



MAY 2025, Issue 11

NEVADA AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWS

Happy May Holidays and Observances

Month of May – Military Caregiver & National Military Appreciation

May 1 – Silver Star Banner Day

May 9 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day

May 11 – Mother's Day

May 12 – 17 – Armed Forces Week

May 13 – Children of Fallen Patriots Day

May 17 – Armed Forces Day

May 22 -Maritime Day

May 23 – National Poppy Day

May 26 – Memorial Day





**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA**

2025-2026

LETTERS OF INTENT

ARE TO BE SENT INTO THE DEPARTMENT OFFICE

FOR THE FOLLOWING ELECTED POSITIONS

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

DEPARTMENT 1ST VICE COMMANDER

DEPARTMENT 2ND VICE COMMANDER

DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARM

**ALTERNATE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PERSON (2025-
2027)**



AMERICAN LEGION

Department Commander

My fellow Legion members, the year is almost at an end which saddens me because I have enjoyed visiting your Districts/Posts. It has been a pleasure serving you this past year as Department Commander!

Next month is Convention. A reminder that each Post Commander is required to be there. If you come from a small Post, your votes still matter; each vote counts. Looking forward to seeing all of you in Fallon.

What have I been doing in the month of April? Glad you asked. Lol.

April 2nd: Sat in on the Boys State Committee zoom.

April 11th-12th: The Detachment Commander and I attended the Stand Down at Post 60. Two new Auxiliary members were recruited and one new Post member was recruited.

April 13th: Attended a retirement party for a nurse that worked at the Elko VA Clinic for 14 years.

April 16th: Participated in the Commanders Convening with NDVS. Sat in on the Finance Committee zoom meeting.

April 19th: Conducted annual Officer Training at Post 15 and sat in on the District 3 meeting.

April 23rd: Conducted my monthly zoom meeting with my Department Officers and District Commanders. Membership Chair Valetin also talked about membership. We missed our target date of 95% membership. We are a bit over 90% right now. We have a short period of time to get these numbers up. Please continue recruiting new members, reaching out to Post 100 members/expired members. It is not too late! Let's use this time to give membership a hard push. I attended my Post meeting on the 21st and I brought in one new member!

District Commanders please reach out to the Posts in your Districts that are struggling with members. If they do not know how to find Post 100/expired members; please help them. Offer to send sample recruiting letters. Help them set up membership drives.

April 25th: I participated in a military funeral with the VFW.

April 26th: Detachment Commander Horton and I participated in a ATV/UTV ride with Post 32. A lot of fun!!!

I also attended the Firefighter of the Year Award Ceremony at the VFW.

What does the month of May bring on the National Level? Spring Meetings!!

May 14th is the target date of 100% membership. Let's keep working it!

May 15th: Peace Officers Memorial Day.

May 17th Armed Forces Day. Honoring our military who are currently serving.

May 22: Maritime Day. Honoring our Merchant Marines.

May 23rd: National Poppy Day. To honor those who served and died for our country in all wars.

May 26th: Memorial Day. Honoring our fallen comrades.

I will be busy in May. Every weekend is filled with various District meetings, Armed Forces Day Event, and Memorial Day Ceremonies not to mention three zoom meetings.

We will not put out a newsletter in June. Everyone will be busy with Spring meetings and getting ready for the Convention.

For God and Country,
Brenda Horton, Department Commander

Department Commander, cont.

Presenting a Gold Star Mother with a Challenge Coin. Post 60 Stand Down



Department Commander, cont.

District 3 Officer Training:

Topics:

How to run a meeting

Parliamentary Procedures

Chain of Command

Officer Job Descriptions

The American Legion Calendar Year



Retirement Party at the VFW



Firefighter of the Year Award at the VFW



Post 32 Carlin, Palisades Cemetery Cleanup on April 12th.



Memorial Day Ceremony at the Carlin Cemetery at noon. Flags out at 7 am and retire them at 3 pm.

 **AMERICAN
LEGION**

Greetings Members,

Woohoo!!! May 2025 is the 1st Anniversary of the 1st publication of Nevada American Legion Family News. Thanks again to all who helped get this approved. More importantly, thank you to all who submit articles and to you the readers! A reminder: There are no July or September Newsletters due to Department Convention & National Convention.

April 4th, I attended Post/Unit 10 Taco Bar. This was in honor of the Jackie Robinson Unit 252's visit. Enjoyed excellent food, great dancing and friends. Outstanding job Post/Unit 10. There will be no Newsletter in June & September.

April 12th, I attended the Veteran Standdown hosted by Post 60 in Laughlin. I want to thank Tom Harwood for all of his hard work in bringing this event to fruition. I look forward to attending your next one.

If you know of a girl that should attend Girls State, and not sure how to proceed, please reach out to me. Remember, you can register/pay for your girls or they may register/pay themselves at: **nevadagirlsstate.net**

If you have inquires you can direct an email to: **NevadaGirlsState@gmail.com**

ALA Department Election time is close at hand. If you are interested in running, please submit your letter of intent to the Department at:
NevadaAuxiliary@gmail.com Attn: Daela Gibson

If you have upcoming events, please email me your flyers! I now have compiled an email that reaches every Post in Nevada. As always, the Newsletter needs your articles and pictures!

For God and Country,

Charmaine Meana
ALA Department President
AL Webmaster/Newsletter
charnvaux@gmail.com

"American Legion Family - Be the Team!"



Post/Unit 10 – Unit 252 Visit



National ALA Salute to Servicemember

This year, we have made it much easier to submit for the Salute to Servicemember Award! And with the “new and improved” criteria, there is no need for your Department to vet the submission! Any ALA member or entity can submit! Remember, this is a National award; therefore, no need to go to the extra work to have your Department turn in their one and only entry! It is our sincere hope that we are inundated with submissions!

An ALA member/entity simply makes the nomination, rather than the servicemember, to effectively tell the story of why they feel this person is “head and shoulders” above their peers and worthy of this award.

