



We Are The American Legion

The American Legion is the nation's largest veterans service organization, advocating for veterans, service members, and military families while fighting to end veteran suicide. Find out how everyone can be part of the American Legion USA250 Challenge as we honor America's 250th birthday.



Founded by an Act of Congress after World War I, The American Legion fiercely advocates for the unique needs of every generation of veterans, service members, and their families who pledge to protect our nation. Today, we are committed to destigmatizing mental health support, offering peer-to-peer resources, and empowering everyone to Be The One in the fight to prevent veteran suicide.

For over a century The American Legion has strengthened America and its veterans through programs, services, compassion and actions that have proven vital, timeless and life-changing.

The American Legion meets the unique needs of local communities, celebrates all who contribute to something larger than themselves, and inspires others to serve and strengthen America.

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POST 15 COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

The past quarter has been a strong start to the year — let's keep the momentum going. Over the next quarter we have several opportunities to excel:

- JROTC Drill Competition — 04/11/2026
- Awards Banquet — 04/17/2026
- Family Picnic — 05/09/2026
- Memorial Day Celebration — 05/25/2026
- USA250 Flag Retirement (retiring 250+ flags) — 06/12/2026
- And many more projects in the planning stages.

We have a great team that does important work for Veterans, the community, and our children. Please plan to assist where and when you can — many hands make quick work.

Bill King
Commander

AUXILIARY UNIT 15

It's springtime! The AL Auxiliary is ready to get this season in gear! We start with supporting our American Legion Riders with the JROTC Drill Competition on Saturday, April 11th! Be at the post at 8am to volunteer as support staff! Our Unit will be working and donating snack cakes to the attendees. If you haven't experienced this opportunity before, please come out and join in!

We will follow with Girls State Activities and move on to developing the officer slate for election of officers for the upcoming 2026/2027 year. If you're interested in being an officer, please contact our nominations committee at (256) 303-7792. We look forward to hearing from you soon! We have a few officers that have decided to step down, so openings are available!

We will also be moving forward with visiting our local nursing facilities, so please reach out if you're interested there as well!

We're also planning our Post 15 Family Day scheduled for May 9th! Join us for a great time socializing with our post family!

Our next membership meeting is scheduled for April 27th at 6pm, and our next district meeting is April 12th at 1pm located at Post 52 in Hartselle. Please come out and join us! Any questions? Contact Marsha King, President (251) 767-2446 or kinghome6743@aol.com

Online Membership Renewals

For everyone who renews their American Legion Membership online -- a new card **will not** automatically be sent to your home address. You must contact the Post 15 Adjutant who will provide an updated card.

POST 15 Senior Vice Commander's Comments

Comrades,

Thank you to the members who have renewed for the 2026 American Legion year. If you have not yet renewed, there is still time to do so. Please ensure the Post Communications Officer or Adjutant has your current contact information, including your email address and phone number.

As we near the end of the 2025–2026 Legion year, Post 15 has reached 94.32% of its membership goal of 264. We need 15 additional renewals or new members to reach 100%. Members who have not yet renewed are encouraged to submit their dues as soon as possible.

After renewing, please consider the Paid Up for Life (PUFL) option, which eliminates future dues increases and includes an annual membership card from National. Post 15 currently has 40 PUFL members.

Members are encouraged to invite eligible veterans* to attend a meeting and help welcome them into our organization. Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month, except in May and December.

Additional volunteers are needed for the Honor Guard. Interested members should contact Honor Guard Captain Bobby Train.

This is your post, and your participation is essential. Please share any suggestions or concerns with post leadership. Membership remains the foundation of our organization.

Membership is the life blood of our organization!

***With passage of the Legion Act (July 30, 2019), more veterans are now eligible for membership. If you know someone who has served honorably on active duty since December 7, 1941**

**Be the One,
John Nelson
Senior Vice Commander
American Legion Post 15
Decatur, Alabama**

BE THE ONE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 April Fool's Day	2 Passover	3 Good Friday	4 Riders Group Ride BINGO 6pm
5 Easter	6	7	8	9	10	11 Drill Competition 9am BINGO 6pm
12	13 Chapter 15 Riders Meeting 6pm	14	15 Taxes Due	16	17 Awards Banquet 6pm	18 Sons of Amer Legion BINGO 6pm
19 Riders Group Ride	20	21	22 Earth Day	23 Executive Committee Meeting 6pm	24	25 BINGO 6pm
26	27 Post 15 Membership Dinner 6pm Meeting 7pm	28	29	30		



