



AMVETS FAMILY NATIONAL
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Greetings fellow AMVETS,

As your National Commander, I want to thank the Veterans, Auxiliary, Sons, Riders, and Juniors who make up the AMVETS Family. Our strength has always come from working together as one team for the good of this organization and the veterans we serve. As we look to the future, we must continue building trust, improving communication, and aligning our efforts at every level. When we operate as a united AMVETS Family, we strengthen our posts, expand our programs, and ensure that our mission continues to benefit veterans, their families, and our communities for generations to come.

This year, I encourage each of us to focus not only on moving AMVETS forward, but on co-elevating one another along the way. We go higher and further when we invest in each other, share opportunities, and build meaningful relationships across departments, posts, and programs. We should never eat alone—whether at a convention, meeting, community event, or local post function, we should use every opportunity to sit with someone new, strengthen bonds, and develop key relationships that make our organization stronger. Through mentorship, networking, and genuine fellowship, we can lift one another up and create a stronger, more connected AMVETS Family.

As AMVETS continues to evolve, we must always keep our traditions and mission at the front of our minds. For 80 years, we have done great things in service to American veterans, and that legacy carries a responsibility. We must be mentors, leaders, and good stewards of the next generation of American veterans who will carry this organization forward. At the same time, we must remain agile and adaptable to the future missions we face, whether that means addressing new challenges, embracing new ideas, or finding better ways to serve. By honoring our past while preparing for the future, AMVETS will remain a powerful voice for veterans today, tomorrow, and for generations to come. Thank you for your service to our country and your continued dedication to AMVETS. Let us leave this convention committed to teamwork, relationship-building, mentorship, and mission-focused leadership.

Yours in Service,

Paul Shipley
AMVETS National Commander, 2025–2026

