

Sunflower Legionnaire

The American Legion -



Today's Voice for Today's Veterans & Military

VOL LXXVI NO. 2

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

October, November, December 2022

NATIONAL COMMANDER

Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola (pronounced Tree-Ola) was elected national commander of the nation's largest veteran service organization on Sept. 1, 2022, in Milwaukee during The American Legion's 103rd national convention. His theme as national commander is "V.E.T.S., Veterans, Education, Teamwork and Sponsor."

A life member of American Legion Post 1682 in Rockland County, N.Y, he served in the U.S. Navy and Navy Reserves from 1969 to 1974. He completed a tour aboard the USS Nitro, an auxiliary ammunition ship with the Sixth Fleet. He was honorably discharged as a boatswain's mate third class. He is also a member of Sons of The American Legion Squadron 1682 based on the World War II service of Jim's father.

Jim spent his entire working career in the automotive service industry, where he



Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola, National Commander of The American Legion

began as a parts manager at a local Chevrolet dealership and went to serve in many capacities of management. At the time of his retirement in 2017, he was director of service and parts at a New York Metro Mercedes Benz dealership. After a brief time at home, he began an entirely new career as a school bus driver for the Falmouth School District and part-time motor coach operator.

Jim served in many offices at every level of The American Legion. He was elected department (state) commander of New York for 2010-2011, and chaired several national commissions to include the Legislative Commission, Veterans Employment and Education Commission and the Membership and Post Activity Committee. He served on the National Security Commission and was elected national vice commander for 2016-2017.

He married his wife Savaria (pronounced Sa-Vare-ee-ah) in 1973. They have two daughters, Laura and Jeanette; a son-in-law, Michael; and three grandchildren, Alexander, Abigail and Natalia. The Troiolas include three generations of American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion membership.

Jim currently lives in Maine to be close to a daughter and his grandchildren, while still being with-in driving distance to the Department of New York.



General Eisenhower, Courtesy of the Eisenhower Presidential Library, Abilene

EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE

Eisenhower Pilgrimage returns this year to the Eisenhower Museum and Library in Abilene on Saturday, October 15. All members of the American Legion Family are encouraged to participate this event which is open to the public. Saturday's program will start at approximately 10:30 AM immediately following the Presidential wreath laying ceremony.

A Homecoming luncheon following the Pilgrimage will be held at the Greyhound Hall of Fame 407 S Buckeye Ave, Abilene to honor Department Vice Commander Randy Frank, Auxiliary Department Vice President Anndi Bownes, and S.A.L. Detachment Vice Commander Jim Gallentine. The cost for the luncheon will be \$15.00 at the door.

COMMANDER

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

departmentcommander@kansaslegion.org

**VICE COMMANDER**

Randy Frank
 211 Floral Dr.
 Hillsboro, KS 67063
 (563) 419-1474

departmentvicecommander@kansaslegion.org



I hope that everyone that attended National Convention this year found it to be fun and informative. It was a great time and seems everyone who attended enjoyed it as well, if you were not able to go to Milwaukee this year plan on going to Charlotte, North Carolina for next year's convention. The American Legion has a new National Commander, Jim Troiola from New York was elected National Commander of the nation's largest veteran service organization on Sept. 1, 2022, in Milwaukee during The American Legion's 103rd national convention. We also have a new National Vice-Commander here in the Midwest Region, our new National Vice-Commander is Glenn Wahus from North Dakota. The National Commander visited the western half of Kansas, Sept 22-27, thank you to all the Posts that hosted stops for him. Vice-Commander Wahus will be visiting the eastern half of Kansas in October from the 23rd-27th and we are looking for Posts to host him on his tour, if your Posts are in Districts 1-4, or 10 please reach out to Department Headquarters and let them know you are interested in hosting either a reception or a meal. Volunteering now does not guarantee you will be on the schedule but you will be contacted when the tour route is finalized to ensure you are still able to host. The sooner we have a good list of volunteer Posts the sooner we can get a schedule made and disseminated.

