

# Sunflower Legionnaire

The American Legion -



Today's Voice for Today's Veterans & Military

VOL LXXV NO. 3

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

January, February, March 2022

## MID WINTER FORUM

SALINA POST #62, JANUARY 28 - 30

The Mid-Winter Forum offers every member, especially Post leaders and chairmen, the opportunity to learn more about The American Legion, its programs and the direction each program is expected to take if there are any changes being considered, including changes directed by National Headquarters. In addition, the Forum provides information about how and why The American Legion functions in the manner we do as an organization.

This year's Forum scheduled for 28 - 30 January 2022 and will be hosted by Salina Post 62, 1108 W Crawford St., Salina.

Friday, 28 January, will include a Department Executive Committee Meeting at 4 pm. Registration will begin on Friday between 3 to 6 pm at the Post.

On Saturday, 29 January, registration will continue starting at 7:00 am with breakfast: biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, hash browns and sausage patty for \$8.00. The formal activities begin with a joint Legion/Auxiliary/S.A.L. meeting at 8 am. After the joint opening the Legion, Auxiliary and the S.A.L. will meet in different rooms. National Vice Commander Angel Narvaez from the Department of Puerto Rico will address and present information to those in attendance. The American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion currently do NOT have any National Guests scheduled to be in attendance. Lunch will be ham sandwiches with chili and cookies will be available at a price of \$8.00. Concluding the day's meetings, the Post will serve Dinner: Lasagna,

mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, roll and dessert for a price of \$10.00 from 5:30 to 7 pm. During and After dinner entertainment will be Karaoke by Mandy McEntire. For early Registration PLEASE mail payments to: Stan Britt, 1227 Elmhurst Blvd., Salina Kansas 67402. For Tickets and any additional information, PLEASE contact Stan Britt at 620-330-0503.

Sunday's schedule will begin at 7:00 to 8:00 am with breakfast: biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, hash browns and sausage patty for \$8.00. Registration will open at 7:00 am. At 8:00 am Commander Krupco will call the Forum back to order before turning the podium over to Department Chaplain Debra Muyaert who will conduct a Four Chaplains Memorial Service. There will be a wrap up of reports followed by the Department Sweepstakes drawing.

The Agenda for the Forum is listed within this publication, it is not too early to reserve your room at one of the many hotels in the Salina Area. A list of Salina area hotels is provided on page 8. Be sure to tell them you are a part of the Kansas American Legion block to receive the reduced rates per room per night.

Failure to ask for The American Legion rate may result in your paying a higher room rate. It is always better to reserve a room you may have to cancel later than waiting until the last minute to make reservations only to find out the hotel is sold out.

Plan to attend and ask a fellow Legionnaire to attend with you. Hope to see you there!

## BOY SCOUT BANKRUPTCY RAISES LIABILITY CONCERN

By Rick Miller, Department of Kansas Scouting Chair

By now many of your Posts have been contacted by scouting units in your area. The Scouting Committee would like to provide you with some basic information and let you know we are here if you have further questions.

Following the highly publicized lawsuits and bankruptcy proceedings of recent years, many churches have been instructed by their state and national leadership to stop chartering scouting troops and cub scout packs (units). Some Churches have been sponsoring multiple units, as a result, several units with almost a century long relationship with their sponsors are seeking new charter organizations. You may be contacted by one or more of these units. Here are some key questions you may want to ask, if you have more please feel free to reach out to the committee.

1. How many units are currently chartered by the church?

2. What level of support is

your unit seeking? (Some are seeking new meeting facilities and everything with a charter, some are continuing to meet at the same church but need a new charter representative.)

3. Who is your current unit leadership, how long have they been in their role and how long do they plan on remaining in the role?

Of course, to charter or not to charter is purely a local decision. Some advantages to chartering a troop, a pack, or both is increased involvement in your communities and in a youth-based Americanism program. This will hopefully increase the submission of Eagle Scout of the Year scholarship applications as well.

Your committee members are:

Rick Miller of Olathe (Chair) - [scouting1@kansaslegion.org](mailto:scouting1@kansaslegion.org)

Joe Hulse of Lindsborg - [scouting2@kansaslegion.org](mailto:scouting2@kansaslegion.org)  
[firstks@yahoo.com](mailto:firstks@yahoo.com)

Dan Wentling of Topeka - [scouting3@kansaslegion.org](mailto:scouting3@kansaslegion.org)  
[kscowboy26@hotmail.com](mailto:kscowboy26@hotmail.com)

## BOYS STATE

Each year The Kansas American Legion Boys State provides hundreds of high school students a hands-on opportunity to actively participate in establishing a representative form of government from the ground up. Prior to arriving on the Kansas State University campus which serves as the site of the program, each student (known as Staters) is assigned to either the Nationalist or Federalist "political party" based upon their responses to a questionnaire.

Immediately after arriving in Manhattan and checking-in on Sunday afternoon Staters

form city and county governments. The next two days are spent drafting local ordinances, and carrying out the operation of cities and counties; at the same time campaigns for state offices are launched and within days Staters elect officials to their new state; Boys State.

Hands-on activities include writing a state constitution, drafting and passing a budget, establishing a Supreme Court, and enacting laws compatible with today's society and needs. How decisions of the masses affect Staters as individuals is demonstrated by

(Continued on Page 7)

**COMMANDER**

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**Marri Krupco**

**510 E Main**

**Blue Mound, KS 66010**

**(620) 224-7354**

**departmentcommander@kansaslegion.org**



Greetings Kansas American Legion family!

