SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

A newsletter of Sons of The American Legion

THE MILLENNIUM

Sons of The American Legion | PO 1055 | Indianapolis, IN 46206 | www.legion.org/sons

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Top Ten Detachments Membership Percentage

1.	Hawaii	87.31%
2.	Wisconsin	70.85%
3.	Louisiana	67.84%
4.	Iowa	63.28%
5.	South Carolina	63.11%
6.	South Dakota	62.87%
7.	Illinois	62.48%
8.	Mississippi	62.07%
9.	Georgia	60.20%
10.	Montana	59.91%

Statistics as of 05 December 2024

BE THE ONE

Joseph Navarette (NM)
SAL National Commander

2024 Holiday Message

This holiday season, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all veterans and their families for your service, sacrifice, and unwavering dedication. As we celebrate, let us also remember the importance of never forgetting the values that unite us as members of The Sons of The American Legion. Our organization stands as a proud reminder of the legacy of those who have served, and it is our duty to honor their sacrifices by carrying forward the spirit of service, patriotism, and community. Wishing you peace, joy, and a meaningful holiday season.

Inside this Month's Newsletter

A look at Veterans Day around the country

Reports!: What you need to know about the CSR

American Legion sponsors the Army-Navy Game

Committee and Commission Reports: Veteran and Children's Foundation, and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

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Sons Celebrate those who served on Veterans Day

Editor's Photo: The Detachments of NY and NJ at the NYC Veteran's Day Parade. Nat. Cmdr. Leading Candidate Bill Clancy (NY) at center.

Facebook: Squadron 91 (OH)

American Legion Families from across the country and around the world celebrated our serviceman past and present on Veterans Day. Commemorated on the anniversary of the Great War's Armistice on 11 November 1918—on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the eleventh month to be precise—the federal holiday was established in 1938 to celebrate the service of WWI veterans. What was originally Armistice Day was amended by Congress in 1954 to become Veterans Day, to acknowledge the service of all of those in uniform.

Facebook: Robert Tucker (VA-144).

As Sons of The American Legion on that day, we participated in ceremonies and marched alongside our local heroes in our hometowns to celebrate their service. We had luncheons in their honor, visited our vets in veterans homes and hospitals to say thanks, and held events in their honor. Legiontown, USA is full of those stories—written up by Post families from Bristol, CT to Post 62 in Peoria, AZ to Coer d'Alene, ID, to Okinawa, Japan and Angeles City, Philippines.

Legion.org photo

Events ranged from the Sons marching in celebration of our veterans in New York City, in the city's 105th Veterans Day Parade. Another was at Squadron 91 of Berea, OH, where they served dinner for our vets to thank them for their service. Squadron 144 (Sandston, VA) had their member Robert Tucker play Taps. And, at Arlington National Cemetery, our National Commander placed a wreath. The names and events we participated in that weekend are endless, with the message being the same—THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.

Russell "Rusty Myers III (NJ), Editor, "The Millennium"

Editorial

On page one of this month's Millennium, we talked about Veterans Day and the parade in Manhattan. The NYC Veterans Day Parade has such an amazing history, and the Department of New York has long been a part of it. A few years ago, NY invited the Department of NJ to participate, and by extension the rest of the Legion Family in NJ. This year I jumped at the opportunity to honor our heroes by marching in the parade's 105th year. It was an awesome experience to say the least.

I was very lucky to have the opportunity to attend … and saw some friends I've made over the past few years, as well as meeting some new ones. The warmness which fellow Sons who don't even know you meet you with is always something very inspiring.

And the added bonus of this amazing brotherhood we belong to is that we do good things for our vets. The National organization posted the perfect quote the other day … ***"We're ambassadors; we don't go for the glory, but we help continue to spread the knowledge of The American Legion and what they do."***

It's what I've talked about in the past few editions of this newsletter - we're not just here as part of an organization doing good things, we're a family. I had a chance to chat at the parade with Leading Candidate for National Commander Bill Clancy (NY), and Past National Commander Chris Cerullo (1983-84). We immediately began talking about our lives, our jobs, and our kids.

I had never met PNC Chris before, and the wisdom and stories he shared with me about the history of the SAL were amazing. He told me about growing up in this organization, the lifelong friends he's made and served with, and how proud he is of what we've accomplished together over the years. But one thing which will stick with me that he said - and I don't recall the exact quote - was something along the lines of once you start sharing things about your family with someone, you immediately become friends.

