

AMERICANISM COMMISSION
Mark A. Avis, Massachusetts, Chairman
Ronald E. Neff, Indiana, Director

The Americanism Commission of The American Legion was created by a recommendation adopted by the National Convention of The American Legion held in Minneapolis in 1919. It read: "We recommend the establishment of a National Americanism Commission of The American Legion whose duty it shall be to endeavor to realize in the United States the basic ideal of this Legion of 100 percent Americanism through the planning, establishment and conduct of a continuous, constructive educational system."

It is the objective of the Americanism Commission to translate Americanism precepts, principles and ideals in a clear and practical manner to Legion posts and other groups and individuals, including young Americans.

While the Americanism program consists of a broad, objective, general plan that features wide-range community service and sound citizenship and youth development, the efforts of the Americanism Commission are educational in nature and embrace these specific objectives:

- Promote understanding of the principles of a democratic government, and bring more citizens to think seriously about the duties of citizenship;
- Give sound, practical service in our communities, and work to make communities better and safer places in which to live;
- Emphasize religion, encouraging its continuation in the life of every citizen;
- Encourage education in every possible manner, such as presenting school awards and scholarships, sponsoring and conducting oratorical contests, cooperating with youth education and citizenship groups, promoting proper flag etiquette and display, and sponsoring objective youth development programs;
- Do important work for the youth of America, sponsoring American Legion Baseball, the American Legion High School Oratorical Contest, American Legion Boys State, American Legion Boys Nation, the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports program, American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement, Boy Scouts of America activities, and many other citizenship and objective training activities;
- Work for the assimilation of immigrants through schools of citizenship and other agencies.

Additionally, the Americanism Commission has continued attentiveness in legislative matters affecting our way of life. Among legislative initiatives of The American Legion are: (1) continuing efforts to effect a constitutional amendment which would give Congress the authority to enact flag protection laws; (2) coordinating a nationwide effort to combat the secular cleansing of our American heritage through Establishment Clause lawsuits; (3) establishing English as the official language of the United States; and (4) amending the U.S. Flag Code in order to clarify the intent of some stated display procedures and to include contemporary, accepted patriotic practices.

This commission has the responsibility for supervision and coordination of four standing committees: American Legion Baseball Committee, Committee on Children & Youth, Committee on Youth Education and Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee.

The following is a summary of several programs that are the responsibility of the Americanism Commission and have been conducted during the 2022-2023 American Legion program year.

American Legion Boys State/Boys Nation
Jeff Bennett, Program Manager

The American Legion believes that if the United States is to maintain its form of government, it must have a citizenry that has a fundamental understanding and interest in its operation. This is what the American Legion Boys State program does for the young men of our nation. It teaches the fundamentals of American government at the state level.

It was 90 years ago that Legionnaires in the state of Illinois first recognized the need for a program that would help high school boys understand and appreciate the government they were learning about in the classroom. It was a time in the history of this nation when un-American ideas significantly threatened its future. Established in 1935, the overarching concept of American Legion Boys State, then and now, is to show young people that beyond a doubt our form of government is good; however, its preservation depends upon intelligent, informed and loyal citizens, in combination with an honest and impartial administration of government activities. The young men chosen are the brightest within their communities, gathering to form fictitious political parties. Within these parties their political platforms are introduced, built upon, debated and voted for through proper parliamentary procedures. Elections are held, positions filled, and a state governor rises from among the ranks.

Years before the COVID pandemic, 18,000 young Americans took part in the American Legion Boys State programs across the nation per year, and since the average is over 10,000, the program has graduated well over 2,000,000 young men. From each of the 50 American Legion Boys State programs, a rigorous selection process produces two outstanding graduates from each program who go on to represent their state as an American Legion Boys Nation "senator" during the weeklong program in Washington, D.C. The week of government training in the nation's capital combines lectures, forums and committees with visitations to federal agencies, institutions and memorials in order to punctuate the importance of our nation's creation and the sacrifices necessary for its conservation. In addition, The American Legion provides unique occasions by facilitating visits to the White House and the offices of U.S. senators. This valuable time is used to deliberate topics of importance to the participants' generation with their own elected officials. This opportunity crafts a truly unique and educational experience for both the Boys Nation senators and our nation's leadership.

