

**Sons Of The American Legion
Detachment of Illinois**

**2025 FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Holiday Inn Convention Center, Effingham, IL
September 14, 2025
CALL TO ORDER**

- Detachment Commander Wayne Madson called the meeting to order at 1100 hrs.
- The Young Marines Color Guard posted the colors.
 - Commander brought forward the Color Guard for introductions, presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation, and a \$300 donation check (motioned out of Overage during Finance Commission report).
- Detachment Chaplain Bryson Taylor gave the prayer.
- 5th Division Commander Jeff Trout led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Commander Madson led the POW/MIA Ceremony.
- Detachment Sgt-At-Arms Glenn Kraemer placed the POW/MIA flag
- Detachment Sr Vice Commander John Nemanich led the Preamble.

ROLL CALL

Detachment Adjutant Jeff Van Horn called the roll. The following were present. The full attendance report is available from Adjutant.

Detachment: Commander Madson, Sr Vice Nemanich, ANEC Vozar, Adjutant Van Horn, Asst Adjutant Gort, Finance Officer Stander, Judge Advocate & Historian Trout, Judge Advocate Emeritus Stillwell, Chaplain Tayler, Sgt-At-Arms Kraemer, Cmdr's Sgt-At-Arms Brown & Ranney, Sr Vice's Sgt-At-Arms Z. Van Horn, Cmdr's Aides Vozar & Feger, Sr Vice Aide Ray, IPDC Allen

Divisions: 1st Division Cmdr Hudson; 2nd Division Cmdr Hollis, Sr Vice Bacon, Jr Vice Taylor; 3rd Division Cmdr Slevin; 4th Division Cmdr Young, Sr Vice Morecraft, Jr Vice Asay; 5th Division Cmdr Trout, Sr Vice Miller

Districts: 5th, 8th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th

PNC: Stillwell, Cisna

PDC: Allen, Stillwell, Slevin Sr., Cisna, Williamson, Ray, Shipley, Gort, Stander, Trout, Vozar

Dept Advisors: Seward, Flanagan

**Sons Of The American Legion
Detachment of Illinois**

**2025 FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Holiday Inn Convention Center, Effingham, IL
September 14, 2025
JUDGE ADVOCATE COMMENTS**

Detachment Judge Advocate Trout discussed who is eligible to make motions, etc. during the DEC.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Department Commander Smith, Sr Vice Commander Latham and Department President Layton each spoke.

MINUTES OF DETACHMENT CONVENTION

Motion by 4th Division Commander Young to accept the minutes of the Detachment Convention as printed, subject to audit, with second, the motion passes.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Sgt-At-Arms Kraemer introduced the guests.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

No Resolutions were submitted for the DEC.

FINANCE REPORT

Detachment Finance Officer Phil Stander asked if there were any questions regarding the printed finance report. He then discussed importance of filling out expense report form correctly and timely. He also reminded everyone that donation checks to the Detachment need to be made out to the Detachment of Illinois and in the MEMO section, notate the charity. Motion ANEC Vozar to accept, subject to audit, with the second, motion passed.

**Sons Of The American Legion
Detachment of Illinois**

**2025 FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Holiday Inn Convention Center, Effingham, IL
September 14, 2025**

MEMBERSHIP REPORT & SQUADRON ACTIVITIES & #1 PINS

Detachment Senior Vice Commander Nemanich presented the #1 Pins:

He awarded those winners to the following:

Division Winner 1st Division at 45.9%

District Winners:

1 st Division	3 rd District at 51.15%
2 nd Division	13 th District at 37.67%
3 rd Division	15 th District at 41.11%
4 th Division	19 th District at 41.07%
5 th Division	23 rd District at 27.88%

Nemanich commented about the Committee meeting. Ideas were discussed about different fundraising ideas and membership retention. Also discussed were the uncertified Squadrons.

Sr Vice Commander Nemanich motioned to accept the report, with the second, passes.

DIVISION COMMANDER'S REPORTS

Each Division gave a report about what is going on within their Divisions and getting District's certified, along with Squadrons.

STANDING COMMISSION & COMMITTEE REPORTS

NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS ARE AT END OF THE MINUTES

Americanism Commission

Commission Chairman Vozar delivered his report which is at the end of the minutes.

Public Relations Commission

Chairman Vozar gave the report which is at the end of the minutes.

**Sons Of The American Legion
Detachment of Illinois**

**2025 FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Holiday Inn Convention Center, Effingham, IL
September 14, 2025**

Children & Youth Commission

Chairman Hollis delivered his report which is at the end of the minutes.

National Security

Vice Chairman Miller delivered the report which is at the end of the minutes.

Legislative Commission

Chairman Kraemer delivered the report which is at the end of the minutes. Kraemer also encouraged anyone to come over to the Sgt-At-Arms table to sign up for Voter's Voice.

Leadership & Training Commission

Chairman Miller delivered the report which is at the end of the minutes. He encouraged Division and District Commanders to contact him to set up training sessions.

Veteran's Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

Chairman Williamson read the report which is at the end of the minutes.

Finance Commission

Chairman Trout delivered his report which is at the end of the minutes. There are expenditures in the report, along with the following. Squadron 287 houses the Detachment membership trophies. The Detachment typically donates \$100 to them a year for housing and displaying them. A request to take this out of Overage. National President Pam Ray's Homecoming is the weekend of October 23rd in Springfield. The Detachment help cover costs for a total of \$4,500 (\$450 for each) for the following, out Overage: Commander, Sr Vice, NEC, ANEC, Adjutant, IPDC, Gort, Stander, Cisna, Trout. Commander Madson and NEC O'Connell were asked to speak at President Ray's installation in Tampa. Out of Overage, they are to receive \$450 each to help off-set these expenses. Stander stated his National Vice Commander campaign is seeking \$500, out of the National Candidate Fund, for campaign items. ANEC Vozar motioned to accept the Finance Commission Report, with the extra expenditures, with the second, passes.

**Sons Of The American Legion
Detachment of Illinois**

**2025 FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Holiday Inn Convention Center, Effingham, IL
September 14, 2025**

Commander's Advisory

Chairman Trout gave the report which is at the end of the minutes.

Motion by 8th District Commander Kraemer to accept all the reports, minus the Finance Commission because it had it's own motion, with the second, passes.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE DONATIONS

- FINE – \$5 to Commander's Project
- District 22 - \$60 to VCF
- Squadron 974 - \$250 each to CWF, VCF, OCW
- Squadron 199 - \$100 to Commander's Project
- Wade Hudson - \$20 to Commander's Project
- Butch Ray - \$40 to Commander's Project

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you card from Aaron Cordova for scholarship money.
- Squadron 208 – Texas – thank you letter for donation of \$500 to flood relief
- American Legion State Golf Tournament thank you letter for being a "Hole Sponsor"
- Honor Flight Southern Illinois thank you letter for donation of \$1,418.
- Honor Flight Chicago thank you letter for donation of \$1,419.
- American Legion Child Well-being Foundation thank you letter for donation of \$1,150.
- Children's Miracle Network thank you letter for donation of \$100.
- American Legion Charities thank you letter for donation of \$856 to BTO, \$3,646 to NEF, \$3,033.50 to OCW
- American Legion VCF thank you letter for donation of \$1,656.50

**Sons Of The American Legion
Detachment of Illinois**

**2025 FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Holiday Inn Convention Center, Effingham, IL
September 14, 2025**

RESOLUTIONS

None.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN'S REPORT

ANEC Vozar recapped National Convention briefly. He also reported that IPNC Navarette participated in the Illinois State Golf Tournament and was presented with a Resolution basically stating when he returns to Illinois again, he needs to have a PowerPoint about his experiences in the Detachment. PNC Cisna reported on all the Detachment members who have been National Officers, campaigning for National Office, and those who have been assigned to National Commissions and Committees. Motion by Vozar to accept the report, with the second, passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Jeff Van Horn for Adjutant -- Motion by 5th Division Commander Trout to accept, with the second from 3rd Division Commander Slevin, passed.

Commander Madson made some changes to Commissions and Committees. He requests Andrew Reinking (3rd) and Tom Ellis (5th) to take Americanism positions for their respective Division, and Tommie Cisna (4th) as the Americanism Vice Chairman. He also appointed IDPC Rick Allen as the Detachment Liaison to the National 100th Year Committee (under PR) and Greg Lawrence as a Liaison to Department's E-Sports Committee (under VA&R). Motion by 2nd Division Commander Hollis to accept these changes, with the second from 23rd District's Shook, passed.

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Commander Madson thanked the 17 delegates who went to National Convention. He also spoke about his project, Youth Police School. The Commander also stressed the importance of the Detachment raffle and asked all to do their best to sell tickets. He brought up the License Plate program and asked all to promote it. Madson encouraged everyone to buy a #KOSTRONG wrist band, proceeds to Kevin O'Connell's flag placement he does on Memorial Day Weekend (over 10,000 graves). He talked briefly about the videos that he, Commander Roy and President Jill do. Finally, he thanked Shawn Morecraft for driving to Georgia and trailering back his car,

**Sons Of The American Legion
Detachment of Illinois**

**2025 FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Holiday Inn Convention Center, Effingham, IL
September 14, 2025**

that he had mechanical problems while traveling to Tampa for National Convention.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

National Convention reports are at the end of the minutes.

SPECIAL GUEST

Commander asked Sgt-At-Arms to bring forward ANEC Vozar and National Vice Commander Steve Honingfort (OH) to the podium. Vozar introduced Honingfort. Steve then spoke about his SAL "history," and discussed National Commander Clancy's goals for the year.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE SAL

Commander reminded everyone about this evening's banquet.

ADVISOR'S REMARKS

None.

50 – 50 DRAWING

Sgt-At-Arms Kraemer conducted the 50-50. Butch Ray won \$80 and donated \$40 to Commander's Project.

Closing & Benediction

Taylor said a prayer.
Sgt-At-Arms removed the POW/MIA flag.
The Colors were in place, a hand salute was rendered.
Commander Madson adjourned the meeting at 1325.

Minutes completed by:

Jeffrey Van Horn
Detachment Adjutant

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION - DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS

AMERICANISM COMMISSION - FALL 2025 DEC MEETING – 8/12/25

Chairman Mike Vozar called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Members present were Chairman Vozar, Bryson Taylor, Tommie Cisna, Kevin O'Connell, and Phil Shipley. Alex Ropp and Paul Hayes were absent and unexcused. Also attending were Commander Madson, Senior Vice Nemanich, Adjutant Van Horn, and Andrew Reinking

NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

Commission members should be following up with Division Commanders after each meeting and on a regular basis to bring them up to speed and seek/offer assistance.