A simple narrative (no more than 1000 words), a picture of the servicemember (preferably official Department of Defense photograph), and the endorsement from their command group are the only requirements!

Submit NOW! Don’t wait for your Department convention. Submit right up until the June 1, 2025 deadline! The nomination form is live now. Simply click: <https://www.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicewomen-Award>

This award acknowledges the servicemember’s contributions that goes beyond their military career, displaying their impact on their community. Our US servicemembers are exemplary examples of our nation, but when you find one that also goes above and beyond - both within the military and as an integral part of the community where they are stationed - they are more than admirable and should be acknowledged for this. It’s this “can do” attitude that we should all strive for!

For example, all recipients of last year’s Salute to Servicemembers Award are tremendous assets to their military community, thriving in their professional careers with awards and decorations to prove it, but all demonstrate the spirit of volunteerism. Two recipients were instrumental in placing homeless veterans in furnished apartments with basic needs, and another volunteers with Morale, Welfare and Recreation to give back to their military community and engage in meaningful activities. Another volunteers at the local food bank and animal shelter. All are enthusiastic contributors to their communities.

At the very least, the goal is to have at least one submission from every Department and ensure that every branch of the military is represented – Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force and the National Guard/Reserve. With our military installations, big and small, throughout the country, we have a huge number of servicemembers to choose from.

Let’s remember our Mission to support our military, and enter those servicemembers that are so deserving!

ALA Mission - In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad.

Yours In Service,

Lisa D. Williamson, American Legion Auxiliary Salute to Servicemember Chair – 2024-2025

williamsonlisad@gmail.com | cell: 907-388-3264 | #BeTheOne

www.ALAforVeterans.org | **A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families**

Salute to Servicemember Award

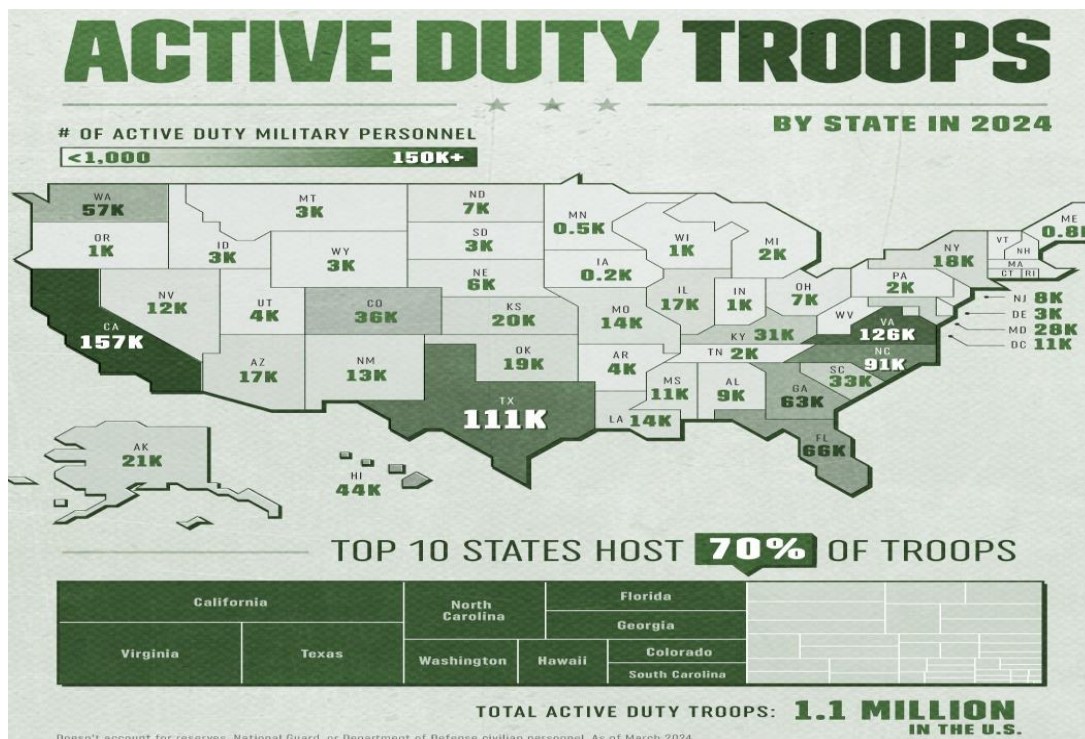
SUBMIT NOW

The nomination form is live now.

For details and submission, simply click:

<https://www.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicewomen-Award>

**AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY**



May NEC Article

May is a month where we celebrate Spring, the warmer weather, and two very special days of remembrance for our country's veterans and those who have given their all to this country.

On the third Saturday of each May, we observe **Armed Forces Day**. We first observed Armed Forces Day in 1950 to honor our veterans from all of our Armed Services; the U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Space Force. While each service honors their own respective birthdays, the Army on June 14th; the Coast Guard on August 4th; the Air Force on September 18th; the Navy on October 13th; and the Marines on November 10th, Armed Forces Day is the one day where we honor all of the services, collectively.

On the last Monday of May, we observe **Memorial Day** to honor and remember all veterans who are no longer with us, whether in war or not. While the observance of honoring our war dead dates back through the history of man, the practice of officially decorating graves in this country first began during the American Civil War in the State of Georgia by the war widows of Confederate soldiers in 1862. Following the Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, fought on July 1st to 3rd, 1863, the Union Army soldiers who died during this bloody conflict were officially remembered by President Abraham Lincoln with his famous Gettysburg Address on November 19th, 1863. In the Spring of 1866, the Southern States began to first observe "Memorial Day" to remember all of their loved ones that died during the Civil War. On May 5th, 1868, the Grand Army of the Republic, the Union Army Veterans organization, conducted their first national observance of "Decoration Day" to remember the Union soldiers who perished during the Civil War. While the two names, "Decoration Day" and "Memorial Day" did eventually become to both be known as "Memorial Day", the name "Memorial Day" did not become official until 1967 by an act of Congress. On June 28, 1968, Congress officially assigned the last Monday of May to be known as "Memorial Day". While the Memorial Day weekend is usually thought of as being the start of the Summer and people are going to the lake, hosting BBQ parties, camping, and just enjoying the great outdoors, everyone should at least on the Monday of the holiday weekend, take the time to reflect and remember those who have fought so bravely in our military services.

