Areas & Districts

8 Northern Area

23 Membership Reports

16 PROJECT: VetRelief

8 District 7

14 POW/MIA

17 Resolutions

17 SAL Advisory

31 Leprechaun 5K

33 Dept C&Y Picnic

34 PVR Fundraiser

39 FLCON T-Shirt

35 2025-26 CMDR Polo

37 2025-26 SAL Polo

40 R.E.D. Friday T-Shirt

41 Chair Interest Form

32 District 16 C&Y Picnic

18 School Medals

18 Women Veterans

6 Central Area

7 Eastern Area

12 Membership

9 Americanism

9 Blood Donor

10 Civil Air Patrol

11 JROTC/JSSP

12 Law & Order

Other

21 Post 26

21 Post 117

22 Post 331

13 National Security

19 National Events

24 Nat'l Convention Volunteer

25 Commander's Hoedown

26 Dept Oratorical Invitation

27 Boys State Alumni Dinner 28 ALR State Rally

29 Northern Area Ball

9 Boys State

Membership

Programs / Committees

19 Nat'l Convention Update 30 Western Area Ball



commander@floridaleaion.ora



The month of March is upon us. First, let me briefly recap February, as we've had an awesome month! Our National Vice Commander came to visit, and we had a great membership visit with several posts in

members—specifically, 2025 paid members. We did this by sending a specifically worded text, asking them to transfer to targeted posts. To say it was a success would be an understatement! The National Vice Commander will be sharing our idea with all Departments in the Southeast Region. Contact me, a copy of the specific text.

Later in February, we had an awesome Legion Riders Summit and hosted special guests from the Department of Tennessee. They want to model their Riders Program after ours. Great job. Riders! We ended the month in Washington, D.C., attending legislative meetings.

Now that March is here, the majority of our posts will begin nominations for Post Officer Elections. Please be mindful of who you are nominating. Our mission in The American Legion is much more than egos and a popularity contest. We want leaders, not bar managers. I'll leave that right there because one could really go on and on about elections.

Our Department Oratorical Competition will be held at headquarters on March 15th. It's always amazing to watch. I encourage attendance at your Post, District, or Area competitions to see our young adults in action.

Commander continued on page 2 >>

Chris Hamrick, Commander



the 12th District. We concentrated on our 400AD 1st Vice Commander Jessica Moore, or Bruce Carl for

Submit Articles at floridalegion.org/submit or legionlink@floridalegion.org Questions? legionlink@floridalegion.org

Keepit Real





TRAINING ★ MENTORSHIP ★ CONTINUITY



<< Commander continued from page 1

In closing, remember our mission to assist our veterans and their families, our communities, and our state and nation.

See you on the road during my travels. I love each and every one of you. Stay groovy.

Keep It Real.

Family Joining Forces

Jessica Moore, 1st Vice Commander

1stvice@legionmail.org



It has been a very productive but truly fun time for me this past month. I have been touring Posts and Units throughout the state with the Legion family and the National Vice Commander. We

have been conducting membership revitalizations and encouraging members to renew and rejoin. We have also been recruiting new members.

The bonus from these visits has been the opportunity to join forces with the Auxiliaries. Family is a very important word in my vocabulary. As a dual member, I always want to stay connected to the Auxiliary.

I recently read a beautiful quote by Ernest

Hemingway:

"In our darkest moments, we don't need solutions or advice. What we yearn for is simply human connection—a quiet presence, a gentle touch. These small gestures are the anchors that hold us steady when life feels like too much. Your presence can remind someone they're not alone in this vast, sometimes frightening world. Help them remember their strength. Your silent support is the most precious gift you can give."

While these visits have certainly not been dark moments, the family support and connections we have built serve as a great anchor. These small gestures are what we all need in our Posts and in our lives.

#OneTeamOneDream

140 Days - Madeira Beach Post 273 is BACK!!

Bob Matheson, 2nd Vice Commander 2ndvice@legionmail.org



On Thursday, February 13th, Commander Anthony Torregrossa of American Legion Post 273 proudly announced two magical words after 140 days: "Welcome Home." These words, spoken at the Grand Reopening of Post

273, were music to the ears of members who had been eagerly waiting to return home.

Like many Posts devastated by Hurricane Helene,

Madeira Beach Post 273 was hit hard, suffering three and a half feet of flooding. The Post lost every piece of equipment—from the kitchen to all office furniture. However, starting on day one after the storm, many employees and members of the Post, along with volunteers from local Posts, stepped up to begin the rebuilding process.

Starting from scratch, they had to demolish everything. With tireless dedication, they repainted, rebuilt the counters and walls, and restored the beloved Tiki Lounge. Thanks to the hard work of

2nd Vice Commander continued on page 3

UPCOMING **EVENTS**

MARCH 2025

- 1 Be The One Day
- 1-31 Military Caregiver Month Month
- 1-31 Women's History Month
- 1-7 Membership Renewal Dates 🖈
 - 1 Scholarship Application Due
 - 1 Chapter 316: ALR Meeting
 - 1 District 6: Meeting
 - 1 District 16: Meeting
 - 1 Chapter 316: ALR Mardi Gras Party
 - 3 District 13: Meeting
 - 3 U.S. Navy Reserve Birthday (1915)
 - 3 Read Across America Day
 - 4 Mardi Gras
 - 4 Hug a G.I. Day
 - 5 Deparment Membership Goal 90% *
 - 5 U.S. Navy Seabee Birthday (1942)
 - 5 Chapter 136: ALR Meeting
 - 7 Employee Appreciation Day
 - 8 International Women's Day
- 8 District 8: Meeting
- 8 District 9: Meeting
- 8 Central Area Ball
- 9 Daylight Savings Starts
- 9 District 5: ALR Meeting
- 9 Chapter 8: ALR Meeting
- 9 District 5: Meeting
- 10 Baseball Rulebook Change Due 🖈
- 12 Chapter 10: ALR Meeting
- 13 K-9 Veterans Day
- 15 Legion Link Articles Due for April *
- 15 American Legion Birthday (1919) ★★
- 15 Oratorical Department Contest **

UPCOMING EVENTS CONTINUED ON PAGE 3 >>





<< 2nd Vice Commander continued from page 2

Post 273's staff and volunteers, the Post is back and better than ever! If you have visited Post 273 before, come back and see the transformation. If you haven't, take a trip and say hello. The members, staff, and Commander Torregrossa will be there with a smile, ready to welcome you to the Post!

National Vice Commander Joe Lysaght's Visit

Jim Ramos, NEC nec@legionmail.org



National Vice Commander Joe Lysaght's Visit to the Department of Florida

On Wednesday, February 5, 2025, NEC Jim Ramos picked up our National Vice

Commander (NVC) Joe Lysaght from Orlando International Airport at 11:50 a.m.

Just a little background on NVC Lysaght—he is a PUFL member and a U.S. Air Force veteran (1964-1968), including a tour of duty in Vietnam in 1965. He also served for eight years as the Deputy Director of Veterans Affairs for Charleston County, S.C., which is the third-largest veteran claims processing center in the state.

Members who escorted NVC Lysaght included NEC Jim Ramos, ANEC Michael Raymond, Department Commander Chris Hamrick, Department 1st Vice Jessica Moore, Membership Chair Bruce Carl, and Eileen Wilson, who volunteered to take pictures—a special THANK YOU to her!

Day 1: Wednesday, February 5

Our first stop was at Post 348 in Cape Canaveral for a meet and greet with Post members.

Afterward, we returned to the hotel to relax and freshen up before heading to Post 117 in Palm Bay for another meet and greet, followed by dinner and an exciting evening with Post members.

At each Post, NVC Lysaght spoke about "Be the One," which is the Legion's #1 mission. He also addressed membership, retention, and recruiting new members.

Day 2: Thursday, February 6

The day started with an American Legion Riders (ALR) escort to Post 126 in Jensen Beach, where we met with the leadership and checked out the Post's fresh new look. A special highlight was meeting Sam Rhodes, a Navy veteran, 80-year Legion member, and 98 years young! He still maintains a great attitude and actively contributes to the Post.

Next, we traveled to Post 40 in Fort Pierce, where members from Post 358 joined in a joint meet and greet. Over lunch, we worked alongside Jim Burk (a VA&R Council member) to call members and encourage renewals for 2025.

Our next stop was Post 39 in Vero Beach, where members from Post 181 also joined. The Post leadership presented checks for new improvements, with repairs to be completed by Home Depot in the meeting room/hall.

At Post 189 in Sebastian, we met with the Legion Family and Auxiliary. The Auxiliary has 197 members, while the Legion boasts 644 members. They have a strong family competition to encourage veterans to join an active Post that offers numerous events and programs.

We returned to the hotel to regroup before heading

MARCH 2025 - CONTINUED

15 | Post 127: Leprechaun Run

17 St. Patrick's Day

19 Boys State Del/Alt Registration Closes*

20 First Day of Spring

20 Start of Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003)

20 Mission of Mercy Veterans Dental

21 Rosie the Riveter Day

25 Medal of Honor Day

28 Baseball Domicile Establishment

29 Vietnam Veterans Day

29 District 3: Meeting & Picnic

29 Western Area Hoedown (Ball)

29 Chapter 10: ALR Bike Night

For more events and updates visit our website at www.floridalegion.org

Commander attendance anticipated.

Department of Florida event.

★ National event.

Events are subject to change. More details at floridalegion.org.

to dinner at Texas Roadhouse, where everyone enjoyed great food and camaraderie.

Day 3: Friday, February 7

The morning began with an ALR escort to Post 1 in Titusville, where we were joined by Post 328. Coffee and donuts were served as we met with the leadership of both Posts, with the main discussion focusing on membership. Membership Chair Bruce Carl led an effort to text members, encouraging them to renew for 2025.

From there, we traveled to Post 359, again with an ALR escort. Many Titusville members were working, but a dedicated team of 6-7 members focused on membership renewal efforts. Membership Chair Bruce Carl continued reaching out via text.

NEC continued on page 4 >>





<< NEC continued from page 3

Our next stop was Post 22 in Cocoa, where we were joined by Post 344 and Post 177. Over a working lunch, we called unpaid members, encouraging them to renew and assisting DMS members in transferring to a home Post in their local area. This effort yielded positive results.

