



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF IOWA IOWA LEGIONNAIRE & Auxiliary Communiqué

An Official Publication of The American Legion, Department of Iowa: December 2020

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

Denver Post In Action

By Jerry Stoll



The Acker-Mathias American Legion in Denver serves breakfasts to the high school football team and coaches every Friday during the season.

A tradition at the Legion is the weekly Denver football team breakfasts held at 7 AM Friday morning during the season. About 50 plus players, coaches and some support students arrive on game Fridays to eat

the various types of food that the Legion members prepare.

Preparation starts at 6 AM but the planning begins weeks before. The students arrive at 7 and are usually gone by 7:30 and the cost for the meal is five dollars, which almost covers the cost of the meal. This past Friday Oct. 9, the cost for all the patrons was covered by New Age Electric (Jeremy and Allison McPherson) in Denver. Thank you to them.

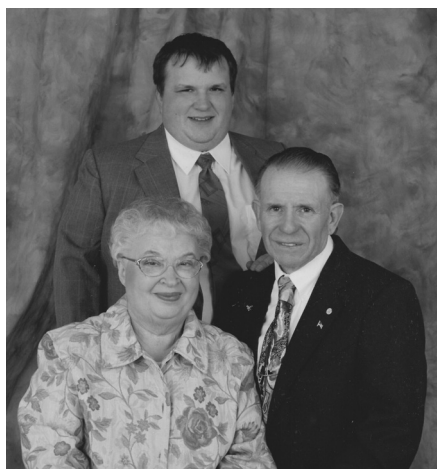
Menu items vary between pancakes, French toast, sausage, toast, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, plus milk, coffee and OJ. The usual Legion members who prepare and serve are Sam Smith, Harold Hyde, Duke Schneider, Butch Milius, Jim Kurt, Joel and Diane Wikner, Ron and Sue Sawyer, Steve Moon, and others who may show up to help.



Holiday Greetings from Your Department Commander

Happy Holidays, This is a season with a reason so many people of all ages look forward to, also it is a time that reminds us of our faith and our beliefs that we all are equal and we should treat every person with equal respect and due. Yes, this is the season that seems to mean presents for personal gain and enjoyment for all ages, however we know the real reason of December 25th. I know we all will relish the day that we can go without a mask and do things that we enjoyed once again a great gift Perhaps this coronavirus that we call COVID-19 maybe has some good things come out of it, we have learned that we can exist in a more confined lifestyle that we thought we could live. It may not be the most comfortable lifestyle but yet we still have our freedom to move around and we can call and talk to people on the phone to help pass some time and not feel so isolated from those in the world around us. So, as we continue on to fulfill the days left in 2020 may we pray the year 2021 be better and realize we are fortunate to live in America. We wish all of you the best and well wishes this holiday season. May our Lord and Savior bless The United States of America.

Commander Jim and Family



Mid-Winter Conference Reserve Your Hotel Room Now

Holiday Inn Des Moines
Airport & Conference Center
6111 Fleur Drive
Des Moines, IA 50321
515-287-2400

Ask for The American Legion rate!

Mid-Winter Schedule
TAL, SAL & Riders on Page 6
American Legion Auxiliary on Page 9

IRS Reminder

Under the 2006 Pension Protection Act (PPA), a non-church exempt organization's failure to file IRS Form 990 for three consecutive years will result in the revocation of the organization's exempt status. Under the IRS regulations, all Posts are required to file an IRS Form 990 every year. Forms must be filed by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of the Post's annual accounting period. For more information, visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov. You may also get more information by contacting your tax professional.

DEADLINES & DATES

December 4
Dept. Open House Cancelled
December 6
Post Oratorical Contest Deadline
December 12
Boys State Board Meeting - Virtual
December 20
County Oratorical Contest Deadline
December 24-28
Dept. Offices Closed
December 25
Christmas
December 31
Boys State Early Bird Reservation Deadline
January 1, 2021
New Year's Day
Baseball Team Registration Opens - National
JSSP Dept. Match Registrations Open
Dept. Offices Closed
January 2
Play Essay Entries due to District Chair
January 3
1st District Oratorical Contest - Swisher
4th District Oratorical Contest - Hawkeye
5th District Oratorical Contest - Oskaloosa
6th District Oratorical Contest - Des Moines
7th District Oratorical Contest - Red Oak
8th District Oratorical Contest - Carroll
January 9
2nd District Oratorical Contest - DeWitt
January 10
9th District Oratorical Contest - Sioux Rapids
January 15
Spring District Conference Forms Due
January 17
Area 1 Oratorical Contest - Oskaloosa
Area 2 Oratorical Contest - West Union
January 18
MLK, Jr. Day - Dept. Offices Closed
January 20
Veterans Day at the Capitol - Des Moines
January 22
Flag Essay District Finalists due to Dept.
January 24
Area 3 Oratorical Contest - Red Oak
February 12-14
Mid-Winter Conference - Des Moines
February 13
Baseball Meeting - Des Moines
February 14
Department Oratorical Finals - Des Moines
February 15
President's Day - Dept. Offices Closed
February 27 - March 3
Washington Conference - Washington, DC
March 1
Eagle Scout of the Year Due
Adult Scouting Nominees Due
JSSP Dept. Match Registrations Due

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

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year &
Happy Holidays!

From The American Legion of Iowa Family

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The American Legion, Department of Iowa

720 Lyon St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309
www.ialegion.org
800-365-8387 • 515-282-5068 • 515-282-7583 (fax)

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa

www.iowaala.org
515-282-7987 • 515-282-7583 (fax)

Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Iowa

www.ialegion.org/sal
800-365-8387 • 515-282-5068 • 515-282-7583 (fax)

2020-2021 American Legion Department Officers

Commander	James Kessler	Lake Park	commander@ialegion.org
Vice Commanders			
	Bob Waugh	Libertyville	bobwaugh89@gmail.com
	Bob Onken	Osage	jbelect@osage.net
	Dick Hogan	Cedar Rapids	dehogan@earthlink.net
	Darrin Alderson	Oskaloosa	darrin.alderon3@gmail.com
	Joe Jardon	Shenandoah	jmjardon2747@gmail.com
Adjutant	John A. Derner	Granger	john@ialegion.org
Service Officer	Shane Pankonen	Des Moines	shane.pankonen@va.gov
Finance Officer	Ken Danilson	Woodward	kendanilson@gmail.com
Judge Advocate	Dwight Dinkla	Panora	ddinkla@iowabar.org
Historian	Don Arns	Blue Grass	don.arns@gmail.com
Chaplain	James Fenceroy	Sioux City	jamesfenceroy@msn.com
Sergeant-At-Arms	Stan Elliott	Nevada	sdejae@gmail.com
National Executive Committeeman	Jerry Sebben	Waukee	nec@ialegion.org
Alternate National Executive Committeeman	Dennis Soppe	West Union	anec@ialegion.org
Past Department Commanders			
	Ken Rochholz	Walcott	rocky02288@msn.com
	Mike Etzel	Marion	dimikey@hotmail.com
	J. Scott Moline	Urbandale	smoline@purdueglobal.edu

2020-2021 District Commanders

1st	Steve Colcord	West Branch
	563-241-8445	firstdistrict@ialegion.org
2nd	Roger Norfolk	Cedar Rapids
	319-651-0977	seconddistrict@ialegion.org
3rd	Dave Travis	Shellsburg
	319-436-2217	thirddistrict@ialegion.org
4th	Dan Boberg	Fayette
	563-419-0459	fourthdistrict@ialegion.org
5th	Randy Johnson	Deep River
	641-510-2425	fifthdistrict@ialegion.org
6th	Robert Colin	Des Moines
	515-253-9629	sixthdistrict@ialegion.org
7th	Gary Whipple	Thurman
	712-313-0126	seventhdistrict@ialegion.org
8th	Tom Ryan	Wesley
	515-341-7926	eighthdistrict@ialegion.org
9th	David Honse	Rock Valley
	712-470-2299	ninthdistrict@ialegion.org

Department Service Office

561 Federal Building, 210 Walnut St.
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
800-944-2039 • 515-323-7532 • 515-323-7401 (fax)

Claims Representatives

Michelle Lammers Melissa Kauzlarich
Heather Owens Shane Pankonen
Alyssa Flood

Department Headquarters Staff Directory

Adjutant	John Derner	john@ialegion.org
Exec Sec./Membership	Ann Haack	ann@ialegion.org
Programs Director	Ryan Kowlessar	ryan@ialegion.org
Business Manager	Teresa Shaw	teresa@ialegion.org
General Information		info@ialegion.org

Auxiliary Department Staff Directory

Executive Director	Crystal Wright	alasectreas@ialegion.org
Membership	Jeannie McKeever	alamembership@ialegion.org
Accounting	Rachael Schmidt	alaaccounting@ialegion.org

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**Department Commander**
James B. Kessler

What a year 2020 has been, we have had weather of all sorts sometimes a month ahead

of normal and then what is normal in 2020? October, we had cold and snow then we had some warm days and nights then November 10th came along with rain, ice, and snow. Today Veterans day November 11th we started at 14 degrees got to 34 to 40 degrees watch the snow melt on the roads to become slushy and dangerous and then dry. My hope is things will straighten out and we will have easier traveling and be able to plan accordingly.

As your Commander, I am instructed to form various committees for various projects for the better of the American Legion and to show the community that we care about our veterans. At a Strategic Planning Committee on October 28th, I was instructed to form an Ad- Hoc committee, to look into relocating the American Legion Department of Iowa headquarters. The reason being we need to replace the parking lot at headquarters and to do that and meet the building codes and all matters as they deem necessary by the Des Moines City Council. We would have better than 1/3 of the appraised price of our building just in the parking lot, and looking down the road there may be other things we need to replace in or on our building and we don't know what the codes would end up being affecting that process. So, with that in mind we decided to look into moving headquarters to a different location. Now I am asking the membership of the American Legion to help me informing this Ad - Hoc Committee I am sure within this great organization we have the expertise of people having a knowledge of being an architect, a commercial construction contractor building office buildings and a realtor who can help us in locating property and negotiating a reasonable price. If you know someone or yourself that fits these needs, notify your Department Commander at www.ialegion.org or by phone at 712 330 1738 or by contacting Adjutant Derner at Department 800 365 8387 or 515 282 5068 along with the person's name and contact information with a post number or post name. This would be greatly appreciated; I would like this information by December 20th, 2020. We have various programs with due dates coming quickly in the balance of 2020 and the beginning of 2021. In December Oratorical at Post and County levels need to be accomplished. It is time to be sure that fifth grade flag essay is in the hands of the 5th grade teachers and the students are working on that to be into their respective post Americanism chairman by end of January. December 31st is the deadline for reserving a spot for a Boy Stater at \$250 after that it becomes \$300 per boy, let us not let this great program be cast aside because of COVID-19, there are ways you can get into the school and obtain names or be able to talk to the boys and make your selection, we need to keep this great program alive and give these boys the opportunity to learn about how our form of government elects works and an opportunity to earn some nice scholarships towards college.

Midwinter is still on target, we have been looking at various ways to coincide with all of the mandates coming from the governor's office concerning crowd size and how we can keep everybody safe and provide educational information to the membership at our Midwinter Conference which is an important part and the socialization of the American Legion family. I ask you to pray about this that we may able to accomplish this feat. March 16th is the American Legion birthday a celebration we all can be proud of 102 years of the greatest organization for veterans in the world.

Continued on the next pagewww.ialegion.org**Department Adjutant**
John A. Derner**Post Officer Training & Mid-Winter Conference**

Thank-you to all our members who take on the responsibility of being an officer in the post or take on the responsibility of managing post affairs.

Many of you took on this responsibility for the same reason. You believe in all that The American Legion stands for: helping veterans, providing opportunities for our youth, and serving our communities. The prospect of becoming an officer seemed like a chance to really make a difference in the Post. You took on the job with enthusiasm. Then it happened. You got hit with all the administrative tasks necessary to run a post.

How can there be so much paperwork involved with providing service to others? Too many times we see it happen. The energetic member who wants to do so much good loses enthusiasm because he/she becomes burdened with administrative tasks and procedures.

Unfortunately, we cannot take all those burdens away. After all, the American Legion Post is a legal entity. We are subject to federal and state regulations, as well as procedures required by our own organization.

The good news is training is available. The 2021 Mid-Winter Conference will have two training curriculums available to post leadership. One curriculum will focus on the duties of post officers and the other will be a General Session on American Legion programs.

The post officers curriculum will include completing the Consolidated Post Report (CPR), a timeline for various administrative tasks, filings with the Secretary of State's office, IRS filings, gambling licenses, sales tax, insurance, membership processing, post constitution and by-laws, and how to conduct training for post members.

The general session on programs will include a timeline for American Legion programs throughout the year, the 5th Grade Flag Essay Contest, Employment of Veterans Awards, Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the Year, the Educator of the Year, Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA), Legionnaire of the Year, Honorary Life Membership, the Mission Blue Post grant program which awards \$1,000 grants to posts, post liability insurance, and a special panel on Posts in Action.

*Continued on page 5***Legislative Day At The State Capitol**

January 22, 2020 - The Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs invites all The American Legion Family to join us for the annual Veterans Day at the Capitol. You will have an opportunity to meet with your elected officials and discuss key issues affecting our Iowa veterans. A number of veteran-related organizations will be available to make you more aware of the services that they provide. Hope to see you there!

9:00 am - American Legion Family Briefing - Department Headquarters

9:00 - 10:00 - Visit vendor tables - Capitol Rotunda - First Floor

10:00 - 10:30 - Veterans Day Program - Capitol Rotunda - First Floor

10:30 - Locate your elected officials to discuss legislative initiatives

Noon - Depart Capitol

As information is made available, it will be updated on the Department's website: www.ialegion.org/legislative.



National Executive Committeeman Jerry Sebben

Greeting fellow Legionnaires. I want to thank all the district commanders for the welcome extended to me and Alternate NEC

Dennis Soppe at their district conferences this fall. During these difficult times, it was very hard to plan a district conference, I'm sure. I want to congratulate you for a job well done in getting in your conferences.

