

63rd Annual Convention Sons of the American Legion



**Detachment of Illinois
Minutes, Resolutions and Reports
July 10-11, 2026**

07-10 Final Executive Committee Meeting: Sons of the American Legion,
Detachment of Illinois

Date & Time: 2026-07-10 17:30:06

Location: BOS Center, Springfield, IL

Attendees:

Overview

This executive committee meeting of the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Illinois, created on 2026-07-10 12:30:06, covered formal opening protocols, roll call, approval of prior minutes, finance reports and deadlines, adoption of the 2026–2027 budget, national convention delegate and housing form reminders, recognition of a guest, charter revocation actions for squadrons not in good standing, and convention logistics. The discussion involved multiple contributions across agenda items and concluded with preparations for the convention session later that day.

Meeting Opening and Protocols

- The meeting was called to order with temporary sergeants at arms assigned to split duties: Ed Rainey, Jack Brown, and Zach Van Horn.
 - Colors were in place, a prayer was offered, and the pledge of allegiance and preamble were recited.
- Microphone usage was emphasized for all motions and comments, with one malfunctioning microphone set aside.

Roll Call and Attendance

- The adjutant called the roll of officers; multiple officers were present, with certain positions excused.
 - It was noted that a sergeant at arms had resigned; temporary assignments covered the role.
- Division and district attendance was recorded with various commanders and officers present or excused; some districts were not certified.
- Roll Call information is available from the Adjutant.

Approval of Prior Minutes

- A committee (Shawn Morecraft, Brett Miller, Joseph Butson) reviewed prior DEC minutes and found no issues.
- A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made and carried by voice vote.

Finance

- Finance Officer Report and Deadlines
 - The finance officer presented balance sheet and budget vs. actual documents, invited questions, and set an expense submission deadline of July 25.
 - He stated: "If they're not in my hand, the response will be too bad. So sad. Better luck next year."
 - Books close at 7/31; expense reports must be received by 7/25.

- Motion to accept the finance report subject to audit was made, seconded, and carried.
- Finance Commission Report and 2026–2027 Budget
 - The Finance Commission met in Bloomington on May 30 to develop the proposed budget for the twenty-seventh membership year, 2026–2027; printed materials were provided in the room.
 - Fundraising attempts (cash raffle, state license plate program) are not continuing due to insufficient participation; the proposed budget moves money from overage to cover needs, noted as the smallest such transfer in recent years and typically not fully used.
 - A motion to approve the proposed budget for “twenty six, twenty seven” was made and seconded; the report carried on voice vote.

National Convention

- National Convention Delegate Forms and Housing
 - Members were reminded to fill out national delegate forms today and visit the office for both delegate forms and housing forms.
 - A national delegate nomination meeting will be held in the morning tomorrow morning, after which the report will be given and the process concludes.
- Guests and Upcoming Address
 - A guest, the trailing candidate for National Commander, Mike Monserud from Iowa, was recognized and will address the body during the convention session.

Charter Actions

- Unfinished Business
 - Squadrons previously granted extensions were reviewed; based on the close of books membership report, squadrons not in good standing (minimum of ten members required) will have charters revoked.
 - Listed for revocation:
 - Fourth District Squadron 271
 - Ninth District Squadron 159
 - Eleventh District Squadron 1288
 - Twelfth District Squadron 729
 - Twenty Second District Squadron 65
 - Twenty-Three District Squadron 128
 - Motion to have the adjutant file cancellation paperwork and forward action to department was made, seconded, and carried.

Convention Logistics

- The first session of the convention will start at 2:30 this afternoon.
- Detachment advisors had no remarks.

- The meeting concluded with a moment of silence, closing prayer, and adjournment of the final executive committee meeting for membership year “twenty five and twenty six.”

Open Issues & Risks

- Attendance and Certification
 - Some districts are noted as “not certified” and several officers/district commanders were excused; potential impact on quorum and representation was not discussed.
- Fundraising Shortfalls
 - Discontinuation of the cash raffle and license plate program due to insufficient names reduces projected revenue, necessitating transfers from overage to cover the budget.
 - Continued reliance on overage may pose a long-term sustainability risk if spending increases or reserves diminish.
- Charter Revocations
 - Multiple squadrons are being canceled for not meeting the minimum of ten members; this indicates membership compliance challenges and potential organizational impact in affected districts.

Action Items

- Submit any outstanding expense reports to the finance officer by July 25 (must be received by that date).
- Complete national convention delegate forms at the office today.
- Complete housing forms next door today for the national convention.
- Adjutant to file the necessary paperwork to cancel listed squadrons and send the action to department.

07-10-26 Meeting: Sons of the American Legion Illinois 63rd Annual Convention — Membership Dues, Elections, Program Reports, and Donations Meeting Minutes: Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois (63rd Annual Convention)

Date of Meeting: July 10, 2026

Time of Meeting: Approximately 2:30 PM

Location: Bank of Springfield (B.O.S.) Center, Springfield, Illinois

Roll Call: On file with Detachment Adjutant

1. Subject(s) Discussed

• Convention Opening & Procedures:

- Opening of the sixty-third annual convention of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois.
- Reading of the official convention call, outlining rules, schedules, and representation policies.
- Roll call of detachment officers and districts to establish a quorum.
- Adoption of the convention rules and credentials report.
- Logistical note to escort guests (ceremonial/sergeant-at-arms function).
- Recess of Session One of the convention.

• Reports & Updates:

- **Committee/Commission Reports:** Credentials, Rules, Americanism, Public Relations, Children & Youth, National Security, VA&R (Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation), and Veterans Employment and Education (VEE).
- **Officer Reports:** Reports from the Finance Officer and the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Division Commanders.
- **Program Updates:** Poppy Program, Junior Shooting Sports Program, and the "PUFL" in-state program.
- **National Security Update:** Covered Iraq–United States negotiations, Pacific drug interdiction operations, the Russia–Ukraine conflict, North Korea's posture, and China's focus on Taiwan. A potential "Emergency Services Group" concept is under consideration.
- **Finance Report:** The Finance Officer reported that no convention finances had been received yet.
- **VAVS Report:** Update on Veterans Affairs Volunteer Services (VAVS) and representation at VA Medical Centers.
- **Veterans' Homes:** Reports on visits to Illinois State Veterans' Homes.
- **Leadership/Training:** Reminder about a training session and availability of leadership/training reports in member booklets.

• Membership & Administration:

- **Staffing:** Introduction of Kamaya Walls as the new SAL Membership staff member.
- **Membership Cards:** An indefinite delay in the printing and distribution of new membership cards was announced due to national printing issues and a required local system update.
- **Squadron Data Report (SDR):** The importance of timely and accurate submission to avoid online renewal pricing mismatches.
- **Membership Cycles:** Clarification on membership card year (Jan-Dec), administrative year (Jul 1-Aug 31), and the October 20 payment deadline for officers.
- **Five-Year Cards:** Discussion on the Illinois-only five-year cards, which lock in the per capita rate at the year of purchase.
- **Division Merger:** The First Division District's will merge.
- **Resolutions & Endorsements:**
 - **Constitutional Amendment (Dues Increase):** A resolution was proposed, discussed, and approved to increase the annual detachment per capita dues to \$18.00.
 - **Memorial Resolutions:** Resolutions were presented and approved for Past Detachment Commanders Ray Chomowski and Richard Gooch.
 - **Candidate Endorsements:** Resolutions were presented to endorse candidates for various leadership positions for 2026-2027 and beyond.
- **Guest Remarks & Recognitions:**
 - Remarks from the Department President (Jill Layton).
 - Address from the Department Commander and Department Adjutant (Josh Thielen).
 - Introduction of Mike Monserud, the trailing candidate for the 2027-2028 National Commander position, who shared his "membership through mentorship" campaign message.
 - A detailed tribute to J.R. Stillwell, a founding member, recognizing his 70+ years of service.
 - Commendations for local SAL performance and encouragement for continued excellence.
 - Presentation of a token of appreciation to a guest.
- **Donations & Fundraising:**
 - Presentation of donations to various programs, including the American Legion Auxiliary Illini Girls State program, and Boys State and Baseball programs.
 - Collection of donations for various funds and projects.
 - **Fundraising Events:**
 - Silent auction of a "Freedom 250" metal piece benefitting the Commander's project.

- Raffle of a USA flag with “We the People” benefitting Boys State.
- **Upcoming Events & Logistics:**
 - Freedom Fest with an 80s band and BBQ.
 - Commander’s hospitality room.
 - Details on the upcoming joint family memorial service, business sessions, and elections.
 - Logistics for the National Convention in Louisville, including delegate nomination forms.

2. Identifiable Participants

- **Detachment Leadership & Officers:**
 - **Wayne Madson:** Detachment Commander
 - **John Nemanich:** Senior Vice Commander, acting as chair initially
 - **Jeff Van Horn (Adjutant):** Read convention call, conducted roll call
 - **Jeff Van Horn:** Detachment Adjutant
 - **Phil Stander:** Finance Officer
 - **Kevin O’Connell:** National Executive Committeeman (NEC)
 - **Chaplain Bryson Taylor:** Led the opening prayer
 - **Butch Ray:** Nineteenth District; National Membership and Squadron Activities Chairman
 - **Ed Rainey, Jack Brown, Zach Van Horn:** Sergeants at Arms
 - **Garrett Sleven, Sr.:** Past Detachment Commander (PDC), Presiding Elder, Resolutions Committee
 - **Rick Allen:** Past Detachment Commander (PDC), Seventeenth District
 - **Mike Vozar:** Past Detachment Commander (PDC), Twelfth District; Americanism & Public Relations Commission
 - **Bill Hollis:** Second Division Commander; Resolutions Committee
 - **Wade Hudson:** First Division Commander
 - **Garrett Slevin, Sr:** Third Division Commander, Chair of the Rules Committee
 - **Shawn Morecraft:** Fourth Division Commander
 - **Jeff Trout:** Fifth Division Commander; Detachment Judge Advocate
 - **Eugene Gort:** Chair of the Credentials Committee
 - **Bruno Williamson:** Reported on VAVS, VEE, and state homes
 - **Kevin O’Connell:** National Security report presenter
 - **John Walter:** SAL Post 208, Arlington Heights
- **Guests & Other Participants:**
 - **Jill Layton:** Department President
 - **Joe Lambert:** (Legion ANEC)

- **Josh Thielen:** (Department Adjutant)
- **Mike Monserud:** Trailing Candidate for National Commander
- **Kamaya Walls:** New SAL Membership Staff

3. Decisions Made

- **Adoption of Convention Rules:** A motion was made, seconded, and passed by voice vote to adopt the temporary rules of the sixty-third annual convention as the permanent rules.
- **Adoption of Credentials Report:** A motion was made and seconded to accept the Credentials Committee report as presented. The motion passed by a voice vote.
- **Dues Increase:** Resolution 2026-C7, to increase the annual detachment per capita dues to \$18.00 per member, was approved by voice vote.
- **Donations:**
 - A donation of \$1,350 from Auxiliary Unit 91 (Wauconda Post) was presented for the Illini Girls State program.
 - A separate donation of \$1,350 from American Legion Post 911 will be divided between the Boys State and Baseball programs.
- **Memorial Resolutions:**
 - Resolution 2026-C1, a memorial for Past Detachment Commander Ray Chelmowski, was approved.
 - A memorial resolution for Past Detachment Commander Richard Gooch was approved.
- **Candidate Endorsements:**
 - Resolution 2026-C3, endorsing John R. Nemanich for Detachment Commander (2026-2027), was received and filed.
 - Resolution 2026-C4, endorsing William D. Hollis for Senior Vice Commander (2026-2027), was received and filed.
 - Resolution 2026-C5, endorsing Butch Ray for the office of National Chaplain, was approved.
 - Resolution 2026-C6, endorsing Wayne Madson for the office of National Vice Commander, was approved.
- **Other:**
 - A token of appreciation presented to each guest was acknowledged and accepted.

