

SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

The Ohio SALute



Immediate Past Detachment Commander Dennis Albright passes the torch, or in this case, the checkered flag, to newly elected Detachment Commander Dave Dilts at the Ohio American Legion Family Party which was held in the NASCAR Museum in Charlotte, NC during the national convention.

submitted photo

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Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio
60 Big Run Road | Post Office Box 8007
Delaware, Ohio 43015
Phone (740) 362-7478 | Fax (740) 362-1429

membership@ohiolegion.com | www.ohiolegion.com

David L. Dilts | Commander
Tim Conway | First Vice-Commander
Jeff Vrabel, Jr. | Second Vice-Commander
Todd Bidlack | Chaplain
Scott Thornton | Adjutant
Bill Towns | Parliamentarian
Gary Lang | National Executive Committeeman
Jon Coakley, II | Alternate National Executive Committeeman
Dennis Albright | Immediate Past Commander

PNVC Jeff Vrabel, Sr. | Editor



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BE THE ONE



Commander's Report

Where has the summer gone? The days seem to fly by these days.

We recently went to National Convention to the Charlotte, NC. A big Thank you to Dennis Albright for being our Delegate Chairman at the 51st Convention.

There is a lot of information and knowledge that was passed down to us. Our new National S.A.L. Commander, Donald "J.R." Hall from Maryland, was elected and is now our National Commander.

All our Delegates had a great time at the Ohio party at the NASCAR Hall of Fame. Since we have returned, it is time to start working on our Membership. Please help First Vice-Commander Tim Conway and get your membership turned in.

Hopefully, in the future, I would like to visit each District.

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



1 VC Report



RENEW ONLINE TODAY

MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP.

It is time for everyone to get on membership. We did a wonderful job last year on it, let's keep the momentum going. We can do better than we did last by getting all of our renewals from this year as well as recruiting new members. We have the greatest organization in the country, let's start showing everyone how great we are. If we keep getting our name out there more people will ask how they can join.

Always carry some applications with you so you can hand them out to the people that are eligible. If more of these eligible men how much we do for our Veterans and children, then maybe they will join so they can help out.

Let's get out there and talk ourselves up and get more members to make our organization even better than it already is.

Tim Conway, Detachment First Vice-Commander



2 VC Report

I can't believe summer is already over! Preparations for Veteran's Day are in full swing! Make sure you spread the word to get people there, and take lots and lots of pictures!

Our detachment raffle will be a 50/50 with tickets being sold up until Detachment Convention and are only \$10.00 each. In my experience at my Post and Squadron, as well as the past Fundraising Manager for Mill Creek Jr Baseball, this is a very simple, easy way to get "outsiders" involved. Take them to work, other clubs you belong to, family functions, etc. I can mail them out to you if you would like any to sell.

I have started to receive several Squadron Inspections back. As a reminder, your Squadron will be inspected yearly. District Officers please either mail to me, or scan to me after completion.

In September I attended a surprise going away party at The Inn at Glenellen for a young lady who was leaving to join the Air Force. Veterans on staff and that lived there shared their stories and gave her advice.

Also in September, I coordinated a fundraiser for my Post. It is very, very, simple and I encourage all of you to do it. Chipotle will give you four hours on a day of your choosing, and gives you a flyer. During that time, all sales that are accompanied by the flyer, 33% will be donated. Our flyer is in this newsletter for an example. All you need to do is go on their website and set it up. You will need the Post EIN Number.

For God and Country,

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



Chaplain's Report

Hi all,

As we move through this membership year, we find more of our membership falling ill or transferring to Squadron Everlasting. The job I have is not an easy one. The only thing I can do is offer condolences or well wishes. Thoughts and prayers go a long way in the grieving process, but it doesn't change the facts.

When I write these well wishes or notes of sympathy, I'm learning more about myself and the way I grieve. The process that takes place is not pleasant, but is a fact of life. All we can do is offer to listen, to help in any way, and just "be there." If anyone needs to talk to someone, please call me or reach out in some way. I don't pretend to have answers, but I can listen. Sometimes that's all that's needed.

If you know of someone who needs a "pick me up" or just a note of gratitude or encouragement, let me know. I can help with that.

I will be available to come to your conferences this winter and early spring. I truly enjoy traveling the state and speaking with fellow members to see what they are up to locally. As you will find out in the coming years, I'm curious to know your "why." Why do you belong to the Sons? What's your motivation for being involved? This is the question I will be asking in the coming years if the membership continues to support me in my endeavors with the SAL. Please contact me if you would like a visit. Maybe I can talk our Detachment CWF Chairman into traveling with me.