I am so proud of my father having served—that goes without saying. But in mentioning that, my heart is equally as full in that I've met and worked alongside some great people who have become family through the SAL … and in doing that, they've become a part of my life. I've included some of the pictures I took at the parade, more because I marched alongside come great people—veterans, Legionnaires, Sons, and Auxiliary members.

Thank you to the Department and Detachment of NY for allowing us to honor our veterans at the parade—it was the experience of a lifetime.

Our Legionnaires marching down 5th Ave. in NYC.

Rusty Myers (NJ), left, and Bill Clancy (NY), right.

Lots of SAL hats in Manhattan.

NJ's Legion Family at the Veterans Memorial in Madison Square park.

THE MILLENNIUM

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All information must be submitted no later than 12:00 noon the twentieth of each month and must be made electronically by emailing the editor at rusty.myers@ymail.com

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SAL NATIONAL ADJUTANT
Anthony W. Wright (PA)

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Southeast:	John Lawrence (LA)
Central:	Harl "Butch" Ray (IL)
Midwest:	Mike Monserud (IA)
Western:	Dan Ashley (AZ)

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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Scan the QR Code to renew!

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

NEXT MEETING JANUARY 21ST

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

DECEMBER 2024

NEXT TARGET DATE-DECEMBER 11TH-45%

MEMBER BENEFITS

No Cost LegionCare

$1,000 ACCIDENTAL DEATH PROTECTION FOR ALL COVERED ACCIDENTS

LEGIONCARE NO COST TO YOU ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE PROTECTION.

AS A MEMBER OF THE LEGION FAMILY, YOU'RE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO $5,000.00 IN NO COST TO YOU COVERAGE.

BUT YOUR CONFIRMATION IS REQUIRED FOR ACTIVATION. $5,000.00 ACCIDENTAL DEATH PROTECTION MEMBER-ONLY BENEFIT

https://www.thelit.com/no-cost-legioncare/

BUDDY CHECK PROGRAM

A TOOLKIT TO OFFER ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

REACH OUT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. IT'S AS SIMPLE AS A PHONE CALL. WE CONSIDER IT OUR MOST SACRED RESPONSIBILITY TO LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER AND OUR VETERANS. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BUDDY CHECKS, VISIT THE LINK BELOW.

LEGION.ORG/BUDDYCHECK

DON'T LET THE GRINCH STEAL YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

2024 MEMBERSHIP CARDS EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2024

SCAN ME

LEGION.ORG/SAL-RENEW

INDIVIDUAL RECRUITMENT AWARD

MEMBERS CAN EARN THEIR INDIVIDUAL RECRUITMENT AWARD PIN FOR 2025 BY RECRUITING FIVE NEW MEMBERS INTO THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION!

LEGION.ORG/ SONS *(PUBLICATIONS & FORMS)*

The Sons On Social Media: A snap-shot of the SAL around the country

PNVC John Cook (NH) successfully completes NH American Legion College and Suicide Prevention course in Rolinsford.

PA Rep. Kyle Mullins alongside SAL Squadron 328 (Archibald, PA) stopped by to recognize veteran residents and thank them for their service with flag pins, shirts, and certificates at Dunmore Health Care Center.

Coordinated by Habitat for Humanity of Greater LA, Squadron 283 (Palisades, CA) has participated in H4H's Veteran's Home Repair Blitz in Paramount, CA.

The Detachment of New York donating $1,850.00 to the Batavia VA from your annual "They Marched For Us, We Walk for Them" walkathon.

Squadron 105 (Belleville, NJ) presents a $2,200 check alongside the Legion Family to Gail's Angels, a local cancer charity.

The Detachment of NY, as part of their 2024 walkathon donations, wrote a check for $1,850 to Long Island state veterans nursing home at Stony Brook.

Sons of Squadron 284 (Colonial Heights, VA) cooking 90 pork butts as a fundraiser in November

26 members & friends from the Post 810 Family (Philadelphia, PA) volunteer to serve dinner to 275 DEL VAL Vets and their families.

Squadron 318 (Port St. Lucie, Fl) makes a donation to their local Marine Corps League Detachment.