These young men are charged with writing legislative bills and resolutions to be presented, debated, and conceivably passed in the Boys Nation Senate. The entire process occurs over the time span of one week, accomplished through the organization of fictitious party conventions, creation of party platforms and guidance from the program's legislative team of counselors. One of the program's many highlights is the nomination, debate and election of an American Legion Boys Nation president and vice president. David Daniel II was the first in Kentucky history to be elected our Boys Nation president, and Joshua Blake of Louisiana was elected vice president, during the 2023 session of American Legion Boys Nation.

The volunteers who staff this program are mainly former Boys State/Boys Nation participants. Most specifically, junior counselors are program alumni who during their tenure as a delegate at American Legion Boys Nation were unknowingly evaluated for their leadership abilities, understanding of government and grasp of legislative processes. Those who surpass their peers in these areas receive the honor of an invitation to return as program staff. Boys Nation senior counselors and administrative staff are primarily composed of Boys State directors and staff

chosen for their technical abilities and unwavering faith in the American Legion Boys Nation program.

Boy Scouts of America
Jeff Bennett, Program Manager

In calendar year 2023, The American Legion chartered 1,959 Scout units in local communities across the nation that involved nearly 36,003 young people and 18,868 adult leaders. Its commitment to the principles of Scouting dates back to The American Legion's first national convention in 1919. The American Legion supports the Boy Scouts of America because of its unique ability to provide opportunities to young people for leadership training, peer fellowship, life skills development and community service.

Also in calendar year 2023, a total of 1,452 youth were recognized by The American Legion with a certificate issued from the national level for achievements in Scouting programs (1,232 Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout awards; 18 Boy Scouts of America Venturing Summit awards; 17 Boy Scouts of America Sea Scouts Quartermaster awards; 185 Girl Scouts USA Gold Awards).

The American Legion selected Jackson D. Adams from Walla Walla, Wash., as its 2023 Eagle Scout of the Year. Selection is based upon a Scout's outstanding religious, school, community and Scouting program achievements. Jackson will receive a \$10,000 scholarship from The American Legion. The three runners-up are Taylor E. Bell of Murfreesboro, Tenn.; Charles Hiatt of Manhattan Beach, Calif.; and Scott Samuel Mozzillo of Athens, N.Y. Each runner-up received a \$2,500 scholarship.

We had eight Square Knot awards in 2023, and since their inception in 2003 693 American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion members have received the Scouting Square Knot award to recognize their dedication and work to assist in furthering the Scouting programs of The American Legion.

Citizenship and Naturalization
Ann Byars, Program Manager

Citizenship & Naturalization efforts of Americanism include: (1) promoting grassroots involvement at the post level in understanding, appreciating and actively participating in the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship and American government; (2) developing new ideas and initiatives aimed at promoting grassroots involvement at the post level in assimilating prospective citizens/legal immigrants into local communities and American society; and (3) monitoring and maintaining a portfolio of resolutions specific to the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship and the assimilation and naturalization of prospective citizens/legal immigrants.

The Americanism Commission strongly urges American Legion posts, districts and departments (states) to undertake activities and collaborate with the U.S. Office of Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to help newly arriving legal immigrants and legal residents become assimilated and seek citizenship. The future goal is assisting soldiers ready for release to become legal and permanent citizens; this process would begin with post-level volunteers reaching out to nearby military bases.

Flag Education
Ann Byars, Program Manager

The American Legion is a nationally recognized authority regarding proper display of the United States flag. Each year, thousands of letters, phone calls and electronic mail messages are routinely answered pertaining to the proper display, use of and respect for the American flag.

The American Legion is continuing to update a downloadable version of *For Which It Stands*, a multimedia instructional resource about the history of the flag of the United States, the significance and meaning of our flag, and respecting and caring for our flag. It is intended primarily for use with students in the upper elementary and middle/junior high school grades.

In calendar year 2023, more than 50,000 individuals and organizations received email notifications each time the flag of the United States was to be displayed throughout the entire nation at half-staff. Subscribership to The American Legion's flag alert notification service continues to grow every year.