Very Respectfully Yours,

Todd Bidlack, Detachment Chaplain



Adjutant's Report

Squadron Paperwork – Not Cleared Status

The first target date for the 2024 membership drive was August 3. 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	305 316 533 545 553 642	305 316 533	279 305 316 533
2	CLEAR	CLEAR	CLEAR
3	377	CLEAR	CLEAR
4	CLEAR	CLEAR	CLEAR
5	118 169 260 405 447 523 659 676 733	169 295 514 523 676	41 169 170 292 514 523 676
6	254 518 584 754 804	254 518 804	97 401 605
7	134 325 363 594	594	14 594
8	58 261 371	58 261	27 58 261
9	103 235 472 601 719 737	472	111 472
10	68 374 407 423 548 573	423 573	70 423 573
11	29 38 77 159 168 228 366 378 399 632 760 768	159 168 228 378 578 632	159 168 399 632 760 768
12	1 82 486 797	1 82 486	1 82 486
13	304 339 421	304 339	339
14	19 272 331	19 272	19 272

Please reach out to these squadrons to get their information as quickly as possible and get it to me. I'll pass it along to Department Headquarters to get them cleared so their 2024 membership cards can be shipped.

Congratulations to Districts 2 and 4 for meeting the CLEARED goal! This is the first time that any district has earned this lap prize.

New Officer Certs & Old Membership Cards

As I write this, we have received 2024 Officers Certification Forms from 275 of our 307 squadrons, for 89.58%. That is about 10% higher than last year. Our Detachment Constitution sets the deadline as May 1.

We need every other squadron to submit their reports immediately – this is one-third of the requirements to receive your new 2024 membership cards. Department cannot update our contact lists without the new officer details – even if you have no changes to report.

The reporting form is available in multiple formats from the SAL section of the Forms page on <https://ohiolegion.com>.

DO NOT RETURN YOUR OLD 2023 CARDS TO HQ – they don't want them back!

2023 Consolidated Squadron Reports

Your 2022-2023 Consolidated Squadron (and District) Reports are also due to Department Headquarters by May 1st, and we have received 266 to date for 86.64%. This is an improvement from last year, but still not complete.

The current form is also available from the Department website.

The American Legion uses the data provided on the reports to help demonstrate to the U.S. Congress just how much we do in support of our nation's veterans and children when the national commander appears before it. Please submit the CSR form as soon as you can, even if you only update your membership data at the top, and make sure to use your paid membership counts for this year and last – not "2022" and "2021."

Annual Squadron Data Report for National

One of the features of the national membership management system, myLegion.org, allows individual SAL members to renew their membership dues online. In order to facilitate this function, every squadron is required to submit a Squadron Data Report every year. This form provides all of the squadron's key contact details and its dues rates for regular, dual, and junior members for the coming admin year. Without the dues amounts the website cannot collect a payment because it won't have the amounts to charge. So far 243 squadrons have submitted the new form – that's 79.15% to date and a good number better than last year. However, this must get to 100% and be handled every year in the Spring going forward.

The form is also available from the SAL section of the Forms page on the department website. Please make sure to submit a copy to both national and department.

2024 Membership Dues Deadline

Did you know?

- Membership dues for the Sons of The American Legion are payable by October 20 for the upcoming calendar year.
- A member whose dues for the current year have not been paid by January 1 shall be classified as delinquent.
- If his dues are paid on or before February 1, he shall be automatically reinstated.



NEC Report

Greetings everyone,

Our 51st National Convention was at Charlotte, North Carolina in August. The fun and comradery was enjoyed by everyone, added with some competitive spirit at the NASCAR Hall of Fame. It was nice to see everyone at the National Convention and I hope everyone had a good time

Congratulations to JR Hall from Maryland, our new National commander, and to our Central Vice-Commander, Robert Bristo. I'm sure they will have a productive and enjoyable year.

I wish to extend a sincere welcome to both Kentucky and West Virginia into the Central Region. Even though we lost Missouri and Iowa, this should be a great addition to our Region.

As a new membership year begins, let's try and exceed our record membership of 101.53%. With continued joint effort. I'm confident this can be accomplished.

With our Mid-Winter Conference approaching, if you are interested in a national commission or committee, please submit the forms to me at or before the conference. The forms can be found on The American Legion website.

I hope to see you all at the DEC meeting the 21st of October at 10:00 a.m. at Paschal Post 164 in Grove City.

With Veterans Day right around the corner, let's continue to do the Buddy Check on people who are homebound and/or alone. You never know what a little bit of kindness and attention will do for someone.

