



The Insider

American Legion Department of Illinois News

WINTER 2023

FOR THOSE
WHO CAN'T
COME HOME.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SERVICE

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Membership update on back cover

2023—2024 DIVISION & DISTRICT MEETING DATES

DATE	DIST. / DIV.	TIME	POST	CITY
12/09/2023	8TH DISTRICT	TBD	TINLEY PARK POST 651	TINLEY PARK
12/20/2023	9TH DISTRICT	7:00 PM	ELLSWORTH-MEINEKE POST 1983	HOFFMAN ESTATES
01/14/2024	1ST DIVISION	TBD	CRYSTAL SKY BANKQUET HALL—BALL	MCCOOK
01/24/2024	9TH DISTRICT	7:00 PM	MERLE-GUILD POST 208	ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
01/25/2024	8TH DISTRICT	8:00 PM	REHFELDT-MEYER POST 474	MATTESON
02/04/2024	11TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	NEW LENOX POST 1977	NEW LENOX
02/07/2024	1ST DIVISION	TBD	MORTON GROVE	MORTON GROVE
02/21/2024	7TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	ROGERS PARK POST 108	EVANSTON
02/22/2024	8TH DISTRICT	8:00 PM	TINLEY PARK POST 651	TINLEY PARK
02/25/2024	16TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	NEPONSET POST 825	NEPONSET
02/28/2024	9TH DISTRICT	7:00 PM	BILLY CALDWELL POST 806	FRANKLINK PARK
03/03/2024	19TH DISTRICT	TBD	POST 105	DECATUR
03/10/2024	3RD DIVISION	1:00 PM	3RD DIV. SPRING MEETING—20TH DIST.	TBD
03/10/2024	21ST DISTRICT	1:00 PM	GUY BAIRD POST 554	CARLINVILLE
03/15/2024	10TH DISTRICT	7:00 PM	LAKE ZURICH POST 964	LAKE ZURICH
03/20/2024	7TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	JOSEPH M. SESTERHENN POST 166	MORTON
03/24/2024	4TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	CLINTON POST	CLINTON
03/27/2024	9TH DISTRICT	7:00 PM	IAVM @ RIVER GROVE POST 335	RIVER GROVE
03/28/2024	8TH DISTRICT	8:00 PM	HAZEL CREST POST 398	HAZEL CREST
04/03/2024	1ST DIVISION	TBD	MCKINLEY POST 231	MCKINLEY



Delmar BUSKE



Joseph LAMPERT

Greetings Everyone!

This has been another busy month. We have been doing a lot of Post, District, and Division meetings. If you want me to attend any of your meetings, please contact Cheryl in the office and I will be there if possible. We are continuing with our Veterans Outreach programs. It is fun to get out and try to get our membership up.

My hope is that everyone had a good Veterans Day. We went to Ottawa Post on the weekend before Veterans Day and stood vigil with their Post members. The next day was the Veterans Day Parade in Utica. We have been going to this parade for the last ten or twelve years. This is one of the longest parades in Illinois with a lot of military vehicles. At the same time, they have an air show going on.

On Veterans Day I spoke at the Taylorville Post and from there went to Monticello for a night parade. That was very interesting and had a good turnout.

Our next adventure was attending The Haven in the 5th Division for The Haven Jamboree. That is always a fun time and a great fundraiser for The Haven itself. We usually have a National Senior Vice Commander there for the weekend. It's nice to be able to meet and greet our leadership people.

Luella and I also had a great time in Rantoul for Pam Ray for National President. There was a big crowd and fun was had by all. Looking forward to Pam's year as National Auxiliary President.

Wishing all of my Legion "Family" a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Be safe out there.

To Our American Legion Family—

It's been a busy couple of months! Last month, I had the pleasure of visiting with our Legion Family in Marion, Illinois. I, along with fellow department leadership was fortunate enough to get to tour the Marion VAMC with National Vice Commander Shreve. While down there, we also attended the annual Haven Jamboree. This event is always a great time and a wonderful fundraiser to help keep The Haven running. It was nice to visit and catch up while there.

Just a reminder: at the National Convention, a resolution was passed to increase dues by \$5.00 for the 2025 membership year. This means the per capita will increase from \$35.00 to \$40.00. This is a perfect time to get a 5 year membership. With a 5 year membership, the per capita is locked at the current amount. Our membership has improved over the last year, thanks to the hard work of you all. Please keep up the efforts so we can continue to be successful.

Time really flies when you're having fun! Or when you're trying to prepare for Christmas. In the midst of the hustle and bustle, I hope we all may take the time to remember the reason for the season.

I am very thankful for each and every one of you and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New year.

Joe Lampert

Sr. Vice Commander



Angie GOLIGHTLY



Michael VOZAR

Hello from the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Illinois!