The American Legion continues its campaign to protect the U.S. flag from physical desecration. All 50 state legislatures have passed memorializing resolutions in support of a constitutional amendment to give Congress the authority to enact flag protection laws. Working with other organizations of the American Legion-founded Citizens Flag Alliance, The American Legion shepherded a flag protection constitutional amendment through the House of Representatives during several Congresses. In June 2006, The American Legion spearheaded a drive for the amendment in the U.S. Senate, coming within one vote of passage there. Legislation was again introduced in the 117th Congress.

About 1,200 flag etiquette and flag-related questions were answered via email or phone in 2023. Americanism also branched into flag education sessions via Zoom, Teams and podcasts, and serves as a credible flag etiquette for several news outlets, including Fox Online, CBS Newswire and *The Wall Street Journal*.

American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest
Kim Shriver, Program Manager

The American Legion has awarded over \$3 million in college scholarships since 1938 to high school students participating in its annual High School Oratorical Contest.

Each contestant must give a prepared oration on some phase of the U.S. Constitution, giving emphasis to the duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. The prepared oration must be the original effort of each contestant, taking no less than eight minutes nor more than 10 for delivery. Each contestant must also give an assigned topic presentation on a constitutional topic randomly selected during the contest from the four topics having been identified for each contest year. Assigned topic orations must take no less than three minutes nor more than five for delivery.

In 2023, 49 contestants competed in Indianapolis for scholarship money in this capstone event. Coming in first place was Haley Bock of Indiana, winning \$25,000. Ian Chung of New York won \$22,500 for second place. In third place, Emma Johnson of Wyoming won \$20,000. All contestants who compete at the national contest go home with scholarship funds made possible through a grant provided by the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation and The American Legion. The

American Legion continues to enjoy a mutually beneficial relationship with the National Speech & Debate Association (NSDA).

Junior Shooting Sports Program
Kim Shriver, Program Manager

The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program is a national Americanism program administered through American Legion post-sponsored Junior Shooting Clubs. The purpose of the program is to provide rifle safety and marksmanship training for young people and to offer a wholesome recreational activity through organized competition. Competition is divided into two disciplines: the precision three-position air rifle and the sporter three-position air rifle.

In 2022-2023, 882 individual athletes and 166 shooting clubs entered the postal match competition rounds of The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports National Tournament, wherein competition is conducted remotely at the local level. The 32nd Junior Shooting Three-Position Air Rifle National Championship was successfully conducted in July 2023 at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. The national championship climaxed the two rounds of postal matches that began the previous September. At the national championship medals were awarded to the top scorers in each discipline, and to top scorers in the prone, kneeling and standing positions. The two marksmen winning national titles were Jacob Wisman of West Virginia in the precision discipline; and Charles Bratton of South Carolina in the sporter discipline. Each champion received scholarships totaling \$5,000 sponsored by The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion.

Service to God and Country

A program of fundamental Americanism, “Service to God and Country” seeks to prevent the spiritual decay of America by charging the electorate with a spirit of unquestionable Americanism, respect for law, reverence for authority, and awareness of our human rights and freedoms.

“Service to God” emphasizes regular public worship, daily family prayer and the religious education of children, while “Service to Country” attempts to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to community, state and nation. These objectives are aimed at preparing young Americans to take up tomorrow’s responsibilities by teaching them moral and spiritual values, renewed interest in our nation’s history, self-discipline, self-reliance, and ideals of loyalty and honesty.

Each year a conference for the department chaplains of The American Legion is held under the direction of its national chaplain. Program information is provided for further dissemination to district and post chaplains who coordinate the program at the local community level.

BASEBALL COMMITTEE
Gary Stone, Missouri, Chairman
Steve Cloud, Indiana, Program Manager

The 2023 season of American Legion Baseball registered 2,932 teams to play Legion Baseball. This encompassed 49,287 players representing 50 states and Canada.

In 2023 the team sponsored by American Legion Post 554 in League City, Texas, emerged as national champion at the 96th American Legion World Series. This is League City’s first national

championship in team history and the first championship for Texas. The 2023 runner-up team was from Lincoln, Neb.

The 2023 George W. Rulon American Legion Baseball Player of the Year is Jacob Cyr, a player on the 2023 American Legion Western Regional championship team, sponsored by Post 554 of League City.