It has been brought to my attention that many of you didn't receive the November eNewsletter, we are aware there are problems and not everyone is receiving them even if they had in the past. If you are one of those people and now must use other methods of acquiring the Sunflower Legionnaire or eNewsletter please let myself or Vice-Commander Ehart know so we can try to correct the problem. For those of you that did receive the November edition some of this may seem a little familiar.

At this point all but one District Homecoming has happened, due to other obligations and Homecomings being scheduled at the same time I haven't been able to attend all of them, but I have enjoyed the ones I was able to attend. During my conversations at the homecomings, I have concluded that there may be several members that are unsure of the purpose of a homecoming. With that in mind I would like to share what I think homecomings are all about.

1. A time when the District comes together to congratulate and thank the District Commander, District President, and District S.A.L. Commander for being elected and for all of their hard work.

2. An opportunity for members of different Posts within a District to develop friendships, share ideas, and build relationships.

3. A time for the District leadership to tell members what has been happening, is happening and going to happen. This is a good time to promote District membership incentives or other District sponsored programs and present awards.

4. A chance for post members to get to know District officers, after-all it is easier to reach out and ask for help from someone you have met and have had the chance to build a rela-

tionship with.

5. And finally, an opportunity for current leadership to identify potential future District leadership and begin the mentoring process.

It's too late to boost participation this year, but hopefully next year more members will see the importance of homecomings and they will be well-attended in every District. I've said it before and I'll say it again, as a Department we need to do better at encouraging, helping, and mentoring each other, lets work together to make the Department of Kansas the best in the Nation!

I want to thank Pittsburg Post 64, Newton Post 2, and Kensington Post 166 for asking me to be a part of their Veteran's Day activities. I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season and I'm looking forward to all that 2022 brings!

Speaking of the Holiday's I would like to thank Winfield for the amazing job they did hosting this years Department Holiday Party, absolutely everything was amazing! I also have some big news that came from the party, Kansas now has a band! The American Legion Band of Greater Kansas City provided the entertainment at the Holiday party and did a phenomenal job, they have existed and participated in the National band competition at National Convention (for Missouri) since back in the 1950s. Due to some changes in sponsorship over the last few years they were looking to maybe find a new home and the Department of Kansas welcomed them. I'm not sure if Kansas has ever sent a band to National Convention, but we will be sending one to Milwaukee in August 2022, I hope that every Kansas American Legion Family member that travels to Milwaukee will go and support them during their competition.

For God & Country

**GARY FOOS FOR AREA WEST VICE COMMANDER**

I'm Gary F. Foos seeking reelection for Department Area West Vice Commander office. I earned my eligibility serving in the United States Army Reserves, 89th Division, Co. B, 3rd BN, 1st Bde., Dodge City, Ks., obtaining the rank of Sargent First Class from Oct. 69 to Nov. 75 with an Honorable Discharge.

I am currently Post Commander of Olin Cole Post #392 in Bazine, Ks., and 8th District Finance Officer. I have held several 8th District Offices to include Sargent of Arms, District Vice Commander and District Commander for three

years. I'm also currently Department Area West Vice for the past two years. I've been a Legionnaire for 23 yrs and a Paid Up For Life Member.

I appreciate the support I've received from the 5th thru 9th Districts over the past several years. I enjoy meeting and working with the new District Officers on membership and revitalizing Posts that are struggling with membership within Area West. I will also continue to be a voice on the DEC for the Blue Cap Members of The American Legion.

I have the support of my Post #392, the 8th District and my wife and family.

**CADET LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY**

On June 12 up to 50 young Kansans will gather for the 51st annual Cadet Law Enforcement Academy session at the Highway Patrol Training Center in Salina. Sponsored by The American Legion, Legion Auxiliary and KS Highway Patrol, the Academy provides high school students an opportunity to learn methods employed to enforce city, county, state, and federal statues with the goal of instilling a better appreciation for those who enforce those laws.

The Academy is not a recruitment program for law enforcement. Students attending past sessions have had a wide variety of backgrounds, interests, and career plans. However many students considering careers in law enforcement, as attorneys, and government service have attended as a means to solidify their plans to pursue such careers.

Open to both male and females, all applicants must be high school junior, or senior, or equivalent, with at least a C+ average scholastically and be physically capable of fully participating in all activities during the week long program. Instruction includes firearms and firing range safety, personal defense, law enforcement history

and techniques, pursuit driving on a skid-pad under controlled conditions, practical emergency medical procedures, aircraft use in law enforcement (weather permitting), and the responsibilities of citizens regardless of age.

Primarily classes are conducted by Highway Patrol personnel however representatives of other agencies such as the FBI, KBI, Wildlife and Parks, city and county officials augment the instruction provided throughout the week. Parents and families are encouraged to attend graduation ceremonies on Friday evening, June 17.

Students are encouraged to apply early. Completed applications must include endorsements by a doctor (attesting to the applicant's physical condition), their high school principal or superintendent, their local American Legion Post Commander or Auxiliary Unit President, and a local law enforcement officer. A sponsorship fee of \$300 and application fee of \$50 includes housing, meals and supplies needed during the session must also accompany the application and can come from any source (Post, Unit, Squadron, Chapter, a local merchant, parents, etc.).

Applications must be received by March 31.



**VICE COMMANDER**

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**Jeremy Ehart**  
**10601 W. Snokomo Rd.**  
**Hutchinson, KS 67502**  
**(620) 899-0010**

departmentvicecommander@kansaslegion.org



Three dues notices have been sent by National Headquarters and a fourth one will be sent out in January, but the easy ones have been renewed. The remaining non-renewed members will require personal contact or phone calls, so organize membership efforts now before those members hit the cutoff date and become delinquent. For those Posts with club rooms or lounges, your clubroom workers should have a list of unpaid members available to them and they should be collecting dues from those non-renewed members. Listed below are a few suggestions how to collect membership.

