

The American Legion

Department of France



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Vice Commander at Large

My Fellow Legionnaires,

On the 9 February 2013, I attended Rhein Neckar Post GR03's, Post level Oratorical Contest in Heidelberg. Nathaniel Dicavage, from Heidelberg High School will represent Post GR03, in the Department Oratorical finals. On 16 February, I attended the Department Oratorical Contest in Stuttgart. Contestants were Caleb Winningham, from Stuttgart High School, and Nathaniel Dicavage, from Heidelberg High School. Both contestants were very well prepared and presented their topics in a very professional manner. Caleb Winningham won the competition and will represent the Department of France at the National level. See attached pictures of the event.

Hopefully by now, if your Post supports the Boy's Scouts, you have submitted your packet for Eagle Scout of the Year to the Department Boy's Scout Director, Comrade David Sears. Now is the time to start working on the Boy's State program. For those of you who do not know, the Department of Maryland has been very generous to the Department over the years, by allowing our

participants in the program to join their program. If you have any questions or need guidance please contact the Boy's State Director, Comrade Chris O'Neal.

NECMan Comrade John Miller attended the Washington Conference; hopefully he brought back loads of information on the National Commander's visit to the Department in May. I am also sure he received plenty of information on the 100th anniversary of The American Legion. I am sure both of these items will be hot topics at the upcoming Department 3rd DEC.

Speaking of the 3rd DEC, let's not forget it's on 23 March, in Ansbach, hosted by David Chavez Post GR1982. I have been assured by the Post Commander, Johnnie Walker, that it will be well planned and executed. It also happens to be Commander Walker's birthday. We have plenty of business to take care of, so let's make sure we are all present and ready to conduct business. If you plan on arriving a day early or staying the night after the 3rd DEC, the hotel Gasthof zur Windmühle, is not

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Alt NECMan

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From the Editor

Please send all input for the Department Newsletter to my e-mail address **by the 26th of the month.** Please use Word document format. Constructive suggestions to improve the Newsletter are also welcome.

Thank You.

John D. Fleming
Editor
E-Mail:
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far from the 1982 Post Home and prices are reasonable. A single is € 60 a day and a double room is € 90 a day with complete breakfast.

On 2 February 2013, Kaiserslautern Post GR01 conducted their first membership drive at the Kaiserslautern Military Community Center (KMCC) on Ramstein. Kaiserslautern family members were generous in donations towards Boys State and other Legion community based programs. The post also renewed several absent members and welcomed four new members to the American Legion roles. See attached pictures.

Members of Stuttgart Post GR06 held a going away event for one of its members, Comrade Will Dunham. I thought this was a very special way to say thanks for your support to The American Legion, and Post GR06, and a very good way to wish him the best of luck in the future. See attached picture.

If you need assistance please contact your respective Vice Commander, or feel free to contact me anytime. In closing, please keep those in harm's way and their

families in your thoughts and prayers.

**James Settle, GR42
Vice Commander At Large**

**Phone: 07138-67359
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**Vice Commander
Stephen Ward**

**Greetings
Commanders and
Legionnaires,**

It was an honor to meet two talented high school students, Caleb Winningham, Patch High School, Stuttgart, and Nathaniel Discavage, Heidelberg High School, Heidelberg, who participated in the Department of France Oratorical Contest, 16 February 2013, held at the Patch Community Club, Patch Barracks, Stuttgart. Post GR06 Commander and Members organized a superb event. Also, thanks to our VCAL, James Settle for providing the information about the Department of France Oratorical results and participation from the Department, Posts, SAL, and Auxiliary. Posts should start planning for next year's Oratorical Contest,

working with School Advisory Committees, Principals, and Counselors.

I stress the importance of membership in the Posts, Department, and the National Organization. Membership is our Voice on Capitol Hill. Rhein Main Post GR05 is at 104%, 67 members; Riley Leroy Pitts Post GR07 is at 106%, 64 members; Thomas W. Barnett GR14 is at 101%, 57 members; Father Francis Duffy Post IR02 is at 96.72%, 59 members; Commodore John Barry Post IR03 is at 92.59%, 25 members; and John F. Kennedy Post IR63 is at 36.36%, 20 members. I don't have the updated membership stats. I encourage Posts to transmit each month to the Department Membership Chairman Joe Brown.

