



# OHIO LEGION NEWS

Official Publication of The American Legion, Department of Ohio

VOLUME 90, NO. 2

April | May | June 2024

## LAST PRINTED EDITION OF THE OHIO LEGION NEWS

A historic day is upon us. On March 14th, 2024, the meeting of the Department Media, Marketing and Communications Commission voted on and carried a motion to discontinue the printing and mailing of the Ohio Legion Newspaper due to the increasing postal costs that have put this program over budget for nearly a decade now. Roughly to print and mail the OLN paper to all our active Ohio Legion members costs over \$130,000 dollars annually. This money will now be put back into all other of our Ohio Legion programs to continue operations as normal.

Beginning with the Summer 2024

edition, the Ohio Legion News will become an online newsletter. This option has been available to the Legion family and our members for nearly 3 years thus far and follows suit with many other Departments nationwide. Nearly 3,000 of our members have opted into the online newsletter program and more recently our 888, Gulf and Global War on Terror war era members have been auto enrolled into the program as a way to slowly introduce this change in the news distribution process.

During April's Department Executive Committee meeting the MMC Commission motion to go solely digital was

approved by the DEC body. While we realize this may be bothersome for many of our members, the hope is that the savings from this will far outweigh the inconvenience so that the Ohio American Legion can continue to thrive, advocating for our veterans and supporting our children and communities throughout the state.

In an effort to still get the newsletter out to our less tech-savvy members, Department plans to still mail 3 printed copies of the newly regular paper sized (Department designed) newsletter to each Post as well as our non-member affiliates already receiving the printed

OLN – this estimated 1,500 dollar a quarter cost will hopefully help mediate some of the concerns of all those members that do not have computer access. When members go to their belonging Post they can get the OLN information there with the few copies on hand to share.

For those members with a valid, up to date listed email on the myLegion/Personify Legion database, an emailed .pdf copy will be sent every quarter. The online quarterly newsletter will also be posted on Department website at: <https://www.ohiolegion.com/news/ohio-legion-news/>

## AMERICANISM AND GOVERNMENT TRIP

The American Legion Americanism and Government Trip was held February 26th - March 1st, 2024. This year the students were chaperoned by Department 1st Vice Commander AJ Whatley, Department Assistant Sergeant At Arms John Life, Auxiliary 1st Vice President Louise Smerk, SAL Member Bruce Bittner, Department Service Officer William Genochio, and Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator Christie White.

Day 1 of the trip consisted of visiting Gettysburg Battlefield and the

Gettysburg Museum. The battlefield tour never disappoints, and the museum was an amazing experience. We wrapped up with dinner at the historic Dobbin House. There is so much history in Gettysburg.

Day 2 of the A&G Trip, our young leaders started their day by visiting Andrew's Air Force Base. They visited the 316th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal and they had a blast (no pun intended). Then they visited the Fisher House on base, they had their first chow hall experience, and

visited the 316th CES Heavy Equipment Shop "Dirt Boys" and got to play with some equipment. They even saw the VC-25A (which is called Air Force One when the President is on it), which was parked right outside of the Dirt Boys shop.

After Andrew's AFB, they visited the White House Visitor Center, White House, National Archives, WWII Memorial, Vietnam Wall, Lincoln Memorial, Korean Memorial and they ended the night at the Silver Diner.

Day 3, we started off with a visit to the Air Force Memorial and Iwo Jima Memorial, then on to Arlington National Cemetery for our wreath laying ceremony, which is our biggest honor. Our "wreath security" was Remington Holder- Post 284- District 4 and Lilly Heydinger- Post 326- District 5. Our young leaders selected to place the wreath were Jasten Cooper- Post 587- District 1 and Josalin Morris- Post 217- District 2. Accompanying them for the honor of placing the wreath was Department 1st Vice Commander AJ Whatley and Department Auxiliary 1st Vice President Louise Smerk. After that, we traveled to the Pentagon Memorial, Eisenhower Memorial, and U.S. Capitol. Then we



picked up a few new faces (Department Commander Jason Rue and Department Adjutant JD Robinson). They tagged along with us to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial (TJ's House), and The National Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial.

For Dinner, we joined our Legion Family at American Legion Kenneth Nash Post 8 in Washington DC, with help from The Pioneer Post George Washington Post 1 (The American Legion's First

*(Continued on page 6)*

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PO Box 8007 • 60 Big Run Rd • Delaware, OH 43015  
OHIO LEGION NEWS

## Ohio Legion News

The American Legion, Department of Ohio  
60 Big Run Road • Delaware, Ohio 43015  
Phone: (740) 362-7478  
Email: legion@ohiolegion.com • www.ohiolegion.com



The OLN is published 4 times a year; non-member subscription price is \$2.00; member subscription is \$1.20 per year and included in annual dues.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** Submit Member ID with change of address to Department Headquarters via mail, email, or phone. Mail To: The American Legion of Ohio, 60 Big Run Road, Delaware, OH 43015; Email To: legion@ohiolegion.com; Phone: (740) 362-7478.

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**SUBMIT AN ARTICLE:** Mail articles with photos to: 60 Big Run Road, Delaware, OH 43015; or email to legion@ohiolegion.com. If you need assistance or have questions, please call Department Headquarters at 740.362.7478.

Please submit all articles in accordance with the following schedule:

2024 Summer Edition (July - August - September)  
Due to Department Headquarters: July 15, 2024  
Press Date: August 25, 2024 • Last week of August Mailing

2024 Fall Edition (October - November - December)  
Due to Department Headquarters: October 15, 2024  
Press Date: November 28, 2024 • Early December Mailing

2025 Winter Edition (January - February - March)  
Due to Department Headquarters: December 15, 2024  
Press Date: February 25, 2025 • Last week of February Mailing

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### Columbus VAACC VACANT

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### Please visit our official Department Social Media Channels:

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

 [https://twitter.com/Ohio\\_Legion](https://twitter.com/Ohio_Legion)

 [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGSDACPF0uyfSa4ErKHOH\\_g?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGSDACPF0uyfSa4ErKHOH_g?view_as=subscriber)

 [https://www.instagram.com/ohio\\_legion/](https://www.instagram.com/ohio_legion/)





## DEPARTMENT COMMANDER



**Jason Rue**  
Department Commander

Greetings Legionnaires,

I hope all the Posts have had a great year. By now every Post should have turned in their CPR's and their Certification of Post Officers.

I would like to thank all of the Posts

for their hard work this year on membership. I would also like to thank all of the District, County, and Post Officers for this past year. I would like to say a special thank you to all of the Department Officers and Staff for their help this year. It has been a truly great year, and I enjoyed getting out and meeting all the Legion family members and the individual Posts I have been invited to see.

I would like to thank all of the new Commanders and Officers, taking leadership positions this coming year. I wish you well, and remember: Department and I will be there to assist you if the need arises.

As we embark on a new year, remember that as leaders, we need to mentor new leaders. It is not our task to tell them how they have to complete tasks,

but rather, to give them guidance and let them flourish. This is a monumental, but essential task if our organization is going to flourish in the coming years.

I would like to thank you for allowing me to be your Department Commander this year. It has been a truly great year.

For God and Country,  
Gratefully yours,  
Commander Jason Rue

## 1ST VICE COMMANDER



**Arnold Whatley**  
1st Vice Commander

Comrades,  
As we approach the May 15, 2024 target date, the following Districts have a good shot of making quota: District #3 - 98.12%, District #5 - 96.43%, District #14 - 96.19%, District #1 - 96.15%, and District #9 - 96.02%

I have confidence that you can reach the goal of quota, as well as the other 9 Districts that are working just as hard to be successful in membership. Lastly, I would like to thank all of you (The American Legion Team) for allowing me to be part of your team. We have planted the seed for greater things for the membership year 2025. Thank you, thank You.

Arnold Whatley,  
Department 1st Vice Commander

## 2ND VICE COMMANDER



**Stan Oren**  
2nd Vice Commander

Greetings Legionnaires,

It was good to see those who came out for our Spring activities. Thanks to Hamler Post 262 for hosting the Department Euchre tournament, Zanesville Post 29 for

hosting the Department Pool tournament, and Massillon Post 221 for hosting the newly implemented Corn Hole Tournament. A big thank you to all the tournament participants and to each of you that gave your time to make these

tournaments successful.

Upcoming Department activities include the Trapshoot, Sunday, September 8, 2024, at Marengo, OH, hosted by E. B. Rinehart Post 754 Johnsville. Also, the Golf tournament will be hosted by Post 389 Beverly on September 14-15, 2024. Mark your calendars now and be part of the fun and fellowship. Visit the Department website at <https://www.ohiolegion.com/post-activities/> for flyers and more information as they become available.

Stan Oren,  
Department 2nd Vice Commander

## ROBINSON'S RECAP



**John Robinson**  
Department Adjutant

Hello Members,  
Thank you for being members of the best Veterans service organization in the world.

I want to congratulate all the newly elected or appointed Officers. Thank you for taking the call and

helping your Post, County, or District. You have taken a leadership position and if you need help or guidance in your position please reach out. We have a dedicated staff and can help with most

questions, or we will find the answer for you.

Your Post should have received the Department Convention call already – if not, check with your Post Adjutant, Commander, or District Adjutant. We look forward to having a great turnout this year.

We have several resolutions to pass and elect the next group of officers to lead our great Department. One of the resolutions to be voted on is the Dues increase for membership. The resolution is asking for a Five dollar increase to start on January 1, 2025. The Department

has not had dues increase in over twenty years.

National has started a three-year membership program. Members must sign up for it through MYLEGION.org. The Post and Department cannot renew these members for three years. The Post will receive their portion of the dues once a year for these members.

If your Post, County, or District has an upcoming event please share your flyer

with one of us at the Department. We will make sure it gets put on The American Legion Department of Ohio Family Events Facebook page. We love to share what is going on so maybe someone traveling will find a new Post to stop at and have some fun and make new friends.

Happy Spring, and let's get ready to start a new year.

Sincerely,  
John Robinson | Department Adjutant



## DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN



**Al Beyer**  
Department Historian

Howzit?

As we continue our gallop towards the finish of our 2023-2024 year, it still brings me a great satisfaction to gather and archive the history of our department members across the state serving fellow veterans and their communities. Most recently I attended 5th District's Post 344 in Carey who held an American

Legion birthday celebration dinner. It was a complete Legion family affair with the auxiliary preparing the meal; S.A.L and Junior members, along with U.S. Marine recruits serving the guests. The highlight of the evening was the recognition of three legionnaires over 85 years old who were presented with their 50-year membership plaque and certificates signed by the National Commander Daniel Seehafer, the National Adjutant Dan Wheeler and Post Commander, Bob Mason.

To some, it may seem like a trivial event, but to these members it meant a lot. They continue to pay their membership dues with the same hope of helping other veterans as they return just as they did when they first became American Legion members 50 years beforehand. And they still believe in the mission of the American Legion and its four pillars just as strongly. These members are the ones we should hold and revere for keeping us on course. They are the ones whose brain ought to be picked so that

we know what more we ought to be doing or not doing. They are our history. For if you don't know where you've been how are you going to know which way to go.

In my travels of Ohio, capturing its interesting history of American Legion posts and their members, my wife and I made a pit stop at District 10's Ralph Courtright Post 65, where they had an Easter Party open to the community. Post Commanders wear many hats and

*(Continued on next page)*

**HISTORIAN cont'd.**

sometimes as necessary to complete the mission step outside the box, Post Commander Jason Babcock put on a full-blown bunny suit, so that 50 children of that community can join together looking for Easter eggs.



**Post 65 Commander Jason Babcock, US Air Force Veteran wears many hats to complete the mission including as the Easter Bunny for 50 kids in the Coshocton area.**

It was our pleasure to visit the post and be welcomed with "Aloha" by US Army Veteran & Legionnaire Joe Lavenski and his wife Carole, a 22 year Auxiliary member.

Down the road a piece, we visited Post 399 of District 11 and were impressed with the Legion family and met darn near the entire town of Dresden. A small post with young leadership, but a big heart, looking for guidance to learn so they might meet their goals. They have such great potential and if you ever get the chance to stop in, they are open to



**US Army Veteran & Legionnaire Joe Lavenski and his wife Carole, a 22 year Auxiliary member.**

receiving whatever knowledge and ideas you can share, they would be very appreciative. We were impressed with their welcoming hospitality and a full-service kitchen and an exceptionally good cheeseburger deluxe. They open at 5pm seven days a week. Tell them Al sent you.

We did have another promising event, The Oratorical contest. I say promising because once you listen to these kids, you once again have hope with what this country can be again. Thank you to Chairman John Looker and Program Coordinator Christie White on the coordination and logistics in preparing for and presenting this worthwhile program. This year's Oratorical held at Department Headquarters was well attended and impressive. They needed more volunteers for the 11 amazing contestants. If you want to volunteer next year, contact Christie.

It is such a great feeling to be inspired by these kids this way, knowing that the next generation is not lost. The winner, Katherine Toepfer, was sponsored by Post 7 of Wickliffe in District 9 and will be representing Ohio at the National

Oratorical Contest in May at Hillsdale College in Michigan.

I ask all of you to continue to submit to me your post and district history by email. And don't forget Post history books are due on or before (please NLT) June 1, of this year. The history of events of what you do does have influence in our department and eventually it does vibrate throughout the country. Let the historian help you to promote your history. If I can do something for you, please reach out to me.

I want to thank Larry Stottsberry of Post 221 for the updates of events from his post. We cannot use everything we get, but we try.



**A great group of guys, Post 399 is certainly a place where everyone knows your name. From left to right, Dave Mathew, SAL Chaplain; Terry Minner, Legionnaire; Jeff Longaberger, Legionnaire; Brent Wisan, Legionnaire; Past Post Commander, Stephen Williams, USMC; Gary Graves, Legionnaire; Ron Susalla, Legionnaire USMC; Terry Machett, Legionnaire; Steve Miller, Legionnaire; Uncle Bill Swingle, SAL; 1st Vice Commander, Charles "Chuck" Solt; and Christopher Miller, SAL 1st Vice Commander.**



**Representing District 9, 2nd Vice Detachment Commander Jeff Vrabel Jr., Katherine Toepfer, Department of Ohio Oratorical Winner 2024 and Department of Ohio Parliamentarian Gary Minadeo of the sponsoring American Legion Post 7 in Wickliffe**

If you'd like to have a "Be the One" button, let me know. It's something we should all be wearing, everywhere we go. People not in the know do ask me what it represents, and once they know they know are more inclined to point you in the direction of someone in need.