Not one, not two, but THREE new members in less than 10 minutes! Representatives Tip McGuire, Tod Ohnstad, and Ben Desmidt, all stopped in to pay their respects to our Veterans at the Kenosha Post 21 Veterans Day Ceremony. All were eager to join.

Squadron 675 (Oswego, Il) handed out 14 complete holiday meals to provide to families that may be in need over Thanksgiving.

Facebook: Medina NY American Legion

Sons of The American Legion Supports Veterans' Transport Service

Sons of The American Legion Squadron 204 of Medina, NY announces a donation of $1,000.00 to the Orleans County Joint Veterans Council in support of their Veterans Van Service. In presenting the donation, Squadron Commander Scott Carlton said, "The Sons salute the Joint Veterans Council, it's staff and volunteers for providing veterans an indispensable means of access to needed medical care. We're proud to continue funding this program as part of our advocacy for veterans." This is the thirteenth donation Squadron 204 has given, totaling $6,600.00.

Facebook Photo: Pictured left to right : Nik Mroz, Nancy Traxler, and SAL NY 204 Scott Carlton

Iwantthenews.com

Veterans Day events held at local schools

Members of the Sons of the American Legion from Mount Calvary, WI Squadron 454 provided a flag folding demonstration during New Holstein's Veterans Day program in the High School gym.

Iwantthenews.com photo

Legion.org

Boys Nation Staff Application Form available online

Facebook Photo, PNC J.R. Hall: Boys Nation 2024

Current and former Boys State staff interested in serving on staff at American Legion Boys Nation are encouraged to apply.

A fillable, printable application form is available online by clicking here.

The application form is aimed at creating a database of Legionnaires, Sons of The American Legion and other Boys State staff who would be interested in also volunteering to serve on the Boys Nation staff. The application is not aimed at filling specific positions; rather, it's to have information on those who are interested in case there is a staff opening that meets the skills and education of those who apply.

Applications, including those submitted earlier in 2024, will be retained by National Headquarters for consideration for future staff openings.

Applications must include the department adjutant's signature.

Service on the Boys Nation staff requires a minimum 11-day commitment in July for the program, including arrival in Washington, D.C., in advance of the young men selected to represent their states at Boys Nation. The 2025 Boys Nation program is July 18-26, with staff arriving a few days earlier.

LEGIONTOWN USA

Write up your story, and tell the world what you're doing! Submit a release with photos to Legiontown, USA.

ANEC Mike Pook (WI), Staff Contributor "The Millennium"

"Mentoring Moments"

Respect to the American flag. *When a member is entering the room during the meeting, they shall salute the colors and be seated. When leaving the room, the member shall salute the colors before exiting. During the meeting, (when the American flag is properly posted) anyone approaching or passing by or near the flag should render a salute when wearing an authorized Legion cap (e.g., Legion, Auxiliary, SAL only).*

If a person is not wearing an authorized Legion cap, then that person should place their hand over their heart instead. *Note that baseball caps are not an authorized Legion cover.*

***Above Photo Credit: Jeff Thorne Photography, National Convention** 2024*

Randy Timms (WI), Staff Contributor "The Millennium"

Reports!

Reports! What purpose do they serve? Does anyone really read them? How do they make a difference? If a sales report tells you the green widget is selling better than the red one, perhaps you buy more green inventory. If the report says most accidents occur within 25 miles of home, do you move? Of course not. Reports must be understandable to be valuable.

In Wisconsin, as in every state where the Sons of The American Legion are located, we have the dreaded CSR reports. I refer to them as dreaded only because so few squadrons complete and submit their Consolidated Squadron Reports. I can only assume why they don't get completed. One speculation is that a squadron may feel they've not done enough and reporting their activities may look like their sitting on their collective hands. Or is it because no one has taken the requirement seriously and the command staff has not placed proper importance on its completion? Maybe the Post doesn't take their Consolidated Post Report (CPR) seriously and in turn, the squadron lets theirs slide as well?