The National Executive Committee met in October via ZOOM to receive thirty-eight resolutions from the different commissions. One of those resolutions was Number 36; the Subject: Mission Blue Post Assistance

Program. It was approved. Posts impacted by a government's public health restrictions, implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, may apply for a grant up to \$1,000. Posts must meet the following eligibility requirements:

A post must have a current consolidated post report on file;

A post must have filed an IRS 990;

A post must have filed all other required forms and reports prescribed by the departments;

A post must have financial need; and,

A post must provide documentation indicating the post is properly incorporated.

The funds from this grant program shall be used exclusively for the following: current and past due mortgage, current and past due real estate rents, current and past due insurance premiums or current

and past due utilities.

Mission Blue Post Assistance grants are not provided to cover for lost revenue associated with any post business such as bars, cantinas, pubs, restaurants, club rooms, etc. Forms and information about this program is available at Department.

I know many Veteran Day observances were cancelled but I hope some of you were able to participate in one of the activities that were made available. We as veterans cannot do enough for our fellow veterans, to recognize them for all their sacrifice. The title veteran is never given, only earned.

Mary and I want to wish all our American Legion Family a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Jerry D. Sebben, NEC

Veterans Strengthening America



Department Service Officer Shane Pankonen

Disable Housing Grants

Ever wondered what how much to modify your home. The department of veteran's affairs has programs to assist in these programs.

The Specially Adaptive Housing (SAH) is a programs to assist the veterans and service members with qualifying service connected disabilities. These programs can help you purchase, build, or adapt a home to meet the lifestyle needs of the veteran or service member.

This SAH grant can be used to make your home more adaptive for enter and exit or your home, accessibility throughout the veteran's home.

Adaptations available are accessible to enter and exit the home, lower counter tops, lowered sinks, to make the bathroom completely wheelchair accessible, and widened doorways.

The veteran or service member must meet one or more of the eligibility conditions:

1. Loss or use of both lower extremities.

2. Blindness in both eyes.

3. Severe injury from a burn.

4. Loss of use of both upper extremities at or above the elbows.

Another type of grant the veteran or service member may be eligible for is the Specially Housing Adaptive Grant (SHA). This grant is used to increase access and mobility to accommodate his or her disability. This program helps assist the veteran.

The veteran or service member must meet one or more of the eligibility conditions:

1. Blindness in both eyes with 20/200 visual acuity.

2. Functional loss or loss of use of both hands, and extremities below the elbow.

3. Severe injury from a burn.

How to Apply For SAH or SHA

To seek Disable housing grants to apply by submitting VA form 26-4555 Specially Adaptive Housing /or Special Adaptive Grant submit this to the VA or visit www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/adaptedhousing.asp.

If you have any questions about these benefits you may contact a Paralyzed Veterans of America National Service Officer and we will be glad to assist you. Also, I may be contacted directly at 515-323-7544 for questions regarding this benefit or any VA benefits.

Sincerely,

Department of Iowa's Service office



Sons of The American Legion Detachment Commander Mike Monserud

The final list of awards that the Detachment earned through their hard work in the 2019-2020 has been released. The Detachment of

Iowa earned the following awards:

- **National Regional Membership** - 1st Detachment in Central Region to meet quota
- **Highest Renewal Rate for the Central Region**
- **90% Renewal Rate at 105% Target Date**
- **Arthur D Houghton Trophy** - Greatest increase in membership from the previous year in Category

3. 3001-6000 members

• Triple Nickel Award

• Highest Per Capita CWF Donations in the Central Region

• Highest Per Capita NEF Donations in the Central Region

• George B Evans Award - Presented to Dennis Theobald Muscatine Squadron 27 for Legislative Grass Roots Efforts

With the new year almost halfway over, it is time to focus what we need to do to finish out the year Iowa Strong. It is more than just reminding members to pay their dues. They are paying to honor the memory of the Veteran that they first signed up under. Your continued membership is how you can keep their voice and memory alive. If it's a Veteran who served in

the Trenches of France, the South Pacific, the Beaches of Normandy, the Frozen Chosen the Jungles of Vietnam, or the Sands of Iraq, we owe them all.

Remember when are out recruiting an eligible member, I want you to remind them that we are a family organization and that we have a place for their family her. We need to stand as One Legion Family, as we all are advocating for the same thing, and that is the support for the Veterans. When we all stand together and unite as one family, it will make the whole organization stronger and provide the Veteran the best service possible. Remember to ask them what can we do for you, and not just shove an application in their face. Let's continue to be Iowa Strong.

Commander Mike

Commander's article continued from page 2

Also on this date there is another important target for the Department of Iowa it is called the Big 12 membership target for all departments this past month your Department Commander bid against other departments for the right to be in first place on this date to win \$2000.00 for the Department of Iowa in our category. So with that figure in mind I bid the Department of Iowa would be at 90.5% of its membership on this date, your Department Commander and your District Commanders need your help in accomplishing this target so we're asking you pay your membership and to please ask others to pay their membership. If someone you ask is in a financial hardship perhaps you could pay forward a good deed and help this Legion member maintain his membership of continuous years

The election is over and soon the Iowa legislative session will begin with many bills awaiting action and new bills coming across the desks that involve The American Legion and the veterans of this great state in many different ways. With that in mind I ask you to keep in contact with your Senators and Representatives on both levels here in Iowa and in Washington DC. Do your best to keep in contact with your Senators, Representatives and Congressman with this being a very important aspect of the American Legion Legislative Commission, to let them know we know who they are, what their responsibility is to those who put them in this office. We will be talking to them and watching them as they start their legislative process so that we know if they really care about the veteran and how they react to the needs of the veteran in The V.A. health care field and

other agencies that affect the Veteran in so many ways. One reason of many to be in contact with our Senators, Representatives and Congressmen is the need to ensure our service office at the American Legion that funding, be there for claims they put forth for the veteran who has served their country and suffered a consequence of the enemies aggressiveness towards them. Legislative Day on the Hill is January 20-2021. This is your Commanders last article for the legionnaire of 2020 I remind you of my project of the Iowa Veterans Home for areas they are improving to make the atmosphere better for those residing there, and my slogan which I truly believe identifies The American Legion Family of the Department of Iowa. Those words are Rising, Stronger and Wiser.

Commander Jim



1st District Commander Steve Colcord

This New Year as your District Commander, we have gone forward despite the virus. Some of us have traveled to posts while others have not opened yet. We are going to be stronger and get through this.

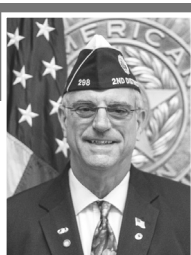
First District is Awesome. We have done a lot better in membership than last year and I would like to thank you all for this. It doesn't just take one or two it is all of us to help collect dues using the tools we have like the buddy check, letters, and phone calls. We had our fall conference on Oct 3, 2020. It went very well and I also wanted to thank the Dept. Staff and the Dept. Commander for their presence. I wanted to send a shout out and thank you for Post 100 Columbus Junction for hosting the conference

also the Auxiliary. I would like to send a thank you to my vice commanders and membership chairman for an outstanding job they are doing.

Now starting to get ready for Mid-Winter hopefully get together once again and have the conference person to person.

Hope you all have a safe and healthy Holiday season and also have a better 2021.

For God and Country,
Steve Colcord



2nd District Commander Roger Norfolk

Greetings to Second District and All members of the Legion Family,

Most of my fellow District Commanders will have sent great words of encouragement and ideas

for success. I encourage you to read each of them. Today I have thanks for the hard work of the Second District during these tough days. Several posts have reported their activities for the 5th Grade Flag essay contest, and the Oratorical contest and I am encouraged that there is real action and success. It is tough to get into the mostly closed schools and ask one more thing of them. We all hope and pray that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. The promises of

a vaccine are very encouraging, but we will persevere as we are meant to do.

Today I want to share what happened as my home post, 298 in Marion, had an outdoor Veterans Day ceremony. I was a road guard to tell cars as they pulled into our parking lot to pull into the near spaces if they wanted to observe the ceremony from their cars, or to go further back if they were not. This gave me freedom to watch and take pictures to put on Facebook. As the ceremony began, a woman on the walking path nearby stopped and stood almost reverently as the ceremony happened. Others walked or ran by without even giving notice to our actions. As the firing squad began to fire, she knelt to comfort her dog for the impending volleys. To me, it appeared she almost did that as an additional notice of thanks. After the ceremony, I hurried over to thank her and found the lump in my throat hard to speak around. I

croaked out my thanks and that she had, "Really made my day." She introduced herself and her dog and said I had really made her day. It is still a very moving small interface with another person. A person who did take the time and gave honor to all of us veterans.

As we struggle through these times, there are friends and family that are ill and some have died from the pandemic. We all must be smart or the probable impacts are dangerous to all of us. One of my staff is in the hospital as I write this. A good Legionnaire that has given much and will continue to serve for some time as he recovers. Just take a minute to tell those who work hard for the Legion that you appreciate them. Understand and encourage them as they tell you their attempts to make our programs go smoothly. Be good to everyone – you don't know what obstacles they are fighting, and be good to yourself.

Veterans Strengthening America



3rd District Commander Dave Travis

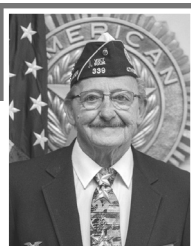
As we set down this November to give thanks for the liberties and rights we have in this great country we call America, let us not forget the many souls that gave their all

so we can have them. Let us remember the many veterans that are still serving us and our great country.

One hundred years ago the American Legion was a young organization, amid a pandemic and grew to be the largest veterans' organization in America. An organization which focuses on helping veterans and their families with their many challenges. Here we are 100 years later, again in a pandemic, helping veterans as they protect our liberties as they did in the past. So, who says history does not repeat itself? I am proud to be a member of the American Legion family. The next 100 years can be greater than the last 100 years. A big "Thank You" to the men and women for keeping the

home fires burning while our soldiers are protecting our rights. With the pandemic getting worse every day, veterans and their families of all ages need our help more than ever. Do your part and keep your "Buddy checks" up as more people will be in isolation. Keep up the work of increasing our membership and invite a veteran and their families into our great organization. Stay safe and wear your MASK!

For God and Country,
Dave Travis



4th District Commander Dan Boberg

Well here we are still in our war with COVID 19. I hope and pray that all are making the attempt to stay safe for themselves and other. According to the CDC the masks and social

distancing are the main things. At the time of this writing the cases and death tolls are on the highest rises. If you would, if you get out, encourage others to abide by those rules by wearing a mask when inside.

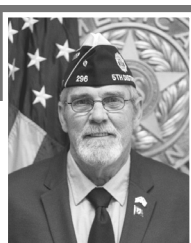
I have noticed there still are some that don't want to believe this is happening. There are posts that are doing their fund raisers and providing a community event safely. Drive thru has become very popular along with Sundays for events. I had the opportunity to make it to Post 38 (New Hampton) for their pork chop dinner at the Pinicon Supper Club. We were able to sit inside, by the window and watch all the cars drive thru. I wish I would have counted. It looked like they had a good turn out. Everyone was masked and well organized. Food was excellent.

On another note, I see that we only have 37 posts out of 69 that are registered to be online with the

dept's website. If you as an adjutant or commander are having a problem with it, let your zone commander or me know. There is so much information and questions that can be answered. For an example, to showing members how they can pay their dues on line with a debit or credit card. Don't forget we have FLAG ESSAY, ORATORICAL and BOYS STATE to get ready for.

Hopefully someday this war we are in will be over and we can look back on it and say it was tough but we WON. Keep yourself, your family safe and those around you. Be tough and wear a mask.

For God and Country,
Dan Boberg



5th District Commander Randy Johnson

Hello District 5,

COVID 19 has forced us to delay, postpone, adjust, shorten, and cancel events until we're blue in the face. Enough already. Lets move

forward into our 2021 year with our heads up, our noses to the grindstone, and do what we do best - Support Veterans.

District 5 made our Nov. 12 Membership Target of 65%. Thank You to the Posts that are going the extra mile to make this happen. Our next Target is 75% by Dec 11, and will be much harder to make. Please continue with your efforts to get your Renewals taken care of. I can not stress enough how important it is to

maintain our Membership right now. We have got to stop our decades long membership slide, and only Post Level membership efforts can do that. Contact every un-renewed Legionnaire, Transfer every available 729 (HQ's Post member), and Recruit every Veteran you know. This takes some time, but can be done. Many Posts are doing well, but Centerville, Keswick, Albia, and Grinnell are going above and beyond. Between them, they have increased their paid memberships by 85 compared to this time last year. We can't ask for more.

Times are tough. I understand as well as any of us how hard it is to conduct meetings, plan and carry out activities, and even do what we do best - support our Veterans through our Programs. Push ahead the best you can, but keep your members and the public safe while doing it. We can do our part by thinking out of the box with ways to keep involved, but we have to do

it safely. At the end of the day, maintaining our current Membership and moving forward smartly through uncertain times will ensure we have members in the future to carry on our Mission. The situation we face today will pass. Nobody knows when, but it will. We need to be ready to hit the ground running, and it's going to take every one of us when all is said and done.

In closing, as your District Commander I'd like to thank each and every one of you for everything you do for District 5 and the Department of Iowa. As one blue cap Legionnaire to another, thank you for everything you do for the heartbeat of The American Legion - Your Post. Without you, your Post, and your entire Legion Family we have nothing. It Takes a Village.....

For God and Country,
Randy Johnson



6th District Commander Bob Colin

Wash your hands, wear a mask, social distance, vote for me, protesters in the streets and winter staring us in the face. It will tire one out, yet, here we stand: "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

These words still ring true today for the United States of America. America has stood up to many foes over the years and America will stand up to COVID-19 and stand strong. This being said, the American Legion still must fight for Veterans rights, support our youth programs, build membership, and build

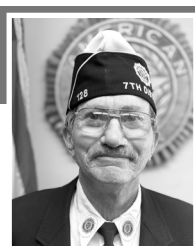
our communities for future generations. I am asking the posts to not only be safe but also to keep working on the goals of the American Legion, to update your officer reports and CPR reports, and to keep helping Veterans in need in your communities, especially through the holidays. Finally, look ahead. Make plans for the future of your post to when America gets back to normal.

