



The American Legion  
Department of Kansas  
E-NEWSLETTER  
1314 SW Topeka Blvd  
Topeka, KS, 66612-1886



The Voice for Today's Veterans and Military  
May 2024

Department Commander  
Randy Frank

Department Adjutant  
Jimmie L. Foster

## Notes from the Department Commander

Hello Legionnaires,

Post 444 is now the newest Post in The Department of Kansas. This Post, located at 402 Martinson Street, Wichita, is inside the Oxford Vista Facility. The Post was dedicated on April 25<sup>th</sup>, Senator Jerry Moran was the Keynote Speaker. District 5 Commander Joe Hicks was an instrumental part of the formation of the Post. He will also be the 1<sup>st</sup> Commander of Post 444. Congratulations.

As a young Non-Commissioned Officer, I learned that Leadership stands on 3 legs: 1. Integrity – Be your words and Actions. 2. Inspiration – Ignite others' potential. 3. Humility -Lead to serve, not to shine. You don't have to be in a Leadership Position to Lead.

The Department of Kansas is currently in 19<sup>th</sup> Place with 94.86 % in Membership. The next and final goal is May 15<sup>th</sup>. The remaining membership to reach our goal is 961. Please help the Posts reach their goals! Currently I have submitted 68 Post Commanders for the 100% package from the National Commander. You can help your Post to be in this group by reaching out to the members that are not current.

As a reminder, a 3-year membership will avoid the National Membership Dues Increase for 3 years and you will save money. You can go to your [www.mylegion.org](http://www.mylegion.org) account to pay for the next 3 years even if you have already paid for the 2024 year.

Your Department Leadership has returned to the National Headquarters for the Spring Meetings. We have had a great opportunity to learn and move programs forward that reaches all the way to the Post.

Our National Commander Dan Seehafer since the beginning of his tour has asked all American Legion members to help spread the message of his goals. They are of course the Be The One Mission ([www.legion.org/betheone](http://www.legion.org/betheone)) on Veteran Suicide. This mission is not only Changing Lives but also Saving Lives! He has asked us to all be Servant

Leadership/Membership with serving others veterans who are in need. Of course there is the Grassroots Legislation Campaign. This is something you can do every 24 hours 365 days a year and you don't have to be a Legionnaire. Go to [www.Legion.org/action](http://www.Legion.org/action) and on this page are the current Legislative Priorities. Here you can tell our elected officials that these priorities are essential and that you want them to act on these priorities. Also, on the page you can find who is your Congressional Leaders and how to contact them. The commander is looking for 100% Consolidated Post Reports. Also, the Veterans and Children Foundation at [www.legion.org/vcf](http://www.legion.org/vcf). Here you can support the many family activities that The American Legion is working on.

The lines of Communications are always open. Please reach out to your Leadership Teams at the Post/District or Department. Membership is our Strength. If your District or Post would like me to attend your event, please send me an email [DepartmentCommander@kansaslegion.org](mailto:DepartmentCommander@kansaslegion.org) or call me at 563-419-1474.

Remember "We Are All A Part Of Something Bigger Than Any Of Us" Let's Give 103% for the success of The American Legion.

Randy Frank  
Commander  
Department of Kansas  
[DepartmentCommander@kansaslegion.org](mailto:DepartmentCommander@kansaslegion.org)  
563-419-1474

## **Notes from the Department Vice-Commander and Membership Chairman**

Greetings...We are in the last month of the membership year. Kansas is currently sitting in 19th place with a 94.86% membership rate. We only have 24 members to go to reach 95% and 974 members away from 100%. I want to thank everyone who worked so hard on membership this year. Membership is not just one person's responsibility. It takes all of us to make sure our membership goals are met.

We have done a great job of meeting each of the goals set by National. Let's keep the momentum going and finish strong. Listed below are the target dates, set by **National**:

Armed Forces Day

May 15, 2024

100%

Please remember to utilize the Post 58 membership list to help those posts that need a little extra help, to reach either the minimum of 15 members or maybe the extra push to reach their post goal. As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns please do not hesitate to call anytime. Thank you for all you do!!

