

SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

The Ohio SALute



Detachment Commander Dave Dilts prior to the Logan Veterans Day Parade in the Eighth District.

submitted photo

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BE THE ONE



Commander's Report

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas.

The year is going by quickly. I've been very busy traveling throughout the state visiting Districts. The First Lady, Susan, and I participated in the Logan Veterans Day Parade in the Eighth District. Special thanks to 8th District SAL Commander Phil Lightfoot for the invitation to participate. We had a great time.



SAL Eighth District Commander Phil Lightfoot and Detachment Commander David Dilts.

submitted photo

I would like to thank all the SAL brothers that are working hard on membership. Please keep it up to make First Vice-Commander Conway's year a success with membership.



I'm looking forward to Midwinter Conference at the Marriott Columbus Northwest Hotel in Dublin Ohio. We have a lot of business to attend to. It's a great opportunity to come out for the day and listen to all the reports from the committees and to visit with your fellow SAL brothers. There is always good information you can take back to your post. We are having a special guest that weekend, National Vice-Commander of the Central Region, Robert Brisco from Minnesota.

Keep up all the hard work, and remember our purpose, helping Veterans. They are the reason why we are members of this great organization, and always remember, as we work together as a family, Legion,

Auxiliary, and the Sons. We are all making a difference.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any officer. We are all willing to help.

David L. Dilts, Detachment Commander
(740) 319-1255



1 VC Report

As we come into the new year, we need to ask ourselves, “are my 2024 dues paid?” If not, you will be delinquent as of January 1. Please get your membership paid up. We have been on a rise in membership, so let’s keep it going

Have you checked up on any of my fellow members? Please check on fellow members as the holidays are often a time when they may need you the most. Remember to “Be The One.”

Tim Conway, Detachment First Vice-Commander

SAVE PAPER.
SAVE POSTAGE.
SAVE TIME.



QUICKLY AND EASILY RENEW ONLINE

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

SONS OF THE
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LEGION



2 VC Report

Greetings Gentlemen,

Boy time sure is flying this year! It sure was nice to be able to get together at Commander Dilts’ Post to celebrate him at his homecoming. If you didn’t hear the history of his post, make sure to talk to him about it. It’s awesome!

At the end of October, as some of you may have seen on Facebook, I was in one of my best friend’s wedding. He is a member of my Squadron, and his now wife is a Legionnaire. She is currently active duty in the United States Air Force. 9 of the 11 groomsmen

are all members of Squadron 15, and it was officiated by our Squadron Commander.

I was lucky enough to be able to spend Veterans Day with two Veterans of WWII. Sadly, just a couple of weeks later I attended the funeral of one of them, representing the Detachment of Ohio.

My Squadron hosted Commander Rue, and Pennsylvania Detachment Commander Steve Cox, along with their wives, at our Post Family Christmas Party. If you don’t have a Post Family Christmas Party, I highly suggest trying it! It was great for everybody to be able to come together.

Please continue to send me Squadron Inspection Forms; I plan to have an update at Mid-Winter Convention. Please bring any ticket stubs and money you may have for the Detachment Raffle. I will have more tickets for anybody who would like them. We really want to make a huge show of support for Commander Dilts Project!





PNVC Jeff Vrabel Sr., Detachment of Pennsylvania Commander Steve Cox, Detachment of Ohio Second Vice-Commander Jeff Vrabel Jr.

submitted photo

For God and Country,

*Jeff Vrabel Jr.,
Detachment Second Vice-Commander*

Annual Detachment Fundraiser

The Detachment of Ohio is currently conducting its annual Detachment Raffle. Proceeds will benefit Detachment Commander Dilt's program, [Task Force 20](#).

For additional information, or to purchase tickets, please contact Detachment Second Vice-Commander Jeff Vrabel Jr. at jeffvrabeljr@gmail.com.

			Ohio Sons of The American Legion	
			50/50 Raffle	
Drawing will be held during The Detachment Convention in May 2024			Winner need not be present Donation: \$10.00	
Name	Phone	Seller		



Members of the Post 15 family with Department Commander & Mrs. Rue and Pennsylvania Detachment Commander & Mrs. Cox.

submitted photo



Chaplain's Report

Greetings all,

As I write this newsletter article, I think of what happened today in 1941. Today is Pearl Harbor Day, December 7. I know that you will read this much later



Ohio

than my writing, but I would be remiss not to mention the significance of this day in our organization.

On this day in 1941, it was the beginning of a different life for most of our families. My Legion Post as of this writing, has two WWII veterans left. One of which I've become very close to. We all have. He is a staple of our Post. He attends our functions and looks on with approval. He's proud of our Squadron and the things we do. He comes into our canteen a few days a week to have a sandwich and a beer. He knows no strangers, and everyone knows him. He is part of the greatest generation.

I am asking all who read this to reach out to your WWII Veterans. They will soon be gone. Learn from them. Cherish them. They are a wealth of knowledge and inspiration. As for the sailors and soldiers that lost their lives at Pearl Harbor, we salute you and your families. You have paid the ultimate price that we most times take for granted and never will be able to repay.

Instead, let's pay it forward. In their memory and all who have lost their lives in the line of duty defending our country, let's keep fighting the good fight. Doing the tasks, we all continuously do to honor our veterans and make our communities the best they can be.

Please let me know of any of your squadron members that have fallen ill or have passed. I'm honored to send them well wishes. Special mention of Dan Bekar (10th District) and Detachment Adjutant Scott Thornton's wife Sharon. Please keep their families in your prayers.