Here is an update on events that are taking place in the 6th District: Runnells #689 is having a Chili Cooking Contest; Melcher Dallas #632 and Knoxville #168 Legionnaires & Auxiliary putting together care bags for Veterans in care facilities in their area. Polk City #232 is doing Bingo and dinners on Friday evenings (check the posts Facebook for dates); Pella #89 did a membership soup dinner; and Hiland Park #374 is

doing pork loin dinners for takeout on the third (3rd) Monday of the month. This tells me the American Legion is working in their communities! Thanks to these Posts for their hard work and continued support of the American Legion.

As our State Commander Jim Kessler says, "Rising, stronger and wiser." The American Legion will become stronger because of COVID-19 as we adapt to the change of doing things differently than the past. Be safe, wash your hands, wear a mask, social distance. We all want to be with family at the holidays, but please do it safely. I'm looking forward to 2021. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

For God and Country,
Bob Colin



7th District Commander Gary Whipple

My Fellow Legionnaires,

The past quarter has been up and down like the past few months with the Covid. Despite the Covid we had a successful Fall Convention despite the Covid.

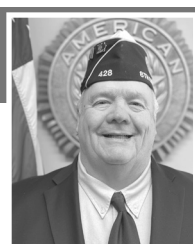
I would like to congratulate the Gordon May Post 439 in Silver City on their century celebration and dedication of their new Legion building. Commander Jim Schoening and all the members of Post 439 put a lot of sweat and work into making this a real success. My congratulations on a job well done.

We still need to do our buddy checks as the covid is increasing in Iowa. A buddy check kit is available through the American Legion. We need to contact our

unpaid members and get their memberships in. We need to get the 729's transferred to the posts, because membership is what keeps the American Legion programs going.

The last thing I need you to do is get the schools interested in the oratorical and fifth grade flag essay programs, I know it will be difficult because of Covid.

For God and Country,
Gary Whipple



8th District Commander Tom Ryan

Seasons. As the fourth season, winter, approaches we are still watchful of the corona virus. There is no sense whining over the programs/projects unable not able to perform, such as Veterans Day, so let's discuss what we were able to do. We were still able to conduct the 8th District Conference this past October in Fort Dodge. Thanks to Commander Tom Dorsey of Fort Dodge Post and the VFW Post #1856. We were able to hold a regular business meeting with 52 members in attendance and 8 members on Zoom.

Two main issues came before this body, one being a change to the Constitution and By-Laws. In light of the deadly Covid virus, prompted us for change to reflect

a legal means to accompany both present and those present by a form of telecommunications. This motion passed. A written change by the legal department will be forthcoming.

Membership was discussed at length not only retention of current members, but to get them to pay dues in a timelier manner. I say this to get in on the awards which are out there to grab, and dues are due by mid Nov. The December 31st deadline is actually the end of the grace period. Our fiscal year is July 1st to June 30th. We also have Post 729 members to reel in. These are members not officially listed in a post near their home.

At this time, we are still a go on the Oratorical and the 5th grade essay contests.

We are saddened by the resignation tendered by Auxiliary District 8th President Dee Schrodt. She was phenomenal in her duties as District President and

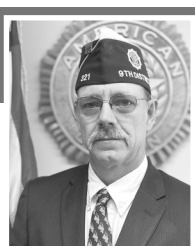
a "God send" to me on so many levels. We know we will see you around, Thanks for your service in the Auxiliary and best wishes to you always.

I must applaud the American Legion Posts that went out into the neighborhoods of their communities to solicit voting as a whole. Arguably the biggest voter turnout in U.S. History. We still retain our veteran advocate in Senator J. Ernst. It appears we have a President elect Joe Biden.

I must admit I purchased a 2020 planner this time last year: what a waste of money. Yes, I'll buy a 2021 this year. However: we have the holidays around the corner. Keep in mind our fallen comrades, those currently serving overseas, and at home.

So, to each and all; Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year. Be Safe, Be Healthy.

For God and Country,
Tom Ryan



9th District Commander David Honse

For God and Country.....Those words for me carry a very deep meaning. As our tradition we open every meeting by honoring three things; our Colors, our God, and

those missing from our ranks. At the conclusion of this ceremony we reaffirm our oath to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. The Ninth District recently held its fall conference in Sloan and while the attendance was not at the level that I

was hoping for we faithfully honored our traditions. Something new was the discussion of how business will be conducted in the days ahead. Our organization has grown and matured greatly in the last century and will need to further adapt in years to come. Probably the MOST important item agreed on was that the change needs to start NOW. With that decision an AD-HOC committee was formed to look at the future of our spring and fall conference program format. It was quite nice to actually have people asking to be on a committee. I think great things are in store for the mighty Ninth District. As I spoke about at the fall conference and at the leadership school, the future

of this great organization lies in the young men and women veterans that we must involve early on. The second thing that will pave the road to success is the embracing of technology. As of the writing of this report the Ninth District has launched a Facebook page and I am hoping to be receiving requests soon for the technology grant program. So as 2020 fades into the history books (thank goodness) it is my desire that we will continue to honor God and Country while remembering those that paid for that freedom with life, limb, or mind. "ESSAYONS" for if we don't try we will surely fail.

Adjutant's article continued from page 2

The Posts in Action panel will feature posts who are serving their communities in unique ways. The session promises to provide you with ideas on how you can improve the services and programs of your own post.

With COVID-19, we know there is much uncertainty on what the future holds for our scheduled meetings. The Department Executive Committee (DEC) and Department Leadership Committee recently

discussed plans for the 2021 Mid-Winter Conference. The determination thus far is that The Department of Iowa is proceeding with Mid-Winter as scheduled. The DEC and The Department Leadership Committee will continue to evaluate the COVID-19 guidelines and mandates regarding large gatherings as information is made available. A contingency to host a virtual conference is being discussed and planned if we cannot gather in person. You can stay informed as we approach Mid-Winter by utilizing any of the

three sources of information: The Department's Website (www.ialeion.org/midwinter), subscribing to the electronic newsletter (www.ialeion.org/subscribe), or liking the Department's Facebook Page (@iowaleion).

Regardless of whether we can meet in-person or if the training is made available virtually, the 2021 Mid-Winter conferences promises to be educational and inspiring and I hope you are able to attend.

The American Legion of Iowa Department Executive Committee has recently discussed plans for the 2021 Mid-Winter Conference. The DEC has determined thus far that The Department of Iowa is proceeding with Mid-Winter as scheduled. The DEC and The Department Leadership Committee will continue to evaluate the COVID-19 guidelines and mandates regarding large gatherings as information is made available. A contingency to host a virtual conference is being discussed and planned for we cannot gather in person. You can stay informed as we approach Mid-Winter by utilizing any of the three sources of information: The Department's Website (www.ialegion.org/midwinter), subscribing to the electronic newsletter (www.ialegion.org/subscribe), or liking the Department's Facebook Page (@iowalegion).

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS
MID-WINTER SCHEDULE**
(Subject to Change)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

1:00 p.m. Marketing Committee – Room 397
3:00 p.m. Department Finance Commission – Room 397

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2021

9:00 a.m. Convention Commission – Des Moines Room
10:00 a.m. Internal Affairs Commission – Iowa Room C
10:00 a.m. VA & R Commission Meeting – Room 396
10:00 a.m. Legislative Commission – Room 398
10:00 a.m. Americanism Commission – Iowa Room B
10:00 a.m. National Affairs Commission – Room 292
11:00 a.m. Resolution Sub-Committee – Room 175
12:00 p.m. DEC Luncheon – Iowa D & E
1:30 p.m. DEC Meeting – Iowa Rooms B & C
2:00 p.m. Iowa American Legion Press Association – Room 292
5:00 p.m. Color Guard Practice – Ballrooms
5:00 p.m. Programs Fair Set Up – Iowa Room A
5:00 p.m. Liaison Committee – Iowa Rooms B & C
7:00 P.M. JOINT SESSION – Ballroom
Call to Order – James B. Kessler, Department Commander
Opening Ceremonies
Welcome – James B. Kessler, Department Commander
Welcome – Mike Monserud, SAL Detachment Commander
Welcome – Kelly Elliott ALA Department President
Presentation – ALA History & Chaplain Books
Address – Ashley Thompson, ALA Department Junior President
Address - Ruth Gott (MI), ALA Central Division National Vice President
Presentations – Membership Awards
American Legion of Iowa Foundation Donor Awards
Department Historian Awards
Address – Bruce Feuerbach, TAL Vice Commander

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2021

7:00 a.m. Iowa Foundation Breakfast – Iowa Room D & E
7:30-8:30 a.m. Programs Fair – Iowa Room A
8:00 a.m. Children's Activity Center - Room 160
8:30 a.m. SAL DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Westview Rooms
GENERAL SESSION – Ballroom Central
9:00 a.m. 5th Grade Flag Essay Contest

9:15 a.m. Veterans Employment Awards
9:45 a.m. Law Enforcement Officer & Firefighter of the Year Award
10:15 a.m. Educator of the Year Award
10:30 a.m. Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)
11:00 a.m. Legionnaire of the Year Award
11:15 a.m. Honorary Life Membership
11:30 a.m. Recess for Lunch
1:00 p.m. \$1,000 Grant
1:15 p.m. Post Liability Insurance
1:30 p.m. Programs Annual Timeline
2:00 p.m. Posts in Action Panel Discussion
3:30 p.m. Adjourn

POST OFFICER TRAINING – Ballroom South

9:00 a.m. Post Administration & Timeline
Incorporation of Posts
Tax Exempt Status & IRS Filings
Sales Tax and Use Tax
Social & Charitable Gambling Insurance
Use of The American Legion Emblem
Department Forms
10:30 a.m. Membership Processing
11:30 a.m. Recess for Lunch
1:00 p.m. Consolidated Post Reports (CPRs)
1:30 p.m. Post Constitution & By-Laws
2:30 p.m. Developing a Post Training Program
3:30 p.m. Adjourn
11:00 a.m. Baseball Meeting – Des Moines Room
11:30 a.m. Past District Commanders' Luncheon-Iowa Rooms B & C
11:30 a.m. Women Veterans Meeting – Room 397
1:00-3:30 p.m. GENERAL SESSION – Ballroom Central & South
Oratorical Contest Resources, Boys State: From Reservation to Graduation, Resolution Process, Duties of Post Officers
1:30 p.m. SAL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR – Westview Rooms
3:30 p.m. Women Veterans Meeting – Room 398
4:30 p.m. American Legion Riders – Room 397
5:00 p.m. Catholic Services - Christ the King Catholic Church, Des Moines
5:30 p.m. Protestant Services - Ballroom North
6:30 p.m. Past Department Commanders/Past Department Presidents/Past Detachment Commanders Social & Dinner – Iowa Room D & E
7:00 p.m. Oratorical Contestant/Staff Briefings – Ballroom North

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021

DEPARTMENT ORATORICAL FINALS:
7:00 a.m. Oratorical Briefing Room – Iowa E
8:00 a.m. Oratorical Contest - Ballroom

Mid-Winter Programs Fair

www.ialegion.org/midwinter

If you would like to have your program considered for the fair, please examine the following criteria first before completing the table application:

1. Exhibiting, including fundraisers, in public areas at Department Convention and Department Mid-Winter Conference shall be limited to Department and National level programs only.
2. Space will be provided only to those who have completed an application and whose applications have been approved.
3. Use of microphones or sound systems must be approved by the Department Adjutant and requested on the exhibit table application.

4. Request for use of any sound system or microphone leased or contracted by The American Legion, Department of Iowa, or the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa, must be approved by the Department Adjutant and requested in advance on the exhibit table application.
5. District fundraisers will be confined to the hospitality room of the District.
6. Individual members of Districts, Posts, Units, Squadrons, and Chapters may sell raffle tickets at the event with the following provisions:
 - No tables or signs will be displayed in public areas.
 - All raffles must have a valid gambling permit and sales tax permit.
 - No announcements will be made in public areas.

Registration can be found online at: www.ialegion.org/midwinter. The deadline for submission is December 31, 2020.

**Programs Fair**

Sign up with the QR code on the left by December 31, 2020

**Women Veterans Forum**

Sign up with the QR code on the left by January 31, 2021



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

Auxiliary Communique



SERVING VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

PAGE 7



Kelly Elliott
Department President

Greetings to our Auxiliary members. This year has been one for the history books. I hope this article finds you all safe and healthy. As the say goes Wow what a difference a year makes. We made it through our District Fall Conferences. Some did a live meeting, some did an online meeting or phone call and we had 1 that did a Hybrid meeting allowing their members to join in person or online. I was able to make more meetings this year with some being virtual. It is great to see our members embracing the changes and learning some new ways of having your meetings. Don't be afraid of the technology, it really is easier than you think. Crystal has added some

information on the different ways of holding a meeting on our Department website. She

is also happy to answer your questions. Don't forget phone calls is always an easy way to include those members not comfortable with in person meetings. Start a newsletter for your unit. It doesn't have to be anything fancy. Just let your members know you are thinking of them and what they are able to do while being shut in at home. There are lots of things they can be doing. Make cards for our Veterans that are at the Iowa Veterans home or one of the VA facilities, make masks, collect items to take to the facilities, take gloves, mittens, hats, underwear, coats, cleaning/sanitizing items to your local schools, collect for food banks are just a few ideas to continue our mission in a safe manner. Do a Buddy Check on your unit members. Reach out and check on them and let them know we are here for them. You never know what a phone call will mean to someone. Encourage your legion members to do the same thing. There is a Buddy Check bill right now that they are trying to pass. Write your congress members and senators showing your support for this important bill. Right now, there are more than 22 Veterans

a day committing suicide. We need to do our part to help these Veterans before they get to that point.