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION | CONSOLIDATED SQUADRON REPORT

JUNE 1, to MAY 31,

Whatever the reason, I can assure you these reports are important. They are read. And, the resulting data collected makes a HUGE difference in the lives of veterans all across the United States. You may think your squadron hasn't done enough, but I can assure you, every minute and every dollar count. Here's why – using Wisconsin's 2023-2024 recent CSR as an example:

- **Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation** - 6,729 Volunteer Hours provided with $169,481 in donations
- **Americanism** - 17,074 Volunteer Hours provided with $55,567 in donations
- **Children & Youth** – 2,066 Volunteer Hours provided with $19,392 in donations
- **Community Service** – 18,249 Volunteer Hours provided with $35,118 in donations
- **Other contributions** – 28,442 Volunteer Hours provided with $53,119 in donations
- **Grand Totals Volunteer Hours Provided** - 72,560
- **Monetary Donations Given** - $332,677.00

The real reason I share these numbers is this. Wisconsin has 126 squadrons. These numbers were created by just 61 of those 126! Based on the value of volunteer hours, the economic impact of 61 reports, is determined to be $2,764,531. Imagine if that number reflected all 126 squadrons! Extrapolate the numbers (which of course is only an estimate, but) that number would be nearly $6,000,000.00. From one State.

When the National Commander and his/her staff go to Washington DC to explain the importance of funding and how significant our contribution is to this country, these numbers matter.

Completing your CSR once per year may be a daunting task. But, if you collected the same data at every squadron meeting, it's MUCH easier. And, I believe there is another benefit to asking members to report every month. It will become habit. Once members realize how important their contributions are, you'll find them giving you information even before you ask! Another benefit? Dual Members! Tri-Members! Even a few Quad members! Activities by these go into each report.

Consider having a discussion at your next squadron meeting. Showing our results and explaining the potential may encourage more participation. CSR's are here to stay and hopefully their impact will continue to have significant ramifications at a National level.

Squadron's do so much to raise funds for veterans. Car Shows, dances, cook-outs, dinners, rallies, events of all kinds, charity balls, holiday themed parties and more. All that to raise money to give to veterans and veteran causes. How much more we can do by providing National with the information that will persuade Congress to improve veteran funding. It all adds up. So, these reports do have a purpose. These reports are read. And these reports do make a difference.

Links to the Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR) documents

The 2024-2025 reports are now available for download and submission.

The Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR) is perhaps the most critical document a squadron can complete. CSR information is combined with other squadrons in creating a final report used by The American Legion, forwarded to the U.S. Congress, and used to apply and verify awards at National Convention.

Not all squadrons participate in every program; leave those fields blank. **The key is to report on the activities your squadron participated in from June 1st to May 31st.**

https://www.legion.org/getmedia/99193ad8-d81e-4982-b391-993e11c4a6c1/50ia1124-sal-consolidated-squadron-report-fill.pdf

You can also download it via the publications page at https://www.legion.org/about/american-legion-family/sons-of-the-american-legion/publications-and-forms

One change this year is that they should now be sent to cprandcsrforms@legion.org

A free way for up to 25 users to track their hours: **https://www.trackitforward.com/**

Casey Hanson (SD), VCF AdHoc Committee Chairman

VCF

We have all heard of National Commander Navarette's challenge to raise $500,000 for the American Legion's Veterans and Children Foundation. The VCF program is not new to the American Legion family, but the awareness is not great amongst our members as well as other American Legion programs. Not only through Commander Navarette's challenge are we hoping to raise money, but we are hoping to raise the awareness of the VCF program and what it does for our veterans and children.

The American Legion Endowment Fund changed it's name in 2019 to the Veterans and Children Foundation to reflect more on what the program does and who it provides for. Through the VCF, grants provided for Temporary Financial Assistance since 1926 above the amount of $17.9 million for military and qualified veteran families with minor children, who are facing unexpected financial emergencies that threaten the stability of their home. Over 11,000 children have had their homes stabilized by grants from Temporary Financial Assistance. Over $64 billion in VA disability has been secured for veterans since 2020 by American Legion service officers. More than 3,000 trained American Legion service officers provide VA benefits representation and other forms of assistance to some 750,000 veterans, free of charge. These are just a few things the Veterans and Children Foundation do for our veterans and children.

While we would love to get $1 per member for the Sons of The American Legion, we would still fall short of the $500,000 goal. The VCF AdHoc Committee has broken down the National Commander's challenge and proposed that each Detachment try and raise a minimum of $9,100. If each Detachment raised the $9,100 minimum, that alone would put us over the $500,000 goal, but we want to combine the two challenges; $1 per member and $9,100 per Detachment. We have the opportunity to do something this year that has never been done before, and raise this kind of money. As the old saying goes, " If you want something done, call a Son!" We ask that when you send your donations that you mark in the memo "SALVCF" to ensure your Detachment gets the recognition for the work. We are asking all National Vice Commanders to bring awareness to their respective regions and encourage each Detachment within that region to participate and do the best they can.

