



# Legion News

## DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE



BELGIUM-CHINA 01-DENMARK-ENGLAND-FRANCE-GREECE-GERMANY-IRELAND-ITALY-NETHERLANDS-SPAIN-THAILAND

October 2022

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### DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2023MY

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**DEPARTMENT COMMANDER** *Joshua Steinlicht*

## AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE

# Post Service Officer Training

### November 19-20, 2022 - Ansbach, Germany

THIS TRAINING COURSE IS TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR THE PSO TO BE ABLE TO BETTER INFORM VETERANS ABOUT VA BENEFIT CLAIMS PROCESSES /BENEFITS.

**INSTRUCTOR**

Frank Phillips: Director, Department Service Officers

**REGISTRATION:**

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

Please send an e mail to the Department Service Officer  
[Frank Phillips: Francis.Phillips2@va.gov](mailto:Frank.Phillips2@va.gov)  
Priority is for Post Service Officers  
then on a First come, First served basis.

**REGISTRATION ENDS 30 October 2022**

**MAXIMUM PARTICIPANTS IS LIMITED TO 20!**

## Claims

UPON COMPLETION OF THIS TRAINING, THE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE A TEST.  
ALL PARTICIPANTS THAT PASSED THE TEST, WILL RECEIVE A „TRAINED“ CERTIFICATE

**LOCATIONS**

Training Seminar  
**Am Lohbuck 21.**  
**91734 Mittelleschenbach**

Dinner, November 19, 2022: 1900 hours  
Gasthaus Goldener Stern, Ansbacher Str. 3, 91560 Heilsbronn

PROGRAM

0730-0800

CHECK-IN /REGISTRATION

Topics

PSO DUTIES / RESPONSIBILITIES

VA POLICIES

SMART CLAIM

Basic claim - step by step

C&P EXAMINATION TIPS

LUNCH BREAK - LEGION HOME

VA PRESUMPTIVES

PACT Presumptives

TDIU

Individual Unemployability

DIC

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation

Burial Benefits

Foreign Medical Program

DINNER IN HEILSBRONN  
with DSO, ADSO

TEST / Discussion

Completion of Course

BE ON TIME!

We have limited time to complete the training

Hotel rooms are available at:

www.goldner-stern-heilsbronn.de  
(18 miles to Training)

www.hotel-windmuehle.de  
(26 miles to Training)



## Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola, National Commander of The American Legion

Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola (pronounced Tree-Ola) was elected national commander of the nation's largest veteran service organization on Sept. 1, 2022, in Milwaukee during The American Legion's 103rd national convention. His theme as national commander is "V.E.T.S., Veterans, Education, Teamwork and Sponsor."

A life member of American Legion Post 1682 in Rockland County, N.Y, he served in the U.S. Navy and Navy Reserves from 1969 to 1974. He completed a tour aboard the USS *Nitro*, an auxiliary ammunition ship with the Sixth Fleet. He was honorably discharged as a boatswain's mate third class. He is also a member of Sons of The American Legion Squadron 1682 based on the World War II service of Jim's father.

Jim spent his entire working career in the automotive service industry, where he began as a parts manager at a local Chevrolet dealership and went to serve in many capacities of management. At the time of his retirement in 2017, he was director of service and parts at a New York Metro Mercedes Benz dealership. After a brief time at home, he

began an entirely new career as a school bus driver for the Falmouth School District and part-time motor coach operator.

Jim served in many offices at every level of The American Legion. He was elected department (state) commander of New York for 2010-2011, and chaired several national commissions to include the National Security Commission, Legislative Commission, Veterans Employment and Education Commission and the Membership and Post Activity Committee. He was elected national vice commander for 2016-2017.

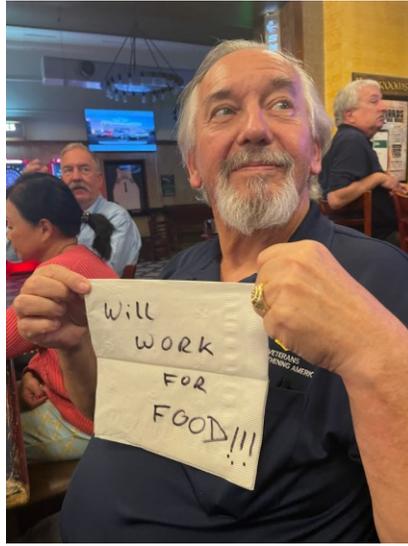
He married his wife Saveria (pronounced Sa-Vare-ee-ah) in 1973. They have two daughters, Laura and Jeanette; a son-in-law, Michael; and three grandchildren, Alexander, Abigail and Natalia. The Troiolas include three generations of American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion membership.

Jim currently lives in Maine to be close to a daughter and his grandchildren, while still being within driving distance to the Department of New York.



**REMINDER:** The 2nd Department Executive Committee (DEC) Meeting will convene on 29 October 2022, at 1300, at the Anor Hotel & Conference An der Brücke 8-10, 64546 Morfelden - Walldorf near the Frankfurt Airport, Germany

**Images from The American Legion's 103rd National Convention  
Milwaukee, Wis. Aug. 26 - Sept. 1, 2022**






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## Department of France Past Commanders Club 2023MY



PCC President *Joshua Steinlicht*  
PCC Secretary *Lee Preston*



### Who is eligible to join the Department of France Past Commanders Club?

Past and Present Department Commanders, Department Vice Commanders At Large, Department Vice Commanders, Post Commanders, SAL Detachment Commanders, SAL Squadron Commanders, Auxiliary Department Presidents, Auxiliary Unit Presidents... so if you were just voted into the office, you are eligible to join

Initial dues for the Past Commanders Club is only \$25.00

Renewal dues for the Past Commanders Club is only \$10.00



## SAL elects Indiana's Carlton as national commander

By [Andy Proffet](#) AUG 28, 2022

The Sons of The American Legion elected Indiana's Chris Carlton as their next national commander on Sunday as the SAL's 50th National Convention came to a close.

