

MI LEGIONNAIRE

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NEW LEGION FAMILY LEADERS



Department Commander
Jim Austin

I joined the Navy after high school in December 1980 and was assigned to the Pre-Commissioning Unit aboard the USS Merrimack (AO-179) in Norfolk, Virginia, commissioned in November 1981. During my service, we completed a Mediterranean cruise supporting the Marines in Beirut in 1983 and two North Atlantic cruises. I became a Shellback and two-time Blue Nose.

After five years as a boiler technician (BT-2), I was honorably discharged and began working as a civilian boiler operator. After several years as a licensed operator, I moved into industrial maintenance and have worked as a journeyman millwright since 2000.

After leaving the military, I joined The American Legion. My father and uncle, also my godfather, were charter members of Southgate Post 478. Once eligible, I became involved because I believe membership requires wholehearted participation.

I was active at the Post and District levels until PDC Bill Anderson encouraged me to serve on Department committees. PDC Carney Jackson recognized my enthusiasm for the American Legion Riders and appointed me the first Department Legion Rider Liaison. Since then, I have served on Department committees, and my commitment has never wavered.

My leadership style emphasizes teamwork and transparency. If something benefits the Legion, I will do everything within my ability to support it. I remain dedicated to serving the Legion and its members in any position I am honored to hold.

Anita gained her eligibility through the service of her Grandfather George R. Stewart (USA-WWI), her father Earl G. Stewart (USA-WWII) and her brother Walter F. Stewart (USA-Vietnam). Anita is an honorary life member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Lapeer Unit 16. She resides in Dryden with her husband, David J. Mennel, whose activity in the Sons of the American Legion, inspired her to join the ALA.

In her Unit, she has served as Chairman of several programs, held the offices of Sgt. At Arms, Historian, Chaplain, First Vice President and six years as Unit President. At the District level, Anita has held the offices of Historian, Chaplain, Secretary, President and Treasurer. She has held many Chairmanships for several programs.

At the Department level Anita has held Chairmanships of the following Committee's: Music, Membership, Leadership, Public Relations, and Legislative. She has served as Historian, Chaplain, Second Vice President and First Vice President. She has served on the Personnel committee, Community Service committee and as a Nurse for the ALA Girls State Program for many years.

Anita is a member of the American Legion Riders Chapter 14 and serves as the Secretary/Treasurer. She was a nurse for over 44 years and retired in 2023. She serves her church as Financial Director and is a part of the "tech" team. She is a proud Stepmom, Grandma, Aunt, Great Aunt, and Sister. Anita is dedicated, dependable, focused and a good friend to those who are lucky enough to know her.



Department President
Anita L. Mennel

Michael "Mike" "Ponytail" Globke is 78 years old and has been married to his wife, Pam, for over 40 years. He is the proud father of three children from a previous marriage. He's a 40-year member of The American Legion and a member of the Sons of the American Legion for 19. He is also a founding member of the American Legion Riders at his post in Garden City, MI Post 396.

Mike's many leadership positions in the Legion Family include First Zone Commander, Post Commander, and every elected office of Michigan's 16th District, as well as District Commander. He has also faithfully served as Post Adjutant for over 30 years.

Within the Sons of the American Legion, Mike served as First Zone Commander, Squadron Adjutant for 19 years, Squadron Finance Officer for three years, and District Adjutant for 15 years.

His passion is supporting Camp Liberty, a Michigan retreat dedicated to serving veterans and first responders. As a special project, he is working to raise awareness and generate financial support for the camp, providing healing, fellowship, and recreational opportunities for those who have served our nation.

Known throughout Michigan as "Ponytail," Mike is respected for his decades of dedicated service, steady leadership, and unwavering commitment to veterans, their families, and the principles of The American Legion Family.



Detachment Commander
Mike Globke

In this Edition

[Commander's Comments](#)

[Page 3](#)

[Auxiliaire](#)

[Pages 5-9](#)

[Runyan's Ramblings](#)

[Page 3](#)

[Sons of the American Legion](#)

[Page 13-14](#)

[1st & 2nd Vice Commanders Reports](#)

[Page 4](#)

[Find a VSO](#)

[Page 16](#)

[Passport Spotlight](#)

[Page 15](#)

[Aroun the State](#)

[Page 19](#)



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If you have a photo you would like to submit for the Michigan Legionnaire and/or web-site use, E-mail it to us at media@michiganlegion.org or mail it to Department, Attn: Jim Showers. Please keep the photo at least 200 dpi or larger. If you are submitting a hard copy photo, please note photos printed from a home printer cannot be used, nor can photos clipped from newspapers. We look for photos showing Legion caps in action whenever possible. Interested in placing an ad in the Michigan Legionnaire?

Please Contact Jim Showers
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STATE OFFICERS

State Commander.	Jim Austin	3rd Zone	Tim Shosey	N.E.C	Brett Holt
State Adjutant.	Ron Runyan	4th Zone	Ed Herter	Judge Advocate.	Brett Holt
1st Vice Commander.	Roger Deaton	5th Zone	Mark Maida	Sergeant-at-Arms	Duane Miller
2nd Vice Commander	David Yahr	Chaplain.	Rodney Tolbert	Immediate PDC.	Roger Avie
1st Zone	Mark Holthus	Finance Officer.	Scott Nichols	Alt. N.E.C	Brian Mohlman
2nd Zone.	Sheila Overholts	Historian	Pete Ramik	VA and R Director	Gary Easterling



Jim Austin
Department Commander

Here we are, one month in already! All committee positions have been filled, and we are ready to go to work. Our membership team has been going strong already, as have several other committees.

I want to discuss the importance of continuing the momentum of Legion programs. Everyone has a job, from the newest blue cap whose job is to support his post functions and leadership, all the way up to your District, Zone, and Department leadership. We all have our job descriptions, and we are rearing to go. The Department leadership's job is to ensure you have the tools to do your jobs effectively. Although all of us have different jobs, we all must work together to make the greatest Veteran organization move forward. Even though a lot of our posts/districts go dark during the summer months, this is a great time to work on our programs and membership.



Training is a big part of accomplishing our mission. Your training committee, led by Jena Wilmers, is on pace for a record year. Training is the key; take advantage of every training opportunity that

Let's Hit the Ground Runnin'

comes your way. The training schedule will be posted as session dates are finalized. Keep vigilant of your department Calendar or attend your district meetings for an in-person distribution of this information. Speaking of training, our Adjutant training in Higgins Lake at last registration count was almost at capacity.

The First Lady and I participated in Wyandotte's 4th of July parade. Thank you, Post 217, for your hospitality and another phenomenal parade. Thank you to the multiple other posts we visited while downriver as well, including Post 32.

The Wilwin camp had an outstanding opening day on July 11th. Participation was outstanding, and they are doing amazing work at our own PTSD camp.

Brett Holt and Ron Runyan did an amazing job reading the Declaration of Independence on the steps of the Capitol on July 8th. It was also

great to see everyone who came through headquarters to enjoy lunch with your department leadership on that same day.

We are moving in a great direction, so please take advantage of everything great that is happening in our Legion. As always, if you have any questions, suggestions, or recommendations, reach out to your chain of command so that we may assist you effectively.



Runyan's Ramblings

Why Belong? Why Continue Paying Dues? How are We Really Doing?

Ron Runyan
Dept. Adjutant

In this edition of Runyan's Ramblings, I will attempt to answer some of these questions. Recently and currently ongoing, we hear about the Major Richard Star

Act and the Taking Care of America's Veterans Act and how The American Legion and other veteran organizations and veterans react. Yes, The American Legion does have a position in favor of passing the Act based on good data and facts. Do we all have to agree with the positions some take, even if we do not agree? No, we all have a choice to voice our opinions, just not the opinion of our organization. Nor should we tear someone or an organization down because we have a difference in opinions. So, not to focus on the current news of the day, I want to provide you with valuable information on what we have done and are currently doing, so you have a clear picture of how valuable you are in this great big human organization. As you will see below, this information is captured and reported to Congress from the Consolidated Post/Squadron reports.

OUR IMPACT: For over a century, The American Legion has strengthened America and its veterans through programs, services, compassion, and actions that have proven vital, timeless, and life-changing.

- 23 Billion dollars have been secured for veterans in the 2025 fiscal year thanks to the free assistance from our accredited veterans service officers and appeal representatives.

- \$852,592 in Children Well-being grants awarded to over 13 child-serving organizations in 2025

- 136,812 messages were sent to Congress from the grassroots efforts of American Legion members addressing top legislative priorities

- Over 20,000 people provided information and training on how to detect and/or deter veteran suicides

- \$ 6.8 million awarded to National Oratorical contest competitors through 2025

- \$1.7 million awarded from American Legacy scholarships in 2025 to 559 children of military personnel or veterans possessing a 50% or greater disability while serving on active duty

Ultimately, we make a huge difference in the organization, the communities we all serve, and the state of Michigan. There could be a chance you are reading this thinking all I do is pay dues and possibly go to the local post once in a while for a fish dinner or cold drink. Believe it or not, you are still a very important part of who we are and what we do. You may be taking a break from cleaning the post or cooking and wondering why more members don't come in and volunteer to help you, as you and others are the only ones doing all the work. Well, do the other members of the post know you could use more assistance around working in the post? Many times, members do not know how to contribute or how they can lend some time. Communications are key! Whether it is a Facebook page, an email blast, or a notice posted in the club room, members do not know; what they do not know! There is an abundance of members willing to give some time or money to ensure that the post and our programs succeed. Once again, thank you all for your membership and belonging to the greatest organization!