Hope everyone is doing well and look forward to seeing you all in January.

Gary Lang, National Executive Committeeman

Fellow members,

First and foremost, I'd like to congratulate our new National SAL Commander Don "JR" Hall from Maryland, and thank IPNC Chris Carlton from Indiana for the great job that he did! The SAL National Leadership is in good hands!

- If he is still delinquent after February 1, he shall be suspended from all privileges.
- If he is still under such suspension on June 30 of such year, his membership in the Sons of The American Legion shall be forfeited.
- A member so suspended or whose membership has been so forfeited may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by vote of the Squadron and payment of current dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs.

It's difficult for your members to comply with this payment requirement if you haven't cleared your paperwork and received your 2024 membership cards from Department HQ.

Also, don't sit on membership dues in your squadron. A member is not technically paid until his National per capita is recorded in Indianapolis. NOTE: Transmitting your renewals and new members via myLegion.org means National gets paid right away. Get signed-up if you don't have an account!

Fall DEC Meeting – October 21, 2023

The Detachment Executive Committee will meet at 10:00 am at Paschall Post No. 164, 3363 McDowell Rd., Grove City, OH 43123.

All elected and appointed Detachment Officers, Commission and Committee Chairmen, District Commanders, and District First Vice Commanders are required to attend.

I would ask everyone who will be giving a report at the DEC meeting to file a copy with me (electronically, if possible) to facilitate the preparation of the minutes in a timely fashion. This really makes things much easier.

Leadership for Next Year...

In closing, it's not too early to be thinking about running for an office next year or submitting your name for consideration as a commission or committee member on the state and / or national levels. Contact National Executive Committeeman Gary Lang for more information.

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,

Scott J. Thornton, Detachment Adjutant

At our last National Convention in Charlotte, NC, the SAL made a statement when it came to the donations collected for the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Great job SAL!! The Detachment of Ohio contributed \$38,070.80 of that amount.

Total American Legion Family Donations	
6/1/2022-5/31/2023	
Sons of The American Legion	\$424,760.55
American Legion	\$163,864.01
American Legion Auxiliary	\$62,267.16
Individual Donations	\$19,125.54
8 & 40	\$8,469.06
Bequests and other donations	\$771.22
Total	\$679,263.52

We're already off to a great start this donation year. The Detachment of Ohio leads the way as far as the last CWF report at \$17,393.00. But we have to keep it up. Arizona is right on our heels with \$15,875.00. At the National Convention, the OPDCC made a special presentation and donation to honor PDC Rob Brewer and his favorite Legion charity of \$17,330.00.

October brings the Fall NEC meetings in Indianapolis. NEC Lang and I will pass along all the information we collect from these meetings at our next DEC meeting. Also at National Convention, I picked up information on the National Veterans Employment and Education Commission which I'll also bring to our next DEC meeting.

It mentioned a push to our squadrons and detachments to get more involved and support your local Oratorical Competitions. If you have a chance to volunteer as escorts or judges for one of these, you'll be amazed listening to these young men and women talk about our Constitution.

Thank you IPDC Dennis Albright as our delegation chairman for the great Ohio SAL get together at the National Convention. Thank you!

I look forward to bringing you more information at our next DEC and seeing how much more you are doing for our veterans and their families! Don't forget to do your buddy checks. You never know how much it means and how many people you may save with just that interaction. "BE THE ONE!"

Until then, God Bless!

*Jon Coakley II,
Alternate National Executive Committeeman*



A message from the National Commander

Greetings Ohio,

We are off and working to make 2023-24 a great year! What an honor to be elected as your national commander and be able to represent my grandfather's service in the Army during World War II. "Representing More Than Me" is my slogan for the year because I truly believe that is what the Sons of The American Legion should be all about. As we sign the membership paper it is a commitment to pay respect to our family members service in our military. Let's make sure that our commitment is worth the sacrifices they made.

I believe in the Four Pillars of our organization, and what they stand for. The American Legion was built believing in VA&R, Americanism, Children & Youth and National Security are they are still the core beliefs of what the American Legion Family stands for. I have issued a commanders challenge to all Squadrons to support the four pillars and become a National Four Pillar Squadron. To do so all you need to do is raise one dollar per member for each OCW(VA&R), CWF (Children and Youth) your departments Boys State program(Americanism), and hold a blood drive (National security). You will then receive an award for being a National Four Pillar Squadron. That is not that hard to do, if we plan and work to get it done.

I believe that the Sons of The American Legion can reach new heights and crush our records for hours volunteered and donations. It will take all of us working and believing in the work we do to help our veterans, children, and community.