There will be two awards given out at the National Convention in Tampa, Florida this upcoming year from the VCF AdHoc Committee. The first plaque given will be for the first Detachment that donates the minimum of $9,100 and the second plaque will be awarded to the Detachment that donates the most over the $9,100 minimum. For the best tracking purposes, the VCF Committee is asking that at the end of every month or at the same time of donating the money, you email or notify the committee of the amount so we can keep accurate records along with National. Going back to the start of the VCF year (June 1st), if you or your Detachment has already donated money, please notify someone on the committee so proper records can be kept. Reminder, the VCF donation year runs until May 31st!

The Team 400K polo shirts are still available to anyone wanting to purchase one. You can go to https://www.signdesign1977.club/ to purchase your polo shirt. For every Team 400K polo ordered, $2 of that purchase goes to the Veterans and Children Foundation.

Want to donate to VCF?

https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Give/Donate-Online/Donate-Now?CashProductId=134419

legion.com

National Commander's Three Challenges

""Over the years, the Sons have always lived up to our identity as proud possessors of a priceless heritage. Let's prove ourselves once again."

-SAL National Commander Joseph Navarreté

In a new video, SAL National Commander Joseph Navarreté issues three challenges to the Sons of The American Legion, regarding membership, donations, and participation in the Be the One mission.

"I'm challenging you to make this the year we top 400,000 members in the Sons of The American Legion," Navarreté said. "Our nation's veterans need us now more than ever. Demand for VA healthcare and free assistance from service officers are on the rise."

SAL membership topped 390,000 in the 2023-24 membership year — the second year in a row the SAL set a new membership record.

Navarreté also challenged detachments and squadrons to raise $500,000 for The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF).

"This is what we do in support of those who have sacrificed so much for the freedoms we enjoy," Navarreté said.

"And one more challenge. I am asking as many Sons as possible to take the pledge and become trained to assist in the Be the One mission to prevent veteran suicide. … We need you, Sons, to also Be the One." Columbia University and The American Legion are providing 90-minute training sessions on how to Be the One to save a life. Find a session here.

"Over the years, the Sons have always lived up to our identity as proud possessors of a priceless heritage. Let's prove ourselves once again," Navarreté said.

Bruno Williamson (IL), Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission Chairman

VA & R Report

Greeting my Brother Sons,

Once again, your National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission is hard at work. Over the course of the year, we will talk about what YOUR commission is promoting besides what is on the Consolidated Squadron Report form (CSR).

Two items that I would like to talk about that are VA related: the Holidays and our status at the National Advisory Committee (NAC).

The Holiday season is upon us, and it is an amazing time to be at our Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC's), Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs), & Outpatient Clinics (OPC). Decorations are starting to go up, people are generally friendlier & donations are "ROLLING IN" to the different VSO's. All of this with hopes of spreading a lot of cheer to our in – patients, those in our CLC's, Green homes, And our HBPC's, HUD/VASH, PRRTP, & MICHM programs. Tell me what you are doing this season for our veterans. So, we can put it on our National VA&R face book site. Are you having bingos, decorating trees in the CLC's or Green homes, playing cards or reading to our veterans. Or maybe just visiting the wards just to say hi.? Whatever it is that you are doing, thank you, for all that you do for our Veterans to ensure that they have a joyful Holiday season.

I would also like to ask you to remember those Veterans who have passed away. Wreaths Across America day is December 14th. National Cemeteries across the country will be laying wreaths at our Veterans gravesites on or near that date. There still may be time depending on what region you are in, that you can still donate $17 a wreath to have it laid at a cemetery. But my brothers it is not to late to donate your time. To honor, remember and teach and to help place wreaths at our national cemeteries. I will tell you from having been a participant that it is an experience you will not forget. I will say that it is a wonderful way to involve our young SONS & ALA juniors. So, contact your VA National Cemetery and see if you can help lay wreaths at our past hero's grave sites.

Badges?? We Don't Need No Stinking Badges.