Many American Legion players have gone on to distinguish themselves in Major League Baseball and have been honored with election to the Hall of Fame. Eighty-five Hall of Fame members played American Legion Baseball, including 2023 inductees Fred McGriff and Scott Rolen. Other American Legion Baseball alumni inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame include Tony Gwynn, Tom Seaver, Johnny Bench, Carl Yastrzemski, Brooks Robinson and Paul Molitor.

American Legion Baseball is a fully compliant Safe Sport youth baseball program, following an initiative supported by USA Baseball in accordance with the U.S. Center for Safe Sports. Baseball Athlete Safety Education (BASE) features mandatory guidelines in accordance with Public Law 115-126 Child Sports Act of 2017 to monitor, educate and train parents, players and coaches in abuse awareness and foster long, healthy playing careers for young athletes.

COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN & YOUTH

Herbert J. Petit, Jr., Louisiana, Chairman

Stacy Cope, Indiana, Program Manager

The American Legion has been a staunch supporter of America's children and youth since the organization's founding in 1919. The young people of our nation continue to be of paramount concern to the Committee on Children & Youth, as its commitment strengthens and it seeks ways to improve the well-being of all children.

Through the decades following our founding, The American Legion has become a strong advocate for children's rights and has remained at the forefront of the child welfare movement. The early years were devoted to progressive child-care and protection programs. Through the efforts of The American Legion and its affiliated organizations – the American Legion Auxiliary, the Sons of The American Legion and the American Legion Riders, as well as other independent organizations such as the Eight & Forty – many states and communities improved their own child welfare provisions.

The development of new and expanded public programs designed to provide economic security for children made it possible for our organization to turn its attention to other problems affecting young people. To date, there is no area of child welfare that has gone untouched by the collective hand of The American Legion. The very program of Children & Youth itself is unique from any agency – private or governmental – in its ability to expand into every area of concern for child welfare and child health.

At its 33rd annual convention in 1951, The American Legion adopted a resolution which for a third time re-emphasized the three major principles of its child welfare programs, with those principles remaining as a firm foundation yet today:

1. Maintaining the integrity of the American family home;
2. Utilizing and cooperating with existing sound facilities for children instead of attempting to establish competitive and duplicating resources; and
3. Maintaining a whole child program designed to meet the physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual needs of children.

While these principles represent the heart of a whole child program, its action is rooted in:

1. Prevention – Finding solutions to obstacles before they become long-lasting problems;
2. Education – Providing information to our members and the general public on timely issues involving children and youth;
3. Legislation – Maintaining knowledge of new and existing laws, needed amendments, and the administration of laws that affect young people at the national, state and local levels;
4. Material aid – Providing direct assistance in the form of cash, clothing, food and time.

For its over-100-year history, The American Legion's Children & Youth programs have contributed to significant advancements in the area of child welfare. The American Legion has and will maintain a deep, community-centered interest in children in order to find new, and perhaps presently unknown, approaches to child welfare problems. There is no way of knowing what issues will face our youth tomorrow. Our survival may well depend upon the quality of care, education and training that we, as parents and citizens, provide for all children today.

The American Legion is proud of its Legionnaires, as well as the members of its affiliated and supporting organizations, for their efforts on behalf of our nation's youth. Their efforts in the area of child welfare are a living testament to the ability of an organization of free men and women to adapt itself to evolving needs, while maintaining high principles and taking on increased responsibilities under those principles.

2022-2023 Children & Youth Programs

The American Legion has long demonstrated a strong concern for the safety of this nation's young people. Legion volunteers regularly disseminate child safety information to parents, children and community leaders. Making children safety-conscious, in the home and outside, is necessary to ensure they have an opportunity to play and grow into responsible adults and citizens.

As long as Halloween activities are sponsored and promoted in our communities by duly appointed and elected officials, the Committee on Children & Youth of The American Legion believes that children and parents should know how to make this observance as safe as possible. To assist in this effort, the committee produces and distributes a brochure, "Make Halloween a Fun and Safe Night," to educate children and parents about trick-or-treat safety.