The next Leroy Riley Pitts Post GR07 Post meeting is 5 March 13. I conducted the Post Installation of newly elected Post Officers at TWB Post 14, Buedingen, at Gastatte Schroth, Buedingen Orleshausen, 13 February 13. Met with Post Member CSM Davenport, USAREUR Command Sergeant Major, and two other NCO's with him. The main dis-

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discussion was the restructuring of the U.S. Armed Forces in Europe with the downsizing, reduction of active duty personnel in Europe and Army wide, cutting of the Defense budget, possible the current retirement system, and retiree benefits. The next TWB Post 14 meeting is 13 March 13.

Post IR02 plans to have their Saint Patrick Parade in the city of Killarney, Ireland, 17 March 2013. For information of the event, please contact the Post Adjutant Glen Foy. His email address: fgfoy@hotmail.com. The Irish Posts website: www.americanlegion-ireland.com

Doug Haggan, FODPAL Secretary, is asking the Department and Posts to submit pictures and small articles to the FODPAL website: <http://www.legion.org>. Click FODPAL site listed below the Legion Homepage. FODPAL, Foreign and Outlying Departments and Posts of The American Legion, is asking for traveling tips in Germany and other Countries, special programs and events from the Department and Post, and face book sites. The Department of France held the Department Oratorical contest and the General Patton statue located at the primary school (General Patton) of Dysina, Czech Republic, is posted on the FODPAL website. Membership drives and the Department of France donation to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center Fisher House's are posted

on the FODPAL face book site.

John Wayne Post GR79 plans to host the upcoming Department of France Convention, 13 – 16 June 13, at, Hotel Restaurant Café Schonblick, Kretschmerstrasse 1, 71543 Wustenrot. Information for the convention package was sent to all Posts. The POC is: Joe Brown, Email: joedan.pascall@gmail.com. Handy: 0170-1888034. It's important for the delegates from the Posts to attend the Department of France Convention to voice their opinions, selection of Department Officers, and to discuss important issues affecting the Posts, Department, and the Organization. Each Post has the opportunity to submit Resolutions to the Department. Change needs to be made for the betterment of the Posts, Department, and the Organization.

The VFW Department of Europe Convention is held at the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort, 14 – 16 June 2013, in Garmisch, Germany. If you like to attend, please contact the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort either by email: Vacation@edelweisslodgeandresort.com or telephone: +49- 8821-9440. Group Reservation Code: 1306VFWANN. POC: Department Jr. Vice Commander Leo Robbins email: rob-bins_lm1@hotmail.com

Hope to see you at the 3rd DEC, 23 March 13, 1300, at the GR1982 Post Home, Katterbach Army Airfield/Military Dining Facility. Must have passports to sign in unless you have CAC

card. Contact Post Commander Walker, 0172-6979233, or 1st Vice Commander Buchanan, 0160-6678508. I will be staying at the Hotel Gasthof zur Windmühle, Rummelsbergerstr. 1, 91522 Ansbach. Telephone: 0981-15088 or 0981-972000, if you would like to have dinner there or spend the night.

Commanders and Fellow Legionnaires, many thanks for what you do for your Posts and the communities you serve.

Stephen A. Ward, GR01
Vice Commander
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Adjutant

Comrades,

It's that time again. The 3rd DEC is on 23 March, in Ansbach. Commanders, please do not forget to have your Delegates letter with you. Committee Chairmen, please bring your reports with you. I will be sending out the Consolidated Report Form through e-mail so everyone can do their reports and send them to me.

Maxwell Rice, GR42
Adjutant
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Finance Officer

The 3rd DEC is fast approaching. For those officers having a budget, please send me your Receipts ASAP. I need this to correctly reflect the expenses on the 3rd DEC finance report.