Commander Jason, I am honored to represent Ohio and my duties. I want to say thank you to my assistant Bob White, and my beautiful wife, the Auxiliary Historian for Ohio, Dayna Beyer. And of course, without the help of Jon Vulgamore you would not be seeing any of this history in print.

For God and Country ~ Respectfully,  
Al Beyer, Department Historian  
6013 Garber Road  
Bellville, OH 44813  
albeyer49@gmail.com  
419-566-9395

**PARLIAMENTARIAN**

**Gary Minadeo**  
Parliamentarian

**Just a Bit of Order**

Gary A. Minadeo,  
Parliamentarian  
garyaminadeo@gmail.com  
440-840-6164

**Let's open up the discussion  
- RONR p. 529**

Under the normal rules of discussion on a question (motion) before the body it is customary to limit each member to speak once until all other members have spoken or waived their right to speak. Most rules stipulate the maximum times a member may speak, typically two or three times. Yet, there may very well be

the occasion when the body feels that a question before the body needs a freer discussion to better understand the issues and options of the question at hand. Basically, they wish to proceed more like a special, ad hoc, or standing committee.

Typically, we think a "Suspension of the Rules" would then be in order, but that requires a two-thirds favorable vote and more importantly, if the rule is part of the bylaws or constitution, then it cannot be suspended. General Robert provided us a way to proceed, actually three ways; Committee of the Whole, Quasi-Committee of the Whole, or Informal Consideration.

The Committee of the Whole is the most well known. This is typically used

for very large assemblies. After a motion, second, and, a majority vote in favor the chair is vacated to a designated chairperson for the committee. Also, any recording and minutes of the assembly are stopped in favor of the committee keeping its informal notes so they may properly represent their recommendations after deliberation. When ready to report back to the assembly a motion to "rise and report", is made, seconded, and passed. The assembly is reassembled, the minutes are again officially recorded, the gavel is given back to the chairperson of the assembly, and the chair of the Committee of the Whole reports. The assembly discusses and votes on the recommendation.

The Quasi-Committee of the Whole has the same procedures, but the chairperson does not relinquish the gavel.

The Informal Consideration option leaves the assembly in session along with the chairperson. The recorder continues with the minutes as usual. The only change is that members will be allowed to speak as much as they desire. When deliberations are finished, the vote is taken on the question and recorded, just like under normal business. This option suites small groups like Posts, County, District and even the Department Executive Committee as long as the chairperson does not need to vacate the chair because of conflict of interest, like being a member of the ad hoc

committee reporting results.

In closing, these three options for freeing up discussion allow the assembly to better deliberate a tough question before the body. Yet, it does not relax the respect all members must have for each other and still requires members to speak through the chair on the question. Speak well, speak clearly, speak in turn, speak to learn — then vote!!!

### Recommended References

- Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised –RONR(11th Ed)(Emblem Sales - ES)
- Officers Guide (OG) (ES)
- Parliamentary Procedure- A Matter of Order (ES)
- RONR In-Brief (local bookstore or internet)
- Robert's Rules for Dummies (bookstore or on line)



## CHAPLAIN



Ron Distel  
Department Chaplain

### GREETINGS COMRADES,

Well, you have listened to me for the better part of a year now. I hope you have come away with some satisfaction of the messages that I have presented.

As you may have realized, I don't preach to you, but I faithfully attempt to impress a feel of goodness upon you all.

I would like to share with you some wisdom: Rivers do not drink the water

that flows in them; Trees do not eat the fruit that they produce; The Sun does not shine upon itself; Flowers do not spread a fragrance for them to enjoy; Living for others is the rule of Nature and "WE" are born to help each other no matter how difficult it may be. Life is good when you are happy, but it is much better when others are happy because of YOU!

God Bless You All.

Respectfully Always,

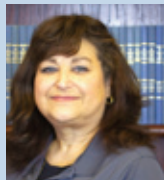
Ron Distel, Department Chaplain



## MEMBERSHIP CORNER



Sherry Yockey  
Membership  
Manager  
P: 740-816-7552  
E: syockey@  
ohiolegion.com



Hello from Membership. We didn't make it to our last target for 95%, but we

did well. Congratulations to the Third District for reaching 100% and to the other Districts that have reached 95% or better. Job well done. SAL again did a great job. Kudos to you!

The 2025 Membership Cards will be shipped to the Department soon. All Posts with their three Department forms submitted (OFC, PDR, and CPR) will have their cards released. Each District

can pick up 2025 Membership Cards for their Posts at the Department Convention on July 12-14 in Independence, Ohio. The Department will mail the remaining cards on the Cleared List (this is located on the Department website).

Bundled with the cards, there will be a packing slip. It is not a roster. Each Post will need to download a 2025 Roster from myLegion. If you

are not registered, please do so. Using myLegion will give you tools to help manage your Post's membership. When downloading your 2025 roster, you want to include the multiyear members. Select membership years 2025, 2026, and 2027 for a complete roster.

Respectfully,

Sherry Yockey, Membership Manager

# VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

WILLIAM GENOCHIO  
GySgt, USMC (Ret)  
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Coordinator  
Veterans Affairs  
& Rehabilitation  
Coordinator  
Dept. Service Officer / ALR Liaison  
Cleveland VA Regional Office  
Ph: 216-522-3504  
Email: genochio@ohiolegion.com



### "The SitRep"

Board of Veterans Appeals update.  
2023: \$743,992.08, Success Rate 83%  
2022: \$4,054,246.57, Success Rate 84%  
2021: \$3,781,694.78, Success Rate 93%  
2020: \$2,386,283.09, Success Rate 84%  
2019: \$2,879,602.90, Success Rate 77%  
2018: \$3,104,121.48, Success Rate 78%  
2017: \$5,647,713.73, Success Rate 85%  
Total Winnings for Veterans:  
\$22,597,654.63

### Current Department Service Officer Locations:

Cleveland VA Regional Office: Bill

Genochio, Will Brown, Michelle Jones, Jessica "Nicole" Reese, Thomas "Tom" White and Admin Assistant Melissa Manzie Monday – Friday open to the public

Wade Park VA Medical Center: Darell Bishop Monday – Thursday open to the public

Dayton VA Medical Center: Gary Felver Monday – Friday appointment preferred walk-ins accepted.

Cincinnati VA Medical Center: Currently Vacant

Columbus VAACC: Currently Vacant

### PSO School is Scheduled for September 21, 2024

The 2024 Department of Ohio Post Service Officer (PSO) School will be held Saturday September 24, 2024 at Department Headquarters from 0800 to 1630 (4:30pm). PSO's will be instructed in the basics of VA benefits available to veterans and their dependents. This course is open to all current and incoming PSO's at the Post level. To register for the class email your name, Post #,

email and phone number to genochio@ohiolegion.com by September 1, 2024, to secure your spot.

### Claim Sharks

It is paramount to know who is handling your VA claim. With the historic expansion of benefits under the 2022 PACT Act, predatory claim agents are targeting veterans seeking disability from the VA. The VA recognizes three types of accreditations:

1. VA recognized and trained Veterans Service Organizations like the American Legion (free to the veteran)

2. Attorney in good standings with a state bar (may charge a fee)

3. Claims agents who undergo a character review by the VA and passes VA's written exam (may charge a fee).

If the claims agent is not accredited by the VA Office of General Council, they are not allowed access to the VA platform of programs needed to assist veterans and their dependents with claims. The Department of Veterans Affairs has launched a new website to promote

awareness and information in identifying fraud: [www.va.gov/vsafe](http://www.va.gov/vsafe).

### PACT ACT 2022 Update

March 5, 2024, the PACT Act expanded VA health care to millions of veterans and their survivors. VA health care eligibility: You're eligible to enroll in VA health care now without needing to first apply for benefits if you meet the criteria below.

- Served in the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, or any other combat zone after 9/11 or

- You deployed in support of the Global War on Terror, or

- You were exposed to toxins or other hazards during military service at home or abroad.

Here is the link to look at the specific locations and presumptive conditions: <https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/>. To enroll in VA health care, visit <https://www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction/>. You can also apply at your local VA Medical Center of CBOC.



## AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



**William Genochio**  
GySgt, USMC (Ret)  
American Legion Riders Liaison to  
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Veterans Benefits Administrative  
Coordinator  
Dept. Service Officer / Office  
Supervisor  
Cleveland VA Regional Office  
Ph: 216-522-3504  
Email: [genochio@ohiolegion.com](mailto:genochio@ohiolegion.com)  
Legion Riders Page: <https://www.ohiolegion.com/programs/legion-riders/>

**American Legion Riders Contact Information**  
Michael Lincoln, Director of State Program

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**Heath Strawser, Sergeant at Arms**  
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**Brad Webb / Deputy Sergeant of Arms**  
[Bradwebb88@yahoo.com](mailto:Bradwebb88@yahoo.com) /  
740-2369-3322  
**Candance Messer / Secretary**  
[ohalrcommofficer@att.net](mailto:ohalrcommofficer@att.net) /  
937-791-3227

### OHIO ALR 2024 ROMP

The 2024 ROMP will be held August 1-3, 2024, by Post 29 in Zanesville, Ohio. You can find hotel information and event information on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100075928788189&mbextid=9R9pXO>

ALR Chapters using ALR President/Vice President please make sure you revise your bylaws and update your vest patch to abide by the Resolution No. 5 of the May 5-6, 2021, National Executive Committee Guidelines for the American Legion Riders National Program which states, "The only approved titles for the ALR Officers shall be chairman and vice-chairman or director and assistant director."

### Resolution No. 5: Guidelines for the American Legion Riders National Program

Here is the link to The American Legion Department of Ohio webpage with Resolution No. 5

<https://www.ohiolegion.com/legion-riders/>

### Riding Season is Here

As we tune up our bikes and hit the road whether riding with friends or for a cause may the following prayer keep you safe.

May the sun rise in front of me, the rain fall behind me and the wind follow me. May the Angels guard my travels for they know what is ahead of me. Keep me safe through rolling hills and swirling turns.

## AMERICANISM

**Christie White**  
Americanism and  
Children & Youth  
Coordinator  
W: 740-513-5199  
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These young leaders really are the future and will do great things. John Glenn once said, "The most important thing we can do is inspire young minds." I have no doubt these young leaders will inspire future generations.

### 2024 American Legion Americanism and Government Young Leaders

Jasten Cooper – District 1 – Post 587  
Evan Michael – District 2 – Post 217  
Justin Lininger – District 5 – Post 354  
Lilly Heydinger – District 5 – Post 326  
Olivia Meraz – District 1 – Post 297  
Josalin Morris – District 2 – Post 217  
Ryan Verhoff – District 1 – Post 63  
Jaden Shaw – District 5 – Post 397  
Remington Holder – District 4 – Post 484  
Nora Grieshop – District 2 – Post 648  
Addison Stallsmith – District 4 – Post 681  
Makayla Martin – District 5 – Post 405  
Andrew Billings – District 1 – Post 28  
Cartier Thompson – District 2 – Post 217

Seth Weaver – District 9 – Post 112  
Hannah Noel – District 1 – Post 28  
Ava Amlin – District 5 – Post 354  
Campbell Hoar – District 9 – Post 459



### A&G Trip from page 1

Chartered Post) and USS Jacob Jones Post 2 (the first all-female Post of ANY service organization) SAL and Auxiliary.

We ended our night by visiting the FDR Memorial and MLK Memorial.

They even got to see the Presidential Motorcade!!

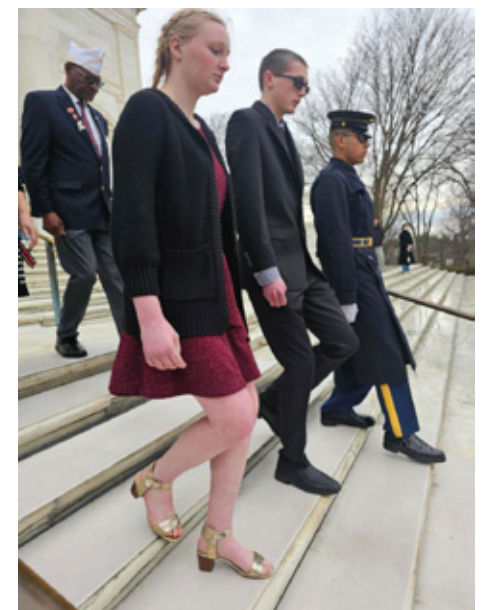
Day 4, we started the day at the Marine Corps Museum. They got to learn some first-hand knowledge from our Marine chaperones. Then we traveled to Mt. Vernon to see George Washington. After that, we went to the U.S. Army Museum. When we were done at the



Army Museum, we had to hurry back to the heart of DC to meet with Congressman Warren Davidson in his office. Our Young Leaders had a great Q&A session with him.

We spent the evening visiting Einstein, the Navy Memorial, Hard Rock Cafe for dinner, Washington Monument, the Kennedy Center observation deck, and ended the evening visiting the Iwo Jima Memorial one last time in the dark.

Day 5, Our final stop was the Flight 93 Memorial in Stoystown, PA. Words can't describe the Flight 93 Memorial. Very emotional. Former Vice President Dick Cheney said it best. "I think an act of heroism just took place on that plane." Thousands of people died on 9/11, but thousands more would have died if it weren't for the actions of those 40 passengers aboard Flight 93. That stop was a good reminder to be grateful. "A common field one day, a field of honor forever."





## STUDENT STATEMENTS ON A&G TRIP

**Evan Michael:** The American Legion trip to Washington DC was one of the most fun experiences I've had in a while. I got to experience the national landmarks and monuments, meet great peers with a similar interest in history, and get to know the wonderful American Legion chaperones that accompanied us. I would recommend that everyone tries the hardest they can on the American Legion test, because this trip was worth putting in the effort.