4. Responsible Parties and Next Steps

- **Detachment & Convention Leadership:**
 - **Chair:** Advance the agenda to subsequent reports (e.g., VA&R), oversee silent auction logistics, host the hospitality room, and maintain the event schedule.
 - **Detachment Leadership:** Present copies of memorial resolutions to the families of Ray Chelmowski and Richard

Gooch. Forward approved national endorsement resolutions (for Butch Ray and Wayne Madson) to the national office.

- **Sergeant at Arms:** Hang the plaque from National honoring J.R. Stillwell at the department headquarters. Escort guests as directed.
- **District Commanders:** Draft and distribute letters to squadrons explaining the dues changes and key timelines.
- **First Division Leadership:** Continue planning for the District merger set to begin the next membership year.
- **Detachment Adjutant:** Coordinate multi-channel communications (mail, social media) about dues changes and provide updates on the Puffal program when available.
- **NEC/Leadership:** Monitor national discussions on potential dues increases and the "Emergency Services Group" concept.
- **Bruno Williamson:** Actively seek a volunteer to be the VAVS representative at the Level Federated VA Medical Center in North Chicago.
- **Squadron & Member Actions:**
 - **Squadron Adjutants:** Submit Squadron Data Report (SDR) forms with correct dues amounts to National on time.
 - **Members:** Encouraged to keep J.R. Stillwell in their thoughts and send cards. Members interested in earning money by assembling poppies should contact Department Headquarters.
 - **Donating Parties:** Ensure all checks are made out to "The Detachment of Illinois" with the specific fund noted in the memo section.
 - **National Convention Attendees:** Elected delegates and alternates for the 54th Annual National Convention must attend a meeting immediately following the final business session on Saturday, July 11, 2026. Nomination forms must be completed and submitted.
 - **Membership Inquiries:** Direct inquiries to Kamaya Walls between 8:30 AM and 12:30 PM. After 12:30 PM, contact Emily or Mike Monroe.
 - **Department Leadership:** Administer the new "Trifecta Award" for recruiting a new member in each of the Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons.

5. Deadlines, Pending Issues, and Referrals

- **Deadlines:**
 - **Expense Reports:** All 2025-2026 expense reports must be submitted to Phil (Finance Officer) by **July 25, 2026**, to close the books by July 31, 2026.

- **National Convention Registration:** Must be completed by the end of the day, **July 10, 2026**. Nomination forms for delegates must be completed on the convention floor on this day.
- **Housing Form:** Due on **July 11, 2026**, to be submitted directly to the Department.
- **Officer Membership Payment:** Due by **October 20, 2026**, annually, per national bylaws.
- **Pending Issues:**
 - **Membership Cards:** Distribution is delayed indefinitely due to printing issues at the national level and a required local system update.
 - **Dues Increase:** The approved increase to \$18.00 will take effect with the distribution of the 2028 national membership cards.
 - **Veterans' Homes:** All five state homes are in desperate need of volunteers.
 - **Poppy Program:** Poppy part-making machines are no longer functional; Department Headquarters now purchases pre-cut petals for in-house assembly.
 - **Veterans Employment and Education (VEE):** The commission is "stagnant" at both detachment and national levels. A new brochure is in development with an unknown release date.
 - **VAVS Representation:** A representative is still urgently needed for the Level Federated VA Medical Center in North Chicago.
 - **National Dues Increase:** Rumors of a national dues increase within 1-2 years are circulating.
 - **"PUFL" Program:** Awaiting an actuarial review due to the dues changes; tables are expected by the end of the 2026 calendar year.
- **Referrals & Upcoming Events:**
 - **Silent Auction:** Bids for the "Freedom 250" piece must be placed at Emblem Sales. The high bid will be announced after the memorial service on July 11.

07-11-26 Convention: Sons of the American Legion Illinois — Session Two
Awards, Elections, and Officer Installation

63rd Annual Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Illinois Convention
— Session Two, Awards, Elections, and Installation

1. Title

63rd Annual Convention — Session Two, Awards & Membership Reports,
Elections, Delegation, and Installation of Officers

2. Date & Time & Location

- Date: July 11, 2026
- Time: Approximately 09:35–11:00 AM
- Location: BOS Center

3. Participants (full roll call on file with Adjutant)

- Presiding/Command Leadership:
 - Senior Vice (John Nemanich presiding at session start; later elected Commander)
 - Outgoing Commander Wayne (Madsen; presiding during awards/session and delivering final report)
 - Detachment Adjutant: Jeff Van Horn
- Sergeant at Arms: Ed Rainey, Jack Brown, Zach Van Horn
- Officers & Committee:
 - NEC O'Connell
 - ANEC Vozar
 - Assistant Adjutant: Eugene Gort
 - Finance Officer: Phil Stander
 - Judge Advocate: Jeff Trout; Judge Advocate Emeritus JR (excused)
 - Parliamentarian: Cisna
 - Chaplain: Bryson Taylor
 - Historian: Jeff Trout
 - Advisory Committee Chair (report in convention book)
- Division Commanders:
 - 1st: Hudson; 2nd: Hollis; 3rd: Slevin; 4th: Mark Allen (excused); 5th: Trout
- Districts: Multiple districts called; several present; some excused or absent
- Past/Noted Members:
 - PNC Stillwell (excused); PNC Reese
 - Immediate Past Detachment Commander Rick (tied up upstairs)
 - Multiple named members (various statuses)
- National/Regional Representatives:
 - National Chair of Membership & Squadron Activities: Butch Ray
- Honorees/Awardees:
 - Wade Hudson — Blue Brigade Jacket (signed 30+ new members)
 - Tom Asay – Blue Brigade Jacket (signed 30+ new members)

- Shawn Morecraft — Detachment Member of the Year
- Scholarship recipients — nine \$1,000 awards
- District Squadron's of the Year winners: 2nd – 973; 3rd – 2017; 5th – 687; 9th – 36; 12th – 337; 17th – 624; 18th – 1019; 21st – 73; 22nd – 199; 23rd – 28; 24th – 109
- Delegation & Elections:
 - Delegates/Alternates — 22 delegates and 4 alternates approved; Wayne Madsen (Chairman), John Nemanich (Vice Chairman), Jeff Van Horn (Secretary of delegation)
 - Bill Hollis — elected Senior Vice Commander (2026–2027)
 - John Nemanich — unanimously elected and installed Detachment Commander (2026–2027)
 - Bill Hollis — installed Senior Vice Commander (per installation segment)

4. Meeting Goal

- Reconvene Session Two, confirm roll and attendance, conduct awards presentations (including Blue Brigade Jackets), deliver membership and program reports, recognize outstanding squadrons/members/scholarship recipients, adopt recruitment and mentorship initiatives, nominate and approve National Convention delegation, conduct elections for 2026–2027 leadership, install officers, present outgoing commander recognitions, complete raffle drawings and fundraising reports, and conclude the 63rd Annual Convention.

5. Key Findings in 5 Bullet Points

- Session Management & Attendance:
 - Commander absent at start; Senior Vice presided to maintain schedule; roll conducted across officers/divisions/districts with several excused/absent; colors in place by Sergeant at Arms team.
- Membership & Recognition:
 - National membership at 98.67% as of 2026-07-09 (7,224 needed to reach 409,244); Illinois at 94.69% (13,743/14,514), ranked 43rd; Blue Brigade Jacket awards delayed nationally; Wade Hudson recognized for signing 30+ new members.
- Programs & Awards:
 - Nine \$1,000 scholarships awarded; new District Squadron of the Year award introduced, with gaps in district nominations; Member Mentorship Mission (M&M's) adopted encouraging five-year mentorship for new recruits; emphasis on Legiontown and Millennium submissions.
- Elections, Delegation, and Installation:
 - 22 delegates and 4 alternates approved for the 54th National Convention (Louisville); dress guidance provided; Bill Hollis

elected uncontested as Senior Vice Commander; later, John Nemanich unanimously elected and installed as Detachment Commander; Bill Hollis installed as Senior Vice Commander in installation segment.

- Fundraising & Closing:
 - Total funds raised reported at \$9,532 for veterans support and projects; raffles conducted with a \$1,430 prize to S. Hayes; outgoing Commander Wayne honored with multiple gifts; motion passed to close elections and resume session; convention adjourned with scheduled post-session meetings.

6. Decisions

- Proceed with Session Two and awards under Senior Vice due to commander's initial absence.
- Mark officers/divisions/districts present/excused/absent per roll call; quorum implied.
- Begin Blue Brigade Jacket award presentations led by National Membership Chair; note national delay/backlog.
- Adopt Member Mentorship Mission (M&M's) as a guiding principle for recruitment and retention.
- National Membership Committee to focus on squadron activities and create a national calendar; members urged to use Legiontown and Millennium for sharing best practices.
- District commanders held accountable for submitting District Squadron of the Year nominations; failure noted as neglect of duty.
- Membership cards emphasized for submission in first six months; second half focused on recruiting new members.
- Approve Detachment Commander's final report by majority vote.
- Approve slate of 22 delegates and 4 alternates for National Convention; delegation leadership named (Chair: Wayne Madsen; Vice Chair: John Nemanich; Secretary: Jeff Van Horn); dress code guidance provided.
- Elect Bill Hollis as Detachment Senior Vice Commander (2026–2027) by unanimous ballot.
- Unanimously elect and install John Nemanich as Detachment Commander (2026–2027); install Senior Vice Commander Bill Hollis (per installation segment).
- Approve motion to close election process and resume convention session; confirm convention adjournment following closing prayer and honors.