Divide all unpaid renewals among your Membership Committee and Post Officers. These people should contact every person on their list this month.

Divide your Membership Committee and Post Officers into teams similar to the above suggestion. Perhaps your Post can award a prize to the most successful team, or even an individual award given.

Always be ready with a 30 second to a minute 'elevator pitch' on the importance and benefits of Legion membership, and be confident in what you say and how you say it.

Use the "buddy system" to organize an old fashioned membership drive to seek out new membership, renewals, and those who can be reinstated.

Ask those who have

never helped out on a membership drive to help. Who knows, you might find a "go getter" in the Post. Ask all your current membership to help out by remembering who went into service with them and get them signed up. We all know one veteran, maybe a close friend or a relative, maybe even a co-worker who isn't a Legion member (especially with the Legion Act that was passed a few years ago making eligibility open from December 7, 1941 to present date). We should all reach out to that veteran that we know, and ask, sometimes that's all it takes to recruit a new member. Remember membership is everyone's responsibility!

With many Department events coming such as Mid-Winter in Salina January 28-30th many of us will be staying in hotels overnight. I would like to remind everyone that American Legion members are offered discounts on many hotels with your membership, some up to 20%. Before you book your next hotel check out Legion.org to see what discounts you're eligible for. This is one of the many benefits we receive with our active membership.

As always if you have any questions, comments, or concerns please don't hesitate to reach out anytime.

Semper Fi!  
 Jeremy Ehart

**ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS**

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

The Department of Kansas has not been able to accomplish a lot of things due to the continuing Coronavirus this past year. I for one, am going to be glad that 2021 is over with and WE can now move into 2022, hopefully being able to pick up and have Legion functions in person and Not by Virtual means such as Zoom, Skype or by Teleconference. There is nothing like being at a function in person and getting to talk and socialize with other Members.

Membership is ahead of last year's numbers, but that does not mean we should set around and rest on our laurels. Membership is EVERYONE'S responsibility, not just a few out of each Post, District or Department.

The National Commander's Visit of Eastern Kansas was a tremendous success! Many Posts had breakfasts, lunches, dinners and just a social round table meeting with Paul E. Dillard from the Department of Texas as he toured the State. There was a great interaction with the Members of The American Legion Family and National Commander Dillard. It was his first visit to the Department of Kansas, and he looks forward to coming again if invited and he is available.

The 2021 Big Red One Turkey Run and Operation North Pole normally held at Fort Riley, Kansas did not take place due to the Coronavirus as planned.

The American Legion Family is looking forward to super events in 2022. I know the kids are revved up and ready to go, both big and small.

The Department Legislative Reception is scheduled for Wednesday, January 12, 2022. As of right now, it is a in person event. This is where you can meet with your State Legislator/s and let them know that The American Legion is still active and counting on them to pass items that are critical to the lives and well-being of ALL Veterans in the State of Kansas. Hold them accountable!

Do not forget to start making plans to attend the 2022 Mid-Winter Conference which be held in Salina, Kansas from 28 to 30 January 2022 at Salina Legion Post # 62 located at 1108 W. Crawford Street in Salina. Listed within this edition of the Sunflower Legionnaire is the agenda, list of hotels, meals, and other information for this Conference.

We will be fortunate to have in attendance National Vice Commander of The American Legion Angel Narvaez from the Department of Puerto Rico. Angel is a great Legionnaire, and he represents US well. He will be available to discuss issues of The American Legion while he is visiting the Department of Kansas.

I hope that you and your family had a very Merry Christmas and have a very prosperous New Year. If any of you need any assistance from myself or the Staff of the Department Headquarters, PLEASE do NOT hesitate to ask.

Until next time, continue to support the Greatest Veterans and their Families, in the Greatest Veterans Organization in The Free World, The American Legion (in my opinion).

**FIRST DISTRICT  
COMMANDER  
DAN WENTLING  
100 N 4<sup>TH</sup> ST  
Mayetta, KS 66509  
(785) 851-8629  
VICE CMDR.  
MICHAEL COLE  
918 Josela Ct.  
Leavenworth, KS 66048  
(913) 680-8680**

Greetings First District:  
I hope everyone had a very safe and happy holiday season!

We held our District Christmas party and meeting at Wathena Post #161 on December 11, 2021. It was a well-attended meeting and party and I would like to extend my thanks to Post #161 for sponsoring the event and helping make it a success.

Although we haven't gotten Post percentages yet, all the Posts are doing well and continuing get their membership numbers up. As soon as I get the membership percentages, I will let the Posts know where they stand. In the meantime, keep up the good work towards our 100% goal!

Remember that if a member has not renewed their membership by now, they are not considered to be in good standing. I encourage all Posts to contact these members and get those renewals turned in. It may be as simple as contacting them to remind them to renew or just check on their well-being and see if there is something the Post can do to help them.

The District has several events coming up to mark on your calendars. The District Oratorical Contest will be held February 19, 2022 at North Topeka Post #400 at 10:00 AM. Following the Oratorical, we will be holding the District Executive Board meeting at Post #400. I encourage all Posts to contact their local High Schools and promote the Oratorical. Remember that home schooled

students are also eligible to take part. The Department Oratorical will be held March 12, 2022 at Manhattan Post #17 at 9:00 AM. The District Convention will be held on April 9, 2022 at Oskaloosa Post #36. It is not too early to start planning now on attending. Every Post should have Delegates at the Convention to represent them. I look forward to seeing you there!

