

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF OHIO



2024 ANNUAL CONVENTION

July 12th – July 14th, 2024





THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

Gary Cox Jr.



Proud member of...

American Legion Post 79 / SAL Squadron 584
CVMA 12-1 / 40&8 #857 / VFW 7201 / WWP Alumni
Marine Corps League 1437 / Ohio Warriors Sled Hockey /
Legion Riders 254

Proudly endorsed by...

PNVC Jim Morris / PNVC Glen Hickman / PNVC Jerry
Wilson / PDC Robert Steele / PDC Darrell Bishop / PDC
Bob Schmitt / PDC Carl Swisher / PDC Roger Friend / PDC
Jean Wilson / PDT Ed Yancy / PDT Leroy Brinkhoff / PDT
Don Chandler / 6th District Ohio / Union Post 79

LEGION

- MEMBER NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL 2023-2024
- 6TH DIST CHAIRMAN GIFTS FOR YANKS 2023-2024
- PAST POST 79 VICE COMMANDER 2023
- 2ND PLACE 'RACE TO THE TOP' SMALL DISTRICT 2022
- 6TH DIST COMMANDER 2021-2023
- 6TH DIST 1ST VICE 2020-2021
- 6TH DIST FINANCE COMMITTEE 2018-2020

SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION

- DISTINGUISHED GUEST AT 2004 NAT'L CONVENTION
- SAL DIST COMMANDER 1999-2000
- SAL SQUADRON COMMANDER 1998-1999
- DETACHMENT ASST SGT @ ARMS 1997
- CHARTER MEMBER SQUADRON 584 IN 1992

PERSONAL

- DEPT BOWLING COMMISSION SINCE 2022
- BUCKEYE BOYS STATE TRUSTEE SINCE 2022
- BUCKEYE BOYS STATE STAFF SINCE 2017
- OSU ALUMNI—CLASS OF 2014
- BUCKEYE BOYS STATE ALUMNI—CLASS OF 2000

For

DEPT OF OHIO

2ND VICE COMMANDER

105TH ANNUAL CONVENTION



CONN-WEISSENBERGER POST #587

and

THE GREAT FIRST DISTRICT

proudly present



Robert E. (Bob) Schmitt

Centennial Department Commander 2018 - 2019



40 Year Member - PUFL

Presently Serving as

District Judge Advocate

Lucas County Judge Advocate

Conn-Weissenberger Judge Advocate

National VE & E Homeless and Other Benefits
(National Commander's Representative)

Buckeye Boys State 2nd Vice President

Life member DAV

Life member VFW

Life Member Catholic War Vets

Toledo Lucas County Memorial Day Assn. –
President

Toledo American Legion Convention Comm. –
President

Toledo Soldiers Memorial Assn. - Vice President

Candidate for

Alternate

National Executive Committeeman

2024 -2026



DISTINGUISHED GUEST JAMES P. TRAKAS

Councilman of the City of Independence, Ohio

Jim Trakas is the President of government affairs lobbying company Ohio Policy Advocates. Jim has extensive background in state and local government and politics. A native of Independence, where he still lives with his wife Anne Marie Kennedy Trakas, and their four cats, Jim has served in many ways, the people of Ohio.

Currently, Jim is a City Councilman in the City of Independence, and a Major and Battalion Commander of the 1st Civil Support and Sustainment Battalion, Ohio Military Reserve, under the Adjutant General of Ohio, the 4th Civil Support and Sustainment Brigade of the State Defense Forces of Ohio. He has been awarded The Ohio Commendation Medal, Achievement Award, & was tapped as Honor Graduate of his Officer Candidate School class.

Jim owns American Online Learning Center, an online program dedicated to helping individuals through probation and diversion programs as well as Online Two Point Driving Classes, awaiting state approval for point reductions on licenses. He also is on the Parish Council of St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church, serving as Secretary of the church.

Graduating from Independence High School in 1983 and The Ohio State University in 1987, Jim worked with what is now the PolyOne Corporation. His first job was delivering newspapers for the Cleveland Press, which taught him responsibility at the age of 12.

Jumping from manufacturing to politics, Jim became Chairman of the Republican Party of Cuyahoga County in 1996, a position he held until 2005. Jim was elected to four terms as a Member of The Ohio House of Representatives from 1999-2005, rising to the rank of House Majority Whip. Jim served as Executive Director of the Ohio State Board of Cosmetology from 2011-13.

Jim's father was a decorated combat veteran of WWII's 95th Infantry Division, under the U.S. 3rd Army of General George S. Patton, Jr., one of Jim's heroes.





Proclamation

Whereas: The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It was founded on the four pillars of belief: Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth; and,

Whereas: The American Legion Department of Ohio and The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Ohio, are celebrating their Convention in the City of Independence at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South July 12 through July 14, 2024; and,

Whereas: The American Legion Department of Ohio has over 75,000 members and is presently under the outstanding leadership of Commander Jason Rue; and,

Whereas: The American Legion Department of Ohio Convention will be joined by members from The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion, Legion Riders, and many other Distinguished Guests; and,

Whereas: We support the American Legion Department of Ohio and recognize them for their contributions to national security and the welfare of military veterans, their families and their communities.

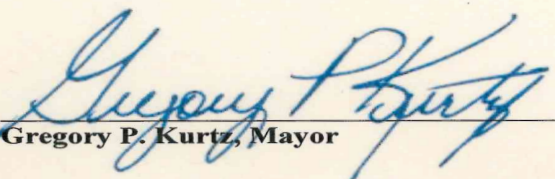
Now, Therefore, I, Gregory P. Kurtz, Mayor of the City of Independence, Ohio, do hereby designate and proclaim July 12 through July 14, 2024, as days to recognize and honor

The American Legion Department of Ohio

for their genuine commitment to provide services and support to the men, women, and families of those who have served and defended our country for our freedom, and for the dedication of their organization to promote patriotism and good citizenship in our communities. We are grateful for your spirit and your mission, and wish you a very productive and successful convention.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the City of Independence, Ohio to be affixed this 12th day of July in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-four.


Gregory P. Kurtz, Mayor



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

Dear American Legion Department of Ohio:

Welcome to The Land. We are thrilled to be hosting your conference in Cleveland.

Attending a conference should be a memorable experience and a great way to discover a new destination. That said, you've come to the right place. A place that may become your Land for Life.

Cleveland is a foodie town, and conference attendees can expect to enjoy some of the country's best food. Our culinary scene blends influence from more than 100 ethnicities.

Our downtown hotels offer competitive rates and comfortable amenities close to conference facilities. Many of our hotels have a unique character as they are housed in beautiful turn-of-the-century buildings that have been preserved and renovated to help the city maintain its rich industrial history.

Beyond hotels, Cleveland is well-equipped to support conferences. For evening events, we have many world-class venues, such as the world's only Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse and the Cleveland Museum of Art. Cleveland is also home to Karamu House, the oldest producing African American theatre in the nation. Our recently renovated airport is connected to downtown with a train that runs every 30 minutes. Once in the city center, walking to restaurants, nightlife, and sporting events is easy, with most activities within a 5-15-minute walk of virtually every hotel.

Downtown Cleveland sits on the shore of Lake Erie and the banks of the Cuyahoga River. For attendees who enjoy a blend of city and nature even when traveling on business, there are miles of paved trails along the river and the lakefront and more than 55,000 acres of greenspace surrounding the city. For those who love America's favorite pastime, Major League Baseball's Cleveland Guardians play in the heart of downtown. The NFL's Cleveland Browns and the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers also make downtown their home.

When you visit Cleveland, you'll discover that what sets us apart is our people. Every visitor is welcomed into our community. You become part of our family. I especially encourage you to visit our friendly locals in one of our many culturally diverse neighborhoods like Ohio City, Tremont, University Circle, Shaker Square, and Gordon Square Art District.

Be assured that we'll do all we can to ensure you feel that this Land is your land.

Sincerely,

David Gilbert
President/CEO
Destination Cleveland





JASON RUE

The American Legion, Department of Ohio Commander

My fellow Legionnaires,

I would like to thank you for attending the 105th Department of Ohio Convention. I would also like to thank you for your support and dedication to the Programs of the American Legion this past year.

It has been my pleasure to represent the Department of Ohio this past year. I would like to thank you for the hospitality as I traveled throughout the state. I have been to a lot of great Posts and met many great people. Continue to do great things for the American Legion and its Programs.

I would like to thank you for the support and donations to my charity, Stockhands: Horses for Healing, this past year. Your generosity and help with a couple of grants has them almost able to complete step one of their expansion projects.

