SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

A newsletter of Sons of The American Legion

THE MILLENNIUM

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The Sons of The American Legion has exceeded its all-time high of 397,243 members. Congratulations, and keep those renewals coming!

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Joseph Navarette (NM), National Commander

USA 250 Challenge: "Show our commitment to our nation and its veterans"

Greetings, Sons of The American Legion!

Have you heard about The American Legion's USA 250 Challenge? American Legion National Commander James LaCoursiere kicked off the event last month. It's a year-long celebration, leading to our great nation's 250th birthday next July.

This is a great opportunity for the SAL to step forward and show our commitment to our nation and its veterans — especially at the squadron level, the heart and soul of the SAL.

The USA 250 Challenge is modeled after The American Legion's 100 Miles for Hope, but broadens it beyond just physical fitness. In the challenge, participants can choose to complete one or more of the three categories — physical activities, mental wellness, and/or community service.

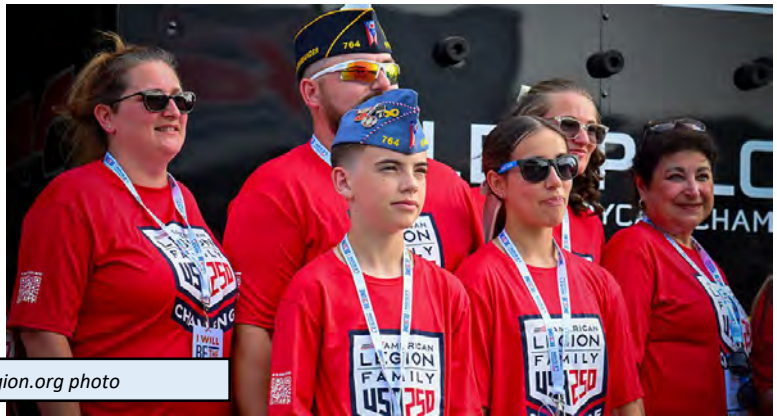
And because participants can complete the challenge categories as part of a team, it's a perfect way for squadrons to join the USA 250 Challenge with each member getting credit.

Squadrons could place 250 flags at a veterans' cemetery; log 250 hours of community service at a VA medical center; teach flag etiquette to 250 students; and more.

I am encouraging all SAL squadrons and members to go to The American Legion USA 250 Challenge page to learn more and to register. It's just $30 to register; when you do, you'll receive a branded T-shirt to promote the challenge. Make sure you select the SAL blue shirt.

Proceeds from registration will also support the Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF).

Sons, let's celebrate America and take on the USA 250 Challenge with all our might. We are #SALStrong. **Find out more and register for USA 250 here.**



Legion.org photo

Mike Monserud (IA), National Vice Commander Midwest

Bringing Home The Fallen

NC 2-94 adopted at the 23rd National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion, calls for designating a POW/MIA Empty Chair at all official meetings of the Sons of The American Legion, as a physical symbol of the thousands of American POW/MIAs still unaccounted for from all wars and conflicts involving the United States of America. This is a reminder for all of us to spare no effort to secure the release of any American prisoners from captivity, the repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely in defense of liberty, and a full accounting of those missing. Let us rededicate ourselves to this vital endeavor.

American Legion Flag and Emblem Photo

This is a phrase we have all read and said hundreds of times, but it is something that resonates differently when you see those words in action. Do you understand really what those words mean to the families of the ones who have not returned from war, the ones who are actively working to identify the remains and the ones who are still searching for our lost heroes overseas?

> ***"Remind our communities of who we are, get out to the public and show them that you will support them as they have supported you."***
>
> ***-NVC Monserud***

It never really hit me until I was on a flight to Oklahoma for their Detachment Convention. It was a perfect storm of events that led me to this. My flight coming out of Iowa was delayed due to weather conditions, and therefore I was put on a later connecting flight out of Dallas to Oklahoma City. As we finally started boarding, I noticed a Marine sitting up front in her dress uniform. I gave her a nod and went to my seat. As we are about to leave, the captain comes on and states that today we have an escort on board … this Marine was escorting a vet home to be laid to rest in his native Oklahoma.

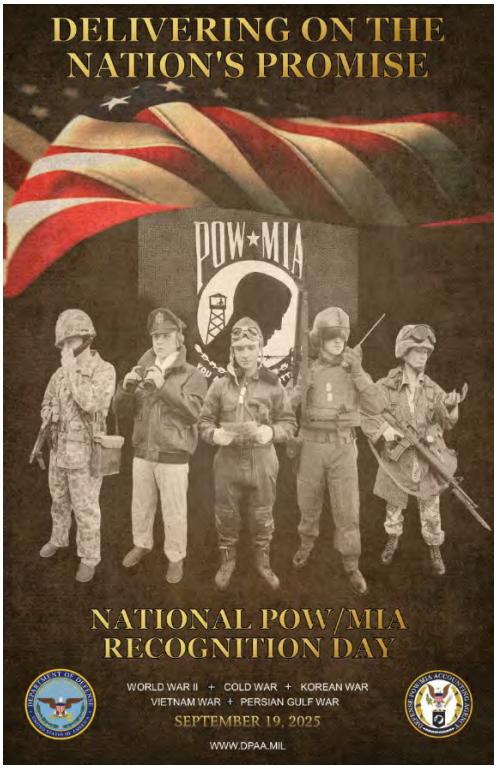
The fallen Marine is Private Richard Gordon Wright from Edmond, Oklahoma. Pvt. Wright was killed in action on November 20, 1943 on Tarawa. This was my topic as I addressed the Oklahoma American Legion family. After the ceremonies concluded a member from the Edmond, Oklahoma American Legion Post came up to me and stated with tears his in eyes that his Post has an honor detail that will stand guard at his casket 24 hours a day until he is laid to rest on July 18th at 2pm in Memorial Park Cemetery in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. To witness the whole experience was humbling, sad, and proud all at the same time. The post member also stated the family had come to them to ask how they could begin the process of searching for Pvt. Wright years ago. The American Legion paid the expenses and assisted the family with the whole process.

DPAA Photo: Private Richard Wright, USMC (KIA)

This is mission that all members of the American Legion Family can support. We can all provide an honor detail, funeral detail, assist with the finding of the remains, and our American Legion Riders can escort our veteran home to their final resting place. This is a process that the whole American Legion can take part in. Remind our communities of who we are, get out to the public and show them that you will support them as they have supported you. This is our purpose, our mission, and what we stand for … so be the advocate for our veterans and help bring them home to their families.

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) are the ones who are helping to locate and identify our lost veterans. I encourage you to reach out to them and see what your American Legion Post can do to assist in bringing home the fallen. Thank you to those who help in identifying our heroes, have the honor of escorting these fallen heroes home, serve giving military rites to our fallen veterans, and to those who continue daily to sign the blank check up to and including their life for our great nation.