This year we are able to hold the Eisenhower Pilgrimage again, the last two years it has unfortunately been canceled. Plan on attending this year on October 15 in Abilene at the Eisenhower Museum. Immediately following the pilgrimage across the street the Vice-Commanders/Vice-Presidents

Homecoming will take place in the Greyhound museum and hall of fame. More information for both of these events can be found on our website. Also we are happy to be back to doing events on Ft Riley, November 19 we will be helping families by giving them meals for Thanksgiving at the Big Red Turkey Run event. December 10 we will be back on base passing out presents to families and children for our Operation North Pole event. More information and a sign-up sheet for base access will be available soon and posted on Facebook, and our website kansaslegion.org. One more event to watch for is the Department Holiday party that will be held in McPherson at Post#24 on December 3rd. Again watch for more information to be released soon.

Additional places you can keep up with events and activities is through social media. The American Legion Department of Kansas has a good presence on Facebook with several pages and groups including Department of Kansas American Legion Commander. In addition to Facebook we are now on Instagram and Twitter! You can find us on Twitter @KsCommander or on Instagram by searching ksdeptcommander. All social media access and sources will be passed to the next officers willing to use them so all the views and followers we can get now will only help later, so spread the word on these two new social media outlets, and continue to spread the word and use Facebook and maybe we can reach a different audience.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns please don't hesitate to call anytime. Thank you all, for all you do!

Semper Fi!

Hello Legionnaires,
 Membership is on a roll, the Early Bird Goal of 50% is on September 16th with District II already reaching it. Congratulations District II! The next goal is the Fall Meetings October 13, 2022, with 55% Membership. We can meet and exceed our goal by using all of our resources Like Post 58 transfers. Reach out to your District Commander/Adjutant for help.

In true fashion The Department of Kansas loaded up in the minivans and headed to the annual Membership Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana at the end of July. As we navigated to and from our destination there were many conversations discussing Membership and how to reach our 2022-2023 Membership Goals. After Returning, the Department Commander, Jeremy Ehart has now conducted two Table Talk Webinars to reach out to all Commanders and Vice Commanders to discuss Membership and many other topics. At the end of the day a plan was created, and we will be moving forward. Post Commanders reach out to your District Leadership Team for guidance. You can listen to a motivational speaker Past National Commander Marty Conatser on membership <https://vimeo.com/739056422/8c4fb0aa42>.

Another Membership opportunity was at the annual State Fair. Members from all 10 Districts enjoy an opportunity to meet new individuals and discuss the American Legion Goals and Programs. Here is a great time to use your Elevator Speech! What is this that you ask? It is a 30 to 60 second presentation on

WHY you are a legionnaire! If we don't tell our story they won't ask any more questions.

At the end of August into September your Leadership traveled to The National American Legion Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Here they networked with leadership from around the country and overseas. They discussed membership ideas that worked well and not so well, so they can come back to Kansas and build a great membership opportunity.

Please continue to encourage all Legion Members to sign up for their MyLegion individual account by going to <https://mylegion.org/PersonalifyEbusiness/Home> to track their personal record, make necessary changes and they can pay their dues online. Post Adjutants My Legion 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 the American Legion Family groups.

Remember, Every day is a Membership Day.

ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

Many of the District and Department Officers have already alluded to their travels to various Events around the Department and State of Kansas in their Articles.

Many Members of The American Legion Family attended the 103rd National Convention held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from 26 August to 1 September 2022. Many of the Elected Kansas Delegates were very busy attending various Commission or Committee Meetings to partake in items that were to be voted on in those Meetings and then reported from that Commission or Committee to the Delegates on the floor of the National Convention.

Also, the Leading Candidate for National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola from New York and the Second Leading Candidate Daniel Seehafer from Wisconsin each sent Representatives to the Kansas Caucus. Both, Jim and Dan's Representatives, spoke to the Kansas Delegates and passed out brochures, pins, and pens to those in attendance and encouraged Our Members to support their Candidates for National Commander of The American Legion.

The Convention is not always business oriented, there is some free time to enjoy the host City and their venues. The Department of Kansas had a superb Buffet dinner at H.A. Todd, Jr. American Legion Post # 537 prepared by John Rupena Catering Company. It was a relaxing evening, complete with Members telling jokes, and with those visiting, making new friendships, and keeping some old ones going.