**Andrew Billings:** The Americanism and Government trip was an eye-opening learning experience. On this trip I learned more about American history

and got to see first-hand how the government functions. My favorite part of the trip was Arlington National Cemetery, because through seeing it I learned about how veterans and their sacrifices have shaped America.

**Jaden Shaw:** This trip was truly incredible, filled with exciting and meaningful experiences. Experiencing Washington D.C. in person was truly remarkable; every aspect of it—from the larger-than-life statues to the ornately decorated buildings—was breathtaking. The most memorable detail is the profound sense of American spirit felt absolutely everywhere. Washington D.C.

truly changed my perspective on this great nation. I am deeply appreciative of everyone who contributed to making this trip possible; thank you all.

**Nora Grieshop:** This trip was so much fun. I got the chance to make new friends and talk to people I might never have met. The people on the trip are some of the kindest and funniest people I have met. I had been to DC once before, but this trip provided experiences not many people get. I am so thankful I was given this opportunity, and I would do it again at any chance.

**Hannah Noel:** Going to Washington, D.C. as a result of the Americanism and

Government Test was one of the best experiences of my life. It was surreal to be chosen out of so many people, and I am so grateful for the opportunity. I was able to observe more than I could have ever imagined. It was eye opening to hear about all of the sacrifices made by the veterans and to learn more about the history of our country. I got to interact with incredible people, and I want to thank everyone who made it possible. This is something that I will cherish for the rest of my life!

**Josalin Morris:** The trip was different from anything I have ever  
*(Continued on page 9)*

## Student Statements cont'd.

experienced before. The trip took us to the various monuments, museums, and historical landmarks both in and around Washington D.C. I would not trade the experience I had on the trip for anything.

The most memorable parts were the Arlington National Cemetery and Joint Base Andrews. Arlington really made you think about what the men and women who have served this country gave for the freedom we have today. Joint Base Andrews was cool as you got to see many men and women serving and the numerous ways that you can serve in the military.

Above these places, one of the best parts were the chaperones. The chaperones encouraged us to get out of our comfort zones and helped to make this trip one to remember for a long time to come. Many of the chaperones took

vacation time off work to be there on the trip. The chaperones also put their personal lives aside so they could spend the week with us, that should be honored. The amount of hard work and time that gets put into planning this trip is also much appreciated and should not be looked over.

In conclusion, this trip is something I will remember for the rest of my life. Thank you to those who have and continue to support the American Legion and allow them to put on momentous events such as the Americanism and Government Test.

**Justin Lininger:** The Americanism and Government Test is an important piece of the high school social sciences classes that I have been a part of. It allows for the identification and memorization of our political leaders, and how our government, both locally and

federally, functions. In my Junior year, I had achieved a perfect score on my state-issued standardized test for American Government, and without such a program, I find it difficult to believe that I could have carried out such an accomplishment.

Moving towards the trip as a whole, it was an experience that I will remember fondly for a very long time. Giving full disclosure, I had been to Washington, D.C. on several occasions before the Americanism and Government trip, but the highlights of the trip, in my eyes, were the things that I had missed out on during those previous trips. Places such as the Korean War Veterans Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial, and the John F. Kennedy Center truly made this trip distinct from prior vacations to the area, and being able to visit the different monuments was absolutely astonishing;

even the places I had regularly visited in my previous time there were given new meaning. Each young leader was given a spot on the trip that they needed to teach to the group, and I was lucky enough to teach about the Vietnam Wall. To teach not only a lesson about the wall but the war itself, I tied it into home, detailing the life of a brave soldier memorialized as a name on the memorial, Staff Sergeant Lawrence Theis of New Riegel. This helped me to connect big time events to my small town, an excellent learning experience for me.

**Lillian Heydinger:** I had a wonderful experience going on the Americanism and Government Trip to Washington, D.C., it was educational and full of unforgettable memories. I got to learn more about our country and government, while also creating lasting friendships and connections.

## ORATORICAL

The American Legion Department of Ohio held our Department Oratorical Contest on Sunday March 17th, 2024 at Department Headquarters.

### The 2024 Contestants were....

Adam Smith – District 1  
Allison Dirksen – District 2  
Gabriel Schutte – District 3  
Alisa Zhao – District 4  
Srinidhi Valahappan – District 4  
Sarah Betterson – District 5  
Chase Hamilton – District 8

Katherine Toepfer – District 9  
Kaden Knappenberger – District 10  
Minerva Rajkumar – District 12  
Kandace McConnell – District 12

First Place was won by District 9 – Katherine Toepfer, and Second Place was won by District 4 – Alisa Zhao.

We would like to congratulate all the participants of the 2024 Department Oratorical Contest, as well as thank Sons of The American Legion and American

Legion Auxiliary for assisting us with the contest.

Good Luck Katherine! Represent Ohio well at the National Oratorical Contest!





## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING FLAG ETIQUETTE

**Question:** May an unserviceable flag be reused or recycled?

**Answer:** No. The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

**Question:** Can members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform render the military right hand salute when the flag is hoisted, lowered or is passing?

**Answer:** The law does allow members of the Armed Forces and veterans not in uniform to render the right hand salute, but does not mandate it. If you feel uncomfortable in any situation where the flag is being raised, lowered or is passing in review, the traditional right hand

over the heart – with the hat removed – is still a viable and very respectful alternative.

**Question:** Does the flag have to be destroyed if it touches the ground?

**Answer:** Care should be exercised in the handling of the flag, to protect it from becoming soiled or damaged. However, you are not required to destroy the flag if it touches the ground. As long as the flag remains suitable for display, even if washing or dry-cleaning (which is an acceptable practice) is required, the flag may continue to be displayed.

**Question:** Is it proper to fly the flag of the United States at night?

**Answer:** The Flag Code states that it is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings

and on stationary flag staffs in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed twenty-four hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

**Question:** What is considered proper illumination when flying the flag at night?

**Answer:** “Proper illumination” is a light specifically placed to illuminate the flag (preferred) or having a light source sufficient to illuminate the flag so it is recognizable as such by the casual observer.

**Question:** May a Legion post display the flag twenty-four hours a day and during all kinds of weather without regard to illuminating the flag or using an all-weather flag?

**Answer:** American Legion posts are to be guided by the same provisions of the Flag Code as are civilian displays. The National Americanism Commission, in fact, encourages Legion posts to take special care to adhere to these provisions as a proper example for the community.

**Question:** Is it permissible to fly the flag of the United States during inclement weather?

**Answer:** The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is displayed. (All-weather – nylon, synthetic, or other non-absorbent material)

**Question:** Is the Government required to fly the flag every day?

**Answer:** The Code suggests the flag be displayed daily on or near the main administration building of every public institution, in or near every polling place on election days and in or near every schoolhouse when school is in session.

**Question:** What is meant by the flag’s own right?

**Answer:** The “right” as the position of honor developed from the time when the “right hand” was the “weapon hand” or “point of danger.” The right hand raised without weapon was a sign of peace. The right hand, to any observer, is the observer’s left. Therefore, as used in the Flag Code, the flag and/or blue field is displayed to the left of the observer, which is the flag’s “own right.”

**Question:** What is the proper placement of two or more United States flags in a church or auditorium?

**Answer:** Regardless of the number of

United States flags, each would be displayed in accordance with Flag Code provisions. For most functions more than one flag is unnecessary. For a patriotic display as a show of color, the flags may be displayed as common sense and good taste would dictate.

**Question:** When is the United States flag to be displayed?

**Answer:** The flag should be displayed on all days, especially on all Federal holidays; and on State holidays.

**Question:** Is it proper for a Legion post to lower the United States flag to “half-staff” to honor a deceased member of the post?

**Answer:** No. The lowering of the flag is only authorized on Memorial Day, from sunrise until noon, and by executive order of the President, or State Governor. If it is so desired, the organizational flag may be lowered for this purpose.

**Question:** What happens to the State flag when the flag of the United States is half-staffed?

**Answer:** The State flag or any other flag or pennant in a display is lowered or removed when the flag is at half-staff. As indicated in the Flag Code, no flag or pennant should be placed above the flag of the United States.

**Question:** Is the flag to be half-staffed for National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (December 7th), and Patriot’s Day (September 11)?

**Answer:** In accordance with U.S. Code, Title 36, Chapter 1, the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation to display the flag at half-staff for the entire day.

**Question:** What is the significance of displaying the flag at half-staff?

**Answer:** This gesture is a sign to indicate the nation or state mourns the death of an individual(s). (Naval and Military Custom)

**Question:** Can the mayor order the flag to be half-staffed?

**Answer:** No, only the President of the United States or the Governor of your State may order the flag to be half-staffed.

Those individuals and agencies that usurp authority and display the flag at half-staff on inappropriate occasions are quickly eroding the honor and reverence accorded this solemn act.

**COMMUNITY FUN DAY**  
Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup> - 12PM to 7PM

JOIN THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF OHIO'S BASEBALL PROGRAM ON FRIDAY JULY 26<sup>th</sup> FROM NOON TO 7PM FOR A COMMUNITY FUN DAY. PRECEDING THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF OHIO'S SENIOR STATE BASEBALL TOURNAMENT (THE OPENING GAME WILL BE UNDER THE STADIUM LIGHTS AT 7:30PM), THIS FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT WILL BE LOCATED AT BEAVERS FIELD, 1651 GRANVILLE PIKE, LANCASTER, OH 43130. ACTIVITIES INCLUDED WILL BE: AN INFLATABLE OBSTACLE COURSE, A VARIETY OF GAMES, TOUCH A TRUCK FOR THE KIDS, CORN HOLE, FACE PAINTING, AND AXE THROWING WITH VENDOR OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF OHIO AT 740.362.7478. COME ON OUT FOR A FUN DAY AND STAY LATE FOR A BEAUTIFUL SUMMER NIGHT OF GOOD OLD FASHION AMERICAN BASEBALL!

BEAVERS FIELD  
1651 GRANVILLE PIKE  
LANCASTER, OH 43130

BEAVERS FIELD  
1651 GRANVILLE PIKE  
LANCASTER, OH 43130

(Continued on page 10)

## Flag Etiquette cont'd.

**Question:** In what order should the flags of the branches of the U.S. Armed Forces be displayed?

**Answer:** The order of march and order display from left to right is the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard.

**Question:** What size flag is appropriate to be displayed from a flagpole?

**Answer:** The Flag Code is silent with regards to the size flag that is appropriate for different sizes of flagpoles. The rule of thumb which has been passed down through tradition and custom is the fly of the flag should be approximately one-fourth the height of the pole.

**Question:** What is the significance of the gold fringe which we see on some United States flags?

**Answer:** Records indicate that fringe was first used on the flag as early as 1835. It was not until 1895 that it was officially added to the national flag for all regiments of the Army. For civilian use, fringe is not required as an integral part of the flag, nor can its use be said to constitute an unauthorized addition to the design prescribed by statute. It is considered that fringe is used as an honorable enrichment only. (Military tradition)

The courts have deemed without merit and frivolous, lawsuits that contend that the gold fringe adorning the flag conferred Admiralty/Maritime jurisdiction.

**Question:** Is it permissible to wear an item of clothing that looks like the United States flag?

**Answer:** Unless an article of clothing is made from an actual United States flag, there is NO breach of flag etiquette whatsoever. People are simply expressing their patriotism and love of country by wearing an article of clothing that happens to be red, white, and blue with stars and stripes. There is nothing illegal about the wearing or use of these items.

**Question:** Is it necessary for a person to stand and salute when the National Anthem is sung?

**Answer:** The Flag Code states that during rendition of the National Anthem, those present should stand and render the proper salute. Rendition includes singing.

**Question:** Is it appropriate to sing the National Anthem while saluting the flag?

**Answer:** Yes, it is appropriate to sing the National Anthem while saluting the flag; however, since it may be somewhat awkward, unnatural and incongruous to render the military salute while singing, it is permissible to remove the cap with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. It is noted that this section pertaining to the National Anthem does not contain the "remain silent" clause associated with the "Pledge of Allegiance."

**Question:** Can members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform render the military salute

in the manner provided for individuals in uniform when the National Anthem is played?

**Answer:** Yes.

Title 36, Subtitle I, Part A section 301 United States Code – National Anthem (a) Designation— The composition consisting of the words and music known as the Star-Spangled Banner is the national anthem.

(b) Conduct During Playing— During a rendition of the national anthem—

- (1) when the flag is displayed—

(A) individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until

the last note;

(B) members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and

(C) all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart; and

• (2) when the flag is not displayed, all present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Dayton National Cemetery Grave Decorating Ceremony- May 27, 2023

Buckeye Boys State- June 9-16, 2024

Department Junior Baseball Tournament- July 18-20, 2024

Department Senior Baseball Tournament- July 26-30, 2024

## BUCKEYE BOYS STATE

The American Legion Buckeye Boys State program will be held June 9th-16th, 2024 on the campus of Miami University. If you are interested in joining the Boys State staff, please email Christie White at [programs@ohiolegion.com](mailto:programs@ohiolegion.com) for an application.



American Legion Buckeye Boys State also created QR codes to educate students and schools that are unfamiliar with BBS. These codes are for educational and recruitment purposes only and are not delegate applications.

*For any questions, contact Christie White, Americanism/Children & Youth Coordinator at [programs@ohiolegion.com](mailto:programs@ohiolegion.com)*

# CHILDREN AND YOUTH

## APRIL WAS CHILDREN & YOUTH MONTH!

The American Legion has been actively involved with children's issues since the early 1920s. In many instances, the American Legion has been the driving force on behalf of children on the federal, state and local levels.

In 1938, April was formally designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month) and has continued on an annual basis.

Today's American Legion is as focused on the welfare of our country's children and the issues facing young people as it has ever been. The structure of this organization is forever supported by the

balance that our founding architects envisioned. Therefore, the Children & Youth pillar and its programs remain committed to serving the nation's youth.

