63%
Defiance County Totals:			194	224	-30	86.61%

Paulding County

253	Cottrell-Boylan	Antwerp	41	45	-4	91.11%
297	Reuben J. Smith	Payne	73	76	-3	96.05%
341	Giltz-Brown	Oakwood	29	30	-1	96.67%
Paulding County Totals:			143	151	-8	94.70%

4th Division Totals: 337 375 -38 89.87%

5th Division : Lucas County

Lucas County

18	Tony Wroblewski	Toledo	56	56	0	100.00%
110	Point Place	Toledo	89	89	0	100.00%
232	Alva N. Sidle	Grand Rapids	94	110	-16	85.45%
320	Maumee	Maumee	210	218	-8	96.33%
335	Toledo	Toledo	44	52	-8	84.62%
384	Whitehouse	Whitehouse	246	265	-19	92.83%
468	Joseph W. Diehn	Sylvania	260	295	-35	88.14%
512	Toledo Police	Toledo	59	59	0	100.00%
537	Christ Dunberger	Oregon	135	131	4	103.05%
545	Argonne	Toledo	20	15	5	133.33%
553	Adams Township	Toledo	195	190	5	102.63%
576	North End	Toledo	14	20	-6	70.00%
587	Conn-Wessenberger	Toledo	302	318	-16	94.97%
642	Przybylski	Toledo	45	41	4	109.76%
646	Holland	Holland	104	131	-27	79.39%
786	Donald Dunbar	Toledo	11	15	-4	73.33%
Lucas County Totals:			1884	2005	-121	93.97%
5th Division Totals:			1884	2005	-121	93.97%

County Line Up		Division Line Up		Standings	
1	Hancock 97.22%	1st	93.71%	3	
2	Williams 97.14%	2nd	93.77%	2	
3	Putnam 95.20%	3rd	92.97%	4	
4	Paulding 94.70%	4th	89.87%	5	
5	Lucas 93.97%	5th	93.97%	1	
6	Wood 93.95%	1st District is in 8th Place in the Department			
7	Ottawa 93.29%				
8	Henry 90.65%	Paid Members: 6,289 Quota 6,729 93.46%			
9	Fulton 90.31%				
10	Defiance 86.61%	IGN-D1.pdf (ohiofire.com)			

THE GREAT FIRST DISTRICT MAY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	NATIONAL SPRING MEETING INDIANAPOLIS	NATIONAL SPRING MEETING INDIANAPOLIS	NATIONAL SPRING MEETING INDIANAPOLIS	NATIONAL SPRING MEETING INDIANAPOLIS	NATIONAL SPRING MEETING INDIANAPOLIS	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
NATIONAL POPPY DAY	MEMORIAL DAY					TRADITIONAL MEMORIAL DAY
31						
FIRST DISTRICT CONVENTION CONTINENTAL						

THE GREAT FIRST DISTRICT JUN2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
FLAG DAY "U.S. ARMY BIRTHDAY"							
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30					

THE GREAT FIRST DISTRICT JUL 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
						4
						AMERICA 250 INDEPENDENCE DAY!
	5	6	7	8	9	10
				DEPARTMENT CONVENTION TOLEDO OHIO	DEPARTMENT CONVENTION TOLEDO OHIO	DEPARTMENT CONVENTION TOLEDO OHIO
	12	13	14	15	16	17
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION TOLEDO OHIO						
	19	20	21	22	23	24
						25
	26	27	28	29	30	31

