



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF IOWA IOWA LEGIONNAIRE & Auxiliary Communiqué

An Official Publication of The American Legion, Department of Iowa: June 2019

The Iowa Legionnaire and Communiqué
720 Lyon Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50309

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #27
WEBSTER CITY, IA

Call For Convention on Page 6 with Schedule on Page 15

Dubuque County Repeats

Spring is in the air, we hope it stays, and we are quickly heading into Iowa Summer. Along with the many activities that families and individuals enjoy, America's favorite pastime of baseball is in full swing (pun intended). American Legion Baseball in Iowa had a challenging start to an early season due to unpredictable weather. Many of the post sponsored teams did not have the opportunity to play as many games due to some form of precipitation or its aftermath on fields. Nevertheless, teams kept their resolve and The Department of Iowa had four Area Tournaments to determine which teams had their opportunity to play in the Department Tournament, May 4-5, 2019 in Sioux City.

The teams that played in the state tournament were: Ames (Ames Post #37), Peak Carroll County (Dedham Post #20), Dubuque County (Cascade Post #528, Dubuque Post #6, Dyersville Post #137, Epworth Post #650 and Farley Post #656), Johnston (Johnston Post #728), and Woodbury County (Sgt. Bluff Post #662). In what turned out to be great weather for baseball, Woodbury County and Dubuque County advanced to the state finals. Both teams received the chance to play Sunday at Lewis and Clark Stadium, home of the Sioux City Explorers. After persevering through the short rain delay, the game was called due to a 10-run mercy rule in the bottom of the sixth inning after Dubuque County sealed their victory. Dubuque County drove in their final run to make the score 13 to 3.

Dubuque County's back-to-back state championship earns them the opportunity to once again represent Iowa in the



Central Plains Regionals August 7-11, 2019, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The winner from that regional tournament will move on to play in the American Legion Baseball World Series hosted in Shelby, North Carolina August 15-20, 2019.



The Proctor brothers were in attendance, making almost 55 appearances to the State Tournament. The brothers selected #20, Kyle Lehmann as the recipient of the Proctor Most Valuable Player. Lehmann is a student from Western Dubuque Epworth and starts in Right Field for Dubuque County Baseball.

Congratulations Dubuque County American Legion Baseball and your sponsoring posts. We wish you the best of luck. Thank you to Sgt. Bluff American Legion Post #662 and the Woodbury County team for the hard work you put into hosting the state tournament. Thank you to all the teams and posts that hosted an area tournament: Ottumwa, Dubuque, Carroll, and Ames.

Final scores may be found on the Department's website: www.ialegion.org/baseball.



2019 Oratorical Contest

As we move forward into another year of the American Legion Oratorical Scholarship Program, I would like to reflect on 2019. The American Legion of Iowa and its members have a lot to be proud of with a young man's determination that lead

him to become our National Champion.

As many of you are aware, Patrick Junker of Waukee, a junior at Van Meter High School and sponsored by Van Meter Post #403, was our 2018 Department Champion. Patrick competed at the 81st National Oratorical Championship in Indianapolis, Indiana but did not advance past the quarterfinals. More determined than ever he returned in 2019 and became our Department Champion for the second year in a row.

On April 5-7, I had the privilege of attending the 2019 annual National Oratorical Contest to watch Patrick. The title of his speech, "The Spread of Constitutional Apathy and How to Quarantine It" is something he truly believes in and is passionate about. In the quarterfinals, he gave an 8-minute 3-second speech giving us quite a scare because he literally finished his speech as they were lifting up the card

for the 8-minute mark. Anything less than 8 minutes would have given him a penalty point. In the semifinals, he delivered an 8-minute 12-second speech.

As we stood in front of the announcement board waiting for the results of the quarterfinals, I think I was more nervous about the results than he was. As the results came up on the board I turned to Patrick and shook his hand to congratulate him because he had advanced to the finals. At that moment I saw a look on his face that said I could possibly win this. Fifty-three high school orators headed to Indianapolis to compete in The American Legion's 82nd annual National Oratorical Contest and Patrick was one of the 3 finalists.

On Sunday morning Patrick's confidence and conviction as he gave his prepared speech capped off an amazing exhibition of talent at the finals.

Oratorical Continued on Page 2

DEADLINES & DATES

June 8
Membership Meeting - Dept. HQ
Aspen Dental Day of Service - Various
June 9-14
Boys State - Camp Dodge - Johnston
June 11
Legionnaire's Day - Camp Dodge
June 15
Consolidated Post Reports Due
Legionnaire of the Year Nominations Due
National Convention Registration Due
June 15-16
NASCAR Event - Iowa Speedway, Newton
June 16
Father's Day
June 21
Finance Committee Meeting - Dept. HQ
June 22
DEC Meeting - Dept. HQ
July 4
Independence Day - Dept. Office Closed
July 6
Vets of Valor Ride
July 10
American Legion Day with CR Kernels
Veterans Stadium @5:45 PM - Cedar Rapids
July 17
American Legion Day with Iowa Cubs
Principal Park @ 7 PM - Des Moines
July 18-21
Department Convention - Des Moines
July 19
Department Offices Closed
July 21-27
RAGBRAI
August 8-11
National Membership Workshop - Indianapolis
August 12
Walk For Veterans - Iowa State Fair Grounds
August 15
Legionnaire Articles Due - Dept. HQ
September 2
Labor Day - Dept. Offices Closed

**Please fill out
our survey &
questionnaire on
Page 6**

THE AMERICAN LEGION

1919 100 Years 2019

VETERANS STILL SERVING AMERICA

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NASCAR & RAGBRAI on Page 16
Walk For Veterans on Page 16

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Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Iowa

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The Iowa Legionnaire and Communiqué

is published quarterly
(March, June, September, and December)
by The American Legion, Department of Iowa
720 Lyon St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309.



Department Commander J. Scott Moline

To date,
it has been
quite a year



since last year's state conference. It was a distinct pleasure to attend numerous Fall and Spring District Conferences and I would like to thank all Vice Commanders, District Commanders, and committees that were instrumental in the planning and execution of these most needed and informational meetings for our Legion Family. The annual "Fall Meetings" were most informational, and like the recently conducted "Spring Meetings", provided "a plan for the future of the American Legion" as we now have entered our second hundred years.

The added highlight of the "Spring Meetings" was my attendance with incoming National Vice Commander Bruce Feuerbach at the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the St. Louis Caucus held at the Soldiers Memorial Military Museum. However, to ensure our future and continue our growth and what we deliver to our cities, counties, state and Nation, it is imperative for us to identify those who would be great recruiters at the POST level, incorporate chain reaction of tools and rules, train these individuals at the POST level, bolster our membership representation state-wide, provide expectations for recruiting and most of all, and continually harvest the "low hanging fruit" of renewals to ensure our stability. Remember, State Legislatures and Congress listen to numbers.

With all of this said, I'll close by once again thanking you for all you do at all levels of the American Legion, Department of Iowa and to urge all POSTS to recognize our public safety professionals at all levels in this State for their selfless service in "serving and protecting".

LEST WE FORGET
J. Scott Moline

Oratorical Continued

His assigned topic on Amendment 21 was given equally as well and both speeches conveyed a very powerful message that all Americans should think about. With his two powerful speeches, it ultimately crowned him with the title of the 82nd National Oratorical Contest Champion and an \$18,000.00 Scholarship.

In an interview after the contest that can be seen on www.legion.org, Patrick talks about his experience and thanks to the American Legion for the opportunity to compete in the Oratorical Contest. He stated that this contest has given him many life skills that he will use in the future. Thank you, Patrick Junker, for making Iowans and the American Legion Proud! I am honored as

Department Chairman to have been a part of Patrick's journey along with the many Legion and Auxiliary members who helped to conduct another successful year of the Oratorical program. I look forward to meeting with the incoming Chairman of their perspective Contests and setting new program goals for the 83rd American Legion Oratorical Scholarship Program in 2020.

Frank Andrew
Oratorical Chairman



Department Adjutant John A. Derner

"Change is the only constant in life."

-- Heraclitus, Greek philosopher

As Department Adjutant, I have had the privilege of working with many talented staff members over the past 16 years. Changes in staff are inevitable, and we are once again experiencing change.

Service Officer Gary Carter has announced his retirement effective July 30, 2019. Gary has served us well as Department Service Officer and as a Claims Representative for 8 years. His dedication and leadership continue to make our American Legion Service Office a respected institution in the arena of veteran's benefits. We wish him well in his retirement but will miss his passion and his advocacy.

Applications for Department Service Officer are currently being accepted.

Business Manager Becky Bowden has also retired, effective May 24, 2019. Becky has been with us since March of 2018 and has done an outstanding job with the financial records of the Department. We wish her health and happiness in her retirement. Becky will continue to work on a part-time basis to provide training for her replacement.

We welcome aboard Business Manager Brenda Parrish. Brenda has over 25 years of accounting and business experience and has already proven to be a valuable member of our staff team.

This is also a time of change for American Legion leadership. Many American Legion posts have recently installed, or will be soon installing, new post officers. District officers will be installed at Department Convention. Department and national officers will be elected and installed at our Department Convention.

Following their election and installation, it is our duty as members to assist them in carrying out the programs and policies of The American Legion.

For those accepting leadership positions, it is your duty to understand the responsibilities of your position and carry them out to the best of your ability.

As an organization we constantly changing, but we will continue to build on our accomplishments of the past 100 years and remain relevant for the next 100 years.

Department of Iowa Receives \$112,024 from LIT

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT) was formed in 1966, with two primary goals: to provide Legion families with low cost insurance protection and to provide a source of revenue to participating Departments.

Since joining the program in 1992, The Department of Iowa has received a grand total of \$1,635,303 from the program.

LIT Continued on Page 5





National Executive Committeeman Jerry Sebben

Greetings fellow Legionnaires.

I want to congratulate all the Post and District Officers that are taking on new officer positions this year, I know you will find it both rewarding and at times challenging. Those of you that accepted the challenge of leadership are now tasked with planning your upcoming year. One of the programs offered at Department is our Leadership School held this year Friday, May 31, 2019, thru Sunday, June 2, 2019. The Leadership committee provides an outstanding agenda each year for both the new officers and those that are experienced.

We recently returned from our Spring meetings at National Headquarters in Indianapolis. Many reports and resolutions were submitted. One of those resolutions recommended Amendments to The American Legion Constitution and By-Laws. The Amendments were cleaning up the language and pronouns of the Constitution and By-Laws and will be sent to all the Departments prior to our National Convention.

Resolution 18: "...that the process of "Buddy Check" be made formal and executed Legion-wide concurrent with the weeks of The American Legion birthday and of Veterans Day...that the "Buddy Check" weeks be the primary operational focus of every member, post, department, and the National Headquarters." The "Buddy Check" week will also be reportable on the annual Consolidated Post Report.

I want to congratulate the Sons of the

American Legion as they have surpassed \$8 million in contributions to the Child Welfare Foundation. They are truly a great program.

Summer is upon us and that means Department Convention will soon be here. I would like to encourage as many of you as possible to attend in Des Moines. This will be a special Department Convention as we will be celebrating 100 years as an organization. Many special events are planned, so don't miss this one.

I would also invite you to consider the National Convention in Indianapolis in August. It is going to be a very special event this year. Alternate NEC Dennis Soppe and I look forward to seeing you at the State Convention and possibly at National Convention in August.

For God and Country
Jerry D Sebben NEC



Dept. Service Officer Gary Carter

Fellow Legionnaires,

How does time fly so quickly, yet with so many projects and events the work never stops keeping the Department Service Office so busy? The Service Office has been doing remarkable and is proud of the accomplishments and efforts dedicated to our veterans. The statistics of what is being done is truly amazing. This is happening because of the efforts of the Service Office staff. They have the utmost passion and dedication to represent veterans by answering questions about VA benefits, submitting developed claims, and conducting hearings in advocating to advance benefits for the veteran and the surviving spouses. This can be grueling at times with the effort given to each phone call, to every veteran or spouse that walk-ins, and attention to detail in every claim that is submitted to the Veteran Affairs daily. I would

welcome all of you to the Service Office just to get a picture of how personal involvement is provided and how important this office is to our Veterans.

The opportunity to be the Department Service Officer has been a very rewarding experience by being able to advocate for so many Veterans and Spouses. The reputation has always been to give a hundred percent every day and continue to make an impact on someone's life. For the past eight years in the Service Office, I have seen many changes from the paper to the electronic world. I have reached out and talked to more than thirty thousand veterans that have been through the office seeking benefits. I have done thousands of hearings advocating for disability benefits earned by serving this great country. You can be assured that no veteran would be turned away when other organizations fail to step up to the plate and assist. It is an honor and one of the greatest feeling to listen to every story of those who served and how we would do it all again given the chance. It's also sad to hear about those who move on to life everlasting. But with sadness

comes the reward of having been there when they needed us most and being able to take care of their spouses if possible to ensure that benefits would continue because of the of their military veteran.

