



HISTORY OF
PONY EXPRESS POST NO. 359
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
THE AMERICAN LEGION
SAINT JOSEPH, MISSOURI
FOR
2023 - 2024

BY JEROME L. GOOLSBY, HISTORIAN

INTRODUCTION

American Legion Pony Express Post 359, Department of Missouri, is so named because the Pony Express used Saint Joseph, Missouri, as the eastern terminus for its route. During its period of operation from April 1860 to October 1861, it provided a vital communications link to California and the west coast of the United States during the beginning of the American Civil War that helped keep California in the Union.

The city of Saint Joseph, Missouri, was founded in 1826 by Joseph Robidoux, a fur trader from Saint Louis, Missouri. The city was incorporated in 1843 and developed into a major departure point for emigrants heading west on the Oregon Trail and the California Trail as well as being the eastern terminus for the Pony Express.

Saint Joseph citizens have proudly served America in defense of its sovereign soil. Saint Joseph's airport, Rosecrans Field, is named for Sgt. Guy Wallace Rosecrans, who was killed in action during World War I. Sgt. Rosecrans, a member of the 153rd Air Squadron, was killed October 16, 1916, in France. Rosecrans Field is currently home to the 139th Airlift Wing, Missouri Air National Guard.

A group of twenty officers who served in the American Expeditionary Forces (A.E.F.) in France in World War I is credited with planning The American Legion. A.E.F. Headquarters asked these officers to suggest ideas on how to improve troop morale. One officer, Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., proposed an organization of veterans. In February 1919, this group formed a temporary committee and selected several hundred officers who had the confidence and respect of the whole army.

When the first organization meeting took place in Paris in March 1919, about 1,000 officers and enlisted men attended. The meeting, known as the Paris Caucus, adopted a temporary constitution and the name The American Legion. It also elected an executive committee to complete the organization's work. It considered each soldier of the A.E.F. a member of the Legion. The executive committee named a subcommittee to organize veterans at home in the U.S.

The Legion held a second organizing caucus in St. Louis, Missouri, in May 1919. It completed the constitution and made plans for a permanent organization. It set up temporary headquarters in New York City, and began its relief, employment, and Americanism programs.

Congress granted the Legion a national charter in September 1919. The first National Convention, held in Minneapolis, adopted a permanent constitution and elected officers to head the organization.

Missouri was organized as a Department of The American Legion in 1919. Harvey Clark was selected as the first Department Commander.

Pony Express Post 359 was organized by veterans from World War II. A charter was applied for on September 19, 1945 and was granted on January 16, 1946. Charles Piro (deceased) was the first Commander of the Post, serving for two years.

Post 359 held its meetings at its headquarters at VFW Post 6760 in Saint Joseph, Missouri.



Pony Express Post 359 has it offices at VFW Post 6760 in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

The Post Commander for the time period of this report was Jerome L. Goolsby.

The compiler of this document gratefully acknowledges the help of the membership of Post 359 and Sons of The American Legion Squadron 359 whose hard work created the events chronicled herein.

The complier dedicates this history document to the memory of Legionnaire Paula L. Blanton, whose support and inspiration never wavered and never failed.

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**PREAMBLE TO THE
CONSTITUTION OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of The United States of America;

To maintain law and order;

To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;

To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars;

To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;

To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;

To make right the master of might;

To promote peace and goodwill on earth;

To safeguard and transmit to Posterity the principals of justice, freedom and democracy;

To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.



CHAPTER ONE

ONE-YEAR

POST CHRONICLE

JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024

The 104th Convention of The American Legion Department of Missouri was held from July 13 – 16, 2023 in Springfield, Missouri. Representing Pony Express Post 359 as delegates were Department Historian Jerome L. Goolsby and Past National Vice Commander David N. Voyles. At the convention, final reports were given on Department activities, and end of year awards were handed out. New Department officers were elected for the 2023 – 2024 Program Year by Convention delegates: Commander Mark Clark, Senior Vice Commander John Buckwalter, Zone I Vice Commander Lloyd Miller, Zone II Vice Commander Edward Weaverling, Zone III Vice Commander Mark Reed, Zone IV Vice Commander Darlene Coats, Finance Officer Brian Sapp and Sergeant-At-Arms Albert Jackson. Held over from prior election on a two-year term were National Executive Committee Member George Scarborough, Alternate National Executive Committee Member Kerry Boardman, Judge Advocate Christine Sapp, Chaplain Marvin Harper and Historian Jerome L. Goolsby. Post 359 qualified for its seventeenth “Toot Your Horn” Award from the Department Media & Communications Commission and Post 359’s history book for 2022 – 2023 won first place in the Department’s Narrative History Contest and certified for participation in the National Narrative History Book competition.

Pony Express Post 359 installed the following Post officers: Commander – Jerome Goolsby; 1st Vice Commander – Keith Jones; 2nd Vice Commander – John Hammer; Adjutant – Jerome Goolsby; Finance Officer – Jim Williams; Sergeant-At-Arms – Dale Harkleroad; Chaplain – Kenneth Bryson; Historian – Jerome Goolsby; Judge Advocate – David Voyles and Executive Committee Members Keith Jones, Carl Firkins, Kenneth Bryson and Dale Harkleroad - and formed committees for the 2023 – 2024 Program Year on July 18, 2023 at its Post Headquarters.

Pony Express Post 359 held a regular meeting at its Post Headquarters on August 15, 2023. Membership heard reports from the Finance, Membership, and Sons of The American Legion committees.

Post 359 Commander Jerome L. Goolsby and Past National Commander David Voyles represented Pony Express Post 359 at the regular meeting of the Fourth District of The American Legion Department of Missouri hosted by MacDonald-Dugger-Duncan-Petree Post 11 in Saint Joseph, Missouri. Reports were received from the District's Americanism, Finance, Membership, VA&R, Oratorical, Baseball, Boy Scouts, Legion Riders, Cadet Patrol, Legislative, Children & Youth, School Awards, Consolidated Post Report, Service Officer and Sons of The American Legion committees.

On September 15, 2023, members of Pony Express Post 359 took part in public events as part of National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

Pony Express Post 359, in coordination with Sons of The American Legion Pony Express Squadron 359, promoted reading of the Constitution of The United States on Constitution Day (September 17) 2023 at the Squadron's section of the Post website which has a copy of the Constitution posted for viewing.