Jim Stewart, PDC

National Executive Committeeman

Department of Nevada



VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA



VA provides compassionate, professional memorial and burial services to ease Veteran families through the loss of their loved ones.

Did You Know...

- VA provides burial and memorial services to Veterans at no charge to honor their service to the nation.
- Spouses and children may also receive these services.
- With new VA national, state, and tribal cemeteries opening soon, almost every eligible Veteran will have a VA burial option within about an hour's drive from home.

VA Serves Veterans

VA takes special care to pay lasting tribute to the memory of Veterans who served and sacrificed, and that of their families. VA meticulously maintains more than 135 VA national cemeteries in 39 states and is adding new sites to accommodate Veterans and loved ones in their time of need.

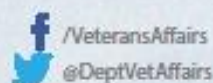
VA memorial benefits may include the following services:

- **VA national cemetery burials.** For eligible Veterans and loved ones, VA national cemetery burials involve the opening and closing of the gravesite, inscribed headstones or markers, a burial flag, award of the Presidential Memorial Certificate, and perpetual care of the gravesite.
- **Casket or cremation burials.** VA national cemeteries can provide services for traditional casket or cremation burials.
- **Private cemetery burials and allowances.** VA may accord eligible Veterans and family members who elect to hold private cemetery burials with memorial benefits that include headstones, markers, or medallions to mark the gravesite, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate. VA may also provide burial allowances toward a family's burial and funeral costs.

VA gravesites cannot be reserved, although arrangements can be made with funeral homes in advance. At the time of need, contact a funeral home to arrange a burial at a national cemetery. To schedule a burial, fax a DD-214 form or other discharge papers to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 866-900-6417 and follow up with a phone call to 800-535-1117, Option 1.

Find Out How You Can Benefit

Explore VA memorial benefits today at [VA.gov/burials-memorials](https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials).



EXPLORE VA BENEFITS AT
VA.gov



Hello Members,

As we go thru our daily lives, we often do not think that today will be our last. This is a reminder to all that our failure to plan and prepare for our end of life is not only important to our families but to our friends and fellow Legionnaires as well. It was with a heavy heart that I was a part of taking care of one of our bartenders who passed earlier this month. She didn't have any plans for her end of life and it was a scramble to ensure that her wishes were met.

We also had a member who lost his wife in the last few weeks and had not prepared for her loss as well. Both of these deaths could have been prevented if they had stopped drinking. There are programs within the VA that will provide the rehabilitation for drug and alcohol issues and will provide this service for free to veterans. It is a terrible and devastating way to die and so hard on those who care for their loved ones and friends at the end. I encourage all who have a drinking problem to please seek help! We are here for you and will always assist in any way we can!!

For God and Country,
Pamela Walker
Department 1st Vice Commander



Celebrating Excellence: The American Legion School Awards

Since 1926, The American Legion has been recognizing outstanding students through its School Award Medal Program. This prestigious award is given to students who exemplify six core qualities: courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship, and service. These qualities are essential for fostering good citizenship and perpetuating the ideals of Americanism among our youth.

The American Legion School Award is presented to two students at each school sponsored by a post. The candidates are selected by faculty and staff from each school. This ensures that the recipients are truly deserving of this honor, having demonstrated exceptional character and dedication to their community.

Courage is recognized as bravery in the face of opposition and the determination to do what is right without seeking public applause. **Honor** reflects a highly developed moral character and adherence to truth and duty. **Leadership** is the ability to guide others and work harmoniously to achieve group goals. **Patriotism** embodies loyal Americanism and the willingness to defend the U.S. Constitution. **Scholarship** highlights academic achievements and the qualities of industry and perseverance. Finally, **Service** is the commitment to helping others and contributing positively to society.

This recognition not only celebrates students' achievements but also encourages other students to strive for excellence in these six areas. The award ceremony is often held in conjunction with a school's award or commencement ceremonies, adding a special significance to the event.

Local American Legion posts play a crucial role in this program. They establish relationships with schools, deliver talks to students and faculty about the importance of these qualities, and ensure the community is aware of the program. This involvement helps to promote the values of active citizenship and true Americanism within the community.

As we approach the end of the school year, it's important to recognize and celebrate the achievements of our young citizens. The American Legion School Award Medal Program is a wonderful way to honor those who have demonstrated exceptional character and leadership. Let's continue to support and encourage our youth to embody these values and contribute positively to our society.

For more information about The American Legion School Award Medal Program, please visit the official American Legion website.

Pranava Moody
Sergeant at Arms
Department of Nevada



Empowering Women Veterans: Nevada's 2025 Women Veteran's Convention

On March 8, 2025, the Nevada Department of Veterans' Services (NDVS) hosted the Women Veteran's Convention at the National Automobile Museum in Reno, NV. This event, held in celebration of Women's Military History Month, brought together over 170 women veterans to honor their service and foster a sense of community and support.

The convention's theme, "Sisterhood Reunited," emphasized the importance of unity and mutual support among women veterans. NDVS Director Col. Mary Devine, who has served in the Nevada National Guard for nearly four decades, welcomed attendees and highlighted the significance of recognizing the unique challenges faced by women in the military.

Throughout the day, participants engaged in discussions on personal courage, resilience, health, and wellness. Featured speakers included Pranava Moody and Annette Whittenberger, who shared their experiences and insights on overcoming adversity and thriving in post-military life. Their powerful stories resonated deeply with the audience, inspiring many to continue their journey of healing and empowerment.