We have been working on Mid-Winter for February. Right now, we are planning on holding Mid-Winter in person. As we have learned over the last year those plans can change. I will be requiring that all members wear a mask when attending the meetings and maintain social distancing. I want to keep all our members as safe as possible. As this pandemic gets worse, we will address any changes and inform you as soon as possible. As they say all is Subject to Change with our plans and our schedule. If we are not able to meet in person, we will be putting together an online program for our members to get information out to you. We are also looking into putting videos of the meetings online for you to view. Watch for details on that. Crystal will be posting on our website, our e newsletter and Facebook.

Mid-year reports are due to our committee chairmen by December 20th. You will find their contact information on our website under programs or in your blue books.

Our National organization has been offering some wonderful online meetings on our various programs. The information they have been sharing is invaluable. You simply login to the meeting with a link they send you. You will have members from all over the United States on the meeting sharing their experiences and ideas. They publicize these on their Facebook page and website. I also try to

share those on my Facebook page. Please take a look at these and try a meeting or 2. I think you will be glad that you did.

As I close this article, I want to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May 2021 be a new beginning for us all. May it bring better days and an end to this pandemic. May it allow us to get our lives back to some kind of normalcy. Please Stay Strong, Stay Safe and May God Bless each and every one of you.



We're looking for YOU!

We need volunteers to serve on two special committees:

ALA Inclusion & Diversity Committee

Want to help create a fun and welcoming environment for all?

This committee will:

- Develop inclusion & diversity goals
- Expand paths to leadership
- Identify what success looks like
- Get our members on board

ALA Code of Ethical Conduct Review Committee

Have experience with bylaws, corporate policies, or working on a board?

This committee will:

- Review the existing Code
- Develop procedures for addressing violations
- Recommend changes to ALA Constitution & Bylaws
- NOT be addressing unit/department-level conduct

Apply by: December 31, 2020

www.surveymonkey.com/r/ALASpecialCommittees

Chaplain's Corner

Luke 2:7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn

We all know the true meaning of Christmas is the celebration of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We know that through belief of God, we are daughters and sons of God. Heaven will one day be our home. Take time this holiday season to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas by glorifying the One who gave it all. A child was born in humble circumstances and his sacrificial death reflected the same, however, both were significant for humanity. Without the death of Christ, salvation is not possible. Without His birth, neither is possible. Jesus coming to Earth that night changed everything, and it is a moment we should celebrate with all our hearts.

Matthew 25:35-40 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. "Then the righteous will answer him, 'LORD, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Continued on page 9

Girls State

We continue to stay in contact with our event staff at Drake University to have conversations about what a Girls State session in 2021 can look like. The safety of our staff and citizens will remain central to that conversation and planning. That said, these are the plans we have for our session at this time. Please understand that we will work with Drake University and keep the safety of our ALA Girls State staff and citizens at the forefront of all decisions. We are continuing plans for our 75th session of Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Girls State for June 20-25, 2021 at Drake University. These plans include an invitation for our Auxiliary members to join us at a reception following our opening ceremonies on Sunday afternoon 06/20/21 and a staff and citizen alumni reception prior to our Inauguration festivities on Friday, June 25th. Please stay tuned for the details, which will be announced at Mid Winter.

Because most schools are not allowing outside visitors, we are preparing a video for our (UPDATED!) website which will allow you to share things about our program with eligible junior girls. Eligibility to attend Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Girls State is listed on the website.

One of the main changes for this year is the announcement of an early bird reservation deadline. Paid reservations as of December 31 are eligible for this early bird fee of \$400. Reservations paid after December 31 are set at \$450.

Mid-Year Reports

I hope this finds you safe and healthy. I would like to apologize for being absent from previous publications. As we know, life happens, derechos happen and we all know about the health difficulties of our nation.

Has your Unit been having virtual meetings? Are your Junior members been helping with those? I know the younger generations are more schooled in the technology than I am. I thought an electric typewriter in high school was cool.

Keep in mind and jot down some notes- Does your Unit have someone that has spearheaded any mask making efforts? Have you had someone organizing a drive through dinner or fundraiser? To some individuals these

The citizen online registration deadline is February 28 (those forms will become available around January 15), and Unit refund requests deadline is April 30.

If you would like to assist with our annual "wish list", the main items are the bus trip to the Capitol building and gift cards to help with needs for supplies that are required on site for the offices and nurse's office. With the Capitol bus donations at \$10 per seat, your sponsorship continues to allow our Girls State citizens a wonderful morning at our State Capitol! You have been very generous in the past, and we appreciate you!

Gift cards to Walmart, Hy-Vee, or Walgreen's for needs during our week are also useful for First Aid items, staff meals prior to the cafeteria's opening, office supplies, and miscellaneous items.

We are planning to continue our fundraising efforts for our celebration of our 75th session. Look for us at Midwinter with additional Girls State T-shirt pillows and a raffle for our beautiful quilt and staff gift basket.

Please feel free to contact us with questions. Jeannie at Department Office is your first line of defense for any registration question. Any program specific question can come to any member of the Girls State Board: Ann Rehbein, Bev Copple, Director Mary Andersen, and Assistant Director Michele Long.

We certainly look forward to holding our 75th session in June of 2021!
Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Andersen
Director

things just come second nature to them and they don't think anything about doing them.

Those people are types of leaders and need to be recognized for their efforts. Please send me a narrative of those efforts to keep your Unit active and those that lead the way.

****Reporting Deadlines - Mid-Year Reports:** Presidents, at all levels, please submit a report BEFORE December 20, 2020. Year End Reports: I will need these BEFORE April 30, 2021.

These are the dates I should have received your report in the mail so I may send them onto National.

The dedication of our membership keeps this veterans organization intact and moving forward.

Kaye Bonesteel
Leadership Chairman

Gold Club Members have you paid your dues? If not now is a good time to just sit down and write a check and send it to American Legion Auxiliary Department of Iowa, 720 Lyon St, Des Moines, IA 50309. Not a Gold Club Member, NO Problem just look on line and fill out the form and send your check. NO one is turned down. Thank You for supporting the American Legion Family Programs.

Children & Youth

Some of our schools have returned to a somewhat modified schedule. It depends on the community you live in. Our children are learning to adapt to these most uncertain times.

It is our job to seek out children that are going above and beyond. They should be recognized for their efforts through the following awards:

- Youth Hero Award – Recognition of a youth under 18 years of age who performed a heroic act of physical bravery. (Example: Performed Heimlich, CPR/First Aid, or rescued someone from fire/water peril)

- Good Deed Award – Recognition of a youth under 18 years of age who performed specific good deeds and are great examples of community service in action. (Example: Donates time and/or collects money for a worthy cause (troop support, homeless veterans, food closets, food drives)

Note: May be a Junior Auxiliary member or someone that is eligible for membership, but it is not necessary for consideration of either award.

Serves as an inspiration role model for the organization and the community.

Nomination forms can be found on

line on the National website or Iowa ALA website. Upon completion send the Nomination forms directly to Department Office and a copy to me.

Please search your areas for these kiddos and acknowledge their actions. We need to applaud our children that are excelling during this difficult time. Reach out to your local schools who may have a lead on the children we need to recognize, scan your newspaper, scan Facebook.

If you have any questions concerning these awards, please feel free to reach out to me.

Mid-year reports are due by December 20, 2020, but you do not have to wait. After an event while it is still fresh in your mind write a short summation of the activity, gather any photos, newspaper articles, newsletter articles, etc. to send to me via mail or email. Please include your name, your unit, address, and phone number in case I have a question.

Be staying strong, we will get through these times together. I wish each of you a blessed holiday season and look forward to seeing everyone at Mid-Winter Conference in 2021.

Jan Carlton
Dept. Children & Youth 2020-21

Department Junior President

Hello Legion Family,

I hope all is well and you are being safe. I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Junior Department President again this year. With times like this, what have you been doing to spread the word about our Family and what we do? Since I became a member, I have attended senior and junior meetings helping me to understand more about our organization and what all we do. I encourage juniors to attend the senior meetings! Seniors, I encourage you to bring your juniors

to your meetings, let them go with you to the veterans homes. I know some things are harder to do with the pandemic, but there are always things to do from home. One thing I enjoy is making cards for the veterans, you can always find more to do. I'd like to remind you that my projects are collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, (which you can also do while at home), and Teaching/learning the meaning of the folds of the flag and proper disposal. Also making cards for veterans, and supporting President and Commander's projects! You can always reach out to me if you need anything! Stay safe!

Ashley Thompson

Historian

American Legion Auxiliary Members, Have any of you studied your family genealogy or history? If so, you are well on your way to knowing how to collect your unit's past. I am still looking forward to receiving reports of not more than 2 pages of your unit's events including when your unit was chartered and who the charter members were. I am looking for the oldest unit for my contest, so please, you can't win if you don't send me the needed information.

I know this has been a very unusual year for our units. But I have seen on Facebook where some of our members have used their craftiness in continuing their service to our Veterans. Please, please send me photos or newspaper clippings showing these events for Dept. President Kelly's history book. Don't forget your Mid-Year reports are due by December 20th, I look forward to hearing from you and reading your reports.

Dept. Historian
LaDonna Runner



@iowaala

American Legion Auxiliary Abbreviated Mid-Winter Schedule (Subject to change)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

5:00 p.m. Junior Camp Board Meeting – Room 393
6:00 p.m. Centennial Meeting – Room 393

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2021

8:00 a.m. Mid-Winter Convention Committee Meeting – Room 397
8:30 a.m. Finance Committee Meeting – Room 397
9:00 – 11 a.m. Set up for Diva and Dudes Day – Westview Room
11:00 a.m. VA & R Representative Meeting – Room 397
11:00 a.m. "Diva and Dudes Day" – Iowa Foyer
Lunch
1:00 p.m. Girls State Board – Room 397
2:00 p.m. 75th Anniversary Committee – Room 397
3:00 p.m. Department Executive Committee – Room 397
5:00 p.m. Pages Practice – Grand Ballroom
5:00 – 7 p.m. Set-up Programs Fair – Iowa Hall Rooms A
7:00 p.m. Joint Legion Family Session – Ballroom

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2021

7:30-8:30 a.m. Joint Program Fair – Iowa Hall Room A - Committees will have

8:30 a.m. information tables and be in attendance for questions.
9:00 a.m. Junior Activities – Room 160
11:30 a.m. Convene Auxiliary – North Ballroom
1:00 p.m. Past District Presidents' Luncheon – Iowa D & E
2:00 p.m. Reconvene – Ballroom North
3:15 p.m. Group Discussions - Ballroom North
Junior Musical Presentation
Girls State
75th Girls State Anniversary Committee
Poppy Award Winners
Announcements
5:30 p.m. Catholic Services
Christ the King Catholic Church
5711 SW 9th St
Saturday – 5:00 pm
Sunday – 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am
5:30 p.m. Protestant Services – Ballroom South
5:30 p.m. Silent Auction – Hosted by Girls State – Foyer
6:30 p.m. Social & Dinner for Past Department Commanders, Past
Department Presidents, and Past Detachment Commanders and
their guests – Iowa Rooms D & E

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021

Follow The American Legion Schedule.



Junior Auxiliary and SAL members
Mid-Winter Conference
Saturday, February 13th, 2021



I would like to reserve a spot for my child/children _____(number) on Saturday, February 13, in the Junior members Activity Center (8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) during The American Legion of Iowa's Mid-Winter Conference. The group will be participating in numerous activities, please supply a paint shirt for the day. Lunch will be provided (compliments of the Sons of The American Legion of Iowa). Please email this form to alasectreas@ialegon.org to register your child/children no later than February 1, 2021.

Attention: There will be Covid 19 screening upon arrival, temp and Covid 19 form to be filled out by parent. Any child with a fever will not be allowed to stay. Parent must also pick up child at end of day.

Thank you!

Continued from page 7

With the holiday season approaching fast, let us read these bible verses and ask ourselves "What are we going to do for our dear Lord?" God has given us the opportunity to be a blessing to someone. Scripture makes it clear that when your heart is set on blessing others, God will bless you in the process. There are so many people struggling this holiday season. Please be a blessing to a family in need.

Together this holiday season, let us pray for our veterans, their families and for the roughly 200,000 U.S. military personnel serving throughout the world who gave up their time with their families to protect this great Country of ours.

Keep in our prayers the military families who wait patiently for their loved one to come home safely. God bless our great country.

Reminders:

1. UNIT CHAPLAINS, please send me your mid-year report prior to December 15, 2020. There is a new Unit and a District Chaplain year-end report form on our Auxiliary website that will help with your mid-year reports. Let me know what you are doing, and I will share with other Units.

2. Please send me your prayers and inspirations that you wish to include in President Kelly's Book of Prayers and Inspirations.

3. Please remember the contests that are listed in the Chaplain's Program of Action page.

I pray for each member of our American Legion Family to stay safe this holiday season. Wear a mask, practice physical distancing and wash hands frequently. We will be acting, not out of fear, but out of love.

God Bless,
Mary Mooberry

MW Past President's Luncheon

Linda Sue Mullen, Secretary

This is the 30th Anniversary of the Past President's luncheon. This is where our "100 Years of Service not Self" continues. There are so many memories that we need to share with each other. I would like to ADD to the booklet of memories of one or two memories that happened in your year. You may email that memory ASAP but no later than February 1st, 2021 to lindasue39@mchsi.com.

Who: To all Past District Presidents and the 2020-2021 current Presidents

When: Saturday, February 13, 2021

Where: Mid-Winter Luncheon @ Noon

Why: Business meeting to elect officers and a memorial service

Guests: National Central Division Vice President Ruth Gott & Dept. of Iowa President Kelly Elliott

Menu: Sweet & Sour Center Cut Pork Chop, baked apples on a corn husk, red skinned mashed potatoes, seasoned green beans, chopped house wedge lettuce/ranch dressing, baked rolls, tea and chocolate turtle cheesecake

Cost: \$27.00 to Department of Iowa ALA, 720 Lyon Street, Des Moines 50309

Deadline: February 8, 2021 – No exceptions and no refunds after this date

American Legion Auxiliary Foundation Subgrants

I'm fortunate to work for a company that awards grants to eligible organizations based on volunteer hours. To be eligible an organization must meet the IRS 501 (c) 3 designation. The American Legion Auxiliary Foundation meets that need and can be used as a conduit to direct the funds to the Department of Iowa through their subgrant process. This past year my Auxiliary volunteer hours totaled enough to enable a grant request of \$1250 for the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation. As 1st District President, my project was ALA Junior Camp.