Pony Express Post 359 held a regular meeting at its Post Headquarters on September 19, 2023. Membership heard reports from the Finance, Children and Youth, and Home committees and approved a donation to the National Emergency Fund (NEF) and the Missouri State Veterans Home in Cameron, Missouri.

On October 16, 2023, during the American Legion Fall Meetings held in Indianapolis, Indiana, American Legion National Historian Edward A. DeGumbia of Connecticut announced that the Narrative History Book for 2022 – 2023 for Pony Express Post 359 won First Place in the One-Year Post Narrative History National Competition.

Pony Express Post 359 held a regular meeting at its Post Headquarters on October 17, 2023. Membership heard reports from the Finance, Membership, Home and Americanism committees.

Post Commander Jerome L. Goolsby represented Pony Express Post 359 at a dinner honoring American Legion National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer held at Emmette J. Shields Post 55 in Hannibal, Missouri on October 21, 2023.

Department Historian Jerome L. Goolsby and Past National Vice Commander David N. Voyles represented Pony Express Post 359 at the American Legion Department of Missouri Fall Conference held in Jefferson City, Missouri on October 27 – 29, 2023. Attendees were addressed by Department of Kansas National Executive Committee Member Dan K. Wiley, who is the leading candidate for National Commander for 2025 – 2026 attendees also heard reports from the Department Baseball Commission, Children & Youth Commission, Boys State Commission, Americanism Committee, Finance Commission, Legislative Commission, Membership Commission, Media and Communications Commission, Education & Scholarship Committee, POW – MIA Committee, J.R.O.T.C. Awards Committee, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee, American Legion Riders and the Foundation of Missouri. Post 359 was presented with the 2023 “Toot Your Horn” Award from the Media & Communications Commission, 6th Place Certificate for the Department Americanism Awards, First Place in the Department Newsletter Awards for Category 4 and First Place in the Department Narrative History Book Competition.

On Veterans Day (November 11) 2023, Post 359 members participated in several Veterans Day events in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

Post 359 Adjutant Jerome L. Goolsby and Past National Commander David Voyles represented Pony Express Post 359 at the regular meeting of the Fourth District of The American

Legion Department of Missouri held at Rolla Dicks Post 315 in Burlington Junction, Missouri on December 10, 2023. Reports were received from the District's Legislative, Americanism, Children & Youth, Cadet Patrol, VA&R, Scouting, Oratorical and Baseball committees.

Pony Express Post 359 held a regular meeting at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6760 on January 16, 2024. Membership heard reports from the Finance, Membership, and Public Relations committees.

Pony Express Post 359 Executive Committee met on February 21, 2024 and arranged the sponsorship of four young men to attend the Missouri Boys State Program.

Pony Express Post 359 held a regular meeting at VFW Post 6760 Headquarters on March 19, 2024. Membership heard reports from the Finance, Membership, Sons of The American Legion and Public Relations committees.

Pony Express Post 359 held a regular meeting at VFW Post 670 on April 16, 2024. Membership heard reports from the Finance, Membership, Boys State and Americanism committees. Nominations for officers for the 2023 – 2024 Program Year were taken. The following nominations were received: Commander – Jim Williams; 1st Vice Commander – Keith Jones; 2nd Vice Commander – John Hammer; Adjutant – Jerome Goolsby; Finance Officer – Jim Williams; Sergeant-At-Arms – Dale Harkleroad; Chaplain – Kenneth Bryson; Historian – Jerome Goolsby; Judge Advocate – David Voyles; Executive Committee – Keith Jones and Carl Firkins. No nominations were received for Service Officer; the Post Internal Affairs Committee will attempt to find a candidate for that office.

On Truman Day (May 8), 2024, Pony Express Post 359 sponsored a memorial wreath at the grave of former President Harry S Truman at the 49th Annual Truman Pilgrimage conducted at

the Harry S Truman Presidential Library and Museum in Independence, Missouri. Harry S Truman, the 33rd President of the United States, was a World War I veteran and a LIFE Member of Tirey J. Ford Post 21 in Independence, Missouri and an Honorary Past Department Commander of The American Legion Department of Missouri. He is considered the first Legionnaire President and was also the first and as of this date only Missourian to ever serve as the nation's Chief Executive.

On Armed Forces Day (May 18), 2024, the Post promoted recognition and support of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Pony Express Post 359 held a regular meeting at VFW Post 6760 on May 21, 2024. Reports were heard from Membership and Finance Committees. The following officers were elected for the 2023 – 2024 Program Year: Commander – Jim Williams; 1st Vice Commander – Keith Jones; 2nd Vice Commander – John Hammer; Adjutant – Jerome Goolsby; Finance Officer – Jim Williams; Sergeant-At-Arms – Dale Harkleroad; Chaplain – Kenneth Bryson; Historian – Jerome Goolsby; Judge Advocate – David Voyles; Executive Committee – Keith Jones and Carl Firkins were elected to the Post Executive Committee for a two-year term. The office of Service Officer will have to be filled at a later date.

On Memorial Day (May 27), 2024, a public Memorial Day service was held at Civic Park in Saint Joseph. Post Commander Jerome L. Goolsby represented Post 359 at the ceremony.

Post Commander Jerome L. Goolsby and Past National Vice Commander David N. Voyles represented Pony Express Post 359 at the annual convention of the Fourth District of The American Legion Department of Missouri hosted by James Edward Gray Post 100 in Maryville, Missouri on June 9, 2024. The various committees of the District made their final reports and Post Commander Goolsby was selected as a delegate to the 105th National Convention of The American Legion.

Pony Express Post 359 held a regular meeting at VFW Post 6760 on June 18, 2024. The recently submitted Consolidated Post Report was discussed as well as final reports from Post committees.



CHAPTER TWO

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Pony Express Post 359 conducted a membership drive during the 2023 – 2024 Membership Year.

The following individuals received National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer's "Be The One" Membership Incentive Dog Tag Coin for recruiting two new members of The American Legion for the 2023 – 2024 Membership Year:

JEROME L. GOOLSBY

The following individuals were recognized for at least 50 years of continuous membership in The American Legion:

50 CONTINUOUS YEARS: DONNIS L. HOOD, VERNON L. COX, RANDY J. FORD

70 CONTINUOUS YEARS: WILLIAM MAZVINSKY



CHAPTER THREE

AMERICANISM COMMITTEE

The Americanism Committee of Pony Express Post 359 executed several projects and activities during the 2023 – 2024 program year.