Very Respectfully Yours,

Todd Bidlack, Detachment Chaplain



Adjutant's Report

Squadron Paperwork – Not Cleared Status

We've made some strides since the last newsletter, but we still have several squadrons who need to complete this year's administrative paperwork. All squadrons should have filed their 2024 Squadron Data Report (SDR), 2024 Officer Certification Form (OCF), and their 2023 Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR). Most achieved this goal, but several have not.

Here are the current details of the squadrons with a little work left to do in this area.

Dist.	No SDR	No OCF	No CSR
1	305 316 533 545 642	305	279 305
2	CLEAR	CLEAR	CLEAR
3	CLEAR	CLEAR	CLEAR
4	CLEAR	CLEAR	CLEAR
5	118 169 260 405 447 523 608 659 676 733	514 523 608 676	41 169 170 292 514 523 608 676
6	518 754 764 804	518 804	97 401 605
7	325 363 594	594	14 594
8	58 261 371	58	27 58 261
9	103 235 472 601 719 737	472	111 472
10	68 374 407 423 548	423	70 423
11	29 38 77 366 378 632 760 768	378 632	159 399 632 760 768
12	82 486 797	82 486	82 486
13	421	CLEAR	339
14	19 272 331	19 272	19 272

Again, I am asking the officers of these districts to contact these squadrons and try to obtain the information needed. Please send it to me and I'll pass it along to Department Headquarters to get them cleared and have their 2024 cards shipped immediately.

Congratulations to District 3 for meeting the CLEARED goal!

Mid-Winter Conference – January 19-20, 2024. The Mid-Winter Detachment Executive Committee meeting will convene at 7:00 pm at the Marriott Columbus Northwest, 5605 Blazer Pkwy., Dublin, OH 43017 on Friday, January 19th. 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 20th at the Marriott. 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 Legion-casual

except for Detachment Officers and anyone coming to the podium to speak (coat and tie, please).

REMINDER: Housing reservations for the conference must be made by calling the hotel directly at (800) 228-9290 and asking for the “American Legion Midwinter Conference” rate (\$122.00 / night plus tax), or use this link: www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1687345669634&key=GRP&app=resvlink. **Do not go through Department Headquarters for this meeting.** The deadline to call is Friday, December 22, but I strongly advise you not to wait that long. The hotel will fill up quickly for our weekend and many members may 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...If you plan to submit your name for consideration as a commission or committee member on the state and / or national levels, you must fill out the appropriate recommendation form (available from the department website). Contact National Executive Committeeman Gary Lang for more information. All forms must be filed with NEC Lang **before** the Mid-Winter DEC Meeting to be considered.

A Personal Note of Thanks...In closing, I would like to offer my sincere thanks on behalf of my entire family to all who expressed words and prayers of support for us upon my wife [Sharon's](#) passing from pancreatic cancer on November 11. Knowing I have so many thoughtful, considerate, and supportive friends helped make it a little easier to take.



As you can imagine, I have been a bit behind in responding to requests, but I am working through the backlog and am nearly caught up.

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,

Scott J. Thornton, Detachment Adjutant



NEC Report

Happy New Year everyone!

At the start of the new year, it’s always great to cherish our accomplishments of the previous year but also is a prime time to access what can we accomplish in the upcoming year.

As of this writing, we are at 53% of our membership target for the state of Ohio, this is good, but we need to keep up that momentum.

Let’s not forget to continue with Buddy Checks. During the winter months many can feel shut in and isolated. A few minutes of your time may be the salvation for another just to have that human interaction. Whether it be via a basic phone call, home visit or card just so they realize haven’t been forgotten.

Anyone interested in serving on a National committee or commission for the 2024-2025 year needs to complete an application and submit it to me before the start of the DEC meeting at Mid-Winter Conference on Friday, January 19.

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 www.ohiolegion.com/sal. At the bottom right side of the page under SAL FORMS is the choice to click on National Appointment or Detachment Form. This will bring up the form you need to complete. Any questions, please call me at (740) 350-0983 or contact Detachment Adjutant Scott Thornton.

I encourage everyone to learn as much as possible about the different programs at both the detachment and national levels. If you are debating about a committee, please reach out to me and I’ll help you with whatever information you need and guide you through this process. The only way for the SAL to continue to grow is by people standing up and taking on new and different responsibilities. Granted that some think they aren’t good at public speaking, writing, or with people, but everyone needs to start somewhere. I’m willing to help you strive to be the best SAL member possible.

Hope everyone is doing well and look forward to seeing you all at our Mid-Winter Conference January 19-20, 2024 at the Marriott Columbus Northwest, Dublin, Ohio.

Thanks for all you do for our Veterans, their families, and the SAL!

Gary Lang, National Executive Committeeman

Let me start out by saying that I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. With 2024 upon us, we need to continue our mission to aid and assist our nation's veterans, their families, and the communities in which we live.

Mid-Winter Conference is upon us. I hope you will be attending. For those of you interested in getting more involved by serving in a Detachment office or committee/commission or even a National position, go to the Detachment website, print out the form and submit it to NEC Gary Lang prior to the DEC at Mid-Winter Conference.

If any of you do not receive PNVC Vrabel's email of the "Round Up" newsletter, I implore you to contact him and get on the list to receive it. There is a lot of great information to share with your membership. It's what's happening in the American Legion Family around the nation. Great job Jeff! It also has the times and dates for all the national commissions/committees and regional conference calls.