Continued on page next page

Public Relations 2020

Public Relations is all about communication. If we share our ideas and suggestions, we can succeed. It's failing to communicate that results in failure

This last year we have had insurmountable challenges to face and to overcome in one way or another. Every member, unit, department and committee struggled with the new COVID restrictions. We must find new ways to communicate and keep everyone involved and excited about our mission and our programs. We are no longer able to get on with life as we once knew it. Events were cancelled, fundraisers almost became nonexistent, and we no longer could be around the public, our friends, or even our family. Some of us endured the loss of a loved one, or we saw them try to overcome an illness we still don't understand. This organization is not about defeat as we support our Veterans who overcame equally challenging obstacles as they fought in wars they did not understand. We are an organization of hope and compassion. We look out for our family, our friends, our neighbors, and even complete strangers. Public Relations has not ceased to exist because we have been quarantined in our homes. How many of you called on someone over the last 8 months because you know they were having a hard time with life in general? How many of you made masks for others to keep others safe? How many of you had face time on the computer with people that you would have seen in person during normal times? This

is public relations – reaching out to others in a positive matter; giving hope when dark clouds are all around us; and showing respect for someone's safety and well being, despite their race, their religion, or their politics.

Don't forget American Education Week in November. Perhaps your units would be lucky enough to visit the schools and deliver individual certificates to the teachers. They need to know how much we appreciate them – especially now. If units had several members working on certificates, they would have them done in no time! Please let me know what your units did for their teachers. I can't imagine being a teacher during this COVID time!

Just a reminder. Use the power of Social Media to connect and communicate in a positive matter. Be careful when you use Social Media on behalf of the American Legion Auxiliary that are posts are on a non-partisan basis, and not your personal views on the hot topics of politics. Remember what you post is out there forever. Stay positive when on these platforms. We are leaders, teachers and role models. We can make a difference in the lives of others with the power of a kind word and action.

I need to hear from all you for mid-year reporting. Please send me an email at jwestove@msn.com or drop something in the mail and let me know how you have managed to spread the wings of the angel to our Veterans before Christmas.

Stay Safe and continue your Self Service to others while maintaining the health guidelines during this pandemic. We are in this together.

Strategic Planning Future Focus CONTEST!

Branding is an important way of marketing our organization and letting your community see our members. The picture is just some of my ALA branded shirts and the new face mask available at emblem sales. YES I have a lot of ALA shirts and this isn't even all of them! How many do you have – 1 or 2 or 20? Take a picture of your ALA branded shirts and send it to Crystal to be entered into our drawing for a \$20 Amazon gift card. If you are feeling

the ALA Angel spirit you can donate it to the Jr. Camp or Girls State program (Some of President Kelly's projects). Just send those pix in by Mid-Winter to be entered – it doesn't matter how many shirts you have pictured since all will be entered! There may be extra prizes available if you are Present to Win at Mid Winter.

While those shirts are out let's see how many days straight you can wear those shirts in a row. And if you are out and about have a membership form or two with you and invite people to join us!

Foundation for your subgrant process that allowed me to take advantage of my employer's volunteer program! I encourage other Auxiliary members to take advantage of the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation grant process.

Continued from previous page

The subgrant form was filled out requesting the grant for Junior Camp. The review and approval process were a success and the Department of Iowa received a \$1250 check for use towards the next Junior Camp session. Thank you to the American Legion Auxiliary

Kathy Wilkerson
2019-2021 1st District President

AEF

Helen Hildebrand, Chairman

We all know that each year our fellow members are affected by fires, floods, tornados, etc, which in turn means they are most likely in need of our support. I am asking that we each support those in need. There is always a need for fund as we continue to celebrate our 100th year of this great organization. This year has been one that we will all remember, be it a storm or the COVID cause that gave us a run for our money. So as individuals, units, county, or as a district, take on the challenge to raise funds for this great cause. All donations should be sent by check and earmarked Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

Our main purpose of the fund is to

help our veteran's family when disaster hits. Let's give to this fund with the hopes that it is not needed, but we will be prepared in the time of need. So please support this fund, so we can support our fellow members.

At Mid-Winter 2021, I would like to continue with the "Diva Day" and also include a little fundraiser to raise funds. Contact me if you are interested in participating in "Diva Day" as a vendor, or would like to join in the fundraiser. I know in the past we collected and sold gently used apparel, well maybe this year we can clean out our homes with that plaque or dish that has been in your collection for too long, and just taking up closet space. So if you have something, let me know so we can be prepared with enough table space, and let's raise some money for the AEF.

Vice-President Doris Jackson

Doris is a 33 year member of the American Legion Auxiliary and is eligible through the service of her grandfather, who served in the Army in France in World War I, her father's service in the Army in the Pacific Theater during World War II and the service of her 2 sons, Robert, retired, 20 year service in the Navy and BJ, who served with the 186th Military Police, National Guard, Camp Dodge. BJ was critically injured in Bagdad in August of 2003. She is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 32 years. Her parents are Boyd Nelson, a 50 year member and Past Post Commander of Post 96 and Maurine (Sue) Schmidt, member of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 96 and past Unit, County and 5th District President. Bobby (Doris's husband) is a member of the SAL, her daughter, 3 granddaughters and a great granddaughter are members of the Auxiliary.

Doris has served many offices as Unit President, Historian, and Junior Activities, County President for 2 years and Secretary/Treasurer from 2007 – 2010. She has served as District Vice-President, Treasurer (4 years), Chaplain, Girls State, Junior Activities, Broadcaster, AEF, Membership, Budget and Finance Committee and Governing Documents Committee. Doris has served the Department as Junior Activities 2 years, Membership, VA&R Service to Veterans and VA&R, Junior Camp Program Director, Junior Camp

Co-Director and Junior Camp Director, Chaplain, and Historian. She also served on Strategic Planning 1 year, Centennial Committee 1 year, and 2020 Leadership Development Committee 4 years.

Doris is currently Lorimor Unit 96 President and Junior Activities Chairman, District Budget and Finance Committee 3 years, and currently Department Vice President.

Doris is busy in her Community as she belongs to the Church of God, Lorimor Lions Club having held positions of President, Vice – President and Treasurer and currently is Lorimor Lions Club Director and District 9SW Veterans Chairman. Doris has a sewing business and can be found making baby quilts, retro aprons or numerous crafts. She has cared for a lady in Indianola for 9 years.

Doris is dedicated to helping our veterans, the military and their families. Let each one of us remember to show our commitment to them by offering our service in our own individual way and remember to work together to show our strength to our Community, County and State.



www.iowaala.org/calendar

Buddy Check Week Legislation

The American Legion

Going forward, the National Legislative Division will be sharing all Action Alerts with Department Commanders and Adjutants to expand our reach and increase our digital advocacy efforts. Using Action Alerts greatly increases our memberships reach and allows The American Legion to continue to lead on legislation at the national level.

What are Action Alerts? The National Legislative Division uses VoterVoice, a software program that allows our members to send emails to their Congressional Representative and Senators. It allows us to have members send an approved, unified message to congress in large numbers and verifies the members address so the message gets to the right members of congress. Action Alerts will be conducted 3-6 times a year on legislation that is in line with The American Legion's Legislative Agenda as dictated by the Legislative Commission.

All active Action Alerts can be found here at our Action Center (<https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>) or by visiting www.legion.org/legislative and clicking Legislative Action Center.

Our current Action Alert is to get congressional support for S. 4657 & H.R. 2898, which directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to designate one week each year as "Buddy Check Week". This bill would expand an American

Legion program to the Department of Veterans of Affairs and dramatically increase the number of veterans we can positively effect.

The legislation, inspired by the successful American Legion Buddy Check program, reads as follows: A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to designate one week each year as "Buddy Check Week" for the purpose of outreach and education concerning peer wellness checks for veterans, and for other purposes.

Sen. Ernst, in a press release announcing her introduction of the Senate bill, said the Buddy Check program can be a powerful tool to help veterans with their mental health, especially with military and veteran suicides on the rise during the pandemic. "As a combat veteran, I know the challenges our service members face after returning to civilian life," Ernst said. "This bipartisan bill will build on these efforts by helping our veterans recognize signs of suicide risk so they can check in with their fellow veterans and help get them the care and support they need."

On expanding the program to VA, American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford said, "Our most sacred responsibility as a nation is to care for our fellow men and women who have served this nation with honor. We strongly support legislation that expands this program to VA."

The hard work you do at the local level will be elevated to a national program to reach even more veterans! This bill is a timely, effective, and low-cost response to the rising isolation as a result of a global pandemic.

Congratulations Don on receiving a Quilts of Valor and thank you for your service.



L-R: Deb (Don's wife), Don, Ann Crawford Quilts of Valor Western Iowa coordinator, and James Kessler The American Legion of Iowa Department Commander.

Quilts of Valor Presentation

by Brian Kessler

The Lake Park American Legion Family Post #371 was proud to play host for a presentation of a Quilts of Valor to Don, a Vietnam War Veteran, who is a member of Lake Park American Legion Post #371. Presenting the quilt was Ann Crawford the Western Iowa coordinator for the Quilts of Valor Foundation.

The Quilts of Valor Foundation's mission is to honor our service members and veterans who have been touched by war with Quilts of Valor and we feel all service personnel have been touched by war. It is a national organization founded in 2003 by "Blue Star" mom Catherine Roberts in Winterset Iowa. Since then, over 261,000 Quilts of Valor have been awarded here in the United States, and in Germany, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Dec. 15 Provides Opportunity to Promote Legion's Oratorical Contest

The American Legion

Dec. 15 will mark the 229th anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights. From 1789-1791, the states ratified 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution to confirm the fundamental rights of citizens.

Amendments of the Bill of Rights guarantees freedom of religion, speech and the press, and the rights of peaceful assembly and petition; the rights of the people to keep and bear arms; the rights to private property, fair treatment for accused criminals, protection from unreasonable search and seizure; freedom from self-incrimination; a speedy and impartial jury trial; and representation by counsel.

This upcoming anniversary of the Bill of Rights ratification is a great way for American Legion posts to educate youth and the community on the U.S. Constitution, and promote The American Legion's oratorical contest program that provides a better understanding and knowledge of the Constitution.

Mission Blue Post Assistance Program

The American Legion

Please refer questions to Internal Affairs Director Jack Querfeld: 317-630-1330 or jquerfeld@legion.org.

At the 2020 Fall National Executive Committee Meeting, Resolution #36, Subject: Mission Blue Post Assistance Program was approved. Posts impacted by a government's public health restrictions implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic may apply for a grant up to \$1,000. Posts must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- A post must have a current consolidated post report on file.
- A post must have filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.
- A post must have filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the departments.
- A post must have actively participated in one or more The American Legion(s) within the last 18 months.
- A post must have a financial need.
- A post must provide a certificate of insurance naming The American National Headquarters as an additional insured (copy of insurance declaration will be

As stated in American Legion Resolution No. 23, Constitution Day, "many of today's youths lack an understanding of the founding documents created by our founding fathers, namely the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution with its incredibly important Bill of Rights. Our rights and liberties rooted in these cherished documents gave birth to our nation and those documents set forth the principals upon which our government is based."

Education can come in the way of providing youth with a copy of the Declaration of Independence and Constitution brochure that can be purchased through Emblem Sales. As well as encouraging youth to participate in the oratorical program, an opportunity to speak on the U.S. Constitution.

The American Legion's National Oratorical Finals provides more than 50 young high school orators an opportunity to earn \$203,500 in scholarships. Speaking subjects must be on some aspect of the U.S. Constitution, with some emphasis on the duties and obligations of citizens to our government. The 2021 Department Oratorical Final will be held Sunday, February 14 in Des Moines during Mid-Winter. The National Oratorical Finals will be held April 9-11 in Indianapolis.

attached to application).

- A post must provide documentation indicating that the post is properly incorporated.

The funds from this grant program shall be used exclusively for the following:

- Current and past due mortgage principal and interest or
- Current and past due real estate rents or
- Current and past due insurance premiums or
- Current and past due utilities.

The American Legion posts receiving this grant are required to submit a true and accurate report outlining how the funds were used, signed by the post finance officer, and certified by the post commander or post adjutant within six-months of receipt of the grant funds or no later than February 22, 2022. Whichever comes first.

The fillable application form with the instruction sheet provides more submission information and where to send the application upon completion. The form can be found here: <https://www.ialeion.org/mission-blue-post-assistance-program/>

Again, please refer questions to Internal Affairs Director Jack Querfeld: 317-630-1330 or jquerfeld@legion.org.

Val Likens Award

www.ialegion.org/service-office

Valore (Val) Likens, distinguished himself as the Department Service Officer for many years. Upon news of his retirement in 1985, Iowa Veterans Home Deputy Director Al McNaughton, recommended an award be named after Likens, as a reminder of all the good that service officers do for the veterans of Iowa. The Department Executive

Committee officially passed the motion in July 1986.

Nomination Forms for the Val Likens Post Service Officer Award are available on the Department website <https://www.ialegion.org/service-office>. Please return the completed nomination by January 30, in time for judging at Mid-Winter Conference.

Send nominations to:
American Legion of Iowa
Service Office
Federal Building Room #561
210 Walnut St.
Des Moines, IA 50309

Educator of the Year

www.ialegion.org/educator

One of the goals of The American Legion has always been to work in cooperation with schools who assist veterans, their families and local communities. Some educators have gone above the call of duty and promoted the aims and purposes of The American Legion of Iowa.

Educators continue to instill in our children patriotism and respect for the flag. They

continue to educate our youth about the sacrifices made by service men and women in defense of their freedom, as well as work with those students whose parent/s are serving this great nation.