Members of The American Legion Americanism Commission's Committee on Children & Youth have been entrusted with the responsibility of upholding this pillar – the one that braces our nation's veterans by caring for their children, and our nation's children.

The purpose of the committee is to formulate, recommend and implement plans, programs and activities designed to:

- Assure care and protection for the children of veterans.

- Improve conditions for all children and youth, with due concern for maintaining the integrity of the family home.

- Prevent social and physical ills of children and youth where possible.

- Maintain a balanced program that provides for their physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs

Some of these programs are-

### Family Emphasis

The family is the cornerstone of American society; however, modern society

places demands on the family that didn't exist in years past. These challenges can chip away at family strength and unity. The family-emphasis programs of The American Legion's Committee on Children & Youth aim to promote the importance of family strength and integrity.

### Family Support Network

The American Legion recognizes that families of active-duty and deployed military personnel face unique difficulties and hardships. With the help of the Family Support Network, these families do not have to shoulder this burden alone.

They can connect with American Legion Family members by requesting assistance through the nationwide toll-free number or electronic application. Legionnaires at the post level then provide assistance such as performing minor household chores and repairs, completing a Temporary Financial Assistance application and connecting the family with local programs.

#### Temporary Financial Assistance

Since 1919, The American Legion has been committed to the health and welfare of our nation's veterans and their families. Born out of this desire to serve, The American Legion established a form of direct aid to veterans' children in 1925: Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA). This landmark program continues to be unique in the field of social work today. Through TFA, an American Legion post can call upon the national organization for cash assistance to help maintain the basic needs of children of active-duty service members or American Legion members. Non-repayable grants are awarded to eligible families with a child in need when all other resources have been exhausted.

#### Child Safety

The American Legion's Committee on Children & Youth believes that child safety is everyone's concern. Prevention through education remains the best way to keep children safe. To promote child safety, The American Legion publishes several useful brochures to educate children and parents, and supports numerous national initiatives to keep children safe.

#### Gateway Drugs

Alcohol, tobacco, inhalants and marijuana are often readily available and considered to be an entry point to a life of drug dependency and delinquency. They are called "gateway" drugs because they often lead to drug abuse, addiction, and use of other drugs such as heroin, cocaine and LSD. The commission asks that all members of the American Legion Family educate parents and children in their communities about the dangers of gateway drugs.

#### Warning Signs

The Committee on Children & Youth recognizes the serious yet often overlooked problem that continues to plague our nation's youth: suicide. Suicide is a tragic and senseless act of desperation.

While it can be difficult and unpleasant to talk about suicide, it is important to communicate effectively about the subject, know the facts, dispel misconceptions and learn the warning signs of youth suicide.

#### Halloween Safety

As long as Halloween activities are sponsored and promoted in our communities by duly appointed and elected officials, the Committee on Children & Youth believes children and parents should know how to make this observance as safe as possible. This publication continues to be one of our most popular.

#### Missing Children

The American Legion encourages posts to provide or assist in making available child identification activities to give parents a means of providing this information to authorities should need arise. In addition, all levels of the organization are encouraged to increase public awareness of child victimization and its detrimental effects on children and youth, and to cooperate with credible organizations and agencies that seek to locate missing children in their states and communities.

#### American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization, is "dedicated to the betterment of all children." Its mission and foremost philanthropic priority is to contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth by aiding progress in the field of child welfare through dissemination of knowledge about research, studies, surveys, projects or by supporting programs and activities benefiting the welfare of children and youth. The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation accomplishes these goals each year by awarding grants to nonprofit youth-serving organizations for disseminating information that conforms to the foundation's purpose. Since 1954, more than \$17 million has been granted to help deserving organizations produce and distribute current and valuable information.

#### American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation

After World War I, veterans, widows and children continued to struggle to return to a normal life. The American

Legion, aware of the grave responsibilities entrusted to them by those who had served, took action. In 1924, newly elected American Legion National Commander James A. Drain undertook a massive fundraising challenge. His goal was \$5 million – equivalent to \$71 million in today's dollars. The purpose was twofold: to fund service officer training and provide free assistance for disabled veterans and to extend a financial safety net for needy military and veteran families with children. The American Legion Endowment Fund was born of this twofold purpose. Today, it has a new name illustrative of the timeless assistance it has provided through the generations – The American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation. Since its inception, the

fund has provided over \$30 million in assistance to veterans, members of the U.S. armed forces and their families.

#### National Family Week

The American Legion has long recognized the family as the foundation of this nation. A guiding principle of The American Legion's Children & Youth programs continues to be maintaining the integrity of the family. Since 1972, every U.S. president has declared the week of Thanksgiving as National Family Week. All members of The American Legion Family are encouraged to initiate and engage in local activities during National Family Week that promote, encourage and celebrate healthy families and communities.

## 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

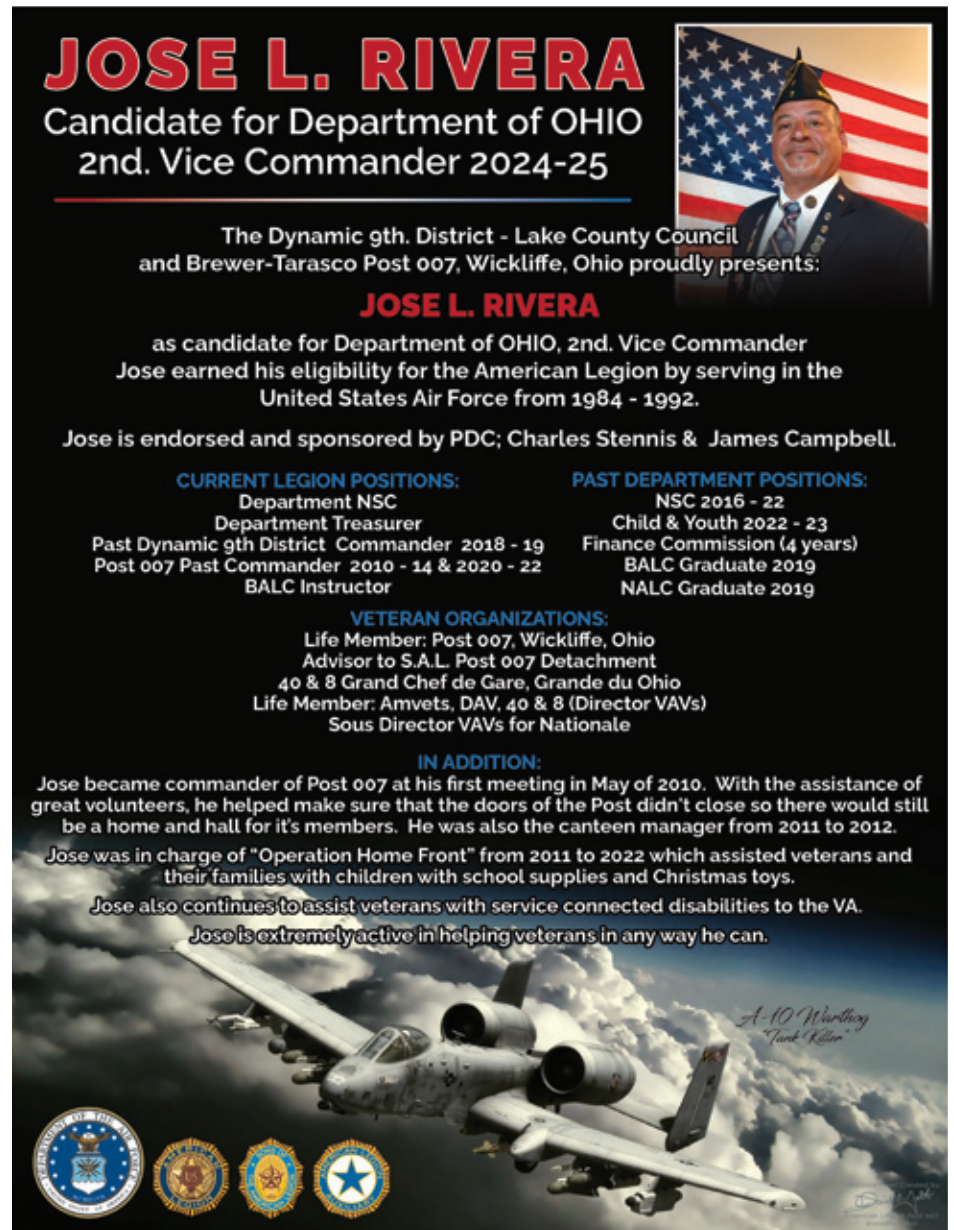
#### IN ADDITION:

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.



# AMERICAN LEGION OHIO DISTRICT NEWS

## 1<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT

Subscribe and Share the Great FIRST District Newsletter

Love OLN? Are you a Legionnaire in the Great FIRST District? Then you should also be receiving the Great FIRST District Newsletter. Keep up on all the latest news, meetings, and events in the Great FIRST District, plus informative articles on Post operations. Anyone who wishes to receive it only needs to send

us their name, Legion affiliation, and an email address to the email address below. It will be delivered monthly, Free of Charge directly to your inbox. If you have an event coming up, send it also for inclusion in the newsletter to: 1stdistrictohio@gmail.com

v/r  
Kevin Motter



*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

*For*  
**DEPT OF OHIO**

**2ND VICE COMMANDER**



## 2<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT



*Shown here are 50-year members of Celina District 2 Oratorical Contest. (L to R): Judge Angie King; Contestants Allison Dickson – winner, Daniel Koh, & Thomas Koh; 2nd District Commander & Oratorical Chairman - Thomas Tierney; and Judge Bill Sell.*



*Shown here are 50-year members of Celina Post 210 William Black and Robert Maurer, along with Commander Ronnie Fetters*

## 3<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT

Third District Commander Ken LaVoy presents his commander's coin to the incoming and outgoing Darke County Commander's at their council meeting held at Post 435 Versailles, Ohio. Darke County continues to lead the way on how a county council should be run.

3rd District Officers conduct the installation of Huber Heights, Post 200's

newly elected officers. Congratulations to each and every one of them.



*Paul Mussolino: Commander/Post Service Officer, Carol Troy: 1st Vice, Thad Henderson: 2nd Vice, Linda Raback: Adjutant, Ruth Pollock: Finance, John Jacobs: Chaplain, Ken Dallaire: 1 Trustee, Joseph Petronsky: 2 trustee*



*(L to R): 3rd District 1st Vice Chris Emmons, Incoming Darke County Commander Ken Wombold, Outgoing Darke County Commander Bruce Shaw, 3rd District Commander Ken LaVoy.*



# AMERICAN LEGION OHIO DISTRICT NEWS

## 12<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

Greetings Legionnaires of the Capital 12th District,

We've had the April showers, now we want to see the May flowers!

May 19, 2024, 1:00PM | 12th District Summer Conference Convention | Don Gentile Post 532, 1571 Demorest Rd., Columbus, OH 43228.

Besides end of 2024, beginning of 2025 American Legion year, we will be voting for District Chairs. We currently have only one member nominated for 2nd Vice Commander, John Stertz, PPC and current Adjutant of Post 486. Let's give him a race and get a few more to step up to the challenge. Let's make it fun! We'd really like to see ALL 12th District Posts represented.

May is a great month to solidify your membership drive. An opportunity to catch up, get ahead and let your post shine. The district has been in 6th place for a couple of weeks now. As of 4/24/2024, we were at 95.84%. A nice number, but we are working for 100%!!

So, please continue to work on your post for those renewals. Do this for 2024, 2023, even 2022. And don't forget the 888 members. Give them a post to participate in. Post 490 has the highest 888 with 7. Grow your post. Grow the LEGION all together. Some of you only need less than 10 members.

The American Legion's four pillars – Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth – are as relevant today as when our organization was founded in 1919. All American Legion officers and members should be familiar with the programs offered under each pillar, along with how to conduct and publicize them, recruit participants, and inspire community involvement, in which to serve Legion purposes. Have a rewarding and productive May 2024.

For God, Country, and Family,  
Brad Beatty, Commander 12th "Capital" District

## 13<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT



Past Department Commander, Jean Wilson presented a check to Molly Carlin of CAVA to go towards the new truck fund. PDC Wilson was in town making rounds with 13th District Commander, Bert Boyd.



American Legion Post 196 Brecksville out of the 13th District also presents a check to Molly Carlin of CAVA for their new truck fund.



13th District Commander Bert Boyd also presents a check to CAVA's Molly Carlin for their truck fund on behalf of the District.