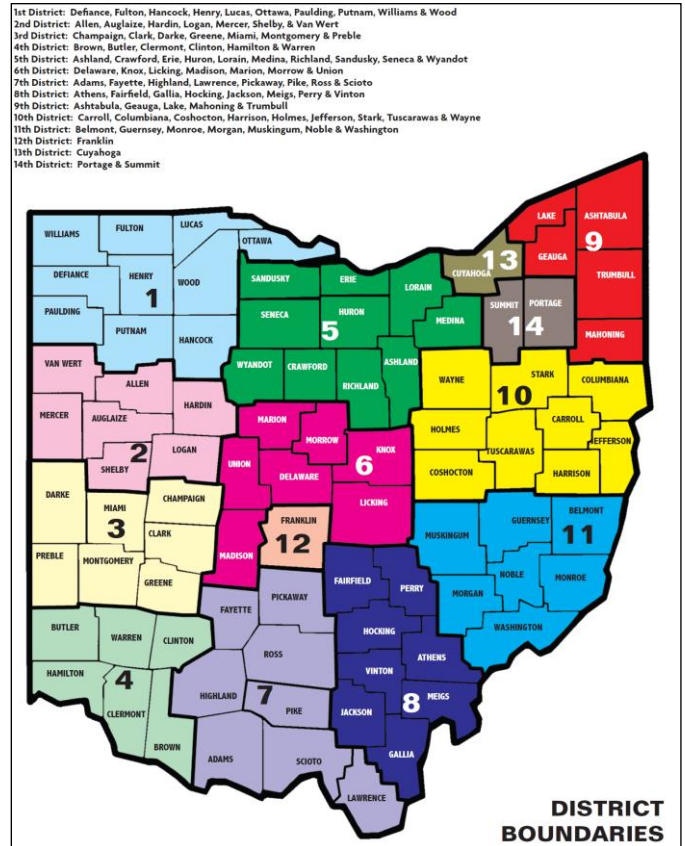
Keep up the great work and let's take 2024 to a new level of greatness!

For God and Country,

*Jon Coakley II,
Alternate National Executive Committeeman*



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION **Around Ohio**



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION **District 1**



On Sunday October 29, the Great First District, along with Ridgeville Post 454, hosted a turkey shoot. Squadron 454 has a turkey shoot all month long they always allow the district to host the last one. There were several members of the post helping and Squadron 541 provided some awesome food and several workers for the range. We had over 100 shooters of all ages participating. They fired 690 rounds in 69 different shoots.

The First District officers would like to give a big thanks to everyone that participated and all the workers that made this a successful event. Looking forward to next year.

Thanks!

Mike Kennedy, Second Vice-Commander



SAL Detachment Chaplain/Squadron 541 Adjutant Todd Bidlack presents a check for \$300.00 to the Continental High School Basketball Cheerleaders. Funds were raised at the annual Post 541 Legion Family breakfast with Santa event. The cheerleaders or "elves" assisted Santa in passing out presents. Santa visited with over 100 children. The Post 541 Legion family provided breakfast for over 250 people during the event.

submitted photo



SAL Detachment Chaplain/Squadron 541 Adjutant Todd Bidlack present a check to Continental Volunteer Fire Department Chief Dean Williamson for \$1500.00 for their Toys for Tots program. Funds were raised by donations from the Breakfast with Santa community Christmas event.

submitted photo



Department Commander/dual member (541) Jason Rue along with SAL Detachment Chaplain Todd Bidlack (Squadron 541), Auctioneer Dirk Meyer (Squadron 316), James Euton, and Paul Shock (both Squadron 541). Members are holding up auction items at Continental Squadron 541's "Party Before The Game." Squadron 541 and Dirk Meyer, auctioneer raised over \$12,000.00 in one night for local and Legion charities at the charity auction.

submitted photo

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District 2

The Second District is working hard on membership and will continue to do so. We have one Squadron we are working with to help them.

Some of the things going on in our district included every Squadron helped at their Veterans Day Program.

Minster Squadron 387 held a Memorial Bowling Tournament. The bowling alley had a full house, and all proceeds went to the Sons of The American Legion Ron Baumer Scholarship Fund. A scholarship is given out each year by the Squadron.

Van Wert Squadron 178 helped the Post put on its first ever Crab Races. Ten races were held, and sponsors cheered on their crabs. It was a fun night for all. We helped the Post 178 Family with their Cheer Wagon in December, and hosted Santa Claus every Friday and Saturday through December 22.

Randy Matthews, Commander

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District 3

Squadron 598 - Kettering OH held their Smoked Pork Chop dinner on Friday evening, September 29th. The dinner was well attended and was 'Sold Out' as usual. Over 90 meals were served. Money from these dinners is used for various donations throughout the year to veterans support, children and youth, child welfare, Christmas donations and more.

Next up was the ever well attended Cabbage Roll Dinner in October.

Squadron 586 - Tipp City, OH hosted the Third Districts quarterly meeting on 15 October.



Squadron Commander Dale Epperson 'greeted' the attendees and to have a successful, productive meeting. Greetings were also provided by Ms. Judii of the District 3 Auxiliary. The photo at left shows Sgt. at Arms Alex Blackwell has escorted Ms. Judii back to her seat and Sgt. at Arms

Blackwell returning to his station. Well done, Alex! Keep up the good work as Dad is proud. Dad is Past District 3 Commander Mike Blackwell.

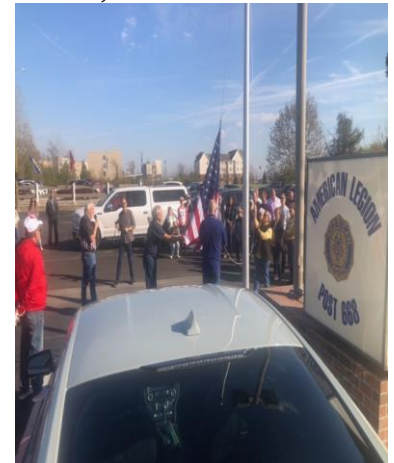
Detachment – wide, District 3 would like to congratulate Districts 2 and 4 for achieving something that has not been accomplished in our Ohio SAL ranks. The two Districts completed all three Forms and Reports before the required deadline: Squadron Data Report (SDR), Officer Certification Form (OCF) and the Consolidated Data Report (CDR). This may seem petty but is not when you consider how many years since the first Ohio Sons of the American Legion Squadron was established. The first SAL Squadron in the United States was established in Indianapolis, IN, June of 1933; Squadron 133.

