

OHIO LEGION NEWS

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April | May | June 2026

AMERICANISM AND GOVERNMENT TRIP

The American Legion Americanism and Government Trip was held March 2nd-March 6th, 2026. This year the students were chaperoned by Department 1st Vice Commander Gary Cox, Post 613 Commander Jason Ward, Auxiliary 1st Vice President Mindi Rue, Auxiliary Unit 468 member Melissa Boyers, Department Service Officer William Genochio, and Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator Christie White.



Day 1 of the trip consisted of visiting Gettysburg Battlefield and the Gettysburg Museum. The battlefield tour never disappoints, and the museum was an amazing experience. We wrapped up with dinner at Gettysburg American Legion Post 202.



Day 2 of the A&G Trip, our young leaders started their day at the Iwo Jima Me-

morial followed by the Air Force Memorial. Then we made a quick stop to visit our friend Einstein before heading off to Arlington National Cemetery, which is our biggest honor. Our "wreath security" was David Taylor- Post 613- District 3 and Heidi Woods- Post 217- District 2.



Our young leaders selected to place the wreath were Aiden Adams- Post 80- District 3 and Madelyn Manley- Post 196- District 13. Accompanying them for the honor of placing the wreath was Department 1st Vice Commander Gary Cox and Department Auxiliary 1st Vice President Mindi Rue. A special Thank you to Auxiliary Unit 518 for making the wreath for us!



After our wreath laying, we made our way to the Capitol where we were given a tour by interns from Representative Brown and Landsman's office.



Made a quick stop for lunch and immediately went to the National Archives, Navy Memorial, Eisenhower Memorial and National American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial.

For dinner, we were joined by some of the Ohio delegation that were in town for Washington Conference. The American Legion Department of DC Family provided dinner for our Young Leaders, and we were so grateful for their hospitality.

Day 3, our young leaders started out at George Washington's Mt. Vernon for the morning. After visiting POTUS 1's estate, they headed to the Washington National Cathedral and learned that the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary have a stained-glass window there. We made a quick trip to see the White House, even though the barricades were moved back farther than normal. Then they visited the Smithsonian American History Museum, WWI Memorial, FDR, MLK, and Jefferson Memorial (aka TJ's House). We wrapped up the night with dinner hosted by Post 177 in Fairfax.

(feature continued on page 9)

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

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DEPARTMENT COMMANDER



Stan Oren
Department Commander

Greetings to the Legion Family,
Where did the year go? Here we are coming upon the month

of May, and I only have a few months left as your Commander. I have enjoyed visiting many posts throughout the state and am proud of seeing the work you do for veterans and your communities.

The National Vice Commander, Stephen Weismann, from Tennessee visited Ohio recently. We had the opportunity to visit many posts. I think he really enjoyed getting out with our members and having the chance to

talk to many of you.

I am looking forward to our State Convention this summer in Toledo and the National Convention in Louisville, KY. I want to thank everybody for all the hard work they have put in, including my ad hoc teams. The finance team worked very hard at getting us to clear an audit and try to get us into a better financial situation. The membership team worked hard on 5-year membership plan. Our five-year planning

team really came through with a rock-solid, forward-thinking document to help guide us into the future.

Thank you for all your great support and remember membership is not over yet we still have a few more months and let's push it to 100%.

Again, thank you. Take care. I wish you the best.

For God and Country,
-Stan Oren
Department Commander



1ST VICE COMMANDER



Gary Cox Jr.
1st Vice Commander

Dear Legionnaires,
As we head into the month of June. We should be wrapping up our District Conventions and congratulations to all the new officers. I am looking forward to finishing up Stan's year and we should be giving him the best send off and great surge into the 2026-2027 year! Keep pushing

on finishing strong to give your new officers a leg up into 2027!

I hope to see you at these upcoming District Conventions, Boys State, and Department Convention in Toledo! Just to give a heads up on the hospitality room in Toledo - it won't have more than cookies and chips for food but plenty of fun and raffles!

Thank you and I look forward to supporting you this upcoming year.

-Gary W. Cox, Jr.
Department of Ohio
1st Vice Commander



2ND VICE COMMANDER



Holly Lewis
2nd Vice Commander

During a recent visit, National Vice Commander Steve Weismann shared something with the Department Executive Committee that immediately landed with me. He talked about a neighbor who only calls when she needs

something. A repair. A favor. Help moving something heavy. The phone rings, and before he even answers, he already knows what's coming. She never calls to ask how he's doing. Never checks in. Never offers to help him.

Over time, that relationship starts to feel one-sided. Transactional. Draining.

You could feel the room shift as he told it, because everyone had someone like that in their life. And if we're being honest, we all know what it feels like on the receiving end.

Then he made the turn. What

if that's exactly how we show up to our members? If the only time someone hears from us is when their dues expire, we've unintentionally become that neighbor. The one who calls when we need something. Whether we mean to or not, people feel like our relationship is transactional.

What if we tried something different?

Instead of calling expired members to ask for their dues, what if we called just to ask about them? "Hey, we haven't seen you in a while. How are you?" "Is there anything you need?"

No agenda. No ask. Just connection.

Because when people feel seen, they don't feel like a number on a roster. They feel like they belong. People don't come back because they're chased. They come back because they're cared about.

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Visit all our upcoming Department Post Activities at:

<https://www.ohiolegion.com/post-activities-2/>

-Holly Lewis,
Second Vice Commander,
Department of Ohio





DEPARTMENT TREASURER



Ken LaVoy
Department Treasurer

Over the past year, the Department Finance Commission has remained focused not only on strengthening our current financial practices, but also on preparing for the future. One initiative

we have continued from last year is bringing together the incoming leadership team, along with the accountant, bookkeeper, and members of the Finance Commission, to collaboratively develop the upcoming budget. This effort ensures transparency, promotes understanding of the budgeting process, and provides an opportunity for questions and input from all involved.

While the budget is a key component of our financial responsibilities, it represents just one part of a much broader effort. The Finance Commission meets

regularly—at least monthly—to review operations and identify opportunities for improvement. Whether evaluating proposed standard operating procedures (SOPs) or refining spending practices, our focus remains on strengthening accountability and improving processes. These ongoing efforts help safeguard the integrity of our funds and ensure they are managed responsibly.

As we enter a new membership year, many Posts will see transitions in leadership. This makes it an ideal time to review financial policies and procedures at the

Post level. Incoming officers are encouraged to familiarize themselves with established financial practices to ensure continuity, maintain strong financial health, and identify areas for improvement.

This responsibility extends across all levels—Post, District, and Department. Taking the time now to review and strengthen financial practices will help ensure continued success in the year ahead.

-Ken LaVoy,
Department Treasurer



DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN



Ron Distel
Department Chaplain

Greetings Comrades,

I hope that all of you are well and staying safe. I can't believe

another year is almost gone. We will soon elect new Officers and start over again.

This past year you all have kept me very busy by keeping up with all of you. I sent out so many Sympathy, Get Well, and Thinking of You Cards that I quit keeping track of how many. I hope and Pray that this coming year is much kinder to all of us.

I Pray for Normalcy in "Our" world along with safety for all

Defenders of this Great Land

I would like to "Thank" all those that assisted with THE 4 CHAPLAINS service at Mid-Winter Convention. It was truly a Memorable presentation. I have been approached by many who attended the program telling me that it was the BEST program that they have seen.

In closing, I would like to THANK Past Dept Comm. Jean Wilson, Past Dept Comm.

Jason Rue, Past Dept Comm. A.J. Whatley and current Dept Comm. Stanley Oren for giving me the opportunity to serve you these PAST 4 YEARS. And THANKS to all of you for putting up with me. I hope that I met your expectations.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL----See you in Church

Respectfully,
-Ron Distel
Department of Ohio Chaplain



DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN



Kevin Motter
Department Historian

Greetings Legionnaires!

Being a Legionnaire is not just a title but an honor, and grants you the privilege of wearing the blue cap. If you are around a Post for any period, you may wear many other caps. I have a col-

lection of caps, my original blue cap of a Post I joined in North Carolina, my Post Commander cap and Past Post Commander cap, which is my current favorite. The blue cap of a Past District Commander. The blue with white cord County Commander cap. The white over blue caps of District Asst. Sgt-at-Arms, 2nd Vice Commander, 1st Vice Commander, District Commander and District Adjutant. Then there are the white caps of Department Asst. Sgt-at-Arms and now Historian. The cap that is closest to me is my blue Past Post Commander with Post Ad-

jutant's pin as that is the one I wear in my community for Color Guard events for our local festivals, when we raise the flag at local football games and when I present the flag of our nation to the next of kin of my fellow veterans, many of which are friends, neighbors and family members, at graveside services.

Many of us do not know the impact we have in our communities until we sit down and write out all we have done in a twelve-month period. Documenting the things you have done is the history of your Post. It is what you have done collectively with-

in your community, and it is a reminder of what we have done and what we can do for our Veterans and Youth. In doing so gives each of us, our purpose.

Please submit your Post Histories to me by July the 2nd - in time to be reviewed and judged. Refer to the Historians Guide for directions:

<https://legionhistoryshow-case.omeka.net/exhibits/show/2026entries/2026-con-test-and-showcase-info>

Very Respectfully,
-Kevin Motter,
Department Historian

★ ★ ★ DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN ★ ★ ★



Gary Minadeo
Department Parliamentarian

Just a Bit of Order

**Delegates Carry your Voice -
RONR p. 570-574**

The Department Annual Convention is coming up July 10-12 in Toledo, Ohio, and your Post's voice on all matters will be vested in the delegates you choose.

The number you are allowed to choose is limited by the size of your Post as designated on the Department Delegate Chart. For instance, a post with a membership of 217 gets 3 delegates. So while anyone can attend the convention, and we do want to get all of our members to the convention, only the delegates are allowed to vote.

All of the convention information is included in the Con-

vention Call packet sent to your Commander and Adjutant this past month. In that packet are forms which must be sent to Department detailing your committee representatives, delegates, and alternates. Your delegates can be committee reps and vice-versa, but committee reps do not have to be delegates. When your delegates get to Independence they must register with Department personnel by 11am on the Saturday of the convention or they will not be counted as official and your Post loses a vote.

The check-in needs to be by 11am on Saturday so the delegates have time to caucus (a meeting of delegates) and discuss the various issues which will come on the floor for a vote. We normally caucus by District.

The purpose of the caucus is to give the delegates the chance to hear the committee reports, discuss the issues at hand, and determine how they want to vote on the issues.

CAUTION: while all of the delegates may vote the same way on an issue, no delegate is bound

to the decision of a caucus. Each delegate votes his or her own conscience unless specific direction is given by the Post on how to vote each issue.

Who can be a Delegate? Any member in good standing (defined as current dues are paid) can be a delegate. Some posts have stated in their by-laws who can be delegates and typically those are current and past officers of the Post. Many Posts give the right of first choice to the current Commander and the new Commander and fill in with other interested members. The main reason for this is to be sure the Post gets delegates who understand the issues and the working of a convention; experience is a big benefit. Whoever is nominated for delegate and alternate, the body must vote to confirm the delegates unless the Post bylaws specifically state otherwise.

Do not forget alternates. Yes, the report you send to Department should have alternates designated so in case the primary cannot show, the alternate can step in to the primary slot.

Without alternates, you will lose your vote.

Delegate Duties. Commit to make the committee meetings and especially the District caucus. Ask questions, weigh the issues, and vote for the good of the legion. Voting at convention is where the Blue Caps lead the way!!!