We then visited Post 200 in Satellite Beach, meeting with Post Commander Mary Overton, checking out the Post, and making more membership contacts.

The day wrapped up at Post 394 in Palm Bay, where we continued membership efforts and enjoyed dinner and fellowship with members. After a long but rewarding day, we returned to the hotel to prepare for the next day.

At every Post, NVC Lysaght emphasized the importance of membership engagement and "Be the One"—The American Legion's #1 mission.

Day 4: Saturday, February 8

We attended the 17th District meeting at Post 285 in Edgewater, with 12 Posts in attendance. NVC Lysaght spoke on vision, membership goals, post development, and reconnecting with active-duty military to encourage them to join The American

Legion now or in the future.

This time, he emphasized veteran suicide prevention, using "Be the One" to raise awareness. He highlighted the importance of mental health support, peer-to-peer engagement, and the "Buddy Check" initiative.

Afterward, we traveled to Post 117 in Palm Bay, where we toured the American Legion Post 117 Veteran Healing Garden—a beautiful space where veterans can work with soil and plant flowers and seeds in five-gallon drums. Many veterans find it therapeutic to get their hands dirty and watch their efforts grow. Special recognition goes to Dana Jackson for overseeing and maintaining this wonderful project.

Later that evening, Post 117 hosted the Eastern Area Ball, where NVC Lysaght once again had an opportunity to speak about "Be the One."

After a fantastic evening, we returned to the hotel to prepare for the final day.

Day 5: Sunday, February 9

We checked out of the hotel and headed to Post 81 in Melbourne for breakfast and a meet and greet with Post Commander Tracy "Stretch" Spence, leadership, and members. We were pleased with the positive outcomes and the great programs and events planned for the year.

Next, we visited Post 163 in Melbourne for coffee and donuts, where we met with Post Commander Wayne Smith, members, and Auxiliary members. NVC Lysaght delivered his final message on "Be the One" before saying goodbye and expressing gratitude for the great visit.

Finally, we made our way to Orlando International Airport (MCO), where NEC Jim Ramos accompanied NVC Lysaght to his 4:10 p.m. Delta Airlines flight to South Carolina. Before departing, NVC Lysaght expressed his appreciation, saying:

"Please let everyone know it was one great visit. Thanks to all the members of the Department of Florida!"

Final Thoughts

Thank you to everyone who participated, supported, and welcomed NVC Lysaght during his visit. Your dedication and commitment to membership growth and "Be the One" truly made this a memorable and successful experience.

Safe travels, NVC Joe Lysaght!











Time to Start Preparing Post Budgets

Shirley Douglas, Finance Officer finance@legionmail.org



It is that time of year when Post Officers should start thinking about the budget for the 2025—2026 fiscal year. Here are **five reasons** why your Post should have a budget:

- A budget allows Post Officers to plan for the future and assess the current financial health of the Post.
- The budget provides a roadmap to help Post Officers plan, make informed decisions, and adjust when things don't go exactly as expected.
- 3. It enables Post Officers to monitor progress and prioritize activities effectively.
- 4. A well-planned budget helps the Post achieve its goals, fulfill its mission, and manage cash flow

- efficiently, promoting better financial health and sustainability.
- Lastly, a budget helps Post Officers use limited financial resources wisely—advancing the mission, recognizing capacity constraints, supporting sustainability, and ensuring continuity.

Types of Budgets

Depending on the size of a Post, there are four different types of budgets that can be useful: **Operating, Project, Capital, and Grant Budgets.**

 Operating Budget — Every Post must have an Operating Budget. This budget tracks revenue from various funding sources and allocates expenses for both programs and overhead costs.
 It is an annual budget and should be reviewed

- monthly or quarterly to determine if any adjustments are needed.
- Project Budget Used to plan for specific programs. It helps track program fundraising initiatives, community outreach, and program expenses to ensure the program aligns with projected goals.
- Capital Budget Used for long-term projects, ensuring that funds are allocated for future improvements and expansions.
- Grant Budget Helps define how the Post will use funds if a grant proposal is accepted.

By utilizing these budgets, Posts can stay on track and avoid overspending while ensuring financial sustainability.

You can download free Non-Profit Budget Templates at: exceltmp.com/nonprofit-budget-template

March: A Month of Transitions, Celebrations, and Milestones

Elbert Ziegler, Historian

historian@legionmail.org



As we step into March, we find ourselves in a month filled with transitions, celebrations, and important milestones for The American Legion.
From the arrival of spring to the observance of our

organization's birthday, March is a time to reflect on our past, engage in our present, and prepare for the future.

Oh yeah! Don't forget—the Legion Riders Winter Stamping Tour drawing is this month! Get your books in ASAP. Good luck!

Spring Forward with Daylight Saving Time On March 9th, we set our clocks forward one hour

as Daylight Saving Time begins. This marks the arrival of longer, brighter days—a time for renewal, growth, and increased opportunities to serve our communities.

A Month of Commemoration & Festivities

March is rich with important observances, including:

- The American Legion's Birthday March 15th marks 106 years of service, camaraderie, and commitment to veterans, their families, and communities.
- St. Patrick's Day March 17th, a time for celebration, parades, and gatherings.
- The First Day of Spring March 19th, symbolizing new beginnings and fresh opportunities to strengthen our mission.
- Easter Sunday March 30th, a time of faith, renewal, and family.

Exciting Events & Local Activities

Across Florida, Legionnaires will come together for numerous events this month, including post meetings, fundraising initiatives, community service projects, and veteran outreach programs. Be sure to check your local Post calendar for details!

Looking Ahead to the Department Convention

The Department of Florida Convention is just around the corner, taking place from June 12-15, 2025. NOW is the time to book your room reservations and make arrangements to attend.

March forward with purpose, and let's make this month one to remember!





Area Balls: Celebrating Leadership and Camaraderie

Rick Orzechowski, Central Area Commander central@leaionmail.ora



The Area Balls are among the most anticipated events on our community calendar, bringing together leaders and members from across various regions.

There are six distinct Area Balls, each representing a specific

region: Central Area, Eastern Area, Northern Area, Southern Area, Southwestern Area, and Western Area. These gatherings are not only a celebration of leadership but also an opportunity for members to connect, enjoy, and support charitable causes.

The Role of Area Commanders

The Area Commanders play a pivotal role in organizing and executing these events. They are entrusted with the responsibility of hosting the ball and selecting the charities that will benefit from the donations collected. The Area Balls serve as a token of appreciation for the dedication and hard work of the leaders chosen to represent each area. It is a moment to acknowledge their efforts and celebrate the collective achievements of the members.

A Festive Atmosphere

The primary goal of the Area Balls is to foster a fun and engaging environment where members can unwind and enjoy themselves. These events provide a platform for members to meet and interact in a relaxed setting, away from the formalities and responsibilities of their usual duties. The emphasis is on camaraderie, enjoyment, and making lasting memories.

Socializing and Networking

Attending an Area Ball is an excellent opportunity for members to expand their social circles and network

with peers from different regions. It is a chance to share experiences, exchange ideas, and build strong relationships that enhance their sense of community and belonging.

Gourmet Meals

One of the highlights of the Area Balls is the delectable cuisine. Guests are treated to gourmet meals that cater to a variety of tastes and preferences. The dining experience is designed to be a culinary delight, adding to the overall enjoyment of the evening.

Silent Auctions

In addition to the sumptuous meals, the Area Balls feature silent auctions with beautifully crafted baskets. These auctions are a fun and interactive way to raise funds for selected charities. Guests can bid on a variety of items, knowing that their contributions are making a positive impact.

Charitable Contributions

Each Area Ball is dedicated to supporting specific charities chosen by the Area Commanders. The funds raised through donations and silent auctions go toward these worthy causes, reflecting our community's commitment to giving back and making a difference. The selection of charities ensures that a diverse range of needs are addressed, from local initiatives to broader humanitarian efforts.

A Year in Review

The Area Balls also provide an opportunity to reflect on the past year and recognize the achievements and milestones that have been reached. It is a moment to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all members and to celebrate the progress that has been made.

Promotion and Communication

Information about the Area Balls is widely shared through various channels to ensure all members are aware of the events. Flyers are typically included in the Legion Link and posted on Facebook pages.

Stay Informed

For those who may not have received information, it is encouraged to reach out to District or Area Commanders. They are always up to date and can provide the necessary details to ensure no one misses out on the festivities.

A Time to Let Loose

While the Area Balls formally recognize leadership and service, they are also a time to let loose and have fun. In a lighthearted spirit, the events encourage attendees to "let their hair down" (for those who are not follically challenged, of course!). It is a chance to relax, enjoy the music, dance, and create joyful memories with friends and colleagues.

Join Us!

The Area Balls are more than just events; they are a celebration of community, leadership, and the spirit of giving. They embody the values of camaraderie, appreciation, and fun.

We invite all members to join us at these soirees and be part of an unforgettable experience.

Together, we can celebrate our achievements, support charitable causes, and strengthen the bonds that make our community exceptional.

Come, join us at the Area Balls, and have a great time!



Make New Members Feel Welcome

Bruce Thurber, Eastern Area Commander eastern@legionmail.org



As you all know, there are still many issues with myLegion. While the department is working hard to resolve them, I NEED A FAVOR. Many issues can be handled without going through the department

staff. Most districts have very knowledgeable District Commanders, or you can contact the Area Commander. The idea that only the department can resolve problems is misguided.

Tips for Attracting and Retaining Younger **Members**

- **1. Be Honest and Transparent** When reaching out to potential members, be clear about what your Post has accomplished locally and nationally to advocate for veterans. Show them that you are making a difference. Let them see the full scope of your organization, not just membership numbers and dues.
- 2. Treat All Veterans Equally Men and women who served honorably in the Armed Forces deserve equal recognition and respect. The outdated assumption that only men deployed or served is incorrect and has no place in The American Legion Family.
- 3. Embrace New Ideas Seasoned veterans

bring life experience and different perspectives, but that doesn't mean the younger generation is any different. Welcome their ideas, energy, and enthusiasm. Encourage them to share ways to improve the Post and be open to change.