It is literally impossible to capture your career and what you have done with your life. But at the end of each day if you can reflect that you did everything possible, and be proud of what was accomplished, then it was a great day. Being the Department Service Officer has been a wonderful experience and now I have decided to retire while I am still healthy for the most part and will be leaving 30 July 2019. I have been serving this country for over forty years in the United States Navy, Iowa Air National Guard, Viet Nam Veterans of America, and The American Legion. I have so many memories of service and serving other Veterans. I look forward to the opportunity to enjoy the rest of my life that the good Lord will provide and any adventures that will come my way. Thank you all for the support you have given me and this office, and it is my desire that you continue that support.

For God and Country.



Sons of The American Legion Detachment Cmdr. Alan Schenck

Walk The Talk!

As sons of the American Legion leaders and volunteers, we are asked to go above and beyond for the benefit of the SAL Detachment of Iowa. I've often been told that as volunteers you can only ask so much of the committee chairs and vice commanders. I disagree! When we all took our oath of office, we agreed to do what was necessary to benefit and enhance the SAL

Detachment of Iowa. We have to be the examples, not the average. We need to walk the talk! How can you ask our Squadron Commanders and members to do things which we have not done ourselves? For example, we asked each member to bring in three new squadron members. Have you set an example by bringing in three new members as a SAL leader? We asked each squadron to donate \$1 per member to the CWF, \$0.50 per member to the Child Endowment Fund, and \$0.50 per member to the National Emergency Fund. As a SAL leader have you donated an appropriate amount to these three charities for the SAL Detachment of Iowa? If not, why? We need to walk the talk! Have you worked with a squadron and post

on the 5th-grade essay contest? Have you helped with an oratorical contest or the Boy Scouts nominations?

We need to set good examples for our squadrons and assist and help them in all these areas! Everything we do should improve and enhance the programs of the Legion and the SAL Detachment of Iowa. We all need to walk the talk! The next three months of 2019 to the end of the year let's make a commitment to do the best we can as leaders of the SAL Detachment of Iowa. In other words, let's all Walk The Talk!

Freedom, honor our veterans!
Alan Schenck

Combined Honor Guards in Marshalltown, IA

In 2010 and prior years, both the VFW and American Legion organizations had honor guards, and many times both honor guards were performing military honors with less than a full contingent of personnel. Due to declining numbers in both organizations and in their honor guards, the two honor guards decided to merge into a combined honor guard with the name Marshalltown Combined VFW/American Legion Honor Guard.

Prior to combining in 2011, each honor guard had slightly different commands that they used in rendering military honors. Both honor guards compromised in order to arrive at workable commands. In 2011

and in 2012, the combined honor guard performed military honors at 49 and 52 deceased veterans funerals, respectively. As our performance improved, the requests for military honors increased, and, in 2013, the combined honor guard performed military honors at 78 funerals. From 2014 through 2018, the total number of military honors rendered at funerals of deceased veterans varied between 74 and 92.

Combining the two above listed honor guards to form the Marshalltown Combined VFW/American Legion Honor Guard has been a huge success for the following reasons:

Membership in the VFW and/or the American Legion is never mentioned because, as honor guard members, we do not care which veteran's organizations our members belong or if they belong. The members just have to be a

veteran. Members of the Marshalltown Combined VFW/American Legion Honor Guard believe every veteran deserves military honors at their funeral, and if the family of the deceased veteran requests military honors, we will do everything possible to provide them. The volunteer spirit of honor guard personnel is very high. Members answer the call to help on short notice, and they call the commander and volunteer their time to participate in military honors if they see an obituary in the paper for a deceased veteran and haven't yet been asked to assist. Also, honor guard members are willing to learn tasks other than being part of the firing party. After combining, the honor guard can now provide a full contingent of 11 or 12 personnel to render full military honors.

Honor Guard Continued on Page 15



1st District Commander John Phillips

Hello, 1st District,

Thank you for a good District Conference in Mt. Pleasant. Post #58 Commander Dean King and Auxiliary President Donna Wise deserve a special

thank you! Their Veteran's Hall is very nice. So far, I have visited 20 post homes. We are all unique, but we are also the American Legion. The one thing we are falling down

on is the proper order of our meetings. Please get out your Officer's Guideline Book, read it, and follow it. There is a purpose for it, and it will make us a better Legion. Remember, we are not a social club. We are the American Legion - 100 years strong!

I am glad to see our larger posts helping our rural posts with their funerals. The funerals are very important to the families, and they are very glad to see us there. For you rural posts, remember you can help out the larger posts too!

Now, our Summer Convention is from July 19-21 at the Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn. I hope you can come for

1 or 2 days. There is always a lot to learn. I need 3 more posts to share their history on Saturday, July 20th, from 3-6 PM. I have 2 so far, Durant and West Branch. It will be really interesting to check everyone out and hear their stories. So, think about your history and let me know if you want to help out at 319-325-1946 (text).

United we stand; divided we fall. Let's all work and communicate together. We are a team and family, the Legion, the Auxiliary, the Sons and the Riders. We are veterans working and helping other veterans and their families.

God Bless, John Phillips



2nd District Commander Dick Hogan

Hello, Great 2nd District Legion Family,

They did it again. For the second year in a row, the Dubuque County American Legion Baseball Team won the Iowa State Legion

Baseball Tournament. Dubuque blasted Woodbury County 13-3 to win the championship at Sioux City on May 5. Dubuque will journey to Sioux Falls, South Dakota in August to play in the Central Plains Regional Tournament. If they win that tournament like they did last year in Dickinson, North Dakota, they will move on to the Legion World Series in Shelby, North Carolina. Great job by the Dubuque team and coaches and the five posts in Dubuque County sponsoring the team.

Speaking of baseball, the Cedar Rapids Kernels have dedicated their July 10 home game as American Legion Night, in honor of the Legion's 100th Birthday. The Kernels are offering discounted tickets for the game. Those tickets MUST be purchased in advance from a special Web site. For each ticket sold, the Kernels will donate \$1

to the 2nd District American Legion to support Legion Baseball.

To order the special tickets here: <https://www.ticketreturn.com/prod2/Buy.asp?EventID=276743&promocode=legion>

Then click on section 114 and the special pricing will appear. Just fill out your order. Or if you prefer, you can either call (319)-363-3887, or go to the Veterans Memorial Stadium Box Office before the day of the game and tell them you want to order tickets for the July 10 "Legion" game.

The Kernels would like one member from each Legion post at the game to be down on the field at 5:45 p.m. as part of a Centennial recognition event. All Legionnaires will be honored that night. Tables will also be set up to offer information about the Legion and its programs. Please attend and help celebrate our centennial and Legion Baseball.

Thank you to the Kernels and General Manager Scott Wilson for making this night possible.

A big thank you to the Walcott American Legion Post and their Auxiliary for hosting the 2nd District Spring Conference in April. It was very well attended and I heard nothing but compliments on the facility, the people and

the food. Great Job Commander Brian Mengler and crew. The Walcott Auxiliary is always top notch.

If you wonder what other posts are doing or offering, remember many are listed on the 2nd District's Web site. Webmaster Don Arns does a fine job of dispensing valuable information on the site. If your post is not getting its activities listed, notify Don or what's going on and he will get the word out.

Before I run out of space, I want to thank my fellow District Officers and everyone in the 2nd District for their hospitality and kindnesses during the past three years that I have served as your commander. Roger Norfolk, also of Marion Post 298, will assume the District Commander's job in July, the day after the Department Convention is done. He was elected at the District Spring Conference. I know Roger will do an outstanding job, but any commander needs the help of all in the Legion Family to truly be successful.

I will be vying for one of the five Department Vice Commander slots at the Department Convention. I hope I will have your support.

Thank you for all you have done and for all you will do.

For God and Country,
Dick Hogan



3rd District Commander Bob Daniel

Greetings 3rd District Legionnaires!

We had our District Spring Conference Saturday, April 27th, at the Waverly All Veterans Post. Turn-out was down somewhat due to the

impending snowstorm that was projected to hit during the conference. It did snow around 2 inches soon after the conference began, and we could all watch it very well due to the large windows overlooking the Cedar River. Otherwise, we had a successful conference. Department had several representatives that had information for us, including Marcia Hoch, Dennis Soppe, Bob Onken, Allen Schenk, and Scott Zach.

A big thank you goes out to Waverly Post #176 for their great hospitality, especially the homemade cinnamon rolls served during the conference. Thank you, Commander Rich Miller! We elected the 2019-2020 3rd District Commander

and his Vice Commanders. Dan Huntley, Commander of Post #182 in Eldora, was elected 3rd District Commander. He will be installed at the Department Convention in July. We also nominated several people to be National Convention Delegates in August.

National Commander Brett Reistad visited 3rd District's Hawkeye Community College Post #738 and Eldora Post #182. Post #738 is coming up on 2 years old and is made up of young veterans that are taking college courses at Hawkeye and UNI. Dan Huntley has been primarily responsible for helping them get started. Good work Dan!

I was invited to 2nd District's Spring Conference in Walcott on April 12th and 13th. The hospitality was great and it was well attended. I was able to arrive on time Saturday, after a Legion Riders meeting, for a really nice luncheon and program, and then sat in on the afternoon Legion program. Very impressive! There was standing room only for the afternoon session! It was an outstanding meeting! Thank you 2nd District for inviting me!

I also was able to present a certificate and check for \$15 for the 3rd place 5th Grade Flag Essay contest at Norway

on the 26th of April. There were representatives from all the posts in Benton County that had Flag Essay participants. There were around 12 students that received recognition from the different posts, County Commander, and District Commander. Outstanding participation thanks to Doug Anderson, 5th Grade Flag Essay Contest Chairman!

3rd District held Boys State Orientations in Dike on the 28th of April and in Iowa Falls on the 5th of May, and we had very good turn-outs for both orientations.

Set your sights on the Department Convention on July 18-21. This is where it all comes together for the next year. District Commanders and Vice Commanders, Department Commander and Vice Commanders are installed at this event. Your vote is important on motions that come before the Department, so you need to be there.

We will have our hospitality room on Friday and Saturday evening. Bring your favorite dessert or a favorite main dish to be shared with visitors to our hospitality room. See you there!

For God and Country!
Bob Daniel



4th District Commander Dan Boberg

On behalf of members of the district that attended the spring conference at Post 9, Oelwein, we thank you for the weather, the hospitality and the good food that went with it. Also a

thank you to the Auxiliary, who I am sure played a big part of it. The program with the business that needed to be done also went well. We started on time at 0900 and were done at 1215 hrs., and not needing the whole day.

Well, we are still in first place on membership, thanks to our 69 posts in the district. Nice job guys, we can do it again. Communication has been very important with District commanders. With our modern age of cellphones, it is a little more difficult. If you are trying to contact your vice commander or me we probably won't answer unless we have it in our contacts. The way to alleviate that problem is to either leave a voice message or use texting. Then it can be put in our directory for further recognition. We at district don't want to miss any calls, whether it be for an event coming up at your post or a problem that we could help with. We love going to events, so keep us informed.

We hope you are working on your Consolidated

Post Reports. It does not have to be a large one. Let National know what you are doing for our veterans and your community. This also lets congress know how important the American Legion is for everyone. If you need help with this report, let us know.

I will be your district commander again for this next term. I look forward to it and any new challenges that might come along.

For God and Country
Lest We Forget
Dan Boberg



5th District Commander Darrin Alderson

Hello Legionnaires,
There is much good news to share! Thank you to the Richland Post #504 for hosting our spring conference. This was our highest attendance in the last two years. Congratulations to all of our new district officers. We are pleased to have several new

district members attending leadership school. RAGBRAI will be rolling through our district on July 24th with an overnight stay in Centerville. Many volunteers will be needed to help at posts and booths along the route. This will be a great opportunity to share what we do and to help raise money for our veteran causes. Contact Department Headquarters to volunteer.

Our State Convention is fast approaching and we really look forward to seeing a great turnout for our 100th year!

This will be our opportunity to highlight the progress made in the last century and kick off the next century with a bang.

Officer and Consolidated Cost Reports need to be turned in by June 1st. Accurate and timely reports help us stay organized and up-to-date. CPR's tell the story of what your post has done over the last year and as a whole tells Congress that we do much more to support our communities. Be sure to contact the district with any questions or ways we can support your post.

This will be my last article as District Commander. My heartfelt thanks for all the support and encouragement that I've received these last two years.

For God and Country,
Darrin Alderson



6th District Commander Stan Merrell

Hello Legion Family,

The finish line is approaching, and as I write this, we are in fourth place. It is a tight race, but it is up to us to get out and get those memberships renewed.

Congratulations, and thank you, to the 6th District Posts that have made or exceeded target; Granger, Redfield, Van Meter, Bondurant, Highland Park, Grimes, Johnston, Slater, Story City, Cumming,

Lacona, and Liberty Center with many others very close.

Have you taken the time to call on your post members? Sometimes they may have forgotten or thought they already paid. Don't let them lose out on continuous years. My post just had two members hit 50 years and both are still active in the post. That is our heritage and we can't afford to lose them.

