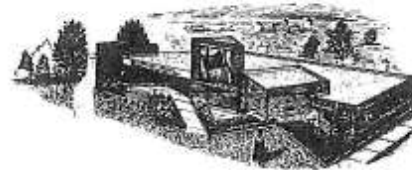


# THE STATE ADJUTANTS LETTER



KANSAS DEPARTMENT



1314 SW TOPEKA BLVD. TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1886

## OCTOBER 2023

THE ANNUAL EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE will be held in Abilene on October 14. The Presidential Wreath laying Ceremony will be at 9:30am followed immediately by the American Legion and Auxiliary Program. Everyone is encouraged to attend, and every Post should be represented. Immediately after the Eisenhower Ceremony, Department Vice Commander Angela Evans will celebrate her Homecoming with a Luncheon at the Greyhound Hall of Fame. More information and coupons for ordering a rose or wreath were enclosed in a previous Adjutants Letter. The cutoff for ordering a Rose or Wreath was 1 October 2023. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER'S HOMECOMING will also be held in Abilene on October 14. Department Vice Commander Angela Evans will celebrate her Homecoming with a Luncheon at the Greyhound Hall of Fame, 407 S. Buckeye St., in Abilene. For the Homecoming send \$15.00 (if postmarked by 1 October) per person or (\$ 17.00 after 1 October) to Angela Evans, 720 W. Commercial Street, Lyons, KS 67554. Make sure you annotate if you wish Baked Chicken Breast or Roast Beef as your entrée. Additional information is enclosed.

NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER will visit the Eastern Side of the State from 15 to 18 October 2023. If your Post is interested in hosting Our Own National Vice Commander Ray Vail from the Department of Kansas, Please call 785-232-9315 and get your Post's name on the list. As we get closer a final itinerary will posted to the Department Website.

VETERANS DAY IS NOVEMBER 11. Start making plans for your Post to observe this day honoring the living and the deceased who have served this nation in uniform. The Legion should take the lead in seeing that Veterans Day is observed in every community. Veterans Day presents an excellent opportunity to collect renewal members' dues, reinstate those who have dropped out and sign-up new members.

ORATORICAL CONTEST: Department Oratorical Chairman Mike Oppy requests that every Post appoint an Oratorical Chairman. A Post Chairman is important to assist the District Chairman, to visit the local schools to encourage students to enter the local contest. Contest information will be mailed to schools and Posts in the next few weeks. This is the largest scholarship program available from The American Legion with over \$138,000 in scholarships awarded including \$23,000 to the National Winner.

AMERICAN LEGION CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION: The Foundation is continuing the incentive program for each post, unit or squadron donating at least one dollar for each member during the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation's award year.

..... More on Back Side .....

OLDER WORKERS: The nominating form for The American Legion's Employer of the Year for Hiring Older Workers is enclosed. Nominations are due on January 2, 2024; a Kansas firm will win this prestigious state award. Headquarters relies on you to submit nominations; the winner may as well be from your community; perhaps your employer or firm. Additional copies of this nomination form are available upon request.

MAKE HALLOWEEN A FUN AND SAFE NIGHT. Enclosed is a brochure with suggestions for the community to make Halloween "A Fun and Safe Night."

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S INCENTIVE PIN: During the 2023-2024 membership year National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer will award his National Commander pin to any Legion Family member who obtains two (2) new members into the American Legion. A new member is defined as any eligible person joining for the 2024 membership year who was not a member of The American Legion during the 2023 membership year. Each member listed must be eligible for membership in The American Legion. Please forward names of S.A.L. members or Auxiliary members to your detachment or unit for use in their respective incentive programs. To maintain the integrity of the National Commander's pin incentive program, only one pin will be awarded per individual. The certification form for this program may be submitted at any time after August 31, 2023. Upon receipt, national membership staff will confirm the names and mail the pin directly to the person who earned it. Commander Seehafer's pin incentive program will end June 30, 2024, or when supplies are exhausted. A certification form is enclosed with this Adjutants Letter. Duplicate, as necessary. Also enclosed is information on another award. The POST EXCELLENCE AWARD for Posts that show excellence in four areas, membership, youth activities, community service and support to currently serving troops or veterans. Information on the criteria of this award is enclosed and must be submitted to your District Commander for certification.

### **IMPORTANT**

#### **NEXT MONTH'S ADJUTANTS LETTER WILL CONTAIN MEMBERSHIP AWARD REPORTING FORMS FOR GOLD AND SILVER STARS, CENTURY CLUB.**

DISTRICT STANDINGS AS OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2023: District X, 710 – 62.78%; District II, 2,003 – 61.74%; District IX, 515 - 59.61%; District IV, 1,606 – 57.56%; District I, 1,308 – 57.42%; District III, 1,002 – 54.02%; District V, 1,381 – 53.16%; District VII, 809 – 53.08%; District VIII, 371 – 49.34% and District VI, 619 – 48.86%. Department Headquarters Post 58 (included in Dept. total) is 537. Total membership is 10,861. Membership last year this date was 10,912. We are BEHIND 51 members!

**IN ORDER TO AVOID RECEIVING THE NEXT RENEWAL NOTICE ALL PAID MEMBERS' CARDS MUST BE IN THIS OFFICE BY OCTOBER 13, 2023.**