My fellow Legionnaires, I am confident that you will continue to carry the torch forward in the promoting and working of our programs and maintain them as some of the best in our nation.

For God and Country,

Jason Rue, Commander
American Legion Department of Ohio



Stockhands: Horses for Healing



JANE RIDENOUR

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Ohio President

On behalf of the Department of Ohio American Legion Auxiliary, I welcome the entire American Legion Family, friends and visitors to the 2024 Department Convention!

It has been an honor to serve this last year alongside Commander Jason Rue, Detachment Commander David Dilts and all other officers of The Legion, Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and Legion Riders. Knowing that we were on the same mission, along with National, in "Be the One" made the year all that more meaningful.

The units took my theme to heart and exemplified "Our Heroes Inspiring Others" with their projects and fund raisers benefiting our veterans, their families, children and youth and our communities. My heartfelt thank you to all for your unwavering support and efforts. You are all Superheroes!!!

The to newly elected Officers, I congratulate you and wish you well. I have every faith and confidence that you will continue the great work that our Legion Family embraces.

From the Department of Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Officers, Staff and Executive Board, have a great and successful convention! Enjoy every moment!

In the Spirit of Service, not Self,

Jane Ridenour

Department President



 **AMERICAN
LEGION**
AUXILIARY





TIMOTHY S. CONWAY

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio Commander

Timothy S. Conway is a 41-year member of Loudon Squadron 257 in Loudonville, Ohio. He gained his eligibility from his grandfather, Frank Conway, who served in the Navy during the First World War. Tim has held many various positions within the Sons of The American Legion - from Squadron level through District and State levels. Tim was a Past District Commander for 5 years for the 5th District. He has also served as Special Olympics Chairman, Boys State Chairman, and Americanism Chairman for the Detachment of Ohio. Tim is also currently on staff as a consultant for the Buckeye Boys State program.



Mr. Conway's Commander's Project for this year is Operation Comfort Warrior.

Tim resides in Loudonville with his lovely wife Beckie and has been married for 25 years. They have two daughters and one son, who is currently an active member of the Ohio National Guard. They also have seven grandchildren.

Tim would like to welcome all attendees to the 2024 Department Convention.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

ESTABLISHED IN 1932

The Sons of the American Legion (SAL) is a program of The American Legion that was established in 1932 to assist The American Legion with their programs and activities. Being a member of the Detachment of Ohio is more than just "belonging" to a club. We take great pride in the work that we do in the areas of Americanism, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Special Olympics, Membership and last but certainly not least The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Our success in these areas is a direct reflection of the guidance that is given us by the "Legionnaires" of our Department. All male descendants, adopted sons

and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in Service during World I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf War and the War on Terrorism, during the delimiting periods set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for Membership in the Sons of The American Legion.

Contact the Sons of The American Legion Squadron nearest you to obtain the necessary membership application form.



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION



DANIEL J. SEEHAFFER

National Commander of The American Legion

To my fellow Legionnaires in Ohio,

The Department of Veterans Affairs conducted its first annual Buddy Check week October 16-20, 2023. This needed outreach was intended to enhance mental wellness and, most importantly, assist veterans in crisis. It was inspired by The American Legion, and we expect it to continue for many more years.

"What the Legion has shown us here is that from Buddy Check, there are going to be certain organic connections that continue no matter what. Because what we've seen with The American Legion doing it the last several years is that rekindles connections, and those connections are very meaningful for our vets," VA Secretary Denis McDonough said.

Establishing meaningful connections is something American Legion Family members do every day. From the services that you provide in your communities to the programs conducted by your department, veterans and families in your towns and cities are blessed by your efforts. The American Legion *changes* lives and The American Legion *saves* lives through our youth programs, public advocacy and veteran service work.

When a veteran takes his or her own life it is a national tragedy. The loved ones left behind are often saddled with guilt, wondering if more could have been done. This is why we, in The American Legion, have made it our mission to Be the One to do everything possible to save veterans from making this horrific choice.

The year 2024 will be significant not just for The American Legion but our entire nation. Americans will go to the polls and elect the next leader of the free world. We will also decide who should represent us in the U.S. Congress and in local offices across the nation. The American Legion is nonpartisan and we make no endorsements. But we do encourage all Americans to vote. We also hope that you make an informed decision based on the issues that are important to veterans, active military and their families. These are the very issues that are addressed every year at American Legion department conventions. Issues that *save* lives and *change* lives.

I hope that you have a productive and enjoyable convention.



For God and Country,

Daniel J. Seehafer

National Commander





BERT C. BOYD SR.

Department of Ohio, 13th District Commander

Welcome!

My Fellow Legion Family Members,



On behalf of the “Tenacious” Thirteenth District, I would like to welcome you to “The Best Location in the Nation” - the Greater Cleveland Area and The Department of Ohio American Legion Convention. The Department staff has loaded up an outstanding program this year with numerous opportunities to learn and spend time socializing with your fellow Legionnaires. I sincerely believe that everyone will have the opportunity to enjoy many of the attractions, restaurants, and various entertainment options that Cleveland has to offer during your stay. The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Pro Football Hall of Fame, Playhouse Square, USS Cod Submarine, Lakefront Fishing, Edgewater each, Cedar Point Amusement Park, and The Flats.

And don't forget about visiting The American Legion Posts throughout the area with many being just a short drive away from the hotel and will open their doors as well as their hearts to greet and socialize with you. Everyone in the Thirteenth District is excited to have the convention in Cleveland once again. We will do our best to make this the best convention in years.

“Be the One”

Bert Boyd Sr.

American Legion Department of Ohio

13th District Commander

Adjutant and Chapter Service Officer American Legion Post 315



DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, 13TH DISTRICT

Welcome!

On behalf of the 13th District, we welcome you to Cleveland and the Department of Ohio American Legion Convention. This year, the department staff has lined up a great program with opportunities to learn and spend time with your fellow Legionnaires. We encourage you to explore the many entertainment options Cleveland has to offer.



Don't forget to visit The American Legion posts in the area. Everyone in the 13th District is excited to host the convention in Cleveland and are dedicated to making this another memorable year.



DEPARTMENT STAFF

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO HEADQUARTERS AND FIELD OFFICES EMPLOYEES

DEPARTMENT HQ



John Robinson | Department Adjutant / SAL Liaison

Phone: 740-513-1550 | Email: adjutant@ohiolegion.com



Rebecca Corbin | Fiscal Officer / Emblem Sales

Phone: 740-513-5389 | Email: corbin@ohiolegion.com



Christie White | Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator

Phone: 740-513-5199 | Email: programs@ohiolegion.com



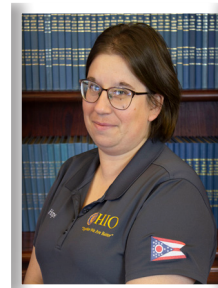
Jon Vulgamore | Media/Communications and Marketing Coordinator

Phone: 740-816-7659 | Email: vulgamore@ohiolegion.com



Sherry Yockey | Membership Manager / Post Activities

Phone: 740-816-7552 | Email: syockey@ohiolegion.com



Hope Eaton | Front Desk Administrator

Phone: 740-362-7478 | Email: heaton@ohiolegion.com



Cassie Lee | Executive Administrative Assistant

Phone: 740-513-5359 | Email: executiveadmin@ohiolegion.com



Shirley Espenshade | Charities Inc.

Phone: 740-513-1722 | Email: espenshade@ohiolegion.com

THANK YOU FROM YOUR DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AND FIELD OFFICES!



DEPARTMENT STAFF

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO HEADQUARTERS AND FIELD OFFICES EMPLOYEES

FIELD OFFICES



William Genochio | VA&R / VBA Coordinator | DSO, Field Office Supervisor | ALR Liaison
Phone: 216-522-3504 ext 53746 | Email: genochio@ohiolegion.com

Will Brown | Department Service Officer - Cleveland

Phone: 216-522-3504 ext 53745 | Email: will.brown@va.gov

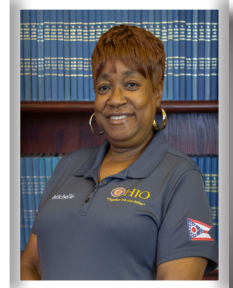


Tom White | Department Service Officer - Cleveland

Phone: 216-522-3504 ext 53743 | Email: twhite@ohiolegion.com

Michelle Jones | Department Service Officer - Cleveland

Phone: 216-522-3504 ext 53747 | Email: jones@ohiolegion.com



Nicole 'Jessica' Reese | Department Service Officer - Cleveland

Phone: 216-522-3504 ext 53741 | Email: jreese@ohiolegion.com

Melissa Manzie | Administrative Assistant - Cleveland

Phone: 216-522-3504 ext 53748 | Email: mmanzie@ohiolegion.com



Gary Felver | Department Service Officer - Dayton

Phone: 937-268-6511 ext 2967 | Email: gfelver@ohiolegion.com

Darell Bishop | Department Service Officer - Wade Park VAMC

Phone: 216-791-3800 ext 4155 | Email: dbishop@ohiolegion.com



THANK YOU FROM YOUR DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AND FIELD OFFICES!



