



The American Legion
Department of Kansas
E-NEWSLETTER

1314 SW Topeka Blvd
Topeka, KS, 66612-1886
(785)-232-9315



THE Voice for Today's Veterans and Military

Department Commander
Dan K. Wiley

May 2019

Department Adjutant
Jimmie L. Foster

A heart felt thanks to each of you for your support this past year. Sonia and I have enjoyed traveling the State and meeting so many of you. The greatest reward this past year has been meeting you and those are relationships that will last a lifetime. My biggest goal was to communicate more information to all levels of The American Legion. I have received feedback that more people have more information from our Department than ever before. The creation of this e-newsletter has been hugely successful in providing timely information, especially more widely distributing the Adjutant's newsletter and the calendar of events.

I want to especially thank Karen Hasting, Department Auxiliary President, and Terry Harris, Detachment S.A.L. Commander for the year we have enjoyed. Terry and his wife, Wyanette, accompanied us on a great number of trips, and I especially value their friendship.

A reminder that if you sign up a new member between now and May 13, the new member, you, and your post are eligible to win \$500 each! Somebody is going to win the money! There will be a drawing from all of the entries at Department Convention. If you know of a prospective new member, sign them up, and send in an entry form to Department.

Now is the time to make your hotel reservations at the Atrium Hotel in Hutchinson for the Department Convention May 17-19. If you can only attend one day, attend Saturday. If you want to vote on Officers and any other business before the Convention, attend Sunday. I will look forward to seeing you there. For more information see www.ksamlegion.org.

We hope to see you at Leadership College on May 31-June 2 at Concordia. This is an event to enjoy some camaraderie and learn how other Posts do things. Where else can you go for 2 nights and 5 meals for \$45? Of course, you can stay in a hotel if you choose.

We have 39 cadets signed up for the Cadet Law Enforcement Academy in Salina from June 2-7, 2019! Great job to those sponsoring cadets!

Please help support the 5th Annual Kansas Legacy Run from June 6-9. Let's make this year the biggest and best ever! For more information go to www.kansasalr.com.

The deadline for applications for The American Legion Kansas Boys State has been extended to May 26, 2019. We need your help supporting this great program. Thank you!

For God and Country,

Dan Wiley
Commander, Department of Kansas
dkwiley@yahoo.com

Notes from the Department Vice-Commander And Membership Chairman

Let's talk some numbers. At present we are at 90.33% of goal which is just short of where we were last year at 90.78%. Last year 33 Posts had achieved 100% membership while this year we have 30. The number of Posts that have reached 90% or better is almost identical at 60 (61 last year) and it is these Posts that have the potential to move our numbers with a concentrated effort. The top three Districts that have improved the percentage of membership to quota at this date are District 2, improving by a whopping 8.67%, followed by District 7 with an increase of 4.29%, and District 6 increasing by 3.92% over this time last year. All save one District bettered the percentage of members to quota this year over last. New accounts this year are slightly behind but with the New Account Contest in full swing, we should close that gap and provide the opportunity for a great pay day for a recruiter, Post and new member. Remember to complete the entry form when submitting to Department, drawing to be held at State Convention May 17, 18 and 19.

In attending the District Conventions, there was no shortage of individuals enthusiastically embracing officer duties in 2019/2020 as elected by their constituents. One such person in the 6th District provided an excellent slide presentation on membership and is now the newly formed 9th District Commander, Ray Palmer. He was given time to present a game plan on recruitment at the convention which generated discussion on one of our most important activities as a Legion member. Great idea, as the folks that attend conventions are certainly many of the Legion movers and shakers.

Our membership campaign for the 2018/2019 year is coming to a close in 2 months and, although we have not reached the desired membership, there has been a concerted effort to reach out to our members to continue their membership. No one ever said it would be easy. There is only so much time people can devote to volunteering activities. We are so fortunate to have dedicated veterans that realize the benefits of membership and are able to convey them to others. Without their willingness, their time, their esprit de corps in contacting current and potential members, our numbers would fall far short of where they are today. There is still time left in the year for all to take part in the recruitment and renewal effort. Let us resolve to be an active participant, this year and in the future.