Angela Evans  
Department Vice-Commander  
The American Legion, Department of Kansas  
[departmentvicecommander@kansaslegion.org](mailto:departmentvicecommander@kansaslegion.org)

## **Department Adjutant's Newsletter May 2024**

**STATE CONVENTION:** May 31, June 1, 2, 2024 at the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, 420 S.E. 6th Street in Topeka -- call for housing reservations and mention you are with the American Legion Family to receive the reduced Convention rate.

Saturday's program will begin at 8:30am. Speakers will include Midwest Region National Vice Commander Ray Vail from Kansas, Trish Ward Auxiliary National Vice President from Kansas, and for Sons of The American Legion Midwest Region National Vice Commander Terry Harris from Kansas. The Youth Champions will also be presented. Also, several reports and award presentations will be made.

The Sunday session will begin with the Memorial and Rededication Service, and also include Convention Committee reports along with other reports and presentations. Delegates will elect Delegates and Alternates to the New Orleans National Convention and the 2024-2025 Department Officers.

Registration is just \$10.00 and pre-registration information has been mailed to all Posts.

**CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION DINNER** to be held Saturday, June 1 from 6:30 to 8:00pm in Alcoves 1, 2, 3 of the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center in Topeka. The cost is \$40.00 per person and reservations **MUST** be received at Department Headquarters no later than May 20.

**AMERICAN LEGION LEADERSHIP COLLEGE – JUNE 7, 8, 9, 2024 -- CLOUD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE -- CONCORDIA, KANSAS.** The American Legion, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. members over the age of 21 are invited to attend the College. The cost of the College is \$85 per person which includes Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch, and chicken dinner at Concordia Post 76, and Sunday breakfast. In addition, the enrollment fee includes air-conditioned dorm housing at the College, attendees must bring their own sheets, pillow, pillowcase, blanket, bath soap, towels, and personal items. Check in for the College begins at 3:00 PM on Friday, June 7. Dinner will be available from 5:00 until 7:00 PM followed by a meeting of the Department Executive

Committee. Sessions for all attendees will commence at 8:15 AM Saturday and 9:00 AM Sunday, June 8 and 9 with a break for lunch on Saturday and conclusion of the College on Sunday no later than noon. Tim Marlar, Department Service Officer will hold a Service Officer School Saturday. A hands-on myLegion.org class will be given along with information on other American Legion programs and activities. Please bring your own laptop or iPad to get the full effect of the training. Of course, the annual migration of the O-Poop-Pah-Doo will gather at the local Pizza Hut for its evening of fun immediately following the DEC meeting Friday. **Please remember to indicate your housing needs. We cannot guarantee housing will be provided if you do not check the box indicating your need for housing at the College.**

POST ADJUTANTS LETTER: Post Adjutant, are you reading this newsletter at your Post's meeting? As usual during District Conventions many people asked Headquarters Staff why the only source of information, they had was the Sunflower Legionnaire. It is great to learn so many people are reading the paper, but it is your duty to keep your membership informed by reading this monthly Adjutant's Letter and any other mailing sent by Department Headquarters during your Post meetings. Then post the letter on your Post's bulletin board so it can be used as reference and reminder.

STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT is scheduled for Saturday, September 21, 2024, at a location to be determined. As soon as the place and costs are determined it will be included in the next edition of The Adjutant's Newsletter. For further information contact State Golf Chairman James Snyder, telephone 785-865-8393 or email [jjaws111@aol.com](mailto:jjaws111@aol.com).

BUCKLE UP, LIGHTS ON AND LIVE -- FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2024. Information on this great traffic safety program has been mailed to all Posts. Remember this community service program costs you nothing, just a few hours of dedication by four or five of your members. It is a great program that will help strengthen the goodwill in your community while gaining some favorable publicity. Order now while supplies last.

POST CONSOLIDATED REPORTS: All Post Adjutants must complete and return their Post Consolidated Report. The report can also be completed online. They are due now and are very important.

BASEBALL ENTRY FEES are due now. Please go to: "Kansas Legionnaire", click on "Programs", then click on "Baseball" for the complete list of fees. There have been many changes this year. Make sure You are On Time and Incompliance.

MEMORIAL DAY IS MAY 27, 2024. All Posts should observe this special day in some manner.

NATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS: The National Convention will be in New Orleans, Louisiana, August 22 – 29, 2024. All Delegates, Alternates and Guests must make housing arrangements through Department Headquarters. If you are interested let us know and you will receive all pertinent information.



