

Sunflower Legionnaire

The American Legion -



Today's Voice for Today's Veterans & Military

VOL LXXVI NO. 1

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

July, August, September 2022

JEREMY EHART ELECTED DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

CAMPORAMA SEPTEMBER



Jeremy Ehart, Department Commander

Jeremy Ehart was elected Department Commander during the closing session of the 103rd annual State Convention in Topeka on June 5. Commander Ehart served in the United States Marine Corps from 2002-2006. He is a Paid Up For Life member of The American Legion since 2008, a member of the Sons of The American Legion Squadron 68, and American Legion Riders Chapter 68.

He has served in various Post positions including long time Adjutant and Commander and still stays active by serving Post 68 on various committees. He has served 7th District as an Executive

Board officer, Vice-Commander, and Commander for two terms and still serves on several committees for the



Randy Frank, Department Vice Commander

District. He is currently serving the Department on the Legislative Council, The Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee, and also proud to represent Kansas on the National Security Council as well as a graduate of the 2019 National American Legion College. He has had the honor and privilege of serving the last two years as your Department Vice Commander.

Randy Frank, a 17-year member of the American Legion and Paid Up For Life (PUFL) member, was elected Department Vice Commander. Randy served in the United States Army from 1980 to 1994.

Mike Jury was elected as Area West Vice Commander. Mike will be available to respond to requests for assistance from Posts in Districts V, VI, VII, VIII, and IX. He is a 20-year member currently with Post #68 in Hutchinson.

George Honn was elected Area East Vice Commander and will assist Posts in Districts I, II, III, IV, and X when called upon to do so. He is a 14-year member currently with Post #156 in Paola.



Mike Jury, Area West Vice Commander

Camporama remains an economical mini-vacation opportunity for all American Legion Family members. Now in its 48th year, Camporama takes place over the Labor Day weekend, 2-5 September. The festivities will be held in the Wakefield City Park adjacent to Milford Lake.

Registration is still \$15.00 per adult as it has been for years; for those under 16 and at least 10 years old the charge is \$5.00, and for those under ten for price is \$2.00. Additionally there is a \$20.00 per camper per night Corps of Engineering fee. Registrations must be made by August 15, by calling the Park Manager at 785-461-5774.

The Wakefield City Park includes individual pads for trailers and campers, plenty of shade trees, water, shower rooms, rest rooms, telephones, etc. If you have a self contained motor home or a pup tent Camporama provides great entertainment opportunities for the entire family including boating, fishing and Frisbee contests, swimming, card games, horseshoe pitching, and bingo.

Registration begins on Friday, September 2, with free hot dogs available while everyone settles in for a weekend of fun. Registration continues on Saturday and planned activities will

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George Honn Area East Vice Commander

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VICE COMMANDER

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Greetings Legionnaires,
 First, let me say how great an honor it is to serve as your Department Commander. I am committed to continuing to spread the good word, programs, projects, and missions of the Kansas American Legion over the next year. Thank you all for this amazing opportunity.

June was a busy time with lots of various programs scheduled. After Department Convention, the 2022 session of Kansas Boys State was held June 5th-11th in Manhattan KS. Legion Night was June 8th and was well attended by many legion family members, the night started with a flag retirement ceremony from Manhattan Post 17 and ended with choir, band and a talent competition between the staters. KALC was held June 10th -12th in Concordia and was the highest attendance in recent memory with over 160 people from all three American Legion Families.

Next, Cadet Law Academy started June 12th, held in Salina at the Highway Patrol Training Facility with 17 cadets in attendance this year. They participated in many things including history and techniques of law enforcement, emergency medical care, personal defense tactics, search and seizures, laws of arrest, firearms instruction and range safety, pursuit driving on the driving range, and courtroom trial procedures. Each cadet had a great time and graduation was held Friday June 17th. I was fortunate to be able to attend all these functions including the inauguration ceremonies June 16th at Girls State in Lawrence where the Governor was capped for 2022-2023.

Additionally in June the Kansas Legacy Run will be

held from June 23rd to 26th starting in Independence KS and ending in Salina KS. This is always a good event which raises money for the Legacy Scholarship Fund and I'm sure this year will be no different.

July, August and September will be just as busy with many events including July 4th Activities, Department Commanders/Presidents Family Homecoming August 13 in Hutchinson, and the Department Golf Tournament September 24th in Topeka. Information for all these events, including event flyers and RSVP forms can be found on the Department website at www.Kansaslegion.org.

Please keep an eye out for the next eNewsletter for more events and updates about Department activities. If you have questions, concerns, or comments I can be reached anytime via phone at 620-899-0010 or email at departmentcommander@kansaslegion.org.

Semper Fi!

AMERICAN LEGION DAYS at the State Fair

Contact your District Commander if you're interested in volunteering to represent the American Legion at the State fair this September.