The best gift I could get for Christmas would be to look back at this year and see the obvious signs of a successful year. Like increased membership, more time spent with Veterans and gifts given to help them, our active military, their families and our communities.

We have the tools at our fingertips. Take a good look at the packets you receive from Department. Have a brainstorming session with your Posts and Units and work through your dreams on how you can be the “best ever” this year. Everyone pitching in to report all the marvelous activities you’ve participated in, thank you! Although, it’s not about the acclamations, but about making a difference in the lives of others.

Enclosed at the end of this newsletter are the dates and times of the American Legion Family Membership Caravan. We will be on the road for 10 days. Please share these dates with as many Legion family members as you can so we have lots of people attending and bringing membership—make sure that your members don’t put off paying their dues expire at the end of the year. We don’t want anyone to lose their benefits.

What a joy it was to see many Facebook posts for Veterans Day. I had no idea of all the great gestures of love that were being shown to our ‘heroes’ throughout Illinois. Thank you again for all the hospitality shown to

(Continued on page 5)

Greetings from The Detachment of Illinois!

It has been a busy fall season serving veterans with the American Legion Family!

Our Squadrons and Leadership proudly participated in many local Veterans Day celebrations across the State. ANEC and Past Detachment Commander Kevin O’Connell served as Master of Ceremonies for the Des Plaines Veterans Day Program and Senior Vice Rick Allen participated in the Piatt County Veterans Day Parade in Monticello with President Angie and Commander Delmar. Many other SAL members participated in local celebrations with their Post.

Senior Vice Rick has been working hard reaching out to encourage membership growth. “One For The Sons” is my membership challenge for each member to recruit one new member this year. As of this writing we are currently in Eighth place Nationally and Second in the Central Region for membership.

I am pleased to share news that three new Squadron Charters are in the works! We look forward to presenting them in the near future.

We continue to emphasize collaboration with local Auxiliary Units for the Juniors Patch program and other joint activities for our future Family leaders! This is a win-win for the entire Legion Family!

The 86th Annual Haven Jamboree weekend was a wonderful Legion Family celebration! I joined President

(Continued on page 5)

(ALA President, Continued from page 5)

us during the fall forums and the feedback on how best to help you grow and learn. Thank you to the Fifth Division and the Egyptian Jamboree highlighting the Marion VA.

The focus now is the Gift Shops in the various facilities. Helping more ‘heroes’ give gifts to their loved ones. Tis the season! Hope yours is the best!

Thank you very much for your service.

(Detachment Commander, Continued from page 5)

The 86th Annual Haven Jamboree weekend was a wonderful Legion Family celebration! I joined President Angie and our Leadership at a very informative briefing and subsequent tour of the Marion VAMC . I had several great conversations with President Angie and Commander Delmar at the Banquet and Steak Fry about the coming year. It was a pleasure bringing greetings to the Auxiliary Egyptian Past Presidents Club installation meeting.

Proud Possessor of a Priceless Heritage,
Michael Vozar, Commander - Detachment of Illinois

American Legion Gun Raffle November 10, 2023

	Pize Amount	Prize Item	WINNER	City / State	ID #	Group
1st Place	\$ 2,000.00	Guns	Raymond Giddens	Las Vegas, NV	101202245	Legion
2nd Place	\$ 1,200.00	Cash	Roger Hayes	Granite City, IL	202217237	Legion
3rd Place	\$ 900.00	Cash	Rance J. Rada	O'Fallon, IL	203566502	Legion
Total	\$ 4,100.00					



just popping by

to let you know that the 2nd Division
is continuing to partner with The
Great American Popcorn Company!
Donations go to all TAL programs in the 2nd Division.

THEIR 6 BEST SELLING FLAVORS ARE AVAILABLE:

Cheddar Cheese, Bacon & Cheddar, Galena Mix ,
Cinnamon French Toast, Katie's French Vanilla, &
Old Fashioned Caramel Corn

\$10.00 per bag

**Sales will take place
Jan/Feb 2024**

Contact 13th District Sr. Vice Commander
Jerry Howard at (815) 990-4641 or by email at
jerryhow2014@gmail.com with any questions!



