



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

**\*First for a Reason!\***

Volume 3 Issue 6

1 June 2026



**Wisdom From the District  
Commander**

Hello Fellow Legionnaires, It's time to start thinking about membership renewals for the 2027 membership year. What does a Post need to complete a

**2025-2026 Officers and Staff**

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Sylvania, Ohio 43560 (419) 250-6972  
468commander@gmail.com

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Continental, Ohio 45831  
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membership renewal?

Membership cards!

As a reminder, your Post must submit both the Consolidated Post Report (CPR) and the Officer Certification form before Department can release your membership cards. According to the most recent 2026-2027 Cleared List, 24 Posts in the First District have not submitted their CPR and 27 Posts have not submitted their Officer Certification form. Please ensure these are completed as soon as possible to avoid delays in receiving your membership cards.

I've had the opportunity to assist with several Post officer installations and have been very encouraged to see new young faces stepping into leadership roles within our Posts. This is great to see, as these members represent the future of The American Legion. I encourage all members, especially past officers, to support these young leaders by providing mentorship and sharing your leadership and Legion experience. Helping develop these members today will ensure strong leadership for our organization in the future. Buckeye Boys State is also just around the corner. By this point, your delegates should be fully registered and ready to go. Thank you to everyone who worked hard to recruit delegates and help prepare them for what will undoubtedly be a week they will remember for a lifetime.

For God and Country,

Dean Boyers  
Commander  
The Great FIRST District

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

**Jayson Montgomery**

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**Facebook** [www.facebook.com/The American Legion-Great FIRST District of OHIO](http://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**

The weather is finally looking up. My tomatoes and peppers are flourishing, grass is growing like crazy (good thing gas is cheap), Memorial Day has come and gone. Many of you were involved in ceremonies, parades, etc. Thank you for honoring our deceased veterans. Organizing these events can be hectic and time-consuming. However, they are rewarding. If it weren't for our deceased veterans our organization would not be what it is today. Your delegate strength report should have been mailed to your post. Make sure your delegates plan to attend the Department Convention in Toledo and/or National Convention in Louisville.

Our next District Conference/E-Board is May 31 st at Continental American Legion Post 541. Committee meetings at 8:30am and the Convention at 9:30am. Coffee and snack will be available early and hot sandwiches and side dishes after Convention.

I'll be up for election as your next District Commander. If chosen, I thank those of you who stepped up for the various roles within the district. I hope it will be a fruitful year. As in all the prior years of me climbing this ladder, Dean Boyers is a hard act to follow. Dean has done a tremendous job as your First District Commander. Congratulate him on a successful year.

v/r  
Burnell Rau  
1st Vice Commander



### **Activities With the 2nd Vice Jeff Hess**

The district activities are almost over for my term. We still have the following coming up. The District golf outing will be held on Aug 9th at sycamore hills golf course. This event is being hosted by Bradner Post. A flyer is included in this newsletter. 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

Have you every thought about this ... a tree grows in two directions at the same time. A tree is both gravitropic and phototropic. Gravitropic means the seed grow away from light and toward gravity. That is the root system where it is dark and damp and meets a lot of resistance and obstacles in its path. It must push through the compacted dirt to grow down further. On the top side of the seed, it starts to grow up until it breaks the surface of the soil. It is moving away from gravity and toward the light – thus phototropic. So how does this help you and me in our lives? It is the work you and I do in the dark – when it is difficult and damp and you meet resistance (all kinds of obstacles) from your mind, your health, your nature, what you have been through, the world's influence and Satan's influence. A growing tree is a powerful metaphor for spiritual development with God, where the roots represent a deepening hidden relationship with Christ that provides stability, nourishment, and resilience during trails. Deep roots forced to grow in the adversity/resistance, allow believers to access "God's living waters" ensuring they bear fruit and stand firm regardless of circumstances.

In John 8:12 Jesus declared, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

Psalm 1:3 That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither – whatever they do prospers.

The phototropic side with God's help produces fruit as we see in Galatians 5:22-23 which tells us the nine visible



## From the Desk of the Adjutant Kevin Motter

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/](http://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](mailto:forms@ohiolegion.com)**

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

**[1stdistrictohio@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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 are 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


attributes of positive Godly growth. These qualities are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

If you find yourself in a place where you do not have these attributes all you have to do is pray and ask God for help. It is really that simple!