It was a pleasure to host our National Commander and hear his very informative speech. He is a very dedicated Commander. At the time he stated he has not been home since Christmas.

There are opportunities to volunteer – RAGBRAI – Newton Racetrack. Also, I would encourage you to go

with me to an Iowa Cubs game. There is a link on the Department's website at www.ialeion.org to get tickets for the July 17th game. At the game, the I-Cubs will be recognizing The American Legion and our 100 years.

Remember the Department Convention and plan to attend. Congratulations to 6th District Oratorical contestant from Van Meter Post Patrick Junker on going all the way to National and winning. Patrick, thank you for being such an excellent contestant, we are proud of you.

Thanks to all those that helped me through this year as District Commander.

For God and Country,
Stan Merrell



7th District Commander Joe Jardon

Greetings Pioneer Seventh District American Legionnaires,

Thanks to all of you for attending the Seventh District Spring Conference in Treynor. Brett Martin of Treynor, Post 725 was elected to be our next District Commander taking over at the Department Convention in July 2019. Please support him and his team as they meet with you, your post and your county organization. Also if you are motoring through Treynor on Highway 92, stop and look at the helicopter which is now on its display pedestal at the Post Memorial Park area just east of the post building, on the south side. This is a must see when you are in the area, especially if you are an in-country Vietnam Veteran. Thank you, guys and gals, for your service there.

I encourage you to contact your elected officials in Washington DC to ask to support the LEGION ACT. Reach them at capwiz.com/legion/home. This would expand American Legion membership eligibility to the honorably discharged veterans who served on Federal

Orders in the unrecognized times since WW II.

Please continue to reach out to fellow eligible veterans to encourage them to join the American Legion. Talk about the National Emergency Fund (NEF) which could award up to \$3000 for personal expenses related to National Disasters such as our recent floods. Details and applications are available online at the Dept.'s website.

Don't forget that Post Consolidated Reports (CPR's) are due June 15. They can be submitted through MyLegion.org or by mail to The American Legion Department Headquarters. All of our communities can be improved and yes you Legionnaires lead the way. Please document what you do for the good of all. Let's have 100% this year.

One of the most pleasurable things that I have done as your Commander is being present as you recognize your dedicated, long- time serving American Legion members. I and my wife, Auxiliary President Mary, along with District Vice Commander Gary Whipple, his wife Deb, SAL Detachment Commander Al Schenck, and Peggy Brown were present at Williamson Post #719 near for the presentation of Quilts of Valor to two Korean War Veterans. John Blazek who served on Heart Break Ridge in Korea, and Darrel Rachenback were all pleasantly surprised. At my own Post #88, Shenandoah WWII Veteran and Army Air Corps pilot Hugh Bell was presented a

National Commander signed certificate for 75 years of continuous American Legion Membership. Hugh had a heartfelt smile on his face and gleam in his eyes as he pointed out to me (with extreme pride) to the 75-year star on his American Legion cover. Congratulations John, Darrell, and Hugh. Thank you, gentlemen, for your service.

If you remember in the September Legion Newsletter I mentioned a program, we were doing in District called D.C. Joe's Pick five to stay alive award program. This is a challenge to your post to do five more things than you did in the previous year. This includes but not limited to sending one more boy to Boys State, Sponsor an Oratorical Contest, send one more American Legionnaire to District Conference, host a conference, sponsor a community-based fundraiser such as a Bingo function or things of this nature, sponsor a Fifth Grade Flag Essay Contest. Donate to the American Iowa Foundation, and in general, try to support functions your post relates to. If you have done five or more things than last year, call me with details for an arrangement of presentation of certificates. Phone (712) 370-6071

For God and Country,
Joe Jardon



8th District Commander Carl Anderson

Spring conference has come and gone. I would like to thank the Forest City Post for hosting, and I would also like to congratulate Tom Ryan as the

elected incoming Commander. Also, to all the officers that will be working with him this upcoming year.

The American Legion has had a good year and a busy year. The one area we need to get better at is membership. Being a Centennial Year, please showcase your post and try to get new members in. I know it is tough, but we can do it. Please donate your time and effort to membership.

Summer is almost here with a lot of activities that will

highlight The American Legion. One of those activities that I will be doing is RAGBRAI. Now I know some of you don't like us riding, but I would urge you to try it for a day. We are getting national attention with it. Check the calendar for events.

I am asking you in the year, not just Memorial Day, to remember our fallen comrades.

LIT Continued from Page 2

Additionally, the LIT provides a free Accidental Death and Dismemberment policy to all Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL members of the Department of Iowa who enroll.

At the LIT annual meeting in April, the Department of Iowa received \$112,024 from the program for 2018. The revenue is generated through the voluntary purchase of insurance products by our members. Those products include: Hospital HELP Plan, Cancer Care, Accidental Death Protection, Travel Accident, Emergency Assistance, Medicare Supplement, Health Insurance, Dental Insurance, Long-Term Care, Lifeline Medical Alert Service, and Identity Theft Resolution. For more information on LIT products, call 800-235-6943 or visit www.TheLIT.com.

Local Veteran Rides 100 Miles to Celebrate TAL's 100th Birthday

Cedar Rapids, IA - Vietnam Veteran, Larry Ritland, and 37-year member of American Legion Post #307 in Roland, Iowa will commemorate the 100th Birthday of The American Legion by cycling 100 miles from Legion Post to Legion Post in Linn and Johnson Counties on Saturday, June 1, 2019.

"For the majority of those 37 years I was on the road, driving tour buses or trucking, so I wasn't a very active Legion member," Ritland, who now lives in Cedar Rapids, said, "so this year I decided to do something special for this big milestone. Legion Members do great things in their communities for youth groups and veterans. Unfortunately, the organization is sometimes viewed as a bunch of old guys who show up once a year for a parade on Memorial Day. Many members may be older, but I assure you they remain active," Ritland went on to say.

100 Miles Continued on Page 16

CALL FOR THE ONE-HUNDREDTH ONE ANNUAL CONVENTION THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

The One-Hundredth One Annual Convention of The American Legion, Department of Iowa, will be held in Des Moines, Iowa, July 19, 20, 21, 2019. The Convention will be called to order at 4:00 p.m., Friday, July 19, in Ballroom Central and South of the Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport Conference Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

PURPOSE

The Convention is called for the purpose of:

1. Electing Department Officers for the ensuing year;
2. Ratification of Constitution and By Laws;
3. Selecting the place of holding the One Hundred and Second Annual Department Convention;
4. Selecting delegates and alternates to the One-Hundredth Annual National Convention; and
5. For the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the Convention.

REPRESENTATION

Representation will be by Post. Each Post is entitled to two delegates and two alternates, provided it has at least 15 paid up members by June 19, 2019. Each Post is also entitled to one delegate and one alternate for each additional 50 paid up members or a major fraction thereof, whose dues have been paid on or before June 19, 2019.

The vote of each Post will be equal to the total number of delegates to which it is entitled.

All Past Department Commanders of the Iowa Department of The American Legion, who are members in good standing in any Post in the Department, present and in attendance at the Department Convention, shall be entitled to all the privileges of a delegate to said convention, and entitled to a vote therein.

SELECTION OF DELEGATES

All Post delegates and alternates to the Convention will be selected at a regular meeting of the Post, or a special meeting called for that purpose.

Post Adjutants should give notice in writing to each member of the Post of the date, time, purpose, and place of such meeting, and the number of delegates to which it is entitled in the Convention.

Alternates have power to vote only in the absence of delegates, but have all other privileges of delegates.

Delegates should be chosen with care as they have the voting power of the Post on all questions brought before the Convention.

EXPENSES OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Expenses of delegates and alternates who attend as Post representatives must

The Iowa Legionnaire and Communiqué Survey

1. How much of The Iowa Legionnaire and Communiqué do you read? (Circle One)

- a. <25%
- b. 25%
- c. 50%
- d. 75%
- e. 100%

2. Please rank (1 being the most, 3 the least) from which sources you receive your information concerning The American Legion of Iowa:

- ☐ The Iowa Legionnaire and Communiqué
☐ The Department of Iowa's Website
☐ The Department of Iowa's Electronic Newsletter

Save a stamp and fill it out online:
www.ialegon.org/survey

be paid by their Post or by themselves, as no authority exists for the Department to pay the expenses of any delegate to the Convention.

Each delegation may have as its guests such members of The American Legion and their families as it sees fit to invite to accompany it. Insofar as space will permit, they will be admitted to the Convention Hall.

Press representatives accompanying delegations will be accorded every facility for their work at the Convention. They should report to the Department Headquarters office upon arrival.

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

Department Headquarters will be in Room 298 of the Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport Conference Center in Des Moines, Iowa. Regular and routine correspondence should be sent as usual to the Department Headquarters, 720 Lyon St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309.

REGISTRATION AND HOUSING

Delegates, alternates and guests attending the Convention must register. A \$10.00 registration fee will be collected from all delegates, alternates and guests at registration.

Delegates, alternates and guests attending the Convention should address all inquiries relative to hotel reservations directly with the designated convention hotel(s).

CREDENTIALS FOR DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Credentials for delegates and alternates based upon the number to which each Post is entitled will be given at registration. All delegates, alternates and guests will be required to wear their badge in order to gain admittance into the Convention Hall.

OFFICIALS

Present Department and Post Officers, members of the Department Executive Committee, except Past Department Commanders, Officers of District and County organizations, unless selected as delegates and alternates to the Convention by their Post, have no privileges in the Convention except as guests of their respective delegations.

It is suggested that these officials be made members of the official Post delegation, as their experience will be exceedingly valuable to the delegation.

RESOLUTIONS

Any Post or accredited delegate to the Convention may submit resolutions embodying constructive suggestions for the welfare of The American Legion. They should be in duplicate, typewritten, and shall be turned into the Department Adjutant on or before July 5, 2019, in order that he may refer them to the Resolutions Assignment Committee. A Resolution form with instructions is enclosed. More can be obtained by contacting the Department Adjutant.

Call Continued on Page 11

3. Please rank the top 5 sections (1 being the most) you focus your attention on while reading The Iowa Legionnaire and Communiqué, : (Select one or more)

- ☐ Front Page
☐ Commander and Adjutant's Column
☐ Department Officers' Columns
☐ District Commanders' Columns
☐ Programming News
☐ Auxiliary Columns
☐ Membership Columns
☐ Post Everlasting
☐ Iowa Foundation Column and Annual Special Edition
☐ Other - Specify: _____
☐ I don't read The Iowa Legionnaire and Communiqué

4. If it were made available, would you prefer an electronic version of The Iowa Legionnaire and Communiqué over the printed? (Circle One)

- a. Yes
- b. No

Please complete this survey and return it to Department Headquarters: 720 Lyon Street, Des Moines, IA 50309



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

Auxiliary Communiqué

SERVING VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES



PAGE 7

A Final Word From Dept. President

This is my last visit with you as your Department President. I have been humbled and proud to serve you and this great organization. I want to start out



by thanking my officers and committees for their commitment to service, not self this year.

Since my last Communiqué article, we have had Mid-Winter Conference in Des Moines at the Airport Holiday Inn. I want to thank all committees for their reports. We also said goodbye to our past Executive Director Marlene Valentine who retired after 24 years of great service to our organization.

In March we were happy to welcome National President Kathy Dungan for a visit to our State. We started out her visit with a tour of the Des Moines VA Medical Center on Monday, March 11, and a dinner/meeting at the Baldwin-Patterson Post. The Baldwin-Patterson Unit was very courteous and warm and had a great meeting. On Tuesday, March 12, we took her on a tour of the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown with cake and bingo courtesy of the Benton County American Legion Auxiliary. I want to thank Stacy Bane for helping to make it a wonderful experience for our National President. On Wednesday, March 13, we visited the Des Moines VA Medical Center again in order to view the artwork and writings on display of our local veterans through the local creative arts. A luncheon at the Liberty Center Unit followed with a great time with the unit ladies. Thank you, Michelle Spear, for organizing the luncheon. On Thursday, we said goodbye to National President Kathy as she traveled to her next destination. I want to thank Ann Crawford for being our travel partner and tour guide during that time. On March 18 we traveled to Traer for their Legion 100th birthday celebration. The next day I attended the Polk County Meeting followed by Story County Meeting on March 21.

On March 24 we attended the 100th birthday celebration in Shellsburg. We later that week, on March 26, attended the Dallas County Meeting. On March 30, we attended the Seventh District Conference in Treynor. The next day, on March 31, I attended the Eighth District Junior Conference in Palmer.

On April 3, our new Executive Director, Crystal Wright started her journey with the American Legion Auxiliary. Welcome to Crystal and best wishes.

April continued to be busy with the Sixth District Conference in Des Moines on April 6. On April 7, I attended the First District Junior Conference in Marengo. On Wednesday, April 10, we attended the Tama County Government Day and what a great turn-out of young people from various school districts. On Saturday, April 13, we attended the Second District Conference in Walcott and the next day, on April 14, we attended the Eighth District Conference in Forest City. April 18 took us to Blue Grass for the 70th birthday of their Post. On Saturday, April 20, I was able to attend the celebration of life for Annie Blanchard. A very nice service was given by Linda Sue Mullen and songs were sung by Earline Lekwa. On April 27, we attended the Fifth District Conference in Richland.