-See you at convention-

BE QUOTA!

and **BE ORDERLY!**

Recommended References

- ◇ Robert's Rules of Order
Newly Revised - RONR (12th Ed)
(Emblem Sales - ES)
- ◇ Officers Guide (OG) (ES)
- ◇ Parliamentary Procedure-
A Matter of Order (ES)
- ◇ RONR In-Brief (local bookstore or internet)
- ◇ Robert's Rules for Dummies (bookstore or online)

-Gary A. Minadeo,
Dept. of Ohio Parliamentarian

★ ★ ★ MEMBERSHIP CORNER ★ ★ ★



Sherry Yockey
Membership Manager

**Ohio Legion Membership
Nears 95%—Finishing Strong,
Building Ahead**

As the Department of Ohio approaches the close of the 2025-2026 membership year, Posts and Districts across the state continue to demonstrate strong commitment and momentum. As

of June 10th, Ohio has reached **94.6% membership**, ranking **18th nationally**. The Sons of the American Legion (SAL) is also performing well at **98.1%**, holding **15th in the nation**.

These achievements reflect the dedication and hard work of our members at every level. With the final weeks ahead, the focus remains on finishing strong and pushing toward 100%.

At the same time, preparation for the **2026-2027 membership year**, which officially begins **July 1**, is already underway. Posts are reminded that the **Consolidated Post Report** is past due, and the **Certification of Officers and Post Programs Chairman**

forms must be submitted by **June 1**. Current CPR participation stands at **53.75%**, and completing these reports ensures that Ohio receives full credit for its impact statewide.

Accurate Post data remains essential. While the Post Data Report is no longer required, updates should still be submitted to maintain correct dues and mailing information. Posts are strongly encouraged to utilize **myLegion.org** to process renewals, update member records, and submit required reports.

National Headquarters has downloaded membership data in preparation for 2027 membership cards. Posts and Squad-

rons may request that their 2027 membership cards be mailed by submitting a \$15 check to the Department before July 1. Otherwise, cards will be distributed to District Officers for delivery to Posts. Please note that cards will be mailed or distributed only to Posts and Squadrons that are cleared after all required reports have been submitted.

Ohio has built strong momentum this year. Let's carry that energy forward—finish strong and set the foundation for an even more successful 2026-2027 membership year.

-Sherry Yockey,
Membership & Post Activities
Manager



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



Renee C Kohl
Auxiliary President

What a whirlwind the last few months have been! Spring is blossoming, rain fills the air, flowers are bursting with color, and the daylight is finally beginning to stretch a little longer for us all. We could all use that extra dash of Vitamin D.

February was buzzing with activity—several Four Chaplains programs, Girls State Board meetings, a trip to the Ohio Statehouse to celebrate America 250 with 1st Vice Mindi and 2nd Vice Rebecca, and of course, a full belly after visiting Wendell L. Wilkie Unit 19 in Akron for their

annual soup sale.

March brought even more celebrations. We gathered for the District 13 Legion Birthday Party, toured OVH, and made a quick but meaningful visit to Valor Home in Akron. I had the honor of installing newly elected Junior Officers in the 14th District and celebrating our future young leaders at the Oratorical Contest at Legion Headquarters. Yet, the most unforgettable experience was participating in Honor Flight Mission 149.

12th District President Kim Mann and Junior member Aheva White were also on that flight. What an incredible journey—it was truly packed with memories that will last a lifetime. Tony, my veteran for the trip, is an 81-year-old Vietnam-era Navy veteran. I affectionately called him my “little rascal” throughout the day. His energy and zest for life are absolutely contagious—I only wish I had half of it!

Though we started the day tired at the airport, the energy shifted the moment we boarded. As we approached Washington, D.C., you could feel the excitement building. The first emotional moment came during the Water Cannon Salute—it brought tears to both Tony’s eyes and mine. He couldn’t believe all that fanfare was for him.

Seeing the monuments through the eyes of a veteran was deeply moving—the quiet moments, the joy, and above all, the pride. One of the most touching moments of the day was when I presented Tony with a Vietnam Challenge Coin. His reaction said it all—laughter, surprise, then tears, followed by a heartfelt hug and even a kiss on the cheek. He was truly overwhelmed. I could not have been more honored to be part of that moment.

When we returned to Columbus, Tony—my “rascal”—quickly became my “scoundrel,” stealing

hugs from nearly every person who came to welcome the Veterans home, and yes, plenty of kisses too! He was an absolute delight.

A huge shoutout and an even bigger THANK YOU to Kim Mann for making this dream come true. Her hospitality is unmatched—she and her husband welcomed me with incredible food and a beautiful place to stay. “Thank you” hardly feels like enough. Kim, you are truly a blessing.

Now that report deadlines have passed and awards remain under wraps, we look ahead to summer conventions just around the corner. Time has flown by faster than I can shake a stick!

I look forward to seeing you all soon at an upcoming event or summer convention.

-Renee Kohl, President
American Legion Auxiliary,
Department of Ohio



ROBINSON'S RECAP



John Robinson
Department Adjutant

Department Travel Highlights a Busy and Productive Spring

This spring has been an active and productive season for the Department, filled with travel, advocacy, leadership engagement, and planning for the future of The American Legion in Ohio.

Department leadership traveled to Washington, D.C. for the Washington Conference, where we met with many members of

Ohio’s congressional leadership to discuss important veterans’ issues. One of the primary topics addressed was the ongoing effort to help VA Director Collins secure approval for increased pay opportunities for VA doctors. Competitive pay is critical to attracting and retaining quality medical professionals within the VA system, ensuring veterans receive the best care possible. We are currently working alongside our senators on proposed legislation aimed at increasing the salary limits for VA physicians.

In April, we were honored to host National Vice Commander Steve Weisman during our Department Executive Committee (DEC) meeting. While in Ohio, National Vice Commander Weisman traveled extensively across the state, visiting 14 dif-

ferent American Legion Posts in just four days. His dedication and commitment to meeting Legionnaires across Ohio was greatly appreciated by all who had the opportunity to welcome him.



Later in April, I attended the Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT) Board of Directors meeting. LIT continues to expand and improve insurance options not only for individual members, but also for our Posts and organizations. Members are encouraged to visit the LIT website

to learn more about the valuable insurance programs and services available.

May brought another successful State SAL Convention in Grove City. We would like to congratulate all newly elected Sons of The American Legion officers, from the Squadron level all the way to the Detachment leadership team. We are especially excited to see Commander Bidlack take the helm and know he will do an outstanding job leading the organization in the coming year.

As we now look ahead to Department Convention, excitement continues to build for another great year of service, leadership, and support for veterans, their families, and our communities across Ohio.

VR,
-John Robinson, Adjutant



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



Ohio American Legion Riders

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OHIO ALR 2026 ROMP
The 2026 ROMP is scheduled for

June 11-14, 2026 and being hosted at Avon Lake, Post 211. You can find more information on the 2026 Ohio ROMP Facebook page. If you are interested in hosting the 2027 ROMP, please contact the State ALR at legionriders@ohiolegion.com for more information.

National ALR Sojourn 250

Registration is now up and opened! American Legion Riders — don't miss your chance to be part of Sojourn 250 on July 4, 2026. This historic one-day ride from Pittsburgh to Washington, D.C. will help cap a 26-country journey for the U.S. flag as America celebrates its 250th birthday.

Only 275 Riders will be able to register. Route details have not been finalized yet — they will be shared as soon as they are available. More info / Register: <https://www.legion.org/information-center/news/riders/2026/march/sojourn-250-registration-now-open>

For additional information visit the Department Legion Riders WebPage at: <https://www.ohiolegion.com/legion-riders/>



LEGISLATIVE

David Root's E-newsletter
[CLICK HERE](#)



Jacob Brault
Dept. Legislative Liaison

The 136th General assembly is quickly coming to an end with many of our Legislators focusing on their reelection campaigns along with the prescribed tasks of holding an elected office as a State Legislator. These upcoming months are of the utmost importance for us as a Legion family to ensure that meaningful legislation gets passed and can make a difference in each one of our lives before the lame duck session begins in November, please be on the lookout for any communication via email from our new mass communication service VoterVoice for links to advocacy campaigns, surveys, email broadcasts, and other grassroots methods to make our voices heard at the Ohio Statehouse.

If you have not done so already, please sign up for and engage with our VoterVoice campaigns that have been posted on all of our social media platforms to ensure we can continue to be on of the Nation's largest grassroots organizations. Below is a list of Veteran and Military oriented bills that we are currently tracking:

- HB 1 Enact Ohio Property Protection Act
- HB 22 Authorize homestead exemption for surviving military spouses
- HB 27 Designate Specialist Jacob A. Ashton Memorial Bridge
- HB 40 Increase disabled veteran enhanced homestead exemption
- HB 50 To designate a portion of SR 47 the "PFC John Wayne Richard Memorial Highway."
- HB 56 To designate a portion of SR 421 the "CPL David James Amheiser Memorial Highway."
- HB 61 Modify homestead exemption, owner-occupancy tax credit amount
- HB 95 Support members of Ohio Veterans Education Council

- HB 96 Make state operating appropriations for FY 2026-27
- HB 135 Prohibit source of income discrimination in rental housing
- HB 171 Designate a portion of State Route 28 the "CPT Louis John Speidel Memorial Highway."
- HB 204 Designate 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion Day
- HB 228 To designate a portion of I 280 the "SSG Jack W. Coy Veterans Memorial Highway."
- HB 234 Designate Cpl. Robert Dockstader Memorial Highway
- HCR 7 To support the work of the Am. Leg. Buckeye Boys State and the Am. Leg. Aux. Buckeye Girls State
- SB 17 Designate 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion Day
- SB 21 Designate Rutherford B. Hayes Day
- SB 39 Provide for informational poster on veteran benefits and services
- SB 88 Enact the Ohio Property Protection Act
- SB 92 Authorize total property tax exemption-totally disabled

- veterans
 - SB 148 Designate a portion of State Route 2 the "Specialist Lloyd Andrew Sellers Memorial Highway."
 - SB 179 Verify veteran status of imprisoned individuals
 - SCR 7 Urge Congress reissue DoD Civilian Retiree Identification Cards
 - SR 21 Urge Congress support military, veteran mental health treatment
 - SR 22 Urge federal govt reduce processing time-veteran disability claim
 - SR 52 Honoring the DAR Elizabeth Sherman Reese Chapter on its 150th Anniversary
 - SR 97 Observing April 2025 as the Month of the Military Child in Ohio
- For more information on your online legislative resources, please visit our website at: <https://www.ohiolegion.com/legislative/> or contact your District Legislative Chairman.
- Jacob Brault,
Legislative - National Security - VE&E Coordinator

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

WILLIAM GENOCHIO GySgt, USMC (Ret)

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"The SitRep"

Board of Veterans Appeals update:

2024: \$1,539,548.76, Success Rate 75%
2023: \$3,449,566.10, Success Rate 75%
2022: \$7,180,090.87, Success Rate 84%
2021: \$8,850,574.76, Success Rate 87%
2020: \$2,386,763.09, Success Rate 84%
2019: \$2,879,602.90, Success Rate 77%
2018: \$3,229,365.06, Success Rate 78%
2017: \$6,172,243.43, Success Rate 85%

Total Winnings for Veterans:
\$35,356,983.86

Here is the updated Service Officer production for Jun 1, 2025, to present. Reminder these numbers change as decisions are posted:

Hearings Conducted: 172 (68 decisions 56 won / 12 denied)

Success Rate: 82%

Retro won: \$995,606.66

Remand Retro: \$368,368.14

Total won: \$1,363,974.80

Post Service Officer School

The Department held Post Service Officer School will be held September 19, 2026, from 8am – 4pm at American Legion Department of Ohio DEC Room, 60 Big Run Road, Delaware, OH 43015. RVSP to genochio@ohiolegion.com and mmanzie@ohiolegion.com by September 10th to secure your seat. A Post Service Officer provides an important link between the veteran or dependent and a representative holding American Legion accreditation. An effective PSO understands benefits afforded to veterans and dependents; however, the PSO is not authorized to file any claims on behalf of the claimant. PSOs serve as valuable resources to veterans in local Posts to ensure that our veterans and their dependents receive their earned benefits.