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

**STAN
OREN**

**Candidate for
Department of Ohio
1st Vice Commander
2024-2025**



Stan is an advocate for Veterans Benefits.

EDUCATE. INFORM. REACH OUT.

AMERICAN LEGION POSITIONS

- National Appointee to the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Council
- Department Americanism & Oratorical Commissions
- Buckeye Boys State Staff 2021-2024
- Department Sergeant-at-Arms 2018-2019
- Past First District Commander 2017-2018
- 40 year Life Member Harter-Williams Post 536 Gilboa.



VETERAN, BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Commissioner, Putnam County Veterans Commission 2020—2024
- Member: SAL, VFW, DAV, AMVETS and VVA
- Board Member, Port Authority of Northwest Ohio 2010-2024
- Whirlpool Corporation, retired Weekend Supt. in 2008 after 30 years
- Director, Hancock-Wood Rural Electric Cooperative 1982-1985
- Putnam County Board of Elections, Presiding Judge for 20 years



Stan earned his eligibility for the American Legion
by serving in the U.S. Navy 1969-1971.



LEGIONNAIRE BENEFITS

As a Member of the Legion Family, You Know How Important
It Is to Help Protect Those in Need ...

NOW WE CAN HELP THE LIT PLANS CAN HELP WITH

- **Hospital HELP Plan**
- **Cancer Care**
- **Accidental Death Protection**
- **On-The-Move Travel Accident**
- **Emergency Assistance Plus**
- **ID Resolve**
- **Medicare Supplement Insurance**
- **Health Insurance**
- **Dental Insurance**
- **Long-Term Care**
- **Lifeline Medical Alert Service**

Hospital HELP Plan — Provides benefits for hospital stays including intensive care, cardiac care, care for cancer, rehabilitative facilities, and V.A. hospitals.*

Cancer Care — Provides important protection and a daily benefit if you are hospitalized due to cancer.*

Accidental Death — Helps provide financial protection for you and your family. Up to \$5,000.00 LegionCare AD coverage at no cost to Legionnaires is available: (activation required).* You can also purchase additional Accident coverage up to \$100,000.00.

On-The-Move Travel Accident — Provides up to \$200,000.00 coverage when fatally injured in a covered accident while traveling, plus \$500.00 per day if a covered accident lands you in the hospital.*

ID Resolve — Provides 24-hour identity theft resolution that helps protect your money, your time and your financial reputation.*

Emergency Assistance Plus — Provides you with 24/7 emergency medical and travel assistance services should something happen to you or your family while traveling away from home.

Medicare Supplement Insurance — Supplements your Medicare Coverage at group rates.

Health & Dental Insurance — Request a quote on various Health & Dental Insurance Plans designed with you in mind.

Long-Term Care — Can help provide home health care, supervised adult care, and more.

Lifeline Medical Alert Service — Provides fast access to help in the event of a fall or medical emergency so you can live confidently and independently.

DeviceGuard — A simple, comprehensive, and affordable way to protect your devices—from smartphones to laptops to digital doorbells. Flexible plans and bundles ensure that you only pay for the protection you need.



ENDORSED BY YOUR
AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT

**To Learn More and Enroll, Visit www.TheLIT.com
For Questions Call 1-800-235-6943**



DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

Department Commander

Jason Rue
Dupont

1st Vice Commander

Arnold Whatley
Centerville

2nd Vice Commander

Stan Oren
Leipsic

Treasurer

Jose Rivera
Mentor

Chaplain

Ron Distel
Elmore

Assistant Chaplain

James Fast
Wapakoneta

Past Department Commander

Charles Stennis
Painesville

National Executive Committeeman

Steve Masowick
Streetsboro

Alternate National Executive Committeeman

Ron Chapman
Williamsburg

Judge Advocate

Josh Brown
Hilliard

Assistant J.A.

Doug Russell
Minerva

Parliamentarian

Gary Minadeo
Mayfield Hts.

Historian

Al Beyer
Bellville

Assistant Historian

Bob White
Parma

Sergeant-At-Arms

Dean Boyers
Sylvania

Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms

Kevin Motter
Montpelier

Jerry Perry
Cincinnati

Larry Stottsberry
Massillon

Mike Blackwell
Union

John Life
Akron

Joyce Hannum
Chagrin Falls

Robert Schmoll
Thurman





EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IS COMPRISED OF OHIO'S CURRENT DEPARTMENT OFFICERS,
DISTRICT COMMANDERS, AND DISTRICT 1ST VICE COMMANDERS

COMMANDER Harold Landis	<u>FIRST DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Mark Mahlman
COMMANDER Thomas Tierney	<u>SECOND DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER James Fast
COMMANDER Ken LaVoy	<u>THIRD DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Chris Emmons
COMMANDER Albert "Al" Buxton	<u>FOURTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Robert Wilson
COMMANDER Marty Moore	<u>FIFTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Robert "Bob" Mason
COMMANDER Christopher Miller	<u>SIXTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Daniel "Dan" Goodman
COMMANDER Lorena Nichols	<u>SEVENTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Johnny Conley
COMMANDER Donald Capps	<u>EIGHTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Larry Sullivan
COMMANDER William Dittebrand	<u>NINTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Jacqueline Whetstone
COMMANDER Wesley Crothers	<u>TENTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Howard Marotto
COMMANDER Thom Stan	<u>ELEVENTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER David Taylor
COMMANDER Brad Beatty	<u>TWELFTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Michael Higgins
COMMANDER Bert Boyd	<u>THIRTEENTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Richard Wright
COMMANDER Sharon McClain	<u>FOURTEENTH DISTRICT</u>	1ST VICE COMMANDER Rodger Wiant



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

PLATINUM SPONSOR

**PROUDLY
SERVING
THOSE THAT
SERVED
SINCE 1967**



ARROWINTERNATIONAL.COM



GOLD SPONSOR

A promotional banner for Aurify. On the left, the Aurify logo (a crown over a star) is above the word "Aurify" in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below this, it says "HONORED TO BE A GOLD SPONSOR FOR THE 2024 AMERICAN LEGION SUMMER CONFERENCE" in smaller, blue, sans-serif font. The right side of the banner features a vibrant, stylized illustration of a blue dragon and a fiery phoenix. In the foreground, there are three silver stars and a large, stylized "2024" in red and blue. A yellow duck head is also visible in the bottom right corner.

SILVER SPONSOR





THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

PORK CHOP DINNER



Tom Nova Returns!

**Our Member Tom Nova who provided Post 572
with the
Fabulous Lenten Fish Fry's will serve up a
Special Friday Night Fish Fry Dinner!**

Friday July 12th

From 5 pm to 7 pm

**8-10 oz. Cod Loin, French Fries, Creamy Cole Slaw
Roll/Butter and Dessert**

\$15.00

Cash and Credit Cards are Accepted.

American Legion Post 572

6483 State Rd. Parma, Ohio 44134

440-845-0572



Saturday July 13th – 5:00pm to 7:00pm
6483 State Rd, Parma, Ohio 44134

Meal Includes:

*Pork Chop with Bone, Mashed Potatoes, Corn,
Salad, Roll & Butter, Cake*

Dinner \$15 – Extra Pork Chop \$5

Sponsored by

**Catholic War Veterans
Southeast Suburban Post 1812**

**Joseph J. Jacubic Post 572
American Legion**



A 6100 Rockside Rd, Independence, Ohio, United States

↑	1. Depart and head (south)	85 ft
↘	2. Turn right , then immediately turn right onto Quarry Ln Sunoco Gas Station on the corner	433 ft
↶	3. Turn left onto Rockside Rd	2.3 mi
↑	4. Road name changes to Snow Rd	1.0 mi
↶	5. Turn left onto OH-94 / State Rd Speedway on the corner	1.2 mi
↶	6. Turn left	184 ft
↶	7. Turn left	79 ft
	8. Arrive at your destination on the left The last intersection before your destination is OH-94 / State Rd	

B 6483 State Rd, Cleveland, Ohio, United States





VOTE FOR HOLLY DEPARTMENT TREASURER

My Vision

TRANSPARENCY

Ensuring that the finances are recorded according to generally accepted practices and that non-confidential reporting is available upon request.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Examining expenses to ensure they are absolutely necessary to successfully accomplish the aims and programs of the Department of Ohio American Legion.