Gary Miller, GR06

Finance Officer

Phone: 0711-6748370

E-Mail:

gary.d.miller2.ctr@mail.mil

Historian

I hope that everyone has had a chance to read the Legion Magazine March Edition, and the article on Ireland. The Article was a brainchild of Liam Kane, who had been telling me for many years that he wanted the Legion World to know that we were alive and functioning in the Emerald Isle. Many thanks to Jeff Stoffer at National, Glen Foy, Brendan O' Leary, Ron Howko, Michael Noone, Mark Cooney, and Liam Kane, all Legion Members, and Ollie O' Connor and Michael Haslam of O.N.E, the Organization of Irish Veterans, for their help.

The photos and reports from Department Posts are slow in arriving to me at tommy-c76@gmail.com. Please, let's have at least one picture from an event, plus names and addresses of your Post Commander, Adjutant and Historian. This information will become a permanent record of the Department of France.

I look forward to meeting you at the 3rd DEC, and you can bring information to me then.

Michael Coyne, IR63

Historian

Phone: +353-162-90870

E-Mail:

Sons of the American Legion

My fellow Comrades

Congratulations are once again in order for the Squadrons of the Detachment of France. We have reached 252 renewed / new members and are at a standing at National of 132.632%. Great Job this year in the Membership arena.

I still continue receiving Certificates from National on the great job we are doing this year in Membership. This is not because of me, but because of the outstanding work you have done in support of the Detachment. Once again thanks for a job well done.

A reminder to all that the 3rd DEC will be conducted on 2 March 2013, in Stuttgart. The 3rd DEC is being hosted by Squadron GR06, and I am sure we will all have a great time. I would really like to see a full house of SAL Members participating in this DEC.

The SAL Convention, 1 June 2013, is also slowly approaching us. This would be a great time

to start thinking about what position you might want to hold in the Detachment of France. This year the positions for NECMan/Alt NECMan must be voted on. The SAL Convention will be held in Heilbronn this year. The place and time will be announced during the 3rd DEC, and a call will be sent out shortly after that. I am certain that the 4th DEC, Convention and 1st DEC will start very early this year, most likely around 11:00 AM, so plan for an early day.

In closing, please keep those in harm's way and their families not only in your thoughts, but your prayers also.

**Yours in Comradeship
Service to God and Country
Joshua J. Settle**

Detachment Commander

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JFK Post IR63

Sorry to have missed the Oratorical Contest. After much debate whether to travel or not due to the doubt over the number of Contestants, I arrived at Dublin Airport on Saturday morning to be told that my flight was delayed by 2 hours due to weather in Germany. This became longer and I decided to go home, as I would have arrived in Stuttgart at 1500 hours at the earliest.

At home here in Ireland, all three

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Posts are looking forward to marching in Killarney on Saint Patrick's Day, when we will display our Legion Colors with pride. We will miss Mike Sullivan, IR02, who is in Hospital. We wish him well. Our new Adjutant in IR63 will make his debut. Due to a number of deaths and members going back to the USA, our numbers are down, but we are trying hard to get new members. We hope that some people will see the March edition of the Legion Magazine and join our Irish Posts. I am delighted with the three Irish Posts being featured, and want to say a big thank you to all who made it possible. We are part of the Gathering in Ireland this year, encouraging people from all over the world to visit us with lots of activities, including a visit from US President Obama. Pity we missed out on holding our Department Convention here.

Looking forward to seeing a Quorum at the 3rd DEC in March.

Liam Kane
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Immediate Past Commander

My fellow Legionaries

I attended the Department Oratorical Contest on 16 February 2013, in Stuttgart. We only had two contestants this year from GR03 and GR06. Nathaniel Discavage represented Post GR03; and Caleb Winningham represented Post GR06. Caleb Winning won the Department Oratorical and will represent the Department at Nationals Oratorical Contest. This year Post GR03 and Post GR79 worked together on the Oratorical contestant, to ensure a contestant was available, a first in the Department of France. Hopefully, next year we will have more support for the Department Oratorical Contest.