Watch the DPAA Video by clicking above



Top Ten 2025 Detachments Membership Percentage

1.	Oklahoma	116.42%
2.	South Dakota	114.51%
3.	Latin America	112.50%
4.	South Carolina	108.80%
5.	Mississippi	105.94%
6.	Florida	105.63%
7.	Rhode Island	105.09%
8.	New Hampshire	104.21%
9.	Idaho	104.17%
10.	Virginia	103.91%

Statistics as of 31 July 2025

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

"The Dirty Dozen"

I've written about this before … about how being a student at the pilot-program SAL-U in 2024 in Indianapolis has been one of the best experiences I've had in the SAL.

I got a lot out of it ...and was taught by some very knowledgeable presenters alongside students from across the country. When they acknowledged us at the following NEC session, they read each of our twelve names, introducing us as "The Dirty Dozen."

Facebook: Limanek, left, and Skelley, right.

Though we aren't anywhere as cool as Lee Marvin, Charles Bronson, Telly Savalas, Jim Brown, or Clint Walker (actors from the movie "The Dirty Dozen", just in case you haven't seen it), that SAL-U class was filled with people who are on their way to becoming movers and shakers in the organization.

The class was designed as a mechanism to teach at the national level individuals who can take that training back to their home detachments. Not unlike The National American Legion College, the two-day class was geared towards building up a crop of future leaders within the Sons.

A by-product, I would assume by design, was to get those students to network with other members from across the nation, building relationships which would be key as those Sons did more in their squadrons, districts, and detachments. To me, that was one of the most valuable take-aways from SAL-U—the people. I've met some great friends and made some great contacts, who were in no small way instrumental in how this newsletter developed when I took over as editor.

It is as our Leading Candidate Bill Clancy (NY) has said … this is about having *"fun with purpose."*

Fast forward to the Spring and Summer of 2025, some of those SAL-U students have been elected to high office at their home detachments, as well as moving into key positions at National. Two of those SAL-U Alumni are Joe Guidice, elected as the new Detachment Commander of New York, and Jesse Limanek, elected as the Detachment Commander of Massachusetts.

Congratulations to them both, as they are both very deserving of this high honor their Detachments have placed upon them.

The way I found out was by reading about it on Facebook ... and what I think is the neatest element about their election is that they both, along with Trailing Candidate for National Commander Thom Skelley (TX), also a 2024 SAL-U Grad, attended each others conventions. As Commander Limanek wrote, "We had a reunion of sorts that included one quarter of the "dirty dozen" from SAL-U."

These three guys, who had met through training at the national level, traveled to attend these other conventions and support the installation of their classmates …. A true testament to the value of getting outside your squadron and meeting new people.

Commander Guidice noted when asked for comment that "Thom, Jesse and I met by chance in what turned out to be a one-off class and new, great friendships were formed. How great is that!"

In wrapping up, I can write all of this in no better way then how these three Sons explained it themselves. I'll include their emails here, making our point that as Sons, **get out there and take advantage of everything that happens outside the four walls of your post**—go to detachment training, attend other squadron's events, attend an NEC or National Convention, go to a county, district, or DEC meeting—and meet other SAL's. You could make some life-long friendships in the process, all the while doing good things for our vets, or kids, and our communities.

Facebook: Limanek, left, and Guidice, right.

Trailing Candidate for National Commander Thom Skelley (TX): *"Proud possessors of a priceless heritage is not just the opening to our preamble, it is the tie that binds us. As members of the Sons of The American Legion, we share that common bond. We come from different ethnic backgrounds, have various degrees of education and economic history; but we are brothers. The friendships developed within our ranks are built for a lifetime. We share in each other's triumphs, celebrate our achievements and, in some cases, mourn together in the wake of tragedy. We are there for each other in good times and bad. Imagine taking a group of strangers, putting them together in a Commander's class, three years of NMI training or a weekend of SAL-U and coming out with relationships that will last forever. Yes, we are brothers and we are stronger together. "*

Detachment Commander Joe Guidice (NY): *"...I attended the MA convention to see Jesse installed and he and Thom both were in NY with me. I think that these friendships that we make certainly strengthen our organization. Sometimes the work that we do that keeps us so busy can lead you to forget that we have brothers and counterparts all over the country that share in the same goals and ideals. Thom, Jesse and I met by chance in what turned out to be a one-off class and new, great friendships were formed. How great is that!"*

Detachment Commander Jesse Limanek (MA): *"This was my first visit to another detachment's convention. It was a real honor to be there to support my friend, Joe Guidice, during his installation. As an added bonus, I was able to see my other friend, Trailing Candidate for National Commander, Thom Skelly once again. It was truly a wonderful experience. As members, we tend to focus on the activities of our local Posts or within our own detachments. However, we need to remember that we are members of a national organization which brings together nearly 400,000 individuals all committed to the same goal - supporting veterans. I would urge any member who is able to visit their neighboring detachments to do so. I went to New York to support one friend and see another, but I left having gained dozens of new brothers"*

Randy Timms (WI), Assistant Editor of "*The Millennium*"

Standards and Structure

Since September 15, 1932, when the Sons of The American Legion was officially established, we have been creating the standards by which we operate. These have meaning and serve to weave a commonality into every squadron.

When a meeting is opened, providing a consistent procedure will aid in the education of newer members and a heightened level of comfort and satisfaction to seasoned members.

Saluting the American Flag is essential as we recognize her place in our hearts, minds, and meetings. It is the outward gesture that shows our respect, unity and patriotism.

Prayer follows, and should create a solemn attitude and calming place in our hearts for the dedication and business we are about to conduct.

Although a moment of silence is not always done, I like that time to remember my grandfather's Army service in WWI, and thank him for allowing me to serve in this great organization.

Recognizing the POW/MIA flag with the chair ceremony is always fitting. We must never give up our drive, nor our hope that all will be returned and accounted for.

The Blue Star Banner is acknowledged as a symbol of honor and support and respect for the families that have loved ones in service in the US Military.

Then, we recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Although Union Army officer Captain George Thatcher Balch wrote those words in 1885, it only was officially adopted by Congress in 1942. It is important and must never be overlooked.

And lastly, we recite the Preamble to Constitution of The Sons of the American Legion ...a clear and consistent reminder to every member in every squadron in every state of what we hold dear and why we have come together.

When we skip over any of these elements, we're short-changing our members and, I would argue, we're short-changing ourselves because we've missed an opportunity to focus on 'why'.

Why we joined. Why we're here – at this meeting. Why we're contributing. What is your 'why'?

For a new(er) member, this creates the consistency he'll need to fully grasp all the "why's". In everything you've learned, in most every aspect of life, consistency has helped you learn the subject at hand and embedded in you the process for learning. A new member already understands what qualified him to join the SAL. He already understands we were created to help and support veterans and veteran initiatives. But he'll know little else our of history and must learn that from your meetings. Now imagine if you've neglected some of the above ceremonial topics, where is he to learn it? Add to that, the manner in which we do things, and it becomes confusing and potentially harmful.