7. Tasks with: Who is responsible & By when should the task be completed?

- Sign guest book ("250 guest book") across the hall:
 - Responsible: All attendees
 - Deadline: July 11, 2026
- Coordinate stage/podium access for award presenters:

- Responsible: Sergeant at Arms team (Ranney, Brown, Van Horn)
- Update attendance records from roll call (present/excused/absent statuses):
 - Responsible: Adjutant
- Submit squadron events to the national calendar (once established):
 - Responsible: All Squadron Commanders
 - Start: July 12, 2026; ongoing
- Post squadron events on Legiontown and submit articles to Millennium:
 - Responsible: All Squadron Commanders/Representatives
 - Deadline: Ongoing starting July 11, 2026
- Nominate deserving chaplains for Chaplain Cross Award:
 - Responsible: District Commanders
 - Deadline: Before next convention cycle
- Submit District Squadron of the Year nominations:
 - Responsible: All District Commanders
 - Deadline: Before next annual convention
- Recruit new members and complete IRA Pin applications (5+ new members):
 - Responsible: All members; submit to Regional Membership Chairman
 - Deadline: Ongoing; begin immediately (July 11, 2026)
- Continue annual flag-placement program at All Saints Cemetery:
 - Responsible: Kevin O'Connell/Squadron 36, 9th District
 - Deadline: Annually — Memorial Day weekend Saturday
- National Convention logistics — housing forms and guest registrations:
 - Responsible: Delegates/Guests to submit housing forms to Legion's office; Phil Stander, Jeff Trout, Bill Hollis, Rick Allen, Rick Feiger, Matt Christie to contact Jeff Van Horn for guest registration fees
 - Deadline: As soon as possible; before National Convention
- Donations and raffle proceeds:
 - Responsible: Divisions/units with pending donations (e.g., Fifth Division) to submit additional donations; Fifth Division representative (Speaker 5) to present raffle proceeds check (~\$160; final to confirm)
 - Deadline: July 11, 2026 (end of day)
- Delegates/Alternates brief:
 - Responsible: Delegates/Alternates; Coordinator
 - Deadline: July 11, 2026, 10 minutes after adjournment, same room
- Post-DEC meeting for newly seated Detachment Executive Committee:
 - Responsible: New DEC members
 - Deadline: July 11, 2026, immediately after delegates' brief
- Leadership training (Division/District leadership and chairmen):

- Responsible: All designated leaders/chairmen
 - Deadline: July 11, 2026, 1:00–2:00 PM, designated training room
- Youth Academy session:
 - Responsible: Youth Academy organizers/participants
 - Deadline: July 11, 2026, 1:00 PM, adjacent room
- Meet & greet for newly elected Illinois Legion Family officers:
 - Responsible: All interested attendees
 - Deadline: July 11, 2026, 3:00 PM, next door
- PDC's breakfast:
 - Responsible: Attendees; Host Rick Allen
 - Deadline: July 12, 2026, 9:00 AM at Lulu's Diner, 608 9th Street
- Hospitality room gathering:
 - Responsible: Attendees; Coordinator Rick Feger
 - Deadline: July 11, 2026, after banquet, Room 1121
- Incoming leadership responsibilities:
 - Responsible: Commander John Nemanich — lead detachment; Senior Vice (Bill Hollis) — focus on membership and cooperation; Leadership Team — organize and promote "Climb On Board" initiative; develop and execute fundraising for Illinois American Legion Family Disaster Relief Fund
 - Deadline: Effective immediately; throughout 2026–2027 term

8. Risks / Open Items

- Illinois membership ranking (43rd) and national shortfall (7,224 as of 2026-07-09) present urgency; risk of continued decline without adoption of new strategies (M&M's).
- No Chaplain Cross applications submitted this year indicates awareness gap; risk of continued under-recognition.
- Not all districts submitted District Squadron of the Year nominations; reflects engagement/accountability gap at district level.
- National squadron activity calendar in planning with no confirmed platform/process/launch date; submission workflow unclear.
- Donation check amount from Fifth Division pending confirmation and delivery.
- Advisory Committee report available in convention book; questions may remain unaddressed in-session.
- Tight scheduling on July 11, 2026 (back-to-back meetings/training) may cause overlap or attendance issues.

07-11 Meeting: Sons of the American Legion Post-Convention Executive Committee

Date & Time: 2026-07-11 18:04:28

Location: BOS Center

Attendees: On file with Adjutant

Overview

This document outlines the proceedings of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois, post-convention executive committee meeting on July 11, 2026. The meeting formalized officer and committee appointments for the 2026-2027 membership year. Key discussions included a strategic focus on membership growth, the introduction of a new ethics code for leadership, and significant changes to the Lincoln Pilgrimage award requirements. The meeting also announced an upcoming leadership training session.

Opening Ceremonies

- The meeting began with the appointment of temporary officers, a prayer led by the Chaplain, the Pledge of Allegiance, and a recitation of the Preamble of the Sons of the American Legion.
- The Adjutant conducted a roll call of officers, divisions, and districts.

Appointments and Updates

- A list of officer appointments for the 2026-2027 membership year was read and approved. All appointments had been previously vetted by the Department of Illinois SAL Advisory Committee and Internal Affairs.
- A motion was made and passed to approve the full list of committee and commission appointments for the 2026-2027 year.
- The Commander's pins are available for officers and district representatives to pick up and distribute.
- A leadership training session for division, district, and chairmen leaders was scheduled to begin shortly after the meeting's adjournment.

Membership and Service

- The Commander emphasized membership as a primary focus. The strategy is to re-sign existing members in the first six months of the year and then concentrate on recruiting new members in the second six months.
- Members were encouraged to actively assist other groups within the American Legion family that are in need of help.

New Ethics Code

- An ethics code has been approved by the Department of Illinois for detachment officers and division commanders.
- These leaders will be required to sign the code, which outlines expected conduct, do's and don'ts, and responsibilities.
- Members with questions or concerns about the code are encouraged to contact the speaker or Jeff Trout.

Lincoln Pilgrimage Award Changes

- The requirements for the Lincoln Pilgrimage awards have been changed dramatically, and members were urged to review the new criteria in the membership book calendar.
- The new standards are more stringent but achievable. Under the previous year's criteria, no one would have qualified for a jacket, whereas four or five were awarded.
- The goal is to have 27 jacket winners, with one eligible from each division and district, to showcase the department's strength.
- This change reinforces the expectation that individuals who accept a position must fulfill the associated duties.

Closing

- The meeting concluded with a moment of silence for departed comrades and a closing prayer.

Preamble

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



***Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants
of veterans of all Wars, associate ourselves together as
“Sons of The American Legion” for the following purposes:***

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in all Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.



★ **The Order of Business of the Convention is subject to change as necessary:**

The actions of an annual Convention of the Detachment of Illinois are subject to the approval of the Department of Illinois Sons of The American Legion Liaison (Advisory) Committee and through them to the Department of Illinois, The American Legion Department Executive Committee.

★ **Procedure for Registration of Delegates, Alternate Delegates and Guests of the Detachment Convention:**

If a certification of Delegates and Alternates has not been filed in advance with Department Headquarters, the certification may be filed by the first available member of a squadron, filed with the registrar upon arrival at the Convention Registration Desk. Any squadron member may register as a delegate or alternate up to the maximum number allowed for that squadron.

If a squadron late submits a Certification Form, those delegates and alternates already registered **WILL NOT BE CHANGED**. Those additional names on the certification shall be allowed to register for whatever remaining representation is allowed for that squadron.

★ **Meeting of the National Convention Delegates and Alternates:**

Immediately following the adjournment of the 62nd Annual Detachment Convention, meet with Rick Allen, Immediate Past Detachment of Illinois Commander, Delegation Chairman.

All elected delegates and alternates to the 53rd Annual Sons of The American Legion National Convention assembled in Tampa, FL will meet to relay information and instructions.

★ **Detachment Executive Committee Meeting:**

Immediately following the adjournment of the National Convention Delegates and Alternates Meeting meet with newly elected Detachment of Illinois Commander.

The newly elected Detachment Commander, Detachment Sr. Vice Commander, All Division Commanders, Division Vice Commanders, District Commanders, District Vice Commanders, National Executive Committeeman, Alternate Executive Committeeman, Past Detachment of Illinois Commanders, and Past National Commanders shall meet for the purpose of necessary appointments and any other business that shall come before the Executive Committee.



Rules of the Detachment Convention

Rules of the 62nd Annual Convention of the Detachment of Illinois and the Temporary Rules of the 63rd Annual Convention

1. The parliamentary procedure of the Annual Detachment Convention shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, and a herein modified.
2. The organization of the convention shall be in accordance with the rules submitted herewith and the Call for Convention here afore issued by the Detachment Adjutant.
3. A quorum shall exist when thirteen (13) Districts or three (3) Divisions are represented by Delegates and Alternates present.
4. A vote of the Convention shall be polled by the twenty-three (23) Districts. Said Districts are those as provided in Article III of the Detachment Constitution.
5. When a roll call is ordered, Each District Chairman shall announce the vote of his District when called by the Convention Chairman.
6. Squadrons need not cast their votes as a unit nor need a District vote be cast as a unit, but the total votes for or against a proposition shall be announced by the District Chairman. A requirement for unit voting is prohibited.
7. When a poll of any District is demanded by a Delegate of that said District, the Secretary of the Convention shall poll the vote of that District by Squadron without any debate or discussion of the question on which the vote is being demanded. Said poll shall take place at the conclusion of the Roll Call of Districts.
8. Each Delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The vote of a Delegate absent and not represented by an Alternate shall be cast with the majority of the Delegates present from his District.
9. Each District shall be entitled to one (1) Advisor and one (1) Alternate Advisor, who are members of The American Legion and who are members of a Post within the geographical boundaries of said District. Said Advisor and Alternate Advisor shall have voice but no vote.
10. No Delegate shall be permitted to talk more than once on any one subject, unless he has made the motion relating to the subject, and then only twice. No Delegate shall be permitted to talk longer than five (5) minutes on any one subject, except by the consent of a majority of the Delegates present. Chairmen of Convention Committees, or the minority representative, in the case of a minority report, may speak as frequently as may be necessary in connection with the report of their committee and in the event of a debate, the presiding officer shall not entertain a motion which will curtail further debate without affording the Chairman or Committee Representative an opportunity for rebuttal.
11. No Alternate, Advisor or Alternate Advisor shall be permitted to talk more than once on any one subject not longer than three (3) minutes.
12. The Convention shall have the following Committees: Rules, Credentials, Constitutional Amendments, National Delegate Nominations, Membership and Squadron activities, Americanism, Children and Youth, Legislation, National Security, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, and Resolutions.
13. Each Convention Committee shall meet and elect its own Chairman and Secretary.
14. Voting shall be by acclamation, except when a roll call shall be demanded by one or more Delegates from four (4) Districts, or the Chairmen from at least four (4) Districts, except in the election of Detachment Officers.
15. Each District shall elect a Chairman for that District, except those Districts which have organized and elected Officers. In such Districts, the Commander shall be the Chairman.
16. The Detachment Officers to be elected by this convention shall be those provided in Article VI of the Detachment Constitution.
17. Nominations for Detachment Officers shall be from the floor on a roll call of Districts numerically arranged.