Aaron Tippon sang a song that said, " You got to stand for something, or you will fall for anything". Let's stand for what is right and show that our families service is worth all of us being the best son we can be. "Be The One" in more ways than one.

Representing More Than Me,

Donald "JR" Hall, National Commander
Sons of The American Legion

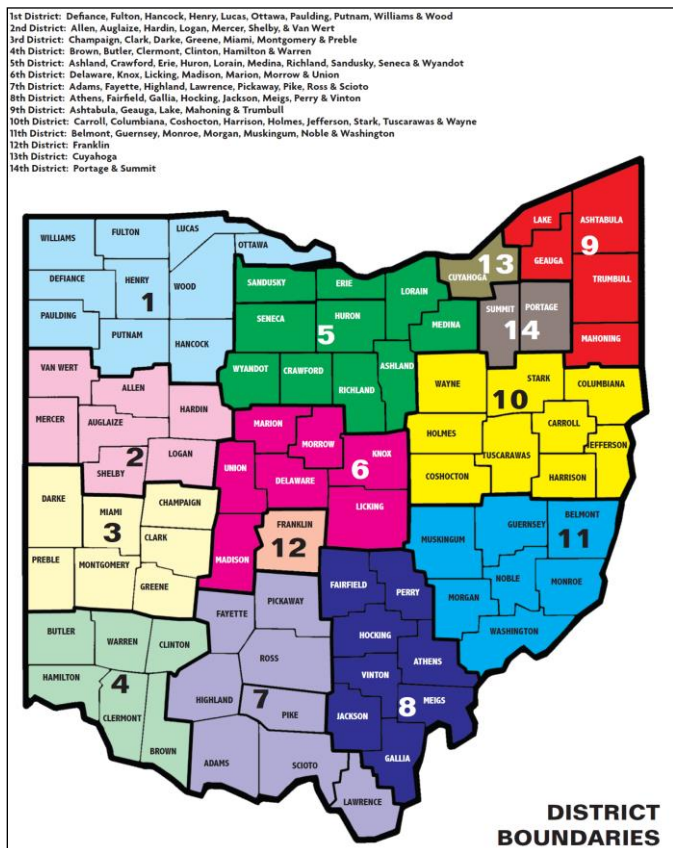
**SAL, ALA purchase eagle
for Post 360**

Russell Powell

Sons of The American Legion and the Auxiliary teamed up to purchase an eagle to show thanks and honor the veterans of Post 360 of New Paris, OH. This 800 lb. casting has great meaning and detail. A really good group of people and Post.



Third District SAL Commander Russell Powell has been busy this summer taking in numerous Cruise-in's around the 7-county District. Various sites include Dayton, Eaton, Englewood, Vandalia, Kettering, Brookville, and others. This has led to some very interesting conversations about the American Legion, how the SAL began and potential new members, both within, and out of the Third



Summer is over, the local fairs have come to an end, and school is back in session. Please work on helping our veterans and The American Legion.

In District 2, most of the SAL are helping the Legion in various activities. In Van Wert, squadron members worked at the Chicken Shack at the county fair. Many squadrons are helping the Color Guard with duties at football games.

We are also getting ready for Halloween and Veterans Day.

District. Next stop is the Patriot Salute on the Dayton VA grounds.



Squadron 598 Kettering

The SAL held a 'Rib Dinner' consisting of a 1/2 lb. of ribs, steak fries and salad. The turn-out was very good with 160+ tickets being sold. The dinner was a huge success. The next two Sons of the American Legion dinner functions will be the Smoked Pork Chop Dinner in September and the always successful Cabbage Roll dinner in October.

On August 21 hosted an evening 'stop' for the National Legacy Run by the Legion Riders. Various Legion, SAL, Auxiliary and Riders assisted in the greeting, preparation of food and serving food to riders. A total of 359 motorcycles arrived with a 'chilling thunder' and were escorted by the Ohio State Patrol and Kettering Police Department. After a night's welcomed rest, a breakfast at the Post 598, they were 'off' to the next 'stop' of Barboursville, WV. Sons of the American Legion National Commander Chris

Carlton was among the riders making this trek. The final 'stop' is the 104th National Legion Convention in Charlotte, NC held August 25-31.

Squadron 746 Dayton

The Squadron came through, as always, for the local little league and donated \$250.00, as did the Post and the Auxiliary. These funds helped with purchases of equipment and uniforms for the local association. There is also a prominent signage acknowledging the donation at the ballpark. A fine example of the Legion Family working as one and supporting locally.