Squadron 165 - Miamisburg, OH put on a very good meal every Tuesday evening. You have your choice of either a char- grilled New York Strip Steak or a bone-in Pork Chop dinner complete with salad and baked potato. They prepare about 120-140 dinners on a 'cooked to order' basis each week. Stop in, taste for yourself and have a nice, calm night-out. A very friendly and good group of people.



Pictured are a few of the ones that make this dinner happen each week.

Squadron 668 - Vandalia, OH



November 4 was the dedication of the new steel flagpole which was salvaged from Merlin Heights Elementary School which was recently demolished. The pole flew the nation's colors for 66 years. Many of the Post 668 members attended the school in their formative years. Raising the colors is the last principle of the school, Dr. Connie Strehle.

The dedication was attended by former and presents students and staff. The Post had the pole re-conditioned and refitted. Here's to another 66 years of support for our beautiful flag. This was a 'Family' effort of Legion, SAL, and Auxiliary.

Squadron 668 - Vandalia, OH also helped in the celebration of a Legion member's 97th birthday. Mr. Atlee Robinson was drafted in 1944, the same year he graduated high school in New Jersey. Basic training took place at Fort Blanding, FL and from there onto Naples, Italy tasked with engineering and water distribution to support the camps in Italy. Upon returning to the states Mr. Robinson utilized the G.I. Bill, attending Lafayette University for a degree in chemistry and then on to Rutgers for a Masters in secondary education. Al retired from Wright-Patterson AFB after a long and rewarding career, and still lives independently. He 'zip-lined' at 90 years of age!

From the Sons of the American Legion, "Thundering" Third District... "Happy Birthday sir"



Dayton VA Center - Veterans Day



A very good day as the weather was cool, sky was clear, and the “T-6 Texan” made a beautiful ‘fly-by’ for the Opening Ceremony with a ‘full’ trail of smoke and the sweet sound of the radial engine. There were color guard units from various JROTC’s, civic groups, superheroes, Antioch Shrine and more.



There were local dignitaries present, VA Center guests and management as well as many veterans, citizens, and their families. The Fisher House had an ‘Open House’ to show their ‘First Class’ facility on the grounds of the Dayton VA, sharing their story.



On December 7, Huber Heights Squadron #200 made a donation with a value of \$1,300 to the Dayton VAMC. Material included winter clothing, toiletries, birdseed, and coffee. Much of the material was given to the American Legion Auxiliary store for distribution. Everything from the Auxiliary store is given free to veteran residents. Squadron #200 worked with the Post #200, Amvets 464 and other donors to make this donation. L – R are squadron members Dan Sagraves, Auxiliary Past Department President Sue Masten, Mike Golembiewski, and Kurt Miller.

submitted photo

RENEW!



Squadron #200 also went to the Fisher House and presented them with \$500 worth of gift cards for use by the guests. L – R Kurt Miller, Whitney Beckwith, Mike Golembiewski, and Dan Sagraves.

submitted photo

**SONS OF THE
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District 4

SAL Squadron 288 Williamsburg members presenting a check for \$700 to the Georgetown State Veterans Home for their activities and events for the Veterans there.



L to R - Don Burroughs, D4 1VC; Hannah Hooper, Activities, Director Georgetown Veterans Home receiving the check; Joe Heflin D4 Commander; Dave Lytle D4 Past Commander and current Sgt.-at-Arms; and John Wass, Navy Veteran resident.

submitted photo

Veterans Day Recognition program and party put on by SAL Squadron and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 484 Mt. Washington at the Mt. Washington Care Center that takes care of about 30 Veterans that stay there for the VA. There is a program, and

each Veteran receives a certificate of appreciation for their service, as well as an American flag. Afterwards, there is cake and ice cream for all to enjoy. The Squadron and Unit of 484 has put this program on for many years.



L to R - Bill Hosking, Sq. 484; Denny Lahey, Sq. 484; Ron Wissman, 4th District VA&R Chair; Liz Castle, Unit 484 VA&R Chair; and Chuck Castle Sq. 484 VA&R Chair and 4th District VAVS Rep.

submitted photo

Veterans Day Annual District Pizza Party sponsored by the SAL Fourth District at the VA/CLC Nursing Unit. The Squads in the 4th District supplied pizza, pop, and American Flags for the Veterans. It was a day honoring the Veterans at the Cincinnati VA.



L to R - VA from Volunteer Services Michelle and Dave; SAL 4th District VA&R Chair Ron Wissman; Denny Lahey, Sq. 484; Liz Castle, Unit 484; and SAL 4th District VAVS Rep. Chuck Castle.

submitted photo

Passing out gift goody bags at the Cincinnati VA Hospital on Veterans Day. This group also packed the 240 bags three days before the event. The cost

of the items in the bags came from the Auxiliary Units in the Fourth.



L to R - Denny Lahey, Sq. 484; Liz Castle, Unit 484; Sue Whitham, Unit 199; Chuck Castle, Sq. 484, and 4th VAVS Rep.; Ron Wissman, Sq. 72, and 4th VA&R Chair. Not pictured Donna Ray, Unit 72, and 4th Aux. VAVS Rep., who put the event together.

submitted photo

The American Legion 4th District Post 534 has held a Pearl Harbor Remembrance and flag retirement for many years. This year it was held on Sunday, December 3. They start out with a Pearl Harbor program, then a flag retirement, and after march to the Ohio River and board the Anderson Ferry. The Ferry takes the participants out on the river, then having a short service with a 21 gun salute and some Legion Family members toss wreaths over the side into the Ohio River.