Carlton, a member of Squadron 495 in Indianapolis, is the state's first SAL national commander since Raymond Giehl Jr. in 2008 — coincidentally, Carlton's father-in-law.

Giehl was the one to bring Carlton's nomination to the floor in Sunday's election, with Carlton being elected by acclamation.

Carlton has embraced leading candidate for American Legion National Commander James Troiola's support for the "Be the One" campaign aimed at ending the stigma around veterans' mental health issues.

"To 'Be the One,' we just need to ask a veteran in (our) life how they're doing. To 'Be the One,' we need to listen when a veteran needs to talk. To 'Be the One,' we need to reach out when a veteran is struggling," Carlton said.

It's important to help the veteran's family as well, Carlton said.

"As that veteran is going through hard times and struggling, so is that family. We can reach out to those children, to those spouses, see what kind of help we can give them, what kind of support we can give them, point them in the right direction, in the direction of need, and help," he said.

"... I look forward to 'being the one' with you," Carlton added.

He also voiced his support for helping reach Troiola's \$2 million goal for the Veterans & Children Foundation.

"We gave \$500,000 this year; how much can we give next year?" he said.

And Carlton is supportive of the goal announced Saturday of reaching 1 million SAL members by the program's 100th anniversary in 2032. He encouraged the SAL to work on attracting new members while also retaining current members. "Do those buddy checks on members you haven't seen in awhile," he said.



## DETACHMENT OF FRANCE

**REMINDER:** Sons of the American Legion DEC...15 October 2022

# 2022-2023 ALA focus: honoring our veterans every day

“What a true honor this is,” said American Legion Auxiliary 2022-2023 National President Vickie Koutz during her installation speech at the 2022 National Convention in Milwaukee.

We are on to another year of the ALA with a continued focus on serving our veterans, military, and their families with Koutz in the ALA’s highest volunteer leadership position.



Koutz is the third ALA member to serve as national president from the Department of Indiana; the previous national president, Alice Galka, served during the 1988-1989 administrative year.

Humble, kind, and considerate, Koutz puts others ahead of herself, truly

living the ALA motto of Service Not Self.

Koutz grew up in Boonville in southwestern Indiana, a town with a population of about 6,500, and has lived there her whole life. Koutz has been married to Jim for 50 years, and they have a son, Michael. He spoke on stage at convention about his mother during the installation of officers ceremony.

“The day is finally here, and we are so proud of her,” he said. “I know my mom will accomplish a lot this next year. I encourage you to break out of your comfort zone.”

For Koutz, the getting-out-of-her-comfort-zone list includes trying new foods, public speaking, and traveling alone, all which Michael is confident she will do successfully during her term as national president.

For the 2022-2023 ALA year, Koutz’s focus is to honor our veterans every day. Additionally, the national president’s

project will be on National Veterans Creative Arts Festival companions.

“Sometimes, companions can’t afford to pay for a meal plan,” she said. “This broke my heart. The one person who is a constant in their life couldn’t stay with them during meals.”

Her project on companions is triple tiered — money for a meal plan, travel, and/or a separate hotel room if needed for non-family member companions.

Koutz is also working to raise awareness on our country’s Prisoners of War and Missing in Action. Her husband, Jim, returned to Vietnam years later after serving overseas to help dig for remains, and since then, wears a POW bracelet all the time.

“Listening to him talking about his experiences made me realize how important it still is today,” she said.

Read more about Koutz in the November 2022 Auxiliary magazine, in mailboxes and online.

Be sure to follow her on Facebook at @alanationalpresident as she travels to units and departments across the country this year.

Fun facts about 2022-2023 National President Vickie Koutz

- 1) I enjoy riding our side by side (closed-in four-wheeler) with my husband and looking for deer.
- 2) I don’t like heights and I’m claustrophobic, especially in parking garages.
- 3) I love potato chips — Lay’s Classic.
- 4) I like to read pretty much anything.
- 5) I enjoy traveling — I went overseas with Jim to Asia when he was American Legion national commander. I like Hawaii, Pigeon Forge, and we go to Florida during the winter months.

By Sara Fowler, Staff Writer

**Start of**  
**Operation Enduring Freedom (2001)**  
**Oct 7, 2022**



## American Legion, Auxiliary and Sons National Leadership Visit to Paris Merci beaucoup à tous de nous rendre visite!

### A special leadership visit from National and the Department of France



The American Legion, Auxiliary and Sons National leadership and Department of France leadership group toured Paris over the course of two days with Paris Post 1's Legion, Auxiliary and Sons.

Their special tour takes place at the end of their leadership year (2021-2022) almost every year in June. We started our tour at the Paris Post 1 Mausoleum.

We thank the City of Neuilly and Le Souvenir Français Neuilly for their support.

Photo above:

- Adjoint Maire François Le Stang
- Prior Commander Paris Post 1 Bryan Schell
- Alt National Executive Committeeman Hans Stockenberger
- Department of France Commander Santos Alvarado
- American Legion Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel
- National Executive Committeeman James Settle
- Department of France Assistant Finance Officer Doug Haggan
- American Legion National Commander Paul Dillard
- Sons of The American Legion National Commander Michael Fox

### OUR SHARED LEGACY

The legacy of The American Legion in France started in 1919 when National had their First Caucus in Paris. Paris Post 1 was chartered that same year, and the Department of France chartered the following year in 1920.

### WELCOMING LEADERSHIP TO PARIS

Every year Paris Post 1 welcomes visitors from around the world who are interested in viewing the American historic sites in Paris. When the National and Department leadership visit, Paris Post 1 gives a full tour visiting all of the historic sites for The American Legion.