During the 2023 – 2024 program year, Pony Express Post 359 recognized 22 young men in the city of Saint Joseph who achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and Post Adjutant Jerome L. Goolsby represented The American Legion on the Relationships Committee of the Pony Express Council, Boy Scouts of America.

The Committee worked with the Post Adjutant and the Post Children and Youth Committee to make Department of Missouri scholarship opportunities available to eligible students.

On Constitution Day (September 17) 2023, the Americanism Committee worked with Sons of The American Legion Squadron 359 to promote the study and reading of the Constitution of The United States on the Squadron's section of the Post web site.

American Legion Pony Express Post 359 participated in The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program for 2023 – 2024.

On Pearl Harbor Day (December 7) 2023, the Americanism Committee used the Post Facebook page to promote remembrance of the attack that drew the United States into World War II.

The Americanism Committee took action on February 21, 2024 to arrange for the sponsorship of Ivan E. Chatfield and Peyton Kane Wagner from St. Joseph Central High School and Jackson Douglas Cline, Jonah Robert Elderhorst, Shaden Michael Morris and Adam Thomas Dean from St. Joseph Christian High School in Saint Joseph, Missouri to Missouri Boys State. Mr. Chatfield, Mr. Wagner, Mr. Cline and Mr. Dean were directly sponsored by the Post and the other applicants were submitted for at-large sponsorship.

The Americanism Committee worked to promote Flag Day on June 14, 2024 with items on social media sites and worked with Sons of The American Legion Squadron 359 to ensure information on the American Flag was promoted on the Post web site.



CHAPTER FOUR

SCHOOL AWARD

COMMITTEE

American Legion Pony Express Post 359 participated in The American Legion School Awards Program for 2023 – 2024. Jerome L. Goolsby acted as chairman of the School Award Sub-Committee for Post 359.

The following individuals were selected from their respective schools to receive the School Award honors:

SAINT JOSEPH LAFAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL

Boys - Levi Scheerer

Girls - Jaysha Allen

SAINT JOSEPH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Boys - Samuel Szymankowski

Girls - Isela Brown



CHAPTER FIVE

BOY SCOUTS

Pony Express Post 359 Scouting Committee Chairman Jerome L. Goolsby has served on the Relationships Committee of the Pony Express Council, Boy Scouts of America, representing The American Legion since September 2009. On the committee he provides information on how the Legion can assist the Council in providing the Scouting program to youth in their area and informs Legion Posts within the boundaries of the Council about items the Committee needs help to complete. He also serves The American Legion Department of Missouri as BSA Committee Chairman, a position he has held since July 2014.

Chairman Goolsby has been recognized by the Boy Scouts of America as a 45 - year Veteran and has received numerous awards during his Scouting career including induction into the Tribe of Mic-O-Say (the Honor Camping Society of Camp Geiger, Pony Express Council, B.S.A.), serving on staff at the 1993 BSA National Jamboree and being awarded the Scouter's Key.

During the 2023 – 2024 Program Year, Pony Express Post 359 presented certificates to 22 Eagle Scouts from Saint Joseph Units.



Pony Express Post 359 Scouting Committee Chairman Jerome L. Goolsby serves on the Relationships Committee of the Pony Express Council, Boy Scouts of America, representing The American Legion and as chairman of The American Legion Department of Missouri BSA Committee.



CHAPTER SIX

ORATORICAL COMMITTEE

The Buchanan County Oratorical Contest was at Benton High School in Saint Joseph, Missouri on December 14, 2023 in the school's library.

The contestants were Ms. Ella Habiger of Central High School in Saint Joseph, Missouri and Ms. Baylor Abram of Benton High School in Saint Joseph, Missouri, each of whom won their respective school level competitions.

Each contestant delivered a prepared oration, which must be an original effort. Plagiarism may cause disqualification. The oration must address some aspect of the Constitution of the United States, which emphasizes the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. The oration must last between five and six minutes.

After presenting their speeches, the judges for the contest selected Ms. Abram as the winner.



CHAPTER SEVEN

CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE

The Children and Youth Committee of Pony Express Post 359 had several projects during the 2023 – 2024 program year.

During the year, the Post membership promoted Children and Youth Month and the Family Support Network programs of The American Legion.

The Committee worked with the Post Americanism Committee to support the School Awards Program at St. Joseph Lafayette High School, St. Joseph Benton High School, St. Joseph Central High School and Mid-Buchanan High School. The Committee also worked with the Americanism Committee on support of Scouting and promotion of Department of Missouri scholarship programs.

The Committee made available various brochures and information to the public obtained from The American Legion Department of Missouri's Fourth District Children and Youth Committee.



CHAPTER EIGHT

VETERANS AFFAIRS

&

REHABILITATION

The VA&R Committee worked with the Post Finance Committee to provide \$5,000 in support to the Veterans Camping Initiative Program at Turney, Missouri. The program provides outdoor activities to veterans, Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve personnel at no cost to the participants.



CHAPTER NINE

NATIONAL SECURITY

American Legion Pony Express Post 359 National Security Committee conducted several operations during the 2023 – 2024 Program Year.

The Post membership was involved in activities for POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 15, 2023.

Pony Express Post 359 sponsored the American Legion JROTC School Awards for the Saint Joseph JROTC Program in Saint Joseph, Missouri on April 16, 2024. Pony Express Post 359 has sponsored The American Legion JROTC Military Excellence Award Program for the Saint Joseph School District JROTC Program for the past 64 years.



CHAPTER TEN

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The 80th Annual Convention of The Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Missouri was held from July 15 – 16, 2023 in Springfield, Missouri. At the convention, the membership heard final reports on Detachment activities and end of year awards were handed out. The membership elected new Detachment officers for the 2023 – 2024 Program Year. The new Detachment officers are Commander Tim Cudd, Senior Vice Commander John Sansoucie, Eastern Vice Commander Justin E. Marsden, Western Vice Commander Jesse England, Adjutant Richard Hackenberger, Judge Advocate Jeffrey Duer, Sergeant-At-Arms Bryan Bradford, National Executive Committeeman Jay Marsden, and Alternate National Executive Committeeman Mike Walter, Finance Officer Travis Cummins, Chaplain Johnny Fox and Historian John Leonard.