VA Home Loan: Certificate of Eligibility Enhancement

The Certificate of Eligibility (COE) verifies eligibility for VA home loan benefit for veterans and eligible dependents. With the latest update to the VA: Health and Benefits mobile app, makes viewing the latest COE more convenient for iOS and

Android download, see: <https://mobile.va.gov/app/va-health-and-benefits>. This enhancement enables eligible veterans to view their active COE Home Loan Letter in real-time and take the next step toward homeownership. If a Veteran does not have an active COE and wants to use their benefit, or wants to make changes to their active COE, they should work directly with their mortgage lender or through VA.gov. For additional information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/housing-assistance/home-loans/>.

VA Moves to Speed Delivery of Survivors' Benefits

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announced a new regulation regarding survivor benefits. With this change effective February 23, 2026, the VA will pay the higher of the two benefits Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), with DIC being the higher pay amount for a surviving spouse with less delay regarding the previous method of developing both claims concurrently. This will streamline the process. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/family-and-caregiver-benefits/survivor-compensation/dependency-indemnity-compensation/>.

VA Changes to Protect Veterans' 2nd Amendment Rights

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced a major new step to protect Veterans' Second Amendment rights. Effective immediately, VA will not report Veterans to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Instant Criminal Background Check System as "prohibited persons" only because they need help from a fiduciary in managing their VA benefits. In consultation with the Department of Justice, VA has determined this practice violates both the Gun Control Act and Veterans' Second Amendment rights. According to federal law, a decision by a judicial or quasi-judicial body is needed before someone can be reported to NICS. In addition to immediately stopping the reporting of VA Fiduciary Program participants to NICS, the department is working with the FBI to remove all past VA reporting from NICS, so no Veterans are unfairly deprived of their Second Amendment rights based solely on participation in VA's Fiduciary Program.

 AMERICAN
LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

NATIONAL SECURITY

JACOB BRAULT

Legislative | National Security | VE&E
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POW/MIA

DPAA has identified/repatriated (231) service members in fiscal year 2025. This marks the

highest number of identifications in a single fiscal year since the agency's establishment in 2015.

Federal Freeze

Federal funding has slowly started to be finalized and approved throughout the federal government with only a few agencies remaining unfunded past the fiscal year. Legislators

are working endlessly to ensure this funding does not lapse again.

Cyber Security Tips:

Here are five steps Legion family can take to ensure robust personal cybersecurity:

1. Use Strong and Unique Passwords: Veterans should create complex, unique passwords for every online account and avoid

reusing passwords. A password manager can help keep track of them securely.

2. Enable Two-Factor Authentication (2FA): Activating 2FA on accounts adds an extra layer of protection by requiring a second form of verification (like a code sent to your phone), reducing the risk of unauthorized access.

National Security (cont.)

3. Stay Alert to Phishing Scams: Veterans may be targeted by phishing scams, especially those related to military or veterans' benefits. Always verify the source before clicking on links or

providing personal information.
 4. Regularly Update Software: Ensure that all devices (computers, phones, etc.) have the latest software and security patches to

protect against known vulnerabilities. This includes antivirus programs and system updates.

5. Monitor Financial Accounts: Veterans should frequently

check their bank accounts and credit reports for signs of fraud or identity theft. Using identity theft protection services can also help spot any suspicious activity early.

AMERICANISM

Americanism and Government Trip Highlights (cont.)

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Day 4 was a very productive last full day in DC. They started out the Marine Corps Museum and had lunch at the Devil Dog Diner, followed by the U.S. Army Museum and National Law Enforcement Memorial and Museum. We made sure to get our steps in by visiting the U.S. Flagpole, 3 Service Members Statue, Vietnam Wall, Vietnam Women's Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Korean Memorial, WWI Memorial, and Washington Monuments. Dinner was delicious at the Hard Rock Cafe, and we ended the night visiting the Pentagon Memorial.



Day 5 Our final stop was Flight 93 Memorial in Stoystown, PA. Words can't describe the Flight 93 Memorial. Very emotional. Former Vice President Dick Cheney said it best. "I think an act of heroism just took place on that plane." Thousands of people died on 9/11, but thousands more would have died if it weren't for the actions of those 40 passengers aboard Flight 93. Our Young Leaders learned all about what happened that day, as well as heard stories from all the chaperones about where we were when we first heard the news. That stop was a good reminder to be grateful. "A common field one day, a field of honor forever."



We're not sure how the young leaders get better every year...



but somehow, they do! We cannot begin to explain how impressive these Young Leaders were. They were polite, respectful, caring, enthusiastic, intelligent, funny, and just overall amazing students. Based off our time with them, we can confidently say the future is in great hands! They made their Post, District, Department, and Family proud!



It was truly an honor to have them all on this journey.

John Glenn once said, "The most important thing we can do is inspire young minds."

I have no doubt these young le-

aders will inspire future generations.

2026 Americanism & Government Young Leaders

Alex Moyer
 Post 405 District 5

Eli Dirksen
 Post 435 District 3

Sophia Goodson
 Post 373 District 1

Angela Figueroa
 Post 405 District 5

Madelyn Manley
 Post 196 District 13

Mohamed Katabay
 Post 614 District 12

David Taylor
 Post 613 District 3

Craig Greer
 Post 459 District 9

Jessica Fike
 Post 134 District 7

Livia Martini
 Post 193 District 14

Heidi Woods
 Post 648 District 2

Aiden Adams
 Post 80 District 3

Joshua Bowden
 Post 717 District 5

Max Washington
 Post 801 District 14

Brooke Voress
 Post 217 District 2

Sonya Sawtelle
 Post 506 District 9

Emmalee Carter
 Post 217 District 2



Oratorical Program



The American Legion Department of Ohio held our Department Oratorical Contest on Sunday March 29th, 2026 at Department Headquarters.

District 4
Patience Persing
District 7
Elise DePugh

ed to go to the finals.

We are proud to announce Anna Schutte as the 2026 American Legion Department of Ohio Oratorical Champion!!!!

testants, and how they cheered for one another and encouraged each other.

*Good Luck at National, Anna!
We know you will make Ohio proud!*

We are so proud of all the con-



The 2026 Contestants were...

District 1
Wade Stubleski
District 2
Briggs Hileman
District 3
Nissi Xavier
District 3
Anna Schutte

District 9
Gabriella Hoang
District 9
Lily Hoang
District 12
Elizabeth Steward

All the contestants did amazing! After the semi finals rounds, Anna and Gabriella were select-



AMERICANISM DATES TO REMEMBER

Buckeye Boys State June 14-21, 2026

Department Junior Baseball Tournament July 16-19, 2026

Department Senior Baseball Tournament July 24-27, 2026



BUCKEYE BOYS STATE



Buckeye Boys State

“A Week to Shape a Lifetime”

The American Legion Buckeye Boys State program will be held June 14th-21st, 2026 on the campus of Miami University. If you are interested in joining the Boys State staff, please email Christie White at programs@ohiolegion.com for an application.



Buckeye Boys State

American Legion Buckeye Boys State also created QR codes to educate students and schools that are unfamiliar with BBS. These codes are for educational and recruitment purposes only and are not delegate applications.



Flag Etiquette



United States Flag Etiquette

Frequently asked questions regarding flag etiquette:

Question:

May an unserviceable flag be reused or recycled?

Answer:

No. The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

Question:

Can members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform render the military right hand salute when the flag is hoisted, lowered or is passing?

Answer:

The law does allow members of the Armed Forces and veterans not in uniform to render the right hand salute, but does not mandate it. If you feel uncomfortable in any situation where the flag is being raised, lowered or is passing in review, the traditional right hand over the heart – with the hat removed – is still a viable and very respectful alternative.

Question:

Does the flag have to be destroyed if it touches the ground?

Answer:

Care should be exercised in the handling of the flag, to protect it from becoming soiled or damaged. However, you are not required to destroy the flag if it touches the ground. As long as the flag remains suitable for display, even if washing or dry-cleaning (which is an acceptable practice) is required, the flag may continue to be displayed.

Question:

Is it proper to fly the flag of the United States at night?

Answer:

The Flag Code states that it is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flag staffs in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed twenty-four hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

Question:

What is considered proper illumination when flying the flag at

night?

Answer:

“Proper illumination” is a light specifically placed to illuminate the flag (preferred) or having a light source sufficient to illuminate the flag so it is recognizable as such by the casual observer.

Question:

May a Legion post display the flag twenty-four hours a day and during all kinds of weather without regard to illuminating the flag or using an all-weather flag?

Answer:

American Legion posts are to be guided by the same provisions of the Flag Code as are civilian displays. The National Americanism Commission, in fact, encourages Legion posts to take special care to adhere to these provisions as a proper example for the community.

Question:

Is it permissible to fly the flag of the United States during inclement weather?

Answer:

The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an

all-weather flag is displayed. (All-weather – nylon, synthetic, or other non-absorbent material)

Question:

Is the Government required to fly the flag every day?

Answer:

The Code suggests the flag be displayed daily on or near the main administration building of every public institution, in or near every polling place on election days and in or near every schoolhouse when school is in session.

Question:

What is meant by the flag’s own right?

Answer:

The “right” as the position of honor developed from the time when the “right hand” was the “weapon hand” or “point of danger.” The right hand raised without weapon was a sign of peace. The right hand, to any observer, is the observer’s left. Therefore, as used in the Flag Code, the flag and/or blue field is displayed to the left of the observer, which is the flag’s “own right.”

(Flag Etiquette cont'd)

Question:

What is the proper placement of two or more United States flags in a church or auditorium?

Answer:

Regardless of the number of United States flags, each would be displayed in accordance with Flag Code provisions. For most functions more than one flag is unnecessary. For a patriotic display as a show of color, the flags may be displayed as common sense and good taste would dictate.

Question:

When is the United States flag to be displayed?

Answer:

The flag should be displayed on all days, especially on all Federal holidays; and on State holidays.

Question:

Is it proper for a Legion post to lower the United States flag to "half-staff" to honor a deceased member of the post?

Answer:

No. The lowering of the flag is only authorized on Memorial Day, from sunrise until noon, and by executive order of the President, or State Governor. If it is so desired, the organizational flag may be lowered for this purpose.

Question:

What happens to the State flag when the flag of the United States is half-staffed?

Answer:

The State flag or any other flag or pennant in a display is lowered or removed when the flag is at half-staff. As indicated in the Flag Code, no flag or pennant should be placed above the flag of the United States.

Question:

Is the flag to be half-staffed for National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (December 7th), and Patriot's Day (September 11)?