Paris Post 1's mausoleum is located at the Neuilly-sur-Seine cemetery on the west side of Paris near La Defense.

Established in 1936, the Paris Post 1 mausoleum was first started to inter American veterans from World War I. Several years later, World War II started and our mausoleum was expanding after the war to hold World War II war dead. Burials continue to be performed to the present day at the Paris Post 1 mausoleum.

Above photo: Paris Post 1 Auxiliary Vice-President Beth Herwood and American Legion Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel.



During the National Convention in Paris in 1927, 10 years after the end of World War I, The American Legion voted unanimously for the creation of the American Legion Building in Paris which later became known as Pershing Hall.

National leadership from the Legion, Auxiliary and Sons were able to visit Pershing Hall.

Pictured above:

- American Legion National Commander Paul Dillard
- American Legion Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel
- Sons of The American Legion National Commander Michael Fox



Special thanks to the American Cathedral for hosting our visit of the Cathedral and the special Never Forget garden in the interior courtyard.

During the Centennial of the Unknown Soldier in 2021, the Tomb Guard pilgrimage group planted the first Never Forget garden in France at the American Cathedral in honor of their centennial.



For our hungry group, we brought them to downtown Paris near the Arc de Triomphe. A delicious French cuisine was exactly what our group needed to stay energized for a full day of paying respects to our American veterans in France, learning about

*American history in Paris and lots of sightseeing!*

*It was an honor to share a meal with our National and Department leaders. A great picture of our Auxiliary leadership at the Café l'étoile 1903.*

*Pictured from left to right:*

- Auxiliary Department President State of Kentucky Karen Kaelin Toll
- American Legion Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel
- Paris Post 1 Auxiliary President Ginette Crosley
- American Legion Auxiliary California Crystal Reagan
- Paris Post 1 Auxiliary (and Legionnaire) Michele Crosley.



*An important part of our tour was also showing our leaders the ceremonies that Paris Post 1 takes part in at Suresnes American Cemetery throughout each year like Memorial Day and Veterans Day.*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY!**



*National leadership in front of the location where the First Caucus of The American Legion took place. A plaque was commemorated at this historic place in 1939 to commemorate the First Caucus.*



*Next stop was to the east of Paris at the Suresnes American Cemetery where we were provided a tour by the American Battle Monuments Commission who manage this special cemetery.*



*Special thanks to ABMC Assistant Superintendent James Williamson who gave us the tour at Suresnes. We were honored to hear the stories and history, and to be able to pay our respects to those at Suresnes who gave their lives for our freedom.*



*Special thanks to all of our leaders for making the trip to Paris!*



*Originally a World War I cemetery, the Suresnes American Cemetery and Memorial just outside Paris now shelters the remains of U.S. dead of both wars. The 7.5-acre cemetery contains the remains of 1,559 Americans who died in World War I and 23 unknown dead of World War II.*



*Paris Post 1 is dedicated to ensuring we support our leadership when visiting France. We thank everyone who helped us welcome our leadership! The Legionnaires and Auxiliary are honored to attend ceremonies with the ABMC, and we thank the ABMC in France for their kind and warm welcome to these special places that they guard for us.*

*We hope you enjoyed your visit, and we look forward to seeing you again soon. Merci beaucoup!*

## IN HONOR OF 36 AMERICANS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN FRANCE DURING WWII

Paris Post 1 thanks the commune of Pont Scorff and the families of the 4th Armored Division for successfully unveiling the new stele in honor of the American soldiers who died at Pont Scorff during World War II in liberation of the Bretagne peninsula

A weekend of many emotions for all who attended, special thanks to the families of our American veterans for traveling from the USA to France for this special ceremony.



*It was before the first wave of covid when Paris Post 1 was first contacted about supporting the new 4th Armored Division Memorial in Pont Scorff. After a couple of years of planning and patiently waiting for borders to reopen, we are honored to have unveiled this new memorial with family members of those Americans who gave their lives at Pont Scorff.*



*Group photo of the family, friends and sponsors of the new 4th Armored Division Memorial in Pont Scorff France.*



*The inscription reads: "To the 36 soldiers of the 4th Armored Division"*

*who lost their lives between the 7th and the 9th of August 1944 to allow us to regain our freedom. Lest We Forget." Wreath laid by: Paris Post 1 Legion and Auxiliary. Never Forget.*



*From left to right: American citizens Andy Harvell, Kieran Lowe (Parent of Captain Arthur Calvin Jr Griffin) and Anna Marie Mattson from the American Legion Auxiliary.*

**Special thanks to everyone who joined us in Pont Scorff for the unveiling of the new American memorial to the 4th Armored Division:** Commune of Pont Scorff / Families of the 4th Armored Division / American Embassy Rennes / American Legion & Auxiliary Paris Post 1 / Mr RAOULT Marcel, French Resistant FFI (French Interior Force) / Mr JACQUES Jean-Michel, Député de la 6ème Circonscription du Morbihan / Association de la Reconstitution de la Poche de Lorient / Association Souvenir Militaire Centre Morbihan / Association Aéro Mémoire 39-45 / Association Mémoires et Liberté



*It was an honor to have Elisabeth Webster American Counsel for Western France join us at the memorial unveiling.*



*Family members and local residents of the Commune of Pont Scorff cutting the unveiling ribbon for the new 4th Armored Division Memorial.*



*Family members who visited from the USA taking a moment of silence after the unveiling ceremony to pay their respects to their family members who gave their lives at Pont Scorff during World War II.*



Interview with the leaders of the Association of Pont Scorff, from left to right: Jean-Jacques, Emmanuel and Pierre Antoine. Special thanks to these gentlemen for organizing these ceremonies and events, and ensuring that this new American memorial was created.