COUNTY COUNCIL SCHEDULE

County Council	July	August	September	October	November	December
Lucas	Dean	Burnie	Jeff	Dean	Burnie	Jeff
1st Monday at 7:00 pm	7/7/2025	8/4/2025	9/1/2025	10/6/2025	11/3/2025	12/1/2025
Philip Cipriani Jr (419) 708-0861	Toledo Post 512	Whitehouse Post 384	Toledo Post 512	Diehn Post 468	Adams Post 553	Conn-Weissenberger Post 587
Williams	Burnie	Jeff	Dean	Burnie	Jeff	Dean
Set Tuesdays at 6:30 pm	7/15/2025			10/21/2025		
James Anderson (419) 551-3014	Online			Online		
Def/Pau County	Jeff	Dean	Burnie	Jeff	Dean	Burnie
4th Tuesday at 8:00 pm			9/24/2025		11/26/2025	
Chris Newton (419) 576-0728			Antwep Post 253		Farmer Post 137	
Wood County Council	Dean	Burnie	Jeff	Dean	Burnie	Jeff
4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm	7/22/2025		9/23/2025	10/28/2025	11/25/2025	
Steve Benner (419)261-4670	Portage Post 45		Bradner Post 338	Post 441	Rossford Post 533	
Putnam/Hancock County	Burnie	Jeff	Dean	Burnie	Jeff	Dean
Last Monday at 7:00 pm	7/28/2025		9/29/2025	10/27/2025	11/24/2025	
Burnie Rau (419) 969-4705	Gilboa Post 536		Leipsic Post 287	Ft Jenning Post 715	Columbus Grove Post 516	

*6:00 Corn Roast

County Council	January	February	March	April	May	June
Lucas	Dean	Burnie	Jeff	Dean	Burnie	Jeff
1st Monday at 7:00 pm	1/5/2026	2/2/2026	3/2/2026	4/6/2026	5/4/2026	6/1/2026
Philip Cipriani Jr (419) 708-0861	Diehn Post 468	Prybyski Post 642	Grand Rapids Post 232	Toledo Post 512	Conn-Weissenberger Post 587	Holland Post 646
Williams	Burnie	Jeff	Dean	Burnie	Jeff	Dean
Set Tuesdays at 6:30 pm	1/13/2026		3/10/2026		5/17/2026	
James Anderson (419) 551-3014	Online		Online		To Be Announced	
Def/Pau County	Jeff	Dean	Burnie	Jeff	Dean	Burnie
4th Tuesday at 8:00 pm						
Chris Newton (419) 576-0728	Hicksville Post 223	Jewel Post 635	Ney Post 680	Oakwood Post 341	Payne Post 297	
Wood County Council	Dean	Burnie	Jeff	Dean	Burnie	Jeff
4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm						
Steve Benner (419)261-4670	NO DATES SET	NO DATES SET	NO DATES SET	NO DATES SET	NO DATES SET	NO DATES SET
Putnam/Hancock County	Burnie	Jeff	Dean	Burnie	Jeff	Dean
Last Monday at 7:00 pm	1/26/2026	2/23/2026	3/30/2026	4/27/2026	5/26/2026	6/29/2026
Burnie Rau (419) 969-4705	Continental Post 541	Ottawa Post 63	Findlay Post 3	Leipsic Post 287	Ft Jennings Post 715	Columbus Grove Post 516

2026 BUCKEYE BOYS STATE IN-PERSON ORIENTATIONS!



**May 5. 7 pm. Ottawa Post 63.
Richard Zulch**

**May 6. 7 pm. Wauseon Post 265.
Richard Zulch**

**May 7. 7 pm. Conn-Weissenberger Post 587. Toledo.
Robert Schmitt**

**May 23. 1 pm. Lybarger-Grimm Post 441. Tontogany.
Kevin Motter**

News From Around The Great FIRST District

News about Post Grants from Ohio American Legion Charities Inc.



Charles Stennis, Past Department Commander and President of Charities Inc., said they are in the process of establishing a separate 501(c) organization to meet the requirements of the Ohio Attorney General's office regarding granting money back to Posts for improvements. This process should be completed by the end of the year. New guidelines and an application process will be established.

If your Post has news it would like to appear in the Great FIRST District Newsletter, please submit it to the Editor by the 25th of the month for the next issue at: 1stdistrictohio@gmail.com