Please indulge me as I say this year has been personally extraordinary. Working with the Commander, the District Commanders/Officers, Posts, and fellow Legion members was an unforgettable experience with the greatest reward in seeing what we can do as an organization. There is no other group, company or club, that is comprised of participating individuals, with the spirit and commitment found in the Kansas American Legion Family. My tenure as "Vice" was an honor, one that will never be forgotten. Whatever the future brings, I will always cherish the time spent in service to The American Legion and remember the work with fellow Legionnaires to fulfill the mission and promise to our Veterans. Pat and I thank you for your kindness, devotion to duty and wish blessings on all.

For God and Country,

R.C. "Chuck" Shoemaker
Vice Commander

The American Legion, Department of Kansas
chuckshoemaker@sbcglobal.net

Join The American Legion...and you join a Family.

Department Adjutant's Newsletter

May 2019

STATE CONVENTION: May 17, 18, 19, 2019 at the Atrium Hotel and Convention Center, 1400 N. Lorraine in Hutchinson -- call 800-362-5018 for housing reservations and mention you are with the American Legion Family to receive the reduced Convention rate.

Saturday's program will begin at 7:50am. Speakers will include National Vice Commander Steve Sweet; and Clint Bolt, S.A.L. Leading Candidate for National Commander. The Youth Champions will also be presented. Also several reports and award presentations will be made.

The Sunday session will begin with the Memorial and Rededication Service, and also include Convention Committee reports along with other reports and presentations. Delegates will elect Delegates and Alternates to the Indianapolis National Convention and the 2019-2020 Department Officers.

Registration is just \$10.00 and pre-registration information has been mailed to all Posts.

CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION DINNER to be held Saturday, May 18, from 6:30 to 8:00pm in Apollo I of the Atrium Hotel and Convention Center in Hutchinson. Cost is \$30.00 per person and reservations must be received at Department Headquarters no later than May 14. More information is enclosed in this E-Newsletter.

AMERICAN LEGION LEADERSHIP COLLEGE – MAY 31, JUNE 1, 2, 2019 -- CLOUD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE -- CONCORDIA, KANSAS. The American Legion, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. members over the age of 21 are invited to attend the College. Cost of the College is \$45 per person which includes Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch, and chicken dinner at Concordia Post 76, and Sunday breakfast. In addition the enrollment fee includes air conditioned dorm housing at the College, attendees must bring their own sheets, pillow, pillow case, blanket, bath soap, towels and personal items. Check in for the College begins at 3:00 PM on Friday, May 31. Dinner will be available from 5:00 until 6:00 PM followed by a meeting of the Department Executive Committee. Sessions for all attendees will commence at 8:15 AM Saturday and 8:30 AM Sunday, June 1 and 2 with a break for lunch on Saturday and conclusion of the College on Sunday no later than noon. Dan Bartlett, Department Service Officer, and National Staff will hold a Service Officer School Saturday. A hands-on myLegion.org class will be given along with information on other American Legion programs and activities. Please bring your own laptop or iPad to get the full effect of the training. Of course the annual migration of the O-Poop-Pah-Doo will gather at the local Pizza Hut for its evening of fun immediately following the DEC meeting Friday. **Please remember to indicate your housing needs. We cannot guarantee housing will be provided if you do not check the box indicating your need for housing at the College. Housing form is included in both the latest issue of the Sunflower and this E-Newsletter.**

POST ADJUTANTS LETTER: Post Adjutant, are you reading this newsletter at your Post's meeting? As usual during District Conventions many people asked Headquarters Staff why the only source of information they had was the Sunflower Legionnaire. It's great to learn so many people are reading the paper, but it is your duty to keep your membership informed by reading this monthly Adjutant's Letter and any other mailing sent by Department Headquarters during your Post meetings. Then post the letter on your Post's bulletin board so it can be used as reference and reminder.

STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT is still in the planning stages. Posters and entry forms will be sent as soon as finalized. For further information contact State Golf Chairman Lonny Cook, telephone 785-286-2134 or email kickaron01@sbcglobal.net. or Carroll Peppersack, telephone 785-292-4665 or email lefthandersden@netzero.net or

BUCKLE UP, LIGHTS ON AND LIVE -- FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2019. Information on this great traffic safety program has been mailed to all Posts. Remember this community service program costs you nothing, just a few hours of dedication by four or five of your members. It's a great program that will help strengthen the good will in your community while gaining some favorable publicity. Order now while supplies last.

POST CONSOLIDATED REPORTS: All Post Adjutants must complete and return their Post Consolidated Report. The report can also be completed online. They are due now and are very important.

BASEBALL ENTRY FEES are due now. The fee of \$250 for Junior ("A") and \$275 per team for Senior ("AA" and "AAA") by May 15 paid online. NO fees will be accepted after May 15.

MEMORIAL DAY IS MAY 27, 2019. All Posts should observe this special day in some manner.

NATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS: National Convention will be in Indianapolis, Indiana, August 23 - 29, 2019. All Delegates, Alternates and Guests must make housing arrangements through Department Headquarters. If you are interested let us know and you will receive all pertinent information.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Perry and Leavenworth #94 for reaching COMMANDERS TARGET; to Leavenworth #23, Howard, Haviland and Garfield for making GOAL; and to Wetmore, Overbrook and Caney for making QUOTA. (As of April 23.)

DISTRICT STANDINGS AS OF APRIL 23, 2019: District II, 3,944 - 92.52%; District IV, 3,286 - 88.33%; District VII, 1,748 - 88.02%; District V, 3,210 - 87.20%; District I, 4,259 - 86.11%; District VIII, 977 - 83.43%; District III, 2,301 - 82.21% and District VI, 2,573 - 81.71%. Department Headquarters Post 58 (included in Dept. total) is 929. Total membership is 23,227. Membership last year this date was 24,585. We are BEHIND 1,358 members.



Upcoming Events

May 17-19, 2019

- Department Convention, Hutchinson
- S.A.L. Detachment Convention, Saturday, May 18, 2019

May 31- June 1-2, 2019

- Leadership College, Concordia

June 2-7, 2019

- The American Legion Boys State of Kansas, Kansas State University, Manhattan

June 2-7, 2019

- Cadet Law Enforcement Academy, Kansas Highway Patrol Academy, Salina

June 6-9, 2019

- 5th Annual Kansas Legacy Run

July 19-20, 2019

- Erie Bean Feed and Parade, Erie

August 23-29, 2019

- 101st National Convention, Indianapolis (Legion's 100th Birthday Party)

September 7-15, 2019

- Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson

September 20-22, 2019

- State ALR Rally, Topeka 400

September 28, 2019

- Department Charity Golf Classic, Shawnee Country Club, Topeka

September 29, 2019

- National Commanders Tour, (Eastern part of State)

October 12, 2019

- Eisenhower Pilgrimage, Abilene
- Department Vice Commander's Homecoming, Abilene

November 23, 2019

- Big Red One Turkey Run, Fort Riley

December 13-14, 2019

- Operation North Pole, Fort Riley

Department of Kansas Constitution & Bylaws

Commander Wiley has appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to review the Department Constitution and Bylaws, and make recommendations to the Department Executive Committee for review and presentation to the entire Membership of the Department of Kansas.

Committee Members are: Past Department Commanders (chairman) Ernie Cooper and Pat Culver, 2nd District Commander Marri Krupco, 7th District Commander Jeremy Ehart and Department Judge Advocate Joe DeWoskin.

This review will not happen overnight since there are many areas to review. We will welcome input from the entire Department Membership. To submit a suggested change: provide the Article, Section, current verbiage, suggested change of wording, and how the change will benefit the American Legion. All submittals shall be made in writing, signed and sent to the Committee Chairman. No anonymous suggestions will be accepted.

We will be making a preliminary report at the Pre-Convention Department Executive Board in Hutchinson on May 17th.

Questions and comments to:

Chairman Ernie Cooper, 1117 N Annie Street, Olathe KS 66061

Or, flagman3924@gmail.com



Win up to \$1800!!!

For recruiting a new member of The American Legion

It's simple, sign up a new member and be entered in the Drawing!

