

KANSAS DEPARTMENT





1314 SW TOPEKA BLVD. TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1886

SEPTEMBER 2023

SCHOLARSHIPS: Information on all American Legion Scholarships is available on the Department website ksamlegion.org Copies may also be obtained from this office. Contact your nearest High School counselor's office to make sure this information is available to students. Don't deprive a young person in your community the opportunity these programs offer. Have copies available at your Post Home for interested students and let members know they are available. The Hugh A. Smith, Ted and Nora Anderson, Albert M. Lappin and Rosedale Scholarships are available to children of Legion or Auxiliary members. The Charles and Annette Hill is for descendants of Legion and Auxiliary members. The Music and Shooting Sports are available to any qualified student. These are all due February 15. The Sons of the American Legion scholarships are available on their website salks.org/resources. These are also due February 15. The Eagle Scout of the Year is available to Eagle Scouts who are either members of Troops sponsored by Legion Posts or the son or grandson of Legion members is due March 1. The Oratorical Contest information will be mailed to the Posts and Schools after District locations and contests are finalized.

<u>STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT</u> will be held at Great Life Golf and Fitness Center at Western Hill Country Club in Topeka, September 23, 2023. A flyer is enclosed. For further information contact State Golf Chairman Lonny Cook, 785-286-2134, e-mail <u>kickaron01@sbcglobal.net</u>.

<u>EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE</u>: Enclosed is the information for this year's Eisenhower Pilgrimage scheduled for Saturday, October 14 in Abilene. All Posts are encouraged to have someone at the Eisenhower Center to place their Post's Memorial Rose, however Department will furnish a representative for your Post should no one be available from your Post. Deadline for ordering a Memorial Rose or District Wreath is October 1.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE - THE HOMECOMING FOR Department Vice Commander Angela Evans, S.A.L. Detachment Vice Commander Matthew Krupco and Department Vice President Tracy Kinnick will be held on October 14, 2023 at the Greyhound Hall of Fame which is directly adjacent to the Eisenhower Memorial in Abilene at 12:00pm. Cost of the Luncheon is \$18.00 at the Door (\$15.00 if pre-registered by 1 October 2022) and catered by Joe Snuffy's. Reservations are to be sent to: Angela Evans, 720 W. Commercial Street, Lyons, KS 67554.

More information and a coupon for ordering a Rose or a Wreath, and the Vice Commander/Vice President's Homecoming is enclosed and in the Sunflower Legionnaire.

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<u>EARLY BIRD AWARDS</u>: September 15 is the absolute deadline to be used in determining the winner of Early Bird awards. Early Bird are awarded to Posts reaching or exceeding 75% by the September 15 deadline. Only those memberships received at Department Headquarters by September 15 will count towards this award.

FREE INSURANCE: As previously reported there have been a few changes to the free Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance program. It is now called LegionCare and while it still pays \$1,000 for an Accidental Death or Dismemberment, if the accident occurs while attending or traveling to and from an American Legion event or activity the benefit increases to \$5,000. However, every member desiring coverage under the group must enroll, to begin the term of their individual coverage under the group policy. Enrollment forms are available and enrollment can be accomplished or verified at 1-800-235-6943 and on the website www.theLIT.com. Make sure your members have this information. The No-Cost AD&D policy is just one benefit of your American Legion Membership. There is no obligation to purchase additional coverage.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL was back in full swing this year. Pittsburg Post # 64 won the Class AAA Tournament that was held in Pittsburg, and they went on the National Mid-South Regional Tournament that was held in Pelham, Alabama. Iola Post # 15 won the Class AA Tournament that was also held in Concordia. Marysville Post # 163 won the Class A Tournament that was held in El Dorado. It was great to see Our Young People playing and enjoying the National Past time this year!

THE BIG RED '1' TURKEY RUN: is scheduled to be held on Fort Riley on 18 November 2023. Donation of specific items and/or funds will be posted on the Kansas Legion Website later this month. This is a wonderful event and is enjoyed and very helpful to those Soldiers that need a boost during this time of the year.

<u>DISTRICT STANDINGS AS OF AUGUST 17, 2023:</u> District II, 1,659 – 51.14%; District I, 989 – 43.42%; District V, 1,117 - 42.99%; District III, 760 – 40.97%; District IV, 1,088 – 39.00%, District IX, 315 – 36.46%; District X, 402 – 35.54%; District VIII, 264 – 35.11; District VII, 425 – 27.89%; and District VI, 347 – 27.39%. Department Headquarters Post 58 (included in Dept. total) is 496. Total membership is 7,862. Membership last year this date was 7,269. We are AHEAD 593 members!

IN ORDER TO AVOID RECEIVING THE NEXT RENEWAL NOTICE ALL PAID MEMBERS' CARDS MUST BE IN THIS OFFICE BY SEPTEMBER 17, 2023.