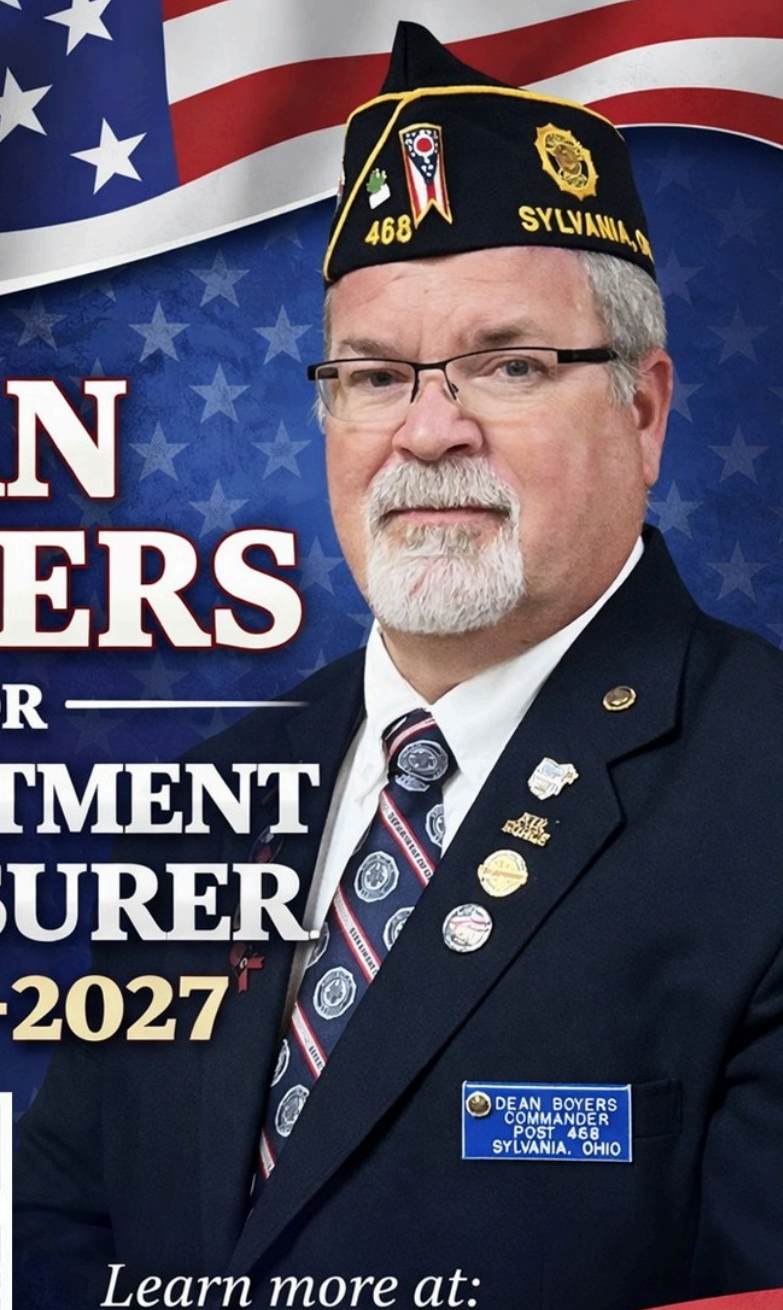
DEAN BOYERS

FOR
DEPARTMENT
TREASURER
2026-2027



Learn more at:

www.deanboyers.com





BERNIE RAU

Candidate for Commander of the
Great First District 2026-2027

VISION

I have dedicated my entire adult life to the military and the mission. I've since continued my dedication to my hometown American Legion and Veterans of Putnam County. I have observed and learned from many past and current leaders of the Great First District and Department of Ohio.

My allegiance to the American Legion is a family trait. My father (Vietnam Era) and mother are past Commander and President of the Continental American Legion. My wife (Theresa) is the current Auxiliary President and has held every position within the Post 541 Auxiliary. All our children and grandchildren are members of Legion, SAL and Auxiliary.

CONTACT

PHONE:
419-969-4705

EMAIL:
bernrau@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATION

Retired United States Air Force SMSgt (E-8) Logistics Management Specialist. Serving in Japan, Korea, England, Germany, Middle East and The United States from Feb 1992 until April 2021.