Discussion held about how to better promote Religious Emphasis. All agreed there would be value in holding a Chaplain Training Program at DEC or Convention. Chairman Vozar will work with Chaplain Taylor on scheduling and content. Members should continue to get the word out about Chaplains Cross Award

Flying Flags for Heroes is still a SAL supported program but participation has fallen off the last couple years. Committee members should contact their Division Commanders to remind them of the program and ask that they organize a placement this coming year and document on the website. We will support PDC Kevin O'Connell and Des Plaines Post 36 for their annual "Flags for Vets" program with publicity and manpower

Four Chaplains Day is February 3rd. Contact your Divisions and Districts to remind them and help organize a Memorial Program. Probably is best done at the District level. The 9th District Legion does a program each year, there may be others as well. Chaplain Taylor previously held a program and has additional information.

Detachment Member of the Year application form has been revised and is on the Detachment Website. Start thinking about identifying candidates, Phil Shipley suggested the application deadline should be pushed back to June 1st. The form will be revised and updated on the website

Familiarize yourself with Americanism Programs and follow up with Division Commanders to get the word out. We can be a big help in recruiting and also getting the word out about the programs:

Scouting – Does your Post sponsor a Troup? Assist with flag etiquette and other activities. Eagle Scout Service Projects – Eagle Scout of the Year

Auxiliary Patch Program is a great opportunity to engage Young Sons. Local Auxiliary Unit may already have an ongoing Juniors Patch Program we can assist with

Five Star/10 Ideals Programs – Another opportunity to engage Young Sons

American Legion Baseball – Support your local team

Boys State – Start recruiting current year HS Juniors – Held July 13-19 at EIU

Youth Police School – Males and females ages 15-17 – Held in June at Camp Lincoln

Oratorical Contest – A constitutional speech contest for HS students in grades 9-12

Scholarships -

We will be preparing and distributing a list of key Americanism programs to assist in familiarizing members with the scope and requirements of each to help with determining eligibility and recruiting

The Commission discussed the feasibility of a Detachment Children and Youth Academy. Will work on this with Children & Youth and Detachment Leadership. Possibly hold a program at State Convention in 2026. Need to make a decision by April 1st.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Vozar, Chairman

FALL DEC PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING – AUGUST 12, 2025

Chairman Vozar called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

Members Present: Mike Vozar, Andrew Reinking, Larry Miller, Sergio Senese

Guests: Commander Wayne Madson, Senior Vice John Nemanich, Adjutant Jeff Van Horn

Members Absent: Eugene Gort, John Tucker

NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

Procedures for updating the Detachment Website were discussed. Both webmasters are copied on update requests however per Sergio whoever has time to grab the assignment first completes it. When an update request is made there should be a “reply all” to let the group know requested information has been updated

Eugene Gort has been sending our Detachment Newsletter using Constant Contact. It was discussed using Mail Chimp however the annual renewal for Constant Contact has been paid so we will revisit Mail Chimp next year. Hope to have a Newsletter sent out every month.

We need content information for the Detachment Newsletter. Each Division Commander should prepare a short article and submit to Eugene with copies to Commission. Information from the Commander and Senior Vice is welcomed. That information could be the same as what is put on the Legion and Auxiliary newsletter. E mail distribution was discussed. We cannot send out an unsolicited mailing using member e mail addresses on file. However Division reps can reach out to their Districts and get the e mail addresses of Squadron officers and submit letting them know they will be enrolled in the newsletter.

Advance notice of events and activities is important. Make sure information is submitted at least a month beforehand if not longer for publication. Provide information on events and activities to the Adjutant via e mail for possible posting on the Department Facebook page.

Continue to emphasize use of social media to promote positive activities and provide notice of when they are planned. There are still some minor errors on the Detachment website. Chairman will be reaching out to Commission members to sections for review.

Respectfully submitted

Michael Vozar

Public Relations Chairman

Children & Youth Report

The Fall Detachment Children and Youth Committee Meeting was held on Monday July 28th and called to order at 7:15pm by the Chairman Bill Hollis. Roll Call was held, and the following members were present at the meeting:

Chairman: Bill Hollis – Present

Vice Chairman: Butch Ray – Present

Member: Adam Anderson – Absent

Member: Garrett Slevin, Sr. – Absent

Member: Isaiah Curtis – Present

Promoter: Phil Stander – Present

Guests

Detachment Commander – Wayne Madson

Detachment Sr. Vice Commander – John Nemanich

Detachment Adjutant – Jeff Van Horn

Old Business

There was an update on the CWF Socks. We still have socks available to sell or purchase. Phil Stander stated that we still have not sold enough socks to pay off the original purchase of the socks.

The 2nd annual Dart Tournament will be held on Saturday March 7th, 2026. It will be held at Post 32 again. The Dart Tournament will be three games of 501. The committee will be contacting Christy to see about getting a block of rooms as well for the tournament.

New Business

The Committee will be working with Angie Mulligan to get the young Son's more involved with the Jr. Auxiliary Patch Program.

The Committee will also be working with Angie Mulligan to get a Children's Patriotic Drawing / Art Program so we can pick winners and have them put on the CWF socks in the future. The discussion was should the Committee pursue this idea National or just keep it within Illinois. The consensus was to keep it within Illinois.

The National CWF Committee will be selling neck ties for the first time at the Fall NEC as well as the aprons, mugs, etc.

Guest Comments

The Commander and Vice Commander gave positive closing remarks.

For The Good of The Sons

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm

Members present: Vice Chair Chad Miller, member Zach Van Horn
Guests: Wayne Madson, John Nemanich, Jeff Van Horn, VA&R Members

National Security Report (Sons of the American Legion)

Big Picture (since July 1)

- **NDAA FY2026 advanced.** The Senate Armed Services Committee voted **26–1 on July 9** to send the FY26 defense policy bill to the floor; House Armed Services held full-committee markup **July 15**. Key themes include pacing against China/Russia/Iran/North Korea and modernization. [Armed Services Committee](#)[House Armed Services Committee](#)
- **NATO summit outcomes now in effect.** Allies concluded the late-June The Hague Summit with a new **defense-investment floor** (headline figure: 5% combined for military and related infrastructure) and stronger deterrence language—remains a driving frame for allied planning into July–August. [NATO+1](#)
- **Heightened U.S.–Russia/Ukraine tensions.** On **Aug 13**, the President warned of “very severe consequences” for Russia tied to the war in Ukraine and an expected Alaska meeting with Putin, after consultations with European leaders. [AP News](#)
- **Domestic security posture shifts.** Federal presence in Washington, D.C., expanded this week alongside discussion of deploying National Guard forces; the moves are politically contentious and ongoing. [AP News](#)

International & Strategic

- **Ukraine war:** U.S. signaling of escalatory consequences to deter further Russian aggression; allied coordination continues following the NATO summit. [AP News](#)[NATO](#)
- **Allied burden-sharing:** Post-summit follow-through centers on increased European spending and readiness initiatives anchored in the new investment targets. [NATO+1](#)

Homeland Security & Law Enforcement

- **Border/immigration enforcement update (DHS):** DHS reports **>300,000** arrests in 2025 to date and renewed emphasis on interior enforcement; figures and framing are from DHS’s July 20 status update. [U.S. Department of Homeland Security](#)
- **Cartel/Transnational crime: Aug 6:** ODNI noted NCTC support to a **multi-agency arrest of a top Sinaloa Cartel trafficker**, underscoring continued joint operations. [Director of National Intelligence](#)

Cyber, Tech, and Industrial Base

- **Semiconductor/AI supply chain scrutiny:** Reporting this week flags **new national-security risks tied to an unusual Nvidia arrangement** under review by lawmakers/experts. (Details still evolving; watch for Hill oversight and potential export-control/CFIUS angles.) [Reuters](#)
- **Cyber workforce & EMS readiness:** DoD highlighted **Aug 4** recognition of cyber/EW interns under the VICEROY and Employ Maven initiatives—small but notable pipeline efforts for critical talent areas. [U.S. Department of Defense](#)

Legislative & Budget Watch (FY26)

- **Senate NDAA (S.2296):** Text published; focuses on DoD/DOE authorization, force structure, and modernization lines. Floor action timing TBD. [Congress.gov+1](#)
- **House NDAA track:** Chairman’s Mark and amendment tracker posted; full summary available. Conference outlook will hinge on floor amendments in both chambers. [House Armed Services Committee](#)

Items to Watch Next

1. **Any formal readout** from the proposed **U.S.–Russia (Alaska) engagement** and allied reactions. [AP News](#)
2. **NDAA floor schedules/amendments** in both chambers and any top-line shifts. [Armed Services Committee](#)[House Armed Services Committee](#)
3. **Implementation steps** by NATO members toward the new spending benchmarks. [NATO](#)
4. **Semiconductor/AI security policy actions** (export controls, corporate deals, or oversight hearings). [Reuters](#)

If you want this reformatted as a one-pager handout (with your post/Detachment header and a “Since last meeting” timeline), say the word and I’ll drop it into a print-ready layout.

You said:

blood drives for squardon updates fior now

ChatGPT said:

Certainly! Here are some **current and upcoming blood donation opportunities** you can share with your squadron, whether you’re part of the U.S. Air Force, Space Force, civil auxiliary, or simply a supporter:

Recent & Ongoing Blood Drive Developments

1. New Red Cross × Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) Partnership

- **Launched:** Early July 2025
- **What's new:** The American Red Cross and the Defense Health Agency's Armed Services Blood Program have teamed up to strengthen both military and civilian blood supplies. The collaboration allows blood drives on installations and even aboard ships.
- **Perk:** From July 1 to July 14, donors receive exclusive Red Cross × goodr sunglasses—personalize with your blood type sticker, while supplies last. Visits to **RedCrossBlood.org**, the app, or 1-800-RED CROSS are encouraged to schedule a donation.

[Columbus Air Force Base+11American Red Cross+11buckley.spaceforce.mil+11](#)

Scheduled Blood Drives for Military Communities

2. Grand Forks AFB – Standing Monthly Drive

- **What:** Armed Forces Blood Drive
- **When:** Third Wednesday of each month, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- **Next Date:** August 20, 2025
- **Where:** Prairie Rose Chapel
- **Who:** Active duty, DoD civilians, and dependents (18+)

[JB Elmendorf-Richardson+5grandforks.af.mil+5buckley.spaceforce.mil+5](#)

3. Buckley SFB (Colorado) – 2024 Event Example

- **Past Event:** July 18, 2024, a collaborative blood drive with the American Red Cross took place on base to support national blood supply efforts. While this is a past event, it suggests the potential for future drives at the base.