Drawing Rules:

1. Every new member that joins The American Legion between February 1, 2019 and May 13, 2019 will be eligible to be entered into a drawing.
2. A new member is defined as any eligible Legionnaire whose membership was not paid in The American Legion in 2018 that joins a Post in the Department of Kansas other than Post 58.
3. The Recruiter must be a Legionnaire, other than the new member, whose membership is paid for 2019 in a Kansas Post. If a recruiter is not listed, the coupon will not be accepted.
4. The coupon below must be included along with a membership transmittal sent to Kansas Department Headquarters with the National and Department portions of the new member's card and the necessary dues. **Or** if the Post uses Post Online Transmittals at MyLegion.org, the invoice number and date of the transmittal of the new membership must also be included on the coupon and sent to Department Headquarters. All coupons must be received at Department Headquarters' Office by 4:00 p.m. on May 15, 2019 to be eligible.
5. One coupon will be drawn at the Kansas Department Convention from all entries properly received and will be designated the winner.
6. From the information contained on the winning coupon drawn, \$500 will be awarded to the New Member; \$500 to the Recruiter; and \$500 to the Recruiter's Post.
7. The Recruiter with the most coupon entries will be awarded \$100.
8. The Post with most new member coupon entries will be awarded \$100.
9. The Post with the most new member coupon entries as a percentage of that Post's 2019 Membership Quota will be awarded \$100.
10. In case of a tie with the most coupon entries, the \$100 will be pro-rated among those tying.

New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly!)

New Member's Name _____

New Member's Post City and Post Number _____

Recruiter's Name and Membership I.D. Number _____

Recruiter's Post City and Post Number _____

Post Online Transmittal Invoice Number and Date _____

New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly!)

New Member's Name _____
New Member's Post City and Post Number _____
Recruiter's Name and Membership I.D. Number _____
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number _____
Post Online Transmittal Invoice Number and Date _____

New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly!)

New Member's Name _____
New Member's Post City and Post Number _____
Recruiter's Name and Membership I.D. Number _____
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number _____
Post Online Transmittal Invoice Number and Date _____

New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly!)

New Member's Name _____
New Member's Post City and Post Number _____
Recruiter's Name and Membership I.D. Number _____
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number _____
Post Online Transmittal Invoice Number and Date _____

New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly!)

New Member's Name _____
New Member's Post City and Post Number _____
Recruiter's Name and Membership I.D. Number _____
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number _____
Post Online Transmittal Invoice Number and Date _____

New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly!)

New Member's Name _____
New Member's Post City and Post Number _____
Recruiter's Name and Membership I.D. Number _____
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number _____
Post Online Transmittal Invoice Number and Date _____

New Member Drawing Coupon (Print Neatly!)

New Member's Name _____
New Member's Post City and Post Number _____
Recruiter's Name and Membership I.D. Number _____
Recruiter's Post City and Post Number _____
Post Online Transmittal Invoice Number and Date _____



Children & Youth Programs

Scholarship & Financial Aid

Veterans Legislation & Benefits

National Security & Protection of Our Flag

I WANT YOU

to be a Legionnaire

To Learn More, Contact:

Eligibility Dates

Gulf War / War on Terrorism Aug. 2, 1990 – present*	Korean War June 25, 1950 – Jan. 31, 1955
Panama Dec. 20, 1989 – Jan. 31, 1990	WWII Dec. 7, 1941 – Dec. 31, 1946
Lebanon / Grenada Aug. 24, 1982 – July 31, 1984	WWI April 6, 1917 – Nov. 11, 1918
Vietnam War Feb. 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975	* if currently serving on active duty today, you are eligible.



KANSAS AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS
WITH 72 CHAPTERS IN KANSAS

Travelling 850 Miles to help our fallen and disabled's children



5th Annual

Kansas Legacy Run 2019

June 6-10 2019

The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund helps ensure higher education is a possibility for children whose parents lost their lives or became 50% Disabled while on duty since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The fund has been building steadily toward its goal of \$20 million while at the same time issuing scholarships to qualified young people who have qualified for the scholarship. Individual donations are commonly made to the fund, but the major event of the year is The American Legion Legacy Run, a motorcycle trek that crosses numerous states ending in the National Convention city.