A highlight of the convention was the presentation of the inaugural Nevada Woman Veteran of the Year Award. Kelley Guidry, co-founder of the nonprofit organization Forgotten Not Gone, was honored for her exceptional volunteer work and dedication to the veteran community. Guidry's efforts in combating veteran suicide through adaptive sports and outdoor recreation have made a significant impact, helping countless veterans reconnect with their bodies, communities, and sense of purpose.

The convention also featured the launch of the Women Warriors Wellness Program, offering peer support tailored to female veterans. This program focuses on holistic healing, including grounding techniques, breathing exercises, shared experiences, and emotional empowerment. Guidry's personal journey from adversity to advocacy serves as a powerful testament to the resilience and strength of women veterans.

The 2025 Women Veteran's Convention was a remarkable event that celebrated the achievements and contributions of women veterans in Nevada. It provided a platform for sharing experiences, fostering connections, and promoting wellness. As we continue to honor and support our women veterans, events like this play a crucial role in empowering them to lead fulfilling lives and make a positive impact on their communities.

Thank you to our very own Sandy Schneeberger for being on the committee to put on this amazing event. Mark your calendars for March 16, 2026 when the event will be held in Las Vegas.

Pranava Moody
Sergeant at Arms
Department of Nevada







Sons of the American Legion – Detachment Commander



The Detachment dropped from 50th place to 51st place in the nation with 79.35% membership, with 68.86% being renewals, we did not meet our April 9 target of 80%. We need 70 members to meet the 100% target by 5/14/2025, and it can be new members or renewals. If you have not renewed, please do so before the first of the year when we start getting into the grace, suspension, and termination periods. Please continue to focus on renewals as we can't be losing those who are already dedicating their time and efforts to the SAL. It is significantly harder to recruit someone new than it is to keep the members we have. If you know of someone on the fence about renewal, please, reach out to our membership chair, Pip Valentin, me, or any of the other officers for suggestions.

Over the last couple of months, I have discussed various American Legion Charities programs and this month I am going to look at an outside vendor that has partnered with The American Legion to provide a free service and give money to Department for each member that signs up. The program is called LegionCare and is provided through Legionnaire Insurance Trust, a program of AGIA Affinity. This trust was created in 1965 and represents over 1.5 million members and has given back over \$90 million to Legion Departments including \$20 in scholarship funds, outreach programs and funding for the various Legion Charities. This money has no strings attached and is based on enrollment and needs. The basic insurance, No Cost LegionCare, is free and provides \$1000 accidental death protection for covered accidents, including to and from Post Meetings. The program also provides a \$5000 benefit to the beneficiary if the covered member is on Legion business at the time of the accident. The only catch, you must be a Legion Family member in good standing and enrolled in LegionCare at the time of the accident. You only need to sign up once if you remain an active Legion Family member. If you lapse your membership, you must re-apply for LegionCare.



We very seldom discuss outside companies as a benefit to The American Legion family, and this is one of the rare exceptions. For more information you can visit thelit.com and sign up. Because this program benefits the Department of Nevada in various ways, there will be a table at the Department Convention in Fallon, manned by the Sons of The American Legion to help any family members sign up for LegionCare as well as MyLegion. If you don't have an email address, or don't want to use your own, we will be helping with free email as well.

Detachment EC meetings will be the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 via Zoom, NOT TEAMS.

Topic: Detachment of Nevada EC Meeting
 Time: 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM Pacific Time
 Meeting ID: 839 1195 1466
 Passcode: 512302

Dial by your location
 • +1 719 359 4580 US

Meeting ID: 839 1195 1466
 Passcode: 512302

Please join us if you can.

It was my pleasure to be your Detachment Commander for the 2023-2024 year and don't forget your buddy checks and watch out for our entire Legion Family.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawn Horton
 Commander, Detachment of Nevada
 #SALStrong
 #BeTheOne

Sons of the American Legion – Detachment Commander, Cont.