DECEMBER

DEC 7: **PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY**

DEC 9: **SAL D.E.C. (DEPT HQ)**

DEC 25: **CHRISTMAS DAY
(OFFICE CLOSED UNTIL
TUESDAY, JAN 2)**

JAN 1: **NEW YEARS DAY (OFFICE
CLOSED)**

JAN 11-20: **AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
CARAVAN**

JAN 15: **MLK DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)**

JAN 26: **90% CUTOFF
(LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE)
ALA LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE
AWARD CUTOFF**

FEB 11-12: **LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE
(SPRINGFIELD, IL)**

FEB 19: **PRESIDENTS DAY
(OFFICE CLOSED)**

FEB 24-28: **WASHINGTON CONFERENCE**

MARCH 01-02: **ORATORICAL CONTEST
(SPRINGFIELD, IL)**

MARCH 15: **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
THE AMERICAN LEGION!**

American Legion Department of Illinois, Office of VA&R

We have had TREMENDOUS success with our meetings at Headquarters. We will continue to be available every third Wednesday, 0900 until 1400. Veterans and/or their family member will sign in upon arrival. We are now taking walk-ins AND appointments. Walk in meetings will be from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM; and 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM will be for appointments only. For those that plan to visit us we ask for your patience as we continue making adjustments to this new amenity. All questions should be directed to 312-980-4266.

It is suggested that you bring the following information with you to help expedite the process.

1. DD-214 and/or activation document
2. A list of your currently diagnosed conditions related to your military service.
3. If there is any relevant records or documents, you may bring them with you however do not bring in boxes. (Call us if you have questions)

We wish you all a joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Life's When you're a GRAND MARSHAL

Ron Swaim Has One Of His Biggest Days Ever As
Edwardsville Veterans Parade Grand Marshal



Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023, is a day that Ron and Joy Swaim will never forget. Many of you know Ron as "The One and Only Past Commander of the Great 22nd District," or something along those lines. Many in Edwardsville, Illinois know him from his heavy involvement/leadership positions at American Legion Post 199 and most recently as the 2023 Edwardsville Veterans Day Parade Grand Marshal.

As always, Ron credited most of his success to his wife, Joy, and voiced how thankful he was that she could share in this special moment with him. He said "She is the love of my life and the best friend I have ever had. We have accomplished a lot of things in my tenure in leadership and none of it would have been possible without Joy. Joy is the rock of my life." Ron loves helping fellow veterans. According to Ron, "We just live by the Legion creed and try to help others. We are a family at the Edwardsville Legion Post 199." His involvement in the parade was covered by local media, including riverbender.com and The Edwardsville Intelligencer. Photos featured provided by riverbender.com, The Edwardsville Intelligencer and Dinnius Photography.



What a great After parade party!!!!
 Pictured to the left are two photos from the Veterans day parade after party at post 199 America Legion Edwardsville!!!
 Thanks to everyone who made it possible!!!

Clint (pictured above) had the huge honor of riding with his great grandpa (Ron Swaim) in the parade!

EDWARD MICHAEL SIEBEN



Edward was born on July 9th, 1946, and served in the United States Army as an Infantryman. Edward served in A Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, United States Army Republic of Vietnam. Edward was lost due to hostile enemy fire on August 2nd, 1966, at the age of 20 in South Vietnam. For his Service and Sacrifice Edward received The Purple Heart; The National Defense Medal; The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star; and The Vietnam Campaign Medal. Edward is interred at St. Peter and Paul Cemetery, Naperville, Illinois.

"Naperville Welcomes You Home and Thank You for your Service"

JOHN CHARLES LUEBKE, JR.



John was born on November 25th, 1947, and served in the United States Army as an Infantryman. John served in B Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, United States Army Republic of Vietnam. John was Killed in Action on July 24th, 1968 at the age of 20, due to hostile fire while serving in B Company in Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. For his Service and Sacrifice John received The Purple Heart Medal; The National Defense Medal; The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star; and The Vietnam Campaign Medal. John is interred at St. Peter and Paul Cemetery, Naperville, Illinois.

"Naperville Welcomes You Home and Thank You for your Service"

WALTER JOSEPH GUTOWSKI



Walter was born on June 5th, 1945, and served in the United States Army as an Infantry Unit Commander. He rose to the rank of Captain and served with the Advisory Team 68 (Vinh Long Province) MACV Advisors. Walter lost his life in the Service of his Country on August 8th, 1969, at the age of 24. For his Service and Sacrifice Walter was awarded The Purple Heart Medal; The National Defense Medal; The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star; and The Vietnam Campaign Medal. Walter is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, D.C.

"Naperville Welcomes You Home and Thank You for your Service"

JOHN BRAXTON WOODALL



John was born on June 26th, 1943, and served in the United States Marine Corps in Vietnam as Infantry Officer. He was a 1st Lieutenant serving in "K Company, 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force". John was Killed in Action on April 30th, 1967, at the age of 23, due to a hostile explosive device while serving with "K Company" in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam. For his Service and Sacrifice

John received the Silver Star; The Purple Heart; The National Defense Medal; The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star; The Vietnam Campaign Medal; and the Combat Action Ribbon. John is interred at Chapel Hills, Garden West, Oakbrook, Illinois.