The Department of Iowa developed a state program for recognizing educators in Iowa. Nomination brochures are available on our website at www.ialegion.org or by request from the Department office.

Nominations must be received by April 1, 2021.

Department Membership

Donald Swan, Chairman

This year the Covid-19 Pandemic forced the decision to cancel our National Vice Commanders Tour that was scheduled from November 16 – 20. The Past District Commanders Rally was still held on Saturday November 21 but only virtually on Zoom and Facebook. We had guests: National President Nicole Clapp, National Vice Commander Bruce Feuerbach, Department Commander James Kessler, Department President Kelly Elliot and Detachment Commander Mike Monserud.

The Colflesh Trophy will be awarded to the Post with the highest membership within the District leading in Membership on Veterans Day. We announced Second District the as the leading District with 76.04% and Epworth Post 650 with 100% as the winner of the Colflesh

Trophy. Congratulations to Second District and Epworth Post 650!

Commander Tom Ryan of the Eighth District had the highest membership percentage with 79.13%. Congratulations Commander Ryan and Eighth District! Well Done!

The Unity Award was won by the Eighth District with a combined total membership of 79.13%. Commander Tom Ryan (79.88%), President Dee Schrodt (77.60%) and SAL Advisor Gary Haverman (79.34%). Great Job Eighth District for a job Well Done!

I wish to thank all Nine Districts for a job well done! You are and have made a difference with your welfare calls and other creative methods to meet your Membership Goals!!

Donald Swan

Membership Memos

Hello everyone! Time is flying by. I've already been here about six months, and the end of the year is just around the corner. Remember to try and have members pay by the end of December, so that they don't become delinquent and miss out on their American Legion benefits.

For Posts processing membership online, you're doing a great job. Once that transmittal is submitted, those members are quickly added to your count of paid members, which keeps counts more accurate. Plus, you don't have to mail the card into Department, saving on postage.

And, in case you've been wondering, when members pay online themselves, you also don't have to send their 2-part cards to Department. You can file those away and save a stamp.

For Posts still sending me transmittals, you're also doing a great job. You're keeping me busy, and I'm happy to help you out.

I know a new myLegion is coming soon, but we'll get it figured out, and we'll keep processing membership. Keep asking me questions. Keep getting those members. And remember: friends remind their friends to not become delinquent members.

Warm regards,
Ann Haack
Membership Clerk

Open Enrollment is happening now!

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust is here to help with Health Insurance & Medicare Supplement

VISIT
WWW.THELIT.COM
TO LEARN MORE &
SIGN UP



Department E-Newsletter
Subscribe Today
www.ialegion.org/signup

CANCELLED: The Department Christmas Open House

District Standings as of 11/20/2020

STANDING	DISTRICT	2021 GOAL	MEMBERSHIP	% GOAL
1st	Eighth	3,728	2,976	79.83
2nd	Second	6,372	4,981	78.17
3rd	First	3,805	2,954	77.63
4th	Fourth	3,967	3,066	77.29
5th	Ninth	5,243	4,022	76.71
6th	Sixth	4,889	3,735	76.40
7th	Fifth	2,865	2,185	76.27
8th	Seventh	3,335	2,466	73.94
9th	Third	4,901	3,594	73.33
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		40,270	30,655	76.12

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.

**Post & Squadron
Everlasting reflect
members 8-17-2020
to 11-15-2020**

SPENCER #1

ARLAN VANNORMAN
COUNCIL BLUFFS #2
ANDREW COLBURN
DANIEL DRISCOLL
TERRY KENNEY
DENNIS KIRLIN
STANLEY MEYER
JAMES PEOPLES
THOMAS SCARPELLO
DOUGLAS THOMAS
LELAND VANHORN
OTTUMWA #3
JOHN ANDERSON
E BOYER
WAYNE HECKETHORN
EARL OLSON
WILLIAM OSTEEN
HAROLD SPURGEON
ELMER THOMPSON
HUBBARD #4
PAUL GUMMERT
ARVIN KLEMME
DUBUQUE #6
EUGENE BIRD
ROBERT BUECHELE
THOMAS FELTES
CHESTER KAMM
EARL LARSON
LEONARD OWSLEY
EUGENE SKINNER
JERRY SPIEGELHALTER
CARROLL #7
FRED GOSCH
JERALD KNAUSS
DONALD WIELAND
OELWEIN #9
STEPHEN BERGESON
JERRY BIRD
RICHARD FRANKS
THOMAS GRACE
WALTER GRAESCH
WILLIAM MUNDT
MARVIN THOMAS
JEFFERSON #11
ROBERT GLENN
BUD HALEY
VINCENT KENNEDY
ANAMOSA #13
LLOYD ALLER
IOWA CITY#17
TERRY THEIN
SIGOURNEY #19
CARL MARTIN
DEDHAM #20
RANDY IRLMEIER
BUFFALO CNTR #21
O DICKMEYER
MARLYN HANSON
MANNING #22
LARRY POPP
SPIRIT LAKE #23
GEORGE LEMPIAINEN
KENNETH RUDY
ROLFE #25
DALE JOHNSON
DAVENPORT #26
ART ADAMS
JOSEPH BORBECK
MERLE BROWN
JACK CLARK
KENNETH CONLON
EUGENE GAST
AUGUST KEIM
ROBERT KENT
ED RAUCH
RICHARD RISTAU
STEVEN SLYTER
RICHARD WHISLER
MUSCATINE #27
RALPH BIRKHOFFER
RAYMOND DIETRICH
RODNEY DRAKE
RODNEY ROHDE
WASHINGTON #29
DOUG CRONE
TED THORNTON
INDEPENDENCE #30
EDWARD AUER
FRANK BRIMMER
JEFFREY FERRES
LAKE CITY #31

ROBERT CLOW
RUTHVEN #33
ROBERT BROADIE
OSKALOOSA #34
HARRY HICKLIN
ROBERT MEDLIN
AMES #37
RONALD BAXTER
ROBERT FERGUSON
GLENN HILLESLAND
WORNEY JOHNSON
GALE LOVE
JERRY MARTIN
LOWELL RICKEY
NEW HAMPTON #38
PATRICK FOLKERS
ROSCOE MCDONALD
KEOKUK #41
TERRY ALTHEIDE
EDWIN CONN
ATLANTIC #43
ROBERT VANCLEAVE
BAYARD #44
WAYNE BROWN
MANCHESTER #45
WILLIAM WALLACE
MARSHALLTOWN #46
ROBERT CLAWSON
JAMES COULTER
JOHN EGNEW
JAMES HARTGRAVE
RONALD HILDERBRAND
DUANE MEYER
STEVEN PERKINS
JOHN SWEARINGEN
RICHARD VAJGRT
BURLINGTON #52
OSRO DABNEY
LESTER WADDELL
VICTOR #54
LEON CONDON
CECIL ROBERTS
OGDEN #55
RICHARD VERMILLION
BOONE #56
MARION JONES
DARRELL TINGWALD
VINTON #57
HAROLD CASSENS
MARK TIMMER
MT PLEASANT #58
MARVIN MALLAMS
GLEN SMITH
STORY CITY #59
WARREN AMUNDSON
DAVE BRALAND
GARY FRAZIER
JEFF FREDRICKSON
ROBERT LEKWA
ROBERT SWEET
THEODORE TOSTLEBE
DERRAL TRESSLER
LAMONT WICKS
DES MOINES #60
HERMAN SCHROEDEL
IDA GROVE #61
BOB BOTTJEN
DALE STAUFFER
WAUKON #62
JERRY BOLLMAN
JAMES KLOCKE
STIOUX CITY #64
RAYMOND DEABLER
DONALD PETERSEN
RAYMOND STEINBACH
RICHARD SUDTELGT
RED OAK #67
ELDEN HEUER
OSCEOLA #69
TERRY STUBBS
GARWIN #71
GEORGE BIGGS
MAQUOKETA #75
ROBERT READE
BLOOMFIELD #78
GERALD YORK
CORRECTIONVILLE #79
CHARLES PETERSON
COLLINS #81
CHARLES FISH
DARREL MOSES
WINSTON REITAN
FT MADISON #82
DONALD BOLDT
KEITH LANDIS
JOHN MENDLAND
HEDRICK #83
CHARLES COOK

GARY MESSERSCHMITT
PERRY #85
DENNIS GLASS
ROBERT ROUNDS
SHENANDOAH #88
FRED BENNAGE
RONALD LOTTRIDGE
W MAXSON
CRAIG MORRIS
DORIS PERRY
PELLA #89
GLENN BORGMAN
JACK THOMASSEN
RAYMOND VANDYK
MARION VANHAAFTEN
ALGONA #90
ALFRED BUCHNER
DONALD LANUS
WESTGATE #92
DONALD NAUHOZ
CLARINDA #98
JAMES MCCOWEN
COLUMBUS JCT #100
TIMOTHY FULLER
THOMAS HUSTON
ROCKWELL CITY #105
DONALD DUNCAN
ELKADER #106
ROBERT BUCKNER
KEYSTONE #107
ROBERT COHRT
MANLY #110
CARL SCHNIEDER
NEWTON #111
JERRY CEASER
NELSON HOSKINS
FRED SMOTHERS
MORNING SUN #112
RAYMOND DILL
GARY STINEMAN
STORM LAKE #115
JACK ANDERSON
KEITH PIERCE
HUMBOLDT #119
DARRELL RUSHER
HARLOWE WRIGHT
MERRILL #125
DONALD FRANKLIN
GLADBROOK #127
ALBERT DIERKS
FT DODGE #130
DARREL BECKER
LAKE VIEW #133
GARY EISCHEID
CRESCO #135
JOHN GOSCH
ALTON PETERSON
RICHARD SCHMAUSS
ALBIA #136
GARY STAFFORD
DYERSVILLE #137
GERALD BURKLE
DANIEL HERMSEN
LYOD JASPER
ARTHUR KRONLAGE
GARY PITZ
GILBERT WILLENBORG
JAMES WILLENBRING
WATERLOO #138
WILLIAM DERR
DENNIS GARTHOFF
RICHARD MILES
ERVIN THREET
ROLAND WATKINS
COLO #139
MERLE WILKENING
KINGSLEY #140
MARVIN FLEWELLING
WILLIAM WILSON
GLENWOOD #141
EDWIN JOHNSON
TRAER #142
RUSSELL DRINOVSKY
DAVID SLACK
WOODBINE #143
CLAIR GUNTHER
FRANCIS HARPER
SHELDON #145
GERALD PORTZ
VAN HORNE #148
DALE OHDE
BETTENDORF #154
PAUL MAPES
HAMBURG #156
CLARENCE JUDY
ROWAN #159
DWIGHT GROOM
DELHI #160

DELBERT ALDRICH
GRAETTINGER #162
DARREL EATON
INDIANOLA #165
VERYL FRITZ
DANIEL RIEBHOF
EMIL SEGEBAERT
RONALD SHAHAN
RONALD WEBB
SHELLSBURG #166
FRANK SMITH
KNOXVILLE #168
LOIS AKINS
BLAIRSTOWN #170
RICHARD HENRICKS
DOUGLAS KIMM
JOHN MARSHALL
MESERVEY #171
DARRELL AVERY
MT AYR #172
DAN CUNNING
AYRSHIRE #173
VITUS TERVEER
CHARLES CITY #174
EDWIN BENEDICT
NELSON BRAHN
ROBERT GARDNER
PAUL LOCKIE
WAVERLY #176
ORVILLE KAMMEYER
MT AUBURN #177
LAWRENCE HESS
CHARLES LUND
ROBERT MOORE
SEYMOUR #180
RAYMOND BERNER
KENNETH RICHARDS
ELDORA #182
ROBERT GRAY
GREGG REISINGER
HAMPTON #183
RAYMOND CRABB
WILLIAM DEVEREUX
WINTERSET #184
MEREDITH MEADOR
JAMES MOORE
AKRON #186
MARVIN TOBEN
DARRELL WILSON
CLINTON #190
DAVID LANGFITT
PAUL SCHAAF
WEBSTER CITY #191
DARRELL ACKERMAN
DON BOTTORFF
ROBERT KEPLER
HAROLD MARTIN
TERRY WELLS
SAC CITY #195
LEO STATON
PALMER #202
DONALD GERDES
LA PORTE CITY #207
THERON DUNGAN
ANITA #210
MERLE VOKT
WOODWARD #211
JOHN MAIER
CARVEL NAEVE
WELLSBURG #213
KENNETH ADAMS
LEE BAKKER
STEVEN HOOK
STRAWBERRY PT #218
BRUCE HAMLETT
ARLINGTON #219
DAVID TURNER
SUMNER #223
DAVID HENNESSEY
ARTHUR LARSON
DUNLAP #224
JERRY ALLMON
HOLSTEIN #225
ROGER CLAUSEN
DENNIS DOSE
HARRY OAKLEY
KENNETH WELCH
WILLIAMSBURG #228
LOUIS SANDERSFELD
CORWITH #229
WILLIAM MEYERS
FARMINGTON #231
RONALD MCINTOSH
CORNELIUS SCHAKEL
EDWARD WAGNER
CAMBRIDGE #233
RALPH KALSEM
CEDAR FALLS #237