Squadron 120 Urbana

Kent Black, SAL Squadron Commander, reports that The American Legion Post held their 22nd Annual Jimmy Lewe Golf Outing on 29 August. It was a huge success! There were 30 foursomes that enjoyed a great day of golf, food, and friendships at Liberty Hills Golf Course in Bellefontaine, OH. The 'famous' Putting Contest had three winners so Kents states "...things need to get tougher." Lunch was provided back at Post 120 as well as the 'door' and 'proximity' prizes.



The Outing raised \$3,500.00 of which will be donated to various Veteran causes, Dayton VA, and local causes in Jimmy's name. Kent also wants to thank all of the local sponsors and volunteers that pull together to make this Outing the success that it is; Thank You!

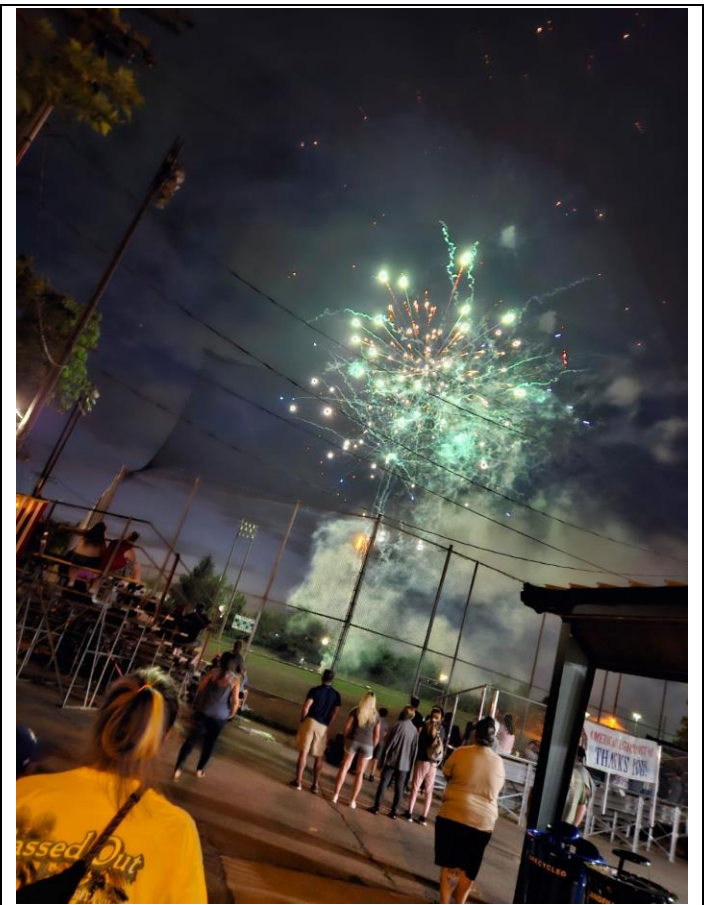
The 2024 version of the Jimmy Lewe Golf Outing will be on the last Saturday of July; start planning now.

**SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION**

District 4

The Post 288 Williamsburg Family Car & Motorcycle Show is in its 27th year for the event. These are members of Squadron 288 and a few SAL 4th District Officers standing outside the Food booth that they work and supply every Car Show year. Some SAL members also help judge the event. It was another

great year with just over 100 entries and great weather.



Post 69 Reading Family is the only American Legion Post in the 4th that still has a Festival. They have their Festival on the 4th of July with fireworks at the end. It is held at Koeing Park in Reading for many years. The Squadron has a booth at the Festival along with the rest of Post 69 Amerocan Legion Family.
submitted photo

SONS OF THE
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District 5



Squadron 535 Finance Officer PDC Craig Smith, and Ken Estep, Co-Chairman of the Richland County Honor Bus Committee. This donation was made possible from the money raised from the annual Ed 'Spanky' Vanhouten Golf Outing held in June at Little Apple Golf Course in Bellville, OH.

Charlie "Special K" Kvochick, Adjutant, OH Sq 535



Squadron 535 also donated \$1,000 to Beth Johnson, Executive Director, to Honor Flight Columbus. Funds were raised at the annual Ed "Spanky" Van Houten Golf Outing.

Charlie "Special K" Kvochick, Adjutant, OH Sq 535



Bill "Buster" Sutterlin and National Commander Chris Carlton with the 5th District plaque for the Allen I. O'Brien VA&R Award. This award was received August 26 at the National Convention in Charlotte, NC.