2025 SAL Membership Report as of: April 21, 2025

#	DETACHMENT	2025 DET. YEAR END GOAL	NEEDED TO MEET 100% TARGET 5/14/2025	2025 ACTUAL MBRSHIP	% OF YEAR END GOAL	2025 RENEWAL %
1	LATIN AMERICA	40	-5	45	112.50%	53.85
2	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,716	-44	1,760	102.56%	86.45
3	SOUTH DAKOTA	1,985	-3	1,988	100.15%	87.68
4	FLORIDA	25,736	416	25,320	98.38%	82.83
5	NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,467	160	6,307	97.53%	86.32
6	VIRGINIA	4,558	159	4,399	96.51%	81.60
7	NORTH DAKOTA	1,128	44	1,084	96.10%	89.40
8	IDAHO	720	30	690	95.83%	76.46
9	MARYLAND	17,777	807	16,970	95.46%	85.95
10	OHIO	32,881	1,862	31,019	94.34%	86.04
11	WISCONSIN	4,772	282	4,490	94.09%	85.71
12	MONTANA	1,060	64	996	93.96%	86.97
13	WEST VIRGINIA	2,728	176	2,552	93.55%	81.58
14	HAWAII	134	9	125	93.28%	89.39
15	CONNECTICUT	2,027	137	1,890	93.24%	81.71
16	PENNSYLVANIA	64,916	4,565	60,351	92.97%	86.18
17	INDIANA	38,183	2,710	35,473	92.90%	84.51
18	MICHIGAN	28,189	2,025	26,164	92.82%	82.68
19	NORTH CAROLINA	2,904	218	2,686	92.49%	77.30
20	LOUISIANA	1,869	147	1,722	92.13%	84.68
21	ARIZONA	9,643	763	8,880	92.09%	76.74
22	IOWA	5,264	424	4,840	91.95%	84.40
23	MISSISSIPPI	791	65	726	91.78%	77.00
24	NEW YORK	32,363	2,686	29,677	91.70%	84.67
25	ILLINOIS	14,244	1,208	13,036	91.52%	84.32
26	MINNESOTA	11,821	1,067	10,754	90.97%	83.47
27	MISSOURI	3,287	302	2,985	90.81%	81.70
28	DELAWARE	2,708	253	2,455	90.66%	80.35
29	MASSACHUSETTS	5,758	547	5,211	90.50%	79.65
30	NEW JERSEY	10,203	1,040	9,163	89.81%	81.21
31	VERMONT	4,051	414	3,637	89.78%	83.13
32	WASHINGTON	2,876	311	2,565	89.19%	72.85
33	TEXAS	6,089	660	5,429	89.16%	73.09
34	NEBRASKA	7,080	782	6,298	88.95%	84.61
35	TENNESSEE	1,852	206	1,646	88.88%	72.56
36	CALIFORNIA	11,696	1,313	10,383	88.77%	76.37
37	KANSAS	6,127	716	5,411	88.31%	81.02
38	GEORGIA	5,018	600	4,418	88.04%	78.14
39	MAINE	2,888	352	2,536	87.81%	77.42
40	OREGON	1,683	224	1,459	86.69%	72.73
41	ALASKA	1,856	253	1,603	86.37%	73.41
42	FRANCE	179	25	154	86.03%	72.57
43	WYOMING	1,289	182	1,107	85.88%	74.52
44	KENTUCKY	2,250	325	1,925	85.56%	74.68
45	ALABAMA	2,170	332	1,838	84.70%	74.87
46	OKLAHOMA	1,303	203	1,100	84.42%	68.73
47	COLORADO	3,095	529	2,566	82.91%	71.96
48	PUERTO RICO	180	33	147	81.67%	77.97
49	ARKANSAS	396	77	319	80.56%	61.04
50	RHODE ISLAND	373	74	299	80.16%	71.12
51	NEVADA	339	70	269	79.35%	68.86
52	NEW MEXICO	1,986	415	1,571	79.10%	64.89
53	DIST OF COL	102	28	74	72.55%	54.90
54	UTAH	465	152	313	67.31%	60.18
55	PHILIPPINES	48	25	23	47.92%	42.59
Totals:		401,263	30,415	370,848	92.42%	82.92

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

American Legion Riders

Please send me your events so we can get them online for others to see.

We need more engagement from the riders, it is well known that the Legion Riders events can be great membership opportunities. Always carry a packet of membership forms with you for the Legion, SAL, and Auxiliary, you never know when they might be handy.



At the DEC and in recent weeks there have been questions about how the Department can give guidance on the Post ALR chapter. Nevada is one of the Departments where the ALR program is not chartered by the Department and every chapter is completely managed by the individual Post. That is not to say that there are no rules to be followed; there are a handful of rules as determined by National and summarized in Resolution 5 (<https://www.legion.org/getmedia/28a26a18-369e-47da-a82b-77100edcb32a/ALR-Resolution-5-2021.pdf>) that must be followed to be an ALR Chapter. While it would be nice to have uniformity between Chapters, the lack of a Department Charter is useful in allowing each Chapter to be operated in a way that works for their respective location. What works in the Las Vegas area may not work in Elko. I am always available if you need general guidance on developing your charter.

Starting last year, the Legion Riders Legacy Run donated all funds collected to the Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF) instead of the Legacy Fund. Please consider donating to the VCF instead of the Legacy Fund which is expected to be fully funded and sustainable into the future.

Please send feedback, what would you like to see in future newsletter articles? What would you like to see done differently by the Legion Riders?

I can always be reached via email (commander@nevadasal.org) or phone (720-394-5965), just leave a message if I don't answer.

Sincerely,

Shawn Horton
Commander, Detachment of Nevada
American Legion Riders Department of Nevada Liaison

Event Schedule		
Date	Where	What
April 26, 2025	Carlin, NV (Post 32)	ATV/UTV Ride

Greetings Legionnaires,

The American Legion Grassroots Action Center is live with current legislation:

<https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>.

Currently, there are three active campaigns:

- **H.R. 1004 & S. 410 - Love Lives On Act of 2025.**
 - This bill extends entitlement for various benefit programs and services for surviving spouses of deceased members of the Armed Forces or veterans. First, the bill removes the expiration on a surviving spouses' entitlement to educational assistance through the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship (Fry Scholarship). The bill also provides that the remarriage of a surviving spouse must not bar the furnishing of dependency and indemnity compensation to such spouse. Next, the Department of Defense may not terminate the payment of an annuity for a surviving spouse under the Survivor Benefit Plan solely because the surviving spouse remarries. Additionally, the bill provides commissary store and MWR retail facility (e.g., exchange store) access to surviving spouses regardless of the marital status of the spouse. Such spouses must be entitled to use such stores and facilities to the same extent and on the same basis as surviving spouses who did not remarry. The bill expands the definition of a dependent under TRICARE to include a remarried widow or widower whose subsequent marriage has ended due to death, divorce, or annulment. Finally, the bill modifies the definition of a surviving spouse for purposes of veterans benefits to include same sex marriages.
- **H.R. 1423 & S. 649 - GI Bill Parity Act of 2025.**
 - Currently, National Guard and Reserve servicemembers only earn credit toward their Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits when they mobilize and deploy for federal missions. National Guard and Reserve servicemembers activated under state orders do not accrue eligibility for Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.
 - This bill proposes to count every day spent on weekend drills, annual training, attending military school, participating in an exercise, or responding to a disaster toward GI Bill eligibility. The American Legion firmly believes that every day in uniform counts. Guardsmen and Reservists who serve alongside their active-duty counterparts deserve the same GI Bill eligibility.
- **H.R. 2102 & S. 1032 - Major Richard Star Act of 2025.**
 - Currently, combat-injured veterans face a reduction in their retirement pay for every dollar of disability compensation they receive.
 - The Major Richard Star Act aims to rectify this by allowing combat-injured veterans to receive both their earned retirement pay and disability compensation without offset.