- 4. Make Newcomers Feel at Home When you see a new member walk in, welcome them warmly. Make them feel like they've found new friends and family at the Post.
- 5. Keep Meetings Short and Engaging No one wants to sit through a long, drawn-out meeting. Keep it short, concise, and to the point. Assign younger members tasks during meetings to get them involved and invested.
- 6. Make the Post a Community Hub -Younger members want a place where their families feel welcome. Transform your Post into a community center where families can spend time together.
- 7. Encourage Networking The Post should be a place where veterans can connect with the community and build relationships with local organizations.
- 8. Collaborate with the Community Don't hesitate to work with local businesses, schools, and organizations to build a strong support network for veterans and their families.
- 9. Attend Every Veteran Event You Can Make sure your Post is known in the community.

Sign up for every veteran-related event and establish yourself as the go-to place for veteran support.

10. Modernize Your Post's Atmosphere —

It's time to move away from the old bar and nightclub look. Brighten up the Post during the day and avoid loud music.

Bringing Back Family Traditions

In the past, Posts regularly hosted family nights, offering low-cost meals and entertainment. Grandparents, parents, and children all came together, creating a strong sense of community. These gatherings allowed veterans to connect with one another while the Post demonstrated how it could support the entire family.

If a veteran has experienced traumatic events, they may have learned to cope well in crises but still need support in everyday life. Your Post can help by offering meaningful programs and resources that make a real difference.

Make sure your Service Officers are available not just for veterans but also for their family members. A strong, supportive Post can become a lifeline for those in need.

By implementing these changes, we can ensure The American Legion remains relevant, welcoming, and impactful for generations to come.

LEGION

RIDERS DEPT OF FLORIDA

YOU COULD WIN \$25K on your next Harley®

floridalegion.org/bike





Joining the American Legion: A Community of Veterans

Jim Bowers, Northern Area Commander northern@legionmail.org



The American Legion is a U.S.based veterans' organization that has been serving veterans and their families since 1919. Membership in The American Legion provides access to a wide range of services, resources, and

camaraderie designed to support veterans and their families.

Eligibility and Benefits

Membership in The American Legion is open to all U.S. military veterans who served during specific qualifying periods. Thanks to the LEGION Act, signed into law on July 30, 2019, the current eligibility period extends from December 7, 1941, to the present. This includes veterans from World War II to current military campaigns.

Eligible members include:

- Veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. military.
- Active-duty military personnel.

- National Guard members under Title 10 orders.
- Cadets at U.S. Military Academies.

Member Benefits

Members of The American Legion enjoy a variety of benefits, including:

- Access to Veterans Services: The American Legion provides tools and information to help veterans thrive in civilian life, including assistance with careers, education, health, benefits, and financial services.
- Community and Camaraderie: Joining a local Post allows veterans to connect with fellow veterans, fostering a sense of support and belonging.
- Advocacy: The American Legion is a strong advocate for veterans' rights, working to improve active-duty pay, housing for military families, and VA healthcare services.
- Exclusive Discounts and Grants: Members
 can take advantage of special discounts on
 products and services, as well as financial grants
 during times of hardship or for educational
 purposes.
- The American Legion Magazine: Members

receive a subscription to the magazine, featuring articles, interviews, and updates on veteran affairs.

Renewing Membership

Renewing your membership ensures that you continue to receive these benefits and remain connected with the veteran community. Membership expires on December 31, so it's important to renew annually to maintain access to services and support

How to Join

To join The American Legion, veterans can visit the official website and fill out a membership application. Membership renewal is also quick and easy and can be done online.

More Than Just Membership

Joining The American Legion is more than just becoming a member—it's about being part of a community that understands and supports the unique experiences of veterans. Whether you're looking for camaraderie, advocacy, or assistance, The American Legion is here to help.

American Legion Post 72 Honored as Non-Profit Business of the Year

Kalvin Thompson, District 7 Commander district?@legionmail.org



We are thrilled to announce that American Legion Post 72 has been awarded the prestigious Non-Profit Business of the Year by the Mulberry Chamber of Commerce. This recognition is a testament

to the dedication and hard work of our members in serving the community and supporting our veterans.

In addition to this honor, we are excited to inform

you about an upcoming CPR/CSR Training session. This important training will take place on April 5th at Bartow Post 3. We strongly encourage all Commanders and Adjutants to participate to ensure 100% compliance for the District.

As we continue to strive for excellence, we are also focused on achieving our goal of 100% District Membership by March 31st. Your commitment and support are crucial in helping us reach this milestone. Let's work together to ensure that every eligible veteran in our district becomes a member of The American Legion. I look forward to seeing you at the Central Area Ball on March 8th.



April 5, 2025 9:00 Training Starts Registration at 8:00 with a continental breakfast

DISTRICT 7 CPR/CSR

This training will cover CSR/CPR and all other reports. Recommended training for:

Commanders, Adjutants, & other Post Officers.

Bring a laptop if you have one available. We plan to work on reports together.

> POST 3 1575 US-17 BARTOW, FL 33830



TRAINING ★ MENTORSHIP ★ CONTINUITY

Exciting Award Opportunities – Get Recognized for Your Achievements!

Wayne Mulligan, Americanism Chair americanism@legionmail.org



I hope all is well with your Posts and that you continue the hard work you are doing.

A mailing will be sent out in March detailing the awards

available within the department. Please follow the instructions for the specific award in the area you choose to submit.

Start documenting your achievements now so you can complete the write-up before the deadline stated on the award sheet.

Good luck to all! If you have any questions, please contact your District Commander, who will direct you to the Chairman responsible for that program.

For any additional questions, feel free to contact me at armyvet06@hotmail.com.

Good luck, and see you at the Conference!

Boost Blood Donations - Help Us Reach Our Goal!

Jamie Grinis, Blood Donor Chair blooddonor@legionmail.org



We are aetting close to matching last year's blood donation levels, but we need just one pint per day from each Post to surpass it. You might ask, how can we collect a pint a day? It's simple!

- Call OneBlood or a local blood bank in your area and schedule a donation.
- Donate at your local blood center—just be sure to mention your Post number when you give.

• Set up a blood drive at your Post or partner with a local business or organization that supports this program.

This year has been a whirlwind, with Mother Nature challenging our great state. Despite these difficulties, we have endured, and many Posts have worked hard to return to normal. As we rebuild, consider participating in the Blood Donor Program—a meaningful initiative that benefits both your Post and the community.

For Posts looking to expand their programs and maintain their charter in good standing, this is a great opportunity. Many Posts already host blood drives every other month, and these events have proven to be effective recruiting tools for The American Legion Family. You never know—your next donor might be a qualified member. Just ask!

As a Legion Family, we can reach our goal of collecting just one more pint than last year. Let's get busy and start collecting this vital elixir of life today!

Remember: Visit the department website to report your activities each time you host a donation drive.

Thank you for your commitment to saving lives!

Introducing Myself: Supporting Florida Boys State

Darcy Bockman-Wright, Boys State Counselor bovstate@leaionmail.ora



I'd like to introduce myself—I am Darcy Bockman-Wright, a Boys State counselor assisting Sonny Decker, the Department of Florida American Legion Boys State Chair

Over the past four months, I have been traveling across Florida, attending many Central and Southern District meetings, while Sonny focused on the Northern and Panhandle regions. During our visits,

we were able to educate, engage, and encourage many across the Department about the Florida Boys State program in ways that hadn't been done in years.

Exciting Updates & Program Enhancements

We introduced several key updates, including:

- Eliminating delegate number restrictions, allowing more young men to participate.
- Introducing online history resources to enhance the program's accessibility.
- Encouraging sponsorships for Posts that may struggle with affordability due to increased

delegate numbers.

Sonny and I have been able to expand our message more efficiently across the Department. With a boots-on-the-ground approach, we were able to assist some Posts immediately and learn new strategies to share with other districts.

The enthusiasm and excitement for this amazina program have truly warmed my heart. What I once feared was a declining program is now experiencing a renewed sense of energy within our organization.

Boys State continued on page 10 >>



<< Boys State continued from page 9

I sincerely appreciate the hospitality and support I've received, and I'm excited about the strong participation numbers for the 81st session of Florida Boys State, happening June 15-21, 2025, in Tallahassee.

Join Us for a Special Fundraising Event — May 10, 2025

I invite you to join us on May 10, 2025, at Department Headquarters for an evening of support for this incredible program. Proceeds raised will help with:

- Scholarships
- Delegate sponsorships
- Program enhancements

This event will feature great food, raffle baskets, and we are working on securing a few special guest speakers.

- Tickets: \$35 per person | \$65 per couple
- Get your tickets here: https://live.givebutter.com/c/p45alj

Interested in Volunteering?

As I mentioned during my travels, if you're interested in volunteering for this wonderful program, please reach out to Sonny or me. We are always looking for dedicated men and women who want to help grow and enrich Boys State.

Be warned: You will fall in love with the rewards and personal fulfillment this program provides. While it requires time and dedication, the impact it has on our youth, communities, state, and nation is invaluable. Thank you again for your support!

Exploring Aerospace Education with Civil Air Patrol (CAP)

Rico Thomas, Civil Air Patrol Chair civilairpatrol@legionmail.org



The Aerospace Education (AE) program at Civil Air Patrol (CAP) serves as a dynamic platform, igniting curiosity, knowledge, and passion for aviation and STEM exploration.

Mission Statement

Volunteers Serving America's Communities, Saving Lives, and Shaping Futures.

Vision Statement

Civil Air Patrol, America's Air Force Auxiliary, building the nation's finest force of citizen volunteers serving America.

Core Values

- Integrity
- Volunteerism
- Excellence
- Respect

Key Traits of Cadet Life

- The Uniform
- Aerospace Theme
- Opportunity to Lead

- Challenge
- Fun

New Cadet

Upon joining CAP, new cadets receive a New Cadet Kit containing essential resources to help them get started. This includes:

- New Cadet Guide
- Aerospace Dimensions (Modules 1 and 2)
- · Learn to Lead, Vol. 1
- Learn to Lead Cadet Drill Guide
- Personal Cadet Tracker, Phase 1 & 2
- Parents' Guide (Ships separately)

Phase II Cadet

Upon earning the Wright Brothers Award, Phase II cadets receive:

- Aerospace Dimensions (Modules 3 7)
- Learn to Lead, Vol. 2
- Cadet Staff Handbook

Phase III & IV Cadet Kit

Upon earning the Billy Mitchell Award, Phase III & IV cadets receive:

- Learn to Lead, Vol. 3
- · Aerospace: The Journey of Flight
- Staff Duty Analysis Guide
- Personal Cadet Tracker, Phase 3 & 4

Find a Florida CAP Cadet Squadron to Support

https://flwg.cap.gov/join/unit-locator

I had the great pleasure of attending an award ceremony for Pines-Miramar Composite Squadron at North Perry Airport in Miramar, FL. This squadron recently separated from another squadron due to significant growth in cadet numbers.