At its first regular meeting for the 2023 – 2024 program year on July 19, 2023, Pony Express Squadron 359 installed the following officers: Commander Jerome L. Goolsby, Vice Commander David Voyles, Adjutant Dean Starke, Sr., Executive Committeeman Blake Kepner and Immediate Past Commander Marshall Barnes. The Squadron also made plans for the Squadron membership drive.

On Constitution Day (September 17) 2023, Pony Express Squadron 359 in coordination with Post 359 promoted reading of the Constitution of The United States by posting the Constitution on the Squadron's section of the Post Web Site as part of Constitution Day.

Pony Express Squadron 359 held a regular meeting on September 20, 2023. The budget for the year was approved and the Squadron also approved a donation to the National Emergency Fund (NEF).

Pony Express Squadron 359 held a regular meeting on October 18, 2023. Reports were heard on the Squadron's activities along with Membership and Finance reports.

Squadron Commander Jerome L. Goolsby represented Pony Express Squadron 359 at a dinner honoring American Legion National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer held at St. Charles Post 312 in Saint Charles, Missouri on October 22, 2023.

Pony Express Squadron 359 held a regular meeting on December 6, 2023. Reports were heard on the Squadron's activities along with Membership and Finance reports.

Pony Express Squadron 359 held a regular meeting on March 20, 2024. Reports were heard on the Squadron's activities along with Membership and Finance reports.

Pony Express Squadron 359 held a regular meeting on April 17, 2024. Reports were heard on the Squadron's activities along with Membership and Finance reports.

Pony Express Squadron 359 made a donation to the Child Welfare Foundation (CWF) on May 13, 2024, in accordance with its approved budget.

On May 15, 2024, the following officers for Pony Express Squadron 359 were appointed for the 2024 – 2025 program year: Commander – Jerome L. Goolsby; 1st Vice Commander – David Voyles; Adjutant - Dean Starke, Sr.; Finance Officer – Jerome L. Goolsby; and Executive Committeeman – Dean Starke, Sr.. The Consolidated Squadron Report was also reviewed for submission.

On Memorial Day (May 27) 2024, Pony Express Squadron 359 was represented by Squadron Adjutant Dean Starke, Sr. at a public Memorial Day service held at the Civic Center Park in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

On June 19, 2024, Pony Express Squadron 359 held a regular meeting. Final plans were made for the upcoming Detachment Convention.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION | CONSOLIDATED SQUADRON REPORT

JUNE 1, 2023 to MAY 31, 2024

Please check **one** box indicating the reporting entity level: Detachment District Squadron

1	MISSOURI	Detachment (State)	2	4	District
3	359	Squadron Number	4	PONY EXPRESS	Squadron Name
5	28	Paid-to-Date Membership Count, Current Year	6	28	Paid-Up Final Membership Count, Prior Year
7	SAINT JOSEPH	City/Town	8	64504	Zip Code

If the reporting entity is a District (or Detachment) the entity agrees that their report of dollars and hours ONLY INCLUDES those approved and expended by Officers and Members of that entity, and ARE NOT cumulative of the Squadrons (or Squadrons and Districts) that they represent.

Please type or print all information clearly. For the program details below only mark lines for which you are reporting data (leave '0' values blank).

AMERICANISM

1		Donations, Boys State / Girls State	2		No. of Hours, Boys State / Girls State
3		Donations, 5-Star / 10-Ideals Education	4		No. of Hours, 5-Star / 10-Ideals Education
5		Donations, Flags Presented (All Sizes/Events)	6	5	No. of Hours, Flags Presented (All Sizes/Events)
7	N/A	N/A	8	2	No. of Hours, Flag Education Programs
9		Donations, Scholarships Awarded	10		No. of Hours, Other Educational Programs
11		Donations, Oratorical Contest	12		No. of Hours, Oratorical Contest
13		Donations, Color Guard	14	5	No. of Hours, Color Guard
15		Donations, Other Organizations	16		No. of Hours, Community Service
17	450	Donations, Scouting	18	250	No. of Hours, Scouting
19	50	Donations, Junior Shooting Sports	20	30	No. of Hours, American Legion Baseball
21		Donations, American Legion Baseball	22		No. of Hours, Other Teams Sponsored
23		Donations, Other Teams Sponsored	24		No. of Hours, Blood Drives
25		Donations, Blood Drives	26		No. of Hours, National Emergency Fund
27		Donations, National Emergency Fund	28		No. of Hours, Legacy Scholarship Fund
29	100	Donations, Legacy Scholarship Fund	30	10	No. of Hours, Other Americanism Projects
31		Donations, Other Americanism Projects	32		
33	275		34	100	

CHILDREN & YOUTH

1	50	Donations, Child Welfare Foundation	2	5	No. of Hours, Child Welfare Foundation
3		Donations, Special Olympics	4		No. of Hours, Special Olympics
5		Donations, Children's Miracle Network	6		No. of Hours, Ronald McDonald House
7		Donations, Ronald McDonald House	8		No. of Hours, Children's Organ Trans. Assn.
9		Donations, Children's Organ Trans. Assn.	10		No. of Hours, T.A.L. Vets. and Child. Found.
11		Donations, T.A.L. Vets. and Child. Found.	12		No. of Hours, Other C&Y Projects
13	500	Donations, Other C&Y Projects	14	100	

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

1		Donations, V.A. Medical Ctrs. & Facilities	2		No. of Hours, V.A. Medical Ctrs. & Facilities
3		Donations, State Veterans Facilities	4		No. of Hours, State Veterans Facilities
5		Donations, Nat'l Veterans Assist. Day	6		No. of Hours, Operation Comfort Warriors
7		Donations, Operation Comfort Warriors	8		No. of Hours, Fisher House
9		Donations, Fisher House	10		No. of Hours, Other VA&R Projects
11		Donations, Other VA&R Projects	12	100	No. of Hours, Homeless Veterans
13		Donations, Homeless Veterans	14		No. of Hours, Troop & Family Support
15		Donations, Troop & Family Support	16		

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

1		Donations, VE&E Projects	2		No. of Hours, VE&E Projects
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INTERNAL AFFAIRS

