



VOICES

"It's like ghosts of soldiers past come to visit you. The reverence of the day and placing the wreath at the Wall really brought home that we are here to serve past and present veterans. It was a somber reminder of why we are serving now."

- American Legion National Vice Commander Roger Mathison of Post 116 in Coon Valley, Wis., after placing a wreath May 26 at the Vietnam War Memorial Wall as part of Memorial Day observances in Washington, D.C.

f 273,894

American Legion National Headquarters Facebook page views in May of a video featuring Past National Commander Jake Comer reciting "In Flanders Fields" by Lt. Col. John McCrae, prior to, and during, Memorial Day Weekend.

8,711

Number of American Legion posts that participated in Memorial Day services in 2023-24, according to the most recent Consolidated Post Report.



\$197,500

Amount in scholarships awarded to 50 students from around the country who qualified for The American Legion National Oratorical Contest May 16-18 at Hillsdale College in Michigan.



\$27,000

Total in scholarship funds received by American Legion National Oratorical Contest champion Gina Narjani of Tennessee for qualifying, advancing and winning with her oration, "The Constitution in the Digital Age."



5%

With an average number of monthly downloads surpassing 1,100 through May, The American Legion Tango Alpha Lima podcast ranks in the top 5% of all podcasts.



\$5,367,370

Amount in retroactive awards achieved in May for veterans who had appealed their VA claims decisions and used free American Legion representation.



818

Informal VA Hearing Presentations prepared in May by American Legion national appeals representatives, free of charge, for veterans disputing their VA claims decisions.



73

Number of appeals granted in favor of the veteran in May after free representation by national American Legion claims representatives.



\$1,724,802

Amount in VA Debt Waivers granted in May for beneficiaries who received free American Legion representation in their cases.



\$5,000

Amount of one American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors grant disbursed in May, for VetBoats, a nonprofit program that provides healing therapy through sailing for veterans struggling with PTSD or other severe conditions.



\$9,060

Amount in American Legion national youth scholarships disbursed May, in addition to the National Oratorical Contest scholarships.



28

Number of American Legion service officers who received VA accreditation in May.

VOICES

"We believe that ensuring unimpeded access to global sea lanes and protecting our maritime interests are vital to U.S. national security. Ratifying UNCLOS would strengthen our ability to assert navigational rights, secure economic zones, and counter aggressive maritime behavior through international law. Our resolution is clear: we support ratification to enhance U.S. influence and maintain leadership in a rules-based global order."

- American Legion National Security Commission Chairman James Grenier Jr. when introducing a resolution before the National Executive Committee May 7 calling for a Senate vote of advice and consent for the United States to ratify the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea



19,500

Number of people trained to identify and assist veterans at risk of suicide through mid-May via The American Legion's Be the One/Columbia Lighthouse protocol.



10 million

Estimated number of athletes who have played American Legion Baseball throughout the program's first century.



2,889

Number of American Legion Baseball teams registered through May for the 2025 season.



57

Number of U.S. Flag Code inquiries fielded in May by The American Legion's national Americanism Division.



\$1,000

Amount by which The American Legion National Executive Committee increased the maximum single cash grant amount in May, from \$1,500 to \$2,500, for recipients of American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance, provided for qualified military personnel or veterans.



19

Number of bills affecting veterans now before Congress addressed by The American Legion in a Statement for the Record to the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs May 21.



\$3,000

Amount of one American Legion National Emergency Fund grant disbursed to an individual who suffered devastating loss due to a natural disaster.



5

Number of children whose homes were stabilized in May thanks to American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants that are issued to qualified military and veteran families facing unexpected financial emergencies.



153

American Legion Eagle Scout recognition certificates awarded in May, to go along with 12 Summit Award certificates, one for Gold Award (Girl Scouts) and another for Quartermaster Award (Sea Scout).