The program brought many SAL, Legion and Auxiliary members on that day. Squadrons 69, 72, 199, 484, and 534 participated in the program.



Past SAL 4th District Commander Chuck Castle at the Pearl Harbor Remembrance and Flag Retirement at Post 534. He is saluting the Flag he just retired before going to the Ohio River and boarding the Anderson Ferry.

submitted photo



Legion Family members boarding the Anderson Ferry.

submitted photo



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District 5

SAL Squadron 257 in Loudonville assisted with the Gold Star Families Day event that was held at the Memorial at the Mohican State Park on Sunday, September 24th. This event was held by the American Federation of Women for Gold Star Families. The SAL members set up the tables, chairs, and sound system. As a part of that program, the Rolling Thunder group did a POW-MIA recognition with the traveling Ohio POW-MIA wall in the background.



Detachment First Vice-Commander Tim Conway salutes as *Taps* was played.

submitted photo



Hall Adkins American Legion Post 134 in Circleville, Ohio hosted the 7th District SAL Conference Sunday December 3, 2023. We thank Detachment First Vice-Commander Tim Conway for attending.

submitted photo



The Avenue of Flags at Greenlawn Cemetery. There are over 300 flags posted in memory of a veteran. The American Legion and VFW held Veterans Day services at Perrysville Bridge, Perrysville Greenlawn Cemetery, Loudonville Bridge, and Loudonville Central Park. Bill "Buster" Sutterlin and Ralph Adams from Loudonville SAL Sq. 257 participated.

submitted photo

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PDC Adam Jones attended 7th District American Legion Auxiliary conference in Waverly. 7th District American Legion Auxiliary President Betty Taylor.

submitted photo

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District 8



Squadron 476 Members Dave Jones, Bob Ritter Beck, and Ernest Jones installing a new sign at Post 476. The new sign was donated by Ritter Beck.

submitted photo



The American Legion Post 476 Family participated in Halloween in Wilkesville and distributed candy to trick-or-treaters. Seen here are Post 476 Commander Wayne Smather, Squadron 476 Commander Andrew Hunt, and Squadron 476 member Evan Hunt.



submitted photo



Members of the Post 476 Family marching in a parade through Wilkesville.

submitted photo



<  **Steven Cox** is in **Struthers**. 4h •  ...

Invited to the Ohio American Legion Post 15 Christmas Party. With Ohio Department Commander [Jason Rue](#), Auxiliary National Vice Chairman CY [Mindi Rue](#), Millennium Editor [Jeff Vrabel Sr.](#), Ohio Detachment 2nd Vice [Jeff Vrabel Jr.](#), and my wife [Karen Rebar Cox](#).



 Love  Comment  Send  Share

Steven Cox is the Detachment of Pennsylvania Commander

Westerville Sons of The American Legion Squadron 171 is completing its first year.

Since approval of the SAL Squadron 171 charter on March 6, 2023, the squadron has added 14 new members increasing its membership to 25 and 227% over the stated 2024 quota. Squadron 171 achieved its 2024 membership quota before the end of July qualifying the Squadron the Detachment quota rewards, which Squadron Adjutant Tom Poulton states will occur every year.

The new squadron officers were installed by SAL Alternate National Executive Committeeman Jon Coakley at the squadron's stated meeting in July. Squadron 171 has met monthly since organizing in April with sufficient attendance to meet or exceed meeting quorum requirements. The new squadron submitted all the required 2023 annual

certifications timely and also submitted a \$300 donation from the proceeds of the annual Legion / VFW veteran benefit golf outing to the Child Welfare Foundation in November. Squadron 171 concluded its 2023 activities with a dining out social event at the Medallion Club in December.

*Tom Poulton, Adjutant
SAL Squadron 171 Westerville*



Feeding our veterans and their families steak dinners for Christmas. This was a fundraiser by Squadron 164 in Grove City to support The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. (l. to- r.) Michael Flannigan, Curt Long (1VC), PDC Jon Coakley II (Adj.), PDC Dan Finnell (Cmdr), Mick McCune, Tom Walls, Jason "JL" Clark (SgtAA).

submitted photo

COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Americanism

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and wish you all a very happy new year.

Please continue helping your Post however you can and make members who can't be with loved ones feel like OUR family.

I am not going to say a whole lot here, but I will relay more information at our Mid-Winter Conference.

See you all there!

Randy Matthews, Chairman

Buckeye Boys State

Greetings,

If your post or squadron hasn't received it yet, you should be on the lookout for the 2024 American Legion Buckeye Boys State packet. This packet is the 1st step in getting the application process rolling for the June 9-16, 2024 session of BBS, once again being held on the campus of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

The cost is still set at \$300 per delegate.

Reminder that sponsorship is something we as Sons Squadrons should do as part of our Americanism programs.

Thank you,

Charlie "Special K" Kvochick, Chairman

Child Welfare Foundation

Detachment Convention Yearbook

The 2024 Sons of the American Legion State Convention is right around the corner. This year's convention will take place in the "Great" First District city of Findlay. In the past (as recently as 2019) each state convention locale has had a printed yearbook that each participant received when they registered. The yearbook contained the convention schedule, detachment officers & standing commission/committees, district officers and donor advertisements. Donors have the ability to place an ad in the annual yearbook in which they may highlight their district, their squadron, a standing officer or even a candidate for office. Attached is the copy of the State Convention yearbook letter that has all of the details regarding the yearbook for each of you to peruse. My ask is that each of you please share this information at your next district meeting, and I also would ask that you forward this state convention

yearbook letter to your local squadron/s as well. If you have any questions regarding the 2024 Yearbook, please feel free to contact me or Detachment Commander Dilts.