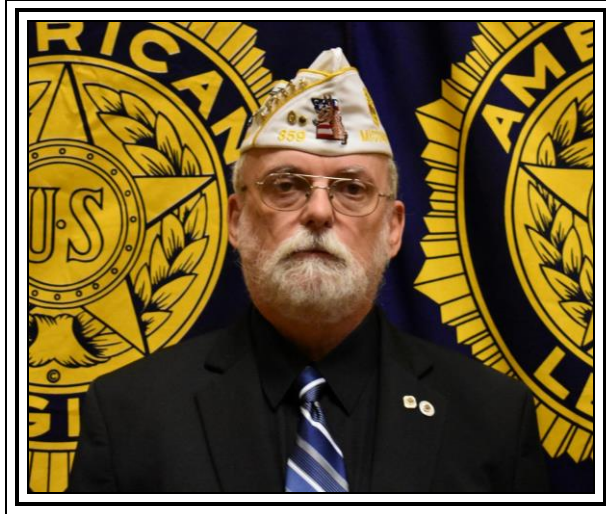
1	250	Other Donations, Not Covered Above	2	100	Other Hours, Not Covered Above
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Signature		Title	COMMANDER	Date	06/04/2024
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APPENDIX A

ROSTER OF POST OFFICERS



JEROME L. GOOLSBY

**Historian
The American Legion Department of Missouri
2023 – 2024**

**Commander/Adjutant, Pony Express Post 359
The American Legion Department of Missouri
2023 – 2024**

**Historian, Pony Express Post 359
The American Legion Department of Missouri
2023 – 2024**

Missouri Department Historian Jerome L. Goolsby earned his membership into the American Legion through his service during the Lebanon/Grenada Era. He served in the United States Air Force from 1975 – 1995. He joined American Legion Post 297, Department of Maryland, in 1993. He remained a member of that Post until his retirement from the USAF in 1995. He then returned to his hometown of Saint Joseph, Missouri, and transferred his membership to American Legion Pony Express Post 359, Department of Missouri. He has served Post 359 as Historian in 1995 - 1996, 1997 – 1998, 2009 and 2017 – 2023, as 1st Vice Commander for 1998 – 2000 and 2022 – 2023, as Adjutant for 2000 - 2008 and again in 2009 – 2022, and as Commander for 2017 – 2022. Legionnaire Goolsby has also served the Fourth District as Boy Scout Committee Chairman from 1998 - 2008, Historian for 1998 – 2000 and 2011 – 2018, Southern Vice Commander for 2000 – 2002, Adjutant for 2009 – 2011 and as Commander for 2002 – 2004, 2006 – 2008, 2012 – 2014 and 2016 – 2018. He has also served at the Department level as Department Zone II Vice Commander for 2004 – 2005 and has served as Department Historian from 2018 – 2024. He has also served at the Department level on the Membership Committee, Publications Committee, Insurance Committee, S.A.L. Commission, Media and Communications Commission, Centennial Committee and served on the D.E.C. Sub-Committee from 2003 - 2004 and again from 2006 - 2008. He was chairman of the D.E.C. Sub-Committee from 2007 - 2008. He is currently chairman of the Department of Missouri BSA Committee. He was recognized as a Distinguished Legionnaire of The American Legion Department of Missouri at the 97th Department Convention in 2015.



American Legion Pony Express Post 359

Department of Missouri

Roster of Post Officers (2023 – 2024)

COMMANDER –	JEROME L. GOOLSBY
1st VICE COMMANDER –	KEITH L. JONES
2nd VICE COMMANDER –	JOHN HAMMER
ADJUTANT –	JEROME L. GOOLSBY
FINANCE OFFICER –	JIMMY A. WILLIAMS
SERVICE OFFICER –	VACANT
CHAPLAIN –	KENNETH BRYSON
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS –	DALE HARKLEROAD
HISTORIAN –	JEROME L. GOOLSBY
JUDGE ADVOCATE -	DAVID N. VOYLES
IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER –	JAMES F. LADEROUTE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE –	CARL FIRKINS
	KEITH L. JONES
	DALE HARKLEROAD
	KENNETH BRYSON



APPENDIX B

ROSTER

OF

POST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS



American Legion Pony Express Post 359

Department of Missouri

Roster of Post Committee Members (2023 – 2024)

- MEMBERSHIP -** KEITH JONES (Chairman), JIM WILLIAMS, DALE HARKLEROAD,
DAVID N. VOYLES
- FINANCE -** JIM WILLIAMS (Chairman), CARL FIRKINS, DAVID N. VOYLES,
JIM LADEROUTE
- VA&R -** ROGER A. MILLER (Chairman), JIM WILLIAMS, CARL FIRKINS,
KEITH JONES
- AMERICANISM -** ROGER A. MILLER (Chairman), DALE HARKLEROAD, JIM WILLIAMS
- School Awards Committee –** JEROME L. GOOLSBY (Chairman)
- Boy Scouts Committee –** JEROME L. GOOLSBY (Chairman)
- Oratorical Committee –** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
- CHILDREN & YOUTH -** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
- PUBLIC RELATIONS -** KEITH JONES (Chairman), JEROME L. GOOLSBY
- NATIONAL SECURITY –** JEROME L. GOOLSBY (Chairman)
- INTERNAL AFFAIRS –** DAVID N. VOYLES (Chairman), JACK PINION, ROGER MILLER,
BILLY R. RICHARDS, JEROME L. GOOLSBY, JIM LADEROUTE,
PATRICK J. GROVE, JIMMY A. WILLIAMS, KEITH JONES,
KENNETH H. NASH
- S.A.L. COMMITTEE –** JEROME L. GOOLSBY (Chairman), DAVID VOYLES



APPENDIX C

CHARTER MEMBERS

OF

POST 359



American Legion Pony Express Post 359

Department of Missouri

Roster of Charter Members

Abner D. McKinnon	Paul M. Riedle	Hugh M. Howard
Arthur C. Jones	Everett L. Johnson	Everett E. Klusman
Clifton L. Thompson	J. Glen Venable	Julian Midler
Alfred G. Roth	Stan P. Crump	Joseph E. Suhoskey
Samuel M. Spair	Carl C. Castel	Harry E. Agnew
Calvin Weinberg	Alex Mendell	Jake Lieberman
Earl C. Gartin	Charles Piro	Max E. Lance
	Paul E. Growney	

A charter request was submitted on September 19, 1945. American Legion National Headquarters issued a temporary charter on October 4, 1945 and a permanent charter was issued on January 16, 1946.