For God and Country,  
Dan Wentling  
District Commander

**SECOND DISTRICT  
COMMANDER  
GEORGE HONN  
27940 Lone Star Rd.  
Paola, KS 66071  
(913) 731-5172  
VICE CMDR.  
JEFFERY WINTERS  
15807 W 147th Ter.  
Olathe, KS 66062  
(913) 780-2676**

Greetings all, I hope this finds everyone in good in good health. I know this has been a rough year for some but things will turn around in 2022 I hope. I want to apologize for not getting to all the Posts yet this year but have had some rough times myself hopefully after the first of the year I can start making my rounds again when the DR. says I can.

Membership is looking good just wish we can get more members to renew sooner and get a few new members to join. Mid Winter Forum is coming up at the end of January hope to see you all there and also District 2 homecoming will be the first saturday of February at noon \$12.00 per person you can send your RSVP to me, George Honn, 27940 Lone Star Rd, Paola, KS 66071 made payable to Miami Post 156. Thank you.

George Honn, 2nd District Commander

**THIRD DISTRICT  
COMMANDER  
ED BORING, SR.  
313 20000 Rd.  
Cherryvale, KS 67335  
(620) 332-9942  
VICE CMDR.  
DAVID STRASBURG  
1607 S. 1st St.  
Arkansas City, KS 67005  
(620) 688-1425**

Greetings Third District Legion Family:

First and always thank you for being a member. Membership is everyone's responsibility, not just a few in the Post or District. If a member hasn't renewed their membership by now, they aren't considered in good standings. Lets get everyone current. Feel free to contact and ask any of the District Officers for assistance when it comes to membership.

I hope everyone had a good Holiday. We now have a few things we need to focus our attention with. It is almost time for the Oratorical contest. Last year the 3rd District had the winner for Kansas. I encourage all Posts to contact their local High Schools and promote the Oratorical. Let's get another winner from the 3rd.

The District Convention is right around the corner. We will have our Convention at the Chanute Post 170, March 25 - 27, 2022. Now is the time to start thinking about nominations and selection of Officers for the next year. Please reach out to your District Officers and let them know you are interested in being active at the District Level.

Until the next issue,  
"For God and Country"  
Ed Boring

**Renew Your  
Membership  
Online at**  
[www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew)

**FOURTH DISTRICT  
COMMANDER  
MATT BURANY  
2824 BROOKVILLE DR.  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
(785) 340-2484  
VICE CMDR.  
ROGER BECKLEY  
905 Ash St.  
Abilene, KS 67410  
(785) 212-0179**

Greetings Fourth District. Winter is here, I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. I know that I am going to say this a lot, but we must continue to work on this hard, and its membership. Membership is of utmost importance. So please, if you haven't renewed your membership do it now online with Mylegion.org or stop in at any American Legion Post and renew. As of October 15th, we have been receiving membership reports, and I am happy to say that the 4th District is sitting in Second in the standings. Use this time to call your members and do a "Buddy Check". Upcoming events include the 4th District Oratorical Contest in Manhattan at Post 17 on February 19, 2022, as well as the Department Oratorical Contest on March 12, 2022, in Manhattan, Kansas at Post 17. If your Post is having an event and you would like it to put out District wide let us know we will spread the word and we can even post your event on the 4th District Facebook page. Our District Officers will be getting out to visit each of our Posts as much as possible to assist you in any way possible. They will also call the Posts if they cannot get out and visit you.

"Moving Forward."  
Matthew Burany  
Commander, 4th District  
Kansas American Legion

**FIFTH DISTRICT  
COMMANDER  
PAUL SANFORD  
109 Southport Ct.  
Newton, KS 67112  
(620) 353-3708  
VICE CMDR.  
JONEVA FLOWERS  
15917 W 87th St S  
Clearwater, KS 67026  
(620) 584-2617**

*No article submitted.*

**SIXTH DISTRICT  
COMMANDER  
JIMMY STRACHAN  
PO BOX 24  
Bunker Hill, KS 67626  
(785) 483-1186  
VICE CMDR.  
JASON HICKS  
PO BOX 227  
Holyrood, KS 67450  
(785) 810-8291**

Greetings American Legion Family, hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and may this next year be better than the last.

We are 4th in the State just over 100%. We are in the standing as of the last membership report, 23 December, 2021, 4th spot with a quota of 72.68% making us 383 members short. Remember dues need to be collected and submitted by the end of December so the member does not become delinquent, if not paid by the end of January the member becomes expired and loses all benefits.

30 October was our District Fall Conference at Ellsworth Post 174. We did have a good turn out and I do thank everyone that was able to attend.

At 9:45am we started our Sixth District American Legion/Sons of The American Legion, General Session. S.A.L. District Commander Andy Phelps introduced S.A.L. Detachment Commander James Snyder to speak to members, next Commander Strachan introduced Department Vice-Commander Jeremy Ehart. We were informed that both events at Ft. Riley, has been canceled again for this year. The American Legion Leadership College is to be in Concordia, June 10, 11, 12, 2022.

At 10:15am Dwayne Kalavoda gave his Children and Youth report. Next was Stan Britt with an update on the American Legion Riders at Salina and a report on what the Riders are doing in the State. Then Damon Christensen gave a report on the Flag Code. Jason Hicks with a report on Scholarships that is available for students to apply for. Also Jason touched on Scouting as well as did George Martin, telling about the different levels of Scouting.

11:20am we did break for lunch. I have to thank the Ellsworth Legion Auxiliary they always put out a wonderful meal.