"Naperville Welcomes You Home and Thank You for your Service"

MICHAEL EDWARD DUNN



Michael was born on July 6th, 1941, and served in the United States Navy as a Naval Flight Officer (NFO). Michael served in VA-165, an A-6 Jet Squadron, serving as an NFO. VA-165 was part of Carrier Air Wing Two, USS Ranger, Task Force 77, U.S. Navy 7th Fleet off the Coast of Vietnam. The A-6 he was the NFO in while flying over North Vietnam was shot down on January 26th, 1968. At the time he was considered Missing in Action (MIA). He was declared dead on November 26th, 1973, at the age of 32. His remains were repatriated on April 21, 1998, and identified on November 3rd, 1999. Michael was promoted to Lieutenant Commander while in MIA Status.

For his Service and Sacrifice Michael was awarded The Purple Heart Medal; The Air Medal; The National Defense Medal; The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star; and The Vietnam Campaign Medal. Michael is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, D.C.

"Naperville Welcomes You Home and Thank You for your Service"

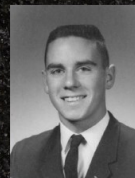
NAPERVILLE, IL—"There's a quiet voice, that they are all speaking, saying I was young. I died. **Remember me.**" - James Oftedal, a U.S. Army Veteran.

WE WILL ALWAYS REBUILD



On November 9, 2023 the labors of many volunteers led by NRFV (Naperville Responds for Veterans) and the Naperville Park District was commemorated. In under two weeks, this group turned raw materials into the 233-foot-long "Vietnam Wall of Remembrance" at the Riverwalk Grand Pavilion in Naperville. Listed on the wall are the names of over 58,000 service members in Vietnam that gave the Ultimate Sacrifice. What made this event even more memorable was the fact that the new wall was presented on the "50th anniversary of our official departure from Vietnam," according to Past Department Commander Wayne Fischer. ➤

DONALD JOHN PORTER



Donald was born on March 3rd, 1945, and served in the United States Army as a helicopter pilot. Donald served in C Troop, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, United States Army Republic of Vietnam. Donald was lost on June 2nd, 1969, at the age of 24 while serving in Long Khanh Province, South Vietnam. For his Service and Sacrifice Donald received The Silver Star Medal, The Bronze Star Medal, The Purple Heart Medal, The Air Medal, The Army Good Conduct Medal, The National Defense Medal, The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star, and The Vietnam Campaign Medal. Donald is interred at St. Peter and Paul Cemetery, Naperville, Illinois.

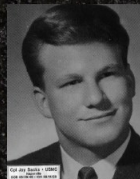
CHRISTOPHER WAYNE BEAVERS



Christopher was born on August 20th, 1946, and served in the United States Army as an Indirect Fire Infantryman. Christopher served in the 4th Platoon, B Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, United States Army Republic of Vietnam. Christopher was Killed in Action in Pleiku Province, South Vietnam due to multiple fragmentation wounds on May 18th, 1967, at the age of 20. For his Service and Sacrifice Christopher received The Bronze Star w/ the "V" Device, The Purple Heart Medal, The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star, and The Vietnam Campaign Medal. Christopher is interred at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

"Naperville Welcomes You Home and Thank You for your Service"

JAY CHARLES SACKS



Jay was born on August 29th, 1948, and served in the United States Marine Corps as an Anti-tank Assaultman. He was a Corporal and served in the Marine/ARVIN Combined Action Platoon 3-3-2, 3rd Command Artillery Group, III Marine Amphibious Force. Jay lost his life in the Service of his Country on August, 14th, 1969, in Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam, at the age of 20. For his Service and Sacrifice Jay was awarded The Purple Heart Medal, The National Defense Medal, The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal; and the Combat Action Ribbon. Jay is interred at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, Leesburg, Florida.

RONALD MICHAEL NOWAK



Ronald was born on September 11th, 1950, and served in the United States Marine Corps as a Rifleman. Ronald served in M Company, 3rd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force. Ronald died of wounds received due to hostile enemy fire on February 18th, 1969, in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam, at the age of 18, while serving in M Company. In recognition of his Service and Sacrifice, Ronald received The Purple Heart Medal, The National Defense Medal, The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star, The Vietnam Campaign Medal, and The Combat Action Ribbon. Ronald is interred at Assumption Cemetery, Winfield, Illinois.

"Naperville Welcomes You Home and Thank You for your Service"

MICHAEL JAMES BEIRNE



Michael was born on February 24th, 1946, and served in the United States Army as a Mechanic. He was a Specialist 4th Class and served in "Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, United States Army Republic of Vietnam. Michael lost his life in the Service of his Country on May 10th, 1967, during his time in South Vietnam. For his Service and Sacrifice Michael was awarded the Bronze Star, The National Defense Medal, The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. Michael is interred at St. Peter and Paul Cemetery, Naperville, Illinois.