DOCUMENTED POLICIES

Requiring documentation of fiscal policies, employee performance reviews, and other standard practices which are not currently documented



Scan here for more info!





THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

Rules & Order of Business Amended – 2023 Department Convention Dayton, Ohio

1. Robert's Revised Rules of Order, Newly Revised (RONR) shall be the authority of parliamentary procedure, with the following modifications:
2. A delegate desiring to make a motion or address the Convention, shall rise, address the chair as "Commander" and state their name and the name and number of their Post before proceeding at the nearest microphone.
3. Debate shall be limited to three (3) minutes for each speaker.
4. Debate on any one subject presented to the Convention, shall be limited to 30 minutes, except under such special rules as the Convention shall adopt prior to debate.
5. Only two (2) Delegates from any one Post delegation shall be permitted the floor on any one subject. Where disagreement exists within a delegation, one delegate shall be permitted to speak on each side of the subject, except on a division of the question, when this rule shall be applied separately for each division.
6. The floor shall be permitted but once to any individual delegate on any one subject, except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Convention. Chairpersons of Convention Committees may speak as frequently as may be necessary in connection with the report of their committees. The presiding officer shall not entertain any motion which will curtail further debate without affording the Committee Chairperson an opportunity for rebuttal. On request of a delegate, any Resolution contained in a Committee report shall be considered separately at the conclusion of the vote on the remaining report, and after discussion voted upon at that time.
7. Any Resolutions originating on the floor of the Convention shall be in writing, then automatically and without reading, be referred to the Adjutant or Secretary of the Convention, who will refer them to the appropriate Committee for their action and report thereon prior to the end of this Convention.
8. Decisions on Rules and Debate or Parliamentary Order by the presiding officer may be subject to appeal by any two (2) delegates from two (2) different Districts under a point of order. Such an appeal shall take precedence over any pending question and shall be decided forthwith. An appeal from the decision of the Chair shall be put to the Convention on the question: "Shall the decision be sustained."
9. When the poll of any Post delegation is demanded by a delegate of any other Post, the Convention Secretary shall poll the vote without discussion of the question being voted on. When a poll of the Post is demanded, it must be made immediately upon the announcement of the vote of the delegation.
10. On roll calls, the Post delegation chairperson shall poll their delegation on the floor and announce its vote upon presenting their credentials to the person in charge of microphone.
11. Past Department Commanders shall be entitled to vote, provided they are registered as such.
12. Only delegates or their accredited alternates may be heard or given recognition on any issue or in the nomination of candidates unless he or she has two-thirds (2/3) consent of the delegation present.
13. Delegations may arrive at a vote in such a manner as they choose but shall announce it in terms of a full vote and not in terms of a fractional part of a vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the delegates present from his or her Post.

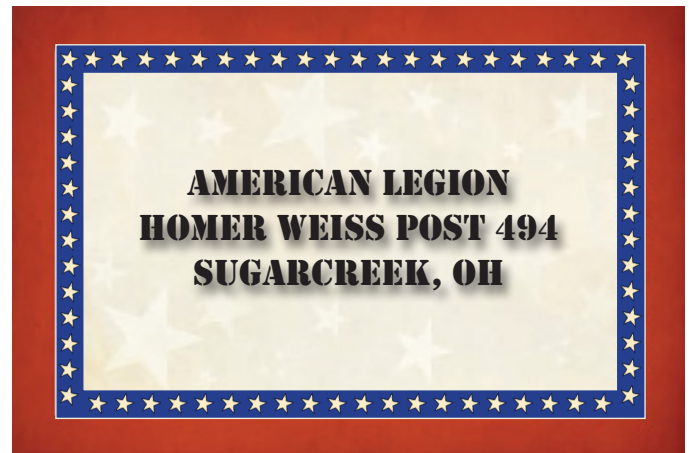


14. There shall be no unit rules of voting in this Convention.
15. Voting shall be by acclamation, except when a roll call or standing count is directed by the Commander or demanded by a Delegate of at least three (3) Posts of three (3) separate Districts. Election of Department Officers shall be by roll call, except when a candidate is unopposed, at which time the vote may be by acclamation. All roll call voting will be as follows: the delegate chairperson or designee will approach the closest microphone and cast votes from the microphone. The delegate chairperson or designee should be prepared prior to the calling of their post number to move toward the closest microphone so that their vote can be cast in a timely manner. All standing count votes will be by District with the District Commander, assisted by the 1st and 2nd Vice Commanders, polling the vote from each Post delegation chairperson. The District Commander will announce the poll to the assembly by Post from the microphone when called upon by the Commander. The registration desk will be closed at least 30 minutes prior to an expected standing count to allow the Credentials Committee to update the delegate strength for the determination of majority and 2/3 of the delegate strength for the standing count.
16. In the event a Post has not provided the method by which alternates shall be designated to serve in the place of absent delegates, the Chairperson or acting Chairperson of the delegation shall make such designation certified by the Post Commander or District Commander.
17. Prior to the election of Department Officers, the Department Commander shall appoint, subject to approval of the Convention, a chief teller of elections, and such number of tellers as the Department Commander deems necessary, provided that the total number of tellers so appointed shall be an odd number. In a contested election each candidate going to the ballot shall be entitled to one teller of the candidate's choice if the candidate so elects.
18. Nomination for Department Officers shall be from the floor. Each Post may present as many candidates as it chooses.
19. Nominating speeches for Department Officers shall be limited to five (5) minutes each. Not more than one seconding speech shall be made for any candidate, and said speech limited to two (2) minutes.
20. When more than two (2) candidates are nominated for any office, voting shall continue until one candidate receives the necessary majority of the votes cast. If on any vote taken no candidate receives the necessary majority to elect, a new vote shall be taken for the place to be filled. The candidate receiving the lowest number of votes on the preceding vote shall be disqualified. All roll call votes for officers or otherwise will begin with the next sequential Post where the last roll call vote ended. The 2022 Convention's last roll call vote ended with Post 24. The first roll call vote of the 2023 Convention will begin with Post 25.
21. The Order of Election of Officers shall be the Department Commander, First Vice Commander, Second Vice Commander, Treasurer. In even years, we will then elect National Executive Committee person and Alternate National Executive Committee person.
22. Those recognized by the Department Commander shall be entitled to a respectful hearing, and the Chair shall have the authority to clear the gallery or the floor or have the Sergeant-At-Arms escort from the Convention anyone creating a disturbance or interfering with order of procedure.
23. None of the above rules shall be construed as preventing any member of The American Legion, Department of Ohio from serving on a Convention Committee.
24. The consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting strength of the Convention is necessary for suspension of the standing rules of the Convention.



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

25. The Department Commander will have the authority to appoint a Parliamentarian to assist the Judge Advocate for this Convention.
26. Any amendment originating on the floor to any resolution shall be presented in writing and transmitted to the presiding officer at the time of the introduction of such amendment. However, in the case where a word is stricken and another inserted, this change can be done by the one making the report or introducing the Resolution.





DISTINGUISHED GUEST SPEAKER • JAMES A. LACOURSIERE

Leading Candidate for 2024-2025 National Commander of The American Legion

Jim LaCoursiere was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and attended Montville High School where he played J.V. Football, Varsity Football and Varsity Indoor & Outdoor Track. After graduation Jim had aspiration of furthering his education in drafting, but instead opted to join the United States Air Force where he worked in patient affairs. He later trained to help support their Med Evac Unit at Moody Air Force Base. Jim was honorably discharged in 1983 as an Airman 1st Class.

Jim is married to his wife Lisa. Jim has two children, Patrick, and Meghan and three stepchildren, Jason, Kaylene and Johnathan, deceased. His wife Lisa is an active member of the Auxiliary and has served as the National American Legion Auxiliary Northeast Region Children & Youth Chairman. Jim currently works for the American Legion Department of Connecticut as a field representative for the Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines Fund, assisting veterans and their families with temporary financial assistance.

Eligibility

James "Jim" earned his eligibility to The American Legion through his service in the United States Air Force, during the Grenada/Lebanon conflict. He served his time working in Patient Affairs and was trained to help support the Med Evac, at Tactical Air Command, Moody Air Force Base in Valdosta, Georgia. Achieving the rank of Airman 1st Class, serving from 1981-1983.

