The American Legion Department of Ohio Second District

2nd District Commander's Newsletter

Fall Conference Edition – 2026

From the Commander's Desk

Fellow Legionnaires, Sons, Auxiliary members, and community partners—

As we gather for the 2026 Fall Conference, I am reminded once again of the strength, dignity, and purpose that define the American Legion. The 2nd District continues to demonstrate what disciplined leadership, community engagement, and veteran-focused service can accomplish. Our posts across Allen, Auglaize, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, Shelby, and Van Wert counties have stepped forward with renewed energy—strengthening membership, expanding youth programs, and honoring our veterans with the respect they deserve.

This conference is more than a meeting. It reaffirms our mission: **to serve veterans, support families, and strengthen our communities through unity, tradition, and action.**

Thank you for the work you do every day. Your service continues to matter.

The 2nd District Recent Accomplishments:

- **Membership Growth:** Several posts reported increases in both traditional and digital signups. Momentum is building—let's carry it into the holiday season.
- **Youth & Education:** The 2nd District posts expanded participation in Boys State, flag education, and school partnerships across our cities and surrounding communities.
- **Veterans Day:** Veterans Day ceremonies and outreach efforts are on the horizon-your participation will make these events meaningful and strengthen our community bonds.
- **Strengthened Governance:** Posts are adopting improved financial transparency, audit-ready reporting, and streamlined administrative processes, setting a statewide example.

These accomplishments highlight your dedication and your efforts in membership growth, youth programs, and veteran support truly matter and inspire pride.

Fall Conference Purpose

The Fall Conference serves three core objectives:

1. **Strengthen District Coordination:** Align district leadership, post commanders, and program chairs for the 2026–2027 Legion year.
2. **Advance Training & Readiness:** Provide updated guidance on membership, youth programs, ceremonial protocol, and Department initiatives.
3. **Honor Service & Tradition:** Recognize outstanding Legionnaires, celebrate post achievements, and reaffirm our commitment to veterans and families.

Ceremonial Elements

The 2nd District will uphold full ceremonial protocol, including:

- POW/MIA Chair Ceremony
- Proper Flag Etiquette & Salute Protocol

These traditions remind us of our solemn duty and the legacy we carry forward.

Looking Ahead

As we move toward Veterans Day, the holiday season, and the next membership cycle, District 2 will continue focusing on:

- Strengthening partnerships with schools, civic groups, and employers
- Expanding youth civic education and flag programs
- Enhancing post-level governance and financial transparency
- Growing membership through personal outreach and community visibility
- Supporting veterans and families with dignity, respect, and unwavering commitment

Your leadership at the post level drives our success. Together, we will continue to build a district that honors service, strengthens community, and leads with purpose.

Call to Action

Stand with the 2nd District 2. Lead with purpose by inviting a veteran, mentoring a youth, or supporting your post today to strengthen our mission.

Respectfully-

Kurt Emans - Commander