Everywhere we went, we were greeted with great courtesy. I truly enjoyed every visit.

In May I will be attending a unit meeting in Marion and the following day in Davenport, another unit meeting. On Sunday, May 26, we will travel to Keokuk for their Memorial Day event and again in Bellevue on Monday, May 27 for their Memorial Day event. In June, I will attend Boys State on June 9 and speak; and, then, later that month I will be attending Girls State from June 16-21. Finally, the Department Convention will be upon us and new officers will be voted in for the 2019-2020 administrative year. I hope many of you will be able to attend this year.

I have truly enjoyed all my visits and have felt the warmth of our Legion Family. Thank you, again, for the honor I have experienced this year as being Department President. The memories will stay with me always.



New ED Crystal Wright

I was born in small town Earlham back in 1979 and when in second grade moved to Lisbon Iowa where I graduated in 1998 and joined the service to follow in my father's passion. My father was a Vietnam Vet in the Navy, well since I disliked boats, I went into the Army instead of Navy. Joining the service was one of the most exciting and scariest things I have ever done in my life. After serving my country I came back home to start my family and attend college. In 2002 I had my daughter Cheyenne and decided to take advantage of the Montgomery GI Bill and Army College Fund. I enrolled at Hamilton College where I got my associates as a certified medical assistant. Knowing that was not enough for me, I went to Kaplan University where I got my bachelor's in business management.

In 2004 right after Cheyenne turned two I lost my father to heart issues. I decided to try to do something that I knew he loved. When I was young he always went to this building in Earlham once a month and sat around a table to other older people as I would play. I found out this building was called The Legion. I told myself when I got "OLD" I would join. Well in 2013 I turned "OLD" as I had one of my dad's friends approach me and ask me to come to a meeting as they were going to close the Legion and needed my vote. He said my dad would be so proud of all I have done as a young adult. Well that meeting landed me the position of Adjutant / Bookkeeper / Historian / Event Coordinator / Cook/ anything else that had a title. From that year on, I have made it my duty to grow the Earlham Post 158. Then one morning at breakfast Steve and Judy Neal came to a breakfast. That is when I signed up for The Legion Auxiliary. It has been a learning process for sure. In 2018-2019 year, I went to meeting for the district, next thing I knew I was a 6th District Vice Commander. Then next thing I know I was getting told how much I can do to help the Legion Family more, and to gather my resume together and apply for the position for Department Executive Director. So, I did!

I told Cheyenne and husband Zach, if there was ever an opportunity to get a job that paid enough to sustain financial security for my family, that

involved helping Veterans and Families I would jump all over it and walk away a very happy person. This opportunity came up and so I jumped at it. I asked myself if I thought I could handle it? Can I help everyone? The answer was Yes, and No. I may not help "everyone", but if I can start by just helping just one at a time.

My goal for the first year as Executive Director is to help build The American Legion Family. Not the Legion, Not the SAL, Not the Auxiliary but the family as one. I am starting with organizing all the files and making sure forms are current and updated. I also just completed training for an electronic newsletter. This will help get information out to members faster, so everyone is current and up to date. Next will be to make a webpage more user friendly. One of the largest complaints I hear is that they don't have the information. Well my goal is no one will have to worry about that anymore.

We will be pushing at our membership events to receive and update all email addresses so that we can advise of important dates and any changes that are taking place. This will be a learning and teaching process. I am learning this position and it will be a process, but I hope to teach you while I am learning my job.

I am open to all ideas. No idea is too small or too big. You can email me, send me a letter or call me. I will listen to all suggestions on how to make The Auxiliary run to the best of its abilities. Like I tell my husband and my daughter if they have a question and or don't understand something, JUST ASK. The worst thing that happens is they say NO, or they don't know the answer. If I get asked a question and I don't know the answer, I guarantee you I will find the answer or find someone who can help. That is my promise to you!



President Candidate



I am Kelly Elliott and I have been a member of the Ray & Virginia Boyer Unit 166 in Shellsburg since 2001. I am so honored to be your candidate for

2019-2020 Department President. I have worked for USA Communications in Shellsburg for the past 23 years and before that I was a travel agent. I have lived in Shellsburg since I was 2 years old and am eligible for the Auxiliary through my dad William "Bill" Elliott who served during the Vietnam War. My dad always told me how proud he was of my work with the Auxiliary. I only wish he was still here today to be a part of this. I know he would have loved being a part of it. I also have my Mom, 2 sisters, 1 brother, 5 nephews, 1 great niece and 1 great nephew. Then I have 4 ladies that are my sisters by choice and many nieces and nephews by choice. I cherish each and every one of them. I know many have thought that Martha Travis is my mom. Well in a way she is. I call her my Auxiliary mom. She is my mentor and the person that asked me to join this Wonderful Legion Family. I have many great mentors in the Auxiliary family that have been there for me and I know will always be there when I need them. I have served my unit, county, district and the

Department in many roles. One of the programs that is dear to my heart is Girls State. I have served on the staff as a counselor for the past 11 years. Wendy Riggall talked about this program at our 3rd District meeting. She told us about her experiences and the impact it has on these girls' lives I knew I wanted to be a part of it. I have met some of the greatest ladies and have made life long friendships with both the staff and past Girl's Staters. It is amazing to watch these young ladies change before your eyes in one week. Watching these young ladies step out of the shells and become leaders themselves in one short week is amazing. They remind me a lot of myself. I was just like them in High School. I couldn't imagine myself getting up in front of a group and giving a speech. That is what the Girl's State program is all about, changing lives. That is what Girls State and the Auxiliary has done for me, it has changed my life. I am excited about our centennial year. We have a lot of celebrating to do this year. We turn 100 years old this November. Nicole Clapp is about to become the 100th lady to lead our organization. Her home coming in October in Gladbrook and Tama County. Girls State has their 75th Session in July 2020. And Junior Camp turns 35 this year. I hope everyone is ready for what is to come. I have enjoyed working with Mary this year. She has been a great leader and I learned so much from her. I will do my best to make our organization the best it can be and look forward to watching it grow. Always be kind to one another. God Bless our Veterans and God Bless America.

Historian Candidate

Hi, my name is LaDonna J. Runner, I am currently Vice President of The Harold McBroom American Legion Auxiliary #635 in Laurel, IA. I have been a member



for 35 continuous years and I have held many offices within the unit. I was Treasurer for several years and President for numerous years. I was

also President of Marshall County for 2 terms along with being President of 3rd District for 3 terms. I volunteer on a regular basis at the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown.

I am eligible thru my husband, my father and son. My husband, Brian and I have been married 50 years. We have 3 sons, 4 grand-sons and 2 grand-daughters.

I am a member of the Laurel United Methodist Church and the United Methodist Women. I am also currently President of the volunteer board for the Laurel Leisure Home.

With everyone's help I hope to do justice to the Department of Iowa as Kelly's historian for 2019-2020.

Dept. Vice President Candidate

Swisher Unit 671, Johnson County and Iowa's 1st District have proudly endorsed Lorna Golson for the office of Vice President of the

Department of Iowa American Legion Auxiliary for the 2019-2020 administrative year.

Lorna is eligible through her husband, Gary, a Vietnam era Air Force Veteran and received her membership as a wedding gift nearly 17 years ago. Lorna has served the American Legion Auxiliary in many leadership roles at the Unit, County, District and Department levels to include 1st District President,



County President for both Henry and Johnson Counties and President of the Swisher Unit.

She is currently serving as Chairman of the Department National Security Committee and is an elected member of the Department Nominating Committee. Previously Lorna served on the Poppy, Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Public Relations and Membership Committees. She is also a member of the 1st District Finance Committee and the Board of Directors for Swisher Unit 671.

Lorna has a bachelor's degree in Accounting from Iowa Wesleyan University and is employed by the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Accounts Receivable department.

Lorna is passionate about the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary and its service to our Veterans, military personnel, their children and communities and would appreciate your support to become Department of Iowa Vice President for the 2019-2020 administrative year.

Chaplain Candidate



M a r y Mooberry is an 18-year member of the Shannon Wilson Unit 174 in Charles City. Mary is eligible for membership through her late husband,

William L. Mooberry who served in the U.S. Army during Vietnam era.

Mary has one daughter, 2 granddaughters and one great granddaughter due in May. All are members of the American Legion Auxiliary, with new granddaughter joining as soon as she is born! Mary is proud her granddaughters were some of the first juniors to earn patches through the Patch Program.

Mary is a member off the St. John evangelical Lutheran Church in Charles City. Mary serves on the

home communion committee where she visits private homes and nursing homes to provide home communion to members unable to attend church.

Mary serves on the Mercyone North Iowa Hospice Advisory Board, volunteers and participates in weekly tuck-in phone calls for Hospice patients. Mary has been instrumental in sponsoring the first Butterfly Release in Charles City this summer.

Mary has served as treasurer of her Unit and as President for the last 16 years. On the County level, Mary has served as President and Vice President. At District level, Mary has served every office and has served as District President for the last two years. Mary has a special bond with the Junior members of 4th District.

Mary is committed to serving veterans, their families and the community in which she lives. She would appreciate your support for the office of Department Chaplain, American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa for 2019-2020. Thank You!

Mark Your Calendar

Please plan to join us for the 2019-2020 ALA Programs Workshop (formally Department Leadership workshop). It is August 3rd at the Van Meter American Legion Hall at 10:00am. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Meet our Department officers and the new Department Chairmen for 2019-2020. You will learn about all our programs and the new contests for this year. Our membership team will be there to tell you about our goals for the new year. I think everyone will like what they will hear. More information to follow on our website and E-Newsletters.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Department of Iowa - 720 Lyon Street, Des Moines, IA 50309

CALL TO THE 99th ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

The 99th Annual Department Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 19-21, 2019. All Auxiliary Pre-Convention Meetings, General Sessions and Joint Meetings with The American Legion Family will be held at the Airport Holiday Inn, 6111 Fleur Dr Des Moines IA.

PURPOSE:

The convention is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, amending the Department Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules, receiving reports from Department Officers and Committees, electing delegates and alternates to attend National Convention, reports from members of National Committees, and the transaction of such other business as may be brought before it.

REGISTRATION:

Registration will be Friday, July 19th, from Noon to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, July 20th, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Registration fee is **\$10.00** for Delegates, Alternates and Guests. There is no registration fee for Junior Auxiliary members, but they **MUST** register. **Everyone is required to register at the Convention.** Registration fees **ARE NOT** accepted at the Department Office. **You must register at the Auxiliary Registration Table at the Convention.**

REPRESENTATION:

Refer to page 5 of the 2018-2019 Department Blue Book, Article VIII of the Department Constitution, Sections 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6:

Section 2. Each Unit shall be entitled to elect one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate, and one (1) additional delegate and one (1) additional alternate for each fifty (50) members or major fraction thereof, provided their current dues have been received by the Department Executive Director by **MAY 15th** of the current year. No alternate shall be entitled to a vote unless seated as a delegate.

Section 3. Members of the Department Executive Committee, all Past Department Presidents, District Presidents-elect, and incoming County Presidents, all of whom are in good standing in their local Units, shall be delegates at large to the Department Convention.

Section 4. Election of officers shall be held according to the Department Standing Rules. No member shall have more than one (1) vote.

Section 5: The Legislative Body of this Department shall be the delegates to the Department Convention to be held each year not less than two (2) weeks prior to the National Convention.

Section 6. A quorum of the Department Convention shall consist of fifty percent (50%) of the duly registered delegates.

DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE CREDENTIALS:

A form to list Delegates and Alternates is included in the packet (sent to the Unit President of each Unit by May 31, 2019). This form, listing the Delegates and Alternates, **must be in** the Department Office by **July 1, 2019**. If you are not sending any Delegates or Alternates, please send the form in and indicate there will not be any Delegates or Alternates from your Unit.

Delegate/Alternate ribbons will be issued at the Department Convention Registration table.

A member's name must be on the list provided by her Unit to be a Unit Delegate or Alternate.

If a member of your Unit fits into one of the following categories, please list name and title on the Delegate/Alternate form. They will receive their Delegate ribbon at Department Convention. We need this information for delegate strength.

Past Department Presidents**2018-2019 Department Executive Committee Member** (2018-2019)

Department Officers,

2018-2019 District Presidents, (2018-2019 Parliamentarian)**District President-Elect** (for 2019-2020)**County President-Elect** (for 2019-2020)**NOMINATIONS, CAUCUSES AND ELECTIONS:**

Nominations for Department Offices will be on Friday afternoon, July 19, 2019. If there is only one nominee for an office, voting shall be by acclamation at the Friday afternoon session. If there is more than one nominee for an office, the voting shall be by ballot at the District Caucuses. Caucuses are scheduled for Saturday, July 20th, 2019.