Membership

Roger Deaton
1st Vice Commander

The new Legion Membership Year is well underway, and we have a first-class team ready to assist every post. This team includes Zone and District Commanders, along with Membership Subject Matter Experts selected for their dedication, passion, and proven results.

Membership target dates are listed on page 9, and incentives are on page 12. These incentives were developed with input from our posts. At the 2027 banquet, we will also present several surprise awards. Your Department of Michigan team is excited to work alongside post membership teams throughout the 2026–2027 year as we strive to lead the nation.

As I submit this article, my wife, Janene Deaton, president of Brighton Auxiliary Unit 235, and I are completing our Upper Peninsula tour. Canadian wildfires forced us to shorten the trip because of heavy smoke and ash, but we still traveled nearly 1,500 miles by motorcycle and visited posts throughout the U.P. The scenery was beautiful, and every post made us feel welcome. Many posts have received or will soon receive their Passport Stampers, so when conditions improve, please visit and support them.

During our travels, posts shared many familiar challenges: recruiting volunteers, developing future leaders, promoting events, and increasing community awareness. These issues were addressed during the July 25 membership training at Jackson Post 29, where Department experts offered practical strategies and resources.

Moving forward, the Department will provide updated informational videos across social media, visit more posts, and continue the Passport Post Spotlight in each issue. Information will also move regularly through the leadership chain—from Department to Zones, Districts, posts, and members. Clear communication at every level is essential.

Last year, Americanism participation and engagement increased, and that momentum will continue under our new Second Vice Commander. Committee chairs met their goals, Zone Commanders are already working with Districts, and leaders are setting clear expectations. Our formula for success is simple: communication and camaraderie times ten. Visit posts, support one another, and have fun.



Chaplains Corner

Rodney Tolbert
Department Chaplain

America's foundations rest on God and faith. Every nation in history has been built on something. For the ancient empires of Europe and Asia, that foundation was shared bloodlines, geographical borders, or military conquest. But the United States was different.

America was founded not on lineage, but on an idea that the country needed God for the relationship between the citizen and the State. At the center of our forefathers is an acknowledgment of God that human dignity and freedom do not come from the whims of a king or the decrees of a parliament; instead, they are directly woven into the fabric of creation by God. This does not mean Americans are superior to others; rather, it means Americans are exceptionally designed to limit government power by recognizing God as the ultimate source of human rights. When a government forgets this, rights become privileges granted by

Americanism

David Yahr
2nd Vice Commander



First and foremost, I want to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as your 2nd Vice Commander this year. I know we have a lot of work ahead of us. Roger did an outstanding job as 2nd Vice Commander last year, and we need to keep the momentum going.

I come from a very long line of Veterans with big shoes to fill just in the family tree. I am a 24-year Navy Veteran, serving as a cryptologist all over the world, raising 3 children and later dropping them off on their own adventures. Two of my kids have followed me back to Michigan while one stayed in Florida. My kids have given me 7 wonderful grandkids and 3 great-grandsons.

I have always tried to go into a new position with a positive attitude, as this will be the best job I have ever had. With that said, I am very excited to see how far we can go with Americanism program. I have been told that Posts only have to submit their required forms for membership cards and pay their district dues. If we keep that mentality, we are doomed to fail as an organization. We, as leaders in the American Legion, need to mentor our Post leadership. The more visible we are as The American Legion in our communities, the easier it is to show the positivity of what our programs do. The community will not come in if we stay inside our 4 walls. We need the community just as much as they need us.

Last week I had the honor of being a part of the 250 program at the Michigan Capitol. For those who were able to come out and show your Post colors, it was greatly appreciated. For those who could not make it, you missed a great event. We need more programs like this to show our patriotism in our communities. If you plan an event, get the word out so others outside your post/district can attend.

I plan on getting out to posts to get more on the passport program. Right now, the southern part of the state is doing great. I would like to see Zone 4 with more Posts participating. This is where I will be concentrating to make it easier for the northern part of the state to get the 10 stamps for a hat pin and 25 stamps for a challenge coin. I have plotted all Posts that have registered. As you can see, we have a lot of work to do in the northern part of the state and the UP.

the state, and what the state gives, the state can inevitably take away.

To understand why God is essential to the American identity, we must look directly at the nation's birth certificate: The Declaration of Independence. Drafted in the summer of 1776, this document was not merely a political breakup letter to King George III; it was a profound statement on human nature and divine law and belief in God. The Forefathers made their core premise perfectly clear in the document's most famous quote: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with unalienable Rights, that these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

The Declaration concludes by explicitly placing our young nation into the divine hands; from the first hour of the nation's existence, God was not treated as an afterthought or a cultural tradition. He was recognized as the ultimate author of human liberty and the ultimate judge of the nation's intentions. Let's continue to pray for our great nation, that GOD will be the leader of our country. For God and country.



AUXILIAIRE

From the Desk of the President

July 2026



Anita L. Mennel
Department President
2026-2027

Thank you for your confidence in electing me your Department President for the 2026-2027 administrative year. I am humbled!

As a proud granddaughter, daughter and sister of veterans, my pledge is to keep working together as we continue our mission of service to our veterans, military families, children and youth. I look forward to serving you all.

Some of you may recall hearing this when I was Chaplain, but I repeat it now: "There are many kinds of LOVE... The love of family, love of spouse and children, love of friends, I 'love' your outfit - Well, I love you all and there ain't nothing you can do about it." This year, love will take on a little different twist.

L.O.V.E. stands for: Loyal hearts to be open-minded and value those around us, empowering members to carry forward our mission into the next 250 years.

We heard at Convention of the amazing work we have done this past year. Our focus next year will be to continue to work our mission. One of my first actions was to appoint a team of members with a passion for their program choice. Another is improving communication and education opportunities. We are working on a plan for regular Microsoft Teams (Zoom-type) meetings for unit program chairs, hosted by department chairs and attended by district chairs (and all who wish). We are preparing a "September Zoom" - a rollout of V.A. & R, Membership, and Americanism, our most time-sensitive programs. They will be held prior to our November Fall Conference to continue educating our membership. This will also allow more time at the Tree Tops Resort in Grayling to share information about all of our amazing programs. Watch

our website for more information.

I believe one of the best ways we can support a larger number of Michigan service members, our Veterans and their families, is through broader outreach. I have chosen as the 2026-2027 Department special project "THE MICHIGAN AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION-VSO ENDOWMENT FUND". Our support will help outreach from within, which is just as necessary as working with organizations outside of our family. Plan to attend November 6 through 8, 2026 and learn more about that at our Fall Conference.

A quick shout out to District 7 members, and my Unit #16 - thank you for your confidence in me and your ongoing support and encouragement. A Special thanks to the co-coordinators of that awesome Meet & Greet, Anna Lossing and Marie Gomez, my Unit President, Pam Wagner and the rest of the ALF (American Legion Family). If you attended the Department of Michigan Convention last month, you probably received one of my pins. The heart shape is for feelings. The purple sparkle background is a nod to my mom (a U.S. Cadet Nurse during WWII), and it's the color of all of our service branches together. L.O.V.E. I explained above, the 250 and the red, white, and blue border are for our country, and the polar bear, well, I just like polar bears-and, yet they can be ferocious - like us as we work our mission.

As we embark on another administrative year of our ALA, I encourage each of you to remember the pledge you just repeated. Walk that walk, not just talk it - and remember L.O.V.E.! For God and Country!bears-and, yet they can be ferocious - like us as we work our mission.

Verbiage and Definitions



Shannon Werner
Executive Director,
Secretary & Treasurer

Thank you to all who attended and contributed to our recent Department of Michigan Convention. We always have successful gatherings no matter the obstacles. This event was no different. We learned some things to do/not to do going forward, and to me, the experience is the most important part of our ritualistic meetings.

Our organization is unique in its non-profit designation, hierarchy and verbiage. To get us all using the same words, I offer the following definitions:

Department is the combination and/or total of all our members in the State of Michigan. Each state is considered a Department within the American Legion Auxiliary National Organization.

Headquarters is the office building where me and the membership coordinator/archivist work, meetings take place and the managing of the actual business

occurs.

The DEC Department Executive Committee is a group consisting of our Officers (Department President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Parliamentarian, etc.) District Presidents and Past Department Presidents.

Executive Director is one of my titles. I am Shannon, I am not "Department". * Please see above.

A Unit is a group of eligible members who are in the American Legion Auxiliary and have been chartered as such.

A Post is a group of American Legion eligible Veterans who have joined the organization or used when referring to an American Legion location.

A.L.A.M.I.S. (American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System) National would like everyone to refrain from using this acronym as a word; each letter should be pronounced. It is a National Database owned and managed by the National organization.

Next, National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

Girls State, Another Successful Year!

Beryl Robbins, Chair

First, let me start with the weather this year! Temperatures were in the 70s all week, a first since I have been attending ALA Girls State! Not one student complained that we did not have air-conditioned dorm rooms; in fact, some parents were delivering sweatshirts and long pants to their daughters during the week.

This year, 212 students submitted applications. Of those, 191 completed the registration, and 183 students successfully completed the entire program. We had 24 students who applied but cancelled before the start of the program, and five students who left before the end of the program. Two of those students were excused for early departure and received their pin and certificate. A total of 185 students can use their ALA Girls State experience when applying to colleges, military academies, and employment.