[JB Lewis-McChord+9buckley.spaceforce.mil+9vandenberg.spaceforce.mil+9](#)

What You Can Do for Your Squadron

Step	Action
1. Leverage the New Red Cross–ASBP Partnership	Encourage members to use the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, or call 1-800-RED CROSS to find and schedule local donation opportunities—even on base.
2. Monitor Your Local Base	Check your base’s events calendar or contact your Public Affairs or Base Health Services for upcoming drives, similar to Buckley’s past event.
3. Establish a Recurring Drive	If there isn’t a regular blood drive (like the one at Grand Forks), consider coordinating one with your base’s ASBP or Red Cross contacts. Monthly or quarterly events work well.
4. Highlight the Sunglasses Incentive	Promote the mid-July sunglasses reward in your squadron to boost participation for donations during that period.

Summary for Squadron Update

- **New:** Red Cross and ASBP partnership is expanding donation access through July and beyond—includes donor incentives.
- **Scheduled:** Grand Forks AFB hosts a recurring monthly drive—next is August 20, 2025.
- **Opportunity:** Your squadron could host or support similar events—coordinate locally and leverage the ASBP–Red Cross framework.

Would you like help drafting an announcement or coordinating with base services to set up a drive? Just say the word—I’m happy to assist!

You said:

IL SAL blood drives

ChatGPT said:

I couldn’t find any specific or **upcoming Sons of the American Legion (SAL)** blood drives currently scheduled in Illinois.

What I Found:

1. American Legion Post 1977 – New Lenox, IL

- Hosted a **Red Cross Blood Drive** on **May 29, 2025**, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.
- While it's not explicitly labeled as an SAL event, it's hosted at an American Legion post and may involve SAL support [Red Cross Blood+12Patch+12legiontown.org+12](#).

2. The American Legion Blood Donation Program (National)

- The SAL participates in the broader American Legion Blood Donor Program.
- Posts are encouraged to host drives and report donations for recognition, but there's no public centralized listing of SAL-specific drives in Illinois [The American Legion+3The American Legion+3Wikipedia+3](#).

3. Local Blood Drives (Non-SAL)

- Example: Lombard, IL schedules regular community blood drives (e.g., on September 9, 2025). These are Red Cross-run, not SAL-specific [salillinois.org+4villageoflombard.org+4legiontown.org+4](#).

Recommendations to Get Updated Info:

1. Check SAL-affiliated Posts in Illinois

- Visit **SAL or American Legion Post websites** or social media (e.g., Post 690 in Palatine, Post 1941 in La Grange, Post 1977 in New Lenox).
- Posts sometimes list community blood drives—these may have SAL involvement.

2. Contact the SAL Detachment of Illinois Directly

- Their site may announce upcoming events or include a news bulletin.
- Website: [salillinois.org](#) [The American Legion+3americanlegion36.org+3americanlegion223.com+3Patch+5salillinois.org+5legiontown.org+5](#).

3. Visit Post & SAL Social Media Pages

- Many local Squadrons and Posts announce drives on Facebook or in newsletters (e.g., Post 690's social media channels) [Patch+4palatinepost690+4Wikipedia+4.](#)

4. Partner with the Red Cross

- Use RedCrossBlood.org or the Red Cross Blood Donor App to set up events or find local drives.
- Posts can register drives via Red Cross and then publicize them through SAL channels [PatchRed Cross Blood+2American Red Cross of Illinois+2The American Legion+1.](#)

National Security Division

Director: Sean Counihan

202-263-2984

scounihan@legion.org

July 28th – August 8th

Top Highlights:

- Active Shooter incident at Ft. Stewart, Georgia: On August 6, 2025, an active-shooter incident unfolded at Fort Stewart in Georgia when an Army logistics sergeant, opened fire with his personal handgun in the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team area, injuring five fellow soldiers. The base was placed under lockdown at approximately 11:04 a.m., and the shooter was subdued and taken into custody by around 11:35 a.m. Thanks to the quick and heroic response of his colleagues. All five injured soldiers received prompt medical care. Three have already been released and all are expected to fully recover. The motive remains under investigation.
- Senators move to block Pentagon from laying off public shipyard workers: A bipartisan group of U.S. senators has introduced legislation aimed at preventing the Pentagon from laying off workers at America's four public naval shipyards. The measure

would exempt vital tradespeople and positions tied to the Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program from workforce reductions, codifying protections from hiring freezes already partially in effect but inconsistently implemented.

- Army to grow air defense force by 30%: The Army has announced a plan to grow its air and missile defense force by 30% over the next eight years. This expansion includes the addition of three new Patriot Missile battalions equipped with advanced LTAMDS radars, five Indirect Fire Protection Capability battalions, and seven Counter-Unmanned Aircraft Systems batteries. The strategy aims to fortify defenses against a broad spectrum of threats while integrating systems like the Integrated Battle Command System to create more agile, survivable formations

Operational Updates:

- The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency's identified and repatriated 18 servicemembers over the past two weeks. Processed requests for 8,680 rounds of ammunition, ten rifles and 75 clips to support six American Legion posts across three departments.

- Completed four Bill Reviews:

- o HR 3486 Stop Illegal Entry Act.

- o HR 183 Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter Recreation Pass Act.

- o HR 4275 Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2025.

- o HR XX Expanding Defense Community Partnerships Act.

- Created a fact sheet for Draft Resolution No. 5 National Defense Budget Review.

Progress Report:

- National Convention Preparations.

- Hosted the Military Benefits and Quality of Life Committee Meeting.

- Submitted rough drafts for two Statements for the Record.

1. SFR Title: Reforming the State Department to Compete in the 21st Century.

2. SFR Title: Dismantling Transnational Criminal Organizations in the Americas.

- Drafted Information Management SOP.
- Continuing draft of NDAA Conference Letter to urge Conferees to retain/delete/increase/decrease for the final bill and conducting research to identify priorities/requests for the letter.

Sons of The American Legion - Detachment of Illinois -
Legislative Commission Zoom Meeting - Monday, August 11, 2025 - 7:00PM

Attendees -

Glenn Kraemer, Chairman (1st Division)
Larry Miller, Vice Chairman (5th Division)
Wayne Madson, Detachment Cmdr
John Nemanich, Detachment Sr. Vice Cmdr
Bryson Taylor, Member (2nd Division)
Phil Stander, Detachment Finance Officer
Jeff Van Horn, Detachment Adjutant

Absent -

P. Shipley, Member (4th Division)
M.Canevit, Member (3rd Division)

Kraemer called the meeting to order shortly after 7PM. The main topic of the meeting focused on proper and organized contact with law makers at the state and national levels. Based on the [Legion.org](https://www.legion.org) Legislative resources, Kraemer went over recommended steps to take when meeting with representatives in Springfield, Washington DC or District offices.

- Pick your top 2-3 important issues to address
- Have a plan, be specific, ask for something needed
- Make it personal/identifiable/district relevant to the law maker. Bring one of their constituents with you if possible.
- Do your homework on the lawmaker you are trying to persuade. Understand who you are addressing, their background and politics.
- Consider the size of your group when visiting an office. These are often small rooms.
- Choose a leader of your group to “quarterback” the meeting to make it brief and to the point.
- Use American Legion Point Papers and select Bills that cover your chosen topic that you want the representatives to support. Have these materials ready to leave with the representative.

After your meeting(s), go to the [Legion.org](https://www.legion.org) Grass Roots Action Center and complete an online Congressional Contact Report Form.

Kraemer went on to briefly discuss the “VA Home Loan Program Reform Act” which has recently been signed into law by President Trump. The Zoom meeting attendees also briefly discussed updates on various Bills still pending in Washington and Springfield that will have an impact on veterans.

A discussion took place related to the possibility of Email Updates on Legislative Commission topics to be directed to Division and District Officers to be shared at the Squadron level. Commander Madson reiterated a previously shared point to have Commission Chairmen delegate topics to other Commission Members to assist with this effort. Cmdr. Madson also agreed that everyone should be sharing the “Geo. B. Evans Award” program application throughout the Detachment to seek out a qualified applicant.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM by Kraemer

Leadership Training Commission

for
Fall DEC
September 13, 2025

The Leadership Training Commission met via zoom at 7:30pm on August 11, 2025. The following Commission members were present:

Division 1 - Glenn Kraemer
Division 3 - Mike Vozar (Vice Chair)
Division 5 - Larry Miller (Chairman)
Excused:
Division 2 - Bill Hollis
Division 4 - Tommie Cisna

Also on line for the meeting was, Commander Madson, SR Vice Nemanich, Adjutant VanHorn, Finance Officer Stander, PDC Shipley, and Detachment Chaplin Taylor.

Chairman Miller opened the meeting by commenting that the training topics being offered to members of the SAL should focus on the goals of the Detachment Leadership. Commander Madson asked that training include emphasis on encouraging SAL members to step up as officers at the Squadron, District, Division, or Detachment levels and that those willing to step up receive mentoring in the positions they are interested in.

Miller discussed the training programs topics he envisioned; "History and Organization of the SAL," "Officer Duties and Responsibilities," How To Conduct a Meeting," "Programs the SAL supports," "Required Reports," and "Awards and Recognition." This training would be given using a power point method.

Discussion on getting a commitment from the Divisions/Districts, to include a minimum number of people. Provide a handout following an in person training session, that addressed specific topics.

Set dates for Division/District training and advise those dates at the DEC.

Miller addressed the subject of a Detachment "Sons of The American Legion College." Adjutant VanHorn reiterated that at the Detachment budget meeting May, the detachment would be open to fund a commission member visiting other detachments to review their member training activities. Miller to reach out to detachments at National Convention.

Miller suggested that a name change for the commission may be appropriate to generate more interest in attending session. Rather than Leadership Training Commission, a change to Member Training and Development to mirror the national commission naming, may stimulate more interest.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Larry Miller, Chairman
Leadership Training Commission



Detachment of Illinois

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

Zoom Meeting August 13, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Williamson at 1930 hrs.

Attn: Chair – Bruno Williamson (4th) P; Vice – Chris School (5th) A; Michael Yucuis (1st) A; Bryson Taylor (2nd) P; Shawn Morecraft (3rd) P.

Promoters: GTY – Vacant –; VE&E & VAVS – Bruno Williamson P; Poppy -NVC -central Butch Ray – Ex

Guests: Det Cmdr – Wayne Madson P; Det Vice John Nemanich P; Det Adj – Jeff Van Horn P; Chad Miller 10th Dist Cmdr. P; Jeff Trout Marion VAVS Rep P; Phil Shipley Illiana VAVS Deputy Rep P.

The chairman welcomed everyone to this evening's meeting.