ERIC MCCULLOUGH
GILMORE CITY #239
MARLYN AHLRICH
LE MARS #241
VIRGIL BROCKEL
BERNARD DEBOER
DALE GALLES
JERRY GORRELL
LARRY HAMER
JAMES MACKEY
BOB SCHROEDER
REINBECK #242
VERNON KLOSTERBOER
PETE PORRO
CLARION #246
JOHNNY LOUX
FONTANELLE #247
WALTER HERR
ARTHUR WEATHERBY
MAXWELL #249
DALE MCINTOSH
ACKLEY #252
RICHARD HEITLAND
UNION #255
FERROL HILSABECK
WYOMING #259
LAVERNE SCHAFER
REDFIELD #261
CARL BENEDICT
ARTHUR SHOESMITH
BYRLE SPILLERS
WALL LAKE #262
ALBERT OHDEN
ALBERT RICKE
GREENE #268
DAN BARTH
ROBERT NORDMEYER
DONALD TACK
CHELSEA #269
VIRGIL VAVRA
BOYDEN #272
NEAL HANSON
BELLEVUE #273
GREGORY ERNST
LORAS NEMMERS
CECIL SIMONS
DES MOINES #274
CHARLES DAVIS
PRAIRIE CITY #275
MICHAEL STANFORD
IRETON #276
LAWRENCE BERTRAM
SHEFFIELD #277
FLOYD EDGINTON
OSAGE #278
LEROY BENTTINE
LAWLER #279
VERNON LAMPE
GORDON SPELTZ
MOULTON #280
GEORGE FREEBORN
RALPH NEWCOMER
KEITH REPLOGLE
RICHARD SOUTHERN
PARKERSBURG #285
PAUL ASH
VIRGIL LINDAMAN
CLARENCE #286
HAROLD GOLDSMITH
HARTLEY #288
GORDON KANKE
KEITH STEINBECK
BROOKLYN #294
CHARLES HANSEN
SLOAN #295
KENNETH PETERSON
MARION #298
ROBERT ADAMS
LAWRENCE EDWARDS
DENNIS HOY
WILLIAM JORDAN
RICHARD MOFFITT
NORMAN OSMUNDSON
GEORGE ROUSHAR
RICHARD TAYLOR
NEIL THOMAS
TOMMY TUCKER
KARL WHITING
STEPHEN YANDA
HAROLD ZINK
ALBERT CITY #299
KARL LOVIN
HUMESTON #306
VERN SNOW
MECHANICSVILLE #309
HARRY DAVIDSON
WALTER TAYLOR
INWOOD #310

MARLO HANSON
ARTHUR PEDERSEN
ALVIN VANTLAND
HOPKINTON #311
DEAN HASS
PERSIA #314
MARVIN HUEBNER
BRITT #315
CONNIE BURGARDT
CALVIN VOIGT
RADCLIFFE #317
RICHARD DRAKE
ROCK VALLEY #321
ROBERT GAYER
ELK HORN #322
PAUL HANSEN
SIBLEY #324
ROBERT FREY
EARLY #325
GEORGE NORRIS
ORANGE CITY #329
GEORGE KLEINHESSELINK
NEOLA #330
PHIL FLOERCHINGER
MCCALLSBURG #334
VERN NELSON
ROCKFORD #338
STANLEY FITZ
KENNETH LIEN
JESUP #342
ALLEN CLOSE
GEORGE TEMEYER
RANDY VANSLYKE
LAMONT #346
ALFRED LEE
LE CLAIRE #347
SHANON MUSAL
CHARLES NEELS
KELLOGG #355
FRANKLIN BARR
THOMAS MARTIN
ROGER SMALL
COON RAPIDS #357
DUANE BAKER
LYLE KNIGHT
ST ANSGAR #358
RUSSELL HORGEN
DUMONT #360
JIM ANGSTMAN
ROGER BRUNS
ORRIN CUNNINGHAM
GEORGE DIRKS
DEWAYNE SHEAR
COGGON #362
RICHARD WOODS
BATTLE CREEK #364
JACK MODRELL
MOORHEAD #365
RAY SEVERSON
LOWDEN #366
NEAL MESS
BARRY ROBERTS
ROBERT WENNDT
PARNELL #369
RUSSELL COLEMAN
LEO JOHNSON
GOLDFIELD #370
WILSON LEWIS
GUTTENBURG #373
DENNIS DUWE
DES MOINES #374
DONALD BODENSTEDT
WALTER GUSTAFSON
DON MULLAN
RUSSELL NELSON
CLERMONT #375
REUBEN STEFFENS
WALKER #376
HENRY SNITKEY
ALLERTON #379
MICHAEL WOLFE
HULL #380
CHARLES KROESE
GENE VANROEKEL
RINGSTED #382
ORIN AANONSON
GALE CRAIG
KIRON #383
CLARENCE FRIEDRICHSEN
ST OLAF #388
CLIFFORD WIEDENHOFF
ANTHON #389
RICHARD HEATH
CARLISLE #391
ROBERT CLAMAN
CLAREN RAWSON
SHELLROCK #393
HAROLD HENNING

SIOUX RAPIDS #394
NORMAN HALVERSON
CARL NIELSEN
RAYMOND VOGEL
DIAGONAL #395
CLYDE KELLER
QUIMBY #398
DONALD TODD
VAN METER #403
WAYNE GRAHAM
FRANKLIN SISSON
GEORGE #404
HAROLD KORTHALS
STANTON #406
LARRY HAYNIE
UNIONVILLE #407
BILLY JENKINS
MELVIN TROUT
CRYSTAL LAKE #409
JAMES KIRSCHBAUM
LITTLE SIOUX #410
ROGER FUSTOS
DEXTER #419
CHARLES CRAIGMILE
CENTRAL CITY #421
BILL HOTLE
LARRY PETTY
WALNUT #422
LAVERNE MERTZ
DONALD WALTER
LACONA #426
VIRGIL BAKER
GOWRIE #431
GLEN MUNDT
JIM SAWDY
DARWIN SPRINGER
RONALD WOLF
TERRIL #432
HAROLD SCHNELL
ED WOLLNER
QUASQUETON #434
ROBERT BUCK
KERMIT CHESMORE
EARLVILLE #436
LYLE ORCUTT
SILVER CITY #439
GEORGE MARSHALL
UTE #442
VERLIN BRIDGEMAN
DONALD MCCALL
VIRGIL OLSON
ELDON TEUT
GLENN ULLERICH
BLOCKTON #443
LAVERN BROWN
DOW CITY #444
BERYL GARRETT
VICTOR THOMSEN
NEW SHARON #446
E TED VERSTEEGH
WHEATLAND #447
GARY BURMEISTER
THOMAS WERNER
NORA SPRINGS #449
ALAN FINGALSEN
DERALD HOEL
HAROLD YOUNGER
CLUTIER #453
RICHARD LINHART
GALVA #454
RUSSELL PEPPER
LONE TREE #457
DANNY CURTIS
EDWARD DUWA
ELMO KRON
ROBERT MELLECKER
ROBERT PENNEBAKER
SOLOM #460
WILLIAM FABRITZ
JACK LYNCH
D MILLER
ED STEINBRECH
CALAMUS #466
DEVERE SHELTON
SPILLVILLE #467
DEAN HOWDEK
CHARLES IRA
MELVIN #470
ROBERT BENZ
ROBERT BONESCHANS
DOUGLAS DATHER
MEARL OHRT
RICHARD ROEDE
JAMES SCHAA
HINTON #477
ORVIS JULCH
MT VERNON #480
ROLAND RICHARDSON

WHITING #481
CLEO PING
OAKVILLE #489
STEVEN HOLLAND
DOUDS #494
ELMER SPIKER
OSSIAN #503
FRANCIS WENTHOLD
BARNES CITY #507
WAYNE DEHOEDT
FARNHAMVILLE #510
HERMAN SEIL
EDGEWOOD #512
FRANK RIESTER
MERLE WOERDEHOFF
WEST BRANCH #514
EDWARD MEARDON
POSTVILLE #518
JOHN DRAHOS
MALVERN #520
ERNIE SPIKER
JANESVILLE #522
FRED HALLBERG
DOWS #523
RODNEY COURTNEY
CASCADE #528
ROBERT MCCABE
KENNETH MCDERMOTT
DAVID MCDONNELL
DANIEL MOLONY
ALFRED REITER
ANTHONY SIEVERDING
ROBERT SKAHILL

OXFORD #537
JAMES ROHRET
LIME SPRINGS #545
JAMES MILLER
LYTTON #546
MERLE OXLEY
WALCOTT #548
LLOYD HOOS
JEWELL #550
FLOYD ISEBRANDS
ELY #555
BILL GROVE
ALLAN HALE
CARSON #556
KENNETH LOVE
CUMMING #562
CHARLES BRANDSFIELD
RAY EMERY
DON SHELTON
WENDELL STARMER
GREELEY #566
MERLYN BOGE
DICK STOCK
STACYVILLE #569
EDWARD SALZ
PAUL WEIS
FAIFAX #572
VIRGIL CERVENY
WINFIELD HUGHES
DAVID UTHOFF
GRIMES #577
VERLIN MCBURNEY
WILTON #584

ROBERT BEUTLER
ROBERT LAUCAMP
VARINA #588
GERALD KRAMER
CALLENDER #592
PAUL KEHOE
ALFRED KLINGSON
LESTER LARSON
ELMA #597
RUSSELL O'DONNELL
PRESTON #602
EDWARD TRENKAMP
PROTIVIN #605
NORBERT IRA
BREDA #607
ELMER GROTE
PAUL KOSTER
W DES MOINES #620
ROBERT ELDER
MICHAEL TONNEMACHER
LOUIS WHITE
GRAND MOUND #622
ELMER HASENMILLER
CUSHING #624
VIRGIL JENSEN
DON SCHNECKLOTH
ELDRIDGE #639
WALTER RATHMANN
SCHLESWIG #645
MITCH ALLEN
R CHRISTIANSEN
EPWORTH #650
EUGENE CLANCY

RONALD CONNOLLY
OTO #651
JAMES MCLARTY
LAKOTA #652
RONALD MEYER
DENVER #653
DUANE FAILS
DEWAYNE FASSE
WAYNE WILSON
FARLEY #656
LESTER ENTRINGER
LATIMER #658
CURTIS PETERS
DES MOINES #659
RODNEY BROWN
SAM SODA
SGT BLUFF #662
DAVID DUNAGAN
RANDY DUNAGAN
ELDEAN GEHRTS
JOHN HOLLENBECK
THOMAS MORLEY
PATRICK PARKS
JAMES REISCH
JOHN STURGES
ORVILLE TOWNE
URBANDALE #663
JAMES MILLER
HAROLD TEATER
WILLIAM WEBB
SMITHLAND #666
RAYMON BENNETT
WILFRED UHL

WEST PT #668
DALE FRAISE
WILLIAM PIEPER
PAUL SCOTT
SWISHER #671
DENNIS HROMIDKO
MARVIN LEWIS
LEDYARD #675
LEON FARROW
HAROLD WARNER
MILES #677
CLARENCE FUEGEN
MARVIN JENSEN
PALO #679
GEORGE LITTLE
CONRAD #681
RAY BOOTS
NORMAN GORDER
WILLIAM MATSON
LARRY MINNICH
CLIFFORD PARKER
ALTOONA #682
JESS GUZMAN
LESTER #683
GEORGE MEYER
RYAN #692
MARK SCHLUETER
ARCADIA #694
PHILIP COLLISON
JOHN SIBBEL
SIOUX CITY #697
CLARENCE BACKER
HAROLD ZARR

BLUE GRASS #711
JAMES BENDT
ODELL TODD
TROY MILLS #712
RAY COOK
GILBERTVILLE #714
DALE SHANNON
ST MARYS #716
JOHN KILGORE
LANCE ULRICH
NEVINVILLE #719
RICH WADDINGHAM
HANCOCK #720
RICHARD SCHMIDT
CORALVILLE #721
KENNARD FEARING
DONALD JOHNSON
ROBERT VERRY
ARNOLD ZAJICEK
HARPERS FERRY #722
MARK DELANEY
BOB HILLESHEIM
LESTER ONKEN
GARNAVILLO #723
HARLAN BACKHAUS
BRUNSVILLE #724
CLIFFORD PETERS
TREYNOR #725
DONALD CASSON
CEDAR RAPIDS #727
DANIEL BAHNSEN
ROBERT ZINK
IOWA #729

JOHN CHESTER
CHESTER COLEMAN
GARY FAUGHT
DEWAYNE HOVEY
EDWIN KRAGT
RONALD KUEHLER
RICHARD LORENZEN
KENNETH RICHARDS
EARL SUTTON
WAYNE URNESS
JAMES WHITE
MALCOLM #733
DALE MCCAMMANT
WAUKEE #737
WILLARD HANSON
NORTH LIBERTY #1976
HERBERT HERRLY

Squadron Everlasting

MUSCATINE #27
DICK VINER
MARENGO #76
SAMUEL SLAYMAKER
POLK CITY #232
WILLIAM MILNE
MAXWELL #249
DALE MCINTOSH
WHITTEMORE #425
JOSHUA MEYER
SWISHER #671
ALLAN NOVAK

The American Legion of Iowa Foundation



PNC David K. Rehbein, President

Texas. We thank him for that service and wish them well.

During the Ninth District Fall Conference, the district membership recommended Chuck Brunsting to replace Lyle representing them on the Board. Chuck has accepted that recommendation and the Department Executive Committee ratified his selection at the recent Fall meeting. We look forward to working with Chuck and know that the District will

The American Legion of Iowa Foundation Board of Directors is undergoing a change this winter. After many years of service, Lyle Schaffer has resigned the position representing the Ninth District. Jan has retired from her tax business and Lyle and Jan will be spending the winters in

support him as they did Lyle.

The Board has been very gratified to hear from many of our grant recipients, thanking the Board for the grant they received and informing the Board of the progress being made on their project. Without going back and doing an actual count, we are confident that we have heard from a much larger group this year.

It almost seems as if other foundations and funding groups may have curtailed their activities after COVID-19 hit and the organizations that depend on their generosity are now suffering. Whether that is true or not, I know that the Board of Directors of the American Legion of Iowa Foundation has gone the extra mile to continue to help all those that we can during this tough period.

First the Foundation's annual meeting was delayed until we got meet in person and make informed decisions on grant applications. That was done rather just meet virtually. After that meeting, rather than simply mail checks to those successful applicants, your Directors continued our practice of delivering checks in person. Those deliveries were done safely, with masks and practicing social distancing but we took the time and made the effort to meet our grant recipients. I think they appreciated that extra effort

and have made the effort themselves to express that appreciation.

We were able to meet with several of the recipients in a combined program in the First District. Director Larry Swann, assisted by Henry Rios and Jim Leyland, invited them to receive their checks in a joint program. Two of the recipients present that day talked about their programs.