In the past I talked about the National Advisory Committee (NAC) and the SONS position on this federally mandated committee. Over 100 Veteran Service Organizations (VSO's) comprise the NAC & there is a 20-member Executive Board of which the SONS are a part of. The NAC brings forth recommendations to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the betterment of our veterans receiving VA care and our volunteers. At the end of October, we were in Washington DC for the Executive Board meeting. And we heard from the VA's Chief of staff, and had presentations on Rural healthcare, CDCE portal and volunteer on boarding, Government Accountability Office, Veterans Transportation Network and the National Cemetery Administration.

Those of you who are Regularly scheduled (RS) volunteers or a VAVS Representative or Deputy Rep and have a VA P.I.V. (personal identity verification) card or VA I.D. badge may already be going through this process. We will now be required to rebadge every 6 months. If you are an Occasional Volunteer and you do not have an ID Badge, you will not have to go through this process. Please understand this is not coming from VA Central Office (VACO). This is the last thing that they want to do especially since more and more VA's are getting back to normal and we are being allowed to do what we do best and that is caring for our veterans.

USAccess a government agency provides cybersecurity for over 100 federal agencies. (so much for smaller government) USAccess has implemented a "Zero Trust" model, meaning they assume no one or nothing on their network can be trusted by default, requiring strict authentication and authorization for every access attempt to data and systems, following the principle of "never trust, always verify." This not only pertains to volunteers but also contractors. Is this going to be a pain? Why yes, it is. But there is some relief, you can opt for a 5-year badge. Instead of going through the normal background check, you can go through a tier 1 background check and receive the 5-year badge. I along with my deputy rep both have 5-year badges. If you drive 50 miles one way to the VA like I do. Having to rebadge every 6 months is going to be a hardship, especially if the PIV equipment is down. (that never happens at VA) If there is a federal agency closer to you that is using USAccess, you could rebadge there. Here are a few examples besides the VA, FCC, HUD, FTC, GAO, Dept of Agriculture, Dept of Commerce, Dept of Energy, DHHS, EPA, USPS, SEC & SBA. You will have to go through your Chief of CDCE to find an agency that's closer and to make them aware that you will be rebadging at their facility.

On behalf of your National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation commission we wish all a happy Holiday season. And we thank you for all that you do for our Veterans and Active-duty service women and men.

legion.com

CWF Banner Application Available

To qualify for the banner, an American Legion post, Riders chapter, unit, squadron or salon must donate at least $1 per member.

American Legion posts, Legion Riders chapters, Auxiliary units, Sons of The American Legion squadrons and Eight & Forty salons are eligible for the American Legion Child Well-being Foundation (CWF) 100% per capita banner for the 2024-2025 membership year.

To qualify for the banner, a post, unit, squadron or salon must donate at least $1 per member based upon respective official membership total for the 2024-2025 year.

Download the fillable PDF Child Well-being Foundation Banner Program Request Form under Youth & Family Support. You have from now until May 31, 2025, to submit the form.

The Child Well-Being Foundation provides grants to nonprofits that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth through programs, research and resources. Thanks to the generosity of Legion Family and community members, the foundation has awarded over $21 million in grants since 1954 — giving youth-serving nonprofits across this nation the means to promote and operate their programs, plus educate families and communities about the needs of children.

Legion.org

American Legion sponsors the Army-Navy Game

The American Legion has an official partnership with the Army-Navy Football Game presented by USAA, which will be played for the 125th time on December 14, 2024. The American Legion becomes the first veterans service organization to sponsor "America's Game" in its history. The sponsorship also allows The American Legion to raise awareness about Be the One – our primary mission to reduce the number of veterans and service members lost to suicide.

"Our sponsorship is more than just slapping The American Legion name on promotional materials", says American Legion National Commander James LaCoursiere Jr. "It allows us to reach a broader audience and demonstrate our value to military members past and present, their families, and the communities in which they live."

LaCoursiere continues, "We'll be able to showcase how we are changing lives and saving lives through Be the One. We will highlight the incredible work of our accredited service officers who recently secured a record $21 billion in claims benefits for disabled veterans in a fiscal year. And so much more.

Learn more about the sponsorship and how to host a watch party at Army-Navy Game.

AMERICAN LEGION | ARMY NAVY AMERICA'S GAME

OFFICIAL VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA'S GAME

https://betheonecoffee.com/

Important Web Links

The National Public & Media Communications Committee has created this Important Web Links document for our members, as well as for all members of the American Legion Family, to use to get to some of our most important websites.