Experience

Jim is a 27-year member of The American Legion and a member of Post 91 in Moosup, Connecticut, a 13-year member of The Sons of The American Legion, a member of Squadron 91 Moosup, and the founding "father" of Connecticut's American Legion Riders. Jim has served The American Legion at all levels of the organization. At the Post level he has served as Commander, Sr. Vice Commander & Jr. Vice Commander. At the District level he served as Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, and Jr. Vice Commander. At the Department level he served as Department Commander 2006-2007, Sr. Vice Commander, Historian, Director of Connecticut's American Legion College, Director of Connecticut's ALR, Children & Youth Committee, Internal Affairs, Constitution & Bylaws Committee, Commander's Advisory Committee, and Chairman of the Membership, Leadership, & Learning Commission. On the National Level, Jim has served as Chairman Veterans Employment & Education Commission, Chairman Foreign Relations, Employment & Veterans Preference Committee, Distinguished Guest Committee, Military Affairs Committee, Veterans Employment & Education Committee, and National Vice Commander 2008-2009.



Honors

- 100% Post Commander
- Post Legionnaire of the Year
- Silver Brigade
- Dept. of CT American Legion Hall of Fame
- Legion of Honor Bronze Medallion
- Chapel of Four Chaplains

Affiliations

- Sons of The American Legion
- American Legion Riders
- Past National Vice Commanders Club
- Past Department Commanders Club
- ANAVICUS
- 40 & 8
- NALCAA
- NADHAL



DISTINGUISHED GUEST SPEAKER • TERIA L. DOWDY

Executive Director

Cleveland VA Regional Office, Veterans Benefits Administration

Teria L. Dowdy was appointed Executive Director of the Cleveland VA Regional Office, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) on September 10, 2023. As the Executive Director, Ms. Dowdy is responsible for administering a broad range of VA benefits and services to 700,000 Veterans and their families living in Ohio. These services total approximately \$3.2 billion in annual Compensation and Pension benefits, and Veterans Readiness and Employment Services. In addition, she oversees one of the nation's ten National Contact Centers (NCC). Ms. Dowdy is responsible for providing executive leadership and direction to over 900 employees within Ohio.

Prior to this appointment, Ms. Dowdy served as the Assistant Director of the Indianapolis VA Regional Office providing executive oversight to over 600 employees administering VA benefits, including disability compensation, Veterans Readiness and Employment (Chapter 31) benefits, and fiduciary services for beneficiaries in 14 north-eastern states in the U.S.



 **AMERICAN
LEGION
BE THE
ONE**





DISTINGUISHED GUEST SPEAKER • MIKE AYERS

Legionnaire Insurance Trust representative

The American Legion Department of Ohio has had a long-standing relationship with Legionnaires Insurance Trust otherwise known as "LIT" since 1967. Since its affiliation with the Trust, the Department's Legion families have enjoyed access to a wide range of products and services, designed around the needs of veterans and their families. The LIT, has made it possible for thousands of Legion families to collect millions of dollars in benefits by enrolling in one or more of the products and/or services offered.

Since Ohio joined the LIT in 1967, the Department has received a grand total of \$5,672,409.00!

Here to tell us about this membership benefit from LIT is Mike Ayers, former Americanism/Children & Youth Director for 14 years at National and a former 10-year Department Adjutant for the Department of Indiana.





**NOW
AVAILABLE
IN YOUR
STATE**



Endorsed by Your American
Legion Department

LEGION FAMILY:
IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION FOR LEGIONCARE

UP TO \$5,000.00

NO-COST-TO-YOU ACCIDENT INSURANCE PROTECTION

For Online Activation Visit: TheLIT.com/LegionCare2

0318
444636

49434



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

JOSE L. RIVERA

Candidate for Department of OHIO
2nd. Vice Commander 2024-25



The Dynamic 9th. District - Lake County Council
and Brewer-Tarasco Post 007, Wickliffe, Ohio proudly presents:

JOSE L. RIVERA

as candidate for Department of OHIO, 2nd. Vice Commander
Jose earned his eligibility for the American Legion by serving in the
United States Air Force from 1984 - 1992.

Jose is endorsed and sponsored by PDC; Charles Stennis & James Campbell.

CURRENT LEGION POSITIONS:

Department NSC
Department Treasurer
Past Dynamic 9th District Commander 2018 - 19
Post 007 Past Commander 2010 - 14 & 2020 - 22
BALC Instructor

PAST DEPARTMENT POSITIONS:

NSC 2016 - 22
Child & Youth 2022 - 23
Finance Commission (4 years)
BALC Graduate 2019
NALC Graduate 2019

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS:

Life Member: Post 007, Wickliffe, Ohio
Advisor to S.A.L. Post 007 Detachment
40 & 8 Grand Chef de Gare, Grande du Ohio
Life Member: Amvets, DAV, 40 & 8 (Director VAVs)
Sous Director VAVs for Nationale

IN ADDITION:

Jose became commander of Post 007 at his first meeting in May of 2010. With the assistance of great volunteers, he helped make sure that the doors of the Post didn't close so there would still be a home and hall for it's members. He was also the canteen manager from 2011 to 2012.

Jose was in charge of "Operation Home Front" from 2011 to 2022 which assisted veterans and their families with children with school supplies and Christmas toys.

Jose also continues to assist veterans with service connected disabilities to the VA.

Jose is extremely active in helping veterans in any way he can.



*A-10 Warthog
"Tank Killer"*



Candidate Flyer Created by:
David A. Kelly
American Legion Post 007
Wickliffe, Ohio



Thank you!

The American Legion Department of Ohio wishes to thank all the Sponsors and Supporters that made this 2024 Convention possible.

Arrow International Gaming

Aurify

Grover Gaming

Wellcare

Humana

Advocate Health Advisors

Optavise

Veteran Companion Animal Services

Save A Warrior

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Ohio

Legionnaire Insurance Trust

Charities Inc.



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

YEAGER-BENSON MEMORIAL POST 199

AND

THE FABULOUS FOURTH DISTRICT

PROUDLY PRESENT



JEAN L. WILSON
FOR
ALTERNATE N.E.C.
FOR
2024-2026





SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY • JULY 11TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

12:00 pm–6:00 pm	Membership Table Outside Janus
3:00 pm–5:00 pm	DEC Meeting Independence
6:30 pm–7:15 pm	DEC Banquet Happy Hour (By Invitation Only) Ballroom 1 & 2
7:30 pm–10:00 pm	DEC Banquet (By Invitation Only) Ballroom 1 & 2



Visit us online at: <https://www.ohiolegion.com/>



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY • JULY 12TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

8:00 am–6:00 pm	Headquarters Office Room 141 & 143	12:00 pm–2:00 pm MEETINGS (<i>cont.</i>)	Rules & Order of Business Independence
9:00 am–6:00 pm	Distinguished Guests Check in Room 145 & 147		VA&R Broadview Heights
9:00 am–6:00 pm	Emblem Sales Outside Janus		National Security Room 145
9:00 am–6:00 pm	Sponsor/Vendor Check In Outside Ballroom 1		Sgt-At-Arms/ Special Sgt-At-Arms Mtg.
10:00 am–6:00 pm	Registration Outside Ballroom 1 & 2	2:00 pm–2:30 pm	District Caucuses (<i>see next page</i>)
10:00 am–6:00 pm	Membership Table Outside Janus	2:30 pm–4:30 pm	Opening Session (Joint) Ballroom 2, 3 & 4
10:00 am–6:00 pm	Sponsors/Vendors Ballroom 1	6:00 pm–end of session	Credentials Mtg. Maple Heights
10:00 am–6:00 pm	DSO Claims Table Hallway	6:00 pm–9:00 pm	Candidate Hospitality Parma, Bedford, Valley View, Brooklyn, & Brecksville Rooms
12:00 pm–2:00 pm CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS	Americanism Brooklyn	8:00 pm–12:00 am	
	Children & Youth Brecksville		
	Constitution & By-Law Amendments Bedford		
	Legislative Valley View		
	Permanent Organization Maple Heights		
	Resolutions Parma		