NATIONAL GUEST: National President Kathy Dungan but will not be in attendance at convention.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: Changes in the convention schedule will be updated in the convention program or announced from the podium. A tentative schedule will be on our web site – www.iowaala.org - no later than July 1, 2019.

QUESTIONS: Call the Department Office at 515-282-7987, fax the Department Office at 515-282-7583 or e-mail Crystal Wright, Executive Director at alasectreas@ialegion.org.

Chaplain's Corner

As I write the fourth and final article of my term as your Department Chaplain, I find it both a relief and a little sad. I have enjoyed sharing bible verses and my insights during President Mary Sebben's year. As we research and learn more of our Lord God and Our Savior Jesus Christ it is often enlightening and satisfying to realize what a great joy this gift of life is and can be. I cannot tell you of the comfort and peace my faith provides to me daily. It leaves me in total sadness for anyone that does not know my Risen Savior. I often discover that what my interpretation is of a Bible Verse can mean something totally different to another. But that is alright, God knows our heart. We

are all sinners, our Savior Jesus Christ was sacrificed for our sins and rose to conquer death. I have an Awesome God and I am saved by Grace through my Risen Savior. Think about that!! Amen.

We have Honored our Veterans Legacy throughout this past administrative year. We have prayed for our veterans, our government, our leaders, our military, our families, our organization and each other. Now we must believe in our prayers and remember God's time and our time are different. Continue praying. 1. For with God, nothing shall be impossible. 2. Love the Lord your God. Love your neighbor. 3. Love one another. God's Grace and Love to each of you.

Jan Schaffer

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!

Have some time on your hands? Are you near a VA facility? How about considering volunteering some of that time at a VA medical facility? They are always looking for more volunteers. A day per week, per month or four hours per day, per week; whatever, fits your schedule. Call your local VAMC today and find out how reward it can be serving our veterans...Service, Not Self. Call any of the following numbers and ask for Voluntary Service. Thank you.

Iowa City Voluntary Service
(319) 338-0581 X6270Sioux Falls VAMC
(605) 333-6851Des Moines VAMC
(515) 699-5999 X4575Omaha VAMC
(402) 995-3284Iowa Veterans Home
(641) 753-4406

**Check your mail for the Delegate strength, call to convention and unit officers form.
Mailed out May 16, 2019. Need to be back into the office by July 1, 2019**

99th ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

THURSDAY – JULY 18, 2019

11:00	Finance Committee Meeting	Room Iowa C
2:00	Governing Documents Meeting	Room Iowa C
7:00	Past Department President’s Dinner	Room Iowa DE

FRIDAY – JULY 19, 2019

Registration – Ballroom Hallway 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
\$10.00 ALL Attendees, except Juniors

8:00	Planning Meeting	Room 397
9:00	Merit Awards	Room 175
9:30	Department Executive Committee Meeting	Room 397
11:30	Installation Practice	Room BRN
1:00	Roll Call	Room BRN
1:30	Pages’ Practice	Room BRN
2:30	Processional Line-up	Room BRN
2:45	Call to Order Auxiliary General Session	Room BRN

Recess Auxiliary General Session until Saturday

7:00 Joint Session

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2019

Registration – Ballroom Hallway 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
\$10.00 ALL Attendees, except Juniors

6:30	Complimentary Centennial Breakfast	Courtyard
8:30	Reconvene Auxiliary General Session	Room BRN

1:00	Auxiliary District Caucuses and Election	
1:45	Election Polls are open from 1:15-1:45 p.m.	
	First District	Room 397
	Second District	Room WView C
	Third District	Room 396
	Fourth District	Room WView S
	Fifth District	Room 394
	Sixth District	Room BRN
	Seventh District	Room 292
	Eighth District	Room 398
	Ninth District	Room WView N

2:00 Reconvene Auxiliary General Session

Recess Auxiliary General Session until Sunday

5:00 Color Guard Contest

7:00 Iowa Veterans Band Concert

SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2019

8:00	Memorial Service	
9:00	ALA Photos	Room Iowa DE
9:30	Installation	Department Officers and District Presidents

Retirement of POW/MIA Flag, Adjourn, Retirement of Colors and Close of Convention

Following Installation.....Post-DEC.....11:30.....Iowa DE.....

A detailed program and schedule will be available online at www.iowaala.org

Nicole’s Homecoming



The 99th National Convention in Indianapolis, IN will include the installation of The American Legion Auxiliary National President during the afternoon of August 28 or the morning of August 29, 2019. If elected, Nicole Clapp of Gladbrook, IA will be the 100th individual to lead the world’s largest women’s patriotic service organization. The “Homecoming in America’s Heartland” would then be held October 3-6, 2019 with the host site at the Meskwaki bingo Casino Hotel in Tama, IA. Featured events will include tours to the John Deere Factory, Clark and Associates Prosthetics and Orthotics

and Gladbrook’s Matchstick Marvels. You will also be able to experience fall harvest first-hand with a “farm to table” dinner plus hayrides pulled by Clydesdale horses. The Saturday evening banquet festivities conclude with a performance by the Iowa Military Veterans Band. We hope you will save these dates and join us as we celebrate The American Legion Family during this special centennial anniversary year.



ALA JUNIOR CAMP 2019

NEWTON CHRISTIAN
CONFERENCE CENTER
AUGUST 11 – 16, 2019

Registration/Application Fee Due by June 15th!

Registration 5 – 6 p.m.
Sunday evening, Aug. 11th

This year’s theme
The American Flag



Activities:
Archery
Swimming
Recreation – Carpet Ball
Crafts
Guest Speakers
Daily Classes



“We are always in need of monetary donations”
Thank you, Junior Camp Board

REMINDER: Iowa Girls State - June 16-21, 2019

Call Continued from Page 6

CONVENTION COMMITTEES
Friday, July 19, 2019, 1:00 p.m.

Special rooms will be provided for these committees. Time and place of future meetings of the Convention Committees will be set at the first meetings.

DISTRICT CAUCUSES
Saturday, July 20, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

District caucuses will be held at 2:00 p.m. Special rooms will be provided. The Districts will conduct such business as may properly come before such caucuses.

JOHN A. DERNER
Department Adjutant

J. SCOTT MOLINE
Department Commander

Department
Color Guard
Competition

The Department Color Guard Contest will be held on Saturday, July 20, 2019 at the Department Convention. Rules and entry forms are available on the Department website or by request from Department at 800-365-8387. Each entry form must be certified by the Adjutant of the unit's sponsoring Post or District. The contest entry form must be submitted to the Department before the close of the Color Guard Registration Meeting at Department Convention. Advance registration is encouraged and may be submitted to: The American Legion of Iowa, Color Guard Competition, 720 Lyon Street, Des Moines, IA 50309. Order of appearance in the contest will be in reverse order of receipt of entry form with earliest postmark.

The American Legion Department Color Guard Contest does not limit the number of units allowed to compete in the Contest from any Post, Unit or Squadron. All color guard members will be required to register for the Department Convention as a delegate, alternate or guest with The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion.

The contest has two competition classes, Military Open Class and Advancing/Retiring of Colors Class.

Military Open Class - All units must be members of The American Legion and/or Legion Family (i.e. Sons of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or American Legion mixed participants). If competing for the Commander's Color Guard, all unit members competing in this class must meet all the requirements for full American Legion membership and be over 18 years of age. The unit must be composed of seven (7) members or less including the Commanding Officer.

Advancing/Retiring of Colors Class - All units must be members of The American Legion and/or Legion Family (i.e. Sons of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or American Legion mixed participants). The unit must be composed of not less than four (4) members. If the color guard consists of only four (4) members, the American Flag bearer will give all color guard commands.

To be considered for the official Department Commander's Champion Color Guard of The American Legion, those units consisting of full Legion members must have competed in Military Open Class.

Due to the delayed accuracy of the quarterly published membership report, it will no longer be printed in The Iowa Legionnaire. You may find an accurate report for your post on myLegion.org or www.ialegion.org/membership.

Department Membership
Donald Swan, Chairman

Spring Membership for Iowa

We are nearing the end of the 2019 Centennial Membership Year and again coming up short with our Membership numbers. Yes, we are losing Members to attrition but most of the remainder seem to be lost due to failure to retain past members. The primary reason for that is that we have Legionnaires assuming Post positions but not knowing the extent of their duties. Every position of the Posts Executive Board is important to the Posts livelihood. Training at the Post is ever important so your members know their responsibilities and are ready to assume additional positions within the Post. This can and will be important to membership recruiting. We need to have trained Legionnaires go to Posts and show other Legionnaires how to recruit and retain members.

I am asking all of you District, and Post Membership Chairmen to have some thoughts in place by June 8. That is the day for the Spring Membership Meeting. If you attend bring ideas if not send in ideas to Marcia to be passed onto the group. If we all work together we may still yet start driving our Membership numbers up.

Thank You.

Membership Memos

The membership year is getting closer to the end and there is still a lot of work to be done. Have you or other post members contacted all of the members that have not renewed for 2019 yet. There is still time to go and visit with them and collect their dues and give them their card. Personal contact is still the best way. Sometimes that is all it takes to get people to continue their membership because they realize that the Post really does care about them even if they are unable to attend meetings or help with the activities or programs.

For those posts that are now doing your transmittals online, I thank you. Remember that if a member is transferring into your post and has not paid their dues for the current year you can transmit them and transfer them to your post on the transmittal. If the member has already paid for the current year and is transferring into your post, you will need to fill out a member data form and send to Department the same as you have always done.

I hope everyone had a great Memorial Day and gets to enjoy the upcoming summer. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Department Convention in July.

Keep on trying to get membership in, it is not to late to make a difference.

Marcia Hoch
Department Membership & Executive Secretary

The Legion Moving
Forward

By Nick Lucy, President IALPA

As we continue to celebrate this Centennial Year, it is a good time to reflect on our organization at all levels and develop strategic plans for the future. We have a great legacy of service to our communities; state and nation. As we move forward, we will be guided by the constitution of the American Legion. The Preamble of our American Legion Constitution begins with

"For God and Country we associate ourselves together". This will not change. However, some change is inevitable. As an example, there are more women serving in our military today. Some are fighter pilots and others are serving on board submarines. Another example is the major use of technology such as drones, smartphones, etc. This leads to more women in the American Legion membership and more use of technology in our communications. As we continue the good work of the American Legion, change can become a challenge.

IALPA Continued on Page 14

District Membership Standings Through 5/22/2019

STANDING	DISTRICT	2019 GROWTH GOAL	CURRENT MEMBERSHIP	PERCENTAGE
First	4th	4,278	4,042	94.48
Second	2nd	6,847	6,460	94.35
Third	6th	5,092	4,803	94.32
Fourth	5th	3,062	2,863	93.50
Fifth	1st	4,179	3,904	93.42
Sixth	9th	5,734	5,346	93.23
Seventh	8th	4,128	3,793	91.88
Eighth	7th	3,599	3,304	91.80
Ninth	3rd	5,545	5,053	91.13
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		43,201	40,231	93.13

2019-2020 Department Officer Candidates

James Kessler For Dept. Commander



Greetings Legionaries, my name is James Kessler a member of The American Legion Post #371 of Lake Park and the 9th District. I am a 50-year member of The American Legion. My wife Marilyn and I have been married for forty-eight (48) years, we have one son Brian. We live in Lake Park and are a true American Legion family. All three of us are or have been heavily involved in the various offerings of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion. Community wise Marilyn and I served on the Lake Park Centennial History Committee whose mission was to put together the history of the city from the families, businesses, and organizations' stories and histories for a book to share with everyone during the Centennial and beyond. Our family is involved in many functions of our church, First Presbyterian Church in Lake Park; I am currently the chair of the Deacons, which involves the heading up and facilitating of the Mobile Food

Bank once a month at our church. I am chairman of the committee that brought and cares for the Freedom Rock Tour at Lake Park's Veterans Memorial. I also serve on the Dickinson County Veterans Commission.

I am seeking to be your Department Commander for the year 2019-2020. I am very passionate about being your Department Commander; I will strive my best to lead and represent the membership of the Department of Iowa and surround myself with Comrades who have the same desire to lead your Commissions and Committees. Onward and Upward is my platform and my vision for the Department of Iowa membership and its programs. Stopping the membership slide and increasing the membership of the Department of Iowa is critical and vital for this organization. When membership declines, the ability of this organization to staff our Department Headquarters declines. Greatly affected by this is our Veterans Service office who work hard each day to ensure that veterans get the benefits you deserved and need.

I have a vision to be able to go into schools to promote The American Legion youth programs and promote Americanism, patriotism, and integrity at the Post invitation. In closing, I would ask you to join us in Des Moines for the 100th Department Convention and whether you vote for my opponent or myself, James Kessler, please join us to exercise your right to vote for the best candidate for Department Commander 2019-2020. Thank you!

NEC Candidate

American Legion Family,
My name is Jerry D. Sebben and I am a candidate for National Executive Committeeman for 2019-2021 for the Department of Iowa.