All of you are in my thoughts and prayers,

v/r  
Randy Roberts  
District Chaplain

## **DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP STATS**

		The Great RRST District Ohio American Legion		Monthly Membership Stats <b>Last Available Dept. Stats as of 6/27/2026</b>			
Post #	Post Name	Location	2025 Memb	2026 Quota	Plus or Minus	Current Quota %	
<b>1st Division: Wood/Ottawa Counties</b>							
<b>Wood County</b>							
28	Perrysburg	Perrysburg	106	125	-19	84.80%	
45	Bowling Green	Bowling Green	47	38	9	123.68%	
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	Tontogany	94	86	8	109.30%	
533	Rosford	Rosford	37	39	-2	94.87%	
539	North Baltimore	North Baltimore	193	198	-5	97.47%	
725	Portage Memorial	Portage	3	20	-17	15.00%	
Wood County Totals:			764	810	-46	94.32%	
<b>Ottawa County</b>							
113	Alfred G. Dodway	Port Clinton	73	81	-8	90.12%	
114	John A. Fader	Oak Harbor	122	129	-7	94.57%	
279	Community	Elmore	50	48	2	104.17%	
324	Genoa	Genoa	106	103	3	102.91%	
542	Scheible-Downing	Put-In-Bay	64	75	-11	85.33%	
555	Louis Reuma	Marblehead	20	26	-6	76.92%	
Ottawa County Totals:			435	462	-27	94.16%	
<b>1st Division Totals:</b>			<b>1199</b>	<b>1272</b>	<b>-73</b>	<b>94.26%</b>	
<b>2nd Division: Hancock/Putnam/Henry Counties</b>							
<b>Hancock County</b>							
3	Ralph D. Cole	Findlay	332	332	0	100.00%	
511	Mulford-Butler	McComb	28	28	0	100.00%	
Hancock County Totals:			360	360	0	100.00%	
<b>Putnam County</b>							
63	Kern-Slusser	Ottawa	214	210	4	101.90%	
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	Gilboa	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:			757	791	-34	95.70%	

**Henry County**

262	Warren L. McIntire	Hamler	99	109	-10	90.83%
300	Bert G. Taylor	Napoleon	331	373	-42	88.74%
316	Deshler	Deshler	58	67	-9	86.57%
332	Roberts-McMillen	McClure	60	60	0	100.00%
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:			693	759	-66	91.30%

**2nd Division Totals:** 1810 1910 100 94.76%

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

143	John Dale	Fayette	37	47	-10	78.72%
265	Robinson-Gibbs	Wauseon	237	260	-23	91.15%
311	Buchers-Lauber-Weckesser	Archbold	60	68	-8	88.24%
373	A.E.E.E.W.	Delta	102	97	5	105.15%
479	Murbach-Siefert	Swanton	217	240	-23	90.42%
Fulton County Totals:			653	712	-59	91.71%

**Williams County**

10	J.D. Smith Memorial	Edgerton	34	42	-8	80.95%
60	Yackee-Strong Memorial	Stryker	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-Shinnabarger	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:** 1095 1167 -72 93.83%

**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	93	89	4	104.49%
232	Alva N. Side	Grand Rapids	95	110	-15	86.36%
320	Maumee	Maumee	212	218	-6	97.25%
335	Toledo	Toledo	44	52	-8	84.62%
384	Whitehouse	Whitehouse	247	265	-17	93.21%
468	Joseph W. Diehn	Sylvania	263	295	-32	89.15%
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	Adam's Township	Toledo	195	190	5	102.63%
576	North End	Toledo	14	20	-6	70.00%
587	Conn-Wessenberger	Toledo	306	318	-12	96.23%
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:			1899	2005	-106	94.71%
<b>5th Division Totals:</b>			<b>1899</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>-106</b>	<b>94.71%</b>

County Line Up	Division Line Up	Standings
1 Hancock 100.00%	1st	94.26% 3
2 Williams 97.14%	2nd	94.76% 1
3 Putnam 95.70%	3rd	93.83% 4
4 Lucas 94.71%	4th	89.87% 5
5 Paulding 94.70%	5th	94.71% 2
6 Wood 94.32%	1st District is in 10th Place in the Department	
7 Ottawa 94.16%	Paid Members: 6,340 Quota 6,729 94.22%	
8 Fulton 91.71%	<a href="#">IGN-D1.pdf (ohioelection.com)</a>	
9 Henry 91.30%		
10 Defiance 86.61%		

# 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	11
				DEPARTMENT CONVENTION TOLEDO OHIO	DEPARTMENT CONVENTION TOLEDO OHIO	DEPARTMENT CONVENTION TOLEDO OHIO	
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION TOLEDO OHIO							
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	

# THE GREAT FIRST DISTRICT AUG2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP INDIANAPOLIS						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
					30TH NATIONAL CONVENTION LOUISVILLE, KY	30TH NATIONAL CONVENTION LOUISVILLE, KY
30	31					
30TH NATIONAL CONVENTION LOUISVILLE, KY		30TH NATIONAL CONVENTION LOUISVILLE, KY				