Interested in starting or locating a new CAP Cadet program? Contact me, and let's make it happen!









JROTC Performance Accreditation & Marksmanship Championships: Honoring Excellence

Loretta Young, JROTC/JSSP Chair

irotc@legionmail.org



This is the time of year when the JROTC Performance Accreditation (JPA) Review Committee evaluates the performance of Cadets and their program. Each service branch has its own inspection teams,

who spend the day with the Unit to observe their operations.

One of the highlights of the JPA Review is the Continuous Improvement Brief, which is often open to special guests, including community leaders, veteran service organizations, parents, and others interested in the JROTC program. The Battalion Commander leads the briefing by introducing the Cadet Battalion, allowing each cadet to share their accomplishments and future goals.

While each JROTC Unit varies slightly in its presentation, the primary goal is to provide an overview of the program's mission and achievements. Since JROTC is a cadet-run program, its success or failure depends on the leadership of the Cadet Battalion Staff. The program's motto is:

"To motivate young people to be better citizens."

Anyone who attends these briefings will certainly be impressed by the dedication and professionalism of the Cadets.

Continuous Improvement & Service-Learning Projects

The Continuous Improvement Plan focuses on program growth, including recruitment efforts at feeder middle schools through events and activities designed to spark student interest in JROTC. This plan includes timelines and benchmarks to keep the Unit on track toward achieving its final goals.

Each JROTC Unit also undertakes a Service-Learning Project. Two outstanding projects I had the opportunity to observe included:

- Restoring historic photos and memorabilia that had been stored away, honoring past Cadets and Instructors.
- Honoring a Gold Star Family of a service member who gave their life in the line of duty, along with presenting a donation to Fisher House in their memory.
- JROTC Competitions & Inspections Cadets are also evaluated on:
- Drill Team Inspections
- Color Guard Performance
- Cadet Records and Portfolios

At the conclusion of the JPA Review, the Inspection Team conducts an Outbrief, providing each Unit with an overall rating. This annual review rotates through all JROTC Units, and I encourage anyone interested to attend in the future.

Army JROTC State Championship Marksmanship Meet

The Army JROTC State Championship Marksmanship Meet was held on January 18th at Island Coast High School in Cape Coral. This all-day event featured 30 teams, each consisting of four cadets competing for top honors.

Beyond the competition, the event provided valuable networking opportunities, with table setups featuring pamphlets, banners, and posters to showcase JROTC programs from across the state.

The award ceremony concluded the meet, with trophies and medals presented to the winners. We were honored to have 13th District Commander and JROTC Committee Member, Keith Berres, assist with the presentation of trophies.

A special thank you to Post 90 for their unwavering support of the JSSP/Marksmanship Program over the years. Their dedication has helped this youth program grow, making Post 90 the largest and most active supporter of the initiative—an excellent example for other Posts to follow.

- First Place Winner: Mulberry JROTC
- Runner-Up: Mariner JROTC Unit

A heartfelt thanks also goes to Post 90 Chairman, Dennis Stebbins, and the dedicated Legionnaires who have continually supported this program. Encouraging youth to excel is vital, as they are the future of our nation.

Best of luck to our competitors advancing to the Second Round of the National Postal Competition. We should be receiving results soon, which will be

posted on the National website.

Let's continue to support and inspire our young leaders, ensuring they have the best opportunities to succeed!









The Rise in Violent Crimes Against First Responders: A Call for Support

Daryl Bass, Law & Order Chair

laworder@legionmail.org



Reports across the nation show a steady increase in violent crimes against law enforcement officers, firefighters, and paramedics each year. However, media coverage often focuses on police abuse allegations rather than

addressing the root causes of rising violent crime rates.

In my opinion, many of these reports contribute to a misconception that criminals have more civil rights than they actually do. For example, it is becoming more common to see individuals pulled over for traffic violations who refuse to cooperate with law enforcement, believing it is their constitutional right to do so.

We often see people using cell phone cameras inappropriately—not for legitimate documentation but rather to harass officers while claiming they know the law and do not have to comply. On the contrary, this behavior constitutes resisting arrest and/or obstruction. At this point, a physical arrest and a trip to the county jail are imminent.

What happened to common sense? We seem to be moving toward a lawless society, heavily influenced by misinformation and media portrayals. Even certain laws have lost their perceived strength, such as the Fleeing Felon Law.

The Fleeing Felon Rule: Then vs. Now

Common Law: The fleeing felon rule permitted the use of force, including deadly force, against an individual suspected of a felony in clear flight. This was the law of the land until 1985.

U.S. Law: In 1985, the Tennessee v. Garner (471 U.S. 1) decision limited the use of deadly force in most cases. statina:

"Deadly force may not be used unless necessary to prevent the escape, and the officer has probable cause to believe that the suspect poses a significant threat of death or serious bodily harm to the officer or others."

Justice Byron White clarified:

"A police officer may not seize an unarmed, non-dangerous suspect by shooting him dead... however, where the officer has probable cause to believe that the suspect poses a threat of serious physical harm, either to the officer or to others, it is not constitutionally unreasonable to prevent escape by using deadly force."

Additionally, fleeing felons may still be pursued into private property without a warrant if the officer is in hot pursuit.

Conclusion: A Need for Public Support
Many effective laws remain on the books to assist
law enforcement in doing their jobs. However, due to
negative publicity and public misconceptions, many
officers hesitate to use them.

As a society, we must recognize that our law enforcement officers and first responders put their lives on the line every day to protect us. It is crucial for citizens to be more supportive of those who serve and protect our communities.

By standing behind law enforcement and first responders, we help create a safer and more law-abiding society.

Race to the Top: Let's Push for 100%!

Bruce Carl, Membership Chair membership@legionmail.org



Hello Team Florida, and welcome to Race to the Top Month!

Each District has until the end of the month to reach at least 100% to qualify for the Race

to the Top! Currently, 11 Districts are well in the running, and with a little extra push from your

membership teams at the Post, District, and Area levels, we could see even more qualify. I would love to see every District reach this goal!

Membership Strategies & A New Tool

In the February Legion Link article, I shared a list of ideas to help you get there. I hope everyone is using them! If you haven't seen it, the article is still available on the website.

There's also a new strategy that has been highly

effective, yielding a return rate of about 50%, or even higher in some cases. Since many of our younger members are more tech-savvy, I encourage you to text your DMS400ADs, inviting them to transfer to an actual Post.

A simple, standardized text message is available for use Department-wide. Please contact your District Commander, Department Commander, or me to

Membership continued on page 13 >>



TRAINING ★ MENTORSHIP ★ CONTINUITY



<< Membership continued from page 12

obtain it. This is a quick and easy way to engage members without having to call them—perfect for those who don't enjoy cold-calling.

There's also a reply message template available for members who accept the transfer. Over the past couple of months, this invaluable tool has helped increase engagement and transfers.

During our February travels with the National Vice Commander, he was impressed by how well the texting method works. In just 3 ½ days, we successfully transferred 30 members from the DMS. He will be sharing this success throughout the entire Southeast Region. Once again, Florida leads the way in innovative membership strategies!

Celebrating Our Progress & Next Goals

Congratulations, everyone! We have officially hit

our 85% goal!

As of now, the Department is at 85.17%, needing 15,390 more members to reach 100%.

Next Targets:

- 90% Goal: March 5th (Department) & March 12th (National)
- Current National Standing: 17th place, moving ahead of Pennsylvania and within reach of the Top 10!
- Members Needed for 90%: 5,034
- Renewals Needed to Match Last Year: 2,375 more renewals

Top Performers & 100% Club

- Two Districts are already over 90%!
- One Area has surpassed 90%!
- 35 Posts have reached 100%!
- 16 Posts are over 103%!

Way to go, Team Florida! Let's get more Posts on the list! I still have plenty of 100% coins and pins to distribute!

Final Push — Keep Up the Momentum!

Thank you for the amazing work you've been doing! Now is not the time to slow down. The next couple of months will be challenging, but we need to push harder to bring in more renewals and new members.

If you need assistance, please reach out to me. As always, I will be working behind the scenes to help you reach your goals.

Keep up the incredible work, Team Florida! Let's finish **strong**!

The American Legion's Legislative Agenda for the 119th Congress

Michael Sherman, National Security Chair security@legionmail.org



The American Legion National Legislative and National Security teams have released The American Legion's Legislative Agenda for the 119th Congress, covering a wide range of critical issues that our National

organization has identified as priorities.

To quote National Security Chairman James Grenier: "Countless hours of work involved meetings with industry experts, former DOD, State and DHS officials, Legion members, Congressional staffers from both the House and Senate, consultants, key partner VSOs, and through our work over the past 2+ years have gone into this. Additionally, and most crucial, was the

consideration of the analysis we conducted on what is likely to be able to move or progress in the 119th Congress."

The Legislative Agenda aligns with all four pillars of The American Legion, with several priorities focusing specifically on National Security. The American Legion continues to collaborate with the Pentagon and military installation commands to understand the needs of our nation's military, while also listening to our troops in uniform to craft policies that ensure their success.

Top Legislative Priorities of The American Legion National Security Commission for the 119th Congress

1. Military Quality of Life - The American Legion continues to advocate for improvements in the quality-of-life conditions for our military personnel and their families. Since the pandemic, inflation and the rising cost of living have put additional strain on service members. The American Legion urges Congress and the Department of Defense to adjust military pay and benefits accordingly and to continue funding and promoting long-overdue quality-of-life improvements.

2. Border Security - The American Legion implores Congress to strengthen our national security by working together for the safety of all Americans. We advocate for increased security measures along our borders and greater support for U.S. Border Patrol agents, nearly one-third of whom are veterans, so they can properly execute their duties to protect our nation.