This year The American Legion Riders, Department of Kansas is again holding our own Instate Legacy Run.

**The Ride will start at Post 4 in Wichita, Kansas.
We will Travel about 850 miles around central and eastern Kansas and end at El Dorado Post 81**

For More details about the 2019 Kansas Legacy Run and to view a route map
Please Visit:

www.kansasalr.com

Contributions can be accepted along the route. Look for us in your town.

**For more information about
the Legacy Run or the
American Legion Riders
Contact:**

ALR Chairman
Roger "Road Dog" Beckley
508 Tom Smith Cir,
Abilene, KS, 67410
785-212-0179



**If you would like to make a
contribution to this years
Kansas Legacy Scholarship
Fund, Please send your
donation to:**

**Kansas Legacy Run
C/O Diana "Belle" Starr
PO Box 12
Carbondale, Ks 66414**

**In the memo area please write
Kansas Legacy Scholarship Run**



CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION DINNER

This year's Department Convention will feature a dinner as a means to raise funds for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

The dinner will be held Saturday evening, May 18 from 6:30 until 8:00 pm in Apollo I of the Atrium Hotel and Convention Center, 1400 N. Lorraine Street, Hutchinson. The dinner will include: Beef tenderloin tips, chicken breast supreme, and an array of vegetables, desserts, ice tea and coffee.

Cost is \$30 per person and reservations must be received no later than Tuesday, May 14.

The purpose of the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation is: "To contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs of children and youth through the dissemination of knowledge about new and innovative organizations and their programs." "To make wider, more effective use of the knowledge already possessed by well established organizations to the end that such information will benefit youth and be more adequately used by society." To make reservations for the Saturday, May 18, dinner please complete and return the coupon on this page to Department Headquarters, 1314 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, Kansas 66612.

Reservations must arrive by May 14; or telephone your reservations to 785-232-9315.

Payment is due no later than **May 14** without exception.

CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION DINNER
MAY 18, 2019
ATRIUM HOTEL, HUTCHINSON, KS.

Name _____

Address _____

City, Zip _____

Post/Unit/Squadron # _____

Number of Dinners to be reserved at \$30.00 each _____

Enclosed is check in the amount of _____

Or charge my VISA/Master Card number _____

Expiration date _____ Security code _____

**Mail to: Kansas American Legion
1314 SW Topeka Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66612**

AMERICAN LEGION LEADERSHIP COLLEGE

MAY 31, JUNE 1, 2, 2019

CLOUD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE -- CONCORDIA, KANSAS

The American Legion, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. members over the age of 21 are invited to attend the College. An enrollment coupon is provided below for your convenience. Cost of the College is \$45 per person which includes Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch, and Chicken dinner at Concordia Post 76, and Sunday breakfast. In addition the enrollment fee includes air conditioned dorm housing at the College, attendees must bring their own sheets, pillow, pillow case, blanket, bath soap, towels and personal items.

Check in for the College begins at 3:00 PM on Friday, May 31. Dinner will be available from 5:00 until 6:00 PM followed by a meeting of the Department Executive Committee. Sessions for all attendees will commence at 8:15 AM Saturday and 9:00 AM Sunday, June 1 and 2 with a break for lunch on Saturday and conclusion of the College on Sunday no later than noon. Dan Bartlett, Department Service Officer, will hold a Service Officer School Saturday. Bryan Page, 5th District Commander, will present a hands on class on myLegion.org. Please bring your laptop or iPad.

Please check the appropriate box in the registration below regarding housing. We cannot guarantee housing will be provided if you do not check the box indicating your need for housing at the College.

LEADERSHIP COLLEGE REGISTRATION

ENCLOSED IS MY \$45 REGISTRATION FOR THE
AMERICAN LEGION LEADERSHIP COLLEGE
MAY 31-JUNE 2

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Member of _____
Post, Squadron, Unit (circle one)

Post Service Officer Training _____ Yes or No

YES, I will need housing at the College

NO, I will not need housing at the College

**Mail to: Kansas American Legion
1314 SW Topeka Blvd.
Topeka, Kansas 66612**