# The Ohio SALute

An Official Publication of Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio January 2022–Volume 26, Issue 3

www.ohiolegion.com



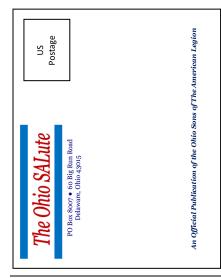
# COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Doug Hancock, Commander Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio 2021 - 2022

Greetings fellow Sons,

Winter is upon us with snow shoveling, ice covered sidewalks and driveways. Time for buddy checks and helping an eye on elderly neighbors.

I want to thank everyone that attended my homecoming.



It was a bit crowded due to an unfortunate double booking at my Post, but everyone appeared to have a good time.

A \$1,000 was raised raised for my special project HOOVES through personal donations, raffles and a personal dance routine thanks to my table officers and National Vice-Commander Jeff Vrabel Sr.

My special guests Bob Mendoza and his wife Emma expected to be there but due to the effects from a radiation treatment they had to cancel. Please keep them in your prayers.

I'm looking forward to our upcoming Mid-

Winter Conference in Columbus. I hope to see you there.

On Saturday, December 4, I marched in the Swanton Holiday Parade along with the Legionnaires and fellow Sons. it was a cold and windy late morning, unfortunately no pictures.

My travels coming up in 2022 will be to the 7th District in Chillicothe in March, the 5th District in Wellington in April. and the 3rd District in Kettering in April. Please contact Scott for any additional requests.

Rita and hope you all had a Merry Christmas, and we wish you a wonderful New Year!

For God and Country,

Doug Hancock, Commander Detachment of Ohio



## The Ohio SALute

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NVC Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor



The Ohio SALute is published 4 times per year.

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SUBMITTING ARTICLES: All submissions are to be made electronically to <u>salnews@ohiolegion.com</u>. If you need assistance, please send an email to same. All articles must be submitted in accordance with the following schedule:

**SUMMER EDITION** for July, August, September due no later than June 14

**FALL EDITION** for October, November, December due no later than September 11

**WINTER EDITION** for January, February, March due no later than December 7

**SPRING EDITION** for April, May, June due no later than March 17





#### First-Vice Commander



Dennis Albright, First Vice-Commander SAL1stvice@ohiolegion.com qubert71@yahoo.com 1778 Liberty Hill Road Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Good day my fellow S.A.L and Legion Family Members. Hope everyone had enjoyable Thanksgiving and hope all had Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Squadron Commanders and Adjutants please be advised that there is a new National Form called the "Squadron Data Report" this is now a required form that must be submitted by May 1st Every year. This form will allow National to enter the amount you charge your Members for Dues and in return your members will be able to pay due online beginning January 1st, 2022.

You may ask what if we do not turn in the **Squadron Data Report.** The answer to that is you will be chasing your tails around trying to keep up with trying to collect from Members that have already paid online and since you have not turned in the form your money will be sitting at National because you have not informed them of what amount to send back to the Squadron.

My last look at the numbers on Dec 5, 2021, only 54.78% of the Squadron Data Reports, 91.08% of Officer Certification Forms, and 85.35% of the Consolidated Squadron Reports have been filed. All three of these should reading 100%.

Let us keep up the hard work and hope to see everyone soon at Midwinter.

#### Second Vice-Commander



Dave Dilts,
Second Vice-Commander
SAL2ndvice@ohiolegion.com
davidleedilts@hotmail.com
(740) 319-1255

I hope everyone took the time to honor the ones who served during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7th. I hope everyone had a safe holiday season and a safe New Years.

Everyone should know by now; we are raffling off the tool box with tools at Mid-Winter in 2022 for Gifts for Yanks. I'm getting a little concerned due to the lack of tickets being returned to me. If you do have tickets that are sold, bring them to me at the table in the hallway at the hotel at Mid-winter. If you would like to mail them to me before then, please make sure the check is made payable to me (David Dilts). The address is 169 E Newman St, Zanesville, Oh 43701.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

We will also be selling the tickets in the hallway Friday and Saturday morning for \$5.00 a piece before raffling it off at the Saturday session.

#### From the Chaplain



Tim Conway, Chaplain SALChaplain@ohiolegion.com truckertim622001@yahoo.com (419) 276-6422

As we get through the holiday's please remember all the veteran's and the men and women serving in the Armed Service's. Please say a prayer for all of them, especially those that cannot be home. They sacrifice so much so that we can do all the things we want to do.

If there is anyone out there that needs a Get-well card, or a Condolence card sent out please contact me.

#### Adjutant's Update



Scott Thornton, Adjutant 2133 Sunset Creek Drive Toledo, Ohio 43615 SALAdjutant@ohiolegion.com

**Squadron Paperwork – Not Cleared Status.** We've made some strides since the last newsletter, but we still have a number of squadrons who need to complete their 2022 Officer Certification Form and 2021 Consolidated Squadron Report obligations.

Here are the current details of the squadrons with a work left to do in this area. (Districts 2 and 4 are clear.)

Dist.	No 2022 OCF	No 2021 CSR
1	253 305	99 253 279 305 316
3	588 619 675	238 619 675
5	434 514 523 676	434 514 523 676
6	97 804	97 518 605
7	363 433	433
8	58	27 58
9	177 472	177 214 472 719
10	31 423 573	31 70 274 423 525 551 573
11	71 578	71 159 378 399 578
12	486	486
13		304
14	272	19 272

Again, I am asking the officers of these districts to contact these squadrons and try to get the information needed. At a minimum, if you get confirmation from them that they are keeping their previous officers in place and have nothing to report for activity please email that to me. I'll pass it along to Department Headquarters to get them cleared and have their 2022 cards shipped immediately.

Mid-Winter Conference – January 21-22, 2022. The Mid-Winter Detachment Executive Committee meeting will convene at 7:00 pm at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North – Worthington Ho-

tel, 6500 Doubletree Ave., Columbus, OH 43229 on Friday, January 21. All elected and appointed Detachment Officers, Commission and Committee Chairmen, District Commanders and District First Vice Commanders are required to attend. Dress is Legion-casual except for Detachment Officers.

The Detachment Mid-Winter Conference will begin at 9:00 am on Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Crowne Plaza. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. This is a great opportunity to hear the reports of all our state commission and committee chairmen directly and ask questions about the programs they are leading. Dress is coat and tie for everyone, please.