National Security continued on page 14 >>



TRAINING ★ MENTORSHIP ★ CONTINUITY



<< National Security continued from page 13

- 3. Strengthening the Lethality of the U.S. Armed Forces As global threats evolve, the U.S. must continue to modernize its Armed Forces to maintain military superiority. This includes:
 - Investing in next-generation weaponry
 - Enhancing cybersecurity measures
 - Advancing artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities
 - Improving military infrastructure and logistics
 - Expanding training and operational readiness for our troops

The American Legion urges Congress to increase funding for defense-related research initiatives and prioritize warfighting capabilities to ensure our military remains strong, adaptable, and prepared.

4. Funding the State Department and
Foreign Operations - America's diplomats
serve as the first line of de-escalation, helping
to prevent unnecessary conflicts that could

put our servicemembers at risk. Unfortunately, recent proposed funding bills would cut State Department funding levels by 11% (following a 6% cut last year). The American Legion strongly urges Congress to reverse this trend, especially as global tensions continue to rise.

- 5. Protecting Coast Guard Pay and
 Entitlements The U.S. Coast Guard remains
 the only branch of the military that is forced to
 work without pay in the event of a government
 shutdown. The American Legion continues to
 advocate for legislation that ensures Coast Guard
 personnel receive their paychecks, just as their
 counterparts in the Department of Defense do.
- 6. Full Accountability for POW/MIAs More than 80 years after World War II, over 81,000 U.S. servicemembers remain officially listed as Missing in Action (MIA). Their families still await closure regarding the fate of their loved ones.

The American Legion firmly believes that the U.S. military must uphold its ethos of "No One Left

Behind." We advocate for full accountability of POW/MIAs and call upon Congress and military leadership to prioritize recovery efforts for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Get Involved: Join the Grassroots Action Center If you haven't already, please consider signing up for The American Legion's Grassroots Action Center.

Although there are no active campaigns at this moment, as the 2025 Legislative Agenda is finalized, The American Legion will need your support to ensure our voices are heard in Congress.

Make your voice count! Sign up here: https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home

This easy-to-use platform is the most effective way to engage with Congress on key veteran and national security issues.

Together, we can make a difference!

Honoring POW/MIA History and Recent Updates

Denny Luke, POW/MIA Chair

powmia@legionmail.org



Last month, I discussed
Operation Homecoming, an
all-out effort to repatriate all
U.S. personnel held in Vietnam
prisons. As we move into
March, we recognize March
9th as a significant date in

POW/MIA history.

The POW/MIA Flag: A Symbol of Remembrance

In January 1972, Mrs. Hellen Hoff, an MIA wife and member of the National League of POW/ MIA Families, received permission from the Board of Directors to manufacture the flag that we now recognize as the official POW/MIA flag.

On March 9, 1989, an official League flag was flown over the White House, marking what was then POW/MIA Recognition Day. Due to overwhelming bipartisan support from the 100th Congress, the flag was permanently installed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda.

Later, on August 10, 1990, the 101st Congress passed U.S. Public Law 101-355, officially recognizing the POW/MIA flag as "the symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving, as fully as possible, the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing, and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, thus

ending the uncertainty for their families and the Nation."

For more information on the presentation of the POW/MIA flag, please refer to our POW/MIA Chairman Manual, available under the Resources tab of the POW/MIA Remembrance Program.

2024 DPAA Year in Review Report

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) has released its 2024 Year in Review report. Please take a moment to review it: DPAA 2024 Year in Review - https://bit.ly/4bkpnGe

National POW/MIA Memorial

POW/MIA continued on page 15 >>



<< POW/MIA continued from page 14

Construction Update

The National POW/MIA Memorial has recently secured enough funding to restart construction of its facility. This project is entirely dependent on donations, merchandise sales, and brick sales for funding.

Please consider supporting this Memorial in your fundraising activities. Once completed, it will serve as a powerful tribute to our POW/MIAs and stand as a shining example of Florida's continued commitment to veterans.

Stay Connected with POW/MIA Updates

Follow the Department of Florida's POW/MIA Facebook Page:

https://www.facebook.com/falpowmia/

One-Stop Link for POW/MIA Information: QR.link/GvHRau

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA): https://www.dpaa.mil/

Recent POW/MIA Identifications (As of February 6, 2025)

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) has identified the following missing personnel for FY 2025:

- World War II: 19
- Korean War: 9
- Cold War: 0
- Vietnam War: 1

During January 2024, 20 personnel previously listed as Missing in Action (MIA) were accounted for. Below is a list of those recently identified:

February 4, 2025

 Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Mestas, 0.)

January 31, 2025

- Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Brock, J.)
- Pilot Accounted For From World War II (De Jarnette, J.)
- Pilot Accounted For From World War II (Rauh, G.)
- Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Carrino, F.)
- Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Hardy, D.)

January 28, 2025

- Airman Accounted For From World War II (Buttala, J.)
- Soldier Accounted For From World War II (Smalley, C.)
- Soldier Accounted For From World War II (Bryant, R.)

January 21, 2025

- Airman Accounted For From World War II (Darrigan, E.)
- Soldier Accounted For From World War II (Lingo, A.)
- Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Dage, D.)

- Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Travers, J.)
- Pilot Accounted For From World War II (Shostak, F.)
- Pilot Accounted For From Vietnam War (Downing, D.)

January 14, 2025

 Airman Accounted For From World War II (Bays, D.)

January 13, 2025

 Airman Accounted For From World War II (Lord, L.)

January 7, 2025

- Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Clifton, A.)
- Pilot Accounted For From Vietnam War (Downing, D.)

January 2, 2025

 Marine Accounted For From World War II (Van Heck, R.)

Final Thoughts

As we reflect on the sacrifices of our POW/MIAs, let us remain committed to supporting efforts that ensure every missing servicemember is accounted for.

Thank you for your dedication to this cause, and please continue to spread awareness, honor their legacy, and support efforts to bring them home.



Sign up for TEXT ALERTS.

FLCON to **41372**



TRAINING ★ MENTORSHIP ★ CONTINUITY

OJECT: VETRELIEF

FLORIDA LEGION RIDERS RIDING TO END VETERAN SUICIDE

Next month, the Florida Legion Riders will be hitting the road for a month-long campaign to raise funds and awareness for our Suicide **Prevention Initiative (SPI).** Chapters across the state will host rides, dinners, and events, all competing for points toward the coveted District Trophy. The journey will include the In-State Unity Ride and State Rally, with all proceeds directly benefiting PVR/SPI.

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED:

- » Join the Ride Choose from Western, Central, or Eastern routes, each kicking off with a Meet & Greet on Sunday, April 6th. The official ride begins April 7th, with riders making stops at American Legion Posts to collect donations and honor fallen veterans at memorial sites. Create a fundraising page and rally support—the more funds you raise, the more awesome prizes you'll earn!
- » Ride Virtually Can't join in person? Sign up as a Virtual Rider for just \$5! Ride at least 22 miles, then share your efforts on social media using #iRideforthe22 and #EndVeteranSuicide. Virtual riders are also eligible for great prizes!
- **» Make a Donation** Support the cause by donating to an individual rider, a Chapter's Team page, or the entire event. No matter how you give, your contribution helps in the fight to end veteran suicide.
- » Cheer at a Post Stop Riders love seeing friendly faces along their journey! Check out the route agenda and welcome them as they make their next stop. The official routes will be

announced in the coming days—stay tuned for the final details!

» Celebrate at the State Rally – After the In-State Unity Ride, join us for the State Rally on April 12th at OCC Road House & Museum in Clearwater. Enjoy live music, vendors, and raffles—and best of all, entry is free!

EARN COOL PRIZES AS YOU RAISE FUNDS:

As you raise funds for the Suicide Prevention Initiative (SPI), you'll have the chance to earn exciting prizes! The more you raise, the bigger and better the rewards. Stay tuned—prizes will be announced soon. Start fundraising today and make a difference!

Together, we can ride for awareness, honor our heroes, and take action to end veteran suicide. Let's make this year's ride the most impactful yet!

REGISTER, DONATE, AND DETAILS:

https://give.floridalegion.org/2025UnityRide

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT July '24 - June '25

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE Emergency Assistance









Upcoming Deadline for Resolution Submissions at the Department Convention

Clarence Hill, Resolutions Chair

resolutions@legionmail.org



The deadline is fast approaching for submitting resolutions to be considered at this year's Department Convention. All resolutions must be received by the Department in time to be compiled, reproduced,

and distributed to all Posts 40 days prior to the convention. The Department should receive them by the end of April.

Members representing their Posts at the Internal Affairs Committee meeting should read and review the resolutions before the meeting to ensure they are prepared for discussions and voting.

Internal Affairs Committee Meeting Details

Although the agenda has not yet been released, the Internal Affairs Committee is typically scheduled to meet on Thursday afternoon at approximately 2 PM.

The meeting will include reports from the following committees:

- Constitution and By-Laws
- Credentials
- Disaster Preparedness
- POW-MIA
- Resolutions
- Time & Place
- Special Rules

During the Resolutions portion, only the RESOLVED clauses will be read aloud. Therefore, it is crucial that all attendees review the full resolution before the meeting.

Voting & Representation

- Each Post may have one delegate at this meeting to speak and vote on all matters.
- All voting members must have the black ribbon included in the registration package—this ribbon is required to speak or vote.
- Attendees without the ribbon may attend but

cannot participate in discussions or voting.

- The results of the vote taken at this meeting will serve as a recommendation to the General Assembly when the Internal Affairs Committee report is presented.
- Every delegate at the Convention will have a vote on the final disposition of the resolution.

Current Resolutions Review

As of now, I have reviewed three (3) resolutions.

Important Reminder: Resolutions that do not meet the 40-day submission deadline will not be considered until the Fall Conference.

Please ensure that all resolutions are submitted on time to allow for proper review and consideration. Thank you for your participation and commitment to this process!

Important Reminder: Squadron Year-End Reports Submission

Michael Sherman, SAL Advisory Chair sal@legionmail.org



Greetings on behalf of Detachment Commander Rocky Cirialiano!

Last month, I requested assistance from Post Commanders and Adjutants

to ensure that their Squadrons complete and submit their annual year-end reports. Just like the Department, the Detachment of Florida has several REQUIRED reports that must be submitted each year prior to the Convention.

Historically, the completion rates for these Squadron reports have been very low, and we are seeking your help to improve these numbers.

Year-End Reporting Packets

Your Squadron will receive a year-end reporting packet sometime in March, just like your Post does. These report forms will also be uploaded to the Detachment website and can be filled out digitally.