Buster Sutterlin



Members of Squadron 257 Loudonville at the Loudonville High School football field. After the playing of the Alma Mater, a short POW-MIA service was held on Friday, September 8, 2023 prior to the American flag being raised with the LHS band playing the National Anthem. Pictured here during the flag raising is left to right: Squadron 257 members Bill "Buster" Sutterlin, Dual Member Gregg Dawson, C. J. Schachel, Tim Conway, Richard "Leg's" Zickefoose, and Chaz James.

Buster Sutterlin



Loudonville SAL Squadron received a 1st place in National Security in the Snapshots in Service. They received this award for their picture of the POW-MIA chair at the LHS football field while doing a POW-MIA service on POW-MIA Recognition Day 9/16/22. Squadron 257 was awarded 2nd place for their VA&R picture 12/16/22 where they gave a Christmas treat bag to a Veteran at the McMullen Assisted Living. Pictured here is Bill "Buster" Sutterlin and National Commander Chris Carlton with the two plaques awarded.

Buster Sutterlin

DEVOTION TO MUTUAL HELPLEFULNESS

SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION



District 7

Upcoming meetings & guests

Sunday, October 1, 2023 | Post 62 Chillicothe
Commander Dilts

Sunday, December 3, 2023 | Post 134 Circleville
First Vice-Commander Conway

Sunday, March 10, 2024 | Post 142 Waverley
Second Vice-Commander Vrabel

Sunday, May 5, 2024 | Post 25 Washington CH
Chaplain Bidlack

District 8

District 9

District 10

District 11

District 12

District 13

District 14

COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Americanism

Hello everyone!

I hope everyone had a good summer. As we enter Fall, we have our sights set on school, football, Halloween, and Veterans Day. We need to keep all



SAL 257 member Richard "Leg's" Zickefoose, Beano's Buckeye Ballroom Owner Brad Bilancini, and SAL 257 member Bill "Buster" Sutterlin. Bilancini was presented a certificate on June 28, 2023 for flying the American flag. They presented over 60 certificates to local business owners who fly the American flag every day.

Buster Sutterlin



July 4, 2023 was the Liberty Fest Parade in Bellville, Ohio. Pictured here behind the SAL Squadron 535 Bellville Color Guard is left to right: PDC Bernie Kessler, 2nd Vice Cmdr. Tim Conway, Commander Dave Dilts, and PDC Bill "Buster" Sutterlin.

Buster Sutterlin

veterans on our minds, and help them whenever we can. I would like to encourage everyone to help a veteran this fall. Keeping them company or taking them to an event or to the Post for dinner, whatever you can do. This will let them know we are thinking about them.

One thing I would like to see everyone do this fall is hold a voter registration. Remember we cannot be aiding any public party or candidates for public office in our official capacity as members of Sons of The American, but we can help get voters registered and to take voters to polling places.

Get involved with post activities and help get more Sons active in your squadron. Be the One!

Randy Matthews, Chairman

Appointments

Buckeye Boys State

Constitution & Bylaws Review

Child Welfare Foundation

Children & Youth

Children's Miracle Network

Convention Screening

The 2024 Detachment Convention will be held in Findlay. The 2025 convention will be in Chillicothe. Where will the 2026 convention be? That is up to you. If your squadron or district would like to host the convention, let us know by submitting a bid at next year's convention. The requirements are available from the Department of Ohio website,

www.ohiolegion.com. I look forward to seeing your bids.

On a related note, we have been asked to study the possibility of having a joint convention with the American Legion at their location in the future. I want to gather data on what SAL members think about this. Please send me your thoughts on this proposal. What are the pros and cons? Are you in favor of one convention for everyone? Obviously, this is not a decision for me to make. We want everyone to be involved. Any decision would need to be brought to the convention for a vote. Let me know what you think.

Dan Sagraves, Chairman
dansagraves@twc.com

Finance

Legislative

Two years ago today, August 30, 2021, the United States officially ceased its military involvement in Afghanistan. As a result, the Ohio Veterans Bonus program associated with the Afghanistan Conflict, which the Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS) administers, is nearing its completion.

Through the support of Governor DeWine and the State Legislature, a \$9.5 million measure was included in the state's recently enacted biennial budget in order to sustain the program, will sunset in one year. The Office of Budget and Management authorized that transfer to our agency.

The Washington Conference will be held February 25-28, 2024, with the SAL wreath laying ceremony on February 25, 2024. More info to follow

Craig Smith, Chairman

Member Training and Development

Oratorical

POW★MIA

Public Relations

The Ohio SALute

With autumn upon us, activities will change, and Sons will be holding different events, fundraisers, and celebrations. It is very important that details of these events be sent in for publication in our detachment newsletter. Members want to know what is upcoming, as well as how events went.