"However, we must also consider what our squadron rituals are – or what they've become – and how they are seen by new members."

Take standing up during a meeting, for example. We should be offering a salute to the flag. Many don't do this. When we re-enter the room, we should salute. Many don't. When we approach the head table, I often see members simply hand an officer a document or lay an item on the table. Yet, the American Flag and SAL Flag are on opposite ends of that table and should be respected. It is considered sacred ground between the flags, and should never be broken. Yet it's ignored. If you must provide a document, you should stand, salute, walk around the flag, deliver your document, walk around the flag again and go to your seat, then salute the flag before sitting.

Placing the POW/MIA flag is another area where many misunderstandings exists. The bearer of that flag approaches the empty chair, salutes the American Flag, places the POW/MIA flag on the chair, then slow-hand salutes the POW/MIA flag, turns, salutes the American Flag again and returns to their seat. In the perfect setting, the bearer placing this flag, should be wearing white ceremonial gloves.

In just these two examples, one can plainly see a new member will never learn proper protocol if the squadron leadership doesn't repeat these at every meeting.

In the hope of encouraging members to consider advancement, a concise description of leadership office duties should be made available to all. This will help a member formulate his thoughts whether he sees himself advancing through the ranks. My personal opinion is squadron leadership should make it clear that they stand ready to discuss advancement with anyone interested. By clearly showing the duties of every position and by inviting questions like this, much of the mystery will vanish and men will begin to realize they too can enjoy a position in leadership.

When a member has "grown-up" in a squadron which has focused on these things, they will be better prepared to accept greater responsibility. Elevating to district will make this member an asset to all the squadrons in his area, and helps in turn to educate others.

I can assure you, the men sitting at the detachment level were not born with this knowledge. It's been gained over the course of years and is sound practice, through consistent, meaningful meetings effectively mentored at all levels.

It all starts at the squadron. You may have a future National Commander for The Sons of the American Legion in your squadron ... but without sound practice, that leader might never have realized what could have been. Please don't short-change him.

A Leadership Succession Plan

The objective for creating a plan for succession should examine the skills, traits, interests and talents of the people involved in the organization.

Therefore, the end-game should be the identification and development of people most/best inclined to move-up to the next position.

This should include all layers of talent, beginning with squadron personnel moving into district positions, then district personnel moving into detachment positions ...and ultimately, moving from detachment to national.

The Newshound

A special section dedicated to the Young Sons of The American Legion

Colby Thomas (NC), Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms

Shaping the future of the SAL

My name is Colby Thomas, and I'm 16 years old. I currently serve as the Sergeant-at-Arms for SAL Squadron 116 in North Carolina, as well as for The Sons of the American Legion at the detachment level. I've written this piece to highlight how the American Legion and its members have helped me grow as a younger member.

Growing up, I never really fit in with most people my age. I often found them immature, and it was hard to find others who thought like I did. I didn't have many friends and spent most of my free time playing video games after school. One night, I got home, turned on my console like usual, and my mom came upstairs and said, "Son, get up—you're coming to a fish fry." I had no idea what that meant or what I was getting into.

After going about six times, something changed. I began to really enjoy the company of the members at Post 116. I started attending other events the post held, and not long after, I became an official Sons of the American Legion member. About a year later, I was honored to be appointed Sergeant-at-Arms for our squadron.

At first, I didn't fully understand the value of volunteering—I just enjoyed being there. Then one day, a friend around my age asked, "Colby, what do you actually get out of volunteering at your Legion post?" I didn't have an answer right away. But after thinking about it, I came back and told him:

"I've never received anything material—but I've gained something much more valuable than any material position. The advice I hear from the members at the post is a lifetime's worth of lessons, shared in just a few minutes. I've learned how to respect people and how to be respected. I've learned what it means to carry yourself with honor, courage, integrity, humility, and purpose."

Submitted Photo: Post 116 2025 Memorial Day Service; Colby Thomas far left.

Colby, 16 years old, joined in 2022 as a member of Squadron 116 in Fuquay-Varina, NC, and is eligible for membership through his mother's US Navy service

Just being around the members of my post has helped me in more ways than I can count. The most important is that, through their advice and guidance—both from Post 116 and members of the wider American Legion—I've been able to shape a career path for myself. I now have a plan for my future. I've connected with business owners who have taken time to share their experiences with me. I've learned practical skills in the trades by working alongside fellow Sons members. I've gained knowledge not only in service but in real-world work—things I couldn't have learned in a classroom or from a screen.

The American Legion has helped shape me into the young man I'm becoming. It gave me direction, responsibility, and a sense of belonging. I'm proud to serve alongside men and women who've served our country—and I'm even more proud to carry forward the values that members of the American Legion live by every day.

Submitted Photo, left: Members of Post and Squadron 116 at the 2025 Detachment of North Carolia Convention; Colby Thomas second to left

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

"Mentoring Moments"

Mike Pook Photo

What is the significance of this Blue Jacket with the SAL logo?

This Blue Jacket is awarded and given to Sons of The American Legion members who recruit 30 or more "new" members into the organization within one membership year—called The Blue Brigade Award.

First-time recipients can choose between a lightweight soft shell jacket or a three-season fleece jacket. Both jackets are custom made and embroidered with the recipient's name and membership year.

The Savanah Tribune—*09 July 2025*

Georgia: Squadron 500 Award $500 Scholarships

On Sunday, June 22, 2025, at 4:00 PM, the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 500 of William P. Jordan American Legion Post 500 proudly awarded its Legacy Scholarships during a ceremony held at the H.R. Delaney Social Hall of St. Paul CME Church. The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 500 Legacy Scholarship is a prestigious award recognizing exceptional high school seniors who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, and a commitment to community service. Rooted in honoring military and first responder legacies, the scholarship supports students who embody resilience, integrity, and a drive to make a meaningful impact. In 2025, the scholarship committee proudly selected two outstanding recipients whose achievements and aspirations reflect the highest ideals of this honor.

Savanah Tribune Photo: Left to Right—Brian and Arlethia Hall, parents of scholarship recipient Naimah Hall; scholarship recipients Naimah Hall and Allyson McCray; and Allyson's mother, Megan McCray | Back row (L-R): 2nd Vice Commander Mario Smith, Squadron Commander Larry O. Jackson, Post 500 Legionnaire Larry Philpot, and 1st Vice Commander Alfred Jackson

Allyson Achacia Mc - Cray and Naimah Lacey Hall. Both recipients have demonstrated not only scholastic achievement but also a profound dedication to uplifting their communities and honoring the service of their family members. Allyson McCray, daughter of Megan McCray and Anthony Steele, is a graduate of Savannah Country Day School and will attend Savannah State University to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice. Her leadership in athletics and student organizations, along with a powerful personal essay on identity and resilience, distinguished her as a standout candidate. Naimah Hall, daughter of Arlethia E. Brown-Hall and Brian L. Hall, is a graduate of Woodville-Tompkins Technical and Career High School and will continue her education at Savannah Technical College in Nursing. With a 3.75 GPA, multiple certifications, and leadership roles in organizations like Top Teens of America and the Student Senate, Naimah embodies the spirit of service and determination. Both young women carry forward the values instilled by their families and represent the future of compassionate, community minded leadership.

The Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Squadron 500 in Savannah, GA operates under William P. Jordan American Legion Post 500, named after Second Lieutenant William P. Jordan. American Legion Post 500 was chartered in 1946 as Georgia's first African American Legion post. It remains deeply rooted in Savannah's community as a hub for veteran support, scholarships, aid to veterans in need, and local civic programs. As part of the larger American Legion "family"—which includes the Legionnaires, the Auxiliary, and the American Legion Riders— the Sons of the American Legion (SAL) share in the national mission while tailoring their efforts to meet the needs of the Savannah community. At Post 500, Squadron 500 plays a vital role by volunteering at local VA centers, fundraising for veterans' services, sponsoring scholarships and youth programs, and supporting Post events such as holiday tailgates, community meals, and academic initiatives. They also take part in flag ceremonies, color guards, and civic activities. With Post 500 returning 100% of its fundraising proceeds to community services, the contributions of Squadron 500 are essential to fulfilling that mission.

Important Links

SAL National Web Site
https://www.legion.org/sons
Publications and Forms
https://www.legion.org/sons/publications
Millennium Newsletters
https://www.old.legion.org/sons/newsletters
Round-Up Newsletters
https://sites.google.com/view/teamvrabel/round-up-newsletter
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/sons/membership-reports
SAL Resolutions
https://www.legion.org/sons/resolutions
Future Meetings
https://www.legion.org/sons/events
Emblem Sales Digital Catalog
https://emblem.legion.org/catalog-sal.asp
SAL Recruitment Video
https://vimeo.com/914940546

Hanky Q. Hazelton of News Channel Nebraska—*30 June 2025*

Nebraska: SAL Commemorates 80th anniversary of VE-Day

Eighty years after the guns fell silent in Europe, marking the end of World War II hostilities, the Sons of The American Legion gathered last Saturday, June 29th, to honor the heroes and the iconic vessel that carried them to victory on VE-Day. The ceremony paid tribute to the brave men and women who served and the pivotal role of the Higgins boat in achieving that victory.

"This boat placed so much significance with World War Two and victory in Europe," said Sons of The American Legion's national chairman, Chris Casey. "In fact, Eisenhower was quoted as saying that they may not have won the war without the Higgins boat."

Before the Higgins boat, the military relied on glider vessels made of cardboard and plywood, which proved inadequate. "They would pull the gliders behind a plane and just cut it loose and it would glide in," explained Sons of The American Legion National Vice Commander Mike Monserud. "The injury rate was very high and caused a lot of deaths. And it just wasn't feasible to get shot down."

The innovative design of the Higgins boat, developed by Andrew Higgins, originally from Columbus, Nebraska, revolutionized amphibious warfare. "The Higgins boat had machine guns, steel gates, and steel siding, these were to repel small arms fire like the machine guns on the boat," Monserud noted. "These boats would safely get the troops to the beach. Then they would drop the ramp once they got close enough to the beach and the troops would storm out."

"Basically they would overwhelm the enemy with the large quantity of people that they were dumping in because they would come up to the beach, drop off, head back out to the ships, load up another crew, and even the best enemy defenses couldn't keep up with thousands and thousands of troops landing to fight against them." Larger versions of the Higgins boat transported tanks, trucks, and ammunition, crucial for resupplying troops.

Monserud emphasized the importance of remembering the past, including the evils of fascism and racism, to prevent their recurrence. "Go down to your American Legion post, go see a VFW post, go down and see a veteran," he urged. "Ask him to tell you the stories of what it was like when they served. What happened over there so you can understand and carry that on to your children one day."

All recent photos courtesy of James Keyes, Detachment of NE

Chris Casey / Detachment of Nebraska

Department of Defense Photo: Soldiers approaching Omaha Beach aboard a Higgins Boat on D-Day in 1944.

Harl "Butch" Ray (IL), National Vice Commander Central

We are SO Close!

"Outstanding people have one thing in common; an absolute sense of Mission!" - *American motivational speaker Zig Ziglar*

We, the Sons of The American Legion, do many things very well. We recruit new members and we work the programs and the mission of The American Legion Family.

Here we are at a new All Time High in membership, climbing ever higher to further our assistance to our veterans. Now is not the time to rest because we have reached that new level, but to press on and continue to renew our past members, and yes, recruit new members for the work that lies ahead.

Since 1932 the Sons of The American Legion were given a mission, as purpose … a common purpose designed to strengthen The American Legion Family's Four Pillars. Supporting veterans, defending our country, promoting Americanism, preserving the memories of our ancestors' past military service, caring for our youth and their families, and passing along the values of good citizenship and community service!

"With common purpose comes a mission, and we use our mission for far greater objectives; for human lives and to teach and save our future generations!" *(paraphrased) - Author Santosh Kalwar*

Together we form a family that focuses on upholding these American values and traditions. This is why our membership is so vital and why we need to continue to renew old members and get new members.

Let us all continue to set new records not only for the Central Region, but for all!

"When you discover your mission, you will feel its demand. It will fill you with enthusiasm and a burning desire to GET TO WORK ON IT!" *- American Businessman W. Clement Stone*

Let's finish SAL Strong, and honor the mission we were established for!

Bill Clancy (NY), Leading Candidate for National Commander

On The Visitation Road, Fun with Purpose

My Sunday routine, since my sons learned to chew food, has included A big BACON filled breakfast! Likely a routine many Dads share!

This year, however, I have a new routine ... I visit the Statue of Liberty almost every Sunday.

I catch her from about 11,000 feet as I glide over Manhattan to land in my home, New York City, after I complete yet another AMAZING, SAL detachment visitation, another weekend of ***FUN with Purpose!!***

Less than 60 days to Tampa … and seeing 'Lady Liberty' every time I fly home keeps me focused on the work ahead and the big shoes I have to fill—those many great men who have led the Sons of The American Legion before me.

Community, state, and nation are on my mind as I think about cheerleading nearly 400,000 members to live their obligation ...helping every American Legion Post to thrive in every way possible, and bring Every one of Americas 15.8 million veterans into the American Legion Family.

Its in spreading the word to all Americans about veterans' suicide, and how to prevent it. Challenging every American to "Be The One" to save a life or improve a life

Its celebrating America's 250th birthday, challenging every citizen to engage in service, and particularly engage America's youth to get off their phones and get involved in action-oriented service ... to have tons of fun with purpose, and make their generation the best America has ever had!