APPENDIX D

PAST COMMANDERS OF POST 359



American Legion Pony Express Post 359

Department of Missouri

Roster of Past Commanders

(*) - indicates member deceased

Charles Piro*	1946 – 1948	Donald Thompson*	1982 – 1983
Calvin Weinberg*	1948 – 1949	Clyde L. Heckel*	1983 – 1984
Al Wisneski*	1949 – 1950	Dorothy L. Wylie*	1984 – 1985
Carlyle Hadley*	1950 – 1951	Anthony A. Drennen*	1985 – 1986
Herbert Bell*	1951 – 1952	Robert L. Beaver, Sr.*	1986 – 1987
Keith Shawgo*	1952 - 1953	Charles R. Tiedt*	1987 – 1988
William Malinowski*	1953 - 1954	David N. Voyles	1988 – 1989
Abner McKinnon*	1954 – 1955	Andrew J. Schultz, Jr.*	1989 – 1990
James P. Doolan*	1955 – 1956	Dwane E. Wylie*	1990 – 1992
Joseph Lapira*	1956 – 1957	Jerry L. Gascoigne*	1992 – 1993
William Evans*	1957 – 1958	Jim Oliver*	1993 – 1994
Bill Straub*	1958 – 1959	Mike Crawford*	1994 – 1995
William Glassbrenner*	1959 – 1960	Larry Waller*	1995 – 1996
Cleo Martin*	1960 – 1961	Ray A. Ward*	1996 – 1997
William Harvey*	1961 – 1962	Jack Pinion	1997 – 1999
Charles Triggs*	1962 – 1963	Herman J. Seufert, Jr.*	1999 – 2000
Joe Underwood*	1963 – 1964	Billy R. Richards	2000 – 2003
Frederick J. Lederer*	1964 – 1965	Robert D. Hunt*	2003 – 2004
Mike Kolega*	1965 – 1966	Billy R. Richards	2004 – 2006
Ray Roseberry*	1966 – 1967	Bobby Knowles*	2006
Lewis F. Randolph, Jr*	1967 – 1968	Billy R. Richards	2006 – 2007
John Larkam*	1968 – 1969	James F. Laderoute	2007 – 2009
Eugene Knaebel*	1969 – 1970	David N. Voyles	2009
Charles R. Modrell*	1970 – 1971	Roger Miller	2009 – 2010
Tony Klein*	1971 – 1972	Dennis R. Brown, Jr.	2010 – 2011
Tom Williams*	1972 – 1973	David A. Hickok	2011
Carl Kerr*	1973 – 1974	Ronald R. Rice	2011 – 2012
James Murray*	1974 – 1975	Bernard J. Swartz	2012 – 2013
Henry Young*	1975 – 1976	Mike Thomas	2013 – 2014
Guy Lapira*	1976 – 1977	David A. Dixon	2014
Marvin Pfleiderer*	1977 – 1978	Jimmy A. Williams	2014 – 2015
Edward F. Grove*	1978 – 1979	Patrick J. Grove	2015 – 2017
Charles R. Modrell*	1979 – 1980	Jerome L. Goolsby	2017 – 2022
Florence G. Dailey*	1980 – 1981	James F. Laderoute	2022 – 2023
Eugene Knaebel*	1981 – 1982	Jerome L. Goolsby	2023 – 2024



APPENDIX E

PAST ADJUTANTS

OF

POST 359



American Legion Pony Express Post 359

Department of Missouri

Roster of Past Adjutants

(*) - indicates member deceased

Everett L. Johnson*	1946
Max E. Lance*	1946
Norman Myers*	1946 – 1950
William Malinowski*	1951 – 1953
William Henkins*	1953 – 1955
William Malinowski*	1955 – 1958
Donald Thompson*	1958 – 1960
William Malinowski*	1960 – 1986
Larry A. Farley*	1987 – 1991
Charles R. Johnston*	1992 – 1994
Andrew J. Schultz, Jr.*	1994
Ray A. Ward*	1994 – 1995
Eugene D. McNeal*	1995 – 2000
Jerome L. Goolsby	2000 – 2008
Rosie Haertling	2008 – 2009
Eugene D. McNeal*	2009
Jerome L. Goolsby	2009 – 2024