TEC Eugène F. Burton born April 29, 1920 in Massachusetts. Killed in action on August 8, 1944 age 24 years. We will never forget.



Interview with the Lowe family who traveled from the Seattle, Washington region to Pont Scorff France to honor Captain Arthur Calvin Griffin Jr.



Major Lloyd Oliver Smith born December 10, 1913 in Alabama. Killed in action on August 7, 1944 age 30 years. We will never forget.



The XXXX Family join Nicolas XXX and the Sacco Family at the memorial stele showing the names of their loved one who was killed in action during World War II at Pont Scorff.



Interview with the Sacco family traveling from the USA to Pont Scorff France to honor their family member Private First Class Joseph Sacco Jr. summer 2022.



Nicolas Sadolski, a family member of the 4th Armored Division, lowering the American flag to be folded and saved for this historic day.



Special thanks to student Ben Brodie, visiting France from Brigham Young University in Utah, who helped Paris Post 1 record video, pictures and interviews of the ceremonies and events. We also send out a very special thank you to Paris Post 1 Legionnaire Wesley Lam for providing financial support for Ben on his voyage to Pont Scorff!



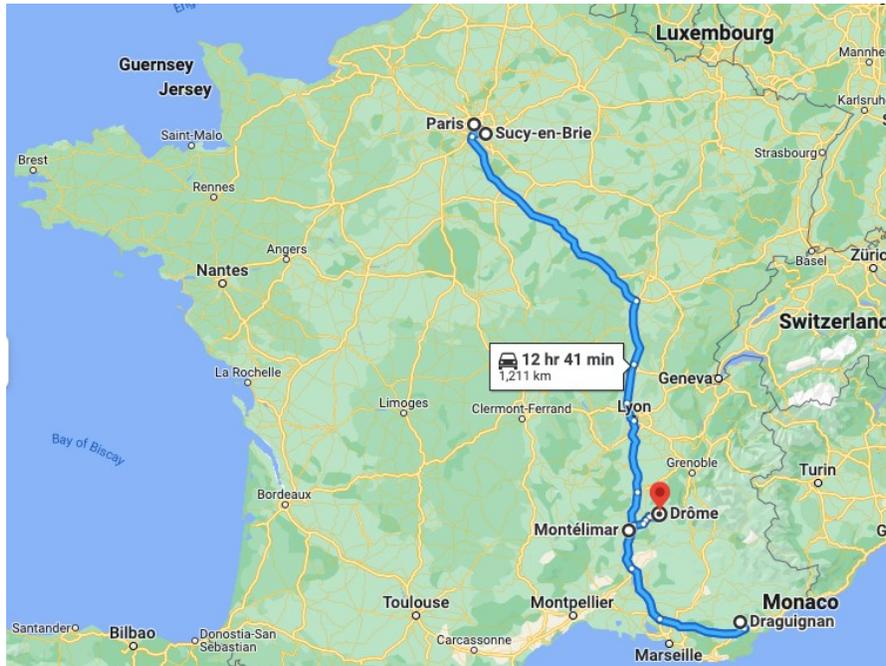
Local musicians join the ceremonies at Pont Scorff American Memorial unveiling of the new 4th Armored Division stele summer 2022.

Our ceremonies and events would not be possible without support from our members, community, donors and sponsors. We thank Commune of Pont Scorff, the families of the 4th Armored Division and all who supported and joined us in Pont Scorff for the commemoration of the new American memorial to the 4th Armored Division!

**LIBERTÉ, ÉGALITÉ ET SOLIDARITÉ  
IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR FREEDOM IN FRANCE**

**PARIS POST 1 THANKS OUR MEMBERS FOR SUPPORTING LIBERATION CEREMONIES THROUGHOUT FRANCE!**

**LIBERATION DAYS IN FRANCE**



Paris Post 1 was present in several different areas in France. Check out a section highlighting each of these locations below:

- Sucie-en-Brie
- Troyes
- Issy-Les-Moulineaux
- Montélimar
- Drôme
- Draguignan

Special thanks to all of our Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons for their participation and dedication to helping Paris Post 1 with our ceremonial duties!



*August is a month with many liberation ceremonies throughout France. We are*

*honored to have the opportunity to remember significant events that happened in Montélimar and Draguignan during the Second World War.*

*A special thank you to Paris Post 1 Legionnaire David Bruce, David Bruce, a retired U.S. Navy Commander, for supporting his hometown in the south of France, Ville de Montélimar, and for representing Paris Post 1 during these special ceremonies and events.*



*East of Paris in Sucy-en-Brie, Paris Post 1 Chaplain Gary Nadolski and spouse Gigi support their hometown's Liberation Day ceremonies. We are*

*grateful for our Legionnaires and Auxiliary's assistance with our ceremonies, merci beaucoup!*



*Liberation Days in Paris were special this year thanks to visiting Post Commander Garry Murdock from Adams Post 43 in Decatur, Indiana. Garry photoed here with Benjamin Franklin VFW Post 605 Commander Mark Primmer for a ceremony in Issy-Les-Moulineaux on the south side of Paris. Check out more history on each of these unique locations and more photos of our Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons below!*

**DRAGUIGNAN RHONE  
AMERICAN CEMETERY**



The site of the Rhone American Cemetery and Memorial in France was selected because of its historic location along the route of the U.S. Seventh Army's drive up the Rhone Valley. It was established on August 19, 1944 after the Seventh Army's surprise landing in southern France.



Legionnaire David Bruce had the honor of representing Paris Post 1 at the Rhone American Cemetery commemorating the 78th Anniversary of the Liberation of Draguignan. M. Richard Strambio, Maire of Draguignan, gave a speech in French and English emphasizing the importance of remembering Operation Dragoon which was important to the overall campaign to liberate France.