**REMINDER:** Housing reservations for the Mid-Winter Conference must be made by calling the hotel directly at (614) 885-1885, option 2, and asking for the "American Legion Midwinter Conference" rate (\$103.00 / night plus tax). [You can also use the group code "AAL" to get our block rate.] Do not go through Department Headquarters for this meeting. The deadline to call is Thursday, January 13th, but I strongly advise you not to wait that long. The hotel fills up quickly for our weekend and many members will not be able to get into the Legion's room block. Call early!

The Past Detachment Commanders Club will be hosting their annual Reverse Raffle at 5:30 pm on Saturday after the Mid-Winter Conference. Tickets are \$10.00 each—contact any of the PDCs if you would like to buy some. Winners do not need to be present to claim their prize, but it is a good event to attend.

Leadership for Next Year. In closing, if you are thinking about running for an office next year or submitting your name for consideration as a commission or committee member you must fill out the appropriate recommendation form (available from the Detachment website,

#### http://www.ohiolegion.com).

Click on the "Forms" link at the top of the page, then scroll down the page to the SAL section in the middle. Send your completed form(s) to Ohio's NEC, Bill "Buster" Sutterlin at SAL-NEC@OhioLegion.com before January 14 to be considered.

#### Judge Advocate



Bill Towns, Judge Advocate docbill@neo.rr.com SALJudgeAdvocate@ohiolegion.com

Judge Advocate

When you finally take the opportunity to visit the old neighborhood, school, hometown, or even vacation spot, you immediately see the changes. Some good, some you question, but always wonder when and how it happened. It is the same with our beloved Sons of The American Legion. If you had stepped away because of a job or family commitment for a couple of vears you will notice many changes. Just like the old neighborhood vou may question why the change happened. If the changes are for the best may yet to be scene, but how the change happens is a constant.

If I may steal this from the Department of Ohio website.

"Resolution – Noun - res·o·lu·tion - a formal expression of opinion, will, or intent voted by an official body or assembled group."

Legionnaires (and Sons) at every membership level are afforded the opportunity to suggest changes in their local posts' (and Squadrons) policies, or even to the way the Legion operates as an organization. Legionnaires (and Sons) interested in initiating such a process must file a resolution - a written description of a problem or situation, followed by a suggestion as to how it may be corrected. A resolution may also be a statement or declaration pertaining to an issue of concern to the Legion. It consists of two parts: the preamble (descrip-

tion of the problem), and the resolve clause (how the local post, department or national organization should solve the problem or support the issue). The entire resolution should be one continuous sentence, with the preamble clause(s) preceding the resolve clause(s).

I've heard it said, "Nothing is constant, except change." If you see a Sons program, position, or promotion you feel needs changed, the submission of a resolution is how we change it. As a committed member of the Sons of The American Legion vou have a right and a responsibility to set the direction and growth of your organization. Annually you get to review the "Rules of The Convention" and "Rules of the DEC." Regularly you should review the Constitution and By-laws at all levels to see if changes are needed. Do not suggest a change just to make a change, but where change helps growth, change can be a good thing.

#### National Executive Committeeman



Bill Sutterlin, National Executive Committeeman SALNEC@ohiolegion.org brs257@zoominternet.net

I hope all of you are well and doing good. After the holidays, please remember our veterans who are in a home. After all of the well wishes and holiday activities, the time drags by for those who don't get out. The weather is cold, and the days are dreary. Send them a Thinking of You card. Or give them a call.

Anyone interested in serving on a National committee or commission for 2022-2023 needs to complete an application and submit it to me before the start of the DEC meeting at Mid-Winter Conference on Friday night, January 21st.

Anyone who is interested in serving on a Detachment committee should also submit an application.

The forms that need to be completed are on the department website at

https://www.ohiolegion.com/sal/. At the bottom right side of the page under SAL FORMS is the choice to click on National Appointment Form or Detachment Appointment Form. This will bring up the form you need to complete. Any questions, please call me at 419-651-2409 or call Scott Thornton.

I hope some of you are working on bids for the 2024 Detachment Convention. These bids aren't due until our Convention in Portsmouth in May, but it is important to work on them now.

Hope to see many of you at Mid-Winter in Columbus. Don't forget to get your tickets for the Past Detachment Commander's reverse raffle held on Saturday night, Jan. 22.

Thank you for all you do for Service Members, Veterans, and the SAL.

## Alternate National Executive Committeeman



Steve Honigfort, Alternate National Executive Committeeman SALANEC@ohiolegion.org shonigfort@yahoo.com

Fellow SAL Members,

With Pearl Harbor Day we remember and honor the veterans who served and sacrificed that day in history. It is hard to believe that part of history is not taught to students in many schools anymore. That history is very important to us and the rest of the country. It is one example of how there are those who would wish to bury events that need to be recognized to make our younger generation understand the liberties we enjoy today were not easily gotten. Our military veterans deserve the honors due them and we as SAL members can help by passing on any bits and pieces of information to our children and grandchildren to keep alive those honors. The importance of our veterans can never be forgotten.

The Christmas season also is a time of the year to remember our veterans in nursing homes and VA facilities, some of which are alone and in need of a smile. A small gift or card could brighten someone's day and let them know you care. It is a responsibility taught to me by my father and hope you all agree. A small gesture of good can go a long to make this world a better place, a world that sometimes seems a little cruel. A Buddy check for those home bound is another way to show you care and to guard the welfare of those no longer able to enjoy the luxury of getting out and about.

Again, I mention tooting your horn if your Squadron does a fundraiser or event to benefit our communities. The general public needs to hear that the American Legion Family does more than just sit in a canteen. There are still those out there that believe the Legion is just another bar of drinkers. We need to re-educate all peoples of the benefits of an American Legion Post in their town. When the public learns of what we do, membership growth will follow and help the family grow. Use local newspapers, TV stations, and radio. Also use our great newsletter that Jeff Vrabel works hard to make better every chance he gets. Get up and get out to advance the SAL Detachment of Ohio.

## **#SALSTRONG**

ARE YOU PART OF THE FAMILY?

#### National Vice-Commander's Update



Jeff Vrabel, Sr., National Vice-Commander jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com

As we start 2022, we must make buddy checks to all of our members who have not renewed their membership for this year. We must remind him how important he is to the organization. Ask him to honor the veteran who made him eligible for membership by paying his dues now.