For those that stayed around until Thursday af-

ternoon witnessed the National Commander take the Oath of Office on the Stage. Vincent J. "James" Troiola from New York swore into his position as National Commander of The American Legion.

Jim and his Aide, Gary Schacher, have already toured the Western Side of the State of Kansas from 18 to 22 September 2022. National Commander Jim visited ten Posts while here in Kansas. A great turnout showed up at each location. There was food galore at each stop and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. I know that National Commander Troiola and his Aide commented that they would be back if given the opportunity to return!

Next year's 104th National Convention will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina from 26 to 31 August 2023. I know the City of Charlotte and the Department of North Carolina promises to roll out the red carpet for this event. PLEASE start planning now to attend.

Our Regional National Vice Commander is Glenn Wahus from the Department of North Dakota. Glenn will be visiting the Department from Sunday afternoon, 23 October and depart on Thursday morning, 27 October 2022. We will again get the information to the District Commanders to deliver to each Post within their District. Wahus will be visiting the Eastern Side of the State of Kansas, basically I-35 and East.

There will be Breakfast, Coffee Stops, Lunch and Dinner Stops. If you are interested and you have NOT already called in or e-mailed that your Post would like to

(Continued on Page 8)

LEGION FAMILY SUPPORTS KANSAS MILITARY FAMILIES

The Annual Big Red '1' Turkey Run is scheduled for 19 November at Fort Riley.

In addition to the Turkey Run the Legion Family is working on making the WTB Christmas great as well, which is scheduled for December 10, 2022. Monetary donations may be sent to Department Headquarters for Operation Christmas.

Operation Christmas is for the families of the Warrior Transition Battalion. These families often find themselves transitioning out of the active military or may remain active.

This year, per information provided from Fort Riley there are 500 families that will need

assistance. Many members of the Warrior Transition Battalion have been severely injured.

Please make checks payable to: Kansas Department American Legion. In the memo area please put Operation Christmas.

Thank you for all that you do, past present and future for our Veterans and their families. For any information please contact Roger Beckley (Operation Christmas Committee Chairman) at csmoif@yahoo.com 785-212-0179 or Al Longstaff ALR Department Committeeman at northforty@lrmutual.com 620-897-6786 or 620-242-4978.



CHILDREN & YOUTH

Pat Culver
childrenandyouth1@kansaslegion.org

Today's American Legion is as focused on the welfare of our country's children and the issues facing young people as it has ever been. The structure of this organization is forever supported by the balance that our founding architects envisioned. Therefore, this pillar - Children and Youth - and its programs remain committed to serving the youth.

Members of The American Legion, and The American Legion Americanism Commission's Committee on Children and Youth have been entrusted with the awesome responsibility of upholding this pillar - the one that braces our nation's veterans by caring for their children, and our nation's children.

The purpose of the committee is to formulate, recommend and implement plans, programs and activities designed to:

- Assure care and protection for the children of veterans.
- Improve conditions for

all children and youth, with due concern for maintaining the integrity of the family home.

- Prevent social and physical ills of children and youth where possible.
- Maintain a balanced program that provides for their physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs.

The American Legion recognizes that families of active-duty and deployed military personnel face unique difficulties and hardships. With the help of the Family Support Network, these families with children do not have to shoulder this burden alone. Legionnaires at the Post level can then aid such as performing minor household chores and repairs, completing a Temporary Financial Assistance application and connecting the family with local programs.

Family Support Network
1-800-504-4098

Electronic applications
www.legion.org/familysupport

**FIRST DISTRICT
COMMANDER
MICHAEL COLE**
918 Josela Ct.
Leavenworth, KS
66048
**VICE CMDR.
GEORGE POGGE**
16718 13th St.
Lawrence, KS 66044
(703) 597-9385

Greetings 1st District!
Posts should have been at 50% membership by 14 September. Hats off to the Post Adjutants that have reached that first membership goal, keep it up. I am not worried about 1st District because it is not how you start a race, it is more important on how you finish it and I know that we are going to reach that 100% goal this year. Get out there and spread the good works that all you do in the community for Veterans and our Children and Youth with our programs. Also Recruit, Recruit, And Recruit!!!! Just think of the possibilities if we all were able to get ONE new member!