SAL National Web Site
https://www.legion.org/sons

Publications and Forms (SDR, Handbook, Awards and much more)
https://www.legion.org/about/american-legion-family/sons-of-the-american-legion/publications-and-forms

Subscribe to Newsletters (requires signing into MyLegion.org)
https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/My-Account/Opt-In-Out

Newsletter Digital Archives
https://www.legion.org/library/258352/50-years-sons-american-legion-newsletters-now-available

Be The One
https://www.legion.org/betheone

Voter Voice
https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home

Membership Reports
https://www.legion.org/about/american-legion-family/sons-of-the-american-legion/membership-reports

Future Meetings
https://www.legion.org/about/american-legion-family/sons-of-the-american-legion/sons-of-the-american-legion-meetings

Scan the QR Code and Renew Your Membership Today!

Sons of The American Legion 2024-25 Business Meeting Schedule

The national organization is announcing its 2024 – 2025 Zoom Business Meeting schedule. To attend on the appropriate date, please click the link on the meeting you would like to attend. **The number for all meetings is (877) 853-5257**. These meetings are open to all members to listen in and find out more about the organization, learn about how national programs are going, and get ideas that may work at home.

National Vice Commanders	**Northeast:** Every three months on the third Wednesday—8pm Eastern https://legion.zoom.us/j/94272867656?pwd=OJ7el4ypuNsybjB1aYAv7ehC4CPbQV.1 **ID:** 942 7286 7656 **Passcode:** 63285 **Dates:** 12/15, 3/16, 7/16 **Southeast:** Every three months on the second Tuesday—7pm Central https://legion.zoom.us/j/92556286671?pwd=yqJMwP5Vzm7tb3lPstFyhzITW8cmJR.1 **ID:** 925 5628 6671 **Passcode:** 880631 **Dates:** 12/10, 3/11, 6/10 **Central:** Every three months on the second Wednesday—7pm Eastern https://legion.zoom.us/j/96119601961?pwd=6F5Tfj0aaLb5SgcwO3O0PXFnIlfuCl.1 **ID:** 961 1960 1961 **Passcode:** 835473 **Dates:** 12/11, 3/12, 6/11 **Midwest:** Every month on the second Monday—7:30pm Eastern https://legion.zoom.us/j/95726783502?pwd=674Lmr0Iv12ErcAqMjDXYrIyh7Nfin.1 **ID:** 957 2678 3502 **Passcode:** 783478 **Dates:** 12/9, 1/13, 2/10, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12, 6/9, 7/14 **Western:** Every two months on the second Thursday—5pm Pacific https://legion.zoom.us/j/95771183663?pwd=adEQwbbd4DbyW5Dbe3cEXbMsG7OFoX.1 **ID:** 957 7118 3663 **Passcode:** 077931 **Dates:** 1/9, 3/13, 5/8, 7/10
Americanism Commission	**Every two months on the third Monday—7pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/93568284423?pwd=53GphC5OpsrbsuCPxWLa4uMGfN4yMk.1 **ID:** 935 6828 4423 **Passcode:** 622833 Dates: 1/20, 3/17, 5/19, 7/21
Finance Commission	**Every two months on the fourth Thursday—8pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/98555781767?pwd=KAMuksXh7UnbuGSqucfYZTfXmGTa04.1 **ID:** 985 5578 1767 **Passcode:** 457816 **Dates:** 12/26, 2/27, 3/24, 6/26
Internal Affairs Commission	**Every two months on the fourth Thursday—8PM Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/94399794592?pwd=GWb2RNL2Pcjt7yxKSihSB2KyyXGlWt.1 **ID:** 943 9979 4592 **Passcode:** 594450 **Dates:** 1/23, 3/27, 5/22, 7/24
Legislative Commission	**Every two months on the third Thursday—8pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/93961876492?pwd=mSI3pyreEOtQ0rcBurcoxTv8hbUjII.1 **ID:** 939 6187 6492 **Passcode:** 716763 **Dates:** 12/19, 2/20, 4/17, 6/19
Public Media & Communication Commission (PMCC)	**Every two months on the fourth Tuesday—7pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/91784837201?pwd=Cmjw4CQSwIxh0cJDUY7qEub5n1GHk8.1 **ID:** 917 8483 7201 **Passcode:** 874449 **Dates:** 1/28, 3/25, 5/27, 7/22
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission (VA & R)	**Every two months on the second Monday—8pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/97080924246?pwd=hApeNXMnlkzH5ih87Joy5n3l3D8RwZ.1 **ID:** 970 8092 4246 **Passcode:** 158026 **Dates:** 12/9, 2/10, 4/14, 6/9
Veterans Education & Employment Commission (VE & E)	**Every two months on the first Monday—8pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/92954021720?pwd=995eLGEJhlqghg8LiofM7ex9k7csjY.1 **ID:** 929 5402 1720 **Passcode:** 033644 **Dates:** 1/6, 3/3, 5/5, 7/7
Children & Youth Committee (C&Y)	**Every two months on the second Monday—7pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/94848560792?pwd=Xi3pFHttPBC6nqjUjeLZiyRWxq5i26.1 **ID:** 948 4856 0792 **Passcode:** 548272 **Dates:** 1/13, 3/10, 5/12, 7/14
Child Well Being Committee (CWF)	**Every one month on the third Thursday—7pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/91697949283?pwd=Qjc7bMf8SvWgbfyqDz9qHmVAJPZWMq.1 **ID:** 916 9794 9283 **Passcode:** 263389 **Dates:** 12/19, 1/16, 2/20, 3/20, 4/17, 5/15, 6/19, 7/17
Convention & Meetings Committee	**Every two months on the second Tuesday—7:30pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/93550505342?pwd=Z7M2rIvzgQP5lIRuPSZGo26gUMkYPs.1 **ID:** 935 5050 5342 **Passcode:** 818082 **Dates:** 1/14, 3/11, 5/13, 7/8
Membership & Squadron Activities Committee (M&SA)	**Every two months on the third Tuesday—8pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/94891221724?pwd=choq9YkwJ1jHm7YoJYcdFMryvYhdA2.1 **ID:** 948 9122 1724 **Passcode:** 748170 **Dates:** 1/21, 3/18, 5/20, 7/15
Member Training & Development Committee (MT&D)	**Every month on the first Monday—8pm Eastern** https://legion.zoom.us/j/91247106660?pwd=GKjkTPbKL63yTPQeQ7aU93hBEHWJq6.1 **ID:** 912 4710 6660 **Passcode:** 112219 **Dates:** 1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/7, 5/5, 6/2, 7/7, 8/4