Each District may present as many candidates as it chooses.

18. All nomination and seconding speeches are limited to only members of the Sons of The American Legion Detachment Convention with appropriate Sons of The American Legion cap and Detachment Convention delegate badge.
19. In the event that more than two (2) candidates are nominated for any one (1) office, the balloting shall continue until one candidate receives a majority vote of the convention.
20. When a Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Advisor or Alternate Advisor desires to address the convention or when a Delegate desires to make a motion, he shall rise, state his name and the number of his Squadron and District before proceeding.
21. Until the Convention Committee on Credentials shall report, sitting Delegates shall constitute the temporary convention, provided, however, that no committee report shall be acted upon prior to the report of the Credentials Committee, the Rules Committee excepted.
22. Resolutions, printed in the Resolutions book, need be only reported by number, as long as the committee recommendation is to accept or reject, in total, as printed. Any special resolutions and any numbered resolution that is amended must be read and reported on separately.
23. The Business Session of the Convention will be outlined in the Official Convention Program or as otherwise decided by the convention body in session.
24. The consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting strength of the Convention shall be necessary for the suspension of any Rule of this Convention.
25. There shall be no food or alcoholic beverages allowed on the Convention floor during the Convention Sessions.
26. Disruption of Convention business during any of the regularly scheduled Convention Sessions will not be tolerated. Upon the first disruption, to be determined by the Detachment Commander, the Detachment Sergeant at Arms will issue a "warning" to the offending party. If a second disruption occurs, the Detachment Sergeant at Arms will escort the offending party from the Convention floor for the remainder of that convention session.
27. Appropriate attire will be required of all Detachment Officers and all members of the Detachment who will be addressing the Convention from the podium. Appropriate attire for the above mentioned will consist of: dress slacks, collared shirt, jacket, tie and Sons of The American Legion cap.
28. Any member of the Detachment who will be approaching the podium for the purpose of making a donation, accepting an award or any other purpose shall wear appropriate attire consisting of: dress slacks, collared shirt, jacket, tie and Sons of The American Legion cap.





Memorial Resolution

Ray Chelmowski

Past Detachment Commander ~ 2005

- WHEREAS,** *It has pleased Almighty God, the Supreme Commander, to summon to His Immortal Legion our beloved comrade, 2005 Past Detachment Commander Ray Chelmowski; and*
- WHEREAS,** *We humbly bow to the will of divine providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of his most distinguished service to his community, state and nation, as well as his outstanding contributions to The American Legion and knowing what "For God and Country" truly means; now, therefore be it*
- RESOLVED,** *That Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Illinois, does mourn the passing of our comrade, Ray Chelmowski, that we further commend to all men his works and to God, his spirit; and be it further*
- RESOLVED,** *That in token of our common grief, a copy of this Resolution transferring Ray Chelmowski to Squadron Everlasting be presented to his family.*

*Adopted by the 63rd Annual Detachment Convention, assembled in Springfield, IL
on this 10th day of July 2026*

Wayne G. Madson

Wayne Madson Detachment Commander
Sons of The American Legion

Attest:

Jeffrey Van Horn

Jeffrey Van Horn, Detachment Adjutant
Sons of The American Legion



Memorial Resolution

Richard Gooch

Past Detachment Commander ~ 1970

- WHEREAS,** *It has pleased Almighty God, the Supreme Commander, to summon to His Immortal Legion our beloved comrade, 1970 Past Detachment Commander Richard Gooch; and*
- WHEREAS,** *We humbly bow to the will of divine providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of his most distinguished service to his community, state and nation, as well as his outstanding contributions to The American Legion and knowing what "For God and Country" truly means; now, therefore be it*
- RESOLVED,** *That Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Illinois, does mourn the passing of our comrade, Richard Gooch, that we further commend to all men his works and to God, his spirit; and be it further*
- RESOLVED,** *That in token of our common grief, a copy of this Resolution transferring Richard Gooch to Squadron Everlasting be presented to his family.*

*Adopted by the 63rd Annual Detachment Convention, assembled in Springfield, IL
on this 10th day of July 2026*

Attest:

Wayne Madson, Detachment Commander
Sons of The American Legion

Jeffrey Van Horn, Detachment Adjutant
Sons of The American Legion

THIS FORM MUST BE TYPED

OFFICIAL FORM

RESOLUTION

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT HEADQUARTERS
ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
P.O. BOX 2910, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702-2910

Resolution No. 2026-C3

Date 05/15/26

Subject Detachment Commander Support

PLEASE DO NOT FILL IN ABOVE THIS LINE

WHEREAS: John R. Nemanich's eligibility for membership in the Sons of the American Legion has been established through his Father, John F. Nemanich, an honorably discharged World War II United States Army Veteran, who received the World War II Victory medal, also the Army of Occupation (Japan) medal and his Grandfather, John J. Nemanich, an honorably discharged World War I United States Army Wagoner Veteran; and

WHEREAS: John R. Nemanich has been a dual member in good standing for the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois for 14 years as a member of the Palatine Memorial Squadron 690 and the American Legion Department of Illinois for 7 years as a member of the Palatine Post 690 in Palatine; and

WHEREAS: John R. Nemanich has held the elected positions of Commander and Chaplain for Palatine Memorial Squadron 690 of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois; and

WHEREAS: John R. Nemanich held the elected position of Jr Vice Commander and appointed Chaplain and Judge Advocate for 9th District of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois; and

WHEREAS: John R. Nemanich has held the appointed position of Detachment Chaplain for 7 years for the Sons of the American Legion, the Detachment of Illinois; and

WHEREAS: John R. Nemanich was elected Senior Vice Commander for the Sons of the American Legion, the Detachment of Illinois for the 2025-2026 membership year; and

WHEREAS: John R. Nemanich held the elected positions of Jr Vice Commander and State Convention Delegate representing Palatine Memorial Post 690, American Legion, Department of Illinois, and

WHEREAS: John R. Nemanich, "Sgt. Nemanich" served in the United States Marine Corps from 1978 -1982, he was assigned to the Marine Helicopter Squadron One, Presidential Unit and was awarded "The Presidential Service Certificate and Medal #6904 for Honorable Service in the White House"; and therefore be it

RESOLVED: By the Sons of the American Legion Palatine Memorial Squadron 690 of Palatine, Detachment of Illinois, does hereby endorse and support John R. Nemanich into consideration for the high office of Commander for the Detachment of Illinois for the membership year of 2026-2027; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this Resolution be forwarded to the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois, for favorable consideration and adoption at their Detachment Convention held in Springfield, Illinois July 10-11, 2026.

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

Approved _____ Rejected _____
Approved with Amendments _____
Consolidated with _____

Referred to Standing Commission or Committee on _____

Received and Recorded _____
Other Action _____
signature _____

(Convention Committee Chairman or Secretary)

This is to certify that the above resolution was adopted by our Squadron but with indicated Detachment action substituted for the local resolving clause.

Submitted by (Squadron Name): Palatine Memorial

Squadron No.: 690

Location of Squadron (City): Palatine

(Commander): Mike Rocha

(Adjutant): Greg Norwich

NOTE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM.

THIS FORM MUST BE TYPED

OFFICIAL FORM

RESOLUTION

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT HEADQUARTERS
ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
P.O. BOX 2910, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702-2910

Resolution No. 2026-C4

Date 05/15/26

Subject Detachment Sr Vice Commander Support

PLEASE DO NOT FILL IN ABOVE THIS LINE

- WHEREAS:** William D. Hollis's eligibility for membership in the Sons of the American Legion has been established through his Father, William T. Hollis, Jr., an honorably discharged United States Army veteran. As well as his grandfather Alexander G. Russell an honorably discharged United States Merchant Marine who served during World War II; and
- WHEREAS** William D. Hollis has been a member in good standing of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois for 17 years as a member of the Naperville Squadron 43 in Naperville, Illinois; and
- WHEREAS:** William D. Hollis has held the elected position of Commander with Squadron 589 of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois; and
- WHEREAS:** William D. Hollis has held the elected position of Junior Vice Commander for the 11th District of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois. William D. Hollis is currently serving as Senior Vice Commander; and
- WHEREAS:** William D. Hollis has held the elected positions of Junior Vice Commander and Senior Vice Commander for the 2nd Division of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois. William D. Hollis is currently serving as 2nd Division Commander; and
- WHEREAS:** William D. Hollis is currently holding the appointed positions of Chairman of the Children & Youth Committee for the Detachment of Illinois and is a member of the National Membership Training & Development (MT&D); and therefore be it
- RESOLVED:** The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 43, Detachment of Illinois, does hereby endorse and support William D. Hollis into consideration for the high office of Senior Vice Commander for the Detachment of Illinois for the membership year of 2026-2027; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That this Resolution be forwarded to the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Illinois, for favorable consideration and adoption at the Detachment Convention to be held in Springfield, Illinois on July 10-11, 2026.

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

Approved _____ Rejected _____
Approved with Amendments _____
Consolidated with _____
Referred to Standing Commission or Committee on _____
Received and Recorded _____
Other Action _____
signature _____
(Convention Committee Chairman or Secretary)

This is to certify that the above resolution was adopted by our Squadron but with indicated Detachment action substituted for the local resolving clause.

Submitted by (Squadron Name) Naperville

Squadron No. 43

Location of Squadron (City) Naperville

Commander Chris Lance

Adjutant Mike Caladrese

NOTE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM.