The chairman briefly talked about VA&R & he is changing what we are doing this year. Instead of commission members picking a VAR project to promote, the chairman is assigning projects. This year we are going to **focus** on the **Illinois State VA Homes**. Each member of the commission will be assigned a State VA home to research, find out their wants & needs and volunteer opportunities. **Chicago** – Michael Yucuis; **LaSalle** – Bryson Taylor; **Manteno** – Shaun Morecraft; **Quincy** – Chris School; **Anna** – Cmdr Madson is the rep their & offered to take this on.

Promoters.

Gift to Yanks (GTY) – This position is now vacant. Jimmy Hunter after years of service has now retired as the Detachment GTY promoter. The chairman offered to take this on, but after considerable discussion it was decided it was too much for him to do.

Veterans' employment & Education (VE&E) - Bruno Williamson – No report, there is nothing going at the National level.

Poppy – NVC Butch Ray – see report.

Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services (VAVS) – Bruno Williamson - of the 5 VAMC's in Illinois we have SAL Representation in 4 of them. Jessie Brown – Derrick Stinson is the Representative; Illiana – Bruno Williamson is the Rep; Phil Shipley is the Deputy Rep; Marion – Jeff Trout is the Rep & Chris School is the Dep Rep; Edward Hines – Bryson Taylor is the Rep. We are looking for volunteers for Cpt James Lovell Federated/Great Lakes. To be a Representative or a Regularly Scheduled volunteer you only must volunteer 4 times a year. If you are the Rep/Dep if you go to the quarterly meetings; you have technically fulfilled your obligation.

Marion Rep Jeff Trout gave a brief report of his submitted report on the construction going on at Marion, volunteer opportunities & upcoming events. see report.

Illiana Rep Bruno & Dep Phil gave a report along with the submitted report on Illiana's construction projects, CBOC's & volunteer opportunities & upcoming events. See report.

WE have 5 state VA homes & we currently have 1 rep at Manteno – Jimmy Hunter & at Anna – Wayne Madson. We could use representation at, Lasalle, Quincy & Chicago. As with the federal VA's, contact the state homes volunteer services to get their application process. Wayne gave a report on Anna state home. They have 4 veterans going on an Honor Flight & the 5th div SAL paid for hotels for 2 ½ veterans for hotel room the night before the flight. They are looking at fundraising for Transfer Lift Chairs at a cost of \$1050 each.

The meeting adjourned at 2010 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted

Bruno "T" Williamson

Detachment VA&R Chairman



Detachment of Illinois

Poppy Promoter's Report – Detachment VA & R Committee

Poppy Day is celebrated in countries around the world. The American Legion Family brought National Poppy Day® to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day, as National Poppy Day. This year the National Poppy Day was held on May 23rd.

On the Friday before Memorial Day, wear a red poppy to honor the fallen and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform.

The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms.

Led by the American Legion Auxiliary, each year members of The American Legion Family distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation to support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs.

This year the Illinois American Legion Family constructed over 500,000 poppies to be distributed for donations. One quarter of those went to Posts, Units and Squadrons in Illinois with the balance going to The American Legion National Headquarters for their use.

State Headquarters tries to keep a minimum of 500,000 poppies "on-the-shelf" at all times to fill orders received from all over the country. Illinois is one of only a few departments to still have the equipment to manufacture the Legion Poppy¹

The funds collected go toward supporting veterans, active-duty servicemembers and their families. Poppy funds can also be used to send veterans on an Honor Flight.

In summary, the Department of Illinois' poppy program not only serves to honor and remember the sacrifices of veterans but is a source of funds that go into direct services, rehabilitation, and emergency relief for those who served!

Respectfully Submitted:

Butch Ray, Poppy Promoter

Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs

State VA Homes

Chicago – 4250 N. Oak Park Ave, Chicago – 773/794/3763

LaSalle – 1015 O’Conor Ave. LaSalle - 815/410/8375

Manteno – 1 Veterans Dr. Manteno – 815/907/3506

Quincy – 1707 N. 12th St. Quincy – 217/640/2488

Anna – 792 N. Main St. Anna – 618/833/5394

Illiana VAMC

VAVS Report

Green Homes – Illiana currently has 6 homes, with homes 7 & 8 now under construction. The goal for the Veterans village is to have 10 in a circular pattern with a community building in the center. These homes are like a Fisher House where the Veteran has his own room with bathroom & there is a large family room, dining room, kitchen & sunroom. The veterans can decorate their as they see fit. It is their forever home.

Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) – These are a local VA healthcare facility that provides a range of primary & preventative care services for eligible veterans. They are in Bloomington, Peoria, Mattoon, Decatur & Springfield. Springfield will be getting a new and bigger clinic, when the property can be found. Champaign has one currently under construction and the presumed opening is the fall of 2026. **There are volunteer opportunities at the CBOC's.**

Mental Health - the new building is now up & running and patients from ward 103 – 7 will be moving in soon.

Upcoming dates –

Illiana Creative Arts Festival – August 29th

POW/MIA Recognition – September 19th

Virtual Honor Flight – Fall 2025

Volunteer Opportunities' –

Veterans Transportation Network (VTN)

Compassionate Contact Corp (CCC)

Shuttle Driver

Lab Runner

Red Coat Ambassador (RCA)

Respectfully Submitted

Bruno Williamson VAVS Rep

Phil Shipley VAVS Deputy Rep

MARION VA

The quarterly VAVS meeting was held July 21, 2025, at The Haven. Many of the events discussed were in July and early August, so I will skip those and mention upcoming dates for the purpose of this report.

Before getting to upcoming events, I would like to mention the Medical Center updates. There has been a new building going up that will house Primary Care Clinics and a Women's clinic. It was announced that the primary care side will open sometime in the Spring/Summer of 2026. The women's clinic will likely be later in the Fall. The new lab is up and running. Where the old lab was located next to imaging will possibly hold specialty clinics and additional imaging rooms in the future. The new OR suite opened on July 16th. They have recently started the demolition process on one of the upper floors to put in a new ICU.

Coming up:

The Marion VA presents the 5th Annual Creative Arts Festival

Aug 15, 2025, from 10am – 3pm at Celebrations Event Center in Marion, IL.

Veterans Day at the DuQuoin State Fair will be on Sunday, August 24th from 9am – 3pm.

September 25th there will be a Stand Down for veterans at St Joseph Catholic Church from 10am – 2pm. In addition to the wish list, the VA is requesting reusable shopping bags. Please contact me for a copy of the wish list items. They are expecting 200-250 participants.

I also have a pantry needs list. Once again, contact me for a copy. VAVS is looking for organizations to sign up for a specific month to make listed donations. This helps to keep the pantry from a feast or famine supply. If your Squadron or District is interested let me know.

While it seems early to think about, it is time to start coordinating our work on the Thanksgiving blessing boxes. I also have a list of items for these boxes as well. We will offer two options this year to the Veterans. Option 1 is a box filled with all the makings of a traditional meal with a \$25 Walmart gift card for the turkey or ham. Option 2 is simply a \$75 gift card for those who do not wish a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

Volunteers are still needed in many areas. If you are interested, please contact me and I will steer you in the right direction.

Jeff Trout
VAVS Rep
Marion

FINANCE COMMISSION
17 AUGUST, 2025

Meeting opened at 7:06 pm. Committee members present were Gerald Boyd, Garrett Slevin Sr., Tommie Cisna, and Jeff Trout. Kevin O'Connell was excused. Guests present were Commander Wayne Madson, Sr Vice Commander John Nemanich, Adjutant Jeff Van Horn, Detachment Advisor Bill Flanagan, Finance Officer Phil Stander and Rick Allen.

The Commission was reminded Rantoul Squadron #287 stores the Detachment membership trophies. Tommie Cisna motioned to donate \$100 from overage to Squadron #287 for storing the Detachment membership trophies. Gerald Boyd seconded and the motion passed.

Commander Madson pointed out that a large part of The Illinois American Legion Family homecoming is being covered by the Department. He asked that the Commission consider approving money to help pay some of the cost of the events and venue. Tommie Cisna motioned that up to \$1800 from overage be used to help with the cost of the Legion Family homecoming. Garrett Slevin seconded and the motion passed.

Finance Officer Phil Stander wished to point out that through a clerical error; a line item in the current budget had been left out. He has since fixed the error and the budget is still balanced. It was also mentioned that the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Illinois has donated more than \$45,000 this year.

With nothing further to come before the Commission, meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Jeff Trout
Finance Chairman
Detachment of Illinois

Commander's Advisory 17 August 2025

The meeting was brought to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman Jeff Trout. Committee members present were Kevin O'Connell, Mike Vozar, Tommie Cisna, Rick Allen and Jeff Trout. Guests present were Commander Wayne Madson, Sr Vice Commander John Nemanich, Adjutant Jeff Van Horn, Detachment Advisor Bill Flanagan and Phil Stander.

Chairman Trout asked each of the Division representatives if they had any comments or questions for Commander Madson. All of the Committee members agreed that the Commander is doing a great job and he is exceptionally good at public relations. Chairman Trout took the opportunity to commend the Commander on utilizing Senior Vice Nemanich to make appearances when he was unavailable. The Chairman also pointed out to the Senior Vice to keep this in mind for next year as there will be his Senior Vice as well as the five Division Commanders to make appearances when needed.

After the committee members had an opportunity to speak, Chairman Trout asked Commander Madson if he had any questions or concerns to bring to the Advisory Committee. Commander was thankful to everyone for their kind words. He then informed the Committee that he had been made aware that other Detachments put a Detachment Officer's visit request form on their websites and social media. The Commander feels that this would be a benefit to our Squadrons to offer the same opportunity. Adjutant Van Horn said they would work on putting a form together. Chairman Trout then opened the floor for comments from our guests.

Detachment Advisor Bill Flanagan said there have been no complaints. Adjutant Jeff Van Horn has developed a spreadsheet in order to track Squadron charter application kits. He stated that we have gotten away from formal tracking of the kits and have failed to follow-up with Posts. There will be a letter sent out in the Post mailings explaining the process along with a form to submit to the Adjutant if a Post is interested. Should they be interested, a visit by a Detachment Officer to a Post meeting would be arranged to answer questions. If the Post votes to apply for the Squadron, only then will the application packet be sent out. He also reminded everyone that District certification forms must have an American Legion Advisor with his membership number on the form or it will be sent back.

Commander Madson and Adjutant Van Horn attended the American Legion Division and District Officers training in Bloomington. There was much conversation of increased training within the Department and incorporating the SAL into that training. Commander Madson thinks this will be of great benefit and more information will be forthcoming.