Required Reports for Submission

- Squadron Information Report (SIR) To be completed immediately after Squadron elections
- National Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR) The Sons of the American Legion (SAL) version

of the Consolidated Post Report (CPR); can be completed and submitted via mylegion.org.

- Detachment Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR) — A Detachment-level report that must be completed separately from the National CSR.
- Children & Youth (C&Y) Report Required supplemental report.
- Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)
 Report Required supplemental report.
- Americanism Report Required supplemental report.

New Submission Deadline - May 15

SAL Advisory continued on page 18 >>



TRAINING ★ MENTORSHIP ★ CONTINUITY

<< SAL Advisory continued from page 17

The Detachment Adjutant announced last month that the submission date for these reports has been changed to May 15.

This change allows the Adjutant and his team time

to collect and collate data before the Convention.

Additionally, they are working on an online submission system to make the process easier and more efficient. We will share more information as it becomes available.

Need Assistance?

If you have any questions or need help filling out these reports, please reach out to me.

Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to ensuring accurate and timely reporting!

Make a Difference in a Student's Life – Recognize Their Achievements

Eric Loyd, School Medals Chair schoolmedals@legionmail.org

Can you believe it is March already? The school year is almost over!

Has your Post made a difference in a student's life this year? The American Legion is proud to have Children & Youth as one of its FOUR PILLARS. There is no better way to make a lasting impact than by presenting a student with a school medal in recognition of their achievements.

Yes, school medals can be costly, but they are worth every penny if they inspire and encourage a young person to succeed.

As a parent and grandparent, I know that positive reinforcement and recognition help build confidence and self-worth in children. Showing appreciation for their efforts can have a lasting impact on their future.

Please encourage your Post to participate and **MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

Let's Celebrate Women Veterans!

Joan Suelter, Women Veterans Chair womenvets@legionmail.org

Did you know that March 8th is International Women's Day (IWD)?

Ironically, it falls on the same day as the Tri-County Women Veterans' annual Women Veteran Expo, held at the Brownwood Hotel and Spa in The Villages, Florida. If you're in the area, stop by on Saturday, March 8th, 2025, to explore the many vendors and resources available at this incredible event!

The Importance of International Women's Day for Women Veterans

International Women's Day, celebrated annually on March 8th, holds special significance for women

veterans, acknowledging their unique experiences and challenges related to military service. Here's how IWD impacts and supports women veterans:

- Recognition and Visibility IWD provides an opportunity to honor and recognize the contributions of women veterans, highlighting their service, dedication, and sacrifices for their country
- 2. Advocacy and Support The day serves as a platform to advocate for the needs and rights of women veterans, including access to healthcare, mental health support, and career opportunities. Raising awareness helps drive positive change
- **3. Empowerment and Networking** Events like the Women Veteran Expo create spaces for

- women veterans to connect, share their stories, and build supportive networks.
- 4. Highlighting Achievements Celebrating the achievements of women veterans—both during and after military service—helps break down stereotypes and challenge misconceptions about women in the military.

Join the Celebration!

International Women's Day is a powerful occasion to celebrate the accomplishments of women veterans, advocate for their rights, and empower them through recognition and support.

Hug a woman veteran and welcome her into our Legion Family!



facebook.com/floridalegion



TRAINING ★ MENTORSHIP ★ CONTINUITY

Florida National Convention: Your Support and Volunteers Needed!

Clarence Hill, 2025 National Con Corp President



As the Florida Legislature is currently in session, it is crucial that you contact your state representatives to lobby for transportation funding from this year's budget for the National Convention.

Department Adjutant Comer has submitted the Florida Senate Local Funding Initiative Request and the Florida House of Representatives Appropriations Project Request to our lobbyist, Bill Helmich, for submission to sponsors. We must push hard to secure this funding.

To assist in lobbying efforts, the one-page information sheet developed for last year's session will be posted on the website for your use.

Convention Transportation Costs

The transportation contract for our Tampa convention has been negotiated, awarded, and signed for

\$236,000. 10% of this amount had to be paid at the time of signing.

We urgently need your help in persuading the Florida Legislature to assist with this expense. The number of tourists and attendees plays a role in funding decisions, and National estimates that 8,000—10,000 members will attend the event.

Volunteers Needed

Committee Chairpersons will be reaching out soon to assemble their teams. I have already forwarded the volunteer forms received so far and will continue to do so as more come in.

Many of you have volunteered for multiple committees, so you may hear from more than one Chairperson as assignments are finalized.

This is a massive undertaking for Florida, and your support and participation are critical to its success. We anticipate needing between 50 and 100 volunteers.

Why Your Support Matters

As deadlines approach, things will begin moving quickly. Hosting a National Convention is a huge responsibility, requires significant funding, and is subject to scrutiny from members of all other Departments.

This is an opportunity to showcase Florida and demonstrate our capability and hospitality on a national stage.

How You Can Help

- Contact your state representatives to advocate for transportation funding.
- Volunteer—we need as much help as possible!
- Submit your ideas to help improve the event.
- Complete the volunteer form available at floridalegion.org.

If you can assist in any way, we need you!

Let's make this National Convention a great success!

February is Americanism Month – Let's Celebrate and Lead the Way!

Dennis Boland, Child Well Being Fdn. President



February is Americanism
Month! As Legionnaires, we
strive to foster and perpetuate
100% Americanism, instilling a
sense of individual obligation
to the community, state, and
nation every day. Americanism

Month is the time to double down on our efforts and strategically plan how to:

• Inspire and influence the youth of our nation

- Encourage civic participation
- Advocate for our national flag
- Motivate community leaders to emphasize civic education
- Unite our communities under selfless causes that uplift society
- Promote neighborly virtues
- Demonstrate confidence in our national Constitution

The American Legion's Commitment to Americanism

The American Legion takes pride in serving all

Americans, in addition to our veteran population. The Americanism Commission is honored to be at the forefront of this continued service, particularly in support of our youth.

This month, let's:

- Present our youth comic books to grade schools
- Get veterans into classrooms to share their experiences
- Showcase our amazing youth programs
- Promote flag sales

Child Well Being Foundataion continued on page 20 >>



TRAINING ★ MENTORSHIP ★ CONTINUITY



<< Child Well Being Foundation continued from page 19

As we approach America's 250th Independence celebration in 2026, we must triple our efforts in community participation. The Americanism Commission encourages all Departments to collaborate with their state America 250 Commissions and secure a role in the 2026 planning process—so The American Legion can continue leading by example.

Additionally, consider:

- Post participation in The Greatest American Cleanup on July 4, 2026
- Joining the nationwide "Two Lights for Tomorrow" initiative on April 18—19, 2025, commemorating Paul Revere's famous ride

The President of the United States signed an executive order on January 29 titled "Celebrating America's 250th Birthday," ensuring a wholegovernment approach to the celebration in partnership with nonprofit America250 and civil society leaders—including The American Legion.

Americanism Month 2025 marks the beginning of our journey to America's 250th birthday—so let's get fired up!

American Legion Youth & Scholarship Programs

American Legion Baseball (ALB) — 2025 Centennial Season

- Registration opened on January 1st.
- Teams can start the online registration process at: Home | American Legion Baseball Registration
- Team fee payments and insurance purchases begin February 15.

Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)

The Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program

provides cash grants to support the basic needs of minor children of eligible Legionnaires and military service members.

 As of February 12, 2025, the TFA program has assisted five minor children from four veterans across the U.S., providing over \$5,985 in grants for shelter, utilities, food, and clothing.

TFA grants are made possible through generous donations from the Legion Family and the American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation.

Scouting — Eagle Scout of the Year Award

- Nomination Window: November 1 March 1
- Deadline: Applications must be received by each applicant's American Legion Department headquarters no later than March 1.

Find the application here: https://www.legion.org/get-involved/youth-programs/scouting/nominate-eagle-scout

Orgtorical Contest - Volunteers Needed

- Volunteer registration is now open!
- The greatest need is for Judges.
- Read all information carefully before volunteering

Register here: https://www.legion.org/get-involved/youth-programs/oratorical-contest/oratorical-contest-volunteers

Scholarships - Now Open!

- The American Legion Legacy Scholarship
- Online applications are open!
- As of February 11, over 782 applicants have applied!

Apply and learn more: https://www.legion.org/ get-involved/scholarships/the-american-legion-

legacy-scholarship

The Samsung American Legion Scholarship

 Online applications are open for eligible youth attending American Legion Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Girls State.

Apply here: https://www.legion.org/get-involved/ scholarships/samsung-american-legion-scholarship

Boys State & Boys Nation

- Boys State
- All Boys State program dates and locations are now listed on Legion.org
- Check for accuracy and report updates here:
 https://www.legion.org/get-involved/youth-programs/boys-state-boys-nation/boys-state-eliqibility-dates

Boys Nation

- Looking for talented volunteers!
- Applications were distributed to Department Adjutants and Boys State Directors.
- Department-vetted applications can be sent to: boysnation@legion.org

Samsung Scholars in Washington, D.C.

- Nine of the Top 10 Samsung Scholars will be in Washington, D.C. for the Washington Conference from February 22—26, 2025.
- If you would like to meet with or host your scholar at any Department events, please contact:
- Jeff Bennett jbennett@legion.org

February is just the beginning! Let's make
Americanism Month 2025 a powerful launchpad for
celebrating 250 years of America—and let's ensure
The American Legion leads the way!





Plant City American Legion Post 26 Supports the Strawberry Festival

Jerry Harrold, Post 26

The Plant City American Legion
Post 26 is once again supporting
the local community and
the world-famous Plant City
Strawberry Festival. Conveniently
located just two blocks from the
festival's main entrance, the
Post serves as a prime parking
location and a key fundraiser for the year.

Festival parking is the Post's largest fundraiser, offering great community exposure. Post 26 Legionnaires volunteer their time to run the event, with support from Plant City High School JROTC cadets, who earn volunteer hours. The Post's Boy

Scouts and Cub Scouts also sell strawberries from a local farm to support their annual activities.

New this year, the Post will provide free golf cart rides to the festival's main gate for seniors and those needing assistance. Hot dog meal specials will be available from the Post kitchen on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays for just \$5.00, including a Nathan's jumbo beef hot dog, chips, cookies, and a bottle of water. By popular demand, the Post will also have a Hospitality Tent for American Legion members to relax and enjoy the festival.