AMERICAN LEGION EXPERIENCE

- 26 year PUFL member of Post 541 in Continental
- 49 year SAL member of Post 541 in Continental
- Current Post Commander, Adjutant and SAL Advisor
- Past Post Commander and Vice Commander, Trustee, SAL Commander and SAL Vice Commander
- Current 1st Vice Commander for the Great First District
- Past Sgt-at-Arms & Employment Chair for the Great First District
- Past SAL Advisor and SAL Sgt-at-Arms for the Great First District
- Current Commander of the Putnam-Hancock County Council
- Current Commander for 2nd Division of the Great First District

VETERAN AFFILIATIONS

- Putnam County Veterans Service Commissioner
- Life Member AmVets Post 1991 (Current 3rd Vice Commander)
- Life Member VFW Post 9142 (Current Jr. Vice Commander)
- Life Member DAV Chapter 77 Putnam County (Current 1st Vice)
- Life Member the Red Horse and Prime Beef Association
- Life Member the Air Force Sergeant Association
- Life Member the National Guard Association of Indiana
- Member Korean War Veterans Association
- Member 40/8 Voiture 141

NON-VETERAN AFFILIATIONS

- Fraternal Order of the Eagles in Ottawa
- Fraternal Order of the Orioles in Lima



Jeff Hess
For 1st Vice Commander
1st District
Department of Ohio



My name is Jeff Hess. I grew up in Waterville. Both of my parents were very active in the legion and I was a SAL member until I became eligible to join the legion after Desert Storm. Shortly after joining I became a PUFL. I currently have 35 years of continuous membership in the legion.

In 2000 I was transferred from Wright Patterson AFB to Fairchild AFB in Washington State. I retired from Fairchild in 2003. I continued to live in Washington until 2023 when I moved back to Waterville.

While living in Washington I graduated from the National Legion College. (2003) I also held various offices including post treasurer, post adjutant, and post commander.

I am a Past District Vice Commander WA (2013—2014) and a Past District Commander WA (2014—2016) . During my time as District Commander I worked with national to conducted multiple post revitalizations.

I have also been a member of the Department Finance committee and the Department publications committee in the Department of Washington.

I am currently serving the Great First District as the 2nd Vice Commander

I humbly ask for your vote for 1st Vice Commander of the Great 1st District.



DENNIS KARCHER
Candidate for The Great FIRST District
2nd Vice Commander

U.S. NAVY Veteran 1988-1992

PUFL Member of Kerner-Slusser American Legion Post 63
Currently serving as Sergeant at Arms and Post Honor Guard
member, which he proudly serves in, whether it's a parade,
funeral or whatever the Honor Guard is asked to do.

★ **THE GREAT** ★
1ST DISTRICT
GUN RAFFLE



Henry Golden Boy
American Legion Tribute Edition

TICKETS 1 FOR \$10
OR 3 FOR \$20

Winning ticket will be drawn at
Department Convention July 11, 2026

Contact 2nd Vice Commander Jeff Hess for tickets



HONORING AMERICA 250 THROUGH SERVICE

May 2 – Sing While You Work Day of Service

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM | Forest Cemetery - 1110 Paxton St, Toledo, OH

Begin your America 250 Week with Toledo Opera's *Sing While You Work* Day of Service. Coinciding with the VFW's National Day of Service, local volunteers will gather at Forest Cemetery in Toledo to prepare veteran graves ahead of Memorial Day, paying tribute to those who served through meaningful, hands-on work. Volunteer t-shirts and lunch will be provided. Registration required.

Presented in partnership with the Lucas County Veterans Services Commission, Toledo Lucas County Memorial Day Commission, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



Scan QR code to register or visit www.toledoopera.org.

Sponsored by:
The Wolfe Family Foundation





AMERICA 250 DINNER & FREE CONCERT!

May 5 – America 250 Barbecue & Concert

5:30 PM - Deet's Barbecue Food Truck opens (for purchase)

7:00 PM - America 250 Concert by Toledo Opera Resident Artists (free)

Conn Weissenberger American Legion Post 587

2020 W. Alexis Rd, Toledo, OH 43613

Join us for the America 250 Concert at Conn Weissenberger American Legion Post 587, a lively evening celebrating our nation's musical heritage. Enjoy a free performance by Toledo Opera's Resident Artists at 7 pm featuring great American songs and beloved classics.

Come early and grab dinner from Deet's Barbecue food truck at 5:30 pm. A cash bar will be open to post members and concert-goers. This community event is open to the public.

Scan QR code to register your free concert ticket.

Presented by:
The Wolfe Family Foundation





The Findlay Show

May 14 – 16, 2026

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday



39th Annual Armed Forces Day Celebration

Hancock County Fairgrounds, Findlay, Ohio

This year we are celebrating the

250th Anniversary of the United States of America!