DISTRICT CAUCUS INFORMATION

FRIDAY • JULY 12TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

1st District Caucus

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Brooklyn

2nd District Caucus

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Brooklyn

3rd District Caucus

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Broadview Heights

4th District Caucus

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Broadview Heights

5th District Caucus

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Bedford

6th District Caucus

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Bedford

7th District Caucus

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Valley View

8th District Caucus

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Valley View

9th District Caucus

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Parma

10th District Caucus

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Parma

11th District Caucus

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Maple Heights

12th District Caucus

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Maple Heights

13th District Caucus

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Brecksville

14th District Caucus

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Brecksville

RETAIN. RECRUIT. REINSTATE.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY • JULY 13TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

8:00 am–6:00 pm	Distinguished Guests Check in Room 145 & 147	10:00 am–30 min. prior to close of session	Registration Outside Ballroom 1 & 2
8:00 am–11:30 am	Buckeye American Legion College Class-1 Independence	10:00 am–12:00 pm	Charities Gaming Training Seminar Michael's Grille (private room)
8:00 am–11:30 am	Buckeye American Legion College Class-2 Maple Heights	11:00 am–12:30 pm	PDC Lunch (Invitation Only) Slymans
9:00 am–11:00 am	Buckeye American Legion College (Graduate Workshop) Valley View	1:00 pm–4:00 pm	General Session Ballroom 2, 3 & 4
9:00 am–6:00 pm	Sponsor/Vendor Check in Outside Ballroom 1	4:30 pm–close of service	Catholic Mass St. Michaels Catholic Church 6912 Chestnut Rd. Cleveland, OH 44131
9:00 am–5:00 pm	Emblem Sales Outside Janus	4:30 pm–5:30 pm	National Appointees Meeting Independence
10:00 am–6:00 pm	Sponsors/Vendors Ballroom 1	4:30 pm–7:30 pm	Credentials Broadview Heights
10:00 am–6:00 pm	DSO Claims Table Hallway	8:00 pm–12:00 am	Candidate Hospitality Parma, Bedford, Valley View, Brooklyn, & Brecksville Rooms
10:00 am–6:00 pm	Membership Table Outside Janus		

Please visit our official Department Social Media Channels:



<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionDepartmentOfOhio/>



https://twitter.com/Ohio_Legion



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG5DACPf0uyfSa4ErKHOH_g?view_as=subscriber



https://www.instagram.com/ohio_legion/





SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY • JULY 14TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

8:00 am–1:00 pm	Headquarters Office Room 141 & 143
8:00 am–9:00 am	Distinguished Guests Check in Room 145 & 147
8:00 am–8:30 am	Protestant Services Brooklyn
8:00 am–close of service	Catholic Mass St. Michaels Catholic Church 6912 Chestnut Rd. Cleveland, OH 44131
8:30 am–1:00 pm	Sponsors/Vendors Ballroom 1
8:30 am–1:00 pm	Emblem Sales Outside Janus
9:00 am–1:00 pm	General Session Ballroom 2, 3 & 4
2:00 pm–3:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting Independence





GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENTION AGENDA

FRIDAY • JULY 12TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

6:00 PM – Session Opening

- ◇ Posting of Colors - Color Guard of Post 598
- ◇ National Anthem
- ◇ Invocation – Ron Distel, Department Chaplain
- ◇ POW/MIA Empty Chair Recognition – Jason Rue, Department Commander
 - ~ Place Cover on Empty Chair – Dean Boyers, Department Sergeant-At-Arms
- ◇ Pledge of Allegiance – Arnold Whatley, First Vice Commander
- ◇ Preamble – Stan Oren, Second Vice Commander
- ◇ Convention Call – John Robinson, Department Adjutant

Agenda Times are tentative and subject to delays and accelerations

6:30 PM – Distinguished Guest Greetings – Jason Rue, Department Commander

- ◇ Councilman of the City of Independence, Jim Trakas – Proclamation

6:35 PM – American Legion Family Greetings – Jason Rue, Department Commander

- ◇ Auxiliary President – Jane Ridenour & Officers
- ◇ Sons of American Legion Detachment Commander – Tim Conway & Officers

7:00 PM – Distinguished Guest Greetings – Jason Rue, Department Commander

- ◇ Legionnaire Insurance Trust Representative – Mike Ayers

7:25 PM – Americanism Programs Video Greetings

7:30 PM – Introduction of Candidates – John Robinson, Department Adjutant

- ◇ Department Commander – Arnold Whatley
- ◇ Department 1st Vice Commander – Stan Oren
- ◇ Candidates for Department 2nd Vice Commander:
 - ~ Gary Cox Jr.
 - ~ Jose Rivera
- ◇ Department Treasurer – Holly Lewis
- ◇ Department NEC – Ron Chapman
- ◇ Candidates for Department ALT NEC:
 - ~ Bob Schmitt
 - ~ Jean L. Wilson

8:00 PM – Announcements – John Robinson, Department Adjutant

9:00 PM – Closing Comments

- ◇ Additional business – Jason Rue, Department Commander
- ◇ Benediction – James Fast, Assistant Chaplain
- ◇ Bell & Gavel / Salute to the Colors / RECESS



GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENTION AGENDA

SATURDAY • JULY 13TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

1:00 PM – Session Continued

- ◇ Salute the Colors – Jason Rue, Department Commander
- ◇ Invocation Prayer – Ron Distel, Department Chaplain
- ◇ Opening Remarks – Jason Rue, Department Commander
- ◇ Credentials Report – Mel Baher, Credentials Chairman
- ◇ PDC's Recognition – Jason Rue, Department Commander

Agenda Times are tentative and subject to delays and accelerations

1:30 PM – Distinguished Guest Greetings

- ◇ Leading candidate for National Commander – James LaCoursiere Jr.
- ◇ Commander's Project Report – Jason Rue, Department Commander
- ◇ Executive Director of the Cleveland VA Regional Office, Veterans Benefits Administration – Tiera Dowdy

2:15 PM – Awards:

- ◇ **Membership Awards – Department 1st Vice Commander, Arnold "AJ" Whatley**
 - ~ Department Adjutant Award
 - ~ Department Commander Award
 - ~ Department 1st Vice Commander Award
 - ~ Department 2nd Vice Commander Award
 - ~ Grand Award
 - ~ Eli K. Jensen Award
 - ~ Hugh K Martin Award
 - ~ Big One Pin Awards
 - » Small Category
 - » Medium Category
 - » Large Category
 - ~ Anytime Post Awards
 - ~ Gold Brigade Award
 - ~ Recruiter of the Year
 - ~ District Commander Quota Award
 - ~ Post Quota Awards
- ◇ **Gifts For Yanks Awards – Darell Bishop / Holly Lewis, GFY Chair**
 - ~ Largest Contribution Post – Post 397, Vermillion - \$20,000.00
 - ~ Largest Contribution District – 5th District – \$80,150.00
 - ~ Largest % of goal Post – Post 400, Malinta - 12,500.00%
 - ~ Largest % of goal District – 5th District – 900.76%
 - ~ Crystal Eagle - Honorable Mention of Posts that had significant donations
- ◇ **Post Convention Awards – Department 2nd Vice Commander, Stan Oren**
 - ~ Mickeal J. Golato
 - ~ Edward McBane
 - ~ Alice Friedman & Alice Friedman Community Service



GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENTION AGENDA

SATURDAY (CONTINUED) • JULY 13TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

- ~ Reverend Father John E. Duffy
- ~ James Cunningham
- ~ Law and Order
- ◇ **Department "Of the Year" Awards – Jason Rue, Department Commander**
 - ~ 2024 Department Chaplain of the year
 - ~ 2024 Department Legionnaire of the year
- ◇ **Buckeye American Legion College Graduates – Ken LaVoy**

Agenda Times are tentative and subject to delays and accelerations

4:10 PM – Convention Committee Reports & Minutes

- ◇ Permanent Organization – Dennis Dickey, Chairman
- ◇ Rules & Order of Business – Gary Minadeo, Chairman
- ◇ Children & Youth – Ken Schutz, Chairman
 - ~ Awards for Donations to Department Children & Youth Programs
 - » Category I
 - » Category II
 - » Category III
 - » Category IV
- ◇ National Security – Al Buxton, Chairman
- ◇ VA&R – Dave Cook, Chairman
- ◇ Constitution and By-Laws Amendments – Robert Klostermeier, Chairman
- ◇ Legislative – Michael White, Chairman
- ◇ Americanism – Tom Rowe, Chairman
- ◇ Resolutions – Bob Schmitt, Chairman