APPENDIX F

CITATIONS

AND

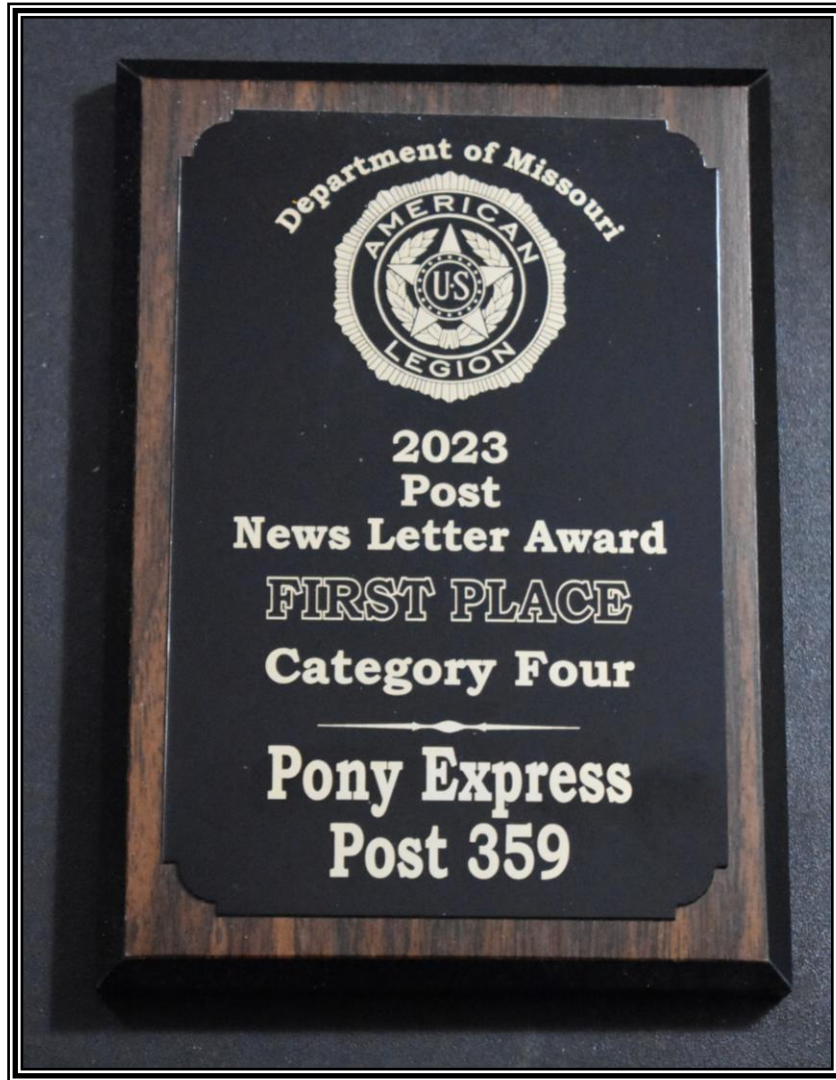
AWARDS



Sixth Place Award from The American Legion Department of Missouri Americanism Commission for Americanism Program Activities for 2022 – 2023 presented to Pony Express Post 359 at the Department Fall Conference held on October 28, 2023.



Historian Award plaque presented to Pony Express Post 359 for winning First Place in the Department of Missouri's Narrative History Book competition for 2022 – 2023 at the Department Fall Conference October 28, 2023.



First Place Award from The American Legion Department of Missouri Media and Communications Commission for the best newsletter for Posts in Category Four for 2023 presented to Pony Express Post 359 at the Department Fall Conference held on October 28, 2023.



APPENDIX G

ROSTER OF
NATIONAL,
DEPARTMENT,
AND DISTRICT
CONVENTION DELEGATES



**American Legion Pony Express Post 359
Department of Missouri**

**Roster of Post 359 Delegates to the
105th National Convention
of The American Legion**

JEROME L. GOOLSBY

**Roster of Post 359 Delegates to the 105th Convention of
The American Legion Department of Missouri**

DAVID N. VOYLES, JEROME L. GOOLSBY, ROGER A. MILLER,
KEITH L. JONES, JAMES F. LADEROUTE, JIM WILLIAMS

**Roster of Post 359 Delegates to the Annual Convention of
The Fourth District of The American Legion Department of Missouri**

DAVID N. VOYLES, JEROME L. GOOLSBY, ROGER A. MILLER,
KEITH L. JONES, JAMES F. LADEROUTE, JIM WILLIAMS



APPENDIX H

ROSTER OF
NATIONAL,
DEPARTMENT,
AND DISTRICT
OFFICERS AND
COMMITTEE MEMBERS



American Legion Pony Express Post 359

Department of Missouri

Roster of National, Department and District Officers 2023 – 2024

Department Officers – Jerome L. Goolsby, Department Historian

Roster of National, Department and District Committee Members 2023 – 2024

National -	David N. Voyles –	National Convention Resolutions Assignment Committee
	Jerome L. Goolsby –	Americanism Council
Department -	David N. Voyles –	Baseball Commission
	–	Foundation of Missouri
	–	Distinguished Guests Committee
	–	Department Commander’s Advisory Committee
	–	Finance Commission
	Jerome L. Goolsby –	BSA Committee (Chairman)
		Media & Communications Commission
	Leonard Hill –	Tractor Division (Chairman)
District -	Jerome L. Goolsby –	District Steering Committee
	Leonard Hill –	District Steering Committee
	David N. Voyles –	Foundation of Missouri Committee



APPENDIX I

ROSTER OF LIFE MEMBERS OF POST 359



American Legion Pony Express Post 359

Department of Missouri

Roster of LIFE Members of Pony Express Post 359

Charles L. Bowles, Jr.
Kenneth L. Bryson
Randy J. Ford
John H. Funk III
Donnis L. Hood
James F. Laderoute
William M. Loveland, Jr.
Terry L. Maag
William Mazvinski
Jack R. Pinion
Billy R. Richards
Earl F. Steeb
David N. Voyles
Jimmy A. Williams
Grover A. Wisdom, Jr.



APPENDIX J

ROSTER OF
PAID-UP-FOR-LIFE
(PUFL)
MEMBERS OF
POST 359



American Legion Pony Express Post 359

Department of Missouri

Roster of Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL) Members of Pony Express Post 359

Charles L. Armstrong
Danny C. Baldwin
William O. Bangerter
Donald Lee Berning
Dennis L. Bowles
Raymond E. Brady
Len M. Brott
Harold D. Burchett
Edward L. Carson
Jay L. Carter
Marty A. Clary
James N. Collier
Harold Constantine
Paul E. Davenport
Carl C. Firkins
Carl E. Francis
Brendon P. Franz
W. H. Gondring
Jerome L. Goolsby
Patrick J. Grove
Larry Hahn
Darrel M. Hanson
Dale E. Harkleroad
Harold M. Harshman
William E. Henderson
Richard C. Hinkle
Norman R. Hoffman
Kenneth E. Holmes

Donald C. Hull
Keith L. Jones
Kurt J. Kissel
Bill B. Linch
Roger A. Lower
Wallace McDonald, M.D.
Ernest R. McMillan, Jr.
Billy L. Morris
Farrell D. Nelson
John O'Rourke
Vincent W. Perry
David L. Poage
Robert L. Quint
Paul H. Rhodes
Lois E. Rider
Rev. Charles R. Rogers, Sr.
Joseph C. Ross, Jr.
Victor W. Sare
Kevin M. Siegmund
George R. Smith
Gregory D. Starkel
Arthur R. Warner
Bradley S. Wickham
Donald G. Wooden



APPENDIX K

IN MEMORIAM

FOR POST 359

2023 - 2024



IN MEMORIAM

The following members of
American Legion Pony Express Post 359, Department of Missouri,
were transferred to Post Everlasting from
July 2023 – June 2024

JULY 2023

ROBERT J. BROWN

AUGUST 2023

FRANK B. WITHROW

SEPTEMBER 2023

RONALD D. GANN

OCTOBER 2023

MICHAEL McENANEY

TONY MAZUR

DONALD E. CHESSER

HENRY ADKINS

NOVEMBER 2023

RONALD L. DOWDEN

DECEMBER 2023

DENNIS THOMPSON

JANUARY 2024

WILLIAM H. PLYMELL
Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL) Member