-All Photos submitted by James Lockyer - Past District Commander & Post 91 Commander & 13th District Historian



On March 2nd, 2024, the American Legion celebrated its 105th Birthday. On hand to celebrate the occasion was Department of Ohio Adjutant, JD Robinson and 13th District Commander, Bert Boyd. The event was held at American Legion Post 91 where Post Commander Lockyer welcomed all who attended. Great job by the 13th District Auxiliary who planned and ran the event.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

5/27/2024

Memorial Day  
National & Department  
Closed

6/2/2024

District 4 Summer  
Convention  
Lockland Post 631  
10:00 AM

6/9/2024-6/16/2024

Buckeye Boy State  
Miami University, Oxford,  
OH

6/19/2024

Juneteenth Day  
National & Department  
Closed

7/4/2024-7/5/2023

Independence Day  
National & Department  
Closed

7/11/2024

DEC Meeting 2023-2024  
Depart. Convention  
Independence, OH

7/11/2024-7/14/2024

105th Annual Department  
Convention  
Independence, OH

7/14/2025

DEC Meeting 2024-2025  
Depart. Convention  
Independence, OH

7/18/2024-7/20/2024

Jr Baseball Tournaments  
Beaver Field, Lancaster, OH

7/20/2024

Standing Commission  
Meeting  
TBD

7/25/2024-7/27/2024

National Membership  
Workshop  
Indianapolis, IN

7/26/2024-7/30/2024

Sr Baseball Tournaments  
Beaver Field, Lancaster, OH  
8/1/2024-8/4/2024  
Legion Riders State Romp

8/3/2024

Fall DEC Meeting  
Department HQ  
10:00 AM

8/23/2024-8/29/2024

105th Annual National  
Convention  
New Orleans, Louisiana

9/2/2024

Labor Day  
National & Department  
Closed

9/21/2024

Post Service Officer School  
Department HQ

# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## POST 29 – HIGHLIGHTS



Mark Loeffler, 2nd Vice Commander received The Legionnaire of the Year for 2023 award from Post Commander Mike Watts (right). Mark was recognized for his outstanding leadership and service as a member of the Zanesville American Legion Post 29 during the Post's



105th Birthday Celebration and Volunteers Recognition Ceremony on March 4, 2024



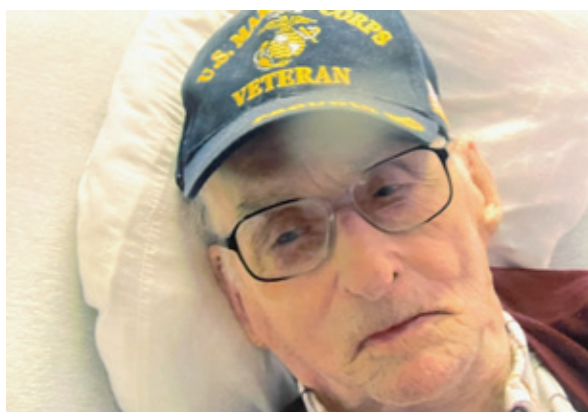
Zanesville American Legion Post 29 Officers and Executive Committees at the Post's 105th Birthday Celebration and Volunteers Recognition Ceremony on March 4, 2024



Heather Hamilton of the Zanesville American Legion Post 29 Auxiliary partnered with Texas Roadhouse to provide meals to six Vietnam veterans at a Zanesville nursing home on March 29 in recognition of National Vietnam Veterans Day.

## POST 257 HONORS WWII VETERAN

Wayne Heffelfinger turned 102 years young on March 30th, 2024. Wayne joined the USMC in 1941 and was honorably discharged in 1945. Upon his discharge, he joined Loudon Post 257 in Loudonville, OH. Wayne is a Life Member and has been a member of the Post for 79 years.



## POST 72 – HANDYMEN TO THE RESCUE!

Legion members Ed Karlis and Steve Baumann along with SAL member Devin Dickman, all from Post 72, installed two new HVAC units in John R Fox Post 631 out of Lockland, OH. The Post had air conditioning and heat, but it was inadequate for the space in their rental hall. Ed Karlis helped them purchase two new units that will do both heat and air. Ed, Steve, and Devin spent a couple days installing these units. They had to go through concrete block and ceilings to get them mounted properly.

That's what the American Legion is all about – helping others. These are the times where members should step up to help other members. Jerry Perry stopped by and got pictures of Ed Karlis and Steve Baumann; Devin had already left to go to another job.



John R Fox Post 631 needed some help getting HVAC in their upstairs hall. AL members Ed Karlis & Steve Baumann as well as SAL member Devin Dickman (not pictured) stepped up and got it done with two new units. Now they have air conditioning and heat!  
-Story submission by Jerry Perry

# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## POST 221 HOSTS 1ST ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

On April 20th, 2024, Massillon Post 221 hosted the Department of Ohio Cornhole Tournament. Trophies were awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th place. All in attendance had a good time.

Special thanks to event organizers Chip and Theresa Stark, Post 221 Commander Larry Stottsberry, and 10th District Auxiliary President Brenda Stottsberry as well as Larry's son's family for helping with the event.



## POST 23 – FINANCIAL DONATIONS



James Dickey Post 23 Commander, John Simon is shown here presenting a check to Hard Knocks boxing camp in Portsmouth, Ohio. L to R: Phil Bender, Commander Simon, young boxer Bo Mayo, and Adjutant Jerry Howe.



Post 23 Commander, John Simon proudly presents a check to the Shawnee Lady Bears softball team.



Post 23 Commander, John Simon donated a \$2500 check to the Chillicothe VA for their Christmas party dinner.

# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## POST 91 - DONATIONS TO COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ANIMAL WELFARE

On February 8th, 2024, Albert E Baesel Inc. American Legion Post 91 out of Berea donated \$25,000 to the City of Berea's Community Outreach Office to support its food pantry and another \$5,000 to Berea Animal Rescue Friends, a no-kill shelter. Berea Mayor, Cyril Kleem said the donation was the largest the agency has ever received and "will go a long way to help our neighbors in need." Post 91 Commander, James Lockyer presented the checks to Mayor Kleem and to Natalie Guzzo, coordinator of Community Outreach; and also to Pat Brinks and Martin McDonnell of Berea Animal Rescue Friends. Commander Lockyer credited Legionnaire Dave Pavlick, a Marine Corps vet, with suggesting the sizable donations to Berea Community Outreach and Animal Rescue Friends. "We usually give \$500 or \$1,000 to organizations who ask," Pavlick said. "I thought we should give a significant amount to make a difference."



Mayor Cyril Kleem and Natalie Guzzo of BCO accept a donation from American Legion Post 91 Commander James Lockyer.



American Legion Post 91 Commander James Lockyer presents a donation to Pat Brinks and Martin McDonnell of Berea Animal Rescue Friends.

## POST 162 – BIGHEARTED DONATIONS

American Legion Bird Mc Ginnis Post 162 out of Marion has made some notable and philanthropic donations recently. Of those not pictured below - Post 162 has contributed to; various youth sports and Pure Function CrossFit, their first 'Be The One' experience with helping a struggling veteran to an out of state in-house program for his mental health recovery, and much needed lift chairs for two veterans. Way to go Post 162!



A recent donation from Post 162 was to Save A Warrior. Several members met with Save A Warrior reps and former Department of Ohio Adjutant, Suzette Heller, whom now is busy helping to save veterans with the Save A Warrior program, and presented a donation check for \$5,000 in an effort to eliminate veteran and first responder suicides.



Post 162 members John Jones, Steve Victor, and Rocky Simpkins presented a donation of \$500 to Randy Boldman and a few other folks from Marca Industries Inc.



In August of 2023 David Ross and Steve Victor of Post 162 presented a check for \$6,000 to Bill Swihart, Director of Marion Concert Band. Post 162 thanks the Band for their years of playing during Veteran services throughout Marion. This money goes to the 2024 Concert in the Park series at McKinley Park



The Marion County Ohio Dog Pound needed dog food to help feed the numerous stray dogs they have in their care. Post 162 donated 1,050 pounds of dog food! Special recognition to Rocky Simpkins and Steve Victor for picking up the food and delivering it.

## 4TH DISTRICT ORATORICAL CONTEST

Four Mason High School students competed in the 4th District Oratorical Contest in mid-March. Congratulations to all the contestants from Mason High School. A special thank you to all involved for promoting the American Legion programs.

L to R: Al Buxton, 4th District Commander, Chris Stackpole, Drew Hoffmaster, Srinidhi Valathappan, runner up 4th District contest, advancing to Department contest, Alisa Zhao, winner of the 4th District contest advancing to Department contest, John Looker.





# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## POST 91 - SELLOUT ECLIPSE EVENT

On April 8th, 2024, Berea Post 91 hosted an event to celebrate the rare celestial occasion. When there is a scheduled eclipse, and the weather is perfect there is only one thing a Legionnaire is to do and that is throw an Eclipse Party. Post 91 was a sellout event!



## POST 700 - FOUR CHAPLAINS SERVICE

A Four Chaplains Service was conducted by Howland American Legion Post 700, assisted by Scout Pack 122 & Troop 28. The service was held at the Howland Community Church on Sunday February 4th, 2024. Service commemorates the selfless sacrifice of four U.S. Army Chaplains of different faiths, who gave up their lives to save others; when during World War II, the SS Dorchester was torpedoed on February 3rd, 1943. The chaplains helped other soldiers board lifeboats and gave up their own life jackets. The last anyone saw of the four chaplains, they were standing on the deck, arms linked and praying together as the ship went down.



*Pictured left to right in front row: Mitchell McEvoy, Michael Danso, Andrew Danso and Jack Ford. Second row are Smith Mealy, Ed Pretot, Bill Lewis & Ed Dougherty. Standing in the background on the far left is Post 700 Commander John Turner.*

## POST 239 – WWII VET BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

A member of the Leasure-Blackston Post 239 turned 105 in April. Herbert McGee is a US Army Private who served in the Asia-Pacific Theater. He was awarded a Bronze Star as an infantry soldier who ran ammunition. He was the Grand Marshal of the Worthington Memorial Day Parade in 2016 and again as an honored group of WWII Veterans in 2018. At his birthday party Commander Luksik presented Herbert with a certificate of appreciation.

*Herbert McGee seated, Back row from left: Tom Rieder Past Commander, Glenn Luksik Commander, George Mussi 12th District Past Commander*



*Herbert McGee in his 1940's Army Uniform*

# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## POST 633 - 75 CONTINUOUS YEAR MEMBERSHIP AWARD

On March 13th, 2024, several Charles H. Eyre American Legion Post 633 members visited Ralph Stern at his home in Seaman. Ralph celebrated his 100th birthday last September and he is a charter member of Post 633. Post Commander, Eric Newman presented Ralph with his 75-year American Legion certificate as well as a plaque recognizing him for his many years of faithful service to our Post and our community. Private Ralph Stern served during WWII as a radio operator. After WWII, Ralph, along with other community veterans, signed the charter for American Legion Post 633 and Ralph also served as Post Commander from 1962-1964. Those visiting with Ralph enjoyed the many stories he shared from his early life, military career, and the many years following. Ralph's dedication to the Post and to the community is sincerely appreciated.



Ralph Stern, seated. L to R: standing: Eric Newman, Tim Downing, George Biely, Tom Putnam, Gary Embrey, Dan Raines, Rebecca Rickey



American Legion Post 633 Commander, Eric Newman, presents Ralph Stern with his 75-year American Legion certificate and a plaque recognizing him for his service to Post 633 and the community at large.

## POST 292 – BUCKEYE BOYS STATE BOUND

Broome-Wood Post 292 out of New London welcomed Max Smith and his parents Luther and Jeanette Smith in late April. Max is the 2024 Post 292 representative to the Buckeye Boys State program this summer.



Pictured along with Max Smith and his parents is John Longbrake 1st Vice Chairman, Dave Smith Post Commander, John Roeder Chaplain, and Mike Greene Sgt. At Arms.

## POST 631 – BUFFALO SOLDIER PROGRAM

On Saturday, February 10th, 2024, Ranger Reginald Murray portrayed the Black Buffalo Soldier at American Legion John R Fox Post 631 out of Lockland. He is pictured here with some of the young folks that attended the Black History Month celebration event.



## POST 494 – CONTINUOUS YEARS MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

American Legion National Commander, Daniel J. Seehafer, recently honored 4 members of American Legion Homer Weiss Post 494 out of Sugarcreek, Ohio, with Certificates of Continuous Membership of 50 plus years in the American Legion. National Commander Seehafer recognized these members for outstanding service and contributing to the programs of the American Legion and serving our veterans and our communities. Post 494 Commander, Linda Stefanov, recently presented this Certificate for 50 plus years' service to Robert Eckert, Denny Lingler, and Jeff Schrock. Also receiving this award is member Robert Hummel, who resides in Indialantic, Florida.



# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## POST 162 – VETERAN GIFTS

On February 7th, 2024, American Legion Bird Mc Ginnis Post 162 out of Marion had some of their members visit Legacy Nursing Home of Marion to honor 5 veterans residing there by giving them various gifts as well as a generous entertainment check for the whole facility.



## POST 385 - BAY VILLAGE MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT

On Friday Feb 9th, 2024, the Bay Village School District held its 3rd annual Military Appreciation Night at Bay Village High School. It's meant to honor area Veterans and Active-Duty Military. The ceremony was conducted between the Girls and Boys Varsity basketball games. American Legion Bay Village Post 385 has been participating for all 3 years and has been the color guard for the event.



## POST 238 – YOUTH CITIZENSHIP DONATION

American Legion Donald Cannon Post 238 out of Mechanicsburg donated \$3700 to Mechanicsburg Middle School for their annual 8th grade Washington DC trip.



*Pictured are Post Finance Officer, Ken Gordon and school representative, Ce Greene*

## POST 238 - LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR AWARD

In April of 2024, Donald Cannon American Legion Post 238 out of Mechanicsburg member Mike Edwards is presented the 2023 Post Legionnaire of the Year Award by Commander Jim Blanton.