Our Government, Auxiliary and Counseling staff all contributed to an amazing week. Three Certificates of Recognition were presented to Government Staff members. Our Judicial Advisor, Jack Felton, who has been with our program since 1983; Co-Government Coordinator, Al Vanderberg, since 1986, and David Rowley, since 1987. We made sure they noticed we did not put an "end" date on their certificates and hope they continue to return for years to come! Erika Rosebrook, our Government Coordinator, assisted with the certificates and deserves a special thank you for her guidance and knowledge to our entire ALA Girls State staff!

I want to thank our ALA Girls State Committee, Rysta Brown, Pam Wagner, Rebecca Hopp, Mollie Lynch, Ashley Cetnarowski and Skylar Posigian, including Department President, Dawn Gramza, Executive Director, Shannon Werner, and Finance Officer, Deanna Cortright, for their support and contributions during this past year and at our 2026 ALA Girls State session. In addition, we could not have made it through the week without the help of our ALA Volunteers, Pam Lajewski-Pearson and Cheryl Johnson, who judged our Samsung Scholarship applications remotely from Marquette, our nurses, Anita Mennel and Robin McCrimmon, and workers, Mary Parrino, Deb Weatherbee, Isabelle Anderson, Sue Wood, Jacqueline Lawn, Nicole Pettele, Patti Risk, and Pam Wagner. We appreciate John Mella, who drove the bus to deliver 31 students from Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and thank their sponsors who worked hard to make sure the delegates made it to the bus on time and made it back home safely!

Please mark your calendars for the 2027 ALA Girls State program scheduled for June 13-June 19, 2027, on the campus of Michigan State University. We plan to have students from the Upper Peninsula arrive on Saturday evening, June 12th again this year. Additional information will be available at the Fall Conference. Make sure you stop by our table to say hello, pick up your information and take a look at the artwork, short stories and poems submitted by the 2026 delegates. You can also complete a pledge to sponsor students for 2027! We will be selling our fleece jackets and other ALA Girls State merchandise. If you are interested in purchasing a fleece jacket, contact Beryl Robbins with your order so we have the size you want.

Getting Started

Candie Chase, Membership Chair

Welcome to the 2026-2027 membership year. The Department membership committee invites you to join in the fun, celebrating and growing our organization. Our mission is for every Unit in the Department of Michigan to achieve goal membership by July 4, 2027. The Area Membership Chairs will be working closely with District Presidents and District Membership Chairpersons to accomplish our goals. They are an excellent group of members who will offer assistance to help with membership and ALAMIS questions.

The Department of Michigan Membership Facebook page (ALA MI Membership) will be dissolved, and any posts will now be on the Department of Michigan Facebook page (American Legion Auxiliary Department of Michigan). You may consider joining the National Membership Facebook page (American Legion Auxiliary National Membership Group).

Please refer to our Department's website at www.michalaux.org and the membership pages on the national website at www.alaforveterans.org for materials.

An updated membership program guide will be published on our Department's website by September. It will contain a complete list of Department and National awards and more detailed membership information. Remember that membership is everyone's responsibility.

Chaplain's Corner

Darlene Jones, Chaplain

First, I would like to express my gratitude to all who had faith in me to fill this position. The year is just beginning, and I am excited. I would also appreciate a prayer from each district and unit throughout the state of Michigan for the Chaplain's Prayer Book, for our newly elected Department President, Anita Mennel. So please read your program guides when they come out. You can email your prayers to me at darlene-jones5027@yahoo.com.

Please remember to send a member data form to headquarters via mail or email at info@michalaux.org if someone in your Unit or District passes away. That information is then supplied to me for the Memorial Garden.

Our Department President's theme is L.O.V.E. There will be more about this at the fall conference. The Bible says, "1 John 4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." We are the American Legion Family and should do our best to show each other love and respect. We all face challenges in life, and at times, it feels like those challenges may just beat us down. Don't let the idea of quitting enter your mind; stay strong and keep going. The people who win in life are the ones who don't quit. Let's fill this year with kindness and love.

Something Happening at your Unit?

Submit it to the Michigan Auxiliaire!

Send your articles and Pictures (with Cutline) to : info@michalaux.org

History

Candie Chase, Historian

As Department Historian for the American Legion Auxiliary, it's my honor to help preserve the story of our organization, one moment and one memory at a time. One of my key responsibilities is documenting the official history for the year. This book tells the story of the Auxiliary President's year and captures the many events and activities happening across our great state.

Now is the time to start your Unit and District's histo-

ry and/or scrapbooks. If your Unit or District is interested in competing for a history and/or scrapbook award at next year's Department Convention, the time to begin collecting photos and memorabilia is now. Document your community events, service projects, fundraisers, and Legion Family activities. Strong history and scrapbooks are built over time, not thrown together at the last minute. Let's make sure the incredible work being done in our Units and Districts gets remembered and celebrated. Let's preserve the memories we're making today for the generations that follow tomorrow.

Past President's Parley

Sue Verville, Chairperson

The Past Presidents Parley serves several key purposes, utilizing the experience and knowledge of former presidents to support and mentor current members, ensuring strong leadership for the organization.

One is MENTORSHIP. It encourages past presidents to continue their active service by mentoring current members, sharing their insights, and fostering leadership within our organization.

Second is RECOGNITION. The Past Presidents' Parley committee honors the contributions of past presidents and recognizes outstanding unit members through their encouragement and knowledge that they share.

Third is MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA. Membership in the Past Presidents Parley is open to individuals who have served as presidents at various levels in the organization (unit, district, department, or national).

To be eligible, members must:

Have served as president for at least one full year or part of a year under specific conditions.

Ensure their unit dues for the current year are paid.

Fourth is ACTIVITIES and CONTRIBUTIONS.

Members of the Past Presidents Parley are encouraged to actively participate in the Auxiliary's initiatives and programs, sharing their expertise to strengthen the organization, engaging in fundraising efforts to support scholarships and other programs, and collaborating with current leaders to maintain continuity and foster growth within the Auxiliary.

The Past Presidents play a vital role in the American Legion Auxiliary by using their experience to mentor new members, support initiatives, and contribute. This involvement helps ensure the organization's future leadership and success.

As a Past President, you can support and assist recruitment and retention efforts. Past Presidents should make themselves available; their guidance and constructive feedback can help their Units, Districts, and even Departments maintain continuity and good cooperation.

The exchange of knowledge and ideas can open new avenues and help us find solutions. Open dialogue and shared expertise allow us to address challenges from multiple perspectives and drive progress.

There is an award for the best Parley-written report, and I hope to receive many. Remember that your Past Presidents are here to help you. You only need to ask.

Parliamentarian Defined

Susan Svacha, Parliamentarian

The National Association of Parliamentarians defines a parliamentarian as someone who is there to help you conduct meetings more efficiently and make decisions more effectively. In the American Legion Auxiliary, the Parliamentarian is often a trusted individual in the organization who can offer insight into Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure and the past practices of the organization.

The fundamental principles of parliamentary procedure are:

1. Fairness of process and courtesy for all.
2. Only one thing at a time--speaker, motion, or action.
3. The majority rules.
4. The minority must be heard.
5. Each proposition is entitled to a full and free debate.
6. The purpose is to facilitate action, not to obstruct it.



American Legion Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY EXPLAINED

RELATIONSHIP TO VETERAN:



- MOTHER
- DAUGHTER
- SISTER
- GRANDMOTHER
- GRANDDAUGHTER
- SELF — FEMALE VETERANS WHO HAVE SERVED
- MALE or FEMALE SPOUSE

ELIGIBILITY PERIODS: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941

TWO PATHS FOR ALA ELIGIBILITY

PATH ONE

The potential member is related to a living veteran by one of the relationships stated above and the veteran is living AND a current member of The American Legion.



If the potential member is a female veteran, she only needs to have served during the eligible time periods to be eligible for ALA membership.

PATH TWO

The potential member is related to a deceased veteran who served during the eligible time periods and was honorably discharged.



The deceased veteran did not have to be a member of The American Legion in order for the potential member to join the ALA.

Michigan American Legion Auxiliary Awards

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Certificate of Appreciation - Donation

Unit Durkee-Seager Unit 550, 5th District, Charles A Conklin Unit 28, President Gerald R Ford Unit 258, Glen Hill Unit 287, Northeastern Unit 459, Pinckney Memorial Unit 419, 7th District, 8th District, Dale H Wheeler Unit 219, 10th District, Alfred Branchini Unit 17, Ernest F Oldenburg Unit 216

Membership

Membership Goal District

5th District at 103.69%, 3rd District at 103.65%, 6th District at 101.39%, 9th District at 101.29%, 2nd District at 100.40%, 8th District at 100.23%