Fri, Sept. 9..... 1st District
 Sat, Sept. 10 .. 10th District
 Sun, Sept. 11 ... 7th District
 Mon, Sept. 12.. 9th District
 Tues Sept. 13... 3rd District
 Wed, Sept. 14 .. 5th District
 Thu, Sept. 15... 4th District
 Fri, Sept. 16..... 8th District
 Sat, Sept. 17 6th District
 Sun, Sept. 18 ...2nd District

Hello Legionnaires,
 The Department of Kansas American Legion has raced through June across the state at several events reconnecting with members and making contact with future members.

After the completion of the Annual Department of Kansas Convention we quickly jumped into Boys State with 137 graduates. They elected Lukas Haase of Blue Mound High School and Konnor Quinn-Colman of Leavenworth to represent the 2022 Kansas Boys State as Senators at the National Boys Nation in Indianapolis, IN.

Next, we launched into Cadet Law at the Kansas Highway Patrol Academy in Salina. The Cadets spent the week learning Law Enforcement Skills like going to the firearms range; driving a Kansas Highway Patrol Vehicle practicing traffic stops; learning Defensive Tactics; Driving in the Vehicle Simulators and much more. Graduation was June 17, 2022. These cadets also worked daily with legionnaires learning how we interact with the youth.

Then the American Legion Riders (ALR) roared across Kansas and into Missouri for the annual Legacy Ride June 23-26, 2022. The ALR annually participates in this ride collecting donations for the Legacy Run Scholarship Fund. Program. This year's ride total over \$21,000.00.

Membership Campaign officially begins July 1, 2022, make sure you have your Membership Cards. The 2022 - 2023 National Membership Target Dates have

been sent to the District Vice Commanders. Reach out to the Post to engage them in making their target dates.

Department and District Leadership will attend the 59th National American Legion Membership Workshop July 28 - 30, 2022. They will have the opportunity to learn new skills on membership recruitment and retention. I encourage the Post Commanders to reach out to your District Leadership when they return to gain from their training to sustain your Post and remain strong.

Please encourage all Legion Members to sign up for their MyLegion individual website <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Home> to track their personal record, make necessary changes and they can pay their dues online. Post Adjutants MyLegion is an excellent tool that you can use to manage your Post administration. Some of the tools will allow you to submit membership dues that are brought into the Post; track membership status and complete annual reports online and submit them.

We have had many great opportunities to meet members and reach out to potentially new members. Let me know about your activities and successes by sending me an email with photos at departmentvicecommander@kansaslegion.org.

Every time we talk to someone it is a potential opportunity for additional Membership in all of the American Legion Family groups.

Remember, Every day is a Membership Day.

ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

Now, that the 103rd Department Convention is behind US, and WE have a New Slate of Department Officers to lead US into and through the 2022-2023 Membership Year it is time to keeping finding Veterans that want to join Our Great Organization.

The Delegates of the Convention were given the opportunity to hear their National Leaders from two Entities of The American Legion Family. Leading Candidate for National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola from New York, and American Legion Auxiliary National Vice President Denise Delaney-Wrolen from the Department of Indiana enlightened US with a vast amount of knowledge about their individual Organizations and thanked the Department of Kansas for their support and camaraderie.

All Our Guests stated that they looked forward to returning the Great State of Kansas, so all of you must be doing things right. Keep up the Great Work!!!

Boys State was held from 5 to 11 June at Kansas State University. Every Stators was happy to be able to attend in person this year. They were well educated and initiative-taking young Adults representing their individual Cities and Towns across the State of Kansas very well.

The Kansas American Legion College (KALC) in Concordia was also well attended and those there was eager to learn new things to help Our Organizations continue to march forward. All the presenters did a superb job of making it interesting and informational. This year it was open to ALL entities of The American Legion Family – Legion, Auxiliary and Sons!

At the D.E.C. (Department Executive Committee) Meeting many topics were on the agenda. The biggest was the presentation and approval of the Department Budgets for the Operation Year 2022-2023 by Department Finance Chair-

man Jim Buterbaugh.

The Information Letter has been mailed to those that were selected as Delegates and Alternates to the 2022 National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. National Staff has worked hard to ensure that those attending will be rewarded with informational and fun times for The American Legion. Make sure you pay close attention to the submission dates. These dates are non-negotiable by Department and National for contract purposes.

The Kansas Cadet Law Program was held from 12 to 17 June 2022 at the Kansas Highway Patrol Academy in Salina. They had a fair number of Cadets attend this year. Each year the Boy's State and Cadet Law Programs give me continued faith that some of our youths are on the right track for the betterment of Our Country!

The Erie Bean Feed is scheduled from 15 & 16 July 2022 in Eire, Kansas. This is the 150th Year for the Soldiers and Sailors Ceremonies. This will be their Sesquicentennial, and they are anticipating a huge crowd. If you have never attended be sure to put it on your calendar.