Post should be able to sponsor at least one student to Boys State, Girls State, Oratorical and Cadet Law. Contact the counselor at your school and get them the information now so they can recruit students. This can also help you recruit new members to one of our family organizations.

I wanted to thank Leavenworth Post 94 family for hosting the 1st District Home Coming this year they did a great job. The District Christmas Party this year will be held after our December 17th meeting, which starts at 1100 followed, by the party at 12 pm at Holton Post 44. Keep an eye out for the fly-

er later in the year. I want you to know that if any of you need anything, please do not hesitate to contact me, or one of the District Officers. My email address is districtcommander1@kansaslegion.org. Make sure you are checking our Facebook page, 1st District American Legion Department of Kansas for upcoming events happening in the District, this is a very good resource.

Please have a safe and happy holiday season!

**SECOND DISTRICT
COMMANDER
JEFFREY WINTERS**
15807 W 147th Ter.
Olathe, KS 66062
(913) 780-2676
**VICE CMDR.
CARL "DOUG" HENSLEY**
509 Pacific Ave
Osawatome, KS 66064
(913) 314-2306

No article submitted.

**THIRD DISTRICT
COMMANDER
RENE' CASTILLEJA**
703 Cherokee St.
Humboldt, KS 66748
(620) 779-2476
**VICE CMDR.
MELVIN EUBANKS**
1616 S. Malcom Ave.
Chanute, KS 66720
(620) 688-1425

No article submitted.

**FOURTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
ROGER BECKLEY**
905 Ash St.
Abilene, KS 67410
(785) 212-0179
**VICE CMDR.
ESZTER BLAIR**
216 S. Erpelding Rd.
Leonardville, KS 66449
(785) 447-2577

Greetings to the Comrades of the Mighty IV and I hope all Legionnaire's are doing well. The new membership year has kicked off and most all are thoroughly engaged at their Post to attain that goal of 100% and that is very much appreciated. The IV District as of this writing on 16 September was tied for 3rd place in Department in the early stages and Hats off to Post22 Marion who already sits at 94.7% and Post124 Madison who checks in at 92.1% for Leading the way early on. There is an IV District Membership Team and each member of that Team has a Post assigned to them to assist in anyway they can in helping with membership and if you need help reach out to myself or one of the District Officers. Remember when renewing your membership, you can do it yourself online as well if you would like at "mylegion.org".

Busy times now as well for all your Post Committee Chairs as school has kicked off and we should all be busy reaching out to the local high schools and their guidance counselors to start informing them on all the Outstanding programs we have in place that will be happening soon. We should be reaching out to plant the seed of information concerning the Oratorical Contest which IV District is planning to have our contest last part of February or first of March. Also programs to start spreading the word about now is the Boys/Girls State Program, Cadet Law programs all of which again provide outstanding resources for our young youth of today and help them be better pre-

pared for the challenges of adult life.

Events to mark and put on your calendars for some good times and great camaraderie are the Vice Commanders Home Coming for Randy Frank on 15 October immediately after the annual Eisenhower Pilgrimage in Abilene. The other two BIG events that have not happened the last two years are now back on the agenda. The Big Red One Turkey Run to be held again at the clamshell on Fort Riley on 19 November and Operation North Pole on 10 December so come on out and have a good time meeting the Warriors and their families as we show them Our appreciation from the Legion Family.

For God and Country
Roger Beckley
District IV Commander

**FIFTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
PAUL SANFORD**
109 Southport Ct.
Newton, KS 67112
(620) 353-3708
**VICE CMDR.
FRANK "JOE" HICKS**
1143 S. Yale St.
Wichita, KS 67218
(316) 295-7340

No article submitted.

**SIXTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
JASON HICKS**
PO BOX 227
Holyrood, KS 67450
(785) 810-8291
**VICE CMDR.
RICK SIMPSON**
922 E. 10th St.
Concordia, KS 66901
(785) 275-1492

No article submitted.

**SEVENTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
ANGELA EVANS
720 W Commercial St.
Lyons, KS 67554
(719) 659-0837
VICE CMDR.
MIKE VONDERACEK
2050 Q Rd.
Larned, KS 67550
(620) 285-9373**

Greetings 7th District...I would like to give a big shout out to everyone who helped at the Kansas State Fair this year. What a great turn out. As I have stated before, I am very humbled to be a part of such an awesome group of individuals. The new membership year has started; the district has done an awesome job these past few months. Membership renewal is a great opportunity to share the new initiative of "Be the One" and to incorporate "Buddy Checks". "Be the One" is a multifaceted approach in dealing with veteran suicides. We all need to provide peer-to-peer support, create a safe space for veterans to be open about their struggles and share local resources for our veterans and their families. It will take all of us to make the pledge to "Be the One" to help end veteran suicide.

The 7th District Homecoming is at Sterling Post 128 on Oct 8th; 11:00 Social Time, program to start at 11:30 with lunch to follow; this is an American Legion Family event, I hope to see you there. If your post is having an event please let us know; 1) we would like to share it District wide on our social media pages, as well as sharing it on the department pages, and 2) we would love to come and support your Post events. Mark your calendars for the Eisenhower Pilgrimage and Department Vice Commander Homecoming on October 15th; Big Red "1" Turkey Run on November 19th and Operation North Pole, December 10th.

If you have any ideas or thoughts on membership please get in touch with us. Please do not hesitate to call or email myself or Michael with any questions, comments, or concerns. Aim High, Fly-Fight-Win!!

**EIGHTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
JOHN MEYERES
28090 140 Rd.
Bazine, KS 67516
(785) 398-1777
VICE CMDR.
CHRISTOPHER SELF
1801 Hart Ave.
Dodge City, KS 67801
(620) 253-2651**

Hello from District Eight. I am back in the saddle again after 12-14 years. I was appointed by Department Commander Ehart after Tom Howard had a triple bypass surgery and was unable to complete his year. Tom is doing better; just will take time to get back on his feet. The District is up to me and Chris Self the Vice Commander to fulfill the year. With the help of the Executive Committee Don Marshal, Debra Muylaert, and Ed Lewis we are here for you.

My plan is to travel to each Post like we used to do on the coffee tour with Chris and the District Auxiliary President Marsha Weber and maybe someone from the Department; so be ready District Eight it maybe in January or February but we will be there.

I know it's a little late but we will have a Homecoming at the Bazine Post if you can make it. I promise you won't regret it. Good luck with your memberships and we will help every way we can. Find ways to keep your Post active and you will find that you will grow.

Thank for trusting in us!

**NINTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
SEAN HANKIN
1131 Flint Ave.
Colby, KS 67701
(785) 443-0956
VICE CMDR.
JENNIFER CARDER
PO BOX 834
Hoxie, KS 67740
(785) 657-7079**

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**


Greeting from District 10. WE had a District meeting on July 31st at Wetmore Post that was well attended. District 10 had September 10th at the State Fair. WE had a couple of conflicts on that day. My wife and I went down to the fair on Sept. 9th and returned home on Sept. 11th. I really enjoyed the fair and we had several veterans sign up for the Legion and several others took an application with them and we hooked them up with their local Post. It was a very hot day but there was a lot of people at the fair. Also on Sept. 9th Axtell Post had an appreciation dinner for everyone that worked on the expansion on the Legion. We will have District 10 homecoming on November 19th at Axtell Post starting at 5:00p.m. with a District meeting with happy hour at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner. Flyers will be out as soon as we finalize the menu. Thank you, Pat Caffrey District 10 Commander

KANSAS DISTRICTS



Click map to enlarge.

**DEPARTMENT
HISTORIAN**



**Dan
Stacy**

It has been a busy time for me, with the National Convention and the National Commander making his tour of Western Kansas. I came back from Convention with a sinus infection but better now. It is time to get back to the task at hand. That is, assembling the Post and District History books for the 2023 Department Convention for review and presentation to National for consideration in the National History Book contest. I have heard from several Post Historians this summer and hope to hear from the other Posts. Our history is important to pass on to future generations of Legionnaires. I will be putting together a photo album for the Department, which will be referred to as 'The Year in Photographs' to submit to National next year. If I can assist anyone at Post or District level, please contact me at the department web mail department-historian@kansaslegion.org or dstacy.am.legion@gmail.com. Thank you for serving your fellow veterans and I look forward to seeing you at the Holiday Party in December.