5:00 PM – Department Officer & National Executive Committeeman Reports

- ◇ Department Commander – Jason Rue
- ◇ Department First Vice Commander – Arnold Whatley
- ◇ Department Second Vice Commander – Stan Oren
- ◇ Department Treasurer – Jose Rivera
- ◇ Department Judge Advocate – Josh Brown
- ◇ Department Chaplain – Ron Distel
- ◇ Department Historian – Al Beyer
- ◇ Department Adjutant – John Robinson
- ◇ NECMAN – Steve Masowick
- ◇ Alternate NECMAN – Ronald Chapman

6:00 PM – District Officer Ratifications – Jason Rue, Department Commander

- ◇ The chair will recognize Adjutant Robinson for reading the names and Post affiliations of the newly elected District Commanders, First Vice Commanders, and Second Vice Commanders

6:10 PM – Motion to Ratify the Newly Elected Officers – Jason Rue, Department Commander



GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENTION AGENDA

SATURDAY (CONTINUED) • JULY 13TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

6:15 PM – Announcements – Jason Rue, Department Commander

- ◇ The chair will recognize Adjutant Robinson for reading of upcoming event announcements

6:30 PM – Benediction – James Fast, Department Assistant Chaplain

6:35 PM – Session Recess – Jason Rue, Department Commander

GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENTION AGENDA

SUNDAY • JULY 14TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

9:00 AM - Session Continued

- ◇ Salute the Colors – Jason Rue, Department Commander

Agenda Times are tentative and subject to delays and accelerations

9:15 AM - Opening Comments – Jason Rue, Department Commander

9:30 AM - Final Remarks/Reports – Jason Rue, Department Commander

9:45 AM - Final Credentials Report – Mel Baher, Credentials Chairman

10:00 AM - Motion to accept Credentials Committee Report – Jason Rue, Department Commander

10:15 AM - Reading of the Rules for the Elections of Officers – John Robinson, Department Adjutant

- ◇ Nominations and Elections Rules – John Robinson, Department Adjutant
- ◇ Reporting of Tellers, Tabulators, Chief Judge – John Robinson, Department Adjutant
- ~ Motion to accept Report – Jason Rue, Department Commander

10:30 AM - Nominations, Demonstrations & Elections of Officers – Jason Rue, Department Commander

- ◇ Department Commander – 1st Nominator, Stanley Pleasant – 2nd Nominator, Steve Masowick
- ◇ Department 1st Vice Commander – 1st Nominator, Mike Kennedy – 2nd Nominator, Ron Chapman
- ◇ Department 2nd Vice Commander – 1st Nominator, John Looker – 2nd Nominator, Roger Friend
- ◇ Department 2nd Vice Commander – 1st Nominator, Gary Minadeo – 2nd Nominator, John Murphy
- ◇ Department Treasurer – 1st Nominator, Jean Wilson – 2nd Nominator, Charles Stennis
- ◇ Department NEC – 1st Nominator, Stanley Pleasant - 2nd Nominator, Suzette Heller
- ◇ Department Alternate NEC – 1st Nominator, Charles Stennis - 2nd Nominator, Gary Minadeo
- ◇ Department Alternate NEC - 1st Nominator, Suzette Heller - 2nd Nominator, Holly Lewis

11:45 AM - Installation of Department Officers – Jason Rue, Department Commander

- ◇ Installation of Newly-Elected Department and District Officers – PDC, Robert 'Bob' Steele



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENTION AGENDA

SUNDAY (CONTINUED) • JULY 14TH 2024 • HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

12:10 PM - Final Drawings & Closing of Convention

- ◇ Recruiter Card Drawing – Jason Rue, Arnold Whatley, and Stan Oren
- ◇ Charities Inc. Sweepstakes Drawing – Jason Rue, Past Department Commander
 - ~ Drawing – Glen Hickman, Jim Morris, Jerry Wilson, Roger Friend, and Charles Stennis
- ◇ Announcements – Jason Rue, Past Department Commander
- ◇ Invocation – Jason Rue, Past Department Commander
 - ~ Final Benediction – James Fast, Assistant Chaplain
- ◇ Closing – Jason Rue, Past Department Commander
 - ~ Final Salute & Retirement of Colors
- ◇ Closing – Final Rap of Gavel – Jason Rue, Past Department Commander

**2024-2025 Department Executive Committee Meeting Immediately Following in the Independence Room. Please make sure you pick up available caps, ties, badges, and membership cards in advance.*



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY





105TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

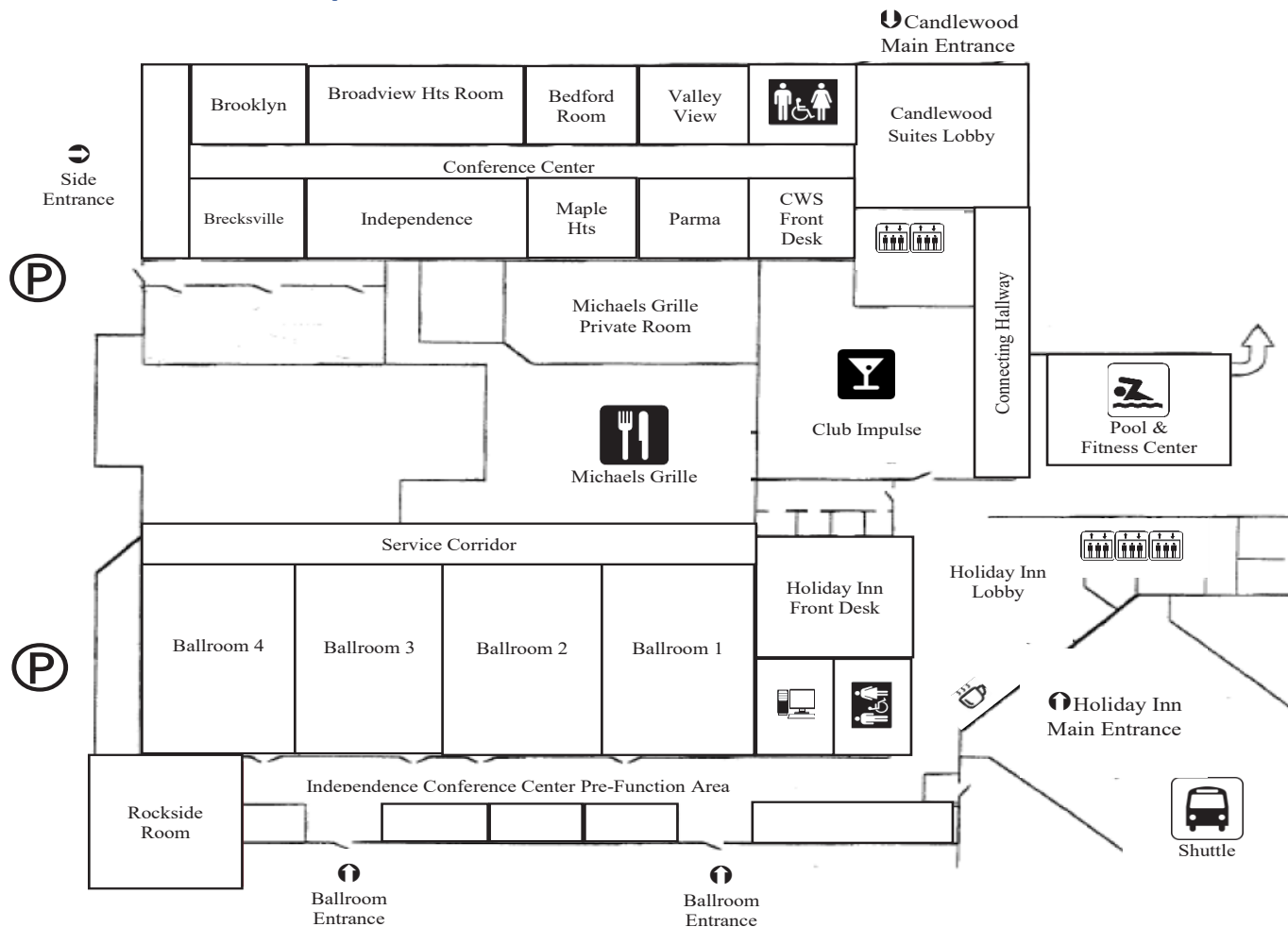
Main Housing Hotel -

HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND-S INDEPENDENCE

6001 ROCKSIDE RD.
INDEPENDENCE, OH 44131



& Independence Conference Center



Enjoy delicious meals in the hotel at

Michael's Grille



Hotel Restaurant Hours:

Breakfast 7:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Lunch 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Dinner 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Lounge Bar 5:00 PM - 2:00 AM



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

American Legion

CLEVELAND POST 2 “OHIO’S OLDEST POST”

The American Legion Family of
Cleveland Post 2, Sons of the
American Legion Squadron 2, &
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 2
proudly welcomes all American
Legion family members, visitors,
and friends to the 105th
Department of Ohio Convention.