FEBRUARY 2024

KEN BECK

MAY 2024

WILLIAM R. "BILL" ZELTWANGER

JUNE 2024

NORMAN R. HOFFMAN
Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL) Member



APPENDIX L

CONSOLIDATED

POST REPORT

2023 – 2024



THE AMERICAN LEGION | CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT

2023 - 2024

Department of (1) MISSOURI Post No. (2) 359 District No. (3) 4
 Final 2022-2023 Membership (4) 372 City (5) SAINT JOSEPH State (6) MO

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION

- 7 \$ no. of cases handled by service officer(s)
- 8 \$100 emergency aid given to veterans from post funds
- 9 no. of volunteer hours recorded at VA hospitals
- 10 \$ contributions to VA Voluntary Service program
- 11 has a VA Voluntary Service coordinator
- 12 no. of VA Voluntary Service volunteers

NATIONAL SECURITY

- 13 Blood Donor program - no. of units donated
- 14 Blood Donor program: no. of blood donors
- 15 ROTC medals - no. presented by post
- 16 has a National Security chairperson
- 17 has a Crime Prevention/Law and Order program
- 18 has a Fire Prevention/Protection program
- 19 participates in Homeland Sec./Disaster Relief
- 20 has a POW/MIA chairperson
- 21 has Law Enforcement of the Year program
- 22 has Fire Fighter of the Year program
- 23 post has color guard / rifle team
- 24 wake services honors provided for veterans
- 25 no. of funeral honors provided for veterans
- 26 \$ funeral cost to post
- 27 post has ceremonial rifles or static display
- 28 number of static displays (guns, cannons, etc.)

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 29 has media relations/PR officer
- 30 produces a post publication
- 31 maintains a website
- 32 distributes a post e-newsletter
- 33 has post social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc)
- 34 no. of times post mentioned on radio
- 35 no. of times post mentioned on TV
- 36 no. of times post mentioned in newspaper (stories)

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

- 37 has employment chairperson
- 38 has Homeless Veterans chairperson
- 39 participates in career fairs
- 40 no. of veterans referred to LVER or DVOP
- 41 no. placed in employment
- 42 no. placed in job training program
- 43 promotes programs such as Employer of the Year
- 44 post submitted award: Homeless Veterans Outreach
- 45 post submitted award: Employer of the disabled
- 46 post submitted award: Employer of Older Workers
- 47 award to Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER)
- 48 award to Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP)
- 49 award to local office
- 50 award for Employer of veterans, large cat/+200 employees
- 51 award to Employer of veterans, med cat/50-200 employees
- 52 award for Employer of veterans, small cat/less than 50 emp

AMERICANISM

- 53 \$ Boys State: no. of boys sponsored
- 54 \$2000 Boys State: cost to post
- 55 \$ American Legion Legacy Scholarship: amt donated
- 56 participates in citizenship/naturalization activities
- 57 Baseball: American Legion Baseball team sponsored
- 58 \$ cost of baseball team sponsorship
- 59 other athletic teams sponsored
- 60 \$ cost of other teams
- 61 Scouting: sponsors scout unit(s)
- 62 no. of youths in Legion Scouting
- 63 \$100 donated to scouting activities
- 64 Oratorical Contest: sponsored local contest
- 65 no. of local Oratorical contestants
- 66 \$25 Oratorical cost to post
- 67 participates in School Award program
- 68 \$ no. of awards presented
- 69 participates in American Education Week
- 70 \$ cost of American Education Week
- 71 no. of scholarships awarded
- 72 \$ cost of scholarship awards
- 73 participates in Vets in the Classroom
- 74 \$ Vets in the Classroom cost to post
- 75 participates in Flag Day
- 76 participates in Get Out The Vote
- 77 participates in Veterans Day
- 78 participates in Memorial Day
- 79 participates in American Legion Birthday
- 80 participates in Four Chaplains Sunday
- 81 \$1000 Community Service: Estimated no. of hours of service
- 82 \$1500 Community Service cost to post
- 83 Jr Shooting Sports Prog Club: no. of clubs
- 84 Jr Shooting Sports Prog Club: no. of youth involved
- 85 \$ Jr Shooting Sports Prog cost to post
- 86 Youth Cadet Law Enforcement
- 87 Youth Cadet: no. of youth involved
- 88 \$ Youth Cadet: cost to post
- 89 participates in National Day of Prayer

CHILDREN & YOUTH (C&Y)

- 90 no. of C&Y activities held
- 91 \$100 cash aid given to benefit children
- 92 \$1000 value of goods given to children (reasonable estimate)
- 93 \$75 no. of children given aid (cash or goods)
- 94 \$200 no. of volunteer hours for C&Y programs and activities
- 95 participates in Halloween Safety
- 96 participates in Health & Child Safety
- 97 participates in April is C&Y Month
- 98 participates in National Family Week
- 99 \$ parties, dinners, prizes and gifts
- 100 participates in Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)
- 101 \$ TFA: cost to post
- 102 \$200 administrative costs (paper, equipment, etc.)
- 103 \$300 cost of all other child service charities
- 104 American Legion Veteran & Children Foundation
- 105 \$ Veteran & Children Foundation: cost to post

INTERNAL AFFAIRS & MEMBERSHIP

- 106 American Legion Riders: has Riders group
- 107 no. of Legion family members in Riders group
- 108 participate in Legion Riders Legacy Run
- 109 \$ Legacy Run: cost to post
- 110 Sons of American Legion: has squadron
- 111 \$20 Sons of American Legion: no of Sons in squadron
- 112 participate in National Emergency Fund
- 113 \$100 National Emergency Fund: cost to post
- 114 American Legion Amateur Radio Club: has radio club
- 115 \$ American Legion Amateur Radio Club: cost to post
- 116 Participated in Buddy Check
- 117 Number of members contacted
- 118 Participated in Veterans Service Days
- 119 Number of events hosted
- 120 participates in Operation Comfort Warriors
- 121 \$9000 all other fund raising not captured above
- 122 Volunteer hours not captured above

Signature _____
 2023-2024

ADJUTANT _____
 Title

4 JUNE 2024
 Date

POST COPY

30-010 (2024) Anwork #: 711A1020



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