I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thank You,

Chris Hoeffel,
Detachment of Ohio CWF Chairman

Children's Miracle Network

Hope this article finds you all well,

Raging Wolf Solutions, a trusted name in shipping, is not just about moving freight across the country. They are about building relationships and trust with customers and the community. This is why they are sponsoring the Rainbow Radiothon beginning this Friday, December 8, 2023. You can join them by tuning in to Cleveland's Star 102 FM.

CMN Hospitals' staff and member hospitals gathered for their Fall Business Meeting 2023. They spent 4 days in educational sessions, best practicing sharing and networking activities – all centered around the desire to change kids' health to change the future for all of us. The 2024 Season of Giving should be the most impactful year yet!

Be sure to Round UP at ACE Hardware when making those Christmas purchases. Coming in February 2024 for the Lunar New Year, Panda Express will begin their Round UP campaign (February 10, 2024).

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals is excited to announce the launch of the 2024 Little Shopper Card program with partner, **Giant Eagle**, a regional supermarket chain with stores in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana, and Maryland. The **Little Shopper Treat Card** program allows kids under 10 years old to get a free piece of fruit, slice of cheese or cookie each time they visit a Giant Eagle. All sales from the Little Shopper Card will be donated to support local member hospitals of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

Each year, millions of children require the kind of specialized care and support that only a children's

hospital can provide. We cannot do this important work alone, but together we can change kids' health and the future. Thank you, Giant Eagle for your great partnership!

For God and Country,

Adam J. Budner, Chairman
Blechabum@yahoo.com

Information taken from CMN Hospitals website

Convention Screening

I am still collecting data regarding changing our convention to coincide with the American Legion convention. I have asked for thoughts and ideas of the membership. I have not received very much. I still need to hear from as many of you as I can. I will report on my findings and Mid-Winter conference. We need to make some decisions by convention time. This is a very important topic of debate. I need all of the information I can to make my report. Don't be one of those people that say nobody asked for my opinion on this. Send me your thoughts please.

Dan Sagraves, Chairman
dansagraves@twc.com

Legislative

Currently, more the 70,000 at-risk Afghans have been temporarily relocated to the United States. We need to persuade Congress to pass the Afghan Adjustment Act. We need to persuade Ohio to pass H B 243 to help Veterans with taxes.

I urge all of you to get Voter Voice to help amplify The American Legion message.

A reminder that the Washington Conference is February 25, 2024. To order a wreath it has to be in by February 3, 2024.

Craig Smith, Chairman



Public Relations

Fellow SAL Members,

Communication is one way to bring a smile to your face with those we haven't talked to in a while. Imagine the many veterans who are alone and could use some conversation to break up a cloudy day. Take the time to send a card, call or pay them a visit. Families where one of the spouses is stationed abroad in the military could use a helping hand also. A small gesture of good can go a long way to help make this world a better place; a world that sometimes seems a little cruel. Let's do the Buddy checks for the home bound.

Again, I mention tooting your horn if your Squadron or Post does a fundraiser or event to benefit our communities. The public needs to hear that the American Legion Family does so much to help out. We need to re-educate all people to the benefits of The American Legion Post in their town. When the public learns of what we do, membership growth will follow. Use local news media and let the word out. Also use our great newsletter that Jeff Vrabel Sr. works hard to make better every chance he gets.

Get up and get out to advance the SAL Detachment of Ohio.

Thank You,

PDC Steve Honigfort, Chairman

The Ohio SALute

THE MILLENNIUM

As you may know, there is a new newsletter available from the national organization. The Millennium has been created and is scheduled as a monthly publication. This effort comes after a few years of members asking for a printable national newsletter.

Make sure you're subscribed to The Millennium. Don't miss out on any of the news from the Sons of The American Legion and the Legion Family. To receive the monthly national SAL e-newsletter, go to Legion.org/Newsletters and log in to subscribe. You'll need your MyLegion account to do so;

that gives you access to not only the SAL e-newsletter, but the national American Legion e-newsletters, the Digital Dispatch, membership discounts and much more!

MyLegion.org accounts are to be registered with the email address on your individual membership record that National Headquarters has on file. Registering with an email not listed as your primary email will not provide access to membership details, leadership resources or permissions.

To register an account

1. Go to www.MyLegion.org
2. Click "Register" in the upper right-hand corner
3. Enter your email in the Register window and click Next. A Verify Account window opens. Leave this page open. Go to your email and retrieve the OTP (One Time Password).
4. Enter the OTP and click Verify.
5. Click Next and you will be logged in.
6. Go to My Account to view membership details.

OPT IN/OUT

I am interested in receiving information on the following topics:

☒ Flag & Emblem

☒ Flag & Emblem Merchandise Offers Deliver To:

☒ Media

☒ Commander's Message Deliver To:
☒ Digital Dispatch Deliver To:
☒ Dugout Deliver To:
☒ Flag Alert Deliver To:
☒ Legion Riders Deliver To:
☒ Online Update Deliver To:
☒ SAL Commander's Message Deliver To:
☒ Sons of The American Legion Deliver To:
☒ Tango Alpha Lima Podcast Deliver To:
☒ Training in the American Legion Deliver To:

☒ Membership

☒ Join Deliver To:
☒ Renew Deliver To:
☒ Thank You Thursday Deliver To:
☒ Giving Opportunities Deliver To:



Once you are an account holder and have clicked the boxes to receive email from national headquarters, you will receive an email with a picture like this in it. Just click it and it will take you to the latest edition of

The Millennium.