There are still Squadrons with zero members paid. We cannot allow this to continue. Membership cards come out every year in July. That's when Squadrons should be sending out renewal notices. We need to encourage payment of dues in the summer so we can spend the rest of our year on our fundraising efforts, planning and hosting events, and recruiting new members.

Changing the culture of our membership program is a must. The way we do things has to change. We, as the Detachment of Ohio can be the leader in this new way of thinking, but we must get the officers at all levels; Squadron, District, and Detachment to buy in to it.

When other Detachments see us succeed, they will want to be just like us. Let's all pull together and lay the groundwork now so we can get our members to pay before the National Convention.

Nationally, the Central Region continues to work hard on the membership program, as well as in fundraising for such causes as the Child Welfare Foundation, Veterans and Children Foundation, and many others.

National Commander Michael Fox's national service project, Flying Flags For Heroes, has seen nearly a quarter of a million flags placed on the graves of veterans across the country.

When you are placing flags for Memorial Day, or at any other time throughout the year, please make sure to visit the website and log the number of flags you have placed. Make sure to get a few pictures and submit them as well.



www.flyingflagsforheros.com

If there is anything I can do for you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We are Sons of The American Legion.

We are all #SALSTRONG!



#### District 1

Duffer Rosenbauer, Commander

#### District 2

Randy Matthews, Commander

#### District 3

Troy Davis, Commander

#### District 4

Charles W. Castle, Commander

Fall has arrived and the cold winters' months are approaching but that has not hampered squadrons in the 4<sup>th</sup> District. The past few months squadrons in the 4<sup>th</sup> have done what they do best, serving our veterans both past and present. Our members need to take a much-deserved bow for their excellent work. Gentlemen, I salute each and every one of you.

Many of our squadrons have already been planning for the upcoming new year. Fish fries along with chili cook-offs, monthly breakfasts, improvements at their home post, trivia nights and of course ways to help our veterans both and present and our communities in which we live.

Just recently several of the 4th District squadrons honored our veterans by participating in Veteran's Day events. Members from Yeager-Benson Sq. 199, Stuart G. Luginbuhl Sq. 72 and Williams-Sq. 288 attended burg marched in the annual Veteran's Day parade in Batavia, Ohio. Other squadron members attended programs at their home post. Myself and our 4th District Chaplain and dual member Denny Lahey and Squadron 484 member Bill Hosking honored veterans at a local care center with certificates of appreciation for their service. Our 4<sup>th</sup> District Adjutant and V.A. & R Chairman Ron Wissman delivered LaRosa's Pizzas to the residents at the CLC Unit of the Cincinnati VAMC.

Our 2021 Fall Conference was hosted by Loveland Squadron 256, we had a great turn-out and a very successful conference. Our 2022 Winter Conference will be hosted by Halker-Flege Squadron 69 and will be held on Sunday, February 6, 2022, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

#### District 5

Dewey Kuhl, Commander

#### District 6

Ted Kohler, Jr., Commander



## **District 7**John Conley, Commander



PDC Adam Jones, of Squadron 23, making video presentation with Scioto County Daily News on the 80th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

#### District 8

Phil Lightfoot, Commander

#### District 9

Tom Foss, Commander

#### District 10

Matthew Baxter, Commander

District 10 Sons of The American Legion Commander Matthew Baxter Presents the 2021 George Powell Membership Award for the greatest percentage of membership increase to Albert Gray, Orrville Squadron 282 First Vice Commander.

The District Ten Fall Conference was hosted by Millersburg Squadron 182 on October 30, 2021. There were twenty-four members and guests representing seven squadrons present including Tim Conway Detachment of Ohio Chaplain.



Matthew Baxter presents 2021 George Powell Award to Albert Gray Squadron 282 at the Tenth District Fall Conference Millersburg Post 182.



Bill Towns, Tim Conway, Rusty Dial at Tenth District Fall Conference Millersburg Post 182.

#### District 11

Chet Crooks, Commander

#### District 12

Rocky Searles, Commander

#### District 13

Adam Budner, Commander

#### District 14

PNC Fred Hartline, Sr., Commander



Reports of Committees & Commissions

#### AMERICANISM COMMISSION



Randy Matthews, Chairman load529@yahoo.com

I hope this report finds everyone well and ready for the holidays. Please remember our veterans during this time of the year. Take them to the store or shopping. They may not have anyone nearby that can help. Just make a buddy check.

Also, please watch what is going on in your Post and your community. Get involved. Volunteer at dinners, flag raising, and firing squads. Don't forget to report them on your Consolidated Squadron Report at the end of the year.

#### **Buckeye Boys State**



John Vrzal, Chairman VrzalJD@MiamiOH.edu

#### Legislative Update



Craig Smith, Chairman craigsmith1958@gmail.com

The Washington Conference has been cancelled this year. The Sons of The American Legion will do a wreath laying ceremony on February 27.

Keep an eye out for the member in our Detachment for the George B. Evens Veterans Advocate of the Year Award.

Address toxic exposure veterans have been exposed to airborne toxic hazards the result of personal proximity to burn pits for extended times during service. The American Legion has fought for serviceconnected disability benefits for conditions linked to toxic exposures for decades and will continue to do so for this generation. The American Legion urges Congress to reintroduce and pass the Toxic Exposure in the American Military (TEAM) Act of 2020 and supports further studies into conditions directly related to contaminants in order to establish a complete list of presumptive diseases caused by toxic exposure during service, Resolution No. 118,2016

Tell your Representatives to support Buddy Check Week. Our most sacred responsibility as a nation is to care for our fellow men and women who have served this nation with honor. Only with servant leadership and direct contact with our fellow veterans can we uncover the true needs of our warriors and avert potential crisis. The American Legion has long had a Buddy Check Week asking our legionnaires to conduct veteran outreach as part of their daily routine. The American Legion's Buddy Check

program has been a great tool for our membership, and we strongly support legislation that expands this program to VA. Both chambers of Congress now have bills that would direct VA to establish a Buddy Check Week, provide educational opportunities, materials, and references for veterans to learn how to conduct personal wellness checks as well as require increased resources for the Veterans Crisis Line to handle any potential increased usage during the designated week. The bill is modeled after the American Legion's Buddy Check National Week of Calling to connect veterans to better ensure that they receive the care they need. The American Legion proudly supports this legislation and asks that you contact your Senators and Representative and tell them to cosponsor and support Buddy Check Week Legislation today.