Membership Goal Unit

Richard F Smith Unit 29, Underwood-Orr Unit 34, Concord-Pulaski Memorial Unit 81, Emil Jacob Unit 117, Sherman H Osborne Unit 192, James E Yenor Unit 193, Wilber-Bartlett Unit 315, Morenci Unit 368, Durkee-Seager Unit 550, Dexter Unit 557, Joseph B Westnedge Unit 36, Cole-Briggs Unit 48, Coldwater Unit 52, Sherman-Rice-Demorest Unit 157, SSG Michael A Dickinson, II Unit 257, Wolverine Unit 360, Climax-Scotts Unit 465, Wiley-Koon Unit 475, Buchanan Unit 51, George Wagner Unit 127, Hess-Eastman Unit 174, Randall Couchman Unit 204, Bridgman Unit 331, Snyder-Lewis-Welty Unit 454, Wee-Chick Unit 518, Stevensville Unit 568, Carl A Johnson Unit 2, Willard G Leenhouts Unit 6, Charles A Conklin Unit 28, Louis Teistler Unit 47, Evans-Swanson Unit 123, Roger B Chaffee Unit 154, Neal E Fonger Unit 179, Daniel Waters Cassard Unit 208, President Gerald R Ford Unit 258, Glen Hill Unit 287, Caledonia Memorial Unit 305, Valley City Unit 356, Alto Unit 528, Devereaux Unit 141, Captain Stephen W Frank Unit 269, Harry Baker Unit 367, Grand Blanc Unit 413, Pinckney Memorial Unit 419, Lyle Edwards Unit 491, Harry Ollrich Unit 4, Harry F Hovey Unit 135, Stamnitz-Lindeman Unit 293, Victor I Rieck Unit 351, Charles J Fulton Unit 382, North Branch Unit 457, Frank Horetski Unit 499, Phillips-Elliott-Hodges-VanAuken Unit 22, Patterson-Dawson-Crawford-Arnold Unit 57, Ray I Booth Unit 101, Edwin T Stiles Unit 153, Leroy I Dausman Unit 175, Walter T Roach Unit 182, Hugo Fales Unit 203, Wolverton-Sawvel-Falor Unit 295, Jastrezemski-Lelo Unit 439, Merrit Lamb Unit 9, Manistee Unit 10, Algott Johnson Unit 69, Edwin H Ewing Unit 76, Dale H Wheeler Unit 219, John A Mortenson Unit 221, Sherman Moore Unit 297, Walter F Howarth Unit 381, Cobb-Trygstad-Anderson Unit 397, Read-Osborne Unit 531, Johnson Day Unit 104, Wally Bartley Unit 162, Audie Johnson Unit 211, John K Fowler Unit 239, Frederick W Diem Unit 273, Glenn Staley Unit 422, Thomas-Daniels-Hand Unit 443, Knox-Helms Unit 554, Clare-Farwell Unit 558, Ira D MacLachlan Unit 3, Geroux Unit 11, Richard M Jopling Unit 44, Milton G Priess Unit 92, Lillian Larson Unit 114, Roderick Prato Unit 131, William S McGlue Unit 144, Menominee Unit 146, Floriano-Stecker-Kelly Unit 340, Morton-Guntley Unit 349, John Rheamer-Fred Knauf Unit 438, Fort Dearborn Unit 364, Clough-Lambrix Unit 389, Unit 396, Allen Park Unit 409, Harold J Chatell Unit 426, Cook-Nelson Unit 20, Hill-Gazette Unit 143, Ernest F Oldenburg Unit 216, Charlton-Polan Unit 233, Frank Wendland Unit 253, Carl O Weaver Unit 194, Leslie T Shapton Unit 226

National Deadline Award-Unit having 100% of their 2026 membership goal by January 31, 2026

Durkee-Seager Unit 550, Dexter Unit 557, Joseph B Westnedge Unit 36, Sherman-Rice-Demorest Unit 157, Wolverine Unit 360, Wiley-Koon Unit 475, Hess-Eastman Unit 174, Harry Baker Unit 367, Harry F Hovey Unit 135, Victor I Rieck Unit 351, Charles J Fulton Unit 382, Frank Horetski Unit 499, Dale H Wheeler Unit 219, Read-Osborne Unit 531, Geroux Unit 11, Milton G Priess Unit 92, Lillian Larson Unit 114, William S McGlue Unit 144, Floriano-Stecker-Kelly Unit 340, Carl O Weaver Unit 194

Gladys Taylor Citation-Unit w/ the highest % of Goal by 1/31

Joseph B Westnedge Unit 36

Doyle Cup-Unit w/ the highest % of Goal by 4/1,

Joseph B Westnedge Unit 36

Patricia Donald Citation-Unit w/ 200+ members greatest increase,

Charles A Conklin Unit 28

Chloe O'Neill Cup-Unit w/ the greatest numerical increase,

Charles A Conklin Unit 28

Ester V. McCoy Cup-Unit w/ the highest % increase year to year,

Joseph B Westnedge Unit 3

Orlene Penning Citation-Junior Group w/ the newest members,

Uren-Cooper-Johnson Unit 50

Ethel Stitt Cup-District w/ the greatest increase, UPA

Elizabeth Lyons Citation-District Chair w/ the highest % increase,

Emily Waters/Holly Fletcher Co-Chairmen 5th district

No Goose Eggs Drawing-Unit w/ at least 1 paid membership by 9/15/,

Hess-Eastman Unit 174 ,Carson City Unit 380

Membership

No Goose Eggs Drawing-Unit w/ at least 1 paid membership by 9/15/,

Hess-Eastman Unit 174 ,Carson City Unit 380

We Love Ribbon from National Drawing-Unit w/ 100+% by 1/31,

William S McGlue Unit 144, Charles J Fulton Unit 382

We Love Our Veterans Drawing-Unit w/ 75+% membership by 11/11,

Deal Ridgeway Unit 289, Read-Osborne Unit 531

No Secrets Here Award-First Area at 100+%,Candie Chase,Western

Poppy

Poster Contest Class I - 1st place Elle Malcomnson, Grand Blanc Unit 413

Poster Contest Class I - 2nd Gloria AndersonAlto, Unit 528

Poster Contest Class I - 3rd Elena Smith,Grayling Unit 106

Honorable Mention,Lillilan Cahow, SSG Michael A Dickinson, II Unit 257

Poster Contest Class II - 1st Place Lila Young,Carl E Stitt Unit 232

Poster Contest Class II - 2nd Josie Dennison, Charles J Fulton,Unit 382

Poster Contest Class II - 3rd Caoimhe FitzGerald, Harding-Olk-Craidge Unit 18

Honorable Mention Miriam Anderson, Alto Unit 528

Poster Contest Class III - 1st Place Abeni Fickel, Charles A Conklin Unit 28

Poster Contest Class III - 2nd Lauren Bowen, Charles J Fulton Unit 382

Poster Contest Class III - 3rd Clairah Cahow, SSG Michael A Dickinson, II Unit 257

Honorable Mention Reagen Richards, Grand Blanc Unit 413

Poster Contest Class IV - 1st Samantha Ruiz Ferro,SSG Michael A DickinsonII Unit 257

Poster Contest Class IV - 2nd Jersey Reyes, Charles A Conklin Unit 28

Poster Contest Class IV - 3rd Kendall Page, Grand Blanc Unit 413

Honorable Mention Emmett Pastrone, Charles J Fulton Unit 382

Poster Contest Class V - 1st Place Lydia Stockwell, Charles J Fulton Unit 382

Poster Contest Class V - 2nd Brenna Pauley, Grand Blanc Unit 413

Poster Contest Class V - 3rd Owen Worley,Allen Park Unit 409

Poster Contest Class VII - 1st Place Logan Kuszak'Grayling Unit 106

Most Outstanding Unit Program Diane Alexander Linden Unit 119

Little Miss Poppy Caoimhe FitzGerald, Harding-Olk-Craidge Unit 18

Awareness Display 1st Place Marie Gomez,Victor I Rieck Unit 351

Awareness Display 2nd Robin McCrimmon, Ray Barker Unit 412

Unique Display Jr 1st Place Abigail Jones, Walter Fraser Unit 108

Unique Display Sr 1st Place Sally VanHorn, Neeley-Labar Unit 158

Unique Display Sr 2nd Betty McGee, Stamnitz-Lindeman Unit 293

Unique Display Sr 3rd Peggy Meyer, Harding-Olk-Craidge Unit 18

Unique Centerpiece Jr 1st Place Aurora Vogel, Walter Fraser Unit 108

Unique Centerpiece Sr 1st Place Donna Paulichek, Stamnitz-Lindeman Unit 293

Unique Centerpiece Sr 2nd Place Margo Forrester, Northeastern Unit 459

Unique Centerpiece - Senior 3rd ShyLynn Jones, Chief Pontiac Unit 377

Corsage - Sr 1st place Virginina Mosher-Rood, Daniel Waters Cassard Unit 208

Corsage - Sr 2nd Peggy Meyer, Harding-Olk-Craidge Unit 18

Corsage - Sr 3rd Shannon Wawruc, Campbell Richmond Unit 63

Corsage - Jr 1st place Caoimhe FitzGerald, Harding-Olk-Craidge Unit 18

Corsage - Jr 2nd Aurora Vogel, Walter Fraser Unit 108

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Certificate of Appreciation for Donation

Durkee-Seager Unit 550, 5th District' Charles A Conklin Unit 28' President Gerald R Ford Unit 258' Glen Hill Unit 287' Northeastern Unit 459, Pinckney Memorial Unit 419, 7th District, 8th District, Dale H Wheeler Unit 219, 10th District, Alfred Branchini Unit 17, Ernest F Oldenburg Unit 216

VA & R

Participation in the MVH Chesterfield Christmas Shoppe Program

Charles A Hammond Unit 8, Lapeer Unit 16, Robert L Poxson Unit 326, Victor I Rieck Unit 351, Charles J Fulton Unit 382, J Edward Mallorey Unit 449, Merrick-Potter-Scribner Unit 566, Walter Fraser Unit 108, Hill-Gazette Unit 143, Ernest F Oldenburg Unit 216, Chief Pontiac Unit 377

Donation to the MVH Chesterfield Charitable Support Fund

Stamnitz-Lindeman Unit 293, J Edward Mallorey Unit 449, Merrick-Potter-Scribner Unit 566

You Can Renew!

Click below to renew on the national website right now.