I was in Augsburg the first part of February, to meet with members of GR13. While there I was able to recruit three new members for GR13. I also recruited two new members for GR79. Membership right now is doing ok, however we still have Post that have only transmitted once, and still have officers that have not renewed for 2013.

John Wayne Post GR79 conducted its General Membership Meeting on 23 February. We had a really good turn out for this meeting. We discussed the

upcoming 3rd DEC, which will be held in Ansbach on 23 March 2013. We have plenty of business to deal with at the 3rd DEC, so hopefully we will have a quorum, so that we can move ahead in this Membership year.

In closing, please keep those in harm's way and their families, not only in your thoughts, but in your prayers also.

Joe D. Brown
Department IPC/
Membership Chairman
Commander, John Wayne
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Membership

National Membership reports for TAL and SAL are attached at page 8 and 10.

Medal of Honor John King

Michael Coyne, Department of France Historian, Stephen A. Ward, Department of France Vice Commander, and Liam Kane, Past NEC/ Past Department Commander/Post Commander John F. Kennedy Post IR63, visited the statue of John King at Ballinrobe, Ireland. Twice awarded the U.S. Medal of Honor for bravery, John King was born in the village of Currabee near Ballinrobe, Ireland. He served on the USS Vicksburg during the Philippine-American War. John King received his first Medal of Honor, May 1901, for extraordinary heroism in line of his professionalism at the time of the accident in the boilers. John King received the second Medal of Honor during a boiler explosion on the USS Salem, September 1909. Ann Reid, whose father was King's nephew, remarked, "My dad used to talk about him all the time. On his visits to Ballinrobe, Ireland, from America, he would throw sweets and coins to the children of the town of Ballinrobe." John King was buried in Calvary Cemetery, Hot Springs, Arkansas.



Department Photos



Department of
France Oratorical
Contest



Contestants Caleb Winningham, Stuttgart High School, and Nathaniel Dicavage, Heidelberg High School.



GR06 held a going away event for Comrade Will Dunham.