# **KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**MAY 18TH, 2024**

**4590 W. VANDERHOFF  
CIR.  
WICHITA, Ks  
67209**

## **TOURNAMENT 1**

**MUST BE A MEMBER OF  
AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY**

**BYOP**

**11:00 START**

**BEGINNER**

**BRACKET \$30.00**

**A TEAM**

**6 GAME GUARANTEE**

**TROPHIES FOR**

**1ST, 2ND AND**

**3RD**

**ADVANCED BRACKET**

**\$40.00 TEAM**

**60% PAYOUT**

**6 GAME GUARANTEE**

**TROPHIES FOR 1ST, 2ND**

**AND 3RD**

## **TOURNAMENT 2**

**OPEN TO EVERYONE**

**BYOP**

**2:30 START**

**\$50.00 A TEAM**

**80% PAYOUT**

**6 GAME GUARANTEE**

**WILL BE DIVIDED**

**INTO A & B**

**BRACKETS AFTER**

**ROUNDERS**

**60% TO A**

**40% TO B**

**VETERAN HONOR CAR, TRUCK & BIKE SHOW**

**POKER RUN**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**FOOD TRUCKS**

**FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY. CAR SHOW**

**STARTS AT 8**

**PROCEEDS GO TO HELP VETERAN FAMILIES**

**HOSTED BY**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 256**

**BUG-O-RAMA**

**BAGGIN 4 VETERANS**

## ATLAS Emporia Open House Was a Huge Success

A Connected Care shoutout to all involved in hosting an open house that re-introduced local Veterans and their families to the ATLAS (Accessing Telehealth through Local Area Stations) site at the American Legion Post 5 in Emporia, Kansas on March 27, 2024. The event was a great success, attracting 67 attendees and [local news coverage](#). Organizers did a fantastic job promoting the event through a press release, social media, posters, and more.



In addition to promoting ATLAS, the open house included a PACT Act briefing, a cake-cutting ceremony to celebrate 105 years of the Legion, and a Vietnam Veteran lapel pinning ceremony in honor of National Vietnam War Veterans Day. In all, 23 Vietnam Veteran pins were presented that day. Veterans Service Representatives were on hand to answer questions and assist with claims statuses and updates. Other services in attendance included VA health care eligibility information, pharmacy services, and the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs.

[Check out the news article](#), which includes two audio interviews, and join us in congratulating the ATLAS Emporia folks on a job well done!



Lesly Roose, VA National ATLAS Program Manager; Amber Tierney, VA Customer Experience Advisor; Randy Frank, State Commander, Kansas American Legion; Toni Hightower, VA Human Centered Designer; Michelle Rodriguez, VA Human Centered Designer (all VA staff shown are with the Veterans Experience Office.)



Dale Putman, American Legion Post 5 member; Michelle, Sweeney, VA Eastern Kansas Health Care; Clay Childs, American Legion Post 5 Commander.





Kansas Honor Flight is proud to be in our 13th year of sending Kansas WWII, Korea and Vietnam era veterans on their trip of a lifetime to visit their Memorials in Washington DC in appreciation of their service.

We are now seeing the number of applications we receive is slowing down. Don't be left behind because we very much want to send YOU! So now is the time for veterans who still want to go to fill out an application.

Kansas WWII, Korea and Vietnam era veterans can easily get on the waiting list by applying online on our website. Veterans applying now would likely fly after 2024. (Veterans go in order of applications received, with WWII, Korea era, and veterans with terminal health issues always going to the head of the line.) Kansas WWII, Korea & Vietnam era veterans are eligible to go no matter where they physically served. Veterans can also arrange to go on the same trip with other eligible veterans they know.

There is no cost to the veteran as trips are made possible completely through donations and volunteers. If assistance is needed on the trip, Guardians who pay their own way, will accompany the veteran. Kansas Honor Flight also has volunteer Guardians who pay their own way to assist any veterans who may not have anyone available to go with them.

We need you to apply now to join our wait list so you're not left behind when the time comes for our Mission to successfully wind down. Please share with any eligible veterans you know. Complete information and application is on our website. <https://kansashonorflight.org/>

# WIN UP TO \$4600!!



## For Posts and for recruiting a new member of The American Legion

It is simple to meet monthly goals, as well as sign up a new member and be entered to win!!