The Strawberry Festival runs from February 27 — March 9, 2025. Plan to park at Post 26 (2207 W. Baker St., Plant City, FL 33563) and stop by to say

hello. We'd love to welcome you and be part of your festival experience!





Veterans Healing Garden and National Vice Commander's Visit

Dana Jackson, Post 117

Charles F. Thomas IV Post 117 is committed to supporting veterans, exemplified by the creation of a Veterans Healing Garden, an idea proposed by Auxiliary Unit 117 member Debbie Nixon. Believed to be the first of its kind within The American Legion, the garden provides a space for healing, reflection, and community to help reduce veteran suicide through therapeutic gardening.

The garden's development was a collaborative effort involving Legion members, Odyssey Charter School students, the Home Depot Foundation, and local businesses. A \$7,933 grant from Home Depot provided substantial support, and since August 2024, countless hours have been dedicated to making the project a reality.

Serving as an extension of The American Legion's "Be The One" initiative, the garden helps combat the stigma surrounding mental health treatment

while promoting veteran well-being.

On February 8, 2025, National Vice Commander James Lysaght, Department of Florida Commander Christopher Hamrick, and other Legion members visited Post 117 and toured the garden. Post Adjutant Dana Jackson emphasized the goal of spreading awareness of the garden throughout the Legion Family.

To help others create similar spaces, Debbie Nixon is developing a How-To Guide to assist in establishing healing gardens for veterans and furthering the mission to stomp out suicide.

















Congratulations, Comrade Ronald Beasley!

George McZeal Jr., Post 331

We proudly celebrate Comrade Ronald Beasley on his induction into the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame, Class of 2024!

As Americanism/Oratory
Executive Committee Officer

for Doris "Dorie" Miller Memorial Post 331, your dedication to The American Legion and our veterans



Ron Beasley

is a tremendous asset to our Post.

The Commander and members of Post 331 extend our heartfelt congratulations, gratitude, and appreciation for your outstanding service and efforts.

We wish you continued success and blessings in all your endeavors. Amen.

Contact: Ron Beasley — rab5234@yahoo.com



District 6 Oratorical Contest

Under the direction of Ron Beasley, District 6 held its Oratorical Contest on Saturday, January 25, 2025.

Ms. Kara Louden and Mr. Jacob Mathews competed before the panel of judges. Mr. Jacob Mathews was declared the winner of the contest.

The District 6 Commander attended the event and

presented the award to the winner.

Support for the contest was provided by members of Doris "Dorie" Miller Memorial Post 331 of The American Legion, Orlando, FL, along with members of the community.







WANT TO VOLUNTEER FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION? / SEE PAGE 24



VISIT OUR
WEBSITE

floridalegion.org

NEWS, FORMS, VETERAN RESOURCES, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND MORE



TRAINING ★ MENTORSHIP ★ CONTINUITY



MEMBERSHIP TARGET REPORT

February 27, 2025 (90%)

| | 27, 2023 (70/8) | |
|--------------|------------------|--------|
| District 4 | Doug Hockenberry | 95.17% |
| District 5 | Miguel Garcia | 93.89% |
| District 17 | Bryant Thorpe | 92.27% |
| District 13 | Keith Berres | 90.57% |
| District 7 | Kalvin Thompson | 90.33% |
| District 6 | Joan Suelter | 88.24% |
| District 2 | Doyle Combs Jr. | 88.10% |
| District 12 | Daniel Martin | 88.09% |
| District 1 | Jason Skobel | 87.80% |
| District 14 | Faustino Benitez | 87.01% |
| District 9 | Jim Tewes | 86.26% |
| District 8 | Charlie Magnus | 85.87% |
| District 11 | Toni Sutherland | 85.79% |
| District 16 | Michael Harley | 85.29% |
| District 3 | Stuart Scott | 85.11% |
| District 15 | Andrew Davis | 83.79% |
| Northern | Jim Bowers | 92.72% |
| Southwestern | John Rauh | 88.44% |
| Eastern | Bruce Thurber | 88.18% |
| Western | Shelby Windham | 87.84% |
| Southern | Teddy Pomerantz | 86.24% |
| Central | Rick Orzechowski | 85.59% |
| Post 400 | | 81.56% |
| Post 208 | | 67.48% |



TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE

Learn How the Legionnaire Emergency Assistance Plus (EA+®) Helps You Handle Travel Emergencies.



Any time you have an accident or sudden illness while traveling away from home, Emergency Assistance Plus provides a crucial safety net that helps coordinate and provide for emergency medical transportation your health or travel

insurance generally will NOT cover. EA+ steps in to provide Medical Evacuation, Transportation Home, Medical Assistance, Travel Assistance, and Assistance for Companions.

Secure your EA+ protection today!



1-888-293-4008



www.TheLIT.com/Emergency-Assistance-Plus

Emergency Assistance Plus® (EA+®) is not insurance, it is a membership plan. This is only an outline of the plan's features. Hospitalization (admitted as an inpatient) is a requirement to be eligible for some services. All services must be arranged and provided by EA+. Please read the EA+ Member Guide carefully to understand all the services available to you, as well as any rules and regulations. Visit www.TheLIT.com/Emergency-Assistance-Plus to view a sample of the EA+ Plan details.









National Convention Volunteer Interest Form

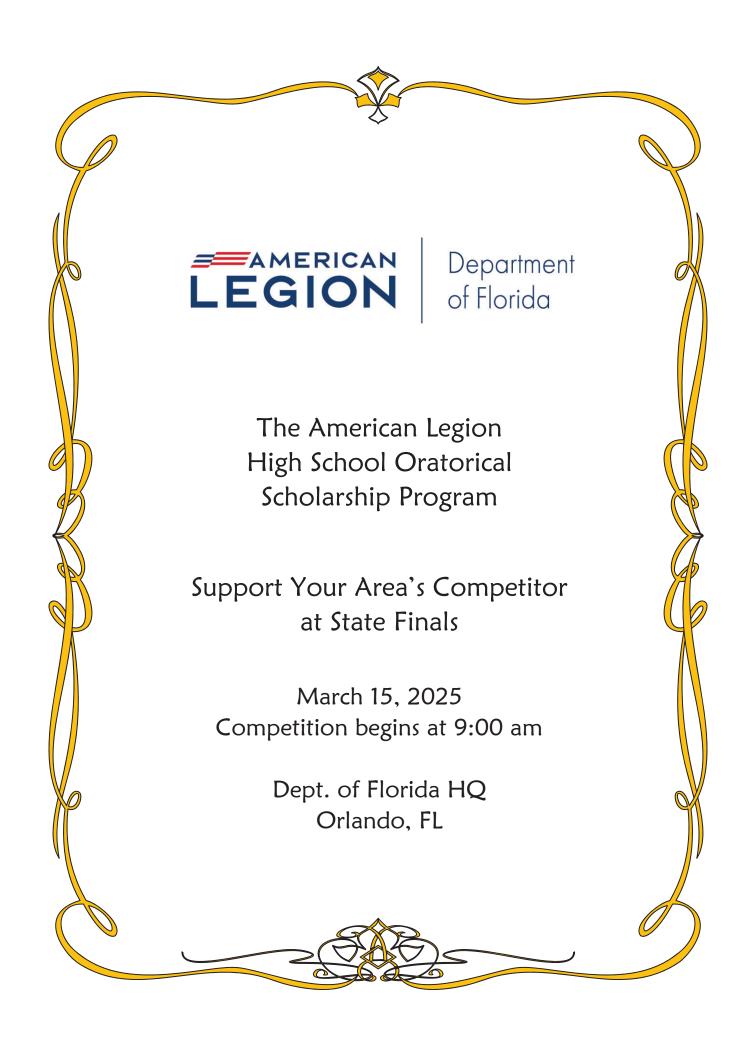
August 22-28, 2025 in Tampa Bay, FL

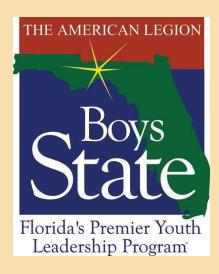
Return to Department or email to resolutions@legionmail.org

| Name: | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Phone: | Email: | | | | | | |
| When is the best time to contact you? | ☐ Anytime ☐ Morning ☐ Afternoon ☐ | ☐ Evening | | | | | |
| What is the best way to contact you? [| ☐ Email ☐ Phone ☐ Either Method | | | | | | |
| VOLUNTEERING | | | | | | | |
| How would you like to volunteer? (Selection | ct all that apply) | | | | | | |
| ☐ Badges and Packets Committee☐ Distinguished Guests Committee☐ Memorial Service Committee | ☐ Information/Registration Committee☐ Special Events Committee☐ Tampa Liaison | □ National Commander's Driver□ National Adjutant's Driver□ General Tasks | | | | | |
| Are you interested in serving as Chair fo | or any of the committees you selected? \Box | res □ No □ Undecided | | | | | |
| Are you a member of any of the following | ng? (Select all that apply) | | | | | | |
| ☐ The American Legion☐ Sons of The American Legion☐ Not a member | The American Legion | | | | | | |
| Do you have any special skills or experie | ence that would be beneficial? (Please explain | in) | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Are you able to attend the 2025 Nation | al Convention? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure | е | | | | | |

*Lodging and travel expenses will be the responsibility of the volunteer. Parking will be provided.







FALBS DINNER

Proceeds support Boys State delegates,
Scholarships and program enhancements.