GR01
Membership
Drive



2013 TAL Weekly Membership Report as of: March 7, 2013

* All-Time-High's

	Department	Department Year-End Goal	2013 Actual Mbsp.	% of Goal	Needed To Meet 90% Target 3/13/2013	Last Transmittal	Date Received
1	TENNESSEE	23,228	22,843	98.343%	-1,938	0025	3/4/13
2	DELAWARE	10,846	10,307	95.030%	-546	0023	3/6/13
3	NORTH CAROLINA	38,104	36,048	94.604%	-1,755	0022	3/4/13
4	COLORADO	20,055	18,849	93.987%	-800	0033	3/7/13
5	FLORIDA	107,775	101,181	93.882%	-4,184	0031	2/25/13
6	MINNESOTA	86,285	80,995	93.869%	-3,339	0040	3/4/13
7	GEORGIA	40,707	38,169	93.765%	-1,533	0018	3/7/13
8	IOWA	53,942	50,532	93.678%	-1,985	0015	2/13/13
9	WISCONSIN	59,760	55,887	93.519%	-2,103	0034	3/4/13
10	VIRGINIA	45,243	42,219	93.316%	-1,501	0032	3/5/13
11	RHODE ISLAND	5,311	4,953	93.259%	-174	0016	2/26/13
12	UTAH	7,078	6,583	93.006%	-213	0017	2/26/13
13	KANSAS	34,559	32,124	92.954%	-1,021	0019	3/4/13
14	TEXAS	62,812	58,377	92.939%	-1,847	0019	3/6/13
15	MISSOURI	43,621	40,443	92.715%	-1,185	0037	3/4/13
16	ARIZONA	39,325	36,451	92.692%	-1,059	0013	2/27/13
17	NEVADA	7,579	7,007	92.453%	-186	0018	2/26/13
18	NEW MEXICO	10,980	10,144	92.386%	-262	0033	3/4/13
19	MAINE	21,200	19,568	92.302%	-488	0036	3/6/13
20	MASSACHUSETTS	41,038	37,847	92.224%	-913	0036	3/4/13
21	MARYLAND	55,952	51,597	92.217%	-1,241	0042	2/28/13
22	NEBRASKA	37,232	34,320	92.179%	-812	0031	3/7/13
23	ARKANSAS	13,592	12,528	92.172%	-296	0019	2/27/13
24	IDAHO	9,070	8,342	91.974%	-179	0030	3/4/13
25	SOUTH DAKOTA	21,516	19,740	91.746%	-376	0027	3/4/13
26	WASHINGTON	27,402	25,105	91.617%	-444	0036	3/7/13
27	PENNSYLVANIA	175,698	160,964	91.614%	-2,836	0171	3/5/13
28	MICHIGAN	69,808	63,941	91.596%	-1,114	0022	2/8/13
29	OKLAHOMA	17,962	16,452	91.593%	-287	0018	3/7/13
30	NORTH DAKOTA	16,553	15,121	91.349%	-224	0023	2/13/13
31	CALIFORNIA	94,653	86,424	91.306%	-1,237	0046	3/1/13
32	OHIO	105,550	96,279	91.216%	-1,284	0023	2/13/13
33	OREGON	18,515	16,883	91.186%	-220	0030	2/27/13
34	NEW HAMPSHIRE	18,450	16,801	91.062%	-196	0040	2/26/13
35	ILLINOIS	96,072	87,422	90.996%	-958	0148	3/1/13
36	SOUTH CAROLINA	20,727	18,848	90.935%	-194	0017	3/4/13
37	NEW JERSEY	51,143	46,430	90.785%	-402	0017	3/5/13
38	ALASKA	5,977	5,420	90.681%	-41	0026	3/6/13
39	VERMONT	13,909	12,589	90.510%	-71	0035	3/6/13
40	INDIANA	89,500	80,952	90.449%	-402	0035	3/1/13
41	LOUISIANA	22,844	20,660	90.440%	-101	0034	2/22/13
42	KENTUCKY	23,580	21,314	90.390%	-92	0013	3/1/13
43	NEW YORK	124,258	112,213	90.306%	-381	0039	2/26/13
44	CONNECTICUT	20,428	18,429	90.214%	-44	0017	2/13/13
45	MONTANA	11,603	10,416	89.770%	26	0042	3/4/13
46	WEST VIRGINIA	18,967	16,934	89.281%	136	0029	2/20/13
47	MISSISSIPPI	16,123	14,368	89.115%	142	0026	3/6/13
48	WYOMING	6,667	5,940	89.096%	60	0028	3/4/13
49	FRANCE	3,013	2,683	89.047%	28	0009	3/5/13
50	DIST OF COL	1,861	1,652	88.769%	22	0018	3/4/13
51	PHILIPPINES	789	693	87.833%	17	0007	2/13/13
52	HAWAII	2,290	1,971	86.070%	90	0007	3/2/13
53	ALABAMA	18,767	16,061	85.581%	829	0021	2/13/13
54	PUERTO RICO	5,048	4,225	83.697%	318	0034	2/26/13
55	MEXICO	1,089	792	72.727%	188	0016	2/26/13
	Grand Totals	1,996,056	1,835,036	91.933%	-38,608		

2013 - Regional Breakdown

Central Region - NVC David R. Hall (WV)			
Department	Goal	Total	Percent
WISCONSIN	59,760	55,887	93.519%
VIRGINIA	45,243	42,219	93.316%
MICHIGAN	69,808	63,941	91.596%
ILLINOIS	96,072	87,422	90.996%
INDIANA	89,500	80,952	90.449%
KENTUCKY	23,580	21,314	90.390%
WEST VIRGINIA	18,967	16,934	89.281%
Totals	402,930	368,669	91.497%

Midwest Region - NVC Glenn A. Hickman (OH)			
Department	Goal	Total	Percent
MINNESOTA	86,285	80,995	93.869%
IOWA	53,942	50,532	93.678%
KANSAS	34,559	32,124	92.954%
MISSOURI	43,621	40,443	92.715%
NEBRASKA	37,232	34,320	92.179%
SOUTH DAKOTA	21,516	19,740	91.746%
NORTH DAKOTA	16,553	15,121	91.349%
OHIO	105,550	96,279	91.216%
Totals	399,258	369,554	92.560%