## 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



**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](mailto:1stdistrictohio@gmail.com)

★ **THE GREAT** ★

**1<sup>ST</sup> 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**

# 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 & PRIZES AFTER

**REGISTER NOW!**

**[WWW.ALBERTBOWE338.ORG](http://WWW.ALBERTBOWE338.ORG)**

**INFO: [info@albertbowe338.org](mailto:info@albertbowe338.org)**



**Genoa**

**American Legion**

**Post 324**

**302 West St., Genoa**

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

**Doors open at 5 pm**

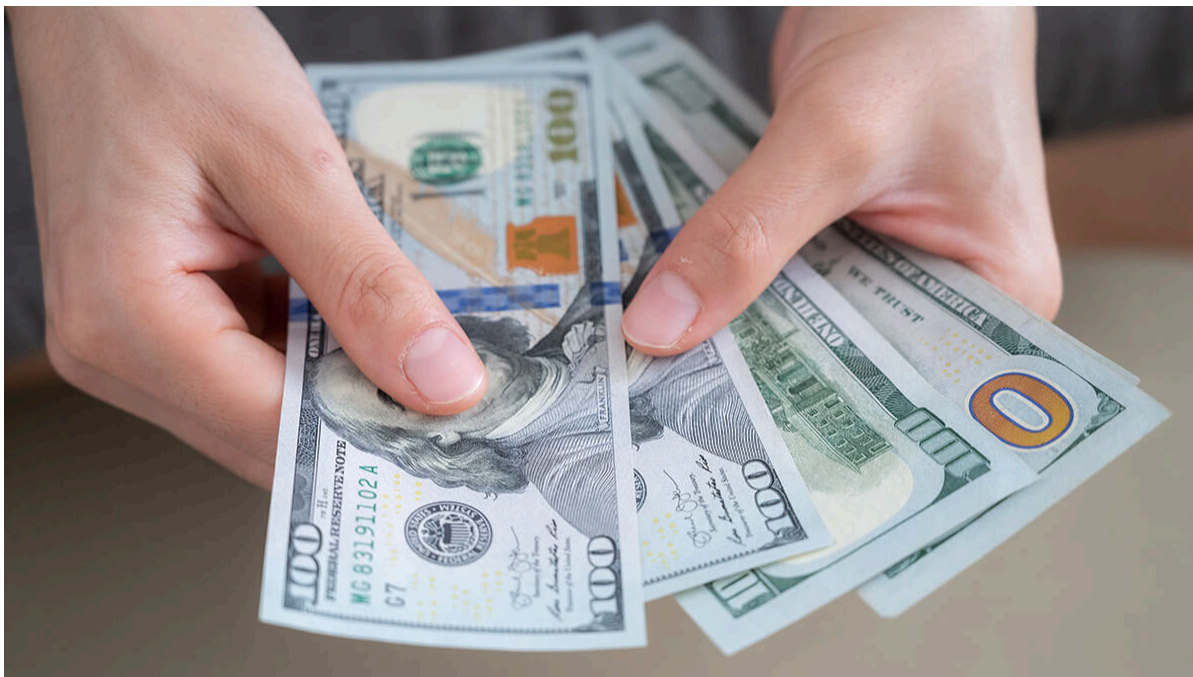
(early bird at 5:30 and regular BINGO at 6:15)

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](http://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 \$100.00**  
**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

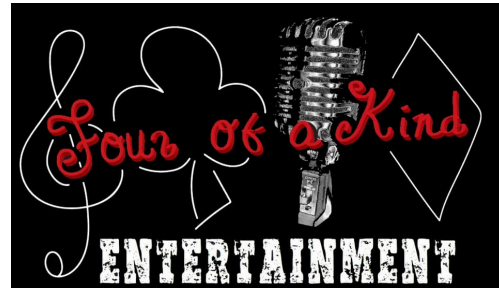
Now you can find and share the Great FIRST District Facebook Page with your Post members by using the QR Code. Point your smart phone camera at the code and BOOM! You are there with all the up-to-date information on District activities.

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](mailto:Twistedrootsmetalworks@gmail.com)  
[twistedrootsmetalworks.com](http://twistedrootsmetalworks.com)



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Furry Overstuffed Animal Karts,  
more!

335 Empire Street, Montpelier, OH,  
United States, Ohio  
(567) 239-2493  
[dacluckey@hotmail.com](mailto:dacluckey@hotmail.com)  
[www.fourofakindent.com](http://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](#)



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