Jeff Vrabel Sr., Editor

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

I hope Everyone had a good Thanksgiving with your families. Did you check on a Veteran? Or take food to one? Did you do something for a Veteran to make their holiday a little better? The holidays can be tough for those who have lost a loved one, who are alone, or just a rough time of the year. Even the smallest acts of kindness/thoughtfulness can be important to a Veteran. Send a card or stop by and say "Hi."

January can be a time of letdown for many older Veterans. The families go home, and the weather may keep some in their homes, so the Buddy Checks are very important. Check in with your local nursing homes. Take a treat bag to a Veteran in assisted living or a nursing just because you are thinking of them. What goes in a treat bag? Individual fruit cups, pudding cups, cookies, crackers, chips, juice boxes, chap stick, individual tissue pack, or anything else you may find that they need.

Valentine's Day is coming up in February. That week is the National Salute to Veteran Patients Week. This year, it takes place from February 11 to 17, 2024. The purpose of the holiday is to honor and pay tribute to the brave military veterans who receive medical care at Veterans Affairs (V.A.) medical facilities. The holiday also seeks to create more awareness about the importance of these centers and encourage more people to visit and volunteer.

Do you know a teacher, a scout leader, or home school program? Maybe you can coordinate a greetings card project and deliver them to the VA facility or check with one of our SAL Rep or Dep at the VA facilities. Now is the time to plan what you would like to do.

Deb and I wish all of you a very Happy New Year!

Bill "Buster" Sutterlin, Commission Chairman
brs257@zoominternet.net





Funds Available for SSVF Program Grants

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is announcing the availability of funds for supportive services grants under the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program. This notice of funding availability (NOFA) contains information concerning the SSVF Program, the renewal and new applicant supportive services grant application processes, and the amount of funding available. Awards made for supportive services grants will fund operations beginning Oct. 1, 2024.

Applications for supportive services grants under the SSVF Program must be received by the SSVF Program Office by 4 p.m. Eastern time on Feb. 23, 2024.

For very low-income veterans, SSVF provides case management and supportive services to prevent the imminent loss of a veteran's home or identify a new, more suitable housing situation for the individual and his or her family; or to rapidly re-house veterans and their families who are homeless and might remain homeless without this assistance.

For more information on the program, visit <https://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf/index.html>.

The holiday season is a time of giving and looking out for one another. If you are part of a low-income military family, or want to help a veteran in financial need, you can always reach out to your local County Veterans Service Office. Find yours at <https://dvs.ohio.gov/what-we-do/find-a-cvso>.

Veterans and Children Foundation

I want to thank Detachment Commander David Dilts for the appointment this year to serve as Veterans Children Foundation Chairman. I appreciate it and am honored to serve this Detachment in any capacity.

The American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation, formerly known as the American Legion Endorsement Fund, provides financial resources for the organization's Temporary Financial Assistance Program and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation support, including accredited service officers training.

Charitable gifts to The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation are 100% tax-deductible because the Foundation is its own 501(c)3.

Please consider donating today.

Adam Jones, Chairman

Past Detachment Commanders Club



Past Detachment Commanders after the Brewer Bottle Raffle that took place at Dave Dilt's Homecoming September 30, 2023. Left to Right PDC Jeff Vrabel Sr., PDC Bill Towns, PDC Jon Coakley, PDC Dan Finnell, PDC Bill "Buster" Sutterlin, PDC Adam Jones, Detachment Commander Dave Dilts, Detachment First Vice-Commander Tim Conway, PDC Bernie Kessler, PNVC Blair Miles (AL), PDC Steve Honigfort, and PDC Gary Lang.
submitted photo

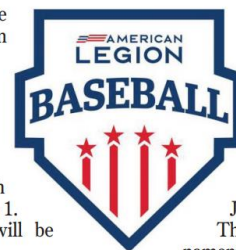
★ ★ ★ LEGION BASEBALL ★ ★ ★

Registration for the 2024 American Legion Baseball season opened Jan. 1.

The early deadline for registration is May 15. Teams registered after May 15 will be subject to a \$200 late fee through the final deadline of June 1.

Insurance purchases will be available Feb. 15.

As part of the education and training requirements of Public Law 115-126, the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual



Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017, all coaches, managers and volunteer staff members must complete the Abuse Awareness course.

The Department Junior Tournament will be July 18th – 20th, 2024.

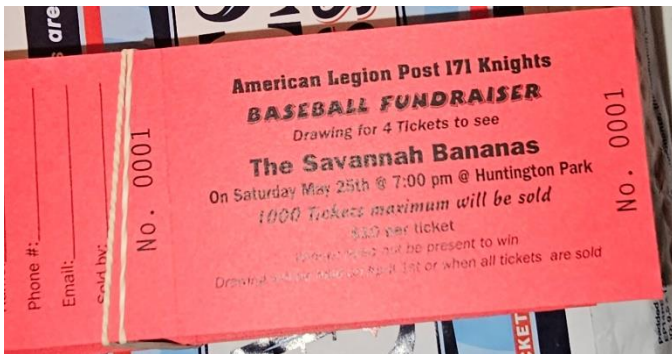
The Department Senior Tournament will be July 26th – July 29th, 2024. Both tournaments are played at Beavers Field in Lancaster Ohio.

Reprinted from *Ohio Legion News*, December 2023

The Central Ohio Knights of American Legion Post 171 in Westerville is raffling off 2 sets of 4 tickets to see the Savannah Bananas on May 25, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. The game will be played at Huntington Park, home of the Columbus Clippers.

Tickets are \$10 each.

For more information, and to purchase your tickets, please contact team manager Fred Valentine at (614) 975-1272 or americanlegionknights@gmail.com.



