

KANSAS DEPARTMENT





1314 SW TOPEKA BLVD. TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1886

JULY 2023

LIFE MEMBERS

A reminder of the memorandum that was sent to all Post Commanders and Post Adjutants of the manner in which a Kansas Life Membership (KLM) will be processed for the 2024 membership year and beyond. As of July 1, 2016, the Kansas Life Membership Plan was changed to require each Post to submit \$18.50 to the Department for each KLM. A second change was the termination of Life Member Credit Memo. A Post has the option to pay \$18.50 from its own funds or require the KLM to pay \$18.50. In either case the Post Adjutant will submit to the Department \$18.50 along with the 2024 Department and American Legion Record card for KLM members. If the Post elects not to pay for each KLM, the KLM has four options: (a) Pay the \$18.50; (b) Let membership lapse; (c) Terminate Life Membership and pay Post dues at current rates; (d) Become a National Paid Up for Life Member (PUFL).

This applies only to Kansas Life Members; all other members are transmitted at \$35.00 as usual. Those PUFL members in your post are handled as usual and you will receive their credit, etc. from National.

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR MEMBERSHIP CARDS Upon receiving your Post's 2024 membership cards and roster the first order of business should be a comparison with your 2023 roster to:_(A) Remove the cards of any deceased members, mark them appropriately and then forward them to Department Headquarters. (B) Remove and correct any duplications (example: Adam Smith and Adam R. Smith.) (C) Delete the card of any member who transferred from your Post -- if you received notice of transfer on a Member Data Form. (D) If you do not have a preprinted card for any new member of your Post from the 2024 membership campaign set aside a blank card for use when the member renews. Ditto for members who transferred into your Post who may not have a pre-printed card. If you need any member's ID number contact Department Headquarters or myLegion. (E) Review who paid their 2023 dues late (March, April, May) to enter in the correct number of continuous years the member has belonged to The American Legion. Be certain to use a #2 lead pencil whenever making corrections on the member's card or submit the change on a Member Data Form.

<u>THE SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS</u> is to transmit Life Members with payment to Department Headquarters as well as the dues of every Post Officer.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY HOMECOMING LUNCHEON will be held on August 12, 2023, at Arkansas City Post # 18, 115 E. Washington Avenue, Arkansas City, Kansas. (SEE ENCLOSED FLYER). Every Post is encouraged to have at least one representative at the Commander's Homecoming for the first statewide 2024 membership turn-in. But do not hold membership cards for this or any other membership turn-in. Post Adjutants should make a membership transmittal every two weeks, more often if necessary.

<u>POST QUOTA WILL BE</u> the 2023 membership as of June 30. Dues notices for 2024 membership will be mailed by National Headquarters to reach members appearing on your 2023 roster on or about July 1, 2023. Members are to send their dues directly to their local Post Adjutant or they may renew online with National Headquarters and your Post will receive a credit memo along with a list of those members who renewed online. Post Adjutants are to furnish members their card and LegionCare enrollment card immediately upon payment of dues (including those who renew online). Posts are to transmit record cards and \$35.00 per member at least every two weeks.

<u>SAL SQUADRONS</u>: The requirement to turn in all unused 2023 S.A.L. cards to Department Headquarters was rescinded at the Detachment and Department Conventions. All 2024 S.A.L. membership cards will be mailed to the Posts as soon as they are received from National.

AMERICAN LEGION LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS: National Headquarters established the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund to help provide financial assistance in the form of scholarships to the children of military personnel killed while on active duty since the 9-11 attacks against our nation. National Headquarters relies upon donations from The American Legion Family, particularly the Legion Riders, for annual donations to the scholarship fund with the goal of building the fund to a level that interest earned will begin to finance future scholarships while still be able to award scholarships now. All Posts, Squadrons, Rider Chapters and Auxiliary Units are encouraged to conduct a special event to increase awareness of, and donations to, the Legacy Scholarship program. Naturally personal donations are always welcome. Dept. Headquarters asks that all donations be sent to Dept. Finance Office, 1314 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS 66612 so that all contributions from Kansas can be recorded and proper recognition may be made in the Sunflower Legionnaire.

STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT will be held at Western Hills Golf Course in Topeka, September 23, 2023. (SEE ENCLOSED FLYER). For further information contact State Golf Chairman Lonny Cook, 785-286-2134, email kickaron01@sbcglobal.net.

NATIONAL CONVENTION in Charlotte, North Carolina will be held from 25 - 31 August 2023. Anyone planning to attend must make their housing arrangements through Department Headquarters. All delegates, alternates, and guests and those who have requested information should have received their mailing concerning housing and other information in the mail already. If you are planning to attend and did NOT receive your packet yet, PLEASE let Department Headquarters know because there is a cutoff of 7 July 2023. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

<u>THERE IS STILL TIME</u>...It is not too late to pay 2023 dues. Check your roster and be sure your members have one last opportunity to keep their continuous membership in The American Legion. Stress this and give them one more opportunity.

DISTRICT STANDINGS AS OF JUNE 22, 2023: District V, 2,476 - 92.87%; District IV, 2,681 – 91.63%; District VI, 1,200 – 91.25%; District II, 3,135 - 89.75%; District I, 2,210 - 88.83%; District VII, 1,429 - 87.61%; District X, 1,052 - 87.16%; District VIII, 705 – 86.82; District III, 1,749 – 86.24% and District IX, 792 - 83.28%. Department Headquarters Post 58 (included in Dept. total) is 925. Total membership is 18,363. Membership last year this date was 19,827. We are BEHIND 1,464 members.