#### **Oratorical**



Rocky Searles, Chairman Rocky.Searles@CenturyLink.com

#### POW ★MIA



Evan Mahlman, Chairman E.Mahlman216@Gmail.com

#### CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMISSION



Bruce Forshey, Chairman Bruce.Forshey@Gmail.com

#### Children's Miracle Network



Adam J. Budner, Chairman blechabum@yahoo.com (216) 798-9254

In November, Valvoline Instant Oil Change locations across the US and Canada rallied its employees and customers to help our local communities support children's hospitals. As a result, over 900 service centers \$888,285.86! Thank you, Valvoline Instant Oil Change! Your commitment to raising life-saving donations will transform patients' and families' entire lives. children's hospitals provide the treatments and cures patients desperately need today so that they can fulfill their potential tomorrow. They couldn't do this incredible work without you! When we change kids' health, we change the future for all of us.

Children's hospitals are on the frontlines when it comes to protecting the health of future generations. But they can't do it alone. Round up at Ace Hardware this holiday season. Your donation benefits Children's Miracle Network Hospitals unlocking a world of possibilities for kids at your local children's hospital. It ensures children can lead healthy, fulfilling lives while also fostering the builders and creators of tomorrow.

#### Child Welfare Foundation



Adam Jones, Chairman 3675 Bear Creek Rarden Rd. Otway, Ohio 45657 (740) 821-0191

glimmer\_man72@yahoo.com

I want to acknowledge and thank National Child Welfare Foundation Committee Chairman Mark Nave for his input and assistance.

As of December 10, the Sons of the American Legion has raised \$108,385 for the fundraising year leaving us around \$71,000 from reaching \$ 9 million dollars.

The Committee is currently preparing a fundraising template, gathering ideas from membership. Please, encourage members from the Detachment to reach out and share ideas they may want to share.

In addition, we are working on the 2022 SAL CWF merchandise and should come to a decision by end of the calendar year. We continue to encourage members to donate

by mail or using the "Donate" button on the SAL or CWF page. When donating online please fill your SAL designation in the "In Honor of" or "In Memoriam of". If your Squadron achieves a \$1/member please complete the 100% per capita form by 5/31/2022.

# VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMISSION



Dan Sagraves, Chairman dansagraves@twc.com

As of this writing, we are still very limited in what we can do at our VA medical facilities. The same goes for the Fisher Houses. We continue to hope and pray that this pandemic will pass, and we can return to the life that we want to. There are still ways you can help veterans. The first and foremost is to help your neighbor or the veteran at your local post. Secondly, we can all make donations of cash and You can still deliver material. items to the facilities. You can also make donations to finance activities at the facilities. They are being conducted by staff and some volunteers. Distribution of Christmas gifts for the Gifts For Yanks program was not done again this year in December. At the Dayton facility we delivered them to the facility and staff will passed them out like last year. I also remember the guys in Chillicothe having Christmas in July in a similar manner.

It is time to appoint or reappoint SAL representatives to the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service committee at our VA Medical facilities. I will be contacting the current representatives and deputies to see if they want to stay on in their positions. Is there anyone that may be interested in serving? All you have to do is be a registered volunteer at the facility you would be a representative to or get registered. You must attend four meetings a year. The main responsibility is to recruit SAL volunteers to your location promote SAL activi-

ties. We need men to step up and seriously consider this. This is why we exist. We need to be serving our veterans at the VA hospitals. If interested, let me know.



The Third District recently helped sponsor a cruise for the Miami Valley Veterans Museum in Troy. Pictured are District officers David Jones (668) sitting, Dan Sagraves (200) and Troy Davis (707).

#### Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee



Robert Showalter, North Chairman roshow2850@yahoo.com

Sandusky OVH. With more than 95 percent of residents and nearly 60 percent of staff members have been vaccinated. That enabled administrators to begin admitting veterans that are on the waiting list at the home and opportunities for some to visit with the residents. With certain precautions in place.

Flag City Honor Flight Findlay. The Flag City Honor Flight Board made the decision to postpone the 2021 season due to increasing Covid- 19 cases. This includes the flight and bus trips.

They were eager to resume their trips this year after the pandemic grounded them for 2020. They followed all mandates for their Veterans and Guardians making the trips, including requiring Covid-19 vaccination, and planned to strictly follow all Covid-19 re-

strictions in place at the time of travel. Despite all this, the recent increase in cases of the highly contagious Delta variant gave them no choice.



Gerry Palmer, South Chairman gerpalm60@gmail.com



Since 1919



#### Veterans Employment and Education Committee



Bob Carson, Chairman CarsonRobert1957@Gmail.com

#### PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION



Steve Honigfort, Chairman SALANEC@ohiolegion.org shonigfort@yahoo.com



## The Ohio SALute

#### From the Editor



Jeff Vrabel, Sr., Editor, The Ohio Salute jeffvrabel@sbcglobal.net SALNews@ohiolegion.com

Thank you to everyone who submitted information for this edition of *The Ohio SALute*. Your participation is greatly appreciated, and I know our readers are appreciative as well.

We need to continue to publish information that is relevant, timely, and informative. For some, this is the only way they get information about what is happening at the Detachment level, and they count on us to provide it to them.

For others, it is a way of gathering ideas on things to try in their Squadron or District.

Not only do we have readers in the Detachment, but many throughout the organization also read *SALute* and we get very good feedback from them. Let's continue to produce the most informative Detachment newsletter around!

#### Convention Screening Committee



Bill "Buster" Sutterlin, Chairman SALNEC@ohiolegion.org brs257@zoominternet.net

#### Finance Committee



Rex Buchs, Chairman RexBuchs@AOL.com



## Member Training & Development Committee



Bill Towns, Chairman docbill@neo.rr.com SALJudgeAdvocate@ohiolegion.com

Do you have a question on which form is needed, where do I find it. when is it due, how do I fill it in, or who do I send it to? Things like these can all be researched online. There are many online links available to target subjects of interests on your MyLegion.org and The American Legion National Website, Legion.org, many of which are hosted by members you may know and already reach out to for assistance. But I would like to point out that squadron members, officers, and advisors, no longer need to wait until a class is scheduled or a training session becomes available. Waiting for these answers can cost your squadron and district to fall behind and even cheat you out of funds available as lap prizes.

While an organized formal training session can be cost effective and reach a greater number of members all at once, sometimes it's not the best thing for you. An avenue which is extremely helpful is your Detachment and District Officers and Chairmen. Check on OhioLegion.com for quick links to your Detachment of Ohio leadership. While they may not be immediately available because of jobs and family commitments, (remember they are volunteers) but they do have the answer or know someone that can get you the information vou need.