AUXILIARY

Michigan American Legion Auxiliary Awards

Edna Clarahan Citation
National Good Deed Award
Wilbur M. Brucker Cup
Earl L. Stewart Cup
Lida Murphy Cup
Betty Cline Citation
Patricia Jewell Award
Best Unit Education Program
Dorothy Goetz Citation
Loretta Fisher Citation
Judge Paul V Gadola Citation
Baynes-Campbell Citation
Jr Member of the Year
Tina Sutherland Citation
Victoria Betz Citation
Leona Puckett Leadership Award
Amelia Muth Citation
My Mentor Award
My Mentor Award Honoree
Sandra A Knapp Award
Unit Member of the Year Award
Romaine Roethel Citation
Alice Thomas Citation
Imogene Cowgill Citation
Agnes Dunn Citation
Marian "Pic" Webster Citation
Best "Letter Style"
Best Unit Newsletter
Best District Newsletter
Kanaby Broadcast Citation
Viola Starkey Award

Best Book of Prayers and Devotionals
Youth Community Leadership service project
Best All Around Unit Report
Best All Around Unit Report less than 50 members
Unit reporting the most Community Service Hrs
Unit's single community program >200
Unit's single community program <200

Best District History
Best History Scrapbook
Best Unit History
Outstanding Coverage of the Auxiliary Calendar of Activities
Dedicated service, efforts, and talents
Jr. of the Year Runner-Up
Jr outstanding officer
Jr leadership
Best Overall Jr Activities Program
Best Mentor Essay
"My Mentor"
District Leadership Program

Best Narrative Report
District - Most Legislative Bulletins
Best crime prevention program/local officer honored
Best National Security Report
Best website
Unit Newsletter

Best radio or TV script
Best description of effort/event promoting image or programs

Debbie Weatherbee
Caoimhe FitzGerald & Deaglan FitzGerald
Sally Cole
Sandra Justa
Diane Alexander
Janice Bearden
Durkee-Seager
Joan Geams
Donna Price
Donna Price
Suzanne Knapp
Marie Gomez
Abigail Jones
Aurora Vogel
Abigail Jones
Aurora Vogel
Peggy Meyer
Emily Terhune
Rosemary Maciejewski
Marcy Jorae
Kathleen Edwards
Emily Waters
Sharon Schulte
Charles J Fulton Unit 382
Debbie Weatherbee
Pat Lozano
Carla Pohl
Deborah Williamson
Linda Rosema
Pat Lozano
Pat Lozano



THE AMERICAN LEGION 2026-2027 MEMBERSHIP TARGET & RENEWAL SCHEDULE

**TOGETHER
WE ACHIEVE!**
RECRUIT ★ RENEW ★ RETAIN



★ 2026-2027 NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES ★

	MILESTONE	TARGET DATE	MEMBERSHIP TARGET
	EARLY BIRD/NEF KICKOFF	SEPTEMBER 10, 2026	50%
	FALL MEETINGS	OCTOBER 14, 2026	55%
	VETERANS DAY	NOVEMBER 12, 2026	65%
	PEARL HARBOR DAY	DECEMBER 9, 2026	75%
	MID-WINTER	JANUARY 13, 2027	80%
	PRESIDENT'S DAY	FEBRUARY 10, 2027	85%
	LEGION BIRTHDAY	MARCH 10, 2027	90%
	CHILDREN & YOUTH	APRIL 14, 2027	95%
	ARMED FORCES DAY	MAY 12, 2027	100%
	DELEGATE STRENGTH 30 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONAL CONVENTION		



TARGET DATES FALL ON THE **SECOND WEDNESDAY** OF THE MONTH UNLESS THERE IS A HOLIDAY ON THAT DAY OR AT THE BEGINNING OF THAT WEEK IN WHICH CASE THE TARGET DATE IS THAT **THURSDAY**.

★
AN ADDITIONAL WEEK IS PROVIDED TO DEPARTMENTS IN **OCTOBER** DUE TO FALL MEETINGS.

TOGETHER
WE SERVE.
TOGETHER
WE GROW.
TOGETHER
WE SUCCEED!

★ 2026-2027 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL SCHEDULE ★

	CUTOFF DATES	RENEWAL MAIL DATES
	MAY 13, 2026	JULY 1-8, 2026
	SEPTEMBER 9, 2026	OCTOBER 3-9, 2026
	OCTOBER 14, 2026	NOVEMBER 7-13, 2026
	DECEMBER 9, 2026	JANUARY 2-8, 2027
	FEBRUARY 10, 2027	MARCH 2-9, 2027
	APRIL 14, 2027	MAY 1-7, 2027



Transmittals not received by the cutoff date may not prevent a subsequent renewal notice from being delivered at or around the renewal date.



Please note, renewals transmitted and received by the cutoff (which is also a National Target Date) will be updated prior to printing renewal notices, assuming they can be successfully scanned. Membership that must be hand-keyed (new members and renewals that can't be scanned) will take longer to process. Please transmit as early and as often as possible in advance of the Target Dates to help avoid delays in processing.

★ ONE GOAL. ONE TEAM. 100% MEMBERSHIP! ★

Summer Convention 2026



The Calm Before the Storm



Detachment Commander
Mike Globke



Heading to another Meeting



Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Marc
Mankowski



Legionnaire of the Year
Roger Deaton



Thomas Jefferson & John Nixon dropped by



Dawn Gramza and
Roger Avie 2026 Memeorial
Service



National Vice Commander Stephen T.
Weismann

Summer Convention 2026



Jim Austin is elected Department Commander



2026-27 Department Commander Jim Austin



Newly Elected 1st Vice Roger Deaton



David Yahr Elected 2nd Vice Commander



Keynote Speaker Nashville recording artist and Marine Corps Veteran Stephen Cochran



Newly Elected Department President Anita L Mennel



The 2026-2027 Zone and District Commanders waiting to be sworn in



1st Ladies Deb Abraham & Judy Avie

Click here fo more photos from The Convention. or visit:
<https://michiganlegion.org/2026-department-convention-battle-creek/>



MICHIGAN

AMERICAN LEGION



2026-2027 MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVES

INDIVIDUAL RECRUITER AWARDS

(FORMS DUE TO DEANNA CLARK BY MAY 15, 2027)



BRONZE BRIGADE
15-24 NEW MEMBERS
Patch and certificate



SILVER BRIGADE
25-49 NEW MEMBERS
Silver cap pin and certificate



GOLD BRIGADE
50+ NEW MEMBERS
Polo or jacket, and a gold cap pin



TOP RECRUITER
Member with most recruits



ALL BRONZE, SILVER, AND GOLD BRIGADE RECRUITERS
will be invited to the awards luncheon held at state convention.

POST INCENTIVES



FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR 100% BY 12/31/26

- Posts 15-100 **\$100**
- Posts 101-250 **\$1.00 per member**
- Posts 251 and above **\$1.50 per member**



All posts achieving 100% by 12/31/26 will receive a 100% ribbon from National.



All posts achieving 100% by the May cutoff date will be invited to the awards luncheon held at state convention.



Awards will be given to posts achieving 100% membership for 3, 5, 10, and 15 years consecutively.

DISTRICT CHALLENGE

80%

BY 12/31/26

Districts attaining 80% membership by 12/31/26 will receive a certificate and a shirt for the Commander and Membership Chair.



85%

BY 12/31/26

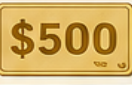
Districts attaining 85% membership by 12/31/26 will receive a certificate, shirts for the Commander and Membership Chair, and a photo op with the National Commander, or his alternate.



90%

BY 12/31/26

Districts attaining 90% membership by 12/31/26 will receive a certificate, shirts for the Commander and Membership Chair, a photo op, and a check for \$500.



POST ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENT

AWARDS WILL BE BASED ON A POINTS SYSTEM:



20 Points to participate in the Passport Program



10 Points for having a team participate in Legion Baseball



5 Points for each program or Parade (Legion member participation)



5 Points for each Student sent to Boys State, Girls State or Student Trooper Program



5 Points for having a Rifle Squad or Honor Guard



5 Points for having a local blood drive



1 Point for every activity (May include but are not limited to):

- Post meeting
- Post picnic
- Activity supporting local charity or event such as scouting, local schools, etc.
- Hosting a Town Hall for the VA
- Breakfasts
- Raffles at post or host venue
- Distributing poppies or American flags as a fundraiser

POST AWARDS (BASED ON POINTS)

15-100 MEMBERS

- ★ First Place **\$250**
- ★ Second Place **\$150**
- ★ Third Place **\$100**

101-250 MEMBERS

- ★ First Place **\$250**
- ★ Second Place **\$150**
- ★ Third Place **\$100**

OVER 250 MEMBERS

- ★ First Place **\$250**
- ★ Second Place **\$150**
- ★ Third Place **\$100**



★ **SPECIAL AWARD** ★
FOR TOP POST
WITH GREATER THAN 500 MEMBERS



Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Michigan

MIKE GLOBKE

Detachment Commander 2026-2027



It has been a busy and exciting start to the year for the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Michigan. In June, I attended the American Legion Department of Michigan Convention in Battle Creek. During the convention, the newly elected Detachment officers and I were formally introduced and approved by the American Legion Department of Michigan. At that same convention, I also had the opportunity to address the American Legion Auxiliary.

On July 8, I attended the 250th Anniversary History Presentation and Reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Michigan State Capitol. The American Legion Department of Michigan presented the program, and it was an honor to take part in such a meaningful event.

I also recently attended Wilwin Lodge's largest fundraiser of the year in Custer, Michigan. It was great to see so many people come together in support of Wilwin Lodge and the veterans it serves. As we move forward, I look forward to visiting districts and squadrons throughout Michigan, meeting more of our members, and continuing to build a stronger Detachment.