Unintentional injury is the leading cause of death and disability among our nation's youth, according to a 2018 article in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 12,000 children and young adults ages 1 to 19 die from unintentional injuries each year. Stanford Children's Health states that falls are the leading cause of nonfatal injury for children, with children 19 and under accounting for about 8,000 fall-related visits to hospital emergency rooms every day. In homes, playgrounds and parks, the potential for serious injury is always present. To help educate the public, the Committee on Children & Youth produces "Play it Safe," an electronic brochure to inform parents about the six most common causes of death among children and prevention strategies.

The American Legion is very concerned about youth suicide as a major threat to the welfare of our nation's youth. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, suicide is the second-largest cause of death among 10-to-24-year-olds. In 2019 the *Journal of the American Medical Association* reported that the suicide rate among adolescents appears to be the highest since the government started collecting such statistics in 1960, and reports that in 2017

there were more than 6,200 suicide deaths among adolescents and young adults ages 15-24. Suicide is a senseless tragedy but may possibly be preventable. The Committee on Children & Youth produces an electronic brochure entitled “Know the Warning Signs of Youth Suicide,” designed to assist youth and adults in understanding some of the warning signs and facts about suicide.

The American Legion is also mindful of the pressures facing young people today, as well as the destructive consequences of drug use. Alcohol, tobacco, inhalants and marijuana are often readily available and considered to be the entryway to a life of drug dependency and delinquency. Gateway drugs are so-called because the use of these drugs often leads to drug abuse, addiction and the use of other drugs such as heroin, cocaine and LSD. The teenage years are challenging and pressure from peers to use drugs can be extremely intense, but individuals are ultimately responsible for their own behavior. Decisions made today can have far-reaching effects on one’s life for years to come. To help combat this problem and educate our nation’s youth about the dangers of gateway drugs, the committee produces an electronic brochure titled “Gateway Drugs ... Choose not to Use.” This tool can equip parents and children with the facts about gateway drugs and help children lead a healthy lifestyle.

As sure as The American Legion is the largest veterans' organization in the world, there are veterans' families who require assistance. Rent may be overdue, or veterans’ children are hungry because a parent is sick, disabled, deceased or left the family. Whatever the reason, these children become the concern of The American Legion, and the Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) grant program is a vital tool our organization uses to help meet the maintenance and health needs of qualifying veterans' children.

Begun in 1925 as a form of direct aid to the children of veterans, TFA remains unique in the social-work field even today and is still a very active program. Made possible by the American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation, the TFA grant program assists the households of qualifying veterans and military servicemembers to meet the cost of shelter, food, utilities and medical needs for their minor child(ren) when they are unable to do so. Through TFA, a Legion post may call upon the national level of The American Legion for cash-grant assistance to help meet the basic needs of qualifying veterans' child(ren). Funds may be granted when it has been validated through assessment and investigation that the minor child(ren) are in need and that no other sources are available or those available are insufficient.

The minor child(ren) is under the age of 18 or 21 if still enrolled in high school and is unmarried. The minor child(ren) must be the biological child(ren), stepchild(ren) or in the legal custody of a qualifying veteran. A qualifying veteran is defined as a U.S. Armed Forces member serving on federal orders current under Title 10 of the United States Code, inclusive of all components, or any veteran possessing an up-to-date membership in The American Legion. Active-duty applicants are considered without being a member of the Legion. A single, one-time, non-repayable TFA grant of up to \$1,500 is permitted for the minor child(ren) of a qualifying veteran. During the calendar year 2022, 18 minor children of eight Legionnaires and servicemembers throughout four states received \$10,574* in non-repayable cash grant assistance from the national level. (*subject to final audit)

Children & Youth Expenditures

The Committee on Children & Youth annually records children and youth activities of the American Legion Family, which includes posts of The American Legion, squadrons of the Sons

of The American Legion and units of the American Legion Auxiliary. Activities of salons of Eight & Forty are recorded as well. The contributions and expenditures of departments and of the national organization of The American Legion were obtained for the 12-month reporting period of June 1, 2022, through May 31, 2023 (see Table 1). Table 2 illustrates a historical record of expenditures from national temporary aid funds by American Legion departments according to years.