Answer:

In accordance with U.S. Code, Title 36, Chapter 1, the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation to display the flag at half-staff for the entire day.

Question:

What is the significance of displaying the flag at half-staff?

Answer:

This gesture is a sign to indicate the nation or state mourns the death of an individual(s). (Naval and Military Custom)

Question:

Can the mayor order the flag to be half-staffed?

Answer:

No, only the President of the United States or the Governor of your State may order the flag to be half-staffed.

Those individuals and agencies that usurp authority and display the flag at half-staff on inappropriate occasions are quickly eroding the honor and reverence accorded this solemn act.

Question:

In what order should the flags of the branches of the U.S. Armed Forces be displayed?

Answer:

The order of march and order display from left to right is the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard.

Question:

What size flag is appropriate to be displayed from a flagpole?

Answer:

The Flag Code is silent with regards to the size flag that is appropriate for different sizes of flagpoles. The rule of thumb which has been passed down through tradition and custom is the fly of the flag should be approximately one-fourth the height of the pole.

Question:

What is the significance of the gold fringe which we see on

some United States flags?

Answer:

Records indicate that fringe was first used on the flag as early as 1835. It was not until 1895 that it was officially added to the national flag for all regiments of the Army. For civilian use, fringe is not required as an integral part of the flag, nor can its use be said to constitute an unauthorized addition to the design prescribed by statute. It is considered that fringe is used as an honorable enrichment only. (Military tradition)

The courts have deemed without merit and frivolous, lawsuits that contend that the gold fringe adorning the flag conferred Admiralty/Maritime jurisdiction.

Question:

Is it permissible to wear an item of clothing that looks like the United States flag?

Answer:

Unless an article of clothing is made from an actual United States flag, there is NO breach of flag etiquette whatsoever. People are simply expressing their patriotism and love of country by wearing an article of clothing that happens to be red, white, and blue with stars and stripes. There is nothing illegal about the wearing or use of these items.

Question:

Is it necessary for a person to stand and salute when the National Anthem is sung?

Answer:

The Flag Code states that during rendition of the National Anthem, those present should stand and render the proper salute. Rendition includes singing.

Question:

Is it appropriate to sing the National Anthem while saluting the flag?

Answer:

Yes, it is appropriate to sing the National Anthem while saluting the flag; however, since it may be somewhat awkward, unnatural

and incongruous to render the military salute while singing, it is permissible to remove the cap with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. It is noted that this section pertaining to the National Anthem does not contain the "remain silent" clause associated with the "Pledge of Allegiance."

Question:

Can members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform when the National Anthem is played?

Answer:

Yes.

**Title 36, Subtitle I, Part A
section 301 United States Code –
National Anthem**

(a) Designation.— The composition consisting of the words and music known as the Star-Spangled Banner is the national anthem.

(b) Conduct During Playing.— During a rendition of the national anthem—

•(1) when the flag is displayed—

(A) individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note;

(B) members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and

(C) all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart; and

•(2) when the flag is not displayed, all present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

CHRISTIE WHITE

Americanism and
Children & Youth
Coordinator

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APRIL WAS CHILDREN & YOUTH MONTH!

The American Legion has been actively involved with children's issues since the early 1920s. In many instances, the American Legion has been the driving force on behalf of children on the federal, state and local levels.

In 1938, April was formally designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month) and has continued on an annual basis.

Today's American Legion is as focused on the welfare of our country's children and the issues facing young people as it has ever been. The structure of this organization is forever supported by the balance that our founding architects envisioned. Therefore, the Children & Youth pillar and its programs remain committed to serving the nation's youth.

Members of The American Legion Americanism Commission's Committee on Children & Youth have been entrusted with the responsibility of upholding this pillar – the one that braces our nation's veterans by caring for their children, and our nation's children.

The purpose of the committee is to formulate, recommend and implement plans, programs and activities designed to:

- Assure care and protection for the children of veterans.
- Improve conditions for all children and youth, with due concern for maintaining the integrity of the family home.
- Prevent social and physical ills of children and youth where possible.

- Maintain a balanced program that provides for their physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs

Some of these programs are:

Family Emphasis

The family is the cornerstone of American society; however, modern society places demands on the family that didn't exist in years past. These challenges can chip away at family strength and unity. The family-emphasis programs of The American Legion's Committee on Children & Youth aim to promote the importance of family strength and integrity.

Family Support Network

The American Legion recognizes that families of active-duty and deployed military personnel face unique difficulties and hardships. With the help of the Family Support Network, these families do not have to shoulder this burden alone. They can connect with American Legion Family members by requesting assistance through the nationwide toll-free number or electronic application. Legionnaires at the post level then provide assistance such as performing minor household chores and repairs, completing a Temporary Financial Assistance application and connecting the family with local programs.

Temporary Financial Assistance

Since 1919, The American Legion has been committed to the health and welfare of our nation's veterans and their families. Born out of this desire to serve, The American Legion established a form of direct aid to veterans' children in 1925: Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA). This landmark program continues to be unique in the field of social work today. Through TFA, an American Legion post can call upon the national organization

for cash assistance to help maintain the basic needs of children of active-duty servicemembers or American Legion members. Non-repayable grants are awarded to eligible families with a child in need when all other resources have been exhausted.

Child Safety

The American Legion's Committee on Children & Youth believes that child safety is everyone's concern. Prevention through education remains the best way to keep children safe. To promote child safety, The American Legion publishes several useful brochures to educate children and parents, and supports numerous national initiatives to keep children safe.

Gateway Drugs

Alcohol, tobacco, inhalants and marijuana are often readily available and considered to be an entry point to a life of drug dependency and delinquency. They are called "gateway" drugs because they often lead to drug abuse, addiction, and use of other drugs such as heroin, cocaine and LSD. The commission asks that all members of the American Legion Family educate parents and children in their communities about the dangers of gateway drugs.

Warning Signs

The Committee on Children & Youth recognizes the serious yet often overlooked problem that continues to plague our nation's youth: suicide. Suicide is a tragic and senseless act of desperation. While it can be difficult and unpleasant to talk about suicide, it is important to communicate effectively about the subject, know the facts, dispel misconceptions and learn the warning signs of youth suicide.

Halloween Safety

As long as Halloween activities

are sponsored and promoted in our communities by duly appointed and elected officials, the Committee on Children & Youth believes children and parents should know how to make this observance as safe as possible. This publication continues to be one of our most popular.

Missing Children

The American Legion encourages posts to provide or assist in making available child identification activities to give parents a means of providing this information to authorities should need arise. In addition, all levels of the organization are encouraged to increase public awareness of child victimization and its detrimental effects on children and youth, and to cooperate with credible organizations and agencies that seek to locate missing children in their states and communities.

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization, is "dedicated to the betterment of all children." Its mission and foremost philanthropic priority is to contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth by aiding progress in the field of child welfare through dissemination of knowledge about research, studies, surveys, projects or by supporting programs and activities benefiting the welfare of children and youth. The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation accomplishes these goals each year by awarding grants to nonprofit youth-serving organizations for disseminating information that conforms to the foundation's purpose. Since 1954, more than \$17 million has been granted to help deserving organizations pr-

Children & Youth cont'd

roduce and distribute current and valuable information.

American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation

After World War I, veterans, widows and children continued to struggle to return to a normal life. The American Legion, aware of the grave responsibilities entrusted to them by those who had served, took action. In 1924, newly elected American Legion National Commander James A. Drain undertook a massive fundraising challenge. His goal was \$5 million – equivalent to \$71 million in today's dollars. The purpose was twofold: to fund service officer training and provide free assistance for disabled veterans and to extend a financial safety net for needy military and veteran families with children. The American Legion Endowment Fund was born of this twofold purpose. Today, it has a new name illustrative of the timeless assistance it has provided through the generations – The American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation. Since its inception, the fund has provided over \$30 million in assistance to veterans, members of the U.S. armed forces and their families.

National Family Week

The American Legion has long recognized the family as the foundation of this nation. A guiding principle of The American Legion's Children & Youth programs continues to be maintaining the integrity of the family. Since 1972, every U.S. president has declared the week of Thanksgiving as National Family Week. All members of The American Legion Family are encouraged to initiate and engage in local activities during National Family Week that promote, encourage and celebrate healthy families and communities.



Special Olympics Ohio

Special Olympics

We are excited to share updates and information about the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) program for Special Olympics Ohio.

Mission of LETR Program: The LETR program is dedicated to raising awareness and funds for Special Olympics, fostering relationships between law enforcement and the community, and celebrating the achievements of Special Olympics athletes.



Recent Activities: We recently wrapped up our Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Ohio Polar Plunge on March 27th, where the American Legion hosted their 2nd annual plunge at the Delaware HQ.




We want to give a huge thank you to the staff of Special Olympics Ohio and the Berlin Township Fire Department - Delaware County, Ohio; as well as all the Legionnaires and volunteers that came out to cheer us on.

Thank you everyone who donated to support the Special Olympics athletes through the American Legions Children & Youth pillar!

We raised almost \$71,000 to help the athletes in our communities throughout Ohio!



Thank you for your amazing support of Special Olympics Ohio and the wonderful athletes throughout the state.

LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST PROGRAM

WE'RE INSPIRED BY THE COMMUNITY OF VETERANS STILL SERVING IN AMERICA.

For over 50 years, the Legionnaire Insurance Trust has been delivering peace of mind and financial support for veterans, their families, and the Departments of The American Legion.

[Click here to view your member benefits!](#)

LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST



Join us for the **#ChillofALifetime**

LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN POLAR PLUNGE

FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS OHIO

Winter 2026

sooh.org/polar-plunge

Gary W. Cox Jr.

Gary is a proud member of the following organizations:

Harold Bradley Post 584 (PUFL), SAL
Squadron 584, CVMA 12-1 (LM), VFW
7201 (LM), WWP Alumni,
Marine Corps League 1437

American Legion

24 PUFL Member Harold Bradley #584
National Appointee of National Security Council 2023 - Present
Member Department Bowling Committee 2022 - Present
Past Post Vice Commander 2022 - 2024
Past 6th District Commander 2021 - 2023
2nd Place "Race to the Top" Small District 2021 - 2022
2024 6th District Legionnaire of the Year



Sons of the American Legion

34 year Member Harold Bradley #584
Charter Member #584 (1992)
Past Squadron Commander 1999 - 2000
Past 6th District Commander 2000 - 2001
Past Detachment Asst
Sgt at Arms 1997 - 1998
Distinguished Guest 2004
SAL National Convention

For Department of Ohio Commander



VOTE FOR HOLLY DEPARTMENT 1ST VICE

My Vision

The 3 B's of Membership

BELONGING

Culture that feels current; Inclusive spaces and experiences; Traditions that honor the past and invite the future; Emotional safety and connection; Intergenerational community

BENEFIT

Modern programs that matter; Mental health, career, and family support; Hybrid options for busy lives; Service projects with real community impact; Clear value beyond nostalgia

BECOMING

Purpose and contribution; True leadership paths; Shared ownership and decentralized power; Mentorship across generations; Identity and mission renewal





DEAN BOYERS

FOR

DEPARTMENT TREASURER

2026-2027



DEAN BOYERS
COMMANDER
POST 468
SYLVANIA, OHIO

Learn more at:

www.deanboyers.com



GOOD OF THE LEGION

Post 71 – Supporting Schools

Recently RES students experienced something truly special thanks to a meaningful partnership between our local American Legion post and the 5B's company. Together, they created an opportunity that combined real world work experiences, problem solving, collaboration, hands-on STEM learning, and school spirit into one unforgettable experience.