Chairmen, District, and Detachment Leaders, you must also be aware of what is happening and not wait for success. Watch the weekly and monthly reports. If you see a program or squadron falling behind, contact them ask if you can help. Your personal contact may be just what is needed to ignite interests and fuel the flames of commitment. Always remember that your detachment newsletter "The SALute" and the weekly "Your

Towns SAL News" are there for you to increase awareness and promote the growth of your programs.

#### Constitutional Review Committee



Bill Towns, Chairman
docbill@neo.rr.com
SALJudgeAdvocate@ohiolegion.com

#### Committee Appointments Committee



Bill Sutterlin, Chairman SALNEC@ohiolegion.org brs257@zoominternet.net

#### Past Commanders raise funds for Child Welfare Foundation

The Ohio Past Detachment Commanders Club Bottle Auction





In 1988 near the end of Ohio's Detachment Commander Terry Kettering's Homecoming held at Akron Post 209, a left-over bottle of Canadian

Club was raffled off on a tip board for a \$1.00 a pull. Department Commander Richard Cherry 1987-88 won the tip board and he asked to have it auctioned off to the highest bidder with the money to be donated to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Detachment First Vice-Commander Dale Hartley won the impromptu auction with a bid of \$11.40, then immediately donated the bottle back for a second round, in which bids went higher ending with his Squadron, Chillicothe Squadron 62 donating \$125.00.

Since then, that bottle of Canadian Club had been auctioned at each Detachment Commander's Homecoming with all funds being donated to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

In 1992, Kent Blanchard contacted the makers of Canadian Club hoping that they would donate a case of airline bottles to offer a gift to those that had bid on the original bottle. After Kent had explained what the Past Commanders did with the funds from the auction, they stated they could not donate a case of the little bottles, but they would donate something.

To everyone's surprise when the donation arrived, it was a gold-plated bottle of Canadian Club, and had "Honoring Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio Founded in 1932" printed on the label. So, the original bottle was retired in grand style and the tradition of raffling off the gold-plated Canadian Club bottle was born and continues today.

Each year the bottle is auctioned three times. The first two bid are for the right to have their name posted on the donors list and then donate it back. The third time it is auctioned, the Detachment of Ohio First Vice-Commander must purchase it and earns the right to keep and display the bottle for one year. Many just secure it safely, and worry that nothing happens to it till they can bring it back.

Over the years there have been several milestones or what we call "Fun Fact:"

- 1. The first bottle was auctioned in 1988. Dale Hartley (D7 S62) bid \$11.40.
- 2. The Gold Bottle was obtained by Commander Kent Blanchard (D<sub>3</sub> S6<sub>13</sub>) in 1992.
- 3. The first Vice Commander to bid for the right to keep the Gold Bottle for one year was Randy Roof (D2 S191).
- 4. The first donation over \$1,000.00 came in 1998 when Bill Towns (D14 S209) bid \$1,209.14.

- The largest single donation happened twice 2003 and 2007 both by the Fifth District Sons of the American Legion.
- The largest single year donation came in 2003 a total of \$12,329.00.
- The only accident came in 2002 when Randy Eicher (D5 S181) broke the original glass display globe.



To date the OPDCC Bottle Auction donations have accumulated to \$93,957.09, and 100% was donated to CWF. The only questions left are, who's name will be put on it next and

who and when will the total dona-

who and when will the total dona-			Robert H Moch			Squadron 178	\$600.00	
tions go over \$100,000.00?			1998	Squadron 12	\$412.00		Van Wert D2 SAL	•
			1990	Elyria Bill Towns	<b>9412.00</b>	2009	Squadron 336 Painesville D9 SAL	\$2,800.00
1988	Dale Hartley Squadron 62	\$11.40	1998	Squadron 209	\$1,209.14	2010	Squadron 336 Painesville D9 SAL	\$500.00
1988	Chillicothe	\$125.00		Akron Rob Brewer		2010	Squadron 8 Wellington D5 SAL	\$1,000.00
1989	Squadron 209 Akron Dick Pohlabel	\$100.00	1999	Squadron 12 Elyria	\$312.00	2010	Squadron 63 Ottawa D1 SAL	\$2,063.00
1989	Squadron 535	\$100.00	1999	Robert Dull Squadron 566	\$300.00	2010	Anonymous	\$0.63
	Bellville Squadron 62	h-(	1999	Akron	φ <u>3</u> 00.00	2011	Squadron 336 Painesville Do SAL	\$500.00
1990	Chillicothe Craig Smith	\$260.00	200 0	Rob Brewer Squadron 12	\$350.12	2011	Squadron 96 Lima & D2 SAL	\$500.00
1990	Squadron 535 Bellville	\$130.00	200	Elyria Earl Cox		2011	Squadron 389 Beverly	\$2,500.00
1990	Squadron 613 Dayton	\$140.00	0	Squadron 96 Lima	\$375.00		& D11 SAL	
	Squadron 535		200	Bruce Stirling		2012	John Conley D7 SAL	\$550.00
1991	Bellville Squadron 62	\$80.00	0	Squadron 678 Eastlake	\$1,678.09	2012	Squadron 535 Bellville D5 SAL	\$535.00
1991	Chillicothe	\$100.00	2001	Earl Cox Squadron 96	\$375.00	2012	Squadron 164 Grove City D12 SAL	\$2,164.00
1001	Kent Blanchard Squadron 613	\$130.00		Lima	1070		Cary Kuhĺ	
1991	Dayton	\$130.00	2001	D5 SAL Squadrons 12, 257, and 535	\$375.00	2013	Squadron 8 Wellington D5 SAL	\$888.88
1992	Squadron 613 Dayton	\$140.00	2001	Joe Wylandt Squadron 144	\$1.701.44	0010	Bruce Forshey Squadron 389	\$500.00
1992	Squadron 535 Bellville	\$110.00	2001	Columbus	\$1,701.44	2013	Beverly D11 SAL	<del>აესს.სს</del>
	Randy Roof		2002	Rob Brewer D5 SAL	\$812.00	0010	Kyle Catlett	<b>#</b> 1 006 00
1992	Squadron 191 Spencerville	\$195.00	2002	Post 144 Columbus	\$600.00	2013	Squadron 96 Lima D2 SAL	\$1,096.00
1992	George Martin	\$100.00	2002	Randy Eicher Squadron 181	\$1,815.00	2013	Barb Brewer and Jon Coakley	\$15.12
1993	Squadron 62 Chillicothe	\$110.00		Bucyrus Bernie Kessler	ψ1,013.00	2014	D14 American Legion Family	\$281.14
1993	Squadron 178 Van Wert	\$178.00	2003	Squadron 181 Bucyrus	\$325.00	2014	Squadron 178 Van Wert D2 SAL	\$300.00
1993	Roy Turner Squadron 209 Akron	\$359.00	2003	Rob Brewer D5 SAL	\$10,000.0 0	2014	Squadron 257 Loudonville D5 Sal	\$1,257.00
1994	Christopher Wilson	\$95.00	2003	Bill Sutterlin Squadron 257	\$2,004.00	2015	Squadron 389 Beverly	\$500.00
1994	Jerry Wilson	\$95.00	0	Loudonville	<del>+-,</del>		Bruce Forshey Squadron 389	
1994	Al Brick	\$10.00	2004	D11 SAL	\$1,100.00	2015	Beverly	\$300.00
1994	Squadron 532	\$175.00	2004	D5 SAL	\$1,500.00		D11 SAL Squadron 164	
	Columbus		2004	Jeff Vrabel Sr Squadron 15 Poland	\$2,015.09	2015	Grove City D12 SAL	\$1,800.00