THIS FORM MUST BE TYPED

OFFICIAL FORM

RESOLUTION

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT HEADQUARTERS
ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
P.O. BOX 2910, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702-2910

Resolution No. 2026-C5

Date 05/15/26

Subject Detachment Support for National Chaplain

PLEASE DO NOT FILL IN ABOVE THIS LINE

WHEREAS: IT BECOMES THE OBLIGATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, TO SUBMIT A CANDADATE FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE HIGH OFFICE OF NATIONAL CHAPLAIN AND,

WHEREAS: IT IS THE BELIEF OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS THAT THE HIGH OFFICE OF NATIONAL CHAPLAIN BE FILLED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS SHOWN HIS LOYALTY AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BY VIRTUE OF HIS PAST SERVICE AND,

WHEREAS: THE DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS, SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE SUCH A CANDADATE FOR THIS HIGH OFFICE AND,

WHEREAS: HE HAS SERVED IN MANY POSITIONS OF COMMAND AND RESPONSIBILITY AT THE SQUADRON, DISTRICT, DIVISION, AND DETACTMENT LEVEL AND,

WHEREAS: HE HAS SERVED AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL HAVING BEEN APPOINTED TO SERVE ON MANY NATIONAL COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES INCLUDING AS AIDE TO THE NATIONAL COMMANDER IN 2008-2009, AS NATIONAL CHAPLAIN IN 2014-2015, AND CURRENTLY HOLDS THE TITLE OF CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND SQUADRON ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE FOR 2025-2026 ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR, AND,

WHEREAS: HE HAS SERVED HIS CHURCH IN VARIOUS CAPACITIES AS AN ORDAINED DECON AND ELDER AND SERVED AS YOUTH DIRECTOR, MISSION TRIP ADVISOR AND PARTICIPANT AND PROVIDES STRONG SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE AND INFLUENCE ON THOSE HE MEETS, NOW THEREFORE BE IT,

RESOLVED: BY THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS, DOES HEREBY ENDORSE AND WISHES TO PLACE THE NAME OF COMRADE HARL D. "BUTCH" RAY" INTO CONSIDERATION FOR THE HIGH OFFICE OF NATIONAL CHAPLAIN, SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, AND BE IT FINALLY;

RESOLVED: THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION FOR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION.

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

Approved _____ Rejected _____
Approved with Amendments _____
Consolidated with _____
Referred to Standing Commission or Committee on _____
Received and Recorded _____
Other Action _____
signature _____
(Convention Committee Chairman or Secretary)

This is to certify that the above resolution was adopted by our Squadron but with indicated Detachment action substituted for the local resolving clause.

Submitted by: Headquarters Squadron

Squadron No: 2910

(Commander): Wayne Madson

(Adjutant): Jeffrey Van Horn

NOTE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM.

THIS FORM MUST BE TYPED

OFFICIAL FORM

RESOLUTION

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT HEADQUARTERS
ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
P.O. BOX 2910, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702-2910

Resolution No. 2026-C6

Date 05/15/26

Subject Detachment Support for National Vice Candidate

PLEASE DO NOT FILL IN ABOVE THIS LINE

WHEREAS, Wayne Madson eligibility for membership in the Sons of The American Legion has been established through his grandfather Lyle McCollough an honorably discharged veteran of the U S Army who served during WW2; and

WHEREAS, Wayne Madson is a 10 year member in good standing and a PUFL member of Squadron 252 in Breese, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Wayne Madson has held various elected and appointed offices in the 23rd District and 5th Division, Sons of The American Legion , Detachment of Illinois, including District and Division Commander multiple times; and

WHEREAS; Wayne Madson has been Chairman of Legislative, National Security, and SAL Leadership and Training at Detachment level; and

WHEREAS; Wayne Madson was elected Commander Detachment of Illinois for membership year 2025-2026; and

WHEREAS; Wayne Madson was appointed to the National Legislative Commission 2023-2024; and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, Squadron #252, Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Illinois in regular meeting assembled in Breese, Illinois on May 6,2026 proudly endorse Wayne Madson for the high office of National Vice Commander, Sons of The American Legion; and

RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Illinois, for favorable consideration and adoption; and

RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to the National Sons of The American Legion, for favorable consideration and adoption.

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

Approved _____ Rejected _____
Approved with Amendments _____
Consolidated with _____
Referred to Standing Commission or Committee on _____
Received and Recorded _____
Other Action _____
signature _____
(Convention Committee Chairman or Secretary)

This is to certify that the above resolution was adopted by our Squadron but with indicated Detachment action substituted for the local resolving clause.

Submitted by (Squadron Name): Breese

Squadron No.: 252

Location of Squadron (City): Breese, IL

(Commander): David Deutsch

(Adjutant): Andrew Niemann

NOTE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM.

THIS FORM MUST BE TYPED

OFFICIAL FORM

RESOLUTION

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT HEADQUARTERS
ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
P.O. BOX 2910, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702-2910

Resolution No. 2026-C7

Date 05/15/26

Subject: Finance Commission Dues Increase Recommendation

Referred to: Committee on Resolutions

PLEASE DO NOT FILL IN ABOVE THIS LINE

WHEREAS, since the inception of the organization in 1932, the principal mission of The Sons of The American Legion has been to support the needs, programs and legacy of the parent organization, "The American Legion", and

WHEREAS, over the past many years, as the Sons of The American Legion has grown in both membership and scope of service supported, the structure and administrative requirements have increased, and

WHEREAS, providing continued financial support is necessary to ensure the mission, through the service and support which the organization provides, is able to be sustained, and

WHEREAS, the Detachment of Illinois has not implemented a per capita dues increase since June 1, 2020, and

WHEREAS, to benefit the continued health and growth of the organization, it is dependent upon the ability to properly fund the programs and administrative costs, therefore an increase is necessary, and therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment Convention assembled July 10-11, 2026, in Springfield, Illinois, amend The Constitution of the Detachment Of Illinois Sons of The American Legion in Article XII, Section 2(a) to read: "The amount of such annual Detachment dues shall be eighteen (\$18.00) per member starting with the 2028 National Membership cards, and shall be payable October 20 of each year and for the succeeding year." and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the increase take effect with the distribution of the 2028 National Membership cards.

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

Approved _____ Rejected _____

Approved with Amendments _____

Consolidated with _____

Referred to Standing Commission or Committee on _____

Received and Recorded _____

Other Action _____

signature _____

(Convention Committee Chairman or Secretary)

This is to certify that the above resolution was adopted by the Finance Commission, Detachment of Illinois.

Jeff Trout, Chairman
Finance Commission

NOTE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM.

**Sons of
The
American
Legion**



For God and Country

DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS
P.O. Box 2910, Bloomington, Illinois 61702-2910
2720 E. Lincoln Street, Bloomington, Illinois 61704-6010

June 13, 2026

TO: Josh Thielen, Adjutant, Department of Illinois
FR: Jeffrey Van Horn, Adjutant, Detachment of Illinois
RE: 2025-26 Detachment of Illinois Charter Actions
C.C.: Wayne Madson, Commander, Detachment of Illinois
John Nemanich, Senior Vice Commander, Detachment of Illinois
Eugene Gort, Asst. Adjutant, Detachment of Illinois
Bill Flanagan, Chairman, Department of Illinois SAL Advisory
Mike Monroe, Director of Membership, Department of Illinois

Josh,

Here is a list of our final Charter Actions. These Squadrons will be actioned at our Pre-Convention DEC to have their Charters terminated. Every attempt has been made between Detachment, Division and District Officers to get these Squadrons in Good Standing.

Good Standing is a minimum of ten (10) members paid up and their Squadron certified with officers.

After Convention, a letter will be sent to each Post Commander and Adjutant informing them of their Squadron being terminated. All members of each Squadron will be transferred to 2910.

- 4th District, Squadron 271 Chicago/DG
- 9th District, Squadron 159 Lafayette
- 11th District, Squadron 1288 Bolingbrook
- 12th District, Squadron 729 Sheridan
- 22nd District, Squadron 665 St Jacob
- 23rd District, Squadron 128 Salem

11:57 AM
06/24/26
Cash Basis

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT
Balance Sheet
As of June 24, 2026

	Jun 24, 26
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Annual Donations	22,136.81
Children and Youth	1,291.80
EDWARD JONES	
AMERICAN BALANCED FUND - A	32,039.87
INVESTMENT CO OF AMERICA...	53,638.17
Total EDWARD JONES	85,678.04
National Candidate fund	33,879.53
Overage Savings	72,442.80
SAL General Checking	32,923.30
Scholarships	26,358.61
Total Checking/Savings	274,710.89
Total Current Assets	274,710.89
TOTAL ASSETS	274,710.89
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	205,037.44
Retained Earnings	35,690.91
Net Income	33,982.54
Total Equity	274,710.89
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	274,710.89

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
Income			
100000 - INCOME			
110000 - PER-CAPITA	73,859.50	70,000.00	3,859.50
120000 - INTEREST	15.00	20.00	-5.00
130000 - CONVENTION			
130001 - REGISTRATION	0.00	900.00	-900.00
Total 130000 - CONVENTION	0.00	900.00	-900.00
150000 - OTHER			
150001 - Dept. SWEEPSTAKES	6,648.11	2,500.00	4,148.11
150002 - MISC	28.84	0.00	28.84
150003 - Detachment Sweepstakes	12,360.00	24,313.00	-11,953.00
Total 150000 - OTHER	19,036.95	26,813.00	-7,776.05
170000 - INVESTMENT	16,850.14	10,000.00	6,850.14
Total 100000 - INCOME	109,761.59	107,733.00	2,028.59
160000 - DONATION SAVINGS			
160005 - CHILD WELFARE FNDT.	1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00
160008 - GIFTS TO YANKS	8,675.00	0.00	8,675.00
160024 - LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP	80.00	0.00	80.00
160025 - COMMANDERS PROJECT	1,062.00	0.00	1,062.00
160026 - OP. COMFORT WARRIOR	498.00	0.00	498.00
160028 - HONOR FLIGHT	250.00	0.00	250.00
160030 - BOYS STATE	500.00	0.00	500.00
160032 - THE HAVEN	250.00	0.00	250.00
160033 - MISC.	720.00	0.00	720.00
160034 - ILL. DISATER RELIEF	662.00	0.00	662.00
16035 - VCF (Veterans and Childrens Foundation)	527.00	0.00	527.00
Total 160000 - DONATION SAVINGS	14,824.00	0.00	14,824.00
Total Income	124,585.59	107,733.00	16,852.59
Expense			
010000 - ADM. NON-BUDGETED ACCT			
010004 - COMMANDER OVER BUDGET	2,663.98	0.00	2,663.98
010006 - MISC.	15,925.28	0.00	15,925.28
010011 - NAT. REPORTS	800.00	0.00	800.00
010012 - detachment Sweepstakes	10,358.00	15,000.00	-4,642.00
010013- chair/prom dept meet/10	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total 010000 - ADM. NON-BUDGETED ACCT	29,747.26	16,000.00	13,747.26
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	513.67	1,750.00	-1,236.33
202102 - FINANCE OFFICER	219.45	1,750.00	-1,530.55
202103 - HISTORIAN	0.00	100.00	-100.00
202104 - CHAPLAIN	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Total 202000- SUPPLIES	733.12	3,650.00	-2,916.88
203000 - MAINTENANCE			
203099 - MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 203000 - MAINTENANCE	0.00	100.00	-100.00