FOLLOW THE DOLLARS

Earl Ruttkofsky, Finance Officer



Greetings, Brothers. It is an honor to serve as your Detachment Finance Officer for the 2026-2027 year. I appreciate the confidence you have placed in me, and I look forward to working with our officers, committees, and squadrons to ensure the financial strength of our Detachment. During the DEC 2 meeting, the Detachment Executive Committee approved the distribution of remaining funds from the successful 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Through careful financial management and the generosity of our members, the following donations were approved:

- \$5,000 - Department General Fund
- \$5,000 - VA&R Endowment
- \$5,000 - National Convention Michigan Party
- \$1,000 - I-500
- \$2,000 - Boys State General Fund
- \$4,000 - 2026-2027 Detachment Commander's Project benefiting Camp Liberty in Brooklyn, MI
- \$4,000 - Michigan VA Hospitals (distributed as eight \$500 donations)
- \$500 - Michigan Disaster Relief Fund
- \$500 - Yooper Party at the Department Convention
- \$500 - Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Program

These donations demonstrate the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Michigan's continued commitment to supporting veterans, youth programs, and American Legion Family initiatives throughout our state and beyond. As we move through this membership year, I encourage every squadron to maintain accurate financial records, complete required reports in a timely manner, and safeguard the resources entrusted to us by our members. Strong financial stewardship allows us to continue making a positive impact in our communities and supporting the programs that define our organization. Thank you for all you do for the Sons of the American Legion. I look forward to serving with each of you during the coming year.

1st Zone Report

John Beeman, Commander



Hello everyone! I am honored to serve as your new 1st Zone Commander and look forward to working with the Squadrons and Districts throughout the coming year. As we begin the 2026-2027 membership year, I want to remind everyone to keep track of your volunteer hours and activities. Recording your service throughout the year will make completing the Consolidated Squadron Report much easier and will help ensure all of the outstanding work your Squadron performs is properly recognized.

I also encourage every Squadron to verify that an ACH Authorization Form has been submitted to the Department. If your Squadron has not yet completed this form, please do so as soon as possible to help ensure timely processing of reimbursements and other financial transactions.

Finally, congratulations to all of our newly elected and appointed 2026-2027 Detachment Officers. I wish each of you a successful year as we continue serving our veterans, our communities, and our youth.

I look forward to seeing many of you throughout the year. If I can be of assistance to your Squadron or District, please don't hesitate to reach out. Thank you for all you do, and let's make this a great year for the Sons of the American Legion!

You Can Renew!

Your renewal is just a click away. Click on your organization to renew on the national website right now.

LEGION
AUXILIARY
SAL



NATIONAL CONVENTION

Victor Fisher, Alt NEC

The Sons of the American Legion National Convention is just around the corner, and I encourage everyone who is able to attend to join us August 28-30 in Louisville, Kentucky. The National Convention is where we come together to conduct the business of our organization, exchange ideas, strengthen friendships, and continue moving the Sons of the American Legion forward. I look forward to seeing many members of the Detachment of Michigan there.

I also want to share an important update from National. National Adjutant Anthony W. Wright recently announced several staff changes affecting the Sons of the American Legion. National Liaison Kevin Mook has accepted the position of Department Adjutant for Florida, and Brian Compton is no longer with National Headquarters. Effective immediately, Mark Woodsmall will serve as the National Headquarters liaison for the Sons of the American Legion, and Denise Lhamon has assumed the administrative responsibilities supporting our organization.

I appreciate everything each of you does on behalf of the Sons of the American Legion. I look forward to seeing many of you in Louisville as we continue working together to strengthen our organization and serve our veterans.



Boys State

John Beeman, Chairman

The 2026 Michigan Boys State program marked an exciting new chapter as the program was held at Hillsdale College for the first time. Nearly 145 young men attended this year's session, and Hillsdale College proved to be an outstanding host. Their staff was extremely accommodating and helped make the transition to the new location a tremendous success.

Throughout the week, it was exciting to watch these young men develop their leadership skills, learn about government and citizenship, and build lasting friendships. It was evident they enjoyed the experience, and there is no doubt that many future leaders were among this year's class.

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to The American Legion for its continued trust and confidence in the Sons of The American Legion to assist with the Michigan Boys State program. Working together to invest in our youth is one of the most important things we do as an American Legion Family.

The SAL Boys State Store was also a tremendous success. A special thank you to Scott Kelly and Dan Possett for their hard work and dedication in making the store run smoothly throughout the week.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and supported this year's program. Your commitment continues to make Michigan Boys State a life-changing experience for our future leaders.



Detachment Commander Globke addresses the Detachment in Battle Creek



Think About It Now

Seth Fisher, Son of the Year Chair

As another year comes to a close, I would like to sincerely thank every squadron and member who submitted a nomination for our Department of Michigan Son of the Year Award. Your participation helps recognize the outstanding dedication, leadership, and service of our

members across the state.

Although this year's convention is behind us, now is the perfect time to begin thinking about next year's nominations. Throughout the coming year, take note of those members who go above and beyond in service to their squadron, community, and our veterans. By recognizing their efforts, we help celebrate the very best of the Sons of the American Legion. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to receiving your nominations for next year's Detachment Convention.



Hear ye, hear ye

Is your SQUADRON GET'R DONE?

TELL US ABOUT IT! SEND YOUR PICTURES AND ARTICLES TO

VICTORSAL396@HOTMAIL.COM



Passport Post Spotlight

Lillian Larson Post 114 a True One of a Kind



Travel west on US-41 from Marquette, and a few miles beyond the Ishpeming city limits you will spot a large sign for Lillian Larson American Legion Post 114. Turn there, and the post parking lot is less than 200 feet ahead. Stop in, meet the Legion Family and be sure to get your passport stamped.

Chartered in the early 1980s, Lillian Larson occupies a building with more than

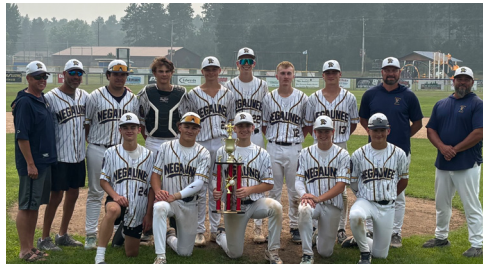


L to R: Dave Abraham Sgt-at-Arms, Tim Walters Commander, Carl Hosang Chaplin, Richard Sharland Judge Advocate, Crystal Cubr Finance Officer, Tom Perry Adjutant Ralph Uhl 2nd Vice, Shay Grady Service Officer

a century of local history. Over the years, it has housed family businesses, local enterprises and a large dance hall where area iron ore miners gathered after their shifts. Additions were built over the decades, but the building still reflects the hardworking, blue-collar character of the community it serves.

Post 114 may be the only American Legion post in Michigan—and perhaps the nation—named for a World War I Army nurse. Lillian Larson, an Ishpeming native, served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps during the Great War. She later commanded Twin Cities Barracks No. 2624, Michigan World War I Veterans, an exceptional achievement in an organization traditionally led by men. Born in 1894, Larson died in 1977 and is buried in Champion Cemetery, about eight miles west of the post.

Today, the Post is known for support-



ing veterans, schools and the surrounding community. Members provide scholarships, sponsor two Legion Baseball teams and

participate in school family nights, prom activities and the Give 10 to Education program. This year, the post sent 16 students to Girls State and two to Boys State, including the first Upper Peninsula student elected Boys State governor in more than 50 years.

The post also supports residents of the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans through meals, outings and its Adopt-a-Vet pro-



gram. Its Honor Guard conducts memorial services and places more than 1,900 flags on veterans' graves each Memorial Day.

Visitors can enjoy monthly Burger Night on the first Thursday, leagues, charity rides and the annual Dinner Dance featuring raffles and a \$5,000 grand prize. Fall is an especially beautiful time to visit. Post hours are Monday through Friday, 3-9 p.m.; Saturday, noon-9 p.m.; and Sunday, 2-9 p.m.

See Other Passport Posts or Register at <https://michiganlegion.org/passport/>

LIT Spotlight August 2026 Lifeline

Medical Alert Services

America's #1 Medical Alert Service since 1974

Medical Alert Services - Staying safe, independent, and sharp as you age are goals many of us share. At Philips Lifeline, we have several solutions that can help.

Home Safe System provides 24/7 fast access to help when you are at home.

Choose the Standard Service for help at the push of a button. Or, choose the AutoAlert option for an added layer of protection through its advanced fall-detection capability. Either way, you're quickly connected to a Lifeline Response Associate here in the U.S., who will contact the help you want - a neighbor, family member, or emergency services.

Go Safe Mobile System - gives you the freedom to go where you want, when you want.

The Go Safe system includes an in-home communicator that optimizes performance, and a waterproof pendant which features 2-way voice communication, a suite of locating technologies, and fall detection capability that can automatically call for help if it detects a fall. Go Safe gets you quickly connected to a Lifeline Response Associate here in the U.S., who will identify your location and contact the help you want - a neighbor, family member, or emergency services.

The LIT

Call Now: 1-800-235-6943 Monday - Friday 5AM - 4PM (MST)



CELEBRATING
50
YEARS
OF SERVICE
TO LEGIONNAIRES AND
LEGION FAMILY MEMBERS
DEPARTMENT SPONSORED MEMBER BENEFIT PROGRAMS

**WE'LL GET
YOU
HOME.**



From Your
American Legion
Department

Any time you have an accident or sudden illness while traveling away from home, Legionnaire *Emergency Assistance Plus* (EA+) provides a crucial safety net that can help pay for emergency medical transportation expenses your health or travel insurance generally will NOT cover.