Pat Shea

Mason

Squadron 194

Jerry Wilson

Squadron 532

Squadron 144

Squadron 532

Rick Riviotta

Squadron 610

**Brook Park** 

Frank Santo

Squadron 12

Ken Schwan

**Brook Park** 

Bellville

Squadron 610

Ed VanHouten

Squadron 535

Squadron 535 Bell-

Elyria

Jim Myers

Tom Getz

Columbus

Columbus

Columbus

Post 199 Harrison

1994

1995

1995

1995

1995

1996

1996

1996

1997

1997

1997

1998

Squadron 23

Portsmouth

**Grant Martin** 

Squadron 289

Squadron 23

Portsmouth

Rob Brewer

Squadron 23

Portsmouth

Adams Jones D7

Waverly D7 SAL

Portsmouth D7 SAL

Van Wert D2 SAL

Squadron 142

Squadron 471

Squadron 178

Squadron 178

D<sub>3</sub> SAL

D<sub>5</sub> SAL

SAL

733

Beverly

Squadrons 12, 181,

257, 526, 535, and

Squadrons 257, 344,

Squadron 12 Elyria

535, 733 and D2

2005

2005

2005

2006

2006

2006

2007

2007

2007

2008

2008

2008

2009

\$625.00

\$400.00

\$100.00

\$100.00

\$753.02

\$100.00

\$253.02

\$610.00

\$212.00

\$610.00

\$350.00

\$535.00

\$600.00

\$1,500.00

\$2,389.00

\$600.00

\$1,575.00

\$1,812.00

\$625.00

\$700.00

\$600.00

\$725.00

\$2,178.00

\$800.00

\$10,000.0

2016	Squadron 12 Elyria	\$675.00
2016	District 1	\$2,800.00
2017	Bruce Forshey Squadron 389 Beverly D11 SAL	\$500.00
2017	Jon Coakley Squadron 164 Grove City D12 SAL	\$1,000.00
2017	Dale Anderson Squadron 703 D13	\$1,703.00
2018	Squadron 733 D5	\$500.00
2018	Squadron 8 Wellington D5 SAL	\$888.00
2018	Bernie Kessler Squadron 181 D5	\$1,000.00
2020	Doug Hancock Squadron 479.	\$479.00
2020	Doug Hancock D1 SAL	\$1,000.00
2020	D <sub>5</sub> SAL	\$1,000.00
2021	District 1	\$500.00
2021	Squadron 479 (Promissed)	\$750.00
2021	Squadron 757 in Memorial for David Grabb	\$1,757.00

#### **Fun Facts**

First Donation
Dale Hartley 1988 \$11.40
First Gold Bottle
1991 obtained by PDC Kent Blanchard
First > \$1000.00
1998 Akron Squadron 209 \$1209.14
Largest single donation
D5 SAL 2003 and 2007 \$10,000.00
Largest single year donation
2003 \$12,329.00
Total OPDCC Bottle Raffle
donations to CWF





The American Legion Family



## Ohio Sons license plate update















## Tradition of Support and Promotion

With a tradition of support for the programs and principles of The Sons of The American Legion, Ohio Past Detachment Commander Bill Towns (Minerva Squadron 357) has updated his license plate with the now available Sons of The American Legion Logo. As the newly appointed National Sons of The American Legion Historian, Bill wants to encourage all to promote our heritage and traditions as we continue to expand in new directions.







### National Membership League season Underway

The 2022 Membership season is well underway, and National Membership Chairman and National Membership League Commissioner Thom Skellev has released the schedule. There will be six games, with each team vying for enough points to win the season. Each of the five regions will compete against each other, as well as the national average, in their quest to win the coveted National Membership Championship and the Chairman's Cup.

The regions for the Sons of The American Legion have been assigned a number based on membership size as follows:

- 1) EAST
- 2) CENTRAL
- 3) SOUTH
- 4) MIDWEST
- 5) WEST
- 6) NATIONAL Avg.

#### Here's how it works:

- Each region will match-up against a different region for two consecutive target dates, culminating with the final delegate strength target date of 105%.
- 2) The winner will be the region with the highest percentage of membership to goal for that particular target date. Since we have five regions, the national total will be "team" 6.
- In the event that both regions exceeded their goal, the winner will be the region with the highest overall percentage.
- 4) The percentages will be taken from the official na-

- tional membership report run closest to, and prior to, the target date.
- 5) 10 points will be awarded to the winning region in each matchup, with a possible 5 bonus points awarded to any region that meets or exceeds its target date percentage.
- All five regions will compete against each other for the 105% delegate strength goal 07/28/2022.

#### National Membership League 2022 Schedule

February 9, 2022 – 75% Midwest Monsters vs. National Gold

Central Capitals vs.
South Force

East Beasts vs.
West Commanders

April 13, 2022 - 90%

East Beasts vs.

Midwest Monsters

West Commanders vs

South Force

Central Capitals vs.
National Gold

May 11, 2022 - 100% West Commanders vs. National Gold

East Beasts vs.
South Force

Central Capitals vs. Midwest Monsters

About the teams

East Beasts. The East largest Region in the organization, often referred to as the "Beasts in the East." Central Capitals. National Headquarters is in Indianapolis, Indiana, which is the capital of The American Legion.