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
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	3,782.27	4,000.00	-217.73
204202 - PAST COMMANDER	0.00	350.00	-350.00
Total 204200 - PINS	3,782.27	4,350.00	-567.73
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	3,782.27	4,750.00	-967.73
207000 - ACCOUNT EXPENSES			
207104 - CHILD WELFARE FNDD.	1,350.00	0.00	1,350.00
Total 207000 - ACCOUNT EXPENSES	1,350.00	0.00	1,350.00
Total 200000 - GENERAL ADMIN. EXPENSE	5,865.39	8,800.00	-2,934.61
207300 - MANDATED			
207301 - SCHOLARSHIP	0.00	7,108.00	-7,108.00
207303 - ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP FUND	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
207304 - ANNUAL AUDIT	2,090.00	1,900.00	190.00
Total 207300 - MANDATED	3,590.00	10,508.00	-6,918.00
208000 BANK SERVICE CHARGES			
208002 CHECKS	0.00	175.00	-175.00
Total 208000 BANK SERVICE CHARGES	0.00	175.00	-175.00
270000 - INVESTMENT	3,997.59	0.00	3,997.59
300000 - FUNCTIONING EXPENSES			
301000 - ELECTED OFFICERS			
301001 - COMMANDER	4,250.22	4,000.00	250.22
301002 - SR. VICE COMMANDER	2,322.22	3,500.00	-1,177.78
301003 - N.E.C.	153.90	900.00	-746.10
301004 - A.N.E.C.	924.11	900.00	24.11
301005 ANEC FOR NEC MEETINGS	152.10	600.00	-447.90
3010205 - IM. PAST. COMMANDER	450.00	450.00	0.00
Total 301000 - ELECTED OFFICERS	8,252.55	10,350.00	-2,097.45
302000 - APPOINTED OFFICERS			
302001 - ADJUTANT	2,554.70	2,000.00	554.70
302002 - ASSIST. ADJUTANT #1	0.00	500.00	-500.00
302003 - FINANCE OFFICER	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
302004 - CHAPLAIN	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302005 - JUDGE ADVOCATE	450.00	450.00	0.00
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	300.00	300.00	0.00
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	322.35	450.00	-127.65
302019 - SR. VICE SRGT at ARMS	450.00	450.00	0.00
Total 302000 - APPOINTED OFFICERS	5,077.05	8,150.00	-3,072.95

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
303000 - COMMISSIONS			
303101 - FINANCE PLANNING	1,388.31	1,500.00	-111.69
Total 303000 - COMMISSIONS	1,388.31	1,500.00	-111.69
304000 - COMMITTEES			
304100 - SPECIAL COMM. MEETING			
304101 - CONVENTION SITE	205.46	750.00	-544.54
304102 - LEADERSHIP TRAINING	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 304100 - SPECIAL COMM. MEETING	205.46	1,050.00	-844.54
Total 304000 - COMMITTEES	205.46	1,050.00	-844.54
306000 - NATIONAL CONVENTION			
306001 - REGISTRATION FEES	0.00	1,600.00	-1,600.00
306002 - DELEGATE ALLOWANCES	6,800.00	8,000.00	-1,200.00
306003 - LUNCHEON	826.94	1,200.00	-373.06
306004 NAT. CON. DEL. SEC.	550.00	550.00	0.00
306006 - DELEGATION CHAIRMAN	550.00	550.00	0.00
306008 - INCOMING COMMANDER	550.00	550.00	0.00
Total 306000 - NATIONAL CONVENTION	9,276.94	12,450.00	-3,173.06
Total 300000 - FUNCTIONING EXPENSES	24,200.31	33,500.00	-9,299.69
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	115.09	100.00	15.09
Total 402000 - REGISTRATION	115.09	100.00	15.09
403000 - ADMINISTRATION			
403003 - FLOWERS	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 403000 - ADMINISTRATION	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 400000 - DETACHMENT CONVENTION	115.09	8,290.00	-8,174.91

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
500000 - MEMBERSHIP			
501000 - DIVISION COMMANDERS			
501100 - COMMANDERS (5)	600.00	1,500.00	-900.00
501200 - SEN. VICE COMM. (5)	0.00	750.00	-750.00
Total 501000 - DIVISION COMMANDERS	600.00	2,250.00	-1,650.00
502000 - DISTRICT OFFICERS			
502100 - COMMANDERS / CHMN (23)	360.00	2,760.00	-2,400.00
502200 - SR VICE COMMANDER (23)	100.00	1,150.00	-1,050.00
Total 502000 - DISTRICT OFFICERS	460.00	3,910.00	-3,450.00
503000 - CARAVAN			
503003 - NATIONAL CARAVAN	8,568.73	6,000.00	2,568.73
Total 503000 - CARAVAN	8,568.73	6,000.00	2,568.73
504000 - AWARDS			
504001 - CITATIONS & PLAQUES	0.00	500.00	-500.00
504003 - BREAKFAST & JACKET	252.03	1,000.00	-747.97
504004 - MEMBERSHIP AWARDS	0.00	200.00	-200.00
504005 - COMMANDERS SHIRT	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total 504000 - AWARDS	252.03	2,700.00	-2,447.97
Total 500000 - MEMBERSHIP	9,880.76	14,860.00	-4,979.24
600000 - DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS			
601000 - LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE			
601101 - WREATH & RECEPTION	1,008.39	2,000.00	-991.61
601200 - COMMANDER			
601203 - EXPENSES	132.24	300.00	-167.76
Total 601200 - COMMANDER	132.24	300.00	-167.76
601300 - NEC			
601303 - EXPENSES	264.48	300.00	-35.52
Total 601300 - NEC	264.48	300.00	-35.52
601400 - HISTORIAN			
601403 - EXPENSES	300.00	300.00	0.00
Total 601400 - HISTORIAN	300.00	300.00	0.00
601500 - ADJUTANT			
601501 - EXPENSES	239.89	300.00	-60.11
Total 601500 - ADJUTANT	239.89	300.00	-60.11
601600 - SR VICE COMM.			
6016001 - EXPENSES	264.48	300.00	-35.52
Total 601600 - SR VICE COMM.	264.48	300.00	-35.52
601900 - NAT. REPRESENTATIVE			
601903 - EXPENSES	1,011.62	500.00	511.62
Total 601900 - NAT. REPRESENTATIVE	1,011.62	500.00	511.62
Total 601000 - LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE	3,221.10	4,000.00	-778.90
602000 - EGYPTIANS PAST COMM.			
602100 - COMMANDER			
602103 - EXPENSES	300.00	300.00	0.00
602104 SR VICE EXPENSES	266.40	300.00	-33.60
Total 602100 - COMMANDER	566.40	600.00	-33.60
Total 602000 - EGYPTIANS PAST COMM.	566.40	600.00	-33.60

11:55 AM

06/24/26

Cash Basis

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	Aug '25 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
603000 - ARMED FORCES DINNER			
603100 - COMMANDER			
603103 - EXPENSES	200.00	200.00	0.00
Total 603100 - COMMANDER	200.00	200.00	0.00
603200 - Sr Vice			
603201 - EXPENSES	45.00	200.00	-155.00
Total 603200 - Sr Vice	45.00	200.00	-155.00
Total 603000 - ARMED FORCES DINNER	245.00	400.00	-155.00
605000 - AUX. PATRIOTIC CONF.			
605100 - COMMANDER			
605103 - EXPENSES	200.00	200.00	0.00
Total 605100 - COMMANDER	200.00	200.00	0.00
605200 - Sr Vice			
605201 - EXPENSES	200.00	200.00	0.00
Total 605200 - Sr Vice	200.00	200.00	0.00
605400 - AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN			
605403 - EXPENSES	178.38	200.00	-21.62
Total 605400 - AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN	178.38	200.00	-21.62
Total 605000 - AUX. PATRIOTIC CONF.	578.38	600.00	-21.62
606000- JR AUXILIARY ANN. CONF			
606100 - COMMANDER			
606103 - EXPENSES	150.00	150.00	0.00
Total 606100 - COMMANDER	150.00	150.00	0.00
Total 606000- JR AUXILIARY ANN. CONF	150.00	150.00	0.00
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	4,760.88	5,950.00	-1,189.12
700000 - NATIONAL & OTHER FUNCT			
710100 - WASHINGTON CONFERENCE			
710101 - WREATH	215.00	200.00	15.00
710102 - PRESENTOR OF WREATH	619.18	1,500.00	-880.82
710103 - BUS TRIP & MEALS	100.00	100.00	0.00
Total 710100 - WASHINGTON CONFERENCE	934.18	1,800.00	-865.82
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

11:55 AM

06/24/26

Cash Basis

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT

Budget vs. Actual

August 2025 through July 2026

	<u>Aug '25 - J...</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Bu...</u>
790000 - HOMECOMINGS			
790100- NAT SAL COMMANDERS GIFT			
790101 - COMMANDERS GIFT	140.94	350.00	-209.06
790109 - PRESENTER OF GIFT	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Total 790100- NAT SAL COMMANDERS GIFT	1,140.94	1,350.00	-209.06
Total 790000 - HOMECOMINGS	1,140.94	1,350.00	-209.06
Total 700000 - NATIONAL & OTHER FUNCT	2,075.12	3,650.00	-1,574.88
900000 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES			
901000 - CONTINGENCY			
901001 - MTG. CALL PAY	4,600.00	5,000.00	-400.00
901099 - MISCELLANEOUS	79.17	200.00	-120.83
Total 901000 - CONTINGENCY	4,679.17	5,200.00	-520.83
908000 - NATIONAL HOSPITALITY	1,691.48	800.00	891.48
Total 900000 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	6,370.65	6,000.00	370.65
Total Expense	90,603.05	107,733.00	-17,129.95
Net Income	<u>33,982.54</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>33,982.54</u>