The Department Commanders Homecoming Luncheon will be held on August 14 at Hutchinson Post # 68. A clip out is on the last page of this Sunflower Legionnaire.

The Kansas State Fair is a go again this year. Each District is responsible for staffing the Booth for a day. PLEASE contact your District Commander or District Adjutant to assist in promoting The American Legion for those attending the State Fair. It is always a fun and rewarding experience!

The State Golf Tournament will be held on 24 September at Great LIFE Golf and Fitness, Western Hills Country Club in Topeka. Gather up your Team and enjoy the fun and camaraderie.

The Department Vice Commanders Homecoming will

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SUPPORT AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

Baseball is alive and well in Kansas. Over the month of July, 40 Kansas American Legion Baseball teams will battle for the title of state champion.

There are three classes of Legion Baseball in Kansas. Class A is our junior league for ages 13 to 17. Class AA is our rural senior league for ages 13 to 19. AA Teams can only recruit from a pool of high schools whose sophomore to senior enrollment totals to less than 500. Class AAA is also a senior league for ages 13 to 19. AAA can recruit from a pool of high schools whose sophomore to senior enrollment totals 7,500 students.

In mid-July, Four Zone Tournaments will each send two finalists to the Class A State Tournment in Great

Bend. In the Senior leagues, AA will have four Zone Tournaments and AAA will have two. The top four teams from the AA and AAA Zones will compete in the Senior State Tournment in Pittsburg. The winner of the Senior State Tournment will represent the State of Kansas in the Mid-South Regional Tournment in Pelham, AL.

For more information about the location, participants, and dates of all the Zone Tournments visit the Department webpage: kansaslegion.org/baseball. The website will also be updated with final scores after every game during during the State Tournments.

BASEBALL TOURNAMENTS

CLASS A

State Championship
Great Bend - July 27-31

CLASS AA/AAA

State Championship
Topeka - July 27-31

Mid-South Regionals
Pelham, AL - August 3-7

World Series
Shelby, NC - August 11-16



DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

Dan Bartlett

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Researchers Think They've Found the Cause of Gulf War Illness

After nearly 30 years of trying to prove a theory---
Please click on the link below for the full story.

Military.com

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Greetings 1st District!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Legionnaires of the 1st District for electing me as the District Commander for 2022-2023. I'm sure I can speak for the rest of the 1st District Officers in saying that we look forward to serving you this coming year. If your Post is having an event let me know and I will make sure it is published on our Facebook page and in our list of upcoming events. My goal this year is to visit every Post at least once in the upcoming year and help however I can.

I would like to thank all the 1st District Posts that worked so hard on membership this last year. We were close to our 100% membership goal in 2021-2022 and I know we can, and will achieve it in 2022-2023. As you know membership is the lifeblood of the Legion, without it we will not be able to support our programs. It is not about the money, although it is important to be able to provide financial support to our programs, more importantly it is about the people needed to support programs like Boys State, Cadet Law, Oratorical and so many others. Without people these programs are not going to be as successful. Everyone should carry a new member application with them everywhere they go and preach the American Legion to veterans you run into. Tell them what we do everyday in our communities to help veterans; to help children; to help families. If you can recruit that veteran, recruit the spouse or daughter for the Auxiliary; recruit that son for the S.A.L., if we can do this I am confident

we can attract younger veterans into our family.

We will be having a District meeting on July 9th at Ozawkie Post #44 beginning at 10:30 am, with lunch following for a \$10 donation. This will be the first chance we have had to get together for a meeting this membership year so I hope to see you there. The 1st District will be running the booth at the State Fair this year on Friday September 9th. We will need volunteers to work the booth and these volunteers can be Legion, Auxiliary, or S.A.L. members. If you would like to volunteer, please let us know by July 9th.

As always, if a Post or member have a question or need assistance, the District Officers are available to help anytime. My email is District-Commander1@kansaslegion.org. Once again, thank you for putting your faith in me this coming year and please have a safe and happy 4th of July!

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No article submitted.

**THIRD DISTRICT
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MELVIN EUBANKS**
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Thank you all for supporting me as your Third District Commander. This will be my first article for the Sunflower as my term begins. I would like to thank my District Of-

ficers, all the members of the Third District, Post Officers, S.A.L, Riders, and Auxiliary for your help and support while I serve as your Commander. Some of you know that I have tried to visit every Post in my District and even did some spot visits to see how each Post operates. There is one thing I want each Post to know is that I have three goals I want to accomplish this year. One is having each Post work with the other families of their Legion to become a visible, educational, and community-based organization. Second is that I would like to see more of the time-honored traditions brought back to the forefront of our operations. Things like committees of Americanism, Children and Youth, and the Awards and Scholarship programs. Lastly, I want a more social media presence. Monthly bulletins, special events and Veteran Based holidays should be announced for every Post. Its time for people in our community to know what we do for Veterans, Active Duty Military, Retired Service members and their families. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 620-779-2476 or message me at Boerstler-May Facebook page. I look forward to this year and will do my best to help your Post any way possible.