12:30 Reconvened. I introduced our guest speaker Troy Waymaster 109th District Kansas State Representative. He gave us a update on Covid19 and the impact on both the State government and citizens of the State. Afterwards he did take questions from the members. I will say it was very informative with lots of interaction.

We finished up the Conference with a power point on membership then questions and answers about Post and District functions.

We did adjourn at 2:35.

30 April, 2022 will be District Convention. Convention will be held at Salina Post # 62.

June 10, 11, 12 2022 will be American Legion College in Concordia at Cloud County Community College.

**SEVENTH DISTRICT  
COMMANDER  
MIKE JURY  
909 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
Hutchinson, KS 67501  
(620) 899-7926  
VICE CMDR.  
ANGELA EVANS  
720 W Commercial St.  
Lyons, KS 67554  
(719) 659-0837**

Greetings 7th District I want to start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. Now that we are through the Holidays its time to get back to work on our membership. We are behind for 2022 membership year after we hit the 100% goal for 2021 membership year with 19 Posts in the District making there goal of 100%.

We all Know that making

our membership goals is doable we just have to get out there and help our veterans understand what The American Legion is about and how it can benefit them and their families.

Make sure you are getting all your post reports done and in on time.

Mid Winter Forum 28-30 Jan, 2022 Salina Post 62, Oratorical Competition will be Feb. 13, 2022 at 1:00pm at Sterling High. If you have any questions contact Edith Cress 620-509-7528. Again I want to thank all the Posts in 7th District for all your had work we will hit our goal but we must work together.

**EIGHTH DISTRICT  
COMMANDER  
CHARLES SELLENS  
513 Andrew St.  
Dodge City, KS 67801  
(620) 255-9340  
VICE CMDR.  
DONNA HERNANDEZ  
PO Box 437  
Deerfield, KS 67838  
(620) 271-4587**

District 8's recent activities were recounted in the District 8 Homecoming held on November 13, 2021. When people think of homecomings, they often think of a high school or college sports team hosting a home game after several away games. District 8's homecoming followed that template.

District 8 Legion Family members spent many days apart. Memorial Day Services, 9-11 services, and Veterans' Day services were held throughout District 8. Many Honor Guards performed at these events and funerals for our departed comrades. Many fundraisers were held to enable continuation of individual Posts' services to veterans. Legion Family Members have supported veterans, their families, and causes in various ways. Department and District officers performed unique responsibilities to better the lives of veterans.

District 8 Legion Commander Charles Sellens introduced District 8 officers and guests and spoke on recent activities. District 8 Auxiliary President Marsha Weber introduced District 8

officers and guests and informed the assembly about Auxiliary activities. S.A.L. Commander Mike Weber introduced District 8 officers and guests and spoke on S.A.L. activities. Department Vice-Commander Jeremy Ehart reported on Department activities and Gary Foes reported on Area West activities.

Legion family members enjoyed a lunch sponsored by Dodge City's Walmart and Boot Hill Distillery. The lunch featured barbecue sandwiches and was prepared by Dodge City Post 47 Commander Chris Self and Bridget Self. The day's events culminated Boot Hill reenactment actors joining the assembly for photo opportunities that led to mock arguments and gun fights.

**NINTH DISTRICT  
COMMANDER  
ALAN MARIETTA  
302 N. YORK AVE.  
Oberlin, KS 67749  
(785) 475-3969  
VICE CMDR.  
GEORGE POSSON  
12550 S Boddy St.  
Norton, KS 67654  
(785) 871-7174**

*No article submitted.*

**TENTH DISTRICT  
COMMANDER  
PAT CAFFREY  
306 Topeka Ave.  
Vermillion, KS 66544  
(785) 396-4531  
VICE CMDR.  
PHIL THOMAS  
206 3rd St  
Home, KS 66438  
(785) 927-0283**

Hope everyone had a great holiday and got to see relatives and friends they haven't seen in a while. We had our combination 10th District Homecoming and Christmas Party on November 20th at Sabetha. It was well attended with most of the State Officers in attendance. Covid-19 continues to plague our District. We had to cancel the start-up of a new S.A.L. in Frankfort in  
**(Continued on Page 6)**





**DETACHMENT  
COMMANDER**  
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**James Snyder**

10899 Blue Spruce Dr.  
Ozawkie, KS 66070


(785) 865-8393



Greetings American Legion Family,

As we say good bye to 2021 let's not forget those that have left us for that Squadron in the sky. This time of the year is hard for a lot of people. Some have lost loved ones in the past around this time of the year. Some are facing tough times financially. Then there are still others that are down in their health. I want to remind everyone what we

have been hearing for the past two years, BUDDY CHECKS. We all know how important it is, but we need to be checking on those that we haven't heard from in a while. In closing, remember that we are a family and let's make 2022 a great year and put 2021 behind us. We have some good Events coming up and I hope to see as many of you at them as we can.



**CHAPLAIN**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Debra Muylaert**

[departmentchaplain@kansaslegion.org](mailto:departmentchaplain@kansaslegion.org)

Greetings in the name of our mighty and awesome God!

Let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe, healthy, and blessed 2022! The beginning of every new year is a time to reflect on the happenings of the previous year, as well as to look forward to the opportunities of the new. I like to begin a new year with a word of encouragement from Scripture, a battle cry with which to charge forth into the new year. Zephaniah 3:17 says, "The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing" (NIV). Even though this Scripture is directed to Jerusalem, it is meant for us as well and can be a rally cry for us. Its encouragement is a great way to start the new year! First of

all, it says that our God is with us and saves us. Although it sometimes seems like He's not with us and has left us to drift alone in a world of chaos, His Word assures us that He is with us and will take care of us. Press into Him, give Him your cares and concerns, and abide in the comfort, peace, and encouragement only He can provide. This Scripture also assures us that He takes great delight in us and rejoices over us with singing. Our great God sings over us! What a comforting thought! What song does He sing? Scripture isn't clear on that, but you can be certain that the song He sings is born out of His great love for you. As Scripture tells us, God's banner over us is love (Song of Solomon 2:4). Let this Scripture guide you into the new year and the battle cry you need in the challenges ahead! Happy New Year and may God bless you!