With nothing further to be brought before this committee the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Yours in Service

Jeff Trout
Chairman
Detachment Commander's Advisory Committee

National Convention Committee Reports

2025 SAL National Convention Legislation & Rules Committee Report

The SAL National Convention Legislation & Rules Committee met on Friday, August 22, 2025, on the third floor (Franklin Room) of the JW Marriott, Tampa, FL. The meeting was called to order shortly after 11:00am, followed by an opening prayer, saluting of the American flag and the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Bernie Kessler, Detachment of Ohio introduced members at the head table consisting of: David Lee, Detachment of New York; Larry Miller, Detachment of Illinois; and George Alva, Detachment of Texas; while making reference to members who were not in attendance and/or were elsewhere for any variety of reasons.

Old Business: Ending balance left over from the Washington Conference was \$324.95

The primary order of business was to approve the standing rules of convention. A motion was entertained for the acceptance of the Uniform Code of Procedure for the Organization of National Conventions, dated October 2022, as published. Dennis Pittman, Detachment of Arizona made the motion while George Alva, Detachment of Texas, seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed on a voice vote.

The only other order of business was to formally approve the winner of the George B. Evans Grassroots Veterans' Advocate of the Year Award. The Legislative Commission had selected Randy Johnson, from the Detachment of Iowa. Cliff Parker, Detachment of Iowa made a motion to accept the Commission's selection while Larry Miller, Detachment of Illinois, seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Chairman Kessler continued by noting that the Legislative Commission meets on the third Thursday of the even numbered months at 8:00pm EST.

There being no further business to come before the committee, Chairman Kessler entertained a motion to adjourn. A motion was made to adjourn by (the name of the member and Detachment were inaudible), seconded by Wesley (last name was inaudible) from the Detachment of North Carolina. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:09am.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Tansel

Springfield Squadron 32

Detachment of Illinois

The Children and Youth National Convention Committee met August 22, 2025, at 8:00 am in Tampa, Florida. There were 36 attendees representing 19 Detachments. National Adjutant Tony Wright was also present. There was no convention business to come before the committee, so Chairman Joe Lohman asked the current members to make their final reports.

Brian Shedd - Children and Youth Academy

Several meetings were held leading up to National Convention. The Children and Youth Academy had ten children pre-registered. The Academy can take an additional ten children to participate. The focus will be on flag etiquette. The Tampa police are to be present for a presentation. Also, a minor league baseball club member will have a presentation.

Jeff Trout - VCF

The VCF ad hoc committee had two goals this year. The first was to raise awareness of the program. The second was to raise \$500,000. We fell short on the second goal. Total donations of almost \$97,000 are an all-time high, confirming that we achieved our first goal.

Chris Reachard - COTA

Chris spoke about the COTA dinner coming up on Saturday evening. He will be talking with Rick Laughlin about how we can better track donations from the Sons. He also talked about the importance of getting the CSRs filed with National so we can get better donation totals.

Joe Lohman – Victory Garden

He discussed the accomplishments of the garden project. Chairman Lohman also introduced guest Sean Phelan to the meeting. Chairman Lohman talked about how Sean got donations of lumber, soil, and other materials to build the garden. He talked about the relationship with the University of Maryland. Chairman Lohman and Sean Phelan will be doing a presentation to National Commander Joseph Navarrette during the general session of the convention.

Chairman Lohman also gave a run down on total donations given by the Sons of The American Legion to Children and Youth projects. Total donations reported were \$1,675,501.00 and total hours were 345,958 with just 39% of Consolidated Squadron Reports being submitted.

The Chairman then opened the meeting to all attendees for comments. Representatives from Wisconsin talked about their ALF youth program. ALF stands for American Legion Family. At the last military deployment, they gave out 1,100 ALF stuffed dogs to children and even some of the mothers of our service members. National Adjutant Wright addressed the meeting, thanking everyone for their attendance to the C & Y Committee meeting. PNC Jeff Frain talked about the importance of the CSR and provided guidelines on how to improve the percentage of squadrons submissions.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 am.

Jeff Trout

Edward Ranney

Americanism Committee report

My first National Convention was outstanding. I proudly represented the Detachment of Illinois as a delegate and for the Americanism committee meeting. Chairman of the American commission Jeff Hicks (NJ) expressed his concerns that out of 5,781 squadrons only 2,297 (39.73%), and only 16 out of 614 districts (2.61%) had sent in reports. While the numbers are terribly low the National overall total dollar amount donated in 2024-2025 year was \$12,150,235. Hours volunteered 7,740,001 (value of vol hrs. \$34.79). Volunteer hours value was \$269,274,628 for a total \$281,424,863. Americanism total donations was \$5,379,768, volunteered hours 6,570,287 for a total of \$228,580,267. Those numbers are eye popping, imagine what those numbers could actually be if at least half if not all reported. Please make sure to remind your squadron commander to make sure they get their CSR (Consolidated Reports) turned in. It really would make a huge difference.

American Legion family day is an annual event held the last Saturday of April every year. It's a chance for your Legion family post to open their doors to the community, and recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of the post. Take advantage of this opportunity to connect with the community and show them we are not just a building on the block. We are a part of their neighborhood, their community, and are able, willing, and ready to serve their community. Show them what the American Legion is about, what we stand for, and how we can help the community. If your squadron (post) participates in a family day event make sure to write a report and send it in to detachment so they can report it to national.

Flying flags for hero's is an event where you place flags at a military grave site. Place an American flag by a military head stone. You can place them by as many head stones as you like and write a report, then submit it to detachment for flying flags for hero's website. Only 29 of 55 detachments sent in a report. Our very own (NEC) Kevin O'Connell founded Operation flags for Vets which places American flags on military graves at All Saints Catholic Cemetery Memorial Day weekend. This would be a great way to not only help support (NEC) O'Connell mission but also honor our veterans.

I also had the opportunity to be one of the judges of this year's scrap book and History books contest. I was happy to see that the judges took this task very serious. These books were the culmination of 12 months of hard work. They included pictures, notes, officers list from their various Detachment, district, and squadrons. My personal goal will be to get more squadrons involved. It was awesome to see what the different squadrons had done for the year. It was also impressive to see the attention to detail that the contestants had put into their books. We had a list of guidelines the participants had to follow and used that to judge the books. We broke up into groups of four. We all had our own score sheets and averaged them together to get their final score. My group had the privilege of judging district 3 of Minnesota. Seeing all the various events they had taken a part in made me feel like I was there. The attention to detail was on point. I was definitely inspired to try and make a scrapbook for my squadron.

That completes my report on Americanism. I would like to thank the detachment of Illinois for the opportunity to serve as a delegate and as a committee man. The experience was great.

Chairman Van Horn Called the meeting to order with proper celebration. Jeff reported that there had been no expenditures or invoices presented for review but that there are funds to cover the convention expenses. The meeting was then adjourned.

53rd National Legion Convention

SAL National Convention Committee Meeting Friday, August 22nd

This being my last duty as Detachment Commander I attended Internal Affairs at 8:00 AM on the 22nd of August at 4th Floor of JW Marriott Convention Center the meeting was about 10 minutes Long 2 Resolutions were sent back they were incomplete and nothing More to discuss meeting adjourned .

Past Detachment Commander

2024-25

Rick Allen

SAL National Convention Committee Meetings

Tampa, Florida

Membership & Squadron Activities Meeting

22 Aug 25 9:30am

Overview

- Record membership for Sons of the American Legion: 400,682 members, an all-time high.
- Membership increased by 45,520 since COVID low; 49,076 new members this year.
- 50 detachments over 90%, 19 over 100%, 7 over 105%, and 78 new squadrons.
- Awards and recognition for high-performing detachments and states.
- Clarification on membership year, renewals, and new member processing.
- Discussion of delays in charter processing and suggestions for improvement.

Remembrance and POW/MIA Recognition

- Moment of silence observed in memory of departed comrades.

Resolutions and Symbolic Honors

- Resolution 288 (American Legion) and NCAA 2-94 (Sons of the American Legion) require a POW-MIA chair at all official meetings.
- POW-MIA chair serves as a symbol for thousands of unaccounted POWs and MIAs.
- Chair acts as a reminder for efforts to secure release, repatriation, and full accounting of POWs/MIAs.
- Meeting included recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge, Preamble, and Organizational Values

- Association with Sons of the American Legion established to uphold and defend the U.S. Constitution.
- Aims include maintaining law and order, fostering Americanism, and preserving memories of veterans and forefathers.
- Commitment to promoting peace, goodwill, justice, freedom, and democracy for future generations.
- Dedication to mutual helpfulness, community, state, and nation, and combating hypocrisy.
- Adoption of American Legion principles and support for God and country.

Resolutions on Banners and Support

- Resolution NC2-03 adopted at 32nd National Convention of Sons of the American Legion.
- Resolution calls for display of corporate blue star banner at all meetings.
- Banner symbolizes support for all U.S. military personnel.
- National Membership Sessions officially convened.

Opening of Membership Session and Member Acknowledgments

- Adjusted meeting order for NEC members' early departure.
- Mark Cheney congratulated members for reaching 400,000 milestone.
- Committee recognized for strong performance.
- No additional comments from other members.

Committee Reports and Member Input

- Committee achieved 400,000 for the mission.
- Membership recognized as key to mission success.
- Membership Matters tool identified as effective in 2023.

Membership Matters and Information Sharing

- Committee requests new, relevant information and topic suggestions from all members.

Awards Submission and Criteria Updates

- Use current online award forms for submissions.
- Past incorrect forms are not accepted.
- Award criteria have changed recently.
- National Recruiter award threshold increased to 50.
- Squadron Commander of the Year deadline is now 30 days before spring NEC.

Chair Report and Membership Achievements

- Set membership goal at 105%, target of 400,000 members for 2025.
- Achieved 99.86% of goal, reaching 400,682 members as of August 18, 2025.
- Recorded all-time high membership; 49,076 new members in 2025.
- 50 detachments over 90%, 7 over 105%, 19 of 55 detachments over 100%, 2 regions over 100%, 78 new squadrons added.
- Membership increased by 45,520 members since last report; 2023 ended with 380,743 members.

Awards Distribution and State Recognition

- 2025 projected all-time high recognized with red ribbon.
- Pennsylvania reached all-time high membership: over 64,000 in 2023-2024.
- Multiple states and regions (e.g., Oklahoma, South Dakota, Florida, Idaho, Maryland, Hawaii, Ohio, Tennessee, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Delaware, New Hampshire, Michigan, Arizona, North Dakota, South Carolina, Virginia, North Carolina) mentioned in roll call or recognition.
- Event involved distribution of ribbons/packages to representatives.

- Process described as ongoing and a work in progress.

Membership Year, Renewals, and Award Clarifications

- Current all-time high membership: 64,239.
- Membership year ends December 31st; awards year starts July 1st.
- Detachments at or above 100% as of 8, 14, or 25: Arizona, Florida, Latin America, Maryland, Michigan, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Virginia.
- Organization surpassed 400,000 members for the first time.
- Awards presented for the 2023-2024 year; 2025 year not yet complete.