It is also important that we get our quarterly updates from chairmen can district commanders. Everyone has something going on, so why not tell us about it?

Remember, we can only pass along information if it is provided. Members will “know what they don’t know” about things if we don’t tell them.

Jeff Vrabel Sr., Editor

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

Hi Guys!

It was great to be able to attend the National Convention in Charlotte, N.C. It was a good time for all. We enjoyed the Ohio Party at the NASCAR Museum on Monday, August 28.

There were some awards in Ohio for the VA&R program. As reported on the consolidated squadron reports, there were \$1.5 million dollars were contributed with 900,000 hours spent. From these Consolidated Squadron Reports (CSR) the detachment of Ohio tied with Delaware to receive the Earl Webster Memorial Award. The 5th District earned the Allen I Obrien Award.

Squadron 257 Loudonville won 2nd place in VA&R in the Snapshots in Service pictures. The picture was a presentation of a Christmas treat bag given to a Veteran at McMullen Assisted Living.

The Charles B Rigsby Volunteer Award was given to Kevin Robinson Squadron 33 Detachment of Alaska. He spent over 400 hours in volunteering at a VA Medical Center.

The Legacy Scholarship Fund has been fully funded. It was announced at convention the American Legion Riders annual run to National Convention will now go to the Veterans and Childrens Foundation.

Resolution 5, 2022 Fall NEC passed to allow VAVS Reps and Deps to be certified by the SAL instead of the American Legion. This will speed up the certification process.

If you are a veteran or know a Veteran who is experiencing homelessness or at risk for homelessness, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 877-424-3838.

Please be sure to sign up for Veterans Voice on the American Legion website. It is important to support the Veterans’ issues.

The 1st day of each month is “Be The One” Day. Please continue to reach out to those who may need an encouraging word, especially those who may be dealing with sickness or loss of a loved one. “Be The One” to reach out and “Make A Difference” with kindness and friendliness to someone.

Bill “Buster” Sutterlin, Commission Chairman
brs257@zoominternet.net

Veterans and Children Foundation

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

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, South Chairman

Veterans Employment and Education

Squadron Everlasting

Thomas “Duffer” Rosenbauer



OTTAWA – Thomas “Duffer” Rosenbauer, 71, of Ottawa, passed away at 4:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at the Meadows of Ottawa. He was born June 13, 1952, in Lima to the late Vincent and Margaret (Honigfort) Rosenbauer.

He is survived by a son: Brad of Kalida; two grandchildren: Danielle and Tyler; a brother: John; a nephew: Christopher, both of Ottawa; bonus family: Kristi, Rachel and Brandon and families.

Duffer was a retired car salesman. He was a lifetime member of the Ottawa American Legion, where he was a 10-time Commander and a 1 time First District Commander, Sons of the American Legion Commander, and First District American Legion baseball chairman for 12 years. He was also a member of Ottawa Glandorf Rotary Club, where he served as chairman of Little Nashville for 10 years, and a member of the Ottawa Glandorf Athletic Boosters. Duffer served on the Ottawa Village Council for 2 terms. He also served as a Putnam County Veterans Services Board Member. Duffer was also a lifetime member of the Ottawa VFW and the Ottawa Eagles. He was an avid supporter of Ottawa-Glandorf Titans, Post 63 Baseball, Cleveland Indians, Cleveland Browns, and the Ohio State Buckeyes.

Funeral Mass was at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 1, 2023, at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Ottawa with Fr. Scott Kramer officiating. Ottawa American Legion, VFW and AMVETS gave military rites at the church. A private burial will be held at a later date. Visitation was held on Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. and again on Friday from 9 to 9:45 a.m. at LOVE FUNERAL HOME, Ottawa.

Memorial donations may be made to the Sons of The American Legion or a charity of the donor's choice. Condolences may be expressed at www.lovefuneralhome.com.

Past Detachment Commanders Club

In July, Ohio Past Detachment Commander, Rob Brewer transferred into the Squadron where footfalls make no sound. Everyone who knew Rob, knew he had many likes, but Rob had two passions, The Ohio State Buckeyes, and The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. If Rob was at an event, money for CWF was being raised.

Rob was very instrumental in the success of the annual Ohio Past Detachment Commanders Bottle Raffle. In fact, of the \$97,865.09 raised, The Fifth District and Rob Brewer accounted for more than \$28,000.00. Including two donations of \$10,000.00 each.