**FOURTH DISTRICT
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ESZTER BLAIR**
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Comrades of the IV District I want start my first article as your Commander by saying Thank You, for allowing me to serve this great District for the next two years as your Commander. You, the membership of the District came together at Convention and elected a very strong core of individu-

als with a lot of experience for the Leadership of IV District. Within our great organization membership is a priority and will continue to be so as we look for ways to grow American Legion brand awareness. Two years ago IV District was in last place from start to finish within the Department but this past membership year we put together a plan and finished first in 2021-2022 membership. We will try and keep the momentum moving in the positive direction and Lead the way again this year.

All of us within the District are part of the Team and we should all help each other grow and become bigger and better Posts by creating and doing exciting things within our communities. Enthusiasm is contagious and in turn creates more enthusiasm which helps lead to membership and the more members we have the more people we can help and that's what we are about helping Veterans their families and our community we live in.

Lastly, communication is always key and we all should strive to become better and one of our goals as District officers is to help each Post get their American Legion email account set up for each Commander and Adjutant within the District to start the process of better communication up and down the chain to help us all become better informed with more of a chance to be in the know when things are going on..

Again, I am truly Honored to be able to serve as your Commander and looking forward to meeting many of you in the near future.

For God and Country
Roger Beckley
District Commander

KANSAS DISTRICTS



Click map to enlarge.

**FIFTH DISTRICT
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Greetings from District Five. We are getting geared up for a fantastic 2023. Joe Hicks was elected as Vice Commander this year. The only other change is Rick Lowery was elected as 3 year Executive Committee member. We are looking at having Homecoming in September but the time and place TBA. The Fifth District was the first last year to get rid of all goose eggs and we want to keep that going this year. Every Post please send in your Life Members the first of July. Every Commander and Adjutant please send your membership in the first of July. Any Post that has an activity they want put in the article let me know. Newton Post 2 just started a Family night with food and a guest speaker on the second Tuesday of the month. The first night was a success with over 130 in attendance with Justina Newfield a Holocaust survivor as the speaker. She is 91 years old. McPherson Post 24 has been doing this for a long time on the third Tuesday. Looking forward to a successful 2023.

**SIXTH DISTRICT
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Howdy, 6th District. I'm Jason Hicks (USMC), the new 6th District Com-

mander, hailing from Ellsworth Post 174. It is my honor and pleasure taking over the reins of the "Mighty 6th". Together, the 6th will be on top of the leader board in short order! E-mail me at districtcommander6@kansaslegion.org

First off, we have a GREAT crop of Officers for 2022/2023, ready to assist members in the 6th. Your Vice Commander is Rick Simpson (Concordia). Your Adjutant is Stan Britt (Salina). Your Finance Officer is Bill Valcoure (Concordia). Historian is Everett Ford (Concordia).

District Chaplain is Glenn Reed (Holyrood). Sgt at Arms is Dwayne Kalavoda (Cuba). And finally, Judge Advocate is Damon Christensen (Concordia).

Your 6th District Executive Committee members are- William Workman Jr.

(Natoma), Jason Sunderland (Ellsworth) and Lee Axtell (Salina).

If any Members or Posts need assistance, please get ahold of myself or any of your Officers and let us work to help you out. Myself and some of your Officers WILL be visiting all of the Posts in the District in 2022/2023. Good chance we'll be rolling in with some Department folks as well. SURPRISE.. inspection in 10.

Please ensure you have sent in your new Officers form to Department, even if your Officers haven't changed, please fill it out.

Post Commanders and Adjutants, have you logged on to your Kansas Legion email account yet? If you need assistance setting it up, let me know and I will assist you. You're missing out on lots of valuable information.

A few items of NEWS-

The 6th District Homecoming, honoring District Commander Jason Hicks, District Auxiliary President Nancy Evans, District S.A.L. Commander Andy Phelps and ALR Area Director Stan Britt, will be Saturday, September 10th, at Post 174 in Ellsworth. More information will be mailed to all 6th District Posts.

The 6th District Fall Con-

ference will be in Natoma at Post 109, on Saturday, October 22nd. Again, looking to more information coming to your mailboxes and emails.

Looking forward to working with all in the future.