South Force. For the past two years the South Region has shown their power as the leader in membership and a force to be reckaned with.

National Gold. This team is named after the color of the caps of our National Officers.

Midwest Monsters. Ready to attack membership and SAL programs, also known as "the Monsters of the Midwest,"

West Commanders. The home of 2022 National Commander Michael Fox is in California, the West will command attention this year.





(Boys State-Boys Nation, Youth Activities and Community Services Sub-Committee): Aug. 20, 10:30 a.m., Private Dining Room #2, 3rd Floor. Children and Youth Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Private Dining Room #1, 3rd Floor. Constitutional Amendments Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Upper Summit, 27th Floor Credentials and Internal Affairs (Credentials and Other Internal Matters): Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Bel Air Room, 3rd Floor. (Membership): Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Astoria Room, 3rd Floor. Economic (Employment and Veterans Preference): Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Private Dining Room #4, 3rd Floor. (Other Economic Matters): Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Private Dining Room #3, 3rd Floor. Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Lower Summit, 27th Floor. Foreign Relations Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor 415, 4th Floor. Legislation and Rules Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor A, 3rd Floor.

Aug. 20, 11:00 a.m., and Aug. 21, 10:00 a.m., Waldorf Room, 3rd Floor. (Naval Affairs): Aug. 20, 11:00 a.m., and Aug. 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor 419, 4th Floor. **National Security Committees Joint Meeting** Aug. 22, 12:00 Noon, Parlor B - 3rd Floor Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (Claims and Rating): Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor B, 3rd Floor. (Hospitals and Medical Services): 21. 10:00 a.r Room 3rd Floor. Sons of The American Legion Workshop and First National Convention Aug. 19 and 20, 9:00 a.m., Boulevard Room. Center Section. nam Veteran Legionnaire Workshop, Executive (Meeting of Ass Department) Aug. 23, 9:30 a.m., 3rd Floor, Parlor C (This is a workshop and is open to all Vietnam era Veteran Legionnaires in attendance at Con-Executive Session of Vietnam Veterans Aug. 23, 9:00 a.m. - Parlor 418 - 4th Floor

(Military Attairs):

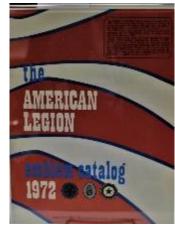
share? If you cannot donate an item, just take a picture of it, and email it to me <a href="mailto:docbill@neo.rr.com">docbill@neo.rr.com</a> or for more information.

I particularly need items for pre 1995 National Officers and National Conventions.

Thank you for this and all you have done,

Bill Towns, National Historian 2021-2022 330-571-1214 docbill@neo.rr.com







#### 50<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion

As the 2021-2022 National Historian for the Sons of The American Legion. Along with my duties of presenting a vearbook for National Commander Mike Fox, I have the great opportunity to of putting together a 50th National Convention Book for the Convention that will be held in Milwaukee in 2022. The book will include a page for each of the 50 national conventions and the commander's year of The Sons of The American Legion. This book will then be presented at no cost to every member attending the 50th Sons of The American Legion Convention Celebration Dinner.

For this to be a success, I need to collect, file, and preserve Sons of The American Legion historical information. Convention Pins, Newsletters, Certificates, Convention Ribbons, Convention Books, Officer Rosters, Scrapbooks, SAL Drum Corps, and Color Guard items, and/or Pictures of such activities are needed. As a past national convention attendee and so much more, do you have any National Convention Commander photos or activity photos from any National Convention vou could





National Commander Michael Fox is asking for the Detachment of Ohio's help with his national service project, Flying Flags For Heroes.

The goal is to place one million flags on the graves of our nation's heroes, as well as to honor the service of our veterans, inspire patriotism within our communities, and to promote national pride.

The goal is to remind everyone that every day is Memorial Day.

Just pick a day, any day for your community, organization, or company to place American flags on veterans' graves at your local cemetery. This can also be something you can do individually.

As an individual you can:

- Increase patriotism in your community.
- Honor a veteran family member.
- Honor a veteran friend.
- Show your patriotism.
- Support our military.
- Feel good about your country.

As an organization you can:

- Increase brand awareness of your organization.
- Promote community service
- Promote Americanism.
- Promote patriotism.
- Increase membership participation.

Here's how it works:

- 1. Plan an event in your area.
- 2. Place one flag for a veteran you may know, if you can, and one for a veteran you do not know.
- 3. Take pictures.
- 4. Register your event on the program website, www.flyingflagsforheroes.co m. Make sure to include the number of flags. Do this even if you don't have pictures.

This does not need to be a onetime deal. In order to reach one million flags placed on the graves of veterans, you are encouraged to participate in more than one ceremony.

Don't be shy about helping others plan and execute their ceremonies and flag placement as well. Get the word out to our Squadrons and Districts and ask how you can help.

Please notify me and National Vice-Commander Jeff Vrabel, Sr. at <a href="mailto:jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com">jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com</a> of the events that are planned by your Squadron or District, and we will do our best to attend.

Thank you for your help with this program!

Ryan Weitzman, Detachment Coordinator Flying Flags For Heroes National Service Project svaryan27@aol.com



#### REMINDER

Checks written to the Detachment of Ohio

With the recent change to a new bank handling the Detachment of Ohio's finances, there is a strict requirement for addressing checks written to the organization.

Effective immediately, all checks written to the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio must be addressed with the payee as follows:

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, INC.

You may abbreviate Department as Dept., but the new bank will only accept checks for the SAL made out in full to the Department, not the Detachment.

This is a significant change from our old bank; however, they have informed us they have no choice but to enforce this requirement on us.

Our Department Staff has already experienced issues trying to deposit some membership checks that do not meet the new requirement. Should you receive a check back from Beck Corbin, please reissue it as directed above. Department will not issue new cards until your check is addressed properly.

Please advise anyone writing checks to the Ohio Sons that they must use the full name of the Department on all payments with the specific SAL-related purpose written in the memo field to ensure proper handling from this time forward.

We apologize for this inconvenience and appreciate your cooperation in sharing this information with as many people as possible to reduce delays in processing payments to the Detachment.





# SUPER BOWL

Sunday, February 13, 2022

- DOORS OPEN AT 3:00 P.M. -

NO ONE ADMITTED BEFORE 3:00 P.M.