"Naperville Welcomes You Home and Thank You for your Service"

DEAN WARD MOEHRING



Dean was born on November 21st, 1948, and served in the United States Army as an Infantryman. Dean served in B Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division, United States Army Republic of Vietnam. Dean was Killed in Action on March 3rd, 1969, at the age of 20, due to hostile enemy small arms fire while serving in B Company in Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam. For his Service and Sacrifice Dean received The Army Distinguished Service Cross, The Purple Heart, The National Defense Medal, The Vietnam Service Medal w/ a Bronze Star, and The Vietnam Campaign Medal. Dean is interred at Memorial Hill Cemetery, in Austin, Texas.

"Naperville Welcomes You Home and Thank You for your Service"



Vietnam Wall of Remembrance

On November 9th through November 13th, we had our own “Vietnam Wall of Remembrance” on display in our Naperville Park District Grand Pavilion area. All items, including the “Wall” printing; installation and take down; building supplies; etc. were donated by local businesses and individuals. 130+ Veterans volunteered in 4 hours shifts from 6am-10pm daily to assist the public in answering questions, finding names on the “Wall,” and sharing their personal stories from serving in Vietnam. In addition, we had special 13 plaques on display to highlight the 11 Men from Naperville that died in Vietnam and all men and women that died due to their service in Vietnam. An estimated 1500-2000 people were in attendance. Below is a brief description of what this wall stands for:

Comradeship. Comradeship in Vietnam is what enabled us to deal with the war itself, personal issues, and our combat missions daily. Comradeship is very special when you're away from home, especially in a war situation, because it's your buddies that enable you to carry through and carry on those missions and the time you must relax between missions. The men that you served with in Vietnam were there to do their job serving their country and protecting their fellow soldiers. We lost a lot of our comrades in combat and the Vietnam Wall of Remembrance enables us to think back and renew our comradeships and yet move on in life because the war is over physically but mentally it still exists in our minds.

Our Memories. Whether it's good or bad, the Vietnam Wall of Remembrance brings back a lot of Memories of Our Service in Vietnam; Our Service to our Country; and Our Service to Our Fellow Veterans. They are the ones that were brought back to the base morgue on their first leg home to their families. This Wall represents over 58,000 men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Families Left Behind. I know it was their sons and daughters that were lost and it's the families that we cannot forget. This Wall is in large part here to pay homage to their sacrifice and what they went through when they got the official word that their son or daughter was lost in Vietnam. We must always honor our Gold Star Families.

Coming Home. What a special time to be home with family and friends. The Vietnam War never goes away even when back home. Many Veterans have been asked “When were you there?” and they answered, “Last Night!!!!” One just never forgets!!!!

Education. We want to educate our youth as to what war really involves and that's why we have our Vietnam Veterans on watch from 6:00 in the morning until 10:00 at night to provide answers to their questions and share experiences of Vietnam and how it affected and



impacted their lives when they got back home. On the other hand, it does represent the sacrifice that our men and women paid during the Vietnam War, losing over 58,000 men and women whose names are on this Wall. Our “Vietnam Wall of Remembrance” is an unbelievable Memorial and Testimony that these 58,000+ Men and Women gave to protect our freedoms and help us all live a good life back here in the United States.

Always Remember those that passed away due to their Service in Vietnam. Agent Orange was a killer that never selected its enemy. It affected many serving on both sides of the War. These Service Men and Women are now also being recognized next to the “Wall” in Washington, DC as part of the “In Memory Of” Program.

Finally, the purpose of having this “Vietnam Wall of Remembrance” here, is that 2023 represents the 50th anniversary of our departure from Vietnam. It is not necessarily a celebration, but a “Remembrance” for all that Served their Country, especially those that Paid the Ultimate Sacrifice.

** submitted by Past Department Commander Wayne L. Fischer*

** event photos/newsletter cover photo provided by James Hoch Photography*



WE'LL KEEP YOU POSTED

What your local Posts, Districts, Divisions and Dept. Leadership have been up to



1

(1) ALA Past Department President Luella at the Rantoul Post 287 quarter auction.



2

(2) Rantoul Post 287 had a wonderful turnout for their quarter auction fundraiser in support of Pam Ray for Auxiliary National President.

(3) Department President Angie Golightly, (4) Department and National Treasurer Mary Beth Revoir and (5) American Legion Auxiliary Children & Youth National Chairman Pam Ray at the quarter auction at Rantoul Post 287.