**Veterans Day
November 11
2020**



CHAPLAIN

Debra Muylaert
departmentchaplain@kansaslegion.org

Greetings Legion Family!

I've started my second year as your Department Chaplain, and I just want to say "THANK YOU" for your support during the past year. From agreeing to help with Four Chaplain and memorial services to helping me "learn the ropes," you've always supported me with a great attitude and a smile on your face. That's what family members do for one another.

Let's look at what the Bible has to say about supporting "one another." There are many "one another" Scriptures in the Bible. We are to **love** one another (Leviticus 19:18, John 13:34; 15:12, 17; Romans 13:8; 1 Peter 4:8; 1 John 3:11), **be kind** to one another (Ephesians 4:32), **bear with** one another (Colossians 3:13), **greet** one another (1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12; Romans 16:16; 1 Peter 5:14), **comfort** one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18, 5:11), **be hospitable** to one another (1 Peter 4:9), **submit to** one another (Ephesians 5:21), **wait for** one another (1 Corinthians 11:33), **bear** one another's **burdens** (Galatians 6:2), **consider** one another (Hebrews 10:24), **have compassion for** one another (1 Peter 3:8), **praise God's works to** one another (Psalm 145:4), **pray for** one another (James 5:16), **exhort** one another (Hebrews 10:25), **forgive** one

another (Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:13), and many more. One thing is clear – God values relationships – a relationship with Him and with each other. As we go about the Father's business, let us always remember to nurture our relationships and esteem others better than ourselves (Philippians 2:3).

I hope I've been just as supportive and helpful to you as you've been to me. As Proverbs says so plainly, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (27:17). So that we can sharpen each other, I'm planning an evening of chaplain training on November 1st at 6:30 p.m. During my presentation on chaplain responsibilities at the Leadership College this summer, I promised that I would do chaplain training this fall via Zoom. If you are a Chaplain at the Post or District level, please join me for this training. It will take an hour of your time and help you fulfill your Chaplain responsibilities more efficiently and effectively. Even if you're not a Chaplain and want to join me, please feel free to do so. If you are interested, please send me your e-mail address to debramuylaert@yahoo.com, and I will send you a Zoom link for the training.

Thanks again for your support! Hope to see you at the training! Happy Fall!




**DETACHMENT
COMMANDER**

James Snyder
10899 Blue Spruce Dr.
Ozawkie, KS 66070
(785) 865-8393

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.




**AUXILIARY
PRESIDENT**

Marcia Cottrell
1225 Adams
Lyndon, KS 66451
(785) 817-7591
deptpresident@kslegionaux.org

Kansas American Legion Family!

My Goodness, where has the Summer gone? Fall begins in a short while and everyone is getting busier with school sports, Fall Conferences, Homecomings, etc. I am looking forward to seeing a lot of you in the upcoming months are various events. Hopefully everyone had a good Summer and were able to enjoy visits with family, getaway vacations or whatever simply to take a break.

National Convention is behind us and hopefully those that attended were able to reconnect with friends and make new friends and learned a lot at our National Conventions. Milwaukee was a wonderful city to visit and explore and the weather even cooperated.

I know we all have busy lives coming up the next couple months with Department Vice-Commanders' and President's Homecom-

ing, District Homecomings and District Fall Conferences. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at some of these events and hope everyone has safe travels to and from each of them.

Our Auxiliary Fall Conference is over and we had a nice turn-out for it. Hopefully everyone enjoyed themselves and learned at least one small thing you didn't know before. If you did, then the Fall Conference was a total success!

I know we are all looking forward to being able to get back in the swing of things with our lives and doing all of the things we had to table the past couple years because of COVID. I hope everyone is staying healthy and safe travels to all during our travels across this great State. Let us continue our daily support of our Veterans and our Mission of "Service Not Self."