The Roseville American Legion, known for its dedication to supporting schools and community organizations, generously sponsored a field trip designed to deepen students' understanding of design, production, and manufacturing. Through this experience, students were able to connect classroom learning with real-world experiences.

This collaboration highlights the powerful impact that community partnerships can have on education. When organizations like the American Legion and local businesses invest in our students, they are investing in the future. Their generosity not only made this field trip possible but also strengthened the bond between our school and the community we proudly call home.

-Article (partial) by: Frank Van Kirk, Res Principal



4th District

Constitutional Speech

On March 1st, 2026 the fourth district Oratorical contest was held.



(left to right): John Looker, Patience Persing (4th District winner), Honor Persing (previous Department winner) and their father

BE THE ONE

Post 221 – Taking Time for Local Vets

During late March 2026, Massillon Post 221 Service Officer and Stark County Commander, Larry Stottsberry gave a Veterans poem for hospice care individuals within the veteran's family at Rose Lane.



GOOD OF THE LEGION

Post 771 - Spring Community Highlights

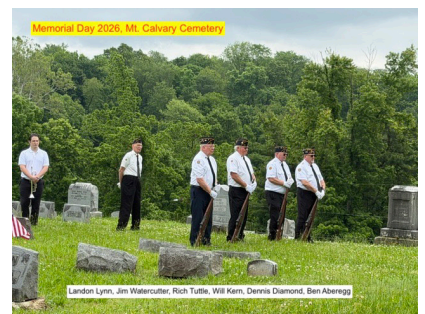
ARMED FORCES HOLIDAY CELEBRATION AT STEVENSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On May 13, 2026, Post 771 was asked once again to support the musical program performed by the Heath 5th grade students in recognition of Armed Forces Day. Ceremonial Officer, Jim Watercutter coordinated the event for the Post. Ben Aberegg and Becky Aberegg were Post 771 Flag Bearers supporting the event, while Jim was the back-up and assisted with the ceremony and materials. The event included a televised photo reel of local military veterans, Military flags, and more. Many patriotic songs were performed and scores of friends, veterans with their families, and parents of students we all in attendance.



MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES PERFORMED BY POST 771 IN 2026


While coordination for the Memorial Holiday began in April, the actual labor in preparation started on May 23, 2026, as 771 members and the Knights of Columbus posted U.S. Flags at each veteran grave marker at both the Mount Cavalry and Saint Joseph Cemeteries. Those at Mt Cavalry were Ben and Becky Aberegg, Will and Sheri Kern, Leigh Ann and John Lutz. And at Saint Joseph's there was Jim Watercutter, Dennis Diamond, Eric Ricketts, and Brain Watercutter. March 24th found members of Post 771 in full ceremonial uniforms, performing the Legion Memorial Day service at the Heath United Methodist Church. Commander Becky Aberegg was our key speaker and Post Chaplin, Gary Wimer, gave the open and closing prayers. Colors were provided by the Post. The rifle detail honored our fallen veterans. The rifle squad was: Jim Watercutter, Dennis Diamond, Rich Tuttle, Ben Aberegg, and Will Kern. Our two buglers were members of the Ohio University Marching Band, Landon Lynn and Jacob Montag, who have supported us for the last three years. On Memorial Day, May 25th, Post 771 performed two ceremonies with the same members used on the 24th. The first was immediately after Catholic Mass at St. Joseph's cemetery, around 09:45am. Shortly after, at 11:00 we performed another ceremony at Mt. Cavalry cemetery. The morning of March 30th, 09:00am had Post members recovering the U.S. Flags from both cemeteries. Supporting members were: Jim Watercutter, Ben Aberegg, Becky Aberegg, Gary Wimer, Will and Sheri Kern, Leigh Lutz, Dennis and Melody Diamond, and Bill McWilliams from the Knights of Columbus. Over the years regardless if you performed the duties of Commander, Chaplin, Color Guard, or Rifle Team; it is special to handle and fire the venerable M1 Garand rifle, speak the hallowed prayers, carry our Nation's or Post's colors, offer prayers, or say the solum words of the Commander to recognize and honor our Veterans who have given their lives while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, in defense of our nation. These thought to be common men and women are not actually all that common. They were called upon or volunteered to defend our country, and in the crucible of combat or service, gave their lives for our country, the mission, or for others around them. Being a military veteran, it is an honor and privilege to be a small part of this sacred service. "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13, NIV). The passage emphasizes that the greatest love involves total selflessness, specifically sacrificing oneself for others.



HEATH HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

On May 19th, 2026, our Post Commander, Becky Aberegg, presented two \$300 scholarship and framed award certificates to students of Heath High School. The recipients were children or descendants of U.S. veterans, with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and performed with a high standard in community service. The winners were Gabriel Kelly and Devin Gamble. The event also saw Post 771's Commander award three military commitment awards, celebrating and honoring the future service of Alex Orr, Colton Cumbow, and Hydel Stokes. All of the awardees received a framed award certificate and Legion challenge coin unique to the branch of service they joined.

The American Legion



Military Commitment Certificate of Commendation

Presented To
Alex Orr
Of
Heath High School

This Commendation is awarded for your commitment to serving in the United States Armed Forces in the name of Freedom and Democracy, and for courageously protecting our Liberty and Independence.

Presented By
The Heath American Legion, Post # 771

This 16 day of May, 2026

ATTEST

Ben Aberegg ADJUTANT Becky Aberegg COMMANDER

GOOD OF THE LEGION

Post 256 – Proudly Donates

During early April 2026, Loveland Inc. American Legion Post 256 donated \$5000 to the Department of Ohio Gifts for Yanks program. They also donated \$1000 to the Cincinnati Fisher house in the name of a long-time member of Post 256, John (Jack) Hominy, that lost his battle with many health issues. Jack's wife, Past 4th District Auxiliary President Margie Hominy, was honored.



(left to right): Pat Morganroth, Commander Ed Hogan, and 4th District GFY Chairman Ken Ellis (back row): Bobby Cox, Adjutant Terry Sounder, and Patrick McManis

Post 470

Spring Scholarships

The Coldwater American Legion Post 470 Scholarship winners for 2026 were awarded during May. (5) \$1000 Legion sponsored, (2) \$1000 Sons of the Legion sponsored and finally an additional 14 Legion sponsored scholarships for \$250 each.



Presenting scholarships for Post 470 is Patti Depweg, 1st Vice Commander

Post 357 – Some ‘Sweet’ Community Support

American Legion Don V. Cross Post 357 Family out of Minerva, OH celebrated the 107th Birthday of the American Legion this past March, by supporting the Girl Scouts through the purchase and distribution of cookies throughout the Village.



Pictured here at the Village Hall is Post Commander Debi Biggins and Squadron Adjutant Bill Towns along with Police Officers Nick Hayduk and Russell Smith. The group also visited with Firefighters Ashley Davis and Jaden Pearce. Additional visits included St Lukes in Minerva with Staff Members Ashley Lawson and Jen Cope, as well as The Arbors in Minerva with Activity Director Erica Schneider.

GOOD OF THE LEGION

Post 382 – Spring Highlights



Bluffton American Legion Post 382 Members visited the Columbus Ohio National Veterans Memorial and Museum 05/08/2026



Bluffton Legion Post 382 with Bluffton Ohio 4th grade Flag Test winners



Bluffton Legion Post 382 Commander Kurt Emans & Dennis Morrison with Bluffton Cub Scout troop 256 demonstrating how to fold the American flag



2026 Historian's Guide:
History books link for Historical Contest judging
Scan the QR code below for access.



Post 1 – 'Scouts' an Opportunity to Help

Shown here during this spring is Franklin Inc Post 1 out of Columbus, OH 1st Vice Commander - James Verne, presenting a check for \$300.00 to Rob Fann, Scout Master of Boy Scout Troop 123 Worthington.



LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST
TRAVEL ACCIDENT PROTECTION

THE LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST "ON-THE-MOVE" COVERAGE STANDS BY YOU –
AROUND THE CORNER OR THE WORLD