Charter Processing Delays and Suggestions

- New membership renewals start July 1st; new members receive 2025-2026 membership.
- Washington State all-time high membership: 2,870 teachers.
- New members joining July 1st receive up to 16 months' membership; not a 6-month free period.
- Renewals for last year count toward current all-time high; new members count toward next year's total.
- Delays reported in national charter processing (5-6 months), affecting new squadrons in Wisconsin and South Dakota.

Closing Prayer

- Speaker delivered a closing prayer.

Submitted by

John Nemanich

Detachment Sr. Vice Commander

**Sons Of The American Legion
National Convention VA&R Report
August 22 2025**

Chairman Bruno Williamson opened the meeting with Salute to Colors and Pledge.

He mentioned the Sons National VA&R Facebook page and encouraged everyone to visit.

He explained the Rigsby Award and that there were four applicants this year for the award, Richard Brockmore from Ohio was this years recipient.

He talked about the VACC, Buddy Checks, Compassionate Care Program and the Red Ambassador programs then explained each program.

He talked about Camp Hope with peer to peer counseling, National Veterans Assistance Day, Armed Forces Day, Honor Flights and the program You Marched For us We Walk for You then elaborated on each that had questions asked.

Brunos goal for VAVS support is still 55 postions but has 52 out of 154 VA Reps and Deps.

Bruno also mentioned you may need a food handlers license to help at cookouts at your VA.

He also reported that only 39.7% of the CSR reported.

Chris Schoo



Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Illinois

August 22, 2025

National Credential Meeting
JW Marriott – Tampa FL.
Tampa Bay Ballroom – 4th Floor
11:00 am

The credential meeting was called to order by Chairman Harold Thompson at 11:00 am. There were 10 members plus the chairman in attendance.

Harold reported that there were 953 delegates and 101 delegates at large, plus 1 for the National Commander for a total of 1055 delegates registered. There were 21 Alternates and 92 guests that were also registered. There were 54 Detachments that were registered.

At the time of our meeting all Detachment packets were picked up except two. They were District of Columbia and Philippines.

With no other business to be discussed, Brian O'Hearn from Massachusetts moved to close the meeting. This was seconded by Thomas Deal of Maryland.

The meeting closed at 11:10 am.

Respectively submitted by

Matt Christie
Squadron #690

***LET'S NEVER FORGET SEPTEMBER 11TH
GOD BLESS AMERICA***

2025-2026 Approved Budget

12:33 PM

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT

06/27/25

Budget vs. Actual

Cash Basis

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
Income			
100000 - INCOME			
110000 - PER-CAPITA	0.00	70,000.00	-70,000.00
120000 - INTEREST	0.00	20.00	-20.00
130000 - CONVENTION			
130001 - REGISTRATION	0.00	900.00	-900.00
Total 130000 - CONVENTION	0.00	900.00	-900.00
150000 - OTHER			
150001 - Dept. SWEEPSTAKES	0.00	2,500.00	-2,500.00
150003 - Detachment Sweepstakes	0.00	23,513.00	-23,513.00
Total 150000 - OTHER	0.00	26,013.00	-26,013.00
170000 - INVESTMENT	0.00	10,000.00	-10,000.00
Total 100000 - INCOME	0.00	106,933.00	-106,933.00
Total Income	0.00	106,933.00	-106,933.00
Expense			
010000 - ADM. NON-BUDGETED ACCT			
010012 - detachment Sweepstakes	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00
010013- chair/prom dept meet/10	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total 010000 - ADM. NON-BUDGETED ACCT	0.00	16,000.00	-16,000.00
200000 - GENERAL ADMIN. EXPENSE			
201000 - POSTAGE			
201100 - OFFICERS			
201104 - FINANCE OFFICER	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 201100 - OFFICERS	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 201000 - POSTAGE	0.00	300.00	-300.00
202000- SUPPLIES			
202101 - ADJUTANT	0.00	1,750.00	-1,750.00
202102 - FINANCE OFFICER	0.00	1,750.00	-1,750.00
202103 - HISTORIAN	0.00	100.00	-100.00
202104 - CHAPLAIN	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Total 202000- SUPPLIES	0.00	3,650.00	-3,650.00
203000 - MAINTENANCE			
203099 - MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 203000 - MAINTENANCE	0.00	100.00	-100.00
204000 - NAME TAGS, PLAQS, PINS			
204100 - NAME TAGS			
204101 - OFFICERS	0.00	250.00	-250.00
Total 204100 - NAME TAGS	0.00	250.00	-250.00
204200 - PINS			
204201 - INCOMING COMMANDER	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00
204202 - PAST COMMANDER	0.00	350.00	-350.00
Total 204200 - PINS	0.00	4,350.00	-4,350.00

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
204300 - PLAQUES			
204301 - PAST COMMANDER	0.00	50.00	-50.00
204302 - DIV. MEMBER OF THE YR.	0.00	50.00	-50.00
204303 JR Mem. of Year	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Total 204300 - PLAQUES	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Total 204000 - NAME TAGS, PLAQS, PINS	0.00	4,750.00	-4,750.00
Total 200000 - GENERAL ADMIN. EXPENSE	0.00	8,800.00	-8,800.00
207300 - MANDATED			
207301 - SCHOLARSHIP	0.00	7,108.00	-7,108.00
207303 - ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP FUND	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
207304 - ANNUAL AUDIT	0.00	1,900.00	-1,900.00
Total 207300 - MANDATED	0.00	10,508.00	-10,508.00
208000 BANK SERVICE CHARGES			
208002 CHECKS	0.00	175.00	-175.00
Total 208000 BANK SERVICE CHARGES	0.00	175.00	-175.00
300000 - FUNCTIONING EXPENSES			
301000 - ELECTED OFFICERS			
301001 - COMMANDER	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00
301002 - SR. VICE COMMANDER	0.00	3,500.00	-3,500.00
301003 - N.E.C.	0.00	900.00	-900.00
301004 - A.N.E.C.	0.00	900.00	-900.00
301005 ANEC FOR NEC MEETINGS	0.00	600.00	-600.00
3010205 - IM. PAST. COMMANDER	0.00	450.00	-450.00
Total 301000 - ELECTED OFFICERS	0.00	10,350.00	-10,350.00
302000 - APPOINTED OFFICERS			
302001 - ADJUTANT	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00
302002 - ASSIST. ADJUTANT #1	0.00	500.00	-500.00
302003 - FINANCE OFFICER	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
302004 - CHAPLAIN	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302005 - JUDGE ADVOCATE	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302006 - HISTORIAN	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302008 - PARLIAMENTARIAN	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302009 - SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302014 - COMMANDERS AIDE #1	0.00	300.00	-300.00
302015 - COMMANDERS AIDE #2	0.00	300.00	-300.00
302016 - SR. VICE AIDE	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302017 - COMM. SRGT AT ARMS #1	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302018 - COMM. SRGT AT ARMS #2	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302019 - SR. VICE SRGT at ARMS	0.00	450.00	-450.00
Total 302000 - APPOINTED OFFICERS	0.00	8,150.00	-8,150.00
303000 - COMMISSIONS			
303101 - FINANCE PLANNING	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Total 303000 - COMMISSIONS	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
304000 - COMMITTEES			
304100 - SPECIAL COMM. MEETING			
304101 - CONVENTION SITE	0.00	750.00	-750.00
304102 - LEADERSHIP TRAINING	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 304100 - SPECIAL COMM. MEETING	0.00	1,050.00	-1,050.00
Total 304000 - COMMITTEES	0.00	1,050.00	-1,050.00

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
306000 - NATIONAL CONVENTION			
306001 - REGISTRATION FEES	0.00	1,600.00	-1,600.00
306002 - DELEGATE ALLOWANCES	0.00	8,000.00	-8,000.00
306003 - LUNCHEON	0.00	1,200.00	-1,200.00
306004 NAT. CON. DEL. SEC.	0.00	550.00	-550.00
306006 - DELEGATION CHAIRMAN	0.00	550.00	-550.00
306008 - INCOMING COMMANDER	0.00	550.00	-550.00
Total 306000 - NATIONAL CONVENTION	0.00	12,450.00	-12,450.00
Total 300000 - FUNCTIONING EXPENSES	0.00	33,500.00	-33,500.00
400000 - DETACHMENT CONVENTION			
401000 - HOUSING			
401001 - COMMANDER	0.00	600.00	-600.00
401002 - REGISTRAR	0.00	450.00	-450.00
401003 - NAT. REPRESENTATIVE	0.00	450.00	-450.00
401004 - SENIOR VICE COMMANDER			
401004A - COMM - PRES DINNER	0.00	90.00	-90.00
401004 - SENIOR VICE COMMANDER - Other	0.00	600.00	-600.00
Total 401004 - SENIOR VICE COMMANDER	0.00	690.00	-690.00
401005 - ADJUTANT	0.00	500.00	-500.00
401006 - CHAPLAIN	0.00	600.00	-600.00
401007 - JUDGE ADVOCATE	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401008 - SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401009 - HISTORIAN	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401010 - FINANCE OFFICER	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401012 - PARLIAMENTARIAN	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401015 - IMD PAST COMMANDER	0.00	450.00	-450.00
401016 - NEC	0.00	600.00	-600.00
401017 - ANEC	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401018 - GIFTS	0.00	200.00	-200.00
401020 - SR VICE COM. CANDIDATE	0.00	450.00	-450.00
401021 - Comm Sgt at Arms	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401022 - COMM SRGT AT ARMS #2	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401023-SR VICE SGT AT ARMS	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 401000 - HOUSING	0.00	7,690.00	-7,690.00
402000 - REGISTRATION			
402003 - SUPPLIES	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 402000 - REGISTRATION	0.00	100.00	-100.00
403000 - ADMINISTRATION			
403003 - FLOWERS	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 403000 - ADMINISTRATION	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 400000 - DETACHMENT CONVENTION	0.00	8,290.00	-8,290.00
500000 - MEMBERSHIP			
501000 - DIVISION COMMANDERS			
501100 - COMMANDERS (5)	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
501200 - SEN. VICE COMM. (5)	0.00	750.00	-750.00
Total 501000 - DIVISION COMMANDERS	0.00	2,250.00	-2,250.00
502000 - DISTRICT OFFICERS			
502100 - COMMANDERS / CHMN (23)	0.00	2,760.00	-2,760.00
502200 - SR VICE COMMANDER (23)	0.00	1,150.00	-1,150.00
Total 502000 - DISTRICT OFFICERS	0.00	3,910.00	-3,910.00