**POST 0020**

Michael Henwood - Bremen

**POST 0021**James Cunningham - Athens  
Frederick Savage - Millfield  
James Blaschak - The Plains  
Dennis Payne - Zaleski

Terry Walburn - Canal Winchester

**POST 0023**Jacob Frowine - Portsmouth  
Ronald Newman - Portsmouth  
Larry Vassar - West Portsmouth**POST 0024**

Robert Janes - Duncan Falls

**POST 0028**Donald Chalfant - Perrysburg  
William Shank - Perrysburg  
Dale Swartz - Perrysburg**POST 0029**Robert Cohagen - Zanesville  
Charles Archer - Zanesville  
Wayne Plum - Zanesville  
Jeff Thompson - Zanesville  
Lois Havens - Hillsboro  
Moses Brown - Zanesville  
Seth Grant - Zanesville  
Larry Larson - Zanesville**POST 0030**

Ronald Harsar - Lorain

**POST 0033**Anthony Tedeschi - Steubenville  
George Grimm - Mingo Junction  
George Zrinyi - Steubenville**POST 0038**Robert Pirozak - Bridgeport  
George Roberts - Martins Ferry**POST 0039**Joseph Loftis - Pomeroy  
Charles Miller - Pomeroy  
Delmar Pullins - Long Bottom**POST 0040**

George Showalter - Richwood

**POST 0041**Horace Ward - Norwalk  
Ray Schnellinger - Sandusky  
Thomas Russ - Norwalk  
Clarence Poole - Norwalk  
George Mitro - Norwalk  
David Kirk - Norwalk  
John Grosswiler - Norwalk  
Richard Gregory - Attica  
Dale Gourley - Norwalk  
Alfred Feuerstein - Norwalk  
Lowell Brown - North Fairfield  
Richard Bowers - Kalamazoo  
John Borgia - Norwalk  
Frank Bober - Wakeman  
Gerald Ackerman - Norwalk**POST 0043**

Neal Nelson - Fayette

**POST 0044**Richard Whitmer - Canton  
George Piggott - CantonJerrald Barrino - Canton  
Donald Boord - Massillon  
Lewis Bruckner - Massillon  
Leonard Drake - Canton  
David Kirkbride - Louisville**POST 0049**Theodore Dillon - Sabina  
Peyton Reed - Wilmington**POST 0051**Raymond Schneider - Fort Myers  
Kenneth Johnston - Burghill**POST 0052**

George Yarnevich - Bellaire

**POST 0056**

Rudolf Maroscher - Salem

**POST 0062**Albert Finley - Chillicothe  
Avadore Poole - Greenfield**POST 0064**Donald Liberty - Gatineau  
Jacob Gerhardt - Clearwater  
John Shearon - Marietta  
Roy Trembly - Parkersburg**POST 0065**

Kenneth Perry - Coshocton

**POST 0068**Ronald Peacock - Wooster  
William Terwilliger - Wooster  
Jack Johnson - Wooster**POST 0069**Harold Havens - Albany  
Robert Huneck - Cincinnati  
James Linduff - Blue Ash  
James Miller - Cincinnati  
William Muhlenpoh - Cincinnati  
Thomas Sample - Monroe  
George Sarros - Cincinnati  
John Schmitz - Reading  
Joseph Seagle - Oak Island  
Harold Ward - Loveland  
Richard Radenheimer - Cincinnati**POST 0072**Thomas Schuerman - Milford  
Thomas Patt - Cincinnati  
Ronald Gleason - Cincinnati  
Fred Battelle - Cincinnati**POST 0073**Joe Diebley - Fostoria  
John Roush - Fostoria  
Thomas Calmes - Fostoria**POST 0076**Paul Wagner - Deerfield  
Elmer Schubert - Clover**POST 0078**

Bruce Cremean - Logan

**POST 0079**William Oney - Circleville  
Max Amrine - Marysville  
Donald Spain - Grove City**POST 0083**Dave Childers - Sandusky  
Robert Peter - Dorset  
Raymond Barman - SanduskyArrenza Cox - Sandusky  
Dale Flewelling - Sandusky  
Thomas Freeman - Castalia  
Mack Gilmer - Sandusky  
Glen Sypolt - Sandusky  
Ronald Zielske - Sandusky  
Robert McLaughlin - Sandusky**POST 0085**Skip Salome - Newark  
Dennis Lavender - Thornville  
Walter Dorsey - Frazeesburg  
John Singleton - Newark**POST 0086**Carl Oprisch - Toronto  
Andrew Pieniazek - Weirton  
**POST 0087**  
Wayne Perram - Woodsfield  
Larry Keylor - Woodsfield**POST 0088**Gordon Conrad - Ashland  
Max McClellan - Mansfield  
Merle Queer - Ashland  
Larry Race - Mansfield  
Duane Smeltzer - Ashland  
Fred Wolf - Ashland  
Robert Crego - Ashland  
David Dull - Ashland**POST 0091**James Fudale - Berea  
Sam Weaver - Berea  
Elmer Dubs - Brunswick  
Ernest Cummings - Lorain  
Thomas Washtock - Berea**POST 0095**Thomas Buzzelli - Xenia  
Samuel Turner - Spring Hill  
Donald Walker - Xenia  
William Schroeder - Xenia**POST 0096**Roger Gross - Largo  
Gordon Jones - Lima  
Karl Blass - Lima  
Donald Frysinger - Lima  
William Nichols - Lima  
James Stauffer - Lima  
Henry Amrine - Cridersville  
Howard Sealscott - Lima**POST 0099**

Craig Truhan - Toledo

**POST 0106**

Sam Pagano - Niles

**POST 0109**Gerald Trott - Montpelier  
Dale Koch - West Unity**POST 0112**John Soulsby - Madison  
Woodrow Judd - Madison  
Kenneth Steuer - Madison  
Wesley Eastman - Perry**POST 0113**Christopher Burlingame - Port Clinton  
Roger Smith - Johnstown**POST 0003**Donald Henley - Findlay  
Jack Shingler - Findlay  
Daniel Harpst - Findlay  
Elsworth Price - Findlay**POST 0007**Richard Mott - Cleveland  
Frank Urankar - Richmond Heights  
Michael Brewer - Rocky River**POST 0008**

Lawrence Root - Elyria

**POST 0011**James Griffith - Lancaster  
Buddy Skiver - Lancaster**POST 0012**Patricia Tokarz - Elyria  
Bobby Barker - Grafton  
James Burgess - Crossville  
Ronald Clawson - Elyria  
Paul Emorrow - Amherst  
Joe Fields - Elyria  
Gregory Flanigan - ElyriaGeorge Fundak - Elyria  
Donald Schweibinz - Avon  
Charles Nash - North Ridgeville  
Robert Lynch - Tavares**POST 0015**

Donald Renzenbrink - Poland

**POST 0016**Richard Fletcher - Lexington  
Fredrick Falls - Mansfield  
Dean Krance - Mansfield  
Paul Franks - Mansfield**POST 0017**Ervin Damschroder - Woodville  
William Breau - Helena  
Barbara Krzewinski - Fremont  
Donald Claypool - Gibsonburg  
Jerry Fork - Gibsonburg  
Edward Hicks - Gibsonburg**POST 0019**Robert Weiss - Akron  
Frederick Kovacic - Akron  
James Regan - Fairlawn  
Jerry Wiseman - Akron

Robert Michel - Port Clinton  
 Ivan Dowdle - Port Clinton  
**POST 0118**  
 John Fultz - Lorain  
 James Liskiewicz - Amherst  
 Dennis Oconnor - Amherst  
**POST 0120**  
 Louis Driever - Urbana  
 George Prosser - Urbana  
**POST 0128**  
 Homer Mccarty - Gallipolis  
 Frank Krautter - Pomeroy  
**POST 0131**  
 Martin Limpose - Washingtonville  
**POST 0132**  
 Ollie Zajac - Toledo  
**POST 0138**  
 Harry Vanlieu - Hamilton  
**POST 0139**  
 Michael Mccullough - New Philadelphia  
 Richard Beaber - New Philadelphia  
**POST 0140**  
 Peter Trocano - Union City  
 Chester Hocker - Greenville  
 Richard Tennison - Arcanum  
 Keith Hargest - Greenville  
 Arden Martin - Greenville  
**POST 0151**  
 Richard Renn - Conneaut  
**POST 0162**  
 Thomas Taylor - Marion  
 Hugh Norris - Marion  
**POST 0165**  
 Randall Staley - Dayton  
 John Buckley - Carlisle  
 Geary Johnson - Miamisburg  
 Robert Mcdaniel - West Carrollton  
 Charles Miller - Miamisburg  
 Thomas Silberman - Miamisburg  
 Robert Vorhis - West Carrollton  
 Phillip Savage - Miamisburg  
**POST 0166**  
 Robert Egan - New Braunfels  
**POST 0168**  
 Craig Woodland - Coshocton  
 William Ford - Barnesville  
 Gordon Valine - Barnesville  
**POST 0169**  
 James Spaun - Tiffin  
**POST 0170**  
 Arthur Caskey - Wadsworth  
 Michael Myers - Massillon  
 Caesar Carrino - Wadsworth  
 Curtis Merrix - Wadsworth  
**POST 0171**  
 William Valentine - Columbus  
 Thomas Hayman - Westerville  
 John Leite - Hilliard  
**POST 0175**  
 Frank Dombrowski - Stow  
**POST 0178**  
 Joe Martinez - Van Wert

Jose Martinez - Van Wert  
 Steven Sennebogen - Van Wert  
 Jerry Goins - Haviland  
 Carl Meeks - Van Wert  
 David Debolt - Convoy  
**POST 0180**  
 William Wells - Mount Orab  
 Charles Watson - Georgetown  
 Fred Vollmer - Georgetown  
 Raymond Staubach - Georgetown  
 Paul Greene - Georgetown  
 Frank Dietrich - Georgetown  
 Paul Cahall - Georgetown  
 Roy Arn - Georgetown  
 Wayne Womacks - Georgetown  
**POST 0181**  
 Erwin Wagner - Sulphur Springs  
 Howard Heinlen - Laurel  
 Otto Steiger - Bucyrus  
 Wilbur Hupp - Bucyrus  
 Robert Koons - Wildwood  
 Elmer Kafer - Bucyrus  
**POST 0183**  
 James Alexander - Pemberville  
**POST 0184**  
 Walter Hoke - Pueblo  
 Lawrence Kiser - Piqua  
 Reed Oberholtzer - Saint Paris  
 Robert Taylor - Sidney  
 Donald Motter - Piqua  
 William Schantz - Saint Paris  
 Theodore Gray - Columbus  
 Floyd Shumaker - Sidney  
**POST 0186**  
 Donald Lycan - Oregonia  
**POST 0188**  
 Larry Cain - Junction City  
 Ronald Harris - Zanesville  
 Richard Hoy - Shawnee  
**POST 0190**  
 Frank Cramer - East Sparta  
**POST 0191**  
 Michael Nalley - Lima  
**POST 0192**  
 Charles Slavis - Glenmont  
 Louis Thompson - Massillon  
**POST 0194**  
 Warren Porter - Fayetteville  
 Carl Cox - Cincinnati  
**POST 0196**  
 Thomas Bruene - North Royalton  
 Don Henderson - Brecksville  
 Helen Jeris - Parma  
 Michael Mikolaj - Brecksville  
 Melvin Pay - Brecksville  
 Frank Petruno - Richfield  
 Boris Sawchik - Burton  
 George Stilwell - Richfield  
 Charles Bielecki - Bedford  
**POST 0198**  
 Carey Young - Kenton  
**POST 0199**  
 Carl Bain - Cincinnati

Clifford Tyler - Harrison  
 Curtis Unthank - Harrison  
**POST 0200**  
 Charles Hagedorn - Dayton  
 Russell Storer - Huber Heights  
**POST 0202**  
 David Piper - Litchfield  
 William Williams - Brunswick  
 Norman Wolff - Medina  
 George Rodgers - Medina  
**POST 0208**  
 Randall Decamp - Convoy

**POST 0210**  
 John Bertke - Etowah  
 Michael Bruns - Canton  
 Paul Donovan - Coldwater  
 Gaylord Hoffman - Rockford  
 James Stein - Celina  
**POST 0214**  
 Robert Solnosky - Titusville  
**POST 0215**  
 Robert Davis - Eaton  
 Tony Moreland - Eaton  
 Glen Sheley - Eaton

**POST 0217**  
 John Greiwe - Sidney  
 Steven Peltier - Sidney  
 John Laws - Sidney  
 Elmer Supinger - Sidney  
**POST 0218**  
 Donald Ward - Middletown  
 Donald Oswalt - Lebanon  
 James Mckinney - Sarasota  
**POST 0221**  
 Leonard Badertscher - Massillon  
 Edward Mccall - Cuyahoga Falls

FRIDAY, JULY 12<sup>TH</sup> TO SUNDAY, JULY 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2024



## Convention Sponsorship Opportunities







### THE AMERICAN LEGION

The American Legion is the nation's largest war-time veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service-members and veterans. There are nearly 2 million members of The American Legion and over 75,000 members in the state of Ohio that continue to safeguard principles of justice, freedom, and democracy.




### DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

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 740.513.5359  
[executiveadmin@ohiolegion.com](mailto:executiveadmin@ohiolegion.com)



### ABOUT DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

The American Legion Department of Ohio Convention will be held at Holiday Inn Cleveland South, 6001 Rockside Rd. Independence, OH 44131 on Friday, July 12th, 2024 to Sunday, July 14th, 2024. The American Legion, Sons of The American Legion, and The American Legion Auxiliary will be in attendance, totaling roughly 500 veterans and veteran supporters. Corporate sponsorships will include Four possible tiered sponsorship packages (Sponsorship packages listed on back page).

By being a sponsor, you will directly support our formative Legion youth programs and improve the care of our veterans who have sacrificed so much for us.

## \*OHIO LEGION HIGHLIGHTS\*

**★ 82%**

Veteran Claims BVA Appeals success rate

Our Department Service Officers in Ohio have represented through advocacy, hundreds of cases to Board of Veterans Appeals Law Judges and this is our success rate of claims won for Ohio Veterans!

**\$278,864**

Emergency aid given to veterans from Posts

Ohio Posts are generous and often times a critical piece to basic needs for veterans and their families who have fallen on hard times. The Post may be the first place a Legion member or veteran seeks assistance.

**\$173,490**

Value of financial support given to children

This is the value of financial support through goods/items provided to underprivileged children by Ohio Posts.

**\$384,953**

Cost of Student scholarship awards

The total amount of money given out in student scholarships by all participating Ohio American Legion Posts.