U.S. Consul General Marseille Kristen Grauer gave a speech in English and French highlighting the fact that France is the oldest ally of the U.S. and that her grandfather was a U.S. Army surgeon who participated in follow-on operations in Marseille and the advance to the north.

### TROYES Department de l'Aube



Troyes was liberated in August 1944. The anniversary of the liberation of the city from Nazi domination took place between August 24 and 27. Special thanks to Paris Post 1 Auxiliary Veronique Guint whose father, Paris Post 1 Legionnaire John Guint, was in France during World War II.



John Guint was one of those Americans who joined the liberation forces at a very young age. From the age of 15, he joined the 6th Cavalry. On July 9, 1944, he landed at Utah Beach in Normandy. He participated in the reduction of the Falaise pocket, also known as the Corridor of Death, to then sweep over to Laval to join General Patton's Operation Cobra. John then went on to liberate Le Mans, Orléans, Sens, then Troyes. Without a real stop for rest, John continued to Verdun, Metz and Nancy within his regiment of scouts which dealt with intelligence and advanced reconnaissance. On December 24, 1944 his squadron took part in the Battle of the Bulge, John was awarded a presidential citation. After WW2, Major Guint became a machine gunner on a Ford M8 armored car where he then participated in the Korean War. John was an active member of Paris Post 1 during his life

in France. We will always remember and carry on his legacy!

### PARIS Issy-Les-Moulineaux



Liberation Day parade in Issy-Les-Moulineaux near Paris, porte drapeaux from many different associations gather to pay their respects to those who gave their lives liberating France.



Group photo with VFW and American Legion veterans and Auxiliary in Issy-Les-Moulineaux. Special thanks to Garry and Deb Murdock for visiting us from Indiana, USA!



Post Commander Garry Murdock (photoed on right) from Adams Post 43 in Decatur, Indiana. In addition to being Post Commander, Garry is also the Historian for the 4th District in the great State of Indiana. With VFW Post 605 Commander Mark Primmer, these American veterans salut during the

recent Liberation Day ceremony in Issy-Les-Moulineaux.



Merci beaucoup to Garry and Deb Murdock for visiting us in Paris for Liberation Days 2022. It was a pleasure to meet them both! During their visit to Paris, they joined Auxiliary Anna Marie Mattson for her Resistance Tour in Paris which includes a visit to the Mémorial des Martyrs de la Déportation.

### VILLE de MONTÉLIMAR



August 28, 2022 was an opportunity to remember two significant events that happened in Montélimar in 1944, during the Second World War. A first ceremony took place on the forecourt of the train station, in memory of the deportees who were forced to leave the city. Annie Pez, President of the Association Nationale des Anciens Combattants et Amis de la Résistance (ANACR), recalled the events that occurred during this day known as the "ghost train". The second ceremony was in memory of those who gave their lives so that Montélimar could regain its freedom. General Alain Roche, former President of the Society of Members of the Legion of Honor, read the message of Captain Monika Stoy of the 3rd US Infantry Division.



Montélimar Adjoint Maire Marie-Christine Magnanon Bellier saluting and congratulating the courage of these men who fought for the 3rd U.S. Infantry Division. Madame Magnanon Bellier is the 1st Delegated Assistant environment, sustainable development and local democracy.

### SUCY en Brie



Sucy-en-Brie, first established during the Neolithic Period, is between the River Marne and the edge of the Forêt de Notre Dame. Fort de Sucy was built following the Franco-Prussian War to defend Paris, and was partially blown up by the Nazis during World War II. Each year, at the monument by the church of St. Martin, four sites are visited where resistance fighters were tortured, shot, or hung by Nazi's during World War II.



Long time member of Paris Post 1, Gary Nadolski has lived with his life

partner Gigi (pictured below) in Sucy-en-Brie for many years. We are thankful for their participation in these ceremonies, and for representing Paris Post 1!



Throughout France in almost every city and village there are associations who honor and carry on the history from World War I and World War II. These citizens come together to support the veterans, auxiliary and government officials in their ceremonies honoring those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice during the Liberation of France.