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
503000 - CARAVAN			
503003 - NATIONAL CARAVAN	0.00	6,000.00	-6,000.00
Total 503000 - CARAVAN	0.00	6,000.00	-6,000.00
504000 - AWARDS			
504001 - CITATIONS & PLAQUES	0.00	500.00	-500.00
504003 - BREAKFAST & JACKET	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
504004 - MEMBERSHIP AWARDS	0.00	200.00	-200.00
504005 - COMMANDERS SHIRT	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total 504000 - AWARDS	0.00	2,700.00	-2,700.00
Total 500000 - MEMBERSHIP	0.00	14,860.00	-14,860.00
600000 - DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS			
601000 - LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE			
601101 - WREATH & RECEPTION	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00
601200 - COMMANDER			
601203 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 601200 - COMMANDER	0.00	300.00	-300.00
601300 - NEC			
601303 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 601300 - NEC	0.00	300.00	-300.00
601400 - HISTORIAN			
601403 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 601400 - HISTORIAN	0.00	300.00	-300.00
601500 - ADJUTANT			
601501 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 601500 - ADJUTANT	0.00	300.00	-300.00
601600 - SR VICE COMM.			
6016001 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 601600 - SR VICE COMM.	0.00	300.00	-300.00
601900 - NAT. REPRESENTATIVE			
601903 - EXPENSES	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 601900 - NAT. REPRESENTATIVE	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 601000 - LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00
602000 - EGYPTIANS PAST COMM.			
602100 - COMMANDER			
602103 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
602104 SR VICE EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 602100 - COMMANDER	0.00	600.00	-600.00
Total 602000 - EGYPTIANS PAST COMM.	0.00	600.00	-600.00
603000 - ARMED FORCES DINNER			
603100 - COMMANDER			
603103 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 603100 - COMMANDER	0.00	200.00	-200.00
603200 - Sr Vice			
603201 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 603200 - Sr Vice	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 603000 - ARMED FORCES DINNER	0.00	400.00	-400.00

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
605000 - AUX. PATRIOTIC CONF.			
605100 - COMMANDER			
605103 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 605100 - COMMANDER	0.00	200.00	-200.00
605200 - HISTORIAN			
605201 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 605200 - HISTORIAN	0.00	200.00	-200.00
605400 - AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN			
605403 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 605400 - AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 605000 - AUX. PATRIOTIC CONF.	0.00	600.00	-600.00
606000- JR AUXILIARY ANN. CONF			
606100 - COMMANDER			
606103 - EXPENSES	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Total 606100 - COMMANDER	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Total 606000- JR AUXILIARY ANN. CONF	0.00	150.00	-150.00
609000 - HOMECOMINGS			
609100 - DEPT. COMMANDERS GIFT			
609101 - DETACHMENT COMMANDER	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 609100 - DEPT. COMMANDERS GIFT	0.00	100.00	-100.00
609200 - DEPT. PRESIDENTS GIFT			
609201 - DETACHMENT COMMANDER	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 609200 - DEPT. PRESIDENTS GIFT	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 609000 - HOMECOMINGS	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 600000 - DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS	0.00	5,950.00	-5,950.00
700000 - NATIONAL & OTHER FUNCT			
710100 - WASHINGTON CONFERENCE			
710101 - WREATH	0.00	200.00	-200.00
710102 - PRESENTOR OF WREATH	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
710103 - BUS TRIP & MEALS	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 710100 - WASHINGTON CONFERENCE	0.00	1,800.00	-1,800.00
710200 - Central Region Extra			
710201 - Central region Ext	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 710200 - Central Region Extra	0.00	500.00	-500.00
790000 - HOMECOMINGS			
790100- NAT SAL COMMANDERS GIFT			
790101 - COMMANDERS GIFT	0.00	350.00	-350.00
790109 - PRESENTER OF GIFT	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total 790100- NAT SAL COMMANDERS GIFT	0.00	1,350.00	-1,350.00
Total 790000 - HOMECOMINGS	0.00	1,350.00	-1,350.00
Total 700000 - NATIONAL & OTHER FUNCT	0.00	3,650.00	-3,650.00

12:33 PM

06/27/25

Cash Basis

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
900000 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES			
901000 - CONTINGENCY			
901001 - MTG. CALL PAY	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
901099 - MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 901000 - CONTINGENCY	0.00	5,200.00	-5,200.00
Total 900000 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	0.00	5,200.00	-5,200.00
Total Expense	0.00	106,933.00	-106,933.00
Net Income	0.00	0.00	0.00

Detachment of Illinois
BUDGETED EXPENSE REPORT

NAME: _____

STREET: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TITLE: _____

SQUADRON NUMBER: _____ DISTRICT: _____ DIVISION: _____

List the Amount of each separate expenditure for traveling away from home, such as cost of transportation and lodging. Expense for your meals, taxi fares, tips, ect., may be lumped into these categories for each day.

Itemized receipts must be submitted for all expenses within 45 days! Fuel receipts must show a fill up before and after the trip for actual fuel used for reimbursement.

IF YOU KNOW THE CORRECT "BUDGET ITEM" YOU CAN BREAK THE EXPENSES DOWN ON THIS PAGE; OTHERWISE USE A SEPARATE REPORT FOR EACH ITEM.
(ALSO GIVE A REASON FOR THE EXPENSE AND OR DESTINATION OF TRAVEL FOR FUEL REIMBURSEMENT)

DETAIL OF EXPENSES

BUDGET ITEM: _____			
DATE	EXPENSE ITEM	AMOUNT	TOTAL
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
BUDGET ITEM: _____			
DATE	EXPENSE ITEM	AMOUNT	TOTAL
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
BUDGET ITEM: _____			
DATE	EXPENSE ITEM	AMOUNT	TOTAL
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
GRAND TOTAL		\$	\$

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____

APPROVED: _____

DATE: _____

Detachment Commander or Detachment Advisor

DETACHMENT FINANCE OFFICER ONLY:

CHECK NO. : _____

DATE PAID: _____

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT
Balance Sheet
As of September 8, 2025

	Sep 8, 25
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Annual Donations	8,661.88
Children and Youth	1,291.71
EDWARD JONES	
AMERICAN BALANCED FUND - A	27,447.87
INVESTMENT CO OF AMERICA...	46,741.91
Total EDWARD JONES	74,189.78
National Candidate fund	37,780.75
Overage Savings	80,527.44
SAL General Checking	18,694.30
Scholarships	19,642.39
Total Checking/Savings	240,788.25
Total Current Assets	240,788.25
TOTAL ASSETS	240,788.25
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	205,037.44
Retained Earnings	35,690.91
Net Income	59.90
Total Equity	240,788.25
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	240,788.25

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT
Budget vs. Actual
August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
Income			
100000 - INCOME			
110000 - PER-CAPITA	0.00	70,000.00	-70,000.00
120000 - INTEREST	1.69	20.00	-18.31
130000 - CONVENTION			
130001 - REGISTRATION	0.00	900.00	-900.00
Total 130000 - CONVENTION	0.00	900.00	-900.00
150000 - OTHER			
150001 - Dept. SWEEPSTAKES	3,331.82	2,500.00	831.82
150003 - Detachment Sweepstakes	0.00	24,313.00	-24,313.00
Total 150000 - OTHER	3,331.82	26,813.00	-23,481.18
170000 - INVESTMENT	1,364.29	10,000.00	-8,635.71
Total 100000 - INCOME	4,697.80	107,733.00	-103,035.20
Total Income	4,697.80	107,733.00	-103,035.20
Expense			
010000 - ADM. NON-BUDGETED ACCT			
010006 - MISC.	1,550.00	0.00	1,550.00
010012 - detachment Sweepstakes	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00
010013- chair/prom dept meet/10	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total 010000 - ADM. NON-BUDGETED ACCT	1,550.00	16,000.00	-14,450.00
200000 - GENERAL ADMIN. EXPENSE			
201000 - POSTAGE			
201100 - OFFICERS			
201104 - FINANCE OFFICER	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 201100 - OFFICERS	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 201000 - POSTAGE	0.00	300.00	-300.00
202000- SUPPLIES			
202101 - ADJUTANT	22.92	1,750.00	-1,727.08
202102 - FINANCE OFFICER	0.00	1,750.00	-1,750.00
202103 - HISTORIAN	0.00	100.00	-100.00
202104 - CHAPLAIN	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Total 202000- SUPPLIES	22.92	3,650.00	-3,627.08
203000 - MAINTENANCE			
203099 - MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 203000 - MAINTENANCE	0.00	100.00	-100.00
204000 - NAME TAGS, PLAQS, PINS			
204100 - NAME TAGS			
204101 - OFFICERS	0.00	250.00	-250.00
Total 204100 - NAME TAGS	0.00	250.00	-250.00
204200 - PINS			
204201 - INCOMING COMMANDER	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00
204202 - PAST COMMANDER	0.00	350.00	-350.00
Total 204200 - PINS	0.00	4,350.00	-4,350.00

10:08 AM

09/08/25

Cash Basis

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
204300 - PLAQUES			
204301 - PAST COMMANDER	0.00	50.00	-50.00
204302 - DIV. MEMBER OF THE YR.	0.00	50.00	-50.00
204303 JR Mem. of Year	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Total 204300 - PLAQUES	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Total 204000 - NAME TAGS, PLAQS, PINS	0.00	4,750.00	-4,750.00
Total 200000 - GENERAL ADMIN. EXPENSE	22.92	8,800.00	-8,777.08
207300 - MANDATED			
207301 - SCHOLARSHIP	0.00	7,108.00	-7,108.00
207303 - ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP FUND	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
207304 - ANNUAL AUDIT	0.00	1,900.00	-1,900.00
Total 207300 - MANDATED	0.00	10,508.00	-10,508.00
208000 BANK SERVICE CHARGES			
208002 CHECKS	0.00	175.00	-175.00
Total 208000 BANK SERVICE CHARGES	0.00	175.00	-175.00
300000 - FUNCTIONING EXPENSES			
301000 - ELECTED OFFICERS			
301001 - COMMANDER	999.85	4,000.00	-3,000.15
301002 - SR. VICE COMMANDER	0.00	3,500.00	-3,500.00
301003 - N.E.C.	0.00	900.00	-900.00
301004 - A.N.E.C.	304.64	900.00	-595.36
301005 ANEC FOR NEC MEETINGS	0.00	600.00	-600.00
3010205 - IM. PAST. COMMANDER	0.00	450.00	-450.00
Total 301000 - ELECTED OFFICERS	1,304.49	10,350.00	-9,045.51
302000 - APPOINTED OFFICERS			
302001 - ADJUTANT	99.68	2,000.00	-1,900.32
302002 - ASSIST. ADJUTANT #1	0.00	500.00	-500.00
302003 - FINANCE OFFICER	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
302004 - CHAPLAIN	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302005 - JUDGE ADVOCATE	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302006 - HISTORIAN	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302008 - PARLIAMENTARIAN	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302009 - SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302014 - COMMANDERS AIDE #1	0.00	300.00	-300.00
302015 - COMMANDERS AIDE #2	0.00	300.00	-300.00
302016 - SR. VICE AIDE	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302017 - COMM. SRGT AT ARMS #1	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302018 - COMM. SRGT AT ARMS #2	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302019 - SR. VICE SRGT at ARMS	0.00	450.00	-450.00
Total 302000 - APPOINTED OFFICERS	99.68	8,150.00	-8,050.32
303000 - COMMISSIONS			
303101 - FINANCE PLANNING	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Total 303000 - COMMISSIONS	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
304000 - COMMITTEES			
304100 - SPECIAL COMM. MEETING			
304101 - CONVENTION SITE	0.00	750.00	-750.00
304102 - LEADERSHIP TRAINING	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 304100 - SPECIAL COMM. MEETING	0.00	1,050.00	-1,050.00
Total 304000 - COMMITTEES	0.00	1,050.00	-1,050.00