I have had the honor to serve the Legionnaires of the Department of Iowa as Department Commander for

2010-2011 and as Alternate National Executive Committeeman for four years. I have recently been your National Executive Committeeman for 2017-2019.

It has been both an honor and privilege to represent the Legionnaires of Iowa at National.

I am asking for your vote for National Executive Committeeman at our Department Convention this July. Thank you.

For God and Country,
Jerry D. Sebben, NEC

Ed Rohner For Dept. Commander

I am Ed Rohner, Candidate for the Department of Iowa Commander for 2019 – 2020. I am a Paid Up For Life Member of the Fred F & Norman J Bruning American Legion Post #607 in Breda, Iowa.

My "Program" is quite simple. The American Legion operates under Four Pillars. There are Four Quarters in a year. I would like to see every Post participate in the assigned programs for each quarter. In doing this, we can emphasize, "WHAT CAN WE DO FOUR YOU". We can show some of what The American Legion has to offer. Use these programs as recruiting tools. Here is how I would align the Four Pillars. In the order as presented by The American Legion.

1. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, October – December
 2. National Security, January – March
 3. Americanism, July – September
 4. Children and Youth, April – July
- I will get more specific with the chosen Programs, should you elect me as your Department of Iowa Commander.

I also want to address the issue of "22 Suicides A Day". Research is being done

at Boston University, in conjunction with the Concussion Legacy Foundation, to detect the effects of CTE, (Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy) on deceased Veterans. After a Vietnam Veteran friend of mine committed suicide, it was determined that he had Stage 3 of 4 CTE. This was the result of his time spent under fire. I want every Veteran, not just American Legion Members, to talk with their family. Make the decision, that after they pass, to donate their brain to Boston University for CTE research. This research may lead to a better understanding, and possibly, a key to prevention of "22 Suicides A Day".

For God and Country.
Ed Rohner, Candidate



Hogan For Vice Cmdr.

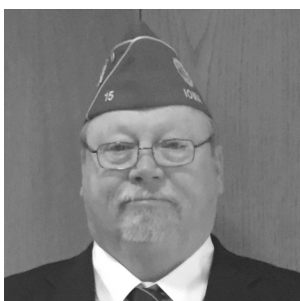
Hello Legionnaires, my name is Dick Hogan. I am wrapping up my third year as 2nd District Commander and am an endorsed candidate for Department Vice Commander. I want to continue serving the Legion and will do my best to do so. The job description basically states that a Department Vice Commander's duty is to aide the Department Commander where needed. I am very willing to do what is needed and beyond. I am a 40+ years American Legion member. For the past 11 years, I have been a member of Marion Post #298, Iowa's largest post. During the past 11 years, I have

been Marion's Commander for three years, Linn County Commander for two years, District Adjutant, District Vice Commander, and District Commander for three years. Of the 47 posts in the 2nd District, I have visited 90 percent of them. Some fairly often due to invitations from the post. Those I did not get to, I asked my Vice Commanders to visit.

During my tenure as District Commander, the 2nd District has always finished in the top 3 in the Department for membership. We were tops last year, this year is still a toss-up with a brisk race among several districts, which is a good thing. We have also improved our performances in several Legion programs - thanks to the hard work of the district's Legionnaires. Nationwide, the Legion needs to find a way to attract younger veterans to ensure the organization's good works continue well into the future, and to keep the Legion's voice strong in the ears of Congress. I would appreciate your supporting me for Department Vice Commander.

Thank you.

ANEC Candidate



Hello, my name is Dennis Soppe. I'm married to Jayne and we have two children, Anthony and Stephanie, and one granddaughter Addy, who is the light of my life. I have been an Alternate National Executive Committeeman for two years and I would like to be your Alternate NEC again for 2019-2021.

I have held numerous offices in the American Legion including Department Commander 2011-2012. I have also served on many commissions and committees. I am presently the Department Chairman of the Strategic Planning, one of the directors for The American Legion of Iowa Boys State Board, and The American Legion of Iowa Foundation. I am also serving on the Internal Affairs Commission on the National level. If elected I promise to continue to do my best to serve the Legionnaires of Iowa. Your support would be greatly appreciated – Thank you.

Alternate National Executive Committeeman Dennis Soppe

**Post & Squadron
Everlasting reflect
members from
2-16-2019 to 5-17-2019.**

SPENCER POST #1
GAYLEN DELL
GERALD LILLIE
AL TIELBUR
COUNCIL BLUFFS POST #2
BOBBY LONG
PATRICIA WILSON
OTTUMWA POST #3
RICHARD SLOAN
HUBBARD POST #4
DAVID HEBRANK
EUGENE WILKIE
DUBUQUE POST #6
FRANCIS APEL
JOHN BARRETT
LORAS BELLMANN
ROBERT BROOKS
THOMAS DOLTER
JOHN FITZ
RICHARD GOEBEL
JOSEPH HESS
CHARLES MCCORMICK
JOHN RYAN
CARROLL POST #7
BILL BADDING
E. BROWNLEE
ROBERT MCDONALD
JAMES SHYMANSKI
WALTER WIEDERIN
DENISON POST #8
JAMES AHRENHOLTZ
LOWELL KLECKNER
KENNETH WESTROM
OELWEIN POST #9
RONALD CHAPMAN
JEFFERSON POST #11
FRANCIS TASLER
MARATHON POST #12
RANDY GUILL
ANAMOSA POST #13
LORAS MCNAMARA
IOWA CITY POST #17
RONALD DETWEILER
RICHARD ROGERS
POCAHONTAS POST #18
RONALD PAYER
SIGOURNEY POST #19
CLEO SELLERS
DEDHAM POST #20
RICHARD WISKUS
BUFFALO CNTR. POST #21
MICKEY MILLER
CALVIN RIPPENTROP
MANNING POST #22
MERLENE BRUE
DAVE GRUNDMEIER
WILLIAM HOFFMAN
HOWARD SEVEY
SPIRIT LAKE POST #23
DALBERT HOLST
LAURENS POST #24
DWANE NETSCH
DAVENPORT POST #26
BEN CHANNON
FRANKLIN CLIFTON
DONALD COURTER
RAYMOND EICKSTAEDT
RAYMOND HANSEN
DONALD HOTKA
MUSCATINE POST #27
WILLIAM MILLER
RICHARD SALEMINK
FLOYD ZIEGENHORN
WASHINGTON POST #29
LATHOL GUY
DONALD HAHN
MAX SMITH
AMES POST #37
MERLYN BROWN
MARVIN KENNEDY
CHARLES MCCLURE
PAUL PALMER
PAUL WRAY
NEW HAMPTON POST #38
DONALD FLICK
DAVID KRAFT
BELLE PLAINE POST #39
KENNETH BEVINS
TIM STEIES
KEOKUK POST #41
EVERETT BAKER
RENO LAND
ANKENY POST #42

GERALD BALLARD
CHARLES BAUGOUS
PAUL SEUFERER
MANCHESTER POST #45
DAVID MALONE
MARSHALLTOWN #46
HAROLD BALES
CHARLES BRIERLEY
LEONARD DAVENPORT
GERALD DOWNS
DALE FRANKSAIN
SAM GIARRATANO
VALJEAN GOODMAN
MAX LONDON
WALTER PERKINS
VIRGIL PETERSEN
THOMAS ROSS
ALVIN STORJOHANN
DALE WEDGWOOD
FAIRFIELD POST #47
THOMAS BROWN
VERLE DAVISSON
DONALD WINGATE
NEVADA POST #48
DON HALE
MORRIS VANSICKLE
BURLINGTON POST #52
NORMAN BOURN
ELEANOR DENNING
VICTOR POST #54
EUGENE BLOUNT
KENNETH JOHNSTON
BOONE POST #56
ROBERT DIGMANN
DEAN STONEBURNER
VINTON POST #57
EUGENE BARNES
GERALD MICHAEL
STORY CITY POST #59
CARL HERMANSON
IDA GROVE POST #61
DONALD SIEVERS
RAY TAPHORN
SIOUX CITY POST #64
LARRY CALHOUN
ROBERT PETERSEN
HERBERT POSS
DONALD SHORES
RUDOLPH WAHLERS
OSCEOLA POST #69
LARRY GOODRICH
CHARLES GORSLINE
SABULA POST #74
LLOYD MANGLER
DAVID WISE
MAQUOKETA POST #75
JOHN GAVIN
MILO SCHOENTHALER
ROBERT STOCKHAM
MARENGO POST #76
DONALD MEYER
BLOOMFIELD POST #78
LEO ALLEN
WILLIAM ELLS
JAMES JACKSON
ROBERT NORMAN
CHARLES SPARGUR
SHENANDOAH POST #88
ROLLO CLARK
CLAUDE WESTERFIELD
PELLA POST #89
WILLIAM VANMAANEN
CHADWICK VERPLOEG
ALGONA POST #90
D. SHEY
ESTHERVILLE POST #91
DAVID KALTVED
DONALD KOONS
PAULLINA POST #95
KENNETH TRAVER
CLARINDA POST #98
NORMAN WILBUR
ROCK RAPIDS POST #103
LEROY JONES
ELKADER POST #106
KEITH KOBLISKA
GUSTAV LUTZ
KEYSTONE POST #107
GARY VALENTA
NEWTON POST #111
ROBERT BRIESE
LELAND COOK
STEVE HORSTMAN
WILLIAM PLUMB
TOM REGISTER
STEPHEN TOMLIN
JACK TUCKER
JAMES VANGORP

DWAIN VANROEKEL
HUMBOLDT POST #119
LEROY BOTTELSON
RONALD PARKER
FOREST CITY POST #121
IRVIN SHANKLIN
GUTHRIE CENTER #124
WESLEY SMITH
MERRILL POST #125
MERVIN CROSGROVE
SIDNEY POST #128
RICHARD WHITEHILL
FT. DODGE POST #130
DONALD QUINN
CRESCO POST #135
BERNARD REICKS
GERALD ROSE
ALBIA POST #136
DAVID GRIMES
DAVID KEARNEY
ED WELDON
DYERSVILLE POST #137
LEROY KERN
MERLIN SCHWERS
WATERLOO POST #138
DONALD PAGE
WILLIAM RUSSELL
JOHN TURNER
KINGSLEY POST #140
ROBERT BLEIL
DAVID KLINGENSMITH
GLENWOOD POST #141
CARROLL ZOOK
SHELDON POST #145
DENNIS BROUWER
VAN HORNE POST #148
HAROLD THOMPSON
WEST BEND POST #151
MARVIN MONTAG
DONALD SAGE
EARL STEVENS
BEDFORD POST #164
JOHN PACE
INDIANOLA POST #165
ALBERT ALDRIDGE
KENNETH BENDON
MIKE COX
LEE ECKSTEIN
LARRY HEGGEN
RAY HEISNER
JAMES KOLSTO
LARRY POWELL
ROBERT RYAN
STANLEY TANN
KNOXVILLE POST #168
DURL SCHLETZBAUM
MT. AYR POST #172
HARVEY PLOEGER
GERALD WILLEY
CHARLES CITY POST #174
VERNON NIELAND
WAVERLY POST #176
ARCHIE BARKHOFF
DONALD LEISINGER
LESTER ZELLE
MT. AUBURN POST #177
DONALD DILL
ELDORA POST #182
MAYNARD SPITZACK
HAMPTON POST #183
VERNON BAILEY
GERALD WHITMORE
WINTERSET POST #184
JEFFRY BARNES
ROBERT DINGMAN
HUBERT WILKINSON
IA FALLS POST #188
JACKIE BOWMAN
CLINTON POST #190
ROBERT BOEGEL
SIOUX CENTER POST #199
DUANE VANWYHE
ELDON POST #206
DONALD GLASSON
LAPORTE CITY POST #207
ROBERT DEWITT
DON LOVELESS
ROCKWELL POST #208
JAMES SIMON
MONTICELLO POST #209
WILLIAM HINTZ
ANITA POST #210
RONNIE PAULSEN
CENTERVILLE POST #214
DENNIS STICKLER
ATKINS POST #217
LOUIS KEIPER
RON VOGT