Enjoy and participate with the many historical displays and encampments throughout the fairgrounds.

Watch the WWII battle re-enactment at 2 pm Saturday afternoon!

More movie magic pyrotechnical demonstrations!



Thanks to the generosity of Ohio Logistics and Hall Trucking



Admission is FREE!



*Saturday Opening Ceremonies - Historical Displays – Re-enactor Encampments and Battles
Military Vehicle Displays from all Eras – Indoor and Outdoor Vendor Swap Meet
Free Parking, ATM, Free Camping, Showers Available. Bulk Ice Available to Purchase
Saturday Morning Awards Breakfast - Vehicle Pass-n-Review - Great Food*



Returning this year, American Huey 369 with 803, Bell 47, the M4A3E8 Sherman Tank, the Vietnam War Experience Traveling Museum, and MORE!



Brought to you by



Enjoy patriotic music and entertainment throughout Saturday

**Dinner Includes:
Fish, Baked Potato, Salad
or Coleslaw, Roll & Butter
\$15**

**Now Serving:
Chicken Strips
Dinner
Includes Fries & sides
\$12**

**Kids
Strips meal
Includes
Applesauce &
Fries
\$7**

AMERICAN LEGION

FISH FRY

FRIDAY

MAY 15TH

5-7 PM or until sold out

**12580 S. River Rd.
Grand Rapids, OH**

***Drinks & Desserts available for purchase*

Cash only, ATM on site.

For more info: 419-832-0516



THE GREAT
1ST DISTRICT
BASEBALL OUTING



MAY 22 AT 7:05

Join us for a great night of baseball, camaraderie,
and fun at the ballpark!

GET TICKETS NOW

www.gofevo.com/event/Americanlegion26

Or scan the QR code



Grand Rapids American Legion Post 232

PURSE

B I N G O
Night

MAY 30TH

DOORS OPEN @ 6:00PM

BINGO STARTS @ 7:00PM

\$45.00 Entry 15 Game Rounds & Dabber

Extra Cards \$5 each

*10 Designer Purses *1 Concealed Carry Purse

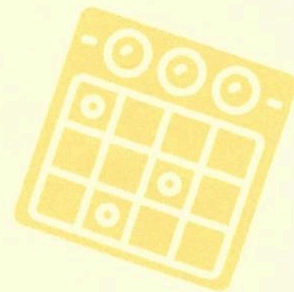
Along with other great prizes!

50/50 & Raffles



venmo

**FOOD & ALCOHOL
AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE**



Tickets Available Now

PUBLIC WELCOME

FINDLAY AMERICAN LEGION



WILL BE HOSTING



Findlay Post 3 Wood Bat Classic

JUNE 19 - 21, 2026

FIRST GAMES STARTING AT 10AM



FINDLAY HIGH SCHOOL

1200 BROAD AVENUE

BASEBALL FIELD IS LOCATED BEHIND THE SCHOOL, USE
NORTH ENTRANCE

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF



DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS: 60 BIG RUN ROAD, DELAWARE, OHIO 43015-8007
PHONE: 740-362-7478 EMAIL: LEGION@OHIOLEGION.COM

2026 Department Convention July 10th – July 12th, 2026

[The American Legion Department of Ohio](#)

&

[The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Ohio](#)

Main: Hilton Garden Inn
Toledo Downtown
101 North Summit St
Toledo, OH 43604
(419) 464-9220
\$169.00/night + tax

Overflow: Renaissance Toledo
Downtown Hotel
444 North Summit St
Toledo, OH 43604
(419) 244-2444 Ext. 1
\$175.00/night + tax

Deadline for Registration is June 6th.

Reference "The American Legion Department of Ohio Convention"

The Department Convention Call will be mailed to each Post in May 2026.
All Post Delegates and Alternates must be registered 15 days prior to Convention.
Delegate and Alternate registration deadline is June 26th!

For more information, contact Christie White at
programs@ohiolegion.com or call (740) 362-7478.