WWW.THELIT.COM/TRAVEL-ACCIDENT

TAPS

POST 0008 - JAMES W SIDDALL - VIETNAM
 POST 0008 - DON HILLIKER - VIETNAM
 POST 0010 - RODERIC O KEPPELER - VIETNAM
 POST 0011 - DAVE L THOMAS - VIETNAM
 POST 0011 - MELVIN R BOECK - VIETNAM
 POST 0011 - WILLIAM L TOLLIVER - VIETNAM
 POST 0012 - R M SCHUSTER - VIETNAM
 POST 0012 - DONALD J ROTHGERY - VIETNAM
 POST 0012 - DONALD E WARD - VIETNAM
 POST 0015 - GEORGE SMITH JR - KOREA
 POST 0016 - TOM ELLIS - KOREA
 POST 0016 - WILLIAM H MILLER - KOREA
 POST 0017 - DENNIS FAHLE - VIETNAM
 POST 0017 - EVAN KILLE - VIETNAM
 POST 0023 - ROY MCCALL - KOREA
 POST 0023 - ROBERT A NELSON - KOREA
 POST 0023 - BRUCE E DISTEL - VIETNAM
 POST 0023 - JAMES M BAILEY - VIETNAM
 POST 0023 - DONALD R WOLFE - WWII
 POST 0023 - GERALD H COTTON - VIETNAM
 POST 0024 - R WILLIAM PRATT - KOREA
 POST 0025 - JAMES D SHOULTS - VIETNAM
 POST 0027 - JOHN C FULKS - KOREA
 POST 0027 - HENRY L MYERS - VIETNAM
 POST 0028 - MERLIN J ARTZ - KOREA
 POST 0028 - FRANCIS J BRAHIER - KOREA
 POST 0029 - GLEN L LIGHTFOOT - VIETNAM
 POST 0029 - ROBERT L GIBSON - VIETNAM
 POST 0029 - THEODORE MAUTZ - WWII
 POST 0029 - DONALD A MERCER - LEBANON_GRENADA
 POST 0030 - WILLIAM P GORMLEY - KOREA
 POST 0030 - HERBERT C ZIELKE - VIETNAM
 POST 0038 - VICTOR ROSE - VIETNAM
 POST 0039 - DELBERT FRIDLEY - VIETNAM
 POST 0039 - THOMAS E MANKIN II - VIETNAM
 POST 0039 - HAROLD C ROUSH - VIETNAM
 POST 0040 - GALE PRICE - KOREA
 POST 0041 - ROBERT M MCGINN - VIETNAM
 POST 0041 - FRANK NEDVESKI - VIETNAM
 POST 0041 - JEFFREY D KRONWITTER - PANAMA
 POST 0041 - EDWARD J BARRETT - VIETNAM
 POST 0044 - JOHN A BOUSCHER - VIETNAM
 POST 0044 - MICHAEL J KOSTOLICH - VIETNAM
 POST 0044 - ALLEN L CLEMSON - VIETNAM
 POST 0044 - RICHARD L MUHLEMAN - VIETNAM
 POST 0044 - WILBUR OLMSTEAD - VIETNAM
 POST 0044 - ROBERT K BELL JR -
 POST 0044 - DANIEL E ROONEY - VIETNAM
 POST 0044 - MICHAEL J BARDIN - VIETNAM
 POST 0044 - JIMMY MUIR - VIETNAM
 POST 0044 - RONALD E WALLACE - KOREA
 POST 0044 - CHARLES E THOMPSON - WWII
 POST 0044 - JOHN F MICKLAVZINA - VIETNAM
 POST 0049 - GARY L SLAGLE - VIETNAM
 POST 0049 - DONALD L WHITE - KOREA
 POST 0052 - ANTHONY M VOLPE - WWII
 POST 0052 - JOHN C BURKETT - PERSIAN_GULF
 POST 0052 - JOSEPH J POLUDNIAK - PERSIAN_GULF
 POST 0052 - BENJAMIN E SENKBEIL - LEBANON_GRENADA
 POST 0060 - DONALD JODRY - LEBANON_GRENADA
 POST 0062 - CHARLES W MCDONALD - VIETNAM
 POST 0062 - TEDDY V KEMPTON - VIETNAM
 POST 0063 - DONALD A TURNWALD - KOREA
 POST 0063 - LAWRENCE D NIESE - VIETNAM
 POST 0063 - WILLIAM SCHROEDER - VIETNAM
 POST 0064 - WILLIAM G DUNN - KOREA
 POST 0064 - GREG E WEBSTER - KOREA
 POST 0067 - LEONARD E BILEK - KOREA
 POST 0067 - CHARLES D NOBLE - KOREA
 POST 0068 - JAMES H LYLES - VIETNAM
 POST 0069 - DONALD J DOUGHERTY - VIETNAM
 POST 0069 - PEARL FIELDS - KOREA
 POST 0071 - CARL L CULLISON - VIETNAM
 POST 0071 - GARY L EMORY - VIETNAM
 POST 0073 - RICKIE N GOSHE - VIETNAM
 POST 0073 - JOHN C THOMAS - VIETNAM
 POST 0073 - GEORGE E HOSSLER - VIETNAM
 POST 0073 - JOHNELL FERGUSON - VIETNAM
 POST 0076 - RAYMOND L FLECK - VIETNAM
 POST 0076 - EDWARD W KREITZBURG - VIETNAM
 POST 0078 - DELMAR L ALLISON - VIETNAM
 POST 0078 - EDWARD C KURTZ - VIETNAM
 POST 0081 - LARRY G MCKINNISS - KOREA
 POST 0081 - ROBERT F BRAGG JR - VIETNAM
 POST 0083 - FREDDIE W DOWNS - LEBANON_GRENADA
 POST 0083 - EDWARD D VARGO - VIETNAM
 POST 0083 - LARRY E WREN - VIETNAM
 POST 0083 - RAYMOND C SUHRBIER - VIETNAM
 POST 0083 - THOMAS A COE - VIETNAM
 POST 0083 - JIM WALEND -
 POST 0084 - KAREN J JOHNSON - VIETNAM
 POST 0085 - RICHARD L WOODDELL - KOREA
 POST 0085 - MELVIN C CUNNINGHAM - WWII
 POST 0085 - JEFFREY W HARDY - VIETNAM
 POST 0085 - JACK LYTTLE - KOREA
 POST 0086 - JOHN P WARREN - VIETNAM
 POST 0086 - RAYMOND F BELL SR - VIETNAM
 POST 0088 - ROBERT L CRIST - VIETNAM
 POST 0088 - CLARENCE D BEMILLER - KOREA
 POST 0090 - DAVID K FITZPATRICK - VIETNAM
 POST 0091 - ALLEN J DUBOIS - VIETNAM
 POST 0091 - PAUL K GOETHE - WWII
 POST 0091 - JOHN J KLIMCZAK - VIETNAM
 POST 0091 - GERALD P LEFFEL - VIETNAM
 POST 0092 - FORREST R DAVIS - KOREA
 POST 0095 - FRANCIS A DANNAKER - WWII



POST 0095 - RICHARD H SHAW - KOREA
POST 0095 - PAXTON T MENDELSSOHN - VIETNAM
POST 0095 - RICK L HOWARD - VIETNAM
POST 0100 - JACK R FENTON - VIETNAM
POST 0100 - PAUL E SCOTT - VIETNAM
POST 0103 - DAVID FRYE - VIETNAM
POST 0103 - GARY L HOWE - LEBANON_GRENADA
POST 0109 - JOHN CORMAN - VIETNAM
POST 0112 - WILLIAM E TECIL - VIETNAM
POST 0112 - RAYMOND R BRICKNER - VIETNAM
POST 0112 - JOHN PETERSON - VIETNAM
POST 0112 - RICHARD C HILDEBRAND - VIETNAM
POST 0114 - JOYCE M BROCK - VIETNAM
POST 0115 - ARTHUR SIMMONS - VIETNAM
POST 0115 - ROBERT L VANDERWISSEL - VIETNAM
POST 0118 - JOHN M PITTMAN - LEBANON_GRENADA
POST 0120 - CONRAD E FLEISCHMANN - VIETNAM
POST 0120 - GARY E SIZEMORE - VIETNAM
POST 0124 - CLIFFORD HENRY - VIETNAM
POST 0128 - CHARLES K BYER - KOREA
POST 0128 - HAROLD L ANDERSON - KOREA
POST 0129 - ROBERT P MCLAUGHLIN - KOREA
POST 0131 - DAVE KEELER - KOREA
POST 0131 - JAMES W DICKENS - VIETNAM
POST 0134 - ROBERT F AZBELL - KOREA
POST 0134 - JERRY C SHIRLEY - VIETNAM
POST 0134 - BARRY A STONEROCK - VIETNAM
POST 0134 - TERRY VALENTINE - VIETNAM
POST 0134 - JOHN J ICENHOUR - VIETNAM
POST 0134 - ROBERT WILKINSON - VIETNAM
POST 0137 - WILLIAM M HOFFMAN - VIETNAM
POST 0138 - ALBERT WEBB -
POST 0138 - CLETUS H WITHROW - MISSING
POST 0140 - PATRICK SCANTLAND - OTHER
POST 0140 - MAURICE J DOSS - VIETNAM
POST 0140 - RONALD SCHALL - VIETNAM
POST 0140 - LARRY ADDIS - VIETNAM
POST 0142 - MICHAEL G BETTASSO - MISSING
POST 0142 - STEVEN M LEWIS - KOREA
POST 0144 - JAMES J NEUVIRTH - KOREA
POST 0144 - ROBERT L SOLES - VIETNAM
POST 0144 - JAMES PINKERMAN - VIETNAM
POST 0144 - EUGENE DEVUONO - VIETNAM
POST 0147 - GILBERT C STAUFFER - VIETNAM
POST 0151 - CHARLES P WOODWORTH - KOREA
POST 0151 - RICHARD NELSON - VIETNAM
POST 0151 - JEFF H STEMPLER - PERSIAN_GULF
POST 0151 - BRADLEY JARVI - VIETNAM
POST 0159 - THOMAS F MARTIN - VIETNAM
POST 0159 - DONALD P KRAHEL - KOREA
POST 0164 - ANTHONY J LANCIA - KOREA
POST 0165 - THERON E HOFFER - KOREA
POST 0165 - RONALD L SOWDER - MISSING
POST 0165 - KENNETH C HALL - PERSIAN_GULF
POST 0165 - WILLIAM J KOEHLER - VIETNAM
POST 0165 - ERNEST E BRACKNEY - KOREA
POST 0165 - GERALD R ZECH - KOREA
POST 0165 - HENRY J BARANAK - KOREA
POST 0166 - RUSSELL G ADDISON - KOREA
POST 0170 - CHARLES E YOAKEM - VIETNAM
POST 0171 - DANIEL E STROHECKER - KOREA
POST 0171 - CARROLL E TATE - VIETNAM
POST 0172 - ROGER R BARLAGE - VIETNAM
POST 0173 - JACK E ALBERT - VIETNAM
POST 0173 - ROBERT J NOTESTINE JR - KOREA
POST 0173 - JOHN D EATON - VIETNAM
POST 0173 - ROBERT L WAGNER - VIETNAM
POST 0175 - CHARLES R MOYTO - VIETNAM
POST 0175 - ROBERT C DUDA - VIETNAM
POST 0176 - ROBERT L HART - KOREA
POST 0178 - BILL C SNEED - VIETNAM
POST 0179 - JOE D WALL - KOREA
POST 0179 - MICHAEL D MIDER - VIETNAM
POST 0181 - PETER J MULLEN - KOREA
POST 0181 - RONALD D BLOOMFIELD - VIETNAM
POST 0181 - JAMES M CLARK - VIETNAM
POST 0181 - LEWIS J EVANS - VIETNAM
POST 0184 - RONALD O YOUNT - KOREA
POST 0184 - HAROLD L HEINER SR - WWII
POST 0184 - JOHN W BRADY - VIETNAM
POST 0192 - DALE V. LAHM - OTHER
POST 0192 - RUSSELL J ZICKEFOOSE - KOREA
POST 0192 - FRANK J TRESKA - VIETNAM
POST 0196 - RICHARD LUNDSTEDT - KOREA
POST 0196 - EMIL W MASARIK - WWII
POST 0196 - RON KWIATKOWSKI - VIETNAM
POST 0199 - FRED WESPESSE - VIETNAM
POST 0199 - MITCHELL BURNS JR - KOREA
POST 0199 - WILLIAM E ACRA - KOREA
POST 0200 - RICHARD DREHER - VIETNAM
POST 0200 - MICHAEL F HORIGAN - MISSING
POST 0205 - ERNEST L PAOLETTI - KOREA
POST 0205 - ARTHUR R ULRICH JR - VIETNAM
POST 0205 - FLOYD M GREWELL - KOREA
POST 0209 - EDWARD STEVENSON - KOREA
POST 0209 - RICHARD M MURPHY - VIETNAM
POST 0210 - BRUCE W GANDER - VIETNAM
POST 0211 - GERALD W URIG - VIETNAM
POST 0211 - DAVID L HASSEL - VIETNAM
POST 0211 - WILLIAM BINE III - VIETNAM
POST 0211 - JOSEPH A KELLEY - OTHER
POST 0214 - CHARLES R ROSSBACH SR - KOREA
POST 0214 - SCOTT A FRANCIS - LEBANON_GRENADA
POST 0215 - JAMES E FAVORITE - VIETNAM
POST 0215 - JOHN SHIPLEY - WWII
POST 0215 - DON HOUSER - VIETNAM
POST 0215 - KENNETH E ROSSMAN - KOREA
POST 0217 - GEORGE W GINTER - VIETNAM
POST 0217 - JOHN S WHITTENBERGER - KOREA
POST 0217 - DON R DAVIS - KOREA