Legionnaires are encouraged to visit the site, and click on the campaigns, in order to generate an email to their federal representatives.

The entire American Legion Legislative Agenda can be seen on the same Grassroots site, by clicking on "View Key Legislation": <https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Bills>

On April 7, the following bills passed in the House via voice vote, and have moved on to the Senate:

- H.R. 586 - Vietnam Veterans Liver Fluke Cancer Study Act.
 - This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to conduct an epidemiological study and report on the prevalence of cholangiocarcinoma (bile duct cancer) in veterans who served in the Vietnam theater of operations during the Vietnam era. The study must identify the rate of incidence of cholangiocarcinoma in such veterans and in U.S. residents.
 - The bill also requires the VA to track and report on the prevalence of cholangiocarcinoma using the Veterans Affairs Central Cancer Registry. Additionally, the VA must periodically submit follow-up reports to Congress regarding the epidemiological study and information collected from the cancer registry regarding the prevalence of bile duct cancer.
- H.R. 877 - Deliver for Veterans Act.
 - This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to include delivery costs when paying the full purchase price of an automobile or other conveyance for certain disabled veterans or members of the Armed Forces. Currently, the VA must pay the lesser of (1) \$26,417.20 (adjusted annually for inflation), or (2) the full purchase price associated with providing an automobile or other conveyance to such individuals (not including delivery costs).
- H.R. 970 - Fairness for Servicemembers and their Families Act of 2025.
 - This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to periodically review and report on the maximum coverage available under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and Veterans' Group Life Insurance programs. Specifically, the VA must review such coverage amount every five years, taking into account the average percentage by which the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased in the five fiscal years preceding the review.
- H.R. 983 - Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserves Tuition Fairness Act of 2025.
 - This bill requires that the Department of Veterans Affairs disapprove courses of education provided by educational institutions that charge higher

in-state tuition for individuals utilizing the Montgomery GI Bill-
 Selected Reserve education benefits while living in the state where the
 education is located, regardless of the individual's state of residence.

- H.R. 1039 - Clear Communication for Veterans Claims Act.
 - This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to seek to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to assess notices that the VA sends to claimants applying for or submitting claims for VA benefits. The VA must report on the findings of the assessment and implement recommendations in the assessment.
 - The bill also extends certain loan fee rates through June 23, 2034, under the VA's home loan program.

Please contact Senators Cortez Masto & Rosen and urge them to co-sponsor these bills.

<https://www.cortezmasto.senate.gov/contact/>, <https://www.rosen.senate.gov/email-jacky/>

At the state level, The Nevada Departments of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, The Marine Corps League, & The Military Order of the Purple Heart have all endorsed:

- A.B. - 145 - Revises provisions relating to veterans. (BDR 37-77)
 - This bill prohibits a person from providing certain services related to veterans' benefits under certain circumstances; prohibiting the Director of the Department of Veterans Services from charging a fee for the interment of the spouse of a veteran; requiring the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration to develop certain programs for the hiring and mentoring of veterans; requiring the Administrator of the Division to employ a Veterans Coordinator; revising the persons who are eligible to receive, free of charge, an annual permit for entering all state parks and recreational areas to include the family members of certain veterans; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Please contact your Nevada Assemblyperson and ask them to co-sponsor this bill.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/83rd2025/Bill/12071/Overview>

Always in Service,

Manny Garcia
 Nevada Delegation Legislative Committee Chairman
 National Legislative Council

To all the posts in the Department of Nevada,

I want to say thank you for your efforts for membership this year. But we still have 7 months left to go. I want everybody to get out of the mentality that when July 1st comes then the membership for 2025 ends. Membership for 2025 ends on December 31st of this year.

Please see in the email attached the *NEW* Welcome Kit provided by National Headquarters. In here you will find new ideas on welcoming new members to your post. You can find it by going to this link and clicking on View Toolkit & it will be emailed out with the Newsletter.

<https://www.legion.org/information-center/news/dispatch/2025/march/your-guide-to-welcoming-new-members>

If you need hard copies, please reach out to me and I will get those mailed to you. I hope this spring brings all the snowbirds back to your locations and your membership numbers will increase by the end of May. Please utilize Memorial Day services in your area to welcome new members and show them what the American Legion is all about.

Paul "Pip" Valentin

Department Membership Chair



AMERICAN
LEGION

BE **THE** ONE

Submitted by: Ric Gillespie

Palisade cemetery Carlin, NV clean up. Most of the project is done. May 3rd will be the final cleanup. Weather permitting. The start of the project.



Trying to finish up but there was more than expected to clean up.

Submitted by: Ric Gillespie

Post 32 has been working to replace the sidewalks for safety issues. Put up handrail is all that's left to do.



ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY

Saturday, May 25, 2024



Please Join Palm Boulder Highway
Mortuary In Henderson,
As We Honor And Commemorate
Our Nations Fallen Heroes.

Where: Palm Boulder Highway Mortuary
800 South Boulder Highway
Henderson, NV 89015