Thank you,
Marcia Cottrell

+ TAPS +

Arnold, Dean (WWII).....Lindsborg
 Arbuckle, Charles (Korea)Pittsburg
 Bartley, Shelton (Korea)Newton
 Becker, William (Korea).....Isabel
 Bergman, John (WWII).....Osborne
 Binns, Martin (Vietnam)..... Scott City
 Boyer, John (Vietnam)Pittsburg
 Bradford, William, Jr. (Grenada/Lebanon) Derby
 Bruce, Kenneth (Vietnam)Newton
 Brundage, Richard (Vietnam).....
Overland Park
 Bucher, Samuel (Vietnam).....Haviland
 Burtin, Marvin (Korea).....El Dorado
 Cersovsky, Maurice (Vietnam) Colby
 Chatham, Roy (WWII).....Osborne
 Clifford, Patrick (Korea). Overland Park
 Cornwell, Howard (Korea)Osborne
 Cotton, Cecil (Vietnam)..... Osage City
 Couch, Wayne (Vietnam) Overland Park
 Crisp, Alvin (Korea).....Haviland
 Daily, Gerald (Vietnam).....Shawnee
 Davy, Vernon (WWII)..... Overland Park
 Delich, Bernard (Korea)..... Tonganoxie
 Dexter, William (Korea).. Overland Park
 Fairchild, Chester (Vietnam).. Scott City
 Foote, Richard (Korea) Andover
 Forney, Marvin (Vietnam)Newton
 Foster, Michael (Vietnam)Isabel
 Gemaehlich, Lloyd (Korea)Osborne
 George, Thomas, Jr. (Korea).....
 Yates Center
 Gerdes, Phillip (Vietnam) Manhattan
 Griswold, Robert (Korea) Marysville
 Halaslhak, William (Vietnam) .Shawnee
 Harvey, Loren (Vietnam) Beloit
 Heideman, Anthony (Korea)..... Corning
 Howey, Raymond (Vietnam) Salina
 Hull, Thomas (Vietnam)Osborne
 Ireland, Johnny (Vietnam)Natoma
 James, Hay (Vietnam)..... Junction City
 Jennings, Walter (Vietnam)..... Axtell
 Job, Gary (Vietnam).....El Dorado
 Johnson, Harve (Korea)Sterling
 Jones, Newell (Vietnam)..... Colby
 Karns, Gerald (Vietnam)..... Gardner
 Klein, Bernard (WWII).....Shawnee
 Klein, Raymond (Korea).....Shawnee
 Kloeker, Franis (Korea) Marysville
 Larison, Archie (WWII)..... Osage City
 Laws, Richard (Panama)... Junction City
 Leiss, William (Vietnam) .. Junction City
 Littrell, Lloyd (Vietnam)..... Beloit
 Marshall, Malcolm (Korea) Russell
 Matheson, Alvin (Korea)Natoma
 McDaniel, Loren (Korea)..... Scott City
 McGough, Frank (WWII)..... Shawnee
 Nigh, Larry (Korea) Overland Park

Pearson, James (Vietnam). Junction City
 Presley, Joseph (Vietnam)..... Gridley
 Rainwater, John (Korea)Hiawatha
 Reid, William (Vietnam)... Junction City
 Rieschick, Claude (Korea)..... Corning
 Roland, Dan (Vietnam)Haviland
 Ryan, Robert (WWII)Marysville
 Saunders, Richard (Grenada/Lebanon)..
Marquette
 Seward, Wayne (Vietnam) Shawnee
 Shepherd, William (Korea)Sterling
 Smith, Harold (Korea)Dodge City
 Spanier, Jerry (Vietnam) Copeland
 Tatum, John (Vietnam)..... Junction City
 Tennis, Dean (Korea)..... Meade
 Tiggerman, Charles (Korea)
 Overland Park
 Toms, Gordon Overland Park
 Turner, Ronald (Korea)... Overland Park
 Tuschhoff, Ray (Korea)... Overland Park
 Ussery, Jack (Vietnam) Shawnee
 Vance, Ronald (Vietnam)..... Salina
 Wagoner, Charles (Korea)..... Colby
 Walker, Chester (WWII) Osage City
 Waller, James (Korea) Shawnee
 Wehrheim, Martin (Grenada/Lebanon)..
 Junction City
 Whetstone, Ronald (Vietnam) Lindsborg
 Whitney, Robert (Korea). Overland Park
 Wilson, Harold (WWII) Junction City
 Wilson, John, Jr. (Korea) Tonganoxie
 Yarnell, Eldon (Korea)..... Osborne
 Yarnell, Roger (Vietnam)..... Osborne

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

Dan Bartlett

**2200 SW Gage
Topeka, KS 66622**

(800) 574-8387 ext. 54489

dan.bartlett@va.gov

Promise to Address Comprehensive Treatment (PACT) Act

The PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for the Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. This new Act covers two new Agent Orange presumptive disabilities and five new presumptive locations. The Department of Veteran's Affairs has added three new locations related to Veterans that were exposed to radiation. Survivors' benefits may also be applied for under this new program.