### **Drawing Rules of the Posts:**

1. Every post that meets the monthly Department goal (Aug 20%, Sep 40%, Oct 60%, Nov 80%, Dec 100% of goal) will be eligible to win \$200 for each monthly drawing, for a total of \$1000. Eligible posts will be collected each month from the Department membership list and the drawing will be held during the Second Sunday meetings. The winning Post number will be forwarded to the Department for processing.

### **Drawing Rules for recruiting new members:**

1. Every new member that joins the American Legion between September 1, 2023, and December 1, 2023 (Fall) and February 1, 2024, and May 1, 2024 (Spring) will be eligible to be entered into the drawings to win.
  2. A new member is defined as any eligible Legionnaire whose membership was not paid in The American Legion in 2023 that joins a Post in the Department of Kansas other than Post 58.
  3. The Recruiter must be a Legionnaire (in good standing), other than the new members, whose membership is paid for 2024 in a Kansas Post. If the recruiter is not listed, the coupon will not be accepted.
  4. The coupon below must be included along with a membership transmittal to Kansas Department Headquarters with the National and department portions of the new members card and the necessary dues. If the Post utilized online transmittals at MyLegion.org, the invoice number and date of the transmittal of the new membership must also be included in the coupon and sent to Department Headquarters. All coupons must be received at Department Headquarters office by 4:00pm on December 1, 2023 (Fall) and May 1, 2024 (Spring), to be eligible.
  5. One coupon will be drawn during the Mid-Winter Forum (Fall) and one coupon will be drawn during The Kansas Department Convention (Spring) from all entries properly received and will be designated the winner.
  6. From the information contained on the winning coupon drawn, \$ 500 will be awarded to the New Member, \$500 will be awarded to the Recruiter, and \$500 to the recruiters Post; for a total of \$1500 for the Fall entries and \$1500 for the Spring entries.
  7. The Recruiter with the most New Member coupon entries will earn \$100; for a total of \$200 for the Fall and Springs entries combined.
  8. The Post with the most New Member coupon entries will receive \$100; for a total of \$200 for the Fall and Spring entries combined.
  9. The Post with the most New Member coupon entries as a percentage of that Posts 2024 Membership Quota will be awarded \$100; for a total of \$200 for the Fall and Spring entries combined.
  10. In the event of a tie the \$100 will be split between those that tied.
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New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly)

New Members Name \_\_\_\_\_  
New Member's Post City and Post Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Name and Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Post Online Transmittal Number and Date \_\_\_\_\_

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New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly)

New Members Name \_\_\_\_\_  
New Member's Post City and Post Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Name and Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Post Online Transmittal Number and Date \_\_\_\_\_

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New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly)

New Members Name \_\_\_\_\_  
New Member's Post City and Post Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Name and Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Post Online Transmittal Number and Date \_\_\_\_\_

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New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly)

New Members Name \_\_\_\_\_  
New Member's Post City and Post Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Name and Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Post Online Transmittal Number and Date \_\_\_\_\_

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New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly)

New Members Name \_\_\_\_\_  
New Member's Post City and Post Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Name and Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Post Online Transmittal Number and Date \_\_\_\_\_

# AMERICAN LEGION TEAM KANSAS ORDER FORM

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_



**T-SHIRTS \$20.00 POLOS \$30.00**

|                  | Grey T-shirt | Red T-shirt | Purple Polo | Blue Polo | Blue Polo w/Pocket | Red Polo | Red Polo w/Pocket | Total Shirt | Amount Due |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------|------------|
| Youth Small      |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
| Youth Med        |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
| Youth Large      |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
| Youth XL         |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
| Adult Small      |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
| Adult Med        |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
| Adult Large      |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
| Adult XL         |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
| Adult XXL +\$2   |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
| Adult XXXL +\$3  |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
| Adult XXXXL +\$4 |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   |             |            |
|                  |              |             |             |           |                    |          |                   | Totals      |            |

**Mail / Call / Text  
orders and payments to:**

Marri Krupco  
510 E Main St.,  
Blue Mound, KS 66010  
(620-224-7354)

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
KS NATIONAL COMMANDERS CAMPAIGN FUND**

**CASH**

**PAYPAL**

**CHECK**

**VENMO**

**CASH APP**

**ZELLE**



\*\* ACTUAL COLORS MAY VARY.