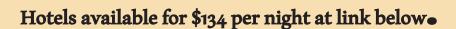
When: May 10, 2025 Time: 5pm What: Dinner & Auctions (Business Casual)

Price: Single \$35 or Couples \$65 (Link below for tickets)

https://live.givebutter.com/c/p45aJj

Where: The American Legion

Department of Florida Headquarters 1912 A Lee Rd, Orlando, Fl 32810



https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservationlink.mi?id=1736959982917&key=GRP&guestreslink2=true&app=resvlink









Mail Checks to: Commander Joe Kiley, Post 120, 461 Walker St.; Holly Hill, FL 32117 Credit card payment call 407 484 6020



WESTERN AREA COMMANDER'S BALL
JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF HONORING HERITAGE

00000

WESTERN AREA HOEDOWN

9(BB)

MARCH 29TH, 2025

POST 75 898 EAST JAMES LEE BLVD CRESTVIEW. FL SOCIAL HOUR 4:30 DINNER 5:30

WEAR YOUR FAVORITE WESTERN ATTIRE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO RALLY CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH



WE WILL HAVE STAFF OPERATED CATERING ENTREE OPTIONS: BRISKET OR CHICKEN

SUGGESTED DONATION

TICKETS: \$35 INDIVIDUAL

PURCHASE HERE



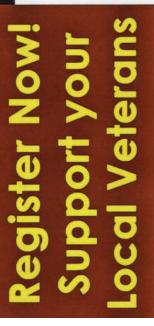
TIVE MUSIC BY

CHEWENNE

STARTS AT 7:30 PM

American Legion Post 75 is a nonprofit, tax-exempt charitable organization under section 501 c(19) of the Internal Revenue Service. Donations





at American Legion Post 127 Race Starts at 8:00 am March 15, 2025 Saturday























The American Legion Riders invite you to ride and come fundraise with us in support of Project: VetRelief-Suicide Prevention Initiative

SAL on the Grill
Burgers \$10,
Hot dogs \$8
With sides

Music

March 29, 2025 11am - 5pm

Registration 9am
KSU 10am
\$15/Rider \$5/Passenger
Stops Include:
Post 39 Vero Beach
Post 189 Sebastian
Willy's Bar & Grill Fellsmere
Post 117

#veteransuicide

#Paint22

Vendors \$25/spot Set-up 10am-12pm POC Dana, 719-459-6334



Auction

50/50

American Legion Post 117 189 Veterans Dr SE Palm Bay, FL 32909

POC: Stan Wood, PVR Chair, 802-376-5350



COMMANDER SHIRT ORDER FORM 2025-2026



| Name: | | | | | | | _ Post: | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|------|
| Phone: | | | Ema | ail: | | | | | |
| DELIVERY ME | THOD | *A | Orlando | ng fee of \$10 | 0 is required fo | or delivery. | | | |
| Shipping Addr | ress: | | | | | | | | |
| City: | | | | | | State | :: | Zip: | |
| | | tity for each style/size. | | Otro Sina | Ohu Si-a | Otra Sina | Otro Sino | 04:: | Cont |
| Style Men's | Size Qt | sy Size Qty S | ize Qty Size | Qty Size XL | Qty Size 2X | Qty Size | Qty Size 4X | Qty \$ | Cost |
| Ladies | XS | S N | / L | XL | 2X | зх | 4X | \$ | |
| If tax-exempt, *Extended siz | , provide an e e s: 2XL +\$2.0 | two lines of perso exemption form ij 00 ea., 3XL +\$5.00 line, including sp | f not already on f O ea., 4XL +6.00 e | ile. Pa. | | r options. | Tax (6. | oing \$ | |
| | | lyment to Departi n, Dept of FL; Attr | • | | | | on.org) Fax | ι (407-299-0 <u>9</u> | 901) |
| | | ☐ Cash | ☐ Check | # | | ☐ Credit C | Card | | |
| Card Type: | □ Visa | ☐ Masterca | rd 🔲 Discov | ver \square | American E | xpress | | | |
| Card Holder N | lame: | | | | | | | | |
| Credit Card N | umber: | | | | | | | | |
| Expiration Date | te: | | _ Security Cod | le: | | Billing Zip Cod | le: | | |
| Signature: | | | | | | Date | :: | | |



COMMANDER SHIRT ORDER FORM 2025-2026

PERSONALIZATION You are allowed up to <u>two lines</u> of personalization, with up to <u>20 characters</u> on each line, including spaces and special characters. (*Line 1 example: First Name Last Name. Line 2 example: Post # Title*)

| Style: | | Line 1: |
|------------|-------|---|
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| C+ulor | | Line 1. |
| | | Line 1: |
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| | | Line 2: |
| ., | | |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| | | Line 2: |
| | | |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| | | |
| style | | Line 1: |
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| | | Line 2: |
| | | |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| | | |
| Qιγ | 312e | Line 2: |
| | | t I have verified the information provided as correct and free of errors. I acknowledge that The American a is NOT responsible for incorrect information provided. |
| Signature: | | Date: |
| | | |



DETACHMENT COMMANDER SHIRT ORDER FORM 2025-2026



| Name: | Sqaudron: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|---|----------|--------------|---------|------------|--------|------|--|--------|---------|-----|
| Phone: | | | Emai | l: | | | | | | | | | |
| DELIVERY ME | | | on HQ Orlando additional shipping 4-6 weeks for deli | g fee o | of \$10 is r | equired | for delive | ery. | | ry* | | | |
| Shipping Addr | ress (If Delivery): _ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| City: | | | | | | | | Stat | e: | Z | ip: | | |
| SHIRT OPTION | NS Enter Quantity Size Qty | ofor each style/size. Size Qty | Size Qty | Size | Qty | Size | Qty | Size | Qty | Size | Qty | Size | Qty |
| Men's | XS | S | М | L | | XL | | 2X | | 3X | | 4X | |
| If tax-exempt, *Extended size | , provide an ex :es: 2XL +\$2.00 | vo lines of persond remption form if n D ea., 3XL +\$5.00 e ne, including spac | ot already on fil ea., 4XL +6.00 ea | e. a. | | □ Cł | neck her | e | | Subtota ax (6.5% Shippin and Tota | s) \$ | | |
| | | ment to Departme Dept of FL; Attn: | | | | | | | | Fax (4 | 407-29 | 9-0901) | |
| | | ☐ Cash | ☐ Check # | ŧ | | | | Credit | Card | | | | |
| Card Type: | □ Visa | ☐ Mastercard | ☐ Discove | er | ☐ Am | nerican | Express | | | | | | |
| Card Holder N | lame: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Credit Card N | umber: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Expiration Da | te: | | Security Code | :: | | | Billing | Zip Co | de: | | | | |
| Signature: | | | | | | | | Dat | e: | | | | |



DETACHMENT COMMANDER SHIRT ORDER FORM 2025-2026

PERSONALIZATION You are allowed up to <u>two lines</u> of personalization, with up to <u>20 characters</u> on each line, including spaces and special characters. (*Line 1 example: First Name Last Name. Line 2 example: Squadron # Title*)

| Style: | | Line 1: |
|--------------|------------|---|
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| | | |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| | | Line 2: |
| | | |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| | | |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| ٥. | 6. | |
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| ot, .o | | |
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| otyle | | tille 1 |
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| | | |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| | | |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| 04 | C : | Line 2. |
| Qty: | Size: | Line 2: |
| Style: | | Line 1: |
| Otv. | Size | Line 2: |
| αιγ | Size | Line 2. |
| | | I have verified the information provided as correct and free of errors. I acknowledge that The America is NOT responsible for incorrect information provided. |
| Signature: _ | | Date: |
| | | |



CONVENTION T-SHIRT ORDER FORM 2025



| Name: | | | | | | | | | | | | Post: | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|---|---------|--------------|---------------|--------|-----------|------------------|--------|--------|------|------------------------|---------|---------|------|---|
| Phone: | | | | | Email: _ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DELIVERY MET | _ | □ Pick Up at HO *An o Please allo | additio | nal ship | ping flat | fee of | \$10 is l | required | for de | ivery. | • | | | | | |
| Shipping Addre | ess (If Delivery) | : | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| City: | | | | | | | | | | Stat | te: | | _ Zip: | | | _ |
| SHIRT OPTION | S Enter Quantit | ty for each style/size. Size Qty Size | | y Size | Qty | Size | Qty | Size | Qty | Size | Qty | Size | Qty | | Cost | _ |
| Men's | XS | S M | | L | αι, | XL | αι, | 2X | Q., | 3X | Q., | 4X | αι, | \$ | Cost | |
| Ladies V-neck | XS | S M | | L | | XL | | 2X | | 3X | | 4X | | \$ | | _ |
| TOTAL Shirts are \$18* | | | | la a sa da c | <i>E</i> :1 - | | | | | 7 | | | btotal | | | _ |
| | | xemption form if 0 ea, 3XL + \$3.00 | | | - | | | Check ax exer | | | | | 6.5%) | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | (| Grand | Total | \$ | | _ |
| | | ment to Departr , Dept of FL; Attr | | - | | | | | | | | <u>rg</u>) F | Fax (40 | 7-299-0 | 901) | |
| | | ☐ Cash | | ☐ Ch | eck # | | | _ | | Credit | Card | | | | | |
| Card Type: | ☐ Visa | ☐ Masterca | rd | □ Di | scover | |] Ame | erican Ex | kpress | | | | | | | |
| Card Holder Na | ame: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Credit Card Nu | mber: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Signature: | | | | | | | | | | Dat | te: | | | | | |



R.E.D. FRIDAY T-SHIRT 2025 ORDER FORM



| Name: | | | | | | | Post: | | _ |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|----------------|-------------------------|-----------|---|--------------|----------|
| Phone: | | | Email: _ | | | | | | |
| DELIVERY ME | | | ando 🏻 Pick Up tional shipping flat 6 weeks for deliver | fee of \$10 is | required for a | lelivery. | | | |
| Shipping Addr | ess (If Delivery) | : | | | | | | | |
| City: | | | | | | _ State | :: Zi | p: | |
| SHIRT OPTION | IS Enter Quantit Size Qty | ty for each style/size. Size Qty Size (| Qty Size Qty | Size Qty | Size Qty | Size (| Qty Size Qty | , Co | st |
| Men's | XS | S M | L | XL | 2X | 3X | 4X | \$ | <u> </u> |
| Ladies V-neck | XS | S M | L | XL | 2X | 3X | 4X | \$ | |
| | provide an e | xemption form if not 0 ea, 3XL + \$3.00 ea, | | | Check here ax exempt | | Subtota Tax (6.5% Shippin Grand Tota | \$ \$ \$ | |
| | | ment to Departmen , Dept of FL; Attn: En □ Cash | | Box 547859 | , Orlando, FL | | | 107-299-0902 | L) |
| Card Type: | ☐ Visa | ☐ Mastercard | ☐ Discover | ☐ Ame | erican Expres | SS | | | |
| Card Holder N | ame: | | | | | | | | |
| Credit Card Nu | umber: | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Signature: | | | | | | _ Date | :: | | |