10:08 AM

09/08/25

Cash Basis

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
306000 - NATIONAL CONVENTION			
306001 - REGISTRATION FEES	0.00	1,600.00	-1,600.00
306002 - DELEGATE ALLOWANCES	0.00	8,000.00	-8,000.00
306003 - LUNCHEON	826.94	1,200.00	-373.06
306004 NAT. CON. DEL. SEC.	0.00	550.00	-550.00
306006 - DELEGATION CHAIRMAN	0.00	550.00	-550.00
306008 - INCOMING COMMANDER	0.00	550.00	-550.00
Total 306000 - NATIONAL CONVENTION	826.94	12,450.00	-11,623.06
Total 300000 - FUNCTIONING EXPENSES	2,231.11	33,500.00	-31,268.89
400000 - DETACHMENT CONVENTION			
401000 - HOUSING			
401001 - COMMANDER	0.00	600.00	-600.00
401002 - REGISTRAR	0.00	450.00	-450.00
401003 - NAT. REPRESENTATIVE	0.00	450.00	-450.00
401004 - SENIOR VICE COMMANDER			
401004A - COMM - PRES DINNER	0.00	90.00	-90.00
401004 - SENIOR VICE COMMANDER - Other	0.00	600.00	-600.00
Total 401004 - SENIOR VICE COMMANDER	0.00	690.00	-690.00
401005 - ADJUTANT	0.00	500.00	-500.00
401006 - CHAPLAIN	0.00	600.00	-600.00
401007 - JUDGE ADVOCATE	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401008 - SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401009 - HISTORIAN	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401010 - FINANCE OFFICER	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401012 - PARLIAMENTARIAN	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401015 - IMD PAST COMMANDER	0.00	450.00	-450.00
401016 - NEC	0.00	600.00	-600.00
401017 - ANEC	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401018 - GIFTS	0.00	200.00	-200.00
401020 - SR VICE COM. CANDIDATE	0.00	450.00	-450.00
401021 - Comm Sgt at Arms	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401022 - COMM SRGT AT ARMS #2	0.00	300.00	-300.00
401023-SR VICE SGT AT ARMS	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 401000 - HOUSING	0.00	7,690.00	-7,690.00
402000 - REGISTRATION			
402003 - SUPPLIES	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 402000 - REGISTRATION	0.00	100.00	-100.00
403000 - ADMINISTRATION			
403003 - FLOWERS	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 403000 - ADMINISTRATION	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 400000 - DETACHMENT CONVENTION	0.00	8,290.00	-8,290.00
500000 - MEMBERSHIP			
501000 - DIVISION COMMANDERS			
501100 - COMMANDERS (5)	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
501200 - SEN. VICE COMM. (5)	0.00	750.00	-750.00
Total 501000 - DIVISION COMMANDERS	0.00	2,250.00	-2,250.00
502000 - DISTRICT OFFICERS			
502100 - COMMANDERS / CHMN (23)	0.00	2,760.00	-2,760.00
502200 - SR VICE COMMANDER (23)	0.00	1,150.00	-1,150.00
Total 502000 - DISTRICT OFFICERS	0.00	3,910.00	-3,910.00

10:08 AM

09/08/25

Cash Basis

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
503000 - CARAVAN			
503003 - NATIONAL CARAVAN	0.00	6,000.00	-6,000.00
Total 503000 - CARAVAN	0.00	6,000.00	-6,000.00
504000 - AWARDS			
504001 - CITATIONS & PLAQUES	0.00	500.00	-500.00
504003 - BREAKFAST & JACKET	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
504004 - MEMBERSHIP AWARDS	0.00	200.00	-200.00
504005 - COMMANDERS SHIRT	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total 504000 - AWARDS	0.00	2,700.00	-2,700.00
Total 500000 - MEMBERSHIP	0.00	14,860.00	-14,860.00
600000 - DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS			
601000 - LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE			
601101 - WREATH & RECEPTION	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00
601200 - COMMANDER			
601203 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 601200 - COMMANDER	0.00	300.00	-300.00
601300 - NEC			
601303 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 601300 - NEC	0.00	300.00	-300.00
601400 - HISTORIAN			
601403 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 601400 - HISTORIAN	0.00	300.00	-300.00
601500 - ADJUTANT			
601501 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 601500 - ADJUTANT	0.00	300.00	-300.00
601600 - SR VICE COMM.			
6016001 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 601600 - SR VICE COMM.	0.00	300.00	-300.00
601900 - NAT. REPRESENTATIVE			
601903 - EXPENSES	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 601900 - NAT. REPRESENTATIVE	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 601000 - LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00
602000 - EGYPTIANS PAST COMM.			
602100 - COMMANDER			
602103 - EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
602104 SR VICE EXPENSES	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 602100 - COMMANDER	0.00	600.00	-600.00
Total 602000 - EGYPTIANS PAST COMM.	0.00	600.00	-600.00
603000 - ARMED FORCES DINNER			
603100 - COMMANDER			
603103 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 603100 - COMMANDER	0.00	200.00	-200.00
603200 - Sr Vice			
603201 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 603200 - Sr Vice	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 603000 - ARMED FORCES DINNER	0.00	400.00	-400.00

10:08 AM

09/08/25

Cash Basis

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
605000 - AUX. PATRIOTIC CONF.			
605100 - COMMANDER			
605103 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 605100 - COMMANDER	0.00	200.00	-200.00
605200 - HISTORIAN			
605201 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 605200 - HISTORIAN	0.00	200.00	-200.00
605400 - AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN			
605403 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 605400 - AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 605000 - AUX. PATRIOTIC CONF.	0.00	600.00	-600.00
606000- JR AUXILIARY ANN. CONF			
606100 - COMMANDER			
606103 - EXPENSES	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Total 606100 - COMMANDER	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Total 606000- JR AUXILIARY ANN. CONF	0.00	150.00	-150.00
609000 - HOMECOMINGS			
609100 - DEPT. COMMANDERS GIFT			
609101 - DETACHMENT COMMANDER	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 609100 - DEPT. COMMANDERS GIFT	0.00	100.00	-100.00
609200 - DEPT. PRESIDENTS GIFT			
609201 - DETACHMENT COMMANDER	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 609200 - DEPT. PRESIDENTS GIFT	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 609000 - HOMECOMINGS	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 600000 - DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS	0.00	5,950.00	-5,950.00
700000 - NATIONAL & OTHER FUNCT			
710100 - WASHINGTON CONFERENCE			
710101 - WREATH	0.00	200.00	-200.00
710102 - PRESENTOR OF WREATH	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
710103 - BUS TRIP & MEALS	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 710100 - WASHINGTON CONFERENCE	0.00	1,800.00	-1,800.00
710200 - Central Region Extra			
710201 - Central region Ext	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 710200 - Central Region Extra	0.00	500.00	-500.00
790000 - HOMECOMINGS			
790100- NAT SAL COMMANDERS GIFT			
790101 - COMMANDERS GIFT	0.00	350.00	-350.00
790109 - PRESENTER OF GIFT	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total 790100- NAT SAL COMMANDERS GIFT	0.00	1,350.00	-1,350.00
Total 790000 - HOMECOMINGS	0.00	1,350.00	-1,350.00
Total 700000 - NATIONAL & OTHER FUNCT	0.00	3,650.00	-3,650.00
900000 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES			
901000 - CONTINGENCY			
901001 - MTG. CALL PAY	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
901099 - MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 901000 - CONTINGENCY	0.00	5,200.00	-5,200.00

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
908000 - NATIONAL HOSPITALITY	833.87	800.00	33.87
Total 900000 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	833.87	6,000.00	-5,166.13
Total Expense	4,637.90	107,733.00	-103,095.10
Net Income	59.90	0.00	59.90



FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Steve Honigfort (OH) - Bio National Vice Commander Central Region

Steve currently serves as a National Vice Commander representing the Central Region. He has proudly maintained 47 years of continuous membership in the Sons of The American Legion, dedicated to serving our nation's veterans. A life member of Squadron 63 in Ottawa, Ohio, Steve's eligibility stems from his late father, Robert E. Honigfort, a Korean War Veteran.

Family plays a central role in Steve's Legion involvement. His wife, Brigitte, is an Auxiliary member at Post 63, and together they have six children (three sons and three daughters) along with one granddaughter and one grandson. His sons and grandson are all SAL members, while his stepdaughter, father-in-law, brother-in-law, and son-in-law are proud members of The American Legion.

Within Squadron 63, Steve has remained active throughout his 47 years, holding every office (including Commander for five years) and has consistently served as an officer. He also held every office in District 1, serving as Commander from 1996-1997. At the Detachment of Ohio level, Steve has contributed as Chairman of several committees including Special Olympics, POW/MIA, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Americanism, and Public Relations. He has also served in numerous Detachment offices such as Assistant Adjutant, Adjutant, Chaplain, Second Vice, First Vice, and ultimately Commander (2011-2012). He continues to serve today as the Detachment PR Chairman. On the National level, Steve spent nine years on the Finance Committee and six years as Alternate NEC.

Outside of Legion service, Steve worked as a construction manager, overseeing the planning of more than 2 million square feet of commercial space and over 800 homes. He also serves as a volunteer Hunter Education Instructor, promoting safety and responsibility.

The American Legion Family holds a deeply personal place in Steve's life. Inspired by his father's legacy, he remains committed to preserving and strengthening the traditions of The American Legion and Sons of The American Legion for generations to come.