Semper Fi,
Commander Jason Hicks

**SEVENTH DISTRICT
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Let me start by saying thank you for your support in the new leadership role for the upcoming year. I am very humbled to be a part of such an awesome group of individuals. I want to thank all the Posts who worked hard on membership this year. We are currently in a new year for membership. Vice Commander Michael Vondracek and I presented the District membership plan at Leadership College. Each Post will receive a copy of the plan; however, below is a snapshot of the plan presented:

- Local Posts are the first step for veterans to have their voice heard; the Post is the Voice for Veterans

- Increase communication with your Post:

- Increase Buddy Checks to build rapport and help with retention and non-renewals (invite them back to the Post)

- Involve and educate leadership on membership goals and programs. Incorporate Legion functions with membership recruiting events when possible

- Implement a mentoring program which will help identify potential legionnaires that demonstrate an interest in holding a leadership position

- Partner with local businesses to offer "scholarships" for Legionnaire's dues; this concept builds a bridge be-

tween the Post and the local community

- Partner with Auxiliary and Sons to encompass the American Legion family concept; potentially increase membership in all three areas

- Utilize Post 58 members; these members can be added to your Posts

If you have any ideas or thoughts on membership please get in touch with us. We will be working the State Fair booth on Sunday, September 11th; please contact one of us to schedule your time to share the Legion programs. Please do not hesitate to call or email myself or Michael with any questions, comments, or concerns. Aim High, Fly-Fight-Win!!

**EIGHTH DISTRICT
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Greetings to all of you Legion members!

I would like to start off, sort of like a dreamer. All of us need to work toward 100% American Legion membership in order to regain our influence and strength.

we need to keep and add to the benefits that our veterans so deserve. we should challenge our Congressmen & Women to stay on task and not fail our heroes now or in the future.

And thank God we have other organizations such as the Gary Sinise Foundation and the 'tunnel to towers' to help bring awareness to our cause.

So, let us do what is needed for our heroes! We need to work to get the homeless back into homes. There is so much for us to ban together for.

Let's grow our membership to gain back our strength and influence once again!

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EIGHTH DISTRICT

(Continued from Page 4)

Every Post should try to hold coffees and V.A. town halls, even


friendly card games and other competitive events.

Additionally, I would like to see all Posts work on getting people registered to vote this November. It's a citizen's responsibility and right guaranteed to us by our Constitution.

Yours in Comradery,
Thomas A. Howard, 8th District Commander
mot@wbsnet.org

Our District is responsible for day 2 of the State Fair which is good because last year I was unable to attend due to being on an Honor Flight. I attended the State Convention and the College in Concordia. They had a very good crowd for the College and next year we are promised a course for new Commanders and Adjutants which I think will be very useful. It was nice to get back to Concordia.

DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN



Dan Stacy

Greetings Legionnaires. We had a very good Convention and Leadership College this past week. Boys State is over and by the time you receive this letter so will Cadet Law Academy.

We had a wonderful group of presenters at KALC. I enjoyed presenting the Historians short program. I had a very nice group session along with the Department Chaplain. I sat in on a couple of the other presentations that I thought were very good.

I look forward to hearing from the District and Post Historians. I welcome all their calls and email messages and hope to work with them this year to have their books for review at Department Convention in 2023.

I ask all Post Members to assist your Historians and please encourage them. We all need help from time to time. Today is Flag Day. By the time you read this article in the Kansas Sunflower magazine, I will be busy with wheat harvest like many of you. I wish you happiness and a great harvest.



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

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Kansas American Legion Family!

WOW, it's really hard to believe 2022 is half over already. Not sure where the time has gone, but it has. I know this is the beginning of a very busy time of year for a lot of our Kansas Legion Family Members and it is my hope everyone stays safe and has a great harvest season.

I am looking forward to a fantastic year as your Department President and know we will succeed because of everyone's support and teamwork. Let's make this a fun year and remember to "Bee" Kind, Humble, Considerate, Encouraging, Helpful and simply good members.

I had the opportunity to spend the week of June 12 - 17 with some of the most energetic 17-year-old young ladies at Sunflower Girls State and what a wonderful experience it was. The Girls State Board of Directors, Counselors, and other Staff members are absolutely the best and most welcoming group of individuals there is within our organization. We

all need to take their dedication and attitude and apply it to our own lives as Auxiliary Members. Their enthusiasm is contagious and a breath of fresh air. We all need to take a page out of their book and apply it to our attitudes and behaviors.

I hope everyone enjoys their Summer and are able to do some traveling or simply get away for a short time to re-energize and get a new perspective on our thoughts and actions.

We have Department Homecoming coming up on August 13 and I hope to see you there.

National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin is on the horizon, and I am sure all Delegates and Alternates by now have received their letter from Legion Adjutant Jimmie Foster with information on registration. These need to be returned as soon as possible, so make sure you adhere to the deadline dates.

Safe travels to everyone and let us continue our daily support of our Veterans and our Mission of "Service Not Self."

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No article submitted.

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VICE CMDR.

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Greetings from District 10, We have had a busy year so far. We had our District Convention April 29 and 30th. We had a banquet for any member that wanted to attend and had a very good turnout. On April 30 we had our first District 10 Convention. We agreed to have our next convention in Greenleaf on the western part of our District to get more people involved. Our next District meeting is July 31st in Wetmore for the same reason.