It's a big year ahead! I look forward to all of you joining me in our mission to grow the American Legion Family, to make every American Legion Post the service-oriented center of their community, and to help every veteran who has defended our freedom and our way of life.

I know I have your support, so let's get down to business!!

Tampa will be hot in August. But there will be a lot of fun with purpose.

Community, state, and nation … live your obligation.

"Spotted by a Son"

In July's "Spotted by a Son", we asked if you could find the Betsy Ross Flag. It was in the "Sons on Social Media" section, on Page 6...

The newsletter email went out on 09 July at 1:55pm, and by 2:35pm we had a winner…

Karl Stuvengen
Post and Squadron 209
Orfordville, WI

Stuvengen is a 47-year member of the SAL, eligible through his late mother, PNH Bobbe Stuvengen, a WWII veteran. He is a past Department Commander, Past Department SAL Chairman, Past Squadron Commander, Past Detachment Commander's Aide, and currently serves as ANEC for the Department of Wisconsin.

Make sure that you keep an eye out on the last page of The Millennium each month for the "Spotted by a Son" graphic hidden within the newsletter. But be quick in writing the editor—the first email wins!

<u>Congratulations</u> to our Detachments which submitted 100% of their Consolidated Squadron Reports (CSR's)

Delaware
Montana
Wisconsin

Even though the deadline to submit the CSR for award consideration at national convention has passed, posts and squadrons can continue to submit their reports until the end of the first week in September. Reports are online here or in MyLegion.org.

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

Squadron 833 (Smithtown, NY) donating $4,600 to the Detachment of New York's Walk-A-Thon

Squadron 217 (Wyandotte, MI) hosting their gaming tournament

Squadron 140 (Greenville, OH) donates $2,873 to the Lady Wave Girls Volleyball Team. They can now purchase new jackets, jerseys and shorts

Squadron 14 (Wessington Springs, SD) presented a check to Mackenzie Kopecky to help offset her cancer treatments. Left to right: Molly Kopecky, Wyatt Schweigert, Heather Kopecky, Mackenzie Kopecky, Brad Kopecky, Blake Willman, Madison Kopecky, Bailey Willman, and Jalene Reiner.

The Detachment of Texas' 2nd Division, including Squadrons 164, 319, 490, 618, and 817 donated over 100 hygiene kits and over 30 blankets to the veterans at the DeBakey VA hospital.

Squadron 488 (Monroe, NY), right, raising money at Lowes to support their veteran's programs

Squadron 215 (LaGrange, IN) Adjutant Craig Connelly recently presented a generous check in the amount of $5,010 to Veterans' Headstone Project Coordinator Jean Litke. This donation will aid in honoring and preserving the memory of those who served our country by ensuring their final resting places are properly marked and recognized.

Squadron 46 (Chambersberg, PA) makes a $2,000 donation to the Franklin County Military-Share program, which provides fresh, nutritious food once a month, free of charge, to Franklin County families with at least one member who has served, or is currently serving, in the armed forces. The program is made possible thanks to a partnership with the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, a Franklin County Human Services Block Grant, and community contributions like this one.

The Sons on Social Media: A snapshot of the SAL around the country

Squadron 55 (Buena Vista, CO) with their Fireworks Donation banner on the corner of Highway 24 and Main Street, advertising their Independence Day fireworks celebration.

Florida 3rd District SAL First Vice Commander Stan Goddis performing the installation ceremony for Squadron 57 (Lake City, FL)

Squadron 29 (Readsboro VT) won the Detachment of Vermont membership challenge, choosing a prime rib dinner ...Henry, John, Marc, Audria, Erika, Dee, and Melissa cooked the rib and shared a fantastic meal with their members.

Installation of the new officers of Squadron 434 (Oak Creek, WI)

Squadron 31 (Shinnston, WV) 5th Annual Gun Bash

Squadron 571 (Wesleyville, PA) earns their 100% banner for donations to the Child Welfare Foundation

The newly installed leadership of the Detachment of Washington

At the Missouri Detachment Convention in Cape Girardeau, Commander Mike Walter, Sgt-at-Arms Steve Holtman, and Advisor Terry Beasley provide training on how to properly conduct an SAL flag ceremony for a funeral service.

Members of the Post 11 Legion Family (Mount Holly, NJ) at the 98th Annual Captain Emilio Carranza Memorial Service

Squadron 116 (Fuquay-Varina, NC) Commander Jeremy Bielet, center, attending American Legion College

Rick Lofgren, CEO and President of COTA

COTA and the Ward Family

The American Legion Family has long supported children's charities and as one of the four pillars of The American Legion, the Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) has been one of the charities we have assisted for many years. COTA provides transplant families peace of mind because of the steadfast and unwavering support The American Legion Family have given and raised funds in honor of COTA families for more than three decades totaling approximately $2 million to help COTA Kids across the nation. Exemplifying their commitment to their communities, The American Legion Family helps ensure that no COTA child, teen or young adult is denied a life-saving transplant due to a financial barrier.

This past year, the Commander of the SAL Detachment of Arizona, and the Commander of Department of Florida, Department of New Hampshire and the Department of New Jersey selected COTA as their statewide projects, and the Detachment of Delaware each raised funds for COTA kids.

This friendly competition resulted in COTA patients winning because these Departments and Detachments generated in excess of $250,000. Other American Legion Family members raised funds for COTA Kids as well with final total for Legion support this past year reaching nearly $300,000. The advocacy and support of these generous Miracle Makers continues to have a direct impact on COTA families in their states for many years to come.

When our nation paused on July 4th to commemorate our independence and recognize those who protect our freedom, COTA Dad Josef Ward, currently serving in the U.S. Air Force, is one of those we salute. This military family won their son's liver disease battle eight years ago this month, and have now faced a second, life-saving liver transplant … this time with their daughter. One family, three children … two of whom have received new livers and a second chance at life.

COTA Mom Nicole Ward vividly remembers the birth of their second son, Jude, in April 2015. Within four weeks of his arrival, he was in distress. Dad Josef was stationed in Florida at the time. Two years later, after many tests and medical consultations, Jude was diagnosed with Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency, which is an inherited disorder where the Alpha-1 protein becomes stuck in the liver and causes cirrhosis. Many children diagnosed with Alpha 1 require a liver transplant to survive, which was the case with Jude who received his new liver at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in July 2017.

COTA Photo: The Ward siblings at the Department of New Jersey's Convention

While his recovery was long and intensive, eventually the family of four found its new routine in Fort Dix, New Jersey, where Josef was transferred with the U.S. Air Force. Nicole and Josef felt settled … Jude's recovery was going well … and they were thrilled to learn their third child was on the way.