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Riders Group Ride BINGO 6pm
3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7 Executive Committee Meeting 6pm	8	9 Family Day BINGO 6pm
10 Mother's Day	11 Chapter 15 Riders Post 15 Membership Dinner 6pm Meeting 7pm	12	13	14	15	16 Armed Forces Day Sons of Amer Legion BINGO 6pm
17 Riders Group Ride	18	19	20	21	22	23 BINGO 6pm
24	25 Memorial Day Ceremony Roselawn Cemetery 10am	26	27	28	29	30 Commander's Breakfast
31						



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Riders Group Ride BINGO 6pm
7	8 Chapter 15 Riders Meeting 6pm	9	10	11	12 Flag Day Ceremony	13 BINGO 6pm
14 Flag Day Riders Group Ride	15	16	17	18 Executive Committee Meeting 6pm	19 Juneteenth	20 Sons of Amer Legion BINGO 6pm
21 Father's Day	22 Post 15 Membership Dinner 6pm Meeting 7 pm	23	24	25	26	27 BINGO 6pm
28	29	30				

THE AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

RIDING TO SUPPORT VETERANS AND CHILDREN

More than 2,200 American Legion Rider chapters, organized by local American Legion posts and departments worldwide, actively support American Legion programs in every state and in several countries overseas.

The Riders represent one of The American Legion's fastest growing and most visible activities, as they perform service activities in their communities and participate in the annual cross-country Legacy Run, their premiere fundraising event.

Riders travel to the Legion's national convention while collecting donations for The American Legion Legacy Fund. The Legacy Run raises awareness of the Legion and its many programs as Riders are welcomed on their stops at veterans homes, wreath-laying ceremonies and other patriotic events in the cities and towns along each year's route.

The Riders are supported by Legion posts and departments, Sons of The American Legion squadrons, American Legion Auxiliary units and private donations. Since the Legacy Fund's inception, millions of dollars have been raised through various activities, culminating in the annual Legacy Run.

Riders' chapters are active in their communities as well, participating in countless events and providing escorts for military flights carrying servicemen and women home to their communities and loved ones, as well as serving as honor guards and ceremonial teams to protect the sanctity of veterans' funerals.



Spotlight on American Legion National Legislative Priorities

Currently, there is no platform, grant or funding mechanism that permits direct lending to a veteran through the Small Business Administration (SBA). As a result, veterans who have limited access to credit or capital often struggle to qualify for certain SBA loan programs, particularly if they just need startup and operational capital to launch and stabilize their businesses.

Most businesses are built and driven with the assistance of professional networks, relationships and familiarity within the community in which they reside. Veterans present a unique challenge, as they are often less likely to have established local relationships following military service or sufficient initial capital to fully fund their business ventures.

A new VA-style pilot program is needed, compared to current systems, because existing small-business capital programs still rely heavily on private lenders, exclude many veterans due to strict credit requirements, and do not provide mentorship, business plan vetting or milestone-based support. Current SBA programs only offer loan guarantees rather than direct lending, which limits accessibility for veterans who lack collateral or credit history.

Key Points:

- Expansion of veterans' opportunity for entrepreneurship and economic reintegration is critical.
- More opportunities would reduce the reliance current systems have on private lenders.
- The VA Pilot program could mirror an existing proven VA Home Loan success model.
- The VA Pilot program should be designed with set caps in place to control risk with loan limits and safeguards.

What Congress Can Do:

- Introduce legislation, regulatory reforms or pilot programs that reduce financial barriers.
- Strengthen the economic outlook for veterans seeking to start or grow businesses.
- Maintain appropriate safeguards for fiscal responsibility and long-term program sustainability.

Supporting Resolutions:

Resolution No. 4: Expanding Access to Capital for Veteran-Owned Small Businesses
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in a regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 8-9, 2025, That The American Legion strongly urge Congress, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Small Business Administration and other federal agencies to explore and implement expanded access to capital for veteran-owned small businesses through direct, guaranteed or otherwise federally supported loan programs; and, be it finally RESOLVED, That The American Legion strongly support legislation, regulatory reforms or pilot programs that reduce financial barriers and strengthen the economic outlook for veterans seeking to start or grow businesses, while maintaining appropriate safeguards for fiscal responsibility and long-term program sustainability for the veteran and our nation.