https://www.legion.org/about/american-legion-family/sons-of-the-american-legion

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To:

This Month In SAL History—*Articles taken from "SALutations" December 1971 and 1972, noting the formation and early development of the SAL National Organization.*
Submitted by 2024-25 SAL National Historian Bill Towns

DECEMBER 1971 Vol. 5 No. 4 Editor . . . Verne Wm. Coolman

RESOLUTION 28, titled "SAL Constitution & By-Laws Revised to Provide Framework For a National Organization", will be considered as a special order of business at the May 1972 meeting of The American Legion's National Executive Committee in Indianapolis, Indiana. Emanating from the Legion's Internal Affairs Commission, Resolution 28 deals with a National Constitution and National By-Laws for the Sons of The American Legion. It has already been distributed to each National Executive Committeeman of The American Legion for his study.

December 1972 Vol. 6 No. 4 Editor . . . Verne Wm. Coolman

NATIONAL SAL COMMANDER ROBERT H. FAUST of California recently sent the following letter to all the Department Commanders, Department Adjutants and National Executive Committeemen of The American Legion:

The American Legion's principles and goals should be the basis of every family unit. Total family participation has always been an American Legion ideal. What better way to teach Americanism, patriotism, Legionism and respect of our national ideals and principles than through the Sons of The American Legion? Your Department can develop our program of transferring to posterity your principles. We are a mirror of our parent organization with service to God and Country.

This is the first year for the SAL as a National Organization. We are building your programs and you can help expand ours. We need an SAL organization in each state, and with American Legion supervision and support, we will achieve this goal.

Now we have a question. Will you help and support a youth organization composed of your children and dedicated to your principles? If yes, we need your help. Please check with your Department office and see that a hard-working Legionnaire is appointed to coordinate the program. Please persuade Posts to start local Squadrons. Please see that our program is made familiar to your state. Thank you for your kind attention.

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