DETACHMENT COMMANDER

James Snyder

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Greetings American Legion Family,

Well it's the start of the 2023 membership year. We fell a little short of our goal for last year but if you still have any unpaid for 2022, you can still transmit them. The Squadron's goals for this year

will be about the same as last year. I'd like to see as many of you as I can so send me an invite. If any of you need anything remember your Detachment Officers are here for you.

James Snyder
Commander
Detachment of Kansas



CHAPLAIN

Debra Muylaert
departmentchaplain@kansaslegion.org

Greetings Legion Family!

As I write this article, it is Flag Day. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. It also marks the birthday of the U.S. Army which Congress authorized as "the American Continental Army" on June 14, 1775.

Although Flag Day will have passed when you read this edition of the "Sunflower Legionnaire," I thought it would be fun to share some fascinating facts about our flag. Here are four of them from nationalflagfoundation.org and history.com:

- There have been 27 versions of the American flag. From the 1777 original

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SWEEPSTAKES SUPPORTS KANSAS' VETERANS, YOUTH

The Spring Sweepstakes provides much needed funding for Kansas Department's state-wide Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation programs as well as Children and Youth programs.

In a partnership with the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs Office, the Kansas American Legion employs four Veterans Service Officers and their staff to assist veterans obtaining their earned veterans' benefits. Under this program, the American Legion maintains an office in each of the three VA hospitals in Kansas. This important service is available to any Veteran, free of charge.

Sweepstakes proceeds also go to the Department Children and Youth (C&Y) fund. Department C&Y pays for the State Oratorical Contest, various scholarships, and the Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program. These worthy programs could not exist without the generous support of Kansas Legionnaires.

The drawing was held in Topeka, June 5, during the Department Convention.

SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

Lloyd Arnold, Wakarusa, KS	\$2,500.00
Heath Trost, Concordia, KS	\$1,000.00
Charles Golden, Elwood, KS	\$500.00
Ray Stinson, Wichita, KS.....	\$250.00
Daniel Slater, Wichita, KS	\$250.00
Robert Jerome, Howard, KS	\$250.00
Tracy Deets, Howard, KS	\$250.00
John McBride, Augusta, KS.....	\$250.00
Arthur Cook, Salina, KS	\$200.00
Howard Beverage, Wichita, KS	\$200.00
Wayne Porter, Fredonia, KS.....	\$200.00
Mike Sherwood, Sublette, KS.....	\$200.00
Robert Smith, Pomona, KS.....	\$200.00

ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

(Continued from Page 2)

be held in conjunction with The Eisenhower Pilgrimage in Abilene, Kansas on 15 October 2022. There is also a clip out on the last page of this Sunflower Legionnaire. PLEASE plan to attend.

The Big Red Turkey Run is scheduled to be held on 19 November 2022 and Operation North Pole is scheduled to be held on 10 December 2022 this year on Fort Riley. If you have never attended one of these events, you have deeply missed out. Both Events will literally touch your heart when the Soldiers and their families hugs you and breaks down in tears when they receive their Turkey and all the fixings or a gift for their child/children during the Christmas Holidays.

I know it is a little early but plan to attend the 2023 Mid-Winter Conference in Manhattan, Kansas from 3 to 5 February 2023. Manhattan is ready and waiting to show Everyone a Great Time. Plan to attend!

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).



NATIONAL PURPLE HEART DAY AUGUST 7



CHILDREN & YOUTH

Pat Culver
childrenandyouth1@kansaslegion.org

Children and Youth Report 2021 - 2022

I wish to thank 194 Posts in the Districts that took the time to fill out the Children and Youth Reports this year.

To give you an overview of what your Posts have done this year in Kansas:

Total Youths served.....	8,460
American Legion Baseball.....	519
Comm. Youth Sports Program	1,093
Boys – Girls – Cub Scouts	544
County Government Day	1,029
Flag Etiquette	4,407
Community Youth Parties/Programs.....	2,326

Total Hours served	23,222
Baseball.....	5,486
Community Youth Sports Programs	4,316
Boys – Girls – Cub Scouts	1,321
County Government Day	69
Flag Etiquette	558
Comm. Youth Parties/Programs	1,472

Total Dollars spent\$311,457.00

Kansas has 269 American Legion Posts, this year 72% of Posts took the time to turn in a report. What would our Children and Youth Report look like IF all Posts in Kansas would report their activities.....