Veterans Strengthening America



Together WE can Achieve Anything
Leadership - Sustainability - Transparency
WE Can Achieve Anything Together!!!!

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

General Daniel "Chappie" James Post 776 and
The Thundering Third District

PROUDLY PRESENTS

ARNOLD "AJ"
WHATLEY

Candidate for 2024-2025
Department Commander

Eligibility

Arnold Served 22 ½ years of Active Duty
in the United States Air Force (USAF)

PAST & CURRENT OFFICES

National American Legion Appointment

- (VA&R) National Cemetery Committee 2018-Present

Department of Ohio American Legion

- Department 1st & 2nd Vice Commander 2022-Present
- Internal Commission Member-2021
- Sgt at Arms -2017 - 2018
- Assistant Sgt at Arms-2016

District Positions/Accomplishments

- 3rd District Commander-2014-2015
- 1st Vice Commander-2013
- 2nd Vice Commander-2012
- Finance Officer-2011
- Resolution -2016 -Present
- Past Commander Committee -2016-Present

Post Positions/Accomplishments

- Commander Post 776 - 2008-2010

(Major Accomplishments as Commander)

- » \$21,000 donation towards Gifts for Yanks Program
- » 20 Candidates to Boys State
- » 100% Membership Quota Met
- 1st Vice Commander - 2007
- 3 Year Trustee -2001, 2004, 2018

- 2 Year Trustee -2002, 2005, 2019
- 1 Year Trustee -2003, 2006, Present
- Needy Family Committee Member 2011 -Present
- PUFL

Other Affiliations

- Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge State of Ohio

Edward Dugger, Jr Military Lodge #123 Worshipful Master

- Past Master 32° Degree
- Miami Consistory #26

Worshipful Master of the Rose Corix

- Order of the Eastern Star (OES), Prince Hall Affiliated (PHA), Inc.

Past Patron - 2015-2017

- Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Akbar Temple #41, Springfield, Ohio, Noble

Arnold is endorsed and sponsored by Past Department Commanders:

Stanley Pleasant, Henry Long, Robert Steele, David Hilliard, Robert Schmitt, Jean Wilson, Robert Klostermeier, Steve Masowick, Ron Chapman, & Roger Friend



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO



**91 American Legion Parkway
Berea, Ohio 44017
440-234-0091
www.postbythelake.com**



**James Lockyer
Commander**

**Ed Leopold
1st Vice Cmdr.**

**Keith Mattison
2nd Vice Cmdr.**

**Mel Baher
Finance Officer**

**George Masie
Adjutant**

**Linda Heffren
Chaplain**

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY OF POST 91 WELCOMES THE DEPARTMENT OF OHIO DELEGATION TO THE ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION BEING HELD AT THE HOLIDAY INN, ROCKSIDE ROAD, INDEPENDENCE OHIO, JULY 12TH - 14TH. PLEASE ENJOY YOUR STAY AND WE HOPE YOU ARE ABLE TO VISIT THE MANY FINE RESTARURANTS AND ENTERTAINMENT VENUES OFFERED IN THE AREA. WE LOOK FORWARD TO EVERYONE RE-VISITING US AGAIN NEXT YEAR. CONGRATUALTIONS TO ALL OF THE NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS.

105TH ANNUAL CONVENTION



**THE WILLIAMSBURG AMERICAN
LEGION POST 288**

**PRESENTS CANDIDATE
RONALD L. CHAPMAN
FOR
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
2024-2026**

ELECT "CHAPPY"



 **AMERICAN
LEGION**

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

THINGS TO DO IN CLEVELAND

Cleveland[®]



We're not worthy! We're not worthy! Pay homage to rock icons and see video, artifacts and memorabilia at the legendary Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Recently updated with \$15.1 million in bold renovations, the Rock Hall now has even more to gawk at.



With dining hotspots from Cleveland's own "Iron" Chef Michael Symon and other James Beard Foundation Award winners, a melting pot of ethnic restaurants, numerous microbreweries and the lone food-only public market in the nation, the culinary scene in Cleveland is simply delicious.



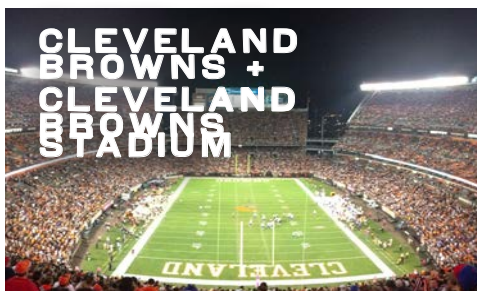
The glitz and glam of theater come to life in Playhouse Square, the largest performing arts district outside NYC. You can catch your favorite comedies, tragedies and Broadway hits in one of ten venues.



The adrenaline comes complimentary at Cedar Point Amusement Park, home to a pretty amazing collection of scream machines, including the recently opened Valravn and the new Cedar Point Shores waterpark.



Major League Baseball is exciting at Progressive Field, home of the Cleveland Guardians, giving visitors plenty of options to be entertained in a food-rich and family friendly atmosphere.



One of the nation's oldest and most storied football franchises plays its home games on the shore of Lake Erie, within a 10-minute walk of downtown hotels, restaurants and bars.



Excitement happens at Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse when the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers take the court.

JOIN IN AT THIS [ISCLEVELAND.COM](https://iscleveland.com) | #ThisIsCLE



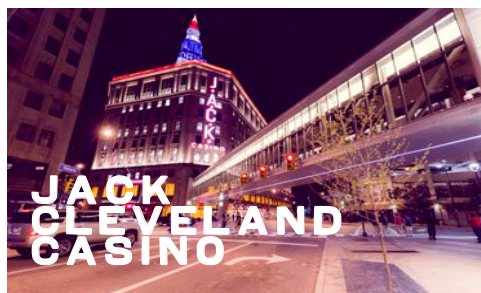
105TH ANNUAL CONVENTION



Picasso, Monet, Warhol – free. Yeah, you heard us right. One of the most prestigious cultural institutions in the country offers free admission to its stunning permanent collection.



Play name-the-constellation. Wave to Lucy, the earliest known hominid. Compare smiles with a T-Rex. You can do that and more at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.



Feeling rather high roller-ish? The high-energy JACK Cleveland Casino features non-stop gaming action with slot machines, table games and the ROCK Bar and Lounge.



With more than 3,000 animals located throughout 165 rolling wooded acres and the two-story RainForest full of exotic creatures and striking plant life from across the globe, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and RainForest is not your typical zoo.



Whether you're a green thumb or green dumb, the Cleveland Botanical Garden offers a beautiful escape with its indoor exhibits housed in a magnificent glasshouse and 10 acres of outdoor gardens.



The Cleveland History Center showcases just about everything there is to know about Cleveland's history – complete with sports artifacts; antique, vintage and classic automobiles; ornate costumes, and the famous Euclid Beach carousel.



Hear, hear! The Cleveland Orchestra stands today among the world's most revered.



The museum itself, which opened in 2012, is a work of dramatic geometric art. MOCA provides a diverse array of innovative and flexible exhibitions, programs and art of our time.



Why? Why? Why? These questions and more are answered at the Great Lakes Science Center, featuring hands-on exhibits, a digital dome theater, the Steamship William G. Mather and the NASA Glenn Visitors Center.



A weekend getaway is all about getting outside life's familiar four walls. In Cleveland, you'll find plenty of recreational opportunities on the great Lake Erie, throughout the Cuyahoga Valley National Park and within thousands of acres of green space in the Cleveland Metroparks.



THE AMERICAN LEGION | DEPARTMENT OF OHIO



105TH ANNUAL CONVENTION



The American Legion Department of Ohio is an organization dedicated to God and country, with a membership of nearly 80,000 military veterans who take deep pride in the U.S. Flag and all that it means. Since its inception nearly 100 years ago, the Legion has been a stalwart champion of patriotic values, morals, culture, and citizenship. The Legion's foundational four pillars embody its devotion to caring for veterans, supporting national law and order, educating law-abiding citizenship in our youth, and respectful observance of patriotic holidays and remembrances.

Become a member today by signing up at mylegion.org





Welcome!

**The American Legion
Department of Ohio Charities, Inc.
Welcomes You to Independence**

Glenn Hickman, President
Jerry Wilson, Interim Secretary
Jim Morris, Treasurer
Charles Stennis, Trustee
Roger Friend, Trustee