3



4



5

(6) 2nd Division Commander John Reece, Department Special Aide to Sr. Vice Commander Al Coughlin, Department Senior Vice Commander Joe Lampert, Alternate NEC Ron Hoffman, Department Commander Delmar Buske and Department Chaplain Kevin Keen attending the 16th Annual Veterans Day Parade and air show in Utica, IL.

(7) National Executive Committeeman Roy Weber and (8) Post 611 Commander Bob Prosser addressing Veterans, family and friends during the dedication of the new Post Home in Stewardson.

(9) **Back row** (left to right): Carlinville Post 554 Commander Larry Kaburick, Past 21st District Commander Jerome Kulavic, 4th Division Commander Michael Vance, Department Commander Delmar Buske, 4th Division Sr. Vice Commander Mark Young, Department Membership Director Jim Talaska **Front row** (left to right): Past 21st District Commander Mary Kulavic, National Membership Marketing Coordinator Michelle Steinmetz, New Legion & SAL dual member Tom Broadus, 4th Division Jr. Vice Commander Annette Tinchler, Detachment Sr. Vice Commander Rick Allen and National Membership Engagement Coordinator Mark Woodsmall



6



7



8



(10) Commander Delmar Buske with Michele Steinmetz National Membership Marketing Coordinator and National Membership Engagement Coordinator Mark Woodsmall in Carlinville for a 4th Division Veterans Outreach event.

(11) Illinois Leadership toured the Marion VAMC with NVC Shreve on Friday November 17. Each meeting room has a designated "Empty Chair" with a draped banner serving as a solemn reminder of the need for all of us to speak up for veterans

(12) 13th District Sr. Vice Commander Jerry Howard at a Cub Scout flag etiquette training.



YEAR LONG FUNDRAISING FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH



Children & Youth
Commission
The American Legion
Department of Illinois
2720 E. Lincoln St.
Bloomington, IL 61704

\$50 per calendar.
Only 1250 calendars sold. Prizes daily.
Winning tickets will be returned to the
drawing pool for subsequent chances
to win. Prizes will be mailed.

JANUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	\$1000 ¹	\$25 ²	\$25 ³	\$25 ⁴	\$25 ⁵	\$25 ⁶
\$25 ⁷	\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹	\$25 ¹⁰	\$25 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²	\$25 ¹³
\$25 ¹⁴	\$25 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶	\$25 ¹⁷	\$25 ¹⁸	\$25 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰
\$25 ²¹	\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³	\$25 ²⁴	\$25 ²⁵	\$25 ²⁶	\$25 ²⁷
\$25 ²⁸	\$25 ²⁹	\$25 ³⁰	\$25 ³¹			

FEBRUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				\$25 ¹	\$25 ²	\$25 ³
\$150 ⁴	\$25 ⁵	\$25 ⁶	\$25 ⁷	\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹	\$25 ¹⁰
\$25 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²	\$25 ¹³	\$250 ¹⁴	\$25 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶	\$25 ¹⁷
\$25 ¹⁸	\$25 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰	\$25 ²¹	\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³	\$25 ²⁴
\$25 ²⁵	\$25 ²⁶	\$25 ²⁷	\$25 ²⁸	\$25 ²⁹		

MARCH 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					\$25 ¹	\$25 ²
\$25 ³	\$25 ⁴	\$25 ⁵	\$75 ⁶	\$25 ⁷	\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹
\$25 ¹⁰	\$25 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²	\$25 ¹³	\$25 ¹⁴	\$500 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶
\$150 ¹⁷	\$25 ¹⁸	\$25 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰	\$25 ²¹	\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³
\$25 ²⁴	\$25 ²⁵	\$25 ²⁶	\$25 ²⁷	\$25 ²⁸	\$25 ²⁹	\$25 ³⁰
\$100 ³¹						

APRIL 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	\$25 ¹	\$25 ²	\$25 ³	\$25 ⁴	\$50 ⁵	\$25 ⁶
\$25 ⁷	\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹	\$25 ¹⁰	\$25 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²	\$25 ¹³
\$25 ¹⁴	\$250 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶	\$25 ¹⁷	\$25 ¹⁸	\$25 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰
\$25 ²¹	\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³	\$25 ²⁴	\$25 ²⁵	\$25 ²⁶	\$25 ²⁷
\$25 ²⁸	\$25 ²⁹	\$25 ³⁰				

MAY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			\$25 ¹	\$25 ²	\$25 ³	\$25 ⁴
\$25 ⁵	\$25 ⁶	\$25 ⁷	\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹	\$250 ¹⁰	\$25 ¹¹
\$100 ¹²	\$25 ¹³	\$25 ¹⁴	\$25 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶	\$25 ¹⁷	\$25 ¹⁸
\$25 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰	\$25 ²¹	\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³	\$25 ²⁴	\$25 ²⁵
\$25 ²⁶	\$500 ²⁷	\$25 ²⁸	\$25 ²⁹	\$25 ³⁰	\$25 ³¹	