Western Region - NVC Jeanette Rae (NV)			
Department	Goal	Total	Percent
COLORADO	20,055	18,849	93.987%
UTAH	7,078	6,583	93.006%
ARIZONA	39,325	36,451	92.692%
NEVADA	7,579	7,007	92.453%
NEW MEXICO	10,980	10,144	92.386%
IDAHO	9,070	8,342	91.974%
WASHINGTON	27,402	25,105	91.617%
CALIFORNIA	94,653	86,424	91.306%
OREGON	18,515	16,883	91.186%
ALASKA	5,977	5,420	90.681%
MONTANA	11,603	10,416	89.770%
WYOMING	6,667	5,940	89.096%
PHILIPPINES	789	693	87.833%
HAWAII	2,290	1,971	86.070%
MEXICO	1,089	792	72.727%
Totals	263,072	241,020	91.618%

Southeast Region - NVC James H. Holland (SC)			
Department	Goal	Total	Percent
TENNESSEE	23,228	22,843	98.343%
NORTH CAROLINA	38,104	36,048	94.604%
FLORIDA	107,775	101,181	93.882%
GEORGIA	40,707	38,169	93.765%
TEXAS	62,812	58,377	92.939%
ARKANSAS	13,592	12,528	92.172%
OKLAHOMA	17,962	16,452	91.593%
SOUTH CAROLINA	20,727	18,848	90.935%
LOUISIANA	22,844	20,660	90.440%
MISSISSIPPI	16,123	14,368	89.115%
ALABAMA	18,767	16,061	85.581%
PUERTO RICO	5,048	4,225	83.697%
Totals	387,689	359,760	92.796%

Northeast Region - NVC John E. Neylon (NH)			
Department	Goal	Total	Percent
DELAWARE	10,846	10,307	95.030%
RHODE ISLAND	5,311	4,953	93.259%
MAINE	21,200	19,568	92.302%
MASSACHUSETTS	41,038	37,847	92.224%
MARYLAND	55,952	51,597	92.217%
PENNSYLVANIA	175,698	160,964	91.614%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	18,450	16,801	91.062%
NEW JERSEY	51,143	46,430	90.785%
VERMONT	13,909	12,589	90.510%
NEW YORK	124,258	112,213	90.306%
CONNECTICUT	20,428	18,429	90.214%
FRANCE	3,013	2,683	89.047%
DIST OF COL	1,861	1,652	88.769%
Totals	543,107	496,033	91.332%

Membership Comparison		
2013 Membership as of:	3/7/2013	1,835,036
<small>(2013 total does not include DMS)</small>		
2012 Membership as of:	3/6/2012	1,871,022
<small>(2012 total does not include DMS)</small>		
Difference:		(35,986)