# TENTH DISTRICT

(Continued from Page 5)

October due to State Officer having the Covid. We Are still trying to pick a new date after the 1st of the year. We have 25 members signed up for the new S.A.L. District 10 will have an oratorical contest on February 12th at Axtell, Ks. at St. Michael's Catholic School. Jim Swim from Marysville is in charge and has a lot of interest from surrounding schools

in the District. It should be a huge success. We are working on plans for our first District Convention at the end of April. The Ladies Aux. has been a great help to me and the District in the last few months and I hope it will continue. Dennis Droge has taken up the duty of District 10 quarterly newsletter and has done a great job. With the help of everyone in the 10th District we should have a very successful year. Thank you.

Pat Caffrey, Commander  
10th District.



**AUXILIARY  
PRESIDENT**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Marcia Cottrell**

1225 Adams  
Lyndon, KS 66451

(785) 817-7591

[deptpresident@kslegionaux.org](mailto:deptpresident@kslegionaux.org)



Happy New Year Kansas Legion Family!

Whew, what a blur this past year was! We are beginning the New Year 2022 and are hopefully off to an excellent start!

Department President Annette Scheaffer resigned her position for personal reasons and I have moved into the President's position. I am looking forward to working with and meeting all of you! We hope to be able to make great strides in our support of our Veterans and their Families the rest of this year.

The past two months have been a busy time for me, but I have enjoyed traveling with Commander Marri Krupco and Vice Commander Jeremy Ehart and meeting and getting acquainted with everyone. I look forward to continued travels with them as we continue throughout the remainder of this membership year.

Mid-Winter Forum is fast approaching and we are working on scheduling an exciting and fun time for everyone and especially our Auxiliary members. Please plan to attend January 28 – 30, 2022 in Salina, if you want to hear our plans for later in the year and

join in on the fun times!

Remember the District Oratorical competitions are coming up in February and the Department Oratorical competition is at Post 17, Manhattan on March 12, 2022.

Continue to encourage your Unit Members to get their renewals in as they are now delinquent and no longer eligible for the benefits of an Auxiliary membership.

Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel will be visiting Kansas on March 10 – 12, 2022 and we are in the process of working with some Units to host her visit. Check out the tentative schedule in the January Sunflowerette newsletter. Saturday evening, March 12, 2022, the Department will have a very special celebration at the Earl Collier Post 153, Olathe. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

I look forward to our TEAMWORK making the Department of Kansas Auxiliary a complete success this coming year and know you are up to the challenge as well!

Safe travels and hope everyone of you enjoys good health throughout the coming year!!!

**DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dan Bartlett**

**2200 SW Gage  
Topeka, KS 66622**

**(800) 574-8387 ext. 54489**

**dan.bartlett@va.gov**

**Department of Veteran's Affairs Mailing Delays**

Due to supply chain and staffing shortages, the vendor contracted by the Government Publishing Office to provide printing services for the Department of Veterans Affairs is experiencing delays in printing and mailing notification letters to Veterans and claimants. The disruption may impact the ability of some claimants to meet required deadlines via written correspondence with the VA.

In response to the mailing delays and to protect the best interest of claimants, the Veterans Benefits Administration is extending its response period by 90-calendar days for claimants with letters dated between July

13, 2021, and Dec. 31, 2021.

If a claimant does not reply to a time-limited notification, such as, making an election of benefits or services, or reporting for a scheduled compensation and pension examination, VBA will not take adverse action to deny, reduce or terminate benefits and services unless 1) the claimant is contacted and there is documentation of their right to respond; 2) the requested information has been received, or 3) the response period has lapsed.

VA and GPO are proactively working to quickly address the mailing delays. For questions on this matter, Veterans and claimants can contact their American Legion Service Officer.

# BOYS STATE

(Continued from Page 1)

assigning each an occupation and a corresponding computerized bank account: within minutes of passing laws, license fees, taxes etc. Staters can view the "real-life" impact on themselves.

Instruction is provided by Legionnaires, at least one member of the Kansas Highway Patrol, and former Staters who are well versed in the function of representative government. Several elected officials annually visit and address Staters throughout the week. Naturally time is allotted for fun activities during the week such as a "talent night" and various sports.

At a minimum Boys State instills citizenship and demonstrates every individual is capable of making a difference. Thousands of lifelong friendships have been forged at Boys State and graduates often receive special consideration when applying for scholarships or employment.

Two Staters will be selected to represent Kansas as Senators during Boys' Nation held at Marymount University in Washington, DC this July. Staters who are the sons or grandsons of a veteran may

apply for a Samsung scholarship.

Application and information packets for this year's June 5 to 11 session have been mailed to every Kansas high school, every Post, and to past sponsors including private individuals, and civic organizations. Fees for the week long course is \$300 per Stater to be paid by the sponsor(s) plus a \$50 fee paid by the student's parents or the Stater himself.

Applicants must be a high school Junior (will be a Senior this fall), be a self starter, involved in extracurricular activities in their school or community, and rank within the top half of their class scholastically. Completed applications must be received by March 31, 2021; Staters and sponsors are encouraged to apply early.