Lucille 'Lucie' Ward was born on June 16, 2018. They knew the infant would need to be immediately tested for the Alpha-1 genetic deficiency. Within days of her arrival, Nicole and Josef learned she was in fact born with the same abnormal gene variation. Lucie was followed closely by the same team who oversaw her brother's pre-transplant care at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. In early December 2021, they were told Lucie's liver was failing and that she, too, would need a liver transplant.

The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) uniquely understands that parents who care for a child or young adult before, during and after a life-saving transplant have enough to deal with; therefore, COTA's model shifts the responsibility for fundraising to a team of trained volunteers. COTA is a 501(c)3 charity so all contributions to COTA are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law, and COTA funds are available for a lifetime of transplant-related expenses.

In early 2017, a COTA fundraising specialist trained the family's group of volunteers so fundraising for transplant-related expenses could begin immediately. The COTA staff member shared information about COTA's fundraising process, fundraising templates, guidance and support, and the no-cost website they would be provided. Six years later, that same COTA staff member would share updated fundraising resources with the volunteer team, and the COTA for Jude W campaign became COTA for Team Ward and volunteers once again raised funds for COTA to assist with transplant-related expenses.

But Nicole and Josef are quick to point out their experience with COTA has been absolutely the same with each of the kids. "When I first reached out to COTA, I was hopeful they would be able to explain how they could help with the financial burden of our son's transplant journey," Nicole said. "What I did not expect was to receive the assurance that everything was going to work out and that we would make it through with all the help we needed. Five years later we learned our daughter would also need a transplant. Before I even had a chance to ask how we could get things set up in honor of our daughter, COTA's President Rick Lofgren saw us at a New Jersey American Legion event, heard about Lucie's liver disease and assured us COTA would be there for her, just as they were for Jude." To date, COTA for Team Ward has raised nearly $83,000 for transplant-related expenses.

The Ward family is once again on the move – Josef has been transferred to the U.S. Space Force Base in California. For a transplant family, this means the added stress of finding a new transplant team for Lucie's, and Jude's, follow-up care, testing, medications and so much more.

"Without a doubt, a transplant journey is unpredictable. No matter how well prepared you think you are, there will be things that come up you did not anticipate. COTA provides the financial support a family needs for transplant-related expenses, and the opportunity to seek second opinions and obtain top-notch healthcare," Nicole said.

"In a world of uncertainties, you can be certain that COTA will be a blessing for any transplant family, just as they continue to be for ours." ***Watch the Ward Family's story via a link on the next page>>>>***

NEC Juan A. Cruz-Rodríguez (PR), SAL 100th Anniversary Committee

SAL 100: A Century of Service

Milestones are more than just dates on a calendar; they are powerful moments that mark significant achievements and often signal the exciting beginning of a new chapter. For the Sons of The American Legion, a truly momentous milestone is on the horizon: our 100th Anniversary in 2032!

Born from the spirit of community and dedication at The American Legion's 14th National Convention in Portland, Oregon, in 1932, the SAL has flourished for decades. Our foundational structure, governing principles, and cherished emblem were formally established at the Spring 1938 National Executive Committee meeting, laying the groundwork for the vibrant organization we are today. As we stand on the cusp of a century of upholding our core values, it's a time for profound reflection and enthusiastic celebration.

A celebration of this magnitude, one that truly honors a century of commitment, requires the collective strength and imagination of our entire membership. The 100th Anniversary of the Sons of The American Legion isn't just an event; it's a shared legacy, and its commemoration should reflect the dedication of every single member who has contributed to our journey. This means the active participation and diverse perspectives of all detachments and squadrons are not just valued, but absolutely essential to making this a truly memorable occasion.

The SAL 100th Anniversary Committee members are already pouring their passion and expertise into crafting an extraordinary experience. They are giving their all, but they recognize that the success of this monumental event hinges on the unity and collaboration of our entire SAL family.

The annual national convention is a cherished opportunity to connect with fellow members, forge new bonds, and renew long-standing friendships. This year, we extend a special and heartfelt invitation to all delegates, and particularly to the leadership of every detachment and squadron, to dedicate some time during the convention to engage with the SAL 100th Anniversary Committee.

This is your chance to contribute to our shared history! We genuinely want to hear from you. What types of events would you love to see as part of the 2032 SAL annual convention? How can your detachment or squadron lend its unique talents and support to this grand celebration? Your ideas, big or small, are incredibly important to us.

So, please, don't hesitate! Come and share your thoughts with our dedicated committee members: Chairman Tyler Vanice (VA), PNC Kevin Winkelmann (TX), PNC David Faust (WI), PNC Greg "Doc" Gibbs (NY), William "Doc" Towns Jr. (OH), Scott Garret (CO), and Juan A. Cruz (PR). We are eagerly anticipating your arrival at the national convention in Tampa, FL. We can't wait to connect with each of you, exchange ideas, and build a shared vision for this historic anniversary.

Together, let's plan a celebration that not only honors our rich heritage but also inspires the next century of service and camaraderie within the Sons of the American Legion. Your voice and your participation are vital as we embark on this exciting journey to celebrate a century of impact.

Click the screenshot below to watch the story of the Ward Family from the COTA article on Page 6

Grayson Sewell: Washington County Daily News Staff—*09 July 2025*

West Bend SAL donates to Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative

The West Bend's Lt. Ray Dickop Squadron 36 donated $1,828 to the Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative during their July meeting.

"We're all about raising money to help veterans and veterans organizations," said Squadron 36 Commander Steve Rhode. "Especially those that really, truly need it."

He added that the SAL chose the Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative to make a donation to, because of the work they do supporting veterans in need in southeastern Wisconsin.

Grayson Sewell / Daily News Staff Photo

According to Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative Executive Director Debbie Buchanan, donations like this are critical for them to carry out their mission.

"I just want you to know how critical this is," said Buchanan. "We don't get federal funding, we only operate because we get support from other individuals and other partners and friends of our organization.

"From the bottom of my heart and the hearts of our staff and the veterans that come to our store every single day, thank you so much for your donation."

"It's like Christmas for us," said Rhode. "It's giving, and giving is good."

In 2024, the Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative assisted 144 veterans and their families by setting up apartments for them, and distributed 216 bikes to veterans for exercise and transportation. They also averaged between 11 and 25 families visiting their food pantry per day.

"We are extremely busy this year, too, every year our numbers are going up," said Buchanan.

According to Buchanan, the Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative is always in need of donations, especially food and toiletries. They are also currently out of bicycles to give to veterans and are in need of school supplies to aid the children of veterans in need as the school year approaches.

"You don't get it until you come inside and see what we're doing," said Buchanan. "We try to make the donations very easy by trying to pick them up, but we love for people to come by, because when you do you get bit by the bug."

Legion.org

The Blue Star Flag

The Service flag is an official banner authorized by the Department of Defense for display by families who have members serving in the Armed Forces during any period of war or hostilities the United States may be engaged in for the duration of such hostilities.