### DRÔME RÉGION AUVERGNE-RHONE-ALPES

COMBATTANTS AMÉRICAINS			
DANIEL G.B.	Pfc	ALDRIDGE Woodrow W.	Pvt
DANIELS Earl	Sgt	ALLEN John E.	Pfc
DECKER John R.	Pvt	AFFEL Donald H.	S/Sgt
DERSEY Lyle	Pfc	ARENA Samuel	Pvt
DI FONZO Armondo P.	Pvt	ASHURST Alta Jr.	Pvt
DI SILVESTRI L.A.	Pfc	BAIL Bessie N.M.	Pvt
DICKY Stewart R.	Pfc	BAILEY Frank H.	Pvt
DINGMAN Paul G.	Pvt	BAILEY Jim R.	Pvt
DOBINSKI John	Sgt	BARRET	
DOMENICO Albert A.	Pvt	BARTOS John J.	S/Sgt
DOOLIN James T.	Pfc	BEAVER Homer R.	Pfc
DOSHEN Joe	Pfc	BENEDETTO John A.	Pvt
DREYER Arthur O.	Pfc	BENEDICT John D.	1 Lt
EHLKE Harold C.	1 Lt	BERMAN Theodore	Pvt
EISENBERG Bernard	2 Lt	BLISH Kenneth N.	Pvt
EKLIND Robert W.	Int/Lt	BOEHM Richard	Pvt
ELLER Wade R.	Pvt	BOOK William E. Jr.	Pvt
EVANS Earl F.	Pfc	BOURGUE Fernand	Pvt
FABI David P.	Sgt	BOWMAN Donald M.	T/Sgt
FARMER James M.	Pfc	BOYLES Grady J.	Pfc
FESTI Gilbert J.	Cpl	BRANTON James H.	Pfc
FELIX Enrique	Pfc	BREAUX Oscar G.	Pvt
FICK Richard D.	Pvt	BROWN Omer F.	Capt
FINCH Clayton D.	Pvt	BUTT Georges B.	Tec 5
FLOURNOY Howard S.	Pvt	BUTTRAM Warren B.	Pfc
FOTTENBURY Olin O.	2 Lt	CALMAN Joseph	Pvt
FRENCH Barrett L.	Pvt	CAMPION Edward P.	Pfc
FRESCHETTE Alfred	Pvt	CANTRELL Leroy	Pvt
FRY Jack L.	Cpl	CARBONE Rocco A.	Pvt
FUGATE Georges C.	Capt	CASSANITI Carmen A.	Pvt
GARCIA Jose E.L.	Pfc	CATES Frank H.	Tec 5
GILKESON Harvey L.	Pvt	CHOFY Michael	Pfc
GILSTRAP Herman O.	Pfc Md	CLARK William E.	Sgt
GRIFFITH Carl R.	Pvt	COLEMAN Seymour I.	Pvt
GRIFFITH Joseph F.	Int/Lt	COLLIS William E.	Pvt
GROGAN Earl V.	Pvt	COX Georges D.	Cpl
GUERIN John P.	2 Lt	CRAFT Teddie O.	Pfc
HAGAN Stephen J.	Pvt	CRAWFORD G. W.	Pfc
HALLBERG Raymond L.	Cpl	CRONIN Joseph	Int/Lt
HALL Howard	Sgt	CROOK Lyle W.	Int/Lt
HALL Leonard E.	Cpl	CROWLEY Joseph D.	Pvt Md
HANNE Walter J.	Pfc	CUMBO Walter R.	Cpl
HANSBURY Francis J.	S/Sgt	CUNNINGHAM Joe R.J.	Pvt
HANSON John D.	2 Lt	CURRAN Virgil E.	Pfc
HAREN Georges S.	Pfc	CUSHING William P.	Pfc

In memory of the 1,490 heroes killed in the Drôme department during World War II including resistance fighters, Drôme residents who were deported and never returned, downed Allied aviators, and American soldiers during the liberation battles from 20-30 August 1944. Listed above are some of

the 221 Americans who gave their lives during this time period in the Drôme.



The 1er Régiment de Spahis (based in Valence, France) provided the color guard, honor guard and band for this years ceremony. The 1st Spahi Regiment is an armored regiment of the modern French Army, previously called the 1st Moroccan Spahi Regiment (French: 1er Régiment de Spahis Marocains). The regiment was established in 1914, they served in the First World War, and in the Second World War as part of the Forces Françaises Libres (Free French Forces).



Special thanks to Legionnaire David Bruce for representing Paris Post 1 in many of the ceremonies in the south of France this year! We are lucky to have an American veteran helping us grow the presence of the American community at ceremonies in France. Please consider joining us at one of our future ceremonies, and please support Paris Post 1 by donating to our wreath fund for ceremonies.

### The community of Paris remembers the victims of 9/11 with a ceremony at the Survivor Tree



Maire Francis Szpiner spoke about the tragedies of 9/11, and how it not only shocked the world, but it had a deep effect on the citizens of France. We are very thankful for Maire Szpiner and Adjoint Maire Katherine de Meaux for hosting the Patriot Day ceremony.

A very special thank you to Alain-Jacky Belissa, Président of the Comité d'Entente des Anciens Combattants du 16ème Arrondissement in Paris. Alain was instrumental in the first 9/11 ceremony at the Place des États-Unis (Place of the United States), and also for the planting of the Survivor Tree decades ago. We thank him for his life long dedication to our veterans and community.



Musicians and officials from the government of France and Paris attended the ceremony. The bugler and drummer dressed in white uniforms played during the ceremony.



Veterans from American Legion Paris Post 1 and VFW Benjamin Franklin Post 605 with the Girl Scouts, photographed from left to right:- Paris Post 1 Chaplain Gary Nadolski,- Morgan Lewden from Girl Scout Troop 22 in Paris- Paris Post 1 Finance Officer Patrick Morrissey



Chaplain Gary Nadolski and Finance Officer Patrick Morrissey holding the Paris Post 1 wreath with Nicky Vaught-Gonichon.



Nicky Vaught-Gonichon, pictured above, visited the 9/11 Patriots Day ceremony from Port Orchard, Washington in the USA with her husband Legionnaire Vince Vaught. Nicky was a volunteer at Pershing Hall during the 1980-90's when Paris Post 1 had their headquarters in the American Legion Building in Paris.



Veterans seeing each other after a long summer, Colonel Dan Gottrich, U.S. Air Force Exchange Officer with the French Air & Space Force Strategy Division, and Legionnaire Bryan Schell of Paris Post 1. We thank Colonel Gottrich for supporting American veterans in France, and for joining us at the 9/11 Patriots Day

ceremony where he gave a very memorable speech.

### UNKNOWN SOLDIER: ANNUAL CEREMONIES THIS OCTOBER

**TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER** **PARIS POST 1 AMERICAN LEGION**

**IN HONOR OF OUR UNKNOWN SOLDIERS**

Join the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and Paris Post 1 in honoring those Unknown Soldiers who still remain buried in France. In 1921, when the Unknown Soldier was chosen for Arlington National Cemetery, there were three Unknown Soldiers who were not chosen. There are also other Unknown Soldiers who are buried in France from World War I and World War II.