- + **Medical Evacuation (by air and/or ground)**
- + **Transportation after Stabilization**
- + **Vehicle Return Costs**
- + **Return of Traveling Companion, Children or Grandchildren**

EA+ rates specially negotiated for Legionnaires and their Families.
The *Legionnaire Emergency Assistance Plus* (EA+) Program is available to Legionnaires at a 35% discount off the broad market rate. A recent enhancement to EA+ now includes escorting you home with a qualified nurse, if deemed medically necessary by EA+ physicians, saving members anywhere from \$5,000 - \$25,000.

For more information log on to www.TheLIT.com/Emergency-Assistance-Plus or call toll-free 1-888-310-1547 today to speak with a benefit representative.

*This information is only an outline of the plan's features. The full terms, benefits and conditions of the plan are shown in your Member Benefit Guide. Please read it carefully. ©2016 Worldwide Rescue & Security 40064



Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Gary Easterling
Director

Our staff is dedicated to providing the very best veterans' advocacy to Michigan Veterans and their families. They can assist with Claims Preparation, Presentation and appeal counsel in Veterans' benefits services. Let us assist you and your dependents in getting the benefits that you have earned by your service to your country.

Gary Easterling, Director
Cell (313) 549-8557
geasterling@michiganlegion.org

Office Phone (313) 964-6640
Fax (313) 964-5697

Call for a Service officer in your area:
833.648.3826 Option 1
e-mail - al.vbadet@va.gov

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www.mivabenefits.org

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Find an American Legion Veteran Service Officer near you. Use an Accredited Veteran Service Officer. Find a Service Officer near you at <https://www.mivabenefits.org/find-service-officer/> OR Call **833.648.3826** Option 1 and they will guide you to an accredited veteran service officer who will help you.

Service Officer	Office Locations
PhilBabcock.....	Charlevoix, Petoskey, Kalkaska, Manistee Ludington, Big Rapids, Lake City
Patty Breas.....	Hastings, Caledonia, Grand Rapids, Kentwood, Wyoming, Holland
Brian Brooks	Ann Arbor
Josh Clark.....	Benton Harbor, Battle Creek, Coldwater
Kieshan Counts.....	Bay City, Saginaw, Vassar
Gary Easterling	Detroit
Stephanie Fisher.....	Onaway, Rogers City
ShayGrady.....	Rapid River, Ishpeming Little Lake, Marquette, Gwin
Valerie Johnson	Farwell, Ionia, Lansing, BattleCreek Bath, Grand Ledge, Eaton Rapids, Jackson, Laingsburg, Corunna
CourtneyMills.....	Ravenna, Muskegon, Grand Haven
Lisa Misenko.....	Troy, Oxford, Rochester, Detroit
VSO TBD.....	Detroit, Swartz Creek
Matthew Schantz.....	Garden City, Southgate, Detroit
Justin Schave.....	Detroit
Tommy Simpkins.....	Saginaw
Stacy Thill.....	Escanaba, Manistique
Rick Wiles.....	Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Gaylord
Kimberly Napoleon.....	Saginaw

11th District
Jan Lepinski, Commander

For those of you who don't know me, I am the 11th District Commander, Jan Lepinski. I received my Bachelor of Science in Nursing from The Ohio State University in 1973, where I participated in the Army Student Nurse Program. In March 1974, I reported for basic training at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas.

After completing basic training, I was assigned to Harley Army Hospital at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis, Indiana. There, I received additional training in critical care and emergency nursing. After being released from active duty in 1977, I moved to Detroit, where my parents were living at the time, to continue my career as a critical care and emergency nurse. I also served with the 323rd General Hospital until 1985.

I am married to my husband, Kurt, a retired Army Corps of Engineers officer, and together we are the proud parents of three furballs. Kurt joined The American Legion after return-

ing from Afghanistan, and I became his first recruit at Morton Grove Post 134 in Illinois.

During my time at Post 134, I served in several leadership positions and eventually became the Post's first woman commander. I was also the first woman to join the Post's rifle squad and later became its commander. At the District level, I have served in every elected position, including District Commander.

I have also held several state and national committee positions, including my current service on the National Security Council. In addition, I am a member of ANAVICUS and the Twenty and Four, the Honor Society of Women Legionnaires.

Throughout my Legion journey, I have been fortunate to receive the guidance and mentorship of Past National Commander John Geiger, Past National Commander Marty Conats-er, and Past National Executive Committeeman Ken Trumbull. I am deeply grateful for their encouragement, leadership, and support.

District Meetings

The best way to increase participation at your District meetings, is to Pulicize your District meetings!

Send your District meeting times to media@michiganlegion.org. Once we receive them we will publish them every month in the pages of the Legionnaire, and on our Website www.michiganlegion.org

Caring for an Aging Veteran at Home? Michigan May Pay You for It

A Medicaid benefit called Home Help can compensate a family member for the care they are already giving, even when VA caregiver programs are not an option. By Edward Beyne

Both of my parents passed away while receiving Medicaid. Throughout years of appointments and paperwork, no one told our family that Michigan had a program that might have paid one of us to care for them at home. We would have done it without hesitation—we simply did not know the program existed.

I am a Marine Corps combat veteran, and I started Home Help Navigators so other Michigan families would not miss the opportunity my family did. If you are caring for an aging veteran, an elderly parent, or surviving spouse, this information is worth knowing.

Many Legionnaires are familiar with VA caregiver programs, but eligibility can be limited. The VA Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers generally requires a serious service-connected condition and other specific qualifications. Many aging veterans and surviving spouses do not qualify, leaving relatives to reduce work hours, move into the home, or provide care without compensation.

Michigan Home Help offers another option. Administered by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, this Medicaid benefit pays a caregiver chosen by the family to assist with daily activities such as bathing, dressing, preparing meals, and safely moving around the home.

There is no service-connected disability requirement. Home Help can work alongside VA benefits and does not replace or reduce VA disability compensation, pension payments, or VA health care.

A paid caregiver may be an adult child, grandchild, niece, nephew, other relative, trusted friend, or neighbor. Federal Medicaid rules generally do not allow a spouse to be paid, but most other relatives may qualify. The person receiving care must be enrolled in Michigan Medicaid, or eligible for it, and need assistance with daily activities.

Caregivers may earn around \$18 per hour through an agency, with the number of approved hours determined through an in-home assessment. The program also has no waiting list.

Families can begin through their county MDHHS office. A VA physician may sign the required medical form, which can simplify the process. Families should also call 1-800-MICH-VET so the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency can review the full range of benefits available.

Your post service officer remains the best resource for VA claims. Home Help is separate from the VA, but it is another valuable benefit families should keep in mind. It would have changed everything for my family. It still can for yours.

** Eddy Beyne is a Marine Corps combat veteran, a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and the founder of Home Help Navigators, a licensed Michigan Home Help agency serving all 83 counties. A plain-language guide written for veteran families is available at homehelpnavigators.com/veterans-paid-caregiver-michigan. He can be reached at edward.beyne@homehelpnavigators.com or 231-409-3339.*

District Meetings

First District Meetings at 2 PM

August 2 - Virtual meeting
Sunday, September 27
 Location TBD
Sunday, November 15
 Location TBD
Sunday, February 21
 Location TBD
Sunday, May 23
 Location TBD

Second District

Meetings start at 11 am with the SAL followed by Riders at Noon with a Lunch VSO training at 1 pm, Auxiliary & Legion at 2 pm

August 16, 2026
 Host: Ann Arbor Post 46 3230 S. Wagner Rd.
 Ann Arbor, MI 48103
October 11, 2026
 Host: Blissfield Post 325 451 High St.
 Blissfield, MI 49228
January 10, 2027
 Host: Ida Post 514 11601 Lewis Ave.
 Ida, MI 48140
March 14, 2027 (Nominations)
 Host: Springport Post 313 230 Mechanic St.
 Springport, MI 49284
April 24, 2027 (Post Everlasting) Host: Tecumseh Post 34

300 N. Evans St.
 Tecumseh, MI 49286
 *The Post Everlasting ceremony will begin promptly at 3:30
May 16, 2027 (Elections)
 Host: Tecumseh Post 34
 300 N. Evans St.
 Tecumseh, MI 49286
June 12, 2027 (Organizational Meeting Promptly at 2pm)
 Host: Dexter Post 557
 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Rd.
 Dexter, MI 48130

Third District

Lunch is at 12pm, and Business at 1:00 pm.

Fourth District

Service officers training at 11:00 am meal at 12:30 pm
 Meetings at 1:30 pm.
September 13 and Hastings,
November 1 Barod
January 10 Three Rivers
March 7 in Decatur
May 16 in Door

Fifth District

Meal @ 5:30 pm & meeting @ 7 pm.
July 9, 2026 Post 154
 2327 Byron Center Ave SW,
 Wyoming, MI 49519
September 10, 2026 Post 305
 9548 Cherry Valley Ave SE,

Caledonia, MI 49316
November 12, 2026 - TBA
January 14, 2027 Post 179 2327
 Wilson Ave SW, Grand Rapids,
 MI 49534
March 11, 2027 Post 47
 Nominations of Officers
 3811 W River Dr NE, Comstock
 Park, MI 49321
May 13, 2027 - Post 28
 Election of Officers
 700 S Harbor Dr, Grand Haven,
 MI 49417

Sixth District

Service Officer School at 11:10 am (when scheduled), Lunch at Noon, Meetings at 1 pm

Seventh District

Lunch at 12:30 with meetings at 2:00 pm

Eighth District

Trainings will start at Noon, Dinner at 1:00pm with Legion and Auxiliary meetings immediately following

Ninth District

Executive meetings are at 11:00am with Lunch at noon. Meetings at 1:00 pm

Tenth District

All meetings will start with lunch

at noon. Meetings at 1:00 pm.