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT
Budget vs. Actual
August 2026 through July 2027

	Aug '26 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
Income			
100000 - INCOME			
110000 - PER-CAPITA	0.00	77,000.00	-77,000.00
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
140000 - TRANSFER FROM OVERAGE	0.00	8,953.00	-8,953.00
150000 - OTHER			
150001 - Dept. SWEEPSTAKES	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
Total 150000 - OTHER	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
170000 - INVESTMENT	0.00	10,000.00	-10,000.00
Total 100000 - INCOME	0.00	101,873.00	-101,873.00
Total Income	0.00	101,873.00	-101,873.00
Expense			
010000 - ADM. NON-BUDGETED ACCT			
010013- chair/prom dept meet/10	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total 010000 - ADM. NON-BUDGETED ACCT	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
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
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

Budget vs. Actual

August 2026 through July 2027

	Aug '26 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
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	600.00	-600.00
Total 301000 - ELECTED OFFICERS	0.00	10,500.00	-10,500.00
302000 - APPOINTED OFFICERS			
302001 - ADJUTANT	0.00	2,500.00	-2,500.00
302002 - ASSIST. ADJUTANT #1	0.00	650.00	-650.00
302003 - FINANCE OFFICER	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
302004 - CHAPLAIN	0.00	600.00	-600.00
302005 - JUDGE ADVOCATE	0.00	600.00	-600.00
302006 - HISTORIAN	0.00	600.00	-600.00
302008 - PARLIAMENTARIAN	0.00	600.00	-600.00
302009 - SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	0.00	600.00	-600.00
302014 - COMMANDERS AIDE #1	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302015 - COMMANDERS AIDE #2	0.00	450.00	-450.00
302016 - SR. VICE AIDE	0.00	600.00	-600.00
302017 - COMM. SRGT AT ARMS #1	0.00	600.00	-600.00
302018 - COMM. SRGT AT ARMS #2	0.00	600.00	-600.00
302019 - SR. VICE SRGT at ARMS	0.00	600.00	-600.00
Total 302000 - APPOINTED OFFICERS	0.00	10,450.00	-10,450.00
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
Total 304100 - SPECIAL COMM. MEETING	0.00	750.00	-750.00
Total 304000 - COMMITTEES	0.00	750.00	-750.00
306000 - NATIONAL CONVENTION			
306001 - REGISTRATION FEES	0.00	2,300.00	-2,300.00
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	13,150.00	-13,150.00
Total 300000 - FUNCTIONING EXPENSES	0.00	36,350.00	-36,350.00
400000 - DETACHMENT CONVENTION			
401000 - HOUSING			
401001 - COMMANDER	0.00	600.00	-600.00

Budget vs. Actual

August 2026 through July 2027

	Aug '26 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
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			
401005A - COMM - PRES. DINNER	0.00	90.00	-90.00
401005 - ADJUTANT - Other	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 401005 - ADJUTANT	0.00	590.00	-590.00
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	7,780.00	-7,780.00
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	8,380.00	-8,380.00
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
503000 - CARAVAN			
503003 - NATIONAL CARAVAN	0.00	9,000.00	-9,000.00
Total 503000 - CARAVAN	0.00	9,000.00	-9,000.00
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	17,860.00	-17,860.00

SAL GENERAL ACCOUNT
Budget vs. Actual
August 2026 through July 2027

	Aug '26 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
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	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Total 601900 - NAT. REPRESENTATIVE	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Total 601000 - LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
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
605000 - AUX. PATRIOTIC CONF.			
605100 - COMMANDER			
605103 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 605100 - COMMANDER	0.00	200.00	-200.00
605200 - Sr Vice			
605201 - EXPENSES	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 605200 - Sr Vice	0.00	200.00	-200.00

Budget vs. Actual

August 2026 through July 2027

	Aug '26 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
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
607000 - Golf Outing			
607101 - Commander or rep	0.00	500.00	-500.00
607102 - Sponsor Golf Hole	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total 607000 - Golf Outing	0.00	600.00	-600.00
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	7,550.00	-7,550.00
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
710300 - Truman Pilgrimage			
710301 - Truman Pilgrimage exp	0.00	400.00	-400.00
Total 710300 - Truman Pilgrimage	0.00	400.00	-400.00
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	4,050.00	-4,050.00
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 '26 - J...	Budget	\$ Over Bu...
908000 - NATIONAL HOSPITALITY	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00
Total 900000 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	0.00	7,200.00	-7,200.00
Total Expense	0.00	101,873.00	-101,873.00
Net Income	0.00	0.00	0.00

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS
CREDENTIALS REPORT
63rd ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
10 – 11 JULY 2026
[A]

HEADQUARTERS:

Membership Delegates:	2		
Delegates-at-Large:		0	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			2

1ST DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	0		
Delegates-at-Large:		0	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			0

2ND DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	6		
Delegates-at-Large:		2	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			8

3RD DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	7		
Delegates-at-Large:		2	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			9

4TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	8		
Delegates-at-Large:		1	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			9

63rd ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
10 – 11 JULY 2026
[B]

* * *READING COPY* * *

5TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	5		
Delegates-at-Large:		2	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			7

7TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	19		
Delegates-at-Large:		1	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			20

8TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	41		
Delegates-at-Large:		5	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			46

9TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	19		
Delegates-at-Large:		6	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			25

10TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	23		
Delegates-at-Large:		6	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			29

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS
CREDENTIALS REPORT

63rd ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
10 – 11 JULY 2026
[C]

* * *READING COPY* * *

11TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	51		
Delegates-at-Large:		3	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			54

12TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	37		
Delegates-at-Large:		2	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			39

13TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	13		
Delegates-at-Large:		1	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			14

14TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	7		
Delegates-at-Large:		0	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			7

15TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	13		
Delegates-at-Large:		1	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			14

16TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	20		
Delegates-at-Large:		2	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			22

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS
CREDENTIALS REPORT
63rd ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
10 – 11 JULY 2026
[D]

* * *READING COPY* * *

17TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	37		
Delegates-at-Large:		3	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			40

18TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	39		
Delegates-at-Large:		4	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			43

19TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	55		
Delegates-at-Large:		11	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			66

20TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	16		
Delegates-at-Large:		4	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			20

21ST DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	12		
Delegates-at-Large:		1	
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:			13

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS
CREDENTIALS REPORT
63rd ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
10 – 11 JULY 2026
[E]

* * *READING COPY* * *

22ND DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	24	
Delegates-at-Large:		2
TOTAL DELEGATE MEMBERSHIP:		

23RD DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	48	
Delegates-at-Large:		2
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:		50

24TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	25	
Delegates-at-Large:		2
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:		27

25TH DISTRICT:

Membership Delegates:	22	
Delegates-at-Large:		2
TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:		24

DETACHMENT CONVENTION TOTAL:

Membership Delegates:	549	
Delegates-at-Large:		65
CONVENTION TOTAL DELEGATE VOTES:		61

Americanism Commission members continued their work this year to promote the importance of good citizenship and patriotism. We shared information and encouragement back to the Divisions. Getting word out about Americanism Programs including Illinois Premier Boys State, Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Academy, Department Oratorical Contest, and American Legion Family Day; Promoting awareness about the Essay Scholarship Program; and the American Legion School Award Program.

National Americanism Goals for the year were reviewed and include continued participation in the Flying Flags for Heroes program with a nationwide goal of 1M total flag placements and participation from each Detachment; and achieving a 10% increase nationally in Boys State attendance. Reminders that Squadrons should report flag placements on the FFFH website.

Religious Emphasis continues to be promoted with increased awareness of the Chaplains Cross recognition program and opportunities for Chaplains to assist with other activities such as Squadron Everlasting ceremonies and Four Chaplains Day. The Commission believes there is value in holding a Chaplain Education program at a future time

There have been no major developments regarding Flag Alliance and flag protection. There is a Flag Recognition Program thru Department with a Certificate and Press Release that can be awarded to local businesses for properly displaying the flag.

Collaboration continues with the Junior Auxiliary engaging Young Sons in the Patch program which includes several elements of Americanism. Squadron Member of the Year application form was revised with updated evaluation criteria.

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,

Michael Vozar - Americanism Chairman - Detachment of Illinois

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

William Hollis, Chairman

Children and Youth have had a good 2025-2026 year. The Committee members are William Hollis (Chairman), Butch Ray (Vice Chair), Garret Slevin, Sr., Adam Anderson, Isaiah Curtis, and Phil Stander (Promoter).

The "STAND UP FOR KIDS" socks program has had a success year. The socks program has had National attention and has raised a good amount of money for the Child Wellbeing Foundation. We still have a good amount of inventory left of the second round of socks.

Next year you will be hearing about and receiving more information about the 3rd annual C&Y dart tournament. The 2nd annual tournament was held Saturday March 7th at Post 32 in Springfield. There were twenty participants which donated \$300 to the Children's Miracle Network.

The donation year for CWF ended May 31st. As of April 9th, 2026, our total donations were \$3,974 which is .28 per member, far from the \$1 per member goal. With continued hard work I am confident we will hit \$1 per member for the 2026-2027 year.

Adam Anderson worked with Angie Mulligan to get the young Son's more involved with the Jr. Auxiliary Patch Program. As well as working with the Auxiliary and Legion to set up the Illinois Children and Youth Academy like what was previously done at the National Convention. This Academy is happening this weekend.

Ed Ranney has been tasked to head up and start the Detachment's Jr. Shooting Sports program. Ed has made a big commitment and has jumped headfirst into this project. Our goal is to have this program up and running for the Department and Detachment by next convention.

Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Illinois
Leadership Training Commission
End of Year Report

The Detachment of Illinois Leadership Training Commission had a very slow year regarding training sessions. The only in person session was October 18, at Stickney Post 687 to provide training in the Greater Chicago area for Divisions 1 and 2. The session was well attended.

In November 2025, the Detachment Commander suggested holding off any additional training focused on the SAL, as the Department Leadership Training Committee was conducting training and would have SAL breakout sessions as part of their sessions. Breakout sessions were held in all divisions in conjunction with the Department training opportunities.

In January, the chairman attended the National Regional Information Conference (NRIC) in Indianapolis and received a lot of good information and ideas applicable to the SAL program.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Chairman of the Sons Of The American Legion Leadership Training Commission for the 2025-2026 program year.