During the same reporting period, the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation recorded \$579,263.52* in donations from members of the American Legion Family and individuals from across the country. Also, during the same reporting period of June 1, 2022, through May 31, 2023, the American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance program disbursed \$13,274.56* in grants to 28 children of 10 veterans. Table 1 shows that for the June 1, 2022-May 31, 2023, reporting period, The American Legion and its affiliated and supporting organizations reported a combined total of \$17,786,501* in expenditures and contributions to benefit over 796,268 children throughout America.

(* subject to final audit)

COMMITTEE ON YOUTH EDUCATION
Michael Westergren, Arkansas, Chairman
Ann Byars, Indiana, Program Manager

The American Legion Legacy Scholarship continues its tradition of awarding needs-based scholarships to children of fallen post-9/11 servicemembers as well as children of post-9/11 veterans receiving a combined total disability rating of 50% or more assigned by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Children of fallen servicemembers remain our highest priority in awarding this scholarship.

For 2023, \$1.48 million was awarded in American Legion Legacy scholarships to a total of 321 applicants, exhausting the total amount available to award. These awards may be used for undergraduate or graduate-level education at a nonprofit and regionally accredited institution of higher learning, including trade schools. Recently approved resolutions dictated that for the 2023 awards and moving forward, all funds raised from the Legacy Run will go directly to scholarships equally distributed to all students showing a need.

In addition to the American Legion Legacy Scholarship, our scholarship programs include American Legion National Oratorical scholarships, American Legion Boys Nation scholarships, American Legion Junior Shooting Sports scholarships, American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year scholarships, American Legion Baseball Leadership and All-Academic Team scholarships, and the Samsung American Legion Scholarship.

Samsung Electronics gifted The American Legion with a \$5 million endowment in 1996 as means a of showing appreciation for U.S. veterans who came to Korea's aid during its struggle against communist forces in the Korean War. As a result, the Samsung American Legion Scholarship program established a series of scholarships. Being good stewards of this generous endowment, The American Legion has continued to nurture and grow these funds through the years, and since inception of the scholarship over \$6,701,500 in Samsung scholarships have been awarded. This is achieved by annually awarding scholarships to 10 \$10,000 national scholars, 10 \$5,000 runners-up and 80 \$1,250 department finalists in conjunction with the American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State programs. Regrettably, Samsung scholarships were not awarded in 2020 due to the vast majority of Boys State and Girls State

programs throughout the nation having canceled due to health and safety concerns associated with the unprecedented coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic that gripped the globe. In 2021, however, a majority of Boys and Girls State programs were able to rebound from the pandemic to conduct a program, and as a result 86 Samsung American Legion scholarships were awarded totaling \$232,500 in 2022. In 2023 an estimated \$283,750 will be awarded.

The American Legion continues to believe that education is key to a united and informed citizenry. As such, we strive to improve our scholarships, education programs and youth development programs in a manner showing our dedication to the education of America's youth. The promotion of Americanism to our future leaders' threads throughout every American Legion scholarship and program. The resources we provide to our Legion Family and communities at large are specifically developed to aid in the expansion and culturing of such values among 21st-century youth.

The total amount of national scholarships awarded in 2023 will be near \$2 million.

YOUTH CADET LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Larry L. Price, South Dakota Chairman

Jeff Bennett, Indiana Program Manager

The American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement (YCLE) program is an excellent vehicle through which young people may be empowered to realize early on that peace officers stand as staunch supporters for moral and legal rights, and that the dedication and impact they have within our local communities, states and nation should be regarded with respect and appreciation. The YCLE program serves as an influential steppingstone for those high school students considering a career in law enforcement as they become familiar firsthand with professional practices and concepts of policing during a weeklong program conducted at a law enforcement training academy.

There are currently 22 departments that offer an YCLE program: The American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee was formed in order to develop strategies and methodologies for promoting the YCLE program and its growth throughout the nation, as well as working toward an ultimate goal of pursuing the development of a national capstone program – the vision is that this national capstone program would be analogous of what the American Legion Boys Nation program is to the American Legion Boys State program. Electronic materials are available on The American Legion's website at www.legion.org/youthlaw, providing information for American Legion departments working with law enforcement agencies to adopt and further promote the program.

AMERICANISM COMMISSION EXECUTIVE SECTION

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