**REMEMBRANCE DAYS:**

- October 24 @ Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery
- October 24 @ Châlons-en-Champagne
- October 25 @ Le Havre

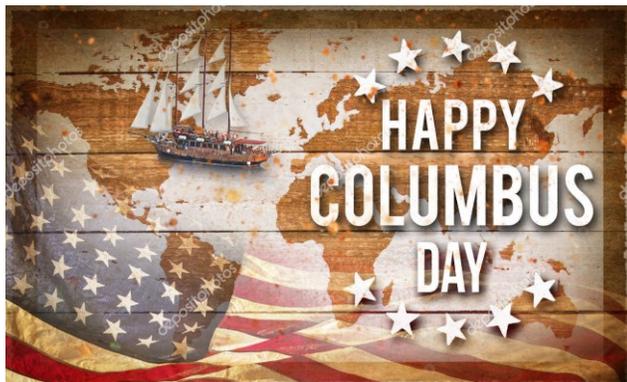
Honor these Unknown Soldiers, and please contact [news@parispost1.fr](mailto:news@parispost1.fr) for ceremony details or for submitting your own photos for commemorating your dedication for this year. All photos will be sent to the Society of the Tomb Guard for historic preservation and sharing with our community.

**NEVER FORGET**

Thank you for supporting our American abroad and community in France! [www.parispost1.fr](http://www.parispost1.fr) [news@parispost1.fr](mailto:news@parispost1.fr)

## FLANDERS FIELDS POST BE02 WEST FLANDERS, BELGIUM

Members of Venturing Crew 802 (chartered by Flanders Field Post BE02) laying a ceremonial wreath at the Menin Gate during Last Post ceremony in Ypres Belgium. Crew 802 engaged in a 50-miler hike across the WWI Ieper Salient



Oct 10, 2022



## RILEY L. PITTS POST GR07

Training Support Center Wiesbaden – Challenge Coins



Photo by Mr. Volker Ramspott, Training Support Activity Europe

WIESBADEN, GERMANY – Riley L. Pitts Post No. GR07 recently awarded two American Legion “Challenge Coins” for Training Support Center Wiesbaden services rendered to the Post during 2022. Todd Johnson, Post Commander, shared the history behind the “Challenge Coin” and its relevance within the military.

The challenge coin history is convoluted. The rules vary from unit to unit, but two are the most common. The first, a soldier challenges everyone to see their coin, and the one without a challenge coin must buy a round of drinks. The second, and the most frequently used today, is where a soldier pulls a challenge coin and others present theirs. The coin with the lowest ‘associated rank’ must buy that round of drinks.

The 7th Training Command’s Training Support Center Wiesbaden provides home-station, expeditionary, rotational, and contingency training support to the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden area of responsibility.

**DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER EDITOR...DAVID N. GREUX**

REMINDER...all newsletter articles will be turned in by the 28<sup>th</sup> of the month. I would prefer it if you send it in WORD format. If you have to, PDF will also do.

[Davidg1959@t-online.de](mailto:Davidg1959@t-online.de)





**DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN / AMERICANISM COMMITTEE** *Joseph Schram*



## **Americans Remembered**

There are 1000s of American veterans buried throughout Europe. Numerous American cemeteries (ABMC) can be found in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and England. Thousands of Americans who fought for the British commonwealth are now laying in graves in the Commonwealth War Grave cemeteries. Hundreds more, their names are found inscribed on monuments for they were never recovered.

Throughout the cemeteries in Europe, we can find American Legion members who have traveled to Post Everlasting. Many forgotten. It is the duty of the Post Historians and leadership to ensure that these great Americans are remembered.

## **Post Histories**

The American Legion strongly encourages the preparation of post histories. Such information on the post's activities will be of considerable value in years to come.

National Headquarters is aware that a professional historian does not fill the position of historian in most posts. This need not prevent a proper recording of the post's activities. The scope of the information included is the main consideration, keeping in mind, however, comprehensiveness, readability and arrangement, so as to make the history both an interesting account of the post and a reference source.

At the start of the new post year, the historian begin making a permanent record of the organization for the year ahead, from the installation of officers up to and including the installation of next year's officers. To help gather specific details concerning the post, ask the post adjutant for a copy of the most recent Consolidated Post Report. The statistical summary will indicate the type and amount of activity that can help you put together as complete a picture as

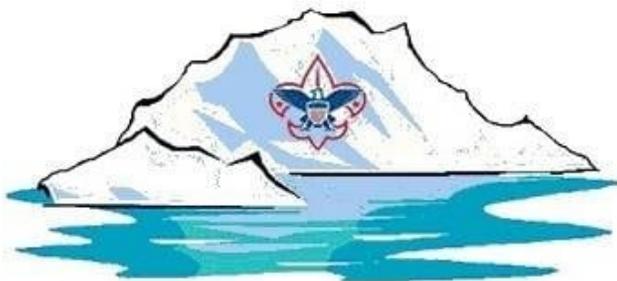
possible. Make plans to compile a complete post history since its founding, but focus, for the moment, on a one-year history. Then go back to the files and gradually write up the back story.

The national historian will conduct an annual one-year narrative history and yearbook (pictorial) history contest at the post level. These ongoing national contests will give stability and continuity to the recording of post events for future generations of Legionnaires. The department historian will notify posts of any national contest changes that may occur.