Time: 10:00 AM – Outdoor Memorial Event

11:00 AM – Complimentary Refreshments and Veteran Fair



2025 POST 76 MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY



**Please Attend the
22nd Annual Lakes Memorial Day Ceremony
Monday 26 May 2025
Solemnly and Promptly at 9:30 AM**

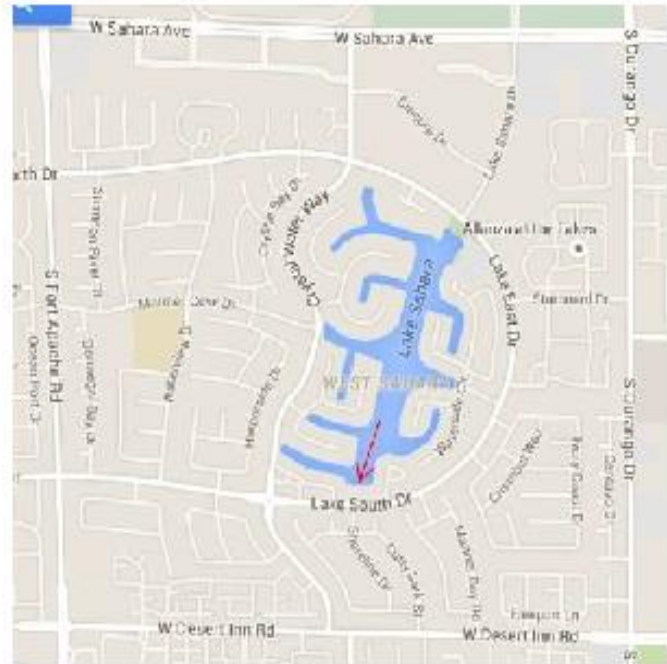
Held at The Lake Sahara South Park

[APPROXIMATELY 3300 Lake South Drive] [between Sahara / Desert Inn North-South and Durango / Ft. Apache East -West]

Sahara West Association, The Lakes Association, and the City of Las Vegas provided facilities and support.

Because of the generosity of Victoria Seaman, Councilwoman Ward 2, City of Las Vegas, we will have chairs, additional on-street reserved parking, our memorial wreath, a large stage with a professional audio setup, and refreshments.

On Memorial Day, we remember and honor our fallen heroes.



Join Nevada Post 76 Spirit of Freedom Legionnaires, JROTC Students from Centennial and Palo Verde High Schools, our neighbors from Sahara West, The Lakes, The City of Las Vegas, representatives of those who have lost those who paid the ultimate price, and our distinguished speakers on this remembrance ceremony of the important National Holiday to honor those who gave all to defend the way of life for us.



*Sahara
West*

CENTENNIAL
HIGH SCHOOL

PALO VERDE
HIGH SCHOOL

The Lakes Association

A couple of quick notes. It's that time for schools with JROTC programs to be having their annual awards ceremonies, so be watching for info from your schools. I recently attended the

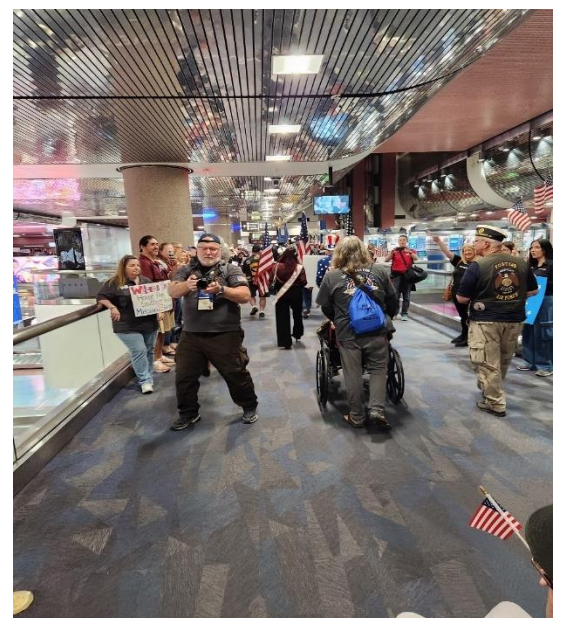
Army JROTC at Desert Oasis High School here in Las Vegas.

Memorial Day is just around the corner, and if you are unsure as to where to go, Post 76 annual ceremony is a great option.

The recent Honor Flight Southern Nevada returned Sunday, April 27th from Washington, D.C.

They landed at Harry Reid International Airport about 1730, and they were greeted with a huge welcome. There was a total of 35 service members who took the trip, and they were glad to make it back home to Las Vegas. Members from Post 149 and Post 51 were in attendance, greeting them home.

Robert "Bob" Bencsko
Commander, District 2
Commander, Post 149
ALNVDIST2@amcben.com



CINCO DE MAYO

SELF SERVE TACO EVENT

Hosted by the
AMERICAN LEGION POST 10 & ALA UNIT 10

JOIN US FOR A FIESTA!

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025 • 1:00 PM UNTIL
1905 H ST LAS VEGAS, NV 89106



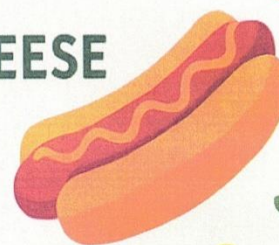
- BEEF & CHICKEN TACOS
WITH ALL THE FIXINGS



- NACHOS WITH CHEESE



- HOT DOGS & HOT
LINKS



- DESSERT **\$10.00 P/P**



THANKS!

Time For Tea Party



PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

National Poppy Day

\$5.00 for Juniors - \$10.00 Adults

Tea, Coffee, Tea Sandwiches and Desserts

Raffle Prizes -50/50

Dress your Sunday best and bring mom, daughter or friend!

Sunday, May 18th

AT 1:30 pm

AMERICAN LEGION BMI POST 40
425 E. VAN WAGENEN ST.,
HENDERSON, NV 89015
WWW.POST40.ORG



nsup

BY MAY 10th TO
alabmiunit40events@gmail.com



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA
2025 Annual Department Convention

The 106th Annual Department of Nevada Convention is being hosted by Fred W. Anderson Post 16 in Fallon, NV on June 27-29, 2025. The convention will be held at multiple locations in Fallon.

There will be 2 events to attend on Friday June 27th. American Legion Family Private Whiskey Tasting at Frey Ranch (1045 Dodge Lane Fallon, NV) from 1pm-3pm, and meet and greet cocktails and dinner at Post 16 starting at 5pm. Auxiliary Pasta Bar \$12/per person in the Hall from 6pm-9pm. You will also be able to pick up your pre-convention packets and swag bags at this time.

American Legion Family meetings will all be at the Fallon Convention Center (agenda coming out on separate correspondence). Legion Riders will have lunch for purchase on site off the grill.