+ TAPS +

Arnold, Dean (WWII).....Lindsborg
 Attleson, James (Korea).....Lindsborg
 Baca, Mike (Vietnam).....Junction City
 Bauer, Robert (WWII).....Shawnee
 Benitz, Roger (Korea).....Atchison
 Betts, Roger (Vietnam).....Dorrance
 Blue, Howard (Vietnam).....McPherson
 Boller, Daniel (WWII).....Junction City
 Bose, Floyd (Korea).....Kensington
 Botterweck, Donald (WWII).....Newton
 Boyle, Everett (Vietnam).....Salina
 Brooks, Everett (Vietnam).....Peabody
 Bruce, Kenneth (Vietnam).....Newton
 Chadwick, Elton (Korea).....Centralia
 Cole, Rick (Vietnam).....Highland
 Cook, Avorita (Vietnam).....Junction City
 Cooper, Bobby (Vietnam).....Manhattan
 Davies, Nicholas (Persian Gulf).....
Overland Park
 Davy, Vernon (WWII).....Overland Park
 Deutsch, Junior (Korea).....Hoisington
 Dewell, J. P. (Korea).....Arkansas City
 Dickinson, Danny (Vietnam).....McPherson
 Dubbert, Rodney (Vietnam).....Cawker City
 Dunfield, Jeff (Vietnam).....Peabody
 Edmiston, Kenneth (Vietnam).....
Junction City
 Edwards, Jack (Vietnam).....McPherson
 Eggert, Ronald (Vietnam).....Newton
 Eichorn, Dave (Korea).....Shawnee
 Failing, Jack (Korea).....Republic
 Feldkamp, Ernest (Vietnam).....Seneca
 Feldkamp, Raymond (Korea).....Hanover
 Ferguson, Clyde (Korea).....Manhattan
 Flinn, Lyle (Korea).....Jewell
 Freeborn, Dallas (Korea).....Topeka #421
 Fuller, Raymond (Vietnam).....Salina
 Funston, Edward (Korea).....Topeka #421
 Furbeck, Alvie (Vietnam).....Salina
 Garcia, Cyprinao (Vietnam).....Augusta
 Gardner, Righard (Lebanon).....Osage City
 Gebhardt, Michael.....Pittsburg
 Glasscock, Charles (Vietnam).....Manhattan
 Gott, Robert (WWII).....Manhattan
 Gray, James (Vietnam).....Allen
 Green, Robert (Vietnam).....Bucklin
 Guffey, John (Vietnam).....McPherson
 Hale, Lawrence (Korea).....Mayetta
 Hall, Jerry (Vietnam).....Junction City
 Heller, Donald (WWII).....Salina
 Hendricks, Boyd (Vietnam).....Sterling
 Hollingworth, John (Vietnam).....Copeland
 Hughes, Robert (Vietnam).....El Dorado
 Hull, Robert (Korea).....McPherson
 Humphrey, John (Vietnam).....Emporia
 Johnson, Arbah (WWII).....Wichita #424
 Johnson, James, Jr. (Vietnam).....Lindsborg
 Jolley, Don (WWII).....Marion
 Joy, Carrol (WWII).....Alta Vista
 Klecan, Joseph (Korea).....Hanover

Lamb, Robert (WWII).....Whitewater
 Lange, James (Korea).....Shawnee
 Larson, David (Vietnam).....Garden City
 Lervold, Jane (Persian Gulf).....Concordia
 Lewis, Dennis (Vietnam).....Allen
 Lillard, Larry (Vietnam).....Highland
 Lindeman, Jack (Korea).....Sublette
 Lorenz, Peter (Vietnam).....Beloit
 Lowther, James (Korea).....Emporia
 Malone, Kenneth (Vietnam).....Sterling
 Marsteller, Robert (Korea).....Washington
 Maynard, Ronald (Korea).....Sedgwick
 McManaman, Bernard (Korea).....Emporia
 McMurray, Michael (Vietnam).....McPherson
 Miklos, George (Vietnam).....Derby
 Musgrave, Philip (Vietnam).....
Overland Park
 Neibling, Jerry (Korea).....Highland
 Neu, Weldo (WWII).....Osage City
 Ohanlon, Richard (Korea).....Sterling
 Oswald, Edward (Vietnam).....Gardner
 Oswald, Richard (Vietnam).....Newton
 Peterson, Robert (Vietnam).....Osage City
 Phillips, Jerry (Vietnam).....El Dorado
 Pickens, Richard (Korea).....Osage City
 Rodabaugh, John (Vietnam).....Pittsburg
 Roebuck, Ken (Vietnam).....Arkansas City
 Roelfs, Fred (Korea).....McPherson
 Roseburgh, Charlie (Vietnam).....
Junction City
 Sandridge, Jack (Vietnam).....Lebo
 Schwartz, Richard (Vietnam).....Leavenworth
 Schwartzkopf, Alfred (Vietnam).....Brownell
 Shields, William (Korea).....Wellsville
 Simpson, Verle (Korea).....Salina
 Snider, Ralph (Korea).....Council Grove
 Stazenski, Henry (Vietnam).....Wamego
 Stewart, Tracy (Korea).....Frankfort
 Strecker, William (Vietnam).....Bazine
 Stull, John (Korea).....McCracken
 Suchsland, Donald (Vietnam).....Kensington
 Sukraw, Robert (Vietnam).....Shawnee
 Thompson, Norman, Jr. (Vietnam).....
Alta Vista
 Tidquist, Donald (Vietnam).....Manhattan
 Tomleinson, James (WWII).....Wellsville
 Townsend, Michael (Vietnam).....Sterling
 Traskowsky, William (Vietnam).....Gardner
 Ulmen, Cyril (Vietnam).....Lindsborg
 Vondemkamp, Robert (Korea).....Seneca
 Watkins, Charles (WWII).....Harper
 Watts, Larry (Vietnam).....Leavenworth
 Weaver, Phillip (WWII).....Shawnee
 Wickerson, C. R., Jr. (WWII).....
Council Grove
 Wilson, Stephen (Vietnam).....Hiawatha
 Winter, Donald (WWII).....Manhattan
 Wolfington, Herbert (Korea).....Frontenac
 Zachary, Judy (Vietnam).....Derby