STRAWBERRY PT. #218
BERNARD MALONE
REMSEN POST #220
CAREL CONNOR
SUMNER POST #223
ROBERT PIPHO
ERWIN WEHLING
AVOCA POST #227
DAVID JORGENSEN
LEMARS POST #241
ROSS THOMPSON
REINBECK POST #242
SIDNEY THEDE
RICEVILLE POST #244
KENNETH KEPHART
DWIGHT WILLEY
MAYNARD POST #245
RONALD GLASS
VILLISCA POST #251
WILLIAM VICTOR
HAWARDEN POST #254
LARRY MILROY
GARNER POST #256
MAYNARD BEYER
CLAYTON HABERKAMP
LYLE JENSEN
WYOMING POST #259
GLEN GIENAPP
GARY LEGGETT
SLATER POST #260
CARROLL SESKER
WALL LAKE POST #262
MARLIN ASCHINGER
URBANA POST #264
RICHARD YERKES
GREENFIELD POST #265
DAVID EBLEN
LOWELL HAILEY
HAROLD ROBERTS
BELLEVUE POST #273
HERBERT BAILEY
VICTOR KUPER
ROLAND PETESCH
DES MOINES POST #274
DALE HALL
LELAND LONG
CARROLL PURDY
KENNETH SWENSON
LESTER WION
IRETON POST #276
TAYLOR SMITH
SHEFFIELD POST #277
WILMER WALTON
OSAGE POST #278
RICHARD HANSEN
ALLEN HAUGE
HAROLD HEMANN
EDWARD OCONNOR
STEVE SMITH
LAWLER POST #279
JOHN WOODRING
MOULTON POST #280
WAYNE BASSETT
AUBURN POST #284
DENNIS ORTNER
CLARENCE POST #286
GILBERT SHELDON
SLOAN POST #295
STEVEN MAREAU
DEEP RIVER POST #296
LAVERNE DOTY
CHARLES DUNHAM
MARION POST #298
JAMES BADER
KENNETH BARRETT
JAMES BENEDICT
RICHARD CUMMINGS
ROBERT EATON
DONALD HERB
LAWRENCE JOHNSTON
DONALD JOHNSTON
DONALD JORDAN
HAROLD KUDDER
LEWIS PEARSON
THOMAS PRIDEAUX
ROBERT SCHURK
EVERETT SCOTT
STEVEN SHAEFFER
LEO SUTTER
DONALD THOMPSON
ALBERT CITY POST #299
ROMAINE KISCHER
ROLAND POST #307
STEPHEN HUCK
KERMIT MOLDE
VERN TJELMELAND
CLARK TWEDT
WILLIAM WAUGH

HOPKINTON POST #311
LLOYD COLLMANN
WILLIAM LUX
ODEBOLT POST #313
EDWARD DURBIN
BRITT POST #315
ROBERT BUNS
JON HISCOCKS
RONALD NEDVED
LITTLE ROCK POST #316
BEN HEEREN
SANBORN POST #318
ARLEN VANRAVENSWAAY
ELK HORN POST #322
CHARLIE ANDERSEN
WILLIAM HARTRANFT
ALLEN LARSEN
SIBLEY POST #324
STANLEY GAALSWYK
FRANK LEU
OCHEYEDAN POST #326
MIKE HARBERTS
DONALD HORMEL
ORANGE CITY POST #329
MARION VANDERLAAN
NEOLA POST #330
CLEMENT CROWLEY
DYSART POST #335
DAVID BOTTOMLEY
JESUP POST #342
RAYMOND HAGARTY
PAUL HALEY
LECLAIRE POST #347
RAYMOND ISOM
AINSWORTH POST #351
KEITH CUTKOMP
TRIPOLI POST #356
LARRY LOHMANN
BATTLE CREEK POST #364
LARRY NEUBAUER
LOWDEN POST #366
RALPH KING
DES MOINES POST #374
WYATT CUSTER
RALPH DECKER
EDWIN EMERLING
BRUCE HARLAND
DWIGHT HUNNELL
DELMER JEFFERSON
LEE JOHNSON
ELMER PFANNENSTIEL
VICTOR SEDLACEK
DONALD SHAW
ROBERT SHORT
RICHARD STEFFEN
DARRELL WALLDORFF
CLERMONT POST #375
MICHAEL FINNEGAN
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RANDALL MCCUTCHEON
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DARRELL BLANKENBAKER
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MARVIN CARLSON
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RONALD BOYER
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CHARLES WALLIS
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CHASPER VANDERPLOEG
WHITTEMORE POST #425
GARMON ADAMS
DERROLD BAUMANN
FORREST GILMORE
CHARLES SCHULTZ
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HERBERT HAMILTON
WESLEY #428
LEROY GRANDGENETT
KENNETH HAVERLY
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JAMES JENSEN

DANIEL MCCARVILLE
KENNETH SMITH
SILVER CITY POST #439
JAMES ATTEY
HARVEY ORD
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DONALD WINGROVE
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WENDELL KNOWLER
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DONALD ERUSHA
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EDWARD LIENEMANN
OXFORD JCT. POST #473
EDWARD EMMERT
RICHARD SOBOTKA
DONNELLSON POST #474
J. DOHERTY
HINTON POST #477
WILLIAM WILSBACHER
MILTON POST #483
JIMMY WILSON
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GLENN MILLER
OAKVILLE POST #489
WAYNE SHIPMAN
DOUDS POST #494
DAVID KING
MAPLETON POST #496
CARL MAAS
LEONARD MAIER
ALTA POST #498
DALE BARR
RICHLAND POST #504
FRANCIS FYE
EUGENE KESSEL
DONALD WONDERLICH
WEST LIBERTY POST #509
WILLIAM ROCKWELL
WEST BRANCH POST #514
PAUL FLANEGAN
LARRY THOMPSON
POSTVILLE POST #518
WYATT DUNDEE
MILLERSBURG POST #521
WILLIAM LUDWIG
JANESVILLE POST #522
LAURENCE JOHNSON
CASCADE POST #528
STAN CALLAHAN
EDMUND GREEN
BERNARD LOECKE
JOSEPH OTTING
ROBERT SADLER
ROBERT STOKESBERRY
RICHARD SULLIVAN
DONAHUE POST #532
MORGAN TOBIN
OXFORD POST #537
HARRY EHRLMAN
RAY STRATTON
DWIGHT WOOD
ELLSTON POST #541
LARRY PENCE
DANIEL SHEPHERD
GARY VANBUSKIRK
LIME SPRINGS #545
RICHARD CRAY
LYTTON POST #546
MELVIN HADEN
PORTSMOUTH POST #547
ROBERT GROTE
WALCOTT POST #548
LOUIS FEUERBACH
FAIRBANK POST #552
GORDON BENTLEY
CHARLES BRIDDLE
JACK CURTIS
WAYNE SAUERBREI
CARL SCHNEIDER
ELY POST #555
GARY GATRELLE
WINTHROP POST #560
VIRGIL BATEMAN
CUMMING POST #562
WILLIAM FULTZ
FAIRFAX POST #572
HERBERT SNELL
DONALD YOUNG
WILTON POST #584
LOUIS BRAMMEIER
DANNY MEIER
W. DES MOINES POST #620
FREDERICK WUTZKE
GRAND MOUNT POST #622
ALBERT PRIES
WADENA POST #631
MYRON NAGLE

MELCHER POST #632
TERRY MELICK
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FLOYD BUFFINGTON
DENVER POST #653
JEROME GUENTHER
EUGENE LAMPE
FARLEY POST #656
GERALD ELLERBACH
GILBERT MESCHER
JOHN SPODEN
DES MOINES POST #659
GENE LIPOVAC
HARLAN WAGNER
SGT. BLUFF POST #662
DAN BUMSTED
ROBERT MILLARKE
WILLIAM SHATTUCK
ROGER STEWART
URBANDALE POST #663
GENE COCHERELL
JOHN SCHNEIDERS
SMITHLAND POST #666
DAVID MEAD
SWISHER POST #671
RAYMOND ANDERSON
LEO LAMPAREK
RYAN POST #692
J. DUGGAN
ARCADIA POST #694
ROGER LEE
GARY VENTEICHER
SIOUX CITY POST #697
JOSEPH NOLEN
ROBERT UTECH
MINEOLA POST #705
DAVID CARPENTER
BLUE GRASS POST #711
GARY DICKERSON
CHARLES HOOD
RONALD REKEMEYER
GILBERTVILLE POST #714
HERBERT LUDWIG
CLIFFORD RASMUSSEN
LEROY SCHMIT
CRAIG WELTZIN
CORALVILLE POST #721
RALPH BOHLIN
THOMAS BREESE
HARPERS FERRY #722
CHARLES BERNES
MERLIN KRUGER
LELAND PEARSON
DONALD SHOGREN
CHARLES VAVRA
GARNAVILLO POST #723
BRUNO WILDEBOER
IOWA POST #729
EDWARD ALLEN
JOHN CLARK
CHARLES CORSAUT
THOMAS GIFFORD
STANLEY KOEHN
EDWARD MILES
CHARLES RONEK
GERALD STROMBERG
JAMES YUNGCLAS
HIAWATHA POST #735
THOMAS CUNNINGHAM
WAUKEE POST #737
DEAN MCCLAFLIN
HARRY WILLITS

SQUADRON EVERLASTING

**MARSHALLTOWN
SQUADRON #46**
SAM GIARRATANO
ATKINS SQUADRON #217
RON VOGT
WHITING SQUADRON #481
ARDEN LARSEN

Iowa Legionnaire of the Year

Art McLaughlin was the post member who took on the 'taken for granted jobs' at the post, doing the extra things to make activities in the post and the community even better. He did the little repair jobs around the post and was always checking to make sure everything was going well. He was happiest when he was actively working to support the Post and his rural community.

A soft-spoken leader, Art was respected throughout Mt. Auburn and The American Legion because of his ability to talk to people. He was a tireless membership worker who was constantly recruiting members for not only his home post, but throughout Benton County, the Third District, and Iowa.

A humble man, Art would be surprised to think that there is an award named in his honor. He was a quiet leader who did not work for recognition, but volunteered because it was the right thing to do.

His wife, Sherry McLaughlin, Past National Auxiliary President had this to say: "I once told someone that The American Legion was Art's life." The young Legionnaire replied, "No, The American Legion was his passion."

The Department of Iowa asks that you nominate qualified Legionnaires for this award as away of saying "Thank You" to a strong 'blue cap' Legionnaire.

Applications can be found online at www.ialegion.org/resources. Search under the Program Forms Tab. Applications are due to Dept. HQ June 15, 2019.

National Legion College

The National Legion College prepares young Legionnaires for leadership positions in Posts, Districts, Counties, and departments through education, development, and motivation. The curriculum challenges student leaders to think critically and creatively about issues confronting the Legion.

This year the College will be held November 3-8, 2019,

in Indianapolis, Indiana. Application are available on the Department's website at www.ialegion.org/legion-college or by request from Department Headquarters.

The Department of Iowa is currently seeking two candidates. Candidates must have military service after 1982 and have completed the American Legion Extension Institute. The Extension Institute is available online at www.legion.org. Applications for Legion College are due to Department Headquarters before July 1.

IALPA Continue from Page 11

Teamwork and communication are the keys to our future. Teamwork requires good communication; not only between members of our American Legion Family but also the general public. Sharing our programs and good news through the use of social media with our membership and our communities may lead to increased numbers and new and more vibrant leadership. Some questions we face: Are we using resources already available to us? Are we using effective means of communications? Can we utilize social electronic media better? Posts, units, and squadrons can keep their members informed about what's going on with

the click of a key. A local post or district website is easily accessible. Your local TV, radio, and newspapers prefer to communicate with your post in this manner. Your Department and the National Legion websites as well as The American Legion Press Association are a great source of information.

Teamwork and communication also need participation which requires an invitation we want our members to become involved. Invite your fellow Legionnaire to help out with a program. Volunteering is a great way to get to know what's going on. But remember to not overload your volunteer with too much work. With each other's help, we will move forward with enthusiasm.

The American Legion of Iowa Foundation



PNC David K. Rehbein, President

The annual meeting of The American Legion of Iowa Foundation was held May 24, 2018, between the writing of this article and publication of the Iowa Legionnaire. Previous articles have told you of some of the areas to which Foundation grants have gone. I am devoting this article to the annual meeting and the work of the Foundation Board of Directors at that annual meeting as well as some future decisions to be made.

The Foundation for the last few years has been devoting 5% of the market value plus the earnings from three restricted funds to grant awards. This year that amount is \$103,222.32. The hard work begins when the Directors must make the decisions on how best to spread that money over 92 grant requests

totaling nearly \$300,000.

It is not an easy job. Each year some requests do not receive funding, others receive a partial amount. To date, the Foundation has granted over \$2,150,000 to those organizations working in the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Americanism/Children and Youth and community service areas.

That total amount distributed is a milestone since it means that we have distributed more in grants than the total value of the Foundation principal. Every dollar donated is help in the principal and not spent. For our donors, having granted more than they donated means that every dollar is donations has turned into a dollar being granted. We are now beginning on every dollar being donated is working toward \$2 going to grant awards. You will see a number of those Foundation grants distributed at Department Convention but many more will be distributed in the communities that our requesters serve. We hope that if one of those grants is in your area, you will be present when the grant is made to see the work that

the Foundation enables.

The Foundation Board of Directors will be taking on another task before the Department Convention. It has been many years since the Board of Directors has taken a good look at the way the Foundation conducts business, solicits and evaluates grant requests and shows our gratitude to our donors. A meeting to discuss all those items, as well as others, is being scheduled. You will hear the results from the meeting at Convention and in the Fall issue of the Legionnaire.

Nicole Clapp's campaign is coming to a successful conclusion. We all look forward to seeing her elected National President at the convention in Indianapolis. Beyond that, the Foundation looks forward to her joining the Board of Directors following her year as President. She will bring a perspective that will help the Foundation move forward. Thank you for your support in the past and our Directors hope you will continue that support, both through your donations and your help finding applicants doing the kind of work in our communities that we can support.