No.: S.A.L. Resolution 3 - National Convention, 2022
Title: American Legion Family Day

WHEREAS, the American Legion Family is an integral component supporting those in need within their local communities and does so in an unselfish manner without want of notice, personal gain, or recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Sons of The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on August 26-28, 2022, that a special day to be known as "American Legion Family Day" be established and observed annually on the last Saturday of April, when all American Legion Posts throughout the nation open their doors to their members and the members of their local communities with the intent of celebrating all great deeds and works of the American Legion Family with the intent to educate, recruit, recognize, and to give back to those members that continually support the gift of giving; and, be it further

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____ Date _____

Name _____ Recruited by _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____

Address _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

E-mail Address _____ Telephone _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. _____, Dept. of _____

OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____


I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.

Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant)

00-001 (2013)

RECEIPT



Date _____

Received of _____

For God and Country _____

\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in

Squadron _____, Detachment of _____

By _____



Detachment Membership Standings

District	New	Renewal	2024 MBR To-Date	2024 Quota	Quota (%)
4	198	1714	1912	2318	82.48
13	111	1103	1214	1708	71.08
12	43	366	409	579	70.64
2	142	2020	2162	3183	67.92
3	240	1679	1919	2865	66.98
1	175	2822	2997	4562	65.69
10	142	1745	1887	3088	61.11
9	50	904	954	1634	58.38
14	53	484	537	979	54.85
8	76	705	781	1431	54.58
7	98	687	785	1491	52.65
5	191	2137	2328	4450	52.31
6	68	378	446	936	47.65
11	44	1123	1167	2620	44.54
Not Assigned	0	1	1	0	0.00%
Totals	1,631	17,868	19,499	31,690	61.53%

as of December 20, 2023




Did you know?

Young SAL can participate in the Patch Program with your ALA Juniors!

www.ALAforVeterans.org





1919 Society Pledge Commitment

DONOR INFORMATION

Donor(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Are you a member of the American Legion: ☐ Yes ☐ No Member number _____

TERMS OF PLEDGE

I am supporting the 1919 Society with a pledge total of: \$ _____

☐ Today with a single payment

☐ Over the next year, beginning on (date): _____

☐ Over the next _____ years, beginning on (date): _____

Please bill me

☐ Annually

☐ Quarterly

☐ Monthly

☐ Other _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT(S)

☐ **Check** - Make checks payable to: American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation - 1919 Society

☐ **Credit card**

☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

☐ **Planned Gifts and Stock** - Please contact The American Legion Office of Charitable Gifts toll free at 833-257-0955 or by email at CharitableGiving@legion.org

☐ **Other**

My/Our gift will be matched by _____

☐ Matching gift enclosed

☐ Matching gift form will be sent

By electronically signing this 1919 Society Pledge Commitment (pledge commitment) I/we agree that this is a legally binding contract to give the amount(s) specified above to the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation, doing business as American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation (ALVCF) and the ALVCF accepts such pledge/donation. I/we agree that the terms of this pledge commitment is legally binding upon and enforceable against me/us and my/our respective successors and heirs, including without limitation, my/our estate(s) and executor(s). This pledge commitment shall be governed by and interpreted under the laws of the State of Indiana. The ALVCF is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization under the provisions of Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3). The ALVCF's federal tax identification number is 35-6019680. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Donor Signature _____ Date _____

Donor Signature _____ Date _____

Thank you for your charitable contribution.

American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206





BUDDY CHECK

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF



Dear Sons of The American Legion Supporter:

The purpose of this letter is to request that your business or company consider donating to the Ohio Sons of The American Legion. All donors will then be eligible to place an ad in our annual yearbook, which will be distributed to all delegates, alternates and guests who attend our 60th Annual Convention, to be held in Findlay, Ohio on May 17-19, 2024. All proceeds which exceed the cost of printing the yearbook will be donated to the Ohio Sons' favorite charity, The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc. (www.legion.org/cwf).

The Sons of The American Legion (SAL) was created in 1932 as an organization within The American Legion. The SAL is made up of boys and men of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the United States military and became eligible for membership in The American Legion. Together, members of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Sons of The American Legion and the American Legion Riders make up what is known as The American Legion Family. All four organizations place great importance on preserving our American traditions and values, caring for veterans and their families, improving the quality of life for our nation's children, and teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship. Our Family boasts a combined total membership of nearly 4.2 million members. This year, the SAL attained an all-time high national membership of over 378,000. The Sons have always assisted Legionnaires with many of the Legion Family programs. Here in Ohio the Child Welfare Foundation (CWF) is the one on which we pride ourselves.

The ad size in the yearbook will be based on the amount of the donation.

- First donation of \$500 or more will get the entire back cover (8 ½" x 11") in full color - **SOLD**
- First donation of \$300 or more will get the inside front cover in full color - **SOLD**
- First donation of \$200 or more will get the inside back cover in full color - **SOLD**
- All donations of \$150.00 or more will get a full-page ad in black & white
- \$100 donations will get a half-page ad in black & white
- \$50 donations will get a quarter-page ad in black & white
- \$30 donations will get a business card-size ad in black & white

Please make checks payable to "The American Legion – Department of Ohio" with "SAL 2024 Yearbook CWF Donation" in the memo. Send your check and ad content to **American Legion Post 541, "ATTN: 2024 Yearbook Donation", PO Box 242, Continental, OH 45831**. **The deadline for publication is April 14, 2024.**

If you have any questions about the yearbook ads, the Sons of The American Legion, or The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc. please feel free to contact either one of us.

Chris Hoeffel,
Detachment CWF Chairman
+1 (419) 890-2546
hoeffelchris@yahoo.com

David Dilts,
Detachment Commander
+1 (740) 319-1255
davidleedilts@hotmail.com



Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio

60 Big Run Rd., P.O. Box 8007, Delaware, OH 43015 | 740.362.7478