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

(Continued from Page 7)

nal that had 13 stars and 13 stripes for the American colonies, there have been many changes and iterations of the flag as stars were added for each new state.

- The current design wasn't professionally made. It was a 17-year-old high school student, Robert G. Heft, of Lancaster, Ohio who submitted the design in a contest in 1958. It was chosen out of over 1,500 submissions by President Dwight Eisenhower. The student also handed in the flag to his history teacher for a class project. When the President and the student stood together as the 50-star flag was raised for the first time, Heft's teacher promptly changed his grade from a B- to an A.

- A snippet of the flag that the "Star Spangled Banner" was written about was sold in 2011. The flag that flew at Fort McHenry and which is immortalized by Francis Scott Key in our Nation's song, is still around. A 2" by 5" swatch of it was sold at an auction in 2011 for \$38,000. The rest of the flag is on display at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

- Six flags have made it to the moon. You have probably seen Neil Armstrong on the moon with an American flag, but he is not the only one to plant one on the surface of the moon. Five additional Apollo missions (12, 14, 15, 16, and 17) ended with an astronaut planting a flag on the moon.

As our flag flies over our Nation each day, we also have a flag that flies over us eternally. In Scripture it's called a "banner." The Song of Solomon states, "And his banner over me is love" (2:4b). This book of the Bible speaks profoundly of love and hints that it is a gift of God to man. Indeed, it is a gift as seen in John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

Love also defines God's character. In His essential nature and in all His actions, God is loving. First John 4:8b states, "God is love." This means that God and love cannot be separated. If we could only fathom how high and how great the love of God is for us (Psalm 103:11)! So next time you see our flag flying in the breeze, let it remind and encourage you that God's banner of love flies over you!

LEGION FAMILY HOMECOMING Saturday, August 13, 2022

**Hutchinson Post #68
730 W 4th Ave.**

RSVP

Name _____

Post//Unit/Squadron _____

Guest Names _____

No. of Meals (\$12 each):

Chicken _____ Pork _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of _____

**Please Make checks Payable to:
Jeremy Ehart**

**Mail to:
10601 W Snokomo Rd.
Hutchinson, KS 67502**

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY HOMECOMING

The Homecoming Celebration for Department Commander Jeremy Ehart, Auxiliary President Marcia Cottrell, and S.A.L. Commander James Snyder will be held Saturday, August 13th at Hutchinson Post #68 located at 730 W 4th Ave.

The festivities will begin at 11:00 AM. Tickets are \$12 per person (\$15 at the door) and include lunch. Chicken or pork, scallop

potatoes, green beans, salad bar, and dessert will be served.

For additional information or to RSVP, contact Jeremy Ehart at (620) 899-0100. PayPal available via jjehart23@gmail.com (include note with whom the RSVP is for. Or make checks payable to Jeremy Ehart and send to 10601 W Snokomo Rd., Hutchinson KS, 67502.

42nd ANNUAL EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE

Enclosed is our payment for a rose to be placed at the Eisenhower Memorial on Saturday, October 15, 2022.

Purchaser _____
Post - Unit - Other (Please be Specific)

No. of Roses _____ Amount Enclosed _____
(\$10 for each rose requested)

Name _____
Person Placing the Rose

_____ Please appoint an appropriate individual to place our rose.

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone (Day Time) _____

RECEPTION & DINNER

**Chapman Post #240
Friday, October 14**

No. of Dinner Reservations _____ Amount Enclosed _____
(\$20 per person)

MAIL TO:
KANSAS AMERICAN LEGION
EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE
1314 SW Topeka Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66612

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2022

KANSAS SUNFLOWER LEGIONNAIRE

Jimmie L. Foster, Editor

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

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