Rob Tate, hunting coordinator for English River Outfitters, discussed their program and stated that their program has resulted in 12 veterans writing back to them with statements that the program had saved their lives by putting them in touch with others like them with PTSD/TBI problems which helped them begin to talk about and deal with those issues. Chelsea Markel with ARC of SE Iowa spoke about their need for a handicapped capable vehicle to take their clients on field trips. It is important that ARC's clients be involved in the community to assist in improving their quality of life and help them adjust to community living. The grant from the Foundation completes the fundraising for that vehicle. They will begin the vehicle purchase process.

Thank you to our donors who made these grants possible. Without you, none of this would happen.

Flag Essay Contest

General Information:

The purpose of The American Legion of Iowa Essay Contest is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation for the United States Flag on the part of elementary level students. Other objectives of the contest include the ability to gain knowledge of flag etiquette and respect for the flag.

Awards:

Each of the three Department finalists will be recognized in the same manner as other youth champions and the top three winners will be invited to read their winning essay at the Department Convention. First, Second, and Third Place winners will receive \$500, \$300, and \$200, respectively, from The American Legion of Iowa and Iowa Foundation.

Contests:

Local contests will be conducted and judged by the local sponsoring Legion Post, and the winning essay, along with certification form completed, will be forwarded as follows:

1. Individual Legion Posts will forward one winning entry to their District Children and Youth Chairman, with signed Participation Application, postmarked by January 2, 2021.
2. District entries will be judged by the respective District Children and Youth Chairman, and sent to Department Headquarters, postmarked by January 22, 2021.
3. Department Children and Youth Committee will judge the nine District entries at Mid-Winter Conference, immediately following the Americanism meeting.

Essay:

The format for the essay is limited to the following: A one (1) page document containing 300 words or less, double-spaced, 12-point font, and the student's own words and effort. The essay is to reflect the student's perspective of what the United States Flag represents to them using facts from the United States Flag Code.

Eligibility:

Participants shall be citizens of or lawful permanent residents of the United States. All contestants must be students enrolled in the fifth grade in a public, parochial, military, private or state accredited home-school.

For more information go to: www.ialegion.org/flag-essay.

Find that Travel Ball Dad in your town and Start an American Legion Baseball Team!

By Bob Protxter

General Manager for the Iowa Great Lakes 'Okobojis' American Legion Baseball Team

American Legion baseball is a tradition rich organization with some 3,500 teams nationwide. Nearly 55,000 youth participate in the program yearly from all 50 states. American Legion Baseball was founded in 1925 and is a national institution, having thrived through a world war, many national tragedies, and times of great prosperity as well as great despair.

Across the country American Legion baseball teams are comprised of high school age players with their season being the opposite of their local high school team. The seasons complement each other. In Iowa the high school season is in the summer.

While the other 49 states operate their American Legion baseball seasons in the summer the Iowa American Legion baseball season is in the spring during the months of March and April. State-wide Area Tournaments are in the last weekend of April. The State Tournament for American Legion Baseball in Iowa is during the first weekend of May.

The Iowa high school baseball season starts the third week of May and runs through the end of July with the Iowa High School State Tournament taking place in Principal Park in Des Moines.

These two seasons do not conflict. The spring

American Legion season in Iowa could very well compliment the summer season with your high school aged players playing games in March and April before high school practices even start. Your local high school baseball players will be better for the summer season by playing baseball games in the spring!

This is a perfect time for your town to start an American Legion Baseball Team.

Your first step is to find the Travel Ball moms and dads in your community. Travel ball generally ends by the 8th grade. These coaches and teams travel extensively until they get to high school at which point the players go onto the high school programs in the summer.

In essence your local travel ball team that finishes in the 8th grade can continue in the Spring when they are in high school by becoming an American Legion Baseball Team. Also, it would be safe to assume that almost every travel ball team will have a military veteran as a parent or a grandparent. Everybody in your town knows a Legionnaire, and everybody in your town knows a Travel Ball mom or dad that has served in the military.

After a connection is made to create an American Legion team, then an American Legion Post must sponsor this team. This specific sponsorship is the paper signature only of the Post to express their interest in being the teams' sponsor. This is not a financial sponsorship. With shared interests from the travel ball teams wanting to become American Legion teams in the spring with summer high school players, the opportunities to fund these teams, to have fund raisers, and seeking out financial sponsors are endless.

The mandated American Legion Baseball requirements after a paper sponsor is found are quite simple. #1. Team registration that includes a \$375 fee and is due by the end of February. #2. Team insurance is purchased through a nationwide company mandated by the National office of the American Legion. #3. American Legion patches that must be worn by all players.

Next you conduct tryouts and or create your team according to American Legion Plan B recruiting rules which dictate the teams that players are able to play for. Then you create a schedule for games in March and April. And then you play baseball games! You can also reap the rewards of the community benefits and involvement for everyone being active with baseball in the spring and having a local team to root for.

American Legion baseball was a great avenue for Major League Baseball players growing up like Bryce Harper, Justin Verlander, and Kris Bryant, and it will be a great thing for your community, players, parents, American Legion Posts, and Veterans.

Team camaraderie, community support, extra baseball, the ability to apply for American Legion baseball scholarships, and walking into the first practice of high school baseball in May with a bunch of games under your belt are just a very few of the great reasons to start an American Legion Baseball Team here in Iowa for the upcoming 2021 spring season.

Make that phone call today and see you on the ball diamond in March! For more information on American Legion Baseball, visit www.ialegion.org/baseball.

Junior Shooting Sports

The Department of Iowa's Junior Shoot Sports Program has gained a following since it has been introduced. There is not any reason your post or club in your community cannot be involved with the program. The American Legion offers an affiliation program where posts can affiliate for free and receive information to participate in matches. Go to the American Legion's Website: www.legion.org and look under Programs



for Junior Shooting Sports. Affiliation information can also be found through the Department Website.

The Department will again have its 3-Position Air Rifle Match March 20, 2021 at Camp Dodge. Teams or clubs willing to participate can contact Department Headquarters for more information on registering.

Shooters wishing to participate at Department Matches need to also register with the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), which is free. Information can be found through www.thecmp.org.

Registration for the Department Match will be made available January 2021 at www.ialegion.org/jssp. For more information email: programs@ialegion.org or call 800-365-8387.

If COVID-19 rules are still in force, other changes

that will be made are as follows:

1. Only every other firing line will be used; Cutting our total shooter count back to 28 participants. That is 7 shooters per Relay and 4 relays

2. Everyone not on the firing line will be required to wear masks.

It may seem like over kill but when it comes to the safety of our children, I'd rather be safe than sorry.

3. The teams will be able to leave after they finish competing and We will give the awards to a team representative at the conclusion of the match. To be delivered to the respective winners That way we limit the potential exposure.

I ADDITION : IF ANYONE IS FEELING ILL OR RUNNING A FEVER. PLEASE STAY HOME.

2021 Boys State Reservations

Department Headquarters will begin to take post reservations for the 2021 American Legion of Iowa Boys State Program soon. The dates next year have been set for Sunday, June 13 - Friday, June 18, 2021. Posts are highly encouraged to:

1. Take advantage of the early reservation price break.
2. Reserve spots online for delegates.

Online reservations make for a cleaner administrative process. If your post does not have a computer, find someone who does and ask them to help. If for some reason that is not at all possible, green sheets will be available.

The cut off for the early bird reservation price break (\$250) is December 31, 2020. As long as the post's reservation is made online by the December 31 deadline, checks will be accepted for the early bird price.

TIMETABLE AND DEADLINES

December 31, 2020 - Early Bird Reservation Deadline.

January 1, 2021 - Reservation fee increases to \$300.

January 15, 2021 - Delegate registration letters will be sent out to posts. Posts are to deliver them to candidates for registration. A link to the **Samsung**

Scholarship Applications will be made available through the Department Website once posted from national.

April 1, 2021 - Post Refund Request Deadline - Requests must be received in writing (letter, email preferably) by 11:59 PM, no exceptions. Requests will not be honored afterwards.

April 1, 2021 - Delegate Registration Cut Off, no exceptions.

April-May 2021 - Delegates and parents will receive a copy of the Boys State Handbook. District Orientations will take place. They will be printed in the next Legionnaire publication. See Department website for more details also.

June 13-18, 2021 - The American Legion Boys State Program held at Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa.

COVID-19 Response

The American Legion of Iowa Boys State Board will be meeting in December to discuss the program, specifically addressing contingencies. The option for a virtual program will be discussed and planned for in the event a live program cannot be conducted. The board will meet again in March and make an informed determination. Please see you District Board Members or Chairmen for further details or visit www.ialegion.org/boysstate.

District Oratorical Contests

www.ialegion.org/oratorical

District 1: January 3, 2021 (1:30 PM)

American Legion Post #671 - 68 3rd St. SE, Swisher, IA 52338

Contact - Richard Stoltenberg (563) 284-6075 or rstoltenberg47@gmail.com

District 2: January 9, 2021 (9 AM)

DeWitt City Hall - 510 9th Street, DeWitt, IA 52742

Contact - Don Thiltgen (563) 659-9582 or mrtillie@mchsi.com

District 3: Please see Department Website for details

Contact - James Sanders (319) 389-8521 or james@thesanders.com

District 4: January 3, 2021 (2 PM) Snow Date: January 10, 2021

Trinity Lutheran Church - 116 West Wilbur St., Hawkeye, IA 52147

Contact - Dennis Soppe (563) 379-1397 or soppedj@hotmail.com

District 5: January 3, 2021 (2 PM) Snow Date: January 10, 2021

Oskaloosa American Legion Post #34 - 302 High Ave E, Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Contact - Floyd Proctor (641) 938-2706 or fproct1@yahoo.com

District 6: January 3, 2021 (2 PM) Snow Date: January 10, 2021

Hiland Park American Legion Post #374 - 3712 2nd Ave, Des Moines, IA 50313

Contact - Donald Swan (515) 279-4416 or swandonald@msn.com

District 7: January 3, 2021 (2 PM) Snow Date: January 10, 2021

Wilson Performing Arts Center - 300 Commerce Drive, Red Oak, IA 51566

Contact - Joe Jardon (712) 370-6071 or jmjardon2747@gmail.com

District 8: January 3, 2021 (2 PM) Snow Date: January 10, 2021

DMACC - 906 N Grant Rd, Carroll, IA 51401

Contact - Gary Schmitz (712) 830-3072 or schmitzga@gmail.com

District 9: January 10, 2021 (2 PM)

Sioux Central High School - 4440 US Hwy 71, Sioux Rapids, IA 50585

Contact - James Kessler (712) 330-1738 or jmkessler71@gmail.com

Area Oratorical Contests

*Underlined Districts Hosting

Area 1 (Districts 1, 5 & 6): January 17, 2021 (2 PM)

Oskaloosa American Legion Post #34 - 302 High Ave E, Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Contact - Floyd Proctor (641) 938-2706 or fproct1@yahoo.com

Area 2 (Districts 2, 3 & 4): January 17, 2021 (2 PM)

Trinity Lutheran Church - 116 West Wilbur St., Hawkeye, IA 52147

Contact - Dennis Soppe (563) 379-1397 or soppedj@hotmail.com

Area 3 (Districts 7, 8 & 9): January 24, 2021 (2 PM)

Wilson Performing Arts Center - 300 Commerce Drive, Red Oak, IA 51566

Contact - Joe Jardon (712) 370-6071 or jmjardon2747@gmail.com

Please visit our website for any updates: www.ialegion.org/oratorical.

Baseball

www.ialegion.org/baseball



Teams committed to play in the 2021 Season will need to have their coaches/managers attend the Mid-Winter meeting on Saturday, February 13, 2021. The meeting will be in the Des Moines Room of the Airport Holiday Inn at 11:00 AM. Area and State Tournament details will be discussed at this meeting.

Registration fees are due to National on February 28, 2021 - www.baseball.ialegion.org.

Player Indemnification Forms (Form

2) for state play are due to Department Headquarters April 1, 2021.

Team rosters are due April 1, 2021 on National's site. Rosters will be certified soon afterwards. There will be no exceptions this year.

If a member of your team cannot attend, please notify The Department at programs@ialegion.org or your District Chairman.

All members of the Department Baseball Committee as well as coaches and managers are highly encouraged to attend.

The address for the Airport Holiday Inn Des Moines is: 6111 Fleur Dr. Des Moines, IA 50321.

The Area and State Tournament are scheduled to be held the end of April and beginning of May in 2021.

Marketing Committee Report

There are currently no events planned at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines in the first months of 2021. I am in the process of getting an on the air interview with a couple local radio stations.

On the National level, there is a special Veterans & Children Foundation direct mail campaign planned to be mailed out in late November to early December. Net proceeds from this campaign will help toward the \$25 million goal. Donor acquisition campaigns continue to perform better than expected which

results in more new donors injected into the regular donor campaigns. To date, national has acquired about 208,000 new donors to their file which increases the overall active donor file to 348,000 donors. The direct mail campaigns are on track to finish 2020 as projected at more than \$3,300,000 net. They are putting the finishing touches on the DELL Computer affiliate relationship. They are in conversations with Lowe's and T-Mobile with respect to sponsorship platforms inside TAL portfolio. PSA's implementing the Veterans Strengthening America motto have been completed and billboards creativity is in the works.

Jim Peterson

Marketing Committee Chairman

Scouting Awards

www.ialegion.org/scouting

The submission deadline to Department will be March 1, 2021, for Eagle Scout of the Year, Adult Boy Scout of the Year, and Adult Cub Scout of the Year. Eagle Scouts are required to complete the fillable version online, print, and obtain proper signatures. Nominations for Adult Scouts can be found on the Department website or are available by request from the Department office.

Submissions for the Square Knot Award for adult leaders can be applied for at any time. Applications available on the Department website or are available by request from the Department office.

A Certificate and Department Commander's endorsement letter can be sent to any Scout who achieves the rank of Eagle. The request is available on the Department website www.ialegion.org/scouting or are available by request from the Department office.

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