Legionnaires are asked to seek out potential Staters by visiting their local high schools and assist in locating sponsors and co-sponsors for each student. Additional information can be obtained of The American Legion Boys State website at [www.ksb-state.org](http://www.ksb-state.org), or by calling toll free 1-866-241-9920.

**CHILDREN & YOUTH**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Pat Culver**

**childrenandyouth1@kansaslegion.org**

• The American Legion has been actively involved with children's issues since the early 1920s. In many instances, the Legion has been the driving force on behalf of children on the federal, state and local levels.

• In 1938, April was formally designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children and Youth Month) and has continued on an annual basis. During this time, we urge each of you to show your community that The American Legion Family is dedicated to America's youth.

• You should publicize your programs and activities. Have the Mayor or other local Official issue a proclamation declaring April as Children and Youth Month. Your Post Commander should issue a news release proclaiming

April as Children and Youth Month and list what the Post will be doing for its annual observance.

• Remember programs affecting the children and youth of your community are news!! Invite the news media to your activities and keep them informed.

• The American Legion Department of Kansas has several outstanding Children and Youth programs offered:

• American Legion Baseball: A / AA / AAA, entries must be in by May 15, 2022.

• Kansas Boy's State: applications must be in by April 2022

• Cadet Law: applications must be in by March 31, 2022

• Oratorical Contest: The Department Oratorical Contest is March 12, 2022. Check with

(Continued on Page 9)

**HISTORIAN**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dan Stacy**

**departmenthistorian@kansaslegion.org**



It has been a busy two months for me as well as the Department Officers. I have attended the Homecoming for the Department Commander and Vice-Commander as well as a couple of the District Homecomings. The western half of Kansas hosted the National Vice-Commander this year. I was privileged to have been able to cover the entire trip. There are a lot of photos posted on Facebook and uploaded to My Drive. The holiday party at Winfield was a blast. I made contact with sev-

eral of the Historians for the Posts and Districts. I would like to extend an invitation to please contact me at ([departmenthistorian@kansaslegion.org](mailto:departmenthistorian@kansaslegion.org)) . I would like to encourage all the Posts in Kansas to present a history book at Department Convention in 2022. I know it will be a challenge to put a history book together, but I think you will find it to be rewarding. I'm looking forward to hearing from your Post Historians and I hope everyone had a great holiday this past year.

# 2022 MID-WINTER FORUM SALINA, KANSAS

## Friday, January 28

- 3 -6:00 pm Registration ..... Post # 62
- 4 pm Department Executive Committee Meeting ..... Post # 62

## Saturday, January 29

- 7:00am-4:00pm Registration ..... Post # 62
- 7:00-8:00am Breakfast ..... Post # 62
- OPENING SESSION
- 8:00am Call to Order ..... Department Commander Marri Krupco
- Opening Ceremony ..... Marri Krupco
- Welcome & Introduction ..... Post Commander Stan Britt
- Welcome ..... Dr. Trent Davis, Mayor of Salina
- S.A.L. Introductions ..... James Snyder
- Auxiliary Introductions ..... Marcia Cottrell
- Junior Auxiliary Introductions ..... Hattie Burgio
- American Legion Introductions ..... Marri Krupco
- Dan Benes ..... Nebraska Department Commander
- National Vice Commander ..... Angel Narvaez
- S.A.L. & Auxiliary Depart for their Meetings
- Eric Rohleder ..... Deputy Director, Veterans Services, KCVVA
- ADJOURN FOR LUNCH AT THE POST
- 1:00pm Call to Order ..... Department Commander Marri Krupco
- Door Prize Drawing ..... Jimmie Foster
- Legion Riders ..... Roger Beckley
- Membership Turn-in ..... Jeremy Ehart
- Membership Awards & Prizes ..... Marri Krupco
- Media & Communications ..... Michael Cole
- Legislation ..... Pat Culver
- Candidates for Department Offices ..... Marri Krupco
- 4:30-5:30pm Reception for Visiting National Officers ..... Post # 62
- 5:30-7:00pm Lasagna, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Corn/ Dinner Available  
..... Post # 62
- Karaoke by Mandy McEntire ..... Post # 62

## Sunday, January 30

- 7:00-8:00am Registration ..... Post # 62
- 7:00-8:00am Breakfast ..... Post # 62
- 8:00am Call to Order ..... Department Commander Marri Krupco
- Four Chaplains Service ..... Rev. Debra Muylaert
- 8:30 am Pledge of Allegiance ..... Jeremy Ehart
- Legion Family Membership Turn-In ..... Jeremy Ehart
- Child & Youth Report ..... Pat Culver
- Americanism Programs:
- Cadet Law Enforcement Academy ..... Ray Vail
- Boys State ..... Tom Wierman
- Oratorical ..... Mike Oppy
- Baseball ..... Bill Direen
- Scholarships ..... Mike Oppy
- School Awards & County Government Day ..... James Snyder
- Eisenhower ..... John Meyeres
- Department Sweepstakes Drawing ..... Department Staff

# MID-WINTER HOTELS

### Quality Inn & Suites (★★)

*Headquarters Hotel*  
\$75.99 with taxes & fees  
2110 W. Crawford St.  
Salina, KS 67401  
Single or Double occupancy  
(785) 404-6247

### Days Inn by Wyndham

**Salina South (★★)**  
\$58 with taxes & fees  
632 Westport Blvd.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 914-5443

### Econo Lodge (★★)

*rates changing*  
636 Westport Blvd.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 820-8663

### AmericInn by Wyndham

**Salina (★★)**  
\$93 with taxes & fees  
1820 W Crawford St.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 914-4644