National Convention August 23-29, 2019 Indianapolis, IN

The annual National Convention is the governing body of The American Legion. Delegates and alternates to the National Convention are elected at District Spring Conferences. If you are not elected as a delegate or alternate at the District Spring Conference, you may still attend the National Convention as

a guest.

Registration form for delegates, alternates, and guests to the National Convention are available through Department Headquarters or can be downloaded from the Department website at www.ialegion.org.

The Department of Iowa will be housed in the Westin Indianapolis. Room reservations must be made through Department Headquarters.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 2019

100th Anniv. Committee

My comrades, this is the last message you will see from me concerning the Centennial. We have made progress as the Department now has 38 posts with pages on The Centennial Website. These will soon be forgotten if you do not see their utility to your post. They are not scheduled for termination. What you save there now should still be there for the Legionnaires we pass the mantle to for the next hundred years. I have learned a lot about my post in Marion. Some of it quite humorous, some quite sad, but most are things that grow my pride in the post. Of the things that will last from our hundredth birthday, this one has great longevity if we make them with pride, keep

learning about our posts, and capturing what we learn. I encourage you all to continue the work.

The second thing we should accomplish is in our public sharing of the story of our beloved Legion. That is the main focus of the entire effort. I hope by now you have planned and begun implementation on your public event to show your community that you are still there, still giving, and still of value. That goodwill we can establish is the second, but not necessarily enduring effect from our centennial events as that goodwill will remain dependent on our continuously publicizing our good works.

Our department has several things ongoing.

100th Anniversary Continued on Page 15

Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport Conference Center

6111 Fleur Dr.
Des Moines, IA 50321
(515) 287-2400
Rate: \$96.00

www.ialegion.org/convention

Ask for The American Legion rate when making reservations.

Headquarters Office – Room 298

Thursday, July 18, 2019

5:00 p.m. Resolutions Assignment – Room 175

Friday, July 19, 2019

8:00 a.m. Credentials Committee – Room 292
9:00 a.m. Rules Committee – Room 292
9:00 a.m. Commission & Committee Chairmen
Meeting – Iowa C
10:00 a.m. Registration & Display Tables – Ballroom
Foyer
10:00 a.m. Department Commission Meetings:
Convention Commission – Iowa B
Americanism Commission – Iowa E
Baseball Committee
Boy Scout Committee
Children & Youth Committee
Community Service Committee
JSSP Committee
Oratorical Contest Committee
VA & R Commission – Iowa C
Health Administration Committee
Veterans Benefits Committee
Legislative Commission – Room 396
National Affairs Commission – Room 398
Internal Affairs Commission – Iowa D
Leadership Committee
Membership Committee
S.A.L. Committee
Strategic Planning Committee
American Legion Riders Committee
100th Anniversary Committee
12:00 p.m. Female Veterans Forum – WView North
1:00 p.m. Convention Committee Meetings:
Americanism – Iowa E
Internal Affairs – Iowa D

	National Affairs – Room 398 VA & R – Iowa C Finance, Constitution & By-Laws – Room 396
2:00 p.m.	Iowa American Legion Press Association – Room 292
2:30 p.m.	Liaison Committee – Iowa B
4:00 p.m.	General Session – Ballrooms Central & South Guests Report of Rules Committee Report of Credentials Committee Report of the NEC Report of Department Officers
6:00 p.m.	Recess
6:00 p.m.	Color Guard Contest Registration & Meeting – Iowa B
7:00 p.m.	Joint Session of American Legion, Auxiliary & SAL – Ballrooms North, Central, & South Adjourn Joint Session
9:00 p.m.	Hospitality & Karaoke – Courtyard

Saturday, July 20, 2019

6:30 a.m.	Complimentary Centennial Breakfast – Courtyard
7:00 a.m.	Foundation Breakfast – Iowa C, D, & E
7:00 a.m.	LifeServe Blood Drive - Des Moines Rm.
8:00 a.m.	Registration & Display Tables – Ballroom Foyer
8:30 a.m.	General Session – Ballrooms Central & South
	Commission & Committee Reports
11:30 a.m.	Recess
10:00 a.m.	American Legion Riders – WView Central & South

11:30 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

2:50 p.m.

2:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m.

5:00 pm

6:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 21, 2019

7:00 a.m.	DEC Spouse Breakfast – Iowa B
8:00 a.m.	Memorial Service – Ballrooms North, Central & South
9:00 a.m.	General Session – Ballrooms Central & South
	Recess for The American Legion of Iowa Boys State
	Special Order of Business – Election of Member to Boys State Board of Directors
	Reconvene General Session
	Adjourn – 100th Annual Department Convention

Post-Convention DEC Meeting – Iowa B & C

To register for The Women Veterans Forum visit: www.ialegion.org/convention

Honor Guard Continued from Page 3

Honor guard members believe it is their privilege and honor to participate in rendering these honors, and they have pride and ownership in this combined honor guard. American Legion members from several smaller surrounding communities have now joined our honor guard.

In 2015, we had active duty U.S. Army personnel and the Military Funeral Honors Coordinator from Camp Dodge, IA come to Marshalltown and provide advice on firing party moves and techniques that they use in providing military honors. The commands and firing party moves that we now use are very similar to what

Iowa Sends Four to JSSP Finals

Four shooters from the Des Moines North MCJROTC air rifle shooting team have qualified for the National Finals in the sporter category. They are Arturo Zaragoza, Kevin Nguyen, Sydney Krejci and Adrianna Campos. The finals will be held at the Olympic Training Center in

is used for military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. In May 2015, the Marshalltown Combined VFW/American Legion Honor Guard was certified by the Department of Defense. Our honor guard has received substantial financial, written and moral support from organizations and individuals in Marshalltown and the surrounding communities. This support has allowed us to replace our old 1992 converted school bus with a new 2017 fourteen passenger bus and to purchase new uniform jackets.

We will continue to honor those who have served our country.

Ken Breinig
Honor Guard Commander

Colorado Springs on July 23-27.

Fifteen shooters in each of the sporter and precision categories are invited. Iowa placing four of the fifteen shows the quality of the program at Des Moines North.

Sydney Krejci and Adrianna Campos were the first and second place overall finishers for the Department of Iowa's JSSP Match held in March. Ayden Wells, also of DM North, finished third overall in the Dept. Match.

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At the time I write this, a trip to honor our First Commander LTG Tinley, is still eluding us, but we are focusing on getting there. June 22nd, before the DEC meeting, we will honor our first Adjutant Mayor MacVicar and that should be a good event. I encourage you to participate. Time to be in Woodland Cemetery (Block 18) in Des Moines is 10:30 a.m.

Our final event is our big reception on Saturday of the summer convention where each district is to provide 5 posts who want to brag about something their post has done or their namesake. At present,

there are 26 posts that have stepped up. We'd like to get closer to that 45! Talk with your District Commander about volunteering. The reception is on 20 July from 3 to 6 PM. Setup can begin about 1 PM. Your table should draw the attention of the visitors, and then you have a quick pitch about your event or namesake.

By the time you see this, the invitations should have been sent and all that will be left is to execute with style and panache. It has been my honor to serve as chairman and I appreciate the support. Now, let's knock this reception out of the ballpark!

Roger Norfolk
100th Anniversary Committee

Limited:

**The American Legion Centennial Merchandise
for Sale - Contact HQ**

RAGBRAI

Monday, July 22, will be American Legion Day on RAGBRAI, with a ceremony scheduled for the overnight stop in Winterset. The department will also work with other posts along the route for additional activities and support.

The American Legion of Iowa is sponsoring a team of 10 riders to represent our organization on the ride. A special biking jersey will be worn by Legionnaires to help promote The American Legion on RAGBRAI. The ride will begin in Council Bluffs and stop in Atlantic on Day 1 (Sunday, July 21). Then, the ride will continue from Atlantic to Winterset on Day 2; Winterset

to Indianola on Day 3; Indianola to Centerville on Day 4, Centerville to Fairfield on Day 5; Fairfield to Burlington on Day 6; and complete the ride from Burlington to Keokuk on Day 7 (Saturday, July 27). Further details can be found at www.ragbrai.com.



NASCAR at The Iowa Speedway

(Newton, IA – June 15 & 16, 2019) You have seen the groups holding the huge American Flag at sporting events around the country. This is your chance to be one of those people at NASCAR.

The American Legion family will hold the flag for the Xfinity race at Newton

Speedway on June 16. The race will be live on Nationwide TV that day.

We will also have a booth on the concourse with Legion information Saturday and Sunday. The booth will be open until the race starts both days so you won't miss the race.

Discount tickets are still available. Go to www.ialegion.org/nascar for more information on purchasing.

IOWA SPEEDWAY

Walk for Veterans



Department Commander J. Scott Moline will lead American Legion Family

Members and friends in a Walk for Veterans. This may be the final year for the walk as we celebrate The Centennial of The American Legion.

The American Legion Walk for Veterans will be during the Veterans Parade at the Iowa State Fair on August 12, 2019, at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. The parade begins at 11:00 am and participants are asked to be in the

staging area before 10:00 am.

Participants must register (free registration) with The American Legion of Iowa before July 21, 2019. The cost of a Walk for Veterans shirt is \$10.00. All walk participants must wear The American Legion Walk for Veterans shirt and must pre-register. All parade participants will receive free entry into the Iowa State Fair. Parking is not included.

Registration Forms, Information and Updates: Information, instructions, and forms are available on our website or by request from the Department office. For more information please contact The American Legion of Iowa by phone at 800-365-8387, by email at john@ialegion.org or view online at www.ialegion.org/wfv.

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100 Miles Continued from Page 5

He should know, Ritland turns 71 the day before the 100-mile bicycle ride.

The 100-mile ride will begin and end at The American Legion Post in Marion, 625 31st Street, Iowa's largest Legion Post. Ritland plans to start pedaling at 6:30am and return to the Marion Post at 6:30pm. He will spend about 10-15 minutes at each post, first stop will be the Cedar Rapids post at 50 2nd Avenue Bridge (Veterans Memorial Building), followed, in order, by Ely, Solon, Lisbon, Springville, Central City, Center Point, Hiawatha, and Marion. The pace will be easy, about 10 to 12 miles per hour.

The 100-mile route will follow walking/bicycle trails where possible and lightly traveled county roads. According to Ritland anyone is invited to join, either for the entire route or any segment they feel comfortable riding. No registration or sign up fees. Simply show up and ride.

"Please be aware, there will be no sag wagon. If someone has to drop out

it will be on them for transportation arrangements," Ritland cautioned. Bicycling 100 miles may seem rather daunting to many, but Ritland has a pretty good bicycling resume: four RAGBRAI's, five century rides (100 miles in a day), and the Alaska Highway, all after the age of 67. And this ride is just the beginning. June 7th Ritland plans to begin a 74-day cross-country ride from Washington State to Washington, D.C., and joining RAGBRAI across Iowa in the middle.

Ritland points out, "The 100-mile ride is not any kind of official fundraiser, there is not a sign up or registration fee. However, if anyone would like to donate to the local American Legion they are invited to send a check to the Legion post in their community. It is always nice to support an organization that supports the community."

To follow his journey cross-country LIKE his Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/theoldcyclingveteran and Instagram at www.instagram.com/larry.ritland71.

Lost Aircraft Info.

Fellow Legionnaire, Orrin Miller of Waterloo, has acquired a book detailing information on aircrafts lost during Viet Nam from 1961-1973. He is offering this information to anyone who would like to inquire. All that is needed for

him is the exact date the aircraft went down or was lost, and the name in case more than one aircraft was lost on the same day. The information he has lists officers and enlisted aircrewmembers aboard the aircraft.

Orrin is offering this service free if you write or contact him at: 1920 Franklin Street, Waterloo, IA 50703.

Give The Gift of Life

The American Legion of Iowa and LifeServe Blood Center are partnering up to address the growing demand for blood donations. LifeServe Blood Center provides blood and blood products to more than 120 hospitals located across Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota. On Saturday, July 20th of Department Convention, you will have the opportunity to literally give the gift of life. Go to www.ialegion.org/blood for details and to reserve your time with one of the 50 available appointments. Anyone who has already given whole blood through May 25, 2019 will be eligible to donate again at Convention.

This opportunity is a direct reflection of The American Legion's values and ongoing efforts for serving communities. As you are aware, the annual Consolidated Post Reports provide Congress with the necessary information and thousands of

volunteer hours poured into benefiting the lives and communities where the local post exists. Blood drives are some of the simplest means that provide a profound rippled impact for all involved. From the post, the donor, and to the recipient whose life it could save, the effect is wide. The American Legion of Iowa and LifeServe Blood Center will be collaborating on more opportunities state wide.

Please stay alert to such events which may be close to your area. For further information and other opportunities, you may contact LifeServe Blood Center at www.lifeservebloodcenter.org or 1-800-287-4903.

Date: Saturday, July 20, 2019

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Schedule: www.ialegion.org/blood



Caring for you, sharing for life.



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