2013 SAL Membership Report - March 5, 2013

*All Time High	2013 Mbsp.		2013 Membership			
#	Detachment	Needed for Goal	3/13/2013 80% Target	Needed for 80% Target	3/5/2013 Total	Pct of Goal
1	FRANCE	190	152	-100	252	132.632
2	PHILIPPINES	41	32	-16	48	117.073
3	SOUTH DAKOTA	491	392	-50	442	90.020
4	KANSAS	6,237	4,989	-609	5,598	89.755
5	FLORIDA	14,604	11,683	-1,124	12,807	87.695
6	COLORADO	2,691	2,152	-167	2,319	86.176
7	NORTH CAROLINA	1,803	1,442	-110	1,552	86.079
8	IOWA	3,382	2,705	-204	2,909	86.014
9	RHODE ISLAND	206	164	-13	177	85.922
10	WISCONSIN	3,560	2,848	-187	3,035	85.253
11	VIRGINIA	4,370	3,496	-185	3,681	84.233
12	MONTANA	906	724	-29	753	83.113
13	MINNESOTA	10,902	8,721	-274	8,995	82.508
14	MARYLAND	15,701	12,560	-394	12,954	82.504
15	ILLINOIS	14,923	11,938	-325	12,263	82.175
16	IDAHO	529	423	-8	431	81.474
17	LOUISIANA	2,158	1,726	-31	1,757	81.418
18	OHIO	31,059	24,847	-416	25,263	81.339
19	DELAWARE	2,376	1,900	-30	1,930	81.229
20	NEBRASKA	5,665	4,532	-63	4,595	81.112
21	VERMONT	3,881	3,104	-10	3,114	80.237
22	INDIANA	37,890	30,312	77	30,235	79.797
23	ARIZONA	6,173	4,938	21	4,917	79.653
24	MISSOURI	3,416	2,732	56	2,676	78.337
25	WYOMING	1,169	935	41	894	76.476
26	NORTH DAKOTA	765	612	29	583	76.209
27	CALIFORNIA	10,136	8,108	413	7,695	75.918
28	NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,018	4,814	247	4,567	75.889
29	PENNSYLVANIA	58,655	46,924	2,462	44,462	75.803
30	NEW MEXICO	1,729	1,383	79	1,304	75.419
31	ALABAMA	1,758	1,406	81	1,325	75.370
32	MASSACHUSETTS	5,665	4,532	274	4,258	75.163
33	MICHIGAN	20,700	16,560	1,064	15,496	74.860
34	WEST VIRGINIA	2,869	2,295	160	2,135	74.416
35	TENNESSEE	1,839	1,471	106	1,365	74.225
36	UTAH	552	441	34	407	73.732
37	NEW YORK	28,980	23,184	1,846	21,338	73.630
38	ALASKA	1,423	1,138	91	1,047	73.577
39	GEORGIA	5,140	4,112	363	3,749	72.938
40	HAWAII	48	38	3	35	72.917
41	MAINE	2,747	2,197	222	1,975	71.897
42	NEW JERSEY	9,385	7,508	818	6,690	71.284
43	WASHINGTON	2,642	2,113	233	1,880	71.158
44	MISSISSIPPI	547	437	51	386	70.567
45	NEVADA	286	228	31	197	68.881
46	KENTUCKY	4,099	3,279	456	2,823	68.870
47	TEXAS	6,639	5,311	864	4,447	66.983
48	OREGON	1,799	1,439	246	1,193	66.315
49	SOUTH CAROLINA	1,042	833	157	676	64.875
50	ARKANSAS	548	438	83	355	64.781
51	CONNECTICUT	1,867	1,493	312	1,181	63.257
52	OKLAHOMA	918	734	381	353	38.453
53	DIST OF COL	176	140	108	32	18.182
54	MEXICO	0	0	0	0	0.000
55	PUERTO RICO	0	0	0	0	0.000
Grand Totals		353,295	282,615	7,064	275,551	77.995

SAL - 2013 Regional Breakdown

(Western Region) Mark S. Severance (CA)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Percent
PHILIPPINES	41	48	117.073
IDAHO	529	431	81.474
ARIZONA	6,173	4,917	79.653
CALIFORNIA	10,136	7,695	75.918
UTAH	552	407	73.732
ALASKA	1,423	1,047	73.577
HAWAII	48	35	72.917
WASHINGTON	2,642	1,880	71.158
NEVADA	286	197	68.881
OREGON	1,799	1,193	66.315
Totals	23,629	17,850	75.543

(Mid-Western Region) Mike Deutser (OK)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Percent
SOUTH DAKOTA	491	442	90.020
KANSAS	6,237	5,598	89.755
COLORADO	2,691	2,319	86.176
MONTANA	906	753	83.113
NEBRASKA	5,665	4,595	81.112
WYOMING	1,169	894	76.476
NORTH DAKOTA	765	583	76.209
NEW MEXICO	1,729	1,304	75.419
TEXAS	6,639	4,447	66.983
OKLAHOMA	918	353	38.453
MEXICO	0	0	0.000
Totals	27,210	21,288	78.236