With the blessing of Barb Brewer, The Ohio Past Detachment Commanders Club challenged the members to raise a \$2,035.00 donation as a memorial tribute to Rob which would put our total Donations from the OPDCC Bottle Raffle at over \$100,000.00. As Ohio always does, they stepped up to the challenge and at the 51st SAL National Convention in Charlotte, NC, The OPDC's in attendance walked on the national stage and presented a Memorial Tribute to the Director of The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation in the name of Ohio Past Commander Rob Brewer a check for \$17,303.00.

This collective total represents Memorial Donations from: ALA District 5, ALA Unit 257, PDC Dale Anderson, PDC Dave Brown, Dewey & Rob's Room, Eighth District SAL, First District SAL, Fourteenth District SAL, Ninth District SAL, Second District SAL, Seventh District SAL, Sixth District SAL, Squadron 164, Squadron 181, Squadron 200, Squadron 257, Squadron 353, Squadron 357, Squadron 541, Squadron 63, Squadron 733, Squadron 757, Squadron 8, Tenth District SAL, Third District SAL, Thirteenth District SAL, and Twelfth District SAL.

This brings the all-time total from the OPDCC Bottle Raffle to \$115,168.09!

Some fun facts of The OPDCC Bottle Raffle.

- The Past Detachment Commanders Bottle Auction began in 1988 at Detachment Commander Terry Kettering's Homecoming when a bottle of Canadian Club was bought by Dale Hartley, who donated it back. Which started the tradition to

auction it off at each Detachment Commander's Homecoming with all funds being donated to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

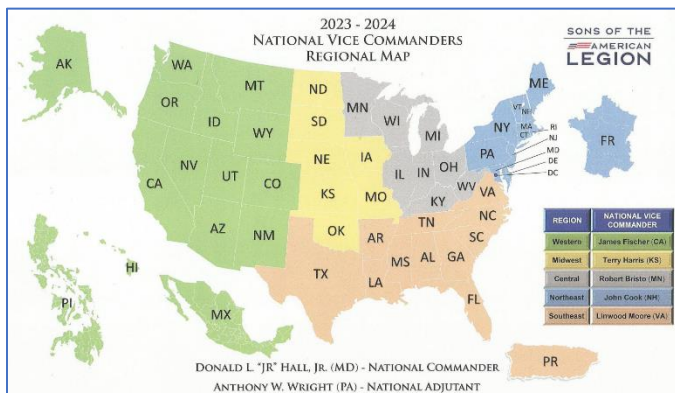
- First Donation Dale Hartley 1988 \$11.40.
- Gold Plated Bottle was obtained in 1991 by PDC Kent Blanchard.
- First over \$1000.00 donation came in 1998 by PDC Roy Turner \$1209.14.
- The largest single donation of \$10,000.00 was made by Rob Brewer and D5 SAL in 2003 and again in 2007.
- In 2023 the name was officially changed to The OPDCC Brewer's Bottle Raffle!

Commander's Travels



2024 IS NOW
SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION
RENEW TODAY!!!

by Jeff Vrabel, Sr.



The Central Region Extravaganza will return to Columbus April 5, 6, 7, 2024 and will be held again at the Embassy Suites Airport.

CRE24 will be filled with great speakers, interesting topics, and a lot of fun. Plans are in the works, and if there's something you would like to see, please email jeffvrabelsr@gmail.com. You can also be one of our presenters if you would like.

At CRE23, guests from across the country attended, and there was a lot of very positive feedback.

Don't miss your opportunity to attend. Registration details and other information will be announced after the first of the year.

Please plan to attend CRE24 April 5-7, 2024!



NOVEMBER IS
NATIONAL RENEWAL
MONTH

HONOR THE VETERAN
WHO MADE YOU ELIGIBLE
RENEW TODAY!



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1919 Society Pledge Commitment

DONOR INFORMATION

Donor(s)		
Address		
City	State	ZIP
Phone	Email	
Are you a member of the American Legion: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Member number

TERMS OF PLEDGE

I am supporting the 1919 Society with a pledge total of: \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Today with a single payment <input type="checkbox"/> Over the next year, beginning on (date): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Over the next _____ years, beginning on (date): _____ Please bill me <input type="checkbox"/> Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT(S)

<input type="checkbox"/> Check - Make checks payable to: American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation - 1919 Society	
<input type="checkbox"/> Credit card <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MC <input type="checkbox"/> AmEx <input type="checkbox"/> Discover	
Credit Card Number	Exp. Date
<input type="checkbox"/> 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	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
My/Our gift will be matched by	
<input type="checkbox"/> Matching gift enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> 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 35-6039680. 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