Tickets: \$75.00 Per Person

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

FIRST-COME/FIRST-SERVE Price includes FIRST-COME/FIRST-SERVE ONE SQUARE ON BIG BOARD

Steak Dinner

Pizza at Half Time

Snacks

~~~ Nearly 100 Door Prizes Given Out Last Year! ~~~

\* \* \* \* PRIZES FROM 2 BIG BOARDS \* \* \* \*

Duplicate Prizes for Both Boards - Total of 6 TU's & 2 \$1000.00 Prizes Large Screen HD TU's for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Quarter Winners

\$1000.00 - Final Score Winners - \$1000.00

SIDEBOARDS - \$2.00/\$5.00/\$10.00 - SIDEBOARDS

For Tickets See or Call S.A.L. Commander Dale Anderson II Phone > 440-554-8388 < Phone



Thursday St. Patricks Day Karaoke Night

#### Friday

Daytime- Tour of Hollywood Post 43-Light Morning Breakfast **Evening-Legion Family Casino Night with Dinner** 

#### Saturday

Daytime-Flying Flags for Heroes Event at Local Cemetery Evening-Homecoming Gala held at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

\*\*Please note ticket price includes a 2 hour tour of Library

|              |                            | Count Name                                       |                           |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ame:         |                            | Guest Name:                                      |                           |
| mail:        |                            |                                                  |                           |
| Please check | box of events you are inte | erested in attending and e                       | enclose check. Mail check |
|              |                            | to                                               |                           |
|              |                            | oming c/o DATATrue                               |                           |
|              |                            | alifornia Blvd #248                              |                           |
|              | Pasa                       | dena, CA 91105                                   |                           |
| ☐ Thursday   | ☐ Friday-Daytime           | Friday Evening                                   | Saturday-Daytime          |
|              |                            | Gala Event-Black Tie<br>with a Credit/Debit Card | (Optional)                |
| Name:        |                            | Card No.:                                        |                           |
| EXP:         | CVC                        | ZII                                              | CODE:                     |



## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

| Date                            |                               |                        |                            |                                                  |         |         |                              |               |                |      |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------|
| Detachment of                   |                               |                        | Squadron No                |                                                  | Bir     | th Date |                              | :             | Millian        |      |
| Name                            |                               |                        |                            | Recruited by                                     |         |         |                              | : [           | UES RECEIP     | т    |
|                                 | (First)                       | (Initial)              | (Last)                     |                                                  | (Initia | l)      | (Last)                       | :             | (Please Print) | •    |
| Address                         | (Stre                         | et)                    | (City)                     | (State)                                          | (ZIP)   | (Pho    | one)                         |               | ,              |      |
| Veteran through v               | vhom eligibility is establish | ned                    |                            |                                                  |         |         |                              |               | - Date         |      |
| (a) Above is a me               | mber in good standing of      | Post No                |                            | Departm                                          | ent of  |         |                              |               | Date           |      |
| OR (b) Above is a               | deceased veteran who s        | erved honorably from   |                            |                                                  | to      |         |                              |               | Received From  |      |
| (c) Relationship o              | f Applicant to Veteran        |                        |                            |                                                  |         |         |                              | \$            | for 20         | Dues |
| Has Applicant pre               | viously been a member of      | f the SAL?             |                            | W                                                | here?   |         |                              | :             |                |      |
| I hereby subscribe              | e to the Constitution of the  | Sons of The American L | egion, apply for membershi | p, and                                           |         |         |                              |               | Squadron No.   |      |
| Email Address                   |                               |                        |                            | Transmit \$                                      |         | for 20  | annual membership dues       |               |                |      |
| Signed By Applicant (or Parent) |                               |                        | Eligibility certified by _ |                                                  |         |         |                              | Department of |                |      |
|                                 |                               |                        |                            | eadquarters. Annual du<br>epartment/state headqu |         |         | olication. Ask local contact |               |                |      |

## American Legion grants ready to help storm, tornado victims

The American Legion DEC 11, 2021



The tornad oes and se-

vere storms that moved across several central states Friday evening resulted in loss of life and devastating destruction in communities. A few of the states most impacted include Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee. As the devastation caused by the severe weather and the needs of the communities affected come into focus, The American Legion stands ready to assist its members and military families.

#### National Emergency Fund.

The American Legion's National Emergency Fund (NEF) is available to help American Legion members and posts, and Sons of The American Legion members, who have been impacted by natural disasters.

The NEF provides up to \$3,000 for American Legion and Sons of The American Legion members with an active membership who have been displaced due to damages to their primary residence, and up to \$10,000 for posts that have been damaged by a natural disaster and whose programs and activities within the community are impacted.

Apply for an NEF grant by visiting

www.legion.org/emergency/apply.

Since Jan. 1, 2021, the NEF has provided more than \$150,444 in grants to 71 American Legion and Sons members, and five American Legion posts. program began in 1969 as a one-time effort in the wake of Hurricane Camille, which devastated the Gulf Coast - primarily Mississippi, and parts of Louisiana and Alabama. NEF was resurrected in 1989 when Hurricane Hugo pummeled the Carolinas and Puerto Rico, and since then has provided more than \$8 million in direct financial assistance to American Legion and Sons members, and American Legion posts.

NEF relies on donations to help Legionnaires, posts and Sons recover from disaster. One hundred percent of donations to the NEF directly help veterans and their families recover from natural disasters.

To donate to the NEF, click here.

Temporary Financial Assistance. The American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) helps families in need meet the cost of shelter, food, utilities, clothing, and health expenses. For example, during a natural disaster where a family has lost a home or it's been severely damaged, TFA can help cover the cost of temporary housing.

TFA grants are available to minor children of active duty servicemembers or American Legion members. No child can be considered eligible until a complete investigation is conducted at the post or department level,

a legitimate family need is determined, and all other available assistance resources have been utilized or exhausted.

For TFA information on eligibility requirements and how to apply, visit <a href="https://www.legion.org/finanfialassista">www.legion.org/finanfialassista</a> nce.

TFA grants are made possible through The American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation. Donate <a href="here">here</a>.

**Operation Comfort Warriors.** Operation Comfort Warrior is a program dedicated to meeting the needs of wounded, injured or ill veterans. OCW grants often purchase items that are not normally covered by the government.

To apply for a grant, email ocw@legion.org.

To make a donation, visit here.