JUNE 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						\$25 ¹
\$25 ²	\$25 ³	\$25 ⁴	\$25 ⁵	\$100 ⁶	\$25 ⁷	\$25 ⁸
\$25 ⁹	\$25 ¹⁰	\$25 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²	\$25 ¹³	\$150 ¹⁴	\$25 ¹⁵
\$25 ¹⁶	\$25 ¹⁷	\$25 ¹⁸	\$50 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰	\$25 ²¹	\$25 ²²
\$25 ²³	\$25 ²⁴	\$25 ²⁵	\$25 ²⁶	\$125 ²⁷	\$25 ²⁸	\$25 ²⁹
\$25 ³⁰						

JULY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	\$25 ¹	\$25 ²	\$25 ³	\$250 ⁴	\$25 ⁵	\$25 ⁶
\$25 ⁷	\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹	\$25 ¹⁰	\$25 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²	\$25 ¹³
\$25 ¹⁴	\$25 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶	\$25 ¹⁷	\$25 ¹⁸	\$25 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰
\$25 ²¹	\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³	\$25 ²⁴	\$25 ²⁵	\$25 ²⁶	\$25 ²⁷
\$25 ²⁸	\$25 ²⁹	\$25 ³⁰	\$25 ³¹			

AUGUST 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				\$25 ¹	\$25 ²	\$25 ³
\$25 ⁴	\$25 ⁵	\$25 ⁶	\$150 ⁷	\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹	\$25 ¹⁰
\$25 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²	\$25 ¹³	\$25 ¹⁴	\$25 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶	\$25 ¹⁷
\$25 ¹⁸	\$25 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰	\$25 ²¹	\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³	\$25 ²⁴
\$500 ²⁵	\$25 ²⁶	\$25 ²⁷	\$25 ²⁸	\$25 ²⁹	\$25 ³⁰	\$25 ³¹

SEPTEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
\$25 ¹	\$250 ²	\$25 ³	\$25 ⁴	\$25 ⁵	\$25 ⁶	\$25 ⁷
\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹	\$25 ¹⁰	\$250 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²	\$25 ¹³	\$25 ¹⁴
\$25 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶	\$25 ¹⁷	\$25 ¹⁸	\$25 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰	\$25 ²¹
\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³	\$25 ²⁴	\$25 ²⁵	\$25 ²⁶	\$25 ²⁷	\$25 ²⁸
\$25 ²⁹	\$25 ³⁰					

OCTOBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		\$25 ¹	\$25 ²	\$25 ³	\$25 ⁴	\$25 ⁵
\$25 ⁶	\$25 ⁷	\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹	\$25 ¹⁰	\$25 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²
\$25 ¹³	\$25 ¹⁴	\$25 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶	\$25 ¹⁷	\$25 ¹⁸	\$25 ¹⁹
\$25 ²⁰	\$25 ²¹	\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³	\$25 ²⁴	\$25 ²⁵	\$125 ²⁶
\$25 ²⁷	\$25 ²⁸	\$25 ²⁹	\$25 ³⁰	\$250 ³¹		

NOVEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					\$25 ¹	\$25 ²
\$25 ³	\$25 ⁴	\$25 ⁵	\$25 ⁶	\$25 ⁷	\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹
\$25 ¹⁰	\$1000 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²	\$25 ¹³	\$25 ¹⁴	\$25 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶
\$25 ¹⁷	\$25 ¹⁸	\$25 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰	\$25 ²¹	\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³
\$25 ²⁴	\$25 ²⁵	\$25 ²⁶	\$25 ²⁷	\$25 ²⁸	\$25 ²⁹	\$25 ³⁰

DECEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
\$500 ¹	\$25 ²	\$25 ³	\$25 ⁴	\$25 ⁵	\$25 ⁶	\$500 ⁷
\$25 ⁸	\$25 ⁹	\$25 ¹⁰	\$25 ¹¹	\$25 ¹²	\$25 ¹³	\$25 ¹⁴
\$25 ¹⁵	\$25 ¹⁶	\$25 ¹⁷	\$25 ¹⁸	\$25 ¹⁹	\$25 ²⁰	\$25 ²¹
\$25 ²²	\$25 ²³	\$25 ²⁴	\$25 ²⁵	\$25 ²⁶	\$25 ²⁷	\$25 ²⁸
\$25 ²⁹	\$25 ³⁰	\$1000 ³¹				

You have a chance to win EVERY SINGLE DAY OF 2024! The American Legion Department of Illinois Children & Youth Committee is running a year long fundraiser. \$50 per ticket and over \$15,000 being given in prizes!