You may also visit the website at:

<https://www.ohiolegion.com/events/department-conferences-conventions/>

Members and non-members are welcome to attend the Convention and any meetings offered

** Call Headquarters if you experience difficulties when making hotel reservations.**

Sons of the American Legion Post 232

Whitetail 60 Gun Fireproof Safe Gun Raffle

This safe contains a mystery gun

Raffle winner will be drawn on August 4, 2026

Grand Rapids American Legion 232

12580 S. River Road Grand Rapids, Ohio 43522

\$10.00 Ticket Donation



Guns are Supplied by: **Smooth Bore LLC**
Winner does not need to be present to win

*Must be able to pass a background check, otherwise a cash prize will be awarded

**Must be 21 years old to win a handgun

Tickets available at the Post

Gun Safe is on display at the Post

Do your part to support those who have served in the armed forces



Stores 48 Rifles & 12 Pistols

**AMERICAN LEGION
GREAT FIRST DISTRICT OF OHIO
ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**

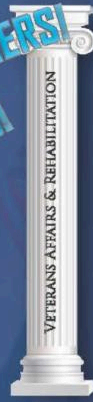
**SUNDAY AUGUST 9TH
SHOTGUN START @ 9AM
SYCAMORE HILLS GOLF CLUB
FREMONT, OH**

- * 28, 4 MAN TEAMS
- * \$340 TEAM ENTRY FEE
- * (\$85 PER PLAYER) DUE BY AUGUST 1ST
- * PIN PRIZES
- * 50/50
- * HOT DOG AT THE TURN
- * PUTTING CHALLENGE
- * DINNER/ PRIZE CEREMONY IMMEDIATELY AFTER

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER
VISIT: WWW.ALBERTBOWE338.ORG
EMAIL: info@albertbowe338.org**



NEW OHIO LEGION PARTNERS!
NEW OPPORTUNITIES!



SCAN ME

Honor our Veterans with the new, American Legion of Ohio Blanket! A beautiful yet practical addition to any home. Proudly made in the USA, this \$79.95 blanket is designed to provide comfort while showcasing your commitment to the American Legion community. Scan this QR code to our affiliate, Field Fans, to get yours today!

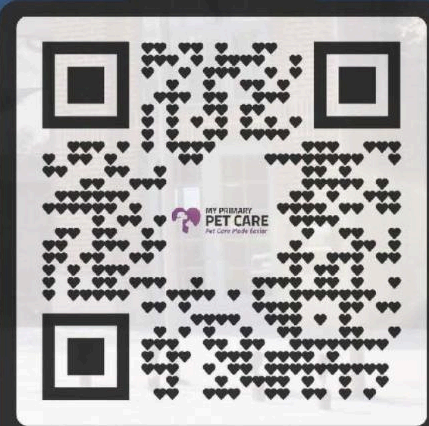
A trusted partner for decades. Legionnaire Insurance Trust can give you peace of mind. Scan this QR code for more information.



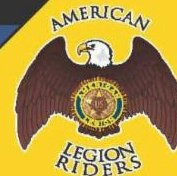
Love your Pet(s)? Scan this QR code for membership discounted Primary Pet Care options. One Price for all your Pets!