Please click on the link below for additional information or contact any of your American Legion service officers located at the Robert J. Dole VA medical center (316) 688-6814/6815 or the Dwight D. Eisenhower VA medical center (913) 758-4297 or the Colemery-O'Neil VA medical center (785) 350-4489.

[The PACT Act And Your VA Benefits | Veterans Affairs](#)

STATE FAIR FLAG SET GIVEAWAY

This year marks 36 years of The American Legion's participation at the State Fair in Hutchinson. By registering at Legion booth, fair participants had a chance to win one of ten US Flag sets.

Congratulations to the following winners. Fly Old Glory with pride!

Douglas Craft.....	Newton
Higbie Farms.....	Lewis
Carla Stackhouse.....	Medicine Lodge
Pam Washburn	Hutchinson
Susan Green	Hays
Charles Glidden	Latham
Karen Sessler	Ellinwood
Beth Schafer.....	El Dorado
Becky Sells.....	Wilson
Stephanie Norquist.....	Hutchinson

ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

(Continued from Page 3)

host an Event, PLEASE do so NOW!

The newly elected National President of the American Legion Auxiliary is Vickie Koutz from the Department of Indiana and the newly elected Sons of The American Legion Commander is Christopher Carlton from the Detachment of Indiana.

The 2022 Big Red One Turkey Run is back LIVE this year and scheduled for Saturday, 19 November 2022. Operation North Pole is also LIVE and scheduled to be held on 10 December 2022. In the event they get cancelled AGAIN for some weird reason, we will post it on Facebook and the Kansas American Legion Website. These two events ensure that the Dependents of Our Active-Duty Military has a complete Turkey Dinner for Thanksgiving, and then have a toy or two under their Christmas tree for a memorable Christmas.

The Department Christmas Party is scheduled to be held at McPherson Post # 24

on 3 December 2022. More details to follow!

The Department Legislative Reception will be held tentatively on 11 January 2023 at 5:00 P.M., before the Mid-Winter Conference, again this year. It was in agreement with the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate a couple of years ago that it should be earlier in the year to get the Legislators engaged on Our items that need to be discussed and supported for Veterans and their Families. We saw the most attendance last year from Our Legislators show up and attend the reception and interact with the Members of The American Legion Family.

Since I brought the Mid-Winter Forum, it is not too early to start planning on attending the 2023 Mid-Winter Forum, which will be held at Manhattan Post # 17 from 3 to 5 February 2023.

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).

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

Jeff Bond:.....departmentassistantadjutant@kansaslegion.org

Michelle Johnston:.....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

LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

The legislative reception will be held at the Capital Plaza Hotel, 1717 SW Topeka Ave. in Topeka scheduled for Wednesday January 11. The reception will begin with a briefing at 5pm and followed by the reception

until 8pm.

Cost of attending the reception is \$25.00 per person and includes cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Please use the coupon below to let Headquarters and the hotel know how many to prepare for.

Legislative Reception

Yes, I plan to attend The American Legion Legislative Reception, Jan. 11, 2023 in Topeka. Enclosed is \$_____ (\$25 per person). Note: please list the name of each attendee.

No, I am unable to attend. Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ to help make this American Legion function a success.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Mail to:

Department Headquarters
1314 SW Topeka Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66612

DEPARTMENT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 3, 2022

McPherson Post 24

401 N Main St., McPherson

Social Hour - Noon

Lunch - 1:00 PM

Name _____

Number in party @ \$15.00 each _____

Children 10 and under \$8.00 each _____

Guest Names _____

Tickets may also be purchased directly from McPherson Post 24

Amount Enclosed _____ made payable to:

Mail to:

Jeremy Ehart
10601 W Snokomo Rd.
Hutchinson, KS 67502