The Service flag, also called the Blue Star Flag, was designed and patented by WWI Army Captain Robert L. Queisser of the 5th Ohio Infantry who had two sons serving on the front line. The flag quickly became the unofficial symbol of a child in service. President Wilson became part of this history when in 1918 he approved a suggestion made by the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defenses that mothers who had lost a child serving in the war wear a gold gilt star on the traditional black mourning arm band. This led to the tradition of covering the blue star with a gold star on the Service flag to indicate that the service member has died.

During WWII the practice of displaying the Service flag became much more widespread. Most flags were hand made by mothers across the nation. One of the most famous flags was that of the five Sullivan brothers who all perished on the U.S.S. Juneau.

The Blue Star Mothers was founded as a Veteran Service Organization and was part of a movement to provide care packages to military members serving overseas and also provided assistance to families who encountered hardships as a result of their son or husband serving in the war.

In 1960 Congress chartered the Blue Star Mothers of America as a Veterans Service Organization and in 1966, the Department of Defense revised the specifications for design, manufacture and display of the Service flag.

The Department of Defense specifies that family members authorized to display the flag include the wife, husband, mother, father, stepmother or father, parent through adoption, foster parents, children, stepchildren, children through adoption, brothers, sisters and half brothers or sisters of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States. The flag should be displayed in a window of the residence of persons authorized.

The Service flag may also be displayed by an organization to honor the members of that organization serving during a period of war or hostilities.

The Service Flag is an indoor flag and should be flown facing out from the front window of the home or organization.

If the U.S. flag is also displayed with the Service flag, the U.S. flag should be of equal or greater proportions and should take the place of honor above the Service flag.

Each blue star on the flag represents a service member in active duty. A gold star is displayed if a service member is killed in action or dies in service. If several stars are displayed by one family the gold star takes the honor of being placed at the top. The gold star should be slightly smaller than the blue star to create a blue border surrounding the gold star.

Display of a Service Star Banner is done during times of war. Once again families are displaying banners at home. Blue Star Flags may be purchased through the internet, at stores, or made by hand.

*<<<< **Left**: Squadron 327 (Tidewater, FL) member PNVC Steve Gower giving 99 year-old WWII veteran Osborne Chuck Hester from Manteo, NC Post 26 some American Legion swag. We had "Thank You" challenge coins, hats, cups, key-chains and a few other things … plus, a $1500 donation from the Post 327 family.*

*>>>> **Right and below:** Michigan's 18th District American Legion Family Picnic*

August 22 - 28, 2025

Blair Miles (AL), National Convention & Meetings Committee Chair

Tampa, here we come!

August is finally here! That means that the Sons of The American Legion are putting the finishing touches on the 53rd National Convention in Tampa Florida. Our brand new National Convention and Meetings Committee, along with the Detachment of Florida's Convention Committee, have been hard at work all year preparing to make this Convention an enjoyable and memorable experience for all that attend. Through the use of liaisons and consultants, our committee has created what we think to be a blueprint for the future of National Conventions. From a new set of guidelines, to the actual flow of the Convention itself, not only will future C&M Committee's have the benefit of a strong foundation to plan the next Convention, but each new "Hosting Detachment" will also have a solid starting block from which to build upon, expand, and quite possibly, improve upon, when the Convention is in their State.

In this convention preview, we have presented various Points of Interest (POI) that may prove to be helpful when it comes to your planning for this weekend in Tampa. From hotel maps, to various business locations, to Legacy Run info, SAL function venues, and much more,- I suggest you take a good look at all of the things that the city of Tampa is making available to you while you visit this great city.

On behalf of the National Convention and Meetings Committee, welcome to Tampa! As we close the books on another successful year, and usher in the new year, let us always remember why we're doing what we do. We are "Proud Possessors of a Priceless Heritage".

SCAN FOR GUIDE

TAMPA RIVERWALK

2.6 miles of pedestrian thoroughfare connecting cultural venues like the Tampa Museum of Art and the Tampa Bay History Center, along with parks, bars, and restaurants.

PIRATE WATER TAXI

Over 15 stops conveniently located along the Riverwalk, Channel District, and Davis Islands, water taxi crews offer historical narration and concessions.

YBOR CITY

National Historic Landmark District packed with old-world charm and world-famous cuisine, all just a free TECO Line Streetcar ride away from downtown Tampa.

ARMATURE WORKS

Armature Works at The Heights Public Market offers a culinary journey through various local vendors, showcasing the diverse flavors of Tampa Bay.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

53rd National Convention Agenda Flyer
Tampa Convention Center and JW Marriott
Tampa, Florida | August 22 - 24, 2025

SAL National Convention Registration for Delegates, Alternate Delegates, and Guests
Location: Tampa Convention Center | National Staff Offices (Rooms 114-117, First Floor)

- **Wednesday, August 20 - Friday, August 22** 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
- **Saturday, August 23** 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM (hours subject to change)

SAL Information Services - Tampa Convention Center, Room 101 (First Floor)

MEETINGS & EVENTS

** All meetings and events listed below will be held at the JW Marriott.

SAL Staff Office

- **Pinellas** (Fourth Floor) | Wednesday, August 20 - Monday, August 25 | 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

SAL Detachment Commander's Training

- Hillsborough (Fourth Floor) | August 22, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

SAL National Convention Committee Meetings | Friday, August 22

- **Manatee** (Fourth Floor)
  - 8:00 AM Internal Affairs
  - 9:30 AM Membership and Squadron Activities (M&SA)
  - 11:00 AM Finance
- **Edison** (Third Floor)
  - 8:00 AM Children and Youth (C&Y)
  - 9:30 AM Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R)
  - 11:00 AM Constitutional Amendments
- **Franklin** (Third Floor)
  - 8:00 AM Americanism
  - 9:30 AM Scrapbook / History Book Contest
  - 11:00 AM Legislation & Rules
- **Tampa Bay Ballroom** (Fourth Floor)
  - 11:00 AM Credentials

NATIONAL CONVENTION 53RD SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION TAMPA 2025

SAL National Executive Committee and General Sessions | Tampa Bay Ballroom (Fourth Floor)

- Pre-Convention National Executive Committee Meeting | August 22 10:00 AM
- Sons of The American Legion National Convention General Sessions
  - August 22 1:00 PM (Opening)
  - August 23 9:00 AM
  - August 24 8:00 AM
- Post-Convention National Executive Committee Meeting | August 24 2:00 PM

SAL National Children and Youth Academy

- Edison (Third Floor) August 23 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

SAL Transition Meeting (National Officers & Chairmen Only)

- Fowler (Third Floor) August 25 8:00 AM

As of: 7/01/2025

** National Convention Agenda Subject To Change Without Notice

Other Convention and Tampa Links and Resources

www.visittampabay.com

www.legion.org/Get-Involved/Meetings/National-Convention

Select Offices (more listed here)