Gordon Crooks - Massillon  
 Beverly Dunbar - Massillon  
 James Wilhelm - Massillon  
**POST 0225**  
 Fred Brown - Mt Blanchard  
**POST 0228**  
 Keith Dierkes - Woodsfield  
**POST 0229**  
 Robert Vanbibber - Nelsonville  
 William May - Dunedin  
 Thomas Rosser - Nelsonville  
**POST 0232**  
 Harmon Benschoter - Grand Rapids  
 James Sproull - Catoosa

**POST 0234**  
 Andrew Shimko - Brunswick  
**POST 0236**  
 Edward Holub - Las Vegas  
**POST 0239**  
 William Hamm - Columbus  
 Kenneth Szakelyhidi - Columbus  
 James Lyons - Powell  
 Mark Mahan - Columbus  
 Russell Nelson - New Albany  
**POST 0243**  
 Marvin Alberty - N Robinson  
 Kenneth Swain - Galion  
 Donald Rinehart - Galion  
**POST 0244**  
 Glen Johnstone - Magnolia

**POST 0247**  
 Stephen Mirich - Youngstown  
**POST 0248**  
 John Dellinger - Plain City  
**POST 0257**  
 Timmy Ray - Loudonville  
 Duane Nickles - Milledgeville  
 Alvin Smith - Perrysville  
 John Paullin - Loudonville  
**POST 0262**  
 Richard Storch - Hamler  
 Robert Rohrs - Malinta  
 William Brown - Lima  
**POST 0265**  
 Carl Buehrer - Delta  
 William Hammontree - Wauseon

Kevin Huber - Archbold  
 Donald Merrill - Wauseon  
 Edwin Saunders - Loudon  
**POST 0266**  
 Ronald Roebuck - Belle Center  
 Henry Mitchell - La Rue  
 Roger Beaverson - Bellefontaine  
**POST 0272**  
 George Lowe - Akron  
 Ira Danny Holt - Akron  
 Dewitt Herring - Akron  
**POST 0279**  
 Loren Nowak - Elmore  
 Kenneth Heins - Elmore  
 Paul Floro - Elmore  
**POST 0281**  
 David Bragg - Akron  
**POST 0282**  
 William Lacy - Orrville  
**POST 0285**  
 Wilbur Lane - Newark  
 Michael Rooney - Hebron  
**POST 0286**  
 Barry Hatfield - Donnelville  
 Danny Hall - New Carlisle  
 Bill Hurley - Springfield  
**POST 0288**  
 James Nester - Batavia  
 Earl Whiteman - Williamsburg  
**POST 0290**  
 Norman Bixler - Salem  
 Anthony Derosa - Canfield  
 Joseph Chaplow - Columbiana  
 Ray Oeler - Columbiana  
 James McMurray - North Lima  
**POST 0297**  
 Gene Flaugh - Payne  
 Thomas Diaz - Paulding  
**POST 0300**  
 Kyle Brinkman - Graham  
 Donald Lammers - Napoleon  
 Lester Shufelt - Mc Clure  
 Ned Giffey - Napoleon  
 James Bowen - Napoleon  
 Stephen Durbin - Wauseon  
**POST 0307**  
 William Siebeneck - Montpelier  
 James Evers - Pioneer  
 Lewis Heller - Coldwater  
 Lee Rendeiro - Pioneer  
 Minyard Richmond - Pioneer  
 William Turner - Spring Arbor  
**POST 0311**  
 William Gors - Archbold  
**POST 0312**  
 Jim Kuthy - Triadelphia  
 Kenneth Kemp - Bethesda  
**POST 0318**  
 Joseph Ballenger - Cincinnati  
**POST 0322**  
 John Maggard - West Alexandria  
 William Hickman - West Alexandria

**POST 0324**  
 Robert Spurgeon - Millbury  
 Donald Hoeft - Genoa  
**POST 0326**  
 Timothy Sexton - Plymouth  
**POST 0327**  
 Dayle Elswick - Corning  
**POST 0332**  
 Ned Doll - Delta  
**POST 0336**  
 Theodore Endress - Fort Lauderdale  
 Jerry Dent - Painesville  
 George Householder - Painesville  
 Charles Thomas - Painesville  
 Thomas Topping - Mentor  
 Robert Schwed - Mentor  
**POST 0338**  
 Robert French - Bradner  
**POST 0339**  
 Robert Luzius - Prescott  
 Melvin Lowe - Maple Heights  
**POST 0340**  
 Steven Allen - Holgate  
**POST 0344**  
 Calvin Thome - Carey  
**POST 0345**  
 William Howard - Saint Henry  
 Randall May - Muncie  
 Eugene Siefring - New Weston  
**POST 0346**  
 Rodney Smith - Ohio City  
 Max Bennett - Ohio City  
**POST 0352**  
 George Barcus - Norton  
 William Boyd - Thompson  
 Robert Bradt - Mentor  
 Harold Collins - Mentor  
 Richard Miller - Mentor On The Lake  
 Joseph Tarsitano - Mentor  
**POST 0354**  
 George Gangwer - Fostoria  
 Robert Clouse - Tiffin  
**POST 0362**  
 James Chubb - Springfield  
**POST 0363**  
 William Royal - Portsmouth  
**POST 0366**  
 Dwight Nichols - Freeport  
 John Ciesielka - Flushing  
**POST 0371**  
 Earl Compston - Wellston  
 Roger Johnson - Wellston  
 Gilbert Mcmanis - Wellston  
**POST 0374**  
 Raymond Nowak - Toledo  
 Vincent Milewski - East Liverpool  
 Jeffrey Calhoun - Wellsville  
**POST 0376**  
 Alan Mowery - Somerset  
 Paul Ardetto - New Lexington  
 Neil Gordon - Junction City  
 William Kokensparger - Canton

**Convention Program Opportunity**

The American Legion Department of Ohio will be holding its Department Convention Friday, July 12th, 2024 to Sunday, July 14th, 2024 at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South, 6001 Rockside Rd. Independence, OH 44131. With an average of 500 American Legion Family in attendance, the purpose of Department Convention is to elect officers for the ensuing year and for transaction of other business that may occur.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

QTY	DESCRIPTION	DONATION	TOTAL
DONATION TOTAL			

1. All ads are full color
2. Make Checks Payable to: "The American Legion Department of Ohio" and place in the memo "Convention Program"
3. Credit Card Payment:  
 Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Please E-Mail artwork in digital form to: Jon Vulgamore at [vulgamore@ohiolegion.com](mailto:vulgamore@ohiolegion.com) (Subject: Convention Program) Deadline for artwork and payment is 2 weeks prior to Convention.
5. Please mail completed form and donation (check or credit card) to:  
 The American Legion Department of Ohio  
 Attn: Convention Program Donation  
 60 Big Run Road, Delaware, OH 43015  
 740-362-7478

Department Convention  
 Program Advertisement Suggested Sizes/Donations

Outside Back Cover	\$ 600.00
Inside Front Cover	\$ 500.00
Inside Back Cover	\$ 500.00
Full Page	\$ 200.00
½ Page	\$ 100.00
Business Card Listing	\$ 50.00
Name Listing Only	\$ 30.00

**POST 0377**  
Ross Brown - Camden  
Everett Taulbee - Camden  
Calvin Palmer - Oxford

**POST 0378**  
Darell Spears - New Matamoras

**POST 0383**  
Vladimir Broz - Chagrin Falls

**POST 0384**  
Marvin Heminger - Waterville  
Gerald Mangold - Monclova  
Frank Walbolt - Whitehouse

**POST 0385**  
George Potz - Westlake

**POST 0387**  
Donald Heitkamp - Minster

**POST 0389**  
Harlan Allen - Waterford

**POST 0394**  
Russell Black - Russellville

**POST 0397**  
Donald Dawkins - Huron  
Gary Ensinger - Vermilion  
Robert Kelm - Vermilion  
Lynn Olsieski - Vermilion

**POST 0398**  
Donald Kirts - Granville

**POST 0406**  
Margaret Williams - Mount Orab

**POST 0407**  
Finis Buck - Wooster  
Joseph Williams - Akron

**POST 0417**  
Ed Hix - Naples  
Lawrence Zalipski - Mount Sterling

**POST 0425**  
Donald Borgman - Cincinnati  
Al Piening - Cincinnati  
Larry Pollitt - Cincinnati

**POST 0431**  
Harlan Mcneilly - Kimbolton

**POST 0435**  
Arthur Boring - Versailles

**POST 0442**  
Frank Francis - Salineville

**POST 0446**  
Wesley Keifer - Sidney  
Stuart Woehler - Minster

**POST 0449**  
Dale Luzader - Lodi

**POST 0450**  
Ryan Kehling - Nokesville

**POST 0454**  
Carlos Grieser - Archbold

**POST 0459**  
Clark Adams - Huntsburg  
Donald Anderson - Chagrin Falls

**POST 0461**  
Larry Johnson - Worthington  
Loran Stutz - Lore City

**POST 0464**  
Ronald Paugh - Medina

**POST 0466**  
Charles Housinger - Palmdale  
Stuart Wilson - West Lafayette

**POST 0468**  
James Bancroft - Perrysburg  
Julius Hager - Sylvania  
Ronald Samson - Toledo  
Pendelis Dallas - Berkey  
James Holder - Sylvania

**POST 0471**  
Maurice Williams - London

**POST 0475**  
Lawrence Miday - Dellroy

**POST 0479**  
Carl Buehrer - Swanton

**POST 0485**  
Raymond Trautman - West Chester

**POST 0488**  
Robert Martin - Crestline  
Donald Bevier - Citrus Heights

**POST 0496**  
Leonard Ginther - Kent  
Harry Kirkland - Rootstown  
Harry Morgan - Tallmadge  
Daniel Ginther - Kent

**POST 0497**  
Tracy Slater - Creston

**POST 0499**  
Charles Adkins - West Salem  
Donald Hines - Ashland  
Charles Porter - Wooster

**POST 0508**  
Bernard Louth - Mendon

**POST 0513**  
Ray Nagel - Cincinnati  
Celia Pitzer - Hamilton  
Evelyn Rouse - Cincinnati

**POST 0514**  
David Simpson - Willard

**POST 0516**  
John Smith - Columbus Grove

**POST 0521**  
James Wenckoski - Bellaire  
Richard Silverio - Shadyside

**POST 0523**  
John Miller - West Salem  
Curtis Longsdorf - Seville  
Leslie Glancy - Lodi

**POST 0527**  
John Maguire - Sandusky

**POST 0530**  
Richard Holthaus - Cincinnati

**POST 0532**  
Charles Caudill - Grove City  
Ralph Gross - Grove City  
Jerald Holland - Columbus

**POST 0534**  
Stanley Rahm - Cincinnati  
Carl Beckstedt - Cincinnati  
Gary Schomaker - Cincinnati

**POST 0537**  
Robert Boos - Oregon

**POST 0539**  
Jim Hoffsis - Albuquerque  
Jack Thomas - North Canton  
Greg Bils - Cygnet

**POST 0541**  
Kenneth Mullett - Continental

**POST 0547**  
Peggy Perry - Monroeville

**POST 0550**  
Rondall Erdman - New Richmond

**POST 0551**  
Danny Hinkle - Shreve  
John Lytle - Millersburg

**POST 0553**  
Glen Bollin - Sylvania Township  
Thomas Farmer - Toledo  
Joe Gillen - Toledo

**POST 0554**  
Edward Palmer - Cincinnati  
R - Milford

**POST 0557**  
Tom Emery - Bloomingdale  
Marshall Dalrymple - Wintersville

**POST 0566**  
Joseph Rienzi - Akron  
James Ahlstrom - Akron

**POST 0572**  
Gerald Bucchioni - North Olmsted  
William Skowronsky - Broadview Hts

**POST 0573**  
William Smythe - Brilliant

**POST 0576**  
Raymond Flood - Sylvania

**POST 0578**  
Virgil Neuhart - Graysville

**POST 0584**  
Paul Hunter - Ontario

**POST 0586**  
Reginald Johnson - Tipp City  
Robert Wagner - Tipp City

**POST 0587**  
Robert Brenot - Toledo  
Silas King - Toledo  
William Libbe - Luckey  
Dale Peatee - Oldsmar  
Robert Perlinski - Lambertville  
Kenneth Perry - Sylvania  
George Prephan - Toledo  
Donald Watt - Toledo  
Ronald Whitmill - Toledo  
Robert Zgorecki - Toledo  
Harry Gardner - Bristol

**POST 0588**  
Thomas Winner - Osgood

**POST 0598**  
John O'donnell - Dayton  
Harry Crowe - Bellbrook  
Palle Larsen - Dayton  
Gerald Saylor - Centerville

**POST 0601**  
Ralph Meivogel - Madison

**POST 0603**  
Paul Hardman - Powell

**POST 0610**  
Joseph Swartz - Brookpark  
Charles Schlosser - Pinellas Park

**POST 0622**  
Ralph Hutchinson - Minford

**POST 0630**  
Robert Kistler - Cincinnati  
Vincent Rossi - Blue Ash

**POST 0631**  
James Mimms - Cincinnati

**POST 0637**  
Kenneth Lynch - Baltimore

**POST 0640**  
Arnold Floyd - Proctorville

**POST 0644**  
Betty Downs - Rainbow City

**POST 0646**  
Allan Wolfson - Holland  
Donald Hughes - Lambertville  
Bill Rourke - Holland  
Richard Weed - Swanton

**POST 0652**  
Timothy Wren - De Graff

**POST 0663**  
Albert Schienke - Burton

**POST 0665**  
Harold Schaar - New Madison

**POST 0677**  
Gregory Donovan - Lithopolis  
Phil Traylor - Canal Winchester

**POST 0678**  
Ralph Beuck - Euclid

**POST 0680**  
Lawrence Shock - Sherwood  
Lauren Bauer - La Porte

**POST 0682**  
Donald Jochims - Hopedale  
Ron Given - Scio

**POST 0685**  
James Gray - Reminderville  
James Winkelman - Brunswick

**POST 0694**  
Thomas Goins - Seaman

**POST 0697**  
Tim Brainard - Perry

**POST 0703**  
Lloyd Thomas - Cleveland  
Edward Hurd - North Royalton  
John Rebar - Westlake

**POST 0707**  
John Luger - Dayton  
Phillip Seebach - Englewood

*You are invited to come participate in the*

## **Town Hall Meeting for Charitable Gaming**

*With the Gaming Team from the Attorney General's Office*

**Holiday Inn Cleveland South  
6001 Rockside Road  
Independence, OH 44131**

Learn all the latest information regarding Charitable Bingo  
Be prepared to ask questions.