The American Legion Family Dinner will be on Saturday, June 28th at the Fallon Convention Center. There will be no-host cocktails served from 6:00pm to 7:00pm by Post 16. Dinner will be served promptly at 7:00pm. Dinner will be Buffet Style \$40/per person.

Commander's Breakfast will be on Sunday, June 29th at 8:00am, \$20/per person.

Lodging has been secured at the Holiday Inn Express 55 Commercial Way Fallon, NV for Friday and Saturday. For reservations, please call 775-428-2588. Be sure to give them the following Group Code **APL** to ensure the American Legion discounted rate. Rooms not reserved by May 27th will be released.

American Legion Fred W. Anderson Post 16 is looking forward to providing you with a great convention.

Sincerely,

Jonathan "Jack" Lazenby
The American Legion

Kelsey Hurlburt
AL Auxiliary

Steve O'Byrne
Sons of the AL

Tim Carnes
Legion Riders





Fred W. Anderson Post 16
Commander
106th ANNUAL DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA CONVENTION

Unit 16
President
Squadron 16
Commander

Chapter 16
Director

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Post / Unit: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email (optional): _____

Phone: _____

Friday, June 27th

Legion Family Frey Ranch Tasting/Tour # Attending (Free) _____

American Legion Auxiliary Pasta Bar (\$12/person pay on site) # Attending _____

Saturday, June 28th

TAL or SAL or Auxiliary General Membership Meeting/Elections (free) # Attending _____

American Legion Family Dinner \$40/per person

6:00pm Cocktails – 7:00 Dinner (Buffet) # Attending _____ \$ _____

Sunday, June 29th

Past Commander Breakfast at 8:00am \$20/per person # Attending _____ \$ _____

Saturday and Sunday TOTAL \$ _____

SEND REGISTRATION AND FEES TO:

American Legion Post 16
Attn: Convention Committee
90 N. Ada St
Fallon, NV 89406

REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JUNE 16TH





THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA
2025 Annual Department Convention
Brochure Ad Request Information

Full Page: \$110

Half Page: \$60

Quarter Page: \$35

Business Card: \$25

Those Who Served: \$5 per name

THOSE WHO SERVED EXAMPLE

WILLIAM BROWN	US Army	2/1942 - 3/1947	WOODLAND, ME
GERALD GETT'S	US Navy	4/1953 - 3/1962	BROWNVILLE, TX
JOHN HENRY	US Marines	2/1916 - 1/1919	BIDDERFORD, CA

Those Who Served Information (if purchased):

Name: _____	Dates: _____
Branch: _____	Home Town: _____
Name: _____	Dates: _____
Branch: _____	Home Town: _____
Name: _____	Dates: _____
Branch: _____	Home Town: _____

Send payment by **MAY 31, 2025** to:

American Legion Post 16
attn: Convention Committee
90 N. Ada St
Fallon, NV 89406

Email DIGITAL ad to:
alpost16fallon@gmail.com





Subject: AL Convention Ad

Organization/Person Placing Ad: _____

Contact Information:

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Ad(s) Being Purchased:

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

Full Page: \$110

Half Page: \$60

Quarter Page: \$35

Business Card: \$25

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

Send payment by **MAY 31, 2025** to:

American Legion Post 16

attn: Convention Committee

90 N. Ada St

Fallon, NV 89406

Email DIGITAL ad to:

alpost16fallon@gmail.com

Subject: AL Convention Ad





LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST

PURPOSE

TO PROVIDE LEGIONNAIRES WITH THE MOST ADVANCED AND LEAST EXPENSIVE FORM OF INSURANCE POSSIBLE BY UTILIZING THE LEGION'S MASSIVE GROUP PURCHASING POWER WHILE PROVIDING THE DEPARTMENT WITH A RELIABLE SOURCE OF REVENUE.

FACTS ABOUT THE LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST

- SERVING LEGIONNAIRES SINCE 1966
- 50 PARTICIPATING AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENTS
- OVER 1,500,000 PARTICIPATING LEGIONNAIRES
- OVER \$1 BILLION PAID IN CLAIMS TO LEGIONNAIRES
- OVER \$100,000,000 IN ALLOCATIONS PAID TO THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENTS
- TOLL-FREE CUSTOMER SERVICE & CLAIMS TELEPHONE NUMBERS
- EXPERT CUSTOMER SERVICE & CLAIMS PROCESSING
- VARIETY OF HEALTH & ACCIDENT INSURANCE PRODUCTS AND RELATED SERVICES
- COVERAGE AVAILABLE FOR LEGIONNAIRE, SPOUSE & DEPENDENT CHILDREN. COVERAGE ALSO AVAILABLE TO AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY AND SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION.



WHY WE ONLY OFFER LIT PROGRAMS

1. THE LIT HAS SUCCESSFULLY SERVED DEPARTMENT MEMBERS FOR OVER 55 YEARS.
2. LIT ALLOCATIONS TO DEPARTMENTS HAVE PROVIDED A RELIABLE REVENUE STREAM TO SUPPORT THEIR SERVICES TO VETERANS.
3. LIT ALLOCATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT HAVE GROWN STEADILY AND REPRESENT A SIGNIFICANT PERCENTAGE OF OUR DEPARTMENT BUDGET.
4. OUR DEPARTMENT APPROVES ALL PROGRAMS OFFERED TO MEMBERS.
5. OUR DEPARTMENT APPROVES ALL MARKETING MATERIALS BEFORE THEY ARE USED.
6. DUE TO OUR LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP WITH AGIA, WE ARE ABLE TO MAXIMIZE OUR INSURED MEMBER GROWTH.
7. BY ENDORSING ONLY THE LIT, MEMBERS DON'T RECEIVE DUPLICATE PRODUCT OFFERS.
8. ALL INSURED INFORMATION IS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL BY AGIA.
9. THE LIT LEGION CARE \$1,000 NO COST ACCIDENT PLAN HELPS BUILD MEMBERSHIP AT NO COST TO THE DEPARTMENT OR THE MEMBER.