Eleventh District

All Meetings Start at 10 am, with Lunch to after.
October 24, 2026
 Manistique Post 83

Twelfth District

Coffee and Doughnuts at 9, meeting at 10 am, with a lunch and additional hour after lunch if needed.

TBD

Sixteenth District

All meetings start at 7:30 pm
 * Service Officer School at 6:30 pm
 **Memorial Service & Elections

Eighteenth District

All meetings Meeting for the District Legion and Auxiliary Convene at 2:00 pm

Nineteenth District

Meetings will be held at the **Gaylord Bowling Center, 1200 Gornick Ave, Gaylord, MI 49735**
 Training at 10:00 am, Social Meet and Greet at 11:00 am, lunch served at noon. The both the Legion and Auxiliary will start at 1:00 pm

Passing the Torch

Nicholas Sokolowski
Past Commander Post 217 Wyandotte

Passing the Torch: Securing the Future of Our Legion

The strength of The American Legion has never rested in a building, a title, or one generation. It has always rested in its members. From one era of service to the next, Legionnaires have answered the call to lead, mentor, and preserve the values that make our organization one of America's strongest veterans' institutions.

How do we ensure The American Legion remains strong for the next 50 years? We must create space for younger Legionnaires to step into leadership roles while experienced members continue to guide and support them. This is not about stepping away from service; it is about strengthening it.

For decades, senior Legionnaires have carried this organization. They built posts, organized events, raised funds, supported

veterans, and protected our traditions. The American Legion would not be what it is today without them.

Leadership succession is not surrender. It is stewardship. Every successful institution depends on preparing the next generation to lead. In the military, leaders train those who will eventually replace them because missions succeed when knowledge is passed forward. The same must be true within our Legion.

Younger veterans bring new skills, perspectives, technological knowledge, and experiences shaped by service eras. They understand how to connect with younger veterans and families through modern platforms—skills needed for growth.

Too often, younger Legionnaires are asked to volunteer without being given a path to leadership. They attend meetings and show interest but are not included in decisions or given opportunities to advance. Eventually, some stop attending because they cannot see where they fit. If we want

younger veterans to stay, we must do more than invite them through the door. We must invite them to the table.

That means encouraging newer Legionnaires to chair committees, run programs, serve as officers, and bring forward new ideas, even when those ideas differ from the way things have always been done. Traditions, experience, and wisdom matter, but so do continuity and fresh energy. The strongest posts are strengthened by generations working together.

We say we want younger veterans to join, but joining is only the beginning. Retention happens when people believe they have purpose and a future.

The future of The American Legion depends on what we do now. By mentoring younger Legionnaires, giving them opportunities to lead, and supporting them, we can carry the mission forward. The torch was passed to us. Now it is our responsibility to pass it on.



Legion Legislative Report Tim Poxson, Legislative Chair

It's Election season again. Just a reminder that the American Legion does not endorse any candidate for any position. Furthermore, you cannot have your photo taken with anyone running for office unless you are not wearing anything that identifies you as being a member of the American Legion. You should not place election signs on or near your Post that imply that you support any candidate. Under MCL 257.615 and according to the Michigan Department of Transportation, the adjacent property owner must give approval to place signs in the right-of-way adjacent to their property; however, the signs will be removed if they block the view of traffic, even with your approval. If you invite a candidate in to make a presentation to your Post, you must remove or cover up any paraphernalia that identifies your post as being an American Legion Post. If one candidate comes in to make a presentation

to your Post, you must invite the opposing candidates to come in and make a presentation; we still do not make an endorsement. Remember the American Legion is a nonpartisan organization, and anything your Post does affects our ability to get and keep veteran benefits from elected officials.

The American Legion, Department of Michigan Judge Advocate strongly discourages taking a position on any local or regional issue, unless it is specific to veterans in your community. Posts should verify if the Department and National organization have a written opinion or resolution on any subject matter before going public with a post opinion.

Do not put millage signs in or around the post. The reason for this is that some members might be in favor of a millage while other members might be against. Likewise, some members of the community will be for it while others will be against it. There is no positive gain by taking a position, but it can certainly cause some discontent within the post and community if you do.

4th of July Celebrations!

Post 217 Wyandotte before the Parade starts



L-R Post Commander Bob Salomon, Department Commander Jim Austin, & Zone 1 Commander Mark Holthus

Post 127 Dorr's Parade entry



Lyle Shanks, Post 127 Dorr Adjutant, gets the ride of his life during the Dorr 4th of July Parade. Just look at that smile!

Post 72 Dundee Honor Guard



Post 72 Dundee 4th of July parade, Veterans and the Sons of the American Legion.

Around the State...

JSSP Team Precision Champions

Congratulations to the Kent County Top Guns 4H.



L-R Riley Tang, Fred Youngs, and Kyler Noorman

Happy Birthday

American Legion Post 251, Westland, would like to wish a belated birthday to Melvin Evans, 98 years old in June--served during Korean Conflict-- USAF stationed at Luke AFB, Arizona- jet aircraft/engine mechanic.



Vietnam Veterans of America

Detroit Chapter 9 donated this mural to Honor the American Military that Fought and Died in Vietnam as Well as The Still Missing in Action.



A 10 year Process



Post 443 received its static display on July 1 L to R: Post Commander Mark Kloha, Adjutant and Department 2nd Vice Commander David Yahr, Post Service Officer Tom Talbot

250 years too late

A Red Coat caught behind enemy lines at Post 110!



L-R: Gary Jones, Steve Rellinger, Arnie Huertas, Rich Young, and Jose' Reyes

Boats4Vets

The 6th District came out on July 18 to Skipper Bud's Marina in Fenton for Boats4Vet. A day of family, fellowship and boating.



L-R: 6th Dist 1st Vice Cmdr Downing, Post 413 Adj. James (Ryon) Folsom and Post Cmdr Alyssa Paulie

Blessing of the Bikes



Post 566 helped at the Blessing of the Bikes and Classic Cars, put on by Holy Family Church, with Robert Montgomery and Jim DeValmink posting colors and Sons Finance Officer Bob Wolosion cooking hot dogs for spectators.

Tecumseh Post 34 Underwood-Orr presents a \$500 scholarship



Congratulations to Olivia Gillispie, recipient of a \$500 scholarship presented by Post 34 Commander George Doutre. Olivia plans to use the scholarship to pursue her degree in Education

Post 110 Baseball Tournament

The Owen Berrett Tournament was a chance to meet the community.



L-R: Terry Coughlin and Don Fuller

The Department's 250th Celebration

On July 8th, the Department hosted a reading of the Declaration of Independence at the State House. with Thomas Jefferson(Ron Runyan), Ben Franklin(Bob Stark) and John Nixon(Brett Holt). With a special performance by the Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps.



M.C. Thomas Jefferson AKA State Adjutant Ron Runyan



A stirring performance by the Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps



Brett Holt reads the Declaration of Independence as John Nixon

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SUPPORTING GUITARS FOR VETS

**DONATE \$10.00 FOR
COMMANDER GLOBKE'S COIN**



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THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN FALL CONFERENCE 2026

Hosted by 20 North Convention Corporation

November 6 - 8, 2026

Registration Form

Contact 20northconventioncorp@gmail.com or call Charles Boman at 989-217-0161 with any questions.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The American Legion requires each person attending any meeting, session, or event in connection with the Conference to register with the corporation and be issued proper credentials.

Registration fee is \$25.00 per person, except for Junior SAL and Junior Auxiliary under 18 yrs of age.

(Please print legibly so we can spell your name correctly on your conference badge.)

Keep a copy of this form for your records. Confirmation of registration will be emailed.

Name _____ Leg Aux Sons ALR Location (# & city) _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

email address: _____ phone: _____

Additional registrants covered under same payment:

Name: _____ Leg Aux Sons ALR Location (# & city) _____ Under 18? Yes [] or No []

Name: _____ Leg Aux Sons ALR Location (# & city) _____ Under 18? Yes [] or No []

Name: _____ Leg Aux Sons ALR Location (# & city) _____ Under 18? Yes [] or No []

Total adult registrations _____ times (x) \$25.00 per person = \$ _____

Checks payable to: 20 NORTH CONVENTION CORP or (20NCC) should be mailed to: PO BOX 692, PETOSKEY, MI 49770

(THERE IS NO OPTION FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT)

Lodging Reservation Information

Room reservations at the Host Hotel are **your responsibility** and should be made directly with them

FC26 will be at TreeTops Resort in Gaylord.

TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS

CALL **(989)732-6711** AND TELL THEM YOUR ARE WITH

THE AMERICAN LEGION FALL CONFERENCE 2026

There are two facilities at Tree Tops.

The **Lodge** rooms are **\$137.97/night**, taxes and fees included. The **Inn** rooms are **\$121.10/night**, taxes and fees included.

Chalets and cottages are available for large groups staying together. 4, 6 or 8 queen beds from about \$375 to \$750/night.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT ALA AND SAL, ESPECIALLY, RESERVE AT THE LODGE AS YOUR MEETING SPACES ARE IN THAT BUILDING.

Treetops is located at 3962 Wilkinson Rd, Gaylord, MI 49735



YOU HONORED US WITH YOUR SERVICE.

Now let us honor you.



Join us for a complimentary meal and pre-planning seminar to learn about VA burial benefits available.

For more information, contact Anthony.Lauri@DignityMemorial.com or 586-775-2424.

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