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- Each calendar has a unique number (on the upper right corner)
- Every day in 2024, we will pull a number
- If your number is pulled, you WIN the amount of cash listed for that day.
- Numbers go BACK IN so you can win again (and again AND AGAIN!) There is no limit to the amount of times you can win.
- All winners will be posted on our Facebook page
- All winnings will be mailed!
- For questions/additional information, Call: 815-520-4643 or Email: lineup1@charter.net

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send Dist/Div meeting dates, happenings at your post/community, announcements, etc!

Email sgreen@illegion.org OR send by mail to:
American Legion, Dept. of IL
P.O. Box 2910 Bloomington, IL 61702
ATTN: SHANDI GREEN

Please submit any changes or updates to previous submissions to Shandi Green as soon as possible.
NOTE: WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO INCLUDE YOUR SUBMISSIONS BUT CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT THEY WILL BE. IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE, PLEASE SUBMIT BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH PRIOR

November 2023

Children & Youth Committee
2024 Special Olympics Winter Games

Dave or Sue Johnson 815-520-4643

Dates: February 6; 8 am to 4 pm, February 7; 8 am to 4 pm & February 8; 8 am to 12 pm

Locations: Hanover, Illinois, Galena, Illinois

Chestnut Mountain, 8700 W Chestnut Mt. Rd. Hanover, IL 61040

Eagle Ridge, 444 Eagle Ridge Rd. Galena, IL 61036

I will be there from _____ To _____ Tuesday Feb 6

I will be there from _____ To _____ Wednesday Feb 7

I will be there from _____ To _____ Thursday Feb 8

Name _____ Address _____

Phone # _____ Post/Unit/Squadron # _____ Dist# _____ Div# _____

I will bring _____

Here is my donation of \$ _____ to help with supplies for Special Olympics

<u>Legion</u>	<u>SAL</u>	<u>Auxiliary</u>	<u>ALR</u>
Unpowered gloves M – XL		Store Bought Cookies	Monetary
Cheese Balls	Grocery Bags	Little Debbie/Hostess	Donations
Pirate's Booty	Apple Sauce in	Individual Wrapped	Appreciated
Crackers	Squeeze bags	Individual Muffins	Apples
	Peanut Butter Crackers	Halos	Bananas
	Veggie Straws	Grapes, Carrots	
	Water Bottles	Celery, Gold Fish Crackers, Pretzels, Chips	

Return to:

The American Legion OR The American Legion Auxiliary

Dept of Illinois Dept of Illinois

P.O. Box 2910 P.O. Box 1426

Bloomington, IL 611072 Bloomington, IL 61072

2024 AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY MEMBERSHIP CARAVAN SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>TIME</u>
3rd	16th	318	Morton	Breakfast	8:30 AM
3rd	14th	136	Monmouth	Lunch	11:30 AM
3rd	15th	1233	Colona	Dinner	6:00 PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>TIME</u>
2nd	13th	357	Lanark	Breakfast	8:30 AM
2nd	12th	99	Sycamore	Lunch	11:30 AM
2nd	11th	491	McHenry	Dinner	6:00 PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>TIME</u>
2nd	10th	329	Libertyville	Breakfast	8:30 AM
1st	4th	735	Chicago	Snack	10:30 AM
1st	3rd	236	Chicago	Snack	1:30 PM
1st	8th	615	Tinley Park	Dinner	6:00 PM

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>TIME</u>
4th	17th	624	Heyworth	Lunch	11:30 AM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>TIME</u>
4th	18th	203	Georgetown	Breakfast	8:30 AM
4th	19th	88	Mattoon	Lunch	11:30 AM
5th	23rd	28	Lawrenceville	Dinner	6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>TIME</u>
5th	24th	364	Carrier Mills	Lunch	11:30 AM
5th	25th	487	Chester	Dinner	6:00 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>TIME</u>
5th	22nd	365	Collinsville	Dinner	6:00 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>TIME</u>
3rd	20th	492	Jerseyville	Breakfast	8:30 AM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>TIME</u>
4th	21st	759	Chatham	Lunch	11:30 AM



Merry Christmas!

FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT & VA&R STAFF

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Joseph Lampert



Christy Rich

William J. Vaughan

Dee Dalton



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Terry Abdelnoor

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MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

DISTRICT & DIVISION RANKINGS

UPDATED 12/01/2023

Division	Commander
4	VANCE
3	HINTON
2	REECE, JR.
5	SCHOO
1	HEDRICK

District	Commander
20	Gardner
19	Walker
18	Taylor
23	Mattmiller
17	Rodriguez
9	Kwiatkowski
8	McNellis
13	Gibbs
11	Westerhausen
16	Hope

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website.**