Larry Miller
Chairman

Legislative Commission

Glenn Kraemer, Chairman

No report was submitted.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

DETACHMENT OF ILLINOIS

National Security Report

Currently, the war between Russia and Ukraine continues with no end in sight. Numerous cease-fire attempts have been made, all of which have been broken by one side or the other. At this time, neither side appears willing to engage in direct negotiations.

The conflict between the United States and Iran over Iran's nuclear ambitions also continues. The United States has reportedly disabled much of Iran's naval and air capabilities, along with significant portions of its communications infrastructure. The United States has attempted several rounds of negotiations; however, it remains unclear who the actual decision-makers are, as key leaders have not participated directly in discussions.

Iran is currently blocking the transport of oil shipments through regional waterways, contributing to a worldwide oil shortage. The United States continues to approach negotiations cautiously, seeking a peaceful resolution without the use of ground forces. The primary issue remains Iran's pursuit of nuclear capabilities.

It has also been reported that the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has identified and repatriated the remains of 12 deceased service members in recent weeks from both World War II and the Vietnam War.

For God and Country,

Kevin O'Connell

National Executive Committeeman

The Detachment Public Relations Commission assists the Detachment by encouraging positive public and media relations that highlight good things accomplished by our membership and the value it provides.

We continue working with our webmasters to refine and improve the Detachment website for accuracy and completeness and ensure timely updates. The site helps our members to have a single “go to” source for forms, reference materials, and membership information.

Several Detachment members have contributed articles and photos to the Millennium: A National Newsletter of the Sons of The American Legion showcasing the great work we do and why we do it.

Commission Members have worked to with their Divisions to remind Squadrons they can (and should) submit photos and articles highlighting their programs and activities for publication in Legiontown and Snapshots of Service as well as to the Millennium.

The Detachment continues to utilize social media including Facebook and encourages Districts and Squadrons to positively showcase their activities on various platforms as well as newsletters. Reminding everyone to use local media, both print and on air, which welcome local news in many areas but are often overlooked as a resource.

Detachment Historian Jeff Trout has shared photos and videos highlighting our leadership, organization activities and events to keep everyone up to date on our activities. Newsletter Editor Eugene Gort has regularly sent out important updates via that e mail list.

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,

Michael Vozar – Public Relations Chairman – Detachment of Illinois



Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

Convention Report

July 10 - 12, 2026

This year the commission is promoting our 5 State Veterans Homes, **Manteno** – Shawn Morecraft; **Anna** – Wayne Madson; **Lasalle** – Bryson Taylor, **Quincy** – Chris Schoo; **Chicago** – Bruno Williamson. The on boarding process is a little different from the federal VA's so contact the state homes volunteer services to get their application process.

Promoters

GTTY – Rick Allen

Poppy – Butch Ray

Veterans Employment & Education (VE&E) - Bruno Williamson

Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services (VAVS) – Bruno Williamson

MANTENO VETERANS HOME

The Manteno Veterans Home, established in 1986, is a long-term care facility located on 122 acres. It includes a 300-bed skilled nursing unit and a 40-bed Alzheimer's/Dementia unit.

Current Status - The facility continues to operate effectively with strong community support. Residents remain active in programs such as the woodworking shop, and additional volunteers are encouraged.

Facility Statistics- Total Residents: 206 | Skilled Nursing: 175 | Secure Unit: 31 | Average Age: 82 | Staff: 375 employees (56 new hires since October 2025). **Programs and Improvements** - Recent updates include the Pentagon Café renovation, a continental breakfast program, and \$3,800 raised from the woodworking shop spring sale. **Volunteer Support** Volunteers assist with activities, transportation, and daily operations. Continued support is encouraged.

Prince Home Update - The Prince Home is under renovation and will serve women veterans and their children. Phase one is expected to be completed in summer 2026.

Conclusion The Manteno Veterans Home continues to provide quality care through strong leadership, dedicated staff, and community support.

Chicago State Veterans Home - is the newest of the 5 Veterans Homes in Illinois opening in January of 2022. Offers skilled nursing & memory care in 200 private rooms for veterans & eligible spouses. On site they have a library, barber shop, bank, rehab center & an IDVA Service Officer to help with state & federal benefits. The outdoor areas include a lushly planted garden with a walking path and benches, and a garden terrace. The multi-purpose room is the gathering place for events and family occasions.

What is the cost to stay at the Homes? Residents who have a monthly income will pay a monthly maintenance charge towards the total cost of their care. (NOTE: The inability to contribute to the cost of care does not prevent admission into the Home.) The monthly cost is based only on the monthly income of the Veteran and spouse and does not include other assets. The maximum amount is subject to change on an annual basis, depending on Social Security cost of living adjustments. For the current cost of care, please contact the Adjutant's office at any of the Veterans Homes and they will be happy to assist you. **Those residents who qualify for the Aid & Attendance allowance from the US DVA will pay an additional Aid & Attendance charge, in addition to the monthly maintenance charge.** The Aid & Attendance charge is equal to the amount of the allowance provided by the US DVA.

Veterans who have received a 70%-100% service-connected disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs do not pay a monthly maintenance charge. The Chicago Veterans home is in the N.W. part of the city at 4250 N Oak Park Ave.

LaSalle VA Home Report

1) why it's there, how long has it been there, can spouses live with the veteran,

- Since 1990
- Yes if they have lived in Illinois for at least a year.

2) what services they have (mental health; dementia etc.),

- Medical and Nursing Care. Recreational and rehabilitative therapy, social services and pastoral services and Memory Care. Houses 190 veterans.

3) What can we do as a Veterans Service Organization (VSO) at your facility?

- Volunteer
- Encourage others in the community to volunteer.

4) What is the process to become a volunteer there or to be an SAL representative? Is there an application form & training like there is with the federal VA's?

- Yes, there is application

5) Volunteer opportunities,

- Serving food
- Escorting residents to appointments
- Leading projects and events
- Playing games/recreational activities

6) Lastly what are their needs? perpetual needs - stuff that they need all the time, occasional needs- what they need occasionally.

Anna State Veterans Home - The board for Anna Veterans Home met April 25, I was unable to attend due to a prior engagement. Currently there are 5 open beds and 1 open apartment. Residents have numerous activities and field trips scheduled this year with Christmas in July. May 15 Gary Fravel will take residents fishing on the property with a fish fry later. Legion Commander Roy Smith special project

this year was to supply the home with lift chairs and he provided over 12 chairs so far. Currently there are 64 applicants on the waiting list. From last October to April 1st there has been 342 volunteer hours recorded. Next meeting date is August 14.

GTTY – Purpose and Significance of the Program

When we joined the Sons of the American Legion, we committed ourselves to service above self. As members of the Legion Family, our support extends to various programs dedicated to veterans and their families. One such initiative, the "Gift to the Yanks" program, relies heavily on the generosity and support of the Sons of the American Legion. This program is sustained only through the gracious donations made by Sons of the American Legion Squadrons, Auxiliary Units, and American Legion Posts.

Impact on Veterans

The beneficiaries of the "Gift to the Yanks" program include veterans residing in VA hospitals, state veteran's homes, nursing homes, and extended care facilities across Illinois. For many of these veterans, the gifts provided—such as blankets, sweat suits, sweaters, and personal care items—may be the only holiday presents they receive during the season. Since its inception in 1944, the American Legion Department of Illinois has proudly supported this meaningful program.

Veterans Employment & Education - Nationally the commission is working on a new homeless veterans' brochure. They are also looking into establishing a 2nd award for employers that hire veterans. We continue to support VA & VSO Stand Downs & Job Fairs.

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 Schoo is the Dep Rep. **Edward Hines** -Bryson Taylor is the Rep. We are still looking for a Rep at **Cpt James Lovell Federated/Great Lakes. Jefferson Barracks VAMC in St. Louis** - Zach Van Horn is our Associate Rep.

To be a Representative or a Regularly Scheduled volunteer you only must volunteer 4 times a year. If you are the Rep/Dep and you go to the quarterly meetings; you have technically fulfilled your obligation.

Illiana VAMC – **Illiana is the 8th oldest VAMC in the country.** Green Homes 7 & 8 are still on hold. All the CLC's have now moved into green homes. (think Fisher House) Palliative care has also moved into the Green Homes. PR RTP (substance abuse) remains in the hospital. Ward 103 -7 (locked ward) has moved to the new Mental Health bldg. 140. The new CBOC in Champaign is opening this summer, in one of Carle Hospital's southern clinics. It will staff 1 team until; the new facility is built.

Volunteer Opportunities' –Veterans Transportation Network (VTN); Compassionate Contact Corp (CCC); Shuttle Driver; Lab Runner – Mondays; Red Coat Ambassador (RCA); No Veteran Dies Alone; CLC's & Green homes.

Hines VA Report

- There is currently no veteran's transportation for Hines. Only 2 buses that can take 8 veterans each.
- Veterans at Hines are in needed of T-shirts for when they change clothes. They must be

colored shirts for female veterans. Shirt sizes need to be size Large and up. Underwear and toiletries are also needed.

- With the previous hold on snap benefits, CBOCs are asking for grocery store gift cards between \$25-\$50, to be distributed among the CBOCs. Kankakee CBOC is priority because they are not being replenished consistently due to no active post or organizations donating.

National VA&R Chairman Williamson–

National VA&R is promoting this year – **Projects the commission are working on this year besides what is on the CSR:**

Moving Veterans Forward (MVF) – based in Nebraska by Army veteran Ron Hernandez works to end veteran homelessness in Neb & western Iowa.

Kerrville Sqd 208 in Kerrville, Texas - Meat for Veterans Program – deer hunters in the area would donate their catch & the squad would have the meat processed & then donate it to various food banks serving area veterans or to post members in need.

USO - *To strengthen the well-being of the people serving in America's military and their families.*

K9 for Warriors – this K9 pgm saves rescue dogs, giving them a second chance and new purpose as life-changing Service Dogs program provides Service Dogs to all era Veterans with PTSD, TBI and/or MST military sexual trauma), at no financial cost to the veteran.

Since 2011, they have rescued more than 2,500 dogs, **Saving Lives at Both Ends of the Leash**

Minnesota Legionville – In Brainerd, Mn, the Detachment of Minnesota runs a disabled veteran deer hunt where they have 6 hunters every year. Some of the deer stands are set up to lift wheelchair bound hunters up to the stand. Last year, they started taking 2 – 3 veterans turkey hunting. And lastly, they have Campervy, which is a 4-day camping weekend for veterans and their families.

Lastly, The SAL Nationally have VAVS Representatives in 56 VA's of the 154 VAMC's across the country. The National goal is to have representation in 60 VA's.