SCAN ME



SCAN ME





Genoa

**American Legion
Post 324**

302 West St., Genoa

**1st & 3rd Thursday
of every month**

Doors open at 5 pm

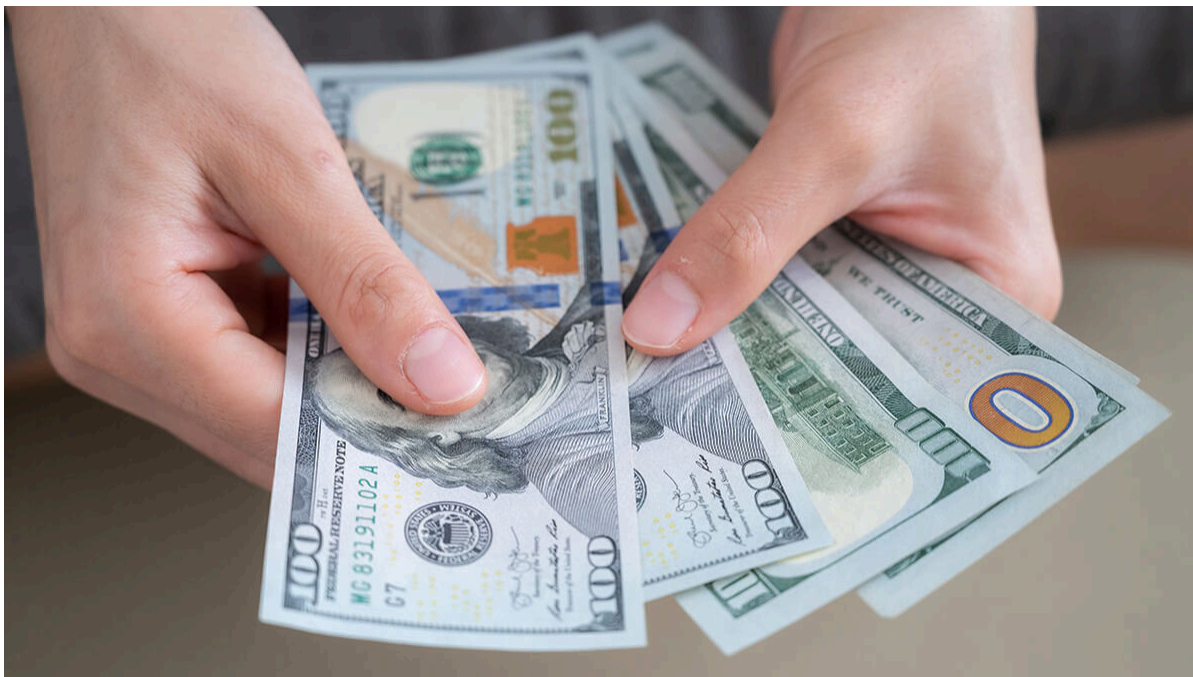
(early bird at 5:30 and regular BINGO at 6:15)

No one under 18 years old
No outside food or drink
Refreshments available inside

*To join or rent the
Genoa American Legion
call 419-205-1942.*

AMERICAN LEGION BASIC TRAINING

How many members of your Post have taken The American Legion Basic Training Course?
 Have you taken The American Legion Basic Training Course?
 Knowledge is Power. Find the Basic Training Course online at www.legion.org



Attend District Conferences and Conventions, WIN FREE Money!

Did you know your Post can win between \$100 and \$400 just by having any Post Officer attend a District Conference or Convention? We draw one Poker Chip at the end of each Conference with a Post Number from each Post in the Great FIRST District, if a member of your Post is present, your Post WINS! If not, the money rolls over to the next meeting. See the meeting schedule on the front page!

NEXT DRAWING IS WORTH \$300.00
ALL YOUR POST NEEDS TO DO IS SEND A DELEGATE!

Not getting the Ohio Legion News?

Click on this QR Code:



1st District Facebook Page

Now you can find and share the Great FIRST District Facebook Page with your Post members by using the QR Code. Point your smart phone camera at the code and BOOM! You are there with all the up-to-date information on District activities.

Or copy and paste the below into your web browser:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100091936718414>

SUPPORT THESE GREAT VETERAN OWNED BUSINESSES



Metal Fabricator
17026 Co Rd 8, Montpelier, OH,
United States, Ohio
(808) 754-5725
Twistedrootsmetalworks@gmail.com
twistedrootsmetalworks.com



Providing mobile Dj, 360/Photobooth,
comedy magic, GAME SHOWS,
Furry Overstuffed Animal Karts,
more!

335 Empire Street, Montpelier, OH,
United States, Ohio
(567) 239-2493
dacluckey@hotmail.com
www.fourofakindent.com

Subscribe and Share the Great FIRST District Newsletter

Of the nearly 7,041 Legionnaires in the District only 262 of them, with ALA and Sons, are receiving this newsletter. Of that number, only half are opening and reading it. Help us grow those numbers. Every Legionnaire with an email address should be receiving it. Forward it to your Post membership. Anyone who wishes to receive it only needs to send me

their name, Legion affiliation and an email address. If you have an event coming up, send it also for inclusion in the newsletter to: **1stdistrictohio@gmail.com**

Connect with us on Facebook or our website!

First District American Legion of Ohio | 516 West Main Street | Montpelier, OH 43543 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!