Included in this guide are comprehensive outlines to compile a one-year narrative history or yearbook with their respective judging standards for competition in the national contests. To be eligible for the national contests, an entry in either category must be a first-place winner in the department's contest and must be certified as such by the department historian and forwarded to the national historian to arrive in Indianapolis by Sept 2023

(extract from 2022 Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies)

# FRIENDS OF SCOUTING



What you see above the water is only about 20% of what Scouting provides to our members

## Tip of the Iceberg

Most people are aware of these costs of Scouting

Books, Badges, Awards,  
Event Registration fees,  
Weekend Camping,  
Summer Camp, Camping Gear,  
Boys' Life, Uniforms, Day Camp,  
National Registration Fee

But most are not aware of these very real costs that help make that all possible:

### Insurance

- Health & Medical
- Property
- Liability

### Camp Maintenance

- Roads
- Permits
- Plumbing & Heating
- Utilities

### Field Professional Staff

- Transportation
- Community Relations
- Volunteer Training and Support
- Organizing New Scouting Units
- Year-Round Planning
- Organizing Activities and Events
- Jamborees & High Adventure
- Membership Development
- National Support and Relationships with Other Councils

### Service Centers

- Knowledgeable Staff
- Inventory of: Literature, Insignia, Forms, Certificates, Program Support, Training Materials, etc.
- Advancement & Training Records
- Unit History Files
- Eagle Award Kits & Processing
- Roundtable Handouts
- Trading Post (The Scout Store)
- Membership Applications and Processing
- Website
- Charter Renewal
- Web-Based Program Licenses
- Recruiting Flyers, Posters & Yard Signs
- Training Awards

### Basic Building Expenses

- Electricity
- Phone
- Equipment
- Paper, etc.

# BSA Transatlantic Council Friends of Scouting Campaign Challenge

Each American Legion Post is challenged to donate a designated donation determined by its membership. Additional donations from the membership then add up a total of \$1,000



ARE YOU UP FOR THE  
CHALLENGE?

## The American Legion Oratorical Scholarship Program



AMERICAN  
LEGION



- \$203,500 in scholarships awarded each year
- High school students under age 20 are eligible (Freshman to Seniors)
- Speak on any U.S. Constitution subject
- Competition begins at the Post level
- For more information  
[Fr.oratorical.contets@gmail.com](mailto:Fr.oratorical.contets@gmail.com)



BEST  
OF THE  
BEST

## Scouting Square Knot Award



This award is designed to recognize American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion members who are actively involved in the Scouting program. This award is not meant to be a selective or limited award, but one that is available to any American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion member who completes the requirements for the award. The award is meant to recognize dedication and work required by an American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion member to assist in furthering the Scouting program in The American Legion.



# AMERICAN LEGION LIBERTY WALK 2022

**Saturday October 15th, 2022**

Commemorate the " Battle of the Vierstraat Ridge"  
by the 27th & 30th US Divisions Aug/Sep 1918.

Place to be: Kemmel Market (Dries)

Start walk: 08.30-13.00

7, 12 or 18 km

Expo Kemmel Dries: 09.00-17.00

FOOD AND DRINKS AVAILABLE



**FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[americanlegionlibertywalk@gmail.com](mailto:americanlegionlibertywalk@gmail.com)**

The organization is not responsible for any accidents, damage or theft.  
Responsible publisher: Joseph Schram, American Legion Flanders Field Post BE02



## Halloween Pumpkin carving Feast from John Wayne Post GR79

We would like to invite you to our Halloween Feast.

When: Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup> 2022

Time: 2pm

Where: Legion Garden, Gartenfreunde Klingenberg, Im Bruch, 74081 Klingenberg



Program:

- Pumpkin carving.
- Pumpkin competition for Kids. The best-carved Pumpkin will win a Price.
- Costume competition for Kids. The best Halloween costume will win a Price.

We also be serving the Kids Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, and a Soft Drink for free.

Pumpkins will be provided by us. Every Kid will get a Halloween Candy Bag.

Please let us know by Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> with how many kids you will be joining us. Thank you.

Commander Charlie Brown / E-Mail: [vcalbrown50@gmail.com](mailto:vcalbrown50@gmail.com) / Mobil: 01701888034



*GR79 members at post-meeting*



*GR79 members with wives and guest*



*GR79 awards 20-25-30-35 year member of the American Legion*

## Post 1982 Supports Kids Fishing Day

The USAG Ansbach Outdoor Recreation section conducted this year's second Kids Fishing Day on Soldiers Lake in Katterbach on Saturday, 10 September 2022.

Legion Post 1982, in conjunction with VFW Posts 9342 and 10708, prepared and served a hot lunch for the kids and parents after a morning of fishing. The menu included hamburgers, cheeseburgers, and hot dogs with chips and soft drinks, all cooked on the grill and served there on the lake.

After the meal, all of the "hard-core" young fishermen and -women who participated received a medal for their participation. And I say "hard-core" because it rained most of the morning, but the kids kept fishing. Outdoor Recreation had erected several pavilions along the side of the lake, but it is very difficult to cast under the pavilion. So, the 33 kids and most of the 24 parents were out in the rain most of the morning.

Department of France National Committee Member James Settles and his wife also attended this event. Many thanks to them for coming out in the rain to be with us.

Even though it was a rainy Saturday, everyone seemed to have a good time, and several of the kids caught fish. And everyone enjoyed the meal, including the 15 or so Legion members who came out to grill and serve food to make this event a success.



**BEIRUT  
REMEMBRANCE  
DAY**

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*October 23*



Oct 25, 2022



Grande Chef de Gare 2023MY...*David Garcia*



La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux (The Society of Forty Men and Eight Horses) is an independent, by invitation, honor society of American veterans, more commonly known as "The Forty & Eight".

The Forty & Eight is committed to charitable and patriotic aims. Our purpose is to uphold and defend the United States Constitution of the United States, to promote the well-being of veterans, their widows, widowers, and orphans, and to actively participate in selected charitable endeavors, which include among others, programs that promote child welfare and nurses training.

Membership is by invitation, and open only to honorably discharged veterans and honorably serving members of the United States Armed Forces.

**GRAND CHEMINOT: Saturday 08 October 2022**  
 Zum Reegen , Im Riedweg 52, 74078 Heilbronn, Germany  
 Registration: 11:00-12:00 / Cheminot: 12:00