POST 0218 - WILLIAM EDGAR MACDONALD - WWII
POST 0218 - MIKE MATHEWS - VIETNAM
POST 0218 - RONALD D MATHIS - VIETNAM
POST 0221 - FLOYD R LOCKHART - KOREA
POST 0221 - DAVID C LUSTIG - VIETNAM
POST 0225 - LOREN H DILLON - KOREA
POST 0226 - JOHNNY S DURDA - UNKNOWN
POST 0229 - WILLIAM D HOWARD - KOREA
POST 0232 - JAMES F CARTER - VIETNAM
POST 0236 - RICHARD HEBER - VIETNAM
POST 0236 - TERESA R NICHOLSON - PERSIAN_GULF
POST 0238 - BERNARD R MILLER - KOREA
POST 0238 - JERRY D BAKER - VIETNAM
POST 0239 - STUART L SEARS - VIETNAM
POST 0239 - JACK E GABRIEL - KOREA
POST 0240 - JOHN L COGER - VIETNAM
POST 0240 - JAMES N HUGHES JR - PERSIAN_GULF
POST 0240 - LOREN J BECHSTEIN - WWII
POST 0240 - VINCENT P COOPER - VIETNAM
POST 0241 - JAMES H SCHEER - WWII
POST 0241 - DALE HIRSCHFELD - KOREA
POST 0241 - BOB BOSKO - VIETNAM
POST 0243 - JOHN BATES - VIETNAM
POST 0243 - JAMEY FRAIZER - PERSIAN_GULF
POST 0244 - WILLIAM R LASURE - VIETNAM
POST 0247 - ROBERT A JOHNSON - VIETNAM
POST 0255 - MICHAEL P SHUMAN - VIETNAM
POST 0256 - SHANNON WILDER - KOREA
POST 0256 - DALE D BEARD JR - PERSIAN_GULF
POST 0256 - LOUIS E CONNOR - VIETNAM
POST 0256 - DAVID M BEDNAR - VIETNAM
POST 0256 - JOHN HOMINY - VIETNAM
POST 0262 - CLAYTON F CODY - WWII
POST 0262 - GEORGE MEDINA - KOREA
POST 0265 - RICHARD KINNEY - MISSING
POST 0265 - JERRY L LEUPP - VIETNAM
POST 0265 - MARVIN V STOLL - KOREA
POST 0265 - GLEN E SCHERF - VIETNAM
POST 0268 - JOSEPH YOUNGPETER - KOREA
POST 0278 - FRANK A NANNICOLA - VIETNAM
POST 0281 - RICHARD B CASTO SR - KOREA
POST 0281 - CHARLES W CORCORAN - KOREA
POST 0281 - KENNETH P KELLEY - VIETNAM
POST 0281 - WILLIAM D JONES - KOREA
POST 0282 - FORD J AYERS - OTHER
POST 0284 - JAMES P HELBIG - VIETNAM
POST 0284 - JUAN R BARRERA - OTHER
POST 0286 - DANNY W BENTLEY SR - VIETNAM
POST 0286 - EDWARD A SEIBERT - VIETNAM
POST 0288 - GORDON D RUGGLES - VIETNAM
POST 0292 - JOHN J MERRILEES - KOREA
POST 0292 - JAMES C BURNSIDE - VIETNAM
POST 0300 - MIKE A DELVENTHAL - VIETNAM
POST 0300 - JOHN MCBRIDE - KOREA
POST 0300 - EDWARD KENNING - VIETNAM
POST 0307 - WARREN R BIGGER - VIETNAM
POST 0309 - ALBERT J RUIZ - WWII
POST 0309 - JOSEPH H BRUNETT - OTHER
POST 0318 - THOMAS ANDES - VIETNAM
POST 0320 - DALE T KERVIN - OTHER
POST 0320 - WILLIAM G MCLUCKIE - KOREA
POST 0323 - THOMAS E THIEN - VIETNAM
POST 0330 - PAUL SCHNELL - KOREA
POST 0330 - LARRY G SPENCE - VIETNAM
POST 0330 - WILLIAM L WILLIAMS - VIETNAM
POST 0330 - DON KLOSTERMAN - KOREA
POST 0330 - THOMAS W MOORE - VIETNAM
POST 0331 - STEVEN D LIVENGOOD - GW_TERRORISM
POST 0331 - FRED W KLOHN - KOREA
POST 0332 - LESLIE DULL - KOREA
POST 0332 - WALTER SHANK JR - KOREA
POST 0336 - KEVIN M CARROLL - LEBANON_GRENADA
POST 0336 - THOMAS FANKBONER - VIETNAM
POST 0336 - RALPH L AYERS - KOREA
POST 0336 - JAMES WEBSTER - OTHER
POST 0338 - WAYNE L HANNY - MISSING
POST 0338 - GARY R TYSON - VIETNAM
POST 0338 - WILLIAM A CONINE - LEBANON_GRENADA
POST 0339 - ANTHONY MCGINTY - WWII
POST 0339 - JESSE LOCKHART JR - VIETNAM
POST 0341 - EUGENE R MILLER - VIETNAM
POST 0344 - JOHN HUNTER - VIETNAM
POST 0344 - LLOYD N PIERSON - VIETNAM
POST 0353 - JAMES SHORT - VIETNAM
POST 0353 - JAMES IDZIAK - VIETNAM
POST 0354 - RICHARD L GAMBY - VIETNAM
POST 0354 - PAUL L TIELL JR - VIETNAM
POST 0355 - RICHARD J HOYING - VIETNAM
POST 0360 - DARRELL F CONWAY - VIETNAM
POST 0360 - BERYL W WESLER - VIETNAM
POST 0363 - EDWIN J WARREN - KOREA
POST 0366 - MAURICE H RALSTON - VIETNAM
POST 0366 - MARTIN PURTIMAN - UNKNOWN
POST 0371 - DELLOS W VICKERS - VIETNAM
POST 0373 - MARTIN ROTH - VIETNAM
POST 0374 - DANIEL R GOURLEY - KOREA
POST 0375 - ROBERT D CROWL - KOREA
POST 0376 - JACK E MILLER - VIETNAM
POST 0382 - MICHAEL W REICHENBACH - VIETNAM
POST 0382 - STEPHEN E BEACH - VIETNAM
POST 0384 - JAMES W FROST - VIETNAM
POST 0384 - JOSEPH E WAGNER - VIETNAM
POST 0384 - BERNARD S WELNIAK - VIETNAM
POST 0384 - JOHN D HART - PERSIAN_GULF
POST 0384 - MARVIN A COWDEN - MISSING
POST 0384 - RICHARD L SCHELL - KOREA
POST 0389 - MYRON M NIBERT - VIETNAM
POST 0389 - VICTOR G SMITH - VIETNAM
POST 0389 - SCOTT T VANDYKE - LEBANON_GRENADA
POST 0389 - HERMAN HUCK - WWII

POST 0394 - DAVID H LAYTON - VIETNAM
POST 0397 - WILLIAM O CLARK - VIETNAM
POST 0404 - CLIVE A FEASEL - VIETNAM
POST 0406 - ROBERT L WISBY - KOREA
POST 0406 - GLENN W KASSEN - VIETNAM
POST 0418 - JOHN ERVIN - VIETNAM
POST 0421 - JAMES A SHORT - VIETNAM
POST 0425 - JOHN CUSTER - VIETNAM
POST 0425 - BERNARD BECKER - WWII
POST 0435 - JOHN F SIMON - VIETNAM
POST 0435 - JAMES R DIDIER - VIETNAM
POST 0435 - THOMAS R MUMAW - VIETNAM
POST 0435 - THOMAS M SPAHR - VIETNAM
POST 0442 - ERNEST ROSE - KOREA
POST 0444 - NED BERLET - KOREA
POST 0446 - EARL BERNING - VIETNAM
POST 0446 - DONALD J ELLINGER - VIETNAM
POST 0450 - EARNEST L STEWART - VIETNAM
POST 0450 - RANDALL E ANDERSON - VIETNAM
POST 0450 - JAMES O HOOD - VIETNAM
POST 0450 - ALLEN L DONAHUE - VIETNAM
POST 0450 - WILLIAM D WAGNER - WWII
POST 0450 - THOMAS W LUECKE - VIETNAM
POST 0451 - HAROLD A SMITH - KOREA
POST 0452 - DAVID D BELTZ - KOREA
POST 0452 - RICHARD M PUTT - VIETNAM
POST 0455 - ROBERT R SCHUMACHER - KOREA
POST 0468 - RUSS JENNEWINE - KOREA
POST 0468 - LAWRENCE L WATKINS - VIETNAM
POST 0468 - MICHAEL R RISTAU - VIETNAM
POST 0468 - MARVIN L SCHWARTZ - KOREA
POST 0468 - ANTHONY J GERRISH - KOREA
POST 0469 - GEORGE KOZICKIE - KOREA
POST 0470 - TERRY B DAVENPORT - LEBANON_GRENADA
POST 0470 - CHARLES R PURK - KOREA
POST 0470 - MAURICE HARTING - KOREA
POST 0476 - ERROL R PARSONS - MISSING
POST 0479 - GERARD A HALLETT - VIETNAM
POST 0482 - MARK W BRUNING - LEBANON_GRENADA
POST 0482 - SAM E KERWOOD - VIETNAM
POST 0491 - THOMAS FELLERS - KOREA
POST 0491 - MICHAEL C OBERHOLZER - VIETNAM
POST 0493 - DWIGHT E HAWKINS - KOREA
POST 0493 - DAVID L DETRICK - VIETNAM
POST 0496 - DONALD R GOODHART - VIETNAM
POST 0496 - JAMES D SMITH JR - VIETNAM
POST 0497 - ROGER A WILES - KOREA
POST 0512 - JOSEPH S DYMCZYK - VIETNAM
POST 0513 - EDWARD J HILS - KOREA
POST 0516 - JEROLD WATKINS - KOREA
POST 0516 - THOMAS W FUERST - KOREA
POST 0519 - GENE A ARGENTO - KOREA
POST 0521 - RUDOLPH BRESIGER JR - WWII
POST 0521 - LEONARD J SOBRAY - VIETNAM
POST 0521 - CHARLES J ROSS - VIETNAM
POST 0521 - JOHN J KOVACH - KOREA
POST 0521 - RICHARD J KELLY - VIETNAM
POST 0525 - FRANK ZAMSKI - VIETNAM
POST 0525 - WILLIAM J SOOS - VIETNAM
POST 0526 - JAMES C HARDIN SR - VIETNAM
POST 0526 - CARL A PERRY - VIETNAM
POST 0529 - CHARLES R EBRIGHT - VIETNAM
POST 0529 - BARBARA BAIRD - GW_TERRORISM
POST 0532 - R EDWARD SINIFF - WWII
POST 0532 - JOHN D BURKE - VIETNAM
POST 0532 - SAMUEL E LEHMAN - VIETNAM
POST 0532 - MARSHALL L EVALINE - VIETNAM
POST 0534 - JOHN WAYMEYER - VIETNAM
POST 0534 - RONALD J FROMMEL - KOREA
POST 0534 - HOWARD L BRINKDOEPKE - MISSING
POST 0534 - CLAY A HELPHINSTINE - VIETNAM
POST 0535 - PAUL E COLLINS -
POST 0536 - DONALD MARTIN - KOREA
POST 0536 - KENNETH B WEHRI - VIETNAM
POST 0539 - WILLIAM W SMITH - KOREA
POST 0539 - J L ROBERTS - KOREA
POST 0541 - PAUL D WINGATE - VIETNAM
POST 0541 - JERRY R HOWARD - VIETNAM
POST 0548 - RICHARD D BAYSINGER - VIETNAM
POST 0550 - THOMAS W SPIEGEL - VIETNAM
POST 0554 - RICKEY L IREDALE - VIETNAM
POST 0557 - RICHARD E BARR - PANAMA
POST 0557 - ARMAND J CONSTANTINE - VIETNAM
POST 0557 - JAMES W HALSTEAD - VIETNAM
POST 0557 - ROBERT A COCHRUN - LEBANON_GRENADA
POST 0566 - SAMUEL ULRICH - VIETNAM
POST 0572 - JOHN C CARRIG - KOREA
POST 0572 - THOMAS J WIECZOREK - LEBANON_GRENADA
POST 0572 - DENNIS FORMAN - VIETNAM
POST 0573 - CLYDE R WINE - VIETNAM
POST 0573 - DONALD J LESTER - KOREA
POST 0576 - HENRY C HANSEN - VIETNAM
POST 0576 - KENNETH S KOZLOWSKI - VIETNAM
POST 0576 - LOREN ECKHART - WWII
POST 0584 - JAMES ANDERSON - VIETNAM
POST 0584 - WILLIAM A CRAWFORD - PERSIAN_GULF
POST 0584 - WILLIAM J FRENCH - VIETNAM
POST 0584 - RICHARD L BOND - KOREA
POST 0586 - GORDON H HONEYMAN - VIETNAM
POST 0586 - ROBERT L WINGER - VIETNAM
POST 0586 - WILLIAM R WOODWARD - VIETNAM
POST 0586 - MAX L CURRENT - VIETNAM
POST 0586 - FRANK P BROERMAN - KOREA
POST 0586 - BEAU TOWNSEND - OTHER
POST 0587 - HARRY R SNODGRASS - VIETNAM
POST 0587 - ALBERT L EASTON - VIETNAM
POST 0588 - URBAN F ARLING - KOREA
POST 0598 - TIMOTHY JEWETT - VIETNAM
POST 0598 - MELVIN A NOWOTNY - KOREA
POST 0598 - CHARLES R PRINCE - OTHER