(Central Region) Harrell R. Sorrels (IN)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Percent
IOWA	3,382	2,909	86.014
WISCONSIN	3,560	3,035	85.253
MINNESOTA	10,902	8,995	82.508
ILLINOIS	14,923	12,263	82.175
OHIO	31,059	25,263	81.339
INDIANA	37,890	30,235	79.797
MISSOURI	3,416	2,676	78.337
MICHIGAN	20,700	15,496	74.860
Totals	125,832	100,872	80.164

(Eastern Region) John P. Waite (VT)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Percent
FRANCE	190	252	132.632
RHODE ISLAND	206	177	85.922
MARYLAND	15,701	12,954	82.504
DELAWARE	2,376	1,930	81.229
VERMONT	3,881	3,114	80.237
NEW HAMPSHIRE	6,018	4,567	75.889
PENNSYLVANIA	58,655	44,462	75.803
MASSACHUSETTS	5,665	4,258	75.163
WEST VIRGINIA	2,869	2,135	74.416
NEW YORK	28,980	21,338	73.630
MAINE	2,747	1,975	71.897
NEW JERSEY	9,385	6,690	71.284
CONNECTICUT	1,867	1,181	63.257
DIST OF COL	176	32	18.182
Totals	138,716	105,065	75.741

(Southern Region) John T. Jennings (FL)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Percent
FLORIDA	14,604	12,807	87.695
NORTH CAROLINA	1,803	1,552	86.079
VIRGINIA	4,370	3,681	84.233
LOUISIANA	2,158	1,757	81.418
ALABAMA	1,758	1,325	75.370
TENNESSEE	1,839	1,365	74.225
GEORGIA	5,140	3,749	72.938
MISSISSIPPI	547	386	70.567
KENTUCKY	4,099	2,823	68.870
SOUTH CAROLINA	1,042	676	64.875
ARKANSAS	548	355	64.781
PUERTO RICO	0	0	0.000
Totals	37,908	30,476	80.395

2013 Membership:	Goal	Actual	Percent
3/5/2013	353,295	275,551	77.995

2012 Membership:			
3/5/2012		281,359	

Difference: -5,808

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Dear Legion Family Members and Friends,

As our nation's elected leaders remain deadlocked about a solution to the federal deficit crisis, The American Legion is in Washington this week to send a clear message: no more cuts to the Department of Defense. Hundreds of Legionnaires are now at the capital city to meet with their congressional delegations to share deep concerns about our national security, especially at a time of war, if more cuts are imposed on the military starting **March 1**.



The 53rd American Legion Washington Conference is under way, and while protection of national defense is a top priority, many other legislative priorities are on the agenda, including:

The growing VA backlog, with 69 percent of benefits claims exceeding the 125-day decision window, as our troops come home from war, and the beleaguered processing system awaits a 21st century solution that puts quality on par with quantity

The Legion's opposition to increased fees and pharmaceutical copayments for military retirees using TRICARE

Improved opportunities for veterans to find good jobs, start businesses and convert their military experiences into credits for licenses and credentials in a number of private-sector and public career fields

Better screening, diagnosis and treatment for veterans in need of VA mental health care



James E. 'Jim' Koutz
National Commander
The American Legion

Click here to see a complete report of the Legion's priorities and the resolutions supporting them, heading into the 2013 Washington Conference.

<http://www.legion.org/legislative/point-papers/213861/2013-washington-conference>

See the whole Washington Conference schedule here: <http://www.legion.org/washingtonconference/schedule>

Also, I want to remind everyone that **on Tuesday, Feb. 26**, we have a number of top speakers lined up for the Commander's Call. That session will be streamed live online, starting **at 8:30 a.m., Eastern time**, after which Legionnaires will meet with their congressional delegations on Capitol Hill. Click here to view the Commander's Call live online Tuesday: <http://client.stretchinternet.com/client/legion.portal?mode=link#>

You can also follow our work this week on behalf of America's veterans, their families and communities on www.legion.org on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/americanlegionhq> and on Twitter @AmericanLegion

Thank you all for your service and patriotism.

For God and Country,

James E. Koutz
National Commander