### Baymont by Wyndham

**Salina (★★)**  
\$76 with taxes & fees  
1740 W Crawford St.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 376-4643

### Value Inn & Suites (★★)

\$64 with taxes & fees  
1640 W Crawford St.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 404-3206

### Salina Ambassador (★★★)

*rates changing*  
1616 W Crawford St.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 823-1739

### Village Inn (★★)

*rates changing*  
453 S Broadway Blvd.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 827-4040

### Travelers Lodge

*rates changing*  
245 S Broadway Blvd.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 827-9351

### Ambassy Motel (★★)

\$52 with taxes & fees  
217 S Broadway Blvd.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 825-7265



# + TAPS +

Anderson, Rodney (Korea)	Salina
Barnes, William (Korea)	Lawrence
Bednasek, Kenneth	Topeka #400
Bocksnick, Clifford (Vietnam)	Concordia
Bontrager, Dean	Topeka #400
Bradshaw, Walt (Vietnam)	Topeka #400
Cottle, Charles (WWII)	Hutchinson
Crawford, Gerald (Vietnam)	Mulvane
Depenbusch, Francis (Vietnam)	Hutchinson
Doherty, Edward (WWII)	Hutchinson
Fischer, Robert (WWII)	Hutchinson
Fletcher, Harlen (Vietnam)	Paola
Gossman, Harold (Vietnam)	Hutchinson
Harryman, Michael (Vietnam)	Mulvane
Harsch, Daniel (Vietnam)	Larned
Jones, Harold (WWII)	Lawrence
Kabance, Julia (WWII)	Mayetta
Lana, Henry (Korea)	Lawrence
Lough, James (Vietnam)	Pittsburg
Miller, William (Korea)	Topeka #400
Mullins, James (Korea)	Hutchinson
Nicholas, Kenneth (Vietnam)	Salina
Oxley, Fay (Korea)	Mulvane
Pederson, Harold (Lebanon/Grenada)	Lenexa
Streight, Ronald (Vietnam)	Hutchinson
Vaughn, Duncan (WWII)	Garfield
Waddle, Bob (WWII)	Hutchinson
Warburton, John (Vietnam)	Beloit
Weltmer, Richard (Korea)	Smith Center
Wineinger, Carl (Korea)	Hanover
Woolledge, Everett (WWII)	Hutchinson

## CHILDREN & YOUTH (Continued from Page 7)

your District Oratorical Chair member for the time and place of your District contest.

- Scouting: every Post could support a Scout Troop... check it out, many times all they need is a place to meet.

- If you need additional information, please check [kansaslegion.org](http://kansaslegion.org) under "programs".

- Shortly after the first of the year, American Legion

departments receive copies of the Consolidated Post Report (CPR). This form has been developed to track necessary information about the Legion's overall programs. It is the responsibility of the Post Children and Youth Chair member to report his/her program activities to the individual designated in the Post to complete the Consolidated Post Report. The CPR can be done online at [mylegion.org](http://mylegion.org) by the Post Adjutant.

## MID-WINTER FORUM MEALS

**JANUARY 28-30, 2022  
SALINA POST #62**

**SATURDAY, 29 JAN - BREAKFAST: \$ 8.00**  
BISCUITS & GRAVY, SCRAMBLED EGGS, HASH  
BROWNS AND SAUSAGE PATTY.

**SATURDAY, 29 JAN - LUNCH: \$ 8.00**  
HAM SANDWICHES, CHILI AND COOKIES.

**SATURDAY, 29 JAN - DINNER: \$10.00**  
LASAGNA, MASHED POTATOES, GREEN BEANS,  
CORN, ROLL AND DESSERT.

**SUNDAY, 30 JAN - BREAKFAST: \$ 8.00**  
BISCUITS & GRAVY, SCRAMBLED EGGS, HASH  
BROWNS AND SAUSAGE PATTY.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Post/Unit/Squadron # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Number of breakfasts to be reserved at \$8.00 each. \_\_\_\_\_

Number of lunches to be reserved at \$8.00 each. \_\_\_\_\_

Number of dinners to be reserved at \$10.00 each: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Stan Britt  
1227 Elmhurst Blvd  
Salina, KS 67402**

### KANSAS SUNFLOWER LEGIONNAIRE

**Jimmie L. Foster, Editor**

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**Department Headquarters:**

1314 SW Topeka Blvd. Topeka, KS 66612, 785-232-9315

**Department Headquarters Email Addresses:**

Jimmie L. Foster: ..... [departmentadjutant@kansaslegion.org](mailto:departmentadjutant@kansaslegion.org)  
 Jeff Bond: ..... [departmentassistantadjutant@kansaslegion.org](mailto:departmentassistantadjutant@kansaslegion.org)  
 Margie Thibault: ..... [administrativeassistant@kansaslegion.org](mailto:administrativeassistant@kansaslegion.org)  
 Michelle Johnston: ..... [membership@kansaslegion.org](mailto:membership@kansaslegion.org)

**News deadline is the 15th of March, June, September and December for the next issue.**

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**VA HOSPITAL SERVICE OFFICERS**

Robert J. Dole Regional VA Medical Center, Wichita  
 Local: 316-688-6814, Toll Free: 888-878-6881 Ext. 56814  
 Dwight D. Eisenhower VA Medical Center, Leavenworth  
 Local: 913-758-4297, Toll Free: 800-952-8387 Ext. 54297  
 Colmery-O'Neil VA Medical Center, Topeka  
 Local: 785-350-4489, Toll Free: 800-574-8387 Ext. 54489