POST 0598 - WILLIAM WOLSLEGEL - VIETNAM
 POST 0598 - HERBERT D CONLEY - KOREA
 POST 0598 - HERB L CEDER - KOREA
 POST 0598 - MICHAEL W IDDINGS - VIETNAM
 POST 0598 - JOHN C GOTTSCHALK - VIETNAM
 POST 0598 - ROBERT B KINZEL - KOREA
 POST 0598 - MICHAEL J ONDRASEK - PANAMA
 POST 0598 - HAROLD F. WORKMAN JR - VIETNAM
 POST 0602 - THOMAS R CAMMARATA - KOREA
 POST 0605 - HOWARD D HONAKER - VIETNAM
 POST 0605 - CHARLES W EMANS II - VIETNAM
 POST 0610 - CAPT. SARALYNN BRIAN - LEBANON_GRENADA
 POST 0610 - LEONARD EGGERT JR - VIETNAM
 POST 0610 - RICHARD P MARTIN - VIETNAM
 POST 0610 - HARLAN K RECKART SR - KOREA
 POST 0610 - EDWARD G HAMM - WWII
 POST 0610 - JOHN D HOLLAND - VIETNAM
 POST 0610 - DAVE J SHELEY - VIETNAM
 POST 0610 - GORDON J HOFMAN - VIETNAM
 POST 0610 - JOSEPH GORMISH - KOREA
 POST 0610 - JEROLD T ENGLEHART - VIETNAM
 POST 0614 - ARCHIE L WOLFORD JR - VIETNAM
 POST 0614 - WILL HINES - VIETNAM
 POST 0614 - RICHARD L KEILHOLZ - KOREA
 POST 0615 - LARRY M CORNETT - VIETNAM
 POST 0618 - JOSEPH A CARLE - KOREA
 POST 0630 - RONALD SCHWARTZ - VIETNAM
 POST 0630 - WILLIAM KLEIMAN - VIETNAM
 POST 0630 - WILLIAM HARLAND - VIETNAM
 POST 0631 - GREGORY WHITMAN SR - VIETNAM
 POST 0631 - WILLIAM M NOLAN - WWII
 POST 0633 - RALPH W STERN - WWII
 POST 0633 - GERALD G NAYLOR - VIETNAM
 POST 0633 - RICHARD THATCHER - VIETNAM
 POST 0633 - HARRY D SINGLETON JR - VIETNAM
 POST 0635 - MICHAEL A ZIPFEL - VIETNAM
 POST 0637 - ERVIN E NEFF - VIETNAM
 POST 0641 - ROBERT ROGERS - VIETNAM
 POST 0641 - MICHAEL MEADOWS - OTHER
 POST 0641 - ROBERT R BAKER - KOREA
 POST 0646 - THOMAS R KING - VIETNAM
 POST 0648 - LINUS G LEFELD - VIETNAM
 POST 0648 - LEROY V RUTSCHILLING - KOREA
 POST 0665 - JAMES H MORGAN SR - VIETNAM
 POST 0674 - DAVID F SANDS - UNKNOWN
 POST 0677 - RONALD R HILES - VIETNAM
 POST 0677 - WILLIAM J KUREY - VIETNAM
 POST 0677 - DAVID W JOHNSON - VIETNAM
 POST 0678 - LARRY N DALLIES - PERSIAN_GULF
 POST 0678 - ROBERT W HEIMBERGER - VIETNAM
 POST 0678 - JAMES F SULLIVAN - VIETNAM
 POST 0678 - OTIS MORONY - VIETNAM
 POST 0682 - RICHARD L PALMER - OTHER
 POST 0682 - JAMES R CASH JR - VIETNAM
 POST 0699 - CLARENCE W JOHNSON - VIETNAM
 POST 0700 - RICHARD A BEGG - KOREA
 POST 0703 - ARTHUR J DEFAZIO - VIETNAM
 POST 0703 - ROBERT E MOORE - VIETNAM
 POST 0703 - JAMES CABOT - VIETNAM
 POST 0703 - PETER SADIVNYCHY - VIETNAM
 POST 0715 - EUGENE J WITTLER - KOREA
 POST 0737 - EDWARD T SMITH JR - VIETNAM
 POST 0737 - FRANK RITZE - VIETNAM
 POST 0738 - RICHARD J KOLOFER - KOREA
 POST 0740 - GARY L HOWELL - VIETNAM
 POST 0749 - BRENT E SOLES - VIETNAM
 POST 0750 - JOHN J MERROW - WWII
 POST 0762 - CARROLL E PAHL - KOREA
 POST 0763 - JOSEPH M KELLY - KOREA
 POST 0763 - JON W MAYS - VIETNAM
 POST 0763 - JOHN D SOSTROM - VIETNAM
 POST 0776 - EDWARD A FARRINGTON - KOREA
 POST 0776 - CARL E SPRINGLE JR - KOREA
 POST 0797 - HARRY E BURRIS - VIETNAM
 POST 0797 - DANIEL R HOOPER - VIETNAM
 POST 0799 - CARL F SNYDER - UNKNOWN
 POST 0888 - RICHARD D ABELE - KOREA
 POST 0888 - MYRON R PORTER - VIETNAM
 POST 0888 - ROBERT E HALL - VIETNAM
 POST 0888 - GEORGE S SPINK - WWII
 POST 0888 - HAROLD A DUNFEE - KOREA
 POST 0888 - LAWRENCE J FOOTE - KOREA
 POST 0888 - ROGER J SMITH - VIETNAM
 POST 0888 - EVERETT D NEWMAN - WWII
 POST 0888 - CLAUDE L LONGSTREET - VIETNAM
 POST 0888 - SAM RHODES - KOREA
 POST 0888 - ANNA L KNAPP - VIETNAM
 POST 0888 - VAN C BARNETTE - WWII
 POST 0888_AD - ARTHUR G SLY - KOREA
 POST 0888_AD - DAVID G GALLIK - VIETNAM
 POST 0888_AD - GEORGE P PILKINGTON - VIETNAM
 POST 0888_AD - BERNARD E LOUTH - VIETNAM
 POST 0888_AD - JOHN SCHALLES - OTHER



THE AMERICAN LEGION PREAMBLE

“For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a 100-percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.”



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

6/14/2026-6/21/2026
Buckeye Boys State

6/21/2026-6/24/2026
National Commander Visit

7/4/2026
Independence Day
Dept and Natl Closed

7/9/2026-7/12/2026
Department Convention
Toledo, Ohio

7/16/2026-7/19/2026
Junior Baseball Tournament

7/18/2026-7/19/2026
Department Golf Tournament
Beverly, OH
8:00 AM

7/24/2026-7/27/2026
Senior Baseball Tournament

8/7/2026-8/9/2026
63rd Annual National Membership Workshop
Indianapolis, Indiana

8/28/2026-9/3/2026
107th Annual National Convention
Louisville, Kentucky

9/6/2026
Department Trapshoot Tournament
Marengo, OH
9:00 AM

9/6/2026
District 8 Fall Conference
Post 78 - Logan, OH
10:00 AM

9/13/2026
District 13 Fall Conference
Post 572 - Parma, OH
10:00 AM

9/19/2026
Post Service Officer School
Department HQ
8:00 AM

9/19/2026
District 4 Fall Conference
Post 790 - Sharonville, OH
8:30 AM

10/4/2026
District 6 Fall Conference
Post 85 - Newark, OH
10:00 AM

10/5/2026-10/8/2026
National Fall Meetings
Sheraton - Indianapolis City Centre



DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

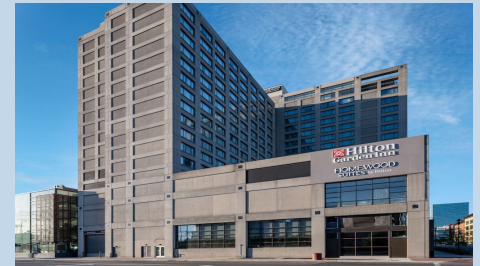
Please visit our official Department Social Media Channels:

-  <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionDepartmentOfOhio/>
-  https://www.instagram.com/ohio_legion/
-  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG5DACPf0uyfSa4ErKHOH_g?view_as=subscriber
-  https://x.com/Ohio_Legion



2026 Department Convention

July 10th – July 12th, 2026



Toledo (Glass City) Convention Center
401 Jefferson Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604

Deadline for Hotel Reservations is **June 6th**

To make reservations at the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel please call 419-244-2444 Ext. 1 or Click [HERE](#) and reference "The American Legion Department of Ohio Convention"

The discounted group rate is \$175.00/night + tax.

All Post Delegates and Alternates must be registered 15 days prior to Convention.

Delegate and Alternate registration deadline is June 25th

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR ONLINE CERTIFICATION OF DELEGATES/ALTERNATES

For more information, contact Christie White at: programs@ohiolegion.com

or call (740) 362-7478. For more Delegate information 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.*

Commander's Project:

Horses for Veterans

Challenged Champions Equestrian Center started the Horses for Veterans program in 2014, it is a program for veterans and active duty service members. This program is offered FREE OF CHARGE and they would like to invite all who are interested. A variety of individuals participate in this program and they design their program around the needs/expectations of the participant. Participants will learn horse care, grooming, leading, tacking (saddling) and riding. Participants can call or email to set up times to come to the barn, or check our calendar to participate in scheduled group events for veterans.

(419)456-3449 <https://www.challengedchampions.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/challengedchampions/>

The mission of the Challenged Champions Equestrian Center, Inc. is to enrich and improve the lives of children and adults with mental, physical, and emotional challenges through facilitated equine activities. Challenged Champions Equestrian Center was established in 1997 as a non-profit charitable corporation. Using the horse and its environment, they provide equine assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) for individuals with a variety of needs. EAAT has been proven to show physical, social, cognitive, and emotional improvement in participants. Challenged Champions is located in Ottawa, Ohio and serves more than 400 veterans and individuals with special needs annually.

To donate, visit our donation page: <https://www.ohiolegion.com/donate/> and under the 'Donation Project' dropdown menu select Commander's Project



FITNESS WELLNESS SERVICE

Celebrate America's 250th