**Saturday, July 13, 2024  
10:00 – 12:00  
Broadview Hts Room**

Sponsored by American Legion Department of Ohio Charities, Inc.  
espenshade@ohiolegion.com | 740-513-1722

Russell Seel - Ridgetop  
**POST 0717**  
 Louis Gaeta - North Ridgeville  
 William Nowagarski - Grafton  
**POST 0718**  
 Bud Maxwell - Marshallville  
**POST 0730**  
 Gardner Wilson - Ashville  
**POST 0733**  
 John Gerwin - Bettsville  
**POST 0737**  
 George Street - Diamond  
 John Blaskis - Lake Milton  
**POST 0740**  
 John Crkvenac - Toronto  
**POST 0743**  
 Gene Nieminen - Ashtabula  
 Arnold Brown - Ashtabula  
 John Pildner - Conneaut  
 Jack Ranney - Conneaut  
**POST 0746**  
 David Ball - Dayton  
 Johnny Shilt - Dayton  
**POST 0749**  
 William Hixson - Wooster  
**POST 0750**  
 Eloise White - Vincent  
**POST 0751**  
 Michael Szczurek - Southington  
**POST 0760**  
 John Klug - Shadyside

Joe Ritchie - Sardis  
**POST 0762**  
 Harry Thatcher - New Lebanon  
 Gail Blair - New Lebanon  
**POST 0763**  
 Baylor Kirk - Beaver creek  
 Saul Alcocer - Beaver creek  
 Emerson Schmidt - Beaver creek  
 Joseph Cabiness - Fairborn  
**POST 0764**  
 Robert Romine - Newark  
**POST 0771**  
 Daniel Dupps - Heath  
**POST 0776**  
 Arthur Busby - Dayton  
 Gregory White - Dayton  
 Robert Gadson - Lumberton  
**POST 0790**  
 Lewis Combs - Wilder  
**POST 0797**  
 Roger Williams - Blacklick  
 Larry Stalter - Westerville  
**POST 0798**  
 Gordon Taft - Blacklick  
**POST 0799**  
 William Cathey - Columbus  
 Robert Fracker - Canal Winchester  
**POST 0801**  
 William Wood - Macedonia  
 Dominic Rositano - Strongsville

Emanuel Leon - Macedonia  
 Antonio Gonzalez - Northfield  
**POST 0888**  
 Joseph Vanyo - Worthington  
 William Rebholz - Cincinnati  
 Fred Rambo - Maumee  
 William Mckinley - Grove City  
 William Nicolaus - Bristolville  
 Anthony Gamon - Strongsville  
 James Paisley - Lower Salem  
 Everett Schramm - Bridgeport  
 Willard Buettner - Cincinnati  
 Richard Butler - Toledo  
 Darnell Robertson - Cleveland  
 John Barra - Reynoldsburg

Myron Stiers - Salesville  
 Charles Calistar - Zanesville  
 Larry Snack - Zanesville  
**POST 0888\_AD**  
 James Marcus - Lancaster  
 George Billingsley - Hudson  
 Jerald Smith - Springfield  
 Chester Wheeler - Blanchester  
 Darrell Hall - Urbana  
 David Mooney - Dayton  
 Paul Hennosy - Dublin  
 David Pollock - Proctorville  
 Phil Edwards - Columbus  
 Cornelius Cronin - Cincinnati  
 Charles Quigley - Zanesville

## 2024 Department Convention

### July 12th – July 14th, 2024

**The American Legion Department of Ohio &  
 The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Ohio**

Holiday Inn Cleveland South  
 6001 Rockside Rd  
 Independence, OH 44131

**Deadline for Registration is June 10th.**

*To make reservations please call 216-524-8050 and reference  
 "The American Legion Department of Ohio Convention"  
 The discounted group rate is \$129.00/night + tax.*

The Department Convention Call was  
 mailed to each Post in April 2024.

All Post Delegates and Alternates must be  
 registered **15 days** prior to Convention.

**Delegate and Alternate registration  
 deadline is June 28th!**

For more information, contact Christie White at  
 Programs@ohiolegion.com or call (740) 362-7478. You may  
 also visit the website at [https://www.ohiolegion.com/events/  
 department-conferences-conventions/](https://www.ohiolegion.com/events/department-conferences-conventions/).

\*Members and non-members are welcome to attend  
 the convention and any meetings offered\*

\*\* Call Headquarters if you experience difficulties  
 when making hotel reservations.

**SEE YOU THERE!**

## TURNING POINTS OF OUR CIVIL WAR

### October 9-15, 2024



It will be beautiful fall foliage  
 time as we visit VA, WV and PA

All breakfasts and dinners,  
 4-star hotels, luxury motorcoach

Dr. Sam Herley, University of SD  
 American History Prof., Guide

Only \$1459 dbl occup.

For brochure, call Vi Ranney: 605-665-3596  
 or email: [viranney@vyn.midco.net](mailto:viranney@vyn.midco.net)



# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## Post 221 – Teacher Appreciation Visits

During mid-February 2024, Massillon Post 221 Legion & Auxiliary members visited a number of elementary schools to thank teachers there for all that they do and express how much they are appreciated.



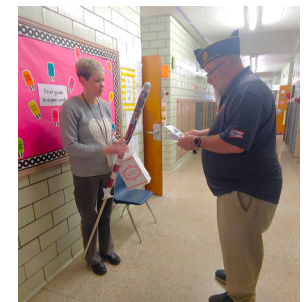
*Pictured alongside the valued community teachers with a new flag and drinking tumblers is Unit President, Brenda Stottsberry and Post 221 Commander, Larry Stottsberry.*



*Also pictured above is Legion member Rich Mortland handing the teacher that won the Valentine's tumbler and flag to proudly display on her front porch. Also pictured is Post Commander, Larry Stottsberry, who brought along some 'thank you' cupcakes.*



*Post 221 Commander, Larry Stottsberry and 2nd Vice Commander, Barrett Scott*



*Legion members Rich Mortland, Pat Patterson, Howard Marotto, and Commander Stottsberry visited elementary schools to tell our teachers "we love them for all they do." Each teacher pictured won a drawing for a Valentine tumbler, a flag for their front porch, and a thank you card. Also given were "Be the One" bumper stickers for every teacher.*

*Thank You Teachers!*



# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## Post 221 – Helping to Feed the Underprivileged

On February 9th, 2024, Massillon Post 221 Commander, Larry Stottsberry volunteered his Friday afternoon and evening to help a local foodbank collect food and restock the shelves for the next week's needs.



I want to thank all the Posts in the 4th District, which stepped up when our 2nd District was hit by the Tornado last month. Steve Baumann and I delivered much needed items to Post 173 in Bellefontaine. Legion Member Tim Shaw and his lovely wife Mandee escorted us to the local Red Cross center where donations were being held for distribution. We would like to that Past District Commander Tim Shaw with his help in getting a list of items his people needed. If you need anything in the future, you can count on Legion members to work together.



## A Note of Thanks from Jerry E Perry

# BE THE ONE

I want to thank the members of Loveland American Legion Post 256. It was brought to our attention that we had a veteran that was having some serious issues. The vet was living off the grid and only needed items to help him remain off the grid. The members pitched in and gave us a 2-person tent, pillows, MRE's, snacks, and warm clothing. Our Volunteer service at the Cincinnati VAMC, and Karrie Hagan with the Fisher house. They all worked as a team to get this veteran the things he needed. Some warm clothing, blankets, and boots. We want to thank our Ft. Thomas Kentucky Councilor for allowing us to help him bring our Veteran home. It's his choice to be off the grid, With Ricks help we now know he will be safe and warm.

## Post 91 - Purple Up Monday

Auxiliary Unit 91 hosted a 'Purple up Monday' in support of military children. All those attending the Post and Unit event on April 15th, 2024, were asked to wear purple and/or make a donation for a purple up sticker - all who had on purple or a sticker was entered in a drawing for a purple basket of goodies.



Unit 91 Auxiliary 13th District of Ohio; Post 91 Berea

## Post 162 – Honor Flight Opportunity

Bird Mc Ginnis American Legion Post 162 Commander, John Jones, did the honor flight to DC this past April when presented with the opportunity. Many of our Vietnam veterans were not welcomed home when they returned as young men, they were met with protesters and hate, even spit on for answering the call from our country rather than dodging the draft but now, only a couple days ago, the airport was flooded with people saluting, crying, clapping as they arrived. It was several decades later but finally John and others who served in the Vietnam War were welcomed home as Heroes and with the respect they should have had then. To all of you, thank you for your service!



# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## Post 221 – Medical Kit Donation

On February 20th, 2024, Massillon Post 221 donated emergency medical kits for 20 vehicles to the Stark County Sheriff's Department.



*Pictured accepting the kits is Sheriff Maier and Post 221 Commander Larry Stottsberry*

## Post 221 – Visits Scouts Troop 913

On February 27th, 2024, Massillon Post 221 visited Cub Scouts Troop 913 to help celebrate the Cub Scouts birthday.



## District 10 Oratorical Contest

On Sunday February 11th, 2024, District 10 held their annual Oratorical Contest judging at Massillon Post 221. An outstanding student, Kaden Knappenberger out of Minerva was chosen to represent the District at the State Contest.



# GOOD OF THE LEGION

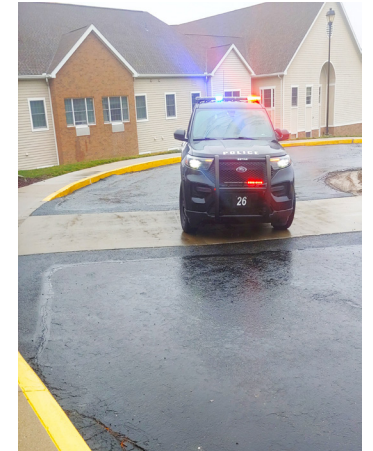
## Post 221 Community Donations

In late March 2024, Massillon Post 221 made donations to the Salvation Army and to the boy Scout troop and boy Scout pack to help with everyone being able to go to camps.



## Post 221 – Celebrates Veterans Birthdays

In March 2024, Massillon Post 221 members celebrated some of our elder vets' birthdays.



On March 6th, 2024, County & Post Commander Larry Stottsberry, 1st Vice 10th District Commander Howard Marotto, and Commander Ernie of Post 548 visited a WW II veteran, Mr. Sicker who turned 100! Also, police and fire departments attended the celebration.



On March 16th, 2024, Post 221 celebrated WW II veteran, Guy Atkinson's birthday. Present were Larry and Brenda Stottsberry, Legionnaire Mark Bevington, Stark County VSC, Ohio Highway Patrol, Canal Fulton police and fire departments, and Cub Scouts of Troop 913, as well as mission BBQ.



# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## Post 221 – Nursing Home Buddy Checks

On March 15th, 2024, Massillon Post 221 Commander, Larry Stottsberry and District 10 1st Vice Commander, Howard Marotto visited veterans at Rose Lane Nursing Home spreading some St. Patrick's Day cheer.



## Post 221 – Easter Event

In late March 2024, Massillon Post 221 helped make food boxes for a Salvation Army Easter event. 40 families received boxes of food for Easter with a ham and over 100 kids enjoyed the festivities with an egg hunt, cotton candy, and candy bags.



## Post 238 Honor Guard Ceremony

In mid-April of 2024, Donald Cannon American Legion Post 238 Mechanicsburg's Honor Guard rendered full military honors for a fallen comrade in Maple Grove Cemetery, Mechanicsburg.



Pictured are Thad Cushman, Justin Louck, Rodger Cordell, Dave Merritt, Tom Talbot, Dow Blanton, Tony Roland and Firing Squad Commander Jim Blanton.



# GOOD OF THE LEGION

## Warren County Oratorical Contest

The Warren County contest was held on Sunday February 18th, 2024, at the Mason City Building. Special thanks to the four participating contestants and also to the volunteers facilitating the event.



## Department 2024 Golf Tournament

**Host:** Russell Chadwick Post 0389 Beverly

**When:** September 14th - 15th, 2024

**Where:** Lakeside Golf Course  
18218 State Route 60, Beverly, OH 45715  
(740) 984-4265

<https://www.lakesidegolfcourse.biz/>



"VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA"

## TURNING POINTS OF OUR CIVIL WAR October 9-15, 2024

It will be beautiful fall foliage time as we visit VA, WV and PA

All breakfasts and dinners, 4-star hotels, luxury motorcoach

Dr. Sam Herley, University of SD  
American History Prof., Guide

Only \$1459 dbl occup.

For brochure, call Vi Ranney: 605-665-3596  
or email: [viranney@vyn.midco.net](mailto:viranney@vyn.midco.net)



We hope this letter finds you well. We want to take this opportunity to provide you with important information regarding membership dues. Please read the entire message as there are action items for your Post at the end.

### Background

During the recent National Convention, the National per capita amount of your membership dues was approved for an increase of \$5, from \$18.50 to \$23.50, effective July 1st, 2024.

Additionally, the Department of Ohio has not had a dues increase since 2004, and during this time, our membership has decreased by 69,138 members, resulting in a decrease in revenue of approximately \$622,242. Inflation and costs have risen over 63% since 2004, placing additional strain on our operational expenses, which are currently running \$1.8M per year. The Department's current yearly revenue is approximately \$1,300,000, broken down across various sources. This is \$500K less than what we need to breakeven. We currently have investments that we can draw from, but these resources will last us approximately 4-5 years.

### Proposal

Therefore, after careful consideration, the finance commission has put forth a resolution to be considered at the Department Convention in July 2024 to increase the Department's per capita from \$9.00 to \$14.00, effective January 1, 2025.

### Cost Reduction Initiatives

To address the financial challenges, several cost reduction projects are already underway, including:

- Employee-related measures, such as reducing the number of employees, adjusting positions, and optimizing health insurance benefits.
- Travel budget implementation and refinement of policies for employee travel.
- Office expense reduction through the implementation of electronic versions of the OLN and cost-effective delivery methods.
- Assessment of the building for energy efficiency.

### Action Items for Legion Posts

- The dues that you report on this year's Annual Post Data Report form (due by April 15th, 2024) must be equal to or greater than \$32.50 in order to cover current national and state per capita.
- If your dues are currently less than \$32.50, you must raise them to a minimum of \$32.50 to stay in compliance with the Department's Constitution and Bylaws.
- You may want to consider raising your dues an additional \$5.00 to cover the potential department increase that may be effective January 2025.
- Please read this at your next membership meeting to publish the information to your members.

This announcement is made with the intention of providing transparency to our Ohio Legion members so that you can prepare financially.