8:00A.M. – 5:00P.M. daily

Legion National Headquarters Staff Offices
Wednesday 20 – Thursday, 28 August
TCC, Rooms 114-117, 1st Floor

Legion National Headquarters Staff Offices (IT/Tech Center)
Wednesday 20 – Thursday, 28 August
TCC, Room 103, 1st Floor

Legion National Headquarters Staff Offices (Uniformed Groups/Judges)
Thursday 21 – Saturday 23 August
TCC, Room 101, 1st Floor

SAL National Headquarters Staff Offices
Wednesday 20 – Monday 25 August
TCC, Room 101, 1st Floor

ALA National Headquarters Staff Offices
Wednesday 20 – Thursday 28 August
TCC, Rooms 111-113, 1st Floor

Badges and Packets
Wednesday 20 – Sunday 24 August
TCC, Room 109, 1st Floor
(Closes at noon on 8/24, at 4:30P.M. other days)

Distinguished Guest Registration
Wednesday, August 20 – Wednesday, August 27
TCC, Room 106, 1st Floor
(Opens at noon on 8/20; closes daily at 4:30P.M. except 10A.M. on 8/27)

Exhibit Hall & Emblem Sales Store
Friday, August 22 – Tuesday, August 26
TCC, West Hall, 3rd Floor
8:00A.M. – 3:30P.M.
(Closes at 2:00P.M. on 8/24 and 8/26)

Local American Legion Posts

Dale Mabry Post 139

Address: 3818 W. Bay Vista Ave., Tampa, FL 33611

Event Manager: Philip Hilinski, 813-590-9456 philiphilinski@yahoo.com

Distance to Tampa Convention Center: 8 minutes / 5 miles

U.S.S. Tampa Post 5

Address: 3810 W. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL 33609

Event Manager: Carlos Gill, 813-787-2080 cargill3@aol.com

Distance to Tampa Convention Center: 9 minutes / 4 miles

Turner-Brandon Post 7

Address: 1760 Turner Street, Clearwater, FL 33756

Event Manager: Dave Marsh, 727-442-5293 dmarsh.dcm@gmail.com

Distance to Tampa Convention Center: 27 minutes / 21 miles

Andy Anderson Post 125

Address: 6440 5th Ave. South, St. Petersburg, FL 33707

Event Manager: Len Fromel, 301-473-2780 lfromel@gmail.com

Distance to Tampa Convention Center: 32 minutes / 26 miles

Select Attractions

Tampa Riverwalk

thetampariverwalk.com

2.6 miles long pedestrian path, lined with shops, museums, restaurants, and more. The Convention Center is right on the Riverwalk.

American Victory Ship & Museum

www.americanvictory.org

705 Channelside Dr, Tampa, FL 33602

SS American Victory is a Victory ship which saw service during the final months of World War II in the Pacific Theater of Operations, the Korean War from 1951–1954, and the Vietnam War from 1966–1969.

The Florida Aquarium

www.flaquarium.org

701 Channelside Dr, Tampa, FL 33602

The Florida Aquarium welcomes visitors to experience a wide variety of aquatic and terrestrial animals with the goal of building awareness and inspiring action for species and habitat conservation.

Tampa Bay History Center

tampabayhistorycenter.org

801 Water St, Tampa, FL 33602

Learn about Tampa's 12,000-year history, including information on the indigenous people who first lived here, the Spanish conquistadors, Ybor's 'cigar-city' roots, railroad tycoons, and more

2025 American Legion National Convention Mobile App

For Apple users

For Android users

Go to www.visittampabay.com/unlock-deals for Tampa Bay Deals

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

National Children & Youth Academy

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025 - Registration 8am

Class is from 9am-3pm

JW MARRIOT EDISON ROOM, THIRD FLOOR

Calling all school-aged American Legion Family members. Join us for the 2025 National Children & Youth Academy. The earlier we involve our youth, the brighter our future will be!

TRAINING WILL INCLUDE:
FLAG EDUCATION
ALA JR. PATCH PROGRAM

REGISTER BY 07/23/25

SCAN ME

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

City of Tampa Florida

Registration is mandatory so we will have a head count to be sure to have enough supplies for the class.

TO REGISTER!

THE DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA PROUDLY PRESENTS
A FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL
COUNTRY STYLE
FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2025 7PM-9PM
DALLAS BULL
WHERE COUNTRY COMES TO PLAY
3322 N US HIGHWAY 301 TAMPA, FL 33619
7 MILES FROM DOWNTOWN
ENJOY FREE FOOD AND INEXPENSIVE BEVERAGES COURTESEY OF DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA!
MAYBE EVEN TRY YOUR LUCK ON THE MECHANICAL BULL!
FREE TRANSPORTATION FROM THE JW MARRIOTT TO THE DALLAS BULL WILL BE AVAILABLE.
3 BUSES WILL BOARD AT 6:30PM AT THE HOTEL
BUSES WILL REBOARD AT THE DALLAS BULL AT 9:05PM
CONTACT ED SHEUBROOKS AT (772) 216-3063 FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

Postage Here

Projected Distribution Schedule for *The Millennium*

Wednesday 10 September 2025
Wednesday 08 October 2025
Wednesday 12 November 2025
Wednesday 10 December 2025
Wednesday 14 January 2025
Wednesday 11 February 2025
Wednesday 11 March 2025
Wednesday 08 April 2025

Look for this newsletter monthly in the Digital Newsletter, or check out all of the SAL's archived newsletters at https://archive.legion.org/

AMERICAN LEGION Digital Archive

To:

This Month, On The Back Cover …..

SUCCESSFUL FIRST NATIONAL SAL CONVENTION HELD IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

September 1972 Vol. 6 No. 3

Robert Howard Faust, 20, Sherman Oaks California, has been unanimously elected the first National Commander of the Sons of The American Legion, at the first National SAL Convention in Chicago, Ill., August 19-20. The son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Faust, the youthful leader of the 18,000-member SAL organization is presently a junior at U.C.L.A.

Long active in the Sons of The American Legion, National SAL Commander Faust served as commander of Arcadia Squadron 24 back in 1962-63. He served as Detachment Commander of California in 1967-68, National Vice Chairman of the SAL in 1970-71 and 1971-72. He has been a member of The American Legion's Sons of The American Legion Committee since 1970.

Newly elected National SAL officers for 1972-73 are (left to right): National Vice Commander (East) Ernest Wilson, Jr., East Orange, N.J.; National SAL Commander Robert H. Faust, West Los Angeles, Calif.; National Vice Commander (West) Bryan R. O'Boyle, San Antonio, Tex.; National Chaplain James Robert Hartman, Jr., Laurel, Md.

Be on the look out ……. "Spotted by a Son"

Every month, The Millennium will hide a small picture or graphic inside the newsletter—first one to find it who email's rusty.myers@ymail.com will get their name published in the next newsletter and will receive a prize!

In honor of 07 August being Purple Heart Day, find that medal somewhere in this newsletter.